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REVITALIZING ANIWA

Aniwa resident Tyler Reynolds is an artist who's spearheading a plan to revitalize Aniwa, making it a tourist destination. Reynolds poses with one of his pieces of art in his studio Aug. 1. SEE STORIES ON PAGES 2-3.

LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA

Zoromski named to all-star team

Bryce Zoromski of Wittenberg-Birnamwood American Legion baseball has been chosen to play in the state all-star game.

PAGE 20

Jail officers get a pay raise

The Shawano County Board voted to give correctional officers \$3 more an hour, hoping to stop the bleeding as officers go to private sector and other counties.

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Ascension joins Aspirus

Aspirus Health has assumed ownership from Ascension Wisconsin of seven hospitals, 21 physician clinics and air and ground medical transport services in north and central Wisconsin.

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A quest to revitalize Aniwa

Resident hopes to clean up Pleasant Lake, plan festival, build museum

By **LUKE REIMER**

Reporter

One Aniwa resident is hoping to revitalize the community and turn it into a tourist destination.

Tyler Reynolds, who grew up in Aniwa, recently returned from Chicago to work in the town. He is trying to turn Aniwa into an inviting destination where tourists and other visitors will want to spend their time.

Reynolds has started his goal of revitalizing the area by helping Melody Mill restaurant refresh its look.

"I started working with the Melody Mill recently," said Reynolds. "I reworked their menu and am working on their sign."

He said that he got the inspiration of trying to rally community members to revitalize the town after going to a town hall meeting.

"I was telling the treasurer of Aniwa the ideas I have for the town," said Reynolds. "She told me to come to a town hall meeting. When I walked in, they were talking about tourism."

At the meeting, Reynolds said that he brought up the idea of incorporating a history museum in the town.

"I said, 'What is stopping Aniwa from having one?'" said Reynolds. "Since I got back to Aniwa, I have been doing research on the town, where I grabbed hundreds of pictures from the late 1800s and on."

During his research, Reynolds said that he was able to find articles and pictures from not only the internet, but residents and former residents of Aniwa.

"I got into contact with people on the internet who were willing to let me copy photos, articles and stories," said Reynolds. "Some people let me pick their house for different old artifacts that display Aniwa's history."

Reynolds is working with town officials to use COVID-19 grant money to find a building to house all of the artifacts, pictures and stories. He said if the idea of a history museum can't be used, then he will post pictures around town in the spots that they were taken, depicting what life looked like in Aniwa in the past.

On top of a history museum, Reynolds pitched the idea of adding a festival in the park in the middle of the town. This includes having a farmers market, where local farmers can set up stands all day, a flea market



Tyler Reynolds hopes that the park in the center of Aniwa can be a place where residents and visitors can gather for events.

LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA

and a stage with live music.

"I said that we can develop a farm and friends event," said Reynolds. "There are other towns that do it. Almost every little town has their own niche."

He added that he talked to the owner at Little Rock Bar in Aniwa, and she said that she was willing to donate her time to include a food stand at the festival. He said he started to get word that people would pay to open stands.

Reynolds said that the money that would be made from the stands and the festival would go toward cleaning Pleasant Lake.

"Ever since I moved back here, I see trash around the lake," said Reynolds. "I figured that if I could do a festival, I could raise this money and work with the DNR and clean up the lake and park."

Reynolds said that his intent toward revitalizing the town is due to the untapped potential within it.

"Aniwa is dying," said Reynolds. "People pack up and leave; buildings get torn down. I think that just because a small town is dying, the people in the town don't have to die with it."

He added that there are enough people in Aniwa who have their own trade and talent and can work together to help build the town up.

"People are friendly around here," said Reynolds. "With the history that we have here, I don't know if we can bring it all back, but I think it has to

be recognized and remembered. This is a place where a lot of things were happening."

Reynolds said he would like to see more people to move to Aniwa, but his main goal is to just get people to experience the town.

"I think that the more people that come here to enjoy the town, (they) might want to stay here," said Reynolds.

After sharing his ideas with different community members, Reynolds said he has heard positive responses.

"People are very excited about my ideas," said Reynolds. "I have a pretty good grassroots following, and I have talked to people who want to donate money for this cause."

As Reynolds continues to talk to community members and officials about different ideas, he did mention that his goal for the festival would be to hold it in August 2022.

"It is going to be a lot of work, booking music and vendors," said Reynolds. "It will probably take me about a year."

Reynolds believes that people should care about tourism and revitalization to bring Aniwa back to the prominent town that it once was.

"I just want to see my town thrive," said Reynolds. "I want community members to be a part of that. Doing something like this in a small town will help to bring everyone together and say that we did this."

lrreimer@newmedia-wi.com

Resident reinventing Melody Mill sign

Reynolds believes this is a first step to revitalizing Aniwa

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

Melody Mill restaurant in Aniwa is currently going through a remodeling.

Aniwa resident, Tyler Reynolds is working on updating the Melody Mill sign located on state Highway 52. The original sign consisted of an Texaco sign and was redesigned in 1980 by Reynolds' father, Mark.

Reynolds said he got involved in updating the sign from knowing the owners and helping to update Melody Mill's menus.

"I thought that it would be a cool thing to do, updating their menus," Reynolds said. "I wanted to expand my art to the highway. I talked to the owners and bugged them for two years, and they let me work on it."

According to Reynolds, as storms came through the area over recent years, the paint on the sign

was starting to chip away, resulting in the old Texaco sign being visible.

"The sign was decrepit, it was old, you could start to see the old Texaco logo with all of the paint chipping off," said Reynolds. "Then I thought oh my god, that is an eyesore, let me help you."

After getting clearance from the owners to start working on the sign, Reynolds bought paint, weather-proofed the sign and got to work on it. He started working on it at the start of summer in June.

"They said that they wanted to stay true to their original logo and feeling," said Reynolds. "I think that is important for any business, you can grow but stay true to your roots."

He said he has heard positive reviews so far as he continues to paint and develop the sign.

"I have put a lot of pictures out on Facebook and the internet, and people having been saying it's

cool," said Reynolds. "I have had some people drive by while I am working on it and beep their horn."

Reynolds hopes that as the sign is finishing that it attracts more people to come into the restaurant to enjoy music and drinks.

"For the people around here that know the place, they will always go there," said Reynolds. "Sometimes when I am out there working, I will see people that look like they are going to drive by, but end up turning and stopping. I hope that the sign acts like a gatekeeper to get people in."

Trying to balance his life, with work, family and the environment, Reynolds is anticipating that the sign project will be completed by early August.

"I have the vinyl graphics in my garage and will be putting them up soon," said Reynolds.

Reynolds said that Melody Mill is a place that has been close to him for his whole life.

"Melody Mill is a place like 'Cheers,'" said Reynolds. "Every time that I go in there, I run into someone. I feel like when I walk in, I don't know anybody, but when I walk out I am saying goodbye to like 10 different people."

Reynolds said that he is excited and honored to do work on a restaurant that he has had a connection to during the early part of his life.

He finished saying that updating the sign to Melody Mill is the first step to helping Aniwa grow as a town.

"Art is always changing and it will get people's attention, if they like it or not," said Reynolds. "When you do it on a local level, you are helping local businesses grow and succeed. I think it will start attracting people. It is small, but it is a good start."

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COURT NEWS

▪ Charley E. Estep, 36, Cecil, was charged July 26 with one count of possession of narcotic drugs and one count of bail jumping. Judge Katherine Sloma set a cash bond of \$7,500 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Aug. 3.

▪ Tanya S. Cooper, 37, Crandon, was charged July 26 with one count of bail jumping and one misdemeanor count of operating while revoked. Sloma set a cash bond of \$500 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for July 30.

▪ Joshua F. Gartner, 38, Portage, was charged July 26 with one count of bail jumping, one misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer and one misdemeanor count of bail jumping. Sloma set a cash bond of \$2,500 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for July 30.

▪ Weston J. Miller, 18, Shawano, was charged July 26 with one count of first degree child sexual assault - intercourse with person under 12. Sloma set a cash bond of \$5,000 and a signature bond of \$15,000. Sloma also set a resumed initial appearance for Aug. 25.

▪ Cody A. Miller, 34, Bowler, pleaded no contest July 27 to one count of possession of methamphetamine, one misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer and one misdemeanor count of bail jumping. Another misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer was dismissed but read into the record. Judge William F. Kussel Jr. sentenced

Miller to 90 days in local jail. In another case, Miller pleaded no contest to one misdemeanor count of bail jumping and one misdemeanor count of operating a vehicle without consent. In this case, a count of theft of movable property greater than \$2,500-\$5,000 was dismissed but read into the record. In another case, Miller pleaded no contest to one count of operating a vehicle to flee/elude an officer and one misdemeanor count of bail jumping. Kussel sentenced Miller to 536 days in state prison and 18 months of probation.

▪ Anthony M.S. Hamilton, 32, Green Bay, pleaded no contest July 27 to one count of false imprisonment and one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. One count of strangulation and suffocation and one misdemeanor count of battery were dismissed but read into the record. Sloma sentenced Hamilton to two years of probation.

▪ Christopher J. Wynos, 32, Marinette, pleaded no contest July 27 to one count of possession of methamphetamine and one count of possession of THC (second or subsequent offense). One count of possession of narcotic drugs was dismissed but read into the record. Kussel sentenced Wynos to four months in jail and three years of probation.

▪ Alex J. Kofnetka, 36, Appleton, pleaded no contest July 27 to one count of burglary - armed with a dangerous

weapon, one count of possession of cocaine (second or subsequent offense), one misdemeanor count of criminal damage to property and two misdemeanor counts of endangering safety/using a deadly weapon. One count of armed robbery, one count of possession of THC (second or subsequent offense) and one misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia were dismissed but read into the record. Kussel sentenced Kofnetka to 500 days in jail and four years of extended supervision.

▪ Charges against Keith D. Wilber, 27, Green Bay, were dismissed July 27 on prosecutor's motion. Those charges include one count of misappropriation of identification information, one misdemeanor count of operating while revoked, one misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer and two misdemeanor counts of bail jumping.

▪ Troy J. Siegmeier, 50, Fond du Lac, pleaded no contest July 28 to one count of operating with prohibited alcohol content (sixth offense), one misdemeanor count of operating while revoked and one misdemeanor count of bail jumping. Another count of bail jumping was dismissed but read into the record. One count of operating while intoxicated (fifth or sixth offense) was dismissed on prosecutor's motion. Sloma sentenced Siegmeier to 30 months in prison.

▪ Alexandria T. Beres, 19, Shawano,

pleaded no contest July 28 to one count of bail jumping, one misdemeanor count of operating while revoked, one misdemeanor count of possession of THC and one misdemeanor count of bail jumping. Two counts of bail jumping and one misdemeanor count of bail jumping were dismissed but read into the record. Kussel sentenced Beres to nine months in jail and one year of probation.

▪ Charges against Bryce L. Moore, 25, Green Bay, were dismissed on prosecutor's motion July 28. Those charges included two counts of bail jumping and one count of possession of methamphetamine. In another case, charges of one count of bail jumping, one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct and one misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer were dismissed before the initial appearance.

▪ Brandon J. Dodge, 33, De Pere, pleaded no contest to one count of misappropriating identification information and one misdemeanor count of credit card theft by acquisition. Five misdemeanor counts of fraudulent use of a financial transaction card (less than or equal to \$2,500) were dismissed but read into the record. Two more misdemeanor counts of fraudulent use of a financial transaction card (less than or equal to \$2,500) were dismissed on prosecutor's motion. Kussel sentenced Dodge to 60 days in jail and three years of probation.

PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Aug. 2

Officers responded to 31 calls, including a disturbance on South Lutz Street; a disturbance on South Lincoln Street; a disturbance on South Lafayette Street; reckless driving on County Road BE; a disturbance on Lakeland Road; property theft on East Center Street; reckless driving on North Union Street; disorderly conduct on South Union Street.

Aug. 1

Officers responded to 22 calls, including disorderly conduct at AmeriVu Inn and Suites, 211 Waukechon St.; a disturbance on East Center Street; property theft on South Sawyer Street; property theft at Charlie's County Market, 521 S. Main St.; a burglary on South Smalley Street; a threat on South Main Street; a domestic disturbance on South Lafayette Street; a domestic disturbance on Acorn Street.

July 31

Officers responded to 31 calls, including a controlled substance problem at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; car property damage at P&D Quality Auto Service, 107 E. Fifth St.; a drug offense on East Lieg Avenue; property theft on South Lutz Street; reckless driving on North Airport Drive; disorderly conduct on South

ONLINE

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Main Street; criminal damage on East Division Street.

July 30

Officers responded to 28 calls, including a threat at CoVantage Credit Union, 911 E. Green Bay St.; a disturbance on South Andrews Street; property theft on East Green Bay Street; car property damage on Woodlawn Drive; criminal damage on South Lincoln Street; reckless driving on state Highway 47-55; reckless driving on East Green Bay Street; a disturbance on Prairie Street; two incidents of trespassing and a disturbance at Walmart, 1244 E. Green Bay St.; disorderly conduct at ThedaCare Medical Center, 100 County Road B; trespassing on South Sawyer Street; property theft on Acorn Street.

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Aug. 2

Deputies responded to 31 calls, including property damage on West College Avenue in Wittenberg; shoplifting on Porter Road in the Town of Hartland; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Wittenberg; reckless driving on U.S. Highway 45 in the Town

of Wittenberg; trespassing on Butternut Road in the Town of Herman; harassment on Maple Street in Birnamwood; two crashes, one involving deer.

Aug. 1

Deputies responded to 37 calls, including a domestic disturbance on County Road MM in the Town of Richmond; a fight-in-progress on North Cecil Street in Bonduel; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Angelica; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Wittenberg; reckless driving on County Road R in the Town of Washington; multiple reckless driving calls on Airport Drive; disorderly conduct on Cedar Road in the Town of Birnamwood; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Herman; two crashes, one involving deer.

July 31

Deputies responded to 56 calls, including a disturbance on Mork Avenue in the Town of Wescott; a disturbance on Lawn Road in the Town of Maple Grove; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Wittenberg; a fight-in-progress on U.S. Highway 45 in the Town of Birnamwood; a boat problem on Ford Lane in the Town of Red Springs; a suicide attempt on East Reed Street in Wittenberg; trespassing on East Green Bay Street in Shawano; harassment on Cloverleaf Lake Drive in the Town of Belle Plaine; disorderly conduct on South

Main Street in Shawano; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Waukechon; one crash.

July 30

Deputies responded to 60 calls, including a disturbance on Main Street in Bowler; a repossession on Northwestern Avenue in the Town of Angelica; reckless driving on County Road M in the Town of Pella; a disturbance on Pulcifer Road in the Town of Green Valley; an eviction on Butternut Road in the Town of Hutchins; criminal damage on County Road CCC in the Town of Waukechon; bail jumping on Park Avenue in the Town of Wescott; property theft on Shawano Shores Circle in the Town of Wescott; disorderly conduct on Hofa Park Road in the Town of Maple Grove; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Angelica; reckless driving on U.S. Highway 45 in the Town of Aniwa; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Seneca; property theft on Oak Avenue in the Town of Richmond; a threat on Country Lane in the Town of Washington; a vehicle theft on Town Hall Drive in the Town of Angelica; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Waukechon; reckless driving on East Green Bay Street in Shawano; a threat on Menominee Drive in the Town of Wescott; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Hartland; five crashes.

OBITUARIES

James M. Ludolph

James Milton "Jim" Ludolph, 90, of Black Earth, passed away on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at Four Winds Manor. He was born Aug. 8, 1930, in Green Bay, the son of Milton and Alma (Froeming) Ludolph.

Jim attended K-12 school in Shawano and graduated in 1948. He proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1948 until 1952 during the Korean War. Jim became a staff sergeant, worked as a combat engineer and was stationed in many places — including Japan, Korea and Germany.

Jim attended Milwaukee Technical College in 1953, where he obtained his education in carpentry. On June 22, 1957, Jim married Marlene Schepler at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Madison.

Jim worked various jobs throughout his life. He worked for Vogel Brothers Construction as a supervisor. In addition, Jim was a building inspector for



the townships of Vermont, Mazomanie, Black Earth and other communities on the western county line. He also owned and operated Line Marking Company.

Jim was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans, American Legion Post 313 and Vermont Lutheran Church, where he was very involved. He was a past council president, in a dart ball league and on the Vermont Church building committee.

Jim and Marlene started their married life in Madison. Then, in 1969, they moved to beautiful Vermont township, where they bought a 200-acre farm. They lived in the old farmhouse while Jim started to build a new home. He did most of the building himself but had some wonderful help from family and friends.



He loved the farm and taught his sons how to work and that there was always something to do.

He liked deer hunting and having the "crew" of hunters that came

every year. When he could no longer work the farm and hunt, he found a hobby of making wooden bowls. Making bowls gave Jim great pleasure in his later years, and he gave away many as gifts.

In 2020, Jim and Marlene moved to Coventry Village, where he made many friends and acquaintances while riding on his bright red scooter.

James is survived by his wife of 64 years, Marlene Ludolph; sons, Brian (Pamela), Bruce (Kerri) and Jeffrey (Jennifer); and grandchildren, Lahna, Xavier and Elise. He is additionally survived by many nieces, nephews,

extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Shirley (Earl) Brandt; and in-laws, Wilbur and Margaret Schepler and Howard and Joanne (Zimmerman) Schepler.

