



Thomas Dieringer, 14, of Adell, plays a bugle June 26 while rehearsing with the Color Guard team at Oconto County's Bear Paw Scout Camp. The camp has hosted Dieringer and more than 100,000 scouts since opening its doors on the shore of Bear Paw Lake in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in 1946.

GREG SEUBERT

Bear Paw campground makes big difference in Scouts' lives

Week in the Oconto County wilderness a lot of fun for youth

BY GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Since it first opened a year after the end of World War II, Bear Paw Scout Camp has been a home away from home for more than 100,000 Scouts.

The camp, located on Bear Paw Lake five miles east of Mountain in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. It is owned and operated by the Bay-Lakes Council, the Appleton-based organization of Scouting America serving eastern Wisconsin.

Patrick Williquette is the camp's director and was on hand in late June as hundreds of Scouts from throughout the

INSIDE

Bear Paw Scout Camp lives on even after natural and health related threats. **Page 2**

Midwest showed up for a week of fun and education.

That group included boys and girls.

"It's important to have Scouting," Williquette said. "There's no other program out there that shows better duty to self, duty to family, duty to community, duty to nation, and duty to God. The Scouting program is a variety of areas of leadership, skill building, community service hours. There are so many different variations of merit badges that each Scout has an opportunity to do. The other big thing is the sense of camaraderie within the Scouting unit."

Scouts from Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Illinois attend the camp. Some of them return for several years.

CAMPGROUND, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Jake Kieckhafer, 14, of Saukville, uses a knife to create his own walking stick. Kieckhafer, a student at Port Washington High School, has spent a week each summer at Bear Paw Scout Camp for several years.

GREG SEUBERT

Pound man charged with attempted homicide

Cash bond set at \$500,000

BY KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

A 36-year-old Pound man was charged June 25 in Oconto County with attempted first-degree intentional homicide and three counts of first-degree recklessly endangering safety.

Judge Michael Judge set a \$500,000 cash bond and adjourned the initial appearance until July 16 for Cody K. Race.



CODY RACE

According to the criminal complaint, at about 12:50 a.m. June 18, deputies responded to a report of a shooting on Tom Post Road in the Town of Brazeau.

The victim, and adult male, suffered a gunshot wound to his upper left leg. Bleeding was being controlled by an improvised tourniquet. Deputies determined the shooting was intentional, not accidental as originally reported.

The gunshot victim was taken to St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay.

An assault rifle with blood stains was found by deputies as well as a fired 5.56mm cartridge casing, both on the residence side porch. They also found a 5.56mm coupled rifle magazine in the residence as well as drug paraphernalia in an outbuilding on the property.

According to the complaint, Race armed himself with a semi-automatic assault rifle and confronted two men and a woman outside the residence, demanding information as to the whereabouts of his girlfriend. He reportedly operated controls on the rifle producing audible noise in which it was believed Race was charging a round into the chamber of the rifle. Race pointed the rifle specifically at the three people, following threats to kill them.

One of the men attempted to persuade Race to stop. He instructed Race to put the rifle down, and he approached Race on foot with his arms up in an effort to de-escalate the situation.

As the man walked closer to the porch, Race shot him once with the rifle, striking the man's upper left leg.

The female witness attempted to render aid to the victim and called 911 to

HOMICIDE, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INSIDE

Recipes will make you feel red, white and blue all over.

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Bear Paw survives triple whammy

Snow, windstorm, COVID-19 test campground's survival skills

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

It started with a collapsed building, continued with a once-in-a-lifetime windstorm and ended with an international health pandemic.

All in all, it was not a good 1½-year stretch for a popular Oconto County youth camp.

Nearly six years after that windstorm caused considerable damage in the county, Bear Paw Scout Camp is stronger than ever and recently kicked off its 80th season of hosting Scouts for a week-long camp.

The windstorm on July 19, 2019, cut a one-week session short by one day, but a week later, the camp reopened with a new group of Scouts.

“Even with trees and buildings down, the staff had the flexibility that we wanted to get it done,” said Patrick Williquette, the camp’s current director. “We wanted to provide a service for these kids coming in.”

The storm turned out

to be the second major event in five months. In February, heavy snow on the roof of a storage building caused the building to partially collapse.

Less than a year after the windstorm, officials with the Bay-Lakes Council, which owns and operates the camp, had a decision to make regarding COVID-19.

It would have been difficult to cancel or reschedule summer camp sessions, according to Williquette.

“With COVID, there were a number of troops that canceled that year,” he said. “Our numbers were not the greatest for that summer (2020), but we were probably one of 30-some camps open nationwide. We had to revamp a lot of things, but it was a great time. A lot of staff that are here still talk fondly about that summer. Great leaders and great Scouts came into camp and we had a fantastic time.”

Current camp ranger Andy Anderson was on board as the camp’s director in 2019 and was at the camp as the storm hit.

“We knew there was bad weather coming,” he said. “We had already had conversations with the National Weather Service. We had a full camp.



This is the view of Bear Paw Lake that more than 100,000 Scouts have seen since Bear Paw Scout Camp opened near Mountain in 1946. The camp kicked off its 80th season of hosting Scouts from throughout the Midwest in June. GREG SEUBERT

I’m guessing we had 350 to 400 (Scouts and staff members).

“We knew early on that morning that we could expect some rough

weather during the day. It was a hot, humid day with not a lot of wind blowing. After lunch time, the weather service was more informative as to what

was going to actually happen. We were going to have some severe weather. I talked with the adult leaders and said, ‘Hey, it’s Friday, the program gets done at 4 o’clock, do you guys want to cut the week early?’ About 50% of the adult troop leaders decided that they were going to pack up and head out after dinner. The other half decided to stay.”

Anderson was told to expect the storm to arrive in the area between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

“We continued with our normal program and the campfire started at 8,” he said. “The ones that were here were down by the lake at the campfire. At about 8:20 or 8:30, the wind started doing funny things and changed direction. We looked at the radar on our phones and made a decision to move everybody down to the dining facility. The rain came at about quarter to nine and the wind hit at about 9. The power went out and that was the end.”

Campers and staff didn’t hear trees falling outside, Anderson said.

“The wind was blowing so hard and the rain was falling so hard,” he said.

Anderson checked out the damage after the storm passed.

“We kept everybody in the dining facility and I came out the side door,” he said. “I didn’t even get to the bottom of the road and there were trees down. They were across the power lines and the power lines were down. I started to take a look around the property and it was literally impossible to move because of the trees down.”

Scouts and staff were able to leave the property the following afternoon.

“The storm happened on Friday night and we got the road open at 2:30 (p.m.) on Saturday so people could leave,” Anderson said.

The rebuilding process from the windstorm took about four years, but Bear Paw never canceled a camp.

“It could have been a lot worse,” Anderson said. “We didn’t have any injuries at all. I’m sure there was minor stuff, but there were no serious incidents or anything like that.”

The camp has been hosting Scouts since it opened in 1946, Williquette said.

“Some of the structures and trees have changed, but the spirit of this camp has not changed,” he said. “That’s the biggest thing that I’ve noticed.”

CAMPGROUND, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“(It’s the) experience of being outdoors and getting into nature, whether it be aquatics, on a bike, learning something about environmental science, a STEM-related activity or a sense of adventure,” Williquette said.

Kids are pulled in different directions these days. Many are more interested in playing video games or talking with their friends on Snapchat than getting introduced to fishing or hunting.

Places like Bear Paw Scout Camp are out to change that attitude.

“The energetic staff makes these events fun for the kids,” Williquette said. “One of the neat things is just seeing kids learning how to swim or getting out on an archery range and learning how to shoot a bow and arrow. One of the things I’ve

seen with our camp staff is being able to interact with youth and leaders, sitting down at mealtime and talking about things.”

Bear Paw hasn’t changed much in its 79-year history, according to Williquette.

“I’ve been coming up here for about 40, maybe 45 of those years, either as a youth or a staff member,” he said. “The physical portion of it has changed, but the spirit of it has not changed at all. A lot of traditions that our camp staff does started from day one, year one. We have what is called a pancake and porky breakfast. The staff makes it. That’s what we did 80 years ago and we still do it to this day.”

The camp sits on just over 300 acres on a 47-acre undeveloped lake.

“The spirit, the history, the camaraderie,

the attitude, there are so many things that go into making this camp,” Williquette said. “I’ve sat here at this lake every year at some point since 1982. It’s the same view that I’ve had.”

Other Scout-related camps have come and gone over the years, but Bear Paw has managed to stay relevant, he said.

“We get troops that come every year and camp at Bear Paw,” he said. “Maybe they switch a campsite, but they still like coming. We’re starting to find a lot of troops from Illinois, the Upper Peninsula and Minnesota coming in.”

Williquette said it’s rewarding to know the camp has hosted more than 100,000 Scouts over the years.

One of those Scouts is Green Bay’s Logan Moran, 12, who attended

this year’s camp with his father, Miguel, an adult leader with Troop 1107 of Howard-Suamico.

“One thing I really liked doing was shooting at the shotgun range,” he said. “I’ve shot a shotgun a couple times, but never shot trap. I finally got to do it for the first time. I also got to do it with some of my friends, too. One of my new friends, Ben, is from Illinois.”

The Morans have been to Bear Paw for about four years.

“You have to at least try it,” Moran said. “That’s OK if you don’t like it. A lot of people underestimate how incredibly fun it is up here.”

Some campers find that spending a week in the northern Wisconsin wilderness isn’t for them, but others will pursue a career in natural resources because of their Bear

Paw experience, Williquette said.

“I see it all the time even with a lot of staff members,” he said. “One young gentleman from a few years back took some nature merit badges and he now works for the U.S. Forest Service. We see a lot of people come by for a visit. ‘I live out of state and participated in this camp in the ‘70s.’ It had an effect on them. They wanted to come back and talk about it. They show their children and grandchildren what they did as a youth. It’s inspiring to see the next generation of Scouts being able to do the same things they did as a kid.”

A quiet, undeveloped lake like Bear Paw also makes the camp experience special.

“That is a definite benefit,” Williquette said. “This is a no-wake lake.

There’s a public boat landing and we’ll get a couple fishermen come close (to the camp), but everybody’s been very respectful. I can’t recall any incidents where anyone came in trying to fish in the swimming area. It’s small enough, but large enough.

“Being able to have the majority (of land) owned by the Bay-Lakes Council is a benefit,” he added. “We don’t see boats coming through, we don’t have resorts on the lake. It’s just our camp and a public boat landing.”

Moran was disappointed that his week away from home was almost over.

“It’s kind of mixed feelings,” he said. “It’s very sad because it’s so fun here, but it also feels nice to get back after a week and see your family and pet your dog.”

HOMICIDE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

report an accidental shooting. She told deputies later she said the shooting was accidental because Race was close by and he allegedly threatened to kill her if

she told the truth during her emergency call.

Race faces up to 60 years in prison on the attempted homicide charge, and

up to \$25,000, 12 years and six months in prison or both on each of the other felony charges.

The adjourned initial appearance will

continue at 11:30 a.m. July 16 in front of Judge Jay Conley.

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Applications open for Gillett's Forever Fund

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

In 2024, the Gillett Area Chamber of Commerce relaunched the Forever Fund that was established years earlier by Revitalize Gillett.

Awards had not been given for four years. Last year, four grants of \$2,500 each were presented to Rank's Northern Supply, L&N Metal Works, Gillett

Public School Food Pantry and Main Street Sweets.

Awards in 2025 will be \$3,000 each.

Those eligible for the GACC Forever Fund grants are businesses or organizations that are doing a physical project to improve commerce or beautify property. They must be members of the Gillett Area Chamber of Commerce or conduct business

within the 54124 ZIP code.

The focus of the 2025 grants will be focused on physical projects that will be completed within one year of the grant being given.

The application window is open from July 1-31, and the awards will be presented Nov. 14 at the chamber's annual business meeting.

For an application, visit www.gilletetchamber.com.

PUBLIC RECORD

OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

June 26

Deputies responded to 50 incidents, including an incident at the county jail, 220 Arbutus Ave. in Oconto; a fire control burn on Delzer Lane in the Town of Morgan; child neglect in the Town of Townsend; a weapon offense on Village View Drive in the Town of Townsend; suspicious activity on East Main Street in Suring; threatening on Anderson Lane in the Town of Riverview; three traffic stops, three traffic offenses, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, four welfare checks; one 911 hangup; one ambulance call; five crashes, three involving deer.

June 25

Deputies responded to 38 incidents, including underage alcohol in the Town of Breed; a wanted person at the courthouse, 301 Washington St. in Oconto; a noise disturbance on White Lake Road in the Town of Bagley; a disturbance on County Road E in the Town of Abrams; illegal burning on Pleasant View Drive in the Town of Chase; fraud on South White Potato Lake Road in the Town of Brazeau; harassment on Barkman Street in Suring; fraud on Van Dornick Road in the Town of Chase; two traffic stops, two traffic hazards, one citizen assist, one miscellaneous traffic incident, one welfare check; two 911 hangups and four open lines; three crashes, two involving deer.

