

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

New county administrator leads 2024 top news

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

For Oconto County, 2024 was a year of new beginnings, celebrations and closure.

The NEW Media editorial board chose the changing of the guard at the head of county government as the top news story of the year for the Oconto County Times Herald in a year that also saw a new northern presence for county departments, a seismic shift in services for elderly citizens, a community rallying around its statebound sports teams and the end of a long court case.

The following stories were selected as the top 10 of 2024:

1. Richard Heath hired as county administrator

The administrator of the Winnebago County Town of Algoma was introduced to the Oconto County Board on Feb. 22 as the recommended new county administrator.

Effective April 22, Richard Heath succeeded Erik Pritzl, who left to become director of Brown County health and human services.

Heath had been town administrator in Algoma, just outside Oshkosh, since November 2019. His resume includes leadership positions at several organizations since earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in 1986 and a master's in development studies from Ohio University in 1988.

He said his wife, Cindy, has family near Suring, making Oconto County a place to settle for the long term.

"We have a shared vision, and we can do some great things for the residents, the property owners and those who visit here in beautiful Oconto County," he said.

2. Lena Village Board OKs apartment complex

Site preparation began in late August in the northwest corner of Lena after the village board voted to approve a developer agreement over the objections of several dozen people in attendance and a petition with more than 150 signatures.

Jayne Sellen, executive director of the Tourism and Economic Development Corporation for the Oconto Region, reported to the Oconto County Board Aug. 24 that the project is expect to result in 80 apartment units built in three phases. Phase 1 includes the first 20 units.

TEDCOR worked with officials in Lena and Oconto Falls this year to advance projects that address a shortage of affordable housing for families who want to stay or move into the county.

A company called Rival Properties purchased land at the end of Third and Fourth streets for the apartment complex, and the village board last October approved rezoning the land from agricultur-



Richard Heath, right, talks to members of the Oconto County Board on Feb. 22 about his appointment as the next county administrator starting April 22. Looking on, from left, are his wife, Cindy, Human Resources Director Shelly Schultz, and Sheriff Todd Skarban.

FILE | NEW MEDIA



Members of the Lena girls basketball team ride a fire truck to a send-off pep rally at the high school March 7 before the state tournament.

FILE | NEW MEDIA



Hundreds of trees were down in the Legend Lake area the morning of June 25 when a tornado ripped through the area from Keshena to Berry Lake.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

al/residential to multifamily. The project is a centerpiece of the village's new Tax Incremental District 2.

While several people questioned the size and scope of the complex, the village attorney reminded the board that rezoning was approved in October 2023 and the project had been proceeding ever since.

3. David SanRoman pleads out halfway through child sex assault trial

After defiantly refusing to come to the courtroom for his own trial the day before, an Oconto man charged with multiple child sexual assaults pleaded guilty Dec. 5 to a single attack.

David SanRoman, 49, was sentenced Dec. 11 for second-degree sexual assault of a child before Oconto County

Circuit Judge Michael Judge. As part of a plea agreement, District Attorney Hannah Schuchart said she will recommend that SanRoman serve 15 years in prison, followed by 10 years of extended supervision.

Judge handed down an 18-year sentence, which resulted in a term similar to Schuchart's recommendation when combined with time SanRoman has served in the Oconto County Jail since his arrest in August 2021.

The case had dragged on for more than three years, delayed by pandemic precautions that canceled most trials in the county for close to a year and then by a mistrial over attorney discovery issues.

4. New Riverview center establishes northern hub for county departments

About 150 people took advantage Nov. 16 of the opportunity to tour the Riverview Community Center, which is located along Island Lake Road but can also be accessed by driving through the fire station parking lot at 15471 State Highway 32 north of Mountain.

Construction of the \$2.25 million building was a joint project of the town and Oconto County, which provided about \$550,000 in federal funds to establish northern offices for the sheriff, veterans services, health and human services, and the land and water conservation departments.

TOP NEWS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INSIDE

The historic story behind Oconto's Sherman tank.

PAGE 7





YOU HAVE TO GET UP
EARLY TO OUTDO HER!

Kay Reminger will talk about
farming 'til the cows come home!

SEE HER COLUMN IN TODAY'S PAPER!

TOP NEWS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Town officials moved into the center in time to run the Nov. 5 election, Town Clerk Beth Hartman said, but signs directing the public to the new building are still to come.

“We had people in the parking lot on Election Day pointing the way for voters to find the new polling place,” Hartman said.

With the opening of the new center, the town’s fire department is finally able to take full possession of the building that has served as the fire station and town administrative offices for nearly two decades.

5. Former Lakewood fire chief arrested for embezzling thousands

The former Lakewood fire chief who resigned in May after being suspended by the town board has been charged with embezzling close to \$100,000 from the nonprofit organization that holds donations and fundraising proceeds for the fire department.

Christopher E. Thomson, 42, of Lakewood, was charged in November with 10 counts of the unauthorized use of Lakewood Fire Department Association’s identifying information or documents, 10 counts of uttering a forgery, one count of theft in a business setting and one count of fraud against a financial institution.

The theft in a business setting charge carries a potential penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine if convicted. Each of the other 21 counts carries a maximum of six years and \$10,000.

Thomson is being held in lieu of \$10,000 bail with his next court appearance scheduled for Jan. 16.

6. County shifts aging unit services to new contractors after decades

The Oconto County Department of Health and Human Services created partnerships with other counties after separating itself from the Oconto County Commission on Aging effective Jan. 1.

The commission, a nonprofit agency, contracted with the county for many years to provide elderly benefit services, meals for seniors and transportation services for the elderly. Financial problems that have plagued the commission on and off since 2019 led the county board to seek other avenues starting with the 2025 budget.

The Menominee Nation was hired to run transportation services through Oconto County Transit, a new division of the tribe’s Menominee Regional

Transit. Marinette Elderly Services secured the contract to provide senior citizen meals at congregate sites and through home delivery. And an elderly benefits specialist will be available at the Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Wolf River Region office in Oconto Falls.

7. Tornado touches down in Menominee, Oconto counties

A tornado touched down near Keshena and stayed on the ground for nearly 9 miles when severe thunderstorms swept across much of northeast Wisconsin late June 24 into the early morning hours of June 25. The National Weather Service Green Bay office determined the EF1 tornado was on the ground for five minutes starting at 2:27 a.m. June 25. Estimated peak winds were 98 mph.

Officials said the tornado was on the ground for 8.9 miles from Keshena in Menominee County to Berry Lake in Oconto County. The maximum width of the tornado was 90 yards. Gov. Tony Evers issued an executive order declaring a state of emergency following the strong storm.

8. Expanded Lakewood library dedicated

Members of four communities in northern Oconto County joined together July 27 to celebrate a hard-fought and long-anticipated expansion of the Lakes Country Public Library in the Town of Lakewood.

The expansion took more than \$1.5 million to complete. There were the large gifts of cash, including \$500,000 earmarked in the 2023 federal budget by U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin; \$300,000 approved by the Oconto County Board of Supervisors; \$50,000 each by the Bond Foundation and the Greater Green Bay Foundation; and \$25,000 from Wisconsin Public Service. However, there were also thousands of smaller donations from more than 300 families in the area.

“We like to say that we’re moving forward together,” said Tom Thielke, co-chair for the library expansion project. “The Lakes Country Public Library is a joint library supported by the towns of Doty, Lakewood, Riverview and Townsend.”

9. Gillett schools and police start school resource officer pilot

As the year drew to a close, the city of Gillett and Gillett School Board

finalized an agreement for a six-month pilot program to have a full-time school resource officer working at the schools.

The original plan was to contract with the Oconto County Sheriff’s Department, and the board authorized talks in August, but the contract could not be finalized in time to be included in the 2025 county budget. Sheriff Todd Skarban, Hanson and Gillett Mayor Jonathan Blaskowski proposed the city pilot program in October.

Because the Gillett Police Department has just three officers, Skarban offered to have deputies cover the night shift and weekends so that one of the Gillett officers could move to the school.

The pilot will be reviewed after the close of the 2024-25 school year.

10. Lena rallies around girls basketball team

After a spectacular regular season, the Lena girls basketball team fought their way all the way to the state championship game, and the community was behind them all the way.

The Wildcats earned a trip to the WIAA Division 5 state tournament March 8-9, along with three other outstanding teams from around Wisconsin. They defeated Clear Lake 53-48 on March 8, then came within seconds of a state title before falling in overtime to Albany/Monticello 57-54 on March 9.

Main Street was decked out in blue and white and signs of support all week, and the student body gathered in the parking lot March 7 as the team got a police and fire escort from the fire station to the gym for a community pep rally.

During the welcome-home celebration March 9, District Administrator Ben Pytleski said the school earned a \$2,000 bonus for having the most fan support at the Resch Center, selling more tickets than the village’s entire population.

“Our community support was absolutely outrageous,” he said. “We not only won the ticket contest for Division 5, but they told us that we absolutely destroyed all divisions, all five divisions, for ticket sales for the two days.”

And the team was not the only Lena representative at a state title game this year. The combined Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy Titans advanced to the 8-man football state final Nov. 16 before falling to undefeated Owen-Wither in the title game.



Visitors and board members mingle Sept. 27, 2023, during an open house at the renovated Oconto Falls Senior and Community Center. The center will be a hub of the new congregate meal program under new contractor Marinette Elderly Services.

FILE | NEW MEDIA



Former Riverview Town Chairwoman Ann Hogan thanks the taxpayers of the town and county Nov. 16 for supporting the new community center. Looking on is current Chairman Jim Zittlow.

FILE | NEW MEDIA



The new expansion of the Lakes Country Public Library includes a hearthside area where friends can gather to talk or sit with a good book. In the future, a mural of a painting done by Joan White, shown on the fireplace, will be splashed on the wall.

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OBITUARIES

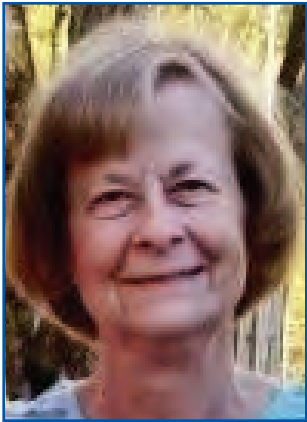
Karen Lutz

Karen Lutz, 81, Oconto Falls, died suddenly Saturday morning, Dec. 21, 2024, at St. Clare Hospital.

She was born Jan. 16, 1943, in Spruce to Fred and Lillian (Knedlhans) Rabas. Karen was raised on a dairy farm in Spruce where she learned early in life the value of hard work, commitment and family. She attended Kelly Brook Grade School (grades 1-3) and Spruce Grade School (grades 4-8) before entering Oconto Falls High School in 1957.

While in Oconto Falls High School, Karen was active in many school activities and continued to share her enthusiasm, energy and spirit with her classmates. She participated in glee club, band, student council, annual staff and the library club.

She was elected junior



class secretary and was selected as homecoming queen and as a member of the prom court.

Upon graduation in 1961, Karen accepted the position of Oconto Falls School District secretary and had a very long and successful career as an administrative secretary at Oconto Falls High School. Karen's commit-

ment to the students of Oconto Falls High School was unsurpassed. She cared for them like "her very own" and continued to stay in touch with them and their families. During her 40-year career with the Oconto Falls School District, Karen had the pleasure of working with six superintendents and nine principals until her retirement in 2001.

Following retirement, Karen became a strong advocate for the Oconto Falls School District, volunteering her time and expertise on various projects, including the Schoolhouse News and the Class of 50 Past Reunion Committee.

She continued to serve the community through her extensive work with the Oconto Falls Friends of the Arts. As a member of the executive board,

Karen worked to promote advertising, seat sponsorship and volunteer work. She was instrumental in the success of the Oconto Falls Friends of the Arts Fine Arts Series, helping to bring in over 60 productions to the Falls Area Performing Arts Center.

In addition, Karen volunteered to greet community members and student families at concerts throughout the entire district.

Karen gave countless hours to the Oconto Falls School District. Her dedication to the school and community made her an outstanding advocate for Oconto Falls. In 2011, she was inducted into the Oconto Falls High School Wall of Fame.

Karen also volunteered numerous hours at the Kingdom Come Food

Pantry in Oconto Falls for many years as a manager.

In 1963, Karen married Tom Lutz of Oconto Falls, and they celebrated 57 years of marriage together.

She is survived by one daughter, Michelle (Lutz) Grenke; two grandsons, Gabe Grenke and David Grenke; one sister, Gail (friend Scott) Offerman; one brother-in-law, Craig Tanner; nieces and nephews, Grant (Amy) Offerman, Lance Offerman, Vincent (Sandy) Rudolph, John (Jennifer) Rudolph, Sue (Dennis) Coty, Scott (fiancé Jill Weigert) Tanner and other great-nieces and great-nephews. Their extended family includes three foreign exchange students, Patricia Rolon

Pereira (Brazil), Misa Ito (Japan) and Joern Meissner (Germany).

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tom, in 2021; her parents, Fred and Lillian Rabas; father-in-law and mother-in-law, John and Marcella Lutz; infant brother Arland; sisters-in-law, Connie (Lutz) Carter and Judi (Lutz) Tanner; and brothers-in-law, Donald Carter and Bob Christ.

