



State Highway 32 runs through downtown Suring. The Tourism and Economic Corporation for the Oconto Region is assisting the village with downtown revitalization. GREG SEUBERT

Fatal UTV crash plea deal results in no jail

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

Just before he was scheduled to stand trial on a felony charge of homicide by negligent operation of a motor vehicle, a former Waukesha man agreed to plead no contest to forfeiture violations of operating an ATV or UTV while intoxicated and operating a UTV with a passenger riding in an improper way.

Scot A. Haas, 56, of The Villages, Florida, had been set to stand trial April 9 in connection with the May 29, 2022, UTV accident that claimed the life of David Weinmann, 56, of West Chicago, Illinois.

The crash occurred at the intersection of County Road T and Boulder Lake Lane in the Town of Doty.

Weinmann was ejected from the cargo portion of the UTV when Haas accelerated, court records said. Weinmann fell onto the roadway and struck the back of his head.

Mountain Area Ambulance transported him to the Aspirus Langlade Hospital in Antigo, where he later died of his injuries.

Judge Michael Judge levied fines and costs of a net \$117.54. He ordered Haas to undergo an alcohol assessment and pay restitution of \$5,431.93. Forfeiture violations carry no jail penalty unless the defendant fails to pay the fine.



SCOT A. HAAS

Downtown revitalization eyed for Suring, Lena

TEDCOR helping villages look at options for future

BY GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Two Oconto County villages are getting a boost to spruce up their downtowns.

Suring and Lena are working with the Tourism and Economic Corporation for the Oconto Region (TEDCOR), a non-profit organization based in Oconto that assists communities, businesses and individuals with entrepreneurship, economic development and tourism.

Jayne Sellen, executive director, said TEDCOR received a Rural Business Enterprise Grant through the U.S. Department of Agriculture that will be used to help each village develop a five-year plan.

"That allowed us to hire consultants, Downtown Strategies, out of Mississippi," she said. "They have great expertise in downtown revitalization throughout the nation."

The process started in September 2024, according to Sellen. She said stakeholder meetings and surveys provided the feedback for Suring and Lena to see what needs and improvements are needed for each village.

"They go over four different areas," Sellen said. "One is looking at policy, making sure that ordinances have the proper language. Another is looking at design. An example could be putting oversized flower pots on the sidewalks, different tables or chairs, flags, lighting. The third one is promoting the area. How do we let residents or visitors know they're in those downtown areas? The last one is about economic development. Of all the downtown retail or service industry businesses, what are we lacking and who do we now go talk to about coming into our downtown spaces?"

TEDCOR and Downtown Strategies staff have been meeting with village of-

ficials and business owners to help put parts of the plan in motion.

"We brought the consultants in to give them the information on what they should be looking at doing," Sellen said. "We do have microloan programs that can help businesses do things such as facade improvements. We can also help connect them with other communities if they need equipment to make sure that the striping on the crosswalks is up to date. We can also help them look for grants that can help pay for some of these things."

Village combats vacant spaces

Suring's Main Street is state Highway 32, a major highway used for heading to Wisconsin's northwoods.

"They don't have the traffic that they used to have," Sellen said. "To make it inviting, it's really about the design aspect."

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Tax Incremental Financing District to expand for new housing.

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OCONTO, WI

TIF district to expand for potential housing

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

The Oconto Falls City Council has engaged consulting firm Ehlers Inc. to guide the expansion of the city's Tax Increment Financing District #3 to support pending commercial development. City Administrator Peter Wills told the council

April 8 that developers have expressed interest in building new residential units in the city. "What I'm trying to look at is a potential apartment development project and looking at a potential housing subdivision," Wills said. "We have only four amendments you can add to a TID, so we're trying to

include both of those in this amendment." Under a TID, a municipality can retain the additional property tax revenue generated by new development for a period of 20 years. Oconto Falls TID #3 was created in the fall of 2023 and covers a substantial area of the city, especially downtown

where revitalization has become a priority. Ehlers municipal adviser Joe Murray outlined a proposal where his firm would guide the city through the expansion and perform a lot of the technical work. "That would be to help write up the TIF project plan, issue the necessary meeting notices that you

need to file for the public in the paper," Murray said. "We'd need to work with the city on getting the necessary maps and those sort of things, but we would pull together the project plan, get you through the process." The council approved a \$20,000 fee to hire Ehlers, which can be paid

using revenues generated by the TID. Wills said no projects have been formally submitted as yet. "Amending boundaries now allows the city to take advantage of the increased assessed value when they are submitted," he said.

wbluhm@newmedia-wi.com

DOWNTOWN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They don't have the traffic that they used to have," Sellen said. "To make it inviting, it's really about the design aspect. You see something that's cool and you want to pull over and stop. We're already seeing some benefits from conversations with area businesses. A supper club, The Boarding House, made some improvements. They put a little patio out front for some outdoor seating. The old bank there has been purchased and they put an antique mall in there. The village is really emphasizing the redevelopment of downtown."

Like other small communities, throughout Wisconsin, Suring has vacant buildings in its three-block downtown stretch of Main Street.

The village is taking advantage of the Nicolet State Trail, a 89-mile-long county-operated trail that runs from Gillett in Oconto County to the Wisconsin/Michigan border in Florence County.

The gravel trail, which also passes through the Oconto County communities of Mountain, Lakewood and Townsend, is open to ATVs, snowmobiles, off-highway motorcycles, bicycles and walking. A parking area with trail access is located next to the Suring Village Hall near Highway 32.

"Instead of people zooming through town, how do they get them to stop?" Sellen asked. "The Nifty Cone is a great place for them to stop, but how do they get them to stop and wander around downtown? People want to be in an area they feel comfortable with. That means having certain amenities."

A new Dollar General store opened five years ago on Main Street near the downtown area.

"It really allows people that don't have the ability to drive as far to stay more local," Sellen said. "That was one of the gaps that was found in the study."



A former convenience store is one of the vacant buildings in downtown Lena. The village is developing a five-year plan to improve the downtown area.

GREG SEUBERT

The village did not have a grocery store before the Dollar General opened.

"There's a great program with (Suring High School) where they have the market (Suring Market and Agriculture Center)," Sellen said. "How do we build upon that market that's providing locally sourced meats and vegetables? What can the village do to encourage more of that and bring people to the community for that? Twenty or 30 years ago, when the traffic was going through Suring, you had a robust community where it was hard to get through there. How do we make Suring or Lena a destination that has that traffic congestion on a Friday night because people heading up north are stopping to get whatever they need or having dinner?"

The Oconto River also flows through Suring, but Sellen said the community isn't able to take advantage of that natural resource as a destination for kayaking.

"There are some challenges there because the DNR planted these trees, and they've grown and fallen over," she said. "We're working with the DNR on getting that cleaned up, but the DNR doesn't like to do that because it's fish habitat. It makes it difficult to kayak."

Meanwhile, the village

is investing in Veterans Memorial Park.

"They are working on fundraising," Sellen said. "It's tucked behind the village hall. They're looking at a new playground and bandshell. There's quite a bit of municipal investment going on. They're trying to do more events. They have this great car show that had 400 cars entered in it last year. That's based on a business there that restores old cars. They're trying to capitalize on that success and bring more people to town."

Sellen said the new antique mall, which recently opened, should help the downtown area.

"That antique mall has a bunch of different smaller shops within it," she said. "You could have antiques in one spot. You could have soaps, lotions and things like that. It's a destination for sure."

Connecting Lena to fun sports

U.S. Highway 141 has bypassed Lena for years, which took a lot of traffic out of the village.

The former intersection of Highway 141 and County Road A in the middle of Lena's downtown area — Main and Rosera streets — now has a vacant The Store location that was a popular business until it

closed about a year ago.

"Lena's plan is, how do we get the gas station open, which is in the process right now," Sellen said. "It was busy all the time, but not busy enough for the corporate headquarters. The gap for Lena is that gas station. It has been purchased and they are making efforts to bring it back as a gas station. That will bring a lot more traffic back into the village."

Lena's only other gas station is located at the Highway 141/County A interchange.

Unlike Suring, Lena has Dirt City Motorplex, a race track just east of the village that hosts off-road races and truck pulls.

"They have three events a year there," Sellen said. "Their main event is in July and the night before, the village has an event called Thunder on Main where all the trucks come out and park on Main and cruise Main. They get about 6,000 people for that. The village is here, Dirt City is way over here. How do we connect the two?"

Lena, Suring have similarities

The two villages have a few things in common. Both have estimated populations of just over 500

residents.

Both villages also have a Dollar General on Main Street. Lena's store also opened in 2020.

Oconto County's largest employer is a Saputo Cheese USA Inc. plant in Lena, while one of Suring's largest employers is Dimension Lumber, which makes furniture for laboratories.

Both villages are also home to a school district that includes elementary, middle and high schools.

"There are substantial employers in both communities," Sellen said.

On the other hand, the average population age in each village is different.

"Lena has a very young population," Sellen said. "They're under 40 on average. The average age is around 37, 38. Suring's older, over 40. Lena has a different perspective. They're putting in baseball diamonds for U12. They have 120 kids, which is a lot when you have 500 people. They're building new apartments. Twenty units should be coming online in June."

The village is also developing Railroad Pocket Park, which includes basketball and pickleball courts and a pavilion.

Plans move to completion

So what's next for the plan?

"Once the plans are finalized, we are going to help each municipality work on implementation," Sellen said. "It's a five-year plan, so there are certain things that we can do right now and there are things that are going to take money and take time."

Sellen said TEDCOR will continue talking to existing and potential business owners.

"The challenge for them is they don't have the time because they're busy just to function to stay open," she said. "Promotion in general is hard for them to do because that takes quite a bit of effort. We can do that for them. We just need to figure out what the message and the branding is and tell the story. Anybody who will work with us, we'll work with them."

Sellen said the bottom line is communities such as Suring and Lena need to figure out how to stay vibrant.

"It's an affordability issue," she said. "They don't have the big tax base that a larger community has, which means they don't have the money to do a lot of projects. That's probably where the challenges come. They don't have the staff and they don't have the money."



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More than a century of service



Jim Moynihan, left, is honored for his 60th anniversary with the Oconto Falls Fire Department during the April 8 city council meeting, along with 20-year veterans Ross Engel and Jon Spice. Fire Chief Tim Magnin, right, has been with the department for 40 years. Moynihan said that when he signed up in 1965, he was given a raincoat and a helmet. The longest-serving firefighter was also present — Reuben Radke said he started his 67th year April 2.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Kuhn hired to lead OEC operations

Utility Commission to seek applicants

By WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

The manager of Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities for the last decade plans to move across town to become operations manager of Oconto Electric Cooperative.

Greg Kuhn told the city council April 8 that his first day in the new position is May 9. Kuhn was hired in June 2015 after 12 years as a journeyman line-man with the water department and water treatment facility in Hartford.

“I appreciate the work that we’ve all put in to get where we’re at,” Kuhn said. “I’m proud of the work that I’ve accomplished

along with everybody here and the commission ... I can leave knowing that I left it in better shape than I came.”

The city utilities commission has appointed Beth Rank, customer service representative, and Jason Valentine, utility foreman, to share interim managerial duties while a new manager is recruited.

“Normally we would try to do it with one, but given the scope of the amount of work we have this summer, we thought it best to try to designate the two parties so they can each concentrate on appropriate tasks,” Kuhn said.

The city got good news earlier this month when

parts for the new lift station on Columbia Street arrived two months early and the steel for a new substation was delivered, he said.

“The two biggest looming projects might be completed before I leave, so that would be good,” Kuhn said.

The commission asked Kuhn to update the manager’s job description for its April meeting, and commissioners will review applications and resumes as they come in, he said.

Mayor Clint Braun and council members thanked Kuhn for his service to the city over nearly 10 years.

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Oconto Falls council approves new city park

Walking trail, playground set planned

By WARREN BLUHM
News Editor

A new park has been added to the Oconto Falls City Park System.

After approval by the city council April 8, Michael McDermid Family Park covers 1.022 acres along the southern area of a retention pond between Van Buren and Cherry

streets.

Street Superintendent Wally Remic provided the council with a rough sketch of the possibilities, including a small parking lot at Locust Avenue and Van Buren Street, and a 5-foot-wide gravel walking path around the pond.

Remic also suggested adding a water fountain to the pond, installing some

benches and repurposing a playground set from Memorial Field.

“There’s a lot of options we can do there,” Remic said. “It’s a neat little parcel.”

Council members unanimously approved an ordinance designating the new park.

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THE DAY HE WORE MY CROWN

THE RESURRECTION STORY IN SONGS

St. John’s Lutheran Church
“The Clock Church”
101 W. Main St. Gillett, WI

Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

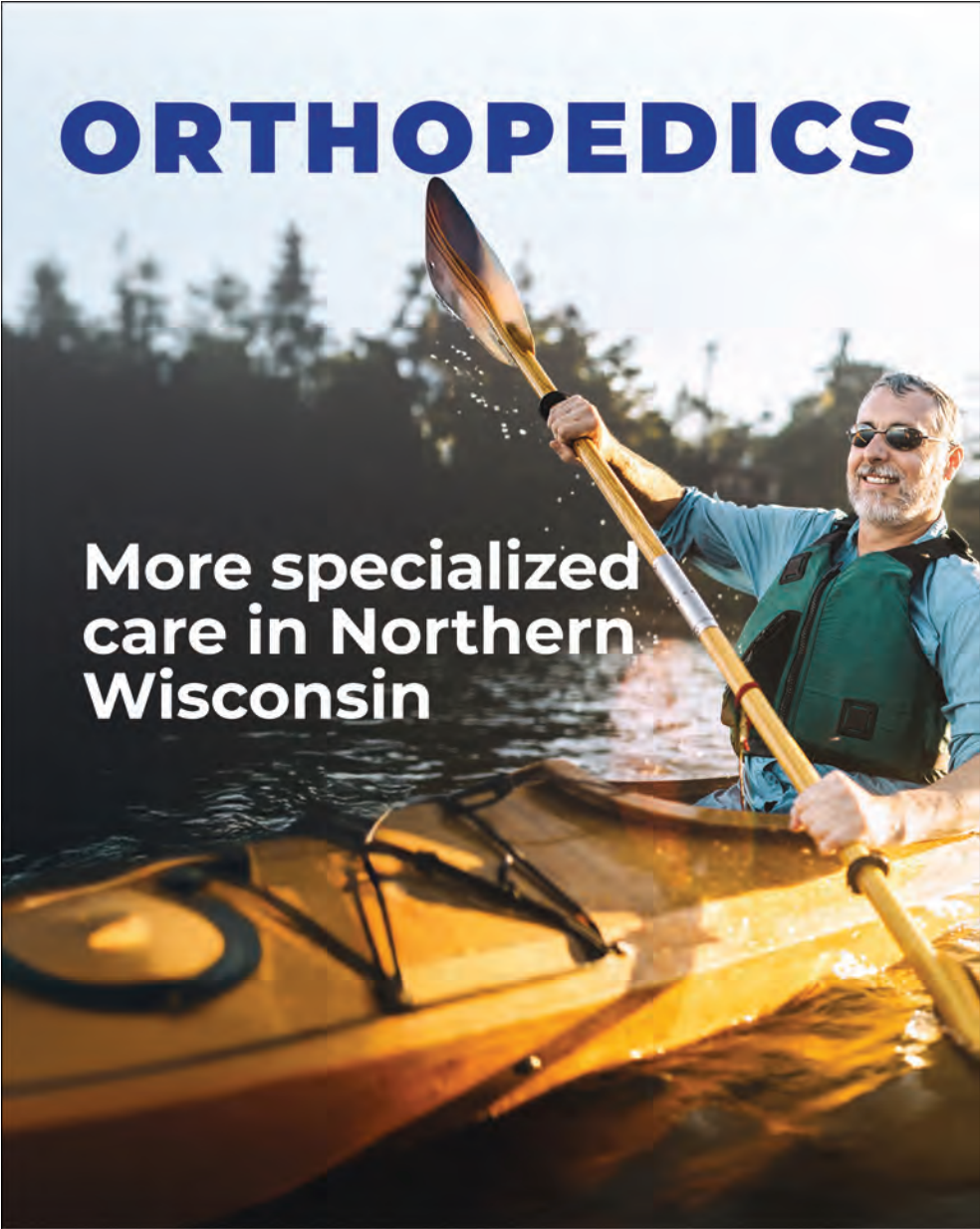
Saturday, April 26, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

featuring

Sharon Belongia, John Darga, Judy Darga, Matt Denkert, Clair Erb, LuAnn Erb, Anita Graziano, Maddy Holmes, Darlene Kapelke, Patti Konkle, Bennett Regal, Patti Stabbe, Wayne Strei, Bonnie Tousey, Chique Tousey-Tabar, Mark Vorpahl, Wendy Vorpahl, Leslie Witty, Cathy Wocking, Daniel Wright, Doug Yahnke & Rick Zill

There is no charge for admission but a free-will offering will be accepted. A dessert reception will follow each performance. St. John’s Lutheran Church is handicapped-accessible to all.



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Menominee celebrate sturgeon



Members of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin dance during the opening ceremonies for the 33rd annual Sturgeon Feast and Celebration Powwow on April 12 at Menominee Nation High School. The event also honored David Overstreet, an archaeologist who worked with the tribe for many years. He died in early 2025.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA



David Grignon, the Menominee tribal historic preservation officer, participates in the Sturgeon Feast dancing at Menominee Nation High School on April 12. The sturgeon is sacred to the tribe, and members continue to work with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to restore the fish tribal waters, including Keshena Falls.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

Four performances planned for annual Easter cantata

The ecumenical choir of St. John's Lutheran Church in Gillett is preparing for its annual Easter cantata, with performances beginning at 7 p.m. April 23 at the church, 101 W. Main St., Gillett.

Another evening performance will follow at 7 p.m. April 24. Final performances will be at 2 p.m. April 26 and April 27. There is no charge for admission but a freewill offering will be accepted.

A dessert reception will follow each performance. St. John's Lutheran Church (known to many as "The Clock Church") is handicapped-accessible to all.

A cantata is a musical performance with narration instead of characters. It includes many well-known Easter melodies and a number of newer contemporary songs.

Featured in this performance are Sharon Belongia, John Darga, Judy Darga, Matt Denkert, Clair Erb, LuAnn Erb, Anita Gratziano, Maddy Holmes, Darlene Kapelke, Patti Konkle, Bennett Regal, Patty Stabbe, Bonnie Tousey, Chique Tousey-Tabar, Mark Vorphal, Wendy Vorphal, Leslie Witty, Cathy Wocking, Daniel Wright, Doug Yahnke and Rick Zill. The production is directed by Wayne Strei.

Have a story idea? Email us!

news@newmedia-wi.com

04/18, 04/25/2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Please take notice that Public Hearings will be held before the Plan Commission of the City of Shawano on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 5:00 PM at Shawano City Hall, 127 S. Sawyer St., Shawano, WI to consider the following:

PUBLIC HEARING A: Zoning Map amendment pursuant to City Code Section 10-170 to rezone the following from Rural Holding-35 (RH-35) to Multi Family-20 (MR-20) zoning district: Current Parcel #281-331300010 City of Shawano SW ¼ NE ¼ & NW ¼ NE ¼ Known as Lot 1 Cert Survey Rec. V8 P149 Map #2241 Sec. 33 T27N R16E Ex Cert Survey Rec V15 P254.

PUBLIC HEARING B: Conditional Use Permit to allow 1380 Hwy B LLC (Specialized Veterinary Care of Shawano) to install solar panels at 1380 County Rd B, Shawano, WI per City of Shawano Municipal Code Section 10-38(5)(b) Small solar system, as a conditional use. The property is located in the Business Park (BP) zoning district. *(Legal description: City of Shawano Raasch Industrial Park Acres Sec 5 T26N R16E Lot 17 and Tax parcel #281-721000160).*

PUBLIC HEARING C: Conditional Use Permit to allow Herbert E. McLaughlin Post No 2723 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to construct a new 3,918 sq. ft. facility at 810 Olson Street, Shawano, WI per City of Shawano Municipal Code Section 10-39(3)(c) Indoor institutional, as a conditional use. The property is located in the Light Industrial (LI) zoning district. *(Legal description: City of Shawano Assessors Map Lot 1 Blk 16 was Lot 1 V3 CSM P36 Map #698 was Lot 2 CSM Map #4956 KNA Lot 3 CSM Map #4989 and Tax parcel #281-404001043).*

At the above time and place all interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard.

