

New elected officials to get salary boost

Updated wages will bring officeholders in line with others

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

The next people to be elected Shawano County sheriff, clerk of courts and coroner will see a significant boost in pay compared to what those officials are making today.

Supervisors on the executive committee voted to increase the salaries to be more in line with comparable counties. By law, they must set salaries now for the next four-year term for sheriff, clerk of courts and coroner.

The candidate who wins the November election for sheriff will be paid 20% more than the current sheriff and will receive an increase of 3.5% each year thereafter.

The clerk of courts and coroner will each receive a 15% initial raise and then 3.5% each year thereafter.

“We gotta jack this up and make things right for our people,” Supervisor Tess Serrano.”This — \$75,000 or \$71,000 compared to \$82,000 — that should tell you right there that we are so far behind it’s not even funny. Let’s make it right, and get it done.”

Last month, Julie Hasser, human resources director and interim administrative coordinator, was asked to determine new salaries with raises 8, 10 and 12%, and increases of 3% and 4% each year thereafter.

“If we do an eight or 10% increase, we’re still going to be lower than the average for 2026,” she said.

Another concern is that three employees at the sheriff’s department have a higher salary than the sheriff. An employee in the clerk of courts office makes nearly as much as the clerk of courts.

Seeing that some counties have already set their 2027 salaries, Hasser also put together numbers based on an initial 15% increase.

Today, the Shawano County sheriff has a salary of \$95,999.75. In adjacent Oconto County, the sheriff is paid \$111,104.56, and the average for comparable counties is \$109,025.51. In 2027, the Shawano County sheriff will make \$115,163.70.

“There’s that thought process of these are the requirements — Tom (Kautza) mentioned last time how a bartender could do this position (sheriff) — but

SALARIES, CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

Girls compete for chance to wrestle at state



Shawano’s Jenna Moede wrestles Stratford’s Allison Knetter in a 120-pound match at a sectional meet at D.C. Everest High School. Moede competed at the meet with teammate Lauren Seehafer. To see who’s competing at the state meet, turn to page 15.

GREG SEUBERT

City Hall renovations to be finished in first week of March

Reception area last part of the improvement process

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Renovations of Shawano City Hall are getting close to completion, but in the meantime, business as usual is a bit noisier as the front desk area is currently being redone.

Work has already been done to remove the entrance on South Sawyer Street that allowed people to enter the police station, which City Administrator Eddie Sheppard has described as a difficult entrance, especially for anyone in a wheelchair or dealing with mobility issues. The main entrance at City Hall now doubles as the entrance to the police station.

“I think people are adjusting well (to the new entrance),” Sheppard said.

While work is being done on the front desk area, a small office at the main entrance is open for anyone paying bills, seeking information or any other city-related business.

“They don’t have to go into the construction area, and they can do all their normal business with us right there when you walk in the front door,” Sheppard said.

He added that countertops and windows are currently being constructed for the front desk area, and all the work should be completed by the first week of March.

Being able to downsize staff and having one portal for all business provided enough cost savings to allow city staff to rebuild the areas.

CITY HALL, CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

INSIDE

High school, college basketball a family affair for Nordins.

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ThedaCare offers clothing closet at hospitals

When patients are rushed to the hospital for trauma or an emergency, their clothing may be damaged as a result of procedures related to their medical care.

If no family or friends are available to help provide replacement clothing, patients may sometimes leave the hospital with simple, serviceable attire.

Team members at ThedaCare recognized this and used the opportunity to help enhance this aspect of patient care.

“Some of our patients didn’t have acceptable clothing to wear after discharge,” said Amy Mitchell, care management social work lead. “We saw an opportunity to help address that.”

Mitchell led the creation of ThedaCARES Clothing Closet. The initiative “aims to ensure that all patients have access to essential clothing items, promoting dignity and comfort as they leave our



Amy Mitchell, care management social work lead with ThedaCare, stands in front of storage bins filled with individual packets of clothing. The bins are part of ThedaCARES Clothing Closet, an initiative that aims to ensure that all patients have access to essential clothing items, promoting dignity and comfort as they transition from the hospital.

hospitals,” she said. “This initiative helps us better ensure that people in our care do not need to worry about something as fundamental as having clean, appropriate clothing when they transition

from one of our hospitals,” Mitchell said. “The clothing closet supports our commitment to holistic patient care. It helps address our patients’ social and emotional needs, supplementing the care

provided to treat their medical issues.” The ThedaCare Family of Foundations supported the launch of the clothing closet with a \$25,000 grant. The funding helped with start-up costs for neces-

sities such as brand new clothing including several sizes of undergarments, shirts, pants, sweatshirts, jackets, socks, sneakers and boots, storage bins and resealable plastic bags used to create clothing packages.

“We were able to support such a meaningful and impactful initiative thanks to the continued support of our generous donors,” said Barbara Beuscher, senior vice president and chief philanthropy officer for ThedaCare Family of Foundations. “When we are able to offer our patients clean, comfortable clothing when they leave one of our facilities because their own clothes may no longer be suitable, we’re helping them leave our hospitals with the dignity and the respect they deserve.”

Access to the closet is generally initiated by team members.

“Our teams have been engaged and responsive

in this,” Mitchell said. “They’re assessing each patient situation and offering potential assistance. For example, they may notice that a person has come to the emergency department for medical help in winter, clearly underdressed for the weather. When team members observe such a scenario, the hope is we’re acknowledging the situation and talking it through with the person to see if we can assist them with appropriate clothing.”

All 10 ThedaCare hospitals offer a clothing closet.

“The clothing closet represents more than shirts or shoes,” Mitchell said. “It highlights the belief that healing goes beyond medicine, that feeling warm, clean and seen can make an enormous difference during some of life’s hardest moments. With every clothing item given, we’re telling our patients, ‘You matter, you are cared for, you are not alone.’”

County leader new job description approved

Next step is determining annual salary

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

After months of wrangling over titles, duties, responsibilities and more, only a new salary and a pool of applicants remain before Shawano County’s next administrative coordinator is hired.

Members of the executive committee approved the revised job description Feb. 19. Julie Hasser, human resources director and interim administrative coordinator, said the position will now be forwarded to consulting firm Cottingham and Butler for evaluation and placement on the county’s wage scale. After

that, and approval by the county board, the job will be posted, and applications will be accepted.

A vacancy was created in November when Jim Davel resigned a couple months before his planned retirement.

In giving the the new job description one final review, supervisors said they liked the tone of the document, but County Board Chairman Tom Kautza threw a wrench into the discussion, apparently changing his thoughts on the job.

In meeting with county board leaders and county administrators from Oconto and Marinette counties, those officials favored a county administrator instead of an administrative coordinator.

“They each have administrators, and to sum it up, we’re doing this totally wrong,” Kautza said.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the Wisconsin Counties Association, three forms of the executive branch in county government exist: county executive, county administrator and county administrative coordinator.

A county executive has the most power. An elected position, he or she appoints and supervises department heads, appoints members to boards and commissions and submits an annual budget. He or she can also veto county board approved ordinances and resolutions.

A county administrator is the chief administrative officer of a county who coordinates and directs all administrative and management functions of county government. The county administrator also appoints and supervises department heads, appoints members to boards and commissions and submits an annual budget. A county administrator answers to the county board and can be removed by the board.

An administrative coordinator is similar to the county administrator but does not have appointment authority and is responsible for coordinating, rather than both coordinating and directing. His or her duties are similar to those of a city or village administrator who works under a mayor or village president.

Administrators in those counties are under contract, and a majority of the board can terminate their employment at any time.

However, at the committee’s Nov. 12 meeting, Kautza voiced his support for a low-key role for the coordinator.

“It doesn’t have to be a

big, high-level position,” he said then. “I think the biggest thing that’s needed around here is one individual to go to all the committee meetings and put it together.”

After getting pushback from others on the committee about an expanded title, Kautza changed tactics.

“If nobody else wants to go that route, I still say we should add in that the administrative coordinator should do the annual review with the committee of the department heads,” he said. “And if this is going to stay as an administrative coordinator position, we should add in the job duties that they have the full budgetary control. That’s how you give this person some authority and some control.”

“Well, then you’re going back to the old one, in all honesty,” said Hasser. “That’s the majority of what we eliminated.”

Kautza said the county needs a better hiring process and the right individual for the job.

Hasser said she, too, was at the meeting with Oconto and Marinette officials.

“That works really well for their counties,” she said. “The thing that we

need to focus on here is what is best for Shawano County.”

She said the budget is already under the jurisdiction of the finance director, who works with it every day.

Kautza said if the county kept the title administrative coordinator, it could add or delete duties to the role. A title of county administrator has certain duties and responsibilities determined by state statute, including having all department heads report to them.

Supervisor Tess Serrano asked about the earlier discussions when the committee chose to have no one directly reporting to the coordinator.

Kautza eventually gave in and voted with the others to approve the job description.

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Bonduel fire believed to be caused by electrical issue

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

An attic fire at a house in Bonduel is believed to have been caused by an electrical issue, according to a Bonduel Fire Department official.

Bonduel Fire Chief Kevin

Lynch said the Feb. 20 fire started in the attic.

At about 5:40 a.m., the fire department was called to a North Cecil Street home. Initial information reported a loud pop followed by smoke filling the residence.

Upon arrival, crews confirmed two adults and a dog had safely exited the home.

Fire was discovered in the attic. The attic and its contents sustained heavy fire damage. The first floor of the structure sustained extensive water damage

as a result of suppression efforts, Lynch said in a news release.

The Bonduel Area Fire Department was assisted on scene by the Shawano Area Fire Department, Cecil Washington Fire Department, Navarino-

Lessor Fire Department, Shawano County Sheriff’s Department, Bonduel Police Department, Shawano Ambulance Service, Bonduel Municipal Operations, and WE Energies.

At about noon, Bonduel firefighters returned to the

residence for reports of smoke coming from the eaves. Crews located a small, concealed fire in the attic space and extinguished it promptly.

Damage estimates are unknown at this time. No injuries were reported.

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Solar farm plans apparently at dead end

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

A second plan for a solar farm on county-owned land along state Highway 22 has apparently gone the way of the first proposal — nowhere.

Members of the public property committee agreed by consensus Feb. 12 the OneEnergy proposal is apparently dead once it was determined the revenue for the county would be minimal.

Nick Hesse, Shawano County's facilities management director, said the county would only receive rental payments for the 47 acres and not any state funds.

OneEnergy proposed a 5-7 megawatt solar farm on the north side of state High-

way 22 near Rose Brook Road.

Because the power lines are owned by Shawano Municipal Utilities, the solar farm would either be owned by One Energy or SMU. Because neither company is a significant generator, the county and Town of Belle Plaine would not be eligible for thousands of dollars in revenue from the state for each of the 30 years of the proposed lease.

"We'd get the bare minimum," he said. "There's no kickback."

"There would be if they would build it and sell it to Alliant," Supervisor Tom Kautza said.

He noted that a small solar farm near Bonduel is owned by We Energies, and the county does make some revenue from that.

If the project was eligible for state payments in lieu of taxes, the payments would amount to \$1,333.33 per megawatt per year for the county and \$666.67 for the Town of Belle Plaine.

Another incentive payment, because it's a solar project, would be \$1,500 per megawatt per year.

In a related matter, the entire 284-acre county farmland will be again leased to Kraig Rosenow for one year at \$125 per acre.

Supervisor Randy Young suggested the county could see a higher rate if officials decide to lengthen the term of the lease, possibly to three or five years. Previous to solar farm discussions, the land was leased in five-year increments.

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Farmers market director gives city panel report

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

A main cornerstone of Shawano's summertime activity is the farmers market put on by the FRESH Project, and the Shawano Park and Recreation Commission discovered Feb. 18 that it is really attracting people to come out Saturday mornings.

The FRESH Project has been in the Shawano area since 2017, according to executive director Dave Mendoza, and the non-profit organization took over the farmers market in 2020. Mendoza told the commission there are 43 vendors on average during the 17 Saturdays from June through October it operates at Franklin Park, and each Saturday usually sees 2,000-2,300 people walking through to check out the various food and other items for sale.

"I don't usually count the kids," Mendoza said. "I just count the adults that have the buying power."

He added that the weekends coinciding with Shawano Fest and Oktoberfest see the visitor numbers grow, with 3,000-4,000 people attending the farmers market.

"We have had other focuses, trying to bridge food resources in the community with people who are food insecure," Mendoza said. "The main focus the FRESH Project has with Franklin Park is the farmers market every summer."

Mendoza said the FRESH Project has a good relationship with the city and is usually able to reach someone to address any issues at the park or the nearby Naberhood Plaza. The new restroom facility has helped when it comes to both customers and vendors, he said.

"Some of these farmers come from the Weston and Wausau area," Mendoza said. "I have no idea what time they leave their house, but I know they're here at 6 o'clock in the morning, so having those restrooms available ... just having that facility open has been a big help."

More farmers are utilizing electrical outlets at the park, according to Mendoza, and having those available enables the market to attract bigger and more diverse vendors.

"We're trying to expand. We're trying to get all the way around the cir-

cumference of the park," Mendoza said.

The farmers market tries to keep things interesting with different activities each week, whether it's having yoga instructors, musical entertainment or some other activities that children and adults can partake in.

"They're not usually name brand, big stars that you would see at Shawano Fest," Mendoza said about the entertainment. "They're people that just play for free. We don't pay them anything. They just volunteer. They usually want to practice and try some new material out, things like that."

A big event for the market is an event called Make One, Take One, where jewelers work with community members to make earrings and other decorative things.

"They provide everything from the beads to the wiring," Mendoza said. "They'll teach you how to make your own earrings. It's free, but they put out a little tip jar and whatever money they're able to raise usually goes to an animal rescue center."

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County moving ahead to buy 3rd Street house

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

Shawano County officials are in the process of authorizing spending up to \$300,000 for a house that sits on land needed for a possible courthouse expansion project.

The house at 217 W. Third St., Shawano, is on the block west and south of the current courthouse. If a new courthouse and housing pod for the jail are authorized by the county board this spring, the site of the house would be needed for the project.

"The Realtor said if that would go on the market, it would be \$262,000-\$275,000," said Nick Hesse,

Shawano County's facilities management director. "I started a conversation with the owner, and \$275,000 is what their asking price was with the option to move in two years."

However, if the courthouse plans are given the green light, the owners would need to move by October or November, Hesse said.

"So, to get them out in six months, we could go up to about \$300,000," he said.

The public property committee approved of the purchase Feb. 12. It was scheduled to go to the executive committee Feb. 18, with the full board to vote on it as soon as March

25, if supervisors agree at that meeting to authorize a maximum dollar amount for the building project.

Supervisor Tom Kautza suggested the full board hold off on a vote until they approve construction plans and costs.

"There's really no use in buying the house if we're not going to need it," he said. "That's a pretty steep price, I think."

According to Shawano County online tax records, Amber Hetzer owns the Third Street property, which has an assessed value of \$82,400 and an estimated fair market value of \$96,700.

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Crop insurance, grain marketing workshop offered

University of Wisconsin Extension is conducting an event to help grain producers better understand how crop insurance and marketing opportunities and tools interact and how they can best select from the available crop insurance opportunities.

The workshop will be held at 10 a.m. March 4 at the Cecil Village Hall, 111 E. Hofman St., Cecil. The registration fee of \$10 includes

materials, lunch and snacks. Pre-registration is requested to ensure that enough materials will be available for all participants.

The program will begin with an overview of changes to crop insurance programs for the 2026 crop year and a discussion of how farms may want to analyze their insurance options prior to the March 16 policy decision date. Discussion will then turn to market-

ing tools, techniques and how they can interact with crop insurance decisions, FSA programs and a farm's economic situation.

For registration or information, contact Scott Reuss at scott.reuss@wisc.edu or 715-701-0966. To request language or physical accommodation to facilitate involvement in the program, contact Tami Goers at 715-526-6136 or tami.goers@wisc.edu by Feb. 27.

