

Semi trucks take over Gillett



Riley Schmitz poses with the 2024 Kids Choice Award from the Roy Hubbard Memorial Truck Show with Michelle and Danny Tankersley looking on. WEL Companies of De Pere decorated the semi as one of the leaders in the annual Truck Convoy for Special Olympics Wisconsin.



Tami Peterson helps granddaughter Brielle Peterson navigate with her new bicycle, one of eight children's bikes raffled June 15 at the Roy Hubbard Memorial Truck Show.

PHOTOS BY WARREN BLUHM • NEWS EDITOR



The sixth annual Roy Hubbard Memorial Truck Show drew 90 registered vehicles to the Oconto County fairgrounds at Zippel Park in Gillett. The event is named in memory of the longtime owner of Roy Hubbard Rental Trucking Inc.



Park Street in Gillett, which winds through Zippel Park, is lined with semi trucks June 15 for the annual Roy Hubbard Memorial Truck Show.

Kocken sentence delayed

Department of Corrections offers mixed recommendations

BY WARREN BLUHM
News editor

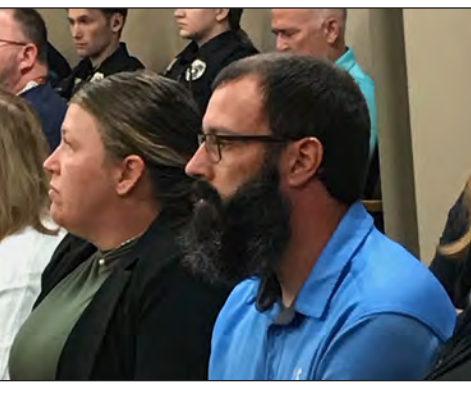
An Oconto Falls police officer wounded in a shooting nearly three years ago must wait another two weeks for closure in the case.

Confusion over sentencing recommendations forced Oconto County Judge Michael Judge to postpone the sentencing hearing for Alisha Kocken, 31, the Oconto Falls woman who fired three shots at Officer Nicole Blaskowski during a struggle in August 2021, striking her in the head and chest. The officer's life was likely spared because she was wearing a ballistic vest.

After several trial delays, Kocken pleaded no contest last Aug. 25 to attempted first-degree intentional homicide, resisting and causing a soft tissue injury to an officer, battery to a law enforcement officer, and disarming a police officer — but she also pleaded not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect.

A jury trial was scheduled to begin April 1 to determine her state of mind at the time of the shooting, but at the final pre-trial conference March 28, Kocken withdrew the insanity plea, setting the stage for a sentencing hearing June 11. At that time, prosecuting attorney Mark Wil-

KOCKEN, CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Nicole and Jon Blaskowski listen June 11 as attorneys discuss the pre-sentence investigation report for Alisha Kocken, who was convicted of attempted homicide and other charges in the shooting of Nicole Blaskowski, an Oconto Falls police officer.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

INSIDE

City of Oconto Falls ponders buying former Hardee's for redevelopment.

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Storm-damaged recreation sites in forest reopen

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

The effects of a windstorm that blew through northern Oconto County five years ago are still being felt.

Much of the damage from the July 2019 storm occurred in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and caused forest officials to issue a temporary closure order that affected several recreation areas — including campgrounds, picnic areas, trails and roads.

Forest Supervisor Jennifer Youngblood terminated that order May 9.

“We are still recovering from the storm from five years ago,” said Lance Waller, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest district recreation supervisor. “The acreage that we needed to clean up was high. It started with the roads, and all the recreation sites were cleared out one by one.”

The storm, which originated in Langlade County, led to several closed roads and recreation areas.

U.S. Forest Service crews removed downed trees from roads and trails; removed standing hazardous trees; repaired surfaces of damaged trails; and repaired or replaced broken signs and other infrastructure.

The storm caused extensive damage in the Jones Spring Recreation Area southwest of Townsend.

The 2,000-acre area is managed for nonmotorized use and offers several loops of hiking and groomed cross-country ski trails. Fanny Lake has five walk-in campsites along its shore, and the area is also managed as a wildlife area for hunting.

“Recovery of the Jones Springs area was slow, as the forest was not successful in awarding a salvage timber sale, a strategy that greatly assisted with storm cleanup in other areas,” according to a Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest news release announcing that the order had been lifted.

The storm also closed 105 miles of road segments in Oconto and Langlade counties.

“Volunteers, partners and employees have worked diligently for several years so that areas affected by severe storms in 2019 could reopen,” U.S. Forest Service Recreation Program Manager Karen Katz said. “We are pleased to announce that areas that were previously closed due to storm damage are now open again.”

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More than two months after a devastating windstorm, the extent of damage is still evident in early October 2019 near the entrance of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest along state Highway 32 in the town of Mountain. FILE | NEW MEDIA

OBITUARIES

August L. Vorpahl

August Leonard Vorpahl, 85, of Gillett, passed away Friday morning, June 7, 2024, at Evergreen Care Center in Shawano.

August was born Feb. 9, 1939, in Shawano, the son of the late Herman and Annie (Lifke) Vorpahl. He attended the Mosling School and graduated from Gillett High School with the class of 1957. Following school, August farmed and worked as a truck driver.

On July 2, 1966, August was united in marriage to the former Marjorie Ann



Erb at Christ Lutheran Church in Hintz. Following their marriage, the couple lived in Underhill until moving to Shawano in 1995. August worked several other jobs throughout his life, including logging, Linewood Plywood and Arrowcast, until his retirement in 1999.

August was a good and faithful member of St. Jakobi Lutheran Church in the Town of Richmond and had been active at Christ Lutheran Church. August was a member of the Underhill Volunteer Fire Department for nearly 31 years. He loved to fish, listen to polka music, and attend his kids' and grandkids' events.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Marj of Gillett; seven children, Rhonda (Elwood) Badeau of Underhill, Robin

Hughes of Reno, Nevada, Peter (Wendy) Vorpahl of Underhill, Penny (Jamie) Heroux of Underhill, Andrew (Heather) Vorpahl of Green Bay, Martin (Michelle) Vorpahl of Eau Claire and Jolene (Corey) Esch of Whitewater; 19 grandchildren, Jordan (Kaitlin), Korey (Angela) and Noah (Shelly Lynch) Badeau; Matthew, Mark, Aaron and Adam Vorpahl; Jerika, John, Phillip and Scott Heroux; Sheradin, Sawyer and Sofia Vorpahl; Emily and Mia Vorpahl;

and Georgia, Wyatt and Quinn Esch; four great-grandchildren, Willow, Dawson and Jonah Badeau, and Patrick Lynch; and two sisters, Donna Mae Schelk of Suring and Mary Ann Liefke of Gillett. He is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews and several in-laws.

August was preceded in death by his sister, Marilyn Erb, and son-in-law, Herbert Hughes.

A funeral service for August will be held on Monday, June 17, 2024, at

11 a.m. at St. Jakobi Lutheran Church, Town of Richmond. Pastor Travis Kleinschmidt will officiate. Interment will take place at Christ Lutheran Cemetery, Hintz. Visitation will begin at the church on Monday at 9 a.m. and continue until the time of service.

Mickelson Funeral Cremation Service Inc. of Shawano is assisting the family with arrangements. Please share online condolences at www.mickelsons.com.

Mildred L. Pethke

Mildred L. Pethke, 92, of Suring, passed away on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, with family by her side.

Millie was born on July 12, 1931, to the late Herman and Lena (Wolford) Ruch. On Oct. 28, 1950, Millie married Otto Pethke at St. John Lutheran Church in Hayes. The couple farmed in the Town of How and raised their nine children.

Millie loved spending time with her family. She enjoyed hosting events for family and friends and was



known for her wonderful cooking. Millie was a very kind, compassionate woman who babysat for many children over the years. She also enjoyed playing cards, embroidery and putting puzzles together for her family to hang in their

homes. Millie was a lifelong member at St. John Lutheran Church in Hayes.

Millie is survived by her children, Howard (Rebecca) Pethke, Barb (Bob) Niec, Judy Bunker, Linda (Dave) Bullock, Otto (Delberta) Pethke, Diane Sleeter, Susan (Wayne) Mueller, Lisa (Jeff) Suring and Nancy (Jeff) Estep; 25 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren; brother, Paul (Bonnie) Ruch; sister-in-law, Dar-

lene Pethke. She is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Otto; two sons-in-law, Dean Bunker and Mike Sleeter; grandchildren, Dawn Pethke and Kevin Niec; two great-grandchildren; four sisters; a brother.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at St. John Lutheran Church in Hayes from

9 a.m. until the funeral service at 11 a.m. with Pastor Nick Buchholz officiating. The service will be livestreamed to Gruetzmacher Funeral Home's Facebook page. Millie will be interred at St. John Lutheran Cemetery.

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

The family would like

to thank the staffs of The Bay at Suring Nursing Home and Unity Hospice for the care and compassion offered to Millie.



Douglas K. Kruschke

Douglas Kenneth Kruschke, born April 7, 1937, in Gillett, passed away peacefully on June 1, 2024, in Newport News, Virginia, at the age of 87.

Douglas dedicated 29 years of his life to the United States Coast Guard, where he achieved the distinguished rank of master chief. Following his illustrious military career, he contributed another 31 years of dedicated service to Newport News Ship-



building before retiring. Douglas was a man of varied interests. He cherished the time spent with his family and was known for capturing the joy of family gatherings through photography. A keen bowler, he had the distinction

of scoring a perfect 300 game. Additionally, he was an avid sports enthusiast who delighted in watching sports, whether live or on television.

Douglas excelled academically and athletically at Gillett High School, where he was a star athlete in football, basketball and track. Remarkably, he graduated with perfect attendance throughout all 12 years of school.

He was preceded in

death by his parents, Lloyd and Audrey Kruschke; his beloved wife, Joyce Kruschke; his son, Joel Kruschke; brothers, Lloyd (Pete) Kruschke, Dale Kruschke and Dennis Kruschke; and sisters, Flora Bottensek, Betty Blumreich, Karen Schemenauer and Clarice Kruschke.

He is survived by his loving daughter, Dawn (Billy) Rumburg; grandchildren, Christopher (Michelle) Kruschke, Jennifer

Kruschke, Trea' Pres-graves, Kenneth (Nikita) Kruschke, Keith Kruschke, Taylor Rumburg and Mary Rumburg; and siblings, Beverly Wranosky, JoAnn Montie and Wayne Kruschke. Douglas also leaves behind numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, who will cherish his memory.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday, June 18, at 1 p.m. at Altmeyer Funeral Home — Denbigh

Chapel, 12893 Jefferson Ave., Newport News, Virginia. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the National Kidney Foundation in honor of Douglas Kenneth Kruschke.

Douglas will be remembered for his unwavering dedication to his country, his industrious spirit and the profound love he had for his family. His legacy will endure in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know him.

OCONTO COUNTY

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City looks to redevelop old Hardee's lot

Investigation focuses on former Mobil station, restaurant property

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News editor

Oconto Falls officials are working with state and county agencies toward redevelopment of the long-vacant former Hardee's restaurant and a former gas station on state Highway 22 near the northwest city limits.

City Administrator Peter Wills gave an update on the effort during the city council's June 11 monthly meeting.

"I'm not looking for action right now, mainly trying to bring you up to

speed," Wills said. "We're getting close to having to spend money."

The nonprofit organization Newcap Inc. has expressed an interest in building a facility on the property if the city can acquire it, he said.

Wills recently met with the state Department of Natural Resources, the Tourism and Economic Development Corporation for the Oconto Region (TEDCOR), banks that control the property and MSA Environmental, the consulting firm that has worked with the city on

several recent projects.

"What they're recommending is that the city begin a slum and blight investigation," he said.

A determination that the properties constitute a slum and/or blight would make the city eligible for state and federal grants to clean up the property if the city can acquire it at a sheriff's sale, Wills said.

Alderman Marty Coopman asked how much such an investigation would cost. Wills said his understanding is that he and building inspector Jane Meissner should be

able to do as much as 90% of the work, with MSA and city attorneys handling some of the technical data.

"I'm trying to keep most of the work to staff as much as possible," he said.

The main outside sources of funding would be an EPA Community-wide Assessment Grant, which potentially could pay any costs arising from the investigation, especially of the old Mobil station, where pumps and storage tanks were removed in 2021.

"The DNR kind of gave

a clear bill of health for where the pumps were, and where the tanks were," Wills said. "It's the auto repair shop, it's anything else that could have - we're not expecting anything extensive, but it could be, you know, somebody changed some oil, did they spill some diesel fuel, is there anything that soaked into the soil? That's kind of what they're looking for."

Beyond that a state Brownfield Remediation Grant could potentially pay for the cost of demolishing the buildings, he said.

A Newcap representative told the council the organization is in the process of finding grants to obtain the Hardee's property at 782 N. Main St. if the city is successful in purchasing it.

"We're trying to make sure, if we go to sheriff's sale, to make sure we don't get outbid," Wills said.

The next step is probably more meetings with the various parties, he said.

"We'll keep council updated," Wills said. "I don't want to move faster than our consultants and everybody else."

Farmer's market returns



Vendor tents and food trucks line Highland Square in Oconto Falls on June 11 during the weekly Oconto County Farmers Market. The market will be open 4-8 p.m. Tuesdays through the end of August. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

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KOCKEN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

liams indicated the two sides had agreed to jointly recommend a 13-year prison sentence.

