



Linda Cannon plays the harp during a fundraiser held Feb. 21 at the Little White Chapel. The fundraiser is expected to help the Wittenberg Area Historical Society build a new museum adjacent to its existing facility.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Wittenberg's history no longer fits in schoolhouse

Historical society hopes to raise \$300-\$500K for new museum

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

History is always expanding, and for the Wittenberg Area Historical Society, that poses a problem with its current building.

The historical society made a formal announcement Feb. 21 that it planned to build a new building next to the existing 1904 one-room German Lutheran parochial schoolhouse, allowing it to showcase more of the memorabilia that makes Wittenberg and surrounding communities unique. According to member John Powers, the building is estimated to cost between \$300,000 and \$500,000, and the society hopes to start it within the next three years.

Powers told a packed house at a fundraiser at the Little White Chapel that he sees the new museum building as the historical society's way of "moving into the



This rendering shows the current one-room schoolhouse that serves as the Wittenberg Museum on the left, and the proposed new building on the right.

CONTRIBUTED

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INSIDE

County wheel tax gets resounding "no" from the public.

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Residents firmly opposed to wheel tax

Claim property tax assessment would be more fair

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

About 100 residents packed the meeting room at the Shawano County Courthouse on Feb. 20 to hear the reason behind a proposed wheel tax and to voice their opposition to that proposal.

Instead, by an informal show of hands, the vast majority of those present said they favored an addition to their property tax bill to pay for county expenses.

Supervisors are considering a proposed \$20 annual wheel tax to raise about \$747,000 each year. While the money would be earmarked for roads and bridges, Board Chairman Tom Kautza said it is a “shell game” set up by the state.

While the new funds would be spent on roads and bridges, they would not necessarily be in addition to tax levy dollars already spent on roads and bridges. Because all county departments are pressed, tax dollars normally allocated to the highway department for roads and bridges would most likely be shifted to other departments.

By state law, the wheel tax cannot be assessed on farm vehicles, motorcycles, ATVs and UTVs, Amish horse and buggies, or any vehicle weighing more than 8,000 pounds. Kautza and Jim Davel, administrative coordinator, said anyone who wants that changed has to convince the legislature



Jon Zuiches questions Shawano County officials about the need for a wheel tax during an informational meeting Feb. 20. About 100 residents packed the meeting room at the county courthouse. Many said they would prefer the county increase their property tax levy rather than create a wheel tax.

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and governor.

The wheel tax was proposed to help spread the fee across those who most often use the roads and bridges.

This year, the county, after slashing budgets for all departments, opted to borrow \$2 million to balance the budget. Again, playing the state’s shell game, the money was for roads and bridges so other existing funds could be shared among other

departments.

The borrowed funds plus about \$13,000 in interest was paid back in a matter of weeks. The debt and its interest were then added to the levy for all property taxpayers to share in paying for.

This is what many at the meeting said the county should do if it needs to balance the budget.

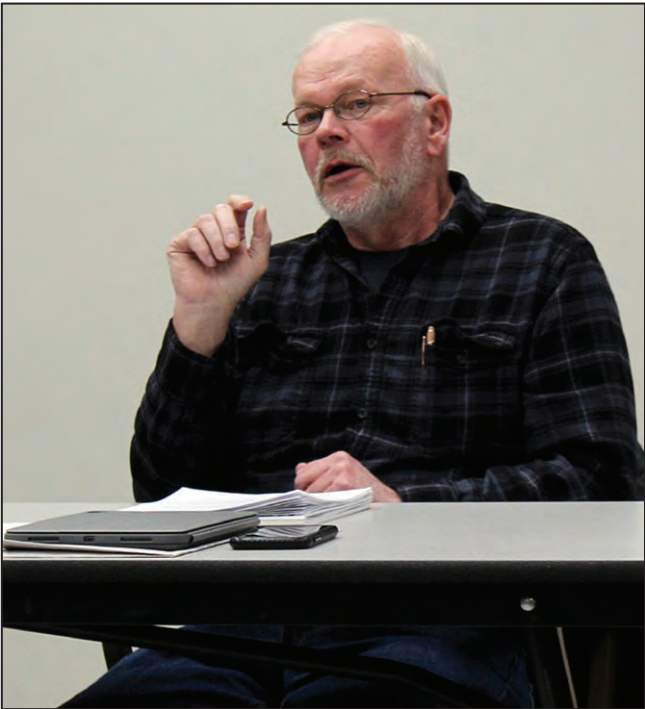
Others suggested placing the wheel tax pro-

posal on the ballot as a referendum.

“Put it to a vote! You work for us!” one unidentified man shouted. “Put it to a vote for us to vote on! That’s what you do. We’ll decide what you do.”

Officials pointed out the cost of such a referendum would be equal to the money the tax would raise in one year.

“I’d much rather pay for that when we get a



Shawano County Board Chairman Tom Kautza said there simply isn’t enough money to go around to pay for the annual county expenses, which is why supervisors are considering an annual wheel tax. He reiterated there are many exemptions to which vehicles can be taxed, noting that a change in state law would be needed to tax farm equipment, motorcycles, ATVs and UTVs, the Amish horses and buggies, and trucks weighing more than 8,000 pounds.

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vote!” the man responded. “How did we get in this predicament in the first place? Who overspent the checkbook?”

Highway Commissioner Grant Bystol explained the \$2 million shortfall by noting the human services department lost \$800,000 in grants, cybersecurity issues, tens of thousands in additional funds needed to feed the jail inmates due to increased food costs, and more.

“There’s simply not enough for the whole big picture,” Kautza said.

“We’ll squeeze the lemon as hard as we can,” Davel added.

Another unidentified man asked if the \$747,000 would be enough to meet the county’s needs, or if

more or less was needed each year.

“This feels like an easy grab at money,” he said. “Have you exhausted every other opportunity to look for money?”

Kautza said the county board needs to look several years down the road when it considers budgets and tax levies.

“We can’t predict the future,” he said.

Davel said the borrowing, wheel tax and referendum options would all options for supervisors to consider.

The board was scheduled to meet Feb. 26. The proposed wheel tax was on that agenda, after being tabled from the January meeting.

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Even one drink can trigger atrial fibrillation

Atrial fibrillation (AFib) is the most common heart rhythm disorder, affecting millions of people. While many factors can contribute to AFib episodes, research shows that alcohol is a significant trigger – even in small amounts. Studies indicate that consuming just one drink can increase the likelihood of an AFib episode, sometimes doubling the risk within hours.

“AFib occurs when the upper chambers of



JOHN
JOHNKOSKI

early death,” said Dr. John Johnkoski, cardiothoracic surgeon at Aspirus Heart Care. “Alcohol creates a chemical environment in the heart that makes AFib more likely, and

the heart, the atria, quiver instead of contracting properly, which can lead to heart failure, stroke and even

studies show there really is no safe level of alcohol for people with this condition.”

For those already diagnosed with AFib, alcohol can prolong episodes, interfere with medications and increase the risk of stroke and heart failure. Over time, continued alcohol consumption can weaken the heart and contribute to more persistent forms of AFib.

“We used to think alcohol only caused heart problems with exces-

sive drinking, but now we know that even small amounts can negatively impact AFib,” Johnkoski said. “Avoiding alcohol gives you the best chance of staying in rhythm, whether you’re managing it with medications, catheter-based therapies or surgery.”

While everyone’s AFib triggers may vary, Johnkoski stresses that quitting alcohol is the safest option.

“If someone is willing to stop drinking,

that’s fantastic. That’s a win,” he said. “If they’re hesitant, we might frame the conversation around testing whether alcohol is a trigger for them. But the reality is, studies show there’s no truly safe level of alcohol for people with AFib.”

The best way to maintain a stable heart rhythm is to avoid alcohol entirely. If you experience symptoms like a racing heart, palpitations or dizziness after drinking, stop immediately. If symptoms

persist or worsen, contact your doctor.

Aspirus Health encourages individuals with AFib or concerns about heart health to speak with their health care provider about strategies to manage their condition and reduce risk factors.

The Atrial Fibrillation Clinic at Aspirus Heart Care offers comprehensive care for patients with atrial arrhythmia. For referrals, scheduling or general questions, call 866-783-6266.

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HISTORY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

21st century.” This is a stark contrast to six years earlier, when the historical society was worried it might disband entirely.

“What we’re trying to do here is take an important step into Wittenberg’s future,” Powers said. “It’s a step that will honor the past and preserve the past. For over 50 years, the current museum in town has been the historical society’s focal point in efforts to preserve the artifacts, photographs, documents and life stories that have shaped the community for the last 150 years.”

The current building was operated as a school adjacent to St. Paul Lutheran Church until 1955. Powers said the historical society bought the building in 1972 to serve as the current museum.

“Grover Meisner, who was the president of the society at that time, stated the society would preserve that landmark building in its present state with a one-room school atmosphere,” Powers said.

In the years since, it has become clear that the one building cannot contain more than a century of life in Wittenberg within its walls, especially as issues with heating, plumbing and other infrastructure makes it even more difficult to run the facility as a museum. Currently, the museum is only open Sundays between Memorial Day and Labor Day.



People packed into the Little White Chapel on Feb. 21 to take part in a fundraiser for the Wittenberg Area Historical Society. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

“Those issues keep us from using the building year-round and cause problems in preserving documents,” Powers said. “The collections and displays have long outgrown the size of the building. It’s not handicapped-accessible, and any remodel we do to it would destroy the historical significance of the school.”

Powers said the historical society has spent more than two years looking at options where items can be displayed while also allow-

ing local residents to stop in and research their history. He even hopes that future generations would follow that trend and continue to keep history alive.

Under the proposed plan, the school remains part of the historical society’s complex. The new museum building, while chronicling Wittenberg’s history, would also serve as a gathering place, according to Powers.

“This space will allow us to expand our mission and make history more acces-

sible to everyone in the community,” he said.

Beth Koeppel, an architect with HGA Architects and Engineers, will design the project, Powers said.

“She has already demonstrated in our planning sessions that her work will reflect the heart and soul of the Wittenberg area in a space that looks toward the future,” Powers said, noting that Koeppel is offering her services pro bono.

Plans only work, however, if the historical society is able to come up with the money to pay for its construction.

“This project cannot and will not happen without you, the community,” Powers said. “This is not just about constructing a building. It’s about building a vision together — a vision of both the past and the future.”

Powers made it clear he wasn’t stumping just for people’s dollars. He also sought to get Wittenberg residents involved to volunteer and get the word out.

“We believe this is something every individual and family in Wittenberg can be proud to contribute,” Powers said. “We will be

hosting community meetings, sharing updates and keeping you involved every step of the way.”

The project would also construct a ramp for the schoolhouse to make it accessible for people in wheelchairs, according to Powers, and the building would mainly serve as a school display. That would only get folks into the main part of the school, he said, and not the basement, which he noted is difficult for most people to currently get into.

As for the new building, the historical society hopes to have both the main floor and basement area serve as display space, Powers said, with another ramp leading to the basement. He noted that there will also be space for volunteers to work.

“Right now, we’re doing it from home,” Powers said. “Every now and then, we have to go back into the building, which causes tingly fingers after about 10 minutes.”

Grants are something that the historical society is looking into, but it’s believed that those grants would come easier if the historical society shows there’s already some community money behind it.

“We’re just in the beginning of that process,” Powers said. “We know that there’s grant money out there. As to how we can access it and when, that’s something we need to work on.”

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John Powers with the Wittenberg Area Historical Society talks to a group of people Feb. 21 at the Little White Chapel, explaining the ongoing issues with its existing museum and how conditions are jeopardizing the preservation of local history. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



Jean Heimann, left, a visitor from Florida, gets a helping hand looking at some artifacts in June 2021 at the Wittenberg Historical Museum from Carla Strassburg, president of the Wittenberg Area Historical Society. The existing building is no longer suitable for preserving the history of Wittenberg. FILE | NEW MEDIA

ACP, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

career interests. The time can also be used to meet with the high school’s guidance counselor, Stephanie Gruber, to get assistance when applying to colleges.

Rogowski feels that the focus on seeking careers is worth the daily time set aside for students.

“A lot of them didn’t have a solid post-secondary plan that was geared toward their interests and aspirations,” Rogowski said. “So, I think one of the things we’re finding, and I’m seeing ... there’s a lot more targeted interests and efforts by our students to say, ‘These are the types of fields that I’m

interested in. What kind of courses and pathways do I need to take at WBHS to be successful and maybe lead me to a field of study or a post-secondary institution that supports my interests?”

Some of the students already shared their interests during parent-teacher conferences earlier in the school year via a Powerpoint presentation, according to Rogowski.

“That received the best turnout for the conferences,” he said.

In the two years that the district has been helping students develop ACPs, the data shows that those

students score higher on the ACT, a requirement for high school juniors.

“We found that students on the ACT exam that had career and post-secondary plans with a goal in mind and were taking courses leading toward those interests were scoring significantly higher on the ACT than those that had no plan whatsoever,” Rogowski said. “Part of this is about making sure they have a vision for their future or at least a target in mind.”

The ACP also makes use of the district’s youth apprenticeship program, which lines up students

with local businesses that can give them hands-on training for the careers they’re interested in. Over 60 WBHS students are enrolled in the program.

“That’s incredible for our size of school,” Rothmeyer said.

Another part of the plan involves the school district’s partnership with Northcentral Technical College to offer dual-credit courses, earning both high school and college credits. According to Rothmeyer, the past year has shown 539 college-credit courses taken by students.

The plan is not limited to

the high school, though, according to Rothmeyer. The plan also encourages career exploration to the elementary grades. She noted one such event included a trip for second grade students to the Plover Exploration Center, something that was developed entirely by students affiliated with the Wittenberg-Birnamwood FFA.

“Our second graders were able to explore food, farms and agriculture,” Rothmeyer said. “That was organized by our own students, so there were some leadership elements. That sort of stuff is happening as

well in our district.”

From a high school counselor’s perspective, Gruber thinks having a plan in place will make it easier for students to find their way in the world and know early on what they want to do.

“I think the thing that I like the most about it is that it gives the students time and space to focus on post-secondary planning and what they might be interested in,” Gruber said. “We can show them different career paths that they might not have thought of.”

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Kropf sexual assault case going to trial

Bowler man accused of explicit acts with 10-year-old girl

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

James Kropf will be rolling the dice with a jury trial after one of his attorneys reported Feb. 18 that there has no progress in reaching a settlement in his case.

Kropf was charged May 5, 2023, with second degree sexual assault of a child and incest with a child in relation to two incidents between September 2021 and April 2022 in Bowler.

Defense attorney Carly Krueger said she was looking for trial dates due to “defense logistics” of the case; she asked for the trial to be in July and expected it to last three days. The



James Kropf will be standing trial in August for a case involving alleged sexual assault and incest of a 10-year-old child.

one available three-day slot in July did not work for the defense, so Shawano-Menominee County Circuit Court Judge William Kussel Jr. set it for

Aug. 12-14, with a final pre-trial hearing set for 3:30 p.m. Aug. 5 in Branch II of the Shawano County Courthouse.

Kussel also granted the defense’s motion to allow Kropf to travel out of state Feb. 21-23 from Bowler to Seattle, Washington, as a current condition of his bond requires court approval before he can leave Wisconsin.

According to the criminal complaint, a Shawano County deputy received a call from Child Protective Services regarding a 10-year-old girl in Kropf’s care. CPS reported the girl told them that Kropf touched her in the swimsuit area. The girl lives with her mother and has visitation with Kropf on weekends.

In an interview with the girl’s mother, the mother was allegedly surprised

and unaware of the circumstances. She told law enforcement that visits with Kropf are from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and are supervised by Kropf’s mother.

In an interview with the child, the child said that Kropf touched her chest in an inappropriate manner. She stated that both of the instances took place at Kropf’s mother’s home. When wrestling on the ground, the child said that Kropf touched her chest over her clothes, and she told him to stop, which she also said Kropf mimicked. The child also described a similar situation for the second time it happened.

If convicted, Kropf faces up to \$100,000 in fines and up to 40 years in prison. He is out on a \$50,000 bond.

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Primary election narrows choice of candidates

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Results of the Feb. 18 primary election narrowed the list of candidates for the the Menominee Indian School District and the Menominee County Board

of Supervisors.

For the school district, residents cast ballots to narrow the candidates seeking the at-large seat. The top candidates — McKaylin Peters and Carrie Waukau-Grignon — will advance to the April 1 general election.

Unofficial vote totals show Peters with 104 votes, Waukau-Grignon with 65, Garry Pywasay with 55 and Miriam Waupoose with 25.

