



PFAS BILL PASSES SENATE

Measure creates grants to help clean up contamination

Page 5

State Sen. Eric Wimberger, R-Green Bay, reviews the newly passed PFAS remediation bill during a report to the Oconto County Board at its Nov. 16 meeting.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

NEWS

Gillett Middle School recognized among U.S. News & World Report Best Schools.

PAGE 3

LIVING

Blue jays are a welcome splash of color at the feeders this time of year.

PAGE 10

SPORTS

Pulaski girls basketball team drops heartbreaker in overtime to Seymour.

PAGE 26



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County Administrator Pritzl to resign

Future plans not yet announced

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

Oconto County Administrator Erik Pritzl is leaving the post, effective Feb. 7.

Pritzl announced his resignation to the county board Nov. 16, consistent with the 90-day notice required in his original employment agreement with the county.

"I greatly enjoyed serving the people of Oconto County under your leadership," Pritzl wrote in a letter to County Board Chairman Alan Sleeter, which he read to the supervisors.

Pritzl was director of the Brown County Health and Human Services Department when he was hired in January 2022 to succeed former



ERIK PRITZL

county administrator Kevin Hamann.

He listed as highlights the county's support of the Lakes Country Public Library expansion in Lake-wood, working with the Town of

Riverview on a building project that will include northern county offices, and creation of the Library Planning Committee currently working to find a sustainable funding system for all of the library services across the county.

Oconto County government has changed since he arrived, with consolidation of committees and an influx of new county board supervisors after the 2020 census and redistricting, Pritzl said.

"There has been a learning curve

in adjustment, and progress has been made through the cooperative spirit that is strong here," he said. "Oconto County government needs to be responsible stewards of the financial resources of the county and is in a very stable position at this time. This will help support community efforts in the delivery of services."

Pritzl said the county has a talented team of elected officials and appointed department heads committed to the delivery of high-quality, efficient services.

"I am honored to have been able to work with so many wonderful people during the past two years, and I appreciate having this opportunity," he said. "I will assist in any way I can in the recruitment of a new county administrator and the transition of leadership ... I think it's a wonderful position for someone to step into."

Sleeter said Pritzl called him Nov. 7 to tell him about the decision to leave.

"It ruined my day," Sleeter said. "For the first 24 hours I didn't do anything, I primarily kept it to myself."

In a meeting the next day, the two men agreed to "think about it over the weekend," and he discussed possible offers to keep him with Vice Chairman Dennis Kroll, but Pritzl confirmed his intention to move on Nov. 13, Sleeter said.

The company that helped recruit Pritzl warned of the possibility he may want to advance his career sooner rather than later, the chairman said.

"I was hoping for at least five years, but I didn't get there," Sleeter said. "I hate to see Erik go, he's been an excellent administrator for this county, and he's going to be excellent at whatever he chooses to do in the future."

Pritzl had not yet shared his future plans as of the board meeting.

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Pritzl likes library planning group progress

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

Outgoing Oconto County Administrator Erik Pritzl said Nov. 16 that he is especially pleased with progress of the library planning committee, which has been meeting with June to study ways to better serve library patrons in the southern part of the county.

The county has been struggling with an annual invoice from Brown County charging for the use of its

library branches by Oconto County residents. State law allows counties with consolidated library systems, like Brown, to charge neighboring counties.

Oconto County has six local and joint libraries in Oconto, Oconto Falls, Gillett, Lena, Suring and Lake-wood. The county's possible solutions include creating its own consolidated system including a branch serving the southern towns of Chase and Little Suamico, which account for most of the Brown County usage.

The local boards have resisted consolidation in the past because of the potential loss of autonomy. Pritzl said the planning committee meetings have evolved from "positions and stakes and things" to an attitude of collaboration to solve the issues.

"You heard some 'northern county, southern county' stuff early on," Pritzl said. "By yesterday (Nov. 15), our most recent meeting, that's gone. It's 'How do we make this work together, we don't want to leave anyone out to dry, so to speak,

we want to make sure that this works for everybody.' That's where we always want things to be, to get to that teamwork and collaboration."

County Board Chairman Alan Sleeter, who also serves on the committee, agreed that the panel has been developing a sense of cooperation and mutual benefit, and he credited Pritzl for nurturing that attitude.

"Going forward I got a lot of optimism we'll get this done," Sleeter said.

Oconto hospital recognized by Chartis Center for Rural Health

Bellin Health Oconto Hospital has been recognized with a 2023 Performance Leadership Award for excellence in quality and patient perspective.

Compiled by the Chartis Center for Rural Health, the Performance Leadership Awards honor top quartile

performance (i.e., 75th percentile or above) among rural hospitals in quality, outcomes and patient perspective.

"This recognition is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our care teams," said Julie Bieber, vice president of Bellin Health Oconto Hospital. "Their commitment to putting patients

first throughout their entire care journey has established them as leaders in patient satisfaction in our community. We are grateful for their hard work and the culture they have cultivated at Bellin Health Oconto Hospital."

The Performance Leadership Awards are based on the results of the

Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX. This data is relied upon by rural hospitals, health systems with rural footprints, hospital associations and state offices of rural health nationwide to measure and monitor performance across several areas impacting hospital operations and finance.

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Gillett Middle School gets high marks

Administrators puzzled by gap between middle and high school scores

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

U.S. News and World Report has ranked Gillett Middle School among the top 100 middle schools in Wisconsin in its annual report of the best schools in the country.

"We're in the top 40% of middle schools everywhere," Superintendent Wayne Johnson said during the Gillett School Board meeting Nov. 16.

The ranking at usnews.com shows Gillett as 87th among 494 middle schools in the state of Wisconsin, with student reading and math performance skills "well above expectations" compared to other schools in the state.

The high scores are in spite of the fact that 47% of the student population is considered "economically disadvantaged," contributing to the school's ranking, said Secondary Prin-

cipal Shawn Limberg.

Limberg admitted he is puzzled at the difference between Gillett middle and high school in the just-released report cards from the state Department of Public Instruction. As in recent years, DPI rated the middle school as exceeding expectations while the high school score dropped slightly from a year ago and still meets few expectations.

The recent scores are an improvement from two years ago when Gillett High School failed to meet expectations, Limberg said.

"I still don't completely understand how we can have such a high-scoring middle school and then the high school drops off so much in that overall score," he said. "It's the same kids."

He added that the report card is "a snapshot in time" that does not define who the students are.

"A quote that I have heard repeated through a lot of different presentations that I've been involved in where the school report card is discussed is, 'I care more about the people my students become than the scores on the tests they take,'" Limberg said. "I think that's something that we just have to keep in mind."

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Wellness Co-Op receives \$50K in mental health funds

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) announced seven organizations are receiving \$474,407 from two Veteran Mental Health grant programs that will directly subsidize mental health care for Wisconsin veterans, and one of those is in Oconto Falls.

The Wellness Co-Op in Oconto Falls received \$50,000 to increase access to free substance-use oriented mental health services for veterans in their community to improve mental health outcomes. They will establish partnerships with three local veteran-based organizations to establish a referral system to provide Warrior Wellness services to veterans, recruit qualified mental health professionals to deliver the program, and provide evidence-based substance abuse coun-

seling, group therapy, project-based groups, and equine therapy sessions that address the unique needs of each participant.

"Veterans stood up to protect our safety and security, now it's time to stand up for them," said WDVA Secretary-designee James Bond. "I'm so grateful to these grant recipients for providing vital services in their community. Mental health care is vital for former service members. We need to work together to make sure veterans can access all the health care they need in their civilian life, and we couldn't do that without community partners across Wisconsin."

These grants are part of Gov. Tony Evers' \$10 million investment in veteran services, funded through the American Rescue Plan Act.

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Peter Gabrielson, who spearheaded the Potters Field Memorial effort, thanks all those who helped make it possible. CONTRIBUTED

Potter's Field stories part of speakers series

Pete Gabrielson, a member of the Oconto County Historical Society, will present a program Dec. 7 as he uncovers the diverse and captivating life stories of individuals laid to rest in Potter's Field at Oconto Evergreen Cemetery.

The historical society will present its monthly Speaker Series Program at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Beyer Home and Carriage House Museum, 915 Park Ave., Oconto.

Gabrielson will share the amazing life stories of some of those individuals interred in Potter's Field to help give a deep understanding of the rich fabric of Oconto County's history.

In 2017, Gabrielson began a journey to learn more about the lives of those buried in the unmarked graves in the Evergreen Cemetery. Since then, with the help of many people, a lot of things have happened, including the creation of several web pages dedicated to the information about the Potter's Field and the people

buried there and the establishment of the Oconto Evergreen Cemetery Potter's Field Memorial Plaza, which was dedicated in May 2023, as a touching tribute to forgotten individuals.

The ongoing research continues as people from all over the country occasionally contact Gabrielson with previously unknown information about the individuals buried here.

Gabrielson is a retired Oconto Unified School District social studies teacher and a performer in local theater, and the historical society's cemetery walks If Tombstones Could Talk. A fascination with family members who settled in the Oconto Bay Shore area and were inspired by stories he collected from the people who lived there led to the writing of an article featured in the Voyageur magazine. Researching that article led Gabrielson to discover Potter's Field in the Evergreen Cemetery.

The program is free, and light refreshments will be served.

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Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and 8, 2023
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CIRCUIT COURT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY

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INSURANCE COMPANY
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BRITTANY P. GOLDEN
Plaintiff,

vs.
WILLIAM O. BLISKE
Defendant.

Case No. 23CV000718
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You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

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CIRCUIT COURT, WINNEBAGO CIVIL, 415 JACKSON ST. OSHKOSH WI 54903 and the Kohn Law Firm, Plaintiffs attorneys, whose address is 735 N. Water St., Suite 1300, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

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KOHN LAW FIRM S.C.
ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED BY:
/S/JASON D. HERMERSMANN
JASON D. HERMERSMANN
State Bar No. 1049848
Attorney for Plaintiff
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Village of Lena

Street Superintendent/Mechanic and General Labor Position

The Village of Lena is accepting Applications for:
Street Superintendent/Mechanic and General Labor position.

This is a full time, 40-hour position.

Under the general direction of the Public Works Committee, this position will be responsible for coordinating and performing all daily operations and maintenance of Village streets, associated infrastructures, systems, and services. Tasks include, but are not limited to, storm water management, garbage pickup, leaf/brush collection, snow removal and Park and Recreation area maintenance. This individual will also be responsible for planning, performing, and coordinating all maintenance activities in the fleet including analyzing equipment needs, reliability issues, and developing preventive/predictive maintenance programs. The position requires coordination of various Public Works projects alongside other Village departments as part of a small team, but also requires the ability to work alone. This position will work very closely with the Water / Wastewater Superintendent and Village Part Time General laborer. This position will also serve as the backup to the Water/Wastewater Superintendent.

A High School Degree or equivalent and a valid Wisconsin CDL are required. The ideal candidate will have at least two (2) years of closely related experience, knowledge of gasoline and diesel engines and equipment, snowplowing, and welding experience. Candidate must be able to respond to emergencies during off hours, including nights, weekends, and holidays. Functional demands include working at elevated heights, varying weather and being capable of lifting up to 100 lbs. on a routine basis.

Candidates will be required to complete water and wastewater certification within 2 years.

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Wimberger touts progress on PFAS bill

Contamination growing problem in Marinette, Peshtigo area

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

State Sen. Eric Wimberger told the Oconto County Board on Nov. 16 that helping landowners and municipalities deal with PFAS has been one of the three major goals of his first term in office.

PFAS (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since the 1950s. Firefighting foam produced by Johnson Controls Inc. and Tyco Fire Products in Marinette has been blamed for widespread PFAS contamination of soil, private wells, surface water and groundwater in Peshtigo, Marinette and surrounding communities.

Wimberger shepherded a measure through the 2023-25 state budget allocating \$125 million for PFAS reme-

diation, and the state Senate on Nov. 14 passed a bill that creates a grant framework for affected property owners and communities, to be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

"In a general sense, what it does is it creates grant programs without a particular dollar amount attached to it," Wimberger told the county board. "The DNR will then study the issue, find out where particular needs are and their relation to this grant program, and find out what particular amount would be appropriately spent on what particular part, and then come back to the Finance Committee for final approval as to whether we should spend \$10 million here, \$15 million there, \$20 million there."

The bill, Senate Bill 314, now goes to the Assembly, which is expected to take it up in January before sending it to Gov. Tony Evers for his signature.

The governor has concerns about an aspect of the bill that somewhat limits the DNR's enforcement ability, Wimberger said.

"If you are a person with PFAS in your land and it migrates from your

land to another, even one molecule, you're going to be described by the DNR as an emitter, subject to remediation orders," he said.

Without the proposed law, property owners with no knowledge about the PFAS that migrated through their land could find themselves subject to potential liability for hundreds of thousands of dollars in remediation costs, devastating their property values, he said.

"I'm tremendously concerned as to the function of the law in declaring regular old people — who have nothing to do with anything — emitters," Wimberger said. "In fact, it might be a mile down the road ... and the only remedy for that is for neighbors to start suing neighbors or for the people who have the farmland to start suing government."

Rather than miring everybody through years and years of litigation, "the aim of the bill is to declare these innocent landowners protected from remediation orders — the innocent landowners, we're not talking about the industry," he said.

The one caveat is that property owners must be willing to let the DNR take measures to remediate the prob-

lem, such as installing a test well.

"That re-establishes the value of the property and is not going to cause a tremendous freakout," Wimberger said.

Some critics are making an "overly broad characterization" of the bill as restricting the DNR's regulatory authority, the senator said.

"The bill protects the farmers, it does not protect the manufacturers or the producers," he said, and Johnson Controls is trying to distance itself between its release of the chemicals and the contaminated soil later being transferred to local farmers. "No one in the industry told municipalities to save a few bucks by not sending these hazardous substances to the landfill, and instead they declared it safe and gave it to the farmer."

Wimberger told supervisors his other main goals for his first term have also advanced — building a long-anticipated southern Brown County bridge across the Fox River and improvements to the Port of Green Bay. He will be up for a second four-year term in November 2024.

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Project could harm rare butterfly habitat

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposes to issue an authorization for the incidental taking of a rare butterfly, which may result from the Pioneer to Crivitz Retirement project in parts of Oconto and Marinette counties.

Incidental take refers to the unintentional loss of individual endangered or threatened animals or plants that is not considered to put the species' overall population at risk.

American Transmission Company (ATC) is retiring an overhead transmission line between the Pioneer and Crivitz substations. Retiring consists of removing the existing transmission line. The portion of the habitat to be disturbed during the project is approximately 7.5 acres.

The presence of the state endangered swamp metalmark is confirmed in the vicinity of the project site. DNR staff determined that the proposed project may result in the incidental taking of some butterflies.

The DNR concludes that the

proposed project is not likely to appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival or recovery of the species within the state, the whole plant-animal community of which it is a part of or the habitat that is critical to its existence.

Conservation measures to minimize the adverse effect on the endangered species will be incorporated into the proposed Incidental Take Permit. Copies of the jeopardy assessment and background information on the swamp metalmark are available by visiting the DNR Incidental Take Public Notices webpage or upon request from DNR Conservation Biologist Stacy Rowe at Stacy.Rowe@wisconsin.gov or 608-228-9796.

The public is encouraged to submit written comments regarding project-related impacts to the swamp metalmark by Dec. 16 to Department of Natural Resources, c/o Stacy Rowe, DNR Conservation Biologist, 2514 Morse St., Janesville, WI 53545, Stacy.Rowe@wisconsin.gov, or 608-228-9796.

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Planning your spending on off-peak shopping days can make holiday gift giving less stressful.

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Making a holiday season shopping game plan

(StatePoint) The busiest shopping days of the 2023 holiday season are on the horizon. Industry experts point out that knowing these dates in advance can help you score great deals — or beat the crowds — depending on your shopping priorities.

“Amid inflation, the return of student loan repayments and other factors that could impact holiday spending, many consumers will be bargain hunting this year. Since retailers are likely to plan promotions and experiences around the busiest shopping days of the year, if you’re on a budget, you should take note of when these days occur and adjust your plans accordingly,” says Brian Field, global leader of retail consulting and analytics at Sensormatic Solutions, a retail solutions provider

of Johnson Controls. “And of course, it’s helpful to know these dates if you simply wish to avoid bumper-to-bumper parking lots and crowded store aisles.”

On average, the top 10 busiest shopping days in the United States account for approximately 40% of all holiday retail traffic, according to Sensormatic Solutions, which based on historical data, predicts those days will be:

1. Friday, Nov. 24 – Black Friday
2. Saturday, Dec. 23 – Super Saturday
3. Saturday, Dec. 16 – Third Saturday in December
4. Friday, Dec. 22 – Friday before Christmas
5. Saturday, Nov. 25 – Saturday after Black Friday

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6. Tuesday, Dec. 26 – Boxing Day
7. Saturday, Dec. 9 – Second Saturday in December
8. Saturday, Dec. 2 – First Saturday in December
9. Saturday, Dec. 30 – Saturday after Christmas
10. Sunday, Dec. 17 – Sunday before Christmas Eve

In addition to planning your spending around the top 10 shopping days, Field advises taking your own personality into consideration for the best shopper experience. For example, if you want to get a jump on the holiday season, Veterans' Day, which falls on the second Saturday in November right before the start of the formal holiday shopping season,

may be ideal, as retailers are likely to capitalize on the timing and go all-in on early promotions. However, if you are someone who prefers the excitement of finding last-minute deals, you should be aware that Super Saturday, the second predicted busiest shopping day of the season, falls very late this year on Dec. 23, and could be the last opportunity to wrap up shopping.

For more holiday shopping insights, visit sensormatic.com.

"Finding meaningful, fun and trendy gifts for friends and family is one of the best parts of the holiday season, especially when you have insights that will help you stretch your budget and shop with minimal stress," says Field.

Oconto promotes 'No Place Like Local'

The holiday season is upon us, and the Oconto Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce their latest campaign, "There's No Place Like Local for the Holidays." This campaign aims to promote and support our local businesses during the busiest shopping season of the year.

The campaign recognizes the importance of shopping locally and the impact it has on the community.

"By shopping at local businesses, we are not only supporting our friends and neighbors, but we are also helping to strengthen our local economy," said Samantha Boucher, president of the Oconto Area Chamber. "This holiday season, let's come together as a community and show our support for our local shops."

To encourage shoppers to support our local businesses, the chamber has launched a punch card program. Shoppers can pick up a punch card

from any participating local business. For a minimum purchase of \$10, they will receive a single punch on their card. Once the card is filled with 10 punches, it can be entered into a drawing for a chance to win one of several door prizes.

"We are thrilled to launch this campaign and promote our local businesses during the holiday season," Boucher said. "Our local shops offer unique and one-of-a-kind gifts that you won't find anywhere else. By shopping locally, you are not only supporting our community, but you are also finding the perfect gifts for your loved ones."

Visit the chamber's website, www.ocontoareachamber.com, for information on participating businesses. The punch card program is running from Nov. 1 to Dec. 15, giving shoppers plenty of time to support local businesses and enter for a chance to win.



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**Notice of
Presidential Preference, County Supervisor, Municipal, and School District Election**

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Oconto County }
Presidential Preference }

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election to be held in the several towns, villages, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, there will be held a Presidential Preference Vote to express preference for the person to be the presidential candidate for the Democratic or Republican parties under Wis. Stat. §8.12(1).

Spring Election

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election is to be held in the towns, villages, cities, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. The following officers are to be elected:

County Supervisors

A County Supervisor for each county supervisory district, for a term of two (2) years, to succeed the present incumbent listed, whose term will expire on Monday, April 15, 2024:

District 1 Elmer Ragen Town of Little Suamico Wards 8 & 9	District 10Tim Cole Town of Abrams Ward 2 Town of Pensaukee Ward 2	District 19Bart Schindel City of Oconto Falls Wards 2 & 3	District 27Alan Sleeter Town of Bagley Ward 1 Town of Brazeau Ward 2
District 2 Teri Willems Town of Little Suamico Wards 1 & 2	District 11Patrick J. Scanlan Town of Oconto Ward 2 Town of Pensaukee Ward 1	District 20Keith Schneider Town of Oconto Falls Ward 1 Town of Stiles Ward 1	District 28Carol M. Heise Town of Breed Ward 1 Town of How Ward 1
District 3 Brandon M. Dhuey Town of Little Suamico Ward 3 Town of Chase Ward 3	District 12Richard Pillsbury City of Oconto Wards 1 & 2	District 21Char Meier Town of Lena Ward 1 Village of Lena Ward 1	District 29 Judy Buhrandt Town of Mountain Ward 1 Town of Riverview Ward 2
District 4 Vacant Town of Little Suamico Wards 4 & 5	District 13John Wittkopf City of Oconto Wards 3 & 4	District 22David Parmentier Town of Brazeau Ward 1 Town of Spruce Ward 1	District 30Don Bartels, Jr. Town of Lakewood Ward 1 Town of Townsend Ward 1
District 5 Guy K. Gooding Town of Little Suamico Wards 6 & 7	District 14Al Schreiber City of Oconto Wards 5 & 6	District 23Robert Wolf Town of Gillett Ward 2 Town of Oconto Falls Ward 2	District 31David Christianson Town of Doty Ward 1 Town of Riverview Ward 1 Town of Townsend Ward 2
District 6 Dennis Kroll Town of Chase Wards 1 & 2	District 15John Matravers Town of Little River Ward 2 City of Oconto Ward 7	District 24Tracy S. Ondik City of Gillett Wards 1-3	
District 7 Wayne Kaczowski Town of Chase Wards 4 & 5	District 16Tom Bitters Town of Little River Ward 1 Town of Oconto Ward 1	District 25Gary G. Frank Town of Gillett Ward 1 Town of Underhill Ward 1	
District 8 David Behrend Town of Abrams Ward 1 Town of Morgan Ward 1	District 17Joel Lavarda Town of Stiles Ward 2 City of Oconto Falls Ward 1	District 26Doug McMahon Town of Maple Valley Ward 1 Village of Suring Ward 1	
District 9 Jolene Barkhaus Town of Abrams Ward 3 Town of Morgan Ward 2	District 18Stephanie F. Holman City of Oconto Falls Wards 4 & 5		

Information concerning county supervisory district boundaries may be obtained from Oconto County Clerk's office at 301 Washington Street Oconto, WI.

