



SUMMER IS BACK FOR GOOD

Steel Stanek, a golden doodle, chills out along South Maple Avenue during the 2021 Memorial Day parade in Oconto Falls. Thousands of people flocked to the Falls for the unofficial launch of the summer season. SEE MORE PHOTOS FROM THE WEEKEND CELEBRATION ON PAGE 38.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Pomp and circumstance

The Class of 2021 is honored and celebrated in Oconto Falls and Gillett.

PAGE 2-3

Remembering fallen heroes

A good crowd gathers for Memorial Day ceremonies at Woodlawn Cemetery.

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Public meeting planned on drawdown

The Machickanee Flowage will be drawn down for three months this summer; informational meeting June 15.

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TIMES HERALD

(USPS 402-780)

Published Fridays

by **NEW Media Inc**

d/b/a The Oconto County Times Herald

Periodicals postage paid at

Oconto Falls WI 54154

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

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Oconto Falls, WI 54154

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Subscription, delivery or payment question?

Call 715-526-2121

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday-Friday

9 a.m. to noon Tuesday

RATES

Print

Print single issue: \$1

Prepaid nonrefundable 12 months:

\$41 Mail - WI

\$52 Mail - outside WI

www.newmedia-wi.com

1-day, \$0.99

3-mo (90-day introductory offer) \$12

Month-to-month \$10

Prepaid 12 month, nonrefundable, \$99

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OFHS graduation looks closer to normal

106 classmates spend one last afternoon together

By **WARREN BLUHM**

Editor-in-chief

The 2021 commencement ceremony at Oconto Falls High School looked closer to the old normal than it did a year ago.

On Sunday of Memorial Day weekend in 2020, with fears of a global pandemic growing, the graduating class paraded through downtown, and they had to wait until summer to hold an outdoor ceremony on the football field at ST Paper Stadium.

This year's ceremony was held on time May 30 in the familiar environs of the fieldhouse, but the graduates and audience were socially distanced, masks were encouraged and each graduate was limited to four guests.

High school principal Dan Moore said despite the challenges of COVID-19, the Class of 2021 won't be defined by the last 14 months.

"Each of you will now be embarking on your own unique path," Moore said. "There are tremendous opportunities for you, more so than in many recent years, and we need you to be fully invested and taking advantage of those opportunities. Take some time to relax and reflect this summer on your journey toward graduation, and then move forward and make things happen."

Superintendent Dean Hess said his message to the graduates is to keep moving forward.

"Each one of you has the training and capacity to be successful in the next chapter of your life," Hess said. "The question yet to be answered is, will you embrace those challenges? Will you embrace those opportunities? Will you have the grit to keep moving forward? Based on what we've experience in our time with you, we are confident that you will."

He acknowledged there will be times when they struggle, fail and fall, but he encouraged them: "When you fall, fall forward, get back up and keep moving forward."

Hess used his remarks to recog-



Oconto Falls High School Principal Dan Moore addresses graduating seniors May 30.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



The Oconto Falls High School Choir, directed by Amy Thiel, performs the song "Breakaway" during the 2021 commencement ceremony May 30 at the high school fieldhouse.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

nize the five members of the senior class who have enlisted in the armed services: Blake Dequaine (Marines), Joana Espino (Air Force), Carston Leonhardt (Navy), Richard Tulogesi (Army) and Alex Waschbisch (Navy). The audience and their classmates gave them a standing ovation.

Victoria Athey and Connor Ro-

mandine served as student speakers at the ceremony.

"Our journey began a long time ago. No longer are we going to be one, but individuals separated from the crowd we once followed for years," Athey said. "Today is simply the day when all 106 of us part ways and follow our own path."

CORRECTIONS

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

Gillett grads embark on new journey

Class of 2021 faced down COVID, other challenges

By **WARREN BLUHM**
Editor-in-chief

Salutatorian Brianna DeBauch encouraged her fellow Gillett graduates to drink in the events of the day.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime moment," she said at their May 30 commencement ceremony. "Four years of friendship, laughter and hard work have led us here."

Valedictorian Aubrey DeBauch used a quote from Olympic champion Wilma Rudolph as her touchstone: "Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion: The potential for greatness lives within each of us."

Aubrey DeBauch recalled how the COVID-19 pandemic challenged the class during the locked-down final months of their junior year,

with social distancing and occasional virtual learning continuing to impact their senior year.

"In the end, we continued to work hard to make the most of this challenging and uncertain journey," she said, encouraging her classmates as they move on to "be happy, be bold, be courageous ... spread joy, love and kindness ... and always strive to be the best version of yourself."

Curt Angeli, elementary principal, introduced the winners of the Kenneth C. Dittman and Loraine M. Dittman Scholarships, which amount to \$3,000 a year. Brianna DeBauch and Maibel Martinez received scholarships to two-year schools, and four-year scholarships were awarded to Aubrey DeBauch, Riley Engebretsen, Elizabeth Soper and Brandon Rodgers.

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Shawn Limberg, recently named as the next principal of Gillett Secondary School, conducts the high school band in the playing of "Pomp and Circumstance."

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OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of May 28

David Jordan Engel, 38, Oconto Falls, was sentenced to one year, six months in prison, followed by two years of extended supervision, for theft of movable property, in connection with an incident that occurred Aug. 16. Judge Michael T. Judge gave Engel credit for 209 days already served in the county jail. Engel must complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by his agent, pay court costs and fees, have no contact with the victims and neither possess nor consume alcohol or any controlled substance without a valid prescription, and he may not enter any establishment where the main purpose is the sale of alcohol.

Jeremiah T. Irving, 25, Oconto, pleaded no contest to possession of methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 18. Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for June 16 and said he plans to rely on a pre-sentence investigation filed in February for a previous case.

Dustin Gregory Belardi, 39, Marinette, waived his right to extradition and was ordered into the custody of Minnesota officers to face prosecution there.

James L. Nerenhausen, 23, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over to circuit court on charges of battery or threat to a law officer and misdemeanor counts of battery, criminal damage to property, bail jumping, resisting or obstructing an officer, and disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred March 31. Arraignment was scheduled for June 17.

David James Zabawa, 30, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on a charge of child abuse intentionally causing harm, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred May 4. Arraignment was scheduled for June 17.

Bond was set at \$10,000 cash for John Fusek, 49, Oconto, after he was charged with possession of methamphetamine (second and subsequent offense), fleeing an officer in a vehicle and misdemeanor counts criminal trespass to a dwelling and disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred May 24. The balance of his initial appearance was scheduled for June 17.

Proceedings of May 27

Travis Michael Welch, 25, Shawano, pleaded not guilty to repeated sexual assault of the same child. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for July 14.

Maria C. Laws, 34, Lena, pleaded no contest to possession with intent to deliver amphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Aug. 18, 2020, and bail jumping and possession of narcotic drugs, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 6. Judge Jay N. Conley scheduled sentencing for July 29 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Nicole M. Nowinski, 45, Little Suamico, pleaded guilty to possession of an illegal article, in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 1. A charge of possession of methamphetamine was dismissed but read into the record. Judge Jay N. Conley scheduled sentencing for July 28 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Proceedings of May 26

William E. Pasterski, 32, Green Bay, was sentenced to four years in prison, followed by three years of extended supervision, for bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Nov. 26, and a second count of bail jumping for an alleged Dec. 5 incident. Judge Michael T. Judge gave Pasterski credit for 172 days already served and ruled that he will be eligible after 2.5 years for the Substance Abuse Program, which can lead to early release upon successful completion.

Mark J. Pagenkopf, 50, was placed on four years of probation after a prison sentence was imposed and stayed for possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony, in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 13, 2019. Judge Michael T. Judge ordered that among probation conditions, Pagenkopf may not possess or consume alcoholic beverages or any illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, or controlled substances without a valid prescription.

Cheyenne R. Hakes, 27, Oconto Falls, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred April

11. Judge Jay N. Conley scheduled sentencing for July 29 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

After a preliminary hearing, David R. Smith, 54, Oconto, was bound over to circuit court on charges of fleeing an officer, operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fifth or sixth offense), two counts of bail jumping and misdemeanor operating while revoked, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred May 16. Arraignment was scheduled for June 17. A jury trial on an earlier charge of OWI, in connection with an alleged Jan. 4, 2019, incident, remains on the court calendar for Aug. 31, with a pre-trial conference on Aug. 16.

Edward Phillip Lindahl, 38, Oconto, pleaded not guilty to possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine (second and subsequent offense), possession of THC (second and subsequent offense) and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Oct. 27, 2020. A plea hearing was scheduled for Oct. 1.

Tonya M. Sampley, 44, Oconto, waived her right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over to circuit court on charges of possession of THC (second or subsequent offense), and misdemeanor counts of possession of a controlled substance and possession of an illegally obtained prescription, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 2. Arraignment was scheduled for June 17.

Proceedings of May 25

Dane L. Ades, 58, Oconto, was placed on three years' probation after a prison sentence was imposed and stayed for possession of methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 14, 2019, and felony bail jumping, in connection with a July 8, 2020 incident. The probation begins with 100 days in the county jail. Judge Michael T. Judge issued a no-contact order and ruled that among probation conditions, Ades must maintain absolute sobriety and complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by his agent.

Christopher Allen Gulledge, 33, Oconto, pleaded no contest to substantial battery intending bodily harm, in connection with an incident that occurred Aug. 21, 2020. Judge Jay N. Conley scheduled sentencing for July 27 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Keith W. Vorin, 44, Green Bay, was placed on two years' probation after a prison sentence was imposed and stayed for possession of methamphet-

amine, in connection with an incident that occurred Oct. 19. Judge Michael T. Judge ruled that among probation conditions, Vorin must maintain absolute sobriety and complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by his agent.

Proceedings of May 24

David J. Burrie Jr., 54, Gillett, was sentenced to two years in prison, followed by two years of extended supervision, for his sixth conviction for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, and six months in county jail for a misdemeanor charge of failure to stop, in connection with a high-speed chase and traffic crash on state Highway 32 at Claywood Road on Oct. 14. Judge Michael T. Judge gave Burrie credit for 225 days already served and ruled that during his extended supervision he must maintain absolute sobriety and complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by his agent. Burrie was declared eligible for the Substance Abuse Program, which can lead to early release upon successful completion.

Steven N. Lewis Jr., 32, Oshkosh, pleaded no contest to possession with intent to deliver amphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 18. Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for July 27 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Cheryl Lynn Jenkins, 50, Gillett, pleaded not guilty to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fifth or sixth offense), in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred April 11. She also waived her right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to bail jumping, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred May 8. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for June 17.