Waukau-Grignon picked up the two votes cast in the Town of Red Springs in Shawano County.

For the Ward 5 seat on the county board, Denise Gilane (92 votes) and Jamie Loudbear Wayka (39 votes) will advance. Douglas C. Cox received 17 votes.

A handful of voters in Shawano County were asked to cast their ballot for two Clintonville School District at-large members. Areas included in the district are part of the towns of Belle Plaine, Pella and Navarino.

Incumbent Mark Zachow will advance; he picked up 365 total votes, 35 in Shawano County. Challenger Christopher Hoffmann had 338 total votes, 20 in Shawano County. Incumbent Laurie Volrath had 332 total votes and 30 in Shawano County. Finally, David Battenberg will advance as he received 275 total votes, 28 in Shawano County.

Other candidates were Patrick K. Huss, 268 total, 18 Shawano County; Tanya Hepp-Netrefa, 136 total, 15 Shawano County; and Marie Vandenberg, 80 total, 11 Shawano County.

In the race for Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction, incumbent Jill Underly had the most votes and will face off against Brittany Kinser.

In Menominee County, Underly received 118 votes, Kinser had 64 and Jeff Wright had 63.

In Shawano County, Kinser collected 1,030 votes, Underly had 817, and Wright picked up 538.

Voter turnout in Shawano County was 9.23%, as 2,425 ballots were cast from among 26,272 registered voters. There were 19 registrations on Election Day.

Underly is currently serving her first term as state superintendent. Kinser is an advocate of the state’s private school voucher program and public charter schools.

Underly was first elected to head the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in 2021 with the support of Democrats and teachers unions.

She was endorsed by the Wisconsin Democratic

Party, which also has given her campaign \$106,000 this month, and a host of Democratic officeholders.

But the Wisconsin Education Association Council, the statewide teachers union, did not endorse a candidate in the primary. The political action committee for the union had recommended Wright be endorsed.

Kinser is backed by Republicans, including the state party, which has given her campaign \$200,000 so far.

Wisconsin is the only state where voters elect the top education official but there is no state board of education. That gives the person who runs the Department of Public Instruction broad authority to oversee education policy, which includes dispersing money to schools and managing teacher licensing.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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Italian homecoming leads to murder mystery

Between fighting a cold and attending jury duty, I opted for Adriana Licio's "An Italian Village Mystery Series." "Murder on the Road" was book one.

After years traveling, Giovanna Brando has returned to the charming seaside area known as Maratea. Gio hopes to recover from a disastrous relationship and restart her writing career. As expected, not much stays secret in Maratea.

Early one morning, Gio plans to run an errand in the next town. Summer wildfires and recent rains have caused a landslide to close the highway just outside of town, so travelers park on either side of the damage, walk across and either take the bus, a scooter or alternate means the rest of the way down the coast.

Soon one of Raimondo Rivello's construction companies will reconstruct the road and add barriers



Jan Jones
Columnist

to future landslides. Until then, the locals take it in stride.

This morning, Gio noticed Mrs. Rivello's big car parked beneath the landslide overhang, and there is a massive boulder on top of the car. Gio knows the driver is dead, and she assumes it is Mrs. Rivello. Mr. Rivello arrives and soon clarifies that the dead woman is his assistant, Elena.

When authorities check the hillside, they note that this was no accident. Gio's keen eye and endless curiosity put her in the middle of a murder investigation where everyone is a potential suspect.

Agnese owns a small perfumery in Maratea.

She has stayed put while her sister Gio traveled the world, yet they share a strong bond. Agnese has a knack for helping customers choose the right products. This one may need a lipstick that emboldens them to act. That one may need a scent that adds confidence and another may need a nudge to express his interest in an equally shy woman; Agnese finds a way to make all these things happen. Some say that she works magic, but Agnese just lets the customer's needs lead the way.

After the death of Elena, Gio and Agnese note that the head of the local police seems too focused on one scenario, so they join forces with local deputy Paolo to look at all possibilities. The three friends know that local gossip will glean for more information than any formal questioning.

With a bit of help from Granny, they learn that Elena was not well-liked

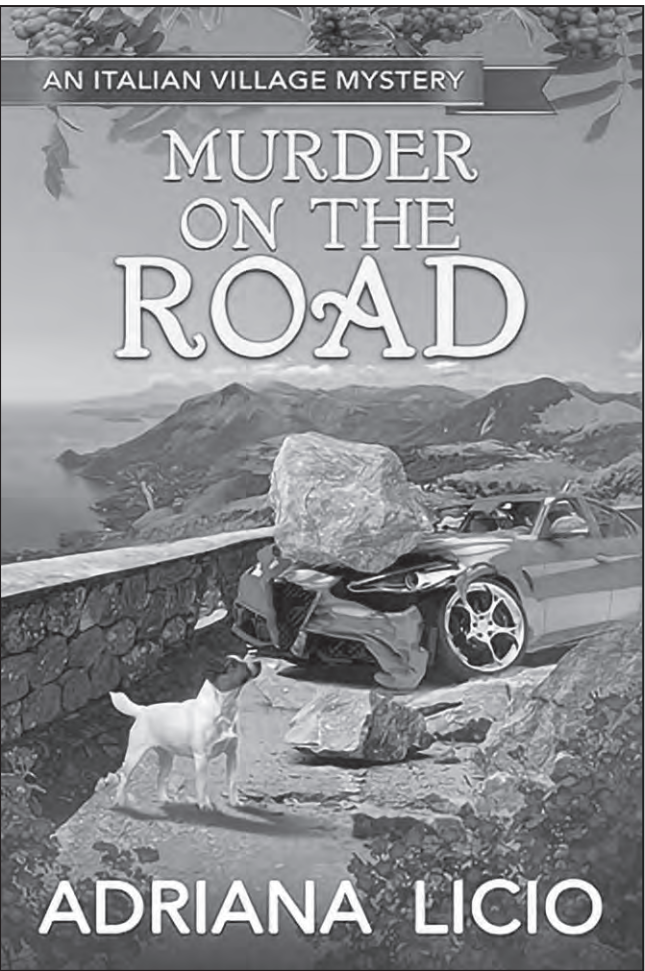
AT A GLANCE

BOOK: "Murder on the Road" (Italian Village Mysteries, Book 1)
AUTHOR: Kate P. Adams
PUBLISHER: The Home Travellers Press
YEAR PUBLISHED: 2019
NUMBER OF PAGES: 284

and could be cruel to other employees. Mrs. Rivello is a difficult boss who likes to use people's mistakes to control them. Andrea is a good architect, but she has something on him, too. Carlo is juggling several lovers.

When Gio tries to interview old Antonio, she discovers he is dead, too. As the police investigate, she finds a path from his property directly to where the boulder had been dislodged.

Things begin to fall into place, leading to a resolution to the mystery. In the end, little Maratea is safe once again and village life can carry on as it has for centuries.



COURT NEWS

• Alexis R. Webster, 27, a Green Bay woman serving time at Taycheedah Correctional Institution, pleaded no contest Feb. 18 to felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor charge of operating a motor vehicle without a valid license. Judge Katherine Sloma levied fines and other court assessments and sentenced her to 120 days in jail, time deemed served.

• Darrin F. Gaston, 52, Neenah, pleaded no contest Feb. 18 to possession of narcotic drugs and two counts of felony bail jumping. Judge William Kussel Jr. withheld sentencing and placed him on three years of probation with conditions.

• Vernon C. Bessette, 62, Tigerton, was charged with Feb. 17 with possession of methamphetamine and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Kussel set a \$1,000 signature bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 19, when Sloma bound him over and scheduled arraignment for Feb. 25.

• Alec G. Umland, 29, Shawano, was charged Feb. 17 with physical abuse of an elder person and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a \$2,000 signature bond and scheduled a status conference for April 14.

• April R. Sanapaw, 23, Sur-

ing, was charged Feb. 17 with four counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of possession of drug paraphernalia, disorderly conduct, and resisting or obstructing an officer. Kussel set a \$500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for March 3.

• Huber G. Mejia Escalante, 30, Mattoon, was charged Feb. 17 with possession of narcotic drugs, two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of operating while revoked and violating an ignition interlock device order. Kussel set a \$500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for April 9.

• Jaden J. Adkins, 19, Rice

Lake, was charged Feb. 18 with eight counts of felony bail jumping, three misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer, and a misdemeanor charge of carrying a concealed weapon. Kussel set a \$3,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 19, when Sloma set a status conference for March 18.

• Jasmaine A. Roehl, 18, Wittenberg, was charged Feb. 18 with 11 counts of felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a \$1,500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 19, when

Sloma bound her over and scheduled arraignment for Feb. 25.

• Joshua G. Pingel, 45, New London, was charged Feb. 18 with physical abuse of an elder person intentionally causing bodily harm and misdemeanor counts of battery and disorderly conduct. Kussel set a \$200 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for April 1.

• Christopher J. Ziemer, 43, Shawano, was charged Feb. 18 with substantial battery intending bodily harm, strangulation and suffocation, victim intimidation, six counts of felony bail jumping, two misdemeanor counts

of disorderly conduct and a misdemeanor count of battery. Kussel set a \$1,500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 24.

• Woody Nahquaddy, 39, Keshena, was charged Feb. 18 with six counts of felony bail jumping. Kussel set an initial appearance for March 24.

• Blain M. Prichard, 31, listed as homeless, was charged Feb. 21 with possession of methamphetamine and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Gregory Huber set a \$1,000 signature bond and scheduled a status conference for May 13.

PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Feb. 23
Deputies responded to 20 incidents, including trespassing on County Road B in the Town of Waukechon; two 911 calls; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks; five crashes.

Feb. 22
Deputies responded to 26 incidents, including assisting the fire department on Benbrooks Lane in the Town of Fairbanks; operating while intoxicated on Main Street in Gresham; operating without a license on U.S. Highway 45 in Birnamwood; vehicle fire on state Highway 29 in the Town of Richmond; illegal burning on County Road D in the Town of Seneca; operating without a license on state Highway 29 in the Town of Maple Grove; assisting the fire department on state Highway 47-55 in the Town of Wescott; one 911 call; two traffic hazards; three welfare checks; three crashes, one involving an ATV.

Feb. 21
Deputies responded to 31 incidents, including operating without a license on state Highway 29 in the Town of

Seneca; extradition at the Shawano County Jail, 405 N. Main St., Shawano; vehicle fire on County Road E in the Town of Washington; operating without a license on state Highway 29 in the Town of Maple Grove; fleeing and pursuit on North Warrington Avenue in Cecil; operating while intoxicated on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; three 911 calls; two reckless driving incidents; two welfare checks.

Feb. 20
Deputies responded to 36 incidents, including operating without a license on state Highway 22 in the Town of Washington; warrant attempt on County Road MMM in the Town of Richmond; assisting the fire department at Bonduel Elementary School, 404 W. Mill St., Bonduel; scam on Elm Road in the Town of Angelica; operating without a license on County Road A in the Town of Red Springs; warrant on Pine Street in Eland; warrant on state Highway 117 in Cecil; operating without a license on state Highway 47-55 in the Town of Wescott; operating without a license on East Freeborn Street in Cecil; threatening at the

Mohican North Star Casino Resort, W12180 County Road A in the Town of Bartelme; five 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks; one crash.

Feb. 19
Deputies responded to 31 incidents, including trespassing on state Highway 55 in the Town of Maple Grove; snowmobile problem on Landstad Road in the Town of Lessor; threatening on Hunting Road in the Town of Grant; one 911 call; three welfare checks; four crashes.

Feb. 18
Deputies responded to 21 incidents, including trespassing on Summit Street in Wittenberg; warrant on Regina Road in the Town of Almon; two 911 calls; two traffic hazards; three welfare checks; two crashes.

Feb. 17
Deputies responded to 23 incidents, including trespassing on Homewood Avenue in the Town of Wescott; assisting the fire department on Mill Creek Road in the Town of Herman; one 911 call; one reckless driving incident; three welfare checks; seven crashes.



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Wisconsin cattle and calf numbers up slightly from 2024

All cattle and calves in Wisconsin as of Jan. 1 totaled 3.25 million head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – Cattle report. This was up 50,000 head from Jan. 1, 2024.

Beef cows, at 275,000 head, were up 15,000 head from last year. Milk cow inventory was down 5,000 head at 1.27 million head.

All heifers 500 pounds and more were up 5% at 680,000 head. Heifers for beef cow replacement were up 18% from 2024 at 65,000 head; heifers for milk cow replacement, at 510,000 head, were up 2% from the previous year; and all other heifers were up 11% at 105,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and more were unchanged from last year at 360,000 head. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and more were unchanged at 30,000 head. Calves less than 500 pounds on Jan. 1 totaled 640,000 head, up 2% from last year.

The 2024 calf crop was estimated at 1.37 million head, unchanged from the 2023 calf crop. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots on Jan. 1 totaled 230,000 head, up 5% from one year ago.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of Jan. 1 totaled 86.7 million head, 1% below the 87.2 million head on Jan. 1, 2024.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 37.2 million head, were slightly below the 37.4 million head on Jan. 1, 2024. Beef cows, at 27.9 million head, were down 1% from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.35 million head, were up slightly from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and more as of Jan. 1 totaled 18.2 million head, 1% below the 18.3 million head on Jan. 1, 2024. Beef replacement heifers, at 4.67 million head, were down 1% from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 3.91 million head, were down 1% from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.59 million head, were 1% below a year earlier.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and more as of Jan. 1 totaled 15.8 million head, down 1% from Jan. 1, 2024.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and more as of Jan. 1 totaled 2.01 million head, down 1% from Jan. 1, 2024.

Calves less than 500 pounds as of Jan. 1 totaled 13.5 million head, down slightly from Jan. 1, 2024.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.3 million head on Jan. 1. The inventory is down 1% from the Jan. 1, 2024, total of 14.4 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 82.7% of the total cattle on feed on Jan. 1, up slightly from the previous year. The combined total of calves less than 500 pounds and other heifers and steers more than 500 pounds (outside of feedlots), at 24.6 million head, was slightly below Jan. 1, 2024.

The 2024 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 33.5 million head, down slightly from the previous year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2024 were estimated at 24.6 million head, down slightly from the first half of 2023. Calves born during the second half of 2024 were estimated at 8.93 million head, 27% of the total 2024 calf crop.

All inventory and calf crop estimates for July 1, 2023, and Jan. 1, 2024, were reviewed using calf crop, official slaughter, import and export data and the relationship of new survey information to the prior surveys. Based on the findings of this review, July 1, 2023, all cows and heifers that have calved decreased by 0.3% and 2023 calf crop decreased by 0.1%. For Jan. 1, 2024, all cows and heifers that have calved decreased by 0.6%.

State-level estimates were reviewed and changes were made to reallocate inventory estimates to the United States total.

