



A woman listens during a financial aid workshop for students and parents given by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Sept. 26 at Tri-County High School Auditorium in Plainfield. T-234 2-2018-KAUSA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

'There are resources to pay for college'

Most seniors, parents miss chance for college aid through FAFSA

Laura Schulte and Keegan Kyle
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN



GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

In some Wisconsin schools, too many students don't even try for college help. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid — or FAFSA — holds the key to college affordability for some families. There's been a federal push to make sure that students and parents are aware of the benefits available to them.

PLAINFIELD — Kenny Bellley wants to enter the medical field after she graduates. The Tri-County High School senior imagines becoming a nurse, like her mom was, or a doctor. But her father, Ken Bellley, has been nervous. He wasn't sure how his income might affect the family's eligibility for federal grants, subsidized student loans or other financial aid to help Kenny pay for college.

That's why he attended a recent school event with 13 other parents to learn more.

The event aimed specifically to help families complete the federal government's free application for financial aid, known as the FAFSA. The form — now available by mobile app — can open doors to federal, state and college assistance programs. At Kenny's school in Plainfield, only 38 percent of families completed the FAFSA last year — when Tri-County High School had one of the lowest completion rates in the state. Tri-County is among more than 100 high schools in the state where most seniors had not filled out the form in the last application cycle, meaning thousands of students may have missed out on discounts for college and believed they couldn't afford higher education, according to a new USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin analysis of state and federal data.

See AID, Page 8A

Get a flu shot now, county health officials say

Doug Schneider
Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

GREEN BAY — On the heels of a year where flu-related hospitalizations in Brown County skyrocketed, health officials urge residents to get a flu vaccination — and soon.

Influenza sent at least 399 people to hospitals in the county during the 2017-18 flu season. That figure, which includes the county except De Pere, is three times what the county averaged from 2013 through 2016, according to the county's Public Health Office.

Statewide, the respiratory illness killed 379 people in 2017-18, twice as many as the previous year. Three of the deaths involved children.

"The dangers of the flu are real,"

State Health Officer Karen McKown said in a statement.

Brown County plans a flu shot clinic Wednesday afternoon as part of its "This is Public Health: Then and Now" celebration at Heritage Hill State Park in Allouez.

From 3 to 6 p.m., children six months to 38 years can get a flu shot at no charge. Shots are available to adults for \$20.

"Getting the shot helps protect you, but also your loved ones, friends and neighbors," said county Health Officer Anna Destree. "Even healthy people can experience complications. We saw that last year. Yearly flu vaccinations are the single best way to protect yourself."

Children should be vaccinated no

later than Halloween, the American Academy of Pediatrics said. Nationwide, flu killed more than 60 children last season; 80 percent had not been vaccinated.

Shots also are available from health-care providers, and at dozens of area retail pharmacies.

Last year, 36 percent of Wisconsin residents received the shots, McKown said. That means five of every eight state residents were not protected against the flu. Wisconsin's rate trails the nation as a whole. Rates have slowly risen in recent years, reaching 43 percent for adults and 59 percent for children in 2016-17, according to the U.S. Centers

See SHOT, Page 3A

STOCK THE SHELVES

Green Bay food pantry user gives back to others

Shelby Le Duc
Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin's annual Stock the Shelves campaign runs through Nov. 8. This year's goal is to raise \$225,000 statewide. (The Press-Gazette's goal is \$75,000.) The Gannett Foundation will donate \$20,000 this year.

GREEN BAY — These days, Genia Swafford keeps a few water bottles, snacks and blankets in her car just in case she comes across someone in need.

But it wasn't all that long ago that she found herself bankrupt, homeless and at the lowest point in her life. The 51-year-old mother of two has experienced so much adversity, she sometimes doesn't know how she keeps going — but each morning she

See PANTRY, Page 8A



During tough times, Genia Swafford visited the food pantry at the First Presbyterian Church in Green Bay. She now gives back by connecting those in need with the food pantry. JIM MATTHEWS/USA TODAY NETWORK-WIS.

'Making a Murderer': 12 questions for Season 2

Doug Schneider
Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Can Kathleen Zellner accomplish what Dean Strang and Jerry Buting could not: Free Steven Avery, or at least win him a new trial?

