



Veterans advocate Michael Kohn, right, displays the banners honoring local veterans that he proposes hanging from light poles in downtown Gillett. The city council expects to consider approving the plan at its April 3 meeting.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Veterans banner proposal advances

Gillett area vets would be honored downtown during summer months

BY WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

A Gillett man’s proposal to hang banners honoring local veterans downtown is a step closer to fruition.

Michael Kohn brought two sample banners to the March 6 meeting of the Gillett City Council and said he’s ready to move forward with the council’s permission. DotCom Branding of Shawano produced the first two banners and is prepared to make them all, he said.

“I’ve had six different people come up to me and say we’d like to make a banner,” Kohn said. “I’ve told them I wanted

to wait until I get approval from the city.”

Working with the city public works and utilities departments, Kohn said they have identified 20 light poles downtown where the banners could hang. The veterans’ families would pay for the banners, so the city’s only cost would be for the labor.

He suggested putting the banners up a week before Memorial Day and taking them down after Labor Day to avoid the rough weather of winter and fall.

“With these winds we’ve been having, they’d be ripped to shreds in nothing flat,” Kohn said.

Council members asked about display-

ing them around Veterans Day, and while Kohn was concerned about November weather, Alderperson Irene Drake suggested they could be placed in the school auditorium during its Veterans Day program.

Mayor Jon Blaskowski said they will put the matter on the Utilities Committee agenda for a recommendation and vote at the April 3 council meeting

“I don’t think anybody’s going to shoot this down, not to honor our vets,” Kohn said. “If people want banners, I’m going to say let’s roll with it.”

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Former fire chief pleads to eight felonies

Thomson stole over \$100K from Lakewood Fire Department Association

BY WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

Former Lakewood Fire Chief Christopher Thomson is scheduled to be sentenced May 5 after pleading no contest to eight felony charges stemming from his stealing money from fire department funds.

Thomson, 42, entered pleas in Oconto County Circuit Court on March 5 and was convicted of three counts of identity theft to obtain money, three counts of uttering a forgery, and single counts of theft in a business setting and committing fraud against a financial institution.

Judge Michael Judge accepted the pleas, scheduled sentencing for 9 a.m. May 5 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation. Fourteen other felony counts were dismissed in a plea agreement but were read into the record to be considered during sentencing.

The unusual plea offer, filed with the Clerk of Courts Office, contains two options. In the first alternative, District

CHIEF, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Former Lakewood Fire Chief Christopher Thomson, right, sits in an Oconto County courtroom March 5 with his attorney, Nicole Morley.

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INSIDE

Local students’ artwork on display during Youth Art Month.

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IF ONLY TREES
COULD TALK...

Kathleen Marsh tells all
about the Northwoods!

SEE HER COLUMN IN TODAY’S PAPER!

Behnke addresses budget, other issues

Pulaski listening session is sparsely attended

By WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

State Rep. Elijah Behnke's efforts to meet with his new constituents has drawn mixed results, with local listening sessions attracting as many as a dozen or more in Shawano and Cecil to just two visitors March 8 at the Pulaski library.

Behnke, now in his third two-year term in the state Assembly, moved about 2 miles to the west last year after district lines were redrawn and his home became part of the mostly urban 4th Assembly District. He won a Republican primary against former state Rep. Peter Schmidt and now serves the more rural 6th District.

The first order of business in a new term is to pass a biennial budget, he noted in a conversation with Kathy Luebke, Maple Grove town clerk and Shawano County supervisor, and her husband, Gary.

"This is the time when we reach out and listen to people and say we want to serve our communities, how can we serve our communities — obviously roads is always a big thing in rural Wisconsin," Behnke said. "Listening to people who pay my salary is kind of how I get elected."

Luebke brought a summary of Gov. Tony Evers' budget proposal provided by Wisconsin Towns Association, and she said she was concerned about a provision that would require local and state public works projects to hire contractors who

pay "prevailing wage," which Evers defined as the hourly wage and benefits paid to most workers in the project's area.

"Way back, I don't know how many years ago we had to do that, and we paid dearly for roads. We usually have the local contractors do our jobs, and even for them they had to do extra paperwork," Luebke said. "Basically, prevailing wage is what the unions require, and locally we don't have union contractors."

Behnke said he expects the legislature to make significant changes in Evers' budget before passing a final bill. The omnibus tax-and-spending bill must be in place by July 1, the start of the state's fiscal year. Wisconsin currently has about a \$4 billion surplus, in part because of federal dollars allocated to offset losses created by the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"They say if you run the numbers, if you actually were to pass this budget as it is, we'd not only run through the \$4 billion left over from the COVID money but we'd be \$2 billion in the hole," Behnke said.

Luebke also asked about election reform, noting that the state had a primary election last month where the only race on the ballot for most municipalities was narrowing the field of superintendent of public instruction from three candidates down to two.

"The money that it costs municipalities to hold an election for one race like that — is there



State Rep. Elijah Behnke introduces himself at a sparsely attended listening session March 8 at the Pulaski library.

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Kathy Luebke, Maple Grove town clerk and a Shawano County supervisor, and her husband, Gary, were the only residents who took advantage of state Rep. Elijah Behnke's listening session March 8 at the Brown County Library in Pulaski.

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some way we can condense it or just hold off until the next election?" she asked.

Behnke agreed that an overhaul of the election system is in order. He noted that someone was able to obtain an absentee

ballot in his name because the requirements are so lax.

"If you know my full legal name and my date of birth, you can request my ballot," he said. "That is way too loosey-goosey."

Behnke said he likes

the idea of the U.S. Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), which was created to find ways to streamline federal government spending and eliminate waste and fraud. Wisconsin has its own version, the GOAT, or Government Oversight, Accountability and Transparency Committee, he said.

"They are starting to do open records requests for like the DOT (Department of Transportation) and Department of Corrections to see where this money goes," Behnke said.

Wisconsin government has safeguards to avoid the issues faced by the U.S. government, which has accumulated a \$37 trillion debt, he said.

"If the dollar starts to become worthless because we're just printing it, and that's kind of the trajectory of what we were doing, so we have to stop the federal spending," Behnke said. "Thankfully Wisconsin

think in our constitution has — you can't go into debt like that. We can borrow some loans but not go like that."

As might be expected, Behnke said his relationship with Schmidt was "rough" after he decided to relocate and run in the 6th District, but a mutual friend arranged a meeting to work out their differences.

"We met in Shawano, had dinner together, kind of talked it all out," Behnke said. "He's keeping his campaign account open, so he will possibly run again, but I just said, 'Hey, I'm not looking to be enemies, we can work together on some things,' and he's a great resource. He does know more local people than I do."

Behnke said he and Schmidt are both younger, both farm kids and with reputations as hard workers.

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CHIEF, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Attorney Hannah Schuchart would argue for Thomson to serve three years in prison, followed by five years of extended supervision.

A second option would call for a sentence of four years plus six years of parole to be imposed and then stayed, with Thomson instead placed on six years of probation with an agreement to pay restitution of \$128,339.49. He would only spend time in prison if he violates the terms of his

probation, fails to make restitution or both.

The theft in a business setting conviction carries a maximum possible sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine. The other seven counts each have a maximum sentence of six years and a \$10,000 fine.

In his role as treasurer of the Lakewood Fire Department Association and later as fire chief, Thomson stole from the checking account and debit card between 2020 and 2024.

The nonprofit organization holds donations and fundraising proceeds for the fire department.

The Lakewood Town Board placed Thomson on unpaid administrative leave last May 13, and he resigned as chief shortly thereafter.

He was arrested Nov. 15 and has been in custody at the Oconto County Jail since then in lieu of a \$10,000 cash bond.

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Credit union collecting food for area pantries

NEW Credit Union seeks to help others during March by participating in the fifth annual Penny Nicholas Food Drive.

Leland (Penny) Nicholas was a firm believer in the credit union philosophy of people helping people, and this food drive was instituted as a tribute to him. Nicholas

served on the board of directors of NEW Credit Union for 34 years. He volunteered thousands of hours for the credit union and helped with numerous events in the community.

Nonperishable food items can be dropped off Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at any one of the

three Oconto County credit union locations: 301 Jackson St., Oconto Falls; 405 Pecor St., Oconto; and 717 E. Main St., Suring.

The nonperishable food gathered will be distributed among several local food pantries. Food should be dropped off by March 31. Visit www.newcu.org or call 800-924-1250 for information.

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Youth Art Month exhibit debuts at Oconto Falls Community Library

PHOTOS BY WARREN BLUHM • NEWS EDITOR



The annual Youth Art Month reception fills the Oconto Falls Community Library with visitors March 6. Artwork by area students will be on display throughout the month.



Every available space above the shelves and on the walls of Oconto Falls Community Library is filled by artwork done by local students during Youth Art Month.

City Council advances playground grant applications

Gillett's Zippel Park project needs to be added to Oconto County comprehensive plan

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

The Gillett City Council on March 6 approved a resolution designed to help advance grant applications for a new playground and other improvements at Zippel Park.

Fundraising activities have been underway for about a year toward a \$1.5 million plan to build an inclusive play area, walk-

ing trails and paths, ADA signage and picnic/seating areas, along with improvements to the sports courts.

The council also OK'd a request that the proposal be added to Oconto County's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP).

Art Bahr, senior community development administrator with consulting and planning firm MSA, said the grants are

contingent in part on the project being included in a comprehensive plan.

"All I'm really looking for is just a motion so I've got official permission from Gillett to have a one-page section put into Oconto County's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan describing this project over in the park," Bahr said. "That's a requirement of the stewardship grant

application being that Gillett does not have a CORP of their own. We have to be listed in somebody's, so we have to be listed in the county's."

Bahr told the council that the process of preparing grant applications to the state stewardship fund and federal Community Development Block Grant program is on schedule.

"Everything's on schedule, May 1 for stewardship

and I think it's May 14 for the CDBG," he said. "Everything's going fine in getting them written. I will be getting with Jerry (Luther, alderperson) for some letters of support, some letters of partnership and letters of donation; we've got those to include in the grants."

The CDBG application also requires that a public hearing be held, which is scheduled for 6 p.m. April

3 prior to the council's regular monthly meeting.

In addition to the state and federal grant applications, Bahr said the city plans to resubmit an application to the Oconto-based Leon H. & Clymene M. Bond Foundation in April. The foundation declined an application last fall but encouraged the city to try again, he said.

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OBITUARIES

Mark 'Puppy' Guelig



Mark A. Guelig, 69, Oconto Falls, formerly of Farmington, Minnesota, died of unexpected health complications on March 4, 2025.

Mark grew up on a dairy farm in the Town of Stiles and was a graduate of the Lena High School class of 1973. He thoroughly enjoyed keeping up with his classmates and attending class reunions.

Mark was a beloved partner to Trish Martin, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. Equally as important, he was a key shenanigans instigator, a hunting partner that never revealed a favorite spot, a valued teammate in darts, softball and bowling leagues, and the friend everyone knew they could count on during good and bad times.

He perfected his infamous Puppy Pizza recipe, which he loved to serve to friends, family and the neighbors Trish made him befriend. Mark met his lifetime partner, Trish, in 2000. Trish and Mark spent many happy years together adopting cats, traveling on their Harley-Davidson motorcycles,

visiting family and playing pranks on one another.

While an obituary will never fully capture Mark's love of family, friends, Harley-Davidsons, guns and recreational activities, all who knew Mark knew the infamous twinkle in his eye meant he was ready with a story and up for an adventure. He was always ready to relay his escapades and often had to be reminded that his revelries at Sturgis should not be shared when in company of minor children.

Mark was incredibly proud that he had seen 49 states on his bike and that he earned two Iron Butt certified rides in 2004 and 2009. Mark was a featured

author and photographer in the May/June 2001 publication of the Hog Tales magazine, where he had the space to share his images of America, his journey with his friend and friend's son, and touching moments throughout their travels.

Survivors include his brothers, Robert Guelig, Lena, and Gary (Denise) Guelig, Stiles; his sister, Judy Guelig, Fox Point; children, Chelsea Martin, California, and Ernest Martin, California; sisters-in-law, Nancy Abellaneda, California, and Marie Martin, California; nieces and nephews, Connie (Jeff Zeitler) Waschbisch, Pound, Ron Waschbisch, Oconto Falls, Marilyn (Scott Anderson) Waschbisch, Pulaski, Bob (Lisa) Waschbisch, Coleman, Amie (Richard) Tolbert, Stevens Point, Wendy (Joey) Guelig-Gmiterk, New Jersey, Kevin Guelig, Oconto Falls, Rebecca (Clint) Reed, Little Suamico, and Janie (Jeremiah Kuss) Guelig, Lena; his best friend, Mikey Mortin, Minnesota; beloved grandchildren, Marcos Uribe, California Evan

Uribe, California, Adriana Martin, California, and Gwendolyn Martin, California; as well as many great-nieces and great-nephews.

Mark was preceded in death by his lifetime partner, Patricia (Trish) Martin; father, Arthur Guelig; mother, Irene (LaRue) Guelig; sisters, Marilyn Guelig and Jeanne Waschbisch; and brothers-in-law, Frank Waschbisch and Alvan Bachtell.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2025, from 9-11 a.m. at Jones Funeral Service in Oconto Falls. The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Ben Johnson and Deacon Peter Gard officiating. Burial to follow at St. Charles Cemetery, Lena.

The family would like to thank the emergency response team as well as the staff at St. Clare Hospital for their compassion and dedication to patient care during this time.

In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, memorials will be donated equally to the FFA chapters in Lena and Oconto Falls.

Alan J. Delsart



Alan J. (Max) Delsart, 71, Ashwaubenon, passed away on March 1, 2025, at St. Vincent Hospital surrounded by his loving family. He was born July 21, 1953, in Oconto Falls to Millard and Eunice (Delfosse) Delsart.

Alan graduated from Oconto Falls High School class of 1971. He went on to attend NWTI and earned his degree to work as an electrician. Alan had a lifelong career at Proctor and Gamble, starting in 1973, retiring in 2011. During that career he learned how to perform every job in the building. Electrician, forklift operator, semi driver, he could do it all. Alan answered any and every call from P&G when they needed his skills.

Alan married Christine Moynihan on Nov. 9, 1974. They recently celebrated 50 years of marriage. Alan

and Christine had two children, Becky and Justin.

In his spare time and into retirement, Alan enjoyed biking and walking all over town. His bike route was Ashwaubenon to Wrightstown to Bay Beach and back to Ashwaubenon. In the winter months, Alan walked in the mall. Any other time of the year he walked all over Ashwaubenon. Alan

also enjoyed fixing things. He always had a lawn-mower or snowblower to fix.

