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December 2024

A Publication of the Howard Suamico Business and Professional Association • www.communitybulletin.org

Bay Port Band to perform at annual Howard Commons tree lighting ceremony

The Howard Commons will kick off the Winter season with their 2nd annual community tree lighting on Monday, November 25th at 6:00 p.m. The Bay Port Band will serenade visitors with holiday tunes, and all attendees are invited to bring an ornament to

add to the tree.

The opening of the ice rink will follow the ceremony. The Wandering Table, Sloppy Hog BBQ, Mila's Crepes, Big D's Nutz and Cottontail Candy will add to the festivities with their selection of dinner options and

treats!

Back by popular demand — reservations for the igloos will open on Monday, November 25th — with Thursday, December 5th as opening night. This year there will be four Biergloos available in the Biergarten

and four will be located on the North side of Pavilion. Known as Artic Abodes, these are perfect for families to rent to enhance their experience at the Complex.

Looking for some unique holiday gifts? Take a stroll through the Handmade Haven

at the Howard Commons — an outdoor gift market featuring local artisans on Saturday, December 7th from Noon to 6:00 p.m. Over twenty vendors will be on site showcasing their talents and allowing you to cross some names off of your shopping list.

Follow Howard Commons Facebook page "Howard Commons Activity Complex" or visit their website at discoverthecommons.com for more information.

The Howard Commons Activity Complex is located at 550 Commons Place.



The Biergloos at the Howard Commons Biergarten are weather-resistant, transparent domes that provide reliable shelter from the cold and wet winter weather. They are a cozy place to enjoy their winter menu of craft beers and wines with a small group of friends.

H-S Historical Society's December activities

Thursday, December 5th will be the Annual Howard-Suamico Historical Society's Christmas Party to be held at Lifebridge Church located at 2496 Glendale Avenue in

Howard starting at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Saturday, December 7th the HSHS will make and sell booyah at Whispering Pines Tree Farm located at 3694

Airport Road in Oconto. Booyah will be sold from 9:00 a.m. until sold out.

Saturday, December 7th the HSHS will drive their vintage fire truck in the Howard-

Suamico Christmas Parade. The parade starts at 1:00 p.m. from Bay View Middle School.

Tuesday, December 10th the HSHS office and museum

will be open from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The HSHS office and museum is located at 605

Maywood Ave. in Howard. Just a reminder, the Howard-Suamico Historical

Society buildings at 12787 Velp Avenue are available for rent for weddings, reunions, graduations, or as needed. Contact Tim at 920-434-3514 or timras54313@gmail.com.

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H-S Optimists provide support to The Giving Tree



The Howard-Suamico Optimist Club Community Foundation donated \$2,000 to The Giving Tree to support their vision of an education without barriers. The Giving Tree focuses on equitable access to food, shelter, transportation, and resources for students and families in the Howard-Suamico School District. Pictured from left to right are Rick Colberg — Foundation Committee Chair and Kourtney Feldhausen — The Giving Tree.

From the Howard-Suamico School District Board of Education: Gratitude

In the spirit of thanksgiving, the Board of Education and the Howard-Suamico School District (HSSD) would like to take the time to reflect upon and thank the many people who give their time, energy, and passion to make our school district a great place.

- 7. Staff
- 8. Students

The Board of Education engages with a variety of stakeholders throughout the year. We call these meetings Linkages. These conversations help the Board and HSSD connect with our shareholders, to listen, and to determine what items have immediate action and where we can grow and improve. We greatly appreciate the honest feedback Linkage participants share with us as it informs the direction of our District.

We are hosting an event called Stronger Together on December 12, 13, and 14. Stronger Together is one conversation that takes place over the course of three days. It is led by Howick Associates. The goal of this event is to have group discussions and come to consensus about themes that will inform strategic framework planning. During this event, we discuss where we've been, where we are, and where we want to go. We want to hear your voice! Please register by scanning the QR code.

Some of the groups we have met with since my time on the Board have been:

Thank you for making HSSD a great place to be! If you have any questions or are interested in having a Linkage with the Board, email amyruhr@hssdschools.org.