June 24

Deputies responded to 58 incidents, including drugs in the Town of Abrams; theft on County Road V in the Town of Underhill; suspicious activity on Shamrock Way in the Town of Little Suamico; drugs in the Town of Townsend; a death investigation in the Town of

Riverview; suspicious activity on White Lake Road in the Town of Bagley; drugs in the Town of Spruce; threatening on County Road R in the Town of Underhill; suspicious activity near County Roads U and V in the Town of Underhill; an internet crimes against children report in the Town of Little Suamico; illegal burning on Pleasant View Drive in the Town of Chase; suspicious activity on North Main Street in Oconto Falls; five traffic stops, one traffic hazard, three traffic offenses, four citizen assists, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; one 911 hangup and five open lines; one ambulance call; three crashes, one involving a bear.

June 23

Deputies responded to 45 incidents, including a disturbance on Houston Lane in the Town of Mountain; internet fraud on Riverview Drive in the Town of Little Suamico; property damage on Hunts Lane in the Town of Gillett; a noise disturbance on County Road I in the Town of Stiles; two traffic stops, one traffic hazard, two traffic offenses, five citizen assists, one miscellaneous traffic incident, two welfare checks; three 911 hangups and five open lines; one ambulance call.

June 22

Deputies responded to 52 incidents, including suspicious activity on East Main Street in Gillett and on Black Walnut Way in the Town of Little Suamico; fireworks on Allen Road in the Town of Little Suamico; suspicious activity on Chute Dam Lane in the Town of Mountain; a weapon offense on North Pine Road in the Town of Little Suamico; a disturbance on Houston Lane in the Town of Mountain; suspicious activity near U.S. Highway 41-141 and Allen Road in the Town of Little Suamico; fire near Degantown

and Goltz roads in the Town of Oconto Falls; five traffic stops, two traffic hazards, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, six miscellaneous traffic incidents, four welfare checks; six open-line 911 calls; three crashes, one involving deer.

June 21

Deputies responded to 59 incidents, including fire on Dekard Lane in the Town of Little Suamico; fire on Laurene Road in the Town of Lakewood; an ATV accident on Kinziger Lane in the Town of Brazeau; a disturbance on Winddancer Drive in the Town of Chase; suspicious activity on Tom Post Road in the Town of Brazeau; a disturbance on Twin Creeks Road in the Town of Little Suamico; underage alcohol in the Town of Abrams; six traffic stops, three traffic hazards, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, six miscellaneous traffic incidents, four welfare checks; one 911 hangup and four open lines; four crashes, one involving deer.

June 20

Deputies responded to 72 incidents, including a wanted person on Ducaine Road in the Town of Lena; trespassing on Kruegers Quarry Road in the Town of Abrams; threatening on County Road J in the Town of Little Suamico; a disturbance on Pine Avenue in Oconto; harassment on Joyce Lane in the Town of Lakewood; child abuse in the Town of Little Suamico and in the Town of Underhill; a wanted person on East Main Street in Gillett; suspicious activity on Duame Road in the Town of Stiles; a disturbance on North McKenzie Street in Gillett; 10 traffic stops, three traffic hazards, five traffic offenses, one citizen assist, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; one 911 hangup and four open lines; four ambulance calls; four crashes, two involving deer.

COURT NEWS

• Andrew E. Mahers, 37, a Pound man serving time at Stanley Correctional Institution, pleaded guilty March 3 to possession of methamphetamine, possession of narcotic drugs, and felony bail jumping. Judge Michael Judge sentenced him June 24 to 30 months in prison followed by two years of extended supervision with conditions.

• Brett W. Nichols, 54, Oconto, pleaded no contest June 24 to felony bail jumping. Judge withheld sentencing and placed him on one year of probation with conditions.

• Robin Renee Strehlow, 65, Suring, pleaded no contest June 24 to two misdemeanor charges of theft in a business setting. The charges were amended from felony counts in a plea agreement.

Judge withheld sentencing and placed her on one year of probation with conditions including five days in jail and writing a letter of apology to the Breed Sportsmen's Club.

• Diann L. Moeller, 59, Lena, was charged June 24 with possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge set a \$2,000 cash bond and adjourned her initial appearance until July 17.

• Ronald Kenneth Verhagen, 57, Suring, was charged June 25 with battery or threat to a law officer and misdemeanor counts of bail jumping and disorderly conduct. Judge set a \$750 cash bond and adjourned his initial appearance until July 17.

• Cody K. Race, 36, Pound, was charged June 25

with attempted first-degree intentional homicide and three counts of first-degree recklessly endangering safety. Judge set a \$500,000 cash bond and adjourned his initial appearance until July 16.

• Jenna R. Garrigan, 35, Oconto Falls, was charged June 25 with child abandonment, three counts of interfering with another parent's custody of a child and a misdemeanor count of criminal damage to property. Judge set a \$10,000 cash bond and adjourned her initial appearance until July 17.

• Ryan Grant Carmody, 46, Oconto, was charged June 26 with child abuse intentionally causing harm. Judge Jay Conley set a \$2,500 signature bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for July 8.

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DEADLINE: Noon Friday, July 25, to be on the map.

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1	2	3	4	5
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OCONTO COUNTY
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More heartwarming tales could come to state

Legislative bills would reopen Wisconsin film office, offer production companies tax incentives

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Bills currently circulating through the Wisconsin Legislature could result in more calls for “Lights, camera, action” in the state.

Assembly Bill 231 and Senate Bill 231 are currently going through committees to get approval, and if signed into law, it would reestablish offering a 30% tax credit to production companies that film movies and television shows in the state. It would also bring back the state’s film office, which has been closed for well over a decade.

Currently, Wisconsin is one out of about a dozen states that does not offer a film and television tax incentive. It is one of only four that does not have a film office.

The pair of bills could potentially attract not only big-time filmmakers to the state, especially the natural beauty of northern Wisconsin, but it would also encourage independent dreamers to come to America’s Dairyland to create their own amazing films.

The potential that the film tax credits could bring has Rep. Elijah Behnke, R-Town of Chase, very excited.

“Those iconic films that say ‘Produced in Georgia,’ I think we’re just following in their footsteps,” Behnke said. “Wisconsin seems kind of iconic from ‘That 70s Show.’ That was supposedly Wisconsin. We’re just trying to build a brand that would increase movies being produced here in Wisconsin. It has shown in Georgia to be very good for the local economy, so we think it would actually increase tax revenue and be good for our state.”

Providing companies with the 30% tax credit would encourage more spending in Wisconsin by film companies, according to Behnke, and the credit would reward them for utilizing Wisconsin’s backdrop and spending money at local businesses, which would include eateries and hotels.

“The state would not be giving them a rebate check,” Behnke said. “They just wouldn’t have to pay taxes, up to 30% of the production expenditures (spent in Wisconsin).”

Behnke noted that Montana, with its scenic backdrops of Yellowstone National Park, saw film



Filming takes place at a Wisconsin hotel for the film “February.” Efforts to reestablish a film office and production tax credits are making their way through the Wisconsin Legislature.

AARON KRUSE



Milwaukee director of photography Leo Purman lines up a shot on a frozen lake in Wisconsin while filming “February,” which came out earlier this year. The show’s director, Nathan Deming, hopes Assembly Bill 251 and Senate Bill 251 make it through the Wisconsin Legislature to allow more films to be shot in Wisconsin.

AARON KRUSE

companies spend \$730 million last year in the state, and that generated \$44.5 million in tax revenue.

“It’s adding jobs, thousands of jobs,” Behnke said. “We can expect up to \$1 billion of output (in Wisconsin) if there was a big series of shows here.”

The 21st season of “Top Chef” recently put Wisconsin in the spotlight, Behnke said, spending about \$5 million in the state. He noted the hotels in Milwaukee saw about \$1.5 million of that housing crew members and contestants.

“That’s just a little taste of what could be,” he said.

Nathan Deming, a filmmaker based in Eau

Claire and Los Angeles, is another advocate for seeing AB 231 and SB 231 pass and be signed by Gov. Tony Evers. He recently showed his film “February” at Shawano Cinema, and seeing the 30% tax credit would help him as he works to make his movies, many of which would be set in Wisconsin like “February” was.

Wisconsin has one of the largest television and film archives in the country, Deming said, and he noted that a document from the 1970s proposed the original film office, which continued as part of the Wisconsin Department of Tourism until 2005, when then Gov. Jim Doyle

asked for 10% departmental cutbacks.

“That was pretty ahead of its time,” Deming said.

Deming said the Shawano area could be a prime spot for filming, if the community could figure out how to entice film companies to come here. He estimated that independent and regional companies are looking for small towns, and having the tax incentive could help make northeast Wisconsin “a regular stop on the map.”

“Even a few days of filming in a place like Shawano brings immediate economic impact — hotel stays, meals, hardware rentals, gear storage, even local hires for crew and extras. That money goes straight into the community,” Deming said. “Shawano is especially well-positioned because it offers a wide range of locations, small-town streets, lakefronts, rural land, all close to Green Bay, which makes it very attractive

from a production logistics standpoint. Filmmakers are constantly looking for compact, versatile towns like this to shoot in.”

He added that filmmakers who come to Shawano County wouldn’t have far to go to reach a production center in Green Bay, so that would cut down on travel expenses.

Deming noted there’s a minimum spend of \$100,000 required for film companies to get the tax credit, which is an easy benchmark for Hollywood blockbusters, but it’s also obtainable for smaller film companies. He noted that neighboring states have a threshold of \$1 million for its tax incentives.

“What I really love about this bill is that it’s not just for Hollywood,” Deming said. “It’s for independent filmmakers like myself, as well. It makes it a lot easier on the small people.”

Deming hopes to produce the other movies in his month series like “February” in Wisconsin, but he’s an advocate for the bills so that many more filmmakers with lofty dreams can make them come true in this state. He noted that a Hallmark movie titled “A Cherry Pie Christmas” filmed in Door County last winter and spent about \$600,000 in the area.

“A rising tide raises all boats,” Deming said. “I truly believe there’s all kinds of movies that could be filming here, and filming, unfortunately, is an expensive art form and requires these kinds of programs. I think we could support a lot of filmmaking here, all the way from big-budget movies to Hallmark and Lifetime movies. There’s plenty that could be shot at any time of year — Christmastime or summertime.”

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com



“Hundreds of Beavers” producer Kurt Ravenwood stands with two of the film’s stars during one of its screenings in 2024. The movie was filmed in Wisconsin.

CONTRIBUTED

“Even a few days of filming in a place like Shawano brings immediate economic impact — hotel stays, meals, hardware rentals, gear storage, even local hires for crew and extras. That money goes straight into the community.”

NATHAN DEMING, Wisconsin filmmaker



Chris Caldwell, president of the College of Menominee Nation in Keshena, sits with student Avari Fernandez in the campus atrium.

Tribal colleges threatened by federal funding cuts

Leadership plans for cuts to budget, student services if bill is approved

By ANNA MARIE YANNY
Wisconsin Public Radio

Tribal colleges in Wisconsin stand to lose significant federal support following proposed cuts under the Trump administration, including an 83% cut to certain Bureau of Indian Education funds. If approved, those cuts, along with proposed changes to the federal Pell Grant program, could hamper the services tribal colleges provide students in Wisconsin. There are two tribal colleges in the state, together enrolling about 700 students: the College of Menominee Nation in Keshena, and Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe University, which is about 100 miles north of Eau Claire. "The tribal colleges and universities across the country already operate at bare minimum funding," said Karen Breit, interim

president at Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe. "So any projected decrease to that funding is going to have a major impact." University staff are looking at budget cuts in anticipation of the possible loss of federal funding, she said. The possible Bureau of Indian Education cuts include slashing post-secondary programming from about \$127.4 million in 2025 to just about \$22 million in 2026. The cuts are included in a budget request sent by the Department of the Interior to Congress. In a statement, an Interior Department spokesperson told Wisconsin Public Radio it is committed to supporting "high-quality education that honors the unique needs and cultures of Native students. We will continue to advance academic excellence, student well-being and culturally relevant instruction with the resources entrusted to us." The One Big Beautiful Bill recently approved by the Republican-controlled House of Representatives

included a change that would eliminate Pell Grant eligibility for part-time students. The Senate version of the bill does not include the eligibility cuts, but that could change by the time the bill comes to a vote. CMN President Chris Caldwell said the changes to Pell Grant criteria could be "pretty devastating." "We have a large number of part-time students just due to work, family or both, as they try to advance their education," Caldwell said. "That's around 70% of our student population." He said federal funds are important for tribal colleges, following historic non-investment in Native communities. "We're still recovering from that," he said, adding that the tribal college has helped build their community workforce. "A lot of our people are now the leaders in our institutions." He said if federal cuts go through, his college might have to reduce the amount of student services and degree programs they offer. Community programs through the college, such as energy assistance programs, food preparation and professional development programs, would likely go first, he added. "It would just slowly back us into a corner of just focusing on teaching and learning," he said. "We'd have to figure out what staff we could afford to keep." Tribal colleges and universities have a significant economic impact on their local communities, Breit said. "If our funds from the federal government changed, they don't only affect the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe University, but the surrounding area," she said.

