Why I Give Thanks
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SHAWANO LEADER

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Santa's reindeer make an appearance at the tree lighting event at Franklin Park in 2025. The reindeer will return for the 2026 event set for Nov. 28. FILE | NEW MEDIA

Shawano Downtown plans holiday stroll, tree lighting event

Shopping day concludes with free activities

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

It's that time of the year when it seems like each day of the week is preceded by a descriptive word – Black Friday, Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday.

Don't forget Small Business Saturday, that day of the shopping season that focuses on local stores and local products. For Shawano, Small Business Saturday is also celebrated with a Holiday Stroll and Tree Lighting event.

"I always tell people to shop local first," said Lindsay Johnson, director of Shawano Downtown. "The store owners are our friends, neighbors and fellow residents, and any money spent locally circles back into the community and its organizations."

The Nov. 28 events run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and culminate with the lighting of a 26-foot tall Christmas tree in the middle of Franklin Park.

"The Holly Jolly Trolley will be back again this year, running up and down Main Street all day," Johnson said.

The trolley travel path runs from Bottle House Antiques, 701 S. Main St., north on Main Street through the downtown, circling onto Washington Street, going past Franklin Park and then south again to the antique store.

"We'll have elves on the trolley to greet everyone and answer any questions people may have," Johnson said.

At Franklin Park, people can view the many decorated Christmas trees and take part in the free activities.

"The parks and rec staff put down the stands and put up the trees in the park," Johnson said. "I and my staff of volunteers put up the signs, and the businesses and nonprofit organizations decorate the trees."

There are about 115 trees this year, as has been the case the past year or two.

"We started with 30 trees in 2018, and we seem to add more every year," Johnson.

Free activities at the park include Santa and Mrs. Claus, Santa's reindeer, horse-drawn wagon rides, a firepit with all of the fixings for smores, a live choir and a DJ service playing Christmas music.

The only cost will be for drinks and treats at the few select vendors that will be set up in the park.

"At 5 p.m., we have a countdown to the tree lighting," Johnson said. "It's a very Hallmark moment when the tree is lit."

Also coming up is the annual Christmas parade, set for 6 p.m. Dec. 4.

The Friday night parade has a theme of "Parade of Lights." It will begin on South Main Street at Elizabeth Street, travel north to Green Bay Street, west to Washington Street and south to Franklin Park.

"We usually have about 60 entries," Johnson said. "I'm excited to see what people will do celebrate the theme."

Finally, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at Santa's House in the Naberhood downtown plaza from 2-4 p.m. Dec. 5 and from 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 12 and Dec. 19.

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First visible signs of courthouse project coming

Fencing to be installed week of Nov. 30

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Years of talk and months of planning will finally come to fruition as residents will soon witness the first signs of the construction of a new courthouse and jail.

Kurt Berner, of The Samuels Group, told the Shawano County Board at its Nov. 18 meeting that a lot of behind-the-scenes work has been done since the board approved the first round of bids for the $121 million project last month.

"One is getting some permits in place, getting some easements in place and then coordination of our utilities. So as you can see out back, there are a lot of utilities that serve the existing campus," he said. "We're working to get the new utilities relocated so that you can stay in business while we get the relocation. But we are targeting that you're going to start to see fencing, perimeter fencing, go around the building the week of Nov. 30."

Employee parking will be among the first areas affected, as construction crews will take over that space.

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Wittenberg-Birnamwood students take to the stage.
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The Laundry Basket opens in Keshena

New facility latest innovation from WRDC

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor



The Menominee Nation High School drum group performs an honor song Nov. 17 to celebrate the opening of The Laundry Basket, the latest of the Wolf River Development Company's businesses in Keshena. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

The newest business for the Wolf River Development Company was fluffed, folded and opened to the public Nov. 17 in Keshena.

WRDC opened The Laundry Basket at N927 State Highway 47-55, near the junction where the two roads split, making it easier for residents on the Menominee Reservation who don't have washers and dryers to clean their clothes without having to travel all the way to Shawano or Antigo to do so.

"We are grateful you could join us as we celebrate this important milestone," said Angel Reiter, WRDC's master of ceremonies, to almost 70 people who attended the ribbon cutting. "I see a lot of tribal members, community leaders, directors and staff from all the agencies here on the reservation."

Pamela Boivin, WRDC chairwoman, jokingly called out to her husband when she took the podium to speak and told him to grab the laundry baskets and put them by the entrance so they could be the first to wash their clothes for The Laundry Basket.

Then Boivin took a more serious tone and pointed out that the new business was the latest to provide better services for tribal members, much like Save A Lot's opening years ago made food more locally accessible.



Visitors pour into The Laundry Basket on Nov. 17 to check out the machines and other amenities. The new facility was made possible by the Wolf River Development Company. LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

"Today's grand opening, it reflects a lot more than our continued growth," Boivin said. "It reflects the achievement for our community and our partners, and our stability in our leadership and also our tribal legislators, who all work in tandem to support our team at WRDC to make projects like this come to life."

Boivin noted the opening of the latest business is just a link in the chain of a number of initiatives that have taken place over the last five years.

"Behind this investment is a tremendous amount of work that reflects how WRDC approaches economic development," Boivin said. "It's not just the small businesses. It's not just the big businesses. It's how we support our community with the needs that we respond to to make sure our community has the resources they need to prosper."

That work includes assessing the existing businesses to see how they can be made better, along with what new businesses can be added to Keshena, Neopit and other reservation communities.

"We also understand the importance of urgency," Boivin said. "Opportunities require us to be responsive, decisive and also willing to act. Our commitment to responsible growth goes hand in hand with our ability to make timely decisions, navigate the challenges and move projects forward without providing unnecessary barriers or processes to stand in our way."

The Laundry Basket may be the latest tribal enterprise, but Boivin made it clear that more was coming down the road.

"We're not slowing down," she said. "The next six years hold tremendous potential, and opportunities in the next several years are exciting. We've built momentum, expanded our capabilities and established a strong foundation to continue pursuing the new opportunities, advancing innovation and making strategic investments to elevate the Menominee Nation."

The new facility received praise from David Grignon, the tribe's former historic preservation officer, who normally addresses the past but spoke of the tribe's economic future prior to giving a prayer in the Menominee language.

"As the tribe moves forward with Wolf River Development, there's a very good future for our people," Grignon said.

Menominee Tribal Vice Chairwoman Dana Waubanascum also celebrated having a new facility to serve tribal members, noting that the work to bring laundry service to the reservation took months of planning.

"Together, we're doing more than celebrating the opening of a new business," Waubanascum said. "We celebrate an investment in our community, a commitment to meeting everyday needs and another step forward in strengthening services for our people. As Menominee people, we understand the importance of building for future generations. Projects like The Laundry Basket reflect that vision."

Waubanascum noted The Laundry Basket would also serve visitors to the community, including those staying at the Menominee Casino Resort.

"As we open these doors, let us also recognize the opportunities that come with continued economic and community development," Waubanascum said. "Every new service, every new project and every new investment helps build a stronger future for our Menominee people. I wish The Laundry Basket great success for many years to come."

Besides the Laundry Basket, WRDC operates the Standing Pines and Standing Cedars convenience stores, Save A Lot, Primal Wood Products, Morning Star Coffee and the Dream Catcher Housing Initiative. According to Boivin, WRDC is involved in 23 different business ventures altogether.

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Birnamwood man bound over in murder trial

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

A Birnamwood man charged with killing his brother will head to trial after a judge found probable cause in the case Nov. 18.

Timothy Anker, 59, appeared in Marathon County Circuit Court for a preliminary hearing in front of Judge Rick Cveykus.

Anker faces a charge of first-degree intentional homicide in the stabbing death of his brother, Thomas Anker, 57. A domestic abuse modifier was charge is also added to the case against Anker.

The penalty for the murder charge is a mandatory life sentence. If found guilty, a judge would decide whether – and when – Anker would be eligible for extended supervision (after 20 years, at a late date or never).

He is also charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This charge was filed when investigators found three guns in a cabinet in his bedroom. This felony carries a maximum penalty of up to 10 years in prison a fine of up to $25,000 or both.

Anker appeared in court with attorney Daniel Repka.

Investigators said Anker called 911 on April 26 to report a stabbing. Court documents show Anker told the dispatcher he had stabbed his brother during a fight.

Anker was initially held on a $75,000 cash bond in the days following his arrest, which a judge has raised twice since then. Bond was set at $500,000 cash at Anker's June 5 initial appearance on the homicide charge.

Anker is scheduled to return to court Dec. 8 for an arraignment and bond hearing.

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ENTERPRISE & NEWS

Sstudents enjoy sweet time on stage

‘Charlie and the Chocolate Factory’ to be performed Nov. 27-29 in Wausau

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Three Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District students are performing in the Central Wisconsin Children’s Theatre production of “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” over Thanksgiving weekend.

Halley Innes plays Veruca Salt, the spoiled daughter of a Russian billionaire who wins a golden ticket to Wonka’s Chocolate Factory and will stop at nothing to get her way. She’s performed before with the CWCT.

“I love getting to play Veruca, because she’s so spoiled and bratty and over the top,” Halley said. “Most of the characters I’ve played are very innocent, and she’s more like a villain, so I’m really enjoying this opportunity to expand my range as an actor. Plus she’s so funny, so it’s been really fun to bring her to life.”

Olive Kaminski plays Mrs. Green, a hard-working local vendor who shows kindness to Charlie Bucket and his struggling family. She is also part of the ensemble.

“I’m so grateful to be in this show, because when I was a little kid, I would constantly watch Willy Wonka and act out scenes in my living room,” Olive said. “I love playing Mrs. Green, because she is enthusiastic and also a little sneaky, which makes her a really fun role to play.”

This is Olive’s first CWCT show where she has lines.

“I’m also really excited to perform the song ‘Vidiots,’” she said. “It’s so fun.”

River Bandow plays an Oompa Loompa as part of the ensemble.

The musical is based on the famous novel by Roald Dahl.

The world-famous Willy Wonka is opening the gates to his mysterious factory – but only to a lucky few. Young Charlie Bucket and four other golden ticket winners will embark on a life-changing journey through Wonka’s world of pure imagination including chocolate waterfalls, nutty squirrels and the great glass elevator, all to be revealed by Wonka’s army of curious Oompa Loompas.

Brenton Kneiss is the show director. This is his final local show in Wausau. Rick LaFrombois is the executive director of the CWCT.

“I can’t think of a better musical for the whole family to experience as the holiday season kicks off,” Kneiss said. “CWCT is a wonderful outlet for kids to perform who may not have those opportunities at their schools. We have such a strong pool of talent in our communities; it’s great we can showcase so many students in the CWCT shows.”

Kneiss said having performers from outside of Wausau benefits everyone.

“Having kids from neighboring communities around Wausau enriches the show experience, not just in terms of talent, but in creating new friendships and building a really strong and diverse theater community and cast bond,” he said.

LaFrombois is grateful that families from communities across central Wisconsin choose to be part of CWCT productions.

“I think that speaks to the caliber of our directors and production teams, who care as much about the experience our young performers have as they do about the quality of the show audiences see,” he said.

Halley is looking forward to hearing

CHARLIE, continued on page 31



Halley Innes plays Veruca Salt, the spoiled daughter of a Russian billionaire who wins a golden ticket to Wonka’s Chocolate Factory and will stop at nothing to get her way. LAURA HUNT

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Taxes dropping for many Shawano residents

Council OKs 2027 budget, which includes $2 tax rate drop

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Taxes are going down for many city of Shawano residents despite the increase in assessed valuations, according to finance director Isaac Patterson.

The Shawano Common Council approved the 2027 budget for the city Nov. 18, where a $182,000 increase in the revenue limit from the state was included.

The tax rate for various entities has dropped across the board. The city's rate dropped from $9.42 to $7.44, while city residents will see their rate for county taxes drop from $4.38 to $3.60, and school district taxes drop more than $1 from $6.55 to $5.54.

Usually, when assessed values increase, the offset of tax rates negates it. However, according to Patterson, anyone who saw their values increase 28% or less can expect to see an overall decrease in their taxes this year.

The council approved a tax levy of almost $16.9 million. Of that, $6.4 million goes to the city comprising 44% of residents' tax bills, $4.6 million goes to the school district, $3.1 million goes to the county, $409,749 goes to Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, and the remainder is for five tax increment finance districts.

"We're excited to reiterate the point of being able to share a very stable budget," Patterson said. "When all of us are feeling very tight wallets with going to the grocery store and filling up our gas tanks, the city is able to share a stable budget."

The $182,000 increase in the levy limit comes primarily as a result of the TIF districts, capital projects and debt service, which comes to about $118,000, according to Patterson. The remainder, $64,000 will go into the general fund, he said.

"It's a 1.88% increase," Patterson noted.

Of the various parts of the budget, half of every dollar goes to general fund priorities like paying employees and keeping the lights and heat on, according to Patterson. Fourteen cents goes toward the debt service, while 32 cents is applied to capital projects. The remainder goes toward the Shawano Municipal Airport and Shawano City Cab operations.

Even with only a minor increase in the levy limit, the city was able to give a 3.5% cost-of-living increase to its employees, including all of its protected services.

Patterson noted that while the budget was looking rosy for 2027, he noted that it would be the last year for the discount on its health insurance discharges.

"The other thing we've got to monitor is our outside relationships," Patterson said. "A lot of our service relationships — ambulance service, humane society, other outside contract relationships like that — continue to have larger increases than what is typical of government. When we're sharing 2%, we're feeling increases well into double digits in most of these categories. We will be watching these very strongly into the future."

The city will have $6.6 million of capital projects, but 59% of them are funded from outside sources. For example, $1 million in road projects are being paid for through a Community Development Block Grant.

"That is an amazing way to stretch the dollar and an amazing way to go a lot further on the same amount of money to accomplish these days," Patterson said. "Our department heads work every single day to make sure they're optimizing their dollars and optimizing how things work, and this is very exciting news for the city."

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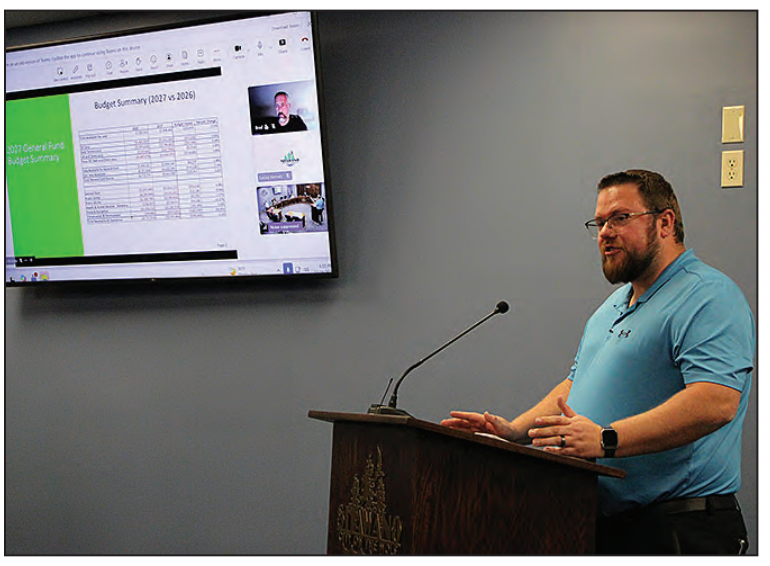

Isaac Patterson, Shawano finance director, presents a summary of the city's general fund during a presentation on the 2027 budget Nov. 18 at Shawano City Hall. Patterson said anyone who has seen an increase of 28% or less in their assessed values can expect their taxes to go down next year.
LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

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BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER 2025

Neopit man gets 6 years for beating woman

'Everybody has domestic violence' comment roils judge

By KEVIN MURPHY
Correspondent

A former Neopit man was recently sentenced to six years in federal prison for injuries he caused a woman while she was driving on the Menominee Reservation.

Damien J. Peters, 41, was riding with the victim April 22, and after arguing with her, repeatedly hit her causing severe pain to her head that resulted in swelling and her vomiting, according to court documents.

Medical staff later evaluated her and concluded that she likely suffered a concussion as a result of the beating.

The victim had a long-term relationship with Peters and testified at his Nov. 6 sentencing that he abused her physically and emotionally for years. He has five prior misdemeanor convictions under tribal law involving domestic abuse.

Peters was a trained boxer and knew how to hit a person without leaving visible bruises, Senior U.S. District Judge William Griesbach noted in his sentencing remarks Nov. 5

Peters is a lifelong Menominee Nation resident, born in the Dogtown area where he was raised with four siblings. The 2011 drowning death of his sister was a tragic event in his life, and Peters admits that he hasn't yet resolved the loss.

Peters admitted he had struck the victim in the past and glibly told police that "everybody has domestic violence up here."

Griesbach admonished Peters for that statement and said that, based upon his many years of experience, the good people living on the reservation would be deeply offended by the defendant's words and actions, according to a statement by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

First Assistant U.S. Attorney Brad Schimel commented on Peters' sentence and praised the victim's for speaking out about her plight.

"As a result … the victim and the Menominee community will receive a much-needed break from the defendant's persistently violent conduct," Schimel said. "It took great courage for the victim to stand up to this defendant and put an end to him terrorizing her and others in their community. We are grateful to her."

Peters' past criminal conduct was linked to his drinking issues and occurred when he was much younger. He has refrained from drinking for five years and wasn't intoxicated during the April assault, his attorney, Krista Halla-Valdes, wrote the court.

Peters, who has been in custody since his arrest for assault, took responsibility for his actions in a written statement to the court.

"I would like to apologize for my actions and for the pain I have caused. I am truly sorry. I want to say sorry to the victim," Peters wrote. "I realized while in custody that what I did was wrong. I can assure the court that this type of behavior won't happen again, I take full responsibility for what I have done … I am 100% focused on changing my behavior. While I have been in custody, I have completed domestic violence treatment, anger management and AODA programming."

Peters served a six-month sentence imposed in tribal court for the same conduct.

He faced a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison after pleading guilty in August to assault causing serious bodily injury.



Sacred Heart Catholic School students, from left, Emma Witt, Caroline Vandermeersch and Michael Lyman pose with their turkeys that show what they're thankful for. CONTRIBUTED

Sacred Heart students learn how to be thankful

Four-year-old kindergarten students at Sacred Heart Catholic School combined early literacy, creativity and gratitude through a fun and meaningful Thanksgiving-themed learning activity.

As part of their classroom lessons focusing on the letter "T," students created colorful Thankfulness Turkeys, connecting the letter to familiar words such as turkey, thankful and Thanksgiving. Each student decorated a turkey with brightly colored feathers featuring the names of people and things they are especially thankful for.

From moms, dads, grandparents and siblings to their homes and other special blessings, each feather represented something meaningful in the students' lives. The activity provided an opportunity for students to practice recognizing the letter "T" and its sound while expressing gratitude for the people and blessings that make their lives special.

The hands-on project incorporated several important early childhood learning skills, including letter recognition, vocabulary development, creativity, fine motor coordination and social-emotional growth. Students were encouraged to recognize the many gifts God has given them and understand the importance of being thankful, showing kindness and appreciating others.