Municipal Judge

A Municipal Judge (if required), serving more than one municipality, for a term of four years*, to succeed the present incumbent listed, whose term of office will expire on April 30, 2024:

Village of Lena	Russell Burr
Village of Suring	Stephanie Lupe
City of Oconto	Cheryl Young
City of Oconto Falls	James Patenaude

Municipal Offices

The offices listed below are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The term for all offices is for two years beginning on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

TOWN OF BRAZEAU

10892 Parkway Road, Pound, WI 54161

Town Board Supervisor
Town Board Supervisor

David Parmentier
Randy Nasgovitz

TOWN OF LITTLE SUAMICO

5964 County Road S, Sobieski, WI 54171

Sanitary District #1 Commissioner

Doug Allen – Six (6) year term

TOWN OF MOUNTAIN

13503 Weller Road, Mountain, WI 54149

REFERENDA QUESTION:

**"Shall the person holding the office of
Town Clerk/Treasurer in the Town of Mountain
be appointed by the town board?"**

VILLAGE OF LENA

117 E. Main Street, Lena, WI 54139

Village Trustee
Village Trustee
Village Trustee

Linda Hinds
Craig LeFebre
Judy Patenaude

VILLAGE OF SURING
604 E. Main Street, Suring, WI 54174

Village Trustee
Village Trustee
Village Trustee

Randy Schuettpelz
Richard Kramp
Jacob School

CITY OF GILLETT
150 N. McKenzie Street, Gillett, WI 54124

Mayor
Aldersperson Ward 1
Aldersperson Ward 2
Aldersperson Ward 3

Josh McCarthy
Vacant
Jon Gildemeister
Nanette Mohr

CITY OF OCONTO
1210 Main Street, Oconto, WI 54153

Mayor
Aldersperson
Aldersperson
Aldersperson
Aldersperson

John Panetti
John Wittkopf
Butch Mehlberg
Steve Stock
Patsy Bake

CITY OF OCONTO FALLS
500 N. Chestnut Avenue, Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Mayor
Aldermanic District 1, Wards 1 & 2
Aldermanic District 2, Wards 3, 4 & 7
Aldermanic District 3, Ward 5 & 6

Brad Rice
Jeff McDonald
Marty Coopman
Tim Holman

Information concerning aldermanic district boundaries may be obtained from the city clerk.

School Districts

The following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The term of office for school board members is three years* beginning on Monday, April 22, 2024.

Gillett School District*	Jamie Heroux Katie Pecha Daul Scott Buhrandt, Two (2) year term to fill the unexpired term of Ron Lenz*
Oconto Unified School District	Samantha Routheau Boucher, Rural Seat Bobbi Brazeau Christopherson, City Seat
Oconto Falls School District	Kenneth Harter Bryan Baumler Clint Gardebrecht
Pulaski School District	Dennis Kaminski, Zone 2 Townships of Chase, Little Suamico, Morgan Sara Mangold, Zone 5 Township of Pittsfield, Village of Suamico Megan Mills-Koehler, Member at Large
Suring Public School District	Dennis Piepkorn, Village of Suring Wendy Wozniak, Town of Breed

A description of the school district boundaries can be obtained from the school district office. Schools located in Oconto County, but not listed above publish separately in another paper (Coleman, Crivitz, Lena, Peshtigo, and Wabeno).

For Candidates

The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2023, and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Candidates for list statewide and judicial titles file with the Wisconsin Elections Commission. All other candidates file with the clerk of the office being sought.

Caucus for Candidates

Between December 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024 a date for the town caucus will be scheduled to nominate candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the above listed offices. The caucus will be held between January 2, 2024 and January 21, 2024. Notice of the scheduled date of the caucus will be given by the Town Clerk at least five (5) days before the caucus. The Towns of Bagley, Gillett, Morgan, and Underhill use a caucus.

Primary Election

If a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

Additional Information

Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID, you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

DONE in the City of Oconto, on November 17, 2023.
Kim Pytleski, Oconto County Clerk
301 Washington Street
Oconto, Wisconsin 54153
920-834-6800



This blue jay, shown in a tree in Maribel, is a colorful bird with a mosaic pattern on its wings and a black necklace.

JOEL TRICK

Blue jays raucous, colorful and interesting

Now that the trees have shed their fall leaves and winter is on the way, I have a new appreciation for the blue jays that visit our feeders. They are a welcome splash of color as they fly boldly about, their feathers a flash of blues, blacks and white. Look closely and you will see a beautiful blue and black mosaic pattern on the wings along with a striking white wing bar. Their bellies are a bright white, and they sport a cocky blue crest on top of their head. A rather wide black necklace encircles the head, and a black streak extends from either side of the eye. Their bill is long, strong and straight.

The blue jay's common raucous call which to us sounds like "jay, jay, jay" alerts us to his presence. According to the book, "Jewels of Nature, Delightful Birds I Have Known" by Alan Haney, this bird has a wide range of calls. Some are quiet songs composed of gurgles, whines, clucks and clicks probably used for communicating among themselves. Another is described as a "gate hinge" call that sounds like a gate swinging open on rusty hinges and used when a parent perceives a threat near the nest.

Some songs are loud and insistent. You may have heard their loud belligerent "thief, thief, thief" call when they are mobbing (swooping toward, chasing and sometimes striking) larger animals such as owls, squirrels, snakes or other perceived threats, according



Cathy Carnes
Columnist

to Haney.

Blue jays are great mimics as well and can learn to mimic the call of a red-shouldered hawk, a cat's meow and human speech according to The Cornell Lab All About Birds website, or AAB.

It's the year-round residents that grace our yards all winter. According to AAB, blue jays are considered resident or short distance migrants. Their range extends from northern Saskatchewan, Canada, to southern Florida and from the east coast to the Rocky Mountains, but it is likely that less than 20% of jays migrate north to south and back across this range.

Haney notes that blue jays are more important than squirrels in spreading plants that produce nuts and seeds. Their expandable throat pouches along with mouth and beaks allow them to carry off 20 or more sunflower seeds or up to five acorns at a time. According to AAB, six birds with radio transmitters each cached (hid for later retrieval) 3,000-5,000 acorns in one autumn.

The nuts and seeds are cached in litter or soil, often in fields, and this, according to Haney, accounts for "the steady march of oaks or hickories into abandoned fields, far from the forest edge."

Blue jays also eat insects, grains and dead or injured small vertebrates. They sometimes raid nests for eggs and nestlings, but research has shown this to compose only a small amount (1%) of their diet, according to AAB. We know they also like fruit as we watched in amazement one day as a jay carried off a large plum from one of our trees.

The jay's emotional well being is signaled by its crest. The higher the crest, the higher its aggression level, according to AAB. When a blue jay "squawks," its crest is almost always up — watch out.

An article linked to the AAB website by Lauren Smith explains an interesting behavior of the blue jay called "anting." With wings spread and tail tucked between its legs, the jay gently picks up an ant in its beak and rubs it on its feathers before eating it. Research as to why revealed that the bird is likely ridding the ants of a bitter-tasting formic acid that the ant sprays behind it as a defense mechanism. Once the acid is rubbed off, the jay can enjoy a more delectable meal.

Blue jays may appear aggressive at your feeders; their size and raucous calls contribute to this perception.

However, there are several birds that can dominate the jays, including red-bellied and red-headed woodpeckers, common grackles, mourning doves and northern cardinals, according to AAB. Then, of course, there are the squirrels that are all over our feeders scattering every bird looking for a meal.

Blue jays are still common, but their populations have declined by about 0.6% per year with an estimated 27% cumulative decline between 1966 and 2019, according to the North American Breeding Bird Survey. One of the biggest threats to the species is predation by cats and dogs, according to AAB. We have the power to control this threat by keeping pets indoors or leashed when outdoors.

To attract blue jays to your yard, use a tray or hopper feeder; they work better than a hanging feeder, according to AAB. Provision it with peanuts and sunflower seeds, add suet and you have a blue jay feast. It's great to see these brightly colored and vocal birds at our feeders; enjoy them throughout the year — especially this winter, when their bold colors can lift our spirits.

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.

Townsend fire chief: 'You are my why'

On Oct. 17, rural Wisconsin had one of its finest moments. What was on display was a magical tribute to one of Townsend's most treasured residents — Dawn Herlache, Town of Townsend fire chief.

Named First Responder of the Year for the 35th Assembly District, Dawn received her award at the state capitol that day. Friends and supporters treated her to a limousine ride to and from Madison, then surprised her with a parade as eight area fire department trucks escorted her from Riverview to the Townsend Town Hall where a celebration was held in her honor.

I've admired and appreciated Dawn for over two decades, watching as she shattered the glass ceiling again and again. Candid, collaborative, cheerful and courageous, Dawn embodies the best qualities of so many other trendsetting female entrepreneurs, public servants and volunteers who make Townsend an extraordinary place to live. Her story is inspiring and empowering, especially for girls and women who sincerely want to make a difference in their little corner of the world.

Born and raised in Green Bay, Dawn attended Preble High School, lettering in swimming, basketball and golf. She earned a degree at UW-Green Bay in business administration and public administration, working her way through college teaching scuba diving classes. When she graduated in 1990, she entered a



Kathleen Marsh
Columnist

weak economy which forced her to take employment in a variety of small businesses.

"Looking back, I now realize I was putting my education to use, acquiring skills I'd need later in life, always moving closer to a goal that hadn't quite come into focus yet," she said.

Dawn's quest to find her destiny brought her to Townsend, where she and a partner established Sheer Lawn Care. Building the business took time, so Dawn took side jobs to pay the bills. She worked on the Town of Doty's road crew, cleaned Markuby's (Tippy's) Tavern, even delivered mail.

"I found myself working every single waking hour," she said. "I was beyond exhausted, but I didn't once consider giving up."

Her perseverance paid off. Soon the sight of Dawn trailering her John Deere mower and lawncare equipment appeared everywhere, and she attracted enough customers to fully concentrate on Sheer. Still, she made sure she had the time and flexibility to keep her place on the Townsend Fire Department, which she had

joined in 1997. No one seemed to care that she was probably the only female firefighter in the Northwoods. What impressed the guys were her quick wit, physical strength and mental toughness.

In 2007, Dawn partnered with Renee Kosch to buy Birch Hills Resort. They updated the resort's rental units, remodeled the tavern and renamed it My Bar. Within a year, business was booming. Dawn laughs as she recalls a conversation she had with Renee.

"I'm really glad the business took off like a rocket," Dawn said. "I just wish somebody had told us to put on our seat belts."

When Renee passed away in 2019, all of Townsend grieved. She was a popular personality in her own right, also serving as a volunteer firefighter. Dawn decided the business was too much for one person, and she sold it in 2021.

Through it all, Dawn continued her service at the fire department, progressing through the ranks from firefighter to lieutenant, then captain, followed by assistant chief, and finally fire chief, taking over in 2019 when long-time Chief Rick Opelia retired.

An unexpected bonus of her service, Dawn forged a 25-year friendship with Dacon Franzen, currently assistant fire chief. There wasn't a dry eye in the town hall as Dacon choked up while praising Dawn during the celebration.

"Most important, Chief Herlache is

my friend," he said. "She has my complete trust. I would follow her into a burning building."

Dawn is quick to emphasize that fire service requires serious commitment.

"We have to look out for each other, work as a unit," she said. "To do that, we must form a family of brothers and sisters who may not always agree but must always hold a high level of respect and caring for one another."

Looking toward the future, Dawn sees major changes in the way fire service will be delivered in the Northwoods. As the number of volunteers dwindles, there will be more consolidation, more cooperation, more collaboration. In preparation, she earned her Fire Instructor Certification this year and envisions establishing a Junior Firefighter program at Wabeno High School. Her goal is to recruit young people into a life of community service by teaching basic firefighting.

"People often ask me why I do this," Dawn said as she thanked everyone who made her day so extra special. "Why? I do it because I have the sincere desire to be there for others in difficult circumstances. You are my why," she told the cheering crowd. "You will always be my why."

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22

GILLETT: 33rd annual Gillett

Community Thanksgiving Dinner, 3:30-6:30 p.m., Hillside Assembly of God Church, 5890 State Highway 22. Turkey and ham with all the trimmings, free and offered to anyone who would enjoy the feeling of being a part of a large family. Deliveries are available to those homebound in Gillett, Suring, Cecil or Oconto Falls. When making reservations at 920-855-2962, teri@hillsideassembly.com or www.hillsideassembly.com, ask for a specific time slot: 3:30-4:15 p.m., 4:30-5:15 p.m. or 5:30-6:15 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOV. 23

SHAWANO: Turkey Trot 5K race, 8-9:30 a.m., Total Fitness, 116 N. Main St., Suite A. \$25 adults, \$20 children 10 and under. Proceeds benefit Shawano County Humane Society.

FRIDAY, NOV. 24

OCONTO: Winter Wonderland

lighting ceremony, 5 p.m., Holtwood Campground, 400 Holtwood Way. Holiday light display through Jan. 14.

SATURDAY, NOV. 25

SHAWANO: Shop Small Saturday, 3-5:30 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. One hundred decorated Christmas trees, children's activities, wagon rides, music, treats and 5 p.m. tree lighting.

OCONTO FALLS: Avenue of Lights lighting celebration, 6 p.m., East Side Beach, North Main Street. Oconto Falls High School choir, cookies and cider, Santa arrives at 6:30 p.m. Holiday light display through the Christmas season.

KESHENA: Holiday Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Crafts, baked goods, food. Lori Besaw, 715-799-3092.

SUNDAY, NOV. 26

LITTLE SUAMICO: Disabled American

Veterans Meat Raffle, 11 a.m., Archie's Heavenly Spirits, 1192 County Road J. Tickets \$2 each or three for \$5.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29

KESHENA: Dodgeball, 5-7 p.m. Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Join law enforcement, EMS and fire crews for an evening of fun competition. Sloppy joes and chips served. 715-799-7099.

THURSDAY, NOV. 30

ABRAMS: "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Jr.," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Center, 5852 Maple St. Abrams Spotlight Productions. \$8-17 at abramstheater.com.

KESHENA: Beading Class, Campus Commons, College of Menominee Nation, N172 State Highway 47-55. Learn how to create small flat work key chains.

FRIDAY, DEC. 1

WITTENBERG: Christmas Craft Fair, 3-8 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. Bake sale.

SHAWANO: Santa Parade, 6 p.m., downtown. Parade route starts at the corner of Elizabeth and Main streets, north on Main Street turning left at Green Bay Street, then left on Washington Street to Franklin Park.

WITTENBERG: Community Christmas Tree Lighting, 7 p.m., WOWSPACE Art Park, 114 Vinal St. Santa and Mrs. Claus, cookies and hot cider, caroling.

MATTOON: Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony, 7-9 p.m., Main Street.

ABRAMS: "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Jr.," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Center, 5852 Maple St. Abrams Spotlight Productions. \$8-17 at abramstheater.com.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

OCONTO: Junior Class Craft Fair, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oconto High School, 1717 Superior Ave.

WITTENBERG: Christmas Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. Bake sale.

Why I Give Thanks

Small reminders show plenty to be grateful for

By SARAH SCHINDEL

Special to NEW Media

I am extremely humbled to be asked to share why I give thanks. For several hours after the request, I thought about what I should write about. It didn't take long for me to start seeing small reminders of what is on my heart that I should share.

For example, several times I caught myself thinking about how thankful I was for a simple kind act, conversation or gesture someone may have made that day. A couple of times, I was also randomly (or not so randomly?) faced with Scripture: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another." (Hebrews 10:24-25, ESV). The way I see it, we (people) were made to be with each other, in community together, filling each other up with joy that can really only be found by loving your neighbor.

I'll start with the work group who intensely worked on the Oconto Falls Community Garden, along with numerous people who donated, time, talent and funds to the project. Because of that effort, almost 5,000 pounds of produce was donated to Kingdom Come Food Pantry between July and October of this year.

Next is The Nurse's Nook program that works within our Oconto County school districts and ensures there is no child in need. From food to clothes to medicine, The Nurse's Nook fills the gaps. Children and families are blessed every year with Christmas gifts and holiday meals as well. I am blown away by what this small organization is able to achieve year after year.



Sarah Schindel gives thanks to each and every person who has given time, talents or just an extra bit of love or kindness to make our communities a beautiful place to live.

Moving on to school teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries and administration. I can't tell you how many times I have felt thankful for them, in one facet of my life or another. From Marinette to Suring, Oconto and Oconto Falls to Gillett, I witness these professionals treating their students like their own children on a daily basis. They have so much love, joy and passion for their life's calling, even with daily adversities most of us couldn't imagine.

Next are our church communi-

ties (like Grace Lutheran Church in Oconto Falls) and establishments (like CJ's Country Club in Abrams) who serve free meals either monthly or during holiday seasons to make sure no one is left out, lonely or hungry. Providing opportunities for people to share a meal is such an amazing way to create space and time for people to be together.

The coaches, parents and teachers who organize youth sports like football, baseball, softball, running club, wrestling basketball are undeni-

ably the catalysts of so many wonderful opportunities for our youth. So much joy comes from being a part of and watching kids do and grow into something they love.

I can't forget the littlest members of our communities who give me huge hugs and greet me with the sweetest smiles every time I walk into their schools. In October, one student in particular made me feel extra grateful. The child simply said "Hello, Ms. Sarah." The entire previous year, I hadn't heard this child say one single word. It was a real-life wow moment.

My last mention will be Kingdom Come Food Pantry and the people who give their time to plan, purchase, organize and pack food bags each and every week to make sure no one goes without. What an honorable way to serve others.

Family is the closest, most dear form of community we have. I give thanks for my husband who never seems to run out of time and energy for anyone who needs a helping hand. I give thanks for my kids who teach me how to be more patient and kind. I give thanks for my father-in-law who teaches me strength and endurance as he runs the race that was set before him. For my mom who teaches me to have joy in my heart for the little things. For my dad who teaches me less is more.

Thank you to each and every person who has given time, talents or just an extra bit of love or kindness to make our communities a beautiful place to live.

Sarah Schindel is the FoodWise nutrition educator for Marinette and Oconto counties for the University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension Division. She also serves as clerk of the Oconto Falls School Board.

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Why I Give Thanks

Thankful expands to Shawano community

By **LESLEY NEMETZ**
Special to NEW Media

Several years ago, I was asked to write a thankful essay for NEW Media, just as I was asked to do again this year. At that time, I had only been working for the city of Shawano for a couple of short years and felt as though I was still trying to “find my place” in this community. When I wrote that first essay, titled “Thankful for Our People,” I chose to write about the people closest to me that I was thankful for.

Back then, I wrote of my wonderful husband, Greg, and our young son, Owen. Today, I am blessed to continue to be thankful for my wonderful husband, Greg, and our not-so-young son, Owen, as well as our twin sons, Marshall and Sawyer. I could very easily fill the pages of this entire newspaper telling you all about their kindness, humor, generosity to others, humility, and many more remarkable attributes that make up the astounding people that they are. Perhaps, if I am asked to write a third essay, I will do just that.

This time, however, I want to focus on our community and all the things we can be thankful for here in Shawano. While I have been working for the city since 2010, it was when I became the city clerk/community relations manager in 2020 that I felt I really got the opportunity to be a part of all the amazing transformations that were going on in our great city.

Since 2020 alone, Shawano has



Lesley Nemetz, Shawano city clerk/community relations manager, is thankful to all residents for their continued efforts in making the community stand out and shine.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

seen great change — new housing developments, industry expansion, multimillion-dollar park improvement projects, large commercial construction, small business growth, historic building renovations, and the addition of several nonprofits working to fill a void to help those in need.

We love to say “There is so much going on in Shawano” — and there really is. Now more than ever, our downtown is thriving, so much so, that there is a literal waiting list of people wanting to open businesses.

The downtown plaza project, The Naberhood, has proven time

and time again to be the space we had hoped it could be. A place for our residents and visitors to gather and share their excitement for all that is happening in our amazing city, and a place for partnerships to grow and work on the next great idea for developments, events, or outreach opportunities. One of our city’s founding fathers, Franklin Naber — the namesake of The Naberhood — had visions of brilliant potential for our city, and I can’t help but feel that we are making his visions a reality.

Earlier I stated that when I wrote my first essay I was still trying to “find my place” in our community.

I feel it is safe to say that I have now in fact found my place. To be a champion and cheerleader for this great community. To help share the joy and excitement that we have here. To help bring new ideas to the table of continued efforts to keep moving forward. To continue to foster the amazing partnerships my co-workers and I have helped to create.

We are so very thankful for every single resident who calls Shawano home, for every visitor who has the opportunity to experience all of the great things we have to offer in the “City on the Wolf,” for every builder and developer who has taken a chance on our amazing community, for every large business that has stayed, expanded, or relocated here, for every small business owner who chose to chase their dreams in our city, and for every selfless nonprofit that continues to work tirelessly for the betterment of us all.

Thank you to all of you for your continued efforts in making our community stand out and shine. Thank you to all of you for helping to move our community forward. Thank you to all of you for being supportive of our ideas and projects. Most of all, thank you to all of you for making it so easy to be thankful for this entire community.

May you all find something in Shawano to be thankful for this holiday season.

Lesley Nemetz is the city clerk and community relations manager for the City of Shawano.



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NEW Media is looking for people to tell the amazing stories in Oconto,
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Send a resume with writing and photography samples to
city editor Lee Pulaski at lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com.



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Why I Give Thanks

Most thankful for gracious gifts of God

By GARY OLSON

Special to NEW Media

If I were to give you a pop quiz right now and ask you the question, "When is Thanksgiving Day?" I wonder how many of us could give the correct answer? Some of you may be thinking — do you mean the "exact" date? Not really, because the date varies from year to year. Everyone could say, "I know it is a Thursday in November," which is correct, but which Thursday?

Even if you guessed the exact date, which this year happens to be Nov. 23, you wouldn't give me the answer that I am looking for. The official Thanksgiving Day goes all the way back to 1789 when George Washington, the first president of the United States, proclaimed Nov. 26 as a day of Thanksgiving to celebrate our independence.

