

Dane County

Parisi urges schools to follow health order

Dane County Executive Joe Parisi strongly encouraged schools to continue following county public health recommendations after the Wisconsin Supreme Court temporarily blocked part of a county health order.

On Thursday, Sept. 10, the court temporarily blocked part of PHMDC's Order No. 9, which prohibited students in grades 3-12 from receiving in-person education. PHMDC later amended that order to allow students with special needs to be in schools. The ruling came after a group of parents, private and parochial schools and a conservative-learning law firm filed three separate lawsuits against PHMDC, with the court voting 4-3 along its conservative majority that Dane County would be able to teach students in person.

"We conclude that local health officers do appear to have statutory authority to what the Order commands," read the opinion.

Parisi said on Monday, Sept. 14, county attorneys presented to the court "additional statutory references that discuss a public health officer's authority as it relates to schools."

"While the legal process will answer questions



Photo by Neal Patten

County executive Joe Parisi signs a resolution to provide Second Harvest an additional \$3 million in funding at a press conference in June.

relating to the law, there is no ambiguity as to what is best for public health," he said in a Monday, Sept. 14 news release. "People need to socially distance and take strict precautions if we are to slow the community spread that's occurring. I strongly encourage schools to follow the Public Health director's recommendation and not return to in-person education for third grade and older at this time."

Parisi said the county has seen an "incredible surge" in COVID-19 activity in the past 10 days, which he said is affecting rural areas as well.

On the Web

Learn more about Public Health Madison and Dane County at

publichealthmdc.com

"As we have seen with a number of school districts outside of Dane County in the past week, Covid-19 is not limited to urban areas," Parisi said. "There are high levels of the virus in our state and we need to double our efforts now at preventing its spread."

Email Unified Newspaper Group reporter Scott De Laruelle at scott.delaruelle@wcinet.com.

Local events being held in Verona

Pop-up event food event to benefit Joining Forces for Families

4:30-6:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28
Wisconsin Brewing Company, 1079 American Way

North and South Seafood and Smokehouse and Wisconsin Brewing Company will continue the pop-up event to help local businesses and nonprofits on Sept. 28.

At the event, the brewery will be selling its beer and the smokehouse will be selling its signature sandwiches along with coleslaw, baked beans and a bag of chips.

Driftless Chocolates, Gigi's Cupcakes, Savory Accents, Mad City Chefs and Yellow Dog Deli are also expected to attend.

Customers will drive into the Wisconsin Brewing Company's parking lot, receive a menu of all the food and drinks available, check off what they want to purchase, and a runner will take the orders to the individual vendors. The runner will then deliver the orders back to cars, providing contactless drop-off into the vehicles. No pre-orders are necessary.

This is a cashless event.

The Verona Lions Club will be collecting donations for Joining Forces for Family during the event.

Senior Center drive-up flu shot clinic

9 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, Sept. 30
Verona Senior Center, 108 Paoli St.

This year's senior center flu clinic will be done in a drive-up fashion. Appointments are first come, first serve, but reservations required. High dose vaccines will be available. Bring your insurance/medicare card to the drive-up clinic.

Contact 608-845-7471 to register.

Farmers' market

3-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 30
The final 2020 outdoor farmers' market

will be Sept. 30 at Hometown Junction Park, 101 W. Railroad St.

Past vendors include Tater and The Dragon Inc., Ann In A Jam, Great Harvest Bread Co., Sitka Salmon Shares, La Ferme Dans la Vallée, Get Inda Farming, The Siamese Farmer LLC and Creekside Bakery.

For information, visit veronasmarket.com or email info@veronawi.com.

Library's Story Walk

Verona Public Library is collaborating with Dane County Parks to facilitate an outdoor reading activity called a "Story Walk."

The walks will take place in Badger Prairie County Park, starting directly behind the library, and feature pages from books laminated onto signs dotting the grassy trails.

Now through Oct. 5, the book will be "Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn" by Kenard Pak.

For information, call 845-7180 or visit veronapubliclibrary.org.

Outdoor concert: Route 66 - America's Main Street

6-7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 1
Verona Senior Center, 108 Paoli St.

Take a ride on America's most famous highway, Route 66. Folk singer and humorist Craig Siemsen will explore the 2,448 miles of songs, stories, legends, and humor of Route 66. This program offers a little history and a lot of fun. RSVP required as space is limited. Please bring your own folding chairs.