After a preliminary hearing, David L. Reignier, 36, Oconto Falls, was bound over to circuit court on two counts of strangulation-suffocation, victim intimidation by use of force, false imprisonment and misdemeanor counts of battery and criminal damage to property, in connection with three incidents that allegedly occurred in April. Arraignment and a motion hearing were scheduled for July 1.

Anthony A. Wusterbarth, 33, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over to circuit court on charges of maintaining a drug trafficking place (second or subsequent offense) and misdemeanor failure to report a crime, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred March 24. Arraignment was scheduled for June 17.

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Rachel Lynn Wussow went to be with Jesus on May 27, 2021, surrounded by family and friends. She spent over half her life fighting the effects of cancer. Rachel Lynn was born on Oct. 17, 1979, in Shawano to Dale and Linda (Brodhagen) Wussow. She was raised on the Wussow family sesquicentennial farm. Rachel was a lifetime member of St. Paul Lutheran Church. She was confirmed in her faith and graduated from St. Paul Lutheran School in 1994 and from Bonduel High School in 1998.

Rachel earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 2002 and Master of Higher Education from Texas Tech University in 2004, all while working with university students as a resident advisor and hall director. She continued onto University of Wisconsin-Platteville



and Michigan Tech University where she was an instructor of student success and served as interim director of student activities. Rachel belonged to professional organizations including the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities Inc. where she traveled the U.S. presenting at conferences. She was midwest region coordinator, organizing conferences and receiving recognition, along with her students, for the programs they created.

She took a position at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to be closer to her family and took early retirement due to her declining

health. She developed close friendships with co-workers and students at these universities.

Rachel loved visiting upper Michigan, northern Wisconsin, and spending time at the cabin with her cherished family.

Rachel is survived by her mother, Linda Wussow, of Bonduel; sister, Sarah (Michael) Dalton, of Florida; brother, Daniel (Teri) Wussow, and dearly loved and supported nephews, Brody, Ryley, and Cory Wussow, of Bonduel. She is also survived by uncles and aunts, Bruce (Lynn) Brodhagen, James (Kelly) Brodhagen, Ruth Wussow, Robert (Sharon) Wussow and numerous cousins. Rachel was godmother to Stephanie Wussow, Colin Wussow, Brody Wussow and Braxen Brodhagen. She is further survived by her godparents, Christine Bahr, Lynn Brodhagen, and James Brodhagen.

Preceding Rachel in death were her beloved father, Dale Wussow; maternal grandparents, Raymond and MaryLou Brodhagen; paternal grandparents, Herbert and Laura Wussow; aunt, Elaine (Roger) Bergsbaken; uncle, Leroy (Fern) Wussow; and dearly missed cousin, Ryan Brodhagen.

A funeral service for Rachel was held at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 31, 2021, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bonduel. Burial is in Zion United Methodist Cemetery in Bonduel. Visitation was held Monday at the church from 9 a.m. until the time of services. Memorials may be given to a university or church of your choice.

The family would like to thank Rachel's sister Sarah Dalton and other family members for their help and support, and Unity Hospice for their wonderful care.

Charles R. Gunderson

Charles R. Gunderson, 95, of Ironwood, Michigan, passed away on Sunday morning, May 23, 2021, at his home with his family members at his side.

Charles was born the son of Charles O. and Martha (Hanson) Gunderson on Jan. 3, 1926 in Wittenberg.

Charles proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy in Guam and Sipan during World War II. He studied at the Naval Newberry College in South Carolina as a radio technician. He met his one and only Anneta J. Lipe at Southern Illinois University while going for his bachelor's in electrical engineering. Charles and Anneta fell in love and married on April 4, 1947. Four years later, daughter Candace was born.



Moving around the country for Charles' work in the telephone industry, Charles played an instrumental role in the creation of caller ID and traveling phones.

After living 30 years in Naperville, Illinois, retirement brought them to Ironwood in 1994. Charles and Anneta loved to travel, snowmobiled all over upper Wisconsin, the U.P., and even out west in the Yellowstone area. They did this for many years until the bumps on the trails got too big. After Anneta's death, he enjoyed traveling to Florida with his family.

Charles had a love for cars, his favorite car being a 1952 Kaiser Manhattan Flathead. Charles loved to work with his hands on many things, building their first home all by himself, and could build or fix anything. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Ironwood and active in his faith and churches all through his life.

Charles is survived by his daughter, Candace (Paul) Forslund, of Ironwood; brother-in-law, Byron Lipe, of Cortez, Colorado; grandchildren, Alison (Stu) Walker and Greg (Anne Marie) Snyder; step-grandchildren, Britt (Spencer) Slade and Gus Forslund; great-grandchild, Abby Dovin, step-great-grandchildren, Keaton Walker, Eli Slade and Elsa Slade;

other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Anneta, in 2016; son-in-law; Ron Snyder; and his brother; Vernon.

A graveside service will take place on Saturday, May 29 at 11 a.m. with military honors conducted by the Bessemer VFW at Hillcrest Cemetery in Bessemer.

Memorial contributions may be made to HOPE Animal Shelter, P.O. Box 662, Ironwood, MI 49938 or the Wounded Warrior Project at www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate.

The family has chosen McKeivitt-Patrick Funeral Home to honor Charles' legacy of life. You can leave a condolence or a tribute at mckeivittpatrickfuneralhome.com.

Herbert F. Fischer

Herbert F. Fischer graduated to Heaven's glory by faith alone in Christ alone on May 19, 2021. He was born April 8, 1940, to Charlie and Frieda (Krause) Fischer.

Herb graduated from Gillett High School with the Class of 1958. He was inducted into the U.S. Army in September 1958 and served as a field medic until his honorable discharge in July 1961. The first Saturday of October 1961, Herb met the love of his life, Jenny Zahn, at the Gillett Sportsman Club annual dance, held at the old park pavilion. The Dick



Rodgers Orchestra provided the music. Herb and Jenny married Nov. 10, 1962. They had two sons, Scott and Mitchell. Together they purchased a farm in the Township of Angelica in 1965 and have been there ever since.

Herb is survived by his loving wife, Jenny, Angelica; son, Scott (Carol) Fischer, Iowa, and their

children, David, Sarah, Benjamin and Samuel; and son, Mitchell Fischer, Angelica.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his two brothers, Arnold and Edmund; and a sister, Caroline.

Per Herb's wishes there will be no visitation or funeral services. The family will celebrate his life quietly together.

You are welcome to send any cards of condolence to the funeral home (make sure you put the family's name on the outside envelope

and your return address), and we will forward your cards and messages to the Fischer family.

Marnocha Funeral Home P.O. Box 356 Pulaski, WI 54162

Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.marnochafuneralhome.com

The reality of life is physical death, but spiritual Life, is in Jesus Christ. Romans 10:9-10

Herb's motto in life: "Study God's word, be quiet, work with your hands and mind your own business."

Owen R. Nielson

Owen R. Nielson, 95, of Clintonville, passed away Thursday, May 27, 2021, at Aster Assisted Living in Clintonville.

The Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home and Crematory in Clintonville is assisting the Nielson family.



A flag draped casket is carried on a horse-drawn wagon with the words "Some gave all," providing a powerful symbol of the true cost for American freedom.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Fallen heroes get their due in Shawano

More than 1,000 flags decorate the graves of fallen veterans as living residents pay tribute

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

The men and women who fought and died for this country's freedom were honored in song and story by community leaders in Woodlawn Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Shawano-Menominee County District Attorney Greg Parker, who served in the U.S. Army and was part of the military police, was the main speaker for the event and recounted how many people in the Armed Forces in Wisconsin had lost their lives fighting in the United States' various wars.

"Memorial Day is a day of utmost importance in our history," Parker said. "Memorial Day, once called Decoration Day, originated after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the war. Since the Civil

War, Memorial Day has become a day that our United States of America sets aside each year to remember and honor the men and women who have died in service of their country."

Wisconsin has seen many sacrifices in the wars that America has fought, Parker said. The Civil War took the lives of over 12,000 from Wisconsin. Another 134 Wisconsin residents died in the Spanish-American War.

World War I, which Parker said had been recorded as one of the deadliest wars in history, saw almost 4,000 Wisconsinites die. In World War II, Wisconsin lost over 8,000, and another 13,000 were wounded. The Korean War saw more than 700 Wisconsin deaths, and another 1,200 died in the Vietnam War.

"It is because of their personal courage, their sense of duty and their honor and integrity that we can all

have freedom to live in this great country," Parker said.

Parker grimly noted that this year the country will observe the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, which saw over 3,000 Americans killed in just one day.

"Therefore, it is important to remember the reason that we all stand here today," Parker said.

Parker recalled that his grandfather fought in World War I and was injured by mustard gas, which left him disabled. His grandfather had four sons who fought for the United States in World War II. Parker's father fought in the Korean War, and his brother served in Vietnam.

"Like my family members, I felt compelled to serve my country in the United States Army," Parker said. "I served as an MP and a working dog handler. Though I did not experience

the full fury of battle, I never regretted the decision to serve because I believe that my time in the military was one of the most defining experiences of my life, and I would venture to say that many of the veterans here today will tell you the same thing."

Parker noted that the Thursday before Memorial Day is when flags are set at the graves of veterans. He acknowledged the work done locally as he pointed out how the U.S. Army places flags at the graves of more than 200,000 veterans buried at Arlington Cemetery in Virginia.

"Folks, look around you," Parker said. "As you enter the cemetery today, you saw numerous flags at each veteran's gravesite. Veterans Service Officer Nick Benzinger estimates there are 1,000 flags placed within this cemetery. What better way to show our community and our fallen men and women

“Though I did not experience the full fury of battle, I never regretted the decision to serve because I believe that my time in the military was one of the most defining experiences of my life, and I would venture to say that many of the veterans here today will tell you the same thing.”

GREG PARKER, U.S. Army veteran and Shawano-Menominee County district attorney

country that we care — and we will never forget.”

Shawano County Board Chairman Tom Kautza said that he was glad to see that there were a lot more people in the cemetery this year honoring fallen veterans. He noted that the coronavirus pandemic kept many at home last Memorial Day but felt it was important to come out and honor those who have died.

“I feel a little out of place here because I was never in the service,” Kautza said. “I can never fully understand the bond and the camaraderie that they have, but I do know that I hear a lot at the county board and other places about our rights — or my rights.”

Kautza said that it was important for everyone to get along, even when there’s a discussion about rights and liberties, because of the men and women who fought for that freedom and don’t get to enjoy it today.

“Look at what people pay for us to have our rights,” Kautza said. “Think about it, there are young men and women not much older than what you see over there in the (high school) band that never came back home. They never had a family. They never got to be a father, a mother, a grandfather — none of that. They gave that up for us, for our rights. Not my rights, all our rights.”

