



Rew retires from school board

Dennis Rew retires after 28 years of service as a board member to the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District.

PAGE 2

Keeping life real at home

Editor Miriam Nelson has time to reflect on what her life is like during the Safer at Home decree.

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WBSD gets pupil services director

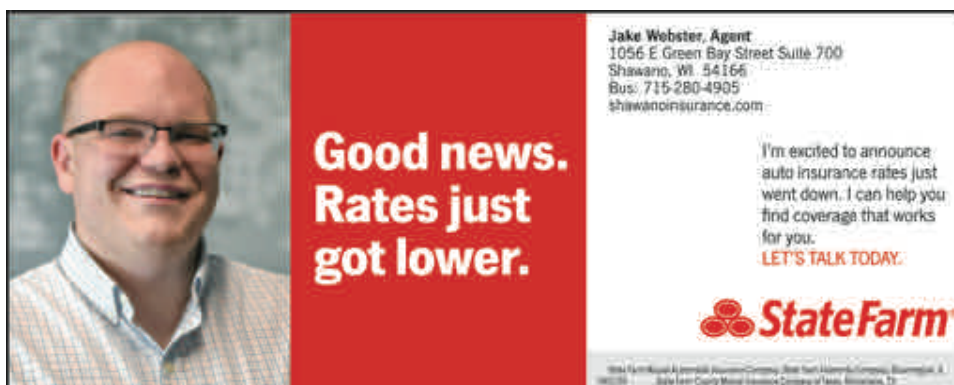
Get to know Megan Marcks as she answers questions about her new job.

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FEEDING THE STUDENTS WHILE OUT OF SCHOOL

Practicing social distancing, Nikki Stiegerwald, a Kindergarten teacher at Wittenberg Elementary/Middle school delivers a food package to Kristin Wild for her two children ages 4 and 7. **FOR THE FULL STORY, SEE PAGE 27.**

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Editor

Miriam Nelson mnelson@newmedia-wi.com

Telephone

715-853-0515

Office

1464 E. Green Bay St., Shawano, WI 54166

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Publisher

Greg Mellis gmellis@newmedia-wi.com

Editor-In-Chief

Carol Ryczek cryczek@newmedia-wi.com

Sports Editor

Morgan Rode sports@newmedia-wi.com

Obituaries

obits@newmedia-wi.com

Classifieds/legal notices

classifieds@newmedia-wi.com

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Dennis Rew ends his long service on the school board

Rogowski: 'He brought a lot of common sense'

By **MIRIAM NELSON**
News Editor

Dennis Rew is retiring after serving for 28 years on the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District Board of Education.

New has been a representative for the village of Birnamwood and has run unopposed the entire time. Although he's enjoyed his time on the school board, he said he figures it's time for someone else to get involved.

He recalls the advice that the previous representative, Eugene Szews, gave him: make sure to get good buildings, good fiscal responsibility, good administration and get out of the way.

When he came on the board, the very first meeting was making the decision whether to close down the Eland School. The vote was 5-4 to close it. The people who wanted the school to stay open petitioned to have a special election, and the school did remain open at that time.

"There is always opposition when you try to close a school, and Eland School was the buffer in the district because it was in the geographical middle," said Rew.

Expensive repairs and class size control eventually helped the board make the tough decision to close the school about three or four years later, he recalled. Rew had voted "no" to keeping the school open both times, saying that his opinion never changed.

Rew's general philosophy is: "We're running a business here, and our business is to provide the best education."

Garrett Rogowski, superintendent at WBSD for the past 10 years, noted that Rew has always served with the best interest of the students and taxpayers in mind and has been an extremely supportive advocate for Wittenberg-Birnamwood schools.

Rew feels Rogowski has done a good job keeping the district fiscally responsible.

"I think he's doing a fabulous job and keeps us more informed through the use of the Chromebooks," said Rew. "He sends us updates; he's well organized. We know all the time where the money is."

Being involved on some of the board-level decisions regarding policies is what Rew says he will miss most. He appreciates the fact that over the years, the board members have al-



DENNIS REW

ways gotten along well. A good meeting to him is when they have a drag down fight and come to a board decision on something everyone can live with. He says it was never about winning, but

everything discussed was always for the best intentions for the students.

"We are extremely appreciative for everything Dennis has done for our district during his time on the Board of Education," said Rogowski. "He brought a lot of common sense to the board."

Rew graduated from Birnamwood High School in 1965, and at that time he did a school-to-work program. He attended classes that were done by noon and then went to work for the family business. He is a co-owner of Rew Motors, a fourth-generation business, with locations in Birnamwood and Antigo.

