



North Genesee Street already has sidewalk on the west side, but work will begin soon to install new sidewalk on the east side of the road. Genesee is one of the streets expected to be worked on early.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Sidewalk work begins July 28 in village of Wittenberg

\$1M project expected to be completed in November

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

The village of Wittenberg is finally getting new sidewalk segments following an effort four years in the making.

Starting July 28, Potrykus Construction will begin work on nearly \$1 million worth of sidewalk work totaling about a mile. The work is expected to be completed by mid-November.

New segments of sidewalk for the village include the following:

- North Genesee Street from north of Grand Avenue to East Wood Avenue, east side.
- East Grand Avenue from North Meisner Street to South Mission Street, south side.
- South Webb Street from School Street to Washington Park, north side.
- East Vinal Street from South Mill Street to Pond Park, south side.

- Pond Park from South Mill Street to East Vinal Street.
- South Ellms Street from north of Walnut Street to Reed Street, east side.
- West Reed Street from Homme Home to South Mill Street, south side, and along South Mill Street to Park Pond, west side.

Proposed concrete sidewalks will generally be 5 feet wide and located within the roadway right-of-way, according to a letter sent to affected residents. Sidewalk adjacent to the existing curb will be 6 feet wide. Concrete curb ramps and detectable warning fields will be installed at all side street crossings. Work will include stripping the topsoil, as well as grading and providing stone base for construction of the concrete sidewalks.

Minor storm sewer improvements are proposed in some areas to provide proper



A portion of South Ellms Street will receive new sidewalk this year, although that segment is later in the schedule.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

SIDEWALK, CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

Kautza wants to remove Hammett from panel

Supervisor not backing down from comments about staff, missing funds

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

Shawano County Board Chairman Tom Kautza said he intends to remove Supervisor Lowel Hammett from the ethics committee based on recent comments at a county board meeting.

For his part, Hammett said he stands by his comments, and Kautza's tactics won't bother him.

"On next month's agenda, I'm going to have a line item on there to remove Lowel Hammett from the ethics committee and replace him with another board member," Kautza told the executive committee July 16. "I did get several current board members ask me that I put it on the agenda to remove Lowel. There's a lot of them that are very disappointed of what has been ... comments being made, accusations, blah, blah, blah."

Hammett was contacted after the meeting for a reaction to Kautza's intentions.

"I'm a brand new county board member," Hammett said. "I sat there for a year and a half and didn't say anything other than when I was voting. The first time I bring up anything, I get yelled at. I get screamed at."

Hammett said he has no personal stake in the issue.

"Something is going on at the county," he said. "Someone's upset because I shook the basket real hard."

At the June county board meeting, Hammett wanted a closed session discussion to talk about past and future complaints against a county employee, as well \$1 million in county funds that is allegedly missing.

"I only asked to talk to the others (supervisors) in private," Hammett said. "He didn't want me to talk to them."

Kautza also wants to change the ethics committee to include only citizen members and no supervisors, a plan he will push in earnest later this year.

The committee is currently made up of two supervisors and three citizen members. Kautza said the committee

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INSIDE

Shawano County improving in staffing numbers.

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IF ONLY TREES COULD TALK...

Kathleen Marsh tells all about the Northwoods!

SEE HER COLUMN IN TODAY'S PAPER!



Hockey league lease talks head to OT

Shawano group approves payment for damages, but Shawano County not so quick to cash check

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

Just when it looked like Shawano County and the Shawano Hockey League had settled differences over damage to the Crawford Center, a statement denying guilt may have knocked the puck out of the net.

The hockey league board of directors agreed to pay tens of thousands of dollars in damage to doors and walls at the Crawford Center. Already one year into a three-year lease, the league also requested a two-year extension.

The county public property committee July 17 approved the lease extension but removed a pair of bullet points that were part of a list of conditions the league attached to the lease approval.

In essence, the league agreed to pay for stated repairs but denied guilt or fault; they also did not claim legal responsibility for the wear and tear to the building.

Supervisor Randy Young asked why the league felt the need to add those statements to its conditions.

Shawano Hockey League President Adam Gafner said the league board was unanimous in its decision to include them.

"The concern for the league was going back in time. Where does it end?" Gafner said. "I don't think it does either party any good to stick our feet in and both stand off to our own sides. We have to come to the middle," Gafner said.

He said some hockey board members didn't want to pay for any repairs.

"Their concern was the time frame, that there has been a meeting annually, year after year after year, that has been agreed up between the county and the league," he said.

Many of the damaged items the county is asking to be replaced happened under former hockey league boards several leases ago but were never brought up until spring 2025.

"That was a concern of our current board — we're being asked to admit things that we weren't even around for," Gafner said.

"At the end of the day, we are saying that we are going to pay for the damages that have been assessed," added Tanya Anker, hockey league board secretary. "We just want to move forward. We want to get this done. We want to make the improvements and then continue to partner with you."

Young agreed to moving forward but wouldn't let go of the league not admitting guilt.

"I don't know why you'd want to make those statements, because let's be honest," he said. "The damage was from the hockey league. So for you to say you're not going to admit fault or guilt, then why would you pay to repair it?"

"Because we'd like to move forward," Anker responded.

Supervisor Tom Kautza made a motion to extend the lease but remove the two bullet points from the letter of conditions.

"The tooth fairy didn't come in there and start putting hockey pucks all over hell. The hockey club did," Kautza said. "The kids from the past did it, and apparently, nobody's been paying attention to what's been going on in the building. Yes, there's fault on the county's part; there's a lot of fault on the hockey side, too, and to sit there and say none of this is our problem, that's ridiculous."

Kautza's motion was approved by the committee, but Gafner said the amended letter would have to be approved by the hockey league board Aug. 5.

The lease period is set to begin Sept. 15, and plans were to have the painting of the interior of the rink area complete before then. The work is set to be done by a local company that supports the program.

"I don't know what to tell you from the paint-

ing side. You're making it hard for the guy that's here to help," Gafner said. "I can tell you no money is being exchanged until it goes back to our board, too, which is then going to push it out another meeting for you guys."

Prior to discussing the letter of conditions, Gafner said the hockey league was going to make several proactive changes to help minimize damage to the building.

An annual meeting with parents will be held prior to the start of the season, impressing upon them the importance of being prudent with the gift of the Crawford Center.

A volunteer job will be created to keep a closer eye on the north side of the building where significant damage was reported.

Third, in the shooting area where players practice their shots, white pucks will be used instead of the traditional black pucks so errant shots won't leave noticeable marks on the walls.

Finally, in the stick handling and dry land practice area, players will use brown, wooden balls instead of pucks.

Gafner said he and Nate Hesse, director of facilities and grounds, had agreed to a more formalized check-in and check-out at the start and end of the lease period.

Gafner said his walk-through at the start of last season, his first ever, was very brief.

"It was less than 30 seconds. Here's your key. Here's what the building looks like," Gafner said of the exchange. "I'm not here to talk ill of Steve (Dreher, former director of facilities and grounds) or anyone with the league that's not here anymore. But if I were a county employee, I'd be concerned with how that went, where I was handed keys and out the door he went. The walk-through I had was shabby at best."

He said the new process will protect both sides and ensure situations like this don't happen again.

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Learning about Elderon's history



Visitors at the WOWSPACE enjoy the "Elderon-A Look Back" exhibit June 20 hosted by the Wittenberg Area Historical Society. The show continues on July 27 and Aug. 3 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MIRIAM NELSON

Overall county staffing improved from last month

Pay, scheduling becoming more of a concern for employees

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

Overall staffing numbers for Shawano County are improving, but there remain concerns in certain departments, as well as the reasons people are leaving their jobs.

June Hasser, human resources director, told the executive committee July 16 the 12 open positions are an improvement from the 20 open jobs the previous month.

"Last year, we had only eight open positions," she said. "Some of them are the same as last year including dispatch, corrections, health."

She noted there has not been a single week in 2025 in which at least one employee didn't quit.

Recent openings include a crisis worker and a social worker at the Department

of Health Services.

"Both of those positions at DHS will take us months to fill," she said. "They're very, very hard to fill."

Corrections and dispatch positions also have vacancies, as they have had on and off the past few years.

The annual turnover rate for the county is up from the previous year.

"Last year, we were at 16.05%," Hasser said. "This year, we're at 20%."

Hasser said she has seen a few changes in why people are leaving the county — some good, some not so good.

"The culture number is down to 22%; last year, we were at 34%, so we're doing some things right," she said. "Also, people leaving just for that personal reason, that's also gone down to 25% from 34%."

So, where did those numbers go? That's the "not so good" part.

"Last year, I didn't even have on your pie chart that people were leaving because of pay and schedule. This year, it's on there, and it's at 13%," she said. "The other jump-up we need

to be aware of is last year, people were going to our competitors only 8%; this year, it's up to 12%."

Because of so many vacancies this year, the county's payroll expenses (wages and benefits) are under budget for 2025. One consideration is to use those funds to provide pay raises to existing employees earlier than the standard Jan. 1, when the new fiscal budget goes into effect.

Jim Davel, administrative coordinator, said a few suggestions will be brought to the committee in August.

"Next month, we're going to bring what we think is going to fix the overall problem in terms of pay," he said. "There's other issues — leadership issues, scheduling issues — it's just not pay that is the driving force for a lot of this."

As of June 30, the county has 344 full-time employees, 58 part-time employees, 55 limited term employees and 80 committee and board members for a total of 537.

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Bluey party at end of summer reading program

The Shawano County Library will host its summer reading finale — Blue-Yay Party — from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 2 at Franklin Park in Shawano.

The celebration will feature games, crafts, and

meet-and-greets with Bluey. This free event wraps up a season of reading for children, teens and adults.

The library building will be closed that day, as all the fun moves to the park.

Children and teens can turn in completed reading logs and claim prizes at the event, and adults can drop off raffle entries.

Those who can't attend will have until Aug. 4 to collect their rewards.

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Suspects resisting arrest up 40% in 2025

Two officers injured in line of duty when dealing with violent people

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

There's always a risk when it comes to police officers answering calls where suspects could become violent, but the Shawano Police Department is suffering more injuries in 2025 when it comes to arresting people.

Police Chief Mike Musolf said that the department has seen a 40% increase in people resisting arrest this year, with two officers having to take time out of work for recovery because of injuries sustained apprehending suspects. One officer only had to spend a few days convalescing due to a hyper-extended knee after a suspect kicked him there, but the other officer is expected to be out of

action for at least three months.

"This is highlighting the real dangers involved," Musolf said. "If the officers didn't have to arrest somebody to begin with, there wouldn't be as many chances of an injury. Yet every time we place somebody under arrest and they resist, there is a decent chance they could be hurt, and imagine with a 40% increase in resisting, how many other officers could have been hurt over the course of that time if it didn't work out to our advantage?"

Having officers off due to injury also reduces the number of officers on duty, according to Musolf. Per department policy, at least two officers must be on duty at any given time, and when officers are on leave due to injuries, the shifts are usually at that lower benchmark due to Shawano's police force being small, which puts the community in more jeopardy and more strain on the

officers who have to pick up the slack.

Drug use by many of the suspects makes it harder for officers to anticipate responses, as paranoia caused by some of the drugs puts people in a fight or flight mode, and Musolf said they often choose to fight. He noted there have been times where he goes home after a day at work, and hearing on the radio that officers are involved in a fight, he prays for the best.

"The majority of these incidents appear to be connected to individuals under the influence or in possession of drugs, which often adds unpredictability and aggression to interactions," Musolf said, adding that many of the calls are related to domestic violence or disturbances in homes and businesses. "Our primary concern is ensuring our officers are able to return home safely at the end of each shift. That becomes more challenging when arrests become violent or unpredictable."

He noted many of the altercations are hands-on, with officers trying to avoid using weapons that could injure or kill people. The use of force is something that is only encouraged as a last resort.

"We have had people who have had guns on them or knives, things like that, which significantly increases the risk," Musolf said. "We do a lot of training, deescalation training that gets the officers to be prepared for situations with the hope of stopping that sort of thing from happening. Honestly, you can't stop everything from happening, because you can't control the other brain you're dealing with."

Shawano is fortunate in that officers can refresh themselves on deescalation training and other matters close to home, because the police department has several training officers, which prevents constant travel elsewhere to bone up on issues. The state recommends at least 24 hours

of refresher courses, but Shawano does at least 48, according to Musolf.

Musolf noted that the Shawano-Menominee County Circuit Court is severely understaffed regarding both judges and attorneys. Many of the city police cases drag out so long because of this, and suspects out on bond risk reoffending again.

The circuit courts and district attorney offices are handled by the state of Wisconsin, and the Shawano County district attorney's office will get two assistant district attorneys through the recent 2025-27 budget signed into law just before July 4. Musolf said he understands how DA Greg Parker has tried to keep cases moving with the limited staff he has, and he's hopeful the additional attorneys will help matters.

"Sometimes this can go two or three years (for some cases) from when the initial case gets heard," Musolf said. "I think a lot of

the problem with that is the person is not getting help in a timely fashion, and I think they probably just give up in their minds and think 'I'll just keep using drugs.'"

Prevention is difficult for the police, as most of the time they're not meeting the people involved until a crime has been committed, although the city has several outreach activities where fun activities are mixed with efforts from officers to encourage a crime-free lifestyle, especially among younger people.

Low numbers of people going into policing is an issue, too, according to Musolf, who noted his department and the Shawano County Sheriff's Department could always use more officers.

"Everybody needs more help," Musolf said. "There's way too much work to go around for the skeleton crew that everybody has."

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Changes coming soon to local Catholic churches

New priests, temporary 'link' announced by Green Bay bishop

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

A continual aging population of priests, along with the traditional summer reassignments, will mean a few changes for local Catholic parishes.

Green Bay Bishop David Ricken announced several changes in the past couple months.

Assumption BVM, Pulaski, St. Casimir, Krakow, and St. Stanislaus, Hofa Park, are served by the Franciscans in Pulaski.

The Rev. Carmen Scuderi, who serves as parochial vicar in Pulaski, Krakow and Hofa Park, is being reassigned to serve a parish in Illinois.

Due to the lack of priests the Franciscans have available, his role as parochial vicar will not be filled, according to a July 11 letter from Deacon Peter Gard, associate to the vicar of priests and pastoral leaders for the Green Bay Diocese.

"In light of this, Bishop



Gary Palubicki, left, led tours of Pulaski's Assumption BVM Catholic Church in March as part of the Casimir Pulaski Days celebration. The church, as well as several others in the area, will soon see changes with staffing and Mass times, as the Green Bay Diocese shifts resources due a shortage of priests.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

(David) Ricken has asked that the parishes in Cecil, Krakow and Hofa Park be linked temporarily for one year to help us assess the needs of all the parishes affected," Gard wrote.

Ricken appointed Deacon Todd Raether, pastoral coordinator at St. Martin of Tours, Cecil, to serve these parishes as their pastoral coordinator effective Sept. 1. Ricken also appointed the Rev. Peter Onyango as the

priest celebrant.

The change will also mean a change in the Mass schedule. Leaders from Cecil, Krakow and Hofa Park have already started developing a new schedule that will be implemented the weekend of Sept. 6-7.

Scuderi's departure means the Rev. James Vacco will be the only full-time priest for the Pulaski family of parishes, led by the Franciscan Province of our Lady of Guadalupe.

Among those Franciscans, 62.3% of the friars are older than 70. Many of them are dealing with the issues that accompany aging and limitations associated with the aging process, Vacco said.

Only 17% of the friars are younger than 50, which means the number of friars available to staff the number of ministries presently served with friars will not

be sustainable within the next 10 years. Added to this is that of the number of men enrolled in the formation process to be a Franciscan friar, there is a significant number who do not feel called to ministry as a priest. These men want to live a Franciscan lifestyle and spirituality, but not minister in roles that require ordination.

Of the seven friars in residence at the friary in Pulaski, the age range is 70-89.

Assistance from the other priests in the Pulaski friary will be subject to their availability.

The reassignments could lead to additional changes in Mass schedules.

With Onyango named as priest celebrant at the Cecil parish, the Rev. Edward Looney, who serves as pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano, will be freed of his duties as priest celebrant and moderator at St. Martin of Tours.