Shawano Mayor Bruce Milavitz told the crowd of more than 200 that this holiday was not just a “four-day weekend” but a time when citizens



Members of the Shawano Community High School marching band are in lockstep as they enter Woodlawn Cemetery on Memorial Day. The band also played a number of patriotic songs during the ceremony.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

need to remember those who have fought and died in war.

“We are here to remember the many who served, the great men and women who never had the opportunity to take their uniform off,” Milavitz said. “They’re still wearing

it today.”

Even though Memorial Day is to remember the heroes who have died, Milavitz expressed his appreciation for the men and women who have fought for freedom and were present for the ceremony.

“Let’s keep all of the families and these great men and women in our hearts and never forget the freedoms we have today because of them,” Milavitz said.

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com



Shawano County Board Chairman Tom Kautza gestures to the Shawano Community High School students behind him near the chapel at Woodlawn Cemetery on May 31 during the Memorial Day ceremony, noting that some of the men and women who have died in combat are not much older than the students.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



Rebecca Van Buren gestures for everyone to join her in a rendition of “God Bless America” to wrap up the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 31 at Woodlawn Cemetery.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



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ECWRPC undergoing some restructuring

Shawano County Board approves resolution of support for changes

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is undergoing some restructuring, but for it to proceed, it needs the blessing of its participants.

The Shawano County Board of Supervisors did its part May 25 by approving a resolution that will continue to have three representatives on the planning commission but takes out some red tape on how one of those members is appointed.

Currently, each county in the ECWRPC has one member that must be appointed by the governor. According to Melissa Kraemer-Badtke, the commission's executive director, it can be very difficult to get the governor's office to move quickly on appointments, leaving some counties without adequate representation.

Under the proposal, the county board chairman and two other supervisors would sit on the commission for Shawano County. Eight counties are represented in the ECWRPC, and the commission currently has 36 members, according to Kraemer-Badtke, with larger counties getting more seats, but the commission will be reducing the total number of members.

"Board composition cannot be modified without resolutions from a majority of the local units of government in the region with a majority of the population," Kraemer-Badtke said.

Shawano County Board Chairman Tom Kautza sponsored the resolution, explaining that time was a factor, and putting the process through a committee would have slowed things down.

"That's the way the other

counties are doing it in the state," Kautza said.

Kautza agreed that taking the state government out of the equation was the way to go.

"We thought, what's the use to keep struggling to find people to fill that and run that process through to Madison," Kautza said. "We don't lose a member. Our membership will remain the same."

Currently, Kautza and Shawano County Supervisor Steve Gueths sit on the commission, along with Chuck Dallas, the gubernatorial appointee. Kautza noted that Dallas' term is coming to an end, and he declined to offer any recommendations to the governor's office, knowing that the restructuring was in progress.

"It's definitely a good thing to do," Kautza said.

Supervisor Jerry Erdmann, the

former county board chairman, agreed with Kautza's view.

"They go above and beyond and help the counties out," Erdmann said. "What we pay is minimal for the services they provide. This plan, the way it is now, in my mind, is the best one I've seen so far. With downsizing but Shawano County staying the same, how can we lose?"

However, counties giving their approval are only the first step. Municipal governments will also be asked to give their approval, so the Shawano Common Council and town and village boards in the county will be asked to offer their own resolutions.

Besides the reorganization of the commission structure, ECWRPC also wants to shift its focus to look closer at some key issues, including transportation, economic development and water quality management.

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

County opposes legislature's wildlife damage plan

Pair of bills would grant authority to DNR instead of county land conservation program

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The Shawano County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution May 25 opposing the state of Wisconsin's efforts to diminish its land conservation authority.

The Wisconsin Legislature is proposing changes to the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program, a voluntary program through the Department of Natural Resources that helps farmers and other agricultural producers with losses caused by

deer, bears, geese, cougars and other animals. The county has been part of the program for over 25 years, and the resolution notes that county land conservation departments are the local mechanism for many resource management programs.

Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 seek to strip the county of administering the programs and have the DNR manage it instead. Besides the authority issue, the county would also lose \$7,000 that it receives annually for staffing and mileage reimbursement.

Supervisor Arlyn Tober, who sits on the county's land conservation committee, said the committee received the resolution from a neighboring county and asked for Shawano County's support.

"There are still 17 counties in Wisconsin that are enforcing the program, and the rest of them already changed over to the DNR," Tober said. "I don't know why, because the conservation committees in these other counties is running it pretty good, and we're running it very well."

By giving the authority to the

DNR, anyone seeking to appeal a decision would have to go down to Madison for a public hearing, whereas the current setup would keep farmers closer to home.

"That's really going to put them out," Tober said. "Why fix something when there isn't any problem?"

The bill passed by a 24-2 vote. Supervisors Gene Hoppe and Dennis Knaak cast the opposing votes but did not specify why they were against it.

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

Farmers market opens June 19 for summer 2021 season

The FRESH Project-Shawano Farmers Market will open for the summer 2021 season on June 19.

The open-air market, in its 14th year, will be open Saturdays 8 a.m. until noon, through Oct. 2 in Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St., Shawano.

"We are so excited to have a full

market this season!" said Barb Mendoza, The FRESH Project executive director. "Shoppers will enjoy the products provided by our farmers, food vendors, and crafters. In addition to music in the park, we will have yoga on the grandstand."

Products sold include fruits, vegetables, flowers, landscaping plants,

maple syrup, bread, cheese, fish, meats, and select, high-quality crafts.

Any vendors who would like to join in on the fun can go to <http://www.thefreshproject.org/forms>.

In addition to a full market, The FRESH Project will host a 5K fun run/walk on July 10 in conjunction with Shawano Fest. You can sign

up at www.thefreshproject.org. The market will also offer extended hours until 1 p.m. that day.

Kids Day will be held on Aug. 21, where kids will enjoy a variety of games and fun activities.

For more information, contact Mendoza at barbara@thefreshproject.org or call 715-526-5206.



Friday June 4

Event Time // 4:30 PM – 10:00 PM

Kidz Zone // 4:30 PM - 8:00 PM

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4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

TravAce & The Generators

6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

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Saturday June 5

Event Time // 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM

Flea Market & Antiques - 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Farmers Brewery: 713 Main St, Shawano

5K Run/Walk- 9:00 AM

Menominee Indian Tribe Traditional Singing &

Dancing - 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Craft Fair - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Kidz Zone - 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Lumberjack Competition - 12:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Music-

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Jehovah's Witnesses to keep mandates in place

Videoconferencing, written letters will be used for communication

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a lot of people to adjust their work life, social life and religious life, including Jehovah's Witness members.

2020 and 2021 saw a major change in how Jehovah's Witnesses conduct their public ministries and congregation meetings.

Jehovah's Witness members adjusted their ministry to videoconferencing rather than the well known door-to-door meetings. In 2021, Jehovah's Witness members will continue the theme of contacting people remotely to avoid sickness and putting others in danger.

"Our door-to-door visitation was suspended due to the pandemic, so we switched to video conferencing and sending letters," said Tommy Allen, public communication representative of Jehovah's Witnesses. "We have a concern with the safety of communities — we have a high value on life."

Allen said that members are able to get in contact with other communities members by using public directories, as well as using contacts from personal connections.

According to Allen, the decision to adjust their practice came from the world headquarters, located in New York. He added that there are branches located all over the world who oversee their district. Representatives of those districts are able to then communicate with the world headquarters to help aid in decision making.

He said that the Jehovah's Witnesses have received positive feedback regarding the change in meetings.

"We have had a lot of people who are now visiting our website, jw.org," said Allen.

With the pandemic and the inability to meet members face-to-face, Allen said that not only is the



Beth Asplund joins in on a virtual meeting to continuing study and learning about the religion.

CONTRIBUTED

website seeing more traffic, but people are asking and researching more questions as well.

"The website has received many more hits," said Allen. "People are researching more questions and people are asking us more questions."

With the extended time that members have between seeing each other, Allen said that Jehovah Witness members have more time to dig into the Bible and learn more about the religion.

Allen thinks that relaying the information on the changes within the Jehovah's Witnesses is important for the public to be made aware of.

"We will continue to be cautious and care about people's lives," said Allen. "We want to continue to

share the message of hope."

According to a press release sent out, around 51,000 people in the United States alone had requested for members of the Jehovah's Witnesses to reach to them to continue with their practice.

The press release also stated that members of the Jehovah's Witnesses sent out links and passages from the Bible to distant family members and others detailing how to cope with things like anxiety, loneliness and depression.

Details regarding when the Jehovah's Witnesses will be able to return to in person meetings are unknown, but they will continue to monitor COVID-19 cases and relief efforts to make a verdict.

Community members to offer windsurfing lessons

Lessons will take part in two sections, youth and community sessions

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

Water sports are picking up for the upcoming summer months in Shawano.

One sport in particular is looking to grow on its success from last year, as community members come together to provide residents with an opportunity to learn how to windsurf. Ben Schlais, who taught windsurfing

in Madison, will be a part of the team.

Two four-day youth windsurfing camps are scheduled, June 14-17 and June 21-24, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day, for students 12 to 18 years old. Young people 12 and older can also take part in community "try-it" sessions set for 6-8 p.m. on the same dates.

Windsurfing equipment will be provided at Shawano Lake County Park. The only things that participants need to bring are swimsuits, towels and a change of clothes.

According to windsurfer and Shawano community member Brian Grieves, windsurfing took off at Shawano Lake during the pandemic in the summer of 2020. He added

that sailing has become popular in Oshkosh with the International Youth Sailing of Oshkosh program, and with windsurfing's similarity, it eventually migrated up to Shawano.

"Windsurfing is a great activity that involves social distancing," said Grieves. "That worked for us during the pandemic."

Grieves hopes the group can expand on the success that they had last year. He mentioned that there has been a positive public reaction to news of the upcoming lessons.

"I think that we expect a good portion of people that we introduced the idea to, to participate in the windsurfing this year," he said.

Grieves believes that having these

lessons in place is a good opportunity for community members to get outside.

"This is a good opportunity for people to get out and experience the beauty of Shawano, build a new skill and get away from their screens," said Grieves.

He said the Shawano Community Fund gave a \$1,500 grant and the Optimist Club gave \$250 for the lessons. The Shawano Parks and Recreation Department bought two boards to be used for lessons, he added.

For more information, visit www.cityofshawano.com or call Grieves at 715-851-1722.

Themed herbal gardens can be family fun

It's the perfect time to start planning an edible and useful herb garden at home. With a huge collection of tasty and aromatic herbs to choose from, starting your own herb garden right at home has never been easier.

Growing herbs is easy, and many of the best herbs for cooking and using in other methods are very versatile, requiring only bright light and relatively dry conditions to thrive. You can grow herbs right in the garden, as well as in containers on the porch, patio or throughout the landscape.