Lesley Nemetz, City Clerk
City of Shawano

WNAXLP

04/18/2025

ORDINANCE NO.: 2041
SPONSORED BY: Alderperson Barkow
INTRODUCED BY: Hoeffs
SECONDED BY: Hauer

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHAWANO, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN that Chapter 12, BUILDING CODE, Section 12.10 Fire Inspections, Corrective Actions, (1) Inspection is hereby amended as follows:

(1) Inspection. The Chief of the Fire Department or his designee shall be responsible for having all public buildings and places of employment within the territory of the Fire Department inspected for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire or any violations of law or ordinance relating to fire hazards or to the prevention of fires. The inspections shall be conducted at least once per calendar year, provided that the interval between those inspections does not exceed 15 months. The City of Shawano shall adhere to the guidelines for fire code and inspection as outlined within the most recent, State of Wisconsin adopted, version of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA-1).

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as provided by law.

Adopted: April 9, 2025

Published: April 18, 2025

By: /s/ Bruce Milavitz
Bruce Milavitz, Mayor

By: /s/ Lesley Nemetz
Lesley Nemetz, City Clerk

WNAXLP

04/18/2025

ORDINANCE NO.: 2040
SPONSORED BY: Plan Commission
INTRODUCED BY: Steinke
SECONDED BY: Barkow

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHAWANO, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN that Chapter 9, PUBLIC NUISANCES, Section 9.06 Trees and Shrubs (8) Dead or Diseased tree removal on private property is hereby amended as follows:

(8) Dead, diseased, hazardous, or height-restricted tree removal on private property.

(a) The City shall have the right to cause the removal of any dead, diseased, hazardous, or height-restricted trees on private property within the City when such trees constitute a hazard to life and/or property, including, but not limited to, utility lines or airport dimensional requirements (as stated in Section 10-94 of the City code), or harbor insects or disease which constitutes a potential threat to other trees within the City. The City Forester shall notify, in writing, the owners of such trees. The Forester shall also have the authority to issue citations as necessary as directed within the City of Shawano Bond Schedule. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within 60 days after the date of service of notice. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the City shall have the authority to remove such trees and charge the cost of removal on the owner's property tax notice. The Forester shall have the authority to enter upon private property at all reasonable times for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this section.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as provided by law.

Adopted: April 9, 2025

Published: April 18, 2025

By: /s/ Bruce Milavitz
Bruce Milavitz, Mayor

By: /s/ Lesley Nemetz
Lesley Nemetz, City Clerk

WNAXLP

04/18/2025

REMINDER TO CITY OF SHAWANO TAXPAYERS
REGARDING 2024 REAL ESTATE TAXES

The 2nd installment of your 2024 Real Estates taxes is due by Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

Mail payments to City of Shawano, 127 S. Sawyer St., Shawano WI 54166. We accept checks, money orders, or cashier's checks. Checks should be made payable to the City of Shawano.

We encourage taxpayers to make their payments by checks. If paying in cash, we do require that you have the exact amount, including the change.

As a reminder, if you mail your payment, a receipt will not be provided unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included with payment.

WNAXLP

04/18/2025

ORDINANCE NO.: 2039
SPONSORED BY: Plan Commission
INTRODUCED BY: Steinke
SECONDED BY: Barkow

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHAWANO, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN that Chapter 10, ZONING CODE, Article VI Overlay Zoning Districts, Section 10-94 (AP-O) Airport Overlay District is hereby amended to amend (4) Dimensional requirements and to add (4)(a) Authority and Enforcement.

Dimensional requirements. Same as for the underlying district, except that no structure shall be constructed, altered or located, or permitted to remain after such construction, alteration or location, and that no trees shall be allowed to grow to a height in excess of the height limit indicated on the current Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics Official Height Limitation Zoning Map, Shawano Municipal Airport, Shawano, Wisconsin, which is adopted as part of this chapter.¹¹¹

Editor's Note: Said map is on file in the City offices.

(a) Authority and Enforcement. Authority and enforcement of this subsection shall be granted to the City Forester as stated within Chapter 9 Public Nuisances, Section 9.06 Trees and Shrubs (8) Dead, diseased, hazardous, or height restricted tree removal on private property.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as provided by law.

Adopted: April 9, 2025

Published: April 18, 2025

By: /s/ Bruce Milavitz
Bruce Milavitz, Mayor

By: /s/ Lesley Nemetz
Lesley Nemetz, City Clerk

WNAXLP

04/11, 04/18/2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Housing Authority of Shawano County, Wisconsin

- Replacement of the Roof at the Oakridge Apartment Building, 504 Oak Drive, Shawano WI. 54155

Bids / Proposals will be received at the Office of the Housing Authority of Shawano County, 1259 Engel Dr, Shawano WI 54929, until Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. Bids for the Oakridge Roof Replacement Project will be officially opened and read aloud.

Bids will be accepted for the Oakridge Roof Replacement Project on the Bid Form in the Project Manual.

Successful Bidder will be determined upon the Project Manual's requirements; Reference checks, experience working with Davis Bacon wage rates, warranty provisions, schedule to complete the work, relative response time when service calls are required, and all other items will be reviewed for the identification of the responsible, responsive bidder.

Copies of the bid requirements may be obtained at the office of Daniel J. Meissner AIA, LLC, 1230 E. Calumet St., Appleton, WI 54915. Email: daniel.meissnerarch@gmail.com., Contact Dan Meissner, Architect, 920-428-0982 or Jeff Theis, Executive Director, 715-526-6960, if you have questions or if you are interested in reviewing the projects and submitting a bid/proposal for the project.

The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids / proposals and to waive any informalities thereof. No bidder may withdraw his bid/proposal within 30 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Oakridge Roof Replacement bids shall be submitted including a 5% bid bond to the Housing Authority of Shawano County as noted.

The Requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 apply to this project and that, to the greatest extent feasible contractors shall fulfill their obligation to use lower income residents as trainees and/or employees. * Reference Federal Register (33884-33887), June 30, 1994, Subpart 135.38.

Pursuant to the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA), enacted as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Pub. L. 117-58, 41 U.S.C. § 8301 note, the Federal Financial Assistance used to fund this infrastructure project is required to apply a domestic content procurement preference (the "Buy America Preference" or "BAP") for all construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure, including buildings and real property, unless application of the BAP has been waived by HUD. Additional details on fulfilling the BABA requirements can be found at:

https://www.hud.gov/program/offices/general_counsel/build_america_buy_america.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the "Notice of Requirement for Affirmative Action to ensure Equal Employment Opportunity (Executive Order 11246) and Supplemental Instructions to Bidders" contained in the bid documents, which sets forth, in part, goals, and timetables for the employment of women and minorities in the project area.

Contractors and subcontractors must pay not less than the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage rates established by the U.S. Department of Labor included in the project manual information.

Mr. Jeff Theis
Executive Director / CEO
The Housing Authority of Shawano County
1259 Engel Dr,
Shawano, WI 54929
715-526-6960
WNAXLP

Spring walk and trail cleanup set for April 26

Get ready to hit the trails and give back to nature this spring. Shawano Pathways and Friends of the Mountain-Bay Trail are hosting a community walk and trail cleanup April 26. This event is open to all; individuals and groups are encouraged to participate. Participants should meet between 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. at one of two locations: the parking lot of All Aboard Nutrition, 620 S. Main St., or the parking lot of the Four Seasons Resort, 201 N. Airport Road. From there, teams will depart on different routes, either the in-town park-to-park loop or the scenic Mountain-Bay Trail, and will clean up along the way. The walk will offer participants the chance to enjoy the outdoors while making a positive impact in the community. Bring gloves and trash grabbers (if possible), and wear bright colors to ensure your visibility along the routes. Free water and snacks will be provided. For more details, visit www.shawanopathways.org or follow Shawano Pathways on Facebook.

Melanie Curti from Shawano Pathways talks with two new volunteers at a recent walk and trail cleanup day. Another cleanup day will be April 26, with volunteers starting around 10 a.m. CONTRIBUTED



Billionaires flood Supreme Court race with cash

Megadonors from both sides have each given at least \$500K

By PETER CAMERON
The Badger Project

Wisconsin just finished another major election, and familiar billionaire megadonors are trying to outdo each other. On Jan. 10, Wall Street legend and bogeyman to the political right George

Soros gave the Democratic Party of Wisconsin \$1 million, according to records filed with the state. On Jan. 17, Diane Hendricks, chairwoman of ABC Building Supply, gave the Republican Party of Wisconsin \$975,000, and another \$100,000 a few weeks later. On Jan. 28, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker, whose family owns the Hyatt hotel chain, gave the Democratic Party of Wisconsin \$500,000. On Feb. 11, Richard Uihlein, an heir to the Schlitz beer fortune and co-founder of the packing supplies company ULINE, gave \$650,000 to the Republican Party of Wisconsin. On Feb. 13, the mother-daughter billionaire philanthropists Lynn and Stacy Schustermann, from Oklahoma City, each gave the Wisconsin Democratic Party \$500,000. Those billionaires have given huge sums to their preferred party in each of the last few elections in Wisconsin, translating mostly to more political advertising. The fact that

they are donating to the political party instead of directly to their preferred candidate is no mistake. Donations made directly to political candidates in Wisconsin are capped by state law at a certain amount depending on the office. For example, an individual can only give a maximum of \$20,000 to a candidate for state Supreme Court, something Hendricks has already done this year. A loophole in state law allows donors to give unlimited amounts of cash to political parties, and for those same parties to divert unlimited amounts to candidates. So the billionaires' donations made early this year have almost certainly found their way to the two candidates for the state Supreme Court race. The state Democratic Party has already reported giving left-wing candidate and Dane County Circuit Court Judge Susan Crawford \$2 million, while the state GOP has tried to keep pace, reporting giving right-wing candidate and Waukesha County Circuit Court Judge Brad Schimel nearly \$1.7 million. That party loophole was opened by court cases and inaction by the GOP majority in the Wisconsin Legislature. It could be closed, but so far, Republicans have ignored attempts by Democrats in the minority to do so. Should they ever retake the legislature, it remains to be seen if Democrats will want to close a loophole that is now working so well for them. Elon Musk has also jumped into the race, but using his millions in a different way. He is spending independently of campaigns and parties, through a super PAC to buy millions in political advertising and fund door-knocking operations for Schimel. The last race for

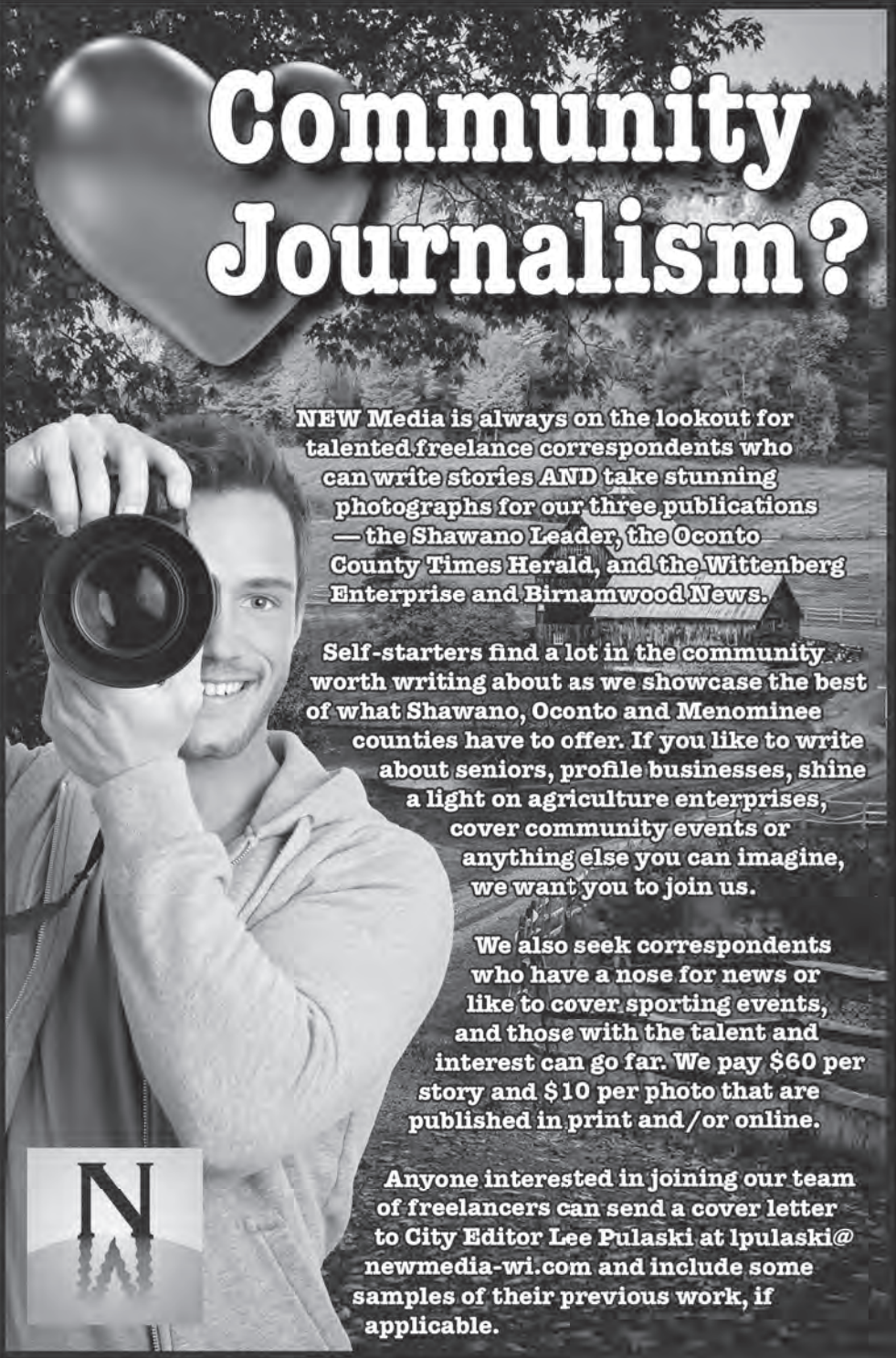
Wisconsin Supreme Court, in 2023, set a court record of more than \$50 million raised and spent to try and influence the race, according to the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, an organization that tracks political spending in the state. Experts expect even more in this race. "If nothing changes, every Supreme Court race we have until now until 2030, it's going to break a record," said Nick Ramos, executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, of the massive political cash. The court will have seats opening and thus elections in each of the next four years after this one. Liberals are at somewhat of an advantage, as they only have to defend two justices' seats in that time, while conservatives must defend three.

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

"If nothing changes, every Supreme Court race we have until now until 2030, it's going to break a record."
NICK RAMOS, executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

Bank First welcomes new retail banking officer

Bank First has announced it is welcoming Jessica Kosnicki as a retail banking officer. "We are thrilled to have Jessica join our team," said Hayley Marschke, retail market manager. "Her experience, local roots and commitment to helping customers find the right financial solutions make her a great fit for our Shawano office." Kosnicki brings nearly a decade of experience in the financial industry, most recently serving as a mortgage loan originator. Throughout her career, she has also held positions as a teller and member service representative, gaining extensive experience in customer service and financial solutions. In her new role at Bank First, Kosnicki will develop new and enhance existing retail banking relationships in the bank's Shawano market. She will work closely with customers to provide tailored financial solutions that meet their needs. Kosnicki earned an associate's degree in paralegal studies from Northeast Wisconsin Technical College and is a graduate of the Leadership Shawano County program. She is actively involved in the community, serving on the Wolf River Builders Association board, where she previously held the role of president, and as treasurer for Sun Drop Dayz. Additionally, Kosnicki is a member of the Shawano Area Young Professionals. Kosnicki lives in Shawano with her son and enjoys spending time outdoors, hunting, and traveling. For more information about Bank First, visit www.bankfirst.com.



Community Journalism?

NEW Media is always on the lookout for talented freelance correspondents who can write stories AND take stunning photographs for our three publications — the Shawano Leader, the Oconto County Times Herald, and the Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News.

Self-starters find a lot in the community worth writing about as we showcase the best of what Shawano, Oconto and Menominee counties have to offer. If you like to write about seniors, profile businesses, shine a light on agriculture enterprises, cover community events or anything else you can imagine, we want you to join us.

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

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

DOT seeks input on Highway 29 resurfacing project

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is seeking public input on a proposed resurfacing project on state Highway 29 from South Highline Road east of Bonduel to the Shawano/Brown County line.

The public is encouraged to go to the project website, review the materials and submit comments by May 15 by email to Timothy.Hanley@dot.wi.gov or by mail to Attn.: Tim Hanley, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, 1681 2nd Ave. S., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495.

The existing concrete pavement on Highway 29 is showing signs of deterioration. To address this and other issues, the DOT is proposing:

- Repairing or replacing the concrete pavement joints and cracks on Highway 29 and along the Highway 29 and state High-

way 55 interchange ramps. Repairing versus replacing the joint or cracks will depend on the severity of joint deterioration.

- Resurfacing the asphalt shoulders on Highway 29 within the concrete joint repair sections.

- Replacing asphalt shoulders to full depth on the Highway 29 and Highway 55 interchange ramps.

- Replacing the concrete pavement to full depth along Highway 29 westbound from River Road to just east of Broadway Road and along Highway 29 eastbound from County Road F to Spruce Road.

- Repairing and cleaning five culvert pipes under Highway 29 along with cleaning and clearing brush from the ditches.

- Replacing guardrail systems along Highway 29 and Highway 55.

- Resurfacing Highway

55 from County Road S to just east of the Highway 29 westbound entrance ramp.

- Resurfacing the park and ride parking lot on Lot Lane west of Highway 29 and just south of County Road S.

During construction, Highway 29 will remain open to traffic using single-lane and shoulder closures, crossovers and bidirectional traffic. In addition:

- The Highway 29 and Highway 55 interchange ramps will be closed to traffic with a signed detour.

- Highway 55 will remain open to traffic utilizing lane closures and flaggers.

- The park and ride will be closed to traffic for a short time.

Construction currently is scheduled for 2028.

For more information, visit projects.511wi.gov/region/north-central.

Unsolicited packages that come with QR codes can be bad news

A package you didn't order could be a fun surprise, but be careful — especially if it comes with a QR code — as it might be the setup for a scam.

In a "brushing" scam, you receive a package you didn't order, often without a return address. This is often a setup by unscrupulous companies who found your address online. After the company ships the product to you, they can post a fake, positive review on your behalf to improve their store's ratings and get more sales.

Reports to BBB Scam Tracker over the last few months show a twist on brushing scams where the package contains a QR code. The code comes with instructions to scan it to find out who sent the package or how to start a return. Scanning the QR code can lead to a phishing website or download malware onto your device.

In one BBB Scam Tracker report, a consumer received a package of pasta via Amazon in her name. Thinking it was a gift from a friend, she scanned the QR code that came with the package. The QR code took her to a website that appeared to be Amazon. The consumer said she has received a higher-than-normal amount of scam emails since scanning the QR code.

In another BBB Scam Tracker report, a consumer received a ring in the mail that he did not order. The ring came with a QR code. The consumer checked BBB Scam Tracker before scanning the code, and after reading other reports about brushing scams, he decided not to scan it.

It might seem like there are no downsides to a free package, but it could be a sign that someone is using your personal information for their own gain. If this happens to you, BBB recommends checking the security of your accounts and notifying the retailer who sent you the package.

What to do if you receive a package you didn't order:

- Don't scan QR codes. They might take you to a phishing site that steals your personal information or downloads malware onto your device.

- Protect your identity. If you did scan the QR code and enter personal information, change your passwords for any accounts that may have been compromised, and enable two-factor authentication. Keep a close eye on your credit reports and credit card bills after you receive the package.

- Notify the retailer. If you can tell where the package is from, go directly to the retailer's web-

site to get their contact information and report the package as a scam. Retailers like Amazon have policies banning brushing and fake reviews, and they will investigate your report.

- Check for fake reviews. If you can identify the company that sent you the packages, look for false reviews in your name and report them to the retailer.

- Pause deliveries. One package is no big deal, but some targets of brushing scams are overwhelmed with a flood of unordered packages, creating a serious problem. If this happens, you may want to consider temporarily refusing package delivery at your home address and directing your real orders to a package acceptance service.

- Keep the package. The one silver lining of brushing scams is that you get to keep the gift — the Federal Trade Commission says you have a legal right to keep unordered merchandise. Don't try to return it, especially if there are instructions to scan a QR code or enter information. It could needlessly compromise more of your personal information.

If you spot a delivery scam, report it. Visit www.bbb.org/scamtracker to report your experience and help others learn the signs of a scam.

Shawano County lifts weight limits on roads

Spring weight restrictions were removed on Shawano County trunk highways as of April 16, officials announced.

Seasonal weight limits were put in place March 10.

Seasonal weight restrictions are placed on specific highways during the spring

thaw period. The restrictions are placed to prevent damage to the pavement structure and extend the life of the pavement.