"With no longer needing to accommodate the 9 a.m. Mass in Cecil, we now have the opportunity to revisit our Sunday Mass schedule and consider

options that best serve our parish family moving forward," Looney said.

Other leadership changes announced by Ricken include the following.

The Rev. Thomas Pomeroy was appointed pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Oconto Falls, and St. Patrick Parish, Stiles, effective July 1. Formerly, he was pastor of Holy Family Parish, Brillion.

The Rev. Walter Stumpf, who served the Oconto Falls and Stiles parishes until June 30, was appointed pastor of St. Joseph, Wautoma, and priest celebrant for Hispanic Masses at St. Peter and Paul Parish, Weyauwega.

Rev. Matthew Settle served as pastor of Holy Family-St. William Parish, Wittenberg, St. Anthony Parish, Tigerton, and St. Mary Parish, Marion, until June 30. He has now been appointed be pastor of St. Mary Parish and St. John Parish, Menasha.

Replacing Settle is the Rev. Mark Rydell, who was parochial vicar of Holy Cross Parish & St. Katherine Drexel Parish, Kaukauna.

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07/25/2025

Public Notice

Shawano and Menominee Counties have completed the draft of a Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390; DMA2K). The draft is available for public review and comment during business hours at the Shawano County Clerk's Office at 311 N. Main St., Ste 104, Shawano, and the Menominee County Clerk's Office at W3269 Courthouse Lane, Keshena, until August 15, 2025.

If you have questions related to this notice or its application in Shawano or Menominee Counties, call the Shawano County Emergency Management office at (715) 526-7908 or the Menominee County Emergency Management office at (715) 799-5074.

WNAXLP

07/25/2025

Town of Richmond

Planning & Zoning Commission Public Hearing

Monday, August 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

At Town of Richmond Town Hall,

NS170 Co MM, Shawano, WI 54166

The Planning & Zoning Commission will be meeting to discuss proposed changes to the Short Term-Rental licensing ordinance for the Town of Richmond.

The Planning & Zoning Commission may make recommendations to the Town Board to make changes to the issues listed above by amending the town ordinance.

Notice given July 17, 2025 by Julie Schoenike, Town Clerk.

WNAXLP

Sunflowers ready for visitors at festival

Live music,
wagon rides
part of the fun

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Bergsbaken Farms in eastern Shawano County will host its 10th and final Sunflower Festival at the farm, located at W2095 County Road E, Cecil. The farm is about 10 miles northeast of Bonduel and southeast of Cecil and will include live music, food, vendors, family activities and an opportunity to get up close and personal with 50 acres of sunflowers.

Lee Bergsbaken operates Bergsbaken farms with his brother, Dale.

The first Sunflower Festival in 2016 drew about 1,500 visitors and now draws at least 10,000.

“It’s amazing,” Lee Bergsbaken said. “The first year we did it, we figured we had about 1,500. We left a book out for people to put their names in and where they’re from. The next year, we figured we’d get a couple thousand. We guessed it was 9,000. We had a wheat field on the other side of the road and mowed down some corn to get to that field for parking.”

This year’s lineup includes live music all three days, including acoustic music from Bill Hurley and Mike Daley from noon to 4 p.m. July 25; bluegrass music from Biscuit Creek from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. July 26; and polka music from Pulaski’s The New Generation from noon to 4 p.m. July 27.

Wagon rides through the farm’s sunflower field will also be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

“We have food and a vendors’ tent with very nice stuff,” Bergsbaken said. “We have bouncy houses, a corn pit, a lot of opportunities for picture taking.”

Visitors to this year’s festival will also find 50 acres of sunflowers that recently began blooming.

“We cut back a little bit this year,” Bergsbaken said. “We had some seed left from last year, and we wanted to get it used up. Normally, we’ll put 150 (acres) in.”

Although the flowers have not yet bloomed, this



Bergsbaken Farms near Cecil will host its 10th annual Sunflower Festival on July 25-27. This year’s event will also be the last and will include live music, food, vendors and the opportunity to take photos of blooming sunflowers.

BERGSBAKEN FARMS

year’s crop looks good, according to Bergsbaken.

“It started out slow,” he said. “We had a cold May, and they didn’t come up as fast as they normally do. I’m pretty confident they’ll be blooming by the weekend of the 25th.”

Flowers are planted in mid-May to make sure they are in bloom for the festival.

“Sunflowers have a maturity date and also a bloom date,” Bergsbaken said. “From the time you plant until bloom should be 70 days. We usually go from the Wednesday before (the festival begins) and go back 70 days.”

Three walking trails will take visitors through the field to see the sunflowers up close.

“We have a short and a long trail and viewing platforms in the field where they can walk up and be above the flowers,” Bergsbaken said. “They’ll get to be about 5, 5 1/2 feet tall. We have another trail for wagon rides. There are a lot of waiting lines for wagon rides. We also have a spot where they can pick flowers. We charge \$1 a blossom. They don’t plant them; they just put them in a vase.”

Festival visitors include children, their parents and grandparents.

“They come from everywhere,” Bergsbaken said. “We get people from every state and other countries. Last year, we had a couple here from China. I asked

one lady where she was from and she said Orlando, Florida. She said, ‘We came up here just to see your festival. We got off the plane an hour ago and drove out here.’ She said they were going to Door County and Upper Michigan.”

There aren’t a lot of sunflower farms in northeastern Wisconsin, which helps make Bergsbaken Farms unique.

“There are a couple around that have a small festival, but nothing like ours,” Bergsbaken said. “I have some friends north of Escanaba (Michigan) that put on a sunflower festival. I got them to grow sunflowers, and now they have a festival pretty much like ours.”

Weather can have an effect on festival attendance, but the Bergsbaken have been lucky so far.

“We haven’t had rain for very many (festivals),” Bergsbaken said. “One year, we had about an inch of rain an hour and the parking lot was mud. We ended up pulling cars out. They kept driving in and it didn’t stop them. They were parking on the road and that gets dangerous. We had to do something different. Now, we have a 10-acre parking lot that roped out with signs. We have handicapped parking spots. We’ve learned over the years. Every parking lot has to have an in and an out. Otherwise, it gets boggled up.”

Sunflowers can grow anywhere, according to Bergsbaken.

“South Dakota grows more sunflowers than anywhere,” he said. “I have a friend that lives in western South Dakota. There are thousands and thousands of acres out there.”

Bergsbaken said his farm’s sunflowers are expected to be in bloom through most of August.

“We have one field that we always plant a week later so we extend the bloom,” he said. “People are welcome to come after the festival and walk. They can take pictures and walk through the flowers. We’ll have blooms for almost a month. After the festival, they can come anytime from sunup to sundown. We still put the donation boxes. They can put money in them if they want.”

The flowers eventually lose their bright yellow petals.

“They’ll turn brown and then black and the heads will tip,” Bergsbaken said. “We’ll harvest them in October.”

The flowers’ seeds are sold as bird seed.

“We clean them, bag them and sell them here on the farm,” Bergsbaken said. “We have a few gas stations that sell them, but everything else gets sold right here. We sell them in 50-pound and 30-pound bags. We sell thousands of

Sunflowers to take final bow at Bergsbaken Farms

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

The end of an era is around the corner for a popular family event in Shawano County.

The Bergsbaken family opened the doors of their rural Cecil farm to sunflower lovers for the past decade.

This year’s Sunflower Festival at Bergsbaken Farms, located at W2095 County Road E, Cecil, is scheduled for July 25-27.

Not only is the festival marking its 10th anniversary this year, the Bergsbaken family also announced that it will be the last.

“What began 10 years ago as a small idea to host a sunflower festival has grown into something truly unforgettable,” according to a July 14 post on the Bergsbaken Farms Facebook page. “Each year, we’ve been humbled and overjoyed to see so many families walk the same fields we did as kids. Watching others create memories, laugh together, and soak in the sunshine has been the greatest gift of all.”

Brothers Lee and Dale Bergsbaken operate the farm with their wives, BettyAnn and Shari, and help from Jason and Lisa Peterson.

Lee and Dale’s parents, Daryl and Marie Bergsbaken, started the farm.

“This will be our final one,” Lee Bergsbaken said. “I want to retire. I’m 70, and my brother is 63. We’re at the point where we’re not getting any younger. Even our volunteers are getting older,

and it’s getting harder to get people.”

The festival has a \$3 admission fee and has attracted thousands of visitors from throughout the country.

“The dream behind Sunflower Fest wasn’t about profits,” according to the Facebook post. “It was about sharing the beauty of this land with others – the land we grew up on, where we get to see the beauty every day. Even as other sunflower festivals popped up elsewhere, we kept our prices low because we believe every family deserves a chance to enjoy this beauty.”

The Bergsbaken family works together to make the festival happen.

“Just as this event brings visitors together, it brings our family back together, too,” according to the Facebook post. “From the work of the owners, sons and daughters, sisters and brothers, nieces and nephews and grandkids working every corner of the festival, it truly is a labor of love.”

“After 10 beautiful years, it’s time for our family to rest, reflect and spend more time together not just working, but being together. We hope you’ll join us for one last celebration to walk the fields, smile in the sunshine and help us say goodbye to this special tradition that’s meant so much to us and our community.”

“We started it and it grew bigger than we ever imagined,” Lee Bergsbaken said. “It’s been a good run. All good things must come to an end.”

bags. We have them for sale all year long.”

The family also grows corn, soybeans and pumpkins and sells sweet corn at three self-serve stands, but the farm is best-known for its sunflowers.

Saturday is usually the festival busiest day.

“They’re all pretty busy,” Bergsbaken said. “Friday is probably the least amount of people. We expect a pretty big crowd. One nice thing is you can bring your

family and it’s not very expensive. We ask for a \$3 entry fee a person. The food is pretty reasonable. There’s no other charge other than the food and the flowers.

“We want it to be affordable so it would not cost families a lot of money and they can have a good time,” he added. “The nice part is you don’t hear people arguing about anything. Everybody’s laughing and happy. People come and enjoy themselves.”

Foreclosure properties bring in \$194K for county, more than expected

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

The sale of five foreclosed properties went better than expected, according to Shawano County officials.

Bids on the properties were opened July 15, after each site was advertised with an appraised value.

The total appraised value of the five sites was \$108,200. They sold for a combined \$193,787.99.

The highest amount received was for a site in Aniwa.

“This floored me, because I couldn’t even speak,” said Deb Wallace, county treasurer. “We got \$113,000 for the meth

property.”

The property is 8.26 acres at W18776 County Road Z. It had an appraised value of \$80,000. It was the only bid on the property, she said.

A 23.5-acre lot on North Airport Drive and Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott, with an appraised value of \$3,200, sold for

\$17,100.

“That was another surprise for me, that we got that much for it,” Wallace said. “We had nine people bid on that.”

A lot and building at 519 Flint Ave., Mattoon, had an appraised value of \$12,000. It sold for \$26,770.

There were also two properties in the city of

Shawano.

First, a lot on Weed Street sold for \$5,350. The appraised value was \$3,000.

Finally, a house and lot at 502 S. Andrews St., sold for \$31,567.99. The appraised value was \$10,000. There were three bids on the house and land.

The properties were

seized after the owners failed to pay back taxes.

The difference between the appraised value and sale price will be refunded to the previous owners, after the county collects all of its fees for the foreclosure and sale of the properties.

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Vehicle break-ins see uptick on police radar

Police chief urging parents to keep kids home at night

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

A rash of vehicle break-ins in the city of Shawano has Police Chief Mike Musolf calling for parents to keep closer track of their teenage kids.

“There’s a significant amount of increased calls of people — kids, most likely — breaking into cars and breaking windows around town, which we’re investigating,” Musolf said.

He noted that there were three calls on the night of July 16 alone about broken vehicle windows, and there have been spurts where there are multiple calls in a single night.

“Parents need to be on top of this because their kids, they shouldn’t be out at 1, 2, 3 in the morning,” Musolf said. “I don’t know how they’re getting out of the house. If we could get parents to parent a little bit better, maybe that wouldn’t happen. I’m calling them out, whoever their parents are.”

Musolf noted if it’s the same perpetrators, there could be at least a couple dozen charges levied by the time the police catch them, which could result in serious sentences and fines.

“That’s the part that’s bad for those kids, because they don’t realize that they might have got away with it last night, but they might be caught two nights later and they might have already done three more,” Musolf said. “If they don’t get caught for a couple of weeks, they might have 14 things hanging over their head.”

Musolf said he doesn’t believe parents aren’t aware that their children are leaving the house at night.

“They’ve got to figure out a way to get them to stay in the house,” he said. “That’s not unreasonable to ask that the parents parent so the police don’t have to.”

Locking a vehicle’s doors makes it less likely someone will steal stuff out of it, and Musolf also recommends not having valuable items in the vehicle at night.

“Take the extra time, but at the minimum make

sure to lock your cars to try and prevent any of those crimes from happening,” Musolf said. “Those crimes are the ones that are quality of life issues in the city of Shawano, when they have their space violated. Nobody wants that to happen. Thefts are the worst.”

There can be multiple vehicle burglary calls in a single night, followed by several nights without complaint, and then another night where there are more calls, according to Musolf.

“It seems like every summer we have this different group of kids who break out of their house or whatever they do, or their parents just don’t care, and they vandalize or do graffiti or whatever they do,” Musolf said. “Then we catch them, and then it stops. It seems like it’s rinse and repeat every year. I don’t know where they get this idea from. Do they sit around in the basement and go, ‘Hey, let’s go damage somebody’s window that is unsuspecting of us doing it? What are you getting out of it?’”

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

Shawano native named director for public library

Shawano Community High School graduate Staci Rubenzer has been hired as the new director of the Shawano County Library.

At a July 1 meeting of the library board, members voted to recommend to the executive committee that Rubenzer be named library director with a hire date of Aug. 1.



STACI RUBENZER

resignation was accepted by the library board June 9.

Rubenzer will succeed Nancy Bell, who resigned July 3. Bell was director for nearly two years. Her

Mikki Moesch, assistant library director, was named interim director, effective July 7.

Rubenzer is a library media specialist at Green Bay Southwest High School. She will be in charge of the libraries in Shawano, Bonduel, Wittenberg, Birnamwood, Mattoon and Tigerton.

OBITUARIES

Reynold O. Schmidt



Reynold Schmidt, 90, of Bonduel, passed away in Appleton on Wednesday, July 16, 2025.

Reynold was born in Bonduel on Sept. 30, 1934, son of the late Alvin and Gladys (Busch) Schmidt. Reynold grew up on the family farm and graduated from Bonduel High School in 1953. Following graduation, Reynold enlisted in the United States Army and proudly served his country as a tank driver until receiving his honorable discharge.

On May 11, 1968, he married Marlene J. Giese in Gillett. After 56 years of marriage, Marlene preceded him in death on May 31, 2024. Reynold’s faith was an important part of his life, and he was an

active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bonduel. In his free time, he enjoyed drinking Sun Drop and rooting for the Green Bay Packers and Milwaukee Brewers. He was very proud to have been in attendance and survived the famous Ice Bowl.

Reynold is survived by a brother, Dale (Karen) Schmidt; brother-in-law, Al Jacobs; sister-in-law, Merce Schmidt; and nieces and nephews, Dina (Jeff) Nelson, Sherry (fiancé Mike Johnson) Boreson,

Steve (Tina) Schmidt, Todd (Vicki) Schmidt, Tim (Jen) Schmidt, Melissa (Tyler) Zimmerman and Kristin (Randy) Kohlstedt. He is further survived by numerous great-nieces, great-nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marlene; his parents; two brothers, Donald Schmidt and Victor Schmidt; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Harry and Louise Giese; brothers-in-law, Marvin Giese and Leonard Giese; and sisters-in-law, Shirley Jacobs and Marjoryann Giese.

A funeral service for Reynold was held Tuesday, July 22, 2025, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bonduel. Burial was in the church cemetery.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Jena Kloepfel for the care, concern and many hours she spent with Reynold.

www.swedbergfuneral-home.com

James W. Martin

James W. Martin, 85, of Allouez, passed July 19, 2025. Cotter Funeral and Cremation Care, De Pere.

