

A kayaker enjoyed a warm day on the Milwaukee River recently. In fact, it is those warm temperatures this fall that have been causing lackluster color in the trees this year, according to Cedarburg Forestry Superintendent Kevin Westphal. Specifically, the high temperatures and the lack of rain mean the leaves just essentially dried up and fell off, he said. "They have not given us their typical fall display," he said.

Former CHS science teacher headed to Antarctica

Bault has been training in Alaska

By Brynne McCarthy
Special to the News Graphic



Bault

SAUKVILLE — When former Cedarburg High School teacher Jennifer Bault leaves on her five-week research expedition to Antarctica later this month, one of the things she isn't terribly concerned about is the weather. "I'm not so worried about the cold," she said. "I'll be living in the Antarctic spring-summer."

That, she said, is comparable to a typical Wisconsin winter.

Bault will accompany Drs. Hongjie Xie and Jonglie Gao of the University of Texas-San Antonio on their expedition across the Ross Sea through the PolarTREC program, according to a press release.

She was selected as one of 10 teachers nationwide to participate in a research project and only one of three to travel to Antarctica. The remaining seven will journey to Alaska, Greenland and other northern polar regions.

Bault, a devoted traveler, has visited Tanzania, Africa and every state in the United States except Hawaii. She is looking forward to participating in the PolarTREC program and promoting its main outreach component.

"The whole idea of the program is to get kids interested in polar science and to teach young people to dream

big and that you can get there too," Bault said.

Bault has applied to PolarTREC before, but it was her second application and successful interview with researchers that got her the opportunity.

"I have never actually been on a trip of this length; maybe for 10 or 16 days but never five weeks," said Bault, who now teaches AP Environmental and AP Biology at Nicolet High School. "I have an amazing substitute running my classroom so I feel pretty good about that."

The costs of the trip are funded by the National Science Foundation and there are no out-of-pocket costs for the research team, who lodge in living spaces similar to dorm rooms unless they are at the actual camp site.

To prepare, Bault has completed thorough training in Alaska; she also is aware that there is no medical care in Antarctica. She has taken training courses on computer networking and all the equipment she will have to use.

The research team's efforts will aid the assertion of the effects of climate change on sea ice surrounding Antarctica, according to a press release. Bault will be conducting and sampling geophysical field measurements of the snow and ice, both from the ground and air, through the use of IcePod flights. Her research will also involve measuring snow depth and sea ice

thickness; the resulting data sets will facilitate sea ice production estimates and water mass transformation in the Ross Sea.

"Ice is growing as opposed to reducing. I am excited to find out how that works," she said. "I am very excited to learn more about the science of the ice and what's going on and being able to bring that back to my students. The terminology is well beyond a high school level, so I want to apply that terminology in a way (students) can understand and apply."

Part of Bault's work upon her return will include incorporating her experience into the classroom. "We actually have to develop several lesson plans that pertain to the research we are doing," she said, noting she will stay connected with her students through Skype and postcards. "I will be blogging or journaling every day, so my students will be able to follow along with what's going on."

To follow Bault's journey, you can visit www.polarrec.com to read her daily journals and view photos. She will be broadcasting live from Antarctica during her expedition and anyone with internet access can view her broadcasts.

"The more that I can do to show my students what is available in the world, the better," Bault said. "Particularly in science I think it is important to show young women that we can do it. You can do anything you want as long as you have the heart and soul to put into it."

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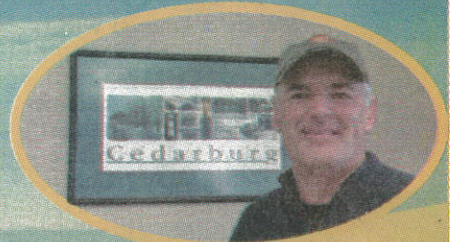
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The Hig edge Si get som share th ball title.
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Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Rendering public opinion 'null and void' if bill would limit input on conditional use p

By **Melanie Boyung**
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MADISON — Some say residents could lose much of their power to influence their local governments if a bill introduced in the state Legislature becomes law.

The "Homeowners Bill of Rights" would impose several controls on local municipal-

ities, including that it would prohibit municipal bodies from rejecting a conditional use permit application based solely on public input.

Local towns, villages and cities employ conditional use permits to allow for a variety of requests on a case-by-case basis; businesses, commercial uses and residential uses can all require the permits, under which a certain use is allowed, as long as

the person obtaining the permit follows set conditions.

One of the required steps is to hold a public hearing during which residents can voice their opinions, but the bill moving through the Senate and Assembly could rob those opinions of weight.

"I have done my homework on both SB387 and AB479, which if passed, will render almost null and void the opinions of resi-

Logemann's future gets even murkier

Decision delayed again; city gets new offer to buy

By **Gary Achterberg**
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MEQUON — Last Tuesday's Mequon Common Council meeting was supposed to be the line in the sand when the fate of the Logemann Center would be decided.

With 11 p.m. in the rear-view mirror and the discussion still in full swing, action got shelved again as Mayor Dan