A memorial service will be held at Vermont Lutheran Church, 9886 Vermont Church Road, Black Earth, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021, with Pastor Barry Hoerz presiding. Visitation will be held at the church from 9:30 a.m. until the time of service Saturday.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Jim's name to the American Legion State Headquarters, 2930 American Legion Drive, Portage, WI 53901. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

"God's love is not exhausted, nor has God's compassion failed." (Lamentations 3:22)

Gunderson Camacho Black Earth Funeral and Cremation Care, 1710 Center St. 608-767-3684

Dennis R. Herzog

The world is a bit dimmer with the passing of Dennis Robert Herzog, who left his earthly home on July 28, 2021.

Dennis was born in Pound on Dec. 10, 1940, the youngest of nine children to Ewald and Jennie Herzog. A veteran of Vietnam, he returned to marry Durham Hernden on Feb. 6, 1966, and together they built a life and family on their farm in Gillett.

Dennis believed in living a life of faith, humility, integrity, hard work, love and laughter. Even in retirement, he enjoyed helping on the farm, cheering his grandkids at sporting events, golfing in his "Old Farts" league (where



he learned and shared many of his hilarious jokes), taking on friends and family in a round of croquet or traveling to gospel music conventions. He also played a lot

of water volleyball in Puerto Vallarta, a place he and Durham considered a second home and wintered for the past few decades.

Dennis never met a stranger. People gravitated to his positive attitude, quick humor, words of wisdom and sometimes groan-worthy

jokes. Always ready with praise for your success or words of wisdom when needed, many often reached out to him for advice and perspective. Above all, Dennis was a man of strong Christian faith and attributed all of his accomplishments to the grace of God, many times being heard to say, "I am glad God didn't give me what I deserved, because I've been blessed so much more than anyone deserves."

Dennis is lovingly remembered by his wife of 55 years, Durham Herzog, and their children, Julie Montieth (Rick), Jon Herzog (Mary), Kristin Pettit (Dave) and David Herzog (Deb). He will also be fondly remembered by

his 14 grandchildren, Stephen, Taylor (Marina), Mark (Lexi), Jenna (Nick), Amelia (Brad), Noah, Sam, Lauren, Bryce, Isaac, Aidan, Alaina, Cale and Keegan, along with one great-grandchild, Beckham. He also leaves behind two sisters, Lorraine Yerxa and Adelin Deering.

Dennis believed that funerals are for the living and preferred to celebrate a wonderful life in memory of those he loved. In keeping with that philosophy, a celebration of his life will be held on Sept. 3, 2021, at 11 a.m. at Hope Community Church in Shawano. Receiving will begin at 9 a.m., and lunch will be served afterward at noon.

Jeffrey M. Riopelle

Jeffrey M. "Jeff" Riopelle, 55, of Shawano, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday morning, July 21, 2021, at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center in Neenah.

Jeff was born Oct. 21, 1965, at St. Joseph Hospital in Milwaukee, a son of the late Wilfred "Bo" and Lois E. (Ellingboe) Riopelle. Jeff attended East High School in Menomonee Falls, graduating with the class of 1983. Following high school, he attended and graduated from Carroll College in Waukesha.

On Sept. 21, 1991, Jeff was united in marriage to Cindy Freeman at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Menomonee Falls. The couple lived in Menomonee Falls before moving to Shawano in 2007. At the time of his death, Jeff was employed at Romo Durable Graphics in DePere, where he was the manager of the IT Department.

Jeff was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano, and was a member of the



Knights of Columbus for 32 years. He was also an honorary member of the Lions Club. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle, and traveling to new and interesting places. Jeff had a drawer full of restaurant coupons, and would take Cindy out to eat with his coupons. They both liked trying new places to eat,

and meeting new people.

Jeff was an avid bowler, and enjoyed watching sports on TV, especially the Packers and NASCAR. He enjoyed grilling out, and was a great baker of many sweet treats including cookies, brownies, and cheesecake, just to name a few. He was also generous in sharing everything he baked. Jeff was one of those people

who was always willing to assist others.

Survivors include his loving wife, Cindy Riopelle, of Shawano; his children, Jessica Riopelle and Jacob Riopelle; his grandson, Greyson Riopelle; his brothers, Robert (Lucy) Riopelle, of Anchorage, Alaska, and Peter (Marcia) Riopelle, of New Berlin; his sister, Elizabeth (Jeffrey) Sonnemann, of Menomonee Falls; his in-laws, Larry and Patricia Oinas, of Shawano; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his father-in-law, Jim Freeman.

A memorial service for Jeffrey Riopelle will be held at a later date.

Mickelson Funeral and Cremation Service of Shawano is assisting the family with arrangements. Please

share online condolences at www.mickelsonfs.com.



OBITUARIES

Inez Mae Muraski, 76, of Arpin, formerly of Shawano, passed away peacefully while surrounded by family, on Friday, July 30, 2021. She was born on Aug. 5, 1944, to the late Harry and Irene (Schaufberger) Carter in Shawano. She graduated from Shawano High School with the Class of 1962. She also attended nursing school in Oshkosh.

Inez was united in marriage to Bernard Muraski in Shawano on May 7, 1966. He preceded her in death on Feb. 16, 2012. She worked in customer



club. She enjoyed sewing, reading, baking, birdwatching, feeding the birds, tending to her flowers and especially spending time with her

service at CRI until she retired.

Inez was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Sacred Heart Booster Club and the Belle Plaine Homemakers

Inez Muraski

grandchildren.

Inez is survived by her children, Greg (April) Muraski, of Frederick, Maryland, Brian (Cathy) Muraski, of Arpin, Sara (William) Ziegelbauer, of Janesville, and Jason (Michele) Muraski, of Arvada, Colorado; her son-in-law, Bill Watson, of Janesville; her grandchildren, Karrah (David), Hillary (Tucker), Jeremy, Joshua, Jeremy, Jonathan, Mary, Faith, Tajmera, Samantha, Dillon, Caitlyn, Makenzie and Andrew; her great-grandchildren, Addi, Bear and Nova; her sister,

Shirley Grab, of Antigo. She is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bernard; her sister, Lucille Thiel; and her daughter, Laura Watson.

A funeral service for Inez was held Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano with Deacon Jim Lonick officiating. Entombment was at Sacred Heart Mausoleum following services.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Robert George Kuula, 48, of Clintonville, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at his home. He was born Sept. 26, 1972, to the late Roger and Nancy (Bowman) Kuula in Oak Park, Illinois. He attended Hurley School District.

Robert was known for being a people person. He could meet someone for the first time and become friends with them instantly. He was

always there to help his family and friends. Robert was very optimistic and had an amazing outlook on life. He enjoyed working on anything with an engine, going to the casino and collecting coins. Most of all, his family was the most important thing to him. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Robert is survived by his brother, Roger Kuula, of Siren; his sister,

Teresa Adkins, of Aniwa; his nieces and nephews, Samantha "Round as a Basketball" Styczynski, Clade (Kali Alberts) Adkins, Macie (Jacob) Kuehne and Airiel Adkins; a great-niece and great-nephew, Emmy and Carter; and former brother-in-law, Claude Adkins. He is further survived by other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his grandmother, Rauha

Ylitalo; his uncle, Richard; and other beloved family members.

A memorial service for Robert was held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021, at Swedberg Funeral Home in Shawano, with the Rev. Scott Ludford officiating. Inurnment will be in Hurley at a later date. Swedberg Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Joseph A. White Sr.

Joseph Anthony White Sr., 66, of Rockford, Illinois, died May 30, 2021, in Medina Nursing Center after a brief illness. He was born March 28, 1955, in Neillsville, the son of Lawrence L. and Genevieve J. (Slesar) White. Joe was the fifth of 10 children. He was an avid reader and learned to read at age 4. Joseph graduated from Granton High School in 1973.

During his high school years, Joe was a member of the high school band and joined the wrestling team. He entered in the U.S. Navy serving during the mid-1970s.

After the Navy, Joe moved to the Darien and Allens Grove area and moved in with some of his brothers. Joe received an associate degree in office and mechanical repair. After receiving his degree, he moved to the Shawano area.

Joe enjoyed fishing, telling of the "big ones" that got away. Joe en-



joyed thrift sales and took to heart, "one man's junk is another man's treasure."

Joe was preceded in death by his father, mother and sister, Patricia Ann

Wesenberg.

He is survived by two children, Joseph Jr. and Sasha, both of Shawano; and a special little boy, Desi, whom Joe considered his grandson. He is also survived by one sister, Marlene (David) Soppeland, Eau Claire; seven brothers, David (Diane), Marshall, Robert (Lisa), Boise, Idaho, Charles, Freeport, Illinois, John, Elkhorn, Larry (Lisa), Beloit, Will (Mary), Capron, Illinois, and Mike (Valerie), Green Bay; many nieces and nephews and cousins.

Memorial ceremony to be held in Neillsville on Aug. 20, 2021, at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church with the burial being held in Chili after the memorial.

Bernice M. Sickler

Bernice M. Sickler, 90, of Wittenberg, died unexpectedly on Monday, July 26, 2021, at her home.

Bernice was born March 18, 1931, in Manitowoc, the daughter of Elmer and Hazel (Buck) Brunner.

On Aug. 13, 1949, Bernice was united in marriage to Gordon Sickler. He preceded her in death on Feb. 12, 2010.

Bernice held various jobs throughout her life and was a homemaker. She enjoyed traveling, especially to casino destinations. Bernice enjoyed gardening, playing cards and fishing on Pickerel Lake.

Survivors include three children, Lee (Karen) Sickler and Lori (Gary) Whitewing, all of Wittenberg, and

Keith (Valli) Sickler of De Pere; four grandchildren, Jeremy, Erik (Kendy), Skylar and Samantha; a great-grandchild, Jhonna, and sisters-in-law, Pat Sickler and Vernabelle Fleck.

Bernice was preceded in death by her husband, parents and one brother, Glenn Brunner.

A private family graveside service will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Cemetery, Wittenberg.

Schmidt & Schulta Funeral Home, Wittenberg, is assisting the family with funeral arrangements. Memories and messages of support may be shared at schmidtschulta.com.

Mary E. Jacobson

Mary E. Jacobson, 60, of Embarrass, passed away Thursday, July 29, 2021, at Crossroads Care Center of Weyauwega.

The Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home and Crematory in Clintonville is assisting Mary's family.

Alice L. Tellock

Alice L. Tellock, 95, of Clintonville, passed away Saturday, July 31, 2021, at Greentree Health and Rehabilitation Center in Clintonville.

The Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home and Crematory in Clintonville has been entrusted with the arrangements.



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9:00 -2:00	Car Show On Grounds
9:00 -2:00	Learn to Fly - Intro Discovery Flights, with Pilotsmith, Inc. (Fee required)
9:30 -11:30	EAA Young Eagles (age 8-17)
12:30	Runway Re-dedication Ceremony

Gresham school keeping masks optional

Masks will still be required on school buses in accordance with federal law

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The Gresham School District will continue to make wearing a mask optional for students and staff when the new school year starts in September, but that could change if the Gresham area sees a sharp spike in COVID-19 cases.

Superintendent Newell Haffner informed the Gresham School Board on Aug. 2 that the Shawano-Menominee Counties Health Department was reporting one active COVID-19 case in the boundaries of the local district, compared with 22 that were in place with the Shawano School District and 16 for the Marion School District.

"I want to have the provision that

(the mask policy) changes as we see fit," Haffner said.

However, the masks being optional does not extend to the school buses. Students will be required to wear masks on the bus because that is a federal mandate, according to Haffner.

"Kids riding the bus and athletes riding to games must wear masks," he said. "That's one spot where we don't have any choice at all."

Haffner noted that he meets with the county health department weekly and receives updated numbers, which he will use to alter mask wearing, time spent in school and other health policies. He noted that the school will not be requiring temperature checks as students and the community enter the building because they have not shown to be statistically helpful.

"That's what you guys gave us the go-ahead to do," Haffner said. "I'm saying let's just keep doing what we're doing."

Board member Joe Linik said he likes the plan to keep masks optional, noting that summer school went off without any difficulty. He also noted that 92% of the coronavirus deaths in the state have been from ages 60 and over. So while the risk of illness is still there for students, the risk of death for them is low, he said.

"The community as a whole is moving along real well right now," Linik said. "I like the direction that we're at and heading in. I just don't want anyone running and jumping to conclusions either way. Let's go about this smartly and not have the outside noise affecting the decisions."

Board member Doug Huck noted that the bus rule was the only requirement coming at the federal level, and that everything else was only a

recommendation from the Centers for Disease Control. That includes the current recommendation that even those who are vaccinated should wear a mask indoors.

"At the airport, you're masked. If you're on the bus, you wear a mask," Huck said. "It's the same thing. It's federal law, not CDC guidelines. Welcome to the last 18 months of figuring things out."

Board member Jim Hoffman praised Haffner and his administration for erring on the side of caution as far as the buses are concerned. The measure reduces the liability on the district, he said.

"All you need is one parent to say that bus isn't safe and file a lawsuit that's going to cost us way more money with lawyers at hundreds of dollars per hour," Hoffman said. "I think you're doing the right thing."

Board member Pat Pleshek suggested that navigating the previous school year should give Gresham some insight on how to proceed for the coming school year.

"I would hope that, as we go forward, the burden can be lifted," Pleshek said.

Haffner noted that having the community follow protocols without difficulty has made efforts to get through the pandemic much easier.

"The parents I had last year were the best I've had in the 28 years I've been here," Haffner said. "Parents last year kept kids home when they were sick. That hadn't happened for quite a few years. Last year, if they had any hint of a kid being sick, 98% of parents kept their kids at home and said, 'I'm not risking anybody else's health and just keeping my kid at home.'"

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

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**NOTICE
OF COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDING IN REM TO
FORECLOSE TAX LIEN BY COUNTY**

STATE OF WISCONSIN

**IN CIRCUIT COURT FOR MENOMINEE
AND SHAWANO COUNTY**

SHAWANO COUNTY DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE FORECLOSURE
OF THE TAX LIENS, PURSUANT TO SECTION
75.521 WISCONSIN STATUTES BY
SHAWANO COUNTY, LIST OF TAX
LIENS FOR THE YEAR 2016
THROUGH 2020

PETITION AND NOTICE AND LIST
OF TAX LIENS OF SHAWANO
COUNTY BEING FORECLOSED BY
PROCEEDING IN REM 2021,
NUMBER FORTY FIVE

TO THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN:

Now comes Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, by Debra Wallace, its County Treasurer, and Larenda J. Maulson, its Corporation Counsel, and files this list of tax liens of Shawano County for all taxes of 2016 through 2020, sales of 2017 through 2020, and alleges and shows to the Court:

1. That each of the following described parcels of land has been sold to Shawano County for delinquent taxes and the tax certificates therefore have been outstanding for two or more years and said years being the sales of the years indicated below.
2. That Shawano County is now the owner and holder of tax liens for the taxes of the years indicated in this list, as evidenced by the tax sales certificates numbered below.
3. That Shawano County has by ordinance adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of said county on the 2nd day of November, 1971, elected to proceed under Section 75.521 of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of enforcing tax liens in said county.
4. That said list, made and filed pursuant to the provisions of Section 75.521, Wisconsin Statutes, is as follows, to-wit:

	Description	Owners	Interested Parties And Lien Holders	Ctf. No.	Year Sold	Tax Year	Amount of Tax
	TOWN OF ALMON						
1	Southeast 1/4 Northeast 1/4 Except East 250 Feet of South 300 Feet and Except Part Described Volume 489 Page 340-2 and Except Part Described Volume 755 Page 249 Section 8 Township 28 North Range 12 East Parcel #002-08140-0000	H & R Nursery Inc.	Dale L Rickert Kyle Haise Citizens State Bank of Wittenberg Wisconsin Power and Light Company	7305 8681 10075	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,403.60 1,601.60 1,603.44 1,492.95
	TOWN OF ANGELICA						
2	Northwest 1/4 Southwest 1/4 North 442 Feet of West 442 Feet Section 11 Township 26 North Range 18 East Parcel #004-11320-0010	Willie E Lange A/K/A Willie Lange Angela B Lange A/K/A Angela Lange	Town of Angelica Shawano County	7404 8770 10152	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	573.48 576.15 603.00 589.91
3	Part Southeast 1/4 Southwest 1/4 Commencing 310 Feet West South 1/4 Section Corner Thence North 3 Degrees West 462 Feet Along Centerline Highway to Point of Beginning Thence South 65 Degrees West Variance 3 Degrees 49 Feet East 115.5 Feet Thence Northwest Parallel Highway 65.5 Feet Thence Northeast 115.5 Feet to Centerline Highway Thence Southeast Along Centerline 77 Feet to Point of Beginning Section 33 Township 26 North Range 18 East and Commencing 310 Feet West South 1/4 Section Corner Thence N Along Centerline Highway 210 Feet Point of Beginning Thence Continue North 252 Feet thence South 65 Degrees With Variance 3 Degrees 49 Feet East 191 Feet Thence South 28 Degrees East 245.5 Feet Thence Northeast 214 Feet to Point of Beginning	Jed A Giese A/K/A Jed Giese Kami R Spaeth A/K/A Kami Spaeth A/K/A Kami Giese	M & L Excavating Incorporated Massart Auctioneers Mid-County Cooperative Giese Landscaping & Services Inc. et al Kelbe Bros Equipment Co Inc. Cottonwood Financial Wisconsin LLC Leo Van De Yacht Well Drilling	7894 9281 10567	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,093.41 1,458.48 1,531.75 1,486.82
							WNAXLP

