

WOLF RIVER WEEKEND SHAWANO LEADER

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A MOMENT IN THE SLIMELIGHT

Sacred Heart Catholic School Principal Gary Cumberland is drenched in green slime to reward Sacred Heart students for surpassing their goal to collect items for local charities. From left, Autumnne Gee, director of admissions and development and collection project organizer helps kindergarten student Mason Bruns with the heavy bucket of slime as Barb Schullo, kindergarten teacher, steadies him on the ladder. Cumberland and the Rev. Scott Valentyn were slimed on Wednesday. **FOR MORE, SEE PAGE 8.**

CAROL RYCZEK | NEW MEDIA

Shawano County approves drug court grant

The Shawano County Board approved \$107,347 to offset the expenses of the year-old drug court program.

PAGE 3

When giving, also think about giving back

Help the earth by recycling batteries, vegetables and paper. Programs through the Sustainable Development Institute can help.

PAGE 16

Packers continue despite wobbles

The Packers are finding ways to win despite their uneven first-year offense. Can they earn another big win on Monday against the Vikings?

GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS



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Keshena man identified as fatality in Monday mishap

Crash occurred southwest of Waupaca

TOWN OF DAYTON — Gerald T. Maulson, 58, Keshena, has been identified as the truck driver killed in a two-vehicle accident on the morning of Dec. 16, according to a press release from the Waupaca

County Sheriff's Department.

The sheriff's department said the mishap occurred south of the intersection of state Highway 22 and county Road QQ in the Town of Dayton in Waupaca County about four miles southwest of Waupaca.

The department's investigation showed Maulson's box truck was traveling south when it crossed the center line into the path of a northbound semi truck, driven by an 80-year-old man.

The semi driver was not injured

but the Waupaca County Medical Examiner's Office pronounced the other driver dead at the scene, according to the release completed by sheriff's sergeant Kevin Studzinski.

The sheriff's office credited the assistance of the Wisconsin State Patrol, Waupaca Area Fire Department, Gold Cross Ambulance Service and the examiner's office.

The sheriff's department said on Dec. 19 that the accident was still under investigation.

No challengers yet in city of Shawano

All incumbents seeking reelection have taken out papers

By **TIM RYAN**
Reporter

The full slate of city of Shawano incumbents whose terms are expiring in April have taken out papers seeking reelection and, as of Wednesday, are not facing any challengers.

Mayor Ed Whealon, who defeated Jeanne Cronce in 2018, has taken out papers for another two-year term.

Three Common Council members on the April 7 ballot have also taken out papers, including District 2 Alderwoman Rhonda Strebel, District

4 Alderwoman Lisa Hoffman and District 6 Alderman John Hoefts.

City Attorney Katherine Sloma has also taken out papers seeking another term.

The filing deadline is Dec. 27.

tryan@newmedia-wi.com

Shawano County Board races shaping up

Several rematches on tap as filing deadline nears

By **TIM RYAN**
Reporter

Seven Shawano County Board races, including several rematches, look to be on tap so far in the spring election as the filing deadline for candidacy approaches.

All 27 board seats are up for reelection April 7. Candidates have until Dec. 27 to return at least 20 signatures in support of their nomination from voters in their districts.

As of Wednesday, one board member, District 14 Supervisor Peter Schmidt of the town of Hartland, has filed a notice of non-candidacy. No one else has yet taken out papers to run for the seat.

Seven supervisors are facing challenges, including one from a former board member looking to return to her seat.

Shawano Alderwoman Sandy Steinke has taken out papers to run against incumbent District 5 Supervisor Steve Borroughs.

Borroughs was elected to the seat in 2016 after Steinke chose not to seek reelection. The district includes Wards 9 and 10 in the city of Shawano.

In District 3, representing Wards 5 and 6 in the city, incumbent supervisor Milt Marquardt is facing a challenge from Kevin Barkow, who also ran against him in 2018 and was defeated.

Another possible rematch looks to be on tap in District 8, representing Wards 3 and 4 in the town of Wescott.

Devin Krizan has taken out papers in a bid to unseat incumbent Rosetta Stern, who defeated him in 2016 and 2018.

Stern has not yet taken out her papers, but she has filed no notice of plans not to run.

In other potential County Board races:

- Incumbent District 1 Supervisor Deb Noffke is facing a challenge from

Daniel Poels for the seat representing Wards 1 and 2 of the city of Shawano.

- Incumbent District 10 Supervisor Robert Krause is being challenged by Terry Tipton for the seat representing Ward 3 of the town of Washington and Wards 1 and 2 of the town of Green Valley.

- Incumbent District 16 Supervisor John Ainsworth is facing a challenge from Curt Korth for the seat representing Ward 1 of the town of Waukechon and Ward 3 of the town of Belle Plaine.

- Incumbent District 23 Supervisor Ray Faehling is being challenged by Aaron Damrau for the seat representing the town of Fairbanks, village of Tigerton and Ward 2 of the town of Germania.

Also on the ballot will be the municipal judge for the Shawano/Bonduel Municipal Court.

Incumbent Myron Heistad has filed a notice of non-candidacy.

John Mocadlo of Shawano has filed to run for that post.

tryan@newmedia-wi.com

Shawano County board approves drug court grant

Concurs with city on airport board expansion

By **DAVID WILHELMS**
Correspondent

SHAWANO — Shawano County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a \$107,347 dollar grant to offset the expenses of operating the Shawano County Drug Court Program at their Wednesday meeting.

The drug court is about one year old and diverts people accused of drug-related crimes from regular court proceedings into treatment. There are currently six active participants and nine pending referrals from a total of 39 referrals, according to the resolution passed.

The grant from the Wisconsin Department of Justice requires a \$35,782 cash match from the county and will go toward training, drug testing supplies and wages. The match was also approved. The court's total budget is \$149,000.

Because about 18 months are needed for a participant to complete the program, it is too early to deter-

mine the program's success, according to discussion among board members. Supervisor Richard Ferfecki, Human Services Board member that administers the drug court, noted Shawano County was one of the last in the state to create a program "but reports are that it does work if it's done right."

Ferfecki said that it costs about \$9,000 to treat a drug addict's problems while it costs \$20,000 to put that person in jail. "It's a win-win," he concluded.

Dan McCollum, Partnership Specialist at U.S. Census Bureau in Wausau, provided an overview of next year's census. He urged cooperation with the county and census to get the most accurate figures possible. At stake is re-apportionment of legislative districts, grant eligibility "and you want to know who's using your roads, where the children are that will need schools" among other planning needs, McCollum added.

McCollum, who lives in Elderon, urged completion online of the census questionnaire, saying it takes about five minutes to answer the nine questions. He said \$107 is the value of every online completed questionnaire, as

no further mail reminders or personal visit from an enumerator are necessary.

Wisconsin had the highest level of compliance with the census in 2010 in the nation, McCollum said, at 82 percent compared to 76 percent for the entire country.

Dale Hodkiewicz presented the Shawano County Agricultural Society's annual report for the county fair. He called this year's fair a great success with 68,000 attendees. The livestock sale took in \$353,000, up \$18,000 from 2018, he said.

The county board approved the five-year Outdoor Recreation Plan. The one dissenting vote was from Supervisor Mike McClelland, who questioned the speed of bringing the plan for county board approval when there were typographical errors and missing dates. The plan, prepared for free by the Northeast Wisconsin Regional Economic Planning Commission, required updating to keep the county eligible for grants and other programs, Supervisor Steve Gueths explained.

Supervisors concurred with the City of Shawano in expanding the Shawano City-County Airport Com-

mission from five to seven members.

The board appointed James Joepeck to the Community Services Advisory Committee for a three-year term, appointed Jerry Wendland to fill the unexpired term of Clarence Natzke on the Housing Authority of Shawano County board until 2021 and re-appointed Terry Radtke to the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Commission for a three-year term.

On a voice vote, the board moved to consider a name change for the Tribal Affairs Committee after it had been considered by committee. Supervisor Joe Miller suggested the name wasn't accurate. As tribes are governments, Miller, a Stockbridge-Munsee tribal member, said something like "Intergovernmental Affairs Committee" would be better.

Supervisor Deb Noffke went further, suggesting the current name may be offensive and hurt attendance. Supervisor Kathy Luebke, a Tribal Affairs Committee member, told the board the item will be on the committee's next agenda. Chairman Jerry Erdmann asked Supervisor Peter Schmidt, the lone dissenting vote, if he wanted his vote recorded; he said it should be.

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The Lambeau Experience

Oh how I love the Packers. We plan game day around kick off time. Church always takes precedence, and after, if we need to make wood or have anything else going on, we tape the game and watch later; our phones on silent, no answering anything ringing in the entire house, which may or may not include the doorbell.

We are serious over here.

Back in the day for me Sunday football was naptime. My husband would turn on the game and I'd turn into the couch, floating blissfully off for an afternoon nap.

When I morphed into a football fan is a mystery. The Pack sort of just rubbed off on me, with a little help from my husband.

I do not ask questions (which I'm sure he appreciates), instead, watch intently and because of that, I am learning the complex game of football. I find that I note things like holds, false starts, roughing-the-passer. I fancy I could tell the referees some things before they see them. Can't we all?



KAY REMINGER

Those new non-call challenges baffle me. My favorite player? Wide receiver Jake Kumerow. Every time he gets the ball he extends the play, tiptoeing down the sideline or eluding tacklers.

As well, he's a utility player, doing anything needing done. I like that. It's a farm, work-ethic mentality. Packer Sundays are comprised of disappointing torture or delightful fun, depending on the outcome. And a game almost always includes some of each during those four quarters.

A while back, I splurged on Packer license plates for our car. More than once I was tempted to drape a black mourning cloth over them; such as last year when the Pack didn't make the playoffs and Coach McCarthy was abruptly let

go, even before the season ended. I didn't care much for how it was handled but I realized it was time for a change.

I appreciate our new coach. He seems to have a handle on the character and integrity of the team as well as coaching them on techniques. To me, the Green Bay Packers hold a high level of respectability and honor. When you wear that "G" you represent more than just a football team. As well, many of our players are vocally Christian, which warms my heart more than I can say.

Realizing I hadn't been in Lambeau since our son took me to a preseason game to watch Tim Tebow (yes, that long ago!), my husband asked around and secured two tickets to the Washington Redskins game.

Walking into the bowl at Lambeau I was wide-eyed; it is so impressive and remarkable and I forgot how much so until I'm standing right there. The thought struck me, if this venue fills me with such

awe and wonder, what will heaven be like?

As we anticipated the event, my husband suggested we tailgate. The idea of tailgating and the reality of tailgating are two different issues altogether.

I could see me organizing veggies, dip, some chips, pop, the meat, the buns, the grill, the charcoal, packing everything together in a cooler. Nah. Too much work! We ended up buying two jumbo brats and two Cokes from a vendor and spent a whopping thirty-two bucks. I was astounded. We should have tailgated.

Looking around at all the spectators filtering in, I was amazed at how each one of us is so unique and different. There were over 78,000 people there that game, no two alike. Each with their own thumbprint and coloring, temperament and quirks. It's crazy.

Later as I reflected on that day with all those people I thought of the shepherds watching their flocks on that long ago Christmas Eve

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night when the angel appeared before them saying, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." (Luke 2:10)

And later in the book of Luke, "Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests.'" (Luke 2:13-14)

I wonder if there were 78,000 angels in the sky?

How many is "a great company of the heavenly hosts"?

There are references to angels all through the scriptures, and their sheer volume would probably render me speechless. A formidable task.

Seventy-eight thousand people in Lambeau represent a spit in the bucket of all the people in the world, each one unique and different ... and died for.

Jesus was born on Christmas, coming into this fallen world as a baby so he could alter our fate, offering life everlasting to those who accept the free gift of salvation by grace that he died on the cross to give us.