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

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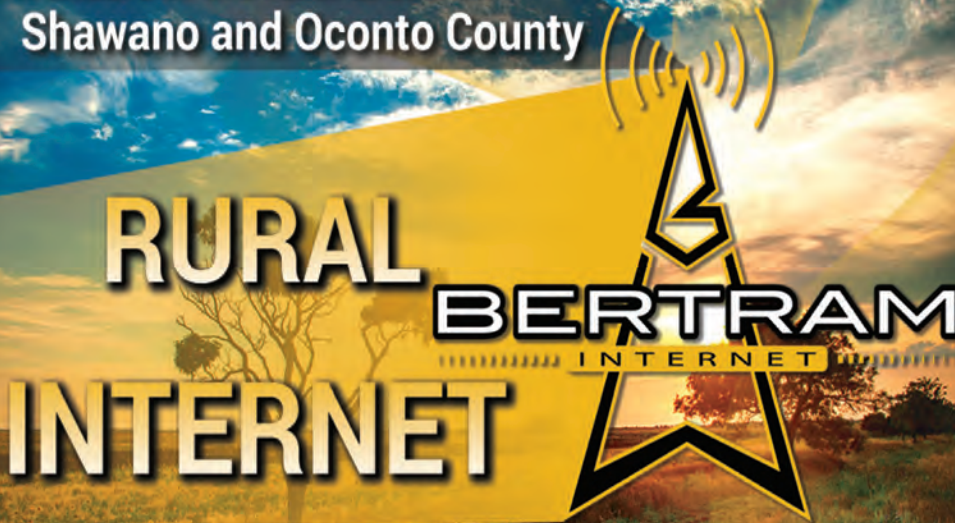
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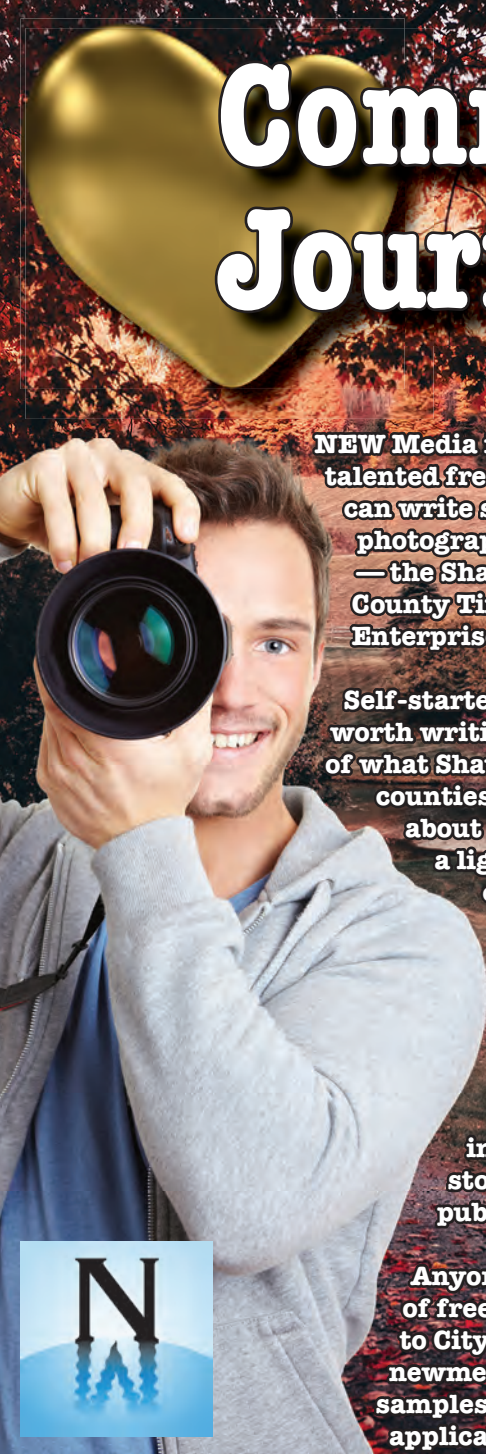
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Community Journalism?

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We also seek correspondents who have a nose for news or like to cover sporting events, and those with the talent and interest can go far. We pay \$60 per story and \$10 per photo that are published in print and /or online.

Anyone interested in joining our team of freelancers can send a cover letter to City Editor Lee Pulaski at lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com and include some samples of their previous work, if applicable.



DNR conducting prescribed burns

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced that fire management crews will begin conducting prescribed burns on DNR properties throughout the state where local conditions can provide a safe and effective burn.

The recent, much-needed precipitation has created conditions that are ideal for burning in certain areas of the state.

Winter burns typically begin with cattail marshes, wetlands and wet prairies. Cattail wildfires can present a control challenge for suppression authorities during the warmer summer months when dead and live cattails are available to burn. By burning in winter, DNR staff take advantage of ideal ice and snow cover, which reduces the heat and intensity of cattail marsh and barrens burns.

Additional windows of opportunity for prescribed burning will continue through spring and open again in late summer and fall (mid-July through November).

Prescribed burns support healthy ecosystems for an abundance of plants and animals in Wisconsin. These burns mimic the benefits historic fire once provided but occur under a safer "prescription" range of weather and fuel conditions (compared to most



Current ice conditions provide greater access for crews to safely and efficiently conduct prescribed burns. WISCONSIN DNR

wildfires). Throughout history, many ecosystems in Wisconsin experienced either periodic natural fire or were managed with cultural fire by Indigenous people. These "fire-dependent" plant communities — such as prairies, wetlands and oak or pine barrens, savannas or woodlands — developed a tolerance and eventual dependence on periodic fire; they would not be sustained today without prescribed burning.

Winter burns remove dead vegetation buildup and open waterways for

migratory fowl and other wildlife. The dead vegetation is reduced to ash, transferring this natural fertilizer back into the soil.

Following the burn, hazardous fuels are reduced, foraging and nesting improve in the revitalized vegetation, and the stimulated growth of their root systems enhances their ability to store more carbon. Other benefits of prescribed burns include reducing non-native or invasive plant species and increasing regeneration of important native trees, like oak and pine.

When conducting prescribed burns near roads or recreational trails, the DNR will post signs to notify the public. For safety, avoid these areas while the burn is being conducted. The DNR also notifies local law enforcement and fire officials in advance about when and where DNR prescribed burns will take place.

Burns planned for the following day are displayed on the DNR Prescribed Burn Dashboard at <https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/prescribedburndashboard>.

USDA releases final 2024 crop production data

Corn for grain production in Wisconsin for 2024 was estimated at 515 million bushels, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – Crop Production 2024 Summary.

Current year production was down 7% from the previous year's 553 million bushels. Wisconsin's corn for grain yield was estimated at 174 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 2.96 million acres, 180,000 acres below 2023.

Corn planted for all purposes in 2024 was estimated at 3.75 million acres.

Corn for silage production was estimated at 14.6 million tons, down 11% from 2023. The silage yield estimate of 20 tons per acre was down 1 ton per acre from 2023. Producers harvested 730,000 acres of corn for silage, down 6% from 2023.

Soybean production was estimated at 102 million bushels in 2024. This was down 3% from the previous year's 105 million bushels. The Wisconsin soybean crop yielded 48 bushels per acre in 2024. The harvested acreage of 2.12 million was up 60,000 acres from 2023. Soybean planted acreage, at 2.15 million, was up 40,000 acres from 2023.

All hay production for the state was estimated at 3.90 million tons, up 75% from the 2.24 million tons produced in 2023. Producers averaged 3.03 tons per acre, up 0.86 tons per acre from 2023. All hay harvested acres were estimated at 1.29 million acres, up 260,000 acres from 2023.

Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for hay production was estimated at 3.03 million tons, up 75% from

2023. Producers averaged 3.65 tons per acre, up 0.95 tons per acre from 2023. Harvested acres were up 190,000 from the previous year, to 830,000 acres. Wisconsin producers seeded 240,000 acres of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures in 2024, up 14% from 2023.

Other hay production was estimated at 874,000 tons, up 72% from 2023. Producers averaged 1.90 tons per acre, up 0.60 tons from the 2023 yield. Harvested acres of other hay, at 460,000, were up 70,000 acres from 2023.

Potato production for 2024 was estimated at 26.1 million hundred-weight (cwt), down 8% from 2023. Producers averaged 395 cwt per acre, down 6% from the 2023 yield. Planted and harvested acres were estimated at 67,000 acres and 66,000 acres, respectively.

Nationally, corn for grain production in 2024 was estimated at 14.9 billion bushels, down 3% from the 2023 estimate.

The average yield in the United States was estimated at a record high 179.3 bushels per acre, 2 bushels above the 2023 yield of 177.3 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 82.9 million acres, down 4% from the 2023 estimate.

Soybean production in 2024 totaled 4.37 billion bushels, up 5% from 2023. The average yield per acre was estimated at 50.7 bushels, up 0.1 bushel from 2023. Harvested area, at 86.1 million acres, was up 5% from the previous year.

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.



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ThedaCare initiative offers comfort to young patients

Pediatric patients at the ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah Emergency Department are finding comfort from an unlikely source, bears.

The bears — the cuddly stuffed animal kind — are being gifted to young patients in the hospital system's Neenah-based emergency department as a way to provide a comforting distraction from the stress and anxiety often associated with pediatric emergency visits.

"We understand that emergency situations can create anxiety and worry, especially for a child," said Danielle Fischenich, a registered nurse at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah. "For many years, we have been exploring innovative ways and resources to provide a better experience for our pediatric patients. Something as simple as a teddy bear can help ease a child's anxiety throughout their medical care."

Dubbed Bedside Buddies, the teddy bear gifts continue a gesture started a few years ago. That's when youngster Ella Bast, of Combined Locks, donated her birthday gifts to the emergency department after seeing how gifting her little sister something as small as a sippy cup helped calm and provide comfort during an emergency department visit.

"Gifting toys to better comfort our pediatric patients can often be a benefit to their care,"



ThedaCare is offering Bedside Buddies to children who are patients in its regional medical center in Neenah. CONTRIBUTED

Fischenich said. "The idea is to try to make a better experience for our younger patients and support a better association with health care in general. We hope something like the teddy bears can give children the opportunity to trust care teams for their health and well-being throughout their lifetime."

That's why the emergency department care team, in collaboration with the ThedaCare Family of Foundations, along with Ella's continued efforts, felt it was important to dedicate funds to purchasing teddy bears to gift pediatric patients.

The ThedaCare Foundation-Neenah, aided by team

member donations, awarded grants to help purchase the initial 200 teddy bears. In addition to Ella's ongoing efforts, Neenah Foundation Board Members, John and Tim Bergstrom, have made personal donations to support the Bedside Buddy program.

"We are so grateful for ThedaCare team members who continuously demonstrate care, empathy and professionalism in treating special patients," said Barbara Beuscher, ThedaCare chief philanthropy officer and senior vice president.

For information, visit www.thedacare.org/foundations or email foundations@thedacare.org

Behnke holding three listening sessions

State Rep. Elijah Behnke, R-Chase, will host three listening sessions in the 6th Assembly District to discuss the biennial budget process and current legislative session.

The listening sessions will all take place March 1, starting at 9 a.m. at Bonduel Village Hall, 117



ELIJAH BEHNKE

W. Green Bay St., Bonduel. Next up is an 11 a.m. session at Shawano City Hall, Community Room, 127 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. Behnke will

wrap up the sessions with a 4 p.m. session at Cecil Village Hall, 111 E. Hofman St., Cecil.

"The meetings provide an opportunity for me to hear directly from constituents about their interests and concerns," said Behnke in a press release.

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We seek talented journalists who can seize someone's attention by being a talented wordsmith and photographer in a fast-paced news environment where digital comes first. While the office is a base of operations, we want someone who'll be out in the community gathering the news.

All are welcome to apply, including recent or pending college graduates. Preference is for the candidate to live in Shawano County or be willing to relocate there to be nearby when news takes places. Photography and copy editing skills are a must.

Send a resume, cover letter, and four to six samples of your work to Editor Kevin Passon at kpaddon@newmedia-wi.com. Put "Reporter — Shawano" in the subject header.

TAKING A GAMBLE IN GILLETT

Let Me Be Frank's Vegas show fundraiser for FFA Ireland trip

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Folks in and around Gillett won't need to buy plane tickets and make hotel accommodations to enjoy a Vegas-style show in March as Let Me Be Frank Productions brings "Frank's Tribute to Las Vegas" to town.

The show is a fundraiser for the Gillett FFA Alumni to send some of its FFA members to Ireland in 2026. Only 300 tickets are available for the event.

"Frank's Tribute to Las Vegas" is two hours of non-stop music and laughs where Let Me Be Frank founder Frank Hermans and members of his troupe transform into Reba McEntire, Neil Diamond, Cher, Adele, George Jones and others.

"One of the offshoots of what Let Me Be Frank does is the tribute show," Hermans said. "My wife (Amy Riemer) is probably the best Reba impersonator you will see in the nation. I traveled with this for a while with Let Me Be Frank."

Hermans said the show originated because many of the performers in his troupe look similar to some of the people who have done residencies at Las Vegas casinos. He noted it's a side gig, with the tribute show doing 20-30 performances per year.

In addition to those performances, Let Me Be Frank has performed in Las Vegas itself, specifically the Plaza Casino, for the last three years.

"The first time we went to the Plaza Casino, Adele had just canceled at the MGM Grand. So we got to advertise that, 'No, Adele is really here. She's at the Plaza Casino,'" Hermans said. "It's kind of a cool thing we can hang our hat on that our Adele impersonator was in Vegas when Adele canceled."

Hermans noted the performers act and sing like the people they're impersonating, but they also bring out the funny side of those people. Let Me Be Frank also has an award-winning house band that backs up the performers, something that's new compared with shows they've done to benefit FFA organizations around north-east Wisconsin.



Featured artists at "Frank's Tribute to Las Vegas" include, from left, Reba McEntire, portrayed by Amy Riemer; Neil Diamond, portrayed by Paul Evansen; Barbra Streisand, portrayed by Lisa Borley; Elvis Presley, portrayed by Frank Hermans; Karen Carpenter, portrayed by Kasey Schumacher; George Jones, portrayed by Mike Hermans; and Adele, portrayed by Sarah Galati.

CONTRIBUTED

So what is it about "Frank's Tribute to Las Vegas" that makes it a moneymaker for organizations?

"I think it's the iconic personalities," Hermans said. "Elvis will never die. People love Elvis."

Hermans can say that from experience, as he performs as Elvis in the tribute show. He noted that many of the iconic performers portrayed in the show are no longer alive, so the show helps to revive the touching musical moments of yesteryear.

"The demographic we're going after, 40-plus, that's who loves that sort of thing," Hermans said. "They still like the old Elvis, the '50s Elvis. We stick to the oldies but goodies."

There will be a lot of the "goodies," according to Hermans. It won't be a show where each performer only does one song and passes on the microphone. He said each performer does at least four or five songs in each show.

VEGAS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: "Frank's Tribute to Las Vegas"

WHEN: 7 p.m. March 15. Doors open at 4:15 p.m. with a baked chicken dinner being served at 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: Auditorium, Gillett Secondary School, 208 W. Main St., Gillett

TICKETS: \$50 each or two for \$90. Only 300 tickets available. Advanced sales only. To purchase, call 920-373-3799.

FYI: There will also be 50/50 and bucket raffles during the event. All proceeds go toward the Gillett FFA for a trip to Ireland in 2026.



The cast of "Godspell" rehearses a scene from the musical based on the Gospel of Matthew. Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. will present "Godspell" March 13-16 and March 20-23 at the Nancy Byng Community Theater in Abrams.

CONTRIBUTED

'Godspell' coming to Abrams in March

Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. will showcase the Gospel of Matthew in a new way.

The musical "Godspell" will be presented March 13-16 and March 20-23 at the Nancy Byng Community Theater in Abrams. This timeless tale of friendship and love is demonstrated by an eclectic group that teams up with Jesus. In this production, Jesus' message of kindness, tolerance and love shines through. Director Elizabeth Jolly-Haslitt said the audience will find the messages of "Godspell" relatable today.

"Godspell" is a vibrant musical that brings together a diverse group of individuals, showing how their shared experiences, even though they are from different backgrounds ... creates a strong sense of community," she said. "Through its songs

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: "Godspell"

WHEN: 7 p.m. March 13-15 and March 19-22. 1 p.m. March 16 and March 23.

WHERE: Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St., Abrams

TICKETS: \$19 for adults, \$17 for senior citizens, youth and veterans.

and storytelling, it highlights the transformative power of collaboration and cooperation, demonstrating that listening and love can lead to personal and spiritual growth and a better tomorrow."

"Godspell" is based on the original concept and book by John-Michael Tebelak. Stephen Schwartz wrote the music

GODSPELL, CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

GARDENING WITH MELINDA MYERS

Cultivate relationship with king of herbs

Fresh on your pizza, added to your favorite Italian and Southeastern Asian dishes or made into pesto, it's not surprising basil is often called the king of herbs.

Look for opportunities to include basil in gardens, containers and ornamental plantings. Purple varieties add color and combine nicely with other flowers and vegetables. Everleaf Emerald Towers is a very tall and productive plant that adds vertical interest to container and in-ground gardens.

Always wait for the air and soil to warm before moving basil into the garden. Cold air and soil can stunt or damage the plants and increase the risk of downy mildew. You may even see blackened leaves and other damage when temperatures drop to 50 degrees.

Protect tender plants in spring and extend the harvest in fall with the help of floating row covers. These spun fabrics trap heat around the plants while



allowing air, light and water through. Lightweight row covers can be used throughout the summer to protect the plants from Japanese beetles.

Keep plants healthy and help reduce the risk of downy mildew disease by growing basil in sunny locations with plenty of room to reach their mature size. The extra space allows sunlight to reach all parts of the plants, and the added air movement quickly dries the leaves.

Avoid overhead irrigation whenever possible. Instead, use soaker hoses, drip irrigation or a watering wand to apply the water directly to the soil.

Red leaf, Thai and lemon-flavored basil varieties are less susceptible to downy mildew. Relatively new sweet basil varieties



Purple basil varieties add color and interest to containers and gardens.

MELINDAMYERS.COM

such as Devotion DMR, Obsession DMR, Passion DMR, Thunderstruck DMR, Prospera Compact DMR and Prospera are downy mildew resistant.

