



SPORTS • Cross country runner Wyatt Dickman is one of the Witt-Birn team to compete at state competition

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Water rates to rise by 60%; first in 25 years

Residential customers for Municipal Water and Sewer will experience something that hasn't happened for a while — a rate increase. The utility is responding to a PSC concern.

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Ostrowski to be honored by VFW

Randy Ostrowski will be honored by the Elderon VFW Post. The Vietnam-era veteran received a Purple Heart during his service. He will be honored Nov. 11 in a Comrade Day celebration.

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'HELLO DOLLY' LOOKIN' SWELL

Senior Megan Gauderman as Dolly Levi and international student Jan-Daniel Moulai as Horace Vandergelder perform in the Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School production of the musical "Hello Dolly!" **MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 13.**

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Hanson Sanitation and Excavating prepares the groundwork for the new two-story addition to the Wittenberg Elementary-Middle School as the kids play during recess.

MIRIAM NELSON | NEW MEDIA

Celebrating 100 years amazing accomplishment

There aren't a lot of family businesses that make it into a third generation and able to celebrate 100 years in business. The odds of that happening are probably small, but when it happens, there is much to celebrate.

I don't have a clear memory of my younger years to remember if I ever went to the Janke Book Store in Wausau. But given my mom's love of books, I have to believe I'd been there once or twice in my youth.



MIRIAM NELSON

I rediscovered it when I moved back home in 2004. By then, my love for books had been well established. I had gotten rid of many of my possessions before moving home, but each and every box of books — and there were many — came home with me. It's a good thing I don't plan on ever moving as I've used up all my favors with the family and friends who helped load and unload my precious books.

Walking into the Janke Book Store for me is like stepping into a sanctuary and feeling a familiar hug around each and every corner. As I started

making regular trips there to see what was new or to place an order for some book I "needed" to have, I had the opportunity to get to know the owners, siblings Jim and Jane.

As it turned out, Jim and I had attended the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire at the same time. Our paths had never crossed while there, but it's fun to now share memories and updates of the school and the city.

I'll admit it was a little hard to reacclimate to life in Wittenberg as my frame of reference had changed. People who moved here after I had left were now well established, and I was the new kid on the block, so to speak. Having an Eau Claire connection nearby was very comforting.

Jane had gone to school at Luther College in Decorah, Mom's hometown, so I had an easy connection with her as well. It turns out that a friend of hers from her college days owns a bookstore in Decorah that I like to patronize when I'm there. I go to Decorah to visit with Mom's side of the family, but I almost always find time to visit a bookstore or two.

Jim and Jane recently celebrated the 100-year anniversary with a party at the Rothschild Pavilion, and it was amazing to see the amount of people attending the festivities. One of their

employees had worked for 62 years and had worked for all three generations of owners. That certainly says a lot about the quality of the employee and the employers.

Over the years, we've had some nice talks, and we've been candid about the book and newspaper businesses which are going through a variety of changes and challenges. As the way of doing these businesses changes due to advances in technology, we do our best to adapt. The one constant is that people will always want to make the human connection a part of the experience.

I'm grateful for the people who take the time to tell me what the hometown paper means to them, and I'm amazed when I think it's been around since 1893.

It was easy to see what it meant to Jim and Jane to have a pavilion full of grateful friends and customers; their smiles said it all.

The shopping season will soon be in full force, and hopefully the importance of shopping local will be a priority so their bookstore and our hometown newspaper can celebrate another 100 years.

Miriam Nelson is the news editor of the Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News. Readers can contact her at mnelson@newmedia-wi.com

CORRECTIONS

Accuracy is important to the Enterprise & News, and it wants to correct mistakes promptly. Call errors to our attention by phone at 715-526-2121, ext. 7018.

HAVE A STORY IDEA? EMAIL US!
wittenberg@newmedia-wi.com

Wittenberg water rates will increase by 60 percent

New rates take effect on Dec. 1

By **KEVIN MURPHY**
Correspondent

MADISON — Residential water bills for Wittenberg Municipal Water & Sewer customers will increase by 60 percent as the Public Service Commission Friday authorized the village's first water rate hike in 25 years.

