

Gillett gets a new tagline

The ATV Capital of the World becomes A City for All Seasons.

PAGE 2

Lena launches yearlong centennial

The village was incorporated Dec. 6, 1921; the community celebrated Monday at the school.

PAGE 3

Serendipity by Sami has a new home

The former home business is highlighted in this week's Shop Local/Employment Connections section.

INSIDE

CHRISTMAS MAGIC IN GILLETT

Harper Johnson is transformed into a reindeer by face painter Anita Umentum and a balloon artist, both part of the team from Merline's Magic and Face Painting, during the Christmas in the Park celebration Dec. 4 in Gillett. SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 32.

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OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD

(USPS 402-780)

Published weekly

by **NEW Media Inc**

d/b/a The Oconto County Times Herald

Periodicals postage paid at

Oconto Falls WI 54154

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
420 N. Chestnut Ave. Suite C, PO Box 184,
Oconto Falls, WI 54154

News

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920-848-3427

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circulation@newmedia-wi.com

Subscription, delivery or payment question?

Call 715-526-2121

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday-Friday

9 a.m. to noon Tuesday

RATES

Print

Print single issue: \$1

Prepaid nonrefundable 12 months:

\$41 Mail - WI

\$52 Mail - outside WI

www.newmedia-wi.com

1-day, \$0.99

3-mo (90-day introductory offer) \$12

Month-to-month \$10

Prepaid 12 month, nonrefundable, \$99

Member, Wisconsin Newspaper Association



Gillett changes its city tagline

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

The city of Gillett will be changing its tagline from “ATV capital of the world” to “a city for all seasons.”

The idea to change the tagline was brought up at the Gillett City Council meeting on Dec. 2 and was passed unanimously.

“I personally like a city for all seasons better,” said Alderman Matthew Stroik. “I think that ATV capital of the world is not true and it’s self-proclaimed.”

Alderwoman Debbie Rudie said

that she thought the tagline had run its course.

“Maybe when we were first named as the trail head, it was applicable then,” Rudie said. “Although I do think it was self-proclaimed as well.”

Rudie said that using “a city for all seasons” shows that Gillett has more to offer than just ATV trails.

Stroik added that, to him, it seemed like people come to Gillett to park their ATVs rather than use them.

“It is more like the ATV parking capital of the world,” Stroik said.

She estimates there to be \$3,000

in the budget for advertising for the upcoming year.

“I would guess that this is where this falls to change everything,” said Rudie. “If the tourism and marketing committee spends a lot of money recreating the logo to put around the city, there is not going to be anything left if they want something in October.”

Stroik said little things like changing a logo will help to continue market Gillett as a place for people to visit and live in.

“I think the marketing and tourism committee is doing a great job,” Stroik said.

Gillett’s police staff grows by one Schultz has experience working as an officer around the area

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

There is a new police officer in the Gillett Police Department.

“I would like to introduce our new officer, Zack Schultz,” said Gillett Police Chief Shane Breitenbach as he introduced Schultz during the city council meeting Dec. 2.

Schultz has experience from his time working with the Fremont-Manawa Police Department, the chief said.

“He also had multiple years in

the Village of Pulaski, as well as Seymour,” he said.

Breitenbach added that Schultz is a state certified training officer and has specialized training in SWAT and as an evidence technician.

“I think he will be an excellent addition to our city,” said Breitenbach. “We are very fortunate to have him here.”

Gillett Mayor Josh McCarthy welcomed Schultz to Gillett by introducing him to everyone on the council.

Schultz was scheduled to begin working for the city Dec. 8.

Alderperson Marie Blaser said Schultz was hired after he had applied for a different position. When the position was filled and another position opened up, Blaser said, they looked back at the list and saw Schultz.

Alderperson Debbie Rudie asked Breitenbach if he was comfortable with Schultz’s qualifications.

“I am definitely comfortable with his qualifications,” the chief replied.

Gain Control moves operations to Pulaski

Gain Control LLC, an electrical engineering firm specializing in industrial control systems, has announced its move to a new location, 1070 E. Glenbrook Drive, Pulaski.

“The new space is over five times larger than our previous location and will allow us to work on many projects at the same time,” said co-owner Steve Giese. “We are currently working on three two-door panels for conveyor system accumulators, a two-door panel for a wastewater

treatment plant, a hospital boiler control panel, an automatic heat control panel for a dairy COP tank and a pallet of wiring harnesses in flexible conduit.”

Gain Control LLC designs, builds and commissions electrical controls for all types of machines in the printing, paper, packaging, plastics, converting and dairy industries. The Gain Control team has extensive experience in web handling, single and multi-color printing, dryers, sheet and web-fed applications, extrusion,

packaging and wrapping, winders and unwinds.

“We can design a solution that is user-friendly, safe, affordable and Industry 4.0 ready,” Giese said. “Our new location gives us the space we need to better serve our customers.”

To work with an industrial control system specialist in the greater Green Bay area, contact Gain Control co-owners Tom or Steve Giese at 920-822-5202 or sales@gain-control.co.

CORRECTIONS

Accuracy is important to the Oconto County Times Herald, and it wants to correct mistakes promptly. Call errors to our attention by phone at 920-848-3427.

Lena turns 100; village launches celebration

A variety of events and activities are planned through September

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

There are three different versions of the story about postmaster George Hall naming Lena after Lena McCartney, a young woman Hall was said to be courting, in 1879.

Julie Aubrey, a teacher at Lena schools, told the crowd at the Village of Lena birthday celebration that the U.S. Postal Service had asked Hall to come up with a different name for the Maple Valley settlement, because mail kept getting mixed up with another town called Maple Valley near Suring. Officials rejected several alternatives before accepting “Lena.”

In her research, Aubrey said she found evidence that Hall was trying to impress McCartney but she dumped him anyway. She also found evidence that the ploy worked and they got married. But she also found evidence that Hall said it was “a total coincidence” and the name had nothing to do with Lena McCartney.

About 100 community members joined Lena Elementary, Middle and High School students for a “Happy Birthday” celebration in the school gym on Dec. 6, the 100th anniversary of Lena’s incorporation as a village.

Dignitaries — including Village President Steve Marquardt, Oconto County Board Chairman Paul Bednarek and Clerk Kim Pytleski, state Rep. Jeff Mursau, state Sen. Mary Flezkowski, and a representative from U.S. Rep. Mike Gallagher’s office — greeted the crowd and read proclamations honoring the centennial from the County Board, state Legislature and Congress.

Emcee Mike Hodkiewicz introduced a time capsule built from century-old barn boards salvaged from the Rosera family homestead, one of the original settlers of the



Happy birthday balloons adorn the Lena High School gymnasium and the band plays patriotic music as students file in for the Village of Lena centennial celebration.

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Young and old join in singing “Happy Birthday” to the Village of Lena during a centennial kickoff celebration at Lena High School on Dec. 6.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

area, and lined with stainless steel. The village will accept donations to be included in the time capsule until the end of the yearlong centennial celebration during Dairy Fest 2022

in September, when it will be sealed until Dec. 6, 2071, the village’s 150th anniversary.

A variety of events and activities are planned over the next 10 months,

including a monthly “Remember When” session sharing stories from Lena’s past at 2 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month from January through May, starting Jan. 5.

OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Dec. 3

A May 17 jury trial was scheduled for Dina Renick Hudson, 49, Oshkosh, who is charged with operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fifth or sixth offense), in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 21, 2020. A status conference was scheduled for Feb. 14.

Steven M. Bickel, 37, Lena, pleaded no contest to possession of narcotic drugs, in connection with an incident that occurred Sept. 10. Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for Feb. 7 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Mitchell Anthony Kohel, 34, Whitelaw, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over to circuit court on charges of causing injury by operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (second offense), hit-and-run causing injury and misdemeanor count of operating while his license is revoked, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Oct. 25. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 13.

Proceedings of Dec. 2

After a motion hearing, Joshua M. Waschbisch, 33, Oconto, was permitted to withdraw his no-contest pleas to possession of methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred April 30, 2020, and felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Jan. 27. A jury trial was scheduled for March 22-24 on the 2020 charge, with a final pre-trial conference set for Jan. 14, and a June 14-15 trial was scheduled for the 2021 charge, with a final pre-trial conference on May 27. Meanwhile, Waschbisch waived his

right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of battery by a prisoner, aggravated battery of an elderly victim and two counts of felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred in the county jail March 16. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 14.

Dylan D. Walk, 29, Menominee, Michigan, was placed on three years of probation after sentencing was withheld on a felony charge of strangulation and suffocation, as well as misdemeanor animal mistreatment, in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 5, 2019. Judge Michael T. Judge imposed charges totaling \$4,156, and among other conditions ruled that Walk must maintain absolute sobriety during probation and complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by his corrections agent.

Proceedings of Dec. 1

Michael Nicholas Hulchiy, 50, Suring, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to first-degree sexual assault and four counts of possession of a firearm by a person convicted of an out-of-state felony, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 23. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for Jan. 13.

After a preliminary hearing, Andre Nathaniel Jackson, 32, Oconto, was bound over to circuit court on charges of first-degree recklessly endangering safety, possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony and misdemeanor disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 6. Arraignment was scheduled for Dec. 10.

Proceedings of Nov. 30

Jason J. Samsa, 34, Abrams, was sentenced to one year in the county jail for misappropriation of identity information to obtain money, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 7, 2020, with credit for 174 days already served and good time and work-release privileges. He was also placed on four years of probation after a prison term was imposed and stayed for burglary, in connection with an incident that occurred May 6, 2020. Judge Michael T. Judge ruled that among other conditions of probation, Samsa must maintain absolute sobriety and complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by his corrections agent.

Ryker L. Shampo, 21, Oconto, was placed on three years of probation after a prison sentence was imposed and stayed for felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred May 9. He also was sentenced to one year in the county jail for possession of methamphetamine in connection with the same incident, with credit for 208 days already served. Judge Jay N. Conley ruled that among other conditions of probation, Shampo must maintain absolute sobriety, comply with all assessments/counseling/treatment deemed necessary by his corrections agent, obtain and maintain full-time employment or part-time if in school and not associate with anyone know to use, sell or purchase illegal drugs. Conley also extended a deferred judgment agreement in a 2020 bail jumping case through Dec. 2, 2024.

Olivia P. Francois, 21, Oconto, was placed on three years' probation after a prison sentence was imposed and

stayed for burglary in connection with an incident that occurred Dec. 16, 2020. Judge Jay N. Conley ruled that among other conditions of probation, Francois must maintain absolute sobriety and complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by her corrections agent, to include an alcohol and other drug abuse assessment.

Jessi Daye Wynn Rockman, 40, Keshena, was placed on two years' probation after a prison sentence was imposed and stayed for possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that occurred May 6. Judge Michael T. Judge ruled that the sentence must begin with 60 days in the county jail, and among other probation conditions Rockman must maintain absolute sobriety and complete all assessments, counseling and treatment deemed necessary by her probation agent.

Hannah Jean Toepke, 22, Marinette, pleaded no contest to possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 22. Judge Michael T. Judge scheduled sentencing for Jan. 18 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

An April 6-7 jury trial was scheduled for John R. Hartley, 40, Oconto, on charges of substantial battery with intent to cause bodily harm and misdemeanor disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred March 9. A final pre-trial conference was scheduled for March 21.

Child sex assault case consolidated

SanRoman is now charged as a persistent repeater

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

After a Nov. 30 preliminary hearing, David J. SanRoman, 46, Oconto, was bound over for trial in Oconto County Circuit Court on four counts of first-degree child sexual assault and one



DAVID SANROMAN

count of second-degree child sexual assault, all counts charged as a persistent repeater, in connection with incidents that allegedly occurred from 2016 to 2020.

The case is a consolidation of three earlier files against SanRoman that had been scheduled for trial beginning Aug. 31,

In those cases, he was charged with four counts of first-degree sexual assault of a child under age 12, four counts of causing a child younger than 13 to view or listen to a sex act, four counts of exposing oneself to a child, two counts of repeated sexual assault of a child, child enticement for sexual contact, witness intimidation, second-degree sexual assault of a child and three counts of bail jumping, for incidents alleged to have occurred between 2016 and 2020, and two counts of bail jumping, one involving an incident alleged to have

occurred Jan. 17, 2020, and the other on Aug. 24, 2020.

The persistent repeater enhancement to the charges means SanRoman faces a possible sentence of life in prison if he is convicted. He was already a registered sex offender, having been convicted of having sex with a 13-year-old girl, when he was 26 years old, in 2001.

He was sentenced at that time to four years in prison, followed by six years of extended supervision.

Arraignment on the new charges was scheduled for Dec. 16.

OBITUARIES

Donald W. Klipstein

Donald W. Klipstein, 83, of Suring, passed away on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021. Donald was born on March 23, 1938, to the late John and Amanda (Raddatz) Klipstein in Beaver Dam. He graduated from East Troy High School. After graduation, Donald began work at Harnischfeger Corporation where he worked as an electrician for 43 years until his retirement. On June 10, 1978, Donald married Suzanne Szymanski. Over the years, Donald played in several bands, playing the steel and electric guitar. He loved fishing, hunting, trapshooting, singing karaoke, riding his Harley and tinkering in his garage. Donald loved his dog, Nellie, who was always on his lap. He enjoyed spending time with people, especially his family.

Donald is survived by his wife of 43 years, Suzanne; son, Corey (Gina) Klipstein; stepson, Shawn (Cheryl) Crane; sister, Vera Hackbarth; three grandchildren, Samantha, Brook, and Levi; step-grandchild, Gavin; two great-grandchildren; and two special nieces, Marge (Mike) Moore and Leslie (Kenny) Frymark. He is further survived by nieces, nephews,



other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Amanda.

Visitation will be held on Friday, Dec. 10, 2021, at Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in

Suring from 1 p.m. until the memorial service at 2 p.m. with Pastor Michael Pahlke officiating. Donald will be interred at St. John Lutheran Church Cemetery in Gillett.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.



CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER 2021

The **41st annual Christmas Day Dinner** will be from 11:30 am through 1:00 pm on Saturday, December 25th, 2021 at the Oconto Falls Senior Center. This will be curb-side pickup (no in-facility dining) and also delivery as in the past due to Co-Vid 19.

.....

Please call (920) 848-2409 to make your reservation. Please leave a message- to include your name and phone number. We will call you back to confirm.

We look forward to seeing all of last year's guests and hope that there will be many new friends who will join us for this year's free dinner.

If anyone knows of an individual who will be alone for Christmas and would like to have a meal delivered, please call us to make arrangements.

In order to make sure we have enough for everyone, please respond by **December 16, 2021.**

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OBITUARIES

Eugene Peters

Eugene Peters, 80, Oconto Falls, died Sunday morning, Nov. 21, 2021, with family present. He was born July 14, 1941, in Oconto to Allan and Rose (Laabs) Peters. Eugene grew up in Brookside, where he attended a small rural school, which was heated by coal and had two teachers for all eight grades. He later graduated from Oconto Falls High School with the Class of 1959. As a young man, Gene worked for Krause Dairy in Morgan and the Oconto Brewing Co.

On April 27, 1963, he married the love of his life, Dorothy "Dottie" Bohl at St. Anthony Catholic Church



30 years. He retired from Gustman Automotive in Green Bay in 2003.

Gene was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Stiles. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, watching

in Oconto Falls. In 1967, he started working as an auto mechanic for Midland Co-op, which later became Bay Lakes and was their service manager of the automotive division for

the Minnesota Vikings and especially gardening right up until 2020. If you knew Gene, you would see him in his garden.

Survivors are his four children, Randy (Patti) Peters, Hubertus, Alison (Tim) Talbot, Germantown, Jeff (Toni) Peters, Pulaski, and Sara (Bob Jr.) Lentz, Oconto Falls; eight grandchildren, Hannah (fiancé Chris Thoenes) and Gracie Peters, Morgan (Zak) Zanella, Meghan and Cooper Talbot, Erica and Kyle Peters and Nathan Lentz; two brothers, Gary (Lynn) Peters, Oconto Falls, and Roger (Ginny) Peters, Little Suamico;

one sister, Karen (Roger) Belongia, Oconto; many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his beloved wife of 50 years, Dottie, on Oct. 1, 2013; and two sons, infant Robert and Ron.