Watch for slugs that feed at night, eating large, ragged holes in the leaves. Trap them with shallow containers of beer sunk

into the ground or use a slug beer trap with a built-in cover. The slugs are attracted to the fermenting yeast; they'll crawl inside and die.

Unlike slugs, the Japanese beetles feed and mate in broad daylight. They devour large portions of the leaves, leaving only the

veins behind.

If you see circular clear or black spots on the leaves, the four-lined plant bug is the culprit. The dead tissue may eventually fall out, resulting in small holes.

Manage Japanese beetles and plant bugs by knocking them into a can

of soapy water or treating the plants with an organic insecticide labeled for controlling these pests on basil. Always read and follow all label directions for safe and effective control.

Harvest basil as needed. Regular harvesting will increase productivity and ensure the best flavor. Remove flower buds as soon as they appear to maintain foliage flavor, but don't worry if a few blossoms appear; these are also edible and a favorite of beneficial insects.

Plan to grow and harvest extra basil to make pesto or flavored vinegar. Make plenty to enjoy throughout the year and share with family and friends.

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

A fine kettle of fish as Lenten season approaches

We are quickly approaching the six-week vigil Christians call Lent. March 5 is Ash Wednesday. I fully appreciate this is a solemn and holy season, a time of penance and atonement. So, of course, I would never make light of Lent, but if, as the Bible says, we are made in God's image, He surely has a sense of humor and will forgive me for going a bit astray here.

In case you were wondering, the English word "Lent" originated from the old German "lencten," an ancient term for spring. Its roots come from a noun "length," not the verb "to lend." It denotes the lengthening of days as the earth moves to the Spring Equinox.

Unfortunately, the second definition is the one I mistakenly applied as a Catholic school second grader. I erroneously assumed it was called Lent because God had loaned



His son to mankind. Therefore, my developing brain simply could not wrap itself around the fact that when Jesus came to save the world, people rejected Him.

Like almost all children, I was not only given to huge misconceptions, I was ever so magnanimous. I big-heartedly forgave the Jewish people who demanded Jesus's execution because if he could, I could. In my teen years, a glorious time when I knew absolutely everything, I was more judgmental.

I was sure I would never have participated in the horrific act of putting Jesus to death. I even went so far as to wish God had waited 2,000 years

and sent His son to Sherwood instead of Nazareth, because we would have acted appropriately. After what's been happening in our country lately, I'm not all that sure anymore.

Perhaps I found the 40 days of Lent difficult in my formative years because the nuns preached that we must sacrifice during Lent; interpreted as "do without something." I always chose candy because it wasn't that hard. Candy was a treat, we didn't get it that often, and I was fussy. I ate only Snickers and peanut M&Ms, which meant I was giving up two things. I suppose I should have felt guilty instead of proud of myself, but there were so many things to feel guilty about that I made up for it easily.

A related sacrifice of living through Lent when I was growing up was the meal menus. It was bad enough that Catholics

couldn't eat meat on Friday, but during Lent the ban on meat in our household extended to Wednesdays. Since there were no Walleye Wednesdays or Friday Fish Frys in our dairy cow-centered world, we had two choices: tuna fish or salmon.

Mom made an edible tuna casserole. I politely ate a small helping so I could get to the good stuff: creamy cottage cheese, buttery baked potato, home-canned stewed tomatoes. Salmon casserole? Yuk. Just the smell of it when Mom opened the can turned my stomach. Then watching her pick out the bones before mixing the salmon with the other ingredients was disgusting. The worst part was the smell of it baking in the oven. The repercussions were deep and have lasted a lifetime. I have never bought a can of salmon, and I never will.

Fresh salmon? That's a

totally different kettle of fish. I am mad at myself that it took me over 50 years to discover grilled salmon. That happened in 1999 when Jon and I took an 11-week road trip to Alaska in a slide-in camper. We were on a small excursion boat out of Seward to see the glacier calve. Dinner was included in the ticket price, which was nice until I learned from the smell that the entrée was salmon. The waves were fierce, so I can't totally blame it on the salmon, but it was the only time in my life I got seasick.

Someone had told Jon that ginger warded off seasickness so he had brought along a box of ginger cookies. I passed; I hate ginger cookies almost as much as salmon. By the time dinner was served, I was too queasy to eat. Jon had eaten half the cookies and felt fine. However, he shared my distaste for

salmon, skipped it and ate both his and my side dishes.

The server felt sorry for me and wrapped the fish in a to-go box. I felt so much better when we got back to the camper that I was hungry. In desperation, I reheated the salmon. That's when I discovered that grilled fresh salmon can be a downright delicious delicacy, even reheated in a microwave.

Oh, dear. Old customs are calling. I feel compelled to sacrifice something during Lent. Observing meatless Wednesdays and Fridays will not qualify because I love seafood. What to do? I better think of something appropriate soon or I'll have to give up candy.

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

VEGAS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

The uniqueness of Let Me Be Frank shows is that all the writing and producing is done locally in Green Bay.

"We're producing and creating our own show," Hermans said. "It's unlike anything else in the nation. I support 13 singers and musicians. This is their full-time job, which is unheard of in a community as small as ours."

Let Me Be Frank is community oriented, Hermans said, which is why it tries to do as much as it can for orga-

nizations like the Gillett FFA Alumni. The organization has been in existence for 26 years, and it has been community support from Green Bay and beyond that has kept the shows coming.

"We have raised and donated over a half a million dollars to different organizations throughout the community," Hermans said. "That's one of the things we strive on in giving back to the community."

The FFA also holds a spe-

cial place in Hermans' heart, as he was part of the Denmark FFA in high school.

"It's pretty cool they're raising money for this (trip to Ireland), and we're glad to help out," Hermans said. "It's great for our players to perform for new people, too. For a lot of those folks, it's going to be the first time they ever saw us, which is weird, because we've been around for 26 years."

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

GODSPELL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

and lyrics; he also wrote music and lyrics for "Pippin," "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" and "Wicked." Memorable songs in the show include "All Good Gifts," sung by Glenn Sellen and the ensemble; "On the Willows," sung by Kari Moody and Carolyn Silverberg; and "Beautiful City," sung by Bobby Buffington.

"The vocals are really stunning," Jolly-Haslitt said. "We were lucky to have Leah Tomesek as our vocal director. She worked hard on making sure the blend was just right and has such a talent for

helping people achieve their best voice."

For this production, ASPI placed the stage in the heart of the audience.

"The audience almost will be part of the show," Jolly-Haslitt said. "This may throw some people off at first, but I think they will really enjoy it as the show progresses."

To order tickets, visit abrams-theater.com or call the box office, 920-826-5852. Anyone interested in helping behind the scenes can contact ASPI to volunteer.

Monitoring bluebird nest boxes helps birds thrive

“Yoo-hoo, anyone home?” I sing as I gently tap tap on the side of an Eastern bluebird nest box. I want to make my presence known before opening the door so any adults on the inside get a chance to fly out. They don’t mind me as long as I am gentle and move quickly. I’m getting ahead of myself; let me back up a little.

The Eastern bluebird is a cavity nester, meaning they use natural cavities, like old woodpecker holes in dead trees, for nesting. In the late 1960s, the Eastern bluebird population reached record lows. In 1978, the North American Bluebird Society (NABS) was founded to promote the recovery of bluebirds and other cavity nesters.

In 1986, Wisconsin created its own affiliate of NABS called the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin (BRAW). They estimated the Eastern bluebird population had declined by 90% during the preceding 50 years due to changes in agriculture practices, severe weather, invasive house sparrows and European starlings, as well as the loss of nesting sites.

BRAW’s mission is to



increase the Eastern bluebird population throughout Wisconsin in many ways including building, setting up and monitoring nest boxes and expanding public knowledge and enthusiasm for the Eastern bluebird so people will have the desire and know-how to aid these and other cavity nesters in their own communities.

Why do we care? The Eastern bluebird is important not only for its beauty and spiritual meaning of hope, joy and rebirth, but also because bluebirds play an important role in protecting crops from insects. Farmers put up bluebird boxes around agricultural fields so the birds can feed on insects that could otherwise destroy their crops.

When I learned about the opportunity to monitor 14 bluebird nest boxes, I quickly raised my hand. I wanted to be a part of the effort to help this beautiful bird’s population grow. Other cavity nesters that I



An Eastern bluebird poses on a nest box. The nest boxes have helped to restore the bluebird population under the watchful eyes of volunteers.

may encounter in my nest boxes are wrens, house sparrows, European starlings and tree swallows.

In a nutshell, this is what monitoring a nest box entails. Every week from March through August, I check the nest boxes. I record what I see, (i.e., the bird species, number of eggs, number of

chicks) and then identify and fix any problems such as removing ants or wasps from the boxes. At the end of the season, I send in my records through regular mail or online. This data is analyzed to find population trends.

To help identify the bird species, the BRAW website has pictures to

show what each bird’s nest is composed of, how it is structured and what each bird’s eggs look like. Bluebird nests are cup shaped and woven with fine grass or pine needles. Their eggs are pale blue or white with no spots.

Eastern bluebirds have one to two broods, sometimes three, each summer. I pay attention to when the chicks have fledged (left the nest), so I can clean it out before the female looks for a place to build her next nest. Bluebirds do not clean out their own boxes but are more likely to choose a nest box that is clean, whereas house sparrows and wrens prefer them not cleaned out. So it helps my chances of getting a bluebird to use a box if I clean it out when it is vacated.

Learning about the other cavity nesters is a side benefit. The tree swallows include soft, fluffy feathers in their nests. The territorial wrens will put a small stack of sticks, called a “dummy nest,” in boxes near their own to make them appear to be occupied. The aggressive house sparrows will build their nest on top of another bird’s nest, even with eggs

and chicks inside. Although it may seem that there are many things to learn about monitoring nest boxes, it isn’t hard. It is fun and rewarding. Imagine the joy of opening the box and seeing a nest, then eggs, then babies and then watching them grow. My heart grows along with them. Best of all, it is working. Due to thousands of bluebird nest boxes being installed across the country and volunteers monitoring them, bluebirds have made an incredible comeback.

If you are interested in helping bluebirds, please visit the BRAW website at <https://www.braw.org>. It will include everything you need to know to get started and provides contacts, real people, to support you along the way. Even better, ask a friend to join you or pair up with someone already monitoring.

Perhaps in the near future, it will be you tap tapping on the side of a nest box, singing: “Yoo-hoo, anyone home?”

Lisa Jansen is a Wisconsin master naturalist, nature writer and award-winning photographer. She specializes in raising awareness of birds and butterflies of the Midwest.

“When I learned about the opportunity to monitor 14 bluebird nest boxes, I quickly raised my hand. I wanted to be a part of the effort to help this beautiful bird’s population grow.”

LISA JANSEN, NEW Media columnist



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Historical society turns to the dark side

The Oconto County Historical Society will present an evening of mystery, intrigue and forgotten stories at its upcoming Speaker Series event, “The Dark Side of Oconto History.”

The presentation, led by local historian Jay Merline, will take place at 6:30 p.m. March 6 in the meeting room of the Beyer Home and Carriage Museum, 915 Park Ave., Oconto.

Merline, a dedicated researcher and member of the society’s board of directors, has spent years uncovering fascinating and often bizarre stories buried in old newspapers.

His PowerPoint presentation will spotlight true but little-known events from Oconto’s past — some tragic, some unbelievable and some just plain strange.

The tales include the following:

- A stolen suit that found its way back to the tailor’s shop — from an unexpected source.
- A band of Native Americans who suffered a brutal assault.
- The strangest hiding place ever used to evade the police.
- A high school field trip gone horribly wrong.

• The eerie legend of the Shaggy Phantom Hermit.

Merline’s love for history began as a teenager while working with the late George E. “Jimmie” Hall and has since grown into a lifelong passion. Over the years, he has rescued countless historical artifacts and now manages several local history Facebook pages dedicated to preserving the rich heritage of Oconto and Marinette counties.

Admission is free. Light refreshments will be served, and the museum gift shop will be open.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

SHAWANO: Boost Your Brain and Memory, 9-10:30 a.m., ADRC of the Wolf River Region, W7327 Anderson Ave. A holistic approach to improving brain health. Seventh week of eight-week class, enrollment limited to 12 people; register by calling Ericka at 715-526-4712.

LENA: Knights of Columbus fish sale, 1-5 p.m., St. Anne School (formerly St. Charles), 221 E. Main St.

NAVARINO: Light Up the Night Snowshoe Hike or Ski, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, N5646 Linsden Road. One-mile trail lighted by Tiki torches. \$5 donation, also accepting nonperishable food donations for Loaves and Fishes pantry. Registration required at navarino.org should the event be canceled due to extreme cold or weather conditions.

WITTENBERG: “Trouble at the Tropicabana,” a murder mystery dinner theater production by Crossroads Community Theatre. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal Street. Tickets \$45 per person, available at Sentry Foods or by calling 715-253-3525. Choice of chicken or fish for plated dinner service.

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

SHAWANO: Vintage Show, noon to 5 p.m., Brothers Pub, N5867 Lake Drive. Culmination of ninth annual Shawano Lake Sno-Blasters Poker Run. Bucket, meat and booze raffles and drawings begin at noon, cash raffle drawing at 4 p.m.

SHAWANO: Bingo Night, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Sacred Heart Catholic School, 124 E. Center St. 50 cents per card with 50% payout. Refreshments and snacks available for purchase. Doors open 5:15 p.m. Park in the Sacred Heart parking lot, and enter door #1 under the carport (302 S. Main St. entrance).

WITTENBERG: “Trouble at the Tropicabana,” a murder mystery dinner theater production by Crossroads Community Theatre. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6

p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal Street. Tickets \$45 per person, available at Sentry Foods or by calling 715-253-3525. Choice of chicken or fish for plated dinner service.

MONDAY, MARCH 3

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

SHAWANO: saYPRO presents Mastering Your Calendar, 5:30-8 p.m., The Boulevard, 744 E. Green Bay St. Time Management and Goal Setting for Young Professionals. \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members, includes dinner.

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

SHAWANO: Chamber Coffee Connection, 8-9 a.m., Sweet-Life Eatery, 116 N. Main St.

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

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

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

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

BOWLER: Native American Talking Circle, 7-9 p.m., Mohi-

can Family Center, N8605 Oak St. Information: Yvonne Burr, 715-326-0891.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

SHAWANO: Boost Your Brain and Memory, 9-10:30 a.m., ADRC of the Wolf River Region, W7327 Anderson Ave. A holistic approach to improving brain health. Final week of eight-week class, enrollment limited to 12 people; register by calling Ericka at 715-526-4712.

SURING: World Day of Prayer, 10 a.m., Our Redeemer’s Lutheran Church, 11015 County Road M. Hosted by Hickory United Methodist Church.

PULASKI: Wicka’s Jam Session, 2-6 p.m., Wicka’s Bar, 137 S. St. Augustine St. Casimir Pulaski Days event.

SHAWANO: Lenten Fish Fry, 4-7 p.m., Sacred Heart Catholic Parish and School, 124 E. Center St. Cod, fries, bread, beverages, non-fish food options available. \$20 adults, \$8 age 12 and under.

WITTENBERG: “Trouble at the Tropicabana,” a murder mystery dinner theater production by Crossroads Community Theatre. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal Street. Tickets \$45 per person, available at Sentry Foods or by calling 715-253-3525. Choice of chicken or fish for plated dinner service.

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

PULASKI: Friday Night Polka Delight, 7-11 p.m., Mountain Bay Bar and Grill, 104 S. Wisconsin St. Casimir Pulaski Days event.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

SHAWANO: Cabin Fever Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Shawano Civic Center, 225 S. Main St. Handmade craft items and free admission.

SHAWANO: Maple Syrup Snowshoe Hike, 9:30 a.m. to noon, Sugar Shack Trails, N7061 Ash Road. Hosted by Shawano Pathways. Arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the hike to register, get gear on and meet the guide. All hikes are free, but donations are appreciated.

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Chargers end regular season with 24-0 mark

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Feb. 22
Bonduel 55, Laona/
Wabeno 35
Feb. 21
Bowler 51, Port Ed-
wards 48
Natalie Richert scored 25 points and grabbed 18 rebounds as Bowler snuck past Port Edwards 51-48.

Paige Treptow also scored 12 points. She and Madison Piotrowski each had two assists. Treptow also led with two steals.

Lena 74, Suring 43
Lena's 74-43 win over Suring gave the Wildcats a 15-1 M&O Conference record and 22-2 overall mark.

Madilyn Thomson led Lena with 23 points and 14 rebounds. Kali Fischer dropped in another 21 points, and Eva Brooks chipped in another 18.