Byron De Fries

Byron Gene De Fries, longtime band director at Bonduel High School from the 1960s to the 1990s, passed away on June 28, 2025, in Boulder, Colorado.

See the full obituary at www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/boulder-co/byron-defries-12435765.





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Marion hosting Heritage Day celebration July 26

County audit shows no fraud concerns in 2024

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

The Marion Area Historical Society will host its annual Heritage Day on July 26 on the grounds of the historical society at 620 E. Ramsdell St., near the ballpark.

Events start with a car show.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Vehicles include cars, trucks, hot rods, tractors and motorcycles.

Crafters and vendors will be on site from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will also include basket raffles, a silent auction, children's games, a coloring contest, food and refreshments.

Raffle tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5. First prize is \$500, with \$250 for second prize and \$100 for third.

Music under the bandstand will include Zander's Music RayMakers from 9-11:30 a.m., and Mike Daley and Bill Hurley from

12:30-3 p.m.

Naturally, the museum will be open for viewing.

Visitors are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs.

The Marion Area Historical Society was founded in 1988 by a group of individuals interested in preserving the history of Marion and the surrounding area. The seed was planted with a project by Robert McDevitt's students at Marion High School, which sparked the idea of a dedicated historical society.

From the beginning, its mission has been twofold:

- To collect and preserve historical data and artifacts related to Marion and the surrounding communities, including Caroline, Pella, Grant, Dupont, Wyoming and Big Falls.

- To share this history with the public through museum exhibits, events and educational programs.

The historical grounds

feature a variety of buildings and artifacts, including:

- The Sherry Shop, General Store, Hotel Marion, The Marion Advertiser building and the Caroline Implement building.

- Original Chicago Northwestern Depot, complete with waiting rooms and an office, restored with original furnishings.

- A Soo Line caboose, a wooden cupola-style caboose retired in 1984.

- A one-room log schoolhouse and a log house depicting life around the turn of the century.

- An antique windmill, wishing well and the Marion Bandstand.

- A permanent display featuring crafted items by Harold Wolf — including the Caroline Ballroom, a church and a blacksmith shop.

- A future Badger Amateur Baseball Association building to showcase their memorabilia.

Revenues up, expenses down more than projected

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

An audit of the Shawano County financial records of 2024 turned up good news for officials.

Revenues were up and expenses were down from the projections, leaving the county with a satisfying general fund balance. The county's debt is all well below state limits and even the county's own tighter restrictions, noted John Rader of Baker Tilly at the executive committee meeting July 16.

County Board Chairman Tom Kautza made it a point to ask if any fraud was detected.

"There is no fraud, correct?" he said. "No missing money?"

"Correct," Rader said. "We're not auditing for fraud. We do fraud risk assessment, and there's nothing that came to light to cause us concern. Now, I can't say there's no fraud — I don't think any firm would ever do that — but we certainly didn't come across anything."

Kautza was referring to accusations made last month by Supervisor Lowel Hammett about \$1 million missing from the county treasury. In his claim, he did not say when the disappearance of the money happened.

As for the audit itself, Rader said unassigned money in the general fund — the primary operating fund — increased from \$11.9 million in 2023 to \$14 million in 2024.

The increase is mainly due to decreases in non-spendable funds, restricted funds and assigned funds. Committed funds increased from 2023 to 2024.

Overall, the general fund decreased from \$19.8 million to \$19.2 million.

"It went down, because you planned on spending it all," Rader said. "You planned on spending it down by about \$3.5 million. It didn't go down that much. It went down \$606,000."

Revenues came in over budget by \$901,311.

"Most of that, \$776,000 of it, is because of invest-

ment income," Rader said.

Expenses came in under budget at \$1,951,023. He said this includes costs associated with jail operations, courthouse maintenance, the sheriff's department, land conservation and other departments.

"The county has a policy of trying to establish between 20-25% of next year's budgeted expenditures for these funds," Rader said. "You've been above that the last four years. You're at 30% this year."

The higher general fund was booked by a low debt amount.

By state law, the county debt ceiling is 5% of its equalized value, which would be \$258,280,475 for 2024. The county debt was \$15,816,763, which included \$2 million in short-term borrowing that was paid off in the first quarter of 2025.

"You're only at 6%, so you're well below the statutory or your own limitations," Rader said.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

Shawano, Menominee counties draft hazard mitigation plan

Shawano and Menominee counties, like the rest of the state of Wisconsin, are vulnerable to a variety of disasters. Wisconsin has incurred disaster-related damages totaling \$3 billion in the last three decades, but future losses can be reduced through mitigation activities.

To better prepare Shawano and Menominee counties to manage their vulnerability to disasters, Shawano and Menominee County Emergency Management jointly applied for, received and has completed a pre-disaster mitigation (PDM) update planning grant.

"This plan update will serve as a roadmap that outlines potential cost-effective hazard mitigation

activities, some of which might be available for future grant funding," said Lt. Chris Madle, emergency management director. "The updated plan outlines the risks and vulnerabilities that the counties face from natural disasters and highlights mitigation strategies that might reduce future losses."

A recent study by the Multi-hazard Mitigation Council shows that each average dollar spent on mitigation saves society more than \$6.

Since 1993, more than 400 disasters have occurred in the United States, affecting communities in all 50 states, costing the country more \$500 million per week and killing more 24,000 people.

Mitigation actions

reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. These preventative actions can be as simple as elevating a furnace in a basement that sometimes has water on the floor. Mitigation can also have a comprehensive approach, such as relocating buildings out of the floodplain or strengthening critical facilities to prevent wind damage and provide stronger shelter.

The completed draft hazard mitigation plan update is available during business hours at the Shawano County Clerk's Office, 311 N. Main St., Shawano, and the Menominee County Clerk's Office at W3269 Courthouse Lane, Keshena, for review and public comment until Aug. 4.



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SUDS, GOLF AND POLKA

Shawano, Cecil, Pulaski were the places to party over the weekend



Prior to the start of this year's scramble July 19 at the Golden Sands Golf Course in Cecil, golfer saluted during the National Anthem.



One hundred seventy-six golfers participated in the annual golf outing July 19 at the Golden Sands Golf Course in Cecil that benefits local veterans' causes.



Steve Vandermause and his son Steve including daughters Brielle and Lainey all of Gillett enjoyed the air show.



The event included a 150 mm M119 Howitzer Cannon courtesy of the Wisconsin National Guard and Sgt. Madalyn Plechocki. The cannon fired blanks during the air show and National Anthem on July 19. The Howitzer shoots 7-10 miles and is part of the Ukrainian Army arsenal courtesy of the United States and the Wisconsin National Guard.



ABOVE: Caleb Bieddess, 10, of Shawano, storms through the foam during the Beach Bash held Friday at Smalley Park.



LEFT: Anxious to add more to their stash, parade goers anticipate the next opportunity to collect candy along the parade route.

PHOTOS BY GREG MELLIS • PUBLISHER

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FAR LEFT: The Northern Aces RC Air Show Team treated the golfers and attendees to a military remote controlled air show synchronized to military themed music. **LEFT:** Don Melbauer and Dan Hartwig enjoyed the air show.



Polka dancing and Polka music fill the tents during the four days of Pulaski Polka Days.



A child enjoys the process of gathering the spoils, parade participants shared candy along the parade route.



Avid polka dancers Elaine Rosquist, of Loveland, Colorado, and Aaron Wrader, of Wisconsin Rapids, kick it up as the polka band Live It Up plays on July 19 at Pulaski Polka Days.



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Mengert has honey of a job at his farm

About a dozen bee hives maintained in Grant

By KAY REMINGER
Correspondent

There’s a buzz in the air at the Rick Mengert farm, located in the Town of Grant.

Mengert is an apiarist — better known as a beekeeper — maintaining close to a dozen bee hives on his farm. Bees produce honey and provide pollination services.

“Depending on where the bees go for nectar reflects the color, taste and condition of the honey,” Mengert said.

Mowing clover keeps the crop fresh for the bees. Locust tree is a source of nectar in Waupaca County, producing extra-light, virtually clear honey. Buckwheat produces honey almost as dark as maple syrup.

Where the best source of nectar there is, the bee will intuitively gravitate to that source, according to Mengert. Dandelions are one of the first flowers that provide a supply of nectar and pollen in the spring.

“There’s a job for every bee,” Mengert said.

First-born nurse bees clean up the cells, according to Mengert. A worker bee is a female bee that isn’t fertilized, and they gather nectar and pollen. Guard bees protect the hive from outsiders such as yellow jackets or ants, etc.

Attendant bees bring food to the queen. If there are dead bees, certain ones have the job of carrying the dead out of the hive. Some are hygienists. Drone bees’ only purposes in life are to eat, and to breed queen bees. Once they breed the queen, they die.

Mengert said that, to sustain themselves, the bees fill a bee hive box and deposit the nectar in a cell. They make a bee-bread out of a pollen and nectar mix — ingesting that, they also feed it to larvae, to give them energy. A queen cell gets more room and in 16 days becomes a full-grown queen. She then goes on a mating flight within an airspace called a drone congregation area, to get bred — laying up to 2,000 eggs a day for to two or three years.

Within an hour of a queen bee’s death, the bees know they’ll die off so they start working to replace her, Mengert said. If there are eggs in the hive, the bees will



Rick Mengert sells some of his Papa's Honey at the Clintonville Farmers Market recently. The honey comes from about a dozen beehives he manages year-round at his farm in the Town of Grant.

KAY REMINGER

start feeding the larvae royal jelly, which is high in nutrients, to replace an expired queen. If after 40 days without a queen, the hive does not survive.

“As long as there are eggs in the hive, there is a live queen,” said Mengert.

About the middle of August, Mengert starts to extract honey, getting a box full of honey in a week’s time. When the bees get the moisture down far enough, they put a wax coating on to seal it off. Too much moisture in the honey will cause it to ferment.

To extract the honey when it’s ready, Mengert cuts the capping off the honeycomb with a knife and puts the frames

into a big drum. As it spins, centrifugal force extracts the honey from the comb. Mengert leaves the boxes outside, and the bees clean all the leftover honey, recycling it back into the hive.

Mengert got started by purchasing a nuc — an all-inclusive starter pack with a five-frame box with bees, a laying queen with a brood, and food to feed the growing hive. After beekeeping for 11 years, Mengert has learned the art by doing.

“My dad’s grandpa had bees, so I guess it’s sort of in my blood,” said Mengert. “I bought a ‘Beekeeping for Dummies’ book from Fleet Farm. Bees are pretty self-sufficient and take care of themselves, for the

most part — it’s best if I just stand back and let them do their own thing.”

As far as any maintenance needed, Mengert treats them for mites a couple times a year using a respirator, and a 99.6% pure powder concoction called oxalic acid. It’s crystalized and heats up to over 300 degrees — the solid turns into a vapor.

Once a month, Mengert meets with the Portage County Hobbyist Beekeepers Club in Amherst Junction. The group leaders keep members updated on what everyone needs to do or just share infor-

MENGERT, CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Pageant players become new generation’s storytellers



Dawn Wilber, right, one of the playwrights for the Menominee pageant “Short Stories From the Elders,” talks with other participants, including, from left, Brian Marquardt, Alexis Frieson, Richard Frieson and Lloyd Frieson about some last-minute details in lieu of a rehearsal, delayed due to rain, July 16 at the College of Menominee Nation.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

New Menominee pageant scripted from adaptation of book

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

The Menominee Pageant Players have been reviving old pageants since 2016, but the current generation of tribal members is taking up the mantle of telling cultural stories through words and dance.

The next pageant comes July 30, the night before the annual Menominee Nation Contest Pow Wow, titled “Short Stories From the Elders.” The script is an adaptation from Frances Weso Walker’s book of the same name, published in 1979 by the late fourth-grade teacher for the Wisconsin Native American Teacher Corps Reading Curriculum Project.

“When we went to write an original pageant, we logically went to look for a book we could use,” said Ryan Winn, pageant director. “When we found ‘Short Stories From the Elders,’ it was right on the nose.”

The script was crafted by Winn and

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: “Short Stories from the Elders”
WHEN: 9 p.m. July 30
WHERE: Woodland Bowl, Fairgrounds Road, Keshena
ADMISSION: Free, but donations accepted to fund next summer’s pageant

pageant guild members Cedar Fernandez, Lloyd Frieson Jr., Karen Ann Hoffman, Brian Marquardt, Jeremiah Moses Jr., Bruce Wilber Jr. and Dawn Wilber in the spring. More than 25 performers will be part of the production, which is sponsored by the College of Menominee Nation, the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and Menominee Tribal Education.

The pageant opens with a family of Menominee storytellers telling visitors of the humor and wisdom subtly woven into the fabric of cultural stories. The actors rise up and portray the characters

PAGEANT, CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

GARDENING WITH MELINDA MYERS

Reduce maintenance; boost garden enjoyment

Every gardener has personal reasons for gardening, whether it be the hope that their garden brings joy, productivity, beauty or peace throughout the growing season. Embrace what makes you happy as you tend, view and enjoy every aspect of your garden.

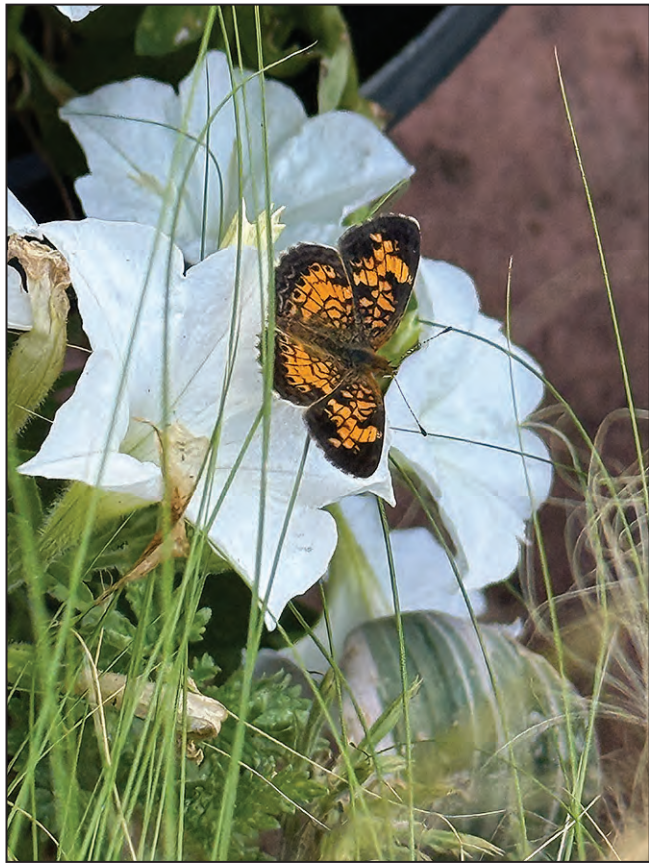
Weather, busy schedules and life in general can interfere with the best laid plans for any garden and landscape. Take some time now to evaluate what is working so you can do more of that and decide what needs changing in your garden plantings, designs and maintenance.

If you are feeling overwhelmed with the maintenance but still want seasonal interest, consider filling garden beds with shrubs. Look for low maintenance varieties suited to your growing conditions and climate. Select those with multiple seasons of beauty from flowers, foliage, fall color, and interesting form and bark. Include some that provide birds with food, shelter and protection from predators. You'll appreciate the beauty and motion these winged visitors provide.

Consider using fewer species of low-maintenance perennials and more of each. You'll have fewer plants to try to identify as the garden comes to life in spring and as you weed throughout the growing season. Look for those that are disease- and insect-pest resistant, need minimal or no deadheading and pruning, and attract and support pollinators as well as provide winter interest and food for songbirds in the winter.

Then add season-long color with pockets or containers of annuals. With fewer to buy and maintain, you may decide your schedule and budget will allow you to change them out as the seasons change.

Accept and embrace the beauty of a less-than-



A pearl crescent butterfly rests on a firefly petunia. MELINDAMYERS.COM



perfect garden. Most visitors won't notice the imperfections unless you point them out. Plus, faded flowers and seed pods can provide unique texture and food for songbirds.

