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Wednesday, April 16, 2014

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Library board calls for new site near river

Trinity Lutheran Church removal plan draws concerns; selection explained

By Nick Penzenstadler
Post-Crescent Media

APPLETON — A bluff site home to Trinity Lutheran Church and a banquet facility should be the home of a new \$40 million library, a 10-member library board voted Tuesday.

The unanimous vote came days after the consultant for the project revealed that the site scored highest in a study based on property layout, costs and feasibility.

John Peterson, president of the board, was adamant that the site selection was not a hostile takeover and said Fox Banquets & Rivertyme Catering approached the library in 2012 about purchasing its property.

“Obviously the sentimental and spiritual attachment of longtime members of Trinity Lutheran Church would be disrupted by this move,” Peterson said. “I have absolutely no interest or intent that the relocation be in any manner hostile to the church or congregation.”

Peterson said the decision had less to do with views out the building to the river, and more about aesthetics of a brand new facility welcoming residents downtown at a key gateway from the Oneida Skyline Bridge.

With Tuesday’s vote, consultants and the city will move forward with plans to build the 120,700-square-foot project at the site overlooking the Fox River.

However, Appleton’s council will hold a crucial vote in November on funding the \$40 mil-

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HEAR FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

To see video of John Peterson speaking about the vote, visit postcrescent.com.

INSIDE

Fox Banquets will carry on food businesses in meantime / A3

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON PROJECT STARTS WITH ITS BADGER STATE ROOTS

‘JAGS IN THEIR LEADERS’



Bob and Shirley Phillips, of Menasha, and their daughter Kathleen Thunes fill out a survey on regional terms from the Dictionary of American Regional English on April 11 in Menasha. ADAM WESLEY/POST-CRESCENT MEDIA

By Ariel Cheung | Post-Crescent Media

APPLETON — Linguists aren’t often called upon to solve crimes, but when a child was abducted in Illinois more than a decade ago, a handwritten ransom note was all police had to go on.

“Do you ever want to see your precious little girl again?” the pencil-scrawled message read. “Put \$10,000 in cash in a diaper bag. Put it in the green trash kan on the devil strip at corner of 18th and Carlson. Don’t bring anybody along. No kops!!”

Forensic linguist Roger Shuy quickly dismissed the misspellings of “kan” and “kops,” which he determined were the author’s attempt to mask his higher level of education since more complicated words like “precious” and “diaper” were spelled correctly.

But the phrase “devil strip” caught Shuy’s eye. That term, which describes the strip of grass between the sidewalk

and the curb — also known as a berm or terrace — is used in only one place: Akron, Ohio. And it just so happened the police’s suspect list included an Akron man. When police confronted him, he confessed to the abduction.

The term “devil’s strip” and its long list of synonyms can be found in the Dic-

See DIALECT, Page A4

ABOUT DARE

The Dictionary of American Regional English is a six-volume collection of phrases and expressions used across the United States, gathered from 1,000 communities during a 1965 to 1970 survey. In 2012, the dictionary was also published online in an interactive format. In late 2013, 50 years after the original survey, University of Wisconsin researchers asked Wisconsinites to participate in an updated version of the survey as part of a pilot project to expand and update the dictionary and bring it into the 21st century. To participate in the DARE survey, visit study.uwsc.wisc.edu/dare. For more information about the project, go to www.dare.wisc.edu. To access the dictionary online, visit www.daredictionary.com.

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Walker touts job, tax record in rally

Governor promises hope at Green Bay campaign stop

By Adam Rodewald
Gannett Wisconsin Media

GREEN BAY — Gov. Scott Walker officially launched his re-election campaign Tuesday with a series of rallies across the state that included a stop in Green Bay, where he promised “hope for the future.”

“Our vision going forward is pretty simple. We believe in less dependence on the government and more dependence on common sense, hard

ONLINE

See video of Gov. Scott Walker’s campaign speech online at postcrescent.com.

work and personal pride,” Walker said during a brief speech to about 100 workers and supporters at Ace Marine, 210 S. Pearl St.

