



MIDWINTER — OR IS IT?

An Oconto Falls Street Department crew works to clear downtown streets and sidewalks Dec. 13 after a winter storm dumped 8-10 inches of snow on the area over the weekend. Much of it melted away when an unseasonable warm front brought temperatures in the mid and upper 50s Dec. 15. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

School board member quits, cites bullying

Stodola-Eslien says Oconto Falls faculty and staff are “walking on eggshells.”

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Reading the Bible changes Lena man's life

Al Popovich says a visit from a Jehovah's Witness friend started his turnaround.

PAGE 13

Wildcats surge carries team over Eagles

Lena girls basketball overcomes a slow start on its way to an M&O conference win over Suring.

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Iverson's
piggly wiggly



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School board member resigns, cites bullying

Stodola-Eslien says Oconto Falls board defers to superintendent rather than leading

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

An Oconto Falls School Board member resigned Dec. 13 after reading a statement that alleged a culture of bullying that has faculty and staff “walking on eggshells.”

Sharon Stodola-Eslien, whose three-year term expires in April, began by reminding the board that she ran for the position in 2018 after her part-time job as a school social worker was eliminated.

Once elected she found, she said, that instead of serving as elected leaders of the school district, the board defers to Superintendent Dean Hess and alleged his leadership style drives good people away.

Stodola-Eslien mentioned a longtime employee of the district, “a devoted, hard-working employee of 26 years with a spotless record, someone who loved her job, students, and staff in our Oconto Falls schools and the community,” who she said was “forced out” a year ago.

“I told this person, if I cannot make a difference in righting this administration’s wrongs, I would not put my hat in the ring for a second term,” Stodola-Eslien said.

The former employee was among several school district staff who have been harmed by the administration, one even sharing a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder, she said.

“Does my sitting as a member of this board make me part of the problem?” she asked. “A school board is supposed to be in charge, the boss, so to speak. Not in my experience. Dean Hess remains the boss over this board.”

Stodola-Eslien recounted an exchange with one board member who told her the superintendent is in charge of hiring and firing, “and as a board member, you almost have to act as if you don’t care. I couldn’t believe my ears.”

In another case, the board voted 6-1 to hire an administrator even after a half-dozen teachers who warned about bad experiences with the candidate in



Oconto Falls Superintendent Dean Hess, center, reports on school district finances as school board members Clint Gardebrecht, left, and Ron Leja look on. The board returned to the district office conference room Dec. 13 after more than a year and a half of meeting in the high school auditorium for social distance purposes.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

a previous job. This fall, a secretary resigned because of her boss’s “bully-type behavior, exactly what teachers warned us of,” Stodola-Eslien said.

Another dedicated long-term teacher currently is being harassed, she said, telling the board that “the pattern of mistreatment” has to end.

“Students and staff in this district deserve a trustworthy, honest, good man as a superintendent as well as reputable and honest principals and school leaders,” Stodola-Eslien said. “Right now many, many teachers and support staff are walking on eggshells throughout our school system, knowing that if they speak up with the truth, their jobs and family livelihoods may be in jeopardy.”

Stodola-Eslien concluded her statement by saying that she is resigning from the board, effective immediately, and left the room. Several people in the audience of about 25 people applauded, but Board President Ron Leja moved on with the board’s regular meeting without commenting on the statement.

The only reference to Stodola-Eslien for the rest of the two-hour session was when Hess noted that two board seats will be up for election in April, the one now held by Leja and “with tonight’s resignation, a vacancy.”

Although the board remained silent at the meeting, it released a written statement Tuesday that described Stodola’s comments as “an unfortunate commentary” that does not reflect the views of the full board.

“Her statement was materially inaccurate on several confidential matters that came before the board,” the board’s statement said. “Her actions are damaging to the efforts of the board, the administration, and every dedicated member of the district staff who work tirelessly to benefit each and every student. The board supports the administration and the efforts of the staff. The Oconto Falls School District is doing great things to benefit our students and we remain focused on that effort.”

wbluhm@newmedia-wi.com

Fun in the snow after weekend storm



This Packers fan snowman appeared along South Birch Avenue in Gillett in time for the big Sunday night game and was still smiling Dec. 13.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



A friendly face greets travelers along North Main Street in Oconto Falls. About 8-10 inches of snow fell Dec. 10-11 across the county.

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2021

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Deadline: January 24, 2022

BALLOT #1

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- ☐ Flower Shop _____
- ☐ Grocery Store _____
- ☐ Hardware Store _____

Best Services:

- ☐ A/C & Heating _____
- ☐ Bank _____
- ☐ Child Care _____
- ☐ Chiropractor _____
- ☐ Credit Union _____
- ☐ Dentist _____
- ☐ Electrician _____
- ☐ Insurance Agency _____
- ☐ Gas Station/C-Store _____
- ☐ Hair Salon/Barber _____
- ☐ Pharmacy _____
- ☐ Physician _____
- ☐ Plumber _____
- ☐ Real Estate Company _____
- ☐ Retirement Community _____
- ☐ Tax Service _____
- ☐ Veterinarian _____

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Readers Poll

Deadline: January 24, 2022

BALLOT #2

Best Thing To Do:

- ☐ Bowling Alley _____
- ☐ Campground _____
- ☐ Cheese Factory _____
- ☐ Happy Hour _____
- ☐ Live Music o _____
- ☐ Meat Market _____
- ☐ Night Spot _____

Best Outdoor Activities:

- ☐ Bait/Tackle Shop s _____
- ☐ Golf Course _____
- ☐ Lawn/Garden _____

Best Vehicle Services:

- ☐ Auto Body Repair _____
- ☐ Auto Parts Supply Store _____
- ☐ Car Dealer _____
- ☐ Vehicle Service Centert _____
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OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Dec. 10

Travis J. Ragen, 32, Lena, pleaded not guilty to four counts of bail jumping, in connection with incidents that allegedly occurred in 2020 and 2021. Ragen is already awaiting a May 24-27 trial for second-degree reckless homicide, homicide by the intoxicated use of a motor vehicle and homicide by the operation of a vehicle with a prohibited alcohol content, in the Nov. 15, 2019, crash that killed Melissa J. Cota, 53, of Oconto. Judge Michael T. Judge has scheduled a motion hearing for Jan. 27 and a final pre-trial conference for May 9.

After a preliminary hearing, David L. Reignier, 37, Oconto Falls, was bound over on charges of bail jumping, misdemeanor criminal damage to property, disorderly conduct and resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 5. Reignier was awaiting trial on two counts of strangulation-suffocation, victim intimidation by use of force, false imprisonment and misdemeanor counts of battery and criminal damage to property, in connection with three incidents that allegedly occurred in April. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 13.

Andrew J. Pecor, 36, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to felony child neglect and two counts of misdemeanor child neglect, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 17. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 13.

Jennifer M. Ott, 44, Oconto Falls, waived her right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to burglary, possession of burglarious tools and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Sept. 13. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 13.

A May 4-5 jury trial was scheduled for Travis Michael McDermitt, 30, La Crosse, on charges of possession with intent to deliver amphetamine (second or subsequent offense) and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 22. A final pre-trial conference was scheduled for April 18.

Proceedings of Dec. 9

Marie Faye Malotte, 43, Neenah, pleaded no contest to possession with intent to deliver amphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred March 24, 2020. Judge scheduled sentencing for Feb. 15 and ordered a

pre-sentence investigation.

Robert F. Block, 33, Pound, pleaded no contest to misdemeanor battery in connection with an incident that occurred Sept. 20. The charge was amended from a felony count in a plea agreement. Judge sentenced him to nine months in the county jail with Huber work-release privileges and 80 days credit for time already served.

Sapphire M. Otradovec, 19, Gillett, pleaded no contest to misdemeanor battery, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 16. The charge was reduced from a felony count in a plea agreement. Judge placed her in the Volunteers in Probation program for one year.

Proceedings of Dec. 8

Judge Jay N. Conley granted a defense motion to reduce bond from \$50,000 to \$30,000 for Randall J. Robenhorst, 60, Little Suamico, who is charged with three counts of first-degree child sexual assault, child enticement and three related charges in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred May 27. A jury trial is scheduled for Feb. 10-11, with a final pre-trial conference set for Jan. 31.

Donavan Bryan Ducane, 22, Suring, pleaded no contest to a charge of sex registry violation, in connection with an incident that occurred May 8. Judge scheduled sentencing for Jan. 27 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

James Richard Cackovic, 22, Bonduel, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Sept. 16. Conley scheduled sentencing for Feb. 7 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Sawyer James Wheelock, 24, Hobart, pleaded guilty to possession of narcotic drugs and misdemeanor bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 3, 2020. Judge scheduled sentencing for Feb. 7 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Jeffrey S. Wenzel Jr., 21, Oconto, pleaded no contest to felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Aug. 28. Judge scheduled sentencing for Jan. 27 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

David A. Konstanski, 32, De Pere, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and causing injury, operating with a prohibited alcohol content and causing injury and misdemeanor charges of bail jumping (two counts), tampering with or failure to install an ignition interlock device, and operating while his license is revoked, in connection with

an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 29. A plea hearing was scheduled for Jan. 3.

Yannis Vasilis Fotopoulos, 21, Sobieski, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of receiving stolen property, driving a motor vehicle without the owner's consent and two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 3, 2020. Arraignment was scheduled for Feb. 17.

Daniel Eugene Rustlie, 52, Suamico, pleaded not guilty to charges of theft of movable property and misdemeanor criminal damage to property, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 12. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Feb. 17.

Keith M. Trevor, 43, Pound, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to fleeing an officer and misdemeanor charges of possession of THC and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 3. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Feb. 17.

Proceedings of Dec. 7

Peter W. Berres, 58, Milwaukee, pleaded no contest to resisting arrest, in connection with an incident that occurred May 5, 2020, as well as one count of felony bail jumping and one count of misdemeanor bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred June 19. Conley scheduled sentencing for Jan. 31 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Michael M. Nerenhausen, 30, Oconto, pleaded no contest to possession of methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred April 1, and possession of methamphetamine, and misdemeanor operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (second offense), in connection with an incident that occurred April 24. Conley scheduled sentencing for Feb. 7 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Tyler J. Geurts, 34, Oconto, pleaded not guilty to 16 counts of possession of child pornography, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred March 8. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Feb. 15.

Proceedings of Dec. 6

John A. Schneider, 35, Lakewood, pleaded no contest to intentionally contributing to delinquency, in connection with an incident that occurred June 3, 2020. Judge scheduled sentencing for Jan. 26 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

A bench warrant was issued for

Kelly Patrick Grzybowski, 27, Lena, after he failed to appear for a hearing on charges of battery by prisoners, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred April 20, and fleeing an officer, in connection with an alleged Jan. 2 incident. His attorney said Grzybowski was currently in the Shawano County Jail, where online court records indicate he was arrested Dec. 4 on traffic charges.

Keith A. Smet, 34, Lena, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on a charge of sex registry violation. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 13, along with a pre-trial conference in another case involving alleged possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer, possession of THC, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred July 29.

Jacob Steven Moeller, 22, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to taking a motor vehicle without the owner's consent and criminal damage to property, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 24. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 13.

Branden M. McNabb, 26, Oconto Falls, waived his right to a preliminary and was bound over on charges of child abandonment, child neglect and misdemeanor disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 22. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 18.

James W. Badem, 55, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of possession with intent to deliver amphetamine, manufacture and delivery of amphetamine, second-degree recklessly endangering safety and maintaining a drug trafficking place, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Oct. 24. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 13.

Veronica M. Floring, 28, Suring, waived her right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of manufacture with intent to deliver THC, possession with intent to deliver THC, maintaining a drug trafficking place and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Oct. 27. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 13.

OBITUARIES

Sharon J. Moericke

Sharon Jean Moericke, 80, of Crandon, passed away Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. Sharon was born July 26, 1941, the daughter of Edward and Alvina (Friedl) Burk.

She was united in marriage to Robert Moericke, and he preceded her in death on Nov. 25, 2010.

Sharon loved to go to the Log Cabin every day and chat with her friends and harass the staff. She was like family there. She loved her sports, watching the Brewers and



Packers whenever they were on television. Surviving are her daughter, Jill (Jason) Childers, Crandon; sons, Lee (Anne) Moericke, Lomira, and Jay (Brenda) Moericke, Suring; seven grandchildren, Ben, Ashland, Michael, Katelynn, Nicholas, Mathew, Abbey; brother, Roger (Lucile) Burk; numerous

nieces, nephews, great- and great-great nieces and nephews, whom she loved very much.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Robert; brothers, Edward and Jon; and sister, Dorothy.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021, at the Log Cabin Café, Crandon.

Weber-Hill Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements. Online condolences for the family may be directed to www.weberhillfuneralhome.com.

Richard A. Jarvey

Richard A. Jarvey, 75, of Oconto, died Dec. 7, 2021. He was born Nov. 18, 1946, the son of Mary and the late Peter John Jarvey.

He is survived by his mother, Mary A. Jarvey; brothers John, Roger and Marvin; sisters Darlene and Rita; and many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and many other family members.

He was preceded in death by his father, sister Kathy, and brother David.

OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Dec. 9

Deputies responded to 48 incidents, including trespassing on Rustling Pine Court in the Town of Abrams, identity theft on Downton Lane in the Town of Underhill, fraud on Dittman Lane in the Town of Pensaukee, suspicious activity on Sandalwood Road in the Town of Abrams, a K-9 deployment on Morgan River Road in the Town of Morgan, one traffic offense, one citizen assist, one miscellaneous traffic incident; three 911 hangups and two open lines; one ambulance call; 23 crashes, four involving deer.

Dec. 8

Deputies responded to 40 incidents, including suspicious activity on Nichols Road in the Town of Pensaukee, a fire control burn on state Highway 32 in the Town of Morgan, suspicious activity on Allen Road in the Town of Little Suamico, property damage on County Road C in the Town of Morgan, a wanted person on Warrington Lake Drive in the Town of Underhill, threatening on Lone Lane in the Town of Maple Valley, an animal bite on Careful Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, suspicious activity on Lilly Road in the Town of Little Suamico, one traffic stop, two traffic hazards, two citizen assists, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; one 911 hangup and six open lines; one ambulance call; seven crashes, three involving deer.

Dec. 7

Deputies responded to 42 incidents, including suspicious activity on Nichols Road in the Town of Pensaukee, an internet crimes against children complaint at an address in the Town of Chase, property damage on County Road VV in the Town of Underhill, a fire control burn on County Road M in the Town of Maple Valley, a wanted person on County Road M in the Town of Maple Valley, a disturbance on state Highway 22-32 in the Town of Gillett, squad damage near state Highway 32-64 and South Green

Lake Lane in the Town of Maple Valley, six traffic stops, one traffic offense, four citizen assists, one miscellaneous traffic incident; one open-line call to 911; three ambulance calls; five crashes.

Dec. 6

Deputies responded to 42 incidents, including a wanted person near U.S. Highway 41 and County Road W in the Town of Little River, a disturbance on Old 32 Road in the Town of Mountain, suspicious activity on Duane Road in the Town of Stiles, suspicious activity on Nichols Road in the Town of Pensaukee, seven traffic stops, one traffic hazard, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, one welfare check; three 911 hangups and one open line; five crashes, two involving deer.

Dec. 5

Deputies responded to 45 incidents, including harassment on state Highway 22 in the Town of Stiles, harassment on Elm Lawn Road in the Town of Oconto Falls, trespassing on East Washington Street in the City of Gillett, animal neglect on Belgian Road in the Town of Lena, two traffic stops, three citizen assists, one miscellaneous traffic incident, two welfare checks; six 911 hangups and two open lines; three ambulance calls; 19 crashes, one involving deer.

Dec. 4

Deputies responded to 41 incidents, including suspicious activity on U.S. Highway 141 in the Town of Stiles, underage alcohol at an address in the Town of Chase, a vicious animal on County Road M in the Town of Maple Valley, suspicious activity on County Road J in the Town of Oconto, trespassing on Kreugers Quarry Road in the Town of Pensaukee, theft on East Frontage Road in the Town of Little Suamico, underage alcohol at an address in the Town of Oconto Falls, one traffic stop, one traffic hazard, one citizen assist, one miscellaneous traffic incident, two welfare checks; two 911 hangups and five open lines; two ambulance calls; three

crashes, two involving deer.

