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September Publication Dates Are September 5th and September 19th.

Mon., Aug. 24th

"Ghoulash"
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Dessert

Mon., Aug. 31st

Baked Chicken
Mashed Potatoes
Green Bean Casserole
Dessert

Mon., Sep. 7th

NO MEAL...

HAPPY LABOR
DAY!

Mon., Sep. 14th

Spaghetti
Salad &
Garlic Bread
Dessert

SAVE THE DATES!

Vintage Tractor Show & Brat Fry
Sunday, September 6th - 10 am to 4 pm

Minick Blood Drive
Tuesday, September 8th - 1 pm to 6 pm

Call ahead to Reserve
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**Marks Market
& Catering**
Call 920-992-5220

**WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE &
ENJOYABLE LABOR DAY!**

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& HAMBURGER/BRAT FRY

Sunday, **SEPTEMBER 6, 2026**
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Hamburgers & BRATS
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HISTORY, TRACTORS & COMMUNITY FUN!

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(Between Rio & Columbus)
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Tuesday, September 8th
1-6:00 PM

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You can save up to 15 minutes when you donated blood by using RapidPass! redcrossblood.org/RapidPass for more information
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What's Inside:

- ~Local News
- ~Local Events
- ~Local History
- ~Senior Menu
- ~And More

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PORK CHOPS & BAG FLOPS FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
2:00 PM - 10:00 PM

MINICK FARMS
N2708 COUNTY ROAD A
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

2:00 PM
Bags Tournament
Registration Fee: \$40/Team
Competitive and Family Divisions
Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams
All Day
Additional Activities
Additional Beverages available for donation
50/50 Drawings
Silent Auction

4:00 - 6:00 PM
Pork Chop Dinner
Adult Meal Includes: Pork Chop, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw, Applesauce, Roll, Dessert, Lemonade & Water
\$15/Person
Kids Meal Includes: Hot Dog, Mac & Cheese, Applesauce, Dessert, Lemonade & Water
\$8/Person

Raising funds for the enhancement of our student athlete experience at Rio Middle/High School by updating concessions stand and event entrance and other opportunities for our student athletes.

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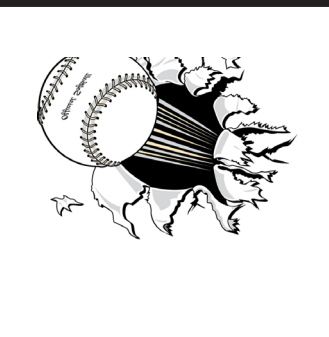
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HOME TALENT 2026 RIO Railmen

July 19
vs. Montello - 1 PM
Montello 9 - Rio 6

July 23
vs. Poynette - 7:30 PM
Rio 4 - Poynette 3

July 26
vs. Cottage Grove-1 PM
Cottage Grove 5-Rio 4

July 30
vs. Black Earth - 7:30 PM
Black Earth 12 - Rio 0

August 2nd
@ Columbus - 1 PM
Columbus 10 - Rio 0

August 6th
vs. Monona
Monona 5 - Rio 1

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NOTICE

A virtual open house and online comment card and map showing the study segments are available at mgs-projects.com/BECI. We are asking for public feedback on the study segments by September 7, 2026.

JOIN US AT THE MEETING:

Columbia County
Tuesday, August 25 - 4 pm to 7 pm
Whispering Pines
101 Bethel Dr., Poynette WI 53955

OVERVIEW:
The BECI project is an approximately 190-mile, 765-kV project in Wisconsin connecting electric facilities in Walworth County before continuing to the state line. The exact connection point at the state line has not been determined because the connecting transmission line in Illinois is under development by another utility.

*Typical Structure Height-Approx. 175 ft.
*Typical Right of Way Width-Approx. 180 ft.
*Typical Span - Approx. 1,200 ft.

More Information can be found at:
mgs-projects.com/BECI

Columbia County Senior Dining Menu
AUGUST 24-AUGUST 28, 2026

MONDAY-Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Baby Carrots, Peach Crisp, WW Roll.
TUESDAY-Chicken Chow Mien Over Rice, Chow Mien Noodles, Pineapple Chunks, Fortune Cookies.
WEDNESDAY-Cube Steak, Baby Potatoes w/Cream Sauce, Cut Green Beans, WW Roll.
THURSDAY- Tater Tot Casserole, Hot Beets, Tropical Fruit, WW Roll.
FRIDAY- Turkey & Cheese on Croissant, Lettuce, Tomato, and Mayo, 3 Bean Salad, Chunky Applesauce.

