

July 4 holiday welcomes heat wave



America celebrates its 250th birthday July 4, and Shawano County is in the midst of a heat wave with temperatures soaring close to triple digits. Below at left, even last week the Thursdayz @ Franklin concert series, the use of an atomizer to cool down was necessary.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



Sophia Zeeman, right, is crowned as the 2026 Shawano County Fairest of the Fair by her predecessor, Olivia Danley, on June 28 during the Shawano County Brunch on the Farm at Kurowski Dairy just east of Bonduel. Zeeman was victorious after competing with four other Shawano County women the day before.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Zeeman named Fairest of the Fair

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

Sophia Zeeman emerged victorious from a crowded field of candidates June 28 to become the 2026 Fairest of the Fair for Shawano County.

Five young women competed to become this year's Fairest, the most that the Shawano County Fair has had compete for some time. Zeeman, as the winner crowned during the Shawano County Brunch on the Farm, will represent the county for the next 12 months as she attends other county fairs and various farm events and parades, as well as preside over the local fair when it's held over Labor Day weekend.

"The girls are promoting our fair, and they're promoting it throughout the year," said Kerry Danley, one of the coordinators for Fairest of the Fair. "We have it so they can learn a little more self-confidence, public speaking, everything else."

Zeeman expressed delight that she'll be able to showcase Shawano County and its fair as the official ambassador at other fairs and participate in parades, her first coming up as Bonduel kicks off 250 years of United States independence.

"I'm really excited to do this," Zeeman said. "I'm really excited to go to all of the events and get to promote the county fair."

Zeeman and the other contestants were interviewed June 27, and the winner was selected from those interviews.

Zeeman said she has lived in Shawano County her entire life, and she has shown animals at the fair growing up.

"I just always saw the girls around, and I wanted to help promote the fair and do stuff like that," she said.

The county fair, in Zeeman's view, is "one big community event" that brings the entire county together and helps to promote pride in what Shawano County has to offer.

"It's just like a big family reunion, and it's one of the best parts of the summer for me," Zeeman said.

FAIREST, continued on page 19

INSIDE

Where can you find popcorn, ice cream and shaved ice?

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Free speech sparks fly at board meeting

Supervisor pushes for vote on Steffen appointment

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Filling a vacancy on the Shawano County Board has spiraled into arguments of free speech, citizens' rights and issues of discrimination.

"I don't understand what it would hurt to allow the people to speak," Supervisor Jeremy Gretzinger said after Chairman Tom Kautza refused to allow two residents to address the board at the June 24 meeting. "You're only giving them two minutes. I'm 100% against that. It violates the right of a citizen, in my eyes."

Jackie Miller and Tim Steffen both asked to address the board regarding the minutes of the June 17 executive committee meeting, in which Kautza said he is still working on a replacement supervisor for District 27. The vacancy follows the resignation of Tess Serrano.

Steffen expressed interest in the position.

"Because the role is intended to remain strictly nonpartisan, Kautza is carefully evaluating all interest and potential candidates with a focus on preserving the impartial and nonpolitical nature of the office and its responsibilities," the minutes read.

Steffen is chairman of the Shawano County Republican Party and has been critical of Kautza in the past.

When Miller began to address to the board about the minutes, Kautza cut her off.

"No. That's not an agenda item to speak on," he said. "We're not going to have a bunch of haggling around. That's the whole point of this."

"The approval of those minutes is on the agenda," she responded.

"No. I'm not going to allow you to speak and start a disruptive deal again today," Kautza said. "You're done. Your time is up."

A few minutes later, Steffen asked to speak to the board.

"That's in the consent agenda," Kautza said. "The board

would have to vote to take it out, to remove it. And that is not really a ... that's not a ... no."

"It's published in the agenda for today's meeting," Steffen pointed out.

"Yup. And you're going to want to start an argument," Kautza said.

"No. I want to state my case," replied Steffen.

"No. We're going to move right on with the agenda," Kautza said. "It's that simple. We do not need any more controversy here. That's what this is about."

Later in the meeting, Gretzinger raised the issue of residents wanting to address the board.

"If they're not allowed to speak here, where do they address that issue?" he asked.

Kautza said they could, for example, write a letter to the clerk, send Kautza an email or write a letter to the editor of the local newspaper.

The board rules limit comments to three minutes or at the discretion of the chairman. At the meeting, Kautza limited comments to two minutes per speaker with a limit of five

speakers. Kautza pointed out to Gretzinger that he was among those who voted for the rules.

"How come all of a sudden now we're just enforcing it?" Gretzinger asked.

"Because I was being polite before and letting people speak," Kautza said. "And all that's done is cause a lot of drama, and we don't need drama in the courthouse. It's nonsense."

"Just let them talk," Gretzinger said. "If we did nothing wrong, we should have nothing to worry about. Let them speak."

Supervisor Joe Miller asked Larenda Maulson, corporation counsel, if political affiliation is a protected status when it comes to a discrimination case.

"I don't have the answer for that off the top of my head," she said. "I'd have to take a look at it."

"I asked you that question via email last week, so you had some time," Miller responded.

He also noted no one but Steffen has expressed interest in the position.

"Those residents deserve representation," he said.

Miller then referred to the

minutes of executive committee meeting.

"I believe those comments were blatant discrimination ... based on a political affiliation," he said.

Miller said supervisors have a duty to collectively represent what is in the best interests of the county.

"I have a solution to end this so you don't have to hear the chair tell the people that you need to be constructive when you come up here and talk," he said.

Miller said either Kautza can nominate Steffen or supervisors override that authority and nominate him themselves. He noted that the rules about public comment are only finally being enforced because Kautza doesn't want to be criticized anymore.

"The public put each and every one of us in these seats," Miller said. "We are, as elected officials, open to any public scrutiny, criticism, support, whatever. That's our responsibility to accept that."

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Get pumped for some new bike action

Ready to use now with grand opening planned for August

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

There's a new biking adventure in Shawano.

A pump track playground has been installed at Kuckuk Park on the southwest side of the city on Oak Park Drive.

Pump tracks are already available in Green Bay, Appleton and Wausau, but this is the first in Shawano County.

"The track is already rideable," said Brian Grieves, one of the organizers who created the track. "We still need to install signage and a few finishing touches. A grand opening celebration is currently being planned for August. We want to stress the importance of wearing helmets for safety."

The project was developed by Shawano Adventure Sports, a division of Shawano Pathways. Led by Shawano native and avid mountain biker Garrett Smith, the project grew through the collaboration of SAS members and



Pictured while still under construction, the new pump track at Kuckuk Park is open and ready for use. The track features two connected tracks, one beginner and one intermediate, designed to create a continuous loop with the existing pathway. Riders build momentum while navigating small features and jumps.

BRIAN GRIEVES

community supporters.

"The goal was to create a fun, easily accessible place where people of all ages and skill levels can enjoy biking, build confidence and develop their skills," Grieves said. "The idea was also supported early on by the Shawano Community Health Action

Team, which recognized the need for more opportunities for youths to be active, socialize and spend time outdoors away from screens and social media."

The track features two connected tracks, one beginner and one intermediate, designed to create a continuous loop with the

existing pathway. Riders build momentum while navigating small features and jumps.

"It's best described as a hybrid bike park and pump track," Grieves said. "Riders use a combination of momentum, body movement and pedaling to move through a series of

rollers, berms and turns. The course begins on an elevated starting platform that provides a boost from gravity. Midway through the track, riders connect back to the existing bike trail, which returns them to the starting area for another lap."

While the track was

primarily designed for bicycles, it can also be enjoyed by riders using skateboards and scooters.

Benefits of the pump track include:

- Skill development. Riders can improve their bike handling, balance and control.
- Fun and engagement. Provides a fun, challenging and engaging activity for all ages.
- Safe environment. Offers a safe place to practice biking skills away from traffic and hazards.
- Community space. Serves as a social gathering spot, fostering community interaction and outdoor activity.

The total cost of the project is projected to be just under \$70,000.

Shawano Adventure Sports raised the funds through grants and donations from the ThedaCare Foundation, Shawano Community Foundation, Pevonka Trust, Mielke Foundation, Shawano Rotary, Shawano Pathways, Matty's Fund and several individual donors.

The city of Shawano did not provide funding, but city officials have been very supportive throughout the process, Grieves said.

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Construction underway on Highway 47/55 in Menominee County

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

As of June 22, state Highway 47 in Menominee County was closed to through traffic from County Road VV (West) to the Langlade County line. The closure is anticipated to continue until the middle of August. Northeast Asphalt held an informational meeting on the project June 23 at the Wolf River Development Company, W2828 Go Around Road, Keshena.

Access by local traffic and emergency services will be maintained throughout the closure.

Local traffic may experience wait times when

encountering work operations along the roadway.

Traffic will travel on gravel surfaces for portions of the project.

The first week of the reconstruction project included:

- Removing the guard-rail from Crow Settlement Road to Wheelock Road.
- Sawing asphalt and stump grubbing from County Road VV (West) to the Langlade County line.
- Pulverizing pavement at culverts from County Road VV (West) to Camp Road 26.
- Culvert replacement from County Road VV (West) to Crow Settlement Road.

When the culvert work on Highway 47 is completed, it will be reopened and state Highway 55 will be closed to through traffic from Highway 47 to the Langlade County Line for about 55 days.

The contractor plans to place new asphalt pavement on Highway 47 this fall as well, with the remaining asphalt paving for the project finishing in 2027.

Traffic will be reduced to a single lane with a flagging operation during paving.

All operations, locations and durations are estimated and subject to change.

Local students win statewide FFA contests

Paige Wolf of the Bon-duel FFA Chapter was named the state winner of the FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Leadership Development Event (LDE). The Extemporaneous Public Speaking LDE was held at the 97th State Convention of the Wisconsin Association of FFA in Madison. Wolf's adviser is Mandi McClone.

Also, the Oconto Falls FFA Chapter was named the state winning Agricultural Communications Career Development Event Team. Team members include Natalie Rieth, Jazmine Vandenborgart, Chloe Anastasopoul and Isabell Casper. Their advisers are Walter Taylor and Hallie Rehn.

The top individual was Rieth.

To qualify for the state inals, Wolf and her competitors had to compete in several other contests

including district contest, sectional contest and the state semifinals.

The Extemporaneous Public Speaking LDE is designed to allow students to showcase their agricultural knowledge and ability to think on their feet by giving a speech and answering questions with limited prep time.

The State FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking LDE is sponsored at the state level by Wisconsin FFA Convention Partners.

Wolf will represent Wisconsin at the 99th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in November. The national winner will be selected from a group of state finalists and will receive a plaque and additional scholarship money.

Through the Agricultural Communications Career Development

Event Team contest, participants work as a team of communication consultants to develop a written media plan, present the plan to a panel of judges and, as individuals, apply what they have learned during practicums, a quiz and editing exercise.

Oconto Falls will also compete at the national convention.

The Agricultural Communications CDE is sponsored at the state level by CNH Capital.