	Description	Owners	Interested Parties And Lien Holders	Ctf. No.	Year Sold	Tax Year	Amount of Tax
	Northeast 214 Feet to Point of Beginning Section 33 Township 26 North Range 18 East Parcel #004-33340-0200						
	TOWN OF ANIWA						
4	West 428 Feet of North 278 Feet of Southeast 1/4 Southwest 1/4 Section 19 Township 29 North Range 11 East Parcel #006-19340-0010	Mark A Low A/K/A Mark Low	State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Marathon County Child Support Agency	7596 8974 10315	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	626.35 748.59 918.59 889.86
	TOWN OF BELLE PLAINE						
5	Part Government Lot 2 Lying West of Clintonville Shawano Road Described as Commencing at Centerline of Road at a Point on The North Line of Government Lot 2 175.5 Feet West of 1/16 Post Thence South 23 Degrees 53 Feet West 346 Feet Thence South 14 Degrees 53 Feet West 304.6 Feet Thence South 21 Degrees 11 Feet West 96.6 Feet Thence North 68 Degrees 49 Feet West 166.75 Feet to Lake and Point of Beginning Thence South 68 Degrees 49 Feet East 142 Feet to West Line of Road Thence South 21 Degrees 11 Feet West 200 Feet Thence South 19 Degrees 16 Feet West 458.4 Feet to South Line Government Lot 2 Thence West on Said Line Lot 2 60 Feet More or Less to Lake Thence Northerly Following Meander Parcel #010-33120-0350	Lake Aire of Cloverleaf Lakes LLC	Schutt Industries Margaret McCarville Marcus Cable, LLC D/B/A Charter Communications Frontier Communications of Wisconsin Internal Revenue Service James Schutt Patrick Schutt A/K/A Patrick L Schutt Shelly Schutt Town of Belle Plaine	7880 9267 10558	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	4,488.37 4,355.73 4,926.71 5,120.28
	TOWN OF GRANT						
6	Northeast 1/4 Northwest 1/4 Section 27 Township 26 North Range 13 East Closed MFL 38 Acres 25 Years Effective 01/01/2018 Parcel #018-27210-0000	Lee M Robenhagen A/K/A Lee Robenhagen	GreenStone Farm Credit Services, FLCA Marshall P Robenhagen Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	7755 9138 10447	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,903.63 479.68 489.26 483.26
	TOWN OF GREEN VALLEY						
7	Part of South 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 Was Lot 2 Volume 5 Page 267 Certified Survey Map Number 1452 Section 24 Township 27 North Range 18 East and Lot 1 Volume 7 Page 7 Certified Survey Map Number 1873 Now Known As Lot 1 Volume 18 Page 37 Certified Survey Map Number 3906 N5756 Co-op Avenue-Shop/House Parcel #020-24340-0010	Cory C Otto A/K/A Cory Otto Joseph F Andrus A/K/A Joseph Francis Andrus Clancy A Andrus A/K/A Clancy Andrus A/K/A Clancy Artis Andrus Art Otto A/K/A Arthur Otto A/K/A Arthur E Otto	Cottonwood Financial Wisconsin LLC DBA The Cash Store LVNV Funding LLC Green Valley Sanitary District No. 1	7714 9099 10407	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,806.28 1,819.16 1,907.76 1,830.21
8	Part of South 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 Was Lot 2 Volume 5 Page 267 Certified Survey Map Number 1452 Section 24 Township 27 North Range 18 East and Lot 1 Volume 7 Page 7 Certified Survey Map Number 1873 Now Known as Lot 2 Volume 18 Page 37 Certified Survey Map Number 3906	Cory C Otto A/K/A Cory Otto Joseph F Andrus A/K/A Joseph Francis Andrus Clancy A Andrus A/K/A Clancy Andrus A/K/A Clancy Artis Andrus Art Otto A/K/A Arthur Otto	Cottonwood Financial Wisconsin LLC DBA The Cash Store LVNV Funding LLC Green Valley Sanitary District No. 1	7715 9100 10408	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,150.76 248.27 260.27 251.13
							WNAXLP

	Description	Owners	Interested Parties And Lien Holders	Ctf. No.	Year Sold	Tax Year	Amount of Tax
	Certified Survey Map Number 3906 Parcel #020-24340-0020	Art Otto A/K/A Arthur Otto A/K/A Arthur E Otto					
9	Commencing at Point 175 Feet West of Northwest Corner Lot 7 Block 2 Issacson's Addition Village of Green Valley Thence 95 Feet West 125 Feet South Thence 95 Feet East Thence North to Point of Beginning Part of Northwest 1/4 North- West 1/4 Section 25 Township 27 North Range 18 East Parcel #020-25220-0050	Ann Marie Andrews A/K/A Ann M Andrews	LeGros Enterprises	7730 9117 10419	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,535.57 678.35 719.32 697.61
	TOWN OF MAPLE GROVE						
10	Southeast 1/4 Southeast 1/4 Except Commencing Northwest Corner Said 40 Thence East 20 Feet Thence Southwesterly to Part 20 Feet South of Beginning Thence North 20 Feet to Point of Beginning Highway 29 Except Volume 788 Page 461 and Except Certified Survey Recorded Volume 4 Page 79 Section 23 Township 25 North Range 18 East Parcel #030-23440-0000	Randal J Gracyalny A/K/A Randy Gracyalny Kim M Gracyalny Margaret Gracyalny A/K/A Margaret M Gracyalny, Vendor	Cleary Building Corporation Wisconsin Department of Transportation	7702 9083 10393	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	122.30 384.90 402.69 376.62
11	Southwest 1/4 Northeast 1/4 Except Road Described Volume 363 Page 605 and Volume 788 Page 461 Section 25 Township 25 North Range 18 East Parcel #030-25130-0000	Randal J Gracyalny A/K/A Randy Gracyalny Kim M Gracyalny Margaret Gracyalny A/K/A Margaret M Gracyalny, Vendor	Cleary Building Corporation Wisconsin Department of Transportation	7720 9105 10413	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	125.55 126.66 128.46 131.11
12	Southeast 1/4 Northwest 1/4 Except Road Described Volume 363 Page 605 and Volume 788 Page 461 Section 25 Township 25 North Range 18 East Parcel #030-25240-0000	Randal J Gracyalny A/K/A Randy Gracyalny Kim M Gracyalny Margaret Gracyalny A/K/A Margaret M Gracyalny, Vendor	Cleary Building Corporation Wisconsin Department of Transportation	7732 9118 10421	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	2,556.90 2,839.06 2,953.64 3,136.64
	TOWN OF SENECA						
13	Southeast 1/4 Southeast 1/4 Section 16 Township 27 North Range 13 East Now Known as Lot 2 Volume 18 Page 248 Certified Survey Map Number 3973 Parcel #042-16440-0000	Lynn M Kersten A/K/A Lynn Kersten	Joshua M Henry Rachal A Henry A/K/A Rachal Henry	7542 8917 10282	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,658.05 1,757.49 1,914.98 1,788.53
14	Southeast 1/4 Northwest 1/4 Section 21 Township 27 North Range 13 East Parcel #042-21240-0000	Lynn M Kersten A/K/A Lynn Kersten	Michels Pipeline Construction Incorporated Jeffrey P Rach Virginia K Schuller-Rach Joshua M Henry Rachal A Henry A/K/A Rachal Henry Shawano County Highway	7644 9026 10343	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	557.83 618.01 677.34 613.34
	TOWN OF WASHINGTON						
15	Southwest 1/4 Northwest 1/4 Commencing West 1/4 Corner Thence North 544.74 Feet Thence East 1325.72 Feet Thence South 544.74 Feet Thence West 1326.19 Feet to	Robert J Klatt A/K/A Robert Klatt	Frontier Communications of Wisconsin F/K/A Lakeshore Telephone Company F/K/A Urban Telephone	7760 9144 10450	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	404.17 506.40 515.34 510.29

	Description	Owners	Interested Parties And Lien Holders	Ctf. No.	Year Sold	Tax Year	Amount of Tax
	Point of Beginning Except West 233.46 Feet of North 208.71 Feet of South 371.13 Feet Section 27 Township 27 North Range 17 East Parcel #044-27230-0001						
	TOWN OF WITTENBERG						
16	Part of Southwest 1/4 Northeast 1/4 Described Volume 372 Page 181 Section 20 Township 27 North Range 11 East Parcel #050-20130-0010	Christopher L Landowski A/K/A Christopher Landowski Rachel I Landowski A/K/A Rachel Landowski	Wittenberg Telephone Company	7607 8987 10322	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,814.35 1,850.03 2,037.00 2,007.76
	VILLAGE OF BIRNAMWOOD						
17	Village of Birnamwood Hunter and Coles Addition Lot 2 Block 1 Parcel #106-55100-0010	Al Waldvogel A/K/A Allen D Waldvogel	Radiology Associates of Wausau, S.C.	8175 9562 10852	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,257.79 1,176.23 1,799.69 1,156.54
	VILLAGE OF BONDUEL						
18	Village of Bonduel Westphal and Lange's Plat North 1/2 Lot 11 and South 1/2 Lot 12 Block 5 Parcel #107-85050-0550	Val Jean Quaintance A/K/A Val Jean Quaintance Revocable Trust	Bonduel State Bank	8453 9878 11122	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	943.84 1,680.04 1,970.90 1,984.82
19	Village of Bonduel Westphal and Lange's Plat Second Addition South 80 Feet North 92.2 Feet East 218 Feet Lot 8 Block 2 Parcel #107-85100-0200	Wayne Bahr A/K/A Wayne C Bahr	Wisconsin Department of Revenue	8458 9886 11129	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	292.97 1,998.48 2,140.50 2,180.95
20	Village of Bonduel Whitnee Woods Plat Section 8 Township 26 North Range 17 East Lot 7 Parcel #107-87100-0060	James F Hutter A/K/A James Hutter Suzanne J Hutter A/K/A Suzanne Hutter	Bonduel State Bank Internal Revenue Service Wisconsin Department of Revenue Village of Bonduel	8491 9913 11148	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	623.15 622.50 665.55 669.49
	VILLAGE OF MATTOON						
21	Village of Mattoon Southwest 1/4 Northeast 1/4 Now Known As Lot 1 Volume 10 Certified Survey Map Page 145 Map Number 2648 Section 9 Township 29 North Range 12 East Parcel #151-09130-0010	Nancee Jo Schmidt Jim A Schultz A/K/A James A Schultz, Vendor	Shawano County Housing Authority Village of Mattoon	7336 8698 10094	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,033.79 924.37 1,110.65 1,565.44
22	Village of Mattoon Original Plat Lot 6 Block 20 Parcel #151-70050-0510	Rebecca Osborn A/K/A Rebecca L Osborn A/K/A R.Osborn	Sandra S Franken Aspirus Wausau Hospital Incorporated Radiology Associates of Wausau, S.C.	8280 9664 10943	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	896.22 1,033.28 1,016.21 1,069.51
23	Village of Mattoon Original Plat South 1/2 Lot 4 and All of Lots 5 and 6 Except North 20 Feet Lot 6 Block 36 Parcel #151-70050-0970	Monteith/Barwick LLC		8294 9683 10960	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	820.84 238.60 240.32 240.35
	VILLAGE OF TIGERTON						
24	Village of Tigerton Mill Site Described Volume 288 Page 611 Part South 1/2 Southwest 1/4 Section 9 Township 26 North Range 12 East Parcel #186-65050-0020	John A Whitewing A/K/A John Whitewing Sr A/K/A John Whitewing A/K/A John O Whitewing Pamela M Whitewing A/K/A Pamela M Hesse A/K/A Pamela Hesse A/K/A	Internal Revenue Service Midland Credit Management, Incorporated Shawano County Department of Human Services Aspirus Wausau Hospital Incorporated Saint Clare's Hospital of Weston Incorporated Bone & Joint Clinic, SC	8224 9607 10888	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	131.60 140.53 130.18 134.34

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	Description	Owners	Interested Parties And Lien Holders	Ctf. No.	Year Sold	Tax Year	Amount of Tax
34	City of Shawano Sawyer and Andrews Plat Lot 4 Block 28 Parcel #281-75100-1950	Midwest Properties of Shawano LLC	Wells Fargo Bank National Association Baylake Bank LSREF2 Cobalt, LLC LSREF2 Cobalt Trust 2013	8406 9830 11077	2018 2019 2020	2017 2018 2019 2020	1,841.97 1,824.77 1,714.75 1,733.91

All Unknown spouses of the above-named parties.

Interest on the principal sum of each tax lien listed above is charged at the rate of 1% per month from February 1 of the year of sale to date of redemption.

All descriptions by lot and block numbers refer to plats and maps as filed in the office of the Register of Deeds of Shawano County, Wisconsin.

5. That no municipalities other than Shawano County have any right, title or interest in the above described lands or in the tax liens or in the proceeds thereof, except as stated herein.

WHEREFORE, Shawano County petitions for judgement vesting title to each of said parcels of land in said Shawano County, as of the date of entry of judgement in this action, and barring and foreclosing any and all claims whatsoever of the former owner, and any person having any right, title, interest, claim, lien or equity of redemption and any person claiming through and under them to said lands since the date of filing this list of tax liens in the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court of Shawano County.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2021.

SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN
Debra Wallace, County Treasurer
Larenda J. Maulson, Corporation Counsel

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
)ss.
COUNTY OF SHAWANO)

Debra Wallace, being first duly sworn, on oath says that she is the County Treasurer of Shawano County Wisconsin, and that the foregoing list of tax liens and statements and data therein contained are true and correct according to the records of the office of the affiant.

Debra Wallace, County Treasurer

Subscribed to and Sworn to before me
This 13th day of July, 2021
Katie Johnson
Notary Public, Shawano County, Wisconsin
My Commission Expires 02/25/2025

NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDING IN REM TO FORECLOSE TAX LIENS BY SHAWANO COUNTY

TAKE NOTICE that all persons having or claiming to have any right, title of interest in or lien upon the real property described in the list of tax liens Number Forty Five, on file in the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court of Shawano County, dated July 13, 2021, as hereinabove set forth, are hereby notified that the filing of such list of tax liens in the office on the Clerk of Circuit Court of Shawano County constitutes the commencement by said Shawano County of a special proceeding of the Circuit Court for Shawano County to foreclose the tax liens therein described by foreclosure proceeding in rem and that a notice of the pendency of such proceeding against each piece or parcel of land therein described was filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in July 13, 2021. Such proceeding in brought against the real property herein described only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in such list. No personal judgement will be entered herein for such taxed, assessments or other legal charges or any part thereof.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that all persons having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in or lien upon the real property describe in said list of tax liens are hereby notified that a certified copy of such list of tax liens has been posted in the office of the County Treasurer of Shawano County and will remain posted for public inspection up to and including September 30, 2021, which date is hereby fixed as the last day for redemption.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any person having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in or lien upon any such parcel may on or before said September 30, 2021, redeem such delinquent tax liens by paying to the County Treasurer of Shawano County the amount of all such unpaid tax liens, and in addition thereto, all interest and penalties which have accrued on said unpaid tax liens, computed to and including the date of redemption, plus the reasonable costs that the county incurred to initiate the proceeding plus the person's share of the reasonable costs of publication under sub. (6).

SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN
BY: Debra Wallace

WNAXLP

Daylily varieties seem endless for gardeners

Lost in a neverending parade of new, bigger and bolder introductions are classic daylilies that stand the test of time.

The world of plant hybridization and tissue culture of plants for mass production has boomed over the past



ROB ZIMMER

10 or 15 years. With this explosion of new plants and new hybrids being released each and every year, sometimes hundreds of them, some of the old-fashioned favorites get lost in the confusion. In this column, my goal is to preserve the stature and memory of some of these older daylily varieties that were once beloved stars of the summer garden.

Daylily hybridization has come a long way, and each year we see hundreds of new introductions into the market by both corporations and individual plant hybridizers. There are so many varieties to choose from that it's almost overwhelming to visit a garden center to select plants to nurture and grow at home.

With hundreds of new varieties being released every year, many of them patented for sale and big money makers for garden centers, it is becoming harder and harder to find some of the old-fashioned classic varieties. In fact, in some cases, you may have to resort to ordering online or visiting a specialty daylily hybridizer.

Some of the older varieties are still the best growers and the most prolific bloomers and stand the test of time. Here are some of my favorites to look back upon.

Seek out these amazing older varieties and you will be rewarded with many years of beauty and elegance in your garden.

- **Janice Brown:** At one time, this was the most popular daylily on the market, a medium-sized bloom in beautiful baby pink with a darker rose center.

- **Hyperion:** The classic, tall, large blooming, heavenly fragrant daylily in bright, lemon yellow, this daylily was the star of any garden as early as the 1950s and 1960s. You can still find it today, occasionally. Be sure to take in its incredible aroma.

- **Strutter's Ball:** When this daylily was first introduced, it was the most popular plant on the market, blooming in incredibly large, rich, grape purple



Pardon Me is quickly becoming a classic miniature daylily in bright, ruby red.

ROB ZIMMER



Janice Brown is one of the oldest classic daylilies, featuring blooms in two shades of pink and prolific blooming, sturdy scapes.

ROB ZIMMER

with a silver center. Extremely heavy substance and large, thick scapes make this daylily a classic.

- **The Chicago series:** Featuring a whole line of beautiful, unique and enticing daylilies, the Chicago series is a highly collectible plant line that

features daylilies in many colors, shapes and sizes. Some of my favorites are Chicago Silver, Chicago Apache, Chicago Fire and Chicago Sunrise.

- **Joan Senior:** Still one of the most popular daylilies in pure white, this classic, soft blooming, elegant beauty

deserves a place in every garden.

