



PRICE COUNTY REVIEW

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THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021

County reports 2 new COVID cases

BY **BECKIE GASKILL**
For the Review

After two weeks of no new COVID cases diagnosed within the county, two new cases were reported as of Monday, according to the Price County Public Health Department. One case had been confirmed in the previous 24 hours, bringing cumulative confirmed cases to 1,246 for the county. Statewide, 156 new cases of the virus had been reported in the last seven days, as of Monday, and 31 more were listed as probable.

The number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 still sits at seven for Price County. For the entire state, 7,373 deaths were confirmed to be due to the virus with another 838 probable. One death in the last seven days occurred and was attributed to COVID-19.

SEE COVID PAGE A2

MAILING LABEL ONLY

Board funds Books by Mail for 2021

BY **BECKIE GASKILL**
For the Review

The Price County Board this month was faced with a decision about the Books by Mail program in the county. It is the last of its kind, sending paperback books to residents who are homebound or otherwise unable to travel to one

of the county's libraries. The program serves 131 people now with a collection of popular paperback books that may be checked out from the library via an online platform.

The goal of the program is to mail books out within two days of each order. Postage is prepaid, but if users are able to provide return postage, it

is appreciated, as it allows the program to mail more books to more readers.

The matter also came before the Park Falls Council, which tabled any decision on funding until the county made its decision. The program benefits the entire county, and council members felt the funding should come

from the county.

Park Falls librarian Deb Hyde asked the County Board to grant \$6,000 to carry the program through the end of the year. She said the library would look for grants and other funding for 2022 and beyond.

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(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS BY CHERYL JANACEK WALKER)

Old-school farming

The Price County Antique Association hosted its annual Antique & Tractor Expo at the Price County Fairgrounds Friday and Saturday, offering visitors the chance to see antique tractors, machinery, tools and other artifacts that defined life in earlier times in Price County.



Phillips modifies campsite reservations

BY **ANNIE KNUDSON**
For the Review

The Phillips City Council convened July 13 to discuss a number of matters in quick order. No one offered a public comment to the full board in attendance so the meeting kicked off with two easy motions. First the June minutes and then the payment of vouchers owed were both approved with unanimous votes.

The third order of business was the lease of a used grader from the town of Worchester. The city, being in need of a different machine, approached the town to inquire about use of a grader which the town used infrequently. Worchester took the matter to its board and approved a contract in which Worchester agreed to establish a five-year loan for \$60,000. Providing background to the council, Director of Public Works Jeff Williams called it an "awe-



Campsites at the city's Chain-O-Lakes campground are moving to first-come, first-served after the reservation system the city was using became cumbersome for both campers and city employees.

some machine" and "a major upgrade on the grader we have." The city would replace tires on the leased machine and sell its current vehicle.

As he made a motion to approve the lease, Alderman Richard Heitkemper

said, "When you look what the needs were recently [for maintenance on the current machine], we need something. This helps both municipalities." Alderman John Klimowski seconded. A roll call vote with everyone

in favor passed the motion.

The city campground was the next order of business. City Clerk Shelby Prochnow explained an issue with the reservation process, asking the city to consider scrapping reservations. Prochnow said she worked each Monday to have city staff place reserved signs on campsites that were booked through the office for the following weekend. When they attempted to deliver this news to occupied campsites they were often met with frustration when campers, hoping to stay longer, had to move to honor the next person's reservation. Meanwhile, tags often disappeared when placed so soon on empty sites.

Prochnow said this is the second year the city has used the process. She asked the council to change to all reservations or none.

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