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Fire destroys Golden Eagle

Popular Townsend eatery
was leveled in a devastating
Friday morning blaze

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Oconto Falls schools to open

The school board chooses to
stick with plans to return to
four-day-a-week in-person
learning after New Year's.

PAGE 2

COVID-19 numbers are up

About 1 in 10 Oconto County
residents has tested positive
at some point, and more
than 35 have died.

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Fire destroys Golden Eagle in Townsend

Crews were called back for flareups at least twice



The fire that destroyed the Golden Eagle restaurant in Townsend early Dec. 18 continues to smolder the following day. Firefighters were called back to the scene for flareups at least twice.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

A popular Townsend restaurant known for its pizza burned to the ground Dec. 18.

The Townsend Volunteer Fire Department was called out at 1:55 a.m. after flames were spotted coming from the Golden Eagle, 18025 State Highway 32 on the north end of Townsend.

When crews arrived, the restaurant was fully engulfed. While the ends of the structure once known as the Red Arrow Motel were still standing afterward, the building is considered a total loss.

Although the fire was extinguished by daybreak, the smoldering remains proved pesky, as the department was called back at least twice for flareups over the next two days.

No one was injured. The cause of the fire was under investigation.

School board stands pat on Jan. 4 return date

Oconto Falls students will meet in person four days a week

By **WARREN BLUHM**

News Editor

The Oconto Falls School Board is standing by its decision to have students return to in-person learning on Jan. 4.

The board on Dec. 14 let stand its November decision to return to the schedule that started the school year, with students in class four days a week and virtual instruction on Wednesdays.

After a month-long virtual pause in October because of high COVID-19 numbers, the school district set a schedule in November and December in which students attended school four days a week for two weeks, then spent two weeks in a combination of virtual classes and holidays, built around breaks for Thanksgiving, deer season, Christmas and New Year's.

The idea was to provide two-week buffers, based on the belief that COVID can gestate up to 14 days before showing symptoms.

The board believed by January the metrics would allow a return to the

four-day schedule.

Superintendent Dean Hess laid out the option of providing one last virtual buffer week from Jan. 4-8, because of concerns that families will gather for a "normal" Christmas holiday and further spread the disease.

He added that he could argue the issue either way.

"Staff members miss their students. They miss being able to have a greater impact on them, a greater ability to ensure that they're engaged, all those positive things that end up resulting in a higher level of student learning," Hess said. "With that in mind, they also recognize the fact that we're dealing with things outside of our control right now."

Before addressing the matter, the board had heard a parent present concerns about the impact of virtual learning on student grades, absenteeism and mental health.

Student council leaders presented results of a high school survey that showed 62.7% of students prefer in-person class and only 19.5% prefer

virtual learning, with the rest having no preference.

More telling, the survey found that the general question "How are you, on a scale of 1 to 5," with 1 being terrible and 5 being great, found that nearly two-thirds were feeling poorly or neutral and only one-third were doing OK to great.

The board declined to take action on changing the Jan. 4 return date.

"I haven't seen enough data to suggest that we're taking a large risk by coming back to school on the fourth," said Clint Gardebrecht, board secretary. "I would further like to see us in the January meeting, or if not then the February meeting, really starting the discussion of do we need Wednesdays to be virtual and consider going back to five days."

Board vice president Jan Stranz encouraged the community to help keep metrics down by limiting their Christmas gatherings and practicing social distancing protocols when they do meet.

COVID death toll continues to climb

County officials unsure when vaccine will be available locally

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

The Oconto County death toll from COVID-19 rose into the mid-30s last week.

Human Services Director Mike Reimer told the county board Dec. 17 that the state Department of Health Services was reporting 35 deaths among county residents.

"The death figure is about a month behind usually, because it takes a little time for the medical examiner to certify the death. So the number is certainly higher than that," Reimer said. As if to confirm that statement, the state's official count rose to 36 the next day and to 37 over the weekend.

The number of positive tests for the coronavirus jumped in the county this fall, Reimer said. As of Oct. 1,

about one in every 20 Oconto County residents had tested positive; by Nov. 1 the figure was one in 14, and on Dec. 1 it was one in 10.

Although COVID-19 vaccines have been approved and distribution has begun, Reimer warned that it will still be a few months before local residents can expect to receive inoculations.

"People see that the vaccine is available, and we're getting calls (saying), 'I'm going to come down and get my shot,'" Reimer said. "We're not even close to that yet."

Public Health Officer Debra Konitzer said workers in health care, law enforcement and the Highway Department (such as snowplow operators) are likely to get the vaccine before members of the general public.

"The logistics are pretty complicated, but we have been talking about it for quite some time," Konitzer said. "As for a time frame for when the vaccine will be here, it's really unknown."

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Candidates emerge for special election in 89th

April 6 vote will coincide with the regular spring election

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

At least three candidates emerged almost immediately after Gov. Tony Evers called a special election for the 89th Assembly District, where state Rep. John Nygren recently gave up his seat.

Nygren, R-Marinette, resigned Dec. 1 and was introduced a few days later as new executive director of the Wisconsin Association of Health Plans. Evers ordered the special election to be held April 6, coinciding with the statewide 2021 spring election.

Democrat Karl Jaeger of Crivitz, who lost the Nov. 3 election to Nygren, announced that he would be a candidate in the special election, as did

Republican Debbie Jacques of Green Bay. The Wisconsin Campaign Finance Information System also shows that Republican Michael T. Kunesh of Marinette registered a campaign committee this month, although Kunesh had yet to make an announcement.

If a primary is necessary, it will be held on Feb. 16. Circulation of nomination papers for the special election began Dec. 18 and must be filed by 5 p.m. Jan. 8. That's three days later than the deadline for the regular election, in which papers have been circulating since Dec. 1 for offices including state superintendent of public instruction, judges in many counties, and municipal and school district boards.