Visitation with the urn present will take place after 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2025, at Jones Funeral Service in Oconto Falls. A service of remembrance will take place at 7 p.m. Friday at the funeral home with Pastor Katy Tomlanovich officiating.

Randy M. Zahn

Randy M. Zahn, 65, Oconto Falls, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024, unexpectedly and peacefully at home.

Randy was the first-born son to Marvin and Dorothy Zahn. He was a baptized, confirmed and active member of Immanuel/Faith United Lutheran Church in Gillett.

Randy graduated high school and went on to obtain his associate's degree from Moraine Park Technical School. He was a proud business partner and later, owner of Bartlet Business Machines, which he ran for 30 years. He ran a successful business, but his heart was still in the family farm, bringing innovative technology to the farm.

He was the pioneer of the annual farm corn roast and enjoyed hunting on the family farm. Though he never got a deer, he loved the camaraderie, and the family tradition of a shot of blackberry brandy when someone else got one, and steak and lobster before opening day. Growing up,



his nephews always looked forward to Christmas with the high-tech toys and gifts their uncle would bring them.

He was generous throughout his life, always had a unique sense of humor and was an avid golfer. Randy brought the joy of music to everyone around him, especially through playing the trumpet, polka bands, at church, and being a DJ. The farmer in him led him to gardening, making homemade spicy juice and salsa, sharing with all of those around him. He also loved kayaking and watching the

Packers with friends.

Randy excelled and took pride in bringing technology (audio/visual setups) to anyone with their technology needs, including the Immanuel Church, other community parishes, family and friends. He also enjoyed his UTV rides with Tokey.

Randy is survived by three siblings, Robert (Kathleen) Zahn, Rick (Debbie) Zahn and Cindy (John) Banchy; nieces and nephews, Justin (fiancée Whitney), Jacob (Kaitlyn), Jesse (fiancée Emily), Eric (Kelly), Mindy Ward, Noah (Crystal), Luke; great-niece and -nephew, Kaden and Delaney; aunt, Beatrice Krause; uncle, Ronald (Jody) Zahn; special friend, Joanne Strehlow; friends, Al Falish, Tom Blazer and Larry Buchholz; business family, Linda Krueger and Pete Denisen; and Tokey, his devoted dog and companion. He is further survived by many cousins, other relatives and friends.

Randy was preceded in death by his father and

mother, Marvin and Dorothy; aunt, Lillian; uncles, Roy Miller and Jim Krause.

Visitation was held at Faith United Lutheran Church in Gillett on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024, from 9 a.m. until the funeral service at 11 a.m., with Pastor Stoll officiating. Lunch at the church followed the service with procession, including final ride around the farm. Randy will be laid to rest across the road from the farm near his parents in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Gillett.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneral-home.com. A memorial will be set up at Immanuel/Faith United in his remembrance.



Rose A. Wirtz

Rose A. Wirtz, 77, Krakow, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024, from injuries sustained from an automobile accident. The daughter of Raymond and Florence (Maternoski) Drella was born on Oct. 13, 1947, in Green Bay.

Rose was a lifelong resident of Krakow and graduated from Pulaski High School. On Aug. 22, 1970, she married Roger Wirtz at St. Casimir Church in Krakow. Rose was a school bus driver for the Pulaski School District for several years. She then serviced vending machines for Konop Vending before spending the rest of her career in assembly at MCL Industries in Pulaski.

Rose enjoyed watching football on TV, especially the Green Bay Packers.



She also enjoyed gardening and loved to read a good book. Most of all, she loved spending time with her grandchildren.

Survivors include her loving husband, Roger Wirtz, Krakow; three children, Amy Wirtz, Green Bay, Curt (Traci) Wirtz, Krakow, and Kristen

(Mike) Gifford, Florence, South Carolina; three grandchildren, Brennan and Easton Gifford, and Jackson Wirtz; sisters, Audrey (Gordon) Aprill, Morgan, Virge Luepke, Marinette, Terry Denisen, Green Valley, and Ruth (Brian) Hoppe, Iola; brother-in-law and sisters-in-law, Carol Drella, Sandy Price, Eugene (Nancy) Wirtz, David (Gail) Wirtz, Fran Stewart, Laurie (Greg) Leanna, Kathy (Bob) Christiansen, Chuck (Lisa) Wirtz and Mardell Wirtz; and many nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to her parents, Raymond and Florence Drella, she was preceded in death by her brother, David Drella; father-in-law and mother-

in-law, Floyd and Eleanor Wirtz; and brothers-in-law, Jerry Denissen, Bob Price and Jim Wirtz.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Casimir Church, Krakow, on Saturday, Dec. 28, at noon with Fr. James Esser, OFM presiding and Fr. Carmen Scuderi, OFM concelebrating. Burial will take place at a later time in the parish cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, any donations will be given to St. Casimir Parish.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the doctors and nurses at St. Vincent ICU.

Online condolences may be offered to the Wirtz family at www.mar-nochafuneralhome.com or on the Marnocha Funeral Home Facebook page.

Robert A. Schubert Sr.
Merry Christmas
Sweet Heart

How comforting
It is to know that,
In a way,
You'll be right here
At Christmas
In every warm
And happy thought.
Missing you so much
Love Always,
Rose Ann

For Mom and Dad
Ray Sr. and Alice Young
And all my family we lost
during the years

Even when they are gone
We can still look back
And clearly see
The trail they left behind.
A trail bright with hope
That invites us to follow.

Merry Christmas
Everyone
Love,
Rose Ann

April Lee Loppnow

April Lee Loppnow, 59, of Rosemount, Minnesota, passed away on Oct. 26, 2024, at United Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Born on May 7, 1965, in Oconto, she graduated from Oconto Falls high school in 1983 but never stopped learning about the world and those she cared about. April spent her life nurturing her surroundings, whether it was her family, her career or nature.

April was a loving mother to Marissa and Cassandra Loppnow, who were the centers of her universe. She dedicated her life to creating cherished memories with them, ensuring each moment was an adventure. Her career spanned over 35 years at Wells Fargo, where she excelled as a senior project manager since 2005, demonstrating her strong will and professional dedication.

Beyond her professional life, April was passionate about the natural world. She was particularly fond of birds, often rescuing injured or abused animals. Her love for gardening was evident in her beautiful collection of plants and flowers. April also had a zest for travel, exploring numerous places with her family, and she enjoyed hobbies like reading, particularly the works of John Connolly, listening to music, camping, cross stitch, cooking and geocaching.

April leaves behind her daughters, Marissa and Cassandra, of Savage, Minnesota; her mother, Margo Allen Kent, and stepdad, Thomas Kent, of the Green Bay area; siblings, Heather Schwartz and spouse John, of Palm Bay, Florida, Eric Allen and spouse Laurie, of De Pere; stepsiblings, Kristen Lison, spouse Brian, Brianna Wright, spouse Chris, of De Pere; her aunt, Cindy Rysewyk, of Oconto; cousins, Andy Rysewyk, Pattie Allen Stickles, Cindy Allen Watanabe, Kathy Allen, Sara Taylor-Gooden, Scott Allen, Christi Allen, Jeffrey Allen and James Allen; former spouse, James M. Loppnow, of Savage, Minnesota; in-laws, Debby and Dan Loppnow; and her best friend, Jodi Harvat Shier, of Krakow.

She is also survived by 11 nieces and nephews, Alexandria, Hunter, Calvin and Gabriel Schwartz, Bryce and Denver Allen, Jack and Steven Lison, Kylar Wright, and David

and Diana Loppnow; along with her beloved parrots, Kasey and Mojo.

April was preceded in death by her father, George G. Allen; her grandparents, Neville and Doris Meincke, Grace and Donald Allen; her uncle, Donald Allen; and her cousins, Sandy Allen and Bobbie Allen.

Services to honor April's life were held at Glendale United Methodist Church in Savage, Minnesota, on Sunday, Nov. 10.

A celebration of life will be held on Jan. 11, 2025, at Pensaukee Town Hall, 4684 Brookside Road, Abrams, from 12:30-4 p.m.

April's legacy of kindness, strength and compassion will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Her spirit, forever adventurous and caring, will continue to inspire those she loved.

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Readers Poll
Deadline: January 20, 2025 **BALLOT #1**

Best Goods:
☐ Flower Shop _____
☐ Grocery Store _____
☐ Hardware Store _____

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

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ENTRY FORM

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Clip & Mail Your Ballots To: **Shawano Leader**
Attn: Best Of
1464 E. Green Bay St., Shawano WI 54166
e-mail: advertising@newmedia-wi.com

Deadline: January 20, 2025
•A minimum of 10 categories on ballot must be completed in order for your vote to count to be eligible to win prizes. **No purchase necessary to win.**

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2024

Readers Poll
Deadline: January 20, 2025 **BALLOT #2**

Best Thing To Do:
☐ Bowling Alley _____
☐ Campground _____
☐ Cheese Factory _____
☐ Happy Hour _____
☐ Live Music _____
☐ Meat Market _____
☐ Night Spot _____

Best Outdoor Activities:
☐ Bait/Tackle Shop _____
☐ Golf Course _____
☐ Lawn/Garden _____

Best Vehicle Services:
☐ Auto Body Repair _____
☐ Auto Parts Supply Store _____
☐ Car Dealer _____
☐ Vehicle Service Centert _____
☐ Tire Store - _____

Best of Oconto County Region
OCONTO COUNTY
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ENTRY FORM

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Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
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e-mail: advertising@newmedia-wi.com

Deadline: January 20, 2025
•A minimum of 10 categories on ballot must be completed in order for your vote to count to be eligible to win prizes. **No purchase necessary to win.**

Society seeks info for Falls memory book

The Oconto Falls Area Historical Society is looking for local histories of families, businesses, military members and local historical information, to place in a memory book for the national 250th and the founding of Oconto Falls 180th anniversaries in 2026.

Pictures of the family and a short history of your family or business, with dates of arrival and location of family homes and businesses and a photo, if you have one. Local historical information that you have remembrances of, photos, articles, etc. Military members photos, military service branch and information.

Historical items and histories, will be preserved following the use of information for the memory book, for future reference and research material for the public. The book will be made available for purchase for the semi-quincentennial of the USA, providing the society has enough information to proceed with publishing a memory book.

Information can be mailed to Donna Revello, 105 Douglas St., Oconto Falls, WI 54154 or emailed to her at i2mtraveling@yahoo.com.

If you are sending items you want returned, please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope appropriate for return mailings.

Pulaski man dies in one-vehicle crash

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

A Pulaski man was killed in a Christmas morning crash in southern Oconto County.

Sheriff Todd Skarban said in a news release that Zachary Wudke, 29, was driving an SUV east on County Road S in the Town of Chase with a 4-year-old child on board.

For reasons unknown, the vehicle drifted off the road into a ditch and adjacent field when it struck a tree. Wudke died at the scene, and Skarban said the child was transported to a Green Bay hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

The crash remains under investigation by the sheriff's department and Brown County Medical Examiner's Office. Deputies were also assisted at the scene by the Tri-County Fire Department and NEW Rescue, Skarban said.

Thank You for supporting DECK THE FENCE 2024



Thank you to all who so generously supported the 13th Annual Deck The Fence project... the entire Oconto community, city crews, wreath purchasers, volunteers who "fluffed" and "decked the fence," Electrical Services and Supplies Inc, Vital Signs and the Oconto Area Chamber of Commerce. Your support and enthusiasm make this holiday display possible for all to enjoy! We hope everyone takes time to enjoy the Fence along Brazeau Avenue and we wish all a very **Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!**

GFWC Oconto Woman's Club

Best of Oconto County Region

OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD
2024

Readers Poll

Deadline: January 20, 2025

BALLOT #3

Food/Dining:

- ☐ Bar
- ☐ Breakfast
- ☐ Burger
- ☐ Coffee House
- ☐ Dessert
- ☐ Dinner
- ☐ Family Restaurant
- ☐ Fish Fry
- ☐ Lunch
- ☐ Pizza
- ☐ Sandwich

Best of Oconto County Region

OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD

ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

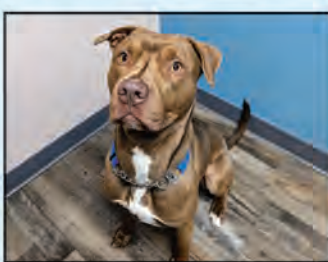
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e-mail: advertising@newmedia-wi.com

Deadline: January 20, 2025

•A minimum of 10 categories on ballot must be completed in order for your vote to count to be eligible to win prizes.
No purchase necessary to win.



ZIGGER
Meet Zigger. He is a 2 year old Hound looking for a home. He would be perfect for a hound lover and someone who enjoys the outdoors. If you are interested in meeting Zigger, contact the shelter to set up a meet and greet.



TURBO
Say hello to Turbo! He is a friendly, playful boy who has been well behaved for staff. He is smart, knows sit, and is treat motivated. He has done well in his kennel and is potty trained. Contact the shelter to meet him!



BUCKY
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FARM LIFE FROM A FARM WIFE

Grandmother lived an interesting life

The shocking news met my heart and like lead-pole legs stuck in quicksand. I sank into a nearby recliner, saving myself from face planting onto the floor.

