

Hello Waupun,

Before I get into my weekly update, I wanted to begin this week's column reflecting on the news of the week. On Wednesday, Charle Kirk was murdered, presumably for his Christian Conservative values. A couple weeks ago, little Catholic kids were murdered, presumably for their Catholic beliefs. Last summer, a state senator in Minnesota was murdered for her liberal pro-choice beliefs. This spring, the governor of Pennsylvania's residence was firebombed, probably because he's a Jew; an insurance company president was gunned down walking to work in New York simply because he ran an insurance company. In 2017 the Republican baseball team was shot in an ambush, and a member of congress almost lost his life.

Political violence isn't exactly new, since the assassination of Lincoln, we Americans have gotten used to having to protect our elected leaders, and fortunately we've never had to do so in a city like Waupun. I can honestly say I've never felt unsafe or scared, but my wife has had a couple moments that have spooked her. We've gotten a few strange postcards in the mail over the years, and once a homeless person rang our bell late at night expecting to be able to sleep on the mayor's couch. Waupun Police discreetly and professionally handled both situations. And while I don't want to overreact to the recent news, it has crossed my mind that if someone is willing to show up at a senator's door and shoot her, maybe someone would do the same to a mayor, or other locally elected officials.

As someone in politics and government, I'm all for passionate debate and pushing for what one believes in. I'm also Irish, and I've been known to get worked up and maybe say something I shouldn't have, it's something we've all done. But violence is never okay, and we all need to help to lower the rhetoric when it comes to politics. I have several friends from several different political leanings, and while we may not agree, we still like each other. I think it's important we remember that when we're criticizing someone for their beliefs, whether an elected official or not, that they are people, too. We all have feelings, and we should all be better at being respectful and agreeing to disagree.

Finally, we should all pray for America to heal. America has been here before, 1860's, 1968, etc. and we've always made it through. What unites us is more than divides us, let us not forget that; and may God bless America.

In city news, this weekend is Volksfest, I hope to see you under the big tent having a dark beer and enjoying polka music.

"Let's Go Taco" stickers have been showing up on signs around the city, especially on the boardwalk; one even was stuck on my Jeep. The stickers look like a Trump Pence sign, with the wording "Let's Go Taco." Taco is an acronym for "Trump Always Chickens Out". Now, I don't care if you like Trump or don't like Trump, but I do care if someone is vandalizing city property. Vandalism is wrong. Knock it off and if you get caught you will be ticketed.

On Tuesday, I attended the annual Disturbance Control meeting at Waupun Correctional Institution. I attend annual meetings at the different prisons where we go through training exercises just in case something was to go wrong. I also attend regular meetings at DCI, called Community Corrections. It helps keep the city, the county, the community, and the State of Wisconsin on the same page. Having three prisons in our city sure does make being Mayor of Waupun a very unique position.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone, and prost!

Thank you, Waupun, and God Bless you all.

Mayor Rohn

SEPTEMBER 15 – FLOWER WORKSHOP – 6PM AND 7PM – Christina from Kartechner & Girls Flower Company will be leading us in a flower arranging workshop. Follow along as you arrange a lovely bouquet to take home! Space limited. Registration + \$10 fee required! Call 920-324-7925 to register. Held at the Waupun Public Library, 123 S Forest St

SEPTEMBER 20 – PROJECT WATERWAYS – 8AM to 10AM – Join our annual waterway clean-up. Join the community in preserving and protecting local water resources. Together, we can make a difference and ensure clean water for generations to come. Held at Shaler Park, 400 N Madison St.

SEPTEMBER 26 – WAUPUN HOPS N SHOPS BEER AND CIDER WALK – 5:30PM TO 8:30PM. Join Discover Downtown Waupun for a fun fall evening of sipping, shopping, and strolling through downtown Waupun. Local brews, crisp ciders, and small-town charm await! 21+ only. Online tickets: \$35 through Eventbrite. In-person tickets: \$40 at Brooks Shoes & Repair.