What a mind blowing miracle

that is! Such mercy! Such hope! Such love!

During this Christmas birthday party for Jesus, as we gather to celebrate the miracle of his birth, joining the heavenly hosts thanking God the Father for sending such a gift as this, let us be awe-filled with gratitude and thankfulness.

And an added gift: a definite playoff berth! GO PACK!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

("I looked again. I heard a company of angels around the throne, ten thousand times ten thousand their number, thousand after thousand after thousand in full song: the slain Lamb is worthy!")

"Take the power, the wealth, the wisdom, the strength! Take the honor, the glory, the blessing! Then I heard every creature in Heaven and earth, in underworld and sea, join in, all voices in all places, singing: To the One on the throne! To the Lamb! The blessing, the honor, the glory, the strength, for age after age after age."

--Revelation 5:11-14, The Message Bible)

Contact Kay Reminger at news@newmedia-wi.com

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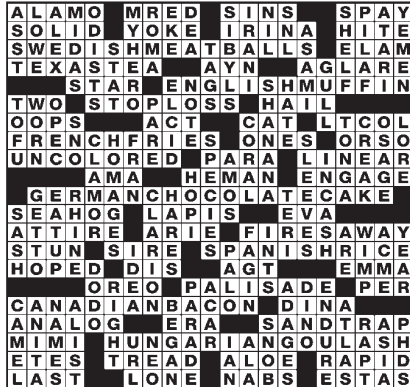
Mohicans honor Oneida leader Hill

BOWLER - The Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans lowered their flags to half-staff Dec. 18 - 19 to honor former Oneida Chairman Rick Hill in support of Governor Tony Evers' executive order.

Rick Hill served as the Chairman of the Oneida Nation for two terms as well as the office of Vice Chairman and Councilman since 1977, according to a Stockbridge-Munsee press release. During his first term as chairman, he

also served as the first Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association.

Shannon Holsey, president of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans, said in the release, "Rick was a tremendous leader for not only the Oneida Nation, but for all of Indian Country. He was a part of the driving force that became the foothold for creating NIGA, securing Gaming rights for many Native Nations. He was a mentor, peer and a friend."



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9	3	2	5	4	7	8	1	6
5	8	1	6	3	9	2	7	4
6	4	7	8	2	1	9	5	3

CRYPTOQUOTE: Visits always give pleasure — if not the arrival, the departure. — Portuguese Proverb

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY CHANGES AND CLOSINGS

CITY HALL, SMU PARK AND REC DEPARTMENT and the DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS will be closed Tuesday, December 24th and Wednesday, December 25th, 2019. The LANDFILL will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24th.

GARBAGE COLLECTION CHANGES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25th garbage WILL BE COLLECTED on December 26th. Please have your carts curbside by 7:00 a.m.

WNAXLP

Advertisement for Proposals

Proposals will be received by the City of Shawano, Department of Parks and Recreation, 220 E Division St, Shawano, Wisconsin, 54166, up to 11:00 A.M. on Monday, January 6th, 2020, for the following equipment:

One (1) ¾ ton truck, four wheel drive, 8 ft bed, V8 engine

Proposals shall be submitted on forms provided by the City of Shawano. Copies of same, along with specifications may be obtained by contacting Matt Hendricks at mhendricks@cityofshawano.com or call 1-715-526-6171 with questions.

City of Shawano
Department of Parks and Recreation

Matt Hendricks
Director of Parks, Rec. & Special Projects

WNAXLP

Advertisement For Proposals

The Shawano County Highway Commission will accept proposals until 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 for the following equipment:

Proposal #1

One (1) New 2020 4-Door Crew Cab ½ Ton Pickup Truck 4 Wheel Drive

For specifications call 715-526-9182 or write to Shawano County Highway Commission, 3035 E. Richmond St., Shawano, Wisconsin 54166.

The Shawano County Highway Committee reserves the right to reject any and all quotes, to waive irregularities and informalities therein and further reserves the right to award the contract in the best interests of the County.

WNAXLP

Full Time Parks & Recreation Position

The City of Shawano Parks and Recreation Department is seeking applications for a full time Aquatics Coordinator. This person will be responsible for operations of the community pool and activity-based programming at the Shawano Recreation Center. The complete job description as well as information regarding the application process can be found online at www.cityofshawano.com, or by stopping in at City Hall 127 S. Sawyer St. or at the Recreation Center 220 E. Division St. The starting salary will be \$18.00-\$18.27/hour with potential increase up to \$19.98/hour upon completion of the probationary period and training. This position also provides an excellent fringe benefits package. Applications are due to Shawano City Hall by noon on Friday January 10, 2020

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Advertisement for Proposals

Proposals will be received by the City of Shawano, Department of Parks and Recreation, 220 E Division St, Shawano, Wisconsin, 54166, up to 11:00 A.M. on Monday, January 6th, 2020, for the following equipment:

Commercial playground equipment, inclusive of but not limited to slides, swings, climbers, play pods, spring mates and balance beams.

Proposals shall be submitted on forms provided by the City of Shawano. Copies of same, along with specifications may be obtained by contacting Matt Hendricks at mhendricks@cityofshawano.com or call 1-715-526-6171 with questions.

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Advertisement for Proposals

Proposals will be received by the City of Shawano, Department of Parks and Recreation, 220 E Division St, Shawano, Wisconsin, 54166, up to 11:00 A.M. on Monday, January 6th, 2020, for the following equipment:

Two (2) Commercial docks and Canoe/Kayak Launches to be placed in public parks

Proposals shall be submitted on forms provided by the City of Shawano. Copies of same, along with specifications may be obtained by contacting Matt Hendricks at mhendricks@cityofshawano.com or call 1-715-526-6171 with questions.

City of Shawano
Department of Parks and Recreation

Matt Hendricks
Director of Parks, Rec. & Special Projects

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ORDINANCE NO.: 2019-20

SPONSORED BY: Plan Commission

INTRODUCED BY: Brenda Staszak

SECONDED BY: Barbara Wickman

THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF BONDUÉL, SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN that CHAPTER 115, ZONING CODE, is hereby repealed and recreated.

NOTE: A complete copy of the repealed and recreated ordinance can be reviewed at the Clerk's office located at the Bonduel Village Hall.

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

Adopted: December 4, 2019

Published: December 21, 2019

Russ Gehm, Village President

Attest: Michelle Maroszek, Village Clerk

WNAXLP

ORDINANCE NO.: 2019-21

SPONSORED BY: Plan Commission

INTRODUCED BY: Barbara Wickman

SECONDED BY: Renell Bartlett

THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF BONDUÉL, SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN that the Municipal Code of Bonduel, Wisconsin, Chapter 116 Mobile and Radio Broadcast Services, is hereby created.

NOTE: A complete copy of the created ordinance can be reviewed at the Clerk's office located at the Bonduel Village Hall.

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication and/or posting as provided by law.

Adopted: December 4, 2019

Published: December 21, 2019

Russ Gehm, Village President

Attest: Michelle Maroszek, Village Clerk

WNAXLP



The Reverend Scott Valentyn, the new parish priest at Sacred Heart Parish in Shawano, survived the sliming experience with two thumbs up.



Left, Paula Kunder, 2nd grade teacher, helps preschooler Carmen Grignon manage a second pail of slime over The Reverend Scott Valentyn, as Autumnne Gee, director of admissions and development, helps kindergarten Mason Bruns, apply the slime to Principal Gary Cumberland.



Autumnne Gee, director of admissions & development, helps organize the distribution of the donated items as Domenic Badalamenti, Bode Frechette (carrying box), and Brayden Waukau, in back, carry boxes out to waiting cars. The items collected by Sacred Heart School students were distributed to the Sam's House homeless shelter, SafParc food pantry and Safe Haven women's shelter in Shawano.

School, church leaders slimed for charity

**Story and photos by
Carol RYCZEK**
Editor in chief

It was a day of doubles at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Shawano on Wednesday.

There were nearly double donations...double rewards...double doses of Double-Dare slime, and two school leaders ready and willing to get green for a good cause.

Sacred Heart's parish priest, the Reverend Scott Valentyn and Principal Gary Cumberland had agreed to subject themselves to a sliming if the students brought in at least 2,000 items to donate to local charities. The 117 students at the school brought in 3,271, earning them the opportunity

to dump not only one but two pails of slime on their school leaders.

The challenge was an incentive to collect food and personal items for the residents of Safe Haven, the shelter for abused women and families; SafParc, the food pantry and Sam's House, an emergency homeless shelter run by Shawano's SAM 25. Representatives from the three area nonprofit organizations were on hand to take the donations.

After the goals were reached, four students were selected to dump a combination of applesauce, vanilla pudding, oatmeal and lots of green food coloring on the school leaders. The recipe is similar to one used on the Nickelodeon cable television channel on shows such as "Double



Al Mukka, head custodian and buildings and grounds manager de-slims the chairs and floor of the Sacred Heart School gym.

Dare," and "You Can't Do That On Television."

As they were using "family size" pails of goo, the children were helped by teachers and staff at Sacred Heart.

Cumberland and Valentyn were al-

lowed to wear goggles but otherwise had to tough out the experience in street clothes as the onslaught of cold slime oozed over their shoulders and the students cheered. It was worth it, Valentyn said.

"It was a great incentive," Valentyn said. "It was a great incentive for the kids to raise money. Ever since I was a kid watching Double Dare Nickelodeon, it's been a dream of mine to get slimed, so I feel like I've really arrived and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my parents for raising me right and getting me where I am today."

Cumberland agreed that the cold blast of slime was worth it.

"The kids enjoyed it," Cumberland said.

Obituaries

Harold Lavern Burrack Sr.

Harold Lavern Burrack Sr., age 89 of Suring, passed away on Friday, Dec. 13, 2019. Harold was born on Aug. 10, 1930, to the late Enno and Chrisjanna (Wessels) Burrack in Arlington, Iowa. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Strawberry Point, Iowa. Harold grew up on the family farm in rural Arlington, Iowa with his parents and three siblings; farm chores and fishing in the creek were his fondest childhood memories.

His extended family was large and the holidays were spent visiting with all. Harold attended and graduated from Country Elementary School and attended high school in Lamont, Iowa. After high school, Harold continued to work on the family farm and drove



cattle long distance. On August 24, 1950, Harold married Delores Waskow at the "Little Brown Church" in Nashua, Iowa. After their marriage, he worked as a truck driver and farmer in Iowa. On Thanksgiving Day, November 1957, Harold and Delores moved their family to Suring. A farm had been purchased and they were ready for a new adventure. Harold worked many part time jobs to supplement the family income, including driving truck for the Hayes Cheese Factory, logging, custom field work and more.

Harold was a member of the Farm-

ers Union Cooperative and served on the Farmers Mercantile Board in Suring. He was also a member of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Suring where he served on the cemetery association, church board, and the altar guild with Delores. Harold enjoyed couples bowling with Delores, the card club, traveling, camping, attending country music festivals, fishing with family and friends, and taking bus trips. Harold and Delores's most memorable trip was driving to Alaska.

