



Oconto Falls High School students engage in a game of rock, paper, scissors on Feb. 6 at the request of motivational speaker Brian Johnson. Those students are now part of an effort to collect 1,500 pairs of shoes in 15 days that will go to children in need in the United States and Kenya. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Oconto Falls schools want to get your shoes

Motivational speaker pushing students to collect 1,500 pairs

BY LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Oconto Falls schools could soon be drowning in shoes, but that will all depend on how kind their students are. Oconto Falls High School and Washington Middle School will work with motivational speaker Brian Johnson to collect at least 1,500 pairs of shoes that would be distributed in the United States and Kenya to children in need this summer. For Johnson, president and founder of Think Kindness, it's the simplest acts of kindness that make the biggest difference in the world. The challenge for the students is that they only have 15 days to collect the shoes. Johnson spent about an hour Feb. 6

SHOES, CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Motivational speaker Brian Johnson speaks with a pair of Oconto Falls High School students Feb. 6 as Washington Middle School students depart the high school gymnasium during an assembly about committing acts of kindness that's triggering an ambitious shoe drive. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Hearing delayed in child enticement court case

Defense argues that a federal judge already took Oconto County charges into consideration

BY WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

A hearing was postponed again Feb. 7 for a Peshtigo man serving time in a federal prison and charged with exploiting and sexually assaulting teenage girls in Oconto County. Zachary A. Zastawniak, 24, was scheduled to enter pleas Dec. 11, but that hearing was delayed while his attorneys studied whether to file a motion to dismiss based on double jeopardy. He had been sentenced in September to 25 years in federal prison, followed by 25 years of extended supervision for child sex exploitation. Judge Jay Conley signaled he was prepared to move forward on the double jeopardy question, although he said the U.S. Supreme Court had upheld dual sovereignty as recently as 2019. Defense attorney Kirk Obeare did not file the expected motion after all, but he did provide District Attorney Hannah Schuchart with a transcript of Zastawniak's sentencing hearing, during which he said U.S. District Judge William Griesbach took Oconto County victim impact information into consideration. "Judge Griesbach indicated on the re-

ZASTAWNIAK, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Zachary A. Zastawniak confers with defense attorney Kirk Obeare after an appearance in Oconto County Circuit Court on Feb. 7. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

INSIDE

WRVM general manager and his wife near their 49th anniversary.

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IF ONLY TREES COULD TALK...

Kathleen Marsh tells all about the Northwoods!

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Washington Middle School histories to be shared

Memories include a devastating 1957 fire

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

Members of the English Language Arts Department at Washington Middle School are planning a special event May 22 to help the community say goodbye to the aging facility.

After a successful referendum, a new Oconto Falls Middle School is under construction on County Road I across from the high school, and the new building is expected to open for the 2025-26 school year in September.

About a dozen former Washington students and staff attended an informational meeting Feb. 6 to get planning started for the May event.

Language arts teacher Ashley Maederer invited attendees to visit classrooms to share their memories of the school and its history.

“Our students don’t know that there was a fire here. Our students don’t know that this used to be a high school,” Maederer said. “They just don’t know, and we need your oral histories to share those.”

Lori Rowland, who has taught at Washington Middle School for 31 years, said the students and teachers will work together to present what they’ve learned about the school’s history.

“There’s so much we don’t know,” Rowland said. “We just knew that we couldn’t close the doors and not have something for the public.”

Maederer said visits would be scheduled in March for people to share their memories of the school and be interviewed by the students. Alternatively they could arrange to write their stories or be interviewed at home by their children or grandchildren.

“We hope that you are willing to come and spend some time with some students,” Maederer said. “If you’re comfortable in a whole group setting still, that’s great. If you’re comfortable in a small group setting, that’s good too. Whatever your comfort level is, we will work with you.”

Dale Seering of the Oconto Falls Historical Society suggested a walking tour where long-ago staff and students explain the background of certain areas of the school and talk about the teachers who taught there.

The building served as Oconto Falls High School from its construction during World War I until 1966, when the new high school was built on North Farm Road.

Much of the conversation revolved around the March 1957 fire that destroyed much of the structure; only the three-story gymnasium remains of the original building at the corner of Adams Street and Central Avenue.

“We heard the sirens and everything, and I saw the smoke,” said Marilyn Mayer, who lived across from Memorial Field at the time.

Seering said he was a seventh grader in 1957, and he and his classmates helped save materials and belongings from being lost in the fire.

“The seventh and eighth grade classrooms on this



Washington Middle School teacher Ashley Maederer invites attendees at a Feb. 6 informational meeting to share their memories of the school, which is scheduled to close at the end of this academic year. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

end, we had a human chain,” Seering said. “We passed things out of the classroom one to another to another to another, and we put it all on the lawn where basically where the gymnasium is now.”

The fire started in the attic of the old school, where band instruments and records were stored and a lot of dust and dirt had accumulated, he said.

Classes were mostly scattered around the city to other facilities until the high school could be rebuilt, Seering said. There were two exceptions.

“After the fire, seventh and eighth grade stayed here,” he said. “They went back into their classrooms and the hallway was boarded off, and we had heat because the boiler was in the basement underneath us.”

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Much of Washington Middle School was rebuilt in 1957 following a fire that destroyed a large part of the original building, which was constructed during World War I. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Oklahoma woman waives extradition

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

The Oklahoma woman who left that state in violation of her placement plan waived extradition during a brief hearing in Oconto County Circuit Court on Feb. 5.

Shea Lynn McClain, 38, of Collinsville, Oklahoma, was found not guilty by reason of mental illness in a fatal 2013 traffic crash in Tulsa County, and she was committed to a mental health institution. As part of her release back into the community, she was ordered not to leave the county or the state.

When McClain was being processed at a Green Bay area mental health hospital, a routine check revealed that a fugitive warrant had been issued in Oklahoma, alleging that she had violated the terms of her release.

McClain had been

charged with manslaughter in the first degree in connection with a car wreck Dec. 5, 2013, that led to the death of Cameron Hood, 24, a photojournalist for KJRH-TV Channel 2 in Tulsa. McClain failed to stop at a stop sign and ran into the car Hood was driving, killing him. Her car was traveling between 96 and 104 mph in a 40 mph zone at the time of the collision.

During the Feb. 5 hearing before Judge Michael Judge, public defender Brad Hansen said he and another attorney in his office had spoken with McClain about her rights.

“I believe she understands the rights that she has to contest extradition, to require the state of Oklahoma to obtain a governor’s warrant; she’s aware of the time frames involved in that,” Hansen said, adding that McClain was now prepared to



Shea Lynn McClain is escorted from an Oconto County courtroom after waiving extradition back to Oklahoma, where she violated the terms of her release from a mental health facility after being found not guilty by reason of mental illness in a fatal 2013 traffic crash. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

waive extradition.

She signed the extradition waiver document in Judge’s presence during the hearing.

District Attorney Hannah Schuchart said she has

been in contact with Tulsa County authorities, and they plan to send a deputy to retrieve McClain within a week or two.

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ZASTAWNIAK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cord specifically that he was incorporating and considering that impact information” in determining the federal sentence, Obear said.

Zastawniak faces 26 felony charges in Oconto County Circuit Court: two counts of using a computer to facilitate a child sex crime, three counts of second-degree sexual assault of a child, three counts of child enticement, soliciting a child for prostitution, trafficking of a child, two counts of threatening to communicate derogatory information, five counts of felony bail jumping and eight counts of possession of child pornography.

According to the criminal complaint, a 15-year-old girl said she had sent Zastawniak explicit images of herself, and he later threatened to post them online unless she came to a hotel room and had sex with him.

In the federal case, Zastawniak was accused of sexually exploiting numer-

ous minor girls in Oconto County and northeast Wisconsin, coercing them in sex acts — some of which he recorded.

Schuchart said she had not had time to review the sentencing transcript.

“I think defense would like me to look at the transcript to see specifically what was talked about in hopes maybe that we could come to some agreeable charges and get the matter resolved,” Schuchart said.

Conley said he was frustrated that no progress has been made in resolving the case since December, but he agreed to schedule another hearing for 2 p.m. Feb. 27.

“On that date, I want one of three things to happen,” Conley said. “I want us to either schedule a trial, schedule a plea hearing if there’s going to be a resolution, or if there’s a resolution before that date, let’s have a plea hearing.”

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OBITUARIES

Rosella Laverne Greetan, 83, Oconto Falls, died Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025.

She was born Dec. 31, 1941, in Oconto Falls to George Laverne and Lila Mae (Hodgins) Diedrich. Rose grew up in Gillett, where she was raised by her aunt and uncle, Esther and Carl Wilke.

She married Darryl Greetan Sr. on Dec. 28,



1963, in Gillett. While he served in the military, they lived in Texas, and eventually returned to Oconto Falls to raise their two children, Crystal and Darryl.

Rose was a longtime member of St. Anthony's Catholic Parish. She was a machine operator for Pulaskee Shoe Factory and also later worked for Elliott Glove, Piggly Wiggly and

Ben Franklin. She made friends with many wonderful people throughout her retail career.

More than anything, Rose loved to spend time with and watching her grandchildren. She also looked forward to watching future great grandchildren. She will be remembered as helpful and friendly toward all.

Rose is survived by

her daughter, Crystal (Mark) Podoski, of Oconto Falls; son, Darryl (Tonia) Greetan, of Oconto Falls; four grandchildren, William Podoski, Lindsey, Natalie and Jackson Greetan; a very special niece, Laura Ankerson; sister, Linda DeHut, of Oconto Falls; and brother, George (Mary) Diedrich, of Oconto Falls.

She was preceded in

death by her parents, George and Lila; husband of 61 years, Darryl; three brothers, Elmer, Gordon and Elroy; and two sisters, Gloria Nellis and Sharon Ankerson.

A prayer service for family and friends will be held Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Jones Funeral Service. Burial will take place at St. Anthony Cemetery in Oconto Falls.

Sue Ann Rowell, 72, of Oconto Falls, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025, with family by her side.

Sue was born Feb. 18, 1952, to the late Claude and Patricia McGlachlin. She met her soulmate, Alvin Rowell, when she was 16, and they were married Aug. 17, 1968. For a couple of years, Sue was a stay-at-home mom. She then began her career as a



certified nursing assistant, first at Bellin Hospital and then the nursing home in Gillett. Later, Sue became a food prep cook at the Falls Family Diner for 13 years. She still enjoyed visiting regularly.

Sue enjoyed camping, reading, and playing games. She was an avid Star Trek viewer.

Sue is survived by her husband of 56 years, Alvin;

two sons, Alvie Rowell Jr. and Jeremy (Amanda) Rowell; grandchildren, Hayley Rowell, Abigail (Ben) Miller, Austin Rowell and Bradley Rowell, and their mother, Laura; best friend, Paula Dickinson; siblings, Karen Hansen, Patti Boulanger, Wendy McGlachlin and Jeff McGlachlin. She is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other

relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Dawn Rowell; sister, Sharon Linsmeyer.

A celebration of life will be held in the summer.

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 Unity Hospice for the wonderful care and compassion offered to Sue and her family during their time of need.



SHOES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

talking to the students about how simple acts of kindness make a difference, whether it's telling someone they're awesome or joining a plane full of people in a game of rock, paper, scissors. He pointed out that everyone has

some kind of talent that can be used for good.

"You should be proud of the things that you're good at," Johnson said. "If you're good at something, you have the responsibility to use the thing you're good at in a way that helps

other people."

Johnson's focus on shoes for those in need started when he was in college. A professor tasked him and his classmates to come up with a plan to come up with an event that would garner media at-

tention. There were three teams, and the two that Johnson weren't in came up with a 5K race and a hot dog eating contest, and only one radio station covered the eating contest.

"My team, we decided to do something completely different," Johnson said. "We decided to see if we could get two middle schools and three high schools to see if they could band together to make a massive difference in the world, but to see if they could do it in 15 days."

The professor was skeptical about the idea when Johnson's team turned the paper in, and on the cover page, he wrote: "If

you want to make a bigger difference, change your audience," indicating that the idea of making a difference and doing it in 15 days was attainable, but that it wasn't something that those who hadn't reached adulthood could achieve, because they didn't have wealth and resources like adults did.

Johnson set out to prove the professor wrong. He said a sophomore at one of the high schools suggested collecting shoes, and he was excited about the prospect, but what would make the news media think it was a story worth covering? He did some research and learned that about 300 million children in the world currently go barefoot in the world.

"Put this number in perspective," Johnson said. "This would be like the vast majority of the United States of America being so poor that Mom and Dad couldn't even afford a pair of shoes."

He added that 2.4 billion pairs of new shoes were purchased in a single year, which prompted the question of where 2.4 billion pairs of old shoes went, and the vast majority ended up in the trash or left in a closet. That led Johnson to realize that if he could get the kids to give shoes they no longer wanted to those who have gone without, it would make a big difference.

The original project for those five schools was to collect 5,000 pairs of shoes. They wound up collecting 8,000 pairs, according to Johnson, after a newspaper story indicated they were crazy for setting such a goal, and the students did it by writing their churches, the elemen-

tary schools in the area and other places to get them involved.

The mission didn't stop there for Johnson, though. Those shoes had to go somewhere, and someone had to distribute them. That culminated into a trip to Kenya.

The trip was eye-opening for Johnson, because he learned that children in the community he went to could only go to school if they had the essentials.

"Kenya, as itself, cannot afford to send everybody to school," Johnson said. "Their way to weed out people is writing utensils, backpacks, school uniforms and shoes."

Johnson said he was surprised when he arrived on a Saturday morning to distribute the shoes and saw a line of 2,000 children, eager to get something they'd never had before.

"When you give a child a pair of shoes for the first time, it's an experience you never forget," Johnson said.

One of the pairs of shoes went on a boy named Peter, who eventually became an Olympic runner who broke a four-minute mile, and Johnson pointed out that the shoes sitting in someone's closet can be donated and totally change someone's life.

"When you do an act of kindness, you put a ripple out in the world," Johnson said. "Unfortunately, we don't get to see where those ripples go. Some might die away. Some might continue just like Peter's. We don't get to see, but we just have that faith that the ripple is going to reach a person on the day they need it the most."



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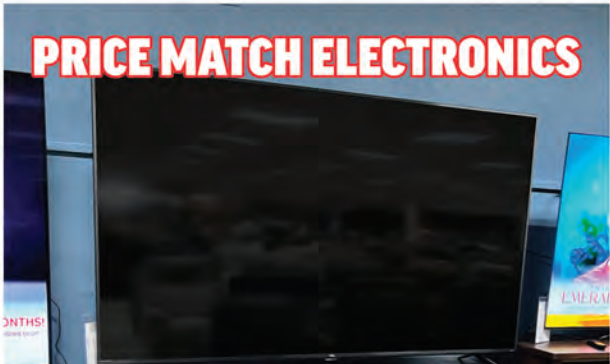
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Six receive confirmation at Sacred Heart



Six Shawano Community High School students made the holy sacrament of confirmation Feb. 5. Participating in the ceremony were, front row, from left, Ayden Bystol, Kyle Roe, Andrew Hanssen, the Most Rev. Bishop David Ricken, Sydney Mitchell, Olivia Dobratz and Ava Wachtel. In back are Deacon James Lonick, left, and the Rev. Edward Looney. CONTRIBUTED

Free online tax-filing system now open

Direct File allows eligible folks to file taxes directly with IRS

By PETER CAMERON
The Badger Project

Americans spend billions getting help filing their taxes every year, but a new online system with the IRS allows eligible taxpayers to file for free, including in Wisconsin.