ROB ZIMMER

Many herbs can also be grown right indoors under grow lights or in sunrooms or bright sunny windows.

An herb garden is also a great way to introduce children or grandchildren to the hobby of gardening. Herbs can be grown in theme gardens that are fun and delicious. Create a pizza-themed garden using oregano, onions, chives and other tasty herbs. You can also create a salsa garden. Mint gardens are fun and creative, and mints can be used in so many fun ways. An herbal alphabet garden can also be a fun project for the whole family.

Herb starters can be picked up at most garden centers, and many herbs grow well from seed even in their first year.

Dill, as well as its cousin, fennel, are not only delicious and tasty herbs to grow in the garden, but they also provide a great deal of beauty in the herb garden. Their textures and colors mix well with other herbs and annual flowers to create a stunning herbal tapestry.

With so many varieties of delicious and flavorful mints to choose from, creating a mint garden is a fun and tasty exploration. There are chocolate mints, orange mints, apple mints, grapefruit mints, spearmint, peppermint, Mojito mint and so many more to choose from. Mints are fun to grow and very useful in dishes, as garnishes, as well as tasty additions to create tasty and refreshing smoothies, teas, coolers and flavored waters.

Chives are a staple of every herb garden and there are so many uses for these wonderful and delicious perennial herbs. Dried or fresh,



There are many varieties of flavorful oregano for the summer herb garden.

ROB ZIMMER

chives make a great addition to many recipes, as well as offering protection as a repellent against small animal pests and some insect pests. The flowers also attract pollinators to your garden, beneficial in pollinating garden vegetable crops.

A herb garden isn't complete without fragrant, tasty oregano. There are many varieties of oregano to choose from, all of which make wonderful additions to the herb garden. When selecting oregano, be aware that some varieties are annual, while others are perennial here in our area.

Another herb garden staple, basil comes in a wide variety of beautiful foliage types, colors and fragrances. There are the deep purple and red ruffled basil, the large-leaf classic basil, cinnamon basil, lemon basil and so many more. Basil is also a wonderful companion plant for tomatoes in the garden.

A wonderful and nonstop perennial herb, garlic has unlimited use in recipes, as well as in canning and cooking and so much more. Garlic is also easy to grow once it is estab-

lished in the garden and provides a wealth of benefits.

Beautiful and tasty sorrel adds color and texture to the herb garden, as well as a tasty addition to soups, salads and other dishes. Several striking varieties are available.

There are multiple uses of this wonderful, lemony-scented grass, both culinary and practical. Lemongrass is one of the plants known to repel mosquitoes from the yard and garden, and many gardeners grow pots of lemongrass to move around the garden to keep mosquitoes away. Like many of these herbs, lemongrass can be cut back and brought indoors for the winter season and grown all winter long.

An unusual and fun herb to grow, horseradish features the classical spicy flavored root that can be harvested each year and used in a variety of ways.

An increasing number of gardeners in our area are growing hops used in creating home brews, as well as other uses, both culinary and practical. Hops are a perennial vine and require quite a bit of space to

sprawl and climb.

Beautiful and useful in the garden, the rich blue flowers of borage last all summer long and are wonderful for attracting pollinators to the garden as well as enriching the soil and providing a number of other benefits.

A herb garden would not be complete without berries such as blackberries, raspberries, strawberries, currants and more. Be sure to include a few perennial berry shrubs and plants in your garden to provide a feast throughout the growing season.

Classic lavender has many wonderful uses and is a great herb to grow in our area. There are both annual varieties of lavender and perennial varieties, so be sure to pick the one you are most interested in.

Lavender is an excellent culinary herb and has many great uses in baking, cooking and creating wonderful hot and cold drinks. Lavender is also wonderful for repelling insect and mammal pests from the garden.

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Traditional Memorial Day ceremony returns

Local residents gather to honor service members who made ultimate sacrifice

By **WARREN BLUHM**
Editor-in-chief

More than 150 people gathered at Woodlawn Cemetery in Oconto Falls on May 31 for a Memorial Day ceremony, renewing the annual tradition that was disrupted by COVID-19 pandemic concerns a year ago.

"It's so good to see you all," American Legion Post 302 Vice Commander Bob Maloney said at the outset. "While all veterans appreciate when you say, 'Thank you for your service,' today we honor the brave men and women who did not return."

The crowd heard from two veterans, Paula Gardipee and Rob Barlament, who talked about the impact their military service had on their lives.

"We honor today all veterans who served and especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice," Gardipee said.

Barlament said the military instills traits and attitudes that are



Flags were placed on veterans' graves for the Memorial Day observance at Woodlawn Cemetery in Oconto Falls.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

valued in everyday life.

"I'm talking about simple things like discipline, respect, honor, devotion to duty, teamwork, leadership

and patriotism," he said. "It's hard to understand why those things just have faded away."

The Oconto Falls High School

Vocal Jazz Ensemble, directed by Amy Thiel, sang the National Anthem and a musical adaptation of "In Flanders Field," the poem by John McCrae. Victoria Dominguez conducted the OFHS band in "Fanfare on the Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "America the Beautiful."

Retired Sgt. Maj. Steve Magnin read the names of local veterans who have passed away in the last year, while his wife, Brenda, tolled a bell for each name. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 302 members placed wreaths around the cemetery's veterans memorial stone to honor those who died in seven American wars, as well as for the unknown soldier and those lost at sea.

A second ceremony was held a short time later at the Oconto Falls Area Veterans Monument, dedicating the commemorative plaques that have been added to honor local veterans since the monument was completed in November 2019.

wbluhm@newmedia-wi.com



JEB

Meet Jeb. (76lbs.) He is a 3 year old German Shepherd mix ready for a home. He is a laid back guy who enjoys spending his time laying in the sun and napping the day away. He goes about life with a rather lazy energy, but he loves the outdoors and zoomies.



PIXIE

Meet Pixie. She is a 1 year old Lop Eared bunny ready for a home. She has a playful personality and curious about meeting new people. She does well with litter box training. She is already spayed as well. Pixie prefers no other bunny buddies but has done great by the shelter cats.



Jiji & ROXANNE

Meet Jiji and Roxanne. They are a mother and son duo that would love to find a home together. Jiji likes his toys and we can often find him doing zoomies around his cage. Once adjusted to their new environment, Jiji and Roxanne will be a playful pair of cats.



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CHAMBER NEWS

Published Monthly for the Oconto Falls Area Chamber Of Commerce • June 2021

June Calendar of Events

Friday, June 4

Sun Drop Dayz

When Fri, June 4, 4:30pm – 10:00pm

Where East Elizabeth Street, E Elizabeth St, Shawano, WI 54166, USA

Description

Fish Fry

Kids' Activities

Music by: Trav Ace & the Generators

www.sundropdayz.com

Saturday, June 5

Sun Drop Dayz

When Sat, June 5, 10am – 10pm

Where East Elizabeth Street, E Elizabeth St, Shawano, WI 54166, USA

Description

This event is FREE!

Menominee Indian Tribe Traditional Singing and Dancing 10-11 a.m.

Music:

Chad Przbylski & the Polka Rhythms - 11a.m. - 2 p.m.

Grand Union - 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Johnny Wad - 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Sun Drop Museum Tours and Tasting!

www.sundropdayz.com

Sunday, June 6

Flea Market - Oconto Falls

When Sun, June 6, 10am – 5pm

Where Memorial Field, Jefferson St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description

Open to the Public
The event will be cancelled if there is rain.

Friday, June 11

Oconto Copper Fest

When Fri, June 11, 5pm – 11pm

Where Oconto, WI 54153, USA

Description For more information call: (920) 604-3636

Saturday, June 12

Oconto Copper Fest

When Sat, June 12, 11:00am – 11:30pm

Where Oconto, WI 54153, USA

Description For more information call: (920) 604-3636

Sunday, June 13

10:00am Flea Market - Oconto Falls

When Sun, June 13, 10am – 5pm

Where Memorial Field, Jefferson St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description

Open to the Public
The event will be cancelled if there is rain.

11:00am Oconto Copper Fest

When Sun, June 13, 11:00am – 5:30pm

Where Oconto, WI 54153, USA

Description For more information call: (920) 604-3636

Monday, June 14

Oconto Falls School Board Meeting

When Mon, June 14, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Where Oconto Falls High School, 210 N Farm Rd, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description Meeting in the Falls Area Performing Arts Center

Tuesday, June 15

1st Annual Oconto County Farmers Market

When Tue, June 15, 4pm – 8pm

Where 323 E Highland Dr, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description A family-friendly event. Come and enjoy fresh fruit and vegetable stands, live music, craft vendors, food & drink, fitness/wellness vendors, children's activities and more!

Wednesday, June 16

Boost Your Brain

When Wed, June 16, 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Where ADRC of the Wolf River Region, 229 Van Buren St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description This 8 week event is designed to help participants implement new habits to maintain cognitive health while also practicing new skills for better memory performance.

Zoom option available

Contact: Mary Jo 715-526-4712

Sunday, June 20

Flea Market - Oconto Falls

When Sun, June 20, 10am – 5pm

Where Memorial Field, Jefferson St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description

Open to the Public
The event will be cancelled if there is rain.

Tuesday, June 22

2:00pm 300 Activities for Caregivers

When Tue, June 22, 2pm – 3pm

Where Virtual Event

Description This FREE virtual event focuses on 300 activities to complete with your care partner. At each session, a different craft item will be completed. All supplies will be mailed to participant's address prior to class.

To register: Mary Jo at 715-526-4712

4:00pm 1st Annual Oconto County Farmers Market

When Tue, June 22, 4pm – 8pm

Where 323 E Highland Dr, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description A family-friendly event. Come and enjoy fresh fruit and vegetable stands, live music, craft vendors, food & drink, fitness/wellness vendors, children's activities and more!

Wednesday, June 23

Boost Your Brain

When Wed, June 23, 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Where ADRC of the Wolf River Region, 229 Van Buren St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description This 8 week event is designed to help participants implement new habits to maintain cognitive health while also practicing new skills for better memory performance.

Zoom option available

Contact: Mary Jo 715-526-4712

Friday, June 25

Music By The River Presented by The Oconto Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

When Fri, June 25, 6pm – 9pm

Where Oconto Falls East Side Beach, 631 N Main St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description

Summer Sunset Concert Series

A free Concert Series

"Cat 5" Band

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For more information visit: ocontofallschamber.com

Sunday, June 27

Flea Market - Oconto Falls

When Sun, June 27, 10am – 5pm

Where Memorial Field, Jefferson St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description

Open to the Public
The event will be cancelled if there is rain.