- **Wild One:** In its time, this was one of the most unusual daylilies on the market, one of the first polychrome daylilies introduced. Polychrome means that multiple colors are brushed in feathery patterns across the petals. Wild One features blossoms in a wash of pink, orange and red.

- **Twiggy:** Just like the name, this daylily is a fun and unusual specimen plant with ribbon like blooms in shades of orange and red.

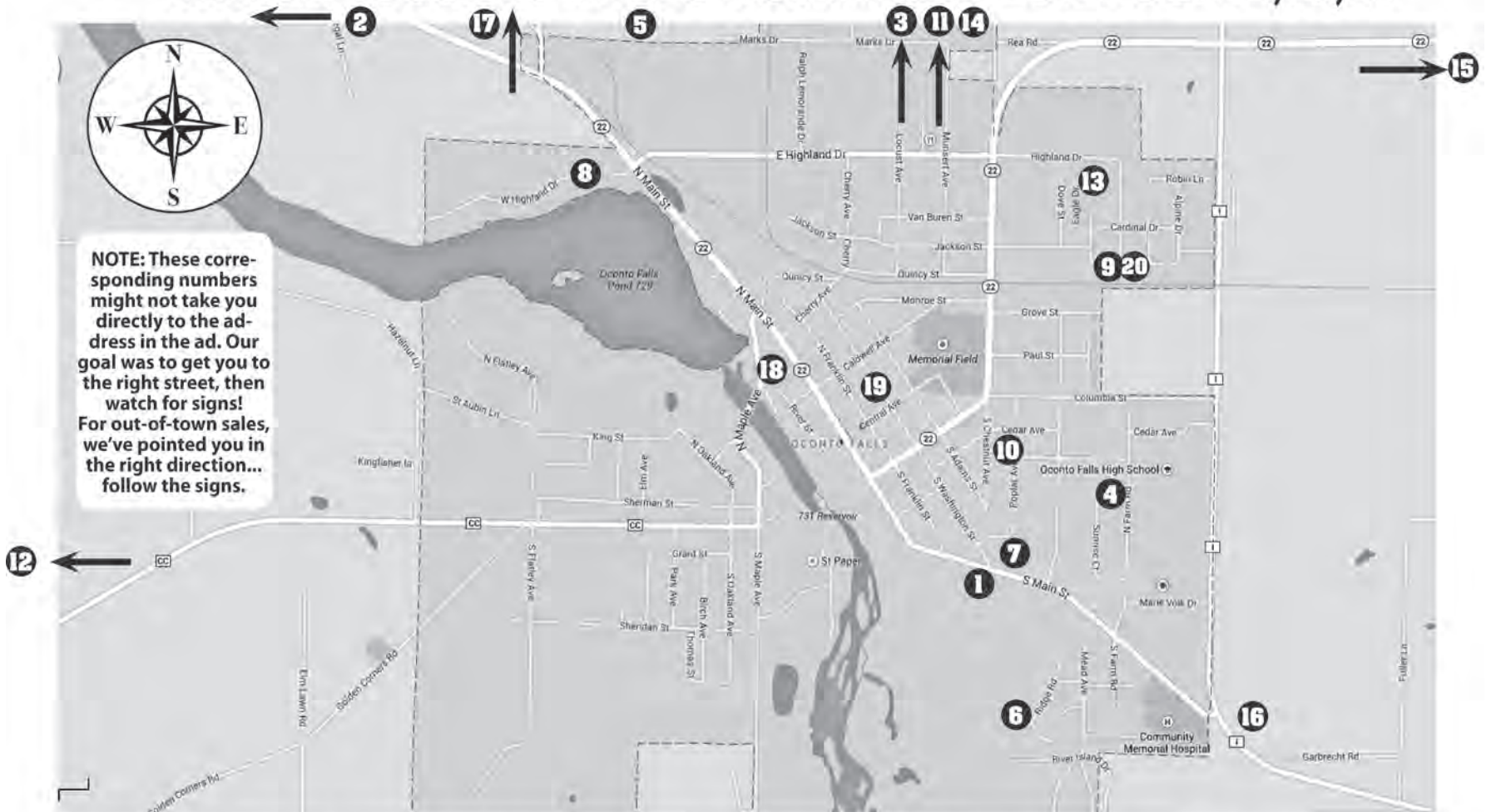
- **Ruby Spider:** The wide, open-faced, ruby red blooms of this classic daylily are brightened by a massive, yellow and lime green center.

- **Sears Tower:** At one time, this was the tallest daylily available on the market, reaching over 6 feet in height. This daylily features large, bright yellow blooms.

- **Candlestick Park:** Long, twirling ribbons of lemon yellow highlight the massive flowers of this spidery, tall growing daylily.

- **Magic Amethyst:** One of the first of the new classics, this daylily features large, heavy blooms in shades of purple and lavender with a gorgeous, decorative, bubble edge highlighted in gold.

35th ANNUAL OCONTO FALLS RUMMAGE FEST AUG. 12,13,14



- 1.) Grace Lutheran Church, 501 S. Main St., Oconto Falls. Church-wide rummage sale. Thursday & Friday 8am-4pm. Clothes for all ages and sizes, household items and much more.
- 2.) 7981 Waschbisch Road, Oconto Falls. Thursday & Friday 8am-4pm. Don't miss this huge 7-family sale. Kids/mens/womens clothes, hundreds of DVDs that include movies and complete TV series, tools, saddle, garden tools, housewares, canning jars, puzzles, books, kids toys, dining room set, home decor, and much more.
- 3.) 7630 Beaver Lake Rd, Oconto Falls. Thurs., & Fri. 8am-6pm, Sat. 8am-3pm. Tons of stuff. LAST SALE AT THIS LOCATION...come and barter, 'haggle... need to sell, sell, sell. If you've been here before, you know what I mean.
- 4.) 183 N. Farm Rd, Oconto Falls. Thurs., Fri., Sat. 7:30am-4:00pm. Youth-adult clothes, blankets, curtains, rugs, glassware, decor, household items, collectables, crafts, vinyl LP's, snowblower, jewelry, infant clothes, all things baby, beer/wine making supplies, wicker chairs & rocker, multi-family.
- 5.) 7392 Kulhanek Ln., Oconto Falls. Thurs., Fri., Sat., 10am-6pm. Lots of clothes from baby to adult, toys, stuffed animals and lots more!
- 6.) 238 Ridge Rd., Oconto Falls. Thurs. & Fri. 7am-5pm, Sat 7am-Noon. Large mirror, trail cameras, fishing poles and reels, Bud Light clock light, floor standing clock, collectables, Barbie dolls, XXXL shirts, car GPS.
- 7.) 538 S. Main Street, Oconto Falls. Thurs. & Fri. 8am-5pm, Sat. 8am-2pm. Almost everything but the house! Furniture, household items, electronics, wine making, bakeware, canning jars, games, crafts, cake decorating, sewing supplies, artwork, wheelchair, beds, dishes, glassware, vases, cookware, grills and more.
- 8.) 145 W. Highland Dr., Oconto Falls. Thurs. & Fri. 7am-5pm, Sat. 8am-?. Multi-family. Too much to list.
- 9.) 454 McDougal Circle, Oconto Falls. Thurs. & Fri. 8am-5pm, Sat. 8am-4pm. Snowmobile helmets/jackets, Pergo flooring, lamps, mirror, nightstand, chair, dog bed, clothing-infant, toddler, women's petite to 2XL, men's small to tall XL, housewares, Christmas, Thirty-One, much more! Cash & Carry! No Checks!
- 10.) 251 Cedar Ave, Oconto Falls. Thurs., Fri., Sat. 8am-5pm. Dining set, stroller, toys, books, household items, dishes, glassware, bedding, microwave, pizza oven, high chair, depression glass, file cabinet, car seat, clothing including men's 4X, XL, scrubs, children's birth to 4.
- 11.) 6210 Chestnut Rd, Oconto Falls. 8th house on the right. 2 WEEKS: Aug. 5,6,7 and AUG. 12,13,14. 8 am-??? DON'T MISS HUGE SALE. One dollar or less (some exceptions). Barbie Dream House, Dock McStuffin, Baby Alive. Hundreds of new DVDs and VHS. Kids, teens, adult clothes. Lots More.
- 12.) 5273 McDermid Dr., Oconto Falls. Fri. 8am-4:30pm, Sat. 8am-12pm. Name brand baby boys clothes size 0 to 18 mos., toys, baby climber with slide, play grill and household items. Everything is in good condition and clean.
- 13.) 559 Eagle Dr., Oconto Falls. Thurs., & Fri. 8am-5pm, Sat. 8am-2pm. Huge must see multi-family rummage sale! Household items, womens clothes size M to 2XL, boys and girls clothes, gaming desk, twin bed, Thomas the Train items, traxxas cars, plants and much more.
- 14.) 6004 N. Chestnut Rd, Oconto Falls. Thurs., Fri., Sat., 8am-6pm. Multi-family, Weber, anchors, ammo boxes, newborn clothes to 6 months, baby items, antique glassware, households, craft supplies, nails, hoses, cots, wall mirrors, complete grandfather clock parts, so much more!
- 15.) 6013 Caldie Rd., Stiles. Wed-Sat, 7am-5pm. Household, furniture, decor, video games, purses, toys, books, jewelry, Jewelry armoires, kids & adult clothes, fish tanks, bird cages, snowmobiles, motorcycle hitch, sway bars, push mower, boats, push weed wacker, lawn roller, pulverizer, much more.
- 16.) 7246 Cty I, Oconto Falls. Wed., Thurs. & Fri. 8am-4pm. Sale starts Wednesday. Multi-family sale. Reasonable prices. Deck box, household items, 7'x5' area rug, vacuum, bean bag chairs, crafts, kids toys, books, games, clothing for all ages.
- 17.) 8530 Cty B, Oconto Falls. Thurs., Fri., Sat., 9am-2pm. Household, furniture, dishes, kitchenware, misc., items.
- 18.) 251 N. Main St., Oconto Falls. Thurs. & Fri. 8am-5pm, Sat. 9am-12pm. Annual Bake Sale. Hardcover \$1, DVDs \$1, Children's books, audio books and MM paperbacks 50¢.
- 19.) 123 N. Washington St., Oconto Falls. Thurs., Fri., Sat., 8am-5:30pm. Young women's name brand clothing, home decor, mason jars, miscellaneous electronic and computer related items, bedding, box speaker, under cabinet radio, some kitchen, boat prop, trolling motor mount, much more!
- 20.) 496 McDougal Circle, Oconto Falls. Thurs. & Fri. 7am-4pm. Leine glassware, lawnmower, lawn spreader, Christmas decorations, canope, beverage cooler, wall decor, silk flowers, yard decor, sweaters, tuxedos, formals and miscellaneous.

BOOKS & STUFF

Serial killer story is a little hard to take

I knew that there would be death scenes when I chose "Blood in the Bayou" by C.M. Sutter, but I wasn't expecting the level of gruesome this book contained.

Jade Monroe comes from a close, loving family with a strong background in law enforcement. After a painful encounter, Jade worked her way to become an FBI Special Agent. Since then, she has moved up and has just been appointed to the new Serial Crimes Unit.

Jade has only been in her new office an hour or two when she and her partner, Lorenzo DeLeon (whom she nicknames Renz), are sent to Louisiana. Hog hunters have discovered human remains on the edge of the bayou. This is the third such discovery in the parish, and the local sheriff needs help.

While Jade and Renz view the dump site, Robbie Williams is watching closely. He learned a long time ago to dump his victims far from his home because the bayou gators would associate it with food – making him a potential meal. The wild hogs should have disposed of Carla's remains, but the hunters' dogs scared them off before they finished.

Robbie is a consummate predator. He is cunning, and he loves what he does. Finding and dispatching his victims gives him a special thrill. He's an efficient butcher who doesn't waste a scrap of meat. What he doesn't eat, he shares with his dog, Pete, and several feral cats.

Robbie owns about 200 acres in the bayou near Dulac. He lives simply and gets by on a small government check and the money he takes from his many victims. Like many bayou dwellers, Robbie hates anything that resembles the police.

Jade and Renz are obvious outsiders, so he follows them and learns all he can. Within a day he has disabled their car, rescued Jade and ingratiated himself into the investigation. As he does his best to mislead them, he continues doling out his gory form of justice by luring the two hunters into the swamp where they suffer horrific deaths.

Robbie has gained Jade's trust, but Renz has reservations he can't put his finger on. Knowing the investigation is getting too close, Robbie manages to get Jade to go into the bayou with him. He's frustrated because his latest victim, Sally, escaped and became gator food.

That was good meat he could have used, but there's no way he'll risk Jade getting loose. What Robbie doesn't know that the young woman is very much alive.

While he stokes his cooking fire, Sally frees Jade, and they dash into the swamp with only a hammer for a weapon. Both know that any skilled hunter could track them, so they hide and cover themselves with swamp mud.

Meanwhile, Renz realizes that Robbie is their killer and rushes to save Jade. When he discovered three murdered deputies, he knows he must use all his training to outwit Robbie.

Suddenly, Robbie appears in front of Jade. He says her perfume gave her away. As he urges Jade toward a waiting group of gators, Sally leaps out of the debris and bashes

Robbie with the hammer. Before he can react, the ravenous creatures have torn him apart.

Jade is determined to thank Sally for saving her life. Since Sally's mom has mobility issues, Jade purchases a scooter for her and sets up a savings account for Sally. With that done, she and Renz pack to leave, with Jade tossing her perfume in the trash. Both are ready to get back to Milwaukee and family.

This is the first book in Sutton's FBI Agent Jade Monroe Live or Die series. If the second is as gory as this, I think I'll wait a bit before I tackle it.

Books like this remind us that tough times can bring out the very best in us. Read all about heroic characters; you can find their stories and more at your public library. It's open and ready for you to check it out.



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SPORTS

PRO FOOTBALL

Rodgers details his issues with Packers

Team opened training camp July 28

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Green Bay Packers opened 2021 training camp on July 28 with the familiar No. 12 jersey of Aaron Rodgers leading the way.

The play of the longtime Packers quarterback on Ray Nitschke Field was no different than in years past, but after the practice wrapped up, Rodgers went into great detail about his issues with the organization that have been the talk of the NFL since late April.

The first question Rodgers was asked was “What was this all about for you?”

Rodgers started his answer by saying, “That’s kind of a loaded question.” He then spent the next five-plus minutes explaining the situation from his point of view.

The quarterback, who is entering his 17th season with the Packers, says it started with a conversation he had back in February after the season ended.

“I just expressed my desire to be more involved in conversations directly affecting my job,” said Rodgers. “Also, I wanted to help the organization maybe learn from some of the mistakes in the past, in my opinion, about the way some of the outgoing veterans were treated.”

Rodgers went on to mention several former Packers that were “core players to our foundation, our locker room, high character guys.”

The quarterback mentioned Charles Woodson, Jordy Nelson, Julius Peppers, Clay Matthews, Randall Cobb, James Jones, John Kuhn, Brett Goode, T.J. Lang, Bryan Bulaga, Casey Hayward and Micah Hyde.

Rodgers said many of those players weren’t offered contracts to stay in Green Bay or were low-balled. He added that he didn’t think those players were respected the way they should have been after their strong play and leadership in Green Bay.

In additional answers, Rodgers revealed he spoke to several of his past teammates, including some he



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers looks on during the team’s first training camp practice on July 28 at Ray Nitschke Field in Green Bay.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

mentioned, to get their experiences on leaving the team.

The quarterback then talked about how the Packers didn’t want to commit to him long-term and how that option was never given to him at any point.

He didn’t want to be a “lame-duck quarterback, especially after an MVP season.”

Rodgers then spoke about wanting to be involved in conversations regarding potential free agent signings, something that he said has never happened in his career.

Rodgers felt that he could be utilized as a recruiter.

“I think we can all understand, you know, Green Bay isn’t a huge vacation destination, people are coming here to play with me, to play with our team and knowing that they can win a championship here,” said Rodgers.

Rodgers said he wanted to be part of the recruitment of free agents going forward, and that he thought he’s earned that privilege.

With the conversation not changing, Rodgers took a new approach in March.

“If you can’t commit to me past 2021, and I’m not a part of the recruiting process in free agency, if I’m not a part of the future, then instead of letting me be a lame-duck quarterback, if you want to make a change and move forward, then go ahead and do it,” said Rodgers. “That obviously didn’t happen.”

After the 2021 NFL Draft, Rodgers said the team offered him more money, with the quarterback saying it was never about the money.

“To me, it was bigger than this. It was about trying to be a resource for

the organization that I care about and love so much,” said Rodgers.

Rodgers later said that the organization looks to him as a quarterback and to play the game, but that he feels he’s been there long enough to be looked to for more, most notably his input.

He just wanted to be part of the conversation, and even if he couldn’t sway any decisions, would have made him feel important and respected.

Continuing on his first answer, he spoke about how he expected a contract extension after his 2020 MVP season, but those talks didn’t begin until May.

Rodgers gave an analogy about a worker asking for a pay raise or some security after a big year and the company holding off on it. Then, a couple months later, the employee says he has a new job offer and the people in charge switch their tone and say they love them and want the employee to stay.

He then stated that not much changed over the summer, until the last week or so, and that he instead focused on himself. He even questioned whether or not he wanted to continue playing.

“The fire still burns and I wanted to be on a football team,” said Rodgers.

In follow-up questions, Rodgers indicated that his future with the team past this season is still up in the air.

The quarterback added he’s locked into this season and trying to help the team chase all of its goals, and then will address his future after the season wraps up.