The boat manufacturing company was the Republican governor’s second-to-last stop of the day with Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch. They also visited Dane, La Crosse, Chippewa

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Gov. Scott Walker announces his bid for re-election at Ace Marine in Green Bay on Tuesday as his family watches the event.

JIM MATTHEWS/GANNETT WISCONSIN MEDIA

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Dialect

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tionary of American Regional English, a project launched in Wisconsin in the 1940s. Fred Cassidy, an English professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, wanted to create a regional dialect dictionary for the United States, something that was already in the works in England.

From 1965 to 1970, 80 graduate students and professors traveled the country in vans they dubbed "Word Wagons." They surveyed more than 2,700 natives of 1,000 communities about the words they used in their daily lives to describe everything from mayflies to pancakes.

Editors then compiled the 2.3 million responses to the 1,600 survey questions into a dictionary. They got to the letter "Z" in 2012.

But with data that is now 50 years old, the dictionary is missing scores of entries for modern technology, machines and inventions. Its vocabulary is dated, so researchers are returning to the field to update and expand the six-volume dictionary and bring it into the 21st century. And they're starting, once again, in the Badger State.

Survey goes digital

In November, Wisconsinites were invited to participate in the updated survey. Instead of sending field workers in Word Wagons across the country, the dictionary, affectionately called DARE, went digital.

"It's a common perception that American English has been homogenized as we become a mobile population that reads and listens to the same media, but I'm not convinced that's entirely true," said Joan H. Hall, DARE's chief editor. "Certainly language changes, but there are things we've grown up with—you're not going to stop calling a bubbler a bubbler, and you might, in fact, take pride that not everybody says that."

The first time around, researchers targeted an evenly distributed range of communities that included places notable for historical events or ethnic groups. Big cities with great shifts in population were avoided. The primary focus was on older people, and ideal participants were lifelong residents, which provided for more localized responses.

"If you think about people who were 80 at that time, they had lived through tremendous changes in our society," Hall said. "When they were young, they didn't have cars or TVs or radios. So they would remember the terms for old-fashioned farming and things before electrification."

In Wisconsin, the 22 communities surveyed in the 1960s stretched from larger cities like Janesville and La Crosse to small communities like Bayfield and Jim Falls.

TARGET COMMUNITIES

Original: Algoma, Antigo, Bayfield, Belmont, Burlington, Florence, Janesville, Jefferson, Jim Falls, Juneau, La Crosse, Lancaster, Manitowoc, Menomonee Falls, Necedah, New Berlin, Pepin, Portage, River Falls, Superior, Washington Island and Wautoma.

New: Argyle, Baraboo, Belgium, Boaz, Chippewa Falls, Delavan, Doylestown, Elderon, Elm Grove, Genoa City, Horicon, Howards Grove, Kewaunee, Linden, Marinette, Menasha, Milwaukee, New Lisbon, Ogdensburg, Oshkosh, Plymouth, Pleasant Prairie, Randolph, Richfield, Richland Center, South Milwaukee, Spooner, Watertown and Webster.

TRY IT OUT

To take a quiz on how well you know Wisconsin expressions and to explore a map of local answers to the original DARE survey, go to this report on postcrescent.com/DARE.

The 2014 update added 29 communities to the list, including Milwaukee, Oshkosh and Menasha. Researchers hope to find lifelong residents or people who have lived in the community for at least 15 years, but responses from all age groups will be accepted.

"We talked with people at the applied populations lab at UW and worked with them to find communities that were representative of the state in terms of geographical distribution," Hall said. "But we also wanted to sample as many kinds of populations as we can, from large cities to villages and rural areas."

The number of questions has grown from 1,600 to 2,600 in 41 categories, which include everything from favorite card games to nicknames for the toilet. The goal is to have one completed questionnaire for each community before the survey ends June 30. If the Wisconsin pilot project is successful, a nationwide reboot could take place, Hall said.