Hannah Thomson led the team with four assists, and Madilyn Thomson notched five steals.

Feb. 20
Wittenberg-Birnam-
wood 61, Iola-Scandina-
via 19
The Chargers finished the 2024-25 regular season with a perfect record after thrashing Iola-Scandinavia 61-19.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood is 14-0 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference and 24-1 overall.

"Tonight was great night to celebrate our seniors. They deserve the recognition," coach Nick Mechelke said. "I thought we played really well tonight and shared the ball well. Tonight was a great way to finish the regular season."

Melaina Granquist led the team with 23 points. Rory Salvesen contributed another 15, and Harper Rogowski scored 10.

Granquist and Faith



Junior Mariah Wondra (20) plays defense against Amherst on Feb. 20. Bonduel beat Amherst 63-16.

BELLA ROBERTS

Resch each pulled down seven rebounds. Salvesen dished out 10 assists, and Resch had nine steals.

Shawano 54, Menasha 33

Leah Nordin's 22 first-half points and the Hawks' pressure defense led to a 32-10 halftime lead en route to a 54-33 win over Menasha.

In the second half, the Hawks dominated the boards and secured the victory to clinch second place in the Bay Conference with a 10-2 record (18-5 overall).

Nordin finished with 32 points, and Anna Dreier added 10.

Nordin also led the team with 15 rebounds. Trinity Popelka had three assists, and Nordin, Marissa Tomashek and Ella Stuber each nabbed four steals.

Menominee Nation 55, Weyauwega-Fremont 32

Urijih Reevis scored 25 points and Aaliyah Corn added 10 as Menominee Nation beat Weyauwega-Fremont 55-32.

The Eagles finished the regular season at 7-7 in the Central Wisconsin East Conference and 12-11 overall.

Gillett 54, Gibraltar 27
Gillett jumped out to a 35-13 halftime lead as they doubled up on Gibraltar 54-27.

Audrey Pate led the Tigers with 22 points. Hope Soper scored another 12.

Lena 55, Gresham 17
Madilyn Thomson scored 18 points and Eva Brooks had 13 in Lena's 55-17 win over Gresham.

Madilyn Thomson also led with seven rebounds

and five steals, while Hannah Thomson collected five assists.

Bonduel 63, Amherst 16

Oconto Falls 59, Little Chute 14

Pulaski 65, Green Bay Southwest 15

Feb. 18
Wittenberg-Birnam-
wood 62, Laona/Wabeno 28

The Chargers dominated the Rebels right out of the gate, leading 44-7 at halftime and 62-28 at the final buzzer.

"Again, defense was the name of the game. We provided a lot of pressure in the first half, which allowed us to sub in everyone in and out," coach Nick Mechelke said. "It's nice to get our girls some rest with playing six games in two weeks and just be-

fore playoffs."

On offense, Melaina Granquist led Wittenberg-Birnamwood with 28 points. Rory Salvesen connected on 13, and Harper Rogowski added 12. Rogowski was 3-of-6 from behind the arc.

Granquist also led the team with eight rebounds. Rogowski and Salvesen each had two assists, and Salvesen led with six steals.

Lena 72, Coleman 42

The Wildcats held a seven-point lead at halftime and blew the game open with a huge second half as they defeated Coleman 72-42 in the M&O Conference matchup.

Lena improved to 14-1 in league play and 20-2 overall.

Madilyn Thomson led Lena with 29 points and 10

rebounds. Kali Fischer and Eva Brooks each scored 11 points and pulled down six rebounds.

Thomson also set the pace with eight assists. Fischer and Thomson each had four steals.

Lakeland 58, Shawano 44

In a non-conference matchup, the Thunderbirds extended their lead right before halftime and didn't look back in a 58-44 win over the Hawks.

Coach Ryan Koenig said the Hawks played great defense, but a few costly turnovers and Lakeland second chance points were too much for Shawano.

Gillett 52, Suring 44
Oconto Falls 54,
Luxemburg-Casco 38
Pulaski 35, Freedom 31
Feb. 17
Wittenberg-Birnam-
wood 58, Northland
Pines 17

Wittenberg-Birnamwood dispatched Northland Pines with ease, holding the Eagles to single digits in each half and winning 58-17.

"We got off to a good start tonight, which allowed us to play everyone good minutes in the first half," coach Nick Mechelke said.

Melaina Granquist scored 30 points, more than all the Northland Pines players combined. Of those 30 points were five 3-pointers. Rory Salvesen added another 14.

Granquist also led the Chargers with 11 rebounds. Salvesen led with seven steals.

Sophia Lemieux and Faith Resch each had one assist.

Marion/Tigerton 51,
Faith Christian Academy 24

Northland Lutheran 74, Bowler 25



Audrey Weier (11) shoots against Amherst on Feb. 20. She led the Bears with 14 points in their 63-16 victory.

BELLA ROBERTS



Faith Resch was among the Wittenberg-Birnamwood seniors honored toward the end of the regular season. The Chargers began playoff action this week.

TINA BACON

Four local girls win sectional crowns

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Feb. 21
Sectional B**
Four girls from Pulaski, Lena, Bonduel and Wittenberg-Birnamwood won at the Shawano sectionals to advance to the state tournament. Weight class winners and second-place finishers advance to the state meet on Feb. 27-March 1.

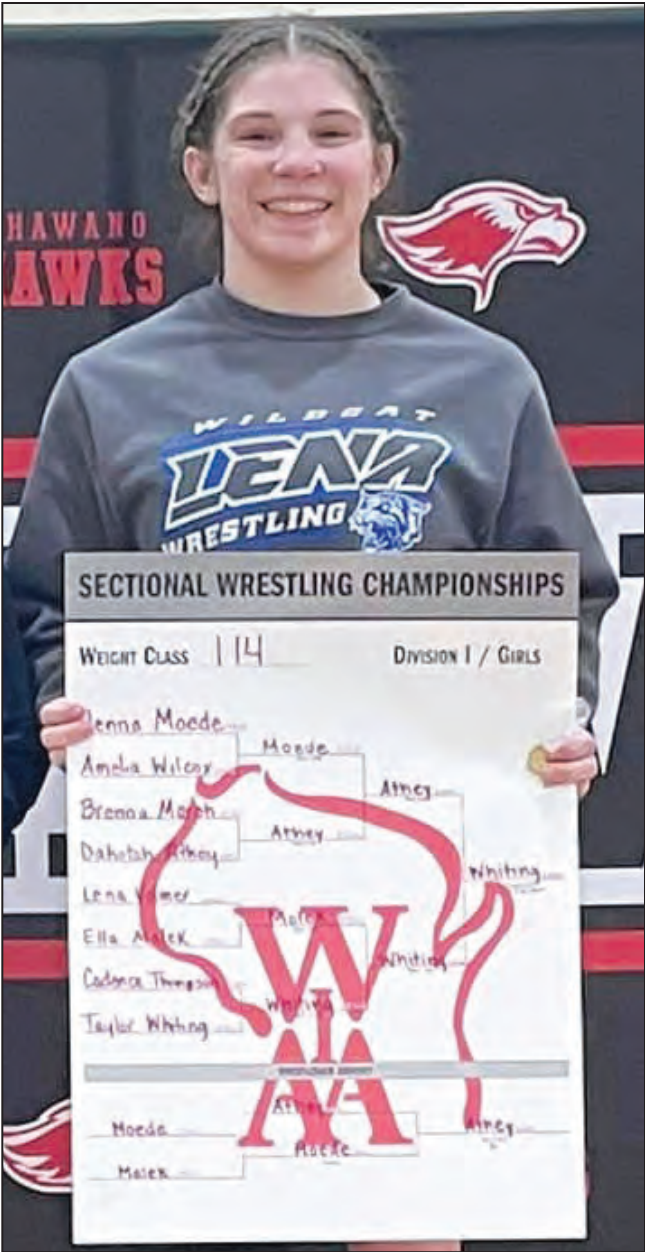
At 185, Brooke Huffman of Wittenberg-Birnamwood pinned Madelyn Hert of Bonduel in 1:11 for the title.

Hert had pinned a Tomahawk opponent in the third-place match, then pinned a Bay Port wrestler in the second-place wrestleback.

At 114 pounds, Lena's Taylor Whiting won the title, defeating Bay Port's Dakota Athey. Jenna Moede of Shawano placed third. She initially pinned Peshtigo's Ella Malek in 3:19, then lost the second-place wrestleback to Athey.

"Jenna has been wrestling great the last few weeks of the season," Shawano coach Mike Homan said. "She really has done a nice job of continuing to improve. She is a junior this year, so we look for her to have a great off-season and put some good work in to take another step next season."

Harlow Skenandore of Pulaski won the 145 weight class, beating Antigo's

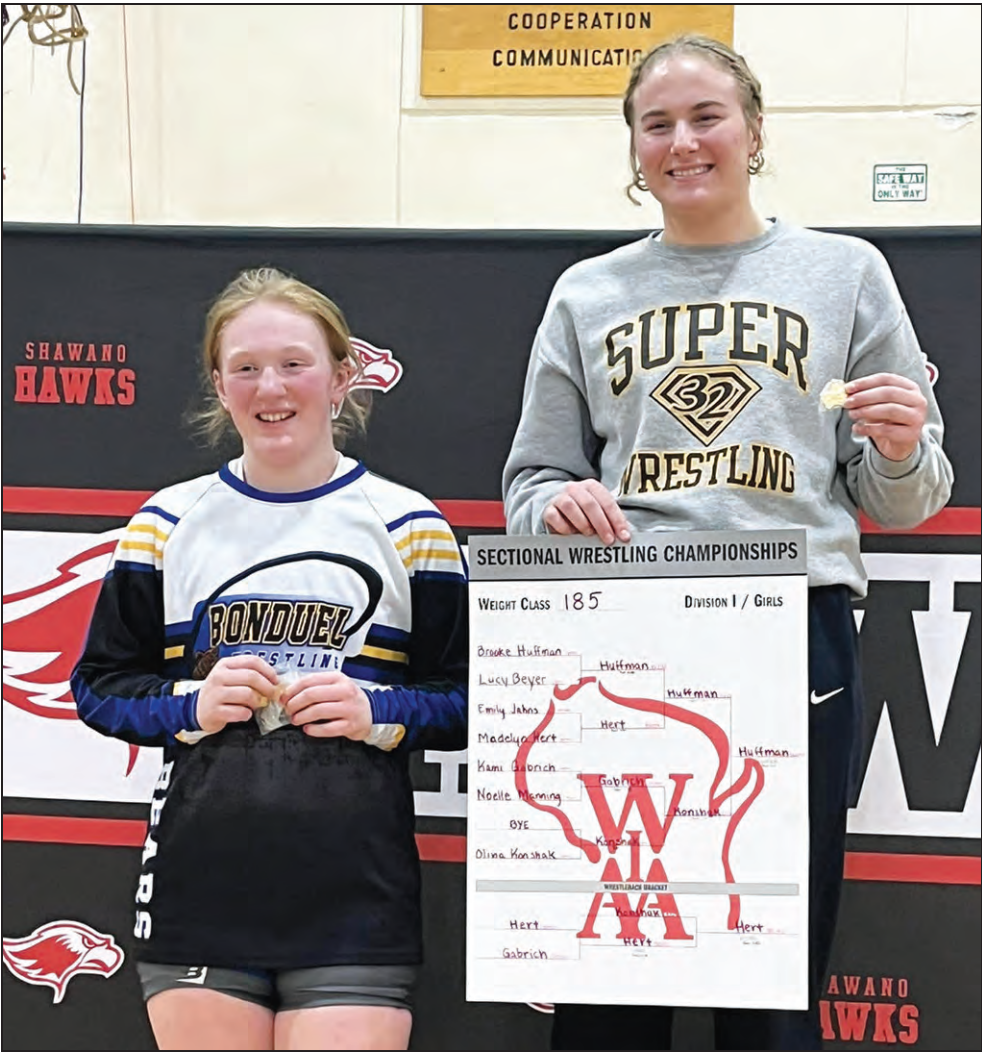


At 114 pounds, Lena's Taylor Whiting won the sectional title, defeating Bay Port's Dakota Athey. Jenna Moede of Shawano placed third.

CONTRIBUTED

Olivia Hofrichter 13-1.
Wrestling at 165, Alisha Berg of Bonduel pinned

Wausau West's Christiana Nordstrom in 53 seconds to win the sectional title. Ellie



Brooke Huffman of Wittenberg-Birnamwood, right, pinned Madelyn Hert of Bonduel in 1:11 for the sectional title in the 185-pound weight class at Shawano Community High School on Feb. 21. Both girls advance to the state tournament Feb. 27-March 1.

CONTRIBUTED

Neosh of Pulaski placed fourth after losing to a Hortonville wrestler in the third-place match.

Finishing in second at 138 was Leah Kapla of Pulaski. In the second-place wrestleback, she won 14-8 over Fox Valley Lutheran's Sophie Wunderlich but then lost 1-0 in the ultimate tiebreaker scoring mechanism.

At 152, Madalyn Sokolski of Bonduel finished second.

After defeating Wausau West in the second-place

wrestleback round, she was pinned by New London's Hailie Krueger in 1:22 in the title match.

Kaitlyn Kroening of Bonduel finished third at 100 pounds. She pinned Evelyn Hurley of Peshtigo in 1:30 in the third-place match, then lost 9-4 to Green Bay Preble's Jackie Zuniga in the second-place wrestleback round.

Hailey Berg of Bonduel was also third. At 126, she pinned her Wausau West opponent in 2:22, then lost to Peshtigo's Addison

Olson.

Elliana Maroszek of Pulaski also missed out on a trip to state when she placed fourth at 132.

Several Shawano wrestlers ended their seasons with losses in the early rounds. They were Zennah Bosetski, Gwyn Hermann, Madelyn Moesch, Lauren Seehafer, Brynn Hannes, Adalyn Barkley, Jacey Cowden and Lily Tomas.

It was also the end of their high school careers for seniors Barkley, Hannes and Tomas.

Pair of Panthers win sectional wrestling titles

State tournament will be held Feb. 27-March 1 at Kohl Center in Madison

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Feb. 22
Division 2, Sectional B**

A pair of Oconto Falls wrestlers won their weight classes as sectionals and will join five other area wrestlers at the state meet this weekend.

At the Division 2 Sectional B meet at Seymour, Isaiah Holtz captured first at 113 pounds. A sophomore, he pinned sophomore Easton Felchlin of Wrightstown in 35 seconds to win the title.

At 138, senior Cole Bozile pinned Seymour senior Connor Steffens in 1:29 for the title.

At 144, Ben Miller of Wittenberg-Birnamwood placed second.

In the second-place match, the junior won 11-1 over Freedom senior Trent Nabbefeld. In the match for first place, he lost 5-4 to Wrightstown senior Louis Hock.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood sophomore Dalton

Fletcher placed second at 120, and Shawano junior Dane Hodkiewicz won third.

In the battle for first, Fletcher lost to Keil's Logan Schad.

Hodkiewicz received a bye in his first-round match when the Denmark wrestler was unable to participate. That placed him into the semifinals where he wrestled Fletcher. He lost that match 5-2 and moved to the wrestleback side of the bracket.

His next match was against Jayden Cornell of Freedom. In that match, Hodkiewicz found a quick shot and was finishing up the middle when he sat through. His opponent held on as Hodkiewicz rocked onto his butt putting the Freedom wrestler flat on his back. It was a scramble situation but just enough control for Hodkiewicz to earn the fall in 1:18.

This win placed him into the third-place match, and a win would send him

to state. His match was against Logan Boehnlein of Seymour. Hodkiewicz was 1-1 again Boehnlein this season, winning a tight match in a dual and losing a close match at regionals.

The first period was back and forth when Hodkiewicz secured a takedown late in the first period. He was in on a double leg and finished up the middle and secured the takedown. He rode out the rest of the first period for a 3-0 lead.

In the second period, Hodkiewicz chose neutral and they wrestled through many positions but no points were scored.

In the third period, Boehnlein chose down. Hodkiewicz controlled much of the period, but there was a scramble late and Hodkiewicz gave up a 2-point reversal. In the last 30 seconds, Hodkiewicz was working to his feet and was near an escape as the time expired, but it didn't matter as he

won 3-2.

"It was a hard fought win that earned him a trip to the state tournament," coach Mike Homan said.

Junior Devin Wudtke of Wittenberg-Birnamwood earned third place at 138. He defeated Drayk Nolan of Chilton/Hilbert but then was pinned by Stefens, who would go on to lose to Bozile.