Visitation took place from 3-6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, 2021, at Jones Funeral Service in Oconto Falls followed by a prayer service. Private burial was to be in St. Anthony Catholic Church in Oconto Falls.

The Peters family would like to thank Dr. William "Doc" Wittman for his many years of love, care and concern shown Gene.

Patsy L. Pope

Patsy L. Pope, 91, Oconto Falls, died early Thursday morning, Dec. 2, 2021, at the home she shared with two of her children. The only child of Lawrence and Lyle (Empey) Garbrecht was born Nov. 18, 1930, in Green Bay. In her youth, she attended Dr. Martin Luther Prep School and then the college in New Ulm, Minnesota, earning a degree in elementary education, serving in Nebraska as well as Immanuel Lutheran School in New London.

On June 29, 1952, she married the Rev. Reginald E. Pope at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Lena. The faith-



Florida; St. John Lutheran in Mequon; Ascension Lutheran in Mitchell, South Dakota. Following retirement in 1995, the couple moved to Ashland and operated a bed and breakfast un-

ful couple served the parishes of St. Luke Lutheran in White Butte, South Dakota; Redeemer Lutheran in Mandan, North Dakota; founding Ocean Drive Lutheran Church in Pompano Beach,

til 2003 when they moved to Oconto Falls. While living in Oconto Falls, the couple were members of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church. She will be lovingly remembered as a faithful and dedicated minister's wife and mother. She was preceded in death by her parents, and her husband died in 2016.

Survivors are her four children, the Rev. Stephen (Sarah) Pope, Appleton; Christine (Rudolph) Binter, Watersmeet, Michigan; Reginald "Fred" and Victoria "Vicky" Pope, both of Oconto Falls; four grandchildren, Lucas (Nicole) and Joseph (Stacie) Binter, Capt. Andrew P. (MSGT.

Nicole) Pope, USAF; Ian J. Pope.

Visitation with the urn present will be held after 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2021, at St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church in Oconto Falls until the time of service. Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Wednesday at the church with the Rev. Matthew Stuebs officiating. Committal services will take place 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021, at St. John Lutheran Cemetery, Mequon. Jones Funeral Service in Oconto Falls is serving the Pope family.

Kathleen Anderson

Kathleen Anderson, 76, of Gillett, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, at her home. Kathleen, the youngest of two children, was born June 8, 1945, in Milwaukee to Boleslaus "Curly" and Helen Zuber. Kathleen grew up in Milwaukee where she attended Catholic schools and graduated from high school.

On June 6, 1964, she married the love of her life and best friend, Jerome Anderson. The couple lived in Milwaukee for the first few years but soon moved all four children to Gillett in 1972 where they settled for 49 years. Kathleen worked several years at Russel's Low Drug, IGA Grocery



and NASCAR.

Oftentimes over the years, Kathleen was able to take several long hauls with her husband who was a truck driver and see the country. Kathleen enjoyed cooking, baking,

Store, and OJ's Midtown Restaurant, before spending the majority of her work life working at Wells Fargo Bank where she retired after 25 years. Kathleen and her husband enjoyed fishing

gardening and canning. During the Christmas holiday months, Kathleen was in charge of decorating the bank tree every year. She always made sure to have a theme for the tree for that season. This required creating new ideas each year and new decorations. All of her customers were excited to see what creative idea she would come up with each year.

Kathleen is survived by four children, Jerome (Julie) Anderson Jr., of California, Greg (Dawn) Anderson, of Montana, Wendy (J.T.) Crawford and Christy (David) Washington; seven grandchildren, Lilly and Leo Anderson, Sasha (Joe) Butler, Kayla (Chris)

Forrester and Bethany (Michael) Mattingly, Gretta and Finn Anderson; three great-grandchildren Theo, Logan and Lucas; and brother Thomas Zuber.

Kathleen was preceded in death by her husband, Jerome Anderson, in April 2015; and her mother and father.

A celebration of life will be held for Kathleen in the future. Further details will be announced at a later date.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacher-funeralhome.com.

Visit us online at www.newmedia-wi.com

Kristin Moderson

She's gone like the wind and at peace. Kristin "Kris" Moderson passed away Monday, Nov. 22, 2021, following a battle with kidney cancer.

Kris was born in Appleton on July 27, 1955, daughter of Chuck and Audrey Thiel. She graduated from Kaukauna High School in 1973. Kris was a dental assistant for Dr. Gerald Groth for many years, followed by assisting at Dr. Hornseth's office. She and Mike relocated permanently to Shawano in 2008. Kris had a lifelong love for dogs, and as a result opened Kris the Critter Sitter, her pet-sitting business.

Those who knew Kris will remember her as kind, thoughtful, somewhat creative, witty and fun-loving. However, being artsy, a skillful seamstress and cook, not so much. She enjoyed reading, music, savoring good desserts, fun in the sun — boating, being on a beach or at the lake. Spending time with friends and family was a highly valued activity — entertaining, happy hours and always sharing laughs.

Kris is survived by her husband of 39 years, Mike; sister, Pam (Lee) Harder; brothers, Charlie (Cindy) Thiel and Greg (Jean) Thiel; nephew Chuck (Melinda Benoit) Thiel; niece, Melissa (Mike) Kempka; in-laws Mark and Karen Moderson,



and Mory Moderson; nephews, Mark (Carmen) Moderson, Todd Moderson and Jay (Megan) Moderson; niece Kim (Ben) Lee; several special aunts and uncles; and her cherished and everlasting friends. "All of you brought me immense joy and pleasure sharing the extra 'bonus time' with you."

Kris was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Kurt Thiel; and in-laws, Merl and Margaret Moderson.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, Dec. 12, 2021, from 1-4 p.m. at Pullman's Restaurant in Appleton, with a brief service at 2 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made to your local humane society or the American Cancer Society.

Mickelson Funeral and Cremation Service of Shawano is assisting with arrangements. Please share online condolences at www.mickelsonfs.com.

Kris and her family would like to send a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Yao and the entire Oncology staff at Theda Care.

So long ... it's been an interesting and wonderful journey.



Isaac Britzke

It is with great sadness Isaac Britzke, 20, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday Nov. 27, 2021. Isaac Thomas was born Jan. 1, 2001, and lived in Appleton with his sister, DeAhndra. He graduated from Kaukauna High School in 2019. He was baptized and confirmed at Bethany Lutheran Church. He recently left his job at ProAmpac and took a job working for Orkin. He was expressing interest in becoming an electrician.

Isaac was such a kind, loving person who valued and loved his family and friends. His presence lit up the room when he entered. Isaac always found the good in everyone he met. He loved being outdoors. He spent many days hunting and fishing with his dad. He loved playing games and spending time with his mom, siblings, his best friend and girlfriend, Toni. He loved to wrestle and take goofy pictures with his cousins. He was an avid sports fan and supported all Wisconsin teams. Isaac had a deep passion for music.

He will be forever remembered by his mother, Jenna Kleinke (Matt); his father, Tom Britzke (Angela); sisters, Dezirae and DeAhndra Parish (fiancée Randy); brothers, Darien Parish and



Brock Kleinke; stepbrother, Jordan McBride; his niece, Amaiya; his aunts, Mindy Hoefts (Brad, cousin Kylie) and Kayla (Jim) Merten; his uncles, Wesley Marohl (cousin Morgan), Tyler Marohl and Scott Marohl (Tracy, cousins Wyatt and Carter); his uncle/godfather Jeremy Britzke (Kelly, cousins Tessa, Aidan, Ethan, Liam); grandparents Patsy Schaller (Heath), Steve Marohl (Deb), Susie Wetzel, Thomas Kledzik (Diana), and John and Julie Berndt; godparents, Shawn Gocke and Stacy Claussen; and his girlfriend, Toni Verhagen.

Preceded in death by his aunts, Shanin Marohl and Trisha Britzke (godmother); and cousins Ryan Pethke, Matthew Alf, Keelyn Schachtschneider, Quentin and Robert Bartels.

The funeral service for Isaac was held on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, at Bethany Lutheran Church, 124 W. 10th St., Kaukauna.

For online condolences, please visit www.verkuilenfh.com.

and Mory Moderson; nephews, Mark (Carmen) Moderson, Todd Moderson and Jay (Megan) Moderson; niece Kim (Ben) Lee; several special aunts and uncles; and her

Carole A. Doxtator

Carole Ann Doxtator, 69, began her journey home on Tuesday Nov. 30, 2021, at the Marshfield Medical Center surrounded by her children.

Carole was born Jan. 21, 1952, in Shawano to the late Harvey and Eleanor Martin. She was an enrolled member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans.

Carole spent her early adult years raising her children and living her life to the fullest. Carole has made multiple northeast Wisconsin and southeast Minnesota towns her home throughout her life.

She spent her later years being one with nature, adopting any stray animals she could. She loved knitting and watching a movie from her extensive movie collection.

Carole was preceded in death by her son, Gregory Doxtator; her parents, Harvey and Eleanor Martin; and many other family and close friends she considered family.

Carole is survived by her children, Schyler (Tambi) Martin, of Plain-



view, Minnesota, Sophrona (Tim) Fuller, of Plainview, Minnesota, Shane Doxtator, of Rochester, Minnesota, and Syd (Erin) Doxtator, of Rochester, Minnesota; nine

grandchildren; and several family members and close friends.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later time in Minnesota. In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family asks you make a donation to your local food shelf in her honor.

Carole's family would like to extend their appreciation to the Marshfield Medical Center in Weston and all of the staff for their excellent care that they gave Carole and her family. A heartfelt thank you to the Fairfield Inn and Suites Marriott Wausau for taking care of a Carole's family during her stay at the hospital.

Donna M. Bushy

Donna M. Bushy, 57, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021. She was born May 20, 1964, in West Allis.

Donna worked as a CNA throughout Wisconsin for over 20 years. On April 25, 2003, she married Jimmy Bushy in Shawano. Donna liked to play darts and was in a dart league for 35 years. She loved Christmas-time. She especially loved watching Hallmark movies and decorating her home during the holidays. Donna also loved watching Brandon's baseball games and cheering him on. One of her greatest passions was being a grandmother and spending time with her two grandchildren, Brooklynn and Garrett.

Donna is survived by her husband, Jim; her children, Elizabeth (Dakota) Knapp and Brandon Bushy; her



grandchildren, Brooklynn and Garrett; her siblings, Sandra (Ed) Jasken, Kathy (Dave) Deulery, Brenda Erickson, Paula Yonker, Laura (Wayne) Grosskopf, William (Christine) Fletcher, Thomas Fletcher, Mark Fletcher and Donald Fletcher; her uncle, Larry Polak; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Archie and Beverly Fletcher; her son, Eric Fletcher; and her in-laws, Glenn and Theresa Bushy.

A celebration of life will be held for Donna at the American Legion, 850 S. Lincoln St., Shawano, on Saturday, Dec. 18 from 1-5 p.m.

John F. Goodreau

John F. Goodreau, 67, of Shawano, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021. He was born Jan. 14, 1954, to the late John M. and Lorraine (Scholar) Goodreau. He graduated from Shawano High School in 1973. John worked with his dad at Industrial Boiler and then farmed in the Pella area. He worked at Montoure, Inc. for 18 years, followed by Knope Heating and Cooling for 10 years until retirement. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping.

He is survived by LaVerne Burmeister, his longtime companion; the son they raised, Cruz (Erin) Johnson; stepdaughter, Kery (Brandon) Vertane; grandchildren, Charlotte, Brantley,



Maya and Natasha; brother and sisters: Kathy (Tim) Gast Sr., Carol Walter and William Scholar.

John was preceded in death by his brother, Thomas, and his

parents.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021, at Swedberg Funeral Home in Shawano with Scott Ludford officiating. Inurnment was in Woodlawn Cemetery in Shawano.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

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Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 2, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

featuring

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John Darga, Judy Darga, Anita Graziano, Kurt Hicks,
Maddy Holmes, Darlene Kapelke, Patti Konkle,
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Patty Stabbe, Wayne Strei, Claudette Tipton,
Chique Tousey-Tabar, Mark Vorpahl, Wendy Vorpahl,
Cathy Wocking, Daniel Wright, Sandy Wright,
Doug Yahnke, Alex Young & Rick Zill**

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

OBITUARIES

Elizabeth Jane Groh



Elizabeth Jane Groh, 91, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2021. She was born July 26, 1930, to the late John and Frieda (Welch) Doxtator in Stockbridge. Elizabeth was a proud member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe. She graduated from Stockbridge High School in 1949. Elizabeth went to Fond du Lac College in Fond du Lac. In 1952, she was united in marriage to Marvin Gerber until his passing. In 1997, Elizabeth found love again with Robert Groh and was married until his passing.

She is survived by her children, Leland Gerber, Nancy Lausted, Sharon (Terrence) Ow, Daniel Gerber and Rick Gerber; grandchildren, Kyle Hendrickson, Ricky Gerber, Ed Gerber and Grace Ow; and sister, Lulu Mattson.

Elizabeth was preceded in death by both her husbands, Marvin Gerber and Robert Groh; daughter, Christine Phelps; and brother and sisters, Jerome Doxtator, Elaine Raddatz, Lorraine VanDeraa and one sister in infancy.

A funeral service for Elizabeth was held at the Swedberg Funeral Home on Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021, with Deacon Todd Raether officiating. Burial took place at the Stockbridge Indian Burial Grounds in Stockbridge.

Swedberg Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Elaine C. Thomas



Elaine C. Thomas, 86, passed away Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021, at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah. She was born July 1, 1935, in the Town of Waukechon, daughter of the late Henry and Esther (Bendickson) Pluedeman.

Elaine married Richard Thomas on April 26, 1958. He preceded her in death on Oct. 28, 2013. She dedicated her life to being a wife and mother. Elaine enjoyed her family get-togethers, reading knitting and crocheting, and polka music. She was a longtime member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Neenah.

Survivors include her three daughters, Ann (Bryan) Danke, Carol Thomas and Lynn (Jon) Tyczkowski; six grandchildren, Rebecca Danke, Eric Kempen, Alicia Kempen, Timothy Kempen, Nick Tyczkowski and Kaylin Tyczkowski; two great-grandchildren, Serena Kempen Lee and Nadalyn Steenis; a sister, Janet Peotter; a brother,

Leon Pluedeman; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Elaine was preceded in death by her son, Peter; and a sister, Mary Kupsky.

A memorial service was held on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Neenah, with the Rev. Jon Strasman officiating.

The family would like to thank the fifth floor nurses at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah and the nurses from ThedaCare at Hospice, for all their wonderful care of Elaine.

Westgor Funeral Home, 1140 Appleton Road, Menasha. 920-720-0314. Condolences: www.westgorfuneralhomes.com

Aaron Christopher Miller



Aaron Christopher Miller, 33, went to meet Jesus after passing away in a car accident in the early hours of Dec. 4, 2021. Aaron was born Jan. 25, 1988, to Wayne Miller and Leslie (Hawrylkiw) Miller. Aaron grew up in Bowler and later Phoenix, Arizona. After high school, he attended Arizona State University. He worked as a computer network technician, which was his passion all his life since childhood.

Aaron also had a passion for music, philosophy and religion. He loved his children and did his best to be a good father. Family was always important to him, and he is loved by all his family, his aunts, uncles and cousins alike. He will be deeply missed.

Aaron is survived by his four children; Madeline, Olivia, Jack and Christopher; his parents, Wayne Miller, of Green Bay, and Leslie Miller of Phoenix; stepmother, Ivete Miller, of Green

Bay; his sister, Natalia Souza, of Brazil; his brother, William Miller of Green Bay; and his grandmothers, Bernice Miller and Brenda Hawrylkiw, of Phoenix.

He was preceded in death by both of his grandfathers, Willis Hawrylkiw and Myron Miller Jr.

A funeral Mass will be held for Aaron at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 10, 2021, at St. Francis Solanus Catholic Church in Gresham with the Rev. Nonito Barra officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held on Friday, Dec. 10, 2021, at the church, from 10 a.m. until time of services.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

NOTICE

Early Christmas Deadlines

Our Shawano and Oconto Falls offices

WILL BE CLOSED
Friday, December 24th

Regular business hours will resume Monday.