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

MONDAY-Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges, WW Roll.
TUESDAY-Roast Turkey, Dressing w/Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Pumpkin Bar, Cranberries.
WEDNESDAY-Salisbury Steak w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Pears, WW Roll.
THURSDAY- Chicken Tetrizzini, Broccoli, Tropical Fruit, Garlic Toast.
FRIDAY- Brat w/Kraut on WW Bun, Baked Beans, Lettuce Salad w/Dressing, Whole Apple.

Columbia County Meal sites
Columbus 920-763-2124
Pardeeville 608-617-1821
Portage 608-742-9211
Poynette 608-635-2122 option 2

*Menu subject to change without notice.
ADRC 608-742-9233 or 888-742-9233

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RIO COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026, 5:00 PM
RIO MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
ROOM 170

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Board President, Carley Young. Jordan Noyes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

This meeting was properly posted in the District.

Roll Call: Carley Young, Tammy Wakeman, Beth Laufenberg, Jordan Noyes and Keith Desjarlais. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Michael Lichucki; Director of Business Services Paula Glaser; Building & Grounds Director Randy Starker; Food Service Director Sara Meixner; and Findorff Project Executive Dave Chmielewski.

Recognition of Visitors. There were no visitors present.

Discussion/Information/Possible Action.
A. Board Goals 2026-27. A motion was made by Keith Desjarlais and seconded by Beth Laufenberg to approve the Board Goals for the 2026-2027 school year, as presented and discussed. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.
B. Findorff Facility Study Information Sharing. Dave Chmielewski, Project Executive, from Findorff shared the results of the facility assessments performed for the Elementary and Middle/High School facilities to create a capital maintenance plan for current and future maintenance needs. The facility assessments include items for consideration by priority and category (interiors, site, building envelope, and building systems), and include estimated pricing for each identified item. This was a discussion item.

A motion was made by Jordan Noyes and seconded by Tammy Wakeman to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 PM.

Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

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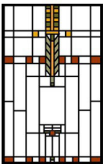
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**Rio Community Library**  
**August News & Events**  
M & W-10:00am-8:00pm T,R,F-10:00am-5:00pm S-10:00am-3:00pm  
(920) 992-3206 www.riolibrary.org

**Monthly Events:**

The Rio Community Library Board meets on the 2nd Monday of the month. All are welcome.

The Book Club book is The Snowbirds by Christina Clancy. Copies available upon request.

Storytime is taking a break in August and will resume in September.

Lego Club and Movie days will take a break during the Summer.

**Save the Date Events:**

The Library will be closed on Labor Day Sept. 7th

Sept. 9th @ 6:00 p.m. Badger Talks - Doug Bradley - We Gotta Get Out of This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War

A Rio Reads event will be based on the above Badger Talk. Dates will be announced.

**Upcoming Events:**  
Oct. 21 @ 6:00 p.m.  
Junk Journaling  
Oct. 28th @ 6:00 p.m.  
Big Foot in Wisconsin



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OBITUARY



Heather Ann Koehler

Heather Ann Koehler, age 36, of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, passed away on Tuesday July 21, 2026. She was born on May 11, 1990, in Madison, Wisconsin, to Greg and Karen (Shattuck) Koehler.

Heather graduated from Rio High School in 2008 and graduated from Madison College's nursing program. She pursued a career in nursing for many years before discovering her true passion as a tattoo artist. Heather found a way to express her artistic and creative abilities through her work, creating meaningful pieces for her friends and clients. Her artwork, and the memories connected to it, will continue to live on.

Heather also found great joy in spending time with her beloved dogs, who brought her happiness and companionship.

Heather will be remembered for her individuality, free spirit, creativity, and the unique light she brought into the lives of those around her. She leaves behind many cherished memories that will continue to bring comfort to those who knew and loved her.

Heather is survived by her parents, Greg and Karen (Shattuck) Koehler of Rio; her brother, Jonathan (Joanna); niece Addie; nephew Hudson Koehler of Sun Prairie; and many loving aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Family and friends were invited to celebrate Heather's life at Grasse Funeral Home in Rio, WI 401 Angel Way, Wednesday, August 5, 2026. A Memorial Service will be held at 12:00 P.M. Visitation was held from 10:00 A.M. until the time of service on Wednesday.