“Grandma? Not Grandma.”

The beloved tender of my soul, fiercely loving each of us kids with a passion, her fire for life could not have been extinguished. No. I wouldn’t believe it. Couldn’t. Too many letters yet to write. Too many cakes to bake. Too many flowers to plant. As much as I tried to deny it, the truth was that Grandma Vita had passed away unexpectedly on May 25, 1972, at the age of 75. I was just a junior in high school.

She’s been gone for 52 years and while I don’t think of her a lot, just lately I’ve been wondering about her more and more. Too often, our older relatives pass away before we discover what their lives were like.

I have a niece who is passionately interested in family genealogy. The line of descent traced from our ancestors fascinates her. The more I find out about my grandma from the research my niece has done, the more



Vita Nohr was no stranger to driving a horse across many acres on the Nohr family farm (now Kay Reminger’s home farm) in the 1920s and 1930s.



I feel a kinship with her. Growing up working hard on her dad’s farm, perhaps to offset her oftentimes demanding lifestyle, my grandma relished reading and writing. She actually finished 12 years of school (in those days,

unusual) and went on to hold a teaching job before marrying my grandfather on June 14, 1917. Just a few years later, after he’d sold the cheese factory he’d operated in rural Antigo, they moved to Marion. Among the stories my niece heard, we discovered when they moved into the farmhouse (where I was raised), the only furniture they’d had to sit on were cheese crates. They may have needed every penny of the sale of the factory

to take over the farm from my great-grandfather August, who as a side note, married my great-grandmother, a woman who happened to be named Augusta. Grandma and Grandpa had only one child — my father — born on April 18, 1920. I’d like to have asked her why just one, Grandma? My niece discovered my dad was only 3 when Grandma, at 26 years old, lost her father due to an infection that started in his

“She’s been gone for 52 years and while I don’t think of her a lot, just lately I’ve been wondering about her more and more. Too often, our older relatives pass away before we discover what their lives were like.”

KAY REMINGER, NEW Media columnist

fingers. Perhaps that had something to do with why she never had any other children. It’s only speculation — this tragedy may have affected her in such a way as to ponder, “Who in the world would handle all of this work if I had any more children?” How that thought wrenches my heart.

In her 30s and 40s, while still actively farming, (including handling horses clearing land) she was ardently involved with the Ladies Aid at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Marion, playing a leadership role. There are news articles mentioning her involvement that included planning, hosting and speaking roles, continuing on into the 1950s when she’d have been entering her own 50s decade.

As I was growing up, I knew of her love of gardening — her fingernails would be blackened from digging in the dirt. She’d plant fire red geraniums in buckets, placing them in the barn windows. Their leaves would be caked with hay dust but still looked beautiful to my small child’s wondering eyes. Flowers in the barn.

She and Grandpa lived with us for a while at the farmhouse until sometime in the 1960s when they moved to their house in town. She’d always welcome all four of us kids with open arms and a heart full of love. Squealing with delight, she’d plant both hands on our cheeks and squeeze, kissing us first on one side then the other.

Something hot and sugary from the oven would be waiting for us; her pineapple upside-down

cake was the best. We’d sit down and share no matter the time of day, and as she ate, her nose would run. This trait got passed down to her only child, my dad, and then to me. To this day whenever I eat, my nose runs.

Her original hair color was auburn, although somewhat haywire, and she kept that until the day she passed. With a touch of scarlet rouge dapped on each cheek, she wore matching lipstick that wove its way past her lips’ boundaries into weather-aged creases. So endearing to me. Her vibrancy belied her age.

Every May 1, us little kids would make up a May basket and ringing her doorbell, run and crouch behind a tree watching her eyes light up as she bent to retrieve it, knowing her littles were somewhere right outside her door.

My dad fashioned a wooden, portable writing table for her that fit on top of her living room chair and she’d write letters of encouragement to people; entertaining them with her stories or to edify or enlighten — she loved to write.

My dearly loved Grandma Vita. A part of you lives on in me.

“If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.” Romans 14:8)

Kay Reminger was born and raised on a dairy farm, and she married her high school sweetheart, who happened to farm for a living in Leopolis. Writing for quite a few years, she remains focused on the blessings of living the ups and downs of rural life from a farm wife’s perspective.



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Oconto men, from left, Robert Schmit, Sandy McTavish, Douglas Bake and James Lane made a mark on the community when they brought a Sherman tank to Oconto from New Richmond in 1957.

OCONTO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4 men bring tank to Oconto in 1957

Sherman tank travels from New Richmond after sitting dormant for 8 years

On Monday, Dec. 16, 1957, 67 years ago, four men drove into Oconto with a World War II Sherman tank.

Recalling the event years later, Bob Schmit and Doug Bake said it wasn't easy.

"We heard we could get a tank for nothing to put on display in front of the American Legion Golf Club if we would go and pick it up from where it was," Schmit said. "This one happened to be located 250 miles away. We checked to see what it would cost to hire a trucker to bring it here, and found it would cost \$600. So we figured we could get it running and drive it here for a lot less."

The men had never driven a tank before, but that didn't stop them. Neither did the fact that the tank's gas mileage was less than one mile per gallon. Schmit and Bake had been in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the South Pacific during World War II and had rarely even seen a tank; however, they figured they surely could pilot a tank back home through friendly territory if they could keep a plane aloft with the enemy shooting at them.

Bake, Schmit, Jim Lane and Sandy McTavish left Oconto on Friday night to pick up the tank, which was located in New Richmond, near the Minnesota border. They found it had not been operated in eight years, but they managed to get the engine running using two 12-volt batteries to start it. It ran fairly well, but they

found out later it would have started much better had they used the proper 32-volt battery. The muffler pipes in the engine compartment had rusted away over the years, so open flames shot from the engine.

The men obtained a special permit from the state to drive the 60,000-pound vehicle on the highway back to Oconto.

The first night, they stayed at a garage and parked the tank inside. After they got the tank into the building, the men realized they weren't on solid ground but rather the second story of the garage with only timbers supporting the massive weight of the machine. The building's floor held up as the men worked on the vehicle that night to get it ready for the rest of the trip.

At less than one mile per gallon and, in 1957, not having gas stations open all night, especially on a Sunday, gasoline was a limiting factor. In fact, they ran out of gas outside of a town during the night and went into town hoping to find someone with a fuel truck to assist. Stopping at a bar, the men stated that their Sherman tank had run out of gas only to be met with laughter from the bar patrons in disbelief.

They eventually found someone to help them gas up the tank and were once again rolling through that same town past the tavern where they were earlier met with laughter. One can only imagine the sight and sound of a

60,000-pound tank passing by with no exhaust pipes and flames shooting out the back. The vibrations inside the bar shook everything from the bottles to bar stools.

The men made it to Oconto on Dec. 16, 1957. Florian Heimerman, owner of the Tangiers Supper Club in Oconto, had cast doubt that the men could succeed and promised them the best steak in the house if they returned home with the tank. Needless to say, the men, along with their wives, enjoyed their steak dinners upon their return.

The tank was used in a number of Oconto parades and, for a short period of time, was stored behind Doug Bake's house at 202 Madison St. Doug's son, Bob, remembers his dad giving him and his brother, Dan, a ride to school in the tank, which undoubtedly gave many a memory they would never forget. The Sherman tank made its way to the American Legion Golf Club, its intended destination, where the access hatch was welded shut.

The adventure of these four men who rumbled across Wisconsin to Oconto in that tank 67 years ago today will always be a memorable story to be shared. After the sale of the American Legion Golf Club, the tank was relocated to the rear of the Beyer Home and Carriage Museum grounds and is now part of an ever-growing military memorial display.

Portions of this story are from John Enig's article in the Green Bay Press-Gazette published on Nov. 9, 1986.

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Hoopla streaming service out at public library

Shawano County Library discontinued Hoopla streaming service effective Dec. 31.

Library officials said that after careful consideration, this decision was necessary due to the increasing and unpredictable cost of this service.

Although Hoopla has been free for patrons to use, Shawano County Library is charged a fee per item checked out; once "Borrow Title" is clicked, the library is immediately billed between \$1.99 and \$3.99 for that item.

This cost-per-circulation model makes the service unsustainable, according to officials.

Digital materials can still be accessed through Wisconsin Public Library Consortium's OverDrive and its accompanying app, Libby. Local staff can help patrons with the program and app for borrowing items from the library.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

SURING: Recovery Talking Circle, 6-8 p.m. South Branch Community Center, W1281 County Road M.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

SHAWANO: Northern and Bass Hourly Derby, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court. Payout first, second, third every hour based on entries. 24-inch minimum to register northern, 14-inch minimum to register bass. Must fish Shawano Lake only. More info and rules on Bamboo Bar's Facebook page or call 715-201-1158.

NAVARINO: Winter Walk/Intro to Snowshoeing, 9 a.m. to noon, Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Join NNC Naturalist for a winter walk through the forests of Navarino; if conditions are favorable participants will go

on snowshoes. NNC members \$5, non-members \$10, families \$20. Arrive early to rent skis.

MONDAY, JAN. 6

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, JAN. 7

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, JAN. 8

SHAWANO: Chamber Coffee Connection, 8-9 a.m., SweetLife

Eatery, 116 N. Main St.

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.

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

BOWLER: Native American Talking Circle, 7-9 p.m., Mohican Family Center, N8605 Oak St. Information: Yvonne Burr, 715-326-0891.

FRIDAY, JAN. 10

SURING: Recovery Talking Circle, 6-8 p.m. South Branch Community Center, W1281 County Road M.

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

SHAWANO: Northern and Bass

Hourly Derby/Bonduel Bears Meat Raffle, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court. Payout first and second every hour based on entries. 24-inch minimum to register northern, 14-inch minimum to register bass. Must fish Shawano Lake only. More info and rules on Bamboo Bar's Facebook page or call 715-201-1158.

NAVARINO: Introduction to Cross Country Skiing, 9 a.m. to noon, Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. One-hour introduction to learn basic kick and glide, stopping and turning. NNC members \$5, non-members \$10, families \$20. Arrive early to rent skis. Register by Jan. 9 at 715-758-6999.

ABRAMS: Machickanee Cross Country Ski Club Candlelight Ski, 5:30-8 p.m., 6625 Timberline Road.

NEW Media is pleased to announce our new gardening column presented by nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist

Melinda Myers

Melinda has a master's degree in horticulture, is a certified arborist and was a horticulture instructor with tenure. Watch for her column in the second and fourth issues of NEW papers starting January 10, 2025.



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The Newsday Crossword

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

PSEUDOSCIENCES: Sounding like real ones

by Fred Piscop

ACROSS

1 Clenched hand

5 Commandments verb

10 Less green, as bananas

15 "Saturated" nutrients

19 House painter's estimate

20 "Your table's ready" gadget

21 Florida citrus city

22 Spruce up, as a news story

23 Of piers (not hymns)

25 Of a Rolling Stone (not bartending)

27 International accord

28 Fond wishes

30 Push forward

31 "___ too shabby!"

32 Less cooked

33 ___ nous (confidentially)

34 Retentive ability

37 Added staff

38 Diversionary device

41 Eastwood of Hollywood

42 Tosses in one's hand

43 Opera set in Egypt

44 Grafton's ___ for Lawless

47 Tonic partner

48 See 82-Across

49 Of a German tennis great (not handwriting)

52 Saucer crew, for short

53 Real-estate measures

54 ___ pants (baggy trousers)

56 Took back, as a championship

57 Of mouse-o-phobia (not the environment)

59 Distance runner

60 Longfellow title character

61 Read (over)

62 *Beauty and the Beast* girl

63 Turkey seasoning

64 Variety of skiing

67 Schoolyard menace

68 Of shopping (not living matter)

72 Drought enders

73 Pirate's plunder

74 Heaviest inert gas

75 Sturgeon eggs

76 Of pants patches (not new words)

78 Seuss' *If ___ the Zoo*

79 College transcript no.

80 Unfortunate

81 Star pilots

82 With 48-Across, fish dish

84 Brainy

86 What a sure thing isn't

88 Up and about

89 Shorthand experts

90 Software test versions

93 Sources of sugar

94 Very much like

95 Nightly news hour

97 Vital sign

98 Retinal ID check

102 Of lamp dwellers (not ancestry)

104 Of carbonation (not living matter)

107 Aardvark's fare

108 Vintner brothers' surname

109 Blazing

110 New Haven collegians

111 Poet of unexpected rhymes

112 Rembrandt contemporary

113 Grannies

114 Mentally sound

DOWN

1 Slowly vanish

2 Skillet substance

3 Faction within a faith

4 Competed against

5 Not consistent

6 ___ and hearty

7 Hitherto

8 Part of a chicken or chair

9 Give it your best

10 Earned a handy victory

11 More frosty

12 DC donors

13 Yellowstone grazer

14 Hoarse voice

15 Rap sheet listing

16 Get a shelly from a shelter

17 Striped predator

18 Fashion flair

24 Sound of scorn

26 Triple-tier treat

29 Is in debt

32 Incenses

34 John D. MacDonald sleuth

35 Social stratum

36 Capital of Belarus

37 Needing darning

38 More urgent

39 Dutch cheese

40 Half-___ (coffee order)

42 Blacksmith's workshop

43 Be in harmony

44 Actor Rob

45 Frankenstein aide

46 Last word of a 1/1 song

48 Win a point

50 The Beaver State

51 Speak candidly

53 Mets slugger Pete

54 Rolling, as terrain

55 Comrade

58 Voice a belief

59 It's cheese-filled and griddled

60 Silk substitute

62 Harbor markers

63 Nation south of Egypt

64 Boats like Noah's

65 Pop singer Del Rey

66 French foot

67 Expert golfer's woe

68 British nobleman

69 Hymn instrument

70 Start getting paid

71 Irish poet

73 Dark beer

74 Country singer LeAnn

77 Part of UNLV

82 False tales

83 Gloria of Latin pop

84 One of five popes

85 Childhood malady

86 Fill with joy

87 "Makes sense"

88 Have faith in

89 Give one's OK

90 Got the ball rolling

91 Justice Kagan

92 Camp structures

93 Army instrument

96 Yuletide beverages

97 Either end of a magnet

98 Cornell of Cornell University

99 Brown soft drink

100 Opposed to, nonstandardly

101 NASDAQ counterpart

103 Bodybuilder's back muscle

105 "___ job's worth doing..."