The 89th Assembly District includes parts of Brown and Marinette counties as well as the City of Oconto and the Oconto County towns of Abrams, Little River, Little Suamico, Oconto, Pensaukee and Stiles.

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OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Dec. 18

Holly T. Santa-Ana, 31, Fairfax, Virginia, was sentenced to two years in prison, followed by five years of extended supervision, for first-degree reckless homicide in the drug-related death of Christian Matelski in Gillett on Jan. 3, 2016.

Judge Michael T. Judge ordered that among other conditions during extended supervision, Santa-Ana must maintain absolute sobriety, install an alcohol sensor on any vehicle she owns, undergo and follow through with drug and mental health treatment, wear an electronic monitoring bracelet and write an annual apology letter to the victim's family, to be submitted to the Department of Corrections.

After a preliminary hearing, Tyler J. Wolf, 31, Oconto, was bound over on charges of strangulation and suffocation and misdemeanor counts of battery, criminal damage to property and disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Oct. 15.

Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Proceedings of Dec. 17

Darrin A. Niec, 20, Phelps, pleaded no contest to fleeing an officer in a vehicle, in connection with an incident that occurred May 19. Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for Feb. 26 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation. At that time Judge will consider revoking Niec's probation and imposing a sentence for an aggravated battery conviction in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 2, 2018.

Daniel E. Links, 51, Crivitz, pleaded no contest to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fourth offense) and misdemeanor bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Oct. 7.

Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for Feb. 25 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

After a preliminary hearing, Steven N. Lewis Jr., 31, Oshkosh, was bound over on charges of possession with intent to deliver amphetamine and maintaining a drug trafficking place, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 18.

Arraignment was scheduled for Feb. 11.

Thomas E. Neff, 24, Mountain, pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of fourth-degree sexual assault, reduced from a felony count in a plea agreement,

in connection with an incident that occurred April 18. Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for Feb. 26 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Devin L. Jerabek, 24, Manitowoc, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of manufacture with intent to deliver heroin, manufacture with intent to deliver cocaine and maintaining a drug trafficking place, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 19, 2019. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

After a preliminary hearing, Micky W. Michalak, 53, Oconto, was bound over on charges of taking and driving a vehicle without the owner's consent and misdemeanor counts of criminal damage to property and resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred May 18. Arraignment was scheduled for Feb. 11.

Proceedings of Dec. 16

Ryan L. Messinger, 35, Green Bay, was placed on two years of probation for operating a motor vehicle without the owner's consent and misdemeanor bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Nov. 13, 2019.

Judge Jay N. Conley ordered conditions that include 120 days in the county jail, maintaining employment and absolute sobriety, and a psychological evaluation and follow-through.

After a preliminary hearing, Sarah L. Alberts, 38, Oconto, was bound over on charges of chronic neglect of a child with the consequence of sexual assault, harboring or aiding a felon and failure to act against a child sex assault, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 11. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Proceedings of Dec. 15

Marsha A. Cassell, 42, Suring, was placed on three years' probation after a state prison sentence was imposed and stayed for possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor counts of bail jumping and resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that occurred Aug. 6.

Judge Jay N. Conley ordered Cassell to spend six months in the county jail as a condition of probation, with good-time privileges. Other conditions are a no-contact

order and that she maintain absolute sobriety and employment.

After a preliminary hearing, Tyler J. Klempke, 20, Crivitz, was bound over on two counts of second-degree recklessly endangering safety and possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony, as well as misdemeanor disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Sept. 25. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

After a preliminary hearing, David Jordan Engel, 38, Oconto Falls, was bound over on two counts of burglary and two counts of theft, in connection with incidents that allegedly occurred Aug. 16 and 28. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Bradley D. Schulte, 26, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor counts of possession of amphetamine/LSD/psilocin and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 8.

Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Joshua Earl Stone, 30, Oconto Falls, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to possession of narcotic drugs and misdemeanor counts of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 14.

A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Proceedings of Dec. 14

Edward A. LaRock, 35, Peshtigo, pleaded not guilty to charges of fleeing an officer in a vehicle, in connection with an incident that occurred May 17. Four related charges were dismissed but will be read into the record. Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for Feb. 25 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Bond was set at \$5,000 cash for Dane L. Ades, 58, Oconto, after he was charged with bail jumping in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Dec. 14. His initial court appearance was adjourned until Jan. 15.

Proceedings of Dec. 11

Steele J. Roes, 21, currently incarcerated at Redgranite Correctional Institution, was sentenced to

four additional years in prison for burglary, followed by four additional years of extended supervision, in connection with an incident that occurred in Oconto County on Oct. 7, 2019. Two other felony counts were dismissed but read into the record.

Judge Michael T. Judge ruled that after 2 1/2 years, Roes may participate in the substance abuse program, which allows for earlier release if completed successfully. During extended supervision, Roes must maintain absolute sobriety and comply with any assessment and follow-through ordered by the Department of Corrections.

Paula J. Petersen, 59, Lena, pleaded no contest to charges of strangulation and suffocation and misdemeanor battery and disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that occurred May 25. Pursuant to a deferred judgment agreement, Judge Michael T. Judge withheld finding her guilty on the felony charge and placed her on 18 months of probation for the misdemeanors.

Conditions include that she maintain absolute sobriety and follow through with any treatment ordered by the Department of Corrections.

Jacquelyn Marie Kummerer-Braun, 29, Green Bay, pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted vehicle theft and misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer and theft of movable property, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 25. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Proceedings of Dec. 10

Brian J. Ragen, 58, Oconto, pleaded not guilty to homicide by operating a motor vehicle with a restricted controlled substance and operating with a restricted controlled substance (fifth offense), in connection with a vehicle-pedestrian accident that claimed the life of Chris Tyni of Oconto on Nov. 21, 2019.

