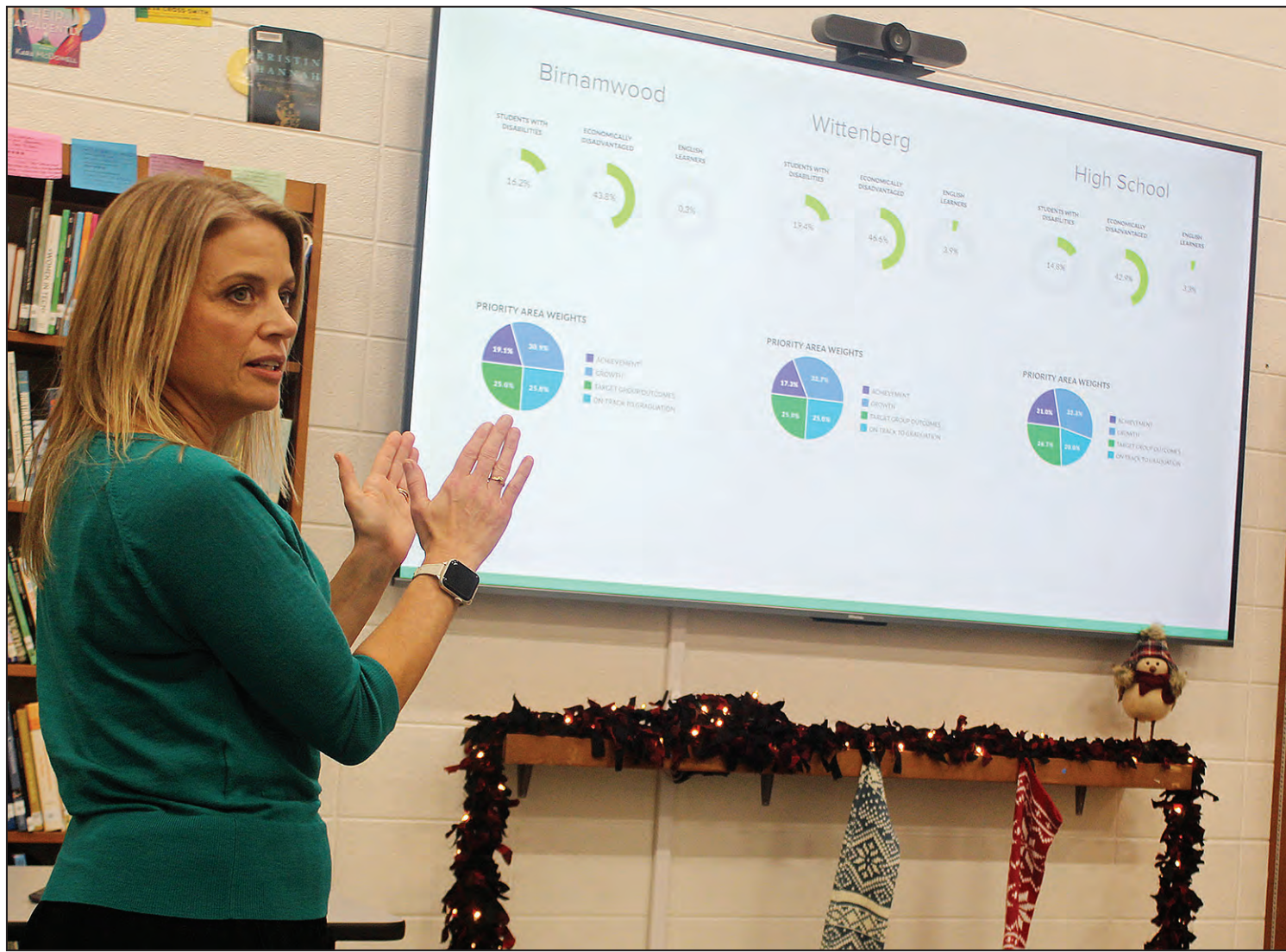




Kara Muthig, data analyst for Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District, points to some of the data that the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction used to compile the district's overall and individual school report cards for 2024 during a Dec. 16 meeting of the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School Board at Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Witt-Birn school board looks over report card results

Board members frustrated that DPI doesn't look at all factors of learning

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Individual report cards for students contain the culmination of all the work they've done in school. But the school report cards issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction are considered by many school districts — including Wittenberg-Birnamwood — to be a snapshot and not show all that schools have done to ensure students are learning.

The DPI report cards were discussed in detail Dec. 16 by the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School Board as they tried to understand why the elementary schools received a three-star rating indicating they met state

standards, while Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School only received two stars.

The recommendation from Kara Muthig, the district's psychologist and data analyst, is not to read too much into the scores, because factors differ from district to district. There are four things that determine a district's score — achievement, growth, target group outcomes and whether students are on track for graduating in a four-year period. The problem, according to Muthig, is that those four items are not factored evenly among districts or even between schools.

"It really isn't apples to

CARD, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

AT A GLANCE

School and district report cards include outcomes in four priority areas:

- Achievement measures the level of knowledge and skills among students in the school, compared to state and national standards. It includes a composite of English language arts and mathematics performance by the "all students" group in the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) for all tested grades in the school.
- Growth measures changes in students' English language arts and mathematics performance over time. Each student's value-added score is calculated based on test score improvement from the prior year to the current year compared to similar students statewide. Similar students statewide are determined using the following variables: prior test scores, economic status, race/ethnicity, disability status, gender and English learner status. District and school value-added scores are an average of value-added scores across students.
- Target Group Outcomes demonstrates outcomes for students with the lowest test scores in their school — the target group. Outcomes are displayed for achievement, growth, chronic absenteeism, and attendance or graduation rate.
- On-Track to Graduation indicates the success of students in the school in achieving educational milestones that predict postsecondary success. It includes chronic-absenteeism and the graduation rate for schools that graduate students, or the attendance rate for other schools. It also includes measures of third grade English language arts and eighth grade mathematics achievement, as applicable to the school.

SOURCE: WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

School district may expand hours of fitness center

Formal proposal coming to school board in January

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Plans are in the works for the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District to expand hours at the fitness center in the wake of having to cut back hours at the pool due to the shortage of lifeguards.

A formal proposal will come before the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School Board in January, but Superintendent Garrett Rogowski brought up the idea to the board at its Dec. 16 meeting as a method for helping the public get needed services from the district.

Currently, the fitness center hours on the district's website say it's open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. However, those hours have been in flux due to the pool not being able to be open as much. Rogowski said other school districts have expanded availability of their centers.

One concern is that bathroom facilities in the locker rooms would not be available during expanded hours because the locker rooms provide direct access to the pool area, which would be closed. Rogowski said the district is looking at gating off the locker room access during that time.

"I think that would be a nice resource to have and to offer," Rogowski said of the fitness hours expansion.

He noted that janitorial staff is on duty until 9:30 p.m. during the week to curtail fitness center users from accessing the pool area, but after that, it would be an issue.

Board member Jessica Whitewing-Clark said she has no problem with the restricted locker room access as long as users are aware of it prior to using the fitness center.

Board member Trevor Szutkowski recommended making sure the expanded hours included earlier access in the mornings. There was no discussion about expanded hours on the weekends.

"That would be flexible, because we're tight on hours right now," Szutkowski said.

Rogowski said that the fitness center does not have the kind of oversight that

FITNESS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

INSIDE

ADRC integrates with Shawano County's aging programs

PAGE 3



Ready for some yarns from the woods?
Check out the column of
KATHLEEN MARSH
In today's newspaper!

Full Circle honored for conservation efforts

Adamski family selected to receive the 2024 Wisconsin Leopold Conservation Award recipient

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

The accolades continue to pile up for Full Circle Community Farm in southeastern Shawano County.

In February, owners and operators Rick Adamski, Valerie Dantoin, Andrew Adamski, Heather Toman and Scott Rosenberg were named Marbleseed's 2024 Farmer of the Year.

This month, the family was among those chosen as a 2024 Wisconsin Leopold Conservation Award recipient. The \$10,000 award honors farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners who go above and beyond in their management of soil health, water quality and wildlife habitat on working land.

The latest announcement was made at the Dec. 5 meeting of the Shawano County Land Conservation Committee.

Given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the award recognizes landowners who inspire others to consider conservation opportunities on their land. In his influential 1949 book, *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold called for "a land ethic," an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage.

"We bank our wealth in the soil and the nutrients stored there," Valerie Dantoin said of her family's approach to farming.

Their 240-acre farm is covered with a green, protective blanket year-round thanks to the managed grazing system that she and husband Rick Adamski have established.

Soil tests routinely show their pastures' organic matter is 2% higher than neighboring tilled corn and soybean fields. It is estimated that every 1% increase in organic matter helps hold 20,000 gallons



Rick Adamski and Valerie Danton, second and third from left, pose next to the sign their Full Circle Community Farm in southeastern Shawano County. Also pictured are farm partner Scott Rosenberg, far left, and the couple's son and daughter-in-law, Andrew Adamski and Heather Toman.

FULL CIRCLE COMMUNITY FARM

more water per acre, which helps withstand deluges and droughts.

In addition to improving soil's organic matter levels and ability to infiltrate water, permanently covered pastures also help sequester carbon. Adamski and Dantoin have followed the guidelines for biodiversity, soil and water conservation to maintain their farm's organic certification since the 1990s.

"If we could not farm in an environmentally friendly way, we wouldn't farm at all," Dantoin said.

That sentiment means making sure their cattle herd size matches the carrying capacity of their land. Since retiring from milking

dairy cows in 2014, they rotationally graze a herd of 100 beef cattle. For 25 years, they have composted all their cattle's winter manure.

At Full Circle Farm, Adamski and Dantoin's son, Andrew, and his wife, Heather Toman, are helping usher in its next life stage, a return to a diversified farm. They manage about 60 pigs and a flock of laying hens on pasture, raise 10 acres of vegetables and have established a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) business.

Full Circle Farm feeds about 1,000 people weekly through its 150 CSA shares and sales at farmers markets. Andrew Adamski experiments with bio-char and

vertical tillage on vegetable crops as part of his master's degree study on soil health.

Rick Adamski and Dantoin have founded two farm cooperatives focused on fair prices for sustainably produced food and ensuring that other conservation-minded farms have access to mid-sized markets.

Full Circle Farm regularly hosts field days, including events targeted to female landowners who want to learn about establishing pollinator habitat and riparian buffers. Dantoin co-founded the Wisconsin Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship program and is a conservation coach for Wisconsin Women in Conservation. She previously led GrassWorks, a

statewide organization that promotes grazing's conservation benefits.

Rick Adamski served as president of Wisconsin Farmers Union and has been a consultant for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

The Adamski family has planted several hundred shrubs, and oak and cedar trees. Riparian buffers along a waterway were expanded to 30 feet. Fence lines and hedgerows border Full Circle Farm's 25 fields. These areas and a farm pond provide habitat and migration corridors for badger, fox, pheasants, green heron, Sandhill cranes and Hungarian partridge.

"It is ethical to leave a

corner of the farm as wetlands for frogs and migrating waterfowl," Dantoin recently wrote regarding her land ethic.

"The ethical thing to do is to care for the land, soil and water as if our children's children are the ones who will farm after we are gone. It is ethical to enjoy the sunset and see the fruits of your labors, to revel in the richness of the land all around you, and to never once wonder what it's worth."

Wisconsin farmers are on the frontlines of progress when it comes to preserving the future of agriculture, said Wisconsin Farm Bureau President Brad Olson.

"We appreciate Full Circle Farm's well-founded conservation approach, and we congratulate them on their efforts," he said.

Randy Romanski, Wisconsin Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, praised Adamski and Dantoin for being successful farmers, community leaders and stewards of Wisconsin's land and water.

"The Adamski family exemplify how to practice conservation, operate a successful business and educate others on lessons learned in the field and on the farm," he said.

A video celebrating the Shawano County farm family's conservation success was premiered during the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting Dec. 8.

Sand County Foundation and national sponsor American Farmland Trust present Leopold Conservation Awards to private landowners in 28 states. In Wisconsin the award is presented with Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin.

Sustainable Development Institute director honored at White House

As part of the Rural Innovators Initiative, the Biden-Harris Administration recently celebrated 14 innovators from across America that are making a positive impact in their communities. Among those receiving an award was Jennifer Gauthier, director of the Sustainable Development Institute at College of Menominee Nation.

"(This is the) deserved recognition of Jennifer's community-based work that demonstrates the type of

individuals we are fortunate to have on staff at the College of Menominee Nation," CMN President Christopher Caldwell said. "Her leadership and experiences help ground our work at the college and the Sustainable Development Institute."

Gauthier is an enrolled member of the Menominee Nation and has connections to Ho-Chunk, Oneida, and Stockbridge-Munsee communities. Gauthier earned a master of public administration from UW-Oshkosh

and a bachelor's degree in political science from UW-Madison.

She has worked with the Menominee community in tribal government and most recently as a community development educator. These experiences have created many professional development opportunities, meeting and learning from Indigenous peoples at home and throughout the world.

At the core of Gauthier's work is the integration of Menominee language and

culture into all aspects of programming. Through this foundation, she has been instrumental in building food systems, transportation solutions and the advancement of traditional arts and language within the Menominee community.

Her work is inclusive of community voice and provides safe spaces for learning and sharing. Collectively, this work is a way of building healthy communities. Gauthier is active in the community.

She regularly gives of her time to teach traditional arts and Menominee language, and shares knowledge through various community presentations.

She also serves as the chairperson of the Menominee Language and Culture Commission and is an inaugural board member of the Kaehkenawapahtaeq Charter School.

She has received numerous awards and recognitions for her work over the year.

The role of the Sustainable Development Institute is bound to principles of sustainability and Menominee values.

Prompted by Menominee's long tradition of sustainable forestry practices, tribal leaders created the Sustainable Development Institute to encourage, promote and build upon the Menominee approach to sustainable development. SDI supports and advances sustainable ways through a variety of initiatives.

WITTENBERG

BIRNAMWOOD

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Publisher

Greg Mellis

gmellis@newmedia-wi.com

Editor-in-Chief

Kevin Passon

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

Retail advertising

advertising@newmedia-wi.com

News

news@newmedia-wi.com

Obituaries

obits@newmedia-wi.com

Classifieds/legal notices

classifieds@newmedia-wi.com

Subscriptions

circulation@newmedia-wi.com

Integration of aging programs effective Jan. 1

Plan will see a cost savings of more than \$100K

BY KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

With the beginning of 2025, the Shawano County Aging Unit and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of the Wolf River Region will integrate their services. The best news for seniors and families served by the organizations is that they won't see any change in their level of services. For Shawano County, officials will see a savings of more than \$100,000. "The Aging Unit will fully integrate with the ADRC as of Jan. 1," said Missi Rosenow, ADRC aging supervisor. "The ADRC represents Shawano, Oconto and Menominee counties and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community, but only the Shawano County Aging Unit will integrate."