The Agricultural Communications Career Development Events help students prepare for careers in journalism, radio and TV broadcast, web design, marketing and more.

All CDEs engage students in developing their communication, decision-making and teamwork skills to promote future career success.

CMN benefits from continued gifts from Fowler estate

The College of Menominee Nation was recently made aware that it has been included in the wishes of Verna Fowler's estate. The educational institution she founded has become one of the thriving 35 Tribal Colleges throughout the United States. In her final wishes, she took the time to ensure the continued framework of support for students pursuing their dreams.

After receiving her Ph.D. from the University of North Dakota, Fowler

was reluctant to return to her home. Then-Menominee Tribal Chairman Glen Miller and Vice Chairwoman Shirley Daly, also her sister, reached out in hopes of bringing her home to embark on the creation of a true Tribal College.

As the founding president of CMN, Fowler spent years building an institution for the people of the Menominee Nation and other nations surrounding our tribal lands.

Early on, Fowler

understood the importance of philanthropy. By creating an endowment in honor of her sister, Daly, she hoped to apply funds wherever the need is greatest, providing scholarship opportunities and funding initiatives to increase access to Native scholar role models. Bearing her name, the endowment recognizes (former Menominee Legislator) Daly's role in establishing the college that has served the Menominee People and their neighbors since January 1993.

Summer storm brings hail



As if thunder, lightning and rain weren't enough the evening of June 24, Mother Nature also chose to drop hail on several areas, including this home on Legend Lake in Menominee County. The streets of Green Bay were also hit with hail and flooding.

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READ IT AND REAP

Vegetables now growing at public library

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

For years, the Shawano County Public Library has been known as a place for more than books, videos and educational resources.

There's the free Wi-Fi, an escape room, free state park passes and the Library of Things that offers luggage, fishing poles, small kitchen appliances, puzzles and more.

Now, it's home to a hydroponic farm that grows varieties of lettuce, bok choy, basil and more to be given away to patrons and other visitors.

The hydroponic farm, located in the front entry of the library at 128 S. Sawyer St., was paid for with a grant from Sanford Health-Marshfield Clinic.

"We didn't just want to put fresh veggies on the pantry shelves," said library staff member Tabitha Pierce, who wrote the grant with Staci Rubenzer, library director. "We wanted to meet the current needs of our community and expand on that with programs focused around topics like sustainability, food waste, nutrition and composting." Pierce is now coordinating the project and related programming.

Flex Farms are vertical hydroponic farming systems that produce significant quantities of fresh food and are designed to fit small indoor spaces. The units include an energy-efficient LED light tower, submersible pump, grower tool kit and starter



The public library's first crop of romaine and green star lettuce was harvested the week of June 8-12. More than 70 bags of fresh greens were given to community members. A second crop of butterhead lettuce, summer crisp lettuce, tatsoi, bok choy and basil is currently growing in the hydroponic tower.

CONTRIBUTED

supply kit. Each unit enables the owner to grow more than 3,400 plants annually.

Rubenzer said the library received an email about the grant opportunity from the clinic.

"Some of our staff who work on the little food pantry project here at the library thought that this could be a good opportunity to pursue," she said. "As we looked into it, it did not seem like a grant that would provide direct funding of the existing little food pantry, but it seemed like it could be something more. Sustainability and community education were large components of the grant that we submitted."

The library board approved the grant plan in January, and the grant cycle runs through 2026.

"With the grant funds, we purchased the Flex Farm hydroponic tower and supplies for the first year," Rubenzer said. "We intend for it to be a sustainable educational piece in the library from which the harvest can be shared with our patrons."

The library's first crop of romaine and green star lettuce was harvested the week of June 8-12. More than 70 bags of fresh greens were given to community members.

A second crop of butterhead lettuce, summer crisp lettuce,

tatsoi, bok choy and basil is currently growing in the hydroponic tower.

"We anticipate a harvest the week of July 6 or 13, as it takes about one month from planting to harvesting in the hydroponic system," Rubenzer said.

Feel free to peek inside the hydroponics farm, but staff requests you not touch the plants in the tower.

According to Pierce, the system itself does most of the work after the initial setup, which took about an hour to put together and another hour to get the water tanks filled, pH and TDS levels tested, nutrients added and

water tested one more time.

Cleaning the system between plantings took some time, but that should get quicker as staff members become more familiar with the process.

"I've tried gardening before, but it didn't go well," Pierce said. "This is my first successful crop, and I'm so pleased to see the excitement in the patrons and the community."

Part of the grant proposal was building community partnerships around this system.

Rubenzer said the library is partnering with Fork Farm staff and the county's Extension Office 4-H leadership to present programs on sustainable and nutritious food sources and our relationship with the environment.

On June 24, a Fork Farm representative spoke on how sustainability and food waste prevention can help people save money and the planet.

"Working with our county's 4-H youth development educator, Megan Suehring, has been very exciting, and we think that partnership is a natural match to this project," Rubenzer said. "We are also hoping that community partnerships lead to groups 'adopting' the hydroponic tower (planting, water testing, harvesting, etc.) for short periods, so we are interested in creating more partnership opportunities and having more groups come to the library to check out what is growing here."

The Sanford Health-Marshfield Clinic had been working with Fork Farms in Green Bay to place about 35 Flex Farms in community locations where the food can be used by school children, seniors and other community-based organizations.

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Tribe wins lawsuit from Legend Lake owners

Supreme Court upholds tribal sovereign immunity claim

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

The Wisconsin Supreme Court on June 23 ruled 4-3 in favor of the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin against the Legend Lake Property Owners Association, upholding tribal sovereign immunity and dismissing the association's lawsuit.

"Today's decision provides finality to the parties and acknowledges that factual circumstances have changed since the filing of the complaint," Justice Susan Crawford said. "We acknowledge that a fundamental commitment of Indian law is judicial respect for Congress' primary role in defining the contours of tribal sovereignty."

In 2018, the Legend Lake Property Owners Association sued the Menominee

Tribe and tribal member Guy Keshena alleging that Keshena acquired title to more than 30 parcels, totaling 21.35 acres, in 2017 within the Legend Lake development. Keshena acquired the properties with tribal authorization to place them into federal tribal trust.

The association argued that the parcels were bound by restrictive covenants — agreed upon in 2009 — which prohibit properties from being removed from the county tax rolls and require the land to be governed by association bylaws.

The tribe asserted tribal sovereign immunity and argued that placing the land into a federal trust was protected under the Menominee Restoration Act, rendering the association's restrictive covenants unenforceable on sovereign tribal land.

"We are pleased with the Wisconsin Supreme Court's decision confirming our sovereign immunity," the tribe posted on

social media. "Tribal sovereign immunity is a well-established principle of federal Indian law and a vital aspect of tribal sovereignty. The Tribe appreciates the Court's careful consideration and confirmation that dismissal of this case is the appropriate course of action."

"For generations, the Menominee people have worked hard to protect our homeland, our rights and our future. We are glad our rights and these core principles have been recognized and respected."

The justices took issue with the apparent intent of the restrictive covenants.

"The association unilaterally imposed the restrictive covenants on the Legend Lake parcels in 2009 in an effort to prevent the tribe from restoring any of the property to its reservation," Crawford said. "The tribe never affirmatively agreed to waive its sovereign immunity in state court actions regarding the restrictive covenants."

In her dissent, Justice

Rebecca Bradley accused the majority of handing the tribe a sword with which it can "seize property with impunity."

The Wisconsin Supreme Court found that sovereign immunity protects the tribe from being sued in state court to enforce these covenants, legally recognizing the land's transition into trust status.

Keshena knew about the covenants when he purchased the property. The tribe also knew about the covenants but still petitioned the Bureau of Indian Affairs to take the properties into tribal trust, which the BIA did.

In 2018, the BIA's Midwest regional director authorized the transfer of the properties into tribal trust status. The association appealed that decision, which was later upheld by the Interior Board of Indian Appeals.

The association contended that its members' property values would be reduced if the interior board decision stands and

the owners would be left without the protections of the covenants.

When the tribe was stripped of federal recognition in the 1960s, it sold thousands of acres to reduce its debts — including property that would later be used for the Legend Lake development.

The association was created in 1972, and membership is mandatory for all property owners.

When federal recognition for the tribe was restored in 1973, Congress' Restoration Act allowed the tribe to recover its lost land.

Since restoration, the tribe has gradually returned much of the land — including parts of the development — to federal trust status, reestablishing most of the county as a modern reservation.

Today, about 99% of the land in Menominee County is held in trust, and those living on that land do not pay property taxes. That means the 1% of land owned by others supports

county operations, as well as the Menominee Indian School District.

With fewer and fewer landowners, the tax burden is rising for those who remain, the property owners association contends.

The association argued Congress' Restoration Act abrogated the tribe's sovereign immunity and that the Menominee Nation waived its immunity in several ways, including when Keshena accepted deeds to the properties after the association updated its bylaws with restrictive covenants.

The justices rejected the association's arguments.

"Tribal sovereign immunity is the rule, not the exception," the court said. "A litigant can overcome tribal sovereign immunity if Congress abrogates it or if a tribe clearly waives it. Neither occurred here. Nor does the Association persuade us that ... exceptions defeat a tribe's sovereign immunity from suit."

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Ingold bond reduced from \$250K to \$10K

Judge believes
some cash
warranted
due to threats

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

Michael Ingold's bond in a case involving the threat to public officials was reduced June 29 from \$250,000 cash to \$10,000.

Christopher Restemayer, Ingold's new attorney, argued for a \$250,000 signature bond, noting that at the time the bond was set Ingold was still charged with first-degree homicide in the death of his live-in girlfriend. Ingold was acquitted by a jury at the end of April.

Ingold has been in the Shawano County Jail for almost four years, since the homicide charge was made in 2022, and Restemayer noted that Ingold did not have any criminal record prior, with his only encounter with courts being a traffic ticket. Ingold had a case in 2020 where

he was charged with strangulation and suffocation, second-degree recklessly endangering safety, battery and operating a firearm while intoxicated, but those charges were dismissed.

Restemayer told Portage County Circuit Court Judge Louis Molepske Jr. that Ingold has never had any issues showing up for court and said that should be a factor in deciding bond.

"My client has no interest in seeing any of those people (in the indictment), much less taking them out," Restemayer said. "I think no contact would be sufficient to protecting the victims in those cases. I would ask to reduce bond given the amount time he's been in jail to a signature bond."

Ingold, 61, faces five counts of threatening prosecutors, three counts of threats to law enforcement officers and two counts of threatening bodily harm to people involved with the court or legal system.

Because of the threats involving people with the Shawano County Sheriff's Department and the Shawano-Menominee County District Attorney's Office,

the case is being managed by special prosecutor Eric Sparr with Winnebago County. Shawano-Menominee County Circuit Court Judge William Kussel Jr. recused himself.

Each of the charges face maximum prison sentences of six years and maximum fines of \$10,000.