Call 608-845-7471 to register.

Blood drive

7:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 3
An American Red Cross blood drive will be held Oct. 3 at St Andrew Catholic Church, 301 N. Main St.

-Neal Patten

VACT holding auditions for first virtual show

Auditions to be held virtually Sept. 28-29

NEAL PATTEN
Unified Newspaper Group

Verona Area Community Theater is holding auditions for its first ever virtual production, "A Very Virtual Merry Hometown Holiday," on Sept. 28 and 29.

The auditions will be held from 6-9 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28 and 5-9 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 29 through Zoom video conferencing software.

"VACT is excited to bring the community the second installment of its fun filled holiday variety show," the organization wrote on its website. "With songs

everyone knows and loves, this production will feature a variety of solo and group numbers, sure to get you into the holiday spirit."

The VACT website states there will be solo and small group numbers and a "virtual choir" number.

To audition, people must register. Once registered, auditioners will sign up for an audition slot and be sent a Zoom link to appear at a virtual audition. Auditioners must provide their own accompaniment or sing a cappella.

According to the VACT website, there will be no live performance of this production. All numbers will be pre-recorded and then combined into four different 30-minute productions,

If You Go

What: VACT virtual holiday show auditions

When: 6-9 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28 and 5-9 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 29

Platform: Zoom

Info: vact.org

which will be broadcast on the VACT YouTube channel in December.

The production will be directed by Julie Murphy and Sara Pfantz.

For information and to register, visit vact.org.

Neal Patten can be contacted at neal.patten@wcinet.com.

County voter helpline open

Number to call 285-2141

MACKENZIE KRUMME
Unified Newspaper Group

To improve voter participation a Dane County voter helpline is open to answer questions about voting in the Nov. 3 general election.

The number is 608-285-2141 and help is available in Spanish and other languages, according to a news release. The Voter Helpline expansion is funded as part of a \$100,000 grant from Dane County, according to the news release.

Helpline employees and volunteers can answer questions including how to obtain an approved voter ID, register to vote, vote by absentee ballot, in-person absentee voting and finding a voter's polling location. Voters can

also get help getting a new voter ID, witnessing absentee ballots and navigating the state's MyVote Wisconsin website, myvote.wi.gov.

Dane County established the hotline in 2016; and today partner organizations include the nonpartisan Dane County Voter ID Coalition, the League of Women Voters of Dane County (LWVDC) and Dane County NAACP.

"We greatly appreciate the County's support through funding and other resources to better serve underserved populations," Earnestine Moss, co-chair of the Dane County Voter ID Coalition and vice-president of the Dane County Branch of the NAACP said in a news release. "Voting impacts every part of our lives, from health care to climate change, and our goal is to eliminate the obstacles to voting that so many people in our community regularly face."

Contact Mackenzie Krumme at mackenzie.krumme@wcinet.com.

Verona Area Aquatic Center re-opens

NEAL PATTEN
Unified Newspaper Group

The Verona Area Aquatic Center, 400 N. Main St., re-opened to the public on Wednesday, Sept. 23 according to a Sept. 18 post on the Verona Area Natatorium's Facebook page.

In order to use the facility, guests must meet several requirements including being signed up and on the lifeguard's list for that particular 'swim time', arriving no later than 10 minutes past the start of their scheduled 'swim time', properly wearing a mask throughout the facility including the pool deck, and having

sanitized their hands at the door in the presence of a staff member.

"We are very excited to see all of you," the Facebook post read. "The health and safety of our pool guests and staff is of the utmost importance. As such, we want to communicate the procedures we will have in place designed to create a safe environment. Reviewing these procedures ahead of time will help to make your visit as easy as possible."

To view the complete list of opening procedures and to register to swim, visit veronanat.recdesk.com.

Neal Patten can be contacted at neal.patten@wcinet.com.

Coming in October
our NEW
Young at Heart Magazine!

This quarterly publication will feature articles and columns about life's next chapter. Empty-nester activities, health and fitness, senior living and MORE!

Does your business serve the senior community?
Call us today to reserve your spot in the Young at Heart Magazine

To reserve your spot or to get more information, please contact us at 845-9559.



Cancelled due to Covid-19

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