REPORT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

apples or oranges to oranges when you look at report cards," Muthig said. "If you look at our report card compared to Antigo's report card, they actually aren't weighted the same on how they calculate the scores, which is kind of deceiving, unless you know about it." Muthig added that demographic numbers are not the same even within the three schools, so the scores come out vastly different. Schools and districts with low percentages of students receiving free and reduced-price meals have a higher percentage of their score going toward achievement over growth, while it's the flip side for schools in poorer areas. That frustrated some board members, as schools' results are publicly released but DPI is not always clear on why certain factors gave a school its particular score. "Why don't they make it so it can be compared?" asked board member Rich Olson. Board member Trevor Szutkowski also expressed frustration, noting that Antigo High School scored worse on achievement than Witt-Birn, but then wound up with a higher overall score. "It's just mind blowing to me," Szutkowski said.

FITNESS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the pool does, and patrons of the fitness center are already aware that they have to work out at their own risk. "That's what we're

When ADRCs began to be formed across the state in the late 1990s, most county aging units integrated their services with them. Shawano County is one of the few remaining counties still on its own. "We will create a streamlined, efficient system to serve older adults and their families," Rosenow said. "There will be no change in the services offered." Now, the county's aging unit coordinates the senior nutrition program for the congregate sites and meal delivery, transportation, the National Family Caregiver Support Programs, the Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program, the driver escort program, health programs and other programs." While Shawano County is integrating its services, those offered through

Oconto and Menominee counties and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community will continue to be separate from the ADRC. Rosenow said that due to tribal rules and funding, Menominee County and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community will most likely always be separate, but Oconto County could integrate services at some point. Currently, Oconto County is divesting many of the services coordinated by its Commission on Aging and contracting with others, including Menominee County for transportation and Marinette County for the nutrition program. Shawano County residents seeking information about services should call the ADRC at 855-492-2372. kpaddon@newmedia-wi.com

"We had great growth last year, but how can you continue to have great growth year after year? You can't just expect to grow in leaps and bounds every year. It's almost setting these rural school districts up for failure." Muthig noted that Wittenberg Elementary-Middle School did better on growth, while Birnamwood Elementary-Middle School performed better with achievement. Yet, the two schools had almost identical scores when the report cards came out. There were also questions on how the elementary schools had three stars this year but had been rated four stars in the past. Board member Dan Stewart noted that the district has its own data on student learning and suggested looked at doing an internalized report card that looks at all the testing and learning in the school district. Chronic absenteeism can impact schools' scores, Muthig said, and the district was below the state average, although she noted that Birnamwood Elementary individually was above. The district will be sending out letters regarding the importance of being in school every day if healthy. "Our overall attendance is pretty good, but

that chronic absenteeism, sometimes we have to watch that," Muthig said. Muthig noted that the district isn't able to compare its results this year with last year's due to the changes made to scoring thresholds on the Forward exam, which is distributed to grades 3-8. Olson said the DPI system needs some work so that average people can understand it. "They understand that students with disadvantages are going to need more help," Olson said. "If your potential for the growth is with those students, I see that as a weighted average and having more impact. We all want everybody to grow, yes. We all want to succeed, yes." Megan Rothmeyer, WBHS principal, noted that her school continually tries to improve, and she tells families that even if WBHS only has two stars, that doesn't mean it's falling behind on learning. "We're trying to improve everyone's growth overall," Rothmeyer said. "I tell the kids that I'm proud of our academics here, but there's always room for growth. So we try to grow a little bit every year. It's not just about the stars. There's so much more that we do here." lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

My experience in there is that the people who are using it use it for the right reasons." lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com



Aubrey Wierzba and Peyton Crick, members of the Wittenberg Area Swim Program, qualified for the 2024 Wisconsin Single Age Sprint State Championships while swimming Dec. 14-15 in Mount Pleasant. CONTRIBUTED

2 WASP competitors qualify for state meet

A pair of Wittenberg Area Swim Program competitors qualified for the 2024 Wisconsin Single Age Sprint State Championships while swimming Dec. 14-15 in Mount Pleasant. There were 38 swim teams from all over Wisconsin, with 803 individual swimmers. The swimmers were aged 7-12. At these meets each swimmer, based on their age, competes with only swimmers of that same age, versus an age range, like 11-12-year-olds. WASP sent Aubrey Wierzba, 12, and Peyton Crick, 11, coached by Kalee

Gilmeister. Wierzba placed 31st in the 100-yard backstroke in 1:18.10, 33rd in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:29.89, 35th in the 50-yard breaststroke in 37.47 and 36th in the 100-yard individual medley in 1:14.64. She also had a state cut time for winter state, to be held in March 2025, in her 50-yard breaststroke. Crick finished 25th in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1 minute, 27.66 seconds and 36th in the 50-yard breaststroke in 41.03 seconds. She also placed 51st in the 50-yard butterfly in 32.73 and 59th in the 50-yard freestyle in 32.73.

Community Journalism?

NEW Media is always on the lookout for talented freelance correspondents who can write stories AND take stunning photographs for our three publications — the Shawano Herald, the Oconto County Times Herald, and the Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News.

Self-starters find a lot in the community worth writing about as we showcase the best of what Shawano, Oconto and Menominee counties have to offer. If you like to write about seniors, profile businesses, shine a light on agriculture enterprises, cover community events or anything else you can imagine, we want you to join us.

We also seek correspondents who have a nose for news or like to cover sporting events, and those with the talent and interest can go far. We pay \$60 per story and \$10 per photo that are published in print and/or online.

Anyone interested in joining our team of freelancers can send a cover letter to City Editor Lee Pulaski at lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com and include some samples of their previous work, if applicable.



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 of NEW papers starting January 10, 2025.



Help Wanted

NEW Media is looking for a reporter to work out of our Shawano 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 Shawano County or Menominee 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 Shawano 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 — Shawano" in the subject header.



SHAWANO LEADER

PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Dec. 22 Deputies responded to 19 incidents, including assisting the fire department on Cypress Road in the Town of Richmond; assisting the fire department on Webb Street in Wittenberg; drugs on Range Line Road in the Town of Richmond; restraining order violation on Old Keshena Road in the Town of Wescott; assisting the fire department on Country Lane in the Town of Washington; two 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; two traffic hazards; one crash.

Dec. 21 Deputies responded to 26 incidents, including a failure to report to jail at the Huber Work Release Center, 1240 Engel Drive, Shawano; assisting the fire department at Boarders Inn and Suites, W7393 River Bend Road in the Town of Belle Plaine; bail jumping on Country Lane in the Town of Washington; counterfeit at Little Rock Bar, W19069 First St., Aniwa; trespassing on Ashley Road in the Town of Navarino; three traffic hazards; three crashes, one involving deer.

Dec. 20 Deputies responded to 36 incidents, including fraud on County Road A in the Town of Bartelme; drugs at an undisclosed location; warrant attempt at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main St., Shawano; assisting the fire department on Winkle Road in the Town of Herman; threatening on Town Line Road in the Town of Washington; custodial interference at Dollar General, 413 N. Genesee St., Wittenberg; juvenile alcohol on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; three 911 calls; two reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; one welfare check; six crashes.

Dec. 19 Deputies responded to 29 incidents, including a sick animal on Butternut Street in Tigerton; property damage on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; noise on Oak Street in Tigerton; one 911 call; two reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; 14 crashes.

Dec. 18 Deputies responded to 19 incidents, including a warrant at the Menominee Tribal Jail, W3292 Wolf River Road, Keshena; attempted theft on North Warrington Avenue; three 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks.

Dec. 17 Deputies responded to 30 incidents, including drugs at an undisclosed location; warrant on Main Street in the Town of Angelica; trespassing on Rock Elm Lane in the Town of Wittenberg; sick animal on Ashley Road in the Town of Navarino; drugs at the Shawano County Jail, 405 N. Main

St., Shawano; vicious animal on Country Lane in the Town of Washington; repossession on Oriole Road in the Town of Birnamwood; three 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; one welfare check; one crash.

Dec. 16 Deputies responded to 39 incidents, including assisting the fire department on state Highway 22 in the Town of Washington; criminal damage on Laney Road in the Town of Maple Grove; burglary on County Road G in the Town of Herman; repossession on Honeysuckle Lane in Tigerton; vehicle fire on state Highway 29 in the Town of Waukechon; counterfeit at North Star Casino, W12180 County Road A in the Town of Bartelme; one 911 call; one reckless driving incident; two traffic hazards; five welfare check; one crash.

SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Dec. 22 Officers responded to 11 incidents, including threatening on Engel Drive.

Dec. 21 Officers responded to 15 incidents, including operating while intoxicated at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; burglary at Martzke Park, 300 County Road B; drugs on South Prospect Street; resisting police on South Main Street; one welfare check; one crash.

Dec. 20 Officers responded to 15 incidents, including trespassing on South Weed Street; drugs at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; tobacco problem at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; assisting the fire department on South Lafayette Street; assisting the fire department on South Main Street; two welfare checks; one crash.

Dec. 19 Officers responded to 33 incidents, including two truancy calls at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; tobacco problem at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; harassment on South Lafayette Street; juvenile problem at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; found property at Family Dollar, 413 S. Main St.; drugs at Charlie's County Market, 521 S. Main St.; two reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks; six crashes.

Dec. 18 Officers responded to 26 incidents, including a warrant arrest at ThedaCare Medical Center-Shawano, 100 County Road B; noise on South Water Street; operating without a license at Olga Brener Intermediate School, 1300 S. Union St.; harassment on South Lafayette Street; three 911 calls; two reckless driving incidents; three welfare checks; one crash.

COURT NEWS

• Trevor Smith, 23, listed as homeless, pleaded no contest Dec. 17 to possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony and a misdemeanor charge of resisting or obstructing an officer. Judge Katherine Sloma levied fines and court costs and sentenced him to 180 days in the county jail with Huber work-release and good time privileges.

• Donald R. Carlson, 40, Iola, pleaded guilty Dec. 20 to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fourth offense). Judge Scott Corbett levied fines and costs and sentenced him to eight months in county jail. The judge suspended Carlson's license and ordered ignition interlock devices for 24 months.

• Matthew P. Urbanczyk, 30, Tigerton, pleaded no contest Dec. 18 to battery or threat to a law officer, two counts of a prisoner throwing or expelling bodily substances, a misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer, and three counts of misdemeanor bail jumping. Sloma withheld sentencing and placed him on probation for five years with conditions.

• Justin D. Brennan, 26, Shawano, pleaded no contest Dec. 18 to possession of methamphetamine. Judge William Kussel Jr. sentenced him to nine months in county jail time served and levied fines and court costs.

• Shelby C. Montoya, 51, Gresham, was charged Dec. 16 with misappropriating ID information to avoid penalty, two counts of felony bail jumping, two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor or count of operating a motor vehicle without a valid license. Kussel set a \$500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Feb. 25.

• Nicole M. Murphy, 28, Shawano, was charged Dec. 16 with failure to report to jail. Kussel set a \$750 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Feb. 24.

• Delvinia L. Okimosh, 34, Shawano, was charged Dec. 16 with the physical abuse of an elder person recklessly causing bodily harm and a misdemeanor or count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a \$1,500 signature bond and scheduled a status conference for Feb. 17.

• Jasmaine L. Roehl, 17, Wittenberg, was charged Dec. 16 with stalking, six counts of felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a \$1,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Dec. 23. She was additionally charged Dec. 20 with battery or threat to a law officer and misdemeanor counts of criminal trespass to a dwelling, resisting or obstructing and officer, and disorderly conduct. Kussel added the charges to the Dec. 23 hearing and set a \$2,500 signature bond.

• Dominick D. West, 33, Antigo, was charged Dec. 16 with fleeing an officer in his vehicle, felony bail jumping and misdemeanor bail jumping. Kussel set a \$1,000 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Jan. 28.

• Taylor R. Roehl, 31, Clintonville, was charged Dec. 17 with possession of methamphetamine and three counts of felony bail jumping. Kussel set a \$2,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Dec. 20.

• Kerry D. Kluck, 67, Stevens Point, was charged Dec. 18 with possession of THC (second or subsequent offense) and three counts of misdemeanor bail jumping. Kussel set a \$500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Feb. 3.

• Justin D. Okimosh, 31, Shawano, was charged Dec. 20 with felony bail jumping and operating while revoked. Kussel set a \$500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Feb. 19.

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Excessive waits undercut records law

The other day, in my role as an advocate for open government, I heard from a Wisconsin resident who has waited more than five months for records he requested from a local law enforcement agency. He has gently prodded the agency several times, asking, "How much more time is my request going to take?" More than three months have passed since these queries have yielded a response.

Such long, frustrating wait times are not uncommon. Wisconsin's Open Records Law allows any person to obtain any document in the possession of state and local government officials, with limited exceptions. But, unlike in some other states, there is no set time limit. Rather, the law simply directs record custodians to act "as soon as practicable and without delay."

What does that mean? Good question.

The state Justice Department has said that "10 working days is a reasonable time for an authority to respond" to simple records requests. But this is not binding advice. Moreover, no court has ever ruled that a particular wait-time was excessive.

I tell people experiencing long wait times to practice their "P's": Be polite, be persistent and be pragmatic — offer to clarify or refine your request to make it more manageable. Sometimes, this helps move things along. Other times, it seems to make no difference.

That's where Tom Kamenick comes in. He is the founder and president of the Wisconsin Transparency Project, the state's only law firm devoted entirely to open government litigation. Since 2019, Kamenick has filed seven lawsuits alleging illegal delays in the processing of open records requests. He has lost only one case — in which the records were provided but had ended up in the requester's spam folder.

His other six cases ended in settlements favorable to the requestors: records were provided, legal costs were covered and, in at least one case, the custodian apologized. The problem is that these settlement wins do not set a legal precedent that can be cited by others, although they do add credibility to threats of legal action.

Last year, Kamenick sued the Madison Police Department on my behalf



Bill Lueders
Guest columnist

after it told me to expect a wait time of 14 months to obtain records related to police discipline. The office hired additional staff and authorized overtime to reduce its backlog.

Last month, Kamenick sued the Racine County Sheriff's Department on behalf of a local resident, Mitchell Berman, over its long delays in producing records including video footage.

"Delays like this are all too common," Kamenick noted in a statement.

Custodians often contend they lack the staff and resources to handle requests more promptly. Kamenick's response is to say it isn't a question of resources but priorities. One school district he sued had a \$600 million budget and assigned a single staff position devoted to records requests, then allowed that position to go unfilled.

Indeed, the records law expressly states that handling records requests "is declared to be an essential function of a representative government and an integral part of the routine duties of officers and employees whose responsibility it is to provide such information."

That means it should be more of a priority.

Eventually, the courts should weigh in on this, in a precedent-setting case. The problem also cries out for a legislative solution. A revised law could still say "as soon as practicable and without delay," but also set a time limit of, say, 30 days, for records to be provided, absent extraordinary circumstances. Perhaps the state could provide additional funding or guidance to help make this doable — certainly there are worse ways it could spend its \$4.6 billion budget surplus.

There is an old saying that justice delayed is justice denied; the same is true for records requests. If you don't get the records until you can hardly remember what you wanted them for, the law is not working as intended.

