

RECIPES

EVENTS

SYMBOL SEARCH

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WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* June 2021 NEWS

A MONTH FOR MILK



OCONTO ELECTRIC
OEC
COOPERATIVE



Jayden Arndt



Ethan Brooks



Cameron Compe



Aubrey DeBauch



Grace Fischer



Nolan Gruis



Madelyn Hoida



Sophia Lally



Brett Norling



Aiden Stary



Valerie Vande Corput



Alissa Wenzel

Congratulations

Oconto Electric Cooperative is proud to announce our 2021 scholarship recipients. This year OEC was able to award twelve scholarships each in the amount of \$2,500. Scholarships are made possible through unclaimed capital credits.

Jayden Arndt, daughter of Jerome and Sara Arndt, senior at Oconto Falls High School, plans to pursue a nursing degree at UW-Madison.

Ethan Brooks, son of Aaron and Star Malczewski, senior at Oconto High School, will be attending UW-Stevens Point to become a music teacher.

Cameron Compe, daughter of Bryan and Kari Compe, senior at Coleman High School, plans to major in biology at UW-Madison.

Aubrey DeBauch, daughter of Chad and Michele DeBauch, senior at Gillett High School, plans to major in biology and minor in chemistry at Cardinal Stritch University with the goal of being a large animal veterinarian.

Grace Fischer, daughter of Phil and Tricia Fischer, senior at Suring High School, will attend UW-Green Bay to study social work or finance.

Nolan Gruis, son of Angela Gruis, senior at Faith Christian School in Coleman, will study accounting at Grand Canyon University.

Madelyn Hoida, daughter of Jeremy and Dawn Hoida, senior at Coleman High School, will study to become a dental hygienist at NWTC.

Sophia Lally, daughter of David and Jennifer Lally, senior at Suring High School, plans on attending Concordia University to major in occupational therapy.

Brett Norling, daughter of Brad and Polly Norling, senior at Oconto Falls High School, plans to major in elementary education with a minor in business from UW-Oshkosh.

Aidan Stary, son of John and Staci Stary, senior at Oconto Falls High School, plans on pursuing a degree in physical therapy at UW-Stevens Point.

Valerie Vande Corput, daughter of Ken and Sarah Vande Corput, senior at Gillett High School, will be attending NWTC to pursue nursing.

Alissa Wenzel, daughter of Allen and Melissa Wenzel, senior at Lena High School, plans to major in nursing at Bellin College.



A DAY AT THE FARM

OEC MEMBERS HOST OCONTO COUNTY BREAKFAST ON THE FARM

This event is a great opportunity to promote and support the industry, educate the public, and provide an experience for those who have never witnessed the daily operations of a farm. There is a very supportive group in Oconto County that puts on this breakfast.

Alsteen Farms, LLC is excited to showcase their farm for the 2021 Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm (originally scheduled for 2020 but postponed because of COVID-19). The farm last hosted Breakfast on the Farm in 2009.

The dairy was established in 1900 and then purchased in 1959 by Harvey and Marian Alsteen. They raised their three sons, Dave, Mike and Dan, on the farm. In 1993, Mike, his wife Pam, and their three children, Colby, Courtney and Carolyn, purchased the farm, which consisted of 85 cows and 400 acres.

The farm has continued to grow and adapt to new technology. The 85-stall stanchion barn was retrofitted into a double 10 parallel parlor in 1998 that is still used to milk 500 cows three times a day. Each milking takes around five hours. The farm also cares for an additional 500 non-milking cows. The Alsteens are very thankful for their nine full-time, three part-time, and seasonal employees who make it all possible.

The farm is currently in the process of expanding their current manure pit and constructing a new feed pad. The farm goes through 81,000 pounds of food per day (total mixed ration).

With cow comfort in mind, the free-stall barn has mattresses that are bedded with straw and sawdust and is equipped with sprinklers, fans, and cow brushes.

The Alsteens' acreage has increased to 1,800 acres of corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and wheat. The farm strives for sustainability to

"My favorite part of farming is watching the animals and crops grow. You get to see how all of your hard work comes together in the end."

Carolyn Alsteen

ensure environmentally safe practices by utilizing technology such as variable rating seed, variable rate fertilizer and manure applications, planting cover crops, and integrating best management herbicide practices.

Bring your family and friends to walk around the farm and go in the barns to see the cows. What better

way to see where your food comes from.

The only big change you will see this year is that the eggs, pancakes, and sausage will be in pre-packed containers.

Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm

Sunday, June 13 — Rain or Shine!

Alsteen Farms, LLC — 9399 Belgian Road, Lena, WI 54139

Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. with Bishop David Ricken

Breakfast served: 8 a.m.—1 p.m.

Menu: Scrambled eggs with cheese and ham, pancakes, sausage, yogurt, applesauce, cheese, milk, orange juice, water and ice cream.

