



Aubrey Williams' co-workers at Nercon Inc. combined efforts with the city of Oconto to install a memorial bench in her honor at the end of the Breakwater Park causeway, where she often went to enjoy the view.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

No contest plea entered in fatal crash

Laakonen convicted of negligent homicide in the motorcycle death of Aubrey Williams, 19

BY WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

An Oconto man will be sentenced May 12 after pleading no contest to homicide by the negligent operation of a motor vehicle in the motorcycle crash that killed his girlfriend.

Austin Scott Laakonen, 22, originally was also charged with homicide by operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, as well as a misdemeanor count of possession of THC, for the accident that killed Aubrey Williams, 19, also of Oconto. He also was ticketed for carrying a passenger in violation of his probationary motorcycle permit.

The other charges were dismissed in a plea agreement during a hearing Feb. 11 before Oconto County Circuit Judge Michael Judge. The negligent homicide conviction carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison, followed by five years of extended supervision, a fine of up to \$25,000 or both.

Judge reminded Laakonen that by pleading no contest, he waives his right to

PLEA, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Austin Laakonen, seated, reviews paperwork with his attorney, Jonas Bednarek, during his Feb. 11 plea hearing in Oconto County Circuit Court.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Schools chief finalists have local ties

Board schedules candidate interviews for Feb. 27

BY WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

Two of the three finalists to be the next Oconto Falls superintendent of schools have local connections. The school board, with the assistance of consulting firm McPherson and Jacobson LLC, announced plans to conduct interviews on Feb. 27.

The finalists, announced Feb. 17, are:

- Benjamin Heninger, current superintendent of the Pardeeville School District.
- Ben Pytleski, current superintendent for the Lena School District.
- Stuart Russ, currently in his second year as principal at Oconto Falls High School.

The interview process will include participation from the board of education, staff members, community members and a student representative.



DEAN HESS

“This collaborative approach ensures a thorough evaluation of each candidate’s potential to lead our district,” the board said in its news release.

Heninger was previously superintendent in Butternut after serving six years as a school principal in Gresham. He is a 2005 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and earned master’s degrees in music from UW-Milwaukee and St. Mary’s of Minnesota as well as a doctor of education degree from Edgewood College.

Pytleski was a teacher and coach in Oconto Falls for 13 years before joining the Lena district as a principal in 2013, becoming superintendent in 2016.

Russ started his teaching career in the Luxemburg-Casco School District, moving to the Rosendale-Brandon School District and then entering administration as an assistant principal at Shawano Community High School. He was principal of Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School before taking the post at OFHS in 2023.

The successful candidate is expected to begin their tenure July 1, succeeding Dean Hess, who is retiring after 10 years as superintendent.

INSIDE

School board greenlights ball field at Oconto Falls Middle School.

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Oconto Falls undergoes citywide reassessment

It's the first complete review of local property values since 2018

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

Oconto Falls is in the process of its first citywide reassessment in seven years, and the city council got an update on progress at its Feb. 11 meeting.

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue tracks the assessment ratio, the assessed value of property divided by its market value, and requires municipalities to keep that difference at 90% or higher to ensure that they are properly assessing property.

Dana Remien, account coordinator for Accurate Assessors, told the council that Oconto Falls' assessment ratio was 61%, due mainly to skyrocketing values since the last market update was done in 2018.

Average property values rose an estimated 10% in 2019, 9.1% in 2020, 11% in 2021, 7.5% in 2022, 15% in 2023 and 8.7% in 2024, Remien said. She estimated this reassessment will show increases in the neighborhood of 40-45%.

"It is so important to educate your residents on how this works, what happens, what's next, what their steps are, and what to expect," Remien said.

The Accurate Assessors

staff is currently conducting field work to review all properties in the city.

"Usually we only visit parcels that have physical changes to property, building permits, razing, anytime you tear something down, demo something, update something, build something, those are the properties that are visited," Remien said. "In revaluation years, we visit every single property."

Notices will be mailed out in early July with the new values, open book sessions are scheduled to start July 30, and the Board of Review plans to meet Sept. 4 to consider appeals, she said.

Most of the field work is being done by driving by properties, and letters will go out to parcel owners who have had building permits in the last year or had other obvious changes requesting an on-site visit, Remien said.

She encouraged property owners to attend the open book.

"Usually this is a really good time for an assessor just to give out a ton of education, especially when it comes to a revaluation and for markup," Remien said. "This is when you can go through all of your

information, be sure that all the data on your home is correct, anything you've done to your home."

Remien emphasized that Accurate Assessors is new to Oconto Falls and is working with historical information provided by the previous assessor.

"I don't know what's correct until you tell me what's not correct," she said. "(Open book) is a great time to come in, tell me what we've got, if it's right, if it's wrong, perfect time."

A typical open book meeting lasts about 15 minutes, and residents will be able to make an appointment online, although walk-ins will be accepted. Two days of open book are planned, because it's the first time for the new assessor and because it's expected the increases will be fairly large.

"The biggest question is what will the assessment do to my taxes," Remien said.

Local governments work under state-imposed limits on how much they may increase the amount of property taxes they collect year to year, so the main impact will likely be a lower tax rate.

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Clerical error results in DNR violation

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities officials want customers to know their water supply is safe despite a Department of Natural Resources notice that OFMU is in violation of a federal rule.

The Environmental Protection Agency passed lead and copper rule revisions in 2021 that required all water systems to develop an inventory of all water service lines in their jurisdiction and categorize them as lead, galvanized requiring replacement, non-lead or "lead status unknown" within three years.

At the Feb. 11 meeting of the Oconto Falls City Council, utility manager Greg Kuhn said with the help of the Jacobs consulting firm, the city was able to submit the required paperwork listing 1,150

lines just in time to meet the Oct. 16 deadline.

"Part of this paperwork is if we do not know what the service line is, we have to mark it as unknown. When we mark it unknown, we have to give them a reason how we came up with the fact that it's unknown, in which case you have to select 'other,'" Kuhn said. "When you select 'other,' you then have to go all the way to the end of the spreadsheet and you have to physically type it in 'no documents.' I didn't put in that we didn't have documentation, and that put us in violation ... It's a simple step I missed, I overlooked that last column."

The DNR notified the city of the violation Jan. 21, requiring Kuhn to send out a notice to all customers, post it in several locations and hand-deliver it to the school district, nursing homes and the hospital.

"Failure to report the initial inventory to the state correctly does not create a risk to public health, (but) OFMU is required to inform our customers of this violation and to provide additional information, including what we did and are doing to correct the situation," the Feb. 7 notice to customers said.

Kuhn said he has been having "multiple conversations" with DNR officials and Jacobs to correct the paperwork.

"I want to make sure I get this right," he said. "Jacobs is going to double check and make sure we're checking every box."

Once the city has a complete inventory, OFMU will seek grant funding and eventually try to get all of the lead and galvanized water pipe replaced, Kuhn said.

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Brosig joins Packers Fan Hall of Fame



The late John Brosig, pictured tailgating at Lambeau Field with his family, was named the 27th member of the Green Bay Packers Fan Hall of Fame on Feb. 17. Brosig was selected by fans from among 10 finalists during a voting period that ran Jan. 1-31 on packers.com. More than 70,000 total votes were cast from throughout the United States and countries around the world. Brosig passed away on Dec. 28, shortly after being named a Fan Hall of Fame finalist. Incredibly proud of the honor, he asked his family to include the exciting news in his obituary. John's son, Max, accepted the award on his behalf at Monday's announcement. Dedicated and passionate, Brosig became a Packers season ticket holder in 1962 and for more than 60 years attended every game at Lambeau Field included in his ticket package. He and his wife, Diane, also brought their fandom on the road, watching the Packers play at 29 different NFL stadiums through the years.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

PLEA, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a jury trial where prosecutors would have to prove his criminal negligence caused Williams' death.

"And you know now that by entering your plea of no contest, the state is not going to have to prove anything, right?" Judge said. "And knowing that, do you still wish to continue with your plea of no contest today?"

After Laakonen said he willingly entered the plea, Judge scheduled the May 12 sentencing hearing and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

According to the Oconto County Sheriff's Department traffic report, the crash occurred at 7:11 p.m. June 30, 2023, on U.S. Highway 41 just south of the intersection with County Road W in the Town of Little River. Williams died just after 8 p.m. at Bellin Health Oconto Hospital, the report said.

Williams was a passenger on the motorcycle, and Laakonen was merging into the left lane to negotiate a left turn onto County Road W, when the left side of the motorcycle struck the right side of an SUV driven by Luis A. Soto of Volo, Illinois.

As is standard in the case of a fatal accident, a blood draw was taken from Laakonen but showed no evidence of alcohol use, according to the criminal complaint. Test results that did not arrive until six months later indicated the presence of THC in his system, and Laakonen was charged Feb. 21, 2024.

Among the witnesses to Laakonen's plea was Nicole Pagel, Williams' mother, who said she was disappointed that the more



Aubrey Williams' mother, Nicole Pagel, often leaves messages in chalk near the Breakwater Park bench in her memory.

CONTRIBUTED

serious homicide charge was dismissed in the plea agreement.

"I miss my daughter. I miss her every day," Pagel said after the hearing. "There has to be some accountability ... I haven't had so much as an apology from that family."

She said she plans to make a victim impact statement at Laakonen's sentencing in May, and she wants the defendant to be sentenced to something more than a few months in the county jail.

Williams worked as a welder at Nercon in Oconto, and her co-workers surprised Pagel last summer by crafting a memorial bench and arranging to have it placed in her honor under the lone tree at the end of the causeway at Breakwater Park.



AUBREY WILLIAMS

"That was her place. She used to sit out there all the time," Pagel said. "I would go with her and watch the sunrise or sunset or the birds."

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OBITUARIES

Joe Zwijacz sadly made the obituary page he always read. He passed away on Monday, Feb. 10, 2025, at Shawano Health Services surrounded by his loving family.

Joe was born to Bert and Veronica (Funk) Zwijacz on July 26, 1936, in Chicago. In 1950, he moved with his parents and brother to Abrams and later to Oconto Falls. Joe graduated from Oconto Falls High School in 1955.

After high school, he completed a course in artificial insemination at the University of Wisconsin and worked alongside veterinarian Dr. Fundenberg, milked cows and assisted with farm work on his parents' farm. In 1958, Joe returned to



Chicago, where he met his Polish sweetheart, Agnes. They were married in April 1959. From October 1959 to February 1962, Joe proudly served in the United States Army. Following his honorable discharge, Joe worked in Chicago as a semi-truck driver.

Janice M. Steffel, died peacefully Tuesday morning, Feb. 11, 2025, at The Cottages Memory Care in Oconto Falls.

She was born Sept. 1, 1936, in Chase to Ernest and Mabel (Aprille) Heine-mann. She graduated from Pulaski High School, class of 1954.

She married William Steffel Jr. June 4, 1960, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Morgan, and together they moved to Spruce where they would raise their three children and eventually take over the Steffel Farm. She contributed tremendously to the Steffel Farm



being recognized in 1999 as a Century Farm. Later in life, Janice worked at Farnsworth Public Library in Oconto

In 1970, Joe moved to Gillett, where he began milking cows and raising steers, pigs, chickens and various crops. For 33 years, he also raised veal calves while helping his son drive a milk truck or hauling lumber to Illinois. Joe was always busy on the farm and instilled a strong work ethic to all three of his children.

Joe was an active member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, serving as an usher, sexton at the Catholic cemetery and on the building committee for the new church. He also contributed to Rural Farm Days and was a member of the Pulaski Post 337 American Legion. Joe and

Janice M. Steffel

and also worked for a local organization, helping coordinate home health care for area families.