Shawano man faces federal porn charges

By KEVIN MURPHY
Correspondent

A Shawano man has been charged in federal court with the production of child pornography, allegedly involving a two-year-old girl, an offense punishable by a statutory minimum of 15 years in prison. According to an affidavit by FBI Agent Sharon McLaughlin, Brandon M. Boogren, 29, was apprehended after FBI in Milwaukee-Green Bay received a lead from the FBI in Houston on June 3 regarding a case they were investigating. FBI Houston passed information from a May 16, 2019, conversation on WhatsApp including a phone number later identi-



BRANDON BOOGEN

fied as belonging to Boogren. On the same day, Boogren sent four videos of a minor appearing to be about two years of age engaged in a sexually explicit activity. The videos weren't saved to the phone, but two thumbnail images were which depicted Boogren and the child inside a residence. On June 3, 2024, FBI and Shawano police interviewed Boogren during which he confirmed that the phone number had been his. After initially de-

nying any wrongdoing, he was shown the images and portions of the WhatsApp chat and admitted to his involvement in the offense. Brandon was arrested, made his initial court appearance on June 6 and was placed in temporary detention. On June 13, he was released from custody on standard conditions. He was indicted on June 17 and arraigned June 23. No further court dates have been set. In addition to a mandatory minimum 15-year sentence, if convicted, Boogren also faces a fine of up to \$250,000, assessment imposed on child pornography producers, placed on the sexual offender registry and a maximum of lifetime supervised release.

Parade highlights Tilleda Fun Dayz



A tractor hauls a trailer packed with partying representatives from the Tilleda Falls Campground and adds a touch of whimsy June 29 to the Tilleda Fun Dayz parade.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



A trio of horses and riders are decked out in bright colors June 29 as they move along County Road D for the Tilleda Fun Dayz parade.

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It's recommended to go to professional fireworks shows on Independence Day, but if that's not possible, medical professionals recommend that people should take care when handling fireworks.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

Fireworks fun but can be dangerous

Aurora doctor recommends caution when handling fireworks

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Independence Day celebrations have a tendency to bring out fireworks as millions of people celebrate the birth of America.

From backyard barbecues to community celebrations, fireworks generate a lot of excitement for people. They also increase the risk of injury.

Dr. Ryan Murphy, who practices emergency medicine at Aurora Bay Care Medical Center, noted that body parts being severed as a result of exploding fireworks exists, but is more of a rarity. The injuries related to fireworks that he sees this time of year are more burns and eye injuries.

"Often, burn injuries will come from sparklers," Murphy said. "The other injuries that we'll see will be foreign bodies in the eyes, especially like when people go to the fireworks shows and they're all close and staring up as that debris falls down. It's dark at night, and you can't see, and you'll get some of that in your eye and it causes a corneal abrasion or a scratch on your eye."

Risk of injury with fireworks increases when alcohol is mixed in, according to Murphy.

"You start to see people who are falling and tripping," he said.

People that Murphy have dealt with surmise

that the more common firework injuries he sees are fingers blown off or other severed parts. He noted those are the exception rather than the rule, and he might see one such incident every two or three years.

"We do see it, but it's not the most common injury we'll see over the holiday," Murphy said.

He recommended people who purchase their own fireworks remember that they always run hot, so they should be very careful.

"Even after the firework goes off, a lot of times those containers that they come in are still fairly hot," Murphy said. "People come up and grab them to move them off to the side, and that's when they get a burn to the hand. You'll also see occasionally where a firework doesn't go off completely, but people assume that it has, and go up to move it, and the bottom reignites and catches back on fire."

Fireworks injuries for children usually consist of burns to arms and hands, according to Murphy. He said children are less likely to realize how hot fireworks can get and will toss them into the air only to touch the burning end when they come down.

"With little kids, you should supervise them and make sure there's plenty of space in between the kids running around and

making sure they're not throwing the sparklers up in the air," Murphy said. "When they're done with the sparkler, put it in a bucket of water. As far as the bigger fireworks, keep kids away from them."

While Independence Day and the days before and after tend to be the most common time for fireworks injuries, Murphy said he sees them occasionally throughout the year, especially New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, birthday celebrations, weddings and other holidays. He expects to see more fireworks injuries simply because the holiday starts on Friday and results in a three-day weekend.

"It's few and far between, but we see some fireworks injuries throughout the year," Murphy said.

It's usually safer for people to go to shows like the ones taking place in Gillett and Bonduel, but Murphy doesn't expect that everyone will heed such a recommendation.

"Certainly, we recommend leaving it to the professionals, but we know people won't," Murphy said. "We just encourage people to be safe, to have common sense especially if someone has been drinking, have someone there who maybe hasn't been drinking to oversee anything, because it is high risk."

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Making the most of summer



Above and at left, the Shawano Parks and Recreation Department sponsored a week of lessons on sailing, windsurfing and standup paddleboard yoga at the Shawano County Park. A windsurfing youth camp was also held. Events were held in conjunction with International Youth Sailing of Oshkosh and Shawano Adventure Sports.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



Charlie's County Market in Shawano hosted a RibFest on June 27, with hundreds of orders taken throughout the afternoon. As if the weather wasn't hot enough, a couple of guys spent several hours grilling the savory food for customers.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



A horse and buggy travels along a lonely stretch of a Shawano County road. The county is home to a growing Amish community, particularly in the Bonduel area. Their focus on simple living includes horse-drawn buggies for transportation.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



Above, Dave Lupella, of White Lake, polishes up the wheels of his 1938 Ford Deluxe Coupe that he entered in the Menominee Casino Resort inaugural car show June 28. Lupella has owned the car for 52 years, and with a rebuilt engine, he has driven it 238,000 miles since 2006, including a couple of trips to Florida. Below, Ron Peterman, of Purlaski, sits behind the wheel of his 1985 Chevy Monte Carlo SS. Peterman bought the car brand new and has been its only owner since then. The car show had entries in the categories of 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s to the present.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA



Dems propose simplifying ballot questions

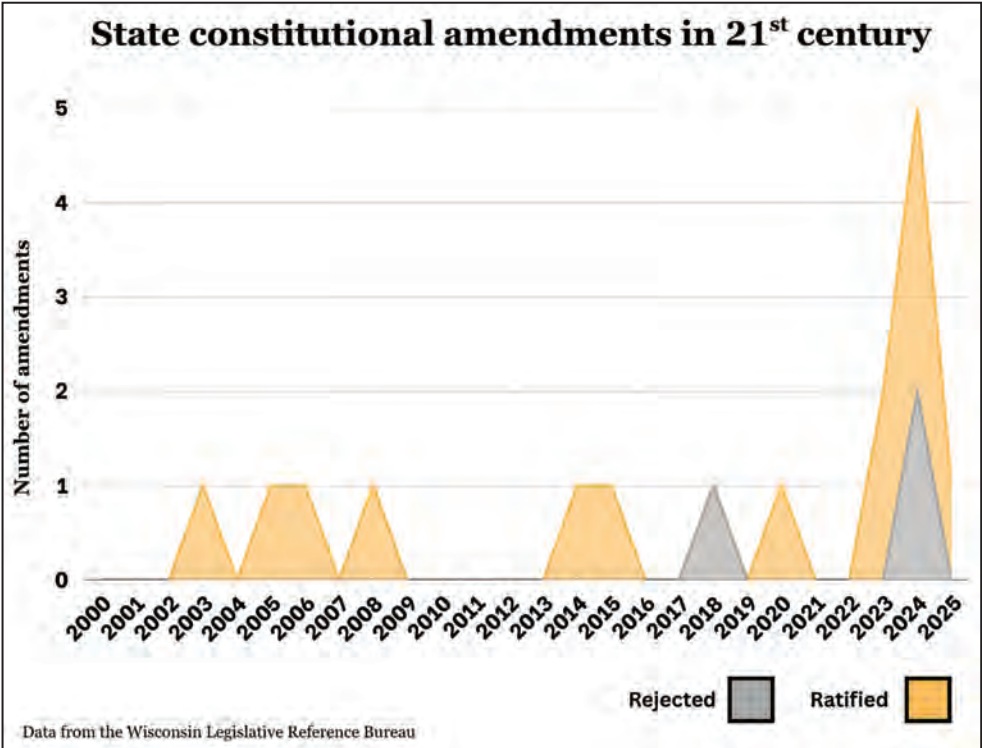
Bill comes as
GOP governs via
constitutional
amendments

By ANNIE PULLEY
The Badger Project

In last November’s election in Wisconsin, a question on the ballot asked voters if the state’s constitution should be amended to order that only American citizens age 18 or older may vote. Voters approved it with an overwhelming 79%, but the state constitution already mandated that voters must be adult citizens.

The constitutional amendment changed who can vote in Wisconsin from “Every United States citizen age 18 or older” to “Only a United States citizen age 18 or older.” The referendum question could have led some voters to think Wisconsin did not already prohibit noncitizen voting, according to the State Democracy Research Initiative at the University of Wisconsin Law School.

In March, Democratic Reps. Lee Snodgrass and Deb Andraca and Sen. Jodi Habush Sinykin proposed legislation to ensure ballot questions to change the state constitution are written in plain language and clearly indicate whether any part of the amendment already exists in state statute. State law already



The number of constitutional amendments posed to voters jumped to five in 2024. Three were approved.
THE BADGER PROJECT

mandates that referendum questions be written concisely, but it does not require they be easily understandable for the general public.

Between 2015 and 2023, Wisconsin voters had the chance to weigh in on five constitutional amendments. In 2024 alone, voters saw another five amendments on their ballots, and the top Republican in the state has called for more.

“Over the years,” Andraca said in an interview, “we have seen these questions coming more and more, and it’s usually an attempt to go around the governor.”

Anything the Wisconsin Senate and Assembly do by

legislation can be vetoed.

“We have seen an escalating use of constitutional amendments since the election of Gov. Evers,” said Anthony Chergosky, a political science professor at UW-La Crosse. “The context of the legislation is interesting.”

In Wisconsin, both chambers of the legislature must vote to pass a joint resolution in consecutive legislative sessions amending the state constitution. If successful, the amendment goes to the voters for their approval or rejection. Amendments are not subject to the governor’s veto or signature.

Republicans have held majorities in the Legisla-

ture since 2011, and Evers has consistently threatened to use his veto pen since his election in 2018. In a political atmosphere of divided government and polarization, they have turned to constitutional amendments, Chergosky said.

After voters rejected two constitutional amendments in the state primary election last August, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos told The Cap Times that the state Legislature should “double down” and continue to add amendments to ballots.

Vos and his office did not answer questions for this story despite repeated requests.

Bringing constitutional amendments to voters can provide a way to “get a legislative victory on a topic without having to negotiate with the governor, without having to compromise,” said Dane County Clerk Scott McDonell.

McDonell, who has served in that position since 2013, oversees elections across the deep blue county. It’s not uncommon for his office to receive phone calls and complaints from voters about what’s on their ballots, he said.

If voters are confused about how to vote because of unclear language, it can obscure the larger take-aways from the election.

“What meaning does it have?” McDonell said.

About 23 states have some sort of plain language requirements for their ballot measures, and in Wisconsin, ballot measures require an average of 18 years of education to comprehend, according to Ballotpedia analyses.

About 33% of Wisconsin residents 25 years and older have at least a bachelor’s degree, according to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

Since 1848, state voters have seen 206 amendments appear on their ballots, according to Madeline Kasper, a managing analyst with the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau. Of those amendments, 152 were ratified.

The number of constitutional amendments posed to voters jumped to

five in 2024. Three were approved.

“Constitutional amendments can have long-lasting and often surprising implications,” Chergosky noted, pointing to a 1930 amendment that gave the governor the power to partially veto appropriations bills.

Amendments, Chergosky continued, are challenging to reverse and constrain the courts because constitutional interpretation is a “different ball game than statutory interpretation,” he said. “The stakes are high when it comes to changing the constitution, and we have seen that changes to the Wisconsin State Constitution have had significant effects.”

Like all legislation, the Democrats’ bill on referendums must get approved at the committee level before getting a full vote in the state Legislature, both of which the GOP majority are unlikely to facilitate.

“Republicans control what does and does not come to the floor for a vote,” Chergosky said about the bill’s chances. “The fate of this legislation will be determined by Republican leaders in the legislature.”

The legislature sees about 1,500 to 2,000 bills introduced in every two-year session. About a quarter of them will become law, according to a state guide.

The Badger Project is a nonpartisan, citizen-supported journalism nonprofit in Wisconsin.

ThedaCare recommends sharing health care wishes

It’s important to decide ahead of time, before a crisis, who you would want to make your health care decisions and what kind of care you would want.

Completing advance care planning is the best way to ensure people avoid unwanted care in the event of serious illness or incapacity, said Leslie Koffke, an advance care planning social

worker with ThedaCare.

“Completing advance care planning is crucial for all adults,” Koffke said. “This process can lead to peace of mind for all involved. A serious accident or health crisis doesn’t plan ahead. But you can.”

Advance care planning documents are formal, legal documents specifically authorized by state laws that

individuals complete. The documents are referenced when a person becomes seriously ill and unable to make decisions. People can revoke or change the documents at any time.

In 2017, health policy journal Health Affairs reported that only around 36% of adults had completed advance care planning. It further stated that the treat-

ments people would choose to receive often don’t align with those they do receive at the end of life.