An overflow crowd of friends, family, and fellow officers filled Judge’s courtroom for the hearing, and a video feed was set up in the Law Enforcement Center conference room for the excess. But they soon heard that the state Department of Corrections had revised the findings of its pre-sentence investigation twice in the days leading up to the hearing.

The investigator, Probation and Parole Officer Christopher Miller, testified that pre-sentence reports commonly follow COMPAS, the Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions software tool that helps assess the defendant to determine an appropriate sentence for the offense.

“When I meet with the defendant, I do a COMPAS assessment, which determine recidivism, and then conduct the interview, then start populating, and then eventually come up with a set of recommendations,” he said.

Miller acknowledged that he made a mistake when calculating his original recommendation that Kocken be sentenced to 16-20 years in prison, followed by five to six years of extended supervision, which was submitted to the court May 22.

After an independent pre-sentence investigation pointed out the error, Miller sent an email June 7 stating that a more ap-

propriate sentence would be seven to nine years in prison with four years of extended supervision for the attempted homicide, plus probation for the other three counts.

Miller testified that he sent the email without having a supervisor review it following department policy. “I should not have submitted that email,” he said.

After still further review, three hours before the June 11 sentencing hearing, Miller submitted a recommendation for 13-16 years of prison, followed by five to six years of extended supervision, for the attempted homicide, and an additional 3.5 to 4.5 years of prison time served consecutively for each of the next two counts, and one to two years for count 4.

“If my math is correct, that comes to somewhere between 20 and 27 years of incarceration, is that correct?” Williams asked, and Miller agreed.

Besides miscalculating the COMPAS assessment for count 1, Miller said the sentence in the June 7 email was lower because he had failed to include a modifier in counts 2 and 3 involving Kocken’s use of a dangerous weapon in committing the offenses.

Defense attorney John Mille Carroll asked that the sentencing be postponed.

“I feel it’s necessary to ask for an adjournment. I do so very reluctantly,” he said but asked that the person who prepared the defense pre-sentence investigation be allowed



The corridor outside an Oconto County courtroom is packed with friends, family and supporters of Oconto Falls police officer Nicole Blaskowski, who was wounded in August 2021 by Alisha Kocken. The sentencing hearing for Kocken was adjourned until June 25.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

time to review the revised recommendations.

Judge told the attorneys and the audience that when he prepares a sentence, he gathers as much information as he can and accepts input from several sources, including attorneys and family members for both sides.

“What we have here is the Department of Corrections of the State of Wisconsin has given me three separate recommendations for sentence. Three,” Judge said, “the most recent received this morning at 10 o’clock as I’m in court doing other things. I go back in my chambers and there’s this document on my desk telling me something I thought had been resolved days, weeks earlier.”

The judge said he did

not want to create an appellate issue that would prevent a clean resolution of the case.

“The last thing I want to do is adjourn this case for another date for sentencing. I do not want to do that,” Judge said. “However, I have to give the defense more than a couple hours to figure out what the Department of Corrections is really recommending here.”

With that the judge rescheduled sentencing for 1:30 p.m. June 25.

“I am required and I am going to have to adjourn the sentencing for this defendant,” he said. “It isn’t fair to her, and it isn’t fair to Nicole Blaskowski, but I have to do it ... Folks, all I can say is that I’m sorry.”

Blaskowski, who shook her head quietly as Judge



Alisha Kocken waits for her sentencing hearing to begin June 11 in the shooting and wounding of Oconto Falls police officer Nicole Blaskowski in 2021. The hearing was adjourned until June 25.

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explained the postponement, thanked her supporters briefly in the hallway afterward in remarks that could not be heard from inside the courtroom.

“We’ll be back here for you in two weeks,” someone called, drawing applause from the crowd.

wbluhm@newmedia-wi.com

OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of June 14

• Javier Lashun Dixon, 31, Sobieski, pleaded no contest to pleaded not guilty to a misdemeanor charge of bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Sept. 20, 2023, as well as two counts of misdemeanor disorderly conduct in connection with incidents that occurred June 15 and June 20, 2023. Related felony charges were dismissed in a plea agreement. Judge Michael Judge withheld sentencing and placed Dixon on one year of probation with conditions.

• Brady L. Boucher, 30, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to possession of methamphetamine, possession of THC (second or subsequent offense), and misdemeanor counts of possession of amphetamine, possession of illegally obtained prescription drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 25. Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for Aug. 5.

• Bond was set at \$15,000 cash for Crystal J. Hager, 35, Suring, after she was charged with three counts of manufacturing with intent to deliver amphetamine near a youth center, three counts of maintaining a drug trafficking place and two counts of felony bail jumping, in connection

with incidents that allegedly occurred Aug. 29, Sept. 12 and Oct. 26 of 2023. Judge adjourned her initial appearance until July 18.

Proceedings of June 13

• A bench warrant was issued for Maxwell Richard Mellen, 41, Green Bay, after he failed to appear for a status conference on a charge of possession of methamphetamine in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred July 13, 2023.

• A Nov. 5-6 jury trial was scheduled for Gary E. Borkovec, 46, Oconto, on charges of possession of methamphetamine, possession of narcotic drugs, maintaining a drug trafficking place, and misdemeanor counts of possession of THC, possession of amphetamine/LSD/psilocin, possession of illegally obtained prescription drugs and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Jan. 27, 2023. Judge scheduled a final pre-trial conference for Sept. 30.

• A Dec. 4-5 jury trial was scheduled for Michael Lee Vandenheuvel, 28, Green Bay, on charges of attempted strangulation and suffocation, false imprisonment and misdemeanor charges of battery, criminal damage to property, making contact after a domestic abuse arrest, and disorderly conduct, in con-

nection with an incident that allegedly occurred Sept. 24. Judge scheduled a final pre-trial conference for Nov. 18.

• A Nov. 5-6 jury trial was scheduled for James P. Samuelson, 53, Suring, on charges of possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 17. Judge scheduled a final pre-trial conference for Sept. 30.

• Tammy Marie Dumas, 56, Oconto Falls, pleaded not guilty to charges of receiving stolen property, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Jan. 8; manufacturing with intent to deliver methamphetamine, manufacturing with intent to deliver THC, felony bail jumping and maintaining a drug trafficking place, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 1, 2023; possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine, and possession with intent to deliver THC, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Jan. 11. Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for Aug. 15.

• Bruce D. Taylor, 31, Oconto, pleaded not guilty to fleeing an officer in his vehicle, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred March 4. Judge Jay Conley scheduled a pre-trial conference for Aug. 19.

• A \$5,000 signature bond was set for Colt Frederick Tittl-Roberts, 23, Long Lake, after he was charged with possession of narcotic drugs and misdemeanor counts of possession of illegally obtained prescription and possession of THC, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Dec. 8, 2022. Conley adjourned his initial appearance until July 18.

Proceedings of June 12

• After a two day trial, a jury found Tyler J. Geurts, 36, Oconto, guilty of 16 counts of possession of child pornography, in connection with incidents that occurred March 8 and May 14, 2021. Conley scheduled sentencing for Aug. 19 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

• Bond was set at \$20,000 cash for Tanya Ann Kamps, 50, Abrams, after she was charged with possession with intent to deliver cocaine, possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a drug trafficking place and misdemeanor counts of possession of cocaine, possession of THC and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 6. In a separate file, Kamps was charged with manufacture with intent to deliver amphetamine and maintaining a drug trafficking place, in connection with an inci-

dent that allegedly occurred Oct. 5; and three counts each of possession with intent to deliver cocaine and maintaining a drug trafficking place, in connection with incidents that allegedly occurred Oct. 13, April 22 and June 5. Conley adjourned her initial appearance until June 13, when he scheduled a preliminary hearing for June 19.

• Bond was set at \$5,000 cash for Jacob Louis Anderson, 35, Coleman, after he was charged with possession of narcotic drugs, two misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer and one misdemeanor count each of possession of cocaine, disorderly conduct and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 9. Judge adjourned his initial appearance until June 13, when he scheduled a preliminary hearing for June 20.

Proceedings of June 11

• Anthony Barrett Wood, 40, Lakewood, pleaded no contest to felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 1; three counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of battery, disorderly conduct, operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (second offense), resisting or obstructing an officer, and violating an ignition interlock order, in connection with an

incident that occurred March 24; and an amended charge of misdemeanor battery, in connection with an incident that occurred June 12, 2023. Judge scheduled sentencing for Aug. 9 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Proceedings of June 10

• A Nov. 5-6 jury trial was scheduled for Keilon Allon Snipes-Reed, 19, a White Lake man serving time at Green Bay Correctional Institution, on three counts of armed robbery, two counts of first-degree reckless endangerment, two counts bail jumping, burglary and theft, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 4, 2021. Judge scheduled a final pre-trial conference for Oct. 1.

• A June 18-19 jury trial was postponed for George E. Gernon, 41, Little Suamico, after his defense attorney withdrew from the case. Gernon is charged with possession of narcotic drugs, possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 6, 2022. Judge scheduled a status conference for July 18.

• Katlyn C. Fish, 20, Oconto, pleaded not guilty to child neglect in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 25. Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for July 18.

State tourism sees another record-breaking year

Area counties part of the upward trend in total economic impact and direct visitor spending

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Shawano, Menominee and Oconto counties were part of the 2023 record-breaking year for Wisconsin tourism, noted Wisconsin Department of Tourism Secretary Anne Sayers.

According to 2023 economic impact data, the Wisconsin tourism industry generated \$25 billion in total economic impact, surpassing the previous record year of \$23.7 billion set in 2022.

In Oconto County, the total economic impact increased from \$134 million to \$140 million, a 4.4% increase.

Shawano County saw a 2.7% increase, from \$111 million to \$114 million, while Menominee County's total economic impact increased 10.3% from \$5 million to \$6 million.

"Wisconsin has so much to offer, from waterslides to watersports, hiking trails to contrails and world-champion sports teams to



Former resident Judy Dunlap, right, talks with Priscilla King near the craft and vendor area at the annual Shawano County Historical Society Rhubarb Fest on June 15 at Heritage Park. The two shared stories of their youth, growing up in the community.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

world-champion cheese, so it's no wonder we've seen yet another record-breaking

year for Wisconsin tourism for the second year in a row," Gov. Tony Evers said.

"These numbers show what an important role our tourism economy plays in our

state's economic success.

"And this didn't happen by chance. This happens because of the hardworking folks in this critical industry who work day in and day out to make sure visitors enjoy their time here and come back year after year."

In 2023, Wisconsin saw a \$25 billion total economic impact, an increase of 5.4% from the previous year, welcomed 113 million visits — nearly two million more than the previous year, and saw the highest-ever overnight visits, with nearly 46 million overnight visits last year.

This is the second consecutive year of record-breaking overnight visitation. What's more, overnight visitors, on average, spend almost three times as much as day-trip visitors. In total, in 2023, all 72 Wisconsin counties saw economic impact growth, and the industry supported more than 178,000 part-time and full-time jobs across various sectors, which is an

increase of 2% and generated \$1.6 billion in state and local tax revenue, up 5.8% from 2022.

Direct visitor spending increased 3.8% in Oconto County, from \$97.1 million to \$100.8 million; 1.3% in Shawano County from \$75.5 million to \$76.5 million; and 13.3% in Menominee County, from \$3 million to \$3.4 million.

"Wisconsin tourism powers the economy and strengthens the fabric of communities of all sizes," Sayers said. "The historic impact of tourism reached every corner of Wisconsin and, in doing so, sustained livelihoods for thousands of our friends and neighbors."

The Native Nations of Wisconsin also play a critical role in enriching the state's tourism industry offerings and attracting travelers to the state. Because tribal tourism data is private, the total economic impact of tribal tourism is not wholly reflected in this report.

DA's office moving to paperless environment

Officials expect E-Discovery to be in full effect no later than July 15

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-chief

Months of testing will soon result in one aspect of the Shawano and Menominee Counties District Attorney's office becoming paperless.

Kay Zuleger, legal secretary in the DA's office, told the Shawano County Public Safety Committee on June 5 she is ready to make the change effective July 15.

"Once our office goes paperless, and that's hopefully in the future, it'll be

very nice," she said. "The whole program will run seamless. It's all a work in progress, but this is something I'm willing to do already, and I'm ready to make that change."

Supervisor Tess Serrano said a complete paperless office will happen.

"Yes, the DA's office will be paperless," she said. "That's been a goal of mine for years."

Digital Evidence Secure Transfer (DEST) is part of the District Attorney Information Technology (DAIT) program that provides IT services and support to more than 1,600 customer users in all of Wisconsin's 71 state prosecutor offices.

There is no cost to the county for the DEST program.

"What we're looking at doing is starting sending our discovery out where we don't have to make copies, where I don't have to burn discs, where we're not mailing it out any longer. It's something that's sent through the computer system," Zuleger said.

"It's an encrypted way to send discovery out, where it shouldn't cost us what it's costing us to mail it, to make copies of it, to be sending it out any longer."

Zuleger said she has been testing the program for about eight months with attorneys in the state public defender's office.

"It works really nice," she said. "It's slow at times, depending on how much body camera, photos, videos that go with it, how many reports I have,

things like that, but that's with any program."

Using the program will reduce costs for paper, padded envelopes, discs and fish drives, and postage. Billing will no longer be based on the number of pages but on the size of the files.

"We've been hoping that they could get this the last few years now," Sheriff George Lenzner said. "It's a long time coming, and it's going to make their lives a lot easier in the DA's office."

Zuleger said she will be better able to maintain the discovery files, with the program making it easier and more convenient when she has to resend them.