Village Clerk/Treasurer Traci Matsche said the new rates will take effect on Dec. 1 for the Dec. 15 bills.

Average residential customers who had been paying \$52.90 quarterly for 9,000 gallons of water will be paying \$84.54 for the same volume under the new rates, according to the PSC rate order.

Rates for commercial, multi-family, industrial and public authority customers also will increase from 42 percent to 131 percent depending on customer category and usage.

The new rates will make Wittenberg's water bills about average compared with similarly-sized utilities statewide, according to the order.

The utility requested a rate increase in March after the PSC expressed concerns in July 2017 about the utility's "financial integrity."

The PSC's July 11, 2017 letter stated that the utility had "zero days cash available and has operated of \$141,327 over the last two years."

PSC said the utility was in a "financially critical state" and encouraged it to take immediate action or it may lack funds for routine maintenance, or have limited options to deal with an emergency.

The utility's operating expenses have increased 118 percent since the last comprehensive rate case in 1995 and spending on infrastructure increased 380 percent in that time. As a result, the utility's total expenses have been exceeding its revenue in three of the past four years, including net negative income of \$72,382

last year. Without the new rates PSC staff estimated the utility will incur a \$29,192 negative net income based on estimated revenue of \$142,293 and total expenses of \$171,485.

The new rates are projected to boost annual revenue by \$93,093 to a total of \$235,386 and yield a net income of \$63,901 and a 4.9 percent rate of return of the net value of its infrastructure.

On Oct. 10, the PSC held a public hearing telephonically at the Community Center. It reported that two water customers provided comments, with one questioning the rate structure the utility requested and another opposed the size of the increase and its impact on customers.

Four other customers attended the hearing but did not provide written comment in favor or opposed to the rate increase.

In Friday's rate order, the commission found that the revenue that would result from the authorized rates is necessary to provide for the utility's long term financial needs and reflects the cost of serving its various classes of customers.

Village President William Switalla had previously said that the utility's cash position wasn't a bad as the PSC numbers would indicate because annual expenses include about \$60,000 in depreciation cost, a non-cash item that doesn't impact the utility's ability to pay its bills.

The PSC wants utilities to include depreciation cost in its financial reporting to reflect the cost to replace infrastructure over time.

The PSC reprimanded the village in September after learning it had been switching out old water meters for automated ones without authorization since 2015. The PSC found that the meter project was valued at \$132,392 which is above the threshold requiring approval prior to installation. Convinced that the utility understands the prior approval requirements, the PSC allowed the utility to recover the cost of the project in the just completed rate case.

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Wittenberg-Birnbaumwood School District Official Minutes of the Board of Education September 23, 2019

Meeting called to order by President Chuck Wendler. Pursuant to WISSTATS 1984(1), Superintendent Rogowski verified that this meeting was posted and published as required by law.

Roll Call of the Board:

Eight Board members present. Pestka – absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve the Minutes:

(Schmidt - Stewart) moved to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2019 regular meeting as circulated. Motion carried.

Delegations & Communications:

The following visitors were in attendance: Randy Berndt, Jacki Berndt, Tyler Tautges and Casey Brown. The Board received a thank you note for a memorial gift.

Student Representative: Tyler Tautges Brought the Board up to speed on what the Student Senate is working on. Had their election of officers, busy planning the Homecoming events and working on setting up for ACP Day.

Public Comments: None

Board Concerns and Reports: It was brought up that we need to meet with the Wittenberg Fire Chief concerning the new entries to our buildings. Rew attended a Birnamwood Village Board meeting where they discussed closing the alley by the new parking lot.

Financial Report: (Magee - Meredith) moved to pay budgetary checks numbering 100620-100731 in the amount of \$165,894.01, credit card payments in the amount of \$37,586.64, payroll checks numbering 141667-141698 in the amount of \$170,641.62, direct deposit advices in the amount of \$431,115.99, and ACH payments in the amount of \$279,406.97 as of September 23, 2019. The motion includes all journal entries made for the month of August. Roll call vote: 8 yes. Motion carried.