The federal Direct File system "integrates seam-

lessly" with the state's free online filing program WiSTax, the state Department of Revenue said in a news release, allowing eligible filers to submit their state return as well.

You can check if you are eligible on the IRS website. More than 600,000 Wisconsin residents, those who have

simple tax situations, can use Direct File in 2025, the IRS said.

The systems began allowing usage on Jan. 27. Tax filings are generally due by April 15.

Direct File can save taxpayers time and money by importing their tax information directly from the IRS, the agency said.

Live support from IRS staff is available Monday through Friday.

Funding for the Direct File system was included in the massive American investment bill, the Inflation Reduction Act, passed in 2022.

After seeing its funding cut for many years, the IRS got a restoration of \$60 billion in that bill to do things like increase enforcement on corporations and the wealthiest Americans, which projects to raise tax revenue, as well as provide better customer service for tax filers.

The bill also paid for the Direct File system. A trial run in 2024 allowed tens of thousands of taxpayers in several states to use the free program. They saved about \$5.6 million in filing costs, according to an IRS estimate.

For those who would rather get help from a person and have income under \$67,000, you can use the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which provides free tax prep services. The program can handle a broader range of tax situations than Direct File, and their tax centers are open in many parts of the state. To find the one closest to you, call 800-906-9887, or check the VITA Locator Tool online.

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AGAINST ALL ODDS



Mike and Nancy Cornell enjoy a steak dinner on their 49th wedding anniversary. The Cornells have served many years at radio station WRVM, where Mike Cornell is the general manager. CONTRIBUTED

Voice tells Marion woman to bake pies

White keeps baking at age 73 from her home

By KAY REMINGER
Correspondent

"Buy the tent. Bake the pies." Patti White felt she heard an almost audible voice when awakening one morning, thinking she was dreaming. Over and over that day, the thought reoccurred to her, and perceiving it to be a divine assignment, she indeed bought a tent and started baking pies.

White kept thinking, "Nobody's gonna buy my pies." Her friend encouraged her to try it. That week, she brought three pies and two cakes to a farmers market and sold two pies and both cakes.

"You'd have thought I'd won the lottery, I was so excited," White said. The rest, as they say, is history.

At that point, White had been released unexpectedly from a banking job and was at a crossroads in her life. Knowing her love of baking was hidden in the deep recesses of her heart she thought, "Maybe someday I could do this" is kind of how it started.

With the encouragement of a friend, White launched Pies by Patti, a business located at her home in Marion.

White bakes her goodies in her certified, state-inspected downstairs kitchen. Because she's licensed, all sales must be labeled with ingredients listed. White makes all her fillings from scratch using eggs, milk and sugar.

"Just like Grandma used to make," she said.

White's pies have satisfied the palate of many customers, enticing them back for more. She's also baked cookies and bars and has made pies for celebratory occasions such as weddings, birthdays, graduations and anniversaries.

Offering raspberry, blackberry and

PIES, CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Kelly Lake couple going on their 49th year of marriage

By NATHAN BIRR
Correspondent

Mike and Nancy Cornell started their marriage with the odds against them.

"When we went in for our premarital counseling, we each filled out a questionnaire," Nancy Cornell said. "Our answers were so opposite that our pastor said, 'According to your answers, you two should not get married,' and here we now are working on our 49th year of marriage."

The couple first met each other at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. Mike and Nancy entered the three-year program at the same time, and their paths crossed during student life-group activities. Because they both lived in lower Michigan, Mike could provide Nancy a ride home, or at least halfway there.

"She found out where I lived and that I had a car," Mike Cornell said.

"He had a car, and I lived past where he lived," Nancy Cornell said. "He would give me a ride to his house. So, my folks would come to his house to finish up the trip. We weren't dating; he was just giving me a ride home."

During the second year at Moody, a friend group of Mike and a friend group of Nancy attended a student banquet together.

"And I made sure to sit next to Mike," Nancy Cornell said.

While seated together at the table, Mike asked Nancy if she would like to go with him to a concert that took place after the meal.

"It was a spur-of-the-moment type thing; it wasn't premeditated," Mike Cornell said.

She said "yes," and that was their first date. Ten months after they graduated from Moody in 1975, Mike made his successful but not-so-smooth proposal of marriage.



Mike and Nancy Cornell stand together on their wedding day Aug. 21, 1976. They first met each other while attending Moody Bible Institute in downtown Chicago. CONTRIBUTED

"It took forever," Nancy Cornell said. "It was February, and it was cold. We were in the car and talking, and I knew he was going to ask me, but he just sat there silent, but he finally did after sitting in the car for hours."

She said "yes," and they were married Aug. 21, 1976, in Hazel Park, Michigan. During the rehearsal for the wedding ceremony, a policeman interrupted and informed them that Mike's father was in the hospital after suffering a massive heart attack.

"The wedding was one disaster after an-

other, the craziest wedding I had ever been to," Nancy Cornell said. "Flower and candle decorations were catching fire. The front zipper on a groomsman's pants was broken. It was forgotten to microphone the preacher, so he had to holler the whole time."

To top that off, there was a delay at the reception dinner with the catering. The caterers failed to previously mention that they would not serve food until they were paid.

"They wouldn't serve 'til we found somebody in the congregation that had that money in cash," Nancy Cornell said. "And he had to go to his store, which was 20 miles away, to get cash out of his register."

The newlyweds spent their honeymoon at Paradise Lake, near Mackinaw City. Shortly after, Mike began a career in radio broadcasting. The Cornells lived their first decades in Michigan, Alabama and Washington.

In 1996, the Cornells moved to Wisconsin when Mike joined the staff at the radio station WRVM in Suring — where he is currently the general manager.

Looking back on their nearly half century of marriage, Mike and Nancy Cornell have some advice to give.

"To newlyweds, we would say, 'Put God first,'" said Mike Cornell. "Each day, have prayer together and a time of devotions in the Word. It's not a magic pill, but Jesus makes all the difference."

"And understand that love is not really a feeling but a commitment," Nancy Cornell said. "I'm so glad that we had a Sunday school teacher that encouraged us to attend a marriage conference of some kind every year."

Their advice for the those reaching 25 years of marriage is to celebrate.

"Renew your vows, only this time write them yourself," Nancy Cornell said.



Patti White stirs up the ingredients for a banana cream pie recently at her home in Marion. White makes a variety of pies and sells them at various events in the Marion, Shawano and Clintonville areas. KAY REMINGER

Moses helps students take language back

Jeremiah Moses Jr. offers Shawano Community High School students the opportunity he wished he'd been given. The first-generation descendant of the Menominee Nation graduated from SCHS in 2020 without having the chance to study his people's language. This academic year, he is ensuring current high schools will be able to do so.

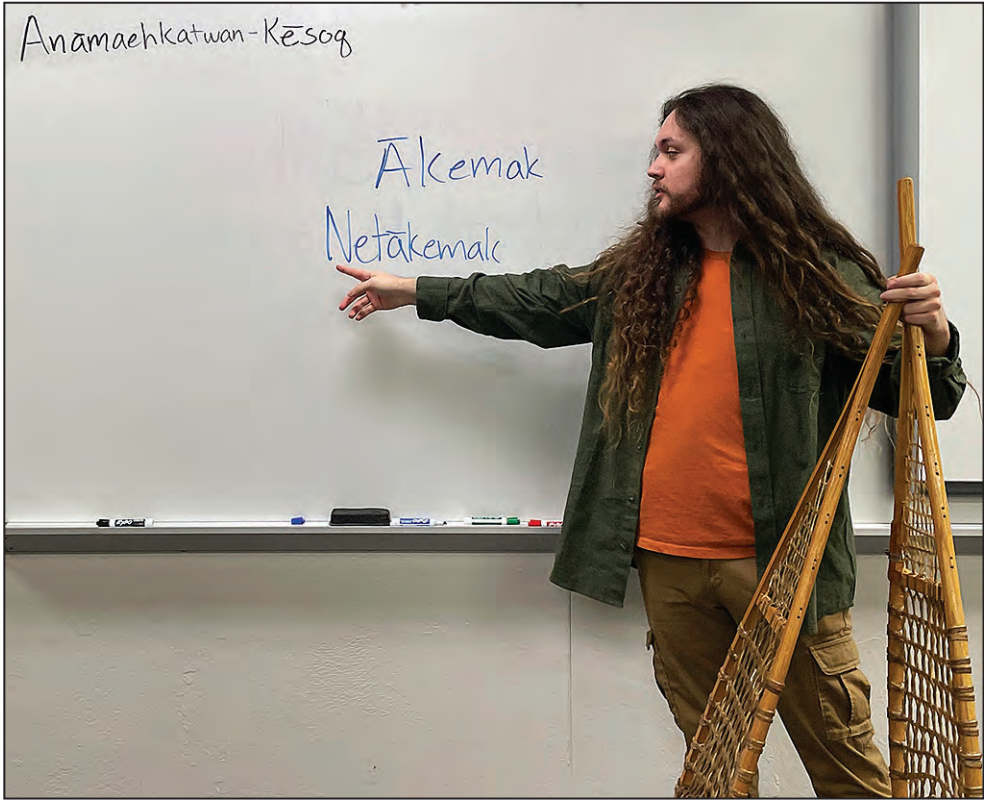
"I attended K-12 in the Shawano School District," Moses shared. "For a majority of my childhood and adolescent years, I only knew a handful of Menominee words that my parents remembered from when they were younger. I felt embarrassed to ask others, because I felt like I was supposed to know these things already."

During his junior year, a College of Menominee Nation recruiter extended the invitation Moses had been waiting to hear.

"I learned that CMN offered a course I could take for college credit," Moses said. "I went there every week over the spring 2019 semester. As I learned, I felt pride in myself and my ancestors that I never knew I could feel. I took a second language class in the fall semester."

Moses' first steps on his language journey had an immediate impact.

"My grades in high



Jeremiah Moses Jr. explains the inflection of snowshoes to his students at Shawano Community High School. JERICHO MOSES



school really saw a big improvement from my knowing myself better," he said. "I really owe a maec-waewaenen — big thanks — to my teacher, Jennifer Gauthier. She helped me find the door to our culture

and to myself." After his high school graduation, Moses continued to build upon his linguistic skills as a full-time student at CMN. "I used the language in projects at CMN, with other language speakers, and I still try to incorporate it into everything I do," Moses said. Moses' efforts did not go unnoticed. Inspiring a change from the tribal legislature, in June 2024, he

became the first descendant to both attempt and pass the Menominee Language and Culture Commission test certifying him as a teacher of the language. Moses' journey to the front of the Shawano classroom began this past summer. "My mom was having a conversation with Joel Doxtator, the Title VI high school liaison, and the conversation happened to come to the subject of

Indigenous language," he said. "When Joel heard I was a certified teacher, he expressed his interest in beginning a Menominee language class as an after-school program at Shawano." After taking a few months to work out the details, Moses held his first class with 15 Menominee students in November. Meeting on Wednesdays in the World Languages Hall from 2-3:30 p.m. each week, Moses explained his classroom is a welcoming space for learners. "I want my Menominee students to recognize that not knowing our language is not your fault. Federal policies tried to take it from us, but we can take it back," he said. "Most of the language that we cover is vocab-based, with bits of grammar worked in. I try to teach what is most relevant to the time of the year. Most recently we covered clothing items, because it's good to bundle up when it's cold out. "The class is open to anyone. As of right now, all the students are Menominee, but anyone in the high school can come to the class. Everyone is encouraged to come and gain more cultural understanding about Menominee people. That includes SSD

staff, if their schedule is open." When not teaching for his alma mater, Moses is working on an associate degree in education at CMN. Having already earned an associates of applied science in liberal studies, Moses said, "For my educational goals, I would really like to pursue a bachelor's in linguistics or history. The Integrated Studies in Sustainability Program at CMN looks very interesting as well." What's certain for now is that Moses is committed to teaching his students the lessons that he wished he'd had. "A consistent Menominee language class like this, during or after school, has never been offered at Shawano," he said. "Native American students are about one-fourth of the 2,100 students. This class is the first step in providing an opportunity for 500 Omaeqnomenewak (Menominee people) to learn more about our language, our history and our culture." For Menominee students attending SCHS, Moses' course is a wish come true.

Ryan Winn, Ph.D., teaches communications, English, history and theater at the College of Menominee Nation. Visit www.menominee.edu for more information about the school.

Kirby Omega still works, even with belt fiasco

My Kirby Omega Classic celebrated its 50th birthday right before Christmas. It's old and past its prime, but it still does the job, just like my husband, Jon. It cost me a month's salary, but my uncle was a Kirby salesman, so it was part family loyalty and part buy-the-best-you-can-afford. I have a newer one for the main level, but the Omega is all Jon's for vacuuming his dead animals room downstairs.

I met Jon 42 years ago on Feb. 4, 1983. We are an unlikely match, proving opposites do attract. You know: plus and minus, yin and yang, positive and negative. Most everyone thinks Jon's the positive pole; upbeat, congenial, great sense of humor. For the most part that's true, but he also has a negative streak that can drive me crazy. While he's tried valiantly to top what happened just before Christmas 2017, nothing can match the story of when his Kirby came down with Broken Belt Syndrome. We considered buying a new vacuum, but the Omega was still in good working condition, so we decided to try replacing the belt. Jon didn't (still doesn't) do computers. He wanted to drive 90 miles to Appleton to get a new one. "Come on," I said, "It's



almost 2018." I fired up my new laptop. (I'm writing this on No. 3. They sure don't make things to last like they used to.) I paid \$2.98 plus tax for three belts; \$5 for shipping. Happily reporting my success, I said: "Honey, for eight bucks we'll get the Kirby back to playing cleanup." He reacted with a skeptical frown, and out came the contrarian side of my otherwise almost perfect mate. Jon: "How do you know that'll fix the problem?" Me: "I don't, but I have to assume so because it was working fine until the belt broke." Jon: "How do you know the ones you ordered will fit?" Me: "Kirby belts are universal." Jon: "What if they're a piece of junk?" Me: "It says genuine Kirby parts on the package." Jon: "How can you be sure what's in the bag is what's printed on the bag?" Me: "I can't, but we're only wasting \$8 if this doesn't work."