National Health Care Decisions Day offers an ideal time to complete the Advance Care Planning (ACP) process, Koffke said. Before doing so, people should contemplate their wishes. Then take it a step further and discuss them

with loved ones.

Around half of ThedaCare patients 65 older have completed an ACP, also often called an advanced directive. That percentage is much lower for younger patients.

Koffke encouraged all people 18 years of age and older to complete an ACP. That includes young adults heading off to college or

into the workforce.

An ACP includes a power of attorney for health care form. This form allows people to identify a health care agent who will make decisions on their behalf if they become incapacitated. People can also choose the kind of care they would want to receive in the event that they become unable to speak for themselves.

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FROM DAIRY TO SHRIMP

Brei's Aqua Farm bringing seafood to Leopolis area

By KAY REMINGER
Correspondent

From dairying to shrimp, the Brei family traded in one farm for another.

Located in Leopolis, the sprawling, picturesque family-owned dairy farm is now raising a different sort of livestock – shrimp.

Craig Brei is co-owner with his brother, Curt, in the new endeavor.

“Our shrimp are raised using a heterotrophic recirculating aquaculture system (RAS) a closed-loop, zero-exchange method that recycles the same water,” Brei said. “This allows us to closely control water quality, which directly impacts shrimp health and flavor. Most store-bought shrimp come from crowded, outdoor farms or wild-caught sources with limited oversight.”

Brei said the shrimp are raised free of antibiotics or chemicals. He noted many commercially-farmed shrimp are raised with antibiotics, hormones and toxins.

“We prioritize health and safety, resulting in shrimp that are clean, natural and safe for your family,” Brei said.

Brei sells his shrimp live to get maximum flavor and freshness, noting that the head provides a natural sweetness commonly lost of processed shrimp.

“Because our shrimp are never frozen, they retain their true texture and taste, unlike store-bought shrimp, which are often frozen and thawed multiple times, reducing quality and flavor,” Brei said. “Fresh shrimp is very perishable. They are good for two days with head on in the coolest part of the fridge, then you must remove the head. You then have an additional two days with head off.”

The shrimp are raised in nursery tanks. Brei receives them when they’re about 10 days old and the size of an eyelash.

“We get 40,000 to 80,000 at a crack,” he said. “The females lay 80,000 eggs but only reproduce once a year. Our shrimp come out of Florida or from our consultant in Indiana.”

The heated tanks are regulated by testing the water every day for pH, alkalinity, nitrites, nitrates, ammonia, oxygen, salinity and carbon dioxide. They used RDM Shrimp as a consultant, “to point us in the right direction,” Brei said.

Shrimp are fed according to weight



Co-owners Curt and Craig Brei get ready to grow some beans, the vegetable part of their new endeavor at Brei's Aqua Farm.

KAY REMINGER

and maturity, with a supplemental diet weighed out in grams. Shrimp molt, which means losing their shell every three to five days. Every full moon all the shrimp in the tank will molt.

What used to be their free-stall barn has now been converted for 12 additional tanks of shrimp.

“We dropped the ceiling down, redid the concrete and replaced the poles. This room was built in 1971, so it needed much remodeling,” Brei said.

After purchasing the farm in October 1983, the dairy at its peak housed 450 total head. Selling the herd after 40 years, the Brei family decided to invest in shrimp

and build a greenhouse in which peas, beans, cucumbers, zucchini, four types of tomatoes, three types of peppers and three different types of strawberries are grown.

“There are two types of systems being used. The first is a NFT (nutrient film technique) system,” Brei said. “This system uses pumps to circulate a thin film of nutrient solution through pipes, where plant roots can dip to receive nutrients. The second is an ebb and flow system. This floods the plant roots in water for 55 minutes to an hour. The roots get pushed down to the bottom, there is a little water left so they never get dry — that is also how they get their fertilizer.”

Brei added that changing the amount and type of fertilizer enhances the taste of the shrimp, and it will last longer in the refrigerator.

“We will grow what people request,” he said. “We would like to try micro-greens, which are young seedlings of vegetables that can be harvested in about 14 days. For people that are really, really health-conscious, they can be up to 40 times more nutritious than the mature vegetables.”

Brei knows the ins and outs from researching online, but there’s also some knowledge that comes from flying by the seat of his pants.

“The first strawberries we put in we got fertilizer from a guy and he said just follow the instructions on the jug,” said

SHRIMP, CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: Brei's Aqua Farm
WHERE: N5354 County Road D, Leopolis
PHONE: 715-853-1769. Customers should call ahead of time to place an order.
ONLINE: www.breisaquafarm.com, or find the business on Facebook under Brei's Aqua Farm.
FYI: The farm currently only accepts cash or check.

Case for vaccines, wellness not either/or

Today, it's common to hear different opinions about what we've long understood about germs and health.

One idea that's gaining popularity is the belief that if we take good enough care of ourselves, we don't need things like vaccines to stay healthy.

This is



Nick Mau
Guest columnist

understandable. We all want to feel in control of our health, and focusing on nutrition, exercise and self-care are great ways to do that.

However, we must also continue to use the tools that science and medicine have developed over decades to strengthen our health, immunity, longevity and overall well-being. As someone who really values both wellness and science, I wanted to share my perspective and maybe open up more respectful dialogue about what keeps us safe.

Before getting into this dialogue, let's go back to when the germ theory was first proposed in the 1800s.

Scientific study led by Louis Pasteur proved that tiny, invisible organisms, like bacteria and viruses, can make you sick. That discovery led to lifesaving tools like vaccines and antibiotics, and helped turn once-feared diseases like smallpox and polio into rare or eliminated threats.

We know that not all germs are bad, and being around them doesn't always make you sick. However, some germs cause illness even in the healthiest people, and when they do, they're the reason you get sick — not because your immune system is weak, but because the germ itself is capable of causing disease (Panthagani, 2025).

Today, a different idea has taken hold in some circles: that germs aren't such a big deal if you're healthy enough. Maybe you've heard it too: "If you eat right and take care of your immune system, you don't need vaccines." Or, "Only people with underlying conditions need to worry."

This belief is true to some extent — of course, a healthy body fights infection better, but it's a risky oversimplification. Even healthy, fit people can get very sick from infections like measles, meningitis or the flu. Sadly, we've seen this happen.

We are seeing this right now, measles is making a comeback, especially in places where vaccination rates have dropped. Around the world, measles deaths are rising again — not because people didn't eat their veggies or take supplements, but because the virus is incredibly contagious and dangerous without the protection of vaccines.

In today's mentality of "us versus them," we often hear it framed as a choice: focus on nutrition and immune support or trust vaccines and medicine. It doesn't have to be either/or.

We can do both. We should do both. A balanced diet, exercise and self-care are all important for overall health, and vaccines are a powerful tool that work alongside those things to protect us from serious infections. And while opinions on these topics may differ, it's important

WELLNESS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



A ripe berry hangs ready to pick at Brei's Aqua Farm in Leopolis. The main greenhouse for the farm is expected to be up and running this fall.

KAY REMINGER

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IN THE KITCHEN WITH FRANCESCA



Combining red velvet cake mix with white frosting and blue M&M's produce a patriotic treat for Independence Day. FRANCESCA ULLMER

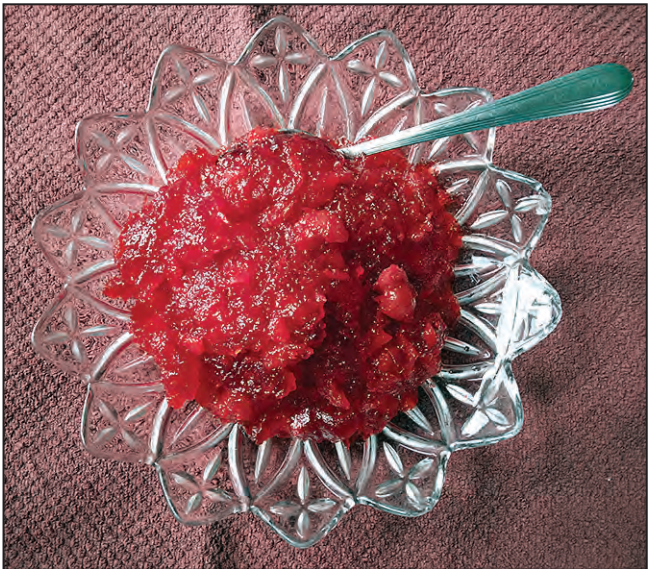
Tasty treats bring out red, white, blue

The Fourth of July is upon us, and summer, the season of picnics and cookouts, is getting under way.

Cake mix cookies are something I have always wanted to try baking. I tasted them for the first time several years ago at a family gathering. My aunt made them using strawberry cake mix, but as I am not the biggest fan of strawberry cake, I was hesitant to try it. However, I decided to try them and really enjoyed them. Also, the fact that you could make cookies using cake mix intrigued me.

When I was thinking about what to make for this column, I looked in our pantry and saw a red velvet cake mix. Because the Fourth of July is nearly here, and the cake mix was red, I decided to make up some Fourth of July cookies. I used red velvet cake mix, cream cheese frosting (although you could use another white frosting such as vanilla), and blue M&M's — red, white, and blue. However, if you don't like red velvet cake, you could simply add red food coloring to a white or yellow cake.

A few tips on cake mix cookies. They can



If the cookies aren't enough to properly celebrate America's birthday, then preparing some cherry pineapple Jell-O should help to get the party started. FRANCESCA ULLMER



be made with any cake mix, but one article I read said that 15.25-ounce cake mixes work best. "Scant" in cooking and baking means just a little bit less than the stated amount. So, a half scant cup of oil means just a little bit less than a half cup of oil. I would not recommend using a whisk when mixing these cookies,

because these cookies are much thicker than a cake. After struggling with a whisk, I switched to a sturdy fork, and that worked much better. Chilling the dough is not required, but I would recommend it, as the dough was much less sticky after chilling for a while. Finally, do not over-bake these cookies. These cookies are meant to be soft, but set. One recipe I read said to bake these cookies for 9-11 minutes. I have learned from bitter experience that most cookie recipes lie about baking time (or their ovens are cooler). Generally, I bake cookies for 5 minutes, check them, and then add any additional time needed. It was a good thing

that I am in the habit of doing this, because these cookies only needed 7 minutes of baking time. If I would have left them in for 9 minutes without checking, they would have burned. Jell-O is a staple at many parties, potlucks and cookouts. While simple Jell-O is just fine, fancy Jell-Os are a special treat. Cherry-pineapple Jell-O is one of my favorite fancy Jell-Os. Its sweet cherry flavor pairs perfectly with the pineapple flavor. The cherries and crushed pineapple add a great texture as well. Make sure to use canned pineapple; fresh pineapple causes gelatin to not set. This Jell-O looks so pretty too, and letting it set in a nice glass bowl highlights its beauty.

This is also a super simple recipe. You begin by making the Jell-O the normal way, mixing the Jell-O powder with the hot water, and then simply adding the cherry pie filling and crushed pineapple in place of the cold water. This Jell-O works just fine with generic gelatin; you do not have to use name brand Jell-O. In fact, I only use generic gelatin, and I have never had any problems. Happy Fourth of July.

Francesca Ullmer, the second child of a large homeschooled family, is from the Krakow area. She enjoys baking, reading, knitting, raising goats, and entering numerous items in the Oconto County Fair.

RED, WHITE, AND BLUE CAKE MIX COOKIES

1 15.25-ounce box Red Velvet cake mix
1/2 scant cup oil
2 large eggs
Blue M&M's
White frosting, vanilla or cream cheese flavored

Mix the cake mix, oil, and eggs together. Refrigerate the dough for 15-20 minutes. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Using a cookie scoop or a spoon, scoop the dough onto the baking sheet, leaving some space between each cookie. Bake for 5-9 minutes, checking after 5 minutes. Do not overbake. Cookies are done when set and very lightly browned on the bottom. Let cool for a few minutes on a baking sheet, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely. When cookies are cool, spread frosting on them, and decorate with M&M's.

CHERRY-PINEAPPLE JELL-O

4 small boxes cherry Jell-O
1 can crushed pineapple, well drained
4 cups boiling water
1 can cherry pie filling

Place the Jell-O in a large bowl, add the boiling water and mix well. When the Jell-O has completely dissolved, add the cherry pie filling and drained pineapple; mix well. Transfer to a decorative glass bowl, optional. Refrigerate 4 hours, or overnight, until set.

WELLNESS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

to remember that at the heart of it, we all want the same thing: to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe and healthy. If you're feeling unsure or have concerns about vaccines or germs, that's completely OK. Asking questions is how we learn. I'd encourage you to bring those questions to your trusted primary care provider. They're trained to talk through these issues, explain the science and help you make informed choices for yourself and your family. It's great to read and explore different viewpoints online, but sometimes a Facebook post or forum

doesn't tell the full story. Health care providers can offer insights grounded in research and experience, and they truly want to help. We've come such a long way in protecting ourselves from infectious diseases and vaccines have saved countless lives over the last 200 years. It's worth remembering how we got here and keeping an open and respectful conversation about how we continue to stay safe and healthy, together. Nick Mau is the health officer for the Shawano-Menominee Counties Health Department with a master's degree in public health.

