

WITTENBERG ENTERPRISE & BIRNAMWOOD NEWS



SPECIAL SECTION •
New North's Rebecca De-schane makes suggestions on how employers can make their workplaces for attractive to prospective employees.
INSERT

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Volume 128, Issue 45 \$1



CHARGERS CONTINUE CINDERELLA SEASON

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Johnny Stewart (50) celebrates after sacking the quarterback as teammates Max Fraaza (77) and Ben Flak (7) look on during the team's playoff win over Amherst on Nov. 5 in Amherst. The Chargers won 29-28 to advance to the state semifinals. SEE STORY ON PAGES 18-19.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

COVID-19 activity low for Bowler

Bowler School District has been utilizing the Stockbridge-Munsee tribe and Prevea Health to stave off COVID-19 for the 2021-22 school year.

PAGE 5

Special teams miss the mark

Jordan Love held his own after filling in for Aaron Rodgers, but the Packers' special teams did not play well against the Chiefs.

INSERT

Every shot needs to count in 2021

There's a shortage of ammunition, along with everything else, so hunters will need to make sure that every shot hits its mark.

INSERT



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County looks at how to replace sheriff vehicles

Borrowing, dipping into general fund suggested as ways to establish replacement schedule, address other issues

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Shawano County has gotten behind in replacing vehicles used by the Shawano County Sheriff's Department, and there is a possibility that some large expense is on the horizon to get the outdated vehicles replaced.

Twenty-two vehicles are overdue for replacement, according to office manager Dana Ritchie, but the department is looking at replacing 12 now and looking at the others in the future. Ritchie anticipates that the county could potentially catch up with replacing its current and expected outdated vehicles by 2025.

"It's kind of a huge stretch to replace that many in one year or even two years," Ritchie said during a public property committee meeting Nov. 3. "I don't know if we have the capability of doing that, plus if we did that the depreciation costs that we would need for next year or the year after that would be very high."

Ritchie said the problems can be traced back to a resolution that approved a non-lapsing vehicle replacement fund that carried over any unspent money originally budgeted to purchase vehicles and from the sale of used vehicles to have future money available. However, changes in finance officials resulted in different interpretations of the policy, which has resulted in the fund having a negative balance.

"At the start of 2020, about \$7,000 negative was in the account," Ritchie said. "We had a decent year of selling vehicles in 2020, which put the fund at about \$3,000 negative."

Supervisor Tom Kautza questioned how the fund could be in the negative if the resolution strictly prohibits spending the money on anything other than vehicle replacement.

"How can you get to a negative unless you spend more than what's in that fund?" Kautza said. "The only

thing you should be able to reach is zero."

Ritchie said that the sheriff's department is not responsible for the fund having a negative balance.

"It's an account we've never touched," she said.

Finance Director Carrie Buntjer admitted it's a problem she inherited, pointing out that, as previous directors and finance staff came and went, the interpretation of how the fund worked might have changed.

"I think we can all agree that this resolution isn't working for us today," Buntjer said. "Where do we go from here going forward? Do we leave this (policy) in the past?"

Administrative Coordinator James Davel said that it was important that, whatever policy the county comes up with to keep squad vehicles on a replacement schedule, there is no wiggle room for misinterpretation and that there are clear ground rules.

"It's important that we're on the same sheet of music about the expectations for the program going forward," Davel said. "We may have to rescind some of these resolutions that came up before so we're on the same sheet of music as we work to fix the problem."

Davel noted the vehicles are a symptom of a larger problem — finding the revenue sources to pay for them and other issues. He cited the recent action the county board took to increase the pay of jail officers by \$3 an hour using one-time funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, which means the money after 2024 will need to come from another source.

"You can't look at just a one-year piece of this," Davel said. "It's got to go out 10 years. We've got to sit down and see if we've got a viable plan that we can sustain over time."

Davel suggested that borrowing might be necessary to get the squad vehicle purchases going, but it's likely that some other needs might need to be lumped into a borrowing package.

"If we're going to borrow, let's figure out what we need as an organization and do it right the first time," Davel said.

Kautza suggested tapping into the county's general fund, which currently sits at \$8 million, according to Buntjer, to get vehicle purchases back on a schedule.

Supervisor Mark Bolin said that seemed like a viable option.

"As a taxpayer, I think that the money I've spent in taxes, and I think a lot of people feel the same way, should come out of the general fund," Bolin said. "Why are we sitting on taxpayer dollars?"

Buntjer warned that dipping into the general fund probably would not resolve both the vehicle and pay-raise situations.

"If we're going to dip, what are we going to dip for?" Buntjer said.

Kautza warned that borrowing, especially if it turns out to be a large amount, would probably meet with resistance when it reached the county board floor.

"You'll never pass that," Kautza said. "You'll never get it past the board if you make it too big."

Buntjer estimated the entire replacement fund for squad vehicles would cost about \$1.1 million. She recommended that, if borrowing was the option, doing it all in one lump sum instead of borrowing as each year came up. There are a few months for the county to figure out the overall borrowing package before it would be necessary to bring it to the county board.

Chief Deputy George Lenzner said that the sheriff's department is planning to order the vehicles now, noting that the county won't have to pay for them until the vehicles are made. He noted that there has been a lag in getting vehicles due to supply chain issues, and waiting until the financing is figured out would only exacerbate the issue.

Corrections

Accuracy is important to the Enterprise & News, and it wants to correct mistakes promptly. Call errors to our attention by phone at 715-526-2121, ext. 7018.

County meeting times up for debate again

Supervisors also pushing for remote options if members are ill, unable to attend in person

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The Shawano County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to go through its review of its county board rules this month, and it appears likely that the meeting time for the board could once again be part of the debate, as well as whether board members who are unable to attend in person should be permitted to do so by other remote means.

From 2004 to 2017, board meetings were scheduled at 6 p.m. during the months of May through October and 9 a.m. November through April due to the potential for snow, ice and other hazardous weather during those latter months. Although there had been a number of attempts over the years to have all meetings in the evening, none were successful until November 2017, when the board agreed to have all meetings at 3 p.m.

At that time, the rationale was

that the afternoon time would not require those board members with full-time day jobs to have to take a full day off to attend.

Supervisor Deb Noffke, in a Nov. 2 meeting of the public property committee, recommended that all county board meetings take place at 6 p.m., and Supervisor Aaron Damrau agreed it would be a good idea.

Supervisor Tom Kautza saw no point in arguing the time, saying that "it'll never pass the board."

It's not the first time that the 6 p.m. meeting change has come up since the change in 2017. When the board was looking at discussing having Shawano County become a Second Amendment Sanctuary in March 2020, the public safety committee had requested the month before having the March meeting at 6 p.m. in anticipation of significant public input. However, that request was rejected by an 18-5 vote, with supervisors arguing the meeting

could go all night and it would interfere with members who attend Wednesday night religious services.

Noffke also pushed for updating the county board rules regarding board attendance for votes. The rule currently states that a board member may appear by phone, with no per diem or mileage reimbursement granted, but it must only take place one time per year and only with prior permission from the county board chairman.

"It really should be updated in today's environment," Noffke said, noting that the rule stating that the board member must pay for the cost of the telephone call indicates how old the rule is. "It is at the discretion of the chairman, so if there was a true emergency to call in, and telephonically isn't the right term. Maybe electronically."

Noffke's suggestion also received support from Damrau.

"That's a little 20th century," he

said. "I think that it's important we get with the times."

Kautza also found fault with that suggestion, noting that it would permit supervisors to vote from other locations and even other states.

"We can't have someone living in Florida and attending all those meetings by phone," Kautza said. "That's what you're opening it up to."

Noffke dismissed that argument because any requests would still be at the discretion of the chairman, who is currently Kautza.

"If you got into a car accident, and they wouldn't let you out of the hospital, but you wanted to attend, I'd be all for that you should be able to," Noffke said.

Administrative Coordinator James Davel pointed out that the county board room is only set up now for remote telephone calls, not Zoom or any other technology that allows people to speak from other places.

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PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Nov. 8

Deputies responded to 30 calls, including reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Seneca; trespassing on Grant Road in the Town of Grant; a drug problem on state Highway 47-55 in the Town of Wescott; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Maple Grove; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Herman; trespassing on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; reckless driving on U.S. Highway 45 in the Town of Aniwa; a disturbance on County Road MMM in the Town of Richmond; one crash.

Nov. 7

Deputies responded to 37 calls, including a disturbance on County Road S in the Town of Maple Grove; reckless driving on state Highway 47 in the Town of Lessor; a disturbance on East Main Street; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Belle Plaine; trespassing on County Road G in the Town of Herman; reckless driving on County Road R in the Town of Washington; seven crashes, four involving deer.

Nov. 6

Deputies responded to 37 calls, including reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Angelica;

reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Maple Grove; trespassing on state Highway 160 in the Town of Maple Grove; reckless driving state Highway 29 in the Town of Hartland; operating while intoxicated on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; four crashes, three involving deer.

Nov. 5

Deputies responded to 38 calls, including criminal damage on Spruce Road in the Town of Belle Plaine; an assault on state Highway 29 in the Town of Hartland; a disturbance on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; disorderly conduct on Warrington Avenue in Cecil; reckless driving on Main Street in Gresham; five crashes, all involving deer.

Nov. 4

Deputies responded to 26 calls, including reckless driving on state Highway 47-55 in the Town of Wescott; a disturbance on Koo Yi Kun Lane in the Town of Bartelme; a domestic disturbance on North Washington Street in Bonduel; trespassing on state Highway 47 in the Town of Hartland; three crashes, two involving deer.

Nov. 3

Deputies responded to 40 calls, including a disturbance on County Road Z in Aniwa; a threat on Shady Lane in the Town of Washington; criminal damage on North Main Street in Shawano; a burglary on Leopoldis

Road in the Town of Herman; reckless driving on state Highway 29 in the Town of Maple Grove; trespassing on state Highway 47 in the Town of Lessor; two crashes, both involving deer.

Nov. 2

Deputies responded to 40 calls, including operating while intoxicated on state Highway 29 in the Town of Seneca; a weapons offense on Lynwood Drive in the Town of Wescott; a disturbance on Lawn Road in the Town of Maple Grove; a disturbance on Hofa Park Drive in the Town of Maple Grove; property theft on County Road A in the Town of Red Springs; reckless driving on County Road BE in the Town of Hartland; four crashes, three involving deer.

SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Nov. 8

Officers responded to 23 calls, including property theft at Four Seasons, 201 N. Airport Drive; a disturbance at Culvers, 1220 E. Green Bay St.; a disturbance on East Lieg Avenue; reckless driving on South Main Street; a disturbance on South Washington Street; property damage on East Richmond Street; a disturbance on County Road MMM.

Nov. 7

Officers responded to 21 calls, including a disturbance on South

Andrews Street; a domestic disturbance on East Richmond Street; car property damage at Memorial Park, 901 S. Lincoln Street; property damage at People's Express, 716 S. Main St.; property theft at McDonalds, 1202 E. Green Bay St.

Nov. 6

Officers responded to 20 calls, including property theft on Mills Street; property theft on West Division Street; a threat on South Franklin Street; reckless driving on North Main Street.

Nov. 5

Officers responded to 12 calls, including a disturbance on Lake Drive.

Nov. 4

Officers responded to 26 calls, including bail jumping at Sharona's Bar, 111 S. Washington St.; a disturbance on South Sawyer Street; disorderly conduct on East Richmond Street; a disturbance on East Richmond Street; disorderly conduct on East Richmond Street.

Nov. 3

Officers responded to 21 calls, including a controlled substance problem on East Lieg Avenue; bail jumping on Lakeland Road; trespassing on South Sawyer Street; shoplifting at Charlie's County Market, 521 S. Main St.

Nov. 2

Officers responded to 21 calls, including shoplifting at Charlie's County Market, 521 S. Main St.

COURT NEWS

• Virgil Ramirez, 33, Clintonville, was charged Nov. 1 with one count of first-degree recklessly endangering safety and two counts of second-degree recklessly endangering safety. Judge William Kussel Jr. set a cash bond of \$3,000 and a signature bond of \$20,000. He also scheduled a preliminary hearing for Nov. 9.

• Aaron C. Miller, 33, Bowler, was charged Nov. 1 with one count of possession of THC (second or subsequent offense), 15 counts of bail jumping, one misdemeanor count of battery and one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a cash bond of \$15,000 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Nov. 10.

• Bridgett J. Mathis, 40, Clintonville, was charged Nov. 1 with one count of burglary, one count of second-degree recklessly endangering safety, one misdemeanor count of theft of movable property, less than or equal to \$2,500 and one misdemeanor count of criminal damage to property. Kussel set a cash

bond of \$1,500 and scheduled a status conference for Nov. 22.

• Woody Nahquaddy, 35, Cecil, was charged Nov. 1 with one count of possession of THC (second or subsequent offense) and one misdemeanor count of knowingly violating a domestic abuse order. Kussel set a cash bond of \$650 and scheduled a status conference for Nov. 24.

• Mekele D. LaBelle, 25, Shawano, was charged Nov. 1 with one count of strangulation and suffocation, two counts of bail jumping and one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a cash bond of \$1,500 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Nov. 9.

• Mitchell T. Malone, 35, Gresham, was charged Nov. 1 with two counts of second-degree recklessly endangering safety. Kussel set a cash bond of \$500 and a signature bond of \$5,000. He also scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 3.

• Dakota J. Baars, 21, Lena, was

charged Nov. 1 with one count of operating a vehicle to flee/elude an officer and one count of second-degree recklessly endangering safety. Kussel set a cash bond of \$125 and a signature bond of \$7,500. He also scheduled a resumed initial appearance for Dec. 7.

• Anthony L. Luckow, 37, Clintonville, pleaded no contest Nov. 1 to one count of possession of methamphetamine and one count of bail jumping. One misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia was dismissed, but read into the record. Judge Katherine Sloma sentenced Luckow to six months in jail.

• Shawn L. Matson, 46, Sturtevant, pleaded no contest to one count of possession of methamphetamine and two misdemeanor counts of bail jumping. Three misdemeanor counts of bail jumping were dismissed, but read into the record. Sloma sentenced Matson to six months in jail.

• Kayla B. Johnston, 32, Pulaski, was charged Nov. 3 with two counts

of child abuse (intentionally causing harm). Kussel set a signature bond of \$2,500 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for Dec. 6.

• Sandra M. Koszarek, 42, Shawano, was charged Nov. 4 with four counts of bail jumping. Kussel set a cash bond of \$500 and scheduled a scheduling conference for Nov. 9.

• Allan F. Behm, 54, Birnamwood, was charged Nov. 5 with one count of repeated sexual assault on the same child. Judge Eric Hendrickson set a cash bond of \$500 and a signature bond of \$10,000. He also scheduled a resumed initial appearance for Dec. 8.

• Jeremy W. Waubanasum, 32, Bowler, was charged Nov. 5 with one count of strangulation and suffocation, one misdemeanor count of battery, one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct and one misdemeanor count of encouraging a parole/probation violation. Hendrickson set a cash bond of \$1,000 and scheduled a resumed initial appearance for Nov. 23.

Have a story idea? Email us at news@newmedia-wi.com

Bowler has not seen much COVID-19 activity

District working with Stockbridge-Munsee, Prevea to help prevent outbreaks

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

One local school district has seen little effect from the COVID-19 pandemic in the 2021-22 school year.

"There has not been a lot of COVID-19 activity here at Bowler," said Bowler School District Superintendent Glenda Butterfield-Boldig.

Butterfield-Boldig said the school is doing what it can to prevent outbreaks of the virus. This includes social distancing, sanitizing and wiping down high-touch areas and abiding by other prevention methods.

Even though this is the case, Butterfield-Boldig said that due to a staff outbreak, the first grade class was forced to quarantine.

As the district continues to manage and prevent COVID-19 cases, they are listening to health recommendations from the Stockbridge-Munsee health department. While listening to health recommendations, Butterfield-Boldig said that they are also respecting others' rules.

"We understand that different communities have different quarantine requirements," said Butterfield-Boldig. "We are trying to be respectful of the different rules and requirements."

In regards to sporting events, Butterfield-Boldig said that they did not cancel any football games this year.

"We have not had to do anything for football games," said Butterfield-Boldig. "We had some games cancelled, but that was due to injuries on the team."

As sporting events continue to progress, Butterfield-Boldig was unsure of what was to come for the basketball season.

"There could possibly be some problems with basketball," said Butterfield-Boldig. "I hope not. But if there is, we will likely abide by WIAA rules and requirements."

One thing that the district introduced to help mitigate COVID-19 cases are rapid tests at the school.

"These have been wonderful,"

said Butterfield-Boldig. "This has been a great tool for us."

She said that these tests allow the school district to get results for students and staff right away.

"In some cases, we can bring students and staff back from quarantine in less than 10 days, if they test negative," said Butterfield-Boldig.

With their partnership with Prevea Health, Butterfield-Boldig said that the school is able to immediately enter the testing results into the state system. She also mentioned that the school nurse has been very helpful in this process.

"Our nurse does a lot to help, including contact tracing and notifying families of results and what to do next," said Butterfield-Boldig.

She said that five to 10 tests are used per week.

Butterfield-Boldig also mentioned that she has been in talks with superintendents in the CESA-8 region and their athletic conference to discuss strategies to mitigate COVID-19 cases.

"We regularly get together to talk about this," said Butterfield-Boldig. "Most of the school districts around Bowler offer testing at school."

Butterfield-Boldig said if an outbreak were to occur at Bowler, they may have to shut down for a limited amount of time.

"Fortunately, there have not been that many cases," said Butterfield-Boldig. "If there were an outbreak and our staff became infected, we would have to shut down, because there wouldn't be anyone to supervise the children."

She also added that the school district has a virtual option in place, where students can access the class material and meet with their teacher twice a week.

Butterfield-Boldig also said that school district is in the process of working with Stockbridge-Munsee to offer booster shots.

"This is still a work in progress," said Butterfield-Boldig. "We are coordinating to offer vaccinations and booster shots."

lreimer@newmedia-wi.com

All-American hay in Zachow field



Round hay bales in a field located behind Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church near Zachow show their patriotism on Nov. 9. Several dozen bales all had American flags decorated on them as Veterans Day approached.
LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

OBITUARIES

Lois M. List, 92, peacefully passed away in her home in Ladysmith on the evening of Oct. 31, 2021, after her courageous battle with cancer.

Lois was born March 15, 1929, in Shawano, a daughter of Dewey and Florence (Pahlow) Bartz.