Your Right to Know is a monthly column distributed by the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council (wisfoic.org), a group dedicated to open government. Bill Lueders, a writer in Madison and editor-at-large of The Progressive, is the group's president.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Investigate, question sources of information

To the editor:

We thought that you could verify facts with two sources of information that said the same thing. Hearing something on the Walter Cronkite CBS Evening News and then reading it in the local newspaper was proof this was the truth.

Today, it is far more difficult to distinguish the truth from lies. No matter how savvy we think we are, we can be tricked. Billionaires on the right have invested more heavily in media than their counterparts on the left. Fox News, I-Heart Radio and TV stations and newspapers owned by the Sinclair Broadcast Group speak in one voice as they slant the news in favor of the Republican Party.

The 2024 election set a record for the most political ad spending: \$11 billion. The Citizens United Supreme Court decision in 2010 has allowed and encouraged the wealthy and powerful to buy themselves a megaphone and drown out the voices of everyday Americans. Elon Musk and two other billionaires spent \$220 million in just three months to support their preferred



presidential candidate. Everyday Americans cannot afford this expenditure to present their views and information.

Disinformation, artificial intelligence, deep fakes and other emerging technologies are a serious threat to our democracy. This technology has the potential to manipulate and scam millions of people. Protecting the right of free speech should also mean protecting an information environment that people can trust. Musk and other media leaders have attempted to avoid

responsibility and have cut safety teams. According to a report from the Center for Countering Digital Hate, Musk posted at least 50 false election claims on X, which reached 1.2 billion views that were not fact-checked.

Artificial intelligence can make it easier for politicians to manipulate the public by pandering to their fears and emotions. A deep fake video of presidential candidate Kamala Harris was viewed over 150 million times. This was an attempt to undermine the integrity of our elections

by manipulating voters.

This is not how our democracy is supposed to work. We the people should call the shots when it comes to the issues that impact our everyday lives. After Donald Trump's Jan. 20 inauguration, we need to be vigilant to the doublespeak that downplays President Joe Biden's accomplishments and make it seem that every positive economic indicator belongs to Trump's presidency. Please look at sources and question what you are being told.

Jan Koch, Shawano

GUEST COLUMN

Health care workplace violence increasing

As many of us scroll through our favorite news app, we are greeted by reports of workplace violence, from verbal and physical confrontations to fatal shootings. What is often missing from the headlines are stories of the increasingly high frequency of workplace assaults suffered by health care professionals across the country.

The data is alarming and demands greater public attention. The American Hospital Association reports that health care facilities face more incidents of violence and injury than any other work environment. Since the pandemic, it's gotten worse: 44% of nurses report an increase in physical violence and 68% report an increase in verbal abuse.

Figures from the American College of Emergency Physicians are particularly shocking. Hospital emergency departments, by nature, are high-pressure settings; they can be crowded and are often chaotic. A distressing 80% of emergency room doctors say violence has impacted patient care and safety where they work. Half of emergency physicians note they have witnessed harm to patients in the emergency department, and 47% report they themselves have been



Damond Boatwright
Guest columnist

assaulted at work.

At Hospital Sisters Health System, we are experiencing this new epidemic firsthand, as violent and abusive behavior increases across our network of 13 Catholic, non-profit hospitals in Illinois and Wisconsin. Contrary to popular opinion, this isn't just an urban problem — it happens in our rural community hospitals, too.

We refer to HSHS' committed and caring staff as "colleagues," from the executive leadership team to the welcoming professional sitting at the front desk. The term "colleague" indicates the respect and camaraderie we offer each other and our patients as part of our mission to provide faith-based, loving, safe and high-quality care to those we serve.

As CEO, I do not want "colleague" to be replaced by "survivor" because of acts — swearing, punching, kicking, biting, spitting and so on — encountered by the caring professionals within our facilities. Our values call us to make safety a priority

for our 11,000 colleagues and the patients and visitors they serve.

The reason for these outbursts has no simple origin, but the fear, confusion and isolation remaining from the pandemic have not helped. We see the impact everywhere: in our youth, who are struggling to overcome learning and social gaps; in our elderly, who lost so many of their peers to COVID-19; and in society overall, where loneliness is accelerating into its own epidemic.

We are living in an era in which mental health resources are more critical than ever, yet they are plagued by the perennial problem of inadequate funding due primarily to the stigma attached to mental health needs.

Every one of our colleagues — and all clinical care team members across the United States — deserves to work in a secure and safe environment. HSHS and other leading health care systems are doing our part to counter this public health emergency by implementing new safety programs and procedures. We ask our elected officials to join us in these efforts to safeguard their constituents.

Action is already being taken in Wisconsin, where

Act 209 was signed into law in 2022, making threats and acts of violence against health care workers and their family members a Class H felony. Recently, Illinois lawmakers took a good first step in proposing bipartisan legislation that gives health care workers the same protections as employees who suffer violence in other care-oriented workplaces — such as nursing homes, daycares and schools.

Similarly, the Safety from Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act introduced in Congress would make assaulting a hospital employee a federal crime punishable by a fine, jail time or both. This protection is already provided to airline and airport workers.

We look forward to these and similar initiatives moving forward.

In health care, we take a pledge to first do no harm. Why shouldn't we expect the same from our patients, communities and elected officials?

A clarion call for protection of our health care heroes is long overdue. Lawmakers must now heed our plea.

Damond Boatwright is the president and chief executive officer for Hospital Sisters Health System.

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The loggerhead shrike might look cute, but with its very deadly hooked beak, it can cause a fair amount of damage. LISA JANSEN

Birdsongs nice, but their actions create intrigue

I began my love of birds because of their beautiful feathers and lovely songs, but what keeps me intrigued are all the weird and wonderful things they can do. While touching just the tip of the iceberg, here are a few of my favorites.

Crows, pigeons, magpies and mockingbirds can recognize faces and remember which humans are good to them and which are bad. If you are nice to them, they may bring you trinkets as a gift. If you are not nice, they may hold a grudge and harass you.

Some birds use tools. Crows make hooks at the end of sticks to get at food. Woodpecker finches have short beaks, so they use twigs to dislodge grubs from tree trunks. Green herons drop small items like feathers or insects into the water to attract small fish. Vultures have used rocks as tools to break ostrich eggs.

While birding with a group, we came upon a carcass of a mole or vole or mouse (your guess is as good as mine) hanging on a barbed wire fence. "A butcherbird did this," someone called out. I imagined a large, mean raptor but when I looked it up, there was a picture of a cute, little bird with a fun, black mask called a loggerhead shrike. How could this little bird have done such damage?

According to Audubon, shrikes use their hooked bill to pinch their prey's spinal column, rendering them paralyzed. Then, they look for a sharp object like a barbed wire fence or sharp stick. With prey held firmly in their beak, they roll their head creating a whipping motion that generates acceleration of up to six G-forces impaling the prey against the sharp object. They often leave it there for later consumption, called lard-



ing. Now I understand the nickname "butcherbird."

There is much research that shows turkey vultures to be highly intelligent, but my favorite turkey vulture fun fact is that they puke in self-defense. According to the Washington Nature Mapping Program, they can hurl up to 10 feet toward whatever is threatening them. Dare I try this the next time someone cuts in line ahead of me?

Blue jays steal paint off of houses. Why? Because blue jays need calcium to lay eggs and paint contains limestone, which is a good source of calcium. If you suspect a limestone-laced, paint chip stealer at your house, boil or cook eggshells in a 250-degree oven for 20 minutes (for sterilization), then put them out in your yard. You may be rewarded with cute, little blue jay chicks.

Hummingbirds have one of the fastest metabolisms of all animals. When they need to conserve energy (i.e. periods of cold), they are able to reduce their metabolism by up to 95% while they drop their body temperature. This hibernation-like state is called torpor. You may see a hummingbird on a perch hanging upside down looking, well, dead. Now you know to just let it be.

If you see a group of crows or ravens circled around a dead bird of their own species, it may look like a funeral. According to National Geographic, instead of mourning, they are there to investigate if there is a threat to them.

Have you ever witnessed a bird pecking your window with full force because the bird thinks its

reflection is another bird busting in on its territory? With training, the domestic pigeon is one of few birds that can recognize themselves in their reflection, suggesting they have advanced cognitive abilities including social and emotional intelligence. They also have long-term memory abilities and can understand abstract concepts. Yes, pigeons are cool.

Many bird species store food for the winter, but the Clark's nutcracker outdoes them all. They cache as many as 30,000 pine seeds in one summer storing only three or four seeds in a single place. And I can't remember where I put my phone.

Birds play games to learn survival techniques. According to the American Bird Conservancy, juvenile orange-breasted falcons practice prey-grasping and dropped-prey recovery techniques with sticks and pine cones. One bird will fly over the canopy with the prize in his grasp while his siblings chase him. If he drops the object, they all dive to retrieve the prize before it reaches the forest canopy below. Then they begin the game all over again.

One last tidbit, bassian thrushes use their farts to dislodge worms from piles of leaves. I'll leave it at that.

I hope the next time you see a bird, you will watch their behaviors, notice their skills and appreciate that there is so much more to these amazing creatures than pretty feathers and lovely songs. Remember, you may forget them, but some of them won't forget you — so always be kind.

Lisa Jansen is a Wisconsin master naturalist, nature writer and award-winning photographer. She specializes in raising awareness of birds and butterflies of the Midwest.



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Sweetest season requires time in kitchen

Here at Otter Run, it just isn't Christmas without Kathie's Christmas Candy. There are four that I make every year — cashew/peanut clusters, blossom cookies, peanut butter balls and seafoam. Chocolate makes me break out in fat, and I don't like super-sweet desserts, so I rarely eat the candy, but I do have fun making it. If you are reading this after Christmas, there's no reason not to give one of the following recipes a try. Think of it as getting a head start on next year.

Peanut/cashew clusters are easy-peasy. Melt the dipping chocolate, toss in the nuts, stir and dip onto waxed paper. Peanut butter blossoms take more work. Make your favorite peanut butter cookie dough; chill it in the fridge. (If the dough isn't cold, it sticks to your hands big time.) Roll into one-inch balls and coat in sugar. This makes handling them easier and imparts a nice sparkle.

Bake the cookies as directed until almost done. While they're baking, unwrap one Hershey's Kiss for each cookie. Yes, it's OK if a couple fall into your mouth by accident, but all things in moderation, please. Remove the cookies from the oven and immediately press a Kiss in the center of each one. Work fast, then return cookies to oven for 30 seconds to melt the chocolate a tad and keep it in the middle. Yummy.

Peanut butter balls are more challenging. For



Blossom cookies are one way to celebrate the Christmas season, but there are plenty of other sweets that can be made to be enjoyed as winter arrives.

KATHLEEN MARSH



starters, resign yourself to the fact that no matter when you make this candy, you will be interrupted while your fingers are coated with the messy center part. The doorbell will chime with a delivery. The phone will ring, and it will be a call you have to take. Your spouse or kid will yell: "Come quick; I need help." So always have paper towels handy because you will need them.

Prepare the inner part several hours ahead as it really needs to chill out. For best results, keep half

in the fridge while you work with the rest. Fashion into one-inch balls, chill them again, and then get ready to work quickly. Use your microwave or a double boiler to melt the chocolate coating until it's soft enough to stir easily. Here, less is definitely more. Pay attention so you don't overcook. Use a fork to coat each ball in melted chocolate. Dry on waxed paper or roll in ground peanuts if you desire. When candy is set, hide it or, trust me here, it won't make it to Christmas.

By far, the most challenging confection on my list of must-makes is seafoam, also known as divinity. Making seafoam can be a recipe for disaster so pay close attention. First off, only attempt seafoam on a

day with what Mom called "high skies." It doesn't matter how cold it is, but the sun must be shining. Why? I have no idea. I just know from experience the candy won't cooperate on a cloudy day. Follow the recipe exactly. This is no time for guestimating.

Mix three cups of sugar, ½ cup of white corn syrup and 2/3 cup water in a heavy bottom cooking pot. Cook the syrup to a boil over medium heat, stirring often with a wooden spoon, if possible. While the syrup is cooking, beat two medium egg whites in a large metal or glass bowl until stiff peaks form. Set this aside and give your full attention to what's happening on the stove. Boil and stir the syrup until it reaches exactly 242 de-

grees on a candy thermometer. This can take a while. You know it's ready when a long thread spins down from your stirring spoon as you hold it over the pot.

Now for the really tricky part. Pour the syrup in a very thin steady stream into the egg whites as you beat them. Again, this takes time so if you own a standing mixer, use it. When all the syrup is added, keep beating until the candy begins to hold its shape. Then, and only then, add ½ cup chopped walnuts (optional) and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Continue beating by hand until you can spoon a glob onto waxed paper that doesn't fall into a puddle. Now work fast to drop the candy because it firms up very quickly. Store sea-

foam in layers separated by wax paper in an airtight container.

If this all sounds like too much work, visit Wendy at Sweet Memories Candy Shoppe on Highway 32 in Lakewood. Wendy has everything you need to make this season sweet. Speaking of that, if you're reading this on Christmas Eve, I'm basking in the glow of a cozy fire with a plate of Kathie's Christmas Candy within easy reach of my loved ones. Yes, Santa Claus is coming to town, but Jesus is the reason for the season. Merry Christmas.

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

GILLET: "Gloria: The Wonders of His Love" musical, 7 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, 101 W. Main St. Freewill offering; followed by dessert reception.

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

SHAWANO: Bonduel Lions Club Fish Derby and Meat Raffle, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court.

GILLET: "Gloria: The Wonders of His Love" musical, 2 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church,

101 W. Main St. Freewill offering; followed by dessert reception.

ABRAMS: Machickanee Cross Country Ski Club Moonlit Hike, 5:30-8 p.m., 6625 Timberline Road.

MONDAY, DEC. 30

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, DEC. 31

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.

KESHENA: Menominee Nation Sobriety Pow-wow, 5 p.m. feast, 7 p.m. grand entry, Menominee Nation High School. New Year's Eve countdown drug- and alcohol-free event.