"The one thing that's nice is that I'm able to go back into the program and

resend the discovery," she said.

When an accused party changes attorneys, it's easier to send discovery to new attorney, as it is all saved in one file.

"The defense has 30 days to take it out of the DEST program," Zuleger said. "Once they take it out of the program, they download it onto whatever they need to, print a copy, whatever they want to do with it."

She is now working with attorneys to have all updated information in the system so when they go live, everyone is ready. She said she doesn't want to have some using E-Discovery and others still accepting paper and discs.

"This is going to be an all or nothing," she said. "All the defense attorneys

are going to have to go to this."

Lenzner said many other counties are already using the system.

"A lot of surrounding counties have had this for years, because there are times they send us stuff that way, also," he said. "It's just easier for everybody."

Because of DAIT, Wisconsin is one of few states in the nation where state prosecutors have a secure, centrally-managed network, state-standard hardware and software, and a state-standard, custom-built case management system with interfaces to key systems used by the courts, law enforcement and attorneys.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

No Mow May no longer generating buzz in region

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

The Shawano Common Council has agreed to let No Mow May continue for one more year in 2025, but the members want some studies to take place then to answer the question once and for all about whether letting the grass grow higher is really a benefit for pollinators.

Alderman Kevin Barkow brought the idea to the council in 2022, having seen that the city of Appleton did it for several years prior in the hopes of bringing a

more robust bee population to the area. It was decided then to do an annual resolution approving the observance.

It only took one year for the thrill to be gone, as Barkow learned in 2023 that Appleton was trying to end the practice because there's no scientific evidence that the taller grass has improved the bee count. Despite the hesitancy, the council has agreed to No Mow May last year and this year.

The discussion June 12 was put on the agenda at the request of Alderwoman

Sandy Steinke, who voted against the No Mow May resolution in 2023.

"Maybe it might be doing some good, but there's no real studies," Steinke said.

Alderman Jack Young has been doing some research on the matter and told the council that Appleton, after the first year of its program, had three times as many bees in the area.

"It was a real positive for them," Young said. "A lot of it depends on which community and the uniqueness of each community. What I'd like to see is a No Mow

May for this next coming year and then lining somebody up to study it and study the city of Shawano and how we respond to that and see if it's a positive here."

Young suggested getting some higher education institution involved doing a study and seeing what tangible benefits there are from not mowing lawns for a month in springtime. He noted Appleton has been studying the matter.

"I'm sure we could get one of the universities involved as a student research project, because the more

we can increase the bee population and some of the other positive insects and that, the better we are as a community," Young said.

Mayor Bruce Milavitz spoke positively about the program because it's purely voluntary. Any property owners that don't want to participate can continue to mow their lawns, he said.

"If you want to participate, you participate," Milavitz said. "If you don't want to participate, you don't have to."

Alderman John Hoeffs noted that Appleton also has the benefit of wildflower

er beds, so having something like that might also benefit the bees.

"You don't just have to leave your lawn grow," Hoeffs said.

Steinke noted that the last No Mow May saw an increase in the number of butterflies, another type of pollinator, but she acknowledged the butterflies visiting might not correlate with No Mow May.

"It was kind of cool," Steinke said. "There were a lot more butterflies than I had seen in years past."

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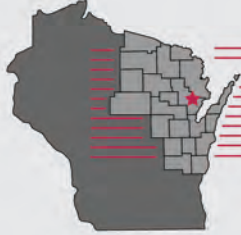
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Randi Anderson hired to run Sevastopol School District

Former Shawano superintendent selected from three finalists

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Former Shawano School District Superintendent Randi Anderson has been hired as superintendent for the Sevastopol School District in Door County, according to a press release from the Sevastopol district.

Anderson was selected from three finalists interviewed by the Sevastopol School Board on June 5. The board approved her hire on June 11.

“Ms. Anderson brings the experience we need as an educator and leader to help transition our very good school district to a great one” said Board President Lisa Bieri. “In her tenure as an educator, she has established a clear record of managing budgets, resources, and partnerships to improve student achievement. She brings expertise in strategic planning, curriculum development, long-range facility planning, and personalized learning to ensure all students graduate college, career, and community ready.”



RANDI ANDERSON

Anderson was hired by the Shawano School District in 2019 and resigned from her position three years later in September 2022. As part of her separation from the district, she was paid the remainder of her contract, which totaled about \$400,000 in salary and benefits through the end of June this year, and Shawano School Board President Mike Musolf was required to provide Anderson with a letter of recommendation. Anderson’s resignation came after months of turmoil in Shawano, including a claim that the district had a \$2.2 million budget deficit that later turned out to be a \$2.6 million surplus, and with it the layoffs of a number of employees and the potential to close a school. In the months leading up to Anderson’s resignation, more than 60 employees left the district, including all of the principals and associated principals and most of the administrative team. A petition was circulated in the community seeking Randi Anderson’s removal that received over 1,200 signatures. Two school board members were targeted for recall because of their support for Anderson, but both resigned shortly after the recall petitions were submitted. Three other board members resigned in 2022 during Anderson’s tenure. According to the Sevastopol press release,

Anderson has been working in the interim for Leading Transformative Solutions, LLC. The website for the company has no information on where it’s based but does list Anderson as one of its five education experts. “As I step into the role of superintendent, I am eager to bring my background of over 30 years in public education as a teacher, administrator, educational consultant to the beautiful community of Sevastopol,” Anderson said in the press release. “I am committed to working with you to continue to foster a student-focused model of education and promote excellence within our schools. My goal is to collaborate closely with educators, parents, and community members to ensure we continue to provide the best possible educational experience for our students.”



Diana Woodke was recognized as the Nurse of the Year for St. Clare Memorial Hospital in Oconto Falls. CONTRIBUTED

Woodke named St. Clare’s top nurse by HSHS

Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) hospitals in Eastern Wisconsin have announced that Diana Woodke with St. Clare Memorial Hospital in Oconto Falls is one of the corporation’s four 2023 Nurse of the Year award winners. Nurse of the Year award recipients are honored for demonstrating passion, quality and excellence in nursing and carrying out the core values of HSHS: respect, care,

competence and joy. They are nominated by nursing colleagues and chosen by nursing leadership and the hospitals’ Professional Nurse Practice Council. “I am proud to help patients and their families remain comfortable and to serve as an advocate for their health,” Woodke said. “I am always prepared to provide emotional support, a listening ear, comforting hand or just a warm blanket to each of my patients.”

NWTC finalist for Aspen Prize

The Aspen Institute named Northeast Wisconsin Technical College as a finalist for the 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The \$1 million award is the nation’s signature recognition of strong performance among community colleges. The institutions selected for this honor stand out among more than 1,000 community colleges nationwide as having high and improving levels of student success, as well as equitable outcomes for Black and Hispanic students and those from lower-income backgrounds.

“To be named a finalist for the Aspen Prize is such an incredible honor,” said Kristen Raney, NWTC president. “It recognizes NWTC’s deep commitment to equitable student outcomes that transforms lives and strengthens our communities. This is a reflection of the transformative work we do every day and should be celebrated by all who call Northeast Wisconsin

THE NEXT STEP

- Fall 2024: Multi-day in-person site visits to each of the 10 finalists, during which Aspen and partners will collect additional information, and additional data collection, including extensive employment and earnings data on graduates from the finalist colleges.
- Winter 2025: A distinguished, independent prize jury will review data and qualitative summaries that synthesize each part of the 14-month analyses, then meet for a full day to select the winner and others for additional recognition.
- April 17, 2025: Announcement of the Aspen Prize winner and celebration of the 10 finalists in Washington, D.C.

home. We are very excited to continue next steps of the Aspen Prize process and for the bright future of our college and community.” Over the last decade, NWTC has expended substantial resources into understanding how to better meet the unique needs of individual students so that they can thrive as learners. Benefitting from a culture of comprehensive support,

NWTC students consistently achieve better educational outcomes than similar institutions nationwide. While many students exit college before completing the required coursework, NWTC’s graduation rates are double compared to the national average. Additionally, the percentage of NWTC students persisting from first to second year — a critical period in which many do not complete — has consistently increased over time and is above that of comparison to other institutions. The most dramatic increases have been observed within historically underserved populations, including lower income and student of color. Awarded every two years, the Aspen Prize honors colleges with outstanding performance in six critical areas — teaching and learning, certificate and degree completion, transfer and bachelor’s attainment, workforce success, broad access to the college and its offerings, and equitable out-

comes for students of color and students from low-income backgrounds. The winner will be announced in the spring of 2025. Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program, noted the finalists not only deserve national recognition, but they also need to be studied and their successes replicated. “Working-class Americans are experiencing an economy that seems to be stacked against them, while employers are struggling to find well-prepared workers in fields such as teaching, nursing, software development, welding, and advanced manufacturing,” Wyner said. “The 10 Aspen Prize finalists demonstrate how community colleges serving urban and rural communities throughout the country can prepare many more graduates for fulfilling lives and careers in their communities. They show that excellence can be reached in any and every context.”

Bear patronizes library



A black bear was spotted June 10 roaming in front of the Shawano Public Library and other nearby buildings. According to the Shawano Police Department, the bear appeared to be an adolescent looking for food. Onlookers were taking pictures of the bear, but the police department warned against getting too close to any wild animal, especially if there had been a mother bear nearby. The bear eventually left town toward the west. Information on what books the bear checked out was not available by press time. MIKE MUSOLFF

Gillett kindergarten teacher receives award

Shannon Slatky, Gillett School District kindergarten teacher, received the Richard T. Lowery Educator of Excellence Award for the 2023-24 school year.

The recipient is selected by the teaching staff of the Gillett School District, and the Nicolet Oconto Retired Teacher Association presents the award to the winner. Slatky



SHANNON SLATKY

received the award June 6. Slatky graduated from University of Wisconsin-River Falls in 2001 with a major in elementary education and a minor in early childhood education. She received her master’s

degree from Viterbo University in 2004. Slatky began teaching at Gillett Elementary School in August 2001 and has just completed her 23rd year of teaching. She has taught second through fourth grades but is currently teaching kindergarten. “Seeing the growth and change in students from the beginning of the

year until the end is my favorite thing about teaching, along with the hugs,” Slatky said. In addition to teaching, Slatky is an adviser for the National Honor Society and is the coach for the middle school basketball and track. She has been married to her husband, Kevin, for 20 years. They have two sons, Tyler and Brandon.



Anderson now another school district's problem

The news of Randi Anderson being put in charge of another school district is generating two reactions locally. The first one is that at least she's not going to impact our schools anymore, but then the second reaction is that she's going to be bringing another education institution to its knees.

I first heard of Anderson being a finalist for Sevastopol School District superintendent near the end of May via a post on Shawano, Let's Talk About It on Facebook from a former Shawano resident now living in Door County. When I read it, I couldn't help but feel empathy for the district's residents, especially the reporters who have to report on the district's activities there.

Unfortunately, the Shawano School District made a Faustian deal behind closed doors that, besides giving Anderson a golden parachute worth \$400,000 for the remainder of her contract, which ends this month, it also required a glowing letter of recommendation from the board president and that all references of Anderson's tenure with the district go through human resources in exchange for her stepping down quietly. In other words, Shawano school officials couldn't warn Sevastopol school officials about the havoc she wrought here and could potentially do to their community.

Made worse, Sevastopol utilized the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, the same organization that convinced Shawano's school board five years ago that Anderson was a good finalist for superintendent in 2019. I'd say their judgment is horrible, at best.

For those new to the area who might not have been aware, here are some of the lowlights of her three years running Shawano School District:

- While most other schools in Shawano County were only closed for a week or two weeks in fall 2020 due to high COVID-19 numbers, Shawano's protocols allowed Anderson to keep buildings closed and classes virtual for three months. The restrictions were lifted after significant community outcry, but the damage was done.

- Anderson convinced the school board to switch to Apple products for the classrooms, a move that was not only more expensive for the district, but caused quite the learning



Lee Pulaski
City editor

curve as teachers couldn't get the equipment to work right.

- Things really went into a spiral in March 2022 when Anderson and other district office administrators revealed that Shawano was facing a \$2 million deficit in the 2022-23 budget. Recommendations included cutting staff positions, but she also recommended the board close one of the schools, a choice between Olga Brener Intermediate School and Shawano Community Middle School, with the latter being the oldest building in the district. She recommended the closure decision be made quickly instead of "kicking the can" down the road a year. The board went another route.

- The school closing revelation brought angry parents and community members to multiple school board meetings to register their outrage about the school closing. Staff members spoke to the board about feeling unappreciated by Anderson, who was painted as a hostile leader. Anderson shrugged it off as a "small group of people" wanting to stir up trouble.

- From there, a petition for Anderson's resignation was circulated and was signed by over 1,200 people. When the petition would not be accepted by the school board at the time, the community focused its attention on two board members who voiced unwavering support for Anderson with recall petitions.

- In 2022, the district lost more than 60 employees, including all four principals and associate principals. Five board members resigned, including the two targeted for recall.

If Sevastopol had done its own investigating, officials might have discovered the chaos she orchestrated here and then thought twice about offering her a contract. It didn't, and now it's inherited someone who should not be in charge of educating our youngest.

Shawano is still picking up the pieces from Anderson's tenure. Poor Sevastopol doesn't know what it's in for.

I wish Sevastopol the best of luck, because from my experience, that school district is going to need it.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student essay hits the nail on the head

To the editor:

I just read the essay by Makenna Bubolz, a Shawano High School student, on the opinion page. My compliments to her on an essay that hits the nail on the head regarding

so many points about our country and culture that we all need to consider, especially in this fractious time.