Do minimal cleanup that is better for the plants, pollinators and songbirds. Do remove or cut back diseased and insect-infested plant material as needed. Leave fall leaves in the garden to serve as mulch, a home for some beneficial insects, and insulation for toads, queen bumblebees and others that overwinter underground. Allow perennials to stand for winter, increasing hardiness, providing homes for beneficial insects, food for songbirds, and adding winter interest. Leave some of these stems standing throughout the upcoming growing season to serve

as homes for some of the native bees.

Ask for or hire help if needed. As much as you love gardening, securing help for some of the larger tasks or those that just aren't getting done can help boost your enjoyment.

It can be hard to find gardening help, so you may need to get creative. Consider sharing your gardening space with someone who loves to garden but lacks space. Barter your knowledge and skills for help in your garden. Plan a round robin of fun and gardening with a few friends. Take turns visiting and tending each other's gardens. You'll enjoy the time spent together in each other's gardens as you tackle a gardening task or two. Then top off the visit with a favorite beverage and snack or meal.

Don't let your list of unaccomplished tasks or weeds stop you from enjoying your garden and what you have accomplished. Relish every bloom, fresh tomato, or visiting bird or butterfly.

MENGERT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

mation and help mentor new beekeepers.

"You can ask 10 different beekeepers about how to do something, and you'll probably come up with 11 different ways of doing it," Mengert said. "Everybody's got their own way."

To prepare for winter, the honey is removed in August, and the mite count needs to be as low as possible.

Winter bees are different than summer bees, according to Mengert. Winter bees have stored their honey, and that remains in the hive as food for the winter. Additionally, sugar water

is offered. The bees get the moisture to a certain percentage by fanning the concoction with their wings to dry it.

According to Tech Facts, "Scientists have declared bees the most critical species due to their role in pollinating 70% of crops. Bees have officially been named the most important living species on Earth."

"All our food needs pollinators. Every bee has their own thing they specialize in. Honey bees, bumble bees, wasps, yellow jackets - they are native pollinators and only go to certain plants. They all have their

own purpose in life," said Mengert.

To place an order for Papa's Honey, call Mengert at 715-250-3898. He also sells his wares at the Clintonville Farmers Market at 20 S. Main St., Clintonville, on Thursdays from June through October. The honey is also available at No Boundaries Nutrition, 35 S. Main St., Clintonville.

Raw honey is sold in one-pound, two-pound or three-pound containers, in addition to his homegrown maple syrup. Honey candy and honey sticks, which are straws filled with honey, are also available for purchase.

"Our Native stories are meant to teach lessons, and for us, stories seem to be an everyday thing in life."

MARY WALKER-SANAPAW, daughter of the late Frances Weso Walker



Menominee Pageant Players, from left, Cedar Fernandez, Jeremiah Moses Jr. and Avari Fernandez listen intently as others involved with the pageant "Short Stories From the Elders" about preparing show programs July 16 at the College of Menominee Nation. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

PAGEANT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

of yarns such as "Muskrat's Tail," "The Great Race," "The Raccoon and the Wolf" and "The Hunter." The players will also perform an original story by Walker that was in the book, "Na'ma Kee sa."

The Wilbers were the driving force behind adapting "Short Stories From the Elders" into a play. Dawn Wilber, who will also be the narrator for the pageant, said that, when she found the book, she felt compelled to bring them alive through the Menominee pageant style. She wrote the adaptation for "Na'ma Kee sa" in Winn's playwriting class.

"I have to say that, when I first started, I was like, 'How am I going to do this?'" Wilber said. "Ryan's teaching walked me right through everything, and pulling in facts and situations within our community."

When writing, Wilber wanted some of Walker's descendants to be a part of "Na'ma Kee sa." At least two family members are slated to be part of the show, she said.

"Serendipitously, it just kind of worked its way in there," Wilber said. "I think that our community is in for something very rich because this is something very new. It hasn't been done before."

Fernandez is eager to jump into the story. Besides being one of the writers, she will play Aehsepan in two of the stories. Aehsepan is one of the two main characters in "The Raccoon and the Wolf," and in "Muskrat's Tail," she is one of the animals of the forest trying to obtain the tail.

"I feel very lucky, especially being a young person who is hoping to help support this through our lives and keep it going and help it adapt," Fernandez said. "Stories are always adapting."

Moses said he also felt lucky, having heard of

some of the stories from Walker's book when he was growing up. He noted that the stories in the book form were short, but the pageant writers were able to flesh them out more in order to fit a two-hour show.

"We started brainstorming and looking at the adaptation of the stories from Frances Weso Walker's book," Moses said. "We started to flesh things out more, because the stories were already there, especially being based on our culture and the things we heard growing up, like 'The Great Race.'"

Moses also recalled finding a rare recording from more than 65 years ago, in 1959, where the performance had traditional Menominee language, something the tribe has spent years trying to revive in all aspects of reservation life.

"It was the only pageant that we've been able to track down that really made a point of using Menominee language, and we're trying to bring that forward this year," Moses said. "I think it's a really wonderful thing."

Moses has a 9-year-old brother who is participating in the pageants for the first time this year, something the elder sibling is very excited about.

The family aspect is something that is common in the Menominee pageants. Frieson has four children that are participating in "Short Stories From the Elders," and he is eager for them to take part in a tradition that he remembers fondly from his childhood. His youngest son, age 3, will be playing a fox chasing a rabbit in one of the scenes.

"Back in the '70s, when I was a little guy, I remember a pageant going on in the (Woodland Bowl), and I was just running around, and they were doing the storytelling and whatnot. I thought that was really

cool," Frieson said. "For me to experience that and get my children involved in doing these stories for the community, we enjoy it. We love doing this, and we wait every year to do it."

Alexis Frieson, Lloyd's daughter, echoed her father's sentiment about the pageant being a family affair.

"I just like to be involved," she said. "I don't do stuff like this, but I think it's really cool to do this with my dad and my brothers."

Richard Frieson, one of the Frieson sons taking part, enjoys being table to take the stage in the Woodland Bowl and tell a story.

"I like the lights, the pow wow grounds," he said.

With this being an adaptation, Walker's family wanted to be sure that the script stayed true to the author's vision. Mary Walker-Sanapaw is an observer and said that the pageant writers did a good job when expanding on her mother's stories to be sure that the additional scripting was spot on with the original stories.

"The book was my mother's baby, and we were always proud, like her, of her book that to see it go to stage now is, I believe, her dream come true," Walker-Sanapaw said. "As a storyteller, I believe everyone wants to see their stories come to life."

The important thing about the book and pageant versions of "Short Stories From the Elders" is that there is something to learn from each story.

"Our Native stories are meant to teach lessons, and for us, stories seem to be an everyday thing in life," Walker-Sanapaw said. "There are many things in life, so there are many stories."

Purple martins need good homes in Oconto County

A good home, secure from the weather and a solid place to raise a family not only works for us humans, but also for the birds. One species of birds that especially needs our help with home building is the purple martin.

The purple martin is hard to miss. It's North America's largest swallow. According to The Cornell Lab All About Birds (AAB) website, it is one of the earliest South American migrants to arrive in the spring. Older males arrive in Wisconsin as early as late March, the females a bit later. The adult male is a striking glossy bluish purple that seems to glow in the sunlight; the wings and tail are brownish black. Females are duller in color with varying amounts of gray on their heads and whitish lower belly.

Masters of flight, purple martins get their food (insects) and water, according to AAB, on the wing. They snap up insects (e.g., mayflies, wasps, dragonflies, etc.) while in flight but also water by scooping it up in their lower bill as they skim along its surface.

Purple martins are considered cavity nesters. Herein lies the rub. Natural cavities such as those occurring in older trees or the tops of old wooden fence posts are lacking in our modern developed landscape.

In addition to the lack of housing, according to AAB, the martins suffer from competition for nesting sites and predation of eggs and young from aggressive house sparrow and European starlings. Fewer insects due to pesticide use has reduced the amount of food available to the birds.

What is helping to



A purple martin chick is banded by Dick Nikolai during MartinFest in June.

CATHY CARNES



conserve the purple martin population is people, people who put up purple martin houses and tend them. According to AAB, in eastern North America purple martins nest almost exclusively in human-built nest boxes near cities and towns. Providing housing for purple martins is an age-old tradition; even the early Native Americans hung empty gourds for purple martins to use as nest sites.

Over the last several

years, Bird City Oconto has been helping to boost purple martin numbers by providing three purple martin houses at City Park, and another two houses at City Docks. This year, the houses provided homes for 122 adult martins and 250-300 young, a record year.

Banding purple martins helps us learn more about these birds and how to help them. This year the Wisconsin Purple Martin Association's (WPMA) 15th annual MartinFest held at City Park in Oconto on June 28 provided information on bird banding.

Dick Nikolai, an expert on purple martins and board member of the WPMA, demonstrated

how he bands the martins. While gently cradling the bird in his hand, he affixes a numbered band onto one of the bird's legs using a special bird banding pliers that prevents injury to the leg. All the purple martin chicks at City Park and the city docks in Oconto are fitted with bands, as are some of the adult birds.

Bird banding is an important conservation tool within the Migratory Bird Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The bands provide information on breeding and wintering locations, behavior, migratory routes, survival and reproduction that is used to help manage and conserve birds. You can contribute

to this effort, by reporting bird bands you find on any species of dead birds including those legally harvested during hunting seasons. To report bird bands, go to <http://www.reportband.gov>.

Since 2013, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has listed the purple martin as a species of special concern.

According to Dick Nikolai, the purple martin population has declined 5-6% annually over the last 55 years in Wisconsin. There are no longer purple martins in the northern one-quarter of Wisconsin, and the population in the northwest part of Wisconsin has declined due to the tornados that passed through this area

from 2021-2023. If you are interested in helping purple martins, check out the WPMA's website, which provides a wealth of information and guidance on how to construct and manage purple martin houses. It is a time commitment, but well worth it and with lots of great support.

You can also donate to Bird City Oconto. Because the purple martin houses at the City Docks are full, they would like to purchase another martin house for this site. Donations can be made to Bird City Oconto at the Oconto City Hall by calling 920-834-7711.

The reward in helping these birds is seeing them move into new housing and the satisfaction of knowing you are part of a larger conservation effort. And the purple martins will certainly repay your efforts with their lively company, chatty songs and calls, and their aerial acrobats as they pursue and catch a myriad of insects in your own backyard. Cathy Carnes is a retired biologist in Oconto who worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Green Bay Field Office and prior to that with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch in Buffalo, New York. As endangered species coordinator for the USFWS, she helped conserve and recover federally listed threatened and endangered species in Wisconsin.

Cathy Carnes is a retired biologist in Oconto who worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Green Bay Field Office and prior to that with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch in Buffalo, New York. As endangered species coordinator for the USFWS, she helped conserve and recover federally listed threatened and endangered species in Wisconsin.

Digital disorder inflicted on good husband by his wife

My husband has fallen ill with DD (digital disorder), a very prevalent and highly contagious illness. Indeed, chances are you already have DD. What? You've never heard of digital disorder? It's been plaguing the population for years. Luckily, Jon has a relatively mild case.

As much as I hate to admit it, this is totally my fault. He was perfectly happy with his flip-phone, but no, I had to introduce him to the wonders of having a search engine in the palm of his hand. Things got out of control when I taught him to use my iPad, a device he affectionately calls Blue.

What else is blue? Me. He's not what I would call addicted to YouTube and our Apple devices, but I have had to institute a "No Phones at the Table" rule here at Otter Run. I suspected something was wrong for quite a while, but I have clearly been



in digital oblivion. Come to find out my otherwise healthy husband has three of the five DD variations. It's not a life-threatening condition, but there's relief in putting a name to the problem.

Full disclosure: it was Jon who discovered DD while browsing the web when he should have been cleaning his Dead Animals Room downstairs. "Hey, Wifey, you have got to hear this." When he insists on sharing something he's found online, I know he means business. The topic was DD, and though he reluctantly admitted he fit the profile, he said a visit to a digital health care provider was not necessary.

The first DD variant Jon

has is TCNF (technoference), a disorder where digital technology disrupts daily routines, leisure time and close relationships. When in the company of others, he can avoid the temptation to sneak a peek at his smartphone, but at home? Not so much. If I complain, he retorts that he's just doing what everyone else does, including our beloved granddaughter who calls him Papa.

Jon isn't wrong to point that out as said granddaughter has TCNF. Almost 12, her time on the tablet has eclipsed baking cookies with Grandma, pairing up to write and stage a dramatic production in our living room or taking a woods walk to see my pet doe Sedona who comes out when I call her name.

Thankfully, pontoon rides, swimming at Bass Lake Beach and shopping at Sweet Memories Candy Shop in Lakewood still

make the cut. Sure, coming in a distant second for her attention is not flattering, but it has an upside. She never says, "I'm bored" anymore, and I have committed to memory every hair on the top of her adorable head that holds her amazing brain. Since there's no cure for technoference, I settle for whatever attention I can get.

In addition to technoference, Jon has been exhibiting mild symptoms of the DD variant cyberchondria, a compulsive need to research health symptoms online and self-diagnose. Medical experts sternly warn about doing this, but at least WebMD and Cleveland Clinic are his go-to websites. It's not all bad. It often saves time, trouble and treasure as we avoid needlessly accessing the excellent health care providers we are blessed to have here in the rural Wisconsin Northwoods. A particularly virulent

variant of DD is nomophobia, a state of pure panic induced by misplacing your cellphone. Jon is not susceptible, but I have it in spades. I can spiral into total despair when I can't locate my phone. For a while, I deleted the Find My Phone app, which can be an open invitation for cyber criminals to make your life cyber-hell. So is misplacing my phone, especially when in silence mode. Yet that's nothing compared to when Jon leaves and forgets his. The resulting distress is hazardous to our household health.

Good news. Neither one of us has ringxiety: the false perception that your phone is ringing or vibrating when it isn't. And we haven't come down with TSD (Truman Show Delusion), a narcissistic state of paranoia caused by an obsession with social media. Those afflicted actually believe their lives are being recorded and broadcast

across multiple platforms. I know — certifiable.

You may be wondering if DD is treatable. Nope. The only remedy is going cold turkey by moving totally offline, and I doubt that will ever happen. But we've had some success with nomophobia. I often misplace my phone at home, but it's always in my purse when I go out.

Posting a "Do You Have Your Phone?" sign on the garage access door proved futile, so I always ask Jon if he has his phone when he leaves. I did that an hour ago when he went to Pintsch's Hardware. You know, I really should call and remind him to pick up the eggs I ordered from Rosemary. Uh oh, I can't find my phone. Now where the heck did I put it?

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.

CMN, MNHS stage short original production on drug addiction

One of College of Menominee Nation’s high school cohorts staged an original short play last week.
Written by CMN and

Menominee Nation High School student Rikki Latender, the play “You’re Not Alone” shares the story of a high school valedictorian and track

star who is struggling with a hidden addiction.
The play was created in CMN’s spring 2025 play-writing course under the tutelage of Adjunct Profes-

sor Justin Eagle Gauthier. CMN’s Liberal Studies Chair Ryan Winn is teaching the summer 2025 theater production course producing the show. The

script was chosen by students who enrolled in both courses.
Besides Latender, students featured in the show included Kenew Awono-

hopay, Madyson Mikle, Sydney Mitchell, Michael Peters, Natalie Peters and Urijah Reevis.
The play was staged at MNHS on July 17.

WHAT’S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, JULY 25

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

SHAWANO: SMEC Lightning on the Wolf, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., USAir Motorsports Raceway, W5901 County Road BE. \$20.

SHAWANO: American Red Cross blood drive, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., City Hall, 127 S. Sawyer St. Appointments at RedCrossBlood.org or 800-733-2767.

CECIL: Sunflower Fest, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bergsbaken Farms, W2095 County Road E. Live music noon to 4 p.m., family-friendly activities, local vendors, sunflower trails, wagon rides, concessions available.

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

LENA: Thunder On Main, 5:30-8 p.m., Main Street. Race cars, food trucks, vendors, live music.