KESHENA: Viva Knievel, free concert, 8 p.m., Menominee Casino Resort, N277 State Highway 47-55.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1

SHAWANO: Fourth annual New Year's Beer

Run, 10 a.m., Farmer's Brewing Company, 713 S. Main St., ending at Stubborn Brothers, 220 S. Main St.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

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



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Oil Paintings & Art Prints: "Starboard View of a Tall Ship" 100 year old Original Oil by T. Bailey of Massachusetts, Abstract original oil signed "Walker '62", Wallace Nutting art prints, 1937 "Eight Paintings by Vincent VanGogh" bound lithographs, Henk Bos still life, Landscape by John F Weir, 1903 "Vertige", Owen Gromme Master prints, Terry Redlin prints, "The Fenceline-Cardinals" remarque by Don Kloetzke, Wildlife prints by Sam Timm & Sharon Anderson, Owen Gromme book

Clocks, Phonographs, Antiques & Collectibles: 1800's Oak floor clock with columns, Chippendale tall case floor clock, German cuckoo, Seth Thomas porcelain shelf clock, French Statue clock w/ candelabra—over 3ft tall, Atmos-clone clock by United, Yankee Clipper ship clock, Collector 33 albums including Beatles White album, Picture Discs by Beatles, Michael Jackson & Prince, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, Kiss, Elvis & Johnny Cash albums, 45 records, Vogue picture records, German Nifty Nirona child's record player, Madam Henren phono-doll, Upright Victrola, Columbia Gramophone w/ horn, "Home Music Box" cob organ, 1910 Mills Operator Bell slot machine, Ornate National 336 & 452 Brass cash registers, 1960's Coke & Pepsi bottle vendors, Ant. Sew machines, typewriters & radios, American LaFrance & Ansul 2-wheel Fire Extinguishers, Copper extinguisher, Copper lightning rods w/ glass balls, 3 Anvils, Porcelain Cookstove w/ warming ovens, Wards heat stove, Collection of 100 yr old Garden Seeders & Cultivators, Crosscut saws, New Britain sausage stuffer, Oak Buffet w/ mirror, Nice Stacking bookcase w/ leaded glass & Secretary desk, Heddon foot-long Wooden Lure for store display, Tiger grain table w/ claw feet, French Country dining set w/ Hutch, Victorian hair weaves, Wicker doll buggy, Ant leather football helmet, Packers coat w/ patches, Atlas slot racing set, Old board games, Lead soldiers, Arcade cast iron Thresher, Kenton cast iron Circus Wagon, Model T & cast iron Goat Cart, Cap gun walking stick, Bisque doll, United brass HO Union Pacific 2-8-0 w/ Tender, Brass diesel HO locomotive, Buddy L van, Vintage hats, Sick Call seet, Brass globe, Clipper ship models, 1917 US Army Roll of Honor, Triangle hall mirror, Chalkware, Taxidermy pheasant, ducks & geese

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Christmas bird counts tally feathered friends

By the time you read this, your Christmas boxes and wrapping paper will be stuffed in garbage bags, your kids will be bored with their gifts and you will be sick of the leftover turkey.

But a certain group of wildlife lovers and their national organization will be continuing their annual effort to count turkeys, sparrows, hawks, owls and other birds.

The National Audubon Society and its legions of members and friends are in the middle of the 125th annual Christmas Bird Count, which started Dec. 14 and continues through Jan. 5.

Birders across the nation fan out with binoculars, spotting scopes, cameras and field guides, counting every bird species and number of individuals during one day in their chosen 15-mile circle. A leader tallies the results and submits them to the Audubon Society for final results.

In the Shawano County area, Navarino Nature Center director and naturalist Tim Ewing was the leader of a Dec. 14 outing that included 20 birders in four mobile units or counting at their home feeders. The Audubon Society's map of survey circles also shows one centered at Pensaukee, led by Tom Erdman, and one centered near Caroline, led by William Bright.

As of Dec. 19, Ewing's birders had reported 39



The crow-sized pileated woodpecker is one of columnist Ross Bielema's favorite birds. He was lucky enough to photograph and video record one above his blind this fall during the gun deer season, but he took this photo in the same woods in 2019.

ROSS BIELEMA



species and a total of 2,055 individual birds—a total that was down slightly from past years but he was still awaiting results from a few. Ewing said

the best finds so far were 27 trumpeter swans, two tufted titmouse, one white-throated sparrow and one Northern shrike.

The total also includes birds counted by a group of retired women at Navarino's bird feeders as part of Project FeederWatch, organized by Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. While both counts supply important data on

the relative abundance of bird species, Project FeederWatch is a November through April survey that is not as influenced by a single day of weather.

Most of us birders find the Christmas count a fun event, but tallying 27 European starlings and 62 house sparrows may seem silly (both are non-native species that cause devastating damage to crops

and the former are a major reason for bluebird habitat loss). Birders hope they'll spot some of their favorite birds or even something uncommon, threatened or rare.

High on my list of favorites are the high-flying, high-profile bald eagle and the osprey, sometimes called the fish eagle. Bald eagles are now a common sight throughout Wisconsin, thanks to the 1972 ban on the pesticide DDT, which caused eagle eggs to become thin and brittle.

I grew up along the Mississippi River in Fulton, Illinois, and Lock and Dam 13 there attracts up to 100 or more bald eagles every winter (as do all the river locks and dams because the open water makes for easy fishing). Bald eagles are opportunistic and will dine on dead or stunned fish and livestock as well as road kill.

Ospreys, on the other hand, are true hunters, and they are truly spectacular to watch fishing on lakes and rivers. I see them often around Oshkosh as they soar over Lake Winnebago. Power companies deserve credit for placing platforms on top of power poles so ospreys can construct nests.

Speaking of fish, the belted kingfisher is another of my favorites. They dive headfirst into the water to snatch small fish from lakes and streams, and their distinctive rack-ack-ack-ack call is an instant identifier. They are

one of the few bird species whose female is more brightly colored than the male.

Waterfowl offer a huge variety of audio and visual treats. What is a more soul-stirring fall sound than the call of migrating Canada geese? But if you listen closely, you will hear a different call, higher pitched and more of a whistle. In fact, the tundra swan was once called the whistling swan.

When it comes to the big woods, my favorite bird can be heard sometimes a quarter-mile away, either by its loud, raspy call or its powerful pecking. It's the pileated woodpecker, a crow-sized bird that dwarfs the more common downy and hairy woodpeckers. I was lucky enough to snap a few photos of one and even got a short video as it pecked at a pine tree directly above my ground blind during the gun deer season.

Winters can seem long here when cold and snow settle in, but a bird feeder or two (or a few more) might be just the ticket for you to avoid cabin fever and the winter doldrums.

Have you seen birds at your feeder or in the backyard that you couldn't identify? A good field guide and some online help can help you grow that life list.

Ross Bielema is a freelance writer from New London and owner of Wolf River Concealed Carry LLC. Contact him at Ross@wolfriverccw.com

Explore more with 12-month state park pass

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced the Wisconsin State Park System is moving to a 12-month admission pass model. The new 12-month admission passes are now available for purchase.

The new pass model is valid for 12 months following the month of purchase, rather than expiring on Dec. 31. The 2025 passes purchased in December 2024 will be valid through January 2026.

"With this new 12-month pass model, we hope that our customers are encouraged to spend more time outdoors enjoying Wisconsin's beautiful public lands," said Steve Schmelzer, DNR parks and recreation management director. "This is a

great opportunity to plan a visit to a place you've never been before. There are tons of ways to make the most of your full 12 months of exploring."

The physical appearance of the pass has also been updated. In addition to being slightly larger, the 12 months of the year will be listed around the perimeter of the pass. Beginning in 2025, the pass will be marked to indicate the month and year in which the pass will expire. The pass remains valid until the final day of the 12th month following the month in which it is issued. For example, a pass that is marked to expire March 2026 will be valid through March 31, 2026.

Reduced-rate vehicle

admission passes will still be available for additional vehicles registered to the same address. Reduced-rate passes must be purchased at the same time as the full-price pass or at a later date with proof of purchase of the full-price vehicle pass. Passes for additional vehicles will expire in the same month and year as the household's full-price pass.

Beginning in March 2025, conservation patron state park vehicle admission passes will be the same design as other vehicle admission passes. The validity period for conservation patron passholders is not changing. A conservation patron pass will always be marked for the month of March, regardless of when it was redeemed.

Customers are encouraged to save time by buying their passes online. Orders placed online will receive an email receipt with a confirmation number that can be used immediately for park entry. Twelve-month vehicle admission passes purchased online will be delivered pre-marked with the expiration month and year according to the date of purchase.

A vehicle admission pass is required on all motor vehicles stopping in state parks, forests and recreation areas. Admission passes can be purchased online or at most individual properties via drive-up window service or electronic sales kiosks.

Vehicle admission fees include daily and 12-month rates. A 12-month admission

pass costs \$28 for vehicles with Wisconsin license plates or \$38 for vehicles with out-of-state plates.

If there is more than one vehicle registered to the same household, additional vehicle passes are available for \$15.50 for in-state plates and \$20.50 for out-of-state plates.

A senior citizen 12-month sticker is available for \$13 to Wisconsin residents 65 and older. Daily passes are \$13 for vehicles with Wisconsin license plates and \$16 for vehicles with out-of-state plates for all properties in 2025.

The 2025 annual state trail passes will go on sale beginning Dec. 2. The annual state trail pass is valid for the calendar year. A 2025 annual state trail pass

will expire Dec. 31, 2025, regardless of when it was purchased.

A state trail pass is required for all people 16 or older who bike, cross-country ski, horseback ride or inline skate on certain trails. A state trail pass is not required for walking or hiking.

Annual state trail passes are different from vehicle admission passes.

The DNR offers the option to purchase a state trail pass online by selecting "Trail Pass" under "Product Type." State trail passes can also be purchased at individual properties via drive-up window service or electronic sales kiosks, DNR service centers or a DNR-affiliated vendor or sub-vendor.

Coin discussion planned in February at Pulaski Museum

The Pulaski Area Historical Society has invited the public to its Coffee and Coins event from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Feb. 15, 2025, at the Pulaski Museum, 129 W. Pulaski St., Pulaski.

The free event is an opportunity for coin enthusiasts and curious minds alike to engage with local experts.

Participants are encouraged to bring 15-20 of their favorite U.S. coins to share

and discuss with knowledgeable coin experts Scott Minton, Brad Ambrosius and Mark Pietras from Card and Coins in Green Bay. Their passion for coins promises an enriching experience for all attendees.

In addition to the coin discussions, attendees can enjoy snacks and refreshments while exploring the museum's newest exhibits.

For information, contact

Tammy Brzezowski at 920-822-4450 or tammy@dynamicdesignspulaski.com.

The Pulaski Area Historical Society is committed to preserving the history of

Pulaski and its neighboring communities through educational programs, exhibits and events that celebrate local heritage. For information, visit www.pulaskiwi-history.com.

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Bonduel boys top 100 points in 2 straight games

Dec. 21
Bonduel 105, Manitowoc Lutheran 62

For the second time in as many days, Bonduel scored in triple digits en route to a 105-62 win over Manitowoc Lutheran.

Race Anvelink led the Bears with 27 points, followed by Quinn Wesenberg with 20, Ryan Westrich with 19, Cade Johnson with 12 and Carter Moesch with 10.

Green Bay NEW Lutheran 63, Gillett 42

Jed Herzog and Jesse De-Bauch each scored 12 points as Gillett was beaten 63-42 by Green Bay NEW Lutheran.

Crivitz 57, Lena 47

Dec. 20

Bonduel 102, Shiocton 75

Bonduel kept its foot on the gas the entire game, running up 102 points compared to Shiocton's 75.

The Bears topped Shiocton 50-34 in the first half and 52-41 in the second half.

Race Anvelink led Bonduel with 21 points. Quinn Wesenberg and Carter Moesch each scored 20, with Ryan Westrich dropping in 16 and Cade Johnson adding 11.

Johnson also had 14 assists.

Iola-Scandinavia 64, Menominee Nation 54 (OT)

Iola-Scandinavia easily won the overtime period 12-2 to defeat Menominee Nation 64-54.

Iola-Scandinavia led 27-22 at the half, but the Eagles fought hard in the second to tie the game at 52-52 at the end of regulation time.

Waupaca 54, Oconto Falls 49

Waupaca kept coming at Oconto Falls in the second half and eventually went home with a 54-49 win.

The Panthers were on top by a point at halftime, but Waupaca outscored their hosts 26-20 after the break.

Brady Bursa led Oconto Falls with 11 points, while Jameson Beaman and JJ Pytleski each scored 10.



Bonduel's Griffin Uelmen is ready to play in the Bears' win over Shiocton on Dec. 20. It was the first of two straight games in which Bonduel scored more than 100 points.

BELLA ROBERTS

Barman led the team with nine rebounds. Bursa, Pytleski and Aydien Wold each had two assists, and Beaman notched three steals.

Green Bay West 79, Shawano 64

Shawano came up short in a 79-64 loss to Green Bay West.

The Hawks were led in scoring by Logan Sipple's 23 points and Will Verkuilen's 18.

The teams were tied at 31-31 at halftime, but the Wildcats pulled away in the second half.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 72, Amherst 48

Wittenberg-Birnamwood (5-1, 4-0) got out to an early lead and maintained it in the second half,

downing Amherst 72-48 in a Central Wisconsin East Conference game.

"Overall, our defensive effort was excellent throughout," coach Garrett Rogowski said. "I felt that offensively we settled for the 3-point shot a bit too often in the second half and became stagnant at times."

The Chargers led 44-22 at the half and kept their lead intact with a 28-26 second half.

"We had great production tonight from Jaden Clark and Zandyr Barke on the offensive end, and defensively, we were able to crest over 25 turnovers with great pressure on the ball," Rogowski said.



Ryan Westrich scored 16 points in Bonduel's 102-75 win over Shiocton on Dec. 20.

BELLA ROBERTS

for the Bears were Race Anvelink with 15, Quinn Wesenberg with 11 and Ryan Westrich with 10.

Bonduel improved to 3-0 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference and 5-0 overall.

Freedom 76, Oconto Falls 26

Evan Yuma and Jameson Beaman each scored eight points in the Panthers' 76-26 loss to Freedom.

Beaman also notched seven rebounds, Yuma and Aydien Wold each had two assists, and Emerich Skarban had a pair of steals.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 77, Weyauwega-Fremont 46

Wittenberg-Birnamwood moved to 3-0 in the Cen-

in with 10 points.

Brady led Tigerton with eight rebounds, Anheuser had five assists, and Dahlstrom had seven steals.

Green Bay Preble 71, Pulaski 70

Northeast Wisconsin Christian Homeschoolers Athletic Association 92, Marion 33

Lena 46, Goodman/Pembine 43

Bowler 71, Faith Christian Academy (Wausau) 61

Dec. 16

Wausaukee 86, Bowler 69

Bowler sat in a 20-point deficit at halftime and couldn't make up the difference despite a 41-38 second half. The Panthers lost 86-69 in non-conference action.

West De Pere 82, Pulaski 79

Lena girls defeat Gillett by 2 points

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Dec. 20
Lena 52, Gillett 50

Gillett stormed back in the second half, but Lena held on to secure a 52-50 win.

It was the tale of two halves, with Lena winning the first half 28-16 and Gillett taking the second half 34-24.

Lena was led by Madilyn Thomson's 24 points, with Eva Brooks adding 15 and Kali Fischer scoring 10.

Brooks and Thomson each had 13 rebounds and three assists. Fischer and Haley Van Ark each grabbed two steals.

For Gillett, it was Cilena Guns with 16 points and Hope Soper with 14.

Both teams are 4-1 in the Marinette & Oconto Conference.

Ashwaubenon 43, Pulaski 30

Olivia Sprangers scored more than half of Pulaski's points but the Red Raiders still came up short, losing 43-30 to Ashwaubenon.

Sprangers scored 16 points.