Tuesday, June 29

1st Annual Oconto County Farmers Market

When Tue, June 29, 4pm – 8pm

Where 323 E Highland Dr, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description A family-friendly event. Come and enjoy fresh fruit and vegetable stands, live music, craft vendors, food & drink, fitness/wellness vendors, children's activities and more!

Wednesday, June 30

Boost Your Brain

When Wed, June 30, 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Where ADRC of the Wolf River Region, 229 Van Buren St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154, USA

Description This 8 week event is designed to help participants implement new habits to maintain cognitive health while also practicing new skills for better memory performance.

Zoom option available

Contact: Mary Jo 715-526-4712



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Public meeting planned on Machickanee Flowage drawdown

The public has an opportunity later this month to learn more about the upcoming drawdown of the Machickanee Flowage.

Oconto Electric Cooperative (OEC) plans to host a meeting to provide the public with information about the proposed drawdown, starting at 1 p.m. June 15 at the Stiles Town Hall, 5718 Watercrest Road.

OEC is planning a temporary 5-foot drawdown at the Machickanee Flowage upstream of the Stiles Hydroelectric Project. The purpose of the drawdown is management of aquatic invasive species, excessive plant growth and consolidation of flowage substrate for the purpose of improvements to navigation.

The drawdown is scheduled to begin the week of July 5, weather dependent and following regulatory approval. The water level of the flowage will be lowered over approximately 10 to 14 days at an average rate of 3 to 6 inches per day (depending on rainfall). Once

the maximum drawdown of 5 feet is reached, the water level will be maintained at this level for approximately 70 days. Upon drawdown completion, the flowage will be refilled over approximately 10 days to a level within the normal operational range. The total duration of the project is planned for approximately three months.

Public foot traffic in the exposed areas may pose a public safety risk. The public is asked to stay away from the exposed river/flowage bed. Additionally, picking items off the bed of the river and disturbing sediment may require permits from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The public boat landing will be closed until the flowage is returned to normal water levels.

For information, contact OEC at 920-846-2816.

Information on aquatic invasive species is available on the DNR website at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives>.

Six-year prison term ordered in drug trafficking case

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

An Oconto County woman implicated but not convicted in two fatal drug overdoses has been sentenced to six more years in prison, followed by 10 years of extended supervision, for drug trafficking in Marinette County.

Chasity Denny, 31, pleaded no contest in September to the manufacture and delivery of narcotics in Marinette County, as well as a separate charge of manufacturing and delivering cocaine.

Denny is one of two people who were charged with first-degree reckless homicide in the Feb. 17, 2019, fentanyl overdose of Terry Westphal, of Pound. The drug trafficking charges were substituted for the homicide count in a plea negotiation with Denny.

On May 25, Marinette County Judge James A. Morrison sentenced Denny to five years in prison on the narcotics charge and one year on the cocaine charge, to be served consecutive to each other and any other sentence.

She is currently almost halfway through a three-year stint at Tay-

cheedah Correctional Institution in Fond du Lac, to be followed by three years of extended supervision, for the manufacture and delivery of heroin.

An Oconto County jury found her guilty of drug trafficking but not guilty of first-degree reckless homicide in the death of Jeffrey Dean Pecha on Sept. 12, 2018.

Two weeks after the Oconto County jury found her not guilty, Marinette County officials charged Denny and co-defendant Brian Blasing in Westphal's death.

Morrison ruled that Denny may have no contact with Blasing, the victim's family, or any known drug users or dealers except in a treatment setting. She must cooperate with all assessments and counseling deemed appropriate by the Department of Corrections, including alcohol and other drug abuse and mental health assessments.

Blasing, meanwhile, was found guilty May 20 at the conclusion of a jury trial on the original charges of first-degree reckless homicide and manufacturing and delivering cocaine. Morrison scheduled sentencing for Aug. 20 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Hillside Assembly keeps pulpit in the family

Retiring pastor's son to be installed as lead pastor this weekend

By **WARREN BLUHM**
Editor-in-chief

Hillside Assembly of God is celebrating the passing of the torch from father to son.

After nearly 36 years as head pastor of the church in Gillett, Paul Carlson retired after the Sunday morning service May 30. His son, Jonathan Carlson, is scheduled to be installed on Sunday, June 6.

John Davis, superintendent of the church's Wisconsin/Northern Michigan District (WNMD), said the church has purchased a new parsonage, expanded its building and grown significantly in membership while Paul Carlson has been its lead pastor, with the help of his wife, Ruth.

"You have done a work as unto the Lord, and you have loved our God with all your heart and soul, mind and strength, so it is our privilege to honor you today," Davis told the couple during the May 30 service. "With much thanks and appreciation, we have the deepest deepest deep-



PAUL CARLSON

est amount of respect for you both."

Davis led the congregation in a prayer for the couple, saying, "They're a testimony of walking with the Lord, of expressing the message of

the Gospel to many persons, for the building of the church family here in Gillett and the surrounding area, and expressing love for you in countless ways."

The congregation prepared a video full of snapshots from the Carlsons' ministry, beginning with the couple's arrival during the 1980s and proceeding through the birth, growth and weddings of their four children — Jonathan, David, Amber and Holly. The video also included pictures of the construction of the gymnasium and hospitality room annex and other milestones for the church.

Richard Lemberg, secretary of the WNMD, delivered the main message based on Galatians 6:9: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up," and talked about the value of consistency.

He cited the example of Dave Wottle, who won an Olympic gold medal in the 800-meter run in 1972. Lemberg showed a video of the race, in which Wottle began far behind the rest of the pack but passed all of the other runners in what has been described as one of the greatest comebacks in sports history.

It appeared that Wottle kicked in with a final burst of speed to win the race, but an analysis later showed that Wottle maintained the same pace throughout the race, running each 200 meters in almost exactly the same time, Lemberg said.

"Did he have a kick? No. Did he need a kick? No," Lemberg said. "He finished the race the way he started the race ... You don't need a kick; you just need to be consistent to what

God calls you to do, and I honor 36 years of consistency today."

The Rev. Jonathan Carlson, the outgoing pastor's older son, is due to be installed during the 10 a.m. service Sunday. Davis will again be leading the service.

"Pastor Jon" has served the church in many roles and ministries, including the youth and adult worship teams, children's ministry and media ministry. For the past 10 years, he has been Hillside's operations and youth pastor. After graduating from Oconto Falls High School in 2005, he attended the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, where he was an active member and leader of the local Cru movement, which strives to turn lost students into Christ-centered laborers. He has been on several mission trips to the Middle East and Spain.

In December, Carlson married the Rev. Stacy Winton. She is also a credentialed pastor in the Assemblies of God.

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SPORTS

ATHLETE PROFILE: ABBI REMIC

Senior outfielder an on-base machine

The Oconto Falls High School softball team came into the season needing to rely on four seniors with a lot of inexperienced players on the team. Abbi Remic was one of those seniors, and she's been a productive player at the plate for the Panthers.

Remic posted four hits, drove in a run and scored twice during the team's 17-1 victory over Little Chute on May 26. She singled in a run in the team's 8-3 loss to Marinette on May 25 in game one of a doubleheader.

Remic had two hits, a stolen base and a walk in a 10-0 loss to Denmark in the second game of a doubleheader on May 22. Remic singled, walked twice, scored three runs and stole four bases in a 12-10 loss in the first game of the doubleheader.

The senior outfielder drove in a run and scored once in Oconto Falls' 11-1 victory over Waupaca on May 18. She tallied two hits, drove in a run and scored once in an 8-3 win over Fox Valley Lutheran on May 13.

Remic reached base twice and drove in a run in the team's 4-3 loss to Wrightstown on May 4. The senior singled twice, drew one walk, was hit by a pitch and stole a base in a 4-3 win over Waupaca back on April 29.

Q: When did your interest in softball begin?

A: My interest in softball started in T-ball, where my dad (Wally) encouraged me into liking softball.

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

A: My favorite part about the softball season is being able to hang out with all my friends.

Q: What about softball is so appealing to you?

A: Softball is a sport where there is a job for everyone, everyone is good at



Oconto Falls' Abbi Remic swings at a pitch during a North Eastern Conference game against Luxemburg-Casco on May 17 in Oconto Falls.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

something. You take everyone's talent to make one great team.

Q: Is there anything you still hope to accomplish this spring season?

A: This season I hope to hit a home run before the season ends.

Q: Being a senior, and with this season going later into summer

than usual, how do you plan to stay engaged and focused as the season winds down and postseason nears?

A: Since we are still playing after graduation, I plan to stay focused by hitting with the seniors and going to practice early to have everything ready.

Q: Talk about what the team

AT A GLANCE

ATHLETE: Abbi Remic

SPORT: Softball

POSITIONS: Outfield

SCHOOL: Oconto Falls High School

YEAR: Senior

needs to do to end the regular season strong and then go on a playoff run.

A: My team needs to work on working together. We also have to work on minimizing our mistakes as a team for the playoffs.

Q: What's your favorite memory of competing on the Oconto Falls softball team?

A: Before a softball game we listen to music and put our eye black on.

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

A: My favorite memory of playing softball at OFHS was winning the regional championship (when she was a sophomore in 2019).

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

A: TV show — "The Office." Movie — "Step Brothers." Musical artist — Morgan Wallen!

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

A: One thing about me that not many people know is that I love cats.

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

A: Focus on what is going on at this moment.

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

A: After high school I will be going to NWTC where I can get my accounting degree and one day open my own business.

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Rodgers to be 1 of 4 golfers in The Match



Aaron Rodgers arrives at the ESPY Awards on July 18, 2018 in Los Angeles. Rodgers will team up with Bryson DeChambeau and face Phil Mickelson and Tom Brady in The Match.

WILLY SANJUAN | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The next edition of The Match will feature PGA stars Phil Mickelson and Bryson DeChambeau along with NFL quarterbacks Tom Brady and Aaron Rodgers.

The celebrity fundraising competition will be held at the Reserve golf course at Moonlight Basin in Montana on July 6 and will be televised on TNT starting at 4 p.m., Turner Sports announced May 26.

Players will have open mics and will be able to talk with other players and the commentators during the modified alternate shot match play event, which will raise money for Feeding America and other charities.

Mickelson, winner of this year's PGA Championship, will be paired

with seven-time Super Bowl champion Brady to take on 2020 U.S. Open champion DeChambeau and Rodgers, a three-time NFL MVP and Super Bowl champion.

Mickelson won the inaugural edition of The Match against Tiger Woods in Las Vegas in 2018.

Mickelson and Brady lost the second event to Tiger Woods and Peyton Manning in May 2020. In November, Mickelson and former NBA star Charles Barkley upset three-time NBA champion Stephen Curry and Manning, who will be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in August.

The Reserve at Moonlight Basin near Big Sky is a Jack Nicklaus-designed course sitting at an elevation of 7,500 feet. It features a 777-yard par 5 hole.