After that, Thanksgiving Day continued to be celebrated on different days in different states until finally in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued a White House proclamation calling on "the whole American people to observe a special day of Thanksgiving on the last Thursday of November of every year." After that, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed a bill marking the fourth Thursday of each November as the official Thanksgiving Day.

When President Lincoln wrote that proclamation in October 1863, he stated that our lives are filled with so many blessings it's important for us to pause and recognize the source of those blessings. He goes on to state that they are gifts from the "most high God" who is generous beyond compare even though we don't de-



Pastor Gary Olson said although he has many relationships in his life that bring him happiness, joy, and peace, the thing he's most thankful for is his relationship with the creator of the universe, or as Abraham Lincoln said it, "The God most high."

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serve any of it.

So maybe the most important question isn't when is Thanksgiving, but rather what is Thanksgiving? Is it the

day you drive several hours to spend time with family members that you only see once a year? Maybe when you think of Thanksgiving, your thoughts

turn to your deer stand and those family members will just have to wait.

So when you think of Thanksgiving, what are you actually thankful for? I am grateful for a wonderful family; my two amazing daughters and a wonderful wife, and I'm also grateful for the time I have to spend with them this year. I'm thankful for a great community and the people who live here. What I'm the most thankful for each and every day is the relationship I have with the Creator of the Universe who came down to earth to save His people.

To give thanks means to acknowledge the thoughts, efforts, and actions that you have received from another. Maybe you have thanked a waitress when you receive good service, or maybe you've thanked a doctor who helped you through an illness or a teacher for their efforts to help you learn a skill. Those examples are easy to see in our day to day lives and might make it easier to recognize who provided the action we received.

The question is who do we thank for a beautiful sunrise, or that amazing northern lights display. Who should we give thanks to for life, breath and everything else? Lincoln nailed it right on the head when he said we need to set aside a day to give thanks for the "gracious gifts of the God Most High."

That's what I'm most thankful for. Although I have many relationships in my life that bring me happiness, joy, and peace, the thing I'm most thankful for is my relationship with the creator of the universe, or as Abraham Lincoln said it, "The God most high."

The Rev. Gary Olson is pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Oconto Falls.

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Why I Give Thanks

Choose an attitude of gratitude this holiday

By **LAUREL LARSON COLLINS**
Special to NEW Media

Just as there is a difference between happiness and joy, there is also a difference between thankfulness and gratitude. A link connects the two, actually. Let me explain.

To be happy is an emotion requiring outward circumstances to be favorable to have happiness present in life. Consequently, happiness is most often fleeting. To be joyful, on the other hand, requires deliberately choosing to be joyful and to remain positive even when adverse situations arise.

In like manner, being thankful is also an emotion that depends on favorable outward circumstances to prompt expressions of thankfulness. Consequently, thankfulness, too, is frequently fleeting. To be grateful, however, requires deliberately choosing an attitude of gratitude regardless of whether outward circumstances warrant it or not.

Obviously then, the wiser choice — although not easier — is the choice to be grateful. But when making that statement perhaps you and I, like the students I teach (and yes, I

am still teaching), run the risk of too quickly passing over a small — but critical — two-letter word to hastily focus our attention on the big word of grateful. That little two letter word is the word “be.”

Given that I am a teacher, allow me for a moment to get a bit technical. Typically the word, “be” is a verb, but in the phrase “be grateful,” instead of showing action, the word “be” is a helping verb. Thus, the word “be” in the statement above then conveys meaning, and packed with meaning that little word “be” certainly is.

During my 74 years of life, I have learned that for me to live a more consistently joyful and happy life, I first had to learn — and practice — how to “be” a grateful and thankful individual. That learning came from finding the more things I was ungrateful for, the more I found myself complaining and the more, and more, unhappy I became.

On the flip side, when I was grateful for even the little things — yes, even those things that were not so pleasant — and proceeded to express my thankfulness for them, the more joy and happiness I experienced as a result. Was that always easy to do? No.



A retired teacher, Laurel Collins still volunteers her time at Shepherd's Watch Christian Academy in Mattoon and the Mattoon Area Historical Society. She is also the author of several books about the history of the community.
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What made it possible for me to hold fast to my decision to “be” grateful regardless, was the firm belief that because God is love that he will — in some way, somehow, sometime — use even the bad times in life for my good and another’s benefit. Now add to that my firm belief that because God is good all the time and all the time God is good, I can, therefore, always find some-

thing for which to be grateful.

Am I always successful in this endeavor? No, but remember, I said it wasn’t easy.

Nevertheless, the bottom line is I will steadfastly continue choosing to “be” grateful, and live a more thankful life, because I know from experience that a lot more happiness and a lot more joy will continue to be consistently mine when I do.

Laurel Collins volunteers her time with several community organizations in Mattoon.

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Why I Give Thanks

Celebrate relationships that enrich our lives

By **ROBYN SHINGLER**
Special to NEW Media

The holiday season is a wonderful time to reflect on gratitude, appreciating the things that enrich our lives. At the heart of the celebrations lie the acknowledgment of the people, places and experiences that shape our journey. For me, gratitude thrives within the vibrant community of Shawano, a place I'm proud to call home.

Central to my gratitude is the sense of belonging and support fostered by the Shawano community. The interconnectedness within our town mirrors the tapestry of friendships, family and associations that have enriched my life. The strength and support of these connections extend far beyond the holiday season.

My family and friendships stand as pillars of strength, nurturing me through life's highs and lows. Their unwavering presence and encouragement, particularly over the past year as I lost my brother, Kris, and my beloved mother, Sandra, serve as a constant reminder of the power of genuine connections. Through shared experiences and countless

moments of laughter and understanding, these relationships have deepened my sense of appreciation for the bond that relationships provide us all.

Community involvement, too, has been instrumental in shaping my perspective on gratitude.

Serving with organizations like the Shawano Optimist Club, Toys For Tots, the Job Center/Elizabeth Street Business Complex board of directors, and as a volunteers for the Shawano Country Chamber, Downtown Shawano, CHAT, 100+ Women Who Care-Shawano County, and contributing to the Shawano Plan Commission has provided a platform to give back and hopefully, make a small difference in the lives of others.

The collective efforts and shared goals within these groups underscore the power of communal action and unity, fostering a sense of appreciation for the ability to effect positive change within the community.

Professionally, my career with the Shawano School District as the director of community education and outreach is a source of immense fulfillment. The opportunity to contribute to the growth and development of



Robyn Shingler believes gratitude, especially during this holiday, is more than a mere acknowledgment of blessings; it's a deep-rooted sense of appreciation for the connections that define us.

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our community through enrichment learning and outreach initiatives is a privilege. Working within an environment that values community engagement and learning has amplified my gratitude for the chance to make a meaningful impact here.

Gratitude, especially during this holiday, is more than a mere acknowledgment of blessings; it's a deep-rooted sense of appreciation for the con-

nections that define us. The warmth of these connections and the mutual support found within the Shawano community embody the true essence of Thanksgiving — a celebration of gratitude for the beautiful, interwoven relationships that enrich our lives. Thank you for being a part of mine.

Robyn Shingler is the director of community education and outreach with the Shawano School District.

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Lymph node testing easier to test deer for CWD

Chronic Wasting Disease is a threat to deer herds in Wisconsin and many other states, but also a threat to our entire deer hunting culture.

I have to admit that I haven't taken the disease too seriously as a hunter, in part because I felt there wasn't much I can do about it, but I can.

I can help researchers stay on top of its spread, first primarily in captive deer and now in wild ones. Shawano County recently discovered two more cases of CWD in wild deer this season, with two previous wild deer cases in 2020.

Although I live and hunt in Waupaca County, where CWD has existed for many years, I've never had any of my deer tested, mainly because I would have to travel many miles to a CWD testing station or kiosk to leave my deer's head. It simply wasn't convenient, and although that may sound selfish, after days of gun hunting and a long day in the field, I was ready for some hot food and a warm bed, not a long drive with a deer head in my van.

Many other hunters probably feel the same way, but we just lost another excuse to avoid testing and potentially useful research data.

More and more meat processors and taxidermists are learning how to collect deer lymph nodes that researchers can use to determine the presence of CWD, an always-fatal disease that manifests in a deer's brain, bones and spinal cord. This process allows the hunter with a trophy buck to have his deer tested and still retain the rack and neck for a shoulder mount.

At the same time, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is adding self-service kiosks (often at the same sites with lymph node collection) so hunters can remove their own deer heads for testing and leave them in a freezer.

Such is the case for Northwoods Sausage in New London, one of the area deer processors that I often take my deer to (when I finally manage to bag one, anyway). Northwoods has a variety of delicious sausage, deer stick, bratwurst and jerky options, and it's a small family operation that seems to go the extra mile with both meticulous meat handling and customer service. Kay Trewin, co-owner of the business with husband Mike Trewin, told me just before the gun deer opener that they could now collect lymph nodes after DNR staff came and showed Mike how to do it.

Jacob Fries, a DNR wildlife biologist at Hartman Creek State Park in



Mike Trewin, co-owner of Northwoods Sausage in New London, with daughter Liza Trewin, who helps with deer processing, show off their new Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources kiosk for collecting lymph nodes and deer heads for CWD testing. The DNR is making it more convenient for hunters to contribute to this important research.

ROSS BIELEMA



Ross Bielema
Columnist

Waupaca, helped set up the self-serve kiosk at Northwoods as part of his CWD kiosk "route" in Waupaca and Waushara counties. Also included are places for hunters to dispose of deer carcasses.

The prions found in CWD-positive deer (prions are abnormally folded proteins that concentrate in bones and brain, but are shed through bodily fluids) can contaminate the soil for years and spread the disease to other deer, so leaving carcasses in the woods is another way to spread CWD. This is another reason why I prefer to take my deer to a processor. This is one of the better explanations I have found about prions and their

spread: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/wildlife/diseases/cwd/what-are-prions>.

Fries and his counterpart in Shawano County, DNR wildlife biologist Jaqi Christopher, will be kept busy checking their respective kiosks roughly every other day during the nine-day gun season that ends Nov. 26. The bonus for deer hunters who submit their deer heads is that they will also find out the age of their deer through tooth examination.

Hunters fill out a form and are given a six-digit number to track their deer through the process, Christopher said. When testing is complete, typically in 10 to 14 days, hunters receive an email and can also see results in their Go Wild account.

Shawano County lymph nodes and heads are collected at the Navarino field office before they are shipped to the Wisconsin Veterinary Lab in Poynette for testing. Fries and Christopher also will go to hunters for testing upon request. Christopher can be reached at 715-853-2952, while Fries can be reached at 920-420-0384.

Christopher noted that the lymph nodes are located where the neck meets the jaw line, and require cuts to the spine. The nodes can be collected from caped heads by going under the skin, so that trophy is in no danger of damage, she explained.

Shawano County kiosks include the Navarino (Shiocton) and Shawano DNR field offices, Pingel Processing in Shawano, Kropf's Meat Processing in Bowler, the Marion Plaza Shell station, village of Tigerton, Breaker Taxidermy in Tigerton and Jim's Venison Processing in Wittenberg.

For all CWD kiosks and deer carcass disposal locations, visit <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/cwd/RegStation>.

Why not contribute to CWD research by donating your deer heads or lymph nodes this convenient way? Your kids and grandkids may one day thank you for helping to preserve our deer hunting legacy.

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

GUEST COLUMN

Journalists can't save journalism, but you can

Not long ago, a group of retired, has-been editors got together in Madison for golf, burgers and beer. Let's just say, the burgers and beer were good.

It was an interesting collection of career journalists who ran newsrooms in several Wisconsin cities — Milwaukee, Madison, Eau Claire, Watertown, Wisconsin Rapids, Janesville and Beloit.

There were plenty of old war stories to banter about, but a recurring theme revolved around the tough times facing news organizations in Wisconsin and around the country. Lots of questions. Lots of laments. Damn few answers.

That conversation was high on my mind last week when I spoke to a great group of ladies over lunch. The Beloit Intermediate Women's Club, for some unfathomable reason, asked me to come and talk about the state of journalism in our modern era.

Allow me to pause and give the same disclaimer I said in the speech. I'm just an old retired guy. I do not speak for the Beloit Daily News, Adams Publishing, the Lake Geneva Regional News (where my wife and I do a tourism column) or the Wisconsin Newspaper Association, which regularly circulates my ramblings across the state. My thoughts are purely my own.

There may be some value, however, in encouraging readers to ponder what has been happening not only to newspapers large and small, but also to radio and television news



Bill Barth

Guest Columnist

operations. To that point, may I suggest the issue isn't just important to the folks who own, operate or work at news-related companies. Rather, it's a critical issue for Americans as they tiptoe around the divisive minefield that is modern politics and collectively chart a future path that will preserve freedom and democracy — or not.

I won't go into the long list of statistics and anecdotes covered in the speech — no sense boring readers too much. It's illustrative, though, to cite a few:

- About three years ago, for the first time, digital advertising spending surpassed for the first time ad buys in newspapers and television.
- Google and Facebook pocket more than half the country's ad spend.
- In the past 20 years, newspaper advertising revenues have dropped more than half.
- Regular, subscriber-based readership has declined as well. In 1984, more than 63 million Americans subscribed to a daily paper. By 2020, that was 24 million. Mind you, when online readership is consid-

ered along with readers who pop in here and there and buy single-copy papers, many millions still consume newspaper journalism. It is, however, a much more volatile base than the days when almost every household subscribed for home delivery.

- One sad consequence has been the disappearance of newspapers, often those in relatively isolated geographic areas. About 2,000 have closed over recent decades, spawning the term "news deserts" where no reporters or editors routinely cover news, sports or anything else.

- The net result has been a significant reduction in journalism jobs across the country. In 2007, about 115,000 journalists gathered news in America. By 2020, the number had dropped to 85,000.

- Even the biggest players — New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post — have been impacted. For example, the Washington Post recently announced it will cut 250 jobs.

Bear with me, while I mount the soapbox for a couple of minutes. I'm a big believer in the theory embodied in the words of that old song that goes something like this, "Shin bone's connected to the knee bone." What's happening to news reporting is also happening to our civic lives.

Community clubs struggle to keep up membership. Church attendance is way down. Most people never attend a city council meeting, a school board meeting, a booster club meeting. Heck, neighbors don't even know

neighbors. The fabric that binds communities together has frayed and become ragged, on a good day.

I always believed good journalism was a connective tissue, reflecting a community's deep reality. The best journalism is practiced, in the old saying, without fear or favor. That means the good, the bad and the ugly. It means telling the truth even if nobody wants to hear it.

Today, lots of people reject uncomfortable or inconvenient facts. So-called "news" organizations — think MSNBC for lefties, FOX for righties and even more deeply biased outlets online — make sure users' preferred story lines are never challenged. That's not news. It's propaganda.

I give all the credit and cheers I can muster to today's journalists, who continue to forge ahead in an unforgiving business climate, where it's not only tough to make a buck but it's also likely they'll be subjected to insults and abuse just for telling the truth.

I'll pose a question I presented to the ladies in my audience: "Who calls out the abuses of the powerful if the watchdog is dead?"

This, in closing: "The people in this room, their families, friends, strangers and everybody, will decide how it all turns out. Journalists can't save journalism."

Bill Barth is a former editor of the Beloit Daily News and a member of the Wisconsin Newspaper Hall of Fame. Write to him at bbarth@beloitdailynews.com.

OPINION PAGE POLICY

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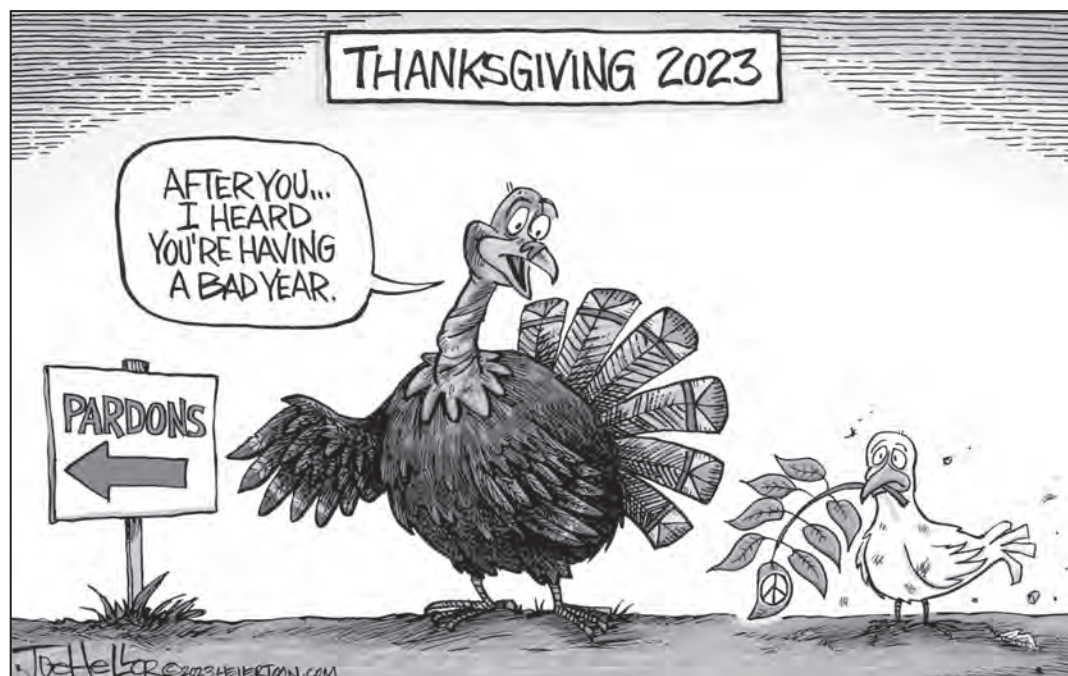
Longer pieces of up to 800 words will be considered for guest columns. All columns require a head shot of the author.

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Thank you letters will be considered for publication on community pages in the paper. The 400-word limit applies to thank you letters, as well.

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Defense sets the tone in season-opening win for Chargers

By **DUSTIN RIESE**
Correspondent

The first game of high school basketball season is an exciting time but one that also comes with a lot of question marks.

When it comes to this year's Wittenberg-Birnamwood girls basketball team, things couldn't have gone much better for the Chargers in their non-conference game against Peshtigo. The defense not only set the tone early but throughout the game, as well. After allowing just 16 points in the first half, Wittenberg-Birnamwood turned it on in the second half and allowed only seven points to cruise to an easy 60-23 victory.

"I am very proud of the girls for how they came out and played tonight," head coach Nick Mechelke said. "It's always nice to get the first win out of the way, especially when that can happen on opening night."

A lot of times, it takes teams a little while to figure things out in their first game, but not so for the Chargers; they came out swinging and sent a message right from the start. It was the combination of Kit Stewart and Melaina Granquist that got things rolling as they combined for 37 points on the evening. Stewart, in particular, had a hot hand as she scored the first six points of the game for the Chargers and helped Wittenberg-Birnamwood race out to an early 8-0 lead.

"Kit (Stewart) got us going quickly and scored all of her points in the first half," Mechelke said. "She gave us a good spark, and the team seemed to thrive off of her early efforts."

Leading 10-2 after Peshtigo finally got on the board, Granquist started to have her way on the inside. Not only did she lead the way with 27 points and eight rebounds, but she single-handedly outscored the Bulldogs in the game.

Basketball is a game of runs, and the Chargers were all about putting together big runs throughout as they opened the game 8-0, then followed that up with a 10-2 run to bust the game wide open at 18-4. They never

looked back as they managed to close out the first half by outscoring the Bulldogs 15-12 to take a 33-16 lead into the break. That came after Peshtigo tried to mount a bit of a comeback as Holly Pesch was finding ways to get to the basket with Maysen Brisette knocking down some jumpers. Fortunately, the Chargers were able to stop the bleeding as Brie Ladika connected on a pair of late first-half triples to push the lead to 17 at the break.

Already with a lead in hand, the Chargers continued to rely on their defense to begin the second half, while Ladika and Granquist took over on the offensive side. In total, it was the Chargers going on a 12-0 run to begin the half as they pushed their lead out to 45-16.

"Our defense was phenomenal tonight and played a huge role in our success," Mechelke said. "Credit the girls for getting after it on the defensive end. We talked about what we wanted to do, and they went out and executed that plan to perfection. We pressured them all game and forced a ton of turnovers that made life easier for us."

It took nearly nine minutes for Peshtigo to grab their first points of the second half, but they were unable to get much more than that as Wittenberg-Birnamwood outscored the Bulldogs 27-7 in the second half.

While the win is nice, it was the young guns who stole the show, as Granquist wasn't alone in having a great game. Fellow sophomore Ladika was second on the team with 11 points with Stewart adding 10. Throw in six from junior Faith Resch and three each from freshmen Harper Rogowski and Nora Bushman, and it could be the young players who lead the Chargers this season.

"Of all the things we did well tonight, I was very pleased with how our youth played," Mechelke said. "For most of our underclassmen, this was their first varsity game, and they did a fantastic job holding their own. If they can continue to play this way all season, we are going to be a very good team."



Melaina Granquist (42) goes in for a layup Nov. 14 against Pestigo. Granquist led Wittenberg-Birnamwood with 27 points, and her total eclipsed that of the entire Peshtigo team, which only 23 points. Granquist also led the Chargers with 14 rebounds.

DUSTIN RIESE

Bonduel hangs tough but falls to St. Mary

By **DUSTIN RIESE**
Correspondent

Any time you test yourselves in non-conference play, it can be used as a benchmark to gauge where your team is at as you prepare for the postseason later on. When it comes to the Bonduel Bears girls basketball team, not only were they put to test Nov. 16, but they passed that test with flying colors to prove they are a very good team.

Squaring off against the No. 8 ranked St. Mary Catholic Zephyrs on the road is no easy feat, but it was a feat the Bears didn't shy away from as they gave SMC their best shot. No matter the deficit, the Bears continued to battle back and even held the lead early in the second half. They continued to exchange blows throughout the second half, trailing by two late until the Zephyrs pulled away down the stretch to pick up the 62-53 win.

