

Solar farm on track for Town of Morgan

Many fear it could bring other unwanted things to rural area

BY NATHAN BIRR
Correspondent

A proposed 100-megawatt solar farm and 50-megawatt battery facility is on schedule to be built in the town of Morgan, and townspeople are worried.

According to documents provided by the state Public Service Commission, the proposed site would consist of 648.9 acres of land near CCC Road and County Road C.

David Behrend, an Oconto County supervisor who represents the town of Morgan, has concerns about the personal safety of neighbors near the proposed solar farm, and if neighboring landowners would bear financial burdens in a crisis.

“I encourage people to ask two questions,” Behrend said. “Will my home insurance company cover damages and evacuation costs if an emergency happens at the proposed solar farm, and would I face point-of-pollution liabilities and cleanup costs, if contaminants from the proposed solar farm entered my property?”

Nikki Coopman, whose home and business would be surrounded by the proposed solar farm, said she knows the answer to those questions.

“My insurance company would offer absolutely zero help if those giant lithium batteries started on fire and we had to flee the toxic smoke,” Coopman said, “and if my property burned to the ground from a fire started by the proposed solar farm, my insurance would cover nothing. I checked. I asked them and they said ‘No.’ If contaminants from the proposed solar farm ended up on my property, I would be responsible to pay for cleanup, if particulates from a toxic smoke plume landed on my soil, it would be me responsible to pay for it.”

Coopman owns and operates K-9 Creations, a local dog kennel neighboring the proposed solar farm site. She provides temporary housing and offers services like boarding, daycare, grooming, and training.

“This solar farm would destroy my life as I know it,” Coopman said. “I poured my life into my business, and now global investment groups want to surround my property with destructive solar panels.”

Project threat to local business

Coopman fears that the proposed solar farm will prevent her from operating her business.

“I will not be able to operate my business once they start the two-year building process for the solar farm,” Coopman said. “The heavy equipment and hammer-



Oconto County Supervisor David Behrend and town of Morgan resident Nikki Coopman stand adjacent to the proposed land of a proposed solar farm and discuss the future of her business as the sun sets on her hopes and dreams. NATHAN BIRR

ing and vibrations will drive the dogs absolutely crazy. It will hurt them. There’s no way that my business could stay open.”

Once the building process is complete, Coopman still has doubts as to if the dogs would be able to live at the current facility.

“Dogs are sensitive,” she said. “The invisible electronic radio waves and humming coming off all those panels — dogs can hear that. It will drive them crazy.”

Coopman could relocate her business, but she also doubts if the purchase price of her property will amount to much.

“How can I sell it? My heart and soul is on this property,” Coopman said with tears in her eyes, “and even if I do sell, it won’t be worth much. Who wants to buy a postage stamp in a sea of solar panels?”

\$10K offered to be good neighbor

Joshua Sutrick, who owns the family farm he grew up on, was confronted by representatives of the proposed solar farm.

“They asked me to sign a good neighbor contract,” Sutrick said, “because I live next to the proposed solar farm.”

Representatives of the proposed solar farm offered Sutrick nearly \$10,000 if he would sign the good neighbor contract, he said.

“I told them to take the piece of paper and shove it up their (expletive deleted),” Sutrick said. “How dare they offer me money to destroy my family legacy. Shame on them.”

A good neighbor contract, as Sutrick understands, would legally forbid the signatory from pursuing a lawsuit against the proposed solar farm, or from saying anything negative about the proposed solar farm, in person or online.

Dave Wirtz, whose property would be surrounded on three sides by panels, said that he is favorable toward renewable energy, just not in the town of Morgan.

“I’m not against solar energy,” Wirtz said, “but not here in Morgan. Why do we

need to waste excellent farmland here in Wisconsin, when there are useless desert places out west? It doesn’t make any sense to me.”

Behrend is also confused about why the proposed land for the proposed solar farm was chosen.

“Just a few years ago, in 2017, an owner of the proposed land for the proposed solar farm invested a considerable amount of money to install a high-capacity well and an irrigation system on that land,” Behrend said. “It doesn’t make sense to now put gravel and concrete on that prime piece of agriculture.”

Letters offer to buy land

Curt Birr, who owns land miles away from the proposed solar farm, recently received a letter postmarked from Florida.

“Just last week, I got a letter from Florida offering me cash to buy my land,” Birr said. “I thought all the land needed for these projects had been gotten already, but I guess there’s more to come.”

It is uncertain if the source of this letter is related to the company building the proposed solar farm.

“I also got a postcard from the company of the proposed solar farm,” Birr said. “That postcard had information about an upcoming coffee chat, it too, was postmarked from Florida.”

Birr says that he is not the only townspeople to receive an offer letter postmarked from Florida.

“My brother, who owns property inside the Machickanee forest,” Birr said, “he, too, received an offer letter from Florida.”

It is uncertain if the sources of these letters are related to the company building the proposed solar farm.

Program could have halted farm

Behrend stated that, since 2015, many industrial-minded projects have been completed or proposed in the town.

“In 2015, the elected leadership of Morgan, who also served on the county board, made the decision to do away with the Farmland Preservation Program in the town,” Behrend said.

According to the map of the proposed solar farm provided by the Public Service Commission and the Oconto County plat book, the elected town leaders who allegedly made the decision to halt the Farmland Preservation Program, own property contained in or bordering the proposed solar farm.

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection states on its website that the Farmland Preservation Program helps farmers and local governments “preserve farmland, protect soil and water, and minimize land use conflicts.”

The Farmland Preservation Program

SOLAR, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

INSIDE

Gillett finishes homecoming week with craft fair.

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Craft show caps off homecoming week

Crafters share their connection to fair, why they do what they do

By NATHAN BIRR
Correspondent

A weeklong countdown to homecoming concluded with a craft and vendor show Oct. 4 at Gillett High School.

The craft show, sponsored by the Gillett Area Chamber of Commerce, has been a part of Gillett's homecoming celebration for four years, taking place on the Saturday following the homecoming varsity football game.

"After a weeklong countdown to homecoming," said Chris Byars, chamber president, "the craft and vendor show is a great capstone to Harvest Days."

The show featured about 20 vendors, from near and far, who displayed their creative goods for sale.

Louie Knapowski, of Surin, had tables lined with unique jewelry which he made from dinner spoons.

"I've been a vendor at shows like this for 54 years," Knapowski said. "I used to do 200 shows a year, all over the country, but lately I've dialed it back due to health."

Laurie Ferris, of Green Bay, had tables lined with beautiful homemade autumn décor.

The intricate pieces on display looked like they require hours to create, but according to Ferris, "after 40 years of working in the floral business, it only takes me about 20 minutes."

Joanne Finnell, of Gillett, had tables lined with wallets, belts, key chain and various leather goods.

"Leather working has

been a hobby of mine for many years," Finnell said, "and I do custom work for folks. Recently, someone ask me to make a folding cribbage board out of leather."

Ruth Milhans, of Gillett, had tables lined with patriotic, American flag crosses.

"These crosses are a very popular way to display love of God and country," Milhans said. "We donated one to the raffle at A&W Tractor's open house which is also happening today."

Nicole Blaskowski, of Gillett, had tables lined with beadworks and harvest-themed décor.

"It's funny how the providence of God works," Blaskowski said. "As a little girl, I did crafting with my grandma and always dreamed of having my very own craft shop."

Blaskowski served as a police officer in Oconto Falls, before being shot in



Nicole Blaskowski, of Gillett, displays her homemade beadworks Oct. 4 at the Gillett Harvest Days craft show. NATHAN BIRR

the line of duty. Since entering an early retirement due to medical reasons, she and her husband are now in the process of opening a craft shop in the town of Stiles.

"We had hoped to be open for Christmas, but the building we are remodeling needs more work than we had previously thought," Blaskowski said. "Our target date is now sometime in January."

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Laurie Ferris, of Green Bay, shows off tables lined with beautiful homemade autumn décor. NATHAN BIRR

A&W Tractor hosts third annual Appreciation Day

By NATHAN BIRR
Correspondent

Down a meandering tree-lined road in the Town of Underhill, the glow of orange caught the attention of passersby.

The orange was not the turning leaves, but scores of Allis-Chalmers tractors and equipment lined up in rows.

A&W Tractor hosted its third annual customer appreciation day Oct. 4. The event took place on the shop's property at 12802 Wiskow Road.

"The day is a great opportunity for customers to connect with one another," business owner Alex Wocking said. "It also provides

me a chance to say thank you."

Roughly 100 people attended the event which featured a tractor show and activities for the kids.

Adults talked shop and reminisced on bygone farming days while enjoying a complementary plate of pulled pork, coleslaw, and potato salad.

Kids jumped for hours in an orange-tiger bounce house and rode the barrel train pulled by an orange lawnmower. The pedal-tractor pull and face painting were also a kid favorite.

The business services Allis-Chalmers tractors from the 1930s through 1970s, and ships new and

used parts all over the globe.

"I started the business when I graduated from Fox Valley Tech in 2011," Wocking said. "I apprenticed with my neighbor who wrenched on tractors in the 1970s."

Wocking has a sharp mind and was pursuing a mechanical engineering degree at University of Wisconsin-Platteville, before he realized that the long hours of sitting in a chair staring at a computer was not the life for him.

"I'm a hands-on, get it done guy," Wocking said. "The designing and creating aspect of being an engineer was fun, but I can't sit in a

chair all day, so I went to FVTC and got a degree in outdoor power technology."

Wocking said he likes what he does and looks forward every day to going to work.

"Managing people, though, I didn't really expect that I would be doing that," Wocking said.

The business has seen significant growth since it began 14 years ago, recently Wocking had to hire more help.

"Last year I hired an additional full-time mechanic," Wocking said, "and this year I'm looking to do the same. I have been blessed."

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ABOVE: Alex Wocking, right, of Underhill, helps a farmer at the parts counter during A&W Tractor's customer appreciation day Oct. 4. Wocking started the business in 2011 after graduating from Fox Valley Technical College. NATHAN BIRR

LEFT: Roughly a hundred people gathered for a tractor show and bounce house at A&W Tractor's customer appreciation day. NATHAN BIRR

BELOW: Happy children enjoy a train ride through the tractor show during the appreciation day. NATHAN BIRR



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Birnamwood candidate seeks to unseat Wied

Hable hopes he can inspire younger candidates to step up for office

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Birnamwood resident Ben Hable is tired of seeing representatives in Congress who don't look like him and don't hold his values, so he's planning to be the voice of the people as he announced his candidacy for the 8th Congressional District seat currently held by Rep. Tony Wied.

So far, three Democrats have announced their candidacy, with the primary just shy of a year away. Besides Hable, Rick Crosson, of Green Bay, and Mark Scheffler, of Appleton, have thrown their hats into the ring. Whoever wins the primary Aug. 13, 2026, is expected to face off against Wied.

"I did decide to run this spring, and that seems like it's out of nowhere," Hable said. "It was a long, long time of frustration not seeing candidates I wanted to vote for. Just with the whole way that the political discord is now, I wanted someone looking like me, or a younger candidate."

Hable, 41, said he's in a unique situation, having been on disability since February 2022. He noted many candidates for office have jobs that can limit the time that can be spent campaigning, but he has the time to stump.

"The way things go now, you have to have lots of time," Hable said.

This is the first time Hable has run for political office.

He noted that it's important to have youth leadership at a time when the average member age of Congress is 57.5 years old, according to the Pew Research Center.

"That's what I admired most about (George) Washington. He wanted the youth to lead the nation and drive the nation forward," Hable said. "I think we've done him a great disservice by not making sure that there's turnover and making sure that young voices are in Congress so that we can push things forward."

Health care is a big issue that Congress is not dealing with, according to Hable.

"The promises we were made through the Affordable Care Act have not really come to fruition," he said. "They're right now battling and shutting down the government because of premium prices for insurance, closing hospitals in rural areas. There's a lot that comes from health care



Ben Hable, of Birnamwood, is one of three Democrats hoping to challenge Rep. Tony Wied in 2026 to represent Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District.

CONTRIBUTED

and the cost of health care and even the VA benefits for health care."

Hable is also concerned about the anger and animosity toward minority groups. He said he speaks from experience, being both transgender and autistic.

"There's a lot of hate for diversity and for inclusion," Hable said. "There's a lot of misinformation about minority groups and different aspects of people's lives."

Hable added a lot of the Trump administration's actions have made it difficult for people to become educated on autism, transgenderism and other issues.

"Trans people have become a political scapegoat," he said. "We're being told we're not allowed to exist by a lot of people."

The 8th Congressional District has been a Republican stronghold for decades, providing a challenge for Democratic opponents. Hable noted the district is large, which provides any opponents with difficulty in reaching everyone, but he plans to do what is neces-

sary to get people to vote for him.

"I'm hoping that people see who I am, how I'm able to represent myself, how I fight for the things I believe in," Hable said. "I hope people in this district actually want a congressperson that is there for them instead of just another businessperson. I hope to get a lot of the under-50 crowd really excited to vote."

Hable added that he'd like to see all primaries with a candidate 40 years of age or less to give younger people the motivation to vote.

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com



Curt Birr, of Morgan, harvests soybeans in the perfect autumn weather. He is one of many townspeople who recently received letters postmarked from Florida, offering them cash to buy their land.

NATHAN BIRR

SOLAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

allows local governments to develop zoning districts that would prevent the transformation of farmland into industry.

"The very industrial high-power electrical transmission lines, and this proposed solar farm," Behrend said, "could never have happened if the town's elected leadership in 2015 would have left the Farmland Preservation Program alone."

Recently, many townspeople received the October issue of a publication mailed to the customers of Oconto Electric Cooperative, it featured a four-page article on data centers.

The article "How Data Centers Strengthen Communities and Cooperatives," Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News, highlighted a new data center

that was built near Hager City in Pierce County.

As for now, no plans for a future data center in Oconto County have been made public by any party. Some townspeople are worried about the future possibility, after receiving the magazine in their mailbox.

"I received the magazine in my mailbox," Coopman said, "and after reading the article about data centers in Wisconsin I'm concerned that the proposed solar farm is just the beginning."

The article stated "data center demand and growth are exploding in Wisconsin" and the featured data

center "is partly served by a 2-megawatt solar facility that feeds into the neighboring substation."

The article also stated that some data centers currently being built in Wisconsin require 1,000 megawatts of electricity, and that data centers not only need extreme amounts of electricity but also "need cooling systems."

No plans for a future data center in Oconto County have been made public by any party.

The proposed solar farm may break ground in 2027 with an estimated in-service date of 2028.

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10/10/2025

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WNAXLP

10/10/2025, 10/17/2025

Gillett School District Notice for Annual District Meeting (Section 120.08(1))

Notice is hereby given to qualified electors of the Gillett School District, that the annual meeting of said district for the transaction of business, will be held in Gillett Secondary Building School Commons, on the 22nd day of October, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Trisha Ondik, District Clerk
WNAXLP

10/10/2025, 10/17/2025

Notice for Annual District Meeting (Section 120.08(1))

Notice is hereby given to qualified electors of the Suring Public School District, that the annual meeting of said district for the transaction of business, will be held in the HS Library in the said District, on the 20th day of October 2025, at 5:30 P.M.

Dated this 10th day of October 2025.

Signed: Cathleen Lundgren, District Clerk
WNAXLP

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Oconto, WI 54153
10:00-12:00pm

Suring Police Department
604 E Main St
Suring, WI 54174
10:00am-2:00 p.m.

Town of Riverview Community Center
15152 Island Lake Road
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Gillett Police Department
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Victim identified in Sept. 20 crash

The traffic report for a fatal Sept. 20 crash in the Town of Gillett was released Oct. 4, including the names of those involved.

The Oconto County Sheriff's Department report indicates that the victim of the crash was Wayne David Couillard, 24, of Gillett, whose was driving an SUV that struck a pickup truck head-on on state Highway 22 near the intersection of County Road P. Couillard was pronounced dead at the scene.

The pickup was driven by Matthew David Schultz, 22, of Sobieski, who was taken by ambulance to St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay along with Couillard's 2-year-old son, Malachi, a passenger in the SUV, with what the report describes as suspected serious injuries.

The report says Couillard was southbound on Highway 22 when his vehicle crossed the centerline and collided with Schultz's truck, then rolled and came to rest on the highway. The pickup spun into the north ditch.

PUBLIC RECORD

OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Oct. 2

Deputies responded to 60 incidents, including suspicious activity on state Highway 32-64 in the Town of Mountain; trespassing on state Highway 32 in the Town of Lakewood; suspicious activity near Diamond Roof and Partridge Trail roads in the Town of Townsend; theft on St. Johns Road in the Town of How; suspicious activity near East Second Street and Woodlawn Avenue in Gillett; suspicious activity on County Road VV in the Town of Underhill; two traffic stops, one citizen assist, seven miscellaneous traffic incidents, four welfare checks; three 911 hangups and three open lines; three ambulance calls; four crashes, two involving deer.