The Kirby Omega ICB was manufactured by Scott and Fetzek from 1973 to 1976. Parts are still available to this day for this brand of vacuum. KATHLEEN MARSH

Jon: "Which it won't." Me: "Good grief, Gerty. I need an aspirin; I have a headache." When the belts arrived a week later, Jon examined them skeptically. "They seem sturdy enough but look too small." Now, knowing our past history of working together

fixing things, I suggested he do the job while I was grandma-sitting in Fitchburg. He agreed that was a great idea. Neither of us says it out loud, but we both know this time-tested strategy helps us prevent marriage-mayhem. While I'm 200 miles away enjoying my granddaughter, Jon

will install the new belt his way, without my uninvited, unwanted and unappreciated help. When I got back, Jon assured me the belt replacement went well, but I'd been home three days before he decided to test it. He pushed the vacuum around for a while, then yelled a familiar: "Honey, I've got problems!" Me: "What's wrong?" Jon: "Vacuum's running good but not picking up dirt." Me: "Usually that means the beater brush isn't rotating." We check. Yup. He spent half an hour trying to get the stupid thing to spin, so I said: "Let me check YouTube." Jon: "Go ahead, but you won't find anything." Ten minutes later, we're watching Kevin replace a Kirby belt. I really hit the YouTube jackpot with this Kevin dude. The perfect teacher, he models the process while explaining clearly what to do. Jon follows along, installs the new belt, turns the belt lifter and puts the head back on. I watch him work; I want to know how to do this if I ever have to. As he proceeds, I know he's not doing the belt lifter part right. I foolishly attempt to point this out; he tells me

to go finish the laundry. You know how sometimes you'd rather not be right? Yeah. He proceeds doing it his (wrong) way. When he fires up the Kirby, the brush doesn't turn. Now he's frustrated and angry. "See, I told you this wouldn't work." Me: "Honey, I think you did everything right except the belt lifter part." Jon: "I told you it wouldn't work." Me: "Why not try it again?" Jon: "All right, but it won't work." He gives it another try and a big smile lights up his still handsome face. "It'll work now," he says confidently as he reinstalls the head. I plug it in. He turns it on. Bag inflates, brush spins; vacuum slurps up everything in its path. I raise my arms in triumph. "Yay. You did it, Jon." He gives me a big hug and says, "Miracles do happen." Yes, they do, like that frigid February night I met this amazing man. I know I'm so lucky, but then sometimes...

Kathleen Marsh is a lifelong educator, writer and community advocate. She has published eight books, four on the history of Townsend, where she and husband Jon are happily retired on the beautiful Townsend Flowage.

GARDENING WITH MELINDA MYERS

Dahlia combinations for gardens and bouquets

Dahlias come in various colors, shapes and sizes, making them easy to include in any garden, container or bouquet. Grow them in their own dedicated space, mix them with other flowers or plant a few at the end of the vegetable garden.

Consider including different varieties of dahlias for added interest and beauty in the garden and your arrangements. Select colors that you imagine will look great together in a vase. This will make it easy to create a lot of creative combinations on the fly.

Grow dahlias with flowers of different shapes and sizes to create more interesting arrangements. Dahlias offer many options, and it's one of the reasons they are such a popular cut flower. Longfield Gardens provides help and inspiration in "Types of Dahlias: 8 Great Looks."

You'll find the widest range of colors and styles with new varieties in the decorative dahlia group continually being released. Add a bit of elegance to the garden and bouquets with Mondriaan's soft pink petals tinged with pastel yellow, apricot and lavender. Decorative dahlias make great cut



Dinnerplate dahlias, like this Berry Spritz collection, can grow up to 10 inches across on four- to five-foot-tall plants. LONGFIELDGARDENS.COM



flowers, and their sturdy stems make them easy to grow with other flowers in gardens and containers.

Add interesting texture to your gardens and bouquets with anemone-flowered and collarette dahlias. The anemone-flowered dahlias have a cluster of tubular florets in the center surrounded by more traditional petals. The two different lengths of petals in the collarette varieties add to their charm.

Enjoy an abundant harvest of cut flowers when growing ball and pompon dahlias. These perfectly round flowers are packed with tightly rolled petals and are long-lived in arrangements. Their size makes them excellent additions to mixed bouquets helping to connect the various flowers for an

impressive display.

The unique blossoms of waterlily dahlias have made it one of the most popular for cutting. The relatively flat flowers have tightly closed centers surrounded by several rows of flat or slightly curved petals.

Grow a few single dahlias for you and the pollinators to enjoy. The daisy-like flowers have a prominent center surrounded by a single row of petals. Their airy appearance complements a variety of late-season perennials in the garden and bouquets. Mix in a few peony-flowered varieties for a showier display. These also have a prominent center but are surrounded by two or more layers of petals.

Add a bit of excitement to any arrangement with cactus and semi-cactus varieties. Their tightly curled petals make them a standout in the garden and bouquets.

You'll only need one or a few dinnerplate dahlia blooms to make a statement in a vase or arrangement. The large flowers can grow up to 10 inches across on four- to five-foot-tall plants. Tag team a pair of dinnerplate dahlias for the back of the bor-

der. Labyrinth and Tyrell have apricot flowers with pink and yellow accents that blend nicely with a wide range of colors in the garden.

If you feel overwhelmed by all the choices or can't decide on the best combination, let the experts lend a hand. Consider purchasing one or more ready-to-plant dahlia combinations selected to look great in the garden and arrangements. The bumblebee collection includes pollinator-favorite Kelsey Sunshine collarette and the coral pink decorative Great Silence. For a big splash of purple, try the Berry Spritz dinnerplate collection (longfield-gardens.com) with lavender-pink, lilac and eggplant purple blooms.

Take pictures of your favorite combinations and make notes of what you want to try next year. Most importantly, enjoy the fantastic blooms. Fortunately, any flower combination is sure to brighten your day.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released "Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition" and "Small Space Gardening." Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds and Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Longfield Gardens for her expertise to write this column. Her website is www.melindamyers.com.



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FEB 14



Music

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, FEB. 14

SHAWANO: Boost Your Brain and Memory, 9-10:30 a.m., ADRC of the Wolf River Region, W7327 Anderson Ave. A holistic approach to improving brain health. Fifth week of eight-week class, enrollment limited to 12 people, register by calling Ericka at 715-526-4712.

SURING: Recovery Talking Circle, 6-8 p.m. South Branch Community Center, W1281 County Road M.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15

SHAWANO: Zurko's Indoor Flea Market, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shawano Community Hall, 115 E. Division St.

CAROLINE: Run for Fun Vintage Ride and Show, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Legion Hall, W12850 County Road M. Hosted by Four Dams Snow Goers. Bring your vintage sleds, running or not. All years welcome, rat rod sleds, too. Registration 10 a.m. to noon, live music 11 a.m., voting at noon, ride 1 p.m. (weather permitting). Basket raffles, 50/50 raffles, food and drinks available for purchase.

BIRNAMWOOD: Second annual Winter Frost Fest, 2-11 p.m., Chet and Emil's, 388 Main St. Hosted by Birnamwood Polka Days. Ultimate Polka

Band 2-6 p.m., NightShift 7-11 p.m. Advance tickets \$5, \$10 at the door. Ticket enters you into 50/25/25 raffle to be drawn at 10 p.m. Additional tickets \$5 or three for \$10.

SHAWANO: Run the Lake Poker Run, 2-5 p.m., Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court. Hosted by WI Trail Lake Runners. Details at <https://witrail-lakerunners.com>

PULASKI: "Once Upon A Mattress," 7 p.m., Pulaski High School, 1040 S. St. Augustine St. Tickets \$8 at pulaskihs.ludus.com.

SUNDAY, FEB. 16

PULASKI: "Once Upon A Mattress," 7 p.m., Pulaski High School, 1040 S. St. Augustine St. Tickets \$8 at pulaskihs.ludus.com.

MONDAY, FEB. 17

SHAWANO: Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Room 4, 100 W. Presbyterian St. Information: Dallas Gast, 715-701-5388 or dallasgast8@gmail.com.

TUESDAY, FEB. 18

KESHENA: Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road.

Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19

KESHENA: Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

POUND: North Country Kickers line dance lessons, 6:30-9 p.m., Equity Hall, W7403 State Highway 64. \$5 admission. Playing a variety of music. Everyone welcome. For information, call Nancy 920-829-6316 or Charles 920-606-4370. Weekly through April 2.

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

OCONTO: Jacob's Well — Oconto All Community small group Bible study, 2:30 p.m. The Shop On Main (rear conference annex), 821 Main St. Information at jacobswellgb.org.

SHAWANO: Shawano Community High School Jazz Band, 7 p.m., Stubborn Brothers Brewery, 220 S. Main St.

BOWLER: Native American Talking Circle, 7-9 p.m., Mohican Family Center, N8605 Oak St. Information: Yvonne Burr, 715-326-0891.

PIES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

cherry, she also bakes apple and caramel apple.

"Lemon meringue was a challenge to get it right. I just kept at it," White said. "I've made pies for the Peace Church chili dinners. I'd make 20-30 pies for their dinner."

Six-inch pies are sold at DuPont Cheese Factory in Marion and Clintonville's Erickson's Drug Store. With almost 12 years' experience baking pies, bars and cookies, White bakes what she thinks would sell and tries to switch up the variety.

"Occasionally, I bake bars for events for Northwinds (Marion) and also bake on request for people," White said.

Thursday is delivery day. During the winter, DuPont gets the pies before 8 a.m. and loading up, White then heads to Erickson's. During the summer, she sells at the Clintonville Farmers Market. Pies by Patti can also be purchased at the winter farmers market behind the Compassionate Connections Center in the Fox Communities Credit Union Partner Annex at 143 S. Main St., Clintonville, coming up on March 8 and April 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

As for any helpers in her endeavor, she mentioned her granddaughters, Laci and Layla, started out with her when they were just 7 and 8, respectively, making crusts and learning how to bake. Now close to graduating high school, the girls thought, "If Nana can do this so can we," and have since started their own business, selling at the Shawano Farmers Market. Recently they filled a wedding order for 60 dozen cookies.

"One is a dreamer, one is a worker, and together they make a great team,"



Patti White's kitchen in Marion is state-inspected and certified to make commercial baked goods. Labeled as Pies by Patti, they're available at DuPont Cheese Factory in Marion and Erickson's Drug Store in Clintonville.

KAY REMINGER

White said. "Someday they'd like to own a bakery in Shawano."

White also has a friend who helps with packaging, labeling and hauling bounty to the farmers market. Almost fully recovered from a mini-stroke five years ago, she needs help with transporting, as her strength is not quite 100%.

"I bake because I like it," White said. "If I ever won the lottery, I'd bake and give them away. If I don't sell out at the market, I give them away to my neighbors. I hate to see waste. I want them fresh. Nothing is frozen for another day. Everything is fresh-made."

At the age of 73, White doesn't care to expand.

"It's just me. Marion, Clintonville, Shawano area is all I care to cover," she said. "I'm very happy and

content to have what I have and do what I can."

However, she frequently checks in with her heavenly father, asking, "God, are you sure? Not to doubt him but just to make sure I'm hearing his voice. So far, he hasn't let me down. I'm not a commercial bakery and sometimes I have to say no because of my age and my health, but if the good Lord wants me to do it, he'll find a way."

To order a pie, call 715-754-4465. She accepts phone orders and either delivers the goodies herself or the customer picks them up.

Admitting she's not technically savvy, White said: "I am old-school and I like it that way. I'm not saying technology is bad, it's just not for me. The less handling the better. It doesn't mess them up that way."



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Lena inches closer to M&O Conference title

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Feb. 7
Lena 40, Gillett 22
 Lena jumped out to a 22-7 halftime lead over Gillett and coasted from there in a 40-22 win.
 Eva Brooks led the Wildcats with 16 points and 10 rebounds. She also had two assists and a pair of steals.

Madilyn Thomson led Lena with four assists and four steals. She also contributed nine points and seven rebounds.

Bonduel 62, Shiocton 23

Audrey Jacobs scored 16 points and nine other Bears scored as well in Bonduel's 62-23 win over Shiocton.

Bonduel dominated throughout the game, holding a 38-10 halftime lead.

Ashwaubenon 54, Pulaski 45

Olivia Sprangers and Alissa Nischke each scored 16 points with Ashley Servais contributing 11, but Pulaski lost 54-45 to Ashwaubenon.

The Jaguars held a 25-15 halftime lead, and Pulaski held a one-point advantage in second-half scoring.

Marinette 47, Oconto Falls 38

Feb. 6
Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 56, Amherst 29

Witenberg-Birnhamwood advanced to 11-0 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference with a 56-29 win over Amherst.

"We got off to a sluggish first half but still continued to inch away," coach Nick Mechelke said. "Started the second how we wanted to and stretched our lead to 30. This was a good game where we got to sub in and out a lot."

Rory Salvesen led the Chargers with 16 points, followed by Melaina Granquist with 13 and Harper Rogowski with 11.

Granquist pulled down nine rebounds, and Nora Bushman, Rogowski and Salvesen each had four steals.

Notre Dame De La Baie Academy 81, Pulaski 22

Notre Dame ran away from Pulaski early and continued to pile on in its 81-22 win.

Brooke Barry led the Red Raiders with six points.

Niagara 68, Suring 53
 Niagara controlled the game with a 17-point



lead at halftime, and even though Suring outscored their guests by a pair in the second half, this game belonged to the visitors, 68-53.

Paige Pommerich led the Eagles with 12 points. Bunny Cramer scored 10.

Little Chute 46, Bowler 22

Green Bay NEW Lutheran/Providence Academy 67, Gresham 31

Marion/Tigerton 55, Northland Lutheran 33

Feb. 4
Shawano 69, New London 51

A tough Shawano defense led to an early halftime lead of 35-16, and the Hawks held steady from there to earn a 69-51 win.

Leah Nordin led the Hawks with 32 points. Ella Stuber added 13.

Shawano improved to 7-2 in the Bay Conference and 14-4 overall.

Lena 55, Oneida Nation 38

Lena stretched its 29-20 halftime to lead emerge victorious over Oneida Nation with a 55-38 win.

Eva Brooks and Madilyn Thomson each recorded a double-double. Brooks led with 22 points with 12 rebounds, and Thomson had 10 points with a team-leading 14 rebounds.

Kali Fischer scored another 13 points for the Wildcats.

Brooks and Fischer each had three assists, and Thomson had five steals.

Freedom 41, Oconto Falls 26

Rylie Shallow led Oconto Falls with 13 points, but the the Panthers were on the losing end of a 41-26 final score.

Bowler 65, Faith Christian Academy 15
Gillett 48, Menominee, Michigan, 36

Marion/Tigerton 62, Elcho 22

Coleman 49, Suring 44

Feb. 3
Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 65, Pacelli 49

Harper Rogowski and Rory Salvesen each connected on a trio of 3-pointers in Wittenberg-Birnhamwood's 65-49 win over Pacelli.