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

OCONTO FALLS: Music by the River, 6-9 p.m., East Side Beach, North Main Street. Live music by Drive West.

OCONTO: Movie Night Under the Stars, dusk, Joel’s Reel Inn, 400 Holtwood Way. Adult Night: “The Great Outdoors.”

SATURDAY, JULY 26

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

LENA: Dirt City Off-Road Nationals, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dirt City Motorplex, 414 E. Main St. All-pro and sportsman truck, buggy, SXS and kart champ off-road classes. Admission \$37.95 daily, \$64.25 weekend, military discount.

SHAWANO: SMEC Lightning

on the Wolf, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., USAir Motorsports Raceway, W5901 County Road BE. \$20.

MARION: Heritage Day, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Marion Historical Society, 620 E. Ramsdell St. Car show, live music, buildings open to tour, basket raffles, silent auction, food and refreshments.

CECIL: Sunflower Fest, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bergsbaken Farms, W2095 County Road E. Live music noon to 4 p.m., family-friendly activities, local vendors, sunflower trails, wagon rides, concessions available.

SHAWANO: Shawano Has History Walking Tours, 10 a.m., Tours start at Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St., and end at Stubborn Brothers, 220 S. Main St. Tickets \$10.

CRIVITZ: Crooked Trails ATV Club Hamburger and Brat Fry, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Crooked Lake Sportmen’s Club, 15526 County Road W. Hamburger and brat fry, raffles.

LAKEWOOD: Wienerfest North, noon to 8 p.m., Memorial Park, 17258 North Road. Food, drinks, raffles, music, educational/first aid demonstrations, to benefit northern Oconto County emergency services.

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

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

SHAWANO: Rock the Links Golf Outing Public Concert, 7-10 p.m., Shawano Lake Golf Course, W5714 Lake Road. Live music with Warden. Suggested donation \$10 to Shawano Hockey. Golf outing shotgun start 11 a.m., \$400 per foursome includes 18 holes, meal and entertainment.

SUNDAY, JULY 27

SHAWANO: Zurko’s Midwest Promotions Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E.

Green Bay St. \$2 admission, 12 and under free with adult.

LENA: Dirt City Off-Road Nationals, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dirt City Motorplex, 414 E. Main St. All-pro and sportsman truck, buggy, SXS and kart champ off-road classes. Admission \$37.95 daily, military discount.

SHAWANO: SMEC Lightning on the Wolf, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., USAir Motorsports Raceway, W5901 County Road BE. \$20.

CECIL: Sunflower Fest, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bergsbaken Farms, W2095 County Road E. Live music noon to 4 p.m., family-friendly activities, local vendors, sunflower trails, wagon rides, concessions available.

WITTENBERG: “Elderon – A Look Back,” 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. A pictorial exhibit about Elderon’s history. Free admission, donations accepted.

SHAWANO: Music in the Park at Arlington, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Arlington Park, 300 N. Humphrey Circle. Live music with It’s Just Us Band.

MONDAY, JULY 28

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.

SHAWANO: Revive 715, 7-9 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Northeast Wisconsin Jazz Ensemble presents a night of big band music.

TUESDAY, JULY 29

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

SHAWANO: Naberhood Block Party, 6 p.m., The Naberhood, 214 S. Main St. Wesley Waffles.

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

KESHENA: Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. Omaeqnome-newak Wetohkatikamek

Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

SHAWANO: Walk Wednesdays, 7-8 a.m., USAir Motorsports Raceway, W5901 County Road BE. Track is open for walkers. Free admission.

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

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

SHAWANO: Shawano Paddlers Evening Paddle, 6 p.m., Huckleberry Harbor, 217 E. Fifth St. Check Facebook page for latest information.

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

THURSDAY, JULY 31

SHAWANO: Shawano Paddlers Morning Paddle, 9 a.m., Washington Lake, W4900 Stark Road. Check Facebook page for latest information.

LITTLE SUAMICO: American Red Cross blood drive, 1-6 p.m., Little Suamico Fire Department, 5974 County Road S. Appointments at RedCross-Blood.org or 800-733-2767.

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

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

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

FRIDAY, AUG. 1

NAVARINO: Nature Camp, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Ages 6-11. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Information: www.navarino.org.

KESHENA: Kehtekaewak

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

SHAWANO: Scrapeyard Presents Friendship Cup 3, 2-11 p.m., USAir Motorsports, W5901 County Road BE. Gates open 1 p.m. Admission \$20.

BONDUEL: 67th annual Corn Roast, 5-11 p.m., Village Park, 214 E. Park St. Admission \$5. All you can eat corn, bean bag toss tournament, live music by New Generation Polka Band.

BOWLER: Bowler Bash, Bowler Pond and Park, 104 E. Main St. Food, refreshments, raffles, music with The Now 8:15-11:45 p.m. All you can eat corn \$8 wristband; AYCE corn and tap beer \$15 wristband.

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

KESHENA: Menominee Nation Contest Pow Wow, grand entry 7 p.m., Woodland Bowl, W3024 Fairgrounds Road. Dance contest in multiple categories. Weekend pass \$15, \$10 day pass, 60 and older and under 5 free.

OCONTO: Movie Night Under the Stars, dusk, Joel’s Reel Inn, 400 Holtwood Way. “Moana 2.”

SATURDAY, AUG. 2

LAKEWOOD: Lakes Country Arts and Crafts Show, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Town Hall and Activity Center, 17258 North Road.

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

MOUNTAIN: Craft and Vendor Fair, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., 13395 State Highway 32-64.

OCONTO: Emplify Health by Bellin Kids Triathlon, 8:30 to noon, Bond Community Center, 1201 Park Ave. Ages 3-14. Registration 7:45 a.m., first race 8:30 a.m. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/bellinfitnessbccc.

SURING: Youth Outdoor Fun Day, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Suring Sportsman’s Club Range, 8699 River Road. Trout

fishing, archery, slingshots, shooting, lunch included. Ages 7-17, must be accompanied by adult or guardian, registration required at SSC_Secretary21@outlook.com.

SHAWANO: Scrapeyard Presents Friendship Cup 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., USAir Motorsports, W5901 County Road BE. Gates open 8 a.m. Admission \$20.

KESHENA: Menominee Nation Contest Pow Wow, grand entries noon and 7 p.m., Woodland Bowl, W3024 Fairgrounds Road. Dance contest in multiple categories. Weekend pass \$15, \$10 day pass, 60 and older and under 5 free. 5k Pow Wow Walk/run 9 a.m. at Keshena Pavilion.

DOTY: Doty Firefighters Picnic, noon to 5 p.m., County T and Star Lake Road. Food, ice cream social, games, raffles, beer and brats.

BOWLER: Bowler Bash, Bowler Pond and Park, 104 E. Main St. Food, refreshments, raffles, parade at 2 p.m. FFA Alumni cow and horse drop contests 4 p.m., bike giveaway 4 p.m., music with The 308s 7:30-11:30 p.m., fireworks at dusk.

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

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

SUNDAY, AUG. 3

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

SHAWANO: Scrapeyard Presents Friendship Cup 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., USAir Motorsports, W5901 County Road BE. Gates open 8 a.m. Admission \$20.

BONDUEL: Pie and Ice Cream Social, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bonduel Community Archives, 108 S. First St. Homemade pies, ice cream, barbecue. Music in the gazebo.

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YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Transparency disregarded in two egregious cases

Last month, the Wisconsin Town of Hazelhurst postponed discussion of a proposed ordinance due to a typo. The meeting agenda had incorrectly listed “wake board” instead of the intended “wake boat.” Town chairman Ted Cushing said, “I’m not going to violate the Open Meetings Law.”

It was the right call, one that affirms my belief that public officials in Wisconsin are, by and large, intent on complying with the state’s openness laws.

Sadly, this is not always the case.

Recent weeks have brought forth two of the most egregious violations of the public’s right to know that I have seen in more than three decades of tracking openness issues on the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council.

The first happened in the village of St. Francis, south of Milwaukee, on June 2. Megan Lee, a reporter for television station TMJ4, and photographer Dan Selan tried to attend a meeting of the St. Francis school board. The district superintendent, Deb Kerr, confronted Lee, in an exchange that Selan captured on video (see <https://tinyurl.com/4pwr58z7>).

“You are not allowed to come to our meetings because you did not give us any notice or tell us why you were here,” declared Kerr, saying she had just spoken with the district’s lawyer. “Like you said, it’s an open board meeting, but you’re not filming.” When Lee pressed for an explanation, Kerr replied, “I’m going to ask you to leave now, and if you don’t leave, I’ve already told you, I will call the police.” Thankfully, this did not occur.

For the record, no one is required to give advance notice before attending a public meeting. The state’s Open Meetings Law, at 19.90, expressly directs all public bodies to “make a reasonable effort to accommodate any person desiring to record, film or photograph the meeting,” so long as it is not disruptive.

Kerr, a one-time candidate for state school superintendent, did apologize, sort of, saying “I wish I had handled it differently.” TMJ4 has filed a verified complaint against the school district with Milwaukee County’s Corporation Counsel, the first step toward possible legal action.

The second transgression involves Steven H. Gibbs, a circuit court judge



Bill Lueders
Guest columnist

in Chippewa County. Gibbs recently issued an order that not only barred the media from recording witness testimony at pretrial evidentiary hearings but also instructed that they “may not directly quote the testimony of the witnesses, and may only summarize the content of the testimony,” or else face contempt proceedings.

“Wow, this is quite the court order,” said Robert Drechsel, a UW-Madison professor emeritus of journalism and mass communication and expert on media law and the First Amendment, when I asked for his thoughts. He cited a 1976 U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Nebraska Press Association v. Stuart*, which limited judges’ ability to impose constraints on media, requiring that they consider less restrictive alternatives and ponder whether the order would be effective.

That was not done here. In fact, requiring summation over quotation “would be more likely to introduce a risk of error and possible prejudice,” Drechsel said. “So no, I do not think the judge can prohibit the media from directly quoting what they hear during an open court proceeding, and I don’t think it’s a close call.”

Gibbs, asked under what authority he was forbidding direct quotation, cited a Wisconsin Supreme Court Rule that allows judges to “control the conduct of proceedings” before them. Gibbs said he believes in the First Amendment and freedom of the press but “my concern is a fair jury pool in this matter not tainted by any media reports” about evidence that may or may not be introduced.

He did not explain how threatening the media for trying to be as accurate as possible would achieve this end.

The truth is that public officials, even if they’re well-intentioned, sometimes broadly overstep. Let’s just be grateful that this is the exception and not the rule. You can quote me on that.

Bill Lueders is the president of the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council. Your Right to Know is a monthly column distributed by the council, a group dedicated to open government.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Village wrong to dismantle kayak launch

To the editor:

I am writing to you to express concern over the village of Cecil board’s recent decision to remove the ADA compliant kayak launch — an amenity donated through generous community contributions. This action was taken without public input or opportunity for discussion, and it undermines the values of transparency, accessibility and community collaboration

that define our region.

This launch was more than a piece of infrastructure — it was a symbol of inclusion. It allowed individuals of all abilities, including veterans and seniors, to safely enjoy our local waters. Removing it without engaging the very community that funded and benefited from it is deeply disappointing.

Kayaking and other silent water sports are booming in popularity across Wisconsin. According to the Wisconsin

Office of Outdoor Recreation, outdoor recreation contributes over \$11.2 billion annually to our state’s economy. Silent sport enthusiasts alone generate \$14.7 million in just three northern counties. Trails like the Kickapoo Water Trail attract 16,000 visits per year, bringing in \$1.2 million in local spending. These numbers reflect a growing demand for low-impact, nature based recreation — something our region is perfectly positioned to support.

Instead of dismantling access, we should be expanding it. The removal of this launch sends the wrong message to residents and visitors alike. I urge the village board to reconsider and to engage the public in a transparent dialogue about the future of our shared outdoor spaces.

Let’s work together to preserve and promote the amenities that make our community vibrant, inclusive and economically resilient.

Melanie Curti, Shawano

GUEST COLUMN

Pulling USPS back from brink

The United States Postal Service is on the brink of a self-induced collapse. The failed policies of the Delivering for America Plan have driven away customers through a combination of sky-high rate increases and degraded service. David Steiner, who will take over as postmaster general July 14, has a tough job to do and little time to do it with some estimates indicating the USPS could be insolvent as soon as 2028.

Congress has a key role to play in helping him right the ship but must get off the sidelines and act. A useful step occurred earlier this week with a hearing before the House Oversight Subcommittee on Government Operations. The National Newspaper Association (NNA) provided a statement for the hearing that lays out key actions



Martha Diaz Aszkenazy
Guest columnist

Congress can take to help restore the USPS.

We emphasized that NNA members serve their communities, providing news on local events and civic matters that are not covered anywhere else, and that they depend on the USPS to get their papers to subscribers. The USPS — and by extension the small businesses in the communities they serve — faces an immediate and existential crisis. We urge Congress to act swiftly and compel meaningful reform at the USPS.

Here are three actions Congress can take right now to get the USPS back on track and keep commerce in America

moving:

- Demand the USPS Board halt the Delivering for America Plan including the large rate increase planned for July 13. This increase, far above the rate of inflation will only deepen the hole and ties the hands of Steiner, who should have the opportunity to assess the situation. The same holds true for the network consolidations and service cuts. Every customer that is lost through these increases and service reductions is one less Steiner can rely on in the future.

- Modernize and empower the USPS regulator. Effective checks and balances are needed to keep the USPS on track. Congress needs to update and modernize the postal regulatory process to better safeguard against excessive rates and poor service by passing House

Resolution 3004, The USPS Serves Us Act.

- Measure newspaper costs accurately. Congress should compel accurate measurement of newspaper service and hold the USPS accountable for maintaining and improving service quality by enacting House Bill 2098/Senate Bill 1002, the Deliver for Democracy Act.

These are all common sense steps Congress can take to address what has been clearly a failed approach by USPS management. Steiner has a huge job ahead of him and will need all the help he can get.

Congress must act now to make sure the nation’s next postmaster general is not the last one.

Martha Diaz Aszkenazy is the chairwoman of the National Newspaper Association and publisher for The San Fernando Valley (California) Sun/El Sol Newspapers.



Another batch of winners at the Shawano Speedway



Winners were plentiful July 19 at the weekly Shawano Speedway races. Troy Springborn, above, finished first during the Late Model feature, while Tommy Rindt finished second, Steve Kastning finished third, Andy Karl finished fourth, and Lukas Postl finished fifth. Jeffrey Teske, right, took the top spot for the Sportsmods feature, while Jake Carpenter took second, Josh Fleischnman took third, Tommy Rindt took fourth and Dustin Wudstrack rounded out the top five. In the Mods, Kevin Feck finished first, Marcus Yarie finished second, Lucas Lamberies finished third, Tanner Janke finished fourth and Jordan Bartz finished fifth. Jeremy Christians got the checkered flag for the Stockcars, followed by Dan Michonski in second, Devin Snellenberger in third, Trent Nolan in fourth and Mark Eswein in fifth. In the Mighty Fours, Justin Haufe finished first, followed by Taylor Junk, Brad Wedde, Andrew Yeager and Bo White. The Street Stocks feature, Kyle Genett took the checkered flag, followed by Jacob Ambrosious, Jeff Richards, Derek Schrauth and Paul Ambrosius.

BACKCOUNTRY CAPTURES



Big 3rd inning lifts Cecil to win

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

July 20
Cecil 13, Shawano 1 (7 inn.)

After a slow start by both teams, Cecil erupted for eight runs in the bottom of the third inning and went on to pick up a win over the Lobos in seven innings that ended because of the 10-run rule.

Reese Stoltenow led off the Mudhens' half of the third inning with his team's first hit and Ken Casper followed with a two-run home run over the left-field fence.

Garrett Engel kept the inning alive with a single and scored after a pair of walks and an error that left the bases loaded. A catcher's interference play and another walk led to two more runs. Stoltenow added a sacrifice fly and Casper made it 8-0 with an RBI double.

Singles by Jake Sager and Mason Mevarden got things started for Cecil in the

fourth inning. Brodie Hartmann reached on an error that scored two more runs to make it 10-0.