106 California wine, for short

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Do you remember these 2024 highlights?

By **KEVIN PASSON**
Editor-in-Chief

World records, school records, personal records and several athletes competing at state tournaments highlighted 2024's sports year.

Here's a look at some of what made headlines in the past 12 months.

Wrestling

– Oconto Falls senior wrestler Garrett Ganter earned his 100th varsity win Jan. 5 at The Duffy Invitational in Port Washington. Ganter beat Lodi wrestler Drew Lochner in sudden victory overtime to collect his 100th win.

– Shawano's Drake Herm earned his 100th victory during his first-round win at regional action Feb. 10 at Green Bay Preble.

– Several wrestlers moved on to the state tournament, after competing in the WIAA sectionals. Claiming state titles were Brooke Hoffman of Wittenberg-Birnamwood at 185 pounds, Harlow Skeandore of Pulaski at 145 pounds and Taylor Whiting of Lena at 107 pounds. It was Whiting's second consecutive title.

Girls hockey

– The Bay Area Ice Bears advanced to the state tournament. The Ice Bears had a dozen more shots on goal than Central Wisconsin Storm but still came up one goal short, 4-3, in the WIAA state title game March 2.

Girls basketball

– Lena advanced to the state tournament in March but lost the title game in overtime to Albany/Monticello. Kali Fischer swished a pair from the charity stripe to give the Wildcats a 50-45 lead with 35 seconds left in regulation at the WIAA Division 5 girls basketball championship game on March 9 at the Resch Center in Ashwaubenon.

– Lena's Eva Brooks was named to the all-state team by coaches.

– Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Rory Salvesen joins the 1,000 point club.

– Shawano's Leah Nordin breaks the school's all-time scoring record. The previous record of 1,168 points was set in 1989.

Bowling

– Birnamwood's Holly Orgeman placed second at the state bowling meet.

Boys lacrosse

– Pulaski's boys lacrosse team won its first game ever, an 11-5 win over Wayland Academy JV on April 6.

Girls lacrosse

– The Pulaski girls lacrosse team went the entire regular season without a win. That was not the case when the playoffs began.

The No. 16 seeded Red



Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy senior Anthony Seefeldt is the Division 3 state champion in the shot put at the WIAA Track and Field State Championships at UW-La Crosse on May 31 and June 1. He earned the title with a throw of 51 feet, 9.25 inches.

BELLA ROBERTS

Raiders defeated the No. 17 West Bend West co-op team 18-8 to advance to Round 2 against the No. 1 seeded University School of Milwaukee Wildcats on May 28.

Shawano Speedway

– On April 13, A.J. Springborn got his first-ever feature win at Shawano Speedway, the victory coming in the IMCA Northern Sport Mods.

– Shawano Speedway's Racing for a Reason fundraiser June 29 collected \$14,217. The funds were presented to HSHS St. Vincent's Child Life Services on July 20.

– Jeffrey Teske won the IMCA sport modifieds championship at the Shawano Speedway in 2024. Other title winners were Jordan Barkholtz, late models; Jordan Bartz, IMCA modifieds; Trent Nolan, IMCA stock cars; and Dalton Nelson, Mighty 4s.

Track and field

– Two relay teams and five individuals represented Shawano at the state Division 1 track meet May 31 at UW-La Crosse.

At the sectional meet in Hudson, the girls 4x800 and 4x400 relay teams each won the gold.

The 4x800 team of Bailey Hendricks, Adalyn Barkley, Lily Guenther and

Grace Chelberg set a new school record of 9:38.95.

The 4x400 team of Maci Beyer, Chelberg, Tela Hopfensperger and Barkley also set a new school record at 4:03.12.

In the triple jump, Barkley set a new school record of 36 feet, 4 inches.

– Three Pulaski girls earned gold medals and several others joined them at the state track meet after posting top times at sectionals.

Emerson Fabry won gold in the 800, and Olivia Sprangers finished in first in the 200. Hallie Morz captured the top spot in the pole vault.

– Three Bonduel athletes advanced to the state track meet after placing in the top four in their events at sectionals. Ryan Westrich took fourth in shot put. Mariah Wondra advanced in two events. She placed fourth in the 3,200 and second in the 1,600 with a time of 5:20.88, another personal record and school record.

– Three athletes from Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy also competed in La Crosse. Eva Brooks won the sectional title in the high jump. Zander Thomson won the high jump, and Anthony Seefeldt placed third in the shot put.



Shawano Community High School junior Leah Nordin has broken the girls basketball all-time scoring record of 1,168 points, which was held by Christi Burden since 1989. A recognition ceremony was held at the Dec. 13 game against Xavier. Nordin still has the rest of this season and all of next year to continue scoring.

CONTRIBUTED

– Gillett was represented at the state meet by Bradyn Wendorff.

– Trent VanDenElzen placed third in the pole vault and was the sole competitor from Suring.

– Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy senior Anthony Seefeldt was crowned the Division 3 state champion in the shot put at the WIAA Track and Field State Championships at UW-La Crosse on May 31 and June 1.

– Junior Eva Brooks placed second in the high jump, notching a height of 5 feet 5 inches.

– In the 200, Olivia Sprangers placed 10th in 25.94. She was 16th in the 100.

– Faith Resch represented the Chargers in three events. She captured third place in the triple jump at 35-07.25 and fourth in the 300 hurdles in 45.07.

Boys tennis

Shawano's No. 1 doubles tennis team of George Buerman and Tristan Sheldon made it to the state meet for the second year in a row after a successful day at WIAA sectionals at the Western Racquet and Fitness Club in Green Bay.

Boys golf

– Bonduel dropped from second place to fourth after the second day of play at the WIAA Division 3 state championship at Blackwolf Run in Kohler. Lena remained in fifth place June 3 and again June 4.

After a 168 on the first day, the Bears had a 351 on the second day for a 519 total.

On June 4, Colin Margelofsky led Bonduel with an 85, followed by Jake Dreyer and Reed Luepke with 88s and Colin Fischer with a 90. Jaxon Bogacz had a 101.

For the two-day combined scores, Dreyer posted a 126. Margelofsky, Fischer and Luepke each had a 131, and Bogacz had a 151.

For Lena, the team scored a 172 on the first day and 348 on the second day for a 520 total, just one stroke behind Bonduel. The Wildcats also finished one stroke in front of St. Mary's Springs' 521.

On June 4, Lena was led by Braden McVane with a 77, followed by Mason Belongia and Drake Dionne each with an 89 and Mason Spice with a 93. Evan VanderZanden scored 98.

For their two-day totals, McVane had a 119, Belongia was at 131, Spice had 132 and Dionne scored 140. VanderZanden scored a 147.

Baseball

– After three playoff games each decided by a single run, Bonduel broke open the bats in the sectional championship game, defeating St. Mary Catholic 6-0 on June 4. The win propelled the Bears to the state tournament June 11 at Neuroscience Group Field at Fox Cities Stadium, Grand Chute, the home of the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers.

– Bonduel's first-ever trip to the state baseball tournament ended in defeat in the Division 3 semifinal game. The No. 3 seeded Bears lost 2-1 to No. 2 seed Kenosha St. Joseph Catholic on June 11.

Shawano Ski Sharks

– The Shawano Ski Sharks won three first-place awards at the National Ski Show Association Division 2 tournament held Aug. 2-4 at Smalley Park in Shawano. The local ballet won with 207 points. Shawano's pyramid team won. Shawano also

won the tow boat driving category.

– Barefoot was the style of the day when the Shawano Ski Sharks and other skiers attempted to break the Guinness World Record for barefoot line skiing. Several attempts were made Sept. 8 on the Wolf River at Smalley Park. The Ski Sharks attempted to break their own world record of 38 barefoot line skiers set a few years ago. Officials have yet to review all of the video, but local skiers are claiming at least 41 skiers, which would set a new record. It's possible that under further review, that number could be more.

Softball

– Billi Vertz retired as Pulaski High School girls softball coach after a successful 20-year run as head coach at PHS and 26 years in coaching.

BABA

– The Little Falls Loggers traveled to the Scandinavia Vikings on Sept. 1 to compete in the 78th Badger Amateur Baseball Association Grand Championship Game. Little Falls won 4-2.

Athletic Hall of Fame

– Shawano Community High School inducted five new members into its Athletic Hall of Fame on Oct. 11. The five inductees were Jim Judd (1964), Dan Schutt (1984), Brian Johnson (1986), Tami Felts-Tady (2000) and Harlan Martin (coach).

– Four more athletes were inducted into the Bonduel Athletic Hall of Fame prior to the start of the Bears football game Oct. 11. The newest members were Alexa (Reinke) Frechette, Jen Dowden, Jim Moeller and Joshua Tebo.

2024, CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

2024, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Girls golf
- Shawano's Sophia Egert was the medalist and won that honor for eight of the nine conference meets this season. She was named Player of the Year for the third time in her four seasons of golf for Shawano.

- Oconto Falls Taylor Miller finished in 10th place at the 2024 WIAA Division 2 state girls golf championships at University Ridge Golf Course in Verona.

Cross country
- Bonduel's Mariah Wondra won the girls race at the Rosholt Invite and in the process broke the Bears school record with a time of 19:08.95. This currently ranks her in the top 10 at state.

- Gillett's Bradyn Wendorf led all area runners with a seventh-place finish in the Division 3 boys race at the state cross country tournament Nov. 2 in Wisconsin Rapids.

- The Bonduel boys team placed 14th among 16 teams. Race Anvelink led the Bears with a 30th-place finish. He was joined by Gage Anderson, Griffin Uelmen, Joah Dworniczak

and Garrett Anderson.

- In the girls event, Wittenberg-Birnamwood placed 11th and Bonduel was 13th.

For the Chargers, it was Rory Salvesson leading the way with a 10th-place finish in 20:07.3. She was followed by Nora Bushman, Harper Krull, Gabrielle Timm and Jayden Zeinert.

Mariah Wondra led the Bears, placing 17th. Also scoring for Bonduel were Teagan Engel, Hailey Berg, Cierra Schnell and Kember Frome.

In Division 2, Shawano's girls team placed 13th out of 16 teams, with Bailey Hendricks leading the way with a 31st-place finish.

She was joined by Adalyn Barkley, Mikelah Powers, Maci Beyer and Anabelle Schroeder.

Rounding out the team were Zoe Sipple and Teagan Powers.

Oconto Falls' Hailey Delzer finished in 49th place.

In the boys race, Shawano's Josiah Kuehl placed 65th, while Menominee Nation's Bryant Waupoose III was 74th.

In the Division 1 girls race, Pulaski's Olivia Stedl placed 94th. In the boys race, Pulaski's Arden Gilen placed 126th.

Volleyball
- Shawano's volleyball team moved closer to victory with each game against Catholic Memorial in the WIAA Division 2 semifinals at the Resch Center in Green Bay, but in the end, the Hawks lost the contest in three straight sets 3-0.

- In Division 3 action, Aquinas ended Bonduel's first trip to the state tournament with a 3-0 score in the semifinals.

Boys soccer
- Shawano's soccer team had five shots on goal in the WIAA semifinals against Sheboygan Falls on Nov. 7 but only managed to score once in their 2-1 loss.

Girls swimming
- Wittenberg-Birnamwood sophomore Kelsie Davis was named Bay Conference Swimmer of the Year at the conference meet Oct. 31 in Sturgeon Bay. She is also a four-time conference champion, winning the 100-yard butterfly, 100-yard back-

stroke and teaming up with Faith Resch, Reese Dickman and Brooklynn Beran to win the 200-yard medley relay and 400-yard freestyle relay. Resch was a four-time Bay conference champion, winning the 50-yard freestyle, 100-yard freestyle and the two relays.

- The Wittenberg-Birnamwood girls swim team placed fifth out of 34 teams at the Division 2 state swim meet Nov. 15 in Waukesha. Swimmers also broke five school records.

Football
- Owen-Withee (12-0) completed an undefeated season by capturing the state 8-player football championship with a 50-36 victory over Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas (10-2) at South Wood County Stadium in Wisconsin Rapids on Nov. 16.