Alan is survived by his wife, Christine; daughter, Becky (Ed) Brady; son, Justin (Andrea); five grandchildren, Kiley (Dalton) Guyette, Eden Delsart, Reagan Brady, Gus Brady and Ruby Delsart; and his great-granddaughter, Sylvia Guyette. Alan is further survived by his brother, Robert (Mary Zielinski) Delsart, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Millard and Eunice; his in-laws, James and Marie Moynihan; two sisters-in-law, Theresa Miles and Anita Moynihan; and six brothers-in-law, Paul Nelson, Douglas Curran, Roger Tarlton, Clyde Rusch, Ken Miles and Jerry Olson.

Alan and his Alan-isms will be greatly missed by all that knew him. His favorite phrases were, "What's the indication?" and "Don't crack your skull." He liked to refer to the discount area at Metro Market as "the fuzz drawer."

The family would like to give special thanks to Dr. Paul Shen, the staff at St Vincent hospital, especially Amanda, Brock, Joe, Patrick and Kristina from fifth floor CVICU, and Sarah from 6th floor ICU. Your dedication and compassion to Alan for 12 days was immeasurable. We cannot thank you enough.

Visitation was held at Jones Funeral Service on Thursday, March 6, 2025, from 11 a.m. until the time of service at 1:30 p.m. Burial to follow after at St. Anthony Cemetery, Oconto Falls.

'Heroes Day Off' would honor veterans, officers

Schulze has staged fundraisers across the country

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

A driver for JWC Trucking in Gillett who has raised money to help veterans and law officers across the country wants to stage an event to honor them this summer.

Dennis Schulze told the Gillett City Council on March 6 that he lost his right leg in a trucking accident 12 years ago.

"I decided to get my wheelchair and go across America backwards for our veterans and the people who saved my life," Schulze said. "I've thrown out first pitches. I've stood in many stadiums. I've been in the Oval Office. Every year, I like hosting an event, and it's called Heroes Day Off."

The event at Zippel Park would serve as a fundraiser for local veterans, police, fire and EMS groups, he said.

"I have a couple buddies that are Nashville recording artist friends that'll come in and put on a concert for us. I'm trying to find some local bands, too," Schulze said. "And all the money I raise I give to the local veterans and an organization for police officers." The organization, he said, is called Wisconsin

Law Enforcement Death Response Team — a volunteer group of law enforcement professionals who assist agencies and survivors after a death.

City Clerk Chelsea Anderson said the Heroes Day Off could fill a lull between mid-July and early August, and council members were receptive to the idea, which would also include food, raffles and other activities.

"We can look at some dates that the city would have available for Zippel Park," said Mayor Jon Blaskowski. "You've got the Lions Club; I know the Civic Club has a stand there, too, so we should be able to make most of that stuff work."

Alderman Jerry Luther asked Schulze what made him think of Gillett as a place to hold such an event, and he said he was drawn to the people when he started driving for JWC.

"My first day in town I started talking to people, and they acted like they've known me forever, no matter whether it was somebody in a suit, or somebody in shorts or Spanish or whatever — they treated me like I was here," Schulze said. "Sometimes you know or you feel like where



Dennis Schulze, right, explains his Heroes Day Off concept to the Gillett City Council during its March 6 meeting. Looking on is fellow veterans advocate Michael Kohn.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

you need to be, and I just wanted to have my event here ... I felt like this is someplace right to have this event."

Blaskowski said city committees would discuss the next steps and help Schulze with any required permits.

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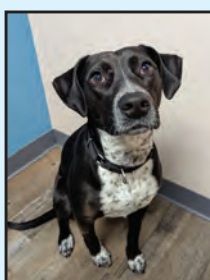
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GUEST COLUMN

Congress must preserve Medicaid

Attention across the nation is rightly focused on potential massive and drastic Medicaid cuts under consideration by Congress that would imperil health care for nearly 80 million of our most vulnerable neighbors — low-income families, expectant moms, children and senior citizens, as well as individuals with disabilities.

Rural hospitals caring for communities in America's heartland — which are already struggling — will be further devastated by these cuts, making access to quality health care another unobtainable element of the American Dream.

The 13 hospitals that make up Hospital Sisters Health System serve small communities throughout Central and Southern Illinois and Northeastern Wisconsin. The populations in these towns often reflect higher reliance on Medicaid, especially among children. According to the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University, 25% of children in Macon County, Illinois, home to HSHS St. Mary's Hospital, rely on Medicaid. In Brown County, Wisconsin, home to HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center and St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, nearly 32% of children rely on Medicaid.

As representatives of nonprofit, Catholic health care, HSHS views health care as a basic right.

For us, health care service is more than an occupation — it is a vocation. We treat every patient with the same love and compassion St. Francis showed to lepers banished to live outside medieval city walls.

Medicaid — along with Medicare — was created in that same spirit in 1965, with President Lyndon Johnson noting the new health insurance program jointly funded by the federal and state governments reflected an American tradition, directing us: "never to ignore or to spurn those who suffer untended in a land that is bursting with abundance."

Who among us has not been vulnerable at some point in their life, or knows a relative, friend or neighbor who has? Public opinion polls bear out this sentiment, with the nonprofit health policy research group Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) reporting two-thirds of U.S. adults have some connection to Medicaid. Additionally, more than three-fourths hold a favorable view of the program.

The human toll of these cuts would be unconscionable, and the economic

Damond Boatwright
Guest columnist

impact devastating. KFF estimates state governments could shoulder additional Medicaid costs of \$1 trillion over the next decade if the federal government caps its contribution per enrollee and withdraws its 90% match to states that expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

We support the dignity of work, yet potential work requirements for Medicaid participants appear counterproductive, since KFF research shows nearly two-thirds of Medicaid adults are already working, usually at low-paying jobs that either don't offer insurance or do so at unaffordable rates.

The overall result of these proposed changes: States would be forced to dramatically scale back their Medicaid programs, hurting enrollees and impacting practically every hospital across the country — including those HSHS operates. Medicaid accounts for 24% of inpatient admissions in Illinois hospitals, according to the Illinois Health and Hospital Association, while the program makes up 14.5% of total gross patient revenue in Wisconsin hospitals, according to the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

Hospitals across the U.S. are still grappling with COVID-19 fallout, facing workforce shortages and shrunken margins. As a nonprofit system, HSHS is not profit driven. Yet we must operate on some measure of solid financial footing to carry out the legacy of our founding and current Hospital Sisters.

Our sisters founded four of our Illinois hospitals 150 years ago this year, and within days of their arrival from Germany were knocking on doors, seeking donations. We keep that drumbeat alive today, but we cannot continue our mission on contributions alone.

We urge Congress to maintain federal funding commitments for the Medicaid program to prevent structural changes that would rob coverage from those in need. Our federal lawmakers must remember their mission in representing all constituents for the common good.

Damond Boatwright is president and chief executive officer for the Hospital Sisters Health System, which operates hospitals like St. Clare Memorial Hospital in Oconto Falls.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Birthright citizenship a constitutional precedent

To the editor:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to President Donald Trump's executive order seeking to end birthright citizenship. This unilateral action is not only unconstitutional but also fundamentally un-American, violating the principles of equality and justice enshrined in the 14th Amendment.

We are thankful for the

four federal judges who have currently blocked this order citing the 14th Amendment and a long-standing Supreme Court precedent. It is our understanding that the Trump Administration intends to appeal these rulings. We presume that this matter, along with other current overreaching executive actions, will one day arrive at our nation's Supreme Court.

The constitution's citizenship clause clearly states that "all persons

born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States." This principle has been upheld for over a century, ensuring that children born on American soil — regardless of their parents' immigration status — are full citizens. Efforts to overturn this right through executive order directly contradicts established constitutional law.

If changes to citizenship policy are to be considered, they must be addressed

through the democratic process and not dictated by executive order. This proposed order is a dangerous overreach of executive power and must be rejected by both lawmakers and the American people.

We hope citizens will stand against this unconstitutional attack on birthright citizenship and support policies that uphold our nation's core values of fairness, inclusion and justice.

Faith and Tom Webster, Shawano

GUEST COLUMN

Hollywood films impact mental health

A suicide devastates more than one life.

I learned that lesson shortly after my doorbell rang at 2:30 a.m. Sept. 10, 2016. My 20-year-old son, Austin, had died by suicide. After decades reciprocating his infectious smile and admiring his achievements on the football field and in the classroom, I had to digest in an instant that I would never see him again.

Every single day, I wish I could go back and talk with him one more time. Would it have helped? I'll never know. I do know, seven years into my journey as a suicide prevention advocate, that severe mental illness doesn't manifest in a vacuum, especially for young adults.

Whether we're aware of it or not, the media we consume strongly influences how we process mental health crises.

The folks who shape our culture have never been more aware of the mental health challenges Americans face. But they largely haven't responded



Leslie Weirich
Guest columnist

to that awareness by depicting mental health more responsibly.

Over the last two decades, the suicide rate among those aged 10 to 24 has risen nearly 60%. The factors behind this crisis are complex and multifaceted, but researchers are coming to understand that Hollywood plays a role. Many shows have inadvertently contributed to the increase in the youth suicide rate by glorifying suicide and the mental health conditions that cause it.

Consider "13 Reasons Why," a show developed for Netflix that depicts the story of a teenage girl who takes her own life and leaves behind a series of audiotapes that implicate the people she holds responsible for her death. Just one month after

the show aired, the suicide rate among 10- to 17-year-olds increased nearly 30%. The series was intended to start a meaningful dialogue about bullying, sexual assault and suicide. It instead portrayed the main character's choice as a means of exacting emotional revenge on those who wronged her.

Some teens with existing mental health issues are more susceptible to emulate suicides that are glamorized — a well-documented phenomenon called "suicide contagion."

While "13 Reasons Why" has exacerbated some awful mental health trends in America, it's hardly the only one. Fortunately, other shows and movies do just the opposite.

The critically acclaimed film "Silver Linings Playbook" has been praised for its realistic depiction of people living with bipolar disorder. Consider "Adieu," a movie currently in production that centers on a prodigal violinist struggling

with depression after her sister's suicide. Several leading mental health professionals have commended "Adieu" for depicting grief, depression and the value of human connection in an authentic way — allowing viewers to see the possibility for recovery and growth even after a tragic loss.

Stories like these are crucial because they tap into what some experts call the "neuroscience of hope." These scientists hypothesize that optimism stems from distinct neurological processes that are subject to outside influence. As a result, certain forms of art could literally rewire the brain to generate feelings of hope that combat mental illness.

By creating powerful art that more appropriately considers and depicts mental health challenges, Hollywood could use its great power more responsibly.

Leslie Weirich is a nationally renowned suicide prevention speaker and author who advocates for youth mental health.

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MAYBE FOR US, BUT I'M SEEING SOME TROUBLING CHANGES FOR OTHERS.

REALLY? LIKE WHO?

THE EMERALD ASH BORER; IT'S MAKING ITS WAY NORTH.

I HEARD A BASKETMAKER SPOTTED ONE CLOSE TO HERE NOT LONG AGO...

THAT'S NOT SO BAD, WE'VE GLADLY WELCOMED NEW NEIGHBORS IN THE PAST!

TRUE, BUT SINCE THEY'RE STILL FOLLOWING THEIR ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE CREATOR-

-THEY'LL END UP KILLING OUR RELATIVES: AHKÄHKOPENÄKANÄHTEKOK.

WAIT, LIKE THIS ONE? WON'T THAT IMPACT US?

YES, AND NOT ONLY US. WITHOUT AHKÄHKOPENÄKANÄHTEKOK, OMÄEQNOMENÄWAK CANNOT MAKE KÄHKOPENÄKANAN.

BUT THEY'VE MADE KÄHKOPENÄKANAN SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL. WHAT WILL THEY DO?

RELATIONSHIPS ALWAYS KEPT THE FOREST HEALTHY, AND NOW WE HAVE TO ADAPT TO PROTECT AHKÄHKOPENÄKANÄHTEKOK.

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME. LEARN EVERYTHING YOU CAN SO WE CAN PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE.

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MENOMINEE LANGUAGE:
AHKÄHKOPENÄKANÄHTEKOK - BLACK ASH TREES
OMÄEQNOMENÄWAK - MENOMINEE PEOPLE
KÄHKOPENÄKANAN - BASKETS
PEPÖNÖWEW - IT IS WINTER
KÖN - SNOW
WĒSKENOH - BIRD

CREATED IN PARTNERSHIP BY:
COLLEGE OF MENOMINEE NATION SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
ICRN
MIDWEST Climate Adaptation Science Center

The first climate comic created by the College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute focuses on the emerald ash borer, an invasive species that is laying waste to ash trees across northern Wisconsin. Ash trees are essential for the Menominee basket weavers to make their creations.

SDI using art form to drive home environmental science

College's new comic series will take a look at climate change

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Comics have entertained and informed for decades, but the College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute hopes that its foray into the artistic side of things will help to not only educate people on the sustainability of the environment but also serve as a tool to help revive the Menominee language.

"We're really happy to bring this idea and have it in print," said Jennifer Gauthier, SDI director and one of four people involved with developing the climate comic series. "You can touch it and feel it and read it. What we wanted to do is take some of the science that we're doing and start sharing with the community."

The comics are being created on a monthly basis and will be in print in the tribal newspaper Menominee Nation News, as well as on the Indigenous Climate Resilience Network's website, www.icrn.us.

The first comic, which debuted at a kickoff event March 3 at the college, features two birds common to the Menominee forests, the woodpecker and the sapsucker, and they both talk about a new visitor — the emerald ash borer. Over the course of the six panels, it is learned that, without the ash trees that are being destroyed by the invasive insect, it impacts the Menominee people's abilities to make kahkopenakanan, translated as baskets, as well as limits where the birds can live. With winters becoming warmer in the Midwest, the borer has more time to spread to ash trees in the area and kill them.

"We're starting to see changes, and



Sara Smith, one of the tribal resilience liaisons with the College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute, talks about the science aspect of the new climate comics that the SDI is developing.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

that's what we wanted to share and focus and make sure that everyone is aware," Gauthier said. "This was our first time creating something like this, so we kind of went back and forth — 'Let's do this,' 'Let's try that.' We have a good process going now where we want to get out one of these to you every month."

Besides Gauthier, the climate comics came into being with the help of Nicholas Schwitzer, SDI's media expert, along with tribal resilience liaisons Sara Smith and Allison Scott.

"What I brought to the team was the Menominee language, the cultural aspects," Gauthier said.

Smith and Scott noted they bring a lot of the scientific information to the project, while Schwitzer's contribution was the drawing and coloring itself. Scott pointed out that a lot of scientists were consulted

in developing the comics.

"We really were hoping that maybe this could be an opportunity for more place-based and culturally grounded communications to talk about climate change and impacts of the Native experience in the Menominee community," Scott said. "This could be a model that other tribes throughout our region and the country could look to talk about climate change in their communities."

Included with each comic will be a language box, which shows what the Menominee words mean. Gauthier noted the first comic's final panel was interesting in that it showcased the intergenerational information passed down from the grandmother to the grandchild.