"I couldn't be happier with our effort from start to finish tonight," head coach Jerry Reinke said. "That is a great team over there that was within one possession of state a season ago. They have the talent to get back to that point again this season, and we managed to go bucket for bucket with them most of the night. That just shows you the potential our group has as we didn't back down from this challenge."

In the early stages of the first half, it was the Zephyrs' defense that set the tone as the constant full court pressure made things uncomfortable for the Bears' offense, resulting in several turnovers. That helped give Audrey Norville and Emily Vogel several easy buckets as the Bears quickly found themselves in an 8-2 deficit. Even with Audrey Weier and her team-leading 15 points, mixed with Tatum Sporisky picking up a couple of buckets shortly after, the Zephyrs' defense continued to be an issue as the Bears still trailed by six.

It was the midway point of the first half when the Bonduel defense started to sink their teeth as they put the clamps down on the Zephyrs and held them scoreless for several minutes. That allowed for the Bonduel offense to chip away with Hailey Zernicke (10 points) finding ways to get inside and Hailee Thompson (14 points) knocking down some jumpers from deep. Throw in an Ashlyn Kurey runner, and the Bears battled back to claim a 16-15 lead.



Audrey Weier (11) battles a pair of St. Mary players as she heads to the basket in girls basketball action Nov. 16. Weier led the Bears with 15 points, with Hailee Thompson adding 14 and Hailey Zernicke chipping in another 10.

DUSTIN RIESE

Unfortunately for Bonduel, their lead didn't last long as a pair of triples from Norville sparked an 8-0 SMC run and pushed their lead to the largest of the game thus far, 23-16. Not to be out done, Bonduel continued to take the Zephyrs' best shots only to bounce back as the size of Weier on the inside mixed with the outside touch of Thompson was an issue as Bonduel closed out the first half on an 11-4 run to pull even 27-27.

"Early in the game, we were playing a little faster than we'd like against their pressure," Reinke said. "The few times we used our press break, we were successful, which led to some easy buckets and started to get us in a more of an offensive rhythm."

In what was suddenly a ball game to begin the second half a quick strike from Vogel put the Zephyrs back in front only to have Weier answer with four straight to give

Bonduel their second lead of the game. Weier continued to do her thing down low in the early stages of the second half, which helped open things up for Zernicke and others as the Bears continued to battle and held a 35-34 lead.

That was the last lead of the night for Bonduel with Norville knocking down another triple to put SMC back in front before Nolie Anderson gave SMC the lead for good.

Like in the first half, whenever it seemed as if SMC was about to pull away, it was the Bonduel defense bouncing back as they refused to go down without a fight. Ella Hischke kept the Bears within striking distance, 44-42.

"Defensively, we played very well for about the first 25 minutes, but they beat us up in the paint in the second half," Reinke said. "They are a very physical team. and they showed that throughout the game,

especially in the second half. and took advantage of that."

With Vogel pushing the Zephyrs lead back up to four, Juliana Jacobs and Thompson took it upon themselves to rattle off four quick points to pull the Bears even yet again 48-48 with the fourth quarter winding down.

That was as close as the Bears would get the rest of the way, with Lauren Ripley knocking down a triple to put the Zephyrs back in front for good and Vogel driving the lane to push the lead back to five. Things would only get worse from there as the Zephyrs tightened up defensively when they needed to and iced the game from the free throw line.

"Although we would've liked the win, this was a great test for us early in the season," Reinke said. "We have some things to work on, but we certainly did some good things we can build on."

Pulaski girls come up short in overtime

By **DUSTIN RIESE**
Correspondent

It may not always be pretty, but a win is a win when it comes to high school sports. That is what the Seymour Thunder and Pulaski Red Raiders were trying to do Nov. 17 as this was a good old-fashioned defensive tussle.

Whether it be shots not falling, panicking on the offensive end or just all around sloppy play, neither of these teams could get much of anything going. That was until the final four minutes of the game when the action not only picked up, but all of a sudden, buckets were falling and both offenses started to come to life. All that led to an extra four minutes as a Keira VandeHei layup with 6.5 seconds to go in overtime handed Pulaski a tough 39-37 defeat.

"We needed to hit some of our wide-open looks, and we haven't been doing that," head coach Doug McElrone said. "When you have an open look, you have to knock it down. It's hard to win games when the shots don't fall, especially ones that we know we should make."

Defense was the theme all night for the Thunder, especially during the first half as they held Pulaski without a field goal for nearly six minutes. Alayna VandeHei and Natalea Hill managed to put the Thunder on top 6-1 early as the Red Raiders were searching for answers. Leave it to Maggie Lardinois to put an end to the field goal less drought of four minutes, but that was the only field goal Pulaski would make for nearly 10 minutes as they trailed 7-6.

In desperate need of an offensive spark, Pulaski started to work the ball inside as Olivia Sprangers gave Pulaski their first lead before converting on a steal shortly after. Following another defensive stop on the other end, Lardinois was left alone in the corner as her 3-pointer gave Pulaski the 14-7 lead.

That was the largest lead of the game for Pulaski as the Thunder offense picked up five quick points from Salem Boyd to pull within 14-12 before two big buckets late in the half had Pulaski in front 18-12. While the offensive numbers weren't pretty, it was the defense that McElrone was happy about as that was the reason for the early first half lead.

"Our defense was great but we need to capitalize on turnovers," he said. "If the stats are correct,



Pulaski's Ellie Mangold (10) goes up for basket against the Seymour Thunder on Nov. 17. The Red Raiders lost by two points in overtime. Mangold had four points in the game.

DUSTIN RIESE



Pulaski coach Doug McElrone talks with players during a timeout against Seymour on Nov. 17. Despite an 18-12 lead at the half, the second half ended in a time, and the Red Raiders came up short in the overtime period.

DUSTIN RIESE

we forced 25 turnover,s which is a very high number, but only managed to come away with 37 points. That can't happen. It's tough to win that way, and we need to do a better job converting on more of those turnovers."

Hoping for more offensive sup-

port in the second half, it was more of the same for both sides as a mix of poor shot selection and pressure defense continued to make life difficult on the offensive end. Even with Lardinois and Sprangers maintaining that six-point lead, Boyd took it upon herself to keep things close

while Hill managed to tie things up 22-22. Things would remain tied for the next several minutes before Ellie Mangold knocked down a free throw to put the Red Raiders back in front 25-24.

With the lead again, Pulaski continued to rely on their defensive pressure as they came away with a few more turnovers leading to four quick points for Sprangers to build the lead back up to 29-24. On the verge of letting this one get away, VandeHei connected for one of her biggest shots of the game as a triple from the left wing pulled the Thunder back within two. Seymour continued to chip away from there, grabbing a late lead before seeing things tied back up at 33. With the ball in their hands and a chance to end the game, Pulaski chose to play for the last shot as the Mangold fade was off the mark sending things to overtime 33-33. That was the kind of night it was offensively for Pulaski as they had the looks but couldn't knock them down.

"It was just one of those nights where the shots wouldn't fall for us," Lardinois said. "If we hit some shots, we open up our driving lanes for our guards, it's a completely different game offensively. Credit to Seymour for keeping the pressure on us early and taking us out of our rhythm and then making sure we would only get one opportunity at the hoop. The season is still young, and we know we are going to get better."

Set to begin the overtime period, it was the Thunder striking first as Boyd wasted no time getting going, so much so that she scored the first four points of the overtime period to give the Thunder their biggest lead since early in the first half 37-33. Not to be out done, Pulaski got more aggressive on the offensive end, which led to a pair of free throws from Sprangers and an easy lay up from Mangold to tie things up at 37-37.

Still tied and under 30 seconds to go, Seymour had the ball in their hands with a chance to finish things off. Credit the Red Raiders defense for making life difficult, but all it took was a minor breakdown defensively that allowed VandeHei to get to the rim and put home the go-ahead shot with 6.5 seconds remaining. Needing a bucket to tie things up, Pulaski had a chance, but couldn't get a shot off in time.

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

High school girls basketball teams began their competitions last week, with many local teams opening their seasons with wins.

Shawano 55, Medford 28

Shawano's girls basketball team opened its 2023-24 campaign with a 55-28 win over Medford on Nov. 14. Leah Nordin led the Hawks with 28 points.

Lena 85, Goodman Pembine 23

Eva Brooks scored 21 points to help lead Lena to an 85-23 win over Goodman/Pembine at Pembine on Nov. 14. Madilyn Thomson added 18 points, and Kali Fischer scored 15 to help the Wildcats win. Whitney Potter had a pair of 3-point baskets as she scored eight on the night.

Lena led 58-10 at the half and outscored the Patriots 27-13 in the second half.

Bowler 48, Elcho 34

Bowler opened the girls basketball seasons with a 48-34 victory against Elcho at home Nov. 14.

Gresham 66, Stockbridge 9

The Gresham Wildcats had little trouble in disposing of Stockbridge in the opening game of the 2023-24 girls basketball season. Gresham won 66-9 on Nov. 14.

The hosts outscored their guests 44-5 in the first half and 22-4 in the second half.

Bonduel 54, Algoma 22

Ella Hischke scored 19 points and Hailee Thompson added 13 as the Bonduel girls basketball team downed Algoma 54-22 on Nov. 14.

The Bears outscored their hosts 39-16 in the first half and 15-6 in the second half.

Oconto 49, Menominee Indian 42

Tied 18-18 going into halftime, Menominee Indian was outscored 31-24 in the second half as they lost 49-42 to Oconto.

Oconto was led by Natalie Schlueter with 16 points and Addisyn Viestenz with 13.

The host Eagles were paced by Ayanna Smith with 14 points. Smith connected on a trio of 3-pointers, while Anisa Peters and Lena Wausau each had two.

West De Pere 63, Pulaski 42

Pulaski's girls basketball team lost 63-42 to West De Pere on Nov. 14.

Lena 67, Three Lakes/Phelps 41

The Lena Wildcats earned their second win of the season with a 67-41 victory over Three Lakes/Phelps on Nov. 16.

Lena was leading 33-22 at the break and outscored their guests 34-19 in the second half.

The Wildcats had three players score in double digits. Kali Fischer led the way with 19 points, while Madilyn

Thomson score 18 and Eva Brooks had 16.

Whitney Potter scored eight points, including the Wildcats' only three-pointer.

Brooks led the way with 15 rebounds, and Potter grabbed five more. Brooks and Potter teamed up to lead the team with five and three assists, respectively. Brooks was also the team leader with five steals, with Thomson and Fischer each getting four.

Shawano 76, Wausau East 39

Leah Nordin scored 26 points and Abby Bystol had 15 as Shawano's girls basketball team won 76-39 over Wausau East on Nov. 16.

The Hawks improved to 2-0 on the season.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 54, Rosholt 11

Wittenberg-Birnamwood hosted Rosholt on Nov. 16 and handed the Hornets a stinging blow.

The Chargers won 54-11 to improve to 2-0 on the season.

Oconto Falls 67, Menominee Indian 60

Oconto Falls had just enough in the gas tank each half to win its first game of the season while giving Menominee Indian its second loss in as many outings.

The Panthers topped the Eagles 35-30 in the first half and 32-30 in the second half to beat their hosts 67-60.

Anisa Peters led the Eagles with 21

points, had two assists, and grabbed five rebounds and two steals. Ayanna Smith added 17 points, while grabbing six rebounds and two steals with six assists. Urijih Reevis pitched in another 13 points. Reevis led the team with 14 rebounds, while also recording one assist and one steal.

Natalie Peters recorded 12 rebounds.

Almond Bancroft 79, Marion 9

Marion had little chance at Almond Bancroft High School on Nov. 16 as the girls basketball team lost 79-9.

The Mustangs trailed 50-4 going into the break and were outscored 29-5 in the second half.

It was Marion's first game of the season.

Gresham 56, Suring 35

Gresham's girls basketball team traveled to Suring on Nov. 17 and returned home with a 56-35 win.

The victory left Gresham with a 2-0 record, while Suring fell to 0-2.

Gillett 43, Gibraltar 40

Gillett's girls basketball team opened its season Nov. 17 with a 43-40 home victory over Gibraltar.

Oneida Nation 70, Bowler 54

Bowler came up short, 70-54, when they hosted Oneida Nation on Nov. 17. The loss dropped Bowler to 1-1 in the early stages of the season.

REPORTER/NEWS EDITOR

NEW Media is seeking a bright and energetic reporter who has aspirations to be a news editor someday, as one of our staff members is pondering retirement. We seek talented journalists who can seize someone's attention with carefully developed words, eye-catching photographs and captivating videos in a fast-paced news environment where digital comes first.

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NEW Media tells the local stories that are ignored by other media outlets and provide the facts that are glossed over by the keyboard gossips on social media. We're seeking someone versatile in what they cover, can turn stories around quickly, and can sniff out stories on their own. While the office is a base of operations, we want someone who'll be out in the community gathering the news.

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Kevin Passon at kpasson@newmedia-wi.com.



Thanksgiving meal costs drop in 2023

The price of a traditional Thanksgiving meal in Wisconsin is 1.36% less this year, according to Wisconsin Farm Bureau's annual Marketbasket survey that rang in at \$58.86.

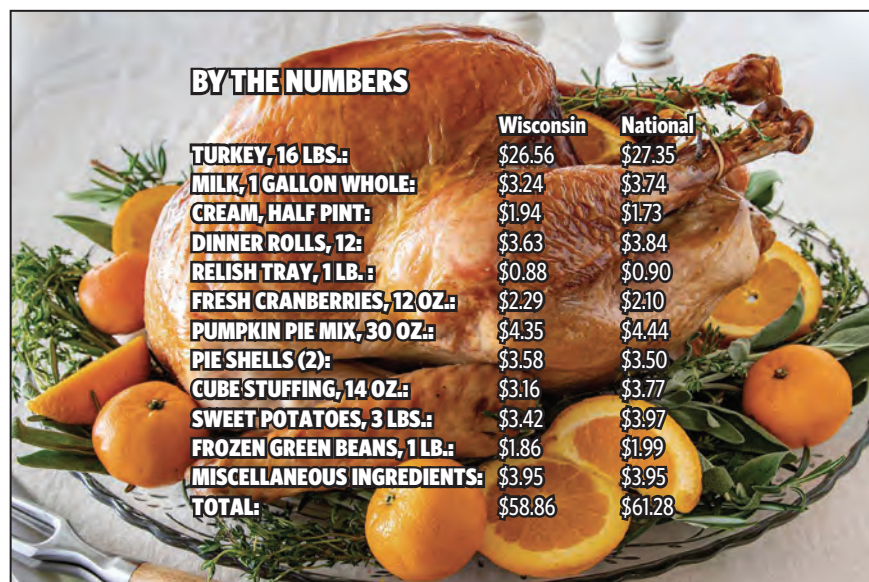
"After several years of steep inclines, it is nice to see prices come down, even slightly," said WFB Director of Media Relations and Outreach Cassie Sonnentag. "Here in America's Dairyland, we have some of the most affordable food options, making our Thanksgiving meal 3.9% less than the national average."

The Marketbasket survey looks at the price of popular food items used to prepare a Thanksgiving meal sufficient to serve 10 people. This survey allows for Wisconsin food prices to be compared with food prices from across the country. Comparatively, the American Farm Bureau Federation's survey of the same items showed an 4.5% decrease from 2022 with prices nationally at \$61.28.

Wisconsin's Thanksgiving Marketbasket survey is an informal, annual review of food price trends in relation to changing farm prices, weather and wholesale and retail food marketing. Wisconsin Farm Bureau members collected price samples of 15 Thanksgiving food items in November.

Farm Bureau volunteer shoppers were asked to look for the best prices, without taking advantage of special promotional coupons or purchase deals.

The center of the Thanksgiving meal, the turkey, is the biggest contributor to the change, as it rang in 21 cents less per pound than a year ago in Wisconsin. This is largely due



BY THE NUMBERS		
	Wisconsin	National
TURKEY, 16 LBS.:	\$26.56	\$27.35
MILK, 1 GALLON WHOLE:	\$3.24	\$3.74
CREAM, HALF PINT:	\$1.94	\$1.73
DINNER ROLLS, 12:	\$3.63	\$3.84
RELISH TRAY, 1 LB.:	\$0.88	\$0.90
FRESH CRANBERRIES, 12 OZ.:	\$2.29	\$2.10
PUMPKIN PIE MIX, 30 OZ.:	\$4.35	\$4.44
PIE SHELLS (2):	\$3.58	\$3.50
CUBE STUFFING, 14 OZ.:	\$3.16	\$3.77
SWEET POTATOES, 3 LBS.:	\$3.42	\$3.97
FROZEN GREEN BEANS, 1 LB.:	\$1.86	\$1.99
MISCELLANEOUS INGREDIENTS:	\$3.95	\$3.95
TOTAL:	\$58.86	\$61.28

to the decline in the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza in the past year.

While turkey prices largely contribute to the change in price overall, produce items across the board saw marginal increases statewide. Continued inflation paired with a summer-long drought are the biggest contributors to these increases.

While prices in food fluctuate year over year, the farmer's share of the food dollar remains near just 15%. According to the United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, a food dollar represents a \$1 expenditure on domestically grown and raised food by U.S. consumers.

Many contributing factors continue to impact the price of food including input costs, transportation, trade, energy, advertising and workforce.

"The bottom line is farmers are

price takers, not price makers," said Sonnentag. "Despite changing prices in the grocery store, the farmer's share of the food dollar tends to track very closely to 15 cents on the dollar."

While making decisions in the grocery store, shoppers can be rest assured they are purchasing from a sustainable food supply.

According to Gather Wisconsin, preserving and protecting natural resources has always been and will always be a priority in every aspect of food production. Farmers are innovators and continue to create and adopt methods to progress toward their goals. Farmers use the latest technology and innovative practices to improve watershed quality, soil health and reduce their environmental impact.

These sound practices not only help the environment but also pre-

"Here in America's Dairyland, we have some of the most affordable food options, making our Thanksgiving meal 3.9% less than the national average."

CASSIE SONNENTAG, Wisconsin Farm Bureau director of media relations and outreach

serve food prices in the store.

"Every decision on the farm is articulately made with both the environment and consumer in mind," said Sonnentag. "Innovative solutions and precision technologies allow farmers to do more with less inputs, which contributes to a sustainable food supply."

Shoppers can do their part to protect the environment, too. Approximately one-third of human food produced in the world is either lost or wasted. Shoppers can reduce food waste at home by sticking to grocery lists, creatively repurposing leftovers or donating unopened, nonperishable food items to local food pantries.

Shoppers can learn more about sustainable solutions both on the farm and in the home by visiting www.gatherwisconsin.com.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau is the state's largest farm organization. Made up of 61 county farm bureaus, it represents farms of every size, commodity and management style.

Krueger new president for ThedaCare Physicians

ThedaCare leaders announced in November that Dr. Kori Krueger will join the organization as senior vice president and president of the ThedaCare Physician Group. In this role, Krueger will lead strategy and operations of the ThedaCare Provider Network within ThedaCare in the pre-acute, acute and post-acute settings. His role will directly support the organization's mission of improving the health and well-being of communities served.

"I look forward to joining ThedaCare, an organization that is committed to providing comprehensive, local



KORI KRUEGER

experience in a person's journey to maintain and optimize health."

Krueger has served as the chief quality officer for the Marshfield

care for our communities," said Krueger. "During my career, I've been dedicated to improving care quality and safety for patients. My focus is on improved patient outcomes and enhancing the

Clinic Health System in Marshfield for the past 11 years and has been a practicing physician there for more than two decades.

"We look forward to Dr. Krueger's experience that can help improve our process and care delivery, and can lead to a better care experience and outcomes for our patients, families and communities," said Dr. Imran Andrabi, ThedaCare president and chief executive officer. "We look forward to his ideas and collaborative approach to execute our population health and physician integration strategy that will advance health care

for our communities."

A native of Antigo, Krueger attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he earned an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering. He then attended the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, and completed his residency at Marshfield Clinic. He is board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics. Krueger later completed his medical Masters of Business Administration at the University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Krueger will begin his role at ThedaCare on Dec. 30.

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Wisconsin bear hunters harvested 2,922 bears during the 2023 black bear season, a marked decrease from the 4,009 bears taken by hunters last year. CONTRIBUTED

2023 bear season results show drop in total harvest, hunter success rates

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced preliminary results for the 2023 bear season. The 2023 bear season harvest is well below the recent annual average of about 4,000 harvested bears, representing the lowest yearly bear harvest since 2008.

Wisconsin bear hunters harvested 2,922 bears during the 2023 black bear season, a marked decrease from the 4,009 bears taken by hunters last year. This decline was observed across the state, as the bear harvest fell short of respective targets in all management zones.

Similarly, statewide hunter success dropped to 23%, down from the recent five-year average statewide hunter success rate of 32%. Hunter success rates in individual zones varied from about 60% in Zone A to about 5% in Zones E and F.

"This fall saw a remarkably high acorn crop across much of the state, and this abundance of natural food typically results in reduced hunter success rates as hunters' baits are less effective," said Randy Johnson, DNR large carnivore specialist. "Almost all of the anecdotal reports I heard from bear hunters this fall mentioned the incredible abundance of acorns and other natural foods in the woods. It is difficult to predict when these bumper acorn crops will occur, but when they do, the impact on bear hunting is unmistakable."

Harvest data indicates Zones A and B, in the northern and north-eastern parts of the state, were less impacted than other areas, with hunter success rates closer to average

at 59% and 50%, respectively. Zone C, located in the central part of the state, fell well short of its harvest target, with below-average hunter success rates as well.

Similarly, in the northwestern area of the state, Zone D saw well below-average harvest and hunter-success rates. The drop in Zone D is likely due, at least in part, to recent management actions intended to reduce bear populations in this area, combined with the abundance of natural foods available this fall.

Finally, Zones E and F, encompassing most of the state's southern areas, saw declines in average hunter success rates and total harvest.

The 2023 bear season ran from Sept. 6 to Oct. 10. Hunters were awarded 12,760 bear hunting licenses through the license lottery system. Nearly 138,000 people applied for a bear hunting license or preference point for the 2023 season, setting a record for the number of applicants. A full breakdown of the 2023 bear license drawing and license wait times is available on the DNR website.

"Interest in bear hunting continues to grow in Wisconsin and across the nation," said Johnson. "We encourage hunters to review management zone boundaries, season frameworks and license wait times as they make their hunting plans for the coming years."