A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Patricia Jean Beyer, 47, Little Chute, waived her right to a preliminary hearing on a charge of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (seventh, eighth, or ninth offense), in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 19. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Casey Joel Benson, 30, Ashwaubenton, pleaded not guilty to misappropriating identity information to obtain money, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 6, 2019.

A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Bond was set at \$20,000 cash for

Tracey Lee Bartlett, 59, Oconto, after he was charged with 13 counts of possession of child pornography, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Jan. 27.

His initial appearance was adjourned until Jan. 14.

Maria C. Laws, 33, Lena, pleaded

not guilty to possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine, possession with intent to deliver THC, two counts possession of narcotic drugs, and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 18.

A pre-trial conference was sched-

uled for Jan. 14.

A bench warrant was issued for Logan D. Race, 17, Oconto, after he failed to appear on charges of child abuse intentionally causing harm and misdemeanor disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 10.

Morgan gets \$5,000 grant for elections

Greetings, Morgan. The Town of Morgan was recently the recipient of a \$5,000 grant that has greatly improved the efficiency in which elections are conducted.

The Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) COVID-19 Response Grant was awarded after town clerk



MEGAN OSWALD

Julie Belongia jumped at the opportunity to apply for this grant back in September. Julie learned of this grant from Oconto County Clerk Kim Pytleski, and she was further persuaded to apply for it when Little River Town Clerk Amy Peterson mentioned that Little River had also recently been awarded a \$5,000 grant from CTCL.

Since over 2,500 voting jurisdictions nationwide applied for this grant,

it may have seemed like Morgan had a slim chance of becoming a grant recipient.

However, two weeks later, Julie and the rest of the town board were very happy to learn that Morgan had been selected.

This grant money is being used to pay off the balance owed on the new election machine, which is a tabulator that counts votes and takes a picture of both the front and back of every ballot.

This means that Morgan's poll workers no longer have to count the ballots by hand at the end of each election.

The results from this tabulator are ready approximately 15 minutes after the polls are closed. Julie figures that six hours were saved during the November election by using this machine, instead of poll workers hand-counting the 673 ballots cast in Morgan.

Julie also assures Morgan voters that this new machine is highly accurate.

Morgan's voting equipment was randomly selected to be audited after the November election by the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

This audit consisted of a manual count of all of Morgan's ballots to see if the totals matched those of the tabulator machine.

The audit was completed on Nov. 24 at the Oconto County Courthouse, and zero errors were discovered.

Thank you to Julie for pursuing this grant opportunity, which in turn improves the election process in Morgan. Julie would like to thank her friend Amy Peterson of Little River in encouraging her to apply for the grant.

Best wishes to you and your family for a very merry holiday season.

Respectfully submitted by "Megan from Morgan" —
Megan (Stranz) Oswald



Julie Belongia, pictured at her desk at the town hall, is Morgan's hardworking town clerk.

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OBITUARIES

Robert O. Bishop



Robert "Bob" O. Bishop, 90, of Mountain, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020. Bobby was born Sept. 25, 1930, to the late Clarence and LouSina (Reynolds) Bishop in Green Bay. He attended Annunciation Grade School and Central Academy High School. During the Korean War, Bobby served his country in the United States Air Force. Throughout his life, Bob worked as a painter and a bar owner before retiring from Nu-Line in Suring.

Bob was a very humble and kind man. His family and friends were a very important part of his life. He loved to be around people. Bob's three children loved him to the moon and back. He always had the ability to laugh at himself or his situation. Bob handed these traits down to each of his children. He led a simple life and showed much love to his wife and children. Bob enjoyed painting, tinkering with anything,

playing cards, fishing with Lavern, a good fish fry and enjoyed a typical breakfast after church with friends. In his later years, his favorite show was "The Price is Right" because afterward he was able to call the love of his life, Lavern. Bob had a relationship with his Lord Jesus Christ. He prayed for his family and friends every day. Because of this, we are assured that Dad is with Christ today. We celebrate this fact and will see him once again.

Bob is survived by his three children, Ann (William) Gullede, David (Karen) Czarnecki and Mark (Teresa) Czarnecki; grandchildren, Melissa Brown, Nathan Gullede, Nichole Gullede, Cianna Czarnecki,

Sofia Czarnecki, Josiah Czarnecki, Isaiah Czarnecki, Lauren Czarnecki, Amanda Czarnecki and Ryan Czarnecki; 15 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren; sister, Beverly (Dennis) Raiche; sister-in-law, Jeanette Bishop. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Ann Bishop; very special friend and love of his life for over 25 years, Lavern Lardinois; parents, Clarence and LouSina; two brothers, Chuck (Mary Ellen) Bishop and Donald Bishop; sister, Lois (Ken) Kennedy.

A celebration of life will be held Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021, at Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring from 9:30 a.m. until the memorial service at 11 a.m. Bobby will be interred beside his wife, Mary Ann, at Breed Union Cemetery. Gruetzmacher Funeral Home is assisting the family

with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.

The family would like to thank the staffs of Moraine Ridge Assisted Living, Kewaunee Health Services and Heartland Hospice, especially RN Martie, for the care and compassion offered to Bobby and his family during their time of need. Further thanks to special friends Bobby and Linda Stit and Lenny and Phyllis Pelishek for their close friendship and loving care.



Leonard Klemens



Leonard Klemens, 70, of Shawano, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020. Lenny was born Oct. 8, 1950, to the late Walter and Paulina (Jaeger) Klemens in Shawano. He graduated from Washington High School in Two Rivers with the Class of 1969.

