



County becomes Second Amendment sanctuary

The Shawano County Board declares its support for the Constitution, especially the right to bear arms.

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Shawano County libraries return to normal hours

The six libraries return to their pre-pandemic business hours, but not quite everything is back to normal.

PAGE 8

Rural broadband issue for Evers

Gov. Tony Evers talks with county officials about plans to drastically expand broadband in rural areas.

PAGE 21

CHASE FOR EASTER EGGS ON AT CHET AND EMIL'S

Children and parents were off and running for colorful Easter eggs on March 26 behind Chet and Emil's in Birnamwood for a community Easter egg hunt. About 100 children and their families took part, and certain eggs allowed those who found them to receive some Easter baskets with cool stuff contained within. Although it was foggy for the morning, the rainy weather waited until just moments after families had picked the area clean.

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Shawano County becomes Second Amendment sanctuary

Resolution amended to take out constitutional discretion at sheriff's hands



The gallery in the county board room had about 30 people waiting to hear the final decision on whether the Shawano County Board would vote March 22 to become a Second Amendment sanctuary. The board voted 24-3 to make that happen.

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By LEE PULASKI

City Editor

Shawano County will add its name to the list of Second Amendment sanctuaries after the board of supervisors voted 24-3 March 24 on a resolution declaring its support for the U.S. Constitution, especially its right to bear arms.

However, it will not be putting the discretion about which laws are unconstitutional with Sheriff Adam Bieber, with an amendment pulling out language that would allow him to do so. The resolution stated: "Shawano County shall not appropriate any funds for any enforcement of unconstitutional laws against the people of Shawano County, and requests the Sheriff to utilize his discretion to avoid the unlawful enforcement of any law which unconstitutionally impedes our fundamental Second Amendment right to Keep and Bear Arms."

There was also a proposal to re-

move the paragraph that declared the county as a sanctuary for the Second Amendment, but that vote failed with 15 of the 27 supervisors voting against.

The local effort to become a Second Amendment sanctuary started more than a year ago, with then-Supervisor Robert Krause writing out the resolution after seeing that other counties were doing so, starting with Florence County in 2018.

"I was fortunate enough to have some acquaintances on the county board up there," Krause said. "I got a firsthand knowledge of that and brought it back to our public safety committee and started working on what works for Shawano. We're not going to copy something from somewhere else. Let's do what the people of Shawano County want."

The meetings of the public safety committee where the sanctuary resolution was discussed brought out supporters and critics in droves. However, the county board meeting

saw about 30 people in the gallery, and the only ones who spoke up were against becoming a Second Amendment sanctuary.

"We thought this was a happy medium," Krause said, pointing out that concerns from both sides were taken into account when crafting the resolution, and it seemed the county residents were 50-50 on the issue.

The plans to declare the county a Second Amendment sanctuary were put on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic hitting hard in March 2020 and shutting most governments down and narrowing the focus to public health. After more than a year, the resolution came up for a vote.

County Board Chairman Tom Kautza declared outright that he would vote against the resolution if Sheriff Adam Bieber was allowed to have the discretion to decide the constitutionality of firearms laws created by state and federal governments.

"I don't believe that should be in there," Kautza said. "I will vote no



Shawano County resident Jackie Miller holds up a copy she made of a Facebook post from Sheriff Adam Bieber mocking the Jan. 6 incidents at the U.S. Capitol during the March 12 meeting of the Shawano County Board. Miller questioned if Bieber should be allowed to decide if gun laws are constitutional.

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strictly on that basis.”

Supervisor Joe Miller, one of the three supervisors who voted against the resolution and has been a constant critic of Bieber and his actions, denounced what he felt were veiled threats that indicated any supervisor who voted no would be considered someone against the U.S. Constitution and possibly retaliated against. Miller made it clear that he would call out any attempts at retaliation on the board floor.

He also made it clear he supported the right to bear arms, even though he didn’t support the resolution.

“I’m a lifelong resident of Shawano County, lived in the same house for the last 61 years, and as my wife so eloquently stated, yes, we are avid gun owners,” Miller said. “I purchased an AR-15 several years ago and gave it to my son.”

online already, so please advise if changes are needed. Supervisor Jerry Erdmann had a different take on the resolution. As a veteran of the Vietnam War, Erdmann noted he not only took the oath to uphold the Constitution as a citizen, but he also took another oath to defend it as a soldier. He felt it was necessary to support the sanctuary movement as a dedication to those soldiers who died defending the Constitution.

“The strength of our Constitution lies entirely with the citizens and their determination to defend and uphold it,” Erdmann said. “I’m taking this kind of personal, and I have a damned good reason, too. ... There’s a lot of people who took that oath that didn’t come back. Are we going to slap their memory by objecting to something that just says leave the

Constitution as it is? That’s all we’re saying.”

Some in the audience disagreed. For Joe Guenther, a physician and a gun owner, the sanctuary resolution is a lawsuit waiting to happen.

“It’s not the job of the Shawano County Board or the Shawano County sheriff to decide, are these laws unconstitutional or not constitutional? That’s the job of the courts,” Guenther said. “If we look at the country and what’s happened in the last couple of weeks with these shootings, could they have been prevented with a background check? Maybe. A waiting period? Definitely so in one case.”

County resident Jackie Miller, who spoke at the beginning of the meeting, also sees the resolution as a liability. Like others who spoke, Miller is a gun owner and added that her whole family owns guns, but she felt the Second Amendment sanctuary resolution is ill-advised, especially the part that would have given Bieber power of which laws were constitutional.

“We have a sheriff right now who, in my opinion, is running around like a class clown,” Miller said as she held up a copy of Bieber’s Facebook post superimposing his face over someone pictured storming the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. “If anyone insults him or anyone slights him, he is right on social media. Bam! He thinks he’s hilarious, and you are going to vote to give this same person the ability to judge which laws are constitutional or not constitutional? He already decided that with the mask mandate. He’s like, ‘I’m not doing it.’”

Shawano resident Laura Robinson



Former Shawano County Supervisor Robert Krause, who helped to craft the Second Amendment sanctuary resolution, speaks out in favor of it March 22. Krause noted that the coronavirus pandemic made him look at what freedoms were curtailed for public health and ask if people were really safe.

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also had objections in an email she sent to Supervisor Kimberly Lef-fel. Robinson wrote that she feels the resolution, which is advisory in nature, is vague and misleading.

“What this resolution will do is sow dangerous seeds of confusion

by leading people to believe that gun laws are not being enforced,” Robinson wrote.

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PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

March 29

Deputies responded to 38 calls, including operating while intoxicated on state Highway 29 in the Town of Morris; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Seneca; reckless driving on state Highway 29 and Leopolis Road in the Town of Herman; reckless driving on state Highway 29 and state Highway 22 in the Town of Belle Plaine; three crashes, one involving deer.

March 28

Deputies responded to 18 calls, including reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Belle Plaine; reckless driving on state Highway 29 and County Road U in the Town of Herman; reckless driving on Sunrise Road and Hillview Road in the Town of Herman; reckless driving on Kopitzke Road and Burma Road in the Town of Grant; trespassing on Oriole Road in the Town of Birnamwood; two crashes.

March 27

Deputies responded to 38 calls, including reckless driving on County Road MMM and Locust Road in the Town of Richmond; a drug offense on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; reckless driving on state Highway 22 and Wisconsin Avenue in the Town of Belle Plaine; reckless driving

on state Highway 29 and Spruce Road in the Town of Richmond; reckless driving on North Lake Road and state Highway 22 in Cecil; operating while intoxicated on state Highway 22 and Friendship Road in the Town of Belle Plaine; five crashes, four involving deer.

March 26

Deputies responded to 30 calls, including a burglary attempt on East Westgor Avenue in Wittenberg; property theft on North Genesee Street in Wittenberg; reckless driving on Poplar Road in the Town of Richmond; reckless driving on County Road A and Morgan Road in the Town of Red Springs; one crash.

March 25

Deputies responded to 39 calls, including a controlled substance problem on East Green Bay Street in Bonduel; reckless driving on state Highway 22 and County Road Y in the Town of Belle Plaine; reckless driving on County Road Q and Eland Road in the Town of Almon; a threat on Spaulding Street in Tigerton; bail jumping on South Lincoln Street in Shawano; a found debit card on North Second Street in Bonduel; a missing person on Edgewood Road in the Town of Wescott; five crashes, two involving deer.

March 24

Deputies responded to 31 calls, including reckless driving on state

Highway 117 and state Highway 22 in Cecil; harassment on West Sandy Drive in the Town of Washington; property theft on Webers Point Road in the Town of Wescott; reckless driving on County Road B and South Airport Drive in Shawano; a missing person on Pine Ridge Road in the Town of Belle Plaine; one crash.

March 23

Deputies responded to 38 calls, including a missing person on Comet Road in the Town of Germania; trespassing on North Cecil Street in Bonduel; a juvenile tobacco problem on West Green Bay Street in Bonduel; two crashes, one involving deer.

SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 29

Officers responded to 21 calls, including trespassing at Charlie's County Market, 521 S. Main St.; car property damage at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; shoplifting at Charlie's County Market, 521 S. Main St.; automobile theft at Quality Inn and Suites, 104 N. Airport Drive.

March 28

Officers responded to 13 calls, including criminal damage on East Center Street and South Cleveland Street; attempted burglary on East Richmond Street; vandalism at Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St.

March 27

Officers responded to 23 calls, including

criminal damage on South Prospect Street; property theft on East Schurz Street; shoplifting at Goodwill Industries, 300 Lakeland Road; property damage on South Washington Street and Presbyterian Street; a found credit card on South Main Street; property theft at Shawano Recreation Center, 220 E. Division St.

March 26

Officers responded to 21 calls, including harassment on South Park Street; a juvenile problem on East Elizabeth Street; trespassing on South Smalley Street; reckless driving on East Green Bay Street and North Lincoln Street.

March 25

Officers responded to 20 calls, including a juvenile problem at Memorial Park, 901 S. Lincoln St.; a property theft at Walmart, 1244 E. Green Bay St.; bail jumping on South Lincoln Street; a lost cellphone on South Sawyer Street; property damage at Walmart, 1244 E. Green Bay St.

March 24

Officers responded to 19 calls, including trespassing on South Washington Street; a hit-and-run on East Lieg Street and South Lincoln Street; a juvenile problem on East Richmond Street.

March 23

Officers responded to 21 calls, including shoplifting at Goodwill Industries, 300 Lakeland Road.

COURT NEWS

• Lance J. Meidl, 47, Wausau, was charged March 22 with four counts of bail jumping. Judge William F. Kussel set a cash bond of \$2,000 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for April 14.

• Colin D. Reissing, 34, Keshena, was charged March 22 with one count of bail jumping. Kussel set a signature bond of \$1,500 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for April 20.

• Glory A. Johnson, 33, Tigerton, was charged March 22 with one count of possession of methamphetamine, one misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer, one

misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct, one misdemeanor count of possessing/illegally obtaining a prescription and eight misdemeanor counts of bail jumping. Kussel set a cash bond of \$2,000 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for March 25.

• Joseph J. Hauke, 44, Birnamwood, was charged March 22 with one misdemeanor count of operating a vehicle while revoked, one count of misdemeanor bail jumping and three counts of bail jumping. Kussel set a cash bond of \$500 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for May 26.

• Ashley A. Bear, 32, Neopit, was

charged March 22 with one count of misdemeanor operating a vehicle while revoked and two counts of bail jumping. Kussel set a signature bond of \$1,500 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for May 17.

• Camellia R. Muhs, 30, Birnamwood, was charged March 22 with one count of possession of methamphetamine. Kussel set a cash bond of \$1,000 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for April 14.

• Chadwick C. Pautz, 43, Gillett, was charged March 22 with one count of operating while intoxicated (fourth offense). Kussel set a cash bond of \$1,500 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for April 6.

• John R. Jahnel, 56, Appleton, was charged March 22 with one count of operating while intoxicated (fourth offense). Kussel set a cash bond of \$1,500 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for April 6.

• Rodney D. Bierman, 53, White Lake, was charged March 22 with one count of using a vehicle to flee/elude an officer, one misdemeanor count of resisting/obstructing an officer, one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct and three counts of misdemeanor bail jumping. Kussel set a cash bond of \$1,000 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for April 20.

• Derek M. Hillis, 31, Cecil, pleaded

no contest on March 22 to one count of misdemeanor possession of THC and to two counts of resisting/obstructing an officer. Judge Katherine Sloma sentenced him to 45 days in jail and ordered a fine of \$250.

• Andrew M. Wright, 35, Appleton, was charged March 25 with one count of operating while intoxicated (fourth offense) and one misdemeanor operating while revoked. Kussel set a cash bond of \$1,500 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for April 5.

• Blade R. Boettcher, 29, Waupun, pleaded no contest March 25 to one count of substantial battery and one count of taking and driving a vehicle without consent. Two cases of second degree recklessly endangering safety were dismissed but read into record. One count of robbery was dismissed on prosecutor's motion. Sloma sentenced him to 18 months in state prison and four years of extended supervision. Sloma also ordered a \$100 fine for each count.

• Joseph A. Wilkinson, 24, Shiocton, pleaded no contest on March 26 to one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct and one count of substantial battery. A count of misdemeanor battery was dismissed, but read into the record. Sloma sentenced him to 18 months probation and ordered a fine of \$200.



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OBITUARIES

Shirley M. Fiala

Shirley Marie Fiala gained her angel wings Nov. 12, 2020. Born on March 24, 1931, Shirley was the oldest of four children born of her parents, Gladys and Raymond Sager.

In her early years, Shirley grew up on a farm, first in Kewaunee and later in Oconto and Suring. Though she was tasked with working on the farm, Shirley dreamed of moving to Chicago and being a single career woman, traveling, and enjoying all that life had to offer.