"Our girls played extremely well tonight on both ends of the court," coach Nick Mechelke said. "I give a lot of our credit to the defensive effort by all the girls tonight."

Melaina Granquist led the Chargers with 26 points and 11 rebounds. Salvesen scored 20 points.

Salvesen led the team with six assists, and Faith Resch had three steals.

Almond-Bancroft 65, Gresham 42

Marion/Tigerton 49, Chequamegaon 45



At left, Audredy Pate of Gillett drives to the basket guarded by Kali Fischer of Lena during the M&O Conference game Feb. 7 at Gillett. Lena won 40-22. Above, Hannah Thomson of Lena drives to the basket against two Gillett defenders. Below, Gillett's Sophie Limberg (34) drives to the basket.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



Ice Bears beat Warhawks for second game in a row

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Feb. 6
Bay Area 7, Arrowhead 1
 After beating Arrowhead 4-1 in Ashwaubenon on Jan. 31, the Bay Area Ice Bears traveled to the Warhawks' home rink and

won again, this time 7-1.

Hannah Von Haden had goals for the Ice Bears, with five teammates accounting for the other five goals.

Pulaski's Faye Brunke started the scoring at 9:38 in the first period, with Addison Dahl add-

ing a second goal at 10:21 with a Julianne Bradford assist.

The Ice Bears scored four times in the second period to open up a 6-0 lead.

Von Haden scored at 3:06 and then assisted Aisling Buchan at 9:38. Bradford scored at 16:22

with help from Ava McDonald and Dahl. Then, Von Haden scored again at 16:57 with an assist from Tiana Stindt.

Arrowhead's only goal at 12:31 in the third period, and Bay Area responded with a goal by Emily Bill at 14:56 with an an assist

from Brunke to end the scoring.

The Warhawks only mustered 11 shots on goal, with Reese Spiering getting 10 saves. The Ice Bears had 42 shots on goal.

Arrowhead had one penalty for four minutes. Bay Area had four penalties for 11 minutes.



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Jett Rogowski preapres to shoot in the Chargers' 73-71 overtime win over Stevens Point Pacelli. Rogowski scored the 1,000th point of his high school career in the game.

TINA BACON

Bonduel, Tigerton boys remain perfect in conference action

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Feb. 7
Bonduel 85, Shiocton 75**

Race Anvelink and Quinn Wesenberg combined for 51 points to lead Bonduel to an 85-75 win over Shiocton.

The Bears are now 19-0 overall and 11-0 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference.

Anvelink scored 28 points, including six 3-pointers. Wesenberg's 23 points included four 3-pointers.

Ryan Westrich contributed another 13 points, 13 rebounds and seven blocked shots. Cade Johnson scored 11 points and had eight assists.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 60, Amherst 51

The Chargers advanced to 15-2 overall and 10-1 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference with a 60-51 win over Amherst.

The Chargers held a six-point lead at the half and extended it slightly for the nine-point victory.

"I felt we got a lot of good shots tonight on the offensive end," coach Garrett Rogowski said. "We didn't necessarily shoot that great but moved the ball well and had very few turnovers. In fact, we didn't have one turnover

the first half. Defensively, we switched things up a bit, and that seemed to keep them somewhat out of sink."

Jett Rogowski led Wittenberg-Birnamwood with 29 points. Hayden Miller scored 13, and Jaden Clark added 10.

Zander Barke led with eight rebounds, and Miler had another seven. Barke and Clark each had three assists. Rogowski, Clark, Miller and Barke each had two steals.

Tigerton 93, Bowler 51

James Brady scored 33 points as Tigerton cruised past Bowler 93-51 in a Central Wisconsin North Conference game. The Tigers lead the conference at 7-0 and are 16-1 overall.

Also scoring in double digits for Tigerton were Caleb Dahlstrom with 16, Brody Miller with 15 and Maverick Maass with 10.

Brady also led the team with 12 rebounds. Sam Anheuser had eight assists. With three steals each were Izaiah Lederhaus, Miller, Dahlstrom, Tanner Dent, Gavin Kielblock and Brady.

Northland Lutheran 59, Marion 32

Braylon Mielke scored 10 points in Marion's 59-32 loss to Northland Lutheran in Central Wisconsin

North Conference action.

The Mustangs are 0-5 in conference play and 1-16 overall.

Oconto Falls 58, Marinette 45

Jameson Beaman poured in 22 points to pace Oconto Falls in a 58-45 win over Marinette. JJ Pytleski added another 16 points, and Evan Yuma contributed 11.

Pytleski led the Panthers with eight rebounds, Yuma had a pair of assists, and Chase Carriveau and Aydien Wold each had three steals.

The Panthers are in fourth place in the North Eastern Conference with an 8-6 record. They are 11-8 overall.

Wausaukee 73, Gresham 64

Iola-Scandinavia 67, Menominee Nation 49

Pulaski 85, Ashwaubenton 71

**Feb. 6
Gillett 66, Wausaukee 53**

Jesse DeBauch scored 39 points including 18 free throws to lead Gillett to a 66-53 win over Wausaukee.

Ryan Pensis also scored 18 points.

Crivitz 63, Lena 39

Lena trailed by 14 points at halftime, and Crivitz maintained and extended its lead en route to a 53-39 win.

Mason Spice scored 15 points for the Wildcats.

Green Bay Preble 66, Oconto Falls 57

The Panthers couldn't maintain their three-point halftime lead as Green Bay Preble battled back to win 66-57.

Oconto Falls was led by Jameson Beaman with 24 points, JJ Pytleski with 15 and Emerich Skarban with 11. Beaman had six 3-pointers, while Pytleski was 4-for-4 for free throws.

Skarban had a double-double as he led the Panthers with 10 rebounds. Beaman led with three assists, while Skarban had three steals.

Notre Dame De La Baie Academy 77, Pulaski 59

Pulaski spread the ball around as five players scored in double digits, but the Red Raiders came up short, 77-59, against Notre Dame.

Bryce Wotruba led Pulaski with 13 points, and Joseph Mijal scored 12. With 10 each were Colin Schultz, Bohdan Schmidt and Dixon Holewinski.

Shawano 69, Green Bay West 43

Logan Sipple scored 33 points, and the Hawks turned up the heat in

BOYS BASKETBALL,
CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

Hawks hockey team wins in OT

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Feb. 6
Shawano/Bonduel 4, Appleton United 3 (OT)**

A pair of goals by Appleton North late in the third period forced overtime, but Shawano/Bonduel pulled out the win with a goal by Blake Knope in the second OT frame. Cameron Schroeder assisted on the game-winning shot.

The Hawks' scoring began at 7:10 in the first period on an even strength goal by Blake Swedberg. Appleton United tied the

game before the period ended.

Shawano/Bonduel recaptured the lead on a Gavin Hundt goal 31 seconds into the second period. Max Huntington scored at 5:48, with assists from Kielan Armbruster and Wyatt Schroeder, to give the Hawks a 3-1 lead.

Appleton United scored in the third period, first at 15:34 and again at 16:31, to tie the game at 3-3.

There was no scoring in the first overtime period, with Knope's game-winning goal coming at 7:09 in the second OT period.

Shawano/Bonduel at 28 shots on goal. Appleton United had 37 with Kaiden Thornborrow tallying 34 saves.

Appleton United only had one penalty called for two minutes. The Hawks had five infractions for 10 minutes.

Pacelli 5, Shawano/Bonduel 3

The Hawks and the Cardinals went back and forth until the end when Pacelli pulled out a 5-3 win.

Shawano/Bonduel opened the scoring with

HOCKEY, CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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Suring's Cramer hits 1,000-point milestone



Bunny Cramer of the Suring Eagles eclipsed the 1,000-point mark in her high school basketball career Feb. 1 against the Crivitz Wolverines. The game was considered a home contest for the Eagles even though it was played at the Oshkosh Herd Arena, home to the Milwaukee Bucks affiliate team. Cramer had 14 points in the game — five field goals and 2-for-2 free throws. That completed a week of four games where she scored 75 points in the previous three games to set herself up with the opportunity to get 1,000 points.

CONTRIBUTED

Shawano's Moede wins at Preble

Pulaski's Skenandore still unbeaten

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Feb. 8 Green Bay Preble Tournament

Shawano's girls wrestling team competed in its final regular season tournament before WIAA playoff action begins.

Jenna Moede finished in first at 114 pounds.

"She wrestled well all day long attacking on takedowns and controlling in the top position," coach Mike Homan said. "Her finals match was one of the best she has ever wrestled. She really controlled her front headlocks and kept her opponent out of her elbow control."

With 30 seconds left in the first period, she had an opportunity for a throw and she used it. She secured her takedown and earned a fall with five seconds left in the period.

"Jenna has been wrestling well, and she is peaking at the right time," Homan said. "I'm looking forward to watching her wrestle the next few weekends."

Gwyn Hermann placed second.

"Gwyn wrestled well today," Homan said. "She came up short in her finals match against a great opponent but has shown improvement all season long."

Lily Tomas placed third, Jacey Cowden was fourth, and Kendall Knope finished fifth.

Placing seventh were Zannah Bosetski, Lauren Seehafer and Brynn Hannes. Maddie Miller finished in eighth.

WRESTLING,
CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

2 Bears win at conference meet

Wittenberg-Birnamwood wrestler also gets a crown

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Feb. 8 CWC Conference Wrestling Tournament

Two Bonduel wrestlers and one from Wittenberg-Birnamwood earned first-place championships at the CWC Conference Wrestling Tournament in Weyauwega-Fremont.

Bonduel's Colin Fischer won at 165, and teammate Evan Wilcox won at 215.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Byron Schmid kept Bonduel from winning a third title as he pinned his Bonduel opponent to win

at 175.

Fischer, a senior, pinned Shiocton's Blake Carton, a freshman, in 2:44 for the title. Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Kaden Yaeger placed sixth in the same weight class.

Wilcox, a senior, beat Weyauwega-Fremont's Tellyer Alix, also a senior, 7-6 for his championship. Also, George Seegmiller of Wittenberg-Birnamwood placed third and Miklo Guzman of Menominee Nation was fifth.

Schmid, a junior, pinned Bonduel's Ryley Kurtz, a freshman, in 1:42 to capture first place. Menominee Nation's Mitchell Waukau placed third with a 10-0 major decision over Rosholt's Keegan O'Donnell.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Ben Miller placed second at 150 pounds. Menominee Nation's Jason

Chapman was third, and Bonduel's Aiden RoBarge was sixth.

Matthew Walenta of Bonduel won third place at 157 when he pinned Luca Pelusi of Wittenberg-Birnamwood in 3:44.

At 126 pounds, Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Bo Davis took third when he defeated Menominee Indian's Mike Peters on a 14-6 major decision.

Three Wittenberg-Birnamwood wrestlers placed second. They were Dalton Fletcher at 120, Easton Davis at 132 and Devin Wudtke at 138.

Landon Meronk finished third at 106.

Frank Wierzbza placed fifth at 144.

Bonduel's Jaxon Bogacz placed fourth at 132 pounds. Jackson Krause was fifth at 285.

At 190, Carter Waldvogel of Wittenberg-Birnam-

wood placed fourth and Jayden Popp of Bonduel was sixth.

Feb. 7 Gillett/Suring multi-dual

Lena's wrestlers placed second and Gillett/Suring was fourth as five teams competed at Suring. Coleman won, Crivitz/Wausaukee was third, and Oneida Nation placed fifth.

Lena defeated Crivitz/Wausaukee 60-15 in the first round, while Gillett/Suring defeated Oneida Nation 24-12.

Lena won its second-round match, a 60-12 win over Gillett/Suring.

In Round 3, Gillett/Suring was shut out 83-0 against Coleman.

Lena defeated Oneida Nation 72-6 in the fourth round.

In the final round, Coleman defeated Lena 71-6,

as Lena earned the only points against Coleman in the entire event. Crivitz/Wausaukee defeated Gillett/Suring 40-12.

Lena's only win against Coleman was Lucas Heimke pinning Wyatt Van Haren in 1:11 in the 138-pound category.

In Lena's win over Gillett/Suring, the Wildcats opened with forfeit wins at 106, 113, 120 and 126.

Gillett/Suring's Parker Bomma pinned Lena's Carson Joyce in 32 seconds at 132. Heimke followed by pinning Taylor Brown in 1:28, and Gillett/Suring responded with Braxton Wirth pinning Lena's Riley Windus in 1:20 at 144.

Lena won on forfeits at 150, 157, 165 and 175. There was a double forfeit at 190. Lena won by forfeit at 215, followed by Dylan Urbanek pinning Bradley Bayer in 1:11 at 285.



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BOYS BAKSETBALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

the second half as they defeated Green Bay West 69-43.

Shawano held a slim 24-34 lead at halftime and then outscored Green Bay West 45-20 after the break.

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy 59, Suring 53 Feb. 4

Bonduel 82, Menominee Nation 64

Race Anvelink led Bonduel with 26 points, five assists and six steals as the Bears defeated the Menominee Nation Eagles 82-64.

Ryan Westrich also scored 26 points, including four 3-pointers.

Bonduel jumped out to a 48-31 lead at halftime and cruised from there.

The Eagles were led by Kenew Awonohopay with 19 points, Mikey Chapman with 16 (including four 3-pointers) and Terrince Sanapaw with 10.

Gillett 58, Goodman/Pembine 51

After scoring only six points in the first half, Gillett's Jesse DeBauch went

on a scoring rampage with 19 in the second half to lead the Tigers to a 58-51 win over Goodman/Pembine.

Gillett trailed by a point at halftime but out scored their hosts in the second half to earn the win.

Jed Herzog scored 13 points for Gillett, and Brody Halla added 11.

Freedom 77, Oconto Falls 57

JJ Pytleski scored 26 points, and Jameson Beaman added 15, but Oconto Falls came up short in a 77-57 loss to Freedom.

Beaman connected on 4-of-8 3-pointers.

Pytleski had nine rebounds, while Beaman, Chase Cariveau and Evan Yuma each had six. Emerich Skarban and Pytleski each had two assists, while Yuma, Cariveau and Pytleski each had one steal.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 69, Weyauwega-Fremont 68

For the second night in a row, the Chargers pulled out a nail-biter, beating

the Weyauwega-Fremont Warhawks 69-68.

Jett Rogowski paced the Chargers with 38 points, including 12 free throws. Jaden Clark also scored 12 points.

A comfortable 28-16 first half lead did not hold the Warhawks down long as they penetrated the Chargers' defense time and time again in the second half. The Chargers did just enough though to advance to 14-2.

Shawano 68, New London 61

The Hawks were up by two points at halftime and pulled away in the second half, outscoring New London 45-40 en route to a 68-61 win.

The Hawks were led by Anderson Schmidt's 19 points and Logan Sipple's 18.

Shawano shot 86% from the 3-point arc in the second half, going 6-for-7 from beyond the arc.