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Fees planned for new rec center facilities

Costs for pool, gym areas will stay same after reopening

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

New fees for the new aspects of the Shawano Recreation Center, currently under renovation, passed the first glance Feb. 18 from the Shawano Park and Recreation Commission.

Existing fees are expected to remain the same for now, according to Matt Hendricks, park and recreation director, but those fees were passed three years ago and are expected to be reviewed at the end of 2026.

“We’re not creating new fees,” Hendricks said. “One of the big things we said when we opened this rec center was that, when it was reopened, we would stay consistent with our fee policy that was already approved and in place.”

The new computer lab will cost \$10 per hour to rent out for special events, while the new classroom will cost \$20 per hour during the week and \$60 per hour Sundays with a minimum of two hours charged, because the center is usually closed on that day.

To reserve both the classroom and lab will require a \$30 per hour fee, while reserving the classroom and pool is \$40 per hour, with both deals being charged \$60 per hour Sundays. To get all three — the classroom, lab and pool — users will have to pay \$65 per hour during the week and \$80 per hour Sundays.

“We tried to make it as simple as possible,” Hendricks said.

There will be no charge for reserving the office spaces under the revised fee schedule, and there is no charge during the week to reserve the multipurpose room during the week, although a \$50 per hour fee is in place if someone wants to reserve the room Sundays.

Nonprofit organizations will be charged a lesser rate for reserving facilities, half the standard rate plus \$5 for each hour. The fee schedule also added nonprofits to the private pool rental for \$25 per hour during the week, but they will get no discount for reserving the pool Sundays, which currently has a fee of \$60

per hour.

“We give nonprofits a pretty hefty break,” Hendricks said. “In fact, we don’t charge them for shelters or things like that in the park system. That’s our way of supporting them.”

Standard gym fees are going to remain as they are, but there will be a \$10 monthly add-on for regular monthly users who want to have access 24 hours a day, something the recreation center has not offered before, Hendricks said. There will also be a \$25 fee to replace a lost key fob.

The new showers will be open to the public to use, even if they don’t use the pool or gym. It would cost the daily facility fee of \$3, but a punchcard option is available for \$20, which is good for using the showers 15 times.

“We do have people who come in and just utilize our showers,” Hendricks said. “It could be folks who don’t have a home and need a shower, or it could be someone like me with my family where, if you travel and you camp, it’s nice to have a place to be able to clean up between hikes and park visits. You can just pay the daily fee and come use our showers, or if you’re going to be here for a few days, you can use them at a reduced rate.”

Hendricks noted that the fee schedule does not recoup all of the city’s costs to run the recreation center, nor should it. That would make the center a business instead of a community facility, he said.

“That’s not what public parks and recreation are about,” Hendricks said. “In fact, we view costs as a barrier. We want to reduce or remove barriers when we can. However, as outlined in the front of our policy, there’s some expectation of cost recovery, or if the facility is being used by a private group and not being used by the public, then there should be some kind of fee attached.”

The new fee schedule must still get a recommendation from the city finance committee before it goes before the Shawano Common Council on March 11.

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A willow brown trout is captured in Oconto County in 2025. Fishing season will start in April instead of May, allowing more time for fishermen to capture trout and other types of fish in Wisconsin waterways. WISCONSIN DNR

Early opener not expected to affect DNR fishery

Anglers can start catching trout first weekend in April

By **GREG SEUBERT**
Correspondent

Anglers will soon have another month to harvest brook, brown and rainbow trout in streams, ponds and springs.

Beginning this year, the harvest season will change from the first Saturday in May, Wisconsin’s general inland season opener, to the first Saturday in April.

The change is one of several fisheries-related questions approved at last year’s state Department of Natural Resources and Wisconsin Conservation Congress spring hearings held in all 72 counties.

“The change is basically moving the harvest season opener for trout by one month,” said Bradd Sims, DNR fisheries biologist. “This year it’ll begin the first Saturday of April. The close is still the same, Oct. 15. It’s going to be for inland streams, springs and spring ponds.”

Area trout streams affected by the early opener include stretches of the Oconto, Pensaukee,

Little Suamico, Little, and Thunder rivers and their branches in Oconto County; and the Embarrass, Red, Shioc, and Pigeon rivers and their branches in Shawano County.

“We have an inland statewide trout team which consists of DNR staff and external members, representatives from the angling community and Wisconsin Conservation Congress and tribal representation,” he said. “We have what we call the statewide Inland Trout Management Plan, which is from 2019 to 2029, and one of the objectives of that plan is to increase angling opportunities for anglers. Part of that would be extending seasons. We extended the September closure to Oct. 15 and now the opener.”

An earlier opener has been talked about for years, according to Sims.

“It’s something that’s been there for a few years,” he said. “It did come up as a question back in 2017 or 2016 when we were doing regulation reviews. There were a lot of anglers who supported earlier opportunities if possible. Wisconsin’s always been a state that’s really strong in our outdoor traditions. Part of that outdoor tradition was having a harvest opener for fish the first Saturday of May. It’s not so much of a biological reason than a social reason.”

Weather could play a role if anglers are willing to try their luck in early April.

“It depends on the system,” Sims said. “Your good coldwater spring-fed system, there’s not going to be a change at all. The fish are going to be in the same habitats with the same activities in April. In some of your larger warmwater systems, some of your larger rivers where they do have some seasonal migrations, the fish may be down a little in their wintering habitats before they start moving up to their summer habitats.”

Sims said it’s too soon to tell how most anglers will respond to an earlier opener that this year falls on April 4.

Sims doesn’t believe an extra month to harvest trout will have a major effect on the fishery.

“It will not,” he said. “One thing the trout team really took a look at is would there be a negative impact on the trout fisheries. Iowa doesn’t have the amount of trout resources that we have and they’re open year-round with harvest. They’re not seeing any negative impacts to their fishery. Minnesota and Michigan haven’t seen any negative impacts.”

“One of the reasons that we were looking at this early opener is when we look at our creel surveys,

we’re seeing more anglers becoming strictly catch-and-release anglers,” he said.

“When you look at some of the creels that were taking place from the ’70s to the early 2000s, harvest rates decreased anywhere from 50-75%. I think it’s just that general attitude of anglers. The way we fish now is different than we used to.”

Sims said some northern Wisconsin fisheries biologists were concerned about an earlier opener because trout in small ponds can be susceptible to ice fishing.

“If that does become an issue, we can basically have that first Saturday open to open water only,” he said. “That’s the only concern that was brought up and it’s a pretty small one.”

The DNR is in the process of updating its website, apps, printed publications and signage informing anglers of the rule change.

“There are some things posted online for anglers to look at,” Sims said. “We do have an online mapping tool that they can use to look at regulations. That’s slowly getting updated. The wheels are in motion. When you look at a statewide change, there’s the communication with the public, the printing, the applications, anywhere you have those regulations posted.”

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Retired county employee honored for 30 years of service

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

Former Shawano County employee Lori Gagner was recently recognized for her three decades of service. She worked for 30

years with the county, first as the assistant real property lister in the planning and development department and most recently within the technology services department.

A resolution to thank her was approved Feb. 19 by the executive committee. The county board is expected to approved the resolution Feb. 25.

During the course of Gagner’s career, she

supported accurate land records management, assessment roll preparation and tax roll coordination in partnership with town, village and city clerks and assessors throughout Shawano County.

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Marlene Thompson, right, from the Mountain area, samples elderberry syrup made from a brew kit crafted by Bonnie Cotter. Cotter runs a booth in the Vendor Village area of Mimi's Closet and More, 105 N. Airport Road, Shawano. LYNN ZAFFRANN

Elderberry syrup contributing to community's good health

Shawano woman helping people with natural remedy

By LYNN ZAFFRANN
Correspondent

Tucked in the back of Mimi's Closet and More's vendor village is an unassuming booth that carries a very unique product, Elderberry Syrup Brew Kits.

Bonnie Cotter, of Shawano, is the owner of Bonnie's Naturals. She began selling her special handcrafted elderberry syrup brew kits recently in her booth at 105 N. Airport Road, Shawano.

"I always am being creative on how to help other people," Cotter said.

With the brew kits, she said that she feels she is helping others to improve their immune systems.

Cotter makes it clear that no medical claims are made, but she still feels very strongly that elderberry syrup has many health benefits.

"I had a brainstorm," she said. "And thought that I could offer these kits to other people."

The brew kits offer customers a way to brew their own natural elderberry syrup at home.

Cotter said that making your own elderberry syrup saves money.

"It could be very expensive to buy in a retail location," she said. "My price-point is \$24.99, and it makes 24 ounces. You could add honey, but you don't really have to, or maple syrup."

A detailed step-by-step instruction card and recipes are included in the brew kits.

There are no preservatives in the elderberry syrup batch made with one of the kits. Cotter said that the finished product can be kept in the refrigerator for two weeks.

"But you can freeze whatever think you won't use in that time," she said. "It won't go to waste, and the frozen portions will keep for eight to 10 months."

Cotter noted that the dehydrated elderberries in the brew kits can be an excellent immune system booster. They are anti-in-



Bonnie Cotter shows off her unique elderberry syrup brew kits in her booth in the vendor village area of Mimi's Closet and More Consignment store at 105 N. Airport Road. LYNN ZAFFRANN

flammatory and may lower blood sugar and cholesterol, she said.

The other natural ingredients in the brew kits are seen to have health benefits.

Cinnamon, for example, may fight infections and viruses. Cinnamon has anti-oxidant, antibiotic and anti-inflammatory properties, but more research is needed to confirm these benefits before health care practitioners recommend cinnamon as a treatment, according to an article on WebMD.com.

Another ingredient in the brew kits is ginger. According to WebMD, ginger has been used as a remedy for nausea and indigestion for centuries and the folk remedy actually works for those purposes.

A vanilla bean, cloves and star anise are also included in the kits crafted by Cotter, making a very tasty syrup.

Cotter sources the ingredients from Amazon and Frontier Co-op, an online vendor of organic herbs and spices.

"My hours were cut at my full-time job, so I thought I'd give this a try," Cotter said. "I've wanted a booth for a while, but with working, it was really hard."

Cotter recently started a new job, but she makes a point to visit her booth once a week to bring new items for the Bonnie's

Treasures side, and to replenish the brew kits on the Bonnie's Naturals side of the booth, she said.

On her Bonnie's Treasure side, she sells Scentsy goods, which are fragrance items, including wax melts. Also available in her inventory are gently used and new household items. Cotter is still adding goods to her booth.

Cotter worked with Mimi's Closet and More's owner, Shelly Hansen, to set up a tasting event of elderberry syrup made with her brew kit, at the front of the store on Feb. 28.

"I'll provide education and free samples," Cotter said.

She said that she does a lot of advertising on her Facebook page, Bonnie's Treasures. She also sells on Facebook Marketplace.

"I am definitely thinking about doing the Franklin farmers market (The FRESH Project Farmer's Market in Franklin Park) this summer," Cotter said. "I do not make medical claims. I'm not a doctor. This is basically a craft. I put together all of the ingredients that you would find in a retail syrup."

Cotter said that people who don't know about elderberry syrup should talk to their doctor about it, to make sure they can take it.

'If you don't feel right, tell somebody'

Shawano County man survives widow-maker heart attack

Scott Siolka takes nothing for granted when it comes to his health.

Surviving a major heart attack last year reinforced the importance of paying attention to his body's cues. In February 2025, Siolka suffered a widow-maker heart attack. It's an informal name for a severe form of heart attack resulting from complete blockage in the left anterior descending artery. The artery is a major vessel carrying blood to the heart. Complete blockage in the artery may lead to extensive damage and death.

Siolka is encouraging others to heed their body's cues. He's been sharing that message as loudly as he can. That's why he threw out the first pitch as an honorary survivor for CPR Night at Neuroscience Group Field last August. The annual event — presented by ThedaCare, Gold Cross Ambulance, Ascension and the American Heart Association — helps raise awareness about cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), a lifesaving skill that anyone can learn.

"I'm incredibly thankful," said Siolka, who lives between Cecil and Shawano. "It was a real honor."

Recalling his experience with a heart attack, Siolka, who was 49 at the time, said the health ordeal started at work.

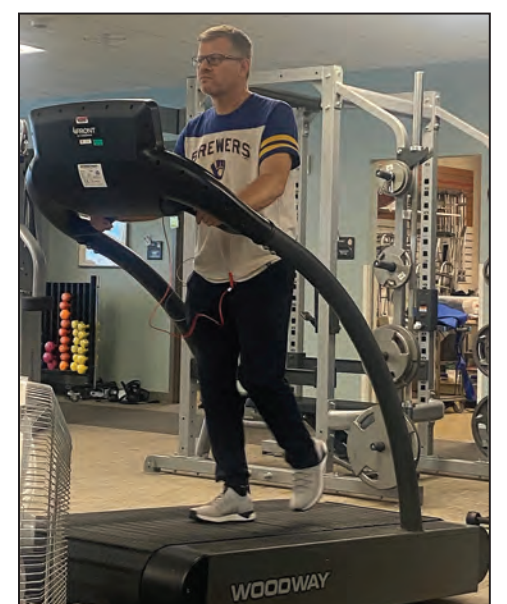
A shop floor designer with Pierce Manufacturing, Siolka said the start of his day was fairly routine but quickly turned sideways. That morning, as he was preparing to leave, he felt a little lightheaded, nauseous and weak in his legs.

"I didn't think anything of it because it went away right away," Siolka said. "So, I just went on with my day."

As he settled into his routine, the symptoms returned, only a little stronger. Sitting at his desk, Siolka began to sweat profusely while simultaneously feeling ice cold. Chest pain soon followed.

Growing concerned, Siolka conferred with a colleague, who's also a firefighter. As Siolka described his symptoms, his

HEART, CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Scott Siolka listens to his body's cues when it comes to his health. "Don't take anything for granted," he said. That mantra helped the ThedaCare patient survive a widow-maker heart attack in February 2025. CONTRIBUTED

Dogs lovely with friends but not always at home

Our friends Dick and Helen are keeping busy these days. A few weeks ago, they adopted Promise, a lovable cocker spaniel. Promise's arrival was greeted by Lily, her new 2-year-old "sister." Until Promise joined the family, Lily was inconsolable after losing her buddy, B.B., who crossed the rainbow bridge last year. Lily cried almost nonstop whenever our friends left the house. While there's some sibling rivalry, Lily seems content to share her space.

Dick and Helen adopted Promise through Rock Star Cocker Rescue located in Fulton, Illinois. Rock Star specializes in puppy mill rescues. These unsavory businesses mass-produce puppies and are known for overbreeding dogs to maximize profits.

Puppy mill dogs are usually kept in small wire cages with little chance to play, exercise or socialize.



By six to eight weeks, most are sold to pet stores or online. Little wonder mill dogs can develop health and/or behavioral issues and are often abandoned or euthanized.

Helen says that Amari, their seventh rescue, was in a puppy mill for 11 years.

"Considering her life in a cage for that long, she was a sweetheart," she said. "Sadly, we only had her for 30 months when she passed."

Rock Star rescues are available for adoption after they are spayed or neutered and have the opportunity to socialize with other dogs and humans. Adoption fees are based on age — the younger the dog, the higher

the cost. Promise was three years old, and the fee was \$450.

Dogs come with documentation, which ensures new owners are adopting a healthy pet with all its shots. There's also a peace-of-mind guarantee. If, for any reason, the dog doesn't work out, Rock Star will take it back, but if you spend any time at all with Dick and Helen, you will see that Promise isn't going anywhere.

I can relate to what is happening in their lives. Bringing a new pet into your family can be challenging, especially if it's a rescue dog. I did that three times in my Fox River Valley days and am quite sure I won't be doing it again. For one thing, Jon is allergic to animal fur. More importantly, my experiences with man's best friend did not end well.