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Elm Creek Quilts author visits library

Chiaverini discusses her novels, shares stories of her youth

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

New York Times best-selling author Jennifer Chiaverini captivated her audience with story after story during her book tour that included an April 7 visit to the Shawano County Public Library.

In a new novel from Chiaverini's Elm Creek Quilts series, "The World's Fair Quilt," when financial difficulties threaten Sylvia Bergstrom Compson's legacy, she draws courage and resilience from memories of an extraordinary quilt competition.

"When Sylvia's confronted with a problem, she very often takes inspiration or courage from lessons of the past," Chiaverini said. "So I thought that's what I should do. I should find something that I mentioned briefly before and show how that experience will help Sylvia confront the financial issues Elm Creek Manor is having today."

Chiaverini found nugget of an idea from "The Master Quilter," a book of hers that was published in 2005. And that became the basis for her newest novel.

The author of 34 novels, including acclaimed historical fiction and the Elm Creek Quilts series, Chiaverini's first novel, "The Quilter's Apprentice," was released in 1999. She has also written seven quilt pattern books inspired by her novels.

In addition to promoting her book and answering several questions from the audience, she also talked of her love for libraries.

National Library Week was April 6-12.

"You can tell the strength of a community on whether they have a thriving library," Chiaverini said. "When you have a library, you have a sense of community. Of course they bring us the books that we love, but they also bring us internet access and movies and community gathering spaces."

She also talked of her time at the library when she was growing up in Michigan and, later, California.

"I have loved libraries ever since I was very, very young," Chiaverini said. "I



New York Times best-selling author Jennifer Chiaverini discusses her newest novel, "The World's Fair Quilt," during her book tour that included a stop at the Shawano County Public Library on April 7.
KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

was an early reader, so there quite a gap between the books that I would find challenging and engaging to read and those that were suitable for my actual age."

Chiaverini said her Michigan library had a woman in charge known simply as The Librarian. Chiaverini never knew the woman's name, but she could always find the perfect book for the young girl.

"I didn't know it until I had it in my hands and read it," Chiaverini said.

One day, The Librarian presented

Chiaverini with "Tuck Everlasting," a children's novel by Natalie Babbitt that explores the concept of immortality and the complexities of living forever, focusing on the Tuck family and young Winnie Foster's encounter with their secret.

"That was the book that I was just so captivated by," Chiaverini said. "That was really the book that made me want to become a writer."

In California, Chiaverini's first job as a high school student was as a page at her

local library.

The Elm Creek Quilt series is at least in part inspired by Chiaverini's love of quilting.

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the University of Chicago, she lives with her husband and two sons in Madison.

Her visit to Shawano was due in part to the Friends of the Shawano Library.

kpaddon@newmedia-wi.com



Kay Reminger's daughter, Jessica, and her fiancé, Carlo Leon, epitomize a boy from Columbia meeting and falling in love with a girl from Leopold while in the state of Texas.
KAY REMINGER

FARM LIFE FROM A FARM WIFE

Love in air for Leopoldis girl, Columbia boy

(Editor's note: This is the first part in a two-part series.)

Enjoying the experience, we've been on a sweet journey that holds much promise as the path unfolds.

A couple years ago, our daughter met a tenderhearted young man who purely and respectfully pursued her. Falling in love, they began planning their future together, and her dad and I have been privileged to be included.

Last June, she and her then-boyfriend flew home for a family wedding and planned on staying for a time. Our daughter wanted to expose her friend to her way of life, as it was polar opposite



from his. He is Latino, born and raised in Columbia – about as different as A to Z from a farming community in northeastern Wisconsin.

As a side note, this meeting of soulmates could only be orchestrated by a God who is infinite and all-knowing. A boy from Columbia meeting and falling in love with a girl from Leopoldis while in the state of Texas? How does that happen if not by God?

In January, our daughter and her boyfriend flew to Cartagena, Columbia, to meet his parents and spend time immersed in the beauty of his culture. It was eye-opening and mind-blowing as he was raised in a city with a population of 1 million. Unincorporated Leopoldis may house 100 in a good year.

Undeterred by their dissimilar upbringings, this past January, this young man proposed to our daughter in the most incredibly sweet way. She said yes!

Wanting "the ask" to be a private affair, her fiancé secured a photographer to follow discreetly and after a special meal,

captured the exact moment he bent the knee.

Unbeknownst to our daughter, he secretly arranged a surprise engagement party where he invited her longtime good friend from Oregon and another from Wisconsin as well as her dad and me.

Blindfolded, he led her into a house decorated with balloons and banners and 75 friends hollering "surprise," showering her with well-wishes and hugs. Then she saw her close friends. Squealing with delight, she hugged them simultaneously. Then she spotted us.

Needless to say, our stock in Kleenex rose

LOVE, CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



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IN THE KITCHEN WITH FRANCESCA

Fruit brings flavor to spring recipes



Spring can be the perfect time to make some lemon bars.

FRANCESCA ULLMER

Spring is a time for trying new things. It is also a time when fruit seems particularly palatable, for some reason.

Lemon bars are something that I avoided for years, because I simply did not like them. Now, I find that I have developed a taste for them. Their pretty yellow color and lemony taste are especially suited to spring. Although I have tried several bar recipes, this time I tried one from one of the America’s Test Kitchen cookbooks.

This lemon bar recipe is very good. The crust is buttery and firm; cooking it longer than other recipes helps prevent a soggy crust. Thickening the filling on the stovetop ensures a more even bake and also prevents an undermixed filling. Straining the filling is also a good idea, because this prevents any random egg lumps or lemon zest from ruin-



ing the smooth texture. Because the zest is cooked in the filling, the taste is still there.

These bars are very tangy. If tang is not desired, omit the zest or add a little more sugar. Also, as I did not have any lemons, I used bottled lemon juice. It still tastes fine, although fresh lemon juice would probably taste even better.

Both of these recipes called for salt. As I nearly always use salted butter, I reduced the amount of salt or omitted it entirely. I normally ignore the difference between salted and unsalted butter. It does not affect the look, texture or (most of the time) taste. However, in



Apple danish can add some fruity flavor to the Easter holiday.

FRANCESCA ULLMER

these two recipes, I felt that adding the amount of salt called for would be too much. If you are using unsalted butter, increase the amount of salt by 1/4 teaspoon in the lemon bar crust, add 1/4 teaspoon of salt to the lemon filling, and add 1/4 teaspoon of salt to the apple filling.

I found the recipe for

apple danish while I was researching Easter recipes. Because my family has several apple trees, I have always had a fondness for apple pie. Lately, I have been finding so many new recipes that require apples. This recipe actually reminds me of my jam bread recipe — although the braiding technique is

LEMON BARS

CRUST:

1 cup flour
1 stick butter, melted

1/4 cup sugar
1/4 tsp. table salt

FILLING:

1 cup sugar
2 tsp. cream of tartar
3 egg yolks
4 tbsp. butter, cut into eight pieces

2 tbsp. flour
3 large eggs
2 tsp. grated lemon zest
2/3 cup lemon juice

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Fold two long sheets of aluminum foil so that each is 8 inches wide. Lay and smooth the 2 sheets of foil in an 8-inch pan, perpendicular to each other — letting the extra foil hang over the sides of the pan. Whisk the flour, sugar and salt together. Add the melted butter and mix well. Press evenly into prepared pan. Bake for 19-24 minutes, rotating the pan halfway, until crust is dark golden brown. While crust bakes, whisk sugar, flour and cream of tartar in the same (unwashed) bowl as the crust. Whisk in the eggs and yolks. Beat well until no streaks of egg remain. Whisk in the zest and lemon juice. Transfer mixture to a saucepan and cook over medium-low heat, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens. Remove from heat and stir in the butter. Strain filling through a fine-mesh strainer set over a bowl. Pour filling on hot crust and tilt pan to spread evenly. Bake for 8-12 minutes, until filling is set and barely jiggles when pan is shaken. Let bars cool completely. Using foil overhang, lift bars out of the pan. Cut into squares, wiping knife clean between cuts if necessary. Dust with powdered sugar.

APPLE DANISH

DOUGH:

2 cups flour
1 tsp. salt
2 tbsp. butter, at room temperature

2 tbsp. packed brown sugar
1 1/2 tsp. instant yeast
3/4 cup warm water

FILLING:

2 1/2 cups apples, chopped
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 tsp. cinnamon

3 tbsp. butter
1 1/2 tbsp. flour

GLAZE:

2 tbsp. butter
1/2 tsp. vanilla

2/3 cup powdered sugar
4 tsp. milk

Combine the brown sugar, salt, yeast and 1 cup of flour in a bowl. Add the water and butter and beat for 1 minute. Stir in the remaining cup of flour, and mix well. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic (about 10 minutes), adding a little more flour if needed. Transfer dough ball to an oiled bowl, lightly spray top of dough with cooking spray. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise until doubled, about 1 hour. Meanwhile, for the filling, place the apples and butter in a medium saucepan. Combine the brown sugar, flour and cinnamon; add to the saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat, then reduce heat and simmer for about 5 minutes, or until apples are tender. Remove from heat and cool. Transfer the danish dough to a floured surface and punch dough down. Let rest for 15 minutes, loosely covered with plastic wrap. Roll dough into a 13x8 rectangle. Transfer to a parchment-lined baking sheet. Turn the baking sheet so that you face the short side of the dough. Spread the apple filling down the center third of the dough. With a pizza cutter, cut the dough on the sides into 1-inch thick angled strips. (Right side — angle strips to 4 o'clock, left side — angle strips to 8 o'clock.) Starting at the top, fold the dough strips across the apple filling, alternating left and right. Pinch as needed to help seal in the filling. Cover, and let rise for 30-40 minutes. Bake in a 375-degree oven for 20 minutes, covering with a sheet of aluminum foil for the last 10 minutes. Cool. For the glaze, heat the butter over medium-low heat. Swirl occasionally and watch closely for about 5 minutes or until the milk solids turn brown and give off a nutty fragrance. Remove from heat and transfer to a bowl to cool slightly. Stir in the powdered sugar and vanilla. Add the milk, 1 teaspoon at a time, until the glaze is thin enough to drizzle. Decorate the danish braid with the glaze.

slightly different.

Kneading the bread dough for almost 10 minutes is essential. Recipes that have kneading as a requirement often say, “smooth and elastic.” My dough got to that consistency in more like eight minutes versus 10. You will know when your dough is ready — it will feel almost wet on the sur-

face but will not stick to your fingers or the table. It will feel almost like really fun play dough. Also, the dough may take more than one hour to rise.

Happy Easter.

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.

LOVE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

exponentially.

One night during our stay, my husband was introduced to a supper of gumbo. Oh boy. He ate it, without complaint and a full glass of water. He also tried quiche. Listen when I say, this is my farmer guy who I’ve s-l-o-w-l-y introduced green vegetables, one at a time, throughout the years. He’s come a long way.

Fast forward to February. Getting a phone call from my daughter she asked, “Mom. I want you with me when I pick out my dress. Could you fly down here by yourself do you think?”

It gave me pause. I am

a follower. And especially through airports. I’ve followed my husband or my daughter or my very capable sister-in-law. I don’t do well leading.

Swallowing hard I said, “Sure.”

I started praying for angels to assist, and believing he means what he says, because all of his promises are yes and amen, I settled in to wait for the day to arrive.

My husband drove me to the airport at an hour we haven’t seen since we sold the cows — leaving at 4 a.m. for a 6:30 a.m. departure out of Appleton. Seeing me off, I swallowed the lump in

my throat and, putting on my big girl pants, bravely started off on my own.

Landing in Dallas, I immediately found a restroom before baggage claim as I cannot think when my bladder is taking center stage. Waiting in line, I looked at a woman bending down, fussing with a pretty hat. She stood up.

“Karen?” I exclaimed. “Kay?” She echoed back.

She was from Marion, a fellow mom whom I’d sat with during our boys’ sporting events back in the day, developing defined bleacher-butt together.

We “happened” to be in the same bathroom in Dallas, Texas, at the precise moment I needed help. She and her daughter quite literally took me by the hand and deposited me at Baggage Claim B40. God had sent not only an angel, but personal ones to boot.

Watching my daughter search for just the right wedding dress was an experience I’ll remember always. Sipping on my first-ever mimosa, a box of Kleenex was supplied. After she said yes to the dress, I was hauled along to a French bakery for a light lunch and after shopping for my dress

(and shoes) we met up with her fiancé and a dozen Latino friends for a meal at a Thai restaurant. I ordered Pad Thai. (Who am I?)

The next day, after an amazing worship service at Upperroom in Dallas, we stopped for a meal at a Japanese restaurant. I tasted flavors never touching my palate ever in my 68 years on this good earth.

Experiencing rainbows of sights and sounds as well as flavors from Thai to Japanese and interacting in delightful conversation with pleasant, God-honoring young men from Hondu-

ras and Columbia, I felt like I was pulled out of my black and white world into Dorothy’s colorful Oz. I was definitely not in Leopolis anymore.

“For all of God’s promises find their ‘yes’ of fulfillment in him. And as his ‘yes’ and our ‘amen’ ascend to God, we bring him glory.” 2 Corinthians 1:20, The Passion Translation)

(To be continued)

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

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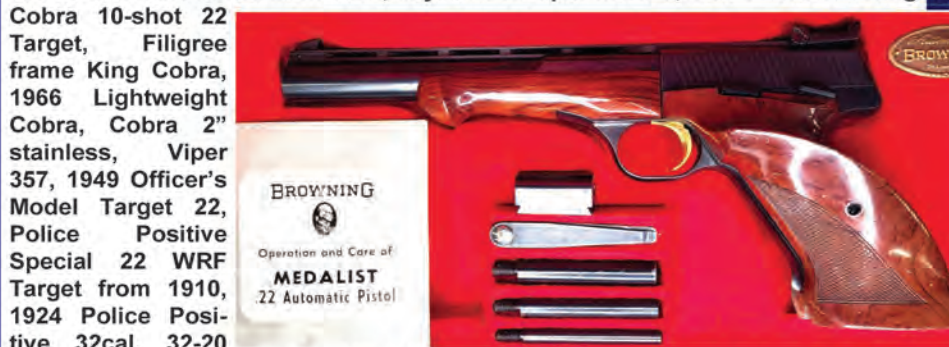
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Police Positive Special with Officer's name & Dept engraved in 1937, Nice 25 Auto pocket pistol, 1931 Woodsman 22 pistol, Challenger from 1952, Collection of Gold Cup Trophy pistols (Most Unfired), Series 70 National Match 45, Scroll-engraved & 2-tone Engraved Series 70 1911's, Combat Commander 9mm, Defender 9 & 45, 2014 Mustang XSP, Trooper Patrol Carbine, Early Colt 20" chrome bore fixed handle M16? Upper w/ triangle guard

Military Guns & Collectibles:

Colt U.S. Army DA-38 revolver built in 1895, Winder US Winchester 1885 22Short musket, Union Switch & Signal 1911 45 pistol, US Eddystone Model 1917 rifles, US Remington Model 1903 & 03-A3 rifles, 1944 Springfield M1 Garand, 1952 International Harvester M1 Garand, Korean-era H&R M1 Garand w/ original barrel, 1942 Inland Division M1 Carbine, 1943 Quality Hardware M1 Carbine, Early M1A still using military parts, Mossberg 44US 22 target, Stevens 416 X-barrel, Gustloff bcd-42 Nazi rifle, 1941 Nazi K98k kriegsmodell rifle, 1941 Mosin-Nagant, 1954 Russian SKS, Nagoya Arsenal Arisakas, Romanian 22 Trainer, Yugo M59/66, 1866 Canadian Snider-converted Enfield, No 4 Mk 2 Enfield, Savage lend/lease Enfield, Santa Fe Enfield sporter, Mitchell's Premium Grade M48 8mm mauser, Czech VZ-24 & M24/47 mausers, 1915 Carcano carbine, Norinco Tokarev pistol

German Sporting Guns: 100yr old JP Sauer & Sohn Cape Gun (16ga & 11mm) w/ extraordinary engraving, New JP Sauer 6.5 Creedmoor, German 10ga SxS with 36" barrels, SIG P220 & P229, Sig 1911-22, H-K model VP9 & P30L pistols, Mauser 22cal versions of AK-47, MP40, 1911 & StG44, Mauser HSr & M20 pistols, Custom-built Mauser in 350 Rem, Walther PPS 9mm & P22



Smith & Wessons: Model 1854 lever-action 44 Mag, 350-Legend X-frame stainless revolver, 1000M 12ga Autoloader, Model 41 Target pistol, Performance Center Models 625 & 628, Model 625 45 auto revolver, 640 Pro Series w/ Night Sights, K-frames: Model 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 581 & 681, N-frames: Model 28 Highway Patrol & 29-3 6", M&P 9, 40 & 380 incl Shield compacts, M&P-15 5.56, 2206 alloy 22 pistol

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Rugers & Other Revolvers: Special Edition (75 Years) Coyote-fur camo 204, Unfired Mark II (50 Years) 22 pistol in case, Tang safety M77 7mm Mag, M77 Mk II 300 WSM, Assorted 10/22's including Early Walnut, Unfired & Special Runs, 25yr old Super Redhawk 44 Mag Hunter 9.5", 1-time production Alaskan Flat Top 454 in box,



Bearcat tiny-frame revolver, Single-Six w/ silver frame, Precision 22 chassis rifle, 308 SFAR, Charger pistol, 9mm PC carbine, SR1911 stainless 45, LCP 380, The Judge 3 & 6", Circuit Judge carbine, Dan Wesson 44 Mag over 40yrs old, Engraved silver frame Cimarron, Pietta 45 w/ brass frame, Heritage single-action revolvers, Buntlines & Revolving Carabines

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Model 700 rifles including Unfired in Box, BDL Deluxe, ADL & Special Purpose, Heavy Varmint barrel 223, 740 Woodmaster, Model 11-87 12ga Magnum & SuperMag, Model 597 22 autos, Antique Model 721 bolt 270's, Sportsman 78 Birch 243, Model 788 Birch 223, 510 Targetmaster, 541-T, Nice & Early 870 Wingmasters 12 & 20ga—both Magnums, 1100 12ga Magnum, Collector Model 14 pump in 35Rem, Model 33 22 bolt, Nylon Model 12 bolt-action

Savage: 1949 Model 99 300Savage, Stevens 12ga Hammerless SxS, Model 311C 20ga SxS, Stevens 77E 410 pump, Model 93R17, Axis & Axis II XP rifles, Model 170 pump 30-30, Stevens 6.5 Creedmoor, Model 64 22 auto, Springfield 188H 22 auto

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Other Rifles & Shotguns: Like New Benelli Raffaello DeLuxe engraved 12ga Italian autoloader, Charles Daly Empire Grade 16ga SxS, Ithaca Victory Grade 12ga Trap, Ithaca/SKB 600 Trap O/U, SKB 585 12ga Magnum O/U, Ithaca 37 Deerslayer, Custom Weatherby Mark V 300 Mag with Deluxe & Kevlar stocks, Weatherby Vanguard 30-06 & 300 Mag, Tikka 243 & 338 Mag rifles, Stoeger 12ga SxS Zephyr Woodlander from Spain, Crusader Field 410 Over/Under, Kimber 8400 Montana rifle, Bergara B-14 Hunters in 7 & 300 Mag, CZ 452 & 457 DeLuxe, CZ 20ga Redhead Deluxe O/U, Howa 1500 Snow Camo 243 & wood 7.62x39 lightweight, Mossberg Patriot 243 & 30 -06, Richards Damascus 12ga SxS, Thompson/Center Encore, Venture & Compass rifles, Custom 6.5x55 mauser, Crickett "My First Rifle", Citadel 12ga autoloader, Filthy Pheasant 12ga O/U, Tristar Viper G2 Bonze 12 & 28ga autoloaders, Marlin Model 50 22 autos, Mossbergs in 410, 20 & 12ga

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Shawano's Trinity Popelka, left, drills the soccer ball in a battle against Stevens Point Area Senior High on April 12. At right, Adrienne Rekow maneuvers the ball down the field toward the goal. Unfortunately, the Hawks were shut out 7-0, their second consecutive shut out of the early season.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

Pulaski soccer tops Slinger, Shawano shut out

April 12 Pulaski 2, Slinger 0
Pulaski scored twice in the first half, and that was all that was needed as they defeated Slinger 2-0 to improve to 2-1 overall.

Stevens Point 7, Shawano 0
The Hawks were shut out 7-0 when they hosted Stevens Point. Shawano allowed three goals in the first half and four more after the break.
Senior goalkeeper Lily Glysch

had 15 saves for the Hawks, including a penalty kick early in the 1st half.