Donuts bring families together at Sacred Heart

Sacred Heart Catholic School welcomed parents, grandparents, family members and other special guests Nov. 18 for its first-ever Dudes and Donuts celebration, a morning filled with food, fellowship and quality time with students.

The new event was created to celebrate the important individuals who play meaningful roles in students' lives while providing an opportunity to strengthen family connections within the school community.

Students and their special guests gathered for breakfast, shared conversations and time together before beginning their school day. The morning served as a reminder that even the simplest moments spent together can create lasting memories.

At Sacred Heart, family involvement is an essential part of the school's Christ-centered mission, according to Autumne Gee, its admissions and development director. Events like Dudes and Donuts help strengthen the partnership between home and school while recognizing the love, encouragement, guidance and support that parents, grandparents and other influential individuals provide to students each day.

The event was organized and hosted by Sacred Heart's Partners in Education, with breakfast prepared by Tanya Myerchin. Their efforts helped make the school's inaugural celebration a memorable experience for students and guests alike, according to Gee.



Matt and Thomas Kersten pose with their breakfast Nov. 18 at Sacred Heart Catholic School in its first Dudes and Donuts event. CONTRIBUTED

It pays to be trucker in Shawano County, says survey

Trucking companies in Shawano County pay well above the average, according to a new analysis of federal wage records by trucking job board Careers in Gear.

Jobs at the county's trucking companies paid an average of $64,077 a year, 37% more than the $46,856 average for all private-sector jobs there, and the gap was at least 20% in each of the last two years. Across Wisconsin, trucking jobs pay about the same as the average private-sector job.

The average covers everyone on a trucking company's payroll, from drivers to dispatchers and mechanics, and most of those jobs don't require a college degree. Nationally, industry estimates put drivers with five or more years behind the wheel at up to $86,000 a year, according to Careers in Gear's 2026 guide to truck driver pay at careersingear.com/truck-driver-resources/truck-driver-pay-2026-careersingear.

Shawano County's trucking companies employed an average of 225 people last year at 34 locations. About 1 in 23 working county residents has a job in transportation, wherever that job is.

Statewide, median pay for heavy truck drivers in Wisconsin is $58,610 a year, 17% more than the median for all Wisconsin jobs ($50,270), according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The analysis uses the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, in its latest full-year figures. Counties are included when trucking pay was at least 20% above the local average in each of the last two years. Averages are per job and cover everyone on the payroll, including part-time workers. Nationally, trucking employees work about 41 hours a week against 34 across the private sector, so part of the gap reflects hours. Driver pay is a median from the BLS wage survey, a different measure from the averages above, and resident job counts are from the Census Bureau.

Careers in Gear is a job board for truck drivers and diesel mechanics, with openings from carriers in 48 states.

School board approves 2028 France trip

Early discount from travel company could help with student costs

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Shawano Community High School got a jump start on planning its next trip to France by getting approval Nov. 16 from the Shawano School Board.

The 10-day international field trip would take place just prior to spring break in March 2028. According to SCHS teacher Megan Pyatskowit, students have been asking for another trip since the last one that took place earlier this year.

The reason the approval was needed now was to allow families the opportunity to save on costs if they sign on before the end of the current year. According to Pyatskowit, the full price for the trip is $5,963, but paying before Jan. 1 would save more than $500, plus another $100 if they go up an additional level of insurance and select monthly payments.

She said at least 11 students would need to sign on to make the next trip a reality, but at least five are already interested. Also, students can still participate after Jan. 1, even though the discount would no longer apply. There is no cost to the school district for the trip, as families would come up with the money themselves, either out of pocket or through their own individual fundraisers.

"The opportunity to go to France is a great immersion opportunity for the students," said Aaron Manders, SCHS principal. "This trip will be a little different than the one they took this past spring with some other different locations. Students are asking about it. They're bothering the team (of teachers) to try to go again, because they enjoyed it so much."

The trip is open to students who will be sophomores, juniors and seniors next year. There are currently three French classes at the high school with almost 45 students total in those classes.

"Having been in those classrooms, those students are really engaged," Manders said. "They want to learn more about French culture and lifestyle."

Pyatskowit said the company handling the tours was only offering the sale in November and December, and she saw it as an opportunity to get more students interested.

"It's Paris, and then we go south to Provence and then go to the Mediterranean," Pyatskowit said. "Some of the places we've been before, but the company let me customize the itinerary, because I've traveled with them in the past."

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Students show off their braids



Showing off their braids are third-grade students, front row, from left, Ava Carroll and Olivia Kast; back row, from left, Katie Fowler-Doxtator, Aliyah Redmerski, Elli Farley, Rylea Cumberland and Nakoma Daugherty. Sacred Heart Catholic School celebrated Braids Are Beautiful Day on Nov. 6, as part of its observance of Native American Heritage Month. Inspired by the school's faith-centered mission and the words of scripture, the day provided students with an opportunity to honor traditions that are meaningful within Native American cultures. CONTRIBUTED

ThedaCare encourages ACL injury prevention

Practices, tryouts and games are back on school calendars.

That also means an increased risk of one of the most common and serious knee injuries among young athletes, an anterior cruciate ligament tear.

ACL injuries can sideline students for months, disrupt school and sports routines and raise the risk of future knee problems. Fortunately, many ACL injuries are preventable, said Dr. Ramez Hoveydai, ThedaCare sports medicine physician.

"These injuries often happen during movements athletes can learn to control better – especially landing, cutting, pivoting and slowing down," he said.

The ACL is one of the main ligaments inside the knee. It helps keep the shinbone from sliding too far forward and aids in controlling twisting motions. An ACL injury usually means the ligament has been stretched or torn, often during a quick stop, sharp change of direction, awkward landing, pivot or collision.

ACL injuries are not completely preventable, Hoveydai said. A well-planned preseason routine can help decrease injury risk.

"The best programs begin neuromuscular training," he said. "These programs teach athletes how to land, cut, decelerate and balance with better control."

General guidelines for ACL injury prevention include:

• Practicing soft landing: Athletes should bend at the hips and knees, keep their knees aligned over their toes and avoid landing with stiff legs.

• Building hip, core and hamstring strength: Strong muscles around the hips, trunk and back of the thighs help reduce stress on the knee.

• Warming up with purpose: A 10- to 20-minute warmup that includes dynamic movement, balance, jumping mechanics and sport-specific drills can be more useful than jogging alone. Cool down with static stretches.

• Not doing too much too soon: Sudden increases in training volume, year-round specialization and skipping recovery days can up injury risk.

• Checking shoes and play surfaces: Cleats, court shoes and field conditions should match the sport and surface to reduce slipping or sticking.

ACL injuries can happen in any sport. Risk is generally higher in activities that involve jumping, cutting, pivoting and quick changes of speed, Hoveydai said. These include soccer, basketball, volleyball, football, lacrosse and gymnastics.

Girls and young women have higher rates of non-contact ACL injury than boys in similar sports. The reason is not attributable to one single factor. It is usually a combination of anatomy, hormones, strength patterns and movement mechanics.

"This does not mean girls should avoid sports. It means schools, coaches and families should be intentional about prevention," Hoveydai said. "This is especially true for middle school and high school athletes entering a new season."

Other risk factors for an ACL injury include poor landing mechanics, such as the knees collapsing inward or the legs remaining too straight during movement. Weakness in the hips, core or hamstrings can also increase injury risk, as can limited balance, coordination or body control, particularly during periods of rapid growth.

"Athletes with a previous knee injury or those who return to play before fully regaining strength and movement quality may be more vulnerable," Hoveydai said. "Risk can also rise with sudden increases in training volume, practices, games or tournaments, especially at the start of a season."

Have a story idea? Let us know!
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Cecil church celebrates Christmas





TOP: Nancy Nolan bags up Christmas crafts and treats sold Nov. 20 at the Holiday Bake, Craft and Soup Sale in Cecil. The event also featured Grandma's Attic Table and was sponsored by the St. Martin of Tours Council of Catholic Women.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

BOTTOM: Christmas garland and boughs were among the many items offered at the St. Martin of Tours Council of Catholic Women craft and bake sale Nov. 20-21 at the Cecil church.

KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

Awareness about ovarian cancer important

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), ovarian cancer is the second-most common gynecologic cancer in the United States, and it causes more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system.

Unlike some cancers, ovarian cancer does not have routine screening tests for people without symptoms. That makes awareness especially important. The CDC says people should pay attention to changes in their bodies and talk with a doctor if they notice symptoms that are unusual for them.

Common symptoms can include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, feeling full quickly, and urinary urgency or frequency. Because these symptoms can be vague or mistaken for other conditions, ovarian cancer is often diagnosed later, when treatment can be more difficult. That is why awareness, timely evaluation and follow-up matter.

"Early detection starts with knowing what is normal for your body and speaking up when something changes," said Dr. Louis Dainty, Emplify Health by Bellin gynecologic oncologist. "While there are no ovarian cancer screening tests for people without symptoms, women who have persistent or unusual conditions should talk with their doctor about whether further evaluation is needed."

DID YOU KNOW?

- Ovarian cancer is the second-most common gynecologic cancer in the United States and causes more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system, according to the CDC.
- The CDC says there is no routine screening test for ovarian cancer in women without symptoms, which is why symptom awareness and prompt medical follow-up are so important.
- The American Cancer Society reports that the death rate from ovarian cancer has decreased by 45% since 1976, reflecting progress in treatment and diagnosis.

According to the CDC, age, family history, inherited gene mutations such as BRCA1 and BRCA2 and certain reproductive history factors can increase risk. However, many people diagnosed with ovarian cancer do not have a known family history, which is another reason symptom awareness is so important.

Health experts encourage people to know the warning signs, ask questions and seek care if symptoms persist. When ovarian cancer is found earlier, treatment options may be broader and outcomes can improve. The goal is simple: Help more people recognize the signs sooner and get the care they need.

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Sweet potatoes at Iverson's Piggly Wiggly in Oconto Falls were waiting for customers to collect as part of preparing Thanksgiving dinner. This year, the cost of a 3-pound bag jumped up slightly to $4.05 statewide, but it remains below the national average of $4.20.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Turkey for Thanksgiving costs over $1 more in 2027

Meal preparation requires being careful, according to USDA

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

It's time to celebrate Thanksgiving, but prices are going up for the big day, and it's important for those preparing the meals to be careful when doing so.

The price of a traditional Thanksgiving meal in Wisconsin is up 2.96%, according to Wisconsin Farm Bureau's annual Marketbasket survey that rang in at $63.67, an increase of $1.83 from the 2025 survey of the same items.

The Marketbasket survey looks at the price of popular food items used to prepare a Thanksgiving meal sufficient to serve 10 people. This survey allows for Wisconsin food prices to be compared with food prices from across the country. Comparatively, the American Farm Bureau Federation's survey of the same items showed a 6% increase from 2025 prices at a total of $58.63.

"Families are watching every dollar this Thanksgiving and so are the farmers who help put that meal on the table," said Cassie Sonnentag, WFBF senior public relations director. "Farmers receive less than 6 cents of every food dollar while facing rising production costs. By shopping holiday specials and choosing Wisconsin-grown products when possible, consumers can stretch their budgets while supporting local farm families behind their holiday traditions."

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

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



Butterball premium turkeys were plentiful at Iverson's Piggly Wiggly on Nov. 19 as Thanksgiving was just one week away. Turkeys are the most expensive part of the Thanksgiving meal, increasing the statewide average over $1 to $28.96 for a 16-pound bird, which is $5 higher than the national average.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Several factors are contributing to higher grocery prices this Thanksgiving, including increased fuel and transportation costs that impact the food supply chain.

"The price tag at checkout doesn't tell the whole story," said Sonnentag. "Farmers face many of the same financial pressures as consumers, from higher production costs to transportation expenses."

Turkey prices in Wisconsin rose $1.12 compared to last year's survey. While the U.S. turkey industry is showing signs of recovery, turkey growers continue to face challenges from animal disease and higher feed costs.

These pressures extend beyond the Thanksgiving table, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture forecasting a 2.3% increase in grocery prices nationwide earlier this year. Rising costs continue to impact farmers producing food and families purchasing it.

While Thanksgiving meal prices have

THANKSGIVING, continued on page 10

Season of gratitude, generosity in Shawano

As the holiday season approaches, Shawano Area United Way is reflecting on the generosity that makes Shawano and Menominee counties such special places to live, work and serve. Throughout 2026, countless individuals and organizations have demonstrated the power of community through their commitment to helping others.



URIAH WILLIAMS
GUEST COLUMNIST

One highlight of the past year was our participation in the Techquity Wisconsin program, which provided more than 200 laptops to local residents in need. These devices are helping individuals pursue higher education, search for employment, access online healthcare and stay connected in an increasingly digital world.

This effort was made possible through the generosity of 15 volunteers, eight partner organizations that hosted distribution events and numerous community partners who helped connect eligible residents with this valuable resource. Their collective efforts reflect what makes our community extraordinary – a willingness to step forward when neighbors need support.

We are equally grateful for the more than 50 partner agencies serving Shawano and Menominee counties. Throughout 2026, these organizations have provided essential services ranging from affordable clothing and parenting support to mental health resources and emergency financial assistance. Their impact reaches thousands of lives and strengthens the fabric of our communities.

To every donor, volunteer, employee, board member and community supporter who makes this work possible: thank you. Your generosity creates meaningful, lasting change right here at home.

As we celebrate this season of giving, we encourage everyone to consider how they might pay that generosity forward. Many local organizations are seeking volunteers as the year draws to a close. Opportunities to share your time and talents can be found at www.shawanocountyunitedway.org/volunteer-opportunities.

For those unable to volunteer, Giving Tuesday on Dec. 1 and year-end charitable contributions offer another meaningful way to support local causes. Several financial institutions are offering matching donation opportunities around Giving Tuesday, potentially doubling the impact of your gift.

December is traditionally a season of tremendous generosity. We invite you to make local nonprofit organizations part of your year-end giving and help ensure their vital services continue benefiting our neighbors.

As we close another remarkable year, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who makes Shawano and Menominee counties' communities where generosity thrives.

From the Shawano Area United Way board of directors and staff, thank you for an incredible year, and best wishes for a joyful holiday season.

Uriah Williams is the executive director of the Shawano Area United Way.

THANKSGIVING, continued from page 9

increased this year, a little planning can help families celebrate without stretching the budgets. Wisconsin Farm Bureau's annual Marketbasket survey provides a snapshot of grocery prices but does not account for store sales, loyalty discounts or coupons.

For more holiday meal inspiration, Wisconsin food brands and practical grocery shopping tips, visit www.gatherwisconsin.com.

As families across the country prepare for Thanksgiving, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service is reminding consumers to take simple steps that will keep their holiday meals safe and enjoyable.

"Thanksgiving is one of America's most cherished traditions, bringing family and friends together around the table," said USDA Undersecretary for Food Safety Mindy Brashears. "At USDA, we work year-round to help keep our nation's food supply safe. Food safety doesn't stop at the processing establishments that produce the food you eat. By following a few simple food safety steps at home, families can protect their loved ones and focus on what matters most – enjoying a safe and memorable Thanksgiving together."

BY THE NUMBERS

Item	State 2026	State 2025	National 2026	National 2025
Turkey, 16 lbs.	$28.96	$27.84	$23.68	$21.50
Milk, 1 gallon whole	$3.83	$3.52	$4.05	$3.73
Cream, half pint	$1.78	$1.89	$1.84	$1.87
Dinner rolls, 12	$3.61	$3.57	$3.81	$3.56
Relish tray, 1 lb.	$1.77	$1.68	$1.31	$1.36
Fresh cranberries, 12 oz.	$2.13	$2.19	$2.48	$2.28
Pumpkin pie mix, 30 oz.	$4.50	$4.41	$4.24	$4.16
Pie shells, 2	$3.66	$3.53	$3.28	$3.37
Cube stuffing, 14 oz.	$3.36	$3.44	$3.91	$3.71
Sweet potatoes, 3 lbs.	$4.05	$3.99	$4.20	$4
Frozen green peas, 1 lb.	$2.27	$2.03	$1.99	$2.03
Miscellaneous ingredients	$3.75	$3.75	$3.84	$3.61
Total	**$63.67**	**$61.84**	**$58.63**	**$55.18**

SOURCE: WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU MARKETBASKET SURVEY

Buying a fresh or frozen turkey is really a matter of personal preference, but as you plan for your holiday meal, it's helpful to keep a few important food safety considerations in mind.

If shopping one to two days before cooking: buy a fresh turkey. If there is a best-by or use-by date on the manufacturer's label, then you can keep fresh turkey, unopened, in the refrigerator until that date, according to the USDA.

If shopping weeks in advance, buy a frozen turkey. Never thaw on the counter. Thaw frozen turkey in the refrigerator (24 hours for every 4-5 pounds) or in cold water (30 minutes per pound, changing water every 30 minutes).

Use a food thermometer to check if your turkey is ready – it's the only way to know for certain that it has reached the safe minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees. Check in the thickest part of the breast, innermost part of the wing and innermost part of the thigh.

For optimal safety and uniform doneness, cook stuffing separately. However, if stuffing is cooked inside the turkey, use a food thermometer to make sure the center of the stuffing also reaches a safe minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees.

Bacteria grow quickly between 40 and 140 degrees, also known as the food safety danger zone, putting your family at risk for foodborne illness.

Keep cold foods in the refrigerator or nestled over ice. Serve smaller portions and replenish them as needed to keep food at or below 40 degrees.

Keep hot food in the oven, heated chafing dishes, warming trays or slow cookers at or above 140 degrees.

Follow the two-hour rule: Refrigerate perishables, prepared foods, and leftovers within two hours. Discard perishable foods left at room temperature for more than two hours.

The joy of Thanksgiving continues with leftovers. By storing them properly, you can savor each comforting dish safely and happily in the days that follow.

Divide large portions into smaller containers for quicker cooling.

Refrigerated leftovers are safe for up to four days and can be frozen for longer storage. When kept continuously frozen at 0 degrees or below, they remain safe indefinitely, although quality may decline over time.

