

EDGERTON REPORTER

Vol. 154, No. 39 Edgerton, Wisconsin Proudly Serving the Community Since 1874 \$1.50 April 28, 2021

Edgerton School District

In-person graduation planned for May 23

By Jeff Brown
Special to The Reporter

Edgerton High School Principal Mark Coombs and his team are planning to hold an in-person graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 23. The news was announced at the board of education meeting on Monday

night, April 26. There are plans underway for outside and indoor ceremonies, Coombs said. If the weather holds, the ceremony will be held outside in the football stadium. Graduates would sit in the grandstand, with socially-distanced tables set up on the field for a limited number of

family members per graduate at each table. Additional guests would sit in chairs placed along the track. If the forecast forces the ceremony to be moved into the field house, Coombs said there likely won't be room for the band or the choir, given social distancing guidelines.

Coombs said that the ceremony will likely include a graduate parade because last year's parade was popular with graduates, family members and the community. The parade was so popular, Coombs said, that he'd like to make it a regular part of graduation once the pandemic

has passed. Coombs said that students who are unwilling to participate in the outdoor or indoor ceremony because of COVID-19 concerns would be handed their diplomas in the parking lot of the former veterans' building, as was done at the end of last year's parade.

Edgerton School District

Class size will guide transfer decisions

By Jeff Brown
Special to The Reporter

Wearied of serving as a court of last appeal for denials of transfer requests, members of the Edgerton Board of Education have approved a new policy under which classroom size will determine whether transfers between the district's two elementary schools are allowed. The move came by a unanimous vote during the board's meeting on Monday night, April 26.

Under the old transfer policy, administrators routinely denied requests to transfer students from Yahara Valley to Community Elementary School. But board custom allowed parents to appeal to the board, and over the last several years the board granted requests for transfers from Yahara Valley—usually after deliberations that devolved into prickly debates in which board members tiptoed around the issue of the school's future.

Those deliberations led District Administrator Dennis Pauli to propose that he and his team rework the transfer policy, with input from the board. So, the board's last two meetings have been consumed with impassioned discussions over how to handle requests to transfer students from Yahara Valley to CES.

See **TRANSFER POLICY**, 8

Alderspersons show support for 3-year term for mayor

By Sam Martino
Special to The Reporter

Edgerton Common Council members offered no objections to a proposal made April 20 by two Alderspersons about changing the mayor's term of office from two to three years.

Four of the five council members and one connected to the April 20 meeting by the internet provided a general consensus of supporting the proposal.

Alderspersons James Burdick and Casey Langan proposed the change as a way of giving a mayor more time to institute policy changes or other concerns during his or her term of office.

"There is a big learning curve," said Langan for a new mayor to absorb the work of the office.

Any proposed change would not take place until after the current mayor fulfilled his two year term and a new election was held.

The council still needs to hold a public hearing on the proposal to approve the change as a new ordinance.

City Clerk Cindy Heggland told The Reporter a charter ordinance proposal to change the mayor's term of office will be presented to the Common Council May 3. The ordinance would have to be agreed upon at three readings of the Com-

mon Council. The initial idea of a three year term for mayor was made during a special meeting of the council for the swearing in of newly elected alderspersons following the April 6 spring election.

Mayor Chris Lund said he favored the proposed change to allow a new mayor more time to learn the job, as well as not be burdened by operating part of the time during a two-year term under the policies of another office holder.

Burdick said a three-year term for a mayor would give a person more time to "show what he or she can do."

Lund also said "it takes a couple of terms" to learn the job.

A policy change in the election of a mayor for three years could also eliminate what officials call a "troublesome" situation of permitting current alderspersons to run for both the council and mayor's office at the same time.

The next election for common council members and the mayor is 2022. Then, recently appointed aldersperson Tim Shaw also will be up for election.

Earlier this year, Shaw replaced Robert Reynolds who resigned after serving only six months of his two-year term. Reynolds moved out of the city and became ineligible.



High and mighty

An adult bald eagle perches 50 feet above the Bingham Road boat landing along the north shore of Lake Koshkonong on Sunday morning, April 18. The bald eagle was designated as the national bird of the United States in 1782.

Photo by Jeff Brown

Workshops bring mushroom lovers to Silverwood



By Jeff Brown
Special to The Reporter

On a recent Sunday morning at Silverwood Park, Olive Czachur, age five, bent over a log of red oak and with the aid of her mother's steady hands drilled a neat hole two inches deep into the wood.

Snowflake-sized wood chips flew as the drill whirled. The smell of sawdust filled the air inside the machine shed. Olive looked up at her mother, then

took a step to her right and drilled another hole and then another, all down the length of the log.

Czachur and her family—her mother Abby, her sister Leola, age eight, her brother Simon, age two, and her father Brad—were among dozens of people who participated in a series of mushroom log workshops at Silverwood Park earlier this month.

For \$20, participants got a four-foot log, about as big around as PVC pipe, spiked

with rows of shiitake mushroom inoculants. Those who were so inclined drilled their own logs and pounded the inoculants in themselves.

Participants also received a set of instructions: keep the log outside, cover it with light-colored cloth in summer and dark-colored cloth in winter, and next spring—with a little luck—they'll have a clutch of velvety brown shiitakes ready for harvest.

Leola Czachur hammered the inoculants into the holes drilled by her sister. Brad Czachur said his wife had participated in one of the workshops last year. It was



Above: A shiitake mushroom, cultivated by Tom Northey, a volunteer at Silverwood Park. Left: With her mother Abby's help, five-year-old Olive Czachur drills a hole in a log during a mushroom workshop at Silverwood Park on Sunday, April 18.

Photos by Jeff Brown

Gas Watch

Nat. Average.....	\$2.880
WI Average.....	\$2.730
WI lowest -Fond du Lac & Appleton..	\$2.490
Janesville.....	\$2.640
Milton.....	\$2.640
Newville.....	\$2.690
Edgerton.....	\$2.740
Evansville.....	\$2.690
Fort Atkinson.....	\$2.790
Stoughton.....	\$2.740
Cambridge.....	\$2.730
Madison.....	\$2.570
Milwaukee.....	\$2.690

Latest prices reported for one gallon of unleaded gasoline according to local observations and GasBuddy.com as of 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 26, 2021. Prices listed are the lowest in each city, which may be one or more stations.

See **SILVERWOOD**, 5

Contact Us

21 N. Henry St., Edgerton, WI 53534
608-884-3367
info@edgertonreporter.com
facebook.com/EdgertonReporter

Index

Opinion	4
Church	7
Sports	9
Classifieds	14

Whats Inside?

SUMMER: Road weight limit discussed, 2
CITY: Wage gap for seasonal employees, 2
ROTARY: Far-reaching impact, 8
HISTORY: Racetrack Park turning 100, 16

Inserts

Cowley's Piggly Wiggly
Spring Sports Preview



0 40232 11141 9