Tigerton 84, Gresham 35

James Brady paced Tigerton with 25 points as Tigerton defeated Gresham 84-35. Brady completed a double-double as he also led the team with 11 rebounds.

Sam Anheuser led Tigerton with seven assists while also scoring 13 points. Joey Zimdars scored 12 points, and Brody Miller added another 10.

Caleb Dahlstrom led the Tigers with five steals.

Bowler 73, Faith Christian Academy 45 Feb. 3

Gillett 71, Wausaukee 52

Jesse DeBauch led Gillett with 30 points as the Tigers pounded Wausaukee 71-52.

Ryan Pensis scored 16 points. Jed Herzog had a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds.

Brody Halla led Gillett with nine assists and six steals.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 73, Pacelli 71 (OT)

Wittenberg-Birnamwood outscored Pacelli 9-7 in overtime to capture a 73-71 win.

Jett Rogowski scored his 1,000th point in his high school career in the game.

"Just a great effort across the board tonight from all the boys," said coach Garrett Rogowski.

"Jett (Rogowski) fouled out early, and guys stepped up in multiple ways. Zandyr Barke capped an amazing

night with a steal and coast-to-coast spin move finish."

Pacelli led 37-32 at halftime, but while Wittenberg-Birnamwood scored an identical 32 points in the second half, Pacelli only managed 27, which forced the overtime period.

Rogowski's 28 points included three 3-pointers and nine free throws.

Jaden Clark and Hayden Miller each scored 15 points, with Miller hitting three 3-pointers. Barke scored 11, and Eddie Nowinsky had the Chargers' other four points.

Oconto 80, Menominee Nation 66

Suring 75, Florence 48

Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah 86, Marion 7

HOCKEY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

a goal by Blake Knope at 4:21 in the first period with assists by Cameron Schroeder and Teagan Harkey.

Stevens Point scored twice in the first half of the second period to go up 2-1 before Blake Swedberg tied the game with a Bryce Lammers assist at 15:15.

The Hawks grabbed a 3-2 lead at 3:00 in the third period when Gavin Hundt scored with another Schroeder assist.

The Cardinals reposed with three unanswered goals in the second half of the period to tie the game and then win.

Shawano/Bonduel had 48 shots on goal, while Pacelli had 24 with Tyson Lyons getting 20 saves.

Stevens Point was penalized only once for two minutes. Shawano/Bonduel was called for five infractions, including an unsportsmanlike conduct in the third period, for 18 minutes.

Northland Pines 9, Antigo 3

Antigo's 2-1 lead early in the second period couldn't hold up as Northland Pines had a pair of scoring streaks that eventually left them on top 9-3.

Trailing 1-0 after the first period, Owen Dickman tied the game at 0:28 in the second period. Eli Kassler and Parker Chaney assisted. Then, at 1:25, Ethan Novy was assisted by Carson Rhode for the

go-ahead goal. The Eagles responded with three unanswered goals in the last half of the period to lead 4-2.

Rhode assisted Dickman on another Red Robins goal at 3:15 to start the third-period scoring. Northland Pines responded with five straight goals to close out the game.

The Red Robins had 29 shots on goal. The Eagles had 38 shots with Ian Brittenham getting 29 saves.

Antigo was penalized seven times for 14 minutes. Northland Pines was called for four infractions for 14 minutes, including a 10-minute unsportsmanlike conduct penalty in the second period.

WRESTLING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Ninth place was earned by Jozlyn Bocker, Bella Tupper and Madelyn Moesch.

Ella Korth placed 12th.

Shawano's girls will be in action Feb. 14 at Wausau West for WIAA regionals.

As for Pulaski, Harlow Skenandore was the

winner of the 145 match. Skenandore, 18-0, pinned Sturgeon Bay's Tiani LeMieux, 4-1, in 1:22.

Earning second place in their weight categories were Leah Kapla at 132, Ellie Neosh at 165 and Noelle Manning at 185.

Taylor Gunville placed third at 152.

Lillian Wiitala finished fourth at 107, and Elliana Maroszek was fourth at 132.

Maddeline McCargar placed fifth at 235.

At 138, Reese Burich was seventh.

Pulaski wrestlers will compete in a tournament Feb. 14 at Peshtigo.

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PETS

American Eskimo/Shelti Cross Pups Fluffy/Friendly Dewormed \$60 715-223-4780

AUSSIE DOODLE PUPS Shots/Worm/VetCk Choc, Merle & Parti \$600-\$800 715-255-2661 (#269146)

CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPPIES Vet/wormed/shots \$300 715-223-0782

FOR SALE: ACA POODLE Male 27 lb DOB 4-25-18 Proven Breeder or great pet \$250 Also Female Shiba Inu pups Ready 4-24 Reserve yours now \$300 715-773-1778

MINI BERNEDOODLE PUPPIES Shots/Vet ckd. Dews/wormed \$375-\$750 No Sun Calls 715-409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

Moyen Poodle Pups \$450 Samoyed Pups \$550 Ready to go 715-409-0533

Older AUSSIE DOODLE PUPS Shots/Worm/Vet Can Deliver \$250 715-255-2661 (#269146)

PRETTY POM PUPPY F- \$380; Yorkie Pom Puppies cute cuddly fluffy socialized Males-\$350, 1st shots 715-229-2964

REG TOY POODLE PUPS dew/shots/vet-chk'd/wormed Non -Shed \$400-\$500 READY to go 715-536-0697 or 715-316-2522 (524892) (WCAN)

REG YORKSHIRE TERRIER PUPPIES Vet checked/wormed/dews, Males \$1000; Females \$1200 No Sun Calls 715-409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

Vehicles

DONATE YOUR CAR, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-844-406-2647 today! (WCAN)

Turn Trash Into Cash with the **CLASSIFIEDS**

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GET YOUR DEDUCTION AHEAD OF THE YEAR-END! Donate Your Car, Truck or SUV to assist the blind & visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup & secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND today at! 844-374-3067 (WCAN)

Services

CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS home Internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G & 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, & data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-223-7265 (WCAN)

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DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-888-686-1458 (WCAN)

STROKE & CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death, according to the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION. Screening can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149! Call 1-888-675-5048 (WCAN)

Services

Get DISH Satellite TV & Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus limited Time Up to \$600 in Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-844-897-8523 (WCAN)

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MISCELLANEOUS

Welcome to our World Day of Prayer 2025 Friday, March 7 • 10:00am Location: Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church 11015 County Road M, Suring, WI Hosted by: Hickory United Methodist Church

AUTOS

Black Soft Top for Jeep Wrangler 2004 Good Condition \$400 920 788 5632

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FIND WHAT YOU NEED In The Classifieds 715-526-6188

NEW Media is pleased to announce our new gardening column presented by nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist

Melinda Myers

Melinda has a master's degree in horticulture, is a certified arborist and was a horticulture instructor with tenure. Watch for her column in the second and fourth issues each month of NEW papers.

NEW MEDIA INC.

OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Feb. 6

Deputies responded to 37 incidents, including trespassing on West Pelkey Street in Lena, suspicious activity on Twin Pines in the Town of Lakewood, fire on County Road C in the Town of Morgan, theft on North Brown County Line Road in the Town of Chase, a disturbance on County Road S in the Town of Chase, suspicious activity on East Main Street in Lena, one traffic stop, one miscellaneous traffic incident, three welfare checks; one 911 hangup; two ambulance calls; six crashes, one involving deer.

Feb. 5

Deputies responded to 43 incidents, including suspicious activity near County

Road M and Hayes Road in the Town of How, wanted person on Eschner Street in Gillett, harassment on state Highway 22 in the Town of Oconto Falls, harassment on Pine Lane in Suring, a disturbance on County Road R in the Town of Underhill, five traffic stops, two citizen assists, seven miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; three crashes, one involving deer.

Feb. 4

Deputies responded to 57 incidents, including a fire control burn on Bay Road in the Town of Little River, a wanted person on Arbutus Avenue in Oconto, a fire control burn on state Highway 32-64 in the Town of Mountain, squad dam-

age on Lee Lake Road in the Town of Brazeau, a disturbance on Hip Hus Court in the Town of Underhill, suspicious activity on County Road EE in the Town of Abrams, fire on County Road Z in the Town of Brazeau, five traffic stops, one traffic hazard, two citizen assists, five miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; one 911 hangup; two ambulance calls; two crashes, one involving deer.

Feb. 3

Deputies responded to 46 incidents, including a K-9 deployment on West Main Street in Gillett, identity theft on Goatsville Road in the Town of Spruce, attempted fraud on County Road C in the Town of Chase, one traffic stop, two

traffic offenses, two citizen assists, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; one 911 hangup and one open line; one ambulance call; 14 crashes, one involving deer.

Feb. 2

Deputies responded to 33 incidents, including fire on Geano Beach Road in the Town of Little Suamico, automobile theft on Rocky Ledge Road in the Town of Pensaukee, drugs in Gillett, shoplifting on East Frontage Road in the Town of Abrams, suspicious activity on state Highway 32 in the Town of Maple Valley, four traffic stops, three traffic offenses, two citizen assists, one miscellaneous traffic incident, three welfare checks; two 911 hangups and

two open lines; one ambulance call; four crashes, one fatal, two involving deer.

Feb. 1

Deputies responded to 31 incidents, including suspicious activity on Logan Road in the Town of Breed, a noise disturbance on County Road J in the Town of Little Suamico, trespassing on Alder Lane in the Town of How, property damage on Sunset Circle in the Town of Chase, an animal bite on state Highway 22-32 in the Town of Gillett, theft on West Main Street in Lena, suspicious activity on East Main Street in Lena, suspicious activity near Sampson and Horse roads in the Town of Abrams, a structure fire on Grignon Lane

in the Town of How, four traffic stops, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, two miscellaneous traffic incidents; one ambulance call.

Jan. 31

Deputies responded to 50 incidents, including suspicious activity on County Road I in the Town of Stiles, a disturbance on state Highway 32 in the Town of Lakewood, a death investigation in the Town of Brazeau, a disturbance on state Highway 32 in the Town of Chase, harassment on Madeline Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, seven traffic stops, five traffic offenses, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; one 911 hangup; one ambulance call; three crashes.

02/14/2025
Notice of Spring Primary and Sample Ballots
February 18, 2025

Office of the Oconto County Clerk
To the voters of Oconto County:

Notice is hereby given of a spring primary election to be held in Oconto County on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at which the officers named below shall be chosen. The names of the candidates for each office, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office, each in its proper column, together with the questions submitted to a vote, for a referendum, if any, in the sample ballot below.

Information to Voters

Upon entering the polling place and before being permitted to vote, a voter shall:
state their name and address
show an acceptable form of photo identification*
sign the poll book**

*If a voter does not have acceptable photo identification, the voter may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

**If the voter is unable to sign the poll book due to disability, a poll worker may write the word "exempt."

If a voter is not registered to vote, they may register to vote at the polling place serving their residence if the voter provides proof of residence.

Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot.

Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall enter a voting booth or go to a machine and cast their ballot. The vote should not be cast in any manner other than specified here. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the voter in marking their ballot may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

A voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward.

An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote but the official may not advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

Assistance for Voting

A voter may select an individual to assist in casting their vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that they are unable to read, have difficulty reading, writing, or understanding English, or that due to disability are unable to cast their ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the voter.

Where Paper Ballots are Used

The voter shall fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval next to "no" if opposed to the question.

Where Optical Scan Voting is Used

The voter shall fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using an electronic ballot marking device ("Automark," "ExpressVote," Clear Access or "Image-Cast Evolution-ICE") to mark an optical scan ballot, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "no" if opposed to the question.

Where Touch Screen Voting is Used

The voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen at "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen at "no" if opposed to the question.

Spoiled Ballots

If a voter spoils a paper or optical scan ballot, they shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official, who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

The voter may spoil a touch screen ballot at the voting station before the ballot is cast.

After Voting the Ballot

After an official paper ballot is marked, it shall be folded so the inside marks do not show, but so the printed endorsements and inspectors' initials on the outside do show. The voter shall deposit the voted ballot in the ballot box or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit and shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official optical scan ballot is marked, it may be inserted in the security sleeve, so the marks do not show. The voter shall insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the voter shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official touch screen ballot is cast, the voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

The following is a list of contests, ballot candidates, and a sample of the official ballot published in accordance with state statute. Each polling location will have samples of official ballots specific to that location posted. Please visit <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> for more information.

Done in the City of Oconto on January 16, 2025
Kim Pyleski, Oconto County Clerk
301 Washington Street, Oconto, Wisconsin 54153
920-834-6800

All Oconto County Voters will vote for:
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
State Superintendent
Vote for 1
Jeff Wright
Brittany Kinser
Jill Underly

Town of Mountain Voters will vote for:
Town Board Chairperson
Vote for 1
Lindor Skip Maletzke
Brenda Carey-Mielke
Tom Huff

Ballot ID: 1115

Town of Mountain, Ward 1

Official Primary Ballot
Nonpartisan Office
February 18, 2025

Notice to voters: if you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (see end of ballot for initials).

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, fill in the oval 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 fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●

Municipal

Town Board Chairperson
Vote for 1

☐ Lindor Skip Maletzke

☐ Brenda Carey-Mielke

☐ Tom Huff

☐ write-in: _____

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

State Superintendent
Vote for 1

☐ Jeff Wright

☐ Brittany Kinser

☐ Jill Underly

☐ write-in: _____

Continue voting at top of next column.

Official Primary Ballot
Nonpartisan Office
February 18, 2025
for
Town of Mountain, Ward 1
Oconto County
Ballot ID: 1115

Ballot issued by

Initials of election inspectors

Absentee ballot issued by

Initials of Municipal Clerk or Deputy Clerk

If issued by SVDs, both must initial

Certification of Voter Assistance
I certify that I marked or read aloud this ballot at the request and direction of a voter who is authorized under Wis. Stat. § 5.82 to receive assistance.

Signature of assistor

For Official Use Only

Inspectors: identify ballots required to be remade:
☐ Overvoted
☐ Damaged
☐ Other

If this is the Original Ballot, write the serial number here: _____

If this is the Duplicate Ballot, write the serial number here: _____

Initials of inspectors who remade ballot: _____

WNAXLP

OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Feb. 3

• Kent E. Aide, 61, Wausau-kee, pleaded no contest to maintaining a drug trafficking place, in connection with an incident that occurred July 28, 2022. Judge Michael Judge sentenced him to three years in prison, followed by two years of extended supervision with conditions.

• Daniel Thomas Albers, 42, Pulaski, pleaded no contest to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fifth offense), in connection with an incident that occurred Aug. 1, 2023. Judge sentenced him to 18 months in prison followed by two years of extended supervision with conditions.

• Jeremy W. Heise, 39, Suring, was placed on three years of probation with conditions after Judge imposed and stayed a prison sentence for felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred May 21; a misdemeanor charge of operating while revoked, in connection with an incident that May 30; and two counts of possession of methamphetamine and one count of felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Aug 6.