Winnebago County District Attorney Eric Sparr admitted the risk is less now that Ingold has been acquitted in a capital crime, but the threats that comprise the current case are still serious and do not warrant a signature bond. He noted that Ingold had been informed that he should not be making threats against public officials but allegedly did it anyway.

"The threats were explicit, and they were repeated to multiple individuals," Sparr said.

The evidence comes from seven phone calls made at the Shawano County Jail from January 2025 to July 2025, as well as a couple of in-person conversations at the jail in June 2025 and December 2025, according to the criminal complaint.

A detective monitored the recorded jail calls and reported that, in one call made Jan. 28, 2025, Ingold allegedly said he wanted to hang two of the victims.

Two calls in March had Ingold alleged saying that, if he got out of jail, he was going to do something terrible to three of the victims and that has has no problem killing someone, according to the complaint.

During a call made April 18, 2025, Ingold allegedly told the person he was calling: "I'd kill (the third victim). I'd kill all of them. I'd beat 'em with a baseball bat, and I'd enjoy every (expletive) second of it." According to the complaint, Ingold allegedly went on to say he was having dreams about torturing the victims, going so far as to mention a drone and explosives.

When the person on the other end of the line allegedly warned Ingold not to talk like that for fear that it could be taken seriously, Ingold allegedly said "Let 'em take it seriously," according to the complaint, and claimed the victims were "crooked."

Following a court

hearing June 20, 2025, Ingold returned to the jail and spoke with the booking officer, and during the course of the conversation, he allegedly said that he'd like to skin one of the prosecutors alive.

A jail inmate allegedly told detectives on Dec. 15, 2025, that Ingold had been making threats against the detective, claiming that Ingold said he used to run drugs for the Magnetos biker gang, serving as a truck driver, and that the gang "owed him favors," according to the complaint.

Detectives looked at jail videos from three days earlier, where Ingold allegedly said he was going to break one of the detective's bones and "give him a lobotomy," according to the complaint. Ingold allegedly said when all the things were going to happen, he would be in Arizona.

Sparr said that the fact that Ingold walked out of the holding area at the jail at his previous hearing without permission from the judge should be a factor when deciding bond.

Ingold told Molepske during the hearing that he

sold his home and vehicles to pay for expenses related to the homicide. All he would have as collateral is his property, which is about a half-acre and has a garage on it, but he owes back taxes for the last two years and the Internal Revenue Service has a lien on the property.

Molepske said that the allegations are serious enough that having some cash was warranted and ruled \$10,000 for the case, although he may revisit bond after a preliminary hearing. He also dismissed the contempt of court sentence of 10 additional days in jail, expressing dismay that Ingold has already been held in jail for almost four years.

"Long and short, he is already in custody so he has served the 10 days, so I'm not going to require an additional 10 days," Molepske said.

The preliminary hearing on the current charges will take place at 3 p.m. July 27 at the Shawano County Courthouse, courtroom to be determined.

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Board adopts moratorium on data center development

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

Members of the Shawano County Board on June 24 adopted a 12-month moratorium on the siting, construction, establishment and operation of data centers in the unincorporated towns in Shawano County that have approved the county's zoning authority.

It does not affect any cities, villages or the towns of Almon, Bartelme, Belle Plaine, Hartland, Hutchins, Lessor, Pella, Richmond and Wescott, all of which have their own zoning laws.

Shawano resident Nancy Cramer expressed concerns about potential environmental problems as well as nationwide societal issues.



The Port Washington data center is a \$15 billion-plus artificial intelligence campus under construction by Vantage Data Centers. Known as the Lighthouse campus, the 672-acre site will host four centers spanning 2.5 million square feet with almost 1 gigawatt of IT capacity, creating up to 4,000 construction jobs and 300-plus permanent positions.

She touched on issues such as water shortages, pollution, heated water discharged back into lakes and rivers, noise pollution affecting people and wildlife, decreases in property values and increases in electric rates.

"I do not feel that we can let them come to Shawano County and destroy our water, our hunting and fishing land, our tourism,"

Cramer said.

She suggested the proposed one-year moratorium be extended to five years. Board Chairman Tom Kautza told her state law limits the length of a moratorium to one year.

Fellow city resident Shirley Hinze said big tech companies are suing communities that adopt moratoriums.

"These corporations

like Microsoft have billions of dollars to come back after smaller communities like ours to force their issue," she said.

Hinze said Shawano County also needs to be concerned about what could happen in nearby Langlade County.

"If you do a data center to the north, it will deplete the water that then comes down through us,"

she said. "As this water is restricted, it heads down to Lake Butte des Morts, where, of course, the sturgeon come out of to head north to Shawano dam to spawn."

Hinze said Shawano County may not have the resources for a mega data center, but residents still need to be aware of the issues and be concerned about what others might do.

"I am totally against these data centers, because I do know what the impact will be on the environment," she said.

Supervisor Kathy Luebke urged residents in the cities, villages and other towns in Shawano County to push their local officials to adopt a similar moratorium.

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Dark clouds roll in



Children play at Smalley Park in Shawano the evening of June 24 as dark clouds rolled in over the area. Heavy rain and hail was the result throughout much of northeast Wisconsin. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Newcap’s assets being sold in online auction

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Assets belonging to Shawano’s Newcap location are now up for sale in accordance with the court-ordered liquidation decision. All of the contents in the Newcap building at 504 Lakeland Road are now available through Titledown Auction Company. The auction began June 24. Bidding is open to the public and takes place exclusively online through Titledown Auction Company’s website. Nearly 600 items are on the auction block. Items include medical clinic equipment and supplies, office furniture, tools, Smart Boards, weatherization tools, HVAC testing equipment, small and large kitchen appliances, bed frames, park benches, a gas grill, computer equipment and more. All items are sold as is and are presumed untested unless otherwise noted. Titledown Auction Company does not test items for genuineness. Every lot opens with a \$2 starting bid and will sell to the highest bidder regardless of price, with no reserve. A 15% buyer’s fee and Wisconsin sales tax of 5.5% will be added to all purchases. All bidding will end July 7, starting at 6 p.m., with one lot closing every 15 seconds thereafter. Successful bidders must pick up their purchases between 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. July 8 at the Shawano location. Any items not picked up during that time will be considered abandoned and forfeited without refund. The auction is the latest event in the saga that led to the company closing its doors at the end of March and then filing for bankruptcy. For more than 50 years, Newcap operated in 10 counties, including Shawano,



An online auction is underway for nearly 600 items from the Newcap location in Shawano and runs through July 7. FILE | NEW MEDIA

Delinquent taxpayers face new penalty

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Shawano County delinquent taxpayers will soon be assessed a new penalty on their back taxes. Members of the executive committee gave the green light to Emily Kazik, county treasurer, to help prepare an ordinance that will assess a 0.5% monthly penalty on all back taxes going back the last decade. It is anticipated the penalty will go into effect Jan. 1, 2027. Kazik said 64% of Wisconsin’s counties already assess the penalty, and some have been doing so for a couple decades or more. “Right now, there is only 1% interest,” she said. “The state allows any county to apply the

half percent as a penalty charge. They label it differently people who file for bankruptcy. If you file for bankruptcy, we do not collect for that penalty charge.” Kazik’s report for May showed the county is due more than \$803,000 in delinquent taxes and special charges, not including interest. In 2025, the county assessed interest at about \$200,000 on the delinquent bills. Based on the same amount of taxes due, the county would assess another \$100,000 in penalty charges. “It’s definitely a revenue maker,” Kazik said. “It’s something we can do without having to increase taxes, and only the people who are going to be delinquent are going to

get the extra charge.” The committee briefly wrestled with when the penalty should go into effect. “I would start it as far back as you can,” Supervisor Terry Tipton said. “It costs everybody else money.” Kazik said that at the end of 2026, she would be writing off delinquent taxes that are 10 years old, which prompted the committee to agree to charge the penalty on all taxes going back 10 years, effective Jan. 1. An ordinance will be drafted for the committee to consider at its July meeting; if approved, it will be forwarded to the county board later in the month.

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Baldwin wants details on Iran War deal

Senator
dubious about
lack of details
from president

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

President Donald Trump has declared victory in the Iran War and said the memorandum of understanding between the two country confirms the months-long war is over.

U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin said she'll only believe that when she and other members of Congress get to see that deal.

Baldwin held a virtual press conference with Wisconsin media June 17 and said Trump has repeatedly claimed victory in recent months in a war she said has cost taxpayers more than \$30 billion, even as attacks had continued on both sides. Besides the loss of 13 members of the



U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin provides opening remarks during a virtual press conference June 17 addressing the recently announced memorandum of understanding to end hostilities between this country and Iran.

SCREENSHOT

military, she noted that gas prices for both standard and diesel fuel have shot up, making life difficult for farmers and non-farmers alike.

"From his trade wars to his peace negotiations, President Trump often claims victory without any work to show for it, and this

time is no different," Baldwin said. "The truth is that President Trump has not reached a deal with Iran. There's no agreement to end their nuclear program. We have no assurances that war won't continue, no evidence that Americans are any better off today than they were before all this

started."

She added that the only thing she's seen on paper is that Trump plans to keep talking about a final deal.

Some details were revealed by the White House shortly after Baldwin's press conference. The deal calls for opening the Strait of Hormuz to oil tanker traffic and keeping it open, according to The Associated Press. There is also a plan for the U.S. to provide at least \$300 billion for Iran's reconstruction and economic development, and the U.S. will try to terminate all sanctions against Iran, including ones implemented by the United Nations and other countries.

Baldwin said full details are needed, as Trump and Iranian officials cannot even agree publicly on what's in the deal.

"Peace is unequivocally a good thing and something that I have been fighting for since this president launched this unnecessary war. In fact, it's something

I've advocated for my entire career," Baldwin said. "We need to make sure that whatever is in this agreement is real and also good for the American people, because so far this war has just been a disaster for Wisconsinites."

People in Wisconsin have spent \$877 million more on gasoline since the war first began earlier this year, according to Baldwin, equating to an additional \$378 per person. Diesel fuel hit record highs in May, she said, which struck a blow to farmers getting their fields planted for 2026.

"One farmer told me his fuel costs skyrocketed from \$120,000 to \$200,000 over the last year," Baldwin said. "Nearly 70% of farmers reported not being able to afford the fertilizer they needed this year."

Baldwin pointed to polls showing the low popularity of the Iran War and said that citizens need more than just assurances that they can trust Trump when he says the deal is a good

one.

"Donald Trump's wink-and-nod promise is not enough," Baldwin said. "Wisconsin families need details and guarantees that this unnecessary war is over once and for all."

Baldwin noted that there had already been a deal with Iran that limited its nuclear capabilities, but that deal was terminated by Trump during his first term in office. She said she plans to continue to push Congress to vote on war powers acts until the deal is formally presented to Congress.

"Now, the president is seeing that this is not a situation that you can bomb yourself out of," Baldwin said. "Here's what he needs to do. He needs to show the American people what is in this agreement, what we need to do to reach a long-term peace deal and explain how any of us are better off now compared to 3 1/2 months ago."