I was 6 when we adopted Brownie, a collie-

shepherd mix Dad got from a neighbor. We kids played with him, but he was not a pet or family member in the contemporary sense. He was a canine farming assistant, a natural herder who rounded up the cows and brought them in from the pasture. Brownie earned his keep until he was too old to work. I assume Dad did what had to be done, and Buttons took his place.

Years later, Casey came into my life. He was a rescue my first husband, R.J., brought home the day after a doctor (erroneously) told me I couldn't have children. Casey was a shepherd-lab mix, and it was love at first sight. He was beautiful, smart and affectionate.

My high school students knew I had a dog because I occasionally talked about him. Eighteen months after we adopted him, Casey disappeared one night when R.J. let him out at bedtime.

We searched everywhere; no dog. I was heartbroken but hopeful he'd come back on his own.

Two weeks later, I was doing crowd-control at a wrestling match. A student approached and said he'd heard a kid bragging that he'd shot Casey in retaliation for the F he got in my English class. He said his body was in a wooded area some distance from our house.

I was stunned. What? No way. Though it was cold and dark when I got home, I had to find out if it was true. We put on warm clothes, grabbed a flashlight and went to look. An hour later, my worst fears were realized. The police said we had no proof, so there was no point in pursuing the matter.

My second dog, Brandy, was another shepherd-lab mix and the most lovable mutt ever. Though I insisted we keep Brandy

leashed, R.J. liked to let him run when he was working outside. We lived on Highway 55 in Kaukauna so you can guess what happened. I was devastated and swore I'd never have another dog.

After we had the kids, R.J. took them one day to visit a farmer who had puppies in the barn. Somehow, Copper came home in my son Jeremy's arms. R.J. built a fence around the yard, yet he too mysteriously disappeared. The kids were overcome with grief, and that was the last straw.

I still love dogs — other people's dogs, like Lily and Promise. They're always welcome to visit, but for their own sake, they won't be moving in. It's brutal, but the truth is my home is the place dogs go to die.

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

GARDENING WITH MELINDA MYERS

Blackhawks big bluestem adds bold color to garden

No matter your garden style, you are likely to find a place for this year's Perennial Plant of the Year: blackhawks big bluestem. You'll enjoy the beauty it adds to your gardens and the low maintenance it requires to thrive.

This cultivar of our native big bluestem provides vertical interest, motion and bold color to the landscape. Its leaves start out dark green and develop reddish-purple tips throughout the growing season. Flowers appear in August and by September the leaves and stems of the plant turn a deep purple hue.

Hardy in zones 3 to 9, it prefers full sun and adapts to a wide range of soil but may flop in fertile, moist conditions. Once established, it is drought tolerant. Make sure it receives needed moisture and proper care for the first two years while developing its robust,



more drought-tolerant root system.

In addition to drought tolerance, blackhawks big bluestem has no major pests or disease problems. Just cut it back to the ground in late winter before new growth begins. Its overall excellent performance made it one of the top-rated ornamental grasses in the Chicago Botanic Garden's Evaluation Study of Hardy Ornamental Grasses.

Big bluestem was the dominant grass of the prairies and largely responsible for the formation of prairie sod. This drought-tolerant grass is a host plant for many skip-pers and provides shelter and food for songbirds. It

grows 5 to 8 feet tall and reseeds readily, making it hard for many home gardeners to include in their landscape.

Blackhawks big bluestem is smaller in size than the big bluestem species, just 5 feet tall and 24 inches wide, making it more suitable for home landscapes. Use it as a screen, backdrop in garden beds or as part of mixed borders. It combines nicely with other perennials, like Zagreb threadleaf coreopsis, calamint, liatris, rudbeckia, sedum, asters and more.

Blackhawks big bluestem, like other Perennial Plants of the Year, was selected for its low maintenance, pest and disease resistance and ability to thrive in a wide range of climates. It joins past winners like little bluestem, butterfly weed, Millenium allium, American Goldrush Rudbeckia and Amsonia hubrichtii. These winners

are selected by Perennial Plant Association members, which include hundreds of horticulture experts like landscapers, designers, professors, plant breeders, growers, retailers and public garden curators.

You can find out more about this nonprofit program and past Perennial Plants of the Year at <https://perennialplantoftheyear.com>.

Look for opportunities to include this year's Perennial Plant of the Year in your gardens. You'll enjoy its beauty and the benefits it provides whether your gardens are informal, naturalistic or cottage-style.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the "Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition" and "Small Space Gardening." She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" streaming courses and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds and Blooms magazine and her website is www.melindamyers.com.



Blackhawks big bluestem is low maintenance and combines nicely with other perennials. MELINDAMYERS.COM

HEART, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

coworker recognized the gravity of the situation. Siolka likely was having a heart attack.

"He turned around and looked at me and said, 'Don't move,'" Siolka said. "I wasn't sure what was going on."

His colleague paged Pierce's emergency team and called 911. Grand Chute paramedics arrived in less than five minutes.

En route to ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Appleton, Siolka's situation took a turn for the worse. The team administered a clot-busting drug that likely saved his life. Such medications help dissolve blood clots and

restore normal blood flow.

Once at the hospital, Siolka's memory ends with the team opening the doors of the ambulance. Shortly thereafter, his heart and/or breathing stopped. It took teams 25 minutes to revive him. He coded two more times.

Doctors discovered a 95% blockage of Siolka's left anterior descending artery, the widow-maker heart attack. The artery might have been 100% blocked had the EMS team not administered the clot buster, Siolka said.

"They said I was literally within five minutes of not making it," he said. "The clot buster broke up

5% of my blockage and that was enough to keep me alive."

Siolka underwent emergency surgery to clear the clot. He then had a stent placed to keep the artery open. Following his procedures, Siolka spent time on life support in the intensive care unit to allow his heart and other organs to heal.

Siolka was released after about 2½ weeks in the hospital.

"Scott's positive outcome underscores the importance of taking decisive action if you suspect something is off with your heart, even if the symptoms are

subtle," said Dr. Richard Santa Cruz, interventional cardiologist with ThedaCare Cardiovascular Care who placed Siolka's stent. "Acting quickly may save lives."

Siolka faced some challenges after his hospital stay. He needed dialysis due to damage his kidneys suffered when his blood supply was interrupted each time he coded. Then, fluid buildup led to a short hospital readmission.

Siolka would eventually improve, rapidly. He started with walking short stints outside. Not too far at first, but he continued to build each day.

"I just kept feeling bet-

ter," he said. "Other than having to go back to the hospital, I had no major setbacks."

Santa Cruz celebrates positive stories like Siolka's.

"It's incredibly gratifying to work with patients like Scott and see them return to living a happy, healthier life," he said. "Scott's experience also highlights the importance of dialing 911 when a person appears to be experiencing a heart attack. Emergency steps are vital in these instances."

As part of his continued recovery, Siolka participated in the ThedaCare Cardiovascular and

Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program. He made quick progress and even graduated a few weeks early. He said the program offered reassurance as he began to resume a more active lifestyle.

"It helped to be on the EKG monitor," he said. "When you're pushing yourself, you know nothing is going to go wrong because they're monitoring you the whole time."

Siolka shared a message for others: Always pay attention to your body.

"Don't take anything for granted," he said. "If you don't feel right, tell somebody."

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Bird festival offers exciting experiences

I recently attended a birding festival in California. My week was filled with adventure, appreciation, laughter and learning. I thought I'd share some of the highlights with you.

The festival was located in Morro Bay, a quaint seashore community with a diverse ecology. The festival offered 260 tours with 138 tour guides. Participants from all over the United States shared in the fun. Keynote speakers with years of experience and inspiring stories topped off the event.

Not long into my first day, we heard a funny cry, "Chi-ca-go, Chi-ca-go", with the "ca" being higher and accentuated. My guide taught us that this is the sound of a California quail. We followed the call and found the quail sitting on a tree stump. He posed beautifully for us. I couldn't believe our luck, and I also couldn't stop clicking the shutter button.

As I looked up from my camera, I found myself eye to eye with an acorn woodpecker resting on a post in front of me. I've seen these comical looking birds before but always welcome another opportunity. When I do, I can't help but think of Woody Woodpecker. While Woody's looks and laughs were inspired by the Pileated Woodpecker,



Lisa Jansen
Columnist

Walter Lantz created the character after an acorn woodpecker that harassed him at his cabin on his honeymoon.

One of the most enlightening things about birding away from home is that birds that are common to me are rare and exciting to someone else, and vice versa. I had people dragging me away from their "common" California scrub-jay so I could see a "rare" downy woodpecker. As I shouted out with excitement at the sight of a Western grebe, everyone else just laughed.

So when my friend Mary and I spotted a flash of black and yellow as it landed on a branch in front of us, we were happy to see a beautiful bird we identified as a Lawrence's goldfinch. Thinking it is probably common like our American goldfinch, we didn't think too much of it, but when we shared our discovery with the tour guide, we were suddenly heroes at finding this uncommon bird.

My favorite tour was a nine-hour excursion in a fishing boat. Nine hours, so



A Lawrence's goldfinch is spotted in the brush at the Morro Bay Bird Festival.
LISA JANSEN

we had time to travel far out to sea to find birds that never come onto land. We saw birds with peculiar names like rhinoceros auklet, pink-footed shearwater and ancient murrelet.

My favorite sighting was an unexpected black-footed albatross. It was so large everyone could easily spot it among a colony of gulls. A loud cheer echoed through the boat as

each person laid their eyes upon it.

One day we strolled through chaparral (scrubland plants composed of broad-leaved evergreen shrubs, bushes and small trees). As I was looking one way, a California thrasher was seen in another direction. I missed it. It is a common bird in the area so I had hoped to see it another time, but my hopes slowly faded as the days passed.

On the last day, as the sun was setting and the light was waning, I heard it: the song of the California thrasher. I looked up and there it was, sitting atop the brush singing its heart out. I heard the song again from behind me, then again to my right, and again to my left. Thrashers were all around me. It felt like a choir of angels regaling me with the sight of the bird and renewing my faith in the marvels of nature.

Through this experience I've become a stronger birder. I learned about new birds, their habitats and behaviors. Because the birds were in their winter plumage, I improved my ability to identify birds by attributes other than color such as wing and tail shape, bill size and flying patterns.

In addition to birds, sightings of breaching

humpback whales, blue sharks and Risso's dolphins at sea, otters in the bay, elephant seals on the beach, and zebras in a cow pasture were exciting highlights.

My experience would not be as successful without the guides. Guides never cease to amaze me with how knowledgeable and devoted they are. They can really up your birding game by not only helping you find and identify birds but also by sharing interesting facts about the birds that help you to appreciate them even more.

Lastly, the dynamic aspect to a memorable festival is the other participants. Birders are fun, smart and encouraging. I was thrilled to see friends from previous festivals and happy to make new friends along the way.

As I reflect upon my experience, I'll forever treasure the birds, animals, scenery and people I encountered. It is one of those events that forever changes you. It is surely a reminder of the beauty of our natural world and how blessed we are to be a part of it.

Lisa Jansen is a Wisconsin master naturalist, nature writer and award-winning photographer. She specializes in raising awareness of birds and butterflies of the Midwest.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

KESHENA: Winter Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., College of Menominee Nation Cultural Learning Center, N172 State Highway 47-55. Presented by CMN Sustainable Development Institute. Local vendors, healthy food, artisan crafts and more.

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

NAVARINO: Light Up the Night Hike, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Enjoy hiking a one-mile loop by torches and lights. Snowshoe or ski the trail if conditions are right; if no snow, then the event turns into a hike. Admission \$5; also collecting donations of nonperishable items for local food pantry.

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

ABRAMS: "Legally Blonde: The Musical," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St. Presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions. Adults \$22; senior citizens, youths 17 and younger, veterans \$19. abramstheater.com.

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

BAGLEY: Fishing Derby on Wescott and Ucil lakes, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Article 15 Bar and Grill, Westcott Lake Drive. Bar and grill opens 6 a.m. \$10 entry fee. Bucket raffles, 50/50, gun raffles. Drawings and bucket raffles announced 5 p.m.

GILLET: Finnegan Lake Fishing Derby, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 6600 Finnegan Lake Road. Fish registration until 3 p.m. at Zip-pel Park, 120 N. McKenzie St. Walk-around gun raffles noon to 3 p.m., impulse raffles 12:30-4 p.m., live auction 2:30 p.m., bucket raffles drawing 4 p.m., main ticket drawing 4:30 p.m.

SHIOCTON: 34th Annual CP Benefit Shoot, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., J&H Game Farm, W5810 J&H Road. \$25/50 fun targets; \$15 goes to CP. Re-entries and children \$15. Collect \$100 in donations for CP and shoot for half-price. Door prizes, raffles, lunch available.

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

MOUNTAIN: Kids Fish-A-Ree, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Doze Inn, 12436 Chute Pond Lane. Free pole, bait and food for ages 3-14.

GRESHAM: Tilleda Thunder on Ice Racing, 1 p.m., Upper Red Lake. \$5 spectator donation, \$25 driver fee. Updates at Tilleda Thunder on Ice Racing Facebook page.

SHAWANO: Run On The Lake Poker Run, 2-5 p.m., Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court. Details at Bamboo Bar Facebook page.

SHAWANO: Mooseyard Bar Olympics, 3-9 p.m., Coachlight Bar, W5814 Lake Drive. Six participating establishments. \$20 per two-person team.

ABRAMS: "Legally Blonde: The Musical," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St. Presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions. Adults \$22; senior citizens,

youths 17 and younger, veterans \$19. abramstheater.com.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

SHAWANO: Fire On Ice Auto Racing, 1 p.m., Shawano Lake on Cecil Bay. For information, visit Fire On Rice Auto Racing Club page on Facebook.

ABRAMS: "Legally Blonde: The Musical," 1 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St. Presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions. Adults \$22; senior citizens, youths 17 and younger, veterans \$19. abramstheater.com.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

PULASKI: Casimir Pulaski Days - Storytime, 10:15-11:15 a.m., Brown County Library, 222 W. Pulaski St.

OCONTO: Small Group Bible Study, 6-8 p.m., The Good Place Bowling Center, 1128 Main St. For information, call 920-516-7390.

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

SHAWANO: Chamber Coffee Connection, 8-9 a.m., Sweet-Life Eatery, 116 N. Main St.

SHAWANO: Sugar Un-wrapped Wellness Class, 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 6-6:45 p.m., Total Fitness Group Fitness Room, 116 N. Main St., Suite A. Understanding the effects of sugar on your health and wellness. \$5 signup; call 715-526-2899.

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

SHAWANO: Adult Open Swim, 4-7 p.m., Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B. \$3 at the door. Lap swim lanes and water walking available. Age 16 and older; no registration needed; entry not permitted after 6:30 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

OCONTO: Thursday Play Group, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Farnsworth Public Library, 715 Main St. Meant for children to play and interact with other children at the library. A caregiver must stay with the child.

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

OCONTO: Faithful Readers Community Bible Study, 2:30 p.m., Farnsworth Public Library, 715 Main St. Multidenominational study of the book of Genesis. For information, call/text Steve at 920-360-0883.

PULASKI: Casimir Pulaski Days - Puzzles and Pints, 4:30-9 p.m., The Barn at Sunset

Acres, 451 N. St. Augustine St. Sign up at casimirpulaskidays.org/thursday to reserve a puzzle. Live music by Bryce Hunter 5 p.m., Los Magueyes Taco Bar available 5-8:30 p.m., puzzle contest begins about 6:15 p.m.

KESHENA: Shawano Country Chamber 100 Years Annual Banquet, 5-10 p.m., Menominee Casino Resort Convention Center, N277 State Highway 47. Social hour 5 p.m., buffet dinner 6 p.m., award presentation 7 p.m., music by Wine on Fridays 8-10 p.m., raffles, live auction.