• Greyson Gregory Sweval, 46, Marquette, Michigan, was placed on two years of probation with conditions after Judge withheld sentencing for operating a motor vehicle with a restricted controlled substance (fourth offense), in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 17, 2023. Judge revoked his license for 36 months and ordered ignition interlock devices on his vehicles for one year.

• Nathan Edward Mocco, 39, Coleman, pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that occurred May 27. The charge was amended from a felony count in a plea agreement. Judge levied fines and costs totaling \$1,226.76.

• Dillon Steven Renard, 40, Green Bay, pleaded no contest to theft, taking a vehicle without consent, criminal damage to property and a misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that allegedly June 16. Judge scheduled sentencing for April 14 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

• Adam J. Julius, 24, Oconto Falls, pleaded no contest to misappropriating ID information to avoid a penalty and a misdemeanor count of possession of amphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred July 8. Judge scheduled sentencing for April 4 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

• A charged of possession of cocaine was dismissed against Earl Thompson III, 42, Green Bay, on a prosecutor's motion.

Proceedings of Feb. 4

• Bond was set at \$500 cash for Marcee A. Hammer-sley, 54, Sobieski, after she was charged with possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor counts of possession of illegal obtained prescription and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 3. Judge Jay Conley adjourned

her initial appearance until Feb. 13.

Proceedings of Feb. 5

• Chelsea Belle O'Donnell, 27, Amberg, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that occurred Oct. 11. Conley scheduled sentencing for March 31 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

• Randy L. BremPELL, 53, Lena, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to burglary to a building or dwelling, two counts of misdemeanor theft and misdemeanor criminal damage to property, in connection with incidents that allegedly occurred Oct. 19 and Dec. 15. Judge scheduled a bail/bond hearing for Feb. 14.

Proceedings of Feb. 6

• Randy H. Lucas, 32, Suring, pleaded no contest to making terrorist threats and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that occurred Sept. 28. Judge scheduled sentencing for March 31 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

• Bond was set at \$500 cash for Shawn C. Saeger Jr., 36, Oconto, after he was charged with felony bail jumping and two misdemeanor counts of possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 5. Conley adjourned his initial appearance until March 13.

Help Wanted

NEW Media is looking for a reporter to work out of our Oconto Falls office. Most of the work would involve covering municipal, county board, school and community stories, as well as features on some of the people and groups that call Oconto County home.

We seek talented journalists who can seize someone's attention by being a talented wordsmith and photographer in a fast-paced news environment where digital comes first. While the office is a base of operations, we want someone who'll be out in the community gathering the news.

All are welcome to apply, including recent or pending college graduates. Preference is for the candidate to live in Oconto County or be willing to relocate there to be nearby when news takes places. Photography and copy editing skills are a must.

Send a resume, cover letter, and four to six samples of your work to Editor Kevin Passon at kpasson@newmedia-wi.com. Put "Reporter — Oconto Falls" in the subject header.



02/14/2025

NOTICE

TOWN OF GILLETT

PUBLIC TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT FOR PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 17TH, 2025

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town of Gillett will test the voting equipment to be used at the primary election held on February 17th, 2025. The test will be on February 14th, 2025 at 1:00PM at the Gillett Town Hall. Please contact the clerk with questions concerning this test or the election.

Renee Carlson, Clerk

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02/14/2025

Notice of Location and Hours of Polling Place

At the election to be held on February 18, 2025, in the County of Oconto, the following polling place locations will be used for the wards indicated below. If you have questions concerning your polling place, contact the municipal clerk.

Towns of:

Abrams W1-3	Jean Hansen (920) 826-2299	5877 Main Street, Abrams, WI 54101
Bagley W1	Alan Sleeter (920) 590-0198	9812 County Road Z, Pound, WI 54161
Brazeau W1-2	Brooke Kriescher (920) 897-3855	10892 Parkway Road, Pound, WI 54161
Breed W1	Kristen Telford (920) 842-2166	11155 State Highway 32, Suring, WI 54174
Chase W1-5	Jeromy Delebreau (920) 822-1560	8481 County Road S, Pulaski, WI 54162
Doty W1	Cheryl Field (715) 276-7554	14899 County Road T, Mountain, WI 54149
Gillett W1-2	Renee Carlson (920) 819-7475	10908 Town Hall Road, Gillett, WI 54124
How W1	Becky Dickson (920) 842-9851	12896 State Highway 32, Suring, WI 54174
Lakewood W1	Michelle Moczynski (715) 276-3579	17181 Twin Pines Road, Lakewood, WI 54138
Lena W1	Dawn VanArk (715) 281-4672	6087 Goatsville Road, Lena, WI 54139
Little River W1-2	Amy Peterson (920) 834-3617	3627 County Road A, Oconto, WI 54153
Little Suamico W1-9	Lisa Glinski (920) 826-7655	5964A County Road S, Sobieski, WI 54171
Maple Valley W1	Cindy Tousey (920) 598-0601	9088 County Road Z, Suring, WI 54174
Morgan W1-2	Erin Mooers (920) 846-0699	3276 County Road C, Oconto Falls, WI 54154
Mountain W1	Lynn Kauzlaric (715) 276-6474	Bill Lazansky Community Center
Oconto W1-2	Lori Scanlan (920) 834-4351	13412 State Hwy 32/64 Mountain, WI 54149
Oconto Falls W1-2	Susan Mogged (920) 373-6663	6120 Cream City Road, Oconto, WI 54153
Pensaukee W1-2	Jacki Nelis (920) 826-2010	8680 State Hwy 22, Oconto Falls, WI 54154
Riverview W1-2	Beth Hartman (715) 276-8914	4684 Brookside Road, Abrams, WI 54101
Spruce W1	Lisa Peitersen (920) 829-5111	15152 Island Lake Road, Mountain, WI 54149
Stiles W1-2	Terrah Patton (920) 634-5348	9097 County Road B, Oconto Falls, WI 54154
Townsend W1-2	Linda Ziegler (715) 276-6856	5718 Watercrest Road, Lena, WI 54139
Underhill W1	Tracy Winkler (920) 855-2942	16564 Elm Street, Townsend, WI 54175
Village of Lena W1	Jodi Marquardt (920) 829-5226	5597 Cardinal Road, Gillett, WI 54124
Village of Suring W1	Kim Gruetzmacher (920) 842-2333	117 E. Main Street, Lena, WI 54139
City of Gillett W1-3	Chelsea Anderson (920) 855-2255	604 E. Main Street, Suring, WI 54174
City of Oconto W1-7	Brittney Burrue (920) 834-7711	150 N. McKenzie Avenue, Gillett, WI 54124
City of Oconto Falls W1-8	Jenny Friedman (920) 846-4505	1210 Main Street, Oconto, WI 54153
		500 N. Chestnut Ave., Oconto Falls, WI 54154

All polling places will open at 7:00 A.M. and will close at 8:00 P.M.
All polling places are accessible to elderly and voters with disabilities.

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 (MBOC)
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 MBOC 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.

Notice of Meeting of MBOC to Process Rehabilitated Provisional Ballots
If provisional ballots have been issued and are subsequently cured by the voter before 4:00 p.m. on the Friday after the election, the MBOC must meet no later than the following Monday at 9:00 a.m. to process the cured provisional ballots. This is a public meeting and requires applicable notice.

WNAXLP

**BEFORE HEADING OUT,
REMEMBER TO PACK
SOME JUICE.**

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In accordance to Wis Stats 5.84(1), Notice is hereby given that the Public Test of the Automatic Tabulating Equipment to be used at the February 18, 2025 Spring Primary Election in the City of Gillett will be conducted on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2025 at 1:00 PM at Gillett City Hall, 150 N McKenzie Ave, Gillett, WI. This test is open to the public.

Chelsea Anderson, Clerk Treasurer
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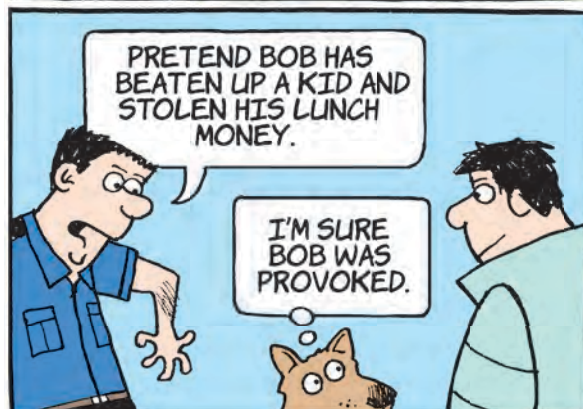
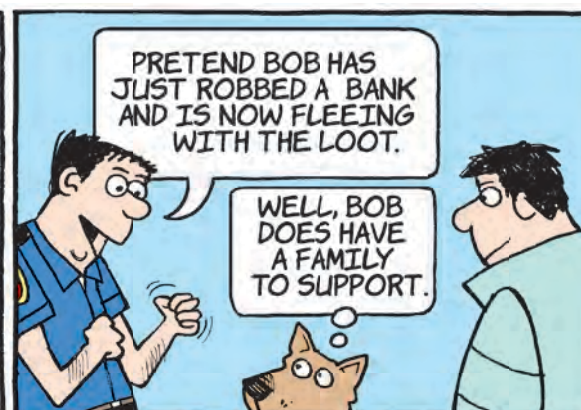
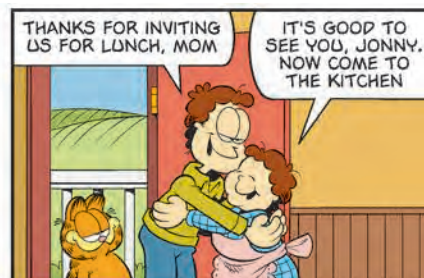
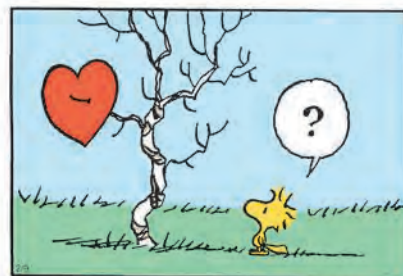
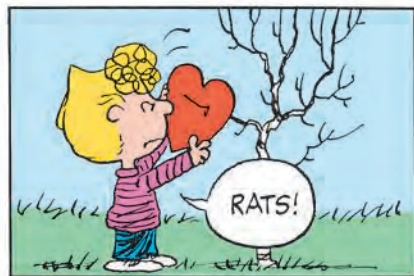
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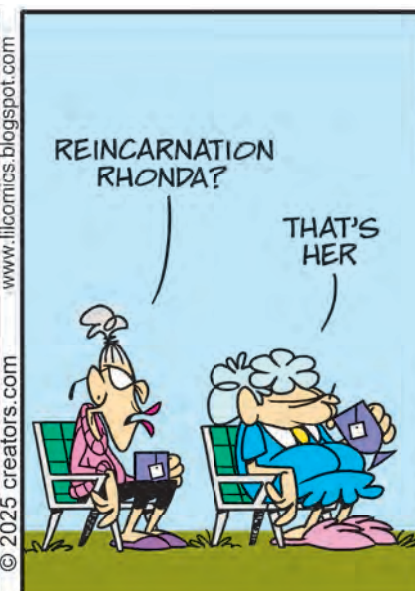
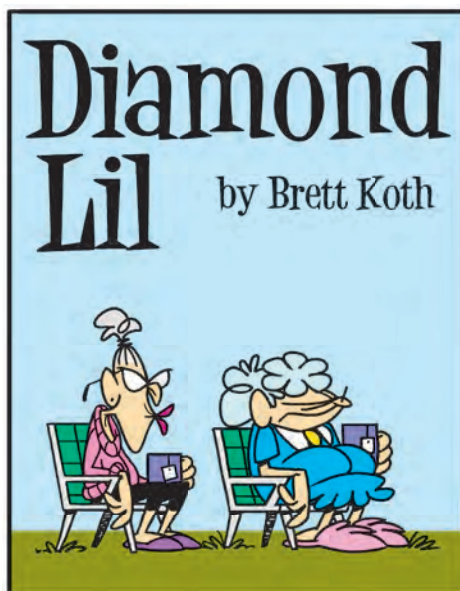
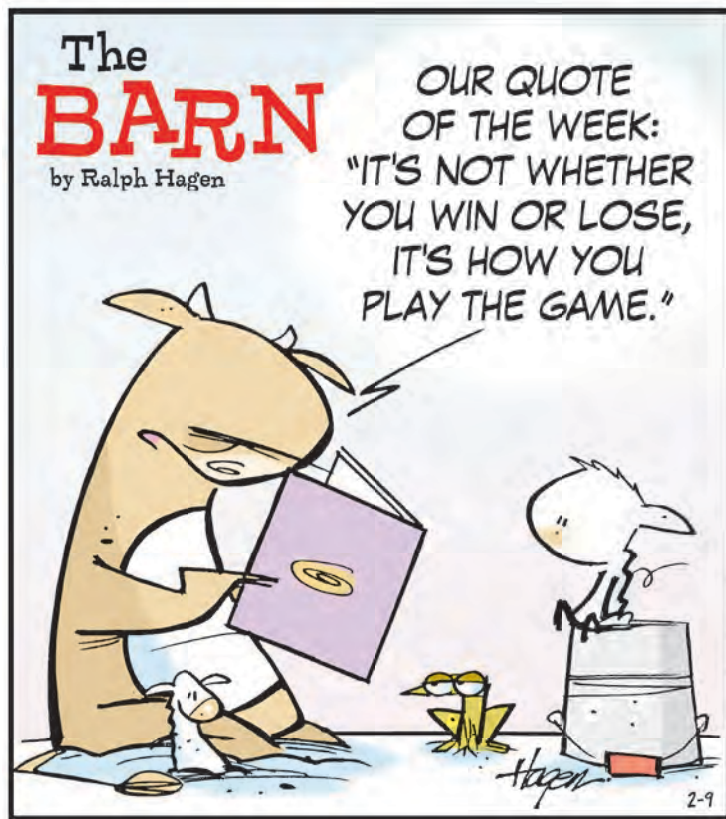
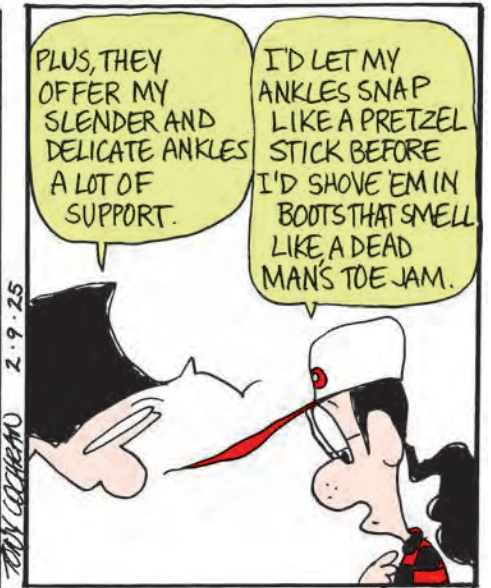
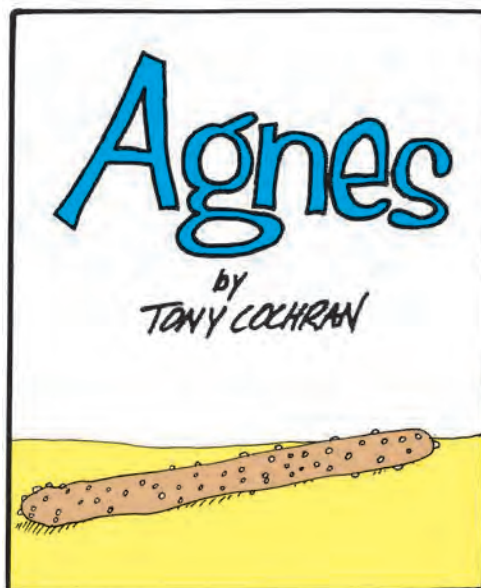
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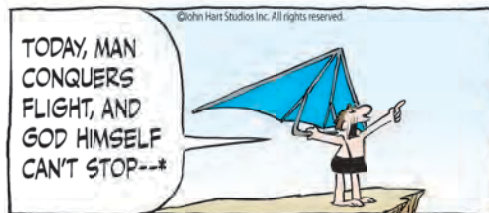
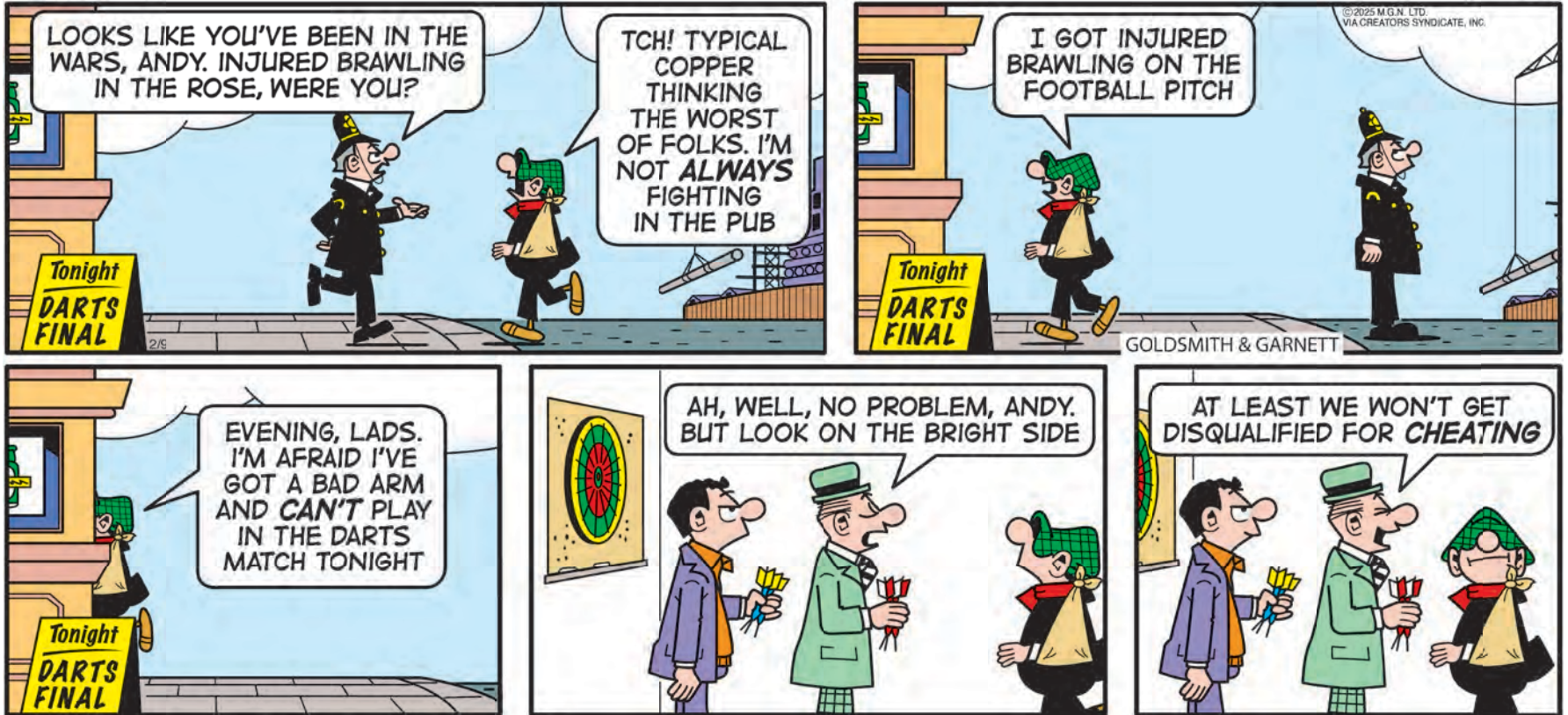
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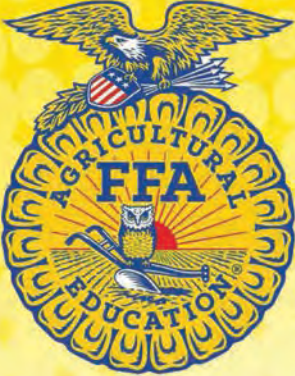
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Bella Theys stands in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the Washington Leadership Conference (WLC).
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Shawano FFA chapter has a rich history