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Number of Shawano County housing units on the upswing

SCEPI leader says
more work needed
on inventory, costs

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

Single-family and multifamily housing units have recently been built in Shawano, Bonduel and Wittenberg, but Peter Thillman said more work still needs to be done for supply to meet demand in Shawano County.

Thillman, executive director of Shawano Community Economic Progress Inc., provided an annual update to the Shawano County Board on June 24.

He thanked the board for investing in a 2022 housing study.

"It is now paying dividends," Thillman said. "We are having projects opening in Bonduel, and Wittenberg later this year. We still need to build more multifamily and single-family housing, so we're addressing the housing shortage."

Bonduel and Shawano both completed single-family subdivisions, and both communities are actively working on more.

"Unfortunately, housing prices are not going down," Thillman said. "That's something we would like to address. I am still having a hard time with starter homes at \$450,000."

Shawano has approved a multi-unit

"twindo" (a style of duplex housing where two adjacent units share a single continuous structure, but each is individually owned) project to add more owner-occupied, zero-entry options to the market.

Outreach continues with developers and builders, especially for the single-family builders.

Thillman is working with Marion and Pulaski to develop housing and other commercial activities.

Countywide, supply still lags behind demand by about 2,500 units.

Thillman said a Thrive Rural Wisconsin project closed in Bonduel, after the village established a redevelopment authority and received three grants for \$150,000 total to get that going.

A Thrive Rural Wisconsin project in Wittenberg is now getting underway.

"(The intent is) to establish a redevelopment authority and redevelop their downtown and get things moving in the right direction," he said.

Communities that participate in Thrive Rural Wisconsin receive project management, financial support and technical assistance to advance local and regional initiatives and connect them to the resources they need to be successful.

SCEPI is part of a consortium of regional economic development

organizations New North and Centergy that will have a Hiring Heroes program. It will be based in Shawano County.

"It's a program where they go out and they recruit those leaving military service to ... come to northeast Wisconsin, primarily Shawano County, for open job opportunities," Thillman said.

The program grant was for \$250,000.

Thillman also noted that employment remained relatively flat between 2024 and 2025 with the labor force staying consistently above 20,000. The unemployment rate remained steady at 3.1%, which is considered full employment.

Finally, Shawano County has been experiencing an overall decline in population that accelerated after the 2008 Great Recession. That trend appears to be over as the county's population is now on the upswing.

"For the first time in about 40 years, Shawano County is actually growing in population," Thillman said. "We're making a turnaround, and we're growing the community once again."

Since the COVID era, the county has added nearly 2,000 new residents, and that trend looks to continue going forward.

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Adkins named Bonduel parade marshal

Dianne Adkins is the parade marshal for the Bonduel Independence Day parade, announced Celebrate Bonduel.

Adkins made her entrance into the world Feb. 1, 1940 — born in a 1936 Chevrolet on the way to Green Bay from her family's farm, 5 miles south of Bonduel near Landstad.

After high school, Adkins attended Outagamie County College for two years to earn her teaching credentials. She began her teaching career at Nichols State Graded School in 1960, then transferred to the Bonduel School District when the Navarino school was built in 1963. All the while, she continued her education in the evenings, on Saturdays and through summer sessions — earning her degree from Oshkosh in the summer of 1965.

Adkins spent three years teaching first grade in Nichols, followed by 31 years teaching first grade in Navarino and then eight years in fifth grade in Bonduel — 42 years in the classroom in all.

On May 26, 1962, she married Mark Adkins. Together they had two daughters, Sally and Penny, both of whom attended Bonduel schools. Mark Adkins worked at the Bonduel Times and later the Shawano Evening Leader, where he put his skills to good use creating the calendar class photos that students gave as Christmas gifts to their parents each year.

Throughout the years, Adkins followed area Little League and Dairyland League teams, and she rarely missed a high school football, basketball,



Dianne Adkins is the parade marshal for the Bonduel Independence Day parade. An area resident all of her life, she is a huge supporter of Bonduel athletics and a lifetime member of St. Paul Lutheran Church. CONTRIBUTED

baseball or softball game. Her daughter, Sally, was part of a Bonduel softball team that reached the state tournament three years running — 1979, 1980 and

1981 — earning second place each time.

In recognition of her lifelong devotion and unwavering commitment to Bonduel athletics, Adkins received a WIAA conference pass granting her admission to all games upon her retirement in 2002.

She is a lifetime member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and served on the building committee when the congregation built its new church. She has been known to describe her role on the committee with characteristic good humor — "token old white woman."

Today, Adkins lives at The Cottages and continues to show up for many of the games — cheering on both her great-grandchildren and the Bonduel High School teams. She drives herself when she can and catches a ride when she needs to. Some things never change.

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A tradition since 1984, Kurowski Dairy hosted this year's Shawano County Brunch on the Farm on June 28. Antique tractors provided wagon rides and farm tours for the expected 4,000 visitors to the family farm and home on Swamp Road in Bonduel. Gloria and Cletus Kurowski hosted the event, welcoming everyone.

BRUNCH ON THE FARM

Kurowski Dairy hosts tradition of feeding the masses



Families and 4-H members, all carrying plates with the hearty country breakfast, arrived early in the morning.



Next generation Travis Kurowski and his fiancée, Bella Schroeder, take a break in the early morning hours before the crowds arrive.



A spot for 10 kids, a tour of the modern dairy farm is one of several children's activities.



The hearty country breakfast is good, but the ice cream sundae is the hit of the event.

PHOTOS BY
GREG MELLIS

Shawano Community High School athletic facilities taking shape



Crews are busy at it this summer at Shawano Community High School, preparing the school and the athletic facilities for the fall of 2026. The football field is nearly ready, with the track around it, bleachers, storage and press box in place. Construction continues on the concession stand and ticket booth.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Prey selected to lead Hawks girls basketball team

Mike Prey has been hired as the new girls varsity basketball coach at Shawano Community High School.

Prey brings a combination of coaching experience, basketball knowledge and a passion for developing student-athletes both on and off the court.

Prey has been involved in the Shawano girls basketball program, serving as a volunteer coach for the JV and varsity teams since 2024. In that role, he worked closely with players on skill development and game preparation. He also served as the JV head

coach when needed.

In addition to his work at the high school level, Prey has served as a head coach for Shawano Girls Hoops since 2023. There, he has led practices and team activities, implemented offensive and defensive systems, and helped create a positive environment focused on accountability, teamwork and continuous improvement.

“I am excited for the opportunity to lead a program that means a great deal to me and to continue building on the strong foundation that has already been established,” Prey said. “I have a tremendous



MIKE PREY

this program, its culture and its student-athletes.

“I look forward to building on that foundation while helping our student-athletes grow both on and off the court in an environment built on accountability, teamwork, discipline and continuous improvement.”

Prey is a graduate of

a m o u n t of respect for the c o a c h e s who came before me and the work they put into developing

Shawano Community High School, class of 2001. He continued his basketball career at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he was a member of the back-to-back NCAA Division 3 national championship teams in 2004 and 2005.

His experience as both a player and coach has shaped his philosophy of building a disciplined, competitive and team-focused program.

“My focus will be on building relationships with our players, establishing a positive and competitive culture and helping our athletes continue to

grow their skills and basketball IQ,” Prey said. “We will emphasize teamwork, accountability and effort while preparing to compete at a high level.”

Kayla Brendemuehl, activities and athletics director, shared her enthusiasm for the hire.

“Throughout this process, Mike demonstrated a genuine passion for our student-athletes and a clear vision for continuing the growth of our girls basketball program,” she said. “We are excited for the future of Shawano girls basketball under his leadership and look forward to the positive impact he

will have on our student-athletes, program and community.”

“I am grateful for the opportunity to lead this program and appreciate the support from our administration, players, families and community,” Prey said. “Shawano has a strong tradition of pride and commitment, and I look forward to working together to continue building a program that represents our school and community the right way, both on and off the court.”

For more information about Shawano athletics, visit www.shawanoschools.com.

Late runs lift Hofa Park Panthers over Pulaski Reds

By **GREG SEUBERT**
Correspondent

Carson Blom’s two-run double in the bottom of the ninth inning erased a 4-3 deficit for the Hofa Park Panthers into a 5-4 Dairyland League win over Pulaski June 28.

Hofa Park 5, Pulaski 4

The Panthers trailed by a run heading into the bottom of the ninth inning.

Beau Jensen’s RBI single in the fourth inning

gave Hofa Park a 1-0 lead, but Pulaski tied it on Jarrett Olson’s RBI single in the fifth.

Emmit Hunter gave the Panthers a 2-1 lead in the fifth inning by stealing home, but Pulaski’s Zach Carolin tied the game with a solo home run in the seventh.

The Reds broke a 2-2 tie in the top of the ninth inning on sacrifice fly balls from Jackson Meyer and Olson.

Peyton Dorn singled for Hofa Park in the bottom of the ninth inning before Blom ended the game.

Ayden Tomlinson picked up the win on the mound, and Logan Brabant took the loss despite striking out 14 batters.

Dorn and Robbie Schuettpetz led Hofa Park with two hits each.

Carolin had three hits to lead Pulaski.

Bonduel 5, Marinette

4

Marinette opened the scoring with a run in the top of the third inning June 28 before the Broncos answered with two runs in the sixth and three more in the seventh.

A three-run home run in the top of the ninth inning cut Bonduel’s lead to one run.

Riley Susa pitched 8 1/3 innings to get the win on the mound, while Beckett Harlaben picked up the save.

Noah Weier had three of Bonduel’s 10 hits, while Chase Reinke added two.

Hortonville 12, Cecil 7

Cecil took a 2-0 lead with a pair of runs in the top of the second inning June 28 at Hortonville, but the Stars came up with five runs in the fifth and eight frames and single runs in the third and seventh.

The Mudhens scored at least one run from the fifth to the eighth innings.

Easton Engel, Noah

Beilfuss, Mason Meverden and Logan Thieux each had two of Cecil’s 13 hits.

Dan Wunderlich drove in three of Hortonville’s runs.

Bonduel 6, Nichols 4

Bonduel stayed undefeated in the league standings June 26 with its eighth win over the Nitros.

Nichols came up with a run in the bottom of the

DAIRYLAND,
continued on page 12

Meverdens help lead Birnamwood over Hatley in BABA game

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Mason and Evan Meverden had big games for Birnamwood's BABA team, as the Kings needed only seven innings to pick up a 16-1 North Division win over Hatley June 26.

Birnamwood 16, Hatley 1 (7 inn.)

Mason Meverden had five of the Kings' 16 hits, while Evan Meverden added three of his own, including a grand slam.

Owen Dickman and Logan Thiex added two hits each.

Thiex went the distance to get the win on the mound, and Nick Cotter took the loss. He also had the Braves' two hits.

Eland 3, Antigo/Polar 2

Eland outhit the Bears

12-6 June 26.