OCONTO: Oconto County Historical Society Speaker Series, 6:30 p.m., Beyer Home and Carriage Museum, 915 Park Ave. Green Bay author Therese Langer Woelfel will discuss her book "Our Guiding Light: Wisdom from the Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter." Free admission, light refreshments.

ABRAMS: "Legally Blonde: The Musical," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St. Presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions. Adults \$22; senior citizens, youths 17 and younger, veterans \$19. abramstheater.com.

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

STILES: World Day of Prayer, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 5246 St. Patricks Road.

OCONTO: Storytime, 10:30 a.m., Farnsworth Public Library,

715 Main St. Story and crafts for preschool children. A caregiver must stay with the child.

MOUNTAIN: Blast from the Past Vintage Snowmobile Ride, 11 a.m., Skinny Dave's, 12848 State Highway 32-64. Lunch at Crooked Lake, then back to Skinny Dave's.

PULASKI: Casimir Pulaski Days - Wicka's Polka Jam, 2-6 p.m., Wicka's Bar, 137 S. St. Augustine St.

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

PULASKI: Casimir Pulaski Days - Friday Night Polka Delight, 7-11 p.m., Mountain Bay Bar and Grill. Music by the NEW Generation Band.

ABRAMS: "Legally Blonde: The Musical," 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St. Presented by Abrams Spotlight Productions. Adults \$22; senior citizens, youths 17 and younger, veterans \$19. abramstheater.com.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

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

SHAWANO: Shawano Pathways Maple Syrup Snowshoe Hike, 9:30 a.m., Sugar Shack Trails, N7061 Ash Road. Watch for updates on Facebook and shawanopathways.org.

MOUNTAIN: Blast from the Past Vintage Snowmobile Show, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Skinny Dave's, 12848 State Highway 32-64. Registration 9 a.m. to noon. Meat raffles, bucket raffles, drawing at 2 p.m.



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Basketball a family affair for Nordins

Sister, brother, dad suited up for Shawano

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Leah Nordin isn't the only member of her family with a basketball background.

The Shawano Community High School senior has spent the last four years raising eyebrows as one of the state's top players and will head to the University of Wisconsin later this year to suit up for the Badgers' women's team.

Nordin's younger brother, Jackson, is a junior on the Shawano boys team this season and their father, Nick, also played high school basketball in Shawano.

Nick walked on at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, where he played in the late 1990s for future University of Wisconsin men's coach Bo Ryan and current UW coach Greg Gard, one of Ryan's assistants.

"High school basketball was really challenging for me," he said. "I didn't play basketball until sixth grade. I loved working hard. My last coach, Chas (Proschinske), said, 'Good luck, you'll never play for Bo, you'll never make the team.' That empowered me even more. I walked on with Bo Ryan. I was not a starter, I was not a full-time player, but I was on the scout team and enjoyed every second of it."

Ryan ended up coaching the

Pioneers to NCAA Division 3 national championships in 1991, 1995, 1998 and 1999. Nick was with the team for the back-to-back championships.

He has compiled a list of Leah's accomplishments over four seasons.

Heading into this year's state tournament, they include breaking the all-time program scoring record of 2,321 points, breaking the all-time rebounding record of 1,026, scoring her 2,000th point, grabbing her 1,000th rebound and becoming the seventh girl in state history with 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds as a senior; being named to the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Division 2 All-State Team as a sophomore and junior; being named to the Bay Conference All-Conference First Team as a freshman, sophomore and junior; setting a school record with a 36-point game as a freshman; and breaking that record with a 40-point game as a sophomore.

Nick and his wife, Brenda, watched Leah score 29 points and pull down 14 rebounds Feb. 19 in her final regular-season game, a Bay Conference matchup with Xavier in Appleton.

"One of the biggest things we attribute to her success is Brenda got her started early in tae kwon do," Nick said.

"We do a lot of hand and footwork coordination, a lot of self-defense, a lot of punches," Brenda said. "I'd drag her by the hair across the floor. She can take a punch and get right back up. It is so wonderful watching her grow and take chances. She's rolled her ankle a few times that made us nervous, but nothing

major. I attribute that to tae kwon do with a lot of footwork and diving on the floor."

"She has been able to take instruction and create on her own," Nick said. "She is so driven. She's always wanting to go to the high school and shoot. She actually wears us out now. Her mentality and work ethic is second to none."

"She has Nick's height and my grit," Brenda said. "I do a lot of studying on the mental aspects of women in sports. I funnel that right to Leah, and it's great that she's utilizing it."

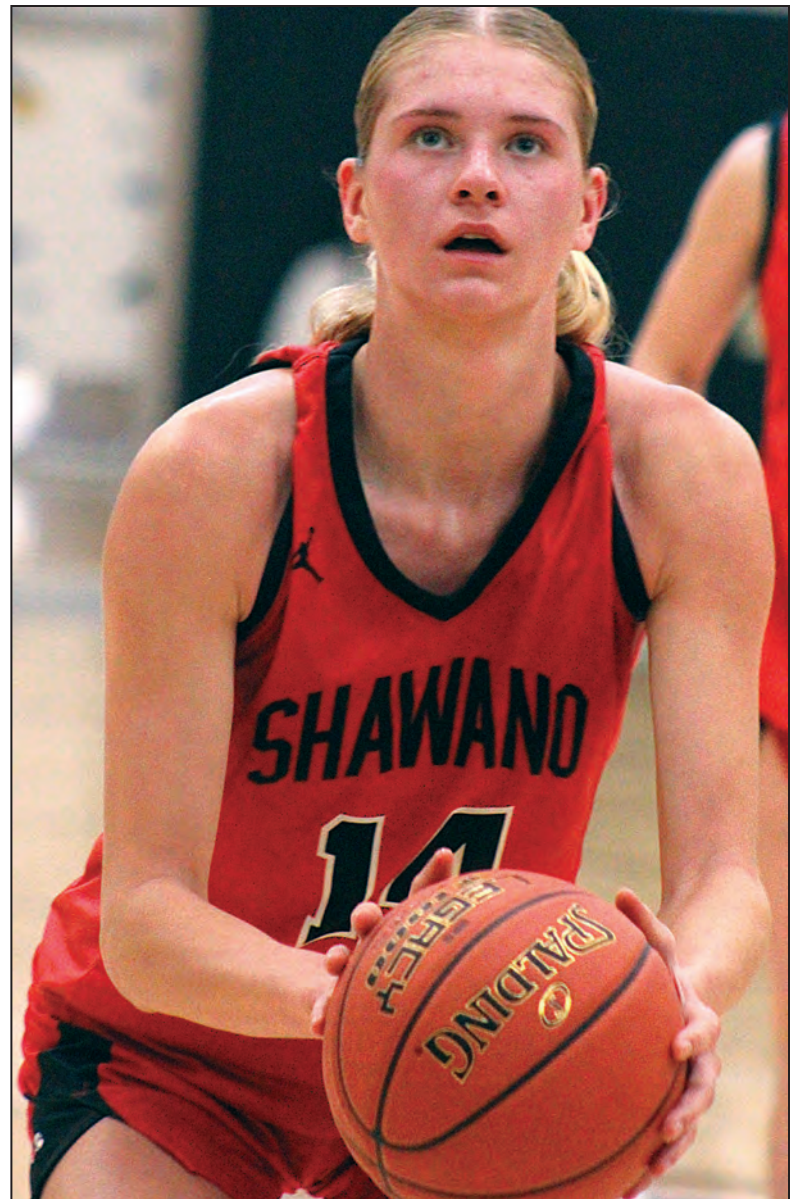
Shawano is a No. 1 seed in a WIAA Division 2 sectional that also includes Marinette, Rhineland, New London, Waupaca, Pulaski, Marshfield, Lakeland, Wausau East, Merrill and Antigo.

After a first-round bye Feb. 24, the Hawks' tournament run will begin at 7 p.m. Feb. 27 with a home game against Lakeland or Wausau East.

If Shawano advances to a sectional final, it could set up a rematch with Rice Lake, a team that includes Nordin's future teammate, Wisconsin recruit Adaline Sheplee. Sheplee was a junior on a Rice Lake team that eliminated the Hawks from last year's tournament with a 54-46 loss in a sectional final in Mosinee and went on to finish second at state.

"They're projected to be right there with us," Nick said. "There's already a little chatter going on about those two (Nordin and Sheplee) meeting together."

The Hawks have only been to state once, losing to Monroe in the Class A semifinals in 1989. This year's state championships



Leah Nordin gets ready to shoot a free throw during Shawano's 71-55 loss to Xavier.

GREG SEUBERT

are set for March 12-14 at the Resch Center in Green Bay.

"It would definitely be something to remember," Leah said of the opportunity to wrap up her high school career at state. "A couple of us have already been to that stage, so we kind of already know what to expect. We were there for volleyball and I'll never forget it. It was a completely different atmosphere and it's something you can really enjoy."

A trip to the Resch Center

would be a great way to end his daughter's high school career, Nick said.

"Even if it's a letdown, there's a major next step in Madison," he said. "What's beautiful is they play on Wednesdays and Sundays. We'll be able to make some of those games, especially the Sunday games. We're going to have to get a bigger vehicle, because the grandmas, grandpas, aunts and uncles are all going to want to come, too."

Beaman shoots his way into OF record book

Senior breaks 38-year-old scoring mark

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Thirteen players are listed on the Oconto Falls boys basketball roster, but this night belonged to Jameson Beaman.

Not only did the senior score a game-high 27 points Feb. 12 to help lead the Panthers to a 93-32 win over Coleman on their home court, he also became the Oconto Falls basketball program's all-time leading scorer, breaking a record that had stood for more than three decades.

It was the second major milestone for Beaman this season: He scored his 1,000th point in December during a win over Green Bay Southwest.



Jameson Beaman plays defense for Oconto Falls on Feb. 12 during the first half of the Panthers' nonconference game with Coleman. Beaman became the basketball program's all-time leading scorer in the first half.

GREG SEUBERT

"We knew he was going to get them; it was just a matter of when," said coach Ross Kraszewski. "I was a little worried when he went down (early in the Coleman game) with a bum ankle, but it was good for him to get it at home."

He broke 1,000 (points) at home, and that was really cool. I appreciate Coleman and the referees letting us take the long timeout to celebrate as a team and celebrate his accomplishments."

Beaman broke Russ

Scott's previous record of 1,209 points set in 1988. He came into the Coleman game needing eight points and picked up three of them with 10:25 remaining in the first half after knocking down one of his seven 3-pointers in the game that gave the Panthers a 22-8 lead.

"It was a good feeling," he said of the record-breaking basket. "As soon as I stepped back, I had the space, and it was perfect. I said my freshman year that that's what I wanted to do. Being finally able to do that, it means a lot to me."

Beaman said he wanted to break the record on his team's home court.

"We knew it was going to be a big game," he said. "I'm very glad and very fortunate that I could do it at home."

The win over Coleman came less than the week after the Panthers dropped a 100-53 game to Freedom.

"That Freedom game was not how we play,"

Beaman said. "Tonight, we were on full display."

Beaman's 22 first-half points – including six 3-pointers – helped the Panthers take a 54-13 lead into the locker room at halftime, but he said he's had halves like that before.

"Just another day," he said. "This game tonight was really a builder for the games we have next week."

The Panthers closed out the regular season with North Eastern Conference games at home against Luxemburg-Casco Feb. 20 and Clintonville Feb. 26 and a nonconference game Feb. 23 at Green Bay West.

The win over Coleman gave the Panthers a 14-6 overall record.

"We were a little rough at the start, but we found our way," Beaman said. "We had a lot of new up-and-coming guys from the sophomore class. We're just trying to mesh it together, and I feel like we really did tonight."

Beaman's basketball career will end with his final high school game, as he has no plans to take his game to the college level.

"I'm actually going to be a pilot," he said. "It's sad, but it's the next step. I would say it's given me hope and identity. It's given me something to do in my free time, and it's one of the most important things to me in my life."

"There is nobody in this gym that has shot more times than him in the off-season," Kraszewski said. "He's absolutely earned every point he has scored over his career. I'm proud of him. We have a ways to go yet, and hopefully, he can push that record a little higher."

The record might not last very long, as junior JJ Pytleski still has his senior season ahead of him.

"He'll probably get close or beat it," Beaman said. "He's my teammate, so I have to wish the best for him."

Bonduel boys add to win total in Pulaski

Bears never trailed during 18th victory

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

A short road trip led to another win for the Bonduel boys basketball team. The Bears headed down state Highway 29 on Feb. 17 and returned home with a 56-39 win over Pulaski.

Although the win didn't count in the Central Wisconsin Conference-East standings, it will help the Bears' cause when it comes to seeding for the upcoming WIAA state tournament, according to coach Duke Copp.

"We needed this one big, because Iola-Scandinavia and St. Mary (Catholic) are right behind us in the seeding, and we have a couple more tough games yet this week," he said. "We had to get this one."

Bonduel never trailed in the game and improved to 18-3 on the season, while Pulaski fell to 9-12. After both teams exchanged baskets to open the contest, the Bears went on a 14-0 run that included three 3-pointers from Quinn Wesenberg and another from Carter Moesch.

Although the Red Raiders cut the deficit to five points with an 11-2 run and trailed 22-17 at halftime, they never got any closer.

Pulaski held Ryan Westrich to four points in the first half, but he scored 13 of his game-high 17 points over the final 18 minutes, including seven in a row at one point that turned a 10-point lead into a 15-point advantage.



Pulaski's Benjamin Shaw guards Bonduel's Quinn Wesenberg.

GREG SEUBERT



Jax Urben brings the ball up the court for Pulaski in the Red Raiders' nonconference matchup with Bonduel on Feb. 17.

GREG SEUBERT

Wesenberg and Moesch also finished in double figures for Bonduel with 16

and 15 points, respectively. Copp said the Bears made adjustments at



Bohdan Schmidt scored seven points for Pulaski in a 56-39 loss to Bonduel.

GREG SEUBERT

halftime that helped keep Pulaski from taking the lead.

"We talked about being patient," he said. "They were overly patient, and we knew that was going to happen. We had some really good offensive possessions and got some layups out of it, so that was huge. I didn't really sub tonight. I told the five guys that we're going to win with those guys. They made big play after big play. It seemed like someone stepped up

and made a big play every time we needed one."

Bonduel also didn't allow a Pulaski player to reach double figures, as Benjamin Shaw and Bohdan Schmidt led the Red Raiders with eight and seven points, respectively.

"We seldom play it, but we used a 3-2 zone (defense) tonight," Copp said. "I thought that was the best defense for us to play against them tonight, and it worked out really well."

He said there are good and not-so-good points to adding bigger programs like Pulaski to the nonconference schedule, especially late in the season.

"It's scary, because you want to win games, but I think it's battle-testing our kids," he said. "It's tough, because we have three games this week. All these kids playing had a big run last year. They've been in bigger games than this last year. I told them if we can beat a team like Pulaski in their gym like this, we can go beat anybody."

Storm moves on to sectional

Seasons end for Hawks, Red Robins

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Thursday, Feb. 19
Lakeland 3, Shawano/
Bonduel 2 (2OT)

Shawano/Bonduel's boys hockey team saw their season end with a heartbreaking double overtime loss to Lakeland.

With time running out in regulation, Quinten Harkey scored at 16:14 with help from Blake Swedberg to bring the fifth-seeded Hawks into a 2-2 tie and forcing overtime in the WIAA regional finals.

Neither team scored in the first overtime period, but fourth-seeded Lakeland scored at 3:17 in the second OT to collect the win and advance in the playoffs.

The Thunderbirds opened the game with tow goals in the first period. The Hawks' first goal came at 15:21 in the second period on a score from Jeremy Helmuth and an assist from Teagan Harkey.

Shawano/Bonduel goalie Tyson Lyons collected 28 saves, while Lakeland goalie Cam Bernard had 58 saves.

