



NANCY VANDERMEER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 70TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release:

November 22, 2019

Contact: Rep. Nancy VanderMeer

(608) 266-8366

VanderMeer Releases Statement and Shares Information for Community Members Related to CFS Brands, LLC, Announcement

Tomah, WI – Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) released the following statement related to the recent announcement made by CFS Brands, LLC, that they are permanently closing their facility in Sparta:

“It is always a sad day when a local company makes the difficult decision to close or relocate operations away from the area. It’s especially unfortunate to have to lose a company like Sparta Brush that was founded locally and has been in the area for a number of years. The organization has a long history to be proud of and their founders, owners, leadership, and employees should be proud of their long tenure here in Monroe County.

“When I was made aware of the situation, I immediately contacted representatives from the State Department of Workforce Development to get an update on the situation and learn about what the next steps would be for local employees of the organization. Fortunately, a number of conversations had already taken place and are continuing to take place. There’s a developed protocol that has been devised and used in similar situations related to the state providing resources to displaced employees and so far, everything seems to be happening as it should. I hope that the tremendous strength of our economy and the robust economic environment we’re in right now will facilitate a transition to new employment for the employees affected as rapidly as possible.”

Here is information that Representative VanderMeer is providing to area residents that have inquired about the situation and area residents are encouraged to contact her office for further assistance:

There will be a meeting to provide individuals with information on the available resources in the community to assist with re-employment on Wednesday, December 4 at 402 S Black River St. in Sparta. There are 3 meeting times to choose from: 9:50 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., or 4:40 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Workers affected by permanent layoff may also access basic re-employment services at no charge through the state's Job Centers. Some services, including training assistance, may be an option for some workers after enrolling in one or more of DWD's workforce development programs. More information is available at:

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dislocatedworker/>

Additionally, impacted employees are encouraged to call Tina Tucker, a career planner out of Monroe County assisting with these efforts. Here is her contact information:

Tina Tucker, Career Planner

Monroe County

Tuckert@workforceconnections.org

(608) 785-7003

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The 70th Assembly District includes portions of Monroe, Jackson, Portage and Wood counties.