Survey evolves into family bonding

In a sparsely decorated office in a Touchmark Village cottage in the Town of Menasha, Bob and Shirley Phillips are chuckling over one of the questions in the courtship section of the DARE survey.

"Nicknames or affectionate names for a sweetheart," reads Shirley Phillips, 78. "Well, what do I call you, Bob?"

Their daughter, Kathleen Thunes, is helping her parents work through various sections of the online survey. The three are huddled around the computer, and they exchange stories and possible answers for the different questions.



Shirley Phillips of Menasha and daughter Kathleen Thunes fill out a survey on regional terms from the Dictionary of American Regional English. ADAM WESLEY/POST-CRESCENT MEDIA

"It brings back memories," Shirley Phillips says during a break. "The older I get, I pop out with these expressions I haven't used or needed in years. And it's fun to do together."

When the family reaches a question in the food section about the types of biscuits in the area, she pauses, hovering the mouse over the answer "saleratus biscuits."

"My dad used that word," she says. "It's just another word for baking-powder biscuits."

She flips through the next couple of questions, which ask how she pronounced the word "syrup" (rhymes with *fear* up? *fir* up?) and other names she has for pancakes.

"Flapjacks are a family recipe," Thunes said. "They're more similar to crepes."

Thunes attended a meeting earlier this month at the Menasha Public Library, where Hall discussed the various uses of DARE and invited participants to try the survey. She said she's always been interested in dialect and linguistics, and figured her parents, longtime residents of the area, would be ideal subjects for the survey.

The variety and range of answers for the questions were surprising, Shirley Phillips says.

"We read a lot, and we think our vocabulary is generalized, but maybe it isn't as general as we thought," she says. "But there are a lot of different nationalities here."

Even after 100 years, she says, Little Chute is still predominately Dutch; Menasha, mostly Polish.

"You'd think it would have dissipated," she adds.

DARE used in unexpected ways

Forensic linguists aren't the only ones who use DARE to assist with their work, Hall said. Physicians have called with questions about their patients' ailments, like getting "jags in their leaders," otherwise known as pains in the neck.

A University of Chicago psychiatrist consulted the DARE office about strange responses to the Boston Naming Test, which shows pictures of items for the patient to identify to determine if they're suffering from aphasia, a type of language disorder. Southern patients looked at pictures of stilts and called them "tommy walkers,"

which wasn't listed in the answer key. "We assumed librarians would use it, and of course they do," Hall said. "Lawyers use it to figure out if a work is trademark-able or if they're reading testimony of a person from a different part of the country, they look up a word to make sure the meaning isn't different in a different place."

Others have found val in audio recordings of

participants from the original 1960s survey.

"Dialect coaches and actors use the audio recordings, and oral historians love it," she said. "Folks from indigenous language groups say it's very useful, because you can search individual languages and find all the entries that come from Algonquin or other languages."

Diane Keaton studied the tapes to perfect her Mississippi drawl in the

1986 film "Crimes of the Heart."

"We sent a variety of tapes of women from the part of Mississippi she was interested in for her to listen to," Hall said. "To some extent, we were surprised by how many different uses people had for DARE."

Hall said she is looking forward to evaluating the responses from the new Wisconsin survey and comparing them to how people spoke 50 years ago.

So far, 115 people have at least started the survey. Hall hopes that the number doubles by the end of June.

"Things that were distinctly Wisconsin words like 'golden birthday' and 'squeaky cheese' that are characteristic of this state—we can find out whether other people have adopted them," Hall said. "And there's no way to know unless we do the research."

—Ariel Cheung: 920-993-1000, ext. 430, or acheung@postcrescent.com; on Twitter @arielfab



It feels good when your child feels well

Jase and his mom are feeling much better these days, thanks to the care he receives at the **UW Pediatric Specialty Clinic** at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton. Born with a complex heart defect, Jase, now age 1, needs highly specialized medical care. Fortunately, pediatric heart specialists from **UW's American Family Children's Hospital** travel here to see Jase, saving his family a three-hour drive to Madison. With more than two dozen UW pediatric experts caring for children in the Valley, little miracle kids like Jase can spend less time traveling to doctor visits and more time at home. For Mom and Dad, that is time very well spent!