SHRIMP, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Brei. "After a couple of days, we found out the fertilizer was 5 1/2 times too high, and we basically fried our plants. We started over. Experience is the best teacher." The Breis' first intention was to also raise salmon, but after doing research regarding aquatic systems, which took them to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Northern Aquatic Research Facility in Bayfield, they decided to stick with shrimp and greens. "There was no money in this (fish business) without backing from a corporation," Brei said. "We just couldn't do it on a big scale. It was the most money-saving trip we ever took." Brei has all mechanics set up with an alarm system directed to his phone. "The central nervous system has been set in place to safeguard all products," he said. "Shrimp can only survive one-half hour if oxygen levels should drop. Shrimp farming means

you have to remain vigilant, just like cows coming in heat. The scientific part of shrimp farming is the same (as dairy), but this farming is a lot easier on my knees." Brei got the idea of shrimp farming from his nephew, Adam, who is majoring in agriculture at UW-River Falls. He was student teaching in Bay Port and traveled with a group of students to the National FFA Convention in Indiana and visited a place called RDM Shrimp. Brei got a call from his nephew suggesting the uncle look into shrimp farming. Brei's wife, Karleen, takes care of the book-keeping, but he handles the daily monitoring and paperwork. He monitors the greenhouse as well as the shrimp systems and takes care of ordering and running for parts. The main greenhouse is expected to start operating in the fall. Shrimp, however, are ready now and are sold direct for \$22 per pound.



Heated tanks of growing shrimp are closely monitored at Brei's Aqua Farm. The shrimp are currently available to customers for \$22 per pound. KAY REMINGER

FARM LIFE FROM A FARM WIFE

There’s a home for every creature under the sun

Mouth agape, looking up, I exclaimed to my husband, “Listen to that!”

One day early spring, we were working at buttoning up our sap season then and spending one of the last afternoons in the woods — the sun winking between sparse clouds, promising warmer days ahead. Breezeless, the woods was tranquil yet the birds in the trees were going crazy — singing up a storm like they were holding a concert just for us. We noticed bluebirds, blackbirds, orioles and robins.

Later, reflecting on the wonder of the birds tucked in the woodland, I realized there’s a home for every creature under the sun.

My husband loves to hunt. He has numerous blinds and a few tree stands strategically positioned on our property along with three trail cams. Never once did I complain he spends too much money on hunting — no brag, just fact. Whenever we discuss hunting-related equipment to buy, I invariably agree.

One day, he paused, eyebrows knit together, looked at me quizzically and asked, “Why don’t you ever make a fuss when I wanna buy something?”

Without hesitation, I responded, “You don’t smoke, drink or gamble. You hunt.”

End of discussion. He’s a very hard worker and has provided well for



A male pheasant is captured in all his glory. According to birdfact.com, males have iridescent green necks, bold white neck rings and red faces. Their tails are long and coppery in color with fine black bars.

KAY REMINGER



Kay Reminger
Columnist

our family all these years. He continues to make wise business decisions regarding our farm and future, always discussing things together. If he splurges a bit on his hunting hobby, I don’t care one whit.

Our trail cams have provided an inside look at all the forest creatures that call the woods their home — the nighttime, their social life.

My hunting husband shares the pics he gets with me and I marvel. It’s diverse and interesting and altogether amazing. Once in a while, we’ve even caught a few different species on one frame.

From late in the night to wee morning, through our motion-triggered trail cameras, we’ve captured coyotes, woodchucks, raccoons, opossum, fox, deer, turkeys, bear, skunks, bobcats, mice, squirrels, rabbits, porcupines, wolves, sand hill cranes, pheasants, male and female — and an occasional feral cat.

The difference between the genders of a pheasant is astounding — the males are

beautiful where females are blah. Under birdfact.com, I found: “Female pheasants are duller in color than males. Males have iridescent green necks, bold white neck rings and red faces. Their tails are long and coppery in color with fine black bars. Only male pheasants can be hunted.”

My husband has never hunted pheasant, sticking to deer and turkey. We both think the male pheasants are stunning, and every pheasant season they are able to survive I always cheer, “Yay! He made it!”

During our treks in the woods, I look for fox dens or places where a bear

might have been hibernating or a woodchuck may have trod. There are literal paths that deer wore down from the top of the hill to the fields to the fresh-water spring in our swamp that never freezes.

The adjacent fields are planted with either corn, alfalfa or soybeans to supplement deer diet and in the woods wild berries grow for bear to consume. It’s a veritable paradise for the creatures that call our woods their home.

Back on the farm, the cows and heifers have their own place, too. They have shelter, food, fresh water and clean bedding to hunker down during lazy afternoons and night-time rest.

The large, round, corn-stalk and soybean-straw bedding bales are stored in the barn mow, handy for my husband to haul down with the skidder when he needs to re-bed the heifer barn. The cows are bedded down with sand which makes it soft to lay on, yet easy to hoist themselves up on.

Perfect accommodations — they’re all treated like queens over here.

My three barn kitties have their own shelter up in the mow and I’ve introduced them before — Little Yellow, Graycie and Fred. We’ve been perplexed, though. We have a night-time trespasser, a huge, well-fed raccoon, who’ve we caught on a trail cam

set up in the mow. (On my persistence ... “Can I borrow one? For a little while?”)

The unwelcome visitor literally steals the mini marshmallows I’ve been trying to lure him in with — and leaves the live trap intact. It’s maddening. He helps himself to late-night suppers, complete with drink and dessert. In the morning, the bowls for my kitties are empty. Three cats do not eat and drink full bowls in one day. Scram, coon. You belong in the woods.

We also house pigs here for about six months. They have a roofed partition, dirt floor with room to root and ready access to food and water up front on a cement base for ease of cleaning. Growing swiftly they are not fussy, consuming whatever we offer them, in addition to their grain mix and ready tub of fresh water.

Every creature has their own home and we are privileged to either enjoy from afar or tend where needed.

“You turn off the light and it becomes night and all the beasts of the forest come out to prowl.” Psalm 103:20, The Passion Translation)

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

WHAT’S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, JULY 4

GILLET: Fourth of July Celebration, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., Zippel Park, McKenzie Street. Antique/Classic Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., horse pull 9 a.m., live music by Fun Time Polka Band 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., mini and modified tractor pulls 1 p.m., parade 2 p.m., music by Acoustic Vinyl 3-6 p.m., antique tractor pull 5 p.m., fireworks at dusk, food and beverage stands.

TOWNSEND: Fourth of July Celebration, 9 a.m. to dusk, Fire Department and Veterans Memorial Park. Craft fair 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., food, raffles, live music to 5 p.m., parade at noon, concessions and evening fun at park, 6 p.m. until after fireworks at dusk.

KESHENA: Kehtekaewak Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., College of Menominee Nation, N172 State Highway 47-55.

BONDUEL: Celebrate Bonduel, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Village Park. Parade 11 a.m., bike raffle, two bands, kids events, baseball game, fireworks at dusk.

BREED: Fourth of July Parade, noon, Arrowhead Saloon, 13486 County Road AA. Meat raffle, live music, mechanical bull, food and drink, \$3 cover charge.

TIGERTON: Let Freedom Ring Family Fun Run, 5 p.m., Legion

Park. Fund raiser for fireworks display.

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

OCONTO: Movie Night Under the Stars, dusk, Joel’s Reel Inn, 400 Holtwood Way. “Dennis the Menace.”

SATURDAY, JULY 5

SHAWANO: Zurko’s Midwest Promotions Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. \$2 admission, 12 and under free with adult.

MOUNTAIN: Independence Day Celebration, 8 a.m. to after dusk, Community Center, 13412 State Highway 32-64. Breakfast 8-10 a.m., lunch 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., 3-5 p.m. kids games, 5:30-7:30 p.m. meat raffle, fireworks at dusk.

CRIVITZ: Crooked Lake Fire Department Parade, 10:30 a.m. 15445 County Road W.

CRIVITZ: Crooked Lake Sportsmen’s Club Annual Picnic, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., 15526 County Road W. Food and beverage, live music, raffles, kids activities.

SHAWANO: FRESH Project Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St.

SHAWANO: Fifth annual Craft and Flea Market, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bottle House Antiques, 701 S. Main St. Outdoor event

with free admission adjacent to store; more than 40 antique/collectible vendors.

CLOVERLEAF LAKES: Kiddie Parade, 10 a.m., from boat launch down Adams Beach Drive to Rustic Drive and looping back. Sponsored by Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association.

GRESHAM: Fourth of July Celebration, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Veterans Park. Parade at 11 a.m., food trucks, girls fast pitch exhibition game, kickball tournament, vendors, bounce houses, food truck, fireworks at dusk.

SHAWANO: Naberhood Block Party, 6-8 p.m., The Naberhood, 214 S. Main St. Live music with Olivia Maro.

SHAWANO: Shawano Speedway, 6 p.m., 990 E. Green Bay St. Gates open 4 p.m. \$12, ages 12-16 \$6, and younger than 11 free.

CLOVERLEAF LAKES: Boat parade, 6:30 p.m. Register until 5 p.m. July 4 at Cloverleafakes-fireworks.com. Fireworks 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 6

SHAWANO: Zurko’s Midwest Promotions Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. \$2 admission, 12 and under free with adult.

SHAWANO: Music in the Park at Arlington, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Arlington Park, 300 N. Humphrey Circle. Live music

with Sarah Koenigs and the Hus Band.

MONDAY, JULY 7

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, JULY 8

WABENO: Free Veterans Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., American Legion Hall, 4494 N. Branch St. Coffee ready 9 a.m. Chef’s choice, hosted by Donna and Vicki, 715-889-3731.

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto County Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., Memorial Field. Vendors, live music, food trucks.

LENA: Classic Car Show, 4:30-7 p.m., Main Street. All vehicles welcome; oldies music, vendors, food.

SHAWANO: Shawano Pathways monthly meeting, 5 p.m., The Lighthouse, W6440 Gumaer Road.

WITTENBERG: Tuesday Concert in the Art Park, 6-8 p.m., 114 Vinal St. Free concert sponsored by Crossroads Community Theater, Village of Wittenberg and Walls of Wittenberg. Bring your own food, beverages and chair.

SHAWANO: Naberhood Block Party, 6 p.m., The Naberhood, 214 S. Main St. Rondini Hypnosis.

OCONTO: Tunes on Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m., Beyer House and Carriage Museum, 916 Park Ave. Live music with Fine Line. Bring your own food, beverages and chair.

KESHENA: Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. Omaeqnome-newak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

GRESHAM: American Red Cross blood drive, noon to 5 p.m., St. Francis Solanus Catholic Church, 1050 Main St. Apointments at RedCrossBlood.org or 800-733-2767.

BONDUEL: Farmers Market, 4-7 p.m., corner of Cecil and Green Bay streets.

SHAWANO: Ski Sharks, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wolf River Beach at Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive; enter ski site from Third Street.

CECIL: Shawano Paddlers Evening Paddle, 6 p.m., Korth Lake, W3776 State Highway 22. Check Facebook page for latest information.

KESHENA: Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. Omaeqnome-newak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

SHAWANO: Kids From Wisconsin Tour, 7 p.m., Shawano

Community High School, 220 County Road B. Tickets \$13-\$16 at kidsfromwi.org.

THURSDAY, JULY 10

NAVARINO: Digging Dinos Day Camp, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Ages 3-8; chaperones required for ages 3-4. Members \$40, non-members \$50, information at navarino.org.

CECIL: Shawano Paddlers Morning Paddle, 9 a.m., 215 W. Freeborn St. Check Facebook page for latest information.

SHAWANO: Mooseyard Golf Outing, 10 a.m. registration, 11 a.m. shotgun start, 5 p.m. dinner and awards, Shawano Lake Golf Course, W5714 Lake Drive. \$75 per player; register at 715-524-4890 or joinus@shawanolake.com.

GILLET: Community Market, 5-7 p.m., Ebenreiter Square, 200 E. Main St.

SHAWANO: Thursdayz at Franklin, 6-8:30 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Live music with Copper Box.

SHAWANO: “Oliver!” 7 p.m., Mielke Arts Center, N5649 Airport Road. Presented by Box in the Wood Theatre Guild. Adults \$15, 18 and under \$10 at shawanoarts.org/buy-tickets.

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

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Want a closed session? Explain yourself

Probably the most commonly used — and, in my opinion, abused — exemption in our state's Open Meetings Law is the one that lets governmental bodies meet behind closed doors “whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.”

The exemption, 19.85(1)(e) in Wisconsin state statutes, is used by all manner of public bodies, from city councils to school boards. It is supposed to be used sparingly, when needed to protect ongoing negotiations. But many bodies use this exemption to conceal everything about a potential deal or development, keeping the public in the dark until it is too late for their input.

Thankfully, the Wisconsin Court of Appeals issued a recent opinion, in a case known as Oitzinger v. City of Marinette, that should significantly curtail such abuses. The court ruled that the city's attempts to use this exemption on two occasions violated the law.