Oct. 1

Deputies responded to 46 incidents, including suspicious activity on County Road A in the Town of Spruce; sexual assault in Suring; attempted fraud on Northwood Lane in the Town of Little Suamico; fraud on Groh Lane in the Town of Riverview; animal neglect on Red Bank Road in the Town of How; suspicious activity on Timberline Road in the Town of Abrams; a disturbance on Chestnut Road in the Town of Oconto Falls; two traffic stops, one traffic hazard, one traffic offense, one citizen assist, one miscellaneous traffic incident, three welfare checks; six open-line 911 calls; seven ambulance calls; two crashes, both involving deer.

Sept. 30

Deputies responded to 83 incidents, including a disturbance on Pecor Street in Oconto; suspicious activity on Duane Road in the Town of Stiles; an animal bite on County Road W in the Town of Mountain; a

missing person on West Cedar Street in Gillett; threatening on Dubbie Lane in the Town of Underhill; attempted fraud on Brehmer Road in the Town of Abrams; a wanted person on County Road G in the Town of Maple Valley; internet fraud on Salamon Road in the Town of Little Suamico; a wrong-way driver on U.S. Highway 141 near County Road E in the Town of Abrams; a wanted person on Duane Road in the Town of Stiles; 16 traffic stops, one traffic hazard, eight traffic offenses, two citizen assists, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; two 911 hangups and three open lines; four ambulance calls; five crashes, three involving deer.

Sept. 29

Deputies responded to 70 incidents, including suspicious activity at Riverwood Campground, 4998 State Highway 22 in the Town of Stiles; a K-9 deployment at Oconto Falls High School, 210 S. Farm Road, Oconto Falls; a fire control burn on Krakow Road in the Town of How; an animal bite on Resort Lane in the Town of Lakewood; suspicious activity at Dollar General, 611 E. Main St., Suring; an animal bite on Balcom Lake Road in the Town of Gillett; nine traffic stops, five traffic offenses, one citizen assist, one welfare check; two 911 hangups and seven open lines; 11 ambulance calls; three crashes, involving deer.

Sept. 28

Deputies responded to 37 incidents, including criminal damage on Beaumier Lane in the Town of Little Suamico; property damage on South Chase Road in the Town of Chase; a death investigation in the Town of Doty; property damage on state Highway 32 in the Town of Lakewood; suspicious activity on state Highway 32 in the Town of Lakewood; theft on West Main Street in

Lena; suspicious activity on Columbia Street in Oconto Falls; seven traffic stops, one traffic hazard, one traffic offense, two citizen assists, two miscellaneous traffic incidents; one 911 hangup and two open lines; three ambulance calls; three crashes, two involving deer.

Sept. 27

Deputies responded to 50 incidents, including suspicious activity on Shawano Line Road in the Town of Gillett; an animal bite on County Road G in the Town of Gillett; a disturbance on Hazelnut Lane in the Town of Oconto Falls; an unwanted party on County Road Z in the Town of Bagley; an animal bite on County Road J in the Town of Little Suamico; a missing person on Twin Maple Court in the Town of Little Suamico; trespassing at Dollar General, 611 E. Main St., Suring; trespassing on River Road in the Town of How; a wrong-way driver near state Highway 32-64 and Kingston Road in the Town of Mountain; three traffic stops, one traffic hazard, two traffic offenses, four citizen assists, six miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; six open-line 911 calls; seven ambulance calls.

Sept. 26

Deputies responded to 52 incidents, including suspicious activity near North Chestnut Avenue and East Highland Drive in Oconto Falls; suspicious activity on state Highway 64 in the Town of Riverview; a wanted person on Apple Blossom Lane in the Town of Breed; theft on Morgan Marsh Road in the Town of Morgan; suspicious activity on Soukup Road in the Town of Brazeau; six traffic stops, three traffic offenses, one citizen assist, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; one 911 hangup and two open lines; four ambulance calls; four crashes, three involving deer.

COURT NEWS

• Tanner A. Friebe, 24, Marshfield, had a deferred judgment agreement revoked Sept. 30 in a 2023 conviction for possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, violating an ignition interlock device order and operating while revoked. In two more recent cases, Friebe pleaded no contest to two additional misdemeanor charges of violating an ignition interlock order and two more counts of operating while revoked. Related felony bail jumping charges were dismissed in a plea agreement. Judge Michael Judge withheld sentencing and placed him on two years of probation with conditions.

• James C. Boucher, 40, Oconto, pleaded no contest Sept. 30 to a misdemeanor count of child neglect. The charge was amended from a felony in a plea agreement. Judge Jay Conley withheld sentencing and placed him on one year of probation with conditions.

• Terry Lee Werth, 57, Clintonville, pleaded no contest Sept. 29 to possession of methamphetamine and a misdemeanor charge of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (third offense). Judge withheld sentencing and placed him on two years of probation with conditions.

• Tammy J. Gauthier, 44, pleaded no contest Oct. 2 to a misdemeanor charge of possession of an illegally obtained prescription. A related felony bail jumping charge was dismissed in a plea agreement. Judge levied fines and court costs of \$536.

• Kelly L. Lucas, 36, Mountain, pleaded no contest Oct. 3 to misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and bail jumping. Two of the charges were amended from felonies in a plea agreement. Conley withheld sentencing and placed her on probation for 18 months with conditions.

• Stefanie Mycle Pratsch, 42, Sobieski, was charged Sept. 30 with possession of methamphetamine and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge set a \$2,500 cash bond and adjourned her initial appearance until Oct. 16.

• Shaun Jeffrey Warwick, 37, Crivitz, was charged Sept. 30 with felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge set a \$1,000 cash bond and adjourned his initial appearance until Oct. 16.

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\$100 gift certificate
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55" TCL - TCL55Q681G \$499 retail
Ashley 3 pc dining set D401-01/D401-15 retail \$499
TempurPedic cooling sheets - 401043KING \$99 retail

Ashley recliner PC6530825 - \$672 retail
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October 11th
Dr. Alisha Fahley, Thedacare Physicians

Making a Big impact with Big Brothers Big Sisters
October 25th
Cassidi Schultz, Big Brothers Big Sisters Program
Coordinator for Shawano

Hosted by
Dr. Brian Grieves, DC, MPH





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12:00 am	1 Winner	\$20,000 Cash





DRAWING
SEPT
27
7PM - 12AM

Rainy day at Sacred Heart

Caroline Vandermeersch and other 3-year-old preschool students at Sacred Heart Catholic School recently learned through a hands-on experiment using water, food coloring, beakers, water droppers and shaving cream that when it rains it's because the clouds are full of condensation so when they get too full, it rains.

CONTRIBUTED

Camp fun at Tekakwitha

Waylon Grimm takes aim with a bow and arrow during Sacred Heart Catholic School's fall fun trip to Camp Tekakwitha on Sept. 30.

CONTRIBUTED

Pahl takes oath of office

Heather Pahl is sworn in as the newest member of the Shawano County Board on Sept. 24. She was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Annelies Hartwig, who resigned Aug. 29 after moving out of District 2 that includes Wards 3 and 4 in the city of Shawano. All supervisory seats will be on the ballot in April 2026.

KEVIN PASSON
| NEW MEDIA

New North gets new leader Dec. 1

Patti Habeck has been named president and CEO of New North Inc., the regional economic development corporation for the 18 counties of Northeast Wisconsin, effective Dec. 1.

A unanimous selection of the New North board of directors, she leads the largest hunger-relief organization in the state, one which has experienced transformational growth strategically, financially and in culture over her tenure.

She replaces Barb LaMue, who formally announced her retirement in May 2025.

Habeck has served as president of Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin (Appleton and Milwaukee) since 2011. She led a complete turnaround of the strategy, finances and culture to grow Feeding America into the largest and leading hunger-relief organization in the state with two major locations, supporting more than 550,000 people annually through 400 partner organizations.

Under her leadership, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin reached the strongest financial position and food resource inventory in its history, doubling food distribution to 60 million pounds annually and revenues to \$97 million. It also increased its fleet to 15 trucks and staffing to 94 individuals. She additionally diversified and balanced revenue sources to include earned, philanthropic, donated and governmental.

"I look forward to contributing to the vibrancy of the New North region in a new way while growing and expanding my work," said Habeck. "The mission of New North is to collaborate with community partners and stakeholders, and that is something I enjoy and excel at. I look forward to building on the successes of Barb LaMue and her team."

Habeck holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, a master's in education from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and a certification in AI Business Strategy from Johns Hopkins University.

Beyond her professional work, she has a deep level of community involvement and has been recognized with a large number of service awards. Earlier this year, Habeck was appointed to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Board by Gov. Tony Evers.

PATTI HABECK

Tigerton celebrates Applefest



Tigerton American Legion Post 239 members Dave Jensen, left, and Ron Van Price prepare more apples for their caramel apple sale at Applefest on Sept. 27.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

Cellcom invites applications for 2025 Green Gifts program

Cellcom announced the return of its annual Green Gifts program, which provides charitable donations to nonprofit organizations based in Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan that are dedicated to environmental sustainability and conservation.

This year, Cellcom will distribute a total of \$25,000 in Green Gifts to support innovative projects and programs that address environmental challenges and foster sustainability.

Applications for the 2025 Green Gifts program are open and will be accepted through Oct. 31. Recipients will be announced in mid-November.

The Green Gifts program is funded through proceeds from Cellcom's cell phone recycling initiative, which encourages customers to recycle their old, unwanted or broken phones. The materials recovered from these devices are repurposed, and the proceeds are reinvested into the community through the Green Gifts program.

Eligible organizations include those focused on environmental stewardship, wildlife preservation and sustainability education. Non-environmental

organizations with projects or programs that address environmental issues or promote sustainability are also encouraged to apply.

"Environmental sustainability isn't just an initiative at Cellcom, it's a responsibility," said Brighid Riordan, Cellcom CEO. "Through Green Gifts, we're able to support local changemakers who are rethinking how our communities use, conserve and protect the environment for generations to come."

Green Gifts can be used to support a variety of ini-

tiatives, including but not limited to:

- Community-based projects addressing environmental challenges
- Programs focused on reducing environmental impact
- Educational opportunities for all ages on sustainability and conservation
- Efforts to protect water, air, wildlife and natural landscapes.

For information or to apply, visit <https://www.cellcom.com/newsroom/cellcom-green-gifts>.

Area Dino Stop sites up for sale

The buildings and sites that are home to six area convenience stores are up for sale individually with a combined asking price of \$23.7 million.

That doesn't mean the businesses are going anywhere.

The sites are currently home to Dino Stop convenience stores in Green Bay, Ledgeview, New Franken, Abrams, Little Suamico and Manitowoc.

Several of the locations feature fast food businesses as well.

The listings are only

for the land and buildings, which are owned by Fox Trail Capital, of Greenwood Village, Colorado.

The businesses are separate entities not included for sale.

The Abrams site is located at 2516 W. Frontier Road, with an asking price

of \$6.15 million. In Little Suamico, the 213 E. Frontage Road site is for sale for \$3.68 million.

Dino Stop gas stations and convenience stores have been in the area for more than 50 years. The chain's history dates to 1971.



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Matthew Klein points to a wooded area behind the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources office in Shawano where he would set up camp during the summer. Finding a safe place to sleep at night became a necessity for Klein and other homeless people when SAM's House closed April 30, because SAM25 does not have the funding to operate its shelter year-round.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Shawano man has long journey to find home

9 months on the streets turns former drug addict into homeless advocate

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

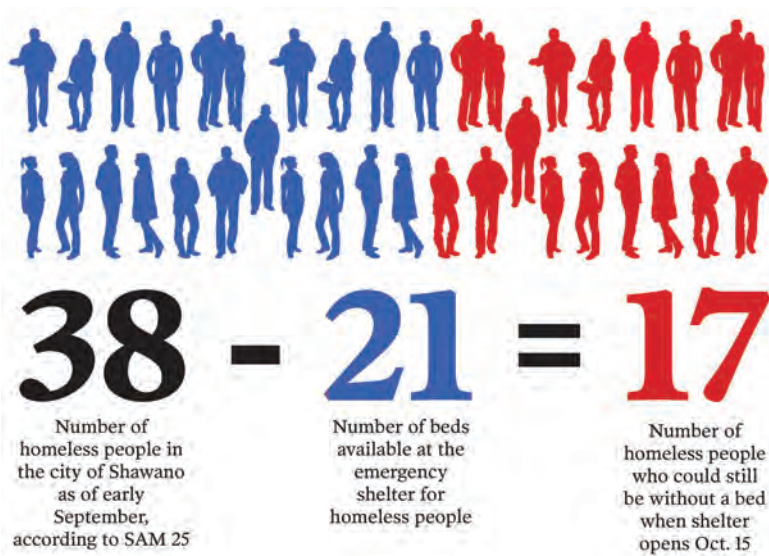
(Editor's note: Oct. 10 is World Homeless Day, and multiple news entities across the state — including NEW Media — are shining a light by looking at Wisconsin's homeless situation, featuring those who have experienced homelessness and those who are trying to combat the epidemic. This article will also be featured in other newspapers throughout Wisconsin.)

Many homeless people try to avoid the gaze of the public, just as many in the public would prefer not to look upon folks who find themselves without a place to live, without a roof over their head.

Not Matthew Klein, though.

The Shawano man has been down a dark path in recent years after running afoul of the law and then, after paying his debt to society, finding himself out on the street and no one in his life to help him out. Like many in the Shawano area residents who find themselves bereft of resources, Klein found his way to Shawano Area Matthew 25 — a Christian organization that operates an emergency shelter, free clinic, thrift store and resource center on East Richmond Street for those in need.

For 10 months, Klein did not have a place to live due to his criminal record, but that has since changed. However, Klein hopes



to help others who have been in a situation like his and help them return to a sense of normalcy.

He does so by volunteering with SAM25, as well as constantly approaching the Shawano Common Council with ideas on how the city can help the homeless. Most recently, he suggested that the city could set up a tiny homes village similar to one in Oshkosh to provide shelter when SAM25 can't and help the people as they seek better ways to live.

Finding himself in trouble

Klein said things became difficult for him about seven years ago. In a short amount of time, his grandfather died, his parents divorced and his girlfriend left him.

Unable to handle the stress, Klein turned to drugs. He said it started from abuse of prescription medications but then he turned to harder drugs like heroin and methamphetamine.

"The last house I was living, it got raided by the police because

I had meth in there, and I had marijuana," Klein said. "I lost my house, and I had a mortgage on it, so I lost that, too."

As a result of the drug bust, Klein was sentenced to spend a year in the Kettle Moraine Correctional Institute in Glenbeulah. He was released from prison about 10 months ago.

"They had someone come from (the Wisconsin Department of) Corrections, and they brought me to Shawano," Klein said. "They just basically dropped me off in town. When you're in prison, you get a case worker, but the case worker didn't have any knowledge of where I could go or someplace I could stay."

Most others released from prison usually have friends or family members to stay with. However, Klein's family wants nothing to do with him after he stole from them to help fund his drug habit.

"When I was addicted to meth, I didn't care about who I took advantage of," Klein said. "It was

about my next fix, getting high."

Finding the way to SAM25

When Klein found himself on the streets, he turned to the Shawano Police Department, the same agency that busted him and had him sent to prison. Officials there told him about SAM25 and the emergency shelter SAM's House that it operates. He recalled going there and being greeted by Chris Ciucci, the shelter manager.

"Most of my life, I've been around toxic people," Klein said. "Chris was my first positive peer I ever ran into."

Ciucci did a background check on Klein, as the shelter does not take in violent criminal offenders or registered sex offenders. The check showed he had a criminal record but did not involve any violent charges such as assault or attempted homicide, so Klein got in.

Klein said Ciucci told him that many homeless people hang out at the Shawano County Library, where there are resources for people to find jobs. It was also a place to connect with other people who were in the same situation as he was.

"That was the first time I'd gone to the library in the 13 years I'd been here," Klein said.

For a time, Klein's situation was spending nights at SAM's House and spending days at the library. On Sundays, when the library wasn't open, he went to First Presbyterian Church for its Sunday fun days, he said.

Although Klein was seeking work, employers wouldn't give him a chance, he said. His criminal record was one factor. The other was that he was in a

homeless shelter.

Then the end of April came, which meant the shelter was closing for the season. When SAM25 was founded in 2012, it was to address the issue of homelessness, particularly in light of some deaths due to exposure to Wisconsin winters. That prompted the establishment of an emergency shelter in 2015, and since then, the shelter has operated from Nov. 1 through April 30.

That meant Klein had to find another place to live.

Finding a way off the streets

When May came around, Klein was provided a tent, which meant he had to find a place to rest each night. He said many of the places were in wooded areas in the Shawano Industrial Park, behind Walmart and behind the Shawano office for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

"That was really challenging, because I was used to relying on the library and SAM25," Klein said.

He could still utilize SAM25 for other things, as the resource center operates year-round. He could get a shower, occasionally get a bite to eat and work with Ciucci to look for housing and employment.

Klein applied for and received Social Security disability payments to provide some source of income, so he applied to the various apartment complexes around Shawano. Once again, his criminal record was a hindrance, but this time, it was partnered with his lack of a job.