Special Holiday Advertising Deadlines for:

Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
Times Herald	Fri., Dec. 24	Wed., Dec. 15
Shawano Leader	Fri., Dec. 24	Wed., Dec. 15
Wittenberg Enterprise	Fri., Dec. 24	Wed., Dec. 15



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EARLY DEADLINE

Thanksgiving

Normal Friday Deadline

Christmas

Fri., Dec. 24

Thurs., Dec. 16, NOON

New Year's

Fri., Dec. 31

Thurs., Dec. 23 NOON



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Jones making world better through music

Gresham folk singer helps differently abled kids, veterans, elderly by performing

By LYNN ZAFFRANN
Correspondent

To put it simply, Skip Jones, of Gresham, is a folk singer.

In a greater sense, Skip Jones is a supporter of justice for all, a champion of veterans suffering from PTSD, a storyteller with a moral purpose and commitment to protecting the environment.

Jones moved to Shawano County 45 years ago, built a home on the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation and decided to become a folk singer.

"I'm retired for 45 years," Jones said. "I work when I want and for whom I want."

Boy, does he work.

Being a folk singer seems to be the central core of who he is and what he sees his purpose in life to be. Jones takes his songs, guitar, banjo and Native American flute to nursing homes, schools, festivals, cultural events and any opportunity to use singing as a way to build relationships. He said: "Having a guitar in front of me opens up people" to talk and discuss their feelings and needs.

He's done programs at the same nursing home in Madison for years and works with differently abled children through associations he's forged with St. Norbert College in Green Bay.

His Be a HERO (Help Everyone Respect Others) Program is popular in schools. Jones' pre-kindergarten through grade 12 presentations are tailored specifically to each age level. He uses the program as a way to teach children the Golden Rule "Treat others the way you want to be treated." He has had students, now adults, come up to him years after one of his presentations to tell him how much they enjoyed and learned from his program.

In the past 45 years, he has visited more than 4,000 nursing homes, senior centers, memory care facilities and assisted living centers. He said that when he first started out "I did programs in up to three nursing homes each day" just to start making some money.

When someone asked how long he has sung for the elderly, Jones replied: "Long enough to become one."



Skip Jones performs during a water benefit concert in Keshena in 2019. Jones takes his songs, guitar, banjo and Native American flute to nursing homes, schools, festivals, cultural events and any opportunity to use singing as a way to build relationships.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

"I'm retired for 45 years. I work when I want and for whom I want."

SKIP JONES

The elderly programs are planned to inspire nursing home residents to sing along with him to songs from their past. His storytelling draws out their life experiences and the programs become interactive.

After Jones moved to the area, he found Mary's Music store in Shawano, which later became Makin' Music. Dave Habeck, a songwriter, owned Makin' Music and he became a lifelong friend of Jones until his death.

"He taught me a lot about music," Jones said.

Jones has a recording studio in his house and recorded Habeck's first album. The two played together with the Burnt Toast and Jam band, which is still performing in the area, although without Jones

and Habeck.

A 14-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, Jones has a special connection with other veterans. He sees his folk singing as a way to connect to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder. He feels the nature of folk music is bonding with people and sharing common ground. Jones said he believes in finding those parts in people that allow him to explore and build relationships, providing healing through music.

Jones has worked through Warrior Songs (www.warriorsongs.org), a group that helps veterans heal from the wounds of their service experiences through music and the creative arts.

"It's not about me," he said. "It's about the vets."

He noted that at one time in recent history, the United States was losing 21 veterans a day to suicide. This statistic made him start to look at the big picture and he realized that the country had asked servicemen and women to do things that weren't normal for them. Kill-

ing, or witnessing killing, wore on those people.

Jones noted that veterans discharged since the Vietnam War didn't have the chance to return to the United States in one group with support from one another, like they did after World War II when they were shipped back on large troop transport ships. For some, this resulted in feeling that they just didn't fit back into society, or be able to reconcile being back home one day after being on the front line. Jones tries to remediate these feelings when he sings for veterans.

Warrior Songs hold annual retreats for veterans with PTSD. A 2022 event for Vietnam War era veterans with PTSD at the Siena Center in Racine is scheduled, according to the organization's website.

Jones said that he is living his dreams in his house in the woods, but the connections he has made through his singing throughout the state, the Midwest and beyond go far beyond those woods.



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NOTICE



Early New Year's Deadlines

Our Shawano and Oconto Falls Offices

WE WILL BE CLOSED

Friday, December 31st

Regular business hours will resume Monday.

Special Holiday Advertising Deadlines for:

Product	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
Times Herald	Fri., Dec. 31	Noon Wed., Dec. 22
Shawano Leader	Fri., Dec. 31	Noon Wed., Dec. 22
Wittenberg Enterprise	Fri., Dec. 31	Noon Wed., Dec. 22
Times Herald	Fri., Jan. 7	Noon Wed., Dec. 22
Shawano Leader	Fri., Jan. 7	Noon Wed., Dec. 22
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Visitors from the Class of '61 were also popping in to visit.



Those attending in the photo

Front row: Coleen (Poupore) Yanke, Bonnie (Rademann) Limberg, Barb (Arndt) Kleiber, Gail (Hansen) Lumby, Gary Lambrecht

Second row: Irving (Junior) Hansen, Jim Yanke, Donna (Kasten) Klemens, Jane Winkler, Irv Mueller, Rhonda (Lauersdorf) Kain, Barbara (Bent) Surges, Tom Pederson

Back row: Dave Rank, Bill Truebenbach, Tom Schmidt, Ken Bent, Clarice (Kallies) White, Glen Zilkoske, Jim Christiansen

A memorial ladder displayed photos of our "Class of '71 angels".

Mary Jo Filo, Jim Talley, Shelby (Wolford) Marshall, Charrie (Petersen) Wocking, Jim Jiorle, Becky (Isaacson) Boivin, Mike Boivin, Bruce Busch, Galen Case, Marsha (Brock) Wagner, Mike Gilligan, Gloria (Peterson) Severson, Blake Wesner, Steve Olson, John Eibe, John Luebke, Larry Rotter

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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Gillett runs out of steam in 2nd half

Tigers fall to Witt-Birn

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Gillett Secondary School girls basketball team was nearly able to rally from a double digit deficit, but eventually ran out of steam in a 47-27 nonconference loss to Wittenberg-Birnamwood on Nov. 30 in Wittenberg.

Gillett struggled to score in the early portion of the contest, falling behind 8-0 and eventually 12-2. The Tigers cut the deficit to six at a couple of points before trailing by eight at halftime.

Gillett senior Alaina Herzog converted the first two field goals of the second half to trim the deficit to four, 20-16.

After a free throw from Witt-Birn, Gillett junior Carleigh Kaczmarek converted a shot to make it a three-point game. After two more free throws for the hosts, Kaczmarek buried a 3-pointer to make it 23-21.

That was the closest Gillett got the remainder of the game, as Witt-Birn scored eight of the next 10 points to seize control again.

It was a six-point game with just over seven minutes to play, but the Tigers were unable to score the rest of the way, and Witt-Birn was able to pull away.

"I think we got pretty tired as we went along," said senior Macy Franti. "Our team does not have a lot of varsity experience because we had very talented seniors (from last year) that left us, so we're just working on getting our team strategies together and working together."

"I think we just hung our heads a little bit. I mean, we were all pretty exhausted," said Herzog. "They are a pretty good team and were tough competition."

Herzog converted six of the team's 13 field goals on the night and led the team with 12 points. Franti added six points, while Kaczmarek had seven, including the team's only 3-pointer.

The Tigers did not attempt a free throw in the game.



Gillett's Cheyenne Krueger takes a shot during the team's nonconference game against Wittenberg-Birnamwood on Nov. 30 in Wittenberg.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

Despite the setback, which was the team's first loss of the season, the Tigers were pleased with their effort.

"I think a good thing is that we stayed close to this team for them being such a good team and nonconference," said Franti. "That just gives us hope for our competition within the conference. We know what we need to work on — getting a little bit

more endurance and some of the silly mistakes we made."

One thing that Gillett — which is under the direction of first-year coach Gary Regal — hopes to also improve on is their mental toughness.

"We got to be mentally tough so our mind can just take over the game and we can do great things with that," said Herzog.

Gillett 12 15 — 27

Witt-Birn 20 27 — 47

Witt-Birn (47): Kiara Deruchowski 0-0 2, Reese Rogowski 4-6 16, Jami Wendler 0-0 7, Jadalynn Davids 0-0 2, Faith Resch 0-0 6, Kaylee Schram 0-2 14.

Gillett (27): Alaina Herzog 0-0 12, Carleigh Kaczmarek 0-0 7, Macy Franti 0-0 6, Cheyenne Krueger 0-0 2.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Badgers to face Arizona State in Las Vegas Bowl

For the 20th consecutive season, the University of Wisconsin football team is going bowling.

For the first time in school history, that bowl appearance will come in the SRS Distribution Las Vegas Bowl.

The Badgers (8-4, 6-3 Big Ten) will face Arizona State (8-4, 6-3 Pac-12) on Dec. 30 at Allegiant Stadium. The game will kick off at 9:30 p.m. and be televised by ESPN.

"I'm extremely proud of our team for earning the right to play another game together, and we are excited

that opportunity will come in the Las Vegas Bowl," Wisconsin head coach Paul Chryst said. "We look forward to the challenge of playing a very good Arizona State team."

"We are very excited to be the inaugural Big Ten team to play in the Las Vegas Bowl," UW Director of Athletics Chris McIntosh said. "Our fans have a great tradition of support in Vegas, even as recently as a couple weeks ago when our men's basketball team won the Maui Invitational. Allegiant Stadium is a tremendous venue, and I know our players will have a

great bowl experience."

Wisconsin owns the third-longest active bowl streak in the country, trailing only Georgia (25) and Oklahoma (23). The Badgers own a 5-1 record in bowl games under Chryst, with wins in the 2015 Holiday Bowl, 2017 Cotton Bowl, 2017 Orange Bowl, 2018 Pinstripe Bowl and 2020 Duke's Mayo Bowl.

UW will face Arizona State for the fifth time in school history. ASU owns a 3-1 lead in the series, but the teams have split the two most recent meetings, with Wisconsin winning,

20-19, in 2010 in Madison and the Sun Devils claiming the 2013 meeting in Tempe, 32-30.

Wisconsin is no stranger to playing in Las Vegas as the Badgers have faced UNLV five times at Sam Boyd Stadium between 1986 and 2010, accounting for the Rebels' top three home crowds in history. UW has won four straight games in Las Vegas, including its last trip west, a 41-21 win over UNLV in 2010.

Visit UWBowlCentral.com for the latest information on the Las Vegas Bowl.

HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

BOYS BASKETBALL

Pulaski 69

Witt-Birn 57

Pulaski topped Wittenberg-Birnhamwood in a nonconference matchup on Dec. 3 in Pulaski.

Brady Wotruba and Derek Shaw guided Pulaski to victory, scoring 27 and 23 points, respectively. Wotruba made seven 3-pointers, while Shaw had six.

Denmark 89

Oconto Falls 63

Oconto Falls dropped a North Eastern Conference matchup to Denmark on Dec. 3 in Denmark.

Isaac Raddatz posted 19 points, five rebounds and three assists to lead Oconto Falls. Caden Birr knocked down five 3-pointers to score 15 points.

Carter Hill and Braden Vandermoss tallied nine points each for the Panthers. Logan Seymour grabbed six rebounds and blocked two shots.

Bowler 48

Gillett 44

Gillett was unable to hold an eight-point halftime lead in a nonconference matchup against Bowler on Dec. 2 in Gillett.

Brandon DeBauch posted 10 points to lead Gillett offensively. Ben Matczak added nine points, while Austin VandeCorput had seven.

Lena 45

Stockbridge 43

Lena edged Stockbridge in a nonconference clash on Dec. 2 in Lena.

Max Beyer powered Lena with 21 points, including three 3-pointers. Logan Shallow and Bryce Kit-

tredge both added seven points for the Wildcats.

Beyer also had eight rebounds and three assists, while Shallow tallied eight rebounds, five assists and three steals. Kittredge knocked down the go-ahead free throws with 12.4 seconds to play.

Lena scored six more points at the free-throw line.

Oconto Falls 78

NEWCHAA 43

Oconto Falls cruised to a nonconference win over Northeast Wisconsin Christian Homeschool Athletic Association on Nov. 30 in Oconto Falls.

Carter Hill led Oconto Falls with 12 points, while Logan Seymour had 11 and Braden Vandermoss nine. Jake Sager, Noah Hirst and Caden Birr had eight points each, while Isaac Raddatz had seven points.

Seymour led the Panthers with nine rebounds and also had three steals. Caleb Clark pulled down seven boards, while Raddatz had six assists and five rebounds. Hill had four assists and three steals.

Oconto Falls led 43-15 at halftime.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Gillett 60

Wausaukee 33

Gillett cruised to a Marinette & Oconto Conference victory over Wausaukee on Dec. 3 in Gillett.

Carleigh Kaczmarek led a balanced Gillett attack with 16 points. Macy Franti tallied 12 points, while Alaina Herzog had 11.

Naomi Anker chipped in nine points for the Tigers, and Cheyenne Krueger posted eight points.

Gillett outscored Wausaukee 34-13 in the second half.

Freedom 66

Oconto Falls 36

Oconto Falls couldn't keep up with Freedom in a NEC matchup on Dec. 2 in Oconto Falls.

Alexis Euclide led Oconto Falls with 16 points and three steals. Hailey Peitersen chipped in 11 points.

Grace Oninski, Jaden Reed and Kati

Raddatz all had four rebounds.

Coleman 58

Lena 33

Lena dropped a Marinette & Oconto Conference matchup to Coleman on Nov. 30 in Lena.

Natalie McNurlen tallied 16 points for Lena. Claire Brooks hit a pair of 3-pointers and scored eight points.



Gillett's Carleigh Kaczmarek attempts a layup during the team's nonconference game against Wittenberg-Birnhamwood on Nov. 30 in Wittenberg.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

ATHLETE PROFILE: ISAAC RADDATZ

Senior a leader for boys basketball team

The Oconto Falls High School boys basketball team is hoping to improve upon a one-win season from a year ago. Behind senior Isaac Raddatz, the team already has matched its win total this winter and is looking for more.

Raddatz is coming off a junior season in which he landed on the North Eastern Conference honorable mention team. He averaged 12.1 points in conference play to go along with 3.6 rebounds and 2.9 assists.

This winter, he's stuffed the stat sheet through three games.

In a loss to Menominee Indian on Nov. 23, Raddatz tallied 17 points, four assists and three rebounds.

In a setback to Denmark on Dec. 3, the senior posted 19 points, five rebounds, three assists and a block. He made nine of his 14 attempts on the day.

In the team's win over Northeast Wisconsin Christian Homeschool Athletic Association on Nov. 30, Raddatz had seven points, six assists, five rebounds and a steal.

Q: When did your interest in basketball begin?

A: Every since I was little. I grew up around basketball. My dad (Nathan) was a coach for my older sister (Alli), myself and my younger sister (Kati). Our whole family loves basketball.

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

A: My favorite part of the season is playing in front of big crowds and student sections. I love when it gets to the playoffs where you can hardly hear anything on the court.

Q: What about a basketball game appeals to you most?

A: I just like to compete. In everything I do, I try to be the best at it.

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

A: It is a game of mistakes. It's not all about fixing them but how you are able to bounce back and forget about



Oconto Falls' Isaac Raddatz dribbles the ball up the court during a nonconference game against Menominee Indian on Nov. 23 in Oconto Falls.

MICHELLE KONOP

the mistake and move on.

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

A: As a team, we all want to win games. Last year was a tough year for us, and we hope to get some more wins. We just need to come to practice and work hard and play hard in order

AT A GLANCE

ATHLETE: Isaac Raddatz

SPORT: Basketball

POSITIONS: Guard

SCHOOL: Oconto Falls High School

YEAR: Senior

to win.

Q: How did you prepare for the basketball season?

A: This year's preparation was a bit different than most. I joined football this year, which helped me prepare. I hope to be more physical and a lot faster.

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

A: Not really. I just think about what I need to do for the team in order to help us win.