1. Active Older Adults - VFW, Historical Society, Optimist Club
2. Village of Howard and Suamico Officials
3. State and Local Legislators
4. Local Business and Workforce
5. Post-Secondary Education
6. Civic and Clergy/Community Groups



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 A PUBLICATION OF THE HOWARD SUAMICO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
 VOLUME XLI—NUMBER 12

CIRCULATION
 The next publication of **The Community Bulletin** will be the January 2025 issue. The paper will be in the mail on December 27, 2024 to 15,144 homes and businesses and can also be obtained at La Java, 431 Cardinal Lane in Howard.

NEWS
 The **Community Bulletin** is interested in printing local interest stories. These stories along with any photos can be submitted by the deadline for consideration in our next issue. Articles are placed in the paper on a "space available" basis. Information can be e-mailed to info@communitybulletin.org. When submitting by e-mail, please include "Community Bulletin Article" in the subject line.

ADVERTISING
 Advertising rates below are for members of Howard-Suamico Business and Professional Association. Ads to be placed in the January 2025 issue must be received by December 20, 2024. Please allow 2 extra days for ads that require typesetting and layout. When submitting by e-mail, please include "Community Bulletin Ad" in the subject line.

Ad Size	Dimensions	Grayscale	Full Color
Business Card	3.375" w x 2" h	\$63.60	\$82.68
3.375" Square Ad	3.375" w x 3.375" h	\$86.40	\$112.32
1/8 Page	5.125" w x 4" h	\$141.60	\$184.08
1/4 Page	5.125" w x 8" h	\$271.20	\$352.56
1/2 Page	10.375" w x 8" h	\$427.20	\$555.36
3/4 Page	10.375" w x 12" h	\$633.60	\$823.68
Full Page	10.375" w x 16" h	\$816.00	\$1,060.80

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Kim's Tae Kwon Do raises \$15,340 for charities at 21st annual fundraiser

Kim's Tae Kwon Do raised money during their recent tournament and fundraiser. Aiden Dohr Leukemia Fund received \$8,260 and Jerry

Parins "Cruise for Cancer" will receive \$7,080. Students, families and friends donated time, money, talent, silent auctions, and

baked goods for the cause. The main event was a board breaking marathon, students collected pledges to break boards in the marathon. Mas-

ter Penny Duggan, owner of Kim's Tae Kwon Do said, "This was our 21st annual fundraiser and the most successful. Students look for-

ward to giving back to the community at this event." Kim's Tae Kwon Do welcomes new students to try a class and experience our cul-

ture of being traditional, family oriented, affordable and fun. For more information, visit them at kims-tkd.com or call 920-434-2326.



Students from Kim's Tae Kwon Do raised \$15,340 for charities including Aiden Dohr Leukemia Fund and Jerry Parins "Cruise for Cancer". The main event was a board breaking marathon in which students collected pledges to break boards in the marathon.

Share your message in January's Community Bulletin

The next publication of the Community Bulletin is the January 2025 issue and will be mailed to 15,144 homes and businesses in the Howard-Suamico area on December 27, 2024. The deadline for submitting a paid ad or a press release is Friday, December 20, 2024. For more information scan the QR code or contact Bob Strazishar at 920-655-8278 or email info@communitybulletin.org.



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Become a recycling pro

Would you consider recycling to be an easy task for you? Are you confident that you know which items can or cannot be recycled? Make the time to understand more about recycling and become a recycling pro. Brown County Resource Recovery is here to help!

"While many of us understand the basics of recycling, there are still a lot of materials that are mistakenly recycled," shared Mark Walter, Brown County Resource Recovery Business Development Manager. "The trend of 'wish-cycling' still creates big problems for material recovery facilities across the country." When we make a guess at whether an item should go into our recycling bin, it can lead to costly damage to sorting machines, excess time spent removing the wrong materials and potential safety concerns for employees.

Basics, such as plastic and glass bottles or jars, plastic food containers, paper and cardboard and aluminum cans, should all be recycled in your curbside bin. In order for those materials to actually be recycled, they must be rinsed/cleaned out before they are placed in your bin. "One question we get pretty often relates to items such as soda bottles and their caps," added Walter. "It's not commonly known that bottle caps can be accepted for recycling as long as they are still on the bottle."

