



The LEADer

Friday, July 15, 2022

"News that leads"

@leadwi

Macaroni Ponies Goes Ponies

Macaroni Ponies crew member goes ponies in desperate chants attempting to encourage the team towards a win.

By Hannah Mulvaine

Lori Rush, crew member of LEAD Wisconsin, was seen Thursday afternoon waving Macaroni Ponies' team sign around while prancing around and singing team chants. The game was close, and Rush was determined to do everything in her power to encourage her team to keep pressing on. Even if it meant being the loudest person on the quad.

The sun was out making sure everyone knew of its existence, as the animated campers marched to the quad. Even with the light breeze, beads of sweat started to make their way to everyone's forehead. Backpacks and binders were being strewn all over the sidelines as the competitors geared up for the final Feats

of Strength game, Rally Tally Baseball. Josh Howard began to explain the rules as the participants crowded onto the field. Finally the game began and the chaos was released. No one knew if it was a ball, a disc-golf frisbee, or a person flying directly at them!

Mid-way through the game, Rush saw the need for team encouragement. She started cheering louder than ever, and the cheer slowly progressed to dramatically swinging the Macaroni Ponies sign. As others joined her, she began to prance around, not to be outshined. With a sign high in the air, she rallied the ponies into a chant: "You are the mean green gators. You called us haters. Now we are going to get you out!" She was just as exciting to watch as the

Forecast

Today

High of 75° & Scattered
Thunderstorms



**THE GREEN
GATORS ARE
THE FEATS OF
STRENGTH '22
CHAMPIONS!!!**

campers. Joining in the energy, the Red Racoons began their own chant, "Our team is what? Red hot! Our team is what? Red hot!"

Her three sons, who were participating in the Rally Tally Baseball, all commented on their mom's enthusiasm. While the youngest, Jordan, said it was embarrassing, the elder two, Joshua and Jonathan said that they enjoyed seeing that side of their mom. Joshua exclaimed, "I thought it was a party!"

With so many campers kicking, throwing and catching balls, and with so many people scrambling around, hardly anybody knew what was going on—let alone the score. The winners were announced at dinner and, to the dismay of the Ponies, they lost by three points to "the mean green gators." Lori Rush is the real winner though for her phenomenal performance.



Camp Activities

Campers and staff reflect on Koinonia

LEAD Wisconsin attendees share about their experiences during Koinonia time each evening.

By Anna Morken & Josiah Scott

While we dealt with an abundance of work daily, Koinonia time allowed us the opportunity to discuss the highlights of our days with small groups. Koinonia is a Greek word that means fellowship. This half hour or more at the end of every day provided both staff and campers with a chance to discuss the day's happenings and truly fellowship together. Camper Lydia Turner shared, "It's probably one of my favorite parts of the day." Having a time where the only thing we were supposed to do is talk about our day helped us unwind and process all the things that were happening.

Not only did it allow each of us the chance to discuss the highlights of our day, but also provided us with the opportunity to encourage each other and spend time in prayer. Turner said, "My favorite part is when the leader (Megan MacDonald) asks if there's anything, anybody needs to pray for and somebody will pray for that specific thing." The campers enjoyed the time together

and shared many smiles and laughs throughout the week. Camper Tom Matiash humorously remarked that it was, "like being forced to hang out with friends but like in a good way." Staff member Elizabeth Williams and camper Anna Schmid shared that one of their favorite parts of their group's Koinonia time was the random quotes that came out of their evenings together such as, "not the soggy letter opener." Perhaps the greatest benefit of Koinonia time is the relationships that formed during an intentional time of fellowship. Williams said, "I think if we didn't have Koinonia, there would be much less community for LEAD." Koinonia allowed campers to meet with people they normally would not interact with throughout the day. After a day filled with caucus meetings and sessions, Koinonia gave us a chance to talk through the day with other people who gave insight and encouragement and also identified with the struggles and triumphs of the day. Koinonia time was a time of sharing

wisdom and encouragement with others that built a powerful sense of community throughout the camp. For me, (co-author Anna Morken) probably would not have had the opportunity to get to know fellow camper Elayna Uhl without Koinonia. We really enjoyed our time sharing the highs and lows of our days every evening. Uhl and I have discovered we share many common interests specifically in politics and enjoy each other's company. We have also exchanged contact info so we can keep in touch in the months to come.

Similarly, I (Josiah Scott) met Carson Batzel in my Koinonia group. Although both of us had seen each other before at LEAD last year, we did not interact because our caucuses were different. Although Batzel is passionate, bold and friendly to everyone he interacts with, I do not believe I would have met him if we were not in the same Koinonia group. Sunday evening we exchanged phone numbers, and I am very grateful to call him my friend.

Senate Bill 314 Public Hearing

Yorktown Gold discusses Bill that gives authority to county instead of city

By Sawyer Curtis

The Yorktown Gold caucus discussed their bill Wednesday during their public hearing. Later, I was able to catch up with some of them.

The Yorktown Gold caucus said their bill, in essence, is that "we are redirecting the power from unelected officials who are deciding what to do with

historic landmarks. And we're giving the power to elected officials that the citizens elect whose profession it is. So they're more accountable to the people." They also passed an amendment that changed the bill from focusing just on the city and county of Waukesha to applying to all counties.