By TRENTYN BARTZ
Shawano FFA 2024-25 Reporter

Since its founding on Jan. 15, 1928, the Shawano FFA Chapter has proudly developed future leaders in agriculture through education, leadership and hands-on experiences. As we celebrate our 85th anniversary, we reflect on the chapter's legacy of growth, success and commitment to the agricultural industry.

One of our most outstanding achievements this year occurred at the World Dairy Expo, where our dairy judging team (Brynn Hannes, Kendra Strebel and Alliyah Haws) placed first in Wisconsin and second out of 73 teams overall. This remarkable accomplishment highlights the expertise and dedication of our members in dairy science.

Several members also earned prestigious leadership opportunities. This past summer, Bella Theys traveled to our nation's capital to attend the Washington Leadership Conference, gaining valuable leadership skills. Hannah Yeager and Mallory Braun were accepted to participate in the Plant Systems Next Gen Conference held this March in Florida to expand their knowledge of plant science career opportunities.

In addition to academic and leadership success, our members excelled in the show ring. At the Shawano County Fair, Madisyn Weinig earned Grand Champion Rabbit, while Hannah Yeager secured Reserve Champion Rabbit, demonstrating their commitment to animal science through their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs).

Our chapter has also expanded its focus by participating in CDE teams and exploring specialized areas such as wildlife, floriculture, poultry, vet science, nursery landscape, food science and milk quality.

Our Leadership Development Events (LDEs) saw impressive participation, with members engaging in Parliamentary Procedure, Creed Speaking, Discussion Meet, Extemporaneous Speaking and Prepared Public Speaking. e didn't have all areas represented.

Looking to the future, we have ambitious goals for growth. We aim to achieve 50% active membership, reaching a total of 60 members. We are also focused on submitting six Wisconsin State FFA Degree applications and 12 proficiency applications. We also look forward to a spring trip to Milwaukee to tour various agricultural companies as well as go to a Brewers game for our active members.



The Shawano FFA 2024-25 officer team is, front row, from left, Hannah Yeager, vice president; Madisyn Weinig, president; and Kyera Williams, treasurer. Back row, from left, are Steve Stomberg, chapter adviser; Trentyn Bartz , reporter; Kendra Strebel, secretary; Mallory Braun, sentinel; and Melissa Goers, chapter adviser.

CONTRIBUTED



Brynn Hannes, Kendra Strebel, and Alliyah Haws at the World Dairy Expo before the competition.

CONTRIBUTED



Madisyn Weinig and Hannah Yeager with their winning rabbits stand next to the 2024 Shawano County Fair rabbit judge.

CONTRIBUTED



The Oconto Falls FFA chapter membership has reached more than 168 members for the 2024-25 year.

CONTRIBUTED

Active FFA membership thrives in Oconto Falls

The Oconto Falls FFA Chapter has had a very successful year so far. Our over 160 members have been busy working on a variety of activities to help develop their leadership skills and potential for career success. Back in the summer, members participated in many different activities, including volunteering at Breakfast on the Farm, the Wisconsin State Fair and the Oconto County Youth Fair. Additionally, students attended the Wisconsin State FFA Convention in June to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year. Three students attended the Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., and were able to network with members across the country. In November, we took 10 students to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, where two members qualified for the National Agriscience Fair competition and took second place in their category. Recently, the chapter held our largest fundraiser of the year, our annual fruit sale. We were very successful

this year and were able to bring in funds to support the activities and trips our members attend and learn about good communication, social and financial skills as well. This fundraiser also serves as a way for our chapter to connect with the community. New to our chapter this year is a podcast, hosted by our adviser, Walter Taylor, and dubbed by the members as “Taylor Time.” We hope to continue to utilize this unique way to spread the word about what we have accomplished and what we do in FFA. Our FFA Alumni and Supporters purchased a vending machine for the chapter to see milk, meat and cheese, to help bring in funds for our membership dues. On Feb. 3, Oconto Falls hosted the District LDE competition for the area. We had multiple members do very well, and two teams and three public speakers will be advancing to sectionals in March. Upcoming in the next couple of weeks for our mem-

bers are the Farm Forum trip, the Wisconsin FFA Day on the Hill, and the FFA and NAHS partnership Empty Bowls fundraiser at Oconto Falls High School. We are also in the middle of our first strawberry sale fundraiser. Additionally, our members are working hard on their Leadership and Career Development Event competitions and their SAE proficiency applications, as competition and application season ramps up. We will have multiple students applying to be a part of the Wisconsin State FFA Honors Band and Chorus group as well. Our 2024-25 executive officer team is Jadyn Weslow, president; Destiny VandeVoort, vice president of strengthening agriculture; Neela Cherry, vice president of growing leaders; Kara Philhower, vice president of building communities; Olivia Wagner, secretary; Ben Adams, treasurer; Mika Tassoul, sentinel; Jazmine Van den Bogart, parliamentarian; Natalie Rieth, reporter; and Megan Kesler, historian.



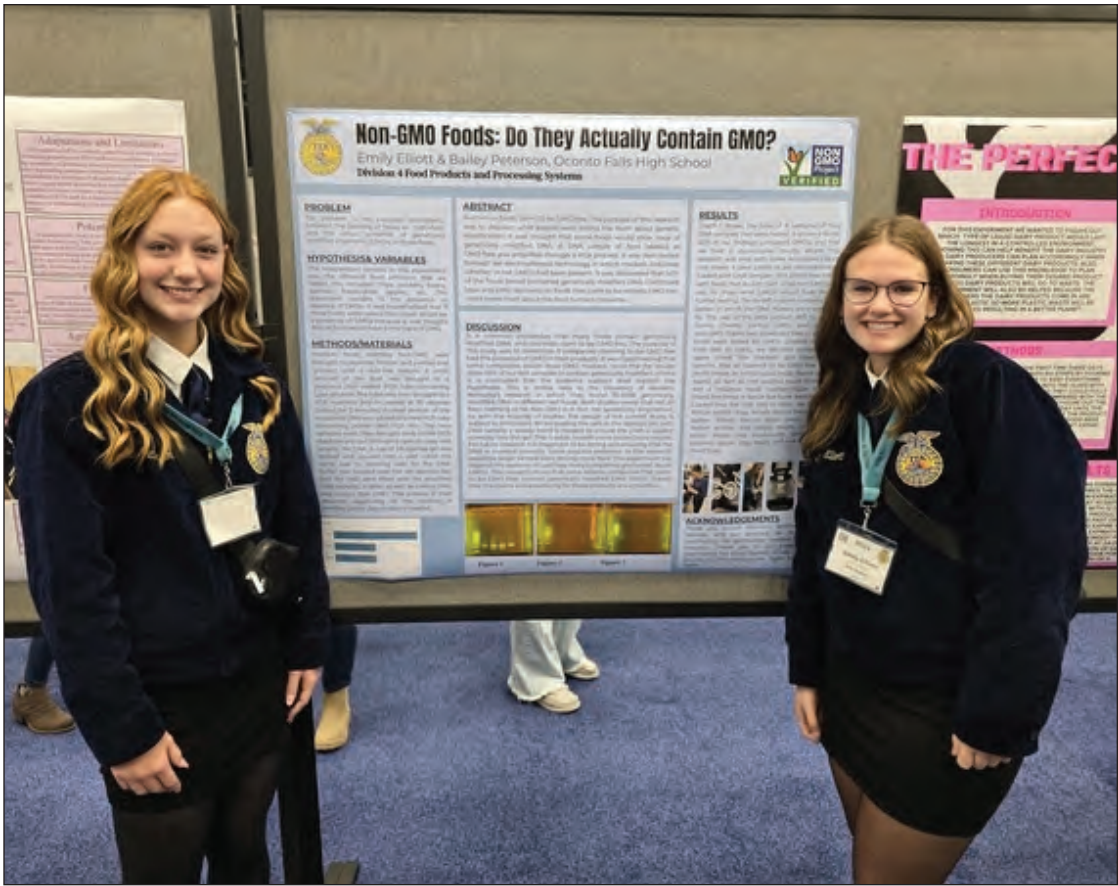
Oconto Falls FFA members pose with a recently restored 1946 John Deere A, which was on display at the 2024 Wisconsin FFA Convention in Madison. This tractor is being raffled off at the conclusion of FFA Week on Feb. 22 during the Oconto Falls FFA Alumni and Supporters Corn Hole Tournament at the Blue Spruce.

CONTRIBUTED



From left, Leo Mielke, Ayden Thurow, Jazmine Van Den Bogart, and Jadyn Weslow package and label oranges and grapefruit for the local FFA fruit sale on Dec. 18. The annual fundraiser included sales of meat, cheese, honey and mustard.

CONTRIBUTED



Bailey Peterson and Emily Elliott stand in front of their poster for their Agriscience Fair project that won second place gold at the National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis.

CONTRIBUTED



Giving your teacher a pie in the face is a highlight for many students. Mr. Taylor gladly participated in this event during Oconto Falls HOCO activities.

CONTRIBUTED



From left, Natalie Rieth, Jadya Weslow, Abigail Roskon and advisor Mr. Walter Taylor stand in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the Washington Leadership Conference in July 2024.

CONTRIBUTED



Oconto Falls High School FFA members participate in a "gallery walk" activity to learn more about Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Proficiency Awards and Career Development Events (CDEs) and Leadership Development Events (LDEs). Each student was asked to select a CDE/LDE and put their names on the posters for the award areas that their SAEs align to.

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Fairs, conventions and parade highlights of Suring FFA's year

The Suring FFA chapter has been very busy with its program of activities to promote student leadership, strengthening agriculture and building communities.