She was united in marriage to Elmer J. List on Dec. 18, 1948, in Shawano. In 1962, Elmer and Lois moved their family to Ladysmith. Lois gained employment after her children were adults. She worked as a housekeeper at the Evergreen Motel. In the early 1980s, Lois was the secretary for Swanke Lumber Co.



She later worked as an advocate for Time-Out Shelter until retiring in 2012. In 2009, Lois was a recipient of the Heart of Gold Award. Lois was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and was involved in the Ladies Aid, St. John's Quilters, and volunteered for the church's fall bazaar along with many church activities.

Lois had a passion for gardening

Lois M. List

and may have had one of the most beautiful flower gardens in Ladysmith. She loved feeding, watching and counting the birds that daily came to her feeders.

Lois also was a member of the West Cove Women's Bowling league. She participated in many trips to the state bowling tournaments throughout Wisconsin.

Survivors include four children, Joan Klawitter, of Weston, Carol Schindler (John), of Ladysmith, Michael List (Sandra), of Ladysmith, Lori Anderson (Neil), of Mesa, Colorado; seven grandchildren, Parish Klawitter, Scott Klawitter, Blake

Johnson, Trevor Johnson, Kayla (List) Demopoulos, Mark List and Eric List; 13 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer; her parents; and her three brothers; Robert, Carl and Roger Bartz.

Funeral services were held at St. John's Lutheran Church on Friday, Nov. 5 with Pastor Craig S. Zandi officiating. Interment was at Riverside Cemetery in Ladysmith.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to embracewi.org (fka: Time-out Shelter where Lois was employed for over 30 years).

Charles F. Meyer Jr., 84, passed away peacefully on the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021, at Grafton Hospital.

Chuck was born Dec. 11, 1936, in Youngstown, Ohio, son of the late Charles F. Meyer Sr. and Grace (nee Stadler) Meyer. His family moved to Cecil in 1945. He graduated from Bonduel High School in 1955. He served four years in the Navy and was honorably discharged in 1959. He married Caroline (nee Brusewitz) in 1959, relocated to the Milwaukee area and, in 1966, moved to Menomonee Falls where they raised



their two girls. On Oct. 24, 2021, Chuck and Caroline celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. After completing his five-year steamfitters' apprenticeship in 1966, Chuck was able to retire at the age of 61. After a very fulfilling career as a steamfitter, Chuck and Caroline built their retirement home on Shawano Lake in 1997.

Chuck enjoyed many hobbies with his family including snowmobiling, motorcycle rides and boating on

Shawano Lake. Chuck and Caroline ventured out on many vacations in the states and abroad. Chuck was an avid sports enthusiast, supporting his Wisconsin teams and always enjoyed a round of golf with his friends and family.

Survivors include his wife, Caroline; two daughters, Corie (Keith) Rivers and Connie (Gary) Weissling; grandchildren, Joseph (Nicole) Rivers, Jamie (Robert) Limbach, Jake and Josh Weissling; and great-grandchildren, Aubrey and Blake Rivers. Further survived by his brother, Don (Ileen) Meyer; brother-in-law, Milt (Jean) Brusewitz; and many loving nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Charles F. Meyer Jr.

Irene M. Johnson

Irene Mae Johnson, 92, of Neenah, passed away on Oct. 30, 2021. She was born in Antigo to the late John Hjalmer and Ella (Stark) Matson on March 3, 1929. Irene was mostly a homemaker, raising four children — Marlene (Roger) Marks, Neenah; Mark, Larsen; Marvin, Neenah; and Mary (Rob Jackson) Rotonda, West, Florida.

She is also survived by her grand-

children and great-grandchildren, Andy of Fort Collins, Colorado, and Nathaniel "Bud" (Julie) Marks and their children, River and Beckett, of Hartsville, Ohio. She is further survived by her sister, Helen Spolarich of Sacramento, California, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters and brothers-in-law, Betty McDonald, Harriet (Al-

fred) Gill and Joseph Spolarich, along with nieces and nephews.

Mom loved to play her guitar while singing along, write poetry, enjoy a glass of wine, and made sure to pass on her lefse making skills to her grandsons. She was a hard-working woman all her life and even at 92 was out working in her yard.

A funeral service for Irene was held at Grace Lutheran Church of

Winchester on Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021, with Pastor Brian Staude officiating.

Memorials may be given to Grace Lutheran Church or to Ruth's Pantry at Grace Lutheran.

Rest now in the Lord, Mom — Your work here is done.

Westgor Funeral Homes, 205 W. Doty Ave. Neenah. 920-722-7151. Condolences: www.westgorfuneralhomes.com

Eunice B. Berg

Eunice B. Berg, 97, of La Crosse, passed away Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, at Eagle Crest South.

Memorial services will be held Friday, Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. at the Dickinson Family Funeral Home, 1425 Jackson St. Burial will be in the

Bloomer Community Cemetery in Bloomer. Friends may visit with the family Friday at the funeral home from 1 p.m. until time of services.

For a complete obituary and online condolences, please visit www.dickinsonfuneralhomes.com.

Richard N. Steenbock

Richard N. Steenbock, 88, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021, at Aster Assisted Living in Clintonville.

The Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home and Crematory in Clintonville is assisting his family.

Mary Jane Jole

Mary Jane Jole, 82, of Clintonville, passed away Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021, at ThedaCare Medical Center in Waupaca.

The Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home and Crematory in Clintonville is assisting with arrangements.



HAVE AN EVENT TO SHARE?

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- Send your information by email to editor@newmedia-wi.com and put "Community Calendar" in the subject line.



Monsters and goblins on parade

ABOVE: Sacred Heart Catholic School held a special Halloween Spirit Parade on Main Street in Shawano on Oct. 27. Students in preschool to seventh grade dressed up in their costumes and walked up and down Main Street greeting pedestrians and business owners, including Aaron Gilling, center, of Stubborn Brothers Brewery. Officers with the Shawano Police Department escorted the students and assisted them at the crosswalks.

CONTRIBUTED

LEFT: Sacred Heart Catholic School student Bailey Wild gets a treat from a scary looking Deacon James Lonick on Oct. 27. After the parade, students went back to school and held classroom parties and enjoyed the haunted house set up by the eighth grade. Besides Lonick, Principal Gary Cumberland, the Rev. Scott Valentyn, Autumnne Gee and Lori Mathwich walked around handing out candy to students during their parties.

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Cowles' PSC reform bill signed by Evers

Sen. Robert Cowles praised the signing of Assembly Bill 300, which was signed into law Nov. 5 as 2021 Wisconsin Act 85, by Gov. Tony Evers.

"The PSC approval process can not only be costly, but it can also be timely lasting months or even a full construction season. Additional delays racked up before the review by the commissioners and public comment period can further delay a process, putting a halt on some urgent and necessary projects," Cowles said in a press release. "The responsibilities placed upon local water utilities can make it a hard enough job without the delays faced in the regulatory processes."

Cowles said Act 85 is expected to put a stop to these unnecessary delays by requiring the Wisconsin Public Service Commission act on construction authorization and lead service line applications in a timely manner.

In recent years, some water utilities seeking a certificate of authority to perform a construction project or approval of a Lead Service Line Replace-



ROB COWLES

ment Program have experienced lengthy delays in having their applications addressed. While the PSC had deadlines in law already under most circumstances for deadlines to address applications once the Notice of Investigation (NOI) is opened by the commissioners, applications by water utilities did not have a statutory timeline from when an application is submitted for staff review until the NOI is opened unlike many energy utility applications.

After the city of Kaukauna, part of Cowles' district, submitted its application for a lead service line replacement program, staff review led to 295 days from their application being submitted to an NOI being opened. Act 85 looks to put a stop to unnecessary delays by requiring that the PSC act on these applications within 45 days.

Felzkowski bill looks at school spending transparency

Gov. Tony Evers signed Senate Bill 373, authored by Sen. Mary Felzkowski, R-Tomahawk, into law Nov. 5.

The bill will provide Wisconsin residents with access to information and details regarding how their school district is spending their taxpayer dollars.

"I am thrilled that this bill is being signed into law today," Felzkowski said in a press release. "Over the last several years, I have worked with stakeholders throughout the education community to forge a consensus on making school district spending information accessible to the public."

The aim of the legislation, according to Felzkowski, is to make it easier for the public to track exactly how their school district is spending the funding they receive. The end will be an easy-to-access school expenditure portal that the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction shall maintain on its website.

Any member of the public, parent, or teacher can look up their school district and see what funding their school



MARY FELZKOWSKI

is receiving and where the money is going. This bill will create an advisory committee comprised of individuals selected by the governor, Assembly, and Senate who will make recommendations on categories DPI must include in the school expenditure portal.

"At its core, our bill is about transparency and access, and about every taxpayer, parent, teacher, reporter, and school board member who has at one point or another found our school funding data difficult to comprehend," Felzkowski said. "Every member of the public should have the opportunity for an informed discussion about school spending with their school's leadership."

SB 373 was signed into law as 2021 Act 89.

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Crafts are in abundance at St. James



Craft vendors and visitors pack the gym at St. James Lutheran School as they hosted a craft fair on Nov. 6.



From left, Bowler residents Jermain and Woody Davids look at different jewelry and ornaments at the St. James Lutheran School Craft Fair on Nov. 6.



A popular stand was the mittens as visitors were stocking up before the winter season begins at the St. James Lutheran School Craft Fair on Nov. 6.

PHOTOS BY LUKE REIMER • REPORTER

Broadband money available for rural areas

Small communities scramble to use tidal wave of public funding

By **PETER CAMERON**
The Badger Project

Ed Risler, 71, doesn't use the internet much, but his granddaughter sure does.

When school shut down during the pandemic last year, 10-year-old Bella spent school days at her grandfather's while her mother was at work. With a home deep in the rolling hills of western Wisconsin's Driftless Area, his internet speeds are "piss poor," said Risler, the chairman of the town board in Drammen, a rural community between Mondovi and Eau Claire. While many kids in the state could do their work digitally, Drammen's poor internet speeds meant Bella had to get paper assignments from school.

"I knew we needed it in the township," Risler said. "We needed to do something."

Risler and the whole community of Drammen will soon have high-speed internet, also known as broadband, thanks to the fiber optic cables two local cooperatives, Tri-County Communications Cooperative and 24-7 & West Wisconsin Telcom, are burying in the ground right now.

The town of around 800 residents is able to afford the nearly \$3 million project thanks to a state grant of \$1.5 million, and \$200,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill President Joe Biden signed into law in March.

The pandemic shutdown made the already pressing issue of high-speed internet expansion a priority, as children and adults in rural areas struggled to study and work from home. If they didn't already, local governments are now realizing the importance of broadband for improving quality of life and the local economy, including retaining existing businesses and residents and attracting new ones.

In response, the federal and state government are showering rural broadband projects with cash. Since the start of the pandemic, Congress has passed three huge spending bills — The CARES Act in March 2020,



the Consolidated Appropriations Act in December and ARPA in March of this year — each including millions that can be used for broadband expansion.

According to Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) chair Rebecca Cameron Valcq, nearly 400,000 households in the state, most of them rural, lack access to high-speed internet access. Valcq estimates the cost of bringing it to all of them could be about \$700 million.

Christopher Mitchell, director of the Community Broadband Networks Initiative, a Minnesota-based think tank that helps communities with their telecommunications, estimates Wisconsin will receive between \$600 million and \$1 billion in total for use in high-speed internet expansion.

"This is a time with unprecedented money available, and if Wisconsin is smart about it, they could resolve a lot of their problems," Mitchell said. "But if Wisconsin is not smart about it, they have no one to blame but themselves."

From 2015 to 2020, federal programs like the FCC's Connect America Fund provided hundreds of millions of dollars to service provid-

ers for high-speed internet expansion in Wisconsin. Major internet service providers like CenturyLink, Frontier Communications, TDS Telecom and AT&T secured huge sums of funding. Mitchell said the programs were poorly designed and poorly enforced, allowing the big companies to funnel the money into areas that were most profitable — cities and suburbs with high population density. Rural areas were ignored.

Some providers have been accused of misrepresenting the quality of their product, giving the impression that the internet speeds provided were higher than they actually were.

Frontier, which provides service to about 80,000 Wisconsinites, received more than \$180 million in federal funding between 2015 and 2020 for projects in Wisconsin alone. The company then declared bankruptcy in 2020. In May, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) along with law enforcement agencies from six states, including Wisconsin, sued the company for misrepresenting internet speeds. A judge has dismissed the claims of Wisconsin and four other states, but allowed the suits from the

FTC and California to continue.

Brigid Smith, a spokeswoman for Frontier, said the company's bankruptcy did not affect the company's commitment to fulfilling its obligations with the federal funding. Regarding state funding, Smith said Frontier has received broadband grant funding in numerous states "and has fulfilled its grant obligations in all of them."

As of October, Frontier still finishes near the bottom of a ratings survey of telecommunications companies by Consumer Reports, and the Better Business Bureau gives the company a grade of F.

At the state level, before Wisconsin Democrats broke Republicans' complete control of state government with Gov. Tony Evers' win in 2018, the GOP budgeted what experts call a pittance for rural broadband expansion: \$20 million in the program's first years between 2014 and 2019.

Now that's all changed.

ARPA sent checks directly to every state, county and municipality in the United States, but put restrictions on how the money could be used. High-speed internet is one allowable item, and Evers and local governments are taking the suggestion.

This summer, the governor set aside \$100 million in federal funds in a first round of a competitive grant process for broadband expansion, giving priority to projects in areas "with the least access or slowest speed and the highest need." At the state level, the budget for the next two years also sets aside an additional \$129 million for broadband expansion grants, doubling the previous budget.

As of October, the state has awarded about \$100 million, mostly to smaller internet providers, but received more than \$420 million in applications.

In order "to help guide funds to areas where it is needed most," the PSC awards grants based on criteria including the current availability or lack thereof in an area, as well as the proposed speeds and matching funds of the project, said Jerel Ballard, a spokesman for the commission.

This story was funded in part by The Wisconsin Idea, a reporting project of the progressive news magazine In These Times, focused on issues facing the state's rural communities. The Badger Project describes itself as a nonpartisan, citizen-supported journalism nonprofit in Wisconsin. For the full story, go to www.newmedia-wi.com

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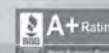
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ThedaStar Air Medical completes reaccreditation

ThedaStar Air Medical, based at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah, has recently completed an extensive reaccreditation process to ensure the continued safety and quality of care that is provided by the program.

Completing this accreditation process demonstrates ThedaStar's commitment to work collaboratively with ThedaCare, PHI Air Medical and regional partners to provide coordinated care to communities.

The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems, also known as CAMTS, evaluated the program's compliance with established safety and quality standards.

"CAMTS is a voluntary peer-review organization," said Kirk Vandenberg, ThedaStar manager. "CAMTS has established evidence-based standards of performance. These standards focus on improving the quality of patient care and providing a safe transport environment. They also ensure our team is well-trained and has the equipment they need to provide excellent care."

The CAMTS accreditation is valid for up to a three-year period, and ThedaStar has earned accreditation certifications in 2015, 2018 and 2021. Vandenberg said the accreditation process holds ThedaStar accountable to the standards. Prior to CAMTS on-site review, the organization requests records from the past few years to better understand how a program is meeting or exceeding standards.

"These are standards we practice every day," said Vandenberg. "We're very proud of our team members for their dedication to best practices, allowing us to provide quality care for those in north-east and central Wisconsin."

ThedaStar's team consists of flight nurses, critical care paramedics, pilots, mechanics, and communications specialists. The nurses and paramedics have minimum pre-hire experience requirements, and require advanced certifications and education in critical care, trauma,

and transport. Communications specialists receive training specific to air medical transport.

The pilots and mechanics are employed by PHI Air Medical LLC, which provides the helicopter and aviation support. All team members are ready to respond at a moment's notice, said Vandenberg.

"ThedaStar's success relies on a team approach," he said. "We work closely with EMS, fire departments, law enforcement, and other health care systems. It takes a coordinated effort to provide patients with the best possible care, and we're just one small part of the patient care continuum."

The CAMTS reaccreditation comes the same year ThedaStar is also celebrating its 35th year of providing air medical care. Since 1986, ThedaStar has transported more than 15,000 patients while serving the communities throughout North-east and Central Wisconsin.

"Thanks to hospital leaders, physicians and community support, ThedaCare established the ThedaStar program in June 1986," said Vandenberg. "When ThedaStar launched, it was the third air ambulance program in the state and the only one north of Milwaukee or Madison."

ThedaStar provides helicopter transports for critically ill or injured patients. The majority of patients are transported from local or regional hospitals to specialized care services at ThedaCare hospitals or other tertiary care centers. The smaller portion of patients are transferred directly from incident scenes to the closest appropriate hospital.

"Over the years there have been many advancements in equipment and technology, including the helicopter, that have improved safety for our team and the care we provide to our patients," said Vandenberg. "Our team members are proud to offer coordinated care to improve patient outcomes."

For information, visit thedacare.org/about-us/thedastar.

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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Rogowski named Player of Year in CWC-East

Total of 6 players plus coach honored

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Six players and a coach from the Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School volleyball team were recognized by the Central Wisconsin Conference-East Division after big fall seasons.

Junior Reese Rogowski was named the conference Player of the Year, while Becky Rew took home the Coach of the Year honor for a second-straight fall.

Sophomore London Metropulos joined Rogowski on the all-conference first team.

Juniors Payton Foster and Lilly Betry each landed on the second team, while senior Jadalynn Davids and junior Kiara Deruchowski were both honorable mentions.

Rogowski led the Chargers with 352 attack kills on the season, posting 87 of those in conference matches.

Rogowski also served 44 aces on the season and had 208 service points. She also totaled 33 blocks and a team-leading 299 digs.

"It means a lot to be the conference's Player of the Year as a junior because it shows that my work throughout the season was recognized by coaches," said Rogowski.

"I'm hoping to build off of a successful season and I'm encouraged about our team doing great things next year."

Rew guided the Chargers to a perfect record in conference play before the team won a regional title and made a sectional appearance in postseason play.

"I am honored with the accolade," said Rew. "We have a lot of great coaches in the CWC, so I am extremely grateful that my peers recognized me with this award two

ONLINE

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

FYI

An all-region fall sports section will be published in the Nov. 19 edition of the paper.

years in a row.

"This award is a great acknowledgement of our program as a whole because I wouldn't be recognized for this honor if we didn't have a lot of great assistant coaches, youth coaches, and parents who have helped develop talented girls year after year."

Metropulos racked up 344 attack kills on the season, with 68 in conference play.