Klein knew the untenable situation needed to be remedied, so

HOMELESS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

he decided shortly after leaving SAM25 to approach the Shawano Common Council about it in May. He spoke during the public comments portion of the meeting, which doesn't allow for council members to engage in a dialogue at the time. By the time the meeting ended, aldermen were asking for the situation to be looked into and for the conversation to continue.

Every month since then, Klein has continued to attend the council meetings and, in the three minutes allotted, make suggestions on how the city can help the situation. At the August council meeting, he recommended the city look at what Oshkosh has done with its tiny homes village and see if that could be a good fit for Shawano.

"I went from being homeless to advocating for the homeless," Klein said.

Finding help for those in need

Klein's situation is one of many that can cause people to become homeless. Ciucci, the shelter manager, and Kendra Brusewitz, SAM25 executive director, noted that some people who are homeless are gainfully employed, but the job does not pay enough to cover food, rent, utilities and other necessities.

"It could be mental health, addiction, not enough affordable housing, loss of a job," Brusewitz said.

Ciucci added that affordable housing is the biggest problem when it comes to providing security and peace of mind for people. She said many people in the community are living paycheck to paycheck, and one emergency or tragedy is all it would take for those people to find themselves on the streets like Klein.

"You see it all the time," Ciucci said. "Somebody has a job. They're going to work; they're living paycheck to paycheck. The car breaks, and they've got to decide: 'Do I fix the car, or do I pay the rent?' They have to fix the car in order to get to work, so they get behind on rent, and they get evicted."

Several families with children in the county are currently living out of their vehicles, Ciucci noted.

One segment of the population Ciucci is seeing grow in terms of homelessness is the elderly.

"This dispels the thinking that everyone is an addict or this or that because they're homeless," she said. "What's happening with the elderly is they're on a fixed income, landlords are coming in and raising rents, and a lot of them are taking care of their grandchildren, too. A lot of them have lost a spouse, so they've gone from a two SSI (Supplemental Security Income) income to a one SSI income."

Officials with SAM25 would like to provide shelter year-round, but that would require much more commitment from the community and supporters of the shelter, according to Ciucci and Brusewitz. Brusewitz said that fundraisers and community donations make up the organization's existing budget.

"Just very primary numbers that we crunched based on budget and staffing, supplies and electricity and all that, just for the six months it would be another \$120,000," Brusewitz said.

"That's just basic emergency care," Ciucci added. "That's not taking it to any other level."

The shelter moved into its



Matthew Klein looks down at his phone as he gives a prepared speech during the Sept. 10 Shawano Common Council meeting at Shawano City Hall. Klein has spoken a few times about homeless issues, but the proposal he suggested at this meeting included developing a tiny homes village similar to what Oshkosh has done for its homeless population.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



Matthew Klein grabs some utensils as he prepares to enjoy some soup from Shawano Area Matthew 25's annual Empty Bowls, Caring Hearts fundraiser Sept. 6 at Shawano Community High School.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

current location at 105 E. Richmond St. in 2020 after outgrowing a former city building on East Green Bay Street, but it appears to already be outgrowing the facility after five years. The current SAM's House has 21 beds, but Ciucci said in early September that SAM25 has counted at least 38 homeless people in the city limits.

"This facility alone can't even take care of the numbers that are out there," Ciucci said.

SAM25 has made one step to help the situation. The shelter will be opening this season Oct. 15 and will remain open until May 15.

Brusewitz said SAM25 is lucky to have a community that steps up to lend a helping hand, but she feels more people will be required to facilitate any measurable change.

"We need a few more key players," Brusewitz said. "We'll never be able to eliminate homelessness, but no organization can tackle it alone. The thing is that we need to come together, work together by coming in and volunteering and finding out what SAM25 is about."

Finding homelessness solution

The city of Shawano has continued to hear about the local homeless situation, including an offer from Newcap, Inc., which helps with a homeless prevention program, among other things in

the community. The Shawano facility is offering to allow homeless to camp in its wooded area and has proposed bringing portable showers twice a week for homeless people to bathe and clean up.

As far as permanent solutions, that could be harder to resolve. City Administrator Eddie Sheppard is working on developing a task force to bring forth ideas and ways to help those in the community without a permanent place to live. He's hopeful that Newcap, SAM25 and Shawano County can be among the representatives that come forward to continue the dialogue.

"I've been aware of it," Sheppard said about homelessness in Shawano. "I was here when the conversations about SAM25 first came up. I think they showed people a lot of things that they weren't aware of. Obviously, it's sad. You feel for those people."

Homelessness has many variables that make it a complicated issue, Sheppard said. One of those is that municipalities like Shawano don't have the budget for social service workers to help with this and other societal issues.

"What we can be is a facilitator," Sheppard said. "That's our strength — bringing people together. We are not necessarily equipped to handle these issues on our own. There are really good

him the place to live. He currently lives there with two roommates who were previously homeless like him as he works on his next moves.

"(The landlord) described to me that he's basically looking for people to help out, homeless people or disabled people," Klein said. "He said if I wasn't either one of those, he really didn't want me staying there, because he's trying to help people who are in need."

Klein is still seeking employment and hopes the fact that he has a home now will tip the scales in his favor. The job is necessary as more than half of his disability check goes to rent. Also, he is currently without a motor vehicle, instead riding a bicycle to get where he needs to go in town.

"I've got Social Security disability, but that's only \$1,100 a month," Klein said. "Rent alone for me is \$600 a month, so after you buy groceries and pay your phone bill, it's like you're broke every month. You don't have any money leftover."

Klein's outlook has changed in recent years. He spent most of his life as an atheist, but he found God in prison, and one of his personal projects has been going to the various churches around Shawano to see which one he can call his own. He said he's been attending Bible studies and hopes to be rebaptized.

Klein has been drug free for two years, and he said he intends to stay that way.

"Reform started for me in prison, and it woke me up," he said. "I started associating drugs with prison. I see a drug or something, and I think of prison."

Grateful for all that's been done, Klein volunteers with SAM25 two to three days a week and continues his efforts advocating for the shelter and the homeless people that it helps. He plans to continue speaking to the council and other entities about homeless issues, noting he recently spoke to representatives with the Shawano Area Food Pantry and Resource Center about providing meals that don't have to be cooked for those who are living outside.

"Kendra at the homeless shelter, every week I've got a new proposal for her," Klein said. "The reason I turned into an advocate is because I appreciate everything they did for me. Everybody else failed me — my family and my friends. SAM25 was there for me."

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: Jesus March for World Homeless Day
WHEN: 10 a.m. Oct. 10

WHERE: Starts at Memorial Park, 901 S. Lincoln St., Shawano. Continues along Main Street and turns onto Green Bay Street, stopping near IHOP.

FYI: Participants are invited to bring a cross, whether it's a necklace or a life-sized cross, as a symbol of hope and love. Participants do not have to walk the entire route and are welcome to just walk segments of the route.

organizations in the community."

Even with those organizations, resources are limited, Sheppard noted, which is why coming together is a solution in itself. Despite the groups dealing with homeless issue, the question remains: What can be done during the summer months?

"My fear is that if we don't do this, SAM25's opening is just around the corner, and the next time we'll talk about this is next year," Sheppard said. "It's important not to lose those conversations and continue those conversations over the winter."

Finding home and hope for future

Klein finally caught a break in August when a landlord with a home on Picnic Street was willing to look beyond his past and offer



Dozens of painted ceramic bowls line a wall for people to peruse and purchase Sept. 6 during the Empty Bowls, Caring Hearts fundraiser held at Shawano Community High School. Besides providing a visual reminder that many are going hungry, especially among the homeless, the event helps to raise money for Shawano Area Matthew 25 to keep its emergency shelter open.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



Pit bull Sadie receives premium service from Callie Davis, owner of Pets Deserve Better Spa, a mobile grooming service out of the Marion area. Davis likes being able to work with animals and bond with people over their pets.

KAY REMINGER

Pampering name of the game at Pets Deserve Better Spa

Mobile business gives cats and dogs the care they deserve

By KAY REMINGER
Correspondent

Callie Davis, owner of a mobile pet-grooming business, has been grooming pets with a passion and a mission — to fill a need, because pets deserve better.

Located in rural Marion in Shawano County, Davis treats pets with utmost respect and the unique attention their owners appreciate.

Desiring to let her clients know that their pet is special, each individual dog or cat is carefully examined. By their size and breed, Davis determines what they may require. One-on-one attention and pet comfort is emphasized, as well as addressing owner's knowledge gaps regarding their pet's care.

Her mobile trailer, the Pets Deserve Better Spa, is equipped with a generator as well as enough water supply to complete tasks.

After the animal's assessment and consultation, prices are tailored per client, not offered as an a la carte price list, she said. Product recommendations are based on pet's needs, like yeast in ears, red paws or scooting. Services such as anal gland expulsions are offered, as well as eye and ear cleanings, nail trims and coat shampoo including a full-grooming service such as baths, de-shedding, blow-outs, nose lotion



Callie Davis, of Marion, uses this mobile trailer to care for dogs and cats. As far as long-range dreams, Davis is considering creating a larger company concept with spa, rescue, vet and chiropractor services for animals, all under one umbrella.

KAY REMINGER

and paw cleaning.

Used in the grooming process are products that are breed-specific. Davis stocks premium products, designed especially for each breed.

"A specific shampoo is used for pit bulls, one for boxers, one for doodles — all have different hair types," Davis said.

Huskies require more conditioning and brushing due to their hair type.

"A husky must get more conditioning because they have so much more hair — they get lots more brushing," said

Davis. "Paws, belly and ears are the more foul-smelling parts of a dog, and that's the hardest part to wash on a dog. Scrubbing those parts is crucial to eliminating a majority of the unpleasant odors."

Many various tools are used, such as hair-cutting tools, as well as buzzer clippers, combs and thinning shears. A toolbox to maintain stability as she travels will be purchased soon.

"My favorite tool is called a 'groom bug,' which is a brush that brushes hair out of cats as well as dogs," Davis said. "Safety and comfort consideration is always first and foremost in my mind."

Cat grooming is also offered. If cats are given regular baths, they don't get hairballs and dander in the house. Removing dander may help with any pet owners' potential allergy issues.

"They have less licking and scratching issues," said Davis. "Baths take care of the issues resulting from their skin. They need baths."

In the past, Davis has tried her hand on various careers.

"I've attempted different things, and I didn't give up," Davis said. "You only fail when you stop trying. Among various careers, previously I was a licensed insurance agent. However, I feel like I always wanted to come back to my animals. Living on a dairy farm, I've witnessed births and notice, if an animal is comfortable they produce better."

Davis enjoys her work because, even though she's always worked with people, she's better able to bond with those people over their pets.

Lifting weights to fight the passage of time

My health care regimen includes an annual DXA scan, a noninvasive, painless procedure that checks the condition of your bones.

Isn't it bad enough that aging has brought wrinkled skin, thinning hair, and

vile varicose veins? Now I'm told I've lost almost 2 inches in height and my bones

are thinning. I know Mother Nature always takes back what's hers, but as I approach my final year in the 70s, I must reluctantly acknowledge this includes me.

I am being realistic, but to avoid reaching my expiration date prematurely, I'm determined to fight back. Developing osteoporosis and a broken bone from falling is not on my bucket list. I've stopped wearing high heels, always use the stair rail, watch where I'm walking and avoid going out in icy conditions.

As all senior citizens know, fall is the four-letter word for old people, so I am taking this bone thing seriously. I take supplements, eat healthy, stay active. I've walked 4 million steps already in 2025 with a goal of exceeding the 5 million I did last year. Nevertheless, the test results indicate I'm slowly losing this battle.

In all honesty, the situation is not new. Three years ago, I was prescribed a generic form of Fosomax to slow down the process. I read the potential side effects outlined on the information sheet tucked into the pharmacy bag. I was hesitant but decided to give it a try. Within a week of swallowing one pill daily, my usually well-controlled IBS was raging. At four weeks, my jaw began to ache, click, and feel like it was dislocated.

I called the doctor. "So I'm taking this drug to fix one problem, but it's creating a different one."

He was both sympathetic and philosophical. "I understand, but sometimes it comes down to picking your poison."

Right. The statin I take causes thinning hair, and a tiny pill to keep my blood pressure in check doesn't mix well with certain adult beverages I enjoy. Both medications are well worth the side effects. I've taken them for decades to counteract my genetic predisposition to having a heart attack or stroke. So far, so good.

For some reason, writing this reminded me of a visit to my cardiologist two years where I agreed to do an interview with an intern. A lifelong educator, I was eager to help the doctor-in-training reach his goal of a noble career in health care.

When he inquired about my exercise habits, I proudly mentioned my 5 million steps, adding, "I try to walk outdoors five times a week, but in winter I force myself to use the treadmill."

I expected a smile of approval, but all I got was a nod.

"Good," he said, all business-like while taking notes on his laptop.

"How about weight-bearing exercise?" he asked.

"Oh, yes, I regularly lift weights, too," I said smugly.

"Tell me about that," he replied.

"Well, I have a glass of wine a few times a week. A full wine bottle weighs at least two pounds. Plus, I often get my husband a beer at the same time so I'm lifting weights each time I repeat the



Kathleen Marsh
Columnist

Saturday Oct. 18th 10AM Retirement Auction **Double K Express** 131 Katherine Street in Coleman

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Trucks, Trailers & Equipment: 2020 KW W990 Sleeper semi w/ 565HP Cummins ISX, 18 speed & 500k miles, 2020 KW W900 Studio Sleeper w/ 565HP Cummins ISX, 18 speed & 665k miles, 2020 Wabash 53ft Dry Van, 2020 Benson & East 48ft Alum. Flatbeds w/ Conestoga rolling tarps, 2016 53ft Flatbed w/ independent slides, 2007 X-L 35ton Detach Lowboy w/ outriggers, 2006 Manac 48ft Flatbed, 48ft Storage Van, 40ft Overseas Container, Rebuilt Cummins N14, 2007 Chevy 3500 4x4 w/ 6.0 & Boss V-plow, 2003 F350 w/ alum Flatbed, 2002 Dodge 2500 4x4 w/ 5.9 Cummins & Boss V-plow, 99 Ford F350 Utility truck, Case 460 Trencher w/ blade & Model 100 backhoe, 2014 Crown RC5535-35 electric stand-up Forklift w/ side-shift, Collector 1964 Case 500 Standard Diesel tractor, MF Super 90 tractor w/ Perkins diesel, Like New QuickAttach Clean-Sweep hyd broom for skid steer, Parking Lot salter, Ingersoll 3014 Hydro mower, 5x10ft Utility Trailer & More!

Sunday Oct. 19th 10AM 500 Toys at **Yoap's Auction Gallery** 6234 Duane Road, Lena, WI (Stiles Junction) Open at 8

4WD's & MFD's Farm Show 785 Quadtracs in Steiger green & Red Chrome, Steiger 620, Quadtracs, Barn Series Steiger 2200, Precision Engineering 4386 & 4568, Collector 4366, 2+2's in boxes & Precisions, 1 of 500 Agritechnica JD 9620RX, 8R 410, Silver 8360RT, 8520 Triples, Prestige 8R, RX, 9R & RX, 8010 & 8020, Green WA-17 Wagner, AGCOSTAR 8425, Horsch K735, 1 of 752 CAT Challenger 1042, 1 of 500 Gold Ford 9700 MFD

Combines, Choppers & Pickers Customized 1/16 2388 w/ Duals, 98 Cotton Conference Picker, Signature Ed 2388 Axial Flow, Prestige 1460, Claas Lexions w/ 30 & 35ft heads, 1 of 1,000 Trion 750 combine, Jaguar 980 w/ 12row head, Jaguar 960 Dealer, 1 of 1,000 Dealer Jaguar 980, JD S690i European combine on tracks, Prestige JD 45 & 55, 1 of 333 NH FR780 German flag chopper, Custom Case combine, Oliver & Cockshutts w/ Shellers

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Pedal Cars & Pedal Tractors Steiger 600 4WD (NIB), JD 20 series, Snap-on car, AMF car, Buddy L & Gearbox fire engines, Dexton roadster

Carter Tru-Scale & Eska Nice Assortment of tractors & implements, JD combine, Loader & Spreaders

Custom & Scratch JD tractors by Bob Heath & Scott Templin, Case & Allis by Old McDonald Toys, Farmalls by Pete Freiheit

1/16 CAT Challenger 45, Prec Key IH 1456 Gold Demo, Precision IH, JD & Fords, Two-Cyl Clubs, Dealer & Collector Case Agri-Kings, Black Knights, IH Mogul & Titan, Wallis, Oliver, MM, Allis & Cockshutt

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Trucks & Construction Snap-on 1/25 Garages & Vehicles, Husky custom KW semi w/ Van & lights, Husky custom COE w/ Lowboy & lights, Mallet 2-8-8-2 train, Mikado 2-8-2, Ertl Case dealer truck, Smith-Miller Mack log truck w/ Pup, Smith-Miller Paper delivery truck, Smith-Miller van w/ Pup, Tonka cattle semi, 1 of 500 M&J black Peterbilt 379, Corgi house-moving truck, Case German models, CAT & Komatsu selections, Mack Dealer editions, 1st Gear, Steiger tractor w/ scraper, Bruder Mack log truck, Custom Allis truck w/ gravity box, Kubota construction set

Farm Sets & Implements Lemken 100ft Sprayer, Krone big baler w/ accumulator, New Holland double rotary rake, 1 of 1,000 Kewaunee County Gehl 800 Chopper, Gehl 700 chopper, JD 220 discs w/ yellow or black gangs, Case grain drill, Precision JD plow, IH picker & chopper, Heritage IH 986 w/ 720 plow, JD 1775NT 16-row Planter, JD 70pc Playset, JD 860i Gator w/ F350, Big Farm JD 7430 w/ Peterbilt Terms: Cash or Good Check w/ ID. 5.5% Sales Tax. Col. Len Yoap, RWA #339 RWAC #480

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GARDENING WITH MELINDA MYERS

Plant flavorful and nutritious garlic in fall

Lower your blood pressure and cholesterol, fight heart disease, boost your immune system, and add a bit of flavor to your meals by growing your own garlic. This vegetable has been used as both food and medicine for thousands of years.