Harold is survived by his 4 sons, Harold Jr. (Linda) Burrack of Shawano, Loren (Bonnie Meyer) Burrack of Suring, Larry (Amy) Burrack of Suring, and Lance (Robin) Burrack of Kewaunee; 7 grandchildren, Janna Redding, Hannah (Tasos Papaioannou) Burrack, Adam (Kristina) Burrack, Richard Burrack, Andrew (Shantel Schroeder) Burrack, Jessica Burrack, and Kyle Burrack; 10 great-grandchildren, Gunnar Redding, Rafe Ausdemore, Rosemary Burrack, Luna Burrack, Owen Burrack, Lillian Burrack, Macy Burrack, Britta Burrack, David Burrack, and Nathan Burrack; 3 sisters-in-law, Cindy Waskow, Lenore (Ray) Trachta, and Marlene (Richard) Bucholtz; brother-in-law, Virgil Boynton. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his

wife of 68 years, Delores; great-grandson, Jude Redding; a brother, Alfred (Eva) Burrack; 2 sisters, Evelyn (Pete) Riley and Dorothy Boynton; 4 brothers-in-law, Erwin Waskow, Ronald Waskow, Paul (Marge) Waskow and Dennis Waskow.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church from 9 am until the funeral service at 11 am with Pastor Michael Paholke officiating. Harold will be interred in Mount Olive Lutheran Cemetery. Gruetzmacher Funeral Home in Suring is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be expressed at www.gruetzmacherfuneralhome.com.

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks to Unity Hospice and its staff for the care and compassion offered to Harold. Further thanks are extended to Pastor Paholke and all of his friends who visited Harold at home this past year.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to Unity Hospice, the American Diabetes Association and the Mount Olive Lutheran Church Cemetery Association.



Rose Ann Borowski

Rose Ann Borowski, age 81, of Cecil, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019 at St. Vincent's Hospital in Green Bay. Rose Ann was born on Aug. 6, 1938, in Cecil, to Max and Sophie (Wasielewski) Borowski. She graduated from Bonduel High School. Rose Ann went on to further her education at the Outagamie County Teachers College and then University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education and a Masters of Arts Degree in Library Science. She taught for 29 ½ years in Bonduel, Green Bay, Chicago, and Chilton.

Rose Ann belonged to St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church in Cecil and more recently Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Shawano. She was an active member the Council of Catholic Women and the Secular Franciscan Order.



Rose is survived by her sister, Elizabeth "Betty" (Jim) Grover of Oshkosh; her brother, Clem Borowski of Cecil; eight nieces and nephews and eleven great-nieces and nephews. She is further survived by other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister-in-law, Nancy Borowski.

A funeral mass will be held for Rose at 11 am on Friday, December 27, 2019 at St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church with Father Scott Valentyn officiating. Entombment will be in Sacred Heart Mausoleum. Visitation will be held on Friday at church from 9:30 am until the time of service.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Raymond H. Nath Jr.

Raymond H. Nath Jr., age 78 of Elcho, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 at Aspirus Hospital, Wausau. The Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home & Crematory, Clintonville, is assisting with the arrangements.

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WEST BEND

OPINION

H(AP)py holidays. "Copy that."

"A poet may write love poems without committing himself to either sex or marriage.

"Said person, if unable to find a word that rhymes in a poem, is entitled to make up a new word."

These helpful writing tips are from "Poetic License" issued, or more likely, written by my late dad, Ed Ryczek, reflecting his life-long love affair with words.

Dad eventually self-published a book of poems and had stories published in area newspapers, but he was not as much invested in publishing as in writing, and especially, in using words as they ought to be used. Parents in some homes are picky about what words can be used within their walls. In our house, we also had to watch verb tense, voice and gender.

"Me and Jim went..." Horrors! "Her and I are..." Shocking! In Ed Ryczek's household, my brothers could get away with making fart jokes at dinner, but the first one to utter the phrase, "I seen" would have been banished from the table.

He would have made a great copy editor.

A copy editor is someone who goes through every news story to make sure that it conforms both to current grammar standards and, for most newspapers, Associated Press (AP) style rules. AP styles make it possible to share stories with common language throughout the media world.



CAROL RYCEK

It means that if you read local or national AP sources, you will see "foil," not aluminum or tin foil; the word six but the number 10, and no titles with last names after the first use in a story.

The copy editor makes sure that these rules get followed. It is an unseen but valuable contribution to every written piece. I was able to copy edit some of dad's essays and poems, and ultimately his self-written obituary. Writers tell the story, but editors truly get the last word.

In honor of dad, language, and the holidays, I'm sharing a bit of Christmas past, which happened not long after 9/11 and the troubled days that followed. One of the more interesting bits of information that surfaced was that airline pilots have the right to remove anyone from a plane for what they consider a safety concern. With the paranoia that developed after the 9/11 attacks, it struck me as something that could happen more often that we might want.

I wrote a poem about it and shared it with my dad. I didn't expect rave reviews, but he really didn't say much of anything. It would be fair to say that our many disagreements on politics

and religion started early. To hear my dad tell it, the first complete sentence I ever uttered was, "I don't want to go to church," though I maintain it was more along the lines of, "I can't believe you voted for THAT guy."

Our discussions were always challenging and always civil. Still, I admit to being a bit defensive when he and mom returned from Christmas Day services and dad's first words were, "You should have been at Mass today."

(Eye roll.)

"I know, dad." I said. "I'm glad you were able to go."

"No, really. You won't believe what happened. The priest read it from the pulpit."

"Read what from the pulpit?"

"Your poem. He read it for the sermon."

"You sent him my poem? He read it out loud? To everyone?"

"Yes," he said, with more than a little pride sneaking through. "You should have been there."

Sometimes — I have to admit — sometimes, dad was right.

So here it is: the Ryczek family's one and only known contribution to the pulpit.

The Passenger on Flight 1225

The ticket agent had no choice, his right to board was clear. But she gave the man a seat apart with no other passengers near.

She knew no one would be willing to share crowded airlines seats with a bearded man whose flowing robe pegged him from

the Middle East.

The flight crew joked and chatted as the passengers arrived. But silence fell as the bearded man took his turn to come inside.

They all knew someone who knew someone who went down in a blazing jet

And who of us could blame them if they couldn't forgive — just yet?

The flight crew called the captain as the cabin stress increased.

This inconsiderate passenger would make it hard to fly in peace.

Why couldn't he see that his robe and beard made everyone else afraid?

They asked the pilot to take some steps to have their fears allayed.

So for everybody's comfort, the captain exercised his right and demanded that this passenger be assigned another flight.

It wasn't fair, but familiar lines between rights and safety blurred.

He understood the fear they felt, considering everything that occurred.

He radioed the tower; said he needed a short delay.

He had them ask Security to come over right away.

Just moments later, two men appeared, asked the captain to explain,

then found their man, and without a word, escorted Jesus from the plane.

Merry Christmas, happy holidays, and may your family dinner conversations be filled with rich ideas, spotless syntax, and even an occasional fart joke.

Carol Ryczek is the Editor in chief of the Shawano Leader, Wittenberg Enterprise/Biramwood News and Oconto County Times Herald. You can reach her at cryczek@newmedia-wi.com

Social security is a lifeline for many

Imagine that you are living in December in the 1930s during the Great Depression. Christmas is coming and you would like to give everyone a present. However, you are now elderly and have no income.

Throughout your working years, you only made enough money to support your family with little left for retirement. Your children are now having to help you out even though they can hardly put food on the table for their family.

This was the situation prior to the New Deal. Citizens up until this time had no government assistance programs in the United States. Germany had begun to adopt laws to improve the conditions of workers in the late 1800s. Most of the other countries



JAN KOCH

of Europe had already enacted similar programs by the early 1900s. There was still the belief among conservatives in Congress that poor people were to blame for their own misfortune.

The United States was one of the last major industrialized nations to establish a social security system. In 1934, at least half of all Americans aged 65 and older were poor. However, Americans up until this time believed the government should not be responsible for caring for the aged, disabled,

or needy.

It wasn't until 1935 that Congress finally passed the Social Security Act. It took the depression for Americans to realize that economic misfortune could result from events over which workers had no control.

By signing this act on August 14, 1935, President Roosevelt became the first president to advocate federal assistance for the elderly. Social Security was designed as wage insurance. The system's purpose has always been, to replace wages so that people are able to maintain their standards of living in the event of retirement, disability or death.

Over the decades since its inception, the Social Security program has been tweaked many times. It has

become the nation's largest and most generous program for disabled workers, providing 8.9 million with benefits. It is also the nation's largest and most generous children's program, serving 4.3 million children.

Social Security is also the nation's most important life insurance policy, providing benefits to widows and widowers to many younger spouses caring for dependent children, and to children whose parent has died.

Despite being called a socialist program, Social Security has become one of the most successful programs in history. Without Social Security, 21.9 million Americans, including 15.2 million seniors and 1.1 million children, would have fallen below the poverty line.

On the campaign trail in 2016, Donald Trump promised he would “save” Social Security, but as president he has repeatedly proposed billions in cuts to Social Security programs. His 2020 budget proposed a \$26 billion cut to Social Security programs mirroring what Republicans in Congress would like to see.

Social Security’s conservative opponents have tried to repeal and replace it with from the beginning. One argument is that the program is going bankrupt. This is not true. Nearly all (97%) of its income comes from the contributions of workers and employers, or interest on these contributions. Hence, as long as there are workers in America, Social Security will have income. Workers will continue to receive 100% of promised benefits until around 2034. At that time, benefits could be reduced if nothing is done.

One Republican idea to “save” Social Security is to raise the full retirement age from 67 to 69. This would be especially unfair to low-income workers and minorities, who are more likely to work in physically demanding jobs. It would also discriminate against the growing number of elderly unemployed, who have a much harder time finding new work after being laid off.

Social Security will only become

more important to future beneficiaries. Wages have been stagnant. Employer-sponsored traditional pensions are under attack. Student loan debt continues to grow. These factors make it extremely difficult for future retirees to maintain their stand of living in retirement.

Increases in Social Security are based on yearly cost-of-living adjustments. In January of 2020 recipients will get a 1.6% increase in their monthly benefits which amounts to \$24 per month for an average individual. However, standard Medicare Part B monthly premiums will be \$9.10 higher.

Just over three in five seniors rely on Social Security benefits for most of their income. If anything, Social Security benefits should be expanded. Retirement, disability and survivor benefits are inadequately low. One plan is for Congress to require the wealthiest to pay their fair share by contributing a little more.

We never want to go back to a time when the elderly do not have a dignified retirement. The future should allow the holidays to be a time when everyone has the means to spread the joy of the season.

Jan Koch is a Shawano resident and the chairwoman for the Shawano County Democratic Party.



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CALENDAR

EVENTS COMING UP

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

VISIT WITH SANTA: American Legion Post 117, 850 S. Lincoln St., Shawano. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Open to all.

MICHAEL MAGEE'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW: Glas Coffeehouse, 511 N. Main St., Shawano. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA AND UGLY SWEATER CONTEST: Sand-BAR & Grille, W 5045 Resort Road, Shawano. 4-11:55 p.m. Christmas party with music, drink specials, gifts, drawings. Feel free to bring a favorite appetizer to share.

BOB AND MISSY TUCKER BAND: Classic's Restaurant and Lounge, W6026 Lake Drive, Shawano. 8 p.m. 715-524-8711. www.classicsshawano.com

BEAR CREEK BAND: Lounge, Menominee Casino Resort, N277 State Highway 47-55, Keshena. 8 p.m. Free. 715-799-3600. www.menomineecasinoresort.com

AROUND TOWN: Groove Lounge, North Star Mohican Casino Resort, W12180 County Road A, Bowler. 9 p.m. Free. 715-787-3110. www.northstarcasinoresort.com.

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS: Seasons Restaurant, 201 N. Airport Road, Shawano. Noon-2 p.m. Gifts and cookies for kids.

MONDAY, DEC. 23

BLOOD DRIVE: Menominee Casino Resort, N277 State Highway 47-55, Keshena. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 800-733-2767.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25

COMMUNITY DINNER: First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. 5:30 p.m. Food and conversation.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

HOLIDAY MOVIE FEST: Shawano County Library, 128 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. Movies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.. Hot chocolate and cookies. Reservations recommended; call 715-526-3829.