Winning pitcher Tyler Nelson had four hits for the Engineers, while Jeremy Jensen added three hits.

AJ Kirsch took the loss Antigo/Polar and also led the Bears with two hits.

Elderon 12, Aniwa 8

Thirteen hits – including two each from Bryce Zoromski, Casey Kerstner, Ian Salvesen and Mike Lehman – helped the WhiskeyJacks defeat the Orioles June 28 in Elderon.

Zoromski, Brandon Groshek, Carson Meronk and Justin Meronk hit home runs for Elderon.

Gavin Steppert hit two home runs for Aniwa, while Chris Wiesman also homered for the Orioles as the team finished with seven hits.

Thomas Lemanczyk

picked up the win on the mound, and Wade Farmer took the loss.

Gresham 17, Shawano 0 (7 inn.)

The Gophers shut out the Lakers June 28 in Shawano.

Caroline 10, Leopoli 0 (8 inn.)

The Cougars celebrated Fireworks Night on their home field June 26 with an eight-inning win over the Bulldogs.

Klay Barkow struck out 10 batters and gave up three hits in seven innings to get the win, while Jaden Stuhr took the loss despite striking out 15 batters.

Barkow and Jack Yae-ger led Caroline with three hits, while Gavin Christopherson had two, including a home run. Kade Rosenow also had two hits for the Cougars and drove

in three runs.

Brady Hannes, Ryan Malueg and Dane Hodkiewicz had a hit for Leopoli.

Little Falls 16, Tiger-ton 1 (7 inn.)

Kyle Finger struck out 11 batters and held the Tiggers to four hits to get the complete-game win June 27.

He also had three hits and drove in a pair of runs.

Parker Gullixon also had three hits for the Loggers, while Kal Fischer, Cam Gruenwald and Jenner Gullixon added two each.

Kody Ludvigson took the loss after giving up 11 hits

Caroline 8, Witten-berg 7

Caroline came back to pick up a one-run win over the Pilots in Wittenberg June 28.

Plover 7, Weymont 6

Brady Houston had three hits and drove in a pair of runs to help lead the Pterodactyls over the White Bass June 26 in Weyauwega.

Wyatt Blaskowski and Kevin Jastromski added two hits each for Plover.

Tyler Wetzell led the White Bass at the plate with three hits, four RBIs and a run scored, while Carter Birdyshaw and Colin Jorgensen added two hits and scored twice.

Kaden Thauer picked up the win on the mound and Luke Schwenn took the loss.

Scandinavia 2, New London 0

The Vikings headed to New London on June 25 and returned home following a 2-0 win over the Irish. Landon Moe, Matt

Gladowski and Braden Hunkins each had a hit for Scandinavia, and Conner Brinkman got the win on the mound.

July 2 schedule

West Division: Little Falls at Tigerton, 7:30 p.m.

July 3 schedule

West Division: Wittenberg at Tilleda (doubleheader), 5:30 p.m. North Division: Crandon at Eland (doubleheader), 6 p.m.

July 5 schedule

East Division: Shawano at Menominee; Gresham at Marion, 1:30 p.m.; Clintonville has bye. West Division: No games scheduled. North Division: Birnamwood at Elderon, noon; Hatley at Antigo/Polar, 1:30 p.m.; Elderon vs. Birnamwood at Aniwa, 3:30 p.m.; Aniwa has bye. South-Central Division: No games scheduled.

DAIRYLAND, continued from page 11

second inning and added two more in the fourth and one in the ninth.

The Broncos cut into the lead with runs in the fifth and sixth innings before adding two more in the seventh and ninth.

Cooper Campshure had two of the Broncos' five hits.

Brooks Hartlaben picked up the win on the mound in relief.

Nichols' Cade Johnson struck out 11 batters, but

still took the loss.

The Nitros had 10 hits, including two each from Collin Leisgang, Justin Krull, Marcus Jens and Ethan Volz.

Waupaca 2, Hofa Park 1

The Lakemen scored only two runs, but it was enough to hand the Panthers a loss June 26 in Waupaca.

All three of the game's runs came in the first inning.

Robbie Schuettelpelz and Beau Jensen each had two of Hofa Park's six hits, while Walker Smith led the Lakemen with three and Johnny Popham and Parker Krcmar added two each.

Waupaca improved to 7-1 in league play with the win.

Cecil 11, Marinette 0 (7 inn.)

Noah Beilfuss pitched six shutout innings and added a pair of RBIs on June 26 in the Mudhens

win over the Redbirds.

He allowed three hits and struck out eight batters before Miles Friedman worked the seventh inning to pick up the save.

Cecil opened the scoring with a run in the first inning and added eight more in the second frame on hits from Reese Stoltenow, Garrett Engel, Beilfuss, Issac Bolt and Mason Zuleger.

Cecil added single runs in the fourth and fifth

innings.

Braden Uelmen had two hits and three RBIs to lead Cecil at the plate.

Hortonville 9, Pulaski 2

The Stars improved to 8-1 in league play June 26 with a road win over the Reds.

Hortonville scored six runs in the top of the first inning before adding single runs in the third, sixth and ninth.

Pulaski scored in the

first and sixth innings.

Reese Berg had three of Pulaski's eight hits.

Navarino at Waupaca Results not reported from June 28.

Shawano at Nichols Results not reported from June 28.

Navarino at Shawano Results not reported from June 28.

July 2: Hofa Park at Navarino (makeup game), 7:30 p.m.; Cecil at Bonduel (makeup game), 7:30 p.m.



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Good ice cream. Great Conversations. Stronger community.



Barb and Kevin King, of Shawano, check out the ice cream flavors at Moe's on Main, the new popcorn and ice cream shop at 204 S. Main St. in Shawano. Monica Mueller, left, the mother of owner Dana "Moe" Mueller, offers advice and answers questions. LYNN ZAFFRANN

For best popcorn around, you can get your fill at Moe's

Ice cream and other goodies also available at Shawano shop

By LYNN ZAFFRANN
Correspondent

Popcorn, ice cream, and shaved ice, oh my.

Dana "Moe" Mueller, of Shawano, opened Moe's on Main on April 17 and is already tempting the appetites of summer crowds with her gourmet popcorn, Chocolate Shoppe ice cream and Hawaiian shaved ice.

Located on the southeast corner of Main and Division streets, the storefront had been vacant for a few years, prompting Shawano residents to speculate on what would be coming to the prime downtown location.

When her parents, Monica and Gary Mueller, purchased the building in 2022, her father thought that the location would be great for a popcorn store. It's convenient to the Naberhood, Franklin Park events, downtown shopping and has lots of foot traffic.

Mueller said that her parents asked her if she'd like to own a popcorn shop. She said, "Sure, why not?"

"We just didn't know everything that we needed to know before getting into renovating," she said. "That's part of what took so long, plus I had some health issues."

Her brother, Lee Mueller, helped with the demolition and renovation. She noted that two of the pleasant surprises



Dana "Moe" Mueller helps her nephew, Caleb Mueller, stock waffle cones in her new store, Moe's on Main. Caleb spent a few days recently in the store helping to carry supplies, organize items and measure ingredients for popcorn flavors. "It's pretty good to have a place like this in the family," Mueller said. "The other day when he helped me, I paid him in ice cream." LYNN ZAFFRANN

found during renovation were the glass block décor that rims the ceiling and the original hardwood floor.

The family-friendly store is now fully supplied.

"All of the popcorn and whatever is done to it, caramelized or cheesed, is made here on site," Mueller said.

Mueller's mother works alongside her.

"I agreed to come and help her,"

Monica Mueller said. "I tell everyone that I'm the unpaid help. It's been fun. We think very much alike."

The popcorn is kept in warmed display cases, easy to view by customers, with room for six flavors at a time. Some of the flavors sold in the shop are Orange Cheddar, Extra Buttery Caramel, Movie Theater Butter and Kettle Corn.

MOE'S, continued on page 14

Charter fishing trip adventure for all ages

When it comes to outdoors hunting and fishing adventures, you tend to remember the toughest ones almost as much as the best ones. That was the case on a family fishing charter in the Atlantic Ocean out of North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on June 15 as part of an 11-day trip to the Carolinas.

It's hard to find shared activities that allow a 20-year-old active woman, a mostly sedentary 66-year-old marketing man and columnist, and an 87-year-old

retired phone company gent who walks with a cane, but that's the beauty of a charter trip. It's all aboard, and most kids and adults will be fine.

Unless you are my daughter, Kalispell, and the Bonine doesn't work.

I booked this morning trip with Fish Hook Charters, North Myrtle Beach, because I had such a successful trip with them in June 2023, boating both a huge Spanish mackerel and multiple Atlantic sharpnose sharks (you can only keep one shark, and they are delicious).

I fished alone in 2023, but this time I had my father-in-law, Roger Nitschke, of Oshkosh, and Kali, who was on her first ocean fishing trip. Nitschke was an old salt at this, spending two months a year fishing Gulf of America waters south of Tampa, Florida, out of John's Pass on the Friendly Fisherman.

Those Florida boats are much larger, but with more anglers, you get less personalized attention than in the Carolinas. We only had six anglers on board this trip, plus deck hand Roger Lemke and Capt. Carson.

Lemke was working hard for us from the time we left the dock (7 a.m.) until we arrived back to shore (noon). He baited our hooks with cut squid, untangled snarled reels, pulled fish up the side of the 46-foot Fish Hook II and swabbed the decks and fish cleaning/baiting area with detergent and a brush when we were done so the boat was ready for the 1 p.m. trip.

Carson was a friendly, young fellow, but the trip to our first stop about 5 miles out between North and South Carolina was the roughest I've ever experienced. A front had come through the day before, and

FISHING, continued on page 16



Roger Nitschke, of Oshkosh, shows his first sea robin caught in the Atlantic Ocean near North Myrtle Beach during a charter fishing trip June 15 with Fish Hook Charters. ROSS BIELEMA

Waiting to be reunited with twin orphans

Anguish flooded my heart as my brain registered what I saw. There, on the road just past our driveway, lay my sweet kitty, Fred. Lifeless.

My husband and I were on our four-wheeler, and immediately I felt the need to get Fred off the road.

“Let’s go back and get a guinea sack,” my husband suggested quietly.

Returning immediately, he gently placed Fred in the sack I had opened and, crying, I crumbled back into the four-wheeler.

Back in the day when I was a small girl on my home farm, we had a bunch of cats. They were there for a purpose – the circle of life – keeping mice at a minimum. One older one was the grandma of every cat on our farm, and she procreated regularly, keeping our mice at bay. Her offspring became our playmates, and we dressed them up in doll clothes when they were old enough.

Later, when I married my husband, we had cats on our farm, too, strictly for mice control.

Our cats were skittish, and I never considered them pets, really. They were just there.

When we sold our cows, the cats we had on the farm disappeared, one by one. We started noticing mice, and that got my husband’s attention.

“We need some cats,” he proclaimed one day.