Purchase firm, healthy bulbs of garlic sold for growing in the garden. One pound of garlic typically fills a 30-foot row but this can vary depending on the variety. It's best not to use garlic sold at the grocery store as it may have been treated to prevent sprouting and it may not be suitable for growing in your climate.

Select the best variety for your growing conditions and preferred flavor. Hardneck garlic typically prefers colder climates while most softneck garlic prefers warmer climates, but this varies with the varieties within each group. Hardneck garlic varieties develop a stiff flower stalk, tend to have larger cloves, and flavors ranging from mild to spicy. Softneck varieties vary in their adaptability



Separate garlic cloves right before planting and plant the largest cloves with their papery covering. MELINDAMYERS.COM



to long cold winters, cool moist springs and warm summers. They lack the

stiff flower stalk so the leaves can be braided, and the bulbs tend to have a longer shelf life.

Garlic bulbs typically contain seven or more individual cloves. The larger the clove you plant, the bigger the bulb you'll harvest. Separate the cloves right before plant-

ing and do not remove the papery covering. Use the largest cloves for growing and the smaller ones to flavor your favorite fall and winter meals.

Grow garlic in a sunny location with well-drained soil. Prepare the soil by adding organic matter like compost and

a low nitrogen slow-release fertilizer. Avoid high nitrogen, fast release fertilizers that promote top growth with smaller bulbs. Fertilize again in spring as growth begins.

Plant the cloves in the fall about six weeks before the ground freezes in cold climates and late fall or early winter in warmer regions. Space individual cloves six inches apart with the pointed side up and the base of the clove two to three inches below the soil surface. Space single rows 12-14 inches apart or double rows 6 inches apart with 30 inches between each set of double rows. For more intensive wide row and square foot growing, plant multiple rows with four to eight inches between cloves.

Spread a 6-inch layer of weed-free straw over the soil surface after planting to conserve moisture and suppress weeds. This also provides added insulation in colder regions and helps prevent frost heaving that occurs when temperatures fluctuate, causing soil to

alternately freeze, thaw and shift throughout the winter. Cover the straw with evergreen boughs in windy locations to help hold the straw in place.

Water newly planted garlic thoroughly at planting and as needed in fall to encourage the roots and a shoot to form. Water often enough to keep the soil evenly moist during the growing season. Inconsistent moisture when the plants are actively growing results in smaller and misshapen bulbs. Keep the soil around the plants covered with organic mulch to conserve moisture and suppress weeds.

Make this the season you plant garlic. Then enjoy the homegrown flavor and health benefits it provides.

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

Lecture brings message of Sámi reclamation to CMN

Dr. Silje Solheim Karlsen's message traveled a great distance to connect with the College of Menominee Nation.

A professor of Nordic literature at the Arctic University of Norway, as well as an adjunct professor at the Sámi University of Applied Sciences, Karlsen is "particularly interested in decolonizing teaching practices and pedagogy related to teaching." Last month, she presented a public lecture on recent Sámi publications.

The Sámi are the traditionally Sámi-speaking Indigenous people inhabiting the region of Sápmi, which encompasses large northern parts of contemporary Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Kola Peninsula in Russia. CMN's Sustainable Development Institute has a history of collaborating with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of German, Nordic and Slavic Studies to connect with Sámi scholars. Karlsen's lecture is the latest offering in their ongoing partnership grounded in cultural exchange.

Discussing how themes of Indigenous identity appear across genres, Karlsen placed the 2024 novel "Sameproblemet" by Kathrine Nedrejord in conversation with the 2023 poetry collection



Dr. Silje Solheim Karlsen, left, awaits questions as Rebecca Edler with the College of Menominee Nation reflects on her presentation. RYAN WINN



"Balvvat bullet" by Synnøve Persen.

The common theme of the two works is their subject matters' journey from embodying a colonized mindset of shame over one's ancestor's cultural ways to seeking what was lost to reclaim one's sense of self.

Nedrejord's fictional protagonist Marie laments to a mirror, "I've lost hold

of who I was ... you lack a soul, I think, almost aloud to my reflection. You are a nobody ... what I write is meaningless."

Marie admits to having a feeling of voicelessness caused by not knowing her Sámi language. She says, "I lack the words to write what I want to write. They do not exist in Norwegian, not in French."

Marie contrasts her own deficiencies with that of her parentage. "My mother is traditional Sámi literature: the oral. She writes with her voice, colors her stories, never in muted tones, but in bright

red, bright blue, neon pink or deep black."

Other languages can express how it feels to lose connection to one's Sámi culture, but only the Sámi language can capture what it means to live within it.

Karlsen then highlighted how one of Persen's poem shows how childhood aggressions against Sámi people lead to their lifelong shame.

Persen writes, "mother had sewn new striped gávttiid for the girls when they went away for school/but they were teased and bullied so harshly that none of them

wore a gákit (traditional clothing) again/it forever affected Ailá's self-esteem when the schoolmaster with a pointer struck the seven-year-old on the head and shouted/you will be nothing you are far too stupid/the words followed her through life until that Sunday morning she drew her last breath."

Yet, Karlsen's explanation did not end with the writers' silent indignity about their inherited lifeways but rather a bold exclamation of the cultural genocide inflicted upon Sámi people.

Nedrejord writes, "We did not want to lose our culture, or language, we did not ask the Norwegian state to ban Sámi first names, Sámi naming traditions, Sámi belief, Sámi language in schools ... We asked for two things: We want to exist and we want to be Sámi. That was one thing too many."

Karlsen quoted Persen next, stating hopefully that we "wanted you to come back to joik comfort to complete the bonds to the ancestors."

Karlsen concluded her presentation noting that despite these recent published works capturing progress over time, "For both, the stories are not finished yet."

After Karlsen concluded, SDI Sustainabil-

ity Coordinator Rebecca Edler said, "There are so many parallels to Native Americans. We are not alone. Indigenous people throughout the world have gone through these atrocities. Hearing these stories can help us grow and heal."

Later, Edler explained the reason for Karlsen's lecture.

She said, "We live in a multicultural world, and the more that we learn about other cultures, the more well-versed we are to understand those in our community and around the world. Meeting other Indigenous people and learning their stories can bring awareness to all who attend the presentation."

Edler added, "For me, the success of this presentation is that attendees would walk away with new knowledge that can be applied both in and out of the classroom."

In effect, the message of Indigenous healing and cultural reclamation has a great distance left to travel.

Still, Karlsen's lecture at CMN helped span the distance between growth and healing.

Ryan Winn, Ph.D., teaches communications, English, history and theater at the College of Menominee Nation. Visit www.menominee.edu for more information about the school.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, OCT. 10

SHAWANO: Witches Night Out, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., downtown. In-store specials, food trucks, costumes encouraged, live music by Spark Spark Bang 7 p.m. at the Naborhood, 214 S. Main St.

NAVARINO: Farmtoberfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Porter's Patch, W4314 State Highway 156. Variety of family activities, 60 varieties of pumpkins for sale, food, live music. Details at porterspach.com. Weekends through Oct. 26. Admission \$12.32 plus tax per person; ages 3 and younger free.

ABRAMS: Golden Pines Trail Run 7K/11K and Canicross, 4:45 p.m., Machickanee Cross Country Ski Club, 6790 Timberline Road. Details at Golden Pines Trail Run 7K/11K & Canicross page on Facebook.

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

SHAWANO: "Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play," 7 p.m., Mielke Arts Center, N5648 Airport Road. Tickets \$15 or \$10 for youths 18 and younger at shawanoarts.org.

SATURDAY, OCT. 11

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

KESHENA: Menominee Lumberjack Breakfast and Heritage Day, 8 a.m., Menominee Culture and Heritage Museum, W3428 County Road VV West. Breakfast: adults \$10, children younger than

10 \$6, 2 and younger free. Traditional rice processing, Menominee language session, make your own tea, music. Pie auction 11 a.m., raffles, craft vendors and more.

BONDUEL: saYPro Caffeinated Conversations, 8-9 a.m., The Mill, 201 S. Cecil St.

BIRNAMWOOD: Schairer's Autumn Acres, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 154 U.S. Highway 45. Corn maze, pumpkin patch, wagon rides, petting zoo and other family activities. Odyssey Farms Percherons horse-drawn wagon rides.

NAVARINO: Farmtoberfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Porter's Patch, W4314 State Highway 156. Variety of family activities, 60 varieties of pumpkins for sale, food, live music. Details at porterspach.com. Weekends through Oct. 26. Admission \$12.32 plus tax per person; ages 3 and younger free.

BONDUEL: Harvest Hayride, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Everflow Farm and Orchard, W3945 Landstad Road. Tickets \$15, \$13 for ages 3-12, includes hayride to and from pumpkin patch, corn maze, one large pumpkin, one small pumpkin and two gourds.

KESHENA: ABATE Freeze Your Nuts Run, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., War Bonnet, N926 State Highway 47-55. All vehicles welcome, \$15 per run sheet, register at War Bonnet, leave at your own pace, stops in Gresham, Aniwa, Phlox and Bowler. Return by 5 p.m., cash prizes awarded 5:15 p.m.

CECIL: Shawano Republican Party Fall Event, 11 a.m. happy hour, noon meal, Golden Sands Golf Course, 300 Naber

Road. Speakers include U.S. Reps. Tom Tiffany and Tony Wied and state Sen. Eric Wimberger. Member \$30, nonmembers \$35.

CRIVITZ: Oktoberfest, 11 a.m., Crooked Lake Community Center, 15552 E. Crooked Lake Lane. Meat raffle, crafts, pumpkin decorating, free hayrides, minnow races, dinner served noon to 3 p.m., beer garden with bratwurst. Dinner prices \$12, \$6 for ages 6-10, free for 5 and younger.

SHAWANO: Mooseyard Scavenger Hunt and Hayride, 3-9 p.m., Shawano County Park, W5785 Lake Drive. Sign up at Coachlight, W5814 Lake Drive, with six other participating stops. \$10 per person, must be 21 and older.

SHAWANO: "Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play," 7 p.m., Mielke Arts Center, N5648 Airport Road. Tickets \$15 or \$10 for youths 18 and under at shawanoarts.org.

SUNDAY, OCT. 12

BONDUEL: Harvest Hayride, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Everflow Farm and Orchard, W3945 Landstad Road. Tickets \$15, \$13 for ages 3-12, includes hayride to and from pumpkin patch, corn maze, one large pumpkin, one small pumpkin and two gourds.

BIRNAMWOOD: Schairer's Autumn Acres, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., 154 U.S. Highway 45. Corn maze, pumpkin patch, wagon rides, petting zoo and other family activities. Odyssey Farms Percherons horse-drawn wagon rides.

NAVARINO: Farmtoberfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Porter's Patch, W4314 State Highway

156. Variety of family activities, 60 varieties of pumpkins for sale, food, live music. Details at porterspach.com. Weekends through Oct. 26. Admission \$12.32 plus tax per person; ages 3 and younger free.

SHAWANO: "Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play," 2 p.m., Mielke Arts Center, N5648 Airport Road. Tickets \$15 or \$10 for youths 18 and under at shawanoarts.org.

MONDAY, OCT. 13

OCONTO: Masonic Pine Lodge 188 dinner, 6 p.m., 513 Superior Ave. Open to family, friends and interested guests, followed by Master Mason private meeting at 7 p.m. For info, contact the lodge secretary at 920-373-0950.

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, OCT. 14

WABENO: Free Veterans Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., American Legion Hall, 4494 N. Branch St. Coffee ready 9 a.m. Chef's choice, hosted by Donna and Vicki, 715-889-3731.

SHAWANO: Shawano Pathways monthly meeting, 5 p.m., The Lighthouse, W6440 Gumaer Road.

SHAWANO: Shawano Has History Project presentation, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Shawano Community Middle School, 1050 S. Union St. Shawano County Historical Society staff

and project volunteers will share the process of preserving city's history.

GRESHAM: Gresham Scholarship Board annual meeting, 6 p.m., Abby Bank, 801 S. Main St. Public invited. Election of officers and board members is the main order of business; an agenda will be available.

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

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15

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

NAVARINO: Storytime, 10-11:30 a.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Halloween Fun. Admission \$3.

SHAWANO: Purses for a Purpose, 5 p.m., Stubborn Brothers Brewery, 220 S. Main St. Purse auction to benefit Boys and Girls Club of Shawano. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. Single tickets \$60, online sales only at https://e.givesmart.com/events/KxH/

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

THURSDAY, OCT. 16

OCONTO: Community Bible

study, 2:30 p.m., Farnsworth Public Library, 715 Main St.

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

NAVARINO: Introduction to Mandela Class, 6-8 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Learn the basics of Mandela while creating your version of a cement paver and a slate coaster. Members \$30, nonmembers \$35. Register online at navarino.org.

SHAWANO: Park After Dark, 6:30-9 p.m., Arlington Park, 300 N. Humphrey Circle. Free outdoor movie, lighted games and campfires.

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

FRIDAY, OCT. 17

NAVARINO: Farmtoberfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Porter's Patch, W4314 State Highway 156. Variety of family activities, 60 varieties of pumpkins for sale, food, live music. Details at porterspach.com. Weekends through Oct. 26. Admission \$12.32 plus tax per person; ages 3 and younger free.

SHAWANO: Trunk or Treat, 5-8 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. Tricks and a lot of treats, haunted house, music by Badger State DJs. Food and beverages available.

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

PASSAGE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

procedure." I took the strange look on his face as admiration and self-assuredly went on. "And my laptop weighs at least three pounds. I lift that on and off my desk several times each day."

I wondered why he stopped typing, but I assumed he was practicing his listening skills. "And three times a week I transfer a load of wet clothes into the dryer. That laundry basket has got to weigh over 10 pounds."

I expected some sort of really positive reaction, but he just leaned back in his chair and continued to gaze at me.

Wanting to cement the good impression I knew I was making, I finished with a flourish. "And when I put milk in my coffee every morning," I said proudly, "I have to lift the milk jug in and out of the refrigerator. I know for a fact that a gallon of milk weighs eight pounds."

I wondered if he was listening after all, because his response was to take out a prescription pad. He scrawled a few words, tore off the paper, and handed it to me. "Laughter IS the best medicine," it said. I chuckled while he finally managed a smile.

"If that's your idea

of preventative care," I said, "You are definitely on the right career path. Why don't you come up to Otter Run sometime and lift weights out on our pontoon?"

"I'm sure it would be enjoyable but not at all ethical," he said, using a very professional tone.

"Of course it wouldn't," I thought, "but that's really too bad — it seems to me you could use the exercise."

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

PAMPERING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

"I acquired a lot of skill through home projects when I became involved in rescuing cats," Davis said. "I started giving them baths, cleaning their ears, checking them for mites. Giving my own dog haircuts, I thought, 'This is something I could do.'"

A book called "All-Breed Dog-Grooming Guide" supplied Davis with training and inspiration. The book, along with watching helpful training videos and hands-on experience along the way, has made Davis more confident in her craft.

The convenience of a mobile pet spa is available to take care of pets that don't get to go to a groom-

er; their owners may either be busy or their pet may be too scared to go into a storefront spa.

"I come out to their home," Davis said. "Their pet does not wait, shaking in a crate for a couple of hours. I walk them from their home to my trailer. I enjoy one-on-one time with each pet. That's what I love most."

As far as long-range dreams, Davis is considering creating a larger company concept with spa, rescue, vet and chiropractor services for animals, all under one umbrella.

"Also, I'd love to create a dog-run area, a safe place an owner can drop their dog to let them run," Davis

said. "Just think of a dog never having the freedom and sheer joy to run off-leash."

As an end-of-session gift, her client's best friend gets sent home with a subtle fragrant spray and a seasonal-themed bandanna fastened around their neck. Each pet is provided with a parting treat: a small bag of healthy, freeze-dried treats and bones.

"What I offer isn't a one-size-fits-all answer. Every pet is lovingly treated according to what they need," said Davis. "My passion for animals is what motivates me."

To arrange an appointment, contact Davis via her Facebook page.



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Gresham/Bowler tie ends string of losses

Gresham/Bowler's soccer team dropped to 0-13-1 with a 1-0 loss to the Omro Foxes on Oct. 4.