Dec. 3

Deputies responded to 47 incidents, including theft on County Road I in the Town of Stiles, theft near County Road R and Harrys Road in the Town of Underhill, illegal burning on Sundew Road in the Town of Little Suamico, suspicious activity on County Road AA in the Town of Breed, one traffic stop, three citizen assists, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; five 911 hangups and four open lines; one ambulance call; three crashes, one involving a bear, one involving deer.

Dec. 2

Deputies responded to 53 incidents, including suspicious activity near County Road I and Husky Lane in the Town of Stiles, suspicious activity on West Frontier Road in the Town of Little Suamico, animal neglect on state Highway 64 in the Town of Brazeau, a wanted person on South Richmond Avenue in the City of Gillett, a wanted person on state Highway 22 in the Town of Oconto Falls, an animal bite on North Mill Street in the Village of Suring, suspicious activity on North Main Street in the City of Oconto Falls, eight traffic stops, one traffic hazard, four traffic offenses, one citizen assist, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, four 911 hangups and five open lines; two crashes, one involving deer.

Dec. 1

Deputies responded to 42 incidents, including a disturbance on Congress Street in the City of Oconto, a gas leak on West Main Street in the City of Gillett, a disturbance on Main Street in the City of Oconto, theft on West Frontier Road in the Town of Little Suamico, suspicious activity on County Road A in the Town of Maple Valley, threatening on Superior Avenue in the Town of Little River, unwanted party on County Road G in the Town of Spruce, a disturbance on Frog Pond Road in the Town of Oconto, three

traffic stops, one traffic hazard, three traffic offenses, one miscellaneous traffic incident, two 911 hangups and one open line; one ambulance call; nine crashes, three involving deer.

Nov. 30

Deputies responded to 43 incidents, including fraud on South White Potato Lake Road in the Town of Brazeau, an unwanted party on Sherman Street in the City of Oconto Falls, intoxication on Sherman Street in the City of Oconto Falls, two traffic stops, two traffic hazards, two citizen assists, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; two 911 hangups and one open line; two ambulance calls; three crashes, one involving deer.

Nov. 29

Deputies responded to 78 incidents, including a structure fire on Holiday Inn Road in the Town of Spruce, a fire control burn on state Highway 64 in the Town of Brazeau, an unwanted party on County Road I in the Town of Stiles, a fire control burn on Tanglewood Drive in the Town of Little Suamico, a disturbance on County Road G in the Town of Spruce, harassment on Sherrie Lane in the Town of Underhill, one traffic stop, one traffic offense, three citizen assists, one miscellaneous traffic incident, two 911 hangups and one open line; three ambulance calls; 37 crashes, one involving deer.

Nov. 28

Deputies responded to 43 incidents, including suspicious activity on County Road Z in the Town of Brazeau, a fire control burn on state Highway 64 in the Town of Brazeau, a wanted person on North McKenzie Street in the City of Gillett, five traffic stops, one traffic hazard, four traffic offenses, one citizen assist, two miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; two 911 hangups and three open lines; four ambulance calls; eight crashes, two involving deer.

Shawano changing city hall hours in 2022

Building will open half-hour earlier, will close Friday afternoons

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Shawano City Hall will be changing its hours in 2022 in the hopes of having sufficient staff available to help when people come in to pay bills, pay taxes or have other business with the city government.

Beginning in January, city hall will open at 7 a.m. weekdays instead of 7:30 a.m. The building will close at 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday as it has previously. On Fridays, the building will close at 11 a.m.

City Clerk Lesley Nemetz told the Shawano Common Council as it was considering the schedule change Dec. 8 that doing this will

do away with the necessity of having employees take one hour for a lunch break, which reduces the number of staff available to help customers at noon, a time many utilize to come in and take care of business while on a lunch break from their jobs.

"We've been having lots of conversations regarding our current hours at city hall," Nemetz said. "We are typically down to one staff member up front (during lunch breaks), which is when a large majority of our customers are coming in. We struggle during heavy times like tax time and election time and those types of things."

The change allows the employees to take half-hour lunch breaks instead, something many employees prefer. Nemetz said there are usually so many things going on for a given day that many employees feel like being off for an hour is wasting time.

"Everybody hates the hour lunch," Nemetz said. "None of the

staff really leaves, so many of them are hanging out in the break room for an hour."

Nemetz noted that city hall has very little community traffic on Friday afternoons, so that is why it was recommended to only be open a half-day. She noted many cities have adopted this stance, while others have closed on Fridays altogether.

"We have spoken with a lot of area contractors, and a lot of times, when they want to start on a project that day, they would like to do it a little bit earlier, so opening at 7 instead of 7:30 would be an improvement for them," Nemetz said. "As you know, Shawano is an early-rise, early-home typically community. So having the ability to start a little earlier for our residents would be very helpful."

Nemetz noted the earlier time would be beneficial for when the city holds early morning meetings, as it would allow for employees to be around to open up the facility

without requiring them to work overtime.

Another benefit for closing on Friday afternoons, according to Nemetz, is that it would allow salaried staff to work at that time with fewer interruptions, allowing for more work to get done.

"They can get caught up on the really great projects we have going on in the city," she said.

Nemetz presented the option of having Friday hours of 8 a.m. to noon but told the council that having the 7-11 a.m. in place that day would provide consistency and let people know the city is open for business every weekday at 7 a.m.

"Right now, in the winter, thinking about getting off at 11 on Friday is here or there unless you're out snowmobiling or doing other things," Nemetz said. "In the summertime, obviously, that's a great perk to have to get off a little bit earlier."

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

Youth to audition for Beauty and the Beast Jr.

Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. will bring a Disney musical to life with its junior performance of "Beauty and the Beast."

"Beauty and the Beast" is the story of an arrogant prince cursed to become a terrifying beast unless he finds true love. The production is directed by Elizabeth Jolly, and show dates are March 3-6 and March 10-13.

The musical calls for a variety of roles, both male and female, 18 years old (must be in high school) and under. Auditions are scheduled 6-8

p.m. Dec. 28-29 at the Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St., Abrams.

Those wishing to audition should prepare to sing 16-32 bars of a song from a musical (not "Beauty and the Beast"). They may sing a cappella or play a karaoke track on their phone. Individuals will also do a short, unrehearsed reading and learn and perform a short dance. Kids who audition are encouraged to wear comfortable clothes and shoes that they can dance in.

No previous experience is required, and no commitments are made by auditioning. Masking is optional, and social distancing will be in effect. Youth who are busy or not feeling well on the audition nights are encouraged to email theater.aspi@gmail.com for instructions on how to submit a video audition.

Children who feel a little shy about performing are invited to help behind the scenes. Email volunteers.aspi@gmail.com for information.

Rehearsals are tentatively

planned for 5-8 p.m. Sundays and 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays starting the first week of January. Not everyone will be required to be at every rehearsal. However, all cast is required to participate in all performances and attend rehearsals the weeks of Feb. 20 and Feb. 27.

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast Jr." is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

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Wine lounge coming to downtown Shawano

City offers loan, grant to Stock Market for expansion plans

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The Stock Market is accelerating its 10-year plan to expand its business footprint with plans to purchase the building currently occupied by Warren Nett and start up Shawano's first wine lounge.

Chelsea Gilling, one of the owners, announced the plans at the Dec. 8 Shawano Common Council meeting as she was seeking approval of a development agreement that would allow the purchase of the building, which houses both the Stock Market and Warren Nett currently. The agreement would allow the city to offer an \$80,000 grant and a \$200,000 low-interest loan through one of its tax-increment finance districts.

"The wine lounge is something that's totally foreign to us in the sense that we haven't done anything like that before," Gilling said. "It really does coincide, hand in hand, with all the things we're already doing at the Stock Market."

City Administrator Eddie Sheppard told the council that the city has been working with Gilling and Abby Wallrich, the other owner, for months on the Stock Market development agreement. The agreement was recommended by the city's Redevelopment Authority, but it also has been discussed by the finance committee and the industrial and commercial development committee, according to Sheppard.

"They've taken on quite the project," he said. "They're very detailed in the presentation to city staff."

Sheppard noted that the building is currently worth about \$190,000, according to an assessment from this year, but the renovation work could put the building's value between \$480,000 and \$600,000. Gilling and Wallrich are putting almost \$865,000 of work into the project, he said.

"This is one of those projects similar to Cornerstone Chiropractic, where a financial institution is only going to be able to finance so much,



Chelsea Gilling, co-owner for the Stock Market, tells the Shawano Common Council on Dec. 8 about plans for a new wine lounge in the facility current occupied by Warren Nett.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

because they're going to look at that ratio of value to what they're actually getting," Sheppard said. "To complete that project, there needed to be an additional finance source."

Alderdwoman Sandy Steinke, who has patronized the Stock Market, said the expansion is sorely needed.

"You need more room," Steinke said.

Gilling noted that the expansion will allow customers to enter from the rear of the building, where the city's parking lot is located, instead of requiring those who can't find a spot on the streets to walk around the building to patronize the business.

In response to a council question, Gilling noted there would not be tastings like one would experience at a winery. The lounge will be self-serve, where patrons can use an electronic key card to receive the wine they want, and then the tab is paid for after, according to Gilling.

"We toured all the ones in Wisconsin and also Chicago," she said. "We will have 20 wines on tap. You select a taste, a half-pour or a full-pour. You put your wine glass under the spigot, and it dispenses via a card you get when you come in."

There will also be eight liquors on tap for patrons, ranging from bourbon to gin and other items.

"Lots of furniture and dark walls — basically, it's going to be a loungey vibe," Gilling said. "It's very different from what the Stock Market currently looks like. It'll be modern and sleek and dark."

Mayor Bruce Milavitz expressed enthusiasm for the new venture.

"This is going to be something Shawano has never seen before," Milavitz said.

The Stock Market owners plan to close on the building by Jan. 3, and renovation work is expected to start that same week. Work on the Stock

Market itself will be completed in mid-March, while the wine lounge should be finished in mid-April, according to Gilling. A grand opening is planned for around Memorial Day, as she is expecting that it will take some time to get everything organized for a proper opening.

"Right now, we're dotting all of our I's and crossing all of our T's, and it's amidst our busiest season, so it's a little crazy right now," Gilling said. "It's going to happen fast."

Gilling, a Shawano native, expressed her gratitude to the city for working with her to make a 10-year plan possible in four years.

"We are so appreciative to be in such a wonderful community. You know how much I love Shawano," Gilling said. "This really did start as a hobby that really became a lot more than that in many wonderful ways."

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

"It's very different from what the Stock Market currently looks like. It'll be modern and sleek and dark."

CHELSEA GILLING, co-owner for the Stock Market

Waking Women joins fight against MMIW



Kristin Welch, Waking Women Health Institute executive director, speaks at the Bridge Lighting and National Day of Awareness ceremony in Oshkosh on May 5.

CONTRIBUTED

Institute looking out for women, children, two-spirits, along with families and sexual assault survivors

By **LYNN ZAFFRANN**
Correspondent

The issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) is a community-wide problem, not just focused on the reservations in the Shawano area.

“More than 70% of Indigenous people live in cities rather than on reservations,” said Kristin Welch, executive director of Waking Women Health Institute in Gresham.

Welch has been involved in working with Indigenous survivors of sexual violence for more than eight years. A survivor herself, she founded the institute one year ago. The institute serves missing Indigenous women, girls and two-spirits (LGBTQ-identified persons), along with families

of missing and murdered Indigenous women and survivors of sexual violence.

The institute partners locally with Shawano-area programs to increase awareness of the Indigenous identity and cultural tools for healing.

“It’s all over Shawano County. Women have gone missing here, which makes it everyone’s issue to get involved in,” Welch said. “For example, we reached out to SAM25 in Shawano because there is a huge Indigenous population at that homeless shelter. We were able to provide training on MMIW for them. We work with non-Indigenous agencies to provide training, for example what to do if someone goes missing, or how to best work with Indigenous survivors. We do a lot of public action events to cre-

ate education and awareness throughout the Great Lakes regions.”

In June, the institute partnered on the Billboard Event in Appleton to raise awareness of MMIW with Empowerment Solidarity Truth Hope Equity Reform, an interfaith social-justice organization in the Fox Valley.

“With that, we held a press conference and a gathering, and engaged local leaders in that community to do something (about MMIW), as well,” Welch said.

The billboard campaign seeks to raise awareness of the high numbers of MMIW and the lack of attention to missing women of color.

Before she founded Waking Women, Welch worked in prevention, healing and wraparound work with women and children, hearing their

stories of surviving violence and realized their stories were her stories. She founded the institute to be a survivor-led organization to create a place of learning and healing through kinships with Indigenous women, using their culture and traditional ways.

The term “Waking Women” comes from Welch’s own experience. She explained that she came from a place of trauma and domestic violence, then arrived at a place of healing, and when she found her voice, it was like waking up.

“Watching other women on that same path and seeing them wake up,” Welch said. “Using your own story for change can be really powerful to help other survivors” she added.

Referrals to the institute come from partner agencies, and many survivors

vors involved with the institute refer others through word of mouth. Online forums on social networking sites, such as Twitter, also advertise the services provided by the institute. The institute website, www.waking-womenhealing.org, was created by Welch to provide information about its services and goals.

Welch said a big piece in founding the institute was to ensure that it would be culturally connected to Indigenous traditions, to help survivors heal and cope in the Indigenous ways.

"All of our programs are founded on our culture, on our teachings and try to connect with the land again and have a healthy relationship with her, and that is guided by our grandmothers," Welch said.

The institute has a Grandmothers Council, following traditional structures.

"We've got experienced grandmothers that we look to in making sure that we're not creating something that will re-traumatize the survivors or their families," Welch said. "They help us facilitate a lot of the work."

Survivors are able to work with experienced staff and volunteers of the institute virtually in Talking Circle sessions on Zoom. Other online forums include family members discussing their experiences, education on how to prevent MMIW and discussions about issues that have led up to the MMIW epidemic. An ongoing survivor group offered by the institute is "We Are Brave" for women of all ages who identify as survivors and for MMIW family members.

The healing and prevention team with the institute helps families seek justice for their lost or murdered relatives. Another team is the care and response team consisting of commu-

nity organizers, legal experts, traditional Indigenous knowledge holders, trauma workers and survivors. The team provides free help to navigate the justice system, financial assistance and fundraising help.

The institute has major goals for the next year.

"One is to get a physical space with land for our program," Welch said. "We are looking for something central, like Gresham, because we serve Menominee and Oneida. We're hoping to find something private, by the water. That would be the dream. It would be multi-purpose, with office space and housing available."

Welch also serves as a member of the Wisconsin Department of Justice Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force. The task force is creating methods to trace the abduction, homicide, violence and trafficking of Indigenous women in Wisconsin, with goals of uncovering the causes.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology awarded Welch and the institute a 2021 Indigenous Communities Fellowship for focusing healing and justice for Missing, Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit. They will partner with MIT through May 2022 to combine technology and culture to prevent MMIW.

The mother of three girls and one son, Welch said: "I work for them so that our younger girls don't have to go through what we went through, that they don't have to experience violent relationships and the injustices that happen with that. I think that's the ultimate goal, to have them grow up in a space where they don't know about MMIW. So that they don't know someone who was missing or murdered, so that they don't have to experience that violence themselves."



Renee Gralewicz, MMIW helper with Waking Women Health Institute, holds a sign to draw attention to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women epidemic during the Bridge Lighting and National Day of Awareness ceremony in Oshkosh on May 5.

KRISTIN WELCH

NOTICE

Early Christmas Deadlines

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WILL BE CLOSED

Friday, December 24th

Regular business hours will resume Monday.

Special Holiday Advertising Deadlines for:

Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
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SHAWANO LEADER

Bridge the Gap holds holiday celebration



ABOVE: Visitors to Shawano Lake County Park's pavilion peruse numerous raffle items Dec. 12 during the Bridge the Gap holiday fundraiser. The event helps the organization to work with people living on the autism spectrum.

LEFT: Jacob Van Dornick, 10, of Oconto Falls, tells Santa Claus what he wants for Christmas on Dec. 12 at Shawano Lake County Park during the Bridge the Gap holiday fundraiser.

BELOW: The musical group Back When performs holiday songs for those in attendance Dec. 12 at the Bridge the Gap holiday fundraiser held at Shawano Lake County Park.



PHOTOS BY LEE PULASKI • CITY EDITOR

Lena resident changes life from reading Bible

Alex Popovich helping to spread Jehovah's Witnesses message of hope to community members

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

One Oconto County resident has turned his life around after looking to the Bible for help.