Janice was a remarkable woman with many passions. She was an active member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, where she participated in Sunday school, readings and service projects. Her commitment extended to fundraising efforts to help local youth attend Crossways Camp and serving on the church cookbook committee. Additionally, she enjoyed serving as youth leader for the Spruce Aces 4-H Club and superinten-

Agnes enjoyed many happy moments together, especially polka dancing. Above all, he was a loving husband, father, grandfather, helpful neighbor, parishioner and friend who will be greatly missed.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents and brother, John.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Agnes (Wrobel), of 65 years; son, Jim (Melissa) of Apollo Beach, Florida, and their children, Michael (Adrienne), Matthew and Emily; daughter, Anne (George) Juza of Manitowoc, and their children, Michelle (fiancé Jordan Olson) and Nicole; and daughter, Joan (Paul) Janco of Green Bay, and

their children, Alyssa and Nick.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Shawano Health Services staff for their constant support. The care, compassion and kindness shown to Joe by the CNAs and nurses during his stay, especially at the end, did not go unnoticed — thank you. The family would also like to thank Unity Hospice and the VA during Joe's initial admission.

Joe faced challenges with his prosthetic hand, but there was nothing he couldn't do. He is now at peace, ready to get his real hand and owes Agnes a polka or two. Thank you, Joe, for 65 years filled with

"never a dull moment." Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2025, at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Gillett from 10 a.m. until the funeral service at noon with the Rev. Tony De los Santos officiating.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring, is assisting the family with arrangements.

In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, a memorial fund will be established.



grandchildren. Janice is also survived by her two sisters, Arlene Elsea of Pennsylvania and Millie Gohr of Chase, along with her sister-in-law, Joyce Vizelka of Oconto Falls.

She was greeted in heaven by her parents, Ernest and Mabel; her beloved husband, Bill; and her granddaughter, Jo Marquardt. She also joins her four sisters, Lucille (Ray) Kolakowski, Irene (Clifford) Allison, Florence (Robert) Sternberg and Gladys (Clarence) Werner; brothers-in-law, Reuben Gohr, Method Vizelka, Donald (Nancy) Steffel;

and special nephew, John Vizelka.

A visitation will take place Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025, at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church (County Road M) in Suring from 10 a.m. until the time of service. A memorial service will be held at noon with Pastor Fred Mai. Janice will be laid to rest at Pine Hill Cemetery at a future date.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff members at Serenity Gardens, The Cottages Memory Care and Moments Hospice for their love and compassion the last several years.



We would like to extend the massive thank you to our volunteers, donators and participants that made the 18th annual Ribbon of Hope Ride on September 28, 2024 an enormous success.

Our community stepped up in a big way this year to show their support for this cause. This year were able to add \$27,825 to our donation with the hard work and attendance of so many making our grand total of donation \$267,289! A breast cancer diagnosis touches so many families in our community we are so delighted to contribute to the Ribbon of Hope with their assistance given to our community.

Thank you to our volunteers and donators: A Special Thank You To:

American Foods Group, Adam & Maria Migel, Adam & Rebecca Smrcina, Ahnapee Brewing, Al Johnson's Swedish Restaurant, Alissa Boucher, Andy & Carole Stellmacher, Antique Bar, Archie's Heavenly Spirits, Artrageous Ink, Auto Parts, B.J. (Bob Luedke), Badger Sports Park, Barry Smrcina, Becky Pillath, Becky Zarling, Betty Wagner, Bill & Jessica Kellam, Black Cactus Beauty, Blaine & Deb Konitzer, Boarding House, Bob & Chris Schwartz, Bob and Kim Andrews, Bottle Room, Car Quest, Chad & Becky Reiser, Chiropractic Advantage, Chrysler World, Chuck Topel & Brenda Ducaine, CJ's Bar, Clark & Julie Routheau, Corner Pocket, Dan & Julie LeAnna, Dan & Michelle Jacobs, Dan & Tim's Riverside, Dawn Melland, Dean Dist, Deb & Blaine, Deb Snyder, Dennis & Kathy Butterfield, Don Liegeois, Donna & Jim Bergman, Door Peninsula Winery, Eric Lockstein, Falls Family Restaurant, Feyre Salon Spay, Four Way, Gallaghers Funeral Home, Gandrude Auto Groups, George & Andrea Johnson, Girtz Masonry, Green Bay Gamblers, Hair Design, Happy Joes Pizza, HH Hinder Brewing Co, Hugo Trucking, In Memory of Thomas P, Iverson's Piggly Wiggly, Jackie Manning, JC Power Sports, Jeremy & Chris Kulpa, Justin & Gorgina Svinicki, K9 Konvoy, Keith Green, Kerrigan Bothers Winery, Kevin & Renae Bliese, Kringle Shop, Kugel's Cheese, Leja Coin, Lena Lanes, Lori Moder & Steve Poquette, Los Banditos, Lots Of Deals, Mario and Teresa Feliz, Mark Fuss, McGuire's Sports Bar, Michelle & Terry Bostwick, Mike & Linda Hock, Mike & Mary Skaggs, Mike Ploor, North Star Casino, North Woods Power Equipment, O'Reilly Auto Parts-Oconto, Oconto Falls Insurance Center, Oconto Falls Pharmacy, Oconto Sportsman Club, On a Whim, Oneida Hotel, Patty Barrett, Patty Weaner, Pulcifer Pub, PDQ, Pelkins Meat, Peyton Boucher, Piggly Wiggly, Pine Acres, Pizza Ranch, Potawatomi Carter Casino & Hotel, Ray's Boneyard, Reese Busjahn, Rhodes Charapata Funeral Home, Roberts Hardware, Rocky Ridge, Ron Delzer, Rosemary Rice, S&S Hometown, Sandy Corners, Sandy Stazak, Scott & Carla O'Connor, Shiloh Lounge, South Chase, Steve & Lori Jahnke, Steve & Lori Poquette, Steve & Missy Trepainer, Sue Shew, Sue Trepainer, Ted Girtz, Terry Bostwick Cornerstone Mortgage, The Flower Shoppe Oconto Falls, The Pancake Place, The Rite Place, The Shop On Main, The Wooden Shoe, Tina Dresek, Tom & Kerry Pecor, United True Value-Oconto Falls, Vandervest Harley, Vietnam Vet-Legacy Vets MC, Von Stiehl Winery, Vorpahl's Business Services, Wannabe Quilters, Whispering Pines, Wisconsin Log Homes, Yogi Bears Sturgeon Bay, and Yooper Dogs.

If we have overlooked anyone, please accept our heartfelt apologies and know that your efforts did not go unnoticed. Thank you all for such an amazing event!



Nexus Solutions invites contractors to submit bids for Cafeteria and Kitchen Improvements at Abrams Elementary School in Oconto Falls School District.

ABRAMS ELEMENTARY - OCONTO FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

CALL FOR BIDS

Bids will be accepted through 2:00 pm on Thursday, March 6, 2025

Project is scheduled to begin June 9, 2025. Completion of the project is scheduled for August 20, 2025. Bids should be submitted through our Procore Construction Management System.

The scope of work includes general trades, plumbing, HVAC controls, mechanical piping and ventilation, electrical - low voltage and Food service at Abrams Elementary in Oconto Falls, WI.

PRE-BID INFORMATION MEETING:

3:15 PM on Tues., February 25, 2025

Abrams Elementary School Office

3000 Elm Street, Abrams, WI 54101

BID INQUIRIES SUBMITTED TO:

Brent Warren, Nexus Project Manager

Email: BWarren@NexusSolutions.com

Phone: 262.208.8448

THANK YOU!



Board OKs baseball field at middle school

Project would include excavation for a future second field

By WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

The Oconto Falls School Board approved a proposal Feb. 10 to build a high school varsity baseball field near the new middle school, as well as excavation for a future second ball diamond.

The unanimous decision followed several months of discussion and a request by Trent Maloney Memorial Inc. (TMM) last April asking the school board to commit to building the two fields and allow the nonprofit to help seek donations.

TMM is named after a 9-year-old boy who died Feb. 28, 2020, of complications from cardiac arrest a few weeks earlier. The group has provided more than \$6,000 in scholarships to Oconto Falls High School students over the past two years. Its biggest event is a baseball and softball tournament on the second Saturday in August, which started in 2021.

The group's stated goal was for the class of 2029, to which Trent belonged, to be able to play on the new field when they reach high school.

With Oconto Falls Middle School on schedule to open in September and coming in under budget, Superintendent Dean Hess said funds are available from the project contingency fund and money saved thus far.

"We're pretty confident, given that we're 78% per-

cent done with the project, that there's going to be between \$1.5 million and \$2 million between contingency and under-budget," Hess said. "You don't hear that very often in capital projects like this around the state. Usually they're behind and over budget."

Hess presented three estimates for the board's consideration.

- "Good" – \$975,000 would cover excavation for one baseball field, including seeding and erosion control; site utilities such as sewer, stormwater and a sprinkler system; and the actual field with a turf infield and dugouts.

- "Better" – \$1.5 million for everything in the Good column plus excavation for a future second field, along with upgraded dugouts and batting cages.

- "Best" – \$1.9 million to add a second baseball field with a natural grass surface and dugouts.

"One of the things that came out of those planning meetings was that by having a turf infield, it allows kids to get on the field earlier in the spring," Hess said.

It's not unusual for baseball practice to be happening in gymnasiums because of snow and ice that lingers into April and beyond, he said.

Doing excavation for the second field makes it easier to add the second field if funds become available, Hess said.

The high school baseball team currently plays

at Memorial Field, but it's necessary to have some practices at Abrams Elementary School 14 miles away, he noted.

"To be able to have a field (at the middle school) would allow us, between Memorial Field and a field here, we wouldn't be having to bus kids out of town," Hess said. "And I think that was a significant focus as I was listening to people."

The proposal doesn't include a concession stand, bathrooms, concrete for the plaza or lights, Hess said, adding that addressing all the possibilities could tip the cost into multiple millions of dollars.

Some board members were hesitant to make a decision immediately, in part because of a lack of much community feedback and because the field is just one of several projects that were eliminated from a failed \$49.9 million referendum question that included the new middle school. A second, \$37.4 million referendum passed in November 2022.

"We serve the taxpayers of the district," said board member Emilie Trudell. "We also serve the students and the staff, and I think we all want to be mindful of the dollars that we have saved."

Board President Clint Gardebrecht said he understands the hesitation, because this is one of the largest projects the board has considered outside of referendums in his 15 years

on the board.

"I respect everyone's comments in wanting to be cautious, but personally I look at this and say we've talked about this topic at no less than four or five board meetings," Gardebrecht said. "We've thrown around numbers in these kind of neighborhoods and my phone has not been ringing off the hook, nor have I received a ton of emails off the hook."

"You can say that the absence of feedback is feedback," added board member Carrie Hill. "Like you said, we have talked about this at several meetings. We've talked about it in the community. I haven't run into anybody that doesn't believe that we should move forward with something."

Hill made a motion to approve the "Good" option for \$975,000, but after further discussion the board decided on the "Better" plan that includes excavation for the second field.

"If we could just take that little extra jump, at least we have the base for a second field for the future, and we're doing it at a cost-efficient point right now," said Vice President Bryan Baumler.

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Gunless poultry shoot planned in Lakewood

The next American Legion Gunless Poultry Shoot will take place at 1 p.m. Feb. 22 at Firelite Lounge, 15329 State High-

way 32, Lakewood. American Legion Post 44 will be raffling off packages of meat, poultry, sausages, bacon, bever-

ages and items donated by local businesses.