As life does have a way of showing us what God has in store and not what we've planned, Shirley met Gene Fiala and was married a year and a half later. Spending their early married life running a service station in the Chicago area while Shirley also worked at Illinois Bell, Gene and Shirley spent many nights out on the town listening to their favorite music, Dixieland jazz.

Some of her fondest memories were of listening to their favorite band, the Dukes of Dixieland. She kept a picture of the two of them with the band and signed by each member.

Again, life changed Shirley's plans when she met her new niece, Laurie Sager. Now desiring to be a mother, Shirley and Gene brought two beautiful children into the world, Sherrie Kay and Gene Raymond.

Gene Sr. passed away on Nov. 7, 1963. Shirley went back to work on Nov. 22, 1963, the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. She remembered that time in her life as being the most stressful of her days.

A few years later, Shirley moved her young children back to Wisconsin to be closer to her family. She spent the rest of her years devoted to giving her children a great life. Trips to Chute Pond, California, Florida and many gather places allowed Shirley to combine the love of her children and travel. After Sherrie and Gene had grown, Shirley continued to travel, enjoying trips to San Francisco, San Diego, Florida, Boston, Cancun, New Orleans, Denver and so many other places.

Once her grandchildren were born, Shirley devoted her life to them, coining every Saturday as "Grammy Day" and taking the grandchildren to toy stores to touch, play and enjoy



anything they wanted, followed by a lunch out. Returning home happy but tired, Shirley repeated this experience until the grandchildren had grown and had other activities which required their attendance.

Shirley worked for Illinois Bell for years, where she became lifelong friends with three women, Florence, Carmane and Barbara. Though they all moved on to other locations across the US, they remained in contact for the rest of their lives. Shirley then worked at CESA 8 for 28 years, holding several positions within the organization, including interim administrator, retiring in 1995.

Independent until the end, Shirley drove her car until last year, walking around the mall or other stores admiring different styles, colors and designs. She especially loved sofas. As her memory faded and her mind became confused with details, she never forgot her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her love was so strong. She will be missed by us all and her memory will always bring a smile to our faces. We are all blessed to have such a true angel watching over us.

Shirley is survived by her children, Sherrie Quade (Evan Schnieder) and Gene Fiala (Patti); her grandchildren, Alex Fiala, Eric Fiala (Shaina) and Andrea Quade; step-grandchildren Mande School and Zach School (Tabitha); great-grandchildren, Ava, Garrett and Eliand Noah; brother, Gene Sager (Pat); sister, Elaine Kostreva (Calvin); nieces, nephews and friends.

Shirley was preceded in death by her husband, Gene Fiala; parents, Gladys and Raymond Sager; her sister, Vivian Tolzman; brother-in-law, Nick Tolzman; and her son-in-law, Mark Quade.

A celebration of life was held at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021, at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N. 10th Street, De Pere. It would have been the week of Shirley's 90th birthday.

To leave an online condolence, please visit www.ryanfh.com.

Ida Niebur

Ida Mary Ann Niebur, 81, of Lake Tomahawk, passed away March 17, 2021, at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center in Appleton.

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

Ruth L. Bowers



Ruth L. Bowers, 85 of Wittenberg, died on Friday, March 26, 2021, at Homme Home of Wittenberg.

Ruth was born on Nov. 14, 1935, in the town of Mosinee to August and Frieda (Ahrens) Gruetzmacher. She was baptized on Nov. 19, 1935 in the family home by the pastor at St. John Lutheran Church in Mosinee. She was also confirmed by the same minister on June 27, 1948. Ruth attended Rock Ridge Grade School for the eight grades and then went to Mosinee High School, graduating June 3, 1953.

On Oct. 24, 1964, Ruth was united in marriage to Alan R. Bowers. They lived in the Mosinee area and then moved to the farm on Highway 153 in the Tigerton area in 1973. They joined Redeemer Lutheran Church, Wittenberg, in 1973 and was a current member.

Ruth enjoyed flower gardening, cooking, baking and was known for her 'brown' cookies and apple pies. She had a passion for quilting and spent many hours making them for Lutheran World Relief and family members. Most of all, Ruth cherished time spent with her family, especially her grandchildren.

Ruth is survived by her children, Barbara J. Bowers of Stevens Point, Robert M. (Heidi) Bowers of

Birnamwood and Jeffrey (Kimmyra) Bowers of the town of Germania; grandchildren, Shelby (Erich) Schnell of Madison, Sam (Hailey) Bowers of Shepley, Dylan (Autumn) Lyons of Stevens Point and Lukas Lyons of Milwaukee; great-grandson, Milo Lyons, and nephews, Michael (Janna) Bowers of Wawzeka, Bill (Sandy) Bowers of Marion and Tony (Jeanne) Bowers of Sparta.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and son, John (both in the same year), and a brother Walter.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 10, 2021, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Wittenberg. Rev. Sharon Fox Bogen will officiate. Burial will take place in Forest Home Cemetery, Wittenberg. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the time of service at the church. Schmidt & Schulta Funeral Home, Wittenberg/Birnamwood is assisting the family with arrangements. Memories and messages of support may be shared at SchmidtSchulta.com.

Michael S. Runge



Michael Steven Runge, 38, of Tigerton, passed away March 24, 2021. He was born Jan. 10, 1983, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to John and Roxanne Runge.

Michael was a laborer with Tigerton Lumber Company.

He is survived by his parents, John and Roxanne Runge, of Suring; brothers, Ramius Runge, of Suring; Steven Runge, of Gillett; a sister, Nicole Raham, of Massachusetts; grandparents, Gene (Kaye) Wolske, of Pound, Barbra Heins, of Shawano,

Gerald (Bunny) Heins, of North Carolina, and Theresa Runge, of Shawano; many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by

brother, Aleksandr Runge.

A celebration of life will be held later this spring.

Dorothy M. Moede

Dorothy "Sue" Marie Moede, 78, of Gresham, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on March 13, 2021. Sue was born on March 28, 1942, to Harry E. and Leona (Beilke) Malone.

Sue is survived by her children, Robin, Chaz (Michelle), Gina and Nadly (Jeff). She is further survived by 10 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and her sisters, Margaret "Peg" Wasrud,

Barbara Malone and Elle (Melvin) Kazik.

Sue is preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Boog, Harry, and Gumps; and sister, Mary.

The family would like to send a special thank you to ThedaCare at Home Hospice, RN Beth, CAN Melissa, social worker Joan, and chaplain Hope.

Happy birthday, MaMa. We love you and miss you so much.

OBITUARIES

Lorna Lucelle (Stoik) Meinhardt reunited with her husband, John (Jack), on Sunday, March 21, 2021.

Lorna is survived by her children, Kristine, John (Karl), Katherine and Ken (wife Amy, special step-grandchildren Elias and Lorelei); sister Sylvia; sister-in-law Elaine; many nieces, nephews and other family, as well as her special friends and caregivers, Amy Olson, Dawn Papendorf, Mary DuBois, Gwen Porter, Sahara Burr, Sandy Schoen and Vickie Anderson.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years; his parents, John and Rose Meinhardt; brothers-in-law, Merryl and James; and her parents, Archie and Hildur Stoik.

Lorna was born on Jan. 14, 1932, in Barron County. She graduated from Rice Lake and attended the Univer-



sity of Wisconsin-Madison and finished her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Indiana. She continued her education and completed her Masters in Education at the University of

Milwaukee. Lorna started her career in a one-room schoolhouse and completed her career retiring from the Franklin School District. During the course of her education, she married the love of her life, John, on Dec. 20, 1954, in Dane County.

Lorna enjoyed her life growing up on the farm and helping her father. She also had a passion for garden-

ing, traveling, birds, antiques, art and painting.

A private service for the family is being planned, Swedberg Funeral Home will be handling the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Happily Ever After Sanctuary, E5714 Bork Road, Marion, WI 54950.

The family would like to thank Amy Olson, Dawn Papendorf, Mary DuBois, Gwen Porter, Sahara Burr, Sandy Schoen and Vickie Anderson for their tireless support and care of Jack and Lorna. A special thank you to ThedaCare Hospice services and the dedication and love of their in-home nurses.

Lorna Meinhardt

Jerelyn L. Knight, 85, of Birnamwood, died on Monday, March 29, 2021, at her home.

Jerelyn was born on Aug. 13, 1935, in Birnamwood, the daughter of Carl and Laura (Schoenike) Lemke.

On June 5, 1954, Jerelyn was united in marriage to Duane Knight at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Birnamwood. He preceded her in death on Aug. 19, 2014.

In Jerelyn's earlier years, she worked at Toburen Photography in Antigo and Employer's Mutual in Wausau, while also caring for



her family. Most recently she was employed at Eagle Knit in Shawano. Jerelyn enjoyed coloring, doing crossword and jigsaw puzzles, as well as reading daily devotionals. She loved attend-

ing picnics, going for car rides, and most importantly, spending time with her family. Jerelyn was a member at the Congregational Church in

Birnamwood where she played piano for the past couple years.

Jerelyn is survived by seven children, Randy Knight, of Tigerton, Ken (Connie) Knight, of Clintonville, Linda Laude, of Shawano, Deborah (Peter) Holm, of Tigerton, Judy Becker, of Manitowish Waters, Jon Knight, of Clintonville, and Brian (Kay) Knight, of Marion; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and one brother, Richard (Claudia) Lemke, of Islesboro, Maine.

Jerelyn was preceded in death by her parents; husband; sister, Delane

Jerelyn L. Knight

Larry H. Gipp, 84, of Suring, passed away on Monday, March 22, 2021, with family by his side. Larry was born on Jan. 1, 1937, to the late Herbert and Isabel (Gerndt) Gipp in the town of How. He attended Grignon School and Gillett Elementary School; he went on to graduate from Suring High School in 1954. After high school, Larry worked at Allen Bradley in Milwaukee. Larry served his country in the United States Air Force from 1959 to 1965. On July 15, 1961, Larry married the love of his life, Carolyn Ruege, at St. John Lutheran Church in Gillett. The couple moved to Suring to work on the family farm in 1964. In 1965, Larry purchased a Standard Oil gas route and then the couple's home in 1966. Larry later bought Larry's Garage from the Elfe family and ran it until 1986. He was the caretaker of the Shawaukee Game Farm from 1985 until his retire-



ment. During his retirement, Larry enjoyed building his Ford Jubilee tractor and taking care of Carolyn. He also enjoyed building and flying radio controlled model airplanes with

his friends up North. Larry was a part of the Suring Area Historical Society and was well-known as a prolific photographer. He also served on the Suring Village Board as the Village Trustee from 2003 to 2014. Larry was a member and elder at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Suring.

Larry is survived by his wife of almost 60 years, Carolyn; two children, Lisa Gipp and Colin (Alicia) Gipp; six grandchildren, Beau (Alison) Gagnon, Cara Pionek, John

Pionek, Lydia Pionek, Matthew Gipp, and Joshua Gipp; step-grandchildren, Brianna (Wardell) Ashford and Brittany Lancour; seven great-grandchildren, Henry Styczynski, Sydney Gagnon, Braxton Youngs, Jordyn Gagnon, Elyana Gagnon, Lakelyn Gagnon, and Santrell Ashford; two siblings, Muriel Klein and Curt (Joanne) Gipp; brother-in-law, Glenroy "Tony" Tietzen. He is further survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; mother- and father-in-law, Arthur and Lydia Ruege; brothers-in-law, Ralph Klein, Ronald Ruege, and Arthur "Jim" Ruege; sisters-in-law, Betty (Richard) Hill and Agatha Tietzen; nephew, Gary Tietzen.

Visitation was held on Friday, March 26, 2021, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Suring from 10 a.m. until the funeral service at 1

Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom filled room
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little, but not for long
And not with your head bowed low
Remember the love that once we shared
Miss me, but let me go.
For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the master plan
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at all the things we used to do
Miss me, but let me go.

— Unknown

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Parrish, and two sons-in-law, Daniel Laude and Larry Becker.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 3, 2021, at Schmidt and Schulta Funeral Home in Birnamwood. The Rev. Keith Laude will preside. Burial will be at Forest Cemetery in Birnamwood. Visitation will be on Saturday from 9 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

Memories and messages of support may be shared at schmidtschulta.com.

p.m. with Pastor Michael Paholke officiating. Larry will be interred in Mount Olive Lutheran Cemetery. Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.

The family would like to thank the staff of Serenity Gardens for the excellent care and compassion offered to Larry and his family during their time of need.



'Flat students' bring smiles to Homme Home residents

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Due to restrictions with COVID-19, residents of the Homme Home in Wittenberg have not been able to have as many visitors as usual, including from local schools.

"The residents always enjoyed when students could come and visit," Unverzagt said, but that hasn't been possible for safety reasons.

