



Officer-Involved Shooting in Rice Lake Under Investigation

The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) is investigating an officer involved critical incident in the City of Rice Lake that occurred on the evening of Sunday, October 8, 2023.

At approximately 5:30 p.m., officers from the Rice Lake Police Department and the Barron County Sheriff's Office responded to a 911 call for a female who had been stabbed by a male subject on the 400 block of Hatten Avenue in Rice Lake.

Upon arrival, officers encountered a female subject with injuries who was being treated by EMS. Law enforcement then encountered a male subject barricaded in an apartment and gave commands for him to come out, but the subject did not comply. A police K-9 and less lethal options were utilized in an attempt to gain compliance from the male subject.

The subject subsequently charged at officers with a bladed weapon. Officers discharged their firearms during the incident and struck

the male subject.

First aid was rendered; however, the male subject was pronounced deceased at the scene. No law enforcement personnel were injured during the incident.

There is no further danger to the public.

Officers from the Rice Lake Police Department and the Barron County Sheriff's Office were equipped with body cameras.

The involved officers from both agencies have been placed on paid administrative leave, per department policy.

DCI is leading this investigation and is assisted by Wisconsin State Patrol and a DCI Crime Response Specialist.

All involved law enforcement are fully cooperating with DCI during this investigation.

DCI will review all evidence and determine the facts of this incident and will turn over investigative reports to the Barron County District Attorney when the investigation concludes.

The United Fund of Cumberland kicks-off its annual Fundraising Drive

Inserted in this week's paper is a flyer reminding us all that the United Fund of Cumberland is kicking off their annual fundraising effort.

The United Fund of Cumberland is unique to our community. It is not (and never has been) affiliated with the better known national organization the United Way. Though their concepts are similar, donations made are put in a general fund and then distributed to other causes and organizations, the differences are what truly sets them apart and makes the United Fund of Cumberland so special.

The money you donate to the United Fund stays in our community. The Fund supports causes from all tiers of society. The young and old, sports and arts, health and wellness, educational groups and the fire district are all represented in the list of recipients.

By donating to the United Fund of Cumberland, you can help meet needs left unfilled by other organizations shortfalls. Donations made to the Fund will go out to individuals and organizations here in Cumberland.

Over the past few years, the United Fund of Cumberland has been blessed to receive a large donation from an unknown donor. The group decided that these funds could be used to help

with some bigger projects that may not normally be obtainable in Cumberland. Using funds from this donor they were able to partner with the Cumberland School District on the addition of the Tennis Court/Sport Court, along with funding the new playground equipment at Eagle Point.

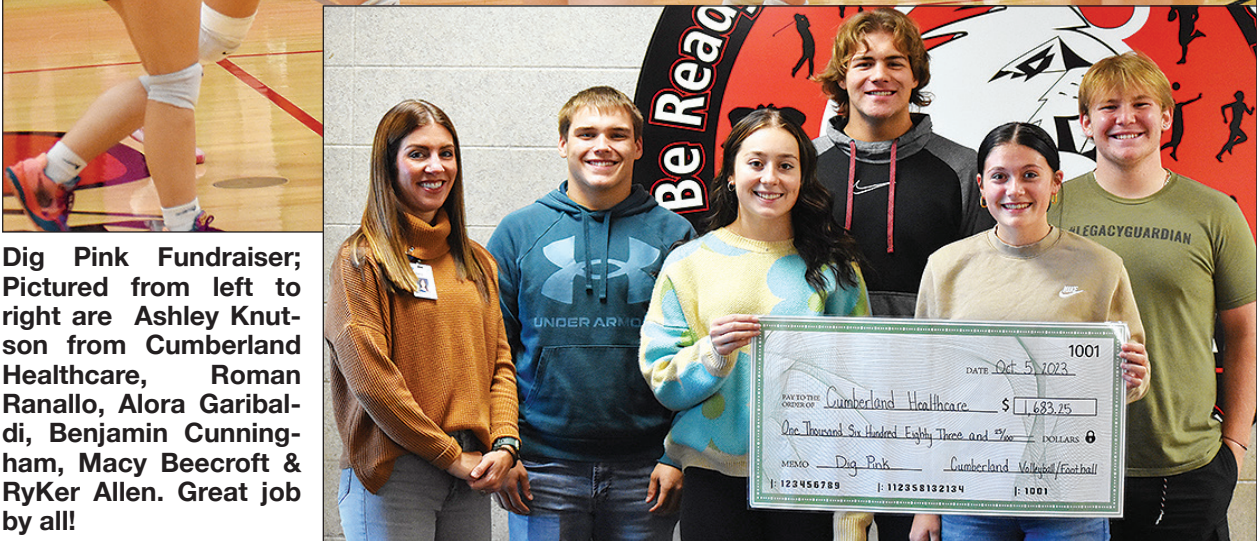
This year the United Fund of Cumberland was able to give out a large grant that was put towards the Cumberland Middle School playground improvements. The purpose of this project is to transform the middle school playground into a park that is accessible to all children, parents, grandparents and visitors. This will be accomplished by the addition of accessible ramps and sidewalks as well as new playground equipment. The project started in early June of 2023.

