

## EDITORIAL BOARD

**Heather Rogge**, Publisher  
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## GUEST OPINION

# Multimodal transportation is critical for a more competitive region

As Wisconsin embarks on deliberations for its next biennial budget, we encourage the public and legislators to look at the findings of VISION 2050 – the new long-range plan for land use and transportation in Southeastern Wisconsin. It highlights the critical need for Wisconsin to improve and expand access to a wide range of transportation options, especially public transit, if our region is going to remain competitive in the coming decades.



**MICHAEL G. HAHN**

For the past several decades, Southeastern Wisconsin has been able to grow its labor force from within the existing population. But with coming demographic changes, the region will face a significant shortage of working-age residents. To remain economically competitive, the region will need to attract tens of thousands of new residents for the first time since the 1950s. This will be a challenge because, compared to its peer metro areas, the region has had slower population and job growth, significant declines in transit service and higher racial disparities in education, income and poverty.

**“These recommendations require more to be spent on the transportation system in the future, particularly on building and operating a competitive and advanced transit system.”**

The region is at a crossroads. To successfully compete for new residents and new businesses, the region needs to make positive and proactive changes that make the region more attractive.

Developed over three years – with broad public input and involvement – VISION 2050 provides a compelling framework for local and state government to guide development and create transportation infrastructure that will help attract new talent, encourage economic growth and improve the quality of life for residents in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Perhaps most important for our state to consider right now, as state lawmakers begin budget deliberations, is the plan's recommendations for significant investments to improve and expand access to a wide range of transportation options, especially public transit.

These recommendations require more to be spent on the transportation system in the future, particularly on building and operating a competitive and advanced transit system.

In addition, there is a need to rebuild much of the regional street and highway network, in particular the region's freeway system. Reconstructing the region's street and highway network will require the state to maintain funding levels similar to those provided in previous state budgets. If that level of funding is not maintained, bridges on the region's freeway system will not be reconstructed before they reach the end of their lifespan. The plan identifies a number of potential revenue sources that could be used to address this and the transit funding challenge.

Ultimately, these infrastructure investments will bring significant benefits to the region by improving competitiveness with other metro areas, reducing congestion, linking workforce to jobs, making public transit an attractive travel option and reducing resident and local government costs for other infrastructure and services.

As legislators work on the upcoming budget, we urge them to consider the recommendations assembled in VISION 2050, carefully consider the opportunity facing the region and make the investments necessary to position the region for continued success for years to come.

*Michael G. Hahn is the executive director of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, the official areawide planning agency for the southeastern Wisconsin. SEWRPC serves the seven counties of Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha. It was created to provide objective information and professional planning initiatives to help solve problems and to focus regional attention on key issues of regional consequence.*

## Election letter deadline

In order to publish election-related letters to the editor before the April 4 election, letters must be received by the News Graphic by Tuesday, March 28, for publication Thursday, March 30. All letters to the editor should be typed or legibly written, and must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Letters should be limited to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit length and content of letters, or accept longer letters. Political letters judged libelous or without merit will not be published.

Offerings may be emailed to [lc Curtis@conley.net](mailto:lc Curtis@conley.net). They may also be dropped off or mailed to the News Graphic office, W61 N306 Washington Ave., Cedarburg.