“I love this team, I love this org—fans and the opportunity to play at Lambeau Field has been a dream come true. To be in my 17th season is really special, I don’t take that for granted,” said Rodgers. “I’m not a victim here at all, I just want to reiterate that. I’ve been paid a ton of money by this organization, and I’m so thankful to be a starter here for my 14th season. Not many guys have the opportunity to do that.”

“I don’t feel like anything has been done to me. It’s a business. It’s an incredible opportunity to play this game, it’s a tough business too, though, and this is part of it. So I totally get that point and that’s not lost on me.”

LEGION BASEBALL

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Zoromski makes all-star game



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Bryce Zoromski bats during the team's regional game against Marathon on July 24 in Marathon. Zoromski was named to the 2021 Legion all-star game. MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Wittenberg-Birnamwood Legion baseball player Bryce Zoromski was named to the 2021 American Legion Baseball All-Star Game.

"Making the all-star roster was the coolest thing to ever happen to me," said Zoromski. "To me this means I have an opportunity to show myself with the hard work I have done, but without my teammates and coaches this never could have happened."

Zoromski is a part of the Stars team, which will battle the Stripes team on Aug. 8 at the Milwaukee Brewers' American Family Field. The all-star game will take place after the Brewers game against the San Francisco Giants, which starts at 1:10 p.m.

That game between the Brewers and Giants is also a day in which the first 35,000 ticketed fans to enter the stadium will be gifted a Christian Yelich bobblehead.

"I am really excited to play at

American Family Field," said Zoromski. "Once I learned that I got selected to play, that's the only thing that has been on my mind since that day. The day it happened, we were halfway through our baseball game and our coach (Jason Rieck) gathered everyone around to break the news. I've never been more pumped up for anything in my life."

All-star players and coaches will be introduced on the field during Milwaukee's pregame festivities. The all-star game will be the 49th one ever played.

Zoromski is excited to see how he stacks up against some of the state's top players.

"Hopefully getting this experience to play in this all-star game I get a chance to see what it feels like to play in a major league game," said Zoromski. "I know that we are only high schoolers playing in this game, but these players are going to be the best of the best and I want to see where I stand with them."

sports@newmedia-wi.com

YOUTH SWIM

Dickman's titles highlight state for 3 swimmers

Three area swimmers competed in the 2021 Wisconsin 13-and-over Long Course State Meet from July 29 to Aug. 1 at the RecPlex in Pleasant Prairie.

Wittenberg Area Swim Program's Faith Resch competed in the girls 13-14 division, placing 43rd in the 50-meter freestyle with a time of 29.89 seconds.

Woodson Y Northern Swimmers and Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School graduates Wyatt Dickman and McKenna Metropulos competed in the open divisions.

Dickman was the state champion in

the 100 breaststroke (1:05.16) and 200 breaststroke (2:26.33). He also placed 11th in the 200 IM (2:11.62) and 57th in the 50 freestyle (26.31).

Metropulos took part in three events, placing 29th in the 100 freestyle (1:02.96), 54th in the 100 butterfly (1:09.85) and 57th in the 50 freestyle (28.6).

Dickman will next make a trip to Irvine, California, to participate in the Speedo Summer Championships, which run Aug. 3-7. He'll compete in the 100 and 200 breaststrokes.



Woodson Y Northern Swimmers and Wyatt Dickman, left, and McKenna Metropulos competed at the 2021 Wisconsin 13-and-over Long Course State Meet from July 29 to Aug. 1 at the RecPlex in Pleasant Prairie. CONTRIBUTED

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AUTO RACING

Racing for a Reason eclipses \$200K in 11th year

Action on track canceled after rain shower

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Shawano Speedway's annual Racing for a Reason event eclipsed \$200,000 in its history after raising more than \$27,000 on July 31.

The event was taking place for the 11th time, helping raise money for local childhood cancer awareness. Proceeds will go to Child Life Services of St. Vincent in Green Bay.

The event started 11 years ago after Reed Luepke, the son of Shawano Speedway's promotions and operations manager Brad Luepke, was diagnosed with leukemia. Race fans wanted to hold a fundraiser for Reed, but with a fundraiser already having been done, the speedway decided to create an event to make a contribution to local childhood

cancer awareness.

Instead of being just a one-time event, it's become a fan favorite on the speedway's summer schedule.

"It's just humbling, and it says a lot for the racing community," said Brad Luepke, who organizes the event with his wife, Lori. "If it wasn't for those that have supported it over the last decade, it wouldn't be as successful as it is. We are truly making a difference locally in the fight against childhood cancer."

Racing on the track

A brief but heavy rain shower about an hour before racing was supposed to start kept the speedway from hosting any races July 31.

After having some heavy vehicles do dozens of laps around the track and then a grader try and eliminate



Spectators look over raffle items available during Racing for a Reason night at Shawano Speedway on July 31.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

the water on the straightaway in front of the grandstands, all race cars were called to the track for packing.

Cars spent about an hour pack-

ing the track down, but the call was eventually made to cancel the races.

Action is scheduled to resume Aug. 7.

DAIRYLAND LEAGUE HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

Bonduel 4

Navarino 3

Bonduel edged Navarino in the league's final week of the regular season on Aug. 1 in Navarino.

Eric Guenwald hit a two-run homer for Bonduel in the seventh inning to make it a 4-0 game. Jack Reinke and J.C. Reinke had two hits each for the Broncos.

Chase Reinke pitched all nine innings to earn the win. He struck out four batters.

Matt Krause drew two walks, scored a run, drove in another and had two hits for Navarino. One of

ONLINE

For more details on the Dairyland League, visit the teams' Facebook pages.

Krause's hits was a homer. Ryan Boettcher took the loss on the mound after throwing a complete game.

Hofa Park 5

Waupaca 4

Hofa Park scored three runs in the ninth inning to stun Waupaca on Aug. 1 in Waupaca.

Tyler Nystrom delivered a two-run single in the ninth before a Marcus Hornacek RBI single with two outs gave Hofa Park the lead in the ninth. Hornacek finished with

three hits and two RBIs, while James Borick, Will Sullivan and Nystrom all chipped in two hits.

Robert Schuettelpelz picked up the win after pitching the final four innings and allowing just one run.

Luke Behm drove in two runs on three hits for Waupaca, while Johnny Popham had two hits and walked once. Jim Nighbor was dealt the loss.

Nichols 9

Cecil 8

Nichols held on late for a home win over Cecil on Aug. 1.

Justin Krull earned the win for Nichols. He struck out four batters

over seven innings.

Noah Beilfuss and Garrett Engel homered for Cecil. Brandon Hagel and Beilfuss had three hits each, while Beilfuss also was dealt the loss.

Navarino wins Shawano Tournament

Navarino won the Shawano Tournament that wrapped up July 30, with Paul Sellner being named the tournament's MVP.

Navarino topped Leopold (11-10), Shawano (7-6) and Hofa Park (4-2) in its three games.

In other tournament action, Hofa Park defeated Pulaski (10-0) and Bonduel (7-2). Pulaski had a 12-8 win over Bonduel in 10 innings, while Shawano defeated Leopold 7-5.



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3 girls from Oconto Falls eager for college athletics

Goebel, Sadowski, Brabant staying in state

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Recent Oconto Falls High School graduates McKayla Goebel, Kaylee Sadowski and Kilyn Brabant will all soon become collegiate athletes.

All three will stay in the state, with Goebel heading to Marian University to play basketball, Sadowski at UW-Oshkosh to golf and Brabant to UW-Stevens Point to join the cheer team. The trio was part of six Oconto Falls athletes that committed to colleges back on March 16.

McKayla Goebel

Goebel has always loved playing basketball and is eager to compete in the sport at a collegiate level.

Goebel had a few schools in mind before eventually settling on Marian.

“Marian stuck out to me a little bit more than the other schools because of their nursing program,” said Goebel.

FYI

A story on three Oconto Falls boys athletes that plan on playing collegiately was published in last week’s paper. The story can also be read at www.newmedia-wi.com.



MCKAYLA GOEBEL

“I also liked the small campus, it wasn’t too big or too small. I just really like the environment it gives off and just being a little closer to family.” Sometimes starting fresh at college can be daunting for individuals. Goebel, who made the North Eastern Conference honorable mention team as a senior and junior, is looking forward to the restart and also is excited to meet new people.

Along with goals as a student, Goebel has a few things she’s hoping to achieve on the basketball court.

She wants to have a shooting and free throw percentage over 70.

“Another goal is to start before my junior year. Also, to have the least



KAYLEE SADOWSKI

turnovers,” said Goebel. “And to honestly just make a difference on the team.”

Kaylee Sadowski

Golf was an activity that quickly became a passion for Sadowski at the high school level. She

now gets the chance to keep enjoying that passion at UW-Oshkosh.

“I think with my intention to pursue psychology and criminal justice, Oshkosh was always at the top of my list,” said Sadowski. “I also like the location and it felt like home right away.”

The Oconto Falls grad is excited for the new challenge, adding that she’s looking forward to meeting a new team and coaches, along with being independent.

She’s willing to help her new team in any fashion.

“My goals I have set are to improve each week and contribute to the team however I can,” said Brabant. “I will strive to be a positive teammate and take in the experience!”

Sadowski made it to sectionals in each of her final two high school seasons. She advanced to sectionals as an individual in her junior season and then led the Panthers to a sectional appearance as a team in her senior year.



KILYN BRABANT

Kilyn Brabant

Brabant is eager for the chance to cheer at games with bigger crowds, and she’ll get the chance to cheer on a familiar face at UW-Stevens Point. Her brother, Kade, is a member of the

UW-Stevens Point football team.

“It is very special for not only me but my entire family for me to be able to cheer for my brother’s football games again,” said Brabant.

UW-Stevens Point appealed to her for several reasons, one being that the school is well known for its natural resource major, which Brabant will pursue. Getting the opportunity to also cheer there is a cherry on top for the Oconto Falls grad.

“I also had an opportunity to meet the UW-Stevens Point cheer team and the coach my junior year of high school and absolutely fell in love with the closeness and family feel of the team,” said Brabant.

She’s excited for the new opportunities and experiences that college will provide her, both in the classroom and as a member of the cheer team.

“My goal is to live up to the high standards that this team has set and to be the best teammate that I can be.”

sports@newmedia-wi.com

BABA HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

ONLINE

Northern Division

Eland 7

Antigo/Polar 1

Eland won the division title outright after taking down Antigo/Polar on Aug. 1 in Eland.

Nick Lemke and Kyle Groshek posted two hits each for Eland. Tyler Nelson was the winning pitcher.

Alex Fritsch and Dylan Schielke had two hits each for Antigo/Polar. Cole Kuenzli was dealt the loss.

East-West Division

Clintonville 6

Tilleda 2

Clintonville won the East Division title outright after a win over Tilleda on Aug. 1 in Clintonville.

Jaden Doornink and Jared Cart-

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wright each drove in a run for Clintonville. Hunter Vollmer picked up the win on the hill.

Zach Fehrman was the losing pitcher. Lane Schultz led Tilleda with a pair of hits.

Little Falls 19

Tigerton 4

Little Falls inched closer to a West Division title after easing past Tigerton on Aug. 1 in Little Falls.

Carter Kurki contributed four hits for Little Falls, while Cam Gruenwald had three hits. Kurki also earned the win.

Mitchell Zimdars took the loss for Tigerton.



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HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Bogacz taking over as Bonduel coach

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Chad Bogacz was named the next head wrestling coach at Bonduel High School, replacing long-time coach Chris Rank.

Bogacz has been involved with the Bonduel wrestling program for 16 years, serving as a volunteer coach, middle school head coach, high school assistant and co-head coach over that time.

His next step will be serving as the solo head coach.

"I am excited for the opportunity to continue a great tradition that was built way before I was here," said Bogacz. "It is an honor to be able to follow in the footsteps of names like Dale Hodkiewicz, Tom Flanagan, Dan Weidner, Jeff Delorme and Chris Rank."

Over his time inside the program, he and the other coaches have insisted on a team-first philosophy, and he'll keep that same

approach as the head coach.

Bogacz added that he's learned how to deal with difficult situations and will make it a priority to always look out for the interests of every single wrestler on the team.

"There won't be any major changes — a couple of minor things," said Bogacz. "I am hoping that I can fill the expectations of keeping our program a success. Chris did such an outstanding job of creating a wrestling family culture for such a long time. I really think that if I can sustain our reputation of being one of the classy organizations run in the area, help kids create great memories and overall just become better versions of themselves, that would be my goal."

When thinking about the team's strong success in the past, he again mentioned Rank's ability to create a wrestling family culture.

"We've been very fortunate over the last 20 years with strong wres-



CHAD BOGACZ

tlng families staying in the school district," said Bogacz.

"This has allowed the youth program to be very strong. A lot of extremely dedicated parents not only care about their kids but all of

our kids on the team. Parents and alumni continue to recruit many other athletes to join the sport. It's impossible for one person to be responsible for all the success of a program. It takes a group of hard-working, dedicated people to make an organization great."

Bogacz added that Bonduel had found the right recipe in terms of making the sport bigger than just a game or activity.

"Overall though, this program is so successful because it's about

more than just wrestling," said Bogacz. "Wrestling is the vehicle that we use to help young men and women grow and learn to be great people."

"Through wrestling, you learn about commitment, sacrifice, showing up for someone else during practices. It's about seeing someone else's strength and learning from them and celebrating when someone else does well. It's about learning how to deal with losses and wins. It's about going through hard times together as a team on the mat, and off the mat in life. And in the end, it's about giving back to where you came from."

Bogacz said one new experience he will get this upcoming season is having girls wrestlers on the team. The program has had girls wrestlers at the youth and middle school level, but never at the high school level.

sports@newmedia-wi.com

Bonduel grad gets chance to extend track career

Schroeder will attend Concordia University

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Bonduel High School graduate Kalleigh Schroeder got a late start to her running career, but will get the chance to extend it a few years as she plans to join the Concordia University (Mequon) track and field team.

"I only started running at the end of my sophomore year and only had two seasons in for track," said Schroeder, who added she never though she'd be a college athlete. "I am super excited and nervous for the college level because it is so competitive."

Because of her late introduction to running and not anticipating being a college athlete, Schroeder's recruitment process was quite different than most other athletes.

She had spoke with a coach from UW-Stout but eventually decided to attend Concordia back in September.

Then she had one of the univer-



KALLEIGH SCHROEDER

sity's coaches reach out to her in April, and Schroeder decided to give the track and field team a try — a wise choice as she noted how much she loved the sport after the spring high school season wrapped up.

Schroeder said Concordia was always her college of choice, adding she was only going to apply elsewhere if she didn't get into Concordia.

She'll study interior architecture and design there.

"I chose Concordia because the campus is so pretty and a great location as well, and my program was the biggest factor for me," said Schroeder.

Along with her studies in the classroom, she's looking forward to

becoming a college athlete and competing against better competition.

She also has a couple goals in mind while competing.

"While on the track team, I hope to break 33 (feet) for triple jump hopefully, or just even improve my jumping," said Schroeder.

"I also just want to improve my time for my running events. I will be doing mid-distance, so 400 and 800 most likely and I am not sure

if I will be in relays or not. I am just hoping to have a great season overall."

In her final track and field season for the Bears, Schroeder advanced to sectionals as in individual in the triple jump and 400-meter dash.

She was an alternate for Bonduel's 4x800 and 4x400 sectional-qualifying relay teams.

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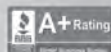
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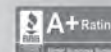
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Nelson stumps in Shawano for Senate seat

Candidate kicks off 72-county tour locally, plans to spend next 40 days listening to people

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Tom Nelson, Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate and current Outagamie County executive, kicked off his listening tour of Wisconsin's 72 counties July 28 at Angie's Main Cafe in Shawano, trying to get the pulse of the people he hopes to represent.

Nelson said he decided to kick things off in Shawano instead of his home county because he had previously represented southeast Shawano County, including the Town of Maple Grove, when he was a member of the Wisconsin Assembly representing District 5 in the 2000s. He had previously tried for federal office in 2016 when he ran against Mike Gallagher in the Eighth Congressional District to replace retiring Rep. Reid Ribble and lost.

"We're neighbors, so I thought, why not start with a neighbor?" Nelson said.

Now, Nelson has his sights set on the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Republican Ron Johnson. Johnson has not announced whether he will seek a third six-year term, but regardless, Nelson feels Johnson has to go.

"He's gone a long, long way toward hurting people in this country," Nelson said. "That's not just me as a Democrat running for the U.S. Senate. I hear that from Republicans and especially inde-



TOM NELSON

pendents." Before Nelson can face Johnson — or whomever the Republican candidate will be — he'll have to face off against a number of his fellow Democrats. The field includes current Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes, State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski, Gillian Battino, Chris Larson, Alex Lasry, Kou Lee, Chantia Lewis, Adam Murphy and Peter Peckarsky.

Nelson said he stands out among the other Democrats because he's not a millionaire, touting his family's background in agriculture and noting that his father is a Lutheran pastor. He said it was officials at local levels who led the country out of the coronavirus pandemic, not federal officials like Johnson, so he feels he can bring that experience to the halls of the U.S. Capitol.

"Call me old-fashioned, but I think experience matters," Nelson said. "I've been around the state more than anyone else. I have talked to the people of the state. I have a pretty good sense of where the people are at."

Nelson realizes he'll need more than the Democratic base to win the election and noted that both Shawano and Outagamie counties consist of



Republican-majority voters. He said he has the history of bringing both sides together when needed.

"We're going to get to every nook and cranny of this state and talk not only to Democrats, but to Republicans and independents," Nelson said. "I come from Outagamie County, which on balance is a red county, but I've won re-election six times. I would not have won re-election if I was not able to bring Democrats, Republicans and independents together. That's what the state needs. We don't need a polarizing figure like Ron Johnson. We need someone to bring the people together."