Heather's life was a gift to those who knew her. Although her time with us was far too short, the love, creativity, kindness, and memories she shared will remain forever in the hearts of her family and friends. Online condolences may be made at [www.grassefs.com](http://www.grassefs.com). Grasse Funeral Service in Rio is serving the family.

RIO PARENTS: There is no need to buy all of the typical school supplies this year! All you will need is a backpack.



Like last year, we will be providing school supplies to the school for your students' use, all we ask is that those who can, purchase their backpack. For those who cannot provide a backpack, we are going to ask that the parents let it be known at registration so we can have backpacks ready for the student at Open House.

Community Members and Businesses: A few organizations have already donated funds to assist in this endeavor but additional monetary contributions would be helpful. Donations can be made payable to: Rio Community Event Fund, 207 Lincoln Ave, PO Box 276, Rio, WI 53960.

Additional donations of Clorox or Lysol Wipes and Kleenex are also appreciated.

If anyone has questions, feel free to contact Andrea Becker at (608) 712-8322.



Pictured from the viewer's left are Gunnar Winchell, a Badger Boy's State counselor and Rio school staff member. Next is Sebastian Osborn, Adrian Vangen, and Jeremiah Kimbro. The four spent a week this past June at Badger Boy's State at UW- Eau Claire. The Rio American Legion sponsored the three young men so they could experience a week of learning some of the fundamentals found in politicking. The three Rio seniors reported enjoying their time in Eau Claire and said they learned a lot from the experience.

# Rio Shopper

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**A Message to our Readers:**

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*Customers can continue to place ads or leave messages at our email - [rioshoppernews@gmail.com](mailto:rioshoppernews@gmail.com) or by calling 920-992-5253.*

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Monday - 5 PM

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Tuesday - Noon

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Winston Churchill.

**The Rio Shopper**



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The Rio American Legion has a room for rent that will hold approximately 50 folks for a seated event. The facility has AC, a gas stove, microwaves, refrigerator, with tables and chairs already in place. If interested in renting call Jerry at 920 988-3389 or George at 920 382-3588.

RIO COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026, 5:00 PM  
RIO MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL  
ROOM 170

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Board President, Carley Young. Keith Desjarlais led the Pledge of Allegiance.

This meeting was properly posted in the District.

Roll Call: Carley Young, Tammy Wakeman, Beth Laufenberg, Jordan Noyes and Keith Desjarlais. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Michael Lichucki; Middle/High School Principal Laura Krause-Emerick; Student Success Coordinator Allison Haas; Director of Business Services Paula Glaser; Director of Maintenance Randy Starker; Food Service Director Sara Meixner; CESA5 Assistant Director of Business Services Derek Sliter; and Administrative Assistant Nicole Bagwell.

Recognition of Visitors. There were no visitors present.

Approve Minutes from the June 4, 2026 and June 15, 2026 Board of Education Meetings. A motion was made by Keith Desjarlais and seconded by Jordan Noyes to approve the June 4, 2026, special meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes. A motion was made by Beth Laufenberg and seconded by Tammy Wakeman to approve the June 15, 2026 regular meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

Rio Showcase - ParentSquare. Student Success Coordinator Allison Haas provided information to the Board about the new communication app, ParentSquare, being implemented to improve communication with families. The app provides a centralized place for communication and provides for better monitoring of communication between parents, students and staff.

Action Items

A. Bills for Payment. A motion was made by Keith Desjarlais and seconded by Tammy Wakeman to approve Checks, ACH, and Wire payments from 6/1/2026 - 6/30/2026 as presented totaling \$691,896.31. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

B. Human Relations

1. Resignation/Retirement

- a. Assistant High School Baseball Coach - Bryce Berger. Informational - no action needed.
- b. Educational Assistant - Jean Frea. Informational - no action needed.

2. Hiring

- a. Part-Time Custodian - Scott Pribbenow. Informational - no action needed.
- b. MS Cross Country Coach - Jennifer Lang. Informational - no action needed.
- c. MS ELA - 1.0 FTE Jennifer Schneider. Dr. Lichucki shared that due to staffing changes,he would like to increase Jennifer Schneider’s Middle School ELA Teacher position from 0.69 FTE to 1.0 FTE. A motion was made by Beth Laufenberg and seconded by Jordan Noyes to approve a contract for Jennifer Schneider for the position of 1.0 FTE Middle School ELA Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year, as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