"This was intentional, because we

COMIC, CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Billie Frechette completes John Dillinger's story

The story ran just inches below the Shawano Evening Leader masthead. On Jan. 31, 1936, the paper's faithful learned that Evelyn "Billie" Frechette, the "erst-while sweetheart" of slain gangster John Dillinger, "stepped from the train at the depot at Shawano last night at 12:40 and was met with friends who took her immediately to the reservation."

Frechette was newly paroled and heading home to her Menominee community after spending two years in the federal prison in Milan, Michigan. Described

by the reporter as being "smartly dressed and wearing smoked glasses," Frechette stated, "It's good to be free ... And I'm going to be good. The federal men said they'd send me back to prison if I don't act like a lady."

Immortalized as the lover of the very first "Public Enemy Number 1," Frechette's story helps everyone better understand the choices made during this tumultuous period in American history. The fact that she is a member of the Menominee Nation further reveals a rich local connection to national history.

Acclaimed crime historian John Oller's latest book endeavors to humanize the effort to thwart crime sprees in 1930s America. "Gangster Hunters: How Hoover's G-Men Vanquished America's Deadliest Public Enemies" shares the stories of the men who brought law and order to national criminals. By illuminating the machinations of their lives and livelihoods, Oller enriches narratives about bullets and bank robbers with details of love, loss, sacrifice and persistence.

Specifics about kidnappings, robberies, jailbreaks and car thefts help paint a more complete picture of some of the decade's most nefarious undertakings, but where Oller's work most resonates is in the passages discussing lovers, spouses and descendants of those involved in the melee.

Oller describes Frechette as "the five-foot-two raven-haired beauty of the bunch" who met Dillinger "in a Chicago nightclub where Billie worked as a hat-check girl" in November 1933.

Frechette, then an estranged wife of

FRECHETTE, CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Billie Frechette found herself in the alluring world of crime when she first met John Dillinger in November 1933 in Chicago.

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Falling in love with logs leads to commitment

If it's March, Holt and Balcom Logging Camp Museum in Lakewood is preparing for another year. As director, I'll be meeting with curator Bob Brown and camp manager Dave Zuleger to plan our 2025 season, which includes field trips where hundreds of area fourth graders come for a hands-on experience in Wisconsin logging history. Many return with their families for our Summer Saturday tours which are open to the public.

Holt and Balcom is a historic treasure. Unfortunately, it seems to also be one of the area's best kept secrets. While people from almost every state and several foreign countries have visited, lots of folks who've lived in the area their entire lives have never been inside. Too bad. They're missing something really special.

Truth be told, when Jon and I moved to



Kathleen Marsh
Columnist

Townsend, we were among the uninformed. Then our neighbor, Lee Stehula, was elected chairman of the McCaslin Lions Club Logging Camp Committee. At the time, the Lions owned and operated the camp. When Lee asked Jon to help with the school tours, he agreed but was concerned that he had limited experience in logging camp history and even less in working with kids.

I was glad that I encouraged Jon to go, because when he got home, he said it was way more fun than he expected. He kept volunteering and became a popular guide with a wealth of acquired knowledge. One day when they were short on staff,

he suggested I tag along. I was immediately smitten and fell head over heels in love with the camp. That surprised me; I'm from Dairy Cow Country, not White Pine Land.

That turned out to be the first day of a rest-of-my-life adventure. I started checking out books on the history of logging, which led to imagining what life was like in northern Oconto County back then. I did extensive in-depth research, personal interviews and spent a decade documenting the history of Townsend.

I began having recurrent dreams in which I starred as a lumberjack's sassy saloon lady. A totally unexpected outcome of that was writing and producing role-plays in which I impersonated Lucy Holt, plus five Red Light Saloon Musical Comedies where those saloon girl dreams came to life on stage.

I clearly remember the evening Jon ran into the then-logging camp manager, Norb Langer, at Sunset Resort. He said Norb wanted me to call him. When I did, Norb asked if I could send an article to local newspapers explaining that the camp's very existence was in danger. The Lions had lost interest and sold it back to the Oconto County Historical Society for \$1. He was horrified that there was talk it would be dismantled, transported and reassembled in Laona.

Amazing what one simple little, "Sure, I can do that," can lead to, isn't it? Yet here I am, beginning my third decade as Holt and Balcom Logging Camp director.

Now if you've spent any time in the Northwoods, you know there are still a few logging camps around, though the vast majority were demolished, burned down or rotted away. If you've

never visited Camp Five in Laona, the Logging Museum in Wabeno or the Homesteader's Cabin in Mountain, put them on your to-do list and just go already. But please start at Holt and Balcom.

Why? People seem to put special value on whatever ends in est — youngest, smartest, finest, highest, strongest, prettiest — you get the picture. The overarching importance of Holt and Balcom is that it is the oldest logging camp in America sitting on the exact spot where it was built in 1881. As is fitting, it is an unsurpassed representation of lumberjack life in a late 19th to early 20th century logging camp.

In 2005, I stepped up to lead an effort to raise money to save the camp, which was basically disintegrating. Then the recession hit, and fundraising got incredibly tough. There were times I wanted to give up. Jon

would say, "I wonder what camp will now claim to be the oldest?" My response was to get back to work.

If I'd known then what I know now, there's a good chance I would not have raised my hand to help. Once I commit, I'm all in. Jon says I'm too stubborn to quit. He's right again, and I'm sick of it. All kidding aside, it's my exasperatingly competitive streak that does me in, overruling all latent defeatist tendencies. Sure, I volunteered in blissful ignorance, thinking it wouldn't take much time. Wrong. It's been decades, and I'm still deeply committed. As long as the museum's still there, and I'm still here, I'll keep working to get the job done.

Kathleen Marsh is a lifelong educator, writer, and community advocate. She has published eight books, four on the history of Townsend, where she and husband Jon are happily retired on the beautiful Townsend Flowage.

FRECHETTE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

a man serving prison time, is quoted as saying about her new beau, "There was something in those eyes that I will never forget. They were piecing and electric; yet there was an amused carefree twinkle in them, too."

The couple were enamored with each other, traveling the country and spending stolen dollars despite lawmen's fruitless pursuits. Incredibly, "a hick town police force" in Tucson, Arizona, managed to arrest Frechette alongside of her murderous paramour in January 1934. She gave a false

name and was released to travel back to Chicago.

Dillinger was extradited to Indiana to face murder charges, but on March 3, he escaped using what he claimed was "a wooden pistol that he used to bluff his jailers." While Oller recounts details of unproven theories about bribes and accomplices, what's known for sure is "a woman visitor ... might have fed Dillinger details about the breakout plan, since they communicated in code."

Led to believe that the woman's name was "Ann Martin," the FBI later

"ascertained that her real name was something like 'Fancette' or 'Fraschetti' and, finally, Frechette." Oller notes Frechette "practically leaped into his arms" when she and the escaped Dillinger were reunited.

Later that month, Dillinger was wounded in a shootout with law enforcement in St. Paul, and it was Frechette who transported him to a moonlighting doctor in Minneapolis.

On April 9, the life of lawlessness ended for Frechette. She was arrested in Chicago while

serving in "the moll's customary role of advance woman." Dillinger escaped "reportedly weeping, knowing the loyal lover he was planning to marry" was apprehended by the FBI.

In June, Frechette was convicted in St. Paul for harboring Dillinger. The following month, Dillinger was killed by federal law enforcement in Chicago.

After leaving prison, Frechette shared the story of her rendezvous with criminals to reporters. Later, she toured with members of Dillinger's

family in a theatrical show titled "Crime Doesn't Pay," dutifully upholding her promise to "act like a lady" while perpetuating the allure surrounding Dillinger's life.

From a humble birth in Neopit, to attending a mission school in South Dakota, to participating in some of the most flummoxing days in FBI history, Frechette lived quite the life before retiring to Shawano. She remarried twice before eventually succumbing to cancer in 1969. Interred in the Woodland Cemetery un-

der a headstone reading "Evelyn Tic," Frechette will forever be linked to the notorious outlaw who had a "carefree twinkle" in his eyes.

Newspapers of yesteryear carry some of the details of Dillinger's illicit crimes, but texts like Oller's prove that the man's infamy cannot be understood without recognizing the role Billie Frechette played in maintaining it.

Ryan Winn, Ph.D., teaches communications, English, history and theater at the College of Menominee Nation. Visit www.menominee.edu for more information about the school.

COMIC, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

wanted to give people some language to the imagery that we're seeing," Gauthier said. "This is something that we will include in every single one of our comic strips, and we're hoping that, by the end of the year, we have a little glossary of seasonal terms."

Smith noted that there

are signs that the emerald ash borer has taken hold in the area, and showing how it's impacting the Menominee and their cultural aspects is a way to explain why climate change and invasive species are such important issues.

"A lot of times, cold weather can hold off invasive species spread-

ing in the region like the emerald ash borer," Smith said. "Temperatures are warming everywhere, but here, the Midwest winters are warming up the fastest. There are a lot of times that we get rain in the wintertime; we didn't used to have that back in the day. These changes that we're seeing is going to impact

the emerald ash borer, and it's making it easier to come into our region."

Gauthier noted that the first comic went through a lot of drafting sessions, but the team enjoyed having the sapsucker and woodpecker talk so much about the environment that the pair are already being worked into the sec-

ond comic, which should come out around the end of March or the beginning of April.

"We realized that we liked the wisdom of sapsucker and woodpecker, so they will likely be making appearances in all the comics," Gauthier said.

Storytelling is important to the Menominee

people, Gauthier said, and using modern techniques like comics can help that cultural knowledge to be spread and preserved. Topics for upcoming comics include snowshoe hares, sugar maple, lake sturgeon, moose and wild rice.

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That first full day in the garden may find you tired, sunburned and stiff. Whether you are a young or young-at-heart gardener, include some strategies to help extend your enjoyment and reduce fatigue and muscle strain so you can keep gardening longer each day and for years to come.

No matter your age, it's important to protect your joints when gardening. Use a kneeler pad or knee pads to protect your knees. Knee pads secured to your legs allow you to conveniently and comfortably protect your knees as you move from one garden bed to another.

If you need help kneeling, consider a garden kneeler with handles. The handles provide needed support when kneeling and standing up. The ones that can be flipped over and used as a garden bench provide double the benefit. The seating position reduces bending and helps minimize the need to kneel.

Elevating your garden can also help. It is a great way to save space and eliminate the need to bend when planting, weeding and harvesting. Elevated



gardens and raised beds also offer a place to garden where planting space is limited or nonexistent. You'll enjoy planting and harvesting with minimal weeding needed. Just be sure to monitor soil moisture and water as needed. Use self-watering containers, add irrigation or employ water-extending products to help lengthen the time between watering.

Further expand planting options by dressing up walls, fences and more with vertical gardens. Monitor soil moisture in wall-mounted gardens regularly as many have limited soil that dries out quickly.

Clean and sharpen your tools, including pruning equipment, digging and weeding tools. This allows you to make cuts more easily and dig into the soil and weed with less effort.

Consider investing in



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ergonomic tools designed for comfort to help prolong your time in the garden. Select lightweight tools with non-slip comfortable grip handles aligned to keep your wrist extension straight, which helps reduce muscle strain.

Use pruners with ratcheting, compound or

Dual Link action for more cutting power with less effort. You'll be able to spend more time pruning with less muscle strain and fatigue. Consider investing in shovels with an anti-skid plate above the blade, providing more foot support for more digging power. Retrofit an existing shovel with a com-

mercially available anti-skid foot plate.

Don't overlook the importance of protecting your hands as well when gardening. Quality gardening gloves provide support and protection when digging, planting, pruning and more.

Start with some pre-season training. Every

gardener knows gardening is a workout and often involves different motions and muscles than other exercises. Always warm up your muscles and do a bit of stretching before getting out in the garden.

Enlist the help of wheeled carts and wagons to move plants, mulch, soil and other heavy loads. Don't be afraid to break heavy loads into smaller batches or ask for help. You'll spare your muscles and probably save time in the long run.

Wear a pair of safety glasses to protect your eyes, and don't forget the sunscreen. Take frequent breaks and drink plenty of water.

Preseason planning and preparation can help reduce muscle strain as the garden season begins. You'll boost your enjoyment and be able to garden longer.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including "Midwest Gardener's Handbook," "Revised Edition" and "Small Space Gardening." She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds and Blooms magazine. Myers' website is www.melindamyers.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

KESHENA: Winter Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., College of Menominee Nation Cultural Learning Center, N172 State Highway 47-55. Free corn meal and beans bags. Local vendors, artisan native crafts, baking, food, honey, woodcraft, maple syrup, cans, crochet, tea, more.

KESHENA: Lenten Fish Dinner, 4:30-7 p.m., St. Michael Catholic Church, N816 State Highway 47-55. \$13, kids meal \$6, dine in or carry out.

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

ABRAMS: "Godspell," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St., presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. Adults \$19, senior citizens, youths and veterans \$17. abramstheater.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

SHAWANO: St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festivities at the Mooseyard. Parade lineup 10 a.m. Shawano

Lake Golf Course at 10 a.m. Parade 11 a.m. ending at South North Bay Circle. Award ceremony 3 p.m. at Brothers Pub, N5867 County Road HHH. Party bus runs 1-10 p.m., brings patrons to the Mooseyard bars. "Hurry Up Wait Band" 1-5 p.m. at Shawano Lake Golf Course, W5714 Lake Drive.

OCONTO FALLS: Spaghetti Dinner, 4:30-7:30 p.m., Fire Station, 431 Union Ave. Hosted by Friends of the Oconto Falls Fire Department. \$10, seniors (60-plus) \$8, children (5-12) \$5, 4 and under free. Bucket raffles.

GILLETT: "Frank's Tribute to Las Vegas" fundraiser, 4:30 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. show, Gillett Secondary School, 208 W. Main St. Fundraiser for Gillett FFA trip to Ireland. Tickets \$50 or two for \$90. Only 300 tickets available, advance sales only at 920-373-3799.

ABRAMS: "Godspell," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St., presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. Adults \$19, senior citizens, youths and veterans \$17. abramstheater.com.

BOWLER: Scotty McCreery in Concert, 8 p.m., North Star Casino and Resort, W12180 County Road A. \$75. northstarcasinoresort.com.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

ABRAMS: "Godspell," 1 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St., presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. Adults \$19, senior citizens, youths and veterans \$17. abramstheater.com.

MONDAY, MARCH 17

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, MARCH 18

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, MARCH 19

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.

POUND: North Country Kickers line dance lessons, 6:30-9 p.m., Equity Hall, W7403 State Highway 64. \$5 admission. Playing a variety of music. Everyone welcome. For information, call Nancy 920-829-6316 or Charles 920-606-4370.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

SHAWANO: God's Little Wonders: Parent/Tot Hour, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1254 S. Union St. Hands-on activities and crafts, songs and stories, faith nurturing.