April 10 Ashwaubenon 8, Shawano 0
The Jaguars blanked the

Hawks 8-0 in Shawano.

April 8 Shawano 3, Fox Valley Lutheran 2
After tying Hortonville in the season opener April 1, Shawano earned its first win of the season,

a 3-2 decision over Fox Valley Lutheran.

Winneconne 1, Pulaski 0
Pulaski lost its first game of the season, a 1-0 non-conference shutout at the hands of Winneconne.

Lena/STAAA girls track team wins home quad

BY NEW MEDIA STAFF

April 12 Lena Quad
The Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy girls won the Lena Quad with 81 points, and the boys placed third with 38.

Abigail Kostreva won the 400-meter dash in 1:08.60 and placed second in the 200-meter dash. She also won the long jump at 13-5.75.

Adrena Rabas won the 800-meter run in 3:03.01. She also won the 1,600-meter run in 6:46.32. Anica Suchan placed third in the 1,600-meter run.

In the 100-meter hurdles, it was Kali Fischer in first in 18.95, Kaitlyn Borkovec in second in 20.76 and Laila Collar in third in 22.24.

The Lena 4x200-meter relay team won in 2:04.61.

In the triple jump, it was Della Kostreva in first at 29-9.75, Fischer in second at 28-8 and Borkovec in third at 28-3.25.

Whitney Potter finished second in the discus, and Mackenzie Vorpahl placed third in the shot put.

Kate Peters placed third in the high jump.

April 11 Wausau West Boys Warrior Invitational



The Wittenberg-Birnamwood girls track team finished in took second place at the Wausau West girls indoor track meet.

TINA BACON

Bonduel's boys placed seventh out of 13 teams but first among their WIAA division at Wausau West.

On the podium for the Bears were the 4x400-meter relay team, first in 4:01.61; and Sam Roberts, second in the triple jump at 40-6.75; Gage Anderson, third in the 400-meter

dash in 1:00.90; and Oliver Chitwood, third in the 3,200-meter run in 12:26.59.

Other top 10 finishes were Gage Scholl, fourth in the 200-meter hurdles in 31.17; Roberts, fourth in the long jump at 20-2; Griffin Uelmen, seventh in the high jump at 5-4; Corbin Vandenberg, eighth in the

3,200-meter run in 14:18.30; Garrett Anderson, ninth in the 1,600-meter run in 6:05.81; and Josh Dwoniczak, 10th in the 1,600-meter run in 6:11.15.

Shawano also had several podium and top 10 finishes.

On the podium for the Hawks were Teagan

Harkey, second in the 1,600-meter run in 5:34.35; Aloysius Frechette, second in the 3,200-meter run in 12:21.62; Francesco Curto, second in the 200-meter hurdles in 30.83; and the 4x400-meter relay team, third in 4:05.77.

Top 10 finishes were recorded by Aiden Rasmus-

sen, fourth in the 55-meter dash in 7.10; Joshua Lesperance, sixth in the 800-meter run in 2:32.25; Rasmusen, sixth in the long jump at 19-2; Chase Katchengo, seventh in the shot put at 42-5.5; Lesperance, eighth in the triple jump at 36-2; Ryan Schwitzer, eighth in the pole vault at 11-0; Joseph Doperalski, eighth in the shot put 40-5.25; Cambren Zeuske, ninth in the 200-meter dash in 27.97; James Lange, ninth in the 55-meter hurdles in 10.57; and Micah Welander, 10th in the high jump at 5-2.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood captured six podium finishes.

They were Jett Rogowski, second in the 200-meter dash in 25.91, and second in the long jump at 20-8.75; the 4x400-meter relay team, second in 4:01.85; Kaden Yeager, third in the 55-meter dash in 7.04, and third in the triple jump at 38-11.5; and Landen Schmidt, third in the shot put at 44-9.5.

Top 10 finishes included Bryson Schmid, sixth in the 55-meter dash in 7.19; Alex Sanderson, seventh in the 400-meter dash in 1:03.65; and Yeager, 10th in the long jump at 18-10.25.

TRACK, CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

Wittenberg scores 31 runs in lopsided win over Manawa

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

April 12 Bonduel 10, Weyauwega-Fremont 4

Bonduel traveled to Ashwaubenon to play Weyauwega-Fremont in a conference tilt, winning 10-4.

The Bears trailed 4-3 after two innings but tied it on a Joe Felhofer base hit. Bonduel then broke it open in the fourth with back-to-back doubles by Race Anvelink and Beckett Hartlaben and an RBI from Kody Schroeder on a groundout.

The Bears scored three more in the fifth on singles by Carter Moesch, Mason Zuleger and Jack Zernicke.

The Bears ran wild on the bases, stealing 12 bases led by Moesch and Zuleger with three each. Moesch had three hits to lead the Bears, and Beckett Hartlaben had three RBIs. Mason Zuleger scored three runs.

Anvelink, after a shaky start by the defense, threw five solid innings and earned the win with relief help from Brooks Hartlaben.

Bonduel is now 2-0 overall and 1-0 in CWC East play.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 31, Manawa 2

The Chargers saced 21 runs in the first inning alone as they went on to crush Manawa 31-2 in Ashwaubenon.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood added another 10 runs in the third inning. Manawa had 11 errors in the game.

Pulaski 24, Sheboygan South 3

The Red Raiders improved to 6-1 with a 24-3 thumping of Sheboygan South.

Florence 11, Gillett/Suring 1

Gillett/Suring lost 11-1 to Florence at the Gillett Triangular.

Amherst 12, Menominee Nation 0

Amherst shut out Menominee Nation 12-0 in

a game at Ashwaubenon.

April 11 Oconto Falls 11, Crandon 1

Carter Heroux, Jack Adler and Wyatt Laughrin combined for eight hits and six RBIs in Oconto Falls' 11-1 win over Crandon.

Heroux hit 3-for-3 with a double, there runs scored and two RBIs. Adler was also 3-for-3 with two runs scored and two RBIs. Laughrin hit 2-for-3 with a double, a walk, two runs scored and two RBIs.

Adler was also the winning pitcher. In three innings, he gave up one hit, walked three and struck out five.

Shawano 15, Xavier 10
The bats were alive in Appleton as Shawano defeated Xavier 15-10 in a Bay Conference game.

Tigerton 18, Green Bay NEW Lutheran/Providence Academy 7
Tigerton is 3-0 this year with an 18-7 nonconference win over Green Bay NEW Lutheran/Providence Academy.

April 10 Gillett/Suring 10, Wausaukee 5

Gillett/Suring won its first game of the season, a 10-5 Marinette & Oconto Conference victory of Wausaukee.

Bonduel 8, Edgar 0
Bonduel started off its season on a winning note by taking advantage of eight walks and five errors in securing an 8-0 win over Edgar at Wisconsin Rapids.

Beckett Hartlaben, Mason Zuleger and Brooks Hartlaben combined for a solid performance on the mound in a shutout effort, with Hartlaben getting the win.

Kody Schroeder was the big stick in the Bears lineup with three hits and two RBIs. Carter Moesch added two RBIs.

Oconto Falls 7, Kingsford 4

Cole and Hunter Bozile teamed up at the plate to

pace the Panthers in a 7-4 win.

Cole Bozile hit 2-for-3 with two runs scored and two RBIs. Hunter Bozile was 1-for-1 with two runs scored.

Trace Brehmer was the winning pitcher. He pitched three innings, gave up two hits and two runs (two earned), walked four and struck out two.

Tigerton 6, Gresham 5

The Tigers were successful with another one-run victory, defeating Gresham 6-5.

Lena 4, Niagara 1

The Wildcats picked up another win, this time a 4-1 decision over Niagara.

Bowler 5, Northland Lutheran 3

Bowler started its season on a positive note, defeating Northland Lutheran 5-3.

Marion 1, White Lake 0

Marion batters only scored one run against White Lake, but that was all that was needed for the 1-0 win. It was the first win for the 1-2 Mustangs.

Pulaski 10, Ashwaubenon 1

The Red Raiders improved to 4-1 with a 10-1 Fox River Classic Conference win over Ashwaubenon.

Shawano 11, Xavier 1
Shawano's bats came alive in an 11-1 thumping of Xavier.

Pacelli 2, Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 1

A scoreless battle for six innings, the game came down to the seventh inning when all three runs were scored.

Unfortunately, Pacelli finished on top 2-1 over the Chargers, who suffered their first loss of the young season.

April 8 Oconto Falls 7, Denmark 2

Wyatt Laughrin and Trace Brehmer led the Oconto Falls baseball team at the plate in its 7-2 win over Denmark.

Laughrin hit 1-for-3

with a walk and three runs scored. Brehmer hit 1-for-2 with a pair of RBIs.

Carter Heroux was the winning pitcher. He went five innings, struck out five, walked three, and gave up four hits and two runs (one earned).

Tigerton 6, Menominee Nation 5

Tigerton opened its season with a victory, defeating host Menominee Nation 6-5. It was also the home and season opener for the Eagles.

Gresham 17, Elcho 0

Gresham improved to 2-0 early in the season after a 17-0 shutout of Elcho in non-conference action.

Lena 7, St. Thomas Aquinas Academy 2

Lena picked up its first win of the season in its 7-2 victory over Marinette & Oconto County Conference foe St. Thomas Aquinas Academy. The Wildcats are 1-1 overall.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 5, Wautoma 4

The Chargers improved to 2-0 overall after beating Wautoma 5-4.

Bay Port 3, Pulaski 1

The Red Raiders lost their first game of the season, a 3-1 loss to Bay Port in their opening Fox River Classic Conference matchup. Pulaski is 3-1 overall.

Manawa 2, Marion 0
Marion dropped to 0-2 this season after a 2-0 shutout at the hands of Manawa.

West De Pere 9, Shawano 0

The Hawks were shut out 9-0 in their season opener against West De Pere. Shawano is 0-1 in the Bay Conference.

Crivitz 10, Gillett/Suring 0

Gillett/Suring opened its season with a 10-0 loss to Crivitz.

Crivitz took a 1-0 lead in the third and added another in the fourth before exploring for eight runs in the fifth inning to seal the win.

Gillett/Suring had two hits.

Honoring a legend



Shawano football assistant coach Steve Zais, left, was recognized for 48 years of coaching at the recent Wisconsin Football Coaches Association clinic. Presenting him with his award was Wisconsin Badgers head coach Luke Fickell.

CONTRIBUTED

Pulaski tennis team tops Shawano 6-1

April 11-12
Pulaski and Shawano faced off against each other on the second day of competition at Bay Port.

The Red Raiders won all four singles matches and two of three doubles contests.

At No. 1 singles, Nathan Maroszek defeated Tanner Thiel 6-1, 6-1, while Mikel Iglesias-Mino blanked Elias Popp 6-0, 6-0 at No. 2. At No. 3, Jonah Dreves beat Bakytzhan Tulenov 6-1, 6-3; and at No. 4, Donovan Holderness shut out Adam Prey, Shawano 6-0, 6-0.

Pulaski's doubles wins were at No. 1 and No. 3.

First, Justin Fraedrich and Ryan Symons defeated Abraham Kim and Evan Anderson 6-1, 7-6 (6). At No. 3, Conrad Kreutzberg and Jakob Malchowbeat Levi Anobong and Everett Grover 6-2, 6-2.

Shawano's win came at No. 2 singles when Kieran Sheldon and Charlie

Grievs defeated Oscar Delmarcelle and William Gosse 7-6 (1), 6-4.

Pulaski also beat Regis 4-3 on April 12.

Winning the four singles matches were Fraedrich at No.1, Maroszek at No. 2, Iglesias-Mino at No. 3 and Dreves at No. 4.

Pulaski lost all three doubles contests.

The second day of competition began with a 4-3 loss to Watertown.

The Red Raiders won three singles matches. Winners were Fraedrich at No. 1, Maroszek at No. 2 and Iglesias-Mino at No. 3.

On April 11, Pulaski beat D.C. Everest 5-2 and was shut out 7-0 by West De Pere.

Against D.C. Everest, Pulaski had a clean sweep in singles play, with wins by Fraedrich, Maroszek, Iglesias-Mino and Dreves.

At No. 2 doubles, Delmarcelle and Gosse defeated Donnie Xiong and Yasen Lee 6-4, 6-2.



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TRACK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Denmark Cold Vike Invite

Pulaski's boys and girls teams each won among nine teams in Denmark. The boys scored 171.5 points, while the girls had 148.

Arden Gillen won the 3,200-meter run in 10:18.57, with Parker Marshall in second in 10:31.09.

Winning the 4x200-meter relay were Aiden McGlinn, Sawyer Goodness, Kam McKeefry and Spencer Hakes in 1:33.84.

The team of Daniel Augustine, Thomas Murphy, Jacob Betley and Mitchell Pilon won the 4x400-meter relay in 3:27.21.

Pulaski also won the 4x800-meter relay with Marshall, Dayne Groth, Gillen and Pilon finishing in 8:49.09.

Libero Angeli won the discus event with a throw of 130 feet 4 inches. Bennett Vanschyndel won the high jump at 6-4, and Isaac Lom was second at 6-0.

Ryan Opperman won the pole vault at 11-0.

Hakes finished second in the 100-meter dash, and Max Fredrickson was seventh.

Pilon also earned second in the 400-meter dash, with Betley placing fourth.

Augustine placed second in the 800-meter run, and Murphy was fifth. Eli Brancefield earned second place in the triple jump. Lawson Fabry was fifth.

In the 1,600-meter run, Groth placed third in

5:01.46, and Bryce Voelz was fourth in 5:11.69.

Nico VanDenPerren placed third in the 300-meter hurdles, and Andrew Novak was eighth.

Bohdan Schmidt placed third in the long jump, and Daeren Kehoe was ninth.

In the 200-meter dash, McKeefry placed fifth and Goodness was sixth.

VanDenPerren placed sixth and Novak was seventh in the 110-meter hurdles.

The 4x100-meter relay team of McGlinn, McKeefry, Fredrickson and Hakes was sixth.

For the girls, Olivia Stedl won the 800-meter run in 2:27.40. Lily Urben won the 300-meter hurdles in 49.72.

Winning the 4x200-meter relay in 1:48.43 were Addison Krueger, Urben, Tallyn Pratt and Olivia Sprangers.

The 4x400-meter relay was won by Ellie Murphy, Stedl, Emerson Fabry and Urben in 4:21.84.

The 4x800-meter relay team of Cameran Reiss, Adelaide Bruckert, Mikaela Moore and Murphy placed second in 10:52.52,

Olivia Sprangers placed second in the 100-meter dash, with McKenna McKeefry placing sixth.

Olivia Sprangers was also second in the 200-meter dash, with Pratt placing seventh.

Fabry finished second in the 400-meter dash, and Murphy placed sixth.

Megan Kraft was second in the long jump, with Haley Sprangers in fourth and Pratt in seventh.

Delaney Skiba was second in the 3,200-meter run, about seven seconds faster than teammate Reiss who was third.

Haley Sprangers placed third in the triple jump.

Lydia Friendschuh was third in the pole vault. In the 100-meter hurdles, Friendschuh was fourth. She was also fourth in the 300-meter hurdles.

The 4x100-meter relay team of Mya Christensen, Pratt, Kraft and McKeefry placed fourth.

Noelle Manning was fourth in the shot put and fifth in the discus.

Brooke Barry place ninth in the high jump.

April 10 Gresham/Bowler Cats Invite

Four local schools captured plenty of first-place award in Bowler.

For the hosts, the girls sprint medley relay team placed first in 5:44.25, and Alivia Perez placed first in the high jump at 4-4.

On the boys side, the 4x200-meter relay team was first in 1:52.57, and the distance medley relay team was tops in 11:26.01.

Marion's Bridget Much won girls 100-meter hurdles in 24.09, and Klara Peters won the long jump at 14-3.5.

Presley Stewart-Rolfs won discus at 92-3. Madeline Wudstrack took

home the gold in the triple jump at 29-10.75.

The 4x100-meter relay team won in 1:02.79, while the 4x200-meter relay team captured the top spot in 2:33.74. The distance medley relay team also won in 12:48.79.

The Marion boys 4x100-meter relay team won in 51.40.

Tristan Herro was best in the high jump at 5-6, and Caleb Stern was tops in the triple jump at 37-6.

Menominee Nation's Lena Waukau won the 100-meter dash in 14.11 and the 200-meter dash in 29.01. Urijah Reevis won the 400-meter dash in 1:05.52 and the 800-meter run in 2:54.222.

Barron Waupoose won the boys 100-meter dash in 11.87 and the 200-meter dash in 23.60. He also won the 400-meter dash in 52.81.

Johnathan Sechirst captured the top spot in the 110-meter hurdles in 20.44.

In the long jump, Michael Salgado won at 18-11. Miklo Guzman placed first in the discus at 112-9, and Mitchell Waukau won the shot put at 36-0.

Wolf River Lutheran in Shawano captured one top spot for girls and one for boys.

Violet Buchholz won the girls 1,600-meter run in 6:30.11. Caleb Bohmbach won the boys 300-meter hurdles in 50.42.

Girls Warrior Invitational

Wittenberg-Birnawood captured five firsts and four more podium finishes at Wausau West.

Winning the gold were Harper Rogowski in the 400-meter dash in 1:08.75, Nora Bushman in the 3,200-meter run in 13:02.08, the 4x400-meter relay team in 4:43.89, and Faith Resch in the long jump at 16-7.5 and the triple jump at 35-3.25.

Placing second were Kylee Beversdorf in the 200-meter dash in 29.22, and Resch in the 55-meter hurdles in 9.37 and in the 200-meter hurdles in 31.58.

Bushman captured third in the triple jump at 32-1.75.

Also placing in the top 10 were:

Fourth place: Beversdorf in the 55-meter dash in 8.11; Lily Metropulos in the 400-meter dash in 1:15.04.

Sixth place: Gabrielle Timm in the 1,600-meter run in 6:43.65; Harper Krull in the 55-meter hurdles in 10.73; Krull in the long jump at 14-10.5; and Brooke Huffman in the shot put at 29-4.5.

Seventh place: Charlie Eichman in the 1,600-meter run in 6:49.20.

Eighth place: Kelsie Davis in the shot put at 28-4.5.

Ninth place: Krull in the 200-meter hurdles in 36.07.

10th place: Eichman in the 800-meter run in 3:01.25; the sprint medley relay team in 3:15.94.

Mariah Wondra won the 1,600-meter run and

Peyton Westrich was third in the 200-meter dash to capture Bonduel's two podium finishes.

Wondra had a time of 5:44.85. Teammate Teagan Engel was fifth in 6:22.67.

Westrich completed her race in 29.82.

In the 200-meter hurdles, Amelia Wilcox finished fourth in 33.59, while Cierra Schnell was fifth 34.18.

Audrey Jacobs earned a fourth-place finish in the triple jump at 31-7.25, and Westrich was sixth at 31-2.5.

Rachyl Hunter placed fourth in the shot put at 29-10.5.

The 4x400-meter relay team was fourth in 4:53.74.

Josie Pawlak placed fifth in the long jump at 15-2.5, and Schnell was eighth at 14-7.75.

Arika Doxtator placed sixth in the 55-meter dash in 8.18, and Pawlak was sixth in the 400-meter dash in 1:15.18.

Engel was ninth in the 800-meter run in 2:57.71.

Shawano's podium finishes included three second-place finishes and one third-place spot.

In addition to the 4x400-meter relay team's second-place finish in 4:45.07, Maci Beyer was second in the high jump at 5-0, and Adalyn Barkley was second in the triple jump at 33-11.

Macey Nelson placed fifth in the triple jump at 31-3.25.



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Chargers win at new stadium

April 12
Bonduel 14, Hancock, Michigan 0

Bonduel 13, Crivitz 3
Bonduel softball won two games, 14-0 over Hancock Michigan, and 13-3 over Crivitz in five innings at the Crivitz Triangular.

In the first game, Bonduel had 15 hits by 10 players. Jayla Reinke and Emery Thompson had three apiece.

Maddie Hert and Kallie Wilcox combined to hold Hancock scoreless, scattering five hits and two walks while striking out 14 batters.

In game 2, after surrendering two runs in the top of the first, Bonduel responded with eight in the bottom half.

Bonduel had 12 hits, with Tatum Sporisky lead-

ing the way with three, while Haley Conradt and Reinke had two each.

Wilcox, Sporisky, and Thompson combined for the win in the pitching circle.

On the day, all 15 girls on the team collected at least one hit.

Wittenberg-Birn-
wood 16, Three Lakes/
Phelps 8

Wittenberg-Birn-
wood 14, Three Lakes/
Phelps 4

Zoey Thorson hit her first high school home run as Wittenberg-Birn-wood collected a 14-4 win over Three Lakes/Phelps.