The event will also feature 50/50 and basket raffles.

CORRECTIONS

Information from two towns was inadvertently omitted from the list of spring election candidates that appeared in the Feb. 7 edition of the Oconto County Times Herald — including the Town of Little River, where Town Chairman Tom Portier is being challenged by Randy Hahn. We apologize for the error.

The missing candidates:

- TOWN OF LENA**
Town Chairperson
Kevin J. Jagiello (inc.)
Town Board Supervisor (2)
Holly Marie Marquardt (inc.)
Scott Cook (inc.)
Town Clerk
Dawn Van Ark (inc.)
Town Treasurer
Jean St. Louis (inc.)
Constable
Bruce Jagiello (inc.)
- TOWN OF LITTLE RIVER**
Town Chairperson
Thomas Big T. Portier (inc.)
Randy Hahn
Town Board Supervisor #1
Paul Porker Madson (inc.)
Town Board Supervisor #2
Darlene Bourassa (inc.)
Town Clerk
Amy Peterson (inc.)
Town Treasurer
Nancy A. DeWindt (inc.)

Motivational speaker Brian Williams was incorrectly identified in a front page story headlined "Oconto Falls schools want to get your shoes" in the Feb. 14 edition of the Oconto County Times Herald. We apologize for the error.



RHEA
Rhea - She is a 2 year old Pit mix looking for her forever home. She is still full of young fun-loving energy. She has done well playing with some other dogs. She likes long walks with the volunteers. If you are interested in meeting Rhea, please contact us for an appointment.



MAX
Max - He is a 2 year old Husky mix looking for his forever home. He is your typical fun-loving husky. He has been very well behaved for staff and loves attention. He has done great in his kennel and is potty trained. He likes some other dogs, cuddles, and plenty of playtime.



FRECKLE
Freckle - Freckle is a 1 year old social and adventurous cat looking for a home. She enjoys exploring the shelter and has a bold personality. Freckle may prefer no cats or dogs in her future home.



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Larry & Janice McGray

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Oconto Area Humane Society and Animal Shelter
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To make an appointment, call the shelter or email ocontoareahumane@gmail.com
Please see all adoptable pets at www.ocontoareahumane.org. Supporting homeless pets is one of the best acts of kindness.


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FARM LIFE FROM A FARM WIFE

‘Green and Gold’ fitting tribute to farmers

With an emotionally-charged voice, the home-team announcer enthusiastically described the play: “Brett drops back. Scrambles. Throws a bomb to Sharp in the end zone. Touchdown, Packers.”

Moments before the play unfolded my husband had leaned over, his quiet whisper tickling my ear, “Favre’s gonna throw a bomb to Sterling Sharp.”

(Just a side-note. I am amazed at the sheer, detailed volume of sports information stored between the ears of the male brain. My husband can be talking to his friends or our sons and he recalls when he was at bat at his high school baseball game — two outs, full count, a man on third, bottom of the ninth and he hit a line drive out past second base to center field, scoring the guy from third. I mean the detail. Where is that stored? In what section of the male brain?)

Out of the blue a few weeks ago, my husband said, “Hey. I wanna go see that Packer movie that’s coming out pretty soon.”

My head whipping in his direction, he got my full attention. He hates movies, and to me, watching a great film in a darkened theater munching popcorn and sipping an ice-cold Pepsi is right up there with eating a dish of Culver’s flavor-of-the-day. (Culver’s so happened to present this particular movie in support of the “Thank You Farmers Project.”)

Seriously. An offer of a movie from my farmer husband? A treat. Presently I checked out the Shawano Cinema and our wonderful local movie theater had not one, not two, not three but four time selections Feb. 1. Reading the trailer, it sounded right down our wheelhouse:

“Foreclosure looms over Wisconsin dairy farmer Buck (Craig T. Nelson). With mounting debts and the land his family has cultivated for four generations at risk, Buck refuses to give up his legacy without a fight. Buck’s granddaughter (Madison Lawlor) works alongside him but dreams of a career in music. Her aspirations are fanned by a famous musician (Brandon Sklenar) but chasing her dreams might take her far from the farm. With time running out, Buck placed a daring Super Bowl bet on his beloved Green Bay Packers, risking it all to save everything he holds dear.”

Quoting the granddaughter’s grandpa Buck, “Farming wasn’t a job or even a way of life, it was a sacred act. It wasn’t the frozen tundra, it was the Garden of Eden.”

The movie was full of the realities of farming — one act had grandpa and granddaughter pulling out a brand-new calf; steam from the heat of the birth curling in the sunlight’s beam. Phenomenal. Scenes included catching a bear running in the woods, deer bounding across the road, a month-old calf frolicking in emerald-green alfalfa and a cow standing out in the bitter cold pasture, puffing duel

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Church added that he hopes more tribal members will utilize the writers circle in the future, saying that having the camaraderie has helped him with his work. Church’s books have a former Native American police officer as a protagonist, investigating strange doings in Wisconsin and Arizona.

“He deals a lot with the cartels and



Kay Reminger
Columnist



Sandee Barton, left, talks about how being part of the Mohican Writers Circle helps her combat feelings of invisibility and erasure while Sandee Schiel-Blaha listens during one of the group’s meetings held Feb. 9 at the North Star Mohican Casino Resort.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

No erasers allowed inside the Mohican Writers Circle

Tribal members shine light on history, lore, culture

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

The Mohican Writers Circle has been going strong since 2011, but the tribe’s concept of sharing writing dates back to the end of the 19th century, mostly from the pure enjoyment of sharing creativity but also to stave off attempts to erase the Mohican culture.

Several writers meet regularly on the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation, eager to talk about what they’ve written. Whether it’s at the Mohican Family Center or on the top floor of the North Star Casino, those writers love to see their various worlds take flight.

The purpose of the writers circle varies from person to person, but the mission statement tasks the group to work as mentors for any tribal members or their descendants who want to share their stories or history.

“We started meeting to try to get some writing going of our own,” said JoAnn Schedler, one of the founding members who currently serves as secretary for the group. “It’s been amazing because of Misty (Cook) and Bonney (Hartley) and our younger people that have been a part of the group. Our circle has grown.”

So far, the group has published two books. One is “Reflections on the Waters that are Never Still: Literary Journal of the Mohican People,” which featured 26 writers and was published in 2015. Following in 2023 was “Along the Many Trails: Literary Journal of the Mohican

People,” with 27 tribal members telling their stories. Schedler said the books were made possible because of a pair of grants the writers circle was able to receive from the Wisconsin Arts Board.

Now, the group is working on a third book, which members hope to publish by the time the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe’s annual pow wow rolls around in August.

“We’ve had workshops, and we’ve had several elder workshops,” Schedler said. “Through that, that’s how we’ve kind of collected the stories.”

Cook, another founding member who serves as treasurer, recalled how Schedler came to her almost 14 years ago with the idea of the writers circle.

“It would be really relaxed and give us time at the end (of meetings) to share,” Cook said. “We’ve always ended up having so much to do, it’s like we barely have time to share at the end. We’re so busy doing this other stuff, but it’s actually pretty cool because we’re always working on creating another book.”

The encouragement and sharing still takes place, Cook said, but she was still amazed at how much things took off.

“The coolest part about this group that I think is really awesome is we always get together, we have fun, we discuss, we laugh,” Cook said. “It’s not even work, and then we create a book. How does that happen?”

The books, in Cook’s view, reflect the

myriad of talent that exists within the Mohican Nation. It’s not just the writers, she said, but the people who helped to put the books together, who found ways to get the books online, who edited the various pieces submitted by Mohican writers and others.

“It kind of works out that we have all the talent that we need that just comes and helps us, and then we can produce these cool books,” Cook said.

Even with the anthologies going on, the writers find time to write individually. Cook herself came up with “Medicine Generations,” showcasing the medicines available from the plants that can be found in people’s own backyards.

Roland Church, a tribal member who commutes to the meetings from Wausau, also keeps very busy with his own writing, having published seven books and recently finishing an eighth. He said his writing has been a continuous evolution.

“The ones that I haven’t submitted (to a publisher) — someday I might — I thought they were great books,” Church said. “A couple of years went by, and I sat down and re-read a few and thought, ‘Oh my God. What was wrong with me?’”

Church added that he hopes more tribal members will utilize the writers circle in the future, saying that having the camaraderie has helped him with his work. Church’s books have a former Native American police officer as a protagonist, investigating strange doings in Wisconsin and Arizona.

“He deals a lot with the cartels and



WRITERS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

FARMERS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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Floating Barbie doll brings two hearts together

Love can appear in the most unlikely of places, but social media sensation Ed the Diver never expected that a water-logged Barbie doll he pulled from the murky depths of the Shawano Dam would lead him to a real mermaid that captured his heart.

Ed Bieber, a former Marinette farmer and electrician now known as Ed the Diver on multiple social media platforms, finds thousands of fishing lures and golf balls a year scrounging on the bottom of area rivers, lakes and ponds. But the zebra mussel-encrusted Barbie he found last year in the Wolf River at Shawano Dam is certainly his best find ever, because it led him to his fiancée, Christie Barlament — the woman he calls “the mermaid of the Fox River.”

His followers number about 325,000 on YouTube, 70,000 on Facebook, 102,000 on Instagram and 140,000 on TikTok. His most famous video, when he found and collected 27 lure-laden boat anchors at a dam near Voyageur Park in De Pere, garnered 5.6 million TikTok views.

He has viewers from Africa and Australia to Germany and China.



Thailand and Canada seem especially enamored by his videos. His average two-hour trips become 20-minute videos, shot only with a GoPro camera and an iPhone, then distilled down to about two-minute videos after editing. Short videos are key to attracting a wide audience, he’s found.

Bieber focuses on popular fishing and swimming spots for his cleanup efforts, which help anglers prevent snags and swimmers prevent getting impaled on hooks. Those hooks also are a threat to wildlife, including a gull he freed that was caught on a hook tied to a fishing line.

He’s come a long way from those early efforts in 2016 when he donned shorts and tennis shoes, making short snorkeling dives and putting his finds on a boogie board. Now he has multiple wetsuits in varying thicknesses (depending on water temperature) and typically uses a kayak as his treasure stash.



Ed Bieber, better known in social media circles as Ed the Diver, met his fiancée, Christie Barlament, after she paid \$1,225 for this Barbie doll he found at the bottom of Shawano Dam in March 2024. Bieber auctioned off the doll on eBay to help fund his local river cleanup efforts. After she had the winning bid, he presented it to her in a tackle box with a bow on her birthday.

ROSS BIELEMA

His cleanup efforts are as impressive as his lure recovery. He collected 13 bags of trash (including the shore) in one hour along the Fox River Trail in Green Bay. He recovered 180 pounds of lead sinkers in 20 minutes from the Menominee River dam. He’s found many drug needles and other paraphernalia, as well as vapes. He encour-

ages others to join him in his cleanup efforts, advertising in advance where he will be. He’s organized large cleanups from Minneapolis to northern Illinois.

“It inspires other people to do it, too,” he said.

He also collects new and used fishing rods that he hands out to kids who gather around his

searches.

One of his most exciting finds was a classic Winchester Model 94 lever-action rifle, wrapped in plastic and taped shut, in the Menominee River near the Michigan border. He always contacts law enforcement when he finds potentially stolen items, but authorities had no reports of a stolen rifle so he was able to keep it.

He found a pillowcase with stolen jewelry stashed inside two metal and wooden containers.