For more information about food safety, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 888-674-6854 or email mphotline@usda.gov. The hotline will be operating 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

THEME: THE 2000s

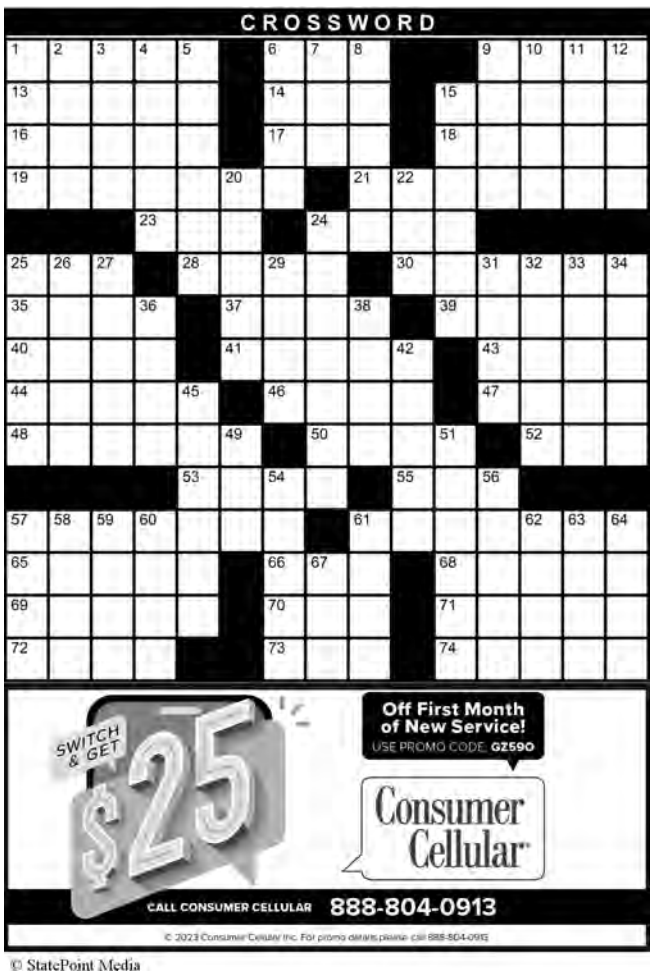
ACROSS

1. a.k.a. Manila hemp
6. Unit of electric current
9. Army dining hall
13. Channing of "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes"
14. Spy org.
15. A in AV
16. Are not
17. ____-been
18. Beech tree pulp fabric
19. *I in CGI
21. *2004 Indian Ocean disaster
23. Am is to I a ____ is to we
24. Chutzpah
25. *Ann Patchett's "____ Canto"
28. Zohran Mamdani's branch of Islam
30. Like some breads
35. Sun beams
37. Cathedral recess
39. Fungal skin infection
40. *Shrek or Fiona
41. *Sasha Baron Cohen's role
43. *Mr. Incredible's son
44. What scribes do
46. Awful
47. Silage holder
48. Bee's favorite drink
50. ALCS counterpart
52. ____ Tsu
53. Hoodlum
55. Not hers
57. *Peter ____ of "The Lord of the Rings" fame
61. *Social network
65. Saudi neighbor
66. Not a sweet wine
68. Sign of cancer
69. Subway coin
70. Long time
71. Mideast V.I.P.
72. Place at angle
73. Genetic info carrier, acr.
74. Pulls apart

DOWN

1. Antioxidants-rich smoothie berry
2. Yeasty foam
3. ____ 51
4. "Come on, shake your body, baby, do the ____"
5. Modifies
6. Hurting
7. *Jukebox musical "Mamma ____!"
8. Fusilli, e.g.
9. Unstable particle
10. Tropical tuberous root
11. Thailand, once
12. Solo, pl.
15. Protective necklace
20. Substance abuse treatment inst.
22. *"Rocky Balboa" writer and director
24. Stove burner (2 words)
25. *"The Da Vinci Code" author
26. High wave
27. Chicago opera house
29. *Revolutionary music-playing device
31. Helps
32. Type of mail
33. *All-electric Roadster manufacturer
34. *Popular search engine, with !
36. Badger's den
38. *"My Name Is ____"
42. Related to technology
45. Dines at home
49. Greek R
51. *Train's "Hey, Soul ____"
54. Six feet where?
56. Sea foam
57. Scribbles down
58. In a frenzy
59. *"Short Skirt/Long Jacket" band
60. "I ____ it!"
61. Mimicking bird
62. End of prayer
63. College girl, old-fashioned
64. Mistakes
67. *Anchorman a.k.a. ____ Burgundy

CROSSWORD



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Camp outing connects faith with outdoors

Students at Sacred Heart Catholic School traded their traditional classrooms for the outdoors Nov. 10 as they participated in the school's Fall Festival of Faith at Camp Tekakwitha.

The off-campus educational experience brought together faith formation, hands-on learning, teamwork, service and personal growth in a memorable day of adventure. The event was designed around Sacred Heart Catholic School's "Cardinals for Christ" pillars, which guide the school's mission of developing students academically, spiritually and personally. Throughout the day, students rotated through six interactive learning experiences, each emphasizing an aspect of their Catholic education.

The Christ-centered activities encouraged students to deepen their relationship with God through prayer, reflection and listening to his voice. The high academic standards rotation brought education outdoors, allowing students to explore nature through age-appropriate activities such as shelter building, pond studies and environmental exploration.

Teamwork and communication were highlighted during the respect rotation, where students participated in team-building challenges that encouraged cooperation, problem-solving and supporting one another. The improve each day activities provided opportunities for students to reflect on their accomplishments, identify areas for personal growth and establish meaningful goals.

Students also put their faith into action through the serve others rotation, participating in service projects that emphasized helping others. The thanks rotation encouraged gratitude and creativity through nature-inspired crafts and activities.

A special part of the experience was celebrating Holy Mass with the Rev. Edward Looney, reinforcing the importance of keeping Christ at the center of the students' education, friendships and everyday lives.

Beyond the educational activities, the Fall Festival of Faith provided valuable opportunities for students to strengthen friendships, build confidence, develop leadership skills and experience learning in a setting outside the traditional classroom.

The experience also demonstrated the value of off-campus education, where students can apply classroom lessons to real-world situations while developing important life skills. From working together to construct shelters to encouraging classmates during team-building challenges, students experienced firsthand how cooperation, perseverance and faith contribute to personal and academic success.



Sacred Heart Catholic School student Carter Kleist looks through a microscope at Camp Tekakwitha. CONTRIBUTED

Bay Bank hosting food and toy drive to support families

Bay Bank is collecting food and toys to support families in the Oneida and Menominee communities this holiday season.

Nonperishable food items are being accepted through Dec. 23 at Bay Bank's branches in Green Bay and Keshena. Donations will benefit the Oneida and Menominee food pantries.

Bay Bank is also collecting new, unwrapped toys for the annual Oneida Giving Tree. The toys will be picked up Dec. 4, so donations must be brought to the Packerland Drive location before then.

"Giving back to the communities we serve has always been an integral part of who we are at Bay Bank," said Nathan King, Bay Bank's executive vice president and chief operating officer. "This time of year, many families are stretching their budgets a little further, and some extra support can go a long way. We're grateful for every donation, and we know each one will make a real difference for local families this holiday season."

Donors dropping off items should look for the white collection boxes in Bay Bank's lobbies.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, NOV. 27

OCONTO: Storytime, 10:30 a.m., Farnsworth Public Library, 715 Main St. Story and crafts for preschool children. A caregiver must stay with the child.

OCONTO: Winter Wonderland Christmas Parade, 4:30 p.m., Holtwood Campground, 400 Holtwood Way. Parade starts at Thompson's County Market, 722 Brazeau Ave., and proceeds south to McDonald Street and to campground.

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

SATURDAY, NOV. 28

TOWNSEND: Holiday Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Townsend Town Hall, 16564 Elm St.

TOWNSEND: Holiday Open House and Craft Show, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Rocky Ridge Greenhouse, 17721 Sandy Ridge Lane.

SHAWANO: Vendor and Craft Fair, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shuffles Studio of Dance, 120 W. Division St.

SHAWANO: Holiday Stroll and Tree Lighting, 3-5 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. More than 100 decorated Christmas trees, visits with Santa and his reindeer, tree lighting at 5 p.m.

OCONTO FALLS: Avenue of Lights lighting and Santa visit, 6 p.m. East Side Beach, North Main Street. Carols by Oconto Falls High School Choir, Santa arrives by fire truck and lights are lit 6:30 p.m.

LAKEWOOD: Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, 6 p.m., Coldwell Banker Bartels Real Estate, 15251 State Highway 32. Santa and Mrs. Claus, cookies, hot cocoa.

SUNDAY, NOV. 29

PULASKI: Holiday and Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Pulaski Community Middle School, 911 S. St. Augustine St. $2. Hosted by Tri-County Optimist Club.

MONDAY, NOV. 30

LAKEWOOD: Preschool story time, 10-10:30 a.m., Lakes Country Public Library, Community Room, 15235 State Highway 32. 715-276-9020.

OCONTO FALLS: Playgroup, 10:30 a.m., Oconto Falls Community Library, 251 N. Main St. For infants to toddlers. There are several toy stations, story readings and snacks. 920-846-2673.

BONDUEL: Story time, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Bonduel Public Library, 125 N. Washington St. A themed program of stories, finger plays, flannel board activities, songs, dancing and a craft. 715-270-2267.

BIRNAMWOOD: Story time, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Birnamwood Public Library, 337 Main St. A themed program that may include books, puppets, finger plays, flannel board activities, songs, dancing and a simple craft. 715-253-2763, ext. 6.

TUESDAY, DEC. 1

OCONTO FALLS: American Red Cross blood drive, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Oconto Falls High School, 210 N. Farm Road. Appointments at RedCrossBlood.org or 800-733-2767.

SURING: Story time, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Suring Area Public Library, 604 E. Main St. All ages welcome but geared toward ages 1-4. Stories, songs, crafts and more. 920-842-4451

PULASKI: Family story time, 10:15-10:45 a.m., Pulaski Public Library, 222 W. Pulaski St. Stories, fingerplays, songs and movement activities for children of all ages with a parent or caregiver.

OCONTO FALLS: Story time, 10:30 a.m., Oconto Falls Community Library, 251 N. Main St. This is a traditional library storytime held in the children's corner and recommended for children 0-8 and their guardians. Participants will sing songs, read stories and make a craft for children to take home. 920-846-2673.

SHAWANO: Story time, 10-11 a.m. Shawano Public Library, 128 S. Sawyer St. A themed program of stories, finger plays, flannel board activities, songs, dancing and a craft. 715-526-3829.

LENA: Storytime, 1:30-2 p.m. Lena Public Library, 200 E. Main St. Open to all ages. 920-829-5335.

LAKEWOOD: Stitch Happens, 2 p.m. Lakes Country Public Library, Community Room, 15235 State Highway 32. Join this group of knitters, crocheters, and stitchers of all kinds who create, learn and share with each other. There is no formal instruction. Beginners to advanced crafters are welcome. 715-276-9020.

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, DEC. 2

SHAWANO: Chamber Coffee Connection, 8-9 a.m., The Daily Drip, 215 N. Main St., Unit B.

LAKEWOOD: Yoga with Brenda, 9-10:45 a.m. Lakes Country Public Library, Community Room, 15235 State Highway 32. $7. Info: Brenda Bostwick, 608-751-9120.

SURING: Knit and Hook, 10 a.m. Suring Area Public Library, 604 E. Main St. Bring your knitting, crocheting, needlepoint or current project. Don't know how to knit or crochet? Come and learn. 920-842-4451.

SHAWANO: Story time, 10-11 a.m. Shawano Public Library, 128 S. Sawyer St. A themed program of stories, finger plays, flannel board activities, songs, dancing and a craft. 715-526-3829.

LENA: Oconto County Literacy, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Lena Public Library, 200 E. Main St. 920-829-5335.

LAKEWOOD: ADRC Support Group, 2-3 p.m., Lakes Country Public Library, 15235 State Highway 32. Help for caretakers of friends or family members with dementia or memory concerns.

WITTENBERG: Story time, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wittenberg Public Library, 302 S. Cherry St. A themed program that may include books, puppets, finger plays, flannel board activities, songs, dancing, and a simple craft. 715-253-2936.

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, DEC. 3

LAKEWOOD: Book Club, 11 a.m., Lakes Country Public Library, Community Room, 15235 State Highway 32. 715-276-9020.

SHAWANO: God's Little Wonders: Parent/Tot Hour, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1254 S. Union St. Hands-on activities and crafts, songs and stories, faith nurturing.

SURING: An Afternoon With Annelise Ryan, 3 p.m., Suring Area Public Library, 604 E. Main St. Hear about her book, get a behind-the-scenes look at her writing and learn more about the inspiration behind her stories. 920-842-4451.

KESHENA: Winter Walking Program, 4:30-6 p.m., Menominee Tribal Clinic, W3275 Wolf River Road. For all ages. Helps in weight loss, improves heart health, lowers blood pressure, decreases diabetes risk, increases lung capacity, boosts immunity.

OCONTO: Historical Society Speaker Series, 6:30 p.m., Beyer Home and Carriage Museum, 915 Park Ave. Free and open to the public; light refreshments served.

FRIDAY, DEC. 4

OCONTO: Storytime, 10:30 a.m., Farnsworth Public Library, 715 Main St. Story and crafts for preschool children. A caregiver must stay with the child.

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

TIGERTON: Story time, 3:30 p.m., Tigerton Public Library, 221 Birch St. Stories, crafts, toys and friends. 715-535-2194.

SHAWANO: Santa Parade, 6 p.m., Main Street, Shawano. This year's theme: "Parade of Lights."

WITTENBERG: Community Tree Lighting, 7 p.m., WOWSPACE Art Park, 114 Vinal St. Caroling, cookies, and hot chocolate. Bring one nonperishable food item to help spread a little extra holiday cheer to those in need.

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 5

SHAWANO: Cookie Walk, Fellowship Church, 100 Presbyterian St., 9-11 a.m. Cookies and candies $7.50 per pound. Use the gym entrance off the parking lot.

WITTENBERG: Craft Fair/Bake Sale, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St.

GREEN VALLEY: Christmas Cookie and Candy Walk, 9 a.m. to noon, Bethel Lutheran Church, N6955 County Road BB. Cookies $8 per pound and candies $10 per pound.

GILLETT: Santa's Workshop, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, 101 W. Main St. Crafts and vendors' goods, bucket raffles.

GILLETT: Christmas in the Park, 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Zippel Park, 150 McKenzie St. Santa visits with children in Expo Hall 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., children's activities, face painting, balloon animals, reindeer games. Caroling 4:45 p.m., lighting of displays and fireworks 5 p.m.

BONDUEL: Christmas in Bonduel, noon to 5:30 p.m. Santa at the Lumberyard, noon to 2 p.m., 815 North St., with petting zoo and wagon rides.

SHAWANO: Merry Mielke Trivia Challenge, 1-4 p.m., Mielke Arts Center, N5649 Airport Road. $10 per person, maximum team size 8. Cash prizes for top three teams, prizes for ugliest sweater and best table decor.

BONDUEL: Community Christmas Event, 3-5 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, 240 E. Green Bay St. Live nativity, live animals, Christmas music, hot chocolate, and cookies; special candlelight gathering 4:45 p.m.

Stepping back from library hard to do



Kathleen Marsh stands in the middle of Hearthside, a welcoming soft-seating area she and her husband, Jon, sponsored as part of the Lakes Country Pubic Library building expansion. CONTRIBUTED



KATHLEEN MARSH
COLUMNIST

I have represented Townsend on the Lakes Country Public Library board of trustees since 2017. I'm term limited so my tenure ends in December. I'm taking with me a ton of "institutional memory," knowledge acquired during my years of being on the leadership team. So many great memories.

I vividly recall my first meeting on a frigid day in January 2017. We gathered in what was called the "meeting room." It was actually a large storage closet, filled with supplies, donated books for resale and audio-visual equipment. Squeezed in the center was a long table with hard wooden chairs. As I sat down amidst strangers, I thought, "What am I doing here?"

My unease dissipated when board chair Linda McKenna warmly welcomed me. I've been on many boards and committees, but I have never worked with someone as gracious, knowledgeable and committed as Linda. She expertly did what is a challenging and mostly thankless job. I made a new friend that day, and my respect and affection for her has only deepened over the years.

It didn't me take long to learn that the library required a total makeover to successfully meet the needs of 21st century patrons. The Town of Lakewood owned it and was struggling to keep it open. Lakewood did get help from surrounding towns that contributed annually to cover expenses and essential repairs, but that money was a donation. There was no guarantee from one year to the next that needed funding would be there.

Following Linda's lead, I got to work. I learned as much I could about library law, policies and procedures. It's a lot and didn't happen overnight. At subsequent meetings, we repeatedly discussed the fact that the structure was out of date, too small and lacked the ability to provide necessary services.

We asked the director, Nicole Lowery, to outline what was needed to update and improve the building.

With her report in hand, we faced the fact that Lakewood didn't have the financial bandwidth to do a major renovation. I've never learned to not raise my hand and rashly volunteered to research options. Later, I thought, "What am I doing here?" followed by, "What have I got to lose? Imight as well try."

I started by contacting Shannon Schultz at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Library Division. She was a fountain of knowledge and suggested a solution that seemed doable. The Town of Lakewood could form a joint venture with the towns of Doty, Riverview, Townsend and Mountain. Shannon explained the process.

Under Wisconsin Statute 43, if adjacent municipalities can create a legal framework to mutually own and operate a library, the state-mandated library tax revenue no longer goes to the county to help fund existing libraries. Instead, the towns that share ownership can use it to operate their joint facility.

The idea made rock solid financial sense, but it was not a slam dunk. With limited experience in joint ventures, town officials and residents were naturally skittish. More important, at that time, the towns didn't have a history of working together. Even worse, there were lingering hard feelings in Townsend, because residents thought the library should have originally been built there.

Another huge hurdle was that the county had to approve the arrangement. As the story goes, when told about the idea, the county administrator chuckled.

"Never gonna happen," he supposedly quipped. "You people up there couldn't agree on what kind of beer to serve at a church picnic."

He was partly right. Mountain declined, but Doty, Lakewood, Riverview and Townsend forged ahead.

A task force of all the stakeholders was assembled. It took three years of monthly meetings to produce a draft document. With help from an attorney, the agreement was approved by the four towns, Oconto County and the DPI. The historic joint library agreement took effect Jan. 1, 2020.

Representing Townsend on the new board of trustees, I volunteered to be co-chair of the building committee, the best committee I've ever been on. Unpaid volunteers all, my co-chair Tom Thielke and committee members Linda McKenna, Ted Bartels, Linda Denz and John Zeller stepped up. It took years of hard work, but in July 2025 we completed a renovation and expansion that doubled the size of our now beautiful library that offers services our patrons want and need.

This hasn't been easy, but it has been a labor of love. As I leave with a full heart, I don't want thanks. I want people to use and support their local library. Where else can you get a card that entitles you to borrow books and media, attend programs, get help setting up a device, book a meeting room, and so much more? It's all free. So get thee to your library soon. What have you got to lose?

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.

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Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School swimmer Kelsie Davis signed with the University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio. KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA



Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School wrestler Brooke Huffman signed with University of Iowa ion Iowa City, Iowa. KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

Three Witt-Birn students sign letters of intent

Huffman, Davis, Orgeman looking ahead to next step

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Three seniors at Wittenberg-Birnamwood High Schools signed their college letters of intent Nov. 20, pledging to play college sports at school around the country.

Wrestler Brooke Huffman signed with University of Iowa ion Iowa City, Iowa. Swimmer Kelsie Davis signed with the University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio. Holly Orgeman signed on for bowling at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama.

"All three of these young women have put in countless hours of hard work, dedication and preparation to earn a spot on their respective college team," said Chris Nier, athletic director at Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School. "Their commitment to their sports, their academics and their personal growth has been outstanding.These talented young women have represented Wittenberg-Birnamwood with pride, and we couldn't be more excited to celebrate their accomplishments."

Orgeman chose Jax State, 14 hours away from home, because of the community it built.

"They built such a great family, and they're super close," she said. "The school is just amazing, not too big, not too small, and I think it's just a perfect fit."

Orgeman has been bowling most of her life.

"I've been bowling since I was 2," she said. "My dad actually always envisioned me going bowling in some college, but the recruitment actually didn't start until going into my junior year."