Q: Do you have any individual goals you want to accomplish in your senior season?

A: I want to make first team all-conference and not sure how far away I am but getting my 1,000th point is another individual goal.

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

A: I try to be a positive role model and be vocal to help my teammates.

Q: Favorite movie, TV show and musical artist?

A: Movie — "The Do-Over." TV show — "Airplane Repo." Musical artist — Country music in general.

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

A: For about eight years I wrestled and played basketball before switching to basketball full time.

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

A: I plan on attending NWTC for law enforcement, and I hope to come back and work for the community and come back and coach some basketball.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

4 area players play in Indigenous Bowl

Menominee Indian's Corn named offensive MVP

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Four area high school football players spent a couple days in Minnesota last week before playing in the 2021 Indigenous Bowl on Dec. 5 at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

Menominee Indian's Andre Corn, Bryce Dixon and Tate Zhuckkahosee and Wittenberg-Birnamwood's FireEagle WhiteWing were part of two rosters.

Dixon was on the Gold Team, while WhiteWing, Corn and Zhuckkahosee were on the Purple Team.

The Gold Team earned an 18-14 win.

Corn was named the offensive MVP of the contest, while also playing defensive back and on special teams.

"Man, it was an amazing experience," said Corn. "Like I told the press, I worked my butt off to be where I am today, and I glad I was able to play for my brother and represent for him. It was an amazing experience and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Dixon enjoyed every second of the opportunity, which began Dec. 3.

"It was mind-blowing. There wasn't one moment where I felt like

it was really happening because honestly, I couldn't believe it," said Dixon. "To be there playing in the game under the big lights, the big dome, the big time opportunities — it really opened my mind.

"I'm glad I was here to play with some great athletes and coaching staff as they helped me perfect my DB and WR game."

Zhuckkahosee played safety and also was a long snapper.

"It was very special, and I was honored to play in the game, let alone being picked," said Zhuckkahosee.

WhiteWing played defensive tackle during the game.

"It was a golden opportunity to showcase my skills and to play with other Natives," said WhiteWing.

"I learned more about football and made some great friends along the way."

WhiteWing enjoyed getting to play in an NFL stadium (where the Minnesota Vikings play) and felt that, "we Natives made history and opened opportunities for the ones that played and the ones that are gonna play in the future."

"Overall this was the best experience of my life, and I wouldn't have traded it for the world."

For a full schedule from this year and for information on the Indigenous Bowl, visit <https://www.indigenousbowl.com> or <https://www.facebook.com/IndigenousBowl>.

sports@newmedia-wi.com

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Bonduel goes 5-0 to win dual invitational in Seymour

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

The Bonduel High School wrestling team posted a 5-0 record to win the Seymour Dual Invitational on Dec. 4 in Seymour.

Bonduel topped Lena (48-30), Seymour (42-39), Waupun (42-41), Mishicot (48-27) and Peshtigo (48-36) on the day.

Lena finished 1-4, with a win over Peshtigo (34-30) and losses to Mishicot (48-18), Seymour (54-24) and Waupun (54-21).

Jaxon Bogacz and Donovan Vigue each posted perfect records for Bonduel, while Dylan Comins, Luke Misco and Sam Marquardt all had perfect records for Lena.

Hailey Berg, Tyson Bogacz and Parker Perry all went 4-1 for Bonduel.

John Roberts Scramble

Menominee Indian competed in the John Roberts Scramble on Dec. 4 in Antigo.

Asenex Turney (285) led the Eagles on the day with a third-place finish. He went 4-1 on the day, with

three wins by pin.

Nakadin Boyd (106) and Gregory Turney (152) each placed seventh in their weight classes.

In the girls portion of the scramble, Emma Komanekin (138) turned in a second-place finish.

Menominee Indian earned 66 team points for a 14th-place finish.

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

Wisconsin Lutheran

Pulaski High School graduate Trevor Stiede played in both of the Wisconsin Lutheran College men's basketball team's games last week.

Stiede played eight minutes and scored two points in the team's win over Concordia on Dec. 2. He grabbed a defensive rebound in a loss to Edgewood on Dec. 4.

Bonduel grad Kara Troxel scored two points, grabbed two rebounds, dished out an assist, had a steal and blocked a shot in five minutes of action in the WLC women's basketball team's win over Edgewood on Dec. 4.

Rockhurst

Shawano grad Averi Vomastic and the Rockhurst volleyball team saw its

ONLINE

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

season come to a close after a loss to Ferris State in the first round of the NCAA Midwest Regional on Dec. 2.

Vomastic led Rockhurst with 14 attack kills, while also posting six digs and a block assist.

The senior hitter led the team with 380 attack kills this season and started in 32 of the team's matches.

Minnesota Crookston

Wittenberg-Birnamwood graduate Abi Fraaza continued her big freshman season for the Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team last week.

Fraaza posted six points and five rebounds in 15 minutes of play in a loss to St. Cloud State on Dec. 2.

She tallied 15 points, eight rebounds and a block in 24 minutes against Minnesota Duluth on Dec. 4.

Cardinal Stritch

Gillett graduate Aubrey DeBauch played 20-plus minutes in each of the Cardinal Stritch University women's basketball team's games last week.

DeBauch started and played 25 minutes in the team's loss to Judson on Dec. 1. She tallied eight points, six rebounds and an assist.

DeBauch posted five points, a rebound, an assist and a block in 21 minutes off the bench in a setback to St. Xavier on Dec. 4.

Ripon

Witt-Birn graduate Lauren Bahr took part in seven events for the Ripon College women's swim team during the Pioneer Classic on Dec. 3 and 4.

Bahr was on the 11th-place finishing 400-yard freestyle relay team that posted a time of 3 minutes, 57.22 seconds. She was on the 13th-place finishing 200 medley relay (2:00.25) and 14th-place finishing 200 freestyle relay (1:48.12). The 400 medley relay Bahr was on placed 26th in 4:50.25.

Individually, Bahr placed 18th in the 100 backstroke (1:05.44), 23rd in the 200 backstroke (2:30.47) and 37th in the 50 freestyle (27.13).

Winona State

Witt-Birn grad Maddy Pietz and the Winona State University women's track and field team opened the season competing at the Chuck Peterson Open on Dec. 4.

Pietz posted a time of 1:00.49 in the 400-meter dash to take fifth. She claimed 16th in the 200 (27.03).

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Rieck named new Witt-Birn head coach

He was assistant past 5 years

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Jason Rieck was named the new varsity baseball coach for Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, replacing Dan Kapitz.

Rieck is plenty familiar with the program, as he's spent the past five years as an assistant under Kapitz for the varsity team.

"I'm extremely excited about the opportunity," said Rieck. "It is something I hoped and dreamed for for a long time. I've had aspirations to lead a baseball program, and am very grateful for the opportunity to come back to the school where I graduated from and to take over from a coach who I have a ton of respect for and who coached me in high school."

Along with serving on the coaching staff for the high school team, Rieck was an assistant for the Witt-Birn Legion team for four years and then took over the head coaching role this past summer.

He's also coached two years for the Wittenberg Little League, three years as the head coach of the P.J.



Jason Rieck, right, talks with Wittenberg-Birnamwood baseball players during a game against Amherst on May 24 in Wittenberg. Rieck is the new varsity coach for Witt-Birn.

TINA BACON

Jacobs (Stevens Point Area Senior High district) team, three years as the SPASH JV coach and three years as the Stevens Point Legion team.

His involvement with Witt-Birn's teams over the past several years is something that Rieck believes will help in his move to the head coach.

"Yeah, I think it will be a very smooth transition," Rieck said. "Dan allowed me to incorporate a lot

of things the last couple of years. He also included me in a lot of the behind-the-scenes with running a program, showing me the ins and outs of a lot of things people don't realize has to get done. Plus with being around the players and coaching them in Legion, they know my expectations."

Rieck says some things will carry over from the Kapitz era, while some others may change.

"Our teams are going to hustle, and work hard, we will compete on each pitch."

Along with his baseball coaching experience, he's also coached basketball and football in Stevens Point and Wittenberg.

He's been a football assistant on the Witt-Birn coaching staff the past five years.

sports@newmedia-wi.com

Gun deer registration totals, license sales down

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

Preliminary license sales and registration totals for the nine-day gun deer season in Wisconsin both were down from a year ago.

A total of 175,667 deer — 90,715 antlerless and 84,952 antlered — were registered statewide during the 2021 season. In 2020, 190,646 deer — 104,564 antlerless and 86,082 antlered — were harvested.

In Shawano County, which falls under the Central Farmland Zone, 5,446 deer — 2,968 antlerless and 2,478 antlered — were harvested during the nine-day season this year. That's a 8.3% decrease from 2020, when 5,937 deer — 3,598 antlerless and 2,339 antlered — were harvested.

Oconto's Central Farmland Zone saw just a 3% decrease in harvests.

This year, 3,669 deer — 1,797 antlerless and 1,872 antlered — were taken, while 3,783 deer — 2,058 antlerless and 1,725 antlered — were harvested in 2020.

In the Oconto County Northern Forest Zone, harvest totals jumped 48.9%. This year, 679 deer — 146 antlerless and 533 antlered — were harvested, in comparison to 456 deer — 63 antlerless and 363 antlered — a year ago.

A full rundown on the harvest numbers across the state can be found at https://widnr.widen.net/s/jwqd6w2xtg/2020_2021_gun_season_comparison.

As of 11:59 p.m., Nov. 28, sales for gun, bow, crossbow, sports and patron licenses reached 808,224. Of that total, 564,440 were for gun privileges, including gun, patron

and sports licenses.

The year-to-date sales for all deer licenses are down 1.5% from the same time last year.

Of the licenses sold to date, 60% of licenses were purchased online. The remaining 40% were sold in-person through transactions at DNR license agents locations. Deer hunting license and harvest authorization sales will continue throughout the remaining deer hunting seasons.

There is still time for hunters to get out and fill tags this deer season.

A four-day statewide antlerless-only hunt runs Dec. 9-12. A nine-day antlerless-only holiday hunt in select Farmland Zone counties runs Dec. 24 to Jan. 1.

The archery and crossbow season continues through Jan. 9 for the entire state. In select Farmland Zone

counties, an extended archery and crossbow season runs through Jan. 31.

Hunters may use any unfilled antlerless harvest authorization during any of these hunts, but they must be used in the zone, county and land type designated on the harvest authorization. Information regarding hunts offered in each county and an interactive deer map is available on the DNR website at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/dmu.html>.

The DNR Bureau of Law Enforcement reported five firearm-involved injuries and one fatality during the nine-day gun season. Two incidents took place in Door County, with one incident each in Waukesha, Juneau and Marathon county. The fatality took place in Iron County.

Inspired to create sustainable comic book plotlines

Justin Gauthier offers validation for future artists enamored with pop culture. On Nov. 17, the Menominee tribal member visited the College of Menominee Nation's Keshena campus to deliver a presentation titled,



RYAN WINN

“Writing Comics: What Happens Between the Panels.” Yet, before he explained the hallmarks of comic book writing, Gauthier led his audience on a journey through the four decades of media that shaped him as an artist.

Balancing wisdom with wit, Gauthier discussed both the tangible and cerebral effect that video games systems and VCRs had on his generation. A self-described “centennial baby,” Gauthier conveyed how the Atari 2600 and John Hughes’ films each made indelible marks on his psyche. Gauthier spent little time explaining the finer points of the technology, preferring instead to capture how he shared the media with his father. Explaining the allure of his sentimentality, Gauthier contended that: “Using former technology is like drawing back an era of time.”

It’s understandable that Gauthier would want to return to the 1980s, as that was the decade that sparked his interest in creating media stories. He recalled how visiting family in Milwaukee resulted in his seeing “Blade Runner” in theaters, which made him wonder, “How do I become a storyteller like this?”

Gauthier’s earliest stories were typed on a portable Speak and Spell toy, which he saw as an early version of the computer tablets that are ubiquitous deliverers of media content today. While the latter is primitive compared to the dexterous applications enjoyed by today’s budding scribes, Gauthier credits it as the device that enabled him to learn how to write.

Gauthier’s post-secondary education began at CMN, which inspired him to write. Thanking his host, he highlighted that the school “really nurtured” his voice as a writer. After earning his associate’s degree in liberal studies at CMN, Gauthier completed his bachelor’s at the University of Wisconsin. He then earned a Master’s of Fine



Justin Gauthier offers some insight on comic book writing Nov. 17 while speaking on “Writing Comics: What Happens Between the Panels” at the College of Menominee Nation in Keshena.

RYAN WINN

“Using former technology is like drawing back an era of time.”

JUSTIN GAUTHIER

Arts from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He saw the last degree as a “marriage of two ideas” that shaped his life — media content and the written word.

CMN’s Sustainable Development Institute is working with Gauthier to create comic books that promote the Menominee Theoretical Model of Sustainability. Gauthier explained that the appeal of comics lies within three areas — compelling stories with reliable characters, a catalyst to set the story in motion and arresting, captivating visuals. Gauthier noted that using visual art to capture tribal teachings is hardly a new idea, as Native nations have

been creating visual art, such as the Lakota tribe’s winter counts or his own peoples’ regalia, to chronicle important events and ideas since time immemorial.

Working with Menominee artist Nicholas Schwitzer, Gauthier relayed how the collaboration between the writer and artist both strengthened the work and kept it on track. Gauthier revealed that being a screenwriter is “super lonely,” while his time spent with Schwitzer has enabled them both to discover shared connections and “mine their own stories” for inspiration in creating the group of kids the books will focus upon. Adding later, “We can support one another through the collaborative method.” Part of their joint art is to inspire readers to furnish the action between the panels in their minds.

While Gauthier and Schwitzer are keeping the plot of their joint venture under wraps, they do hope

to expand their work in the future to include Menominee language, stating, “Language is an umbilical cord to our past.”

Gauthier, being the nostalgic soul he is, admitted that if he could time travel anywhere or anytime, he’d travel to the Menominee Reservation just after the Industrial Revolution to glean some wisdom from his ancestors.

When asked what advice he’d give to his younger self, Gauthier’s response seemed directed more to those who saw themselves as fellow aficionados of pop culture. “All things you feel are wasting time are prologue to something.” Then added, “Don’t take things too seriously.” He joked that the wrinkles on his face were caused by his “laughing too much.”

Ryan Winn teaches communication, English and theater at College of Menominee Nation. For information about the school, visit www.menominee.edu.

Parade brings holiday spirit to Shawano



ABOVE: Carolers sing some uplifting songs in front of the St. James Child Center on Main Street in Shawano as part of the Santa Parade festivities on Dec. 3.

RIGHT TOP: The Sacred Heart Catholic Parish float travels through the parade route near the intersections of Main and Green Bay Streets on Dec. 3.

RIGHT MIDDLE: Kids attending the Santa Parade on Dec. 3 in downtown Shawano look to fill their bags with Christmas candy.

RIGHT BOTTOM: Children scoop up candy tossed along the parade route Dec. 3 on South Main Street in downtown Shawano.

PHOTOS BY GREG MELLIS • PUBLISHER



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Snow, cold temps blanket Shawano



Seasonal weather hit Shawano and northeast Wisconsin, with snow, high winds and dropping temperatures. Below 0 weather hit on Dec. 7 with temperatures being the coldest in the past 10 months. The state also got hit with significant snowfall on Dec. 5, with Shawano getting 5.5 inches of snow, while Tigerton received 7.1 inches and Birnamwood and Oconto Falls each got 8.5 inches as the snow fell for most of the day.

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Pandemic aid available to organic producers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will provide pandemic assistance to cover certification and education expenses to agricultural producers who are certified organic or transitioning to organic.

USDA will make \$20 million available through the new Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program (OTECP) as part of USDA's broader Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative, which provides new, broader and more equitable opportunities for farmers, ranchers and producers.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, certified organic and transitional operations faced challenges due to loss of markets, and increased costs and labor shortages, in addition to costs related to obtaining or renewing their organic certification, which producers and handlers of conventionally grown commodities do not incur. Transitional operations also faced the financial challenge of implementing practices required to obtain organic certification without being able to obtain the premium prices normally received for certified organic commodities.