Hunters wanting a license or preference point for the 2024 season are encouraged to apply through Go Wild before the Dec. 10 deadline.

Wisconsin has a thriving and expanding bear population, estimated at about 25,000.

Library to host program on Scott Paper mill

The Oconto Falls Community Library plans to offer a series of programs about the history of the Scott Paper mill from 1950 to 1985, beginning with a session at 7 p.m. Dec. 13 at the library, 251 N. Main St., Oconto Falls, led by retired librarian Joan Denis.

"We will be looking at pictures to identify people and the story behind

the photo," Denis said. "The library has a large collection of photos by John Larson, a local photographer. If you worked at the mill or had a family member who did please consider coming."

The meeting is the first in a series of local history programs Denis proposed to the Library Board, which approved the idea earlier this fall.

WWW.NEWMEDIA-WI.COM



This historical photo of the former Scott paper mill is part of the Oconto Falls Community Library's collection that form the basis of an upcoming program led by retired library Joan Denis. FILE | NEW MEDIA

CITY OF OCONTO FALLS NOTICE OF ORDINANCE APPROVAL

The following Ordinances have been passed by the Common Council for the City of Oconto Falls on November 14, 2023. A full text of said Ordinances may be obtained from the Oconto Falls Clerk's Office located at 500 N. Chestnut, Oconto Falls, WI 54154. Phone: 920-846-4505.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-010; amending City boundaries through Annexation of Jane A. Rusch Estate 8005 W Highland Dr. Parcel # 03223230462. Parcel#03223230462B

Jenny Friedman Deputy Clerk
WNAXLP

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING TOWN OF BAGLEY

The Town of Bagley will hold the **2024 BUDGET HEARING** at 6:00 PM on Tuesday November 28, 2023 at the Bagley Town Hall, 9812 County Hwy Z, Pound, WI. 54161.

The tentative 2024 BUDGET will be reviewed at this PUBLIC HEARING in detail. The proposed budget will be available after approval on 11-30-2023 by contacting the Municipal Clerk at 920-590-0198.

Pursuant to Section 60.10(1)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes the called meeting of the electors shall adopt the tax levy to be paid in 2024.

Alan Sleeter, Clerk
Town of Bagley
Oconto County, WI.

WNAXLP

BID NOTICE:

Village of Suring – Suring Fire Department is accepting sealed bids for the following equipment purchase

New Multi-purpose Response Vehicle Custom Pumper.

Detailed specs are available from the Village Clerk-Treasurer at 604 E Main Street, Suring, WI 54174, via email suringclerk@ci.suring.wi.us or phone (920) 842-2333.

Bids are due by 4:00 PM on Friday, December 20, 2023 at Suring Village Hall at 604 E Main Street / PO Box 31, Suring, WI 54174.

Village Board has the right to accept or reject any bids.

Posted: November 14, 2023
Published: November 24, 2023
Kim Gruetzmacher, Clerk-Treasurer

WNAXLP

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CITY OF OCONTO FALLS NOTICE - RESOLUTION APPROVAL

The following resolution has been passed by the Common Council for the City of Oconto Falls at a meeting held on November 14, 2023. A full text of said resolution may be obtained from the Oconto Falls clerk's office located at 500 N. Chestnut Ave, Oconto Falls, WI 54154. Phone: 920-846-4505.

RESOLUTION 23-009: 2024 UTILITY COMMISSION BUDGET RESOLUTION

Posted by City Deputy Clerk
Jenny Friedman

WNAXLP

Bids Requested

NEWCAP, Inc., 1201 Main St., Oconto, WI
Is requesting bids for Water Heaters
for their contract year.

Contact Julie Mueller to request a bid package.
All bids are due by 2:00 p.m. on December 7, 2023
920-863-9455

WNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Notice is hereby given that the City of Gillett Utilities will meet for a Public Information Meeting on a sewer volume rate increase for 2024 in the City of Gillett. It will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 from 5:00-6:00 pm at Gillett City Hall, Council Chambers, 150 N McKenzie Ave, Gillett, WI. This meeting is open to the public.

Chelsea Anderson, Clerk Treasurer
WNAXLP

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December 7th 3-7pm

NATIVITY SCENE SCAVENGER HUNT!

Pick up entry forms at
The Flower Shoppe
Search for the Nativity in
Main Street Businesses
Dec. 7th-9th
Return entry forms to The Flower
Shoppe by 3pm, Dec. 9
Winners announced Dec. 11th!

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EVENTIDE DESIGN, HOT ROD DETAILING, THE FLOWER SHOPPE, BEARDS AND
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OCONTO FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT, OCONTO FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

LIVE NATIVITY!

WAGON RIDES:
by ANTIQUE BAR

COOKIE DECORATING:
by STAY AT HOME CARE

PICTURE WITH SANTA:
by MK PHOTOGRAPHY

- **FOOD TRUCK** -
GINGERBREAD CONTEST:
by HOT ROD DETAILING

- **FIRE TRUCK, POLICE CAR &
MEET THE NEW CANINE DOG** -

- **HOT COCOA BOOTH** -
- **CAROLERS** -

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{Photography}

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4pm-7pm

*Photos with Santa Claus

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164 N. Main St. Oconto Falls

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 during
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 Dec. 7 - 9

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 by STAY AT HOME CARE
PICTURE WITH SANTA:
 by MK PHOTOGRAPHY
- FOOD TRUCK -
GINGERBREAD CONTEST:
 by HOT ROD DETAILING
- FIRE TRUCK, POLICE CAR &
MEET THE NEW CANINE DOG -
- HOT COCOA BOOTH -
- CAROLERS -

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 Phone: 920-846-0430 535 Locust Ave., Oconto Falls Hours: 8-5 Monday-Friday	Bob & Chris Walters Jr.
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Oconto Area Humane Society and Animal Shelter • 920-835-1738 150 S. Katch Drive, Oconto Hours: Mon. & Fri. 1-4pm Wed. 3-6pm Sat. & Sun. 11am-3pm CLOSED TUES. & THURS. CLOSED on all Holidays Please see all adoptable pets at www.ocontoareahumane.org. Supporting homeless pets is one of the best acts of kindness.	

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OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Nov. 16

• Randy H. Lucas, 31, Suring, pleaded not guilty to charges of intimidating a victim threatening force, false imprisonment, making terrorist threats and misdemeanor counts of fourth-degrees sexual assault and disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Sept. 28. Judge Michael Judge scheduled a status conference for Dec. 14.

• Justin John Ault, 34, Sobieski, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fifth or sixth offense) and misdemeanor operating while revoked, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred

Nov. 5. Judge Jay Conley scheduled a pre-trial conference for Dec. 14.

Proceedings of Nov. 15

• Tyler J. Kleczka, 22, a Seymour man serving time at the Racine Youthful Offender Facility, was sentenced to an additional nine months in the Oconto County Jail for two misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that occurred May 28. Judge also assessed fines and court costs totaling \$1,464 for a felony conviction of misappropriating ID information.

Proceedings of Nov. 14

• Steven Edwards Cocorikis, 39, Escanaba, Michigan, was placed on three years probation after Judge imposed and

stayed a prison sentence for maintaining a drug trafficking place and misdemeanor criminal damage to property, in connection with an incident that occurred May 19, 2022. Conditions of probation include six months in the county jail, which Judge stayed for use at the discretion of Cocorikis' probation agent.

• Amanda J. Borkovec, 35, Pound, pleaded no contest to possession of methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Jan. 27. Judge scheduled sentencing for Jan. 12 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

• Bond was set at \$2,500 cash for Raquel R. Shampo, 37, Oconto, after she was charged with four counts of misappropriating ID information

to obtain money and 12 counts of misdemeanor bail jumping, in connection with incidents that allegedly occurred in August and September. Judge adjourned her initial appearance until Jan. 11.

Proceedings of Nov. 13

• A Nov. 28 jury trial was rescheduled to April 17-18 for Keilon Allon Snipes-Reed, 19, a White Lake man serving time at Green Bay Correctional Institution, on three counts of armed robbery, two counts of first-degree reckless endangerment, two counts bail jumping, burglary, and theft, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 4, 2021. A final pre-trial conference was scheduled for March 25.

OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Nov. 15

Deputies responded to 45 incidents, including an animal bite on Parkway Road in the Town of Brazeau, an animal bite on North Ridgeview Court in the Town of Chase, fire on Lee Lake Road in the Town of Brazeau, a disturbance on North Franklin Street in Oconto Falls, fire on County Road I in the Town of Stiles, suspicious activity near Old 32 Road and Losse Lane in the Town of Riverview, a disturbance on County Road S in the Town of Little Suamico, one traffic stop, two traffic hazards, one citizen assist, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; one 911 hangup and two open lines; one ambulance call; six crashes involving deer.

Nov. 14

Deputies responded to 37 incidents, including suspicious activity near state Highway 22 and Company Lake Road in the Town of Oconto Falls, attempted burglary on Harris Lane in the Town of Breed, K-9 deployment at Oconto High School, 1717 Superior Ave., suspicious activity near Old Grave Road and County Road T in the Town of Doty, trespassing on Grosse Road in the Town of Little Suamico, suspicious activity on East Main Street in Gillett, fire on County

Road S in the Town of Little Suamico, two traffic stops two citizen assists, two miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; two ambulance calls; seven crashes, four involving deer.

Nov. 13

Deputies responded to 60 incidents, including suspicious activity on North Marl Lake Road in the Town of Brazeau, suspicious activity near McDonald Street and Messenger Avenue in Oconto, illegal burning on West Slope Lane in the Town of Stiles, harassment on state Highway 22 in the Town of Oconto Falls, trespassing on Lakeside Drive in the Town of Mountain, an animal bite on Old 41 Road in the Town of Little River, a wanted person on Collins Avenue in Oconto, a wanted person on Call Avenue in Oconto, two traffic stops, one traffic offense, four miscellaneous traffic incidents; two 911 hangups and two open lines; five crashes involving deer.

Nov. 12

Deputies responded to 35 incidents, including suspicious activity on Zion Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, property damage on County Road AA in the Town of Breed, fraud on Twilight Lane in the Town of Little Suamico, a wanted person on U.S. Highway 141 in Lena, four traffic

stops, one traffic hazard, three traffic offenses, two welfare checks; two 911 hangups; one ambulance call; eight crashes, six involving deer.

Nov. 11

Deputies responded to 50 incidents, including suspicious activity on Hainzrs Way in the Town of Oconto, suspicious activity on state Highway 32-64 in the Town of Mountain, theft on County Road Y in the Town of Little River, suspicious activity on South Burk Street in Suring, eight traffic stops, two traffic hazards, one traffic offense, one citizen assist, two miscellaneous traffic incidents, three welfare checks; three 911 hangups and two open lines; six crashes, four involving deer.

Nov. 10

Deputies responded to 61 incidents, including suspicious activity near County

Road J and state Highway 22 in the Town of Oconto, a disturbance on White Lake Road in the Town of Bagley, a missing person on Gluckie Lake Trail in the Town of Townsend, suspicious activity on County Road Z in the Town of Brazeau, trespassing on Evergreen Road in the Town of Morgan, fraud on Village View Drive in the Town of Townsend, theft on Pickerel Lake Road in the Town of Townsend, suspicious activity on County Road EE in the Town of Abrams, drugs in Suring, a wanted person on Woodlawn Avenue in Gillett, suspicious activity on County Road D in the Town of Morgan, nine traffic stops, two traffic offenses, three miscellaneous traffic incidents, three welfare 11; one 911 hangups and five open lines; one ambulance call; four crashes involving deer.

CITY OF GILLETT 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers of the Gillett Municipal Building, 150 N McKenzie Ave, Gillett Wisconsin, a public hearing will be held on the proposed 2024 budget, following the public hearing the Council will vote on the proposed budget during a Common Council meeting at 6:00 pm that same night. The proposed budget is available for inspection in the business office at City Hall during normal business hours 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Mon - Thursday; at the Gillett Public Library during normal business hours; at the Gillett Post Office or the Gillett Police Department during normal business hours.

The following is a summary of the proposed 2024 City Budget:

	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Taxes-General Levy	491,806.00	559,452.00	559,452.00	644,185.00	787,859.00
Other Taxes	108,007.00	118,007.00	140,054.00	118,007.00	118,307.00
Special Assessments/charges	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	0.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	685,091.00	709,837.00	850,693.00	639,681.00	766,347.00
Licenses & Permits	11,375.00	11,375.00	28,953.00	11,375.00	11,625.00
Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties	16,850.00	16,850.00	12,525.00	16,850.00	11,960.00
Public Charges for Service	53,890.00	148,890.00	137,792.00	148,890.00	151,940.00
Intergovernmental Charges	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	6,050.00	6,050.00	44,456.00	6,050.00	8,200.00
Other Financing Sources	300,000.00	0.00	-	225,000.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES	1,684,069.00	1,671,461.00	1,674,165.00	1,811,018.00	1,866,038.00
EXPENDITURES					
General Government					
General Government	216,474.00	299,651.00	281,907.00	267,983.00	234,167.00
Public Safety	496,445.00	566,874.00	561,745.00	484,424.00	467,967.00
Public Works	319,970.00	381,946.00	476,375.00	407,240.00	517,035.00
Health and Human Services	22,460.00	24,900.00	21,179.00	26,500.00	27,800.00
Culture, Recreation, Education	23,830.00	21,300.00	35,964.00	30,300.00	42,700.00
Conservation and Development	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Outlay and Planning	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	130,243.00	70,277.00	104,505.00	265,020.00	400,864.00
Other Financing Uses	156,803.00	180,000.00	80,000.00	282,600.00	175,505.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,406,025.00	1,647,948.00	1,643,705.00	1,764,067.00	1,866,038.00
WNAXLP	-278,044.00	23,513.00	30,480.00	48,951.00	-

NEWS CORRESPONDENT

On any given day, there are countless stories just waiting to be told. Our staff reporters can only cover so much, so we count on correspondents to help out when the need arises.

NEW Media is looking to get some help in covering meetings and events in Oconto County, Menominee County and western Shawano County. Anyone with a curious mind, a photographer's eye and the skill to turn a phrase is welcome to apply.

Send a resume with writing and photography samples to city editor Lee Pulaski at lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com.



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Z-Force 950

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Food Club Seasoning Packets

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Ragu Pasta Sauce

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16-24oz

Wisconsin Baby Red Potatoes


\$1.99
3# Bag

Peeled Baby Carrots


\$1.19
1# Bag

Green Haas Avocados


89¢ each

Cranberries


\$1.99
12oz bag

Blueberries


\$3.99
6oz

Mrs. Gerry's Premium Macaroni & Cheese


\$2.49
lb

Yoplait Yogurt


2/\$1
**Asst Variety
4-6oz**

Food Club Pasta Dinners


99¢
**Asst Variety
5.5-6.4oz**

Mr Dell's Hash Browns


2/\$7
**Asst Variety
24-32oz**

Prairie Farms Cottage Cheese


\$3.29
**24oz
Asst Variety**

Nabisco Ritz Crackers


\$3.49
**Asst Variety
11.8-13.7oz**

Eggo Waffles


2/\$6
**Asst Variety
11.6-12.3oz**

Indian Summer Apple Cider or Juice


2/\$4
64oz

Sunny D


\$2.99
**128oz
Asst Variety**

Crav'n Cookies


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**Asst Variety
8.5-12.5oz**

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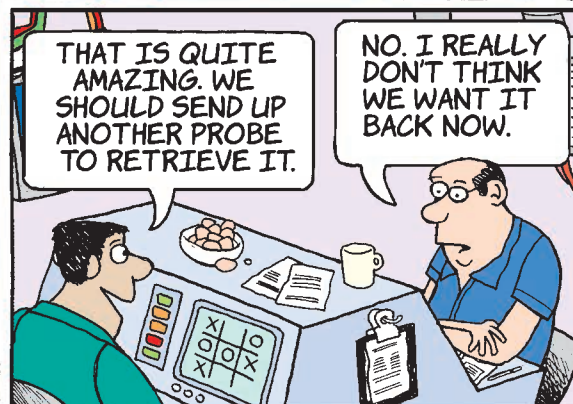
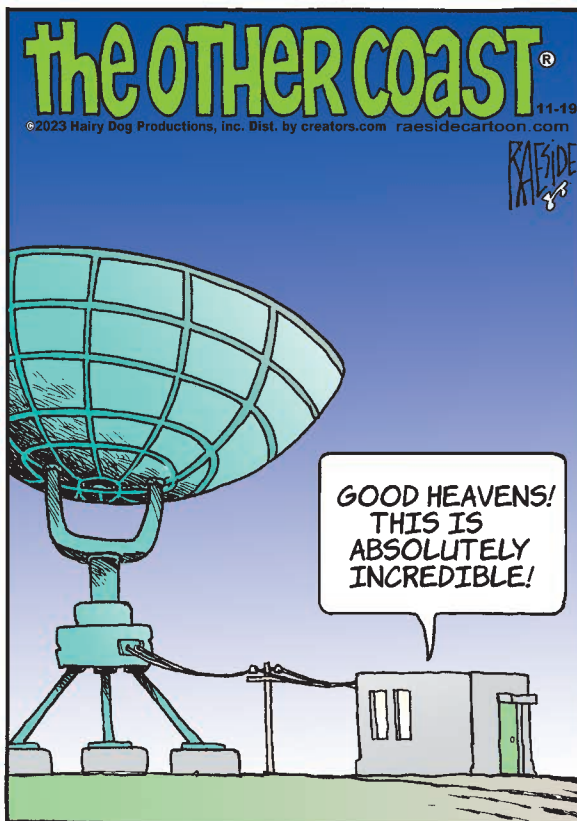
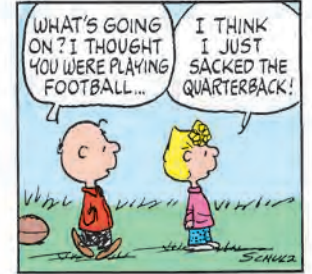
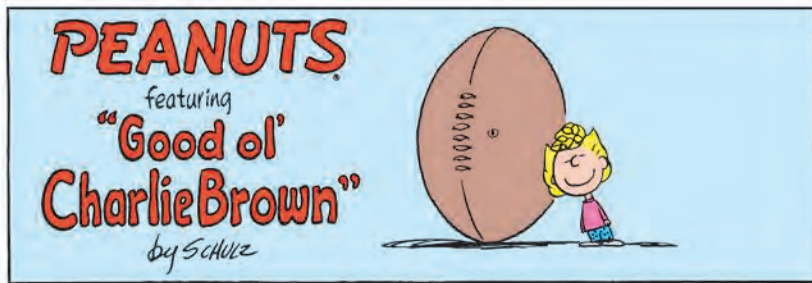