Leading 19-17 at the half, Pulaski couldn't maintain its lead, getting outscored 26-11 after the break.

Niagara 56, Suring 34

A dominating second half saw Niagara run away with the game, defeating Suring (4-4, 2-4) 56-34.

Niagara led 27-23 at halftime, but poured it on in the second half, topping Suring 29-11.

The Eagles were led by Bunny Cramer with 12 points and Aliya Cox with 10.

Bonduel 54, Shiocton 39

Audrey Weier scored 16

points and Juliana Jacobs added 10 as Bonduel defeated Shiocton 54-39.

Jacobs led the Bears with 13 rebounds. Weier and Tatum Sporisky each had six assists. Weier and Josie Anvelink led the team with four steals each.

Waupaca 51, Oconto Falls 44

Dec. 17

Shawano 53, Seymour 38

Shawano improved to 6-3 overall and 2-1 in the Bay Conference with a 53-38 win over Seymour.

"The team played with a lot of heart as we were down a coupe players," coach Ryan Koenig said. "Some hot shooting by Ella Stuber helped us to a 27-18 halftime lead."

Koenig also credited the team's defensive play.

"Our defense was outstanding tonight and led

to some turnovers in the second half that sealed the victory."

Leah Nordin scored 20 points for the Hawks.

Next up is a Dec. 27 game against Ashwaubenon at the Kress Events Center at UW-Green Bay.

Freedom 59, Oconto Falls 43

Maddy Maloney scored 16 points and Rylie Shallow added 12, but Oconto Falls lost 59-43 to Freedom.

A 15-point deficit at halftime was too much to overcome for the Panthers, who played an even game with Freedom in the second half.

Coleman 33, Suring 31

Trailing 20-14 at the half, Suring fought back in the second half against Coleman but fell short in a 33-31 loss.

Bunny Cramer led the Eagles with 10 points.

Paige Pommerich and Gracie Christensen each scored eight, and Ellayna Skarban had five.

Oneida Nation 60, Lena 58

Lena suffered its second loss of the season, a 60-58 loss to Oneida Nation.

The teams were tied at 30-30 at halftime, and Oneida Nation won the second half 30-28, winning on their home court.

Madilyn Thomson led the Wildcats with 23 points, 13 rebounds, four assists and three steals.

Eva Brooks scored 17 points and had 12 rebounds.

Kali Fischer dropped in 12 points and held the team with four steals.

Green Bay Preble 45, Pulaski 44

Like the boys team, the Pulaski girls came up one point short in their 45-44

loss to Green Bay Preble.

Pulaski held a 22-16 lead at halftime, but Preble bounced back in the second half, taking a 29-22 score and winning on the Red Raiders' court.

Olivia Sprangers led Pulaski with 18 points, and Ashley Servais added 13.

Marion/Tigerton 39, Northeast Wisconsin Christian Homeschoolers Athletic Association 29

Dec. 16
Wittenberg-Birnamwood 50, D.C. Everest 32

Melaina Granquist scored 22 points and Rory Salvesen added 18 in Wittenberg-Birnamwood's 50-32 non-conference win over D.C. Everest.

The Chargers are a perfect 7-0 overall on the season.

Shiocton 41, Gresham 36



Nicholas Auchue placed fourth in the 100-yard backstroke Dec. 17 at Rhinelander. He had a time of 1:21.74, finishing in front of teammates Liam Laude, fifth place, in 1:24.37 and Gage Roberts, sixth place, in 2:07.75.

ROBERT MAINHARDT

Shawano-Seymour swimmers lose conference dual against Rhinelander

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Dec. 17
Rhinelander 134,
Shawano-Seymour 33**

The Rhinelander High School boys swim team won all 11 events in a 133-34 victory over Shawano-Seymour at the Heck Family Community Pool in Rhinelander.

“Rhinelander again looks to dominate the conference,” coach Sarah Tracy said. “We are a very young and inexperienced team that keeps improving during each meet.”

Beginning with the 200-

yard medley relay, Shawano-Seymour’s Liam Laude, Dawson Maass, James Lange and Garret Young placed third in 2:38.76 for two points. The team of Gage Roberts, Marcus Biagini, Cole Beyer and Nicholas Auchue placed fourth.

Freshman Jonah Kuba finished second in the 200-yard freestyle in 2:04.24, and Young was fifth in 2:43.45.

Beyer placed fourth in the 200-yard individual medley in 3:29.24, and Maass was fifth in 3:32.57.

In the 50-yard freestyle,

it was Nate Hilbert in third in 29.23, Brendon Riehl in fifth in 31.00 and Roberts was sixth in 38.16.

The 100-yard freestyle saw Hilbert in fourth in 1:07.74, Lange in fifth in 1:08.08 and Riehl in sixth in 1:12.38.

Kuba was runner-up in the 500-yard freestyle in 5:41.85. Young placed fifth in 7:30.11, and Biagini was sixth in 7:51.36.

For the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Hilbert, Auchue, Lange and Kuba placed second in 1:52.58, while Laude, Beyer, Maass and Riehl were

fourth in 2:16.29.

Shawano-Seymour finished fourth, fifth and sixth in the 100-yard backstroke with Auchue finishing in 1:21.74, Laude finishing in 1:24.37 and Roberts ending the race in 2:07.75.

Maass was fourth in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:31.59. Biagini placed fifth in 1:36.43, and Beyer was sixth in 1:49.40.

In the 400-yard freestyle relay, it was Lange, Hilbert, Riehl and Kuba placing fourth in 4:25.58. Auchue, Laude, Young and Biagini were fifth in 5:12.29.

Shawano girls win Classic

Despite missing some starters, the Shawano girls wrestling team had a few girls step up, and as a team, they won their home Holiday Classic on Dec. 21.

“The whole team really wrestled some good matches today,” coach Mike Homan said. “I think everyone is improving and working hard to get better.”

Gwyn Hermann, Brynn Hannes and Adalyn Barkley each finished in second place.

“Gwyn wrestled hard and earned bonus points for the team; she is doing great and continues to improve,” Homan said.

“Brynn is new to the team this year and has a physical toughness that she uses in

her matches. Adalyn has been consistent all season. She is a leader in the practice room and works hard to be the best she can be.”

Vivian Waldburger, Lily Tomas, Jozlin Bocker and Lauren Seehafer all took third place.

“These girls did a great job battling all day. Many of them beat wrestlers they had previously lost to,” Homan said. “Each one of them continues to improve each time on the mat. The also earned a good amount of team points today.”

Bella Supper, Jacey Cowden and Emmy Marien all took fourth place.

Zennah Bosetski, Kendall Knope, Maddie Miller and Ayanna O’Kimosh each placed fifth.

Shawano boys finish in sixth

Shawano’s boys wrestling team placed sixth with 107.5 points at its home Holiday Classic on Dec. 21.

Kody Popelka finished in third place, Cash Panske was fourth, and Drew Chelberg, Kian Morstad and Marcus Brezgel each earned a fifth-place spot.

“Kody keeps wrestling well and continues to be one of our better wrestlers,” coach Mike Homan said. “Cash did a nice job today after missing some time this last weekend. He will continue to get better as he works the rest of the

season.

“Drew Chelberg did a good job battling through his bracket today. Drew is a great kid and works hard. When he puts it all together, he is really going to stand out. Kian and Marcus are doing a great job as freshmen on the varsity team. They are wrestling in weight classes that are typically dominated by juniors and seniors, but they always show up and battle hard. They have bright futures if they continue to work hard.”

Next up is a meet in Oshkosh on Dec. 27.

Ice Bears score eight goals in each of two wins

**Dec. 21
Bay Area 8, Lakeshore Lightning 1**

The Bay Area girls hockey team lit up the Lakeshore Lightning 8-1 on the ice in Mequon.

Seven different girls scored for the Ice Bears, with Elizabeth Zunker the only one scoring twice.

Addison Dahl and Hannah Von Haden each scored in the first period. Emily Bill and Zunker scored in the second. In the third, goals were scored by Tiana Stindt, Briana An-

undsen, Julianne Bradford and Zunker.

Collecting assists were Bradford, Ava McDonald, Bill (two), Faye Brunke, Dahl, Rachael Beeck, Von Haden, Mya Sheppard and Abby Mommaerts.

The Ice Bears had 45 shots on goal compared to only 13 for the Lightning. Reese Spiering had 12 saves for Bay Area.

The Ice Bears will host the Rock County Fury at 8:30 a.m. Dec. 27.

**Dec. 20
Bay Area 8, Rochester**

Century/John Marshall 0

Rochester Century/John Marshall was no match for the Bay Area Ice Bears, as the home team shut out their guests 8-0. The Ice Bears had 41 shots on goal, compared to only two for Rochester Century/John Marshall.

Faye Brunke scored twice, both times in the second period. Assists came from Julianne Bradford on the first goal, and Olympia Simons and Claire Gerarden on the second.

Scoring started in the

first period with goals by Abby Mommaerts with assists from Aisling Buchan and Elizabeth Zunker, Simons with an assist from Hannah Von Haden, and Bradford with Brunke assisting.

Rachael Beeck scored first in the second period, with Von Haden assisting. Brunke’s goals followed.

In the third period, Mya Sheppard scored with help from Addison Gady and Bailey Hronek, and Von Haden scored with Briana Anundsen assisting.

Athletes sign NLI

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood High School senior Landen Schmidt on Dec. 9 signed his National Letter of Intent to continue his track and field career with the University of Sioux Falls in South Dakota.

Schmidt is recognized for his skills in the discus and shot put.

Schmidt credits good coaching and a great campus as reasons he chose Sioux Falls. He’ll be studying exercise science.

A week earlier, on Dec. 2, Oconto Falls’ Cole Bozile signed with St. Cloud State University in Minnesota to continue his wrestling career.

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Shawano/Bonduel hockey team wins in shutout

**Dec. 21
Shawano/Bonduel 6,
Chequamegon/Phillips/
Butternut 0**

Blake Knope scored two goals and assisted on three others as Shawano/Bonduel shut out Chequamegon/Phillips/Butternut 6-0 in Park Falls.

Knope started the scoring just 53 seconds into the game with an assist from Gavin Hundt. Jeremy Helmuth scored at 7:22 with Knope assisting, and Knope scored again at 8:35 to put Shawano/Bonduel up 3-0 to end the first period.

Hundt scored at 4:41

in the second period, with Knope and Helmuth assisting.

Max Huntington scored at 13:58 with Knope's assist to put Shawano/Bonduel up 5-0 going into the third period.

At 6:53 in the third, Evin Vidal scored with Payton Huntington assisting.

Tyson Lyons and Kaiden Thornborrow split the time in the net, with Lyons getting 11 saves, and Thornborrow nabbing 13.

Shawano/Bonduel had 25 shots on goal.

Each team was penalized four times for eight minutes.

Next, Shawano/Bonduel will play against the WSFLG Blizzard.

**Dec. 20
Mosinee 11, Antigo 1**

Owen Dickman's even strength goal at 3:20 in the first period cut the Mosinee Indians' lead in half, but Mosinee was just too much for the Red Robins, winning 11-1.

Up 2-1, Mosinee would go on to score three more times in the first period and three times in each of the next two stanzas as well.

Antigo managed only 13 shots on goal compared to 44 for Mosinee.

**Dec. 17
Shawano 8, Medford 2**

For every goal Medford scored, Shawano/Bonduel's boys hockey team responded with four of their own en route to an 8-2 win at the Crawford Center.

Blake Knope scored three goals and Gavin Hundt notched two of his own for the home team.

Trailing 1-0 in the first period, Shawano/Bonduel scored twice before the period ended and twice more in the second period to lead 4-1.

First, Hundt scored with a Blake Swedberg as-

sist at 10:28 to tie the game at 1-1. Then, Knope scored at 14:27 to put his team up 2-1.

At 4:52 in the second period, Waylon Snider scored with an assist from Kielian Armbruster. Knope scored again at 5:55 with assists from Hundt and Jeremy Helmuth.

The Raiders scored their second and final goal just a couple minutes later, but the Hawks answered with four of their own before the period ended.

Swedberg started a trio of quick scores, finding the back of the net at 10:11. Knope's hat trick came

just six seconds later, and Hundt scored again at 11:41 with Knope assisting. Evin Vidal scored the last goal for the Hawks at 15:59.

Neither team scored in the third period, which is not to say it was quiet time. At 9:36, Snider and Medford's William Harris were both ejected for fighting.

All told, Shawano/Bonduel was called for three infractions for 14 minutes, while Medford was penalized seven times for 22 minutes.

Kaiden Thornborrow recorded 31 saves for Shawano/Bonduel.

Plan a winter free fishing weekend clinic Jan. 18-19

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) invites clubs and organizations to host free fishing clinics on Winter Free Fishing Weekend, Jan. 18-19.

On that weekend, residents and non-residents can fish most waters of the state without a fishing license or a stamp for trout or salmon.

Submit the event registration and materials request forms by Jan. 8. The clinic will be promoted, and educational materials will be sent. Anglers ages 15 and younger may fish without a license any day of the year. Therefore, organizers are encouraged to also welcome adults new to ice fishing.

If the lake chosen for the clinic doesn't freeze over, anglers can cast from shore into open water.

Clinic plans should include anglers with limited mobility. Many state properties and community partners have accommodations or equipment to make the outdoors accessible for all.

All other fishing regulations — including bag limits, size limits and species restrictions — remain in effect.

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SHAWANO LEADER

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ENTERPRISE
& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

Ad Deadline: 3pm Thursday Prior

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

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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)

DENTAL INSURANCE. From Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Don't Wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 855-807-9516 [#6258 \(WCAN\)](http://www.dental50plus.com/wicommunity)

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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)

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SWITCH & SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text & data. No contract & no hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more info, call 1-844-883-1477 (WCAN)

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EARLY CHRISTMAS DEADLINES

Our Shawano and Oconto Falls offices
WILL BE CLOSED
Wednesday, December 25
Regular business hours will resume Thursday.

Special Holiday Advertising Deadlines for:		
Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
Times Herald	Fri., Jan. 3	Noon Thurs., Dec. 26
Shawano Leader	Fri., Jan. 3	Noon Thurs., Dec. 26
Wittenberg Enterprise	Fri., Jan. 3	Noon Thurs., Dec. 26

Classified Ads Deadlines:

Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
Times Herald	Fri., Jan. 3	Noon Thurs., Dec. 26
Shawano Leader	Fri., Jan. 3	Noon Thurs., Dec. 26
Wittenberg Enterprise	Fri., Jan. 3	Noon Thurs., Dec. 26

NEW MEDIA INC.

EARLY NEW YEAR'S DEADLINES

Our Shawano and Oconto Falls Offices
WILL BE CLOSED
Wednesday, January 1st
Regular business hours will resume Thursday

Special Holiday Advertising Deadlines for:		
Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
Times Herald	Fri., Jan. 10	Noon Thurs., Jan. 2
Shawano Leader	Fri., Jan. 10	Noon Thurs., Jan. 2
Wittenberg Enterprise	Fri., Jan. 10	Noon Thurs., Jan. 2

Classified Ads Deadlines:

Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
Times Herald	Fri., Jan. 10	Noon Thurs., Jan. 2
Shawano Leader	Fri., Jan. 10	Noon Thurs., Jan. 2
Wittenberg Enterprise	Fri., Jan. 10	Noon Thurs., Jan. 2

NEW MEDIA INC.