Thursday, Oct. 2

Pulaski 2, West De Pere 0

The Red Raiders topped the Phantoms 1-0 in FRCC conference play Oct. 2.

Daenen Kehoe scored what turned out to be the game winning goal for Pulaski in the 14th minute. Josh Aranda assisted on the play.

The Red Raiders outshot the Phantoms 8-1 during the game but were held scoreless after the opening goal by Kehoe.

Sam Van Price had six saves in goal for West De Pere (5-7-0, 0-5). Jonah Dreves had three saves in goal to earn the shutout for Pulaski (7-5-3, 2-2-1).

Shawano 15, Green Bay West 0

Shawano's soccer team improved to 12-2-1 overall and 6-1 in conference action with a 15-0 blowout of Green Bay West.

Josh Lesperance and Dillon Gartner each assisted Grayson Swedberg for a goal. Swedberg went on to score four more times for a total of six goals.

Maverick Theis shot one in from 33 yards out. Joaquin Boldig assisted Anderson Schmidt for a goal, and Schmidt made two more goals during the game.

Kasten Kegel, Gartner, Lesperance and Brayden Meade each scored a goal.

Gresham/Bowler 0, Faith Christian Academy 0

Gresham/Bowler managed a 0-0 tie against Faith Christian Academy on Oct. 2. While the Wildcats are still without a win this season, they are not unbeaten.

Tuesday, Sept. 30

Pulaski 2, Manitowoc 0

The Pulaski Red Raiders soccer team got its first conference win of the season with a 2-0 victory over the Manitowoc Ships on Sept. 30.

Jax Urben opened the scoring for Pulaski in the 25th minute off an assist from Walker Wozniak.

Nolan Pratt added an insurance goal for the Red Raiders in the 71st minute. Josh Aranda assisted on the goal.

Mitchell Drescher had eight saves on goal for Manitowoc (5-9-0, 1-3-0).

Jonah Dreves had three saves in a shutout effort for Pulaski (6-5-3, 1-2-1).

Shawano 3, Menasha 0

Anderson Schmidt scored once on a penalty kick and then a goal.

Goalie Dane Hodkiewicz made a fantastic stop of a Menasha penalty kick.

Brayden Meade scored Shawano's last goal for the win.

Monday, Sept. 29

Pacelli 6, Gresham/Bowler 3

Gresham/Bowler remained winless after a 6-3 conference loss to Pacelli in Stevens Point.

Panthers back on winning track

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Two days after dropping its first North Eastern Conference match to Freedom, the Oconto Falls volleyball team needed a win to keep pace with Luxemburg-Casco in the conference standings.

Mission accomplished.

The Panthers headed to Little Chute on Oct. 2 and returned home with a 3-0 sweep of the Mustangs.

Oconto Falls never trailed in the match. After opening with 25-19 and 25-20 wins, the Panthers completed the sweep with a 25-14 win in the third set.

The Panthers improved to 5-1 in conference play. The win sets up a battle for first place with Luxemburg-Casco on Tuesday, Oct. 7, when Oconto Falls hosts the 6-0 Spartans.

Coach Rochell Otto said it was big for her team to bounce back after a five-set home loss to Freedom on Sept. 30.

"We needed to play clean and get back to where we were," she said. "They played with more confidence and went up swinging hard. I was pretty confident that we were going to come and take care of business."

The loss to Freedom came during homecoming week.

"I hate using that as an excuse, but there's a lot going on," Otto said. "It is what it is. There's a lot of season left and a lot of big games coming up."

The match with Luxemburg-Casco could determine the conference championship. Otto said the win over Little Chute gives her team confidence heading



Rhiana Vandeyacht returns a Little Chute serve Oct. 2 during Oconto Falls' win over the Mustangs.

GREG SEUBERT

into the match with the Spartans.

"We are confident," she said. "We just had a little hiccup in the road on Tuesday (against Freedom). We had to get over it and move on."

The Panthers and Spartans already played each other in August at the Beast of the Northeast tournament at the Champion Center in Appleton. Oconto Falls took two of three games from the Spartans, but Otto said that was early in the season.

"We beat them in three, but it was a brawl," she said. "I'm anticipating it's going to be a

brawl again."

Oconto Falls improved its overall game record to 27-5 with the three wins over Little Chute, while the Spartans are 26-8 after sweeping Marinette on Oct. 2.

Otto doesn't expect the conference championship to be decided until the final matches of the regular season in mid-October.

"There are a lot of big matches coming up," she said. "Freedom has to play Waupaca. Waupaca has to play L-C, and we beat Waupaca in five (games). Everybody could be

knocking off everybody."

Successful seasons are nothing new to Oconto Falls' volleyball program, as former coach Dawn Larsen took teams to state in 1998, 2007, 2011 and 2013.

"A lot of girls have put in a lot of time in the gym, and we have a huge junior group," Otto said. "They've been together for a long time."

"It starts with youth," she continued. "We have 40 kids in the gym in fourth, fifth and sixth (grades), and they're part of that program. They just keep coming. It's huge to have that."

Bonduel netters come up short against Thunderbirds

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Less than a year ago, the Bonduel Bears competed at the WIAA girls state volleyball tournament in Green Bay.

After finishing second behind Amherst in the Central Wisconsin Conference-East standings with a 6-1 mark, the Bears went on to win regional and sectional championships before advancing to state for the first time in program history.

It's a different story for the Bears this season in their five CWC-East matches, however; the team fell to 1-4 in conference play Sept. 30 after dropping three of four games to Iola-Scandinavia in Iola.

The Thunderbirds opened the match with a 25-16 win. Bonduel evened the score with a 25-22 win in the second set, but Iola-Scandinavia answered with wins of 25-13 and 25-19 to improve to 4-1 in conference play.

Bonduel had opened its CWC-East schedule with losses to Shiocton, Amherst and Wittenberg-Birnamwood before picking up a win over Menominee Nation.

Two of the team's CWC-East losses — to Shiocton and Amherst — went all the way to five games.



Emery Thompson serves for Bonduel during the Bears' Central Wisconsin Conference-East volleyball match against Iola-Scandinavia in Iola on Sept. 30.

GREG SEUBERT

"There's obviously some really good competition here," coach Abby Krull said. "Many teams in our conference have been playing really well. There are a lot of scores going to four or five (games), so it's pretty tight competition."

Bonduel trailed the Thunderbirds by as many as 11 points in the first set, 12 points in the third and eight points in the fourth while also playing from behind for most of the second game.

"We struggled a little with our serve-serve, and we're playing a lot of defense due to



Peyton Westrich and the Bonduel Bears dropped three of four games to Iola-Scandinavia on Sept. 30.

GREG SEUBERT

BONDUEL, CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

Extra points are extra special for Panthers

By **GREG SEUBERT**
Correspondent

To the casual football fan, an extra point might not seem like a big deal.

Don't tell that to the Oconto Falls Panthers or coach Mark Jonas, however.

Isaiah Radart's fourth extra point turned out to be the difference in the team's 28-27 home win over Shiocton on Oct. 3 at ST Paper Stadium.

Not only did the win come in the team's annual homecoming game, the Panthers also improved to 6-1 overall and 5-0 in Northwoods Conference play.

The Chiefs headed to Oconto Falls with a 1-6 record and a 1-4 mark in conference play but ended up giving the Panthers all they could handle.

"Give the extra point team an awful lot of credit, because we haven't kicked once all year," Jonas said. "We didn't have a kicker and Isaiah's like, 'I can do it.' He practiced all week, was 4-for-4 and won the game. That was pretty impressive."

The Panthers' first three drives resulted in touchdowns.

Ethan Hill capped the game's first drive with a 2-yard run midway through the first quarter. After forcing a three-and-out on Shiocton's first drive, Oconto Falls took a 14-0 lead on Nathaniel White's 4-yard pass to Alec Krejcarek in the final minute of the quarter.

Shiocton cut the lead in half on its next drive on Kyle Bergsbaken's 10-yard pass to Brett Singler with 8:31 remaining in the first half.

White and Krejcarek hooked up for a 54-yard

scoring pass on the Panthers' next drive, but the Chiefs answered with a touchdown pass of their own, as Bergsbaken hit Braylon Krull for a 30-yard completion that cut the lead to 21-13.

Oconto Falls' next drive ended with a punt, but Shiocton tied the game in the final minute before halftime on Bergsbaken's 46-yard pass to Mason Demerath.

After combining for six touchdowns in the first half, both teams struggled to find the end zone in the second half.

Shiocton had an apparent first-and-goal from the Oconto Falls 1-yard line on its first drive of the half, but a holding penalty on the play helped keep the Chiefs from scoring. Shiocton eventually turned the ball over on downs.

The Panthers' first drive of the half ended with a punt that Wyatt Hess returned 60 yards for a touchdown to give the Chiefs a 27-21 lead with 3:12 remaining in the third quarter.

Shiocton held on to that lead until Hill's 5-yard run tied the game at 27-27 with 1:20 left in the game.

Radart then broke the tie with his fourth extra point.

Shiocton took over on its own 43-yard line following the touchdown and faced a fourth-and-13 with 39 seconds to go. Bergsbaken completed a pass to Noah Law but he was tackled short of the first-down marker, and the Panthers ran out the clock.

The Panthers started their game-winning drive at their own 32-yard line with 4 1/2 minutes on the clock.

"We also had three timeouts," Jonas said.



Alec Krejcarek comes up with a reception on the final play of the first half of Oconto Falls' 28-27 win over Shiocton on Oct. 3. Krejcarek caught touchdown passes of 4 and 54 yards as the Panthers improved to 6-1 on the season. GREG SEUBERT

"There was plenty of time in that situation."

Hill carried the ball several times on that drive.

"I get on Ethan's case pretty hard, because he's a senior, and I need him to be that one guy every now and then," Jonas said. "He ran tough. We had been running the ball well in the first half. We just kept going back to the idea that we had to go with what was being successful and not try to do too much."

Jonas said he was impressed by Shiocton's effort despite the Chiefs' record.

"Shiocton played great ball," he said. "We knew they have good athletes, and we told the kids that all week long. Sometimes, homecoming games are tough, because you have so much going on throughout the week. I'm just really proud of the effort and the

resiliency of these kids."

Jonas is in his first year as varsity coach in Oconto Falls after spending last year as one of former coach Nick Bohl's assistants. Bohl left Oconto Falls at the end of the 2024-25 school year to accept another teaching position at Chippewa Falls High School and Jonas, a member of the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame, had an opportunity to replace him.

One of the Panthers' six wins this season was a 24-8 decision over Coleman on Sept. 26 on the Cougars' home field.

"For some of our guys, they said that's the best they've seen people play," Jonas said. "This wasn't tonight, but we still came out with a win against a pretty good team. We feel pretty fortunate."



Elijah White picks up a first down for Oconto Falls in the first quarter of the Panthers' Northwoods Conference game with Shiocton. GREG SEUBERT

Red Raiders run all over Appleton West, 55-20

By **GREG SEUBERT**
Correspondent

The rushing game has been a big reason behind the Pulaski football team's success this season.

That trend continued Oct. 3, as the Red Raiders piled up 334 yards on 31 carries in a 55-20 Fox River Classic Conference-North win over Appleton West.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood, Marion/Tigerton, Bonduel, Lena/STAA and Suring also kept their play-off hopes alive with wins over Colby, Tri-County, Peshtigo, Wausaukee and Gibraltar, respectively.

Pulaski 55, Appleton West 20

Not only did Pulaski average more than 10 yards a carry against the Terrors, the Red Raiders also had three touchdown runs of 50 or more yards at Saputo Stadium.

Bohdan Schmidt opened the scoring for Pulaski with

a 50-yard touchdown in the game's opening minute, and Brayden Weideman added a 51-yard scoring run later in the first quarter.

Cole Nowak returned a fumble 1 yard for the Red Raiders' third score as Pulaski took a 21-0 lead into the second quarter.

Brock Weideman added a pair of 6-yard touchdown runs in the second quarter as the Red Raiders built a 34-0 halftime lead.

Schmidt found the end zone for a second time on a 6-yard run in the third quarter before the Terrors scored the first of their three touchdowns on their next drive on an 80-yard run.

The Red Raiders answered with Bruno Gajewski's 16-yard touchdown pass to Andre Burnett in the final minute of the third quarter.

A 5-yard touchdown run and successful two-point conversion cut Pulaski's

lead to 48-14 in the fourth quarter before Eli Heuser scored Pulaski's final touchdown on a 52-yard run.

The Terrors added a 44-yard pass with just under four minutes to go in the game to complete the scoring.

The Red Raiders didn't have a 100-yard rusher, as Schmidt led the team with 78 yards on five carries. Gajewski, Schmidt and Bryce VanLannen also teamed up to complete eight of nine passes for 94 yards as Pulaski improved to 4-1 in conference play and 5-2 overall.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 52, Colby 33

The Chargers have struggled to put points on the scoreboard in some of their Central Wisconsin Conference-Large games this season, but that wasn't the case against the Hornets.

Kaden Yaeger scored on

a 70-yard run on the first play from scrimmage.

Colby answered on its first drive and took a 7-6 lead on Luke Hannula's 4-yard pass to Dany Nunez Jr., but the lead didn't last long, as Tommy Gagnon returned the kickoff to give the Chargers a 13-7 lead.

Hannula tied the game with a 1-yard quarterback keeper before Yeager's 32-yard run with 2:25 remaining in the first half made it 20-13.

Connor Meverden's interception set the Chargers up at midfield, and the drive ended with a 30-yard touchdown pass from Bo Davis to Zandyr Barke.

The Chargers led 26-13 at halftime. Yaeger had touchdown runs of 64 and 8 yards in the third quarter, while Alberto Sanchez added scoring runs of 3 and 34 yards in the fourth quarter.

Colby trailed 39-13 heading into the fourth

quarter but scored a pair of touchdowns in 14 seconds to cut the lead to 12 points.

Backup quarterback Logan Reynolds found Chase Heeg for a 79-yard touchdown pass on the second play of the quarter, and the Hornets recovered a fumble on the kickoff. Reynolds found Carsen Thomsen in the end zone the cut the Chargers' lead to 39-27,

Sanchez's first touchdown gave the Chargers a 45-27 advantage, but Reynolds and Thomsen hooked up again, this time from 21 yards, with just under seven minutes remaining.

Sanchez capped the scoring with his second touchdown run and the Hornets never scored again.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood improved to 4-3 overall and 3-2 in CWC-Large play.

Marion/Tigerton 57, Tri-County 24

It was the Braylon Mielke show in Marion, as the junior rushed for 340 yards and five touchdowns in a Central Wisconsin Conference-8 8-player win over the Penguins.

Marion/Tigerton led 14-0 after the first quarter, 36-6 at halftime and 51-18 after three quarters.

Other scores: Bonduel 43, Peshtigo 19; Xavier 28, Shawano 7; Lena/STAA 64, Wausaukee 0; Suring 38, Gibraltar 12; Algoma 74, Gillett 12.

Upcoming games
Oct. 9: Shawano at Wausaukee, 7 p.m.

Oct. 10 (all games 7 p.m.): Northland Pines at Oconto Falls; Bonduel at Oconto; Wittenberg-Birnhamwood at Marathon; Pulaski at Green Bay Preble; Marion/Tigerton at Wild Rose; Gillett vs. Green Bay NEW Lutheran at Oneida Nation; Suring at Algoma; Lena/STAA at Gibraltar.

Pulaski girls take fourth at home cross country invite

Pulaski's girls placed fourth at the 46th annual Red Raider Invitational on Oct. 2, while Gillett was 11th among the 14 complete teams.

Maggie Gerth, of Pulaski, finished third in 18:38.3, and teammate Emerson Fabry was fifth in 18:40.2.

Addie Bruckert finished the race in 23rd, followed by Ellie Murphy in 39th, Cameran Reiss in 47th and Estella Vieaux in 81st.

Bailey Hendricks, of Shawano, finished 20th in 19:52.7. Maci Beyer placed 51st, Mikelah Powers was 69th, and Emma Nelson placed 74th.

Hope Soper led Gillett runners with a 54th-place finish, followed by Amanda Pate in 55th.

Halle Wendorff placed 79th, and Sophie Limberg was 86th. Sharlene Stage finished 102nd, and Maggie Kaczmarek was 106th.

For the boys, Pulaski was sixth, and Shawano was 10th.

Parker Marshall, of Pulaski, finished in fifth place in 16:10.1.

Gillett's Bradyn Wendorff placed eighth in 16:27.1.

Pulaski's Arden Gillen placed 18th in 16:40.8. Also competing were Grayden Gossen in 32nd, Mitchell Pilon in 36th, Dayne Groth in 38th, Ben Augustine in 64th, Thomas Murphy in 73rd and Nolan Greene in 92nd.

Josiah Kuehl led Shawano with a 41st-place finish.

He was joined by Aloysius Frechette in 55th, Quinten Harkey in 58th, Teagan Harkey in 59th, Beckett Hendricks in 61st, James Lange in 71st and Angel Vanega Lande in 105th.