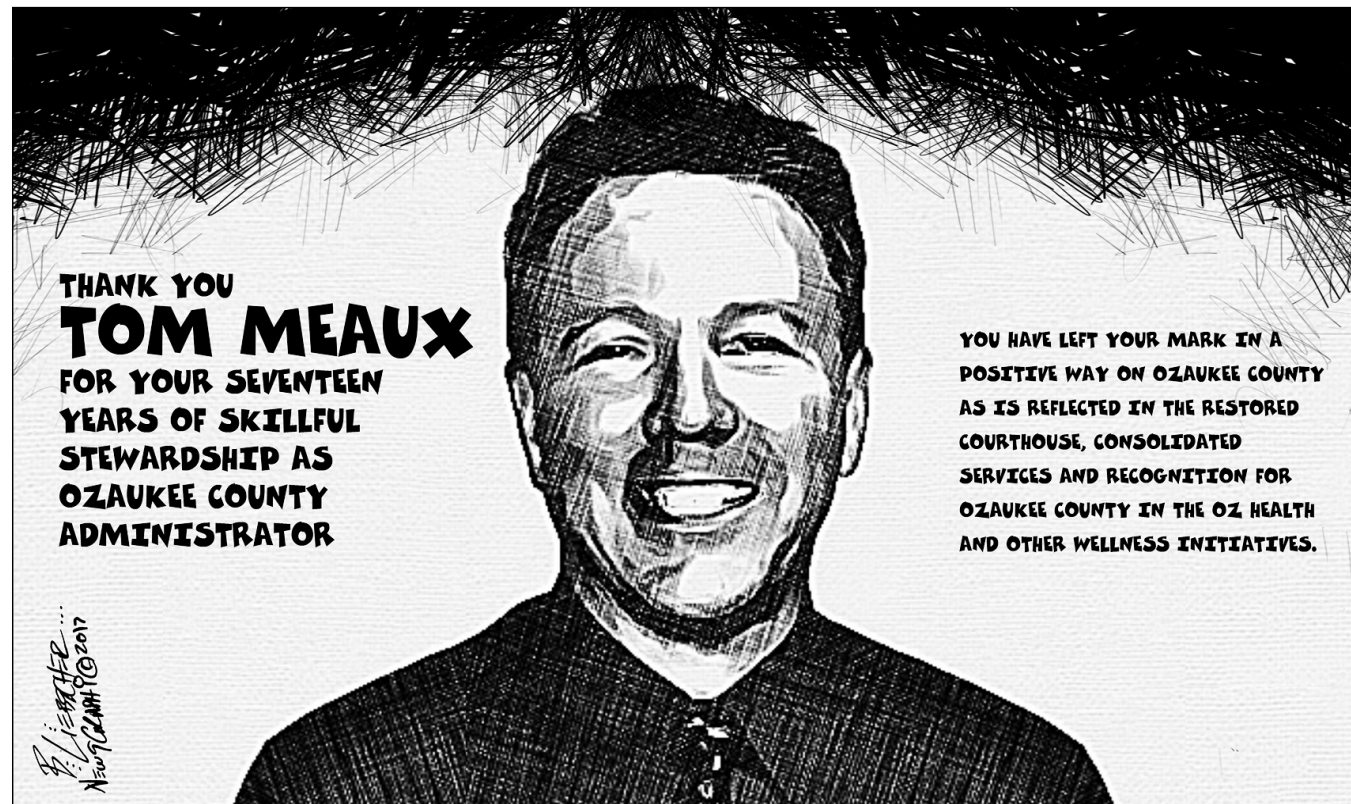
## Open Meetings & Open Records Law

### Section 19.31, Wisconsin Statutes

"In recognition of the fact that a representative government of the American type is dependent upon an informed electorate, it is declared to be the public policy of this state that all persons are entitled to the greatest possible information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those officers and employees who represent them.

"Further, providing persons with such information is declared to be an essential function of representative government and an integral part of the routine duties of officers and employees whose responsibility it is to provide such information."

*The News Graphic is proud to support this policy.*



## Prayers for an old friend

An old friend of mine from Cedarburg stopped by to see me in my private office at the original Thiensville State Bank building the other day. "We need to talk," he said.

"About what?" I asked sweetly.

"Political stuff," he said.

"Oh," I responded. Then I fished my cell phone out of my pocket, he fished his out of his pocket, we put them on my desk and we walked outside and down the Rotary Riverwalk. That way our odds of getting our conversation taped were diminished.

"What should I do about this period of dissension in my community?" my friend wanted to know.