Lena resident Alex Popovich grew up in Illinois, where he was introduced to drugs in his youth.

"At a young age, I started to get involved with drugs," said Popovich. "At the age of 10, I started sniffing glue and from there, it escalated to everything that I could get my hands on to get high."

Popovich called his involvement with drugs and getting in trouble with the law part of his life when he was young.

During the time, Popovich said that he wasn't very religious. He added that when problems appeared in his life he would look to drugs to cope.

"I had no purpose in life," said Popovich. "I was consumed with drugs; my goal was to get high."

Life changed for Popovich after a childhood friend of his came to his house and talked to him about the Bible as a Jehovah's Witness.

"He asked if I would study the Bible with him," said Popovich. "I initially laughed at him, because I grew up with him. I said, 'You are a friend of mine, so I will study with you.' After his persistence, something clicked and I could see the things that were going on in the world were fulfilling Bible prophecies, so I made changes."

Popovich said that as he continued to study the Bible and became a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses, he found a new way to cope with problems that would arise in his life.

"Now, I pray to the creator for his strength," said Popovich. "I read his Bible, meditate and try to apply what I read to my problems."

Popovich now feels that he has a purpose in life.

"I have hope; I have a relationship with my creator," said Popovich. "If problems come up, I have a plan to cope with them."

When Popovich was introduced to the Bible, he said that his life changed.

"I stopped associating with my friends, who were druggies," said Popovich. "I would set goals for myself — things like stop taking heroin, stop taking acid, and eventually with



Jennifer, left, and Alex Popovich read the Bible together as they work on writing letters and making phones calls to help spread the word of God.

CONTRIBUTED

God's help, I was able to succeed."

Popovich offered up advice for people who may be dealing with a similar situation that he was in.

"In God's word, the Bible can truly help an individual," said Popovich. "Everyone has problems in life, but there are answers in God's word. The things that we see going on today can be troubling, but we can look to God's word for help."

He added that he is still dealing with problems that stemmed from his early life.

"It is a continuous struggle," said Popovich. "You have to keep focused. It is a constant battle in the world. You just need to apply the basics — prayers, reading God's word, meditation and following the word."

Popovich's story is just one example of the Jehovah's Witnesses theme of "a better world is near" in November. Popovich said that he and his wife have been taking part in that campaign by writing letters and making phone calls to communicate with those in the community.

"I enjoy helping others and talking to people about our creator," said Popovich.

U.S. Jehovah's Witnesses spokesman Robert Hendriks III said that the theme of a better world is near is to give hope to those who are struggling with problems today.

"Only 32% of people in country think that tomorrow will be a better day for the children," said Hendriks. "About 50% of people don't want to bring children into the world."

Hendriks said that these current problems can stem into other problems, including crime and dissension among people and communities.

"When we are talking about a better world ahead, we are talking about something bigger than political movements or organizational movements," said Hendriks.

He added that problems like war, losing trust in the government and COVID-19 have worked to heighten that sense of hopelessness in the country.

"A majority of people in this

country have not lived a year without war," said Hendriks. "People cannot define what the American dream means anymore."

Hendriks said that the meaning of a better world is near is the end of a system that is in place in the world.

"When you think about what is going on today, the problem is not our Earth. The problem is the tenet of that Earth," said Hendriks. "Those who are righteous will walk from one system to the next."

He said that this campaign has a positive effect on the Jehovah's Witnesses community.

"It keeps us busy, doing work that is good," said Hendriks. "To bring a message of comfort and hope to people, it brings us happiness and joy."

Hendriks said that has been proved with Popovich as he has made his life better by helping to spread that message of hope.

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County Road HHH reopens



County Road HHH in Shawano over the Shawano creek was closed for utility work on Nov. 29, and reopened Dec. 13. Utility companies are moving their facilities that will be impacted by the bridge replacement in July.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Sacred Heart takes its pulse



Sacred Heart Catholic School student Sydney Mitchell, left, checks vitals on her classmate, Robin Walby. For five weeks, Sacred Heart's middle school students were given basic first aid instruction in their elective class. They learned CPR, how to treat for shock, how to use a tourniquet, how to assess a patient and emergency situation awareness. They ended the class with a tour of the Shawano Ambulance Service. Sacred Heart school officials felt it was important that each middle school student learn these life-saving skills.

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Mailbox for Santa letters donated



Sharon Wussow, of Bonduel, stands with the Letters to Santa mailbox that she recently donated to Bonduel Elementary School. There are only a few days left until Christmas arrives, so children are encouraged to get their letters out soon.

CONTRIBUTED

VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER

The Village of Lena (Pop. 563) located in Oconto County, is seeking an experienced professional to fill the position of Village Clerk/Treasurer.

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Church gives love, blankets to parade victims



Sacred Heart Catholic School had almost two dozen students and staff members participate in its Jerseys for Jackson Movement on Dec. 3. Participants wore baseball-themed jerseys or polo shirts to honor Jackson Sparks, an 8-year-old boy who was killed Nov. 21 when a sport utility vehicle crashed into the crowd at Waukesha's annual Christmas parade.

CONTRIBUTED



Sacred Heart Catholic School students, from left, Jacoby Grignon, Logan Frechette and Lane Bruncker work Dec. 13 to piece together tie blankets to be sent to children still recovering from the Waukesha parade crash that killed six people and injured more than 60 others.

CONTRIBUTED



Paula Kunder, a second grade teacher at Sacred Heart Catholic School, helps students Mechalea Jaros, Cora Pieper, Emily Ciboski and Anahkosaeh Grignon assemble a tie blanket on Dec. 13. The second and fifth grade classes at Sacred Heart worked together to make tie blankets for the children still in the hospital as a result of the Waukesha parade incident. The blankets were created with love, prayer and well-wishes for a full recovery and will be delivered to the families by Lori Mathwich, Sacred Heart's student services coordinator, who has helped organize the school's efforts for these families.

CONTRIBUTED

Tavern league reschedules Coats for Kids distribution

Coats for Kids was due to distribute warm clothing to those in need last week, the same as the program

does each year, but a winter storm that dumped 10 inches in the area forced a change in those plans.

The Shawano County Tavern League, which sponsors the Coats for Kids program, will instead be distrib-

uting coats from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 17 at Peace United Church of Christ, 208 E. Maurer St., Shawano.

CLUB NOTES

Sobecks honored with Lions Community Service Award

Dan and Joan Sobeck were presented the Lena Lions Community Service Award by Lena Lion President Lisa Misco during the club's annual Christmas banquet at the Holiday Inn Kelly Lake.

The award was in appreciation for their hard work and dedication to their family farm business, and the support the family farm has given to the Lena Lions Club in sponsoring ads for the Lena Lions fish fry and Dairy Fest in September, as well as for donating to the purchase of ice cream that is a complimentary treat enjoyed by many at Dairy Fest.

Dan grew up on his family's dairy farm in Lena. He graduated from Lena High School, then farmed with his parents. Joan also

grew up on her family's farm in Beaver. She graduated from Coleman High School.

Dan and Joan have been married for 51 years and are members of St. Anne Parish in Lena. They have three children, Randy and his wife Amy, Tim and his wife Jody, and Chrissy and her husband Jamie Demmuth. The family includes eight extraordinary grandchildren.

The Sobeck family farm is located east of Lena on Jagiello Road. The family formed an LLC in 2000, and later their sons, Randy and Tim, purchased the farm. Dan still helps on the farm daily and Joan does the bookwork and helps her grandsons feed calves. Producing high-quality milk is the family's goal.



Dan and Joan Sobeck, left, are presented the Lena Lions Service Award by Lena Lion President Lisa Misco.

CONTRIBUTED

Christmas cantata returns to Gillett

'Clock Church' hosts performances

For the first time in two years, there will be a Christmas cantata at St. John's Lutheran Church (the "Clock Church") at 101 W. Main Street in

Gillett.

An ecumenical choir will present a 45-minute musical celebration of "Christmas in His Presence" with singers and narration at four performances, two before Christmas: 7 p.m. Dec. 17 and 7 p.m. Dec. 21. After Christmas there will be performances at 7 p.m. Dec. 29 and a final perfor-

mance at 2 p.m. Jan. 2.

There is no charge for admission but a free-will offering will be accepted. A dessert reception follows each performance. St. John's Lutheran is handicapped accessible to all.

Featured are Nathaniel Byers, Micki Carlson, Brenda Danielson, John Darga, Judy Darga, Anita Grazia-

no, Mandy Holmes, Darlene Kapelke, Patti Konkle, Bobbie Olshesky, Joe Quade, Heidi Schindel, Patty Stabbe, Claudette Tipton, Chique Tousey-Tabar, Mark Vorpahl, Wendy Vorpahl, Cathy Wocking, Sandy Wright, Doug Yahnke, Alex Young and Rick Zill. Wayne Strei directs and sound is by Dan Wright.

Youth to audition for Beauty and the Beast Jr.

Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. will bring a Disney musical to life with its junior performance of "Beauty and the Beast."

"Beauty and the Beast" is the story of an arrogant prince cursed to become a terrifying beast unless he finds true love. The production is directed by Elizabeth Jolly, and show dates are March 3-6 and March 10-13.

The musical calls for a variety of roles, both male and female, 18 years old (must be in high school) and under. Auditions are scheduled 6-8

p.m. Dec. 28-29 at the Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St., Abrams.

Those wishing to audition should prepare to sing 16-32 bars of a song from a musical (not "Beauty and The Beast"). They may sing a cappella or play a karaoke track on their phone. Individuals will also do a short, unrehearsed reading and learn and perform a short dance. Kids who audition are encouraged to wear comfortable clothes and shoes that they can dance in.

No previous experience is required, and no commitments are made by auditioning. Masking is optional, and social distancing will be in effect. Youth who are busy or not feeling well on the audition nights are encouraged to email theater.aspi@gmail.com for instructions on how to submit a video audition.

Children who feel a little shy about performing are invited to help behind the scenes. Email volunteers.aspi@gmail.com for information.

Rehearsals are tentatively planned

for 5-8 p.m. Sundays and 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays starting the first week of January. Not everyone will be required to be at every rehearsal. However, all cast is required to participate in all performances and attend rehearsals the weeks of Feb. 20 and Feb. 27.

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast Jr." is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

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Fundraiser gathers over \$5K for students



Gillett Secondary School senior Macy Franti, kneeling and holding a basketball, put together a fundraiser that raised more than \$5,500 this month in Gillett.

CONTRIBUTED

Gillett's Macy Franti spearheads event

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

A fundraising event put together by Gillett Secondary School senior Macy Franti helped raise \$5,542 for students between Gillett and Lena.

Franti came up with the idea in her agriculture career planning class, which spends a day each week packing meals that are sent home with Gillett students every weekend.

"I saw the abundance of need within our school and took action to raise money to support students," she said.

The fundraiser took place Dec. 9, when the Gillett girls basketball team hosted Lena. Franti is a part of the Gillett varsity team.

T-shirt purchases, bucket raffles, a 50/50 raffle and cash donations resulted in \$5,542 being raised. "We pre-sold 125 T-shirts and had 71 baskets donated for the raffle," said

Franti.

The money raised will be split evenly between the two schools.

"I asked Lena to collaborate on this project because they are such a kind and generous community," said Franti. "I know many people from Lena, and they are always the best company."

It took about a month for Franti to plan and organize the event.

"At times it was stressful, but the outcome was 100% worth it," said Franti. "Community members exceeded my expectations with their love, support and generosity. It was truly a blessing to see everyone come together to make a difference, especially after the past two chaotic years. It made my heart happy. I'm very grateful for all the people that helped me turn my dreams into realities, especially my parents. They have always supported me and I know they were proud to see this project take off."

Gillett library to host 'Santa's Wonderland' Sunday

Santa Claus is the featured guest at "Santa's Winter Wonderland" from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Gillett Library Community Center, 204 E. Main St., Gillett.

The event includes games for the kids, music, activities, sweets and treats. The public is invited to join for caroling from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

For information, call the Gillett Public Library at 920-855-6224.

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Lena surges past Suring in M&O matchup

8 Wildcats score in win

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Lena High School girls basketball team overcame a slow start and controlled the second half on its way to a 47-33 Marinette & Oconto Conference win over Suring on Dec. 6 in Lena.

Suring scored 14 of the game's first 20 points before Lena took control. The Wildcats ended the first half on a 10-5 run to make it a three-point game at halftime.

The Wildcats carried the momentum over into the second half, outscoring Suring 31-14 over the final 18 minutes of play.

"Definitely our communication and our confidence," said Lena junior Natalie McNurlen on how the team got things turned around. "Just keeping pretty much in touch (close) with them the whole time. We really wanted this win and we took it."

"I think we all just started believing in each other. We all knew we could work together and build that team bond," said junior Chaela Rabas. "But we knew that if we did our plays correctly and broke down their defense, we knew we could get inside and get easy baskets and I think that's how we won today."

It was Rabas who kept the Wildcats within striking distance most of the first half, as she was the only Wildcat over two points in the half. She tallied seven of her team-leading 10 points in the opening half.

McNurlen had Lena's first two baskets in the second half, giving Lena a 20-19 lead. Junior Aspen Magee added a basket about three minutes into the half to push the lead to three.

Suring had the next two buckets, as junior MacKenzie Bailey and senior Macyn Garrigan scored, but Lena had the next five points to go up 27-23.

After Suring junior Christine Sleeter scored after grabbing an offensive rebound, Lena went on a 15-4 run to pull away. Sleeter picked up her fourth foul with 8:04 to play, and the visitors were outscored 9-0 over the



Lena's Breanna Koslowsky, right, goes up for a shot as Suring's Christine Sleeter, left, and Macyn Garrigan, back, defend during a M&O clash on Dec. 6 in Lena.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

next five-plus minutes.

The Lena 15-4 run started with junior Claire Brooks hitting two free throws before sophomore Whitney Potter tallied the team's next six points. Rabas and McNurlen also tallied points during the surge before freshman Eva Brooks scored a few points to seal up the win.

The balanced scoring output showed up in the final box score, as eight Wildcats scored.

"We've been having trouble scoring, each of us, like it's been more individual," said McNurlen, who had nine points. "I'm just glad players off the bench got to score, everybody on the team pretty much scored. It was very evenly distributed."

"It's really nice being able to not feel all the pressure and being able to look to our other teammates and know that they are going to have our backs,"

said Rabas.

Suring had seven different players score in the contest, but no player had more than six points.

Sleeter, senior Kate Mahoney and junior Macie Reed all tallied six points for Suring, which made just four of its 11 free-throw attempts.

In its 14-6 run to open the game, several Eagles scored. Reed got the scoring started before freshman Birdee Cramer hit a shot to force a Lena timeout. Bailey, Cramer and Reed added baskets on a 6-0 run to make it a 10-4 lead.

Mahoney hit the team's lone 3-pointer, giving the Eagles a 17-8 advantage, but the next time the visitors scored was over six minutes later.

"Kind of their defense a little bit," said Mahoney on what changed after the strong start to the game. "We weren't ready for them to pack the

ONLINE

This week's high school highlights can be found at www.newmedia-wi.com

lane that much. And then when we'd pass it around the perimeter, we'd kind of wait a little bit, so we didn't get those open looks outside and they weren't falling for us tonight either. So when we did get looks, they weren't falling for us."

Suring 19 14 — 33

Lena 16 31 — 47

Lena (47): Natalie McNurlen 1-2 9, Eva Brooks 1-2 7, Aspen Magee 0-0 2, Claire Brooks 2-2 6, Breanna Koslowsky 0-2 2, Whitney Potter 3-4 9, Chaela Rabas 3-4 10, Roslyn Kramer 0-0 2.

Suring (33): Kate Mahoney 3-4 6, MacKenzie Bailey 0-2 4, Bunny Cramer 1-2 5, Macie Reed 0-0 6, Christine Sleeter 0-3 6, Harlee Wolf 0-0 2, Macyn Garrigan 0-0 4.

ATHLETE PROFILE: ALEXIS EUCLIDE

Senior trying to lead team to goals

The Oconto Falls High School girls basketball team is eyeing a top-three finish in the tough North Eastern Conference. Senior Alexis Euclide is a leader for the Panthers in their quest.

Euclide is coming off a junior season in which she made the all-conference second team.

So far this season, she's leading the team in scoring and contributes in other areas as well.

In a season-opening win over Menominee Indian on Nov. 18, Euclide tallied 12 points and 11 rebounds, while leading the team with four assists and five steals. She tallied 23 points, eight steals and four assists in a win over Clintonville on Nov. 23.