Tickets are \$8 (Pre-sale tickets available at: N.E.W. Credit Unions, Peshtigo National Bank, Lena Fast Stop)

Entertainment: Live music, antique demonstrations, kids activities, safety demo



The Alsteen family will be welcoming guests to their farm for the Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm. Front row (left to right): Courtney and Carolyn; back row (left to right): Marian, Mike, Pam, and Colby.



On the farm you will get to see Holstein and Holstein/Jersey mix cows.

OCONTO ELECTRIC HOSTS IN-PERSON ANNUAL MEETING

It was a beautiful mild morning to host the 84th Annual Meeting at Oconto Electric Cooperative's warehouse, located at 7479 REA Rd. in Oconto Falls. Doors opened at 9 a.m. for registration, with the business meeting beginning at 10 a.m. With the COVID-19 pandemic still lingering, there was no meal served, masks were required, and social distancing was in place. (463103)

Just over 200 registered voters attended the annual meeting, fulfilling the cooperative quorum requirement. The members received a gift bag at registration and additional door prizes were given out after the business meeting. Vernon Gisenas ran unopposed for District 1, and in District 7, incumbent Todd Duame won over challenger Denise Langlay.

Following the annual meeting, OEC held its April monthly board meeting, where the first order of business was the election of officers. Election results are as follows: Todd Duame as chairman, Doug Allen as vice-chair, Dan Kanack as secretary, Tony Wagner as treasurer. Due to personal reasons, Dave Hischke stepped down as chairman.



Todd Duame was re-elected to serve District 7, and is your new chairman.



"The world has changed drastically. Let's keep working together and do the right things," said Byron Nolde, CEO. He talked briefly about rates being the number one concern of our members, and reliability coming in second. OEC is working on making sure that our system stays reliable.

MY CO-OP

CELEBRATE JUNE DAIRY MONTH WITH US!

Just complete this drawing ticket and mail or email it to Oconto Electric Cooperative, and you could win one of twenty-five gift certificates valued at \$10 to a local ice cream shop or cheese store.

Only one entry per membership. Entries must be received by June 30, 2021. Winners will be mailed their gift certificate. *Must be an OEC member to be eligible to win. Excludes OEC employees and directors.*

Return this form to:

Oconto Electric Cooperative, PO Box 168, Oconto Falls, WI 54154



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

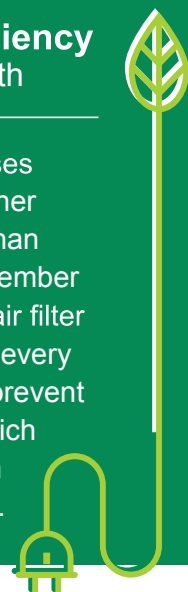
TELEPHONE# _____ ACCOUNT# _____

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE DAIRY PRODUCT? ☐ CHEESE ☐ ICE CREAM

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

A dirty filter causes your air conditioner to work harder than necessary. Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust buildup, which can lead to even bigger problems.

Source: www.energy.gov





Machickanee Flowage Partial Drawdown

Q & A

Q: What is the purpose of the flowage partial drawdown?

A: The purpose of the planned drawdown is for management of aquatic invasive vegetation and sediment compaction. The goal is to reduce the presence of aquatic invasive plants within the impoundment and improve fish habitat by consolidating sediments.

Q: Who requested the partial drawdown?

A: The Machickanee Advancement Association (MAA) in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and Oconto Electric Cooperative (OEC).

Q: How did OEC get involved?

A: OEC is the license holder for the Stiles Project, and therefore is required to request permission for the partial drawdown from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Q: What is the anticipated start date of the partial drawdown?

A: The week of July 6, 2021, depending on weather conditions.

Q: What is the partial drawdown level?

A: The water level will be reduced by approximately five feet.

Q: How long will the partial drawdown take?

A: Lowering of the flowage water level is planned to occur over approximately 10 to 14 days at an average rate of 3 to 6 inches per day (depending on rainfall).

Q: How long will the partial drawdown last?

A: Once the maximum drawdown of five feet is reached, the water level will be maintained at this level for approximately 70 days.

Q: How long will it take to bring the water levels back up?

A: The flowage will be refilled over approximately 10 days to a level within the normal operational range.

Q: What will happen to stranded aquatic organisms?

A: Inspections of the dewatered areas will occur regularly to look for stranded aquatic organisms, including fish, mussels, tadpoles and more. The organisms will be relocated.

Q: Who will be looking for the stranded aquatic organisms?

A: The MAA will be providing volunteers that will be properly trained by qualified DNR personnel.

Q: Will the boat launches be accessible?

A: No they will not be accessible due to reduced water levels. Walk in access may be possible but not recommended due to increased safety risks.

Q: Will OEC be compensated for their loss generation?

A: Yes. Monies will be received from various grants that are available to compensate the loss of generation.

HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBERS

Oconto Electric Cooperative hides two account numbers in the local pages of the *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* each month. (8402) If you spot your account number, call our office before you receive the next issue, and OEC will give you a \$15 credit on your electric bill or a \$25 credit if you have a load management receiver. The May account numbers belonged to Tim Eichman, Little Suamico and Michael Lemerande, Laona.

Byron C. Nolde, CEO

7479 REA Road, P.O. Box 168, Oconto Falls, WI 54154
800-472-8410 • 920-846-2816
www.ocontoelectric.com

Katie Jagiello, Editor



Where can I get a COVID vaccination?

RURAL CONNECTIONS
CRUSHING COVID

Marinette County

Marinette County Health and Human Services

2500 Hall Ave
Marinette, WI
(715) 732-7670 or (888) 732-7549
<https://www.marinettecounty.com/departments/health-and-human-services/public-health/covid-19-information/>

Transportation Services for Elderly and Disabled

Marinette County Elderly Services
(715) 854-7453
<http://www.mces.net/index.php/transportation>

M&M TAXI
(906) 863-5080

Marinette Veterans Transportation
(715) 732-7567
<https://www.marinettecounty.com/departments/veterans-service-office/dav-transportation/>

Aging and Disability Resource Center of Marinette County
(888) 442-3267
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/consumer/marinette.htm>

MTM, Inc.
(866) 907-1493
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/nemt/index.htm>

Menominee County

Menominee County Human Services
W3272 Wolf River Rd, Keshena, WI 54135
(715) 799-3861
<https://www.co.shawano.wi.us/departments/?department=5c6edb95d748>

Transportation Services for Elderly and Disabled

Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Wolf River Region
(Serving Menominee, Oconto and Shawano Counties and Stockbridge-Munsee Community)

(855) 492-2372
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/consumer/wolfriver.htm>

Menominee Regional Public Transit / ADA Para-Transit Service
(Ride Sharing)
(715) 799-3222
(877) 648-9287
<https://www.mitwbus.com/ADAInfo.html>

MTM, Inc.
(866) 907-1493
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/nemt/index.htm>

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin

Menominee Tribal Clinic
W3275 Wolf River Drive
Keshena, WI 54135-0970
(715) 799-3361
<https://www.menominee-nsn.gov/Covid-19.aspx>

Transportation Services for Elderly and Disabled

Menominee Regional Public Transit / ADA Para-Transit Service
(Ride Sharing)
(715) 799-3222
(877) 648-9287
<https://www.mitwbus.com/ADAInfo.html>

Tribal Aging Services & Tribal Veteran Services
(715) 799-3729
<https://dva.wi.gov/Pages/benefitsClaims/TVSO.aspx>

Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Wolf River Region
(Serving Menominee, Oconto and Shawano Counties and Stockbridge-Munsee Community)
(855) 492-2372
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/consumer/wolfriver.htm>

MTM, Inc.
(866) 907-1493
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/nemt/index.htm>

Oconto County

Oconto County Health Department
501 Park Ave
Oconto, WI
(920) 834-6846
<https://www.ocontocounty covid.info/covid-19-vaccine/>

Transportation Services for Elderly and Disabled

Oconto County Commission – Aging
(920) 834-7707
<https://www.ocontocounty.com/programs/transportation-programs/>

Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Wolf River Region
(Serving Menominee, Oconto, and Shawano Counties and Stockbridge-Munsee Community)
(855) 492-2372
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/consumer/wolfriver.htm>

MTM, Inc.
(866) 907-1493
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/nemt/index.htm>

Shawano County

Shawano-Menominee Counties Health Department
311 N Main St
Shawano, WI
(715) 526-4818
<https://www.co.shawano.wi.us/departments/?department=5c6edb95d748>

Transportation Services for Elderly and Disabled

Kap Taxi
(715) 524-4040

Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Wolf River Region
(Serving Menominee, Oconto, and Shawano Counties and Stockbridge-Munsee Community)
(855) 492-2372
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/consumer/wolfriver.htm>

MTM, Inc.
(866) 907-1493
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/nemt/index.htm>

Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation

Stockbridge-Munsee Health & Wellness Center
W12802 County Road A
P.O. Box 86
Bowler, WI 54416
(715) 793-4111
(715) 793-5007
<https://www.mohican.com/covid/>

Transportation Services for Elderly and Disabled

Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe Medical Transportation
(715) 881-0725
(715) 881-0724
(715) 881-0870
(866) 907-1493
<https://www.mohican.com/medical-transport/>

Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Wolf River Region
(Serving Menominee, Oconto, and Shawano Counties and Stockbridge-Munsee Community)
(855) 492-2372
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/consumer/wolfriver.htm>

MTM, Inc.
(866) 907-1493
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/nemt/index.htm>

Tribal Aging Services & Tribal Veteran Services
(715) 793-4036
<https://dva.wi.gov/Pages/benefitsClaims/TVSO.aspx>

Remember, COVID vaccinations are FREE!