Inside one of the containers were the obituaries of a mother and grandmother. He was able to contact the family, who wanted the obituaries more than the jewelry but eventually took it back.

The Lena native who grew up in Marinette and still has his diving office in Marinette now lives at CityDeck Landing in Green Bay, the apartment complex his fiancée manages.

Back in March 2024, while diving by the Shawano Dam, he found a dirty Barbie doll encrusted with zebra mussels. Once he posted the doll on his YouTube and other sites, fan interest exploded.

One fan suggested he put it for sale on eBay to

raise money for his cleanups. The bidding started at 99 cents and quickly soared.

Barlament knew it was for a good cause, so she entered the winning bid of \$1,225.

Bieber put the Barbie doll (dubbed “the Cran-don Barbie” by social media comic Ryan Ruebl “because it smells like beer, diesel fuel and freedom”) in a tackle box with a bow and gave it to her with a card on March 28, her 40th birthday.

“It was just so sweet,” she said.

He asked her out, and they have been together ever since. She is working on her diving certification so she can join him on his underwater adventures.

He proposed in August during a trip to Alaska, although they haven’t set a wedding date.

Bieber recently won a Celebrity Impact award from Do Good Wisconsin for his cleanup efforts during the Gala for Good Ice Ball and has a display of his finds planned for the Neville Museum in Green Bay this November.

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



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IN THE KITCHEN WITH FRANCESCA



Jam bread can be made as a traditional loaf, but it makes for a lot more fun when you make it into weird shapes, like this tractor. FRANCESCA ULLMER

Sweet breads as much fun to make as eat

There are many different kinds of bread — white breads, flat breads, quick breads, enriched breads, the list goes on. Every country has its own types of bread as well. There are very few foods with as much variations as bread.

I made more quick breads when I was younger, because they were easier to make. Also, yeast breads generally require kneading, which causes my hands to hurt. So, I generally avoided yeast breads. Then, the judges at the Oconto County Fair expressed an interest in judging yeast breads.

Because I had previously received a bread cookbook from my godparents — “The New Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day” — I decided to look into it. This book turned out to be an amazing book that I would recommend to anyone, but what really grabbed my interest was the fact that kneading was not required and in fact, discouraged. This is because most of the breads in this book are high-moisture breads that do not require kneading. I had never heard of not kneading bread before, but it really works with these recipes.



Challah is a traditional Jewish bread. It tastes almost exactly the same as brioche, but brioche is less expensive.



One whole section of the book deals with sweet breads. This is my favorite section. There are two main sweet, or enriched, bread recipes, that I tried from this section.

Challah is a traditional Jewish bread, and brioche is a very similar bread from France and Italy. They taste almost exactly the same, but I generally make challah because this brioche bread recipe calls for eight eggs

is excellent for breakfast or just a snack.

What is also great about it, is that you can make it as large, small, thin, or fat as you want. If you have the dough and jam or jelly, you have everything you need to go wild and make it however you want. If you do not like cinnamon, omit it. If you do not like a lot of sugar, omit it. I sprinkle flour (or cornstarch) on top of the jam/jelly to absorb some of the liquid, so I would recommend that. Otherwise, the sky's the limit.

I even made a jam bread tractor because my little siblings really wanted one. That is the cool thing about baking, or cooking. As long as you have the main ingredients, you can fool around with extra ingredients and discover amazing new recipes, right in your own kitchen. Do not worry about looks; the main thing is how good it tastes.

Tip: To tell if your bread has risen enough (in the first rising), stick two fingers in the dough and then withdraw them. If the holes remain, it has risen enough. If the holes fill in, let it continue to rise.

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

CHALLAH

1 3/4 cup lukewarm water 1 tbsp. yeast 1/2 cup honey
1 tbsp. salt (or slightly less if desired) 4 large eggs, lightly beaten
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter 7 cups all-purpose flour
Egg wash — 1 egg mixed with 1 tbsp. water

Melt the butter. Pour water into a large bowl. Sprinkle the yeast lightly across the surface, and let sit for at least a minute. Add the salt, eggs, honey, and melted butter; mix gently. Mix in the flour without kneading, using a wooden spoon or a heavy-duty stand mixer (with paddle). You may not need all the flour, or you may need more. The dough is meant to be wet, though, and should conform to the shape of the bowl. Cover (not airtight) and allow to rest at room temperature until the dough rises and collapses (or flattens on top), approximately 2 hours. Refrigerate at least 2 hours, or until cold. Grease, or line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Dust the surface of the dough with flour and cut off a 1-pound (grapefruit size) piece. Using more flour as needed, shape the dough in to a ball, then divide the ball into 3 equal pieces. Gently roll and stretch the pieces into long ropes. Braid. Let it rest for 90 minutes. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Brush the loaf with egg wash, and bake for approximately 20 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely.

JAM BREAD

1 pound challah (or brioche) dough 1 cup of jam or jelly
Sugar Butter Cinnamon Flour or cornstarch
Egg wash — 1 egg mixed with 1 tbsp. water

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Shape dough into a ball. Then, using a rolling pin, gently roll dough into a rectangle adding flour as needed to prevent sticking. Transfer to baking sheet. Spread the jam or jelly down the center third of the dough. Dot the jam with butter, sprinkle with cinnamon, sugar and flour or cornstarch. Using a pizza cutter, cut the free dough on each side of the jam-filled center into strips. Fold the strips, left over right, crisscrossing over the filling. Pinch and adjust the braid as needed to minimize jam or jelly leakage. Allow to rest for 40 minutes. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Brush the jam bread with egg wash and sprinkle with sugar. Bake for about 20 minutes, or until golden brown and bubbling. Serve warm.

WRITERS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

some of the things that apparently go haywire down on the border,” Church said. “I’m trying to introduce more Native American characters in my books, and it’s working out pretty good, except when the publisher steals my book and keeps all the profits.”

That last line was not fiction for Church when he dealt with a scam artist who promised him he’d make it big with the books. Then there was silence after the book came out. No royalties were coming in. The scammer was tracked down in the Philippines by the police there and eventually caught.

“That made me feel fulfilled, because there’s a lot of publishing scams out there,” said Church, who still has the letter from the Philippines police assuring him that the case will be investigated. “Unfortunately, a lot of it shows up on our social networks: ‘Publish a book for \$299.’ ‘Become famous on Amazon.’ That sort of stuff.”

While the group is thriving today, a line in a letter told of Mohicans gathering every Saturday night in 1898 to share their writing was found, showing how the writers circle was not an original concept when the current group formed 12 years ago.

“We had no idea we were stepping into shoes like that,” said Bonney Hartley, who lives on the Mohican tribe’s ancestral land in Massachusetts. “We were reviving something that had been there before.”

Bonney’s mother, Judy Hartley, also attends meetings remotely, although she does it from Indiana.

“It is fun to share stories and go back through 400 years of history,” Judy Hartley said. “We have a lot of material. I think it adds to the richness of what we produce.”

For member Sandee Barton, who teaches courses on Indigenous perspectives, being able to give tribal members their voice is the antidote to erasure. In Indigenous cultures, storytelling is a

AT A GLANCE

The Mohican Writers Circle’s two books can be purchased online through Amazon or through these retailers:

- Little Star Convenience Store, W12140 County Road A, Bowler
- Arvid E. Miller Library Museum, N8510 Moh He Con Nuck Road, Bowler
- Wild Soul River, 248 Cole Ave., Williamstown, Massachusetts

key part of learning. “We’re frozen in time to about the 1890s,” Barton said. “One of the purposes is to show you’re still here. We’re still producing food and works of art, and we’re writing. We’re keeping traditions alive — all the ceremonies and other things. We don’t dress up in regalia all the time, but we’re still here, and we need to be represented.”

Schedler noted that the latest book published featured more writers who were U.S. veterans. There’s evidence showing that the Mohicans served in every war dating back to the Revolutionary War.

“We’ve been trying to get more of their voices out there — what happened when they went away to Korea or Vietnam or wherever,” Schedler said. “One of our authors is still in therapy and writing as a part of post-traumatic stress to help heal and get over that. I think it’s important hearing from our own voices.”

Church believes groups like the Mohican Writers Circle help to bring the tribe’s identity into focus.

“It’s a way of proving we’re not stereotypical Hollywood replicas, regardless of what mainstream media does,” Church said. “We recently got broadband service on our reservation. That opened the door for a lot of people to communicate with the outside folks. Not everybody in our tribe is going to go to college. Not everybody’s going to leave the rez to get into the real world. The internet can be pretty dark, but a lot of people here have access to it and I think it’s a big plus if it’s handled in the right way.”

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com



The Mohican Writers Circle is not limited to tribal members on the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation between Bowler and Gresham. JoAnn Schedler, right, talks about book matters during a meeting Feb. 9 at the North Star Mohican Casino Resort while Bonney Hartley is seen attending remotely from her tribe’s ancestral homeland in Massachusetts.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, FEB. 21

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

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

WITTENBERG: "Moving Forward With the Past," 6-9 p.m., The Little White Chapel, 400 East Front St. A fundraiser by the Wittenberg Area Historical Society featuring the unveiling of the Historical Museum expansion plan. Beer, wine, charcuterie, raffle baskets. Tickets \$30, must be 21 to attend, available at Refuel Nutrition, Shops on Grand, or at Ticketbud on Wittenberg Area Historical Society Facebook page.

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

SATURDAY, FEB. 22

GILLETT: Finnegan Lake Walleye Club Fishing Derby, Zippel Park, 150 N. McKenzie St. Fish registration through 3 p.m., prizes awarded 3:30 p.m., raffle drawing 4:30 p.m.

SHAWANO: Badgerland Kid's Classic Fishing Tournament, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court. No-cost tournament for ages 15 and younger. Northern, bass, crappie, perch and bluegill. Free lunch for all registered kids. Prizes including fishing gear, bikes, and grand prize of a night's stay at a water park. Pre-register at Bamboo Bar 3-8 p.m. Feb. 21 or 6-9 a.m. Feb. 22.

SHAWANO: Zurko's Indoor Flea Market, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shawano Community Hall, 115 E. Division St.

LAKEWOOD: Gunless Poultry Shoot, 1 p.m., Firelite Lounge, 15329 State Highway 32. Hosted by American Legion Post 44.

SHAWANO: Bourbon Tasting, 2-4 p.m., Shawano Lake Golf Course, W5714 Lake Drive. \$50 raffle ticket includes three pours and a chance to win a full set of blantons. Proceeds benefit Shawano Booster Club.

SHAWANO: Mooseyard Bar Olympics, 3-9 p.m., starts at Golfside Pub. Two-person teams (\$20 per team) travel to different bars in the Mooseyard and play a different game at each place to compete and win prizes.

PULASKI: "Once Upon A Mattress," 7 p.m., Pulaski High School, 1040 S. St. Augustine St. Tickets \$8 at pulaskihs.ludus.com.

SUNDAY, FEB. 23

SHAWANO: Meat raffle and barbecue, 10:30 a.m., Wolf River Lutheran High School, N7467

River Bend Road. Barbecue dinner to support sophomore and junior classes. barbecue dinner with loaded baked potato, pork and chicken \$10; with beef brisket \$12. Beverage and dessert included. Presale dinner tickets available at school office. 50/50 raffles and basket raffles. Doors open 10:30 a.m., meat raffle at noon.

SHAWANO: Shawano Pathways winter hike, 1:30 p.m., Cotter Creek Trails, W9050 Broadway Road. Arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the hike to register, get gear on and meet the guide. All hikes are free, but donations are appreciated.