Lenny served his country in the United States Army from Aug. 4, 1970, to July 30, 1973. He continued to serve in the Army Reserves until July 1979. On July 12, 1975, Lenny married Donna Kasten. Lenny worked at Gillett Cement Products for 36 years operating heavy equipment. He greatly

enjoyed outdoor activities including hunting, fishing, camping and yardwork. Lenny also enjoyed his time spent at the Shawano Speedway.

Leonard is survived by his three children, Heather (Todd) Skarban, Nicholas (Ali) Klemens, and Corey Klemens; three grandchildren, Emmerich Skarban, Ellayna Skarban and

Nolan Klemens; siblings, Dee (Dick) Oelke, Richard (Chris) Klemens, Dorothy Hesler, Sue (Ritchie) Peterson, Helen McKenna, John (Sue) Klemens, Aggie Ollendorf; the children's mother, Donna Klemens. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Military honors will be held Monday, Dec. 28, 2020, at Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring at 3 p.m. followed by visitation until 5 p.m. A private burial will be held at a later

date. Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.



Gillett National Honor Society

Gillett High School National Honor Society officers for 2020-21 are, from left, Ryann Wagner, treasurer; Aubrey DeBauch, secretary; Brandon Rodgers, vice president; Emily Umentum, president.

CONTRIBUTED



Kallies honored as Friend of Education

Photographer is 'friend and neighbor and member of our community'

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

A well-known Oconto Falls photographer and business leader has been named the 2020 Friend of Education by the Oconto Falls School District.

The award was presented to Mike Kallies of MK Photography during the school board's Dec. 14 meeting. The Oconto Falls Friend of Education Award is given annually to a person who has made a valuable contribution to the betterment of education for students in the district. Employees of the district and board members cannot be nominated.

"Mike has been taking photographs of our students and compiling our elementary school yearbooks for over a decade," read the nomination by

elementary teacher Pam Jackson. "Although this is his business, he exceeds expectations to catch the essence of our schools. He is inclusive and sensitive to the needs of all families in our district."

Jackson described Kallies as "a friend and neighbor and member of our community" during the award presentation. His work with the school and Chamber of Commerce, including owning a Main Street storefront business, are just the beginning, she said.

"He and his wife, Kelly, made a commitment to our community when their children first started, and they graduated a valedictorian last year — which is a tribute to their parenting and to his parenting," Jackson said. "Part of the reason that I nominated Mike is because of the things he does



Mike Kallies, center, accepts the 2020 Friend of Education award from Jan Stranz, Oconto Falls School Board vice president, during the board's Dec. 14 meeting. Kallies, owner of MK Photography, was nominated for the annual award by elementary school teacher Pam Jackson, left.

DEBRA WOODS | OCONTO FALLS
SCHOOL DISTRICT

behind the scenes that we don't see very much."

She recalled a meeting of the

Oconto Falls Elementary School parents' organization when times were tight and a project needed a surge protector. Kallies walked in the next morning without fanfare, she said, and gave the school a surge protector. Most recently, he provided signage for the elementary school playground at cost.

"There have been countless times throughout the years when those kinds of little secret donations and supports for families in our community have happened," Jackson said.

In accepting the award, Kallies said he enjoys helping the schools and doesn't do it to get recognition; it's simply "probably one of my favorite things to do."

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Marcia Ellis resigns from county board

Appointed in 2019, she was elected to a full term in April

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

An Oconto Board supervisor resigned last week after she unexpectedly moved out of Little Suamico.

The resignation letter from Marcia Ellis, who had served on the board since the spring of 2019, was

read at the beginning of the Dec. 17 board meeting. She was appointed to the District 2 seat to fill the unexpired term of the late Darrell Pagel and was elected to a two-year term in her own right last April.

"None of us could imagine what this pandemic year would look like and how it would affect each of us," Ellis wrote, noting that she and her husband have had many discussions about how their priorities have come into tighter focus.

Ellis said they recently received an offer on their home, which will allow the couple to downsize and move closer to her parents, and so she would be resigning from the

board as of Dec. 19, the date she would no longer reside in District 2.

"It turns out that the right decisions are often the hardest to make. I have loved serving our community. I am passionate about my committees," said Ellis, who served on the human services and zoning committees. "I have learned so much in a short time; thanks to all of you and wonderful supervisors who have reached out to me to mentor me."

She singled out fellow supervisors Elmer Regan and Diane Nichols for helping her learn the ropes, and said she values all of the

friendships she made with board members and county officials.

"I value the warm welcome I received and the willingness of everyone to answer my questions, share their gifts, problem-solve and think of better ways to serve our county," Ellis said.

County Board Chairman Paul Bednarik plans to get input from Little Suamico town officials before nominating a successor to finish Ellis' term of office through the April 2022 election, to be confirmed by the full county board.

"We will miss Marcia; she was a good addition to our board," Bednarik said.

Shift to county administrator system gets final approval

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

The upgrade of the Oconto County administrative coordinator position to a county administrator is complete.

The county board voted 25-2 on Dec. 17 to adopt the job description for the county administrator position and 26-1 to hire Kevin Hamann for the post — an upgrade from his current job of administrative coordinator.

A county administrator has more authority than a coordinator under state law. Supervisor Alan Sleeter, the board's vice chairman, said Oconto has been among the last seven of Wisconsin's 72 counties that still has a coordinator as opposed to an administrator or an elected county executive.

As administrator, Hamann will have hiring power, with board confirmation, and direct supervision

over non-elected department heads. He will also prepare and submit the proposed annual budget and make appointments to various boards and commissions, with county board confirmation.

Supervisors Stephanie Holman and Kenneth Linzmeyer voted against adoption of the job description, and Supervisor Dick Doeren cast the dissenting vote in hiring the administrator.

The change is effective Jan. 3, and Hamann will earn a \$122,442 annual salary in 2021, with a budget impact of \$149,713 including benefits. The figure represents an increase of \$7,645 in salary and \$8,532 overall for 2021.