The Hawks were penalized five times for 10 minutes, and the Thunderbirds were penalized three times for six minutes.

Pacelli 2, Antigo 1
The Red Robins ended their season with a 2-1 WIAA regional final loss, coming up short against the Stevens Point Pacelli Cardinals.

Sixth-seeded Pacelli upset No. 3 seed Antigo to advance to the sectional round.

Bay Area 2, Notre Dame 1

The Bay Area Storm are regional champions after defeating Notre Dame 2-1.

The two teams combined for 71 shots on goal with three finding the back of the net.

The Tritons took a 1-0 lead in the first period.

Grant Forgette tied the game at 7:52 in the second period with assists from Cash Ebeling and Jack Stender. Aiden Buchan scored the winning goal at 6:43 in the third period, with Conner Viau and Owen Selissen assisting.

Bay Area was called for five penalties for 10 minutes, while Notre Dame had three infractions for six minutes.

HOCKEY, CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

Tigerotn boys baksetball team rolls over Marion

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Friday, Feb. 20
Bonduel 71, The Prairie School 40

Ryan Westrich led the Bonduel boys basketball team with 22 points in a 71-40 win over The Prairie School.

Quinn Wesenberg and Carter Moesch each scored 16 points for the Bears, which improved to 20-3 overall.

Jack Zernicke pulled down seven rebounds, while Moesch had six and Westrich had five. Westrich also recorded the team's only block.

Wesenberg led Bonduel with five assists, followed by Moesch and Griffin Uelmen with four apiece.

Tigerton 93, Marion 19

Tigerton had no trouble rolling over Marion 93-19, holding the Mustangs to only six points in the second half.

James Brady led Tigerton with 25 points, fol-

lowed by Sam Anheuser with 17 and Caleb Dahlstrom with 12.

Tigerton is 23-0 overall. **Oconto Falls 86, Luxemburg-Casco 61**

The Panthers held a slim 33-30 lead at the half but opened up the game with a big second half to beat Luxemburg-Casco 86-61.

Jameson Beaman scored nearly half of Oconto Falls' points with 42.. JJ Pytleski scored 17, and Collin Radtke had 11.

Pytleski led the Panthers with eight rebounds, two blocks and four steals. Beaman had six rebounds and one steal, while Carson McDermid added five rebounds.

Pytleski also led the team with six assists. Brady Bursa chipped in five, and McDermid had four.

Shawano 67, Green Bay West 43

The Hawks improved to 3-12 in the Bay Conference with a 67-43 win over

Green Bay West. Shawano's 37-16 second half performance sealed the victory.

Shawano was paced by Jackson Nordin's 28 points, with Grayson Swedberg and Anderson Schmidt each scoring nine.

Nordin also had nine rebounds and one steal. Schmidt recorded seven rebounds and two steals, while Joseph Kleinschmidt had four rebounds.

Will Verkuilen contributed six assists, with Schmidt getting three and Tristan Lane with two.

Other scores: Gresham 70, White Lake 64; Weyauwega-Fremont 54, Menominee Nation 53; Pulaski 66, Green Bay Southwest 42; Iola-Scandinavia 73, Wittenberg-Birnamwood 39.

**Thursday, Feb. 19
Bonduel 74, Amherst 65**

Bonduel clinched their third straight CWC-East conference championship with a 74-65 win over

Amherst.

Carter Moesch led Bonduel with 23 points, with Ryan Westrich scoring 20 and Quinn Wesenberg adding 18.

Sheboygan North 61, Pulaski 53

The Red Raiders trailed by two points at the half, but a scoring drought after the break left them 17 points down at one point. Even though Pulaski stayed tough down the stretch, Sheboygan North went home with a 61-53 Fox River Classic Conference win.

Pulaski dropped to 5-10 in the FRCC and 9-13 overall.

Other scores: Bowler 97, Wausaukee 57; Coleman 47, Gillett 22; Oneida Nation 81, Lena 57; St. Thomas Aquinas Academy 79, Suring 60.

**Tuesday, Feb. 17
Tigerton 77, Suring 55**

Tigerton improved to 22-0 overall with a 77-55 win over Suring in non-conference action.

James Brady led Tigerton with 28 points, followed by Sam Anheuser with 20, and Izaiah Lederhaus and Tanner Dent with 10 apiece.

Brady had a double-double as he pulled down 17 rebounds. Anheuser led the team with five assists, and Lederhaus had seven steals.

Other scores: Little Chute 77, Oconto Falls 66; New London 92, Shawano 54.

**Monday, Feb. 16
Wittenberg-Birnamwood 47, Menominee Nation 41**

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's boys improved to 9-2 in the CWC-East Conference and 17-5 overall with a 47-41 win over Menominee Nation.

The Eagles are 5-7 in the conference and 12-10 overall.

Other scores: Three Lakes 80, Bowler 46; White Lake 68, Gillett 45; Gresham 65, Wild Rose 50; Crivitz 67, Suring 40.



Jadyn Brown looks for an open Shawano teammate under Xavier's basket.

GREG SEUBERT

Witt-Birn girls close regular season with perfect mark

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Friday, Feb. 20
Wittenberg-Birnamwood 69, Stratford 31

Wittenberg-Birnamwood's girls basketball team closed out the regular season with a 69-31 win over Stratford.

The Chargers are CWC-East conference champion at 14-0 and 24-0 overall.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood led from start to finish, including a 37-15 lead at halftime.

"This was great game for our seniors," coach Nick Mechelke said. "Brie (Ladika), Melaina (Granquist) and Rory (Salvesen) have given the Charger program everything. They have been great role models for our community. Tonight was a great team effort and a great win to build on a playoff run."

Salvesen led the Chargers with 28 points, followed by Granquist with 12 and Harper Rogowski with 10.

Zoey Thorson and Granquist each had seven rebounds, and Ava Brei added two. Thorson, Granquist and Brei each had two steals.

Rogowski and Granquist each dished out five assists, and Ladika contributed four.

Lena 69, Wausaukee 30

Lena ended the regular season with a 69-30 win over Wausaukee. The victory put the Wildcats at 14-2 for second place in the Marinette & Oconto Conference, while holding at 21-3 overall.

Ella Thomson led the Wildcats with 29 points, followed by Alisa Finger with 14 and Abby Kostreva with 13.

Finger posted 13 rebounds, two blocks and a steal. Ella Thomson recorded 11 rebounds, a block and three steals, while Kostreva had seven rebounds and six steals.

Kostreva led Lena with five assists, followed by Carla Cabellero-Morante with four and Kaelyn Cook with three.

Thursday, Feb. 19
Oconto Falls 48, Luxemburg-Casco 41

Luxemburg-Casco held a double-digit lead in the first half but went silent on the scoreboard for nearly the rest of the game, as Oconto Falls' girls basketball team steadily worked its way back into the contest and eventually a 48-41 lead.

By late in the second half, the Panthers held their own double-digit lead, but the Spartans battled back to a 41-41 tie. Oconto Falls connected on the last several baskets of the game to earn the seven-point North Eastern Conference win.

The Panthers are 7-9 in conference action, while the Spartans are 10-6. Oconto Falls is 10-14 overall.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 80, Iola-Scandinavia 42

Wittenberg-Birnamwood opened up a huge 51-17 lead by halftime, and it only got better from there as the Chargers defeat-



Shawano's Leah Nordin grabbed her 1,000th career rebound Feb. 16 during a nonconference game in Mosinee. COURTESY OF NICK NORDIN

Battle of the Hawks goes to Xavier again

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Bay Conference opponents have been a thorn in the side of the Shawano girls basketball team all season long.

That thorn showed up again Feb. 19, as the Hawks ended up on the short end of a 71-55 score to Xavier, which wrapped up the regular season with a win on its home court in Appleton.

It was the second time this season the Xavier Hawks topped the Shawano Hawks, with Xavier posting a 57-51 win Jan. 9 in Shawano.

It was also the first game for Xavier since it wrapped up the Bay championship with a 13-1

record. Shawano finished the regular season with a 7-7 mark and placed fourth in the conference standings behind Xavier, Winneconne and Fox Valley Lutheran.

Shawano never had the lead in the game despite 29 points, 14 rebounds and an assist from Leah Nordin in her final regular-season game.

"Tonight, we just didn't execute the little things, our passing, our ball handling," she said. "We've got to get better at that."

Xavier used a 12-6 run at the end of the first half to take a 26-25 lead at the break. A 12-1 run early in the second half gave the home team a 51-34 lead with just under 13 minutes remaining. Shawano never

got any closer than 14 points the rest of the way and trailed by as many as 23.

Creden Weisnicht added 12 points for Shawano, while Hailey Hafner led Xavier with 20.

Both teams have a bye in the first round of the WIAA state tournament. Shawano, a No. 1 seed in Division 2, and Xavier, also a top seed in Division 2, will open tournament play with a regional semifinal at home Feb. 27.

Shawano will host Wausau East or Lakeland, while Xavier, which moved up a division after falling to Oostburg in the Division 3 state championship game last year, will host Green Bay East or Ashwaubenon.

ed Iola-Scandinavia 80-42 in a CWC-East game.

"We had a nice first half," coach Nick Mechelke said. "We were able to create a lot turnovers that led to our scoring."

The Chargers, as CWC-East champions, are 14-0 in the conference and 23-0 overall.

Other scores: Bonduel 62, Amherst 25; Marion/Tigerton 42, Oneida Nation 41; Weyauwega-Fremont 50, Menominee Nation 47.

Tuesday, Feb. 17
Little Chute 61, Oconto Falls 49

The Mustangs led from the start, held a 26-19 lead at the half and went on to defeat Oconto Falls 61-49 in a North Eastern Conference game.

The Panthers dropped to 6-9 in the NEC and 9-14 overall.

Other scores: Elcho 48, Gresham 43; Bonduel 47, Wabeno/Laona 32; Coleman 48, Suring 38; Crivitz 52, Lena 48; Mosinee 58, Menominee Nation 38; Gillett 54, Oneida Nation 26; Marion/Tigerton 56, Hilbert 53.

Monday, Feb. 16
Mosinee 53, Shawano 43

The Hawks lost 53-43 in a physical nonconference matchup at Mosinee.

During the game, Leah Nordin eclipsed the 1,000 career rebound mark and led Shawano with 20 points.

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16 wrestlers punch ticket to Madison

By **GREG SEUBERT**
Correspondent

Area high schools are sending a big contingent of boys and girls to the WIAA Individual State Wrestling Tournament in Madison, as 16 wrestlers from six programs are making the trip to the Kohl Center to compete for a state title.

The tournament will get underway Feb. 26 and wrap up with championship matches Feb. 28.

Those 16 area wrestlers include Lena's Taylor Whiting, who is looking for her fourth state championship after winning the 107-pound championship in 2023 while wrestling as a freshman for Oconto Falls. She followed that up with titles at 107 as a sophomore and 114 last year as a junior while wrestling for Lena.

If she wins the 114-pound championship at this year's meet, she will be the first girl to win four straight state championships.

Another girl - Wittenberg-Birnamwood junior

Brooke Huffman - is searching for her third straight 185-pound state championship after winning that weight class as a freshman and sophomore.

Whiting and Huffman won their respective weight classes Feb. 20 at a girls sectional meet at D.C. Everest High School in Weston. Two Bonduel wrestlers - Alisha Berg and Kaitlyn Kroening - also qualified for state after placing first at 165 and second at 100, respectively.

Twelve boys from Shawano, Wittenberg-Birnamwood, Oconto Falls, Pulaski and Lena also qualified for state Feb. 14 after placing first or second at their respective sectional.

Area state qualifiers and their first-round opponents on Feb. 26 are:

Boys Division 1

Pulaski: Jack Falk (36-4) is a No. 2 seed at 113 pounds and has a bye in the preliminary round. Wes Olson (33-12) is seeded 11th at 215 and will face No. 6 Bryce Shepard

The sixth-seeded Storm was fierce as Bay Area shut out 11th-seeded Appleton United 12-0 in the opening round of WIAA boys hockey regional play.

Storm players are from several area schools, including Bay Port, Ashwaubenon, Pulaski, Seymour and Wrightstown. They improved to 10-12-1 with the playoff win.



Bonduel's Kaitlyn Kroening works on Oconto Falls London Le Sage on Feb. 20 during the first period of a 100-pound match at a sectional at D.C. Everest. Kroening pinned Le Sage and is one of 16 wrestlers headed to the WIAA Individual State Wrestling Tournament.

GREG SEUBERT

(30-5), Menomonie.

Division 2

Shawano: Ninth-seeded Dane Hodkiewicz (35-

12) will meet No. 8 Damien Thomas (39-6), Whitnall, at 126. Marcus Brezgel (32-15) is seeded 14th and

will face third-seeded Adam Haas (19-2), Shoreland Lutheran, at 165. No. 5 Drew Chelberg (37-5) will wrestle No. 12 Noah Klug (36-8), Merrill, at 190.

Oconto Falls: Sixth-seeded Isaiah Holtz (36-13) will face 11th-seeded Ayden Daul (33-9), Hilbert, at 120.

Division 3

Wittenberg-Birnamwood: No. 10 Dalton Fletcher (43-10) will face No. 7 Preston Arvey (41-9), Glenwood City, at 132. Devin Wudtke (34-9), seeded 11th at 138, will face No. 6 Carsen Voskuil (47-2), Cedar Grove-Belgium. No. 14 Bo Davis (33-17) will wrestle third-seeded Aaron Knetter (40-5), Stratford, at 144. No. 4 Benjamin Miller (45-6) will wrestle another Central Wisconsin Conference wrestler, No. 13 Jackson

Young (32-15), Shiocton, at 150.

Lena: Eleventh-seeded Collin Vanark (34-2) will wrestle No. 4 Asher Turner (39-5), Spring Valley/Elmwood, at 165. No. 4 Max Peterson (48-3) will face No. 13 Axel Dock (35-10), Oostburg, at 175.

Girls

Lena: No. 1 Taylor Whiting (12-0) will face No. 16 Tatum James (29-18), at 114.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood: No. 1 Brooke Huffman (50-0) will wrestle No. 16 Lily Hatfield (25-19), Sauk Prairie/Wisconsin Heights, at 185.

Bonduel: No. 8 Kaitlyn Kroening (49-7) will wrestle No. 16 Kailee Spilde (30-5), Richland Center, at 100; No. 3 Alisha Berg (50-4) will face No. 13 Bella Ortiz (31-12), New Berlin West/Eisenhower, at 165.

HOCKEY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Bay Area's Justin Pintar had 43 saves, and Notre Dame's Ty Schmitz had 25.

Bay Area was scheduled to play Feb. 24 in the sectional semifinals against No. 2 seed De Pere, with the sectional finals set for Feb. 27.