BLOOD DRIVE: Bowler High School, 500 S. Almon St., Bowler. 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 800-733-2767.

BLOOD DRIVE: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 910 E. Zingler Ave., Shawano. 1-6 p.m. 800-733-2767.

OPEN TAB: Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg, N7198 Highway 45, Wittenberg. 8-11 p.m.

TRIGGER TRIPPERS: Menominee Casino Resort, N277 State Highway 47 55 55, Keshena. 8 p.m. Free in the lounge.

THE COUGARS: North Star Mohican Casino Resort, W12180 County Road A, Bowler. 9 p.m.Variety. Free in the Groove.

KEITH AND SCUBA STEVE: Classic's Restaurant and Lounge, W6026 Lake Drive, Shawano.

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

BONDUEL ICE FISHING DERBY: Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court, Shawano. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Marie Escalante, library director at the College of Menominee Nation, shows a purse made from discarded clothing. She said she uses many kinds of clothing to make purses, including jeans, men's neckties and t-shirts, which she braids into rope decorations for the purses. Though the purses are her own creation, she brings in other types of crafters for "Maker Monday" activities at the library. The library will open again Jan. 1 with a new schedule of activities.

CAROL RYCZEK/NEW MEDIA

Cash, prizes, meat raffle.

FROGWATER: Cotter Creek Concerts at the home of Joel Kroenke, W9050 Broadway Road, Shawano. Potluck meal 5:30 p.m., concert 7 p.m. \$15. Reservations at 715-853-6879.

LUMA KNOTTY: Classic's Restaurant and Lounge, W6026 Lake Drive, Shawano.

THE COUGARS: North Star Mohican Casino Resort, W12180 County Road A, Bowler. 9 p.m.Variety. Free in the Groove.

SPORT EVENTS

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

WRESTLING: Wittenberg-Biramwood at invitational, 9 a.m., Appleton West High School, 610 N. Badger Ave., Appleton.

WRESTLING: Shawano, Bonduel, Clintonville/Marion at invitational, 9:30 a.m., Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B, Shawano.

WRESTLING: Menominee Indian at invitational, 10 a.m., Green Bay Preble Dessart Center Gym, 2222 Deckner Ave., Green Bay.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Menominee Indian at tournament, TBD, Menominee Indian High School, N500 State Highway 47-55, Keshena.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Menominee Indian at tournament, TBD, Menominee Indian High School, N500 State Highway 47-55, Keshena.

WRESTLING: Shawano at invitational, 8 a.m., Merrill High School, 1201 N. Sales St., Merrill.

WRESTLING: Clintonville/Marion at tournament, 8 a.m., Ripon High School, 850 Tiger Drive, Ripon.

WRESTLING: Bonduel, Wittenberg-Biramwood at invitational, 9:30 a.m., Kolf Sports Center, 785 High Ave, Oshkosh.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Shawano vs. Manitowoc Lincoln, 12:05 p.m., Kress Events Center, 2358 Leon Bond Drive, Green Bay.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Shawano vs. Green Bay Preble, 1:40 p.m., Kress Events Center, 2358 Leon Bond Drive, Green Bay.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Marion at tournament, 2 p.m., Almond-Bancroft High School, 1336 Elm St., Almond.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bonduel, Gresham, Bowler at tournament, 2:15 p.m., Gresham Community High School, 501 Schabow St., Gresham.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Bonduel, Gresham, Bowler at tournament, 4 p.m., Gresham Community High School, 501 Schabow St., Gresham.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Marion at tournament, 5:30 p.m., Gillett High School, 208 W. Main St., Gillett.

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bonduel, Gresham, Bowler at tournament, TBD, Gresham Community High School, 501 Schabow St., Gresham.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Bonduel, Gresham, Bowler at tournament, TBD, Gresham Community High School, 501 Schabow St., Gresham.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Menominee Indian at tournament, TBD, Menominee Indian High School, N500 State Highway 47-55, Keshena.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Menominee Indian at tournament, TBD, Menominee Indian High School, N500 State Highway 47-55, Keshena.

WRESTLING: Shawano at invitational, 8 a.m., Merrill High School, 1201 N. Sales St., Merrill.

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FROM PAGE 13

WRESTLING: Bonduel, Wittenberg-Birnamwood at invitational, 9:30 a.m., Kolf Sports Center, 785 High Ave., Oshkosh.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Marion at tournament, 2 p.m., Almond-Bancroft High School, 1336 Elm St., Almond.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Marion at tournament, 5:30 p.m., Gillett High School, 208 W. Main St., Gillett.

MONDAY, DEC. 30

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Wittenberg-Birnamwood vs. McDonell Central Catholic, 4 p.m., Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, 400 W. Grand Ave., Wittenberg.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Wittenberg-Birnamwood vs. Northland Pines, 7:15 p.m., Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, 400 W. Grand Ave., Wittenberg.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

BOYS SWIM: Shawano at Medford, 5:30 p.m., Medford Area Senior High School, 1015 W. Broadway Ave., Medford.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Shawano at Waupaca, 7 p.m., Waupaca High School, E2325 King Road, Waupaca.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Wittenberg-Birnamwood vs. Menominee Indian, 7:15 p.m., Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, 400 W. Grand Ave., Wittenberg.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bonduel at Peshtigo, 7:30 p.m., Peshtigo High School, 380 Green St., Peshtigo.

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Tigerton vs. Northeast Wisconsin Christian Homeschoolers Athletic Association, 6 p.m., Tigerton High School, 213 Spaulding St., Tigerton.

HOCKEY: Shawano co-op at Medford, 7 p.m., Simek Recreational Center, 1037 W. Broadway Ave., Medford.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Clintonville vs. Freedom, 7 p.m., Clintonville High School, 64 W. Green Tree Road, Clintonville.

WRESTLING: Clintonville/Marion at Oakfield, 7 p.m., Oakfield High School, 250 E. Church St., Oakfield.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Shawano vs. Mosinee, 7:15 p.m., Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B, Shawano.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Bonduel vs. Clintonville, 7:30 p.m., Bonduel High School, 400 W. Green Bay St., Bonduel.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Gresham at Rosholt, 7:30 p.m., Rosholt High School, 346 W. Randolph St., Rosholt.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Wittenberg-Birnamwood vs. Abbotsford, 7:30 p.m., Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, 400 W. Grand Ave., Wittenberg.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Marion vs. Gillett, 7:30 p.m., Marion High School, 105 School St., Marion.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Tigerton vs. Northeast Wisconsin Christian Homeschoolers Athletic Association, 7:30 p.m., Tigerton High School, 213 Spaulding St., Tigerton.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

WRESTLING: Shawano at invitational, 10 a.m., Omro High School, 455 Fox Trail, Omro.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Marion at Iola-Scandinavia, 1:30 p.m., Iola-Scandinavia High School, 540 S.



Shawano's Elliott Lowney drives to the basket during a nonconference clash against Pulaski on Dec. 7 in Shawano.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

Jackson St., Iola.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Gresham vs. Bowler, 7:15 p.m., Gresham Community High School, 501 Schabow St., Gresham.

MONDAY, JAN. 6

BOYS BASKETBALL: Clintonville vs. Freedom, 7 p.m., Clintonville High School, 64 W. Green Tree Road, Clintonville.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Marion vs. Northland Lutheran, 7:15 p.m., Marion Elementary Field House, 1002 N. Main St., Marion.

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

BOYS BASKETBALL: Shawano at West De Pere, 7 p.m., West De Pere High School, 665 Grant St., De Pere.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Menominee Indian vs. Weyauwega-Fremont, 7 p.m., Menominee Indian High School, N500 State Highway 47-55, Keshena.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Menominee Indian at Weyauwega-Fremont, 7 p.m., Weyauwega-Fremont High School, 410 E. Ann St., Weyauwega.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Clintonville at Marinette, 7 p.m., Marinette High School, 2135 Pierce Ave.,

Marinette.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Shawano at Antigo, 7:15 p.m., Antigo High School, 1900 10th Ave., Antigo.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Wittenberg-Birnamwood at Amherst, 7:15 p.m., Amherst High School 357 N. Main St., Amherst.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Bowler vs. Northland Lutheran, 7:15 p.m., Bowler High School, 500 S. Almon St., Bowler.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Tigerton vs. Wisconsin Valley Lutheran, 7:15 p.m., Tigerton High School, 213 Spaulding St., Tigerton.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bonduel vs. Coleman, 7:30 p.m., Bonduel High School, 400 W. Green Bay St., Bonduel.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Gresham vs. Manawa, 7:30 p.m., Gresham Community High School, 501 Schabow St., Gresham.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Wittenberg-Birnamwood vs. Amherst, 7:30 p.m., Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, 400 W. Grand Ave., Wittenberg.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bowler at Northland Lutheran, 7:30 p.m., Northland Lutheran High School, 2107 Tower Road, Kronenwetter.

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

MONDAY, DEC. 23

SHAWANO CITY-COUNTY AIRPORT

COMMISSION: Airport, N5468 Airport Road, Shawano. 3:30 p.m. hearing, 4 p.m. regular meeting. Agenda includes hearing regarding a petition for future funding and use of entitlement funds for the airport's long-term plan.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING

COMMITTEE: Room 7, Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main St., Shawano. 9 a.m. Public hearing will gather public input on a proposed update to the 2009 Shawano County Comprehensive Plan. The plan is used as a guid for making decisions on land use and development in the county. The proposed update to the Shawano County Comprehensive Plan is available at: <http://www.co.shawano.wi.us> or from the County Planning and Development Department at the Shawano County Courthouse during business hours.

SUPPORT GROUPS

FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

MUG CLUB FOR CAREGIVERS: 5-7 p.m., Fellman Center, 607 E. Elizabeth St., Shawano. For anyone providing care for other individuals. 715-526-4686.

SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP: 10 a.m., River Room, Shawano City Hall, 127 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. 715-526-5104.

FOURTH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

AIR IT UP! BETTER BREATHERS GROUP: 1 p.m., ThedaCare Medical Center-Shawano, 100 County Road B., Shawano. 920-730-3529.

FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

UNDERSTANDING GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: 3 p.m., Shawano County Library, 128 S. Sawyer St. 715-526-3829.

WEEKLY MEETINGS SUNDAY

AA: 7 p.m., Peace United Church of Christ, 208 E. Maurer St., Shawano. 715-526-2916.

MONDAY

AA: 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Mike, 920-606-6954, or Macca, 920-323-3643.

EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS: 12 p.m., Shawano County Library, 128 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. 715-526-3829.

AA AND AL-ANON: 7 p.m., Holy Family-St. William Church, 106 N. Ellms St., Wittenberg. 715-253-2143.

NA: 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano.

AA: 7 p.m., 313 W. Wescott Ave., Shawano. 715-526-6758.

FRESH HOPE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

SUPPORT GROUP: Hope Community Church, 302 Tristan Drive, Shawano. 7 p.m. Jan, 715-853-1635.

TUESDAY

AA: 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Mike, 920-606-6954, or Macca, 920-323-3643.

WOMEN'S AA: 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church (west entrance), 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. 715-526-3329.

AA AND AL-ANON: 7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1254 S. Lincoln St., Shawano. 715-526-2017.

WEDNESDAY

AA: 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Mike, 920-606-6954, or Macca, 920-323-3643.

AA: 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Mike, 920-606-6954, or Macca, 920-323-3643.

THURSDAY

AA: 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Mike, 920-606-6954, or Macca, 920-323-3643.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN: 6-7:30 p.m., Safe Haven, 380 Lakeland Road, Shawano. 715-526-3421.

AA: 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Mike, 920-606-6954, or Macca, 920-323-3643.

NA: 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. 866-285-7830

FRIDAY

AA: 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Mike, 920-606-6954, or Macca, 920-323-3643.