OCONTO: Jacob's Well — Oconto All Community small group Bible study, 2:30 p.m. The Shop On Main (rear conference annex), 821 Main St. Information at jacobswellgb.org.

ABRAMS: "Godspell," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater,

5852 Maple St., presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. Adults \$19, senior citizens, youths and veterans \$17. abramstheater.com

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

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

ABRAMS: "Godspell," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St., presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. Adults \$19, senior citizens, youths and veterans \$17. abramstheater.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

MOUNTAIN: Maple Syrup Days and Wisconsin's First Tap, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bear Paw Scout Camp, 14000 Bear Paw Camp Lane. Learn how maple syrup is made and take part in more than a dozen activities geared toward children 5-11 years old.



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ThedaCare encourages protection against measles

Area counties have vaccination rate between 70-80%

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently issued a health advisory in response to rising measles cases in the U.S. As of Feb. 27, a total of 164 measles cases were reported by nine jurisdictions.

The U.S. recently recorded its first measles death in a decade. The pediatric death occurred in Texas and marks the state's largest measles outbreak in 30 years. Measles is one of the most contagious airborne diseases, despite the existence of a highly effective vaccine. The infection was declared eliminated in the United States in 2000, meaning for a year there was no continuous transmission of the disease. Measles infection rates have since climbed as, among other factors, vaccination rates among

children have dropped below the CDC's 95% target, a threshold for herd immunity. Health care experts in northeast and central Wisconsin are watching for signs of the infection in patients. Nathan Nobbe, ThedaCare's director of infection prevention-north region, is concerned about the outbreak, as well as declining measles immunization rates among children. "As an organization dedicated to improving community health, ThedaCare continues to encourage vaccination against measles and other

similarly communicable diseases," he said. "Immunization is the simplest course of action we can take to prevent or at least significantly slow the spread of infections like measles." Measles is an extremely infectious and potentially severe rash illness. The virus lives in the nose and throat mucus of an infected person. It can spread to others through coughing and sneezing. The virus can live for up to two hours in the air. According to the CDC, measles is so contagious that if one person has it, up to 90% of the people close to that person will also become infected if not already immune. Measles can cause serious health issues, especially in children younger than 5. "An estimated, one in five children diagnosed with measles will end up hospitalized," Nobbe said. "In the most severe cases, a measles infection can lead to pneumonia, brain swelling, blindness and death. This is a virulent infection to be taken seriously." Symptoms usually begin seven to 14 days after becoming infected. Most common symptoms include a high fever that may spike to more than

104 degrees; cough; runny nose; red rash that breaks out, head to toe; small raised white spots on top of the red rash; red, watery eyes (conjunctivitis); and white spots that may appear inside the mouth. "Measles is caused by a virus, so there's no antibiotic or specific medical treatment for it. The virus simply has to run its course," Nobbe said. "An infected child should stay hydrated, get lots of rest and stay home. It's also strongly advised that a child or an adult with measles should avoid groups or gatherings to help curb the spread." Protection from measles infection begins with immunization, health organizations nationwide have said. For most children, measles protection is part of the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine or measles-mumps-rubella-varicella vaccine given when they're 12-15 months old and again when they're 4-6 years old. The first vaccine can be given to babies as young as six months old if they will be traveling internationally. "About 95% of people achieve immunity with their first vaccine, and the rest develop immunity the second time they're

vaccinated," Nobbe said. "Immunity usually lasts a lifetime." Nobbe echoed the CDC's stance that declining measles vaccination rates among children are allowing the disease a new foothold. The CDC targets a 95% MMR vaccination rate among kindergarten children, an amount the nation reached during the 2019-20 school year. The following year the rate slipped to 94%. During the 2022-23 school year, it was 93%. In some Wisconsin counties, the numbers are even lower, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. In Oconto County, the vaccination rate is 79%, while Menominee County sits at 75% and Shawano County 71%. "The current measles outbreak is another reminder for area parents and families to make sure they and their children are up to date on recommended immunizations," Nobbe said. "We cannot stress this enough - vaccination is the most effective preventative strategy in avoiding the measles. As always, connect with your health care provider if you have questions or concerns about measles or other infectious illnesses."

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EVENT TIME • 4:00 PM-10:00 PM

KID ZONE • 4:00 PM-8:00 PM

INFLATABLES AND YARD GAMES

Free Admission

Music

Whiskey & Lace	4:00
Wet Possum	7:00

Saturday June 7TH

FLEA MARKET & ANTIQUES • 6AM

FARMERS BREWERY

5K RUN / WALK • 9AM

CRAFT FAIR • 10AM - 4PM

KID ZONE • 10AM - 8PM

Music

Trigger Trippers	Noon
Nashville Pipeline	3:00
The Glam Band	6:45



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Ice Bears win state title with 8-0 shutout

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

**March 8
Bay Area 8
Central Wisconsin Storm 0**

The Bay Area Ice Bears got revenge on the Central Wisconsin Storm, shutting them out 8-0 for the state championship after the Storm topped them 4-3 in 2024.

Pulaski's Faye Brunke scored four goals, including both in the first period. First, she scored at 3:48 with assists from Mya Sheppard and Julianne Bradford. Then, she scored at 11:39 with help from Tiana Stindt and Emily Bill.

In the second period, Bill scored at 2:37 with Bradford and Brunke assisting. Bradford found the back of the net at 10:25 with Brunke and Bill assisting.

Central Wisconsin Storm had no answer for the Ice Bears.

Midway through the third period, at 8:36, Brunke registered a hat trick. Lily Lyons scored at 9:38 with help from Hannah Von Haden as Bay Area went up 6-0. Rachael Beeck scored at 13:01 with an Addison Gady assist. Finally, Brunke scored her fourth goal at 14:33, again with assists from Bill and Bradford.

Bay Area collected 31 shots

on goal. Central Wisconsin only managed 16, with Reese Spiering getting all 16 saves.

The Ice Bears were personalized three times for six minutes. The Storm had one penalty for two minutes.

It was the third state appearance in a row for the Ice Bears and fifth overall, albeit with a different host school.

In addition to the Bay Area Ice Bears' state titles in 2014 and 2023, they finished as runner-up in 2017.

Another configuration of the co-op, without Pulaski, also placed runner-up in 2010.

**March 6
Bay Area 4
Cap City Cougars 0**

The Bay Area Ice Bears return to the girls hockey state championship game with a 4-0 shutout of the Cap City Cougars. And, they will face off against Central Wisconsin Storm, the team that beat them last year for the state title.

The Ice Bears first got on the board at 5:22 in the first period with a goal from Aisling Buchan with assists from Lily Lyons and Elizabeth Zunker. Ava McDonald scored at 9:25 to put Bay Area up 2-0.

A scoring drought lasted throughout the second period and ended with Lyons scoring at 7:58 in the third period; Buchan assisted. The final goal came at 11:31 by Faye Brunke with assists from Julianne Bradford and Emily Bill.

Bay Area had 37 shots on goal compared to only nine for Cap City. Reese Spiering had all nine saves.

Each team was penalized three times for six minutes.

Central Wisconsin Storm advanced to the championship game with a 4-3 overtime win over Eau Claire Area.

Shawano youth hockey teams compete at state tournament

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Shawano's PeeWee A and B teams competed at the state tournament this past weekend, with one team placing sixth and the other eighth.

The PeeWee A team lost its first game 8-0, then won 6-1 before losing its third game 12-6 to finish in sixth place.

The PeeWee B team placed eighth after losing 14-0, losing 5-4 in double overtime and falling in the third game 10-5.

On the first weekend in March, one of the Squirt teams made it to that division's state tournament.

The team went into the tournament ranked eighth out of eight teams. They were competitive in every game despite losing 3-0, 3-1, 2-1.

The Shawano Hockey League (Youth League) is comprised of players ages 4-14. Divisions are Mites (Ages 4-8), Squirts (Ages 9-10), PeeWees (Ages 11-12) and Bantams (Ages 13-14). After that, players continue to play for the Shawano/Bonduel Hawks high school team until they graduate.

"Between our youth program and high school players, our program serves 130 players approximately," said Adam

Gafner, head coach and league president.

This season, the league featured five Mite teams, two Squirt teams, two PeeWee teams and the high school squad.

Of the four teams eligible to make the state tournament this season (the Squirt and PeeWee teams), three made it for the second time in the program's history, which began Jan. 7, 1997.

To win the title would put the team in rare company.

"I believe there may have been a state champion a long time ago; it's been over 20 years for sure," Gafner said. "But it's only happened once."

Gafner said the message to the players was simple.

"We've already had a good season, one when we look back at it to be proud of," he said. "But do you want to be good or great?"

All teams received a police and fire escort out of the city on their way to the state tournaments.

"My final message for the kids last night was to be 'all in' this week with everything they have. Truly committed. This league has been supported by this community for almost 30 years," Gafner said.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com



Coach Adam Gafner ties the laces of youth hockey player London Anker prior to a practice session at the Crawford Center.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA



Loki Behreandt relaxes for a moment during a practice session. The Shawano PeeWee A and B teams competed at the state tournament March 7-9.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA



Carter Huntington prepares to attempt a goal during practice at the Crawford Center.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA



Owen Schroeder moves the puck up the ice during practice at the Crawford Center.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

Girls seasons end for Hawks, Chargers

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

March 8 Rice Lake 54, Shawano 46

The Hawks played an even first half, but Rice Lake pulled away after the break to win the Division 2 sectional title game 54-46.

The teams were tied at 29-29 at the break, with Rice Lake pulling ahead with a 25-17 second half score.

Shawano, which ended the season with a 10-2 second-place finish in the Bay Conference, was 21-6 overall.

Leah Nordin led the Hawks with 25.2 points per game, followed by Ella Stuber with 9.2 and Anna Dreier with 5.3.

Nordin also averaged 9.7 rebounds per game, and Dreier had 4.6.

Trinity Popelka led the team with 2.7 assists per game. Marissa Tomashek averaged 1.9.

Xavier 63, Wittenberg-Birnamwood 45

The Chargers' only loss of the 2024-25 season came in the Division 3 sectional title game, a 63-45 loss to Xavier.

Witt-Birn won the Central Wisconsin East Conference crown with a perfect 14-0 record. The team was 27-1 overall.

Leading the team in scoring was Melaina Granquist with 20.0 points per game. Rory Salvesen averaged 17.8, and Harper Rogowski had 10.5.

Granquist also led with 10.0 rebounds per game, and Faith Resch was next at 3.8.

Salvesen averaged 4.8 assists per game, and Rogowski averaged 3.3.

March 6 Shawano 49, Marinette 39

Shawano moved one game closer to the state tournament with a 49-39 win over Marinette in the Division 2 semifinal game. After a rugged and

low-scoring first half, the Marines took a 16-13 lead into halftime.

After the break, the Hawks relaxed and hit some shots to take the lead and never look back.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 55, Freedom 39

The Chargers kept their perfect record intact with a 55-39 win over Freedom in the Division 3 semifinals.

Rory Salvesen led Wittenberg-Birnamwood with 18 points, followed by Faith Resch and Melaina Granquist with 13 each. Salvesen connected on a trio of 3-pointers.

"We played a heck of a game start to finish tonight. So proud of this group," coach Nick Mechelke said. "We shot 50% from the floor tonight, and that's awesome. Freedom plays great defense; we just shot really well from the floor. Defensively, we played very hard and smart. We didn't let Freedom get a lot of easy buckets tonight."

Granquist pulled down 12 rebounds. Harper Rogowski and Resch each notched one assist. Resch recorded three steals.

St. Mary Catholic 57, Bonduel 35

St. Mary Catholic jumped all over Bonduel in the first half as they cruised to a 57-35 win in the WIAA Division 4 Sectional 2 semifinal game.

St. Mary Catholic held a 35-14 lead at halftime and edged the Bears 22-21 after the break.

Bonduel was 12-2 and in second place in the Central Wisconsin Each Conference and was 21-6 overall.

Audrey Weier led the Bears with an average of 10.7 points per game, followed by Julianna Jacobs with 8.6 and Tatum Sporisky with 6.0.

Jacobs and Weier each averaged 5.8 rebounds per game. Weier dished out 4.0 assists per game, while Sporisky averaged 3.4 per game.

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

March 8 Bonduel 70, Oconto 49

Bonduel reigns as regional champions after defeating Oconto 70-49.

Quinn Wesenberg led the Bears with 20 points. He was joined by Carter Moesch and Cade Johnson with 15 points each, and Ryan Westrich with 14.

The sectional semifinal game was set for March 13 against Southern Door at Green Bay Southwest.

Pulaski 92, Ashwaubenon 68

The Red Raiders found their groove in the second half, cruising past Ashwaubenon 92-68 for the regional title.

Leading 28-25 at halftime, Pulaski dominated the second half 64-43.

They are scheduled to play in the sectional semifinals March 13 against Notre Dame at Ashwaubenon High School.

Pacelli 69, Tigerton 36

A dominating second half by Pacelli earned them a 69-36 win over Tigerton for the regional title.

Pacelli led Tigerton 26-20 at halftime but poured it on in the second half with a 43-16 performance.

The Tigers, who were 10-0 and in first place in the Central Wisconsin North Conference, finished 24-2 overall.

James Brady led the team with 20.4 points per game, followed by Sam Anheuser with 9.4 and Joey Zimdars with 9.0.

Brady led with 11.0 rebounds per game, and Gavin Kielblock had 4.0.

Anheuser averaged 6.2 assists per game, while Brody Miller averaged 3.0.

March 7 Bonduel 87, Shiocton 50

Bonduel easily advanced to the regional finals with an 87-50 thumping of Shiocton.

The Bears outscored their opponents by 19



History was made in Sparta as Logan Sipple became Shawano High School's all-time leading scorer in boys basketball. He finished his high school career with 1,351 points, surpassing the previous record of 1,329 points set by John Cantwell (1955-58).

CONTRIBUTED

points in the first half and another 18 in the second half.

Bonduel was led by Quinn Wesenberg with 23 points. He was joined by Ryan Westrich with 22, Race Anvelink with 13 and Carter Moesch with 11.

Westrich had a double-double as he pulled down 15 rebounds. Cade Johnson had nine assists, and Anvelink grabbed four steals.

Tigerton 58, Northland Lutheran 42

James Brady dropped in 36 points as Tigerton ran over Northland Lutheran 58-42 to advance to the regional finals.

Joey Zimdars also scored 12 points for the Tigers.

Brady pulled down 19 rebounds, Caleb Dahlstrom led with six assists, and Zimdars and Sam Anheuser each had three steals.

Lourdes Academy 56, Suring 39

Lourdes Academy, seeded No. 15, played No. 7 Suring after a big upset win over No. 2 Niagara. In the second round, they continued with another upset, beating the Eagles 56-39.

Suring was led by Michael Bailey with 17 points and Taylor Booth Stoffregen with 10.