I've not travelled abroad except for a non-combat stint in Vietnam, but many I know who have travelled internationally come home under-

standing how good we have it, compared even to advanced societies, much less those in the developing world.

She sums up her thoughts with the observation that our country is not perfect but is a work in progress. The freedoms we enjoy are not a guaran-

tee of success but provide the opportunity to achieve it through hard work. And the strength of our society is based on the great diversity of our people.

I urge everyone, if you have not read it, to go back to read and reflect on it.

Ken Harter, Oconto Falls

GUEST COLUMN

Dairy month celebrates state industry

For some, June kicks off the summer months as the weather gets warmer and school is finishing up for the year. For those in Wisconsin, June celebrates an entire industry that is central to Wisconsin's communities, culture and history. In America's Dairyland, our dairy industry is truly unique. Due to the hard work of industry, Wisconsinites are able to wear the title of America's Dairyland with pride and gratitude.

June Dairy Month is a monthlong celebration and recognition of dairy farmers and each person who works to get dairy products from the farm gate to dinner plates across the world. However, this month means so much more than just enjoying alltypes of cheese, milk, ice cream and other dairy products. It is also a month to reflect upon the dairy industry's contributions to our economy, workforce, culture and future.

Wisconsin is home to about 5,500 dairy farms, which is more than any other state. On each of



Randy Romanski
Guest columnist

these farms, hardworking people care for their animals, feed their communities and are stewards of the land and water. At the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), we work to serve as a resource to agriculture and each of our dairy farmers. This comes in many forms, including Dairy Processor Grants and the Wisconsin Farm Center.

This year, with cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) in cattle in some states across the country, DATCP has been working with the industry to safeguard our state from this disease event including providing biosecurity resources and information about support for dairy farms. DATCP's small but mighty Division of Animal Health is coordinating with producers to help

Wisconsin's 1.28 million cows stay happy and healthy.

To keep our dairy industry as one of Wisconsin's agricultural strengths, we also look to the future. Agriculture employs more than 11% of the state's total employment, and each year we welcome individuals into the agricultural workforce. Some grew up in agriculture, while others found a sense of belonging and chose to join this community.

Gov. Tony Evers has continued to support education, including agricultural education, to do what's best for our kids and the future of Wisconsin by helping these students grow their passion for agriculture and prepare for a career in the industry. Evers and the legislature have also supported expanding our dairy exports and, through the Wisconsin Initiative for Agricultural Exports, DATCP has been partnering with the industry to enhance trade opportunities for Wisconsin's dairy, crop and meat industries.

I recently led a trade mission to Santiago and Osorno in Chile with participants from six Wisconsin companies and organizations including Bioionix, Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin, GENEX, La Crosse Distilling Co., Moundview Dairy and Masters Gallery Foods. On this mission, we engaged in market briefings, met with local buyers and distributors, and developed business relationships and strategies for Chile.

This month and beyond, DATCP will continue to serve as a resource to Wisconsin's hardworking dairy industry. To do your part this June Dairy Month, please try a new Wisconsin cheese, buy some whey powder, and drink some extra milk. I also encourage you to talk to current and future generations of dairy farmers. Wisconsin has much to celebrate, and our farmers know firsthand about the past, present and future of America's Dairyland.

Randy Romanski is secretary for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.



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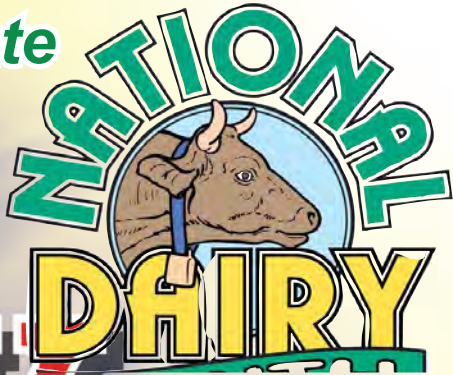


DAIRY

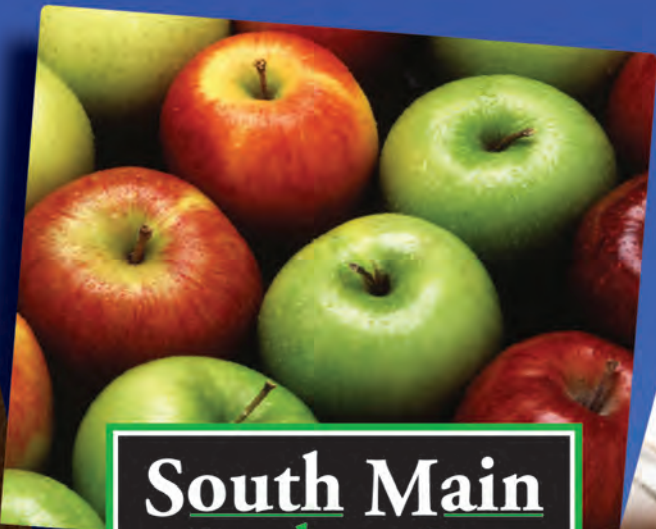
MONTH

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Pepsi or Mountain Dew
24pk 12oz cans

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Several Panthers chosen for all-conference

One golfer, one softball player named to first teams for their respective sports

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Oconto Falls sophomore Amelia Danielczak was named to the North Eastern Conference first team as an outfielder, while Kaden Riel eared first team all-conference honors on the golf course.

Joining Danielczak with softball honors was senior infielder Kyndra Staidl on the second team. Honorable mention honors went to junior pitcher Randi Metzler, senior catcher Kiera Cole, and junior infielders Maddy Maloney and Amber Otto.

On the golf course, Carson McDermid earned an honorable mention award.

Three boys track relay teams made the second team, and one athlete earned a pair of second team honors.

In the 4x100-meter relay, sophomore Elijah White, junior Evan Yuma, sophomore Brady Bursa and junior Isaac Bramer made the second team. The same four also were the second team in the 4x200.

In the 4x800, it was junior Griffin Kopke, junior Brant Laluzerne, freshman



Sage Mendolla and junior Emerson Rice picking up the award.

Senior Bryce Schef-dore earned second team honors for the shot put and discus.

Sophomore Rylie Shallow was the girls second team finisher for the 100-meter dash.

Earning honorable mention status was the 4x800 team of senior Brynn Hodkiewicz, senior Hannah Ludemann, senior Maddy Przybylski and junior Ava Hodkiewicz.

On the baseball field, junior infielder Cole Bozile and sophomore outfielder Alec Krejcarek earned second team selections.

Honorable mentions were earned by junior pitcher Jack Adler, sophomore pitcher Carter Heroux, junior catcher Grayson Cahak and junior utility player Easton Engel.

M&O Conference athletes honored for their play in 2024

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Lena High School's Logan Graef and Tyler Shallow are among those who earned Marinette and Oconto Conference all-conference selections in baseball.

Graef, a senior, was named to the first team for the infield.

Shallow, a junior, was named to the first team for the outfield.

Lena sophomore Colt Miller was named to the second team as a utility player.

From Gillett/Suring, junior Parker Haak earned honorable mention status, as did teammate Alex Kirschner, a senior. Lena senior Anthony Seefeldt also earned honorable mention.

Softball all-conference players included Gillett/Suring junior Emma

Kristof, first team infield, and Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy freshman Adrena Rabas, first team outfield.

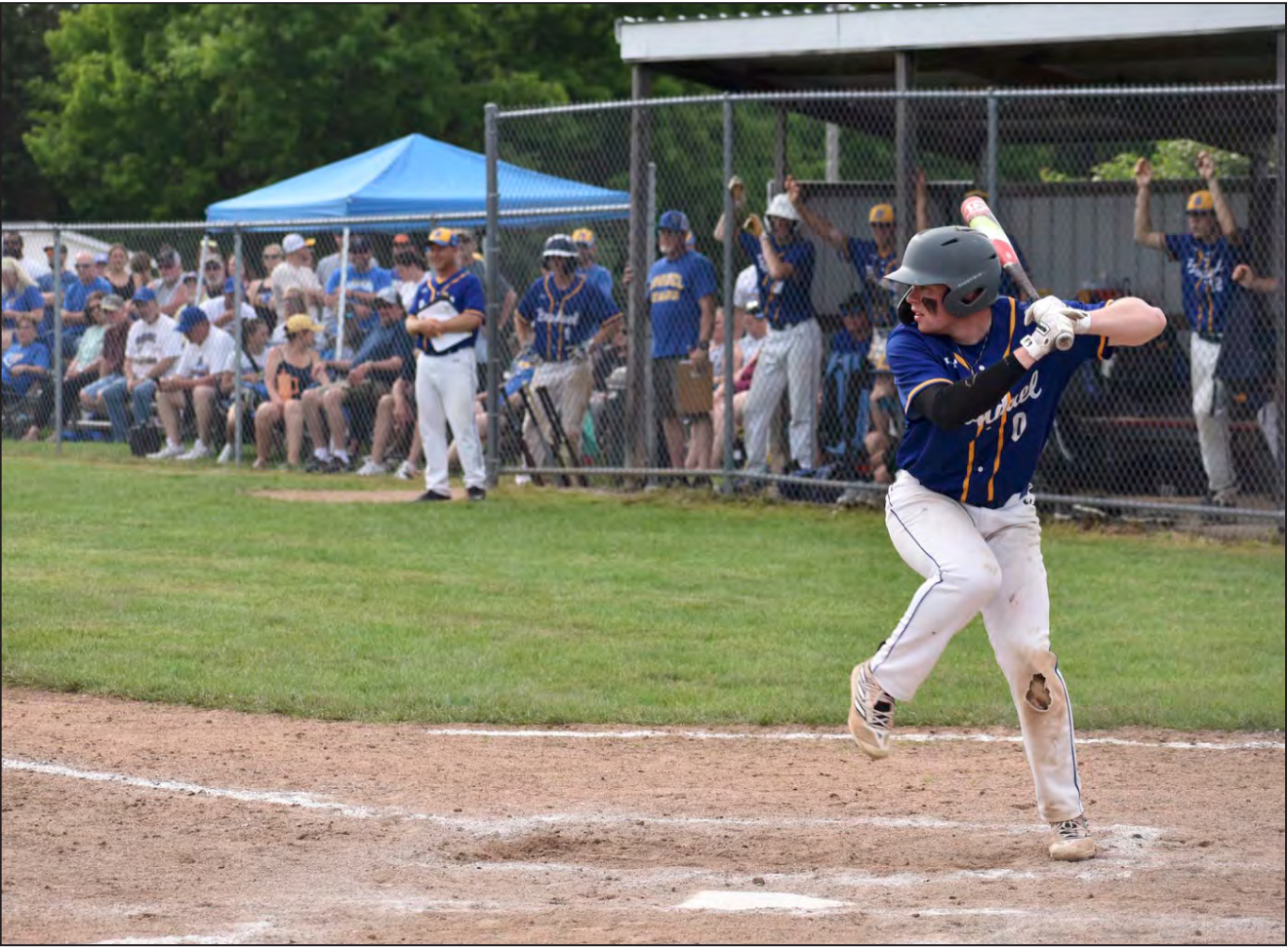
Lena/STAA junior Hannah Thompson was named to the second team for her infield play, while Gillett/Suring senior Bailey Stuart was named to the second team outfield.

Honorable mention was earned by Lena/STAA junior Peyton Dorow and Gillett/Suring senior Autumn Dryja.

Lena was the boys golf conference champion with team member Braden McVane the player of the year.

McVane was joined on the first team by teammates Drake Dionne and Mason Belongia.

Lena's Mason Spice and Gillett's Thomas Carmody were named to the second team.



Bonduel's Brodie Hartmann uncorks a pitch during the Bears' 6-0 sectional championship victory over St. Mary's Catholic on June 4 at Orby Jones Sports Complex in Gillett. The win advanced the Bears to their first-ever state tournament appearance, at which they lost 2-1 in the semifinal game.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Bears lose in semifinal game at state tournament

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Bonduel's first-ever trip to the state baseball tournament ended in defeat in the Division 3 semifinal game at Neuroscience Group Field at Fox Cities Stadium in Grand Chute. The No. 3 seeded Bears lost 2-1 to No. 2 seed Kenosha St. Joseph Catholic on June 11.

Kenosha St. Joseph took a 2-0 lead in the first inning on an error, a double, a wild pitch and a ground

out.

Bonduel scored its only run in the third inning on back-to-back doubles by Easton Reinke and Noah Weier.

Bonduel had its chances but couldn't get that key hit to score.

The Bears loaded the bases with two outs in the top of the first but couldn't score.

They left two more runners on in the second inning, scored its one run in the third after starting

with back-to-back doubles and stranded a runner on third with two outs in the fourth.

Cade Johnson took the loss for Bonduel, pitching six innings while allowing seven hits, two runs and four walks while striking out three.

In the other semifinal game, No. 1 seed Aquinas defeated No. 4 Cumberland 10-0.

Two days later, Aquinas thren defeated Kenosha St. Joseph 6-4 for the

championship.

Bonduel ends the season with a 23-4 overall record.

In Central Wisconsin Conference-East Division games, Reinke led the team with a .451 batting average, and Kody Schroeder was second with a .385 average.

Reinke also led with 27 RBIs, and Beckett Hartlaben had 19.

Johnson earned seven wins, and Brodie Hartmann had five.

Hawks fly to the top of all-conference choices

Bruette named unanimous selection on baseball diamond

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Shawano athletes on the baseball diamond, golf course, and track and field courses were chosen to the first teams for their respective sports in the Bay Conference, with one player a unanimous selection.