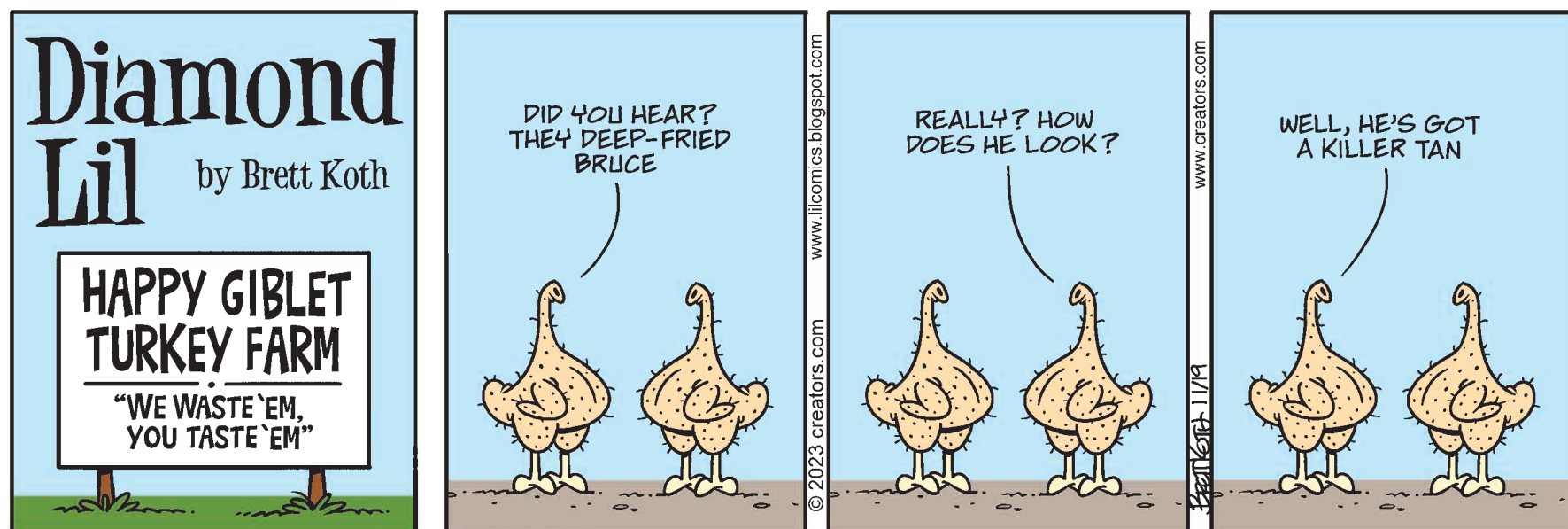
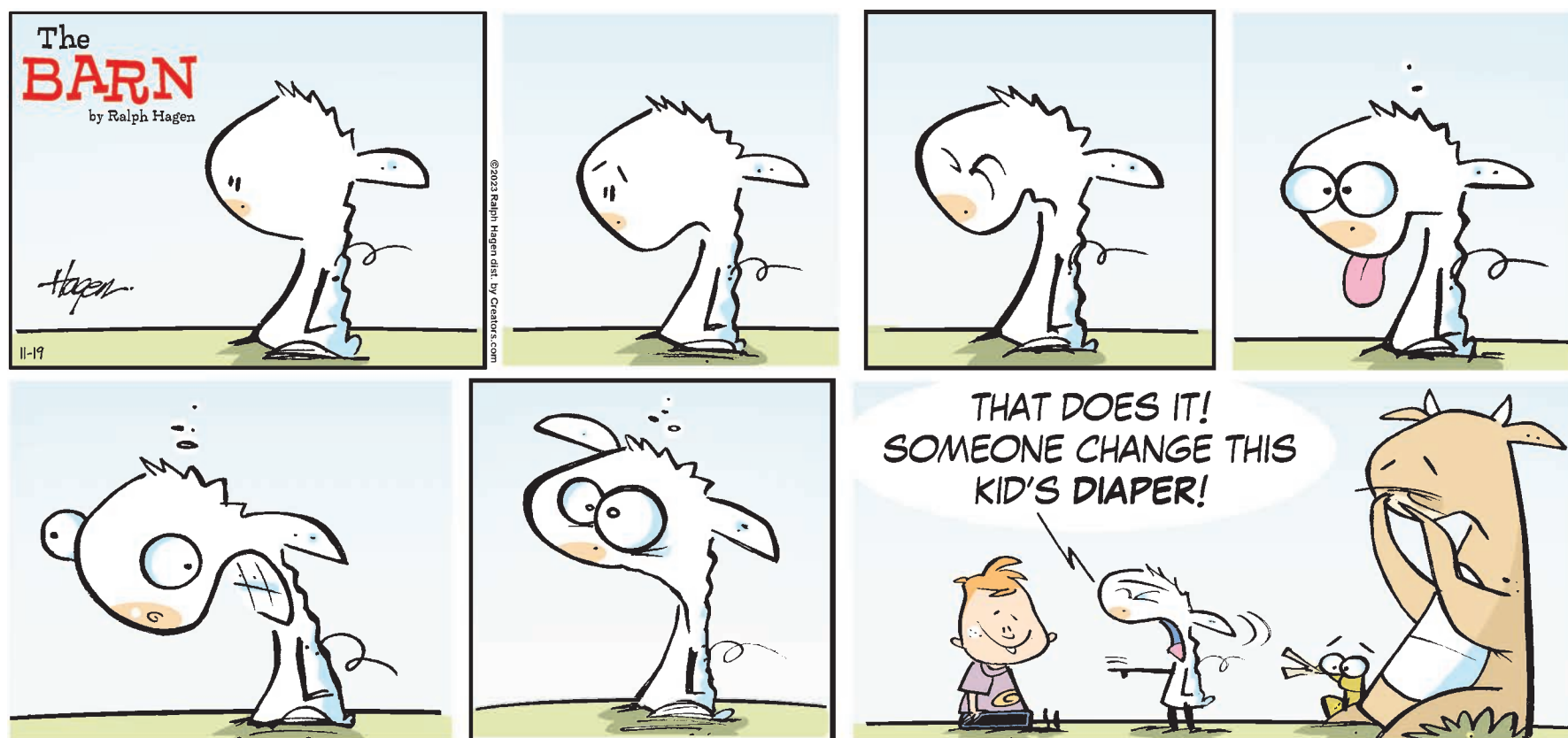
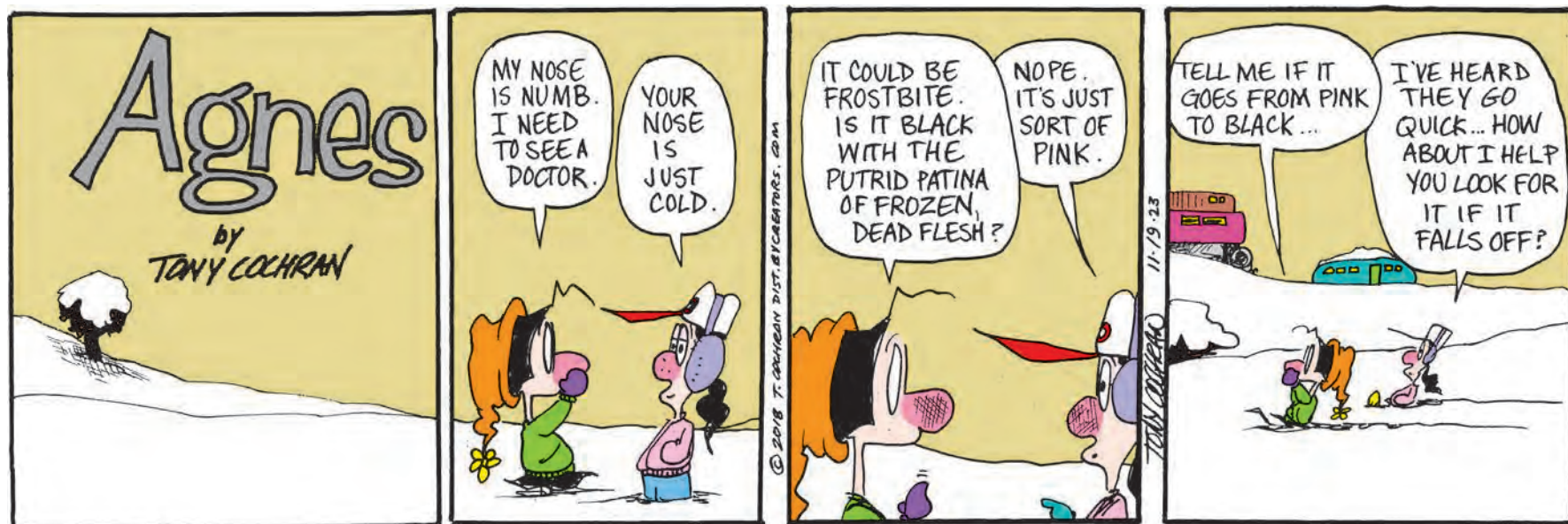
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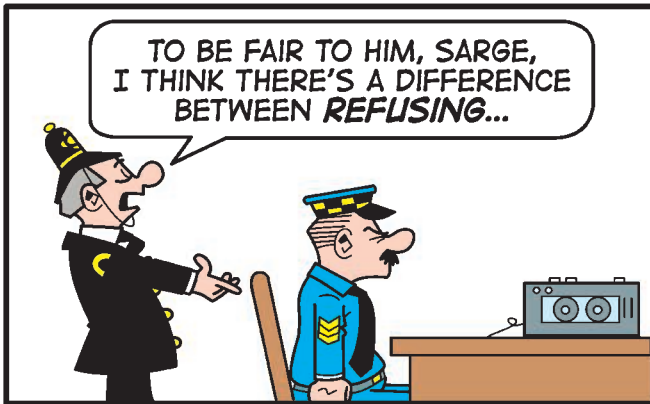
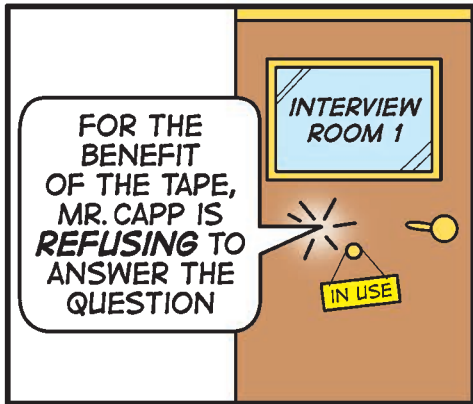
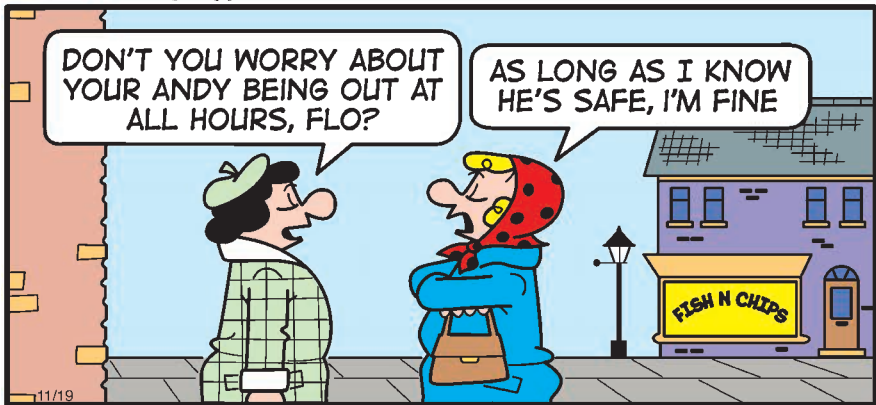
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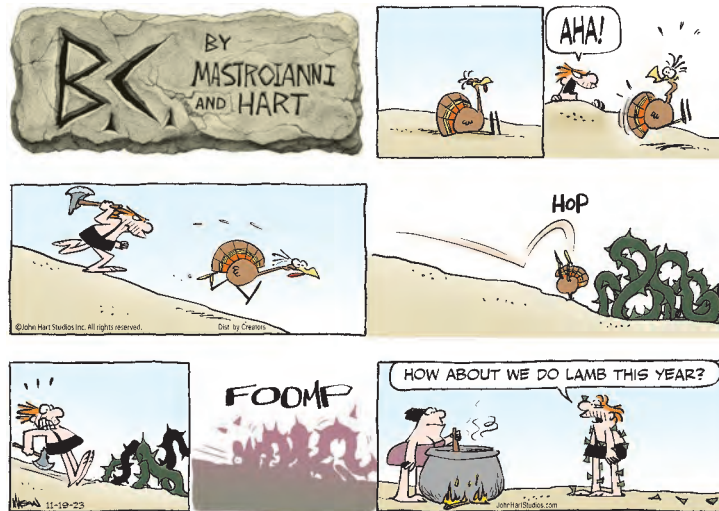
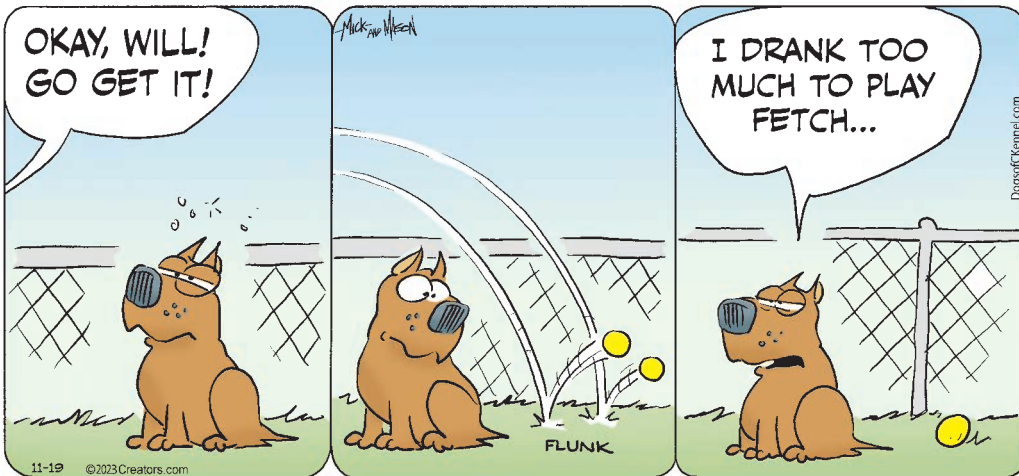
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by Smythe



DOGS OF C-KENNEL

BY MICK MASTROIANNI AND MASON MASTROIANNI



SATURDAY				MORNING / AFTERNOON												NOVEMBER 25							
	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	
ABC 1 WAOW 2 WBAY	Good Morning America (N)		1 Good Morning America (N) 2 Action 2 News: This Morning (N)		1 Wildlife Sat (N) 2 Good Morn.		1 oh baby! 2 Hearts of Wildlife 2 oh baby!		College Football Teams (N) (Live)		TBA All the action from NCAA college football.		College Football Teams (N) (Live)		College Football Teams (N) (Live)		TBA All the action from NCAA college football.		College Football Teams (N) (Live)		College Football Teams (N) (Live)		
CBS 3 WFRV 4 WSAW	1 Mission 2 (6:00) CBS Sat		1 Hope in the Wild 2 CBS Sat 3 Lucky Dog		1 CBS Sat (N) 2 Innovation Nation 3 Lucky Dog		1 Innovation Nation 2 Mis-sion Unstop-pable 3 Hope in the Wild		1 Tails of Valor "The Lab-rynth" 2 Recipe Rehab "Richard's Q&A"		1 Parade 2 Paid Prog.		1 Paid Program-ming 2 Studios Special		1 NFL Championship Chase: Playoff Push 2 The Drive to Atlanta (N) (Live)		College Football Today (N) (Live)		College Football Today (N) (Live)		Alabama at Auburn From Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn, Ala. (N) (Live)		
FOX 5 WZAW 6 WLUK	1 Planet 2 (6:00) News (N)		1 Xplo-ration Outer Space 2 Big Noon Kickoff (N) (Live)		1 Xplo-ration Outer Space 2 Big Noon Kickoff (N) (Live)		1 Xplo-ration Outer Space 2 Big Noon Kickoff (N) (Live)		College Football Ohio State at Michigan From Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. (N) (Live)		College Football Ohio State at Michigan From Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. (N) (Live)		College Football Ohio State at Michigan From Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. (N) (Live)		College Football Ohio State at Michigan From Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. (N) (Live)		College Football Ohio State at Michigan From Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. (N) (Live)		College Football Ohio State at Michigan From Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. (N) (Live)		College Football Ohio State at Michigan From Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. (N) (Live)		
NBC 7 WGBA 8 WJFW	1 Today 2 (6:00) Today		1 906 Outdoors 2 Magellan Financial		1 News-Kids Edition (N) 2 Wild Kingdom (N)		1 Earth Odyssey 2 Play It "Jumping Back Into Action"		1 One Team "Life Goals" 2 Christmas 3 Wil..		1 Alp. World Cup Killington - Women's Giant Slalom, Run 2 (N) (Live)		College Football Southern vs. Grambling State From Caesars Superdome in New Orleans. (N) (Live)		College Football Southern vs. Grambling State From Caesars Superdome in New Orleans. (N) (Live)		College Football Southern vs. Grambling State From Caesars Superdome in New Orleans. (N) (Live)		College Football Southern vs. Grambling State From Caesars Superdome in New Orleans. (N) (Live)		College Football Southern vs. Grambling State From Caesars Superdome in New Orleans. (N) (Live)		
PBS 9 WHRM 10 WLEF 11 WPNE	1 Wild Kratts "Happy Turkey Day"		1 Curious George "Locked Out; Bark Suit"		1 Work It "Sparkle Pants; Game Changer"		1 Tiger "Margaret's First Thank You Day"		5 Minute Yoga Fix With Peggy Cappy		Suze Orman's Ultimate Retirement Guide		Wisconsin Home Town "Door County" Historians, citizens and experts tell stories of tourism, cherries, art, and geology of Door County.		Aging Backwards 4: The Miracle of Flexibility With Miranda Esmonde-White		Rick Steves European Christmas		The Lawrence Welk Holiday Special: Great Moments and Memories		The Lawrence Welk Holiday Special: Great Moments and Memories		
WACY 12 WTPX	1 Hearts of 2 Bones "Finder"		1 oh baby! 2 Bones		1 Paid 2 Makeov..		1 Paid 2 Outdoo..		1 MidWest 2 Bensin..		1 World's 2 Pets.TV		1 SOS 2 Fisher..		1 Walleye 2 Outdoo..		1 Wingsh.. 2 Heartland		1 ModFam 2 ModFam		1 Goldbe.. 2 Goldbe..		
CW 13 WCVF 14 WYOW	1 Into-door 2 Into Wild		1 Paid Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		1 Into Wild 2 Into Wild		

SUNDAY	MORNING / AFTERNOON	NOVEMBER 26
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SUNDAY	EVENING	NOVEMBER 26
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WEEKDAY

MORNING / AFTERNOON

NOVEMBER 27 TO DECEMBER 1

		7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	
ABC	9 WAOW	Good Morning America				Live with Kelly and Mark		The View		News 9	Barry-more	GMA3: What You Need to Know		General Hospital		Tamron Hall		Judge Eboni	Judge Eboni	News 9 WAOW at 4PM		News 9	World News	
	2 WBAY	Good Morning America				Action 2 News	25 Words	The View		Storage Wars	Pawn Stars	Action 2 News	Paid Program	General Hospital		GMA3: What You Need to Know		25 Words	Invest-igateTV+	Action 2 News	Action 2 News	Action 2 News	World News	
	3 WFRV	CBS Mornings				Local 5 Live		The Price Is Right		The Young and the Restless		News	Bold/Beautiful	The Talk		Let's Make a Deal		Friends/F-Retire	Friends	News	News	News	CBS News	
CBS	7 WSAW	CBS Mornings				25 Words	Paid/F-Elite	The Price Is Right		The Young and the Restless		News-Channel 7	Bold/Beautiful	The Talk		Let's Make a Deal		The Kelly Clarkson Show		News	Invest-igateTV+	News	CBS News	
	53 WZAW	Business	AgDay	Dateline		Sherri		The Jennifer Hudson Show		Family Feud	Family Feud	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Mathis Court	Mathis Court	Hot Bench	Hot Bench	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Family Feud	Family Feud	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	
	11 WLUK	(4:30) Good Day Wisconsin				Live with Kelly and Mark		Fox 11 Living With Amy		Dr. Phil		Various		Various	The Jennifer Hudson Show		Barry-more	Barry-more	The People's Court		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News	Tu Inside
FOX	23 WGBA	Today				Today 3rd Hour		Today With Hoda & Jenna		People Puzzler	Scripps	NBC News Daily		Dateline		Tamron Hall		The Kelly Clarkson Show		Family Feud	Family Feud	News	NBC News	
	12 WJFW	Today				Today 3rd Hour		Today With Hoda & Jenna		Neighbor	Neighbor	NBC News Daily		Person, Place	Pictionary	Pictionary	Funny You	Funny You	Jeopardy	Up North at 4	Jeopardy!	News	NBC News	
	23 WHRM	Wild Kratts	Curious/Curious	Daniel Tiger	Rosie/Rosie	Sesame Street	Work It	Donkey Hodie	Pink/ Pink	Elinor	Natu-reCat/	Eleme-ntary	Xavier/F-Xavier	Old House	Test Kitchen	The Great American Recipe		Various	Tu John McGive	Odd Squad	Arthur / W-Arthur	Natu-reCat/	America	
PBS	33 WLEF	Wild Kratts	Curious/Curious	Daniel Tiger	Rosie/Rosie	Sesame Street	Work It	Donkey Hodie	Pink/ Pink	Elinor	Natu-reCat/	Eleme-ntary	Xavier/F-Xavier	Old House	Test Kitchen	The Great American Recipe		Various	Tu John McGive	Odd Squad	Arthur / W-Arthur	Natu-reCat/	America	
	33 WPNE	Wild Kratts	Curious/Curious	Daniel Tiger	Rosie/Rosie	Sesame Street	Work It	Donkey Hodie	Pink/ Pink	Elinor	Natu-reCat/	Eleme-ntary	Xavier/F-Xavier	Old House	Test Kitchen	The Great American Recipe		Various	Tu John McGive	Odd Squad	Arthur / W-Arthur	Natu-reCat/	America	
	32 WACY	Morning Rush				A.Wom..		Midwes..	Sherri		iCRIME	iCRIME	Dateline		The First 48		Chicago Fire		TMZ Live		ModFam	ModFam	Goldbe..	Goldbe..
CW	43 WTPX	Various	Xplorati..	Various	F Planet	Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		
	14 WCWF	The National Desk			National Weat	Paid Program	Judge Eboni	Supreme Justice	Hot Bench	Hot Bench	Paternity Court	Court Cam	Law & Order: SVU		48 Hours		Judge Mathis		Pictionary	Person, Place	Jeopardy	Funny You	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon
	34 WYOW	Divorce Court	Divorce Court	The Steve Wilkos Show		Karamo		Maury		Extra	Holly-wood	Blast	Blast	Jerry Springer		Maury		Karamo		The Steve Wilkos Show		TMZ Live		

MONDAY

EVENING

NOVEMBER 27

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
ABC 9 WAOW 2 WBAY	9 News 9 (N) 2 Action 2 News at Six (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	NFL Football Chicago Bears at Minnesota Vikings The Vikings try to complete a third consecutive season-series sweep of the NFC North rival Bears. (N) (Live)						9 (:15) News 9 (N) 2 (:15) Action 2 News at 10 (N)	(:50) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)		(:50) Nightline (N)
CBS 3 WFRV 7 WSAW	3 Local 5 News at 6:00 (N) 7 NewsChannel 7 at 6 (N)	3 Local 5 News at 6:30 (N) 7 Inside Edition (N)	Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer		Let's Make a Deal Primetime (N)		NCIS "Higher Education" NCIS investigates the death of a college student.		3 Local 5 News at 10:00 (N) 7 NewsChannel 7 at 10 (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert (N)		(:35) Comics Un-leashed With Byron Allen
FOX 55 WZAW 11 WLUK	55 Big Bang 11 Jeopardy! (N)	55 Big Bang 11 Wheel (N)	Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Special Forces: World's Toughest Test (N) (SF)		55 NewsChannel 7 at 9pm (N) 11 Fox 11 News at Nine (N) (Live)	55 Seinfeld "The Pez Dispenser"	55 Seinfeld "High-lights of a Hundred" 11 11 News (N)	55 Last Man 11 (:35) Seinfeld	55 Last Man "Three Sundays" 11 (:05) Inside Edition (N)	55 Goldbergs "Up-town Boy" 11 (:35) King "King Pong"
NBC 26 WGBA 12 WJFW	26 NBC26 News at 6pm (N) 12 Newswatch 12 at 6 (N)	26 Family Feud 12 Wheel of Fortune "Great Outdoors" (N)	The Voice "The Playoffs Part 2" The six artists remaining on Team Reba and Team Gwen hold nothing back as tough decisions are made. (N)					That's My Jam		26 NBC26 News at 10pm (N) 12 Newswatch 12 at 10pm (N)	(:35) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon (N)	(:35) Late Night With Seth Meyers (N)
PBS 23 WHRM 33 WLEF 33 WPNE	PBS NewsHour Amna Nawaz and Geoff Bennett offer in-depth analysis of current events. (N)		Celtic Woman 20th Anniversary Concert					The New Divas: Live in Vienna		Ireland Made With Love		
32 WACY 46 WTPX	Family Feud	Two Half Men	Dateline "Evil Intent"		Chicago P.D. "Signs of Violence"		My News at 9 (N)	Tonight (N)	Two Half Men	Housewife	Housewife	Mom
CW 14 WCWF 34 WYOW	14 Big Bang "The Spaghetti Catalyst" 34 Dish Nat. (N)	14 Big Bang "The Allowance Evaporation" 34 TMZ (N)	Penn & Teller: Fool Us "Who's Your Daddy?!" Moxie Jillette; Daxien; The Cosmic Romantics.		Masters of Illusion "Real, Tech, and the Triple Threat" (N)	Animals "Episode 415" Carmen Hodgson, Devon Werkheiser (N)	14 Last Man "Big Brother" 34 Dish Nation (N)	14 Seinfeld "High-lights of a Hundred" 34 TMZ (N)	14 The National Desk (N) (Live) 34 Family Guy "Brian's Play"	14 The National Desk (N) (Live) 34 Family Guy "The Giggity Wife"	14 Last Man "Three Sundays" 34 Burgers "Flu-ou-ise"	14 Extra (N) 34 Burgers "Like Gene for Chocolate"

