



LakeView seniors turn their tassels A3

All Saints chooses Holy Rosary for single campus A4



KENOSHA NEWS

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Fields of woe

Rain, mud thwart local farmers

BY JILL TATGE-ROZELL
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Little to no corn has been planted in Kenosha County, where standing water can be seen in fields and farmers report this is the worst tilling season in memory.

“Not this bad. It’s never been this bad,” Scott Van Slochteren, of Bristol, said. “You get years it sets you back a little bit, but not like this.”

Chad Daniels, of Mighty Grand Dairy in Paris, whose family will host the annual Kenosha County Dairy Breakfast June 15, estimated he is about a “strong month” behind schedule.

“We have yet to put any corn in the ground,” Daniels said.

As one of the largest dairy operations in the county, the Daniels family needs to plant 600 acres of corn to feed more than 1,000 cows.

“I can play with maturities and maybe go with a shorter-day corn,” Daniels said. “If we can get it in by mid-June, we’ll be OK.”

June 1 marks a crop insurance planting deadline for farmers, Daniels said. From that day forward, farmers lose 1 percent of their coverage per day the crop remains unplanted.

The story is the same across the county, where it’s unseasonably easy to get in touch with farmers — though it’s a situation they aren’t too happy to talk about.

There is standing water

in fields on Highway H in Somers west to Highway O in Wheatland. Only one farmer who leases fields on high ground reported having about 60 acres of corn planted and beginning to emerge.

Statewide, there were just 2.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending May 26, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service.

“Frequent rainstorms once again left farmers with little time for fieldwork this week,” the weekly crop condition report reads. “Soils remained wetter and colder than usual, and crop planting and emergence were well behind normal for the end of May.”



KENOSHA NEWS PHOTO BY SEAN KRAJACIC

A farm field is partially flooded in Paris along the 16600 block of Highway 142.

As of May 26, spring tillage was 68 percent complete statewide, 11 days behind the five-year average. Corn planting was 46 percent complete, 14 days behind the average.

Twenty percent of soybeans were planted statewide, 13 days behind the average.

Kenosha County farmers added they have been unable to get into the fields to harvest hay — which they would normally have completed by now.

“I’ve got 300 acres of hay to harvest in the next week,” Daniels said.

According to the statistics service, with forage

and hay supplies tight, some livestock producers are reportedly going to make their first cutting of alfalfa before the crop reaches optimal maturity.

“I usually have everything done by now,” Van Slochteren said. “I laugh about it; otherwise I get frustrated.”



KENOSHA NEWS PHOTOS BY BRIAN PASSINO

Tremper High School senior Reese Dutton high-fives Jeffery Elementary students as he and other graduating seniors visit Jeffery Elementary School on Thursday. Graduating seniors returned to their former elementary schools Thursday for the annual Grad Walk.

Grad Walk celebrates seniors

while helping younger peers see what’s possible

BY TERRY FLORES
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Samantha Krause stood inside Jeffery Elementary’s cafeteria with about a dozen other soon-to-graduate Tremper High School seniors Thursday morning, while their younger peers, teachers and staff lined up outside their classrooms waiting to cheer them on.

As the seniors, decked in blue caps and gowns, strolled through Jeffery’s hallways, they waved at familiar faces, gave out hugs and pointed at the classrooms of their old stomping grounds.



Jeffery Elementary students hold out their hands to greet graduating Tremper High School seniors as they visit the school on Thursday.

Krause, a Tremper senior who will be graduating today, was among the 140 seniors from Kenosha

Unified high schools who visited 19 elementary schools in the district Thursday as part of the

“Grad Walk.”

The event is intended to celebrate the seniors’ accomplishments while giving their younger peers a peek into what the future holds for them, too.

“It was a nice way to step back and look at all the things that I’ve done,” said Krause, who was with classmates she’s known since kindergarten.

Krause will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in the fall to study nursing.

“I’m so excited to be graduating,” she said.

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Kenall executive tapped to be next city administrator

BY JEFFREY ZAMPANTI
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Former Kenall Manufacturing executive Randy Hernandez is in line to become Kenosha’s new city administrator.

Hernandez, 54, was appointed to the position by Mayor John Antaramian after a series of recent interviews. The hiring will need approval from the City Council on Monday.

“I’m excited to be a part of Kenosha’s future and help fulfill the mayor’s and the city’s vision in terms of where we’re moving,” Hernandez said. “I’m excited about how Kenosha is going to become even more of a destination than it already is today.”

The Fond du Lac native was executive vice president of operations at Kenall, which relocated its headquarters from Gurnee, Ill., to Kenosha in 2014.

Hernandez is tentatively scheduled to begin June 17. He will replace Ed St. Peter, who recently notified city officials that he is retiring in August.

St. Peter worked 48 years with the Kenosha Water Utility — serving for many years as the department’s general manager — and assumed city administrator duties in January when Frank Pacetti retired from the position.

St. Peter, 67, was hired



KENOSHA NEWS FILE PHOTO BY KEVIN POIRIER

Kenall Executive Vice President of Operations Randall Hernandez is in line to become the next city administrator for Kenosha.

Mayor released from hospital after heart attack, procedure. Page A5.

by O. Fred Nelson in 1971. The Tremper High School graduate worked under seven mayors, 57 alderpersons and 16 Water Commission chairpersons while holding the responsibility of hiring hundreds of employees.

“I wondered if there would ever come a day when I knew it was time to say ‘Retire,’” St. Peter said. “That time has come.”

“I’ve been blessed beyond anything I could have ever imagined to be able to spend my entire career with one outstanding

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TODAY

High 84
Low 63
Details, B4

Mostly sunny

DEATHS

Margaret T. “Peggy” Goff, 96, of Kenosha, died Wednesday.
Lorraine Swift, 78, of Kenosha, died Tuesday.
Paul A. Casperson, 44, for-

merly of Kenosha, late of Belvidere, Ill., died Sunday.
Rosemary Michaelene Klein, 71, of Pleasant Prairie, died Saturday.

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