Superintendent Rogowski gave the cash on deposit report as: \$3,406,945.16 and money with the Government Investment Pool \$1,095.07 as of August 31, 2019.

Approve the Agenda:

(Hew - Schmidt) moved to approve the agenda with 2 closed session items concerning personnel matters. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports:

Don Johnson, Maintenance Supervisor stated that some unexpected repairs came up at Birnamwood and are being taken care of.

Dave Wall, Director of Pupil Services, stated that himself along with the school counselors are analyzing the at risk survey results from last year.

Bill Haas, Birnamwood Elementary/Middle School Principal, reported a good start to the new school year. Student pictures have been taken, MAPS testing is being completed and data meetings are in full swing.

Vicky Haas, Wittenberg Elementary/Middle School Principal, stated their FBIS theme this year is Choosing Happiness. There was a family night held for all first grade families at both elementary buildings. Wittenberg is also in the process of completing MAPS testing.

Jill Sharp, High School Principal stated that students have taken the pre ACT. We need to thank Mr. McPhail for his work on getting free tools for his classes. Jill shared the ACP Fall checklist.

John Rudeen, Aquatic Center Director shared his monthly pool report for September. Fall swim lessons sign up begins on the 26th. The WASP swimmers finished up their summer season with good results.

Garrett Rogowski, Superintendent, stated that the Ground Breaking Ceremony went well with around 50 people in attendance. Garrett also thanked Jill for her 8 years of leadership in our district.

New Business:

(Schmidt - Meredith) moved to approve the retirement of Susan Buss, Food Service Worker at Birnamwood. Motion carried. Sue has been with the school district as a substitute teacher and as food service for the past 26 years. The Board and administration thank her for her service.

(T. Wendler - Rew) moved to approve the transfer of Jennifer Hedrick from the Wittenberg Kitchen to the Birnamwood Kitchen to replace Sue Buss. Motion carried.

Mr. Rogowski shared a referendum update with the Board.

Mr. Rogowski shared our student head count and open enrollment numbers with the Board.

(Schmidt - T. Wendler) moved to approve the resignation of Jill Sharp, High School Principal. Her last day being October 4th. Motion Carried. The Board thanks Jill for her dedication to our district and our students for the past 8 years.

Adjournment:

(Stewart - Rew) moved to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joy A. Harleben
School Board Secretary

WNAZLP

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Polley family holds its 10th reunion

By KAREN GLOVER

Special to NEW Media

TIGERTON — The 10th Polley family reunion was held Aug. 31 at the American Legion hall in Tigerton.

Forty-seven descendants of Wilhelm and Anna (Jahnke) Polley met to enjoy the events of the day. Nine of the 10 family lines were represented — Anna, Otto, Helene “Lena,” Ella, Wilhelm “Tony,” Emma, Arthur, Martha and Edward. Only the Albert line was not represented.

The master of ceremonies, Tom Johnson, opened the festivities with a welcome to all. The first thing on the agenda was to update everyone on the happenings of the past year. Sad to say, nine family members went to their heavenly home: Willard “Bill” Johnson, Louis Johnson, Elaine M. Polley, Alice Polley, Mary L. Wendler, James M. Wickersheim, Ralph J. Wendler, Cindy M. Casanova and Robert Westphal.

Two new members were added to the family: Catie Polley and Camery Chroge.

Three family members got mar-

ried: James Dobson, Kevin Cherek and Gary Wolff.

Generous donations making the event a success came from the Burton Breaker family, the Bruce Breaker family, Ruth Breaker, Cindy Polley, Sharon Dedolph and Brenda Menzel. A heartfelt thank you was given to all of them.

With the meeting concluded, Tom Johnson said a dinner prayer, and it was time to enjoy the meal. Chicken and potato salad was furnished by the reunion fund and was complimented by a fabulous array of dishes to pass, which included many salads, hot dishes and desserts. No one went away hungry, and the meal was delicious.