TUESDAY

EVENING

NOVEMBER 28

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
ABC 9 WAOW 2 WBAY	9 News 9 (N) 2 Action 2 News at Six (N)	9 News 9 Pack Attack 2 Entertainment Tonight (N)	Dancing With the Stars "Semi-Finals" Professional dancers pair with celebrities to train and compete in ballroom dancing. (N) (Live)			Press Your Luck "It's Nacho Night!" A prize of nachos for life is on the line. (N)			9 News 9 (N) 2 Action 2 News at 10 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	(:35) Nightline (N)	
CBS 3 WFRV 7 WSAW	3 Local 5 News at 6:00 (N) 7 NewsChannel 7 at 6 (N)	3 Locker Room 7 Locker Room	NCIS: Sydney "Brothers in Arms" A shark spits out an arm wearing U.S. Navy equipment. (N)			NCIS: Sydney "Gone Fission" The death of an American seaman is investigated.			3 Local 5 News at 10:00 (N) 7 NewsChannel 7 at 10 (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert (N)	(:35) Comics Unleashed With Byron Allen	
FOX 55 WZAW 11 WLUK	55 Big Bang 11 Jeopardy! (N)	55 Big Bang 11 Wheel (N)	Name That Tune			Kitchen Nightmares			55 NewsChannel 7 at 9pm (N) 11 Fox 11 News at Nine (N) (Live)	55 Seinfeld "The Boyfriend" 11 11 News (N)	55 Last Man "Kyle's Party" 11 (:05) Seinfeld "The Boyfriend" 11 (:05) Inside Edition (N)	55 The Goldbergs "Push It" 11 (:35) King "Dr.."
NBC 26 WGBA 12 WJFW	26 NBC26 News at 6pm (N) 12 Newswatch 12 at 6 (N)	26 Packers Live 12 Wheel of Fortune "Great Outdoors" (N)	To Be Announced			The Voice "The Playoffs Part 3" Team Legend's six remaining artists compete to advance. (N)			Found "Missing While Scamming" The team searches for a kidnapped social media influencer. (N)	26 NBC26 News at 10pm (N) 12 Newswatch 12 at 10pm (N)	(:35) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon (N)	(:35) Late Night With Seth Meyers (N)
PBS 23 WHRM 33 WLEF 33 WPNE	PBS NewsHour Amna Nawaz and Geoff Bennett offer in-depth analysis of current events. (N)		Wisconsin's Scenic Treasures: Northwoods (N)			Ken Burns: The National Parks			How Great Thou Art, A Sacred Celebration			
32 WACY 46 WTPX	Family Feud Chicago Fire "Let Her Go"	Two Half Men	Dateline "A Sister's Search" Chicago Fire "Run Like Hell"			Chicago P.D. "Due Process" Chicago Fire "Damage Control"			My News at 9 (N) Chi. Fire "Take a Shot at the King"	Tonight (N)	Two Half Men Chicago Fire	Housewife Chicago Fire "A Hell of a Ride"
CW 14 WCWF 34 WYOW	14 Big Bang "The Plimpton Stimulation" 34 Dish Nat. (N)	14 Big Bang "The Comic-Con Conundrum" 34 TMZ (N)	Inside the NFL Week 12 Recapping the greatest moments from week 12. (N)			Whose Line Is It Anyway? "Maile Brady" (N) Whose Line Is It Anyway? "Tiffany Coyne"		14 Last Man "Kyle's Friend" 34 Dish Nation (N)	14 Seinfeld "Highlights of a Hundred" 34 TMZ (N)	14 The National Desk (N) (Live) 34 Family Guy "Chris Cross"	14 National (N) 34 Family Guy "Valentine's Day in Quahog"	14 Last Man 34 Burgers 14 Extra (N) 34 Burgers

WEDNESDAY				EVENING				NOVEMBER 29				
6 PM		6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
ABC 9 WAOW 8 WBAY		9 News 9 (N) 9 Action 2 News at Six (N)	9 Packers Live 9 Entertainment Tonight (N)	Celebrity Jeopardy! "Quarterfinal #8: Cynthia Nixon, Cedric the Entertainer and Heather McMahon" Cynthia Nixon, Cedric the Entertainer (N)	Celebrity Wheel "Tim Gunn, Debbie Gibson and Luis Guzman" Celebrities Tim Gunn, Debbie Gibson and Luis Guzman. Guests Tim Gunn (N)	The \$100,000 Pyramid "Jackée Harry vs. Bobby Berk and Jason Alexander vs. Rosie O'Donnell" Jackée Harry, Bobby Berk (N)	9 News 9 (N)	9 Action 2 News at 10 (N)	9 News 9 (N)	9 Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	9 News 9 (N)	9 Nightline (N)
CBS 5 WFRV 7 WSAW		5 Local 5 News at 6:00 (N) 7 NewsChannel 7 at 6 (N)	5 Green Bay Nation 7 Inside Edition (N)	Survivor Castaways attempt to outwit, outlast and outplay each other for a prize of \$1 million. (N)		The Amazing Race Teams of two travel the globe to try to win \$1 million. (N)	5 Local 5 News at 10:00 (N) 7 NewsChannel 7 at 10 (N)	5 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert (N)	5 Local 5 News at 10:00 (N) 7 NewsChannel 7 at 10 (N)	5 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert (N)	5 Comics Unleashed With Byron Allen	
FOX 55 WZAW 11 WLUK		55 Big Bang 11 Jeopardy! (N)	55 Big Bang 11 Wheel (N)	The Masked Singer (N)		Snake Oil (N)	55 NewsChannel 7 at 9pm (N) 11 Fox 11 News at Nine (N) (Live)	55 Seinfeld "The Boyfriend"	55 Seinfeld "The Pitch" 11 Fox 11 News at 10 (N) (Live)	55 Last Man 11 35 Seinfeld	55 Last Man 11 05 Inside Ed. (N)	55 Goldbergs 11 35 King
NBC 26 WGBA 12 WJFW		26 NBC26 News at 6pm (N) 12 Newswatch 12 at 6 (N)	26 Total Packers 12 Wheel of Fortune "Great Outdoors" (N)	91st Annual Christmas in Rockefeller Center (N) (Live)		Christmas at Graceland (N) (Live)	26 NBC26 News at 10pm (N) 12 Newswatch 12 at 10pm (N)	35 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon (N)	35 Late Night With Seth Meyers (N)			
PBS 20 WHRM 35 WLEF 38 WPNE		PBS NewsHour Amna Nawaz and Geoff Bennett offer in-depth analysis of current events. (N)		Nature "The Hummingbird Effect" Exploring Costa Rica's biodiversity through its hummingbirds.		Northern Nights Starry Skies		Great Scenic Railway Journeys 30th Anniversary Special				
42 WACY 46 WTPX		Family Feud	Two Half Men	Dateline	Chicago P.D. "Trouble Dolls"	My News at 9 (N)	Tonight (N)	Two Half Men	Housewife	Housewife	Mom	
46 WTPX		Blue Bloods "Critical Condition"	Blue Bloods "Innocence"	Blue Bloods "A Night on the Town"	Blue Bloods "Black and Blue"	Blue Bloods "Black and Blue"	Blue Bloods "Lonely Hearts Club"	Blue Bloods "Lonely Hearts Club"	Blue Bloods "Thanksgiving"	Blue Bloods "Thanksgiving"	Blue Bloods "Thanksgiving"	
CW 14 WCWF 34 WYOW		14 Big Bang "The Staircase Implementation"	14 Big Bang 34 TMZ (N)	Sullivan's Crossing "Can't Help Falling" Maggie races against the clock to save the life of a friend. (N)	The Spencer Sisters "The Diva's Disaster" The actress who played Bryn Martell is accused of murder. (N)	14 Last Man "Summer Internship" 34 Dish Nat. (N)	14 Seinfeld "The Pitch" 34 TMZ (N)	14 The National Desk (N) (Live) 34 Family Guy "Call Girl"	14 The National Desk (N) (Live) 34 Family Guy "Turban Cowboy"	14 Last Man 34 Burgers	14 Extra (N) 34 Bob's Burgers "A Few Gurt Men"	



BREAKING THROUGH FOR A WIN

LOVE LEADS PACKERS ON
GAME-WINNING DRIVE

Green Bay Packers quarterback Jordan Love threw for 322 yards and found Romeo Doubs for a 24-yard touchdown with 2:33 left to give Green Bay a 23-20 victory over the Los Angeles Chargers on Nov. 19. It was a milestone rally for a young Packers team that continually had come up just short late in games this season.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Love's big day leads Packers to victory

Packers score more than 20 points for first time since Week 2

By **LUKE REIMER**

Green & Gold Express

Green Bay Packers quarterback Jordan Love reached 300 passing yards for the first time in his career, as the Green Bay Packers took down the Los Angeles Chargers 23-20 on Nov. 19 in Green Bay.

Love finished the game with 322 passing yards and two touchdown passes. Green Bay's passing offense was the story of the game as both Aaron Jones and Emanuel Wilson exited the game with injuries. Christian Watson and Romeo Doubs both recorded touchdown receptions, but it was rookie wide receiver Dontayvion Wicks who led the team in receiving with 91 yards.

"I think it was one of our better games in my career as a starter so far," said Love, when asked if he thought this was his best game. "I mean it is everybody, like the receivers making the plays and getting a lot of (yards after the catch) on those drives was huge. It takes everybody, as you can see."

Thirty-five of Wicks' yards came on Green Bay's game winning drive. Down 20-16 and facing second-and-10 from the Green Bay 39, Love connected with a wide open Wicks for that 35-yard gain. After a two-yard gain from A.J. Dillon, Love connected with Doubs for 24-yards, to ultimately score the winning touchdown.

Green Bay's defense held the dynamic Chargers offense to 20 points on 394 yards. Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert passed for 244 yards, with Keenan Allen recording 116 receiving yards on 10 receptions. Allen also scored a touchdown.

As for the run game, Herbert was also the leading rusher, recording 73 yards. Chargers running back Austin Ekeler, who led the NFL in touchdowns last year, was held out of the end zone and recorded just 64 yards on the ground.

Down three near the end of the game, both teams exchanged punts, before the Chargers took over at its own 20-yard line. With no timeouts, Herbert connected with Ekeler for a gain of six yards. Herbert then threw a pass that landed incomplete intended for Allen. On the play, Packers defensive back Keisean Nixon was called for pass interference and Los Angeles was given a first down.



Green Bay Packers quarterback Jordan Love reached 300 passing yards for the first time in his career, as the Green Bay Packers took down the Los Angeles Chargers 23-20 on Nov. 19 in Green Bay.

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The Packers defense then buckled down, as it forced an incompletion and tackled Allen after a four-yard reception.

With 31 seconds left and facing a third-and-six, Herbert threw deep down the left side of the field to a pass intended for rookie wide receiver Quentin Johnston. Johnston had a step on Packers defensive back Carrington Valentine but dropped what would have been the go-ahead touchdown. From there on fourth down, Herbert's pass was batted down by Packers defensive tackle Kenny Clark and the Packers took

over to kneel the clock out.

"It was huge at the end of the game. I would say our defense bailed me out for the conservative calls at the end of the game," said Packers head coach Matt LaFleur.

Even though the Chargers had the lead late, the turning point of the game may have been early in the fourth quarter. The Chargers, starting at its own 25, drove down to the Green Bay 2-yard line on four plays. On first-and-goal, Herbert's pass intended for Allen landed incomplete, and then on second down, Packers linebacker Rashan Gary recovered a

fumble from Ekeler to stop the Chargers from taking a two-score lead.

"That fumble recovery down there in the red area was absolutely critical to keep points off of the board and to give us an opportunity to go down," said LaFleur.

With the win, Green Bay now moves to 4-6 on the season and with the Chicago Bears losing to the Detroit Lions, the Packers are now a game and a half up on the Bears for the third spot in the NFC North. The Packers also now hold a 17% to make the playoffs, according to the New York Times Playoff Simulator.

BEAT The Expert

Week 12 Games: Sunday, Nov. 26



Luke Reimer
New Media

San Francisco @ Seattle...Thurs., Nov. 23
Washington @ Dallas...Thurs., Nov. 23
Miami @ New York Jets...Fri., Nov. 24
Chicago @ Minnesota...Mon., Nov. 27

Tie Breaker Game:
Green Bay @ Detroit...Thurs., Nov. 23

Due to holiday time constraints and press schedules, **the standings will be updated in Next Week's Green & Gold issue.** Winners for each of the 2 weeks will also be listed at that time.
Thank you, and have a great Thanksgiving!

Weekly Standings	Weekly Record	Overall Record
Tim Murphy, New Media.....	5-0	36-14
Jim Wiegand, Tower Clock Eye Center	4-1	35-15
Jacob Westendorf, New Media.....	3-2	34-16
Robert Buss, Buss Automotive.....	2-3	30-20
Shane Senn, Senn Insurance.....	4-1	30-20
Luke Reimer, New Media.....	2-3	29-21
Kevin Passon, New Media.....	2-3	28-22
Staff, Shawano Health Services.....	1-4	27-23
Staff, Iverson's Piggly Wiggly.....	2-3	27-23
Walsh Dental Group	3-2	25-25
Sue Moede, Moede & Sons Plumbing.....	2-3	24-26



Jim Wiegand
Tower Clock
Eye Center

This Week's Picks:

San Francisco
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 13 @ Detroit 35



Robert Buss
Buss
Automotive

This Week's Picks:

San Francisco
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Detroit 21



Shane Senn
Senn
Insurance

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 10 @ Detroit 38



Staff
Walsh Dental Group
Shawano

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 17 @ Detroit 23



Staff
Shawano
Health Services

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 28 @ Detroit 21



Moede & Sons
Plumbing
Shawano

This Week's Picks:

San Francisco
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 17 @ Detroit 21



Staff
Iverson's
Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

San Francisco
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 20 @ Detroit 19



Jacob Westendorf
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

San Francisco
Dallas
Miami
Chicago

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 20 @ Detroit 34



Luke Reimer
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

San Francisco
Dallas
Miami
Chicago

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score : Green Bay 14 @ Detroit 31



Tim Murphy
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

San Francisco
Dallas
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 10 @ Detroit 27



Kevin Passon
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Seattle
Washington
Miami
Minnesota

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 20 @ Detroit 30

NOTEBOOK

Can any Packer have a breakout game?

By JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

Packers' offense vs. Lions' defense

The Packers' offense has been a mixed bag throughout the course of the season.

That was to be expected with as many young players as they've been relying on. The number of young players has grown since the last time these two teams played. The Packers found out just before the team kicked off against the Lions that David Bakhtiari would be placed on injured reserve and would miss the rest of the season.

The offensive line, as a result, has struggled. Rasheed Walker and Yosh Njiman have both played left tackle this season. Neither has taken firm hold of the job. Njiman has been injured each time he's gotten extended action.

They'll need that group to play better this time than they did the last time these two teams met.

The Lions' defensive front has been stout against the run all year.

That could present a problem for the Packers, who have not been able to run the ball as well as they'd hoped at this point in the season.

Aaron Jones has been in and out of the lineup. AJ Dillon has struggled, even if he has played better recently. Overall, the Packers do not have an individual rusher that has gone over 100 yards in a game on the season.

Regardless of how the running backs are performing in the passing game, the Packers need to be more productive in the run game.

The offense isn't going to be successful without a competent rushing attack against this Lions defense.

The pass catching group has been a mixed bag for the Packers. Jordan Love has spread the ball around to a variety of receivers all year. Romeo Doubs has been effective in the red zone but inefficient elsewhere. Jayden Reed was a big part of the team's offense against Pittsburgh. He had two big catches and 84 yards total on the day.

One of the disappointing aspects of the season has been Christian Watson. Love's passer rating when he's targeting Watson is below 38. For comparison's sake, throwing the ball in the stands on every play would give him a passer rating of



Green Bay Packers defensive tackle Karl Brooks' third sack of 2023 comes against Los Angeles Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert on Nov. 19.

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39. It has not been a good season for Watson.

Luke Musgrave is starting to come on of late. He hit an explosive play against Los Angeles and Pittsburgh. He's likely to be a big part of the offense between now and the end of the season.

Packers' defense vs. Lions' offense

The Packers' defense looks to be a bit of fool's gold at this point of the season. They've done a good job at limiting points for opposing offenses.

They also have only faced three offenses in the top half of the league in scoring to date.

One of those was Detroit, who is ranked sixth. The Lions scored 34 points, and likely could have had more if the score was closer.

One potential pressure point for the Green Bay defense is the cornerback situation. Jaire Alexander has been in and out of the lineup all season, so his status for the game will be unclear.

That's likely to be the case for the rest of the season.

That leaves the team with three healthy cornerbacks – Carrington Valentine, Keisean Nixon and Corey Ballentine.

The potential shortage at cornerback comes at a time where the Packers are facing one of the more dynamic passing offenses in football, an offense that is ranked in the top 10 in the NFL in scoring.

Jared Goff is often looked at as a failed draft pick for the Rams, but he's been excellent for the Lions. Goff has shed the label of draft bust and become a player the Lions believe can lead them to a Super Bowl.

He distributes the ball to all of his playmakers, but his go-to guy is Amon-Ra St. Brown.

St. Brown has caught at least 90 passes in each of his first two seasons as a pro.

He operates primarily in the slot, where he'll be met by Nixon.

Nixon has struggled this season;

his passer rating against him when he's targeted is over 100.

Apart from St. Brown, Sam LaPorta has emerged as a weapon for the Lions' offense. He is one of their top receivers in the passing game and makes an impact as a blocker as well in the run game.

Speaking of the run game.

The Lions have the 12th overall pick in the backfield. Jahmyr Gibbs is one of the more explosive young players in the NFL. He's also the style of back that typically gives Green Bay fits. He did not in the first matchup of the season, but David Montgomery had plenty to say about the first game's outcome.

Special teams

The Packers' special teams has started to wobble a little bit. Anders Carlson is starting to struggle, and has missed a kick in every game except for one since the bye week.

Nixon, however, is finding his groove. He had more than 100 yards

Clifford always ready to step up if necessary

By JACOB WESTENDORF

Green & Gold Express

Backup quarterback Sean Clifford played college football at Penn State. He was the starting quarterback and team captain for the Nittany Lions from 2019-22.

What's a week look like with limited to no reps?

It's a lot of mental preparation. I'm taking all the scout team reps, but sometimes the card is a completely different concept that you just have never seen before, and it's something specific for the defense. For me, it's usually trying to be really precise in going through progressions and just staying within the game plan.

Whenever 10's up, just being behind and going through my own footwork and saying, 'OK, I'm throwing here. Perfect, he did the same.' Or, 'He threw here, and I was thinking I would go there. Why am I having a different thought? Who's right? Let's have a conversation about it so that way we can both grow.' In practice, it's a lot of that. And then outside the facility, it's a lot of tape and trying to text ideas to Matt and the coaching staff and get everybody as prepared as possible and cross every 'T,' dot every 'I.' Just making sure that everyone's ready. Through that process, it keeps me in the game. So if, God forbid, I had to go, I'm prepared, as well.

How do you stay in rhythm running cards when the wide receivers might not have seen those concepts either?

Football is football, at the end of the day. Certain things you just kind of look at the card and, 'All right, I'm going to go one, two, three. I'm going to here vs. one-high or here vs. two-high.' It's really just the thought in my mind of going through progressions and reading defenses, seeing the contours change so, if I did have to go out, I feel super confident that I'd be able to do the same. It's the same game that we've been playing for a long time. It's just having that confidence and really that confidence in the game plan and knowing that down cold.

Sounds like it's more work

in the return game against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The weather turning colder should allow him to return more kickoffs. It will be interesting to see if Detroit simply elects to kick the ball



Green Bay backup quarterback Sean Clifford played college football at Penn State. He was the starting quarterback and team captain for the Nittany Lions from 2019 through 2022.

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to get ready if you're not taking practice reps.

I think it's different work. He's working as hard as anybody, same as me. I think it is a little bit different work, where he might get the reps in practice, so that means that I've got to stay after practice and I've got to go through the footwork on specific plays that I didn't get the rep at. I use a lot of time on the Friday and Saturday to get the extra mental reps.

Alex McGough and I on Saturdays will run through the call sheet, and he'll call it to me, and I'll stand there act like I'm in the huddle the same way I would be in the huddle. Not just say it but actually put myself in there and say, 'All right, here we go. We're going to go da-da-da on blank' and then go up and go through my

keys. It's different work. That's probably the best way to put it, because everyone's working hard, but I just have to work a little bit differently to put myself in the game.

Is it weird to not play? The last time was 2018.

It's been good, honestly. I think it's always nice to take a step back and see, watch, observe another quarterback or other guys play, just because you learn so much by watching – as long as you're willing to watch and listen and learn. That was one thing I told myself early in the year is, 'All right, let's try to soak up as much as possible and get better every single day. One percent better every single day, no matter what.' I feel like I've accomplished that so far. Obviously, we have a long season

to go, lots of wins to get, so there's a lot more work to be done. But, all in all, I feel like I've progressed and continued to make strides in the little things I want to get better at.

Are you as prepared now as you would have been Week 1, after taking all those reps and in the flow?