She tallied 69 total blocks, the second-most on the team. The sophomore also recorded 221 digs.

Foster and Betry posted similar numbers in their junior seasons.

Foster led the team with 383 assists, while Betry had 350. Foster tallied 206 digs to Betry's 195.

Foster also was credited with 41 attack kills, 16 total blocks, 154 service points and 40 aces.

Betry was the team leader in service points (270) and aces (49). She also tallied 35 attack kills.

In her final volleyball season, Davids did a little bit of everything for the team.

Davids recorded 83 attack kills, 118 service points and 35 aces to go along with 31 total blocks and 238 digs.

"It is very special, because this year I have played all the way around and proved that I could play every position on the court," said Davids. "It's a very special moment because I have never really gotten anything like that."

Deruchowski was second on the team with 296 digs on the season. She totaled 167 service points and 36 aces.



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Reese Rogowski leaps up to spike the ball during the team's CWC-East win over Menominee Indian on Sept. 23 in Wittenberg. Rogowski was the conference's Player of the Year as a junior.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Witt-Birn takes down Amherst

Chargers move on to state semifinals

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School football team earned a thrilling 29-28 win over Amherst in a level three Division 5 postseason game on Nov. 5 in Amherst.

Amherst capped an eight-plus minute drive with a touchdown to take a 28-21 lead with just over three minutes to go in the game. That would have been the knockout blow for many teams, but Witt-Birn continued to battle.

The Chargers' drive started at the 20, but was backed up to the 15 after a penalty on the first-down play.

Senior Ben Wesolowski connected with senior Jack Fraaza on a 17-yard pass to jumpstart the drive before Fraaza ripped off a 56-yard run to put Witt-Birn at the 1-yard line. Wesolowski powered in on the next play to make it a one-point game, and then Witt-Birn called timeout to go over its options.

The Chargers decided to go for the 2-point conversion and lead. Wesolowski said his coaches told him to just "run around and find someone." That's just what the senior quarterback did.

Wesolowski scrambled to his left and then back right before hitting Fraaza on a pass to give the Chargers the lead.

"I threw it up to Jack and he made a great play," said Wesolowski.

Witt-Birn's defense finished



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Ben Wesolowski looks for an open receiver during the team's playoff win over Amherst on Nov. 5 in Amherst.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

things off from there, pushing Amherst backward before eventually forcing a turnover on downs.

A first-down pass from Amherst was knocked down by Chargers junior Max Fraaza. After a false start

penalty, senior Johnny Stewart was able to break through the offensive line and sack the quarterback.



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After another incompletion and then a timeout, senior Ben Flak got the game-sealing sack on the fourth-down play.

"We knew we could drive the ball down the field and we didn't panic," said Witt-Birn coach Bernard Holsey, who praised offensive coordinator Jason Rieck for his playcalls on the go-ahead drive.

"I'm proud of our defense for bowing their necks and doing it (making a stop) when we had too. Obviously, we didn't do it sometimes throughout the game but they did it when it really counted."

With the win, the Chargers advance to the state semifinals. Witt-Birn will battle Aquinas on Nov. 12 in Wisconsin Rapids.

The Chargers are honored to be part of the remaining four teams in Division 5.

"It's incredible. This is what everyone dreams of playing football their senior year," said Jack Fraaza. "Being able to play in the playoffs and keep winning and beating teams that they've never beat before. It's just so exciting, you can't even imagine."

"We came out here to prove people wrong, and I feel like that's what we did tonight," said Wesolowski.

David Gauderman ran for a 13-yard touchdown to give Witt-Birn the lead in the first quarter. Amherst responded with the final two touchdowns in the first half to lead 14-7 at halftime.

Wesolowski ran for a 5-yard touchdown to make it a one-point game in the third quarter before he found senior Jordan Landowski on a two-point pass to give the Chargers the lead.

Landowski intercepted a pass earlier in the contest, which turned out to be a big play.

Witt-Birn had just had a punt blocked, allowing Amherst to start at the Witt-Birn 8-yard line with



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Kaden Schmidt runs with the football during the team's playoff win over Amherst on Nov. 5 in Amherst.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

under 30 seconds to play in the first half.

The hosts tried to throw for the score, but Landowski picked off the

FYI

A recap of the Chargers state semifinal game against Aquinas can be found online at www.newmedia-wi.com and will appear in next week's paper.

pass to keep it a one-score game.

Amherst took back the lead and led 20-15 before Witt-Birn was able to answer.

On a fourth-and-two play to open the fourth quarter, Wesolowski broke free for a 53-yard touchdown run.

A two-point pass failed, so the Chargers only led by a point.

Amherst then went on its long drive and scored to go up 28-21.

"Our team just fought back really hard," said Gauderman on the team's resiliency. "I don't even know what to say, I'm kind of speechless. I'm just happy our team pulled it off in the end."

"We all played together, not one of us backed down. We knew we were never out of it," said Stewart. "When we were losing, we knew we still had a chance. They were more afraid of us than we were of them."

Witt-Birn 7 0 8 14 — 29

Amherst 0 14 6 8 — 28

First quarter

WB: David Gauderman 13-yard run (Nathan Waupekenay kick), 4:46

Second quarter

A: Ian Hall 7-yard pass from Landon Moe (Josh Bentley kick), 8:11

A: Aidan Jastronski 12-yard pass from Moe (Bentley kick), 1:17

Third quarter

WB: Ben Wesolowski 5-yard run (Jordan Landowski pass from Wesolowski), 6:38

A: Moe 2-yard run (run failed), 2:07

Fourth quarter

WB: Wesolowski 53-yard run (pass failed), 11:50

A: Matthew Glodowski 4-yard run (Glodowski run), 3:19

WB: Wesolowski 1-yard run (Jack Fraaza pass from Wesolowski), 1:26

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HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Tigerton's Hauser makes all-conference 1st team

3 Tigerton, 4 Bowler players recognized

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Tigerton and Bowler volleyball teams combined to have seven players land on all-conference lists in the Central Wisconsin Conference-North Division.

Tigerton had three players honored, while Bowler had four.

Tigerton

Junior Skyler Hauser earned a spot on the first team, while senior Elizabeth Robbins made the second team and senior Jaycee Hoppe-Schmidt was an honorable mention for Tigerton.

For the season, Hauser tallied 237 attack kills and 46 block kills. She also totaled 264 digs and 37 aces.

"It means a lot to me that as a junior, there were coaches who noticed my ability on the court," said Hauser. "Receiving this honor makes me very happy because there's always those games that make think you didn't do very well. But in reality, if you work hard and try your best, others will notice."

"This honor will definitely motivate me for my senior season because with a little more practice, I hope to only go up from there."

Robbins, the team's setter, ended the year with 279 assists. She also was credited with 100 digs, 30 kills and 31 aces.

"First, I would like to say that it was an honor receiving this award and I am beyond thankful," said Robbins. "As a



Tigerton's Skyler Hauser serves the ball during the Bonduel Invite on Aug. 24 in Bonduel. Hauser made the CWC-North first team in her junior season.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

senior, this award shows the love and effort I put into volleyball throughout my high school career. I am proud that I can represent Tigerton volleyball and the team effort we put into this season.

"I would also like to thank my coaches Holly Meverden and Kelly Hauser. They pushed me to do my absolute best and I would not be here if it wasn't for them."

Hoppe-Schmidt was the Tigers' libero this fall. She capped the season with 320 digs and also served 23 aces.

"I believe being named honorable mention is a privilege for me, especially coming from a smaller school," said Hoppe-Schmidt. "It's also important to me as a libero to be chosen as honorable mention, because I believe that I worked hard and set my mind to my team and family."

Bowler

Bowler seniors Tia Kroening and Morgan Paiser each made the all-conference second team. Junior Brandi Spencer and sophomore Bertina Dodge were honorable mentions.

Paiser capped the season with a team-leading 69 attack kills. She also totaled 95 digs, 84 service points and 48 aces.

"The past four years my coaches and I have put in a lot of time to make me the player I am today," said Paiser. "It has finally paid off. I cannot thank (coaches) Brad and Sara (Brei) enough."

Kroening finished her senior year with 51 attack kills, 96 digs, 99 service points and 43 aces.

"It means a lot because it shows that I've been doing a good job at what I did while playing volleyball," said Kroening. "And a big thanks to my coach Brad for pushing me to do my best."

Spencer totaled 100 service points and 38 aces this fall. She also tallied 44 attack kills and 44 digs.

Spencer was the team leader in assists with 158.

Dodge racked up 50 attack kills on the season. She recorded 83 digs, 70 service points and 30 aces.

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HIGH SCHOOL SWIM

Pulaski's Taya Schmidt qualifies for state as a diver

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Pulaski High School junior Taya Schmidt qualified for state as a diver after placing second at the Division 1 Neenah Sectional, which ran Nov. 5-6 in Neenah.

Schmidt posted a score of 392.1 to take second during the diving competition on Nov. 5.

She will compete in the state competition on Nov. 13 at the Waukesha South Natatorium in Waukesha. The diving competition begins at 2 p.m.

While no other Red Raiders qualified for state, the team did have a couple of other top-10 finishers.

Schmidt took sixth in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25.6 seconds.

She was on the ninth-place finishing 400 freestyle relay team, which posted a time of 3:57.72. Abigail Roberts, Mary Duffrin and Gracie Mihalski rounded out the team.

Witt-Birn

Wittenberg-Birnamwood turned in several strong finishes at the Division 2 Menomonie Sectional on Nov. 6 in Menomonie, but was unable to advance any swimmers to state.

The Witt-Birn 200 freestyle team of Faith Resch, Olivia Besette,

Olyvia Stark and Annika Resch had the team's top finish, placing fourth in 1:45.8.

Stark, Faith Resch, Annika Resch and Isabella Hegewald teamed up for a fifth-place finish in the 400 freestyle relay (3:57.84). The same four took sixth in the 200 medley relay (1:58.98).

Faith Resch had the team's individual finish, placing eighth in the 50 freestyle (25.47).

Shawano

Shawano was unable to advance any individuals or relay teams to

ONLINE

Full sectional results and state qualifiers can be found at <https://www.wiaawi.org/Sports/Fall/Girls-Swim-Dive/Tournament>.

state after competing in the Division 2 Plymouth Sectional on Nov. 6 in Plymouth.

The Hawks had a pair of eighth-place finishes on the day.

Anne Carrier, Piper Novitski, Allison Langlois and Allison Brown claimed eighth in the 200 freestyle relay (1:58.52).

Individually, Brown was eighth in the 100 backstroke (1:09.87).

RECREATION SCOREBOARD

BOWLING

Chet and Emil's Wednesday Business

Team	W	L
CWAA	16	8
SandM Tool	14	10
Kessen Auto Body	14	10
Melody Mill	13	11
TLC Auto Body	11	13
Rew Motors Inc.	11	13

Chet and Emil's 9 15

Kropf's Meat Pro 8 16

High team scratch games: SandM Tool 1,036,

Melody Mill 949, CWAA 873.

High individual scratch games: Paul Hanke 240,

Tyler Krull 201, Brandon Trzebiatowski 200.

High team scratch series: SandM Tool 2,940,

Melody Mill 2,690, CWAA 2,509.

High individual scratch series: Jeremy Praslowicz

634, Doug Kunst 612, Eric Resch 597.

Lakeshore Lanes — Guys and Dolls League

Team	W	L
9 Pin Tappers	45	18
Slingers	41	22
Happy Old Farts	36 1/2	26 1/2
The Aces	35	28
10 Pin Strikers	35	28
Newbees	34	29

Any Old Thing 33 30

SSI'S 33 30

4 Amigo's 29 34

Good Times 26 37

A Team 24 1/2 38 1/2

High individual games (women): Ronda Nolan 173.

High individual games (men): Roger Strebeg 223,

Terry Tonn 221, Jim Schwaller 214, 213, Don Hudson

213, Scott Seymour 200.



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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

Striking workers have good reason to be mad

It's going to be a very good year for the top dogs and shareholders at Deere & Co. The Iowa-based equipment manufacturer says it earned more in the first nine months of its fiscal year



**JULIE
KEOWN-BOMAR**

than during its best year in 2013. The corporation's third-quarter results are nearly \$4.7 billion. John May, the company's CEO, made over \$14.7 million in total compensation in 2020.

Reports are that his salary increased 160% during the pandemic while laid-off manufacturing workers saw "incentive" pay cut.

On Oct. 14, 10,000 unionized skilled manufacturing employees at Deere & Co. initiated their right to bargain by rejecting the contract put forth by management and going on strike. Does it surprise anyone that skilled workers went on strike after the company agreed to bump pay by little more than \$1 per hour over the next six years? Deere management also proposed cutting pensions and creating a two-tiered workforce to limit new employee benefits.

The company boasts that it pays skilled workers \$30 per hour. That sounds like a fair wage, but one has to take the company's propaganda with a grain of salt — salary figures include "incentive pay" that most Deere workers are forced to rely on to make a living wage.

Today, workers are voting on another proposal that would bump wages 10% in the first year, then by 5% every other year with 3% lump sum payments every year in between.

Farmers have their own standoff with John Deere and have led the charge to pass right to repair laws. Ask Montana Farmers Union President Walter Schweitzer about struggles to get his tractor fixed and he notes, "These equipment manufacturers are holding me hostage to them, forcing me to use their dealerships to repair my equipment — on their schedule, on their time and at their rates. That's wrong."

With a tight labor market, worker exhaustion and record corporate profits, unionized workers are using



collective muscle to exert pressure on employers to pay and treat workers better. So many workers are striking that this fall has been dubbed Striketober.

Alongside low pay, treatment of employees is coming to the surface. Workers at Frito-Lay went on strike this summer, citing concerns with forced overtime, 100-degree plus working conditions, and "suicide shifts" less than eight hours apart. Frito-Lay also exceeded profit goals during the pandemic.

Before you dunk that Oreo cookie in a milk bath of sad despair, note that Mondelez International, parent conglomerate of Nabisco, angered employees when it proposed turning eight-hour shifts into 12-hour ones without overtime. Workers would receive overtime on the sixth and seventh days. The company also tried to move additional health insurance costs onto the shoulders of new employees.

Fed up with 12- to 16-hour days, seven days a week, with mandatory

overtime, Kellogg union workers were pushed over the edge by the company's drive to create a two-tiered system that would downgrade wages and benefits for "transitional" workers. Like the aforementioned companies, Kellogg's top dogs know one of the most effective ways to destroy union loyalty is to pit workers against one another. Kellogg legacy workers stood up for the next generation, and they all went on strike to preserve benefits.

Another technique is threatening to take jobs elsewhere. At the Kellogg bargaining table, union negotiators were told they must accept the offer or jobs would be taken to Mexico.

The farmer's share of a \$4.99 box of cereal is 12 cents, and this pittance has been dropping for decades. The American food system is characterized by cheap food at an unfair cost to farmers, laborers and the land. Striketober is showing that some folks are getting filthy rich off this exploitative system. Kellogg's CEO made \$11.6

million last year and received a 20% salary increase from 2020 to 2021. Yet this profit-making corporation had the gall to say it was "disappointed" that its essential production workers went on strike.

Hey, food giants, I am disappointed in you. Farmers and workers are getting taken advantage of while those at the top rake in record profits and salaries.

Farmers and labor have stood together in the past as the WFU farmer labor solidarity podcast illustrates. Corporations will try every technique possible to divide workers, farmers and consumers. Don't fall for it.

As you eat your next bowl of Froot Loops or Kashi, please consider those who are being taken advantage of in the food chain — and encourage friends and family to stand in solidarity this Striketober.

Julie Keown-Bomar is executive director of the Wisconsin Farmers Union. Learn more at www.wisconsinfarmersunion.com.

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Records shed light on DNR board shenanigans

The Natural Resources Board, an all-volunteer body that guides policy for the Department of Natural Resources, is part of Wisconsin's tradition of open government. The idea to empower volunteers — rather than politicians — was first proposed in the progressive era by leading conservationists, including Aldo Leopold, who understood that decisions about natural resources should be guarded against backroom deals between politicians and lobbyists.

For this reason, the board is designed to allow for direct input from ordinary people and for an open decision-making process. But a shadow has fallen over the board. Its current chairperson, Frederick Prehn, has clung to the role past his term, which ended in May. Dr. Prehn, a dentist in Wausau, maintains that he can hold on to the role until the state Senate confirms his replacement.

Gov. Tony Evers in late April nominated Sandra Naas to replace Prehn, but the state's GOP-controlled Legislature has refused to take it up.



**TONY WILKIN
GIBART**

Wisconsin's public records law has shed light on this murky situation. My organization, Midwest Environmental Advocates, made several demands under that law for records regarding Prehn. They show that Prehn spoke with staff of the Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu, which helped him obtain a memo from the Legislative Reference Bureau about remaining on the board. Other records document Prehn's regular coordination with lobbyists from Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC).

These same lobbyists met with LaMahieu about Prehn's term before his replacement was announced. In other records, he suggested he should remain on the board to block the governor's proactive approach to PFAS contamination (the toxins found in Teflon and other products),

policies that WMC is also fighting tooth and nail.

The records law has given the public a clearer picture of what Prehn and others are up to, but the picture is far from complete, and that is why my group has sued Prehn.

Midwest Environmental Advocates believes Prehn may have illegally hidden the full extent of his coordination with WMC and others. We requested all forms of written communications Prehn sent and received about his decision. He turned over no text messages, but through a request to another official, we later discovered a text message in which Prehn reflected on his decision to stay on to oppose the governor's policies. Prehn was legally obligated to retain and disclose this message.

Our lawsuit is about holding Prehn accountable by obtaining records that we all have a right to see. Prehn is not respecting the state's open government traditions, so essential to the board.

The case involving Prehn points to ways to better implement the

public records law to avoid litigation. Prehn regularly communicated about board business on personal email and text. Of course, he is not alone in using personal accounts for public business, which is not illegal, even though all such communications are still public records.

Officials should be discouraged from this practice. When public records exist on private accounts, we are forced to rely on the word of the official who created the records. Compliance officers at state agencies should consider requiring officials who created public records on personal accounts to attest under oath that they complied with their duties to search for and disclose records. Doing so would make officials think twice before attempting to skirt the law, and it would promote transparency.

Your Right to Know is a monthly column distributed by the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council (wisfoic.org), a group dedicated to open government. Tony Wilkin Gibart is the executive director of Midwest Environmental Advocates, a nonprofit environmental law firm.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Give Fair Maps submission a fair shake

To the editor:

An open letter to my legislative representatives. For information on the issue, see Wisconsin Fair Maps Coalition in web browser or Facebook. (News release referred to was by Coalition following the public hearing on the Legislature's proposed maps.) Let your representatives know we demand fair maps because they are elected to represent us and not the interests of a political party.