Euclide posted 16 points and three steals in a loss to Freedom on Dec. 2.

Q: When did your interest in basketball begin?

A: My interest in basketball started when I was just in kindergarten. My dad (John) took me to an open gym where he was playing with his friends and I just always seemed to have that interest in the back of my mind. I didn't start playing until I was in fourth grade.

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

A: My favorite part about the basketball season is running out for warmups and feeling the atmosphere around me throughout the entire game. Nothing feels better than getting a bad call and having the entire crowd try to back you up.

Q: What has the game of basketball taught you over the years?

A: Basketball has taught me drive and the tools to have a good mentality. Over the years I have struggled with a negative mentality and it has taught me how to push through and overcome that for the sake of myself and my team.

Q: Do you have any individual goals you want to accomplish in



Oconto Falls' Alexis Euclide dribbles the ball during a game against Freedom on Dec. 2 in Oconto Falls.

MICHELLE KONOP

your senior season?

A: I would love to score 1,000 career points, but that is a very big goal that I am content with not happening. I would have to play every game from here on out and average about 22 points a game. Something that seemed possible at the beginning of the season seems very hard to reach now, but I am still going to strive to reach that goal.

Q: What are some of the team's goals this winter, and what needs to happen in order to achieve the goals?

A: One of our team goals is to be top three in the conference. Since we were ranked fifth this year, the only way to prove that is to show it with winning games. As a team, we just need to focus and know our capabilities and prove the rankings wrong.

Q: You're off to a strong start scoring this season. As teams try to deny you from scoring, what can you do to keep finding success?

A: I'm going to run into a game where I will barely score, but what I can do is just stay mentally positive and do everything else right. Even if I can't score, my team still needs me present in the game but if I stay positive scoring opportunities will come.

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

A: I don't have any specific rituals, but I do find myself falling within the same basic routine. Eat a good meal the night before, watch film, eat a good breakfast in the morning, get through all my classes while eating a good lunch. When school is over, I zone in and gameplan with my teammates,

AT A GLANCE

ATHLETE: Alexis Euclide

SPORT: Basketball

POSITIONS: Guard

SCHOOL: Oconto Falls High School

YEAR: Senior

relax, listen to music and just get myself and my teammates hyped up for the game while making sure we are all mentally ready.

Q: As a senior, how do you try and help lead the team?

A: As a senior, I advocate for my team when they have concerns. On the court I make sure I know everyone's position including mine so I can answer any questions any one of my teammates might have. I lead by example putting in just as much energy in practice as in games.

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

A: Making a game-winning buzzer beater in a home game my sophomore year. Having my team and crowd cheer as loud as they did was a feeling I will never forget.

Q: Favorite movie, TV show and musical artist?

A: Movie — Any Johnny Depp movie. TV show — "Stranger Things." Musical artist — Post Malone.

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

A: My favorite hobby outside of sports is knitting and crocheting. I am self taught and over the years I have grown a huge stash of yarn.

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

A: I hope to be playing college basketball while pursuing my college degree. Any business/management/construction degree so I can circle back to the construction trade after college.

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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Eagles' Waukau headed to Bryant & Stratton

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Menominee Indian High School senior Wendell Waukau Jr. signed a National Intent of Intent to play baseball at Bryant & Stratton College on Nov. 18.

"Signing on Nov. 18 was by far the biggest accomplishment I've ever received," said Waukau. "Not only did I have the honor to sign, but I had all my friends and family behind me, supporting me and my big decision."

"Most athletes hard work goes unrecognized — the countless hours spent working on your craft or even the failures that you've learned from. I believe that if you keep your focus on what you want, and outwork who

you were yesterday, anything can be achieved."

Waukau has been a reliable player for the high school team over his high school career. He landed on the all-conference honorable mention team in the Central Wisconsin Conference-East Division as a freshman, and then made the second team in his junior season.

Having now confirmed his future baseball plans, Waukau is hoping to make his senior season his best one yet.

"Signing before my senior baseball season brings a lot of new expectations for myself," said Waukau. "I believe that there is always room for improvement, and that no matter how hard you work, there is always

someone working twice as hard."

"With this being my final season as a Menominee (Indian) Eagle, I plan to push my team and myself to our best abilities. I have a lot left to prove. I can't wait to get back out on the diamond and compete like I've never done before."

Along with his play on the high school varsity team, Waukau has been part of the Legion team over the summer, while also playing on a travel team through Impact Sports Academy, based out of De Pere.

Through his countless months on the field, Waukau has drawn interest from several colleges. He added that he reached out to several schools to let them know he had interest in playing at the next level.

Waukau said that Bryant & Stratton coach Alex Tomter reached out to him, and after talking several times, Waukau and his father took a visit.

"Throughout the process of the visit, I felt like it was a great fit, seeing the program that they had to offer for my intended major (physical therapy) was amazing," said Waukau.

"As for the baseball program, I believe that in these next few years we can make a big impact. Knowing that I have a lot of different teammates I've played with throughout my travel ball career made the fit feel a lot more comfortable. I can't wait to see what the future holds at BSC."

sports@newmedia-wi.com

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

Minnesota Crookston

Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School graduate Abi Fraaza continued to produce during her time on the floor for the Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team last week.

In a tight loss to Bemidji State on Dec. 7, Fraaza tallied seven points, two rebounds, two blocks and two steals in 20 minutes off the bench.

The freshman posted 11 points, four rebounds and two blocks in 20 minutes against Northern State on Dec. 10.

Fraaza led her team with 18 points in a loss to MSU-Moorhead on Dec. 13. She made six of her nine shot attempts and added two rebounds across 23 minutes.

Marian

Oconto Falls grad McKayla Goebel

ONLINE

More college highlights can be found at www.newmedia-wi.com.

played big minutes and started one game last week for the Marian University women's basketball team.

In a loss to St. Norbert on Dec. 7, Goebel played 19 minutes off the bench. She recorded four points, four rebounds, an assist and two steals.

Goebel started and played 26 minutes in a loss to Concordia Chicago on Dec. 11. She scored six points, grabbed four rebounds, dished out an assist and had two steals.

Saginaw Valley State

Shawano grad Tori DePerry put together a strong game to help lead the Saginaw Valley State women's basketball team to a win over Northwood on Dec. 9.

DePerry connected on six of her 11 shot attempts to score 12 points across 28 minutes. She also grabbed eight rebounds, blocked a shot and dished out three assists.

UW-Stevens Point

Shawano graduate Keith Tourtillott wrestled in three matches for the UW-Stevens Point wrestling team last week, going 2-1 in the 197 weight class.

He won 7-4 and 10-4 decisions and was defeated by major decision.

Concordia

Bonduel grads Kalleigh Schroeder and Derrick Folkman each competed for the Concordia University track and field team during the UW-Oshkosh Early Bird Invite on Dec. 11.

Schroeder was a part of the fifth-place finishing 4x400-meter relay team that had a time of 4 minutes,

34.87 seconds. Individually, she placed sixth in the triple jump with a top leap of 9.19 meters.

Folkman placed seventh in the men's 1-mile run with a time of 5:30.48.

Grand Canyon

Witt-Birn graduate Wyatt Dickman continued to get acclimated to his freshman season with the Grand Canyon University men's swim team while competing in a pair of meets over since the start of the month.

In a dual meet on Dec. 11, Dickman placed first in the 1,000-yard freestyle with a time of 9:51.88 and third in the 200 breaststroke (2:06.12).

At the Miami Invite that ran Dec. 2-4, Dickman placed fifth in the 200 breaststroke (2:04.49) and was on the seventh-place finishing 400 freestyle relay (3:07.44).



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Parents should be wary during holiday season

Before parents go and purchase new toys on their children's holiday lists, it's important to take a few extra steps of caution to prevent choking or injuries.

When purchasing a new toy, it's first and foremost important to double check to make sure the toy is appropriate for the age of the child. Some toys can come with small attachments that can be a choking hazard for children.

"Almost all toys have an age recommendation on the front or the back of the packaging," said Dr. Sneha Subbarayan, a pediatrician at Theda-Care Physicians Pediatrics-Neenah. "It can be easy to sometimes overlook those age recommendations, but for example, an infant should not play with a toy that has tiny pieces because they could easily put them in their mouth and cause harm or worse."

Parents should always read the labels and directions when putting together a toy and ensure the batteries cannot be easily removed. Button batteries also pose a choking risk to young children. If a child has ingested a button battery, call 911. A helpful tip for parents is to remember if the object is small enough to fit through a



SNEHA SUBBARAYAN

toilet paper tube, it can obstruct the airway of a child. It's also important to consider your child's temperament, habits and behavior whenever they receive a new toy.

"Some children may get easily frustrated with certain types of toys or activities," said Subbarayan. "If you think that might be a possibility for your child, offer other toys, or provide ways for them to engage in different types of healthy play."

Toys with smaller, removable parts should only be purchased for children aged 3 years and older. Toys that have loose strings, straps or cords longer than 7 inches should also be avoided for younger children.

"If you notice that a child is at risk while playing with a certain toy, remove it from them until they are older and can play safely," said Subbarayan. "It might be difficult in the moment when the child really wants the toy, but their safety is most important."

FYI

Dr. Sneha Subbarayan recommends keeping these additional safety tips in mind when it comes to decorating and preparing for the holidays with kids:

- If you have a real tree, make sure the tree stand is always filled with water so it does not dry out and create an increased risk of fire hazards.
- If you buy an artificial tree, be sure it's labeled "fire-retardant."
- Make sure the tree stand is flat on the ground and possibly anchored to a wall. The tree should be decorated to distribute the weight evenly.
- Keep breakable or hazardous decorations out of reach of children and secured to the wall.
- Do not leave children alone in a room with lighted candles, matches, lighters, fireplaces or any other sources of flame or heat.
- Use power strips with built-in circuit breakers and avoid putting too many plugs into one electrical outlet.
- Keep kids away from the oven while you bake or cook.
- Keep alcohol out of reach of children and be sure to clean leftover drinks right away.

Subbarayan also points out that if Santa brings your child a bike, scooter, skateboard or roller skates, don't forget a helmet and other protective gear.

There are several ways to deck the halls of the home to celebrate the joy of the season. Families should remember there are some decorations that should be hung with extra care, keeping little ones in mind.

"Children love to get involved and, as parents, we love seeing them engage in these fun family traditions," said Subbarayan. "It's important to only let kids decorate within their

reach with non-breakable items."

Some holiday decorations can also be poisonous for children and pets. Watch for plants like mistletoe, holly, poinsettias and amaryllis, which are all toxic if eaten. Keep them out of reach of young children. Caregivers can also check <https://www.poisn.org/articles/plant> for more information, or call Poison Control at 800-222-1222.

"The holidays are a great time to be with friends and family," Subbarayan said. "If we keep a close eye on our little ones, it will help us all enjoy the season."

NEW Media seeks participants for new food feature in 2022

NEW Media is planning to kick off a new feature in 2022 called "Inside the Kitchens of Northeast Wisconsin," which will feature local recipes and the cooks who craft them.

What makes this feature different from food features in other publications is that there is a detailed story where the focus is on the food itself and why it is enjoyed so much.

NEW Media is looking for those

who have an old family recipe that has been passed down from generation to generation that either still holds as true today as it did decades ago or has been tweaked to work with modern staples. Other potential stories include plans for a delicious meal, including several interesting dishes that others might enjoy putting together for their families, or someone who knows a variety of

ways to make something delicious (i.e., different ways to make grilled cheese sandwiches or different kinds of pie).

If there's an interesting story behind the food, NEW Media wants to know about it and share some joyous news with readers in Shawano, Menominee and Oconto counties. The recipes and cooks featured will appear in all three newspapers — Sha-

wano Leader, Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News, and Oconto County Times Herald, as well as online at www.newmedia-wi.com.

Anyone who wants to participate or has ideas on someone else who might make an interesting feature can contact City Editor Lee Pulaski at 715-526-2121, ext. 7021, or lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com with "Inside the Kitchens" as the subject header.



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CLUB NOTES

Shawano Area Writers

Shawano Area Writers met Nov. 19, in the Veslak room at Shawano Public Library at 10 a.m. There were nine members present: Lee Pulaski, Trudy Bosman, Tom Thorstenson, Twilla Beyer, John Mutter Jr., Irma Brunner, Wendy Goerl, Nick Wudtke and Barb King, along with one guest, Jill Brazgel.

King read the minutes from the October meeting. They were approved.

Mutter read the treasurer's report for November.

The first order of business was to find a new delegate to the chamber of commerce because Terry Misfeldt no longer could do it. Beyer volunteered and will be the new delegate.

Dennis Bohm will be the master of ceremonies at the children's writing program for 2022. Mutter wants to get an advertisement on the back of the bulletin.

The club voted to pay for the website that member Terra Fletcher had been paying for.

Brazgel started the readings by reading a poem named "Hope." She has a poetry blog entitled Poetic Journey.

Brunner recited the story of "His Grandpa's Violin" and at the end played the violin.

Goerl read "A Dream for the Novitiate." She would want the land to be preserved by building a historic

amusement park with vintage rides. It would be divided into sections: White City, Johnny's Homeland, Rocket Town, Digital Domain and the Mansion, which would be an event venue. Trudy Bosman's son owns the land and has other plans, but Bosman thought Goerl's idea was interesting.

Wudtke read the end of the first battle from the book "Parabolic, Magnetic Key."

Pulaski showed his latest two books published, "White Christmas in the Desert" and "Rural Roots and American Rainbows." He read a passage from "White Christmas in the Desert." Meldrick and his son, Evan, follow a hot air balloon and are offered a ride.

King read a chapter from the book "The Children in the Garden." Jillian signs the papers for ownership of the hoarder's house and meets the eccentric owner.

Bosman read the poem she read at her son's wedding Nov. 6.

Thorstenson read a short story about the town of Battlefield, Minnesota, where people disappear and the insides of the bodies are eaten and all that is left is skin, fat and bones.

The meeting was adjourned.

Club Notes are a service provided by NEW Media to keep the community informed on what local organizations are doing. Organizations interested in sending news about what they're doing can contact NEW Media at news@newmedia-wi.com.

COLLEGE NOTES

UW-La Crosse

Hunter VanDerLinden, of Bondel, completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in August.

VanDerLinden earned a Bachelor of Science in exercise and sport science.

Palmer College of Chiropractic

Issabella Stueck, of Clintonville, and Claire Tomashek, of Sobieski, have been named to the summer 2021 trimester dean's list at Palmer College of Chiropractic's main campus in Davenport, Iowa.

UW-Milwaukee

The following individuals are among more than 1,900 prospective candidates for degrees attending the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee virtual commencement exercises on Dec. 19 in Milwaukee.

• Shawano: Connor Angeli, College of Letters and Science, Bachelor of Arts; Michelle Koehler, School of Education, Master of Science.

Carthage College

Claire Guenther, of Shawano, participated in Carthage College's annual Christmas festival.

Yearly, Carthage College invites the community to celebrate the joy of the holiday season at the annual Carthage Christmas Festival, three performances of readings and music in the A. F. Siebert Chapel. These annual concerts are the college's Christmas gift to the community.

College Notes are a service provided by NEW Media to keep the community informed on what local high school graduates are achieving in their new educational surroundings. Colleges, tech schools and universities are invited to send educational news involving local residents to news@newmedia-wi.com.

WANTED: Correspondents

Are you interested in the issues and people in the community? Do you have a talent for writing and photography that you want to utilize in your spare time? Be a correspondent for a newspaper dedicated to providing local news first.

NEW Media seeks freelance correspondents to prepare feature stories, cover community and high school sports, cover meetings and cover events of local interest in Shawano, Oconto and Menominee counties for our online and print products. Self-starting correspondents have the opportunity to meet new people, learn about their communities and tell interesting stories to a broad audience. Correspondents must be able to take photos to accompany stories.

Send a cover letter detailing your writing experience and your fees, along with any clips you might have, to editor@newmedia-wi.com. Put "Correspondent" in the header.



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Friday, December 31st

Regular business hours will resume Monday.

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Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
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Wittenberg Enterprise	Fri., Dec. 31	Noon Wed., Dec. 22
Times Herald	Fri., Jan. 7	Noon Wed., Dec. 29
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OPINION

Rape kit legislation shouldn't be spin doctored

Senate Bill 71, now known as Wisconsin Act 116, is officially signed into law and will hopefully prevent any future backlog of rape kits in the state justice system. It also allows survivors of sexual assault to keep track of where those kits are in the process instead of waiting for years with no word about whether justice will ever come.