Additionally, there are items that can be recycled but not thrown in your curbside bin. "Light bulbs, household batteries and various electronics can be recycled, but due to their potential hazards, they should be brought to a specific facility such as the Hazardous Material Recovery facility (HMR) for safe disposal." The HMR facility ac-

cepts a variety of materials that can't go in your recycling bin but can be recycled. Batteries, such as AA, AAA, C, D, rechargeable and lithium-ion; and items like laptops, cellphones, tablets, wireless headphones, and gaming controllers with non-removeable batteries can all be brought in for free to the HMR as part of Brown County's Batteries NOW Included program.

"There are also many items that people think are recyclable but are not accepted in your curbside pickup such as plastic bags, Styrofoam and shredded paper," noted Walter. These items can be thrown away or brought to a collection site. Styrofoam is only accepted at Outagamie County's Resource Recovery Park. Additionally, Tri-County Recycling notes that any material smaller than a credit card is too small to get recycled in our system.

While the Resource Recov-

ery website is a great resource for information and answers, there are additional tools community members can use when they are out and about. Tri-County Recycling's Waste Wizard is a quick and easy search tool to identify how to dispose of materials in Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago counties. Individuals can even download the free

Betterbin app that allows you to scan a barcode and instantly learn how to dispose of it. Plus, you can earn rewards for your great work with the app.

"Recycling properly doesn't need to be a difficult task," Walter added. "There are a lot of resources that are available to help you #recyclelight."



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Consider tax-smart charitable gifts

Submitted by *Lee Schram, CEPA®, AAMS™, Financial Advisor Edward Jones*

As we enter the annual season of giving, you might be thinking of charities you wish to support. But you also might be wondering how to gain some tax benefits from your gifts.

It used to be pretty straightforward: You wrote a check to a charity and then deducted the amount of the gift, within limits, from your taxes. But a

few years ago, as part of tax law changes, the standard deduction was raised significantly, so fewer people were able to itemize deductions. Consequently, there was less financial incentive to make charitable gifts.

Of course, this didn't entirely stop people from making them. And it's still possible to gain some tax advantages, too.

Here are a few tax-smart charitable giving strategies:

• Bunch your charitable gifts into one year. If you combine a few years' worth of charitable gifts in a single

year, you could surpass the standard deduction amount and then itemize deductions for that year. In the years following, you could revert to taking the standard deduction.

• Make qualified charitable distributions. Once you turn 73 (or 75 if you were born in 1960 or later), you must start taking withdrawals from your traditional or inherited IRA. These withdrawals — technically called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — are taxable at your personal income tax rate, so, if the amounts are large enough, they could push you into a higher tax bracket or cause

you to pay larger Medicare premiums.

But if you donate these RMDs directly to a qualified charity, you can avoid the taxes. And because these donations, known as qualified charitable distributions (QCDs), will reduce the balance on your IRA, you may have lower RMDs in the future.

Of course, if you need some or all your RMDs to help sustain yourself in retirement, the use of QCDs may not be of interest to you. Keep in mind, though, that you can start making QCDs at 70½, even before you must start

taking RMDs. QCDs up to \$105,000 can be taken in 2024.

• Consider a donor-advised fund. If you're interested in a long-term charitable giving arrangement, you might want to consider establishing a donor-advised fund. You can put many types of assets into this fund, and then direct it to make grants periodically to the charities you've chosen. You get an immediate tax deduction for your contribution, and, if you donate appreciated assets, such as stocks, you'll avoid the capital gains taxes you would have incurred if you simply sold the stocks and then gave the money to the charities. One note of caution, though — your contributions to a donor-advised fund are irrevocable, and

once the assets are in the fund, you can't use them for anything except charitable giving.

These strategies — QCDs and donor-advised funds in particular — can be complex and involve several issues of which you should be aware. So, you should consult your tax advisor before taking action. But if any of these techniques are appropriate for your situation, give them some thought — because helping a charitable group and getting tax benefits for doing so is a "win" for everyone.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



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Practical Obedience helps overcome the challenges of puppy socialization

Puppy socialization: It's more than just meeting the neighbors

Bringing home a new puppy is an exciting milestone for families full of love, joy, and anticipation. But it's also a critically important time in a puppy's development. Many new pet owners look forward to introducing their puppy to friends and family, but may not realize that puppy socialization goes far beyond those first introductions. In fact, socializing a puppy during its early developmental window can shape its temperament and behavior for the rest of its life.