The Chargers also won the second game 16-8.

Wausau East 5, Sha-
wano 4

April 11
Wittenberg-Birn-

wood 7, Stratford 1
Wittenberg-Birn-wood started what would become a 3-0 weekend with a 7-1 win over Stratford at Wisconsin Rapids.

Green Bay NEW
Lutheran/Providence
Academy 7, Tigerton 0

April 10
Shawano 17, Green
Bay West/East 1

Shawano shredded Green Bay West/East 17-1 in a Bay Conference matchup.

Gillett/Suring 12,
Wausaukee 8

Gillett/Suring earned its first win of 2025 with a 12-8 victory over Wausaukee.

Bonduel 11, Weyau-
wega-Fremont 1

Bonduel defeated Weyauwega Fremont in 11-1 in five innings in the Central Wisconsin East Confer-

ence opener.

Emery Thompson threw a complete game no hitter, walking four and striking out nine. Thompson also led the Bears at the plate going 3-for-3 with a pair of doubles and three RBIs.

Jayla Reinke was also had three hits with an RBI, and Tatum Sporisky had two hits with a double and two RBIs to lead the Bears 13-hit attack.

Niagara 13, Lena/St.
Thomas Aquinas Acad-
emy 11

Northland Lutheran
19, Bowler/Gresham 4
De Pere 3, Pulaski 2
Manawa 7, Witten-
berg-Birn

wood 3
The Chargers dipped to 2-3 with a 7-3 loss to Manawa. Wittenberg-Birn-wood also dropped to 0-1 in the CWC East.



Zoey Thorson hit her first high school home run April 12 as the Chargers beat Three Lakes 14-4 on the Chargers new softball diamond. TINA BACON

Freedom 13, Oconto
Falls 3

Iola-Scandinavia 14,
Marion 3

Amherst 19, Menomi-
nee Nation 1

April 8
Tigerton 23, Menomi-

nee Nation 8
Shawano 14, Xavier 2

Sevastopol 6, Bonduel
4

Freedom 4, Oconto
Falls 1

Crivitz 14, Gillett/Sur-
ing 4

Pulaski golfers finish strong in Washington County

April 12
Washington County
Invitational

Pulaski golfers placed 19th among 55 teams April 11-12 at the Hartford Golf Course and Washington County Golf Course.

The Red Raiders scored a 318 in the first round and 331 in the second round for a 649 total.

Junior Brady Hayward set the pace for Pulaski with a 147 (72 on the first day and 75 on the second day).

Next up was sophomore Bradin Schultz with a 165 (80 and 85). Senior Dixon Holewinski carded a 168 (85 and 83), and sophomore Casey Madlem had a 173 (81 and 92).

Senior Nathan Jossie scored a 185 (97 and 88).

April 10
Bay Conference Mini
Meet #1

Shawano golfers tried to shake off the rust of the offseason as they carded a 197 at Crystal Spring Golf Course in Seymour.

The Hawks placed fifth out of the five teams that competed. Seymour won with a 167.

Blake Knope was the top golfer for Shawano, scoring a 45.

Also scoring for the Hawks were Tyson Lyons with a 50, and Duane Gris-teau-Blanche and Jakob Stuhr with a 51 each.

Terrance Smith carded a 57.

April 9
Brown Country
Metro Meet

Pulaski junior Brady Hayward earned medal-ist honors with a 73 to lead golfers from 11 teams at Wander Springs Golf Course in Greenleaf.

Dixon Holewinski finished in a three-way tie for sixth place with an 80.

Nathan Jossie carded a 97, and Christian Wein-berger had a 99 to round out the Red Raiders score of 349, which placed them fourth.

De Pere won the meet with a 316.

Pulaski's Reed Gussert carded a 107.

April 8
North Eastern Con-
ference Mega Mini
Meet #1

Oconto Falls' Kadyn Riel opened the 2025 cam-paign winning the medal-ist spot at a conference mini meet at Mid-Valley Golf Course in De Pere.

Riel, a senior, carded

a 74, one shot better than Brady Eastman of Marinette.

The Panthers placed eighth out of 10 teams, scoring a 368. Marinette won the meet with a 329.

Also scoring for Oconto Falls were Car-son McDermid with a 96, Brock McDermid with a 97 and Nick Trepanier with a 101.

Will Allen also scored a 103.

Pulaski lacrosse teams searching for a win

April 12
La Crosse 16, Pulaski
6 (boys)

Pulaski's boys lost 16-6 to the La Crosse Lightning at the Notre Dame Trian-gular in Green Bay.

The Red Raiders are 0-5 overall and 0-1 in the Bay Valley Conference.

April 10
Oneida Nation 18,
Pulaski 5 (boys)

Pulaski lost its Bay

Valley Conference opener, an 18-5 decision to Oneida Nation at Green Bay Southwest.

The Red Raiders are 0-3 overall.

April 8
Appleton 20, Pulaski
0 (boys)

Pulaski's boys lacrosse team was shut out 20-0 at home against Appleton.

The Red Raiders dropped to 0-2 on the

season.

Appleton 18, Pulaski 2
(girls)
Pulaski connected on two of its six shots on goal but lost 18-2 to Appleton in its season opener.

The Red Raiders scored goals in the first and third periods. However, they gave up five in the first, two in the second, six in the third and another five in the fourth.

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Maine super PAC cap could affect Wisconsin

Experts say donation limit may have monumental effects

By **PETER CAMERON**
The Badger Project

A new law in Maine aims to make a big change to the state’s campaign finances, and by extension, political advising.

If applied in swing states like Wisconsin, the law could restrict the substantial influence that super PACs, and their billionaire funders, flex on our politics.

First Maine’s legislation must survive court challenges.

Super PACs — political action committees that must remain independent from and not coordinate with candidates and campaigns — cannot donate directly to a politician or political party, but they can solicit and spend unlimited amounts of money.

Maine’s legislation, which voters approved in a November referendum with nearly 75% support, caps the amount a person can donate to a super PAC at \$5,000. The law has yet to take ef-



NICK RAMOS

a federal lawsuit in December challenging its constitutionality.

Officials in Maine reportedly have agreed to wait until May 30 to enforce the law.

Unlike Maine, Wisconsin cannot create law by voter-approved ballot referendums.

Still, campaign reform advocates in Wisconsin are keeping an eye on the U.S. District Court case and contend that a Wisconsin measure similar to Maine’s would have a major effect.

“It would very much help rein in individual donors who are buying politicians and buying election results that help their bottom line and make it easier for them to screw over everyone else,” said state Sen. Chris Larson, D-Milwaukee, who has introduced several bills to strengthen campaign finance reporting in Wisconsin. “It would mean winners of elections are decided more on merit and

fect, after a political action committee connected to a Republican lawmaker in the state filed a federal lawsuit in December challenging its constitutionality.

Many federal and state laws cap donations made directly to political candidates. For example, the most anyone could give a candidate for federal office, like the presidency or Congress, in the 2024 campaign, was \$6,600 per individual donor.

Super PACs’ ability to accept unlimited sums allows wealthy donors like Richard and Elizabeth Uihlein, the billionaire founders of the shipping supplies company ULINE and part-time Wisconsin residents, to give tens of millions of dollars in every campaign to their favorite super PACs. The money often leads to a flood of negative ads on the airwaves of Wisconsin and other states.

Elon Musk spent an estimated \$200 million in the 2024 election supporting Donald Trump and attacking Kamala Harris. Bill Gates gave \$50 million to support Harris and attack Trump. They are far from the only billionaires dumping money into super PACs to try to influence elections.

How we got here

The explosion in campaign spending can be traced to a 1976 Supreme Court ruling in Buckley v. Valeo, when the court ruled that campaign spending is protected free speech. The case that went further, leading to substantial super PAC influence came in 2010, when the high court in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission ruled that groups independent of campaigns — many of which are super PACs — can raise and spend unlimited amounts of money in politics.

Larson has introduced several bills to strengthen campaign finance reporting in Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin, Republicans loosened campaign finance laws in the state a decade ago. Democrats and their wealthy donors have taken advantage of the changes in recent elections to dominate fundraising that goes directly to candidates and political parties in the state.

However, many major right-wing donors like the Uihleins prefer to use super PACs to spend their millions, where they have more control over which candidates are supported and opposed, and on the specific

messaging and strategy.

So while losing the direct fundraising game, Republicans in Wisconsin and beyond have mostly been winning the independent spending wars waged by super PACs in recent elections.

Democrats also use super PACs heavily, and enforcing caps on these powerful political organizations could have significant downstream effects across the political spectrum, said Nick Ramos, executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, which tracks money in the state’s politics.

“It would create an atmosphere where we can level the playing field for candidates, where super PACs get reined in quite a bit,” Ramos said, “and there’s more of an onus on small-dollar contributions and grassroots support instead of trying to do your dance for the super PAC of your choice to try and get their money.

“Candidates wouldn’t be so hot to trot for the wealthiest donors, but would work harder to meet with the people and secure small-dollar grassroots donations.”

To the Supreme Court

Like many liberals, Larson takes issue with the very premise of cases like Buckley and Citizens United.

“We do a great disservice to people’s common sense by pretending that the Supreme Court makes sense in their logic on Citizens United,” Larson said. “Money is not speech.”

To reverse those decisions, the political left would likely need to take control of the U.S. Supreme Court, which currently has a 6-3 conservative majority. With justices serving life terms, that could take a generation.

So campaign finance reformers have focused on making fixes in the current judicial framework. The Supreme Court is likely to rule on the Maine law at some point, which should clarify whether caps on super PACs are constitutional, experts like Harvard legal scholar and political activist Lawrence Lessig say. The law was crafted to survive a legal challenge by following the guidance of the Citizens United ruling, supporters have said.

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

Event provides students with hands-on experience in career fields

Fox Valley Technical College and the Clintonville School District, in collaboration with the Clintonville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce, will host an eighth grade career expo-

ration event from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 29 at Clintonville Middle School.

This career fair will host more than 1,300 students from Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca and Oconto counties.

The career fair will fea-

ture 51 exhibitors from local businesses and organizations, each representing one of 16 career clusters from agriculture, food and natural resources to transportation, distribution and logistics, plus much more. Students will have

the opportunity to learn about different careers, meet with professionals in those fields and participate in hands-on activities.

“As our world of work evolves, we are seeing a need for employees with specific and even advanced

skills,” said Suzanne Witman, executive director at the Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce. “This event opens a universe of opportunities to students and helps them explore their interests while introducing them to differ-

ent career options right in their own communities.”

The coordinating organizations have worked together for 20-plus years to provide this opportunity for students and to actively engage businesses with their future workforce.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

GILLET: Cross Walk, noon, Gillett Secondary School, 208 W. Main St., to St. John Lutheran Church, 101 W. Main St. Hosted by Gillett-Suring Clergy Association. Brief scripture readings and prayer at each of four stops.

BONDUEL: Good Friday service, noon, Zion United Methodist Church, 134 E. Green Bay St.

SHAWANO: American Red Cross blood drive, 1-6 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 910 E. Zingler Ave. Appointments at RedCrossBlood.org or 800-733-2767.

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

GILLET: Easter Egg-stravaganza, 10 a.m., Hillside Assembly, Hillside Assembly, 5890 state Highway 22. Carnival style games, presentation followed by Easter egg hunt.

PULASKI: Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m., Saputo Stadium at Pulaski High School, 1040 S. St. Augustine St. Open for kids 11 and younger.

SHAWANO: Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m., Kuckuk Park, 700 Oak Park Drive. Areas for age groups from kindergarten to sixth grade.

WITTENBERG: Artists’ Free Play XII, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. A collection of artwork by a variety of area artists.

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

GILLET: Easter breakfast, 9 a.m., Hillside Assembly, Hillside Assembly, 5890 state Highway 22. Easter service 10 a.m.

BONDUEL: Easter worship service with Communion, 10 a.m., Zion United Methodist Church, 134 E. Green Bay St.

WITTENBERG: Artists’ Free Play XII, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. A collection of artwork by a variety of area artists.

MONDAY, APRIL 21

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, APRIL 22

KESHENA: Recovery talking

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

BOWLER: American Red Cross blood drive, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Bowler High School, 500 S. Almon. Appointments at RedCrossBlood.org or 1-800-733-2767.

SHAWANO: Mason Crosby Meet and Greet, 4-6 p.m., Sun Drop Museum, 920 S. Franklin St. \$10 charge with all proceeds going to Safe Haven of Shawano County.

SHAWANO: Duel It for the

Kids, 5:30-10:30 p.m., Shawano County Park Pavilion, W5785 Lake Drive. Felix and Fingers Dueling Pianos entertainment with proceeds to Dollars for Scholars. Social 5:30 p.m., entertainment 7 p.m. Complimentary appetizers, cash bar, casual dress code. \$60 admission.

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

SHAWANO: “Café Mocha Murders” by Deanna Strasse, 7 p.m., Mielke Arts Center and Mielke Park, N5649 N. Airport Road. Box in the Wood Theatre Guild production. Tickets at shawanoarts.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

SHAWANO: American Legion Post 117 Bowling Tournament, all day, Lakeshore Lanes, 210 Airport Road. \$20 per team. Basket and paddle raffles, 50/50 drawings all day. 715-851-7552.

PULASKI: Pulaski Maker Marketplace, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pulaski Community Park, 429 E. Pulaski St. Curated event showcases artists and creatives from the Pulaski area.

ABRAMS: Machikanee

Ski Club Spring Cleanup, 9 a.m. to noon, meet at 6625 Timberline Road. Bring gloves, grabbers, and bright colored clothing.

NAVARINO: Annual Trail Fun Run/Walk, 9 a.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. 5k and 10k run, up to 5k walk, \$25-\$40. Registration 7-8:30 a.m. or in advance at navarino.org.

SHAWANO: Spring Walk and Trail Cleanup, 10 a.m., parking lot at All Aboard Nutrition, 620 S. Main St., or Four Seasons Resort, 201 N. Airport Road. Walk an in-town Park-to-Park loop or the Mountain-Bay Trail. Clean up along the way.

SHAWANO: Water Trails Spring Cleanup, 10 a.m., Light-house Boat Landing, W6440 Gumaer Road. Hosted by Shawano Paddlers. Bring your own boat; gloves, trash bags, snacks and water provided.

WITTENBERG: Artists’ Free Play XII, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. A collection of artwork by a variety of area artists.

PULASKI: Wine, Cheeshead and Coin Event, 1-3 p.m., Pulaski Historical Museum, 129 W. Pulaski St. Wine tast-

ing, cheese sampling and coin evaluation. Free admission to all museum exhibits, Packer Exhibit featured.

SHAWANO: Shawano Speedway opening night, 6 p.m., 990 E. Green Bay St. Gates open 4 p.m. Adults \$12, Ages 12-16 \$6, and under 11 free.

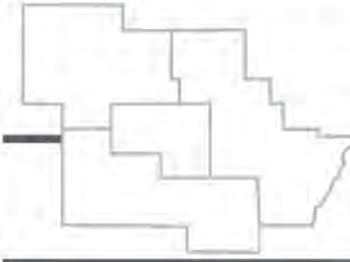
SHAWANO: “Café Mocha Murders” by Deanna Strasse, 7 p.m., Mielke Arts Center and Mielke Park, N5649 N. Airport Road. Box in the Wood Theatre Guild production. Tickets at shawanoarts.org.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

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

WITTENBERG: Artists’ Free Play XII, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. A collection of artwork by a variety of area artists.

SHAWANO: “Café Mocha Murders” by Deanna Strasse, 2 p.m., Mielke Arts Center and Mielke Park, N5649 N. Airport Road. Box in the Wood Theatre Guild production. Tickets at shawanoarts.org.



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Ad Deadline: 3pm Thursday Prior

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JACUZZI BATH REMODEL Can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're cutting installation costs in half & offering a FREE safety upgrade! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary be dealer. Offer ends 3/31/24 1-833-224-4977 (WCAN)

PLYMOUTH FURNITURE: QUEEN MATTRESSES FROM \$199 40 Styles on Display! All Sizes Avail. PlymouthFurnitureWI.com 2133 Eastern Ave Plymouth WI 920-892-6006 Open Daily (WCAN)

REPLACE YOUR ROOF w/the best looking & longest lasting material, steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 Styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% OFF Installation + Add'l 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders) Call Erie Metal Roofs 1-877-845-6606 (WCAN)

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments & No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call today! 1-877-651-1850 (WCAN)

THINKING ABOUT INSTALLING A NEW SHOWER? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-844-479-1327 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/wc p (WCAN)

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DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? GET RESULTS! Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-920-922-4864 www.pdsadnet.com

PETS

American Eskimo/Shelti Cross Pups Fluffy/Friendly Dewormed \$60 715-223-4780

AUSSIE DOODLE PUPS Shots/Worm/VetCk Choc, Merle & Parti \$600-\$800 715-255-2661 (#269146)

CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPPIES Vet/wormed/shots \$300 715-223-0782

FOR SALE: ACA POODLE Male 27 lb DOB 4-25-18 Proven Breeder or great pet \$250 Also Female Shiba Inu pups Ready 4-24 Reserve yours now \$300 715-773-1778

LOST? FOUND? PUT OUR CLASSIFIEDS TO WORK FOR YOU! 715-526-6188

MINI BERNEDOODLE PUPPIES Shots/Vet ckd. Dews/wormed \$375-\$750 No Sun Calls 715-409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

Moyen Poodle Pups \$450 Samoyed Pups \$550 Ready to go 715-409-0533

Older AUSSIE DOODLE PUPS Shots/Worm/Vet Can Deliver \$250 715-255-2661 (#269146)

PRETTY POM PUPPY F-\$380; Yorkie Pom Puppies cute cuddly fluffy socialized Males-\$350, 1st shots 715-229-2964

REG TOY POODLE PUPS dewshots/vet-chk'd/wormed Non -Shed \$400-\$500 READY to go 715-536-0697 or 715-316-2522 (524892) (WCAN)

REG YORKSHIRE TERRIER PUPPIES Vet checked/wormed/dews, Males \$1000; Females \$1200 No Sun Calls 715-409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

Vehicles

DONATE YOUR CAR, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-844-406-2647 today! (WCAN)

Vehicles

GET YOUR DEDUCTION AHEAD OF THE YEAR-END! Donate Your Car, Truck or SUV to assist the blind & visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup & secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND today at! 844-374-3067 (WCAN)

Services

CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS home Internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G & 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, & data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-223-7265 (WCAN)

DENTAL INSURANCE. From Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Don't Wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 855-807-9516 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/wicommunity) (WCAN)

DIRECTV OVER INTERNET

Get your favorite live TV, sports, & local channels. 99% signal reliability! CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max & Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/CHOICE Package or higher) No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-833-574-1746 (WCAN)

DIRECTV Sports Pack 3 Months on Us! Watch pro & College sports LIVE. Plus over 40 regional & specialty networks included. NFL, College Football, MLB, NBA, NHL, Golf & more. Some restrictions apply Call DIRECTV 1-888-925-9452 (WCAN)

DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-888-686-1458 (WCAN)

STROKE & CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death, according to the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION. Screening can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149! Call 1-888-675-5048 (WCAN)

Services

Get DISH Satellite TV & Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus limited Time Up to \$600 in Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-844-897-8523 (WCAN)

HughesNet Satellite Internet: 25 mbps starting at \$49.99/mo! Get More Data, FREE Off-Peak Data. FAST download speeds. Wifi built in! FREE Standard Installation for lease customers! Limited Time Call 1-844-829-5070 (WCAN)

MobileHelp, America's Premier Mobile Medical Alert System. Whether you're home or away, for safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-855-491-0732 (WCAN)

UP TO \$15,000 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral & other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company 844-433-5898 or visit www.Life55plus.info/wcp (WCAN)

SWITCH & SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text & data. No contract & no hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more info, call 1-844-883-1477 (WCAN)

Vacation/ Lake Property

WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get FREE informational package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! FREE consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. CALL 844-374-2565 (WCAN)

MISCELLANEOUS

BOAT & PONTOON CLEARANCE PRICING ON OVER 400 FISHING BOATS, PONTOONS, WAKE BOATS, ATV'S, SIDEXSIDES AND MORE. HUGE DISCOUNTS- DON'T MISS OUT. AMERICAN MARINE & MOTORSPORTS, SHAWANO, 866-955-BOAT(2628)

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MISCELLANEOUS

WINDOWS! \$25 each. Storms and screens. 32x62, V.Gd. Cond., white, aluminum. Also various sizes storms and screens. 920-855-6547.