Nelson said he was baffled that neither senator representing the state or Wisconsin's eight representatives in Congress are sitting on a federal agriculture committee, and he vowed that, after being elected, he plans to push to be on the one for the Senate.

"It's not just because of the personal relationship," Nelson said. "There are a lot of farms in Outagamie County, a lot of farms in Shawano County. America's Dairyland, and we

have no representation when it comes to policymaking in a committee in the U.S. Senate or the U.S. House. That changes when I get to Washington."

Nelson also talked about broadband and the need for it to be available across the country. Currently, 14% of Wisconsin does not have an internet service provider that offers high-speed broadband internet, and Nelson vowed to make sure that internet service becomes a utility, the same as electricity and water.

"With broadband, it's not just about the money (for infrastructure). We need to make sure it's a utility," Nelson said. "Think about it. You get all that infrastructure in the ground, and two years later, the companies jack up the prices. You can't control that unless it's a public utility."

Nelson noted that former U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold had previously done a 72-county listening tour when he was in the Senate, and he feels it's necessary to get to the heart of what constituents want from elected officials. He plans to get it done in a 40-day period.

"When I win, my constituency is going to be more than the people that voted for me," Nelson said. "It's not just going to be Democrats; it's going to be everybody. We're going to have disagreements, but to have a philosophy that you're just focused on this one band doesn't do any good."

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

Legislature has 2nd chance to support schools

Wisconsin's public school system is dependent upon tax dollars. Schools use state and local taxes to pay for services, salaries, transportation, supplies, utilities and more. Schools also don't solely control how much tax money they receive, or how much they are able to spend. The legislature sets spending limits for schools and determines how much state assistance they get to offset that spending. This authority requires a level of foresight and planning. When things don't go quite right — for example, when a global pandemic hits — needs change.

When Gov. Tony Evers originally crafted his budget, it included \$1.6 billion for public education. That decision was supported by Wisconsin citizens throughout the state. Investment in our state and communities was the common refrain at the public hearings held to gather input about the state's budget. A majority of public testimony spoke directly to the critical needs in our public schools: mental health supports, supplies, human resources, personal



JILL UNDERLY

protective equipment, technology, broadband, food services and resources to combat potential learning loss. People also spoke to the need for an infusion of money to accomplish this. Citizens praised our educators, calling them the first responders for our children.

Evers' plan addressed many of those needs through targeted investments in special education, the state's share of local spending, technology costs and more. The legislature, however, answered this call differently, claiming one-time money provided by the federal government was sufficient to address all the needs of our schools. With no new spending authority and one-time federal monies targeted at pandemic-related costs, cuts will need to be made, or local taxpayers will be forced to referendum to raise their own taxes.

Unfortunately, this is a familiar challenge for our schools and our children. This is not how our funding system should work, and it's definitely not what is best for our teachers, their schools and our kids. The endless cycles of referendums widen the gaps between our have and have-not school districts, our students who face unique challenges and their peers, and our communities as a whole. Those who can shoulder the cost of tax increases pass referendums, while those who cannot don't. That does not bode well for our state's future.

When our state was formed, our founders built a system of public education that set us up for the collective success we've enjoyed for a long time. Their investment, foresight and thoughtfulness should be commended and built upon. Through his budget vetoes, Evers gave the legislature an opportunity to make good on a common and popular promise legislators across the state made to support their local public schools. There are plenty of needs right now, and now we have a

second chance to fund those needs.

Foresight and investment is the theme when you have an unexpected windfall, whether you are a homeowner or a business owner. Some frequently remark that we should operate our schools like we manage our homes or our business. If you are a homeowner with a leaky roof, you would undoubtedly use any extra cash you receive to fix your roof. If you are a business owner, you would reinvest it in your business, your employees or in research and development to shore up your future.

So, let's do the same for our schools. Please contact your legislators and encourage them to use this opportunity to benefit every kid, every day. The governor provided this legislature a second chance to make good on their own election promises to invest in our public schools, our communities, our children and our families. We cannot afford to let this moment pass.

Jill Underly is the state superintendent of public instruction.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cheney, Kinzinger buck party to seek truth

To the editor:

We are all aware of the impact of rolling power outages on our lives and our way of life. However, a different type of outage is now plaguing our society — rolling civic outages. Our country, state and locality are so polarized that friendships are being destroyed and family relationships are being damaged.

Viewing the initial session of the Jan. 6 select committee have brought

these thoughts to the forefront. Even though I am not a Republican, I am proud to call Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger patriotic Americans. For all practical purposes, they are sacrificing their political lives at the altar of our republican democracy rather than bending their knee at the altar of Donald Trump. In the case of Kinzinger, much of his family has disowned him. Both Cheney and Kinzinger are facing death threats.

Adam Kinzinger is former active military and is a reservist on call. He refers to himself as a conservative Republican. As such, I have

disagreed with him on many social, cultural and economic issues. Nevertheless, I deeply admire his ongoing display of courage.

The bulk of the Republican Party has succumbed to the cult of personality embodied in Donald Trump. This is despite the fact that he — along with Hitler, Stalin and Mao — is one of the four most evil men of the past century. Most Republican officials on the national level are acting out the Machiavellian principle that to succeed in politics requires learning how "not to be good." Trump's base has essentially adopted him as

their secular savior. By doing so, they relinquish their right to claim Jesus as their spiritual savior.

What happened on Jan. 6 needs to be permanently etched in our collective conscience. We cannot live in the alternative reality that the terrorists of that day were really patriots.

For all you "people of faith" out there who believe in a place or concept of heaven, I know this to be true. You and I will not occupy the same eternal space. I would not be too sure that you will be the one that metaphorically will be looking down on me.

Ken Kroenke, Shawano

OPINION PAGE POLICY

NEW Media welcomes letters from its readers and wants to publish as many as possible. Letters should be no longer than 400 words and must be typed.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters for accuracy, brevity and clarity. Please avoid personal attacks. Only one letter per writer

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Longer pieces of up to 800 words will be considered for guest columns. All columns require a head shot of the author.

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by the author, and an address and telephone number must be included for verification. No anonymous opinion pieces will be published under any circumstances.

Thank you letters will be considered for publication on community pages in the paper. The 400-word limit applies to thank you

letters, as well.

The best and most expedient way to send letters is by email to editor@newmedia-wi.com. Put "letter to the editor" in the subject line and send the text in the body of the email.

Letters can also be sent by mail or delivered in person to 1464 E. Green Bay St., Shawano.

Jail staff pay increase gets final OK

County to use \$1.16M in ARPA funds to provide increase for the next three years

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Starting in August, Shawano County Jail corrections officers, sergeants and kitchen staff will be taking home a little more pay.

The Shawano County Board of Supervisors voted 24-2 on July 28 to give the employees a \$3 per hour pay raise through 2024, citing it as hazard pay since the money was coming from the American Rescue Plan Act. The county has received \$3.9 million from ARPA and is expected to receive a similar amount in 2022, and the hazard pay is expected to take up over \$1.16 million of that — about \$339,792 for each full year and \$143,758 for the remainder of 2021.

The emergency action was taken due to the jail reaching a crisis level with employees. Eleven corrections officers have left the county's employ in 2021, leaving the county woefully understaffed. At the same time, the jail population ballooned while inmates waited for the circuit court to resume jury trials after the coronavirus pandemic closed down the courts for a period of time.

Shawano County's starting pay for corrections officers, prior to the increase, was \$17.95 per hour, and they could go to Marinette County for \$19.94 or Oconto County for \$20.57. Staff were also leaving the county for higher-paying jobs in the private sector.

Sheriff Adam Bieber told the board that the county has reached this crisis point because it hasn't been following the recommendations outlined by the consulting firm Carlson Dettman, which did a wage study in 2015. This contradicts recent claims by supervisors that Carlson Dettman was to blame for county staff wages across the board being so low.

"We just haven't been following Carlson Dettman," Bieber said. "We haven't been giving (employees) pay increases every year like they suggest. That's why we're behind."

Bieber told the board it was on the right path to "stop the bleeding" with the increase, pointing out that other counties have done it. He noted, though, that it would still take some time to recruit people and get the jail to its full staff of 36 employees.



Shawano County Sheriff Adam Bieber, left, explains the need for a \$3 per hour increase in pay for jail staff during the July 28 Shawano County Board of Supervisors meeting, as jail administrator Dylan Berg listens. Bieber noted that the county could end up paying \$1 million annually to ship out prisoners if the jail staff reaches untenable levels.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

"We're at a point where, if we lose any more people, we will have to ship people out (to other jails)," Bieber said. "That'll be at a cost of \$3,185 per day. Almost \$1 million per year we'll be paying someone else to house our inmates (while still operating the jail)."

Bieber clarified that the county wasn't losing staff to other jails as much as it was the private sector. With jail population high, corrections officers are enduring consistent abuse by inmates.

"It's not a joy to come to work," Bieber said. "When you're getting screamed at, kicked at, spit at, and it's almost on a daily basis ... we've got to get them out of our correctional facilities. They need to be in prisons."

Chief Deputy George Lenzner noted that Shawano County was near the bottom in the state for starting pay for corrections officers, with Ashland County being the only one that pays less.

"Menominee County, their corrections officers make more money now," Lenzner said.

While the board was near unanimous in its support for jail staff,

many supervisors expressed reservations about taking action through ARPA, one-time funds that would run out in 2024. Some described it as a Band-Aid for the issue and suggested something else needed to be done to stop the bleeding.

"What happens when (other counties) raise theirs, as well?" Supervisor Joe Miller said.

Supervisor Richard Ferfecki feared that, if the county doesn't develop a permanent plan to keep the pay for jail staff competitive, it might lose everyone when the money runs out in three years.

"We got to have a plan in place that we can continue to pay these people a fair wage, and we've just got to quit kicking the can down the road," Ferfecki said.

Supervisor Kathy Luebke suggested an amendment that would only allow the increase through the end of 2022 instead of 2024, requiring the county board to come up with a more permanent solution sooner rather than later. However, Luebke could only find three other supervisors who agreed on that timeline, as the amendment failed on a 22-4 vote.

Supervisor Aaron Damrau, who

voted against the pay increase along with Supervisor Ken Capelle, suggested that using ARPA funds to solve the jail pay issue was akin to "putting a Band-Aid on a bullet hole" and felt there were other avenues that didn't involve using one-time funds.

"We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity with this funding," Damrau said. "Our infrastructure — our broadband infrastructure — is completely lacking. I live in the least-populated district in the county, and my constituents can't get internet because it's not profitable."

County Board Chairman Tom Kautza pointed out that many jails in the state are having difficulty in recruiting and retaining employees.

"We're not alone in the problem," Kautza said. "Oconto (County) said that they've lost three in the last couple of weeks. Marinette County, they're managing to hold their own and not having a big turnover rate. But they also put in a program where they give (jail employees) extra money beyond their pay, but they keep that, and you don't get paid that unless you're there at the end of that year."

How the pandemic could permanently change Wisconsin jails and prisons

By **ROBERT CHAPPELL**

Madison365

and **SHEREEN SIEWERT**

Wausau Pilot and Review

Even before COVID-19 began to snake through Wisconsin's jails and prisons, Chad Billeb saw a storm coming.

As chief deputy for the Marathon County Sheriff's Department, Billeb was already studying ways to reduce the number of inmates in the jail, a challenge that county leaders have been examining for years. As early as 2017, overcrowding was such a central issue that staff and outside experts concluded that the county would need a new \$75 million jail.

The pandemic's arrival brought new urgency to the overcrowding problem.

A similar story played out in jails and prisons across Wisconsin and the country, triggering experiments in public health and criminal justice.

Nationwide, corrections officials faced the fact that incarcerated people exposed to the coronavirus were getting sick and dying at a rate unparalleled in the general public. The scramble to protect the health of inmates, staff members and surrounding communities meant incarcerating fewer people — a long-standing demand of criminal justice reform advocates.

Combined, Wisconsin's state prisons and local jails held fewer than 30,000 inmates in December 2020, the lowest number in more than 20 years, according to Department of Corrections (DOC) data.

While corrections and law enforcement officials view their efforts as successful, those numbers aren't good enough for most advocates.

"I think everyone was ill-prepared," said Anthony Cooper, coordinator of re-entry services at the nonprofit Nehemiah Center, which aims to strengthen Madison's African-American community. He said he saw a mix of right and wrong moves from jail and prison officials. "The people that were incarcerated were still looked at as less than," he said.

A health crisis unfolds

One out of every two inmates in Wisconsin's prisons have tested



Signs and posters outside the Wisconsin governor's mansion in Maple Bluff on June 18, 2020, are part of a "Drive to Decarcerate" event. Those attending urged Gov. Tony Evers to release inmates from Wisconsin's overcrowded prisons to slow the spread of COVID-19. COBURN DUKEHART | WISCONSIN WATCH

FYI

This story was produced by Wisconsin Watch, which describes itself as a nonprofit, nonpartisan investigative reporting organization that focuses on government integrity and quality of life issues in Wisconsin. The project was made possible by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with additional support from INN's Amplify News Project and the Solutions Journalism Network. Read more at <https://inn.org/inn-collaborations/ac-life-after-covid/>.

positive for the virus, a rate four times higher than the state's general population, according to the DOC.

One in 737 prisoners died of COVID-19 complications, a rate of 135 per 100,000 people — higher than the state rate of 124 per 100,000 residents. In Marathon County, an October outbreak traced to an inmate who initially tested negative for the virus, only to test positive three days later, led to dozens of infections among inmates and staff.

The sickness and death inside often poorly ventilated jails and prisons prompted pleas for early or temporary releases. But a range of other actions ultimately eased crowding.

Dane County's jail population dropped from over 700 to about 570, roughly 70 of whom were outside the jail building on electronic monitoring. Dane County Sheriff's Capt. Kerry Porter, who oversees security services including the jail, said the county reduced the population as much as possible but also needed

outside help.

Porter said judges stayed many sentences, which, along with a hiatus on jury trials, slowed the intake of inmates at the jail. The court system also offered what he called "COVID release warrants," which gave law enforcement discretion to decide not to arrest someone with an open warrant if they didn't pose an immediate threat to the public.

Porter said the sheriff's office also encouraged municipal law enforcement agencies to "exercise discretion" if they could cite someone or refer charges to the district attorney without an arrest.

Police elsewhere did the same.

The DOC affects county jail populations when it petitions courts to revoke parole or order people incarcerated who violate conditions of their probation. DOC Secretary Kevin Carr said his agency instructed parole and probation officers to incarcerate only those violators who posed a risk to the public.

"Our primary mission is public safety," Carr said. "You can assess the nature of the contact and determine that there's no reason to hold that person in custody for three days or more, disrupt their lives, put their jobs and housing at risk."

"Our primary mission is public safety," Carr said. "You can assess the nature of the contact and determine that there's no reason to hold that person in custody for three days or more, disrupt their lives, put their jobs and housing at risk."

Carr acknowledged that the agency before the pandemic would routinely incarcerate people who are arrested for violating probation or parole — even when they posed no public safety threat.

On March 2, 2020, Wisconsin's county jails housed 3,680 people on probation or parole holds or short-term sanctions; by April 20, that number had dropped to 1,723 — a decrease of 53%.

As of July 5, that population had risen back to 2,270, still well below the normal number.

Carr said that change in criteria and reduction in holds and sanctions were part of a longer-term plan that began before the pandemic.

"But it was certainly accelerated

by the pandemic,” he said.

A future uncertain

For well more than a decade before the pandemic, Marathon County’s daily jail population hovered around 400. Recently implemented diversion programs and policing policies only slightly eased crowding.

Today, with an average daily population of about 244, it might be tempting to view overcrowding as solved.

But that would fail to envision the future of the jail, which has a maximum capacity of 279 inmates and a recommended cap of 250. An enormous disparity persists between the number of pretrial inmates and those who have been sentenced, Billeb said.

In mid-June, for example, only 45 of 244 Marathon County inmates had been sentenced. Of those, 28 were serving their sentences on electronic monitoring, rather than spending time in a cell. Some of those inmates are in juvenile detention centers, while a handful were waiting to be transferred to other facilities or jurisdictions. The rest – 140 inmates – were awaiting trial.

The court system already faced a backlog before the pandemic due to a lack of prosecutors, public defenders and judges to handle growing caseloads in Marathon County. That problem only worsened when the pandemic paused jury trials for more than a year due to safety concerns. Marathon County District Attorney Theresa Wetzsteon said her office has at least 400 additional pending cases now compared to 15 months ago.

The backlog has police, prosecutors and judges on edge.

“Pandemic or no pandemic, if we can’t get a handle on the massive backlog in the court system, if something doesn’t move, we’re going to need a 1,000-bed jail,” Billeb said. “The tipping point is coming.”

County officials statewide implemented several strategies to reduce the jail populations during the pandemic. Police and prosecutors summoned defendants into court rather than taking them into custody. Fewer “failure to appear” warrants were processed. Many court appearances were rescheduled, and probation and parole agents sought to avoid jail sanctions. The question loomed: Was jailing someone worth increasing their risk of infecting themselves and others?

Early studies suggest decarceration efforts lowered infection rates in some jails.

But for all those efforts, Billeb



Kevin Carr, secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, is seen during an interview with Wisconsin Watch on June 19, 2019, at the department's headquarters in Madison.
ALISA IVANITSKAYA | WISCONSIN WATCH

said, the influx of people coming into the system hasn’t slowed. And the biggest issue he sees is not with the law enforcement officers on the street.