- A pair of touchdowns in each of the first two quarters put Grantsburg in the driver's seat, and Bonduel couldn't come back in a 34-29 loss in the WIAA Division 6 semifinal game at Stanley-Boyd on Nov. 15.



The Wittenberg-Birnamwood foursome of Kelsie Davis, Reese Dickman, Brooklyn Beran and Faith Resch placed fourth in the 200-yard medley relay in 1:50.76 and fourth in the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:39.99. In front are Dickman, left, and Resch. In back are Beran, left, and Davis.

CONTRIBUTED

Former Oconto athlete to lead Wake Forest football program

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

From the Blue Devils to the Demon Deacons, former Oconto High School athlete Jack Dickert is the new head coach of the Wake Forest University football team.

Dickert, 41, grew up in Oconto and was a standout athlete there for three years before his family moved to Kohler for his senior year.

"During his time in Oconto, Jake was the starting quarterback on our varsity football team all three years," said Pete Gabrielson, former Oconto football team head coach. "He led the team to the state playoffs in both his sophomore and junior seasons. I remember how, even as a freshman, Jake was able to lead the team and earn the respect and trust of his teammates. It was clear back then that he had something special."

Wake Forest University, a Division 1 school, is in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The Demon Deacons play in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"I cannot tell you how excited, proud and honored I am to be the head football coach at Wake Forest University," Dickert said in a statement. "It has been an exhilarating journey since my first conversations with Vice President and Director of Athletics John Currie, President Susan R. Wenthe and the athletics and university leadership. My number one priority will be building relationships with our current student-athletes and earning their trust.

"We will have a clear focus on retaining our current roster while adding valuable pieces that fit our program and Wake Forest University. Additionally, I am excited to immerse myself in this special community as throughout this



JAKE DICKERT

process my belief that this is the perfect place for our family and our program only strengthened."

Dickert, who has been a college football coach for 17 seasons, has risen up the ranks, holding experience at nearly every level of the game. He has proven to be a consistent developer of NFL caliber talent throughout his career while also a winner at each of his coaching stops.

In four seasons as the head coach at Washington State, also a Division 1 school, Dickert has had a winning record and gone to a bowl three times while having the Cougars ranked inside of the top-20 each of the last two seasons,

climbing as high as No. 13 in 2023.

Additionally over the last three NFL draft cycles, Dickert has had seven players selected and the three draft picks in 2024 marked the most for Washington State since the 2005 NFL draft.

Dickert had been the defensive coordinator when he took over during the 2021 season as the Cougars' interim coach after Washington State fired Nick Rolovich for refusing a state mandate that all employees get vaccinated against COVID-19. Dickert led the team to a 3-3 finish to earn the permanent job, then went 20-17 in the three seasons since.

Washington State went 8-4 this year, the first since the Pac-12 fell apart, with the majority of its schools scattering to the ACC, Big 12 and Big Ten.

The Cougars are set to play No. 22 Syracuse in the Holiday Bowl on Dec. 27,

but Dickert will not coach the team.

Gabrielson said Dickert's older brother, Jesse, was also on the Oconto football team, and their father, Jeff, was the school district superintendent.

"Those were the days when you still had a freshman football team, and it was very unusual to have a freshman on the varsity team," he said. "I decided to make him the starting quarterback for the varsity program."

Gabrielson said Dickert and his dad would study game films every night leading up the next week's game.

"Jake would look for the other team's weaknesses from the beginning," Gabrielson said. "It was something to see this young guy take the game of football so serious. It was almost like a scholarly pursuit for him."

Dickert would go on to play football at UW-Stevens Point from



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Bay Area Ice Bears score 3 shutouts

The Bay Area Ice Bears hosted three teams over the past weekend and shut out each team at the Cornerstone Community Center in Ashwaubenon.

The Ice Bears will host Gentry Academy at 7 p.m. Jan. 3.

Dec. 28
Bay Area 4, Eau Claire Area 0

Abby Mommaerts opened the scoring with two goals in the first four minutes of the second period. Aisling Buchan added

another for a 3-0 lead. Hannah Von Haden scored once in the third period for the final tally.

Assists were credited to Buchan, Elizabeth Zunker, Von Haden, Emily Bill, Faye Brunke and Briana Anundsen.

The Stars were penalized twice for four minutes, while the Ice Bears were called for five infractions for 10 minutes.

Reese Spiering had 18 saves for the Ice Bears, while Amy Thul had 27 for

the Stars.
Dec. 27
Bay Area 7, Warbirds 0

The Ice Bears had 27 shots on goal compared to nine for the Warbirds in the 7-0 shutout.

Scoring in the first period were Tiana Stindt, Faye Brunke and Aisling Buchan. Buchan scored a second time in the second period, and Hannah Von Haden made the score 5-0.

In the final period, Brunke scored again, and

Emily Bill closed out the scoring with a goal at 4:44.

Stindt had three assists in the game, Bill, Von Haden and Brunke had two each, and one each went to Julianne Bradford and Addison Dahl.

Each team was penalized four times for eight minutes.

Reese Spiering had nine saves for the Ice Bears.

Bay Area 10, Rock County 0

The goals were fast and furious with the Ice Bears

running up a 10-0 shutout of Rock County to open weekend action.

The Ice Bears ended the game with 39 shots on goal compared to seven for the Rock County Fury. Reese Spiering had one save for Bay Area, with Kade Kitchenmaster getting six.

Aisling Buchan completed a hat trick with two goals in the first period and the last in the third.

Faye Brunke and Claire Gerarden each had two

goals. Scoring once each were Rachael Beeck, Emily Bill and Jordyn Clarke.

Elizabeth Zunker had three assists. Getting two each were Addison Dahl, Bill, Addison Gady, Briana Anundsen and Olympia Simons. Tiana Stindt, Ava McDonald, Gerarden, Abby Mommaerts, Hannah Von Haden and Brunke each had one.

The Ice Bears were penalized three times for six minutes, while the Fury had a penalty-free game.

Boucher named new coach of Shawano girls softball team

Nathan Boucher will be the new head softball coach at Shawano Community High School, pending formal approval by the Shawano School Board.

He will replace Jude Wachtel who resigned from the position this fall.

Boucher has demonstrated a commitment to coaching the youths of the Shawano community, coaching several youth programs and multiple SCHS teams, said Joel Wondra, high school activities director.

Boucher has served on the Youth Softball board and coached in the youth softball program since

2015. He also coached youth baseball for eight years, including four years in which he served on the Youth Baseball board.

At SCHS, Boucher coaches in the boys basketball program, recently taking over as the JV1 head coach this year after being the JV2 head coach for the previous five seasons.

He has also been the boys JV1 soccer head coach since 2018. Boucher was the varsity soccer head coach at Gresham High School for 13 years and is familiar with the demands of running a varsity program.

“I am excited and

thrilled to be given the opportunity to be the head coach of Shawano softball,” Boucher said. “I am looking forward to being able to have a part in building success in the softball program and helping kids with the sport they love.”

“I’m excited for coach Boucher to become the leader of the SCHS softball program,” Wondra said. “Coach Boucher brings a wealth of coaching experience to the position, and he has demonstrated a commitment to the education-based athletics model. We are excited for the team to continue to

improve and for the program to provide a positive and meaningful experience for our athletes.”

With the first day of practice fewer than four months away, Boucher will be busy preparing for the 2025 season.

“My first task is to connect with players and families to share more about the direction I see our program going in the future,” Boucher said.

In 2025, the Hawks are expected to return eight letterwinners and are looking to build upon last year’s 12-13 overall record and fifth-place finish in the Bay Conference.



Nathan Boucher will be the new head softball coach at Shawano Community High School, pending formal approval by the Shawano School Board. He will replace Jude Wachtel who resigned from the position this fall.

CONTRIBUTED

Bonduel boys keep overall record perfect at 9-0

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Dec. 28
Bonduel 55, Wisconsin Rapids Assumption 29

Ryan Westrich and Carter Moesch each scored 13 points to lead Bonduel over Wisconsin Rapids Assumption 55-29 in the Sentry Classic at UW-Stevens Point.

Moesch connected on three 3-point baskets.

The Bears jumped out to a 27-8 lead at halftime and easily maintained the large lead.

Oneida Nation 75, Bowler 31
St. Thomas Aquinas

Academy 57, Gresham 33
Montello 79, Marion 34

Menominee Nation 64, Wabeno/Laona 46
Oconto 62, Oconto Falls 53

Dec. 27
Gresham 64, Bowler 49

Tomahawk 50, Marion 27
Menominee Nation 56, Crandon 52

Fox Valley Lutheran 56, Shawano 42

Dec. 26
Bonduel 82, Pacelli 42

Five players scored in double digits for Bonduel, which defeated Pacelli 82-

42 in the Sentry Classic at UW-Stevens Point.

The Bears are 8-0 overall this season (4-0 in conference play).

Race Anvelink led the scoring with 18 points including four 3-pointers. Carter Moesch was next with 17 points and three 3-pointers.

Quinn Wesenberg score 16 points, while Ryan Westrich added 11 and Cade Johnson dropped in another 10.

Bonduel held a comfortable 42-22 halftime lead and widened it by another 20 points in the second half.

Shawano girls beat Ashwaubenon

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Dec. 28
Gillett 49, Sturgeon Bay 24

Menominee Nation 54, Wabeno/Laona 48
Oconto 64, Oconto Falls 59

Dec. 27

Shawano 58, Ashwaubenon 42

In a hard-fought game, the Hawks pulled away in the second half to defeat Ashwaubenon 58-42 at UW-Green Bay.

Leah Nordin led all scorers with 31 points. Shawano, 7-3 overall,

plays against New London on Jan. 3.

Assumption 54, Bonduel 49

Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah 51, Gresham 42
Crandon 55, Menominee Nation 48

Montello 32, Marion/Tigerton 17

Coaches are reminded to send scores and stats to sports@newmedia-wi.com.

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Legals
WNAXLP

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12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, MENOMINEE COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Robert W. Schraeder

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)

Case No. 24 PR 08

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth October 20, 1943 and date of death July 30, 2024 , was domiciled in Menominee County, State of Wisconsin , with a mailing address of N1434 Spirit Ridge Road, Keshena, WI 54135 .

3. All interested persons waived notice.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is [Date] March 21, 2025 .

5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano , Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office .

BY THE COURT:DATE SIGNED: December 12, 2024 Electronically signed by Gwen Hoffman Probate Registrar

Form completed by: Steven E. Wolfe 602 Wells Street, Marinette, WI 54143 steve@wolfelegalplanning.com Bar Number 1000511

WNAXLP

e0cfd175

12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, MENOMINEE COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Patricia L. Schraeder

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)

Case No. 24 PR 09

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth February 5, 1946 and date of death March 1, 2023 , was domiciled in Menominee County, State of Wisconsin , with a mailing address of N1434 Spirit Ridge Road, Keshena, WI 54135 .

3. All interested persons waived notice.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is [Date] March 21, 2025 .

5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street Shawano , Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate office .

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: December 12, 2024 Electronically signed by Gwen Hoffman Probate Registrar

Form completed by: Steven E. Wolfe 602 Wells Street, Marinette, WI 54143 715-735-7797 Bar Number 1000511

WNAXLP

eb1913e3

12/20/24, 12/27/24, 01/03/25

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT OCONTO COUNTY

CREDIT ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION

Plaintiff,

vs.

JULIE MILANOWSKI

Defendant.

Case No. 24CV000142

AMENDED SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

TO: JULIE MILANOWSKI

13419 STATE HIGHWAY 32 64

MOUNTAIN WI 54149-9802

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within Forty (40) days after December 20, 2024, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is: CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, OCONTO COUNTY, 301 WASHINGTON ST, OCONTO WI 54153-1699 and the Kohn Law Firm, Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 735 N. Water St., Suite 1300, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If no Complaint accompanied this Summons you must respond within the said 40 day period with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiff's attorneys at their respective addresses listed above.

If you do not provide a proper answer to the Complaint or provide a written demand for said complaint within the 40 day period, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin December 2, 2024.

KOHN LAW FIRM S.C. ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED BY: /S/JOHN DANNER JOHN DANNER State Bar No. 1125953 Attorney for Plaintiff

WNAXLP

NWTC collaborates with SWTC on \$3 million grant Partnership to drive energy efficiency and support Wisconsin manufacturers

In a shared effort to strengthen small and mid-sized manufacturing businesses in Wisconsin, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) has partnered with Southwest Wisconsin Technical College (SWTC) on a \$3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

The grant aims to reduce energy costs, introduce innovative technologies and bolster workforce training to ensure Wisconsin manufacturers remain competitive and resilient.

“This opportunity builds

on NWTC's long history of supporting manufacturers through innovation and workforce development,” said Kathryn Rogalski, NWTC’s vice president of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development.

“Manufacturing is the backbone of Wisconsin’s economy, providing high wages and essential goods. When our manufacturers succeed, our entire region thrives.”

SWTC will lead the grant in partnership with NWTC, Madison Area Technical College and the UW-Stevens Point K-12

Energy Education Program. This project, known as the Wisconsin Energy Partnership (WEP), is funded by the DOE’s Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESCC) through their Industrial Training and Assessment Center grant (ITAC).