PULASKI: "Once Upon A Mattress," 2 p.m., Pulaski High School, 1040 S. St. Augustine St. Tickets \$8 at pulaskihs.ludus.com.

OCONTO: Machickanee Players 42nd annual meeting, 2:30 p.m., Park Avenue Playhouse, 304 Park Ave.

MONDAY, FEB. 24

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

TUESDAY, FEB. 25

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

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26

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

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

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

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

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

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

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

REMIINGER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

jet streams in and out in cadence with her breath.

Deeply moving, the film resonated with my farming background. While watching, tears swelled in humble pride — I am a farmer's daughter and farm wife and went on to raise our children on our farm. The movie showcased a farmer's bottomless respect and care for his land and animals. Privileged to have lived this lifestyle and to have raised our family on my husband's generational family dairy farm as well, was an added blessing.

That aspect, added to the parallel of loving the Green Bay Packers, was the glue that really held the movie together, especially for my husband. This guy, who barely ever cries ever, got teary-eyed with the unfolding portrayal of grisly old farmer Buck's tender love of the land and the animals.

A gentle part of the story

showcased the deep faith of the grandma as well as her abiding love for her stubborn husband. One scene had them slow-dancing in the barn. When a medical emergency landed her in a hospital bed, Buck honors his wife's faith by saying, "She'd want us to pray."

Bowing his head before him and his granddaughter's meal, he tenderly pleaded, "Bring her home." With palatable anxiety and a long, long pause, a tear formed at the corner of his eye. He simply ended the prayer, "Thank you."

During one scene, distraught, he looked up at the stars in the sky and in the middle of his field, emotionally prayed to the Creator of the stars he was gazing at. Pushing his sweat-stained, weathered farmer cap to the back of his head, he confessed his lack of going to God for help in the past and his repentant heart broke.

At the beginning of the film, Buck and his granddaughter made light of attending church services, using every excuse to leave early so they could catch the kick-off. At the end of the movie, moved with gratitude, they praised God together.

Threads of faith, family and football as well as their supporting, close-knit community, wove the magnificent story together. I highly recommend this film, "Green and Gold."

("Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10)

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



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Ice Bears close out regular season with 2 shutouts

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Feb. 15
Bay Area 3, Central Wisconsin Storm 0**

The Bay Area Ice Bears girls hockey team closed out the regular season with a 3-0 shutout of Central Wisconsin Storm at the Cornerstone Community Center in Ashwaubenon.

The non-conference win put Bay Area at 23-1 overall. They previously won the Eastern Shores Conference with a 9-0 record.

Hannah Von Haden scored just 48 seconds into the game to put Bay Area up 1-0.

In the second period, Emily Bill scored at 4:59 with help from Julianne Bradford and Faye Brunke. Bradford then scored at 10:13 with Bill and Tiana Stindt assisting.

The Ice Bears pounded in 40 shots on goal. Central Wisconsin Storm had 15, with Reese Spiering getting 15 saves.

Bay Area had only one penalty for two minutes, and the Storm had three infractions for six minutes.

The Ice Bears get a bye through WIAA regional action and will play Feb. 25 at home in a sectional semifinal game against the winner of the Arrowhead and Cedarburg co-ops.

**Feb. 13
Bay Area 11, Madison Metro Lynx 0**

The Bay Area Ice Bears kept Madison Metro Lynx goalie Addy Buzzell busy with 54 shots on goal as they ended up winning 11-0. The Lynx only managed four shots on goal, with

Kade Kitchenmaster getting the four saves.

Four Ice Bears scored two goals each, with another three each getting one goal.

Scoring began with three goals in the first period. Tiana Stindt began the shutout at 4:49 with Addison Dahl and Faye Brunke getting assists. Hannah Von Haden followed at 12:25. Julianne Bradford was next at 13:18 with Brunke and Ava McDonald assisting.

Another three goals were put on the board in the second period. Brunke scored at 5:42 with help from Bill and Bradford. Mya Sheppard scored at 8:32 with McDonald and Von Haden getting the assists. Von Haden scored her second goal at 13:14 with an assist from Aisling Buchan.

The Ice Bears pounded in five goals in the third period, opening the onslaught at 6:24 with Sheppard scoring again with Bill and Brunke getting assists. Rachael Beeck scored at 7:42 with help from Bradford and Addison Dahl. Then, Beeck and Dahl assisted Bradford at 8:00.

Briana Anundsen got into the action with a goal at 14:31 with assists from Brunke and Olympia Simons. Finally, the scoring came full circle with Stindt getting the last goal at 16:03 with Von Haden and Abby Mommaerts assisting.

The Lynx were penalized once for two minutes, while the Ice Bears had no infractions.



Pulaski's Faye Brunke celebrates after scoring in the Bay Area Ice Bears' 11-0 shutout of the Madison Metro Lynx on Feb. 13 in Ashwaubenon. Over the course of the season, she led the team with 25 goals. Her 21 assists gave her a team-leading 46 points.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



Myles Snider, a Bonduel High School sophomore, patiently waits to get on the ice.

SAM'S PHOTOGRAPHY LLC



Blake Knope scored one goal and had one assist in Shawano/Bonduel's 7-2 win over Manitowoc United on Feb. 11 at the Crawford Center.

SAM'S PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

Dickman scores five of Red Robins' six goals

Hundt honored for 100 points in Hawks season

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Feb. 15
Antigo 6, Waupaca 3**

It was only fitting that Owen Dickman was the star of Antigo's 6-3 win over Waupaca. Dickman is one of the top scorers in the state, and he didn't disappoint in the last regular season game as he scored five of the Red Robins' six goals.

Dickman scored right out of the gate, hitting the back of the net just 16 seconds into the game with the help of Eli Kassler. Ethan Novy assisted Dickman on another goal t 4:53 to make it 2-0 after the first period.

Kassler scored his own goal at 4:55 in the second period and then assisted Dickman on two more scores – at 7:18 and 11:28 – to make it 5-0 with one period to go.

The Comets began a comeback halfway through the third period, scoring three goals before Dickman closed the door on them with his fifth goal at 16:25; Kassler assisted again.

The Comets blasted away at the net, with 44 shots on goal, but Richie Veriha pulled out 41 saves. Antigo had 37 shots on goal.

The Comets were penalized twice for four minutes. The Red Robins were called for five infractions for 10 minutes.

In WIAA regional finals actions, No. 5 seed Antigo will play at No. 4 Northland Pines this week for a chance to advance to the sectional round.

**Feb. 13
Shawano/Bonduel 6, Notre Dame JV 0**

Shawano/Bonduel closed out its regular season with a 6-0 win over Notre Dame JV.

Gavin Hundt, who was recently honored for scoring 100 points for the Hawks this season, scored four goals – all in the second period.

Scoring began at 9:08 in the first period when Teagan Harkey scored with a Cameron Schroeder assist.

Hundt scored at 4:58, 5:33, 12:18 and 15:34 in the second period as Shawano/Bonduel moved out to a 5-0 lead. Schroeder and Harkey assisted on Hundt's fourth goal.

Blake Knope scored the final goal at 15:02 in the third period.

Shawano/Bonduel had 27 shots on goal. Notre Dame had 15 with Kaiden Thornborrow getting all 15 saves.

Notre Dame was penalized three times for six minutes; Shawano/Bonduel was called for four infractions for eight minutes.

In the WIAA regional finals, No. 6 seed Shawano/Bonduel will travel to No. 3 Lakeland this week for a chance to advance to the sectional round.

Antigo 10, Iron River (Michigan) 1

A 4-1 lead erupted into a 10-1 final score after Antigo knocked in six goals in the third period against Iron River, Michigan.

Owen Dickman started off the scoring at 3:46 in the first period with the help of Eli Kassler. Kassler then scored his own goal at 12:09 with help from Carson Rhode and Ethan Novy.

In the second period, Trenton Walbeck scored at 1:04, followed by Kassler's second goal at 2:50 with Novy and Dickman assisting. Iron River's only goal came at 7:10.

The third period witnessed a flurry from the Red Robins. Dickman scored at 6:09 with Kassler and Alex Brittenham assisting. Liam Burt scored at 7:24 with Novy getting another assist. Dickman scored at 10:24, and Michael Hagerty scored at 12:19 with a Kassler assist. Jamie Odden knocked the puck in at 15:25 with Dickman assisting, and finally, Burt notched his second goal at 16:16 with Walbeck assisting.

Antigo pounded away at the net with 44 shots on goal. Iron River only managed 16 shots, and Richie Veriha had 15 saves.

Iron River had one penalty for two minutes; Antigo had two penalties for four minutes.

**Feb. 11
Shawano/Bonduel 7, Manitowoc United 2**

Cameron Schroeder scored a hat trick and Gavin Hunt connected on two more goals as Shawano/Bonduel defeated Manitowoc United 7-2 at the Crawford Center.

Hundt was honored at the game as a few games earlier, he posted 100 career points — the first player to hit this milestone with the Hawks. His 100th point came Feb. 4 at Stevens Point against the Pacelli Cardinals.

Schroeder kicked off the scoring at 16:19 in the first period to give the Hawks a 1-0 lead.

Hundt followed at 4:01 in the second period, with Schroeder scoring again just 11 seconds later with an assist from Blake Knope to make it 3-0.

Manitowoc United finally scored at 12:21. Hundt answered that goal with his second of the game at 14:56. Then, at 16:20, Knope scored with assists coming from Teagan Harkey and Schroeder.

At 5:54 in the third period, Shawano/Bonduel

took a 6-1 lead on Schroeder's third goal with assists from Blake Swedberg and Hundt. Manitowoc United scored two minutes later, and scoring was brought to a close at 8:44 with a Swedberg goal and Quinten Harkey assist.

The Hawks had 41 shots on goal. Manitowoc United had 18, with Tyson Lyons getting 16 saves.

There were more penalties than usual with Shawano/Bonduel called for four infractions for eight minutes and Manitowoc United with 10 penalties for 21 minutes.

Shawano/Bonduel's 13-10 mark guarantees a winning regular season record, which many believe to be the first in team history.

Antigo 10, Rhinelander 2

Eli Kassler posted six goals and Owen Dickman had a hat trick of his own in Antigo's 10-2 crushing defeat of Rhinelander.

The Hodags' 1-0 lead, which happened at 3:50 in the first period, lasted only 88 seconds. Before the period ended, Antigo was up 4-1 with two goals each by Dickman and Kassler. Assists were credited to Kassler, Parker Chaney, Dickman and Ian Brittenham.

In the second period, the Red Robins were bolstered with another three goals – one each from Dickman, Collin Tiedemann and Kassler. Assisting were Kassler, Brittenham and Dickman.

Kassler scored three more times in the third period, with Dickman assisting twice.

Rhineland closed out the scoring at 13:58 in the final stanza.

Antigo tallied 27 shots on goal. The Hodags had 15, with Richie Veriha getting 13 saves.

Antigo had no penalties in the game. Rhinelander had six for 12 minutes.

Chargers claim conference title with win over Bears

Feb. 15
Gresham 55, Faith Christian Academy 9
Feb. 14
Wittenberg-Birnamwood 67, Bonduel 45
Wittenberg-Birnamwood won the Central Wisconsin East Conference championship with a 67-45 win over Bonduel.
“We played great team basketball tonight. We got big shots from the outside by many tonight,” Chargers coach Nick Mechelke said. “Bonduel really focused on taking Rory (Salvesen) and Melaina (Granquist) away tonight, and the others really stepped up. We shot 47% from 3-point land tonight. This is exactly what you want to see when opponents try to take away your main scorers.”