“It’s the system that’s not moving anything along,” Billeb said.

A system on overload

Wisconsin’s local jail populations declined by more than one-third last spring, according to a Wisconsin Policy Forum report released in March. Populations have since risen but remain 24% lower than they were a year earlier, DOC figures show.

Even so, Marathon County Deputy Jail Administrator Paul Mergendahl pointed out that the average length of jail stays increased during the pandemic. For the first six months of 2019, inmates averaged 31 days in jail, a number that more than doubled during the first six months of 2020, to 76.

That’s largely due to the state’s refusal to bring new inmates into the prison system, Mergendahl said. Inmates who would normally be sent to Dodge Correctional after sentencing instead remained in county jails that were ill-equipped for long-term stays. The percentage of Marathon County inmates awaiting transport to secure facilities grew, even as the jail population overall shrank.

When the state began accepting inmates again in late April, Billeb said, dozens were transferred to state prisons over a two-week span. But

those awaiting trial must continue to wait as courts work through a pandemic-induced backlog of cases.

On any given day, more than 85% of Marathon County inmates are in custody for non-violent offenses, with only a fraction sentenced for crimes they are convicted of committing.

In Dane County, many people have remained in custody for the entire pandemic while awaiting trial, said Porter, the sheriff’s captain.

Prosecutors are calling for dramatic changes to reduce court backlogs.

“We may not have the number of people in jails taking up space, but their cases are accumulating at an alarming rate,” said Wetzsteon, the Marathon County district attorney.

Wetzsteon wants more scrutiny of courtroom delays to help defense attorneys, prosecutors and judges pinpoint solutions to move cases more swiftly without sacrificing public safety.

Some changes permanent

The pandemic forced courts to adapt to keep cases moving forward. Wetzsteon said she hopes some of those changes, such as video access to court hearings, will be permanent. Video appearances streamline the process for attorneys and allow “tremendous access” for victims to appear in court, she said.

But allowing the accused to show up on Zoom rather than in-person

requires less accountability, she said.

Judges will decide whether to continue video court.

For some inmates, especially juveniles, appearing in court via video can avoid the trauma of wearing handcuffs and leg irons, Marathon County Jail Deputy Administrator Paul Mergendahl said.

Video court also saves time and taxpayer money.

“It’s certainly more cost-effective and more efficient for us to use video visitation for routine court matters, like a scheduling conference,” Carr said. “Why would you drive somebody from Stanley, Wisconsin, down to Milwaukee for a five-minute scheduling conference, when you can do it over the internet?”

However, not all jails are equipped with adequate facilities for such video conferencing; Dane County Jail officials faced criticism for forcing inmates to appear via video through the food slots in their cell doors, which many advocates called dehumanizing.

Carr said video visitation can also provide a bit more humanity for inmates. As important as in-person visits are, they don’t allow glimpses into homes.

“(In in-person visits) they couldn’t see the dog that they left behind, or they couldn’t see somebody carrying their niece or nephew in the background, or what the house looks like now, or the Christmas tree, or whatever they wanted to see,” Carr said.



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Ascension Northeast Wisconsin is now part of Aspirus

Aspirus Health has assumed ownership from Ascension Wisconsin of seven hospitals, 21 physician clinics and air and ground medical transport services located in north and central Wisconsin, effective Aug. 1.

"This acquisition will help Aspirus provide better and more connected care to thousands and thousands more people in our region," said Matthew Heywood, president and CEO of Aspirus Health. "We are mission-driven to provide small communities with convenient access to compassionate, excellent care. We are excited to work with our new

team members to serve more communities like the ones we call home."

The transition includes Eagle River Hospital in Eagle River, Good Samaritan Hospital in Merrill, Howard Young Medical Center in Woodruff, Our Lady of Victory Hospital in Stanley, Sacred Heart Hospital in Tomahawk, St. Mary's Hospital in Rhinelander and St. Michael's Hospital in Stevens Point.

The names of the hospitals and clinics will remain the same for the immediate future, although on-site signs will indicate that they have joined Aspirus Health. Ultimately,

facility names will be changed to reflect the Aspirus brand. By December 2021, all signs and materials are expected to reflect the new Aspirus facility names.

Transitioning Ascension patients are encouraged to direct any questions or suggestions to their care provider, which will not change as a result of this acquisition. For information about individual medical records, appointments or other issues, a help site is available via the search on the Aspirus home page, aspirus.org.

The planned transfer, first announced as a signed agreement in

January, was subject to regulatory and canonical requirements to complete the acquisition. All approvals are now in hand, and today, 2,700 new team members report to work as a part of the Aspirus Health system.

"I'd like to thank the hundreds of people within Aspirus and Ascension Wisconsin who worked with focus and energy to realize this vision," Heywood said. "We are here because of their effort and shared commitment to doing what is right for our patients."

Wittenberg-Biramwood School District Official Minutes of the Board of Education June 28, 2021

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

Roll Call of the Board: Seven Board members present. Krueger-Schmidt, Meredith absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve the Minutes: (Olson - Stewart) moved to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2021 regular meeting as circulated. Motion carried.

Delegations & Communications: In attendance along with Board members were: Garrett Rogowski, Joy Hartleben, Randy Berndt, Megan Marcks, Vicky Haas, Bill Hass, John Rudeen, Jeff Miller and Matt McGregor.

Board Concerns & Reports: A concern on the new parking lot at Birnamwood. Graduation was outside this year and it went very well. Sunday graduation next year due to state track being on a Friday-Saturday.

Financial Report: (Magee - Stewart) Moved to pay the following as of June 28 2021: Budgetary checks numbering 104204-104482 in the amount of \$324,802.26, payroll checks numbering 142155-142180 in the amount of \$215,519.75, direct deposit advices in the amount of \$624,308.54, ACH payments in the amount of \$364,658.07 and credit card payments in the amount of \$24,510.63. I make a motion to approve all journal entries made for the month of May. Roll call vote: 7 yes 2 absent Motion carried.

Superintendent Rogowski reported a cash on deposit as of May 31, 2021, of \$3,299,455.89 and LGIP

Account balance as of May 31, 2021 of \$975.94.

Approve Agenda: (Pietz - Magee) moved to approve the agenda with one closed session to update Board on negotiations. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports:

Vicky Haas, Wittenberg Elementary/Middle School Principal, reported Summer School is taking place at their building with almost 300 students participating. She thanks the custodial staff for doing an excellent job at cleaning and preparing the school for next year. The playground is being prepared for the new playground equipment that will be arriving.

Randy Berndt, Birnamwood Elementary/Middle School Principal, reported that they earned a bronze award for behavior from the Wisconsin Rtl Center. 8th grade recognition turned out to be a special night holding it outside. Fifty percent of students earned honor roll status. The community garden is looking good.

John Rudeen, Aquatic Center Director, talked about the wage increase for staff at the pool. Summer School classes are taking place at the pool with over 130 students. The Nueman pool team continues to look at aspects of our HVAC and boiler systems.

Megan Marcks, Pupil Services Director stated that herself and Mr. Hass went to pick up 120 backpacks for the 2021 Fill a Backpack Fill a Need program. We received \$9000.00 from our Transition Improvement Grant and we have 3 vacant Spec Ed Teacher positions and 2 paraprofessional vacant positions that need to get filled.

Jeff Miller, Maintenance Supervisor, stated that the playground excavation has started at Wittenberg. The Birnamwood ceiling grids are getting put in. Concession stand has a good start. Upstairs bathrooms at the High School are being worked on. Fans in the Ag building were discussed as well as the noise level of the HVAC in the commons and gym area. Custodial staff is progressing with their cleaning and doing a great job.

Garrett Rogowski, Superintendent thanked the Negotiations Committee. Negotiations will be on the July Agenda.

Matt McGregor from Huffman was here to discuss the remaining projects and their time lines. There are a few issues that are being addressed. He answered any questions the board members had.

No Old Business

New Business A: (Stewart - Pietz) moved to approve the following teacher hires:

Destiny Dayton as 3rd Grade Teacher at Wittenberg, compensation being \$36,200.

Katie Welch as Kindergarten Teacher at Wittenberg, compensation being \$40,200.

Framces Slezak as 4th Grade Teacher at Wittenberg, compensation being \$37,200.

Motion carried.

New Business B: (Pietz - Olson) moved to approve the transfer of Tiffany Wanta from 4K Headstart to 4K Wittenberg, and Jodi Mallak from 4th Grade Wittenberg to ESL Teacher. Motion carried.

New Business C: (Magee - Pietz) moved to approve the following teacher resignations:

Deanna Jensen, 4K Teacher Wittenberg with 7 years in the District, Meagan Geske, Special Ed Teacher Birnamwood with 2 years in the District and Kristin Ruleau, Special Ed Teacher Birnamwood, with 4 years in the District. Motion carried. The Board would like to thank them all for their time and service to the District.

New Business D: moved to July agenda

New Business E: (Stewart - Hanson) moved to approve the hire of Amanda Menke for food service at Wittenberg and Sandra Lang for food service at Birnamwood, compensation for both starting at \$11.57/hr.

Motion carried.

New Business F: (Magee - Olson) moved to approve the resignations of the following coaches:

Alex Hint from Assistant Varsity Softball, John Heinrich from JV Baseball and Dan Kapitz (with 31 yrs) from Varsity Baseball. Motion carried. The Board thanks them for their time working with students in this capacity.

New Business G: (Olson - Pietz) moved to approve the hire of Jayda Resch as Cheerleading Coach. Motion carried.

New Business H: (Stewart - Pietz) moved to approve the transfer of \$1,000,000.00 from Fund 10 to Fund 46.

Roll Call 7 yes 2 absent. Motion carried.

New Business I: (Magee - Hanson) moved to approve the 2020-2021 Budget Revisions as presented. Motion carried.

New Business J: (Stewart - Pietz) moved to approve the bid from Blue Ribbon Blacktop Seal Coating in the amount of \$27,747.00. Motion carried.

New Business K: (Magee - Pietz) moved to approve the recommended pay scale for the Aquatic Center Staff as presented. Motion carried.

New Business L: A date has been set for the Buildings and Grounds walk through. August 18, 2021, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in Birnamwood

New Business M: (Pietz - Stewart) moved to approve the date for the Annual Board Meeting as August 23, 2021. Motion carried.

New Business N: (Pietz - Hanson) moved to approve the Endowment Transfer of \$50,000.00 to Fund 80 as presented. Motion carried.

Adjournment: (Stewart - Magee) moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy A Hartleben
School Board Secretary

Wittenberg-Birnamwood SCHOOL DISTRICT IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A copy of the full District Newsletter can be found on line at www.wittbirn.k12.wi.us or you can pick one up at any school location, or call 715-253-2213 to have one mailed. Free & Reduced lunch applications are available when you go on line to register your child.



Birnamwood Elem/MS
7:55 am – 3:10 pm
Fridays 2:30 dismissal

SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 1, 2021



Wittenberg Elem/MS
7:55 am – 3:10 pm
Fridays 2:30 dismissal

WB High School
8:00 am – 3:20 pm
Fridays 2:35 dismissal

IMPORTANT

All returning students must enroll for the 2021-2022 school year through Family Access.

Log into Family Access and click on the Online Enrollment button for each child. Follow each step and submit. You will be verifying information that is already in Skyward, sign forms and update health information. This will eliminate a lot of paperwork that would need to be sent home. Your cooperation is very appreciated.

New Families see bottom of page.

Please notify the school office if you do not plan on using our bus transportation services. Thank you!

Registration Fees

4K – 5 Students

General Fee: \$10.00

6-8 Students

General Fee: \$10.00

Lock Fee: \$5.00

(Will be reimbursed at the end of the school year when lock is returned.)

9-12 Students

General Fee: \$25.00

Athletic Fee: \$25.00 per sport

Parking Fee: \$40.00/yr

Comm 133 class: \$300.00

Drivers Ed Fee: \$275.00

PLEASE WRITE SEPARATE CHECKS FOR REGISTRATION AND MEAL FEES. THANK YOU! Registration, athletic, and parking fees can now be paid online through Family Access.



Picture Day

<u>Bwd Elem/MS</u>	September 7	T/R 4K - 8
	September 8	M/W 4K
<u>Witt Elem/MS</u>	September 7	T/R 4K - 8
	September 8	M/W 4K
<u>High School</u>	September 1	9-12



Meal Prices

A new application for free and reduced price meals does need to be completed for each school year. Please take the time to fill out the application completely and accurately. Paper applications are available at each school or can be printed directly from the District's website (www.wittbirn.k12.wi.us – see Food Services Section).

Grades 4K-8 Free

Extra Milk/Snack Milk \$.35

Grades 9-12 Free

Grades 4K-12 Breakfast Free

You can view your family meal account purchases, payments, and balance via your Skyward Family Access account. You can also opt to receive low account balances emails via your Family Access account (click on 'My Account' and then check the box to 'Receive Emails when Food Service Balance is under \$5.00'). Automated phone messages/emails will go out biweekly for family meal accounts that have a negative balance.

Families will receive an automated phone call for all important announcements, low lunch balances, attendance and early release due to inclement weather. Listen to WDEZ 101.9FM, WIFC 95.5FM, WRIG 400AM, and WSAI 550AM for school closings. Also watch WBAY 2, WAOW 9, WSAW 7, NBC 26 and WFRV 5.

Notice of Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting Sec. 65.90(4)

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District that the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting will be held at the High School Auditorium on Monday, August 23, 2021 with the Budget Hearing at 5:30 p.m. and Annual Meeting to follow for the transaction of business. The Regular Board Meeting will follow the Annual meeting in the High School Library.

A summary of the budget will be published in the Enterprise News on August 12, 2021. Detailed copies of the budget can be obtained in the District Office on or after August 12, 2021.

Kristy Meredith, Clerk

NEW FAMILIES TO THE DISTRICT:

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR STUDENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE at www.wittbirn.k12.wi.us – District Page -New Student Enrollment. SUMMER OFFICE HOURS FOR WITTENBERG AND BIRNAMWOOD ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS ARE 7:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. MONDAY – THURSDAY. HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS ARE 7:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. MONDAY – THURSDAY.

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BIRNAMWOOD, WI 54414
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WITTENBERG ELEM/MS
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WITTENBERG, WI 54499
715-253-2221

WB HIGH SCHOOL
400 W GRAND AVE
WITTENBERG, WI 54499
715-253-2211

2021-2022

School Calendar

Sept 1 – FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Sept 6 – No School-Labor Day

Oct 26 – P-T Conferences

Grades PK-12 4:30-8:00 PM

Oct 28 & 29 – No School

Nov 2 – P-T Conferences

Grades PK-12 4:30-8:00 PM

Nov 23 – End 1st Trimester K-8

Nov 24 – No School- Prof. Dev.

Nov 25 & 26 – No School
Thanksgiving Break

Dec 23 – Dec 31 – No School
Christmas Break

Jan 3 – School Resumes

Mar 3 – End 2nd Trimester

Mar 4 – No School- Prof. Dev.

March 21 – March 25 –
No School Spring Break

April 15 – April 18 – No School
Easter Break. Happy Easter!!

May 30 – No School
Memorial Day

Sunday June 5 – Graduation Day!

June 9 – End 3rd Trimester K-8
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

School supply lists can be found on our website at www.wittbirn.k12.wi.us or in our District Newsletter and at the following retail stores: WalMart in Wausau, Antigo, Shawano and, Target in Schofield and Stevens Point.

Athletic On-line Registration

<https://wbsd-ar.schooltoday.com/>

Any questions contact Chris Nier, Athletic Director at cnier@wittbirn.k12.wi.us or call 715-253-2211.

All Sport Fees can now be paid through Family Access.

SHOW SKI NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS COMING TO SHAWANO



A Shawano Ski Sharks pyramid is formed during a show earlier this summer. Shawano is hosting the Division 2 Show Ski National Championships from Aug. 6-8. FOR MORE, SEE PAGES 6, 7 AND 9.

DAVE BLACKMAN

ENTRY LEVEL TO CERTIFIED AUTO SERVICE TECHNICIANS WANTED

Peterson Ford of Oconto Falls is looking for experienced Auto Service Technicians - Entry Level to Certified. We are a family owned and operated dealer with a busy and growing service center. As we continue to grow we are looking for a motivated individuals that give attention to detail, good technical skills and a strong work ethic. We offer competitive pay and benefits with a Monday to Friday work week. Please send resume to petersonford@yahoo.com or come in to apply.

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BALLOON ARTISTRY

Kids wait in line for Freddy's animals

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

Freddy Alfredo works intently as kids watch balloons transform into the magic they asked for: a puppy, a sword, a monkey, a Jedi light saber — even a sunflower.

His creations emerge gradually until a glimmer of recognition lights in the children's face and they reach for the reward for their patience.

There was a long line of children and parents willing to wait July 30 during Sunflower Fest 2021 at Bergsbaken Farms in Cecil, next to a pair of face painters.

Freddy's Balloon Animals grew out of Alfredo's need to strengthen his hands as he deals with the limitations that keep him in a wheelchair.

"I tried doing it with weights, but they were too heavy," he said. "The doctor said I needed to do it with something light."

He tried manipulating a Rubik's Cube but found a more fun alternative when he started learning how to mold balloons into toy creatures and other objects.

"I had a room full of these things, and a friend suggested I go to flea markets and parks," Alfredo said.

Freddy's Balloon Animals can be found most Sundays at the Shawano flea market and at other festivals around the area.



Balloon artist Freddy Alfredo puts the finishing touches on a monkey he has created for a young admirer July 30 during Sunflower Fest 2021 at Bergsbaken Farms in Cecil.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Lakewood Arts and Crafts Show returns

The Lakewood Arts and Craft Show is planning a return bigger and better than ever after a brief hiatus due to the pandemic in 2020.