"Try to be honest and forthright and patient. Listen to all sides, speak from the heart and go with the still small voice," I said.

"But don't you ever worry that everything you say will be twisted and used against you?" he wanted to know.

"In general I assume anything I say will potentially be twisted and used against me," I shrugged. "But so what? What do you expect out of the crooked wood of humanity?"

He looked at me sideways, so I hastened to add, "I include myself among the crooked wood, by the way – but at least I will admit it."

My friend sighed. As we walked along in silence he kicked a few rocks into the river. Finally he cried out, as if his soul was in anguish, "I just don't know what to do! I have some friends on one side and other friends on the other side. The



**VAN MOBLEY**

will be?"

My friend looked at me strangely for a minute, then laughed and said, "Not that, Van, I wanted to get your take on whether or not I should support or oppose the proposal for the old St. Francis Borgia site."

It was my turn to cry out on that one. "If you think I am going to jump into that controversy you don't know me very well. But I will remember your community in my prayers."

"Would you please leak this conversation?" my friend asked.

"Of course," I said. "Because I am not always crooked wood – sometimes I transcend myself and become a transparent eyeball."

He laughed a little bit about that but not much.

After he left I said a little prayer for Cedarburg. We are rooting for that community in Thiensville.

*Van Mobley is an associate professor at Concordia and village president of Thiensville.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Unsolicited email from Mequon company raises questions

To the editor:

On Tuesday, March 9, 2016, I received an unwanted email from Bear Arms LLC. This is a new company in Mequon that is opening an indoor shooting range in our city. While I don't approve of having a shooting range in our city, nor do I approve of open carry laws, I recognize that they have a right to attempt to open a business if it's a legal business.

The problem is that I did not subscribe to any emails from this company, yet I did receive this unsolicited email. Upon some research, I found that the city of Mequon was required by open records laws to provide this company with email addresses. My email address was probably gathered from the city of Mequon ENews list of addresses. Upon reading the spam laws, I find that the email received from this new company is not against any current spam law. However, the way that the email came through does make it questionable that they have, indeed, broken a spam law.

I could not unsubscribe email address from their future emails. Spam law requires an unsubscribe availability. When I went to unsubscribe, what actually happened is that I unsubscribed me from the Mequon ENews instead of Bear Arms LLC.

There are two issues: one is that I find it unfortunate that private email addresses are required to be given up to anyone submitting an open records request. I would have hoped that this would not be a part of the open records requirements and hope that this could be changed at some point. Secondly, and just as egregious, is that there is no way to unsubscribe from this company's email blasts, making this email that I received questionably illegal. At best, this was a careless error on the part of Bear Arms LLC. A careless error from a company wanting to run a gun range.

**Larry Sanders**  
Mequon

### Community continues to support CCSF's Bagging for Bucks

To the editor:

As an active member of the Cedarburg community, I am well aware of the variety of nonprofit organizations, businesses and individuals that make this such a special place to live. On March 4, I had the opportunity to see a wide spectrum of people come together for a common cause ... that of supporting the Cedarburg Community Scholarship Fund in its efforts to make over \$5,100 for our graduating seniors. This was our annual Bagging for Bucks event and public appreciation and gratitude needs to be extended to many.

Ryan Olsen and his staff at Piggly Wiggly are the foundation for the success of Bagging for Bucks! The backing we get from The Pig in promoting the

event, setting up the store and working with our board and the community leaders is nothing but amazing. They enable us to take over the store for a few hours to greet their patrons and share the mission of our group. The smell of brats cooking, popcorn popping and the sound of the CHS Jazz Band, Vocal Jazz and Webster Jazz Band all added to the festivities of the day.

Olsen's Piggly Wiggly also enables community leaders to bag groceries at each of the checkout stations while mascots greet young and old alike. This year's mascots included Roscoe from the Milwaukee Admirals, the Cedarburg Bulldog Brutus, the Webster Transitional School mascot and Mr. Pig from Piggly Wiggly.