Legals
WNAXLP

9dfd4023
12/20/24, 12/27/24
Notice of Public Hearing
Planning, Development and Zoning
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 8, 2025 @ 9:00
AM Shawano County Courthouse,
Rooms A & B
Members: Ken Capelle, Jeremy
Gretzinger, Lowel Hammett, Kathy
Luebke, Theresa Serrano
Z-1-25: Scott and Alex Hultman request
zone change on a 2 acre parcel from FP,
Farmland and Forest Preservation Zoning
District to A-R, Agricultural Residential
Zoning District pursuant to the Shawano
County Zoning Ordinance No. 7-14,
Section X.2.01(1), Table X.2.02 to
Section X.3.01(2), Table X.3.02 and
Section X.9.03(287) for the purpose of
constructing a new single family dwelling.
Property is located and described as
being part of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of
Section 34, T29N R11E commencing at the
North 1/4 corner of Section 34;
thence S0°02'31"E, 1974.80 feet along the
East line of the NW 1/4 of Section 34 to
the point of beginning of the parcel
herein described; thence continuing
S0°02'31"E, 350.00 feet along the East
line of the NW 1/4 of Section 34; thence
S89°56'40"W, 249.00 feet; thence
N0°02'31"W, 350.00 feet; thence
N89°56'40"E, 249.00 feet to the East line
of the NW 1/4 of Section 34 and the point
of beginning herein described. Part of
parent parcel #006-34240-0000, Town of
Aniwa. Property address: N9951 Sugar
Bush Road
Z-2-25 & CU-1-25: Shawn T Peebles
request zone change on three (3) parcels
from the R-R, Rural Residential Zoning
District to H, Hamlet Zoning District
pursuant to the Shawano County Zoning
Ordinance No. 7-14, Section X.3.01(1) to
Section X.4.01(1) on property located and
described as Lots 1, 2 & 3 of Malweg's
Addition to the Village of Caroline,
Section 23, T26N R13E, Tax parcel #'s
018-45250-0000, 018-45250-0010 & 048-
45250-0020, property address: N3596
County G Road in the Town of Grant;
AND Conditional Use Permit to establish
an Outdoor Sales, Display, or Repair
(land use) on above 3 parcels pursuant to
the Shawano County Zoning Ordinance
No. 7-14, Table X.4.02 and Section
X.9.03(228) for parking and display of
merchandise for Caroline Motorsports
located across the road at W12698
County Road M.
Conditional Use Permit #6-21 authored
by the Planning, Development and
Zoning Committee to consider and take
action to revoke Conditional Use Permit
#6-21 for property described as: that part
of Lot 6, Block 2, according to the
recorded Original Plat of the Village of
Pulcifer, in the Town of Green Valley,
described as follows: Commencing at the
Easterly boundary of Main Street, 33'
Southeasterly and 75.24' Southwesterly
from the Northwest Corner of said Lot 6,
Block 2; thence Southeasterly at a right
angle to Main Street, 75.24'; thence
Southwesterly and parallel to Main Street,
125.40'; thence Northwesterly at a right
angle, 75.24' to the East boundary of
Main Street; thence Northeasterly to the
beginning, AND the South 14' of Lot 6,
Block 2, according to the recorded
Original Plat of the Village of Pulcifer.
(Property address: W2319 St 22 Hwy,
Town of Green Valley (Parcel #020-
70050-0210)).
Pursuant to the Shawano County Zoning
Ordinance No. 7-14, Section X.8.12(4)(a):
A permit or other approval may be
revoked only by the action of the body
that initially granted the permit or other
approval, following procedures required
for its initial issuance to the extent
practical.
Pursuant to the Shawano County Zoning
Ordinance No. 7-14, Section X.8.08(9); If
the Planning, Development, and Zoning
Committee finds that the review criteria of
this Section or the conditions attached to
the permit are not being complied with,
the Planning, Development and Zoning
Committee, after a public hearing as
provided for in this Section, may revoke
or alter the conditional use permit.
Proposed Amendments to the
Shawano County Private On-site
Wastewater Treatment System
(POWTS) Ordinance No. 4-13: The
proposed amendments mainly include
but are not limited to updating of
Wisconsin Department of Safety and
Professional Services statute numbering,
clarifying language regarding permit
expiration and renewal, holding tanks,
and POWTS evaluations, and the
addition of a notice fee process regarding
violations. Full copies of the Amended
Ordinance for public inspection can be
found on the Shawano County Website or
at the Shawano County Planning and
Development Department during regular
business hours.
NOTE: Any person may appear at the
public hearing and be heard and/or
submit comments to be read into the
record for Committee consideration.
Correspondence must bear a legible
signature of the author as well as the
primary address of the signer.
Accommodations due to disability can be
made by calling: 715-526-6766
Meeting notice emailed/posted: Shawano
County Courthouse, Department of
Human Services, Shawano County
Library, Shawano Leader, WTCR Radio,
Shawano County Civic website @
coshawanowi.civicweb.net
WNAXLP

Legals
WNAXLP

07d0bcbd
12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Martha E. Gerd
DOD 11/16/2024
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Informal Administration)
Case Number - 24pr71
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE :
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
03/02/1938 and date of death
11/16/2024, was domiciled in Shawano
County, State of Wisconsin, with a
mailing address W5344 Rosemary Court,
Shawano, WI 54166, USA.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
You do not need to appear unless you
object. The application may be granted if
there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate 03/20/2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse, 311 N Main St,
Shawano, WI Wisconsin Room 202
Probate Office.
Form completed by: James E.
Aschenbrenner P.O. Box146, Shawano,
WI 54166, USA Phone: 715 524 6258
Bar Number: 1008896
WNAXLP

fb865264
12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Lyle E. Hagen
DOD 09/15/2024
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Informal Administration)
Case Number - 24pr72
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE :
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
06/18/1948 and date of death
09/15/2024, was domiciled in Shawano
County, State of Wisconsin, with a
mailing address N6832 S. Forest Haven
Road, Shawano, WI 54166, USA.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
You do not need to appear unless you
object. The application may be granted if
there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate 02/28/2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse, 311 N Main St,
Shawano, WI Wisconsin Room 202
Probate Office.
Form completed by: James E.
Aschenbrenner P.O. Box146, Shawano,
WI 54166, USA Phone: 715 524 6258
Bar Number: 1008896
WNAXLP

63d5ec0b
12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT
COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Omia L. Knudsen
a/k/a Omia Louise Knudsen
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 24 PR 78
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
11/28/1962 and date of death 11/17/2024 ,
was domiciled in
Shawano County, State of Wisconsin ,
with a mailing address of N7138 County
Rd. V, Cecil, WI 54111 .
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is March 24, 2025 .
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse,
311 N. Main Street, Shawano ,
Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office .
Form completed by:
Atty. Emily Z. Dunham
1930 Algoma Blvd. Ste. A
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920-215-4050
Bar Number
1068948
WNAXLP

5a7d7d5a
12/06/24, 12/13/24, 12/27/24
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT, OF SHAWANO COUNTY
NOTICE AND ORDER IN THE MATTER
OF THE NAME CHANGE
Jamie Lynn Wierzba
By Jamie Lynn Wierzba
NOTICE AND ORDER
for Name Chance Hearing
case No.24cv213A
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Jamie Lynn Wierzba
To: Jamie Lynn DeCamp
Birth Certificate: Jamie Lynn Lenzner
IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County State of
Wisconsin:
Judge's name: Judge Katherine Sloma
311 N Main St Shawano WI
01/02/2025 11:30 a.m.
If you require reasonable
accommodations due to a disability to
participate in the court process, please
call 715-526- 9347 prior to the scheduled
court date. Please note that the court
does not provide transportation.
WNAXLP

Legals
WNAXLP

987905c8
12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT, OF SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE
Alyssa Johanna Rice
By Alyssa Johanna Rice
Hearing case No.24cv2225
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Alyssa Johanna Rice
To: Carmen Johanna Rice
Birth Certificate: Alyssa Johanna Rice
IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County State of
Wisconsin
Judge Katherine Sloma
311 N Main St Shawano WI
01/17/2025 8:15 a.m.
If you require reasonable
accommodations due to a disability to
participate in the court process, please
call 715-526- 9347 prior to the scheduled
court date. Please note that the court
does not provide transportation
WNAXLP

18c44f34
12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT MENOMINEE COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Jeffrey Grignon
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Informal Administration)
Case Number - 24pr07
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE :
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
11/27/1963 and date of death
08/12/2024, was domiciled in Menominee
County, State of Wisconsin, with a
mailing address PO Box 415 Keshena WI
54135, USA.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
You do not need to appear unless you
object. The application may be granted if
there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate 03/20/2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse, 311 N Main St,
Shawano, WI Wisconsin Room 202
Probate Office.
WNAXLP

5656f17a
12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT MENOMINEE COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
John Deck
DOD 05/04/2023
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Informal Administration)
Case Number - 24pr04
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE :
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
09/26/1945 and date of death
05/04/2023, was domiciled in Menominee
County, State of Wisconsin, with a
mailing address N1446 Silver Canoe
Lane Keshena WI 54135, USA.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
You do not need to appear unless you
object. The application may be granted if
there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate 02/28/2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse, 311 N Main St,
Shawano, WI Wisconsin Room 202
Probate Office.
Form completed by: James E.
Aschenbrenner P.O. Box146, Shawano,
WI 54166, USA Phone: 715 524 6258
Bar Number: 1008896
WNAXLP

1f5343d8
12/20/24, 12/27/24, 01/03/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
KEITH D. SCHENK
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 24 PR 75
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
11/13/1956 and date of death 10/08/2024
, was domiciled in
Shawano County, State of Wisconsin ,
with a mailing
address of W16305 Fair-Morr Road
Tigerton, WI 54486
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is March 18, 2025 .
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse,
311 North Main Street Shawano ,
Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office .
Form completed by:
Attorney Michael A. Maas
Heritage Law Firm, LLC
2050 Riverside Drive
Green Bay, WI 54301
920-785-8570
Bar Number
1061377
WNAXLP

c2597159
12/27/24
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT, OF SHAWANO COUNTY
NOTICE AND ORDER
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE
Jayda Mae Kalz
By Savannah Rachelle Peotter
NOTICE and ORDER
for Name Chance Hearing
case No.24cv213B
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From:
Jayda
Mae
Kalz
To:
Jayda
Mae
Peotter
Birth Certificate:
Jayda Mae Kalz
IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County State of
Wisconsin: Judge's name: Judge William
Kussel 311 N Main St Shawano WI Date:
01/13/2025 Time: 11:45 a.m.
If you require reasonable
accommodations due to a disability to
participate in the court process, please
call 715-526- 9347 prior to the scheduled
court date. Please note that the court
does not provide transportation.
WNAXLP

c2597159
12/27/24
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT, OF SHAWANO COUNTY
NOTICE AND ORDER
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE
Kayla Marie Richter
By Kayla Marie Richter
NOTICE and ORDER
for Name Chance Hearing
case No.24cv219
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From:
Kayla Marie Richter
To:
Kayla
Marie
Vandermeuten
Birth Certificate:
Kayla
Marie
Vandermeuten
IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County State
of Wisconsin:
Judge Kathrine Sloma
311 N Main St Shawano WI
01/02/2025 Time: 11:15 a.m.
If you require reasonable
accommodations due to a disability to
participate in the court process, please
call 715-526- 9347 prior to the scheduled
court date. Please note that the court
does not provide transportation.
WNAXLP

12/27/2024
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT
COURT, MARATHON COUNTY
Petitioner
-vs-
Respondent: Steven Pickett
Amended
Order Extending Time for Hearing
Case No. 24CV797
IT IS ORDERED:
The time for hearing on an Injunction is
extended and rescheduled for:
January 3, 2025 9:00 am
Marathon County Courthouse
Courtroom B
500 Forest Street
Wausau, WI 54403
Commissioner Bauman
If a Temporary Restraining Order has
been issued, it remains in effect until
the Injunction hearing is held.
WNAXLP

Village of Pulaski
Deputy Clerk / Secretary

The Village of Pulaski is accepting applications for the newly created position of Deputy Clerk/ Secretary. This position will work jointly with the Village Clerk and Treasurer at the discretion of the Village President. The successful applicant will assist the Village Clerk and Treasurer with the performance of their daily duties as specified in Chapter 61.25 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The ideal candidate will have a certificate of completion in the Wisconsin Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Institute or the ability to complete that training within 3 years of hire. Candidates must be proficient in word processing and spreadsheet systems, including having a working knowledge of Workhorse or similar accounting packages. An associate's degree or higher in Accounting, Business Administration or related field is desirable.

The Village of Pulaski provides a comprehensive benefit package, including health and life insurance coverage and participation in the Wisconsin Retirement System. The position is hourly with a starting wage of \$27.00 - \$28.00 dependent upon qualifications and experience.

If interested send your resume to the
Village Clerk
Village of Pulaski.
P.O. Box 320
Pulaski, WI. 54162

12/27/2024					
MENOMINEE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE					
SALE OF FORECLOSED PROPERTIES					
OPENS December 27, 2024 AND CLOSES ON January 9, 2025					
The Menominee County Treasurer's Office will begin accepting sealed bids on the below listed properties acquired through tax foreclosure proceedings. The properties appearing in Section A <u>must</u> be sold at or above the appraisal value shown. The properties appearing in Section B <u>may</u> be sold at, above, or below the appraisal value shown. Details shown in this listing include physical address/fire number, parcel number, deed restriction information, appraisal value, and the County's costs associated with the property.					
#	Physical Address	Parcel/Tax ID#	Deed Restrict.*	Appraisal Value	County Costs**
SECTION A. FIRST SALE ATTEMPT					
1.					
2.					
SECTION B. SUBSEQUENT SALE ATTEMPT					
1.	W2745 CTH VV, Keshena, WI Parcel 80 Vol. 1 PG.56 CSM, Except NW/Corner, Except Doc #642. (2.150 acres)	01602370030	10-Day	\$16,300	\$2,995.81
2.	W2263 Keshena Lake Rd., Keshena, WI LaMotte Lake Lot 1 Vol. 2 PG. 37.38 CSM (4-B) AKA Parcel "I" N/K/A Lot 8 Vol 3 PG 171-172 CSM #129. (2.270 acres)	01602372018	10-Day	\$102,100	\$8,144.98
3.	W2262 Joe Summers Rd., Keshena, WI LaMotte Lake Lot 1 Vol. 2 PG. 37.38 CSM (4-B) AKA Parcel "E" Exc Lots 3 & 4 of CSM 172 Vol 30 PG 274. N/K/A Lot 1, Vol 3, PG 227-228 CSM #147. (0.474 acres)	01602372014	10-Day	\$22,800	\$3,580.49
* Deed Restrict: "LLPOA" means Legend Lake Property Owner's Assoc.; "10-Day" means the Menominee Tribe owns a 10-day right of first refusal. ** "County Costs" represents the minimum value the County will attempt to recover through the sale; however, bids less than this amount will still receive consideration by the Personnel & Finance Committee and the County Board.					