He's trying to work out how to retire. He still enjoys the work and has purpose each day. His wife, Debby, does the books for the business, which he owns with his younger brothers.

Crew replaces gas line on Webb Street

By **MIRIAM NELSON**
News Editor

WITTENBERG — Preparation for the Webb Street reconstruction project started last week with the arrival of a work crew from WEC Energy Group, the parent company of WPS.

"Our work on Webb Street involves replacing our existing natural gas main and service lines between Reed Street and College Avenue," said Matt Cullen, senior communications specialist at WEC. "This project is part of our focus on regularly upgrading our facilities so we can continue providing safe, reliable service to our customers."

According to Cullen, the crew should complete its part of the project by mid-April.

Construction for a new road, sidewalk and gutters will begin in May and

finish by the end of September. The portion of South Webb Street being reconstructed is between Reed Street and College Avenue. The plan will allow for local access.

Abby L. Maslanka, a project engineer, works for Martenson and Eisele Inc., the company in charge of the project. She noted that utility and road construction companies are considered essential businesses and are allowed to continue to operate under the "critical infrastructure" exemption.

"The schedule and sequencing will be set following discussions with the contractor, subcontractors and village of Wittenberg representatives," said Maslanka. "The first step is ensuring the gas lines are installed and online."

Maslanka noted that what happens next depends on the availability of the contractors. Martenson and Eisele



WEC Energy Group is working on replacing their gas line in preparation for the Webb Street reconstruction project, which is schedule to start in May. The project includes replacing the road, sidewalks, curbs and gutters.

MIRIAM NELSON | NEW MEDIA

will also closely monitor the situation regarding the current safety and social distancing standards set by the governor in regard to the COVID-19 virus.

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Notice of Presidential Preference Primary and Spring Election Shawano County Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Notice is hereby given that a Presidential Preference Primary and Spring Election will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 in the Towns, Villages and School Districts of Shawano County. All polling places will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m. All polling places are handicapped accessible. Please see the listing below for polling place locations in your area.

Town, Village or City
Town of Almon
Town of Aniwa
Town of Birmamwood
Town of Germania
Town of Morris
Town of Wittenberg
Village of Birmamwood
Village of Eland
Village of Wittenberg

Polling Place
Almon Town Hall
Aniwa Town Hall
Birmamwood Town Hall
Germania Town Hall
Morris Town Hall
Wittenberg Town Hall
Matsche Community Center
Eland Village Hall
Wittenberg Community Center

Town or Village Hall Address
N8006 Regina Rd, Bowler
W17712 Co Rd. Z, Birmamwood
N9291 Riverview Rd, Birmamwood
W18101 Co. Rd. M, Tigerton
N15320 Berg Rd, Tigerton
W17355 Co Rd. Q, Wittenberg
362 Railroad St, Birmamwood
W19141 Maple St, Eland
205 W. Vinal St, Wittenberg

Municipal Clerk
Heather Matsche
Tammy Resch
Dennis Knaak
Kathryn Biesker
Vicki Kennedy
Linda Fletcher
Lauri Klumppan
Marnie Osterbrink
Traci Matsche

Notice of Meeting of the Local, Municipal and School Board of Canvassers

At the close of voting on Election Day, pursuant to the provisions of the Wis. Stats §19.84, the Election Inspectors will convene as a joint meeting of the Local Board of canvassers and the Municipal Board of Canvassers for the purpose of conducting the local and municipal canvassers pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 19.81-89.

(Continued on the following page)