This event could not take place if it weren't for the additional support we get from our own local community. CHS Art Teacher Deb Mortl and her students created fabulous posters to advertise the event. The CHS Vocal Jazz groups, led by Victoria Benson Hora, CHS Jazz Band, led by interim Band Director Luke Rivard and the Webster Jazz Band, led by David Aswegan, energized the store with their jazz and big band selections.

The community leaders that served as guest baggers volunteered their time and worked hard while having fun with the customers. Our thanks go out to: Kip Kinzel, Tom Frank, Brian Gotter, Tom Stantel, Ross Rintelman, Pat Thome, John Czarnecki, Jack Arnett, Brandon Goldbeck, Ducey Stroebel, Adam North, Greg Johnson, Kevin Kennedy, Dick Dieffenbach, Tony DeRosa, Dan Reinhardt, John Norquist, Pat Moore, Brian Emmrich and Jake.

Finally, I would like to thank Lisa Curtis, Kay Dahlke and Mark Justesen of the News Graphic for helping to promote and cover Bagging for Bucks. We are very appreciative of all the coverage given by your publication.

Bagging for Bucks is truly a fun-filled day which will allow CCSF to grant many scholarships this coming May. Thank you to all who volunteered and donated to the future of our students.

**Pam Helf**  
CCSF Board Member  
Bagging for Bucks Chairwoman  
Cedarburg

### Thome is the best choice for District 6

To the editor:

There is a contested race for Cedarburg's 6th district Common Council seat.

We would like to thank both candidates for caring enough to run for the position; it is not an easy job, as you will never please everyone with your vote on every issue.

We are supporting Pat Thome because she has served us well in the Adlai Horn Park reconstruction/usage discussions. Pat has taken the time to research and answer our questions on a number of issues over the past years. Cedarburg has several hot issues before it today, and more are sure to

come in the future. It is a delicate balance to keep "Cedarburg charming" while allowing for positive growth of the city. We believe that Pat will continue to seek out the neighbors' opinions and concerns and make wise decisions on our behalf. Residents of the 6th district, please vote on April 4 for Pat Thome.

**Jay D. Shaffer**  
**Barbara Saliek-Shaffer**  
Cedarburg

### Pause

To the editor:

President Trump's first few weeks have been filled with all sorts of initiatives. It would be prudent at this time to heed Moliere's words, "Unreasonable haste is the direct road to error."

**Karl Hertz**  
Thiensville

### More than water needed for stomach flu

To the editor:

Recently a 20-year-old star athlete and college student in Minnesota came down with the stomach flu, gastroenteritis, norovirus with rapid fluid loss to his system.

He'd sought medical advice, was told to take plenty of fluids and get some rest. His roommates left him to do that.

Eight hours later he was found dead face down on the floor, perhaps on his way seeking a drink of water. Due to concern about a possible outbreak of meningitis, an autopsy was performed. Meningitis was not involved. However, it was found that his blood level of potassium was zero. This alone could prompt heart failure.

What is often not mentioned to patients or to those wanting to help a sick person is that besides fluid intake, one's electrolytes need to be maintained.

One way to help is to buy Pedialyte for the sick child or adult to provide potassium, sodium and dextrose, the essential electrolytes lost during the illness.

An alternate is Gatorade, though it has less potassium and more sugar than Pedialyte. It is often thought of for use on the field, but not for use in the bedroom.

Chicken soup is not only a comfort food, it also contains potassium and sodium.

People wanting to help could obtain these items for the sick person. Being on hand and supplying the enriched fluids, the caregiver could be a lifesaver. It is remarkable how fast a person, due to lack of enriched fluids, can collapse. Sometimes water alone is not enough. I thought passing on this information would be a tribute to the fine young man who tragically lost his life.

**Brad LeDuc**  
Port Washington

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