PRO FOOTBALL

Packers announce player personnel department changes

The Green Bay Packers announced changes to their player personnel department. The announcement was made May 27 by General Manager Brian Gutekunst.

Chad Brinker, who is entering his 12th season with the Packers' pro personnel department, was promoted to personnel/football administrative executive. He has

spent the past three seasons as the assistant director of pro scouting/salary cap analyst.

Brinker first joined Green Bay as a scouting assistant in 2010 and was promoted to pro scout in 2012. He spent a brief time as a running back with the New York Jets in 2003 and played for the Cologne Centurions of NFL Europe in 2004.

Patrick Moore has been promoted to assistant director of college scouting after spending the last three seasons as a college scout for Green Bay. He joined the Packers in 2018 after spending five seasons as a scout for the Cleveland Browns.

Prior to his stint in Cleveland, Moore was on the coaching staff at Fordham University for five

seasons, serving as assistant head coach/offensive line (2010-11), defensive coordinator (2009) and linebackers/special teams coach (2007-08). Moore also held collegiate coaching positions at Louisiana Tech (2005-06), Auburn (2002-04), Western Carolina (2000-01) and at his alma mater, Illinois Wesleyan (1997).

HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

SOFTBALL

Oconto Falls 17

Little Chute 1 (5 inn.)

Oconto Falls used a pair of six-run innings to roll to a North Eastern Conference victory over Little Chute on May 26 in Little Chute.

Abbi Remic posted four hits for Oconto Falls, while Jayden Arndt had three hits and three RBIs. Kyn-dra Staidl, Ashlyn Allen and Lily Kurek all drove in two runs.

Staidl scored three runs, while Taylor Ash, Alexis Euclide, McKayla Goebel, Kurek, Remic and Arndt all crossed the plate twice. Allen also stole two bases.

Kurek pitched all five innings to pick up the win. She struck out

seven batters while surrendering three hits and a walk. The run she allowed was unearned.

Gillett/Suring 14

Marion 7

Gillett/Suring built an early 9-0 lead before tacking on five insurance runs late to seal up a nonconference victory over Marion on May 25 in Marion.

Parker Zahn hit a grand slam home run to lead Gillett/Suring at the plate. Madison Vandeveld, Paige Krueger and Kelsey Smith all drove in two runs. Autumn Dryja, Krueger and Smith scored three runs each.

Dryja pitched the first 4 2/3 innings to pick up the win, with just two of the seven runs she allowed being earned. Emily Umentum

worked the final 2 1/3 innings, striking out four along the way.

Oconto Falls drops pair to Marinette

Oconto Falls suffered 8-3 and 11-1 losses to NEC foe Marinette on May 25 in Oconto Falls.

In the 8-3 setback, Alexis Euclide drove in two runs, while Abbi Remic had the team's final RBI. Taylor Ash tallied two of the team's five hits. Lily Kurek took the loss in the circle after pitching all seven innings.

The 11-1 loss was wrapped up in five innings, with Marinette scoring seven runs in the fifth to reach the 10-run rule. Jayden Arndt was dealt the loss in the circle.

Kyndra Staidl drove in Hanna Krejcarek for Oconto Falls' lone run. The Panthers again were limited to five hits offensively.

Gillett/Suring 17

Lena/STAA 2 (3 inn.)

Gillett/Suring earned a Marinette & Oconto Conference victory over Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy on May 24 in Gillett. Gillett/Suring drew 18 walks in the contest.

Autumn Dryja and Paige Krueger each drove in four runs for Gillett/Suring, while Kelsey Smith drove in a pair. Dryja scored three runs, while Emily Umentum, Parker Zahn, Madison Vandeveld and McKenzie Chesterfield all scored twice.

Umentum earned the win in the circle after pitching all three innings.

Katie Jo Knox was dealt the loss for Lena/STAA. Leah Dean and Brooke Kramer scored the team's runs.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Aaron Zepnick named new varsity boys coach at Oconto Falls

He has several years of coaching, officiating experience

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Aaron Zepnick was named the next Oconto Falls High School boys basketball coach.

The hiring was made official on May 20.

Zepnick takes over for Joe Bebeau, who served as an interim coach during the 2020-21 season. Oconto Falls went 1-20 on the season.

Gary Regal coached the team during an 11-13 season in 2019-20. Regal had to step away from coaching for health reasons.

"I love the small town feel of Oconto Falls," Zepnick said. "Knowing they have not had the most success recently made this appealing. I look forward to the challenge of building a great feeder program, involving the community, and embracing the challenges with the student-athletes."

Zepnick comes into the job with several years of coaching under his



AARON ZEPNICK

belt already.

He was the junior varsity 2 basketball coach at Seymour High School while also serving as a varsity assistant. Zepnick has also served as the Notre Dame

Academy freshman coach and led several youth organizations.

Zepnick also has coached baseball at Denmark (varsity assistant), Green Bay East (JV) and Wrightstown (varsity assistant) and football at Seymour and Notre Dame Academy. He was also part of the coaching staff for the Green Bay Blizzard, a professional indoor football team.

Along with his coaching experience, Zepnick also served as a football and baseball official for the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic

Association for 12 years.

Zepnick says his coaching philosophy is simple. "Play defense, teach to the heart and the mind will follow."

"I am about relationship building, character building, as well as being respectful," said Zepnick. "I look to make an impact on these student-athletes' lives in a positive way. I want my program to be known for its tenacity, toughness, and effort. More importantly, I want them to be known for being great off the court and in their academics."

"I also look to engrave a positive member of the community integrity here and use our small knit community to our advantage. The boys that come out to play for me will get the most out of their four years of high school."

Zepnick used the acronym "REACH" — Respect, Effort, Attitude, Character and Humbleness — to sum up his approach. "As cliché

as it sounds, we will lay a foundation starting day one with competition, evaluations, and character building."

Zepnick is already excited for the contact days over the summer and then getting in some games during the summer league.

Before the next winter high school season begins, Zepnick will serve as a football coach under varsity coach Nick Bohl, which Zepnick believes will help him keep building relationships with players and their families.

Zepnick thanked Athletic Director Jerry Moynihan for giving him the opportunity and added that he was ready to embrace the challenge of building up the program.

"We are very excited to bring coach Zepnick in to take over our boys basketball program," said Moynihan. "Aaron brings a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and excitement to our program. We feel Aaron will bring some stability to the boys program. Coach Zepnick will hit the ground running in June."

sports@newmedia-wi.com

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

UW-Eau Claire

Mitch Stegeman, a Suring High School graduate and current track and field athlete for UW-Eau Claire, earned a second-place finish in the men's decathlon at the NCAA Division III 2021 Outdoor Track and Field Championships, which were held May 27-29 in Greensboro, North Carolina. Stegeman earned

6,952 points in the decathlon, only behind teammate Marcus Weaver (7,510).

Stegeman's top finish came in the pole vault, where he placed first after clearing 4.9 meters. He claimed second in the discus (39.3 m) and third in the high jump (1.94 m).

Stegeman placed fifth in the 100-meter dash (11.2 seconds), sixth in the 400 (50.72), eighth in the

long jump (6.56 m), 10th in the 110 hurdles (15.69), 12th in the 1,500 (4:56.73), 13th in the javelin (42.39 m) and 14th in the shot put (10.89 m).

"It was for sure the most rewarding thing I have ever done," said Stegeman of his second-place finish. "We practice 5-6 days a week for 2-3 hours, plus lifting since COVID cancelled outdoor (season) last year."

"I came in seeded seventh and after a bad javelin (event nine) I thought I was going to finish about fourth. When I crossed the finish line after the 1,500 I looked up and saw my name in second and was immediately overwhelmed with emotion. All the hours of hard workouts were more than worth it. A decathlon is by far the most physically draining thing I've done, but also extremely rewarding."

St. Norbert College hosting 2 track and field camps this summer

St. Norbert College is hosting a pair of track and field camps this summer.

The college will host a middle school camp (entering grades 6-9) from July 5-8, and then a high school camp (grades 9-12) from Aug. 8-11.

Camps are designed to help young athletes develop their skills, prepare for their upcoming seasons and take their performances to the next level.

Camp participants can choose from individual technique sessions in the

sprints, jumps, hurdles, pole vault and throws.

The camp will be held at Donald J. Schneider Stadium in De Pere from 6-8 p.m. each evening.

The cost of the camps is \$100 (or

\$90 for early registration).

To register, contact coach Elizabeth Krug at 920-403-4321 or elizabeth.krug@snc.edu.

More info can be found at stnorberttrackandfieldcamps.com.

PRO BASKETBALL

Roster transformation by Bucks pays off with sweep of Heat

Holiday, Forbes, Portis all shine against Miami

By **TIM REYNOLDS**

The Associated Press

Milwaukee's roster transformation started after losing to Miami in last season's playoffs, one that made the Bucks give themselves a critical look.

So they got bigger. Tougher. More experienced.

In the playoff rematch with the Heat, they were simply better.

Some of those new additions — Jrue Holiday, Bryn Forbes and Bobby Portis in particular — played huge roles for the Bucks in their first-round sweep of the Heat, one that ended May 29 and ensured that Milwaukee gets at least a full week off to prepare for an Eastern Conference semifinals matchup against either Brooklyn or Boston.

"There were a lot of adjustments to be made," Bucks center Brook Lopez said. "And all of that was for this time."

A trio of returning players — Giannis Antetokounmpo, Khris Middleton and Lopez — were Milwaukee's leading scorers against Miami, averaging a combined 61 points per game.

Holiday, Forbes and Portis combined to average 41 more, and Forbes was particularly good from 3-point range off the bench.

The Bucks were good. Antetokounmpo says they have to be better, and he has a plan for the next week.

"Focus on ourselves," Antetokounmpo said. "That's what we do. We focus on ourselves as much as possible. We've got a wait to see if we're going to play Brooklyn or Boston, but at the end of the day we've got a week or I don't know how long and we're going to take that time to focus on ourselves and try to get better."

The East semifinals series against either second-seeded Brooklyn or seventh-seeded Boston will start on June 5 if the Nets advance in five games; in any other scenario, the Bucks will next play on June 7.

It's the third consecutive season



Milwaukee Bucks guard Jrue Holiday, top, defends Miami Heat guard Tyler Herro during game four of a first-round playoff series on May 29 in Miami. Holiday was one of several additions to the roster that helped the Bucks take down the Heat this season.

LYNNE SLADKY | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

in which the Bucks have made the East semifinals; they lost in five games to Miami last season and beat Boston in five games in 2019 before wasting what was a 2-0 lead and falling to eventual NBA champion Toronto in the East finals.