Junior infielder Pete Bruette was a unanimous selection for the all-conference baseball team.

The tennis doubles team of George Buerman and Tristan Sheldon were named to the first team on their court.

For boys track, senior Will Chelberg was a first-team pick for the 3,200-meter run, and senior Drake Herm was first-team pick for the

pole vault. Also earning first-team honors was the 4x800 relay team of seniors Andon Chelberg, Will Chelberg and Ethan Onesti and junior Trevor Schwartz.

For the girls, Hatty Fritz was named to the first team for shot put and discus.

Second team honors for baseball were earned by senior catcher Carsen Herm and senior at-large player Thomas Keszo.

Getting honorable mention awards were junior infielders Crew Weisnicht and Parker Beyer, and senior pitcher Dylan Hodkiewicz.

Tristan Tetting and Isaac Welander were second-team picks for

doubles teams on the tennis court.

In boys track, second-team selections were Onesti in the 1,600-meter run and the 4x400 team of sophomore Ryan Schweitzer, freshman Maverick Theis, senior Connor Chelberg and senior Drake Herm.

Second-team picks for girls track were senior Grace Chelberg in the 1600; Lilly Guenther in the 3200; junior Adalyn Barkley in the triple jump; Fritz in the discus; and the 4x800 team of Barkley, sophomore Maci Beyer, Guenther and sophomore Bailey Hendricks.

Earning honorable mention awards were sophomore Tela Hopfensperger

in the 300-meter hurdles; junior Madisyn Weinig in the shot put and discus; and the 4x200 team of sophomore Natalie Bystol, senior Onna Hermann Hopfensperger and Beyer.

On the soccer field, junior Trinity Popelka (midfield) and sophomore Kyla Dove (defense) were named to the second team.

Second-team selections for softball were sophomore pitcher Kadence Meyers, junior infielder Ella Stuber and senior utility player Braylyn Babino.

Junior infielder Abby Wachtel was chosen for an honorable mention award.

Earning honorable mention status on the golf course was senior Luke Guenther.



Inspect your boating equipment and review safety tips to prepare for the summer boating season. Experts encourage boaters to take safety courses and familiarize themselves with boating basics. Also, they underscore the need for planning, designated drivers and prioritizing safety in all water-related activities.

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING COUNCIL

Make life jackets part of your safe summer boating experience

Law requires wearable life jackets for every person on board

BY KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-chief

As summer approaches in the Upper Midwest, the allure of boating draws many to the picturesque lakes and rivers.

However, amidst the excitement, it's crucial to remember the importance of following safe boating guidelines.

"Your biggest piece of safety equipment on a boat is your life jacket," said Lt. Darren Kuhn, boating law administrator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). "Safety is an important part of water fun. Wisconsin rivers and lakes can be relaxing and family-friendly places to spend a spring day when you put safety first and respect the water."

The legal mandate in Wisconsin requires boats to carry wearable life jackets for every person on board, with larger boats also needing throwable devices. Despite this longstanding law, Kuhn notes that insufficient life jackets remain a common

violation.

"Eighty percent of boating fatalities nationwide are a result of drowning, making it the number one cause of death in boating accidents," he cautions. "When worn, they're proven to work," he said, urging boaters to consistently wear life jackets rather than just keeping them on board.

It's also important to inspect your life jackets for wear and tear. Most inflatable jackets should be checked for leaks every six months, and the cartridge should be checked before each use. The jacket manufacturer's website should have instructions on how to check your life jacket status.

Jennifer Doering, emergency medicine physician assistant with Aspirus Health, echoes Kuhn's sentiments.

"It's important that we all have life jackets available, and not only just available, but we have them there and ready and on, preferably," she said.

In addition to wearing a life jacket, Doering

recommends the following proactive safety measures:

- Vigilance around children while swimming, as they can swiftly slip under the water.
- Abstinence from alcohol during swimming or boating activities.
- Awareness of water depth before jumping or diving.

"Recent changes in weather mean some of the lakes aren't quite as deep as they were previously," Doering said. "It's important to remember to check, especially before diving headfirst."

Additionally, Kuhn recommends the following precautions:

- Heightened caution during periods of increased boat traffic, particularly on holiday weekends.
- Reduced speed, especially in unfamiliar waters or for less experienced boaters.
- Avoidance of night boating due to reduced visibility and higher collision risks.
- Monitoring weather forecasts and refraining

from water activities during storms.

- Prohibition of bow riding, or sitting on the front of the boat with feet dangling off, while the boat's motor is running, a practice that can lead to serious propeller injuries.
- Abstinence from alcohol, especially when taking prescription medications.

"The other thing about alcohol is that people don't realize how it affects people differently on the boat," Kuhn said. "Being out in the sun, the wave action, generally not eating a lot while out on the water — all that plays a part in how fast alcohol affects the body."

Both experts stress the importance of education and preparation. Kuhn encourages boaters to take safety courses and familiarize themselves with boating basics, while Doering underscores the need for planning, designated drivers and prioritizing safety in all water-related activities.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

There is no need to travel far to enjoy a round of golf.

There are area nearly a dozen spaced among the boundaries that encase Shawano and Oconto counties.

Courses can be found from Wittenberg in the west to Oconto in the east with several in between.

Lakewood, Abrams,

Suring, Oconto Falls, Cecil, Gresham and Shawano are also home to courses.

In addition to the time on the course, golfers and the public are invited to the clubhouse for food and drinks. Most offer a Friday fish fry menu as well.

Oconto County

- Irish Greens Golf Course, 2946 Logtown Road, Oconto, 920-834-2355
- McCauslin Brook Golf

and Country Club, 17067 Club House Lane, Lakewood, 715-276-7623

- Pine Acres Golf Course, 3235 County Road EE, Abrams, 920-826-7765
- Red Maple Country Club, 501 Golf Course Road, Suring, 920-842-2553
- River Island Golf Course, 100 River Island Drive, Oconto Falls, 920-846-3303
- The Patriot Golf Club, 2954 Sandalwood Road,

Abrams, 920-826-7770

Shawano County

- Golden Sands Golf Course, 300 Nabor Road, Cecil, 715-745-2189
- Maple Hills Golf Course, N6621 Cardinal Lane, Wittenberg, 715-253-2448
- Pine Hills Golf Club, N9499 Pine Hills Drive, Gresham, 715-787-3778
- Shawano Lake Golf Course, W5714 Lake Drive, Shawano, 715-524-4890

Most BABA games played despite rain

Early rain scrapped the Eland at Hatley Badger Amateur Baseball Association game over the weekend. All others were able to get games in with some delayed starts.

East-West Division Week 7, June 16
Caroline 1, Marion 0
WP: Braiden Behnke in Relief
LP: Jaden Stuhr 9IP, 12K
Caroline hitters: 4 hits
Jack Yeager, Neil Hoffman, Klay Finger, and Tyler Marquardt each had a hit.

Marion Hitters – 2 Hits
Jake Westphal and Mitch Elandt each had hits.
Neopit 8, Tilleda 5
WP: Walker Miller 6IP
LP: Zack Fehrman
Neopit hitters:
Walker Miller 2x3
Bob Peters 2x5 w/2B
Wendell Waukau 2x5 w/2B
Tilleda hitters:
Zack Fehrman 2x4
Brad Bartz 2x4
Joel Brei 2x3
Clintonville 18, Tigertont 2
WP: Brock Smejkal
LP: Caleb Dahlstrom
Clintonville hitters: 16 hits
Hunter Vollmer 6x6
Austin Hoffman 2x3 w/HR
Mitch Ebben 2x3
Jake Van Allen 3x6
Tigerton Hitters: 6 hits
Gunner Kopitzke 2x4
Paul Sellner, Izaiah Hiddie, Caleb Dahlstrom and Chris Kopitzke each had a hit.

Crandon 11, Gresham 9
WP: Cole Kupfer
LP: Jaden Carroll
Crandon hitters:
Tyler Sprink 3x5
Brad Shepard 3x4
Matty Schallhorn 2x5
Stetson Flannery 2x3
Gresham hitters:
Cory Reimer 1x4 w/HR
Crew Weisnicht 2x3 w/2B
Wyatt Nietzer 2x2
Luke Pecore 2x6 w/2B
Leopolis 9, Shawano 6
WP: Anderson Schmidt
LP: Akrin Verhein
Leopolis hitters:
Ezra Spencer 2x5
Ryan Malueg 2x3
Nate Laude 2x4
Alex Zimmerman 2x3
Shawano hitters:
Kadin Uhrke 2x5
Leland Jones 2x5
Freddy Kroening 3x5
Mike Korth 2x4
Little Falls 14, Menominee 0
WP: Chris Dunn 5 IP, OR, 1 BB, 4 SO
LP: Alex Peters
Little Falls hitters, 12 hits
Parker Gullixon 4-5 HR
5 rbi
Kyle Finger 2-4 double
3 rbi
Cam Gruenwald 1-2

Antigo 11, Wittenberg 9
WP: Cole Kupfer
LP: Jaden Carroll
Crandon hitters:
Tyler Sprink 3x5
Brad Shepard 3x4
Matty Schallhorn 2x5
Stetson Flannery 2x3
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5 rbi
Kyle Finger 2-4 double
3 rbi
Cam Gruenwald 1-2

double
Menominee hitters – 3 hits
Anik Corn 1-3 double
Alex Peters 1-2
Peter Bruette 1-2
South Central

Division Week 8, June 16
Scandinavia 11, Plover 1
WP: Ben Lee CG
LP: Kaden Thauer
Scandy hitters:
Logan Moe 3x4 triple 3 runs
RJ Rosenthal 2x3
Braden Hunkins 2x4
double 2 RBIs
Plover hitters:
Kevin Jastromski 2x3
Derek Lemmons 1x3
Bennett Klish 1x3
Winneconne 14, Weymont 7
WP: Wyatt Hammersma
LP: Dutch Nickel
Winneconne hitters:
Jordan Buchholz 3-3 2 R, 2 RBI
Brock Wilde 4-6 3 R, 2 RBI
Jared Danke 2-5 3 RBI
Weymont hitters:
Tyler Wetzel 4-5 2 R, 1 RBI
Luke Schwenn 2-5, 1 RBI
Wyatt Wetzel 2-3, 1 R
New London - BYE

Northern Division Week 7, June 14
Biramwood 5, Wittenberg 1
WP: Mason Meverden
LP: Nathan Waupekenay
Biramwood:
Jesse Osness 2x3
5 other players with a hit
Wittenberg:
Zach Urquhart 2x4
4 other players with a hit
Antigo/Polar 3, Elderon 2
WP: Eli Fleischman
LP: Nathan Lemanczyk
Antigo/Polar:
Jed Weix 3x4
Eli Fleischman 2x4 w/HR
Wesli Rivera 1x2 w/ dbl
Donavon Rogers, AJ Kirsch, Cole Shepherd, Will Kubeny each had a hit
Elderon:
Ian Zienert 3x4 w/ dbl
Ian Salverson, Brandon Groshek and Mike Lehman each had a hit
June 16
Eland at Hatley PPD rain
Aniwa - BYE
June 21, 7:30 p.m.
Hatley at Wittenberg
June 23, 1:30 p.m.
Eland at Aniwa
Biramwood at Elderon
Antigo/Polar - BYE
Neopit at Menominee
Marion at Clintonville
Gresham at Shawano
Caroline at Crandon
Tigerton at Tilleda
Little Falls at Leopolis
Winneconne at Scandinavia
Plover at New London
WeyMont - BYE

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Hatley at Wittenberg
June 23, 1:30 p.m.
Eland at Aniwa
Biramwood at Elderon
Antigo/Polar - BYE
Neopit at Menominee
Marion at Clintonville
Gresham at Shawano
Caroline at Crandon
Tigerton at Tilleda
Little Falls at Leopolis
Winneconne at Scandinavia
Plover at New London
WeyMont - BYE

Northern Division Week 7, June 14
Biramwood 5, Wittenberg 1
WP: Mason Meverden
LP: Nathan Waupekenay
Biramwood:
Jesse Osness 2x3
5 other players with a hit
Wittenberg:
Zach Urquhart 2x4
4 other players with a hit
Antigo/Polar 3, Elderon 2
WP: Eli Fleischman
LP: Nathan Lemanczyk
Antigo/Polar:
Jed Weix 3x4
Eli Fleischman 2x4 w/HR
Wesli Rivera 1x2 w/ dbl
Donavon Rogers, AJ Kirsch, Cole Shepherd, Will Kubeny each had a hit
Elderon:
Ian Zienert 3x4 w/ dbl
Ian Salverson, Brandon Groshek and Mike Lehman each had a hit
June 16
Eland at Hatley PPD rain
Aniwa - BYE
June 21, 7:30 p.m.
Hatley at Wittenberg
June 23, 1:30 p.m.
Eland at Aniwa
Biramwood at Elderon
Antigo/Polar - BYE
Neopit at Menominee
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Plover at New London
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DAIRYLAND LEAGUE

Navarino pounds out 21 hits in win over Nichols

June 16
Waupaca 14, Cecil 3
Cecil could not match the power of Waupaca as they lost 14-3 in Dairyland League baseball action. Waupaca Lakemen opened the scoring in the second after Ryan Dayton singled, scoring one run. They added to their early lead in the top of the third inning after Walker Smith doubled and Alex Pankratz tripled, each scoring one run. With score 7-2, they scored six runs on six hits in the top of the eighth inning to secure the win. Cam Seidl earned the win for Waupaca Lakemen. The right-handed pitcher surrendered zero hits and zero runs over five innings, striking out five and walking one. Cole Anderson pitched four innings in relief for Cecil Mudhens. The reliever gave up three hits and zero runs while striking out five and walking one. Tucker Bouche took the loss for Cecil Mudhens. The right-handed pitcher went three innings, surrendering seven runs (five earned) on seven hits, striking out two and walking two. Cecil scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh on a home run to right field by Braden Uelman. Garrett Engel and Uelman each collected one hit for Cecil. Waupaca accumulated 16 hits in the game. Ryan Makuski and Ryan each collected three hits for Waupaca. Smith, Dayton, Cook and Pankratz each drove in two runs. Pankratz and Johnny Popham each collected multiple hits.