Sleeter said Hamann plans to retire in March 2022 and will play a key role in the county's transition to the new system.

wbluhm@newmedia-wi.com

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SPORTS

ATHLETE PROFILE: PAIGE KRUEGER

Suring senior getting into groove on court

The Suring High School girls basketball entered the week riding a three-game winning streak. Senior Paige Krueger was a big part of the team's recent surge.

Krueger scored a season-high 22 points in a Marinette & Oconto matchup against Crivitz on Dec. 14. She also tallied six rebounds, six steals and three blocks in the contest.

In Suring's M&O win over St. Thomas Aquinas Academy on Dec. 15, Krueger, recorded 10 points, nine steals, eight rebounds and three blocks.

In the team's lopsided win over Wausaukee on Dec. 18, Krueger posted 20 points. She also had 10 steals, six rebounds and two blocks.

Krueger made the M&O honorable mention team last season after averaging 9.2 points a game.

Q: When did your interest in basketball begin?

A: My interest in basketball started at a very young age. I believe I was in kindergarten when I really took an interest in basketball.

Q: What is your favorite part about the basketball season?

A: My favorite part is being on the court with friends doing what I love most.

Q: What has basketball taught you over the years?

A: Basketball taught me so much, including hard work, dedication, patience, time management and how to be a leader for others.

Q: As a senior, how are you helping lead and guide the team this season?

A: I feel I impact our team by bringing the energy, whether it's on or off the court. As for guiding the team, I like to lead by example more than anything else.

Q: Do you have any individual



Suring's Paige Krueger, left, puts up a shot during an Marinette & Oconto Conference matchup against Lena on Jan. 3 in Suring.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

goals you are hoping to reach this season?

A: Ever since I was little I always had the goal of reaching 1,000 points and although it seems out of reach I still want to see how close I can get. Besides that, my other goal is to just teach my teammates as much as possible before this season comes to an end.

Q: Do you have any rituals you go through before a game?

A: I don't know if I would call these rituals but we always do a shoot around on the day of a game and I have my own routine of shooting that ends

ONLINE

This week's high school highlights can be found at www.newmedia-wi.com.

with the whole team playing a game or two of lightning. As of right before a game, I listen to a certain playlist to get me in the game mindset.

Q: What's your favorite memory of competing on the Suring girls basketball team?

A: My favorite memory happened when we were on our way back from a tournament in Marquette, Michigan. We stopped at Water Warrior Island.

AT A GLANCE

ATHLETE: Paige Krueger

SPORT: Girls basketball

POSITION: Post

SCHOOL: Suring High School

YEAR: Senior

The whole team went swimming and had contests on the obstacles and we ended up flipping the big ball multiple times.

Q: What are you going to miss most about high school basketball?

A: What I'm going to miss most about high school basketball is the people. I'm going to miss the fans, the workers, other teams and most importantly my teammates who I like to call my family.

Q: Favorite TV show, movie, and musical artist?

A: TV show — "The 100." Movie — "The Polar Express." Musical artist — either Alec Benjamin or Tim McGraw.

Q: Name one thing about yourself that not many people know.

A: Something most people don't know is that I broke my ankle playing basketball and never had surgery on it.

Q: What's the greatest piece of advice you have ever been told?

A: All the best advice I've ever got has come from my coaches. They always tell us to work hard and never give up but the best advice would have to be when one of my old coaches told me "It doesn't matter what anyone else thinks. You have to keep pushing until you reach your goal and once you reach that goal, keep pushing and work even harder for a new goal while helping other along the way."

Q: What are some things you hope to accomplish after graduating high school?

A: I hope to travel and visit as many places and eventually go to college.

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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Oconto Falls boys struggle against Little Chute's height

Rebounding, turnovers haunt Panthers in loss

By MORGAN RODE
Sports Editor

The Oconto Falls High School boys basketball team was unable to keep pace with Little Chute in a North Eastern Conference matchup Dec. 15 in Oconto Falls.

Little Chute's height and 2-3 zone defense made life tough on the

Oconto Falls' offense. The height advantage also helped the visiting Mustangs control the glass and eventually come away with a 70-35 win.

"As a team overall, for this conference, we're undersized. So we really got to bring it and be tough, box out and be fundamentally sound," said first-year Oconto Falls

coach Joe Bebeau.

"To be honest with you, when we went over zone yesterday at practice, I need to do a better job as their coach and their leader, and that's what we talked about in the locker room. We talked about the rebounding being on them, and having them bring it and be more physical. Then we talked about that I need to coach them better and teach them zone offense better."

In the early stages of the contest, Oconto Falls' defense did a strong job of contesting Little Chute shots, but the Panthers were unable to corral many of the missed shots, which led to several second-chance points for the visitors.

Little Chute built an early six-point cushion, but field goals from juniors Jake Sager and Isaac Rad-

datz helped Oconto Falls back to within two points, 12-10.

The Mustangs seized control of the game for good after going on an 11-0 run.

After being down 32-16, 3-pointers from Sager and Raddatz looked to maybe spark the Panthers with a couple minutes left in the half. Instead, the Mustangs ended the half on a 4-0 run before pushing the lead up to 20 early in the second half and easing to victory.

Oconto Falls did a better job of rebounding in the final half, but turnovers kept the team from making a dent in the deficit. The Panthers were held to five field goals and a couple of free throws in the final 18 minutes.