The 2019 and 2020 Bucks carried the burden of being seeded No. 1, and both times Antetokounmpo had the target that comes when a team faces the NBA's MVP. Neither is in play this season; the Bucks are seeded third and Antetokounmpo

wasn't a top-three MVP vote-getter, meaning he'll soon cede the crown to Denver's Nikola Jokic, Philadelphia's Joel Embiid or Golden State's Stephen Curry.

"We're going to be ready," Antetokounmpo said.

AUTO RACING

Block, Van Straten capture first feature wins of season



Travis Van Straten, right, battles for position with Harley Simon during an IMCA Stock Car heat race on May 29 at Shawano Speedway.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

Anvelink, Sobiesczyk and Stueck also take 1st

By **DAVE BUSS**

Special to NEW Media

Memorial Day weekend brought cool temps and hot action to Shawano Speedway for the unofficial start of summer.

Wyatt Block, Travis Van Straten, Nick Anvelink, Tyler Sobiesczyk and Jason Stueck got their summer's off to the best start of everyone with feature wins.

Early action saw Jerry Wilinski jump to the early lead in the IMCA Modifieds feature and begin to build a big lead. Caution flew on lap four, bringing the field to his bumper. On the restart, Wilinski again scooted away, only to have a debris bring out another caution.

Block and Andy Karl filled the sec-

ond row on a lap six restart. Wilinski again extended his lead, with Karl and Block fighting it out for the runner-up spot. Block took the second spot and began to reel in the Wilinski machine at the halfway point.

On lap 15, Block moved past Wilinski and took the lead. Block cruised to victory, with Wilinski second. Jordan Bartz charged to third, with Karl fourth.

Josh Mroczkowski powered to the early lead in the IMCA Stock Car feature event. Tom Riehl moved to the runner-up spot, with Dan Michonski and Kyle Frederick completing the top four.

Trent Nolan came from the 11th starting spot to try and grab a top-five spot as lap six hit the board. Mroczkowski held that top spot as action was fast and furious behind him.

Nolan eventually grabbed the lead but that was short lived as Van Straten snuck into the picture late and stole the lead with two laps remaining. A caution as the leaders took the white flag ended the event under yellow.

Nolan was second and Mroczkowski

was third.

Brett Swedberg jumped to the lead on lap one of the Late Model feature and began to extend his lead while Luke Postl and Kyle Raddant gave chase.

Swedberg saw Anvelink move to second on lap 12 and start to carve into the lead. Swedberg hit lap traffic on lap 15 and that was his ultimate demise as contact with a lap car caused the Swedberg machine to spin moving him to the back.

Anvelink was the benefactor of that action as he assumed the lead. Anvelink wouldn't look back as he led the final laps for the win. Postl grabbed second with Raddant third and Ron Berna fourth.

The IMCA Sport Mods took the track with Ryan Besaw grabbing the lead from Jason Jach. Jach began to feel pressure from Jayden Schmidt as they neared the halfway point.

Jach maintained the runner-up spot as caution hit the speedway. Besaw brought the field back to the green on lap six. Sobiesczyk made his way to seventh from 17th by lap seven.

Jach continued to fend off Schmidt, but it was Jeffery Teske he should have been watching as the Teske machine was powering forward. Schmidt hit pit lane on a lap nine caution, sending him to the back of the pack.

Teske brought out caution a few laps later, taking two contenders out in just a couple laps. Sobiesczyk grabbed the lead on lap 13 and led the rest of the way for the win. Zackery Raab grabbed second from Besaw by an inch or two. Jach finished fourth.

William Hoefs took the lead from his front row starting spot in the Mighty 4 feature. Stueck kept the pressure on for the lead as Hoefs did his best to hold him off.

Clint Malueg moved to third and tried to use the battle for the lead to his advantage. Stueck grabbed the lead on lap six. Stueck saw his lead disappear as caution hit the track.

The restart saw Brad Wedde power to second and begin his chase of the leader. That chase came to an end as caution again flew. Stueck got the win with Wedde second and T.J. Everard third.



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Sacred Heart organizes track meet for area schools

Sacred Heart Catholic School united with other rural Catholic schools for its annual Cardinal Invitational on May 21 at the Shawano Community Middle School track.

Over 100 students and 20 volunteers participated in this all-day track and field event from three schools. Besides Sacred Heart, All Saints Catholic School from Antigo and St. Rose St. Mary's School in Clintonville participated. The event was organized by Sacred Heart's middle school teacher and athletics director, Scott Marohl. His goal in organizing this event each year is to give all rural Catholic middle school students within the Diocese of Green Bay an opportunity to unite, be more active and promote fellowship among each other.

"When you look back at 2020-2021, students missed a lot of opportunities," Marohl said. "Concerts were canceled. Full sport seasons were canceled, among other things. When the new year came, we had full intentions of participating in the St. Paul Track and Field Day. When the plug was pulled on that event, we had to make something happen."

Students had the opportunity to participate in various track and field activities such as the 50- and 75-yard dashes, 200-yard shuttle, 400-yard run, 100-meter relay race, rope skipping, standing and running long jump, shot put, softball throw and a girls and boys kickball tournament.

Full event details and additional photos are available on the school's Facebook page.



Sacred Heart Catholic School seventh grade student Maverick Emani, left, and sixth grader Daryl Fowler-Doxator run the 75-yard dash May 21 at the Cardinal Invitational, held at the Shawano Community Middle School track. CONTRIBUTED

Burgers and more helping woman's club scholarship efforts

The Shawano Woman's Club (SWC) is having a scholarship fundraiser from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 5 at Qualheim's True Value, 1345 E. Green Bay St., Shawano.

Club members will be selling brats,

burgers, hot dogs and soda.

Due to COVID-19, the club was unable to host its annual fashion show in May to raise funds for local scholarships. Every year, the SWC provides a \$1,000 scholarship to a Shawano

Community High School student and to a Northeast Wisconsin Technical College student. The SWC is looking forward to conducting the fashion show again in May 2022.

The SWC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit

corporation that has been serving local communities since the mid-1800s. Members work together with a common interest of providing services in many diverse areas, from education to humanitarianism.

LDS church plans to reopen its family history center next week

The Shawano Family History Center is reopening its doors to the public June 7.

The center is located at the Church

of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 910 E. Zingler Ave., Shawano. Time slots available for use are 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., 1:30-4 p.m. and 6:30-9 p.m. on

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Monday night slot is restricted to church members only.

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Hank Grimm, a preschool student at Sacred Heart Catholic School, and others involved with the full-day and half-day 3-year-old preschool program made banana bread from scratch recently in the school's cafeteria. The students each made their own little loaves to bring home and share with their families.

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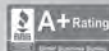
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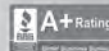
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AA Group Meeting: 24 hour group every Wed. night. 8:00 p.m. at Masonic Lodge on corner of Washington St. and Caldwell, Oconto Falls TF

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(WCAN)

Veterans honored at cemetery

Armed with a handful of flags, Jessika Olson of Green Bay traveled to Shawano with a group of relatives to participate in placing flags on veterans' graves throughout Woodlawn Cemetery.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



Braving inclement weather, volunteers organize and place Memorial Day flags throughout Woodlawn Cemetery Thursday evening in Shawano.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



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Third quarter

HIGHEST HONOR ROLL

Eighth grade: Kyle A. Brady

HIGH HONOR ROLL

Seniors: Adrienne L. Brady, Justin Knaup, Kaeden Miller

Juniors: Mary L. Kreklow, Elizabeth C. Robbins

Sophomores: Skyler Hauser, McKenzie E. Miller, Abby E. Swartz

Sixth grade: Presley J. Stewart-Rolfs, Danika J. Tiller

HONOR ROLL

Seniors: Savannah B. Swartz

Juniors: Bethany L. Jobe, Leandra Kalwitz

Sophomores: Michaela L. Gleason
Freshmen: Carley L. Owen, Elizabeth M. Steuck, Samantha Suehring

Eighth grade: James Schulz

Seventh grade: Lily F. Bloecher, Caleb A. Dahlstrom, Logan L. Drews, Gavin S. Kielblock, Grace A. Laatsch, Margaret Schulz

Sixth grade: Hailey R. Erdmann, Michael G. Weisnicht

B HONOR ROLL

Seniors: Ladia J. Block, Gavin Hidde, Mitchell T. Zimdars

Juniors: Ezekiel M. Griepentrog, Jaycee Hoppe-Schmidt, MacKenzie B. Maas, Jocelyn M. Menge, Gage A. Shumaker

Sophomores: Robert D. Burayi, Tyler J. Dent, Ryder P. Graham, Draven X. Harruff, Omarion M. Ramsey, Colby L. Wanta

Freshmen: Maycee J. Carlson, Isabella E. Dahlstrom, David L. Lohff, Edythe M. Swanke, Loghan Wanta, Jessalyn L. Zimdars

Eighth grade: Sienna J. Breaker, Jessica Burayi, Gabriel J. Dahlstrom, Keela L. Deering, Evan B. Gleason, Maverick C. Maas, Xzaver J. Pittman, Rae Ann E. Strehlow, Angel L. Welch, Dominik E. Wittchow, Isabell Zychowicz

Seventh grade: Samuel Anheuser, Tanner Dent, Aaliyah S. Lederhaus, Nora Papiernik, Chevy R. Tessmer, Aaiden A. Volk

Sixth grade: Ashley Awe, Cameron J. Carlson, Myah M. Dent, Christian D. Laatsch

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Third quarter

HIGH HONOR ROLL

Eighth grade: Jack Dietz, Alynn Fowler-Doxator, Quinn Olson, Hannah Yeager

Seventh grade: Sydney Mitchell

Sixth grade: Claire Dudek, Isabella Martens, Will Verkuilen, Andrea Walby, Amiyah Heatley

HONOR ROLL

Seventh grade: Davis Lyons

Sixth grade: Kiara Johnson, Evan Pieper, Addyson Kust, Bryton Van Gheem, McKenna Yeager

Helping the cow with her spots



Shawano Community High School sophomores Brianna Luebeck, left, and Riley Dreier do some touch-up work May 28 in the high school's greenhouse on one of the cows used to advertise June Dairy Month. The Shawano FFA was asked to repaint the cows, which are on display every year at Brunch on the Farm in late June.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Church dedicates prayer garden



Church members gather around the new rosary prayer garden on May 30 at Holy Family-St. William Catholic Church in Wittenberg just before the dedication ceremony. According to Jeanette Wolff, one of the main forces behind developing the garden, it had been in the works for several years, with construction beginning in 2020. The church plans to develop a Stations of the Cross behind the church next to the garden, with groundbreaking expected this fall.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

How to find purpose in the hand you're dealt

Everyone has their own cross to bear, and their own tears and sorrow. I was born without any fingers and, for a time, that cross seemed unbearable.