In May, our chapter hosted our annual Ag Education Day that included a petting zoo and various ag education related stations for Suring Elementary and St. John Lutheran students.

In July, our chapter with other FFA chapters participated in the Neighborhood Dairy Distribution service project, which provided numerous dairy products to community members, and we participated in the Breakfast on the Farm ag education activities.

Ten Suring FFA members attended the FFA State Convention held in Madison. We toured Two Guernsey Girls Dairy in Freedom and toured UW-Madison's College of Agriculture campus.

In July, the newly installed officers went to Green Bay to experience an escape room and tested our driving skills with go-karts. Chase Schindel, Cooper Ruch, Chloe Schroeder and Ginger Gerndt attended the Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., where members are provided a premier leadership experience.

Throughout the summer, numerous members participated in many livestock shows, the Wisconsin State Fair and the Oconto County Fair. During the Oconto County Fair, Suring FFA officers planned and managed the Ag Olympics, which was well attended.

The Suring Labor Day Celebration provided many opportunities for service, fundraising and fun.

We continued our pumpkin carving and decorating contest and our big buck contest for our entire student body.

In November, we sent 10 members to the National FFA Convention, held in Indianapolis that featured lots of tours, member bonding and fun. In December, the chapter has a large fruit sale that many community members generously support. We had another successful sale.

The Suring FFA and ag education program has a long history at Suring Public Schools. The FFA chapter was chartered in 1947. The school currently has 82 members, and its adviser is Mary E. Smith. The many programs and activities of Suring FFA would not be possible without the help of our Suring FFA Alumni and the Suring community.



Cooper Ruch, right, shares his knowledge of maple syrup production with Malachi Largo during Suring FFA's Ag Education Day held each spring for the elementary school.

CONTRIBUTED



Suring FFA officers for 2024-25 are, from left, Ginger Gerndt, secretary; Bunny Cramer, treasurer; Birdee Cramer, parliamentarian; Hailey Huguet, sentinel; Tessa Losurdo, president; Chloe Schroeder, reporter; Georgia Gerndt, vice president; and Chase Schindel, vice president.

CONTRIBUTED



Morgan Dryja and Bunny Cramer help an elementary student hear the heartbeat of a rabbit during Ag Education Day. CONTRIBUTED



Chase Schindel, right, encourages Kade Kegel to hold the egg steady during the Oconto County Fair Ag Olympics that Suring FFA sponsored. CONTRIBUTED

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2. THE CHEESE STANDS ALONE as the badger state's 3.42 billion pounds of cheese produced annually is more than a quarter of all U.S. production. If Wisconsin were a country, it would be the fourth-largest cheese producer in the world!

3. BIG BUSINESS Wisconsin's dairy industry generates \$45.6 billion in economic activity annually. That's greater impact than Idaho potatoes and Florida citrus combined, and includes meat production (beef, pork, poultry, eggs, and more) and processing, including feed mills, construction, technology, and Ag machinery production.

4. NOT JUST DAIRY - but many other products as well. In cranberries Wisconsin is #1 producing 60% of the U.S. crop.

5. IMMIGRATION - fixing our broken immigration system while ensuring the year-round labor needs of dairy are met.

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SHAWANO COUNTY: email: rkucksdorf53@yahoo.com phone: 715-758-8180

website: <http://shawanorepublicans.com> • Facebook: Republican party of Shawano.

HQ / Action Center: 712 E. Green Bay St, Shawano. Current hrs: Fridays & Saturdays 10am - 3pm.



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Pulaski FFA in the middle of a busy year

Pulaski FFA has been busy recently, starting back in April when we got our 2024 proficiency results back. We submitted at total of 11 proficiencies, and several of them became state finalists and were recognized on stage at State Convention in June — Taylor Maroszek, Kaitlyn Gee, Clarie Bentley, Nathan Seitz and Faith Posbrig.

Pulaski FFA is also home of the Star Farmer for the second year in a row. Taylor Maroszek was recognized for all of her outstanding accomplishments throughout her FFA career and supervised agricultural experience projects including beef cattle production, swine production and diversified livestock. To wrap up the 2024 state convention, our very own Taylor Maroszek was elected to be our 2024-25 state reporter, representing Section 8.

Once the state convention was over and September rolled around, we kicked off the school year with our annual back-to-school picnic, where we recognized FFA members who showed at livestock shows over the summer: Oconto County, Brown County, Shawano County, Outagamie County and Wisconsin State Fair, and installed our 2024-25 chapter officer team.

The officer team consists of Faith Posbrig, president; Kaitlyn Gee, vice president; Amelia Sikorski, secretary; Jacob Bentley, reporter; Jenna Posbrig, treasurer; and Evelyn Mihaliski, sentinel.

Our next big event after the back-to-school picnic was hosting the Section 8 Fall Leadership Workshop at the Pulaski High School that 350 FFA members attended.

Next was the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis. We left bright and early and headed to Indy, but we made a pit stop along the way at Hummel Livestock. We spent the week attending different sessions and conferences. We also went to the Megan Moroney Concert, rodeo and Exotic Feline Rescue. As our trip came to an end, we returned home back to Wisconsin and our Trunk or Treat event was waiting for us at the Polka Grounds. We donated a truck bed full of canned goods to PACE and provided a safe environment for the community to trick or treat and celebrate Halloween.

For our monthly December activity as a chapter, we made Christmas cookies and donated them to local families that were in need of some Christmas cheer.

As February approaches, National FFA Week is in full swing. Our officer team has been busy coming up with dress-up days, Ag Olympic activities and preparing for our annual open house, all while applying for proficiencies and Wisconsin State FFA Degrees. We are looking forward to all of the success the rest of the year may bring.



The Pulaski FFA officer team, from front left to back right, is Kaitlyn Gee, Amelia Sikorski, Evelyn Mihaliski, Jenna Posbrig, Jacob Bentley and Faith Posbrig. CONTRIBUTED



Taylor Maroszek of the Pulaski FFA chapter, center, is introduced as 2024-25 state reporter, representing Section 8, during the FFA state convention. CONTRIBUTED

Gillett FFA students reflect on national convention

By WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

The National FFA Convention in Indianapolis is the third largest convention in the country every year, behind the Republican and Democratic Party conventions.

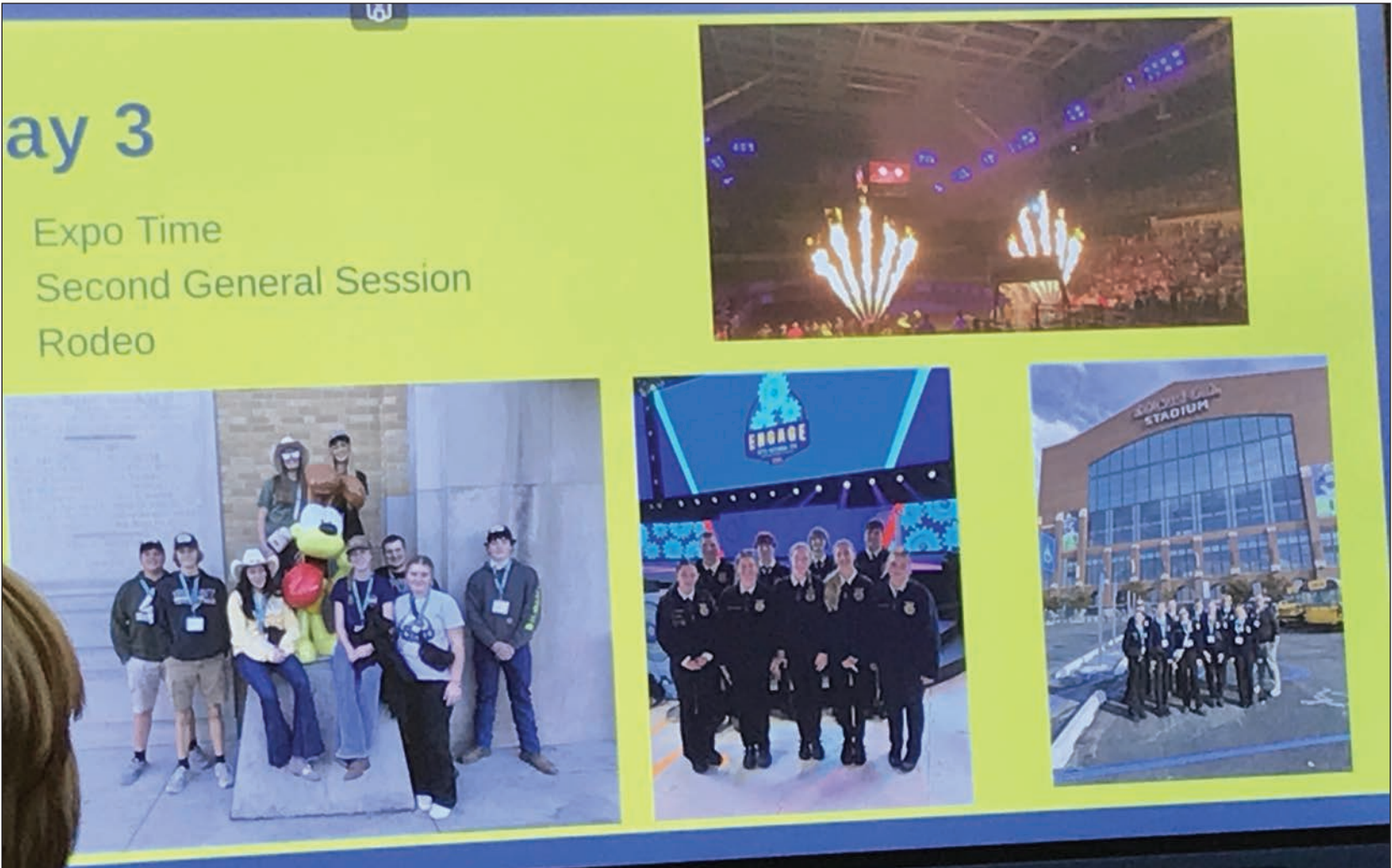
That was among the information shared Nov. 21 when members of the Gillett FFA chapter talked about their experiences with the Gillett School Board.

The 97th National FFA Convention & Expo was staged Oct. 23-26 at Lucas Oil Stadium, where the Indianapolis Colts hold their NFL games.

Attendees have the opportunity to compete, explore more than 350 careers, meet other members from across the country, shape the future of the organization, enjoy entertainment opportunities and more.

“As someone who isn’t as involved in agriculture as some of the people around me, I got to talk to a lot of higher-up people in businesses like John Deere,” said Scott Heroux, a chapter member. “I thought it was really interesting seeing all the stuff behind that.”

Adviser Jacob Timm said the convention is one of his favorite things every year.



Members of the Gillett FFA chapter share a PowerPoint presentation about the organization's national convention during the Nov. 21 meeting of the Gillett School Board.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

“I always look forward to going down and kind of recharging my batteries as an adviser and an ag teacher,” Timm said. “I was able to connect with many different ag teachers from around the country, meet all the people that I

see year after year, figure out what they’re doing in their programs and how to bring it back to Gillett.” This year’s students are a great group, and they had a lot of fun and brought back great memories, Timm said.

About 71,000 students attended the convention, but the organization is expecting big things in three years, he said. “In 2028 is when the centennial is, the 100th anniversary of FFA nationally,” Timm said. “They

are gearing up for that. Lucas Oil Stadium may not be as big as we want it to be that time, but we’ll make it work one way or another.” In addition to the convention itself, chapter members made some stops

along the way to and from Indianapolis — including Natural Beauty Greenhouse in Denmark, Fair Oaks Farm in Fair Oaks, Indiana, the Indianapolis Zoo and the Albanese Candy Factory in Merrillville, Indiana.

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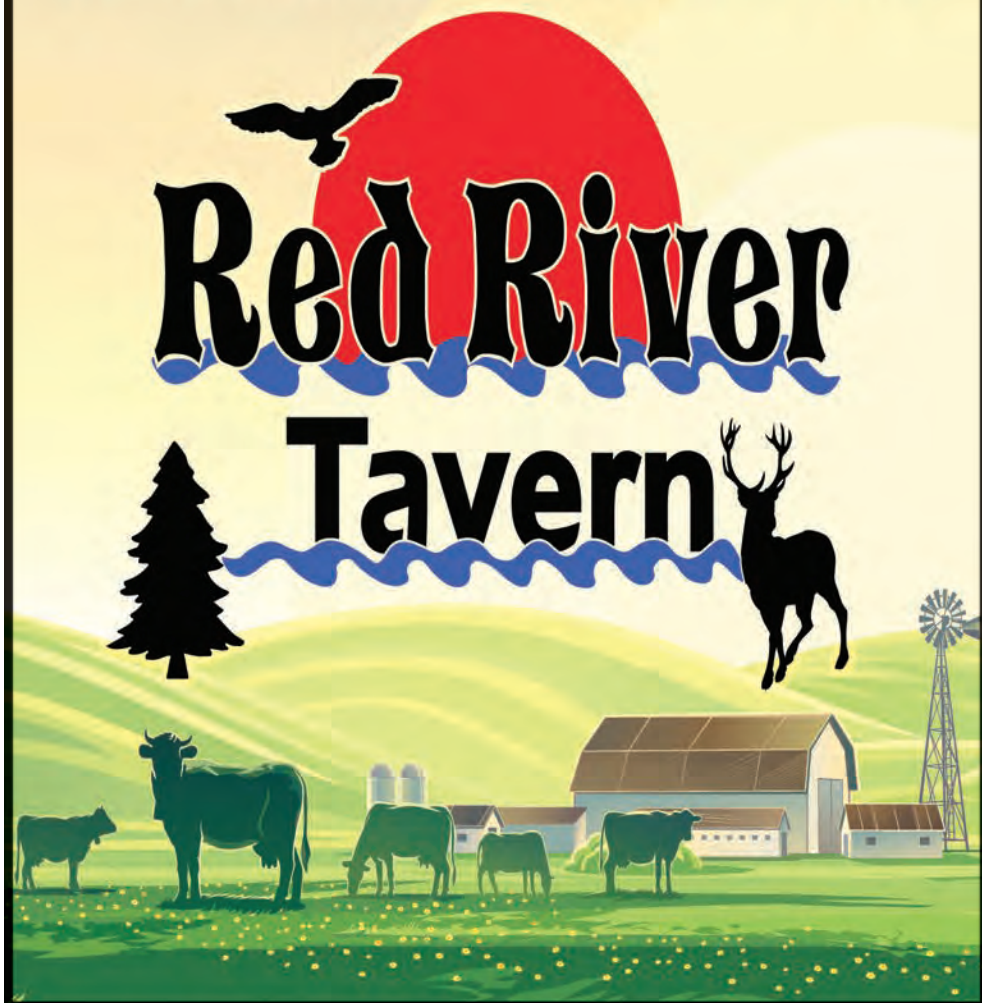
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