I heard of a gal named Sarah Magee who rehomed cats. Contacting her through her organization, Joy’s Place Animal Rescue in Gresham, she brought out two spaded cats in a crate complete with food, blankets,

kitty litter and bowls.

“Leave them in the crates for two to three weeks, Kay,” she advised. “You’ll soon gain their trust as they discover you are safe and a good provider for everything they need.”

I was instructed to feed and water them daily, and clean out their litter box with a scoop (provided), talking and moving quietly around them.

The first while they hissed at me, squeezing together in the back of their crate like I was going to kill them as I tended. Soon they started, little by little, not hissing, but not really friendly, either.

Presently came the day they were to be released. I was nervous. I’d put so much effort into this. Leaving their food and water dish close by, I opened the door and left, hoping against hope they’d not just fly the coop.

They stayed.

Now they’re my little lovers, curling themselves around my ankles and many times vocally greeting me good morning at the barn door before I even open it up.

Soon we had a visitor. An old battle-scarred yellow cat would mosey his way up the barn hill and, discovering there was fresh food and water daily, helped himself.

Assuming he was way past procreating, I didn’t bother taking him to Sarah to have him neutered.

Two years passed.

Lo and behold, one day I was astounded to hear mewing, which sounded suspiciously like kittens. Peeking under the blanket in the

FARM LIFE FROM A FARM WIFE



KAY REMINGER
COLUMNIST



Orphaned after the death of their mother, these two kittens from the Reminger farm are now under the care of Sarah Magee and her organization, Joy’s Place Animal Rescue in Gresham. They will soon return to the farm.

KAY REMINGER

barn mow, I saw two beautiful yellow puff balls nestled there with eyes as wide as saucers and their mama – Fred. Who quite obviously was not a Fred but a Freda.

This old cat, whom I assumed

was male, turned out to be the very best mama. I’d pick them up, their bellies round as pumpkins and eyes clear as crystal. Fred – that was what we’d named “him” and it stuck – had a patch of fur

on her jawline gone, she was deaf and had barely any peripheral vision.

Her kitties were approximately 6 weeks old when we found their mama on the road that day. My first thought after seeing her there was of her twin orphan babies. How in the world would they survive?

That afternoon, I brought a saucer full of warm milk up to the barn. In tears I tried to show them the bowlful of milk. They would not drink; they were simply too little.

I called Sarah, weepily explaining what had happened.

It wasn’t one half hour later, and she and a helper were standing in the middle of my barn mow tenderly checking them out. Placing those babies in a blanket-lined carrier in the back seat of her car, she assured me in three or four months I’d have them back, fully weaned and neutered.

Confirming my perception of her compassion – and to calm me, I’m sure – later that night she texted: “The babies are fed and are sleeping.”

While I’m sorely missing Fred, I wait with anticipation when her offspring will again be home, thanks to sweet Sarah and her helpers at Joy’s Place Animal Rescue.

“Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, Your justice like the great deep. You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.” Psalm 36:6, New International Version)

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

Vitamin K shots for newborns vitally important

Vitamin K is an essential vitamin that the body requires for normal bone development, vascular health, and – most pertinent to this topic – a healthy blood clotting system.

Vitamin K is found in abundance in green leafy vegetables, many fruits and berries, chicken and oils such as soybean, olive and canola oil. The body also produces its own vitamin K with the help of normal gut bacteria once babies begin eating a balanced diet beyond breast milk or formula.

Thankfully, vitamin K deficiency is quite rare – except in newborns. Very little vitamin K crosses the placenta during pregnancy, so all infants begin life with very low vitamin K stores.

These stores remain low for several months, especially in exclusively breastfed infants because breast milk naturally contains only small amounts of vitamin K. Infant formula contains more vitamin K than breast milk, but it is still not an adequate amount for several days, which is why supplementation at birth is recommended regardless of feeding method.

Although persistent vitamin K deficiency can contribute to long-term health problems, the most immediate and dangerous consequence is bleeding. Before routine vitamin K prophylaxis, early and classic Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding occurred in approximately 0.25–1.7% of newborns (roughly 1 in 400 to 1 in 60 births), depending on the population studied.

Intracranial hemorrhage was among the most devastating complications, often occurring without warning and carrying a high risk of death or permanent neurologic injury. Since universal vitamin K administration at birth became standard practice, VKDB has become exceedingly rare in countries with high uptake of the newborn vitamin K injection.

Hemorrhagic disease of the newborn, now known as VKDB) was first recognized in the late 1800s, but the cause was not understood until the 1930s when a Danish biochemist identified vitamin K’s critical role in blood clotting.

Shortly afterward, a Swedish researcher conducted a study

involving more than 13,000 newborns demonstrating that vitamin K supplementation immediately after birth dramatically reduced hemorrhagic disease. That study included both oral and intramuscular administration.

While both reduced early-onset VKDB, oral vitamin K proved less reliable because it requires multiple doses and was significantly less effective at preventing late-onset VKDB.

As a result, in 1961 the American Academy of Pediatrics officially recommended a single intramuscular vitamin K injection for every newborn shortly after birth, and it has remained the standard of care ever since.

Although oral vitamin K protocols exist for parents who decline the injection, they require multiple doses over several weeks, depend on perfect adherence and still do not provide the same protection against late VKDB. We also know that maternal vitamin K supplementation during pregnancy does not prevent VKDB because only minimal amounts cross the placenta.

VKDB is classified into three forms:

- Early onset: within the first 24 hours after birth.

- Classic: from 24 hours through the first week of life.

- Late onset: from 2 weeks to 6 months of age.

This distinction is important because the risk does not end when a newborn leaves the hospital. Babies who do not receive the single IM dose remain vulnerable for months.

Unfortunately, these life-threatening bleeds rarely give warning signs before they occur. Approximately one in five infants with VKDB dies, and about half of late-onset cases involve bleeding into the brain. Among survivors of intracranial hemorrhage, approximately 40% suffer permanent neurologic injury or developmental disabilities.

Another early bleeding complication that is sometimes overlooked is elective newborn circumcision.

Vitamin K deficiency significantly increases the risk of serious bleeding following newborn-circumcision, which is why many hospitals and nurseries will not perform an elective circumcision unless the infant has received the vitamin K injection.

Since this has been the standard of care for more than 60 years and has prevented countless cases of severe bleeding and death, why are we still discussing it today?

Much like vaccines, concerns

about the vitamin K injection increased after a small study published in England in 1990 suggested a possible association with childhood cancer. Numerous larger, better-designed studies conducted since then have found no evidence that the vitamin K injection increases the risk of childhood leukemia or any other childhood cancer.

Unfortunately, the original claim continues to circulate on social media despite being thoroughly disproven.

Thankfully, deaths from VKDB remain rare, because most newborns still receive vitamin K at birth. However, as more parents decline this simple, safe and highly effective intervention, preventable cases continue to occur.

The newborn vitamin K injection is one of the safest and most effective preventive interventions in modern medicine. A single injection provides protection during the months when babies are naturally most vulnerable to vitamin K deficiency bleeding, preventing a rare but potentially devastating condition that can cause lifelong disability or death.

Dr. Mindy Frimodig is a family physician at ThedaCare Medical Center-Shawano and a member of the Shawano Community Health Action Team.



MINDY FRIMODIG
GUEST COLUMNIST

WHAT’S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, JULY 3

GILLETT: Fourth of July Celebration, 4-11 p.m., Zippel Park, McKenzie Street. Lawn Chair Concert 4 p.m., Live music by Petty Cash 7-11 p.m., food and beverage stands.

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.

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

SHAWANO: Fireworks, dusk, launched from Shawano Airport, 248 Airport Road.

SATURDAY, JULY 4

SHAWANO: Zurko’s Flea Market – Special Holiday Market, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. Admission \$2.

SHAWANO: FRESH Project Shawano Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 Washington St. Check Facebook page for cancellations and weekly updates.

LEOPOLIS: Leopold Triathlon, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Leopold Pond, Fourth and Water streets. Registration 8 a.m., race 10 a.m., parade at noon.

GILLETT: Fourth of July

Celebration, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., Zippel Park, McKenzie Street. Antique/Classic Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., horse pull 9 a.m., live music by Country Rewind 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., parade 2 p.m., music by Acoustic Vinyl 3-6 p.m., antique tractor pull 5 p.m., music by Highway 32 Band 7-11 p.m., fireworks at dusk, food and beverage stands.

TOWNSEND: Fourth of July Celebration, 9 a.m. to dusk, Fire Department, 17937 Front St.. Craft Fair 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parade at noon. Fireworks at dusk at Veterans Park. Food, drink , live music.

CRIVITZ: Crooked Lake Sportsman’s Club Fourth of July Picnic, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., 15526 County Road W. Games, raffles, trout pond, live music, parade 10:30 a.m.

BONDUEL: Celebrate Bonduel, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Village Park. Parade 11 a.m., bike raffle, two bands, kids events, baseball game 2 p.m., fireworks at dusk.

SHAWANO: Auto racing, 6 p.m., Shawano Speedway, 990 E. Green Bay St. Gates open 4 p.m. Adults \$15, seniors \$12, younger than age 11 free. Check the Shawano

Speedway page on Facebook for updates and weather-related conditions.

KESHENA: International Boxing, 7 p.m., Menominee Casino Resort Four Clans Ballroom, N277 State Highway 47-55. Featuring Jason Komaneckin Jr., lightweight state champion. General admission \$45, must be 21 or older.

SUNDAY, JULY 5

SHAWANO: Zurko’s Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. Admission \$2.

SHAWANO: Music in the Park at Arlington, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Arlington Park, 300 N. Humphrey Circle. Music with Burdocks. Bring your lawn chairs.

TUESDAY, JULY 7

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto County Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., Memorial Field. Polka Night. Music by The Zander’s Music Makers.

SHAWANO: Cone with a Cop, 4-7 p.m., Dairy Queen Grill and Chill, 1005 E. Green Bay St. A free ice cream treat for all visitors, and join neighbors, local law enforcement officers, firefighters, and EMTs for ice cream and conversation.

GILLETT: Playground

Groundbreaking Ceremony, 5 p.m., Zippel Park, North McKenzie Street.

SHAWANO: Naberhood Block Party, 6 p.m., The Naberhood, 214 S. Main St. Dino Dimensions.

OCONTO: Tunes on Tuesday, 6-8 p.m., Beyer Home, Music with Manson, plus opening act Beachfront Avenue plus Chad Pagel.

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

STILES: St. Patrick’s Rumage Sale, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 5760 County Road I.

BONDUEL: Farmers Market, 4-7 p.m., corner of Cecil and Green Bay streets.

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks Waterski Show, 6 p.m., Wolf River Beach at Smalley Park, 211 Riverside Drive. Pre-show 5:30 p.m. Free admission, donations welcome.

KESHENA: Recovery talking circle, 6-8 p.m. Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Information: Mindy

Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

THURSDAY, JULY 9

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: Thursdayz at Franklin, 6-8:30 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Fire On High. Bring your own chairs, food and drink available, 50/50 raffles.