The physical hardships of my condition — being very different — came with great emotional pain. My condition made me question the purpose of my own life. It also led to questions like, “Why can’t I simply be like everyone else?” Surely, there had to be a reason why I was put at a disadvantage. I eventually stopped calling my condition a disadvantage, but more about that later.

You can never let your circumstances define you. It is not about the hand you are dealt, but what you make of that hand. Perseverance allowed me to face the many challenges that came with my condition. Acquiring perseverance was not easy. It was a muscle I had to develop and nurture. It is through perseverance that I would no longer care about the labels given to me by others. No longer does it matter to me what others think I can accomplish or not. Scott Hamilton, a great Olympic skater and gold medalist, famously said, “The only disability in life is bad attitude.” I couldn’t agree more.

Do not enable self-pity for one single second. My parents played an important role in helping me in regard to this. Whatever I wanted



JASON BURBAGE

to accomplish, they told me to pursue, and never did I hear from them that something was not a possibility because I had no fingers. Their contribution to how I built my moral character, strength and resolve, was invaluable. They taught me that living life isn’t about trying to be like everyone else. It’s about learning what your purpose is and then using it to serve others.

Living life through faith and perseverance makes it possible to be optimistic and to see opportunities when others only see obstacles. I’ve learned not to dwell on perceived disadvantages. Instead, my focus is on daily movement toward advantage. I tend to say nowadays I do not have to live my life without fingers but get to live my life without them.

For example, COVID-19 created massive problems for many people, and it was easy for everyone to focus on the things that went awry in the past year. However, you must be adamant about seeing opportunities in obstacles, aim to help your colleagues and realize that the glass is usually half as full as it is empty.

Eventually my purpose evolved

— in order to help myself and to support others in finding their own purpose — and I became dedicated to inspiring others to live through faith and perseverance. Sometimes people ask me whether my sense of purpose is something I developed or something I simply found. It was a bit of both. In my experience, purpose will reveal itself to you if you look for it, but it takes time to develop a perceptive eye.

The mission statement you develop for yourself does not need to be a complicated thing, and anyone can easily get to work on his or her own mission statement. If we apply the principle of Occam’s Razor, we will not make complicated things that can be simple. This applies to many other aspects of life, as well.

At National Land Realty, the company for which I am proud to be president, our mission is to make things grow. In an earlier iteration of that mission statement, we made things way too complicated, and we could not even recite it back to people. The mission of National Land Realty is underpinned by our core values which are to find opportunity in every obstacle, treat people right, be coachable, love what we do and strive to get better every day.

Eventually you will feel very good about your values, and hopefully to such a degree that you let them lead

your everyday personal and professional life.

Society now tells us that to live right we should seek the life of comfort. It seems that this has become the status quo. Instead, view challenges as opportunities that inevitably lead to durability. This durability is what allows us to be content in all circumstances. This level of contentment leads to a joyful life, not one of fleeting happiness which is the result of seeking comfort. It’s a level of mental preparedness that can only be accomplished by pushing yourself beyond limits.

Getting to that level of knowing what is important from what is less important does not come easy for anyone. It takes training and as you develop your moral character, your values. You become lucid about your own purpose; you get to a place where the filter through which you see life enables you to make the important calls easily.

My vision provides me with clarity for what my purpose is. My mission is the course of action taken to achieve my articulated purpose. I view my core values as guardrails which serve to protect me as I accelerate toward accomplishing my mission. Through all of this, I get to truly live life.

Jason Burbage is president of National Land Realty, based in Columbia, South Carolina.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New bench replaces one that was stolen

To the editor:

A few weeks ago I wrote about the bench at our Little Free Library on Loon Lake Drive. The bright red bench had disappeared last September, and we had waited through the winter, hoping that it would be returned. I was going to build a replacement but had not done so yet because I have had a garden to get in and other projects that required my attention.

Sunday, May 30, we were heading to town to a dinner party and there was a beautiful, brand new bench sitting beside our library. The builder had used a router to add beautiful lettering that proclaims, “Little Free Library!” I do not know who made the bench, nor do I know what it cost, but it looks perfect sitting there.

On behalf of myself, my wife, and all the residents of Loon Lake Drive, as well as all the passers-by who use the bench, I would like to say thank you. Gifts such as this prove that the world is still a good place, filled with good people.

Skip Robertson, Wescott



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

GILLET: Friends of Gillett Public Library Used Book Sale, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, June 4, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 5, Gillett Library Community Center, 204 E. Main St., Gillett.

GILLET: 10th annual Paulie and Perry's Patriots Ride, Saturday, June 5. ATV ride hosted by Sandy Corners, 5494 State Highway 32, Gillett. Donation breakfast 8 a.m., ride leaves 9:30 a.m. \$20 per person; half donated to Old Glory Honor Flight and

half to riders' raffle.

LENA: St. Anne Parish, Lena site, will hold a takeout Chicken Booyah sale Sunday, June 6. Booyah will be served from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The cost is \$8 for a quart and \$7 each for two or more quarts. Pre-ordering is not required; containers will be provided.

OCONTO FALLS: Flea market, more than 30 vendors, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 6, at

Memorial Field Park.

OCONTO: Tunes on Tuesday, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 8, Beyer Home Gazebo, 917 Park Ave., Oconto. The Charmless Few Acoustic.

OCONTO: Copperfest, June 11-13, Copperfest/American Legion Post 74 Park, Oconto.

BREED: Summer Bands, 3-7 p.m. Saturday, June 12,

Arrowhead Saloon, 13486 County Road AA, Breed. 44 Audible.

LENA: Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, June 13, Alsteen Farms LLC, 9399 Belgian Road, Lena.

CHASE: Chase Stone Barn Craft Show, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 13, at Chase Stone Barn, 8246 County Road S. Crafts and food trucks.

Legals WNAXLP

#1347
June 4, 2021

Town of Oconto Falls
Liquor License Applications

Class B Beer and Class B Liquor Applications:
Timothy Thompson d/b/a Club 32, 5506 Hwy 32 South, Gillett, WI 54124.
Amanda Boucher d/b/a Sandy Corners Bar & Grill, 5494 Hwy 32 South, Gillett, WI 54124.
These applications are for the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

Susan Mogged, Clerk
Town of Oconto Falls
June 1, 2021
WNAXLP

#1348
June 4, 2021

CITY OF OCONTO FALLS ALCOHOL LICENSE
APPLICATIONS

The following have applied for alcohol license renewals with the City of Oconto Falls for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022:

Said renewals will be presented to the City Council on June 8, 2021 for consideration:

Class A Fermented Malt Beverage & Class A Liquor
Applicant: Iverson Foods LLC, 409 E Highland Dr, Oconto

Legals WNAXLP

Falls, WI / Location: Iverson's Piggly Wiggly, 409 E Highland Dr, Oconto Falls, WI.

Applicant: Merciers Fastop of Oconto Falls, LLC, 195 W Highland Dr, Oconto Falls, WI / Location: 221 N. Chestnut Ave, Oconto Falls, WI.

Applicant: RKO Enterprises Inc, PO Box 316, Townsend, WI / Location: d/b/a Riverview BP, 418 N Main St, Oconto Falls, WI.

Applicant: Krist Oil Co, 303 Selden Rd, Iron River, MI / Location: d/b/a Krist Food Mart #82, 531 N Chestnut Ave, Oconto Falls, WI.

Class B Fermented Malt Beverage & Class B Liquor
Applicant: The Corner Pocket LLC, 2703 Kruell Street, Manitowoc, WI / Location: 203 Green Bay Avenue, Oconto Falls, WI.

Applicant: Barbara Salscheider, 126 N Main St, Oconto Falls, WI / Location: d/b/a Salscheider's Antique Bar, 126 N Main St, Oconto Falls, WI.

Applicant: Oconto Falls Golf Club Inc, PO Box 143, Oconto Falls, WI / Location: d/b/a River Island Golf Course, 100 River Island Dr, Oconto Falls, WI.

Applicant: The Penguin Again LLC, 418 Union Ave., Oconto Falls, WI / Location: 418 Union Ave, Oconto Falls, WI.

Applicant: S & S Hometown Bar & Restaurant LLC owned by Russell Strom, 211 King St, Oconto Falls, WI / Location: 211 S. Maple Ave, Oconto Falls, WI.

Nancy Brye - Deputy Clerk
WNAXLP

Mapping Technician/Physical Address Coordinator

The Land Information Systems of Oconto County is seeking to fill a full time Mapping Technician/Physical Address Coordinator position

This position is responsible for assigning new physical addresses, correcting pre-existing erroneous physical addresses, maintaining the physical address database, assist in computer mapping and working with the townships and other agencies concerning road name issues.

An Associate's Degree from two-year College or Technical School; or 4 years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience preferred. Other requirements preferred would be experience in the use of CAD, Coordinate Geometry and GIS software that relates to surveying and mapping practices. Understanding of basic computer skills, along with ability to interpret survey maps, plats and legal descriptions. Starting wage rate of \$19.94 - \$20.79 hr with full time Oconto County fringe benefits.

Applications will be accepted until June 9, 2021 at 12:00 P.M.

For more information, contact Oconto County Land Information Systems, 301 Washington St., Oconto, WI 54153, 920-834-6827. To apply and for a full job description go to

www.co.oconto.wi.us/career_opportunities

Finalists may be required to undergo a detailed background investigation.

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CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

Oconto County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications to hire Full-Time and Part-Time 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 Monday, June 14, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. https://www.co.oconto.wi.us/career_opportunities/

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Coaching Positions

Head Football Coach (8 Man)

Gillett School District is seeking applicants for Head Football Coaching position for the 2021-22 school year. Qualifications for the position include a knowledge of the sport and prior coaching experience, preferably at the high school level.

Middle School Volleyball Coaches

Gillett School District is seeking applicants for 7th & 8th grade volleyball coaches for the 2021-22 school year. Qualifications for the position include a knowledge of the sport and prior coaching experience.

Please send letter of interest and completed support staff application, available on the school webpage (www.gillett.k12.wi.us) by June 14th to: Gillett School District, Attn: Mike Kaczmarek, 208 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 227, Gillett, WI 54124

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Memorial Day Weekend Celebration returns to Oconto Falls



A crowd gathers outside the Antique Bar and Grill in advance of the May 31 Memorial Day Parade through downtown Oconto Falls.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



Peace! A member of the Oconto Falls Area Cycling Coalition embraces the parade theme of the 1960s.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



ABOVE: The Show-N-Shine car show at Memorial Field was among the Sunday afternoon highlights. Find more photos at newmedia-wi.com.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

RIGHT: 2021 Oconto Falls Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshal Barb Salscheider waves to the crowd.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



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STORE HOURS: MONDAY - SATURDAY 9AM - 5PM • SUNDAY 10AM - 3PM