Tuesday, Feb. 17
Bay Area 12, Appleton United 0



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PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Feb. 22 Deputies responded to 34 incidents, including property damage at the county jail, 405 N. Main St., Shawano; operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated near state Highway 29 and U.S. Highway 45 in Wittenberg; criminal damage on Primrose Lane in Tigerton; a scam on Tomahawk Lane in the Town of Washington; one 911 call; one reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; four wel-

fare checks; two crashes. **Feb. 21** Deputies responded to 39 incidents, including operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated near Loon Lake Drive and Cozy Oaks Circle in the Town of Wescott; suspicious activity on North Smalley Street in the Town of Wescott; harassment at the county jail, 405 N. Main St., Shawano; a disturbance and later a missing person on Maplewood Road in the Town of Birnamwood; operating after revocation on state Highway 29 in the Town of Waukechon; threatening on Killdeer Road

in the Town of Wittenberg; trespassing on Airport Road in the Town of Seneca; disorderly conduct at the North Star Casino Resort, W12180 County Road A, Bowler; three 911 calls; four reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; two crashes. **Feb. 20** Deputies responded to 51 incidents, including suspicious activity on Hofa Park Road in the Town of Lessor; suspicious activity on West Mill Street in Bonduel; theft on Marble Avenue in Mattoon; property damage on Rose Brook Road in the Town of Belle Plaine;

bail jumping on Hidden Pines Lane in the Town of Washington; a disturbance on Airport Road in the Town of Seneca; operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated near Golfview and Meadowview roads in Cecil; three 911 calls; five reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks; 13 crashes. **Feb. 19** Deputies responded to 25 incidents, including property damage on County Road Y in the Town of Belle Plaine; two 911 calls; three reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; three welfare checks. **Feb. 18** Deputies responded to 28 incidents, including harassment on East Pioneer Avenue in Wittenberg; operating after revocation near state Highway 29 and Robin Road in the Town of Wittenberg; suspicious activity on North Pathfinder Circle in the Town of Wescott; fraud on Lake Drive in the Town of Hutchins; a disturbance on East Green Bay Street in Bonduel; two 911 calls; three traffic hazards; one welfare check; two crashes. **Feb. 17** Deputies responded to 39 incidents, including suspicious activity on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; threatening on Rosenow Lane in the Town of Morris; suspicious activity on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; assault at the county jail, 405 N. Main St., Shawano; suspicious activity on Oak Drive in the Town of Wescott; operating after revocation near East Lieg Avenue

and South Lincoln Street in Shawano; two 911 calls; four reckless driving incidents; one crash. **Feb. 16** Deputies responded to 28 incidents, including an animal bite on West Grant Street in Bonduel; trespassing on County Road Z in the Town of Aniwa; theft on Porter Road in the Town of Waukechon; two 911 calls; two reckless driving incidents; one welfare checks. **SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT** **Feb. 22** Officers responded to 11 incidents, including suspicious activity on South Sawyer Street; suspicious activity at Amerivu Inn Suites, 211 Waukechon St.; harassment on South Sawyer Street; one 911 call; one welfare check. **Feb. 21** Officers responded to 16 incidents, including vandalism in the Walmart parking lot, 1244 E. Green Bay St.; vandalism at Charlie's County Market, 521 S. Main St.; three welfare checks; two crashes. **Feb. 20** Officers responded to 20 incidents, including three reports of truancy at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; automobile theft on East Richmond Street; a disturbance at an undisclosed location; one 911 call. **Feb. 19** Officers responded to 19 incidents, including trespassing on East Lieg Avenue; theft on East Center Street; vandalism outside Walmart, 1244 E. Green Bay St.; suspicious

activity on South Washington Street; an intoxicated person at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; two 911 calls; two welfare checks. **Feb. 18** Officers responded to 25 incidents, including suspicious activity on East Center Street; suspicious activity on Prospect Circle; a fight in progress at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; a drug offense at Shawano Middle School, 1050 S. Union St.; a disturbance on South Andrews Street; theft on Engel Drive; a disturbance on East Lieg Avenue; one 911 call; one reckless driving incident; four welfare checks; one crash. **Feb. 17** Officers responded to 22 incidents, including two reports of disorderly conduct at Amerivu Inn Suites, 211 Waukechon St.; a drug offense at Shawano Community High School, 220 County Road B; truancy at Shawano Middle School, 1050 S. Union St.; suspicious activity near All Aboard Nutrition, 620 S. Main St.; one 911 call; three welfare checks. **Feb. 16** Officers responded to 30 incidents, including trespassing at Amerivu Inn Suites, 211 Waukechon St.; trespassing at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; a disturbance on River Heights; operating after revocation on North Main Street; a disturbance on East Richmond Street; theft on Porter Road in the Town of Waukechon; three 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; two welfare checks; three crashes.

COURT NEWS

• Skylar Leemichael Allman, 18, Marinette, pleaded no contest Feb. 16 to substantial battery intending bodily harm. Judge Katherine Sloma withheld sentencing and placed him on three years of probation with conditions. • Joel L. Lehouillier, 42, Wittenberg, pleaded no contest Dec. 23 to possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony, possession of THC (second or subsequent offense), a sex registry violation, seven counts of felony bail jumping, and misdemeanor charges of battery and possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge William Kussel Jr. sentenced him Feb. 19 to two years in prison followed by five years of extended supervision with conditions. • Brett A. Miller, 46, Bowler, pleaded no contest to misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct and two counts of battery. A related felony count was dismissed but read into the record in a plea agreement. Kussel withheld sentencing and placed him on one year of probation with conditions. • Tawuan David S. King, 19, Green Bay, pleaded no contest to theft of property valued be-

tween \$10,000 and \$100,000 and felony bail jumping. Kussel withheld sentencing and placed him on four years of probation with conditions including 180 days in the county jail. • Amy M. Lemke, 42, Gresham, was charged Feb. 16 with two counts of felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of operating a motor vehicle while her license was revoked. Kussel set a \$200 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for May 19. • Drew J. Madosh, 34, Keshena, was charged Feb. 17 with possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor counts of possession of THC and carrying a concealed knife. Kussel set a \$1,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 19. • Joseph D. Valentino, 22, Grafton, was charged Feb. 18 with second-degree sexual assault of a child. Kussel set a \$30,000 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for March 24. • Alexis B. Clift, 34, Shawano, was charged Feb. 18 with possession of methamphetamine, possession of THC (second or subsequent offense), child neglect, eight counts of

misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Kussel set a \$1,000 cash bond plus a \$2,500 signature bond and scheduled a status conference for April 1. • Andres A. Aleman, 21, Gresham, was charged Feb. 19 with felony bail jumping, misdemeanor bail jumping, and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a \$750 cash bond. In a separate file, Aleman was charged with two more counts of felony bail jumping, three more counts of misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Kussel set a \$3,500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing in both cases for Feb. 24. • Macheonquet Peters, 20, Gresham, was charged Feb. 19 with four counts of felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of possession of THC. Kussel set a \$3,500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 23. • Brett J. White, 59, Clintonville, was charged Feb. 20 with two counts of felony bail jumping. Kussel set a \$2,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 26.

OBITUARIES

Jacqueline 'Jacque' Fedders

Jacqueline "Jacque" Fedders, recently of Port Washington, passed away on the morning of Sunday, Feb. 1, 2026. She was born Nov. 25, 1936, to Edward and Myrtle Von Gonten, of Racine. Jacque was many things, including a fantastic gardener, hostess and card player. On June 23, 1956, she was married to her first and only sweetheart, Harlan Fedders. Jacque and Harlan built a wonderful life together, raising their three daughters in Racine and later relocating full-time to their home on Legend Lake. Jacque worked for the Racine Unified School District for decades and took great pride in her administrative work supporting students and their families. It is no doubt that if you were a child in one of her elementary schools, your life was made better by the presence of Mrs. Fedders. When Harlan experienced an early medical retirement, the couple started a new chapter on Legend Lake. They golfed,



coordinated tie-ups and made countless friends. Jacque was deeply rooted in the community. She was a commissioner for LLPRD, served as treasurer of the social committee, worked to establish the garden club and brought endless energy to her local Red Hat Society Chapter. In 2024, Jacque moved to Port Washington to be closer to family. Family and friends were Jacque's favorite things in life. She was funny and loving and charming, and she will be deeply missed. In lieu of gifts, the fam-

ily asks that you donate to a local food pantry, plant beautiful flowers and play cards with your friends in her honor. Jacque is survived by her children, Deborah (Gregg) Mandli, of Raymond, Kristin (Ken) Poulson, of Port Washington, and Lori (Tom) Wiley of Lovington, Illinois; her grandchildren, Zachary Mandli, Brett Mandli, Kerri (Rae Kyritsi) Poulson, Kelsey (Tim) Poulson-Ellestad, Heidi (Jim) Jarvis, Cale Wiley, Cameron (Mindy) Wiley, Kyle (Andrea) Wiley, Cliff (J'nai) Wiley and Clayton Wiley; 18 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and her sister, Joanne Monty. She is further survived by numerous family and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and her sister, Shirley Foster. The family plans to gather this summer to celebrate Jacque's life. For additional information, please email jacquecelebration@gmail.com.



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WITTENBERG

LEGAL NOTICES

2/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

THANK YOU, SAINT JUDE, FOR PAYERS ANSWERED
WNAXLP
SHA-134

2/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

ORDINANCE NO.: 2026-02
SPONSORED BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
INTRODUCED BY: MATT PLESHEK
SECONDED BY: BRENDA STASZAK

THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF BONDUÉL, SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN that the Municipal Code of Bonduel, Wisconsin, Chapter 115 Zoning Code, Sec. 115-24 Signs, is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 115-24. Signs.
(a) Definitions. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.
This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication and/or posting as provided by law.

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

ADOPTED: February 11, 2026
PUBLISHED: February 27, 2026

VILLAGE OF BONDUÉL, WISCONSIN
Russ Gehm, Village President

ATTEST:
Michelle Maroszek, Clerk/Treasurer
WNAXLP
SHA-131

2/27/26, 3/6/26, 3/13/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
MENOMINEE COUNTY

Connexus Credit Union
PO Box 8026
Wausau, WI 54402
Plaintiff,
vs.
Ryan R. Fish
N3475 Cottage Ave
Neopit, WI 54150
Defendant.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS
Case No. 25-CV-18
The Honorable
Kristine A. Snow
Case Code 30303
(Other Contracts)
The amount claimed exceeds
\$10,000.00

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a defendant:
You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you.
Within 40 days after October 20, 2025, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is Menominee County Courthouse, W3269 Courthouse Ln, PO Box 279, Keshena, WI, 54315 and to Gray & Associates, L.L.P., plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 16345 West Glendale Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151. You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not demand a copy of the complaint within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this ____ day of February 2026

Gray & Associates, L.L.P.
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Ian J. Thomson
State Bar No. 1076280
16345 West Glendale Drive
New Berlin, WI 53151-2841
(414) 224-1987

Gray & Associates, L.L.P. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt.

WNAXLP
SHA-132

2/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

ORDINANCE NO.: 2026-01
SPONSORED BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

INTRODUCED BY: MICHELLE STREETMAN
SECONDED BY: MATT PLESHEK

THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF BONDUÉL, SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN, DO ORDAIN that the Municipal Code of Bonduel, Wisconsin, Chapter 115 Zoning Code, Sec. 115-1 Definitions, is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 115-1. Definitions.
For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall be used.
This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication and/or posting as provided by law.

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

ADOPTED: February 11, 2026
PUBLISHED: February 27, 2026

VILLAGE OF BONDUÉL, WISCONSIN
Russ Gehm, Village President

ATTEST:
Michelle Maroszek, Clerk/Treasurer
WNAXLP
SHA-130

2/13/26, 2/20/26, 2/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
Case # 22-CV-173

US Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Cabana Series V Trust, Plaintiff,

William A. Wilson, et al., Defendants.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on 04/04/2023, in the amount of \$90,105.20, the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as follows:
TIME: March 11, 2026, at 09:00A.M.
TERMS: Pursuant to said judgment, 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the Shawano County Clerk. (personal checks cannot and will not be accepted). The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the clerk of courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation of the sale or else the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff. The property is sold "as is" and subject to all liens and encumbrances.
LOCATION: First Floor of the Shawano County Courthouse 311 N Main St Shawano, WI 54166
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT 15 OF HIDDEN PINES, TOWN OF WASHINGTON, SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF. TAX KEY / PIN: 044601500140
PROPERTY ADDRESS: W4830 Hidden Pine Ln., Shawano, WI 54166
GEORGE LENZNER SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF DATE Please email property address to paralegal@efalaw.com to request the bid for sale. Bids are usually available 1 week prior to sale.
Prepared By: Eric Feldman & Associates, P.C. Attorney Bryan Ward 1345 N. Jefferson St., #244 Milwaukee, WI 53202 304-972-7111 paralegal@efalaw.com Attorney Bryan Ward LLC is attempting to collect a debt and any information will be used for that purpose.
WNAXLP
SHA-120

2/27/26, 3/6/26, 3/13/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

DATE SIGNED: February 18, 2026
Electronically signed by Gwen Hoffman
Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, SHAWANO
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELVERNA I. SCHWENKE
DOD: December 17, 2025
Shawano County Register in Probate
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 26 PR 14
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth July 3, 1931 and date of death December 17, 2025
was domiciled in Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N4187 Center Street, Marion, WI
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 06/05/2026
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, Room 202, probate office, 311 N. Main Street, Shawano
Form completed by: Atty. Matthew C. Zuengler
200 S. Washington St., Ste. 200
Green Bay, WI 54301
Telephone (920) 430-1900
Bar Number (If any) 1026918

WNAXLP
SHA-136

HELP US KEEP UP
ON THE NEWS!

If you know of something happening in Shawano, Oconto or Menominee counties, drop us an email at news@newmedia-wi.com

2/27/26, 3/6/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

REQUEST FOR BIDS
Royalty Crowns, Medallion, Sashes, Original Poster Artwork, Original Clothing Graphic Artwork, and Traditional Feast Services
The Stockbridge-Munsee 50th Annual POWWOW will take place on August 7, 8, and 9, 2026. The Stockbridge-Munsee Cultural Affairs Committee is soliciting bids to design and produce crowns, a medallion (for the Brave) and sashes for the incoming Royalty, original artwork for the POWWOW poster, original artwork for T-shirt graphics, and preparing and serving a traditional feast.
Copies of the detailed request for bids (RFB) can be obtained by going to the Stockbridge- Munsee Community webpage: www.mohican-nsn.gov. Click on RFP/Bids. The RFB includes a description of the services to be provided by respondents; the project guidelines; and deadlines.
For more information, please contact Jody Hartwig, Tribal Council Secretary, 715-793-4387. All bid submission to the RFB must be submitted by March 20th, 2026, 4:00 P.M.

WNAXLP
SHA-133

2/13/26, 2/20/26, 2/27/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY
Associated Bank, N.A.
1305 Main Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Plaintiff,
v.
Marie I. Birr a/k/a Marie Inez Birr
Birch Hill Health Services
1475 Birch Hill Ln
Shawano, WI 54166
Defendant.
Summons
Case No. 2025CV000280
Judge William F. Kussel, Jr.
Foreclosure of Mortgage: 30404
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN,
To each person named above as a defendant:
You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is also served upon you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.
Within 40 days after February 13, 2026, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is Shawano County Courthouse 311 N Main St., Shawano, WI 54166-2198, and to Codilis, Moody & Circelli, P.C., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 200, Burr Ridge, IL 60527. You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated: February 3, 2026 .
Codilis, Moody & Circelli, P.C.
15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burr Ridge, IL 60527
(414) 775-7700
pleadings@il.cslegal.com
50-25-01404
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.
Electronically signed by
Shawn R. Hillmann
WI State Bar No. 1037005
Emily Thoms
WI State Bar No. 1075844

WNAXLP
SHA-122

2/20/26, 2/27/26, 3/6/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF John C. Kriewaldt
DOD 12-12-2025
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 26 PR 13
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 2-16-1944 and date of death 12-12-2025 was domiciled Shawano County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N6045 Opperman Way, Shawano, WI 54166
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 29, 2026
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano County Courthouse, 311 N. Main Street, Wisconsin, Room 202
Probate Office Shawano, WI 54166.
Form completed by:
James E. Aschenbrener
P.O. Box 146, Shawano, WI 54166
715-524-6258
Bar Number 008896
WNAXLP
SHA-127

2/20/26, 2/27/26, 3/6/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT

COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION
723 6 th Ave.
PO Box 107
Antigo, WI 54409 ,
Plaintiff,
vs.
WILLIAM D. JENSEN
W4989 Beeler Dr.
Bonduel, WI 54107-8759,
JOHN/JANE DOE JENSEN
Unknown spouse of William D. Jensen
W4989 Beeler Dr.
Bonduel, WI 54107-8759,
CAPITAL ONE, N.A., Successor by Merger
DISCOVER BANK,
1680 Capital One Dr.
Mc Lean, VA 22102,
Defendants.
Case No. 26 CV 6
Foreclosure Case Code No. 30404
PUBLICATION SUMMONS
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a defendant:
You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you.
Within forty (40) days after February 20, 2026, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is Shawano County, 311 N. Main St., 2 nd Floor Room 206, Shawano, WI 54166, and to Dunham Law, LLC, Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 1930A Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, WI, 54901. You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not demand a copy of the Complaint within forty (40) days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment 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 at Oshkosh, Wisconsin this 11th day of February 2026.
DUNHAM LAW, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff, CoVantage Credit Union
Emily Z. Dunham, State Bar No. 1068948
Dunham Law, LLC
1930A Algoma Blvd.
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920-215-4050
emily@dunhamlawllc.com
WNAXLP
SHA-126

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2/20/26, 2/27/26, 3/6/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF John S. Holley.
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 26 PRI2
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth March 20, 1941 and date of death January 24, 2026 was domiciled in Shawano County, State of WI with a mailing address of N2829 CTY RD Y Clintonville, WI 54929
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 29, 2026.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano 311 N. Main St., Shawana, Wisconsin, Room 202. Probate Office

WNAXLP
SHA-128

Veterans service office to move to DHS campus

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

The Shawano County Veterans Service Office will soon have a new home. Members of the public property committee agreed Feb. 12 to move that office from the county courthouse on South Main Street to the Department of Human Services campus at W7327 Anderson Ave.