I'll be better than I would've been. For sure.

How?

Just the confidence that I have that every week, every day, really, I've gotten 1% better. From 10 weeks ago, I've gotten that many days better, in my opinion. Every single day, I've made a stride in some regard. Sometimes it's a mistake that I'm learning from and I've learned from. I'd be ready to play my best ball.

season ago.

The Lions ranked sixth in Rick Gosselin's special teams rankings a season ago.

Detroit kicker Riley Patterson has not missed a kick yet in 2023. The

group, led by Dave Fipp, has been excellent to start the 2023 season after a strong 2022 campaign.

This could be one of the biggest advantages the Lions have in Thursday's game.

KEYS TO THE GAME

Packers need more points to defeat Lions

By JACOB WESTENDORF

Green & Gold Express

The first time these two teams met up this season, the Packers and Lions played on a Thursday night at Lambeau Field.

The Lions raced out to a 27-3 lead and won 34-20 over a Packers team that looked overmatched in its first primetime game with this new core they're establishing.

The two teams have gone opposite directions since that night. The Packers and Lions were tied for first place when that game was kicked off.

Now, the Packers are a distant third-place team, and the Lions lead the NFC North by multiple games.

They look like one of the top contenders in the NFC.

The Packers have started to play a little better on the offensive side of the ball. Jordan Love had solid performances against both Los Angeles and Pittsburgh, inspiring confidence he could be the one to lead this offense into the future.

The next step is for them to start scoring more points. The Packers have scored 20 points once since the calendar turned to October.

That's not going to cut it in the modern NFL when scoring is emphasized more than ever.

To win against Detroit, they're going to need to score. The Lions are a top-10 offense in all of football.

They proved that the first time these two teams met.

Here are the keys to Green Bay scoring an upset on Turkey Day.

Packers' cornerbacks vs. Amon-Ra St. Brown

Amon-Ra St. Brown will not be short on motivation for this game. Not that he needs much anyway. He has become the Lions' go-to guy in the passing game.

He's caught at least 90 passes in both seasons of his young career. The Packers could be short-handed at cornerback with Jaire Alexander in and out of the lineup with injuries.

Carrington Valentine has put together some solid games since being elevated to the starting lineup when Rasul Douglas was traded to Buffalo.

Keisean Nixon has struggled in his transition to full-time starter this year. His passer rating when he is



Dontayvion Wicks (13) caught three passes for 91 leads to lead the Packers in receiving yards against the Los Angeles Chargers on Nov. 19.

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targeted is over 100.

Corey Ballentine is the next man up if Alexander can't go. He's done some nice things since being elevated from the practice squad, but St. Brown is a different animal than some of the receivers they've been matched up against.

He can dominate a game. The Packers need to make someone else beat them.

Packers vs. Lions' run game

The Packers have given up 200 yards rushing in three games this season. One of those came earlier this year when the Packers and Lions met on Thursday Night Football in late September.

David Montgomery and Jahmyr Gibbs ran all over a Packers' defense that looked lost for a vast majority of the night.

There's no reason to believe the Lions should have a different game

plan when the two teams meet up Thanksgiving Day.

The Lions have a dynamic passing game, but their identity is within their physicality. They run the ball. They stop the run. The Packers need to be prepared for another physical game.

Packers' offensive line vs. Aidan Hutchinson

Aidan Hutchinson has not been in the NFL for long, but he has already become a thorn in the Packers' side.

Hutchinson was picked second overall by the Lions a year ago to boost their pass rush and help change their culture.

He has done both.

He had 9.5 sacks as a rookie with three interceptions.

One of which came on an ill-advised pass to David Bakhtiari when the Packers were in Detroit last November.

Hutchinson followed that up with two sacks at Lambeau Field in the season finale.

The Packers' offensive line has struggled with the top-tier rushers in the NFL. Hutchinson has been one of the best rushers in all of football as well, and he's even better on the fast track in Detroit.

The last time the Packers and Lions met up, Love was under siege for a vast majority of the game.

Hutchinson was the one who spearheaded that operation. He had a sack and eight pressures against Green Bay. He completely took over the game.

The Packers were able to limit Aaron Donald and T.J. Watt in recent weeks but have struggled throughout Hutchinson's career against him.

For the offense to have any chance at Ford Field, they need to keep him quiet.

VITALS

Green Bay Packers at Detroit Lions

TIME AND DATE: 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 24

LOCATION: Ford Field

TV: Fox

RADIO: Flagship WRNW-FM Milwaukee - 97.3

2023 RECORDS: Packers, 3-6. Lions, 7-2

HISTORY: The Lions and Packers have played 188 times including two games in the postseason.

Green Bay leads the all time season series 105-76-7. They had a run of dominance where the Lions did not win in Wisconsin from 1992 until 2015. The Lions have flipped the script in recent memory, having won the last four games against the Packers, including a 34-20 matchup earlier this season.

COACHES: Packers, Matt LaFleur (fifth season, 50-25). Lions, Dan Campbell (third season 20-24-1)

PACKERS SCHEDULE

Sept. 10 at Chicago W 38-20

Sept. 17 at Atlanta L 25-24

Sept. 24 vs. New Orleans Noon W 18-17

Sept. 28 vs. Detroit 7:15 p.m. L 34-20

Oct. 9 at Las Vegas 7:15 p.m. L 17-13

Oct. 15 BYE

Oct. 22 at Denver 3:25 p.m. L 19-17

Oct. 29 vs. Minnesota Noon L 24-10

Nov. 5 vs. LA Rams W 20-3

Nov. 12 at Pittsburgh L 23-19

Nov. 19 vs. LA Chargers W 23-20

Nov. 23 at Detroit 11:30 a.m. FOX

Dec. 3 vs. Kansas City 7:20 p.m. NBC

Dec. 11 at NY Giants 7:15 p.m. ABC

Dec. 17 vs. Tampa Bay Noon FOX

Dec. 24 at Carolina Noon FOX

Dec. 31 at Minnesota 7:20 p.m. NBC

Jan. 7 vs. Chicago, TBD

NFL SCHEDULE

Thursday, Nov. 23

Packers at Lions, 11:30 a.m.

Commanders at Cowboys, 3:30 p.m.

49ers at Seahawks, 7:20 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 24

Dolphins at Jets, 2 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 26

Buccaneers at Colts, Noon

Patriots at Giants, Noon

Steelers at Bengals, Noon

Panthers at Titans, Noon

Jaguars at Texans, Noon

Saints at Falcons, Noon

Rams at Cardinals, 3:05 p.m.

Browns at Broncos, 3:05 p.m.

Bills at Eagles, 3:25 p.m.

Chiefs at Raiders, 3:25 p.m.

Ravens at Chargers, 7:20 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 27

Bears at Vikings, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 30

Seahawks at Cowboys, 7:20 p.m.



Green Bay Packers running back Aaron Jones was carted off the field with a towel draped over his face after suffering a knee injury during the Nov. 19 game against the Los Angeles Chargers. On a first-down run, Jones appeared to get his left knee stuck beneath him as he was being pushed backward by the Chargers' defense. Jones stayed down for a minute or two before limping off the field between a pair of trainers.

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Wide receiver Christian Watson (9) dodges a defender after catching a pass against the Denver Broncos on Oct. 22. Watson said the Salute to Service Month is special to him, as he gets to play a game for fun while servicemen and service-women risk their lives for him to be able to play.

GREG MELLIS
GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Salute to Service Month special for Watson

By JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

Wide receiver Christian Watson

played college football at North Dakota State and was selected by the Packers in the second round of the 2022 NFL Draft.

What's the significance behind the tattoo?

My specific tattoo is a tribute to my great-grandfather.

Growing up, I was really close with him, and he passed away when I was young. I did a lot of things with him. Hanging out with him, he loved golfing, so we'd go golfing. Wanted a tattoo that displayed what meant a lot to him.

I think he took a lot of pride that he was in the Marines. I had multiple family members in the military that served as well. I wanted to do something that signified who he was, what he cherished and what he took pride in. I think he took a lot of pride in serving the country.

What did you learn that has contributed to getting here?

I mean from him, specifically, I was pretty young when I lost him, unfortunately. I'd love to say I learned a bunch about life and stuff like that, but I was pretty young. I continued to learn after he passed.

It comes down to determination, work, sacrifice. There's a lot of things you have to give up to do what you really want to do or protect what you want to protect. Not just from him, but anyone that's in the military. It's a really brave thing to be doing.

I get to go out here and play a game, and there's a lot of sacrifices, but I don't think anything compares to what people in the military are doing.

Were you raised with those military principles?

I'd like to say so. Not 100% sure how a couple generations from him. I definitely think having a really disciplined family as a kid, not a lot of BS that was going to let slide. We were definitely in line growing up. There was a line for that obviously. I didn't have the most strict parents, but we learned right from wrong.

Military family on my dad's side as well so it came from both sides that trickled down from the family tree.

Same tattoo as his brother?

Yes.

Was that intentional?

Yes.

Biggest game of career against Dallas, extra special?

Definitely. As warranted. The game itself was super special, but anytime you can find a way to relate something to something else or add a little something to it - makes it more special.

Salute to Service Month special?

We did a tribute to active duty military. and it means a lot. It's hard to find ways to thank people who are going out and risking lives for us. I get to play a game for fun, and people out there risking their lives to be able to do this. Definitely try to find ways to say my things and show my gratitude toward the people who made those sacrifices.

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GREEN BAY PACKERS

Player	#	Pos	HT	WT	Age	Exp	College
Jaire Alexander	23	CB	5-10	196	26	6	Louisville
Zayne Anderson	39	S	6-2	206	26	1	BYU
Corey Ballentine	35	CB	5-11	196	27	5	Washburn
Karl Brooks	94	DL	6-3	296	23	R	Bowling Green
De'Vondre Campbell	59	LB	6-4	232	30	8	Minnesota
Anders Carlson	17	K	6-5	219	25	R	Auburn
Kenny Clark	97	DL	6-3	314	28	8	UCLA
Sean Clifford	8	QB	6-2	218	25	R	Penn State
Brenton Cox Jr.	57	LB	6-4	250	23	R	Florida
Josiah Deguara	81	TE	6-2	238	26	4	Cincinnati
AJ Dillon	28	RB	6-0	247	25	4	Boston College
Romeo Doubs	87	WR	6-2	204	23	2	Nevada
Kingsley Enagbare	55	LB	6-4	258	23	2	South Carolina
Rudy Ford	20	S	6-0	210	29	7	Auburn
Innis Gaines	38	S	6-1	202	25	2	TCU
Rashan Gary	52	LB	6-5	277	25	5	Michigan
Malik Heath	18	WR	6-2	213	23	R	Mississippi
Elgton Jenkins	74	G/T	6-5	311	27	5	Mississippi State
Anthony Johnson Jr.	36	S	6-0	205	23	R	Iowa State
Aaron Jones	33	RB	5-9	208	28	7	Texas-El Paso
Caleb Jones	72	T	6-9	370	24	2	Indiana
Tucker Kraft	85	TE	6-5	259	23	R	South Dakota State
Dallin Leavitt	6	S	5-10	195	29	5	Utah State
Jordan Love	10	QB	6-4	219	25	4	Utah State
Isaiah McDuffie	58	LB	6-1	227	24	3	Boston College
Luke Musgrave	88	TE	6-6	253	23	R	Oregon State
Josh Myers	71	C/G	6-5	310	25	3	Ohio State
Royce Newman	70	G/T	6-5	310	26	3	Mississippi
Yosh Nijman	73	T	6-7	314	27	4	Virginia Tech
Keisean Nixon	25	CB	5-10	200	26	5	South Carolina
Matt Orzech	42	LS	6-3	245	28	4	Azusa Pacific
Jonathan Owens	34	S	5-11	210	28	5	Missouri Western
Jayden Reed	11	WR	5-11	187	23	R	Michigan State
Sean Rhyan	75	G	6-5	321	23	2	UCLA
Robert Rochell	22	CB	6-0	193	25	3	Central Arkansas
Jon Runyan	76	G	6-4	307	26	4	Michigan
Ben Sims	89	TE	6-5	250	23	R	Baylor
T.J. Slaton	93	DL	6-4	330	26	3	Florida
Preston Smith	91	LB	6-5	265	30	9	Mississippi State
Zach Tom	50	OL	6-4	304	24	2	Wake Forest
Samori Toure	83	WR	6-1	191	25	2	Nebraska
Carrington Valentine	37	CB	6-0	189	22	R	Kentucky
Lukas Van Ness	90	LB	6-5	272	22	R	Iowa
Quay Walker	7	LB	6-4	241	23	2	Georgia
Rasheed Walker	63	T	6-6	324	23	2	Penn State
Christian Watson	9	WR	6-4	208	24	2	North Dakota State
Kristian Welch	54	LB	6-3	240	25	4	Iowa
Daniel Whelan	19	P	6-5	216	24	1	UC Davis
Dontayvion Wicks	13	WR	6-1	206	22	R	Virginia
Emanuel Wilson	31	RB	5-11	226	24	R	Fort Valley State Univ.
Eric Wilson	45	LB	6-1	230	29	7	Cincinnati
Colby Wooden	96	DL	6-4	273	22	R	Auburn
Devonte Wyatt	95	DL	6-3	304	25	2	Georgia
Reserve/Injured							
David Bakhtiari	69	T	6-4	310	32	11	Colorado
Tyler Davis	84	TE	6-4	252	26	4	Georgia Tech
Darnell Savage	26	S	5-11	198	26	5	Maryland
Eric Stokes	21	CB	6-0	194	24	3	Georgia
Luke Tenuta	78	T	6-8	314	24	2	Virginia Tech

DETROIT LIONS

Player	#	Pos	HT	WT	Age	Exp	College
Alex Anzalone	34	LB	6-3	238	29	7	Florida
Kayode Awosika	74	G	6-3	315	25	2	Buffalo
Derrick Barnes	55	LB	6-0	240	24	3	Purdue
Brian Branch	32	DB	6-0	203	22	R	Alabama
Teddy Bridgewater	10	QB	6-2	212	31	10	Louisville
Isaiah Buggs	96	DL	6-3	335	27	5	Alabama
Jack Campbell	46	LB	6-5	243	23	R	Iowa
John Cominsky	79	DL	6-5	285	27	5	Charleston
Taylor Decker	68	T	6-7	318	30	8	Ohio State
Khalil Dorsey	30	CB	5-8	185	25	3	Northern Arizona
Jack Fox	3	P	6-2	218	27	4	Rice
Jahmyr Gibbs	26	RB	5-9	200	21	R	Alabama
Steven Gilmore	24	CB	6-0	174	24	R	Marshall
Graham Glasgow	60	OL	6-6	315	31	8	Michigan
Jared Goff	16	QB	6-4	217	29	8	California
Antoine Green	80	WR	6-2	199	24	R	North Carolina
Charles Harris	53	DL	6-3	250	28	7	Missouri
Will Harris	25	CB	6-1	206	27	5	Boston College
Aidan Hutchinson	97	DL	6-7	268	23	2	Michigan
Jonah Jackson	73	G	6-4	311	26	4	Ohio State
Jerry Jacobs	23	CB	5-11	203	26	3	Arkansas
Benito Jones	94	DL	6-1	335	25	3	Mississippi
Kerby Joseph	31	S	6-1	203	23	2	Illinois
Sam LaPorta	87	TE	6-3	245	22	R	Iowa
Chase Lucas	27	CB	5-11	184	26	2	Arizona State
Brodrick Martin	98	DL	6-5	330	24	R	Western Kentucky
Alim McNeill	54	DL	6-2	315	23	3	N.C. State
Jake McQuaide	43	LS	6-2	235	35	13	Ohio State
Ifeatu Melifonwu	6	S	6-3	210	24	3	Syracuse
James Mitchell	82	TE	6-4	246	24	2	Virginia Tech
David Montgomery	5	RB	5-11	224	26	5	Iowa State
Trevor Nowaske	59	LB	6-3	235	25	R	Saginaw Valley State
Julian Okwara	99	LB	6-4	239	25	4	Notre Dame
Romeo Okwara	95	DL	6-4	255	28	8	Notre Dame
Levi Onwuzurike	91	DL	6-3	290	25	3	Washington
Josh Paschal	93	DL	6-3	274	23	2	Kentucky
Riley Patterson	36	K	6-0	195	24	3	Memphis
Donovan Peoples-Jones	19	WR	6-2	204	24	4	Michigan
Anthony Pittman	57	LB	6-3	242	26	3	Wayne St.
Frank Ragnow	77	C	6-5	310	27	6	Arkansas
Kalif Raymond	11	WR	5-8	180	29	7	Holy Cross
Jalen Reeves-Maybin	42	LB	6-1	226	28	7	Tennessee
Craig Reynolds	13	RB	5-11	216	27	2	Kutztown
Josh Reynolds	8	WR	6-3	194	28	7	Texas A&M
Malcolm Rodriguez	44	LB	5-11	234	24	2	Oklahoma State
Penei Sewell	58	T	6-5	335	23	3	Oregon
Dan Skipper	70	T	6-9	330	29	4	Arkansas
Colby Sorsdal	75	OL	6-6	315	23	R	William & Mary
Amon-Ra St. Brown	14	WR	6-0	202	24	3	USC
Cameron Sutton	1	CB	5-11	180	28	7	Tennessee
Tracy Walker III	21	S	6-1	206	28	6	Louisiana-Lafayette
Jameson Williams	9	WR	6-1	180	22	2	Alabama
Brock Wright	89	TE	6-5	250	24	3	Notre Dame
Reserve/Injured							
Jason Cabinda	45	FB	6-1	235	27	5	Penn State
Scott Daly	47	LS	6-1	245	29	3	Notre Dame
C.J. Gardner-Johnson	2	DB	5-11	208	25	4	Florida
James Houston	41	LB	6-1	245	25	2	Jackson State Univ.
Zonovan Knight	28	RB	5-11	209	22	2	N.C. State
Emmanuel Moseley	4	CB	5-11	195	27	6	Tennessee
Matt Nelson	67	T	6-7	315	27	4	Iowa
Nate Sudfeld	N/A	QB	6-6	230	30	7	Indiana
Halapoulivaati Vaitai	72	G	6-6	322	30	8	Texas
Christian Shane Zylstra	N/A	TE	6-4	240	27	2	Minnesota State

Creativity will be key for Packers against Lions

Green Bay loses running backs Jones and Wilson in Week 11 win

By **LUKE REIMER**
Green & Gold Express

It wasn't a running back that led the team in rushing last week; rather, it was rookie wide receiver Jayden Reed, who recorded 46 yards on three carries in Green Bay's Week 11 win over the Los Angeles Chargers.

As the Packers lost running backs Aaron Jones and Emanuel Wilson, fans may see a little bit more of Reed (or others) running the ball against Detroit. Given the short, four day turn-around, it seems likely that both running backs will be inactive on Thanksgiving, and if they are active, probably won't see a lot of work. That means that A.J. Dillon will start, but who will back him up is unknown. With that unknown behind Dillon, plays like Reed's jet sweep touch-down are probably going to have to be instituted this week in practice.

"That's a great question," said Packers head coach Matt LaFleur, when asked how he gameplans with-

out having a certain answer at the back up running back position. "It is another great challenge."

The good thing for Green Bay is the athleticism that the team has on offense. What the team lacks in difference-making talent, it more than makes up for in speed. It will be about how the team can get those players, like Reed and Christian Watson, the ball in space, so that they can make those plays that fans are used to seeing from Jones.

Getting those players going will only help Jordan Love against a very good Detroit Lions team.

"They are playmakers," said Love, when asked about rookies Reed and Dontayvion Wicks. "They are two explosive guys, I mean when you get the ball in their hands, they are able to make guys miss and just make those plays. Reed was in the run game a lot today, so they are just play makers."

The concern coming into the season was how can these young pass



Moments after running back Aaron Jones went down, undrafted rookie running back Emanuel Wilson was tackled by Chargers linebacker Kenneth Murray along the sideline. He, too, was carted off to the locker room with a shoulder injury that seemed to occur as he attempted to stiff-arm Murray. As was the case with Jones, Wilson was ruled out at halftime.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

catchers positively affect the game. While that is still a concern, it seems like this coming week is a week that LaFleur on the coaching staff can experiment a little bit. Whether that means more jet sweeps or double

passes, Green Bay is probably going to have to pull out all of its tricks to beat the Lions.

"This league has a way of humbling you and like I have said a million times, every week is a new challenge, but it is also a new opportunity," said LaFleur. "We have a great task in front of us - a team that has really gotten after us the last four times. (We) have a lot of respect for Dan (Campbell) and what he has been able to establish. We are going to need our best effort. No doubt about it."

Like LaFleur said, that effort is going to be desperately needed if the team wants a chance to knock off the top dogs in the division. With the Packers win over the Chargers, the playoffs are not out of the water yet, so everyone is going to need to be on the ball in order for Green Bay to crawl back out of its hole. That may start with getting the ball to Reed and Wicks as much as possible on Thursday.



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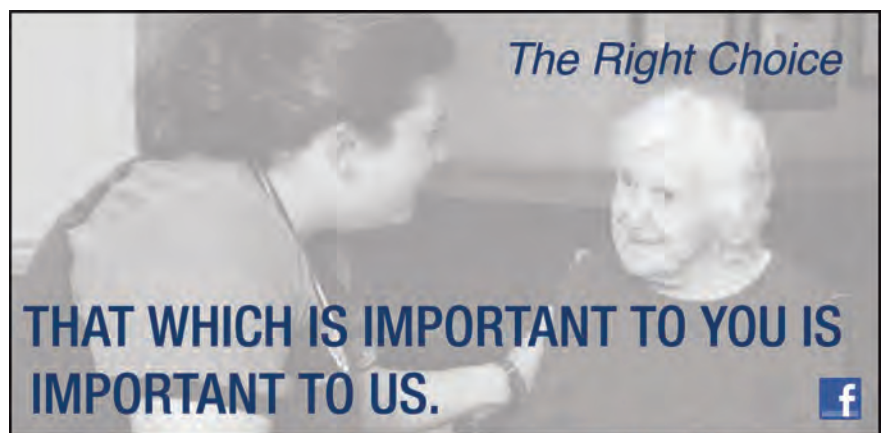
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