Bailey had a double-double with 11 rebounds. Kroix Kempka led with two assists, and Kempka and Booth Stoffregen each recorded two steals.

Suring finished 4-12 in the Marinette & Oconto Conference and 8-17 overall.

They were led by Bailey with 17.8 points per game, followed by Booth Stoffregen with 13.2 and Parker Haak with 7.1.

Bailey also led with 12.0 rebounds per game; Haak averaged 7.5.

Kempka and Booth Stoffregen each averaged 1.9

assists per game.

Northland Pines 66, Oconto Falls 60

Oconto Falls held a 10-point lead at halftime but couldn't keep the momentum as Northland Pines fought back to earn a 66-60 win in regional action.

The Panthers were led by Jameson Beaman with 19 points, JJ Pytleski with 17 and Brady Bursa with 14. Evan Yuma pulled down 10 rebounds, and Chase Cariveau led with five assists and three steals. Oconto Falls, 10-8 in the North Eastern Conference, finished 15-11 overall.

During the season, they were led by Beaman with an 18.8 points-per-game average, followed by Pytleski with 14.5 and Bursa with 8.6.

Beaman also led with 5.7 rebounds per game, and Yuma averaged 5.5.

Yuma recorded an average of 2.4 assists per game, and Pytleski had 2.3.

Seymour 68, Menominee Nation 52

A strong second half lifted the Thunder past the Eagles 68-52 in regional action.

Menominee Nation, 5-9 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference, was 14-12 overall.

They were led by Kenew Awonohopay with 14.5 points per game, 9.3 rebounds per game and 2.6 assists per game.

Mike Chapman averaged 13.4 points per game, and Barron Waupoose had 10.4.

Anikohsah Corn averaged 4.4 rebounds per game, and Ryan Corn averaged 2.1 assists.

Wrightstown 59, Wittenberg-Birnamwood 51

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's postseason run ended in the second round of regional action with a 59-51 loss to Wrightstown.

The Chargers were led by Zandyr Barke's

BOYS BASKETBALL,
CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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BOYS BASKETBALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

21 points. Jett Rogowski scored 13, and Oliver Fraaza added 12.

At 11-3 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference, the Chargers tied for second place. They finished 17-8 overall. Rogowski led the team with 24.6 points per game, followed by Barke with 11.7 and Fraaza with 9.0.

Fraaza averaged 6.4 rebounds per game, and Jaden Clark averaged 4.8.

Rogowski had 3.3 assists per game, and Clark averaged 2.3.

Pulaski 58, West De Pere 52
March 4
Tigerton 65, Wild Rose 43

Tigerton advanced to the regional finals with a 65-43 win over Wild Rose.

Suring 76, Florence 54
The No. 7 Suring Eagles will host No. 15 seed Lourdes Academy on March 7 after defeating Florence 76-54.

Lourdes Academy pulled an upset and beat No. 2 seed Niagara 53-44.

Oconto Falls 71, Clintonville 37

The Panthers kept the Truckers to a single digit in the first half as they walked away with a 71-37 victory.

Up 30-9 at the break, Oconto Falls added 13 points to its margin of victory in the second half. They will play March 7 at Northland Pines.

The Panthers were led by JJ Pytleski with 22 points and nine rebounds. Jameson Beaman scored another 21 points, and Beaman and Emerich Skarban each pulled down five boards.

Evan Yuma, Carson McDermid, Beaman and Pytleski each had three assists. Chase Cariveau, Beaman and Pytleski each grabbed a pair of steals.

Pulaski 79, Green Bay East 40

Colin Schultz poured in 31 points, and Bryce Wotruba added another 20 as Pulaski defeated Green Bay East 79-40 to advance in the WIAA regional playoffs.

Joseph Mijal also scored 15 points in the regional victory.

Wotruba, Calan Bock and Mijal each had four rebounds. Michael Molthen led with five assists, and Wotruba had seven steals.

Menominee Nation 71, Tomahawk 30

Menominee Nation crushed Tomahawk 71-30 to advance to the second round of regional action.

Wittenberg-Birnwood 75, Manawa 55

Wittenberg-Birnwood orchestrated a 75-55 win over Manawa and moved on the second round of regional basketball action.

The Chargers were led by Zandyr Barke with 21 points. Jett Rogowski and Jaden Clark each scored another 16.

Hayden Miller led Witt-Birn with seven rebounds. Rogowski had nine assists

and six steals.

Sparta 72, Shawano 67
Shawano's season came to an end with a 72-67 loss to Sparta.

The Hawks were led by Logan Sipple, who scored 32 points and finished with the individual career scoring record for boys with 1,341 points.

Shawano was down by 16 at halftime and fought back to get within six points with a minute left.

Sparta was able to make their free throws at the end and end the season for the Hawks.

Shawano, 7-18 overall, was 4-10 in the Bay Conference.

Sipple averaged 21.4 points per game, and Will Verkuilen had 12.3 and Crew Weisnicht had 7.6.

Sipple also led with an average of 5.7 rebounds per game; Parker Beyer had 4.1.

Verkuilen led with 2.54 assists per game, and Sipple averaged 2.0.

Hilbert 64, Gillett 52

Gillett's season ended with an overall record of 13-12 after the Tigers lost 64-52 to Hilbert in the opening round of WIAA regional playoff action.

As he has done so often this season, Jesse DeBauch led the Tigers with 33 points.

Gillett, which finished at 10-6 in the Marinette & Oconto Conference, was led this season by DeBauch, who averaged 34.1 points per game. He was followed by Ryan Pensis

with 9.1 and Jed Herzog with 8.4.

DeBauch averaged 10.9 rebounds per game, and Herzog had 5.7.

In assists, it was DeBauch with 4.4 per game and Brody Halla with 3.7.

Green Bay NEW Lutheran 74, Lena 51

Lena's season ended with a 74-51 loss to Green Bay NEW Lutheran.

The Eagles were 4-12 in the Marinette & Oconto Conference and 9-15 overall.

Mason Spice led the Eagles with the highest average of points per game, rebounds per game and assists per game.

For points, he was at 21.4, followed by Mason Belongia at 6.1 and Caleb Schlosser at 4.9.

Spice had 6.7 rebounds per game, and Zander Thomson had 6.0.

It was 3.2 assists per game for Spice and 3.0 for Belongia.

Northland Lutheran 73, Gresham 58

Gresham, 7-18 overall, lost 76-58 to Northland Lutheran in the opening round of regional action.

With a 2-7 record in the Central Wisconsin North Conference, the Wildcats were led by Wanbli Spotted War Bonnett's 11.2 points per game average. He was also second in assists per game with 2.2.

Thomas Kaquatosh averaged 10.1 points per game and led the team with 11.0 rebounds per game.

Kevin Miller averaged 8.5 points per game, and Kobe Miller averaged 6.1 rebounds per game. Colby Belongia led the team with an average of 2.6 assists per game.

Rosholt 65, Bowler 52

Bowler finished its season with an overall mark of 6-16 after losing 65-52 to Rosholt in regional action.

The Panthers were 3-6 in the Central Wisconsin North Conference.

Derek Schreiber led the team with an average of 18.4 points per game, 10.2 rebounds per game and 2.1 assists per game.

Chase Stevens averaged 13.8 points per game, and Jameson Paiser had 7.9.

Brandon Slater averaged 7.8 rebounds per game, and Paiser had 2.0 assists.

Pacelli 75, Marion 26

Marion, seeded No. 15, had little chance of topping No. 2 seed Pacelli, and that proved to be correct in the Mustangs' 75-26 loss that ended their season.

Marion finished 0-10 in the Central Wisconsin North Conference and 3-22 overall.

Brayton Mielke led Marion with an average of 9.3 points per game, followed by Nolan Wisnefske at 8.5 and Breckyn DeWhurst at 5.4.

Mielke led the Mustangs with 7.1 rebounds per game, and Wisnefske had 6.6.

Wisnefske led with 2.4 assists per game, followed by Elijah Scheef at 1.8.

WIAA board OKs football qualifying, seeding changes

8-player football tournament bracket expands to 32 teams

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) board of control approved recommendations by the fall coaches' advisory committees, including a plan that replaces the 11-player and 8-player football playoff qualifying and seeding system.

The board voted at its February meeting to support the plan created by the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association.

Prior to the 2025 season, teams will be divided equally in seven divisions based on enrollment and application of the performance factor for 11-player football programs. Teams will qualify and be seeded for 11-player and 8-player football according to a ranking point system.

Programs earn points for each win based on the division of their opponents (Tier 1) of all games. In addition, teams will be rewarded points for each Tier 1 victory of their defeated opponents for all

games played (Tier 2). The sum of each tier is divided by the total number of games played. The total points calculated for each tier is added to determine a team's total point value for ranking within its own division.

The four teams with the highest total points in each division are designated the top seeds in the four groupings. Subsequent seeded teams will be added to the groupings in each division based on the nearest expected travel to higher-seeded teams. A detailed summary of the playoff qualification and seeding plan is available on the NEW Media website at www.newmedia-wi.com.

Another football coaches' recommendation receiving board approval expands the 8-player football tournament bracket to 32 teams in 2025. The 8-player season will begin the same week as 11-player football to accommodate for the added round of the playoffs.

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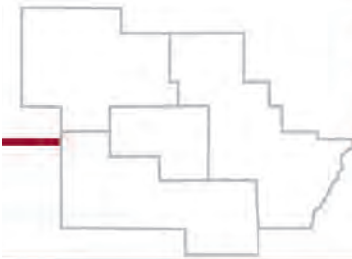
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Celebrating Casimir Pulaski



There was plenty of food to be served up at the St. Casimir Catholic Church brunch March 9. Menu items included eggs, sausages, kielbasa, chicken booyah, potatoes, fruit and a variety of desserts. St. Casimir is known for his piety, generosity and devotion to God. He is the patron saint of Poland and Lithuania.



ABOVE: A brunch at St. Casimir Catholic Church in Krakow was the final event of the Casimir Pulaski Days celebration. St. Casimir is the patron saint of Poland and Lithuania. Casimir Pulaski (1745-79) was a Polish nobleman and cavalry commander in the American Revolutionary War. He is known as "The Father of American Cavalry." RIGHT: A brunch featuring Polish favorites was enjoyed by several hundred people at St. Casimir Catholic Church in Krakow on March 9. It was the final event of Casimir Pulaski Days.



Gary Palubicki led tours of Pulaski's Assumption BVM Catholic Church on March 8 as part of the Casimir Pulaski Days celebration. As a special treat, the first 10 people who showed up for each tour were given coupons for a free paczki at Smurawa's Country Bakery.



Paczki are Polish donuts that are deep-fried and filled with fruit or cream.

PHOTOS BY KEVIN PASSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

March 6
Deputies responded to 34 incidents, including a wanted person on Arbutus Avenue in Oconto, fire on Meetz Lane in the Town of Brazeau, a disturbance on Bucks Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, child neglect at an undisclosed location, suspicious activity on Washington Street in Oconto and on Muehl Drive in Suring, harassment on County Road E in the Town of Morgan and on Center Street in Suring, a disturbance on County Road S in the Town of Little Suamico, three traffic stops, one traffic hazard, one citizen assist, two miscellaneous traffic incidents; one 911 hangup; one crash.

March 5
Deputies responded to 35 incidents, including suspicious activity on Business 41 in the Town of Oconto, child abuse in the Town of Little Suamico, three citizen assists, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; two open-line 911 calls; eight crashes, one involving deer.

March 4
Deputies responded to 52 incidents, including a disturbance on Main Street in Oconto, suspicious activity on Maiden Lake Road in the Town of Riverview, fraud on Bucks Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, child neglect in the Town of Oconto, fraud on Schutt Road in the Town of

Underhill, a wanted person on South Chase Road in the Town of Chase, two traffic stops, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, one miscellaneous traffic incident, two welfare checks; two 911 hangups and one open line; eight crashes, one involving deer.

March 3
Deputies responded to 53 incidents, including fire on Sampson Road in the Town of Pensaukee, suspicious activity on Sampson Road in the Town of Abrams, fire on Cook Road in the Town of Oconto, fraud on Bonk Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, a fire control burn near Krakow Road and County Road C in the Town of Morgan, fire on County Road M in the Town of Spruce, a jail incident on Arbutus Avenue in Oconto, fraud on Heyrman Drive in the Town of Riverview, suspicious activity on state Highway 32 in the Town of Riverview, fire near Krakow Road and County Road C in the Town of Morgan, nine traffic stops, one traffic hazard, four traffic offenses, two citizen assists, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; three open-line 911 calls; one ambulance call; one deer-related crash.

March 2
Deputies responded to 40 incidents, including fire near County Road J and Lade Beach Road in the Town of Little Suamico, a wanted person near U.S. Highway 141 and Benser Lane in the Town of Lena, suspicious activity

on County Road EE in the Town of Abrams, theft near Moody and Sampson roads in the Town of Pensaukee, a disturbance on Hip Hus Court in the Town of Underhill, suspicious activity near East Frontage and Sampson roads in the Town of Abrams, three traffic stops, six traffic offenses, one citizen assist, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; one 911 hangup and four open lines; one ambulance call; one crash.

March 1
Deputies responded to 43 incidents, including a disturbance on County Road N in the Town of Oconto, suspicious activity near Archibald Lake Road and Cathedral Drive in the Town of Townsend, eight traffic stops, one traffic hazard, eight traffic offenses, two citizen assists, two miscellaneous traffic incidents; two 911 hangups and two open lines; one deer-related crash.

Feb. 28
Deputies responded to 40 incidents, including suspicious activity on County Road C in the Town of Chase, harassment on Nero Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, an unwanted party on Ridge Road in Oconto Falls, seven traffic stops, one traffic hazard, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, four miscellaneous traffic incidents; two 911 hangups and one open line; three crashes, one involving deer.

OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of March 3

• Katlyn C. Fish, 22, Oconto, pleaded no contest to child neglect and misdemeanor counts of possession of THC and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 25, 2024. Judge Michael Judge accepted a deferred judgment agreement on the felony charge; for the misdemeanor charges, he withheld sentencing and placed her on 18 months of probation with conditions.

• Andrew E. Mahers, 37, a Pound man serving a sentence at Stanley Correctional Institution, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, possession of narcotic drugs

and felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Jan. 30, 2024. Judge scheduled sentencing for March 28 and agreed to refer to a pre-sentence investigation from a previous case in another county.

Proceedings of March 4

• Bond was set at \$2,000 cash for Rachel Nicole Miller, 35, Green Bay, after she was charged with possession of narcotic drugs, two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred March 2. Conley adjourned her initial appearance until March 13.

Proceedings of March 5

• Judge Jay Conley imposed and stayed a six-month jail sentence, then placed Stephanie S. Farvour, 39, Gillett, on 18 months' probation with conditions for possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony, in connection with an incident that occurred May 16, 2022.