After lunch, it was time for raffle drawings and bingo. Raffle winners were Janice Polley, Angel Dobson, Brenda Menel, Rita Johnson, Randy Kernen and Corben Polley.

The youngest attendee was Catie Polley. Ruth Breaker was most senior person, and Billon North traveled the farthest. Linda Kerneen guessed the closest number of the M&Ms in the jar, and Patty Osmond received the door prize.

Esker's Town & Country new location for giving tree

WITTENBERG — Thirty years ago, Nancy Nueske was the school nurse in Wittenberg. She noticed a need in the community, and The Giving Tree program, where people could anonymously donate items, began.

A few years later, Central Wisconsin Electrical Cooperative partnered with the Toys For Tots program, setting up drop-off locations throughout the local communities. By donating those toys to the Giving Tree program, Nueske is able to include a toy with every student request.

This year, The Giving Tree will be in a new location, Esker's Town and Country hardware store, 409 S. Webb St., Wittenberg. People can come in during during normal business hours to pick up a tag and drop off a gift.

Basic needs like clothes, pajamas, socks, underwear and jackets are asked for and go to adults and children in the Wittenberg-Birnbaumwood School District. Tags are created with needs and sizes and are hung on a Christmas tree for anyone to pick.

The Giving Tree will be up and ready for donations Friday.

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Gresham upended by Wabeno/Laona

Wildcats unable to find rhythm in season-ending loss

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

BOWLER — The Gresham Community High School volleyball team was unable to solve Wabeno/Laona in a Division 4 sectional semifinal match on Thursday at Bowler High School.

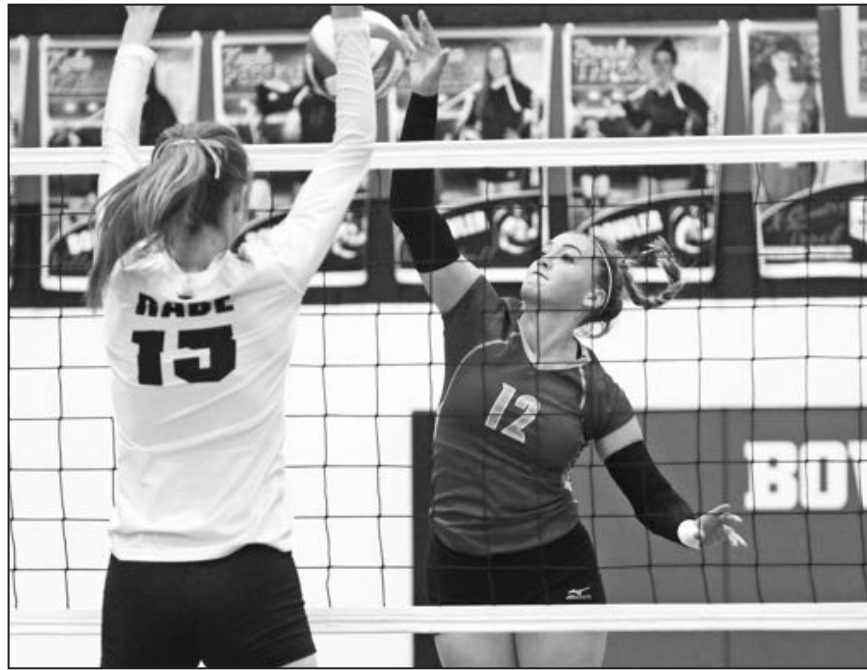
The top-seeded Wildcats saw their magical season come to an end in a 25-12, 25-12, 25-15 loss to the second-seeded Rebels.

As she did throughout the season, Karisa Nietzer powered Gresham on the court, but Wabeno/Laona made the Wildcats work hard to earn every point and used several runs to pull away.

“Wabeno/Laona really put a lot of pressure on us and that made it a lot more challenging,” said Gresham coach Tim Wild. “Our passes weren’t as consistent and we just couldn’t get in a good rhythm offensively. And when you’re playing a good team with as many strong hitters as they have, you got to put some pressure on them when you have the ball and we didn’t have enough ball control to make them work.”