Nash Strange, of Gillett, finished in 82nd place. He was joined by Jeremiah Lennon in 106th.

Rosholt Invite
Wittenberg-Birnamwood and Bonduel girls finished 1-2 at the Rosholt Invite, but it was Bonduel's Mariah Wondra who



Gillett's Bradyn Wendorff placed eighth in 16:27.1 at the 46th annual Red Raiders Invitational in Pulaski on Oct. 2. CONTRIBUTED

captured first place among individuals.

Wondra finished in 18:54.84. Teammate Lillian Burrack finished in sixth in 10:26.8, a new personal record.

Rory Salvesen led the Chargers, placing fourth in 20:15.17, a new season record for her. Nora Bushman also set a season record, placing ninth in 20:41.98.

Also scoring for Wittenberg-Birnamwood was Harper Krull in 12th place, Delilah Schairer in 13th and Lilyana Groh in 21st.

Rounding out the Chargers team were Harper Rogowski and Sydney Schairer.

For Bonduel, Payten Bierhals placed 26th, followed by Cierra Schnell in 29th and Kember Frome in 35th.

Also running for Bonduel was Katie O'Brien. Allyson Seibert, of Suring, finished in 37th place, and Natalie Seibert was 42nd. Ginger Gerndt placed 45th.

Brooklyn Ahlers, of Marion-Tigerton, finished in 46th place, and Kennedy Zuniga was 58th.

Menominee Nation's Urijah Reeves was 50th.

Kaylee Nacotee placed 62nd, and Mimi Corn was 74th.

Bonduel's boys placed second among 14 teams. Menominee Nation finished 11th, Wittenberg-Birnamwood was 13th, and Suring was 14th.

Bryant Waupoose III, of Menominee Nation, set a personal record of 16:47.48 and placed third overall.

Kai Wayka placed 80th, Cashius Reeves was 95th, Michael Peters III placed 101st, and Chase Waupoose was 103rd.

Bonduel's Griffin Uelmen had a personal record of 17:32.27 and placed 10th.

Placing 22nd was Gage Anderson, followed by Oliver Chitwood in 31st, Joah Dworniczak in 36th and Garrett Anderson in 39th.

Rounding out the Bears runners were Jack Weier and Carter Johnson.

Jonas Bushman led Wittenberg-Birnamwood with a 66th-place finish.

Dalton Fischer finished 78th, Milo Salvesen was 83rd, Teagon Stewart placed 92nd and Monty Salvesen was 100th.

Leading Marion-Tigerton was Tristan Herro in 67th. Brayden Zietlow was 91st.

Suring was led by Charles Richard, who placed 69th. He was joined by Blake DeGrave in 71st, Riley Thompson in 87th, Garrett School in 90th and Skylar Bristol in 105th.

Reedsville Panther Invite

Oconto Falls girls placed fourth among seven teams and the boys were fifth among 11 in Reedsville.

Emma Meissner set a personal record of 20:16.47 as she placed ninth, and Lily Meissner also had a PR of 20:40.32 as she placed 10th.

Sydney Braund finished in 18th place, followed by Alexandria Braund in 24th and Mackenzie Lotto in 25th.

For the boys, Isaiah

Holtz set a new season record of 16:16.22 in his 11th-place finish.

Landon Timm finished in 21st, followed by Ethan Zielinski in 23rd, Mason Lotto in 32nd and Braxton Rajkovich in 36th.

Also competing were Sage Mendolla and Cason Weenig.

Tuesday, Sept. 30 Oconto Invitational
Menominee Nation's Bryant Waupoose III set a new personal record at 17:00.8 when he finished first.

Teammate Michael Peters III finished 15th in 19:37.5, a new season record for him.

Erik Kosch, of Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy, placed 23rd, followed by Menominee Nation's Cashius Reeves in 24th.

Menominee Nation's Kai Wayka was 30th, while Mason Martin, of Gresham/Bowler, placed 45th.

Breckin Gleason, of Gresham/Bowler, finished 54th, and Lena/STAA's Cooper Malloy was 58th.

Placing 63rd was Blaze Ejniak, of Gresham/Bowler, and teammate Dorec Guthrie was 64th. Chase Waupoose, of Menominee Nation, was 68th, and teammate Christopher Waubanasum was 71st.

Adam Liethen, of Gresham/Bowler, placed 78th, and Mark Buchholz, of Wolf River Lutheran in Shawano, was 79th.

Three Lena/STAA girls placed in the top 10.

Aspynn Anderson finished fourth in 22:00.5, followed by Alisa Finger in fifth in 22:17.0 and Adrena Rabas in sixth in 22:19.1. Anderson's time was a new season record, while Finger and Rabas set new personal records.

Teammate Alexis Maloney placed 19th. Menominee Nation's Urijah Reeves was 24th, while teammates Kaylee Nacotee finished 28th and Keira Nacotee placed 32nd.

Menominee Nation's Mimi Corn placed 40th.

2 with local ties named to BB hall

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

A former coach and player who helped put a pair of area basketball programs on the map are being honored for their achievements on the court.

Former Lena High School girls basketball coach Kristine Young-Gabriel and former Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School player Pete Krull are among the 2025 inductees into the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Young-Gabriel, Krull and several other coaches and players were inducted during a ceremony Sept. 28 at the Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

Young-Gabriel taught physical education in the Lena School District for 37 years and was named the high school's first girls basketball coach in 1975.

It didn't take long for her to build the Wildcats into one of the state's top small-school girls basketball programs, as the Wildcats capped a 26-0 season in 1980 with a 70-34 win over Oakfield to win the WIAA Class C state championship.

Meanwhile, Krull helped lead the Chargers' boys program to the WIAA Class B state championship game in 1975 before playing college basketball at Florida Technological University, now known as the University of Central Florida.

Young-Gabriel, a 1967 graduate of Oconto High School, coached the Wildcats for 21 seasons and finished her career with a

255-169 record. Her teams won five Marinette & Oconto Conference championships, eight regional titles and three sectional championships.

The Wildcats also advanced to the state tournament in 1990 and 1991. The 1989-90 team dropped a 56-40 decision to eventual state champion Oostburg in 1990 in a Class C semifinal, while the Wildcats returned to Madison the following year and fell to Monticello 66-56 in the Division 4 championship game.

Young-Gabriel retired from coaching in 1994.

Krull spent all four of his seasons on the Chargers' varsity team.

He was a first-team all-conference player as a sophomore, junior and senior; was named to an all-state first team; and was also named a high school all-American.

The Chargers made it to the WIAA Class B state championship game in 1975 but fell to Sheboygan Falls 78-60.

Krull's teams posted an 84-6 record, and he finished with 1,624 points.

Florida Technological University advanced to the NCAA Division 2 Final Four in 1978, and Krull's teams had a 178-25 record.

Krull graduated from college in 1978 and returned to Wisconsin to accept a teaching position at Marshall High School in Marshall. He coached basketball and football and also served as athletic director in his 25 years in Marshall.

Pulaski tennis team defeated 6-1

Elizabeth Dornfeld, Pulaski's No. 4 singles player, scored the only victory for the Red Raiders in a 6-1 loss to De Pere on Sept. 30.

Dornfeld defeated Soma Kadipi Reddy 6-4, 6-4.

Coming up short in their singles matches were

Ruth Krause, Anna Krause and Emory Groteluschen.

Doubles losses were recorded by Linde Lemerond and Aubrie Schuessler, Ayla Groteluschen and Gretchen Rottier, and Aubrey Coel and Riley Hartman.

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Oconto Falls team, 1 Pulaski golfer advance to sectionals

Pulaski's golf team missed qualifying for sectionals by three strokes, but Charlie Lasecki advanced to sectional action as an individual golfer.

Bay Port, Notre Dame Academy, De Pere and Wausau West/East qualified as teams. Pulaski's 386 was just shy of the mark to advance in Division 1 action.

Shawano's 424 placed the Hawks in ninth among the 10 teams.

Lasecki, a senior, carded an 88 to move on to sectional play. Also scoring for the Red Raiders were Morgan Schuh with 96, and Taylor Murphy and Ellie Mork with 101 each.

Grace Melzer carded a 107.

Scoring for Shawano were Madelyn Moesch with 102, Gwyn Hermann with 105, Lauren Seehafer with 108 and Hailey

Hawkinson with 109.

Alyssa Singer carded a 110.

In Division 2 action at Northbrook Golf Course in Luxemburg, Oconto Falls qualified as a team, placing second among eight competitors.

The Panthers scored 409, between champion Seymour and third-place Luxemburg-Casco.

Bonduel finished sixth with 446.

Individual scores for Oconto Falls were Addy Kluth with 94, Riley Borkovec with 99, Kylie Thompson with 107 and Lilly Wagner with 109.

Katelyn Kurek carded a 117.

Bonduel scores were Paige Wolf with 105, Morgan Staszak with 110, McKenna Onesti with 112 and Hailey Spates with 119.

Quinn Hartlaben carded a 125.

BONDUEL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

that," Krull said. "If we can get that cleaned up a little bit, that'll help us a lot. We just have to get back to grinding in practice and focus on our serve-receive and being ready to go when your name is called."

The Bears had to replace five seniors from last year's team.

"Three of them were starters, and they may have been three- or four-year starters," Krull said. "We have some experience

back, but it's one, maybe two years on varsity."

Bonduel has upcoming CWC-East matches against Manawa on Oct. 7 and Weyauwega-Fremont on Oct. 14.

"It's just a matter of making sure that we're peaking at the end of the season," Krull said. "We have a ways to go yet and some improvements to make, but you want to be at your best at the end of the season. That'll be our goal."

Chargers have rough outing

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood went 2-1 at the Wrightstown Invite on Oct. 4.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood lost 2-0 to the Menasha Bluejays. Game scores were 25-17, 25-11.

The Chargers also fell 2-0 to the St. Mary Catholic Zephyrs. Scores were 25-15, 25-18.

Wittenberg-Birnhamwood beat the Sturgeon Bay Clippers 2-0 on game scores of 25-12, 26-24.

Thursday, Oct. 2
Pulaski 3, Green Bay Notre Dame 2

The Red Raiders topped the Tritons 3-2 with game scores of 22-25, 25-19, 20-25, 25-22, 15-12 on Oct. 2.

Suring 3, Coleman 0

Suring clamped down on Coleman when it needed to as the Eagles won 3-0.

Game scores were 25-17, 25-19, 25-14.

Wild Rose 3, Tigerton 1

Tigerton hosted cross-conference rival Wild Rose in a tight match, losing 3-1 with set scores of 25-19, 15-25, 17-25, 22-25.

Jaelyn Brady led the Tigers with 23 digs, followed by Danika Tiller with 18, Renata Nordwig with 16, Presley Stewart-Rolfs with 10, Aaliyah Lederhaus with seven, Lillian Welch with six and Myah Dent with four.

Tiller had 10 assists, and Lederhaus tallied six.

Stewart-Rolfs led the team with 11 kills while, Tiller and Lederhaus contributed three each.

Stewart-Rolfs added four block kills, and Welch



Lucy Ripley reacts after Oconto Falls scores a point in the Panthers' North Eastern Conference win over Little Chute on Oct. 2. GREG SEUBERT

had two.

Brady collected 11 service points with four aces. Also, Lederhaus had nine points and an ace, Nordwig had six points with two aces, and Stewart-Rolfs contributed five points with three aces.

Tigerton is 5-2 in CWC play and 9-6 overall.

Gresham 3, White Lake 1
Northland Lutheran 3, Bowler 1
Crivitz 3, Lena 0
Shawano 3, Green Bay West 0
Tuesday, Sept. 30

Tigerotn 3, Bowler 0

The Tigers competed Sept. 30 against host Bowler in a CWC North match for the second time this season.

Tigerton came out on top 3-0 with set scores of 25-15, 25-17 and 25-20.

The visitors battled back from deficits in the second and third sets.

"They showed tremendous composure and were able to erase each deficit to win the sets," coach Holly Meverden said. "For a young team, the girls still showed that they could

control the game and take back the lead."

Danika Tiller collected 18 service points and seven aces. Jaelyn Brady added 11 points and three aces, while Myah Dent had 10 points and two aces, and Aaliyah Lederhaus had six points and three aces.

Brady led the team with 14 digs. Lederhaus contributed 10, Dent had eight, and Lillian Welch added five.

Tiller notched 10 assists, and Lederhaus had seven.

For kills, it was Presley Stewart-Rolfs and Mya Smith with eight each, Tiller and Lederhaus had three each, and Welch and Renata Nordwig had two each.

Nordwig and Smith each had one block kill.

Shawano 3, Green Bay East 0

Shawano beat Green Bay East with scores of 25-8, 25-16, 25-8.

Shiocton 3, Menominee Nation 0

The Eagles lost the conference match by scores of 25-14, 25-11, 25-14.

Menominee Nation dropped to 4-8 overall and 0-5 in league play.

Amherst 3, Wittenberg-Birnhamwood 0

The Chargers played close games but came up empty in the win column on their home court, losing by scores of 25-22, 25-20, 25-22.

De Pere 3, Pulaski 1
Gresham 3, Marion 2
Freedom 3, Oconto Falls 2
Suring 3, Crivitz 0

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OBITUARIES

Robert Below

Robert (Bob) Wayne Below, 66, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025.

Bob was born Aug. 9, 1959, in Milwaukee, to Kenneth and Norma Below. Bob was the middle child of five, Bruce, Christine, John and Tom. With the passing of his mother at age 9, his role in the family and life shifted, stepping in as a father figure and role model to his younger brothers John and Tom. Bob described Antigo as his childhood home surrounded by family, the outdoors and hunting.

The family's move to Oconto Falls, graduating in the class of 1977, helped to mold Bob into the person he was. Bob's friendships formed in these years are still strong and a major part of his life.

Bob met Kim (Grenke) during his early high school



years, who he went on to marry in 1981. Bob and Kim, in their 50 years together, created a beautiful life and family. With the arrival of their daughter, Bobbie, Bob enrolled at Indianhead Technical School and began his education and love for the tech world. Bob worked a few different jobs in the field including one that briefly brought the family to

Wyoming. With the arrival of his son, Joseph (Joe), Bob and Kim made the decision to move the family to Menomonie, where he received a bachelor of science degree in technology education from Stout.

With a move to Plymouth, he started his teaching career at Lightfoot School, a school for students with disabilities and exceptional needs. He fondly remembered his time teaching there and all his students. With the closing of Lightfoot, he then taught at Sheboygan Falls High School and finished his career in the Sheboygan School District. Bob loved teaching, he took personal joy in watching his students learn new skills and build something they were proud of.

Bob valued the connections and relationships with everyone he interacted

with. His love of others especially became apparent when he became a grandfather to Ava, Arthur (Ari), Wesley, Boone and Della. Bob enjoyed his time with his grandkids, always cheering them on at their events, crying and celebrating their wins, and the first to be a loving support over a loss. He looked forward to his time up north with them to take them fishing, boating and exploring the outdoors.

He enjoyed attending the grandkids' activities, going up north hunting, extended stays in Arizona during the spring, maple syruping, putzing around the yard, cheering on all the Wisconsin sports teams, attending concerts and music festivals (especially bluegrass), roaming around Elkhart Lake on his moped stooping to say hi, capturing every sunset, and watching the

Sunday morning show.

Deer hunting with his son Joe, every fall in Oconto Falls was a deep passion of his. The pair, along with his father-in-law, Artie, successfully harvested many deer over the years, and the three bonded over their love of the outdoors. Bob was fortunate enough to retire at 58, and has spent his retirement years filling the days with these things he loved.

Bob was preceded in death by his father, Ken; mother, Norma; father-in-law, Arthur Grenke; siblings, Bruce and Christine, son-in-law, Josh Stroessner.

He is survived by his wife, Kim; daughter and family, Bobbie, children, Ava, Ari, Wesley; son and family, Joe and Kari, children, Boone and Della; mother-in-law, Pat Grenke; brothers, John (Kerrin)

Tom (Amy); sister-in-law, Julie (Rez); nieces and nephews; cousins; and many friends that he considered family.

Bob never missed an opportunity to say hi or catch up with a friend, and welcomed all strangers with a smile. He's sittin' on a rainbow until he sees you again. Please join the family in remembrance on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025. Visitation will take place at the Suchon Funeral Home in Plymouth from 1-3 p.m. with a service to follow. Following the service, an open house to share stories and his love with be held at JAAAGZ in Plymouth from 4-7 p.m.

The Suchon Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Plymouth is assisting the family. For online condolences, please visit www.suchonfh.com.

Richard Gerndt

Richard "Dick" Gerndt, 81, of Suring, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025.

Dick was born June 21, 1944, "first day of summer, longest day of the year," to the late Leland and Norma (Nelson) Gerndt. He graduated from Suring High School with the class of 1962. Dick then served in the United States Army from 1966-68 during the Vietnam War.

Upon returning, Dick began hauling milk for Manthei's Cheese Factory. It was during a milk pick up that Dick met Carla Bintz, who was with her father picking up pigs from a local farm. The couple married on May 29, 1971, at St. John's Lutheran Church - Grover. Together, along with Dick's brothers, they ran Gerndt Farms.