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World language loss looming in Menasha

District will eliminate program, teaching positions after failed referendum

By Jen Zettel
Post-Crescent Media

MENASHA—When voters denied a \$360,000 elementary world language referendum a few weeks ago, their actions showed officials they don't be-

lieve in the program strongly enough to fund it.

Almost a year ago, parents, students and community members filled the auditorium at Menasha High School to speak out against eliminating the 20-year-old program. Students could learn Japanese, German or Spanish from kindergarten through high school. Supporters said the program set Menasha apart from other school districts in the Fox Cities and should be saved.

At that time, the school board decided to support K-5 world language classes for one more year using its cash reserves, with the promise the issue would then go to a referendum.

School board president Joe Lingnofski said he wishes the outcome of the referendum would have been different, but feels the board did its job by listening to residents.

"I personally am disappointed, but again we did promise

the voters we would leave it up to them. We'll live with the result," he said.

Some residents have criticized the district for holding the referendum too close to the high school referendum of April 2013, District Administrator Chris VanderHeyden said.

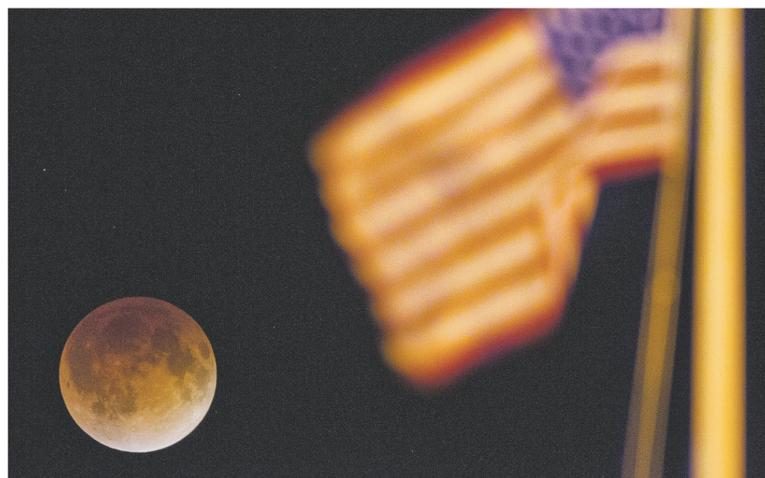
The district will send out preliminary notices of nonrenewal to three people who currently hold 2.5 positions in the elementary world language

program, VanderHeyden said. One full-time teacher left earlier this year and hasn't been replaced. That position will be eliminated as well, bringing the total to 3.5 positions.

While those employees knew their jobs were in jeopardy, VanderHeyden said "it's still no less traumatic."

—Jen Zettel: 920-993-1000, ext. 539, or zettel@postcrescent.com; on Twitter @jenzettel

Year's first lunar eclipse



The "blood moon" is shown with its reddish shadow during a total lunar eclipse early Tuesday in Appleton. It's one of four total eclipses that will take place in North America within the next year and a half. See a video on postcrescent.com. ADAM WESLEY/POST-CRESCENT MEDIA

Schroeder will run for Kaufert's Assembly seat

Post-Crescent Media

Town of Menasha resident Jay Schroeder has abandoned his candidacy for secretary of state and will run as a Republican to succeed Dean Kaufert as representative of the 55th Assembly District.

Schroeder, 52, ran for the Assembly seat two years ago but lost in the primary election to Kaufert, who has served the district since 1991.

Schroeder said the political landscape changed after Kaufert was elected Neenah mayor and said he wouldn't seek re-election to the Assembly.

Since November, Schroeder had been campaigning to eliminate the office of secretary of state. While that remains a long-term

goal, he said he can be more effective at reducing spending by the office as a lawmaker.