Rep. Jeff Mursau and Sen. Mary Felzkowski,

I forward this press release to you as it represents my opinion along with more than 80% of the citizens of Wisconsin, 56 county governments through supportive resolutions, and the recommendations of every good government organization in the state.

Last year, in response to a question of 36th District constituents in Rep. Mursau's newsletter, an overwhelming majority of respondents indicated they favored a change in how legislative redistricting was done in Wisconsin. I was heartened and applauded Jeff's courageous ac-

tion in representing the wishes of his constituents by signing on to a bill that would have legislative redistricting maps developed by the nonpartisan Legislative Reference Bureau.

I note with dismay that as of yet, on similar legislation proposed this year, while there are Republican cosponsors, your name is absent. What changed? It is obvious by testimony at this hearing the desires of most of your constituents have not.

Maps released by the legislative leadership and the subject of the hearing demonstrate that in the face of overwhelming opposition, Republican leadership continues to attempt to create districts that will allow its members to thumb their noses at the will of a majority of the citizens of the state by grossly gerrymandering districts, thus allowing them to illegitimately maintain power rather than earning our votes by responding to needs and desires of constituents in fairly drawn districts.

I urge you both in the strongest terms possible to listen to and represent the will of the majority of Wisconsinites to disavow the gerrymandered maps submitted by the Republican leadership, vote to approve fairly drawn maps and support

legislation to change the procedure for redistricting to return responsive government to the people of Wisconsin.

It is noteworthy that many of the options presented by the People's Commission and others demonstrate that Republicans would likely maintain an advantage in the legislature but would have to be more responsive to constituents. That is all we ask.

Ken Harter, Oconto Falls

Election workers protecting democracy

To the editor:

Running our Wisconsin elections in a timely, accurate, and honest manner requires many hundreds of local, county, and state government clerks, employees, volunteers — and even prosecutors, sheriffs, and judges — all dedicated to truth. Given our rural political landscape, most of these elected officers, employees and volunteers are Republican.

As we head into 2022, numerous audits and judicial decisions by these public servants have declared the 2020 elections overwhelmingly accurate. Those living in reality know that it is

extraordinarily difficult to successfully commit voter fraud due to existing Wisconsin voter laws, numerous procedural checks and balances, and the integrity of our town, city, and county clerks. Republicans even threw out the Government Accountability Board and created the Wisconsin Elections Commission during their last gerrymandered trifecta to ensure their preferred electoral results.

Those who are gullible to conspiracies should be reminded of a human tendency best articulated by Ben Franklin: "Three can keep a secret if two of them are dead."

While there is no way I could ever be a Republican in today's disturbing climate, I very much appreciate the few who still cling to what Republicans used to be highly moral, conservative, humble individuals always earnestly seeking to do the right thing.

With that in mind, a big thank you to every Republican clerk, judge, prosecutor, sheriff, employee, and volunteer who has been protecting valid election results — and what little is left of our ailing democracy — often despite death threats from their own party.

Mark Smith, Oconto Falls



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Wittenberg Enterprise	Wed., Nov. 24	Wed., Nov. 17
Shawano Leader	Wed., Nov. 25	Wed., Nov. 17

*Enjoy a safe and
happy holiday!*



NEW MEDIA INC.

Dietitian: Cut caffeine without headaches by reducing intake

There's a way to cut the caffeine without debilitating, migraine-like withdrawal headaches.

It's all about taking it slow, said Ashley Krautkramer, a certified diabetes care and education specialist and clinical dietitian with ThedaCare. Along with headaches, withdrawal from the stimulant caffeine can cause other symptoms — including tiredness and fatigue, decreased energy, a loss of alertness, irritability and foggy thinking.

"These symptoms typically set in 12 to 24 hours after discontinuing caffeine intake," Krautkramer said. "Symptoms usually peak within one or two days and have been shown to persist for up to nine days."

Anyone who quits caffeine cold turkey and the withdrawal symptoms are too much can drink something caffeinated will usually resolve symptoms within 30 to 60 minutes, she said.

"I recommend slowly withdrawing from caffeine intake instead," Krautkramer said. "You still might experience some of the symptoms, but they won't be as intense."

Coffee drinkers might go with a half-caffeinated order instead, for example — equal parts caffeinated and decaffeinated coffee, or maybe a quarter decaf, to start.

Some research has indicated that caffeine may have some health benefits, including increasing alertness and memory, as well as reducing risk of some serious diseases including some cancers.

Too much, however, can cause people to be jittery and even exacerbate cardiac issues such as arrhythmias; it can also exacerbate gastrointestinal issues like Irritable Bowel Syndrome or inflammatory bowel disease, as well as insomnia, anxiety and depression.

About 400 milligrams of caffeine

per day is considered safe, with two cups of coffee totaling about 280 milligrams, Krautkramer said. People who drink coffee and related drinks should be aware that different drinks will have different levels of caffeine — an espresso will have less caffeine because of the serving size, for example. People should watch the sugary additions and flavors, which can create problems with blood sugar and weight gain.

Withdrawal symptoms can appear when people use as little as 100 milligrams per day, she said.

"Before you start reducing your caffeine intake, try finding another option to replace the habit," Krautkramer said. "If you don't have a replacement, it's more likely that you'll go back to drinking coffee or related drinks."

Tea is a great alternative — even the caffeinated versions have much less caffeine than a cup of coffee, with a cup of green tea containing between about 25 and 40 milligrams of caffeine and black teas up to 75 milligrams. Matcha and mate teas have the most, containing between 60 and 85 milligrams of caffeine. Herbal teas typically contain no caffeine.

Tea has other potential benefits, with different types offering different benefits, including improved sleep and reduced stress, antioxidants and potential reduction in disease-causing inflammation.

Some bottled teas are very low in caffeine, but people should be mindful of other ingredients such as sugars.

"Reducing caffeine the gradual way can reduce the symptoms that you may experience," Krautkramer said. "I've had patients say they've felt less anxious or notice they just felt better without the daily caffeine intake. It really can be worth it to cut the caffeine."

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Monsters and goblins on parade

ABOVE: Sacred Heart Catholic School held a special Halloween Spirit Parade on Main Street in Shawano on Oct. 27. Students in preschool to seventh grade dressed up in their costumes and walked up and down Main Street greeting pedestrians and business owners, including Aaron Gilling, center, of Stubborn Brothers Brewery. Officers with the Shawano Police Department escorted the students and assisted them at the crosswalks.

CONTRIBUTED

LEFT: Sacred Heart Catholic School student Bailey Wild gets a treat from a scary looking Deacon James Lonick on Oct. 27. After the parade, students went back to school and held classroom parties and enjoyed the haunted house set up by the eighth grade. Besides Lonick, Principal Gary Cumberland, the Rev. Scott Valentyn, Autumnne Gee and Lori Mathwich walked around handing out candy to students during their parties.

CONTRIBUTED

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Special Notices

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AA Group Meeting: 24 hour group every Wed. night. 8:00 p.m. at Masonic Lodge on corner of Washington St. and Caldwell, Oconto Falls TF

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Special Notices

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Doing four things adds 14 years to your life

The great killers of humanity for most of our history have been infectious diseases, but these have been largely eliminated. Now most premature deaths and illnesses are the results of poor lifestyle choices. In fact, it is estimated that people's lifestyles account for 70% of hospitalizations and 80% of healthcare related expenses.

The four main lifestyle issues related to health are lack of exercise, smoking, stress and poor diet choices. Approximately 40% of deaths are caused by modifiable behavior patterns, such as poor diet, physical inac-



BRIAN GRIEVES

activity, substance abuse, and poor coping strategies for stress. Examine your own daily behavioral routines. How much do you eat, what do you eat, how much do you exercise, do you smoke, and how much alcohol do you use? These lifestyle behaviors are significantly and positively related to the quality of

health and mental health.

A study from England examined the combined impact of not smoking, being physically active, having a moderate alcohol intake, and a having a high fruit and vegetable intake on mortality among men and women aged 45 to 79 years, followed up for about 11 years. That study concluded that the difference between the highest and lowest health behavior score in the study was equivalent to approximately 14 years in chronological age.

This means that doing four things can add 14 years to your life. No drugs.

No expensive procedure. Just improve your lifestyle. Additionally, increasing healthy lifestyle behaviors not only improves the length, but also the quality of your life. These findings have been supported by several other scientific research teams America and Europe.

If you are interested in living longer and with better quality of life, take a look at your lifestyle choices.

Dr. Brian Grieves is a doctor of chiropractic with a master's in public health and a member of the Shawano Community Health Action Team. Call 715-524-8722 for more information.

Work completed on State Highway 32

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation Northeast Region has announced completion of all major construction to improve 14.2

miles of state Highway 32 from South Chase Road in the village of Pulaski to state Highway 22 in the town of Gillett.

The \$8.6 million project began July 26 and finished on time and on

budget, according to the DOT.

Construction included resurfacing of the highway, applying a polyester polymer concrete overlay to the Pensaukee River bridge, culvert pipe replacement/repairs, shoulder shaping, beamguard upgrades or repair, pavement markings, and installation of centerline and shoulder rumble strips. Northeast

Asphalt Inc. of Greenville was the prime contractor.

Roadway resurfacing is expected to extend the life of the existing pavement and provide a smoother driving surface for motorists. New centerline/shoulder rumble strips and beamguard were included to enhance safety for the traveling public.

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Tom and Paula Maroszek are shown with Shawano County's 375th barn quilt on their barn at N3528 Elm Road, Pulaski.

JIM LEUENBERGER

New barn quilt at farm with history dating to 1871

Tom and Paula Maroszek have sponsored Shawano County's 375th barn quilt that is on display on their barn at N3528 Elm Road, Pulaski.

The colorful red, white and blue quilt pattern is called Diamonds and Triangles.

Commenting on the quilt, Paula said, "It looks wonderful; I just love it."

The land where the Maroszek's current farm was first purchased in May 1869. It passed from various owners, including J.J. Hof, a well-known land developer and settler in the area. After that, there were several more transfers of ownership, often to family members or children, until the Maroszek's became the owners in November 1991.

"We will celebrate 30 years on this farm this Nov. 11," Paula Maro-

szek said.

The first barn was built on the farm around 1871. The current barn is the third one on the farm and was built in approximately 1967. The Maroszek's had a dairy herd and milked 40 Holstein cows until they sold the herd in 2018. They now raise steers and have also raised ducks and chickens. They own 119 acres on the farm and an additional 25 acres a few miles north on Elm Road and grow alfalfa, soybeans and corn.

The Maroszek's have raised four children on the farm and continue to enjoy country living.

The Maroszek quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee and was put on display by LeRoy Raddant and his grandson, Keenan, both of whom work for Raddant Electric in Shawano.

MARRIAGES

Ryan Christopher Andrews and Kendra Marie Jeanquart, both of Shawano, Oct. 31, 2021.

Sterling Michael Bailey and Rachel Diane Corn, both of Shawano, Oct. 29, 2021.

Ian Robert Bell and Morgan Annette Jacoby, both of the Town of Lessor, Oct. 16, 2021.

Daniel Lee Bork and La Rae Anne Low, both of Wittenberg, Oct. 30, 2021.

Joel Steven Bosman, of the Town of Red Springs, and Amy Jo Rossman, of Minonk, Nov. 6, 2021.

Scott Matthew Breitenbach and Stephanie Raether Pasch, both of the Town of Maple Grove, Oct. 23, 2021.

Logan Gary Buettner and Josie Alexandra Jean Lovelace, both of Shawano, Oct. 22, 2021.

Nathaniel Landan Cumberland and Lindsey Nicole Teetzen, both of Shawano, Nov. 12, 2021.

Jason Elliot Fonder and Allison Lynn

Fuller, both of the Town of Hutchins, Oct. 23, 2021.

Joshua Lee Gueths and Brinlee Ann Yorton, both of Shawano, Nov. 6, 2021.

Daniel Eugene Hall and Casey Ann Lindow, both of Bonduel, Oct. 29, 2021.

Casey James Hitz and Natasha Renee Resch, both of Wittenberg, Oct. 23, 2021.

Jonathon Michael Prindle and Aubrey Rose Geiger, both of Bonduel, Oct. 19, 2021.

Jarrid James Raab and Shawna Joanne Donohue, both of Birnamwood, Oct. 30, 2021.

Steven John Roatch Jr. and Tabitha Kay Thompson, both of Bonduel, Oct. 9, 2021.

Joseph Ralph Roma and Sharon Ann Kroll, both of Shawano, Nov. 6, 2021.

Dan Nathan Rosek and Vanessa Lee Taylor, both of the Town of Maple Grove, Oct. 30, 2021.

Dylan Christopher Shallow and Lexis Rae Harris, both of the Town of Angelica, Oct. 23, 2021.

COLLEGE NOTES

UW-Oshkosh

Jade K. Laatsch has received a Master of Science in education and literacy from the University of

Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

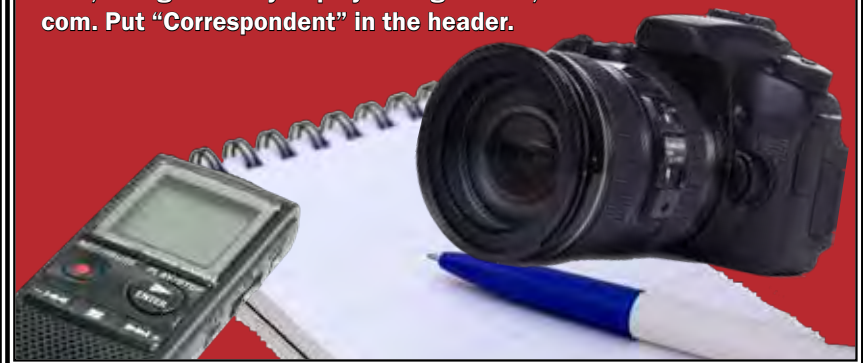
More than 1,500 UW-Oshkosh students graduated in May as part of the 147th spring commencement.

WANTED: Correspondents

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

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

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



DATCP offers meat processing grants for 2022

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is offering new meat processor grants through Jan. 14, 2022.

The grants were proposed by Gov. Tony Evers in his 2021-23 biennial budget, and the funds were recently released by the Joint Finance Committee. The meat processing grant program aims to grow Wisconsin's meat industry and improve the long-term viability of the state's livestock industry.

"Even before the global pandemic

there was a lot of need out there to modernize, expand, and enhance the capacity of our meat processing infrastructure," said DATCP Secretary Randy Romanski. "The funding included in the Governor's budget can be used to ease some of the supply chain bottlenecks and help our state's already strong meat processing industry increase throughput."

Eligible applicants must operate or intend to operate a DATCP or U.S. Department of Agriculture licensed meat-processing establishment in Wisconsin and be engaged

in livestock harvest or processing. Projects must increase harvest capacity or production. Funding from these grants can be used for operating expenses directly related to the grant project, including expenses for engineering, architectural design, construction, food safety consultation, equipment, and equipment installation.

DATCP will award grants for up to \$50,000 for projects that are up to two years in duration and help expand capacity or increase throughput. Processors are required

to provide a match of 100 percent of the grant amount. Recipients will be chosen through a competitive selection process.

Applications are due to DATCP Grants Manager Ryan Dunn at ryandunn@wisconsin.gov by 5 p.m. on Jan. 14. Questions about the grant process can also be directed to Ryan. Grant recipients will be announced in February 2022. The grant application and materials are available at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/MeatAndLivestockDevelopment.aspx.

MARRIAGES

Daniel Lee Bork and La Rae Anne Low, both of Wittenberg, Oct. 30, 2021.

Joel Steven Bosman, of the Town of Red Springs, and Amy Jo Rossman, of Minonk, Nov. 6, 2021.

Scott Matthew Breitenbach and Stephanie Raether Pasch, both of the Town of Maple Grove, Oct. 23, 2021.

Logan Gary Buettner and Josie Alexandra Jean Lovelace, both of Shawano, Oct. 22, 2021.

Nathaniel Landan Cumberland and Lindsey Nicole Teetzen, both of Shawano,

Nov. 12, 2021.

Jason Elliot Fonder and Allison Lynn Fuller, both of the Town of Hutchins, Oct. 23, 2021.

Daniel Eugene Hall and Casey Ann Lindow, both of Bonduel, Oct. 29, 2021.

Casey James Hitz and Natasha Renee Resch, both of Wittenberg, Oct. 23, 2021.

Jonathon Michael Prindle and Aubrey Rose Geiger, both of Bonduel, Oct. 19, 2021.

Jarrid James Raab and Shawna Joanne Donohue, both of Birnamwood, Oct. 30, 2021.

Warm welcome, but not too warm, for fireman



On Oct. 6, Sacred Heart Catholic School's 3-year-old preschool class was visited by Shawano fireman Scott Flaig for Fire Safety Week. Flaig talked about the importance of knowing when to stop, drop and roll, not to be afraid of the firemen, to talk with their parents on where to go in case of a fire, not to play with matches, and how important a smoke alarm is. Flaig is a familiar face around the school since he is also its afternoon custodian.

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PACK FALLS SHORT AGAIN

Green Bay's NFC title game loss to
Bucs an unfortunate trend for team

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Green Bay Packers fans react during the first half of the NFC Championship Game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.



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OCTOBER				
Sunday, October 3	1:25 pm	Pittsburgh Steelers (AFC)	FOX	
Sunday, October 10	1:25 pm	@ Cleveland Browns	FOX	
Sunday, October 17	1:25 pm	@ Chicago Bears	FOX	
Sunday, October 24	1:25 pm	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	FOX	
Thursday, October 28	1:25 pm	@ Atlanta Falcons	FOX	
NOVEMBER				
Sunday, November 7	1:25 pm	@ Kansas City Chiefs	FOX	
Sunday, November 14	1:25 pm	ATLANTA VIKINGS	FOX	
Sunday, November 21	1:25 pm	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX	
Sunday, November 28	1:25 pm	ATLANTA VIKINGS	FOX	
DECEMBER				
FOX WEEK				
Sunday, December 12	7:30 pm	ATLANTA VIKINGS	NBC	
Sunday, December 19	8:00 pm	@ Baltimore Ravens	FOX	
Sunday, December 26	1:30 pm	CLEVELAND BROWNS	FOX	
JANUARY				
Sunday, January 3	7:25 pm	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	NBC	
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BOOKS AND STUFF

'Catsby' good start to feline mystery series

B.K. Baxter's "The Great Catsby" is her first in a Nola Tail Mystery Book series. Sir Chonksworth the Bold and his roommate Jade Hastings have just



JAN JONES

moved into an antebellum mansion in the small city of Beulah, Louisiana. The heat and slow pace are a far cry from the bustle of Baltimore, but Jade and her portly cat are adjusting.