Harper Rogowski led the Chargers with 17 points, including four 3-pointers. Granquist added 13, and Salvesen scored 11.
Granquist led the team with seven rebounds, and Salvesen had six steals.
The Chargers are 13-0 in conference and 21-0 overall. The Bears are 11-2 in league play and 17-5 overall.
Shawano 80, Green Bay East 20
Ella Stuber got the Hawks out to an early lead with five 3-pointers in the first half. A total team effort gave the Hawks a comfortable 80-20 victory.
The team is 9-2 in the Bay Conference and 17-4 overall.
Gresham 59, Bowler 39

A 59-39 win over Bowler helped ensure Gresham would win the Central Wisconsin North Conference with a 5-1 record. Marion/Tigerton is in second place at 4-2.
Bowler was led by Natalie Rickert’s 19 points and nine rebounds. Autumn Thiex handed out five assists, and Paige Treptow had four steals.
Manitowoc Lincoln 52, Pulaski 49
The Red Raiders’ nine-point lead at halftime evaporated in the second half and Manitowoc Lincoln clawed its way back to get the 52-49 win.
Olivia Sprangers led Pulaski with 18 points. Ashley Servais tossed in 13 more, and Lily Urben scored 10.
Marion/Tigerton 56,

Rosholt 33
Manawa 63, Menominee Nation 56
Oconto Falls 56, Clintonville 22
Feb. 13
Shawano 52, Menasha 38
Menasha jumped out to an early 8-2 lead, but the Hawks turned the tempo up and had a 30-10 lead at halftime. The second was back and forth with the Hawks winning 52-38.
Shawano improved to 8-2 in the Bay Conference and 16-4 overall
Gillett 50, Coleman 32
The Tigers pounced on Coleman jumping out to a 24-10 halftime lead and then cruising to a 50-32 win.
Aubrey Pate scored 24 points for Gillett, which

improved to 10-4 in the M&O Conference and 17-4 overall.
Lena 69, Wausaukee 8
Eleven Lena girls scored as the Wildcats crushed Wausaukee 69-8 in an M&O Conference game.
With a 46-6 lead at halftime, Lena then outscored Wausaukee 23-2 after the intermission.
Madilyn Thomson led Lena with 16 points, as Hannah Thomson added 13 and Kali Fischer scored 10.
Madilyn Thomson had eight of the team’s 22 rebounds and six of the Wildcats’ 23 assists. Fischer posted five of the team’s 23 steals.
Lena improved to 13-1 in conference and 19-2 overall. Wausaukee is 0-14 in conference and 1-19 overall.

Florence 64, Marion/Tigerton 29
Feb. 11
Shawano 52, Rhinelander 23
Great team defense and hot shooting by Marissa Tomashek and Maci Beyer led the Hawks to a 52-23 victory over Rhinelander in a non-conference game.
Leah Nordin led the Hawks with 19 points. Tomashek scored 10, and Beyer added nine on a trio of 3-pointers.
Tomashek and Beyer scored 17 combined points in the first half to pace Shawano in its halftime lead. Nordin had 13 second-half points to help seal the win.
The Hawks led from

GIRLS BASKETBALL,
CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Bonduel boys stay perfect with 73-55 win over Witt-Birn

Feb. 14
Gillett 52, Lena 33
The Tigers held a slim 25-22 lead at halftime and then pulled away in the second half en route to a 52-33 win over Lena.
Jesse DeBauch led Gillett with 27 points and 16 rebounds. Ryan Pensis scored 13 points and pulled down 10 rebounds.
For Lena, Mason Spice scored 13 points.
Pulaski 52, Manitowoc Lincoln 47

Niagara 58, Suring 56
Rosholt 83, Marion 33
Feb. 13
Bonduel 73, Wittenberg-Birnamwood 55
Ryan Westrich led Bonduel with 28 points and 12 rebounds as the Bears knocked off Wittenberg-Birnamwood 73-55.
Going into the Central Wisconsin East Conference game, Bonduel held a one-game advantage in the standings.
After the final buzzer,

Bonduel improved to 12-0 in the conference and 20-0 overall. The Chargers dropped to 10-2 in conference and 16-4 overall.
“Both teams executed very well,” Witt-Birn coach Garrett Rogowski said.
The difference was Bonduel hit their open looks, and the Chargers struggled more from the floor with shots they usually get to drop.
“Westrich proved to be too much in the post and

was really the difference tonight,” Rogowski said.
Quinn Wesenberg scored 21 points, including three 3-pointers, for Bonduel, and Race Anvelink added another 14.
The Chargers were led by Jett Rogowski with 20 points and Hayden Miller with 13.
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy 78, Gillett 66
Oconto Falls 59, Denmark 53
Bowler 63, Gresham

55
Seymour 89, Shawano 48
Menominee Nation 54, Manawa 35
Feb. 11
Rhinelander 49, Shawano 34
Wausau West 45, Wittenberg-Birnamwood 36
Coleman 62, Suring 51
Waupaca 70, Oconto Falls 61
Tigerton 64, Rosholt 37
Green Bay NEW Lu-

theran 80, Gresham 34
Lena 68, Oneida Nation 57
Tri-County 42, Marion 37
Menominee Nation 65, Laona/Wabeno 63
De Pere 70, Pulaski 49
Feb. 10
Wittenberg-Birnamwood 73, Edgar 50
Gibraltar 72, Gillett 50
Marion 49, Stockbridge 35
Menominee Nation 86, Oneida Nation 41

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Several boys win regional wrestling titles

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

**Feb. 15
Crandon
Division 3, Regional**

Lena won a pair of regional titles and Bonduel earned one, as several wrestlers advanced to sectional action.

Lena's Max Peterson defeated Crivitz/Wausaukee's Nino Robinson to win the title. Michael Pecanas of Gillett/Suring was fifth and did not advance to sectionals.

At 175, Collin Van Ark of Lena won the title on a medical forfeit. Ryley Kurtz of Bonduel placed fourth.

Bonduel's Colin Fischer won at 165, defeating Shiocton's Blake Carton 13-2. Erik Kosch of Lena was sixth and did not advance.

Taking second at 157 was Matthew Walenta of Bonduel.

At 120, Parker Boomsma of Lena earned second, and John Parsons of Bonduel was third.

Jaxon Bogacz of Bonduel placed second at 132.

At 215, Evan Wilcox of Bonduel placed third. Lena's Dylan Mazaba was sixth and did not advance.

Wrestling at 285, Dylan Urbanek of Lena placed third, pinned Bradly Bayer of Gillett/Suring, who ended up in fourth, in 47 seconds. Jackson Krause of Bonduel was sixth and did not advance.

Sam Peterson of Lena finished in third at 113.

Placing fourth were Isaac Peterson of Lena at 106, Brayden Graef of Lena at 126, Lucas Heimke of Lena at 138 and Jayden Popp of Bonduel at 190.

**New London
Division 2, Regional**

Two wrestlers from Oconto Falls and two from Wittenberg-Birnamwood won their regional titles to join several others at the sectional round.

Isaiah Holtz of Oconto Falls won the 113-pound title, pinning his Coleman opponent in 1:59. Shawano's Dylan Gartner placed sixth and will not advance.

At 138 pounds, Cole Bozile of Oconto Falls defeated Seymour's Connor Steffens for the title. Devin Wudtke of Wittenberg-Birnamwood finished in third place.

At 120, Dalton Fletcher of Wittenberg-Birnamwood

won 4-1 against his Seymour opponent to capture the title. Dane Hodkiewicz of Shawano finished in third place, and Levi Mommaerts of Oconto Falls was fourth.

Ben Miller of Wittenberg-Birnamwood pinned Otto Anglemeyer of Amherst in 59 seconds to win the 144-pound class. Hunter Bozile of Oconto Falls was fifth, and Kody Popelka of Shawano was sixth, but neither will move to sectionals.

At 106, Landon Meronk of Wittenberg-Birnamwood placed second. Fisher Bigelow of Oconto Falls was fifth, and Teagon Gerrits of Shawano was sixth; neither wrestler will move on to sectionals.

At 175 pounds, Bryson Schmid of Wittenberg-Birnamwood placed third, and Nick Trepanier of Oconto Falls was fourth. Mitchell Waukau of Menominee Nation was fifth and ends his season at regionals.

Easton Davis of Wittenberg-Birnamwood finished second at 132, with Jack Falkowski of Oconto Falls placing fourth.

In the 126 weight class,

Brandon Romo of Oconto Falls was third, and Bo Davis of Wittenberg-Birnamwood placed fourth.

Kian Morstad of Shawano finished in fourth at the 150-pound weight class, winning his wrestlingback to move on to the sectional round.'

"Kian has been wrestling well this season in his freshman year," Shawano coach Mike Homan said. "He always does his best and wrestles aggressively. It will be great for him to get a look at what sectionals is next weekend."

Jacob Trepanier of Oconto Falls was sixth and won't advance.

At 157, Andrew Derouin of Oconto Falls advances with a fourth-place finish. Marcus Brezgel of Shawano won't move on after taking sixth.

George Seegmiller of Wittenberg-Birnamwood placed fourth at 285 and will advance. Jagger Reed of Oconto Falls was fifth and won't move on the next round.

Shawano's Drew Chelberg placed fifth at 165 and ends his season at regionals.

"The silver lining is

that all of these wrestlers will be back next season," Homan said of the Shawano wrestlers. "We look to keep improving and take that next step."

**Green Bay Preble
Division 1, Regional C1**

A pair of Pulaski wrestlers won the Division 1 Regional C1 titles, and several others will join them in advancing to sectional action.

Jack Falk won the 106-pound weight class by pinning De Pere's Seth Corrigan in 1:49.

At 190, Andy Servais pinned Brodie Beining of West De Pere in 2:39.

Trever Nooyen placed second at 113, losing 3-0 to

West De Pere's Thomas Heraly.

At 138, Broc Ambrosius placed second after he was pinned in 26 seconds by De Pere's Olin Neuville.

Placing third were Mason Taylor at 157 and Keaton Dauk at 165.

Fourth place was earned by Mason Goodness at 126, Parker Servais at 132, Max Fredrickson at 144 and Wes Olson at 215.

Not advancing to sectionals were Kayden Wisniewski, who was fifth at 175; Lucas Ford, who was sixth at 150; and Cody Delebreau, who was sixth at 285.

All sectional matches will be held Feb. 22.

GIRLS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Manning pinned Appleton West's Florence Mliambo in 1:17, then lost to Hert in the second-place match. Hert lost the title match to Bay Port's Olivia Konshak when she was pinned at 5:06.

At 126, Hailey Berg of Bonduel earned second place. To get there, she beat Bay Port's Annabell Thill, but in the title match, she lost 12-6. After Thill lost to Berg, she would go on to pin Oconto Falls' Faith Thurman for third place, dropping Thurman to fourth.

Pulaski's Elliana Maroszek placed second at 132. She defeated Bay Port's McCaylee Martine for second place, but was pinned in 1:36 by Freedom's Stella Pettitt for the championship.

Kaitlyn Kroening of Bonduel, wrestling at 100

pounds, advanced to the WIAA sectionals after taking third place. She won 13-7 over Peshtigo's Evelyn

Hurley to advance.

Lillian Wiitala of Pulaski placed third at 107 with a pin.

Shawano will host the sectional matches for all Regional I and Regional II winners.