That's likely to be a central theme of the second season of "Making a Murderer," the widely popular 10-part Netflix documentary that used a brutal homicide in Manitowish County to raise questions about the American criminal justice system that continue to be debated almost three years after its release.

Season 2 will debut Oct. 19. If the next 10 episodes are going to be anywhere near as riveting as the first season, filmmakers Moina Deros

See SEASON 2, Page 9A

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Season 2

Continued from Page 1A

and Laura Ricciardi will need to address a number of questions they raised in their first posts, as well as some that have arisen since.

Among them:

Who'll provide the drama?

Season 1 had significant elements of its story. A brutal sexual assault on a Manitowish County beach. The wrongful conviction of Steven Avery for that attack. Avery's exoneration. Teresa Halbach's brutal murder. Dramatic trials and convictions of Avery and Brendan Dassey.

Season 2 will have what, exactly?

In terms of facts that weren't in Season 1, there's the big deal of Zeller, the Illinois attorney who specializes in wrongful conviction cases, and the trailer hints that we'll see a lot of Laura Nikler, the Northwestern University law professor who is co-director of the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth. "Our task now is to spend an entire season that focuses the prosecution," Nicrider says in the trailer.

But other than courts rejecting motions filed on behalf of Avery and Dassey, there hasn't been a whole lot of news — and the producers don't have decades of new material to pull from.

What will be uncovered?

The trailer asks that question, in big red capital letters, as a lead-up to a statement that up to 80 percent of homicide victims are killed by people they know, and "each of those individuals have to be looked at as suspects." That seems like a set-up for Zeller's argument that police should have treated Ryan Hilgass, Halbach's ex-boyfriend, as a suspect. Or perhaps the argument is that everyone she knew should have been considered a suspect.

That said, "what will be uncovered" might be a red herring. Are we to believe that Zeller or Nicrider didn't present new evidence to a court so that it could be revealed in the television documentary?

Or that the filmmakers found new evidence on their own?

The cellphone call

A key plank of Zeller's argument: Halbach's phone was used to make a call after the time the authorities said she was killed. The call "pinged" a tower in Whiteside, miles from Avery's auto-salvage yard — the site where prosecution said she was killed. It's also a key element in Zeller's proof that Halbach left the Avery property alive.

Zeller says that's proof that Halbach left the Avery property alive. Authorities are likely to say that's no proof. It was Halbach, and no proof she left the salvage yard.

Who's the bad guy?

Dramatic stories benefit from a quality villain, and beginning with his arrogant press conference at the time arrests were being made, prosecutor Ken Krutz filled that role in Season 1. He didn't cooperate with the filmmakers, but they had plenty of archival video to speak for him.

Krutz wasn't interviewed for Season 2, either, but USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin's "Making a Mania" podcast says that Krutz is a "maniac" who "is not a prosecutor."

Where's Zeller's proof?

To invest time and effort into the case, Zeller must have seen something that convinced her she could win his release. What did she see that many people following the case did not? The show's trailer shows her firing a gun, followed by a graphic of a flying bullet piercing a heart. That's a hint that the season will address a theory from the defense that there's no physical evidence that ties Halbach to the murder, but that authorities had linked to her death.

Speaking of lawyers ...

Avery's defense team — attorneys Dean Strang and Jerry Buting — also likely won't get much camera time in Season 2. Strang told the "Making a Mania" podcast he'd had minimal contact with the filmmakers since Season 2 aired.

Both have had plenty to keep them busy, though. In addition to their law practices, each has done a speaking tour. Buting published a book, Strang had one in the works.

Zeller's other suspects

In a court filing trying to win a new trial for Avery, Zeller said police should have treated Dassey's older brother Bobby as a suspect. She alleged in papers filed this summer that violent pornographic images on a computer to which Bobby Dassey had access indicated that he could have been a suspect in Halbach's killing.

A year earlier, Zeller had filed a 1,250-page motion claiming Hilgass, a former boyfriend of Halbach's, was her killer.

Her argument: Hilgass deleted messages he'd left on Halbach's phone, had no alibi for the time she's believed to have been killed and had scratches consistent with fingerprint marks on his hand around the time she disappeared.

Neither Bobby Dassey nor Hilgass has been charged in connection with the crime.

