

The great recount

With a number of close races, a number of candidates requested recounts, with mixed results

Six people including the city clerk gathered in the Maple Room at City Hall late Thursday morning, stacks of ballots spread out before them.

They were gathered to recount the votes in District 1, wards one and two, after a recount request. John Kroll, who initially lost a close race to declared winner Carol Lukens, had requested a recount only the day before.

With two observers and two media outlets present — City Pages and Channel 7 — the six began the methodical process of recounting the votes.

The results stuck: Lukens remained the winner of District 1, with Kroll losing by all of two votes.

The tight margin wasn't unusual from April 5's election; many races were decided by a handful of votes, and that meant a number of election night reversals. Two candidates went to bed thinking they had won, only to find out the next morning they'd actually lost as absentee ballots were counted.

One of those was Randy DeBroux, who had been ahead of incumbent Alyson Leahy in the District 11 county board race Tuesday night, but ultimately lost to Leahy after all the absentee ballots were included. The same thing happened to Deb Ryan in District 11 of the city; Chad Henke woke up to find out he'd actually won the race, despite trailing Ryan the night before.

DeBroux requested a recount, the county clerk announced Thursday afternoon. After a recount on Monday, the County Clerk announced that the vote remained the same, with Leahy leading by a three-vote margin.

The first recount to happen came in Kronenwetter.

► Staff and volunteers assisted in the city's recount of District 1's city council race Thursday. The result remained the same, with Carol Lukens retaining the seat.



Timothy Shaw lost by a narrow margin but requested a recount in a race that saw the most candidates ever to run for village board. After the recount, he was tied with Danielle Bergmann, and his name was drawn in a tiebreaker. (The contest can be decided by coin toss, name draw or by each candidate drawing from a deck of cards.)

Valley Fair lineup announced

The Wisconsin Valley Fair announced its 2022 lineup, heading in the trend of limited musical acts in favor of other events such as rodeos and demolition derbies.

The Valley Fair will kick off with country music singer Lee Greenwood, and also feature country music star Carly Pearce and classic rock band .38 Special. The musical acts will take place between Tuesday and Thursday, with rodeos Friday and Saturday and a demolition derby on Sunday.

Fair organizers made a conscious decision to start booking fewer musical acts as they've become more expensive as the fair was losing money. They were also becoming

harder to book. The rodeo and demo derby events were better from a revenue standpoint.


Salvation Army looking at new, bigger location

The Salvation Army is looking at building a new location — and it will accommodate more people, including space for more families in need.

The city's Plan Commission Tuesday approved a conditional use for the facility, particularly for its homeless shelter.

The new facility, according to preliminary plans submitted to the city, would house up to 36 men and women and up to six families. The current facility only is able to house one family. The building would also have a kitchen, chapel and community area, along with other accommodations.

The new location is planned for the corner of 110 South First Avenue and Alexander Street, about a block from the Salvation Army's current location. Right now an empty credit union building stands on the site.



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