"Producers and handlers of organic commodities incur significant costs to obtain or renew organic certification each year," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The economic challenges that arose due to the pandemic made obtaining and renewing organic certification financially challenging for many operations. This is one more instance of USDA continuing to provide support for those who need it most, invest in the food supply chain and Build Back Better."

OTECP funding is provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act. Certified operations and transitional operations may apply for OTECP for eligible expenses paid during the 2020, 2021 and 2022 fiscal years. For each year, OTECP covers 25% of a certified operation's eligible certification expenses, up to \$250 per certification category (crop, livestock, wild crop, handling and State Organic Program fee). This includes application fees, inspection fees, USDA organic certification costs, state organic program fees and more.

Crop and livestock operations

transitioning to organic production may be eligible for 75% of a transitional operation's eligible expenses, up to \$750, for each year. This includes fees charged by a certifying agent or consultant for pre-certification inspections and development of an organic system plan.

For both certified operations and transitional operations, OTECP covers 75% of the registration fees, up to \$200 per year, for educational events that include content related to organic production and handling in order to assist operations in increasing their knowledge of production and marketing practices that can improve their operations, increase resilience and expand available marketing opportunities. Additionally, both certified and transitional operations may be eligible for 75% of the expense of soil testing required under the National Organic Program (NOP) to document micronutrient deficiency, not to exceed \$100 per year.

Sign-up for 2020 and 2021 OTECP will be through Jan. 7, 2022. Producers apply through their local Farm Service Agency office and can also obtain one-on-one support with ap-

plications by calling 877-508-8364. Visit farmers.gov/otecp to learn more.

OTECP builds upon USDA's Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP), which provides cost share assistance of 50% — up to a maximum of \$500 per scope — to producers and handlers of agricultural products who are obtaining or renewing their certification under the NOP. This year's application period for OCCSP ended Nov. 1.

Additionally, USDA's Risk Management Agency announced improvements to the Whole-Farm Revenue Program including increasing expansion limits for organic producers to the higher of \$500,000 or 35%. Previously, small and medium-size organic operations were held to the same 35% limit to expansion as conventional practice producers. Also, producers can now report acreage as certified organic, or as acreage in transition to organic, when the producer has requested an organic certification by the acreage reporting date.

To learn about USDA's assistance for organic producers, visit usda.gov/organic.

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OPINION

Politics has always drawn the political map

Back when I was fool enough to run for the state Assembly, this quarter-century ago now, I found myself wandering a stray street in Ashwaubenon, which was weird because I was running for a seat that represented the northwest side of Green Bay and the village of Howard.

Still, the district also included this little string of parcels dipping into Ashwaubenon. When I asked why the map was drawn that way, I learned that the incumbent Democrat state senator lived on that street, and when they redrew the lines after the previous census, they didn't want to make him move out of "his" district to run for reelection.

That, folks, is a textbook example of gerrymandering, which the Democrats have spent the last decade decrying. The reason they have not been able to get traction with the issue is that everyone who pays attention knows that if Democrats were in power, they would be redrawing the lines with approximately the same guiding principles the Republicans have used.



WARREN BLUHM

Republican, and Wisconsin is more of a rural state than an urban one?

The difficulty of drawing "fair" lines was illustrated this fall when the redistricting plan submitted by Gov. Tony Evers' "People's Maps Commission" was soundly rejected by a bipartisan vote, in part because it managed to reduce the likelihood that Blacks or Hispanics could get elected to the state Legislature.

That's a no-no under the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which prohibits plans that intentionally or inadvertently discriminate on the basis of race, which could dilute the minority vote. Otherwise, the only requirement is that districts be relatively

Is it gerrymandering or simply a matter that people who live in densely packed urban areas tend to vote Democratic, while people who live in more rural areas tend to vote

equal in population.

It's possible to draw lines without regard to politics or personalities; in fact, that's just what Oconto County did this fall when it adjusted its district borders in accordance with the 2020 census. The county board instructed County Administrator Kevin Hamann to create more or less equally populated districts and to ignore where the incumbent county supervisors live.

The maps Hamann submitted, and the board approved, resulted in five districts with two or more incumbent supervisors and five districts where no incumbent currently lives at all. Bad news for the supervisors who have to decide whether to run against each other, but good news if you like the idea of bringing fresh faces into the process of governing.

Partisans of both major parties have spent entirely too much time accusing the other side of undermining the election process. If the Democrats weren't complaining about imagined gerrymandering for the last 10 years, they were advancing

the conspiracy theory that Russian agents and Donald Trump worked in tandem to steal the 2016 election. Not to be outdone, many Republicans are now advancing the notion that the 2020 election was rigged to steal Trump's reelection out from under him.

Do they realize how dangerous it is that large numbers of people on both sides of the spectrum don't trust the published results of the election any more? If we're all convinced that the election process is that corrupt, how then shall we choose our leaders? I'm not partial to military coups or monarchies, for example.

People in power need to spend less time arguing about boundary lines and counting votes and more time making a case why we should vote for them. The best leaders are those who manage to attract a majority of voters with their ideas, regardless of the perceived party preferences of their constituents.

Warren Bluhm is the editor-in-chief for NEW Media. Readers can contact him at wbluhm@newmedia-wi.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Political division has reached worst levels

To the editor:

We haven't had such division in our country since United States Sen. Joseph McCarthy made false accusations of treason among left-wing individuals in the 1950s. His campaign spread fear of alleged communist and socialist influence on American institutions and espionage by Soviet Agents. He lost credibility after several of his accusations were found to be false.

Unfortunately, history is repeating itself. Now we have the "big lie" which alleges Donald Trump won the 2020 election due to voter fraud. At this time, there has been no evidence that points to illegal votes as the reason Trump lost. The movement has, however, caused our country to be more and more divided as time goes on.

McCarthy was not the only Wisconsinite to divide our state. Former Gov. Scott Walker used his "divide and conquer" strategy when it came to the state's budgeting process.

He pitted public employee unions against those who wished to take down organized labor. In reality, it was less about budget-cutting and more about his personal campaign to weaken worker's power.

Fox News has only fueled the divide in our country. If you tune in (which I do only occasionally), you will hear daily rhetoric about how bad President Joe Biden's policies are and how the Democrats are destroying our country.

If you go off Fox News, which I would recommend, and listen to other cable stations such as CNBC, you will get less opinions and more "hard news." By tuning into "The News with Shepard Smith" at 6 p.m., you will get a non-political leaning on the true news.

By the way, Shep used to be a host on Fox but left because he didn't like how they were using a false premise — disinformation about election fraud — to lead people astray. He could see how this behavior was spreading seeds of division and thus doing harm to us as a nation. He couldn't take it anymore. He sleeps well at night knowing that his broad-

casting of the news gives people the truth.

Keep in mind that division has been used as a path to power worldwide for centuries. This holiday season should be the start of our effort to put aside politics and love our neighbor as ourselves as the Second Commandment suggests. We can each be the catalyst that makes the world a better place for all.

Jan Koch, Shawano

Legislative districts should be drawn fairly

To the editor:

A recent article reminisced about the former positive political climate and reputation for effective, clean government in Wisconsin. It argued that reputation resulted from priorities expected of those we elected to serve us. Top was serving interests of the Assembly or Senate district, followed by that of the institution of the legislative body to which they were elected, and third, the interests of a political party.

Today's climate is appallingly the opposite. The interests of an As-

sembly or Senate district are often ignored, even to voting against the interests of their district when the party demands it. The expressed interests of district constituents can be safely ignored because gerrymandered districts guarantee to preserve their seats while they kowtow to political parties.

I don't disagree with the argument by various courts that redistricting is a political process that should be decided by the legislative process but only if that process begins with transparently and fairly drawn districts, a situation we clearly do not enjoy today.

I call on my representatives, Rep. Jeff Mursau and Sen. Mary Felzkowski, to serve their constituencies by first voting against any effort to override Gov. Tony Evers' veto of the gerrymandered redistricting maps should it occur, and second to support adopting a redistricting process that largely takes politicians out and puts the people in charge of designing maps. I urge you to contact your representatives with the same demand.

Ken Harter, Oconto Falls



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Bonduel gets into the Christmas spirit



TOP: Visitors to Village Park in Bonduel huddle around a campfire as they try to keep warm during the Christmas celebration on Dec. 4.

ABOVE: Tim, left, and Jace Boland, who traveled to Bonduel from Green Bay, getset up for their minnow race at Village Park during the Bonduel Christmas celebration Dec. 4.

RIGHT: The Grinch makes an appearance at Village Park in Bonduel on Dec. 4. He talked to children and families during the Bonduel Christmas celebration.

PHOTOS BY LUKE REIMER • REPORTER

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As well your Grandchildren
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 watched you pass away.*

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 peaceful, free from pain, how could we wish
 you back with us, to suffer that again. It broke
 our hearts to lose you, but you did not go
 alone, for part of us went with you,
 the day God took you home.*

*If roses grow in Heaven, Lord please pick a
 bunch for us, place them in my Mother's arms
 and tell her they're from us. Tell her we love
 her and miss her, and when she turns to smile,
 place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile.*

*Because remembering her is easy, we do it every day, but there's an
 ache within our hearts that will never go away.*

*Don't think of her as gone away, her journey's just begun. Life holds so
 many facets, this earth is only one.*

*Just think of her as resting from the sorrows and the tears, in a place of
 warmth and comfort where there are no days and years.*

*Think how she must be wishing that we could know, today. Now
 nothing but our sadness can really pass away and think of her as
 living in the hearts of those she touched, for nothing loved is ever lost
 and she is loved so very much.*

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Gillett celebrates Christmas in the Park

PHOTOS BY WARREN BLUHM • EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



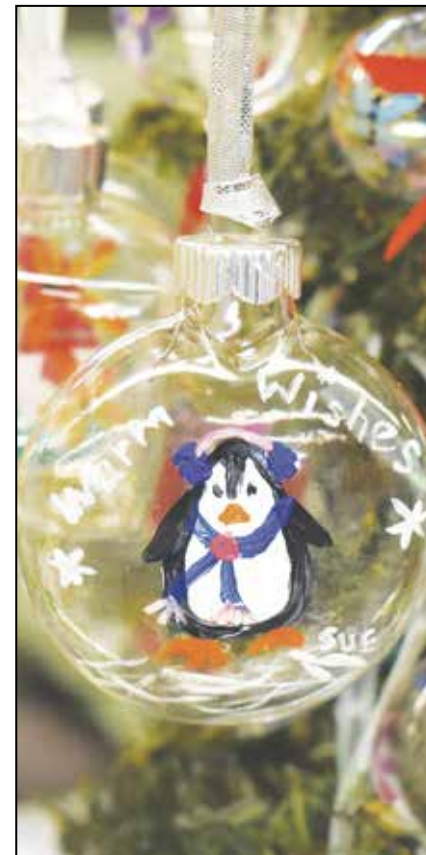
Santa greets visitors to Christmas in the Park at Zippel Park in Gillett. The lights went on Dec. 4 and will be illuminated nightly through the season.



Darrell Joachim poses with a couple of his wife Cynthia's creations during the craft and vendor sale at St. John's Lutheran Church in Gillett on Dec. 4.



St. John's Lutheran Church in Gillett was teeming with shoppers during the Christmas in the Park craft and vendor sale Dec. 4.



Debbie Arndt's Christmas tree ornaments were among the fun stuff available at the Christmas in the Park sale in Gillett Dec. 4.

CLUB NOTES

Lena Lions

The Lena Lions Club honored Samara Katelyn Van Ark, daughter of Lee Van Ark and Carrie Smith, as the student of the month for November.



SAMARA VAN ARK

Van Ark is a senior at Lena High School, where she is a member of the National Honor Society and the student council. Van Ark is an active member of the cross-country,

basketball and track teams. Her friends describe her as intelligent, friendly, loyal, honest, empathetic, reliable and a great friend.

Van Ark's hobbies are reading,

cooking, baking, crocheting and listening to music. Her community activities include helping with the Lena Dairyfest Stampede, youth wrestling tournaments and the youth wrestling program.

Van Ark's work experience is working as a waitress at the Blue Spruce.

Van Ark has enlisted in the Army National Guard to become a culinary specialist. She plans on attending Fox Valley Technical College to earn a degree in culinary arts and to transfer the Culinary Institute of America to earn a degree in food business management.

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The City of Oconto Falls is accepting applications or quotes for part-time evening cleaning services. The individual or cleaning service will be responsible to clean City Hall, Police Department, and Fire Department. The position is approximately 8-10 hours per week. Please submit an application or cleaning quotes to City of Oconto Falls, Attn: Vicki Roberts, PO Box 70, Oconto Falls, WI 54154 before December 27, 2021. Applications can be obtained at City Hall, 500 N Chestnut Avenue on our website at www.cityofocontofalls.com or e-mail a request for an application to dtreasurer@ci.ocontofalls.wi.us

WNAXLP

Legals WNAXLP

#1373
November 12 & 19 & 26, 2021
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
OCONTO COUNTY
Case No. 2020CV000037

Plaintiff:
Freedom Mortgage Corporation

-vs.-

Defendant:
Barbara G. Sullivan

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a judgment of foreclosure made in the above-entitled action on May 25, 2021 in the amount of \$140,754.58, I will sell at public auction, located in the lobby, in front of the Treasurer's Office, in the Oconto County Courthouse, 301 Washington Street, Oconto, WI 54153, on December 15, 2021

At 10:00 AM, all of the following described premises, to wit: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE IN OCONTO COUNTY, STATE OF WISCONSIN: LOT 19 OF SHAMROCK ESTATES, A PLAT RECORDED IN VOLUME 7 OF PLATS PAGE 58, DOCUMENT NO. 464739, LOCATED ON PART OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST ONE-QUARTER (NW 1/4

Legals WNAXLP

OF THE NE 1/4) OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 20 EAST, TOWN OF LITTLE SUAMICO, COUNTY OF OCONTO, STATE OF WISCONSIN.
Street Address: 5024 Shamrock Way, Little Suamico, WI 54141

Tax Key No. 02418240081219
THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD AS IS AND SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL REAL ESTATE TAXES, SUPERIOR LIENS OR OTHER LEGAL ENCUMBRANCES.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK or CERTIFIED FUNDS, payable to the Clerk of Courts (10% down payment at sale, balance due within ten (10) days of Court approval, down payment to be forfeited if payment not received timely). Buyer must comply with minimum bidder qualifications as set forth in Wis. Stat. / 846.155. Buyer to pay applicable Wisconsin Real Estate Transfer Tax in addition to the purchase price.

Todd Skarban
Sheriff of Oconto County, Wisconsin
Codilis, Moody & Circelli, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
(414) 775-7700
50-20-00179

NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.
WNAXLP



WITHOUT THE WASTE

Give yourself your own gift this holiday season with easy money-saving tips. When cooking and baking keep the oven door closed as often as possible (and use your microwave whenever possible). Run your dishwasher if you have one—it uses up to 40% less water than washing by hand. Use LED lights when decorating your tree to save 90% compared to traditional lights. Finally, go ahead and buy yourself something nice with all that money you'll save.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!



At Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities, we join forces with other local not-for-profit utilities through WPPI Energy to share resources and lower costs.

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Oconto Falls Christmas open house

PHOTOS BY WARREN BLUHM • EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



The grill at Antique Bar was fired up for hot dogs and other goodies benefiting the Humane Society during the Oconto Falls downtown Christmas Open House on Dec. 2.



Brandon Beaumia and his daughter Jesslyn poses for a selfie inside Oconto Falls Community Library.



Karen Koerzer and Taylor Hansen host a dice game fundraiser for St. Anthony's School in front of Associated Bank. If the die lands on an odd number, you win something from the left basket. If it's even, choose from the right basket.



Christmas elves and other holiday characters, aka the Oconto Falls High School FBLA chapter, roam downtown during the Christmas Open House on Dec. 2.

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

CITY OF OCONTO FALLS NOTICE - RESOLUTION APPROVAL

The following resolution has been passed by the Common Council for the City of Oconto Falls at a meeting held on November 30, 2021. A full text of said resolution may be obtained from the Oconto Falls clerk's office located at 500 N. Chestnut, Oconto Falls, WI 54154. Phone: 920-846-4505.