The socialization window: A key developmental period

Puppy socialization begins as early as three weeks of age, shortly after a puppy's eyes open, and continues until around 12 to 16 weeks old. This is the period when a puppy is most open and responsive to learning about the world around them. However, for most puppies more than half of this critical socialization window has already passed by the time they come home to their new families. This makes the remaining weeks, typically between 8 and 16 weeks of age, especially important.

During this period puppies are primed to learn about the sights, sounds, and experiences they will encounter in their lives. It's a developmental phase that's all about acclimation: learning what's safe, what's scary and should be avoided and how to navigate the world. A puppy's stress system is also "tuned" to their environment during these early weeks, meaning positive experiences can foster confidence while negative ones can lead to fear, anxiety, or behavioral problems later in life.

What does socialization really mean?

When we talk about socializing a puppy, it's not just about making sure they meet the neighbors or have playdates with other dogs. True socialization means exposing your puppy to a variety of experiences, environments, people, and other animals in a way that's positive and non-threatening. If a puppy is overwhelmed or frightened during these formative weeks, it can lead to lasting issues with fear or aggression.

For example, if you plan to take your dog to parks, travel on busy streets, attend sporting events or visit pet friendly breweries it's important to introduce them to these experiences early, while their brain is still developing and open to new things. The more varied and positive experiences they have, the better equipped they will be to handle new situa-

tions as adult dogs.

Winter in Wisconsin: A socialization challenge

In Wisconsin, winter presents an additional challenge for families who bring home puppies during the colder months. With snow, ice, and freezing temperatures, it's easy to fall into the trap of keeping puppies indoors more often than you might during spring or summer. When temperatures drop and snow falls, opportunities to take a puppy to the park, introduce them to other dogs, or expose them to the sounds of outdoor life become more limited. While this might seem harmless, it can limit their exposure to important experiences.

Puppies brought home in the winter may miss out on the sights and sounds that are common during warmer months like bicycles, running children, swimming in water, or loud noises like fireworks and thunderstorms. Missing out on these seasonal experiences can leave a puppy underprepared for the world outside once they encounter these things after the socialization period ends.

For example, a puppy who never sees a bike during their early months might become startled and fearful months later or a puppy who has never heard a sudden loud noise like a firework could develop anxiety when faced with it for the first time. When spring suddenly hits and everyone is out walking their dogs and enjoying life outdoors again, it can be a surprising and drastic change for puppies who have only experienced the quieter winter months.

How to maximize socialization during the winter

Despite the challenges, there are plenty of ways to ensure that your winter puppy gets the socialization they need. The puppy raising team at Practical Obedience emphasizes to new puppy parents the importance of thinking "outside the box" when socializing their new canine companion. It's important to consider all the activities your family wants to include your dog in - year round - and create opportunities for your puppy to experience it positively now.

For families who love boating, water sports, or attending lively events, winter limits opportunities for your puppy to experience these things naturally. From stepping onto a wobbly dock to navigating through a noisy crowd at a sports game, early socialization and exposure play a vital role in ensuring your puppy becomes a well-adjusted companion who can join you.

Recognizing the importance and challenges of thorough and positive

socialization for puppies, Maggie Hansen, a Certified Behavior Consultant and owner of Practical Obedience has created a unique Puppy DaySchool Program. Designed to help busy puppy parents, the program offers structured exposure to a wide variety of experiences, preparing puppies for an adventurous life with their families. Puppies enrolled in the DaySchool Program are introduced to a range of skills and stimuli year-round:

- **Seasonal Preparation:** Getting accustomed to wearing sweaters, lifejackets, costumes and other gear.

- **Sound Desensitization:** Gradual exposure to fireworks, thunderstorms, and other loud noises.

- **Surface Navigation:** Training on different textures and unstable surfaces like ramps, skateboards, and wheeled objects.