AA: 8 p.m., Ascension Lutheran Church, state Highway 156 and McDonald Road, Bonduel. 715-758-8312.

SATURDAY

AA: 8 a.m., Red River Room, ThedaCare Medical Center-Shawano, 100 County Road B, Shawano. 715-526-8800,

AL-ANON: 8 a.m., ThedaCare Medical Center-Shawano, 100 County Road B, Shawano. 715-526-2111.

OVERCOMERS OUTREACH: 6 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 100 Presbyterian St., Shawano. Please use the Washington Street entrance. shawanoovercomersoutreach@gmail.com

ONGOING COMMUNITY EVENTS**SATURDAYS**

OPEN SWIM: Shawano Recreation Center, 220 E. Division St., Shawano. 1-3:45 p.m. and 6:30-8:45 p.m. \$2 adult, \$1 child, half-price with membership. 715-526-6171.

OPEN SKATING: Crawford Center, 251 S. Waukechon St., Shawano. 6-8 p.m. Admission \$3,

skate rental \$2.

SUNDAYS

SHAWANO GETS REFIT: Divine Savior Lutheran Church, 102 Northridge Drive, Shawano. 4-5 p.m. Cardio workout program. \$5 per person. 715-584-3911.

OPEN SKATING: Crawford Center, 251 S. Waukechon St., Shawano. 6-8 p.m. Admission \$3, skate rental \$2.

MONDAYS

STRING THEORY: Bonduel Public Library, 125 N. Washington St., Bonduel. 10 a.m. For knitters and crocheters. 715-526-3829.

STRONG BONES: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 240 E. Green Bay St., Bonduel, 7:30 a.m.; Fellowship Hall, Zion Lutheran Church, 1254 S. Union St., Shawano, 8:30 a.m.; Total Fitness, 212 E. Green Bay St., Shawano, noon; St. Francis Solanus Catholic Church, 724 Mader St., Gresham, 4:05 p.m.; Resource Room 201, Hillcrest Primary School, 1410 S. Waukechon St., Shawano, 4:30 p.m.; Mohican Family Center, N8605 Oak St., Bowler, 5 p.m.; Peace Lutheran Church, N6315 County Road D, Tilleda, 5:15 p.m.; Holy Family Church, 202 N. Ellms St., Wittenberg, 4:30 p.m.; St. Anthony Catholic Church, 430 Swanke St., Tigerton. 4:30 p.m. Kara Skarlupka, 715-526-4863.

HAND AND FOOT CARD CLUB: Room 146, Shawano Community Middle School, 1050 S. Union St., Shawano. 9-11:30 a.m. Community Education activity for ages 50+. New members welcome. Free. 715-526-2192, ext. 3102.

SENIOR CITIZEN EXERCISE CLASS: Shawano Civic Center, 225 S. Main St., Shawano. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

AQUACISE: Shawano Recreation Center, 220 E. Division St., Shawano. 9-9:50 a.m. Swim experience not needed. Marcia Wilken, 715-853-4569.

COMMUNITY HALL WALKING: Shawano Community Middle School, 1050 S. Union St., Shawano. 4-8 p.m. only on days when school is in session. Free, but passes and lanyards must be obtained at Shawano Community Education office. 715-526-2102, ext. 3202.

OPEN SWIM: Shawano Recreation Center, 220 E. Division St., Shawano. 6:15-7:45 p.m. \$2 adult, \$1 child, half-price with membership. 715-526-6171.

TUESDAYS

BABY AND ME LAPSIT: Children's Department, Shawano County Library, 128 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. 10 a.m. A 20-minute lapsit program for non-walking babies and their caregivers which includes traditional rhymes, finger plays, tickles, bounces, songs, and sturdy books. Playtime follows. 715-526-3829.

COMMUNITY HALL WALKING: Shawano Community Middle School, 1050 S. Union St., Shawano. 4-8 p.m. only on days when school is in session. Free, but passes and lanyards must be obtained at Shawano Community Education office. 715-526-2102, ext. 3202.

STORY TIME: Bonduel Public Library, 125 N. Washington St., Bonduel. 11 a.m. Thirty-minute programs including books, songs and a simple craft, and sometimes puppets, flannel board activities, and maybe dancing. All ages of children

must be accompanied by parents/caregivers. 715-758-2267.

STRONG BONES: Fellowship Hall, Zion Lutheran Church, 1254 S. Union St., Shawano, 7:30 a.m.; Sacred Heart Parish, 321 S. Sawyer St., Shawano, 3:45 p.m. Kara Skarlupka, 715-526-4863.

STRETCH YOGA: Aquatic Center, 400 W. Grand Ave., Wittenberg. 6-7 a.m. \$8. Ashley Hegewald, 715-581-6062.

OPEN SWIM: Shawano Recreation Center, 220 E. Division St., Shawano. 6:15-7:45 p.m. \$2 adult, \$1 child, half-price with membership. 715-526-6171.

WATER AEROBICS: Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B, Shawano. 5:50-6:50 p.m. \$5 for members, \$6 for non-members. Punch cards available at Community Education office. 715-526-2192, ext. 3202.

TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY): Shawano Public Library, 128 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. Weigh-in 8-9 a.m., meeting 9 a.m. 715-799-4343.

COMPUTER/INTERNET HELP: Sponsored by AARP. Glas Coffeehouse, 511 N. Main St., Shawano. 9 a.m. 715-754-5344.

SENIOR CITIZEN SWIM: Shawano Park and Recreation Department, 220 E. Division St. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Free with membership or \$2 per day.

FRED BEYER, "THE PIANO MAN": Classic's Restaurant and Lounge, W6026 Lake Drive, Shawano. 7 p.m. 715-524-8711.

WEDNESDAYS

CARD GAMES: Matsche Center, 362 Railroad St., Birnamwood. 1-4 p.m. Free. Cribbage or other card games. 715-449-0004 or 715-449-2113. through December

COMMUNITY HALL WALKING: Shawano Community Middle School, 1050 S. Union St., Shawano. 4-8 p.m. only on days when school is in session. Free, but passes and lanyards must be obtained at Shawano Community Education office. 715-526-2102, ext. 3202.

STORY TIME: Children's Department, Shawano County Library, 128 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. 10 a.m. Stories, songs, finger plays, puppets, flannel board activities, dancing, and making a simple craft are included. 715-526-3829.

STORY TIME: Mattoon Public Library, 311 Slate Ave., Mattoon. 11 a.m. Books, music, crafts, and more. Thirty minutes of fun for preschoolers. Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. 715-489-3333.

STORY TIME: Wittenberg Public Library, 302 S. Cherry St., Wittenberg. 11 a.m. Themed 25-minute program including reading books, singing songs, music, dancing and fun. 715-253-2936.

STORY TIME: Birnamwood Public Library, 337 Main St., Birnamwood. 2:30 p.m. 715-449-3120.

SHAWANO GETS REFIT: Divine Savior Lutheran Church, 102 Northridge Drive, Shawano. 4-5 p.m. Cardio workout program. \$5 per person. 715-584-3911.

STRONG BONES: Fellowship Hall, Zion Lutheran Church, 1254 S. Union St., Shawano, 8:30 a.m.; Total Fitness, 212 E. Green Bay St., Shawano, noon; Resource Room 201, Hillcrest Primary School, 1410 S. Waukechon St., Shawano, 4:30 p.m.; Mohican

Family Center, N8605 Oak St., Bowler. 5 p.m. Kara Skarlupka, 715-526-4863.

SENIOR CITIZEN EXERCISE CLASS: Shawano Civic Center, 225 S. Main St., Shawano. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

AQUACISE: Shawano Recreation Center, 220 E. Division St., Shawano. 9-9:50 a.m. Swim experience not needed. Marcia Wilken, 715-853-4569.

TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY):

Christus Lutheran Church, 120 N. Main St., Clintonville. 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. 715-823-6521.

THURSDAYS

STORY TIME: Children's Department, Shawano County Library, 128 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. 10 a.m. Stories, songs, finger plays, puppets, flannel board activities, dancing, and making a simple craft are included. 715-526-3829.

FOOD PANTRY: Divine Savior Lutheran Church, 102 Northridge Drive, Shawano. 1-3 p.m.

COMMUNITY HALL WALKING: Shawano Community Middle School, 1050 S. Union St., Shawano. 4-8 p.m. only on days when school is in session. Free, but passes and lanyards must be obtained at Shawano Community Education office. 715-526-2102, ext. 3202.

STRONG BONES: Fellowship Hall, Zion Lutheran Church, 1254 S. Union St., Shawano, 7:30 a.m.; Sacred Heart Parish, 321 S. Sawyer St., Shawano, 3:45 p.m.; St. Francis Solanus Catholic Church, 724 Mader St., Gresham, 4:05 p.m.; Peace Lutheran Church, N6315 County Road D, Tilleda, 5:15 p.m.; Holy Family Church, 202 N. Ellms St., Wittenberg. 4:30 p.m.; St. Anthony Catholic Church, 430 Swanke St., Tigerton. 4:30 p.m. Kara Skarlupka, 715-526-4863.

WATER AEROBICS: Pool, Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B, Shawano. 5:50-6:50 p.m. \$5 for members, \$6 for non-members. Punch cards available at Community Education office. 715-526-2192, ext. 3202.

CIVIL AIR PATROL: Civic Center, 225 S. Main St., Shawano. 7 p.m. 715-526-9311.

LATIN SPLASH: Pool, Shawano Recreation Center, 220 E. Division St., Shawano. 9-9:50 a.m. Marcia Wilken, 715-853-4569.

FRIDAYS

STRONG BONES: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 240 E. Green Bay St., Bonduel. 7:30 a.m. Kara Skarlupka, 715-526-4863.

SENIOR CITIZEN EXERCISE CLASS: Shawano Civic Center, 225 S. Main St., Shawano. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

NEEDLES R US: Knitting and crocheting. Shawano Public Library, 128 S. Sawyer St., Shawano. 9 a.m.

COMMUNITY HALL WALKING: Shawano Community Middle School, 1050 S. Union St., Shawano. 4-8 p.m. only on days when school is in session. Free, but passes and lanyards must be obtained at Shawano Community Education office. 715-526-2102, ext. 3202.

NEW HOLIDAY TRADITIONS



Mani Boyd, education coordinator for the College of Menominee Nation Sustainable Development Institute, holds some Red Wiggler worms that she has living in contained vermiculture environments in her office.

This Christmas, give the earth a gift

Sustainable Development Institute helps recycle batteries and garbage

**Story and Photos
By CAROL RYCZEK**
Editor in chief

On the 13th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me a brand new pack of AA batteries.

Very soon, children will be waking up to battery-powered Christmas presents, playing all day and looking for new batteries before you can say, “And to all a good night.”

That’s a lot of batteries. Most

will end up in landfills.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), each year Americans throw away more than three billion batteries. That’s about 180,000 tons of batteries.

More than 86,000 tons of these are single use alkaline batteries. Placed end to end, these dead alkaline batteries alone would circle the world at least six times. About 14,000 tons of rechargeable batteries are thrown away in the United

States.

The College of Menominee Nation Sustainable Development Institute (SDI) would like to see them end up in a recycling program. A new program at the college will help them do that, said Mani Boyd, SDI education coordinator. Collection bins for consumer-grade batteries are being placed at two sites on the college, she said.

The battery collection is one of the recycling projects underway at

the SDI. The other venture deploys worms to turn shredded paper and past-prime vegetables into soil.

Batteries

Non-rechargeable batteries used in toys most often contain zinc and potassium hydroxide.

While zinc isn’t as toxic as some metals, Boyd said that it is not something that should be going into landfills.

“It leaks into the soil, so is not so good in a landfill,” she said. “It’s

easy just to throw stuff away and not think about it.”