The WEP project focuses on three key initiatives:

- **Innovate industry.** Through hands-on, work-based learning, students will bring the latest innovations and best practices right to the manufacturing floor. Free, course-based energy site assessments will jump-start conversations about energy reduction, electrification and decarbonization. Over three years, the consortium plans to conduct 30 energy assessments and engage at least 90 students in high-

impact learning.

- **Empower the work force.** Energy considerations are increasingly complex as the world electrifies and digitizes. Through upskilling programs, manufacturers and industries along the supply chain will equip employees with tools to make informed energy decisions. Topics will range from sensors and cybersecurity to energy analytics and HVAC controls. At least 200 incumbent workers will be upskilled with tailored training to fit industry needs.
- **Advance pathways.** The biggest concern among Wisconsin employers is the lack of qualified and available workforce with energy expertise. The group will address this by promoting energy career pathways to

increase enrollment, with a focus on women and underrepresented populations. They will launch the “Clean Energy Careers” campaign and hold recruitment events to engage these communities.

The WEP aims to identify \$4.88 million in energy savings, reduce energy use by at least 19.5 million kilowatt hours and help manufacturers adopt cleaner energy practices. With Wisconsin’s manufacturers responsible for 31% of the state’s energy use, the industry is poised to play a significant role in achieving the state’s net-zero energy goals.

“By helping manufacturers make the most of their resources and adopt new technologies, we’re not just addressing immediate needs — we’re ensuring the long-term success of our local workforce and industry,” said Ann Franz, executive director of Northeast Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance.

This is the first time the DOE program has been extended to technical and community colleges. To ensure effective implementation of grant initiatives, NWTC has named Alex Lange as the project manager. Wisconsin businesses can begin applying for energy assessment services through the Wisconsin Energy Partnership in early 2025. For information, contact Lange at 920-498-7126 or alexander.lange@NWTC.edu.

Oconto Falls Meal Site Manager

Elderly Services of Marinette County, a non-profit organization, is seeking an organized and energetic individual for an open position at the Oconto Falls Senior Center, approximately 15-18 hours per week. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, no nights/weekends/holidays.

Duties include coordination of Senior Dining & Home Delivered Meals, meal reservations and assessments, data reporting, and back-up driving for Home Delivered Meals. Experience working with older adults and customer service skills are preferred.

Call 715-854-7453 with questions or to request an application. Letter of interest or resume may be sent by January 1, 2025 to: Marinette County Elderly Services, 516 N. Hwy. 141, P.O. Box 456, Crivitz, WI 54114. EO/AA Employer.

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01/03/2025, 03/7/2025

NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

Pursuant to Section 174.052, Wisconsin Statutes, rabies vaccinations and dog licenses are required for all dogs who are 5 months of age or older.

Vaccinations against rabies are required per Section 95.21(2), Wisconsin Statutes, within 30 days after the dog reaches 5 months of age and shall be repeated within one year after the initial vaccination. In addition, dogs shall be revaccinated when their rabies certificate expires. A certificate documenting that the dog's rabies vaccinations are current shall be presented to the treasurer when obtaining an annual dog license.

The owner of a dog more than 5 months of age on January 1 or within the licensing year shall obtain an annual dog license. Any person who keeps more than one dog shall contact their municipal treasurer regarding the availability of a multiple dog license.

2025 Dog Licensing tags shall be obtained by April 1, 2025, from your Municipal Treasurer.

Licensing fees may vary by municipality. Late fees are assessed after April 1, 2025.

T-Abrams 920-826-5511	T-How 920-660-5483	T-Mountain 715-276-6474	T-Townsend 715-850-1216
T-Bagley 920-842-4619	T-Lakewood 715-276-3579	T-Oconto 920-373-6270	T-Underhill 920-590-2991
T-Brazeau 920-897-3855	T-Lena 920-829-5467	T-Oconto Falls 920-373-3071	V-Lena 920-829-5226
T-Breed 920-842-2991	T-Little River 920-829-6316	T-Pensaukee 920-826-2010	V-Suring 920-842-2333
T-Chase 920-373-8308	T-Little Suamico 920-826-7655	T-Riverview 715-276-9478	C-Gillett 920-855-2255
T-Doty 715-276-7554	T-Maple Valley 920-373-2077	T-Spruce 920-246-0974	C-Oconto 920-834-7711
T-Gillett 920-676-2844	T-Morgan 920-846-0699	T-Stiles 920-370-5014	C-Oconto Falls 920-846-4505

BY: Kim Pytleski, County Clerk

Published pursuant to Sec. 174.052 Wis. Sta.

Publication Dates: January 3 and March 7, 2025

Please return form and money to your local Municipal Treasurer:

Neutered Male	Un-Neutered Male	Spayed Female	Un-spayed Female	Kennel \$35.00 + \$3.00 per dog in excess of 12 dogs	Municipality Fees 2025
\$3.00	\$8.00	\$3.00	\$8.00		Fees for all municipalities in Oconto County except the municipalities listed below
\$3.00	\$25.00	\$3.00	\$25.00		Town of Chase
\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$10.00		Town of Stiles, and Townsend, and City of Gillett,
\$7.00	\$12.00	\$7.00	\$12.00		City of Oconto Falls

DOG LICENSE APPLICATION-Complete all fields

Name of Owner _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone #: _____

Include a Business-size Self Addressed Stamped Envelope for tag return by mail.

Name of Dog _____	Female _____	Male _____
Breed _____	Spayed _____	Neutered _____
Color _____		
Rabies vaccination-Date Given (MM/DD/YYYY) _____		
Rabies vaccination-Date Expired (MM/DD/YYYY) _____		
Rabies Tag # _____		

WNAXLP

OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Dec. 23

- Bond was set at \$10,000 cash for Gary E. Borkovec, 48, after he was charged with burglary to a building or dwelling, four counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of criminal damage to property and two counts of theft, in connection with incidents that allegedly occurred Nov. 9 and Dec. 15. Judge Michael Judge adjourned his initial appearance until Jan. 16.

Proceedings of Dec. 27

- Bond was set at \$3,000 cash for Robert T. Vorpahl, 47, Abrams, after he was charged with stalking in connection with an incident that allegedly Dec. 23. He waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty. Judge Jay Conley scheduled a pre-trial conference for Jan. 16.
- Bond was set at \$1,500 cash for Shawn C. Saeger Jr., 36, Oconto, after he was charged with possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Dec. 25. Conley adjourned his initial appearance until Jan. 16.

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\$5.99

Asst Variety 12"