Casper and Engel would again reach on subsequent singles in the fifth inning and both scored on a single from Noah Beilfuss. The Mudhens added one more run later in the inning to complete the scoring.

Shawano scored its only run in the sixth inning after Chase Henning doubled and scored on Carson Popp's single.

Beilfuss picked up the win on the mound by scattering six hits and striking out six batters over six innings.

Andrew Popp took the loss for the Lobos.

Casper led all hitters with three hits, while Engel and Beilfuss added two each. **Hofa Park 9, Bonduel 4**

Brinton Anderson's big day at the plate helped the Panthers knock off the Broncos in Bonduel.

He drove in four runs on three hits —

including a three-run home run in the first inning — before adding an RBI double in the fourth.

Noah Weier's solo home run for Bonduel in the first inning cut Hofa Park's lead to 3-1.

The Broncos never took the lead, as Hofa Park came up with five runs on three hits in the fourth inning. An error scored one run, Robbie Schuettpelez singled to drive in a pair of runs, Anderson added his RBI double and Tyler Jacobson chipped in with an RBI single.

Schuettpelez picked up the win despite giving up 12 hits and four runs over 8 1/3 innings. Jacobson worked the rest of the ninth inning to pick up a save.

Emitt Hunter, Trevor Cornell, Schuettpelez and Anderson each had three of Hofa Park's 15 hits.

Cade Johnson, Adam Frost, Cooper Camshure and Weier led the Broncos

BABA playoffs to get underway Aug. 10

Top four teams will advance to postseason

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

The regular season is winding down for all 23 teams in the Badger Amateur Baseball Association.

The top four teams in all four divisions — East, West, North and South-Central — will begin postseason play Aug. 10 in the divisional round after regular-season action is scheduled to wrap up Aug. 3.

First-place teams will host fourth-place teams and third-place teams will be on the road to face second-place teams in the opening round.

Division finals are scheduled for Aug. 17.

Semifinals will be played Aug. 24, with the North Division champion heading to the West champion's home field and the East Division champion hosting the South-Central champion.

The BABA Grand Championship is set for Aug. 31, with the North/West winner from Aug. 24 facing the South-Central/East winner.

All playoff games will get underway at 1:30 p.m. and first pitch for the grandchampionship is set for 2 p.m.

Little Falls won last year's championship with a 4-2 win over Scandinavia.

East/West Division

July 20
Tilleda 7, Tigerton 3

Tilleda came up with five runs in the fifth inning and went on to defeat the Tigers.

Braylon Mielke led Tilleda at the plate with two hits and a team-high three RBIs. Zach Fehrman, Adin Brei, Jay Brei and Stephen Reinke added two hits each.

Austin Hoffman, Tyler Steinbach, Dylan Berg, Connor Harris, Pat Provoast, Kaleb Dahlstrom and Logan Wanta all had a hit for Tigerton.

Fehrman picked up the win and Patrick Bailey took the loss.

Marion 10, Shawano 2

Dave Jueds drove in three runs for the Meisters in a win over the Lakers in Marion.

Blake Weatherwax and Joe Weyenberg had three hits each for Marion, while Nick Schoen added two and Ryan Mortensen drove in a pair of runs.

Schoen picked up the win on the mound and Mike Korth took the loss.

Akron Verhein had two hits to lead Shawano.

Caroline 3, Crandon 0

Winning pitcher Klay Barkow struck out 11 Crandon batters over five innings to help lead the Cougars to a win over the Kentucks.

Jack Yeager and Mike Weatherwax had two hits for Caroline and Mason Breitenfeldt added his first BABA hit.

Cole Kupfer, Carsyn Mayer and Braden Brauer had hits for Crandon.

Matty Schallhorn took the loss for the Kentucks despite going the distance and striking out 10 batters.

Little Falls 11, Leopold 1 (8 inn.)

Parker Gullixon had three hits for the Loggers in a win over the Bulldogs.

Jenner Gullixon added two hits for Little

BABA, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Falls and Carter Kurki picked up the win on the mound.

Anderson Schmidt led Leopold with two hits and Andrew Kristof scored the Bulldogs' lone run with a solo homer.

Nate Laude took the loss.

Menominee 19, Clintonville 17

The Indians and A's combined for 36 runs in Keshena.

Gresham 12, Neopit 1 (7)

The Gophers needed only seven innings to get the win on the Chiefs' home field.

Winning pitcher Jerzy Broucker led the Gophers at the plate with three hits, while Trevor Granquist and Crew Weisnicht added two each.

Wendell Waukau hit a home run for Neopit and Jamison Beasaw took the loss.

July 18

Little Falls 18, Tilleda 2

Little Falls topped Tilleda in a rescheduled game in Marion.

North Division

July 18

Wittenberg 7, Aniwa 5

Aniwa hosted Wittenberg, but came up two runs short against the Pilots.

Winning pitcher Nathan

Waupekenay led the Pilots at the plate with five hits while holding the Orioles to five hits.

Pierson Potrykus and Zach Urquhart added two hits for Wittenberg.

Wade Farmer, Chris Wiesman and Brennan Boda had a double for Aniwa and Kody Szews took the loss on the mound.

Antigo/Polar 11, Hatley 2

Will Kubeny had three hits, including a home run and a double, to help lead Antigo/Polar to a win over the Braves in Antigo.

Antigo/Polar outhit Hatley 14-5. Eli Fleischman, Mason Gray, Logan Doering and Reed Kuenzli added two hits for Antigo/Polar and Brandon Olson had two hits to lead Hatley. Tanner Kocher also homered for the Braves.

A.J. Kirsch picked up the win on the mound and Ben Cumliffe took the loss.

Birnamwood 5, Elderon 1

Mason Mevarden led Birnamwood with three of his team's eight hits as the Kings defeated the Whiskey Jacks.

Zandyr Barke added two hits for Birnamwood and Logan Thix picked up the win on the mound.

Elderon had 10 hits, with two each from Trevor

Groshek, Ian Salvesen and Brandon Groshek.

Kaleb Schulist took the loss.

South-Central Division

July 20

New London 8, Scandinavia 3

Winning pitcher Mike Helsten held the Vikings hitless over five innings and struck out five batters.

Cody Behm and Noah Hanson had two hits each to lead the Irish.

Alec Rogalla took the loss after giving up four runs in three innings on the mound.

Weymont 3, Plover 2

Plover 9, Weymont 8

Weymont and Plover split a doubleheader that included a makeup game.

Luke Schwenn picked up the win for the White Bass in the first game, while Caden Adam took the loss.

Chris Gunst scored two of Weymont's three runs.

Brady Houston out-pitched Collin Jorgensen in the second game.

Trevor Wetzell led Weymont with three hits and drove in a pair of runs, while Schwenn and Tyler Wetzell added two hits.

Kaden Thauer had three hits to lead Plover, while Houston added two.

CECIL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

with two hits each.

Navarino 15, Nichols 3

Navarino hosted Nichols for the annual Hall of Fame Game. After the game, the Rangers inducted Dan "Horse" Krause into the team's Hall of Fame.

Nichols took an early lead with a two-run home run in the top of the first inning, but managed only one more run the rest of the game.

Ryan Boettcher reached on an error for Navarino in the bottom of the inning and later scored on a passed ball.

The Rangers added to their lead with three more runs in the third inning. Mason Dingeldein led off with a single, Hunter Larson walked and Nick Dagneau and Ethan Bemowski had back-to-back singles to give Navarino a 4-2 lead.

Owen Weber opened Navarino's half of the fourth inning with a single, Boettcher drew a walk and Hunter added his first home run for the Rangers to give the home team a 7-2 advantage.

Nichols added a run in the fifth inning before the Rangers scored eight more runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Boettcher led off the inning with a double and Larson and Kyle Mrozinski drew walks to load the bases. Singles from Dagneau, Bemowski and Bailey Dingeldein put Navarino up 10-3. Weber drew a bases-loaded walk and Bemowski scored on Braylon Krull's single.

Boettcher's RBI single was his second hit of the inning and Mrozinski's double plated the Rangers' final run.

Mike Nompoggi picked up the win by allowing three earned runs on seven

hits and striking out eight batters over six innings.

Boettcher, Mrozinski, Dagneau, Bemowski and Weber each had two hits for the Rangers.

Pulaski 7, Marinette 4

The Reds improved to 8-5 in Dairyland League play with a road win over the Redbirds.

Easton Vertz picked up the win on the mound for Pulaski, Kyle Olson had two of Pulaski's seven hits.

Hortonville at Waupaca

Results not reported.

July 18

Navarino 4, Hortonville 1

Navarino broke a scoreless tie in the bottom of the fourth inning as Owen Weber doubled with two outs and scored on a wild pitch.

Hortonville loaded the bases in the next inning, but only scored one run to tie the game.

Navarino came up with three runs in the seventh. James Mutchie singled to score Weber, who had walked, to give the Rangers the lead for good. Jackson Young scored on Ryan Boettcher's RBI single to make it 3-1 and Mutchie scored the game's final run on a throwing error.

Hortonville loaded the bases in the top of the ninth with nobody out, but reliever Mike Nompoggi worked out of the jam and the game ended with a double play.

Mutchie held Hortonville to one hit over seven innings to get the win on the mound.

Mutchie, Boettcher and Mason Dingeldein led Navarino with two hits each.



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AKC Lab Puppies
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Males & Females
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Legals
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07/18/25, 07/25/25, 08/01/25

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE FRISINGER FAMILY IRREVOCABLE TRUST DATED AUGUST 30, 2011

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. Todd E. Frisinger, trustee of the Frisinger Family Irrevocable Trust dated August 30, 2011.
2. The decedent, Devonne E. Frisinger, with a birth date of April 15, 1937, and date of death of June 7, 2025, was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a post office address of 412 N. Hunter Street, Wittenberg, WI 54499.
3. Deadline to make claims: All persons or companies having claims against Devonne E. Frisinger and/or the Frisinger Family Irrevocable Trust dated August 30, 2011, must present their claims to the attorney for the trustee on or before November 18, 2025, which is four (4) months after the date of July 18, 2025, the date of first insertion and publication of this Notice in the Shawano Leader, or the claims will be forever barred as set forth in Section 701.0508 of the Wisconsin Statutes.
4. Notice of claims: Claims must be presented by delivering or mailing a written statement of the claim indicating its basis, the name and address of the claimant, the date the claim is due, the amount claimed, and describing any security for the claim. The claim is deemed presented upon receipt by the attorney for the trustee at the address set forth herein.
5. Publication of this notice shall constitute notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown.
6. Attorney for trustee: Ruth M. Ross, Ruder Ware, L.L.S.C., P.O. Box 8050, Wausau, WI 54402-8050.

WNAXLP

Legals
WNAXLP

f15af2ab
07/11/25, 07/18/25, 07/25/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT BROWN COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION

GREEN BAY ANESTHESIA ASSOCIATES, S.C.
First Floor 225 S Executive Dr
Brookfield WI 53005
Plaintiff,
vs.

LONNIE DELABRUE
822 E RANDALL ST
SHAWANO WI 54166
Defendant.

Case No.: 2025CV000827
Classification Code: 30301
The amount claimed is over \$10,000.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN,

To the person named above as a defendant: You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 40 (forty) days after July 9, 2025, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 100 S Jefferson Street, Green Bay, WI 54305 and to Dobberstein Law Firm, LLC, the plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 225 S. Executive Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

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

Dated this 2nd day of July 2025 .

DOBBERSTEIN LAW FIRM, LLC
Attorneys for the plaintiff
Electronically signed by Jillian E Caggiano
Jillian E Caggiano
State Bar No. 1101032
225 S. Executive Dr.
Brookfield, WI 53005
(262) 641-3715

WNAXLP

aa7efcc6
07/18/25, 07/25/25, 08/01/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT SHAWANO COUNTY

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
11625 N Community House Rd
Charlotte, NC 28277
Plaintiff,

vs.

Jennifer L. Dzioba
N3614 County Road J
Tigerton, WI 54486-8956
John Doe Dzioba
N3614 County Road J
Tigerton, WI 54486-8956
The United States of America
c/o US Attorney
517 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53202
&
c/o US Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Rm B-103
Washington, DC 20530-0001
Cattle Winddown WI LLC f/k/a
Cottonwood
Financial Wisconsin LLC
2100 W Walnut Hill Ln Ste 300
Irving, TX 75038-3268
U.S. Department of HUD
Attn: Office of Regional Counsel
77 W Jackson Blvd Rm 2604
Chicago, IL 60604-3511
Defendants.

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

To each person named above as a defendant:
You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. Within 40 days after July 18, 2025 you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166-2145 and to Gray & Associates, L.L.P., plaintiff's attorney, 16345 West Glendale Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151-2841. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not demand a copy of the complaint within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated this 3rd day of July, 2025.

Gray & Associates
PUBLICATION SUMMONS
Case No. 25-CV-000097 L.L.P.
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Patricia C. Lonzo
State Bar No. 1045312
Case No. 25-CV-000097
16345 West Glendale Drive
New Berlin, WI 53151-2841
(414) 224-1987

Gray & Associates, L.L.P. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt.

WNAXLP

Legals
WNAXLP

241e6ed8
07/18/25, 07/25/25, 08/01/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY

Y IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Mary Jo I. Schuettpeitz
DOD 03/31/2025

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 25 PR 48

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 01/19/1958 and date of death 03/31/2025, was domiciled in Shawano County State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 609 Maiden Lane Shawano, WI 54166.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is October 21, 2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office.
James E. Aschenbrenner
P.O. Box146,
Shawano, WI 54166 USA
715 524 6258
1008896

WNAXLP

b18edc90
07/25/25, 08/01/25, 08/08/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES G. HILLE
Name
DOD 05/03/2025

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 25 PR 49

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 05/14/1949 and date of death 05/03/2025, was domiciled in Riverside County, State of California, with a mailing address of 70260 HWY 111 #148, Rancho Mirage, California 92270.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is [Date] October 22, 2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office.
Form completed by:
Keith A. Steckbauer
Address
PO Box 5
New London, WI 54961
Telephone
(920) 779-4140
1021304

WNAXLP

ea266dcd
07/25/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, MENOMINEE COUNTY

Plaintiff(s):
BCG Equities, LLC
225 S. Executive Dr. Suite 200
Brookfield WI 53005
-VS
NODOKSE YOUNGBOYD
N3451 COTTAGE AVE
NEOPIT WI 54150
Publication Summons and Notice (Small Claims)
Case No.2025SC000043
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing
TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT(S):
You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following small claims court: MENOMINEE County Courthouse 715-799-3313
311 N. Main Street
Shawano, WI 54166
08/14/2025 9:30 a.m.

If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgment against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county. Electronically Signed by JACOB L. HAMS
7/15/2025
Dobberstein Law Firm, LLC
225 S. Executive Dr. Suite 201
Brookfield, WI. 53005
262-641-3715
1118647

WNAXLP

118f160a
07/25/25

Invitation to Comment on a Proposed Communications Tower Facility

This notice is to serve as an opportunity for members of the public or permitting agency to provide comment regarding potential effects to historic properties located within three-quarters mile (0.75mi) of the location of a proposed 255-foot (265ft overall) self-support telecommunication tower on the south side of Leopold Road and west of the intersection with N Branch Road in the Town of Pella, Shawano County. Approximate coordinates for the proposed tower: 44 - 45 - 58.55N, 88 - 51 - 05.89W (44.766264, -88.851636). Comments or questions must concern potential impacts of the tower to historic properties and may be submitted to the following contact: Alyssa Pappamichiel, Edge Consulting Engineers, 624 Water Street, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578; Phone: 608.644.1449; Email: apappamichiel@edgeconsult.com. This notice is provided in accordance with the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, 47 C.F.R. Part 1, Appendices B and C. (#38783)

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Legals
WNAXLP

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07/18/25, 07/25/25, 08/01/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VIRGINIA M. BREYER

Amended Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 25 PR 47

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth May 15,1936 and date of death July 7, 2024, was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 604 S. Webb Street, Wittenberg, Wisconsin 54499.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is October 14, 2025
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office.
Attorney Corinna T. Fischer
Goyke, Tillisch & Fischer, LLP
210 N. 17th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401
715-849-8100
1115525

WNAXLP

c9434aa7
07/11/25, 07/18/25, 07/25/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONALD V. BRICCO

Name
DOD 05/04/2025

Amended Order Setting Time to Hear Petition for Administration and Deadline for Filing Claims (Formal Administration) Case No. 25 PR 37

A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.