RESOLUTION 21-008; 2022 Utility Commission Budget Resolution

Posted by City Administrator, Vicki A. Roberts

WNAXLP

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

CITY OF GILLETT 2022 PROPOSED BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Monday, December 27, 2021 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers of the Gillett Municipal Building, 150 N McKenzie Ave, Gillett Wisconsin, a public hearing will be held on the proposed 2022 budget, following the public hearing the Council will vote on the proposed budget during a Special Common Council meeting at 6:00 pm that same night. The proposed budget is available for inspection in the business office at City Hall during normal business hours 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Mon - Thursday; at the Gillett Public Library during normal business hours; and at the Gillett Post Office or the Gillett Police Department during normal business hours. The following is a summary of the proposed 2022 City Budget:

REVENUES	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
Taxes-General Levy	487,194.00	491,806.00	501,806.00	491,806.00	559,452.00
Other Taxes	103,698.00	108,007.00	110,791.00	108,007.00	118,007.00
Special Assessments/charges	-	-	3,299.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	564,640.00	665,091.00	712,698.00	665,091.00	709,837.00
Licenses & Permits	11,350.00	11,375.00	11,441.00	11,375.00	11,375.00
Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties	38,350.00	16,850.00	11,630.00	16,850.00	16,850.00
Public Charges for Service	83,660.00	83,890.00	80,814.00	83,890.00	148,890.00
Intergovernmental Charges	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	3,900.00	6,050.00	32,636.00	6,050.00	6,050.00
Other Financing Sources	21,460.00	300,000.00	-	300,000.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES	1,314,252.00	1,683,069.00	1,465,115.00	1,684,069.00	1,571,461.00
EXPENDITURES					
General Government	178,923.00	261,974.00	201,991.00	262,884.00	298,559.00
Public Safety	488,881.00	442,485.00	471,442.00	496,445.00	562,112.00
Public Works	384,346.00	388,720.00	386,931.00	319,970.00	379,770.00
Health and Human Services	25,246.00	22,460.00	24,248.00	22,460.00	24,900.00
Culture, Recreation, Education	31,855.00	26,875.00	16,826.00	23,830.00	21,300.00
Conservation and Development	-	-	-	-	0.00
Capital Outlay and Planning	-	-	-	-	0.00
Debt Service	205,001.00	130,243.00	225,582.00	130,243.00	70,277.00
Other Financing Sources	-	465,803.00	484,917.00	196,603.00	180,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,314,252.00	1,738,560.00	1,811,937.00	1,452,435.00	1,536,918.00

WNAXLP

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\$1.79
lb

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Ribeye Roasts



\$14.99
lb

Pork Prime
Rib Roasts



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lb

Grape
Tomatoes

\$1.79 1 pint

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Select
Cucumbers



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Avocados

89¢ each

Romaine
Hearts



\$3.99
3 Ct

Betty Crocker
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Frosting

\$1.49 12-16oz
Asst Variety

Betty Crocker
Favorites Cake Mix



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Asst Variety
15.25-16.25oz

Betty Crocker
Brownie Mix



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18.3-19.9oz
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Chocolate, or
Dark Chocolate

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Cherry, Apple,
Dutch Apple

Nabisco
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Biscuit, Triscuits,
or Wheat Thins



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Asst Variety
7-9oz

Angel Soft
Double Roll
Bath Tissue

\$5.99 12 Rolls

Dutch Farms
Cream Cheese



2/\$3
8oz
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Green Bay Packers running back A.J. Dillon, center, carries several Los Angeles Rams defenders with him during a Nov. 28 game at Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

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Pack closes in on division title, eyes top seed

The Green Bay Packers bye week has come and gone, and now the team's attention turns to the stretch run.



MORGAN RODE

Despite the late bye week, there's still plenty to play for in the final five weeks of the season.

After the Minnesota Vikings' shocking loss to the then-winless Detroit Lions, Green

Bay has a whopping four-game lead in the NFC North race. The Packers could clinch the division as early as this Sunday should Minnesota lose on Thursday and Green Bay defeats the Chicago Bears on Sunday.

Even if that doesn't happen, it's hard to imagine the Packers not winning the division.

Once the Packers are able to lock up their first goal of a division title, earning as many home playoff games as possible is the next goal. Ideally, that means locking up the NFC's top seed.

Currently, the No. 1 seed is held by the Arizona Cardinals with a 10-2 mark. Green Bay and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are each at 9-3, while the Dallas Cowboys and Los Angeles Rams both sit at 8-4. The Pack owns the head-to-head tiebreaker over the Cardinals and Rams.

While many Packer fans will be scoreboard-watching over the next several weeks, head coach Matt LaFleur said if coaches and players get hung up on other games, that's when problems can arise within their own team.

"We just have to take care of our



Green Bay Packers receiver Davante Adams, right, talks with Los Angeles Rams receiver Odell Beckham Jr. after the team's game Nov. 28 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. The Packers own the head-to-head tiebreaker over a couple NFC contenders, including the Rams, but are still chasing the Arizona Cardinals for the No. 1 seed.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

business and whatever happens in those other games, that's the way it rolls," said LaFleur.

"You can only control what you can control in terms of how you prepare each and every week."

While the Packers don't have a particularly challenging set of opponents over the final five weeks, it's the familiarity of three opponents and unfamiliarity of the other two that could present some challenges.

Along with the team's second showdown with the Bears, the Packers also have their second games against the Vikings and Lions, with those coming in weeks 17 and 18.

LaFleur noted that playing a team for a second time always adds to the challenge of preparing for a game, as both teams are adjusting to what worked or didn't in the first matchup.

While the Lions will almost certainly be eliminated from the postseason by the last week of the season, the Vikings could be fighting for their playoff lives. The same might be true for the Christmas Day game against the Cleveland Browns. The Bears' playoff chances are fading fast, with the result of this week either pushing the team to the brink of elimination or keeping a slim glimmer of playoff hope alive.

The Baltimore Ravens — like the Browns — are an unfamiliar AFC team, which always makes for a challenging contest. Baltimore is in the thick of the race for the top seed in the conference, and the winner of the Packers/Ravens game will certainly see their chances of earning a No. 1 seed increase, while the loser will have an uphill road to climb.

One thing that's working to the Packers' advantage is that the team

is starting to get back some of its injured players, while most other teams are seeing star players go down with injuries.

LaFleur said the team could have cornerback Jaire Alexander, offensive lineman David Bakhtiari and outside linebacker Za'Darius Smith back at practice this week. Even if they don't hit the practice field, the fact the coach mentioned they could be back bodes well for the trio's return before the playoffs roll around.

While the Packers have found ways to win without them — and several other players — throughout the year, LaFleur is certainly not against getting those guys back.

"You can never have enough great players," said LaFleur.

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



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KEYS TO THE GAME

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

The Green Bay Packers (9-3) will host the Chicago Bears (4-8) at 7:20 p.m. Sunday at Lambeau Field. NBC will televise the game.

History

The Packers lead the series 101-94-6. Plus, they've split two playoff games.

Green Bay has won five in a row, 10 of the last 11 and 20 of the last 23 dating to its 10-3 victory on Jan. 2, 2011.

Coaches

Green Bay – Matt LaFleur, 35-9, third season. Chicago — Matt Nagy, 32-28, fourth season.

When the Packers have the ball

Beginning with a 24-14 verdict when the teams met in week six, Chicago has dropped six of its last seven games. It allowed at least 29 points in four of those games.

In the first game between the teams, Chicago limited Green Bay to 323 yards and 2-of-8 on third down. But the Bears are down two key cogs, with outside linebacker Khalil Mack (foot) and inside linebacker Danny Trevathan (knee) done for the season.

Chicago is 22nd in points allowed (23.9 per game). It ranks ninth in total defense (327.9 yards per game), first in sack percentage (9.27), 18th on third down (40.7%), 11th in the red zone (55.8%) and a rugged fourth in goal-to-go (60%).

It's a talented bunch, even without the indomitable Mack and the hard-hitting Trevathan, which is why they've allowed less than 300 yards in four consecutive games.

Up front, nose tackle Eddie Goldman is flanked by ends Akiem Hicks and Bilal Nichols. Hicks, a former All-Pro, and Goldman, a former second-round pick, are the big names, but Nichols is the best player. He leads the unit with 33 tackles, two sacks and five tackles for losses.

Outside linebacker Robert Quinn, who is sixth in the NFL with 11 sacks, is the star of the defense. Without Mack, Trevis Gipson is the other starter. A second-year player, he has one sack in his six starts and three overall.

Roquan Smith and Alex Oglethorpe are the inside linebackers. Smith is an elite player. He's got 121 tackles, three sacks, nine tackles for losses and one interception. Of the 20 players with 90 tackles, Smith is first in TFLs and second in sacks.

In the secondary, up-and-coming Jaylon Johnson is the team's best cornerback. He's joined by Artie Burns at



Green Bay Packers cornerback Chandon Sullivan, right, falls to the ground as Los Angeles Rams receiver Van Jefferson catches a pass that turned into a touchdown in a game on Nov. 28 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. The Packers' defense will be tasked Sunday will not allowing big plays to a Bears' offense that has struggled of late.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

the other corner and Xavier Crawford in the slot. Johnson has one interception and eight passes defended – four more than any Bears defender.

Eddie Jackson and Tashaun Gipson are the safeties. Jackson was an All-Pro in 2018, when he had six interceptions and scored three defensive touchdowns, but he hasn't even broken up a pass this season.

When the Bears have the ball

Chicago's offense ranks 30th with 16.8 points per game while Green Bay's defense ranks fifth with 20.2 points allowed per game. The Bears are 30th in total offense (298.8 yards per game), 32nd in sack rate (11.4%) and 23rd in turnovers (19). So, on paper, anyway, it's a huge advantage for the Packers.

There's uncertainty at quarterback for the Bears. Talented rookie Justin Fields has missed two consecutive games with cracked ribs. Veteran Andy Dalton started and threw four interceptions in last week's home loss to Arizona.

"I really felt like his confidence was

starting to get good out there," Nagy said of Fields, who is next-to-last in the NFL in passer rating.

Because their skill-sets are so different, the uncertainty will provide a for defensive coordinator Joe Barry.

"Those guys I think are really high-quality quarterbacks," LaFleur said. "I think Andy's played in this league for a long time, so it's hard to really fool a guy like that. I think he's done some really nice things. And then Justin brings a different dynamic in terms of just his ability to create off-schedule and make some plays, and certainly he did that the first time we played them."

Regardless of the quarterback, the offense runs through hard-charging running back David Montgomery, who was inactive for the first matchup. In eight games, he's rushed for 566 yards and four touchdowns. He had 141 total yards and one touchdown vs. Arizona.

The Bears have three legit targets in the passing game. Receiver Darnell Mooney leads the way with 51 receptions for 721 yards and three touchdowns. He scored in the first matchup

vs. Green Bay.

Tight end Cole Kmet has 40 receptions for 402 yards. Former Pro Bowl receiver Allen Robinson, who is coming off back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons, has only 30 catches for 339 yards and one score. He's missed the last three games with a hamstring injury and will be questionable to open this week.

The offensive line consists of 39-year-old left tackle Jason Peters, left guard Cody Whitehair, center Sam Mustipher, right guard James Daniels and right tackle Larry Borom.

Mustipher is the weak link. He'll have his hands full with Kenny Clark, who had two sacks in the first meeting.

Special teams

Chicago has a big-time weapon in Jakeem Grant. Acquired from Miami earlier this season, he's averaging 24.4 yards per kickoff return and 9.4 yards per punt return. In his sixth season, he's got five career touchdowns on returns (three on punts, two on kickoffs). He'll be a big test for the Packers.

While punter Corey Bojorquez ranks fourth with a 43.8-yard net average, Green Bay is 26th in kickoff coverage.

Chicago punter Pat O'Donnell ranks 26th in net average, so there are opportunities for Green Bay's feeble and mistake-prone punt return. Chicago's Cairo Santos is 16-of-19 on field goals (84.2%), including 15-of-16 from inside of 50 yards.

The Packers can only hope the bye week allowed kicker Mason Crosby to regroup. He's 18-of-27 on field goals, his 66.7 percent rate being second-worst in the NFL.

Poor snaps, bad holds and shoddy protection all factored earlier in the season, but those problems seemed to be largely squared away before the bye. He's missed at least one field goal in four consecutive games.

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PACKERS ROSTER

Active

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Mason Crosby	K	6-1	207	37	15	Colorado
7	Corey Bojorquez	P	6-0	217	25	4	New Mexico
8	Amari Rodgers	WR	5-9	212	22	R	Clemson
10	Jordan Love	QB	6-4	219	23	2	Utah State
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
18	Randall Cobb	WR	5-10	195	31	11	Kentucky
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
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	Mercedes 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

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

59	De'Vondre Campbell	LB	6-3	232	28	6	Minnesota
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BEARS ROSTER

Active

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Justin Fields	QB	6-3	228	22	R	Ohio State
2	Cairo Santos	K	5-8	175	30	8	Tulane
4	Eddie Jackson	DB	6-0	206	27	5	Alabama
8	Damien Williams	RB	5-11	225	29	7	Oklahoma
9	Nick Foles	QB	6-6	262	32	10	Arizona
10	Damiere Byrd	WR	5-9	175	28	6	South Carolina
11	Darnell Mooney	WR	5-11	173	24	2	Tulane
12	Allen Robinson II	WR	6-2	220	28	8	Penn State
14	Andy Dalton	QB	6-2	219	34	11	TCU
16	Pat O'Donnell	P	6-4	223	30	8	Miami (Fla.)
17	Jakeem Grant Sr.	WR	5-7	172	29	6	Texas Tech
18	Jesse James	TE	6-7	251	27	7	Penn State
21	Xavier Crawford	DB	5-11	185	25	3	Central Michigan
22	Kindle Vildor	DB	5-11	189	23	2	Georgia Southern
23	Marqui Christian	DB	5-11	195	27	5	Midwestern State
24	Khalil Herbert	RB	5-9	212	23	R	Virginia Tech
25	Artie Burns	DB	6-0	187	26	4	Miami (Fla.)
26	Deon Bush	DB	6-0	198	28	6	Miami (Fla.)
32	David Montgomery	RB	5-11	224	24	3	Iowa State
33	Jaylon Johnson	DB	6-0	196	22	2	Utah
35	Ryan Nall	RB	6-2	240	25	3	Oregon State
36	DeAndre Houston-Carson	DB	6-0	202	28	6	William & Mary
37	Teez Tabor	DB	6-0	193	25	3	Florida
38	Tashaun Gipson Sr.	DB	6-1	207	31	8	Wyoming
44	Alec Ogletree	LB	6-3	250	30	9	Georgia
45	Joel Iyiegbuniwe	LB	6-1	235	26	4	Western Kentucky
48	Patrick Scales	LS	6-3	226	33	6	Utah State
57	Christian Jones	LB	6-3	245	30	8	Florida State
58	Roquan Smith	LB	6-1	232	24	4	Georgia
59	Cassius Marsh Sr.	LB	6-4	254	29	8	UCLA
64	Alex Bars	OL	6-5	334	26	3	Notre Dame
65	Cody Whitehair	OL	6-3	316	29	6	Kansas State
67	Sam Mustipher	OL	6-2	332	25	2	Notre Dame
68	James Daniels	OL	6-4	327	24	4	Iowa
71	Jason Peters	OL	6-4	328	39	18	Arkansas
73	Lachavious Simmons	OL	6-5	319	25	2	Tennessee State
75	Larry Borom	OL	6-5	333	22	R	Missouri
76	Teven Jenkins	OL	6-6	321	23	R	Oklahoma State
80	Jimmy Graham	TE	6-7	259	35	12	Miami (Fla.)
81	J.P. Holtz	TE	6-3	246	28	3	Pittsburgh
84	Marquise Goodwin	WR	5-9	180	31	8	Texas
85	Cole Kmet	TE	6-6	260	22	2	Notre Dame
87	Jesper Horsted	TE	6-4	241	24	2	Princeton
90	Angelo Blackson	DL	6-4	315	29	7	Auburn
91	Eddie Goldman	DL	6-3	325	27	6	Florida State
92	Caleb Johnson	LB	6-2	227	23	R	Houston Baptist University
93	Margus Hunt	DL	6-8	295	34	9	SMU
94	Robert Quinn	LB	6-4	245	31	11	North Carolina
95	Khyiris Tonga	DL	6-4	338	25	R	BYU
96	Akiem Hicks	DL	6-4	335	32	10	Regina (Canada)
97	Mario Edwards Jr.	DL	6-3	277	27	7	Florida State
98	Bilal Nichols	DL	6-4	302	25	4	Delaware
99	Trevis Gipson	LB	6-4	263	24	2	Tulsa