Julie Hassser, interim administrative coordinator, said the relocation is part of a trickle-down move.

“It actually stems from our DA’s (district attorney) office needing additional space, because the state granted us two additional ADAs (assistant district attorneys), and then there’s further talk of growth with a potential third judge,” she said.

The veterans office would move to the ADRC side of the DHS building, where they can work hand-in-hand when necessary — something that’s done in many Wisconsin counties.

“There’s a lot of hand-offs that go between them, getting veterans the services they need or ADRC customers that might be veterans and can get help from the veterans department,” Hassser said.

When the veterans office is vacated at the courthouse, the Ag and Extension office would be relocated within the building to that space. Then, the district attorney’s office would expand into the Ag and Extension office, which is across the hall from the space currently used by the DA’s office.

Hassser reminded supervisors that Paul Pionke is retiring as CVSO director in March.

Zachary Zuehlsdorf has been hired to replace him effective March 9. Zuehlsdorf currently is a benefits specialist with the Winnebago County veterans service office and is supportive of having the veterans office side by side with the ADRC.

“They currently have a satellite office where veterans and ADRC are together,” Hassser said of Winnebago County.

Supervisor Tom Kautza said some veterans will need to overcome a feeling that they are getting some form of a handout due to the association with ADRC.

“It just has to be explained to them they’re not getting free public money; that’s something they’ve earned and should have,” he said.



Work is currently being done on the reception area at Shawano City Hall with new counters, safety glass and more going in. The work is expected to be completed the first week of March.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

CITY HALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Instead of having a City Hall reception area and a PD (police department) reception area, we’re now just having the main reception area, so we’ve been able to downsize some staff,” Sheppard said. “We’re saving money on our operational budget by doing

this, and we’re really adding a better service.” Safety glass is part of the reception area improvements, but the redesign is expected to also make it easier for people to know which window to go to for their particular business, according to Sheppard.

“It was not the clearest about where people are supposed to go, so we’re improving some things,” he said. Sheppard believes the changes, which come on the heels of redoing the council chambers and other parts of City Hall, will provide a

more inviting atmosphere for residents, business people and other visitors. “We’re making it more friendly, and we’re saving money doing so,” Sheppard said.

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com



A paper sign indicates the temporary window for anyone wanting to pay bills or meet with someone from City Hall or the police station while reconstruction of the regular reception area is completed.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Ho-Chunk sculptor honored in Smithsonian

By RICHELLE WILSON
Wisconsin Public Radio

A new exhibit at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., looks back on the career of the late Truman Lowe, a Ho-Chunk artist and educator known for his ability to make wood look

like water. “He has always been a big proponent of contemporary Native artwork being shown,” said Chloris Lowe, an artist based in central Wisconsin and a great-nephew of Lowe’s. “To have his work now be out at the Smithsonian is just an incredible thing.” “Water’s Edge: The

Art of Truman Lowe” is a collection of nearly 50 sculptures, drawings and paintings spanning Lowe’s career. Together, these artworks “evoke the rivers, streams and waterfalls of the Wisconsin woodlands” where Lowe grew up near Black River Falls, according to the exhibit website. Lowe grew up with a

“sense of artistic design,” Ortel said, because both of his parents were black ash basket makers. Watching his parents at work, Lowe gained an early appreciation for natural materials like wood. He was especially inspired by the transformation wood undergoes during the basket-making process, starting off as stiff

or rigid and emerging as pliable — even fluid, reminiscent of the Wisconsin waterways he knew and loved. Lowe, who passed away in 2019, left an indelible mark on the Wisconsin art scene. In 2022, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, his alma mater, dedicated the arts build-

ing on campus to Lowe. And his artwork can be viewed around the state at museums and outdoor installations. “Water’s Edge: The Art of Truman Lowe” is on display at the National Museum of the American Indian until January 2027. After that, the exhibit is slated to come to Wisconsin.

Crop insurance, grain marketing workshop offered

University of Wisconsin-Extension is conducting an event to help grain producers better understand how crop insurance and marketing opportunities and tools interact and how they can best select from the available crop insurance opportunities. The workshop will be held at 10 a.m. March 4 at the Cecil Village Hall,

Ill E. Hofman St., Cecil. The registration fee of \$10 includes materials, lunch and snacks. Pre-registration is requested to ensure that enough materials will be available for all participants. The program will begin with an overview of changes to crop insurance programs for the 2026 crop year and a discussion of

how farms may want to analyze their insurance options prior to the March 16 policy decision date. Discussion will then turn to marketing tools, techniques and how they can interact with crop insurance decisions, FSA programs and a farm’s economic situation. Crops/soils Educator Scott Reuss will be leading participants through these

discussions and exercises. Primary topics will include the various tools and techniques which they may choose to utilize in their marketing efforts, as well as sample exercises and analyzing pricing opportunities for the upcoming

crop harvest or for grain currently in storage. The goal of the workshop is for farms to be able to develop a simple, straightforward marketing plan that improves their confidence in grain marketing decisions. For registration or infor-

mation, contact Reuss at scott.reuss@wisc.edu or 715-701-0966. To request language or physical accommodation to facilitate involvement in the program, contact Tami Goers at 715-526-6136 or tami.goers@wisc.edu by Feb. 27.

SALARIES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

what we need to look at is if that salary is lower, who’s going to want to do it?” Hasser said. Sheriff George Lenzer pointed out that all 72 sheriffs in Wisconsin have a law enforcement background. “And the bartender that you brought up, he retired from the city police department and bought a bar,” he said. “I don’t think that makes him a bartender. He was a certified law enforcement officer when he started. In fact,

he hired me.” Today, Shawano County’s clerk of courts is paid \$71,197.26. In Oconto County, the person is paid \$78,877, while the average in comparable counties is \$79,182.20. With the 15% raise, the 2027 salary will be \$81,876.85. Hasser said comparing coroner salaries is more difficult. Counties with a medical examiner pay a salary, while most counties with a coroner pay per call. Shawano County changed

the pay from per call to salary in 2023. Today, the coroner makes \$66,072.39, while Oconto County’s coroner is paid \$87,235.20, and the average for comparable counties is \$74,818.10. The 2027 rate in Shawano County will be \$75,983.25. Hasser said she felt good about 3.5% annual increase after the initial boost, noting it is consistent with others across the state.

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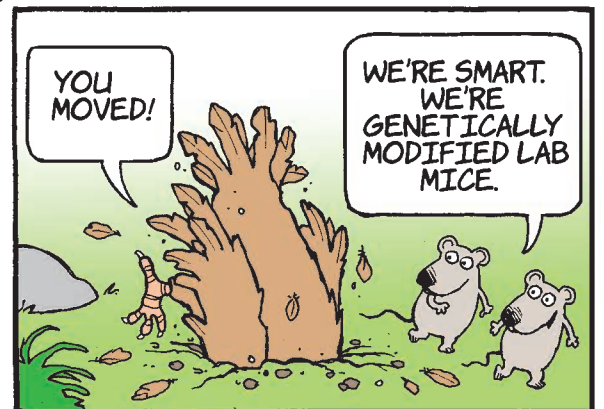
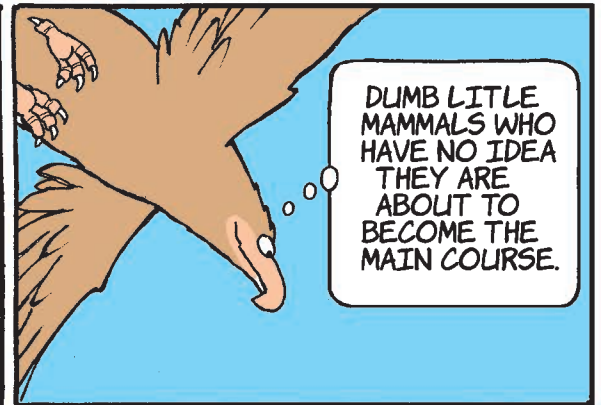
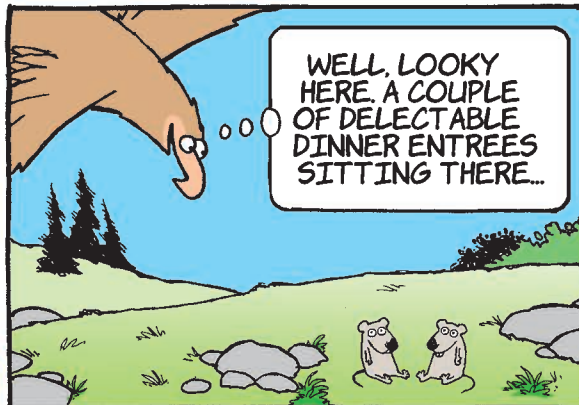
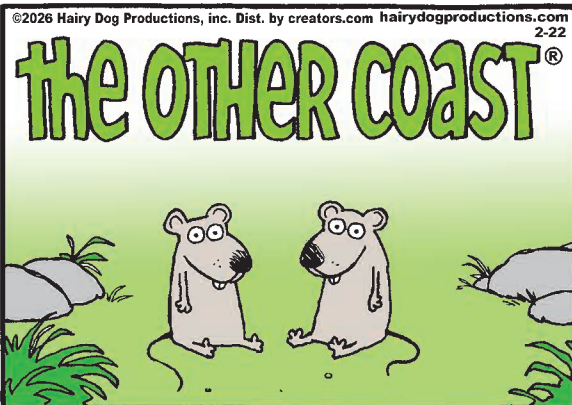
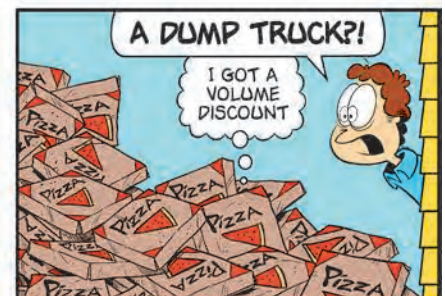
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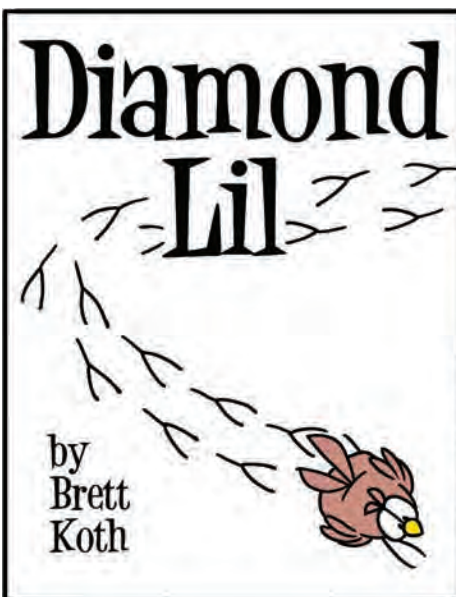
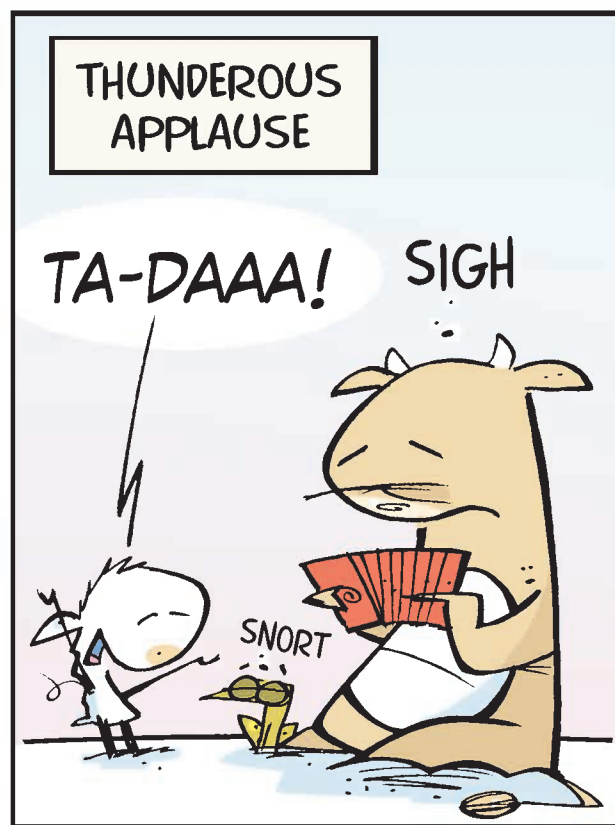
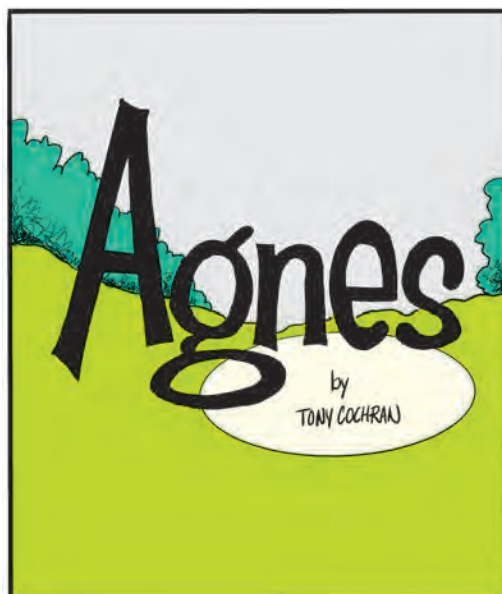