A Marion man was found guilty in 2019 for the sexual assault of a teenager in 2012, and the reason justice came seven years later was because Wisconsin had a backlog of rape kits totaling 6,800, and the rape kit for this case wasn't tested until 2017. Once the backlog became public knowledge, the issue became a political football that eventually was resolved with all the kits being processed. However, there was nothing in place to keep such a backlog from occurring again until Senate Bill 71 came along.

The Wisconsin Democratic Party jumped on the news about the bill being signed into law, crediting Gov. Tony Evers and Attorney General Josh Kaul for making this happen. The press release sent out to media highlighted quotes from both men from Up North News praising the legislation.

However, the press release fails to



LEE PULASKI

recognize that the bill was authored by Republican legislators, including our own Sen. Robert Cowles. In fact, SB 71 had 10 Republican sponsors in the Assembly and four in the Senate, while co-sponsorship from the Democratic side of the aisle was four members of the Assembly and only one in the Senate.

It's quite distasteful that the Democratic Party handlers are continuing to spin-doctor government acts to make it look like only their side is taking action. It continues to perpetuate the great divide affecting this state and the nation as a whole that one party is the saving grace that will deliver us from the darkness and the other party will bring about the end times and destroy humanity as a whole.

The press release also failed to note a quote from Democratic Sen. Melissa Agard from Madison that pointed out SB 71 was being moved forward from both sides of the aisle: "While it sometimes feels in this body and in this building that we're destined to continue operating solely

within our own parties, I am hopeful by what I see here today. We're showing our colleagues and other committees and in other bodies how it is we can do better."

Granted, we're approaching an election year, and since there are Republican majorities in both chambers, it behooves the Democratic Party to do what it can to get more of its own into legislative seats. However, taking full credit for something like this is exactly the kind of partisan idiocy that the regular folks of the state and country are tired of seeing. The main point of this legislation is that it will fast-lane efforts to pursue justice for those impacted by rape and sexual assault, and posturing should not be acceptable in the case of something like this.

In all fairness, the Republicans are not saints when it comes to moving the legislation forward. Similar legislation made it unanimously through the Senate and had 56 bipartisan sponsors in the Assembly before that chamber's GOP leaders decided to pad the bill with immigration and school choice legislation, which has nothing to do with testing rape kits. Thankfully, Republicans didn't try to pull such an asinine maneuver this time, and we now have a law on the books.

SB 71 should be an indication to both sides of the aisle that meaningful improvements to the state and how it's run can happen, and it all comes down to recognizing that there's a problem. Letting rape kits languish is something that should never have happened in Wisconsin, as it discourages victims from coming forward and telling what happened to law enforcement officials and allows perpetrators to continue committing crimes. Both Republicans and Democrats should be praised for putting safeguards into place to keep justice from being delayed.

Perhaps the Democratic Party — and the Republican Party, while it's at it — should retire their spin doctoring publicity juggernauts, because they're not doing anything to improve the state, and they're certainly not bringing people together. Further press releases like the one released this week only serve to divide and alienate, and we've had quite enough of that. Instead of pointing to the heroes, point to the good itself that's being done. At the end of the day, it doesn't matter who did it; it just matters that it got done.

Lee Pulaski is the city editor for NEW Media. Readers can contact him at lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Better to be cautious than allow tragedy

To the editor:

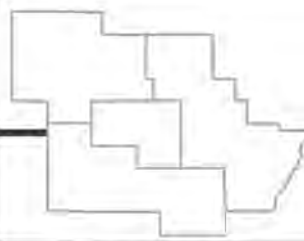
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Don't these people realize that if indeed these were the "worst case scenarios" rather than not, a tragedy could have been avoided?

Patricia A. Floyd, Shawano





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Erin Jahnke, Griffin Kopke, Kolten Krueger, Wyatt Laughrin, Madeline Maloney, Zaira Martinez, Jason Mendez, Miranda Metzler, McKenzie Miller, Jonathan Moody, Amber Otto, Thor Paneitz, Kylee Peterson, Kara Philhower, Orion Posusta, Aiden Reed, Evan Rennie, Emerson Rice, Jacob Sconzert, Santana Stimac, Nicholas Trepanier, Maci Tucker, Ashlyn Vandermoss, Olivia Wagner, Jaden Weslow, Conner Wilquet, Evan Yuma

HONORS

Seniors: Jacob Arndt, Elizabeth Ascher, Aspen Canavera, Brianna Delzer, Jamesen Engel, Alexis Euclide, Zachary Fonder, Torrence Fowler, Jaden Ganter, Cole Gilbert, Lillian Justice, Amber Krause, Logan LaPlant, Seymour, Nathan Lentz, Grace Oninski, Makayla Saindon, Taryn Shallow, Allissa Stimac, Gracie VanMeerBeek, John Wolford

Juniors: Britney Anderson, Ian Athey, Mathew Behnke, Sage Buhrandt, Madeline Devillers, Devon Dorn, Quinn Eisch, Grace Ferrecki, Fernanda Gonzalez, Kali Harvat, Jeffery Hicks, Carter Hill, Justin Hooker, Abigail Hughbanks, Antonio Impastato, Ryan Kaminecki, Jordan Kempke, Morgan Kluth, Logan Kramer, Lily Kurek, Anthony Leurquin, Savannah Long, Trevor Metzler, Morgan Miller, Miranda Milquette, Zachary Moody, Nevaeh Notz, Conner Pliss, Ethan Rennie, Alexander Roberts, Ella Saari, Brooke Senn, Aria Slade, Luke Trepanier, Madison Uelman, Cy Vizelka, Kody Vorpahl, Brookelyn Zadow

Sophomores: Amber Allen, Kennedy Angus, Jordan Angus, Grace Aprill, Connor Coffey, Alex Egan, Bailee Gorman, Jayce Greetan, Kady Harvat, Olivia Hutchinson, Evelyn Justice, Allie Kelter, Aaron Kramer, Jackson McDonald, Josephine Mills, Owen O'Harrow, Devon Pecor, Samuel Porterfield, Emily Rohde, Jesslyn Rose, Bryce Scheffore

Freshman: Akiane Athey, Trent Blazek, Abigail Budz, Henry Devillers, Jayden Dobizl, Cheyenne Flynn, Autumn Gable, Haley Huber, Arianna Impastato, Jesse Kasal, Arline Klimpe, Hailyn St Louis, Alexander Milquette, Danica Mommaerts, Sullivan O'Harrow, Alex Pecor, Parker Peterson, Colt Rhodes, Kady Riel, Ava Salscheider, Mary Schindler, Sawyer Steeno, Destiny Vandevoort

Lioness Club makes donations



The Oconto Falls Lioness Club recently made a \$1,000 donation to the Oconto County Sheriff's Department K-9 unit. Pictured are Lioness President Stephanie Holman, left, and Oconto County Sheriff Todd Skarban.

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4-H provides gifts for the needy



Morgan Badger 4-H Club members shop at Target on Nov. 28 to purchase Christmas gifts for families in need. Afterward, members met at Gallagher's Pizza to eat.

MIRANDA SEITZ

MAILBOX (Roadside Receptacles) REPLACEMENT POLICY

This policy addresses the Oconto County Highway Department's policy regarding mailboxes and roadside receptacles damaged as a result of Highway Department Operations.

Mailboxes and roadside receptacles are defined as any container used for the delivery of mail, newspapers, advertising circulars, or other printed material, along any County Trunk Highway right-of-way in Oconto County.

The mailbox or receptacle base shall be placed two feet from the back of the shoulder of the road; the box shall be 46 inches above the grade of the shoulder, and the front of the box shall not extend beyond the back of the shoulder of the road. The mailbox or receptacle base should be able to withstand flying snow and slush from traffic and snowplows.

According to the Division of Highways and Transportation Department there are several alternative methods for installing single mailboxes: An acceptable support for a mailbox includes wood posts 4" x 4" square or 4.5" in diameter. Soft metal conduits which are 1.5" to 2.5" in diameter are also acceptable. These supports should be embedded no more than 24" into the ground. There are additional support systems which allow the mailbox to swing if struck. On either of these two types of supports a mailbox may be mounted.

If a mailbox or receptacle base is damaged by flying snow or slush, **it will not** be replaced by the Highway Department. Any mailbox or base damaged by slush or heavy snow will be investigated by Highway Department staff.

If a mailbox is physically hit and damaged by a snowplow or other piece of equipment, it will be replaced with a metal or plastic box acceptable to the U.S. Postal Service. Decorative or other types of ornamental mailboxes will not be replaced in kind.

BY ORDER OF THE OCONTO COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Brandon Hytinen,
Highway Commissioner

WNAXLP

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NOTICE

Highway Obstructions in Oconto County

PUSHING SNOW OR OTHER MATERIALS ONTO OR ACROSS HIGHWAYS FROM PRIVATE DRIVEWAYS CAN CAUSE ACCIDENT AND DEATH, AND IS PROHIBITED BY WISCONSIN STATUTES 86.01, AND/OR 346.94 (5).

Obstruction of vision clearance triangles at intersections is prohibited by 86.022 of State Statutes and by Sections 14.410 of the County Zoning Ordinance. Placing mailboxes away from driveways and intersections helps to avoid vision-restricting snowbanks in late winter, and helps to avoid damage to your mailbox. The nearest part of your mailbox should not be closer to traffic than the shoulder line, with box and base strong enough to withstand wind, flying snow and slush from traffic and snowplows.

Avoid penalty and liability, and cooperate towards safer highways. The life you save may be your own. Oconto County Highway Department cooperates with the County Sheriff's Office, and the County Highway Safety Commission to enforce these laws.

BY ORDER OF THE OCONTO COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Brandon Hytinen,
Highway Commissioner

WNAXLP



SANDY

Meet Sandy. She is a 1 year old Pit mix with all the young puppy energy. She loves doing zoomies and playing with the staff. She absolutely loves her toys and would love a home that will spoil her!



HOLLY

Meet Holly. She is a 5 year old Plott Hound. Holly loves spending her days outdoors taking in all the fresh air! She has a friendly and calm personality. She would be perfect for a rural or barn lifestyle.



NELL

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LEBOWSKI

Meet Lebowski. He is a 2 year old kind boy looking for a home. He loves spending his days snuggled up in a cat bed. He would enjoy a calmer household and lots of time for attention.



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- Drug-drug interactions, or when two or more drugs react with each other.
- Discontinued medications still being dispensed.

If the strength of one of your medications changed, the previous prescription could still be on file at a different pharmacy and that old prescription could possibly get

refilled if or when you go back to that other location. By keeping your medications at one pharmacy, your pharmacist can reduce medication duplications, as well as catch any potential drug-drug interactions with both prescribed medications and over-the-counter medications.

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Another benefit of managing your medications at one pharmacy is having your full medications profile accessible to the pharmacist. This way it is easier for your pharmacist to assist you with questions you may have regarding your medications. It

can also allow your pharmacy to provide other services which may help manage your medications, such as medication therapy management, prescription delivery service or assisting in aligning your medication refills so they can be refilled around the same time.

If you are currently using multiple pharmacies, having all your prescriptions filled at one location is easy. The pharmacy you choose for your prescriptions will call the other pharmacy or pharmacies to transfer your prescription profile so it's all in one place. Your pharmacy can then fill all your medications that are eligible to be filled or refilled. If you have questions about this process, HSHS Pharmacy would be happy to assist you. Call or stop by either of our pharmacy locations:

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SPECIAL TEAMS WOES

Pack beat Bears, but special
teams a big cause for concern

PAGE 2

Green Bay Packers cornerback Rasul Douglas, left, celebrates as Chicago Bears quarterback Justin Fields looks on during the team's contest on Dec. 12 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

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Special teams mistakes could cost team game

Special teams has been a weakness for the Green Bay Packers all season, with an abysmal showing against the Chicago Bears providing the most recent examples of poor play.



MORGAN RODE

In the first half of the game alone, the Packers allowed a punt return of 34 yards and then a 97-yard punt return for a score, allowed kickoff returns of 40 and 42 yards, muffed a kickoff heading out of bounds

that led to the offense starting at its own 5-yard line and then booted the ball out of bounds on a kickoff.

Those mistakes helped the four-win Bears take a six-point lead into halftime and left little room for error in the second half.

The second half wasn't nearly as bad, but wasn't without special teams mistakes.

Punter Corey Bojorquez had a rare shank on a punt attempt, with the ball going just 22 yards. Rookie returner Amari Rodgers had a punt bounce off his facemask that the Bears recovered — the Packers were bailed out by a Bears' penalty on the play. Finally, receiver Marquez Valdes-Scantling wasn't able to handle an onside kick attempt, extending the time the Packers' defense had to be on the field.

"Certainly, special teams wasn't good enough," said coach Matt LaFleur.

Through all the miscues, Green Bay was still able to find a way to win. That can be attributed to a couple things.

For one, Green Bay's offense and defense made plays when they needed to. Really, the real reason Green Bay was still able to come out with a win is because of the opponent on the other sideline.

These kind of mistakes are what could keep the team from winning the Super Bowl this season. It's unlikely a team like the Arizona Cardinals or Tampa Bay Buccaneers turn the ball over three times like the Bears did, so it's time for the special teams unit to get its act cleaned up.

With its constant struggles this year, LaFleur was asked if a change



Green Bay Packers receiver Amari Rodgers carries the ball on a return during the team's win over the Chicago Bears on Dec. 12 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. The Packers' special teams struggled mightily in the contest and have been an issue all season.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

of special teams coordinator was the answer.

"Absolutely not," said LaFleur. "We got to continue to work. We got to look at the tape, we got to get things corrected. I'll be the first to tell you that yeah, is there some things that we have to clean up as coaches? No doubt about it, but we have to execute better as well."

Maurice Drayton is the team's special team coordinator. It is Drayton's first year as the coordinator after serving as an assistant special teams coach the past three seasons.

A change at any coaching position this late in the season is something you rarely see with a contending team, so any switches might not

take place until after the season.

Regardless of which coach is leading the unit, the play across all facets of special teams needs drastic improvement in the final four weeks.

Kicker Mason Crosby has struggled with field goal and extra point attempts this season, but knocked through all seven of his kicks on Sunday. He's struggled to produce touchbacks on kickoffs, which offers the opportunities for opponents to get some of those long returns.

The Packers have put several different players back to return punts and kicks, and each has struggled and failed to create big plays for the team. There's been multiple fumbles

on returns, but the Packers have avoided turnovers in most cases.

Green Bay's kickoff and punt coverage had been solid for most of the season before Sunday's debacle. The punt return for a touchdown was the first in the NFL this season.

What's alarming is for how little special teams are on the field during the course of a game, there's numerous examples of mistakes and miscues from every game.

At some point, those mistakes are going to cost the Packers a game, or end the team's season, so you can bet special teams will be a focal point at practice from this point forward.

Morgan Rode is the sports editor for NEW Media. Readers can contact him at sports@newmedia-wi.com.

KEYS TO THE GAME

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

The Green Bay Packers (10-3) will travel to face the Baltimore Ravens (8-5) at 3:25 p.m. Sunday at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore. FOX will televise the game.

History

The Packers lead the series 4-2, though the Ravens have outscored them 135-108. The teams last met in 2017 at Lambeau Field. With Aaron Rodgers out with a broken collarbone and Brett Hundley throwing three interceptions, the Ravens won 23-0.

Green Bay won its last trip to Baltimore, 19-17 in 2013. Rodgers threw a 64-yard touchdown pass to Jordy Nelson in the third quarter and Mason Crosby made four field goals.

Coaches

Green Bay – Matt LaFleur, 36-9, third season. Baltimore — John Harbaugh, 137-84, 14th season.

When the Packers have the ball

With Aaron Rodgers throwing 10 touchdown passes over the last three weeks, the Packers' offense is on a roll. However, it could be tough sledding against a Ravens defense that has given up 89 points the last five weeks.

The Ravens are ninth with 21.9 points allowed per game. They are dominant against the run, ranking first in rushing yards allowed per game (85.5) and fourth in rushing yards allowed per attempt (3.94).

With premier cornerback tandem Marcus Peters and Marlon Humphrey having suffered season-ending injuries, the Ravens are 31st in passing yards per game (266.1), 30th in passing yards per attempt (7.44) and 28th in interception percentage (1.29). The saving grace has been a stout red-zone defense that has allowed a touchdown rate of 48.4 percent, third-best in the league.