Instead of discarding batteries, they can go into one of two 3-foot blue collection tubes, located at the college library and the SDI entryway. Individuals are welcome to put used consumer-grade batteries into the tubes. The SDI sends the tubes to a recycling center in Michigan and receives an empty tube to fill, Boyd explained.

The SDI collection site is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The college’s library site is open until 6 p.m. The SDI building is at the south end of the campus at N7286 State Highway 47/55; the library is on the main campus at N172 State Highway 47/55 in Keshena.

Another option, Boyd said, is to eliminate the need to recycle one-use products and choose rechargeable batteries.

Vermiculture

Worms are among the original recyclers, and Boyd is hoping to drum up more interest in worms through vermiculture, or worm farms.

Boyd is growing the worm farms in hopes that the concept will catch on with students from Menominee Indian, Shawano and Gresham high schools this summer, she said.

The “Red Wrigglers” worm farm bins are currently housed in her office at the SDI. They contain their food, shredded paper, wilted vegetables, a little water and red worms. Lots of worms. They are there to do what worms do best: eat and eliminate, Boyd said. The worms started as a student intern project and arrived via mail.

The vermiculture process is self-contained and smell-free, though if one gets very close to the bins, they can have an earthy smell when wet, Boyd said. They need moderate temperatures, 40-80 degrees Fahrenheit, and can be successfully kept in any cool room or heated garage.

Worms eat garbage and produce “castings,” which add nutrient-rich organic matter to the soil. Water



Mani Boyd opens a compost bin outside of the SDI building. In the background is an agriculture plot which will be the beneficiary of the composted soil created by worms. The vermiculture project is one that Boyd hopes to share with high school interns this summer, generating interest throughout the area.

can be dripped through the castings, creating a tea that is readily available for plants to absorb.

Paper scrap and vegetables will decompose on their own, but worms turn that process into something useful, she said.

“Once the food is in the ground, it turns to methane, which contributes to air pollution,” Boyd said. Worms, she said, provide a “great way to get it out of there. Worms eat the food and create nutrients.”

Eventually, Boyd said, the institute hopes to have enough compost made to be available for Menominee Reservation residents to supplement their sandy soil for home gardens.

With the help from students from area high schools, she hopes the project will also inspire more composting and soil building for gardeners throughout the area, she said.

“Our goal is to have high schoolers set up a community site here on campus for community members,” she said.



Marlon Skenadore, left, chats with Mani Boyd at a craft fair at the College of Menominee Nation recently. The college’s Sustainable Development Institute had a display at the fair, which included the battery recycling container in the center of the photo. The containers are located at the SDI building and college library.

Frank Kutka, a sustainable agriculture faculty member at CMN, said worms would be helpful throughout the area, as much of the

land in Shawano and Menominee counties can be sandy and needs more organic matter to produce rich crops.

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COURT NEWS

Recent proceedings from Shawano-Menominee County Circuit Court:

— Michelle L. Welnetz, 35, of Birnamwood, was charged Dec. 17 with felony counts of burglary and possession of methamphetamine. She could face a maximum 12 1/2 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine if convicted of burglary and 3 1/2 years and a \$10,000 fine for possession of methamphetamine. She is also charged with misdemeanor counts of theft, possession of drug paraphernalia and criminal damage to property. Welnetz is free on a \$10,000 signature bond set by Judge William Kussel, Jr. She is due back in court for an adjourned initial appearance on Feb. 3.

— Daniel D. Rockman, 25, of Gillett, was charged Dec. 16 with a felony count of battery to a law

enforcement officer. He could face a maximum six years in prison and \$10,000 fine if convicted. He is also charged with misdemeanor counts of disorderly conduct and resisting or obstructing an officer. Rockman was ordered held on a \$5,000 cash bond set by Judge William Kussel, Jr. He is scheduled for an adjourned initial appearance on Jan. 6.

— Benito M. Del Bosque, 45, of Bear Creek, was charged Dec. 16 with felony counts of burglary and fourth-offense operating while intoxicated. He could face a maximum 12 1/2 years in prison and \$25,000 fine if convicted of burglary and a maximum six years and a \$10,000 fine for OWI. He is also charged with misdemeanor counts of bail jumping and resisting an officer. Del Bosque was ordered held on a \$20,000 cash bond set by Judge William Kussel, Jr. He

is due back in court for an adjourned initial appearance on Jan. 6.

— Cindy L. Reinke, 53, of Bonduel, was charged Dec. 16 with a felony count of fourth-offense operating while intoxicated. She could face a maximum six years in prison and a \$10,000 fine if convicted. She was ordered held on a \$1,000 cash bond set by Judge William Kussel, Jr. and is due back in court for an adjourned initial appearance on Jan. 27.

— Logan N. Beauprey, 18, of Keshena, was sentenced by Judge James Habeck Dec. 13 to six months in jail as a condition of three years' probation on a felony charge of being party to the crime of driving or operating a vehicle without the owner's consent. Beauprey had pleaded no contest to the charge.

— Daniel D. Rockman, 25, of Gillett, was sentenced by Judge James

Habeck Dec. 11 to six months in jail as a condition of two years' probation on a felony count of fleeing an officer if a vehicle. He pleaded no contest to the charge.

— Todd P. Watters, 38, of Shawano was charged Dec. 11 with a felony count of fourth-offense operating while intoxicated. He could face a maximum six years in prison and a \$10,000 fine if convicted. Watters posted a \$1,500 cash bond set by Judge William Kussel, Jr. and is due back in court for an adjourned initial appearance Jan. 27.

— Tanya J. Gilbert, 30, of Shawano, was charged Dec. 9 with a felony count of second or subsequent possession of cocaine. She could face a maximum 3 1/2 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine if convicted. Gilbert is scheduled for an initial court appearance on Jan. 13.

SAWM spearheads shoreline preservation grant request

Grant participation deadline is approaching

By LEADER STAFF

SHAWANO — Shawano Area Waterways Management (SAWM) is looking for individuals willing to build rain gardens or add native plants to their shoreline property instead of seawalls, according to a Thursday press release from the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance.

Seawalls are structures made of impervious materials and are intended to prevent shoreline erosion. Rain gardens are shallow depressions, usually filled with native shrubs, perennials and flowers, to temporarily hold and soak in rain water runoff from roofs, driveways, patios or lawns.

Property owners must contact shawanolakewi@gmail.com by January 15, 2020, to be included in this grant application.

A desire to combat run-off related issues and loss of habitat caused by the presence of impervious surfaces prompted the initiative, according to Emily Henrigillis, regional watershed coordinator for the Alliance. The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance is an independent nonprofit organization that works to protect, restore, and sustain water resources in the Fox-



Protecting shorelines while promoting wildlife, including ducks and clean water is the goal of a grant program now being spearheaded by Shawano Area Waterways Management (SAWM). Interested property owners have until Jan. 15, 2020, to apply.

DAVID WILHELMS

Wolf River Basin.

SAWM will apply for a Healthy Lakes Grant on behalf of the residents around Shawano Lake, according to Henrigillis.

The grants come through Healthy Lakes but originate with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

(DNR). The grant program is available only to governmental units, qualified nonprofit organizations such as SAWM, sanitary districts and similar entities.

More information can be found here: <https://www.healthylakeswi.com>.

SAWM is working with the DNR, Shawano County, Waterways Association of Menominee and Shawano Counties (WAMSCO), and Connecting Our Waters in an effort to add rain gardens and native plants to property owner's shorelines.

Connecting Our Waters completed its shoreline survey in July 2019 and the results showed that there are over six miles of seawall around the shoreline of Shawano Lake.

It also found that 71 percent of the properties around Shawano Lake contain some level of impervious surface within the riparian zone. The DNR defines a riparian zone as the area of land and water between aquatic to terrestrial ecosystems along streams and lakes.

The Healthy Lakes grant will cover up to \$1000 of the cost of a shoreline project or rain garden, Henrigillis explained. These funds can be used with funds offered by Shawano County Land Conservation Department. Shawano County provides 50 percent cost-sharing up to \$2500 for shoreline restoration projects as well as rain gardens. Projects, on average, cost about \$2.80 per square foot. Scott Frank is the county conservationist and can be reached at 715-526-4632.

Residents will need to keep these projects in place for a minimum of 10 years to comply with funding rules, the press release said.

"Please consider improving the water quality around you for generations to come," Henrigillis said.

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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Troxel, Robaidek lead Bonduel girls to victory

Duo combines for 44 points

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

BONDUEL — The duo of Kara Troxel and Allaina Robaidek had a monster first half to help the Bonduel High School girls basketball team out to a comfortable lead. Bonduel then hung on down the stretch to claim a 56-44 nonconference win over Gillett on Tuesday.

After Gillett scored four of the game's first six points, Robaidek, a sophomore, and Troxel, a junior, helped Bonduel take a lead it wouldn't relinquish again.

Robaidek hit a 3-pointer to put the Bears ahead before Troxel knocked down a triple of her own. Robaidek then converted a pair of field goals to make it 12-4 and force a Tigers' timeout.

"Well, we shot it pretty well from the 3-point line," said Bonduel coach Jerry Reinke on the offense in the first half. "That's something we haven't really done quite so well this year as we have in previous years. Hitting those 3s early got us out to a pretty good start."

Gillett started to heat up on offense after the timeout, cutting the deficit to six multiple times, but Robaidek and Troxel were able to answer.

Robaidek knocked down a second 3-pointer before Troxel hit the Bears' next two 3s to make it 21-12.

"In the first half, we worked well together," said Robaidek. "We finally put it all together this game and played as a team. Even though some players didn't have points, we couldn't have gotten that win without them."

The Tigers continued to find ways to score, cutting the deficit to four two times, but Troxel knocked down a field goal before another 3-pointer to push the lead up to seven.

It wasn't until the 4:16 mark of the first half that a Bear not wearing No. 2 (Robaidek) or No. 3 (Troxel) scored, as junior Madison Kurey hit a free throw. Freshman Josie Hoff-



Bonduel's Kara Troxel goes for a layup during Tuesday's nonconference win over Gillett in Bonduel.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

man knocked down a shot before Troxel scored off a steal to put the hosts up 31-22.

After a Gillett free throw, Bonduel got a big 3-pointer from Hoffman before Troxel put an exclama-

tion point on her big first half with a triple at the buzzer to give the Bears a 37-23 halftime lead.

"We just kept moving the ball around," said Troxel on the first half. "They were in man (to-man



Bonduel's Allaina Robaidek, left, drives past Gillett's Sydney Young during Tuesday's nonconference matchup in Bonduel.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

defense), and they didn't really know our offense at first, so we kept getting good looks. We kept tiring them out and making good passes until we finally got the open shot. We were just lights-out tonight for our shooting."

Troxel scored 18 points in the opening 18 minutes, while Robaidek had 13.

Gillett made some halftime adjustments that limited Bonduel to just 11 points in the first 13-plus minutes of the second half. Bonduel's defense was even better, holding Gillett to seven points during that span.

The Bears eventually worked the lead up to 22 points on a pair of free throws from Troxel. Gillett went on a 12-2 run to tighten up the game, but they eventually ran out of time.

In Bonduel's 19-point second half, Troxel again led the way, scoring 11 points to finish with 29 for the game.

Hoffman hit three free throws to tally eight points for the contest, while Robaidek scored two more points in the half to finish with 15.

Gillett 23 21 — 44

Bonduel 37 19 — 56

Bonduel (56): Allaina Robaidek 0-1 15, Kara Troxel 5-6 29, Josie Hoffman 3-4 8, Madison Kurey 1-2 3, Kylie Hoffman 1-2 1.