Pulaski 11, Marinette 4
The Reds defeated Marinette 11-4. Easton Vertz picked up the win, going seven strong innings.

Navarino 12, Nichols 5
The Rangers pounded out 21 hits en route to a 12-5 victory over the Nitros. Navarino scored five runs in the first as Matt Krause was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded followed by a Spencer Dauphinee double. Joey Wagester would drive in a run on an RBI ground-out with Adam Beilfuss doubling to right center to score the 5fifth run. Ryan Boettcher singled in Bailey Dingeldein to make it 6-0 after two innings. Navarino extended its lead in the fourth on a deep single with the bases loaded by Krause. Nichols would respond with two runs of their own in the bottom half making it 8-2 after four innings. The Rangers then added more to their total in the fifth as Bailey Dingeldein singled in Joey Wagester followed by back to back singles by Dawson Schmidt and Boettcher to load the bases. Brett Krull's double scored three more runs, pushing the lead to 12-2. The Nitros would score two in the fifth and one in the ninth as Navarino cruised to victory. Spencer Dauphinee gets the win pitching five innings with Joey Wagester hurling the last four innings.

June 14
Hofa Park 6, Navarino 2
The Hofa Park Panthers defeated the Navarino Rangers 6-2. The Panthers went ahead 1-0 in the top of the fourth inning on a Tyler Jacobson double that scored Brinton Anderson who had walked to start the inning. Hofa Park added another run in the top of the fifth when Rob Schuettpelez doubled and later scored on a sacrifice fly by Anderson. Navarino plated a single run in the sixth and tied the game in the bottom of the eighth with another run. The Panthers scored four runs in the top of the ninth when Nick Volz singled to break the tie, Anderson singled to put Hofa Park up by two runs and Trevor Cornell followed up with a two-run double to score the final two runs of the game. Tyler Jacobson got the win on the mound, throwing two innings of relief, allowing one earned run. Kyle Olson started the game and threw seven innings, allowing one earned run on seven hits while striking out four batters.

June 9
Nichols at Marinette, postponed to Aug. 2

Six area high school athletes named to coaches' all-star basketball game

The Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association will hold its 2024 All-Star Games later this month at JustAGame Fieldhouse in Wisconsin Dells. Two area boys and four girls are among those students chosen to participate. The Girls All-Star Games will be held June 26, while the Boys All-Star Games will be held June 27. Gillett's Aydin Franti and Ben Matczak are on the boys roster. For the girls, local athletes Kathryn Raddatz of Oconto Falls, Ella Hischke of Bonduel, Hailey Zernicke of Bonduel and Madolyn Haffner of Gresham were chosen. Both the boys and girls games will feature additional entertainment options for the whole family. Wisconsin Association of Cheer & Pom Squads (WACPC) dance teams made up of high school students from across the state will perform at halftime of several of the events. The Milwaukee Bucks Rim Rockers will performance between the Division 4 and Division 3 games each day. New this year, a 3-Point Contest will be held each day between the Division 3 and Division 2 games. For a full schedule and ticket prices, visit https://www.wissports.net/news_article/show/1312118.

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Shawano golf course to host outing to benefit disabled vets

Four-person scramble slated for Aug. 10

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Department of Wisconsin announced that Shawano Lake Golf Course will host the first ever Eastern Classic Golf Tournament.

Funds raised from the event will go toward supporting the DAV's initiatives that assist veterans in Wisconsin.

In fiscal year 2022, the DAV Transportation Program in Wisconsin provided transportation for 16,400 sick or disabled veterans, requiring 45,985 volunteer hours and a total of 611,695 miles.

The Eastern Classic Golf Tournament will be a four-person scramble on Aug. 10. The \$500 entry fee includes green fees,

two carts per team, lunch, dinner and hole games.

A patriotic golf attire contest is among the activities.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 10:30 a.m. Lunch and dinner will be provided with registration, in addition to hole prizes and challenge coins for veteran participants. Veterans memorials and honorees will be at each hole. Raffles and awards will follow dinner.

Prizes will be awarded for first, seventh and 14th places.

Adam Alexander, DAV's 2022 Disabled American Veteran of the Year, will be the guest speaker.

Shawano Lake Golf Course (nick-named

"Shalagoco" or simply the Shal), was established in 1922 and is one of Wisconsin's oldest courses, according to the golf course website.

The Shalagoco is a public course that features 18-holes and 6,231 yards spread over 120 acres of rolling, tree-lined fairways with finely manicured greens.

The facility, located at 5714 Lake Drive, also contains an eight-tee driving range, a putting green and a sand bunker practice area.

For more information on the tournament, contact Pat Leitemann, event coordinator, at 920-470-4494 or eventcoordinator@DAVWIEasternClassic.org, or visit www.davwieasternclassic.org.

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Bonduel, Oconto Falls girls golf teams earn academic honors

The Golf Coaches Association of Wisconsin (GCAW) announced the recipients of the 13th annual Team Academic All-State award, established to recognize high school golf teams with the highest "team" GPAs (team is defined as the five golfers on the roster for the girls' fall 2023 WIAA regional tournament).

Bonduel and Oconto Falls teams earned honorable mention status in Division 2.

The three teams with the highest cumulative team GPA in each division (1 and 2) are recognized with gold, silver and bronze medals for each student-athlete, and their schools will receive a certificate to note this accomplishment.

Schools with at least a 3.25 team GPA receive a certificate acknowledging honorable mention status.

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Erdman new grand knight for Knights of Columbus

June 11 was the passing of the gavel with the Knights of Columbus Bishop Fox Council 2836 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano.

Longtime Grand Knight Lee Bosdeck passed the gavel to Doug Erdman, who will take the reins for the next year. Erdman will lead the assistance of Stu Kohlin, deputy grand knight and also guide committees such as membership, programs, faith, family, community and life.

The next event for the local knights council will be the membership drive, community events include Charlie's Red Barn, the Sacred Heart Picnic and a presentation of the check from the money raised from the latest Tootsie Roll Drive, which goes to Lakeland Industries in Shawano.



DOUG ERDMAN

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

- OCONTO:** National Walleye Tour tournament, 7 a.m., Breakwater Park and Harbor, 1301 Harbor Road. Weigh-in begins 3:15 p.m.
- SHAWANO:** School rummage sale, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wolf River Lutheran High School, W7467 River Bend Road.
- SHAWANO:** Learn to Ski Program with Shawano Ski Sharks, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive. \$15 fee due at check-in.
- SHAWANO:** Alzheimer's Awareness Walk, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. One- or two-mile walk, vendor booths, food, educational materials, remembrance/honoring activities, music. Hosted by ADRC of the Wolf River Region Dementia Care Program.
- SHAWANO:** Believe and Ski Program, 1 p.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive. Shawano Ski Sharks bringing waterskiing to people with disabilities through adaptive skiing. admin@skisharks.org
- SURING:** Recovery Talking Circle, 6-8 p.m. South Branch Community Center, W1281 County Road M.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

- SHAWANO:** School rummage sale, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wolf River Lutheran High School, W7467 River Bend Road.
- SHAWANO:** FRESH Project Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St.
- SHAWANO:** Yoga and Float on the Wolf River, 9 a.m. to noon, Great Wolf River Tubing, 1013 S. Water St. Hosted by Shawano Paddlers. \$20
- OCONTO:** Oconto County School Supply Drive Kickoff Event, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thompson's County Market, 722 Brazeau St.
- SHAWANO:** Naberhood Block Party, 5:30-8 p.m., 214 S. Main St. Music by Blue Suede Cadillacs.

SHAWANO: Stock car racing, 6-10 p.m., Shawano Speedway, 990 E. Green Bay St. Admission \$12 17 and up, \$6 12-16, free 11 and younger with paid adult.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

- SHAWANO:** Zurko Promotions Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. \$2 admission.
- SHAWANO:** Brunch on the Farm, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Shawland Farms, W6381 Waukechon Road. Adults \$10, children 4-11 \$5. Diary Dash and Stroll 5k 7 a.m., church service 7:30 a.m., wagon rides, farm tours, petting zoo, children's activities, live music.
- KESHENA:** St. Michael's Church Festival, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Michael's Church, N816 State Highway 47-55. Cash raffle, basket raffle, silent auction, thrift and gift store, taco/brat food sales, children's games, vendors.
- SHAWANO:** Music at Arlington Park, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Arlington Park, 300 Humphrey Circle. Lonesome Road Band.

MONDAY, JUNE 24

- SHAWANO:** Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Room 4, 100 W. Presbyterian St. Information: Dallas Gast, 715-701-5388 or dallasgast8@gmail.com.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

- OCONTO FALLS:** Oconto County Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., Highland Square.
- SHAWANO:** Naberhood Block Party, 5:30-7 p.m., 214 S. Main St. Kid's Music Show with Mischief and Magic.
- KESHENA:** Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

- BOWLER:** Community Bike Ride with Friends of the Mountain Bay Trail, 5:30 p.m., meet at snowmobile shelter on County Road A east of convenience store. Bowler to Onesti Road Route.
- SHAWANO:** Shawano Ski Sharks Waterski Show, 6 p.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive. Junior show 5:30 p.m. Free admission, donations accepted.
- NEOPIT:** Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. The Circle House, W6715 Shawpokasic St. Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

- NAVARINO:** Star Wars Day Camp, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Ages 7-12. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Register at 715-758-6999 or navarino.org
- KESHENA:** Tribal Elder Food Box Distribution, 1 p.m., N737 Headstart Road. All elderly age 55 and enrolled in a federally organized tribe are eligible.
- GILLET:** Community Market, 5-7 p.m., Gillett Public Library, 200-204 E. Main St.
- MARION:** Annual Auction, 5-8 p.m., Marion Historical Society, 620 E. Ramsdell St. Auction begins 6 p.m.
- SHAWANO:** Thursdayz at Franklin, 6-8:30 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Music with Salsa Manzana.
- BOWLER:** Native American Talking Circle, 7-9 p.m., Mohican Family Center, N8605 Oak St. Information: Yvonne Burr, 715-326-0891.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

- SHAWANO:** Smalley Beach Bash, 2-7 p.m., Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive. Food trucks, giant inflatables, DJ/karaoke, tubing with the Shawano Ski

- Sharks, Popsicles with the Shawano area police, crafts with the Shawano Library.
- OCONTO FALLS:** Summer Concert Series, 6-9 p.m., East Side Beach, 631 N. Main St. Music by Adam Trask. Food and refreshments available, no carry-ins. Bring a lawn chair.
- SURING:** Recovery Talking Circle, 6-8 p.m. South Branch Community Center, W1281 County Road M.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

- SHAWANO:** FRESH Project Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. First Presbyterian Church will have bake sale at the market this week.
- OCONTO FALLS:** Joyful Noise Outdoor Concert, 2-6 p.m., East Side Beach, 631 N. Main St. Live music hosted by Grace Lutheran Church, featuring Grace Worship Band, The Rockin' Psalms, OWCC Band, and Lona and Brad Ryczek.
- SHAWANO:** Naberhood Block Party, 5:30-8 p.m., 214 S. Main St. Music by Just About Right.
- SHAWANO:** Stock car racing, 6-10 p.m., Shawano Speedway, 990 E. Green Bay St. Admission \$12 17 and up, \$6 12-16, free 11 and younger with paid adult.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

- SHAWANO:** Zurko Promotions Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. \$2 admission.
- TILLED:** Tilleda Fun Dayz, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., The Wright Place, N6185 County Road D. Co-sponsored by Tilleda Sno-Riders. Music by Terry Oke 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., food and beverages starting at 10:30 a.m., vendors open 11 a.m., parade 1 p.m., music by Bill Hurley and Mike Daley 2-6 p.m. Petting zoo, bounce house, kids games, raffles.