Active/Physically Unable to Perform

29	Tarik Cohen	RB	5-6	196	26	5	North Carolina A&T
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Reserve/Injured

6	Danny Trevathan	LB	6-0	234	31	10	Kentucky
20	Duke Shelley	DB	5-9	176	25	3	Kansas State
50	Jeremiah Attaochu	LB	6-3	262	28	8	Georgia Tech
52	Khalil Mack	LB	6-3	267	30	8	Buffalo
74	Germain Ifedi	OL	6-5	344	27	6	Texas A&M

Practice Squad

13	Rodney Adams	WR	6-1	188	27	2	South Florida
15	Nsimba Webster	WR	5-10	180	25	3	Eastern Washington
27	Thomas Graham Jr.	DB	5-11	197	22	R	Oregon
30	Dee Virgin	DB	5-9	194	28	3	West Alabama
31	Artavis Pierce	RB	5-11	208	25	2	Oregon State
43	Ledarius Mack	LB	6-1	237	25	1	Buffalo
46	Sam Kamara	LB	6-2	288	23	R	Stony Brook
47	Rashad Smith	LB	6-1	220	24	2	Florida Atlantic
49	Charles Snowden	LB	6-7	245	23	R	Virginia
53	Arlington Hambrick	OL	6-5	309	25	2	Colorado
55	Bruce Irvin	LB	6-3	248	34	10	West Virginia
60	Dieter Eiselen	OL	6-4	320	25	1	Yale
63	LaCale London	DL	6-5	316	24	1	Western Illinois
72	Tyrone Wheatley Jr.	OL	6-6	326	24	R	Stony Brook
82	Isaiah Coulter	WR	6-2	198	23	2	Rhode Island
83	Dazz Newsome	WR	5-10	184	22	R	North Carolina

Reserve/COVID-19

70	Elijah Wilkinson	OL	6-6	322	26	5	Massachusetts
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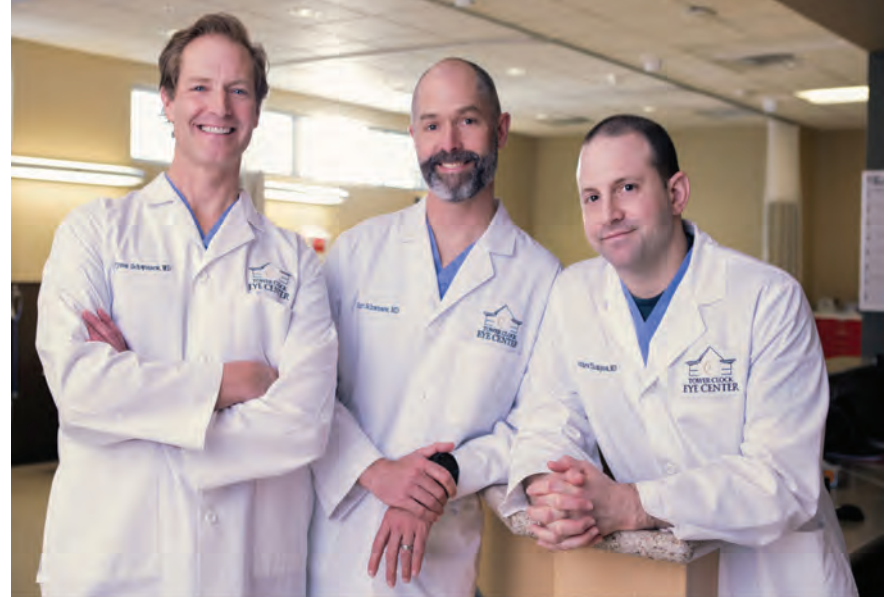
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GAME VITALS PACKERS DEPTH CHART

GREEN BAY PACKERS (9-3)
vs. CHICAGO BEARS (4-8)
WHEN: 7:20 p.m., Sunday
WHERE: Lambeau Field
TV: NBC
RADIO: 620 AM (WTMJ), Sirius
Satellite Radio (WTMJ feed)

THE SERIES

Packers vs. Bears
All-time, regular season: 101-94-6
All-time, postseason: 1-1
All-time, at Packers: 50-42-4
Streaks: The Green Bay Packers have dominated the series against the Chicago Bears, winning 10 of the last 11 matchups. Green Bay hasn't lost a home game to Chicago since 2015.
Last meeting, regular season: Oct. 17, 2021, Packers won 24-14 at Solider Field in Chicago. Aaron Rodgers threw touchdown passes to Allen Lazard, and Aaron Jones and ran for another score. Mason Crosby added a field goal.

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	36-28	
BYE WEEK			
Dec. 12	vs. Chicago	7:20 p.m.	NBC
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
Randall Cobb



TE
Josiah Deguara
Tyler Davis



RT
Billy Turner
Dennis Kelly



RG
Royce Newman
Ben Braden



C
Lucas Patrick
Jake Hanson



LG
Jon Runyan
Ben Braden



LT
Yosh Nijman
Dennis Kelly



TE
Mercedes Lewis
Dominique Dafney



WR
Marquez Valdes-Scantling
Allen Lazard



DEFENSE

CB
Kevin King
Chandon Sullivan



DE
Dean Lowry
Tyler Lancaster



NT
Kenny Clark
T.J. Slaton



DE
Kingsley Keke
Jack Heflin



CB
Eric Stokes
Rasul Douglas



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. 6, 12:15 p.m.

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BEARS DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE



DEFENSE



SCHEDULE

Sunday's Games

Dallas at Washington, noon
Jacksonville at Tennessee, noon
Seattle at Houston, noon
Las Vegas at Kansas City, noon
New Orleans at N.Y. Jets, noon
Atlanta at Carolina, noon
Baltimore at Cleveland, noon
N.Y. Giants at L.A. Chargers, 3:05 p.m.
Detroit at Denver, 3:05 p.m.
San Francisco at Cincinnati, 3:25 p.m.
Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 3:25 p.m.
Chicago at Green Bay, 7:20 p.m.

Monday's Game

L.A. Rams at Arizona, 7:15 p.m.

Teams on bye: Indianapolis, Miami, New England, Philadelphia

Thursday's Game

Kansas City at L.A. Chargers, 7:20 p.m.

STANDINGS

NFC East

Team	W	L	T
Dallas	8	4	0
Washington	6	6	0
Philadelphia	6	7	0
N.Y. Giants	4	8	0

North

Team	W	L	T
Green Bay	9	3	0
Minnesota	5	7	0
Chicago	4	8	0
Detroit	1	10	1

South

Team	W	L	T
Tampa Bay	9	3	0
Carolina	5	7	0
Atlanta	5	7	0
New Orleans	5	7	0

West

Team	W	L	T
Arizona	10	2	0
L.A. Rams	8	4	0
San Francisco	6	6	0
Seattle	4	8	0

AFC East

Team	W	L	T
New England	9	4	0
Buffalo	7	5	0
Miami	6	7	0
N.Y. Jets	3	9	0

North

Team	W	L	T
Baltimore	8	4	0
Cincinnati	7	5	0
Pittsburgh	6	5	1
Cleveland	6	6	0

South

Team	W	L	T
Tennessee	8	4	0
Indianapolis	7	6	0
Houston	2	10	0
Jacksonville	2	10	0

West

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

Skyy Premium 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 Korbels Brandy \$18⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Southern Comfort Whiskey \$22⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

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BEAT The Expert



Morgan Rode
NEW Media Sports Editor

Week 14 Games: Sunday, Dec. 12

Teams on bye:
Indianapolis, Miami, New England & Philadelphia

Pittsburgh @ Minnesota Thurs., Dec. 9
Atlanta @ Carolina
San Francisco @ Cincinnati
Seattle @ Houston
Las Vegas @ Kansas City
New Orleans @ NY Jets
Jacksonville @ Tennessee
Dallas @ Washington
Detroit @ Denver
NY Giants @ LA Chargers
Buffalo @ Tampa Bay
Chicago @ Green Bay
LA Rams @ Arizona Mon., Dec. 13

Tie Breaker Game:
Baltimore @ Cleveland

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
God's Purpose Apparel	10-4	129-64-1
Shawano Seasons Restaurant	10-4	121-72-1
Tim Murphy	8-6	121-72-1
Dennis Brei	9-5	120-73-1
22 Shell	9-5	119-74-1
Buss Automotive	8-6	119-74-1
Tower Clock Eye Center	9-5	119-74-1
Hawkeye Hearth & Home	8-6	117-76-1
Shawano Place Assisted Living	9-5	117-76-1

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
Smokey Joe's	9-5	117-76-1
Morgan Rode	8-6	116-77-1
Idell Johnston State Farm Insurance Agent	8-6	116-77-1
B & C Auto Recycling	10-4	115-78-1
Gehm's Club 117	10-4	112-81-1
P & D Sales & Service	9-5	112-81-1
Cirrinity/Wittenberg Telephone	8-6	104-89-1
Iverson's Piggly Wiggly	9-5	103-90-1
Senn Insurance	9-5	99-94-1



This Week's Winner: Gehm's Club 117



Morgan Rode
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score : Baltimore 27 @ Cleveland 24



Tim Murphy
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 16 @ Cleveland 13



Dennis Brei
Oconto County
Times Herald

This Week's Picks:

Pittsburgh	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 21 @ Cleveland 17

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B&C Auto
Recycling

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
San Francisco	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
NY Jets	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 27 @ Cleveland 24



Iverson's Staff
Iverson's
Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	LA Rams
Atlanta	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Houston	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 24 @ Cleveland 17



Amber
Smokey Joe's
& JDoggs

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 17 @ Cleveland 21



Robert Buss
Buss
Automotive

This Week's Picks:

Pittsburgh	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Washington	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Buffalo	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 21 @ Cleveland 24



Dena
P&D Sales
& Service

This Week's Picks:

Pittsburgh	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 20 @ Cleveland 17



Caroline
Idell Johnston
State Farm Agent

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	LA Rams
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 30 @ Cleveland 13



Scott Nyman
Cirinity

This Week's Picks:

Pittsburgh	Tennessee	Arizona
Atlanta	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Detroit	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 28 @ Cleveland 31



In Memory of
Patty Lasher
Shawano Seasons
Restaurant

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Atlanta	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
NY Jets	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 31 @ Cleveland 24



Jim Wiegand
Tower Clock
Eye Center

This Week's Picks:

Pittsburgh	Tennessee	Arizona
Atlanta	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 27 @ Cleveland 21



Russ
Gehm's
Club 117

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 20 @ Cleveland 35



Shane Senn
Senn
Insurance

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Washington	
San Francisco	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
NY Jets	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 21 @ Cleveland 23



Brenda
22 Shell

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Carolina	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 17 @ Cleveland 16



Chris
God's Purpose
Apparel

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	Arizona
Atlanta	Dallas	
Cincinnati	Denver	
Seattle	NY Giants	
Kansas City	Buffalo	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 21 @ Cleveland 24



Aaron
Shawano
Place

This Week's Picks:

Minnesota	Tennessee	LA Rams
Atlanta	Washington	
San Francisco	Detroit	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Kansas City	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 30 @ Cleveland 34



Dale
Hawkeye
Hearth & Home

This Week's Picks:

Pittsburgh	Tennessee	LA Rams
Carolina	Dallas	
San Francisco	Denver	
Seattle	LA Chargers	
Las Vegas	Tampa Bay	
New Orleans	Green Bay	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Baltimore 21 @ Cleveland 7

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Green Bay Football 2021 Season				
SEPTEMBER - REGULAR SEASON				
Sunday, September 12	3:25 pm	@ New Orleans Saints	FOX	
Monday, September 20	7:35 pm	DETROIT LIONS	ESPN	
Sunday, September 26	7:30 pm	@ San Francisco 49ers	NBC	
OCTOBER				
Sunday, October 03	3:25 pm	Pittsburgh Steelers (GOLD)	CBS	
Thursday, October 10	NOON*	@ Cincinnati Bengals	FOX	
Sunday, October 17	NOON*	@ Chicago Bears	FOX	
Sunday, October 24	NOON*	WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM	FOX	
Thursday, October 28	7:30 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	5:25 pm*	LOS ANGELES RAMS (GOLD)	FOX	
DECEMBER				
BYE WEEK				
Sunday, December 12	7:20 pm*	INDIANAPOLIS COLTS	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

Post bye struggles

Coming off a bye should be a tremendous advantage. Oddly, it's not.

Under coach Matt LaFleur, the Green Bay Packers lost 37-8 at San Francisco following their week 11 bye in 2019 and 38-10 at Tampa Bay following their week five bye in 2020. It's also worth recalling the Packers hosted the Seahawks and the Rams after their byes this season and won both games.

League-wide, teams coming off their bye this season are 12-11-1. Teams coming off their bye and playing at home, like Green Bay will be on Sunday night against the Chicago Bears, are 5-4.

Regardless, it was a badly needed break for LaFleur's crew. By injury impact, they've been the most-injured team in the NFL, according to ManGamesLost.com.

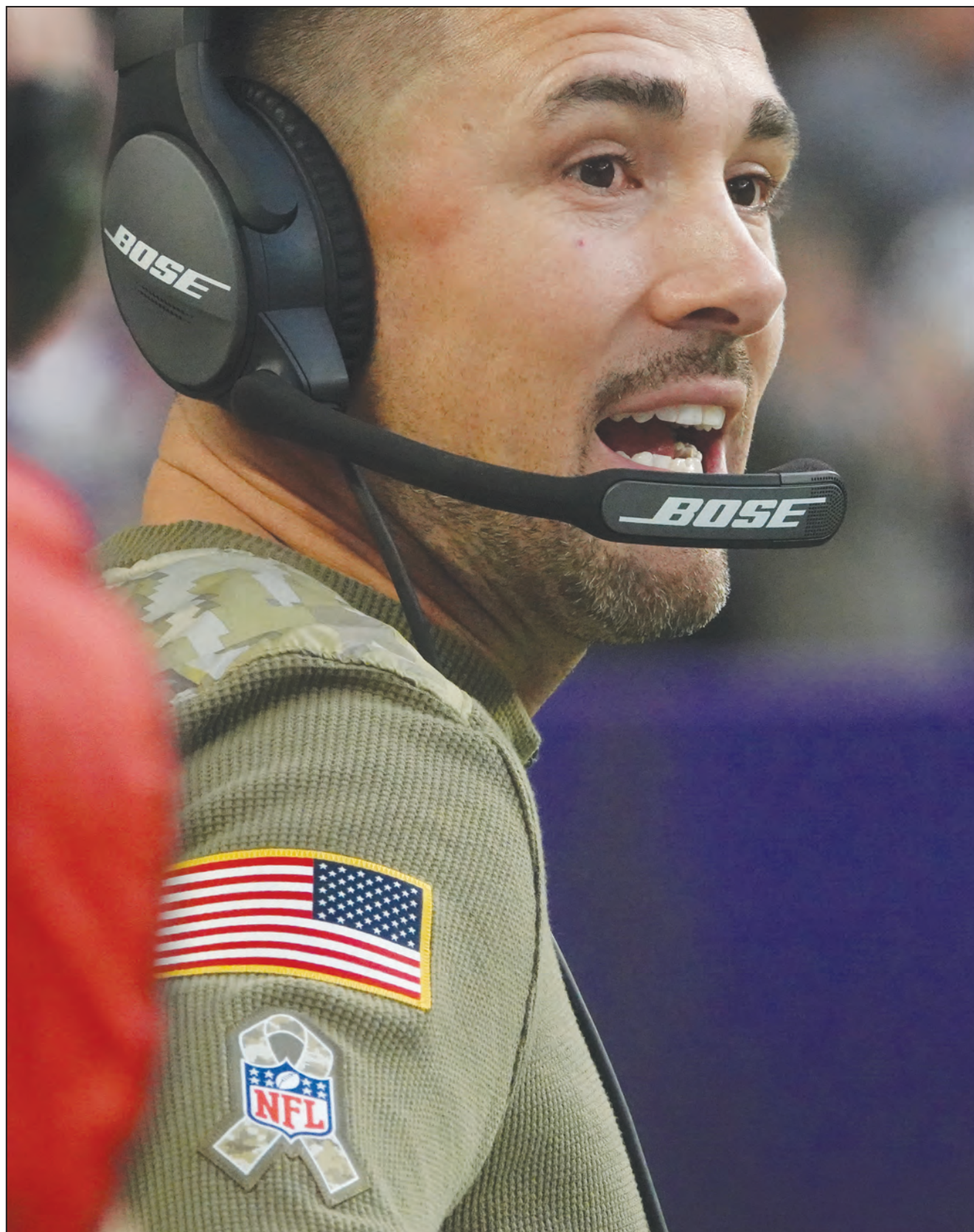
LaFleur was optimistic that three star players who've barely played this season, All-Pro left tackle David Bakhtiari (knee), All-Pro cornerback Jaire Alexander (shoulder) and Pro Bowl outside linebacker Za'Darius Smith (back), could return to practice this week.