Orgeman will study either early childhood education or sports medicine.

Davis said signing day was a great experience as she was surrounded by friends, family and teammates, all who have been great supporters.

"I took a longer period than what most people did (to choose a school)," she said. "I went based on academics. I'm going for pre-vet, and Findlay has an amazing program there."

Davis said the Ohio university is a perfect fit for her.

"It lined up pretty much with exactly what I want - small town, amazing campus," she said. "It's really great there."

The last few weeks have been a whirlwind for Davis – her last home swim meet, competing at the state swim meet and participating in the singing day.

"I'm excited to see what it brings," she said of her college experience.



Holly Orgeman, a Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School senior, signed on for bowling at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama. KEVIN PASSON | NEW MEDIA

Huffman was all smiles at the event.

"It means a lot, seeing everyone show up here," she said. "I've been in this program for 12 years, with nothing but support."

She said attending school in Iowa has been a lifelong dream.

"I've always dreamed of going to Iowa, so it's like the best thing ever," Huffman said.

She is excited to wrestle her senior year and compete for another state title in February.

"I'm really pumped to get going," she said.

Huffman plans to study physical therapy and has high expectations for her time at Iowa.

"I guess it would be AA champ," she said.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

Pulaski girls off to a quick start in basketball

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Friday, Nov. 20

Pulaski 66, Oshkosh North 58

The Red Raiders improved to 2-0 with a 66-58 win over Oshkosh North.

Saturday, Nov. 21

Oneida Nation 49, Marion/Tigerton 44

Thursday, Nov. 19

Three Lakes/Phelps 63, Suring 56

The Eagles and Bluejays stayed close until the end of the first half when Three Lakes/Phelps pulled ahead by 10 points. From there, they kept the visitors in check en route to a 63-56 win.

St. Mary Catholic 75, Bonduel 26

The Zephyrs wasted little time in building up a lead over the Bears as they cruised to a 75-26 win.

St. Mary Catholic held a 50-11 halftime lead and outscored Bonduel 25-15 after the break.

Shawano 55, Green Bay Southwest 21

The Hawks won their first game of the season, a 55-21 win over Green Bay Southwest.

Shawano led 30-8 at halftime and pulled further ahead with a 25-13 second half.

Oconto Falls 57, Menominee Nation 51

The Panthers beat the Eagles 57-51 in the first game of the season for both teams.

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Lena 64, Crandon 37

Pulaski 44, New London 41

Pulaski tops New London 44-41.

GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

WWW.NEWMEDIA-WI.COM FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2026 WEEK 12: NOV 25 AT LA RAMS

Green Bay needs a win to stay in the hunt

Packers, Rams featured in first-ever Thanksgiving Eve game

By JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The NFL's first-ever Thanksgiving Eve game will feature U2 at halftime, as the Los Angeles Rams host the Green Bay Packers at SoFi Stadium at 7 p.m. Nov. 25.

Streaming live globally on Netflix, the performance comes as U2 celebrates 50 years since the band formed in Dublin in 1976.

Packers offense vs. Rams defense

The Rams defense made two huge additions before the season even started. Myles Garrett and Aaron Donald were both pulled out of Cleveland and retirement, respectively, to try and get the Rams over the top and back into the Super Bowl.

So far, it as not gone according to plan. Donald has looked like a player who missed multiple years of football. Garrett has missed most of the year with a knee injury that landed him on injured reserve.

Perhaps the Packers offensive line is just what the doctor ordered for a struggling defensive line.

The Packers offense had no answers for Minnesota's pressure-packed defense. Jordan Love was sacked five times in the first half and completed just seven passes.

The second half was a little better for Green Bay, but only after the outcome had largely been decided.

Love was supposed to be in the MVP conversation following a destruction of the New England Patriots in the game prior to the one against

RAMS, continued on page 16







Quarterback Jordan Love (10), defensive lineman Micah Parsons (1), left guard Aaron Banks (65) and other teammates celebrate their 31-24 Thanksgiving Day win over the Detroit Lions on Nov. 27, 2025, at Ford Field. Love completed 18 of 30 passes for 234 yards and four touchdowns. Parsons recorded 2.5 sacks and 10 quarterback pressures. Green Bay went 3-for-3 on fourth down while holding Detroit to 0-for-2.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Pack needs to help down the stretch

By JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The Green Bay Packers are at the halfway point of their season, and it feels a lot like the last four seasons under the stewardship of Matt LaFleur and Jordan Love.

They are 6-4 with some big wins against New England and Dallas in the early portion of the season. They also have some crippling losses and fatal flaws that look destined to end their season.

Love looks every bit the part of a franchise quarterback, and he has some dynamic receivers capable of making plays down the field. Apart from that? The Packers have some things they need to figure out. Here is a report card for the first half of the season.

Pass Offense: B

When Love has time to throw, he has the capability to be as good as any quarterback in the NFL. Christian Watson and Matthew Golden are both likely to surpass 1,000 yards this season. They've been as good as group in the NFL.

The disappointment in the passing game once the ball gets in the air has to be Tucker Kraft.

Kraft signed a big extension before the season began and has yet to live up to it. His most recent performance saw him catch one pass for 19 yards. The Packers are paying Kraft like he's one of the best tight ends in football. He has not played like that.

The biggest problem the Packers have, and what could be their fatal flaw, is their offensive line.

The Packers' first game of the season saw them get bombarded by Minnesota's pass rush. Their most recent game was the same with Love taking eight sacks and a multitude of pressures.

If and when the Packers season ends, it will likely be a result of Love taking a beating from a defense that is capable of getting pressure on the quarterback.

Rush Offense: F

Prior to the last two

GRADES, continued on page 16



Los Angeles Rams defensive tackle Aaron Donald (99) eyes Green Bay Packers quarterback Jordan Love (10) during the Packers 20-3 win over the Rams on Nov. 5, 2023, at Lambeau Field. Love completed 20 of 26 passes for 228 yards and a touchdown, while Donald finished with four tackles and a sack. GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

RAMS, continued from page 15

Minnesota. A big game against the league's best defense really could have catapulted him to the top of those conversations.

It was not meant to be. Love was beaten and battered. He turned the ball over twice. This week should be an easier assignment for the Packers offense, but their inability to protect their quarterback could spell doom against Garrett and company.

One potential bright spot. The Packers appear to have found some juice in their run game with Kaleb Johnson. The bar is incredibly low for the Packers run game, but anything that could be an improvement could bode well down the stretch of the season.

Packers defense vs. Rams offense

Who is going to be active for the Rams offense? Puka Nacua is one of the top receivers in football, but he was recently placed on injured reserve thanks to two separate knee injuries that will keep him out of the game.

What about old friend Davante Adams? He had surgery on his hamstring. His target date currently is for the Packers game, but that's far from a sure thing at this point.

In the backfield, the Rams have Kyren Williams and Blake Corum. Williams averages just under 5 yards per carry, while Corum averages more than 5.

Green Bay's defense was solid if unspectacular against Kirk Cousins and the Minnesota Vikings.

They had two really bad conversions they allowed on two long third downs. One was a third-and-23 that resulted in a touchdown from Myles Price. The other was a third-and-13 that came after an interception by Lukas Van Ness was overturned into a sack. Aaron Jones scored a touchdown on the next play.

With the Rams hampered at the skill positions, the Packers should be able to hold their own against Matthew Stafford.

Stafford has seen everything at this point of his career. This could be the final year he plays in the NFL.

Stafford has still been solid this year but nowhere near the MVP-level he played at a season ago.

Special teams

Trey Smack giveth. Trey Smack taketh away. That has been the case for the rookie kicker all season long. Smack missed a 53-yard field goal early in the first half against the Vikings that started the snowball effect. The kick was not particularly close as it leaked to the right early.

Green Bay's kick return game took another blow that day with Skyy Moore returning only to leave again with an ankle injury. His status is uncertain at best.

The Rams have had their own issues at kicker this season and have currently settled on former Packer Brandon McManus. The Rams special teams have been a pressure point in Los Angeles during Sean McVay's career. So far this season, that has not been all that different.





Above, rookie safeties Javon Bullard (20, now 7) and Evan Williams (33) close in as a Rams receiver is tackled during the Packers 24-19 win over Los Angeles on Oct. 6, 2024, at SoFi Stadium, with Rams quarterback Matthew Stafford looking on. Williams made his first NFL start at safety that day, with Bullard moving to the slot. At left, the offense celebrates another big play against the Rams.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

GRADES, continued from page 15

weeks, Green Bay's run game was on pace to break a record for the least effective ground game in the history of the NFL. The Packers do not have any answers at running back, and their offensive line has been just as bad in opening holes for their running backs as they have protecting the quarterback.

Josh Jacobs missed six games on the commissioner's exemption list, and at least one more due to a finger injury that required surgery.

The Packers remain at the bottom of the league in rush yards-per-game, and there do not appear to be a lot of answers on the forefront. Perhaps Kaleb Johnson, who has given them a spark in back-to-back weeks could be an answer for them.

For now, however, there is not much to be optimistic about.

Pass Defense: B

This group was supposed to be something that was a major concern coming into the season as Micah Parsons was set to miss the first part of the season recovering from his torn ACL. Now, Parsons' return is imminent, and the Packers defense has been pretty good for most of the season. Jonathan Gannon has been able to get the most out of his players with Evan Williams and Xavier McKinney both having career years. Javon Bullard has continued to ascend in the slot.

Lukas Van Ness leads the team with 5.5 sacks, and looks like a player who was worth of a first round selection. The interior of the defensive line has been a bit of a disappointment with Devonte Wyatt still not making a lot of plays as a pass rusher.

The cornerback spot appears to have found a player in rookie Brandon Cisse, and Keisean Nixon has played better this season.

The question now is what happens when Parsons returns. Does Gannon take the same approach Jeff Hafley did a season ago, or does he stay on the path he's traveled so far this season?

Rush Defense: B

Green Bay's run defense has been a pleasant surprise so far this season. The Packers have only had one bad game, and it came against Bijan Robinson in a Thursday night game after the Packers defense had to play in overtime against the New York Jets.

They gave up more than 100 yards to just two runners this season. Robinson, and Detroit Lions' star Jahmyr Gibbs. Gibbs required 29 carries to get there too, so the Packers have done a good job in that regard.

The defensive line could be a cause for concern as the season wears on as they are dangerously thin there. They could get some reinforcements back with Jonathan Ford and Warren Brinson both possibly returning from injured reserve before December.

If they stay healthy, they should be able to get after opposing run games like they have all season long.

Special Teams: D

Trey Smack has missed a league-high nine kicks if you include extra points, and that included a 53-yard field goal in the last game against Minnesota. Smack is like riding a roller coaster, and you never know what you're going to see in a given week.

GREEN BAY PACKERS AT LOS ANGELES RAMS

Time and date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25

Location: SoFi Stadium

TV: Netflix

Radio: Flagship WRIT-FM, Milwaukee, 95.7. Packers Radio Network includes WRLO-FM Antigo, 105.3; WMJQ-FM, Clintonville, 92.3; WIXX-FM, Green Bay, 101.1; WLST-FM, Marinette, 95.1; and WSAU Wausau, 550 AM and 95.1 FM

2026 records: Packers 6-4, Rams 6-4

History: The Packers and Rams have met 100 times in the history of this rivalry with the Packers holding a 51-47-2 advantage.

The two teams have met five times with Matt LaFleur and Sean McVay as head coaches for their respective teams. The Packers have won all five matchups.

The biggest meeting between the two teams came at Lambeau Field following the 2020 season. The two teams met in the Divisional Round of the postseason, with the Packers winning 32-18 on the strength of a late touchdown pass from Aaron Rodgers to Allen Lazard to put the game away.

Since Matthew Stafford became the quarterback for the Rams, the Packers have played just once against Los Angeles, with the Packers knocking them off on the road thanks to a late pass breakup from Evan Williams.

Coaches: Packers, Matt LaFleur, eighth season, 81-43-1. Rams, Sean McVay, 10th season, 107-67.

Packers Schedule

Sunday, Sept. 13, at Minnesota, L 39-22

Sunday, Sept. 20, at NY Jets, W 20-17 (OT)

Thursday, Sept. 24, vs. Atlanta, L 35-14

Sunday, Oct. 4, at Tampa Bay, W 17-14

Sunday, Oct. 11, vs. Chicago, W 31-7

Sunday, Oct. 18, vs. Dallas, W 23-13

Sunday, Oct. 25, at Detroit, L 20-17

Thursday, Oct. 29, vs. Carolina, W 27-19

Sunday, Nov. 8, at New England, W 45-27

Sunday, Nov. 15, vs. Minnesota, L 30-10

Week 11 BYE

Wednesday, Nov. 25, at LA Rams, 7 p.m., Netflix

Sunday, Dec. 6, at New Orleans, noon, FOX

Sunday, Dec. 13, vs. Buffalo, 7:20 p.m., NBC

Sunday, Dec. 20, vs. Miami, noon, FOX

Friday, Dec. 25, at Chicago, noon, Netflix

Monday, Jan. 4, vs. Houston, 7:15 p.m., ESPN

Week 18, vs. Detroit, TBD

NFL Schedule

Wednesday, Nov. 25

Green Bay at LA Rams, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 26

Chicago at Detroit, noon

Philadelphia at Dallas, 3:30 p.m.

Kansas City at Buffalo, 7:20 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 27

Denver at Pittsburgh, 2 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 29

Atlanta at Minnesota, noon

Baltimore at Houston, noon

Tennessee at Jacksonville, noon

NY Jets at Miami, noon

New Orleans at Cincinnati, noon

NY Giants at Indianapolis, noon

New England at LA Chargers, 3:05 p.m.

Washington at Arizona, 3:25 p.m.

Seattle at San Francisco, 3:25 p.m.

Las Vegas at Cleveland, 7:20 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 30

Carolina at Tampa Bay, 7:15 p.m.

MOMENT

GREEN BAY DEFENSE



GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

DEFENSE CELEBRATES

Green Bay Packers safety Evan Williams (33) and linebacker Ty'Ron Hopper (59) celebrate during the Packers 27-19 win over the Carolina Panthers on Oct. 29 at Lambeau Field. Williams had 10 tackles, including seven solo tackles, while Hopper had eight tackles, including six solo tackles, with a sack, an interception, three passes defensed and two quarterback hits.

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MOMENT

GREEN BAY OFFENSE



GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

OFFENSIVE STANDOUT

One of the standouts on offense has been wide receiver Christian Watson, who scored an 81-yard touchdown on a catch-and-run pass from quarterback Jordan Love on Sept. 13 against the Minnesota Vikings. The play took place on a second-and-10 from the Green Bay 19-yard line with 7:54 remaining in the first quarter. Love completed his first pass of the 2026 season over the middle. Watson broke left and raced down the left sideline into the end zone, logging roughly 60-65 yards after the catch while a penalty flag was picked up. Watson finished that game with six receptions for 147 yards and two touchdowns.

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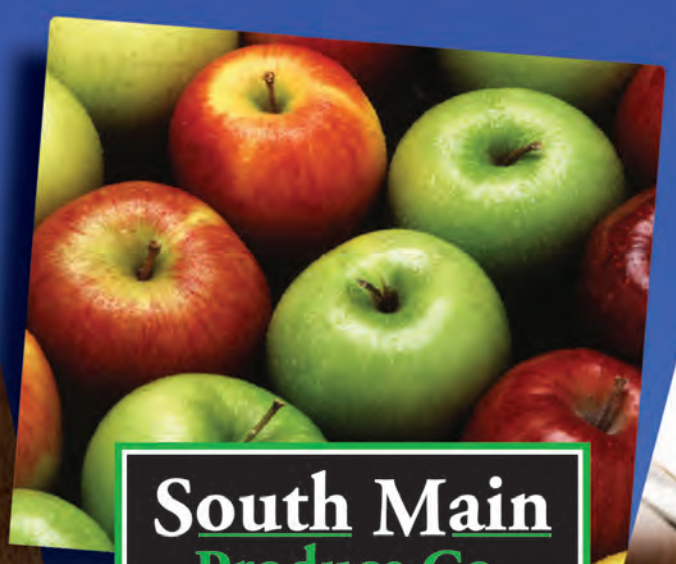







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Why I Give Thanks



Thanksgiving brings families and communities together to give thanks for their blessings and reflect on the history of our nation.

The origins of Thanksgiving date back to 1621, when the Pilgrims, who had settled in Plymouth, Massachusetts, gathered for a harvest celebration. After enduring a difficult first winter, during which many settlers died from illness and starvation, the Pilgrims were able to grow crops with the help of the Wampanoag people. The Wampanoag shared their knowledge of local agriculture, hunting and survival.

Thanksgiving did not become a national holiday until President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed it in 1863, during the Civil War. In 1941, Congress officially established Thanksgiving as the fourth Thursday in November.

Today, Thanksgiving is about more than a meal or a historical event. It reminds us of the importance of gratitude, generosity, family, friendship and community.

America's history includes hardship, injustice, and disagreement, and remembering Thanksgiving honestly means recognizing the experiences of Native peoples as well as those of the settlers. The holiday can invite reflection on our shared past and hopes for the future. Above all, Thanksgiving encourages us to practice gratitude, share our blessings and work toward a more caring and united nation.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Find gratitude in all things life provides

By GARRETT ROGOWSKI
Special to NEW Media

For years, the most popular class on the campus of Harvard University was taught by a Teaching Fellow named Shawn Achor, and the course was called Positive Psychology. It attracted over 1,400 students per semester, making it one of the largest classes in Harvard's history. Can you imagine, one of the most prestigious universities in the world and the most popular class was entirely about happiness?

Thousands of students who battled severe stress despite their academic successes needed something more, something helpful to get them through the daily challenges of their academic rigor and pressure to do well in their respective endeavors.

I share this with you because no matter what role we all play in the game of life, we all need a mechanism, a blueprint if you will, to find that source of happiness that allows us to successfully navigate day to day, week to week, and beyond.

The purpose of this short essay is to express that of which I am thankful for. One of the most simple, yet powerful skills Shawn Achor teaches his students, is the ability to find gratitude in all the things life provides us. It is completely impossible to hold negative emotions while we are feeling a sense of gratitude, and ultimately, that in and of itself leads to contentment, joy, bliss; all expressions of happiness.

That morning cup of coffee, our students faces when they do well, the autumn colors this time of year, a nice day spent with friends and family, a successful deer hunt or maybe just getting outside for a bit; all things that although may be small in scope can be appreciated because we get the opportunity to experience them.

I feel thankful for every day I get to be here, the ability to still take on life's challenges one at a time, and to know that if I didn't quite do it as planned today, tomorrow affords me another chance.

Garrett Rogowski is the superintendent of the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District.

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BEST OF ENTERPRISE 2024

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

As citizens and business people, our entire family shares a great love for our community. As we watch our fourth generation grow, we will all continue to strive to preserve and support the Shawano area and its people as much as possible.

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Sun Drop Museum, 920 S. Franklin St., Shawano

Why I Give Thanks



Lee Pulaski, city editor for NEW Media, has been a storyteller for decades, whether it has been in journalism or writing books. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Storytelling something to be grateful for

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

This time of year reminds us that, in spite of whatever we see on the internet and on television, there are things that we can be thankful for. Sometimes it takes some prolonged thought, but even in the darkest of hours, we can figure out where there are silver linings.