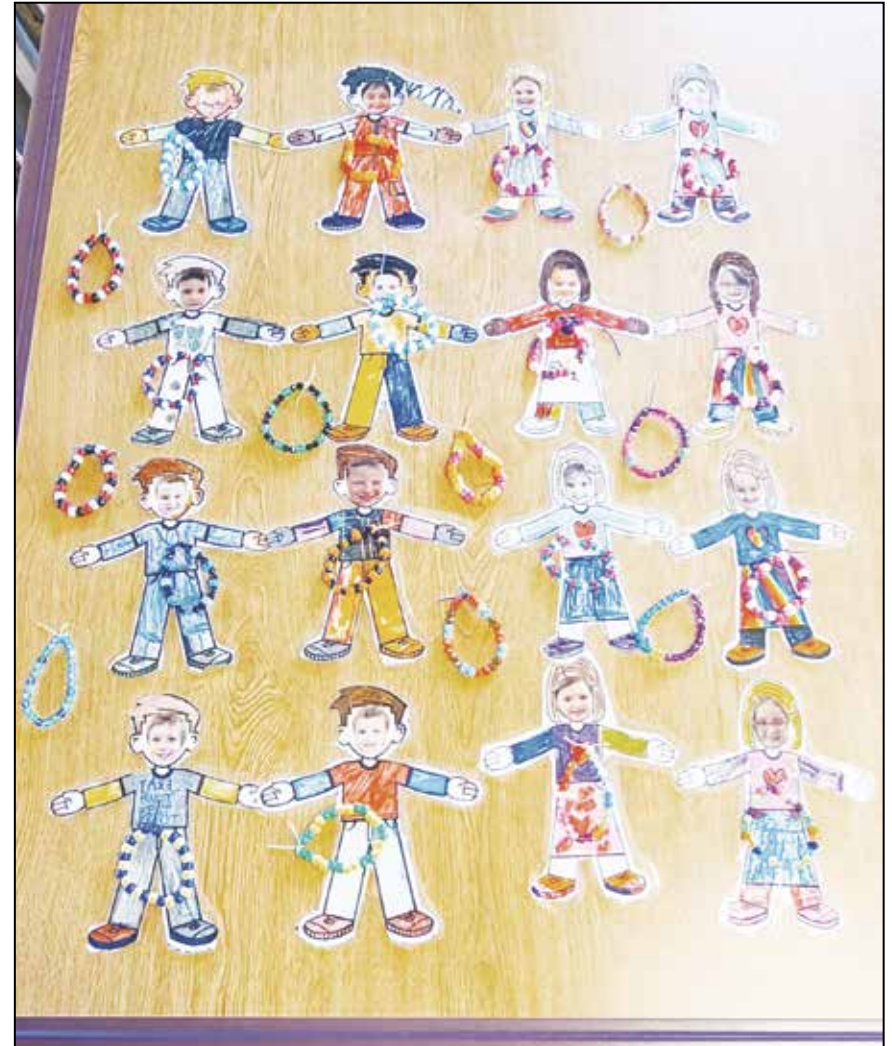
So Unverzagt worked with Jessica Fischer's kindergarten class in Birnamwood to find the next best thing: Flat students.

The kids colored little people with crayons and Fischer pasted their photographs on, and the "flat students" came to Homme Home and hang out with the residents March 18.

"There was so many smiles, laughs and even tears from the residents," Unverzagt said. "One of the residents was so grateful, I sat down with her and made beaded bracelets for every student in the kindergarten class. She is hoping the children's smiles will be as big as hers when they receive these bracelets."



Dorothy Kernen enjoys her visit with a "flat" kindergartner from Birnamwood Elementary School.



A classroom full of "flat students" from Birnamwood Elementary School with the beaded bracelets made as a thank you by resident Lorraine Mueller.



Homme Home residents like Phyllis Durkop lit up when introduced to their "flat student" visitors.



Lorraine Mueller assembles beaded bracelets to share with Jessica Fischer's kindergarten class to thank them for sharing their "flat students" with Homme Home residents.

Libraries return to normal hours next week

Shawano County facilities preparing for National Library Week

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

On April 5, the Shawano County Library system will be returning back to its normal hours.

The library system has found it appropriate to change their hours back to the hours that were in place before the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

On March 1, the library branches reopened to the public but only for select days during the week. Now, all of the branches will be going back to the same hours of operation as they had before they closed due to the pandemic. According to Library Director Kristie Hauer the advancements in COVID-19 treatment, as well as the decline in cases, are attributed to the libraries' ability to fully reopen.

"There is a continued trend of less spread of coronavirus in our community," said Hauer. "The availability of vaccinations that are spreading through our community has been a little bit better than it had been earlier."

Hauer also mentioned that she has heard feedback from patrons wanting to come in on their own schedule, rather than patrons having to create appointments to use the facilities.

Should a number of staff members get sick or be exposed to the coronavirus, Hauer expects that services will have to temporarily be paused.

"We do know that, should staff members get sick or be exposed to the virus, that there will be temporary interruptions to services," said Hauer. "We have had very few problems in the last year, so we hope that we can continue on without having those interruptions."

For those individuals that don't feel comfortable entering the library or have another reason why they don't want to be in the library, services offered during the pandemic are still available. Curbside pickup will still be offered. Hauer and the library staff are also able to assist those individuals at the door of the library.

Throughout the pandemic and the initial reopening, the library staff has been able to run all of their services or variants of them to the patrons who aren't physically coming in the library. The only service that the library hasn't been able to provide for those indi-



Shawano resident Kurt Hasselquist is getting a head start on National Library Week, checking out books on March 25. National Library Week runs April 4-10.
LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA

AT A GLANCE

Shawano County Library branch hours

BIRNAMWOOD: Monday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to noon.

BONDUEL: Monday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to noon.

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WITTENBERG: Tuesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to noon.

viduals is computer use.

Within the libraries, staff and patrons will still abide by the COVID-19 mandates, including wearing a mask and socially distancing. Each guest will only be limited to an hour spent in the library as well. In-person programs will still be halted, as of now. Meeting rooms in the Shawano branch will con-

tinue to be closed and the maximum capacity of the library will run at 25%. Bathrooms will remain open as well.

Hauer is looking to work with the city and village parks in respective communities to hold programs outside once summer rolls around. Through May, programs will still be featured online on the Shawano County Library Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/shawanocountylibrary>) and its YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChiAgDZU_HLP7sqlS-0_7A).

"I will anticipate that we will have an early stage to our meeting rooms at some point where its groups under a certain size," said Hauer.

Once the public hears about the library going back to regular hours, Hauer expects to see more people coming in to the Shawano branch, because of both National Library Week and the change back to normal hours.

"It will be a nice light week of celebration, and seeing people we haven't seen in a while will be good," said Hauer.

With National Library Week occurring from April 4-10, the libraries have

a few festivities planned for the week. One of the major events taking place is a Chromebook drawing.

"Anyone who visits this or any of the other branches can enter into that drawing, and we will pick two winners at the end of the week to win the Chromebook," said Hauer.

With National Library Week, Hauer hopes to highlight all of the resources that the library provides outside of just books.

"There is educational purposes that the library serves in an academic sense and in the sense of how we live our lives," said Hauer. "There is also a component of life skills and job skills — whether it be applying for jobs or taking online courses, the library has resources available that people may not have at home."

The Shawano library is also planning on including the community in events during the week, like a community walk at noon on April 7. Also, each day of the week, there will be a virtual tour of each branch in the county, posted on its Facebook page.



For more than 16 years, the Rural Health Initiative has provided safe, convenient access to care through in-home/on-site preventive health screenings for farm families. This photo was taken in 2015 at the Reminger Family Farm in Leopolis. On Jan. 1, RHI started operating under ThedaCare. CONTRIBUTED

Rural Health Initiative operating under ThedaCare

RHI, which helps rural families, can now focus more on helping rather than fundraising

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

On Jan. 1, the Rural Health Initiative became a program that is operated under ThedaCare.

The Rural Health Initiative will now be known as the ThedaCare Rural Health Initiative. The RHI is a program ran by executive director Rhonda Strebel for the last 17 years. The focus of the program is to reach out to the community and help those who may not have access to a physician. The nonprofit program is set on engaging in population health.

Strebel often reaches out to farmers in rural areas within Shawano, Outagamie and Waupaca counties. She and her staff physically go out to rural homes and farms to help those individuals with their health needs.

While being under the umbrella of ThedaCare, RHI has the ability to worry less about fundraising and applying for grants and more about what they can do to help people that are in need.

"We just want to make a difference for families," said Strebel.

Amy and Derick Zernicke recently got in contact with Strebel and the RHI to help their family. Derick Zernicke, a longtime farmer, was suffering from effects of stress and seasonal affective disorder. Without sufficient access or time to go to a hospital or physician, Amy Zernicke reached out to Strebel for help.

Strebel came out to the farm in Landstad and recommended simple remedies, like taking vitamin D and installing seasonal affective disorder lights into the house. She also recommended that writing in a journal could help. After not seeing much of a change, Strebel recommended that they should go in to see a doctor and receive medicine. Symptoms started to disappear, and Derick Zernicke began to feel better.

The Zernicke family expressed their gratitude towards Strebel and the program for making the trip out to be with the family.

"My husband is thankful and I am grateful that Rhonda was able to come out and help us," said Amy

Zernicke. "We even keep in contact today."

Amy Zernicke posted updates on her Facebook page detailing the situation and the help that Strebel provided. This opened up the community's eyes to the program, as well as gave her a platform to talk about what happened.

RHI is dedicated to helping and supporting rural farming families, like the Zernickes. Strebel believes that farms and farmers play a significant role in the community.

"Farms are very important to the community," said Strebel. "They are a lifeline for food."

With farming families not having sufficient access or not having time to see a doctor, the RHI is available to come to them.

"We are unique, in that we go to them when they need assistance," said Strebel.

When RHI staff go out to meet with families, they often check blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol. This leads to the staff of the program being able to recommend what the next step could be towards

recovery. The staff also provides these individuals with a "listening ear," according to Strebel, where they can have conversations about what is happening and how the two parties can work together to improve it.

With RHI now being operated under ThedaCare, they have become closer with health care within the hospital, even though RHI has had an office in the clinic on County Road B for years. This allows for easier and more efficient communication when trying to prescribe the help farmers or agriculture workers need.

Strebel said that the community has become very supportive and appreciative of the program. Those individuals who have been helped have even kept personal relationships with Strebel and the rest of the staff.

"Trust is built," said Strebel. "94% of people that we recommend referrals to end up going through with them."

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2. How to play - You pick the winner of each game of each round of the tournament, your bracket must be turned into the Shawano Leader no later than Friday, March 19 @ 3 pm. The more teams you pick that win, the more points you score; scoring increase per round (2 points, 4 points, etc.). In the event of a tie, the winner will be randomly selected among the tied participants.

3. Winner notification - Winner will be notified by e-mail.

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BUSINESS

Hammen's looking to grow business in 2021

Family orchard, winery and cider mill has 23 wines for sale this year

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

As the weather is starting to warm up, business is starting to pick up for one small orchard and winery in Shawano County.

Paul and Leslie Hammen, who moved to Shawano County in 1985, opened a winery and cider mill on Aug. 1, 2019. Hammen Family Orchard, Winery and Cider Mill is located between Shawano and Bonduel. Paul Hammen is an expert in making wine, planting fruit trees and working with bees, as he has been doing so for most of his life.

In order to get the place prepared, the Hammen family planted its orchard seven years ago. Paul Hammen mentioned that it took about five years for the plants in their orchard to start producing fruit.

The Hammens are assisted in the business by their three daughters, a son-in-law and their grandchildren.

Hammen decided to start the orchard to use as a retirement project. He hopes his children and grandchildren will take control of the winery in the future.

"It is just a retirement project," said Hammen. "Something for my kids to take and hand down for generations."

This year, the winery has 23 wines available. Other than wine, the business sells fruit, including 10 different varieties of peaches and 250 varieties of apples. It also sells honey, canned goods, free range eggs and t-shirts. Hammen hopes to keep adding products that he can sell, including cheese from local factories.

During apple season, late July to early November, apples are getting picked daily. Apple tasting is offered every Saturday during apple season. Customers are welcomed and encouraged to try any of the available apples. Hammen said that apple and peach season are the busy times.

"The busy time is once the apples and peaches are ripe," said Hammen. "Usually the Saturdays in the summer are very busy."

In 2020, the winery almost ran out of wine due to the increase in public



Leslie Hammen, left, Matt Wudtke, center, and Heather Radomski are bottling wine, getting ready for the summer. Hammen Family Orchard, Winery and Cider Mill bottle all of their wine and cider in house using ingredients from their orchard.

LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA

demand. According to Hammen, the most popular wines last year were mead wines.

"The mead went fast last year, everyone who came in for wine tasting left with a bottle of raspberry mead," said Hammen. "A guy was in earlier who left with six bottles, because he remembered it from last year."

Along with the raspberry mead, Hammen has found that the mulberry mead has been a good seller as well.

"Mulberry has gone over well too, it has always been a family favorite," said Hammen.

Peaches have also been very popular at the orchard so far. Hammen planted 40 to 50 peach trees last year and has planted another 20 trees this year.

"Peaches went over very well, people come in week after week looking for peaches, because they are fresh

off of the tree," said Hammen.

Located in a small community, Hammen has noticed that people have been coming in to buy wine and taste apples from outside of the area.

"When people Google wineries near me, we get a lot of people from that," said Hammen. "During the summertime, I bet a third of the people that come in, just stumble in on their vacations or just driving through town."

All of the bottling and fermenting is done in house in the back room of the winery. Hammen also has a walk-in freezer where wine and ciders are stored during the winter months.

The winter is the slow time for the orchard, so the employees stay busy by getting the bottling of the wine done.

"It actually works perfectly," said Hammen. "We can bottle in the winter, and then all through summer and fall,

we can start on new wines in between the picking and the selling."

The fermenting process usually takes about three weeks to a month, but can take longer depending on the kind of wine that is being made.

"It depends on how long it takes to ferment, grape wines take about a month, which is fast," said Hammen. "My apple wines tend to linger on."

Hammen then lets the wine naturally clear.

Hammen hopes that, as more people are getting vaccinated and the pandemic start to slow down, the business will continue to grow.

The family plans to build an outside patio in order to make a place for wine tasting in the summer. Hammen hopes to put a long bar in the tasting room as well.

Spinning Wheel Inn sold as Lemhouses retire

Scott Mocco, Cari Shebuski bought the restaurant March 23

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

The Lemhouses have decided to sell the Spinning Wheel Inn on Shawano Lake.