Coordinator Don "Wink" Martindale operates out of a 3-4 defense.

The front of Calais Campbell, Brandon Williams and Justin Madubuike is no joke. At age 35, the six-time Pro Bowler Campbell remains a high-quality player. While he's not the guy who had 26 sacks with Jacksonville in 2017 and 2018, he's the unit's best player. He has only 1½ sacks but is fourth on the team with 11 quarterback hits.

Justin Houston and Tyus Bowser are the starting outside linebackers. Houston, who was a star at Kansas City when Green Bay's Mike Smith

was his position coach, has four sacks and a team-high 16 quarterback hits. Bowser has a team-high 5½ sacks.

First-round pick Odafe Oweh, who didn't have any sacks last year at Penn State but is a superb physical talent, has five sacks, 13 quarterback hits and three forced fumbles off the bench. On passing downs, the Ravens go with a front of Houston, Bowser, Campbell and Oweh.

Former first-round pick Patrick Queen and Josh Byrnes are the inside linebackers. Queen is an attack-mode player, not only leading the Ravens with 70 tackles but with nine tackles for losses.

If Green Bay can protect Rodgers, there are plays to be made against a secondary with three starters – Humphrey, Peters and safety DeShon Elliott – on injured reserve.

Anthony Averett and Jimmy Smith start at corner and Tavon Young mans the slot. Averett has a team-high three interceptions and trails only Humphrey with 11 passes defended, but he's also given up the fourth-most receiving yards in the league, according to Pro Football Focus.

Brandon Stephens and Chuck Clark are the safeties. Clark is a thumper at the line of scrimmage and has eight passes defended.

When the Ravens have the ball

It will be Ankle Watch all week with Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson, the 2019 NFL MVP, missing most of last week's loss with a sprained ankle.

"The plans are right now for Lamar to be out there," Harbaugh said on Monday.

Will Jackson play? And if so, how effective will he be? The 2019 NFL MVP is the only quarterback in league history with multiple 1,000-yard rushing seasons. He's 37-12 as the starter.

If Jackson is out, Tyler Huntley will make his second career start. He's completed 67.8 percent of his passes and averaged 5.9 yards per carry in two games with extensive action but lost two fumbles against Cleveland.

With running backs J.K. Dobbs, Gus Edwards and Justice Hill on injured reserve – they combined for almost 1,600 rushing yards last season – the Ravens have leaned on retreads Devonta Freeman and Latavius Murray. Freeman leads that group with 440 yards (4.3 average) and four touchdowns. He's been a reliable threat the last six games.

Whoever is slinging the football, there are a lot of weapons on the perimeter. Tight end Mark Andrews is an elite player. He's leads the team with 75 receptions, 926 yards and six touchdowns. Even without Jackson for almost the entire game last week, he caught all 11 targets for 115 yards.

There's no shortage of speed with receivers Marquise Brown (70 receptions, 866 yards, six touchdowns), first-round rookie Rashod Bateman (32 receptions, 404 yards) and Devin Duvernay (28 receptions, 240 yards, two touchdowns). Veteran Sammy Watkins (27 receptions, 394 yards, one touchdown) rounds out the group. He is the turtle of the group with a still-fast 4.43-second clocking in the 40.

As is the case with Green Bay, Baltimore is without its stud left tackle with Ronnie Stanley out for the season with an ankle injury. So, the line is made up of veteran Alejandro Villanueva at left tackle, Ben Powers at left guard, Bradley Bozeman at center, Kevin Zeitler at right guard and Tyre Phillips at right tackle.

Zeitler, the former Wisconsin standout, is the best of the bunch. Villanueva, once a bedrock in Pittsburgh,

is past his prime and the weak link.

Special teams

Harbaugh cut his teeth as a special teams coordinator. Thus, the Ravens' units are typically superb – bad news for a Packers special teams that gave up a season's worth of big plays in one game against Chicago.

Justin Tucker might be the best kicker in NFL history. When he misses, it's news. This season, he's 28-of-30 on field goals, which puts him second in the league at 93.3 percent. That includes a perfect 6-of-6 from 50-plus yards.

Sam Koch ranks 16th with his 40.7-yard net average. He's put 20 punts inside the 20-yard line.

Duvernay gives the Ravens a big-play returner. He's averaging a dazzling 14.4 yards per punt return and 24.2 yards per kickoff return. He'd be No. 1 in the league in punt returns if not for Chicago's Jakeem Grant running circles around Green Bay last week.

Their coverage units are spectacular, ranking fourth on kickoffs (19.2 average) and fifth on punts (6.3 average). Former Packers safety Anthony Levine leads them with five tackles.

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8	Amari Rodgers	WR	5-9	212	22	R	Clemson
12	Aaron Rodgers	QB	6-2	225	38	17	California
13	Allen Lazard	WR	6-5	227	25	3	Iowa State
17	Davante Adams	WR	6-1	215	28	8	Fresno State
19	Equanimeous St. Brown	WR	6-5	214	25	4	Notre Dame
20	Kevin King	CB	6-3	200	26	5	Washington
21	Eric Stokes	CB	6-0	194	22	R	Georgia
22	Shemar Jean-Charles	CB	5-10	184	23	R	Appalachian State
24	Isaac Yiadom	CB	6-1	190	25	4	Boston College
26	Darnell Savage	S	5-11	198	24	3	Maryland
27	Patrick Taylor	RB	6-2	217	23	1	Memphis
28	AJ Dillon	RB	6-0	247	23	2	Boston College
29	Rasul Douglas	CB	6-2	209	26	5	West Virginia
31	Adrian Amos	S	6-0	214	28	7	Penn State
33	Aaron Jones	RB	5-9	208	27	5	Texas-El Paso
36	Vernon Scott	S	6-2	202	24	2	TCU
39	Chandon Sullivan	CB	5-11	189	25	4	Georgia State
40	Tipa Galeai	LB	6-5	229	24	1	Utah State
41	Henry Black	S	6-0	204	24	2	Baylor
42	Oren Burks	LB	6-3	233	26	4	Vanderbilt
44	Ty Summers	LB	6-1	241	25	3	TCU
46	Steven Wirtel	LS	6-4	228	24	1	Iowa State
49	Dominique Dafney	TE	6-2	243	24	1	Indiana State
51	Krys Barnes	LB	6-2	229	23	2	UCLA
52	Rashan Gary	LB	6-5	277	24	3	Michigan
53	Jonathan Garvin	LB	6-4	257	22	2	Miami
58	Isaiah McDuffie	LB	6-1	227	22	R	Boston College
59	De'Vondre Campbell	LB	6-3	232	28	6	Minnesota
62	Lucas Patrick	G	6-3	313	28	5	Duke
64	Ben Braden	G	6-6	329	27	2	Michigan
67	Jake Hanson	C	6-4	296	24	1	Oregon
69	David Bakhtiari	T	6-4	310	30	9	Colorado
70	Royce Newman	T/G	6-5	310	24	R	Mississippi
73	Yosh Nijman	T	6-7	314	25	2	Virginia Tech
76	Jon Runyan	G	6-4	307	24	2	Michigan
77	Billy Turner	G/T	6-5	310	30	8	North Dakota State
79	Dennis Kelly	T	6-8	321	31	10	Purdue
81	Josiah Deguara	TE	6-2	238	24	2	Cincinnati
83	Marquez Valdes-Scantling	WR	6-4	206	27	4	South Florida
84	Tyler Davis	TE	6-4	252	24	2	Georgia Tech
86	Malik Taylor	WR	6-1	220	25	2	Ferris State
89	Marcedes Lewis	TE	6-6	267	37	16	UCLA
90	Jack Heflin	DL	6-3	304	23	R	Iowa
91	Preston Smith	LB	6-5	265	29	7	Mississippi State
93	T.J. Slaton	DL	6-4	330	24	R	Florida
94	Dean Lowry	DL	6-6	296	27	6	Northwestern
95	Tyler Lancaster	DL	6-3	313	27	4	Northwestern
96	Kingsley Keke	DL	6-3	288	25	3	Texas A&M
97	Kenny Clark	DL	6-3	314	26	6	UCLA

Reserve/Injured

18	Randall Cobb	WR	5-10	195	31	11	Kentucky
23	Jaire Alexander	CB	5-10	196	24	4	Louisville
32	Kylin Hill	RB	5-10	214	23	R	Mississippi State
47	Chauncey Rivers	LB	6-2	259	24	1	Mississippi State
50	Whitney Mercilus	LB	6-4	261	31	10	Illinois
55	Za'Darius Smith	LB	6-4	272	29	7	Kentucky
56	Randy Ramsey	LB	6-3	238	26	2	Arkansas
71	Josh Myers	C/G	6-5	310	23	R	Ohio State
74	Elgton Jenkins	G	6-5	311	25	3	Mississippi State
85	Robert Tonyan	TE	6-5	237	27	4	Indiana State

Practice Squad

6	Kurt Benkert	QB	6-3	218	26	2	Virginia
11	J.J. Molson	K	5-11	180	24	1	UCLA
16	Chris Blair	WR	6-2	198	24	R	Alcorn State
30	Shawn Davis	S	5-11	202	23	R	Florida
35	Ryquell Armstead	RB	5-11	220	25	3	Temple
38	Innis Gaines	S	6-1	202	23	R	TCU
43	Nate Orchard	OLB	6-3	255	28	6	Utah
45	Bronson Kaufusi	TE	6-6	270	30	3	Brigham Young
48	Kabion Ento	CB	6-1	187	25	2	Colorado
54	La'Darius Hamilton	LB	6-2	261	23	1	North Texas
57	Ray Wilborn	LB	6-3	230	24	1	Ball State
61	Jon Dietzen	G/T	6-5	312	24	R	Wisconsin
78	Cole Van Lanen	T/G	6-4	305	23	R	Wisconsin
88	Juwann Winfree	WR	6-1	210	25	2	Colorado
98	Abdullah Anderson	DL	6-3	303	25	2	Bucknell
99	R.J. McIntosh	DL	6-5	286	25	4	Miami

Reserve/COVID-19

10	Jordan Love	QB	6-4	219	23	2	Utah State
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RAVENS ROSTER

Active

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Tyler Huntley	QB	6-1	196	23	2	Utah
4	Sam Koch	P	6-1	222	39	16	Nebraska
5	Marquise Brown	WR	5-9	180	24	3	Oklahoma
6	Patrick Queen	LB	6-0	232	22	2	LSU
8	Lamar Jackson	QB	6-2	212	24	4	Louisville
9	Justin Tucker	K	6-1	183	32	10	Texas
11	James Proche II	WR	5-11	193	25	2	Southern Methodist
12	Rashod Bateman	WR	6-1	193	22	R	Minnesota
13	Devin Duvernay	WR	5-11	210	24	2	Texas
14	Sammy Watkins	WR	6-1	211	28	8	Clemson
16	Tylan Wallace	WR	5-11	195	22	R	Oklahoma State
21	Brandon Stephens	DB	6-1	215	23	R	SMU
22	Jimmy Smith	CB	6-2	210	33	11	Colorado
23	Anthony Averett	CB	5-11	178	27	4	Alabama
25	Tavon Young	CB	5-9	185	27	6	Temple
26	Geno Stone	S	5-10	209	22	2	Iowa
28	Lataavius Murray	RB	6-3	230	31	9	UCF
30	Chris Westry	CB	6-4	199	24	2	Kentucky
33	Devonta Freeman	RB	5-8	206	29	8	Florida State
34	Ty'Son Williams	RB	6-0	220	25	1	Brigham Young
36	Chuck Clark	S	6-0	205	26	5	Virginia Tech
38	Kevon Seymour	CB	6-0	185	28	4	USC
40	Malik Harrison	LB	6-3	247	23	2	Ohio State
41	Anthony Levine Sr.	DB/LB	5-11	207	34	10	Tennessee State
42	Patrick Ricard	FB/DL	6-3	300	27	5	Maine
45	Jaylon Ferguson	OLB	6-5	275	26	3	Louisiana Tech
46	Nick Moore	LS	6-2	248	29	1	Georgia
49	Chris Board	LB	6-2	229	26	4	North Dakota State
50	Justin Houston	OLB	6-3	270	32	11	Georgia
54	Tyus Bowser	OLB	6-3	242	26	5	Houston
56	Josh Bynes	LB	6-1	240	32	10	Auburn
57	Kristian Welch	ILB	6-3	240	23	2	Iowa
63	Trystan Colon	C	6-3	313	23	2	Missouri
65	Patrick Mekari	G/C	6-4	308	24	3	Cal-Berkeley
66	Ben Cleveland	G	6-6	357	23	R	Georgia
70	Kevin Zeitler	G	6-4	315	31	10	Wisconsin
71	Justin Ellis	DT	6-2	350	30	8	Louisiana Tech
72	Ben Powers	G	6-4	310	25	3	Oklahoma
74	Tyre Phillips	G	6-5	344	24	2	Mississippi State
77	Bradley Bozeman	C	6-5	325	27	4	Alabama
78	Alejandro Villanueva	OT	6-9	277	33	7	Army
80	Miles Boykin	WR	6-4	220	25	3	Notre Dame
84	Josh Oliver	TE	6-5	249	24	3	San Jose State
85	Eric Tomlinson	TE	6-6	263	29	6	Texas-El Paso
86	Nick Boyle	TE	6-4	270	28	7	Delaware
89	Mark Andrews	TE	6-5	256	26	4	Oklahoma
92	Justin Madubuike	DT	6-3	293	24	2	Texas A&M
93	Calais Campbell	DT	6-8	300	35	14	Miami (Fl.)
96	Broderick Washington	DT	6-3	304	25	2	Texas Tech
98	Brandon Williams	DT	6-1	336	32	9	Missouri Southern State
99	Odafu Oweh	OLB	6-5	251	23	R	Penn State
Reserve/Injured							
3	L.J. Fort	LB	6-0	232	31	7	Northern Iowa
24	Marcus Peters	CB	6-0	195	28	7	Washington
27	J.K. Dobbins	RB	5-10	212	22	2	Ohio State
29	Ar'Darius Washington	S	5-8	176	22	R	TCU
31	Khalil Dorsey	CB	5-9	181	23	2	Northern Arizona
32	DeShon Elliott	S	6-1	210	24	4	Texas
35	Gus Edwards	RB	6-1	238	26	4	Rutgers
37	Iman Marshall	CB	6-1	210	24	3	USC
43	Justice Hill	RB	5-10	200	24	3	Oklahoma State
44	Marlon Humphrey	CB	6-0	197	25	5	Alabama
51	Otaro Alaka	ILB	6-3	239	25	3	Texas A&M
59	Daelin Hayes	LB	6-3	253	23	R	Notre Dame
79	Ronnie Stanley	T	6-6	315	27	6	Notre Dame
90	Pernell McPhee	LB	6-3	265	32	11	Mississippi State
91	Xavier Kelly	DT	6-6	306	24	R	Arkansas
95	Derek Wolfe	DE	6-5	285	31	10	Cincinnati
97	Aaron Crawford	DT	6-1	315	24	1	North Carolina
Reserve/Non-Football Injury							
76	Ja'Wuan James	OT	6-6	315	29	7	Tennessee
Practice Squad							
7	Chris Streveler	QB	6-1	216	26	2	South Dakota
10	Jaylon Moore	WR	5-11	191	24	1	Tennessee-Martin
17	Robert Jackson	CB	6-1	202	28	3	UNLV
18	Kevin Toliver	CB	6-2	192	26	4	LSU
37	Blake Countess	S	5-9	184	28	5	Auburn
39	Mazzi Wilkins	DB	6-0	191	26	2	University of South Florida
47	Nate McCrary	RB	6-0	213	22	R	Saginaw Valley State
48	Jordan Richards	S	5-11	210	28	7	Stanford
53	Adam Redmond	C	6-6	290	28	3	Harvard
58	Joe Thomas	LB	6-1	227	30	7	South Carolina State
61	Jaryd Jones-Smith	OT	6-7	320	26	1	Pittsburgh
62	David Sharpe	OT	6-6	343	26	5	Florida
81	Binjimen Victor	WR	6-4	199	24	1	Ohio State
83	Tony Poljan	TE	6-7	251	24	R	Virginia
94	Isaiah Mack	NT	6-1	299	25	3	Tennessee-Chattanooga
Practice Squad/Injured							
15	Jake Verity	K	6-2	197	23	R	East Carolina

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GAME VITALS PACKERS DEPTH CHART

GREEN BAY PACKERS (10-3)
AT BALTIMORE RAVENS (8-5)
WHEN: 3:25 p.m., Sunday
WHERE: M&T Bank Stadium
TV: FOX
RADIO: 620 AM (WTMJ), Sirius
Satellite Radio (WTMJ feed)

THE SERIES

Packers vs. Ravens
All-time, regular season: 4-2
All-time, postseason: Never met
All-time, at Ravens: 1-1
Streaks: The Green Bay Packers have won two of the previous three meetings against the Baltimore Ravens.
Last meeting, regular season: Nov. 19, 2017, Ravens won 23-0 at Lambeau Field. The Packers starting quarterback that day was Brett Hundley, and he was sacked six times and threw three interceptions. Receiver Davante Adams had eight catches for 126 yards.