WANTED TO BUY: Jukeboxes, wringer washers, old cars, parts. 920-337-0548

Garden Spot Flowers Opening April 19th 2,500 hanging baskets, garden seeds, fruit trees, and perennials! 3645 Hwy. 22, Oconto Phone 920-516-7285 Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8:30-5:00

Garden Spot Flowers 1,000 fruit and shade Trees-apple, cherry,peach, maple...2,500 hanging baskets-wave petunias, fuchsias, begonias...300 varieties of vegetable seeds-carrots, corn, beans...150 varieties of perennials-lupine, delphiniums, columbine...Onion sets and Seed potatoes, Honey and maple syrup. Vegetables (28 varieties/tomatoes) and Herb Plants 3645 Hwy. 22, Oconto Phone 920-516-7285 Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8:30-5:00

FARMING

HAY FOR SALE 715 622 0085 STORED INDOORS DELIVERY AVAILABLE Round Bales \$45. Small Squares \$4.00

APARTMENTS/DUPLEX

1330 E Lieg Ave 2 bedrooms Great location Parking avail. Starting at \$825 + deposit Pete 715-218-5731

1350 E Lieg Ave Beautiful recently Fully Remodeled 2 bedrooms Great loc. Garage avail. Starting at \$845 + Deposit Tom 715-280-0525

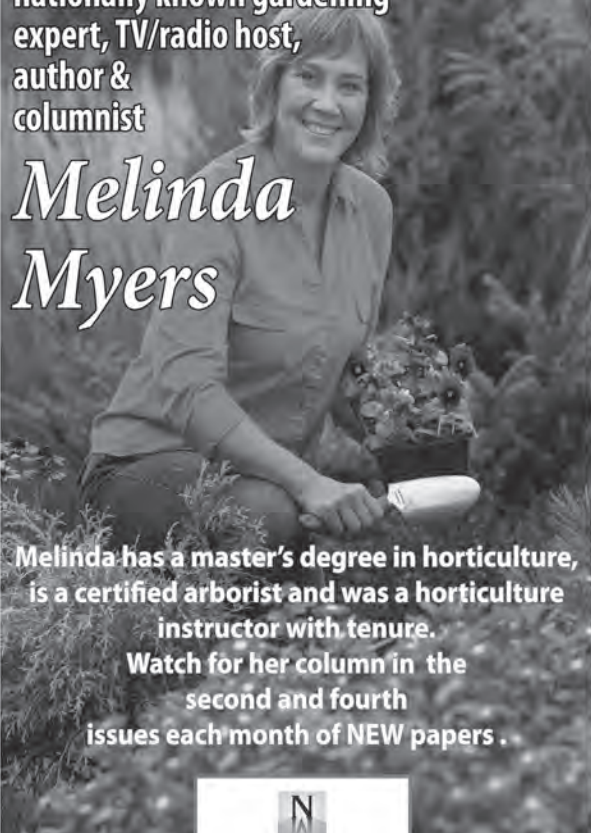
445 Humphrey Cr. Beautiful Fully Remodeled 1 or 2 Bedroom Convenient location Garage Available Starting at \$765 + Deposit Tom 715-280-0525

Mountain Bay Trail Apartments 1/2/3 Bedrooms Onsite Management Heat Included Single Car Garage W/D in apartment Rent begins at \$885 715-526-8790

Edgewater Manor in Tigerton has first floor 1BRs with rents based on 30% of the household income for those 62+/-disabled of any age. Some income restrictions do apply. Call 800-944-4866 ext 1120 today. Equal Housing Opportunity

MOVING? Need to Clean Out the Attic? Advertise in the CLASSIFIEDS 715-526-6188

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



Melinda has a master's degree in horticulture, is a certified arborist and was a horticulture instructor with tenure. Watch for her column in the second and fourth issues each month of NEW papers.



Oconto County 4-H educator earns award



Aimee Elkins, Marinette and Oconto County 4-H youth development educator, UW-Extension, receives the Achievement in Service Award from the Wisconsin Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals at their annual conference April 3 in Green Bay.

CONTRIBUTED

Aimee Elkins, Marinette and Oconto County 4-H youth development educator, UW-Extension, received the Achievement in Service Award from the Wisconsin Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals at its annual conference April 3 in Green Bay.

The award recognizes excellence in positive youth development programming contributions to the profession for educators in years 3-7 of their career, with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension.

Elkins has served as the

4-H educator for Oconto and Marinette counties with UW-Madison, Division of Extension, since 2019. Her efforts to increase youth sparks have led to local and statewide collaborations. Her extensive involvement on the Wisconsin 4-H Program Quality Standing Committee and several subcommittees has contributed to her role as a presenter at conferences.

Elkins believes deeply in the power of 4-H positive youth development programs to inspire and equip youths for the future. Through programs such

as camps, project learning opportunities and classroom clubs, she strives to provide youths with the tools to grow, explore their sparks and develop leadership skills.

She embraces the hands-on, "learn by doing" approach, which encourages collaboration with youths, volunteers and colleagues.

This award application will be forwarded to the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals for recognition at the national conference in October.

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OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of April 7

• Brady Lee Boucher, 30, Oconto, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to possession of methamphetamine, two counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Feb. 20. Judge Michael Judge scheduled a pre-trial conference for May 22. In separate cases, Boucher is awaiting trial on charges of possession of THC (second or subsequent offense), felony bail jumping and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Sept. 28. He was awaiting sentencing in another case after pleading no contest to possession of methamphetamine and a misdemeanor count of possession of amphetamine, in connection with an incident that occurred Feb. 25, 2024.

04/18/2024
Petitioner vs Chad Waldron.
Domestic Abuse Temporary Restraining Order was issued on 03/27/2025 against Chad Waldron.
Notice of Domestic Abuse Injunction Hearing Scheduled for 04/21/2025 at 2:45pm
Clark County Courthouse Room 401, 517 Court Street
Neillsville Wisconsin 54456.
Judge Lyndsey A. Boon Brunette.
WNAXLP

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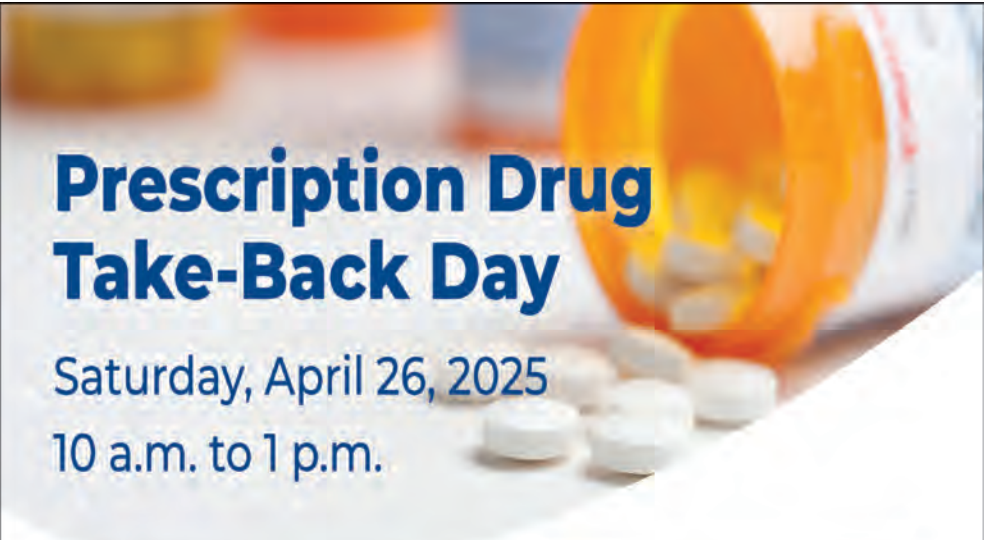


REPRESENTING

WWW.SENNHOMETOWNINS.COM

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Saturday, April 26, 2025
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Safely dispose of your unneeded medications through a drive-thru drop-off location!

- Please remain in your vehicle.
- A volunteer will come to your vehicle to collect medications.
- Prescription and over-the-counter medications accepted.
- Cross out identifying information on containers.
- Vape devices (without batteries) and cartridges accepted.

Location

HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital
855 S. Main St.,
Oconto Falls

A safe way to dispose of your medicine.



HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital

OBITUARIES

Gary 'Kelly' Steffens Sr.

Gary “Kelly” Steffens Sr., born March 14, 1938, passed away peacefully at the age of 87 on Friday, April 11, 2025, surrounded by his loving family.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Judy (Rosenberg) Steffens; daughter, Sandy (Steffens) Finegan; parents; in-laws; brother; brothers-in-law; sister-in-law; nieces and nephews.

He is survived by his children, Fonda Fischer (Scott), Kelli Lax (Kory), Gary Steffens (Carole), Matt Steffens (Catherine),



Chris Gabriel (Sean), David Steffens (Shanda), Dan Steffens (Amy), Jes-

sica Noche (Alvin); 19 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

After graduating from Oconto Falls High School in 1957, he served in the Army for four years. During his service, he married the love of his life, Judy.

Kelly was a passionate car lover, especially vintage cars and antique gas pumps, restoring countless Fords and gas pumps throughout his years. His children have fond memories of being

dragged to car shows, especially in Iola, and swap meets throughout their childhood. He was a creative visionary when he worked on his cars, gas pumps and homes. He enjoyed the many years they lived on the family land and was grateful for their time near the Oconto River.

Kelly was the second-generation owner of Steffens Brothers Roofing and eventually took it over for 25 years. He then went on to do Kelly's Seamless Gutters in his

“retirement.”

He was probably most known for his sense of humor, jokes and storytelling. You could always count on him to lighten the mood in any situation. He didn't hesitate to tell you what he was thinking and often had a strong opinion about things. ... which we all respected. He loved going to the “board meetings” on the Thursday nights and the Friday night fish fry at River Island Golf Course.

He was well loved by his family and

community.

We'll all miss ya “Pilgrim!”

Family and friends may visit Wednesday, April 23, 2025, from 9 a.m. to noon at Jones Funeral Service, Oconto Falls. Mass of Christian Burial with the urn present will follow at 12:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church. Services will conclude with the burial at St. Anthony Cemetery, Oconto Falls.

Special thanks to the ICU at Bellin East Hospital, especially Justin; he was amazing!

Norbert R. Tiegs

Norbert R. Tiegs, 96, Lena, passed away Thursday, April 3, 2025 at his home.

Norbert was born Jan. 5, 1929, in Lena to the late Raymond and Ora (De-geneffe) Tiegs. Norbert grew up at Cream City and Five Corners and graduated from Lena High School. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1948-54 and was stationed in Korea.

He married Lorraine Bourassa in 1955 and lived in his Town of Stiles



residence until present.

Norbert enjoyed family get-togethers and spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also enjoyed the outdoors and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He worked at Proctor & Gamble for 35 years. Norbert often talked about his good neighbors, and his family is thankful for them. He also enjoyed visits with friends at The Windmill Tavern.

Norbert is survived by three daughters, Marilyn

(Paul) Zeitler-Wittlinger, Pamela (Doug) Upton, Laura (Gary) Schenkoski; three sons, Jerome (Cheryl) Tiegs, James (Sally) Tiegs, John (Laurie) Tiegs; sister, Violet (Jim Bourassa) Reed; brothers, Donald (Heather) Tiegs, Gerald (Donna) Tiegs; sister-in-law, Shirley Tiegs; 14 grandchildren, Clarisse, Jennifer, Luke, Kate, Zach, Monica, Chance, Jason, Jill, Danielle, Peter, Elijah, Timothy, Adam; 16 great-grandchildren, Sandra,

Katherine, Christian, Erika, Hunter, Hutson, Zoey, Everett, Marissa, Kelvin, Garrett, Caleb, Ava, Oliver, Bree and Clark.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lorraine; parents, Raymond and Ora Tiegs; step-parents, Charles “Choppie” and Naomi Pecor; sister, LaVerne (Philip) Zipple; brothers, Ralph, Wesley and Ivan; sister-in-law, Yvonne Tiegs; and great-grandchild, September Deneys.

The family will

receive relatives and friends at the Gallagher Funeral Home, Oconto, from 4-8 p.m. Friday, April 25, 2025. Visitation will continue Saturday, April 26, from 10-11 a.m. Memorial services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home by Deacon Dave Westenberg. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery with military rites. Online condolences may be expressed at www.gallagherfuneralhome.net.

Barbara A. Strauch

Barbara A. Strauch, 76, of Greenville, passed away

April 10, 2025. Eberhardt-Stevenson

Funeral Home and Crematory, Clintonville.

Mark A. Meyer

Mark A. Meyer, 64, of Clintonville, passed away

April 9, 2025. Eberhardt-Stevenson

Funeral Home and Crematory, Clintonville.

Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Saturday, April 26, 2025

Drop off your unwanted medications for safe disposal at one of these locations:

St. Clare's Hospital
855 S Main St
Oconto Falls, WI 54154
10:00am-1:00pm

Lena Police Department
117 E Main St
Lena, WI 54139
10:00am-2:00 p.m.

Gillett Police Department
150 N McKenzie Ave
Gillett, WI 54124
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Bellin Health Bond Community Center
1201 Park Ave
Oconto, WI 54153
10:00-2:00pm

Town of Riverview Community Center
15152 Island Lake Road
Mountain, WI 54149
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

DROP OFF
Medications for pets and people from your house. Vaping/e-cigarette devices with the batteries removed are also accepted.

NOT ACCEPTED

- Illegal drugs
- Mercury
- Diabetes monitors and supplies
- Items from businesses

SHARPS/NEEDLES/SYRINGES
Accepted at the Bellin and St. Clare drop off sites only.

Don't forget about the medication drop boxes throughout the county!
Visit www.ocph.info for drop box information.

Oconto County PUBLIC HEALTH
MOVING HEALTHY FORWARD

APOLLO

Meet Apollo. He is a young petite pitbull with playful energy. He has done well in his kennel and is potty trained. He is treat motivated and smart.

HAMLET

Meet Hamlet. He is a 10 year old senior boy looking for a home. Overall, he is a friendly and calm cat who has done well with other cats in his previous home. He would do great adopted with another buddy.

DAYTONA

Daytona is a very sweet dog, who has been well behaved for staff. She is good with other dogs and likes the outdoors. She has done well in her kennel and is potty trained

SQUIRREL

Squirrel is an adventurous and curious cat. He adjusts well to new environments and is great with meeting new people. He will make a great addition to his new home.

Champion Collision, Inc.
Larry's Towing & Recovery

Phone: 920-846-0430
535 Locust Ave.,
Oconto Falls
Hours: 8-5
Monday - Friday

Bob & Chris Walters Jr.

Larry & Janice McGray

Antique Automotive
(920) 834-4447
Stiles Junction

Oconto Area Humane Society and Animal Shelter

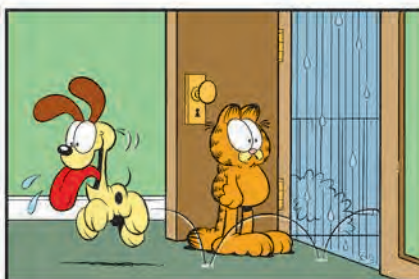
920-830-1738

150 S. Katch Drive, Oconto
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.

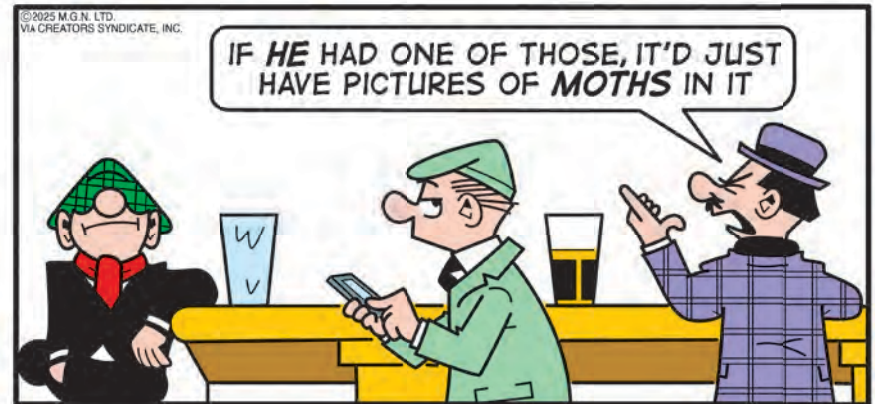
HOURS:
Mon Wed. Fri.
11am-4pm,
Sat. & Sun.
8am-11am.

To place your ad here call 920-360-3450



ANDY CAPP

by Smythe

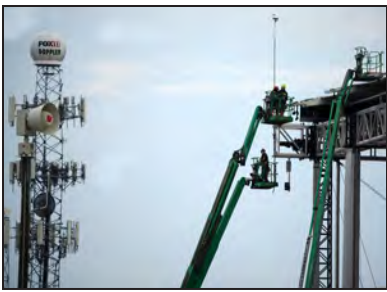


DOGS OF C-KENNEL

BY MICK MASTROIANNI AND MASON MASTROIANNI



Hundreds of thousands expected to attend NFL festival. Is Green Bay prepared for city's biggest event ever?



Get there early for Thursday's first-round picks. Capacity crowds in Detroit in 2024 denied access to some.

GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

WWW.NEWMEDIA-WI.COM

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2025

DRAFT WEEKEND 2025

The wait is over

Winningest NFL franchise and team owners welcome fans to sacred ground



Legendary Packers founder Curley Lambeau points fans to the home of the Green Bay Packers, 13-time NFL champion, and the site of the 2025 NFL draft. The 2025 event runs from noon April 24 through 6 p.m. April 26. GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Meet & Greet Packer Great Mason Crosby



4-6 p.m. Friday, April 25. \$10 per person. Sun Drop Museum, 920 S. Franklin St., Shawano

DRAFT WEEKEND, 2025

LEGENDARY MOMENTS

1992-2025: Two Hall of Famers, three QB1s



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brett Favre, 1992-2007, 3 MVPs, 1996 Super Bowl champion



MORGAN RODE

Aaron Rodgers, 2005-2023, 4 MVPs, 2010 Super Bowl champion



Jordan Love continues the Packers tradition, leading Green Bay to the playoffs in his first two seasons as a starter.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

MOST IMPORTANT POSITION IN THE NFL

Favre, Rodgers, Love lead Packers in unprecedented 33-year streak

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72 hours of exciting football choices await

The April 24-26 NFL draft in Green Bay has a slew of activities scheduled to keep everyone busy between picks. For the first time, Lambeau Field and Titledown will host this free event, bringing the next generation of NFL stars to the heart of one of football's most iconic cities, while celebrating local culture, food and entertainment.

On April 23, the NFL will host its annual Prospect Clinic on the Play Football Field within NFL Draft Experience, focusing primarily on connecting local youth football players and Special Olympics athletes with NFL draft prospects. During the clinic, USA Football coaches and draft prospects will coach participants through a series of basic football skills and drills activities.

Thursday, April 24
To kick off the celebrations, the prospects attending will walk the NFL draft red carpet on the iconic Lambeau Field, as fans watch from the stadium stands. The red carpet walk will begin at about 4 p.m. Live from the Draft stage, a Wisconsin based youth choir will perform the hymn "Lift Every Voice and Sing" directed by Grammy award recipient Jeffrey Redding. Singer-songwriter Stephen Wilson Jr., from Indiana, will follow with a rendition of the national anthem. Then, the Wisconsin Army National Guard will conduct the flyover with four Black Hawk helicopters over Lambeau Field and the Draft Theater. Packers legends and current players will join Commissioner Roger Goodell on stage to help kick off the night's festivities and welcome fans to Green Bay.

Friday, April 25
Throughout the night, 32 NFL legends and players from the 2000 draft class will announce selections to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the class. The evening will also spotlight legends and players with ties to Wisconsin, celebrating the state's deep football roots and local pride.



Tight end Tucker Kraft is ready for whatever comes next, including the NFL draft April 24-26 at Lambeau Field. GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Notable participants include Hall of Famer Lynn Swann, Packers legend Jordy Nelson, Wisconsin greats Joe Thomas and Jonathan Taylor, and fan favorite Dante Hall. The action will culminate in a drone show lighting up the Green Bay sky at the end of the third round of selections. Throughout all three days of the draft, fans will enjoy a variety of in-venue fan engagement moments designed to keep the excitement high. These interactive experiences will include team roll calls, T-shirt tosses, live fan cams and trivia. Fans will also have the chance to win autographed footballs and helmets, participate in on-stage contests, and even enter to win Super Bowl LX tickets. Special guest appearances and player interviews will add to the excitement.

Saturday, April 26
Day 3 of the draft will be a celebration of Wisconsin's rich culture and community, offering a fun-filled day perfect for families. Highlights will include:
• Bike Parade – Young fans can participate in the Green Bay tradition by riding their bikes around the NFL Draft Experience before gates open.
• NFL Farmers Market – A celebration of local vendors, where fans can enjoy a taste of Wisconsin's finest offerings.
• Wisconsin Humane Society On-Stage Puppy Adoptions – A heartwarming moment as fans meet adorable pups looking for their forever homes.
• Military Enlistment Ceremony – A tribute to those who serve.