Police hadn't considered Hilgass a suspect, and a judge rejected Zeller's motion. Many who read the filing saw it as an attempt to create doubt about Avery's culpability, not a convincing argument that Halbach was killed by someone else.

If there's a convincing case to be made against someone other than Avery and Dassey, viewers will want to see it.

The Halbachs' voices

While the focus of the series has been on Avery and Dassey, there's a murder victim, Teresa Halbach.

Her family, understandably, didn't cooperate with the filmmakers for Season 1.

If they didn't for Season 1, how well, if at all, will their point of view be represented?

Is Dassey OK?

Brendan Dassey was already struggling with an intellectual disability when he was arrested in his mid-teens. What has a decade in prison done to/for him? His mother

and other relatives visit him in prison as often as they can — they play lots of Uno — but is anything being done to prepare him for a potential return to the outside world? He'll be in his late 50s when he's eligible for parole in 2048.

Why did he confess?

A common refrain from viewers of Season 1: "If Dassey wasn't involved in the killing, why did he confess?" The Season 2 trailer hints at an explanation.

Of course, many viewers believe that the two detectives who interviewed him, after defense lawyer Len Kachinsky declined to be in the room, coerced the confession. Kachinsky has had legal problems of his own. He's accused of stalking.

Unresolved evidence

Because it covered years of news, Season 1 didn't address some issues — like some of the evidence collected from Avery's property.

Will Season 2 deal with elements that seem unfavorable to Avery and Dassey, bloodstained pants, and the suspicious cleanliness of Avery's garage floor, that might indicate an attempt to conceal evidence? Will it deal with the fact that Avery's DNA was found on the hood latch of Halbach's Toyota RAV4, which was found at the Avery family's auto-salvage lot?

"Gatherers" will say that's one more thing that connects Avery to Halbach, and Halbach to the Avery property. What's the defense's explanation of how it got there?

Do they still believe?

Many of Avery's family members and other key

supporters will have had chances to speak with Steven, either by telephone or on visits to Wausau Correctional Institution. Do they still believe he didn't kill Halbach? Have any changed their minds?

Shirley Lee Duc contributed to this story.

Obituaries

Carol Ann Vanderbloemen

GREEN BAY — Carol Ann Vanderbloemen, 74, died peacefully on October 11, 2018 following a courageous 18-month battle with cancer with her family at her side. She was born September 2, 1944, in Manitowish, to Richard and Emily (Kral) Lersner.

When she was seven years old, her family relocated to Ellenville, WI. There she attended a one room school house and later graduated from Kenosauke High School, Class of 1962. Carol was proud of her family heritage as cheesemakers; her father was the manager of the Ellenville Dairy Co-op. On December 29, 1962, Carol married Tony Vanderbloemen at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Pilsen. Carol was a homemaker until her children were grown. She then attended NWTTC where she received her certification as a CNA. She worked as a nurse's aid for over 20 years at the Brown County Mental Hospital. Carol was a member of ASCM Local #1901. She will be remembered for her love of gardening, growing herbs, making crafts, crocheting, knitting, baking, being an avid reader, taking care of her grandchildren, and being an exceptional wife, mother, and grandmother.

Carol is survived by her husband of nearly 58 years, Tony; her daughters, Lynn Vanderbloemen, Pam Vanderbloemen, Kim (Brian) Vincent; her grandchildren, Drew, Elise, Connor and Dana Vincent; her brother and sister, Dick (Marilyn) Lersner, Laverne (Eugene) Krowitz; her sisters-in-law, Nancy Lersner, Lovie Lersner; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Donald and Gerald Lersner.

Friends may call at Proko-Wall Funeral Home, 1630 E. Mason Street, on Tuesday, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. The Funeral Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home, with Deacon Bill Burkel officiating. On-line condolences may be made to the Vanderbloemen family by going to www.prokowl.com.



Carol Ann Vanderbloemen.

Joan M. (Wilmet) Kreusser

GREEN BAY — Joan M. (Wilmet) Kreusser, completed her journey on her 77th birthday, Friday, October 12, 2018. She was born on October 12, 1941, in De Pere, to Alvin and Magdalene (VanDen Heuvel) Wilmet.