SHAWANO: “James and the Giant Peach,” 7 p.m., Mielke Arts Center, N5649 Airport Road. Box in the Wood Theater Guild musical presentation. Tickets \$10-\$25 at Shawanoarts.ludus.com or at the door.

SHAWANO: The After Party, 8-10 p.m., The Naberhood, 214 S. Main St. Music with Travis John.

FRIDAY, JULY 10

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.

TOWN OF HOW: Suring Summer Craft and Vendor Show,

noon to 6 p.m., How Community Building, 12896 State Highway 32.

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

SHAWANO: “James and the Giant Peach,” 7 p.m., Mielke Arts Center, N5649 Airport Road. Box in the Wood Theater Guild musical presentation. Tickets \$10-\$25 at Shawanoarts.ludus.com or at the door.

SATURDAY, JULY 11

OCONTO: Escape Reality Walleye Open, all day, Breakwater Park, 1301 Harbor Road. Details at Escape Reality Walleye Open Facebook page.

SHAWANO: FRESH Project Shawano Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 Washington St. Check Facebook page for cancellations and weekly updates.

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto Falls Dri-Tri, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., West Side Beach, North Flatley Avenue. Half-mile paddle on Oconto River, bicycle race and 5k run/walk. \$85; register at https://runsignup.com/Race/WI/OcontoFalls/OcontoFallsDriTri. Registration and check-in opens 7:30 a.m.

MOE’S, continued from page 13

the swells were at least 5 feet high, maybe more. We seemed to be going very fast, and the boat bashed and tossed with every wave. I sat up close to the cabin with Nitschke, but some of the swells splashed over the railing, and my right leg was soon drenched.

Kali headed into the cabin, as she was already getting queasy, despite taking two Bonine (I always take one, and they work

great for me). I told her she was better off to stay outside the cabin and look at the horizon, but she hates listening to Dad. I soon saw her holding a wastebasket, and she quickly made three contributions.

About the time we stopped for our first attempt, she was looking pretty chipper and said, “I feel better now.” She grabbed a rod and soon everyone was catching sea bass as fast as we could

reel them in. Unfortunately, the length limit was 13 inches, and the biggest of the 40-plus fish caught was about a half-inch short. Still, we had a ball catching them sometimes two at a time (one on each of our two hooks).

We made a few more sea bass stops before baiting up with cut bait and heading for shark waters, also on rocky structure.

Lemke put out at least four rods, and we waited

for about 20 minutes, then moved to a second spot. One rod finally twitched, and after setting the hook, he handed the saltwater rig to me.

I kept the line tight, reeling as fast as possible. I felt the weight of the shark (Atlantic sharpnoses are smaller than the sharks of movies, and a big one is about 3 feet long), but when the line got close to the boat, it was gone.

Nitschke caught two of

the most unusual saltwater fish I’ve ever seen: a lizard fish (long and narrow as the name implies) and a sea robin, which has wing-like fins and even feet to walk on the bottom, the deck hand explained. Both went back to the ocean.

We tipped our deck hand \$70, because he had worked hard, and we still had an ocean adventure, although we did have to make a stop at Platt’s Seafood to buy some red

snapper and halibut.

If you are looking for a family adventure that won’t break the bank (we paid \$122 each), I highly recommend a fishing charter, whether it’s on an ocean or Lake Michigan. A bouncy trip fishing beats a good day working every time.

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



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Bat tests positive for rabies

The Shawano-Menominee Counties Health Department reports that a bat in Shawano County has tested positive for the rabies virus, which is transmitted from infected mammals to humans (typically via a bite) and is nearly always fatal once symptoms appear. This is the first confirmed case of rabies in a bat in Shawano County this year. While it is not uncommon for Shawano County to have at least one rabid bat a year, this positive rabies result is a reminder that this fatal disease is present in the community's wildlife. Rabies is contracted by exposure to a rabid animal. The exposure is nearly always through

a bite, but rabies can be transmitted if a rabid animal scratches a person or it is saliva is exposed to broken skin. If a person has had any physical contact with a bat and the possibility of a bite or scratch cannot be ruled out, rabies preventive treatment may be necessary. Early symptoms of rabies may include irritability, headache, fever, double vision, and itching or pain at the exposure site. The disease eventually progresses to spasms of the throat and the muscles used for breathing, convulsions, delirium, paralysis and death. By the time any symptoms may appear, rabies

cannot be successfully treated, health department officials said. Ways to prevent the spread of rabies include:

- Ensure all pet dogs, cats, ferrets and livestock are vaccinated against rabies.
- Stay away from all wild animals, especially those acting abnormally.
- Do not keep exotic or wild animals as pets, regardless of how young or cute they may be.
- Exclude bats from inside living quarters by keeping screens in good repair and closing up any small openings that could allow them to enter.
- Teach children not to approach any unfamiliar animals.
- If a bat is found

inside your home, do not release it until you have spoken with the health department, as testing may be necessary. If you are bitten or scratched, follow these steps:

- Promptly cleanse the bite wound with liberal amounts of soap and water.
- Contact your physician or go to your local emergency room.
- If the offending animal can be safely captured without further injury, hold the animal until the local health department can be consulted.

Visit the rabies page on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website for more information.

OBITUARIES

THOMAS PUES

Thomas James Pues, 66, of Navarino, passed away Sunday, June 21, 2026, after a short battle with cancer. Born on Nov. 19, 1959, to James Harley Pues and Mildred "Midge" Edith (Schinke) Pues, Tom was the first of their children. Tom was born a hunter, making his debut during Wisconsin's 1959 gun deer season. Following his graduation from Shiocton High School in 1977, Tom joined the military. During his time in the service, he became the father of two daughters, Tabitha and Nicole. Although he never had the opportunity to build a relationship with them, he never forgot them. After his military service, Tom worked as a union contractor in Connecticut, where he met his soulmate, Doreen Cowell, and her daughters, Amy Brown and Tonya Bratz. In 1988, Tom was ready to return to his home state of Wisconsin with the family he chose to raise as his own. Tom continued working as a contractor and eventually owned his own business. He was a perfectionist, and every detail of his work reflected his dedication and skill. When he wasn't working his magic with his craftsmanship, Tom loved hunting, fishing, gardening and just being outdoors. He spent many years enjoying family vacations at Rolling Stone Lake Resort, creating memories that remain cherished by those who shared them.



Tom finished planting his garden, Steve received a call that Tom needed help. Tom was never one to ask for assistance. From that day forward, his condition continued to decline. Despite the challenges, Tom was never alone and never gave up. His soulmate, Doreen, remained by his side every day and was with him as he took his final breath. During this time, it became clear just how many lives Tom had touched. Friends from near and far came to visit, share stories and pay their respects. The family is deeply grateful for the love, prayers and support shown to Tom throughout his final weeks, helping him feel surrounded by those who cared for him. Tom is survived by his soulmate, Doreen Cowell; daughters, Amy Brown (Steve Brown) and Tonya Bratz; grandchildren, Brianna (Wyatt), Haylie, Jacob, Dradyn and Bryson; his favorite rottie, Rugger; his parents, Mildred "Midge" Pues and James Pues; and his siblings, Shirley (Joe) Pues, Rick (Ben) Pues, Jeanne (Ed) Conlon, Judy Welch, Kim Dennis, Tanya Hauser, Laura (Brian) Reinert, Mary (Eric) Kind, Janilee (Sonya) Parks and Christina (Danny) Ortega. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles. Tom was preceded in death by his grandparents; his second mother, Bonnie Pues; his brother, Joe Pues; his nephew, Brandon Dennis; and many beloved aunts, uncles and cousins. Tom requested a simple celebration of life. The family is planning a gathering to honor and celebrate Tom's life at his favorite place for a fish fry: Hooker's Bar and Grill, W7615 County Road F, Shiocton, WI 54170, Sunday, July 12, starting at 11 a.m. All are welcome to come and reminisce. The family will provide food, but we ask everyone to support the bar and buy drinks.

School district upgrades online footprint

The Shawano School District announced the official launch July 1 of its newly redesigned district website and enhanced mobile app experience, both powered by Finals. The new digital platform is designed to improve communication, accessibility, and the overall user experience for families, students, staff, and community members. Over the past several months, district staff have worked collaboratively to review, update, and organize content to create a more modern, user-friendly online experience. The launch reflects

the district's continued commitment to transparency, accessibility, and providing timely information to the community. The new website features a fresh, modern design, streamlined navigation, and responsive functionality across all devices, making it easier than ever for users to find the information they need. The homepage highlights district news, calendars, and upcoming events, while each school within the district now has dedicated pages tailored to its own unique information and resources. While the website has

a new look and improved functionality, the district's web address remains www.shawanoschools.com. In addition to the website redesign, the district's mobile app will continue to serve as an important communication tool for families. Available in both the App Store and Google Play, the app remains the same for users to access but is now powered by the new Finals platform. This transition provides improved communication features and a more seamless connection to district news, calendars, announcements, and

important updates. "The launch of our new website and enhanced mobile app is an important step forward for our district," said Superintendent Kurt Krizan. "Our goal has always been to make it easier for families, students, and community members to stay informed and connected. These new tools help us better serve our school community while improving access to the information people rely on every day." The district welcomes feedback as it continues to refine and enhance its communication tools.

COURT NEWS

• Twila M. Shawano, 55, Bowler, was found guilty at a Sept. 25, 2024, jury trial for possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor bail jumping. Judge Katherine Sloma imposed and stayed a jail sentence June 23, then placed her on one year of probation with conditions.

• Alan D. Waukau, 39, Keshena, had his probation revoked March 19 from a 2024 conviction for four counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct and possession of THC. Sloma sentenced him June 25 to one year in county jail. In a separate file, Waukau pleaded no contest June 25 to possession of narcotic drugs, three counts of felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of possession of THC. Sloma withheld sentencing and placed him on three years of probation with conditions. In a third, fourth and fifth case, he pleaded no contest to three counts of failure to report to jail and three counts of felony bail jumping, and Sloma sentenced him to six months in county

jail.

• James L. Valley, 41, Gillett, pleaded no contest June 22 to felony bail jumping. Sloma levied fines and sentenced him to 90 days in county jail, time deemed served.

• Tuwuan David S. King, 19, Green Bay, had his probation revoked April 27 from a February conviction for theft of movable property and felony bail jumping. Sloma sentenced him June 22 to one year in the county jail.

• Brady A. DeBroux, 33, Shawano, pleaded no contest June 25 to felony bail jumping. Judge William Kussel Jr. sentenced him to six months in county jail.

• Nathan R. Neldner, 33, De Pere, pleaded no contest June 25 to three counts of removing a vehicle's major parts without consent. Kussel withheld sentencing and placed him on one year of probation with conditions, consecutive to any sentence he is currently serving.