Proceedings of March 7

• Jacob Ronald Umland, 30, Gillett, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of first-degree recklessly endangering safety and chronic neglect of a child, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 1. Conley scheduled arraignment for March 13.

03/14, 03/21/2025

Town of Morgan

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Morgan Town Board of the Town of Morgan will hold a public hearing on Monday April 14, 2025 beginning at 6:30 PM, at 3276 County Road C, Oconto Falls, WI 54154 to consider:

An update to the Ordinance "04-03-28-2003 Town of Morgan Land Division Ordinance Regulating Lot Sizes."

The public may review copies of the ordinance by contacting the Town Clerk at (920) 846-0699 or emailing their request to morgantownclerk@gmail.com.

During the Public Hearing, the public is invited to speak on the proposed change. Written comments can be submitted to the Town Clerk at 6:30 PM on Monday April 14, 2025, and shall become part of the record.

Upon the close of the Public Hearing, a meeting of the Town Board shall be called to order, and the amendment shall be addressed per the agenda.

WNAXLP

03/14/2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF GILLETT

Proposed Community Development Block Grant Application

150 N. McKenzie Ave

Thursday, April 03, 2025

6:00 PM.

The City Council of Gillett will conduct a public hearing regarding its proposed application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities (PF) program funds. The public is invited to attend to learn about the CDBG program, provide input on community development and housing needs, and comment on the activities proposed to be included in the CDBG application.

Agenda for the public hearing:

1. Identification of total potential funding available
2. Eligible CDBG activities
3. Presentation of identified community development and housing needs
4. Presentation of activities proposed for CDBG application
5. Review of any potential residential and non-residential displacement
6. Resident input regarding community development and housing needs, the proposed CDBG project, and other CDBG activities

Residents of the City of Gillett, including residents with low and moderate incomes that may be impacted by the project, are encouraged to attend.

The meeting room is ADA accessible.

Persons needing additional accommodations should contact the Municipal Clerk at telephone number 920-855-2255 or email: Chelsea.anderson@cityofgillett.wi.gov.

Chelsea Anderson, City Clerk

Date of Publication - 3/14/2025

WNAXLP

03/14/2025

Public Notice

The Chute Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District is applying for a permit to apply aquatic herbicide ProcellaCOR EC, to approximately 35.1 acres of Chute Pond in Oconto County WI. The treatment is for control of Eurasian watermilfoil, an exotic aquatic plant. There is no swimming, fishing, or other recreational restrictions. Do not use water from the treated area for irrigation purposes and the posting in the treatment area will specify dates. The treatments will be scheduled for the spring/summer of 2025, or when the WI DNR deems it appropriate. Riparian property owners will receive a copy of the permit application. The applicant will hold a public informational meeting on the proposed treatment if five or more individuals, organizations, special units of government, or local units of government request one. The person or entity requesting the meeting shall state a specific agenda of topics including problems and alternatives to be discussed. The request for the public informational meeting must be sent to: Floyd Schmidt – schmidtfs@sbcbglobal.net and/or Chute Lake P & R District, P O Box 184, Mountain, WI 54149 and/or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources – 2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay, WI 54313 within five days after the public notice is published.

WNAXLP

03/07/03/14/2025

City of Oconto Falls East Side Beach Seasonal Positions

Beach Supervisor-Seasonal

\$17.00-18 an hour, depending upon qualifications

Seasonal: Preseason (March-April) Beach Season (May to September)

MINIMUM POSITION QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS:

Required Experience: Minimum two years supervising lifeguard experience, swim training, customer service, personnel management.

Preferred: One year managing an outdoor aquatic facility

Certifications/Licenses: Valid American Red Cross Lifeguard/CPR/AED/First Aid Certification; American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Certification-

Objective: The Beach Supervisor is responsible for assisting in the planning, promotion, development, coordination and supervision of beach facilities, programs, and staff.

Job Description:
The Beach Supervisor is responsible for the planning, promotion, supervision, operations, and administration of swimming lessons and Lifeguards. The individual will work in conjunction with the City Administrator to establish and uphold rules, regulations and policies of the facility. Special work emphasis of this position will be in the areas of: facility and staff safety training, emergency procedures, personnel administration, front end operations.

Hours: Preseason: (March to May) 5-10 hours per week
Beach Season: June to August) Minimum 35 Hours Week

Education: Required: High School Diploma.

Knowledge: Water safety principles and emergency procedures.

Skill in: Providing necessary emergency care and leading and directing staff, leadership in emergency situations.

Certified Lifeguards - East Side Beach

City of Oconto Falls, WI

\$13.00 - \$15.00 an hour

Hours: Flexible

Seasonal (June to Mid-August)

Education/Certifications/Experience Requirements

REQUIRED: Must have current Certified Lifeguard Training. Water Safety Instructor (W.S.I.); First-aid Basics; and C.P.R. for the Professional Rescuer Certifications with AED Certifications; and supplemental experience working with or teaching learn to swim programs.

Possess the strength and endurance to perform all lifesaving and first-aid procedures while under the most difficult situations.

Complete knowledge of all swimming and water safety programs, and the ability to teach and demonstrate all swimming strokes.

Must be 15 years of age or older by May.

EXPERIENCE: Knowledge and/or background of the specific program

Ability and/ or experience to work with varied age groups, including children

Ability to take direction

Ability to understand and effectively carry out oral and written instructions

Examples of Duties

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Responsible for supervision of assigned facility during work hours (including, but not limited to, security, cleanliness, and safety)

Safety and direct supervision of patrons during all swim programming

Coordination and planning of program related activities and events

Encourage children to participate in activities through positive reinforcement

Serve as a positive role model to the participants

Continually train on emergency action plans, including by not limited to roles and responsibilities, rescue skills, and CPR and AED use

Respond to emergency situations, following established emergency protocols

Complete necessary paperwork specific to job responsibilities (attendance forms, accident/incident report forms, facility checklists, etc.)

Perform set-up and take-down of program related equipment

For more details on these positions and City employment application please visit our website at www.cityofocontofalls.com. Applications can be obtained at City Hall, 500 N Chestnut Avenue, on our website. Applications with certifications can be e-mailed to info@ci.ocontofalls.wi.us. Questions call 920-846-4505

WNAXLP

Pat's Market

GILLETT (920) 855-6040

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

Deli Closing at 6:00 pm**

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

SHS PHARMACY HOURS:

MON-FRI 9:00AM - 5:30PM

These prices good Mar. 17th thru Mar. 23rd

While Supplies Last!

Accepting Mastercard, Visa, Discover and Quest Cards
We reserve the right to limit quantities.



Ale Haus Pizza



\$6⁹⁹

Asst Variety
24.3-29.9oz

Cedar Crest Ice Cream



\$5⁴⁹

Asst Variety
1.5 QT

Sea Farer Crab Flakes or Chunks



\$3⁴⁹

16oz

Armour Meatballs Regular or Italian

\$2⁹⁹ each
14oz

USDA Choice Boneless New York Strip Steaks



\$12⁵⁹

lb

Gerber Amish Boneless Skinless Frying Chicken Breasts

\$5⁹⁹ lb

Family Pack Pork Steak



\$2²⁹

lb

Sweet Baby Ray's BBQ or Wing Sauce

2/\$5 Asst Variety
16-28oz

JIF Peanut Butter

2/\$5 Asst Variety
16oz

Cotton Candy Grapes



\$4⁷⁹

lb

Blackberries



\$2³⁹

5.5-6oz

XL Roma Tomatoes



\$1²⁹

lb

Mini Hydro Cucumbers



\$2³⁹

6ct

Wisconsin Russet Potatoes



\$2²⁹

5lb Bag

Patrick Cudahy Virginia Smoked or Honey Ham



\$3⁹⁹

lb

Shaved or Sliced

Bugles, Chex Mix, or Garden of Eatin'



2/\$5

Asst Variety
6-8oz

Ritz Crackers



\$3⁴⁹

Asst Variety
11.8-13.7oz

Totino's Pizza Rolls



\$4²⁹

Asst Variety
24.8oz

Prairie Farms Cottage Cheese



\$2⁹⁹

Asst Variety
24oz

Daisy Squeeze Sour Cream



\$1⁹⁹

Regular or Light
14oz

Food Club Soda



\$4²⁹

Asst Variety
12packs

Wide Awake Cold Brew Coffee



\$3⁹⁹

Asst Variety
48oz

International Delight Coffee Creamer



\$3⁹⁹

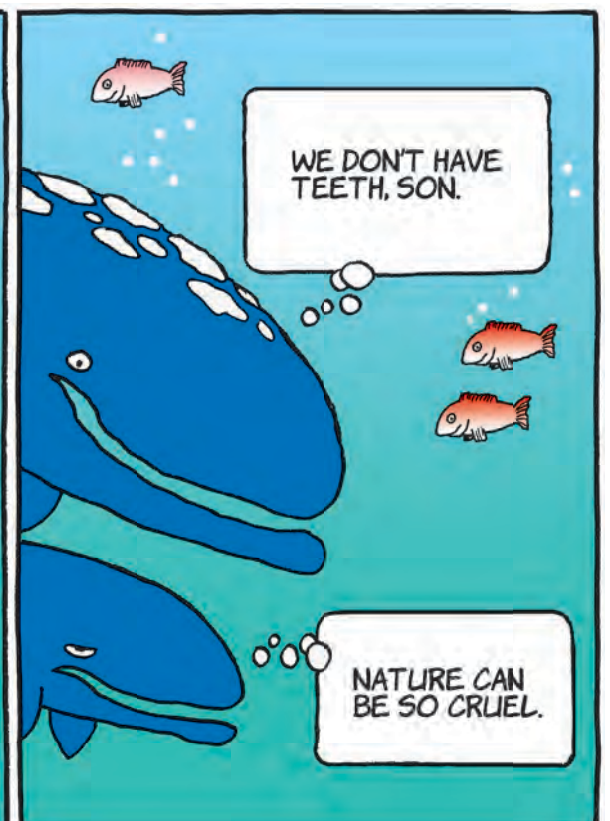
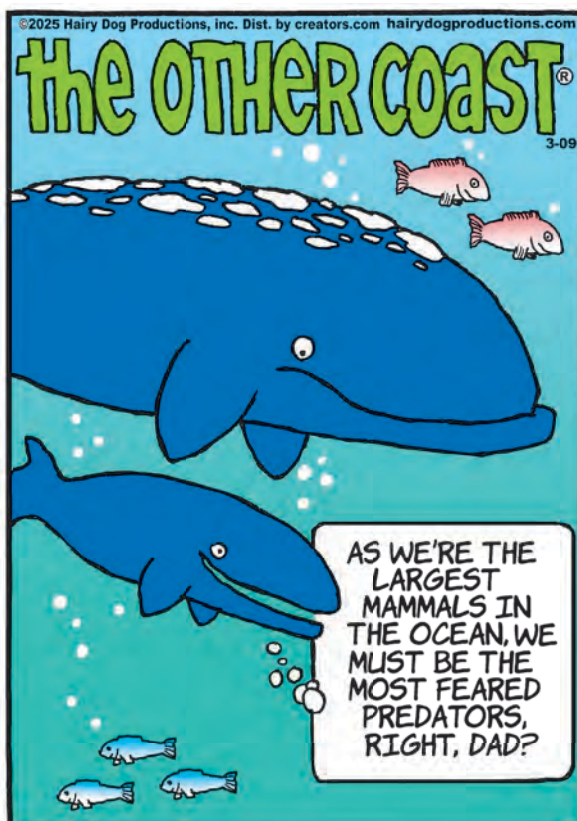
Asst Variety
32oz

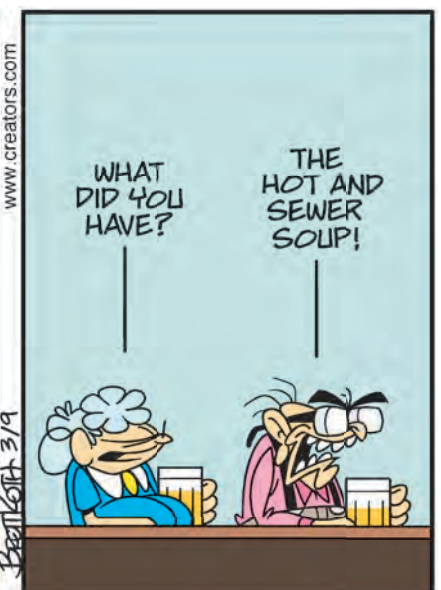
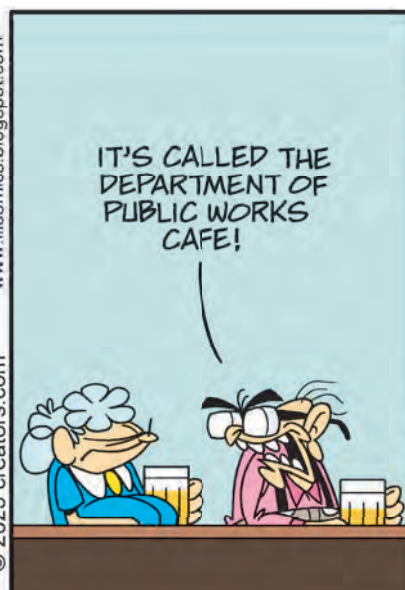
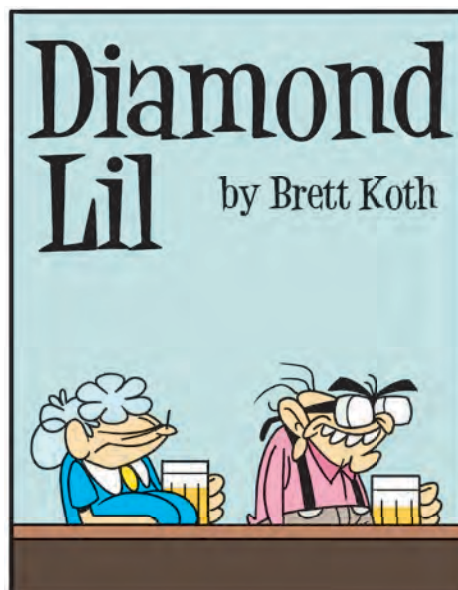
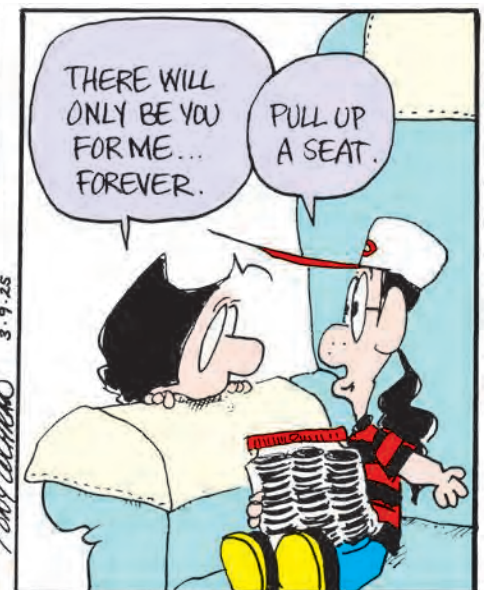
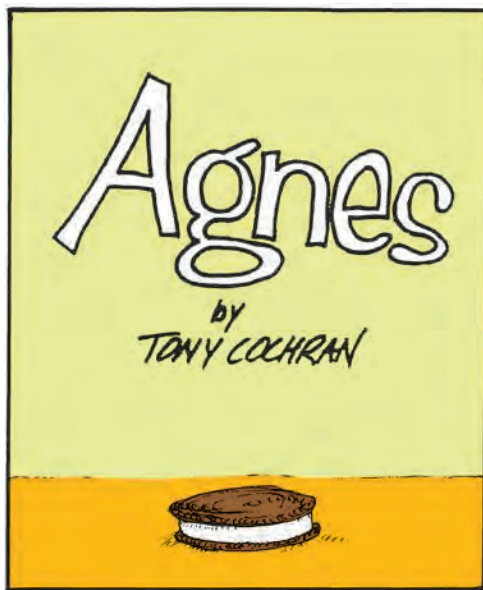
Crav'n Sandwich Cookies



