



John Ehlike/Daily News

Krista Lyman of Richfield smiles as the wind catches her hair and balloons during the United Way of Washington County fundraising event Tuesday afternoon in West Bend. The official kick off for its \$1.3 million campaign is scheduled for Thursday at West Bend Mutual Insurance.

United Way sets \$1.3M goal for 2014

Campaign kicks off

By **JOE VANDELAARSHOT**
Daily News

The United Way of Washington County has set a fall fundraising goal of \$1.3 million, an increase from the \$1.23 million it collected last year.

"We serve all of Washington County so we set this goal to better serve the 20 nonprofit organizations that we provide funds for," Executive Director Kristen Brandner said.

Brandner said last year the area United Way for the first time opened a resource center in Hartford that is also used by many nonprofit groups and organizations.

Tuesday's event to the kick off the 2014 fundraising campaign was hosted by R&R Insurance.

"They've accepted the 'Pacesetter' challenge," Brandner said. "By doing that they've agreed to raise 7.5 percent more than they did in last year's campaign and to help set the pace for others to contribute or increase their contributions."



Riesch



John Ehlike/Daily News

Rhiannon Murre of West Bend smiles as she holds her balloons to be released during the event.

R&R CEO Ken Riesch said his company was proud to host the event and become a Pacesetter because they believe in supporting the community that is supporting them.

"We work hard to take a leadership position in the community," Riesch said.

Riesch said he came to know just

how important the United Way is to the community it serves after a personal incident in 1998.

"I had a son who became a paraplegic and I came to know how important the organizations are that receive support from the local United Way," Riesch said. "The United Way is the cornerstone of the community."

West Bend School Superintendent and 2014 fund drive co-chairman Ted Neitzke said funds given to the United Way help a large number of people in the community.

"I'm a supporter of the United Way and all the services it helps fund, but it would be my goal that we could someday be able to eliminate the United Way," Neitzke said. "That would mean all of the communities needs are being met, but I know how important the United Way is here. I know that 40 percent of the students who walk into our schools have a family income that is below the poverty line."

Neitzke said donations to the local United Way are "an investment in helping the local community become better."

"When I was a child the services of the United Way helped me become what I am today," Neitzke. "I work for the United Way campaign to thank the others who helped me and to help set up others for success in their lives."

White bridge a unanimous choice

Recommendation to go before Common Council

By **DAVE RANK**
Daily News

A bowstring truss foot-bridge painted white is the unanimous choice for the new pedestrian/bicycle bridge that will be built across the Milwaukee River downtown next year.

That is the recommendation coming out of West Bend's Milwaukee River Pedestrian Advisory Committee on Tuesday that will go to the Common Council on Sept. 22.

The council will have the final say on the project, Mayor Kraig Sadownikow said.

With an estimated cost around \$900,000, the bridge project will link North Main Street with Veterans Avenue and the Museum of Wisconsin Art.

The city has a budget of \$860,000 for the entire project, but there have been discussions to generate contributions that would cover the rest of the cost, Sadownikow said.

No one on the committee favored the less expensive alternative being considered, a weathered steel — or more commonly referred to as "rusty" — finish for the 90-foot crossing.

Nor was there much opposition to a painted bridge from the public.

"Anyone want to speak up for the weathered steel?" Sadownikow asked. "If so, you would be the first."

"It needs to be white," MOWA Executive Director and CEO Laurie

Winters said.

Public comments during a public listening session held by the city Aug. 26 all favored the painted bridge, Sadownikow said, as did nearly all email comments received at City Hall after the session.

About 50 letters sent to the advisory committee all said the painted bridge was preferred over a "rusty" bridge, Winters said.

The only opposition heard by city officials, the mayor said, was against the entire project. I've had two, maybe three, emails that weren't in support of the bridge at all," he said. "Those folks who support the bridge, support the white bridge. I do, too."

"Obviously, it's unanimous," said Craig Hoepfner, director of the West Bend Park, Recreation and Forestry Department. "For the first time in the history of West Bend, everyone wants the same thing."

"There is an agreement between the museum and the city that this bridge be built," Prudence Pick Hwy said. "I think it's important the public understands that. There is, basically, a contractual agreement."

Pick Hwy is a member of the advisory committee and a board member for both MOWA and West Bend Economic Development Corp.

The \$9.3 million MOWA opened last year at 205 Veterans Ave. in the city's Tax Incremental Financing District 9.

"The city encouraged the museum to build in the struggling TIF 9," Pick Hwy said.

The project includes renovations to the pocket park on North Main Street and removal of two existing

pedestrian bridges. The cost ranges from \$928,000 to \$963,000 depending on the finish chosen.

To be removed are the concrete Ziegler Co. bridge to the north and the abandoned elevated walkway south of the new bridge site that once directly linked North Main Street to the long-gone West Bend Outlet Mall on Veterans Avenue.

The 40-plus-years-old Ziegler bridge will be removed because it is costly to maintain and removing it helps meet federal- and state-mandated hydraulics standards for the river, City Engineer Max Marechal said.

West Bend has received federal funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program, which will reimburse the city for much of the bridge project. Private donations also have been received. Additional funds would come from the TIF district.

If the Common Council approves the project recommendation, bids would go out asking for the costs of both the painted and unpainted finish, Sadownikow said.

"The bridge will be built within the (2015) timeframe no matter what," Marechal said. "We're trying to make it happen all at once as part of the same project."