On March 23, Steve and Lisa Lemhouse sold the Spinning Wheel to Scott Mocco and Cari Shebuski. Steve Lemhouse started working at the inn in 1970 as a dishwasher. In 1972, Steve's family bought the restaurant and in 1994, Steve took it over.

The Spinning Wheel Inn has staked a place in Shawano history as the restaurant has existed for more than 100 years.

Lemhouse recollected his experience operating the restaurant, thinking back to some of the fond memories he has had.

"We have had so many wonderful customers come in throughout the years," said Lemhouse, "I enjoyed seeing everyone during the Friday fish fries and on Saturdays for steak entrees."

The bad memory that Lemhouse remembers is when the restaurant burned down in 1983.

"The place burned down in 1983 because of an electrical fire behind one of the fryers," said Lemhouse. "We were able to build everything back up though."

All of the food that Lemhouse and the Spinning Wheel produce is home-made.

Shebuski lived in Shawano in the past and her family used to own Dockers, which is now Brothers.

Mocco said that Shebuski has always wanted to own a supper club.



Steve Lemhouse poses in front of the Spinning Wheel Inn sign at the bar. Lemhouse has been a part of the the Spinning Wheel Inn for the last 51 years, operating it since 1994.

LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA

The two saw that the Lemhouses were selling the Spinning Wheel and saw that as an opportunity to fulfill this dream. With the inn and Dockers being close together in the community, Lemhouse and Shebuski's mother became friends. This led to the connection to make the sale.

Mocco and Shebuski plan to rename the restaurant to Dockers in tribute to Shebuski's stepfather, who died of cancer.

With the Spinning Wheel being an iconic place in Shawano, Mocco and Shebuski will try to keep it that way. Mocco and Shebuski hope to keep the strong reputation that the inn has established over the last 100 years.

"We are going to do our best to keep that strong reputation and we hope that the public embraces it," said Mocco.

With keeping the strong reputation, Mocco noted that they want to provide good food at a good price while giving good service, just like the Spinning Wheel has done for so long.

As far as renovations go, the pair are going to change the outside of the restaurant as well as the inside. Mocco mentioned that they were going to change a little bit of the exterior and interior, but they are going to keep it a supper club.

"There aren't many supper clubs left in Shawano County," said Mocco. "We want to keep this one as a supper club."

Mocco noted, as people start to get vaccinated and the COVID-19 pandemic eventually slows down, he hopes to

see business in the restaurant.

"I think that people will come check out the restaurant when we have everything renovated," said Mocco. "And then when they see everything I hope they will come in when they feel comfortable."

Now that he is retired, Lemhouse plans on delivering flowers for Lisa's Flower Shop in Bonduel.

"I will miss seeing everyone in the restaurant and the fun that we have had over the last 51 years," said Lemhouse, "but I think I am ready to retire."

Lemhouse also mentioned that he appreciates all of the customers who frequented the restaurant and employees who have worked with the Lemhouses over the years.

"The customers have been sad that we are leaving, but happy for us," said Lemhouse. "It hasn't really sunk in yet."

The Lemhouses will be operating the restaurant until May 1, when Mocco and Shebuski take over.



With supper clubs declining in Shawano County, the Spinning Wheel Inn remains one of the lasting ones.

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Woman's club gives to historical society



Shawano Woman's Club recently presented a \$500 donation to Shawano County Historical Society. Presenting the check to Lana Buelow, second from left, treasurer for the historical society, are, from left, Irene Leuenberger, secretary; Lynn Marcks, president; and Tina Flanagan, vice president. The club will hold a plant sale June 19 during the 13th Rhubarb Fest sponsored by the historical society at Heritage Park in Shawano.

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Fair attendance drops in 2020 due to pandemic

25% decrease expected; fair leader vows 'whole new show' this year

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The 2020 Shawano County Fair saw a 25% drop in attendance, according to an annual report submitted March 24 to the Shawano County Board of Supervisors.

The report submitted by Shawano Area Agricultural Society President Dale Hodkiewicz is a little later than usual, as the board usually invites fair representatives to speak in December each year, but like most things during the pandemic, the fair also saw itself changing to reflect the current times.

"I can only say that last year was one everyone would like to forget," Hodkiewicz said, "but it did challenge everyone."

The drop in attendance could be attributed to the pandemic, as many officials at the time were advocating skipping the fair for fear that it could become a superspreader for

the coronavirus. The fair board also adjusted many of its events, canceling the Bingo games that usually take place and opting to have smaller bands in the grandstands that wouldn't draw crowds, according to Hodkiewicz.

"We held the livestock auction at the Crawford Center this year, which gave people more room to spread out," he said, which was a different venue than the coliseum and was also held virtually, with people bidding based off photos instead of the animals being brought in by 4-H members and shown in person.

Hodkiewicz noted the drop in attendance was expected, and he didn't have any issue with people opting to skip this year's fair, given the circumstances. He noted that there were a lot of lost hours of sleep over the decision whether to hold the fair at a time when events on a massive scale were being canceled.

"We respect the decisions people made, whether they came or didn't come," Hodkiewicz said. "Those that came had a great time, and as I walked the grounds, I had multiple people come forward and said to thank the board to have the fair."

Hodkiewicz noted that some renovation projects on the fairgrounds were put on hold because the fair board did not know what kind of revenue to expect last year. Projects that did move forward was replacing the asphalt on the grounds and a new storm sewer drain system, he said.

"It wasn't a banner year, but we did stay in the black," Hodkiewicz said.

Volunteers also stepped up during a difficult year to make the fair a success, Hodkiewicz added.

"We were pleased, and we plan to put a whole new show together this year," he said.

Hodkiewicz also reported on the

2020 Shawano Speedway season, as the society also manages that activity on the fairgrounds. Because of the pandemic, racing activity did not start until June, he said, in coordination with other racing facilities in the state.

"They all started at the same time so we didn't overflow," Hodkiewicz said.

Among the things the society did to mitigate health issues, according to Hodkiewicz, was to change how it handled the food at the racetrack and adding hand sanitation stations all across the grounds. He noted those stations were also in place for the duration of the fair.

"We encouraged people to spread out throughout the grandstand and respect the people around you," Hodkiewicz said. "We had personnel traveling to the restroom on every hour (for sanitation), and people adjusted and were very grateful that people had a place to go and enjoy themselves."

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Evers talks broadband with county officials

Davel, others tell governor about lack of internet infrastructure

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Gov. Tony Evers is promising that more money is coming to increase broadband access to rural areas — a lot more — as Shawano County officials pointed out the need for better internet accessibility in all things.

Evers visited the county's human services facility in the Town of Wescott on March 26 and talked briefly with representatives from county management and human services, along with the Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Wolf River Region, about the need for broadband to serve health services, education and other needs in the county. He promised during the 20-minute session that more money would be coming, at least \$200 million, and noted it was one of the few issues that he and the Republican-controlled Wisconsin Legislature could both get behind.

"There are certain givens that transcend Democrats and Republicans," Evers said. "Among those issues is broadband. We will be increasing (funding) — there is no doubt in my mind that, when we go through the budget, that will be a top priority of our Republican legislators. They get it because they live in rural areas, too, many of them, and they realize how important it is in the business world but also in emergency management."

Evers noted that the state has struggled to provide broadband internet infrastructure in recent years, but he's hoping his proposal to put more than double the money in the biennial budget for that line item than has been provided in the eight years that the state has had broadband capabilities.

"The state of Minnesota has probably outspent us four to one," Evers said. "If we want to have to have good health care, we need to have good broadband in the state."

According to Tyler Huebner, commissioner on Wisconsin's Public Services Commission, which houses the state's broadband hub, the state has spent about \$72 million on broadband access in the last eight years, with only \$20 million being spent prior to last year. He noted the PSC has provided Shawano County with three grants to help expand broadband capabilities.



Gov. Tony Evers speaks with Shawano County Board Chairman Tom Kautza following a discussion March 26 at the human services center in the Town of Wescott about broadband internet access, or the lack thereof. Evers is planning on getting the Wisconsin Legislature to approve \$200 million, almost triple what has been spent in the last eight years, in the 2021-23 budget earmarked for expanding broadband access.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

"We still have a big gap for connecting our rural communities," Huebner said.

Of the proposed \$200 million planned for the 2021-23 budget, \$150 million would go toward the expansion program, and the remaining \$50 million would help to make that broadband access affordable for individuals and families, especially if they're in the low-income category.

Rick Kane, county human services director, noted that the county has utilized telehealth extensively in the past year, as the pandemic shut down a lot of in-person services. Even once the pandemic is history, he expects that county officials will continue to utilize telehealth for mental health services, noting it's difficult to get psychiatrists to come to Shawano.

"There is a great need here, and we are large consumers of telehealth," Kane said. "One of the things we would like to see is broadband increased throughout the county because there is a tremendous need. There are a fair amount of people out in rural areas who do not have access to the internet, and that is a dilemma for them and for us."

The county found problems when

it deployed its workforce remotely, according to Jennifer Frost, behavioral health services manager for the county.

"Many of them did not have access to internet, so we couldn't have staff provide the service," Frost said. "A lot of the consumers also don't have access to internet or access to video."

James Davel, the county's administrative coordinator, pointed out that broadband capability is spotty at best, even for people living close to Shawano. He noted that just to install a tower for 9-1-1 services costs \$300,000 to \$400,000, so it would likely take more money than the county has received so far to tackle the issue with any success.

"What we discovered was that one home could get it, and the home next to it could not get it," Davel said. "A lot of it is really associated with the terrain. Because it's wireless, we're utilizing the towers we have with the county, which doesn't cover your entire area. We could never get broadband across the complete spectrum."

Davel said internet access to schools is also an issue. He noted that the Shawano School District was on virtual learning on that day as teach-

ers were getting their second vaccination for the coronavirus, but it's difficult for him and his two children to be able to access the schools via the internet because they live out in the country.

"We were out of school for three or four months, and to have two kids on (the internet), no way," Davel said. "It really affected the education level the kids were receiving this year. Doing that is incredibly difficult for a family."

Davel added that the school district tried to get hotspots to families who needed them, but even then it wasn't enough to "get the job done."

Evers noted that having broadband availability is just as important as providing electricity or phone service to people. He said the coronavirus pandemic has shown how lacking Wisconsin is because people have not been able to access programs like telehealth services because the internet infrastructure is not there.

"We have to have that access," Evers said, noting that he's declared 2021 the year of broadband. "It is an important utility."

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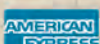
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Unconventional Truth series looks promising

I've got a new "favorite" author, WL Knightly. I just finished book No. 1 in the Unconventional Truth series, "Dead on Time," and now I'm ready for book No. 2.

Whit Filmore is only in his early 40s, but he's in his third career. He was as a police detective in Ohio, when he realized that his ability to "read" people and situations could be taught, so he became a college professor. His third career includes occasional assignments to help solve kidnappings and disappearances.

He has been contacted by FBI agent Kevin Birch, asking him to help find a missing college girl from Aldridge, Texas. Birch has a reputation as a chauvinistic jerk, but Whit won't let that stop him from working to find the missing girl.

So he agrees and convinces his assistant Anna to go along. Anna is an empath, getting her master's in criminology, whose talents are just beginning to emerge. Whit wants her to get experience in this type of investigation as much as he needs her special insights.

They take Whit's carefully re-



JAN JONES

Kilgore College student Katie Buller has been missing for several weeks. She is the daughter of the wealthy and powerful David "Bull" Buller and though he and his wife didn't immediately report it, he's now demanding the police do more.

Agent Birch hasn't sent his case notes and isn't answering his phone, so Chief Dash walks them through the information she does have, including the fact that a second girl is also missing.

Nisha Fowler is the same age as Katie Buller and attended the same college. Agent Birch insisted that Nisha was a runaway and refused to investigate further, but Whit and

stored, souped-up Ford Falcon for the 14-hour drive. They are met by Police Chief Rosemary Dash and her deputy Jason. Whit notices that she is attractive and about his age, but all business.

Anna immediately feel there must be a connection between the girls.

When questioned, Nisha's parents insist that no one cares about what happened to Nisha. All the attention has been focused on the wealthy Katie. They are sure Katie never would have befriended a black girl from the other side of the tracks.

Following his gut, they head for a frat party on campus. It only takes minutes to learn that Katie and Nisha were together often, a friendship neither's parents were aware of. Their informant hints that the girls had a relationship with a boy named Keagan.

Whit makes a surprise visit to Keagan and notes a bell and a robe. His senses say Keagan is part of a secret society and that might have something to do with the disappearances.

Before he can move on, Mr. Fowler confesses to taking Katie. He will let her go as soon as Nisha is found. Whit knows it is a ploy to bring attention to Nisha's case and is upset because it distracts Rose, a.k.a. Chief Dash.



Whit feels Keagan and his housemates are key to the investigation and decides to put pressure on him. They get a break when Anna finds that the distinctive design on the bell is for a

secret group called the Iron Coven. The membership is far-reaching and quite powerful.

About that time, Katie is found wandering on a dirt road. She says Fowler had her tied in an old cabin. Whit thinks she looks and smells amazingly good for someone who has been held captive. Suddenly Whit knows what really happened, but he and Anna will have to take big risk to get the proof required.

The book ends with Whit feeling that he'd done what he'd promised. The Bullers were brought to justice, the Fowlers were devastated but got closure, and he'd wiped the smug smile off Agent Birch's face.

Easter goodies for the adults



Chet and Emil's in Birnamwood held a vendor fair on March 27 to allow folks to get quilts, jewelry and other goodies just in time for the Easter holiday. The event was held in conjunction with a community Easter egg hunt, raffle baskets and other activities.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

NTC announces in-person plans for fall and open registration

While the college has had in-person learning since June 2020, North-central Technical College (NTC) has announced it will be transitioning to a more traditional college experience beginning this August with additional in-person offerings, events and student activities.