“They just kept attacking us. They went on runs and then we kind of got in our own heads,” said Nietzer, who finished with a team-leading 16 kills. “But we got out of it at times, it just went back and forth. It was just a battle against ourselves.”

The loss ended the high school



Gresham's Karisa Nietzer, right, spikes the ball during Thursday's Division 4 sectional semifinal match against Wabeno/Laona at Bowler High School.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

careers of a talented senior class of Nietzer, Brooklyn Hoffman, Jayden Jensen, Jada James and Monique Terrio.

The group helped the team win a Central Wisconsin Conference-North Division title this fall and finish the season with a 19-7 record. Thursday's loss was Gresham's first since Oct. 5.

“I’d say that it was my best season of volleyball getting to play with this team. We all just worked so well together, even though we couldn’t get much going tonight, we still had a great season and always worked well together. We got really close as a team this season,” said Hoffman.

“I think when I go back and reflect on the season, I’ll think about how

our team worked together,” said Jensen, who had 11 digs. “When we worked together, that’s when we played our best.”

Wabeno/Laona jumped out to a quick lead in the first set before Gresham got things going behind Nietzer, Jensen and sophomore Valarie Cerveney. The Rebels took control of the set by winning 10 straight points to go up 16-4.

Gresham played Wabeno/Laona even the rest of the set, but couldn’t string together a run to threaten the Rebels’ lead.

The second set started in a similar fashion to the first, with Wabeno/Laona taking an early lead before Nietzer earned the Wildcats a couple points to cut the deficit to one.

Again, the Rebels went on a run to take control, using a 7-0 stretch to grab a 12-4 advantage.

It seemed that every Gresham point required several big hits and near perfect play on the court. There were multiple times when the Wildcats looked like they were about to earn a big point, only to have the Rebels make a diving dig and go on to take the point.

Despite heading into the third set down 2-0 in the match, Gresham continued to battle.

Nietzer, Valarie Cerveney and junior Makayla Belongia all earned points for Gresham, but Wabeno/Laona still worked out to a 13-7 lead.

The Rebels eventually pushed their lead to 10, 20-10, before Gresham went on a 4-0 run to force Wabeno/Laona’s only timeout in the match. Nietzer had a kill and ace, while Valarie Cerveney added a tip kill during the stretch.

Wabeno/Laona finished off its sweep with a 5-1 run to advance to a sectional final.

Valarie Cerveney finished the night with 10 kills, while Belongia had 10 digs. Sophomore Hannah Cerveney set up Gresham’s attackers, tallying 22 assists in the contest.

“It was definitely an exciting year,” said Wild. “We look back at how we started the season, we were 0-4 and we finished 19-3 the rest of the way. I told the girls if they look back at the whole season, we had an outstanding year. There’s not many teams that are still playing volleyball at this time of year, and they should be really proud of what they’ve done.”

sports@newmedia-wi.com

The Town of Morris is hiring for the position of plowing snow for the 2019-2020 season, using the town’s equipment. \$23/hr. CDL required.

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VFW to host Comrade Day celebration

Randy Ostrowski to be honored by Elderon post

By MIRIAM NELSON
News Editor

ELDERON — Randy Ostrowski will be honored Nov. 11 by the Elderon VFW Post 8086 in a Comrade Day celebration.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will be held at the VFW in Elderon beginning at 11 a.m.

Ostrowski will receive a certificate of recognition from Post Commander John Goskowicz. New post member Lt. Shannon Breske, who currently serves in the U.S. Air Force, will be the featured speaker. A member from the Quilt of Valor organization will be on hand to present to him a handmade quilt. Lunch will follow in the clubhouse.

The Comrade Day program was started five years ago by post Chaplain Emerick Zoromski. Past honorees include John Breske Jr., Nick Knitter, Vincent Cieslewicz, Daniel Betker and John Wolff.