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Snowmobile accident claims one life in Mountain

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

A Mequon man was killed in a snowmobile crash Feb. 14 in the Town of Mountain. According to a news release from Sheriff Todd

Skarban, at approximately 5:07 p.m. the Emergency Dispatch Center was notified of a one-vehicle snowmobile accident with injuries, in the Town of Mountain. A preliminary investiga-

tion revealed the snowmobile, operated by a 55-year-old man from Mequon, was traveling south of County Road W, on the trail near Bonita Road. It appears the snowmobile operator lost control after striking

a signpost with one of the skis along the trail. The operator was thrown from the snowmobile, coming to rest in the east ditch. The man died at the scene as a result of injuries sustained in the crash.

An ongoing investigation in regard to this accident is being conducted by the Department of Natural Resources with the Oconto County Sheriff's Office and the Brown County Medical Exam-

iner's Office assisting. No other information is being released at this time. The sheriff's office was also assisted by Mountain Ambulance Service and the Mountain Fire Department.

OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Feb. 10

▪ Bond was set at \$4,500 cash for Jeremy L Rushton, 36, Ishpeming, Michigan, after he was charged with possession of methamphetamine in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 6. Court Commissioner Jacob Evans adjourned his initial appearance until Feb. 13, at which time Judge Michael Judge scheduled a plea and sentencing hearing for Feb. 28. Rushton also was wanted on a fugitive complaint from Michigan, and he waived extradition during his appearance before Judge.

Proceedings of Feb. 11

▪ Clayton R. Frehse, 20, Suring, was placed on three years of probation with conditions after Judge imposed and stayed a prison sentence for second-degree recklessly endangering safety and misdemeanor bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred Aug. 10, 2022; felony bail jumping, in connection with an Oct. 2, 2022, incident; and a misdemeanor theft charge, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 22, 2022.

▪ Troy E. Mucha, 34, Appleton, formerly of Lakewood, was placed on two years of probation with conditions after Judge withheld sentencing for possession of methamphetamine and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that occurred Oct. 21, 2022,

and a misdemeanor charge of operating a motor vehicle while his license was revoked, in connection with an incident that occurred Jan. 30, 2023.

▪ Paula Jo Hackett, 40, Shawano, was placed on two years' probation after Judge withheld sentencing for fleeing an officer in a vehicle, in connection with an incident that occurred June 28. Conditions of probation include the 228 days she has already served in the Oconto County Jail.

▪ A final pre-trial conference was held for Shawn Michael Schoen, 48, Marinette, who is scheduled to stand trial Feb. 25 on a charge of theft by a contractor, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred March 16, 2020.

▪ Matthew L. Huettl, 33, Townsend, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to possession of methamphetamine, possession of THC (second or subsequent offense) and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred July 30. Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for March 13.

▪ William J. Porath, 52, Oconto Falls, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and with a prohibited alcohol content (fifth or sixth offense), in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 22. Judge scheduled a pre-trial confer-

ence for April 24.

Proceedings of Feb. 12

▪ Kameron Michael Dushinske, 34, Barron, pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that occurred June 29. A jury trial was canceled and a felony charge dismissed in a plea agreement. Judge levied court costs and sentenced him to 228 days already served in the county jail.

Proceedings of Feb. 13

▪ A bench warrant was issued for Tiffany L. Champagne, 30, Oconto Falls, after she failed to appear for a court hearing on charges of possession of methamphetamine, misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia and three misdemeanor counts of possession of an illegally obtained prescription, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Jan. 21.

▪ A July 22-23 jury trial was scheduled for Daniel W. Malchow, 40, Oconto Falls, on charges of first-degree recklessly endangering safety and misdemeanor counts of operating a firearm while intoxicated and disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 30. Judge scheduled a final pre-trial conference for July 7.

▪ Sapphire M. Otradovec, 22, Suring, pleaded not guilty to possession of methamphetamine, escape from criminal

arrest, misdemeanor criminal trespass to a dwelling and two misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred July 23. Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for April 24.

▪ Emily Mae Born, 23, Shawano, pleaded not guilty to possession of methamphetamine, four counts of misdemeanor bail jumping, and misdemeanor counts possession of THC and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 6. Judge Jay Conley scheduled a pre-trial conference for March 13.

▪ Stephen A. Schwarzenberger, 33, Gillett, pleaded not guilty to armed robbery and false imprisonment, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Sept. 13. Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for April 24.

▪ Kurtis Lee Peters, 28, Keshena, pleaded not guilty to armed robbery, first-degree recklessly endangering safety and false imprisonment, in connection with an incident that occurred Sept. 13. Conley scheduled a pre-trial conference for March 13.

▪ Scott Robert Martin, 52, Abrams, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (fourth offense) in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Jan. 11. Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for April 24.

Proceedings of Feb. 14

▪ Edward Alexander Lewis, 52, Oconto Falls, pleaded no contest to possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a drug trafficking place and felony bail jumping, in connection with an incident that occurred May 25, as well as possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 7, 2023. Judge accepted the plea but withheld judgment pursuant to the conditions of a deferred judgment agreement. He scheduled sentencing for April 28 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

▪ Wyatt R. Koebach, 30, Suring, pleaded no contest to misdemeanor charges of victim intimidation, and misdemeanor battery and disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 4. Related felony charges were dismissed in a plea agreement. Judge withheld sentencing and placed him on two years of probation.

▪ Shauna Lynn Rouse, 45, New Franken, pleaded no contest to possession of methamphetamine in connection with an incident that occurred May 18. Judge scheduled sentenc-

ing for April 17 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

▪ A July 10-11 jury trial was scheduled for John J. Hanna, 37, Oconto, on charges of first-degree recklessly endangering safety, fleeing an officer in a vehicle, and misdemeanor resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Sept. 6, 2023, and a previous file in which Hanna is charged with three counts of first-degree reckless endangerment, two counts of battery or threat to a law officer, failure to comply with an officer's attempt to take him into custody, eluding an officer in a vehicle, and misdemeanor resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred June 4, 2023. Judge scheduled a motion hearing for April 28.

▪ Jonathan Scott Chandler, 23, Denmark, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of aggravated battery intending bodily harm and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Dec. 7. Conley scheduled arraignment for April 24.

Legals
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Legals
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b113f663
02/21/25, 02/28/25
REQUEST FOR BIDS
TOWN OF OCONTO FALLS
OCONTO FALLS WI 54154

THE TOWN OF OCONTO FALLS IS REQUESTING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PLOW TRUCK WITH A TANDEM AXLE CHASSIS. BID WILL INCLUDE PLOW EQUIPMENT. TRUCK SPECIFICATIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST BY EMAILING dalsteensouthernfire@hotmail.com
BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL 5pm MARCH 7TH, 2025
Bids will be opened and discussed at the regular meeting of the Town of Oconto Falls Board at its March meeting, March 10, 2025, 6pm. Any bids received after March 7 will not be accepted. The Town has the right to accept or deny any bids presented as per the specifications supplied by the Town. Any questions can be emailed to the above email address or, Dave Alsteen, Town Chairman can be reached at 920-373-7435

27f41db3
02/21/25, 02/28/25, 03/07/25
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT SHAWANO COUNTY
Case # 2023-CV-0139 U
US Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Igloo Series V Trust, Plaintiff,
vs.
Susan B. Golding, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on 02/19/2024, in the amount of \$94,637.43, the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as follows:
TIME:
March 12, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.
TERMS:
Pursuant to said judgment, 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the Shawano County Clerk of Courts. (personal checks cannot and will not be accepted). The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the clerk of courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation of the sale or else the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff. The property is sold "as is" and subject to all liens and encumbrances.
PLACE:
Shawano County Courthouse 311 N. Main St. Shawano, WI 54166
DESCRIPTION: LOTS 1 AND 2 IN BLOCK 7 OF ARLINGTON ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SHAWANO, SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF. Tax Key No. 281403000890 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 308 Fairview Way, Shawano, WI 5416
DATED: 1/30/2025
Attorney Bryan Ward LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 5555 N. Port Washington Rd., Suite 305 Milwaukee, WI 53217 414-271-4849 Attorney Bryan Ward LLC is attempting to collect a debt and any information will be used for that purpose.
WNAXLP

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OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Feb. 13
Deputies responded to 51 incidents, including a disturbance on Michigan Avenue in Oconto, a fire control burn on state Highway 32 in the Town of Morgan, theft on East Algoma Street in Suring, trespassing on Wescott Lake Road in the Town of Bagley, a disturbance on Allen Road in the Town of Little Suamico, suspicious activity near Bachman and Old 64 roads in the Town of Mountain, a disturbance on East Maple Street in Lena, four traffic stops, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist; three 911 hangups and one open line; one ambulance call; 10 crashes, one involving deer.

Feb. 12
Deputies responded to 32 incidents, including a fire control burn on Younger Road in the Town of Stiles, a disturbance on Knapp Street in Suring, two traffic stops, two traffic offenses, two miscellaneous traffic incidents, three welfare checks; two 911 hangups and two open lines; one ambulance call; seven crashes, one involving deer.

Feb. 11
Deputies responded to 35 incidents, including attempted

fraud on Schaal Road in the Town of Gillett, threatening on Park Avenue in Oconto, animal bites on CCC Road in the Town of Morgan and on County Road J in the Town of Pensaukee, one traffic stop, three miscellaneous traffic incidents; three ambulance calls; three crashes.

Feb. 10
Deputies responded to 52 incidents, including attempted fraud on Sampson Road in the Town of Pensaukee, suspicious activity on state Highway 32-64 in the Town of Mountain and on Wood Brook Circle in the Town of Little Suamico, fire on County Road I in the Town of Spruce, suspicious activity on Timberline Circle in the Town of Morgan, a disturbance on Downtown Lane in the Town of Underhill, three traffic stops, two traffic hazards, one traffic offense, one citizen assist, one miscellaneous traffic incident, two welfare checks; one 911 hangup; two ambulance calls;

four crashes, two involving deer.

Feb. 9
Deputies responded to 29 incidents, including harassment on West Main Street in Lena, property damage on Binder Lake Road in the Town of Lakewood, a disturbance on Pecor Street in Oconto, property damage on River Road in the Town of How, four traffic stops, one traffic hazard, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, one miscellaneous traffic incident, one welfare check; two 911 hangups and one open line; two crashes.

Feb. 8
Deputies responded to 35 incidents, including fire control burns on Ray Lane in the Town of Chase, on Donegal Lane in the Town of Oconto Falls, on County Road E in the Town of Abrams, on County Road AA in the Town of Breed, on County Road W in the Town of Little River, on Szczepanski Lane in the Town of Chase, on Harbor Road in

Oconto and on South Chase Road in the Town of Little Suamico; a disturbance on West Burnt Dam Road in the Town of Townsend, one traffic stop, one traffic hazard, two traffic offenses, three welfare checks; two open-line 911 calls; one ambulance call; four crashes.

Feb. 7
Deputies responded to 47 incidents, including an unwanted party on County Road EE in the Town of Abrams, criminal damage on Grindle Oak Drive in the Town of Riverview, a disturbance on North Rosera Street in Lena, a fire control burn on Geano Beach Road in the Town of Little Suamico, a snowmobile accident on Archibald Lake Road in the Town of Doty, 10 traffic stops, one traffic hazard, four traffic offenses, two citizen assists, two miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; two ambulance calls; two crashes, both involving deer.