The first involved an agreement (negotiated for months behind the scenes and presented to the common council for the first and only time in that closed session) that released a PFAS polluter from liability in exchange for a “donation” toward equipment to help address the pollution it caused. The second involved an engineering analysis of methods to provide safe drinking water for people whose well water had been contaminated.

Both closed sessions were illegal, the appeals court ruled, because neither included discussions of negotiation strategies that needed to be kept secret. The court's ruling does three very important things.

First, the court held Marinette officials accountable for their illegal behavior. The plaintiff, Douglas Oitzinger, was a city council member who thought his colleagues had abused this exemption. He was willing to stand up to his colleagues, endure their scorn and not give up until he won. (His efforts earned him an award from the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council in 2022.)

Second, the case reaffirms an important principle: The law's exemption protects bargaining tactics, not all discussions about a possible deal. It



Tom Kamenick
Guest columnist

exists so that government boards don't have to negotiate at a disadvantage by divulging their strategies, such as the most it is willing to pay to buy a piece of land. But those kinds of discussions are the only thing that is supposed to happen in closed session. Other discussions — particularly debates about the merits of a course of action — need to be held publicly.

Third, the court emphasized that a board's members need to cast an informed vote to go into closed session. That means it needs to be explained to them — on the record in open session — what kind of information is going to be discussed and why secrecy is necessary.

Too often, the process for going into a closed session is just a formulaic reading of a vague agenda item and a vote with no explanation or discussion. The court of appeals concluded that more is necessary — not just in this case, but whenever this exemption is invoked.

I believe this is the part of the court's decision that has the most impact. Government board members usually do this work on a part-time basis for little or no pay. They're frequently happy to follow the lead of full-time government administrators or experienced board members.

Administrators or presiding officers now must take the time to explain why they want to go into closed session. That will not only provide more information to the public, it will help board members think about and answer the question of whether secrecy is really necessary.

As an advocate for government openness, my hopes are high. I've seen reports from around the state that government attorneys are advising their clients about this case and explaining these requirements. I'm hopeful that abuse of this exemption will significantly decline.

Tom Kamenick is the president and founder of the Wisconsin Transparency Project. Your Right to Know is a monthly column distributed by the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council (wisfoic.org), a group dedicated to open government.



Freedoms won, maintained with guns

America has much to celebrate today. The freedoms we take for granted here are only distant dreams in many other nations. Although some countries besmirch our capitalism, wealth and priorities, they imitate us, watch our movies, illegally copy our products and risk their lives to come here for a shot at American life.

It's easy to pick on the younger generations, but as I grow older, I realize that the ignorance of younger folks is mostly not their fault. Public schools in particular spend so much time on gender equity, the dangers of drugs, cultural history, preferred pronouns (ignoring English rules) and more PC drama that there's barely time for math, science and English, let alone American history.

Those of us fortunate enough to travel outside our borders have perhaps seen why so many distant nations look at America with envy. On the way to posh resorts in Mexico, Belize and St. Lucia, I've seen little glimpses of abject poverty from the window of an air-conditioned bus. I've bought some of their handmade reed baskets and jewelry in open-air markets and even on the beach, where they struggle to sneak past security guards for a chance to make a few bucks from tourists.

A recent radio talk show commented about those Blacks who feel oppressed in 2025 America. No matter that we've



Ross Bielema
Columnist

already had a Black president and many Black leaders. Whoopi Goldberg recently commented on “The View” that Blacks are still as oppressed as women in Iran, prompting outrage from Iranian dissidents and others who have lived under Sharia law.

A Black woman recently made the news for fleeing to Africa as a political protest, but then quickly returned to America after realizing the poverty, lack of most creature comforts and wildlife dangers made life there far worse.

I wish our educators would start a program that would get those who have lived under socialist, communist or fascist rule to share their stories, either in videos or in person. Our soldiers, of course, saw these oppressive regimes and their resident victims firsthand. Probably the most vivid and shocking of these were the World War II soldiers who freed the Jewish people from German concentration camps.

My father, Raymond Bielema, spent part of his young life as an Army infantryman in Okinawa, Japan, the war's last battle and the one with a 50% casualty rate. He once worked with a Jewish man who bore the tattooed number given him in a concentration camp.

How have Americans overcome so many odds for the past 249 years, starting with our Declaration of Independence in 1776 and our defeat of the British in 1783?

How did we face bears, mountain lions and other wild animals, as well as attacks from Native Americans during our push west to settle the frontier (we'll save the moral issues for another time)?

How do we as Americans avoid a dictator taking control of our government?

We need only look at history for the answers: both our history and those of other nations.

Historian Keith Stanglin in a Newsweek article noted that James Madison observed (in one of the Federalist Papers): tyrannical governments “are afraid to trust the people with arms.”

Mao Zedong, Stalin, Lenin, Hitler, Pol Pot, Castro and Chavez all launched their murderous dictatorships with the same plan: disarming their people. Unarmed people are powerless to fight tyranny, which is why our Founding Fathers were so insistent on including the Second Amendment in the Bill of Rights. The right to keep and bear arms has nothing to do with hunting and everything to do with letting the citizens themselves retain their power to self-govern.

From the Brown Bess flintlock muskets of the Revolutionary War and the single-shot and lever-

action rifles and shotguns of the western settlement to the bolt-action rifles of World War I and the semi-automatics and machine guns of World War II, America has fought for freedom with firearms at every turn.

There are some who ask for “just one more gun law,” or “common-sense gun control.” Criminals by definition do not obey laws, and that includes gun laws. Our military firearms built for rugged reliability and accuracy are the tools that typically find civilian favor, and for good reason. The U.S. Supreme Court in 2008 found that guns “in popular use” by citizens in District of Columbia vs. Heller. That certainly includes the Colt 1911 pistol and AR-15 rifle designs now made and sold by dozens of companies.

Those of us old enough to have lived through wars or who had relatives in the trenches owe it to our children and grandchildren to share these stories. Those who have lived under socialist, communist or fascist regimes who now live in America legally need to share their stories, too.

On this Fourth of July, we owe a debt of gratitude to our wise forefathers, our Armed Forces and the firearms of freedom that still keep us free. God bless America.

Ross Bielema is a freelance writer from New London and owner of Wolf River Concealed Carry LLC. Contact him at Ross@wolfriverccw.com.

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Hofa Park tops Shawano in Dairyland

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

June 29
Hofa Park 7, Shawano

Shawano took an early lead in the top of the first inning on Tom Keszo's sacrifice fly in Dairyland League action.

Hofa Park took a 2-1 lead in the second on a triple from Brett Ellestad and RBI singles from Ethan Volz and Peyton Dorn.

The Lobos used a Hofa Park error and Keszo's single to tie the game in the next inning.

Hofa Park regained the lead in the bottom of the fourth on an RBI single from Mason Dorn.

The Panthers later added three insurance runs.

Ellestad gave up five hits and three runs over seven innings to get the win on the mound, while Kasey Kristof took the loss for Shawano. He allowed four runs on nine hits and struck out three batters.

Dorn, Volz and Brinton Anderson each had two of Hofa Park's 12 hits. Dorn and Ellestad each drove in two runs, and Volz stole a pair of bases.

Keszo led the Lobos with two hits and drove in two of his team's three runs.

Hortonville 4, Nichols 3

The Nitros took an early lead in the top of the first inning in Hortonville on a home run from Will Debrune.

The Stars took a 3-2 lead in the next inning after Ty Dreier's two-run double and an RBI single



Navarino first baseman Ethan Bemowski slaps a late tag on Waupaca's Alex Pankratz during a Dairyland League game in Waupaca on June 29.

GREG SEUBERT

from David Sell.

Debrune grounded into a double play in the third inning, which drove in a run and tied the game.

Dreier's RBI single in the fourth turned out to be the game-winning hit.

Chris Atwood picked up the win after allowing four hits and three runs over six innings. Javon Leisgang took the loss for Nichols. He gave up four runs on eight hits over six innings.

Debrune led the Nitros with two RBIs, while Tony Dietzen, Justin Krull, Leisgang and Jace Midbon each added a hit.

Dreier, Maikol Gonzales and Brett Kramer led the Stars at the plate with two hits each.

Marinette at Bonduel

Bonduel held a 3-1 lead over the Redbirds when the game was suspended

in the middle of the fourth inning.

The game will resume at 7:15 p.m. on July 16 in Bonduel.

Cecil at Pulaski

The game between the Reds and Mudhens was suspended due to rain in the third inning with the score tied 1-1.

The game was scheduled resume at 7 p.m. July 2 in Pulaski.

Navarino at Waupaca

No results reported.

June 28

Navarino 12, Nichols 2

Navarino picked up its second Dairyland win of the season by handing the Nitros a 10-run loss.

Kyle Mrozinski opened the scoring for the Rangers with a sacrifice fly that scored Mason Dingeldein in the first inning.

Nichols came up with

two runs in the first to take a one-run lead but never scored again.

Navarino regained the lead in the top of the fourth on Brett Krull's grand slam. Dawson Schmidt led off Navarino's half of the seventh with a single and later scored on an Ethan Bemowski single.

The Rangers loaded the bases in the eighth inning and scored three runs before adding three more in the ninth on a fielder's choice from Marcus Jens and Nick Dagneau's two-run single.

Spencer Dauphinee struck out seven batters and gave up six hits over five innings to get the win on the mound, while Owen Weber worked the final four innings to pick up a save.

Krull led the rangers



Mason Dingeldein has a lead at first base in the top of the first inning of Navarino's Dairyland League game in Waupaca on June 29.

GREG SEUBERT

at the plate with three hits and four RBIs, while Bemowski and James Mutchie added two hits each. Bemowski also drove in three runs.

June 27

Waupaca 12 Bonduel 2 (7 inn.)

The Lakemen improved to 10-0 in league play with a win on the Broncos' home field.

Waupaca outit the Broncos 18-4. Jack Reinke took the loss on the mound, giving up six runs in three innings.

Bonduel fell to 6-3 in the league standings with

the loss.

Hortonville at Shawano

No results reported.

Upcoming schedule

July 2: Bonduel at Navarino, 7 p.m. (makeup game)

July 6 (all games 1:30 p.m.): Hofa Park at Navarino; Waupaca at Cecil; Pulaski at Bonduel; Marinette at Nichols; Shawano and Hortonville have byes.

Standings (as of June 23): Waupaca (9-0); Pulaski (7-2); Hortonville (7-3); Bonduel (6-2); Hofa Park (6-4); Cecil (4-6); Shawano (3-5); Navarino (1-6); Nichols (1-7); Marinette (1-8).

Neopit, Shawano score 34 runs in BABA matchup

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

East/West Division

June 29

Neopit 18, Shawano 16

The Chiefs and Lakers combined for 34 runs, with Neopit getting the win.

Mequon Frechette led Neopit with five hits and four RBIs, and Wendell Waukau added three hits.

Arkin Verhein had four hits to lead the Lakers at the plate, while Noah Jones and Garritt Kadonksy added two each.

Jamison Beasaw picked up the win, and Verhein took the loss.

Marion 10, Menominee 9

Nick Schoen had three hits, including two doubles, to help lead the Meisters to a win over the Indians.

Hayden Miller and Blake Weatherwax added two hits for Marion, and Joe Weyenberg picked up the win on the mound.

Mitch Vanderwall and Jordan Johnson led Menominee with three hits each.

Ray Lemieux Jr. took the loss for the Indians.

Tigerton 11, Crandon 4

The Tigers headed north to Crandon and returned home with a win over the Kentucks.

Connor Harris and Eric Kroening hit home runs for Tigerton, while Austin Hoffman and Dylan Berg led the team with two hits each.

Matty Schallhorn and Braden Brauer led the Kentucks with two hits.

Hayden Harris got the win on the mound, and Curtis Paschen took the loss.

Clintonville vs. Gresham

Gresham's game at Clintonville was called due to rain in the middle of the first inning.

Little Falls vs. Tilleda

Little Falls was sched-

uled to host Tilleda for a doubleheader, but both games ended up getting rained out.

June 27

Clintonville 24, Shawano 7

Clintonville defeated the Lakers in a makeup game in Shawano.

Caroline 9, Leopoldis 6

Caroline scored six runs in the eighth inning in a win over the Bulldogs.

Jared Cartwright had two of Caroline's six hits, while Ryan Malueg had three of the Bulldogs' 10 hits. Nate Laude added two hits for Leopoldis.

Justin Reminger picked up the win and Anderson Schmidt took the loss.

North Division

June 29

Elderon 7, Aniwa 2

Kaleb Schulist went the distance on the mound for the WhiskeyJacks in a win over the Orioles.

Justin Meronk led Elderon with three hits, including a home run, while

Ian Zeinert added two hits and also had a homer.

Ryan Govek had a double for Aniwa.

Kody Szews took the loss for the Orioles.

Eland 11, Hatley 4

The Engineers picked up a road win over the Braves.

Ryan Richter had three hits, including two doubles, to lead Eland at the plate. Peyton Flees, Jarod Richter, Jacob Ligenza and Joe Buss added two hits apiece as the Engineers had 13 hits in the game.

Hayden Davidowski had three of Hatley's eight hits.

Tyler Nelson picked up the win on the mound, and Braxton Olson took the loss.