An ability to tell stories, no matter the situation, is something that I am thankful for. I've been a journalist in some form or fashion for close to 35 years, serving my community – wherever that is at the time – by using my writing and photography to bring alive the news of the day or featuring individuals and organizations. When that full-time job is over, I go home and switch from fact to fiction, working on novels that either add some color and flavor to existing worlds or creating new worlds hatched in my brain.

I learned how to read at a very early age. At 3 1/2 years old, I was already grabbing books and reading them aloud, something that my mother proudly tells anyone who will listen. She also likes to tell people how she got into an argument with the folks at our hometown public library in Arizona about giving me a library card so young because they didn't provide library cards to children until they were at least 5 or 6, but once she showed them how well I could read, they couldn't very well say no.

With doing a lot of reading, it was inevitable that I would soon start thinking about telling my own stories. Whenever there were classroom assignments where we had to do an essay or tell a short story, I was on it.

I liked to read newspapers as a child, too, and not just the comics pages. I might not have understood at 8 or 9 about what a murder was or why the city council was for or against a certain project, but I was fascinated by the design of how newspapers were put together, even back then when most newspapers were in black and white.

When I was in high school, one of my English teachers approached me about writing for the school newspaper. That opened the door for the community newspapers of that day suggesting I write about high school news for them, as well. Even before I had a driver's license, I was going around town finding out about the community and what secrets it held, because just writing about high school activities wasn't enough for me.

That experience made me realize I wanted to do more, maybe follow in the footsteps of those folks whose bylines I saw in the newspapers I'd read for years. I went to community college and was planning to pursue a journalism degree, but then my hometown newspaper advertised they were looking for a full-time reporter. Up to that point, the paper had been a single-person operation when it came to gathering news, but now it had expanded to where two people were needed and could be afforded. I applied. I got in.

Since then, I've written about my hometown's First Territorial Capital Days festival, as well as the rising and falling levels of Lake Powell. I've ridden in hot air balloons over sandstone mesas, chronicled the rise and fall of people in power who bit off more than they could chew and much more, discovering that not all of the well-kept secrets are bad things.

Somewhere along the way, I found the courage to expand my storytelling beyond the real world. In 2006, a camping trip in the Northwoods of Wisconsin – several years before I moved to the state – inspired me to write my first novel. I was used to writing stories that ranged from 300-2,000 words, but then I went well beyond those limits and wrote a book that was over 90,000 words.

Since then, I've written close to 30 novels and self-published them all. I might not be rich and famous from those books, but I've continued to be inspired by things and people around me and continue to churn out novels, anywhere from one to three a year. I don't see myself stopping anytime soon. Even during the darker times of life, being able to escape the real world and create conflict and resolution, sadness and joy, has kept me going.

I plan to keep on writing and telling stories until either my brain slithers out of my ears or they pry my laptop from my cold, dead hands. Having talent is something that anyone can be thankful for, and as the turkey gets plopped on the table at the family dinner, I'm going to be grateful that I can tell stories for at least one more day.

Lee Pulaski is city editor for the Shawano Leader and the Oconto County Times Herald, and he is also a self-published author in the mystery, romance and fantasy genres. Readers can contact him at lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com.

"When I was in high school, one of my English teachers approached me about writing for the school newspaper. That opened the door for the community newspapers of that day suggesting I write about high school news for them, as well. Even before I had a driver's license, I was going around town finding out about the community and what secrets it held, because just writing about high school activities wasn't enough for me."
LEE PULASKI, NEW Media city editor

Why I Give Thanks

Zeeman highlights family, friends and fair

By SOPHIA ZEEMAN
Special to NEW Media



Sophia Zeeman, Shawano County's Fairest of the Fair, enjoys spending the holidays with her family and friends, and she also has a deep love for the fair. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

When I was asked to write about what I am thankful for, a million ideas floated through my head. Friends, family and good health were the obvious answers, but my gratitude goes further. Among my blessings are my community and the time I have spent as Shawano County's Fairest of the Fair.

The first thing that I must talk about if I'm talking about things I'm grateful for is, of course, my family. I have lived in Bonduel all my life and grew up in a family that was very close to each other; I never just saw my aunts, uncles, and grandparents on holidays; instead, they were and are a daily part of my life. Growing up in a family like this helped give me a sense of community from the very beginning knowing that I always had people who I could reach out to.

Another part of my family that I am thankful for is my wonderful parents, who have taught me to be independent and always go after what I want. Both my mom and my dad are such inspirations to me; I hope to carry their determination and sense of pride with me always.

The last part of my family I want to talk about is my grandparents; both sets of my grandparents were dairy farmers, and looking back on their years of work and commitment to their farms fills me with adoration and hope that I can make them all proud.

Next are my friends. I have friends from every part of my life, from school to dance to 4-H to college, and each of them has supported me and played an important role in who I am today. I especially value their willingness to share the mundane parts of life with me.

Our time together doesn't need to be a big event; they are always up for getting a drink, going to the mall or sitting in my room talking for hours. I also include the friends of our family, the people I have grown up around, who lend a helping hand without thinking twice.

Another part of my friends whom I could not go without mentioning is my boyfriend of three years, who has shown me unconditional support in everything that I do.

Last is my time as Shawano County's Fairest of the Fair and the community that has given me so much. I have been showing at the Shawano County Fair since I was a little girl, exhibiting everything from crops, fairy gardens and visual arts to cakes, goats and, in my final years, beef.

Another part of the fair that I am so thankful for is the generational ties that it brought to me; both my parents and their siblings were exhibitors at the fair, and it was such a privilege to be able to continue that tradition alongside my younger brother. As my cousins now move into showing, I feel a sense of pride knowing that it will continue with them, and I will be there to help them through it.

The fair has taught me countless lessons, and I know it will keep teaching them to new exhibitors.

Another community that has guided me is my 4-H club. I have been a member of Landstad 4-H since I was a Cloverbud and have held every role from reporter to president. Everyone in the club has been a constant in my life, and I will always cherish giving back to our community alongside them.

Serving as Fairest has been deeply satisfying, since it lets me promote one of the best weeks of the year every day. At every event I attend, I learn something new and hear people's life stories. This county is full of remarkable people and traditions, and I am lucky to be part of them.

Overall, my life is full of blessings, and I am thankful every day for all I have been given. As my year as Fairest comes to an end, I hope to keep making memories and talking about the importance of agriculture and the fair.

Sophia Zeeman is the 2026-27 Shawano County Fairest of the Fair.

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Why I Give Thanks

Small-town life provides reasons for big thanks

By JOSIE HOLTZ
Special to NEW Media



Josie Holtz, the 2026 Oconto County Fairest of the Fair, appreciates growing up in a small town, where she's been able to nurture her faith. Her lessons in patience and responsibility have molded her into the woman she is today. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

When I think about what I am thankful for, I realize that gratitude goes far beyond the things we receive. It is about the people who support us, the opportunities that shape us, the experiences that teach us and the communities that make us who we are.

I am thankful for the life I have been given, the values I have learned along the way and the many opportunities that have allowed me to grow into the person I am today.

First and foremost, I am thankful for my family. They have been my biggest supporters, encouraging me to pursue my goals, try new things and never give up when something becomes difficult.

Whether it is supporting me through school, attending events or cheering me on at the fair, their encouragement means more than I can put into words. They have taught me the importance of hard work, responsibility, kindness and staying true to my values. I would not be where I am today without their support.

I am also incredibly thankful for my agricultural background and the rural community I have grown up in. Agriculture has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember.

For the past nine years, I have shown swine at the Oconto County Youth Fair, along with exhibiting crops, vegetables, fruits and baked goods. Through these experiences, I have learned that success takes patience, dedication and a willingness to put in the work even when nobody is watching.

Showing livestock has taught me responsibility and the importance of caring for something beyond myself. It has also introduced me to lifelong friendships and people who have become an important part of my life.

One of the greatest opportunities I have been given was being crowned the 2026 Oconto County Fairest of the Fair.

This experience has allowed me to give back to a fair and community that have given me so much. From representing Oconto County at parades and community events to welcoming visitors, speaking at the opening ceremony and helping with the draft horse pulls, every experience has taught me something new.

I am especially thankful for the opportunity to represent the youths of our county and show others what makes our fair and community so special. Being Fairest has helped me become a more confident speaker, a stronger leader and someone who appreciates the importance of making connections with people of all ages.

I am also grateful for the opportunity to serve others. One experience that stands out is the Oconto County Special Drive, where individuals with special needs are paired with swine exhibitors and volunteers to participate in a day of caring for and showing hogs. Watching participants experience the excitement of the fair, build confidence and receive recognition for their hard work reminds me why community involvement matters.

Moments like these show that the most meaningful experiences are not always about winning a ribbon or receiving an award.

Sometimes, they are about helping someone else create a memory they will carry with them for years.

Education is another part of my life for which I am incredibly thankful.

After graduating as valedictorian in high school, I began pursuing a degree in electrical engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. Although engineering is a different path from agriculture, I hope to combine the two someday. I am interested in how electrical systems, automation and technology can help farmers operate more efficiently and improve the future of agriculture; for example, the rotating milking machines.

I am thankful for the teachers, mentors, and classmates who have encouraged me to challenge myself academically and pursue opportunities that once deemed far away. I am excited to see where this journey takes me.

Most importantly, I am thankful for my faith, which reminds me to appreciate the blessings in my life and trust the path ahead. Not every experience is easy, and not every plan works out exactly as expected. However, I have learned that even difficult moments can teach valuable lessons.

I am grateful for the opportunities to grow, the challenges that have strengthened me and the people who have stood beside me along the way.

Living in a small community has shown me that it truly takes a village to make a difference. Whether it is someone volunteering their time, supporting a local event, encouraging a young person or simply lending a helping hand, these small acts of kindness make a lasting impact. I am thankful to be surrounded by people who care about their neighbors, support local traditions and work together to make Oconto County a wonderful place to call home.

When I look back on the experiences that have shaped my life, I realize that many of my greatest blessings are not things I can hold or put into words. They are the memories made at the fair, the lessons learned in the show ring, the encouragement from family and friends, the opportunities to serve others and the chance to pursue dreams for the future.

I give thanks, because I know I did not get here alone. I am proud of where I come from, grateful for where I am and excited for where life will take me next.

Josie Holtz is the 2026 Oconto County Fairest of the Fair.



Why I Give Thanks

What started as 'maybe' now whole lot of WOW

By ELAINE KNAB
Special to NEW Media

When I think about what I am thankful for, especially living in a small village like Wittenberg, one thing immediately comes to mind: I am thankful for WOW – Walls of Wittenberg.

Twenty years ago, what started out as a "maybe this can help keep our village alive and thriving" idea has grown into something none of us could have imagined. What began as a little hope has become an organization that brings art, creativity, entertainment and a sense of community to our village and surrounding area. Twenty years later, WOW is still going strong, and I feel incredibly fortunate to be a part of it.

I am thankful that a small village like ours has an organization like WOW. We have more than 25 beautiful murals throughout our community, an Art Park filled with sculptures, WOWSPACE and a calendar of events that gives people of all ages reasons to get out, gather and enjoy one another's company.

One of the things that makes WOW especially special is that we receive no federal or state funding. Everything we have accomplished has been made possible through the generosity of local businesses, community members, sponsors, art partners, fundraising and, most importantly, volunteers. It truly takes a village, and ours continues to prove that.

I am particularly thankful for the story behind WOWSPACE. This beautiful 1880s building was donated to the organization by Kathy and Joe Gwidt, and its restoration was made possible through generous donations from our founding benefactors – the individuals who believed in the vision and invested in giving this historic building a new purpose.



Elaine Knab is grateful that the Walls of Wittenberg program, which was started 20 years ago, has continued to flourish. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Today, it provides a welcoming place for local and visiting artists to display their creations of art and for residents and visitors to experience something new with each exhibit. Their generosity helped create something that will continue to serve our community for years to come.

Most of all, I am thankful for our volunteers. WOW is entirely volunteer-run, and without the dedication, enthusiasm and countless hours given by these individuals, none of what we do would be possible. From planning events and decorating spaces to setting up tables, selling tickets, baking goodies, cleaning up and handling all the little details most people never see, our volunteers make it happen. They give their time and talents, because they believe in what WOW brings to our community.

Then there are the murals. I am thankful every time I drive through town and see the beautiful artwork displayed on our buildings. Each mural adds color and character to our village, tells a story, and gives visitors a reason to slow down and take a closer look. Our Art Park sculptures add another dimension, inviting people to wander and appreciate art in an outdoor setting. What a wonderful gift to have art as part of our everyday surroundings.

I am also thankful for the creativity and imagination of our WOW members. There always seems to be someone coming up with another idea or another way to bring people together.

Our quilt shows showcase the incredible talent of quilters. Our art shows give artists opportunities to share their creativity. Dueling Pianos brings music and laughter, while our Kentucky Derby Gala lets attendees put on their fanciest hats and pretend they're enjoying one of Kentucky's most exciting traditions – right here in Wittenberg.

We offer plays and dinner theater performances, concerts in the park where local musicians share their talents while neighbors tap their feet and visit, and craft fairs and bake sales that let local makers and bakers share their goodies.

Then there are those special holiday traditions. One attendee once described our Christmas tree lighting as a "Norman Rockwell setting," and I couldn't agree more. Picture the local high school choir singing Christmas carols, the tallest pine tree in WOW's Art Park lighting up, and people gathered together sipping hot chocolate and munching on cookies. Sometimes, if we're lucky, a few snowflakes are falling, too. It's one of those moments when you realize just how special a small-town community can be.

We continue that Christmas magic at WOWSPACE, where beautiful, colorful Christmas trees fill the building. The excitement on children's faces as they come through the doors, eager to see the trees and, of course, the man in the bright red suit, is priceless.

I am also thankful for the visitors WOW brings to Wittenberg. People travel here to see the murals, visit the Art Park, attend our shows and enjoy our events. Some discover our village for the first time, while others return year after year. They may stop at a local business or grab a bite to eat along the way. WOW gives people another reason to put Wittenberg on their map, and that benefits all of us.

When I look back at what has been accomplished over these 20 years, I am reminded that none of it belongs to just one person or one group. It belongs to all of us. Every volunteer hour, donation, sponsorship, artist and attendee has helped make WOW what it is today.

I am thankful for what we have accomplished, but even more thankful for the people who made it possible.

Perhaps there are others out there who would like to be part of this wonderful organization. If you have a little time, an idea, a talent to share or simply a desire to help your community, I would love to hear from you. Reach out to me and become part of something you, too, can be thankful for.

Twenty years ago, it started with a "maybe." Today, it is a whole lot of WOW. I can't wait to see what the next 20 years bring.

For that, I give thanks.

Elaine Knab is president of Walls of Wittenberg.

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Why I Give Thanks

Waewaenehtakosew more than a word

By RICHARD OSHKESHEQUOAM JR.
Special to NEW Media

This time of year carries a different meaning for each of us. For some, it is a reminder of oppression and colonialism; for others, a reminder of thankfulness and family; for others still, a reminder of duty to community.

It can also be a season of comparison, when we notice whose table is fuller and whose year went better. Whatever your view of the holiday, it comes into our lives every year. It might be a family gathering or a ceremonial practice, a protest against colonialism, a family hunt or simply a day to earn time and a half.

For many, gratitude is a continual practice, a conscious effort to recognize everything that accompanies us through life. Even in experiences that feel negative at the time, there is something to learn and be grateful for.

Gratefulness looks different for each of us. It is easy to measure our lives against what someone else has. But the person with every tangible asset can be the most unhappy person in the room, and the person with very little can be the most content. What we have does not decide it. Gratefulness is a practice, and it does not come naturally to everyone.

I am reminded of a classmate of mine. Over the semester, we have had many conversations. He served his country, built a career, raised a family and then went back to school, where he remains, a man devoted to a life of learning. Woven through those same stories are loss, hard years and times when he had very little. Anyone with a life like his would have every reason to shut down, and it would be understandable if he met the world with bitterness. He doesn't.



Richard Oshkeshequoam Jr., the registrar at the College of Menominee Nation, finds gratitude in his native tongue.
GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Between the words of his stories comes gratefulness. He chooses to see those experiences not as a detriment but as a chance to grow.

For me, gratefulness is a lens, a way of seeing whatever we are given and deciding what to make of it. When I think about it, I default to the original language that echoed across these lands: omaēqnomenēweqnaesen, the Menominee language. It is our breath of life, our way of being, and our way of knowing.

Waēwaēnehtakosew means "he is grateful." The first part of the word is our word for thanks; the second half speaks to a way of being. So for me, gratefulness is both a lens and a practice toward a way of being.

This year, that way of being has a great deal to rest on.

I give thanks for my wife and my daughters and for the new family I now have. They have made my life fuller than I knew to ask for, and they are the first reason I wake up grateful.

I give thanks for our ancestors. They held on to our land, our culture and our language through times that were meant to take all three away, and because they did, we are able to carry them forward today. When I walk our forest or hear our language spoken, I am seeing and hearing what they protected. None of what we have was guaranteed. It was kept for us, and it is ours to keep for those who come next.

I give thanks for our language and the teachings it holds. A word like waēwaēnehtakosew is more than vocabulary. It is an instruction on how to live. I am thankful for everyone, past and present, who has been part of the revitalization movement: the elders who kept speaking, the teachers who kept teaching and the learners who kept showing up.

I am thankful that I was born a Menominee. Everything else I have named grows from that: the land I come from, the language I return to and the people I belong to.

Making gratefulness a foundation of life is necessary to being happy. It is how I quiet the green-eyed monster that lives in all of us: the habit of counting what others have instead of what we've been given. So each day I make the effort to wake up grateful. In each not-so-positive lesson there is a chance to learn, and I am grateful for that chance. Waēwaēnehtakosew means that I am grateful, and it is something that I am learning to live up to.

Richard Oshkeshequoam Jr. is the registrar at the College of Menominee Nation.

WOW
Walls of Wittenberg, Inc.©

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Winter Wonderland
EVENT SCHEDULE

WOW
WITTENBERG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DECEMBER 2, 2026
Deadline for trees and wreath registration.

DECEMBER 4, 2026
3 - 8 PM
Christmas Craft & Bake Sale at WOW
7 PM
Annual Tree Lighting in WOW Art Park

DECEMBER 5, 2026
9 AM - 1 PM
Christmas Craft & Bake Sale at WOW

DECEMBER 9, 2026
6 - 9 PM
Grand Opening of the Festival of Trees and Wreaths at the WOW - ticketed event.

DECEMBER 12, 2026
2 - 8 PM
• Horse Drawn Wagon Rides Outside of Fire Station
3 - 9 PM
• Fire Department Fundraiser
• Make your own s'mores station at Fire Dept.
• Festival of Trees & Wreaths Displayed at WOW
• Christmas Carolers
5:30 PM
• Lighted Parade
6 - 8 PM
• Santa at WOW
• Cookie Decorating at Fire Dept.