SEPTEMBER 29, 30 & OCTOBER 1 BULK PICK-UP - The Fall bulk item pick-up with GFL will be held the week of September 29. Bulk pick-up is a service that is provided to all City of Waupun residential properties (4 units and under). Bulk items will be picked up on your normal trash pick-up date. Items may not be placed at the curb earlier than 24 hours before your scheduled pick-up date. If items do not meet bulk pick-up guidelines a door-hanger will be hung at the property the day of pick-up. A picture will be taken of the remaining items, and you will have 3 days to remove them. Please remember bulk pick-up is for large items that do not fit in a garbage or recycling container. GFL will be providing containers for wood related items only during bulk pick up as well. The dumpsters will be located at the Department of Public Works Garage, at 903 N. Madison St. The days and hours of operation will be Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 8am to 3pm during the bulk pickup days only. Residents will be required to show proof of residency. Material other than wood related items, will not be accepted and will be turned away. You may check out the guidelines for what is considered bulk on our City web-site at www.cityofwaupun.org.

OCTOBER 6 – NOVEMBER 10 FALL YARD WASTE PICKUP: The City's Fall Yard Waste pick-up is designated for October 6, 2025 thru November 10, 2025 (weather permitting). This service is for the disposal of leaves, grass, garden waste, and branches that are generated from routine yard maintenance. Leaves and brush shall not be deposited on the street. Leave grass clippings and leaves at the curbside loose, do not bag. Separate leaf piles and brush piles. Branches shall not exceed 3 inches in diameter. No tree stumps or tree root systems will be collected. The service is not intended for tree removal or lot cleaning.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 – CITY WIDE TRICK-OR-TREATING FROM 4PM TO 6PM.

COMMUNITY GARDEN QUESTIONS – Please call 920-324-4000 or 920-318-3335.

WAUPUN AREA VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL PROJECT: The Waupun Area Veterans Memorial Wall is located in Shaler Park and is a lasting tribute to all Waupun area veterans who have served or are now serving their country. Those veterans have served the country in times of war and peace from the War of 1812 up through present day. The project was started in 2004 and there are currently over 1214 veteran's names on the walls and more are added every year. For more information, or to have additional names added to the walls, call the project director at 920-324-4641. Application forms are also available at the National Exchange Bank & Trust in Waupun.

CITY HALL

Open 7:00am - 4:00pm, Monday-Thursday. Friday 7am – 11am. For assistance, call 920-324-7900.

CALL YOUR COMMON COUNCIL

Mayor Rohn Bishop 920-210-1063; District 1 – Jason Westphal, 920-210-5140, District 2 – Pete Kaczmariski, 920-324-2213; District 3 – Ryan Mielke 920-517-0854; District 4 –Mike Matoushek 262-470-5975; District 5 – Dan Siebers 920-205-3065; District 6 – Bobbi Jo Kunz 920-392-9366.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Contact Susan Leahy 920-229-6360. City Hall hours: Monday's & Wednesday's 10:00am – 12:30pm.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Call Associated Appraisal Consultants 1-800-721-4157

WAUPUN COMMUNITY CENTER (520 McKinley Street):

HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, from 8AM to 4PM. Tuesday & Friday, from 8AM to 2PM.

WAUPUN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am - 8:00pm, Friday-Saturday 9:00am - 4:30pm. Sunday CLOSED. Curbside pick-up is available. 920-324-7925.

WAUPUN BUSINESS ALLIANCE

Tuesday from 8AM to 12PM. Thursday from 1PM to 5PM. Additional time can be made available for appointments and special projects. For any questions you can call the Waupun Business Alliance at 920-324-3491 Monday – Friday, 8AM to 5PM or you can email at info@envisiongreaterfdl.com. The Waupun Business Alliance is located at 10 W Main Street.

WAUPUN UTILITIES

Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

For assistance, call 920-324-7920. An answering service is available to take your call outside of normal business hours.