The bridge is considered the first step in the city's long-term plans to renovate the Milwaukee River to make the river a more attractive draw for visitors to downtown.

"We should be happy, proud and excited that we're on the cusp of doing something has been talked about in the city for 100 years," Sadownikow said.

CRIME BRIEFS

Man arrested for resisting officers

A 41-year-old West Bend man was arrested for resisting after officers wanted to speak to him and he allegedly tried to push past them.

At about 6:30 p.m. Friday, West Bend officers went to speak to the man on the northwest side of West Bend about an unrelated investigation.

He allegedly tried to get inside his apartment and refused to comply with the officers. Officers got him to the ground and took him into custody. He was jailed for resisting an officer.

Man reportedly passed out in car

A 40-year-old West Bend man was cited for first-offense operating while intoxicated after someone reported him passed out in a car. At about 3 a.m. Sunday, the police received a report of a man passed out behind the steering wheel of a car in the 1300 block of N. 11th Ave.

He allegedly refused the field sobriety tests and was cited for first-offense operating while intoxicated. He was placed in jail on a 12-hour hold.

Teen jailed for taking car, another teen gets citation

A 19-year-old Fond du Lac man was jailed for taking a car without the owner's consent and a 17-year-old Fond du Lac boy was cited after their car was stopped in West Bend for a broken headlight.

At about 12:30 a.m. Monday, a 19-year-old Fond du Lac man was stopped for having a broken headlight near Seventh Avenue and Elm Street.

During the investigation the officer determined the man and a 17-year-old Fond du Lac boy had been drinking. The man was arrested for absolute sobriety and the boy was cited for underage drinking.

The investigation revealed the man didn't

have permission to drive the car and was jailed for operating a motor vehicle without the owner's consent.

3 cited for alcohol violations

Three people received alcohol related citations Tuesday in West Bend after the driver of their car was stopped for not dimming the headlights.

At about 1:30 a.m., a 30-year-old Cascade man was stopped for not dimming his headlights near Main Street and Decorah Road.

During the investigation the officer saw open beer bottles in the car and it was determined the driver and a 31-year-old West Bend woman and a 19-year-old West Bend woman, who were passengers in the car, were drinking.

The man failed the field sobriety tests and was cited for first-offense operating while intoxicated, possession of drug paraphernalia and open intoxicants. The 19-year-old woman was cited for underage drinking and the 31-year-old woman was cited for open intoxicants.

Man allegedly drove 20 mph over limit

A 29-year-old West Bend man was cited for first-offense operating while intoxicated after an officer allegedly clocked him going 20 mph over the speed limit on River Road in West Bend.

At about 11 p.m. Saturday, an officer tried to stop the motorcycle and the man allegedly made evasive maneuvers and passed a car on Green Tree Road.

The man stopped in his parking lot and ran to his home. He was arrested while trying to get in the door. He was allegedly intoxicated and failed the field sobriety tests. He was also jailed for eluding an officer.

Reports are from an email sent by West Bend Police Lt. Micheal Hartwell.

IN BRIEF

Still no charging decision in officer's shooting

MILWAUKEE (AP) — It's been more than four months since a Milwaukee police officer shot and killed a man in a park, but prosecutors still haven't decided whether the officer should be charged.

Attorney Jonathan Safran represents the family of the victim, Dontre Hamilton. He initially said Tuesday the family would be meeting with prosecutors that afternoon to learn whether the officer would be charged.

But assistant prosecutor Kent Lovern said a decision is still pending, and the meeting is only to provide the family an update.

The 31-year-old Hamilton was killed after a scuffle with the officer. Police say the shooting was in self-defense but the family says police have provided no evidence.

Safran said he appreciates that prosecutors are being careful, but the months-long wait has been tough on the family.

CORRECTIONS

■ A headline on Tuesday's Page A8 should have read: Council accepts 1 bid for work.

■ In the article that ran in Tuesday's Daily News, "Wild Work," sisters Michaela and Amanda Lane were incorrectly identified. Amanda Lane is training Aurora, Michaela Lane is training Mr. Bingley.

Development loan fund doubled

By **DAVE RANK**
Daily News

Another \$1 million in sales tax money was added to the county's Impact Revolving Loan Fund by the County Board on Tuesday morning.

The fund is administered by the Economic Development Washington County, which requested the injection of additional money in July to help with a number of potential business development projects.

This will double the amount of funding available in the Impact Revolving Loan, EDWC Executive Director Christian Tscheschlok explained.

The money comes from a reserve of local sales tax money socked away over the past years. The county initiated its half-cent sales

tax in 1999.

"I fully support it," County Manager Joshua Schoemann told the board Tuesday. "We have a fund balance in our sales tax right now. I think it will bring jobs to Washington County and manufacturing jobs."

The County Board vote, which required a two-thirds majority to pass, was 26-1 with County Supervisor Marilyn Merten casting the lone negative vote. "The funding directed to this is funding the county could use in other respects. So I cannot support this," she said.

Details behind the request for additional funding were discussed in closed session by two board committees over the past months, Executive and Finance, with each recommending approval.



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**WASHINGTON COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC HEARING ON
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Tuesday, September 16, 2014; 6:30PM
Public Agency Center*
333 East Washington Street
Rooms 1113 A and B, West Bend

*This facility is accessible to persons with physical disabilities.

Presentation on current status of
Human Services Department

What community needs require our attention?

Citizen Comments

PLAN TO ATTEND TO SPEAK OR TO LISTEN