Dick was very involved in the community. He served on the Suring



School Board for 11 years, as well as on other county and community organizations. Dick was a devoted local sports fan, announcing football games for many years and attending the games of his children and grandchildren.

Dick was very active, playing on local softball teams and bowling leagues. He was also an avid outdoorsman, hunting and fishing whenever he could.

Dick enjoyed sharing stories from his life with everyone he met. He was a lifelong member of Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

Dick is survived by his wife, Carla; four children, Renee (Brian) Wolf, Craig (Jennifer) Gerndt, Gina (Pete) Cramer and Crystal (Chris) Schroeder; grandchildren, Harlee (fiancé Brady) Wolf, Ginger and Georgia Gerndt, Autumn and Morgan Dryja, Birdee and Bunny Cramer, Clark and Chloe Schroeder; sister, Kathy (Dick) Rupiper; brother, Lee (Bev) Gerndt; sister-



is further survived by her grandchildren, Zachary and Anna; host daughter, Liv Hiis Bergh; twin sister, Mea (Mike) Goodnough; and other extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, John; parents, Emil and Ruth (Wall) Plain; and brother, Bruce Plain.

A visitation for family and friends will be held after 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at Jones Funeral Service, Oconto Falls. A memorial service to honor and remember the joy and love she brought into our lives will follow at 1 p.m. with the Rev. Tom Pomeroy officiating.

In her honor, let us come together to share stories, laughter, and memories that reflect her vibrant spirit. Irene's zest for life will continue to inspire those who knew her, and she will be deeply missed but forever celebrated.

Irene Koehne

Irene "Renee" Kathleen Koehne, cherished mother and beloved community member, passed away peacefully on Sept. 27, 2025, at the age of 88 in Hobart.

Born on July 3, 1937, in Oconto Falls, Irene embraced life with a remarkable spirit that touched everyone she met. She graduated from Oconto Falls High School with the class of 1955. Irene married her high school sweetheart, John Koehne, on Aug. 12, 1961.

Irene's adventurous spirit lead her to travel the world. As a young woman, she worked in Fort Yukon, Alaska, giving tours to visitors along with her identical twin, Mea. She enjoyed her kids and being active in all parts of their lives, including careers and grandchildren.

Irene loved to entertain as well as set an elaborate table for the meals she



would serve to friends. She had a lifelong fondness for cats and rescued many throughout her lifetime. Irene and John continued travel to well into retirement with adventures from Ukraine to Indonesia and other exotic locales.

Irene is survived by her loving son, Kevin (Susanne) Koehne, and her devoted daughter, Katrina (Mike) Geitner, who carry forward her legacy of kindness and resilience. She

in-law, Barb Gerndt.

He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He will be especially missed by his furry buddy, Mack.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Bob Gerndt.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church. Dick was interred at Mount Olive Lutheran Cemetery with military honors.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.

The family would like to thank Emilee Tachick for helping care for him at home over the past several months. Your help is greatly appreciated.

10.10.2025 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET COUNTY OF OCONTO, WISCONSIN October 30, 2025, 9:00 am				
Notice is hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET for the COUNTY OF OCONTO, WISCONSIN, as recommended by the Oconto County Administrator , will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2025, at 9:00 am in Room 3041, located at 301 Washington St, Oconto, Wisconsin. Citizens are encouraged to attend the PUBLIC HEARING and have the right to provide written and/or oral comments and ask questions concerning the budget. A detailed copy of the PROPOSED BUDGET is on file and available for review at the Finance Department in the Courthouse. In accordance with SS.65.90 Wi Stats., the following is a summary of the proposed 2026 budget:				
EXPENDITURES:	ADOPTED 2025	PROPOSED 2026	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
General Government	\$8,060,001	\$8,008,992	(\$51,009)	-0.6%
Public Safety	9,912,403	10,551,465	639,062	6.4%
Health and Human Services	13,624,781	14,429,638	804,857	5.9%
Public Works (incl. Highway)	12,468,036	12,814,379	346,343	2.8%
Culture, Recreation and Education	2,726,586	2,761,130	34,544	1.3%
Conservation and Development	3,160,287	4,010,171	849,884	26.9%
Capital Projects-Other	2,952,281	2,091,240	(861,041)	-29.2%
Debt Service	1,273,500	1,273,500	0	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$54,175,875	\$55,940,515	\$1,764,640	3.3%
REVENUES:	ADOPTED 2025	PROPOSED 2026	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
Taxes (Other than Property)	\$697,815	\$639,815	(\$58,000)	-8.3%
Intergovernmental Grants/Aids	13,000,384	14,301,727	1,301,343	10.0%
Licenses and Permits	416,940	424,440	7,500	1.8%
Fines, Forfeitures and Penalties	161,376	161,576	200	0.1%
Public Charges for Services	4,237,036	4,288,343	51,307	1.2%
Intergovernmental Charges	4,823,157	5,032,992	209,835	4.4%
Other (incl. Interest on Investments)	1,144,200	1,528,400	384,200	33.6%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$24,480,908	\$26,377,293	\$1,896,385	7.7%
Fund balances applied/transferred to reduce the county tax levy:				
Highway fund balance applied to equipment and operations	\$830,000	\$915,378	\$85,378	
Recycling fund balance applied to equipment and operations	56,176	90,860	34,684	
Health & Human Services fund balance applied to operations	479,646	650,755	171,109	
County Road & Bridge fund balance applied to operations	417,442	500,000	82,558	
Debt Service fund balance applied to debt reduction	0	0	0	
Land Records fund balance applied to operations/capital purchases	94,683	0	(94,683)	
County sales tax funds applied for capital purchases and operations	2,210,635	2,330,440	119,805	
County sales tax funds applied for capital purchases - highway	1,453,337	1,112,622	(340,715)	
County sales tax funds applied for debt services	0	0	0	
ARPA funds applied to equipment and operations	840,000	250,000	(590,000)	
ARPA funds applied to equipment and operations - county road/bridge	141,000	0	(141,000)	
Human services fund balance transfer to general fund	400,000	400,000	0	
General fund applied to reduce property tax levy	566,803	869,152	302,349	
TOTAL FUNDS APPLIED AND TRANSFERRED	\$7,483,722	\$7,119,207	(\$364,515)	
TOTAL REVENUES & FUNDS APPLIED	\$31,967,630	\$33,496,500	\$1,528,870	4.8%
COST OF COUNTY OPERATIONS LEVIED AS PROPERTY TAX				
	\$22,208,245	\$22,444,015	\$235,770	1.1%
Percent of county tax levy to total budgeted expenditures	41.0%	40.1%		
County equalized value (less TID increment) for apportionment of tax	\$7,147,338,235	\$7,599,710,735	\$452,372,500	6.3%
COUNTY TAX (MILL RATE) PER \$1,000 OF ASSESSED				
PROPERTY VALUE FOR COUNTY OPERATIONS	\$3,107	\$2,953	(\$0.476)	-5.0%
PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IN THE PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET:				
Highway: The highway budget anticipates \$1,286,950 of equipment purchases in 2026, which will be funded by highway depreciation charges of \$915,378, and county sales tax of \$279,622. It also includes \$675,000 for an STP project and \$158,000 for the Mountain Shop Roof.				
Health & Human Services: The Health & Human Services budget applies \$650,755 of their fund balance to reduce the department's 2026 tax levy request to \$3,889,376.				
Capital Projects: Capital project purchases for 2026 amount to \$2,091,240, including \$435,700 for computer and related equipment, \$240,000 for various courthouse projects, \$711,000 for F&P projects, \$400,000 for sheriff vehicle replacement, \$185,000 for building maintenance at New View Industries, \$94,540 for BS&A Cloud conversion, and \$110,000 for vehicle leases.				
Debt Service: The \$1,273,500 debt payment in 2026 will be funded by county debt levy.				
Other: The reserve for contingency is \$250,000.				
If you are an individual with a disability and need a special accommodation while attending this hearing as required by the Americans With Disabilities Act, please notify the County Clerk at 920-834-6806 at least 24 hours prior to the hearing to make suitable arrangements.				
(Prepared by Oconto Co Finance Dept 10/03/2025).				
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lb

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\$5.79 18-22oz

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\$1.99
lb

Bear Creek Soup Mixes

\$3.49 Asst Variety
8.1-11.5oz

Food Club Vegetable Juice

\$2.49 46oz

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\$2.99
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\$5.89
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\$1.59 each
Asst Variety

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\$1.49 lb

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Asst Variety
16oz

McCain Frozen Potatoes



\$3.49

Asst Variety
19-32oz

Van de Kamps Frozen Fish Fillets or Sticks



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26-32oz

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Packers hoping to get back into win column

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

When the Cincinnati Bengals visit Green Bay for a Week 6 matchup against the Packers, Green Bay should see this as a major opportunity to get back into the win column.

Packers' offense vs. Bengals' defense

Green Bay's offense had been a mixed bag through three games to start the year.

They were mostly good against Detroit and Washington before turning in a bad performance against Cleveland.

There was nothing bad about the Sept. 28 performance against the Dallas Cowboys.

The Packers rang up 40 points and likely could have named their score had they been more aggressive.

The passing game found its footing and had its best game of the season.

Jordan Love completed 31 of his 43 passes, throwing for more than 300 yards and three touchdown passes. His passer rating was well over 100 for the third time this season, and the Packers' offense looked like a well-oiled machine in the passing game.

On the receiving end of his passes, Matthew Golden made his first explosive play of the season, catching a 46-yard bomb on the team's first touchdown drive.

Romeo Doubs remains a red zone weapon and looks to be Love's go-to guy when pressure rises.

Doubs caught two touchdowns on run-pass options and a third to give the Packers a lead late in the fourth quarter in Dallas.

Perhaps more encouraging was the run game starting to find some holes as well.

Josh Jacobs is still averaging just above three



The Packers 27-13 victory over the Lions softened the 2024 NFC North Division struggles. Bo Melton (out of uniform) sustained a shoulder injury in the second half but was enjoying the moment while Coach Matt LaFleur and staff stayed focused on closing out the game. Melton, 26, was making his first official appearance as a cornerback with Green Bay but failed to record any stats before his departure.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

yards per carry but finally had some holes to run through against Dallas, especially as the game progressed.

Jacobs and Emanuel Wilson both found their way into Dallas' secondary, with Jacobs scoring twice.

The offensive line situation is still a little murky, as they're missing two preferred starters, plus a top reserve in Anthony Belton.

It remains to be seen if the Packers will get any of those guys back for Sunday's game against Cincinnati, but they could use

all of the continuity they could try to find.

Cincinnati's defense has some talented players, but it really struggled last year.

Their pass rush group, however, does have some potential to cause problems in Green Bay.

Trey Hendrickson was a player the Packers reportedly inquired about trading for this offseason, according to Ian Rapoport.

He was at a contract impasse with the Bengals all offseason before ultimately reaching an agreement to keep him in Cincinnati.

The other side could be Cincinnati's first-round pick, Shemar Stewart. Stewart had a contract impasse of his own and has been struggling through an ankle injury but is not short on talent.

With the way the Packers have been protecting, this is a situation to monitor.

Packers' defense vs. Bengals' offense

Green Bay's defense suffered its first hiccup of the season against Dallas.

They started off hot, forcing a punt on each of

Dallas' first two possessions, but the Cowboys took off from there.

Dak Prescott lit the defense on fire to the tune of 40 points and more than 300 yards passing.

Carrington Valentine and Nate Hobbs in particular really struggled, both allowing a passer rating of more than 130 when they were targeted.

The pass rush was mostly a one-man band as well.

Micah Parsons had 10 pressures and the team's lone sack of Prescott on

the night.

Rashan Gary and Lukas Van Ness were notably silent. They were unable to get home when they brought extra pressure.

Despite that fact, the Packers' defense is still a group you should have confidence in. One bad game does not erase three good ones, and this week's game is a good chance for them to get back on track against an offense missing some of its best players, notably the quarterback.

HOPE, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Week 4 in Dallas ended with a tie. While the defense shined in the first three games, the Cowboys scored 40 points adding more questions as the season resumes in Week 6.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

KEYS TO THE GAME

Green Bay needs offensive momentum to continue

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The Green Bay Packers are probably kicking themselves after falling into a tie against the Dallas Cowboys before their bye week.

Out of the bye, the Packers will return to Lambeau Field having not won a game in more than a calendar month.

The Bengals as a team are struggling right now as they've lost their franchise quarterback, Joe Burrow, for the remainder of the season due to a foot injury.

Green Bay's defense should have a good opportunity to get back on track after giving up 40 points in their most recent showing, while the offense has a chance to take another step forward.

Ultimately, Green Bay

needs to start winning again, and here are the keys to getting their third win of the year.

1. Find Ja'Marr

The cornerback room in Green Bay was a point of contention throughout the offseason, but the concerns had not come to a head during the team's first three games.

The defensive backs played well as the Packers did not allow a touchdown

through the first three quarters of their first three games.

Last week, that changed. Carrington Valentine and Nate Hobbs really struggled against George Pickens and Dallas' powerful passing offense.

This week, they have another challenge.

Jake Browning may not be as good as Dak Prescott,

KEYS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

HOPE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One injury concern to watch is defensive tackle Devonte Wyatt, whom head coach Matt LaFleur described as week-to-week after he left the game against the Cowboys with a knee injury.

If he does not play, Warren Brinson could make his debut, and the Packers are really struggling to find a rotation at defensive tackle.

Nazir Stackhouse played extended snaps but was not impactful. Karl Brooks and Colby Wooden were noticeably gassed by the end of the game as well.

They need someone to step up and take some of those extra snaps in the middle of the defense so the guys who have been playing are not overworked.

The Bengals' offense took a devastating hit early in the season when

it was announced that Joe Burrow was going to miss three months with a toe injury that required surgery.

As a consequence of that, Burrow will miss this game against Green Bay, but the Bengals are not short on weapons.

Ja'Marr Chase has struggled with Jake Browning at quarterback and had one of the least productive games of his career when the Bengals lost 28-3 against the Broncos on Monday Night Football in Week 4.

He's still one of the top receivers in football that has to be accounted for.

He's flanked by Tee Higgins, who helps the Bengals boast arguably the best wide receiver tandem in football.

What the Bengals boast in skill positions, they lack up front.

As the Bengals built their offense around

Burrow, a pressure point has been whether they'd be able to protect their quarterback.

They were not able to during his brief stint this year and lost him for the rest of the year.

Green Bay's pass rush should look to have a bounce-back game here.

Special Teams

Green Bay's special teams is going through it.

LaFleur said in his last media availability before the bye week that his team needed to clean up some of the catastrophic mistakes, and that if they did that, they'd be in a good spot.

They made some changes in personnel during the team's 40-40 tie against the Dallas Cowboys and might have a few more coming out of the bye week.

They need something to change, because the special teams has played a key



While Jordan Love has had strong statistics in the first four games, his critical errors at crucial moments have contributed to a loss and tie in past two games. GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

role in the last two games going the way they have.

Most recently, it was a blocked extra point that the Cowboys returned to put up their first points of the night.

That easily could have

been waved off as no big deal, because the score was 13-2, but as the Packers have learned, teams will take advantage of the mistakes they make.

The mistakes were not just in the kicking game;

the return game is a mess. Savion Williams has struggled on when to field the ball in the air on kickoffs.

Golden has been an adventure while trying to return punts.

The Packers had two open roster spots going into the bye week but have shown little interest in adding a return specialist either to the active roster or the practice squad.

They have who they have, and right now that is not good enough.

Cincinnati's kicker is Evan McPherson, and he has a big leg. The Packers have seen him before, as both he and Mason Crosby traded missed kicks in what ended in a Packers' victory in 2021.

Green Bay's special teams needs to figure things out before the schedule turns to the stretch run.

KEYS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

but his group of receivers is better than what Dallas had going into their matchup.

Ja'Marr Chase is the best receiver in football or on the short list with Minnesota's Justin Jefferson.

He has been quiet since Browning took over at quarterback, notably with a ho-hum performance in the team's 28-3 loss to the Denver Broncos.

Usually, a game like that leads to a bit of an overcorrection from the coach and the quarterback.

Expect Chase to be involved early and often.

2. Back On Track

Green Bay's pass rush had been lethal through the first three games of the season but was more of a one-man band against the Dallas Cowboys.

Micah Parsons had 10 pressures by himself and the only sack of the night.

Rashan Gary and Lukas Van Ness were quiet, while Devonte Wyatt left the game with a knee injury.

Cincinnati's offensive line has been leaky throughout Burrow's tenure in Green Bay, and the Packers should match up well here.

One thing is certain: They should be motivated coming off a poor showing.

With some of the extra

resources that may need to be allocated to Cincinnati's receivers, it's imperative the Packers figure out a way to get home with just their front four, which is something they did really well through the first three games of the year.

3. Keep the Momentum

Green Bay may not have won the game against Dallas but perhaps took some steps toward figuring out how they'll need to win as the season progresses.

Fair or not, this league is about quarterback play, and Green Bay's quarterback was excellent in the tie against Dallas.

Love's passer rating was more than 100, the third such game he's had out of the team's first four of the season.