"Rebounding and taking care of the ball are some of the most

Legals
WNAXLP

#1311

December 24, 31, 2020 &
January 08, 15, 2021

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN
GREEN BAY DIVISION

Notice of Foreclosure Sale
Case No. 20-CV-218

United States of America,
Plaintiff,

v.
Estate of Chia Vang Lee,
Peshtigo National Bank,
Defendants.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered in the above-entitled action on the 1st day of September, 2020, , the undersigned United States Marshal in and for the Eastern District of Wisconsin will sell at public auction in the Lobby of the Treasurer's Office, Oconto County Courthouse, 301 Washington Street, Oconto, Wisconsin, on the 4th day of February, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., the real estate and mortgaged premises located in Oconto County, Wisconsin, directed to be sold by the judgment, and therein described as follows:

The E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 10, Township 26 North, Range 19 East, in the Town of Chase, Oconto County, Wisconsin, except the following described property:

Part of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 10, Township 26 North, Range 19 East, described as follows:

Commencing at a point where the East 1/8 line intersects the South right-of-way line of County Trunk C; thence Southerly along said 1/8 line 417.5 feet; thence Easterly parallel with the South right-of-way line of County Trunk C, 208.75 feet; thence Northerly parallel with the 1/8 line 417.5 feet of the South right-of-way line of County Trunk C; thence Westerly along the South right-of-way line of County Trunk C, 208.75 feet to the place of beginning.

AND FURTHER EXCEPTING:

That part of the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 10, Township 26 North, Range 19 East, in Oconto County, Wisconsin bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the SE corner of the said 1/4-1/4; thence N 02; 41' 01" E along the Section line 1321.65 feet; thence S 84; 06' 26" W 309.91 feet; thence N 02; 41' 01" E 50.00 feet to the North line of the said 1/4-1/4; thence S 84; 06' 26" W along the said North line 1013.64 feet to the NW corner of

Legals
WNAXLP

the said 1/4-1/4; thence S 02; 39' 43" W along the West line thereof 1361.56 feet to the SW corner of the said 1/4-1/4; thence N 84; 32' 10" E along the South line thereof 1321.57 feet to the place of beginning.

AND FURTHER EXCEPTING:

That part of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 10, Township 26 North, Range 19 East, in Oconto County, Wisconsin bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at the NE corner of the said Section 10; thence S 84; 02' 10" W along the Section line 309.97 feet to the place of beginning; thence S 02; 41' 01" W 1371.26 feet to the South line of the said 1/4-1/4; thence S 84; 06' 26" W along the said South line 1013.64 feet to the SW corner of the said 1/4-1/4; thence N 02; 39' 43" E along the West line thereof 919.02 feet to a point 417.50 feet South of the NW corner of the said 1/4-1/4; thence N 84; 02' 10" E 208.75 feet; thence N 02; 39' 43" E 450.88 feet to the Section line; thence N 84; 02' 10" E along the Section line 805.59 feet to the place of beginning.

And further excepting therefrom any part thereof being used for highway and/or road purposes.

Property Address: 1991 Blazer Lane, Sobieski, WI

TERMS OF SALE:

The United States Marshal must accept from the successful bidder at the sale as a deposit or down payment on the premises a sum of not less than 10 percent of the purchase price.

Payment of such amount may be made by money order or cashiers check made out to the Clerk of District Court. **NO CASH OR PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

The entire successful bid price must be paid to the United States Clerk of District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, within 30 days of the sale or the sale will be disapproved and the earnest money forfeited.

All right, title, and interest in any crops being raised on the premises will be the property of the purchaser.

All subject to accrued and accruing real estate taxes and existing real estate tax liens of record.

All subject to existing highways, recorded easements and recorded restrictions, if any.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 17th day of December, 2020

/s/ Thomas P. Conlon

Acting United States Marshal

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Oconto Falls' Jake Sager, center, drives through the Little Chute defense during a North Eastern Conference game Dec. 15 in Oconto Falls.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA



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important aspects of the game as a team. If we can't rebound and take care of the ball, we can't score or stop the other team from scoring," said Raddatz.

"One thing we can take away (from the game) is how physical we need to play to compete against the teams in our conference. We are a small team, but we can definitely play with these teams; we just need to match their physicality. We had many good defensive stretches, but Little Chute is a good team and hit their shots."

Raddatz led the way for the Panthers, scoring 15 points. Sager was the only other player over four points, tallying eight.

While it's been a slow start to the year for the Panthers, the team remains upbeat and focused on improving as the season marches on.

"Just talking to them and giving them advice from my experiences," said Panther senior Braden Uelmen, on how he's helping the team after the tough start. "Last year was my first year on varsity, and it is for a lot of the guys this year. So I try to tell them the same thing coaches told me last year: 'Don't get nervous. Take your shot. Play your game.'"

Little Chute 36 34 — 70

Oconto Falls 22 13 — 35

Little Chute (70): Bryson Roche 0-0 2, Drew Lamers 2-2 6, Jake Weigman 0-1 2, Tate Huss 2-2 18, Carson Wyngaard 0-0 2, Kade VanAsten 1-2 11, Drew Joten 0-2 6, Brandon Brockman 0-0 7, Carter Engle 0-0 2, Hunter Thiel 0-3 12, Tim Buchholz 2-3 2.

Oconto Falls (35): Braden Vandermoss 2-4 2, Grady McNichols 0-0 3, Jake Sager 0-0 8, Isaac Raddatz 2-2 15, Braden Uelmen 0-0 3, Carter Hill 0-0 4.

sports@newmedia-wi.com

Notice for Town of Morgan Residents – **A CAUCUS** will be held at Morgan Town Hall, Saturday, January 9, 2021, at 1:00PM. Open to the public. Submitted by Town Clerk, Julie Belongia. **WNAXLP**

NOTICE TOWN OF BAGLEY

As required by S. 8.05 (1)(b) Wis. Stats. The Town of Bagley Caucus will be held on January 5, 2021 at 6:00 PM at the Bagley Town Hall 9812 County HWY Z Pound, WI. 54161

The purpose of the Caucus is to nominate qualified electors to be placed on the ballot for the spring election on April 6, 2021.