Birnamwood 13, Antigo/Polar 9

Winning pitcher Logan Thiex led the Kings with four hits, while Connor Meverden hit a home run and added two hits.

Mike Prebiski homered

and had three of Antigo/Polar's 12 hits, while Ben Robrecht, Will Kubeny and AJ Kirsch added two hits each.

Reed Kuenzli took the loss on the mound.

South-Central Division

June 29

New London 6, Plover 0 (6 inn.)

Ethan Hertzfeldt held Plover to two hits in a six-inning game shortened by rain.

Andrew Parker led the Irish with three hits, while Hertzfeldt, Dylan Moeller and Tyler Gerrits added two each.

Kaden Thauer and Josh Marcione had a hit for Plover and Zack Hintz took the loss.

June 27

Scandinavia, 22, Weymont 1

The Vikings had no problems knocking off the White Bass in Weyauwega.

Braden Hunkins had a

big night at the plate for Scandinavia with a pair of home runs and six RBIs. Ben Lee added three hits and five RBIs and scored twice, while Landon Moe had a pair of hits and scored three runs.

Tyler Wetzels drove in Weymont's run and had a hit, along with teammates Luke Schwenn and Kolden Baehman.

Cyle Zblewski picked up the win, and Schwenn took the loss.

Upcoming Schedule East/West Division

July 6: No games scheduled.

North Division

July 3: Elderon at Wittenberg, 7 p.m. (makeup game)

July 6 (all games 1:30 p.m.): Hatley at Aniwa; Birnamwood at Wittenberg; Eland at Antigo/Polar; Elderon has bye.

South-Central Division

July 6: No games scheduled.

Rindt wins sport mods feature race in Shawano

Shawano's Tommy Rindt moved up from sixth place to win the checkered flag in the sports modified division at the Shawano Speedway on June 28.

In doing so, he topped AJ Springborn, of Shawano, who placed second, and Cole Slezewski, of Pulaski, who placed third.

Springborn won the first heat race in the division, and Tanner Pari, of Clintonville, won the second heat.

Rindt also took second in a two-car late model feature race, losing to Andy

Karl, of Mosinee. Karl also won the two-car heat race.

In the stock car 20-lap feature, it was Vern Stedjee, of Shiocton, moving up from fourth to first, as he defeated Mark Eswein, of Wisconsin Rapids, who placed second, and Mitch Stankowski, of Wausau, who was third.

The three heat winners were Devin Snellenberger, of Pulaski, Stankowski and Kyle Frederick, of Oconto Falls.

Tanner Westphal, of Clintonville, captured first place in the Mighty 4's.

Shawano's Scott Blanke placed second, followed by Justin Haufe, of Marion, in third.

Shawano's Dalton Nelson won the first heat, and Marion's Shayne Collar won the second heat.

The 20-lap modifieds feature race was won by Konnor Wilinski, of Seymour. Clintonville's Lucas Lamberies was second, and Wausau's Kevin Feck was third.

Wilinski also won the first heat race, and New London's Tanner Janke won the second heat race.



Tommy Rindt races around the Shawano Speedway on June 28 in pursuit of his third feature win of the season. Rindt moved up from a sixth-place start to earn the checkered flag in the sports modified division.

BACKCOUNTRY CAPTURES

Shawano's Swedberg wins latest Dirt Kings race

Brett Swedberg put it all on the line when he made a move to the outside of Nick Anvelink as they raced into turn three as they worked through the tail end of the field with just four laps to go in the crown jewel of the 2025 WABAM Dirt Kings Late Model Tour, The Diamond 47 at 141 Speedway on June 21.

Swedberg took the lead, with Anvelink trailing by .370 seconds. Swedberg had a clear track in front of him and maintained his lead and increase his advantage over Anvelink. Swedberg went on to

finish .632 seconds ahead of Anvelink, to secure his fourth WABAM Dirt Kings Late Model Tour victory in The Diamond 47.

Swedberg was crowned king in BMRE Electrick Carts Victory Lane, taking home a check for \$4,700 and adding his name of the list of The Diamond winners.

The first 43 laps of The Diamond 47 were all Anvelink, who was the Ken's Sports Pole Sitter after winning his heat race and drawing the pole for the race.

Anvelink took the lead from the start while Troy

Springborn and Swedberg battled for second, with Springborn challenging Anvelink for the lead on lap three, after caution slowed the field. Anvelink maintained his lead, stretching out 2.365 seconds over Springborn, who continued to battle with Swedberg and Joel Bennett for second.

Caution slowed the field on lap 12 for debris, allowing Swedberg to move to second on the restart. Swedberg followed Anvelink, holding off challenges from Taylor Scheffler over the course of a couple of restarts,

before finally getting a long green flag run with 18 laps to go.

Anvelink maintained his advantage and with a clear track ahead of him, stretched out his lead over Swedberg and the real battle was for third with Springborn, Scheffler and Gunner Frank and three wide racing throughout the field.

With 10 laps to go, Swedberg started to close in on Anvelink as they approached the tail end of the field. Anvelink preferred the inside of the track, while Swedberg ran the outside. With the tail

end of the field racing for position, Anvelink and Swedberg maintained their respective lines and with four laps to go, Swedberg made his move, the Autoworx Clean Move of the Race, to win The Diamond 47.

Anvelink finished second, followed by Frank, Scheffler and Springborn. Justin Ritchie finished sixth followed by Cole Czarneski, who earned an additional \$107, sponsored by Larry McReds, Diamond Jim Letizia's longtime crew chief, Brad Mueller, Mike Mullen and Jake Redetzke.

Through four races, Scheffler leads with 178 points, followed by Swedberg in second with 162, Mueller in third with 156 points, Mitch McGrath in fourth with 148 points and Springborn in fifth with 146 points.

Next up is the King at the Park race at Angell Park Speedway in Sun Prairie on Aug. 10.

Brett Swedberg was crowned king in BMRE Electrick Carts Victory Lane following the WABAM Dirt Kings Late Model Tour The Diamond 47 at 141 Speedway on June 21.

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Membership milestone

Gillett Lions Club recently honored Everett Carlson, right, with a 55-year membership award. This is a distinction no other Gillett member has achieved. Presenting his award was Club President Jerry Luther.

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Lena library to host sloth program

The Lena Public Library will play host to Stella, a Linnaeus's two-toed sloth, as part of the library's summer reading program, "Color Our World," at 1 p.m. July 24 at Lena High School, 304 E. Main St.

This 90-minute program will offer attendees an opportunity to meet Stella up close and learn about these creatures. Following the presentation, there will be a meet-and-greet with Stella, allowing participants to interact with her and ask questions.

Stella was born and bred in the United States by a veterinarian with more than 30 years of experience in breeding sloths for zoos and educational facilities. She is very bonded to her handler, ensuring a safe and engaging experience for all attendees. The program aims to educate the community about sloths and their conservation, highlighting the importance of protecting these animals in the wild.

In addition to the sloth experience, there will be tables set up in the gym entry area for registration, donations and library card sign-ups.

The Lena Public Library supports The Sloth Conservation Foundation, aiding sloth rescue, research and rehabilitation. Attendees are encouraged to follow Stella's adventures on Instagram @stella_the_sloth_ and consider donating to support sloth conservation efforts.

This event is free to the public as part of the Lena Public Library summer reading program.

Legals
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Legals
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07/04/25, 07/18/25
Notice of the City of Oconto Falls
Open Book & Board of Review

STATE OF WISCONSIN CITY OF OCONTO FALLS COUNTY OF OCONTO

NOTICE OF OPEN BOOK FOR ASSESSMENT ROLL EXAMINATION

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to s. 70.45, Wis. Stats., the assessment roll for the Year 2024 assessment will be open for examination on **Wednesday, the 30th day of July, 2025** at the City Municipal Building, 500 North Chestnut Ave from **1:00 PM until 5:00 PM** and **Thursday, the 31st day of July, 2025** at the City Municipal Building, 500 North Chestnut Ave. from **3:00pm until 7:00pm. If property owners have questions regarding the valuation of their real estate or personal property and are unable to attend Open Book examination date, you are encouraged to contact Accurate Assessing, accurateassessor.com or (920-749-8098) prior to this date to discuss any concerns.**

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review (from here on referred to as BOR or board) for the City of Oconto Falls shall meet on **Thursday, September 4, 2025 from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm** at the City Municipal Building, 500 North Chestnut Ave to hear objections from property owners who follow requirements pursuant to s.70.47(7), Wis. Stats.

Please be advised of the following requirements:

• Sec.70.47(7)(aa), Wis.Stats., provides that the BOR may deny a hearing to a property owner who does not allow the assessor to complete an exterior view.

• After the first BOR meeting and before the BOR's final adjournment, no person who is scheduled to appear before the BOR may contact, or provide information to, a member of the BOR about that person's objection except at a BOR session.

• No person may appear before the BOR, testify to the BOR by phone or contest the amount of any assessment unless, at least 48 hours before the first meeting of the BOR or at least 48 hours before the objection is heard if the objection is allowed under sub.(3) (a), that person provides to the BOR clerk a notice as to whether the person will ask for removal under sub.(6m) and if so which member will be removed and the person's reasonable estimate of the length of time that the hearing will take.

• When appearing before the BOR, the person must specify in writing, his or her estimate of the land value and improvements that he or she is objecting and the person must specify the information that he or she used to arrive at that estimate.

• No person may appear before the BOR, testify to the BOR by phone or object to a valuation; if the assessor or objector made the valuation using the income method; unless the person supplies the assessor with all the information about income and expenses, as specified in the manual under state law (sec.73.03(2a), Wis.Stats.), that the assessor requests. The municipality or county must provide by ordinance for the confidentiality of information about income and expenses provided to the assessor under this paragraph and provide exceptions for persons using the information in the discharge of duties imposed by law or of the duties of their office or by order of a court. The information that is provided under this paragraph, unless a court determines that it is inaccurate, is not subject to the right of inspection and copying under state law (sec.19.35(1), Wis.Stats.).

Respectfully submitted, City of Oconto Falls Deputy Clerk Jenny Friedman

WNAXLP

07/04, 11, 18, 25 /2025

HELP WANTED!

Chief of Police

Village of Suring, Wisconsin

The Village of Suring is seeking a Full-Time Chief of Police. See Village of Suring website at <https://ci.suring.wi.us/employment-opportunities/> for details. Candidates should apply by submitting the following: completed dj-le300 application, resume and cover letter to: Clerk-Treasurer, P.O. Box 31, Suring, WI 54174. Posting will be open until filled.

Date Posted at Village Hall and on website 6/20/2025.

WNAXLP

07/04/2025, 04/11/2025

TOWN OF BAGLEY

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

Pursuant to Sec. 70.45 of the Wisconsin State statutes, notice is hereby given that the Town of Bagley will hold the **2025 BOARD OF REVIEW** for the Town of Bagley, Oconto County on **WEDNESDAY, JULY 16th, 2025** from **6:00 PM to 8:00 PM** at the Bagley Town Hall, 9812 County Hwy Z, Pound, WI. 54161

You must file a objection form to be heard by the Board of Review. Please contact the clerk at 920-590-0198 for an appointment or the town assessor, R & R Assessing, for more information.

The Town of Bagley's assessor is R & R Assessing services 920-846-4250

Respectfully Submitted
Alan Sleeter, Clerk
Town of Bagley

WNAXLP

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The deadline is Noon, Friday, July 25, 2025. No "on the map" Ads Will Be Accepted After This Date.

OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD

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06/27/25, 07/04/25, 07/11/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT OCONTO COUNTY
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA
Plaintiff,
vs.
JACQUELINE R PECHA
Defendant

AMENDED SUMMONS
Case No. 25CV000067

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
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You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action. Within Forty (40) days after June 27, 2025, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is: CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, OCONTO COUNTY, 301 WASHINGTON ST, OCONTO WI 54153-1699 and the Kohn Law Firm, Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 735 N. Water St., Suite 1300, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you. If no Complaint accompanies this Summons you must respond within the said 40 day period with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiff's attorneys at their respective addresses listed above. If you do not provide a proper answer to the Complaint or provide a written demand for said complaint within the 40 day period, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin June 16, 2025.