3. Gifts to the District

a. Grants

i. Food Service Equipment - Super School Meals. Food Service Director Sara Meixner received a grant from GENYOUth’s Super School Meals program for lunchroom equipment at the MS/HS. The equipment valued at approximately \$2,000.00 included insulated milk carts, mobile meal carts, and food serving bins.

b. Donations

i. Ukuleles - Robert Breneman. A motion was made by Keith Desjarlais and seconded by Tammy Wakeman to accept the gift of three handmade Ukuleles for the elementary Ukulele club, from Robert Breneman, with great thanks. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

Discussion/Information/Possible Action

A. Treasurer’s Report. Director of Business Services Paula Glaser reviewed the Treasurer’s Report with the Board.

B. Policy Review 2nd Reading: Grooming Policies. A motion was made by Jordan Noyes and seconded by Beth Laufenberg to adopt the updates to the following Neola policies related to Act 89 “Grooming Policies” requirements.

- 0144.5 Board Member Behavior, Communications, and Code of Conduct
- 1213 Student Supervision and Welfare
- 3213 Student Supervision and Welfare
- 4213 Student Supervision and Welfare
- 7530.02 Staff and School Officials Use of Personal Communication Devices
- 7540.03 Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety
- 7544 Use of Social Media
- 8120 Volunteers
- 8462 Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect, and Sexual Misconduct

Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

C. NEOLA policy Updates 1st Reading. A motion was made by Keith Desjarlais and seconded by Tammy Wakeman to acknowledge the first reading of the upates to the following Neola policies.

- 0100 Definitions
- 1210 Board – District Administrator Relationship
- 2131.01 Reading Instructional Goals and Kindergarten Assessment
- 2271.01 Start College Now program
- 2431 Interscholastic Athletics
- 2464 Advanced Learning Instruction
- 4124 Notice of Reasonable Assurance of Employment
- 5112 Entrance Age
- 5310.01 Emergency Nursing Services/Plan
- 5330 Administration of Medication/Emergency Care
- 5514 Use of Personal Transportation Devices
- 5515 Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles
- 5530 Student Use or Possession of Intoxicants, Drugs, or Paraphernalia
- 6320 Purchasing
- 6325 Procurement – Program Federal Grants/Funds
- 7440.03 Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones)
- 7455 Accounting System for Capital Assets
- 7540.02 Digital Content and Accessibility
- 7540.08 Artificial Intelligence
- 8420 School Safety and Reporting of Crime Statistics
- 8500 Food Service

Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

D. Educational Assistant Job Description. A motion was made by Beth Laufenberg and seconded by Keith Desjarlais to approve the Educational Assistant job description as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

E. Adopt Academic Standards. A motion was made by Beth Laufenberg and seconded by Tammy Wakeman to adopt the 2026-2027 Academic Standards as presented for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

F. MOU Waunakee Psychotherapy Center. A motion was made by Tammy Wakeman and seconded by Beth Laufenberg to approve the MOU with Waunakee Psychotherapy Center as presented and discussed for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

G. Elementary Handbook. A motion was made by Jordan Noyes and seconded by Keith Desjarlais to approve the 2026-2027 Elementary School Handbook, as presented and discussed. Motion carried by a voice vote; five votes yes.

LOCAL WORSHIP

OLIVET CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship: Sunday at 9 am  
Sunday School: after Worship - 10 am

ALL ARE WELCOME!  
Web page: [olivetucc.org](http://olivetucc.org)

313 W. Prairie St.  
Columbus WI 53925

 **YOU'RE INVITED TO ...**  
Sunday School 8:30 AM  
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM  
Wed. Bible Study 6 PM  
Pastor: Mark Brandel  
rev.brandel@hotmail.com

Growing in grace since 1853  
 **Wyocena Community Church**  
wyocenachurch.com 164 E. Franklin St  
608.434.2470 PO Box 873  
Wyocena, WI 53969

**HALL RENTAL**  
Rio American Legion  
The Rio American Legion post is available for gatherings up to 50 people. The cost for a non-member is \$50.00 per day. Call Jerry at 920-988-3389 or George at 920-382-3588 for more information or to make a reservation.

**Bonnet Prairie  
Lutheran Church**  
N3694 Old F. Rd., Rio  
Phone: 920-992-3200



**Bonnet Prairie Lutheran**  
In Person Service,  
plus Zoom & Parking lot  
by listening to FM 87.9

**Sunday**  
Sunday School will be the  
first and third Sunday of the  
month beginning in  
September.  
(Sept. will be 2nd & 3rd Sunday)  
8:30 to 9:20 am.  
Sunday School is for  
students age 3-High School.