DECEMBER 11-13, 18-20, 2026
FREE viewings of festival of trees and wreaths. Check website for times and additional information.

www.wallsofwittenberg.com



GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Madeline Murphy, owner of the Cloud Nine Fire Show, captivates and entertains the crowd that filled the WOW Art Park on Sept. 19, 2025. Murphy began Cloud Nine in May 2023. Murphy explains the show as "flow arts," a movement that includes motion and hoops, and for thrills, adds fire.

PUBLIC RECORD

OCONTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Nov. 17

Deputies responded to 52 incidents, including criminal damage on Molitor Road in the Town of Stiles; a disturbance on East Fourth Street in Gillett; internet fraud on Gary Alberts Lane in the Town of Chase; embezzlement on East Frontage Road in the Town of Little Suamico; suspicious activity at the Pulaski Fair Grounds, 448 E. Pulaski St., Pulaski; one traffic stop, one traffic offense, one citizen assist, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; one 911 hang-up and four open lines; four ambulance calls; seven crashes, four involving deer.

Nov. 16

Deputies responded to 50 incidents, including suspicious activity on County Road W in the Town of Riverview; property damage on state Highway 32 in the Town of How; a wanted person on Wintergreen Road in the Town of Stiles; fraud on County Road W in the Town of Riverview; criminal damage on County Road VV in the Town of Underhill; a disturbance on Congress Street in Oconto; one traffic stop, one traffic offense, two citizen assists, four miscellaneous traffic incidents, two welfare checks; two 911 hang-ups and three open lines; three ambulance calls; seven crashes, five involving deer.

11/20/26, 11/27/26, 12/4/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY
BRANCH 2
Case No. 26 CV 28

NICOLET NATIONAL BANK,
Plaintiff,
v.
BATISTA PERFORMANCE HORSES LLC,
Defendant.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure made in the above-entitled action signed on the 26th day of May 2026 and filed on the 27 th of May 2026, in the amount of **$68,662.27** , the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction.

PARCEL LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Lot 1 of Certified Survey Map No. 4333 as recorded on September 13, 2017 in Volume 23 of Certified Survey Maps at pages 113-117, inclusive, as Document No. 726508, being part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 and part of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 19, Township 25 North, Range 16 East; EXCEPT that part described as follows: Commencing at the East 1/4 corner of said Section 19; thence North 89°59'46" West along the North line of said Southeast 1/4, 1263.58 feet to the East line of said Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, and the point of beginning; thence South 06°03'35" West along said East line of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, 1316.06 feet to the Southeast corner of said Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4; thence South 89°31'22" West along the South line of said Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, 44.50 feet (recorded as 44.49 feet on CSM No. 4333); thence North 04°23'14" East, 1312.93 feet to said North line of the Southeast 1/4; thence South 89°59'46" East along said North line, 82.99 feet to the point of beginning. Said land being in the Town of Navarino, Shawano County, Wisconsin.

PARCEL ID NO : 034-194200010
ADDRESS: W7127 Cole Rd. Shiocton, WI 54170-9670
DATE/TIME : WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 2026 / 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: First Floor Shawano County Courthouse
311 N. Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166-2145

TERMS :

1. 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the Clerk of Courts (personal checks cannot and will not be accepted).
The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the Clerk of Courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation of the sale or the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff.
2. The property is sold "as is" and subject to all liens and encumbrances.
3. Any purchaser, other than the plaintiff, is responsible for payment of any and all transfer fees/taxes, which amount shall be paid in addition to, and not out of the bid amount.
4. Buyer must comply with minimum bidder qualifications as set forth in Wis. Stat. §846.155.

/s/ George Lenzner, Sheriff
Shawano County, Wisconsin
VAN LIESHOUT LAW OFFICE
Atty. David J. Van Lieshout
Attorney for Plaintiff
State Bar No. 1012641
P.O. Box 186
Little Chute, WI 54140-0186
(920) 788-0800
davevl@littlechutelaw.com

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1692), Van Lieshout Law Office is attempting to collect a debt on our client's behalf and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose .

WNAXLP
SHA-411

11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

At the November 18, 2026, Shawano County Board of Supervisors meeting, the following ordinances were adopted. A summary of the ordinances is as follows:
Ordinance No. 18-26. Ordinance Amending Chapter 30, Article IV, of County Code of Ordinances
Ordinance No. 19-26. Ordinance Amending Shawano County Zoning Map (Luke and Melissa Laatsch - Town of Grant)
Ordinance No. 20-26. Ordinance Amending Shawano County Zoning Map (Tyler & Lyndsey Schulke, Henselin Farms, Inc., and Michael & Trisha Hoffman - Town of Grant)
The Ordinances in their entirety can be viewed at the County Clerk's office and are available on the Shawano County Government website at www.co.shawano.wi.us

WNAXLP
SHA-423

11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

TOWN OF WESCOTT
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following applications for alcohol beverage licenses have been filed with the Clerk in the Town of Wescott for the licensing period of December **9th, 2026, to June 30th, 2027**. Names and addresses of applicants are as follows:

ORIGINAL APPLICATION
CLASS "B" BEER AND "CLASS B" LIQUOR
Zues the Moose- Agent Jesus V. Zepeda Solorio, W5577 Lake Dr, Shawano, WI 54166

WNAXLP
SHA-416

11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice All-Stor Self Storage - Shawano N5857 Hwy 47-55 located at N5857 Hwy 47-55, Shawano, WI, 54166 intends to hold a Auction of storage units in default of payment. The sale will occur as an Online Auction via www.bid13.com on 12/17/2026 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Martina Gauthier. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

WNAXLP
SHA-420

11/13/26, 11/20/26, 11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing
Plaintiff
vs
Cole D. Galland, et al.
Defendants

AMENDED
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Case No: 26 CV 48

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on June 16, 2026 in the amount of $298,923.48 the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as follows:
TIME: December 9, 2026 at 9:00 AM
TERMS: By bidding at the sheriff sale, prospective buyer is consenting to be bound by the following terms:
1.) 10% down in cash or certified funds at the time of sale; balance due within 10 days of confirmation of sale; failure to pay balance due will result in forfeit of deposit to plaintiff.
2.) Sold "as is" and subject to all legal liens and encumbrances.
3.) Buyer to pay applicable Wisconsin Real Estate Transfer Tax from the proceeds of the sale.
If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.
PLACE: First floor of the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 North Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166
DESCRIPTION: Lot One (1), Certified Survey Map No. 1746 recorded September 22, 1998, in Volume 6 of Certified Surveys on pages 265-266, as Document No. 510595, said map being part of Government Lot Two (2) in Section 12, Township 27 North, Range 15 East, Town of Wescott, Shawano County, Wisconsin.
PROPERTY ADDRESS: N6898 Balsam Row Road, Shawano, WI 54166
TAX KEY NO.: 362100001
Dated this 19th day of October 2026.
Shawano County Sheriff
Phillip A. Norman, P.C.
Kelly M. Smith
State Bar No. 1067970
245 S. Executive Drive, Suite 380
Brookfield, WI 53005
(262) 314-6564
Phillip A. Norman, P.C. is the creditor's attorney and is attempting to collect a debt on its behalf. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

WNAXLP
SHA-402

11/20/26, 11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

Agenda
Board of Adjustment - Public Hearing
Notice Meeting Thursday, December 10, 2026 @ 9:00 AM Shawano County Courthouse, Rooms A & B
311 N Main St., Shawano, Wi
Members: Alan Beyer, Bill Bowers, John Stezenski, Thomas Tauferner, Gary Thomack Alternates: 1st Robert Krause, 2nd David Korth

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Shawano County Board of Adjustment under the Shawano County Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 40, in rooms A/B on December 10, 2026 at 9AM, to consider the following application(s):
V-3-26: Jay W Bloecher & Emily L Wendt, owners request 1) An after the fact variance for the purpose of keeping a 6' by 8' section of an existing 8' x 42' covered porch (which was originally permitted through variance to be 8' x 36') located 35.5' from the centerline of Kielblock Rd. where 50' is required. AND 2) A variance to enclose the existing 8' x 42' covered porch inside the road setback of 50' from the centerline of Kielblock Rd. Property is located and described as the Northwest 1/4 of the Fractional Northwest 1/4 Section 4, Town 27 North, Range 12 East in the Town of Fairbanks. Tax Parcel # 014-04220-0000. Property Address: W16096 Wendt Rd.
Any interested person may address the Board of Adjustment by letter or appear in person, or by agent, and be heard at the public hearing. Written correspondence must bear a legible signature of the author a well as the primary address of the signer.
The Board will accept and review all previously received pertinent information relative to the above listed item(s) during the open session of the public hearing on December 10, 2026. Notice is further given that printed copies of these proposals are available for public inspection in the Planning and Development office during regular business hours.
Please note that upon reasonable notice, effort will be made to accommodate the needs of any person wishing to attend who, because of disability, requires special accommodation through appropriate aids and services. Call 715-526-6766 to leave a message for arrangements.
Dated this 11th day of November, 2026
For: The Shawano County Board of Adjustment
By: Kyle Waelchli, Zoning Administrator
The Board of Adjustment will be meeting after the public hearing to deliberate and take possible action on the following items:
1. Public hearing decisions
V-3-26: Jay W Bloecher & Emily L Wendt
2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
2.1 10-8-26 Public Hearing and Meeting Minutes
3. Board member comments or new business to be considered at a future meeting.
4. Correspondence
5. Set next public hearing date.
6. Adjournment.
Accommodations due to disability can be made by calling: 715-526-6766
Meeting notice emailed/posted:
Shawano County Courthouse, Department of Human Services, Shawano County Library, Shawano Leader, WTCH Radio, Shawano County Civic website @ coshawanowi.civicweb.net.

WNAXLP
SHA-413

11/27/26, 12/4/26, 12/11/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

DATE SIGNED: November 17, 2026
Electronically signed by Gwen Hoffman
Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BARBARA J. DILLENBURG
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)
Case No. 26 PR 84

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2.The decedent, with date of birth April 19, 1938, and date of death October 18, 2026 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W9534 County Road M, Shawano, WI 54166
3.All interested persons waived notice.
4.The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is February 26, 2027
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse,311 N. Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166 Room 202 Probate Office.
Form completed by: James Vomastic
Address:1488 E Green Bay St.
Shawano, WI 54166
Telephone: 715-851-3669
Bar Number (if any) 1045783

WNAXLP
SHA-422

11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
Nsighttel Wireless LLC, d/b/a Cellcom
P.O. Box 5301
De Pere WI 54115
Plaintiff(s),
-VS-
Bobby L. Komanekin
N3407 White Ave
Neopit WI 54150
Defendant(s):

Publication Summons
And Notice (Small Claims)
Case No. 2026SC000056

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-799-3313 at least 10 working days prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

Publication Summons
And Notice of Filing

TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT(S):
You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims court:
Shawano Clerk of Courts
715-526-9347
311 N Main St
Shawano WI 54166
On the following date and time:
Date: 12-17-2026
Time: 9:30 am
If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgment against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.
Plaintiff Erica Clark
Telephone Number 1-800-550-8091
Date 11-13-2026

WNAXLP
SHA-421

11/27/26, 12/4/26, 12/11/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT SHAWANO COUNTY

Capital Credit Union

Plaintiff, Case No. 26CV204
v. Code No. 30301

Richard Michael Lawrence Brown
XYZ Unknown Defendant

Defendants.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS

STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a Defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you.
Within 40 days after November 27, 2026, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is Clerk of Courts, Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N Main St, Shawano, WI 54166-2198, and to Justin J. Bates, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is PO Box 1473, Wausau, WI 54402. You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not demand a copy of the complaint within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated: November 17, 2026
Bates Legal Group, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff

By: */s/ Justin J. Bates*
Justin J. Bates
State Bar No. 1066128
P.O. Box 1473
Wausau, WI 54402-1473
(715) 843-5599

WNAXLP
SHA-417

11/27/26, 12/4/26, 12/11/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ALLEN MICHAELSON
Order Setting Time to Hear Petition for Administration and Deadline for Filing Claims (Formal Administration)
Case No. 26PR82

A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.
THE COURT FINDS:
The decedent, with the date of birth of January 11, 1944, and date of death July 11, 2026 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W4976 Bartelt Boulevard, Shawano, Wisconsin 54166
THE COURT ORDERS:
1. The petition be heard at the Shawano County Courthouse, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202, before Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner Hon. Gwen Hoffman, Register in Probate, on December 29, 2026 at 10:00 AM. You do not need to appear unless you object. The petition may be granted if there is no objection.
2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is February 19, 2027.
3. A claim may be filed at Shawano County Courthouse, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202.
4. Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgement.
5. Publication of this notice is notice to nay persons whose names and address are unknown.
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call (715) 526-8631 at least 10 working days prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
BY THE COURT:

/s/Gwen Hoffman, Register in Probate
November 11, 2026
Attorney Devin C. Shanley, 2071 Central Drive, Suite A100, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311, (920) 831-0300, State Bar No. 1090094

WNAXLP
SHA-424

11/13/26, 11/20/26, 11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

DATE SIGNED: November 2, 2026
Electronically signed by Gwen Hoffman
Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROSE L. KRUEGER
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 26PR79

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth June 9, 1950 and date of death September 30, 2026, was domiciled Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1603 Timber Trail, Shawano, WI 54166.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4.The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is February 12, 2027
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County, Courthouse,311 N, Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166 Room 202, Probate Office
Form completed by: James Vomastic
Address:1488 E Green Bay St.
Shawano, WI 54166
715-851-3669
Bar Number (if any) 1045783

WNAXLP
SHA-409

11/13/26, 11/20/26, 11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Robert R. Thomas
DOD 9-19-2026

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 26 PR 81

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 9-18-1941 and date of death 9-19-2026 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1088 Engel Drive Rm 34, Shawano, WI 54166
3.All interested persons waived notice.
4.The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is February 12, 2027
5.A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office
James E. Aschenbrener
P.O. Box 146, Shawano, WI 54166
715-524-6258
1008896

WNAXLP
SHA-408

11/27/26, 12/4/26, 12/11/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF Bria Rae Raddant
By (Petitioner) Angela Rae Johnston
Notice of
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26CV244"B"

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Bria Rae Raddant
To: Bria Rae Johnston
Birth Certificate: Bria Rae Raddant
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of SHAWANO County, State of Wisconsin:
311 N Main St Shawano, WI 54166
Judge William F Kussel Jr
01/14/27
8:15am.
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-526-9347
the court does not provide transportation, prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that

WNAXLP
SHA-419

11/27/26, 12/4/26, 12/11/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF
Trell Lee Raddant
By Angela Rae Johnston
Notice of
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26CV244

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Trell Lee Raddant
To: Trell Lee Johnston
Birth Certificate:Trell Lee Raddant

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of SHAWANO William F Kussel Jr
311 N Main St Shawano, WI 54146
01/14/27
8:15am
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-526-9347
the court does not provide transportation.

WNAXLP
SHA-418

11/13/26, 11/20/26, 11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN TIGERTON
140 Cedar Street
Tigerton, WI 54486
Plaintiff,
-VS-
GAUTHIER'S YE OLE SALOON, LLC
320 Cedar Street
Tigerton, WI 54486
JOSEPH GAUTHIER a/k/a JOSEPH G GAUTHIER
635 Elm Street
Tigerton, WI 54486
AMANDA GAUTHIER
635 Elm Street
Tigerton, WI 54486
STATE OF WISCONSIN - DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
P.O. Box 8901
Madison, WI 53708
SHARON GLOVER
N6409 Banner Road
Wittenberg, WI 54499
Defendants.
File No.: 26-CV-103
Class No.: 30404

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered in the above entitled action on the 8th day of September, 2026, in the amount of $129,802.59, the undersigned Sheriff of Shawano County, Wisconsin, will sell at public auction inside the main entrance of the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, in the City of Shawano, Shawano County, Wisconsin, on the 13th day of January, 2027 at 9:00 a.m. of that day, the real estate and mortgaged premises directed by said judgment to be sold, and therein described as follows:
Parcel 1: Lot Ten (10) in Block Twenty-eight (28), according to the original Plat of the Village of Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin.
Parcel No.: 700500990
Address: 320 Cedar Street, Tigerton, Wisconsin 54486
Terms of Sale: Pursuant to said judgment, 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the Clerk of Court (personal checks cannot and will not be accepted). The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the Clerk of Court in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation of the sale or else the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff. The property is sold "as is" and subject to all liens and encumbrances.
Dated this 29th day of October 2026.
Winter Law Office
Attorney Michael B. Winter
835 Fifth Avenue
Antigo, WI 54409
(715) 623-2905
State Bar No. 1025676
George Lenzner, Shawano County Sheriff

WNAXLP
SHA-406

Preventive care helps track, manage risk factors

It's important for women to remember to prioritize their physical, mental and emotional health as these areas are often overlooked, according to a medical expert with ThedaCare.

"It's not uncommon for women to put their needs last," said Renee Bruckner, family medicine nurse practitioner. "They may devote themselves to work, parenting, caring for an aging loved one or volunteering – often a combination of all of those areas. That selflessness may cause women to overlook their own well-being."

One of most effective ways to avoid that is through regularly-scheduled wellness visits and health screenings, Bruckner said.

"Preventive care is about tracking changes over time and addressing issues before they become bigger problems," she said. "When women take care of themselves, they're safeguarding their own health and well-being. This also allows them to better show up for the people they love."

Bruckner suggested five key health screenings women should plan to schedule – a mammogram, colonoscopy, HPV testing, bone density test and cardiovascular assessments.

"Preventive care health screenings help us track and manage risk factors," she said. "In addition, normal test results can provide reassurance and peace of mind."

A mammogram is a low-dose X-ray exam of the breasts to help identify abnormal changes. It is recommended that women of normal risk begin these exams at the age of 40.

"That's because it's estimated that one in eight women will get breast cancer in her lifetime," Bruckner said. "A mammogram is considered the best method available to detect breast cancer early. The screening exam can help detect a lump before it can be felt. If you need additional types of testing, your doctor will discuss these with you."

ThedaCare offers a 3D mammogram, an imaging test that combines multiple breast X-rays into a 3D picture of the breast, all within a safe level of radiation. These mammograms have shown to reduce the need for follow-up imaging. They're also said to be more effective at detecting cancer in women with dense breast tissue.

Another test, a colonoscopy, helps doctors examine the inner lining of a person's large intestine.

Women (and men) of normal risk are encouraged to have their first colonoscopy at age 45. If the results are normal, the test should be repeated every 10 years through age 75 or based on a doctor's recommendations.

"Colorectal cancer is the second-most common cause of cancer death," Bruckner said. "It's also highly treatable when caught early. That's important as rates of colorectal cancer are on the rise in adults younger than 50."

Certain types of human papillomavirus cause nearly all cervical cancers. That's why experts recommend HPV testing as part of cervical cancer screening.

The American Cancer Society encourages women between the ages of 25 and 65 to have a primary HPV test every five years. A primary HPV test is done alone, without a Pap test. If primary HPV testing is not available, women may undergo screening with either a co-test that combines an HPV test with a Pap test every five years or a Pap test alone every three years. Women over 65 who have undergone regular screening in the past 10 years with normal results can stop cervical cancer screening.