Her book-loving Uncle Mike left her his beautiful, book-filled home because she loves books and is a librarian. The inheritance included a tidy sum for taxes and up-keep, so Jade is able to work part time at the local library. It gives her an air-conditioned place to work and the opportunity to meet people.

While she's at work Sir Chonk explores the property by squeezing out through a broken basement window. His special senses alert him to dark secrets and hidden evils. Sadly, Jade's doesn't understand what he tries to tell her.

When the surly head librarian, Luanne, sends her to find double-sided tape, Jade starts at Sally Tennyson's grocery store. Sally doesn't carry the tape, but Jade meets Stanley. Sally explains that Stanley might be extremely shy, but he loves to read. Jade reminds them about the inaugural book club meeting, then heads to the drug store for the tape.

She is amazed at the turnout for the book club meeting. The group included Dr. Charlotte 'Char' Rains,

AT A GLANCE

BOOK: The Great Catsby
AUTHOR: B.K. Baxter
PUBLISHER: BrixBaxter Publishing
YEAR PUBLISHED: 2020
NUMBER OF PAGES: 206

the elderly Dottie Turleigh, Alma Travis (the wife of the mayor), Tabby Means (wife Vince, the richest man in Beulah), Realtor Dinah Mercer, Mercy Means (Vince's ex-wife), Sally Tennyson and Stanley.

Fur begins to fly as soon as the introductions start. Jade manages to regain control long enough to discuss the "The Great Gatsby." Suddenly Stanley shares tremendous insights into the meanings hidden within the famous novel. Before they can go further, Tabby lashes out at Stanley, so Jade ends the meeting. To her surprise, Tabby offers Stanley a ride home.

Dinah talks about Jade's house being too much for her and offers to buy it. The next morning Tabby's car is parked inside Scar's garage. She's dead and Stanley's T-shirt is beside her. Since she was last seen with Stanley, the sheriff arrests him.

Stanley rarely speaks due to a long-ago trauma. He won't speak to the sheriff, but he opens up to Jade. Yet, Sheriff Rains won't consider another suspect.

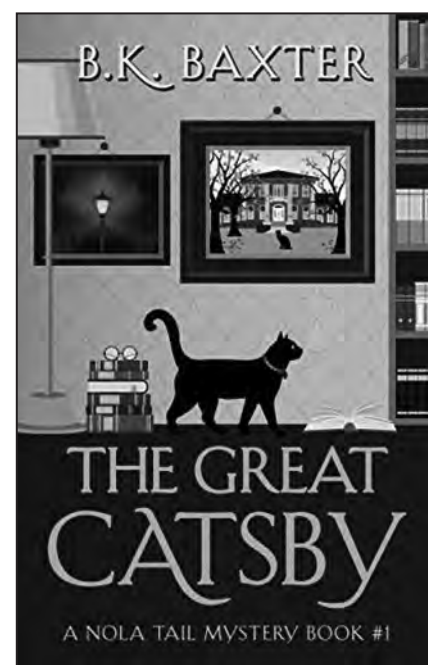
Determined to find the real killer, Jade uses public records to narrow down potential suspects. While Jade is playing detective, local builder Ethan Millbank shows up to do some repairs on the house, and Sir Chonk immediately warms up to him. He isn't nearly so friendly to other visitors, but Jade misses his hints. Though she hates to

admit it, she feels a pretty strong attraction to Ethan. Sir Chonk thinks its about time she had a little romance in her life.

After an especially long day Jade arrives home to find Dinah Mercer in the house. The conversation starts out friendly, but Dinah soon begins to rant about how all this land once belonged to the Mercers and how she needs the property in order to open her museum.

After she subdues Jade, Dinah admits to killing Tabby in hopes of marrying Vince. Then she prepares a syringe of poison to kill Jade.

Sir Chonk knew something was amiss as soon as Dinah arrived, so he slipped out and ran to Ethan's shop. Once Ethan is alerted to trouble, Sir Chonk returns to find Dinah starting to inject Jade. Sir Chonksworth the Bold lived up to his name by launching a furious attack that saved Jade's life.



Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District Board of Education Meeting November 15, 2021

November 15, 2021

5:40 P.M. – Budget & Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 P.M. – Regular Board Meeting Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School

AGENDA

- I Meeting called to order, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.84(1).
- II Roll Call of the Board - Pledge of Allegiance
- III Motion to Approve the Minutes of October 25, 2021, Regular Meeting as circulated.
- IV Communications and Delegations
- V Public Comments
- VI Board Concerns or Reports
- VII Student Representative
- VIII Financial Report
- IX Approve the Agenda
- X
 - I. The Board may adjourn to Closed Session at the close of the meeting pursuant to WI.STATS.19.85(1) for Personnel Matters, and 19.85 (1)(g) for Legal Matters and 19.85(1)(e) for Negotiations.
 - II. The Board will reconvene to Open Session to ratify any decisions made in Closed Session.
- XI Administrative Reports
- XII Old Business
- XIII New Business
 - A. Fiscal Audit Report 2020-2021 for Information
 - B. Open Enrollment Update for Information
 - C. 1st Reading of Policy Update Volume 30-2
 - D. Approve Resignation of Support Staff
 - E. Approve Hire of Support Staff
 - F. School Safety Drills/Procedures for Information
 - G. Approve Capital Project Work
- XIII Adjournment

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Application deadline- November 16, 2021



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NOT SO SPECIAL TEAMS

Packers special teams continue to struggle this season

PAGE 2

Green Bay Packers safety Henry Black, right, makes a tackle on kickoff coverage during the team's game against the Washington Football Team on Oct. 24 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

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Special team issues a priority for Pack

Bojorquez the lone bright spot

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Despite a road loss in week nine, the Green Bay Packers still are tied for the second-best record in the league.

It hasn't been for stellar play on special teams though. Far from it.

The Packers loss to the Kansas City Chiefs again showed that Green Bay's special teams unit needs some serious work.

In the setback, the usually reliable Mason Crosby missed a field goal and had another attempt blocked. The Packers also fumbled on a punt return.

"Obviously we could have used the six points," said coach Matt LaFleur. "We basically gave them points when we fumbled the ball. We can't have that happen."

Take those mistakes away, and the Packers probably beat the Chiefs — and remember, that was without quarterback Aaron Rodgers.

The Packers' offense has no reason for concern at this point, and should only get better with the return of some injured players. Green Bay's defense has been the key to the team's success so far, and again was stout against Kansas City.

Special teams, on the other hand, cost the Packers a road win last week, and it hasn't been the first time the unit has underperformed.

In week two, with the Pack in a battle with the Detroit Lions in the first half, Green Bay's kickoff unit surrendered a 33-yard return right after the Packers had tied the game.



Green Bay Packers kicker Mason Crosby, center, has a kick blocked as punter/holder Corey Bojorquez, left, looks on during the team's game against the Washington Football Team on Oct. 24 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Crosby has had a couple kicks blocked this season and has missed several field goals.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

Detroit went on to kick a field goal before the first-half clock expired.

Green Bay was up 17-0 and rolling in week three against the San Francisco 49ers before the kickoff unit allowed a 68-yard return. The 49ers scored a touchdown on the drive as the first-half clock expired.

Of course, the Packers needed some late-game heroics to escape with a win that week, and the long kick return certainly aided in San Fran's comeback.

In a home contest against the Pittsburgh Steelers in week four, Crosby had a field goal blocked. Luckily for the Pack, the Steelers were flagged for an offside penalty, and Crosby went on to knock in the next try.

Pittsburgh had kickoff returns of 38 and 40 in the game.

Week five was an absolute disaster for the Packers special teams unit, as Crosby missed three field goals, all of which could have won the game for Green Bay.

Again the Pack were bailed out, this time from matching poor kick-

ing from the Cincinnati Bengals. The Bengals had a 44-yard kickoff return in the game.

The Packers have shored up the kickoff coverage the past several weeks. Until the team's last three games, the Packers had worse field position — or were tied for starting field position — than all of their opponents.

In week seven against the Washington Football Team, Crosby had a field goal attempt blocked, while punter Corey Bojorquez nearly had a punt blocked.

"We have to get it fixed. Certainly the operation on PAT (point after touchdown)/field goal has got to be better. We have to do a better job of protecting to give us a chance to score some points," said LaFleur.

"And then, in terms of our punt return game — again, you got a young returner (rookie Amari Rodgers) back there, and I'm not trying to make excuses for anybody — we have to be better, we all know that."

Speaking of Bojorquez, he's really

been the lone bright spot all year for the special teams unit.

His 28 punts have averaged 48.7 yards so far, and only 13 have been returned for just 90 yards. He's pinned opponents inside their own 20-yard line 10 times.

One might argue that some of these miscues were minor ones that didn't truly affect the outcome of the game, but the fact that there are so many examples to choose from is definitely a reason for concern.

An NFL team can have the greatest offense or defense, but most play-off games still come to to just a few points. Many times, special teams play is the difference in a game.

To this point of the season, the Packers have not been winning the special teams facet of the game, and it certainly could bite them against stronger teams in the playoffs. They have time to right the ship and will certainly be spending quality time on the issues during practice moving forward.



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KEYS TO THE GAME

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

The Green Bay Packers (7-2) will host the Seattle Seahawks (3-5) at 3:25 p.m. Sunday at Lambeau Field. CBS will televise the game.

History

The Packers are 11-8 against Seattle in the regular season and 3-1 in the playoffs. In games at Lambeau Field, Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers is 4-0 against Seattle's Russell Wilson.

The last matchup came in the 2019 playoffs, a game Green Bay led 21-3 at halftime but held on to win 28-23. Preston Smith's third-down sack of Wilson and Rodgers' third-down completion to Jimmy Graham clinched the win. Aaron Jones had a pair of 1-yard touchdown runs and Davante Adams had touchdown catches of 20 and 40 yards.

Coaches

Green Bay – Matt LaFleur, 33-8, third season. Seattle — Pete Carroll, 148-99-1 overall, 16 seasons; 115-68-1 in 12th year with Seattle.

When the Packers have the ball

In one way, these teams are similar. Both teams have big-time quarterbacks but are being led by underrated defenses. The Seahawks enter week 10 ranked eighth with 21.1 points allowed per game. In games before their bye, they allowed 13 points against New Orleans and seven points against Jacksonville.

Oddly, Seattle is keeping teams from scoring even while giving up yards by the bushel. Seattle is 31st in total defense (401.5 yard per game) and 28th against the pass (273.9). The Seahawks aren't forcing turnovers (23rd with eight takeaways) and aren't sacking the quarterback (30th in sack percentage).

But they are strong where it's critical: sixth on third down (34%), fifth in the red zone (48.4%) and fifth in goal-to-go situations (58.8%). The Packers' offense, obviously, has struggled in those phases, ranking 18th on third down, 20th in the red zone and 28th in goal-to-go.

Seattle's base defense is 4-3. On the defensive line, Rasheem Green and Kerry Hyder are the ends and Al Woods and Poona Ford are the tackles. Woods and Ford quietly form one of the better tandems in the league, especially against the run.

The Seahawks use a 10-man rotation up front, which means constantly fresh bodies. One of those



Green Bay Packers running back Aaron Jones, right, runs behind blocking from offensive lineman during the team's game against the Arizona Cardinals on Oct. 28 in Glendale, Arizona. Jones and the Packers' rushing attack will go up against a solid Seahawks' run defense this Sunday. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

backups, end Darrell Taylor, leads the team with four sacks and eight quarterback hits. Longtime Bengals standout Carlos Dunlap has only a half-sack but leads the team with 20 pressures, according to Pro Football Focus. Plus, at 6-foot-6, he's batted down four passes.

The primary linebackers are perennial Pro Bowler Bobby Wagner and 2020 first-round pick Jordyn Brooks. Even with a bye last week meaning one less game than some other defenders, Wagner leads the NFL with 93 tackles. Brooks has 72.

The Seahawks spend a lot of the game with five or six defensive backs on the field. Against Jacksonville, D.J. Reed and Tre Brown were the corners and Ugo Amadi manned the slot. Former first-round pick Sidney Jones plays a lot, as well.

What stands out is the height — or lack thereof. Between Reed, Brown and Amadi, none stand 5-foot-10 without rounding up. That could be an issue; Allen Lazard is 6-foot-5 and Marquez Valdes-Scantling is 6-foot-4. That said, Reed and Brown have been really good, having allowed catch rates of about 50 percent, according to PFF.

Quandre Diggs and Jamal Adams are the safeties. Adams is the big name but Diggs has played with the bigger game this season. He has all three of the Seahawks' interceptions.

Adams, the sixth pick of the 2017 draft by the Jets and a three-time Pro Bowler, is third on the team with 55 tackles. He is a physical player vs. the run and an adept blitzing but not

great in coverage. The Seahawks will line him up at safety, linebacker and even in the slot. While he doesn't have any sacks this season, he had an eye-popping 9½ sacks in just 12 games last year.

When the Seahawks have the ball

Seattle is 19th with 22.6 points per game, just ahead of the Packers' 22.1-point average. Really, though, most of their rankings are irrelevant because Wilson has played in only about four-and-a-half games. It is interesting to note, however, that it's second in the red zone but 31st on third down.

Back from a three-game absence following surgery on the middle finger on his throwing hand, Wilson is one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL. His 125.3 passer rating is a whopping 15 points better than anyone else. He's second with a 72% completion rate and first with 9.57 yards per attempt. The deep ball is a possibility on every play, and he's very good at it.

Wilson isn't the only top player coming back from injury. Running back Chris Carson, who has missed the last four games with a neck injury, is expected back this week. Carson rushed for 1,151 yards in 2018 and 1,230 yards in 2019, and had 232 yards and a 4.3 average in the first four games of this season. He is a powerful runner and solid receiver.

Tyler Lockett and D.K. Metcalf form one of the top receiver duos in the NFL. The pint-sized but rocket-fast Lockett has 41 receptions for 579

yards and three touchdowns. Metcalf, with his freakish combination of size and speed, has 39 receptions for 580 yards and eight touchdowns, that latter figure ranked second in the NFL.

Gerald Everett (14 catches) and Will Dissly (10) share the duties at tight end.

Left tackle Duane Brown, left guard Damien Lewis, center Kyle Fuller, right guard Gabe Jackson and right tackle Brandon Shell form the offensive line, which has been a source for consternation in Seattle for years.

The 36-year-old Brown, a four-time Pro Bowler, is the unit's best player. That's not saying much. He's allowed six sacks, second-most in the NFL. Seattle ranks a woeful 31st in sack percentage allowed.

Special Teams

Seattle's typically strong special teams are off to poor starts.

While Green Bay's Mason Crosby has missed an NFL-worst six field goals, Seattle's Jason Myers has made an NFL-worst 63.6 percent of his field-goal attempts.

Last season, former All-Pro punter Michael Dickson was third in net average. This year, he's 17th. He's already booted a career-high seven touchbacks.

Receiver Freddie Swain has averaged a solid 9.5 yards per punt return. Running back D.J. Dallas averages a ho-hum 21.3 yards per kickoff return.

The coverage units are strong. Especially noteworthy is Seattle's kickoff team. Myers isn't looking to kick touchbacks. Rather, Seattle relies on its coverage unit to create bad field position. It ranks third with just 18.3 yards allowed per runback and has forced the opponent to start inside the 20 a league-high 12 times.

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7	Corey Bojorquez	P	6-0	217	25	4	New Mexico
8	Amari Rodgers	WR	5-9	212	22	R	Clemson
10	Jordan Love	QB	6-4	219	23	2	Utah State
13	Allen Lazard	WR	6-5	227	25	3	Iowa State
17	Davante Adams	WR	6-1	215	28	8	Fresno State
18	Randall Cobb	WR	5-10	195	31	11	Kentucky
19	Equanimeous St. Brown	WR	6-5	214	25	4	Notre Dame
20	Kevin King	CB	6-3	200	26	5	Washington
21	Eric Stokes	CB	6-0	194	22	R	Georgia
22	Shemar Jean-Charles	CB	5-10	184	23	R	Appalachian State
26	Darnell Savage	S	5-11	198	24	3	Maryland
27	Patrick Taylor	RB	6-2	217	23	1	Memphis
28	AJ Dillon	RB	6-0	247	23	2	Boston College
29	Rasul Douglas	CB	6-2	209	26	5	West Virginia
31	Adrian Amos	S	6-0	214	28	7	Penn State
33	Aaron Jones	RB	5-9	208	26	5	Texas-El Paso
36	Vernon Scott	S	6-2	202	24	2	TCU
39	Chandon Sullivan	CB	5-11	189	25	4	Georgia State
41	Henry Black	S	6-0	204	24	2	Baylor
42	Oren Burks	LB	6-3	233	26	4	Vanderbilt
44	Ty Summers	LB	6-1	241	25	3	TCU
46	Steven Wirtel	LS	6-4	228	24	1	Iowa State
49	Dominique Dafney	TE	6-2	243	24	1	Indiana State
50	Whitney Mercilus	LB	6-4	261	31	10	Illinois
51	Krys Barnes	LB	6-2	229	23	2	UCLA
52	Rashan Gary	LB	6-5	277	23	3	Michigan
53	Jonathan Garvin	LB	6-4	257	22	2	Miami
54	La'Darius Hamilton	LB	6-2	261	23	1	North Texas
58	Isaiah McDuffie	LB	6-1	227	22	R	Boston College
59	De'Vondre Campbell	LB	6-3	232	28	6	Minnesota
62	Lucas Patrick	G	6-3	313	28	5	Duke
67	Jake Hanson	C	6-4	296	24	1	Oregon
70	Royce Newman	T/G	6-5	310	24	R	Mississippi
73	Yosh Nijman	T	6-7	314	25	2	Virginia Tech
74	Elgton Jenkins	G	6-5	311	25	3	Mississippi State
76	Jon Runyan	G	6-4	307	24	2	Michigan
77	Billy Turner	G/T	6-5	310	30	8	North Dakota State
79	Dennis Kelly	T	6-8	321	31	10	Purdue
81	Josiah Deguara	TE	6-2	238	24	2	Cincinnati
83	Marquez Valdes-Scantling	WR	6-4	206	27	4	South Florida