9:30 am Worship  
Council Meets 3rd Mon. of Month  
WOC Meets last Weds. of Month

 **Faith Bible Church**  
N4777 Elm Street - Rio, WI 53960  
Pastor Ramsey Bobzin  
920-992-3274  
www.fbcrio.org

Come join us to pray, sing and worship our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ.  
Study the Bible, the Word of God, chapter by chapter, verse by verse and word  
by word. Jesus is THE WAY, THE TRUTH & THE LIFE!.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
9:00 AM **WORSHIP-STUDYING THE BOOK OF ISAIAH  
AFTER WORSHIP COFFEE & COOKIE FELLO-  
SHIP FOLLOWED BY SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR  
ALL AGES**

**SUNDAY EVENING:** Youth Group - 5:00 PM  
**MONDAY:** Time of Prayer & Praise - 3:00 PM  
**TUESDAY:** Women's Bible Study, Summer Break, Resumes 8/4/26  
**WEDNESDAY:** Apologetics Class - 6:00 PM  
**1ST SUNDAY/MONTH:** Communion  
**2ND SATURDAY/MONTH:** Mens Prayer Breakfast - 7:00 AM

**Sermons can be heard on  
www.fbrio.org or on Facebook**

Let not your heart be  
troubled: ye believe in God,  
believe also in me.  
John 14:1

Community Resources

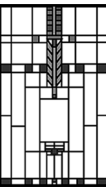


**WYOCENA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Monday 9am - 5pm  
Tuesday & Wednesday 9am - Noon & 1pm - 5pm  
Thursday 10am - 3 pm  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday - Closed

Offering copy/fax service during normal hours,  
no appointment necessary

**Rio Community  
Library**  
**HOURS**  
Mondays & Wednesdays  
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays  
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Saturdays - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Closed Sundays & Holidays  
email: questions@riolibrary.org  
website: www.riolibrary.org



**920-992-3206**  
Please review the guidelines  
when entering the library  
324 W. Lyons St.  
We also offer  
curbside pick up.

**Bread Basket**  
**COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY**  
Located in the basement of the Presbyterian Church, Entrance on Towyn Street  
**Bread Basket Food Pantry will be by appointment only.**  
**Contact Joanne Sanderson; 920-348-5568**  
**or the Church office; 920-348-5859.**

**Serving residents of the Cambria School District**

**MONETARY DONATIONS** may be sent to Joanne Sanderson,  
Treasurer, W2207 Vaughn Rd., Cambria, WI 53923.

 **HOURS**  
Monday & Wednesday: 9 AM - 8 PM  
Tues., Thurs. & Fri., 9 AM - 5 PM  
Saturdays - 9 AM - NOON  
109 Edgewater St., Cambria  
920-348-4030  
[www.jmml.org](http://www.jmml.org)  
WIRELESS INTERNET  
ACCESS AVAILABLE  
Weekly Preschool Story Time  
& Adult Book Club Monthly  
Book Drop Available F & M Bank in Friesland & the Library

**Attention Rio Area Food  
Pantry Customers!**  
Please come to the front door  
of the pantry to pick up your  
order form which will be filled  
and brought to your car.

**RIO FOOD PANTRY**  
104 Lincoln Ave., Rio  
Serving the Rio, Otsego, Doylestown, Cambria and Friesland areas/School Districts.  
**OPEN 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month**  
**10:00 AM – Noon**  
**EVERY 4<sup>th</sup> MONDAY**  
**we will also be open from 5 PM to 6 PM**

Donations of food & money are accepted during open hours. Monetary  
donations can also be sent to Rio Area Food Pantry PO Box 355  
Rio WI 53960  
**Checks should be made out to the Rio Area Food Pantry.**  
For more information contact:  
Jim Nelson (608) 513-0552 or 992-3618  
Bob Risgaard (920) 992-5258  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**The Rio  
Shopper**



 LIKE US ON  
**facebook**

**COLUMBUS/FALL RIVER FOOD PANTRY**  
**APPOINTMENT SCHEDULING  
INFORMATION**  
(effective January 1, 2025)

We serve Thursdays, 4:00 pm to 6:45 pm, by appointment.  
We are located in the back of the Columbus Community Center,  
125 N Dickason Blvd, Columbus.

**Call 608-893-3079 to schedule an appointment.**  
If your call is not answered, please leave a clear message with  
your name and phone number. Messages will be checked daily.