KOHN LAW FIRM S.C.
ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED BY:
/S/JOHN H. DANNER IV
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Attorney for Plaintiff
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Bellatoria Ultra Thin Pizza



2/\$11

Asst Variety
12.76-21.71oz

Tostitos or Ruffles



2/\$8

Asst Variety
5.5-13oz

Gerber Amish Whole Frying Chickens



\$2.49
lb

Klement's Summer Sausage

\$8.99

26-32oz
Original,
Garlic, Beef

USDA Choice Boneless Center-Cut Chuck Steaks or Roasts



\$6.59
lb

Fully Cooked Sea Farer Imitation Crab Meat

\$3.49

16oz
Chunks or
Flakes

Assorted Family Pack Pork Chops



\$2.29
lb

Food Club Peanut Butter

\$2.99

28oz
Creamy or
Crunchy

Food Club Grape Jelly

\$2.49

32oz

Bulk Russet Baking Potatoes



59¢
lb

Local Red Radishes



\$1.99
1lb Bag

Super Select Cucumbers



69¢
each

Lemons



69¢
each

Red Delicious Apples



99¢
lb

Fiora 12 Roll Bath Tissue or 6 Roll Paper Toweling



\$4.99

Asst Variety

Crav'n Popcorn



2/\$3

5-6.75oz
Salted or White Cheddar

Food Club Baked Beans



\$1.99

Asst Variety
28oz

Prairie Farms Cottage Cheese



\$2.99

Asst Variety
24oz

Food Club 12ct String Cheese



\$2.99

12oz

Food Club Bar Cheese



2/\$4

Asst Variety
8oz

Folgers K-Cups



\$6.99

Asst Variety
10ct

General Mills Assorted Cereal



2/\$6

8.9-12oz

Yoplait Yogurt



59¢

Asst Variety
4-6oz

Drumstick 4pk Cones



\$4.29

Asst Variety

FREEDOM FLASH SALE

Celebrate Your Freedom With a New
FREEDOM INDEPENDENCE PELLET STOVE

INDEPENDENCE PS21
VINTAGE EDITION



INDEPENDENCE PS21



FREEDOM FROM ELECTRICITY!
POWER FAILURE? NO PROBLEM!*



LET FREEDOM BRING ON THE SAVINGS!

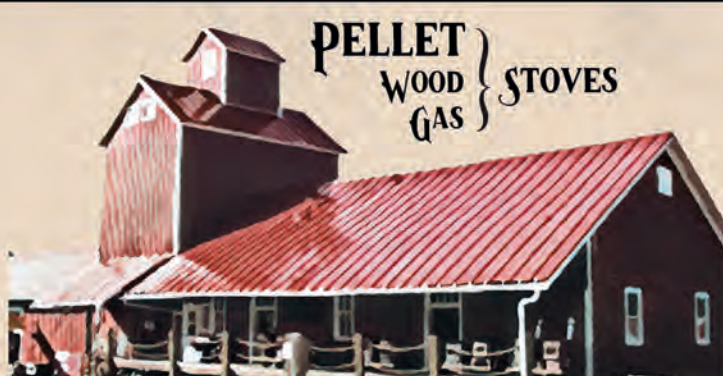
\$300 OFF
NEW STOVE PURCHASE!*
EXPIRES 7/31/2025

VENT ALLOWANCE
\$300 VALUE!*
WITH NEW STOVE PURCHASE*
EXPIRES 7/31/2025

1/2 TON PELLETS
FREE!*
WITH NEW STOVE PURCHASE*
EXPIRES 7/31/2025

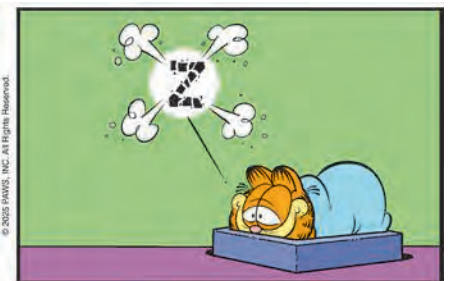
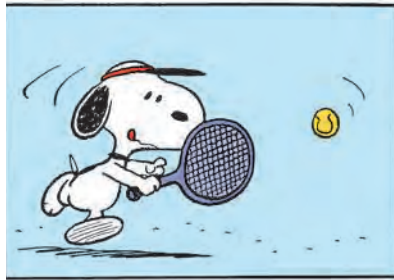
NO CHIMNEY REQUIRED W/PELLET STOVE* SAVE UP TO 60% ON HEATING* EZ PAYMENTS -AS LOW AS \$2/DAY!* 0% INTEREST*

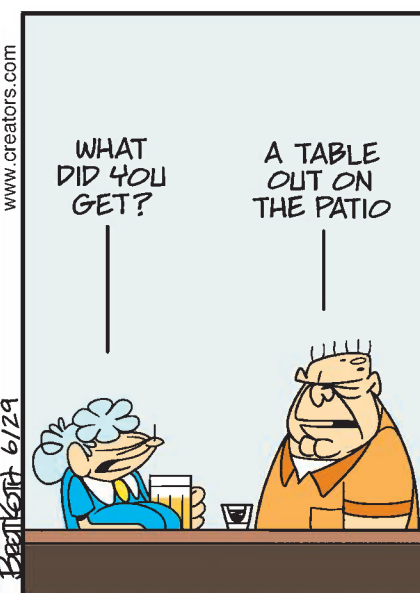
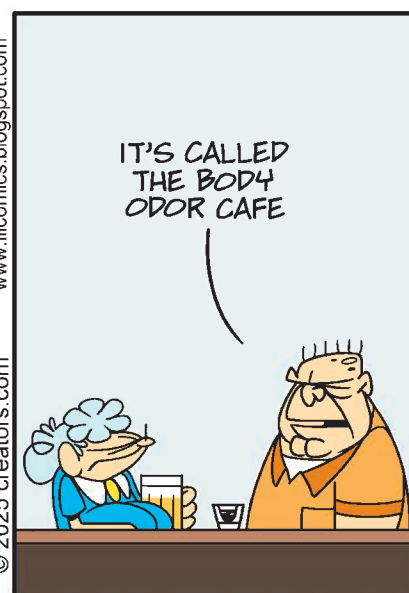
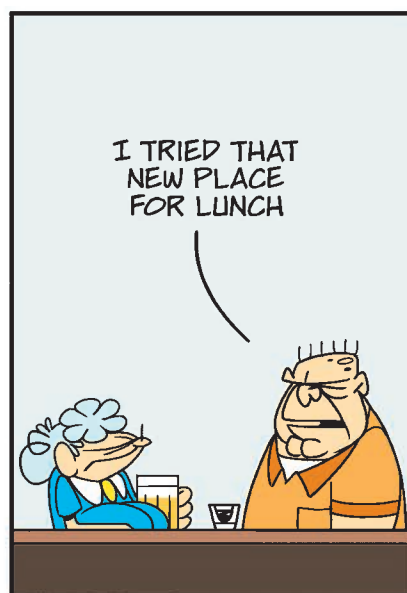
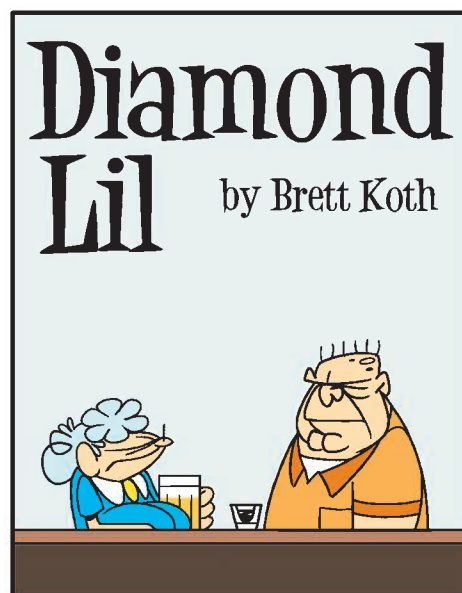
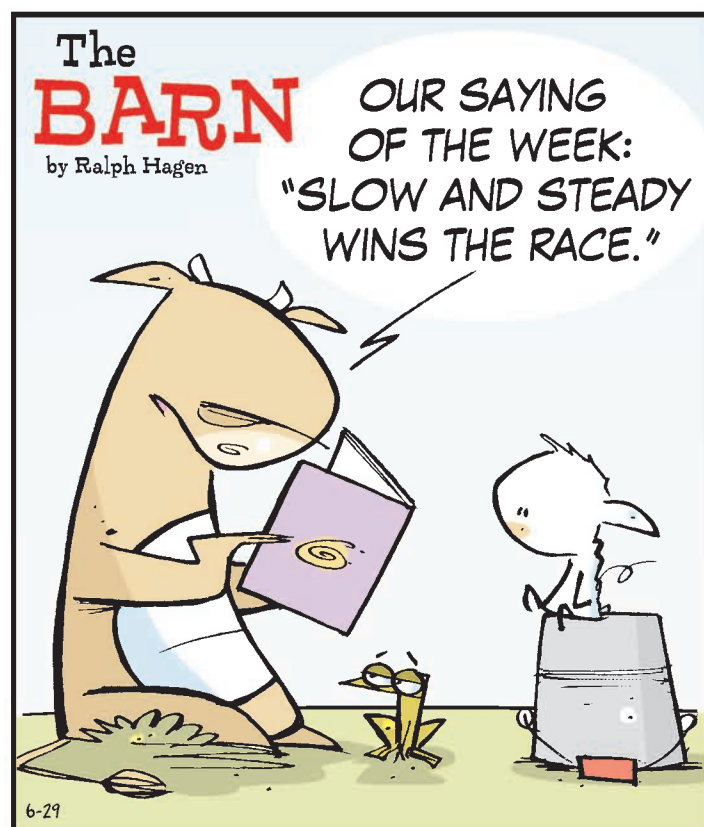
SAVE UP TO \$2000*
ON MOST PELLET & WOOD STOVES WITH THE FEDERAL TAX CREDIT*



DALE . GREEN BAY . JUNCTION CITY 920.779.6647 PELLETHEAD.COM

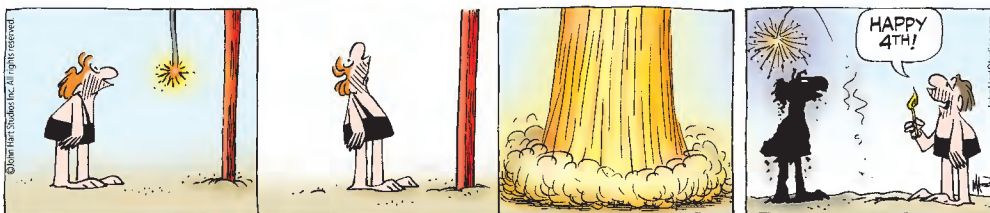
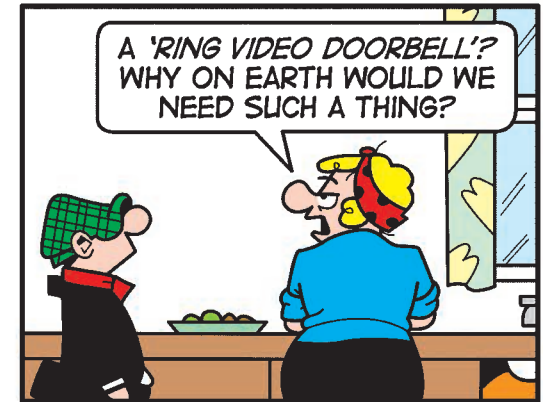
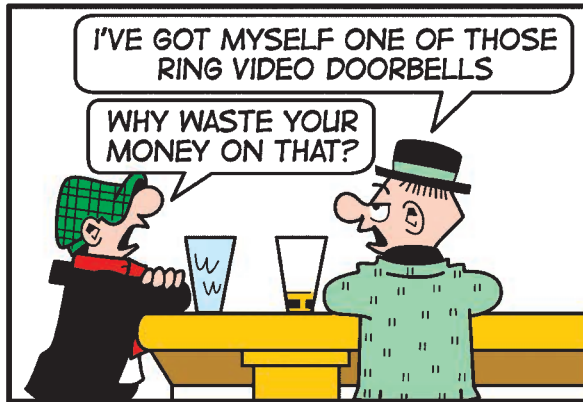
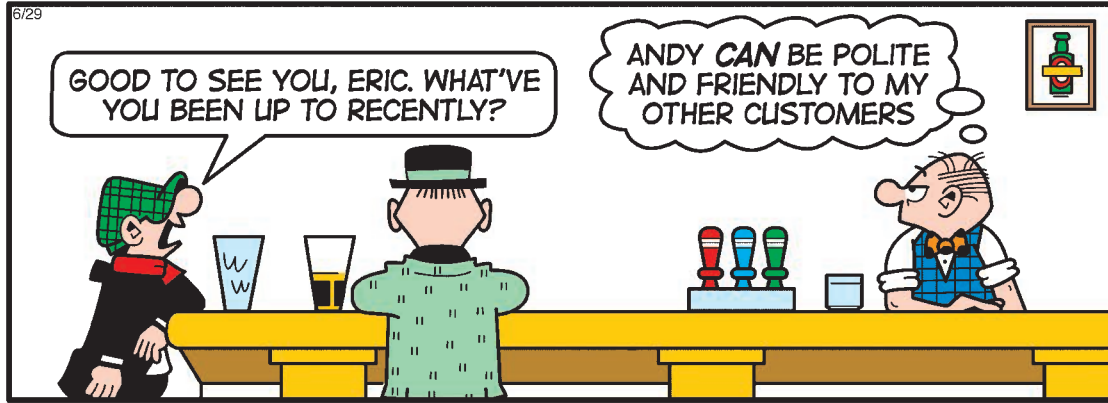
*WITH APPROVED CREDIT. *DISCOUNTCOUPONS OFFERED CAN NOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER SALES OR DISCOUNTS ON SELECT STOVE PURCHASES* *30% TAX CREDIT APPLIES TO SELECT PELLET AND WOOD STOVES ONLY. PLEASE SEE SALES ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS.





ANDY CAPP

by Smythe



DOGS OF C-KENNEL BY MICK MASTROIANNI AND MASON MASTROIANNI