Running back Aaron Jones (knee) and quarterback Aaron Rodgers (toe) should be a week healthier. After a long 12-week grind, the team should be refreshed for the pivotal stretch run.

"I think that's always the hope when you have such a late bye," said LaFleur, whose team took advantage of last year's playoff bye to beat the Rams 32-18 in the divisional round. "It breaks your season in terms of we've got five games left in the regular season and then, hopefully, some games after that. But I hope it gets the guys rejuvenated for the final push that we're about to encounter."

For LaFleur, the week off was about recharging batteries and studying his team's tendencies. With a dozen games behind him, there's a lot to digest. He also got a sneak peak at the next two opponents. As a happy coincidence, the Bears hosted Arizona in the noon time slot and Baltimore was at Pittsburgh in the afternoon window. Those are the next opponents on the docket.

"I would say the primary focus is on yourself but, yeah, you're definitely taking notice when you're sitting there watching the Bears game



Green Bay Packers coach Matt LaFleur looks on during the team's game against the Minnesota Vikings on Nov. 21 in Minneapolis. LaFleur is looking to pick up his first win after the team's bye week, after having lost in his first two years.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

vs. Arizona, and the Baltimore, Pittsburgh game," LaFleur said. "You're always kind of taking in just observations as you're watching it, but as far as really dissecting it the way we do when we watch our coaches' copies, I would say it's at a totally different level."

Race for homefield advantage

With five games remaining, the top three teams in the NFC are separated by one game. Arizona leads the way with a 10-2 record. Last year's NFC title game participants, Green Bay and Tampa Bay, are one game back at 9-3.

While all three teams face cumulative schedules of below .500, the Cardinals have by far the toughest remaining slate. Their five remaining opponents are a combined 28-32-1, but that changes to 27-22 once woeful Detroit is taken out of the equation.

In the case of a three-team tie, Green Bay as it stands today would be the No. 1 seed. The first tiebreaker is head-to-head, which wouldn't apply in this case because the three teams did not play each other.

The next tiebreaker is conference record. Green Bay and Arizona have two losses and Tampa Bay has three. That would eliminate the Buccaneers.

The tiebreaker then goes back to the top with head-to-head, which Green Bay won on Rasul Douglas' end-zone interception.

The No. 1 seed is huge because it provides the only bye into the divisional round. Playing at Lambeau Field is an obvious advantage, but Arizona is 7-0 at home this season and Tampa Bay, of course, won at Green Bay in last year's NFC Championship Game.

Here are the remaining schedules:

Arizona: home vs. the Rams (8-4), at Detroit (1-10-1), home vs. Indianapolis (7-6), at Dallas (8-4), home vs. Seattle (4-8). Total: 28-32-1. Home-away: 3-2. Winning record: 3.

Green Bay: home vs. Chicago (4-8), at Baltimore (8-4), home vs. Cleveland (6-6), home vs. Minnesota (5-7), at Detroit (1-10-1). Total:

24-35-1. Home-away: 3-2. Winning record: 1.

Tampa Bay: home vs. Buffalo (7-4), home vs. New Orleans (5-7), at Carolina (5-7), at N.Y. Jets (3-9), home vs. Carolina (5-7). Total: 25-34. Home-away: 3-2. Winning record: 1.

Jones nominated for major honor

Jones is the Packers' nominee for the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year.

A Pro Bowl running back on the field, Jones has been active in the Green Bay community and his hometown of El Paso, Texas. He and his brother, Alvin Jr., founded the A&A All the Way Foundation. Jones also started the Yards for Shoes campaign in which he donates one pair of shoes for every rushing yard.

"It means everything to me," Jones told Packers.com. "Me and my family have always been big on giving back to the community and different things like that. Just to be mentioned in the same sentence as some of these guys who are nominated or some of these guys who have won before is a huge honor."

All 32 nominees will receive up to a \$40,000 donation in their name to their charity of choice. The win-

ner, which will be announced during NFL Honors on the eve of the Super Bowl, will receive a \$250,000 donation.

"The Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award is the league's most prestigious honor, and these 32 men represent their many teammates who do incredible things in their communities," Commissioner Roger Goodell said. "Their unwavering commitment to their hometowns and team communities embodies Walter's spirit of giving back in a way that makes us all incredibly proud of the work they are doing every day."

Packers-Bears, round 2

For the second and final time this season, it's Packers vs. Bears.

Green Bay won round one, 24-14, on Oct. 17. Rodgers' 6-yard touchdown run with 4:30 remaining, in which he declared to all the world that he owned the Bears, was the clinching score.

"I always think the second time you play somebody, it's challenging for both teams because you're going to rely on a lot that went right and/or wrong the first time you played," LaFleur said, "and you're going to try to play that chess game in terms of how are you going to adjust? Ev-

ery time you play the Chicago Bears, you know it's going to be a physical, four-quarter battle and that was what it was like the first time around and I would expect nothing different the second time around."

This is Green Bay's third full decade of overwhelming dominance in the series. Over the past 30 seasons, the Packers own a commanding 45-15 advantage, including a victory in the 2010 NFC Championship Game. Why? Quarterbacks, of course. During those 60 matchups:

Passer rating: Packers, 93.8; Bears, 66.8.

Completion percentage: Packers, 63.7; Bears, 57.1.

Touchdowns/interceptions: Packers, 113/52; Bears, 58/91.

For his career, Rodgers is 22-5 against Chicago. One of those losses came in 2013, when he suffered a broken collarbone on the opening series. In 26 regular-season starts, he's thrown 57 touchdowns vs. 10 interceptions, good for a 107.7 passer rating. He's 13-0 when he tops a 100 passer rating.

Green Bay has won five in a row in the series. Rodgers has 12 touchdowns vs. zero interceptions during those games compared to five touchdowns vs. seven interceptions for Chicago's quarterbacks.

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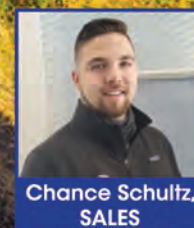


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Samantha Messersmith wraps a package at her new Serendipity by Sami retail store in Oconto Falls. A ribbon-cutting ceremony Dec. 2 came just in time for Christmas shopping. **SEE STORY ON PAGE 6-7**

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

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Or Email: humanresources@ocontoelectric.com

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www.ocontoelectric.com

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5 ways to protect your holiday budget

It may be the season of cheer, but for many, the holidays are rife with anxiety about expenses. A recent survey shows that staying on budget is Americans' top concern this holiday season, followed by incurring long-term debt, shipping costs and being charged late or hidden fees.

Here are five tips to protect your holiday budget:

- Set a spending cap with friends and family. Americans plan to spend \$998 on gifts this holiday season, according to the National Retail Federation. 'Tis the season for giving, but make sure you don't overspend. Know your budget up front and communicate that with loved ones. Another idea to limit spending is to put everyone's name into a hat. Each person draws one name and buys a gift for just the person they selected. You can add a bit of intrigue by keeping the identity of your recipient a secret until you open gifts!
- Take advantage of deal days. Timing is everything for getting the best prices. Do your homework in advance to pay significantly less. The



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typical big sales days include Super Saturday before Christmas, which is great for last-minute gifts.

- Purchase gift cards with peace of mind. Gift cards are a popular, convenient gift, but some would-be buyers may hesitate to purchase them out of fear that the business may end up closing, especially

those still struggling during the ongoing pandemic. Erie Insurance is taking away that concern with gift card reimbursement coverage, which is provided to certain eligible homeowners at no additional charge. The coverage provides reimbursement for up to \$250 per gift card at local businesses within 100

miles of a customer's home if the business permanently closes within a year after purchase. Reimbursement coverage is limited to \$500 per policy period.

- Track when products are discounted with a browser extension. Do you want the best deals but don't have the time to spend searching for them? There are extensions you can download on web browsers that will compare prices and even apply the best coupon codes at checkout.

- Use credit card rewards. You've earned those points throughout the year and now is a great time to cash them in. The simplest way to use points is for gift cards, as it's one of the top requested gifts and there are many categories to choose from, including restaurants, clothing and grocery stores. Another option is to take advantage of the money saved from a statement credit to cover the expense of holiday gifts.

Being mindful of your spending now can help you have a low-stress holiday season and start the new year off on the right foot.



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Protect kids by steering clear of knock-off toys this holiday season

(StatePoint) In the scramble to get your hands on the toys your children want this holiday season, experts warn that you should prioritize safety by sticking to age-appropriate toys and by avoiding counterfeit alternatives at all costs.

“Illicit sellers of counterfeit toys may dupe parents into thinking they’re buying the real thing, or entice them with lower prices or the promise of getting the ‘hot toy’ of the holiday season,” says Joan Lawrence, The Toy Association’s “Toy Safety Mom” and senior vice president of standards and regulatory affairs. “What’s scary is that these illegitimate sellers are actually peddling fake and unsafe products that oftentimes don’t comply with product safety laws. That’s why we always urge parents to shop from reputable brands and sellers whose toys have been tested for compliance with over 100 different safety standards and tests required by law.”

With the shipping crisis predicted to have widespread impacts on the availability of this holiday season’s most popular toys, counterfeits are likely to be even more enticing. And new research conducted by OnePoll



on behalf of The Toy Association suggests that consumers are not always as vigilant as they should be, with 65% of parents saying they would purchase knock-off/counterfeit toys if they couldn’t get their hands on the original item and 63% indicating they would buy counterfeits if they were cheaper. Indeed one in 10 parents are not even aware that counterfeit toys can be dangerous for kids to play with.

As you go about looking to snag a hot toy this holiday season, steer clear of counterfeit toys that are not safe or appropriate for your child by following these tips from PlaySafe.org:

1. Shop only from reputable brands and sellers. Their toys have been tested for compliance with over 100 different safety standards and tests required by law.

2. Make sure the brand you’re purchasing from has a professional-looking website. Can’t find a website? That may be a red flag that you are dealing with an illicit seller.

3. If a product’s reviews are negative, or if there aren’t many, it’s a clue the product could be a fake.

4. Poorly photoshopped pictures, typos, or spelling mistakes in the online description or packaging are other clues that the product could be illegitimate, and therefore unsafe.

5. Can’t find a toy on your child’s wish list? Wait for a trusted retailer to restock the product. Buying fake or cheaper alternatives is just not worth the risk.

In addition to avoiding knockoff toys, helping ensure your child’s safety during the gift-giving season also means shopping for toys only appropriate for their age. According to The Toy Association survey, 76% of parents read age recommendations on toy packaging before purchasing. However, 40% admitted they view age labels on toys as suggestions instead of a warning, and 68% would give their child a toy recommended for older children. Be sure to follow age recommendations on toy packaging, which are not mere suggestions but firm recommendations made by safety experts that are based on childhood developmental stages.

For more safe shopping tips, visit www.PlaySafe.org, a premier toy safety resource site.

“With your vigilance, you can keep the merriest time of year happy, healthy and joyful by ensuring your child doesn’t unwrap a potential safety hazard,” says Lawrence.

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Serendipity by Sami gets a brick-and-mortar home

Homemade crafts business created at home has grown since 2018

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

Like many entrepreneurs, Samantha Messersmith's success story starts on one of the worst days of her career.

Not long after completing her master's degree in business in 2018, Messersmith came into work at her job as marketing director and discovered her workplace's entire senior staff was being laid off.

It didn't stop her for long. Shortly thereafter, Messersmith launched Serendipity by Sami out of her home in Suamico. Earlier this year, she moved the business into its own production and retail space at 223 Van Buren St. in Oconto Falls.

"I've always been the crafty type," she said Dec. 2 after the Oconto Falls Area Chamber of Commerce staged a ribbon-cutting in honor of the store. The business features gifts of all shapes, sizes and colors, almost all of them handcrafted by "Sami" herself.

She also offers a limited number of products by other folks, including wooden Santas and evergreens crafted by Laney's Let Us and soaps by Pineview Homemade Soaps — the keywords being "crafted" and "homemade." All of the offerings are one-of-a-kind.

That dark day in 2018 was the worst moment in an otherwise momentous year. In addition to starting her own business ("I don't have to report to anyone anymore"), her husband, Jordan, came home from a stint with the Marines, and she gave birth to her daughter, Rowan.

Serendipity by Sami has flexible hours: Messersmith aims to be open from noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, but she generally doesn't turn people away if they drop by while she's working.

For information, visit the Serendipity by Sami page on Facebook.



Oconto Falls Area Chamber of Commerce representatives cheer after Samantha Messersmith, center, cuts the ceremonial ribbon at her Serendipity by Sami store and workspace at 223 Van Buren St., Oconto Falls. From left are Sue Laskowski, Danielle Kline, City Administrator Vicki Roberts, Messersmith with scissors, Chamber President Gail Yatso and Debbie Arndt.



Samantha Messersmith started her Serendipity by Sami business out of her home in Suamico but recently moved to a storefront on Van Buren Street in Oconto Falls.



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: Yarn gnomes and plastic critters are among the handmade Christmas ornaments available at Serendipity by Sami; Everything at Serendipity by Sami is handmade and one-of-a-kind; Shoppers peruse the handmade merchandise at Serendipity by Sami after a ribbon-cutting on Dec. 2; Tumblers rotate as they slowly dry in various stages of completion at Serendipity by Sami in Oconto Falls. Owner/creator Samantha Messersmith says the stainless steel tumblers undergo a transformation that may involve paint, sand, glitter or other colorful materials, and every step needs a layer of epoxy.



PHOTOS BY WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



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US jobless claims rise by 28,000, but still considered low

By PAUL WISEMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits rose last week even though the U.S. job market has been rebounding from last year's coronavirus recession.

Jobless claims climbed by 28,000 to 222,000 from the previous week's 52-year low 194,000, the Labor Department reported Thursday. The four-week average of claims, which smooths out week-to-week ups and downs, fell below 239,000, a pandemic low.

Since topping 900,000 in early January, the weekly applications — a proxy for layoffs — have been falling more or less steadily.

Overall, 2 million Americans were receiving traditional jobless benefits the week that ended Nov. 20, down by 107,000 from the week before.

Until Sept. 6, the federal government had supplemented state unemployment insurance programs by paying an extra payment of \$300 a week and extending benefits to gig workers and to those who were out of work for six months or more. Including the federal programs, the number of Americans receiving some

form of jobless aid peaked at more than 33 million in June 2020.

The job market has rebounded strongly since the spring of 2020 when the coronavirus pandemic forced businesses to close or cut hours and kept many Americans at home as a health precaution. In March and April last year, employers slashed more than 22 million jobs.

But government relief checks, super-low interest rates and the rollout of vaccines combined to give consumers the confidence and financial wherewithal to start spending again. Employers, scrambling to meet an unexpected surge in demand, have

made 18 million new hires since April 2020, and the jobs report out Friday is expected to show that they added another 535,000 in November. Still, the United States remains 4 million short of the jobs it had in February 2020.

Companies now complain that they can't find workers to fill job openings, a near-record 10.4 million in September. Workers, finding themselves with bargaining clout for the first time in decades, are becoming choosier about jobs; a record 4.4 million quit in September, a sign they have confidence in their ability to find something better.

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