Also placing third and advancing to state was Oconto Falls senior Nick Trepaneir. He defeated Denmark's Quinn Kaminiski but lost to Freedom's Vincent Cook.

Shawano started the day with three sectional qualifiers. Drew Chelberg was called up when another was unable to wrestle.

Kian Morstad and Chelberg each had No. 1 seeds in their first matches. After both taking losses in the first round, they entered the wrestleback side of the bracket.

Morstad lost to Cole Berth of Coleman by fall

in 3:42.

"Kian has had a great freshman season," coach Mike Homan said. "He will do great things in the next three years. It was great for him to experience sectionals and the feel of the matches here."

Chelberg won his next match over Wyatt Bieber 12-5, which placed him in the third-place match against Austin Kufner of Fox Valley Lutheran.

"It was great to go from a fifth-place regional finish to the match to qualify for the state tournament," Homan said. "In that match, Drew wrestled well but just came up a few moves short and lost the match 14-8."

"Drew did a great job for us this season. He grew as a wrestler and was always improving. Today was a great experience for him, and we look forward to his senior season."

Also placing fourth were Brandon Romo of Oconto Falls at 126, Easton

Davis of Wittenberg-Birnamwood at 132 and George Seegmiller of Wittenberg-Birnamwood at 285.

Division 2, Sectional B

At the Valders sectional meet, one Lena wrestler finished in second and a Bonduel wrestler was third to advance to state.

At 150, Lena junior Max Peterson was pinned by Weyauwega-Fremont freshman Collin Hamm in 3:48 in the battle for first place.

Bonduel senior Colin Fischer placed third at 165. He defeated Southern Door's Lance Veaser, then lost to Brillion's Weston Schmidt in the second-place match.

Placing fourth and missing out on the state tournament were Isaac Peterson of Lena at 106, Jaxon Bogacz of Bonduel at 132 and Evan Wilcox of Bonduel at 215.

The state tournament will be held Feb. 27-March 1.

Hockey season ends for Hawks, Red Robins

By NEW Media Staff

Feb. 20 Lakeland 9, Shawano/Bonduel 2
Shawano/Bonduel could not find its rhythm in the Division 2 Sectional 2 WIAA regional finals playoff game against Lakeland. The Hawks lost 9-2 to end their season.

The Thunderbirds were up 3-0 in the first period before Gavin Hundt scored for Shawano/Bonduel at 11:26. Michael Dillenburgh had the assist.

Lakeland scored four more times in the second period to lead 7-1 before Kielian Armbuster scored with a Blake Knope assist at 8:03 to make it 7-2.

The Thunderbirds scored once more in the second period and sealed the win a goal in the third period.

Shawano/Bonduel, which was seeded No. 6, had 15 shots on goal. Lakeland, seeded No. 3, had 33 shots on goal. Kaiden Thornborrow had 14 saves, and Tyson Lyons had 10.

Each team was penalized seven times, the Hawks for 14 minutes and the Thunderbirds for 20.

Northland Pines 6, Antigo 5
The Antigo and Wittenberg-Birnhamwood co-op hockey team held a 4-2 lead after two periods, but Northland Pines knocked in four goals in the final period to earn the 6-5 win in the WIAA Division 2 Sectional regional finals game.

Down 1-0 in the first period, Owen Dickman tied the game at 8:35 with assists from Carson Rhode and Eli Kassler.

Antigo took the lead at 9:02 in the second period when Kassler scored. The Red Robins went up 3-1 at 11:47 on an Ethan Novy goal with Kassler and Liam Burt



Shawano/Bonduel's Teagan Harkey picked up another assist in the Hawks' 7-2 win over Manitowoc United on Feb. 11. Harkey is a freshman at Shawano Community High School. The Hawks' season ended Feb. 20 with a 9-2 loss to Lakeland in the regional finals.

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assisting.

The Eagles scored less than a minute later, but Collin Tiedemann put Antigo back up 4-2 with a goal at 14:11. Dickman had the assist.

But the third period belonged to the Eagles. From two goals down, they worked their way to two goals up, 6-4, before Kassler assisted Dickman to scored at 12:31 to bring the score to 6-5.

The Red Robins, a No. 5 seed, had 25 shots on goals. The Eagles, seeded No. 4, had 40 shots on goal, while Richie Veriha had 34 saves.

Each team was penalized four times for eight minutes.



Goalie Tyson Lyons tallied 16 saves on 18 shots on goal by Manitowoc United in the Hawks' 7-2 win on Feb. 11. Wisconsin Prep Hockey reports Lyons has 150 saves on the season against 169 shots on goal in 15 games. In the Feb. 20 regional finals against Lakeland, Lyons had 10 saves.

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Bonduel boys clinch conference title

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Feb. 22 St. Thomas Aquinas Academy 74, Suring 54
Feb. 21 Bonduel 79, Amherst 39

Bonduel clinched the Central Wisconsin East Conference championship and improved to 13-0 in the conference with a 79-39 clubbing of Amherst.

The Bears used a dominating 48-19 first half to cruise to the win.

Quinn Wesenberg led Bonduel with 19 points. Sam Roberts added 13 and led the team with 17 rebounds. Cade Johnson and Ryan Westrich each scored 10 pints.

Johnson offered up a team-leading five assists, and Race Anvelink had three steals.

Oconto Falls 78, Clintonville 71

Oconto Falls put up a well-rounded effort in its 78-71 win over Clintonville.

Jameson Beaman and Evan Yuma each scored 19 points, while JJ Pytleski contributed 14 and Chase Carriveau added another 13.

Pytleski and Yuma each pulled down seven rebounds. Brady Bursa led the team by dishing out six

six assists, and with two steals each were Bursa, Yuma, Emerich Skarban and Jameson Beaman.

Three Lakes 69, Lena 45

Mason Spice's 13 points led Lena on the scoreboard, but the team came up short against Three Lakes, losing 69-45.

White Lake 65, Gresham 54

Thomas Kaquatosh scored 15 points and pulled down 19 rebounds, but Gresham came up short in its 65-54 loss to White Lake.

Wanbli Spotted Bear Bonnett added another 13 pints for the Wildcats, and Nolan Pecore scored 10.

Pecore led Gresham with four assists and two steals.

Tigerton 70, Marion 23

Tigerton had little difficulty in dispatching Marion 70-23.

The Tigers held a comfortable halftime lead of 37-12 and had a nearly identical 33-11 second half.

Joey Zimdars led Tigerton with 16 points, as James Brady added 15, Sam Anheuser scored 13 and Caleb Dahlstrom had 10.

Brady led the team with seven rebounds, and Gavin Kielblock had six. Anheuser

er had three assists.
Pulaski 81, Green Bay Southwest 36

As if a 17-point lead at halftime wasn't big enough, Pulaski added another 28 points to their advantage in the second half as the Red Raiders trounced Green Bay Southwest 81-36.

Colin Schultz led Pulaski with 21 points. Also scoring in double digits were Joseph Mijal with 13, Ethan Schmidt with 12 and Bryce Wotruba with 10.

Schultz, Schmidt and Benjamin Barry each had five rebounds. Wotruba led with six assists, and Wotruba and Mijal each had two steals.

Shawano 57, Green Bay East 50

Logan Simple's 29 points paced the Hawks in their 57-50 win at Green Bay East.

Will Verkuilen scored 12, and Anderson Schmidt added another 11 for Shawano.

Iola-Scandinavia 55, Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 48

The Chargers dropped into a tie for second place in the Central Wisconsin East Conference after

BASKETBALL,
CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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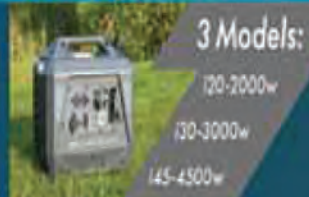
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Send a resume, cover letter, and four to six samples of your work to Editor Kevin Passon at kpasson@newmedia-wi.com. Put "Reporter – Oconto Falls" in the subject header.

**BASKETBALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18**

losing 55-48 to Iola-Scandinavia. Both teams are 10-3, behind Bonduel's 13-0 first-place record.

**Port Edwards 88,
Bowler 43**

**Weyauwega-Fremont
62, Menominee Nation 60
Feb. 20**

Coleman 70, Gillett 68
Jesse DeBauch 42 points and a strong second half wasn't enough for Gillett as the Tigers fell to Coleman 70-68.

Wausaukee 62, Lena 56
Mason Spice scored 25 points for Lena as the Wildcats lost 62-56 to Wausaukee.

Feb. 19
Roncalli 70, Bonduel
48

Junior Ryan Westrich reached the 1,000-point threshold in Bonduel's first loss of the season, a 70-48 defeat at the hands of visiting Roncalli.

Roncalli held a six-point lead at halftime and then blew the game open with a 34-18 second half.

Quinn Wesenberg led the Bears with 15 points, and Race Anvelink scored another 14. Westrich dropped in 11 points.

The non-conference loss dropped Bonduel to 20-1 overall. Roncalli is also 20-1.

Tigerton 59, White Lake 43

James Brady scored 26 points and pulled down 15 rebounds in Tigerton's 59-43 Central Wisconsin North Conference win over White Lake. The Tigers improved

to 8-0 in conference and 19-1 overall.

Caleb Dahlstrom and Joey Zimdars each knocked in 10 points.

Dahlstrom led the team with three assists, while Brody Miller had four steals.

Feb. 18
Lakeland Union 47,
Shawano 46

Marathon 53, Wittenberg-Birnamwood 49

Rosholt 75, Bowler 48
Gresham 67, Suring 58
Pulaski 82, Seymour 70
Feb. 17

Gillett 73, Manawa 60
Jesse DeBauch was a one-man wrecking machine as he scored 45 points in Gillett's 73-60 win over Manawa.

DeBauch sank 12 2-pointers, a pair of 3-pointers and 15-of-17 free throws.

Ryan Pensis added another 14 points for the Tigers.

Lena 70, Carney-Nadeau (Michigan) 47

Mason Spice poured in 32 points, Mason Belognia added 10 and eight other players also scored as Lena topped Michigan's Carney-Nadeau 70-47.

The Wildcats held a comfortable 33-14 lead at halftime and cruised to the victory from there.

Oconto Falls 75, Green Bay West 72

Oconto Falls hung on long enough to escape with a 75-72 win over Green Bay West.

Leading 38-35 at halftime, the Panthers played an even

second half with each team scoring 37 points.

Jameson Beaman led Oconto Falls with 28 points, and JJ Pytleski added 15. Beaman connected on five 3-pointers, Pytleski had two, and Emerich Skarban had two for six of his nine points.

Skarban led the team with seven rebounds, followed by Evan Yuma and Pytleski with five each. Yuma had five assists. With two steals each were Chase Carrievau, Skarban and Pytleski.

A surge by the Blue Jays lifted them to an 82-68 win over the Hawks.

The Hawks kept the game close until that second-half surge put the win out of reach.

The Hawks were led by Logan Sipple's 28 points.

Tigerton 53, Wild Rose

James Brady scored 16 points and Sam Anheuser added 13 as Tigerton topped Wild Rose 53-32.

Anheuser's points came from three 3-pointers and a 4-for-4 effort from the free throw line. Brady also connected on all four of his free throw attempts.

Caleb Dahlstrom led the Tigers with eight rebounds, Brady had three assists, and Brody Miller and Anheuser each had four steals.

Northland Lutheran
88, Bowler 64

Marion 58, Faith Christian Academy 55



Bay Area Ice Bear Faye Brunke (8) looks for an opening against the Madison Metro Lynx on Feb. 13. The Pulaski High School student was named to the Eastern Shores first team all-conference. Several of her teammates were also honored.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Ice Bears earn all-conference honors

Several members of the Bay Area Ice Bears girls hockey team earned Eastern Shores all-conference honors, the team announced.

Julianne Bradford and Emily Bill were named to

the first team and were also honored as scholar athletes.

Faye Brunke and Addison Dahl were named to the first team.

Ava McDonald was named to the second team.

Honorable mention status was earned by Reese Spiering.

Named as scholar athletes were Tiana Stindt, Briana Anundsen, Olympia Simons, Addison Gady and Claire Gerarden.





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FIND WHAT YOU NEED In The **Classifieds** 715-526-6188

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

Melinda Myers

Melinda has a master's degree in horticulture, is a certified arborist and was a horticulture instructor with tenure.

Watch for her column in the second and fourth issues each month of NEW papers.



NEW MEDIA INC.