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time	TV
Sept. 12	at New Orleans	Loss 38-3	
Sept. 20	vs. Detroit	Win 35-17	
Sept. 26	at San Francisco	Win 30-28	
Oct. 3	vs. Pittsburgh	Win 27-17	
Oct. 10	at Cincinnati	Win 25-22	
Oct. 17	at Chicago	Win 24-14	
Oct. 24	vs. Washington	Win 24-10	
Oct. 28	at Arizona	Win 24-21	
Nov. 7	at Kansas City	Loss 13-7	
Nov. 14	vs. Seattle	Win 17-0	
Nov. 21	at Minnesota	Loss 34-31	
Nov. 28	vs. L.A. Rams	Won 36-28	
BYE WEEK			
Dec. 12	vs. Chicago	Won 45-30	
Dec. 19	at Baltimore	3:25 p.m. FOX	
Dec. 25	vs. Cleveland	3:30 p.m. FOX	
Jan. 2	vs. Minnesota	7:20 p.m. NBC	
Jan. 9	at Detroit	noon FOX	

OFFENSE

RB
Aaron Jones
A.J. Dillon



QB
Aaron Rodgers
Jordan Love



WR
Davante Adams
Equanimeous St. Brown



TE
Josiah Deguara
Tyler Davis



RT
Billy Turner
Dennis Kelly



RG
Royce Newman
Lucas Patrick



C
Lucas Patrick
Jake Hanson



LG
Jon Runyan
Lucas Patrick



LT
Yosh Nijman
Dennis Kelly



TE
Mercedes Lewis
Dominique Dafney



WR
Marquez Valdes-Scantling
Allen Lazard



DEFENSE

CB
Eric Stokes
Kevin King



DE
Dean Lowry
Tyler Lancaster



NT
Kenny Clark
T.J. Slaton



DE
Kingsley Keke
Jack Heflin



CB
Rasul Douglas
Chandon Sullivan



OLB
Preston Smith
Tipa Galeai



ILB
Krys Barnes
Oren Burks



ILB
De'Vondre Campbell
Ty Summers



OLB
Rashan Gary
Jonathan Garvin



S
Adrian Amos
Vernon Scott



S
Darnell Savage
Henry Black



FYI

Rosters and depth charts are accurate as of Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m.

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RAVENS DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE



DEFENSE



SCHEDULE

Saturday's Games

Las Vegas at Cleveland, 3:30 p.m.

New England at Indianapolis, 7:15 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Dallas at N.Y. Giants, noon

Houston at Jacksonville, noon

Tennessee at Pittsburgh, noon

N.Y. Jets at Miami, noon

Washington at Philadelphia, noon

Arizona at Detroit, noon

Carolina at Buffalo, noon

Cincinnati at Denver, 3:05 p.m.

Atlanta at San Francisco, 3:05 p.m.

Seattle at L.A. Rams, 3:25 p.m.

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

New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 7:20 p.m.

Monday's Game

Minnesota at Chicago, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday's Game

San Francisco at Tennessee, 7:20 p.m.

STANDINGS

NFC

East

Team	W	L	T
Dallas	9	4	0
Washington	6	7	0
Philadelphia	6	7	0
N.Y. Giants	4	9	0

North

Team	W	L	T
Green Bay	10	3	0
Minnesota	6	7	0
Chicago	4	9	0
Detroit	1	11	1

South

Team	W	L	T
Tampa Bay	10	3	0
Atlanta	6	7	0
New Orleans	6	7	0
Carolina	5	8	0

West

Team	W	L	T
Arizona	10	3	0
L.A. Rams	9	4	0
San Francisco	7	6	0
Seattle	5	8	0

AFC

East

Team	W	L	T
New England	9	4	0
Buffalo	7	6	0
Miami	6	7	0
N.Y. Jets	3	10	0

North

Team	W	L	T
Baltimore	8	5	0
Cleveland	7	6	0
Cincinnati	7	6	0
Pittsburgh	6	6	1

South

Team	W	L	T
Tennessee	9	4	0
Indianapolis	7	6	0
Houston	2	11	0
Jacksonville	2	11	0

West

Team	W	L	T
Kansas City	9	4	0
L.A. Chargers	8	5	0
Denver	7	6	0
Las Vegas	6	7	0

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Ole Smoky Specialty Whiskeys \$16⁹⁹ 750 ml.

Grey Goose Vodka \$46⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

New Amsterdam Pink Whitney Vodka \$8⁹⁹ 750 ml.



Fireball Cinnamon Whiskey 4 FOR \$5⁰⁰ 100 ml.

Crown Royal Apple, Vanilla or Canadian Whiskey \$44⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Windsor Black Cherry or Canadian Whiskey 3 FOR \$26⁹⁷ 1.75 ltr. After \$15.00 mail in rebate on 3

Black Velvet Canadian Whiskey \$7⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr. After \$5.00 rebate

Jack Daniel's Winter Jack Tennessee Cider \$15⁹⁹ 750 ml.

Leroy Butler Leap Vodka \$20⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

7x Distilled Platinum Vodka \$6⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr. After \$5.00 rebate



10x Filtered Smirnoff Vodka 2 FOR \$23⁹⁸ 1.75 ltr. After \$12.00 rebate on 2

Canadian Mist Whiskey \$13⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Original, Fire, Honey or Apple Jack Daniel's Whiskey \$34⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Sky Vodka \$19⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.



Captain Morgan Spiced Rum 2 FOR \$37⁹⁸ 1.75 ltr. After \$12.00 rebate on 2



Mount Royal Light, Light Rye or Light Cherry Whiskey \$19⁷⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Rich & Mellow Korbel Brandy \$18⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Southern Comfort Whiskey \$22⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Seagram's VO Canadian Whiskey \$19⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.



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**Joel Gott
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**Kendall Jackson Vinters Reserve
Chardonnay
Wine** **\$9.99** 750 ml.

**Roscato
Sweet
Wines** **\$7.99** 750 ml.



**Menage A Trois
California
Wines** **\$6.99** 750 ml.

**William
Hill
Wines** **\$9.49** 750 ml.

**Von Stiehl
Holiday & Winter
Wines** **\$7.99** 750 ml.

**Louis M. Martini
Cabernet
Wine** **\$13.99** 750 ml.



**Door Peninsula
Christmas
Wines**
\$7.99 750 ml.



**White Haven
Sauvignon Blanc
Wine** **\$11.49** 750 ml.

**Cabernet or Pinot Noir
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Wine** **\$9.69** 750 ml.

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BEAT The Expert



Morgan Rode
NEW Media Sports Editor

Week 15 Games:

Sat. Dec. 18/Sun. Dec. 19

No teams on bye

Kansas City @ LA Chargers Thurs., Dec. 16
 Carolina @ Buffalo
 Las Vegas @ Cleveland
 New England @ Indianapolis
 NY Jets @ Miami
 Green Bay @ Baltimore
 Arizona @ Detroit
 Houston @ Jacksonville
 Dallas @ NY Giants
 Tennessee @ Pittsburgh
 Cincinnati @ Denver
 Atlanta @ San Francisco
 Seattle @ LA Rams
 New Orleans @ Tampa Bay
 Minnesota @ Chicago Mon., Dec. 20

Tie Breaker Game: Washington @ Philadelphia

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
God's Purpose Apparel.....	10-4.....	139-68-1
Shawano Seasons Restaurant.....	10-4.....	131-76-1
Tim Murphy.....	10-4.....	131-76-1
22 Shell.....	10-4.....	129-78-1
Dennis Brei.....	9-5.....	129-78-1
Shawano Place Assisted Living.....	12-2.....	129-78-1
Tower Clock eye Center.....	10-4.....	129-78-1
Smokey Joes.....	11-3.....	128-79-1
Buss Automotive.....	8-6.....	127-80-1

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
Hawkeye Hearth & Home.....	10-4.....	127-80-1
Idell Johnston, State Farm Ins.Agent.....	11-3.....	127-80-1
Morgan Rode.....	10-4.....	126-81-1
B & C Auto Recycling.....	10-4.....	125-82-1
Gehm's Club 117.....	11-3.....	123-84-1
P & D Sales & Service.....	9-5.....	121-86-1
Cirinnity/Wittenberg Telephone.....	10-4.....	114-93-1
Iversnon's Piggly Wiggly.....	11-3.....	114-93-1
Senn Insurance.....	10-4.....	109-98-1



This Week's Winner:
Shawano Place Assisted Living



Morgan Rode
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Houston	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Tennessee	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Baltimore	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score : Washington 27 @ Philadelphia 31



Tim Murphy
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Tennessee	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 20 @ Philadelphia 30



Dennis Brei
Oconto County
Times Herald

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Houston	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Tennessee	
Miami	Denver	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 28 @ Philadelphia 24

FOLLOW YOUR FAVORITES!



Toby
B&C Auto
Recycling

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Tennessee	
Miami	Denver	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 27 @ Philadelphia 24



Iverson's Staff
Iverson's
Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

LA Chargers	Detroit	LA Rams
Carolina	Houston	Tampa Bay
Las Vegas	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Tennessee	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	Atlanta	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 24 @ Philadelphia 17



Amber
Smokey Joe's
& JDoggs

This Week's Picks:

New Orleans	New England	Kansas City
Baltimore	Minnesota	LA Rams
Buffalo	NY Giants	LA Chargers
Cleveland	Dallas	
Tennessee	Tampa Bay	
Indianapolis	Arizona	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 35 @ Detroit 17



Robert Buss
Buss
Automotive

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Houston	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Tennessee	
Miami	Denver	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 21 Philadelphia 28



Dena
P&D Sales
& Service

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Tennessee	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 10 @ Philadelphia 17



Sophie
Idell Johnston
State Farm Agent

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Pittsburgh	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 17 @ Philadelphia 28



Scott Nyman
Cirinity

This Week's Picks:

LA Chargers	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Houston	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Chicago
New England	Pittsburgh	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 28 @ Philadelphia 21



In Memory of
Patty Lasher
Shawano Seasons
Restaurant

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Pittsburgh	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 28 @ Philadelphia 21



Jim Wiegand
Tower Clock
Eye Center

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Houston	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Tennessee	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 17 @ Philadelphia 20



Russ
Gehm's
Club 117

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	Seattle
Buffalo	Houston	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Pittsburgh	
Miami	Denver	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 23 @ Philadelphia 20



Shane Senn
Senn
Insurance

This Week's Picks:

LA Chargers	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Tennessee	
Miami	Denver	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 24 @ Philadelphia 26



Brenda
22 Shell

This Week's Picks:

LA Chargers	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Pittsburgh	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 24 @ Philadelphia 20



Chris
God's Purpose
Apparel

This Week's Picks:

LA Chargers	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Houston	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Tennessee	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 25 @ Philadelphia 20



Aaron
Shawano
Place

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
Indianapolis	Tennessee	
Miami	Denver	
Baltimore	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 21 @ Philadelphia 28



Dale
Hawkeye
Hearth & Home

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City	Arizona	LA Rams
Buffalo	Jacksonville	Tampa Bay
Cleveland	Dallas	Minnesota
New England	Pittsburgh	
Miami	Cincinnati	
Green Bay	San Francisco	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Washington 30 @ Philadelphia 28

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SEPTEMBER - REGULAR SEASON			
Sunday, September 12	3:25 pm	@ New Orleans Saints	FOX
Monday, September 20	7:15 pm	DETROIT LIONS	ESPN
Sunday, September 26	7:20 pm	@ San Francisco 49ers	NBC
OCTOBER			
Sunday, October 03	3:25 pm	Pittsburgh Steelers (GOLD)	CBS
Sunday, October 10	NOON*	@ Cincinnati Bengals	FOX
Sunday, October 17	NOON*	@ Chicago Bears	FOX
Sunday, October 24	NOON*	WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM	FOX
Thursday, October 28	7:20 pm	@ Arizona Cardinals	FOX
NOVEMBER			
Sunday, November 07	3:25 pm*	@ Kansas City Chiefs	FOX
Sunday, November 14	3:25 pm*	SEATTLE SEAHAWKS	CBS
Sunday, November 21	NOON*	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX
Sunday, November 28	3:25 pm*	LOS ANGELES DOLPHINS	FOX
DECEMBER			
BYE WEEK			
Sunday, December 12	7:20 pm*	CHICAGO BEARS	NBC
Sunday, December 19	NOON*	@ Baltimore Ravens	FOX
Saturday, December 25	3:30 pm	CLEVELAND BROWNS	FOX
JANUARY			
Sunday, January 02	7:20 pm*	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	NBC
Sunday, January 09	NOON*	@ Detroit Lions	FOX

NOTEBOOK

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

Injury watch

Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson was the NFL's MVP in 2019. Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers won MVP honors in 2020.

Two of the league's dominant forces – Jackson, with his unparalleled combination of arm strength and athletic ability, and Rodgers, with his sublime combination of arm strength, accuracy and experience – will be limping into Sunday's showdown in Baltimore.

After some bye-week healing allowed Rodgers to practice on Friday last week, he aggravated his broken pinky toe against Chicago. While he might not practice this week, at least he'll play. The same might not be true for Jackson, who suffered an ankle injury during the first quarter of last week's loss at Cleveland. While Ravens coach John Harbaugh said "the plans right now" are for Jackson to start, there's no guarantee he'll play or play effectively.

Jackson is not a great quarterback in the traditional sense, but his running ability puts incredible stress on a defense. The Packers couldn't contain Bears quarterback Justin Fields on Sunday night; Jackson is an even better runner and a much better passer with much better weapons. Against Indianapolis in week five, for instance, Jackson completed 37-of-43 passes for 442 yards and four touchdowns and added 62 rushing yards for a ridiculous 504 total yards.

From a passing perspective, that game was a bit of an outlier. For the season, Jackson is 22nd in the league in passer rating and 23rd in completion percentage. He has 16 touchdowns vs. 13 interceptions – one of the worst ratios in the NFL. But he

is 10th in the NFL with 767 rushing yards and second with a 5.8-yard average. With 1,206 rushing yards in 2019 and 1,005 rushing yards in 2020, he's the only quarterback in NFL history with multiple 1,000-yard rushing seasons. Can he be that player with a wounded ankle?

Rodgers, meanwhile, has gotten on one of those Rodgers-style rolls. Even while barely practicing due to the toe injury suffered during his COVID isolation, he's the hottest quarterback in the league. From week 11 through week 14, Rodgers is No. 1 in passer rating (126.5), yards per game (344.3), touchdown passes per game (3.3), yards per attempt (8.98) and touchdown-to-interception ratio (10-0).

"This guy is special," coach Matt LaFleur said.

Dominating Douglas

Want to know why the Packers are in contention to win the Super Bowl and the Las Vegas Raiders and Houston Texans are going nowhere fast?

Rasul Douglas spent most of training camp with the Raiders but was released before the preseason finale. Douglas landed with the Texans for the final week of camp before he was released again. The Raiders are 6-7 and 31st in the league in points allowed. The Texans are 2-11 and 30th in the league in points allowed.

Douglas apparently wasn't good enough to help those teams, but he's been one of the most valuable players on the Packers since being grabbed off Arizona's practice squad in October. In eight games, he's got a team-high three interceptions and is second with 10 passes defended. Douglas had pick-sixes in each of his last two games, making him the first Packers defender with two interception-return touchdowns in a season



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, right, talks with Chicago Bears linebacker Bruce Irvin during a game on Dec. 12 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Rodgers aggravated the toe injury he's been battling in the contest.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

since Julius Peppers in 2014.

According to Pro Football Focus and its best guess at coverage responsibilities, Douglas has allowed a 50% catch rate. Among corners with at least 300 coverage snaps, he ranks second with a passer rating allowed of just 54.5. In his last two games, he's allowed 3-of-12 passing with two interceptions and six passes defended.