2/\$6

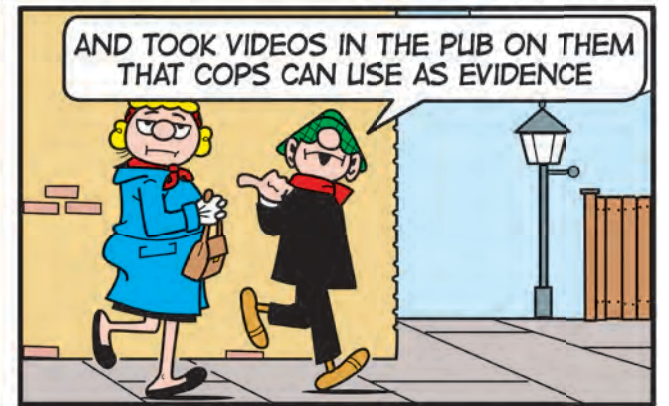
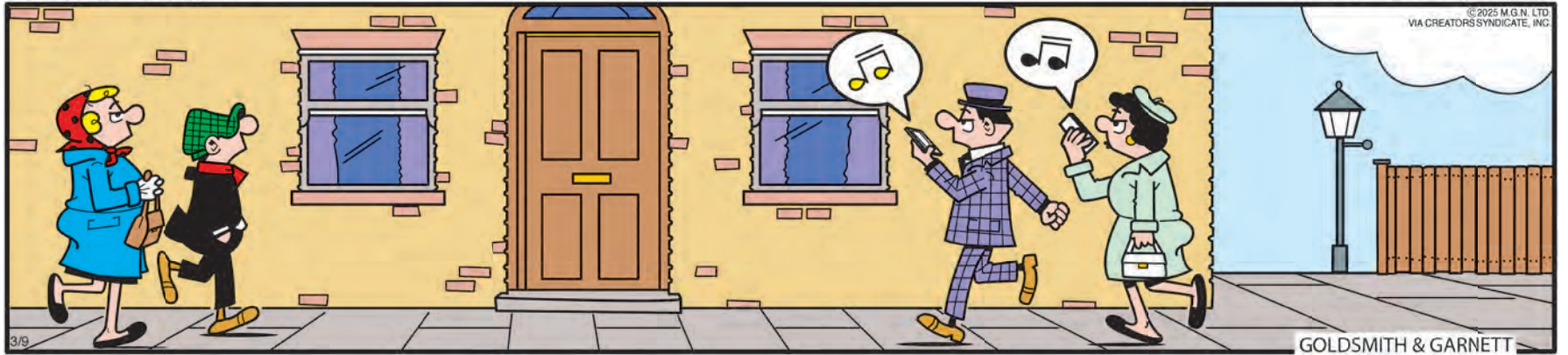
Asst Variety
19.1-20oz





ANDY CAPP

by Smythe



DOGS OF C-KENNEL

BY MICK MASTROIANNI AND MASON MASTROIANNI



Best of the Region

2024

Winners

SHAWANO LEADER

OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD

WITTENBERG
ENTERPRISE
& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS



Friday, March 14, 2025

Best Hair Salon/Barber



Pony Tails Salon & Tanning in Abrams was chosen as Best Hair Salon/Barber by readers of the Oconto County Times Herald. A professional cut and design by a knowledgeable and friendly staff is the order of the day at Pony Tails.

CONTRIBUTED

Best Men's, Women's Clothing



Tim Murphy, advertising sales representative with NEW Media, presents award certificates to Anne Lenss of the Ultimate Closet Too, 146 S. Main St., Shawano. Ultimate Closet Too is a men's and women's clothing boutique offering unique high quality designer fashion. Inventory stretches from comfy casual to a special night out. The boutique was named the Shawano Leader's Best of the Wolf River Region for men's clothing and women's clothing.

CONTRIBUTED

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Client Satisfaction Rating
4.8 out of 5 Stars

Visit our Shawano location!

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**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR CLIENTS
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.**

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 1229 E Green Bay St.
 Shawano, WI 54166

715.524.8266
 M-F 7AM-6PM
 SAT-SUN Closed

www.AutoSelectOnline.com

Best Flooring



For more than 20 years, Woodstock Flooring & Design Center has been finding the right for area homes. That's why readers to the Wittenberg Enterprise & Birnamwood News voted them for Best Flooring. Woodstock's staff does it all from job-site measuring, design consultations, estimates and installation. They work with commercial and residential contractors, as well as homeowners. Products include wood flooring, carpet, tile, vinyl and laminate. Cabinetry and countertop materials include granite, quartz and laminate.

WOODSTOCK FLOORING & DESIGN CENTER

Sunshine Child Center Inc.

BEST OF
TIMES HERALD
2024

Thank You for Voting us
Best Childcare
in Oconto County!

BEST OF
TIMES HERALD
2024

213 W. Park St., Gillett, WI 54124
(920) 855-6303





SHAWANO AUTO SALES

We have an experienced staff headed by **Dean Biertzer** who has over 40 years of automotive, body shop, service & parts experience.

STOP IN OR GIVE DEAN A CALL FOR ANY OF YOUR AUTO BODY NEEDS!

SHAWANO AUTO SALES
939 E GREEN BAY ST, SHAWANO | (715) 526-3020 | SHAWANOAUTO.COM



BEST OF
SHAWANO LEADER
2024

FRIENDLY TIP:
YOU GET TO CHOOSE WHERE YOU GET YOUR REPAIRS DONE, *NOT* YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY!



DID YOU KNOW... SHAWANO AUTO SALES DOES **COLLISION REPAIRS** ON *ALL* MAKES & MODELS?



We welcome insurance repairs from ALL insurance companies.
Our body shop team — Dean, Kurt, and Kevin — are always ready to get your vehicle fixed up and back on the road!

Thank You For Voting Us Best Auto Body Repair In The Wolf River Region!

Best Electrician



Raddant Electric began operations in 1984 and has been going strong ever since. In 2009, Raddant Electric was named Small Business of the Year by the Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce. Readers of the Shawano Leader chose Raddant Electric as the Best Electrician in this year’s voting. Their services include remodeling work, repairs, wiring installation, lighting, sign repair and installation, panel work, trenching and service upgrades for residential and commercial customers.

RADIANT ELECTRIC

Best of Wolf River Region

SHAWANO LEADER

2024 RESULTS BALLOT #2

Best Thing To Do:

☐ Casino - Menominee Casino & Resort

☐ Cheese Factory - Belle Plaine Cheese

☐ Happy Hour/Night Spot - Classics Restaurant & Lounge

☐ Hotel/Motel/Resort - Shawano Four Seasons Hotel

☐ Live Music - Classics Restaurant & Lounge

☐ Museum- Twig's Beverage Museum & Gift Shop

☐ Golf Course - Golden Sands Golf Club

☐ Campground - Shawano County Park

Best Vehicle Services:

☐ ATV Store - Doc's Harley-Davidson

☐ Auto Body Repair - Shawano Auto Sales

☐ Auto Parts Supply Store - O'Reilly Auto Parts

☐ Boat Dealer/Maintenance - American Marine & Motorsports Super Center

☐ Car Dealer - Buss Automotive, Inc.

☐ Vehicle Service Center - Auto Select

☐ Car Wash - Shell 22

☐ Tire Store - Pomp's Tire

BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER

2024

Best of Wolf River Region

SHAWANO LEADER

2024 RESULTS BALLOT #3

Best Food/Dining:

☐ Bakery - Fannita's Bakery

☐ Bar - Red River Tavern

☐ Breakfast - Shawano's Cafe

☐ Burger - Culver's of Shawano

☐ Coffee House - Heather's Beans & Books, LLC

☐ Dessert - Shawano's Cafe

☐ Dinner - Dixon's Torchlight

☐ Family Restaurant - Shawano's Cafe

☐ Fast Food - Culver's of Shawano

☐ Fish Fry - The Lighthouse

☐ Ice Cream - Culver's of Shawano

☐ International - El Tequila Mexican Restaurant

☐ Lunch - Red River Tavern

☐ Pizza - Luigi's Pasta & Pizza

☐ Sandwich - Luigi's Pasta & Pizza

BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER

2024

Best of Wolf River Region

SHAWANO LEADER

2024 RESULTS BALLOT #1

Best Goods:

☐ Appliances - Heins Appliance and Refrigeration

☐ Carpet/Flooring - Floors Unlimited/Carpet One

☐ Farm and Feed Store - The South Forty

☐ Flower Shop - Lisa's Flowers From The Heart

☐ Furniture/Home Accessories - Senzig's Fine Home Furnishings

☐ Grocery Store - Charlie's County Market

☐ Gift Store/Antiques - The Stock Market

☐ Hardware - Qualheim's True Value

☐ Health Food - Staff of Life

☐ Jewelry - Martin Jewellers

☐ Men's Clothing - The Ultimate Closet Too

☐ Women's Clothing - The Ultimate Closet Too

☐ Paint Store - Dearco Glass, Paint & Decorating

☐ Pet Grooming & Boarding - Complete Canine Care

☐ Plant/Nursery - Shawano Lawn & Stone Company

Best Services:

☐ A/C & Heating - Knope Heating & Air Conditioning

☐ Attorney - James Aschenbrenner, Greenhill Aschenbrenner Law LLC

☐ Bank - Bonduel State Bank

☐ Butcher/Meat Shop - Pingel Processing

☐ Child Care/Daycare - Bullfrogs & Butterflies Childcare Center

☐ Chiropractor - Verkuilen Chiropractic & Wellness Center

☐ Credit Union - CoVantage Credit Union

☐ Dentist - Walsh Dental Group

☐ Electrician - Raddant Electric Service, Inc.

☐ Fitness Center - Total Fitness

☐ Gas Station/C-store - Kwik Trip

☐ Hair Salon/Barber - Island Tropics Hair Design & Spa

☐ Insurance Agency - Hometown Insurance Agency of Shawano Inc.

☐ Pharmacy Dreier Pharmacy & Gift Shoppe

☐ Plumber - Moede & Sons

☐ Real Estate Company - Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group

☐ Retirement Community - The Cottages Senior Living & Memory Care

☐ Travel Agency - K Travel Inc.

☐ Veterinarian - Specialized Veterinary Care of Shawano

BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER

2024

Best Burger, Pizza



A barbecue bacon cheeseburger is just of the burger selections offered at Spirits of Gillett. Times Herald readers voted is having the Best Burger and Best Pizza. Stop by and see what everyone is talking about, and enjoy the live music on select evenings.

SPIRITS OF GILLETT

Best Credit Union



N.E.W. Credit Union is a huge supporter of community groups, like the Kelly Lake Sportsman's Club and their Kids Fishing Derby on Jan. 11. N.E.W. Credit Union donated several raffle prizes to help make this event a success. The credit union was chosen by Times Herald readers as the best in the area. N.E.W. Credit Union serves all of those who live and work in Brown, Marinette, Oconto and Shawano counties in Wisconsin and Menominee County in Michigan. Branch locations can be found in Oconto Falls, Oconto, Suring and Peshtigo.

N.E.W. CREDIT UNION FACEBOOK PAGE

OCONTO COUNTY

TIMES HERALD

2024 RESULTS - BALLOT #2

BEST OF

TIMES HERALD

2024

Best Thing To Do:

- ☐ Bowling Alley - Lena Lanes, Lena
- ☐ Campgrounds - Chute Pond Park & Campground, Mountain
- ☐ Cheese Factory - Springside Cheese, Oconto Falls
- ☐ Happy Hour - Wildfire Trails Inn, Gillett
- ☐ Live Music - Glovers Bar and Grill, Abrams
- ☐ Meat Market - Pat's Market, Gillett
- ☐ Night Spot - Glovers Bar and Grill, Abrams

Best Outdoor Activities:

- ☐ Bait/Tackle Shop - North Shore Bait Company, Oconto
- ☐ Golf Course - River Island Golf Club, Oconto Falls
- ☐ Lawn/Garden - United True Value, Oconto Falls

Best Vehicle Services:

- ☐ Auto Body Repair - Lambrecht's Service Garage, Gillett
- ☐ Auto Parts Supply Store - Oconto Falls Auto Supply, Oconto Falls
- ☐ Car Dealer - S&L Ford Service, Oconto Falls
- ☐ Vehicle Service Center - Lambrecht's Service Garage, Gillett
- ☐ Tire Store - Bergmann's Service Station, Gillett

OCONTO COUNTY

TIMES HERALD

2024 RESULTS - BALLOT #3

BEST OF

TIMES HERALD

2024

Food/Dining:

- ☐ Bar - Salscheider's Antique Bar & Liquor, Oconto Falls
- ☐ Breakfast - Jo-Jo's Diner, Lena
- ☐ Burger - Spirits of Gillett
- ☐ Coffee House - Milk & Honey Cafe, Oconto Falls
- ☐ Dessert - Jo-Jo's Diner, Lena
- ☐ Dinner - Boarding House Supper Club, Suring
- ☐ Family Restaurant - Falls Family Restaurant, Oconto Falls
- ☐ Fish Fry - Club 32, Gillett
- ☐ Lunch - Club 32, Gillett
- ☐ Pizza - Spirits of Gillett
- ☐ Sandwich - Milk & Honey Cafe, Oconto Falls

Spirits of Gillett

Thank You

for voting Spirits of Gillett

BEST BURGER & PIZZA

in Oconto County!

BEST OF
TIMES HERALD
2024



BEST OF
TIMES HERALD
2024

145 N McKenzie Ave • Gillett, WI 54124 • www.spiritsofgillett.com

Thank You For Voting Us The
BREAKFAST, DESSERT & FAMILY RESTAURANT
In The Wolf River Region!