An Army infantry radio operator in the 101st Airborne, Ostrowski served during the Vietnam War from May 1969 until May 1970. He received a Purple Heart for injuries sustained there when he had just turned 21 years old.

According to Ostrowski, he was



Randy Ostrowski will be honored at a ceremony at the Elderon VFW Post 8086 on Nov. 11. He and his wife, Linda, reside in Hatley.

MIRIAM NELSON | NEW MEDIA

wounded during a ground attack the middle of the night near Fire Base Vagel on a hill that was numbered, though he no longer remembers the number.

"We were on a hill, like any other hill," said Ostrowski. "I carried the radio, so we slept in the middle and took the hit when they lobbed grenades into it."

The date of the attack was April 28, 1970 — two days after his first wedding anniversary.

Ostrowski took shrapnel in his side and was evacuated to an Air Force base, so he didn't have the

same experience as other soldiers who came home on commercial flights. He went home on a 30-day medical leave and spent the last nine months of his tour in Ft. Hood, Texas.

"When I came home, my parents still owned the Hatley Hotel. A small town like this, I was treated like a hero," said Ostrowski. "It was the opposite of getting spit on."

His wife, Linda, looked back on 1969 as a very eventful year. Ostrowski had been working at his parents' hotel when she told him she was pregnant. He then went to work

for Kraft Foods in Wausau. He was drafted, and they married in April before he left for basic training in May. Although he wasn't home for the birth of their daughter, he was home in time to bring them home from the hospital. On Oct. 13, 1969, he was deployed to Vietnam.

Ostrowski admits he was glad to get back home, but he acknowledges it was a hard adjustment to go from that war time experience to being married with a daughter. Twin boys came along in 1974. He went back to work at Kraft Foods after he was discharged and remained there until retiring nine years ago.

He had gone to boot camp with a couple other guys from Hatley and has kept in touch with them, but he said he hasn't stayed in touch with others he served with.

"I used to call a guy from Illinois ... but through the years lost contact," said Ostrowski. "It was a different life."

In 1979, Ostrowski and other Vietnam veterans received a certificate and parade from Marathon County in appreciation for their service.

His wife retired in August, and she laughs that they are adjusting to full-time retirement. Ostrowski joked that her new job is to find stuff for him to do.

Ostrowski is a member of Elderon VFW Post 8086, Hatley American Legion Post 471 and the Disabled American Veterans.

mnelson@newmedia-wi.com

YEARS GONE BY

Nov. 5, 2009

10 Years Ago

Shawano County stars in TV episode of "Discover Wisconsin." Walls of Wittenberg and interview with founder Lois Smith included in segment.

Fay Rosenow honored for her volunteer work with the Homme Home Auxiliary. She also serves as president of the Homme Home Foundation, which raises money to help residents.

Barbie Jo Below, formerly of Birnamwood, releases her first album.

Obit: Julia Bricko, 79, Elderon.

Births: Peyton Henry born Oct. 28 to Jamie and Orman Boggs, Birnamwood; Drew Enos born Oct. 27 to Slade and Angie Hendrikson, Holmen. Grandparents are Rollie and Karen Hendrikson, Wittenberg.

Marriage: Madonna Hohn and Jamie Strong married Sept. 19 in Antigo.

Engagement: Ashley Daigle of Baltic, Connecticut, is engaged to Jordan Hartleben of Wittenberg.

Kade Johanning and Rachel Wohlenfeil are Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School students of the week.

Nov 2, 2000

19 Years Ago

Shawano County taxes increase by 7%.

Enrollment climbs at Northcentral Technical College.

Stop signs and rumble strips were installed at the dangerous railroad crossing on County Road MMM.

Births: A son, Quentin Lee, was born Oct. 21 to Brandon and Jamie Blair.

Jeremy Hunt and Samantha Nevenski are WBHS students of the week.

Missy Paulson places 33rd at state cross country meet.

Nov. 3, 1994

25 Years Ago

Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District board members Deborah Kersten and Alvina Buss received a Level 1 Board Development award from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards.