Gillett (44): Sydney Young 1-1 8, Aubrey DeBauch 6-9 18, Karissa Schaal 0-1 15, Ryann Wagner 0-1 0, Camryn Long 1-2 3.

ATHLETE PROFILE: COLE LETTER

Bonduel senior a scoring machine on basketball court

BONDUEL — The Bonduel High School boys basketball team needed a player to step up and carry the scoring load for the winter season. Enter Cole Letter.

The senior has been a nightmare for opposing teams to defend, as he's scored over 20 points in all but one game this season. Letter has scored over 30 points two times — against Weyauwega-Fremont (34) and Green Bay West (31). His 34-point game was his career-high point total as of Wednesday.

Letter has hit three or more 3-pointers in four of Bonduel's five games and gets to the free throw line several times per game.

"Cole is without question the leader of our team. He has taken his game to the highest level this year and is clearly our best player," said Bonduel coach Duke Copp. "In 22 years of coaching, Cole is definitely the hardest working player I've ever coached."

Q: When did your interest in basketball begin?

A: Oddly enough, I chose wrestling over basketball at a very young age (kindergarten), but after losing to a very talented girl in my first ever match, I decided wrestling wasn't for me. Soon after that, I picked up the basketball and nothing has been the same since.

Q: What is your favorite part about the basketball season?

A: I enjoy everything about it. Being able to play the game I love with great friends and coaches is a blessing from God that is unbeatable. I wouldn't trade it for the world.

Q: You seem to thrive in a leadership role. What about being a team leader appeals to you?

A: I'm very passionate about basketball, which drives how serious I take every practice, workout or game. With that passion, I fall into a leadership position where I do everything possible to help the team reach full



Bonduel's Cole Letter goes up for a shot in a Central Wisconsin Conference-East Division contest against Amherst on Dec. 10 in Bonduel.

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potential. I guess you could say my passion is what pushes me to be a leader.

Q: Your team is off to a solid start this season. What's worked well so far for the team?

A: I think our success has come from accepting our identity and who we are as a team. We know we aren't the biggest or lengthiest team, so we use our strengths to be successful in other ways.

Q: As the season moves on, what kinds of things does the team need to continue to working on?

A: To keep being successful, we simply need to improve on the little things every day. Continuing to

practice with 100% effort day in and day out, using solid fundamentals, and working together as one cohesive unit will put us in a position to win. The season moves along quickly; we realize we need to make the most of every single opportunity.

Q: What has basketball done for you?

A: Basketball has taught me a wide variety of skills and concepts. It has taught me how dedication and hard work can pay off over time, while also developing teamwork and leadership skills. Additionally, it has taught me that being a student always comes before being an athlete, regardless of situation. Most of all, basketball has

AT A GLANCE

ATHLETE: Cole Letter

SPORT: Boys basketball

POSITION: Point guard

SCHOOL: Bonduel High School

YEAR: Senior

been an unwavering friend that always existed as a way to escape, relax, and have fun; it truly has changed my life.

Q: What are you going to miss most about high school basketball?

A: Undoubtedly what I will miss most is the camaraderie and the memories built over the past four years. I have made some of my favorite memories with the teammates and coaches I've had.

Q: Favorite TV Shows, movies, and musical artists?

A: I rarely watch TV, but if I do, it would be "The Simpsons." I have three favorite movies, "The Wolf of Wall Street," "LION," and "The Pursuit of Happyness." Music wise, I have a few go-to artists in Chris Brown, Drake and Michael Jackson, but I enjoy many other genres as well.

Q: Name one thing about yourself that not many people know.

A: I am a huge fan of 80's music. I grew up listening to it with my parents (Christopher Letter and Denise Stelson), and as I got older, I enjoyed it even more. My Apple Music playlists are filled with 80's music from Michael Jackson, Fleetwood Mac, Mötley Crüe, and Journey.

Q: What are some things you hope to accomplish after graduating from high school?

A: Post-high school, I plan to receive an undergraduate degree in exercise science, then continuing on to receive a master's degree in athletic training. In my career, I want to stay in an athletic type setting while doing something I enjoy and find very interesting. A dream job of mine is to be the head athletic trainer for a collegiate basketball program.



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Study: Drop deer in their tracks with a shoulder shot

Deer are powerful animals, and their will to live sometimes seems to defy the laws of nature and physics.

Most of us veteran deer hunters have seen fatally shot deer run 100 yards or even more. These animals are literally dead on their feet, but still they move. And this instinctive survival mode creates two problems.

First, it forces us hunters to track the deer, sometimes in the dark and sometimes in swamps, thickets or other extreme terrain. If the shot is a bit off, the trail may go for a mile or more. Occasionally, the blood trail runs out and the deer is lost, which is unfortunate for everyone.

Second, some landowners are not receptive to other hunters on their land, even if they are attempting to retrieve a mortally wounded deer. I've never understood why a landowner would not want a wounded or even dead deer on their property to be recovered and utilized, but I do know some landowners may want that deer for themselves.

A friend of mine from Oshkosh has this recurring problem with a neighbor, even though the neighbor is himself a hunter. That neighbor simply refuses to allow anyone on his property to retrieve a deer, and has even hung one of my friend's bucks in his own tree! At the time, it was the biggest buck my friend



ROSS BIELEMA

had ever shot. In a great twist of fate, my friend then shot an even bigger buck that afternoon, and that one stayed on the right side of the fence.

This season, I was lucky enough to har-

vest three deer. The last two were shot with a muzzleloading rifle and a simple lead conical bullet. Both dropped in their tracks. I was surprised, because I normally go for a double-lung shot (right behind the front leg, as we've been taught for decades), and a deer successfully lung shot with bow, crossbow, rifle or shotgun slug will run 30 to 100 yards.

Do we need a little more horsepower in our bullets? Many hunters try to up their game and switch from a traditional .270 or .30-06 to a 7mm Remington Magnum or 300 Winchester Magnum, for example.

This is the route my friend is taking. He was asking me about the best possible bullets for a quick kill, and I talked about bonded bullets that both mushroom and stay together, in premium loads made by Hornady, Swift, Federal and others.

These are big-game bullet designs originally created for Cape buffalo, elephants and other danger-

ous game. They seem overkill on soft-skinned whitetails, but they certainly come in handy if your neighbor won't let you retrieve your deer.

But maybe there's another option. How did two 240-grain solid lead projectiles with no partitions, copper jackets or plastic tips and propelled by 100 grains of White Hots powder drop two big does like they were electrocuted? Is there a magic spot on a deer's anatomy that makes such shots routine?

An archery pro-shop owner in Milan, IL, once advised me to headshoot does with a bow if I wanted no blood trailing and perfect meat. "You'll miss clean or make a killing shot," he said. I thought it was a bit gruesome, but I once had a shot through thick brush at a button buck and could only see the deer's forehead. The 12-gauge slug again flipped the switch and it was the cleanest animal I'd ever dressed.

I recalled a story I'd read in an outdoors magazine years ago about a magic spot on deer and other big game that was like flipping a switch when hit.

A few clicks on the internet revealed a story from theoutdoorforum.net called "The Insiders' Guide to the Dakotas and upper Midwest." The author revealed a magic spot on a deer that drops them instantly and frequently limits their movement to 3 yards or less!

That spot is the scapula, or

shoulder blade. This 3-inch target works so well because behind it (in addition to the lungs) is the brachial plexus, a "network of veins, nerves, tendons and muscles" that is part of the deer's central nervous system. The story explains that a shot here "knocks the animal out and it never regains consciousness." This is what all ethical hunters strive for.

The story also explains that there's really not a lot of meat on the shoulder and a quick, humane kill is worth any slight loss of meat anyway.

A South Carolina study of 493 deer kills found the shoulder shot the most lethal shot, regardless of caliber. A shot slightly high often results in a spine shot and a shot slightly to the right (right-facing deer) results in a neck shot.

Note: this shoulder shot is only good with firearms, not bows or crossbows. Please keep aiming for the lungs with the latter weapons.

You can read the full story at theoutdoorforum.net/index.php/2014/11/07/the-shot-that-drops-deer-on-the-spot/

I'd love to hear from rifle hunters who aim for the shoulder or perhaps have another thought on the topic.

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

HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 54

Wausau East 30

Wittenberg-Birnamwood pulled away for a comfortable nonconference road win over Wausau East on Tuesday.

Emma Herb scored 20 points to lead Witt-Birn, while Abi Fraaza totaled 13 points, 13 rebounds and five assists.

Olivia Curley chipped in with nine points, four steals and four assists.

Menominee Indian 65

Tigerton 39

Menominee Indian knocked off Tigerton in a Central Wisconsin Conference crossover matchup

Tuesday in Keshena.

Mimi Beaulieu-Morgan scored 22 points to lead Menominee Indian, while Alyssa Corn chipped in with 11 points.

WRESTLING

Menominee Indian wins two duals

Menominee Indian picked up a pair of dual wins Monday in Florence. The Eagles topped the Florence co-op 60-18 and Menominee (Mich.) 51-24.

Joe Komanekin (152) earned Menominee Indian's lone non-forfeit win over the Florence co-op, winning by pin in 1:36. Tate Zhuckkohosee (138), Gregory Turney (145), Calvin Waukau (160), Scott Webster (170), Glen Miller (182), Hunter Connahvichnah (195), Asenex Turney (285), Chad Reiter-Wilber (120) and Joe

ONLINE

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Perez (132) all won by forfeit.

Gregory Turney (145), Webster (170), Miller (182) and Connahvichnah (195) all won by pin against Menominee (Mich.), while Perez (132) won a decision. Waukau (160), Asenex Turney (285), Brendan Biljan (113) and Reiter-Wilber (120) won by forfeit.

Bonduel 39

Antigo 27

Bonduel triumphed over Antigo in a nonconference dual Monday in Bonduel.

Moises Lagunes (160) and Tristan Tomashek (182) won by pin for Bonduel. Max Sokolski (145) dominated on his way to a technical fall victory,

while Tyson Bogacz (120) and Jayson Toellner (132) won by major decision.

Luis Lagunes (126) won a decision for the Bears, while Isaac Banker (195) and Cooper Salerno (113) won by forfeit.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Bonduel 55

Crandon 37

Bonduel eased to a nonconference victory Tuesday in Crandon.

Cole Letter led a balanced Bonduel offensive attack, scoring 16 points. Carson Robaidek chipped in 13 points, while Dylan Springborn tallied 10.

Bonduel led by 22 points at halftime after holding Crandon to 12 first-half points.

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Shawano co-op earns comeback win

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

SHAWANO — In a back-and-forth high school hockey battle, it was the Shawano co-op that scored five goals in the third period to secure an 11-8 victory over Team SeAL (Chequamegon/Phillips) on Monday at the Crawford Center.

Trailing 8-6 entering the final period, the Shawano co-op was able to cut into the deficit on a goal from senior Noah Kiefer about two minutes into the period.

Junior Ryan Wegenke tied the game at eight with a goal in the eighth minute of the period before senior Johnny Dillenburg gave the hosts the lead in the 11th minute with a short-handed goal.

Wegenke scored an insurance goal in the 14th minute before junior Andrew Puissant netted a power play goal in the 16th minute to seal up Shawano's comeback win.

Each team scored three goals in the first period before Team SeAL outscored Shawano 5-3 in the second period.

For the game, Wegenke led the Sha-



Shawano co-op's Ryan Wegenke, left, prepares to fire a shot during Monday's game against Team SeAL at the Crawford Center in Shawano.

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wano co-op with four goals. Puissant scored three goals and was credited with two assists, while Dillenburg tallied two goals and four assists.

Along with his goal in the third period, Kiefer also picked up an assist. Junior Leland Jones had Shawano's other goal.

Shawano co-op goalie Caleb Davids, a senior, made 27 saves on the night.