- Oneida Smoke Dancers – Performances that reflect the heartbeat of their heritage and inspire pride, connection and cultural appreciation.
- University of Wisconsin Marching Band – High-energy music and spirit from members of one of the state's most iconic ensembles.
- Polka Band and Dance Group – Lively rhythms of a classic Wisconsin polka performance.
- Cheese Carving Demonstration – Showcase featuring artisans who transform cheese into intricate works of art, celebrating one of Wisconsin's most famous exports.
- Packers Legends – Up close with Packers legends as they share stories and memories of their time in Green Bay.
- Surprise Celebrity Guests – Special appearances by local personalities and celebrities.

As a finale, the NFL will host a free concert in the Draft Theater following the seventh round of the draft. Admission is first-come, first-served. Taking place from April 24-26, the NFL Draft Experience will transform the area near the legendary Lambeau Field and Titledown into a free, three-day festival for fans of all ages. The NFL Draft Experience offers an immersive festival featuring interactive activations such as high jump challenges, the 40-yard dash and more, alongside NFL Hall of Fame exhibits. Fans can meet NFL stars and legends, including Packers players, and capture unforgettable moments with the Vince Lombardi Trophy and all 58 Super Bowl rings. The Play 60 Zone and Titledown will host NFL FLAG drills, skills challenges and football clinics for younger fans. NFL Draft Experience hours of operation are noon to 10 p.m. April 24, noon to 10 p.m. April 25 and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 26.

Gillett Greenhouse Opens

Saturday April 26th

www.theflowershoppeinc.com



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floral, gifts, and greenhouse

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Gillett, WI 54124
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Packers still in search of No. 1 receiver

Several holes need to be filled to be a Super Bowl contender

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The Green Bay Packers entered the offseason with some big perceived positions of need.

As free agency progressed, some big names were thought to be available either as free agents or on the trade market.

As it turns out, no trade was swung for DK Metcalf. They did not land Josh Sweat.

They did not land DJ Reed.

They were able to add an offensive lineman and a cornerback.

Aaron Banks was given \$77 million over four seasons to take over as their starting left guard.

Nate Hobbs was given \$48 million to be the team's starter at cornerback in base but with a skillset versatile enough to move all over the field.

Despite their shopping in the offseason, there are more needs to be filled in April's draft. There could also be a trade swung during the draft to add a proven veteran.

Brian Gutekunst has never given up a premium pick for a veteran player, but this could be the year something changes with a Super Bowl drought that has now reached 15 years in Green Bay.

Here's a look at what Green Bay's biggest needs are going into draft day.

Defensive End
Gutekunst made his feelings clear as day following the season.

Matt LaFleur echoed the same sentiments.

The Packers want to be able to rush the passer with four guys.

They're likely envious of the Philadelphia Eagles' ability to do just that against Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl LIX.

The Eagles pummeled Mahomes en route to a 40-

22 victory.

The Packers likely came out of training camp thinking they had similar possibilities on the defensive line. Their front wrecked two different offensive lines during joint practice sessions and consistently won the day against Green Bay's offensive line during training camp as well.

That did not translate to the regular season. Green Bay's pass rush ran hot and cold for most of the year.

Lukas Van Ness did not take the jump that most of the team was hoping he would.

Preston Smith looked like an old player, and he was traded at the deadline for a seventh-round pick.

Rashan Gary was the team's best pass rusher but only had 7.5 sacks on the year. He's a good player but not a great one at this stage of his career. The Packers are paying him to be great.

This could be a spot where the Packers look for their first-round pick. Texas A&M's Shemar Stewart, Tennessee's James



Romeo Doubs and other Packers receivers need to step up and compete for the No. 1 position.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS



Green Bay Packers general manager Brian Gutekunst talks with members of the national media at a game during the 2024 season. While Gutekunst has enjoyed decent success in past drafts, the majority of his tops picks have been questionable.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Pearce Jr. and Georgia's Mykel Williams have all been in Green Bay on pre-draft visits.

If they do not draft a defensive end early, the likelihood is the Packers will be banking heavily on internal development from the guys that were considered disappointing and inconsistent a season ago.

Wide Receiver
A yearly tradition unlike any other – a debate about the Green Bay Packers' wide receiver corps.

Coming into last season, the Packers thought they had four options they could feasibly rely on at any given moment.

That did not include the uptick they expected in production from tight ends Luke Musgrave and Tucker Kraft, along with some help from Josh Jacobs in the passing game as well.

As the season went along, the passing game regressed. By the end of the season, it looked like an utter disaster.

Jordan Love was picked off three times in the

team's 22-10 Wild Card loss in Philadelphia, and they found little success attacking the Eagles' defense through the air.

This could have been passed off as being shut down by a really good defense, if it were just a one-game issue.

It was not. Green Bay's offense struggled with an identity crisis through the end of the season, and none of their top four receivers got appreciably better from 2023 to 2024.

Romeo Doubs and Christian Watson are both in contract years, and both suffered injuries a season ago, making their futures uncertain.

Dontayvion Wicks and Jayden Reed both struggled with drops.

The Packers did not make any notable outside additions in free agency. Davante Adams and Metcalf never appeared to be serious considerations.

Green Bay has made its hay with receivers in the second round in the past.

They may have to do that again with the issues with injuries and inconsistency surrounding their current crop.

Defensive Tackle
Kenny Clark was thought to be a long-term fixture when he signed a rare third contract in Green Bay just before training camp began a season ago.

Clark responded by having his least productive season since he was a rookie.

Was it the new scheme? Was he starting to age? That question will be answered in 2025.

The primary starter next to Clark last season was T.J. Slaton, who left this offseason for Cincinnati.

Devonte Wyatt has struggled with inconsistency, but Brian Gutekunst called him the team's best interior rusher in his end-of-season press conference.

Wyatt is entering a contract year, and with the conversations surround-

ing Clark, the Packers could use some help in the middle of their defensive line.

The good news, most experts agree, is that the interior defensive line is where the draft is at its best.

There are multiple players who fit what the Packers typically like from their defensive tackles, and this could be a spot where the Packers use their first-round selection.

Offensive Line Depth
Depth on the offensive line is a rarity around the NFL. There just aren't a lot of quality offensive linemen in the NFL, let alone enough to support entire teams.

The Packers have typically been spoiled in that regard.

Last year, that was not the case.

Their depth on the interior of the offensive line was perilously thin. That was exasperated when Jordan Morgan, the team's primary backup at both guard spots, went on



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injured reserve with a shoulder injury.

The lack of depth on the interior did not show up for Green Bay until the biggest moment of the season.

Elgton Jenkins left the team’s playoff loss to the Eagles, and the offensive line crumbled.

Travis Glover and KaDeem Telfort both struggled against Philadelphia’s ferocious front.

As of now, the Packers likely feel good about their top six guys on the offensive line.

Behind that? It’s the same lack of depth they had a season ago.

None of their young offensive linemen took a step to where the Packers would have to feel good if they had to play in a game tomorrow.

There will be competition added for the back end of the offensive line room. Gutekunst has taken three offensive linemen three separate times in the draft. He probably does not have enough picks to do that, but it’s a safe bet he will take at least one.

Cornerback

Perhaps the biggest need on the roster is the last one listed here.

The Packers have lost three cornerbacks this offseason.

Corey Ballentine, Robert Rochell and Eric Stokes are all officially out the door. Jaire Alexander’s future is tenuous to say the very least.

The only addition they’ve made thus far is Nate Hobbs, who is going to be one of their starters.

Who else plays with him remains to be seen.

Keisean Nixon said he wanted to be the team’s top cornerback in 2025. He’s the likely favorite to start across from Hobbs if the season were to start tomorrow.

Carrington Valentine had some nice moments but has been up and down during his brief NFL career.

The Packers could be in the market to take another defensive back in the first round. If Alexander is not going to be in the picture, there are some question marks about how good this group can truly be.

At the same time, the Packers’ secondary is not why they lost to the Eagles in the playoffs.

Perhaps the Packers feel they can get by at that position without a premium investment?

Even if that is true, they need to add numbers to the position.



Kenny Clark Jr. was selected by the Packers in the first round of the 2016 NFL draft, with the 27th overall pick. Today, he is in his third contract with Green Bay.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS



Packers special team coordinator Rich Bisaccia talks with cornerback and return specialist Keisean Nixon. In 2025, the Packers will be on the hunt for a new returner as Nixon has said he prefers to concentrate on his cornerback duties.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Packers will host Super Bowl champs in 2025

The Packers know their home and road opponents for 2025, with a complete schedule yet to be announced.

For next season, the NFC North is matched with the NFC East and AFC North, so all teams in the NFC North will play all teams in those two divisions.

In addition, the Packers finished third in the NFC North, so they will face the third-place teams in the NFC South, NFC West and AFC West.

Here’s how it breaks down, with the full schedule of dates and times to be announced in the spring.

Home: Minnesota, Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, Cincinnati and Carolina.

Road: Minnesota, Detroit, Chicago, Dallas, New York Giants, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Denver and Arizona.

The NFL has announced it plans to play eight international games in 2025, with contests slated for Madrid (Spain), Berlin (Germany) and Dublin (Ireland), as well as Mexico City, Brazil and the United Kingdom.

With AFC teams having nine home games in 2025, most international games will have AFC teams moving their home games.



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The star of the 2024 draft class was Edgerrin Cooper, left. When Cooper is able to hunt the ball, his ability is special. He has a closing speed the Packers have not seen at the linebacker position since Nick Barnett was at his peak. Jordan Morgan, above, was a controversial pick at the time simply because the Packers insisted Morgan was going to play tackle for them, despite the consensus thought being he was better suited at guard. As it turns out, at least for his rookie season, Green Bay agreed. Morgan hardly repped at tackle during training camp. He never played there during the season.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

How did the class of 2024 perform?

Players were a mixed bag of good, bad and incomplete

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The Green Bay Packers entered the 2024 NFL draft looking to take the next step.

They were coming off a season where they finished 9-8, but optimism was flying high after winning a road playoff game in Dallas and pushing the San Francisco 49ers to the brink of elimination.

The Packers augmented their roster by signing Xavier McKinney and Josh Jacobs in free agency before turning their attention to the draft.

They got instant impact from some of their choices; others gave them hope for the future, and some are still unknown at this point.

Knowing what we know now, however, it looks like all of the top picks from the 2024 draft are slated to play big roles in 2025. While it's truly hard to evaluate a draft class after just one season, instant impact is the name of the game in today's NFL.

Here is who they took, and how things shook out.

Round 1: Jordan Morgan

Morgan was a controversial pick at the time simply because the Packers insisted Morgan was going to play tackle for them, despite the consensus thought being he was better suited at guard.

As it turns out, at least for his rookie season, Green Bay agreed. Morgan hardly repped at tackle during training camp. He never played there during

the season, mostly competing with Sean Rhyan to play right guard.

Morgan never fully usurped Rhyan for the job. He never took more snaps in a game than Rhyan did.

Eventually, Morgan missed time due to a shoulder injury. He did return but only to re aggravate the shoulder, which ended his rookie season on injured reserve.

Matt LaFleur and Brian Gutekunst have both said this offseason that the plan is for Morgan to compete with Rasheed Walker at left tackle when training camp opens.

If Morgan were to win that job, it would make the Packers' decisions along the offensive line easier for the future.

Zach Tom, Rhyan and Walker all have contracts expiring at the end of 2025. The best bet is that if Morgan does not win the left tackle job, he'll be penciled in as the starter at right guard in 2026.

Either way, it was tough for Green Bay's fanbase to watch Morgan end his season on injured reserve, while the player they wanted to pick — former Iowa defensive back Cooper DeJean — returned an interception for a touchdown on Super Bowl Sunday.

Grade: Incomplete

Round 2: Edgerrin Cooper

The star of the show was Edgerrin Cooper. The only complaint about him was his availability. He suffered an injury in training camp that kept him on the sideline, which limited his



During training camp, it felt like Evan Williams was catching more passes than some of the team's wide receivers. Williams is a smart, heady player with ball skills.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

ability to make an impact early in the season.

Once he was on the field, however, he was immediately a standout.

When Cooper is able to hunt the ball, his ability is special. He has a closing speed the Packers have not seen at the linebacker position since Nick Barnett was at his peak.

Cooper finished the sea-

son with 13 tackles for loss in 14 games. That gave him the high mark for the entire defense during the season.

He added an interception, forced fumble and fumble recovery.

As he gets more experienced in Jeff Hafley's defense, he should have an opportunity to become a star in the future.

Grade: A

Round 2: Javon Bullard

Bullard looked to be the rookie most likely to make an instant impact when the rookies got to training camp.

He was inserted as the starter at safety next to Xavier McKinney.

He stayed there until the regular season.

He had to move between safety and slot corner due to injuries in the secondary during the season.

The moving around the defense is part of his draw, but it clearly affected him as he appeared to be swimming upstream as a rookie.

He did make a nice play, forcing a fumble in Green Bay's 24-22 loss to the Chicago Bears in the team's final regular season game.

With the addition of Nate Hobbs, Bullard appears to be in competition to find his way onto the field.

There is not a clear path at the moment for him, so he'll need to earn his reps.

Grade: C

Round 3: Marshawn Lloyd

After hip and hamstring injuries sidelined Lloyd for most of the summer, he injured his ankle just six carries into Green Bay's home opener against Indianapolis.

After being placed on injured reserve, Lloyd appeared to be on the cusp of returning to the active roster in mid-November when he was sidelined with appendicitis and forced out for the rest of the season.

Grade: Incomplete

Round 3: Ty'Ron Hopper

Hopper was probably the pick that caused the most raising of eyebrows in this draft class.

The Packers hosted Hopper on a predraft visit, but many thought he'd be a choice much later in the draft.

Instead, the Packers chose Hopper at pick 91. He was the second of two linebackers taken in the top 100, and third they've used a high pick on since 2022.

Once he was on the team, however, he was injured with a sprained ankle. He missed some of training camp but really struggled when he found his way onto the field at the end of preseason.

He did not play much as a rookie. With Isaiah McDuffie returning to the team, there's questions as to how much he'll be in the plans on defense, e if at all.

Grade: D

Round 4: Evan Williams

During training camp, it felt like Williams was catching more passes than some of the team's wide receivers.

Despite making a play per day, Williams did not play a single snap in the team's season-opening loss to the Philadelphia Eagles.

Eventually, he did usurp Bullard as the team's preferred option at safety next to McKinney.

Williams is a smart, heady player with ball skills.

Perhaps the defining play of his career thus far was a short yardage situation where Williams was assigned to the quarterback on a zone-read.

After the fake from the quarterback, he was one-on-one with Williams.

The quarterback was Arizona Cardinals star Kyler Murray.

Williams stoned Murray behind the line of scrimmage, giving the Packers the ball back.

It was a small play in the moment, but it gave a glimpse into how smart Williams is. He stuck to his assignment instead of chasing the ball and took down one of the more elusive quarterbacks in all of football.

Williams finished the season with just one interception, a game-sealing pick on Anthony Richardson's Hail Mary attempt in the team's 16-10 win in their home opener against the Indianapolis Colts.

When Williams was available, he looked to be the better player than his draft classmate, Bullard.

As of now, he should be the odds on favorite to start next to McKinney in 2025.

Grade: A

Round 5: Jacob Monk

Monk looked like he was trending toward becoming the Packers' next diamond in the rough of offensive linemen the Packers have found on Day 3 when training camp progressed.

Monk was rotating in with the starting lineup. He had a great line given to him by offensive line coach Luke Butkus, who claimed he was ready to rip someone's lips off before his preseason debut in Cleveland.

Monk was active until midway through the season, where he became a healthy scratch.

Perhaps the most telling part about how Monk's season progressed was the team moving Rhyhan to center, a position that Monk is suited to play, instead of putting Monk in the lineup during the team's 22-10 loss to the Philadelphia Eagles.

Monk will likely be fighting for a spot on the back of the roster with the Packers likely to add more depth on the offensive line through this year's draft

Grade: D

Round 5: Kitan Oladapo

Oladapo was a healthy scratch until being put into the starting lineup for the team's final game of the regular season.

He's got an opportunity to compete for a spot on special teams this year in training camp but did not make any headway there as a rookie either.

Grade: D

Round 6: Travis Glover

Glover made his NFL debut in surprising fashion.

His first extended action came when Elgton Jenkins left during the team's loss to the Eagles in the play-offs with a neck injury.

Instead of KaDeem Telfort, who had been ahead of Glover most of the season, it was Glover.

His time on the field was short lived.

He was flagged twice in 12 snaps and beaten badly for a pressure on Jordan

Love.

Glover was a project when he was drafted; he'll get more chances to become the team's swing tackle.

Grade: D

Round 7: Michael Pratt

Pratt was drafted to compete with Sean Clifford to be the team's backup quarterback.

Both Pratt and Clifford struggled mightily in training camp and the preseason.

Pratt became one of the rare draft choices that was released by Gutekunst after training camp.

He was not brought back to the practice squad, and the team did not make any effort to bring him back.

Grade: F

Round 7: Kalen King

King had some nice moments during the pre-season but did not make the final roster.

He was elevated once during the regular season but did not play any snaps of significance.

He'll need to compete again to be on the 53-man roster but also for a spot on the practice squad

Grade D

In summary, Cooper looks like a bona fide star in limited action. He could be the next great Packers linebacker.

Williams, another player who was an immediate contributor, has a leg up in the competition to be the team's starting safety next to McKinney in 2025.

Morgan and Lloyd can essentially be looked at as outside additions to the team after they hardly played as rookies due to injuries.

Morgan will compete to be the team's left tackle. Lloyd should be the team's primary running back behind Josh Jacobs.

The depth on the offensive line is relying on their Day 3 selections taking a step forward in 2025. If the season were to start tomorrow, neither of the offensive linemen selected on Day 3 looks like they would be ready to play meaningful snaps in a game.

Overall Grade: B



Josh Jacobs was one of the better free agent signings in recent years. The six-year veteran signed with Green Bay in 2024 and went on to rush for 1,329 yards.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Winning the offseason?

Selective free agency signings follow the Packers script prior to draft

BY LUKE REIMER
Green & Gold Express

When the new NFL year started March 12, the Green Bay Packers again followed the trend of filling holes but staying somewhat quiet.

This offseason, general manager Brian Gutekunst and the Packers front office did not make any splash signings or trades, but instead they opted to upgrade some of the team's deficiencies from last season.

The first player Green Bay signed was offensive lineman Aaron Banks, who played his first five seasons in the NFL in San Francisco. Banks spent a majority of his time with the 49ers playing the guard position. He is expected to once again play guard in Green Bay.

With the departure of Josh Myers, who played the center position last season, signing Banks allows the Packers some flexibility on the offensive line. Elgton Jenkins, who primarily played the left guard position in his career, is now expected to shift to center and Banks will fill in at guard.

Overall, signing Banks gives the Packers an option to retool the offensive line. At a four-year, \$77 million deal, on the surface it may look like Green Bay slightly overpaid for him. But as Green Bay looks to compete while still rolling with Jordan Love, Josh Jacobs and the receiving corps, getting a proven starter at a very important position is not a bad option.

"We have talked a lot about how versatility plays into our offensive line," said Gutekunst. "(Banks) is a really large man that can do all of the things that Matt (LaFleur) asks those guys to do in our scheme, as far as his ability to get off of the ball quickly and get out into space and really run. His ability to play physical in the run game and anchor down in pass protection is - he has played at a really high level for years now and to get a guy like that in the prime of his career is something that I thought would really benefit us."

After Banks, Green Bay addressed its defense, looking to add some depth

to the secondary. It is no secret that after the injury to Jaire Alexander last season, the Packers needed help in the defensive back room. Among a few defensive backs leaving in free agency, Gutekunst dipped into the Las Vegas Raiders free agents and signed Nate Hobbs to a four-year, \$48 million deal.

"I think Green Bay is a special place," said Hobbs, on what attracted him to the Packers. "I think Green Bay is a place that a lot of players have transformed, you know. They go from a good player to a great player to a hall of fame player to better men. Everybody that I have spoken to has said that it is a special place, so I want to be a part of a special place."

Assuming Alexander is not with the team next season, it seems likely that Keisean Nixon moves to the outside, leaving a hole to fill in the slot. Similar to Banks on the offensive line, bringing Hobbs in gives the Packers flexibility to move defensive backs all around the secondary. During his time in Las Vegas, Hobbs lined up primarily on the inside. That flexibility is a major reason why he was signed to Green Bay, according to Gutekunst.