"At NTC, we believe in meeting learners where they're at," said Lori Weyers, president. "For some, that means a traditional in-person experience, and for some that means online learning through our innovative Virtual College."

Learners will have the opportunity to choose how they take their classes this fall when registration opens Tuesday, April 6. While NTC has 190-plus program options, prospective learners can also choose from two

new associate degree options, Human Resources and Paralegal.

The college also recently announced a new delivery model - NTC Connect - that allows students to choose their desired class format (in person, online or Zoom) day by day or week by week to fit student preference and schedule.

"Providing a safe environment for our entire campus community will continue to be our priority this fall," Weyers said. "We are excited to welcome more students back to campus and eager to serve those who prefer to maintain their current hybrid, blended or online learning."

To learn about NTC's new programs or how to get started this fall, visit www.ntc.edu.

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL GOLF

Witt-Birn boys expect to be in CWC title hunt

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School boys golf team was in the hunt for a Central Wisconsin Conference title the last time the team was in action. Now nearly two years later, the team is still expecting to compete for a conference title.

“We have very high expectations this season and feel we are in a good position to compete for a conference title,” said long-time Witt-Birn coach Chris Bartletti. “We had a great team last season and were very disappointed — as were many teams — not to be able to compete.”

Bartletti said there are 20 players intending to play golf this spring, giving him plenty of options as the season progresses.

Leading the way will be senior Ian Resch, who Bartletti expects to be in the running for the top individual player in the conference.

“We definitely expect to compete even though we lost two of our top five (from 2019). We are gaining new golfers who will hopefully help us toward the goal of a conference title,” said Resch, who hopes to end the year competing at state. “I will try my best to help lead the team and help everyone keep their heads on their shoulders.”

“Most of these guys have not been playing for very long, so to have the opportunity to compete for a conference title is really a blessing. Missing last year really dampened the team’s spirits, but we hope to pick up right where we left off.”



Wittenberg-Birnamwood’s Calvin Scheurer watches his putt during the WIAA Division 2 Mosinee Sectional at Indianhead Golf Course in Mosinee on May 28, 2019. Scheurer is one of three golfers back this spring from the 2019 sectional-qualifying team.

TINA BACON

In his sophomore season, Resch made the all-conference first team, often carding the best round on the team, which ended the season competing at sectionals.

Also back from that five-player sectional team that year are senior Maverick Beran and junior Calvin Scheurer.

Senior Brian Nelson and junior

Isabella Hegewald also return with plenty of varsity experience, despite not having a spring season a year ago.

sports@newmedia-wi.com

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Tigerton chasing conference title under new head coach

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Tigerton High School baseball team will be under the direction of a new coach this spring, but it still expects to be in the hunt for a conference title.

Beau Hoffman is the new coach, and he will have a pair of all-conference players back from the 2019 team

that he can build around.

Now seniors, Isaac Schoen and Mitch Zimdars each landed on a Central Wisconsin Conference-North Division team in 2019. Schoen made the second team after serving as a utility player, while Zimdars was an honorable mention playing primarily catcher and third base.

Also back with plenty of varsity experience for the Tigers are senior

Kaeden Miller (second base) and juniors Dawson Block (outfield) and Zeke Griepentrog (infield).

“We expect to compete for conference this season,” said Tigerton assistant coach Matt Herrbold of the team. “We face many of the same challenges other teams will have this year; some of our core players haven’t played baseball in several years.”

Sophomores Asher Michaelis, Ryder

Graham and Colby Wanta are players who will help fill out the team’s lineup.

“Well, if we want to win conference, everyone would have to have the powerful drive that we need to achieve that goal,” said Schoen. “I believe we can do it, but everyone on the team needs to stay focused on that goal and refuse to lose.”

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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Abi Fraaza, center, passes the ball during a Division 3 regional semifinal matchup against Clintonville on Feb. 12 in Wittenberg. Fraaza earned a spot on the WBCA All-Star Game roster in Division 4.

FILE | NEW MEDIA



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Emma Herb, left, dribbles toward the basket during a nonconference game against Marathon on Dec. 29 in Wittenberg. Herb was named to the Division 4 WBCA All-Star Game roster.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

3 area girls players named to WBCA all-star rosters

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Three area high school girls basketball players were named to Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Game rosters.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Abi Fraaza and Emma Herb and Gillett's Aubrey DeBauch were the athletes honored with roster spots.

Fraaza and Herb will be part of

the Division 4 North team, while DeBauch plays for the Division 5 North team.

"I'm honored to have been selected to this game and to have the opportunity to play," said DeBauch. "I'm super excited and definitely looking forward to playing the sport I love with the best girls in the state. It means a lot to me, and I think it'll be an incredible experience."

The Division 5 game is scheduled for 9 a.m. July 14. Each all-star game will be played at JustAGame Fieldhouse in Wisconsin Dells.

"Being selected to the WBCA All-Star Game is such an incredible opportunity that I am so grateful for," said Fraaza. "Only being able to play four games this season, and no conference games (because of an injury), I just can't thank my coach, Nick Mechelke, and the other

coaches of the conference enough for believing in me and my abilities with limited playing time."

"Being selected to play in that game feels great, and I am excited to be able to play with even more competition, along with my teammate Abigail," said Herb.

The Division 4 game is set for 10:45 a.m. July 14.

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HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

VOLLEYBALL

Gresham 3

Bowler 0

Bowler dropped an alternate fall season match against Gresham on March 25 in Bowler. Gresham won by scores of 25-16, 25-14, 25-15.

McKayla Putnam finished with eight combined kills and seven assists to lead Bowler on the court. Tynea Johnson contributed four attack kills and five digs. Brandi Spencer posted six assists and three aces, while Weengeetah Mohawk had nine digs.

ONLINE

Video highlights from the Bowler, Gresham volleyball match can be found at www.newmedia-wi.com.

Sevastopol 3

Tigerton 1

Tigerton dropped a match against Sevastopol on March 23 in Sturgeon Bay. The Tigers lost by scores of 25-10, 20-25, 25-11, 25-14.

Skyler Hauser recorded 14 digs and 12 total kills for Tigerton. Savannah Swartz posted 12 digs, nine total kills and three aces, while Ladia Block had 11 digs and five total kills.

Adrienne Brady contributed 12 assists and six digs for the Tigers.

Elizabeth Robbins finished with seven assists, while Abby Swartz had six digs.

Menominee Indian 3

Bowler 2

Bowler lost in five sets against Menominee Indian on March 23 in Keshena. The Eagles won by scores of 15-25, 25-20, 25-19, 25-27, 15-10.

McKayla Putnam was credited with 15 attack kills, 15 assists and five aces to lead Bowler, while Tynea Johnson had seven attack kills and 19 digs.

Brandi Spencer had 19 assists, while Tia Kroening recorded 14 digs and three aces.



Bowler's McKayla Putnam, second from left, hits the ball as teammate Bertina Dodge looks on during an alternate fall season match against Gresham on March 25 in Bowler.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

PRO FOOTBALL

Kevin King agrees to deal keeping him in Green Bay

By STEVE MEGARGEE
The Associated Press

Cornerback Kevin King is staying with the Green Bay Packers after agreeing to a one-year deal worth \$6 million.

King's agent, Chad Speck, confirmed the agreement on March 23. ESPN and NFL Network first reported the deal.

The move enables the Packers to keep both their starting cornerbacks from last season with Pro Bowl selection Jaire Alexander entrenched at the other spot.

King, who turns 26 on May 5, has made 36 starts in his four-year career and 25 over the last two seasons. The Packers drafted him in the second round with the 33rd overall pick in 2017.

He had a tough performance in the Packers' 31-26 NFC championship game loss to Tampa Bay. King appeared to have pass coverage on two of Tampa Bay's touchdowns, including Scotty Miller's 39-yarder with 1 second



Green Bay Packers cornerback Kevin King drops back against the Chicago Bears during a game on Jan. 3 in Chicago. King re-signed with the Packers on March 23. KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

left in the first half. King also was called for a pass interference penalty late in the fourth quarter that helped the Bucs run out the clock.

But he's been a pretty steady contributor to the Packers' secondary since coming to Green Bay. The Packers would have been facing a notable lack of cornerback depth beyond Alexander if they had let King depart.

King made 57 tackles and started all 11 regular-season games in which he appeared last season, though he missed five games with a quadriceps injury. He had no interceptions last year but picked off five passes in 2019.

King's decision means the Packers will be keeping two of their major free agents from departing. Just before the free agency period started, the Packers reached an agreement with Pro Bowl running back Aaron Jones on a four-year, \$48 million deal that includes a \$13 million signing bonus.

The Packers lost All-Pro center Corey Linsley, who joined the Los Angeles Chargers on a five-year deal worth an average of \$12.5 million per season. The move reunites him with offensive tackle Bryan Bulaga, who left the Packers for the Chargers via free agency a year ago.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Young Bowler team has big goals for upcoming season

By MORGAN RODE
Sports Editor

The Bowler High School softball team is anticipating a strong finish in the Central Wisconsin Conference-North Division despite having a young roster.

The last time the Panthers were on the field in 2019, the team had six players make an all-conference team. Only Tynea Johnson, now a senior, remains from that group.

Johnson earned the all-conference honor as a second baseman

and shortstop, and coach Alison Van Grinsven expects Johnson to serve as the team's shortstop this season.

Other players back from past varsity teams are senior pitcher McKayla Putnam and junior first baseman Morgan Paisier.

"As a senior, I hope to guide the team in the best way I possibly can," said Putnam.

"It is a goal of mine this year to try and have a really great season and I think that we can give the

other teams a run for their money."

The rest of Bowler's lineup will be players without a ton of varsity experience.

The junior trio of Abigayl Chamberlain, Madison Klemann and Tia Kroening will help fill out the three outfield positions.

Freshmen Bertina Dodge and Weengeetah Mohawk will play in the infield. Freshman Bailey Grosskopf can play multiple positions for the team.

Even with all the youth, Van

Grinsven is expecting some big things from the team.

"I expect us to finish towards the top of this year's conference," said Van Grinsven. "Our biggest competitor is going to be Manawa and we open the season at their field (April 27). We are a young team with only maybe three seniors on the roster. We have a large group of juniors and sophomores that can hopefully step up and fill some big roles that left us two years ago."

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Team	W	L
Liberty Potatoes	126	77
Mama's Place	100	103
Resch Lanes (1)	99 1/2	103 1/2
Hanke's Sentry Foods	91	112
Tavern Front	88	115
Resch Lanes (2)	85 1/2	117 1/2
Slammers	84	119
Kemmer Electronics	82	121

High team handicap games (top 3): Liberty Potatoes 1,269, Hanke's Sentry Foods 1,263, Tavern Front 1,230.

High individual handicap games (top 7): Randall Skaggs 318, Brian Mattmiller 300, Tom Berg 296, Kevin Rosenow 288, Jim Borchardt 286, Kurt Zeinert 277, Dick Potrykus 275.

High team handicap series (top 3): Tavern Front 3,611, Hanke's Sentry Foods 3,597, Mama's Place 3,591.

High individual handicap series (top 7): Randall Skaggs 832, Jim Borchardt 824, Kurt Zeinert 772,

Brian Mattmiller 752, Mark Cornish 733, Jimmy Hohensee 733, Todd Vanderkoy 727, Jeff Arndt 727.

Resch Lanes — Monday Ladies Handicap

Team	W	L
Resch Lanes	47 1/2	36 1/2
Gulliver's Landing	45 1/2	38 1/2
Lisa's Lakeside	45	39
Tavern Front	43	41
Strike-a-pose	34	50
Kropf's Meats	28	56

High team handicap games (top 3): Lisa's Lakeside

932, Tavern Front 898, Resch Lanes 851.

High individual handicap games (top 7): Jaime Resch 273, Dalton Zeinert 249, Heather Giddings 244, Kelly Rosenow 243, Todd Vanderkoy 238, Jennifer Resch 234, Mary Krause 233.

High team handicap series (top 3): Lisa's Lakeside 2,660, Tavern Front 2,566, Resch Lanes 2,514.

High individual handicap series (top 7): Jaime Resch 708, Heather Giddings 706, Dalton Zeinert 693, Sue Hughes 669, Cheryl Zeinert 657, Todd Vanderkoy 657, Jennifer Resch 656.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Upperclassmen ready to lead Shawano on diamond

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Shawano Community High School softball team has high expectations going into the spring season despite losing four of its six all-conference players from a couple seasons ago.

The last time the Hawks took the field in 2019, the team finished in the middle of the Bay Conference standings. Six players received all-conference nods, but only seniors Taylor Johnson and Naomi Wynos remain from that group.

Johnson earned a spot on the first team, while Wynos was an honorable mention.

Johnson will serve as Shawano's top pitcher this spring, and play in the outfield when not in the circle. Wynos will serve as the team's third baseman.

Also back with significant varsity experience are juniors Brianna Wright



Shawano's Naomi Wynos follows through on a swing during a Division 2 regional quarterfinal game against Clintonville on May 16, 2019, at Martzke Park in Shawano. Wynos is one of two all-conference players back from the 2019 team.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

(shortstop) and Margo Gull (center field).

Another boost for the Hawks will come from senior Kendra Kristof, who is back after an injury and a couple of

years of recovery. She led the team in hitting as a freshman.

"I will work to lead by example both offensively and defensively to show the underclassmen and less

experienced players how we do things on varsity," said Johnson on how she'd help lead the team. "I'll make sure to stay positive and encourage all the girls when we encounter any obstacles along the way so we can be successful. We all need to focus on one common goal and buy into the system and we'll be successful!"