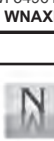
THE COURT FINDS:

The decedent, with date of birth 02/10/1951 and date of death 05/04/2025 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W8643 Adams Beach Drive, Belle Plaine, Wisconsin 54166

THE COURT ORDERS:

1. The Petition be heard at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room Branch 1, before Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner
Katherine V. Sloma, on 07/21/2025 at 9:00 am.
You do not need to appear unless you object. The petition may be granted if there is no objection.
2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is [Date] October 14, 2025.
3. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate office.

4. Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgment.
5. Publication of this notice is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown.
BY THE COURT: SHAWANO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
DATE SIGNED: 07/01/2025
Electronically signed by Gwen Hoffman, Probate Registrar
Form completed by:
Attorney Joy N. Sisler
PO Box 5
New London, WI 54961



NEW MEDIA INC.

d50fca46
07/18/25, 07/25/25, 08/01/25

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Thomas O. Kaul
DOD 04/15/2025

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 25 PR 50

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 07/24/1957 and date of death 04/15/2025, was domiciled in Shawano County State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N7221Cozy Oaks Circle, Shawano, WI 54166.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is October 16, 2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin

James E. Aschenbrenner
P.O. Box146,
Shawano, WI 54166 USA
715 524 6258
1008896

WNAXLP

Legals
WNAXLP

569ec8b5
07/25/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY

Plaintiff(s):
Short Term Financial, LLC dba Americashloans.net
2400 E. Devon Ave, Suite 300
Des Plaines IL 60018

-VS
Defendant(s):
JOLENE WAYKA
907 1/2 S SMALLEY ST
SHAWANO WI 54166-3017

Publication Summons and Notice (Small Claims)

Case No.2025SC000328

Publication Summons and Notice of Filing

TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT(S):

You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following small claims court:
SHAWANO County Courthouse
clerk of court:715-526-9347
311 N Main Street,
Branch 2

Shawano, WI 54166
08/12/2025 1:00 p.m.

If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgment against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county. Electronically Signed by
EMMA N. SCHRAM
7/14/2025
Dobberstein Law Firm, LLC
225 S. Executive Dr. Suite 201
Brookfield, WI. 53005
262-641-3715
1116788

WNAXLP

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07/25/25, 08/01/25, 08/08/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT SHAWANO COUNTY

Notice Setting Time to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration)

Case Number - 25PR51

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Carlton E. Hock

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 11/17/1944 and date of death 06/15/2025 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W2643 Center Road Bonduel, WI 54107.
3. The application will be heard at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N Main St, Shawano, WI Room 202 Probate Office Before Gwen Hoffman, Probate Registrar on August 25, 2025at 2:00p.m.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate 10/31/2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N Main St, Shawano, WI Room 202 Probate Office
James E. Aschenbrenner
P.O. Box146,
Shawano, WI 54166 USA
715 524 6258
1008896

WNAXLP

Legals
WNAXLP

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07/25/25, 08/01/25, 08/08/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT SHAWANO COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

(Informal Administration) Case Number - 24pr43

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF James Kast

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 10/22/1964 and date of death 05/26/2025 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1103 Valley LN Shawano, WI 54166, USA.
3. All interested persons waived notice. You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate 10/23/2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N Main St, Shawano, WI Room 202 Probate Office

WNAXLP

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07/25/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE INTEREST OF
Girrl J. Safe Haven
Born to: Unknown

Notice and Order of Hearing

Case No. 25-TP-05

TO:
Unknown Mother, Unknown Address
Unknown Father, Unknown Address
Date of birth: 06/29/2025
Place of birth: Shawano, WI

IT IS ORDERED:

This Notice be published advising you that a Petition for Termination of your parental rights to the named-above child be heard at the Shawano County Courthouse, Shawano Wisconsin, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166 - Branch 2, 08 / 08 / 2025,at 10:30 AM .
IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR, the court may hear testimony in support of the allegations in the Petition and grant the request of the petitioner to terminate your parental rights.
You have the right to have an attorney present. If you desire to contest the matter and cannot afford an attorney, the state public defender may appoint an attorney to represent you.
If you fail to appear and the court terminates your parental rights, a notice of intent to pursue relief from the judgment must be signed and filed in the trial court within 30 days after the judgment is entered, in order to preserve the right to pursue such relief.

*IT IS FOUND AND ORDERED THAT it is essential to include the child's name in this Notice in order to give effective notice to the father.

WNAXLP

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07/11/25, 07/18/25, 07/25/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUITCOURT SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF

Jamie Rae Swanke
By Jamie Rae Swanke
Notice of Name Chance Hearing
Case No.25cv110

NOTICE IS GIVEN: A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From: Jamie Rae Swanke
To: Jamie Rae Tricker
Birth Certificate: Jamie Rae Tricker
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Shawano County State of Wisconsin
William F. Kussel Jr.
Shawano Court House Branch 2
311 N Main St
Shawano WI
August 26, 2025 8:15 a.m.
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-526- 9347 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide

WNAXLP

There's a lot of talk about "the media," the talking heads on cable TV who pander to political views for profit. That's not the news, and it's certainly not this newspaper. Our goal every day is to fully and fairly report the news about this vibrant community and the people who live here. That's at the heart of American newspapering—preparing timely and insightful reports about what matters most, prepared by hometown journalists who love this town and care about its future. That's our pledge and our purpose.

SHAWANO LEADER
OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD
WITTENBERG
ENTERPRISE
& BIRNBAUM NEWS

FREE SPEECH CENTER

COURT NEWS

• Kerry D. Kluck, 68, Stevens Point, pleaded no contest to a possession of THC ordinance violation. The charge was amended from a felony count. Judge Katherine Sloma levied a \$50 fine plus court costs.

• Robert V. Julius, 30, Sur-
ing, pleaded no contest July 14 to strangulation and suffoca-
tion and felony bail jumping. Sloma withheld sentencing and placed him on four years of probation with conditions.

• Stephen M. Shields, 43, an Antigo man serving a sentence at Redgranite Correctional Institution, pleaded no contest July 16 to fleeing an officer in his vehicle, second-degree reck-
lessly endangering safety, three counts of felony bail jumping, and a misdemeanor charge of operating while revoked. Sloma sentenced him to four years in prison followed by five years of extended supervision with conditions.

• Ashton J. Brugger, 21, Shawano, pleaded no contest July 15 to a misdemeanor count of theft. A related felony charge was dismissed in a plea agreement. Sloma ordered res-
titution, fines and court costs totaling \$12,133.

• Kylie J. Szydlowski, 28, Shawano, was charged July 14 with child neglect, possession of methamphetamine, and five counts of felony bail jumping. Sloma set an \$850 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for July 17.

• Troy D. Crowe, 53, Neopit, was charged July 15 with stran-
gulation and suffocation, three counts of felony bail jumping, and misdemeanor counts of battery and disorderly conduct.

In a separate file, Crowe was charged with possession of THC (second or subsequent of-
fense), felony bail jumping, and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. Sloma set a \$2,000 cash bond on each case and scheduled a prelimi-
nary hearing for July 21.

• Virgil R. Wilber, 53, Neopit, was charged July 15 with felony bail jumping and operating a motor vehicle while his license was revoked. Sloma set a \$500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Aug. 8.

• Horst P. Ellwart III, 36, Bowler, was charged July 16 with two counts of felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Sloma set a \$250 cash bond and scheduled a status confer-
ence for Oct. 14.

• Zachary R. Wincentsen, 27, Shawano, was charged July 16 with possession of narcotic drugs, possession of THC (sec-
ond or subsequent offense), three counts of felony bail jumping, three misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstruct-
ing an officer, and a misde-
meanor count of disorderly conduct. Sloma set a \$500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Aug. 28.

• Barron B. Waupoose, 18, Keshena, was charged July 16 with hit and run causing injury and a misdemeanor count of causing injury while operating a motor vehicle under the influ-
ence. Sloma set a \$350 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Aug. 28.

• Curtis L. Vele, 30, Bowler, was charged July 17 with pos-
session of methamphetamine,

possession of narcotic drugs, and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug para-
phernalia. Sloma set a \$2,500 signature bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for July 28.

• Montana R. Olson, 28, Keshena, was charged July 17 with possession of narcotic drugs, possession of an illegal article, and two counts of felony bail jumping. In a sepa-
rate file, she was charged with committing the identical four allegations on a different date. Sloma set a \$2,500 signature bond in the first case, a \$500 cash bond in the second, and scheduled a preliminary hear-
ing of both cases for Aug. 6.

• Dean A. Peters, 42, Neo-
pit, had his probation revoked May 30 for a 2020 convic-
tion for false imprisonment and misdemeanor counts of criminal damage to property, disorderly conduct and bail jumping. Judge Katherine Sloma sentenced him July 10 to nine months in county jail.

• Tanya J. Gilbert, 35, Shawano, pleaded no con-
test July 10 to possession of cocaine (second or subsequent offense). Sloma withheld sentencing and placed her on two years of probation with conditions.

• Paul C. Malone, 37, Sha-
wano, pleaded no contest July 9 to battery or threat to a law officer. Judge Leon Stenz levied fines and sentenced him to 245 days in county jail time served.

• Kaitlyn L.M. Pingel, 22, a Shawano woman serving time at Taycheedah Correctional Institution, had her probation revoked April 22 for a 2024

conviction for possession of methamphetamine, two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an of-
ficer. Sloma sentenced her July 10 to nine months in jail.

• Christopher Adam Smith, 42, Pewaukee, pleaded no contest July 7 to misdemeanor charges of carrying a concealed weapon and bail jumping. A felony charge was dismissed but read into the record as part of a plea agreement. Judge Wil-
liam Kussel Jr. levied fines and forfeitures of \$1,286.50.

• Hunter R. Dresden, 25, Tigerton, pleaded no contest July 8 to misdemeanor charges of possession of THC, battery and disorderly conduct. A felony count was dismissed but read into the record in a plea agreement. Kussel imposed and stayed a jail sentence and placed him on two years of probation.

• Raiden O. Jones, 25, Wausau, pleaded guilty July 9 to possession of THC (second or subsequent offense) and a misdemeanor charge of operat-
ing a motor vehicle while intoxi-
cated (second offense). Kussel revoked his driver’s license for 15 months and ordered an ignition interlock device in his vehicles, levied fines and sentenced him to 90 days time served in county jail.

• Joel T. Kinney, 35, Neopit, pleaded no contest July 8 to possession of THC (second or subsequent offense) and bat-
tery or threat to a law officer. Sloma sentenced him to 30 months in prison followed by three years of extended super-
vision with conditions.

• Jerry L. Lohff, 44, Antigo, pleaded no contest July 8 to six felony counts and one misdemeanor count of failure to report to the county jail. Kussel sentenced him to 120 days in jail.

• Matthew W. Netzel, 40, Birnamwood, pleaded no contest July 8 to felony bail jumping and misdemeanor theft of movable property. Kus-
sel levied fines and forfeitures of \$647.

• Carolyn C. Groshek, 41, Tigerton, was charged July 7 with manufacture with intent to deliver amphetamine, pos-
session of methamphetamine, maintaining a drug trafficking place, six counts of felony bail jumping, and misdemeanor counts of possession of an ille-
gally obtained prescription and possession of drug parapherna-
lia. Kussel set a \$10,000 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Sept. 4.

• Andre D. Creapeau, 17, Bowler, was charged July 7 with causing a child aged 13-18 to view sexual activity and child sexual exploitation. Kussel set a \$2,000 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Oct. 8.

• Sonya Jean Marcus, 40, no address listed, was charged July 7 with possession of nar-
cotic drugs and misdemeanor counts of possession of an illegally obtained prescrip-
tion and possession of drug paraphernalia. Kussel set a \$5,000 signature bond and scheduled a status conference for Sept. 30.

• Heather K. Devey, 47, Shawano, was charged July 7 with three counts of felony bail

jumping. Kussel set a \$2,500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Aug. 26.

• Destiny M. Spruce, 44, Bowler, was charged July 7 with first-degree recklessly en-
dangering safety, fleeing an of-
ficer in her vehicle, possession of an electric weapon, battery or threat to a law officer, eight counts of misdemeanor bail jumping, and misdemeanor charges of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (third offense), criminal damage to property, possession of drug paraphernalia, and resisting or obstructing an officer. Kussel set a \$6,000 cash bond and, after finding cause during a July 10 preliminary hearing, scheduled arraignment for Aug. 27.

• Jennifer L. Staley, 42, Ap-
pleton, was charged July 8 with operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fourth offense) and misdemeanor counts of possession of THC and pos-
session of drug paraphernalia. Kussel set a \$1,100 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Sept. 4.

• McKenzie L. Boogren, 26, Shawano, was charged July 9 with possession of narcotic drugs. Kussel set a \$2,500 sig-
nature bond and scheduled a status conference for Sept. 22.

• Shawn L. Matson, 50, Caroline, was charged July 10 with possession of meth-
amphetamine, two counts of felony bail jumping, two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an of-
ficer. Kussel set a \$5,000 cash bond and scheduled a prelimi-
nary hearing for July 17.

PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

July 20
Deputies responded to 34 incidents, including criminal damage on Laney Road in the Town of Maple Grove and on County Road N in Birnamwood; an animal bite on North Shore Drive in the Town of Wescott; a disturbance on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; property theft on Elm Road in the Town of Angelica; harassment on County Road T in the Town of Waukechon; two 911 calls; six reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; three welfare checks; two crashes.

July 19
Deputies responded to 31 incidents, including property theft at Ho-Chunk Casino, N7198 U.S. Highway 45; attempted theft on Lake Drive in the Town of Herman; suspicious activity on Belle Plaine Avenue in the Town of Belle Plaine; an animal bite on Old Lake Lane in the Town of Waukechon; property theft on Riverside Drive in the Town of Wescott; three 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; two traffic hazards; one welfare check; five crashes, one involv-
ing deer.

July 18
Deputies responded to 36 incidents, including criminal damage on East Wood Avenue in Wittenberg; operating after revocation near state High-
way 22 and Lakeview Road in the Town of Washington; a disturbance near Swamp and Fairview roads in the Town of Pella; trespassing on South Mill

Street in Wittenberg; fraud on state Highway 156 in the Town of Lessor; threatening near Lake Drive and East Loon Lake Circle in the Town of Wescott; a disturbance on Belle Plaine Avenue in the Town of Belle Plaine; six 911 calls; one reck-
less driving incident; two traffic hazards; three welfare checks; two crashes, one involving deer.

July 17
Deputies responded to 27 incidents, including a scam on Porter Road in the Town of Waukechon; three 911 calls; three reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; one welfare check.

July 16
Deputies responded to 41 incidents, including trespass-
ing on Moh He Con Nuck Road in Stockbridge Munsee jurisdiction; a disturbance on East State Street in Bonduel; a disturbance on Lakewood Court in the Town of Wescott; five 911 calls; three reckless driving inci-
dents; two traffic hazards; two welfare checks; two crashes, one involving deer.

July 15
Deputies responded to 42 incidents, including criminal damage on Railroad Street in Birnamwood; trespassing on Golfview Road in Cecil; prop-
erty theft on Lodge Road in the Town of Washington; a weapon offense on Hayman Falls Lane in the Town of Pella; trespass-
ing on County Road D in the Town of Almon; harassment on Cedar Road in the Town of Birnamwood; property damage on Golfview Road in Cecil; sus-
picious activity at Kwik Trip, 102 W. Express Way in Bonduel; bail jumping on Lake Drive

in the Town of Wescott; two 911 calls; four reckless driving incidents; three traffic hazards; three welfare checks; two crashes, one involving deer.

