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Washington County ranks among state's healthiest

Ozaukee County is No. 1, we come in 10th

By KRISTINE WALDEN - GM Today Staff

November 19, 2008

WEST BEND - Washington County is among the top 10 healthiest counties in the state.

Ozaukee County is the healthiest county in the state, according to the newly released 2008 Wisconsin County Health Rankings. In the study, Washington County ranks sixth in health outcomes and third in health determinants.

"Overall we're very pleased, but it doesn't mean there's no room for improvement," said Linda Walter, director of the Washington County Health Department. "We're pleased to continue to be in the top quadrant overall — that's our goal."

The report is the sixth annual health check up of the 72 counties and the city of Milwaukee, developed by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

"We bring together over 30 measures of health to summarize the overall health of each county in Wisconsin," said the Institute's director, Dr. Patrick Remington.

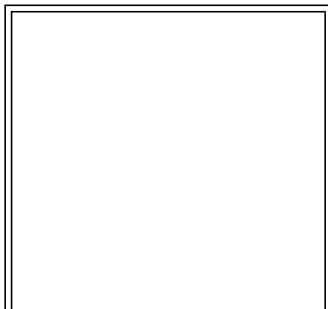
The report revealed significant differences between the healthiest places — Ozaukee, Waukesha, Dane, Iowa and Eau Claire counties — and the least healthy places — Menominee County, the city of Milwaukee, Marquette, Juneau and Forest counties.



Amber Bingen

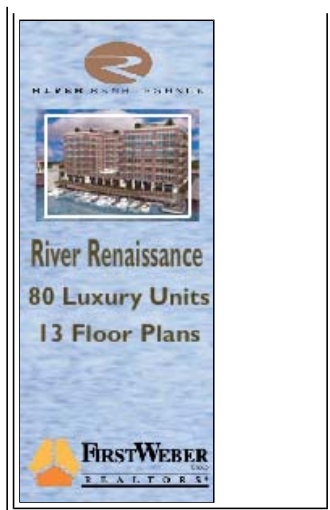
Slinger Middle School teacher Dave Tremel works out on a treadmill at the Slinger Owls Fitness Center at Slinger High School on Tuesday. Tremel said exercising helps him feel better about himself.

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"The health of a community is determined by a number of factors, such as health insurance, smoking rates, high school graduation and air quality," noted Dr. Remington.


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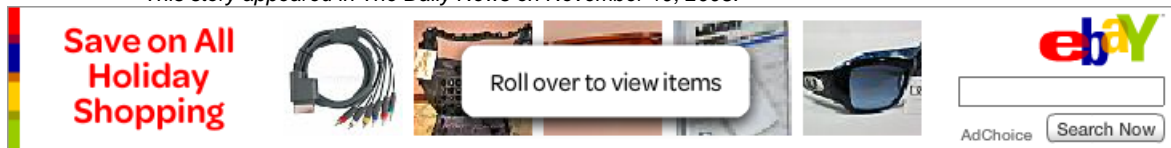


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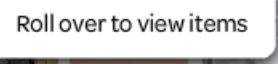



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