According to long-time coach Brian Johnson, the rest of the lineup will be figured out in the weeks leading up to the season.

"We expect to have some great position battles this year after a two-year layoff," said Brian Johnson.

"We have some depth for the first time in awhile."

One challenge the team might encounter is finding pitchers behind Taylor Johnson, with the coach noting the team will need "freshmen pitchers to step up in a hurry."

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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Bonduel will rely on hitting early, hope pitching develops

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Bonduel High School baseball team hopes to rely on its hitting while trying to establish some pitchers this spring.

Since the last time the Bears stepped on the field in 2019, the team graduated all six players who landed on a Central Wisconsin Conference-East Division team. Still, the team expects another strong season.

"I think we should be competitive all year and, like every year, think we should compete for the conference

title," said Bonduel coach Donnie Gruenewald. "We will have to try to find answers on who will step up to take on a large share of the pitching load. Our hitting will have to carry us to start the year."

While no all-conference players are back, the Bears do have several experienced seniors to turn to.

One of those players is senior catcher Garrett Engel, who will try and take some of the pressure off the team's pitchers.

"My job behind the plate is always to make my pitcher look good," said Engel. "With having the experience

I've got, I will always be sharing my knowledge. I firmly believe a catcher calls an entire game and can be the difference between a win or loss with even just one pitch in the game.

"I believe a catcher and pitcher need to have good chemistry and understand each other in order for things to work, so that is what we are doing right now," Engel continued. "I'm working on understanding each and every one of my new pitchers. Framing, blocking and my throw downs are as sharp as ever to go along with that. Even with the inexperience of our pitchers this year, I believe we will

surprise many people and teams."

Seniors Carson Robaidek (shortstop) and Cole Anderson (third base) will help fill out the infield, while Anderson figures to take the mound as well.

Seniors Brett Margelofsky and Jack Johnson will help anchor the outfield.

Juniors Reece Stoltenow and Adam Beilfuss and freshman Noah Weier also will play in the infield for the Bears. Stoltenow also is expected to be a part of the team's pitching staff.

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HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Bonduel must blend experience with new varsity players

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Like many teams across the state, the Bonduel High School softball team will try and fuse its experienced players with several underclassmen to put together a strong season.

Bonduel, which is coached by Chris Reinke, does not return any all-conference players from the 2019 season, but it does have several experienced players back as it prepares to play in the always tough Central Wisconsin Conference-East Division.

Senior Halea Sporisky will serve as a leader for Bonduel's outfielders, while senior catcher Joanie Wudtke helps the team's pitchers. Juniors Julia Lorbiecki and Nicole Koeller will fill out the outfield.

Junior Claire Gehm was the team's top pitcher in 2019, but she'll have some more help this season.

Reinke says sophomore Naki-

yah Henning and freshmen Hailee Thompson and Hailey Zernicke could also spend time in the circle. All three players will play in the infield.

Sophomore Macy Niles is another option in the infield for the Bears. Freshman Lila Pleshek can play all over the diamond, including catcher.

While the upperclassmen know the varsity game, they also know team success could depend on how quickly the underclassmen get acquainted with the elevated level of play.

"As a senior on the team this year, I plan to try and help make them (underclassmen) feel as comfortable as possibly with us upperclassmen," said Sporisky. "I know it's very intimidating coming up to the high school level with the older girls, but I hope I can help them make a smooth transition and just overall have a fun successful year!"

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Bonduel's Claire Gehm throws a pitch during a game against Amherst on May 7, 2019 in Bonduel. Gehm is one of several pitchers the team can turn to this coming spring.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

North Iowa Area

Oconto Falls High School graduate Samantha Coron capped a strong freshman season for the North Iowa Area Community College women's volleyball team last week.

In the team's regular-season victory over Southeastern Community College (Iowa) on March 23, Coron tallied 10 digs, two assists and an attack kill.

North Iowa Area had its season come to a close after a postseason loss to Hawkeye Community College (Iowa) on March 28. Coron tallied five digs, four attack kills, an assist and two block assists.

Rockhurst

Shawano graduate Averl Vomastic put together a pair of strong matches to help the Rockhurst University (Missouri) volleyball team to a pair of sweeps last week.

In Rockhurst's 25-20, 25-22, 25-14 win over Southwest Baptist University (Missouri) on March 26, Vomastic led the team with 12 attack kills. She added seven digs, two serving aces, three block assists and a solo block.

Vomastic contributed six digs, four attack kills, three block assists, two solo blocks and a service ace in the team's 25-19, 25-20, 25-18 win over William Jewel College (Missouri) on March 26.

St. Norbert

Oconto Falls grad Emily Gonnering competed in four events for the St. Norbert College track and field team during the Carroll Alumni Invitational on March 27.

Gonnering placed 14th in the javelin throw (21.36 meters). She took 35th in the shot put (8.53) and 37th in the hammer throw (25.92). She didn't post a distance in the discus competition.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood grad Simon Stewart pitched a scoreless inning for the St. Norbert baseball team during a 10-4 loss to the University of Chicago on March 27.

Stewart allowed a pair of hits but also struck out a batter to get out of the inning unscathed.

Edgewood

Gresham graduate Mackenzie Hoffman and the Edgewood College softball team went 0-4 across a pair of doubleheaders last week.

Hoffman scored a run and had a sacrifice bunt for her team in a 10-2 loss in the first game against Concordia University on March 24. Hoffman drew a walk in the second game against the Milwaukee School of Engineering on March 27.

Hamline

Shawano grad Peyton Buerman lost a doubles match while competing for the Hamline University (Minnesota)

women's tennis team on March 27. Hamline lost 8-1 to St. Olaf College (Minnesota).

Buerman and her No. 3 doubles partner Janie Schwartz lost 8-0.

Bryant and Stratton

Shawano graduate Bayleigh Laabs helped the Bryant and Stratton softball team to a doubleheader sweep over College of Lake County (Illinois) on March 22.

In a 15-4 win in game one, Laabs finished with two hits and three runs scored. Laabs added another hit in the team's 14-0 win in game two.

UW-Stevens Point

Oconto Falls grad Mitchell Manns helped the UW-Stevens Point baseball team accomplish some history during his first career collegiate game. Manns served as the catcher for the team's combined no-hitter against Finlandia University (Michigan), a game UWSP won 10-0 on March 25.

UWSP pitchers struck out 18 batters across eight innings. Only four Finlandia batters reached. At the plate, Manns drew a walk and then stole a base.

Ripon

Witt-Birn graduate Lauren Bahr competed in several events for the Ripon College women's swim team in its season-ending dual against Lake Forest

College (Illinois) on March 27.

As an individual, Bahr placed second in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 2 minutes, 31.03 seconds. She placed third in the 100 backstroke (1:06.78) and came in 11th in the 50 freestyle (27.32). Bahr was also on the second-place finishing 200 medley relay (1:59.69) and third-place finishing 200 freestyle relay (1:47.38).

Concordia

Shawano grad Jewel Waupekenay played in her first career collegiate game on March 24 for the Concordia University softball team.

Waupekenay served as a pinch-runner and scored a run in the team's 10-2 victory over Edgewood College.

Des Moines Area

Gresham graduate Christian Haffner helped the Des Moines Area Community College (Iowa) men's basketball team to two wins last week.

Haffner knocked down three 3-pointers and four total field goals during an 11-point performance in a 78-57 win over Northeast Community College (Iowa) on March 24. He also had two assists and a rebound in 26 minutes of action.

Haffner didn't score in the team's 77-65 victory over Kirkwood Community College (Iowa) on March 27, but he did post two assists, two rebounds and a steal in 27 minutes of play.

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Agriculture keeps county economy turning

Shawano County 4th in Wisconsin in hay production

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The state of agriculture in Shawano County is a good one, according to a report given March 24 to the Shawano County Board of Supervisors.

Robert Krause, vice president of the Shawano County Farm Bureau, noted that there were a lot of whippers on the county board when he was a supervisor that the individual farms were getting bigger and there was concern that corporations were taking over and pushing out the farmers who have called this place home for decades. Not to worry, he said, because 1,093 farms — about 96% of the farms in the county — are family farms, according to information compiled by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension in 2019.

“Some of those family farms have outside investors,” Krause said. “Yes, the family farm has changed drastically since that Saturday Evening Post picture of Ma in her kerchief and Pa holding a pitchfork. That’s completely changed.”

Instead, farmers are contending with spotty cell phone coverage and trying to access farm records on “the cloud,” Krause said. He noted that the county board has managed to improve the situation a little when it comes to cell phone and internet access.

“It’s an interesting world we’re living in — farming in Shawano

County,” Krause said.

Shawano County is fourth in the state for producing hay and other crops, according to UW-Extension data. The county produces \$9.9 million in crops each year.

UW-Extension also noted that the county farmers produce \$157.2 million in milk, \$39.9 million in grain, \$38.2 million in beef cattle and \$959,000 in Christmas trees. About \$509,000 is sold directly to local consumers, and about 247,241 acres in the county are managed by farmers, or about 43%.

Economically, farms are a key part of the county. Farms pay about \$16.3 million in sales, property and income taxes, according to UW-Extension, and they generate about \$789 million in economic activity and provide 4,849 jobs.

He noted that the farm bureau advocates for agriculture producers in the county, and it is helped by the UW-Extension office in Shawano. Even with the COVID-19 restrictions, farm bureau employees are working behind the scenes to make things happen.

“We look forward to any kind of conversation you’d like to have with us,” Krause said. “If you have an issue coming up that has something to do with farming or agriculture in Shawano County, and you’d like some information or someone to sit on a committee and come up with a proposal, we’ll try to put somebody out for you.”

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Saturday April 10th 11:00

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2 write-ins emerge for Gresham village president

With Grosskopf's passing, Giese and Bahr vying for chance to lead community

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

Voters in Gresham will be casting their vote April 6 for their next village president.

For the village president, the only candidate on the ballot is incumbent Lyle Grosskopf, who recently passed away. With Grosskopf as the only name listed, Rick Giese is running as a registered write-in. Art Bahr is on the ballot for a trustee position, but is also running a non-registered write-in campaign for the village president position.

Giese has been serving on the Gresham Village Board for 20 years and also has a spot as the vice chairman on the Shawano County Board.

Giese began his campaign for the position after he was approached by a number of board members.

As he is running his write-in campaign, he has noticed a lot of support from those he has talked to.

"I have been going door to door, letting people know that I am running," said Giese. "I have talked to a lot of people who have told me that they would support me."

If he was elected as the village president, Giese would like to see some changes within the infrastructure of the village.

"I would like to upgrade the infrastructure in the village; some of it is still from the mid-1950s," said Giese.

Specifically for infrastructure upgrades, Giese wants to upgrade Fisher and Main streets including adding sidewalks. Upgrading the infrastructure within the village would also appeal to Giese's next point of wanting to better market the village.



ART BAHR



RICK GIESE

Giese wants to focus on the marketing of the village as he noticed that there are empty lots to be filled.

"There are a number of lots in the village that can be filled,"

said Giese. "We can fill these lots by marketing the village better with marketing grants."

With the increase in the price for water in the city, Giese also believes that strong marketing in terms of bringing more residents in will reduce the burden on residents.

"With more residents in the village, there will be less burden on all of the residents that are paying for water in their houses," said Giese.

The Abby Bank in Gresham is also a point of emphasis for Giese. Due to the bank's size, Giese sees an opportunity for moving the village office inside of the bank.

"We have preliminary talks of moving the village office inside of the bank, because it is so big in a small community," said Giese.

Due to serving as a trustee for numerous years and his position within Shawano County, Giese believes that he is qualified for the position of village president.

"I am qualified for this position due to my experience working with local governments," said Giese.

Even though he is not on the ballot, Bahr is running a write-in campaign, talking to local businesses and people within the community, in hopes of them writing him in.

Bahr has lived in Gresham for most of his life. He has previously served as the village administrator and utility manager as well as serving as a trustee.

"I am running for the village president, because I really do have a passion for the village," said Bahr.

Bahr is currently employed as a community development specialist with MSA Professional Services. In his position, Bahr's experience includes having worked with a funding team on various state and federal agencies grant and loan programs, having attended client council meetings to help them with the community and economic development, and having administered grants and loans.

Bahr has worked with 60 differ-

ent communities within Wisconsin and believes that his experience engineering projects would be beneficial for Gresham.

"This would be a perfect opportunity for the community to capitalize on my experience," said Bahr.

If elected president, Bahr plans to assign specific responsibilities for the committees to provide the planning necessary for the village board to discuss and debate issues. Bahr wants to see important decisions made based on data and reports, rather than assumptions.

"The problem is that the committees in Gresham do not have strong plans," said Bahr. "I want to go back to the basics and be able to have a plan in case certain situations arise"

After telling those in the community that he is running a write-in campaign, Bahr has noticed that the feedback has been positive.

"Almost everyone that I have talked to has thought that it was a good idea," said Bahr. "People have been wondering why I wasn't on the ballot."

Bahr would also like to see a change in how the public is able to get their information from board agendas.

"There could be improvements made in facets of the village operations," said Bahr. "Improvements to the agendas, so that all public members can more clearly understand the decisions that are being made."

Bahr would also make plans on to use the American Rescue Plan Act funds and other stimulus programs.

"I just want to see a better planned future with respect to all of the village residents," said Bahr.

When the election comes around, village clerk Judy Kristof noted that if voters ask specific questions about Giese and Bahr, the poll workers can only give information about Giese because he is a registered write in, as Bahr is not registered.

When at the election site, voters will see a place for a write-in name on their paper ballot or an area to type in a name on the machine ballot.

If Grosskopf does in fact win the election, then the next step would be for the village board to appoint someone else as the next village president.