BEST OF
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2024

W7389 River Bend Rd,
Shawano, WI 54166

(715) 201-1122

HOURS: Open Daily
7:00 AM - 9:00 PM

shawanocafe.com

Shawano Lawn & Stone Co.

LANDSCAPING, MAINTENANCE, IRRIGATION,
SNOWPLOWING, NURSERY & GIFT SHOP

THANK YOU

for voting us as the

Best Plant/Nursery

in the Area!

BEST OF
SHAWANO LEADER
2024



RETAIL STORE

Our nursery & gift shop carries everything you need for your
do-it-yourself project & outdoor decorating needs

LANDSCAPING

With our award-winning landscaping, we have
you covered from planting to patios



715-524-2550

950 S. Waukechon St.

Thank You For Voting Us The Best!

BEST OF
ENTERPRISE
2024

BEVERSDORF

garage

BEST OF
ENTERPRISE
2024

Full Service Automotive Repair

101 S Mission St. • Wittenberg, WI

715-253-2601



BEST OF
SHAWANO LEADER
2024

Thank you for voting us the

Best Bank in the Wolf River Region!

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www.bonduelbank.com

Member FDIC

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P.O. Box 68
Bonduel, WI 54107

(715) 758-2141

Fax (715) 758-2823

Email: bank@bonduelbank.com

— Thank You for Voting Us —
Best Tire Store in Oconto County



BEST OF
TIMES HERALD
2024

Service & Repair • Many Brands of New Tires

121 N. McKenzie Avenue • Hwy 22 • Gillett, WI 54124

920-855-6191

BEST OF
SHAWANO LEADER
2024

Thank you for voting us Best Cheese Factory!

It's our pleasure to serve you!

Belle Plaine

CHEESE

N3473 Wisconsin Avenue, Shawano

715-526-2789

Heather's

Beans & Books

LLC

BEST OF
SHAWANO LEADER
2024



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Voting Us The
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House of 2024!

Locally owned and operated coffeehouse since
2004! 21 years of great coffee and
excellent service, including a drive-thru
plus Used and New books.

Made-From-Scratch Bakery

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Order online at: heathers-beans-and-books.com





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True Value

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Oconto Falls, WI 54154
PHONE
(920) 848-2823
HOURS
M-F 8-7 • Sat 8-5
Sun 9-4

Thank You for
Voting Us The Best
**Best Hardware
and Lawn &
Garden Store**
in Oconto County

BEST OF
OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD
2024

THANK YOU COUPON

\$5 OFF a \$25
PURCHASE

UNITED
True Value

Valid thru 4/15/2025

MANY THANKS TO OUR CLIENTS FOR
**THEIR VOTES
AND SUPPORT!**

BEST
CHIROPRACTOR 2024
*Verkuilen Chiropractic &
Wellness Center*
715-524-6720

BEST OF
SHAWANO LEADER
2024

1401 E. ELIZABETH ST SHAWANO • WI 54166

Thank you!
Thank you!
THANK YOU!



We are so proud and grateful that you
have voted *Buss Automotive Inc.*
the Best Car Dealer in the
Wolf River Region for 2024!

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SHAWANO LEADER
2024

Your road trip begins with
BUSS

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(715) 524-0444


COLDWELL BANKER
REAL ESTATE GROUP

BEST REAL ESTATE
COMPANY

WOLF RIVER REGION

Thank you for choosing Shawano
Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group

105 S. Washington Street, Shawano, WI 54166
(715) 526-6148 | ColdwellHomes.com

BEST OF
SHAWANO
COUNTY
2024

Awarded by Shawano Leader readers selecting the "Best" businesses of the Wolf River Region through a mail-in voting process. ©2024 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® and the Coldwell Banker Logo are registered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Each office is independently owned and operated.



BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER

2024

Thank You For Voting Us As The

BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER

2024

BEST Gift Store/Antiques

In The Wolf River Region!

Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri: 10a-5p
Thurs: 10a-7p | Sat: 9a-5p | Sun: 10a-3p
shawanostockmarket.com

103 S. Main St. Shawano
715.201.1111

Thank You For Voting Us The

BEST Hair Salon/Barber

In The Wolf River Region!



HOURS:
M-T 9-7PM,
Friday 9-6PM,
SAT 8-2PM

BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER

2024

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for special pricing every day!



126 E. Division St., Shawano

715-526-3266

From all of us here at

Woodstock

FLOORING &
DESIGN CENTER

Thank you

For the "Best Of" Reader's Choice Award in Tile/Flooring
in the Wolf River Region for 2024

We strive for excellence with our customers and community!
We appreciate each and every one of you!

NOW WITH SHOWROOMS IN

BIRNAMWOOD, WESTON, & GREEN BAY

TAKE A SWIG OF TWIG'S

NEW SOFT SELTZERS

0 Sugar • 5 Calories • + Caffeine



TERMELON GUMMY
SOFT SELTZER
12 FL OZ (.36 LITERS)



TROPICAL
SOFT SELTZER
12 FL OZ (.36 LITERS)



KIDDIE COCKTAIL
SOFT SELTZER
12 FL OZ (.36 LITERS)



BERRY BURST
SOFT SELTZER
12 FL OZ (.36 LITERS)

FIZZ

TWIG'S BEVERAGE

920 S. Franklin St., Shawano, WI (715) 526-5031
• www.sundropshawano.com

NOW CELEBRATING OUR
65TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY!



Thank you for voting us
Best Jewelry Store
in the Wolf River Region.
We love being part of this community!

Martin Jewellers

148 S. Main Street, Shawano WI 54166
(715) 526-2030

BEST OF
SHAWANO LEADER
2024

Mercier's Fast Stop of Oconto Falls

Thank You For Voting Us As **The BEST**
Gas Station/C-Store in Oconto County!

24 hour pay at the pump gas & diesel



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Oconto Falls
920-848-3583

BEST OF
OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD
2024



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Contact Us For Your Next Special Event

- Weddings • Anniversaries
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- Charity Events • Fundraisers
- Birthdays • Club Banquets • Showers
- Funeral Receptions • Rehearsal Dinners
- Memorial Events • Golf Outings

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US BEST GOLF COURSE!



Maple Hills
GOLF COURSE

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Our Website at
maplehillsgolfcourse.com

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2024**

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SHAWANO LEADER
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Katie Hanke - Pharm D
Tim Condon - RPH

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Best Retirement Community



The Cottages on Golden Pond Memory Care resident Daniel Bechard is welcomed back home after participating in an honor flight to Washington, D.C. in November. He served in the U.S Navy on the USS Randolph aircraft carrier and was selected to be a part of the Old Glory Honor Flight #72. The Cottages on Golden Pond Memory Care was named Best Retirement Community by Shawano Leader readers.

THE COTTAGES ON GOLDEN POND MEMORY CARE FACEBOOK PAGE

Best Dentist



Szmanda Dental Center in Wittenberg features Dr. Mallory Charging and was once again named Best Dentist in Wittenberg Enterprise & Birnamwood News reader poll. Charging was born and raised in Minnesota. She attended the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry. Charging received her doctor of dental surgery (DDS) degree from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry in 2015. She and her husband Matt live in Ringle. They enjoy spending time outdoors, traveling and spending time with their children. Charging is a member of the Central Wisconsin Dental Association, Wisconsin Dental Association and the American Dental Association.

SZMANDA DENTAL CENTER



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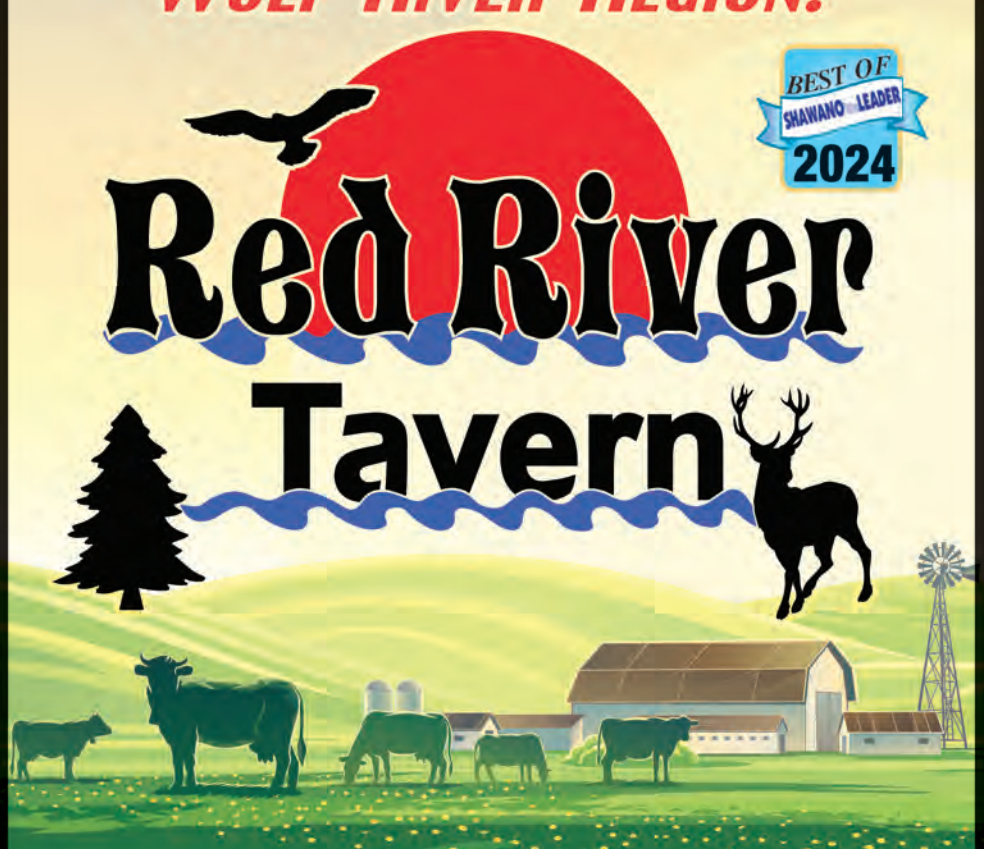
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Best Pharmacy



Gwidt Pharmacy in Wittenberg was named Best Pharmacy by readers of the Wittenberg Enterprise & Birnamwood News. Pharmacist Tim Condon (pictured) is committed to helping customers navigate the health care labyrinth. The store's pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are in constant contact with your medical team collaborating and intervening on your behalf to assure that your medications are right for you based on your unique situation.

GWIDT PHARMACY

Best Bowling Alley, Pizza



Wittenberg Lanes was named the Wittenberg Enterprise & Birnamwood News' winner in Best Thing To Do (bowling alley) and Best Food/Dining (pizza). They have things covered on both fronts with even more food and beverage options.

WITTENBERG LANES FACEBOOK PAGE

WITTENBERG
ENTERPRISE
& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

2024 RESULTS - BALLOT #1

Best Goods:

- ❑ Flower Shop - Billy's Wittenberg Floral
- ❑ Grocery Store - Wittenberg Sentry Foods
- ❑ Hardware Store -Wittenberg True Value
- ❑ Tile/Flooring - Woodstock Flooring & Design Center

Best Services:

- ❑ A/C & Heating - A. Groshek Heating & Cooling
- ❑ Chiropractor - Long Chiropractic Center
- ❑ Credit Union - CoVantage Credit Union
- ❑ Dentist - Szmanda Dental Center
- ❑ Insurance Agency - American Family Insurance, David Cooper
- ❑ Optometrist - Family Vision Center, Wittenberg
- ❑ Pharmacy - Gwidt Pharmacy
- ❑ Real Estate - Smart Move Realty
- ❑ Veterinarian - Wittenberg Veterinary Services

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ENTERPRISE
& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS
2024

WITTENBERG
ENTERPRISE
& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

2024 RESULTS - BALLOT #2

Best Thing To Do:

- ❑ Bowling Alley - Wittenberg Lanes, Wittenberg
- ❑ Casino - Ho-Chunk Gaming
- ❑ Happy Hour - Straight Home Bar & Grill
- ❑ Live Music - Jungle's on Main, Gresham
- ❑ Meat Market - Nueske's Applewood Meats
- ❑ Night Spot - Jungle's on Main, Gresham

Best Outdoor Activities:

- ❑ Bait/Tackle Shop - Wittenberg Shell Station
- ❑ Golf Course - Maple Hills Golf Course
- ❑ Lawn/Garden - Jim's Lawn Care LLC

Best Vehicle Services:

- ❑ Auto Body Repair - Kessen Auto Body & Sales, Birnamwood
- ❑ Auto Parts Supply Store - NAPA Auto Parts, Wittenberg
- ❑ Car Dealer - Kessen Auto Body & Sales, Birnamwood
- ❑ Vehicle Service Center - Beversdorf's Garage

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& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS
2024

WITTENBERG
ENTERPRISE
& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS

2024 RESULTS - BALLOT #3

Food/Dining:

- ❑ Bar - Straight Home Bar & Grill
- ❑ Burger -Straight Home Bar & Grill
- ❑ Dessert - Lisa's Smart Shop Bakery
- ❑ Dinner - Taco John's
- ❑ Fish Fry - Rachel's Roadside Bar & Grill
- ❑ Lunch -Taco John's
- ❑ Pizza - Wittenberg Lanes
- ❑ Sandwich - Rachel's Roadside Bar & Grill
- ❑ Restaurant - Wittenberg Restaurant

BEST OF
WITTENBERG
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& BIRNAMWOOD NEWS
2024

Best Auto Body Repair, Vehicle Service Center



Lambrecht's Service Garage in Gillett is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Chosen by Oconto County Times Herald readers as the Best Auto Body Repair and Best Vehicle Service Center, its services include towing and wrecker service, auto body repair in shop and mobile service, routine maintenance and more. Lambrecht's Service Garage has been a family-owned business since 1948 serving Gillett and the surrounding communities including stranded motorists traveling through the area. Contact ASE master certified technician Ron Lambrecht with your problems or concerns for an evaluation of your project.

LAMBRECHT'S SERVICE GARAGE

Best Butcher, Meat Shop



Pingel Processing, known for its retail meat market, wild game processing and meat bundles, was chosen by Shawano Leader readers as the Best Butcher/Meat Shop. Party platters, bulk orders and gift boxes are also available. In 2024, Pingel won the Reserve Grand Champion award for its dill pickle flavored brat patties at the Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors Meat Competition. In 2023, it earned a third place champion ribbon for its dried beef at the Wisconsin State Fair.

PINGEL PROCESSING

Best Live Music, Night Spot



Jungles on Main in Gresham was chosen by readers of the Wittenberg Enterprise & Birnamwood News for the Best Live Music and Best Night Spot. Above, another birthday was celebrated at Jungles on Main, this time for Julie Waupoose. JUNGLES ON MAIN FACEBOOK PAGE

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Tim Starry - RPH

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Thank You

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