- **Child Interaction:** Meeting and interacting with small children to acclimate to unusual sounds and movements

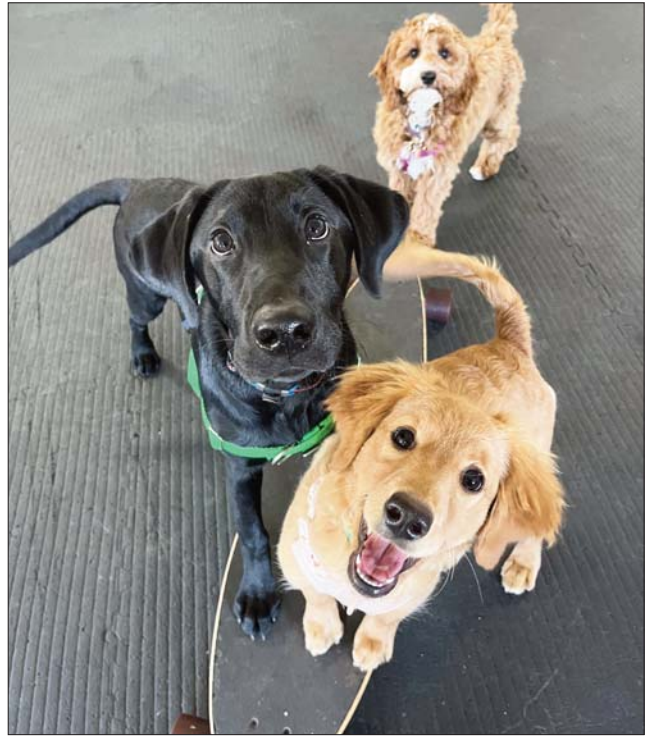
While the program doesn't include a boat or stadium for practice, the certified training team create similar scenarios, teaching puppies to navigate surfaces that mimic real-world challenges. This thoughtful training helps puppies generalize their skills, making them adaptable and ready for whatever adventures come their way. Ultimately, the goal is to make your puppy's early experiences as positive and stress-free as possible. By providing them with a wide variety of experiences, you're setting them up for a life of confidence, adaptability, and good behavior.

A lifetime of benefits

Proper socialization during the critical first few months of life can have a lasting impact on your puppy's development. Puppies who are well-socialized tend to be more confident, less fearful, and better equipped to handle the ups and downs of life. They're also more likely to be comfortable in a variety of environments and with a wide range of people, making them easier to train and more enjoyable to live with.

So, while it's tempting to focus on the cuteness of your new puppy, remember that those early weeks are about more than just cuddles and play. They're about building a strong foundation for a happy, well-adjusted dog.

If you're interested in investing in your puppy's future so they have the best chance at being the go-everywhere family dog you're hoping for, be sure to reach out to the trainers at Practical Obedience to discuss Puppy DaySchool and other training options. You couldn't ask for better help in raising your new canine companion.



At Practical Obedience's Puppy DaySchool puppies learn that unstable surfaces and wheeled objects aren't scary, preparing them to encounter new things later in life.

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From classroom to checkout: Retail skills in action at Bay Port

The school store is so much more than a place for students to purchase snacks, drinks, and Bay Port clothes. Affectionately known as Pirate's Cove, the Bay Port school-based enterprise (SBE), or school store, is the learning lab for the Marketing and Business Department at Bay Port High School. The SBE is open daily for students and staff to purchase products, and is open during select athletic events for com-

munity members. Sales have grown steadily since it was established in 2002 — growing from \$3,500 in gross sales to over \$100,000. Under the leadership of Lindsay Matuszewski and Stephanie Reinerio, Marketing and Business teachers and DECA advisors, the Bay Port SBE has evolved to become a place of active learning for students. When asked about how the SBE helps students to learn about marketing and

grow in professional development, Matuszewski said "Having a school store provides my students with a hands-on, real-world learning experience that applies the concepts we learn in the classroom in a practical setting. They are able to see how their marketing decisions, such as product selection, pricing strategies, and promotional efforts can directly impact the success of the business."

In 2022, the Retail Merchandising course was designed to allow students to dig deeper into learning. Students have the opportunity to research products, communicate with vendors, design marketing campaigns, and provide customer service to Bay Port customers. This one semester course is open to grades 10-12 and provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate career readiness skills are in high demand in our local community.