Sarah Thompson and Cory Schairer are WBHS students of the week.

Beth Mathison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Mathison, Wittenberg, wins the Miss Sparkle popularity award at the Miss Snowflake contest.

Obits: May Benbrooks, 89, Tigerton; Marietta Merriam, 90, Easton; Bessie

Boerger, 100, formerly of Marion; Erwin Porath, 92, Elderon; Yda Kolinski, 29, Glendale, Arizona, formerly of Elderon, and infant son, Derrick.

Marriage: Leona Ayotte of Antigo married Thomas Resch of Aniwa on Oct. 8; Julie Dennison and Chuck Glinecki married Oct. 1.

Oct. 31, 1946

73 Years Ago

Selective Service Regulation makes it mandatory for young men to register on their 18th birthday.

Obits: Conrad Miller, 81, formerly of Wittenberg, dies in Montana. His parents were the first pioneers to settle in Wittenberg. Bevent brothers Hilary, 19 and Myron Omernick, 25, died from injuries sustained in a plane crash.

Birth: A son was born Oct. 24 to Mr. and Mrs. Elroy Nowinsky, Hatley.

BOOKS AND STUFF

September Day dealing with blizzard, murder

This week was busier than most, so I selected another e-book. This one was "Lost and Found" by Amy Shojai. The description says it is part of the "September Day" series, so that might explain the reason for the lack of background on the main character, September Day.

The story opens with September standing in the cold kitchen of her soon-to-be renovated Victorian house. A rare north Texas blizzard is piling up snow, and September is trying to find a way to do her radio show "Pet Peeves" from home. As an animal behavior specialist, she hopes the Q&A program will increase in her new business.

Salted within the story line, we find referrals to a stalker, a dead husband and a life of constant fear. We do know that she has returned to north Texas after some sort of tragedy in Indiana, but little more about her life there.

This is not a day to be on the road, but with no other options, she heads to the station. After answering a few caller pet problems, she takes a frantic call from her sister April. April's 7-year-old son, Steven, is gone.

It appears that while the sitter was napping, Steven took his young service dog, Shadow, and went out into the storm, and April needs September's help finding the boy. Time is of the essence because Steven is autistic and is on a new medication the must be taken on time.

September rushes to April's house and finds Lizzie, a woman who claims to be one of Steven's therapists. She

AT A GLANCE

BOOK: "Lost and Found"

AUTHOR: Amy Shojai

PUBLISHER: Furry Muse Publishing

PUBLISHED: Jan. 31, 2017

PAGES: 274

says she wants to help, but won't do anything until she is given a certain flash drive. No drive, no medication. She then takes April out to look for Steven, but kills the elderly sitter before she leaves.

Meanwhile, Steven and Shadow have followed his daily routine and walked to a nearby park. After a bit of play, the boy trudges through the drifts towards the place his mom usually picks him up. Shadow has a warm fur coat to keep him warm, but the little boy has only a light jacket for protection. Soon Steven simply lies down in the snow. Shadow wraps himself around the boy and waits.

Shadow forces a city bus to stop. Steven eventually shares his name and phone number so the driver calls April and arranges pick up at the mall. She's



unaware that she's called a stone cold killer.

At the same time, September is frantically searching for the missing flash drive. As she goes, she must face her own fears and demons. The pieces

come together slowly and show a great breach of ethics as doctors try to treat autism by using a strong animal medication. The patients do show improvement, but if a dose is missed they risk major emotional meltdowns and terrible violence.

Whatever is on the drive is valuable enough to kill for, and soon the body count goes up to three. September finds the drive, contacts Lizzie and sets up a meeting, but she wants to do it without police involvement.

While all this is going on, a bus filled with autistic children and their parents is heading to north Texas where they will receive the "miracle cure" all the treatments have been leading up to.

Can September, Officer Combs and Shadow work a miracle of their own to prevent more damage, or are all the children on the medication doomed to revert to their own private worlds? This is less than a thumbnail sketch of a tightly written thriller. It's also a story of redemption, sacrificial love and determination.