A bone density test, also called a DEXA scan, uses a small amount of X-ray to measure the amount of mineral in the bones of a person's lower back, hip and sometimes forearm. The test is quick and painless. It can help determine osteoporosis risk.

COURT NEWS

SHAWANO-MENOMINEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

• Joshua J. Pingel, 46, New London, pleaded no contest Nov. 18 to misdemeanor charges of battery and disorderly conduct. A related felony count was dismissed but read into the record in a plea agreement. Judge Katherine Sloma withheld sentencing and placed him on three years of probation with conditions.

• Melina Kathryn Isabel Herr, 25, Gillett, pleaded no contest Nov. 17 to possession of narcotic drugs and two counts of felony bail jumping. Judge William Kussel Jr. withheld sentencing and placed her on four years of probation with conditions.

• Michael L. Szafranek, 45, Wausau, pleaded no contest Nov. 20 to issuing worthless checks. Sloma imposed and stayed a prison sentence, then placed him on three years of probation with conditions.

• Bradley L. Cox, 43, Antigo, pleaded no contest Nov. 17 to manufacturing cocaine with intent to deliver. Kussel imposed and stayed a prison sentence, then placed him on five years of probation with conditions.

• Chaise D. Cook, 28, Shawano, was charged Nov. 16 with felony bail jumping and possession of narcotic drugs. Kussel set a $1,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Nov. 23.

• Cheyenne S. Grant, 28, Bowler, was charged Nov. 16 with six counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer, possession of an illegally obtained prescription and possession of cocaine. Kussel set a $1,000 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Dec. 22.

• Joshua S. Cruz, 25, Shawano, was charged Nov. 17 with three counts of first-degree recklessly endangering safety and misdemeanor counts of causing injury while operating a motor vehicle under the influence and resisting or obstructing an officer. Kussel set a $4,000 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Jan. 7.

• James Smith, 33, Bowler, was charged Nov. 17 with felony bail jumping, two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a $500 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Dec. 3.

• Daniel Thunder, 53, a Neopit man serving a sentence at New Lisbon Correctional Institution, was charged Sept. 28 with forgery-uttering. Kussel set a $500 signature bond on Nov. 17 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Dec. 3.

• Chenissa T. Cleveland, 34, Shawano, was charged Nov. 9 with three counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of possession of THC, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession with intent to use a masking agent. Kussel set a $5,000 signature bond on Nov. 17 and scheduled a status conference for Feb. 17.

• Toria Lynn Scott, 29, Wittenberg, was charged Nov. 18 with strangulation and suffocation, first-degree recklessly endangering safety, false imprisonment, substantial battery and a misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a $4,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Nov. 24.

• Hassan N. Malley, 37, Shawano, was charged Nov. 18 with attempted strangulation and suffocation, six counts of felony bail jumping, three counts of misdemeanor bail jumping, and misdemeanor counts of battery and disorderly conduct. Kussel set a $3,000 signature bond and scheduled a status conference for Feb. 11.

OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

• Clyde Alan Geimer, 56, Amberg, pleaded no contest Sept. 9 to possession of methamphetamine and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge James Morrison imposed and stayed a prison sentence, then placed him on three years of probation with conditions.

• Charlene Louise Schuda, 56, Clintonville, was charged Nov. 16 with felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Hannah Schuchart set a $600 cash bond and adjourned her initial appearance until Dec. 17.

• Benjamin J. Chernick, 46, Suamico, was charged Nov. 19 with criminal damage to property, threatening to cause bodily harm to certain individuals involved with a court or legal system, and misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer, disorderly conduct and bail jumping. Schuchart set a $15,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Dec. 7.

• Tami Anne Utzig, 59, Beloit, was charged Nov. 19 with possession of THC with intent to distribute. Schuchart set a $500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Jan. 22.

• Paige B. Fox, 32, Menominee, Michigan, was charged Oct. 26 with taking and driving a vehicle without consent, two counts of felony bail jumping and one count of misdemeanor bail jumping. Judge Jay Conley set a $5,000 signature bond on Nov. 19 and scheduled a preliminary hearing and arraignment for Dec. 18.

• Jordan A.M. McDonald, 39, Lena, was charged Oct. 26 with second-degree recklessly endangering safety. Conley set a $25,000 signature bond on Nov. 19 and adjourned her initial appearance until Jan. 14.

• Tyler C. Spice, 40, Lena, was charged Oct. 26 with second-degree recklessly endangering safety. Conley set a $25,000 signature bond on Nov. 19 and adjourned his initial appearance until Jan. 14.

• Ezekiel T. Shields, 38, Oconto, was charged Nov. 20 with child abuse recklessly causing harm and two misdemeanor counts of child neglect. Conley set a $7,500 cash bond and adjourned his initial appearance until Dec. 17.

11/27/26, 12/4/26, 12/11/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
OCONTO COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
OCONTO COUNTY
Our File #W221577
Case No. 26CV000159
MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC
Plaintiff,
VS.
TYLER J BAIN
Defendant.
AMENDED SUMMONS
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
TO:TYLER J BAIN
13145 BLOOM RD
GILLETT WI 54124
You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.
Within Forty (40) days after November 27, 2026, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is: CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, OCONTO COUNTY, 301 WASHINGTON ST, OCONTO WI 54153-1699 and the Kohn Law Firm, Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 735 N. Water St., Suite 1300, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent
you.
If no Complaint accompanies this Summons you must respond within the said 40 day period with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiff's attorneys at their respective addresses listed above.
If you do not provide a proper answer to the Complaint or provide a written demand for said complaint within the 40 day period, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin
November 17, 2026.
KOHN LAW FIRM S.C.
ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED BY:
/S/CARON L. COFFAE
CARON L. COFFAE
State Bar No. 1122615
Attorney for Plaintiff
WNAXLP
OCO153

11/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
OCONTO COUNTY

RESOLUTION BY TOWN ELECTORS TO ENDORSE THE TOWN BOARD'S RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE LEVY LIMIT
Town of Spruce, Oconto County
Resolution No. #07-2026
Whereas, the State of Wisconsin has imposed levy limits on town tax levies for 2026 and thereafter under Wis. Stat. § 66.0602;
Whereas, Wis. Stat. § 66.0602(5) allows the town electors in a town with a population of less than 3,000 to exceed the maximum allowable levy limit by adoption of a resolution at a town meeting of the town electors;
Whereas, the town board has adopted a resolution supporting an increase in the town tax levy which would exceed the maximum allowable state levy limit for the Town of Spruce;
Whereas, a special town meeting of the town electors has been called and properly noticed to consider the adoption of a resolution to endorse a town board resolution to exceed the state levy limits, specifically by increasing the allowable town tax levy for 2026 (to be collected in 2027) by 42.116%;
THEREFORE, the special town meeting of the Town of Spruce, Oconto County, Wisconsin, by a majority vote of the eligible electors duly assembled and voting on this 11th day of November, 2026, hereby resolves and orders as follows:
1. The town electors of the Town of Spruce, Oconto County, Wisconsin endorse the town board resolution to increase the town tax levy for 2026 (to be collected in 2027) by 42.116 % over the state's allowable 2026 levy limit, for a dollar increase of $ 100,000 over the allowable 2026 town tax levy.
2. To consider paying back the current loan of $50,000 which was made to cover road construction costs over a 5-year period. The first 4 payments would equal $11,364.00 annually and the final payment in year 5 would be $11,275.31
3. The town clerk shall post or publish this resolution as required by law under Wis. Stat. § 60.80(1)(a) within 30 days after its adoption.
Adopted this 11th day of November, 2026, at a Special Town Meeting of the Town Electors.
Number of town electors voting aye 6
Number of town electors voting nay 0
Number abstaining or not voting (if determined) 0
Signature of Town Meeting Chair: /s/
Attested by Town Clerk*: /s/Lisa Paitersen
WNAXLP
OCO152

11/20/26, 11/27/26, 12/4/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

189940
STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT RACINE COUNTY

AMERICAN FAMILY MUTUAL INSURANCE CO., S.I.
6000 AMERICAN PKWY
MADISON, WI 53783
Plaintiff,
vs.
ASHLEY NICOLE VYVYAN
N2820 COUNTY ROAD P
WITTENBERG, WI 54499-8634
Defendant.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS

Case No. 26CV1408
Hon. KRISTIN M. CAFFERTY
Case Code: 30301

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To each person named above as a Defendant:

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within forty (40) days after November 20, 2026 , you must respond with a written answer as that term is used in chapter 802 of the Wisconsin statutes, to the complaint. The court may reject or disregard an Answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 730 Wisconsin Ave., Racine, WI 53403, and to the offices of Heuer Law Offices, S.C., Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 300 N. Executive Dr., Suite 101 , Brookfield, WI 53005 . You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within forty (40) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated this 10th day of November, 2026.

Attorney for Plaintiff
Heuer Law Offices, S.C.
Jonathan D. McCollister (State Bar No. 1037740)
300 N. Executive Dr., Suite 101
Brookfield, WI 53005
Phone: (414) 224-3500
WNAXLP
WIT043

NOTICE OF BUDGET CHANGE

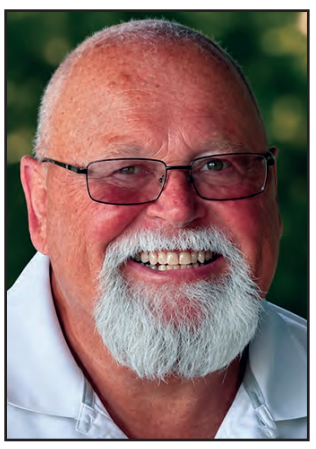
The following budget adjustments/transfers have been approved by the Oconto County Board of Supervisors on November 19, 2026:

FROM	TO	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Contingency Fund	General Allocation	$100,000	Legal Counsel for any Litigation Involving Bug Tussel 1, LLC

Published pursuant to Wis. Stats. 65.90(3)(a).

OBITUARIES

TIMOTHY LISOWE



Timothy Mathew Lisowe, 75, passed away Nov. 17, 2026, leaving behind a lifetime of love, laughter, cherished memories and a family who couldn't have been prouder to call him theirs.

He was born to Mathew and Shirley (Tappa) Lisowe on Feb. 5, 1951. Tim grew up in Oconto Falls and graduated with the class of 1969.

Tim shared 49 beautiful years of marriage with his beloved wife, Jean, who preceded him in death Dec. 27, 2025. Together, they raised three daughters, built a wonderful life and created a family filled with love. Although their family is heartbroken to lose them both so close together, they find comfort in knowing Tim and his wife are reunited once again.

A hardworking and dedicated man, Tim spent many years at Krause's Cheese before continuing his career at Frigos, which later became Saputo. He was a licensed cheesemaker who took great pride in his work. Throughout his career, he formed countless friendships, many of which remained an important part of his life until the very end.

Tim also loved his daily lunches with Amy, a special routine he looked forward to and truly enjoyed. He also loved spending time fishing and shooting the bull with his best friend, Jack.

Tim had a passion for sports, especially basketball, bowling and golf. A talented high school basketball player, he passed his love of the game on to his daughters, Becky and Courtney. March Madness was always a favorite time of year. One of Tim's proudest accomplishments was bowling a perfect 300 game, an achievement he treasured.

He also loved hunting, especially deer season spent with his Fabry family. For Tim, it was about much more than hunting. It was about tradition, laughter, stories and time spent with the people he loved.

While his family wishes they had more time, they will forever be grateful for the 75 years of memories and the unconditional love he gave them.

Tim is survived by his three loving daughters, Becky (Kenny) Behnke, Amy (Troy) Brehmer and Courtney (Keaton) Kazik; and his cherished grandchildren, Mathew (Lily Kurek) Behnke, Addyson (Alex Foht) Behnke, Trace Brehmer, Allie Brehmer, Gunner Kazik and Quinn Kazik.

He is further survived by his siblings, Sue Lisowe, Mary McDermid, Kathy (Dale) Klosterman, John Lisowe and Dave (Becky) Beaumia; mother-in-law, Marie Grady; siblings-in-law, Joan Curran, Chuck (Debbie) Grady and Debbie Leja-Grady; along with many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and countless friends who were blessed to know him. He also leaves behind his faithful dog, Oscar.

Tim was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Jean; precious angel granddaughter, Hazel Grace Kazik; parents, Mathew Lisowe and Shirley Beaumia; stepfather, Bob Beaumia; father-in-law, Bill Grady; brothers-in-law, Mike McDermid, Timm Grady and Ron Curran; great-nephew, Michael Hollis McDermid; and special dogs, Emma and Coco.

He was everything a great man should be, and to his daughters, he was simply Dad. He was perfect to them, and he was theirs.

Dad, you spent your whole life telling us how proud you were of us. We hope you knew just how incredibly proud we were to call you, our dad. We will love you, miss you and carry you with us every single day. Give Mom and Hazel a hug from all of us. Until we meet again.

Time for family and friends to gather will be held Friday, Nov. 27, 2026, from 3-7 p.m. at Jones Funeral Service in Oconto Falls. Visitation will continue Saturday, Nov. 28, at the funeral home after 9 a.m. followed by a celebration of life at 11 a.m. Tim and Jean will buried together at a later date at St. Anthony Catholic Cemetery in Oconto Falls. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating the American Diabetes Association.

We would like to thank the ICU team and nurses at St. Vincent's hospital, Oconto Falls Ambulance, Oconto Falls Fire Department and Jones Funeral Service for your support and compassion. We would also like to thank everyone who has reached out during this difficult time.

EDWARD R. MEVERDEN



Edward R. Meverden, 88, of Wittenberg, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2026, surrounded by his family at Marshfield Medical Center in Weston.

Edward was born Aug. 29, 1938, in Mattoon, the son of Woodrow and Donna (Arnold) Meverden. On Oct. 28, 1961, he was united in marriage to Lois Onesti at St. Philomena Catholic Church in Birnamwood.

Edward began his career as a semi driver at the age of 18, working for Haupt Contractors before venturing out on his own. Edward loved to drive semi. He retired in 1975 due to medical reasons.

In his younger years, Edward enjoyed bowling and hunting. He had a deep appreciation for the outdoors, especially fishing up north and taking fishing trips to Minnesota. He also enjoyed cutting wood and occasionally helping out on the family farm. Edward and Lois treasured their time together at their campsite at V's Campsite in Bowler.

Edward cherished spending time with his loved ones and especially treasured the memories made with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The time spent together with family was what meant the most to him.

Edward is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Lois; his children, Allard (Tammy) Meverden, Arlen (Amy) Meverden, Mario (Tina) Meverden, Anita (Bruce) Schmeiser, Marlene Wepner and Marcy (Daniel) Tomson; grandchildren, Jeremy (Molly) Meverden, Annie (Jeremy) Falkowski, Alyssa (significant other J.C.) Meverden, Adrian Meverden, Sawyer, Hudson (Kristi) and Lincoln (Anna) Meverden, Caitlin (Logan) Fechhelm, Aaron Schmeiser, Payton (Ray) Chapman, Tyler Wepner, Ava (significant other, Anton) Wepner, Eric, Dustin, Danica and Daniel Tomson; nine great-grandchildren, Blake, Quinn, Eve, Avery, Laine, Maisie, Braelynn, Mylee and Hunter; and a sister, Leah Klopotek.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister and brothers-in-law, Bernice (Jim) Buss and Gerald Klopotek.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2026, at St. Philomena Catholic Church in Birnamwood. The Rev. Vicente Llagas will preside. Burial will take place at Union Cemetery in Tigerton. Visitation will be held at the church on Wednesday from 9 a.m. until the time of service.

Schmidt and Schulta Funeral Home in Wittenberg is assisting the family with arrangements. Memories and messages of support may be shared at www.schmidtschulta.com.

DONNA DUCAT



Donna Rae Ducat was unexpectedly called to her heavenly home Nov. 13, 2026. She passed away after a brief illness, having lived 80 years bringing joy to everyone who knew her.

She was born March 30, 1946, to Donald and Evelyn Kanack whom she treasured. While at times her address may have changed, her roots were always in Lena. She was an avid sports fan; how could she not be growing up with seven brothers. She was always ready and willing to talk Packers and Brewers and Bucks with anyone and everyone.

After owning and operating a beauty salon in the Green Bay area for decades, she moved back to the family farm to spend more time with her parents. In those later years, she enjoyed gardening, making rye bread with her mom, cooking (often enough to share with neighbors), reading and enjoying the companionship of her beloved dog, Lucy, and most recently, Albert.

She always kept busy serving her community and church, Our Savior Lutheran.

Donna was a deeply devoted mother. She dedicated her life to raising her three girls, Lisa (David), Carrie (Paul) and Holly (Christine), and found her greatest happiness in the moments spent with them and their families. She, Super G to her granddaughters, will be lovingly remembered by Ellie (Justin), Meghan (Dan), Claire (Philip), Ian (Sophie), Alison; and great-grandchildren, Mario, Rory and arriving in April, Desmond. She is cherished by her surviving brothers, Wayne and Dale (Mary).

Donna was preceded in death by her parents, Donald and Evelyn; and brothers, Glen, Jerry, Richard, Bert and James.

She is dearly loved and will be missed by her large circle of family including numerous nieces and nephews and many friends.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Nov. 21, 2026, at Our Savior Lutheran, 327 Rosera St., Lena.

If so desired, memorial gifts can be given in Donna's name to Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Online condolences can be forwarded to the family at www.rhodescharapata.com.

NATHALIE 'NAT' SPANG



Nathalie "Nat" Martha Spang, 86, of Gillett, passed away Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026, at St. Vincent Hospital.

Nat was born Feb. 19, 1940, to the late Walter and Anna (Konop) Miller. She graduated from Bonduel High School with the class of 1958. On June 18, 1960, Nat was united in marriage to James L. Spang, and together the couple raised three children. Nat enjoyed gardening, reading, keeping up on the news and spending time with her family and friends.

Nat is survived by her children, Pam (Mike) Schmit, James G. (Donna) Spang and Ruth (Jeff Thomson) Spang; five grandchildren, Stephanie (Josh) Spang-Magee, Casey Schmit, Andrea (Kyle Lueckfeld) Beaumier, Jennifer (Devin) Kohls and Cody (Bailey Williams) Schmit; seven great-grandchildren, Lennon, Dayton, Aurora, Elsie, Arbor, Annsley and Kennedy; brother, Bobby (Karen) Miller. She is further survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim; parents; sisters, Sylvia (Earl) Kahler, June Miller, Nancy (Russ) Hottenstein; brothers, Walter Jr. (Anita), Allen and Dean.

Honoring Nat's wishes, no services will be held.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.

The family would like to thank Jennifer Gibbons. APNP, and the staff of St. Vincent Cancer Center and Unity Hospice for their kind and compassionate care.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home & Cremation Services

ANN DARROW



Ann Marie Darrow passed away Oct. 29, 2026, at the age of 80 in Eau Claire.

Ann was born to the late Eva (Moeller) and Herman Wilting from Pound on May 31, 1946. She had a full life with the Lord guiding her daily.

A Catholic prayer service was held in Eau Claire. A celebration of life will be held at Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Gillett on Friday, Dec. 4, 2026. Visitation will be from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Niece and minister Erica Johnson will lead a memorial service at 10:30 a.m. A luncheon at Holiday Inn at Kelly Lake will follow the service.