The learning activities in the school store align with DECA (marketing association) competitive events. Bay Port DECA has earned the SBE Gold Certification at the DECA International Career Development Conference for the past ten years. To be eligible to earn this prestigious award, students must showcase knowledge and hands-on application of the following: financial analysis, operations, marketing research, market plan-

ning, product management, pricing, distribution, selling, and human resources management. Funds from the school store are reinvested back into the business to replenish stock, upgrade equipment, and try new products for the customers. In addition, profits are used to offset the student and family costs for DECA events, including leadership conferences, marketing competitions, and advanced learning experiences.



The Pirate's Cove, the Bay Port school-based enterprise or school store, is the learning lab for the Marketing and Business Department at Bay Port High School.

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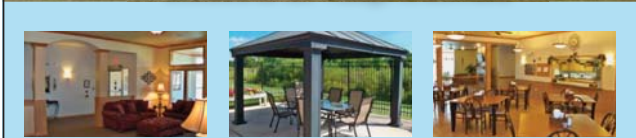
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Share your message in January's Community Bulletin

The next publication of the Community Bulletin is the January 2025 issue and will be mailed to 15,144 homes and businesses in the Howard-Suamico area on December 27, 2024. The deadline for submitting a paid ad or a press release is Friday, December 20, 2024. For more information contact Bob Strazishar at 920-655-8278 or email info@communitybulletin.org.

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Weekend workout: Dancers partner with Rake Up Green Bay



Many hands make light work. Parents and kids from Power of Dance team up at a Pulaski home for fall clean-up.

For the second year in a row, Power of Dance studio partnered with Rake Up Green Bay to give back to the community while providing volunteer opportunities for their dancers and families. Rake Up Green Bay is an event headed by the Volunteer Center of Brown County. They match groups and individuals with homeowners who need assistance with fall lawn care due to age, disability or limited resources.

free trial week of classes for anyone who would like to come learn more!

Two groups of Power of Dance volunteers raked leaves for Pulaski residents on separate November dates. Volunteer groups were composed of members of the Power of Dance All-Star team program as well as their parents and siblings. All the residents were extremely grateful for the help, and several enjoyed watching the progress through their window, seeing the kids working hard and having fun. Volunteer and event organizer Jeanne Nolle said that one of the homeowners told her that she's been in that home for over fifty years and wouldn't be able to stay there if she didn't have help from "neighbors like you".

Another homeowner came out post-raking to chat with the volunteers, and send them off with some candy as a thank-you. The interactions with the homeowners are truly the highlight of this activity, with kids being able to connect their contributions to members of their community. The Power of Dance organizes several charity and volunteer events throughout the year as part of their mission to give back to the greater Green Bay community. The studio welcomes students of all ages and backgrounds, and offers a



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For more information please contact Andy Caelwaerts at 920-676-5575 or Tina Seifert at 920-471-8264

Return all entries to:
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No 'kid'ding: Goats join sheep to manage Renard Island vegetation

Earlier this year, the Port of Green Bay awarded a contract to Woolly Green Grazers of Appleton for vegetation management at Renard Island. Over the past couple of months, the animals have been making excellent progress as they graze the island.

With all the rain this year, the island vegetation grew fast and tall. Renard island has a large variety of vegetation, including stinging nettles, marsh elders, phragmites, foxtail and Canadian thistle. Initially, there were around 50 sheep on the island in a rotational grazing process, with different groups of sheep on different quad-

rants on the island. Since the vegetation grew so rapidly this season, Woolly Green Grazers saw it appropriate to introduce goats to the island to assist the sheep. Currently, there are over 100 animals on the island. The animals have now been working in a mob grazing process, with all teams running side by side on smaller sections, changing sections around every 36 hours. This is true for all except the ram team, which must stay away from the ewes until their breeding time in late October and early November.

With the help of the goats, grazing of the entire island is expected to be complete by

the end of October, weather permitting. The current plan is for the flock to continue grazing until snow falls or the ground freezes.

"We are very pleased with all the progress that has been made. The Woolly Green Grazers have seamlessly adapted to effectively graze the island," shared Mark Walter Business Development Manager for the Port of Green Bay. "The sheep and goats offer a cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternative to mechanical mowing. They have covered a lot of ground over the past few months and have been successful in managing the island's vegetation."



Goats have now been introduced on Renard Island, in addition to the sheep, to help control the vegetation on Renard Island.



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