"We just really thought he is a really versatile, all-around corner that can do everything," said Gutekunst. "We really like his ability to play on the outside, which he has not done a ton of, but then the ability to move him inside to match different receivers. And then his play style - I think that is one of the things that really stood out to us, and we are really excited to see what he is going to do for us this year."

The last major free agent signing for Green Bay that came from outside of the organization was wide receiver Mecole Hardman. In his six-year career, Hardman has played with the Kansas City Chiefs and New York Jets, winning three Super Bowls.

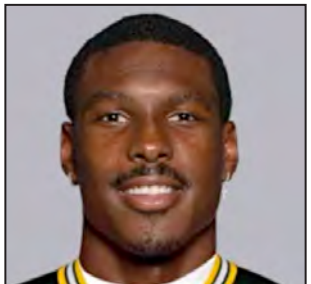
It is no secret that Green Bay is in desperate need of playmakers to add to Love's arsenal, and in that need is a player who can use his speed to stretch opposing defenses. With



Aaron Banks



Nate Hobbs



Mecole Hardman

the future of Christian Watson up in the air, due to injuries and inconsistent play, that field-stretching role seems to be voided heading into the 2025-26 season. Hardman, who has been known for his speed during his time in the NFL, figures to fill that hole, giving Love and the offense another weapon.

With Nixon seemingly taking on a larger role on the defensive side of the ball, another hole that Hardman has the opportunity to fill is in the return game. During his time in the NFL, Hardman has shown a penchant for returning balls, recording 1,892 career return yards and two touchdowns.

"He is a little more experienced in the punt return game than the kick return game, but he can do both," said Gutekunst. "He obviously adds an element of speed to our football team. He has been in big games and has played well in big games. He has been hampered by some injuries along the way, but I think when he is healthy, he is certainly an impactful player."

Green Bay signed Hardman to a one-year, \$1.5 million contract.



Javon Bullard (20) earned himself a "C" grade for his performance with the Packers in his rookie season. The moving around the defense is part of his draw, but it clearly affected him as he appeared to be swimming upstream as a rookie.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Oconto County markets to draft visitors

BY GREG SEUBERT
Green & Gold Express

Visitors to the NFL draft in Green Bay later this month have an option when it comes to finding a place to stay, eat or just chill out.

They can head north to Oconto County.

The county's border with Brown County is less than 30 minutes from Lambeau Field, where most of the draft activities will be held April 24-26.

Jayne Sellen is the executive director the Tourism and Economic Corporation for the Oconto Region (TEDCOR), an Oconto-based nonprofit group that helps promote tourism in Oconto County.

Draft organizers estimate about 240,000 will attend this year's draft. Detroit hosted last year's NFL Draft, which ended up drawing more than 700,000 visitors.

Unlike Detroit, however, Green Bay is the NFL's smallest market.

Whether Green Bay draws a crowd that big remains to be seen, but Sellen said TEDCOR is doing what it can to promote Oconto County.

"We did a series of reels and videos for social media, the One Mile, One Minute campaign," Sellen said. "Each community



Oconto County, like others in the area, knows an opportunity when it sees one. With several hundred thousand football enthusiasts expected to converge on the Green Bay market, the county is hoping to cash in on fans' spending.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

and some of the businesses in that community did a campaign that said, 'Hey, we're Oconto, Wisconsin, we're 35 miles away from Lambeau Field and it's a 35-minute drive.'

"It was kicked off by me or my colleague Kelly (Schwartz) kicking a football," she said. "That person caught the football and they threw it to the next person and it promoted our communities and a lot of businesses in the area, too. It got a lot of views."

TEDCOR's website - tedcor.org - has informa-

tion about the draft, including links to the Packers official draft information site. Details on where to park near Lambeau Field and road closures can also be found.

Also on TEDCOR's site is a link to RiverWood Saloon & Campground, located on state Highway 22 between Oconto and Oconto Falls on the Little River. The campground and saloon will be open during the draft and offer transportation to and from Lambeau Field.

Sellen can't say for

sure if TEDCOR's campaign will draw people to Oconto County and said she probably won't know until the three-day event is underway.

"One thing I don't know about is the hotels," she said. "I know there's availability."

Sellen expects draft visitors to be looking for lodging in adjacent counties, including Oconto, Shawano, Outagamie, Calumet, Kewaunee and Manitowoc.

"With the numbers we were told from the Packers, there's no way all

those people can fit into the Green Bay area," she said. "They would have to overflow to the surrounding areas. Some of them will probably go down to Appleton, but we're hoping a good portion of them will know about us. The commute north is going to be a lot easier than (Interstate) 41 down to Appleton."

Sellen said Oconto County is also an option for Green Bay area residents thinking about heading out of town for a few days.

"There might be some

folks that live there that might want to escape some of the traffic and congestion that's going to happen," she said. "It's a byproduct of a really good thing."

Oconto County is part of New North, an 18-county regional economic development organization.

"It goes up to Florence (County) and down to Sheboygan," Sellen said. "They are bringing in site selectors at that time. We are going to meet with them and tell them all about the opportunities here for businesses to come here. We're looking at it from the tourism side, but we'd be foolish not to take advantage of it from an economic development side of things."

Sellen views the Packers hosting their first NFL draft as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for football fans and Oconto County as well.

"We're trying to take advantage of it, but we don't know to what extent," she said. "I think (area counties) are all in a similar spot. We don't know what to expect. We thought the numbers would be a lot higher than they are, but I also think that there might be some last-minute 'Oh my gosh, this is coming up, we can still get a good deal.'"



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Christian Watson dropped what should have easily been a completed pass against the San Francisco 49ers. Like the other receivers, he took a step backwards in 2024, and the Packers are in need of someone to grab hold of the No. 1 position. GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRES

Packers looking at another defensive first-round pick?

Gutekunst's latest choices leave something to be desired

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The NFL draft is finally here. Soon, the days of mock drafts will be gone. We will no longer be talking about who teams could possibly draft. Instead, we will know who each team did draft and be able to look ahead to the 2025 regular season.

The primary focus for the Green Bay Packers is to help augment a strong roster that gets them out of the playoff hunt and into the status of Super Bowl contenders.

Brian Gutekunst said in his season-ending press conference that he felt it was time that his team started competing for championships.

They started this offseason by adding a player to the offensive line and their secondary, both of which should be improved from the group that finished the season in Philadelphia.

A Wild Card weekend loss to the Eagles puts the Packers picking 23rd in the first round of the draft.

They have eight picks, which include a seventh-round pick they acquired by trading Preston Smith to the Pittsburgh Steelers at the trade deadline.

That also includes a compensatory pick. The NFL gave the Packers a seventh-rounder essentially for the departure of offensive tackle Yosh Nijman in free agency last year, after the additions of

running back Josh Jacobs and safety Xavier McKinney were offset by the losses of guard Jon Runyan and safety Darnell Savage.

Green Bay's original seventh-round pick might have been the best trade of the season. Gutekunst used that pick to acquire backup quarterback Malik Willis.

Willis played extended snaps in four games, including two starts. The Packers were 3-1 in those games with the one loss coming in a largely meaningless regular season finale against the Chicago Bears.

The Packers have some work to do with their roster. The NFC North has gotten better around them, and they can ill afford to rely on the incompetence of the rest of their division to get themselves into the playoffs.

They need to beat the teams in the North after going 1-5 against divisional opponents a season ago. The one, of course, was tenuous at best. A blocked field goal by Karl Brooks saved the Packers from suffering defeat at Soldier Field and taking the collar in the division.

That starts with the ever important first-round pick.

For as well as Gutekunst has done in the draft, especially in the later rounds, his early picks have left something to be desired.

Lukas Van Ness, Jordan Morgan, Quay Walker and Devonte Wyatt represent the last three years of first-

round choices.

Walker is the closest thing to an impact player, and that is far from a sure thing.

If you go back further, the last time Gutekunst took an impact player in the first round, it was quarterback Jordan Love.

Gutekunst needs to acquire some blue chip talent to take this Packers team to the next level.

Here are Green Bay's choices, and what they could do.

Round 1, No. 23

This choice is arguably the most important of Gutekunst's career to date. The Packers are a good team. They're not a great one.

Great teams typically have their stars lead the way. They can be rookies as well.

One season ago, the Philadelphia Eagles drafted Quinyon Mitchell and Cooper DeJean with their first two picks.

Both players became key contributors to the Eagles' Super Bowl run. Mitchell became their best cornerback. DeJean returned an interception for a touchdown in the Super Bowl and is one of the league's best slot defenders.

The Packers' first-round pick was Jordan Morgan. He could be a key contributor for them in 2025 if he wins the job at left tackle. Unfortunately, he'll always be compared to DeJean, a popular pick for the Packers a season ago.

When it comes to this year's pick, there are a few options at key positions of need.

The most likely scenario, based on the shape of this draft, is that the Packers will use their pick on a player in the front seven of their defense.

Defensive end and defensive tackle appear to be the most likely candidates here.

Tennessee's James Pearce Jr., Texas A&M's Shemar Stewart and Georgia's Mykel Williams have all taken predraft visits to Green Bay.

Stewart is the most athletic player in the class. Williams fits the mold of what the Packers have typically preferred in their edge players.

Pearce Jr. would be a bit of a departure from their preferences because of his size; he's less than 250 pounds, and he's more of a speed rusher than a power guy.

If they're looking for a different type of rusher, Pearce is immensely talented. He could be the guy.

On the defensive line, there are two main candidates who could be available when Green Bay is on the clock: Michigan's Kenneth Grant and Oregon's Derek Harmon.

Harmon is more of the mold the Packers have on their defensive line. He's an interior disrupter, who is best suited going up the field to make plays in the backfield. He has some technical issues to work

through but could wind up being one of the most disruptive players in this draft class.

Grant is a bigger man, tipping the scales at more than 330 pounds, but he is a good athlete.

Grant's potential is sky high because of his athleticism in addition to his size. He could be a ready made replacement for T.J. Slaton as he refines his craft as a pass rusher.

If they don't look to the defensive front, it's likely the Packers will target someone at the skill position, whether on offense or defense.

At cornerback, Jahdae Barron from Texas is a popular choice with the fanbase. It just depends if the Packers feel like he can play on the boundary. They have a plethora of slot defenders, but the team might need someone to play on the outside.

If they want a boundary corner, Michigan's Will Johnson, Ole Miss' Trey Amos or East Carolina's Shavon Revel are all potential candidates in this spot.

If they were to buck a trend that has existed since 2002 and take a wide receiver, there are some players who fit the bill.

Gutekunst was the only general manager at Arizona receiver Tet McMillan's private workout. That is likely a sign of interest in the player and not just due diligence.

Apart from him, Ohio State's Emeka Egbuka and

Iowa State's Jayden Higgins are guys the Packers could target either at 23 or if they wanted to slide back a couple of spots.

One other possibility at receiver in the middle rounds is Texas' Isaiah Bond, a speedster who took a predraft visit with the Packers in March.

Of course, always account for variable change. If a player the Packers love that they weren't expecting to be available, is available, the Packers will not hesitate to pick a player based solely on the position he plays.

Some examples include Texas' offensive tackle Kelvin Banks, Ohio State's offensive tackle Josh Simmons or Alabama linebacker Jihaad Campbell.

The rest of the picks are as follows:

- Round 2, No. 54
- Round 3, No. 87
- Round 4, No. 124
- Round 5, No. 159
- Round 6, No. 198
- Round 7, No. 237 (from Pittsburgh)

Round 7, No. 250 (compensatory)

They'll likely look to add some depth to their offensive line at this point of the draft and find some value for their special teams.

Something else to keep in mind - the Packers have stated they want to get back in the practice of drafting a quarterback on a yearly basis. That could be something they look to target as the draft gets into its later stages.



A.J. Dillon, a member of the Packers 2020 draft class, spent all of 2024 on injured reserve. On March 13, he signed a one-year deal with the Philadelphia Eagles.

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Green Bay says farewell to seven free agents

BY LUKE REIMER
Green & Gold Express

As the new NFL season kicked off last month, the Green Bay Packers were once again somewhat active with regard to shaping its roster for the coming year.

While it is always more fun to look at the new players who are brought in, Green Bay’s free agency really revolved around who was heading out. In total, Green Bay said farewell to seven players who regularly saw time as rotation pieces.

The first of those departures was running back AJ Dillon. After failing to meet expectations in Green Bay due to injuries and inconsistent play, Dillon signed a one-year, \$1.3 million contract with the Philadelphia Eagles to help spell Saquon Barkley as the Eagles look to make it back to the Super Bowl.

Given the improved play of both Emanuel Wilson and Chris Brooks, as well as the workhorse ability of Josh Jacobs, losing Dillon does not seem like it will be a major hit to the Packers’ offense.

After Dillon’s departure was Eric Stokes, who signed a one-year, \$3.5 million deal with the Las Vegas Raiders. Stokes, much like Dillon, suffered the fate of not living up to expectations during his time in Green Bay. Drafted as the team’s first-round pick in 2021, Stokes only started 32 games for the Packers, shifting to a rotational role



Drafted by the Packers in 2021, Eric Stokes had his fifth-year option declined by Green Bay, making him a free agent after the 2024 season. On March 13, he signed a one-year deal with the Las Vegas Raiders.

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in 2024.

Filling the running back position in Dillon’s place is probably not a major priority for the Packers, as Wilson and Brooks have both shown ability to fill in Jacobs’ shoes when he is taken out. Even though the Packers have a solid trio in the backfield, spending a later draft pick on a running back may be in the cards, to build some competition.

As for the cornerback position in replacing Stokes, that must be a point Green Bay addresses quickly, as the NFC North features three of the better passing offenses in the NFL.

With Keisean Nixon taking on a larger role on the defensive side of the ball, as well as the signing of Nate Hobbs, it seems that the Packers have started a plan, but looking at a defensive back early in the NFL draft

seems likely. Either way, replacing the cornerback position really seems like it comes down to whether Jaire Alexander is on the team next year or not.

“There could be a possibility, absolutely,” said general manager Brian Gutekunst, on if Alexander will play for the Packers next season. “We are kind of in the middle of that right now.”

What does not help support the depth at the defensive back position right now is two more Packers corners signing elsewhere in free agency. Robert Rochell, who primarily spent his time on special teams, recently signed with the Kansas City Chiefs, and Corey Ballentine, who saw extended time on defense last season due to injuries, signed a deal with the Indianapolis Colts.

Continuing on the defensive side of the ball,



Another 2021 draft pick, Josh Myers missed just one game playing at the center spot. The Packers have already started to rectify Myers’ departure as it signed Aaron Banks to the offensive line from the San Francisco 49ers.

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Green Bay also lost on defensive tackle T.J. Slaton in free agency. Slaton, who showed his prowess as a solid rotational piece, playing in every game since he was drafted in 2021, signed a contract with the Cincinnati Bengals.

This loss probably hurts more than a lot of people think, just due to Slaton’s availability, as well as his production – 133 total tackles, six tackles for loss, two sacks and seven quarterback hits and four batted passes.

While defensive tackle is another position that is probably not at the highest priority, making up for 133 total tackles over four seasons is not an easy thing to do. This is probably another position that Green Bay can use a mid- to late draft pick on, similar to what it did with Slaton in 2021.

Either way, Kenny Clark

is only getting older, and Devonte Wyatt has some injury concerns. If these two are healthy though, Green Bay has enough personnel to kick-the-can down the road at defensive tackle for a year or two yet.

Other than Dillon and Stokes, the most notable departure for the Packers in free agency this season was Josh Myers.

Since he was drafted in 2021, Myers missed just one game playing at the center spot. The Packers have already started to rectify Myers’ departure as it signed Aaron Banks to the offensive line from the San Francisco 49ers. Signing Banks allows Elgton Jenkins to slide into the center spot, where Jenkins had most of his success in college.

“We have had plenty of conversations with Elgton leading up to it, and obviously he played center in

college, and we feel he has a chance to be an all-pro center,” said Gutekunst. “We have talked a lot about how versatility plays into our offensive line and having guys that can move to different spots. Elgton is one of those guys that can play all five spots. He is a luxury, but I am excited to see what he can do at center.”

Finally, the last Packers player who will be wearing a new uniform next season is Eric Wilson.

Wilson, who started 12 games at the linebacker position, due to injuries to Quay Walker last season, signed a one-year, \$1.2 million contract with the Minnesota Vikings in the offseason. While playing for Green Bay, Wilson totaled 87 total tackles, three sacks and one interception.

Losing Wilson takes more than a hit to the defense though, as he became one of Green Bay’s better special teams players. Over the past three seasons, he recorded 33 tackles, leading the team. He now returns to Vikings where he played his first four seasons in the NFL.

Replacing a leading tackler on special teams is not going to be an easy thing, but given Green Bay’s roster, it has to be addressed sooner than later. Signing a veteran to a cheap deal may be in the cards, but again looking to the draft might be the Packers’ best option for long-term success at both special teams and on defense.

Wisconsin supper clubs take front and center

Friday fish fry, other fare just as popular as football with residents

Prepare to experience the culinary magic of Wisconsin's legendary supper clubs while helping to tackle student food insecurity. The first-ever Taste of the Draft will showcase a blend of iconic menu classics and nostalgic ambiance in a one-of-a-kind gathering of Wisconsin supper clubs. Presented by Schreiber Foods, Taste of the Draft is a new community impact initiative in collaboration with the Green Bay Packers to benefit GENYOUth's commitment to end student hunger in Wisconsin.

It will be held on the evening before the NFL Draft – April 23 from 4-7 p.m. at Schreiber Foods headquarters, 400 N. Washington St., Green Bay.

Taste of the Draft will be hosted by Andrew Zimern, Emmy- and four-time James Beard Award-winning TV personality, chef, Taste of the NFL culinary host and Goodwill Ambassador for the UN World Food Programme; Mark Bucher, co-founder of Medium Rare Restaurant Group, World Burger Champion and Taste of the NFL chef; and Paul Bartolotta, owner and co-founder of The Bartolotta Restaurants and a two-time James Beard Award-win-



A Friday night fish fry is among the most popular meals at Wisconsin supper clubs, and Classics in Shawano is no different. The traditional Wisconsin fare is just as popular as the Green Bay Packers.

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ning chef.

Twenty Wisconsin supper clubs will serve up signature dishes:

- Bootleggers Lodge in Tomahawk.
- Cattails Supper Club in Larsen.
- Dalles House Supper Club in St. Croix Falls.
- Eddie's Restaurant in Superior.
- Gabe's Wisconsin Kitchen and Tavern in Oshkosh.
- Green Acres Supper Club in Sauk City.

- House of Embers in Wisconsin Dells.
- Hotel Seymour Supper Club in Seymour.
- Krabbe's Supper Club in Seymour.
- Lox Supper Club in Combined Locks.
- Mark's East Side in Appleton.
- Moonlight Tavern & Supper Club in Port Washington.
- Nightingale Supper Club in Sturgeon Bay.
- Rupp's Supper Club in Cleveland (Wisconsin).

- Palms Supper Club in Schofield.
 - 3 Mile House Supper Club in Hazel Green.
 - Timmer's Resort Union Hotel & Restaurant in West Bend.
 - Van Abel's of Hollandtown in Kaukauna.
 - Wildflower Supper Club in Kewaunee.
- From relish trays, popovers and America's Dairyland delights, to meat and seafood specialties, and Fork Farms salad bar favorites, Taste of the Draft will

feature flavorful supper club cuisine from across the state. And no Wisconsin supper club is complete without a showcase of local cheeses and other dairy favorites, as well as curated spirits and after-dinner dairy-delicious ice cream drinks — including grasshoppers and pink squirrels. In addition to tasting the favorite dishes of celebrity and locally loved chefs, guests will be able to mix and mingle with Green

Bay Packers greats including LeRoy Butler, Jerry Kramer, James Lofton, Dave Robinson and Ahman Green, as well as experience other surprise-and-delight moments including musical entertainment, a sleight-of-hand magician, a silent auction, an appearance by Miss America and Taste of the Draft's very own beer garden.

Taste of the Draft will raise critical funds for GENYOUth's commitment to tackling student food insecurity in Wisconsin. Nutrition grants will be awarded to up to 90 schools, in celebration of the 90th NFL Draft, including Grab and Go school meal carts and milk coolers to increase access to and participation in healthy school meals.

"With one in six Wisconsin children living in food insecurity and nearly half of the state's students qualifying for free and reduced-price school meals based on household income, GENYOUth's mission to help all kids thrive through nutrition and physical activity is more urgent than ever," said Ann Marie Krauthaim, CEO of GENYOUth.

Tickets to Taste of the Draft are available at tasteofthenfl.com/taste-of-the-draft-2025/.



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