

IN BRIEF

COLUMBUS

Fourth of July committee meets

The Columbus 4th of July committee will hold a meeting today at 6:30 p.m. at Jodee O's. The committee is working hard on the 2011 celebration securing entertainment, plans for the parade and fireworks, as well as parade entries and units.

February is always a busy month for the Ad Book Committee as they begin their efforts to secure ads for the booklet that will be out prior to Memorial Day. Shirley Hoffman is looking for a few volunteers to help with getting the ads. If you have some time and would like to help with this, call Shirley 623-2166 now, or come to the meeting tonight. Volunteers are always needed to help make this event a success ... now and during the celebration.

BEAVER DAM

Edward Jones sponsors event

David Geschke, an Edward Jones financial advisor in Beaver Dam, is sponsoring a free investment perspective seminar from 6 to 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 8, at the Senior Center/Recreation Building, 114 E. Third St.

For more information call Cheryl Hall at 885-4885.

BEAVER DAM

Pork chop dinner/auction set

A group of youths and adults will participate in the annual pork chop dinner and auction on Feb. 13, at 5 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 311 W. Mackie St. Proceeds will help defray the cost of their trip to the National Youth Gathering Convention in the summer of 2012.

This dinner is open to the public and tickets are available through Feb. 11 in the church office or by calling 885-4497.

WAUPUN

Alzheimer's group meets tonight

The Alzheimer's Support Group is here to help primary caregivers for people with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia, and others dealing with related illnesses.

Meetings are held each month at the Christian Living Center, 331 Bly St. The support group will meet today at 6 p.m. in room 200.

LOMBARDI TROPHY RETURNS



ARLINGTON, Texas — Green Bay Packers head coach Mike McCarthy holds up the Vince Lombardi trophy after Sunday's thrilling 31-25 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XLV. It is the fourth Super Bowl title in five appearances for the Packers and first since the 1996 season. Packers QB Aaron Rodgers was named the game's Most Valuable Player.

For complete Super Bowl coverage, see Sports page B1

John Deere resolves blizzard absences

By MEGAN SHERIDAN
Staff Reporter

HORICON — With a blizzard of epic proportions Wednesday, many companies were either running with a fraction of its employees or not at all.

John Deere Works Horicon held regular business hours for its first, second and third shift employees.

Initially, employees that couldn't make it to work due to the weather took a mark of absence on their attendance. Workers who hold perfect attendance for the year receive a \$400 bonus, according to employees that wish to remain anonymous.

According to IAM Local 873 President Brian Barth, the union, which represents wage employees at John Deere, has worked with the company to resolve the issue.

"We have worked together with the management of John Deere Horicon Works to reach a fair agreement on how to settle the no fault attendance policy issues that arose from the storm conditions on Wednesday, Feb. 2," Brath said

in a statement.

According to employees, a notice was posted by John Deere Works Horicon on Friday. It stated that employees would have the absence mark removed from their records, making them still eligible for the bonus.

John Deere Corporate did not wish to make a specific comment about their attendance policy when contacted.

"By company policy we do not make public comment on any of the terms of our labor contract including the attendance policy at our factories," said Ken Golden, director of Global Public Reputation Strategy. "John Deere has

not historically closed facilities for inclement weather and did not close our offices or factories in the Midwest due to the storm on Wednesday. We always encourage employees to assess their specific situation and determine whether it is safe for them to travel to work. Many of our employees did come to work on Wednesday, including many at our Horicon facility."

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Brian Brath, union spokesman

Vehicle crashes into river - again

Yet another vehicle has crashed into the Beaver Dam River at the Beaver Street Bridge, by yet another intoxicated driver.

It is the second such crash in a year, and the third in roughly a decade at the same location.

According to Beaver Dam Police Sergeant Scott Bahr, police were notified that a vehicle had entered the river at the corner of Madison Street and Ryan Cantafio Way. Police and fire department personnel responded.

The person who reported the incident and two police officers helped the driver out of the river. He was transported to Beaver Dam Community hospital by ambulance. A female passenger, age 29, had already made it out of the car and the river. She was also transported to the hospital by ambulance.

The male driver, age 34, was later arrested and cited for operating while intoxicated (causing

injury), operating without a license, inattentive driving and failure to have vehicle insurance. He was driving a Toyota Corolla north on Madison Street when he failed to make the slight curve on the road and crashed through a decorative fence along the river. The car floated down the river to about halfway between Madison Street and South Center Street.

The Beaver Dam Fire Department assisted as well, including the department's dive/rescue team.

Beaver Dam Department of Public Works personnel assisted and temporarily barricaded the damaged fence area on Madison Street. At this time approximately 16 feet of metal railing and fencing is displaced and/or broken.

The scene was cleared up by 4 a.m.

According to BDPD Sergeant Scott Barr, the individuals involved were "Lucky; very lucky" to have survived.

8/-6

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