The win was especially sweet for Kiefer, Dillenburg and Davids, because it was also Shawano's Senior Night.

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63 One way to be paid
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68 Devour
69 Cologne's river
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71 Long-eared leapers
72 Actress Hatcher
73 Kimono closer
78 *Oliver Twist* villain
79 QB's mishaps
80 Exist
81 Ineffectual one
82 High point
83 Diary length, often
86 It may be bright
88 ___ Alto, CA
90 Bygone bird
95 "You're correct"
96 Holiday event
97 Rent-___
98 Words of wisdom
99 Flintstones' pet
100 Withstand
102 "Ship of the desert"
103 Baker who sings
104 Gives a title to
105 One's "who's who"
106 Got to work
108 Brother of Prometheus
111 Nose-in-air type
112 Transfixed
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Estate Furniture Sale: Kitchen Island w/chairs \$300, Aqua Cycle 4Seater \$2500, Futon \$75, Lots More. W8598 Adams Beach Dr Clintonville. Dec 21-22 from 9-2 NO EARLYBIRDS.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Appliances for sale: Maytag Refrigerator, Stove, Microwave, and Whirlpool Washing Machine. Good condition. \$800. 715-853-5089

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

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

DONATE YOUR CAR TO UNITED BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION! Your donation helps education, prevention & support programs. FAST FREE PICKUP - 24 HR RESPONSE - TAX DEDUCTION 1-855-665-3370 (WCAN)

For Sale- Ice Auger RAZR Electric 8" 40V Lithium Battery, Charger, NEVER USED, STILL IN BOX. \$250 920-846-2023

FOR SALE: Legend of the Christmas Ship Book, by Carl Behrend. Over 70 historic photographs. The classic story of a family's struggle to bring Christmas trees from the U.P. forests to Chicago, late 1800's to early 1900's. 360 pg. book in soft cover or hard cover, autographed. Call 906-387-2331 or go to greatlakeslegends.com.

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RUSTIC PINE PANELING 1x8 T&G end matched, nickel gap. Prefinished clear \$1.95 sq.ft. Prefinished like old barn wood \$2.45. Ponderosa Pine 1x6 & 1x8, T&G V-groove Prefinished \$2.38 sq.ft. 1000's of ft. in stock. Many other options avail. Call Lawrence IRON BRIDGE INDUSTRIES 715-257-1011 Athens WI

The Mills at the Falls (by Diane Nichols)
From 1845-2019 in Oconto Falls WI; 58 pages.
\$8 plus \$3 postage. A Nichols' Worth Press
4295 Co Rd J, Oconto WI 54153.

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)

Special Notices

\$10K + in debt? Be Debt FREE in 24-48 months. Pay a fraction of your debt. Call National Debt Relief 844-528-5739 (WCAN)

Special Notices

A.A. Oconto Group: Mondays & Fridays at 7 p.m. Wednesdays at 10 a.m. (open meeting) at First American Lutheran Church, Oconto James 920-834-6276. TF

AA Group Meeting: 24 hour group every Wed. night. 8:00 p.m. at Masonic Lodge on corner of Washington St. and Caldwell, Oconto Falls TF

AA/AL-ANON MEETINGS @ Holy Family Catholic Church on Mondays @ 7:00 P.M.

ARE YOU BEHIND \$10k OR MORE ON YOUR TAXES? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt FAST. Call 855-505-3069 (WCAN)

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Co-Dependency Meeting Thursdays at noon. St. James Lutheran Church, 1402 Main St., Marinette TF

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HAVE 10K IN DEBT? Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Personal Loans. Be Debt Free in 24-48 Months. Call NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF! Know Your Options. Get a FREE debt relief quote: Call 1-877-229-7927 (WCAN)

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Overeaters Anonymous meetings in Oconto, WI. On Mondays, from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, at First Presbyterian Church, 133 Jackson St. Everyone is welcome. For more info, call Teresa at 920-604-1775. TF

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Garage Available
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\$199 Deposit
Tom
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APARTMENTS/DUPLEX

Armstrong Apartments/Gillett 200 Armstrong St Gillett WI 1 bedroom apt available now stove, fridge included water, sewer & heat furnished carpeted throughout, onsite laundry pet friendly, off street parking \$425 rent/1st months rent free w/approved application Call 920-360-5922

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offers 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments. Rents are based on 30% of adjusted gross income, qualification & availability.

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www.kathyrichards.com TDD 1-800-947-3529

Equal Housing Opportunity
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

This special is for a limited time only.

FOR RENT IN GILLETT Upper 1 bedroom, stove/frig. No pets. Security Deposit & References Required. 920-855-6084

Shawano Apartments 444 S Lincoln Shawano WI 1 bedroom available now stove, fridge included heat, water and sewer included onsite laundry/off street parking patios/or balconies/storage \$560 rent/1st months rent free w/approved application Call 920-360-5922

Warrington Estates/Cecil 304 Golfview Road Cecil WI 2 bedroom apt available now stove, fridge, dishwasher, washer/dryer included Heat included, attached garage, ac Patio/or balcony cats welcome \$690-\$740 rent/1st months rent free w/ approved application Call 920-360-5922

HOMES FOR RENT

For rent- Oconto Falls mobile home park 16x80, 3 bedroom 2 full baths, includes stove and fridge, water and sewer, storage shed, lot fee, no pets. References lease and security deposit required. Available 1-1-2020. \$675/month 920-373-4794 or 920-373-8482

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Applications are being accepted for one-bedroom apartments at Wildwood Apartments in Bowler and Carbonaro Apartments in Wittenberg. Spacious living room, full kitchen, coin operated laundry and community room. They are low-income, elderly, handicapped, housing projects operated in accordance with USDA Rural Development regulations. To meet elderly requirements, at least one occupant/unit must be age 62 or older. Handicapped individuals must qualify under the USDA Rural Development definition for handicapped. Rental assistance and utility allowance may be available. Higher incomes may also qualify, though priority is given for the lower incomes. Write or call for an application from Homme Home of Wittenberg, 604 S. Webb St., Wittenberg, 715-253-2125, extension 120.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer



Legals WVAXLP

#1234
December 7, 14, & 21, 2019
State of Wisconsin,
Circuit Court,
Shawano County
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 19PR057

In The Matter Of The Estate Of
Leona Ann Durnum
Please Take Notice:

1. An application for informal administration was filed 2. The decedent, with date of birth November 25, 1907 and the date of death March 24, 2014, was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 8004 Maple Ave, Shawano, WI 54156-4237.
2. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is March 13, 2020.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room Probate, Charles Bryan Durnum, 8004 Maple Ave, Shawano, WI 54156-4237, 715-853-2585, or via email at WVAXLP.

Legals WVAXLP

#1240
December 14, 21, & 28, 2019
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY
Case No. 19PR058

Notice to Creditors

(Informal Administration)

In The Matter Of The Estate Of
Phyllis A. Gipp
DOB: 08/06/2019
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed 2. The decedent, with date of birth 11/05/1932 and date of death 08/09/2019 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 88022 Elder Lane, Ellensburg, WI 54600
 1. All interested persons waived notice
 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is March 23, 2020
 5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin, Room Probate, Electronically signed by Darlene Hoffman, Probate Registrar, 11/05/2019
- Farm completed by:
Attorney Chris Stuenkel
4377 Wisconsin Road
Greenleaf, WI 53020
414-281-4029
Bar Number: 104886
WVAXLP

#1258

December 7, 14, & 21
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY
Case No. 19-CV-154
Civil File No. 1201024
Ford Motor Credit Company LLC

Plaintiff

vs.

Anna Hancotower and Ted Hancotower
18018 Oak Ridge Ct
Shawano, WI 54156-4038

Defendant(s)

PUBLICATION SUMMARY

TO THE PERSON NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT
You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. Within 40 days after December 9, 2019, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the Clerk of Circuit Court, whose address is 311 North Main Street, Shawano, WI 54156-4198 and to Gerald Law Firm, P.C., whose address is 622 N. Water Street, Suite 400, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help 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 included in the complaint. 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 December 2, 2019
GUSTEL, LAW FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Electronically signed by Paul H. Gustel
State Bar No. 1081013
E.O. Address:
622 N. Water St., Suite 400
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Phone: 877-344-4882
WVAXLP

#1263

December 18, 21, 28
State of Wisconsin
Marionette Tribal Court
Case No. 19NC05

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing

In The Matter Of Name Change Of

Guadalupe Rose Cruz

A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From: Guadalupe Rose Cruz

To: Guadalupe Rose Cruz

Birth Certificate: Guadalupe Rose Cruz

IT IS ORDERED:

The petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Wisconsin

Tribal Court

Hon. Marianne Martin

Place: Marionette Tribal Court

W2025 Wolf River Dr. P.O. Box 426, Keshena, WI 54138

Date: January 17th, 2020

Time: 11:00 AM

WVAXLP



Stop pounding the pavement in search of a new job and start checking the classified job listings. You'll zero in on the right opportunities in no time.



NEW MEDIA INC.

715-526-2124

General, continuous CRP signups now open

Program aims to set aside marginal lands

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The deadline for signing up for next year's Conservation Reserve Program for general CRP is Feb. 28. Signup for continuous CRP is ongoing, according to a Dec. 9 press release from the Farm Service Agency.

Farmers and ranchers who enroll in CRP receive a yearly rental payment for voluntarily establishing grasses or trees to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands. The program requires a 10-15 year commitment.

"For the general CRP program, the payment rates are capped at 85% of county land rents while the continuous program is capped at 90% of county land rents. So that gives you some numbers to think about as you look at (CRP)," according to the FSA press release.

The FSA, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers the program that enters its 35th year in 2020.

CRP rental payments of \$28,637,057 will go to 14,657 landowners for the 195,482 enrolled acres throughout the state.

The FSA said the Conservation Reserve Program is one of the nation's largest conservation programs with 22 million acres currently enrolled. The 2018 Farm Bill increased eligibility to 27 million acres by 2023, giving farmers and ranchers a chance to enroll in CRP for the first time or continue their participation for another term.

The competitive general signup in 2020 includes increased opportunities for enrollment of wildlife habitat through the State Acres For Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative.

While some practices under SAFE will remain available through continuous signup, CRP continuous signup will focus primarily on water quality within the Clean Lakes, Estuaries, and Rivers (CLEAR) Initiative.

The 2018 Farm Bill prioritizes water quality practices such as contour grass strips, filter strips, riparian buffers, wetlands and a new prairie strip.

USDA will also work with Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) partners to relaunch CREP continuous options in each

state under new statutory provisions. CREP will continue to target high-priority local, state or regional conservation concerns.

Land Transition

CRP Rates and Payments

The rental rates will be reviewed annually. Under continuous signup, producers also receive incentives, including a signup incentive payment and a practice incentive payment.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP was intended to control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production.

The USDA lists the benefits of CRP as: Preventing more than nine billion tons of soil from eroding, enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks

Reducing nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95 and 85 percent respectively

Sequestering an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking nine million cars off the road

Creating more than three million acres of restored wetlands while protecting more than 175,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers

Benefiting bees and other pollinators and increased populations of ducks, pheasants, turkey, bobwhite quail, prairie chickens and grasshopper sparrows

Previously Expired Land

Land enrolled in CRP under a 15-year contract that expired in September 2017, 2018 or 2019, may be eligible for enrollment if there was no opportunity for re-enrollment and the practice under the expired contract has been maintained, the USDA said.

Grasslands Signups

CRP Grasslands signup helps landowners and operators protect grassland, including rangeland, and pastureland and certain other lands while maintaining the areas as grazing lands.

A separate CRP Grasslands signup will be offered each year following general signup. The sign-up period for CRP Grasslands in 2020 is March 16 - May 15, 2020.

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