84	Tyler Davis	TE	6-4	252	24	2	Georgia Tech
86	Malik Taylor	WR	6-1	220	25	2	Ferris State
89	Marcedes Lewis	TE	6-6	267	37	16	UCLA
90	Jack Heflin	DL	6-3	304	23	R	Iowa
91	Preston Smith	LB	6-5	265	28	7	Mississippi State
93	T.J. Slaton	DL	6-4	330	24	R	Florida
94	Dean Lowry	DL	6-6	296	27	6	Northwestern
95	Tyler Lancaster	DL	6-3	313	27	4	Northwestern
96	Kingsley Keke	DL	6-3	288	25	3	Texas A&M
97	Kenny Clark	DL	6-3	314	26	6	UCLA

Reserve/Injured

23	Jaire Alexander	CB	5-10	196	24	4	Louisville
25	Will Redmond	S	5-11	186	27	6	Mississippi State
32	Kylin Hill	RB	5-10	214	23	R	Mississippi State
47	Chauncey Rivers	LB	6-2	259	24	1	Mississippi State
55	Za'Darius Smith	LB	6-4	272	29	7	Kentucky
56	Randy Ramsey	LB	6-3	238	26	2	Arkansas
71	Josh Myers	C/G	6-5	310	23	R	Ohio State
85	Robert Tonyan	TE	6-5	237	27	4	Indiana State

Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform

69	David Bakhtiari	T	6-4	310	30	9	Colorado
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Practice Squad

9	Blake Bortles	QB	6-5	236	29	7	UCF
11	J.J. Molson	K	5-11	180	24	1	UCLA
16	Chris Blair	WR	6-2	198	24	R	Alcorn State
30	Shawn Davis	S	5-11	202	23	R	Florida
35	Ryquell Armstead	RB	5-11	220	25	3	Temple
38	Innis Gaines	S	6-1	202	23	R	TCU
40	Tipa Galeai	LB	6-5	229	24	1	Utah State
45	Bronson Kaufusi	TE	6-6	270	30	3	Brigham Young
48	Kabion Ento	CB	6-1	187	25	2	Colorado
57	Ray Wilborn	LB	6-3	230	24	1	Ball State
64	Ben Braden	G	6-6	329	27	2	Michigan
72	Auzoyah Alufohai	DL	6-4	313	25	1	West Georgia
78	Cole Van Lanen	T/G	6-4	305	23	R	Wisconsin
88	Juwann Winfree	WR	6-1	210	25	2	Colorado
98	Abdullah Anderson	DL	6-3	303	25	2	Bucknell
99	R.J. McIntosh	DL	6-5	286	25	4	Miami

Reserve/COVID-19 list

12	Aaron Rodgers	QB	6-2	225	37	17	California
24	Isaac Yiadom	CB	6-1	190	25	4	Boston College

Practice Squad/COVID-19 list

6	Kurt Benkert	QB	6-3	218	26	2	Virginia
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SEAHAWKS ROSTER

Active

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	D.J. Reed	CB	5-9	193	24	4	Kansas State
4	Michael Dickson	P	6-2	208	25	4	Texas
5	Jason Myers	K	5-10	190	30	7	Marist
6	Quandre Diggs	FS	5-9	197	28	7	Texas
7	Geno Smith	QB	6-3	221	31	9	West Virginia
8	Carlos Dunlap II	LB	6-6	285	32	12	Florida
10	Benson Mayowa	LB	6-3	252	30	9	Idaho
14	DK Metcalf	WR	6-4	235	23	3	Ole Miss
16	Tyler Lockett	WR	5-10	182	29	7	Kansas State
17	Jacob Eason	QB	6-6	231	23	2	Washington
18	Freddie Swain	WR	6-0	199	23	2	Florida
19	Penny Hart	WR	5-8	180	25	2	Georgia State
20	Rashaad Penny	RB	5-11	220	25	4	San Diego St.
22	Tre Brown	CB	5-10	185	24	R	Oklahoma
23	Sidney Jones IV	CB	6-0	181	25	4	Washington
25	Travis Homer	RB	5-10	202	23	3	Miami
26	Ryan Neal	SS	6-3	200	25	2	Southern Illinois
27	Marquise Blair	FS	6-1	196	24	3	Utah
28	Ugo Amadi	FS	5-9	201	24	3	Oregon
29	John Reid	CB	5-10	187	25	2	Penn State
31	DeeJay Dallas	RB	5-10	214	23	2	Miami (Fla.)
33	Jamal Adams	SS	6-1	213	26	5	LSU
36	Blessuan Austin	DB	6-1	198	25	3	Rutgers
41	Alex Collins	RB	5-10	210	27	4	Arkansas
44	Nick Bellore	LB	6-1	250	32	11	Central Michigan
51	Kerry Hyder Jr.	DE	6-2	275	30	6	Texas Tech
52	Darrell Taylor	DE	6-4	267	24	2	Tennessee
54	Bobby Wagner	LB	6-0	242	31	10	Utah State
56	Jordyn Brooks	LB	6-0	240	24	2	Texas Tech
57	Cody Barton	LB	6-2	237	24	3	Utah
59	Jon Rhattigan	LB	6-0	236	22	R	Army
61	Kyle Fuller	C/G	6-5	320	27	3	Baylor
64	Dakoda Shepley	C	6-5	290	26	1	University of British Columbia
66	Gabe Jackson	G	6-3	335	30	8	Mississippi State
68	Damien Lewis	G	6-2	327	24	2	LSU
69	Tyler Ott	LS	6-3	253	29	7	Harvard
72	Brandon Shell	T	6-5	324	29	6	South Carolina
73	Jamarco Jones	T	6-4	293	25	4	Ohio State
74	Jake Curhan	OT	6-6	316	23	R	California

76	Duane Brown	T	6-4	315	36	14	Virginia Tech
77	Ethan Pocic	C/G	6-6	320	26	5	LSU
78	Stone Forsythe	OT	6-8	307	23	R	Florida
81	Gerald Everett	TE	6-3	240	27	5	South Alabama
84	Colby Parkinson	TE	6-7	251	22	2	Stanford
85	Tyler Mabry	TE	6-3	247	24	1	Maryland
89	Will Dissly	TE	6-4	265	25	4	Washington
90	Bryan Mone	DT	6-3	345	26	3	Michigan
91	L.J. Collier	DE	6-2	291	26	3	TCU
92	Robert Nkemdiche	DT	6-3	296	27	4	Mississippi
94	Rasheem Green	DE	6-4	279	24	4	USC
97	Poona Ford	DT	5-11	310	25	4	Texas
98	Alton Robinson	DE	6-3	259	23	2	Syracuse
99	Al Woods	DT	6-4	330	34	11	LSU
Reserve/Injured							
1	Dee Eskridge	WR	5-9	190	24	R	Western Michigan
3	Russell Wilson	QB	5-11	215	32	10	Wisconsin
15	John Ursua	WR	5-9	182	27	2	Hawaii
32	Chris Carson	RB	5-11	222	27	5	Oklahoma State
39	Nigel Warrior	CB	6-1	197	23	1	Tennessee
48	Marcus Webb	DE	6-2	247	24	R	Troy
55	Ben Burr-Kirven	LB	6-0	230	24	3	Washington
Practice Squad							
9	Jake Luton	QB	6-6	224	25	2	Oregon State
11	Cody Thompson	WR	6-2	205	25	1	Toledo
13	Phillip Dorsett II	WR	5-10	192	28	7	Miami (Fla.)
30	Mike Jackson	CB	6-1	210	24	2	Miami
34	Josh Johnson	RB	5-9	209	23	R	Louisiana-Monroe
38	Gavin Heslop	CB	6-0	197	23	1	Stony Brook
43	Aaron Donkor	LB	6-1	240	26	1	Arkansas State
49	Ryan Izzo	TE	6-5	255	25	4	Florida State
58	Tanner Muse	LB	6-2	227	25	2	Clemson
60	Phil Haynes	G	6-4	322	26	3	Wake Forest
62	Jarrod Hewitt	DT	6-1	290	24	R	Virginia Tech
62	Pier-Olivier Lestage	G	6-3	312	24	R	Montreal
65	Brad Lundblade	C	6-3	295	26	1	Oklahoma State
67	Myles Adams	DT	6-2	290	23	1	Rice
75	Greg Eiland	T	6-8	321	23	R	Mississippi State
87	Aaron Fuller	WR	5-11	188	24	1	Washington
88	Cade Johnson	WR	5-10	184	23	R	South Dakota State

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GAME VITALS PACKERS DEPTH CHART

GREEN BAY PACKERS (7-2)
vs. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS (3-5)
WHEN: 3:25, Sunday
WHERE: Lambeau Field
TV: CBS
RADIO: 620 AM (WTMJ), Sirius
Satellite Radio (WTMJ feed)

THE SERIES

Packers vs. Seahawks
All-time, regular season: 11-8
All-time, postseason: 3-1
All-time, at Packers: 12-3
Streaks: The Green Bay Packers have won four of the past five games against the Seattle Seahawks. Green Bay has won its last nine home games against Seattle.
Last meeting, regular season: Jan. 12, 2021, Packers won 28-23 at Lambeau Field in a NFC Divisional Round playoff game. Quarterback Aaron Rodgers threw for 243 yards and two touchdowns, while running back Aaron Jones rushed for two more scores.

SCHEDULE

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

OFFENSE

RB

Aaron Jones
A.J. Dillon



QB

Aaron Rodgers
Jordan Love



WR

Davante Adams
Equanimeous St. Brown



TE

Josiah Deguara
Tyler Davis



RT

Billy Turner
Dennis Kelly



RG

Royce Newman
Lucas Patrick



C

Lucas Patrick
Jake Hanson



LG

Jon Runyan
Lucas Patrick



LT

Elgton Jenkins
Yosh Nijman



TE

Mercedes Lewis
Dominique Dafney



WR

Allen Lazard
Randall Cobb



DEFENSE

CB

Kevin King
Chandon Sullivan



DE

Dean Lowry
Tyler Lancaster



NT

Kenny Clark
T.J. Slaton



DE

Kingsley Keke
Jack Heflin



CB

Eric Stokes
Rasul Douglas



OLB

Preston Smith
Whitney Mercilus



ILB

Krys Barnes
Oren Burks



ILB

De'Vondre Campbell
Ty Summers



OLB

Rashan Gary
Jonathan Garvin



S

Adrian Amos
Vernon Scott



S

Darnell Savage
Henry Black



FYI

Rosters and depth charts are accurate as of Nov. 8, 8:15 p.m.



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SEAHAWKS DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE



WR
DK Metcalf
Freddie Swain



RT
Brandon Shell
Jake Curhan



RG
Gabe Jackson
Jamarco Jones



C
Kyle Fuller
Ethan Pocic



LG
Damien Lewis
Jamarco Jones



LT
Duane Brown
Jamarco Jones



TE
Gerald Everett
Will Dissly



QB
Russell Wilson
Geno Smith



FB
Nick Bellore



RB
Alex Collins
Rashaad Penny



WR
Tyler Lockett
Penny Hart

DEFENSE



CB
Sidney Jones IV
Tre Brown



EDGE
Rasheem Green
Carlos Dunlap II



NT
Poona Ford
Bryan Mone



DT
Al Woods
Bryan Mone



DE
Kerry Hyder Jr.
Robert Nkemdiche



CB
D.J. Reed
Blessuan Austin



OLB
Benson Mayowa
Darrell Taylor



MLB
Bobby Wagner
Nick Bellore



OLB
Jordyn Brooks
Cody Barton



S
Jamal Adams
Ryan Neal



S
Quandre Diggs
Marquise Blair

SCHEDULE

Sunday's Games
 Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, noon
 Tampa Bay at Washington, noon
 Atlanta at Dallas, noon
 New Orleans at Tennessee, noon
 Jacksonville at Indianapolis, noon
 Detroit at Pittsburgh, noon
 Cleveland at New England, noon
 Minnesota at L.A. Chargers, 3:05 p.m.
 Carolina at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Denver, 3:25 p.m.
 Seattle at Green Bay, 3:25 p.m.
 Kansas City at Las Vegas, 7:20 p.m.

Monday's Game
 L.A. Rams at San Francisco, 7:15 p.m.

Teams on bye: Chicago, Cincinnati, Houston, N.Y. Giants

Thursday's Game
 New England at Atlanta, 7:20 p.m.

STANDINGS

NFC East					AFC East				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
Dallas	6	2	0		Buffalo	5	3	0	
Philadelphia	3	6	0		New England	5	4	0	
N.Y. Giants	3	6	0		N.Y. Jets	2	6	0	
Washington	2	6	0		Miami	2	7	0	
North					North				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
Green Bay	7	2	0		Baltimore	6	2	0	
Minnesota	3	5	0		Pittsburgh	5	3	0	
Chicago	3	6	0		Cleveland	5	4	0	
Detroit	0	8	0		Cincinnati	5	4	0	
South					South				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
Tampa Bay	6	2	0		Tennessee	7	2	0	
New Orleans	5	3	0		Indianapolis	4	5	0	
Atlanta	4	4	0		Jacksonville	2	6	0	
Carolina	4	5	0		Houston	1	8	0	
West					West				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
Arizona	8	1	0		L.A. Chargers	5	3	0	
L.A. Rams	7	2	0		Las Vegas	5	3	0	
Seattle	3	5	0		Kansas City	5	4	0	
San Francisco	3	5	0		Denver	5	4	0	

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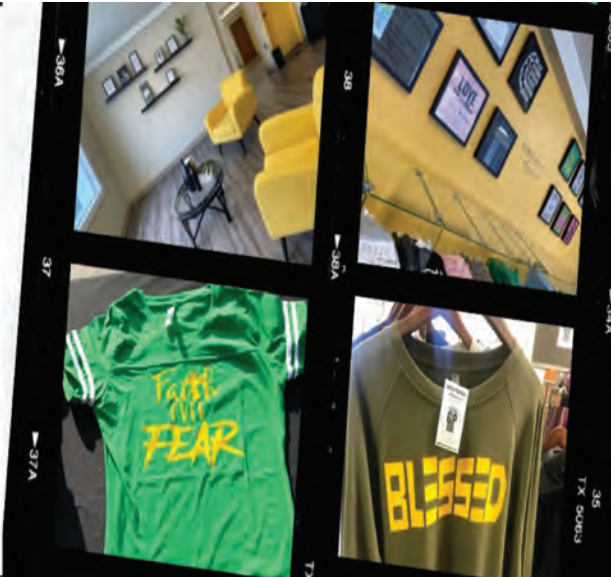
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Bacardi Rum Silver or Gold
Jose Cuervo Tequila
Jameson Irish Whiskey

Tito's Handmade Vodka \$28⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Bacardi Rum \$19⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Jose Cuervo Tequila \$29⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Jameson Irish Whiskey \$39⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

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BEAT The Expert



Morgan Rode
NEW Media Sports Editor

Week 10 Games: Sunday, Nov. 14

Teams on bye:
Chicago, Cincinnati, Houston & NY Giants

Baltimore @ Miami Thurs., Nov. 11
Atlanta @ Dallas
Jacksonville @ Indianapolis
Cleveland @ New England
Detroit @ Pittsburgh
New Orleans @ Tennessee
Tampa Bay @ Washington
Carolina @ Arizona
Minnesota @ LA Chargers
Philadelphia @ Denver
Seattle @ Green Bay
Kansas City @ Las Vegas
LA Rams @ San Francisco..... Mon., Nov. 15

Tie Breaker Game: Buffalo @ NY Jets

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
God's Purpose Apparel	7-7	92-44
Shawano Seasons Restaurant	7-7	89-47
Tower Clock Eye Center	7-7	89-47
Buss Automotive.....	7-7	88-48
Tim Murphy	8-6	88-48
22 Shell.....	8-6	87-49
Morgan Rode	8-6	86-50
Dennis Brei.....	6-8	85-51
Hawkeye Hearth & Home	5-9	85-51

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
Shawano Place Assisted Living.....	7-7	84-52
Idell Johnston, State Farm Ins. Agent.....	8-6	84-52
P & D Sales & Service	7-7	82-54
B & C Auto Recycling.....	7-7	81-55
Smokey Joe's	3-11	81-55
Gehm's Club 117	7-7	78-58
Cirrinity/Wittenberg Telephone.....	7-7	74-62
Senn Insurance.....	6-8	72-64
Iverson's Piggly Wiggly	5-9	71-65



This Week's Winner:
Idell Johnston, State Farm Agent



Morgan Rode
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score : Buffalo 31 @ NY Jets 17



Tim Murphy
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Las Vegas	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 30 @ NY Jets 16



Dennis Brei
Oconto County
Times Herald

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 27 @ NY Jets 13

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B&C Auto
Recycling

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Las Vegas	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 31 @ NY Jets 28



Iverson's Staff
Iverson's
Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Carolina	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
New England	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 28 @ NY Jets 14



Amber
Smokey Joe's
& JDoggs

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
New England	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 23 @ NY Jets 17



Robert Buss
Buss
Automotive

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Las Vegas	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 31 @ NY Jets 17



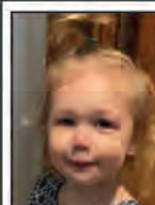
Dena
P&D Sales
& Service

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 40 @ NY Jets 17



Caroline
Idell Johnston
State Farm Agent

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 28 @ NY Jets 10



Scott Nyman
Cirinity

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Atlanta	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Detroit	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Las Vegas	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 28 @ NY Jets 10



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Patty Lasher
Shawano Seasons
Restaurant

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
New England	Philadelphia	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
New Orleans	Las Vegas	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 42 @ NY Jets 10



Jim Wiegand
Tower Clock
Eye Center

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	Minnesota	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 27 @ Jets 12



Russ
Gehm's
Club 117

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Jacksonville	LA Chargers	
New England	Philadelphia	
Pittsburgh	Seattle	
New Orleans	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 25 @ NY Jets 17



Shane Senn
Senn
Insurance

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
New England	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Las Vegas	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 38 @ NY Jets 10



Brenda
22 Shell

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 38 @ NY Jets 17



Chris
God's Purpose
Apparel

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Carolina	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
New England	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 31 @ NY Jets 10



Aaron
Shawano
Place

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
Cleveland	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
Tennessee	Kansas City	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 21 @ NY Jets 13



Dale
Hawkeye
Hearth & Home

This Week's Picks:

Baltimore	Tampa Bay	LA Rams
Dallas	Arizona	
Indianapolis	LA Chargers	
New England	Denver	
Pittsburgh	Green Bay	
New Orleans	Las Vegas	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Buffalo 30 @ NY Jets 20

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Green Bay Football 2021 Season			
SEPTEMBER - REGULAR SEASON			
Sunday, September 12	3:25 pm	@ New Orleans Saints	FOX
Monday, September 20	7:15 pm	DETROIT LIONS	ESPN
Sunday, September 26	7:20 pm	@ San Francisco 49ers	NBC
OCTOBER			
Sunday, October 03	3:25 pm	Pittsburgh Steelers (GOLD)	CBS
Sunday, October 10	NOON*	@ Cincinnati Bengals	FOX
Sunday, October 17	NOON*	@ Chicago Bears	FOX
Sunday, October 24	NOON*	WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM	FOX
Thursday, October 28	7:30 pm	@ Arizona Cardinals	FOX
NOVEMBER			
Sunday, November 07	3:25 pm*	@ Kansas City Chiefs	FOX
Sunday, November 14	3:25 pm*	SEATTLE SEAHAWKS	CBS
Sunday, November 21	NOON*	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX
Sunday, November 28	3:25 pm*	LOS ANGELES RAMS (GOLD)	FOX
DECEMBER			
BYE WEEK			
Sunday, December 12	7:20 pm*	CHICAGO BEARS	NBC
Sunday, December 19	NOON*	@ Baltimore Ravens	FOX
Saturday, December 25	3:30 pm	CLEVELAND BROWNS	FOX
JANUARY			
Sunday, January 02	7:20 pm*	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	NBC
Sunday, January 09	NOON*	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX

NOTEBOOK

By **BILL HUBER**

Correspondent

Barnes' breakout

On Oct. 7, the Green Bay Packers signed former Pro Bowl linebacker Jaylon Smith.