Legal descriptions are available upon request. Some properties may not have fire numbers posted, so bidders are urged to verify the location of the property prior to placing a bid. Bids shall be placed on the "Bid and Purchase Agreement" form and sealed in an envelope along with the required bid deposit of \$250. Copies of the Bid and Purchase Agreement can be obtained on the County's website at www.co.menominee.wi.us or by contacting the Treasurer's Office. The bid deposit of \$250.00 shall be in the form of a cashier's check or money order made payable to Menominee County. The bid deposit of unsuccessful bidders shall be returned. The bid deposit of successful bidder shall be retained as a down payment, with the balance due to be paid within 30 days after bid acceptance. Failure of successful bidder to make payment within 30 days of bid acceptance shall result in a forfeiture of bid deposit without further notice or legal recourse. Bids may be withdrawn up to the deadline date and time. Bids withdrawn after the deadline will result in the automatic forfeiture of the bid security without further notice or legal recourse. On properties appearing under Section A only, the County will provide preference to family members of the former property owner(s) if their bid is equal to or greater than the appraised value. On properties appearing under Section B only, the County will provide preference to family members of the former property owner(s). Final acceptance of a bid by the County is contingent upon the Menominee Tribe not exercising any 10-day waiver option it might have. Properties are sold in "as is, where is" condition. Menominee County makes no warranty as to boundaries or acreages or any other matters on properties offered for sale. Menominee County reserves the right to reject any or all bids. More details concerning the properties can be found at www accurat reassessor.com and clicking on the "Municipalities" link. More information concerning the bid process can be found on Menominee County's website at www.co.menominee.wi.us under the "News and Events" link.
MAIL/DELIVER BIDS TO: Menominee County Treasurer, W3269 Courthouse Lane, P.O. Box 279, Keshena, WI 54135 in an envelope clearly marked "LAND BID – PARCEL # _____. The deadline to submit sealed bids is **Thursday, January 9, 2025 1:00 p.m.** All bids will be publicly opened on January 9, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. The public bid opening is not a forum for determining the winning bid. The Personnel and Finance Committee will formally review and recommend award of bids at its first meeting scheduled after the deadline.
WNAXLP

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Cruel attack reverberates across generations

This week, I selected “Lies That Bind” by Valerie Davisson. It is part of her Logan McKenna series but stands alone very well.

The story features the Collins and Ellis families between the 1930s and 2020. Canadian smugglers make money bringing illegal alcohol to the coast of Oregon. Jacob Ellis is a good husband and father hoping to build a better life for his family. Frankie Collins is ruthless. He has convinced Jacob to help pick up a shipment of booze.

Along the way, one of the men gives Jacob a small pouch containing a large gold nugget. He warns Jacob not to tell Frankie, but Frankie has seen the exchange and is determined to take it.



Later that night, Frankie murders Jacob and takes the nugget. He returns to Depoe Bay, Oregon, claiming Jacob had planned to walk home but never arrived. True to his character, Frankie rapes Jacob’s wife, Irene, warning her to say nothing. That one violent encounter resulted in a pregnancy, but fear keeps her silent.

Frankie founds the Collins Hotel, married Rowena Fitzgerald and had a son. Irene gave birth to Mara, claiming she was Jacob’s child.

AT A GLANCE
BOOK: Lies That Bind (Logan McKenna Mystery, Book 6)
AUTHOR: Valerie Davisson
PUBLISHER: Vaughn House Publishing
YEAR PUBLISHED: 2020
NUMBER OF PAGES: 310

Years later, Mara works at the hotel and Frankie’s entitled son, Emerson, rapes her whenever it suits him. By the time Mara gives birth to Archer, Emerson has already married Charlotte, a petite southern belle from a good but poor family. Archer grows up, marries and fathers Wade and Suzi.

Eventually, Archer’s schizophrenia becomes evident and he’s often hospitalized for treatment. No one would imagine that

his condition is the product of incest.

By the time Wade graduates from college, he has fallen deeply in love with Charlie Collins. She’s the granddaughter of the hotel matriarch Charlotte Collins. Grandmother has long groomed Charlie to take over the hotel, even though Charlie has made it clear she and Wade will be working in the poorest regions of Africa.

Charlotte hates Wade with a passion no one can understand, so he keeps his distance. Charlie’s older sister Amanda has always hated Charlie. Many times, her “pranks” could have killed Charlie, so she does her best to avoid Amanda.

When Charlotte is away for a few days, Charlie

brings Wade to the hotel. One evening, Charlie is swimming laps when she’s struck by debilitating cramps and vomiting. She barely makes it to the side of the pool when a hand grips her head and pushes her under.

Logan McKenna checked into the hotel late the night before and plans to go for an early swim. She discovers Charlie’s body in the pool. Logan has recently purchased the Ellis home from Wade Ellis. It has been empty for a long time and needs work, so Logan has hired a contractor to make the place livable. Until then, she planned to stay at the hotel. Now she must make do with cots and a cooler at the house.

Logan is curious to learn

that a previously unknown half-sister, Olivia, will be visiting from New York. She doesn’t look forward to the meeting but decides to give the woman a chance.

Statements from Charlotte and Amanda make Wade Ellis Detective Monson’s prime suspect. Logan doubts his guilt. Because Olivia is a lawyer, she jumps in to help protect Wade and find the real killer.

When Logan and Olivia uncover generations of cruel lies, they uncover a killer who is willing to do anything to keep family secrets and control the Collins fortune. After an unexpected confrontation at the old house, the lies and secrets are revealed, offering all involved some long-sought information.

Best of Wolf River Region

WITTENBERG ENTERPRISE & BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

2024

Readers Poll

Deadline: January 20, 2025

BALLOT #1

Best Goods:

☐ Flower Shop

☐ Grocery Store

☐ Hardware Store

☐ Tile/Flooring

Best Services:

☐ A/C & Heating

☐ Child Care

☐ Chiropractor

☐ Dentist

☐ Insurance Agency

☐ Optometrist

☐ Pharmacy

☐ Real Estate

☐ Tax Service

☐ Veterinarian

Best of Wolf River Region

WITTENBERG ENTERPRISE & BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

ENTRY FORM

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City

State

Zip

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Clip & Mail Your Ballots To: Shawano Leader
Attn: Best Of
1464 E. Green Bay St., Shawano WI 54166
e-mail: advertising@newmedia-wi.com

Deadline: January 20, 2025

A minimum of 10 categories on ballot must be completed in order for your vote to count to be eligible to win prizes.

No purchase necessary to win.

Best of Wolf River Region

WITTENBERG ENTERPRISE & BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

2024

Readers Poll

Deadline: January 20, 2025

BALLOT #2

Best Thing To Do:

☐ Bowling Alley

☐ Casino

☐ Happy Hour

☐ Live Music

☐ Meat Market

☐ Night Spot

Best Outdoor Activities:

☐ Bait/Tackle Shop

☐ Golf Course

☐ Lawn/Garden

Best Vehicle Services:

☐ Auto Body Repair

☐ Auto Parts Supply Store

☐ Car Dealer

☐ Vehicle Service Center

☐ Tire Store

Best of Wolf River Region

WITTENBERG ENTERPRISE & BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

ENTRY FORM

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Clip & Mail Your Ballots To: Shawano Leader
Attn: Best Of
1464 E. Green Bay St., Shawano WI 54166
e-mail: advertising@newmedia-wi.com

Deadline: January 20, 2025

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**2024
Readers Poll**

Deadline: January 20, 2025 **BALLOT #3**

Food/Dining:

- ☐ Bar _____
- ☐ Breakfast _____
- ☐ Burger _____
- ☐ Coffee House _____
- ☐ Dessert _____
- ☐ Dinner _____
- ☐ Family Restaurant _____
- ☐ Fish Fry _____
- ☐ Lunch _____
- ☐ Pizza _____
- ☐ Sandwich _____

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ENTRY FORM

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Clip & Mail Your Ballots To: **Shawano Leader**
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1464 E. Green Bay St., Shawano WI 54166
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Deadline: January 20, 2025

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Jack Daniel's Whiskey Gift Set



Bulleit Bourbon Whiskey Gift Set



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Bacardi Rum



Apple, Peach, Vanilla or Canadian
Crown Royal Whiskey



Jameson Original or Orange
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Kessler's Whiskey



Windsor Canadian Whiskey



Seagram's 7 Crown Whiskey



Captain Morgan Spiced Rum



Regular or Light
Aristocrat Brandy



Canadian Mist Whiskey



Early Times Whiskey

Original, Fire, Honey or Light
Jack Daniel's Whiskey



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Mount Royal Whiskey



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Heineken Beers



All White Claw Hard Seltzers



Seagram's Escapes Coolers



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Miller Lite Beers



Regular or Light
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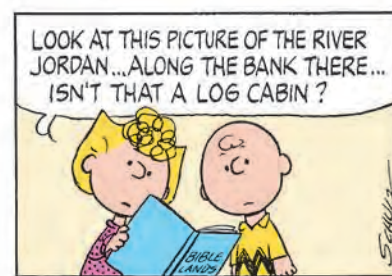
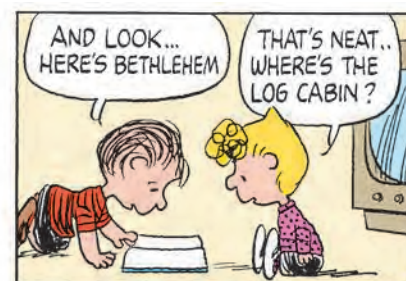
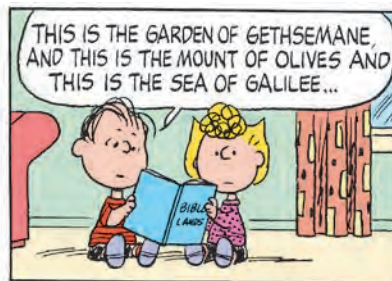
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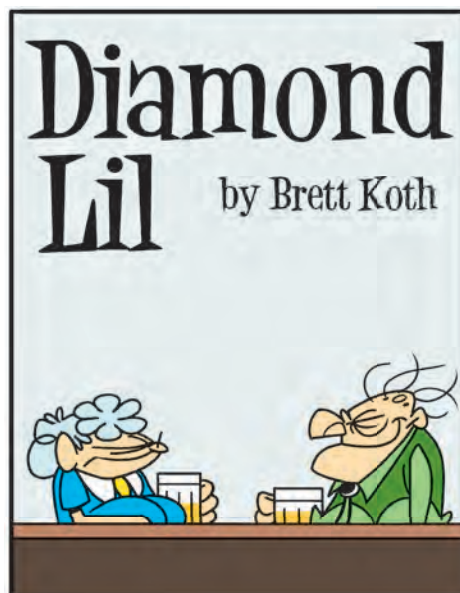
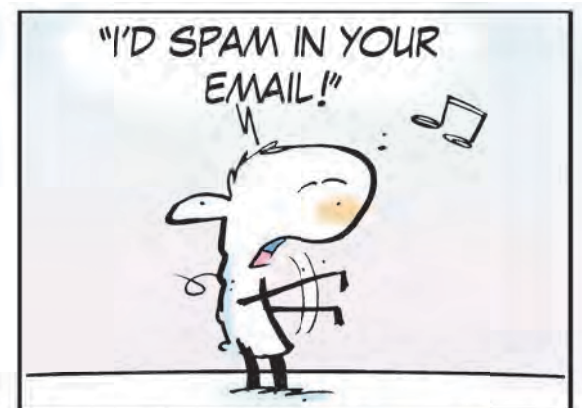
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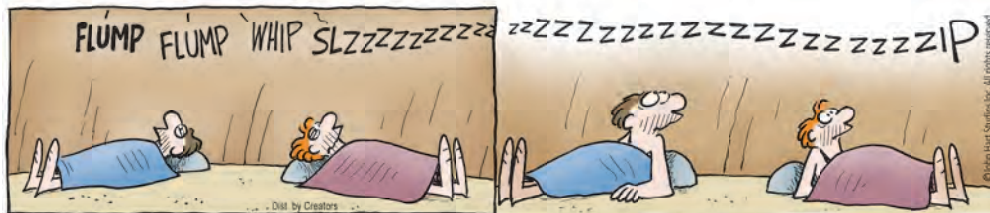
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DOGS OF C-KENNEL

BY MICK MASTROIANNI AND MASON MASTROIANNI





DEFENSE DELIVERS SILENT NIGHT

PACKERS MOVE TO 11-4 WITH THE FIRST NFL SHUTOUT OF THE 2024 SEASON

BY LUKE REIMER
Green & Gold Express

The first shutout of the NFL season came Monday night as the Green Bay Packers dominated the New Orleans Saints 34-0 as they clinched a playoff spot for the second straight season.

Two years ago, there were a number of questions surrounding the Green Bay Packers, as Aaron Rodgers was traded to the New York Jets and Jordan Love was just starting his first season as the number one guy. Since then, the Packers have ripped off 20 wins and found itself in the playoffs for the second straight season.

“It is big time,” said Love, on clinching the playoffs. “Obviously the goal is Super Bowl, so that is the first step - making the playoffs. Obviously this was a big time game to clinch that spot, and I am proud of how we came out here and handled business.”

Love should be proud, as Green Bay demolished a very injured New Orleans Saints team from the first kick off. Love finished the

game completing 16-of-28 passes for 182 yards and one touchdown. Backup quarterback Malik Willis also saw some time in the game, due to the blowout, as he completed 1-of-2 passes for 34 yards.

Jayden Reed was the leading receiver on the team, as the Michigan State alum totaled 76 receiving yards on three receptions. Tucker Kraft added 63 yards on three receptions, and Romeo Doubs totaled 20 yards on two receptions. It was Dontayvion Wicks, though, who hauled in the lone touchdown pass, as he scored on Green Bay’s first drive of the game.

While the passing attack was effective, Green Bay was able to rely on its strong run game once again.

Josh Jacobs continued his stellar season, picking up 69 rushing yards and one touchdown on 13 carries. Emanuel Wilson had his best game this season, rushing for 52 yards on 11 carries and scoring a touchdown.

Like the quarterback room, Jacobs did not play a full game to help preserve him for the future, so Chris



Top, New Orleans quarterback Spencer Rattler spent a lot of time on the ground, staring up at Green Bay’s defense in the Packers’ 34-0 shutout Monday. Defensive coordinator Jeff Hafley’s unit held New Orleans to just 196 total yards while Rattler turned over the ball twice off a strip-sack and interception. Above, running back Kendre Miller managed only 15 rushing yards on eight carries.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Brooks saw a number of touches in this game. Like Wilson, Brooks registered his best game of the season, totaling 23 yards on six touches, including a touchdown rush.