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NOTICE

Have a Happy Thanksgiving
Our Shawano and Oconto Falls Offices

WILL BE CLOSED
Thursday, November 28.
Regular business hours will resume Friday.

Special Holiday Advertising Deadlines for:

Product	Publication Date	Ad Deadline
Oconto Co. Times Herald	Wed., Nov. 27	Wed., Nov. 13
Wittenberg Enterprise	Wed., Nov. 27	Wed., Nov. 13
Your Community Shopper	Fri., Nov. 29	Thurs., Nov. 21
Super Shopper	Fri., Nov. 29	Thurs., Nov. 21
Wolf River Weekend	Sat., Nov. 30	Mon., Nov. 25

Enjoy the Holiday!

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Why an internist is an important *member of your medical team*



ALEXA GAVAGA, MD
INTERNAL MEDICINE
PHYSICIAN

Background

Hi, my name is Alexa Gavaga and I am an internist at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital Shawano Health Center and Prevea Shawano Health Center. The first two questions I get asked most often are: "How do you pronounce your last name?" and "What is an internist?" I am happy to answer both of these questions!

First, the way I Gavaga are pronounced similar to the A in Canada so simply I am also happy to go by Dr. G or Dr. Alexa. Second an internist is a doctor that specializes in internal medicine. Now you may ask, what is internal medicine? This is my passion and joy and I am even more thrilled to share the info about where, why and how with you below.

What is internal medicine?

Internal medicine is the study of medicine that focuses on diagnosing, treating and caring for adults using non-surgical methods. We treat patients with the most common and complex medical conditions. The area of medicine focuses on adult or chronic disease: disease prevention, wellness, substance abuse and mental health. Heart, blood, kidneys, joints, digestive, respiratory, musculoskeletal and conditions of the vascular system are some of the specific areas of focus. Physicians that practice in this area of medicine are called internal medicine doctors or internists.

Who should see an internist?

Internists care for adults 18 years old and older.

Who should see an internist?

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Where would you see an internist?

An internist may work in a variety of locations including hospitals, ambulatory care health centers, nursing homes or rehabilitation centers.

How does one become an internist?

All doctors start by completing a bachelor's degree and then go on to medical school. Medical school graduates decide which area they would like to practice and then apply to a residency program. These residency programs are very broad: internal medicine (adults), pediatrics (children), family (all ages), obstetrics and gynecology (women's health), general surgery and many others.

The duration of these programs vary in length. Internal medicine is a five-year residency program providing physicians with specific training to manage and care for adults. Following completion of the residency, internists then become board-certified by passing the American Internal Medicine Board exam. To maintain this certification, this requires yearly continuing medical education and passing a re-certification exam every ten years. Some internists may choose specific interests and apply to a fellowship to complete sub-specialty training in areas such as cardiology, infection disease, endocrinology, rheumatology or others.

Why would you want to see an internist instead of another provider for your health care?

Choosing a primary care provider may be difficult as there are many choices. Some people may pick an internist because they may visit how they had a family doctor growing up. Others may pick an internist because they have a wide variety of medical challenges or they may want to continue with their adult medical care. Since internists focus on adult care and prevention, internists routinely see patients with conditions such as heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, obesity and chronic lung disease. If there are any of your personal challenges or maybe you have others you'd like addressed please contact me and we will work together to help you live your best possible life.



For an appointment in Oconto Falls please call (920) 846-8187. For an appointment in Shawano, please call (715) 201-0570. I look forward to caring for you.

Meet the Doc

A casual meet and greet event with Dr. Alexa Gavaga

Join us and learn about why an internal medicine physician is an important member of your health care team. Meet Dr. Alexa Gavaga, an internal medicine physician in Oconto Falls and Shawano and get your questions answered.

A light meal will be provided.

prevea.com

Tuesday, Nov 12 | 5:30 p.m. check-in | 6 p.m. presentation
Gillett High School Commons | 208 W Main St. Gillett
Call (920) 846-8187 or register at prevea.com/event



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