Taking place Saturday at the Lakewood Town Hall and Activity Center, 17258 North Road, Lakewood, the free event will feature 281 booths occupied by 215 vendors showcasing original work, including painting and

prints, fine art photography, jewelry, art glass, stained glass, pottery, woven textiles, carvings, clothing and much more.

The festival grounds will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sponsored by the McCaslin Lions Club, the Lakewood Arts and Craft Show has been an annual celebration of Oconto County creativity for more

than 40 years. Each artist is juried and chosen out of many talented applicants, highlighting the area's arts community, and giving attendees a chance to discover new favorites and take home a piece of authentic Oconto County culture.

"There's no better way to experience the thriving arts world in Oconto County than the Lakewood

Arts and Craft Show," said Samantha Boucher, tourism manager for Oconto County Economic Development Corp. "Summer wasn't the same without it in 2020, so we're all excited to welcome back art lovers of all ages to enjoy everything our creative community has to offer.

For more information, visit www.ocontocounty.org.



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SHAWANO
CITY ON THE WOLF

Congratulations Ski Sharks!!!

The City of Shawano is Proud to Host the D2 National Show Ski Competition this Weekend!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, AUG. 6

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks host Division 2 Show Ski National Championships, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive.

BOWLER: Bowler Bash, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bowler Area Historical Society, 104 E. Main St. Music, food, refreshments, craft show.

BONDUEL: Lions Club Corn Roast, 5-7 p.m., Village Park, East Park Street.

SATURDAY, AUG. 7

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks host Division 2 Show Ski National Championships, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive.

LAKEWOOD: Arts and Crafts Show, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Town Hall, 17258 North Road, 200 crafters offering original work. Free admission and free parking. No pets allowed. Sponsored by the McCaslin Lions. Food and refreshments on the grounds.

BOWLER: Bowler Bash, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bowler Area Historical Society, 104 E. Main St. Music, food, refreshments, car show and craft show, tractor parade 1 p.m.

WABENO: WAM Fest (Wabeno Art and Music Festival), 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., downtown. Continuous music, family activities, visit wabenoartandmusicfest.org or Facebook page.

BREED: Music by Sixx Guns Loaded, 3-7 p.m., Arrowhead Saloon, 13486 County Road AA.

TOWNSEND: Luau on the Beach, 3-11 p.m., Birch Hills Resort and My Bar, 16688 Nicolet Road. paddle boat races (with a twist). Registration for races begins 3 p.m.; races start 4 p.m. Karaoke on the beach starting 6 p.m. Bring your own lawn chair.

SUNDAY, AUG. 8

SHAWANO: Zurko Promotions flea market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St.

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks host Division 2 Show Ski National Championships, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive.

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto Falls Flea Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Memorial Field.

SHAWANO: Music in the Park featuring KNX Party Band, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Memorial Park, 909 S. Lincoln St. Bring a lawn chair.

TUESDAY, AUG. 10

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto County Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., Highland Plaza, 323 E. Highland Drive.

SHAWANO: Interactive Outdoor Movie, 8:30-10 p.m., Arlington Park, 300 N. Humphrey Circle. "Welcome to the Jungle." Bring your own chairs and snacks.



Fields of sunflowers are among the highlights of late summer in Northeast Wisconsin. This friendly face appeared in the middle of the Bergsbaken Farms Sunflower Fest last weekend in Cecil.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks, 6 p.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive. Pre-show 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUG. 12

SHAWANO: Thursdayz at Franklin featuring Conscious Pilot, 6-8:30 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Food and beverage vendors.

FRIDAY, AUG. 13

BOWLER: Annual Mohican Pow-Wow Honoring All Veterans, Many Trails Park, Moh He Con Nuck Road. Grand Entry 7 p.m.

SHAWANO: Bluegrass Bash in the Woods, 8:30 p.m., Classic's Restaurant and Lounge, W6026 Lake Drive. Music by Liver Killers. Grill'n meats provided by Smoke'n Joe and proceeds to benefit Safe Haven. \$5 cover.

SATURDAY, AUG. 14

GILLET: Oconto County Youth Fair Horse Show, 9:30 a.m., Zippel Park.

SHAWANO: Annual Folk Music Festival, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Free, bring lawn

chair or blanket, live music, quilt raffle.

BOWLER: Annual Mohican Pow-Wow Honoring All Veterans, Many Trails Park, Moh He Con Nuck Road. Grand Entries 1 and 7 p.m.

BREED: Music by The Rejects, 3-7 p.m., Arrowhead Saloon, 13486 County Road AA.

SUNDAY, AUG. 15

SHAWANO: Zurko Promotions flea market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St.

GILLET: Oconto County Youth Fair domestic animal shows, 8 a.m. to noon, Zippel Park. Caged bird and small pets 8:30 a.m., junior cat show followed by open class 9:30 a.m., dog show 11:30 a.m.

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto Falls Flea Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Memorial Field.

BOWLER: Annual Mohican Pow-Wow Honoring All Veterans, Many Trails Park, Moh He Con Nuck Road. Grand Entry at noon.

SHAWANO: Music in the Park featuring Blue Notes, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Memorial Park, 909 S. Lincoln St. Bring a lawn chair.

Client Satisfaction Rating

4.9 out of 5 Stars

★★★★★

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Shawano Ski Sharks members perform a jump during a show earlier this summer. The Ski Sharks will perform as a team on Saturday of the Division 2 Show Ski National Championships.

DAVE BLACKMAN

Shawano eager to host national championships

Bringing event to Smalley Park was several year process

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Shawano is eager to host its first ever national championship, an event that took several years to prepare for and bring to the Shawano Ski Sharks show site.

The Division 2 Show Ski National Championships will be held Aug. 6-8 on the Wolf River, with fans scattered across Smalley Park to watch the action on the water.

The process of bringing a national championship to Shawano first began about 10 years ago, according to Brad Keuschel, a member of the Ski Sharks. Keuschel recalled telling team president Dave Passehl that one day he'd help bring nationals to Shawano.

The first step to getting their site to align with national guidelines was to move it. The Ski Sharks remained at Smalley Park but moved a couple blocks north to avoid the Wolf River Beach and create a bit more room between ski shows and the Green Bay Street bridge.

The next thing the site needed was to be able to hold at least 1,000 spectators at a single time and also have a place to park hundreds of

cars. The Ski Sharks have both of those things, and with improved seating areas, a new pavilion and a city willing to host, the site was ready for a national championship.

The call making the dream of Shawano hosting a championship a reality came in November 2019. After several more months of prep, Smalley Park is now ready to showcase its site.

A curveball was thrown after the pandemic eliminated some of last year's national championship — which typically only last two days — so Smalley Park was asked to host for an additional day.

Shawano accepted and will now host "probably one of the largest Division 2 nationals in a long time,"

said Keuschel.

"There's a lot of excitement about it. It'll be great when everybody gets here and we get to stand back and look at it," said Keuschel.

Keuschel said they are tentatively expecting to bring in 1,500-2,000 visitors during the three-day event.

The national championship will officially kick off at 8 a.m. Friday when individual competition begins.

There will be a swivel 180, swivel pairs 360, swivel pairs open, strap doubles intermediate, swivel 360 and freestyle jump intermediate exhibitions that day along with strap doubles, swivel and freestyle opens. Several Ski Shark members will be competing.

The duos of Carsten McHugh and Jessa Jochman and Kylie Wallace and Brad Keuschel will compete in the strap doubles open competition. Faith McHugh will take part in the swivel 360 exhibition before Carsten McHugh hits the water for the freestyle open.

Friday will be capped with a mandatory team meeting at 6 p.m. with the chief judge at the site's pavilion. Paperwork check in will also be completed then.

Saturday will have five of the

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championship's nine teams in action, with the Ski Sharks taking the water third. The Ski Broncs (Loves Park, Illinois), Shermalot (Nekoo-sa), Five Seasons (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) and the Badwater Ski-ers (Spread Eagle) round out the teams competing.

The other four teams will compete on Sunday. Silver Lake (Fenton, Michigan), Ski Sprites (Altoona), Plum Ski-ers (Sayner) and the Muskego Water Bugs (Muskego) are the teams in action.

Following Friday's individual competitions and Sunday's second day of team competitions, award ceremonies will follow.

"It's a great atmosphere," said Keuschel on what first-time water ski fans can expect to see over the three-day championships. "It's one of the only sports where the other teams are constantly cheering each other on. The water ski community in general is one big family. There's going to be hundreds of people here watching each other."

Keuschel added that anyone who has taken in a Ski Sharks' show and thought it was a big production should come check out some of the other teams in action, as there will be even bigger rosters in attendance.

When some of the larger teams are competing, Keuschel believes around 1,000 people could be looking on, so the usual seating areas, plus additional bleachers and the hills and any other areas with views of the water will also be covered.

After teams are done competing,



Shawano Ski Sharks members perform during a show earlier this summer. Several Ski Sharks are scheduled to compete individually on Friday.

DAVE BLACKMAN

a 30-minute break will be taken before the next team takes the water, at which time fans can check out some of the ski and food vendors that will be on site.

"We worked really, really hard to get to this point," said Passehl. "The expectation was that we would be able to host tournaments here. We know what it does for the communities that it's been in in

the past and that's really what we wanted to bring here. The investment that we have in Smalley Park is now going to really see what we did it for.

"Clearly our weekly shows are wonderful, there are huge crowds and we fill up Smalley Park and that's great, too, but when we can bring 1,000 spectators in to Shawano on just a weekend, we're pretty

proud of that. So yeah, super excited and we're looking forward to having all these teams from around several states showcased here and hopefully the community comes out and enjoys it."

Keuschel added that the hope is to host as many national championships in the coming years as possible.

sports@newmedia-wi.com

Guidelines on Wolf River with water ski championship in town

With the Division 2 Show Ski National Championships taking place Aug. 6-8, there are some changes to Wolf River access and usage of which people should be aware.

On those three days, there will be a legal waterway closure to non-competition boat traffic from the

trestle to the dam. This is in place for the safety of all water ski individuals, teams and boats in action.

There will also be a no-wake passage from the channel to the trestle so that boat traffic can still move through. The area will be marked by buoys.

Finally, there will be a no-wake channel on the west side of the river for those who need to get through, primarily in place for property owners.

"We don't want to hinder anybody from being able to use the waterways," said Brad Keuschel,

ONLINE

For more details on the guidelines, visit the Shawano Ski Shark Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/shawano.sharks>.

Shawano Ski Shark member. "We're just asking for a chunk of it for a couple days."



Shawano Ski Shark members put on a show for their home crowd during a show earlier this summer. A total of nine teams will be competing at the Division 2 Show Ski National Championships.

DAVE BLACKMAN

**Congratulations Shawano Ski Sharks
Waterski Show Team on a Great Year!
Welcome All Teams to the D2 National
Show Ski Competition this Weekend!
Good Luck!!**



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Local businesses prepare for water ski visitors

Shawano hosting national tournament from Aug. 6-8

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

Local businesses are preparing for a wave of visitors to the Shawano area this weekend as the Shawano Ski Sharks host a national tournament Aug. 6-8.

"According to the information that I received, a couple thousand visitors are expected," Shawano Chamber of Commerce Tourism Manager Patti Peterson said.

Many local businesses and hotels are preparing to host hundreds of guests, as they shop, eat and sleep all around Shawano.

"This weekend is similar to most summer weekends here," said AmeriVu Inn and Suites manager Nick Patel. "We are fully booked."

Patel said all 49 rooms at the hotel were full, with close to 100 people staying there.

Jessie Warrington, the manager of Quality Inn and Suites in Shawano, said they also were fully booked.

"We have around 150 people staying with us for that weekend," said Warrington.

She added that she is excited to see the hotel booked for the tournament so visitors can get out and not only watch the tournament, but experience Shawano as well.

"This should help the Shawano area," Warrington said. "It will bring more revenue into the city, as well as give people something to do rather than be cooped up inside from the COVID-19 pandemic."

Curt Preston, co-owner of Old Glory Candy, said that they are always welcoming visitors from big events in Shawano to his store.

"We are hoping and preparing for more traffic from visitors during the tournament," Preston said.

He added that the preparation for the extra visitors will involve a staffing increase.

"We want to be as staffed as possible," Preston said. "We also want to create a great experience for the customers coming in, so we don't want to rush people in and out. It will be a balancing act for the customers to have that great experience."

Visitors to the store will be en-



Shawano Ski Sharks members look to the crowd after performing earlier this summer. The Division 2 Show Ski National Championships are expected to bring over 1,000 people to Shawano during the three-day event.

DAVE BLACKMAN

couraged to try some of the samples of fudge, including flavors like whiskey old-fashioned sweet and watermelon, he said.

Yvette Wilber, the owner of Tumbleweed, said she is anticipating the apparel store to very busy during the tournament.

"Business will be up not only for us, but for everyone in Shawano," said Wilber. "This will be really great for everyone to get this extra foot traffic."

Wilber said she hopes visitors enjoy the experience and spread the word about Tumbleweed and Shawano.

One business that has been seeing more traffic recently is anticipating more as the tournament proceeds. Stubborn Brothers Brewery has seen an uptick in business due to their Hometown Hero American ale, said

ONLINE

For more details on the Ski Sharks, visit <http://shawanoskisharks.org/>. For more information on the national championships, visit <https://www.facebook.com/SkiSharksNationals/>.

co-owner Aaron Gilling.

"We will be running business like usual," Gilling said.

He said he believes that having a tournament with an anticipated audience of this size will have a positive impact.

"Everyone will benefit from this — Shawano will benefit from this," said Gilling. "Every business will work together to benefit. We all support each other's businesses, and that will help Shawano succeed in general."

The businesses also plan to run special deals and promotions for the occasion. Stubborn Brothers is offer-

ing a buy-one-get-one deal on their porter and amber, Old Glory Candy is running a deal where if customers buy a pound of fudge, they get a quarter-pound free, and Tumbleweed is giving out hats with purchases.

Peterson said Angie's Main Cafe, Old Glory Candy, The Stock Market and Stubborn Brothers are also taking part in a coupon sheet promotion, where coupons for those businesses will be distributed at the Ski Sharks tournament.

According to Brad Keuschel, a member of the Ski Sharks and a leader in bringing the tournament to Shawano, the action on the water will be wrapped up by 4 p.m. each day, giving visitors and competitors time to experience what Shawano has to offer.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2021

9:30am Horse Show Horse Arena

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2021

8:00am Caged Bird & Small Pet Registration

8:30am Junior Caged Bird & Small Pet Show

9:00am Cat Registration

9:30am Junior Cat Show followed by open class

1130am Dog Show

MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021

4:00-8:00pm Open Class Exhibits Check In - Non-Animal

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

8:00-11:00am Open Class Exhibits Check In - Non-Animal

1:00-8:00pm Open Class Exhibits Judging - Non-Animal

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021

1:00-4:30pm Junior Class Exhibits Judged Upon Entry - Non-Animal

5:00-7:00pm Junior Class Check In - Sheep, Swine and Goats

5:30-8:00pm Junior Class Exhibits Judged Upon Entry - Non-Animal

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021

7:00-9:00am Market Steer Check In

9:00am-10:00pm Exhibition Area Open

1:00-8:00pm Junior & Open Class Exhibits Check In - Poultry and Rabbits

2:00-6:00pm Junior & Open Class Check In - Dairy

6:00pm Opening Ceremony Front of Expo Building

7:00pm Ag Olympics Grandstand

7:00pm-11:00pm Positive Energy / Karaoke Contest Budweiser Stage

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2021

8:00am-8:00pm Flea Market/Craft Vendors, by AnT Promotions

8:30am Swine Show Swine, Goat & Sheep Barn

9:00am-10:00pm Exhibition Area Open

9:00am Rabbit Show Rabbit/Poultry Barn

11:00am Sheep Show Swine, Goat & Sheep Barn

12:30 Farm Tours Begin

1:30pm Beef Show Show Ring

4:00pm Rabbit Kiddie Showmanship Rabbit/Poultry Barn

5:00-6:30pm Truck Pull Registration

7:00pm-11:00pm NASHVEGAS Budweiser Stage

6:45pm Driver Meeting

7:00pm NEW Motorsports 4x4 Truck Pull Grandstand*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2021

8:00am-8:00pm Flea Market/Craft Vendors, by AnT Promotions

9:00am-10:00pm Exhibition Area Open

8:30am Dairy Show

9:00am Poultry Show Rabbit/Poultry Barn

9:00am Draft Horse Pull Grandstand*

9:00am-12:00pm Youth Cake Auction Registration

1:00pm-5:00pm The National Talent Polka Band (TNT) Budweiser Stage

12:30pm Farm Tours Begin

3:00pm Goat Show Show Ring

3:00pm Youth Decorated Cake Auction Expo Hall

4:00-5:00pm Farm Tractor Pull Registration

4:00pm Poultry Kiddie Showmanship Rabbit/Poultry Barn

6:00pm Farm Tractor Pull Grandstand*

7:00pm Exhibitor/Animal Formal Show Show Ring

7:00pm-11:00pm Revolution Budweiser Stage

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021

9:00am-5:00pm Exhibition Area Open

9:30am Kiddie Showmanship Registration

10:00am Kiddie Showmanship Show Ring

11:00am-12:00pm Bidder Registration Honey Park

12:00pm Sale of Champions Auction Show Ring

12:30pm Farm Tours Begin

1:00-5:00pm Sugarbush Boys Band Budweiser Stage