Originally, there were two amendments, one from each caucus. Both of the amendments were fundamentally the same. The Yorktown Gold Caucus commented

on the two amendments, "Theirs was exactly the same as ours. And they still did not vote for it. It was their amendment. They did not vote for their amendment because they realized it



Senate Bill 314 Public Hearing cont.

help us.” The chair who resided over the committee said that happens often during real committee meetings.

On the other hand, Senator Carson Batzel of the Yorktown Blue Caucus said it undermined our American allegiance: “Our first allegiance is to God, then it is to the city, county, state and then to the Federal government, after that our allegiance goes to mankind in general.” He also expressed concern that history may be wiped out if counties are given control over historical places.

Senator Amira Oser from the same caucus said that this should be a court, not a legislative, issue. “Waukesha County did not exhaust all the local legal procedures it could have done to get the issue resolved.” She was also worried about the importance of the bill: “They haven’t brought up any statistics or evidence to show that it’s a widespread problem.”

Mock Legislative Session

Quotable Quotes from the example

By the LEADer Editorial Staff

Late Thursday afternoon, senators and representatives met for a mock legislative session to vote on Senate Bill 371, a bill to make colby the state cheese. In the end, the bill passed without amendments, 62 in favor, 24 opposed and 3 in abstention. The debate was quick and lively, especially concerning two different amendments suggested by Senator Thomas Matiash. The following quotes represent the high points of the discussion:

- Senator Thomas Matiash: “I have a dream that we, as a diverse Wisconsin, can amend this bill.”
- Jack Hoogendyk: “May I remind you to remember yourselves. Please retain decorum.”

- Senator Terpstra: “I am in favor of this bill because Wisconsin does indeed have a town called Colby.”
- Representative Rosenberg: (About Colby, Wisconsin) “Are they really a good representation of the great state of Wisconsin?”
- Senator Harper: “Does cheese have a race?”
- Senator Trego: “I don’t know if cheese is racist, but the better question is, ‘Does cheese have sentience?’”
- Jeidyn Smith: (to Sen. Matiash) “Wait. I’m not recording.”
- Senator Thomas Matiash: “Cross out colby both times and replace it with mozzarella and cheddar.”
- Senator Elias Matiash: “Mozzarella is Italian. That would be supportive of a country that is-less-great.”
- Senator Thomas Matiash: “I am amending my amendment.”
- Jack Hoogendyk: “Does anyone in



Notices

There will be a special edition of the LEADer available after this afternoon’s commissioning ceremony.

Note of Correction for “LEAD Campers visit the Capitol”

Overheard

“What a shame Dick Van Dyke had to live when movies were so rambling.” - Anna Morken

“What if our kids grow up to live for themselves—or become Democrats?” - Joseph Backholm

“You’re actually rapping the words of Song of Solomon?”

“Well, I’m leaving out some parts as they’re not exactly PG.”

If you spend time on screens, use it to find good memes. - Abigail Boorujy

“So you’re saying you would rather support something evil than go without the pleasure of coffee?” - Anna Morken

Submit your quotes at leadmedia@leadwi.org!

Letters to the Editor

Washington Gold

Ticonderoga Blue

Dear Editor,
 The goal of Assembly Bill 515 is to prevent food products from being labeled as dairy when they do not include dairy in the ingredients. Dairy farmers spend millions of dollars per year in order to sell their milk, while plant based beverage makers do not have to shoulder any of that cost. It is also common for consumers to think that the plant based options have the same nutritional value as real dairy, and this concerning issue is a result of deceptive labeling. Our beloved state of Wisconsin is known for being America's Dairyland. Of all states, we should be the ones to lead other states in this matter by passing this bill. Thank you!

Adams Gold

To the editor,
 We support SB 201, which is in favor of legalizing microschoools in Wisconsin. A microschoool is "a program of educational instruction provided to the child by the child's parent or guardian, or by a person designated by the parent or guardian." As stated in the bill, a microschoool must be
 Provided to more than one family unit.
 Provided to no more than five family units.
 Provided to no more than 20 children.
 Provided to participating children at a physical location.
 This provides options of schooling, maintaining legal requirements of a private school and also the privileges of homeschoool. Passing this bill makes Wisconsin the eleventh state to legalize microschoools, pushing Wisconsin to the forefront of educational advancement.

Thank you,
 Adams Gold

Yorktown Gold

Currently, UNELECTED local city commissions are regulating county owned land as historical landmarks. This ends up taking away county control of county owned property. To put it simply, SB 314 regarding regulating historic landmarks would simply give the power of what to do with historic county owned property to ELECTED county officials, not an unelected local commission that is not responsible for how our hard earned tax dollars are used.

Yorktown Blue

FROM THE DISTINGUISHED NOBLES OF YORKTOWN BLUE LISTEN AND ADHERE TO THE CAUSE OF PATRIOTISM AND LIBERTY...

To quote President Donald J. Trump, "What's the country all about if we're not going to take care of our sick?" Our team, deriving inspiration from our 45th President, stands in a state of firm resolution that Wisconsin becomes the leading state in healthcare quality for underprivileged Americans, particularly, those with pre-existing conditions. We all know someone with a pre-existing condition, and many with these conditions under current law lack access to sufficient healthcare. Our bill guarantees healthcare will not be barred to denied to any based upon medical history or their inherent conditions. Let "LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL" reign in America.