"Elite," is how Smith described his game a day later.

"I believe every player has their doubters but, for me, everything I've done up to this point has been legit and I know what kind of player I am," Smith added. "The guys know what kind of player I am. The coaches know. I'm a team guy, and I'm a guy that's going to add value. So, honestly, I'm just head down, working and, when I get an opportunity, producing is the name of the game. So, I'm locked in and I'm ready to add some value."

On Oct. 17, Smith made his Packers debut and played 17 snaps against the Chicago Bears. Smith's playing time was taken from Krys Barnes, who played 47 snaps in week one and at least 23 snaps in three of the first four games. Against the Bears, Barnes played only 13 snaps.

Ultimately, the Smith Reclamation Project didn't work out. After playing 10 snaps against Washington the following week, he was a healthy inactive at Arizona and released last week.

Given a fresh opportunity, Barnes has taken full advantage. He was one of Green Bay's best defensive players while logging 42 snaps against Kansas City.

"I thought Krys was outstanding," coach Matt LaFleur said on Monday. "I thought he was physical. Just did his job, was flying around. I was super-impressed with him. I thought that was his best game he played as a Packer."

Having ceded the every-down role to standout veteran De'Vondre Campbell, Barnes recorded a season-high nine tackles against the Chiefs. Among the splash plays: a goal-line tackle of running back Darrel Williams to momentarily prevent a touchdown on the opening series, a thumping stop near the goal line to prevent a touchdown catch by Williams late in the first half and a tackle for loss against Williams on Kansas City's final possession.

"As a competitor, you always want to be on the field," Barnes said. "But it's such a team game, whoever's on that field, I want (him) to be successful, make plays for this team and help us get a chance to win. At the end of the day, no matter what my feelings are, those feelings don't help me do my job. So, I've got to push whatever feelings I



Green Bay Packers players celebrate a game-sealing takeaway during the game against the Arizona Cardinals on Oct. 28 in Glendale, Arizona. The Packers' defense will look to keep its strong play going against the Seattle Seahawks this weekend.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

have to the side. Jaylon Smith's a great player, he came in and did some great things for us, but that doesn't affect me. I've got to continue to do my job and continue to compete."

Bungling the blitz

This will be a fascinating and unprecedented week for Green Bay. So long as Aaron Rodgers is symptom-free and given the thumb's up by a physician, he'll be cleared from the NFL's COVID-19 protocol on Saturday and able to play against Seattle on Sunday.

During an appearance on The Pat McAfee Show on Friday, Rodgers said he was feeling better after dealing with some early symptoms. So long as Rodgers keeps trending in that direction, he'll be back after a one-game absence. It will be an odd week, with Rodgers' isolation continuing throughout the practice week.

Rodgers has played without practicing before. In 2018, for instance, he suffered a knee injury in the opener against Chicago. He didn't practice before games against Minnesota and Washington but started, as usual. At least he was in the building and on the practice field before those games, though. This week, his preparation will be done via Zoom.

"I have never been through this situation," LaFleur said.

Seattle will prepare to face Rodgers, coach Pete Carroll said.

"It is an interesting situation," he told reporters on Monday. "We're going to prepare like we're going to see their best guys, and that's the way

we'll go, and we'll expect that we'll see Aaron back out there. If that's not the case, then we'll have seen the game of Love and we'll know more about what we need to do there, but we've got to prepare for their best guys. And the way it looks, protocols and format and all that, he should be back out there."

While LaFleur will prepare specific packages for both quarterbacks, Seahawks defensive coordinator Ken Norton will be doing the same. If Love plays, it's certain to be a blitz-heavy scheme. Kansas City destroyed Love with one blitz after another last week. According to Pro Football Focus, Love was 7-of-18 for 40 yards and one touchdown vs. the blitz. The touchdown and half the yards came on Green Bay's final offensive snap, a 20-yard connection to Allen Lazard.

The NFL is a copycat league. Will Norton attack, regardless of the quarterback, to see if Green Bay can handle it, or will he play it more conservatively if Rodgers starts because of his experience, ability to adjust plays and downfield accuracy?

LaFleur took the blame for Love's poor performance — mostly.

"When you have six blockers and they're bringing seven, or you have seven blockers and they're bringing eight, they've got you outnumbered. So, you have to have something within your scheme so that you can beat the blitz," LaFleur said. "We just didn't have enough of that dialed up. But, if you make them pay early in the game, you don't see that anymore."

Barry's bunch

LaFleur's hiring of defensive coordinator Joe Barry came under fire given Barry's defensive rankings in prior stops in Washington and Detroit. However, Barry practically has been a miracle worker. Even with injuries leading to extended absences for All-Pro cornerback Jaire Alexander and Pro Bowl outside linebacker Za'Darius Smith, the Packers enter week 10 ranked sixth in points allowed (20 per game) and fifth in total defense (321.2 per game).

Against Kansas City, the Packers were without Alexander, Smith and rookie cornerback Eric Stokes for the entire game and defensive tackle Kenny Clark for most of the game. And yet, the Packers held the Chiefs to one touchdown and limited them to a Patrick Mahomes-era low of 237 yards.

"I thought our defense as a whole played outstanding," LaFleur said. "That's an explosive offense. We all know that. Outside of the first drive, our defense did as well as you'd ever expect anybody to do. I think anytime you hold an offense like that to 13 points, you should win the game. I thought our defense was flying around. I thought they were physical. I thought they did a great job of handling that whole situation."

"We were really shorthanded on defense going into the game. We only had 21 guys dressed, and now (with Stokes' pregame knee injury) you're down to 20 before you even kick off. Joe Barry, the rest of our defensive coaches, did just an unbelievable job."



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Fresh Water For Life



Green Bay Packers quarterback Jordan Love, right, scrambles away from Kansas City Chiefs defensive tackle Chris Jones during the team's matchup on Nov. 7 in Kansas City, Missouri.

CHARLIE RIEDEL | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Packers' special teams let down Love in loss to Chiefs

By DAVE SKRETTA

The Associated Press

The Green Bay Packers did all they could defensively to help out Jordan Love in his first career start.

Too bad for Love their special teams weren't on board.

In fact, the Packers were so bad on kicks and punts in a 13-7 loss to the Chiefs on Nov. 7 it almost seemed as if they were trying to sabotage the backup quarterback, who was forced to start when Aaron Rodgers tested positive for COVID-19 this week.

There was the 40-yard field-goal attempt that Mason Crosby, their erstwhile sure-footed kicker, missed late in the first quarter that would have made it a 7-3 game, and the 37-yard attempt by Crosby that Chiefs defensive end Alex Okafor swatted away early in the second quarter as Kansas City took a 13-0 lead into the break.

There was the punt that bounced off downfield blocker Malik Taylor, which Kansas City recovered and turned into an easy field goal, and another punt early in the third quarter that Amari Rodgers muffed but was fortunate to recover himself.

Aaron Rodgers would have struggled just as much as Love to overcome that mess.

"I mean, obviously we could have used those six points," Packers coach Matt LaFleur said afterward, "and we basically gave them points when we fumbled the ball. You can't have that happen."

Indeed, the two missed field goals proved to be the difference in the final score.

Not that Love did much to make Green Bay brass feel good about spending a first-round pick on him last year.

He was 19 of 34 for 190 yards with a touchdown in the closing minutes, which at least gave Green Bay (7-2) a chance to keep its seven-game winning streak alive. But he also threw an interception near the Kansas City goal line a few minutes earlier, another mistake that cost the Packers a chance to escape Arrowhead Stadium with a win.

"I mean, what it comes down to is making plays," said Love, the Packers' first-round pick in the 2020 draft, who had thrown just seven regular-season passes before Sunday. "I think if we would have been able to hit one

of the plays against their all-out blitz, you wouldn't have seen it as much. That's all it takes is the one play. But I didn't do enough."

That doesn't mean Love doesn't think he can the next time.

Asked whether he thinks he's ready to be a full-time NFL quarterback, Love replied: "Yes, I do."

Still, the performance puts the Packers in quite a predicament.

Rodgers did little to endear himself to the organization, its fans and the rest of the league this week when it came out that he was unvaccinated — despite claiming to be "immunized" against COVID-19 earlier in the year. His loose adherence to NFL rules for unvaccinated players means there could be additional punishment coming down the line.

His future in Green Bay beyond this season already was murky after he nearly departed this past offseason.

More immediately, there's the fact that Rodgers must test negative to return by Saturday at the earliest. That means a tight window for him to play against Seattle next week; otherwise, Love would get his second career start.

"Jordan will get the reps and we'll see where we're at," LaFleur said. "(Rodgers) is our starting quarterback. It's just, I think he's gone through enough. Yeah, you like guys to practice all week long but I don't think it's absolutely imperative to do that. We just have to make sure he's well in tune with our plan."

At least the Packers' defense did what it could against Kansas City to help Love out on Sunday.

They held Patrick Mahomes to 20-of-37 passing for 166 yards — the fewest in a complete game in his career — and the high-flying Chiefs offense to 237 yards in all. They stuffed them on fourth-and-1 in the first half, held on third-and-goal at the Green Bay 4 to force a field goal later and forced a punt on third-and-1 late in the third quarter.

It was the kind of performance that — at least with Rodgers under center — is usually enough.

"Any time you can hold an offense that explosive to 13 points, I think you had a great night," Packers running back Aaron Jones said. "Most of the time we should win the game when we hold a team to 13 points."

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A green, fluffy monster head is the central focus of the title. It has a single, large, red eye with a white pupil and a mischievous, slightly curved mouth. The head is positioned between the letters 'M' and 'N' of the word 'MONSTER'.

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TRAINING THE FUTURE WORKFORCE

Sharon Barclay, left, takes the "blood pressure" of a training dummy while Ellie Petrella monitors its vitals in a simulation lab at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay. The healthcare industry is one of many in the New North region that faces a challenge finding enough workers for available positions. SEE STORY, PAGE 4.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

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Mission: Finding and keeping the workforce of the future

New North aims to bolster economic development over 18 counties

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

Businesses and municipal governments continue to struggle with a basic challenge: There are more jobs available than people to fill them.

“Every discipline that we have, everyone is short of healthcare workers,” said Scott Anderson, dean of health services and education at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. “In some disciplines, signing bonuses are back.”

Not uncommon is the story of a student who became an intern at a local clinic and was asked if she could stay on after the internship was completed, Anderson said.

NWTC has a variety of programs leading to associate degrees or technical diplomas in the field of health care. About 50% of the training is done in clinical settings and the rest is in simulation labs like the one at NWTC’s main Green Bay campus or Regional Learning Centers like the one in Shawano.

New North, the regional organization that provides marketing and economic development services for 18 counties in Northeast Wisconsin, is in the thick of trying to address the challenge.

“There’s just not enough people to fill the roles and the openings that we have here in the state from an employment standpoint,” said Rebecca Deschane, vice president of talent development at New North.

Deschane recently delivered a well-received presentation at the Wisconsin Counties Association annual conference about recruiting and maintaining the work force of the future.

“What are some of the things you can do at the county level to help create that environment where



Rebecca Deschane is the vice president of talent development at New North, the 18-county marketing and economic development organization serving northeast Wisconsin.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

people want to come,” Deschane said. “How do we create a place that’s going to attract people to you but more importantly how are you going to retain those who already call that home?”

Especially in the northernmost counties, New North has an aging population that’s shrinking all the time, she said. That, and the pandemic-related initiatives that kept people working from home for months, have had a debilitating impact on the job market.

Three key challenges were magnified during the pandemic, Deschane said: child care, transportation, and housing.

For many workers, the lack of affordable child care can be a barrier to

employment. Access to public transportation or an alternative is also a challenge, especially in rural areas, and Deschane told the county leaders that understanding housing availability and needs is a key to growing the local workforce.

In the New North region, she highlighted Winnebago Catch-A-Ride, a volunteer program to help people who are not connected to public transportation get to and from work. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage and can select the schedule that works best for them.

Deschane came to New North earlier this year after eight years with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp., most recently as talent initiatives coordinator in a joint ef-

fort with the University of Wisconsin System.

Her role at the state agency, and now at New North, has been to connect people who have similar challenges and working toward a solution, sharing with each other to reduce duplication of efforts, she said.

“We have a lot of great things that are happening, but a lot of times they’re happening at a very small level with a small group of folks and other people don’t know about them,” Deschane said.

New North, which covers a wide area, has been exploring ways to share ideas, share training opportunities and just have conversations across the region, she said.

“If we all know what each other is doing, all of a sudden you have that organic growth of the engagement that comes from it,” Deschane said.

The organization obtained a \$500,000 CARES Act funding grant to investigate broadband access across the region, identified as a core business need. The first step is a survey open through Nov. 12 that has received a tremendous response, she said.

New North is working with some consultants and will share the results with counties and providers with a goal of ensuring that broadband is accessible, reliable and available for all across the region.

During her presentation Deschane shared several talent-based initiatives in which New North is collaborating with other private and public organizations.

New North Hires Heroes is a partnership with Mission Wisconsin,

a veteran-owned business that supports transitioning service members and their families as they’re getting ready to leave the military, to connect them with communities and job opportunities.

“We know veterans have those skills that many companies are looking for, especially many of the companies and industries here in the New North region,” Deschane said.

Another initiative is Gener8tor Upskilling, a virtual rapid “reskilling” program for people looking for jobs in high-demand roles in their communities or working remotely for companies across the country. The program supports individuals who were most negatively impacted by pandemic – the hospitality sector, restaurant industry, people who lost their jobs – and retrains them in new fields.

The initiative, in collaboration with Microsoft, the Steve Stricker

Foundation and Thrivent, was recognized as the top 2021 talent initiative in Community and Economic Development by the Wisconsin Economic Development Association.

Deschane said New North is also working with the Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESA) on a regional career pathway program, to help convince students coming out of high school about their available options.

“How do we help students in our K-12 schools better understand what careers are available to them here in our region across multiple industry areas,” she said.

She worked with CESA and industry organizations to identify four or five key employment areas and job growth opportunities.

The 2020 U.S. Census found that the region’s population has grown by 50,000 over the past decade, and more diverse – a 46% increase in the

Hispanic population and 61% more African Americans, for example, she said.

New North has submitted applications for Workforce Innovation Grant through the state of Wisconsin for building out ONE New North (Opportunity North for Equity). Deschane said the effort would help create a space and engagement strategies for recruiting Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) workers.

“How do we do a better job of recruiting BIPOC and under-represented individuals into manufacturing?” she said.

Deschane said she is working with manufacturing alliances to do specific training for new job seekers, people coming out of pandemic looking for more stable career opportunities, and those pivoting to new careers.



Northeast Wisconsin Technical College student Sharon Barclay works with a “patient” in a simulation lab at the school’s Green Bay campus. About half of NWTC’s training occurs in labs like this one and half in clinic settings, according to Scott Anderson, dean of Health Services and Education.

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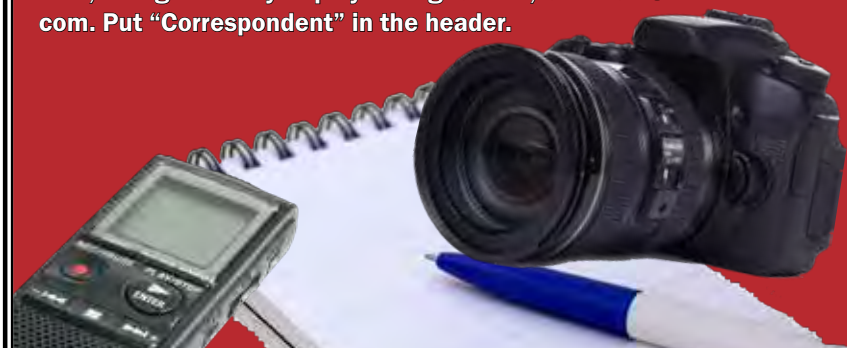
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US employers shrugged off virus and stepped up hiring

By **CHRISTOPHER RUGABER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — America's employers accelerated their hiring last month, adding a solid 531,000 jobs, the most since July and a sign that the recovery from the pandemic recession is overcoming a virus-induced slowdown.

The Nov. 5 report from the Labor Department also showed that the unemployment rate fell to 4.6% last month from 4.8% in September. That is a comparatively low level though still well above the pre-pandemic jobless rate of 3.5%. And the job gains in August and September weren't as weak as initially reported: The government increased its estimate of hiring for those two months by a hefty combined 235,000 jobs.

All told, the figures point to an economy that is steadily recovering from the pandemic recession, with healthy consumer spending prompting companies in nearly every industry to add workers. Though the effects of COVID-19 are still causing severe supply shortages, heightening inflation and keeping many people out of the workforce, employers are finding gradually more success in filling near record-high job postings.

"This is the kind of recovery we can get when we are not sidelined by a surge in COVID cases," said Nick Bunker, director of economic research at the employment website Indeed. By most barometers, the economic recovery appears solidly on track. Services companies in such

areas as retail, banking and warehousing have reported a sharp jump in sales. Sales of new and existing homes surged last month. And consumer confidence rose in October after three straight declines.