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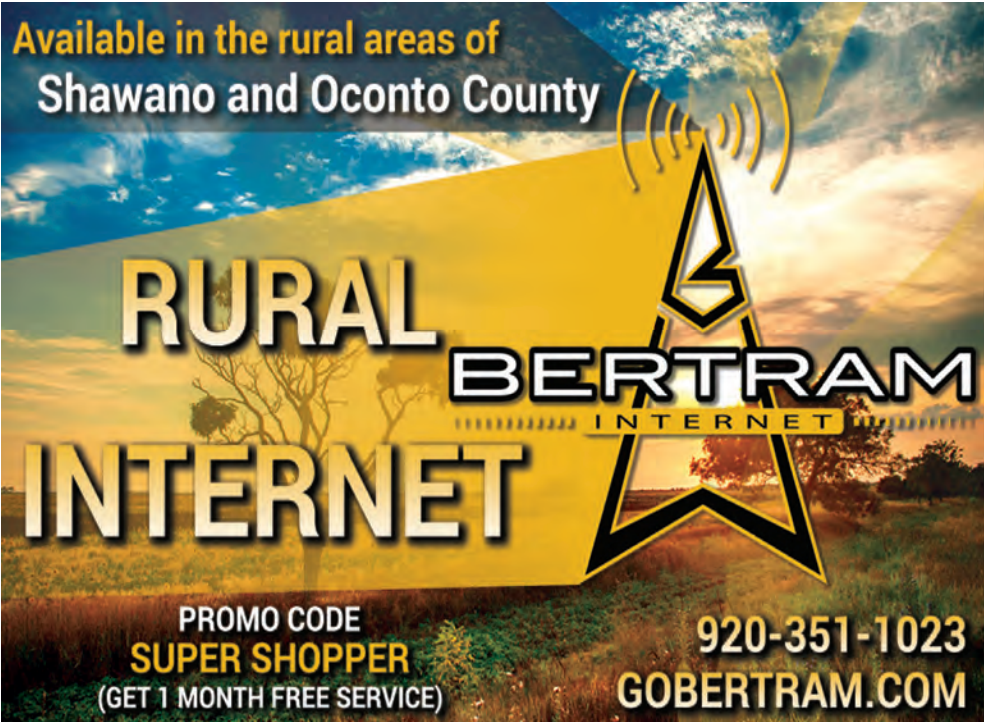


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80 Nativity scene trio

81 “__ that a lot”

82 Millennials’ parents

85 Home territory

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125 Half an ice cream duo

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WITTENBERG
ENTERPRISE
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Ad Deadline: 3pm Thursday Prior

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LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts.
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Can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're cutting installation costs in half & offering a FREE safety upgrade! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/31/24
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The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments & No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call today! 1-877-651-1850 (WCAN)

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DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? GET RESULTS!
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American Eskimo/Shelti Cross Pups Fluffy/Friendly Dewormed \$60
715-223-4780

AUSSIE DOODLE PUPS Shots/Worm/VetCk Choc, Merle & Parti \$600-\$800 715-255-2661 (#269146)

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REG YORKSHIRE TERRIER PUPPIES Vet checked/wormed/dews, Males \$1000; Females \$1200 No Sun Calls 715-409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

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Services

CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS home Internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G & 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, & data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-223-7265 (WCAN)

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

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STROKE & CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death, according to the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION. Screening can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149! Call 1-888-675-5048 (WCAN)

Services

Get DISH Satellite TV & Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus limited Time Up to \$600 in Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-844-897-8523 (WCAN)

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UP TO \$15,000 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral & other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company 844-433-5898 or visit www.Life55plus.info/wcp (WCAN)

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CALL 844-374-2565 (WCAN)

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1330 E Lieg Ave
2 bedrooms
Great location
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Pete 715-218-5731

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Starting at \$795 + Deposit
Tom 715-280-0525

APARTMENTS/DUPLEX

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Garage Available
Starting at \$715 + Deposit
Tom 715-280-0525

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Rusty Roofs, Metal bldings
Free Est 608-221-3510
920-821-6311

APARTMENTS

TMTSUS
For rent 3 Bedroom upper Apt, includes stove, refrigerator, heat & ater. NO PETS, NO SO a mont secrit deosit reerences 07 Main ST Srin, 920 42 27 **700**

153 Main ST Oconto Falls Unit 9, 2 Bedroom
For Rent Available Aug 1 \$680. per month + \$680. Security Deposit includes Stove, Fridge & Heat. Tenant pays Electric. REFERENCES & NO PETS
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Legals
WNAXLP

ffa16dc8
06/21/24
CITY OF OCONTO FALLS NOTICE – RESOLUTION 24-005 APPROVAL
The following resolution has been passed by the Common Council for the City of Oconto Falls at a meeting held on June 11th, 2024. A full text of said resolution may be obtained from the Oconto Falls clerk's office located at 500 N. Chestnut Ave, Oconto Falls, WI 54154. Phone: 920-846-4505.
RESOLUTION 24-005: RESOLUTION OF COMPLIANCE MAINTENANCE RESOLUTION

Posted by City Deputy Clerk
Jenny Friedman

WNAXLP


NEW MEDIA INC.

6866d4d4
06/21/24
Notice Town of Bagley
The Town has received 2 applications for **Class B Beer & Class B Liquor License** renewals.

Delores J Sekey, DBA
The Shop
10702 County RD. Z
Suring, WI 54174

Steven Wendt, DBA
Article 15 Bar and Grill
10840 Westcott Lake Rd.
Pound, WI 54161

ALAN SLEETER, CLERK
TOWN OF BAGLEY
WNAXLP

25eb0758
06/21/24
PUBLIC NOTICE - TOWN OF MORGAN
Class B Beer and Class B Liquor.
Hilltop Bar, located in the Town of Morgan at 2514 County Road C, Sampson, applied for renewal of following license: (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025)
Submitted: Erin Mooers
Town Clerk, June 8, 2024
WNAXLP

fa9764a7
06/21/24, 07/19/24
Notice of the City of Oconto Falls
Open Book & Board of Review

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CITY OF OCONTO FALLS
COUNTY OF OCONTO

NOTICE OF OPEN BOOK FOR ASSESSMENT ROLL EXAMINATION
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to s. 70.45, Wis. Stats., the assessment roll for the Year 2024 assessment will be open for examination on **Monday, the 15th day of July, 2024** at the City Municipal Building, 500 North Chestnut Ave from **3:00 PM until 5:00 PM. If property owners have questions regarding the valuation of their real estate or personal property and are unable to attend Open Book examination date, you are encouraged to contact Accurate Assessing, accurateassessor.com or (920-749-8098) prior to this date to discuss any concerns.**

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review (from here on referred to as BOR or board) for the City of Oconto Falls shall meet on **Thursday, August 1, 2024 from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm** at the City Municipal Building, 500 North Chestnut Ave to hear objections from property owners who follow requirements pursuant to s.70.47(7), Wis. Stats.

Please be advised of the following requirements:
• Sec.70.47(7)(aa), Wis.Stats., provides that the BOR may deny a hearing to a property owner who does not allow the assessor to complete an exterior view.
• After the first BOR meeting and before the BOR's final adjournment, no person who is scheduled to appear before the BOR may contact, or provide information to, a member of the BOR about that person's objection except at a BOR session.
• No person may appear before the BOR, testify to the BOR by phone or contest the amount of any assessment unless, at least 48 hours before the first meeting of the BOR or at least 48 hours before the objection is heard if the objection is allowed under sub.(3) (a), that person provides to the BOR clerk a notice as to whether the person will ask for removal under sub.(6m) and if so which member will be removed and the person's reasonable estimate of the length of time that the hearing will take.
• When appearing before the BOR, the person must specify in writing, his or her estimate of the land value and improvements that he or she is objecting and the person must specify the information that he or she used to arrive at that estimate.
• No person may appear before the BOR, testify to the BOR by phone or object to a valuation; if the assessor or objector made the valuation using the income method; unless the person supplies the assessor with all the information about income and expenses, as specified in the manual under state law (sec.73.03(2a), Wis.Stats.), that the assessor requests. The municipality or county must provide by ordinance for the confidentiality of information about income and expenses provided to the assessor under this paragraph and provide exceptions for persons using the information in the discharge of duties imposed by law or of the duties of their office or by order of a court. The information that is provided under this paragraph, unless a court determines that it is inaccurate, is not subject to the right of inspection and copying under state law (sec.19.35(1), Wis.Stats.).

Respectfully submitted, City of Oconto Falls Deputy Clerk Jenny Friedman
Published as a Class I Notice on June 21, 2024 in Oconto County Times Herald

WNAXLP

9e13b295
06/21/24, 06/28/24
NOTICE OF BIDS
TOWN OF BREED
LOCAL ROAD PROJECTS

The Town Board of the Town of Breed is seeking bids for the following road improvements.
Projects:
□ Sealcoating the following gravel roads
Riverbend Lane, Redwood Lane, Sand Valley Lane.
This includes grading and rolling the gravel and following standard procedures.
□ Seal coating the asphalt on Hill Road from State Highway 32 east 2450 feet following standard procedures.
□ Rubberized crack filling on River Road from North Branch Road south to Hill Road Includes routing of the cracks and applying rubberized crack sealant following standard procedures

The deadline for submitting bids is 5:00 p.m. on Friday July 5, 2024, at the Breed Town Hall, 11155 State Highway 32 Suring, WI 54174.

Bids will be reviewed on Tuesday July 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm during the monthly town board meeting at the Breed Community Center.

Proof of insurance must accompany all bids. The Breed Town Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the town, even if that bid is not the lowest in cost.

Questions can be directed to Phillip Christenson
Phone (920) 851-3342
chairman@townofbreed.wi.gov
Send sealed bids to:
Town of Breed
11155 State highway 32
Suring, WI 54174
Please put: "ROAD BID" on the outside of the envelope
Kristen Telford, Clerk
Town of Breed
Posted

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Beth Rank, left, and Abigail Remic, right, of Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities present Brittney Dequaine with Oconto County School Supply Drive Inc. (OCSSD) with a \$1,500 check from the proceeds from a brat fry that held recently at Iverson's Piggly Wiggly. This was to recognize the 2024 Public Power Day of Giving. More information on how to donate to the OCSSD can be found via its website at www.ocontocountyschoolsupplydrive.org. Donations can also be dropped off at 215 Main St., Oconto, as the OCSSD is housed within the American Family Insurance Kevin Huggett Agency building.

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MERIDIAN GROUP

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Equal Opportunity
Housing



School Supply Drive to hold kickoff event

The Oconto County School Supply Drive Inc. (OCSSD) is holding its fifth annual “Stuff the Bus” kickoff event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 22 at Thompson’s County Market in Oconto. Volunteers will be serving brats and burgers in the supermarket’s Coke Shack. OCSSD formed in Janu-

ary 2020 and to date has provided 1,155 backpacks full of school supplies to area students. The group’s mission is “to provide the youth of our community with equal access to the school supplies needed to encourage learning and success.” Among the supplies provided to students are full-size backpacks, Ticonderoga pencils, washable markers, 24-pack crayon boxes, Expo dry-erase markers, 12-packs of colored pencils, blue and black pens, highlighters, headphones, glue sticks and scissors. The organization is expecting its largest registration this year with more than 400 students. To donate and become a sponsor of the OCSSD, monetary and supply donations can be mailed or dropped off at the American Family Insurance Kevin Huggett Agency, 215 Main St., Oconto. For more information or to register a family who could benefit from the financial support of free school supplies, visit www.ocontocountyschoolsupply-drive.org.

OCONTO FALLS
City-Wide Rummage Sale Weekend
SAVE THE DATE
Thinking of having a rummage sale this year? The city-wide rummage sale will be held **THURSDAY AUGUST 8TH** through **SUNDAY AUGUST 11TH**

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
THERE ARE 3 EASY WAYS TO REGISTER: Email us at: classifieds@newmedia-wi.com, or Call us at: #715-526-2121, or Stop by our Office at 420 N. Chestnut Avenue, Oconto Falls any Friday from 8am until Noon. There will be a \$20.00 registration fee which includes an ad of up to 30 words (over 30 words, add 50¢ per word), your approximate location published on a map in the August 2nd & 9th Oconto County Times Herald, and one large rummage sale sign. **Make checks payable to New Media.**
The deadline is Noon, Friday, July 26, 2024. No “on the map” Ads Will Be Accepted After This Date.

**OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD**

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REMEMBER TO PACK
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as shown in photo

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On Sale!

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3000W
4500W

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WARRANTY

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C-Force 500

C-Force 1000 Overland



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MSRP

*Plus freight and setup.

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WARNING: CFMOTO recreational vehicles are intended for off-road use only and can be hazardous to operate. Read Owner's Manual and all product labels before operating. Never operate on paved roads. Operators and passengers must wear a helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Operator must be at least 16 years old with a valid driver's license. Passengers, if permitted, must be at least 12 years old. Always use seat belts, roll-over protection, and proper tie-down technique. Never operate under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Avoid excessive speed and sharp turns, and never engage in stunt driving. Check state and local laws before operating on trails. Take a safety training course before operating. Contact your CFMOTO dealer for more information, call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-800-885-5887 or go to www.atvsafety.org. ©2023 Zhejiang CFMOTO Power Co., Ltd.



U-Force 1000XL



Z-Force 800 Trail



Z-Force 950

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Pat's Market

GILLETT (920) 855-6040

STORE HOURS: Mon-Fri 7:00am - 7:00pm

Deli Closing at 6:00 pm**

Sat 8:00am-5:30pm Sun 8:00am - 1:00pm

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Asst Variety
6-10.75oz

8-piece Cut-Up Frying Chicken



\$2.99
lb

IQF Frying Chicken Drumsticks

\$9.99 10 lb Bag

USDA Choice T-Bone Steaks



\$13.99
lb

Sugardale Hot Dogs

\$1.50 each
16 oz

USDA Choice Boneless Center-Cut Chuck Steaks or Roasts



\$5.49
lb

Milwaukee Dill Pickles

\$2.99 Asst Variety
32oz

Bush's Baked Beans

\$2.29 Asst Variety
22-28oz

Sugar Kiss or Honey Kiss Melons



\$3.29
each

Red Raspberries



2/\$6 6 oz

Mini Hydro Cucumbers



\$1.99 6 ct

Bolthouse Cello Carrots



79¢ 1 lb Bag

Green Giant Russet Potatoes



\$1.99 5 lb Bag

Patrick Cudahy Virginia Ham



\$3.99
lb

Shaved or Sliced

JJ's Fruit Pies



79¢
each

Asst Variety 4oz

Betty Crocker Suddenly Pasta Salad



2/\$4

Asst Variety
6.2-8.3oz

Cheez-Its, Club, Townhouse or Toasted Crackers



2/\$6

Asst Variety
7.1-13.7oz

Prairie Farms Cream Cheese



\$1.99

8oz

Orv's Ultimate Rizers or Ultra Thin Pizzaria Pizza



2/\$8

Asst Variety
13.35-28.45oz

DOT's Pretzels



\$4.99

Asst Variety
16oz

Bomb Pops



2/\$5

Asst Variety
12pk

Marie Callendar's Pies



\$5.99

Asst Variety
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\$3.29

24pk

Health and Wellness

Paid Advertisement

OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD

Sponsored by
HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital
and Prevea Health

CELEBRATING MEN’S HEALTH MONTH: WHY IT’S SO IMPORTANT FOR MEN TO LOOK AFTER THEMSELVES AND VISIT THEIR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER ANNUALLY



What is Men’s Health Month?