July 14
Deputies responded to 46 incidents, including automobile theft on Norway Pine Lane in the Town of Wittenberg; disorderly conduct on Cedar Street in Tigerton; property theft near County Road Y and Adams Beach Drive in the Town of Belle Plaine; harassment on County Road N in Birnamwood; harassment on South Webb Street in Wittenberg; trespass-
ing on East Street in the Town of Washington; intoxication near Lake and Spring streets in Aniwa; disorderly conduct on County Road BE in the Town of Waukechon; a disturbance on West Mill Street in Bonduel; five 911 calls; three reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; four welfare checks; two crashes.

July 13
Deputies responded to 48 incidents, including an animal bite on North Main Street in Shawano; suspicious behavior on County Road MMM in the Town of Richmond; trespassing on County Road T in the Town of Waukechon; suspicious activity near Classics, W6026 Lake Drive, and on Pioneer Court in the Town of Wescott; six 911 calls; three reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; one crash.

July 12
Deputies responded to 37 incidents, including bail jump-
ing on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; disorderly conduct on Swanke Street in Tigerton;

threatening at the Fairgrounds, 900 E. Green Bay St., Shawano; criminal damage at the county jail, 405 N. Main St., Shawano; seven 911 calls; three reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks; three crashes.

July 11
Deputies responded to 41 incidents, including illegal burn-
ing on Edgewood Road in the Town of Wescott; harassment on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; fireworks on Oak Park Road in the Town of Wescott; seven 911 calls; six reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; two welfare checks; one deer-related crash.

July 10
Deputies responded to 33 incidents, including harassment on Second Drive in the Town of Washington; trespassing on Shady Lane in the Town of Washington; one 911 call; three reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; one welfare check; three crashes.

July 9
Deputies responded to 32 incidents, including suspicious activity on Oak Street in the Stockbridge-Munsee jurisdic-
tion; suspicious activity on County Road CC in the Town of Waukechon; criminal damage on Center Street in Krakow; threatening on Lone Pine Road in the Town of Maple Grove; a death investigation on Old Lake Lane in the Town of Wescott; trespassing on Bahr Estates Drive in the Town of Washing-
ton; one reckless driving inci-
dent; one welfare check; four crashes, one involving deer.

July 8
Deputies responded to 32

incidents, including a distur-
bance on South Union Street in Shawano; two 911 calls; two reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; one welfare check; two crashes.

July 7
Deputies responded to 38 incidents, including suspicious activity near County Roads C and E in the Town of Green Valley; suspicious activity on Belle Plaine Avenue in the Town of Belle Plaine; criminal damage on North Airport Drive in the Town of Wescott; suspicious activity at Kwik Trip, 102 W. Express Way, Bonduel; three 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; three crashes, one involving deer.

SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT

July 20
Officers responded to 19 in-
cidents, including a disturbance on West Richmond Street; a vehicle fire at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; fireworks near South Union and East Center streets; two 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; two welfare checks; two crashes.

July 19
Officers responded to 17 incidents, including harassment at an undisclosed address; suspicious activity near South Main Street and Sunset Av-
enue; a drug offense on South Main Street; an assault on South Lincoln Street; bail jump-
ing on East Green Bay Street; one 911 call; one welfare check; two crashes.

July 18
Officers responded to 24 incidents, including suspicious activity near South Lincoln and East Richmond streets; lewd

and lascivious behavior on South Sawyer Street; a scam on South Union Street; threaten-
ing on South Sawyer Street; a drug offense near South Main and East Randall streets; one 911 call; two reckless driving incidents; four welfare checks.

July 17
Officers responded to 35 incidents, including a fight in progress at Four Season, 201 N. Airport Road; property theft on South Frankling Street; a drug offense on West Fifth Street; vandalism on East Richmond Street; vandalism on West Fifth Street; assault on Madison Way; suspicious activity at Me-
morial Park, 901 S. Lincoln St.; a disturbance on South Andrews Street; a disturbance near Ted-
dington Lane and Waukechon Street; fireworks near South Hamlin and East Center streets; two 911 calls; one reckless driving incidents; five welfare checks; four crashes.

July 16
Report not received by press time.

July 15
Officers responded to 23 incidents, including harass-
ment at Luigi’s Pizza, 607 S. Main St.; failure to register as a sex offender at an undisclosed location; property theft at an undisclosed location; disorderly conduct on East Robin Lane; suspicious activity at Memorial Park, 901 S. Lincoln St.; fire-
works near South Lincoln and East Center streets; trespassing on South Main Street; a weapon offense on Hayman Falls Lane in the Town of Pella; one 911 call; one reckless driving incident; two welfare checks; one crash.

SIDEWALK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

drainage. Disturbed areas will be seeded and covered with erosion control matting, according to the letter.

The Wittenberg Village Board approved the construction service contract for Martenson and Eisele, a consulting firm based in Menasha, during its July 15 meeting. According to Mary Jo Miller, the contract includes observation of construction work by the firm.

“There are a lot of times set for making trips for construction observation,” said Miller, project engineer with Martenson and Eisele. “If all goes well, we might be able to cut down some of those times.”

Miller said surveyors will come to check some

of the work Potrykus is doing in accordance with the federal funding received for the project.

Board member Barb Buchholz asked if there was going to be additional lighting in Pond Park along with the sidewalks; she was told that the grant focused solely on sidewalks and not new utilities.

Miller said that a pre-construction meeting was held July 3 to address any issues, and two utilities had to relocate some of their infrastructure to keep construction on schedule.

One crew will be working on the sidewalks for now, according to Miller, but if things are delayed, it is expected that Potrykus will add an addi-

tional crew. North Genesee Street, East Grand Avenue and South Webb Street will be the top priorities once construction begins.

“This is weather dependent,” Miller said.

Some seeding may need to be done next spring to make the area near the sidewalks beautiful, according to Miller.

The plans to add new sidewalk started in 2021 and included a long process to secure funding, so much so that village board members like David Timm were struggling to remember all the details.

“This project has been going on so long that everybody forgot,” Timm said.

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KAUTZA, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

should not have any supervisors to avoid any potential conflict of interest when there are complaints against supervisors, county employees or other elected officials.

Supervisors Kathy Luebke and Randy Mallmann agreed.

“There’s always an opportunity for conflict of interest,” Mallmann said.

Larenda Maulson, corporation counsel, said she recently reviewed the setup in other counties.

“A lot of them do only have citizen members,” she said. “They do not have board members on

their ethics committee itself.”

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007/25/2025

Wittenberg-Biramwood School District

Board of Education Meeting July 28, 2025

July 28, 2025

5:40 P.M. - Budget and Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 P.M. - Regular Board Meeting Wittenberg-Biramwood High School

AGENDA

I. Meeting Called to Order, Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.84(1).

II. Roll Call of the Board - Pledge of Allegiance

III. Motion to Approve the Minutes of the June 23, 2025 Regular Meeting as Circulated.

IV. Communications and Delegations

V. Public Comments

VI. Board Concerns or Reports

VII. Student Representative

VIII. Financial Report

IX. Approve the Agenda

X. I. The Board will adjourn to Closed Session at the close of the meeting pursuant to WI.STATS. 19.85(1)© for Personnel Matters, and 19.85 (1)(g) for Legal Matters and 19.85(1)(e) for Negotiations.

II. The Board will reconvene to Open Session to ratify any decisions made in Closed Session.

XI. Administrative Reports

-Biramwood Elementary and Middle School

-Wittenberg Elementary and Middle School

-Witt-Birn High School

-Pupil Services

-Technology

-Aquatic Center

XII. Old Business

None

XIII. New Business

A. Teacher Resignation for Approval

B. Director of Technology Resignation for Approval

C. School Counselor Hire for Approval

D. Support Staff Resignations for Approval

E. Support Staff Hires for Approval

F. Coach Resignations for Approval

G. Coach Hires for Approval

H. 2024-2025 Seclusion and Restraint Report for Information

I. 2025-2026 Academic Standards for Approval

J. 2025-2026 Budget for Information

XIII. Adjournment

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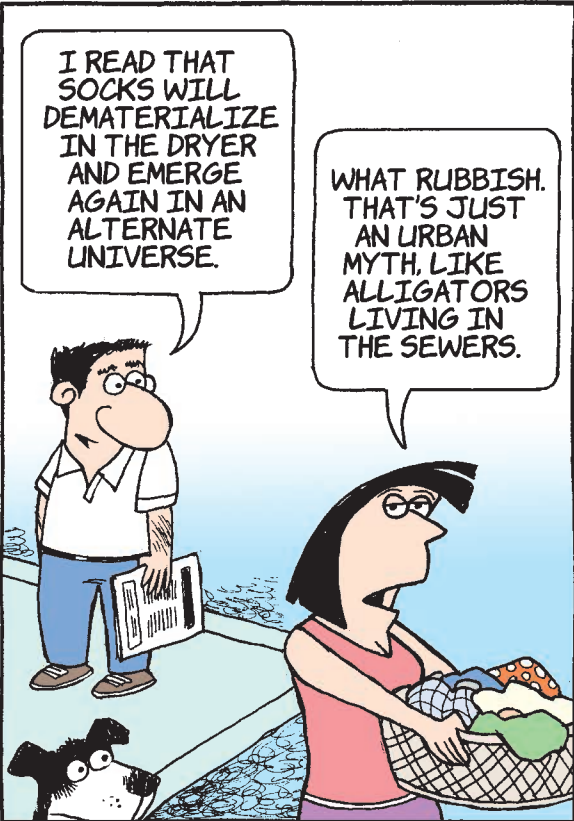
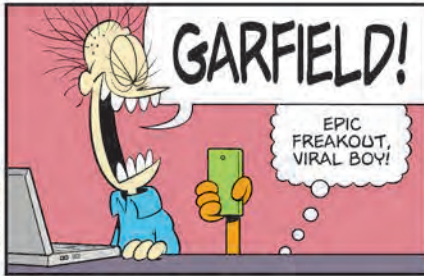
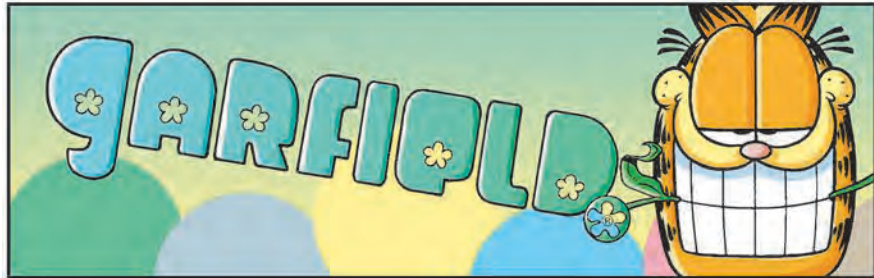
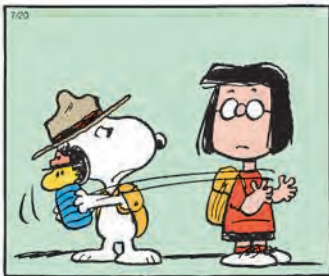
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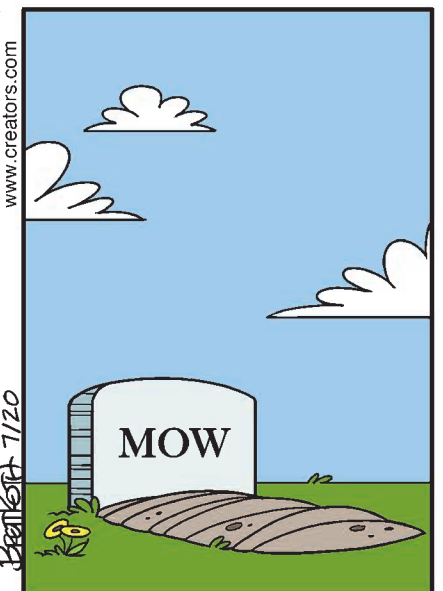
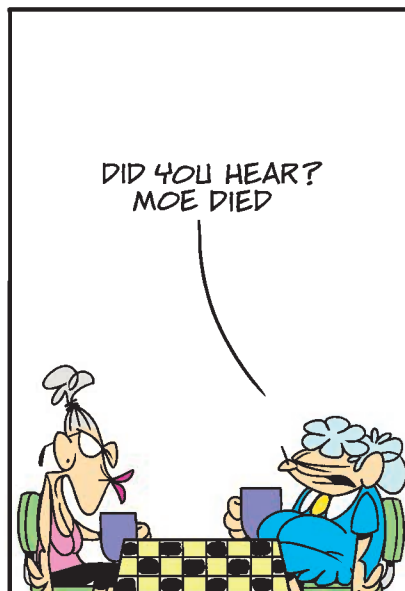
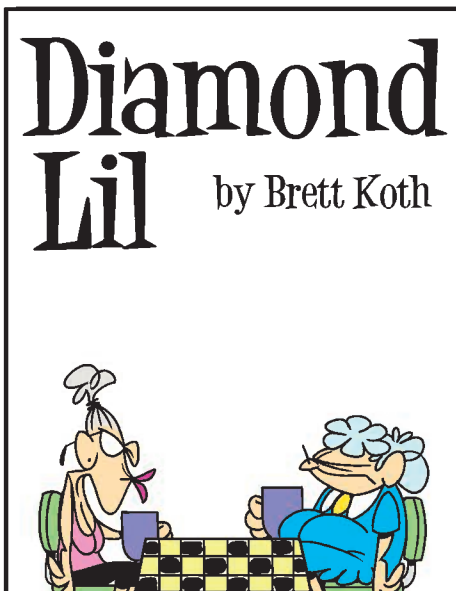
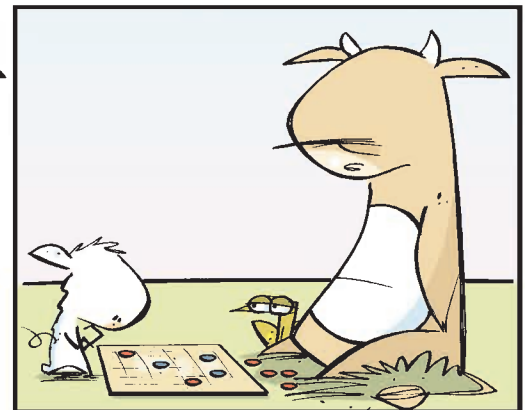
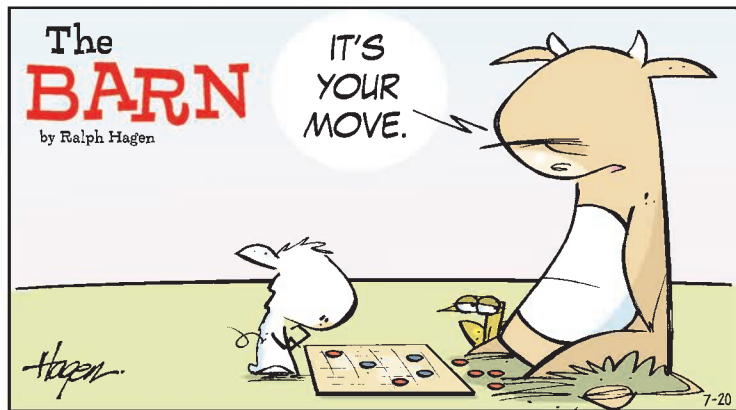
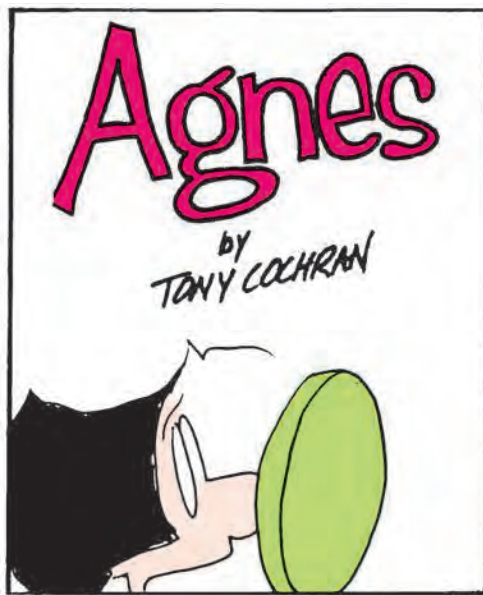
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