She graduated from Nicolet High School, Class of 1959. From there she worked at the Northland Hotel in 1960. On May 4, 1963, she married William Kreusser at St. Boniface Catholic Church in De Pere. She was employed by M&I Bank as a clerk for over 25 years. Due to her husband being a Green Bay Police Officer for 30 years, Joan was proud to be a part of the Green Bay Police Wives Organization.

Joan enjoyed reading and time with her family. She cared lovingly for her grandchildren and enjoyed spending time with them. She enjoyed shopping at TJ Maxx. Joan was involved in organizing funeral dinners at St. Agnes Parish, where she was a member for many years.

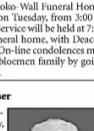
Joan is survived by her children: a daughter, Dawn Kreusser; a son, Bart Kreusser; two grandchildren, William "Billy" and Megan Kreusser; her older twin brother, John (Marlene) Wilmet; sister, Mary Knoll; brother-in-law, Rich Baylic; two sisters-in-law, Bonnie Wilmet and Barb (Larry) Lichtenopy; brother-in-law, Michael (Mary) Kreusser; a canine companion, Lee, Lee; and nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Kreusser; her parents and parents-in-law; a grandson, Brandon; two sisters, Shirley Wilmet and Cathy Baylic; two brothers, Richard and Bob Wilmet; and a sister-in-law, Elaine Kreusser; brothers-in-law, David Knoll and Daniel Stencil; and her black lab, Cindy Lou (Dinah).

Friends may visit at St. Agnes Catholic Church, 1484 Ninth St., from 9:30 to 11:30 Friday. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the church with Rev. Patrick C. Bono officiating. Burial will be in Fort Howard Memorial Park. To send online condolences, please go to www.BilanyFuneralHome.com.

In lieu of flowers, please contribute to Wisconsin Humane Society-Green Bay Campus or to Unity Hospice in Joan's name.

The family extends their appreciation to Julie Kreusser and Unity Hospice, especially Laura, Nancy, Chris and numerous others, your help ensured that Joan remained as comfortable as possible. We could not have done it without you!



Joan M. (Wilmet) Kreusser.

In Memoriam

If you would like to place an In Memoriam for your loved one, please call 1-888-774-7744. For insertion in Sunday, Friday publication call business days only. Saturday publication 1 business day prior.

We welcome any announcements prepared by you or our staff members. Only announcements that include name, address and date of passing should be accepted. All obituaries are subject to editing for length, content and style. Send all obituaries to: memorials@prokowl.com or fax to 920.463.0621. In celebrating the life of your loved one, we encourage you to include photos of your loved one. All photos for print must be received and approved by the print shop before the print deadline. Photos may be submitted to photos@prokowl.com or by mail to: Proko-Wall Funeral Home, 1630 E. Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54304. All photos must be received and approved by the print shop before the print deadline. Photos may be submitted to photos@prokowl.com or by mail to: Proko-Wall Funeral Home, 1630 E. Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54304.

John C. Brogan
John C. Brogan passed away October 13, 2018 at the age of 84. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Cotter Funeral Home and Crematory in a future edition and on www.cotterfuneralhome.com

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TODAY'S OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES

Name	Age	Town, State	Death Date	Arrangements
Brian, June C.	57	Crandon, Wis.	14-Oct	Joan's Funeral Service
Brogan, John C.	84	Green Bay	13-Oct	Cotter Funeral Home and Crematory
Kreusser, Joan M. (Wilmet)	77	Green Bay	13-Oct	Bilany Funeral Home
Schneider, Irma	86	Gillet	11-Oct	Gratzschner Funeral Home in Suring
Van Dornen, Elaine	95	De Pere	14-Oct	Ryan Funeral Home, De Pere
Vanderbloemen, Carol Ann	74	Green Bay	11-Oct	Proko-Wall Funeral Home
Vanderbloemen, Eric	95	Gillet	14-Oct	Gratzschner Funeral Home, Suring
Zimmerman, J., Lawrence D.	57	Green Bay	11-Oct	Proko-Wall Funeral Home

Additional information is displayed in obituaries. Distribution appears in print and online at www.prokowl.com/obituaries (Green Bay Press-Gazette)

To place a tribute for your loved one, please call 1-888-774-7744.