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Summer road projects announced

DOT plans work on Highways 47, 29 and 117

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

The state Department of Transportation has two major construction projects planned in Shawano County and one in Menominee County this summer, according to the North Central Region's construction preview of road construction projects taking place in 2021 on state and U.S. highways in the region.

Construction schedules may fluctuate pending favorable weather conditions and crew availability.

The complete preview can be found at <https://projects.511wi.gov/weekly->

[updates-nc/overview/2021-annual-construction-preview/](https://projects.511wi.gov/weekly-)

In Shawano County, a \$1 million to \$2 million project is plan along state Highway 117 from Mutzy Lane in Bonduel to state Highway 22 in Cecil, a distance of 4.2 miles.

Between July and October, crews are scheduled to remove and replace 2 inches of asphalt pavement, place shoulder gravel, replace guardrail near the Mountain Bay Trail bridge and replace six culvert pipes along the corridor.

This project will be constructed under traffic with flagging during daylight hours. A minimum of one, 12-foot lane will be open to traffic. Access for local and emergency service vehicles traffic will be maintained.

The intersection of state Highway 29 and County Road U in the Town of Herman is due for a makeover from

July through November, at a cost of \$3 million to \$5 million.

Westbound lanes to the east of the intersection will be reconstructed to lower the existing profile of the road to provide improved site distance. The County Road U intersection will be reconstructed as a J-turn intersection to improve safety.

Highway 29 will be reduced to one lane of traffic in each direction for the project's duration. Crossovers will be utilized, and traffic will run counter-directional during the reconstruction of the westbound lanes.

County Road U will be closed and/or turning movements restricted for the project's duration. Details may be found at <https://projects.511wi.gov/wis29county/>

In Menominee County, the reconstruction of state Highway 47 will continue from 2020, a \$6 million

project covering Duquaine Road (BIA 334) to the north junction with County Road VV.

This project, scheduled for April to November, will place new asphalt on the highway and includes roadway widening for bicycle lanes, new storm sewer and curb and gutter, reconstructing sidewalk and curb ramps to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. Crews are also expected to rehabilitate the bridge deck surface over the Wolf River.

Six stages are planned to manage traffic. Overall, motorists will encounter temporary signals, flagging operations, lane closures, side road closures and a detour during stage four. A detailed list can be found at <https://projects.511wi.gov/wis47menominee/>.

DNR native plant sales continue through April

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has announced that native plant sales are blooming across the state through April.

This year, nonprofits and governments are offering online or mail order options with pickup at local sites for spring plant sales.

Many of the native plant sales, offered by local nonprofits and governments, are fundraisers that help to provide habitat for wildlife. Additionally, the growth of native plants can help revive habitat loss from years of intense use.

"Adding even a few native plants to your yard this spring can provide habitat for butterflies, bees, birds and other wildlife," said Amy Staffen, DNR

conservation biologist. "These sales by local organizations and our Wisconsin native plant nurseries offer a convenient way to get started, whether you're a beginner or more experienced gardener."

Native plant sales are increasing across Wisconsin in March and April as local nonprofit organizations and governments offer online or mail order options with pickup at local sites this spring.

Wisconsinites have a chance to buy plants from the comfort of their home to ensure their safety while benefiting local organizations. Some deadlines for purchasing plants are approaching within the next month.

Scientists are documenting global

declines in insect populations. These can be attributed in part to loss of habitat and food sources. While native insects evolved to detoxify and digest native plants, they lack the enzymes necessary to eat non-native plants, including ornamental trees and other plants commonly used in landscaping.

Some monarch butterflies in the eastern migratory population that are breeding in Wisconsin and other Midwestern states have dropped 80% over the last 20 years, said Brenna Jones, a DNR conservation biologist who coordinates the Wisconsin Monarch Collaborative. Winter counts in Mexico showed a 26% decline in 2020-21 from the previous year.

The Wisconsin Monarch Collab-

orative - formed in 2018 to catalyze voluntary planting of native milkweed and native wildflowers to benefit monarchs and help reverse their decline - recently released its 2018-2020 Key Accomplishments Report detailing conservation efforts across the state.

"The benefits of native plants don't end with habitat," Staffen said. "Adding native plants can help landowners achieve other goals. Native plants used in a rain garden can help minimize flooding and filter out pollutants. The variety of colors, shapes and sizes adds beauty to any property."

For a list of native plants, visit <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/endangeredresources/nativeplants.html>.

Master Gardener Week to be observed starting next week

The Wisconsin Master Gardener Program will be celebrating Master Gardener Volunteer Week April 5-9.

Wolf River Master Gardener volunteers are considered an important part of University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension Shawano County.

Volunteers make a positive difference in lives and communities by maintaining garden spaces at Huckleberry Harbor and Heritage

Park, among other areas, as well as providing educational programs to the public at the Shawano County Library and Shawano School District Community Education.

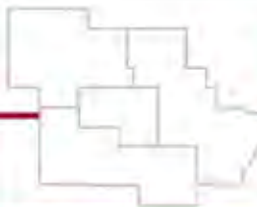
Through hours of community service by answering diagnostic questions, educating the public on horticultural topics, growing and donating food to local pantries, beautifying community spaces, conducting workshops and other activities,

these volunteers work tirelessly to make Wisconsin an incredible place to live.

April 7 has been set aside as Thank a Master Gardener Volunteer Day. Extension wants to recognize all of its master gardener volunteers for their dedication and contributions by making a phone call, writing a note or just saying "thank you" to a master gardener volunteer on that day.

To thank Wolf River Master Gardener volunteers, leave a thank you message with the Extension Shawano County office at 715-526-6136. If inclined, send a thank you card to Extension Shawano County, 311 N. Main St., Room 109, Shawano, WI 54166.

For information about the Master Gardener Program, visit mastergardener.extension.wisc.edu.



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Vegetable selection for home gardens begins now

This is not exactly prime gardening weather in far Northeast Wisconsin. However, if you are planning on having any type of a vegetable garden, now is the time to order/procure seeds for that garden. Gardeners who start their own seeds at home need to get some of those long-season plants started sooner rather than later. Also, if you plan on planting very particular cultivars, 2021 seed supply of some items may be a bit shorter than normal, so you will want to get your seed orders submitted.

As you look through the myriad of available options when it comes to selecting vegetable seeds, there are a few key criteria that you should keep in mind. First, make sure your family actually likes them. Granted, this sounds a bit silly, but you don't want to plant 20 plants of a new tomato or cucumber cultivar only to find out that the flavor doesn't match your family's desires. Part of the fun of gardening is trying new species or cultivars, but do so with caution and only try a small row of a new carrot or a plant or two of a new tomato, pepper, etc. — until you know that you do like it.

Along with a few new ones, have your primary production be the stand-by types that you know are acceptable for your flavor and use desires. If trying a new species, consider one of the recommended cultivars found in the Vegetable Cultivars and Planting Guide for WI Gardens, available free online at: <https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0145/8808/4272/files/A1653.pdf>. This publication also gives suggested planting date ranges.

In our growing region, another major consideration factor is maturity. Granted, this is a relative measurement. A 55-day tomato does not produce mature, edible fruit 55 days after planting the seed. However, a 55-day tomato will produce edible fruit much sooner than will an 80-day cultivar. In the Oconto County region, you will want to avoid growing vegetables



SCOTT REUSS

that have days to maturity ratings of over 100 days. The only way these are viable is if you start the seeds indoors long before you are able to transplant them outside. In particular, avoid long-day maturity vine crops (squashes, pumpkins, melons); tomato family plants (tomatoes, eggplant, pepper); and any other full-season, heat-loving crop that is later maturing.

Other traits to consider include plant size, growth habit, disease resistance, and pest likelihood. If planting in-ground gardens, you have more flexibility on the first two traits, but if planting in containers, you will likely want to select smaller plants. Simple to grow plants can surprise you if you get the wrong trait. A row of green beans you thought were bush-type, but are actually pole beans, may goof up your garden plan, and will definitely create a need for a full-scale trellis or support system. Alternatively, an easy way to expand a small garden's production is to raise vining crops and go vertical.

Some pests are very predictable, and if we don't have the inclination to manage them, we may simply not want to plant the vegetables which they impact. In some vegetables, we can select for pest resistance and make our gardening less frustrating and require less work. Not all plant groups have natural pest resistance, however. There is no resistance within the cabbage family to the caterpillars which feed on them. However, in vine crops, we can select cultivars that have powdery mildew resistance, a disease that affects our area's vine crops every year and can be very devastating. Many tomatoes have resistance to various root affecting fungi and some viruses, but there

is no natural resistance to our most common tomato diseases – Septoria leaf spot and early blight.

Some vegetables have types within which we need to choose. A good example is onions. In our region, we need to plant long-day onions and get them in the ground as early as feasible. Long-day onions will start forming the bulb after triggered to do so by nights being shorter than a certain number of hours. In our northern region, this occurs in mid to late June. If we plant short-day onions, such as Vidalia types, they would not be triggered to start forming their bulbs until way too late in our growing season and we would likely only get green, salad-type growth from them.

As an example, let's focus on the most commonly grown home garden vegetable = tomatoes. If you buy seed and start your own plants, you can choose from over 500 different cultivars. Buying plants locally, you may have 20-30 to choose. When you select a tomato cultivar, you are selecting for fruit size, color, and shape, but, most importantly, maturity and growth habit. You certainly want to have tomato fruits that meet your desires, whether that be for salads, sandwiches, or making salsa and other processing uses. However, you really need them to mature in our growing season and be ready when/how you want them.

Tomato plants come in all shapes and sizes, but the most important difference is whether they are determinate or indeterminate. Determinate tomatoes are generally more compact plants and they form all their flowers within a relatively short time frame, meaning that most of the fruits mature within a shorter time period. These are the types grown for commercial harvest to make into tomato products, but also work very well for home canners. Indeterminate tomatoes are more vining, larger plants which produce flowers up until they get killed by frost. This trait gives them more

yield capacity, but can also be frustrating, as they may put their energy into constant growth and blooming and not into maturing the fruits already set on the plant, leading to very late maturing fruit. You can help get around this by pruning off new blossoms starting in early to mid-August. There are also some tomatoes that are in between the two traits and are usually termed 'semi-determinate'.

The last point we will discuss is seed cost. 2020 was not the best seed production year for some vegetables and demand is already high, so seed cost is likely to be higher than recent years. You may need to do some searching at various locations or through multiple catalogs to find the cultivar you want, and don't be afraid to do some cost comparison. If you grow the same types of vegetables year after year, one simple way to cut cost per seed planted is to buy a larger quantity and freeze the seed you don't plant. Placing the seed in glass jars in a freezer is optimum, especially if you have a self-defrosting freezer. Non-defrosting freezers are better for seed storage, as you have more flexibility in containers utilized. Seed viability of most species is very good in the freezer, allowing you to plant them for many years, decades in some cases.

We can't review every possible decision point here, but if you do a little homework and look at resources such as the planting guide already referenced, you can find information to assist you. Anyone can always contact me, Scott Reuss, UW-Madison Division of Extension agriculture/horticulture agent, with any questions about vegetable selection, or any other horticultural or agricultural issue. I can be reached at 715-732-7510 or scott.reuss@wisc.edu. You can also find locally oriented horticulture management articles, including seed starting basics, at the Marinette Extension office webpage, under the horticulture tab at: <https://marinette.extension.wisc.edu/>

Photo ID needed for voting in next election

Wisconsin driver licenses or IDs are the most common form of identification used for voting purposes.

The Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is encouraging voters to check and be sure that they have the proper identification needed to vote in the next election on April 6. A federally compliant REAL ID card

is not required for voting purposes.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission allows other forms of identification are valid for voting purposes, such as military or student ID cards.

Voters looking to get their first Wisconsin ID can turn to DMV for help.

To obtain an official ID card, there

are documentation requirements such as a birth certificate.

If all documentation is not readily available, the ID Petition Process (IDPP) can be used to obtain a receipt valid for voting while the remaining documents or verifications are obtained.

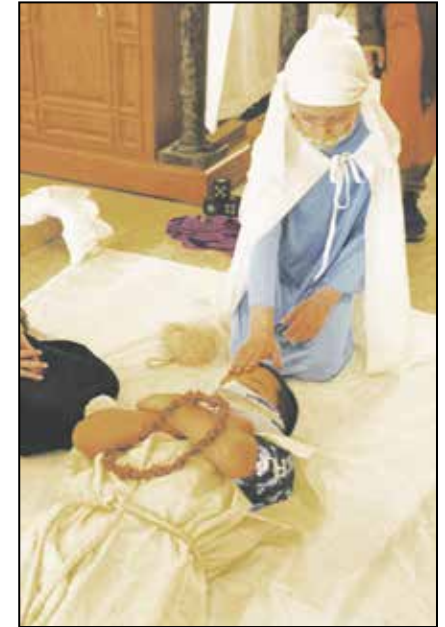
DMV offers this service and ID

cards for voting purposes free of charge.

DMV's toll-free Voter ID hotline at 844-588-1069 is available for questions on obtaining an ID to vote.

DMV's website has a locator to help find the nearest DMV and check wait times (wisconsinidmv.gov/centers).

Bearing the cross as Easter approaches



Evelyn Mathwich, portraying Mary, prepares the body of Jesus, played by Hudson Bohm for burial during the annual Stations of the Cross prayer play on March 22 at Sacred Heart Catholic School. More photos can be found on the school's website, <https://sacredheartshawano.org/back-to-school>. CONTRIBUTED

LEFT: Hudson Bohm, portraying Jesus, falls for the second time while carrying the cross as on-lookers, from left, Kaylor Van Gheem, Cal Dudek and Gavin Springborn observe. Second- and third-grade students at Sacred Heart Catholic School presented the school's annual Stations of the Cross prayer play on March 22 to students and staff. Teachers Paula Kundinger and Holly Montoure prepared them over several weeks. Music teacher Vicki Wagner accompanied the students on the piano. CONTRIBUTED

Mobile mammography unit schedule expands

The city of Oconto Falls and its surrounding communities will soon have greater access to breast health screenings thanks to mobile mammography that will be offered on the campus of HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital.