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2/\$8

Asst Variety 9-13oz

Vollwerth's Pillow Pack Brats and Natural Casing Wieners

Cheddarwurst, Polish, Regular



\$5.99

18-22oz

Food Club Bacon

Regular or Thick-Cut 16oz

\$4.79

USDA Choice Boneless Sirloin Tip Steaks or Roasts



\$5.29

lb

Family Pack Boneless Frying Chicken Thighs

\$2.79

lb

Family Pack Pork Steak



\$1.99

lb

Snack Packs

\$1.29

Asst Variety 4/3.25oz

Jif Peanut Butter

2/\$5

Asst Variety 16oz

Cosmic Crisp Apples



\$1.19

lb

Fancy Naval Oranges



\$1.19

lb

Grape Tomatoes



\$2.89

1 pint

XL Green Bell Peppers



69¢

each

Fresh Express Garden Salad



\$1.49

12oz Bag

Kretschmar Off-the-Bone Rotisserie Chicken Breast



\$6.49

lb
Shaved or Sliced

JJ's Fruit Pies



69¢

Asst Variety 4oz

Lean Cuisines



3/\$9.99

Asst Variety 7.5-11.5oz

Food Club Frozen Vegetables



99¢

Asst Variety 10oz

Bugles, Chex Mix, or Gardettos



2/\$5

Asst Variety 6-8.6oz

Daisy Cottage Cheese



2/\$5

16oz
2% or 4%

Fiora 12 Roll Bath Tissue or 6 Roll Paper Toweling



\$4.99

Quaker Rice Cakes



\$3.29

Asst Variety 4.47-7.23oz

Hungry Jack Pancake Syrup



\$3.69

Asst Variety 24oz

Hungry Jack Pancake Mixes



\$2.69

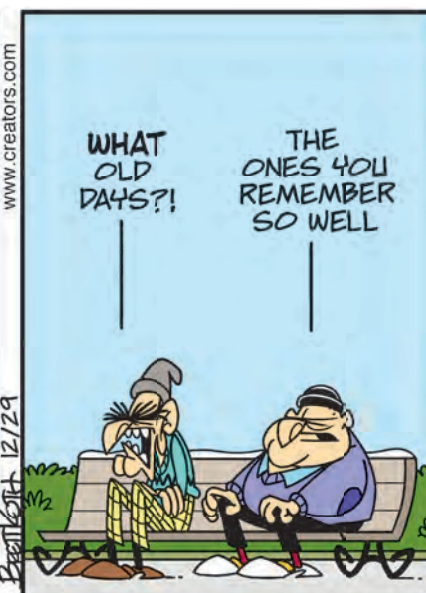
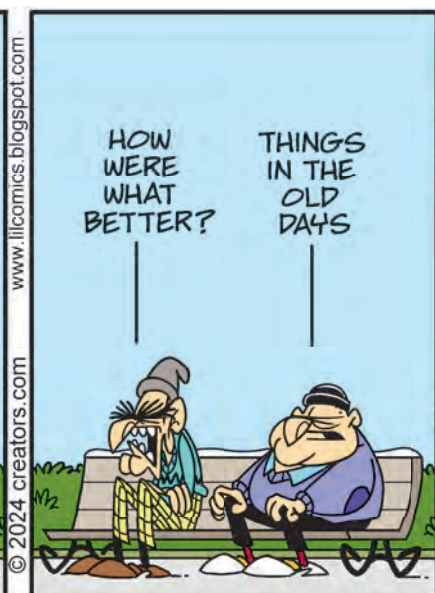
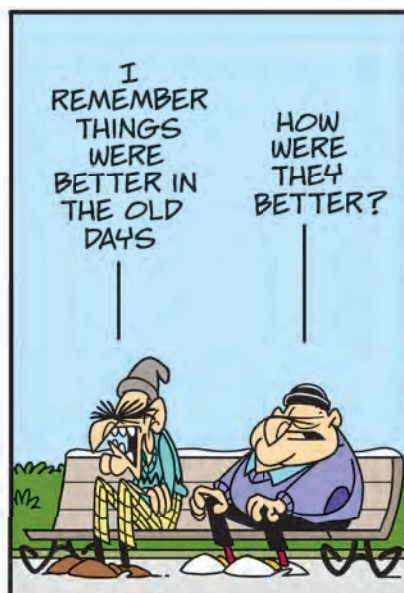
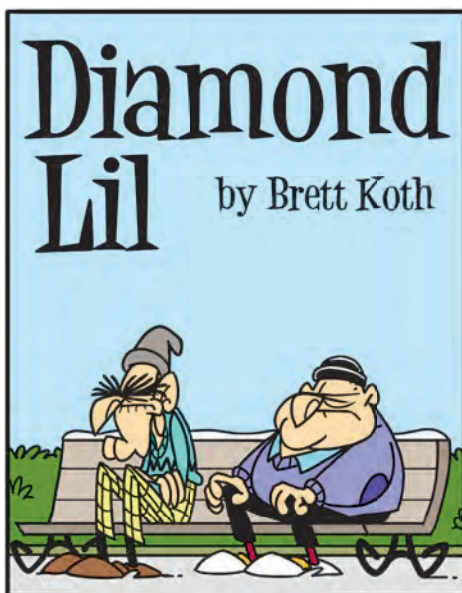
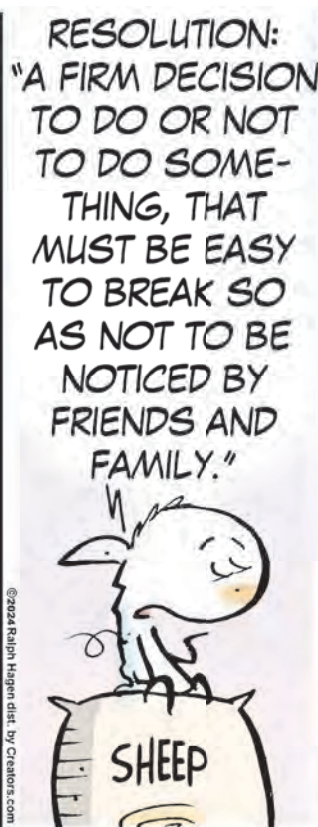
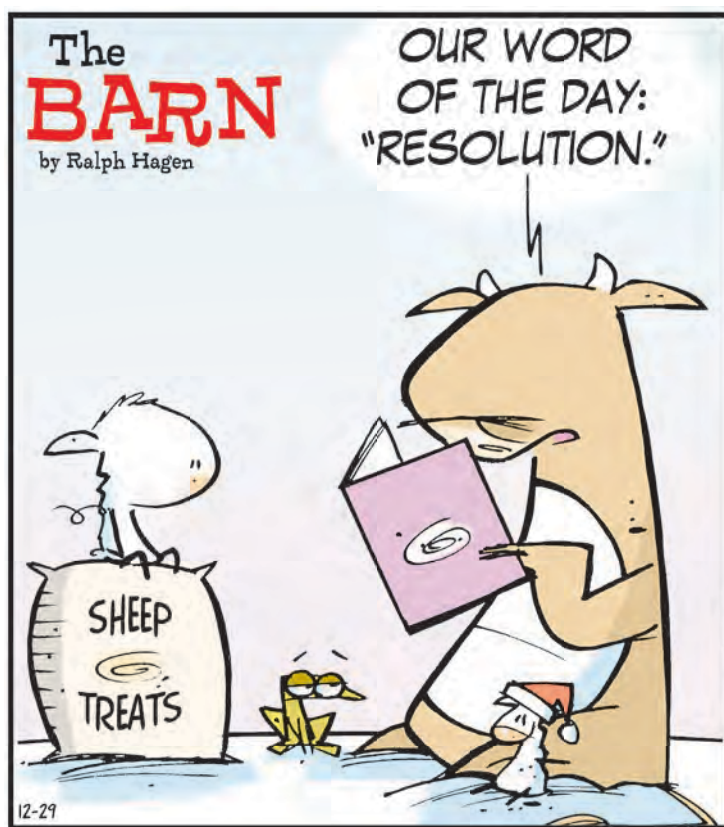
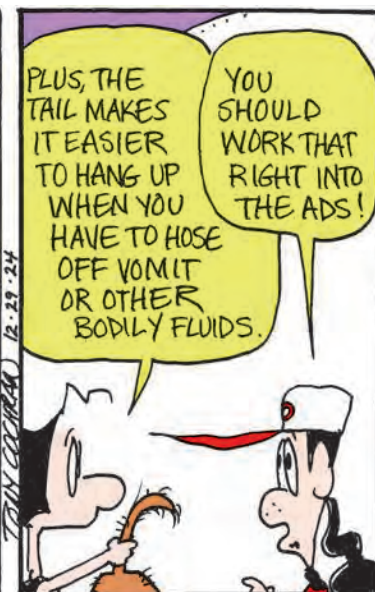
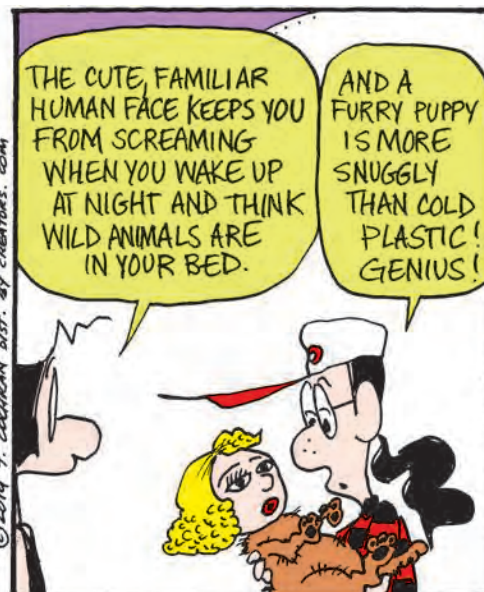
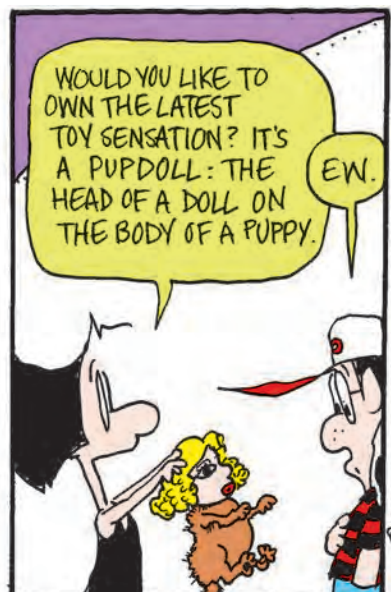
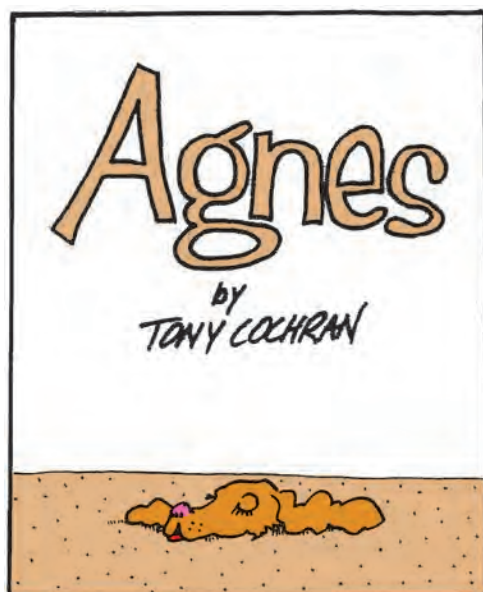
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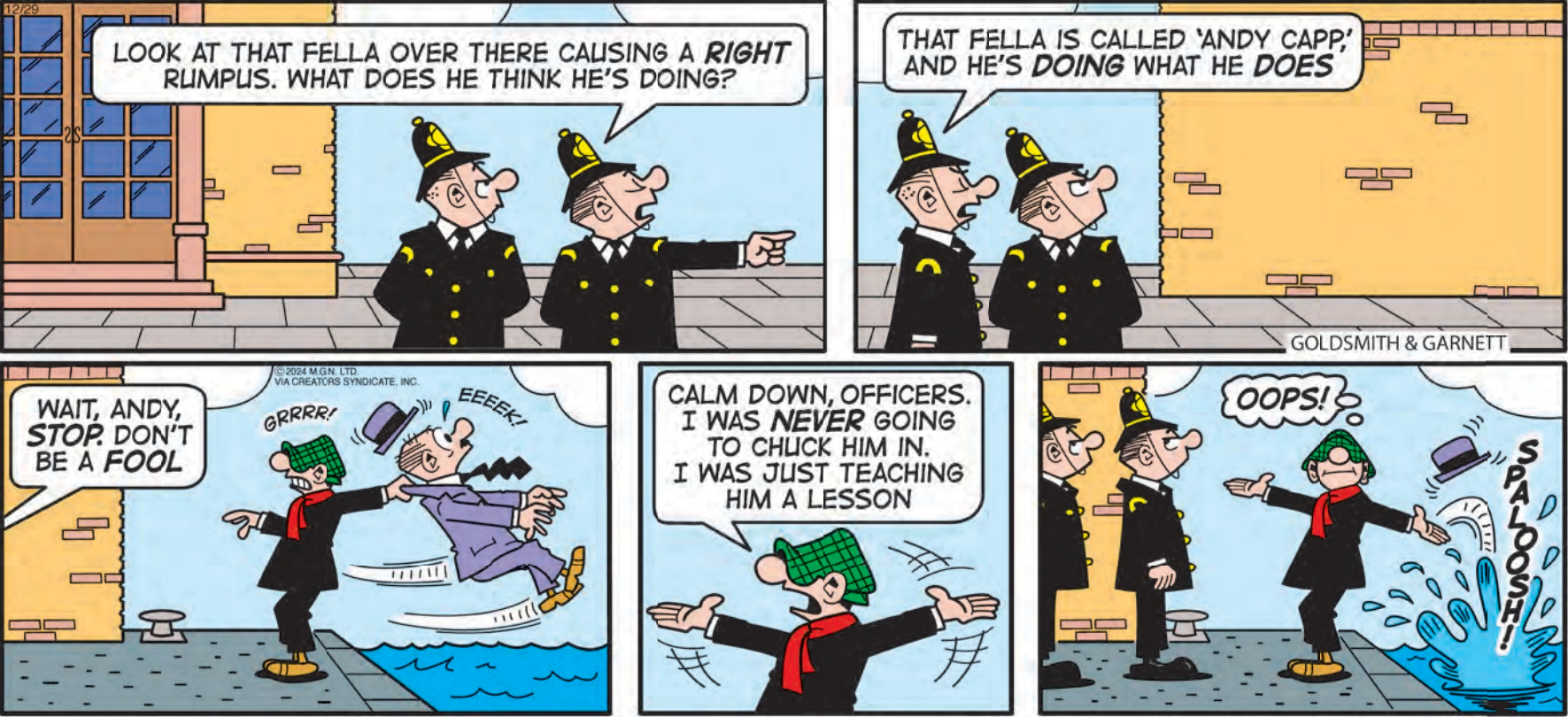
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NOT YET ELITE

PLAYOFF BOUND PACKERS 0-4 vs. NFC LEADERS

BY LUKE REIMER
Green & Gold Express

It took two passes on the final drive to burn Green Bay’s timeouts and end a furious comeback for the Vikings to clinch the victory over the Packers on Dec. 29.

The Packers were unable to get revenge for its Week 4 loss, as it dropped its second game of the season to the Minnesota Vikings, 27-25 in Minnesota.

Vikings quarterback Sam Darnold registered the best game of his career. The USC alum completed 33-of-43 passes for a career high 377 yards and three touchdowns.

Vikings superstar receiver Justin Jefferson was the main recipient of Darnold’s big day, as he finished with 92 yards on eight receptions. Receiver Jordan Addison registered 69 yards and a touchdown on six catches, and tight end T.J. Hockenson registered 68 yards

on five receptions, but it was receiver Jalen Nailor who was the X-factor for Minnesota’s offense as he recorded 81 yards and a touchdown on five receptions.

Former Packers and Vikings running back Aaron Jones finished the game with 47 yards on 12 carries.

As for Green Bay, Jordan Love struggled as Minnesota’s defense was relentless in the pass rush, recording three sacks, two tackles for losses and eight total quarterback hits. Love finished the game completing 19-of-30 passes for 185 yards and one touchdown.

Romeo Doubs was the leading receiver for the Packers in the game with 58 yards on seven receptions. Tucker Kraft added 53 yards on two receptions, while Dontayvion Wicks notched 43 yards on four receptions.

“You have to come out and adjust to whatever they might be throw-

ing at you, whether it is something that you have planned for or something that you haven’t,” said Love, on Minnesota’s exotic defenses. “I don’t think we did that well enough, and then it comes down to going out there and making those plays, and we didn’t make those plays.”

Josh Jacobs churned out 69 yards and a touchdown on 17 carries, while Emanuel Wilson added 29 rushing yards and one touchdown on six carries.

In the two teams’ Week 4 matchup, Green Bay found itself down 28-7 after the first half of the game. While last week’s matchup was not as drastic of a deficit, it seemed eerily similar to the first game between the teams.

Led by its stellar defense, Minnesota jumped out to a 20-3 lead through the middle of the third quarter, but again like the first matchup, Green Bay’s roaring comeback provided late game sparks.



Top, quarterback Jordan Love throws a stiff arm to defend himself as he scrambles with the ball against the Vikings on Sunday. Love was 19-of-30 for 185 yards with a touchdown and 91.7 rating. Above, running back Josh Jacobs is shy of the goal line, like the rest of the team when it comes to defeating top-tier opponents this year. At left, coach Matt LaFleur searches for a successful play from his list.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

WEEK 17/DEFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 25 vs. VIKINGS 27



Defensive end Kingsley Enagbare towers over wide receiver Brandon Powell. Enagbare was not as active against the Vikings as he has been in previous games, but he is still in contention to seize the starting spot opposite Rashan Gary.

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TOWERING ABOVE

ENGABARE QUIET AGAINST VIKINGS COMPARED TO PREVIOUS GAMES

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No reason Packers shouldn't beat Bears

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The Green Bay Packers are at the end of the road. Sunday's game in all likelihood will be the final game at Lambeau Field this season. Jordan Love and company are coming off a 27-25 loss to the Minnesota Vikings, which saw them continue a trend of slow starts leading to disappointing finishes against the best teams in the NFC. Because of that loss, they'll now be the sixth seed at best in the NFC playoffs, with a possibility of finishing seventh, and hitting the road to Philadelphia for the Wild Card round.

They'll face a team that they've dominated for the last five years. The Packers are looking to build some momentum going into the playoffs. Here are the keys to doing just that. **Green Bay pass rush** Of all the units that disappointed on Sunday, the Packers' pass rush was probably the most egregious in terms of their disappointment. They did not get near Sam Darnold often enough against an offensive line that had struggled for most of the year. They play another struggling unit this week-end with the Chicago Bears coming to town. Caleb Williams has taken sacks at a record-setting

pace and has a propensity to hold onto the ball. Green Bay is built to feast against teams like that, and they need to do so. The last time these two teams played, the pass rush did not come to life until late in the fourth quarter. This time around, Green Bay needs to pounce on Williams early and often. **Chicago vs. Cancun** The reality of the situation is the Bears are made up of humans. DJ Moore joked before their game against Minnesota that he was most looking forward to vacation. Keenan Allen said that he played for the name on the back of his jersey. The reality from those

comments is that it does not appear Chicago is overly interested in competing to win. They looked lifeless in their loss to the Seattle Seahawks. They were booed by their home crowd and were unable to find the end zone. If the Packers are able to jump out to a lead in this game, the Bears could start thinking about their reservations in Cancun more than they are thinking about beating the Packers. It's not the most common outcome, but in a game where both teams are human, nobody would blame the Bears, mired in a 10-game losing streak, for wanting to be put out of

their misery. **Packers vs. Momentum** The Packers don't have much time to lick their wounds after a tough loss in Minnesota. They have one more game at home before heading to the postseason where they'll face off against another good team. Matt LaFleur said after Sunday's loss that he wanted his team to finish the season the right way and go into the postseason on a good note. To do that, they'll need to play well against the Bears. The good news is, that's something they've typically done. Despite LaFleur's comments to the public, there's

no question that he wants to treat this game like he did the game against New Orleans before Christmas. Josh Jacobs got a lesser workload that night. They rotated a bunch of players in on defense. Jordan Love got most of the fourth quarter off thanks to a 27-0 lead. This week's game could be handled in a similar way if the Packers are able to jump out to an early lead. This is a game where everything is in Green Bay's favor. They have more talent than Chicago. They're at home. They have more to play for. All the ingredients are there to build some confidence before having to hit the road in the postseason.