APRIL 7, 2020 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE VOTE AND SPRING ELECTION CONTESTS AND CANDIDATES

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE VOTE FOR 1 OR DEMOCRATIC PARTY Amy Wolkowich John DeLaney David Polach Dennis Sanders Andrew Tang Pete Butting Tom Sneyer Elizabeth Warren Michael Bennett Michael R. Bloomberg Joe Biden		VOTE FOR 1 OR REPUBLICAN PARTY Donald S. Trump		24 Town of Germania (Ward 1), Town of Wittenberg (Ward 2), and Village of Wittenberg (Wards 1-2) William J. Sathalla	VILLAGE OF PSALMI Village Trustee: VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 3 Gordi Black Bruce Brunschwiler No Candidate	PULASKI SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, ZONE 5 - VILLAGE OF HOBART, TOWNSHIP OF OREGON: VOTE FOR 1 Heidi Melzer	
JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT VOTE FOR 1 Jill I. Karschky Daniel Kelly		25 Town of Bismarck, Town of Wittenberg (Ward 3), and Village of Elrod Dennis Knack		CITY OF SHAWANO MAYOR VOTE FOR 1 Ed McManus	VILLAGE OF THERTON Village Trustee: VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 3 Cary Robbins Jeff Ruppel Shawn Muth James Gauthier	SEYMOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, ZONE 5: VOTE FOR 1 Michael F. Connell SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, ZONE 6: VOTE FOR 1 JR Karamchik	
MEMORIAL/SHAWANO COUNTY COUNTY JUDGE VOTE FOR 1 Tracy A. Karschky		26 Town of Adams, Village of Adams, and Village of Bismarck (Ward 1) Tom Knack		CITY OF SHAWANO ATTORNEY VOTE FOR 1 Katherine Salena	VILLAGE OF WITTENBERG Village Trustee: VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 3 Barbara Buchholz Paul Yelger Renee Swartz	SHAWANO SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, AREA 5: PORTIONS OF THE TOWNS OF WASHINGTON, NAVARRO, BELLE PLANE, AND PELLA VOTE FOR 1 Michael Steger SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, AREA 10: PORTIONS OF THE TOWNS OF WISCONSIN AND WASHINGTON VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 Michael Musolf Alycia Pfluh	
SHAWANO COUNTY SUPERVISOR District VOTE FOR 1		27 Town of Adams, Village of Adams, and Village of Bismarck (Ward 1) Tom Knack		CITY OF SHAWANO ALDERPERSON (At-Large) VOTE FOR 1 Rhonda Strobel	SCHOOL DISTRICTS UNITED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ANTON SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER: VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 3 Danny P. Fyfe Noel N. Deep John D. Schneider	THERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, TOWN OF KIRSHANS AND WYOMING: VOTE FOR 1 Brian T. Gleson Richard Hoffman SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, TOWN OF GERMANIA VOTE FOR 1 Tara Hoppe Schmidt	
1	City of Shawano (Wards 1-2)	1	City of Shawano (Wards 1-2)	1	City of Shawano (Wards 1-2)	1	City of Shawano (Wards 1-2)
2	City of Shawano (Wards 3-4)	2	City of Shawano (Wards 3-4)	2	City of Shawano (Wards 3-4)	2	City of Shawano (Wards 3-4)
3	City of Shawano (Wards 5-6)	3	City of Shawano (Wards 5-6)	3	City of Shawano (Wards 5-6)	3	City of Shawano (Wards 5-6)
4	City of Shawano (Wards 7-8)	4	City of Shawano (Wards 7-8)	4	City of Shawano (Wards 7-8)	4	City of Shawano (Wards 7-8)
5	City of Shawano (Wards 9-10)	5	City of Shawano (Wards 9-10)	5	City of Shawano (Wards 9-10)	5	City of Shawano (Wards 9-10)
6	City of Shawano (Wards 11-12)	6	City of Shawano (Wards 11-12)	6	City of Shawano (Wards 11-12)	6	City of Shawano (Wards 11-12)
7	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 1-2)	7	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 1-2)	7	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 1-2)	7	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 1-2)
8	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 3-4)	8	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 3-4)	8	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 3-4)	8	Town of Wisconsin (Wards 3-4)
9	Town of Washington (Ward 1) and Village of East	9	Town of Washington (Ward 1) and Village of East	9	Town of Washington (Ward 1) and Village of East	9	Town of Washington (Ward 1) and Village of East
10	Town of Green Valley (Wards 1-2) and Town of Washington (Ward 2)	10	Town of Green Valley (Wards 1-2) and Town of Washington (Ward 2)	10	Town of Green Valley (Wards 1-2) and Town of Washington (Ward 2)	10	Town of Green Valley (Wards 1-2) and Town of Washington (Ward 2)
11	Town of Argenta (Wards 2-3)	11	Town of Argenta (Wards 2-3)	11	Town of Argenta (Wards 2-3)	11	Town of Argenta (Wards 2-3)
12	Town of Carter (Ward 2), Town of Maple Grove, and Village of Potosi (Wards 4 & 5)	12	Town of Carter (Ward 2), Town of Maple Grove, and Village of Potosi (Wards 4 & 5)	12	Town of Carter (Ward 2), Town of Maple Grove, and Village of Potosi (Wards 4 & 5)	12	Town of Carter (Ward 2), Town of Maple Grove, and Village of Potosi (Wards 4 & 5)
13	Town of Carter (Ward 1), Town of Nazareth, and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 2)	13	Town of Carter (Ward 1), Town of Nazareth, and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 2)	13	Town of Carter (Ward 1), Town of Nazareth, and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 2)	13	Town of Carter (Ward 1), Town of Nazareth, and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 2)
14	Town of Argenta (Ward 1), Town of Hartland, and Town of Washington (Ward 3)	14	Town of Argenta (Ward 1), Town of Hartland, and Town of Washington (Ward 3)	14	Town of Argenta (Ward 1), Town of Hartland, and Town of Washington (Ward 3)	14	Town of Argenta (Ward 1), Town of Hartland, and Town of Washington (Ward 3)
15	Village of Bonduel (Wards 1-2)	15	Village of Bonduel (Wards 1-2)	15	Village of Bonduel (Wards 1-2)	15	Village of Bonduel (Wards 1-2)
16	Town of Belle Plaine (Ward 1) and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 3)	16	Town of Belle Plaine (Ward 1) and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 3)	16	Town of Belle Plaine (Ward 1) and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 3)	16	Town of Belle Plaine (Ward 1) and Town of Wausaukee (Ward 3)
17	Town of Belle Plaine (Wards 1-2) and Town of Richmond (Ward 1)	17	Town of Belle Plaine (Wards 1-2) and Town of Richmond (Ward 1)	17	Town of Belle Plaine (Wards 1-2) and Town of Richmond (Ward 1)	17	Town of Belle Plaine (Wards 1-2) and Town of Richmond (Ward 1)
18	Town of Richmond (Wards 2-3)	18	Town of Richmond (Wards 2-3)	18	Town of Richmond (Wards 2-3)	18	Town of Richmond (Wards 2-3)
19	Town of Grant (Ward 1), Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Pella, and City of Marion (Wards 4-5)	19	Town of Grant (Ward 1), Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Pella, and City of Marion (Wards 4-5)	19	Town of Grant (Ward 1), Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Pella, and City of Marion (Wards 4-5)	19	Town of Grant (Ward 1), Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Pella, and City of Marion (Wards 4-5)
20	Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Red Springs (Ward 2), and Village of Greenham	20	Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Red Springs (Ward 2), and Village of Greenham	20	Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Red Springs (Ward 2), and Village of Greenham	20	Town of Herman (Ward 1), Town of Red Springs (Ward 2), and Village of Greenham
21	Town of Barabara, Town of Red Springs (Ward 1), and Village of Bonker	21	Town of Barabara, Town of Red Springs (Ward 1), and Village of Bonker	21	Town of Barabara, Town of Red Springs (Ward 1), and Village of Bonker	21	Town of Barabara, Town of Red Springs (Ward 1), and Village of Bonker
22	Town of Grant (Ward 2), Town of Morris, and Town of Sarnia	22					