Starting Friday, April 2, a mobile mammography unit will travel to the HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital Prevea Oconto Falls Health Center, 835 S. Main St., Oconto Falls on the first, third and fourth Fridays of each month and the second Monday of each month. Appointments will be available between 8:40 a.m. and 2:40 p.m.

The unit, fully accredited by the American College of Radiology, is equipped with mammography technology that has the capability to provide 3-D and/or digital images. It

also features two changing rooms and a waiting room and is staffed by a registered mammography technologist.

Prevea Health and HSHS Eastern Wisconsin hospitals launched the mobile mammography unit in 2018 to provide residents in rural areas greater access to high-quality breast health screenings. The unit also currently travels to HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital Prevea Health Centers in Gillett, Lena and Mountain, as well as Prevea Health Centers in Oconto, Pulaski, Shawano, Marinette and other northeast Wisconsin communities.

Appointments in any of those communities can be made by calling 920-496-4789. To learn about the mobile mammography unit and watch a video tour, visit www.prevea.com/mammo

All women should talk with their



Health care providers plan to bring this mobile mammography unit to Oconto Falls at least once a week starting Friday, April 2. CONTRIBUTED

health care provider about the appropriate timing for screening mammograms, especially women who are age 40 or high-risk. A schedule will be based upon an individual's health. At

age 40, any woman may wish to begin regular screening mammograms. By age 45, women should have a screening mammogram and continue to have one at least every other year.

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MARATHON COUNTY TAX DEED LAND SALE

TAKE NOTICE: That pursuant to Sec. 75.69, WI Statutes and Sec. 3.20, Marathon County General Code of Ordinances, four (4) parcels of tax delinquent real estate acquired by Marathon County, Wisconsin, hereinafter described are being offered for sale by sealed bid at a price not less than the appraised value or set value. Marathon County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Any special assessments in the process of collection shall be the liability of the purchaser. contact the municipal clerk for outstanding special assessments.

TAKE NOTE: TAX DEED PROPERTIES-It is the Bidder's sole responsibility to:

1. Investigate properties prior to putting in a bid to Marathon County.
2. Check if any special assessments are due on properties listed by contacting the municipal clerk.
3. Do additional research if more information is required than what is noted in the advertisement.

The sealed bids must be submitted on the Marathon County Land Sale Bid Form, which may be obtained from the Marathon County Clerk's Office at 500 Forest Street, Wausau, WI 54403. Bid forms may also be obtained from the Marathon County webpage:

<http://www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/CountyClerk/TaxDeedProperty.aspx>

Each sealed bid envelope shall properly identify the parcel and sale #.

Individual sealed bids will be accepted in the office of Kim Trueblood, Marathon County Clerk, Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau, WI 54403 by noon, Tuesday, May 11, 2021. A 10% deposit by **cashier's check or money order**, payable to the Marathon County Treasurer must accompany all bids. No personal checks will be accepted. Deposits will be refunded to unsuccessful bidders.

Bids will be publicly opened, read and awarded by the Marathon County Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee at their meeting, Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. at the Marathon County Courthouse, Assembly Room, 500 Forest Street, Wausau, WI. Bids will be awarded according to criteria set forth in Sec. 3.20(6)(a) of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances. A copy of Sec. 3.20(6)(a) of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances can be obtained on the Marathon County website at www.co.marathon.wi.us. The Marathon County Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee may accept the bid most advantageous to Marathon County and reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Description:	Set Value:
City of Wausau, SALE # 2021-5 1427 Lake Street Roosevelt Park Add #2, Lot 12, Blk 6 #291-2907-344-0315	\$ 5,000
City of Wausau, SALE #2021-6 315 N. 5 th Avenue CF Dunbars Add N 60' of Lot 4, Blk 11 #291-2907-263-0145	\$ 15,000
City of Wausau, SALE #2021-7 1111 W. Bridge Street Green Valley Add Lot 7, Blk 6 #291-2907-262-0215	\$ 8,000
City of Wausau, SALE #2021-8 1405 Brady Street Woodland Meadows Add Lot 11, Blk 5 #291-2907-224-0083	\$ 174,000

WNAXLP

Official Ballot

Nonpartisan Office
April 6, 2021

Notice to voters: If you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initiated by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initiated by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (date and time) for initiation.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT USE RED INK!

General Instructions

If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help (absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk).

To vote for a name on the ballot, complete the arrow next to the name like this: →

To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and complete the arrow next to the name like this: →

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

State Superintendent
Vote for 1

Jill Underly →

Deborah Kerr →

write-in: →

Judicial

Court of Appeals Judge
District 1
Vote for 1

Rick Cveky →

Gregory B. Gill, Jr. →

write-in: →

Circuit Court Judge
Branch 1
Vote for 1

Katie Sioma →

write-in: →

Continues voting at top of next column.

Municipal

Village President
Vote for 1

William J. Switalia →

write-in: →

Village Trustee
Vote for not more than 3

David Timm →

Marlene Wepner →

Sharon Beversdorf →

Theresa L. Galz →

write-in: →

write-in: →

write-in: →

Continues voting at top of next column.

School District

School District of
Wittenberg-Biramwood
School Board Member
Area 2
Vote for 1

Jolene Lex →

Cory Schalrer →

write-in: →

School Board Member
Area 4
Vote for 1

Kristy Meredith →

write-in: →

School Board Member
Area 5
Vote for 1

Jason C. Hanson →

write-in: →

Official Ballot
Nonpartisan Office
April 6, 2021
for
Village of Wittenberg
Ward 1
Wittenberg School Dist.
Shawano County

Ballot issued by: _____

Initiated by (Signature/Date): _____

Absentee Ballot Issued by: _____

Initiated by (Signature/Date): _____

Initiated by (Signature/Date): _____

Certification of Voter Assistance
I certify that I marked or read about this ballot as the request and direction of a voter who is authorized under Wis. Stat. §6.82 to receive assistance.

Signature of assessor: _____

WNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reclamation Plan Modification (Bohlman East Pit)

In accordance with Shawano County Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance, we are hereby giving notice that a modification has been made to the Bohlman East Pit non-metallic mining reclamation plan. Section 15.10(1) of the ordinance requires public notice of application and opportunity for a public informational hearing. Contact Scott Konkle, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC), 400 Ahnaip Street, Suite 100, Menasha, WI 54952, (920) 751-4770, (the County's Agent) for designated plan review locations.

Initial Post Date: April 2, 2021 – Please express concerns to the above address, including any request for holding a public informational hearing to County's Agent within 30 days of post date.

DESCRIPTION OF MINE SITE:

Owner of Property: Frank Bohlman

Applicant: Hanson Sanitation & Excavation, Inc.

Location of Mine Site: East of County OO – ¼ South of Lull Avenue

Legal Description: W1/2 of SW1/4, Section 31, T28N, R11E, Village of Eland, Shawano County, Parcel No. 121313300000

EXPLANATION: The Bohlman East Pit is an existing sand and gravel pit. This permit modification addresses an increase to the extraction area by 10 acres. The mine will be reclaimed to agricultural crop lands and pasture.

WNAXLP

newmedia-wi.com

Visit newmedia-wi.com for the results after Tuesday's election

Notice of Spring Election – Tuesday, April 6, 2021 Polling Place Locations

Notice is hereby given that a Spring Election will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 in the Towns, Villages and City in 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.

<u>Town, Village or City</u>	<u>Polling Place</u>	<u>Town, Village or City Hall Address</u>	<u>Municipal Clerk</u>
Town of Almon	Almon Town Hall	N8096 Regina Rd, Bowler	Heather Matsche
Town of Aniwa	Aniwa Town Hall	W17712 Co Rd. Z, Birnamwood	Tammy Resch
Town of Birnamwood	Birnamwood Town Hall	N9291 Riverview Rd, Birnamwood	Dennis Knaak
Town of Germania	Germania Town Hall	W18101 Co. Rd. M, Tigerton	Kathryn Breaker
Town of Morris	Morris Town Hall	N15320 Berg Rd, Tigerton	Vicki Kennedy
Town of Wittenberg	Wittenberg Town Hall	W17395 Co Rd. Q, Wittenberg	Linda Fletcher
Village of Birnamwood	Matsche Community Center	362 Railroad St. Birnamwood	Lauri Klumpyan
Village of Eland	Eland Village Hall	W19141 Maple St, Eland	Marnie Osterbrink
Village of Wittenberg	Wittenberg Community Center	208 W. Vinal St, Wittenberg	Traci Matsche

Notice of Meeting of the Local Board of Canvassers

At the close of voting on Election Day, pursuant to the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 19.84, the Election Inspectors at each polling place will convene as the Local Canvassing Board for the purpose of conducting the local canvass pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.51. This meeting will be open to the public pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 19.81-89.

Notice of Meeting of the Local and Municipal Board of Canvassers

At the close of voting on Election Day, pursuant to the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 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 canvasses pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 7.51 and 7.53(1). This meeting will be open to the public pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 19.81-89.

WNAXLP

Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District Official Minutes of the Board of Education February 15, 2021

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

Roll Call of the Board: Seven members present Pestka and Schmidt absent.

Approve the Minutes: (Pestka - Schmidt) moved to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2021 regular meeting as circulated. Motion carried. Meredith-abstain.

Delegations & Communications: In attendance along with Board members were: Garrett Rogowski, Joy Hartleben, Randy Berndt, Megan Marcks, Vicky Haas, Bill Hass, Nikki Steigerwald, Jackie Berndt and Shannon Seegmiller.

The Board received two thank yous for memorial gifts.

Nikki Steigerwald presented the "Tools of the Mind" and explained how the students are engaged in learning for 4K and Kindergarten and answering any questions from the Board.

Jacki Berndt presented the "Into Reading" program for student engaged learning in grades 1-5 and answering any questions from the Board.

Financial Report: (Magee - Stewart) Motion to pay the following as of February 15, 2021: Budgetary checks numbering 103505-103662 in the amount of \$149,800.85, payroll checks numbering 142060-142080 in the amount of \$22,552.48, direct deposit advices in the amount of \$406,378.60, ACH payments in the amount of \$177,389.36 and credit card payments in the amount of \$13,374.63. I make a motion to approve all journal entries made for the month of January. Roll call vote: 7 yes Pestka-Schmidt absent. Motion carried.

Superintendent Rogowski reported a cash on deposit as of December 31, 2020 of \$2,360,138.56 and LGIP

Account balance as of December 31, 2020 of \$77,957.99.

Approve Agenda: (T Wendler - Stewart) moved to approve the agenda with one closed session regarding a parent request. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports:

Vicky Haas, Wittenberg Elementary/Middle School Principal shared that the staff are beginning their third round of data meetings to review reading and math data. She is meeting with teachers to review the mid-year progress on their Student Learning Objective and Professional Practice Goals. Access testing for our English learners starters next week with Forward Testing to begin right before spring break.

Randy Berndt, Birnamwood Elementary/Middle School Principal shared some important dates. He stated that the PBIS Tier 1 and 2 committees have been quite busy with Tier 1 work in incentives to keep students motivated and Tier 2 starting an after school tutoring program. Jenn Steinke has begun a book study with other staff and Joe Ladika is using an innovative formative assessment tool call PLICKERS, which the students seem to enjoy.

Megan Marcks, Pupil Services Director stated that for the second semester we have 18 students in Wittenberg doing virtual, Birnamwood 34 students and the High School 21 students. This is somewhat down in numbers compared to first semester. Gretchen Leattu from Cesa 2 started her 2nd round of coaching at Wittenberg regarding our disproportionate plan. The High School Functional Life Skills Course continues to apply learned skills in the community and in the kitchen.

Bill Hass, High School Principal congratulated David Gauderman for being 4th in State Wrestling, sophomores participated in PreAct tests on January 28th. Graduation is tentatively planned for May 28th with Jason Resch as the guest speaker.

Jeff Miller, Maintenance Supervisor stated that they are still working on getting the noise down from the air handlers in the gym. The Aquatic Center HVAC system is mostly replaced but still some ongoing work to be done. Still having problems with the boiler pressure.

Garrett Rogowski, Superintendent, stated he would like to meet with the whole Board on Monday, March 1st to go over new Capital Project Work.

New Business A: There was much discussion on the proposed 2021-2022 school calendar as far as the PLC days/time planned for staff. The administrative team will take another look at this and try to come up with a new plan for PLC time.

New Business B: (Magee- T Wendler) moved to approve the hire of Erica Beilke and Sheri Beilke as teacher assistants in Birnamwood, each working two days per week to finish out this school year. Motion carried.

New Business C: (T. Wendler - Pietz) moved to approve the Agreement with the Rural Virtual Academy for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried.

New Business D: There was a lot of discussion on whether to hold spring swim lessons. Concerns on having students from other districts coming in, too many adults, etc. There will need to be extra precautions taken so this will need to be thought out more before anything is planned.

New Business E: (Pietz - Olson) moved to approve the resignation of Tina Bacon as Assistant Golf Coach. Motion Carried. The Board would like to thank Tina for her time with the students in this capacity.

(Olson - Pietz) moved to approve the hire of Alexis Piatz as Assistant Golf Coach to take Ms Bacon's place.

Motion carried.

Adjournment: (Stewart - Magee) moved to adjourn, 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Joy A Hartleben

School Board Secretary

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