NOTICE OF UNREDEEMED 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021 SHAWANO COUNTY TAX CERTIFICATES									
FOLLOWING LANDS TO BE REDEEMED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2025									
IF NOT REDEEMED THEY WILL BE CONVEYED TO SHAWANO COUNTY									
Description	Owners	Ctf. No.	Year Sold	Tax Year	Amount of Tax	Interest to 9/30/25	Charges	Total	
TOWN OF ALMON									
N 363' OF E 247.5' OF SE 1/4 NE 1/4 SEC 22 T28N R12E N8397 REGINA RD-REGINA CEMETERY PARCEL #002-22140-0010	BETHANY A SCHMUDE	12273	2022	2021	1,422.28	625.80	250.00	2,298.08	
TOWN OF ANGELICA									
N 1/2 OF NE 1/4 SE 1/4 NKA LOT 1 V5 CSM P269 SEC 24 T26N R18E PARCEL #004-24410-0000	GREGORY T CADY MARY CADY	12288	2022	2021	1,618.93	712.33	250.00	2,581.26	
TOWN OF ANIWA									
W 428' OF N 278' OF S.E.1/4 S.W.1/4 SEC.19 T.29 R.11 E PARCEL #006-19340-0010	MARK A LOW	12308	2022	2021	911.64	401.13	250.00	1,562.77	
S.W.1/4 S.W.1/4 SEC.25 T.29 R.11 E. PARCEL #006-25330-0000	PATSY C PINGEL	12327	2022	2021	782.56	344.33	250.00	1,376.89	
S.W.1/4 S.E.1/4 SEC.26 T.29 R.11 E. PARCEL #006-26430-0000	PATSY C PINGEL	12312	2022	2021	743.77	327.26	250.00	1,321.03	
S.E.1/4 S.E.1/4 EX E 209'OF N 418'SEC.26 T.29 R.11 E. PARCEL #006-26440-0010	PATSY C PINGEL	12328	2022	2021	1,034.32	455.10	250.00	1,739.42	
E 240'OF N 190'OF S 770' OF N.E.1/4 S.E.1/4 EX HWY 45 SEC.31 T.29 R.11 E. PARCEL #006-31410-0030	DALE MEVERDEN	12313	2022	2021	310.35	136.56	250.00	696.91	
N.W.1/4 N.E.1/4 SEC.35 T.29 R.11 E PARCEL #006-35120-0000	PATSY C PINGEL	12332	2022	2021	858.34	377.67	250.00	1,486.01	
N.W.1/4 S.E.1/4 SEC.35 T.29 R.11 E PARCEL #006-35420-0000	WILLIAM J PINGEL JR	12320	2022	2021	743.77	327.26	250.00	1,321.03	
S.W.1/4 S.E.1/4 SEC.35 T.29 R.11 E PARCEL #006-35430-0000	WILLIAM J PINGEL JR	12321	2022	2021	588.45	258.92	250.00	1,097.37	
N.W.1/4 N.E.1/4 SEC.36 T.29 R.11 E PARCEL #006-36120-0000	PATSY C PINGEL	12333	2022	2021	763.17	335.79	250.00	1,348.96	
TOWN OF BELLE PLAINE									
PRT SE 1/4 SW 1/4 DES V617 P263-267 SEC 29 T26N R15E PARCEL #17 PARCEL #010-29340-0180	KAY M KRISTOF	12377	2022	2021	642.59	282.74	250.00	1,175.33	
TOWN OF FAIRBANKS									
S.W.1/4 S.W.1/4 KNOWN AS LOT 1 CERT SUR REC V.16 P.156 MAP #3733 SEC.24 T.26N R.12E PARCEL #014-24330-0000	JAMES ASHENBRENNER BRENDA ASHENBRENNER	12429	2022	2021	966.06	425.07	250.00	1,641.13	
TOWN OF GERMANIA									
SW 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC 4 T26N R11E PARCEL #016-04230-0000	LYN R WOLFF	12436	2022	2021	476.84	209.81	250.00	936.65	
TOWN OF GRANT									
SE 1/4 NE 1/4 EX HWY EX THAT PRT DES IN DOC #671688 SEC 34 T26N R13E NKA LOT 1 V20 CSM P262 MAP #4134 PARCEL #018-34140-0000	JOHN GRUNEWALD	12475	2022	2021	1,168.56	514.16	250.00	1,932.72	
TOWN OF HERMAN									
E 209' OF S 209' OF SW 1/4 NE 1/4 SEC 9 T27N R14E PARCEL #024-09130-0010	LESTER R HESS	12558	2022	2021	198.70	87.43	250.00	536.13	
VIL.OF LYNDHURST SEC 4 T27N R14E LOT 7 BLK.8 & ALL OF VACATED SHAWANO STREET ADJACENT TO LOT 7 PARCEL #024-65150-0540	IRA R HARRISON SKY R HARRISON	12551	2022	2021	1,284.00	564.96	250.00	2,098.96	
TOWN OF HUTCHINS									
S 330'OF S.W.1/4 N.E.1/4 SEC.2 T.29 R.12 E. PARCEL #026-02130-0030	STEVEN J MAUS MARGARET RAGETH	12566	2022	2021	826.69	363.74	250.00	1,440.43	
PRT OF SE 1/4 NW 1/4 DES V523 P76 SEC 21 T29N R12E PARCEL #026-21240-0030	JUDY VERSTOPPEN	12576	2022	2021	30.42	13.38	250.00	293.80	
S 665'OF W 660'OF TH N.W.1/4 N.W.1/4 SEC.32 T.29N R.12 E. PARCEL #026-32220-0010	BARBARA H HAMMONS	12580	2022	2021	1,518.35	668.07	250.00	2,436.42	
TOWN OF MAPLE GROVE									
SE 1/4 SE 1/4 EX COM NW COR SD40 TH E 20'TH SWLY TO PT 20'S OF BEG TH N20'TO POB HWY 29 EX V788 P461 &EX CERT SUR REC V4 P79 SEC 23 T25N R18E PARCEL #030-23440-0000	RANDAL J GRACYALNY KIM M GRACYALNY MARGARET GRACYALNY, VENDOR	12627	2022	2021	348.13	153.18	250.00	751.31	
SW 1/4 NE 1/4 EX RD DES V363 P605 & V788 P461 SEC 25 T25N R18E PARCEL #030-25130-0000	RANDAL J GRACYALNY KIM M GRACYALNY MARGARET GRACYALNY, VENDOR	12616	2022	2021	116.48	51.25	250.00	417.73	
SE 1/4 NW 1/4 EX RD DES V363 P605 & V788 P461 SEC 25 T25N R18E PARCEL #030-25240-0000	RANDAL J GRACYALNY KIM M GRACYALNY MARGARET GRACYALNY, VENDOR	12629	2022	2021	2,847.90	1,253.08	250.00	4,350.98	
TOWN OF MORRIS									
NW 1/4 FRAC NE 1/4 COM NE COR SD 40 TH S 1270.83' TH W 1320.84' TH N 1270.72' TH E TO POB & S 50' DES DOC 707256 EX THE E 50.01' DES DOC #707257 SEC 6 T27N R12E PARCEL #032-06120-0000	PETER KLINNER	12657	2022	2021	2,663.84	1,172.09	250.00	4,085.93	
N.W.1/4 N.W.1/4 NE OF HWY 29 SEC.16 T.27 R.12 E. EX CERT SUR REC V.6 P.279 PARCEL #032-16220-0000	DENNIS L WENDLER	12649	2022	2021	553.76	243.65	250.00	1,047.41	
COM NW COR SE 1/4 NW 1/4 TH E 122' TO POB TH CONT E 205.2' TH 48 DEG 04'RT 12.81 FT TH 75 DEG 35' RT 147' TO HWY TH 101 DEG 13' RT 187'TO POB EX ALL TH PART NOW USED FOR HIGHWAY SEC 22 T27N R12E PARCEL #032-22240-0030	JAKE T GEHRMAN MAX D GEHRMAN	12638	2022	2021	3.35	1.47	250.00	254.82	
TOWN OF NAVARINO									
VIL OF GALESBURG P F DOLANS ADD NKA LOT 1 V17 CSM P60 MAP #3813 SEC 25 T25N R16E SURVEY ON FILE #9006430PS PARCEL #034-55150-0090	PAO HER	12664	2022	2021	1,575.45	693.20	250.00	2,518.65	
TOWN OF RED SPRINGS									
W 6 ACRES OF SE 1/4 NE 1/4 SEC 9 T28N R14E AND W10988 LITTLE ROAD PARCEL #038-09140-0020	RHONDA S MADOSH	12689	2022	2021	2,566.97	1,129.47	250.00	3,946.44	
TOWN OF SENECA									
SE 1/4 SE 1/4 SEC 16 T27N R13E NKA LOT 2 V18 P248 CSM #3973 PARCEL #042-16440-0000	LYNN M KERSTEN	12768	2022	2021	1,397.97	615.11	250.00	2,263.08	
SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC 21 T27N R13E PARCEL #042-21240-0000	LYNN M KERSTEN	12769	2022	2021	560.68	246.70	250.00	1,057.38	
TOWN OF WASHINGTON									
HIDDEN PINES PART N.E.1/4 S.W.1/4 & FRAC N.W.1/4 S.W 1/4 SEC.6 T.27 R.17 E. LOT 13 PARCEL #044-60150-0120	STEVEN J MATEKEL	12850	2022	2021	1,300.22	572.10	250.00	2,122.32	
TOWN OF WESCOTT									
S 330' OF NW 1/4 SW 1/4 SEC 8 T27N R16E PARCEL #048-08320-0050	DANIEL L MOESCH	12946	2022	2021	1,152.75	507.21	250.00	1,909.96	
COM NW COR N.W.1/4 N.W.1/4 TH S ALG SEC LN 285'TO POB TH CONT SD LN85'S TH E TO E BDY NW-NW-NW TH N 21'TH N85 DEG44'W TO POB S.30T.27R.16 PARCEL #048-30220-0040	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED	12955	2022	2021	2,417.30	1,063.61	250.00	3,730.91	
N 140'OF S 290'N.W.1/4 N.W. 1/4 N.W.1/4 & TH PRT DES V. 664 P.739 SEC.30 T.27 R.16 E. PARCEL #048-30220-0050	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED	12895	2022	2021	6,933.52	3,050.75	250.00	10,234.27	
S 150'OF N.W.1/4 N.W.1/4 N. W.1/4 EX PRT DES V.664 P. 739 SEC.30 T.27 R.16 E. AND N5654 ST 47-55 HWY PARCEL #048-30220-0060	MIDWEST PROPERTIES OF SHAWANO LLC	12896	2022	2021	4,120.77	1,813.14	250.00	6,183.91	
ACHTEN'S FIRST ADDITION TO SUNSET VIEW SEC 24 T27N R15E LOT 7 BLK 3 PARCEL #048-40100-0060	BEIT MAMTAKIM CORPORATION OF USA INCORPORATED	12958	2022	2021	5,593.27	2,461.04	250.00	8,304.31	
COZY OAKS PRT OF FRAC NE-NE & SE-NE & NE-SE SEC 2 T27N R16E LOT 1 PARCEL #048-45200-0000	LAWRENCE W HEATHER GAIL D HEATHER	12960	2022	2021	97.70	42.99	250.00	390.69	
COZY OAKS II PRT FRAC NE-NE & SE-NE & NE-SE SEC. 2 T.27 R. 16 E. LOT 58 PARCEL #048-45210-0260	LAWRENCE W HEATHER GAIL D HEATHER	12962	2022	2021	3.83	1.69	250.00	255.52	
GLENWOOD II PART OF NW 1/4 NE 1/4 & N 1/2 OF NW 1/4 SEC 1 T27N R16E LOT 58 PARCEL #048-55080-0190	BRANDON CHRISTOPHER TOOKES DAWN M TOOKES	12906	2022	2021	101.17	44.51	250.00	395.68	
PARKWOOD ESTATES PART NE 1/4 & SE 1/4 SEC 1 T27N R16E LOT 57 PARCEL #048-70350-0610	ARYN J GRIGNON	12922	2022	2021	573.44	252.31	250.00	1,075.75	
PARKWOOD ESTATES PART N.E. 1/4 & S.E.1/4 SEC.1 T.27 R. 16 E. LOT 66 PARCEL #048-70350-0690	DON W STIEGLBAUER	12979	2022	2021	183.56	80.76	250.00	514.32	
WESCOTT ACRES PRT OF N FRAC 1/2 OF NE 1/4 DES V.427 P2 SEC 1 T27N R16E LOT 17 PARCEL #048-85150-0160	RODNEY A BORKENHAGEN	12990	2022	2021	140.09	61.64	250.00	451.73	
WESCOTT ACRES PRT OF N FRAC 1/2 OF NE 1/4 DES V427 P2 SEC 1 T27N R16E LOT 18 PARCEL #048-85150-0170	RODNEY A BORKENHAGEN	12991	2022	2021	140.09	61.64	250.00	451.73	
WESCOTT ACRES PRT OF N FRAC 1/2 OF NE 1/4 DES V427 P2 SEC 1 T27N R16E LOT 19 PARCEL #048-85150-0180	RODNEY A BORKENHAGEN	12938	2022	2021	136.22	59.94	250.00	446.16	
TOWN OF WITTENBERG									
W 150'OF E 300'OF S 290.39' OF SE 1/4 SW 1/4 SEC 23 T27N R11E PARCEL #050-23340-0020	ROSANN J MULLER	13016	2022	2021	319.28	140.48	250.00	709.76	
PLAT OF APPLE RIDGE PRT OF THE NE 1/4 SE 1/4 SEC 12 T27N R11E LOT 13 PARCEL #050-40050-0120	CARL J BULA 2011 INVESTMENT FUND LLC	13025	2022	2021	2.74	1.21	250.00	253.95	

Continued from previous page

VILLAGE OF ANIWA								
VIL OF ANIWA OBERWIESER'S SUB-DIV BLK 26 LOT 4 BLK 2	SEAN LOCKE	13035	2022	2021	564.06	248.19	250.00	1,062.25
PARCEL #101-70050-0140	JULIE LOCKE							
VIL OF ANIWA OBERWIESER'S SUB-DIV BLK 26 LOT 5 BLK 2	SEAN LOCKE	13036	2022	2021	7.23	3.18	250.00	260.41
PARCEL #101-70050-0150	JULIE LOCKE							
VIL OF ANIWA OBERWIESER'S SUB-DIV BLK 26 LOT 6 BLK 2	SEAN LOCKE	13037	2022	2021	7.23	3.18	250.00	260.41
PARCEL #101-70050-0160	JULIE LOCKE							
VIL OF ANIWA OBERWIESER'S SUB-DIV BLK 26 LOT 7 & 8 BLK 2	SEAN LOCKE	13038	2022	2021	285.72	125.72	250.00	661.44
PARCEL #101-70050-0170	JULIE LOCKE							
VILLAGE OF BONDUEL								
VIL OF BONDUEL WHITNEE WOODS PLAT SEC 8 T26N R17E LOT 7	JAMES F HUTTER	13067	2022	2021	634.11	279.01	250.00	1,163.12
PARCEL #107-87100-0060	SUZANNE HUTTER							
VILLAGE OF CECIL								
VIL OF CECIL FREEBORNS ADD LOT 6 BLK 1 SEC 20 T27N R17E	ELLEN S KOEPPEN	13098	2022	2021	1,346.19	592.33	250.00	2,188.52
PARCEL #111-50050-0060	JORDAN E KOEPPEN							
VILLAGE OF ELAND								
VILLAGE OF ELAND LULL & MYLREA'S ADD WAS LOT 1 & PRT LOT 2 V15 CSM P87 MAP #3527 SEC 31 T28N R11E NKA LOT 1 CSM MAP #4707	BRETT J ROEHL	13105	2022	2021	532.05	234.10	250.00	1,016.15
PARCEL #121-65050-0040								
VILLAGE OF GRESHAM								
VILLAGE OF GRESHAM ASSESSOR PLAT PRT SE-NW SEC 3-27-14 OUTLOT 1 BLK 20 EX E 27'OF S 150'N OF RD & EX W 120'OF E 713'OF N 100'OF S 275' & EX E 147'LYG W OF LOT 1 BLK 20 & E 147'LYG W OF LOT 4 & LOT 6 BLK 20 EX STS & EX PLAT & EX CSM V2 P38 & V2 P123 & V2 P172 & V2 P181 & & V2 P182 & V601 P446 & V683 P533 & V4 P20 & V4 P173 & V4 P273 & V6 P343 & V8 P284 & CSM V18 P114	RALPH A LANGE	6657	2017	2016	7,750.82	8,060.85	250.00	16,061.67
PARCEL #131-40050-1550	LEANNE LANGE	8005	2018	2017	6,978.93	6,420.62		13,399.55
		9389	2019	2018	6,950.59	5,560.47		12,511.06
		10691	2020	2019	7,049.11	4,793.39		11,842.50
		11811	2021	2020	7,067.85	3,958.00		11,025.85
		13117	2022	2021	7,082.84	3,116.45		10,199.29
VIL OF GRESHAM FIRST ADD TO PINE ACRES SEC 2 T27N R14E LOT 21 & 1/32 INTEREST IN OUTLOT 1 FIRST ADD PINE ACRES & OUTLOT 6 V1 CSM P204 MAP #196 EX PRT SOLD DOC #692164	SCOTT M NELSON	8314	2018	2017	1,005.78	925.31	250.00	2,181.09
PARCEL #131-70100-0100	LORI NELSON	9714	2019	2018	1,216.70	973.36		2,190.06
		10988	2020	2019	1,060.93	721.44		1,782.37
		12063	2021	2020	1,068.35	598.27		1,666.62
		13120	2022	2021	1,074.27	472.68		1,546.95
VIL OF GRESHAM FIRST ADD TO PINE ACRES SEC 2 T27N R14E LOT 27 & 1/32 INTEREST IN OUTLOT 1 FIRST ADD PINE ACRES & OUTLOT 6 V1 CSM P204 MAP #196 EX PRT SOLD DOC #692165	MICHAEL D PURDUN	13136	2022	2021	885.92	389.80	250.00	1,525.72
PARCEL #131-70100-0160	ANNAVILLE PURDUN							
VAILLAGE OF MATTOON								
VIL OF MATTOON PRT OF NW 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC 15 T29N R12E LOT 1 CSM V3 P201 MAP #855 ACRES PER PLAT OF SURVEY 9006648PS	PHILIP R MERKLE	13146	2022	2021	378.64	166.60	250.00	795.24
PARCEL #151-15220-0060								
VILLAGE OF MATTOON ORIGINAL PLAT LOT 6 BLK 20	REBECCA L OSBORN	13148	2022	2021	938.91	413.12	250.00	1,602.03
PARCEL #151-70050-0510								
VILLAGE OF MATTOON ORIGINAL PLAT LOT 1-2 & 3 BLK 36	DENNIS LLEWELLYN	13141	2022	2021	1,460.65	642.69	250.00	2,353.34
PARCEL #151-70050-0950	MARY H LLEWELLYN							
VILLAGE OF TIGERTON								
VIL OF TIG TH PRT NW 1/4 NE 1/4 & NE 1/4 NW 1/4 DES V396 P261-2 EX PRT DES V465 P348 SEC 16 T26N R12E	CHARLES H GEHRMAN	13159	2022	2021	946.16	416.31	250.00	1,612.47
PARCEL #186-16210-0100								
VILLAGE OF TIGERTON MILL SITE DES V.288 P.611 PRT S 1/2 S.W.1/4 SEC.9 T.26 R.12 E.	PAMELA M WHITEWING	13161	2022	2021	122.17	53.75	250.00	425.92
PARCEL #186-65050-0020	JOHN A WHITEWING							
VIL. TIGERTON ORIGINAL PLAT LOTS 1 & 2 BLK 34 EX S 10'	BRIAN K JENSEN	13166	2022	2021	1,504.29	661.89	250.00	2,416.18
PARCEL #186-70050-1360	AMY JENSEN							
VIL. TIGERTON ORIGINAL PLAT LOT 3 BLK 34 EX S 10'	BRIAN K JENSEN	13167	2022	2021	427.01	187.88	250.00	864.89
PARCEL #186-70050-1370	AMY JENSEN							
VIL. TIGERTON ORIGINAL PLAT LOT 8 BLK 34 EX N 10' & E 1/2 LOT 9 BLK 34 EX N 10'	CHARLES H GEHRMAN	13182	2022	2021	420.20	184.89	250.00	855.09
PARCEL #186-70050-1430								
VIL TIGERTON ORIGINAL PLAT LOT 5 BLK 41	GARY L JENSEN	13183	2022	2021	1,782.95	784.49	250.00	2,817.44
PARCEL #186-70050-1920	APRIL M JENSEN							
VIL OF TIGERTON SWANKES ADD LOT 5 BLK 3	CARLAR COOPER	13189	2022	2021	768.67	338.21	250.00	1,356.88
PARCEL #186-75150-0160								
VILLAGE OF WITTENBERG								
VIL WITTENBERG BETHANY ADD LOTS 1 & 2 BLK 3	ELLA MAE DECORAH	13192	2022	2021	2,071.14	911.30	250.00	3,232.44
PARCEL #191-40100-0040								
VIL WITTENBERG JACOBSON & SCHLYTTER ADD N W 74' LOT 2 BLK.5	MARION DE LA VEGA	13208	2022	2021	530.58	233.46	250.00	1,014.04
PARCEL #191-60100-0340								
VIL.WITTENBERG MEISNERS ADD LOT 4 BLK 3 THE E 200' OF S 140'	DOLLI BIGJOHN	13198	2022	2021	387.74	170.61	250.00	808.35
PARCEL #191-65050-0300								
VIL.WITTENBERG SCHLYTTTERS SUB DIV BLK 27 LOT 4	PHILLIP A BAHR	13210	2022	2021	906.72	398.95	250.00	1,555.67
PARCEL #191-75050-0030								
CITY OF SHAWANO								
CITY OF SHAWANO S.W.1/4 N. W.1/4 KNOWN AS LOT 1 CERT SUR REC V.4 P.345 MAP #1263 SEC.30 T.27 R.16 E.	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13271	2022	2021	3,011.82	1,325.20	250.00	4,587.02
PARCEL #281-30230-0000								
CITY OF SHAWANO N 12 RD OF W 10 RD S.W.1/4 N.W.1/4 SEC 30 T.27 R.16 E	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13217	2022	2021	1,714.34	754.31	250.00	2,718.65
PARCEL #281-30230-0010								
CITY OF SHAWANO W 1/2 OF THE E 1/2 NW 1/4 NE 1/4 EX W 165' SEC 32 T27N R16E PRT LOT 1 & ALL LOT 2 V4 P83 CSM #1089	BEIT MAMTAKIM CORPORATION OF USA INC	13272	2022	2021	7,446.69	3,276.54	250.00	10,973.23
PARCEL #281-32120-0010								
CITY OF SHAWANO PRT N.E.1/4 N.W.1/4 SEC.32 T.27 R.16 E. LOT 1 CERT SURVEY REC V.2 P.286 MAP #578 A/K/A LOT 2 CERT SUR V.4 P.154 MAP#1137 EX PRT S OF SANITARY DIST LINE	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13273	2022	2021	5,116.39	2,251.21	250.00	7,617.60
PARCEL #281-32210-0120								
CITY OF SHAWANO PRT N.E.1/4 N.W.1/4 SEC.32 T.27 R.16 E. LOT 1 CERT SURVEY REC V.2 P.286 MAP #578 A/K/A LOT 2 CERT SUR V.4 P.154 MAP#1137 EX PRT N OF SANITARY DIST LINE	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13274	2022	2021	885.95	389.82	250.00	1,525.77
PARCEL #281-32210-0121								
CITY OF SHAWANO S 1/2 OF N. W.1/4 N.W.1/4 KNOWN AS LOT 2 CERT SUR REC V.4 P.320 MAP #1247 SEC.33 T.27 R.16 E. & EXCHANGE OF PROP WITH CITY IN VOL.872 P.596	MIDWEST PROPERTIES OF SHAWANO LLC	13219	2022	2021	2,305.83	1,014.57	250.00	3,570.40
PARCEL #281-33220-0080								
CITY OF SHAWANO PART OF THE S.E. 1/4 OF THE N.E. 1/4 THE E 340.14'W OF HWY N OF MILLS ST.& S OF RR EX CERT SUR REC V.7 P.339 SEC.25 T.27N R.15E KNOWN AS MEADOWGLOW CONDO'S	MIDWEST PROPERTIES OF SHAWANO LLC	13276	2022	2021	5,813.34	2,557.87	250.00	8,621.21
PARCEL #281-39140-0020								
CITY OF SHAWANO ARLINGTON ADDITION LOT 10 BLK 1	MIDWEST PROPERTIES OF SHAWANO LLC	13278	2022	2021	3,020.82	1,329.16	250.00	4,599.98
PARCEL #281-40300-0060								
CITY OF SHAWANO DANKS AND RICHMOND PLAT S 33' LOT 8 & S 33' LOT 9 BLK 2 E OF ALLEY	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13230	2022	2021	2,439.21	1,073.25	250.00	3,762.46
PARCEL #281-45150-0240								
CITY OF SHAWANO DANKS AND RICHMOND PLAT LOT 1 & N 20' LOT 5 BLK 3 E OF ALLEY	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13286	2022	2021	1,653.21	727.41	250.00	2,630.62
PARCEL #281-45150-0280								
CITY OF SHAWANO DANKS AND RICHMOND PLAT LOT 2 BLK 3 & S 20' OF N 40' OF LOT 5 BLK 3 E OF ALLEY	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13287	2022	2021	1,653.21	727.41	250.00	2,630.62
PARCEL #281-45150-0290								
CITY OF SHAWANO FAIRVIEW ADDITION LOT 5 BLK 5 EX W 6 FT	BRIAN E BORNHOFER	13240	2022	2021	2,176.03	957.45	250.00	3,383.48
PARCEL #281-50100-0190	STEPHANIE BORNHOFER							
CITY OF SHAWANO SAWYER AND ANDREWS PLAT LOT 4 BLK 5	TIMOTHY WAYNE BOURDON JR	13257	2022	2021	1,801.21	792.53	250.00	2,843.74
PARCEL #281-75100-0290								
CITY OF SHAWANO SAWYER AND ANDREWS PLAT LOT 1 BLK 16 THE E 50'	MIDWEST PROPERTIES OF SHAWANO LLC	13261	2022	2021	208.37	91.68	250.00	550.05
PARCEL #281-75100-0880								
CITY OF SHAWANO SAWYER AND ANDREWS PLAT LOT 1 & PRT OF LOT 2 BLK 31 NKA LOT 1 V3 CSM P252 MAP #898 EX HWY DOC #731634	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13267	2022	2021	5,511.93	2,425.25	250.00	8,187.18
PARCEL #281-75100-2170								
	GAIL J EBERHARDT (VENDOR); AKA							
	GAIL J ERICKSON (VENDOR)							
	STEVEN F ERICKSON (VENDOR)							
	3RD DIMENSION HOLDINGS (VENDOR)							
CITY OF SHAWANO SAWYER AND ANDREWS PLAT LOT 3 BLK 31 A/K/A LOT 2 CERT SUR REC V. 3 P.252 MAP #898	DR R C SAMANTA ROY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	13262	2022	2021	368.75	162.25	250.00	781.00
PARCEL #281-75100-2180								
	GAIL J EBERHARDT (VENDOR); AKA							
	GAIL J ERICKSON (VENDOR)							
	STEVEN F ERICKSON (VENDOR)							
	3RD DIMENSION HOLDINGS (VENDOR)							