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Keeping it real in my own little world

I've been working from home for almost a year, so I haven't had to make a lot of adjustments that other people have had to make during this coronavirus pandemic. Of course, I don't have kids to take care of, a husband to work with or parents to help, so right now it's all about me, which is about all I can handle.

Since I do my best to take precautions, I try not to go out in public unless I have a specific purpose. My keyboard needed new batteries, but since I'd just been shopping for groceries, I felt I should take a look around the house to see if I had any on hand. It's amazing what you find when you start searching through a few drawers.

In one drawer, I found batteries of all different sizes. I did find the size I needed, but I can't imagine what the other ones are for. If I had to guess, one battery looks like it would fit in the smoke alarm I managed to break last fall, and the others probably fit the flashlight



MIRIAM NELSON

what you're thinking — hours of entertainment value. OK, maybe that's what I was thinking. You can always play a kazoo, and that seemed like such a better idea than dusting off my keyboard and trying to remember any of the three songs I think I know. Some people will make it through this time having learned to play an instrument or mastered a second language. I won't be one of those people, but if anyone needs a kazoo player for their band, I'm in.

I found my international student ID from 1977 in another drawer. I

with the busted light bulb. I'm sensing a pattern here.

I didn't have to contemplate that pattern for very long since my exploration found my long-lost kazoo. I know

should have cleaned out the drawer, but I may need to mine it for treasures another time. I suspect another bout of boredom is just around the corner. The picture on the ID was not very complimentary, but then it's been months since I've been to my hair stylist and a quick glance in the mirror gave me nothing to brag about.

I did my best to trim my toenails, not a pretty sight but needed to be done. Had I let them grow any longer I might not have been able to get my shoes on. I hate that hair and nail salons are not considered essential businesses. If I could afford it, I would go to those places at least once a week. When life gets back to normal, I'm guessing those businesses will be flooded with appointments, and I'll be first in line.