CHICAGO BEARS AT GREEN BAY PACKERS

TIME AND DATE: Noon, Sunday, Jan. 5
LOCATION: Lambeau Field
TV: Fox
RADIO: Flagship WRNW-FM Milwaukee — 97.3; Packers Radio Network includes WIXX-FM Green Bay — 101.1, WRLO-FM Antigo — 105.3, WLST-FM Marinette — 95.1, and WSAU Wausau — 550 AM and 95.1 FM
2024 RECORDS: Packers, 11-5, Bears 4-12.
HISTORY: The Bears and Packers have been locking horns since the 1930s. The Packers lead the all-time series 109-76-7. Their last matchup at Lambeau Field came last year when the Packers won 17-9 to clinch their spot in the postseason in Jordan Love's first season as a starter. Their most recent meeting however came down to the final play of the game. The Packers took a late 20-19 lead on a quarterback sneak from Love.

Caleb Williams mounted a comeback drive to get the Bears into field goal range and have a chance to snap a 10-game losing streak to the Packers. Instead, Karl Brooks played the role of hero on the day as Cairo Santos' field goal was blocked as time expired. Perhaps that was the beginning of the end for Matt Eberflus, who has since been fired in favor of Thomas Brown, who started the season as the team's quarterback coach. He was promoted to offensive coordinator with the firing of Shane Waldron before being promoted to interim head coach. **COACHES:** Packers - Matt LaFleur (sixth season, 69-32). Bears - Thomas Brown (interim, 0-4). **PACKERS SCHEDULE** Friday, Sept. 6 at Philadelphia, L 29-34 Sunday, Sept. 15 vs. Indianapolis W 16-10 Sunday, Sept. 22 at Ten-

nessee W 30-14 Sunday, Sept. 29 vs. Minnesota L 29-31 Sunday, Oct. 6 at LA Rams 3:25 p.m. W 24-19 Sunday, Oct. 13 vs. Arizona W 34-13 Sunday, Oct. 20 vs. Houston W 24-22 Sunday, Oct. 27 at Jacksonville W 30-27 Sunday, Nov. 3 vs. Detroit L 14-24 Week 10 BYE Sunday, Nov. 17 at Chicago W 20-19 Sunday, Nov. 24 vs. San Francisco W 38-10 Thursday, Nov. 28 vs. Miami W 30-17 Thursday, Dec. 5 at Detroit L 34-31 Sunday, Dec. 15 at Seattle W 30-13 Monday, Dec. 23 vs. New Orleans W 34-0 Sunday, Dec. 29, at Minnesota, L 27-25 Sunday, Jan. 5, vs. Chicago, Noon **NFL SCHEDULE** Saturday, Jan. 4

Cleveland at Baltimore,, 3:30 p.m. Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m. **Sunday, Jan. 5** Carolina at Atlanta, Noon Houston at Tennessee, Noon NY Giants at Philadelphia, Noon Jacksonville at Indianapolis, Noon Washington at Dallas, Noon Chicago at Green Bay, Noon New Orleans at Tampa Bay, Noon Buffalo at New England, Noon LA Chargers at Las Vegas, 3:25 p.m. San Francisco at Arizona, 3:25 p.m. Kansas City at Denver, 3:25 p.m. Seattle at LA Rams, 3:25 p.m. Miami at NY Jets, 3:25 p.m. Minnesota at Detroit, 7:20 p.m.

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My favorite Green Bay Packer memories

"I went to the Ice Bowl and wore plastic bags over my socks and boots along with my snowmobile suit to stay warm! Bart Starr was my favorite player back in the day and now I'm pretty fond of Love. He is doing a great job!"

Rita Kristof,
Golden Pond Tenant

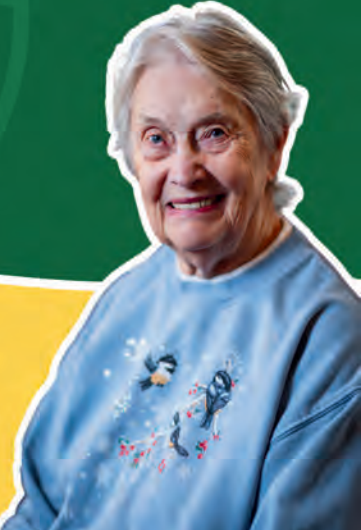


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My favorite NFL team to watch is...

"Green Bay Packers, who are they?! Just kidding born & raised in Wisconsin, have to be a Packer fan!"

Elaine Arneson,
Meadowlands Resident



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BEAT The Expert



2024-25

Week 18 Games: Sun., Jan. 5

Minnesota @ Detroit
Miami @ NY Jets
Washington @ Dallas
NY Giants @ Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Chicago @ Green Bay

Due to time constraints the Monday night game will be included in next week's issue of Green and Gold Express.

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
Tim Murphy, NEW Media	4-0	65-19
Mike Warachek, Card & Coin	2-2	61-23
Matt/Rory, Buss Automotive	2-2	60-24
Luke Reimer, NEW Media	4-0	58-26
Jacob Westendorf, NEW Media	4-0	57-27
Tanya Hintz, Shawano Health Services	3-1	54-30
Kevin Passon, NEW Media	3-1	53-31
Margaret Vandebush, The Cottages at Meadowlands	3-1	53-31
Staff, Walsh Dental Group	4-0	52-32
Joan Kamps, The Cottages on Golden Pond	2-2	50-34
Staff, Iverson's Piggly Wiggly	3-1	47-37



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
Miami
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 14 @ Green Bay 32

Week 16 Winner:
Kevin Passon, NEW Media

Week 17 Winner:
Luke Reimer, NEW Media



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
Miami
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 3 @ Green Bay 31



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
Miami
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 21 @ Green Bay 30



This Week's Picks:
Minnesota
Miami
Washington
NY Giants

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 24 @ Green Bay 27



This Week's Picks:
Minnesota
NY Jets
Dallas
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 27 @ Green Bay 35



This Week's Picks:
Minnesota
Miami
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 13 @ Green Bay 30



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
Miami
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 17 @ Green Bay 24



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
Miami
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 14 @ Green Bay 28



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
NY Jets
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score : Chicago 10 @ Green Bay 34



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
Miami
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 10 @ Green Bay 30



This Week's Picks:
Detroit
NY Jets
Washington
Philadelphia

Tie Breaker Game:
Final Score: Chicago 10 @ Green Bay 24

WEEK 17/OFFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 25 vs. VIKINGS 27



Josh Jacobs carried the ball 17 times for 69 yards and a touchdown, but it wasn't enough to lift the Packers to victory, as Green Bay lost 27-25 to the Minnesota Vikings on Dec. 29. Depending on what happens in Week 18, the Packer could be either a sixth seed or seventh seed wild card team.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

RUNNING THROUGH THE NOISE

JACOBS CARRIES THE BALL 17 TIMES FOR 69 YARDS AGAINST MINNESOTA



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GREEN BAY
PACKERS

2	Malik Willis.....	QB	29	Xavier McKinney.....	S	73	Andre Dillard.....	T
7	Quay Walker.....	LB	30	Chris Brooks.....	RB	74	Elgton Jenkins.....	G/T
8	Josh Jacobs.....	RB	31	Emanuel Wilson.....	RB	75	Sean Rhyan.....	G
9	Christian Watson.....	WR	33	Evan Williams.....	S	76	Kadeem Telfort.....	T
10	Jordan Love.....	QB	39	Zayne Anderson.....	S	79	Travis Glover.....	T
11	Jayden Reed.....	WR	42	Matt Orzech.....	LS	80	Bo Melton.....	WR
13	Dontayvion Wicks.....	WR	45	Eric Wilson.....	LB	85	Tucker Kraft.....	TE
17	Brandon Mcmanus.....	K	50	Zach Tom.....	OL	86	John FitzPatrick.....	TE
18	Malik Heath.....	WR	52	Rashan Gary.....	DL	87	Romeo Doubs.....	WR
19	Daniel Whelan.....	P	53	Arron Mosby.....	DL	88	Luke Musgrave.....	TE
20	Javon Bullard.....	S	55	Kingsley Enagbare.....	DL	89	Ben Sims.....	TE
21	Eric Stokes.....	CB	56	Edgerrin Cooper.....	LB	90	Lukas Van Ness.....	DL
22	Robert Rochell.....	CB	57	Brenton Cox Jr.....	DL	93	T.J. Slaton.....	DL
23	Jaire Alexander.....	CB	58	Isaiah McDuffie.....	LB	94	Karl Brooks.....	DL
24	Carrington Valentine.....	CB	59	Ty'Ron Hopper.....	LB	95	Devonte Wyatt.....	DL
25	Keisean Nixon.....	CB	62	Jacob Monk.....	C/G	96	Colby Wooden.....	DL
26	Corey Ballentine.....	CB	63	Rasheed Walker.....	T	97	Kenny Clark.....	DL
27	Kitan Oladapo.....	S	71	Josh Myers.....	C/G			



CHICAGO
BEARS

1	Jaylon Johnson.....	DB	30	Tarvarius Moore.....	DB	72	Kiran Amegadjie.....	OL
2	DJ Moore.....	WR	31	Kevin Byard III.....	DB	73	Jake Curhan.....	OL
4	D'Andre Swift.....	RB	32	Terrell Smith.....	DB	75	Larry Borom.....	OL
6	Kyler Gordon.....	DB	36	Jonathan Owens.....	DB	76	Teven Jenkins.....	OL
8	Cairo Santos.....	K	38	Ameer Speed.....	DB	79	Matt Pryor.....	OL
10	Tyler Scott.....	WR	39	Josh Blackwell.....	DB	80	Collin Johnson.....	WR
13	Keenan Allen.....	WR	44	Noah Sewell.....	LB	84	Mercedes Lewis.....	TE
14	Gerald Everett.....	TE	45	Amen Ogbongbemiga.....	LB	85	Cole Kmet.....	TE
15	Rome Odunze.....	WR	46	Scott Daly.....	LS	90	Dominique Robinson.....	DL
17	Tyson Bagent.....	QB	49	Tremaine Edmunds.....	LB	91	Chris Williams.....	DL
18	Caleb Williams.....	QB	52	Darrell Taylor.....	DL	92	Daniel Hardy.....	DL
19	Tory Taylor.....	P	53	T.J. Edwards.....	LB	93	Byron Cowart.....	DL
20	Travis Horner.....	RB	55	Jacob Martin.....	DL	94	Austin Booker.....	DL
22	Elijah Hicks.....	DB	57	Jack Sanborn.....	LB	95	DeMarcus Walker.....	DL
23	Roschon Johnson.....	RB	58	Darrell Wright.....	OL	96	Zach Pickens.....	DL
24	Adrian Colbert.....	DB	64	Jonathan Ford.....	DL	98	Montez Sweat.....	DL
25	Darryton Evans.....	RB	65	Coleman Shelton.....	OL	99	Genvon Dexter Sr.....	DL
29	Tyrique Stevenson.....	DB	68	Doug Kramer Jr.....	OL			

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WEEK 17/DEFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 25 vs. VIKINGS 27



An interception of Vikings quarterback Sam Darnold sparked the Packers' play, but it wasn't enough to overcome a 17-point deficit. Darnold led the way again for the Vikings, throwing for 377 yards and three touchdowns. It was the 13th time in 16 games that he finished with a quarterback rating of more than 100. After the game, Darnold received a hero's welcome in the Vikings' locker room, getting showered with water bottles as his teammates lifted him into the air.

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WEEK 17/OFFENSE

THE MOMENT

PACKERS 25 vs. VIKINGS 27



Tight end Tucker Kraft caught two passes for 53 yards, including one for 35 yards, against the Vikings. Like the Week 4 game against the Vikings, the Packers dug themselves a big hole before attempting another big comeback. They trailed 13-3 at halftime and then 27-10 heading into the fourth quarter. Two fourth-quarter touchdowns by the Packers cut the deficit to 27-25 before the 2-minute warning. But the Vikings got two first downs and Sam Darnold, who had a career high in passing, sealed it with a completion to Cam Akers.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

MAKING THE MOST OF A CATCH

KRAFT’S OFFENSIVE OUTPUT INCLUDES 53 YARDS ON 2 CATCHES



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