Your donations to the United Fund help fund their smaller requests. In past years, donations have been made to Kinship, the Boys and Girls Club of Barron County, CASTA, Barron County Meals on Wheels, Benjamin's House, Emergency Services of Barron County and, just to name a few.

Included on the flyer in this week's *Advocate* is a complete list of last year's recipients, as well as the

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Dig Pink!



Dig Pink Fundraiser; Pictured from left to right are Ashley Knutson from Cumberland Healthcare, Roman Ranallo, Alora Garibaldi, Benjamin Cunningham, Macy Beecroft & Ryker Allen. Great job by all!

Dig Pink Fundraiser Raises Over \$1,600

On Thursday, October 5th, the Cumberland High School Volleyball Team hosted their Dig Pink Event at their game against Barron. Prior to the event, the HS Volleyball and Football players sold "Go Pink-Fight Cancer-Win the Fight" t-shirts to promote cancer awareness. On both Thursday, October 5th during the volleyball game and

Friday, October 6th during the football game, the players ran a bake sale, 50/50 raffle and raffled off baskets. We had an enormous amount of support on both nights! When all was said and done, the volleyball and football teams are excited to donate a grand total of \$1,683.25 to Cumberland Healthcare. Ashley Knutson

accepted the check on behalf of Cumberland Healthcare. Knutson stated, "The funds the volleyball team graciously donated will be put to use for patients with lymphedema, a build-up of fluid in the tissues. Patients who are diagnosed with cancer, especially breast cancer, will often struggle with lymphedema. Compression

garments that help treat this swelling are expensive and not always covered by insurance. Thankfully, because of this donation, it will allow for patients to get the garments they need." Thank you to everyone who participated in the two events and generously donated!

Northwoods Notebook: Trail happenings in the Island City

By Larry Werner

It was about nine years ago that I got lost on the Timberland Hills trail. On a beautiful autumn afternoon, a friend and I decided to take a hike on the trails that are for cross-country in winter and hiking the rest of the year.

As you probably know, the trails are on Burnett County Forest land. Being new to the place, as was my

friend, we hiked deep into the woods and, as afternoon was fading into evening, we realized we didn't know how to get back to the parking lot.

There were no directional signs at that time to show the way out, and, after about an hour of trying different paths, decided we needed help. I was able to get a cell-phone connection

on high spots and reach the Burnett County Sheriff, who, through the magic of GPS, was able to guide us out.

Actually, he guided us to a farm across the road from the parking lot about the time darkness had fallen. We crawled under the fence on one side of a field where cows were strolling. Then we sprinted to the fence

on the other side when we spotted an animal shaped like a cow but much bigger. We got out before the bull came over for a visit.

Despite that experience, I still love walking, and even risked my life skiing out there, despite a warning from my friend, Mike Clay, that my buddy, Bob, and I should stick to the smaller,

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Council Holds October Meeting; Lots Going on in the City

by Mark R. Fuller

The Cumberland City Council held their monthly meeting last Tuesday, October 3 as numerous changes and projects were at the center of discussion.

Following the approval of September expenses and the night's agenda, the first business of the night was recognizing Craig Turcott, who spoke to Mayor Shoemaker

and the Council about a proposed Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan that Barron County and their partner, the West Central Regional Planning Commission, is working on for the area.

Their goal is to identify opportunities to add and improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure throughout the county. Still in the plan-

ning process, the County has a Public Open House on Tuesday, October 24 from 5 to 7 at the Barron County Highway Department room as well as a community survey, which can be found on the "You know you're from Cumberland" Facebook site for citizen input. The survey will close on October 25th.

The Council then approved

a recommendation from the Planning Commission for a Conditional Use for a Tourist Rooming House on 1310 Island Avenue. The owner's intentions are deck and patio improvements with intentions for a VRBO.

The Council and Mayor were in agreement with the Planning Commission that

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