How did a journeyman defender — this is his sixth team since entering the NFL in 2017 — become such an X-factor? Douglas has continually praised defensive backs coach Jerry Gray's role in film study.

"It's like you see it and you see it and you see it and you see it. Then when you see it, do you believe it?" Douglas said. "I know when I first came here, I was talking to (Gray) and I was just like, 'I've seen it, but I ain't trust it.' He was like, 'Let me tell you something. If you see something and you don't believe it, the next time you're going to psych yourself out of believing it again. So, this person, when you see that he runs a curl, and you don't jump the first curl which you should have, the next time you're going to think he's going to run a curl-and-go.'

"He's like, 'So, you've messed yourself out of both plays and you don't know what you're going to do.' He was like, 'You've just got to believe it. If your eyes are right and he

runs something else, then you're still good.' I just try to take that mindset with everything so when they show me stuff, all my chips, I just push it to the table and I'm all-in. If it's not that, then, hopefully, my feet and my eyes are good so I can do what else I've got to do."

An interesting decision could be coming for Green Bay. All-Pro cornerback Jaire Alexander is practicing for a second consecutive week. If Alexander is able to return to the lineup, who will the Packers go with at corner? Alexander is an elite player, Douglas has been excellent, first-round rookie Eric Stokes has had more good games than bad and Chandon Sullivan has played well in the slot. Plus, Kevin King is back from his latest injury.

The best three would be Alexander, Douglas and Stokes. Alexander has the skill-set to play in the slot but that position requires physicality because of its proximity to the ball, and the coaches might want to keep Alexander out of harm's way as much as possible.

"I don't want to get too far ahead of ourselves," LaFleur said, "but, absolutely, Rasul has been a huge part of this defense. He makes key plays all the time. I love how aggressive he plays. He just is a guy, that he's fearless, he's resilient."

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Packers earn comeback victory over Bears

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Green Bay Packers overcame a slow start and a multitude of special teams' mistakes in a 45-30 win over the Chicago Bears on Dec. 12 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

Quarterback Aaron Rodgers threw for 341 yards and four scores, while top wideout Davante Adams had 10 receptions for 121 yards and two touchdowns. Receiver Allen Lazard and running back Aaron Jones also caught a touchdown pass each, while Jones had the team's lone rushing score.

While Green Bay's defense allowed a couple big plays, the unit also had three takeaways, one of which was a pick-six by cornerback Rasul Douglas. A strip sack by outside linebacker Preston Smith led to another touchdown that ignited the team in the second half before an interception by Chandon Sullivan sealed up the wild win.

"I was proud of our guys. There was no panic at halftime," said coach Matt LaFleur. "I thought we kind of got back to who we were in the sec-

ond half, and I think that was pretty evident."

After a fairly quiet first quarter, the teams erupted for 45 second-quarter points.

Chicago had a 3-0 lead before a 46-yard passing touchdown moved the visitor's lead to 10-0.

Green Bay finally got its offense moving and marched 75 yards in 11 plays, capping the drive with a 2-yard touchdown pass from Rodgers to Lazard on fourth-and-goal.

Chicago's offense got great field position after a long kickoff return, but Douglas jumped a pass from Chicago rookie quarterback Justin Fields and took it 55 yards the other way to put the Packers ahead.

Douglas joined Herb Adderley (1965) as the only Packers in team history to return interceptions for touchdowns in back-to-back games.

"I think he ran an out route. I just put my foot in the ground, and I looked back and I seen the ball — caught it, tried to run as fast as I can and score," said Douglas, who later added that this has already been his best season in his career.

Chicago grabbed the lead right

back after a 54-yard touchdown pass and then tacked on seven more points on a 97-yard punt return on the ensuing drive.

Green Bay looked to have the last laugh in the wild quarter after Rodgers found Adams for a 38-yard touchdown, but another long kickoff return helped the Bears add a field goal before halftime.

The final half was dominated by the Pack, with the defense surrendering just three points on a late field goal.

Green Bay's offense put together a nine-play, 75-yard drive to open the third quarter, leaning on running back A.J. Dillon before Jones scored on a 3-yard run.

The defense then forced its second turnover, with Smith sacking Fields and outside linebacker Rashan Gary falling on the loose ball. On the next offensive play, Rodgers hit Jones

out of the backfield for a 23-yard score to give the Pack a 35-27 lead.

After the Packers' defense forced a punt and got great field position for the offense, a 20-yard field goal from kicker Mason Crosby made it a two-score game at 38-27.

After the teams traded several punts, Green Bay's offense put the finishing touches on the comeback win.

The offense went 71 yards in 13 plays, taking nearly nine minutes off the fourth quarter clock before Rodgers and Adams connected again. This time, Adams burned his defender by faking the fade route before cutting inside for a wide-open slant pass.

Chicago added a field goal and recovered an onside kick, but Sullivan picked off a Fields' pass to seal up the win.

sports@newmedia-wi.com



Green Bay Packers cornerback Rasul Douglas reacts after scoring a touchdown on an interception return against the Chicago Bears on Dec. 12 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

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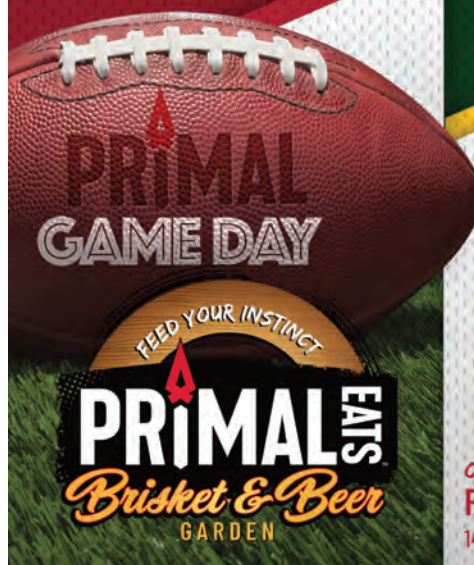
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GREG MELLIS| NEW MEDIA



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LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA



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High school senior learns welding via apprenticeship

Aidan Patza, a senior at Gillett High School, applied for a youth apprenticeship this year and is employed at L&N Metal Works in Gillett as an apprentice welder.

L&N Metal Works is a commercial metal fabricator that provides architectural fabrications, including decorative metal railings, cable railings, handrails, guardrails, ladders, bollards, fencing, gates and entrance canopies for commercial and residential customers.

As a youth apprentice with the

New North Youth Apprenticeship Consortium, Patza has a checklist of welding and employability skills that he is working to perfect over the course of the year. To round out his youth apprenticeship training, he has also taken related classes in Northeast Wisconsin Technical College welding, general metals, metal fabrication, manufacturing (Tiger Enterprise), cabinetshop and building trades.

"Aidan has been a leader in class and is willing to take on challenging

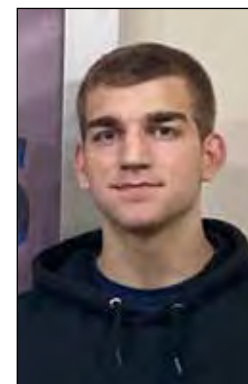
projects," said Preston Zimmerman, Gillett YA adviser/technical education teacher and events coordinator for the New North Youth Apprenticeship Consortium. "Aidan is currently the CEO of our Tiger Enterprise class, which involves managing numerous tasks and classmates. Aidan is also a member of the GHS Skills USA chapter."

Jenny West, office manager at L&N, also noted that Patza has been a great addition.

"Whatever needs to be done, he is quick to step up and help in any way that he can," West said. "He is a very responsible and respectable young man."

L&N agreed to be a part of the Youth Apprenticeship program because they say it is a great way to collaborate with the school and provide students with additional educational opportunities.

"We see it as a chance for students to see what actual employers look for and expect from their employees," West said. "Students get on-the-job training, allowing them to apply and expand on the knowledge they are getting in school.



AIDAN PATZA

There seem to be fewer and fewer students interested in working in the trades. It gives us the chance to mentor a student who is truly interested in learning more about our industry

and the career opportunities that are available."

Patza recently enlisted into the U.S. Marine Corps and will be going to basic training upon graduation. Patza's hobbies are working out and reading literature on personal growth.

"His good work ethic and passion to learn new skills will give Aidan a huge advantage as he graduates and moves on in life," West said.

For information on New North Youth Apprenticeship opportunities, go to <https://newnorthya.weebly.com>.

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*2020 Progressive Farmer Tractor Awards Award for Best Compact Tractor (Under 100 Horse Power). Award based on 2020 Progressive Farmer Tractor ratings. Product Study of Kubota Tractor Company. 2021. 90 Days. 1% APR. Monthly fee up to \$1000 on purchase of new Kubota LLC equipment from participating dealers. In stock inventory available to qualify customers through Kubota (2021) Corporation, U.S.A., subject to credit approval. Example: 24 monthly payments of \$1100 per \$1,000 reward. Customer makes payment of \$1000 on available on qualifying money or \$1,000 on cash purchase of LLC equipment. Address: recent sales of \$4000 in a calendar year with a purchase of new qualifying equipment. Some restrictions apply. Offers expire 12/31/21. Terms subject to change. The contents of the brochure published by Kubota America Inc. represent information and not a contract. For complete warranty, disclaimer, liability, limitation of use and product information, consult your dealer or KubotaUSA.com.

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wiggly**



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Prices Valid 12/13 thru 12/26/2021

OPEN MON. THRU SAT. 7AM-9PM, SUN. 7AM-7PM

OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE 8AM-5PM, CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY

SPIRITS

**Fleischmann's
Vodka**
1.75 L

\$7.49 ea

FINAL COST after \$18 MIR when you
buy 6 approved Fleischmann's 1.75 L
Liquor Products (\$10.49 Reg. Sale Price)



**Fleischmann's
LTD Whiskey**
1.75 L

\$6.49

FINAL COST after \$5 MIR when you
buy 1 Bottle (\$11.49 Reg. Sale Price)



**Captain Morgan
Spiced Rum**
1.75 L

\$18.99 ea

FINAL COST after \$12 MIR when you
buy 2 Bottles (\$24.99 Reg. Sale Price)



**Admiral Nelson
Spiced Rums**
1.75 L

\$7.98

FINAL COST after \$5 MIR when you
buy 1 Bottle (\$12.98 Reg. Sale Price)



**MT. Royal
Light**
1.75 L

\$19.99



**Kessler's
Whiskey**
1.75 L

\$13.25 ea

FINAL COST after \$4 MIR when you
buy 2 Bottles (\$15.25 Reg. Sale Price)



**Ryan's Irish
Crème**
750 ml

\$7.49



**Bailey's Original
Irish Crème**
750 ml

\$17.98

FINAL COST after \$5 MIR when you
buy 1 Bottle (\$22.98 Reg. Sale Price)



**Korbel
Brandy**
1.75 L

\$17.99

FINAL COST after \$2 MIR when you
buy 1 Bottle (\$19.99 Reg. Sale Price)



**Christian Brothers
Brandy VS**
1.75 L

\$13.48 ea

FINAL COST after \$5 MIR when you
buy 2 Bottles (\$15.98 Reg. Sale Price)



**Arrow Peppermint
Schnapps or
Triple Sec**
1 LT Bottle

\$5.99



**Arrow Crème
de Cacao**
1 LT Bottle
(Light or Dark), Peach
Schnapps, or Butterscotch
Schnapps

\$6.99



WINE

**Franzia Boxed
Wines**
5L

(Sunset Blush, Crisp
White, or Chilled Red)

\$12.49



**Sutter Home
1.5 Liter Bottles**
(All Varieties)

\$8.98



**Barefoot
Fruitscato**
750ML
(All Varieties)

\$4.98



BEER

**Busch &
Busch Light**
30 Packs

\$18.49

(Lowest Legal Retail)



**Bud &
Bud Light**
24 Packs

\$18.98

(Lowest Legal Retail)



**Miller Lite &
Coors Light**
24 Packs

\$18.98

(Lowest Legal Retail)



**White Claw &
Vizzy Seltzers**
12 Packs

\$16.19

(Lowest Legal Retail)



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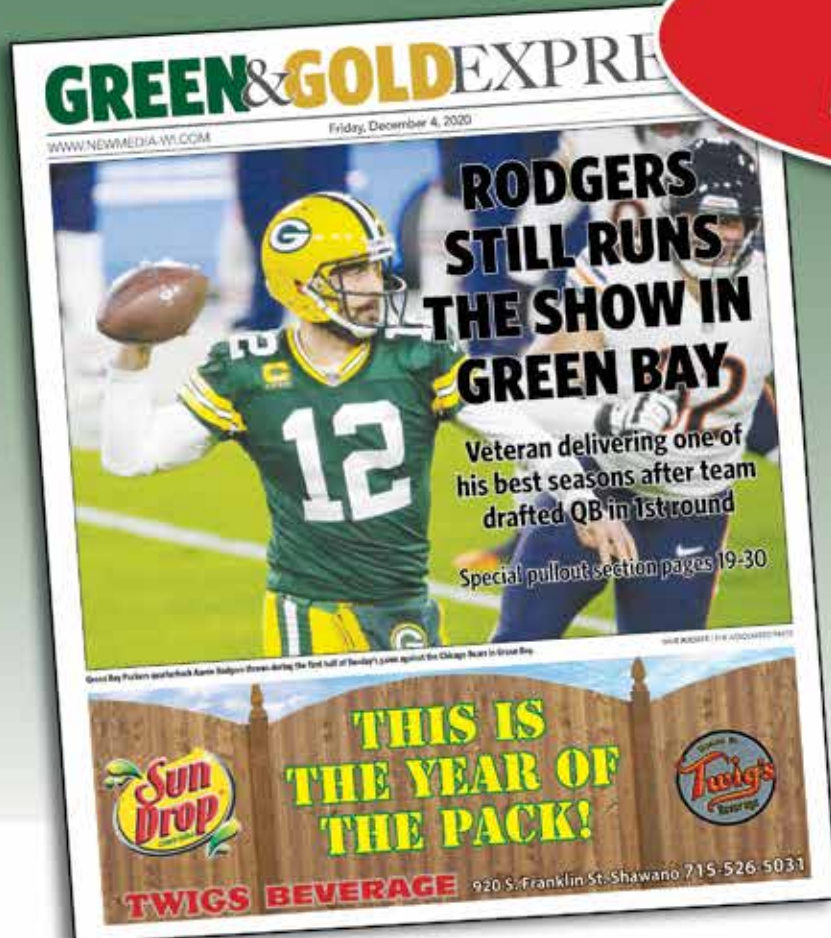


Appearing Every Week

in the Shawano Leader, Oconto County Times Herald,
and the Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News.

GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

**Every
Week!**



Green Bay Football 2021 Season

SEPTEMBER - REGULAR SEASON			
Sunday, September 12	3:25 pm	@ New Orleans Saints	FOX
Monday, September 20	7:15 pm	DETROIT LIONS	ESPN
Sunday, September 26	2:20 pm	@ San Francisco 49ers	NBC
OCTOBER			
Sunday, October 10	3:25 pm	Pittsburgh Steelers (GOLD)	CBS
Sunday, October 17	NOON*	@ Cincinnati Bengals	FOX
Sunday, October 24	NOON*	@ Chicago Bears	FOX
Thursday, October 28	8:20 pm	WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM	FOX
		@ Arizona Cardinals	FOX
NOVEMBER			
Sunday, November 7	3:25 pm*	@ Kansas City Chiefs	FOX
Sunday, November 14	3:25 pm*	SEATTLE SEAHAWKS	CBS
Sunday, November 21	NOON*	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX
Sunday, November 28	3:25 pm*	LOS ANGELES RAMS (GOLD)	FOX
DECEMBER			
BYE WEEK			
Sunday, December 12	2:26 pm*	INDIANAPOLIS COLTS	NBC
Sunday, December 19	NOON*	@ Baltimore Ravens	FOX
Saturday, December 25	3:30 pm	CLEVELAND BROWNS	FOX
JANUARY			
Sunday, January 31	2:20 pm*	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	NBC
Sunday, January 29	NOON*	@ Detroit Lions	FOX

Follow the Green and Gold season with us!

BEAT
The
Expert

AND-follow along as our local business owners compete to "Beat The Expert".



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DECEMBER 19TH

11AM-1PM

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Register In-Store. Winner will be announced New Year's Day (1/1)

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*some restrictions apply, see store for details