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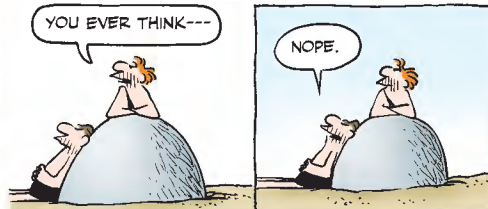
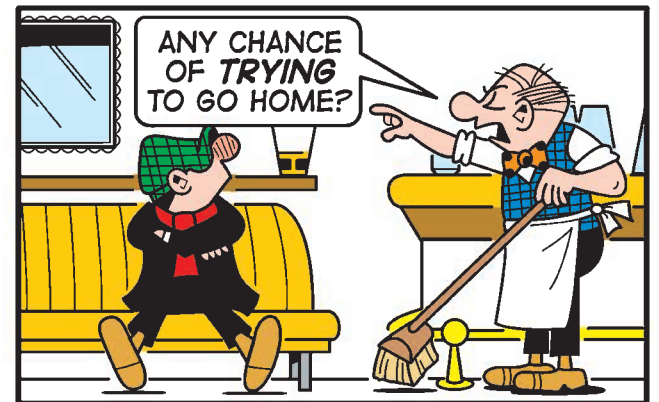
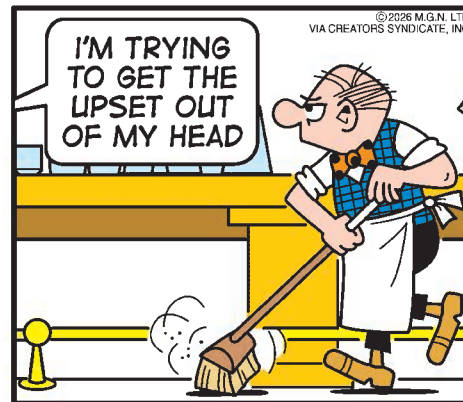
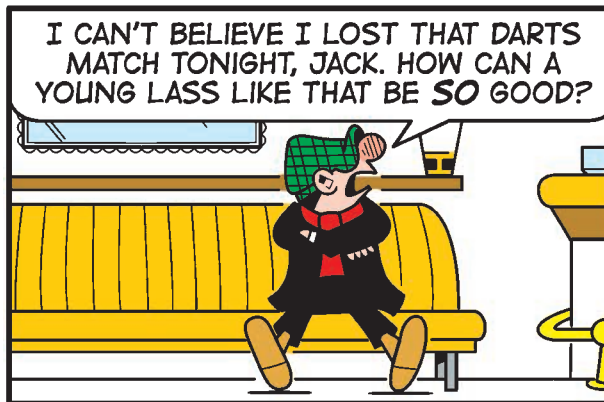
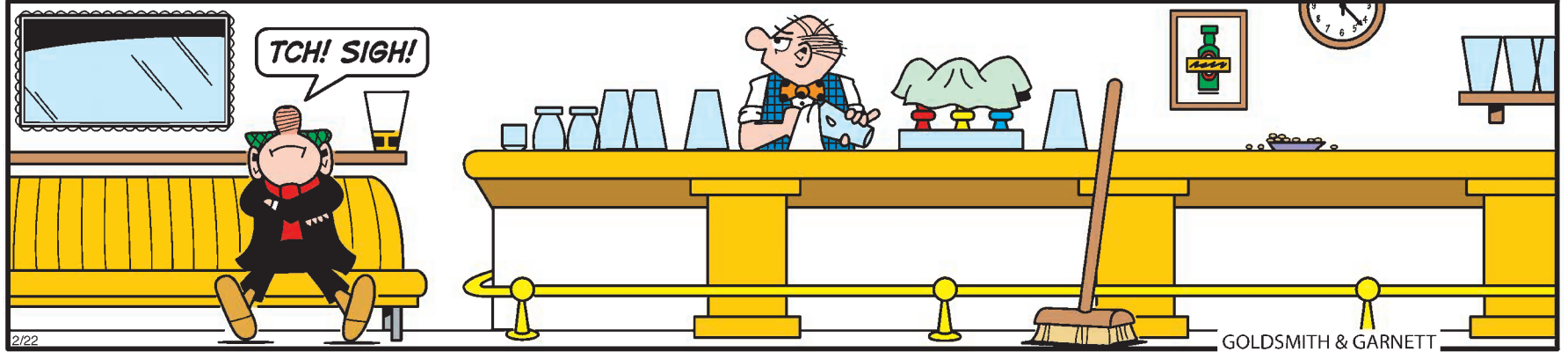






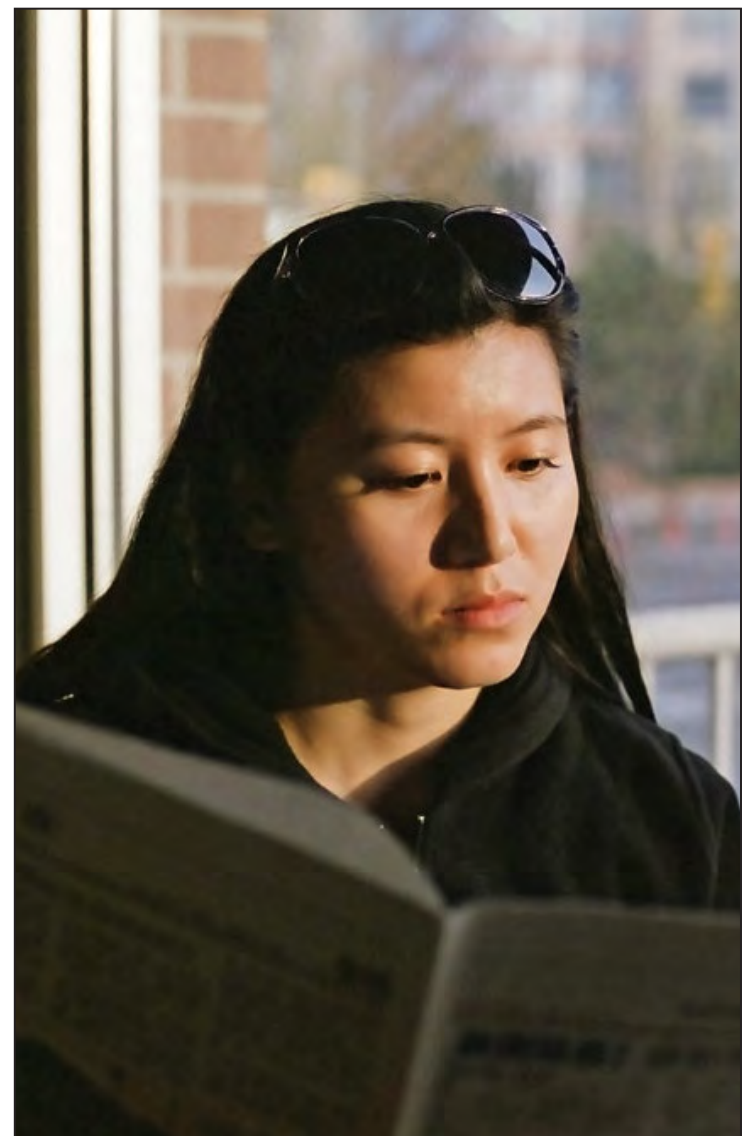
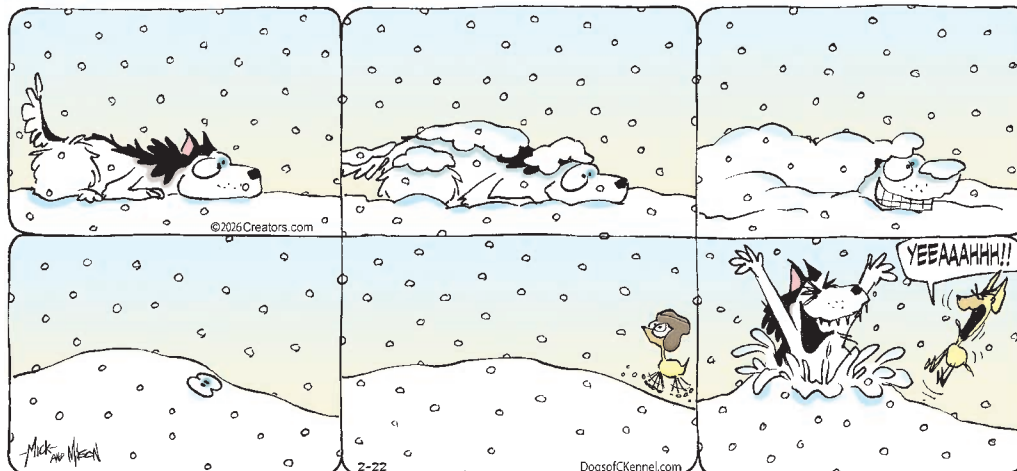
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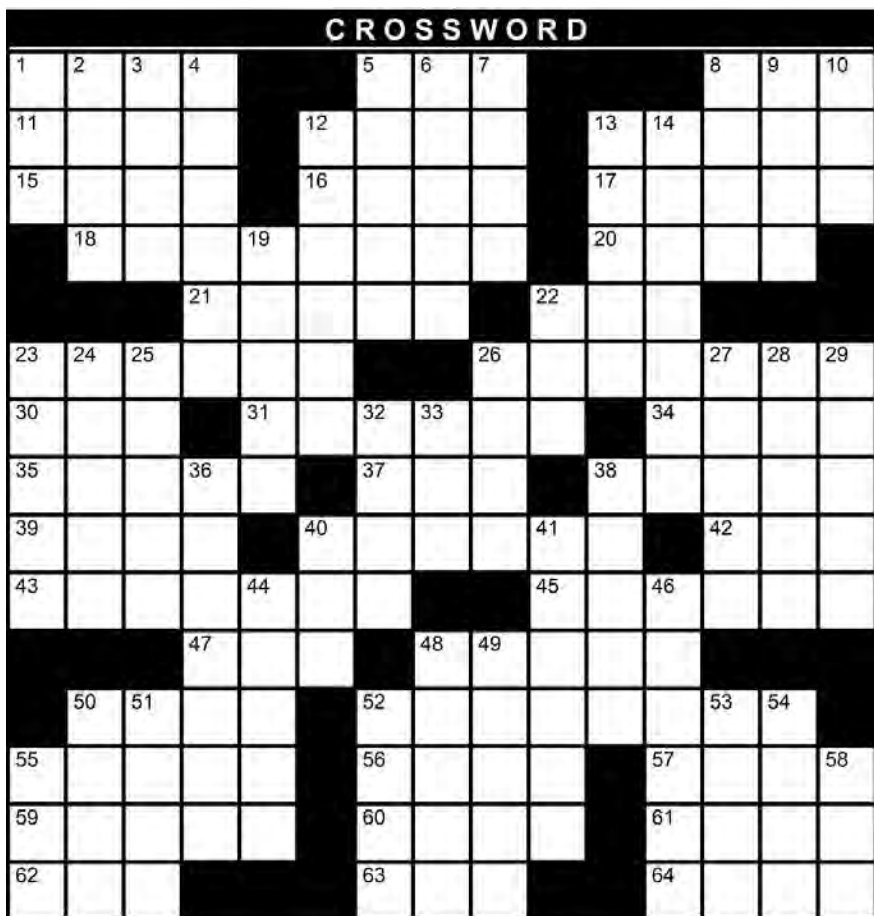
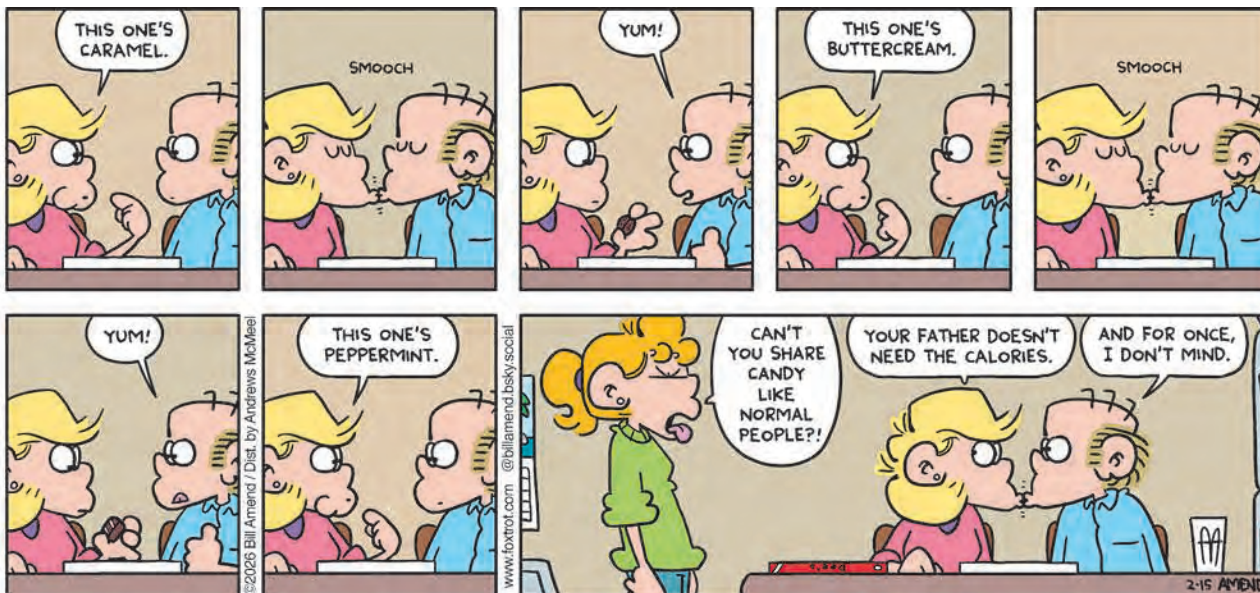
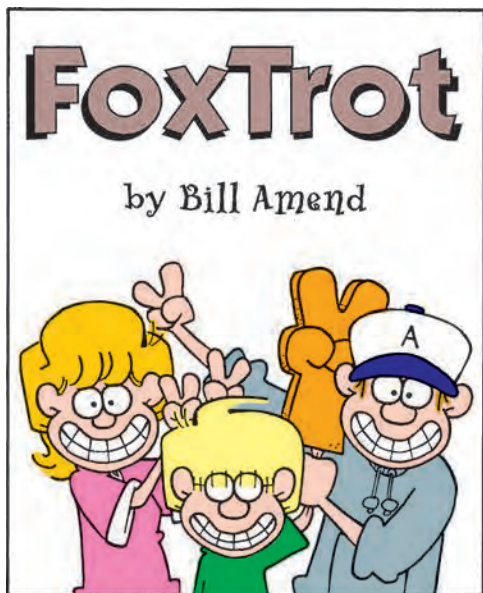


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5. "The One I Love" band
8. Prior to, pref.
11. Gin flavor
12. ____ wig or ____ wrinkle
13. Command to Fido
15. ____ Grey of tea fame
16. Policemen's surprise
17. Brunch offering
18. *Explorer Amerigo's last name
20. Rock opera version of "La Boheme"
21. Gossipmonger, in Yiddish
22. Ballet step
23. *Henry the Navigator's title
26. Chicken pox pimples
30. Poetic "even"
31. Demosthenes or Cicero
34. "The ____ on the Floss"
35. Stories "from the Crypt"
37. Rank above maj.
38. Sore spot
39. "Happily ____ after"
40. Familiar routine
42. "Wow!"
43. Retina, pl.
45. *Explorer Shackleton's first name
47. New on the block?
48. Barbara Eden's TV character
50. Rumble
52. *First one to circumnavigate globe, almost
55. *Lewis' or Clark's vessel
56. Fictional giant
57. Plaintiff
59. Shrovetide dish
60. Zig or zag
61. Dunking cookie
62. "____ and the City"
63. "C" ____ la vie!"
64. Backgammon predecessor

DOWN

1. Take drugs
2. Bohemian, e.g.
3. Skin opening
4. Short for self-synchronous
5. Don't just stand there!
6. "Fear of Flying" author Jong
7. Skirt length
8. Part of a hammer
9. Wholly engrossed
10. Obtain, but just barely
12. Gardening tool
13. Junk yard stuff

14. *"Dr. Livingstone, I ____?"
19. Fictional cowboy Bill
22. One better than bogey
23. J.M. Barrie's Pan
24. Plunder
25. *Geographical feature named for Ponce de Leon
26. *Inspiration for hide-and-seek game
27. City in Belgium
28. North Pole workers
29. Winter driving hazard
32. Homesteader's purchase, sing.
33. Likewise
36. *Possibly America's first European Leif
38. Jeopardy
40. Horse poker
41. Tooth cover
44. One born to Japanese immigrants
46. Willie of country music fame
48. Dashboard windows
49. Type of heron
50. Gender checkbox
51. Windows alternative
52. Change address
53. Mystique
54. Not ever, poetically
55. TV network
58. "Maggie May" singer