Advertisement for Bids
Project: Standby Generator for Sanitary Lift Station #1 at Kelly Lake Bid Deadline: March 18, 2025 at 4:00 pm
Bid Opening: March 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Opening will be at Kelly Lake
Sanitary Board meeting located at 9535 Green Acres Street, Kelly Lake
Project details and bid documents can be requested by Emailing: kellylakesanitary@gmail.com or by phone 920-842-4527
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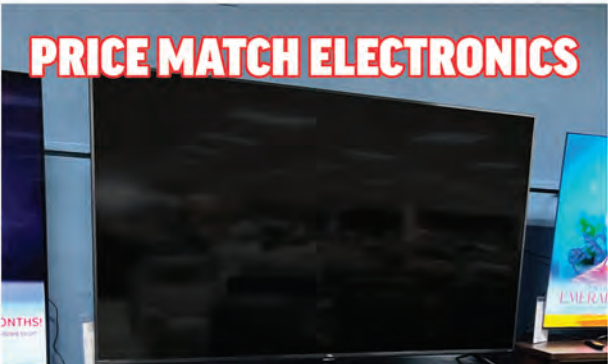
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STORE HOURS: Mon-Fri 7:00am - 7:00pm

Deli Closing at 6:00 pm**

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

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We reserve the right to limit quantities.



Bubbl'r 6 Pack Cans



\$5.99

Asst Variety

Luige's Big Daddy Pizza



\$7.99

Asst Variety
12"

USDA Choice Boneless Eye of Round Steaks or Roasts



\$5.69

lb

Food Club IQF Boneless Skinless Chicken Breasts

\$5.99 ea
2.5lb Bag

USDA Choice Boneless New York Strip Steaks



\$12.79

lb

Tyson Bone-In Frying Chicken Thighs

\$1.69 lb

Assorted Family Pack Pork Chops



\$1.89

lb

Food Club Baked Beans

\$1.99 Asst Variety
28oz

Food Club Canned Soups

99¢ Asst Variety
10.5-11.25oz

Green Giant Russet Potatoes



\$1.99

5lb Bag

Orange, Red, or Yellow XL Bell Peppers



\$1.99

lb

Beefsteak Tomatoes



\$1.49

lb

Green Haas Avocados



\$1.69

ea

Bulk Pink Lady Apples



\$1.19

lb

Kretschmar Smoked Turkey Breast



\$6.49

lb

Sweet P's Frosted Sugar Cookies



2/\$4

Asst Variety
13.5oz

Food Club Canned Vegetables



2/\$1

Asst Variety
14.5-15oz

Crav'n Saltine Crackers



2/\$3

16oz
Regular or Unsalted

Doritos



2/\$8

Asst Variety
7.25-10.75oz

Prairie Farms Butter Quarters



\$4.49

1lb

Old Orchard Juice Cocktail or Healthy Balance



\$1.99

Asst Variety
64oz

Folgers or Dunkin Coffee K-Cups



\$6.99

Asst Variety
10ct

Crav'n Breakfast Biscuits Croissants, or Muffins



2/\$6

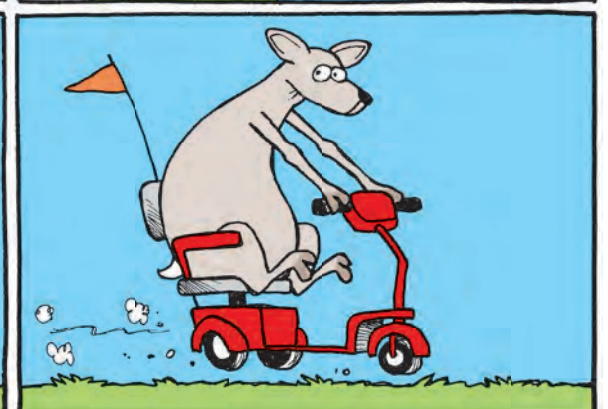
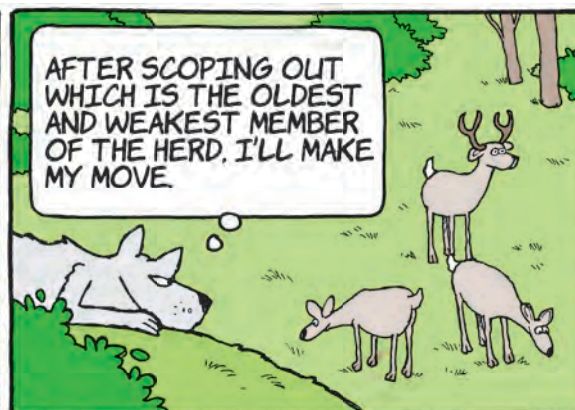
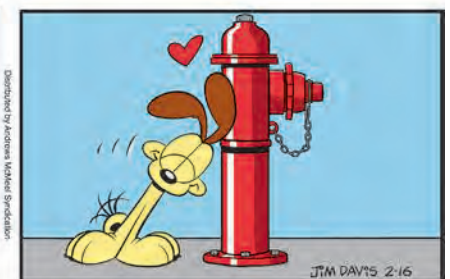
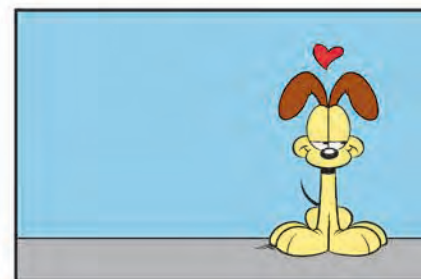
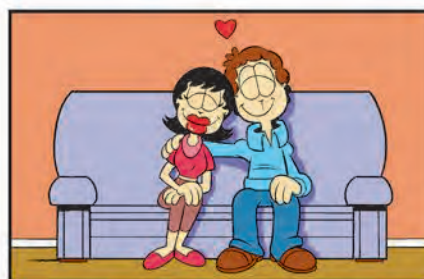
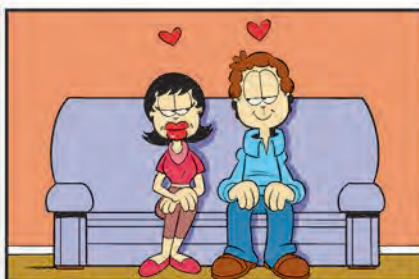
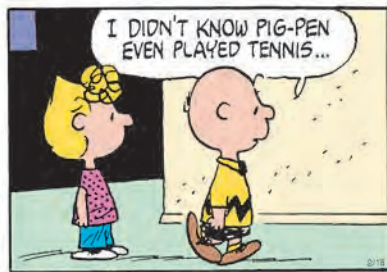
Asst Variety
7.2-9oz

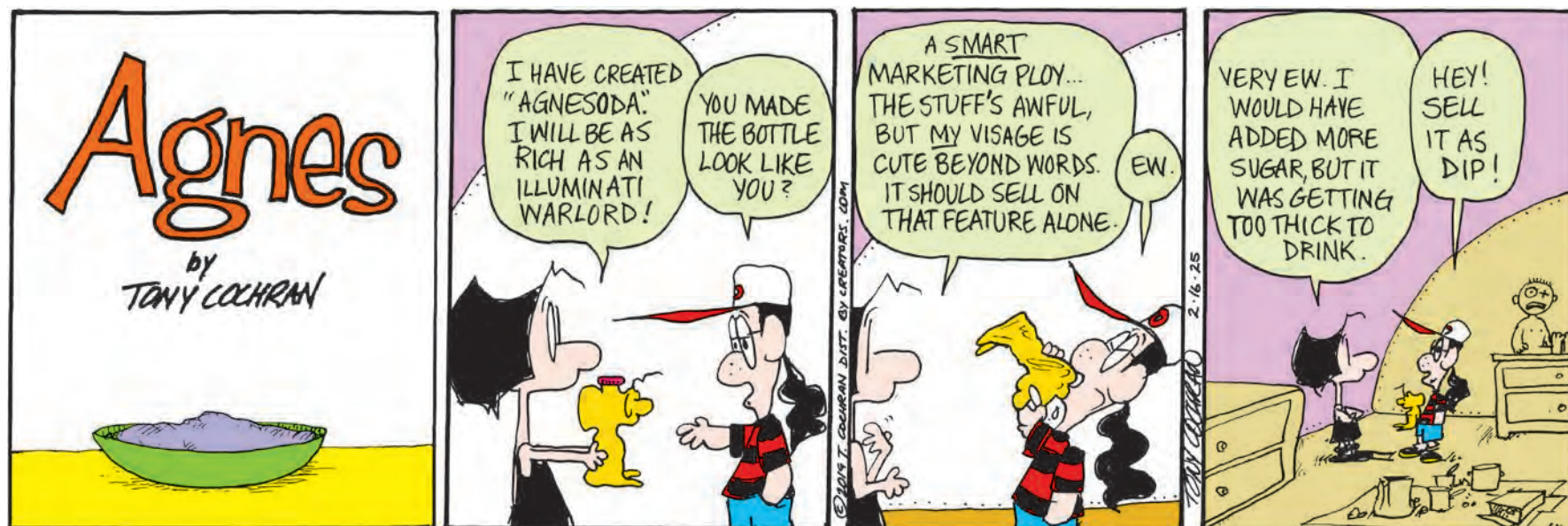
Betty Crocker Supreme Delights Brownie Mixes



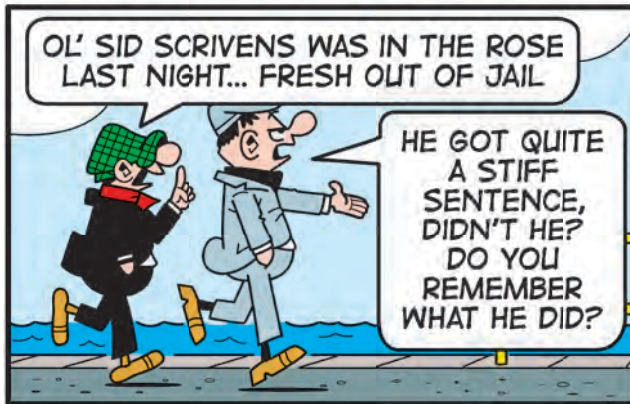
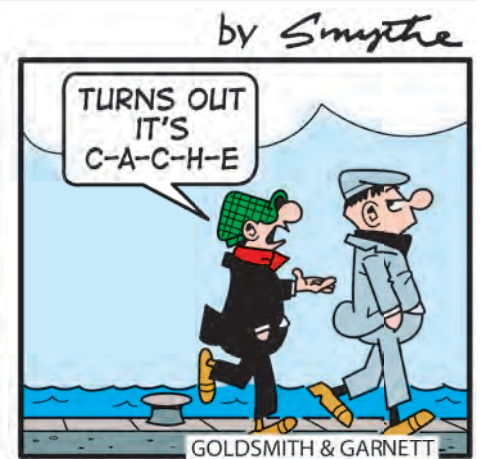
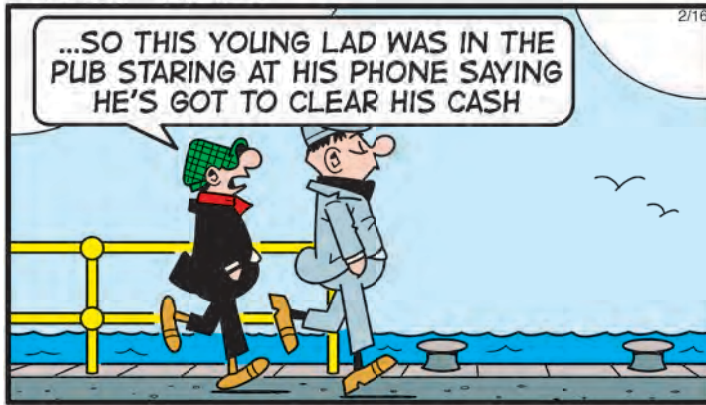
2/\$5

Asst Variety
16.5-19.1oz





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