The full obituary is available at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.

Ann will be buried at Wanderer's Rest in Gillett next to Kurt. Memorials can be made to the Eau Claire Regis Catholic Schools Booster Club or to the Eau Claire North High School band program.

Special thanks to her medical teams and Gruetzmacher Funeral Home.

Gruetzmacher Funeral Home & Cremation Services

FARON PRAUSA

Faron Elvis Prausa, 69, of Marfa, Texas, died in his sleep Oct. 18, 2026.

He was born Nov. 23, 1956, in Oconto.

He was the beloved husband of Cheryl. He is survived by his sons, Travis and Rase; his mother, Rita; his sister, Lisa; and his brother, Scott.

He owned and operated Structural Services, a construction company, for more than 30 years, serving Marfa and Big Bend. He was known for his superb work fixing and building structures and homes.



NOTICE OF ELECTION
State of Wisconsin
Spring Election
April 6, 2027

Election Details

An election is to be held in the towns, villages, cities, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 6, 2027. The following officers are to be elected:

Judicial Officers

One (1) Justice of the Supreme Court, for the term of ten (10) years, to succeed the present incumbent listed, whose term of office will expire on July 31, 2027:

Justice of the Supreme Court **Annette Ziegler***

**Candidates who have submitted non-candidacy forms.*

One (1) Court of Appeals Judge, for the term of six (6) years, to succeed the present incumbent listed, whose terms of office will expire on July 31, 2025:

Court of Appeals Judge District 3 **Gregory B. Gill, Jr.**

One (1) Circuit Court Judge, for the term of six (6) years, to succeed the present incumbent listed, whose term of office will expire on July 31, 2027:

Menominee-Shawano County
Circuit Court Judge Branch 1 **Katie Sloma**

City Offices

Five (5) Alderpersons, each for a term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

City of Shawano	
Alderperson, District 1	Brad Keuschel
Alderperson, District 3	Vacant
Alderperson, District 5	Linda Meyer
City of Marion	
Alderperson, Wards 1 & 4	Jenny Korth
Alderperson, Ward 2	Jacquelin Fritz
Alderperson, Ward 3	Joe Larson

Town Offices

Twenty-five (25) Town Chairpersons, each for the term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027.

Town of Almon	Steve Onesti
Town of Angelica	Allan J. Maroszek
Town of Aniwa	Dan Lex
Town of Bartelme	Dan Duranceau
Town of Belle Plaine	Alvin Bartz
Town of Birnamwood	Steven Steinke
Town of Fairbanks	Thomas Tauferner
Town of Germania	Michael Damrau
Town of Grant	Richard Britzke
Town of Green Valley	Terry Tipton
Town of Hartland	David Bohm
Town of Herman	Bob Dillenburg
Town of Hutchins	Jeremy Metko
Town of Lessor	David Owen
Town of Maple Grove	Randy Holewinski
Town of Morris	Kurt Klinner
Town of Navarino	Tyler Anvelink
Town of Pella	Gary Thomack
Town of Red Springs	Lonnie Schreiber
Town of Richmond	Steven Gueths
Town of Seneca	Carolyn Jolitz
Town of Washington	David Korth
Town of Waukechon	Jay Vomastic
Town of Wescott	Terry Moede
Town of Wittenberg	Richard Beversdorf

Fifty-One (51) Town Supervisors, each for the term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Town of Almon	Scott Matsche
	Brady Strassburg
Town of Angelica	Greg Van Asten
	Brian Eckberg
Town of Aniwa	Robert Sippl
	Dale Matsche
Town of Bartelme	David Beilke
	Lyle Grosskopf
Town of Belle Plaine	Wade Wisnefske
	Luke Heling
Town of Birnamwood	Kurt Olson Jr.
	Wayne Clark
Town of Fairbanks	Anita Kernen
	Steven Prey
Town of Germania	Bruce Dudzik
	Bruce Breaker
Town of Grant	Dale Klitz
	Bill Bowers
Town of Green Valley	Brandon Nygaard
	Gary Uelmen
Town of Hartland	Peter Schmidt
	Tim Leitermann
Town of Herman	Duane Spiegel
	Clayton Arndt
Town of Hutchins	Shawn Williams
	Daniel Wolf
Town of Lessor	Craig Rekoske
	Darold Moeller
Town of Maple Grove	Alan Leidel
	Ron Maroszek
Town of Morris	Dale Clark
	Lloyd Gutt
Town of Navarino	Dennis Bohm
	Steven Schinke
Town of Pella	Kenneth Genskow
	Sean Shumaker
Town of Red Springs	Jennifer Morris
	Gary Olsen
Town of Richmond	Matt Hietpas
	Ken Damveld
Town of Seneca	Michael Trinko
	Harvey Stefl
Town of Washington	Jesse Bahr
	Paul Gagnow
Town of Waukechon	Matt Koehler
	Doug Beyer Sr.
Town of Wescott	Mike Stupecky
	Marlene Dinges Brown
Town of Wittenberg	Justin Hartleben
	Bill Timm

Eleven (11) Town Clerks, each for the term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Town of Angelica	Connie Przybylski
Town of Aniwa	Tammy Resch
Town of Bartelme	Beth Grosskopf
Town of Birnamwood	Pamela M. Fischer
Town of Fairbanks	Jennifer Dzioba
Town of Green Valley	Rose Nygaard
Town of Hartland	Carrie Bohm
Town of Hutchins	Janice Fischer
Town of Lessor	Alexis Olson
Town of Maple Grove	Kathy Luebke
Town of Seneca	Raymond Rigsby

Fourteen (14) Town Treasurers, each for the term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Town of Angelica	Lisa Matuszak
Town of Aniwa	Ken Schram
Town of Bartelme	Jill Duranceau
Town of Birnamwood	Debbra Kessen
Town of Fairbanks	Susan Hintz
Town of Germania	Jennifer Werner
Town of Green Valley	Traci Nygaard
Town of Hartland	Jenny Mitchell
Town of Hutchins	Pamela McAuly
Town of Lessor	Lisa Clauss
Town of Maple Grove	Steven Holewinski
Town of Richmond	Noelle Buettner
Town of Seneca	Sherry Voelz
Town of Wittenberg	Jasmine Wolff

One (1) Constable, each for the term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Town of Richmond	Ken Damveld

Eleven (11) Village Presidents, each for a term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Village of Aniwa	Tom Kautza
Village of Birnamwood	Mike Sprague
Village of Bonduel	Russ Gehm
Village of Bowler	Otto Maves
Village of Cecil	Jeff Nolan
Village of Eland	Shane Larson
Village of Gresham	Rick Giese
Village of Mattoon	James Zahn
Village of Pulaski	Keith Chambers
Village of Tigerton	Steve Reinert
Village of Wittenberg	William Switalla

Twenty-Nine (29) Village Trustees, each for a term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Village of Aniwa	Joesph Meisenhelder
Village of Birnamwood	Ronald Resch
	Jason Cieslewicz
	Philip Kersten
Village of Bonduel	Sean Falk
	Andrew Court
	Kay Zuleger
Village of Bowler	Scott Breitrick
	Joseph Duquette
	Vacant
Village of Cecil	Ann Kallies
	Steven Fischer
	Bob Weier
Village of Eland	Kyle Resch
	James Steebs
Village of Gresham	Art Bahr
	Roy Smith
	Brett Nelson
Village of Mattoon	Chaz Rueuter
	Don Fuller
	Thomas Zarda
Village of Pulaski	Keith Gering
	Stephanie Rodgers
	Howard L. Zernicke
Village of Tigerton	David Herb Dent
	Patrick Bailey
	Angelia Willman
Village of Wittenberg	Marlene Wepner
	Theresa Gatz
	David Timm

One (1) Village Clerks, each for a term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Village of Eland	Denise Larson

One (1) Village Treasurer, each for a term of two years, whose term will begin on Tuesday, April 20, 2027:

Village of Eland	Claudia Ploeger

Thirty-six (36) School Board Members, each for a term of three years*, whose term will begin on Monday, April 26, 2027:

Unified School District of Antigo	Melissa Cornelius
	Jill Mattek Nelson
	Randy Myers
	Angela Schreiber
	Donna Smith
Bonduel School District	Dale Bergsbaken - Towns of Angelica, Green Valley, Washington
	Nate Burton - Village of Cecil, Town of Washington
Bowler School District	Jackie Miller - Town of Bartelme
	Raquel Treptow - Town of Seneca
Clintonville School District	Klint Barkow
	Ben Huber
	Kris Strauman
Gillett School District	Kimberly Schaal
	Vacant
Gresham School District	Vacant
	Vacant
	Lanell Thorne
Marion School District	Ronnie Faehling - City of Marion
	Dawn Papendorf - Waupaca County - All or parts of the Towns of Larrabee, Dupont, Helvetia, Union, Wyoming; the Village of Big Falls
	Lynn Tober-Steinke - Shawano County - All or parts of the Towns of Grant, Seneca, Pella and Herman
Menominee Indian School District	Karen Washinawatok - South Branch Area
	Nanette Corn - Neopit Area
Pulaski School District	Ray Fuiten – Member Zone 2 – Town ships of Chase, Little Suamico, Morgan
	Sara Mangold – Member Zone 5 – Village of Suamico and Township of Pittsfield
	Steve Liegl – Member At Large
Seymour School District	Beth Schmalz - Zone 3, Towns of Cicero, Maine, Lessor and Village of Nichols
	Jessica Melchert - Zone 4, Towns of Seymour and Maple Grove
Shawano School District	Al Pyatskowit - Area 1 - Portions of Towns of Richmond,Herman & Pella
	Benjamin Heninger - Area 3 - Towns of Wescott & portion of Town of Mavis, Pieper, Washington
	Christine McKinnies - Area 4 - City of Shawano
	Frank Kugel - Member at Large
Tigerton School District	Hunter Kopitzke - Towns of Fairbanks & Wyoming
	Scott Suehring - Towns of Grant & Seneca
	Kathy Robbins - Village of Tigerton
Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District	Cory Schairer - Area 2
	Jessica White Wing Clark - Area 4
	Jason Hanson - Area 5

Three (3) Sanitary District Commissioners, each for a term of six years*, whose term will begin on Thursday, April 22, 2027:

Cloverleaf Lakes Sanitary District	Lee Wetzel
Richmond Sanitary District	Rick Brockman
Shawano Lake Sanitary District	Terry Moede

For Candidates

The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2026, and the final day for filing nomination papers and declarations of candidacy is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2027. Candidates for supreme court justice, court of appeals judge, and circuit court judge file nomination papers and declarations of candidacy with the Wisconsin Elections Commission at 201 West Washington Avenue, 2nd Floor, Madison WI, 53703. Candidates for any other office above file with the responsible clerk.

Notice is further given, that a town caucus for the purpose of nominating candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the above listed offices in the **Towns of Belle Plaine, Birnamwood, Hartland, Hutchins, Navarino, Waukechon, Wittenberg** and **Villages of Aniwa, Eland, and Gresham** will be scheduled during the month of January. The caucus will be held on a date not sooner than Tuesday, January 2, 2027, and not later than January 21, 2027. Notice of the scheduled date of the caucus will be given at least five days before the caucus. Contact the Town or Village Clerk for the caucus date.

Non-candidacy Notification – For the 2027 Spring Election, any incumbent officeholder who does not intend to seek re-election should file a Notification of Noncandidacy Form (EL-163) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 28, 2026.

Primary Election

If a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2027.

Additional Information

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

DONE in the City of Shawano, County of Shawano, this 13th day of November 2026.

Raymond Rigsby, Shawano County Clerk

WNAXLP
Nov. 27, 2026

COURTHOUSE, continued from page 1

"It is our intention that through the majority of the project, we're going to keep the parking right up to the building open to the public, and then staff will park in different locations," Berner said. "We are working with a couple of your adjacent businesses to look at some of their parking lots for construction staff. And then we're going to look at some of the public parking that's near here."

Once the fencing is up, equipment will begin rolling onto the project site.

"We've got some asbestos abatement to take place in some of those homes and then the razing of those homes," Berner said.

A few area streets will also be closed when construction begins, and contractors will work with the city to notify residents regarding that.

Also coming in December will be notification of a second round of bids for the project.

"We will have that hit the street here later this month with a pre-bid meeting, more than likely mid-December," he said. "Then the bids will be received sometime in the middle of January."

A groundbreaking ceremony will be planned as well, with details yet to be announced.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

CHARLIE, continued from page 3

the laughter from the audience.

"I'm really excited to perform 'Veruca's Nutcracker Suite,'" she said. "Even though there aren't any words in the song, there is so much humor in the gestures and movements and facial expressions that I think there will still be a lot of laughter from the audience, and I'm really looking forward to that."

Shows are at The Veninga Theater in Wausau at the UW Center For Civic Engagement.

Showtimes are 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Nov. 27, 2 p.m. Nov. 28 and 2 p.m. Nov. 29.

Tickets are available through Central Wisconsin Children's Theatre's website at https://www.mycwct.org or via CWCT's BookTix page at cwct.booktix.com. Prices are $13 for children younger than 18 or senior citizens older than 60, and $17 for adults. There are also online fees of $1.39 and $1.46, respectively.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com



Olive Kaminski plays Mrs. Green, a hard-working local vendor who shows kindness to Charlie Bucket and his struggling family in the Central Wisconsin Children's Theatre production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." She is also part of the ensemble. LAURA HUNT



River Bandow plays an Oompa Loompa as part of the ensemble in the Central Wisconsin Children's Theatre production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." Performances are scheduled for Nov. 27-29. LAURA HUNT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION — MECHANIC'S LIEN SALE

Notice is hereby given that **Halvorson Hardware LLC DBA Gresham Hardware & Auto**, as lienholder and seller, will conduct a public auction to satisfy a mechanic's lien on the following motor vehicles:

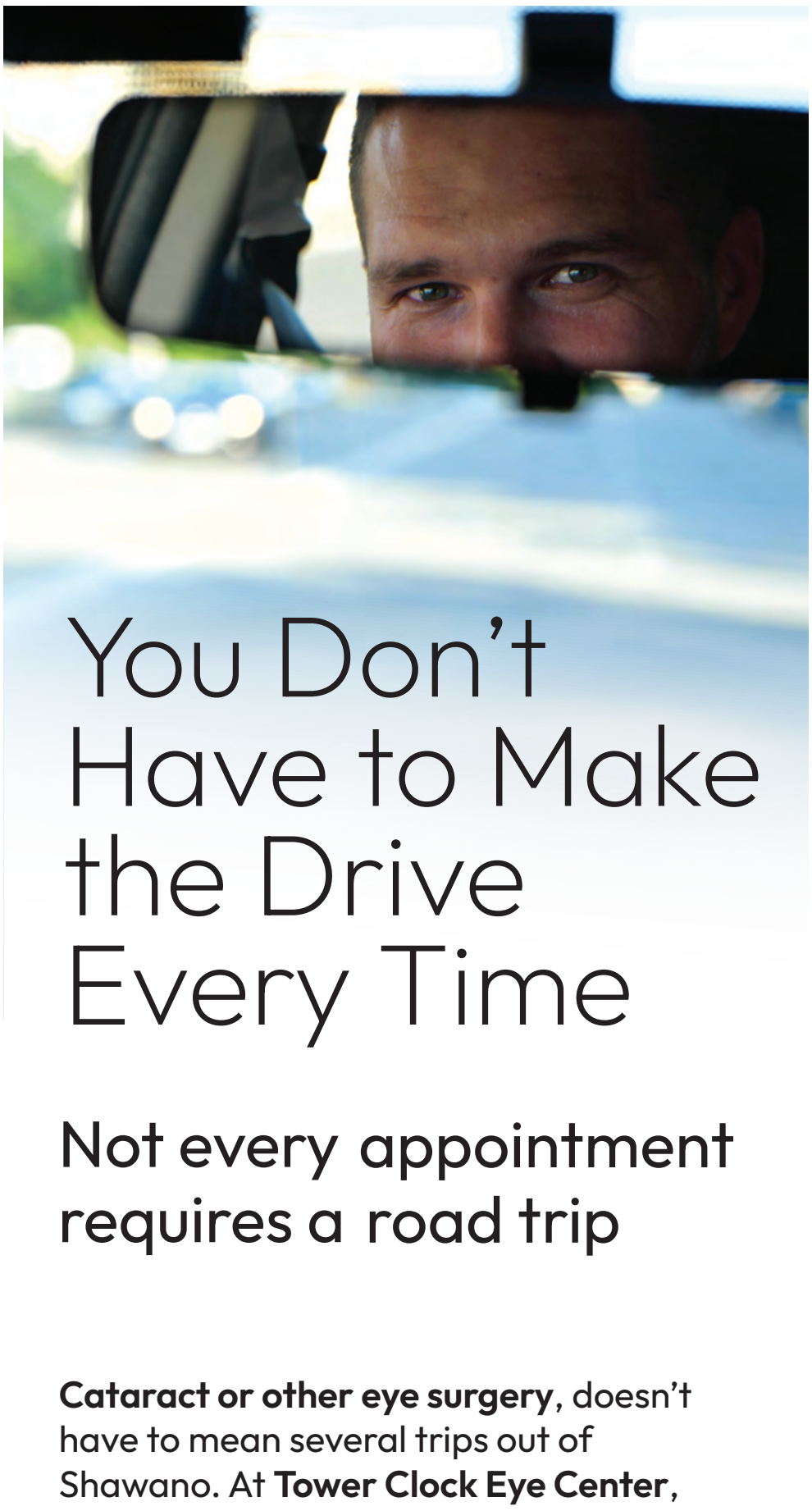
- **Vehicle: 2014 Chevrolet Cruze | VIN: 1G1PC5SB5E7302117**
- **Vehicle: 2008 Chevrolet Impala | VIN: 2G1WT58K489156654**

Auction Date: December 11-18, 2026

Sale Location: Online via eBay Motors
(https://www.ebay.com/usr/greshamhw_auto)

The vehicle will be sold "as is, where is" with no warranties, expressed or implied, to the highest bidder for cash or certified funds. Halvorson Hardware LLC DBA Gresham Hardware & Auto reserves the right to bid on the vehicle and to reject any and all bids.

For additional information or to arrange an inspection prior to the sale, please contact:
Halvorson Hardware LLC DBA Gresham Hardware & Auto
750 Commerce Way, Gresham, WI 54128
715-787-3288



North Star
MOHICAN CASINO • RESORT

THANKSGIVING Buffet



Thursday, November 26

$30 Adults

$15 12 And Under

Noon - 5pm

FEATURING:

Sliced Oven Roasted Turkey Breast
Bourbon & Maple Glazed Ham • Rich Gravy
Savory Sausage-Herb Stuffing •Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Candied Sweet Potatoes
Rosemary - Roasted Vegetables • Cranberry Chutney
Butternut Squash Bisque • Bountiful Salad Bar
Shrimp Cocktail • Charcuterie Board
Freshly Baked Traditional Pies and Artisan Bread

MOST WANTED
2026 TOUR



AUSTRALIA'S
THUNDER from DOWN UNDER

GIRLS' NIGHT OUTBACK

FRI., NOV. 27 • 8PM

21 AND OLDER SHOW

SCAN FOR TICKETS

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