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All that remains of the former Alexian Brothers Novitiate complex is the original mansion built in 1939. A 2022 restoration project included gutting the interior and installing a new roof and windows. Owners Ethan and Stephanie Fernhaber are working to bring new life to the 25,827-square-foot mansion that rests on the 177 acres along the Red River. CONTRIBUTED

Time heals wounds from Novitiate takeover

Current owners moving ahead with remodeling efforts

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

It's been 50 years, and memories of the armed takeover of the former Alexian Brothers Novitiate near Gresham still resonate with longtime members of the community.

Ethan and Stephanie Fernhaber are working to bring new life to the 25,827-square-foot mansion that rests on the 177 acres along the Red River.

While some of the issues that led to the takeover continue, the Fernhabers hope to change what residents associate with the mansion once their remodeling effort is complete.

The mansion today

Today, the Novitiate is owned by the Fernhabers, who in turn own Novitiate LLC, which encompasses all of the land and building. The only building remaining on the site is the mansion itself.

There is also caretaker's RV on the site. Tim Bosman, Ethan Fernhaber's brother-in-law, is the caretaker. He is also a teacher in the Gresham School District.

Stephanie Fernhaber grew up about a mile from the mansion.

"It is the most beautiful and destroyed piece of property I have ever seen," Ethan Fernhaber said.

The plan is to restore the mansion and use it in a way that gives back to the community.

"We purchased the Novitiate so our family could work together to restore the mansion and enjoy the land," Fernhaber said.

In the past few years, the Fernhabers have installed a new roof and windows in the mansion. They are in the process of finalizing the



Shanti Bennett shows her mixed-media mobile to a patron Oct. 6, 2024, in the Novitiate during the 2024 Shawano Miles of Art Tour. Still in a remodeling phase, the mansion is used for select private and community events. FILE | NEW MEDIA

plans for the building and the grounds.

The building has been gutted; when remodeled, it will feature more than 20 rooms.

"We hope to bring the mansion into a habitation state by 2030," Fernhaber said.

Today, the grounds are used for hiking, fishing, camping and an occasional family event.

Fernhaber grew up in the Milwaukee area. He worked as a meat cutter and then went to UW-Milwaukee. After graduation, he performed audits for Wells Fargo Business Credit.

"Stephanie and I moved to Indiana for Stephanie to go to graduate school," Fernhaber said. "During this time, we used our home equity line of credit to purchase our first double-wide. We renovated it and placed a renter in that. Over the next two decades, we acquired more homes and then shifted into apartment communities."

The couple now oper-



Power was turned back on at the Alexian Brothers Novitiate on Jan. 7, 1975, and food was brought in to the Menominee Warrior Society who took over the facilities on New Year's Day. The National Guardsmen are shown here as they escort the food-carrying vehicle to the building. The armed takeover lasted 34 days. FILE | NEW MEDIA

ates three companies and a foundation.

Created in 2003, Renewing Management is their property management company. The portfolio includes 30 apartment communities with 4,200-plus rental apartments throughout Indiana.

Volumod is a volumetric modular construction facility founded in 2021 on the far east side of Indianapolis.

"We construct multi-family, single-family and

light commercial in an environmentally-controlled factory," Fernhaber said. "We offer second-chance hiring for individuals coming out of incarceration or other challenges."

Helix is a land development and construction management company, partnering with Renewing Management and Volumod.

Finally, Renewing Communities is a nonprofit organization serving the employees of Renewing Management, Volumod and

In 1969, the Brothers moved their operations to Chicago, putting the novitiate building up for sale, with the last Brothers moving out in 1972. Attempts to sell the property were unsuccessful.

On Jan. 1, 1975, an armed group called the Menominee Warrior Society, seized the property and took the caretaker and his family hostage. They demanded that the Novitiate and property be turned over to the Menominee Tribe, claiming that federal law allowed them to retake the land once it was no longer used for religious purposes.

Tensions ran high, shots were occasionally exchanged and negotiations stalled. Local law enforcement cut off power to the novitiate, which resulted in pipes freezing, causing extensive damage to the property. The National Guard was called in by the governor.

Vigilante activity was common, as groups of armed residents would access the property on snowmobiles to fire on the Novitiate.

Several American Indian Movement (AIM) leaders traveled to Gresham to show support and help with negotiations. The presence of AIM also brought actor and Native American rights advocate Marlon Brando to the scene.

On Feb. 2, 1975, the standoff ended with a deal in which the Alexian Brothers agreed to sell the property to the tribe for \$1.

Since the standoff, the Novitiate has struggled to find a purpose in the area. The Menominee Tribe was unable to maintain the building and surrendered their claim to the property within a few months. In October 1975, a fire severely damaged the building.

Ownership went through several hands, the land was divided and all the buildings except for the mansion were razed.



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Light
McAdam's Whiskey

\$13.99 1.75 ltr.



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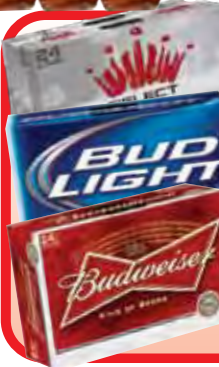


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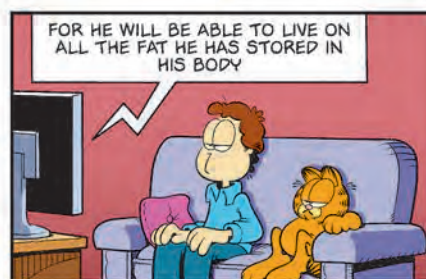
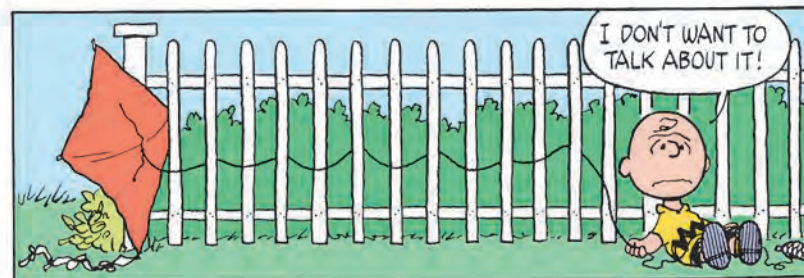
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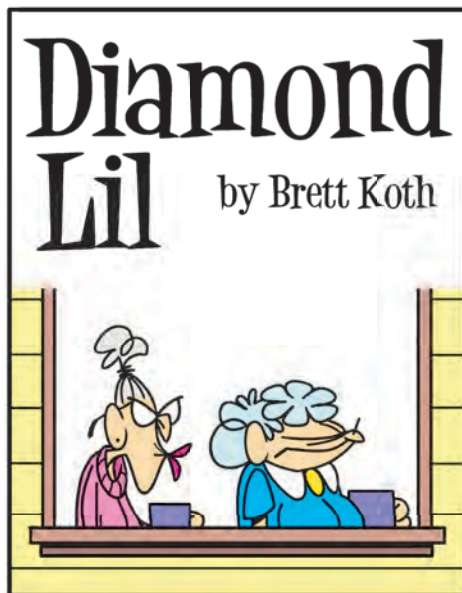
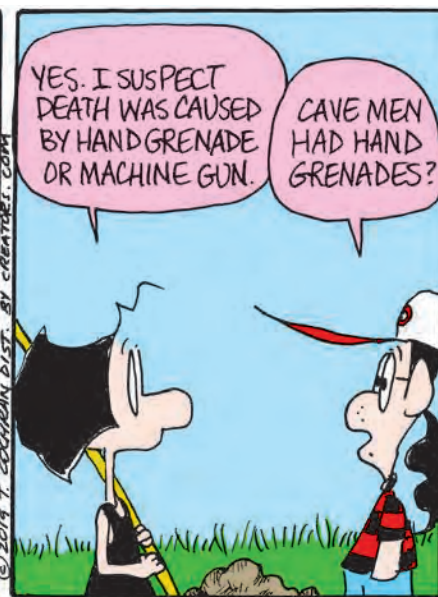
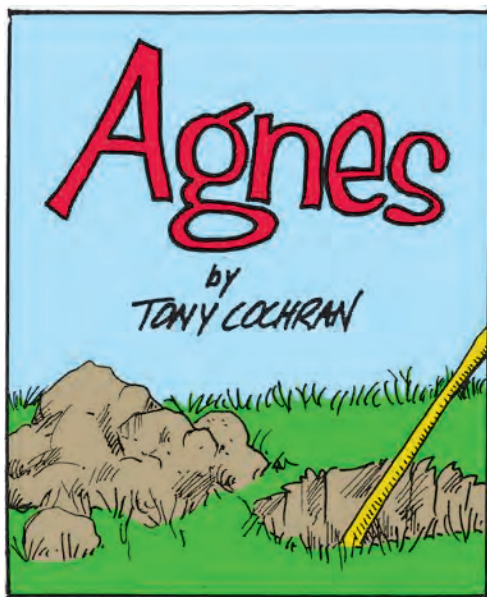
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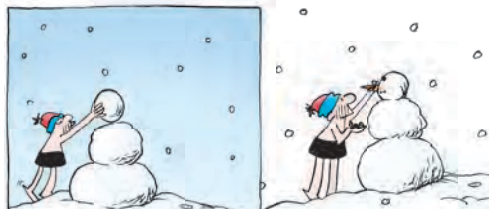
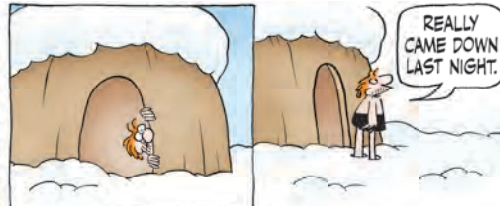
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