

**More than passion**  
Clarence Schultz, also known as 'Dutch the Clown,' was a man with an obsession with trains, the circus and the Rock County 4-H Fair, his son says. **Page 3A**



**Packers end skid**  
Green Bay ended a 3-game losing streak with a 34-20 win over the Atlanta Falcons on Sunday at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. **Page 1B**

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# The Gazette

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## 'It's a hot mess': Evers urges Walker to veto lame-duck bills in 'Meet the Press' appearance

By Mary Spicuzza  
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

**MADISON**

Wisconsin Gov.-elect Tony Evers called on Gov. Scott Walker to veto Republican lame-duck proposals limiting his power Sunday on "Meet the Press"—but Evers added that he's "not particularly encouraged" after talking with the outgoing governor.

"I communicated with Governor Walker over the telephone a few days ago and laid out my position that vetoing the legislation

was going to be an important thing not only to make sure that what happened last November—the vote of the people of Wisconsin—is actually upheld and we're putting people in front of politics," Evers said, "but also, it's just bad legislation."

Evers said Walker was "non-committal" during their conversation, adding, "So I'm not particularly encouraged at this point



Evers



Walker

in time."

"He has a legacy here," Evers said. "We're hopeful that he'll veto the whole thing."

Walker was clearly thinking about his legacy over the weekend.

He posted a series of nearly two dozen tweets Saturday that each began with "OUR LEGACY," touting his eight years in office.

And his fellow Republican leader, Senate Majority Leader

Scott Fitzgerald, said on Sunday's "UpFront with Mike Gousha" that he's not concerned about political consequences the GOP might face over the bill, but is instead worried about Evers' "aggressive tone" and liberal policies.

"He will probably be the most liberal governor the state of Wisconsin possibly sees," Fitzgerald said.

Evers, a Democrat, defeated Walker last month.

Republicans who control the state Legislature passed legislation to limit early voting and scale

back the powers of Evers and incoming Attorney General Josh Kaul last week during an overnight session held just days after the proposals were made public.

The bills are now in Walker's hands.

"It's around Scott Walker's legacy," Evers said Sunday. "He has the opportunity to change this and actually validate the will of the people that voted on Nov. 6."

Asked if there were specific provisions he pushed Walker to

Turn to **EVERS** on Page 7A

## Tourism trouble?

Walworth County Board cuts funding to visitors bureau by 10 percent

By Nate Jackson  
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**ELKHORN**

Nestled between Milwaukee, Madison and Chicago, Walworth County is one of the most prolific and profitable tourism destinations in Wisconsin.

In 2016, the county raked in \$528.9 million in direct visitor spending. That number jumped to \$544.2 million in 2017, ranking it the sixth-best tourism economy in state.

But recent budget cuts to the Walworth County Visitors Bureau have left some wondering about the future of the county's tourism funding.

In its 2019 budget, the county lowered its share of aid to the bureau by \$14,000, or 10 percent. That move sparked some local business owners to speak out, saying the bureau provides a significant boost to local businesses and that its funding is critical to the county's tourism economy.

Kathleen Seeberg, executive director of the visitors bureau, said the organization was aware of the upcoming cuts. She said the visitors bureau increased membership fees and advertising rates in its travel guide and pulled back in other areas to compensate for the drop in funding.

Seeberg said the visitors bureau will look at diversifying its revenue stream in the future but se-

curing funding is "always a concern, regardless of what year it is."

Walworth County Board member Dan Kilkenny, who represents the city and town of Delavan, says one additional funding source might already exist for local tourism: room taxes.

Municipalities were recently mandated under state law to forward a portion of their local room tax revenue to tourism promotion and development, Kilkenny said. That mandate could pave the way for a potentially large revenue hike for tourism funding.

"Tourism promotion has a new and probably expanding funding source," Kilkenny told The Gazette on Friday.

"I would just like to see the tourism bureaus working with the other municipalities that now have to spend this additional room tax."

Kilkenny said the suggestion is not a criticism of the bureau but rather a way to explore tapping into what could be a massive funding bump. According to room tax reports from the state Department of Revenue provided by Kilkenny, the city of Delavan raked in \$709,421 in room taxes last year, and \$230,008 of that went to its tourism commission.

In Lake Geneva, room tax revenues were \$667,820, and \$244,999 of

Turn to **TOURISM** on Page 7A

## FCC plan could threaten JATV



Submitted photo

JATV employee Tina Breeze Wahlers records a meeting on National Philanthropy Day. A Federal Communications Commission proposal requiring public access stations to pay a fee to be on cable systems could force JATV off the air, according to local officials.

### JATV could be forced off cable if public access stations have to pay fee

By Jim Dayton  
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**JANESVILLE**

JATV could be forced off Charter if the Federal Communications Commission passes a proposal requiring public access stations to pay a fee to be on cable.

The FCC proposal would force cities to pay cable companies so local access channels could be included in a cable affiliate's package. Money for the new lease arrangement would come from fees cable companies already pay to cities for infrastructure access.

JATV's slice of Charter revenue is already insufficient to fund its operations. Adding a new, undetermined fee to its expenses



JATV employees Zach Stricker, left, and Bujar Sadiku record the State of the City address.

could force JATV off cable television, Station Manager Alan Luckett said.

The station currently receives 20 percent of Charter's franchise fee with Janesville; the re-

maining 80 percent goes to the city general fund. That equates to about \$180,000 of revenue for a station that has about \$190,000 in expenses, he said.

JATV has built up a

financial reserve over the years. But that's not a sustainable long-term funding source, and that's without considering the proposed fee.

"If we have to pay for a channel, I'm not sure where that revenue source is going to come from and what the cost is. That's the biggest hurdle," Luckett said. "The scary thing is, this could knock us off Charter's cable TV service just because of financial reasons. Then the only people we'd be serving are the cable cord-cutters and not the subscribers."

JATV, which broadcasts everything from government meetings to local church services, would still

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**OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 6A**

- Dorothy M. Gessert
- James McDade
- James J. Washebeck

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

High 34 | Low 23  
Sunny  
More on 7A

- Classified ..... 8B
- Comics ..... 5B
- Legals ..... 7B
- Lotteries ..... 6A
- Nation/World ..... 6B-7B
- Opinion ..... 4A
- Puzzles ..... 8B
- State ..... 2A, 6A
- TV/Advice ..... 8A

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