Speaking of shoes, I'm making an effort to wear mine more. I've always been a barefoot kind of gal, which was fine in my youth. Now that I'm old(er), I find I don't recover from a stubbed toe as quickly,

and I think being barefoot too much is making my ankles weak. That's the excuse I'm staying with due to my public fall last week.

I can honestly say that having fewer people on the street can be a bit of an advantage. It's true I had no one to help pick me up off the sidewalk when I did a face plant, but I also had no witnesses to what had to be a rather amusing recovery. Perhaps I need to explore the benefits of yoga. I gotta believe I achieved a high lunge or an upward facing dog pose in my effort to raise myself upright. All I know for sure is that it wasn't pretty, and I was a little sore the next day.

Everyone is dealing with quarantines and social distancing as best they can. As I compare the stories they post on the internet to my experiences, I see I'm in pretty good company with a lot of other weirdos.

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

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- 2) Random drawings will determine the weekly winner.
- 3) Only eligible to win if 18 or older and if all questions are answered correctly.
- 4) Winner will receive the gift certificate in the mail and their name will be published in next week's issue.
- 5) Employees and their families are not eligible to win.

- 1) Who's pancake dinner is cancelled?
- 2) Who will pump your septic system?
- 3) Where can you apply for a Beverage Cart job?
- 4) Where can you buy premium cigars?
- 5) Who's cow is telling you to "eat pork"?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

Entries must be in no later than next Friday by noon. One entry per person.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Drop Off At: Sentry Foods • 110 S. Mission St. • Wittenberg



Q&A WITH MEGAN MARCKS

New director of pupil services settles in at WBSD

By MIRIAM NELSON
News Editor

Editor's Note: The Enterprise and News recently chatted with Megan Marcks, the new director of pupil and special education services for the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District.

Q: What is your work/education background?

A: I graduated with a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in special education and elementary education in 2014. I will graduate with my master's degree from Viterbo University in educational leadership with my directors of pupil and special education services license in July of 2020.

Prior to coming to the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District, I was a middle school special education teacher for the Waupaca School District.

Q: Where are you from?

A: I grew up in Land O' Lakes, which is about 30 minutes north of Eagle River. Throughout my youth, I enjoyed participating in sports and took on many coaching opportunities once I began my career in education. My husband, Derek, and I purchased a house about 20 minutes east of Wittenberg in 2018 and have recently welcomed our daughter, Josie, into the world.

Q: What's your basic philosophy regarding the education experience?

A: My experiences over the last several years have helped me develop a passion and personal commitment to three things: fostering a positive learning environment for students with various backgrounds and needs; maximizing individual student performance; and to combine my experience with my ability to be a compassionate and intelligent leader.

I believe it is vital to create a community of committed individuals to constantly improve the learning environments of our students.

Q: Is the student/teacher population one you've worked with in the past or is it bigger/smaller?

A: The student/teacher population in the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District is smaller than what I have worked with in the past; my previous school district was about

2,200 students.

Q: What brought you to WBSD?

A: My husband has worked in the area for about six years. Prior to moving to the area, we had been actively searching for employment and housing within the WBSD, and when we saw a job posting, we jumped on the opportunity.

Q: Who or what was the inspiration for you becoming a part of the education system?

A: As a young student, I had many teachers that positively impacted my decision to be a part of the education system. As I began my journey through my bachelor's program, I soon realized my passion and desire to further my education in the area of Educational Leadership.

Q: Your job title is director of pupil and special education services. Please explain what the position is about. How does it help the teacher/student population?

A: Within my role, I provide direction and oversight for the special education services/programming provided to students within the school district. As director, I also coordinate the hiring, management and training of all student services and special education department staff. This includes the support staff, as well as early childhood and 4K staff.

The director also oversees the special education budget, which includes the allocation of resources, overseeing funds, prioritizing items to purchase and budgeting for future expenses. Overseeing individualized education plan paperwork for each student identified with special education needs is another part of my duties. It is necessary to ensure that interventions and services are being delivered with fidelity with the students' social, emotional and education needs at the forefront of our decisions.

Q: How are you and Dave Wall handling the transition of this position?

A: Dave Wall has graciously taken on the role of director of pupil and special education services since August of 2018. Dave is currently working part-time, approximately two days per week, and assisting with the WBSD through the end of June 2020 as director of pupil and special education services while mentoring me.



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