Nominations will be taken for:

- Town Chairman
- Town Supervisor,s (2)
- Town Clerk
- Town Treasurer

For more information contact the town clerk
attownofbagley@granitewave.com or
920-590-0198

ALAN SLEETER, CLERKTOWN OF BAGLEY

WNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:30 pm

CITY OF OCONTO FALLS

Council Chambers - Municipal Building
500 N Chestnut Avenue - Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Notice is hereby given, that the City of Oconto Falls Common Council will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed Community Development Block Grant CLOSE - Public Facilities (CDBG-CLPF) project on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 beginning at 6:30 pm. This hearing is open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend and provide comments on the proposed project.

The agenda for the hearing is as follows:

1. Overview of the CDBG-CLPF program
2. Presentation of Park Avenue reconstruction project
3. Public Comment
4. Adjourn public hearing

Additional information on the CDBG-CLOSE project can be obtained by contacting Eve Wallace, Deputy Treasurer at 920-846-4505.

City Administrator, Vicki A. Roberts

Any person wishing to attend the public hearing who requires special accommodations because of a disability should contact the Clerk's office at 920-846-4505 with adequate notice so appropriate accommodations can be made.

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Best of Oconto County

OCONTO COUNTY TIMES HERALD 2020 Readers Poll

Deadline: January 31, 2021

BALLOT #1

Best Goods:

- ☐ Discount Store _____
- ☐ Flower Shop _____
- ☐ Grocery Store _____
- ☐ Hardware Store _____

Best Services:

- ☐ A/C & Heating _____
- ☐ Bank _____
- ☐ Child Care _____
- ☐ Chiropractor _____
- ☐ Credit Union _____
- ☐ Dentist _____
- ☐ Electrician _____
- ☐ Insurance Agency _____
- ☐ Gas Station/C-Store _____
- ☐ Hair Salon/Barber _____
- ☐ Pharmacy _____
- ☐ Physician _____
- ☐ Plumber _____
- ☐ Real Estate Company _____
- ☐ Retirement Community _____
- ☐ Tax Service _____
- ☐ Veterinarian _____

Best of Oconto County

ENTRY FORM

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1464 E. Green Bay St., Shawano WI 54166
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Deadline: January 31, 2021

*A minimum of 10 categories on ballot must be completed in order for your vote to count to be eligible to win prizes. No purchase necessary to win.

Best of Oconto County

OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD

2020



Readers Poll

Deadline: January 31, 2021

BALLOT #2

Best Thing To Do:

- ☐ Bowling Alley _____
- ☐ Campground _____
- ☐ Cheese Factory _____
- ☐ Happy Hour _____
- ☐ Live Music _____
- ☐ Meat Market _____
- ☐ Night Spot _____

Best Outdoor Activities:

- ☐ Bait/Tackle Shop _____
- ☐ Golf Course _____
- ☐ Lawn/Garden _____

Best Vehicle Services:

- ☐ Auto Body Repair _____
- ☐ Auto Parts Supply Store _____
- ☐ Car Dealer _____
- ☐ Vehicle Service Center _____
- ☐ Tire Store _____

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OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD

2020



Readers Poll

Deadline: January 31, 2021

BALLOT #3

Food/Dinings:

- ☐ Bar _____
- ☐ Breakfast _____
- ☐ Burger _____
- ☐ Coffee House _____
- ☐ Dessert _____
- ☐ Dinner _____
- ☐ Family Restaurant _____
- ☐ Fish Fry _____
- ☐ Lunch _____
- ☐ Pizza _____
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Deadline: January 31, 2021

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No purchase necessary to win.

MARRIAGES

Kyle Clark Sharboneau and Kaitlyn Elizabeth Ashley, Oconto.

Christopher Michael Dixon and Laurie Jane Stoveken, Morgan.

Wilson Alfonso Gallardo Hidalgo and Tatiana Judith Berrezueta Alvarado, Stiles.

Matthew Garret Thompson and

Taryn Jean Strombach, Casa Grande, Arizona.

Eddie Milton Exferd, Spruce, and Melanie Marie Miller, Almon.

Michael Lee York and Heaven Lee Rusk, Underhill.

Robert James Randerson and Barbara Jean La Coy, Riverview.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

Oconto County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications to hire Correctional Officers as well as create an eligibility list. Female applicants are strongly encouraged to apply. Will work rotating shifts with varying days off, and within first year, successfully pass State Certification. Starting wage is \$20.37/hr. Excellent benefit package including State Retirement.

Responsible for the security of the facility and overseeing the security and conduct of inmates. Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing. Understand and follow verbal orders given by supervisors and written procedures and regulations. Make effective decisions and exercise good judgment under stressful situations. Work quickly and efficiently under constantly changing job demands. Possess a valid driver's license. Have no criminal convictions.

Qualifications include High school graduate or GED equivalent. Two-Year or Four-Year Corrections Officer/Law Enforcement Degree preferred.

Successful applicants for this position will be required to undergo a background check and physical (health) screening.

Please apply on-line and include resume and references. Job description available by clicking link. Application deadline is Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. https://www.co.oconto.wi.us/career_opportunities/

Oconto County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

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This is your weekly edition of the Oconto County Times Herald.
Follow us online at www.newmedia-wi.com

TOWN OF OCONTO FALLS DECEMBER TAX COLLECTION DUE TO COVID-MAIL IN PAYMENTS PREFERRED Time and Location Schedule

Saturday, December 26, 2020 9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
LOCATION - Oconto Falls Town Hall

Wednesday, December 30, 2020 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
LOCATION - 8542 County Road CC, Oconto Falls

SUE KONITZER, Treasurer TOWN OF OCONTO FALLS
8542 County Road CC, OCONTO FALLS, WI 54154
920/848-3825
Email: ocontofalls.treasurer@gmail.com

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SOCIAL WORKER

Oconto County Department of Health & Human Services has an exciting professional employment opportunity in the area of child protective services. The ideal applicant will be able to establish engagement with families to create a trusting relationship that will promote growth and connections within the family unit.