He found Matthew Golden on a deep ball early in the game and a fourth down in overtime as well.

Romeo Doubs was a weapon in the red zone.

Ultimately, this Packers team is going to go as far as Love and the passing game are able to carry it.

Yes, they need more from their run game, and Josh Jacobs looked like he found some of his 2024 form in the team's last game.



The return game and special teams have struggled. Romeo Doubs entered the fourth quarter as a punt returner during the game against Dallas. Doubs managed to shake off the first defender but gained five yards on his only punt return of the season. Rookies Mathew Golden and Savion Williams have not yet emerged as solutions in the crucial return game. GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

CINCINNATI BENGALS AT GREEN BAY PACKERS

TIME AND DATE: 3:25 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12

LOCATION: Lambeau Field TV: CBS

RADIO: Flagship WRNW-FM Milwaukee — 97.3; Packers Radio Network includes WIXX-FM Green Bay — 101.1, WRLO-FM Antigo — 105.3, WLST-FM Marinette — 95.1, and WSAU Wausau — 550 AM and 95.1 FM

2025 RECORDS: Packers, 2-1-1. Bengals, 2-3.

HISTORY: These two teams have met 14 times in their history, with the series being dead even at seven wins apiece.

The last time these two

teams met, a wild game broke out where the Packers and Bengals kept trading missed field goals, until Mason Crosby ultimately kicked a game-winner in overtime.

The last game at Lambeau Field was not a bad one either. The Packers trailed 24-7 in the second half before Aaron Rodgers led a comeback that culminated with a touchdown pass to Jordy Nelson to send the game to overtime.

From there, the Packers' defense got a stop setting up Rodgers finding Geronimo Allison for a big play to put them in field goal range.

Mason Crosby would make another game-winner from there to give the Packers a 27-24 victory.

COACHES: Packers, Matt LaFleur, seventh season, 69-34-1. Bengals, Zac Taylor, seventh season, 48-55-1.

PACKERS SCHEDULE

Sunday, Sept. 7, vs. Detroit Lions, W 27-13
Thursday, Sept. 11, vs. Washington Commanders, W 27-18
Sunday, Sept. 21, at Cleveland Browns, L 10-13
Sunday, Sept. 28, at Dallas Cowboys, T 40-40
Bye Week
Sunday, Oct. 12, vs. Cin-

cinnati Bengals, 3:25 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 19, at Arizona Cardinals, 3:25 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 26, at Pittsburgh Steelers, 7:20 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 2, vs. Carolina Panthers, noon
Monday, Nov. 10, vs. Philadelphia Eagles, 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 16, at New York Giants, noon
Sunday, Nov. 23, vs. Minnesota Vikings, noon
Thursday, Nov. 27, at Detroit Lions, noon
Sunday, Dec. 7, vs. Chicago Bears, noon
Sunday, Dec. 14, at Denver Broncos, 3:25 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 20, at

Chicago Bears, TBA
Saturday, Dec. 27, vs. Baltimore Ravens, TBA
Sunday, Jan. 4, at Minnesota Vikings, TBA
NFL SCHEDULE
Thursday, Oct. 9
Philadelphia at NY Giants, 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12
Denver at NY Jets, in London, 8:30 a.m.
Seattle at Jacksonville, noon
LA Chargers at Miami, noon
LA Rams at Baltimore, noon
Arizona at Indianapolis, noon

Dallas at Carolina, noon
New England at New Orleans, noon
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, noon
Tennessee at Las Vegas, 3:05 p.m.
San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 3:25 p.m.
Cincinnati at Green Bay, 3:25 p.m.
Detroit at Kansas City, 7:20 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 13
Buffalo at Atlanta, 6:15 p.m.
Chicago at Washington, 7:15 p.m.
Bye Teams: Houston, Minnesota

Packers welcome early bye this season

BY JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The Green Bay Packers are returning home for the first time since early September, and they'll take on the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday.

The Packers have not won a game since that 28-19 victory over the Washington Commanders, having lost and tied their first two road games of the season.

The Bengals season is in flux right now, as quarterback Joe Burrow has been lost for the season with a foot injury.

Jake Browning has struggled in his absence, and a game that was supposed to be a potential Super Bowl preview now looks like there is only one team left that could be a contender.

That's Green Bay, but they need to get back to their winning ways.

More on that in this week's six pack.

1. Wild Ones

These two teams have met three times since 2013, and all of those games have been wild for one reason or another.

The first game of note was in 2013, which came in Cincinnati.

The Packers stormed out to a 30-14 lead but would subsequently blow that lead against Andy Dalton and the Bengals, highlighted by a key fumble from rookie running back Jonathan Franklin.

Four years ago, the two teams met again in Cincinnati. The Packers won in overtime, as the two teams traded missed kicks in OT. Mason Crosby ultimately won that game with a walk-off field goal.

The last meeting at Lambeau Field saw the Packers fall behind before Aaron Rodgers led a big comeback on what was at the time the hottest game day in the history of Lambeau Field.

The comeback was capped off with a touch-down pass to Jordy Nelson in the corner of the end zone and won in overtime by a Crosby field goal.

Safe to say, when these two teams get together, expect fireworks.

2. Out of the Bye

One of the pressure points for Matt LaFleur early in his career was that his team really struggled coming off extended rest periods.

That appears to have changed.

The Packers have won four of their last five games out of the bye.

This game against the Bengals is a potential bounce back, where the Packers will be hoping that trend continues.



Josh Jacobs' 86 yards rushing and 71 yards receiving was a dual threat abasing the Cowboys.
GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

3. Health?

LaFleur was pretty succinct when he was asked what his team needed to focus the most on coming out of the bye week.

"It's called health," LaFleur said.

It's true, the Packers were pretty beat up going into Dallas, missing three offensive linemen. They lost Devonte Wyatt during the game as well.

It's unclear if the Packers will get any of those guys back, but they did waive Brant Banks, whom they promoted from the practice squad in the wake of those injuries.

They lost him to the Titans on waivers and have yet to replace him on the practice squad.

That suggests they should feel good about getting Aaron Banks, Anthony Belton or Zach Tom back on Sunday.

4. Special Teams

Green Bay's special teams is in shambles.

To be fair to them, special teams around the league have been pretty rough to start the year. Perhaps there will be a discussion some day as to why.

Green Bay, however, should not worry about the rest of the league; they should worry about themselves.

Matthew Golden has looked uncomfortable as a punt returner. Ditto for Savion Williams returning kicks.

Kick coverage has been a mess between committing penalties and allowing

explosive returns. To top it all off, they've had kicks blocked in back-to-back games.

The last time these two teams met, it was an adventure on special teams as well. Is that an omen? That remains to be seen.

5. Grudge Match

These two teams have only met 14 times in their history, but those 14 games are at a deadlock.

Green Bay's win in Cincinnati four years ago evened the series at seven wins apiece.

The Packers have a chance to add an

eighth win at Lambeau Field against a backup quarterback.

6. Cavalry's Coming

LaFleur talked about health going into the bye week, but that was with players currently on the active roster.

With four weeks in the books, the Packers can now look at bringing some players back from injured reserve.

The most likely candidate at this point is wide receiver Christian Watson.

Other candidates include Marshawn Lloyd, Jacob Monk and Collin Oliver.



0	Matthew Golden.....	WR	1	Ja'Marr Chase.....	WR
1	Micah Parsons.....	DL	2	Evan McPherson.....	K
2	Malik Willis.....	QB	5	Tee Higgins.....	WR
7	Quay Walker.....	LB	6	Jake Browning.....	QB
8	Josh Jacobs.....	RB	8	Ryan Rehkow.....	P
10	Jordan Love.....	QB	11	Brett Rypien.....	QB
13	Dontayvion Wicks.....	WR	15	Charlie Jones.....	WR
16	Bo Melton.....	CB	20	DJ Turner II.....	CB
17	Brandon McManus.....	K	22	Geno Stone.....	S
18	Malik Heath.....	WR	23	Dax Hill.....	CB
19	Daniel Whelan.....	P	24	Marco Wilson.....	CB
20	Javon Bullard.....	S	25	Tahj Brooks.....	HB
21	Nate Hobbs.....	CB	26	Tycen Anderson.....	S
23	Emanuel Wilson.....	RB	27	Jordan Battle.....	S
24	Carrington Valentine....	CB	28	Josh Newton.....	CB
25	Keisean Nixon.....	CB	29	Cam Taylor-Britt.....	CB
27	Kitan Oladapo.....	S	30	Chase Brown.....	HB
29	Xavier McKinney.....	S	34	Samaje Perine.....	HB
30	Chris Brooks.....	RB	37	PJ Jules.....	S
31	Nick Niemann.....	LB	38	DJ Ivey.....	CB
33	Evan Williams.....	S	42	Oren Bunks.....	LB
36	Kamal Hadden.....	CB	44	Demetrius Knight Jr....	LB
39	Zayne Anderson.....	S	46	William Wagner.....	LS
42	Matt Orzech.....	LS	49	Barrett Carter.....	LB
50	Zach Tom.....	OL	50	Shaka Hayward.....	LB
52	Rashan Gary.....	DL	55	Logan Wilson.....	LB
55	Kingsley Enagbare.....	DL	58	Joseph Ossai.....	DE
56	Edgerrin Cooper.....	LB	61	Cody Ford.....	OT
58	Isaiah McDuffie.....	LB	63	Dylan Fairchild.....	G
59	Ty'Ron Hopper.....	LB	64	Ted Karras.....	C
63	Rasheed Walker.....	T	65	Matt Lee.....	C
65	Aaron Banks.....	G	66	Dalton Risner.....	G
67	Donovan Jennings.....	G/T	69	Mike Pennel.....	DT
70	Darian Kennard.....	T/G	71	Amarius Mims.....	OT
71	Anthony Belton.....	T	74	Jalen Rivers.....	G
74	Elgton Jenkins.....	C/G	75	Orlando Brown Jr.....	OT
75	Sean Rhyan.....	G	80	Andrei Iosivas.....	WR
77	Jordan Morgan.....	T/G	81	Jermaine Burton.....	WR
83	Savion Williams.....	WR	82	Mitch Tinsley.....	WR
85	Tucker Kraft.....	TE	85	Cam Grandy.....	TE
86	John FitzPatrick.....	TE	86	Noah Fant.....	TE
87	Romeo Doubs.....	WR	87	Tanner Hudson.....	TE
88	Luke Musgrave.....	TE	88	Mike Gesicki.....	TE
89	Ben Sims.....	TE	89	Drew Sample.....	TE
90	Lukas Van Ness.....	DL	90	Kris Jenkins Jr.....	DT
91	Warren Brinson.....	DL	91	Trey Hendrickson.....	DE
93	Nazir Stackhouse.....	DL	92	B.J. Hill.....	DT
94	Karl Brooks.....	DL	93	McKinney Jackson.....	DT
95	Devonte Wyatt.....	DL	94	Jordan Jefferson.....	DT
96	Colby Wooden.....	DL	96	Cam Sample.....	DE
99	Barryn Sorrell.....	DL	97	Shemar Stewart.....	DE
			98	T.J. Slaton Jr.....	DT
			99	Myles Murphy.....	DE

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Score Prediction
Packers 10
vs Bengals 7

Favorite Packers Memory

"Taking the Lambeau tour with my husband while we were living at The Cottages. We even got to go down on the field! And my favorite snack to eat while watching the game is popcorn."

Betty,
Meadowlands Tenant

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MOMENTS

PACKERS BACK HOME AFTER ROAD TRIP, BYE WEEK



In Week 1, the Packers' defense held the Detroit Lions' running game to 46 yards and 13 points in the season opener. Last season, the Lions averaged 143 yards on the ground per game. GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

COOPER, WOODEN FEAST ON A LION

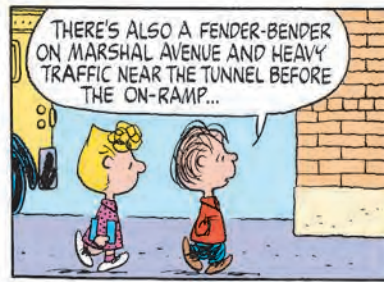
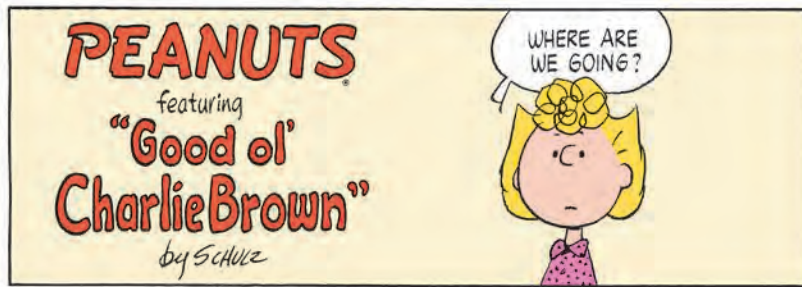
THE DEFENSE'S SIGNATURE MOMENT

HO-CHUNK



GAMING

WITTENBERG



Agnes

by TONY COCHRAN

MY LIFE IS A CRAZY THRILL RIDE! EVERY WAKING MOMENT IS A FRENZY OF PASSION AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY!

YOU JUST LOOK LIKE A LOOSELY TOSSED PILE OF GIRL.

THAT'S BECAUSE I'M CONFINING THE ACTIVITIES TO THE INSIDE OF MY HEAD. THE OUTSIDE MAY LOOK A TAD LETHARGIC.

YOU LOOK A TAD DEAD.

IF I WASN'T WRANGLING WILD BUFFALOS IN HERE, I'D BE GIVING YOU A MEAN LOOK.

BE EASY ON THEM. I THINK THEY ARE ENDANGERED.

10-5-25

The BARN

by Ralph Hagen

"LIFE'S ROAD IS FULL OF BUMPS."

BUT IF YOU GO REALLY FAST, YOU HARDLY FEEL THEM!

THAT'S RORY! ALWAYS PEDAL TO THE METAL!

10-5

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Diamond Lil

by Brett Koth

SIGH...

I HATE THIS TIME OF YEAR...

PRETTY SOON EVERYONE IS GONNA WANT TO CARVE ME!

I KNOW JUST WHAT YOU MEAN

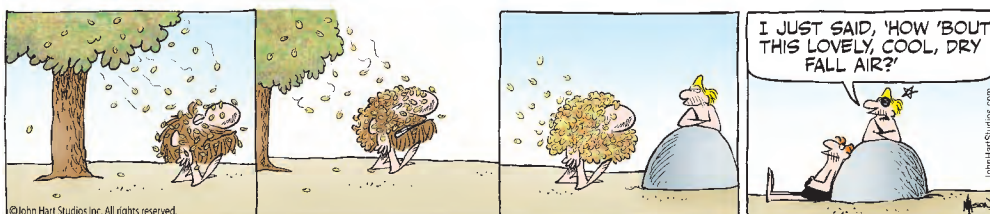
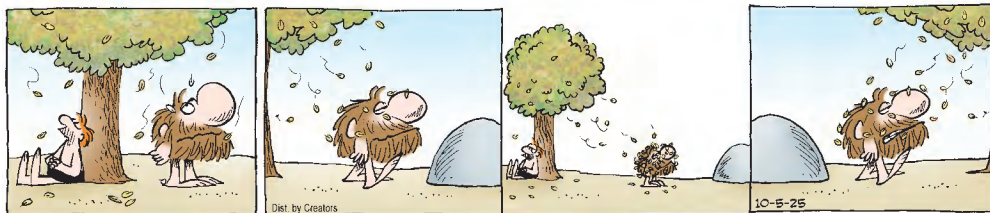
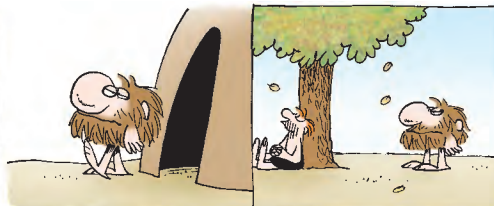
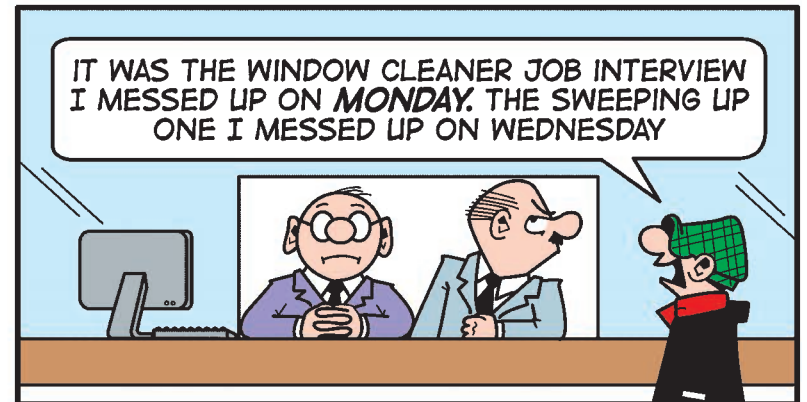
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BY MICK MASTROIANNI AND MASON MASTROIANNI