June is not only for the onset of summer, but also for a vital campaign that often doesn’t receive the attention it deserves - Men’s Health Month. At HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital Prevea Oconto Falls Health Center, Tyler Spletzer, nurse practitioner, recognizes the value of educating men on the importance of prioritizing their well-being and overall health. “It’s important for all of my male patients to know that having a primary care provider helps ensure you’ll receive annual physical exams, recommended immunizations and various health screenings when the time is right,” said Spletzer. “Many men neglect seeing their primary care provider on an annual basis, and that can contribute to health concerns later in life.”

Statistically speaking

Statistics consistently show that men have a shorter lifespan than women and are at a higher risk for certain health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers. Men are also less likely to seek medical attention promptly, often downplaying symptoms or delaying visits to their primary care providers until conditions have

progressed to more advanced stages. This reluctance to prioritize health can have negative consequences, leading to higher mortality rates and reduced quality of life for many men. Spletzer says one of the primary goals of bringing awareness to Men’s Health Month, is to create open dialogue about men’s health issues and encourage men to take proactive steps towards better health. According to Spletzer, promoting preventive care and regular health screenings helps empower men to become advocates for their own well-being.

Self-care

Spletzer also underscores the importance of lifestyle modifications and disciplined health behaviors to help promote the long-term well-being for all men. “Maintaining a balanced diet, exercising regularly, managing stress appropriately and avoiding harmful habits like smoking and excessive alcohol use are all factors contributing to better overall health for men. By encouraging healthier lifestyles and taking ownership of their health choices, men are empowered to lead longer and fuller lives.”

Coming together to raise awareness

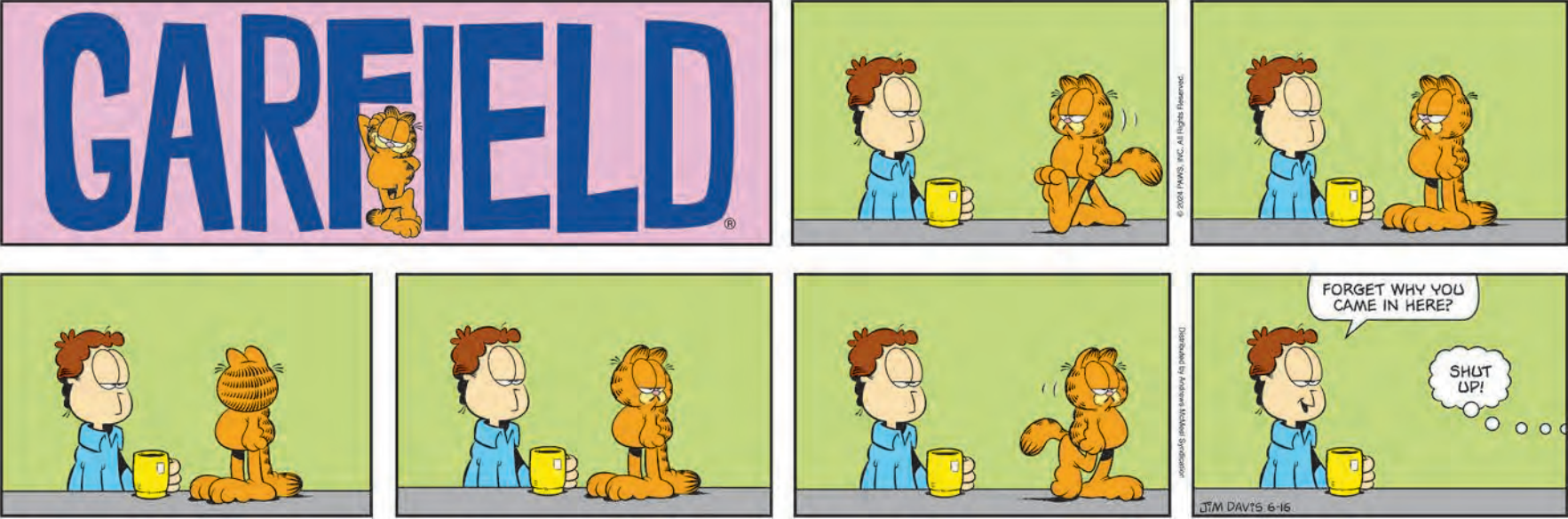
Men’s Health Month serves as a

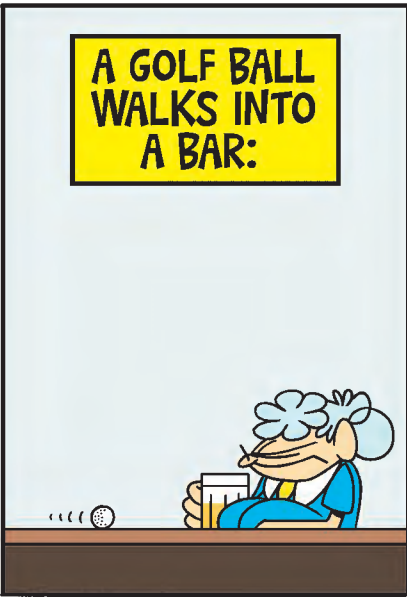
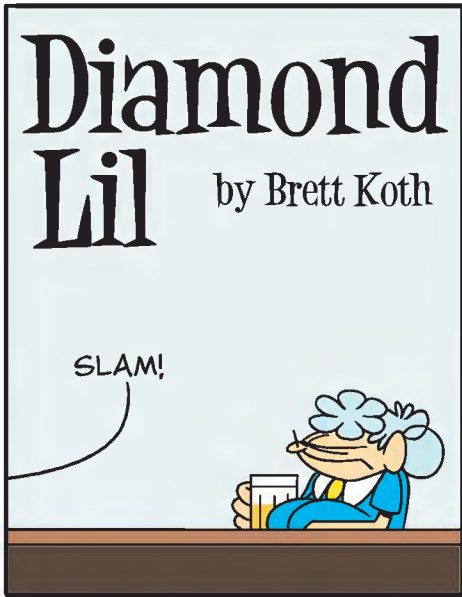
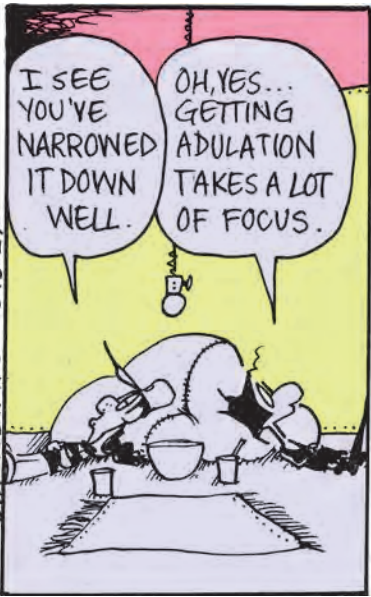
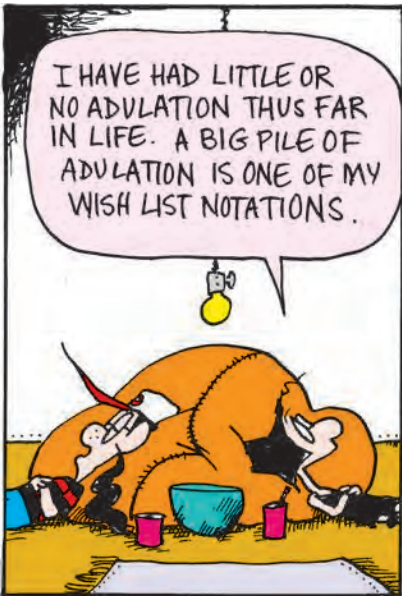
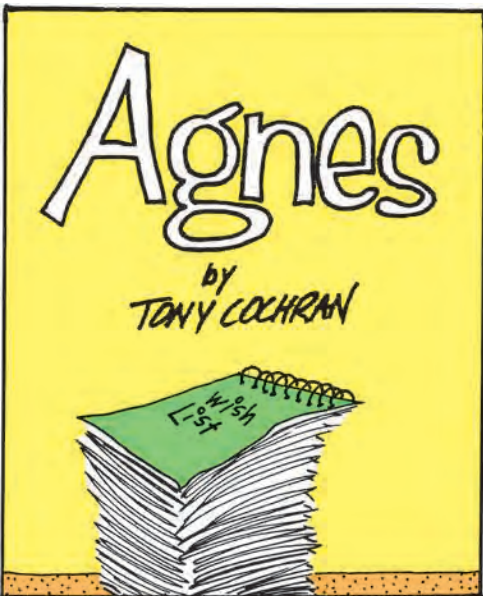
critical reminder of the unique health challenges faced by men and the importance of prioritizing their well-being. By promoting awareness, encouraging preventive care, and fostering open dialogue, the team at Prevea Health and HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital strive to improve health outcomes for men and boys across Oconto County. The observance of Men’s Health Month is not just about raising awareness for a single month, but about instilling lasting behavioral changes that can positively impact men’s health for years to come. As we celebrate Men’s Health Month this June, let us reaffirm our commitment to supporting the health and well-being of men in our community and beyond.

To find a Prevea primary care provider at one of five rural health centers located in Oconto Falls, Lena, Gillett, Suring and Mountain, visit prevea.com or call (920) 846-8187 to schedule an appointment. To schedule an appointment with a primary care provider at the Prevea Oconto Health Center, call (920) 834-4110.



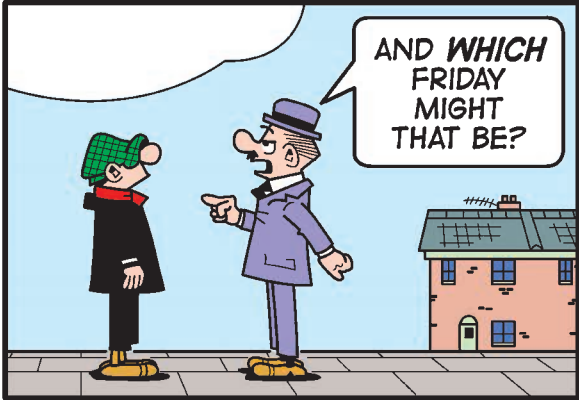
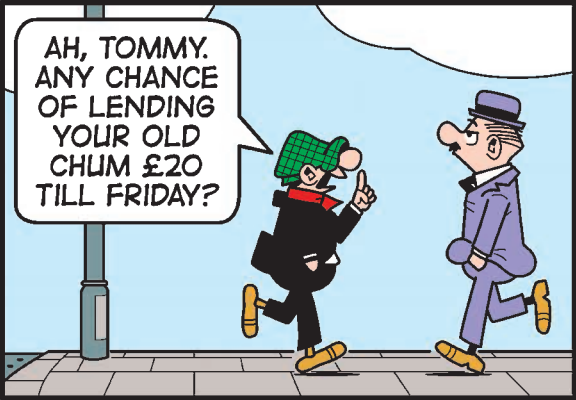
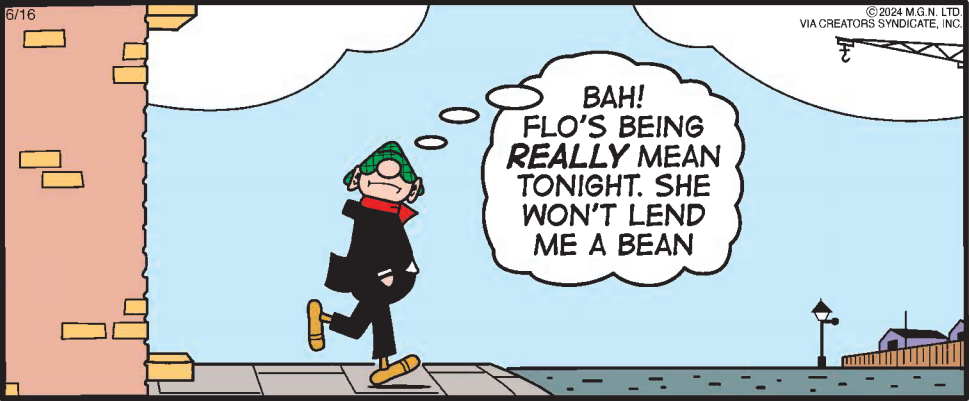
Tyler Spletzer, APNP, FNP-C
Family Medicine Nurse Practitioner





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by Smythe



DOGS OF C-KENNEL

BY MICK MASTROIANNI AND MASON MASTROIANNI