“We did what we had to do running the football,” said Packers head coach Matt LaFleur.

Green Bay has now scored 30 or more points in five straight games, and Jacobs has rushed for a touchdown in six straight games.

On the Saints side of the ball, rookie quarterback Spencer Rattler completed 15-of-30 passes for 153 passing yards and one interception. The interceptions came by way of Packers’ defensive back Zayne Anderson, who made his first start of his career after injuries to Evan Williams and Javon Bullard forced both players out of the game.

Tight end Foster Moreau was the leading receiver for the Saints in this game, totaling 33 yards on two receptions. Wide receiver Dante Pettis and tight end Juwan Johnson added another 31 yards on two receptions and 27 yards on two receptions, respectively.

As for the run game, the Saints really struggled to move the ball on the ground. Rattler was the team’s leading rusher, totaling 28 yards on five carries. Jordan Mims recorded 16 yards on four carries and Kendre Miller added 15 yards on eight carries.

In total, the Packers’ defense held the Saints to just 196 total yards on offense in the game.

WEEK 16/OFFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 34 vs. SAINTS 0



With his first-half touchdown, Josh Jacobs, in his first season with the Packers, has now continued a career-high streak of six consecutive games with a touchdown. Jacobs' 13th rushing touchdown of the season marks a career high, and he is expected to remain a key source of production for Green Bay as they head into a crucial Week 17 matchup against the Minnesota Vikings and the postseason in a couple of weeks.

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Packers need to be at their best against Vikings

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

Green Bay hopes to split the season with the Minnesota Vikings again this year, just as they did in 2023.

The two teams will face off at 3:25 p.m. Dec. 29.

Packers' offense vs. Vikings' defense

Green Bay's offense looked drastically different since their bye week.

They struggled with turning the ball over prior to the bye this season.

Jordan Love led the league in interceptions.

Since the bye week, however, those issues have been cleaned up.

Josh Jacobs lost a fumble against the Seahawks, that was his first since the second week of the season.

Love went into Monday

night's game against the Saints having thrown one interception since the bye week. That came Nov. 17 against the Chicago Bears.

Love is playing what Matt LaFleur has called the best football of his career.

Tom Clements echoed those sentiments before they played the Saints.

If they're going to win against the Vikings, they'll need to be on the top of their game. They're facing a challenge that is unlike most of the ones they've faced most of the year.

Minnesota's defense has been dominant all season long.

They are one of the best in football at stopping the run, and once they get you into predictable passing situations, Brian Flores begins to toy with opposing offenses.

They force turnovers as well as anyone in football. Byron Murphy leads the team with six interceptions on the year.

They did have moments where they struggled last week against the Seattle Seahawks offense. Jaxon Smith-Njigba and DK Metcalf were both able to make big plays against Minnesota's secondary.

They were saved by Geno Smith's late interception that sealed a 27-24 victory for Minnesota.

Packers' defense vs. Vikings' offense

Green Bay's defense has gone through some Jekyll and Hyde moments through the last month and a half.

They were good against San Francisco and Miami before struggling against Detroit.

They were very good

against Smith and the Seahawks' offense, surrendering only one touchdown in a dominant 30-13 victory.

Edgerrin Cooper returned from injury and has continued to be an impact player for the Packers.

He should be in line for more snaps this week than he played the first time these two teams met.

Perhaps they could be getting some reinforcements as well.

Jonathan Bullard and Quay Walker both missed Monday's game against the Saints with ankle injuries.

Jaire Alexander has been hobbled for most of the second half of the season. He was questionable going into Monday's game.

If he's back and able to play a full helping of snaps, one of his favorite matchups is waiting for

him. Justin Jefferson will be on the other side and is a challenge Alexander has relished in the past.

It feels like the whole world has been waiting for Minnesota's offense to hit a wall with Sam Darnold at the controls.

Maybe that will happen; it just might not be this year.

Darnold is a lock for the NFL's Comeback Player of the Year award and might be causing the Vikings to have some difficult conversations regarding the future of their quarterback position.

Darnold is set to be a free agent, and they used a first-round pick on JJ McCarthy a season ago.

Around him, the Vi-

kings have one of the more well-rounded offenses in football.

Aaron Jones has been a stabilizing force for them at running back, and he'll certainly have a chip on his shoulder as he faces his former team.

Special teams

One big change from the last time these two teams met is the difference in Green Bay's kicking situation.

Brayden Narveson was the kicker in late September for the Packers, and he played a huge role in their 31-29 loss to the Vikings.

He was 0-for-2 on field goals that day, effectively leaving six points on the field in what was a two-point loss.

GREEN BAY PACKERS AT MINNESOTA VIKINGS

TIME AND DATE: 3:25 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 29

LOCATION: US Bank Stadium

TV: Fox

RADIO: Flagship WRNW-FM Milwaukee — 97.3; Packers Radio Network includes WIXX-FM Green Bay — 101.1, WRLO-FM Antigo — 105.3, WLST-FM Marinette — 95.1, and WSAU Wausau — 550 AM and 95.1 FM

2024 RECORDS: Packers 11-4, Vikings 13-2.

HISTORY: The Vikings and Packers have a rivalry that dates all the way back to 1961. The Packers lead the all-time series 66-59-3.

The two teams have split the season series each of the last four years.

The Packers lost at Lambeau Field this year 31-29 but are looking to bounce back at US Bank Stadium.

Last year, the Packers dominated the Vikings in

Minnesota as they made their run to the postseason.

Matt LaFleur has never lost to the Chicago Bears but has struggled a little more with the Vikings.

His record is one game under .500 against Kevin O'Connell, and Sunday's game gives LaFleur a chance to even things up with O'Connell.

COACHES: Packers — Matt LaFleur, sixth season, 67-31. Vikings — Kevin O'Connell, third season, 33-16.

PACKERS SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 6 at Philadelphia, L 29-34

Sunday, Sept. 15 vs. Indianapolis W 16-10

Sunday, Sept. 22 at Tennessee W 30-14

Sunday, Sept. 29 vs. Minnesota L 29-31

Sunday, Oct. 6 at LA Rams 3:25 p.m. W 24-19

Sunday, Oct. 13 vs. Arizona W 34-13

Sunday, Oct. 20 vs. Houston W 24-22

Sunday, Oct. 27 at Jacksonville W 30-27

Sunday, Nov. 3 vs. Detroit L 14-24

Week 10 BYE

Sunday, Nov. 17 at Chicago W 20-19

Sunday, Nov. 24 vs. San Francisco W 38-10

Thursday, Nov. 28 vs. Miami W 30-17

Thursday, Dec. 5 at Detroit L 34-31

Sunday, Dec. 15 at Seattle W 30-13

Monday, Dec. 23 vs. New Orleans W 34-0

Sunday, Dec. 29, at Minnesota, 3:25 p.m., Fox

Week 18 vs. Chicago TBD

NFL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 25

Kansas City at Pittsburgh, Noon

Baltimore at Houston, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 26

Seattle at Chicago, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 28

LA Chargers at New England, Noon

Denver at Cincinnati, 3:30 p.m.

Arizona at LA Rams, 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 29

Dallas at Philadelphia, Noon

Carolina at Tampa Bay, Noon

NY Jets at Buffalo, Noon

Indianapolis at NY Giants, Noon

Las Vegas at New Orleans, Noon

Tennessee at Jacksonville, Noon

Miami at Cleveland, 3:05 p.m.

Green Bay at Minnesota, 3:25 p.m.

Atlanta at Washington, 7:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 30

Detroit at San Francisco, 7:15 p.m.

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My all time favorite Green Bay Packer player is...

"I enjoyed going to the games with friends. I always liked watching Paul Hornung play. He was a great player!"

Joan Kamps, Golden Pond Resident

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My favorite Green Bay Packer memories

"I didn't watch many games but the boys did. Always a blessing to listen to the fun family banter during a game."

Margaret Vandembush,
Meadowlands Tenant





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BEAT The Expert



2024-25

Week 17 Games: Sun., Dec. 29

Seattle @ Chicago - Thurs., Dec. 26
Dallas @ Philadelphia
NY Jets @ Buffalo
Detroit @ San Francisco - Mon., Dec. 30

Tie Breaker Game:
Green Bay @ Minnesota

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
Tim Murphy NEW Media.....	3-1	60-19
Mike Worachek, Card & Coin.....	3-1	58-21
Matt/Rory, Buss Automotive.....	3-1	57-22
Luke Reimer, NEW Media	3-1	53-26
Jacob Westendorf, NEW Media	2-2	52-27
Tanya Hintz, Shawano Health.....	2-2	50-29
Kevin Passon, NEW Media.....	4-0	49-30
Tina Golden, The Cottages at Meadowlands.....	3-1	49-30
Staff, Walsh Dental Group	3-1	48-31
Susan Lendved, The Cottages on Golden Pond.....	3-1	47-32
Staff, Iverson's Piggly Wiggly.....	3-1	43-36



Iverson's Staff
Iverson's
Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
San Francisco

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Minnesota 21

Due to time constraints the Monday night game and the weekly winner will be included in next week's issue of Green and Gold Express.



Buss
Automotive

This Week's Picks:

Chicago
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 28 @ Minnesota 27



Mike Worachek
Card & Coin

This Week's Picks:

Chicago
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 31 @ Minnesota 28

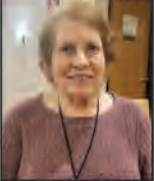


Margaret Vandembush
The Cottages at
Meadowlands

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
San Francisco

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 17 @ Minnesota 14



Joan Kamps
The Cottages on
Golden Pond

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Dallas
Buffalo
San Francisco

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 23 @ Minnesota 17



Kevin Passon
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 28 @ Minnesota 24



Tanya Hintz
Shawano
Health Services

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Minnesota 21



Staff
Walsh Dental Group
Shawano

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 20 @ Minnesota 23



Jacob Westendorf
New Media

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score : Green Bay 27 @ Minnesota 31



Tim Murphy
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 23 @ Minnesota 26



Luke Reimer
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Philadelphia
Buffalo
Detroit

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Minnesota 27

WEEK 16/DEFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 34 vs. SAINTS 0



Even an illegal hold on Green Bay defensive tackle Colby Wooden couldn't stop him and the rest of the Packers' defense, which was no match for a heavily-injured New Orleans Saints team that was forced to play several backups.

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GREEN BAY

PACKERS

2 Malik Willis.....QB

7 Quay Walker.....LB

8 Josh Jacobs.....RB

9 Christian Watson.....WR

10 Jordan Love.....QB

11 Jayden Reed.....WR

13 Dontayvion Wicks.....WR

17 Brandon Mcmanus.....K

18 Malik Heath.....WR

19 Daniel Whelan.....P

20 Javon Bullard.....S

21 Eric Stokes.....CB

22 Robert Rochell.....CB

23 Jaire Alexander.....CB

24 Carrington Valentine...CB

25 Keisean Nixon.....CB

26 Corey Ballentine.....CB

27 Kitan Oladapo.....S

29 Xavier McKinney.....S

30 Chris Brooks.....RB

31 Emanuel Wilson.....RB

33 Evan Williams.....S

39 Zayne Anderson.....S

42 Matt Orzech.....LS

45 Eric Wilson.....LB

50 Zach Tom.....OL

52 Rashan Gary.....DL

53 Arron Mosby.....DL

55 Kingsley Enagbare.....DL

56 Edgerrin Cooper.....LB

57 Brenton Cox Jr.....DL

58 Isaiah McDuffie.....LB

59 Ty'Ron Hopper.....LB

62 Jacob Monk.....C/G

63 Rasheed Walker.....T

71 Josh Myers.....C/G

73 Andre Dillard.....T

74 Elgton Jenkins.....G/T

75 Sean Rhyan.....G

76 Kadeem Telfort.....T

79 Travis Glover.....T

80 Bo Melton.....WR

85 Tucker Kraft.....TE

86 John FitzPatrick.....TE

87 Romeo Doubs.....WR

89 Ben Sims.....TE

90 Lukas Van Ness.....DL

93 T.J. Slaton.....DL

94 Karl Brooks.....DL

95 Devonte Wyatt.....DL

96 Colby Wooden.....DL

97 Kenny Clark.....DL

MINNESOTA

VIKINGS

1 Shaq Griffin.....CB

2 Stephon Gilmore.....CB

3 Jordan addison.....WR

4 Brandon Powell.....WR

6 Brian Asamoah II.....LB

7 Bryon Murphy Jr.....CB

11 Trent Sherfield Sr.....WR

12 Nick Mullens.....QB

14 Sam Darnold.....QB

15 Dallas Turner.....OLB

16 Will Reichard.....K

17 Ryan Wright.....P

18 Justin Jefferson.....WR

19 Brett Rypien.....QB

20 Jay Ward.....S

22 Harrison Smith.....S

23 Fabian Moreau.....CB

24 Camryn Bynum.....S

26 Theo Jackson.....S

27 Cam Akers.....RB

29 Dwight McGlothern....CB

30 C.J. Ham.....FB

32 Ty Chandler.....RB

33 Aaron Jones Sr.....RB

42 Andrew DePaola.....LS

43 Andrew Van Ginkel....OLB

44 Joshua Metellus.....S

50 Levi Drake Rodriguez..DL

51 Blake Cashman.....LB

52 Jihad Ward.....OLB

54 Kamu Grugier-Hill.....LB

56 Garrett Bradbury.....C

57 Jamin Davis.....LB

58 Jonathan Greenard...OLB

61 Jalen Redmond.....DL

64 Blake Brandel.....G

65 Michael Jurgens.....G

66 Dalton Risner.....G

67 Ed Ingram.....G

69 Dan Freeney.....C

74 Cam Robinson.....T

75 Brian O'Neill.....T

76 David Queessenberry...T

78 Waltrer Rouse.....T

83 Jalen Nailor.....WR

84 Josh Oliver.....TE

86 Johnny Mundt.....TE

87 T.J. Hockenson.....TE

90 Jonathan Bullard.....DL

91 Pat Jones II.....OLB

97 Harrison Phillips.....DL

98 Bo Richter.....OLB

99 Jerry Tillery.....DL

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WEEK 16/OFFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 34 vs. SAINTS 0



Quarterback Jordan Love was 16-of-28 for 182 yards with one touchdown, to wide receiver Dontayvion Wicks. Love's passer rating of 88.7 broke his streak of five straight games with a triple-digit rating. Wide receiver Jayden Reed had three catches for 76 yards, and tight end Tucker Kraft added three receptions for 63 yards. Wide receiver Christian Watson left the game with a knee injury and did not return.

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WEEK 16/OFFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 34 vs. SAINTS 0



Brandon McManus (17) watches his 55-yard field goal attempt sail through the uprights as Daniel Whelan (19) and Tucker Kraft (85) look on. McManus also make a 46-yard field goal and was 4-for-4 in extra point kicks. To say that McManus stabilized the kicking situation in Green Bay this season would be an understatement.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

MCMANUS CAN DRIVE 55

KICKER CONNECTS ON FIELD GOALS OF 55, 46 YARDS



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