At the same time, though, the nation remains 4.2 million jobs short of the number it had before the pandemic flattened the economy in March 2020. The effects of the virus are still discouraging some people from traveling, shopping, eating out and attending entertainment venues.

In October, the pickup in hiring was spread across nearly every major industry, with only government employers reporting a job loss, mostly in education. Shipping and warehousing companies added 54,000 jobs. The battered leisure and hospitality sector, which includes, restaurants, bars, hotels and entertainment venues, gained 164,000. Manufac-

turers, despite their struggles with supply shortages, added 60,000, the most since June 2020.

And employers, who have been competing to fill jobs from a diminished pool of applicants, raised wages at a solid clip: Average hourly pay jumped 4.9% in October compared with a year earlier, up from 4.6% the previous month. Even a gain that strong, though, is barely keeping pace with recent surges in consumer inflation.

Those price increases pose a headwind for the economy. Higher costs for food, heating oil, rents and furniture have burdened millions of families. Prices rose 4.4% in September compared with 12 months earlier, the sharpest such jump in three decades.

Job prospects are brightening even for people who have been out of work for prolonged periods. The

number of long-term unemployed — people who have been jobless for six months or more — has fallen sharply in recent months, to 2.3 million in October from 4.2 million in April. That's still double the pre-recession total. But it's an encouraging sign because employers are typically wary of hiring people who haven't held jobs for an extended time.

At the same time, disparities in the job market have persisted. The Black unemployment rate was unchanged in October at 7.9%, for example, while for white workers, it fell to 4% from 4.2%. The Latino jobless rate dropped to 5.9% from 6.3%.

And though white-collar jobs in professional services like information technology, engineering and architecture are nearly back to their pre-pandemic employment levels, leisure and hospitality still has 1.4 million fewer jobs.

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Gun Hunting

Guide



NEW MEDIA INC.

2021

Enjoy every hunting opportunity you get

Avid hunters can be in the woods for several months a year if they wanted to.



MORGAN RODE

Take deer hunting for instance. The archery and crossbow season begins in mid-September and runs into January.

There's a youth hunt in early October before the gun seasons kick in.

The nine-day gun season is in late November, while muzzle-loader season is in late November and early December. There's also antlerless hunting opportunities in December.

That's a lot of opportunities to hunt and successfully harvest a deer, but there's also some hunters that can only get out a few days a year.

Whether you get to hunt several

days a week or several times a year, it's important to try and enjoy every minute of hunting you can get.

Filling a tag is the goal, but not filling them can really wear a person out, especially if you are able to hunt plenty of times.

I've found that the best way to view punching tags is as the ultimate high of hunting.

Not every time out in the woods is supposed to result in a harvest and punched tag. It's called hunting, and not killing or harvesting, for a reason.

The next highest success of a hunt is simply seeing the target animal — or any form of wildlife.

There's a chance to see everyday wildlife like squirrels or rabbits, but getting away from town and the rest of civilization can also turn into encounters with things like bears, coyotes or wolves.

So what happens when you get skunked on a hunt and see a whole lot of nothing? It's easy to get frustrated after those hunts, so I've tried to find any sources of happi-

ONLINE

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ness I can.

It could be listening to the woods wake up and hearing birds start chirping as the sun rises.

It could be just taking in the natural beauty the outdoors provides.

Sometimes, hunting is just a chance to take a breather from your everyday life.

I've found that perfectly calm days in the woods is one of the most relaxing things.

Personally, I've had a wide array of deer hunts this year.

There's been a few days that have resulted in seeing several deer and a couple that ended with no sightings at all.

Through it all, I've been able to walk out of the woods with a smile on my face.

On deer-less hunts, it was a chance take a break from work while taking in the sights and

sounds of the woods. Hunts with deer encounters were just a bonus. I'm still waiting for the ultimate high of hunting and being able to fill a tag.

Hopefully, I'll be able to fill a tag or two, but really I'm just looking forward to the next time I can hit the woods again.

Before you know it, the season will have come to an end and then we'll just be left dreaming of the year to come.

So whether you get the chance to embark on hunts several times the rest of the year, or only get out once more, do whatever you can to enjoy the hunt.

Enjoy the beauty of the outdoors and the sights, sounds and smells it provides.

If you see the animal you're after, that's a great day.

If you're able to fill a tag, enjoy it all and cherish every second of the harvest.

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

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Ammo shortage means making every shot count

Prices for ammo have skyrocketed

By ROSS BIELEMA
Correspondent

You've purchased a top-notch deer rifle with a scope to match. You have the best clothing, knife, backpack, ATV and pickup truck that money can buy. Leave out one important item and your hunt is done.

If you'll been looking for ammo the past few years, you've probably been frustrated and angry. We all faced this problem at least once or twice before, but since the pandemic began, rounds of hunting ammo have been as scarce as the elusive Turdy Point Buck.

If you need a reason, there are plenty to choose from. Ammunition factory workers were sent home for a few months at the height of the pandemic in 2020, but most are back to work now and those plants are cranking out cartridges around the clock, according to industry sources.

Yes, Remington went bankrupt, filing for Chapter 11 protection for the second time on July 27, 2020, and a few months later, a judge divvied up the legendary company's assets. Vista Outdoor Inc. paid \$81.4 million for the ammunition portion of the business, and has been cranking out ammo almost from the start.

Record numbers of newcomers bought their first firearms in 2020 and 2021, fearing both the spontaneous rioting we saw in towns from Seattle to Kenosha, and the promised gun control laws from President Joe Biden and his allies.

Local sporting goods store managers explained some of the ramifications of ammo shortages for deer hunters this fall as well as some of the other



This .308 Match ammo is among the few hunting ammunition choices recently at the Fleet Farm store in Oshkosh. Hunters have faced an extreme ammo shortage the past few years, searching far and wide for popular deer hunting rounds like the .30-06, .270, 30-30, .308, .243 and most others. ROSS BIELEMA

impacts it has had on other shooting sports. It's also affected how they order ammo.

"The hunting ammo is very, very sparse right now," said Seth Gyldenvand, general manager at Dunham's in Shawano. "I get a little and it's gone almost immediately," noting he had a small amount of .30-06 and .243 that flew off the shelves quickly. "We've had no 30-30 ammo in a year and no .270 in forever."

His store, like so many chain stores in the state and country, have no real say in what's coming in and simply take what they can get and sell it fast, often for two to four times the price it was prior to the pandemic.

At Butch's Archery in rural Embarrass, which also sells new and used guns and ammo, manager Justin Steinke said he ordered about 10 times the normal amount of hunting ammo back in February and March, expecting to receive a fraction of his wholesale orders.

"I have not received 30-30 ammo for a year," Steinke said. "I have more orders than I can pay for. We all know we are not going to get all we ordered. They are just not arriving."

Some of his wholesalers will call him and say they can offer him a box of .30-06 here or three boxes of .308 there, when he would normally receive multiple 10-box cases of ammo.

One major contributor of the ammo shortage, according to Steinke and many other experts in national firearms magazines, is hoarding. Whenever hunters and other shooters find ammo, they'll buy it, even if they already have a good supply at home, Steinke noted.

"The consumers right now are their own worst enemies," he said. "People need to stop buying it."

Those who manage to find ammo they don't really need immediately also sell it on national online sites like Gun Broker or Guns America, often making 300 or 400 percent profits. This has happened in past years with .22 Long Rifle and .223 ammo, which ironically now seem to be in relatively good supply.

Some small retailers have even bought ammo from customers to stock their shelves, and Steinke noted that rarely seen brands from foreign lands are now showing up, too. For example, he has some imported ammo called PPU in .308 soft point for about \$24 per box of 20, which he says is similar in quality to Remington's Core-Lokt, an extremely popular hunting round.

"We are trying our best to hold our integrity with our prices," he said.

Wholesalers continue to raise prices and retailers must follow suit to maintain profit margins. A box of Core-Lokt .300 Winchester Magnum loads that sold for \$31 last year now wholesales for the same price, so he must charge \$41.

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Gillett hunting ranch makes antlered dreams come true

Apple Creek Whitetails
also conducting
ground-breaking
CWD research

By **ROSS BIELEMA**
Correspondent

There's a high-fence deer hunting ranch in rural Gillett that makes it easier for you to harvest the buck of a lifetime.

No matter what you think of hunting captive-bred trophies, there's something even bigger happening at Apple Creek Whitetails that could one day dramatically reduce or even end the spread of CWD, according to operations manager Jon Pieper.

When Chronic Wasting Disease showed up at the 1,500-acre hunting ranch and captive breeding operation in September 2016, it was the first time the disease was detected in Oconto County. A feeding and baiting ban was implemented that November.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources normally requires deer farms or ranches with CWD to quickly kill and dispose of the entire herd, Pieper explained. But he and owner Scott Follett were able to convince the DNR to instead allow research on the disease.

Now, scientists from Texas A&M, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other researchers use the hunting ranch as a living laboratory, and they've already made some amazing progress, according to Pieper.

For the past three to five years, Apple Creek has been using humic acid, a substance from decomposed rainforests that is collected in New Mexico, as both a deer food supplement and as a top dressing on the land, he explained. Humic acid is the only known substance found to kill the prions, or CWD proteins, that thrive in soil contaminated by CWD-infected deer and are spread to others.

"This would be amazing for the



A whitetail buck lays in front of the Apple Creek Whitetails sign in Gillett.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



A whitetail buck stands in the woods on the Apple Creek Whitetails property in Gillett.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

entire white-tailed deer industry, as well as wild deer," he said.

The other element of CWD research is isolating the genetic

code of CWD-resistant deer on the ranch, using methods that were previously used to combat scrapie, a similar disease that affects sheep. Scrapie is also a prion-based fatal degenerative disease called a TSE (transmissible spongiform encephalopathy).

The use of humic acid at Apple Creek seems to be working, Pieper said.

"We don't see the physical effects on our deer," he said, referring to the classic "wasting" symptoms (emaciation, dehydration, inability to stand).

Although the research is far from over, Pieper hopes for a day when humic acid can be applied to deer feed, and administered to wild deer by reversing the bans on baiting and feeding of deer (currently banned in 57 counties). Oconto County has only captive CWD-positive deer, while Shawano County has both wild and captive CWD-positive deer, according to a DNR map. Visit <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/bait.html> to see the counties with baiting and feeding bans.

"We take the blame for CWD,

but it was first found in wild elk,” he said.

Pieper added that there has never been a documented case of a human contracting CWD by eating CWD-infected meat.

Apple Creek offers three-day guided hunts for hunters of almost any age and ability. Pieper and his 14 other guides have had clients as young as age 5, and seven of their 37 stands (including heated box blinds as well as ladder or hang-on stands and pop-up blinds) are handicapped-accessible.

When you pay \$4,000 to \$15,000 for a hunt (the price is based on the scoring of the trophy you shoot), expect top-notch accommodations and meals.

Their lodge has six bedrooms, a Hillside Hideaway has three and a private cabin sleeps two. The leisurely hunt includes plenty of meals, time for sighting in your favorite rifle, bow, crossbow or muzzleloader, and relaxing. Meat processing is included, but the on-site taxidermy service is extra.

The ranch can handle 10 to 12 hunters at a time and sees about 200 hunters per season. The hunt itinerary and testimonials are included on the ranch's website at www.applecreekwhitetails.com.

The 100-acre captive breeding facility has about 30 generations of breeding “big on big.” Pieper said they maintain pedigrees on all their captive deer, much like prized hunting or show dogs. Although buck semen is bought and sold between other captive-breeding operations, it's actually the does that carry the buck's genetics. It can take three generations of breeding to duplicate a giant buck from the past.

Pieper, who has been with the ranch for 11 years, said he's gotten pretty good at judging trophy bucks in the field. In the past four years, he's never been more than 10 points off (deer are scored using the Safari Club International measurement system).

At Apple Creek, there's a 99% chance of seeing a trophy buck and a 90% chance of getting the one you want.

Here's another surprise: 90% of the deer there were born on the property and behave like wild deer. Of the estimated 2,000 total deer, some aren't seen until they wander out of the swampy areas during the rut this month.

“The high fence is there to keep other hunters out,” Pieper said. “All these deer act the same as a wild deer.”



Apple Creek Whitetails offers top-notch accommodations and meals along with its hunts.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

You don't need a hunting license or deer permits, since it's a game farm. And the season there lasts from mid-August through Feb. 1. That's because bucks start shedding their coveted antlers in January.

If you can't afford a hunt, you can buy some of the massive shed antlers, although it's rare to find a matching pair, Pieper said.

And if you just have a taste for venison but don't want the fuss or mess, you are welcome to dine on venison pizza, a venison bacon BLT or a venison brat at Apple Creek's new Primal Eats restaurant, which opened in May. Smoked brisket and pulled pork are signature dishes, too.

You can take some venison sausage, brats or sticks home, too, as Primal Eats brand deer products are made on site and available at Festival Foods. Primal Eats is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

With all those trophy deer wandering the oaks, pines and swamps of Apple Creek, what's the biggest buck taken there?

Would you believe the world-record SCI non-typical, a 5-year-old monster that scored 610 points.

Owner Follett took the trophy in 2013. You can see both the original rack and replicas at the ranch.



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Fall wolf hunt on hold after judge's ruling

DNR said to have never made a permanent rule to regulate wolf hunt

By **ROSS BIELEMA**
Correspondent

Wolf hunters anxious to resume a brief fall tradition are waiting for the state or some other governmental agency to make a decision after a judge suspended the hunt.

In October, just a few days before the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources was scheduled to contact successful wolf permit holders, Dane County Circuit Court Judge Jacob Frost sided with animal rights groups seeking to overturn the 2012 state law that authorized and required an annual wolf hunt. His decision was based on those hunts operating under an emergency rule, even though he believes those seasons are no longer an emergency and therefore unconstitutional.

Frost agreed with an attorney for Animal and Earth Advocates of Seattle that the DNR has never made a permanent rule to regulate the wolf hunt.

The state attorney general's office argued that it is not the legislature's role to order the DNR to have a wolf hunt, and the animal rights-based lawsuit is only about how the DNR is implementing the law.

In response to a September lawsuit filed by six Ojibwe tribes to stop the hunt, a federal judge on Oct. 29 heard arguments but refused to take any action while the state court ruling was pending. Thus all hunters and the state seem to be in limbo pending any further state legislation or DNR action.

Brian "Ratt" Nicks, a Medford-area hunting guide who runs treeing Walker hounds for bear, bobcat and wolf hunting, said one fact seems lost on the judges and their decisions: The management goal for the total statewide wolf population is 350 animals, and there are an estimated 1,200 now.

"I'm bent about the fact that they totally avoid that fact," he said. "I'm upset that they can drop an animal in your yard and say 'Enjoy it.'"

He believes the overall annual wolf harvest goal should be 1,000, not 200.

The other problem with the current wolf management approach is that Indian tribes are generally allocated



Wolf hunters are waiting on a judge's ruling after the 2021 season was put on hold after a judge agreed with an attorney for Animal and Earth Advocates of Seattle that the DNR has never made a permanent rule to regulate the wolf hunt.

WISCONSIN DNR

about half the harvest quota, but their spiritual beliefs oppose killing of any wolf.

"If the Indians want wolves on the reservation, go ahead, and if they (wolves) come off the reservation, we should be able to shoot them," Nicks said.

This fall's wolf quota was set at 130 wolves, including 56 permits for the Ojibwe tribes, who do not hunt wolves, and the remaining 74 for statewide hunters and trappers. The Natural Resources Board initially approved a 300-wolf quota, but the DNR rejected it.

Nicks has at least 10 hunters interested in a fall hunt with him. He and his dogs were able to help hunters harvest nine wolves in 2½ days in February, when Hunter Nation Inc., a Kansas-based hunter advocacy group, used the courts to force a hunt. Jefferson County Judge Bennett Brantmeier ruled in February that the DNR failed to meet its legal obligation to hold a wolf hunt, sending the DNR scrambling to issue permits and otherwise manage a hunt that was by state law supposed to begin in November and end on the last day of February.

Statewide, hunters and trappers

harvested 218 wolves in less than 72 hours, suggesting that wolves may be more plentiful than biologists believe. Although the February harvest exceeded the state quota, it's just 18% of the 1,195 wolves the DNR believes populate the state.

The Natural Resources Board had set the February quota outside the Indian reservations at 200, with 119 allocated for the state and 81 to the Ojibwe tribes to comply with treaty rights. There were 2,380 permits made available for chosen hunters/trappers.

Wisconsin started its modern wolf hunting in 2012, after wolves were federally delisted from the threatened species list on Jan. 27, 2012. The Midwestern wolf population has exceeded recovery goals for many years, according to the DNR website. Gray wolves were moved from endangered to threatened status in 2003 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In the 2012-13 season, hunters and trappers harvested 117 wolves. The following year, the harvest was up 119% to 257 wolves, including 180 trapped and 77 shot. In 2014-15, 154 wolves were taken, a 60% decrease from the previous year.

A federal spending bill in 2015 failed

to include a plan to remove the wolf from federal protection, thus maintaining federal court decisions that ruled state management plans in Wisconsin and three other states did not protect wolves enough.

There was no wolf hunt in Wisconsin from 2015 through 2020, and livestock and pet owners have seen the growing population prey upon their cattle, sheep, horses and dogs. In the first seven months of 2020, the DNR reported 34 confirmed and 64 reported wolf conflicts, according to the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel. By comparison, the same conflict totals for the same period in 2019 were 16 confirmed and 37 reported; 18 and 39, respectively, in 2018; and 20 and 37, respectively, in 2017.

In addition, there were five reports of wolves threatening humans in 2020, equaling the total number of human threats in the three previous years. The state has paid out \$2.7 million between 1985 and 2020 for lost livestock and pets killed by wolves, according to Wisconsin State Farmer.

For more information on the impacts of wolves on farmers and dog owners, visit www.wisconsinwolfacts.com.

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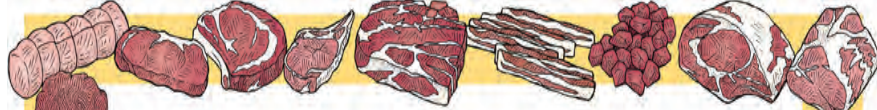


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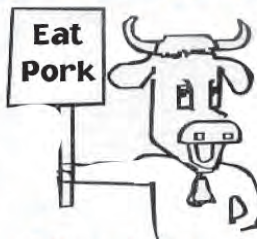
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