Our Family Services Division is looking for a self-motivated, organized and detail-oriented individual to join our team! Minimum requirements are a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university with a BSW or BS/BA degree in social work or other related Health & Human Services Field.

Oconto County offers an opportunity for gainful employment while preserving a strong work-life balance in a rural setting. Starting wage is \$24.09 per hour plus an excellent fringe benefit package. Finalists may be required to undergo a detailed background check.

A full job description is available on the website. Interested candidates must apply online at www.co.oconto.wi.us and include a cover letter, resume and references.

Application deadline is Monday, December 28, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.
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MERRY
CHRISTMAS,
SWEETHEART

BOB SCHUBERT SR.

The house just seems so quiet
Christmas music brings me tears
But I know that you're in Heaven
As the days turn to years.

One day we'll be together
It was always meant to be
Together up in Heaven
For all eternity

Love Forever, Rose Ann



FOR MOM
& DAD AT
CHRISTMAS

ALICE AND RAY YOUNG SR.

All the homemade cookies
The trimmings on the tree
All the candy we received
Presents for you and me

Christmas Mass
All the beautiful music
The lights on all the trees
All of us together
Sweet memories

Love always, Rose Ann



Paid Advertisement

3 Rules for *Staying Active*



**ERIN BANCROFT,
APNP**

It's been a challenging year to keep up with our workout routine or to just get active, and now it's cold outside making it even more difficult. Believe it or not,

this is a good time to make an effort to get active. Exercise is not only good for your body, but also for your mind—especially during the holidays and during a pandemic when we are dealing with extra stress. Beat the holiday blues by increasing your water intake, becoming or staying active and enlisting a friend or family member to hold you accountable.

Rule #1: Water Consumption is Vital

In order to make sure you are consuming enough water, a rule of thumb to follow is, drink half your body weight in ounces daily. Our bodies can lose upwards of 11 percent of water weight when exercising. If we don't replenish, we can become increasingly more fatigued, dehydrated, foggy and sluggish. If we stay hydrated and sustain an active lifestyle, the benefits are plentiful and include weight loss, increased mood and better sleep. Consuming water can help in weight loss by suppressing hunger and preventing us from consuming high calorie foods with limited nutritional value.

Rule #2: Stay Active

Staying active during an already hectic time can seem nearly impossible. This year, dial up that stationary bike or

hoola-hoop in that workout video sitting on the shelf and exercise that thing in the morning before everyone else wakes. Beginning your day with a workout has been shown to result in increased mood and energy for the day. Aim to be active at least four days a week, with at least 30 minutes of aerobic exercise every day. Examples of aerobic exercises include running, skiing, ice skating, sledging, snowshoeing, hiking, rock climbing and swimming.

Another great option during the colder winter days is to grab a promising one-hour video on YouTube that includes exercises for beginners. Pinterest also has many workouts available in a calendar form so you know what workouts to do each day.

Remember, you do not have to complete a full 30 minutes of physical activity all at once. Small 10-15 minute workouts can also be beneficial. Consider splitting your 30 minute lunch break and take 15 minutes to eat your lunch followed by 15 minutes of brisk walking.

Rule #3: Stay Accountable

Becoming or staying active when it's cold is difficult, but not impossible. If you live in town, bundle up, break up and go for a walk with a friend or family member. No buddies to work out with? No problem! Tell your friends and family members you'd like to stay active this time of year. Then, you can make a game of it by making it a competition and challenging each other to walking the most steps per day or week. When seasonal holidays in



accountable, we are more likely to follow through with our promises and commitments.

Your goal with to leave 2020 in your past, but you cannot afford to neglect your physical health. Good physical health can prevent a plethora of unnecessary health problems. Aim to increase your water intake and workout regimen by holding yourself accountable with a friend or family member.

If you're looking for more winter workout tips, visit

[prevea.com/your-wellness](https://www.prevea.com/your-wellness).

If you haven't been physically active in a while, and you are concerned about your fitness level, call one of our health coaches below to schedule an appointment! We're here to help you get started again!

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Jena • (320) 825-6400

Marquette • (715) 276-1600

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Oconto • (320) 834-8111

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Potatoes**

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each
Raspberries

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plnt
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Shaved or Sliced**
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Coffee Cake**

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**Assort Variety
14oz**
**Dee AMore Twice Baked Potatoes or
Mr. Dee's Frozen Potatoes**

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**10-24oz
Assort Variety**
**Merkt's Cheese
Spread**

\$3.99
**Assort Variety
14oz**
**Kraft Philadelphia
Cream Cheese**

2/\$3
**8oz Regular
or Light**
**Dutch Farms Bar or
Shredded Cheese**

\$2.29
**Assort Variety
8oz**
Farm Rich Appetizers

\$3.99
**Assort Variety
18-24oz**
Nabisco Ritz Crackers

\$2.99
**Assort Variety
11.8-13.7oz**
**Nabisco Wheat Thins, Chicken in a
BlisKit, or Triscuits Snack Crackers**

2/\$5
**Assort Variety
6.5-9oz**
**50/50 2 Liter
Soda**

99¢
Regular or Diet

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

PELLET WOOD GAS } STOVES

Our
29th
Year



FREE
Basic DIY Install Kit

Basic 3" Vent Kit • Basic Floor Pad



Bonus Ash-Vac Pro

(Retail value \$100.00)

plus

7% OFF New Stoves

- No Chimney Required with Pellet Stove • Save Up to 50% on Heating
- EZ Payments* • 0% Interest*

Date - **GREEN BAY** - Junction City



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*With approved credit. *Discounts cannot be combined. *Certain restrictions apply. See ESES Associate for details.