Si Ud. necesita ayuda con la comida, favor de llamar al 920-  
287-8122 y pida Marcos para programar una cita.

**Thank you to the following churches for serving:**  
Connection Church - Pastor Jamie Turner \* St. Jerome Catholic  
Church - Father Jim Leaser \* Faith Lutheran Church - Pastor  
Andrew Perger \* Olivet Congregational UCC \* Zion Lutheran  
Church - Pastor Tim Schwartz \* First Presbyterian Church \*  
Columbus United Methodist Church - Rev. Sang Wook Park \*  
Columbus Community Church of the Nazarene - Pastor Chris  
Baker \* Wisconsin Academy - Pastor Jonathon Petrick

**RIO AMERICAN LEGION ROOM RENTAL**  
The Rio American Legion has a room for rent  
that will hold approximately 50 folks for a seat-  
ed event. The facility has AC, a gas stove, mi-  
crowaves, refrigerator, with tables and chairs al-  
ready in place. If interested in renting call Jerry at  
920 988-3389 or George at 920 382-3588.

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JOIN THE RIO AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY TODAY!  
OUR MEETINGS: Third Saturday of each month  
at 10:00 am at the RAHS Museum, 126 Lincoln Ave., Rio  
ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE  
View our picture gallery & stories on our Facebook page. For more information or

**"WE NEED TO COLLECT & PRESERVE"**  
~ Don Hohlstein

### The Rio Ice Company

In April of 1937 it was announced in the newspaper that the people of Rio could now obtain ice from a local concern by scheduling deliveries with the Rio Ice Company. Deliveries would be made three times a week and four times during hot weather. About 400 tons of ice were stored last winter and it is expected that this will be an adequate supply for the Village. Clarence Lerum and Walter Wendt are the owners of the company. It is not known if these men had any kind of motorized cutting tool but they were both pretty intelligent men so it would not surprise me. The motorized cutters looked a lot like roto-tillers from a distance and you walked behind them. This photo is just an example of what they looked like and not one they actually used. The second photo is of an ice box where it would be stored.



The ice was sawed out of local lakes and for Rio primarily Silver Springs one block at a time and stored in a warehouse and covered in sawdust to keep it from melting. The space between the ice and the walls of the building were also packed with sawdust for insulation.



This is what the ice blocks looked like and these are some of the tools used for harvesting them.

For those of you who are too young to know why they needed an ice company, it was because at that time there were no refrigerators, only ice boxes. You would contract with someone to deliver ice to your home several times a week to put in your ice box so your food did not spoil. In the winter this was not a problem because most people had a summer porch that they used to store perishable items since it was not heated. We have come a long way.

By: Darlene Lerum

RIO HISTORY AD SPONSORED BY:



A tree grows,  
a memory lives on....

## Grasse

### Funeral Service

401 Angel Way Rio / 119 Industrial Dr. Pardeeville  
920-992-3434 or 608-429-2020

View the current Shopper at:  
[www.columbiacountynewshub.com](http://www.columbiacountynewshub.com)

PLACE  
YOUR  
CLASSIFIED  
AD  
ONLINE  
AT YOUR  
CONVENIENCE!

Go to:  
[www.columbiacountynewshub.com](http://www.columbiacountynewshub.com)

## Stork Watch

Area Birth Announcements

### Have a Birth to Announce?

If you would like to announce a birth in the Rio Shopper, please call, or send information and phone number; (printed clearly) to Rio Shopper, 205 Lincoln Ave, P.O. Box 302, Rio, WI 53960. **There is no charge for these announcements!**

**920-992-5253**





Are you looking for a spiritual change, or to grow in Christ? Come check out Olivet. We offer both spiritual and sustenance food, family fun, and fellowship.

It's up to you to take that first step, then we will do the rest.

Weekly Sunday services are at 9 a.m. so you can view them online or attend in person. See you soon -

Olivet Congregational UCC  
313 West Prairie St.  
Columbus, Wisconsin 53925  
920-623-5140  
[www.olivetucc.org](http://www.olivetucc.org)

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 **facebook**

## The Rio Shopper



[facebook.com/therioshopper](https://facebook.com/therioshopper)

## HALL RENTAL

Rio American Legion

The Rio American Legion post is available for gatherings up to 50 people. The cost for a non-member is \$50.00 per day. Call Jerry at 920-988-3389 or George at 920-382-3588 for more information or to make a reservation.