"By running for the Legislature, I will be able to spearhead the initiative to limit the budget of this office to reflect the duties it has," he said.

Schroeder said he also would work to ensure the Fox Cities get back what they pay in state taxes.

"How much do we send in gas tax down to Madison that gets spent in Milwaukee?" he asked. "I don't think we've been getting our fair share."

He previously served as a Town of Menasha supervisor and a Menomoneie alderman. He also has run for county executive, county supervisor and school board.

Governor

Continued from Page A1

Falls, Schofield and West Allis to promote their fiscal policies and job-creation records.

"Four years ago there were more than 130,000 jobs we had lost during the last year Gov. (Jim) Doyle was in office. The budget deficit—the deficit was over \$3 billion. Think about that. And taxes were going up. The future of our state looked, well, pretty dull," Walker said.

"Today we have a \$1 billion budget surplus instead of a deficit. Not only that... but we're lowering taxes."

Walker also promoted the creation of more than 100,000 jobs since taking office three years ago. He did not mention his 2010 campaign promise to create 250,000 jobs during his first term. Walker had repeatedly said voters should judge his time in office based on his ability to achieve that goal.

The governor's term has been marked by controversy. His 2011 measure to restrict collective bargaining for most public workers polarized the state, igniting large protests and an unsuccessful recall attempt.

Walker's opponent, Democrat Mary Burke, responded to the governor's re-election campaign Tuesday saying his "game plan has failed."

"Under Scott Walker, Wisconsin is falling behind. In job creation, we are 35th in the country and second to last among Midwestern states. Worse still, we are one of the worst in the country in new business starts," she said in a statement.

Burke, a Madison School Board member and former Trek Bicycle executive, came to Green Bay to announce her candidacy outside the Brown County Courthouse six months ago.

Walker chose to start his campaign on Tax Day, the April 15 deadline for completing tax returns, to emphasize a new campaign promise: "To put money back into the hands of the people who earned it."

"I don't hear people say, 'Hey, I don't send enough money to Madison,'" said Walker, who added that he'd continue lowering taxes if elected to a second term.

Tuesday was also the first day candidates could begin circulating petitions to get on the ballot. Their paperwork is due June 2. The general election is Nov. 4.

Walker came to Green Bay wearing a blue-colored shirt and blue jeans and was joined by his wife and two sons as well as Kleefisch and her family, state Rep. Joel Kleefisch and two daughters.

"Today I'm asking for your vote again so every son or daughter, every

grandson and granddaughter can grow up in a state that's even better than the one we grew up in," Walker said. "I know we're headed in the right direction. I know we're moving forward. Wisconsin is back on."

A poll recently released by Wisconsin Public Radio and St. Norbert College Strategic Research Institute found that 97 percent of Republicans and 53 percent of in-

dependents said they would vote for Walker if the election were held today.

The random survey, which talked to 401 Wisconsin residents by landlines and cellphones, was

conducted March 24 to April 3. It has a margin of error of 5 percentage points.

—Adam Rodewald writes for Press-Gazette Media, Green Bay.

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St. Elizabeth Hospital Cancer Center

I'm **KAYCIE HELEIN** of Menasha. I try to live in the moment — both on and off my yoga mat. It has taught me how to quiet my mind and accept the things I can't change. But when I was diagnosed with **BREAST CANCER** I feared what I have been taught to accept: uncertainty. The team at St. Elizabeth Hospital Cancer Center quickly calmed my fears. My **NURSE NAVIGATOR** guided me through the process and my **GENETIC COUNSELOR** armed me with knowledge and peace of mind. I'm living proof that expert doctors, leading-edge technology and personalized care make Affinity **THE LEADER IN CANCER CARE.**

Left to right: Dr. Robert Kohl – Radiation Oncologist, Thea Johnson – Genetic Counselor, Darci Grota – Breast Cancer Nurse Navigator, Dr. Deidre Flanagan – Surgeon, Dr. Timothy Goggins – Medical Oncologist

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