WAUPUN TAXI

HOURS OF OPERATION: Waupun Taxi provides shared-ride taxi services in the City of Waupun. Hours are: Mon. – Thurs., 6 a.m. – 6 p.m., Fri., 6 a.m. – 6 p.m., 9 p.m. – 2:30 a.m., Sat. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., 9 p.m. – 2:30 a.m. No Sunday service. Phone number is 324-2426.

PARK RESERVATIONS: If you are planning picnics, graduations, or family gatherings, you may wish to hold your event in one of our City park shelters. Park fees vary with each park. To reserve a park, call 324-7930. Leave a message if no one answers. For more information: <https://www.cityofwaupun.org/parksrec/page/parks-and-recreation-home>. Parks are scheduled to open April 1st, weather permitting. They close October 1st.

THE ELDERLY IN OUR COMMUNITY DESIRE YOUR HELP!

There is a significant need in and around Waupun for a variety of services for the elderly. Some of these services include house cleaning, moving/downsizing, lawn/landscaping services, home repairs, snow removal, technology help and more. To that end, the ONE Waupun ministry is organizing the ongoing efforts to connect those in need with those that are able to donate some of their time. We plan to start offering these services to the seniors in Waupun soon; however, we first need to generate a list of people that are willing to serve. Even if you can only help occasionally, it all helps. We need both men and women volunteers. Also, we realize that some of you may be reluctant to serve right now because of COVID, but please fill out this survey with the idea that this virus should be less of a concern in the coming months. To learn more about this service and to sign up as a volunteer, please go to www.onewaupun.com and click on the “Service” link at the top of the page.

WAUPUN DOG PARK (903 N. Madison St.): Waupun is pleased to offer an area for local dog owners to bring their dogs to run and play, as well as socialize with other dogs. It is open from sunrise to sunset, 7 days a week, year round. Please use the driveway entrance to the Waupun Area Animal Shelter. You may stop in at City Hall (201 E. Main Street) for an information guide that contains the rules and regulations.

WAUPUN ANIMAL SHELTER INC.: Hours: Monday 4PM to 7PM, Thursday 2PM to 6PM & Saturday by appointment only. 920-324-3200. Please visit our website www.waupunareaanimalshelter.org to see all of the wonderful animals that we have available for adoption and a listing of our current needs.

WAUPUN AREA ANIMAL SHELTER SELLS BRICKS: The Shelter is selling bricks @ \$30.00. The 4 x 8 bricks will hold 3 lines (13 characters per line) and the icon of your choice. Order forms are available at the Animal Shelter. For questions, call the animal shelter at 920-324-3200.

HOUSING GRANT PROGRAM: Information on the Housing Grant Program can be obtained by calling MSA Professional Service, Beaver Dam, at 920-392-5142. Web Address: www.msa-ps.com

GLACIER RIDGE LANDFILL DUMP SITE: Glacier Ridge Landfill in Horicon has a dump site that is open Monday – Friday from 6:15 am to 4:30 pm. It is located at N7296 Cty Rd V, Horicon (off of Hwy 33). If you have questions you may call them at 920-387-0987.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING SERVICE: ELECTRONICS RECYCLING SERVICE: Bargains Galore Thrift Store is an E-Cycle Wisconsin Registered Collector of electronics (computers, CPU's, copiers, phones, mice, keyboards, printers, scanners, fax machines, other electronics and/or any household items with a cord). Recycling Fees effective 10/22/18: TV's under 27" - \$20, TV's 27" & over - \$50, Consoles, Projections & Over 50" - \$75, Monitors - \$20, Microwaves - \$20, Stoves, Dishwashers, Washers & Dryers, etc. - \$20. Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners & Dehumidifiers are NOT accepted. (All other electronic recycling is free.) Drop-off hours: Thurs. 10–8, Fri. & Sat. 10–2. 810 W. Main St. Waupun. (920) 324-8677 or www.BargainsGaloreThriftStore.com