

DOMINANT

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Marshfield News-Herald

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MARSHFIELD, WIS.

Whooping cough cases increase

Health officials urge parents to have themselves, young children vaccinated

By Karen Madden
For the Marshfield News-Herald

Health officials are concerned about a growing number of whooping cough cases in Wood County.

After not having any confirmed pertussis cases in 2011, Wood County has had 14 since Aug. 19 — two fewer than all of last year, although short of the 2009 total of 24.

“The entire state is seeing

an increase in pertussis cases this summer,” said Diane Rodd, a Wood County public health nurse. Between June 1 and Aug. 26, there were 118 cases statewide. This year, the state has had 317 confirmed cases, Rodd said.

Pertussis, commonly called whooping cough, is a contagious bacterial disease that affects the respiratory tract. The bacteria commonly is spread by the coughing of an infected person,

according to a news release from the Wood County Health Department.

The infection begins like a cold, with a runny nose, possible low-grade fever and mild but irritating cough for one to two weeks, according to the news release. A person is most contagious during the early stages of the infection. The illness then progresses into spells of explosive coughing that can interrupt breathing, eating and sleeping,

and often is followed by vomiting and exhaustion. After a cough, patients might make a loud “whooping” sound as they struggle to inhale air.

Recent infections have been found throughout the county, including in Nekoosa, Wisconsin Rapids, Pittsville, Arpin and Marshfield.

Health Department officials are asking that parents make sure their infants receive five doses of the diphtheria, tetanus

and pertussis vaccine — at the ages of 2 months, 4 months and 6 months and when the child is 15 to 18 months old and 4 to 6 years old. They also recommend that new parents and anyone else who will come into contact with an infant be vaccinated. A one-time booster vaccine is available for children and adults.

Anyone with questions is asked to call the Wood County Health Department at 715-421-8911.

9/11: TEN YEARS LATER

In NYC, unity followed attacks

By Ashley A. Smith
Marshfield News-Herald

Ann-Marie Nelson, a Marshfield native, had been living in New York City for nearly two years when the World Trade Center was attacked 10 years ago by terrorists.

“I lived on the Lower East Side at the time,” said Nelson, 33, now of London. “I’m pretty sure I heard it happen (the first plane crash), so I woke out of bed. I’ll never know if I heard it; I just heard a crash that woke me up. I was a mile away from the World Trade Center on the west side.”

Nelson said her first instinct was to look out her window in the direction of a church. “Everything was fine and quiet,” she said. “No one was on the street.”

She also didn’t have cable television or an Internet connection because of a storm the previous night.

“An hour later, I actually got a phone call from a friend in Switzerland asking me if I was OK,” Nelson said. “By the time I got to my rooftop, one tower was up and one was down.”

On the night of Sept. 10, 2011, Nelson had been on her roof taking photos of the towers.

“I loved going on the roof and look at the buildings,” she said. “Especially at night, it was as if they were looking over you.”

After taking photos of the remaining tower with smoke billowing out of

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The view down Broadway on Sept. 11, 2001, shows the Woolworth Building surrounded by smoke. (PHOTO COURTESY ANN-MARIE NELSON)

Grant fights pediatric cancer

Hyundai donates \$100,000 for Marshfield Clinic research



Abigail Adler, 6, with help from Sarah Long, a post-doctoral fellow in pediatric psychology, puts her handprint on a poster Friday after the Hyundai Hope on Wheels grant check presentation at the Marshfield Clinic. (LAURA SCHMITT/MARSHFIELD NEWS-HERALD)

By Jeff Engel
Marshfield News-Herald

Three years ago, Heather Adler received shocking news no parent ever wants — or expects — to hear: Her daughter had cancer.

Abigail Adler was 4 years old when her parents took her to the doctor to check on what they thought was a lazy eye. It turned out the left eye had a tumor and needed to be removed.

“We thought, ‘Why our child?’” Heather Adler said.

Fortunately for the Marshfield family, the cancer didn’t spread, and it went into remission after eight months of treatment. Abigail now has

a prosthetic eye, but she has handled it all with optimism and “high spirits,” her mother said.

“We need to be aware of, no matter what age, children can get cancer,” Heather Adler said. “We need to raise more awareness.”

To that end, Hyundai Hope on Wheels, a joint effort of Hyundai Motor America and its more than 800 dealers nationwide, announced a \$100,000 grant Friday to the Marshfield Clinic for childhood cancer research.

The grant is part of \$7.1 million Hyundai is donating this month to 71 pediatric cancer research projects and groups nationwide. September is

National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

By the end of 2011, Hyundai Hope on Wheels will have committed \$43 million in donations to pediatric cancer research since its inception in 1998.

Part of the grant to the Clinic came from regional Hyundai dealers’ sales.

“Every time a car is sold, a portion goes to Hope on Wheels,” said Don Scaffidi, owner of Scaffidi Hyundai in Stevens Point. “It’s wonderful — this money will hopefully go toward finding a cure (for cancer).”

The funds also will be used to foster communication and teach coping skills to patients and families, said Dr. Michael

McManus, a pediatric physician at the Clinic. Doctors will work with patients both in-person and through videoconferencing.

“It’s a privilege for our oncology team here at the Marshfield Clinic to care for these children and watch them grow up,” McManus said during a press conference about the grant.

Abigail and several other cancer survivors attended the press conference, and afterward dipped their hands in paint and placed their imprints together on a poster.

“These children and their loved ones have gone through so much and are true heroes,” said Dr. Karl Ulrich, Clinic president and CEO.

Changes to give UW-M/WC officials more control

By Ashley A. Smith
Marshfield News-Herald

University of Wisconsin Regents are shifting more operating powers from the UW System to each of the 26 campuses.

“Hopefully, this will let all of our campuses operate more nimbly and efficiently and help them take full advantage of the flexibilities granted to us by the state,” said Dave Giroux, executive director of communications for UW System.

The Board of Regents passed a pair of proposals by unanimous voice vote Thursday. The first

allowed the campuses to take on some of the oversight authority currently provided by the UW System. The other offered a plan for staff downsizing in response to a \$2.46 million budget cut for the UW System Administration.

UW System President Kevin Reilly’s advisory committee developed the proposals as a couple of ways for the UW System to restructure in light of budget cuts.

For UW-Marshfield/Wood County, the proposals could mean more local control for managing the budgeting of finances and hiring of personnel, Giroux said.

“What we discussed was more of a cultural change,” Giroux said. “(UW Colleges and UW Extension) Chancellor Ray Cross and the other chancellors will be more directly involved with policymaking and decision making on a statewide basis.”

Each of the colleges’ deans, including UW-M/WC Dean Patricia Stuhr, could see a delegation of leadership duties appointed by the chancellor, Giroux said.

“It’s a little early to say how any of the policy changes will affect our institution,” Stuhr said. “I think we have to wait on that. However, we welcome the

flexibilities that allow us to be more innovative and effective in delivering our associate’s and new bachelor’s degrees.”

Stuhr said she expects there will be much discussion about the proposals among Chancellor Cross and the other campus deans in upcoming weeks.

Reilly, whose advisory committee developed both proposals, said he wasn’t sure how the regents would respond to a possible loss of authority. But he noted that the board had a level of trust with the 14 UW chancellors that made it easier to shift

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Today:
Mostly sunny,
nice and warm
High: 79 Low: 54



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Erwin Eggersgluess
Mildred Rusch
Robert Wilsman Sr.