• Curtis L. Vele, 31, Bowler, was charged June 22 with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug

paraphernalia to manufacture or store methamphetamine, three counts of felony bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Kussel rescheduled his initial appearance until June 30.

• Tina M. Baalman, 41, Bowler, was charged June 22 with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia to manufacture or store methamphetamine and a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Sloma set a \$1,500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for June 25, when Kussel found probably cause to bind her over in this and another case. He scheduled arraignment for July 28.

• Christopher D. Warington, 29, Keshena, was charged June 22 with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia to manufacture or store methamphetamine, possession of narcotic drugs, and misdemeanor charges of driving without a license and possession of drug

paraphernalia. Sloma set a \$2,500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for June 29.

• Forrest S. Webster, 29, Gresham, was charged June 22 with substantial battery, fleeing an officer in his vehicle, and misdemeanor counts of disorderly conduct, bail jumping and operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (second offense). Sloma set a \$2,000 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for Aug. 10.

• Leotis D. Matson, 34, Tigerton, was charged June 22 with four counts of felony bail jumping. Sloma set a \$1,500 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for June 25, when she found probable cause to bind him over and scheduled arraignment for July 22.

• Quentin L. Escalante, 21, Shawano, was charged June 26 with felony bail jumping, misdemeanor bail jumping and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct. Sloma set a \$2,000 cash bond and scheduled a preliminary hearing for June 29.

Have a story idea? Tell us!
news@newmedia-wi.com

LEGAL NOTICES

6/19/26, 6/26/26, 7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26CV117

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Owen Reynold Frechette
By Owen Reynold Frechette
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Owen Reynold Frechette
To: Owen Reynold McGuire
Birth Certificate: Owen Reynold Frechette
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County, State of
Wisconsin
Judge Name: William F Kussel
Place: Branch 2
311 N. Main St, Shawano, WI 54166
Date: July 2, 2026
Time: 8:45 a.m.

WNAXLP
SHA-231

6/19/26, 6/26/26, 7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE
TRIBAL COURT
State of Wisconsin

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Ella Sharon Kazik
D.O.D. 5/30/2026
County of Shawano
ORDER GIVING NOTICE
TO CREDITORS
Case No. 2076 PROOOZ

An application has been filed for informal
administration of the estate of the above
named person, In Shawano County
(Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court)
County, Wisconsin, whose post
office address was N8108 Huntington
Road, Gresham, WI 54128 (P.O. Box
372) and all interested persons have
waived notice.
IT IS ORDERED THAT creditor's claims
must be filed on or before or be barred.
*Notice shall be given:
•September 11th, 2026
Marie Higgins
Stockbridge-Munsee
Tribal Judge Marianne Higgins,
Chief Justice
Kimberly Barbara Hoffman
Personal Representative/Attorney
552 Schabow St
Gresham, WI 54128

WNAXLP
SHA-232

6/26/26, 7/3/26, 7/10/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Dawn Mary Dey

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 26 PR 38

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth April
6, 1946, and date of death June 5, 2026,
was domiciled in Shawano County, State
of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of
115 Sunset Ave, Shawano, WI 54166
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is September
30, 2026
5. A claim may be filed at the
Shawano County Courthouse
311 N. Main St 202 probate office
Shawano Wisconsin, 54166
Andrew Dey
21545 Vintage Way
Lake Forest CA 92630

WNAXLP
SHA-241

7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice All-Stor Self Storage
- Shawano located at N5857 Hwy
47-55N/4844 Waukechon St/1003
Waukechon St/1213 Beauprey Rd,
Shawano, WI, 54166 intends to hold a
Auction of storage units in default of
payment. The sale will occur as an Online
Auction via www.bid13.com on 7/23/2026
at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the
description of the contents are household
goods, furnishings and garage essentials.
Nikki Lopez; Samantha E Fouts; Tyrane
J Tomow; Mariah Fowler; Cody Davis;
Isabella Okimosh; Marilyn Graveen;
Carolyn Shegonee; Colton Shier;
Reynold Frechette; Missy Cloud; Andrew
Wage. This sale may be withdrawn at any
time without notice. Certain terms and
conditions apply.

WNAXLP
SHA-247



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NEW MEDIA INC.

6/26/26, 7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Before the Town of Hartland Planning
Commission

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Monday,
July 13 th , beginning at 6:00 p.m. at
the Town of Hartland Town Hall located
at W3454 County Road BE, Bonduel,
Wisconsin, the Town of Hartland Planning
Commission will hold public hearings for
the purpose of considering the following
petition:
1) Hunter Vanderlinden / Dennis Kraning
requests a conditional use permit
for the property addressed N4368 N
Highline Rd. Bonduel, WI 54107, for
the purpose of Building a New Single
Family Residence, as this parcel is
zoned Farmland preservation. Tax Parcel
Number 022-10230-0000.
2) Elvie Schrock requests a conditional
use permit for the property address
N4558 N Highline Rd, Bonduel, WI
54107, for the purpose of running a
business from pole barn at his residence.
The business would be an Archery
Sales & Service Business and a Bicycle
Sales and Service Business. Tax Parcel
Number 022-03330-0020
3) Allen Bontrager requests a conditional
use permit for the property addressed
XXXXX Rocky Lane, Bonduel, WI 54107
for the purpose of constructing a training
facility for his employees, as the property
is currently zoned Farmland Preservation.
Tax Parcel Number 022-07240-0030.

Additional information or copies of the
conditional use permit application are
available upon request filed with the Town
Zoning Administrator, Tim Leitermann,
at (920) 228-1109 or tim.tohartland@
gmail.com .

The hearings are open to the public and
all interested parties are encouraged to
appear in person or by an agent and be
heard. If you cannot appear in-person,
any person may submit written comments
by letter addressed to: Tim Leitermann,
PO Box 4, Bonduel, WI 54107 or by
email to tim.tohartland@gmail.com

Town of Hartland
Tim Leitermann
Zoning Administrator
WNAXLP
SHA-239

6/19/26, 6/26/26, 7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Marilyn M. Dahl
DOD 5-16-2026

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 26 PR 37

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 3-13-
1939and date of death 5-16-2026
was domiciled in Shawano County, State
of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of
N6437 County Road J, Bowler, WI 54416
3.All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is September 18,
2026
5. A claim may be filed at the
Shawano Co Courthouse
311 N. Main Street, Shawano
Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office
Form completed by
James E. Aschenbrener
P.O. Box 146, Shawano, WI 54166
715-524-6258
Bar Number 1008896

WNAXLP
SHA-233

7/3/26, 7/10/26, 7/17/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Rosemary A. Koeller
Name
DOD 5-2-2026

Notice to Creditors (Informal
Administration)
Case No. 26PR39

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
11-14-1934 and date of death 5-2-2026
was domiciled in Shawano County, State
of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of
W4956 Beeler Drive, Bonduel, WI 54107
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is September 25,
2026
5. A claim may be filed at the
Shawano County Courthouse,
311 N. Main Street,
Room Probate 202
Shawano, Wisconsin 54166
James E. Aschenbrener
P.O. Box 146, Shawano, WI 54166
715-524-6258
1008896

WNAXLP
SHA-242

7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Just Simple Storage
- Gresham - Upper Lake Dr & Cherry
Rd located at W10711 Upper Lake Dr /
W10129 Cherry Rd, Gresham, WI, 54128
intends to hold a public sale of storage
units in default of payment. The sale will
occur as an Online Auction via www.
bid13.com on 7/20/2026 at 12:00PM.
Unless stated otherwise the description
of the contents are household goods,
furnishings and garage essentials.
Mike Mohawk Jr. This sale may be
withdrawn at any time without notice.
Certain terms and conditions apply.

WNAXLP
SHA-243

7/3/26, 7/10/26, 7/17/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

MENOMINEE COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Horst F. Mielke
DOD 3-24-2025

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 25 PR 02

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
3-7-1935 in and date of death 3-24-2025
was domiciled Menominee County, State
of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of
W1250 Deerpath Lane, Keshena, WI
54135
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is September 30,
2026
5. A claim may be filed at the
Shawano County Courthouse,
311 N. Main Street
Wisconsin, Room Probate 202
Shawano, WI 54166
James E. Aschenbrener
P.O. Box 146,
Shawano, WI 54166
715-524-6258
Bar Number 1008896

WNAXLP
SHA-244

7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice All-Stor Self Storage
- Shawano South Waukechon located
at 946 S Waukechon St, Shawano,
WI, 54166 intends to hold a Auction of
storage units in default of payment. The
sale will occur as an Online Auction
via www.bid13.com on 7/23/2026 at
10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the
description of the contents are household
goods, furnishings and garage essentials.
Christopher Henning. This sale may be
withdrawn at any time without notice.
Certain terms and conditions apply.

WNAXLP
SHA-246

6/19/26, 6/26/26, 7/3/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26CV120

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Lily AnnaChristine Krasavage
By Lily AnnaChristine Krasavage
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: ? Lily AnnaChristine Krasavage
To: Lily AnnaChristine Reopelle
Birth Certificate: Lily AnnaChristine
Krasavage
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County, State of
Wisconsin
Judge Name: Kathrine Sloma
Place: Shawano Courthouse Branch 1
311 Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166
Date: August 12, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.

WNAXLP
SHA-235

7/3/26, 7/10/26, 7/17/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26CV133

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Vanessa Joan Madosh
By Vanessa Joan Madosh
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Vanessa Joan Madosh
To: Vanessa Joan Waukau
Birth Certificate: Vanessa Joan Madosh
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County, State of
Wisconsin
Judge Name: William F Kussel Jr
Place: Shawano County Courthouse
311 N. Main St, Shawano, WI 54166
Date: July 30, 2026
Time: 8:15 a.m.

WNAXLP
SHA-248

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF”S DEPARTMENT

June 28
Deputies responded to 42 incidents, including a disturbance on North Warrington Avenue in Cecil; five 911 calls; four reckless driving incidents; five traffic hazards; one welfare check; one crash.

June 27
Deputies responded to 32 incidents, including a noise disturbance at Bamboo Bar, W5884 Cedar Court, Town of Wescott; fireworks near Carlson Lane and Green Valley Road in the Town of Green Valley; a noise disturbance on County Road N in Birnamwood; one 911 call; one reckless driving incident; one traffic hazard; one welfare check; one deer-related crash.

June 26
Deputies responded to 43 incidents, including a noise disturbance on Cedar Street in Tigerton; a noise disturbance on Adams Beach Drive in the Town of Belle Plaine; suspicious activity near state Highway 153 and U.S. Highway 45 in the Town of Wittenberg; harassment on North Lemke Street in Cecil; harassment on Hiawatha Court in the Town of Wescott; fireworks near East Chic-A-Watha Circuit and Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; a disturbance at Julie's Mattoon Saloon and Downtown Diner, 717 Fourth St., Mattoon; one 911 call; seven reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; four welfare checks; one deer-related crash.

June 25
Deputies responded to 35 incidents, including an animal bite on Cedar Court in the Town of Wescott; fireworks near Oakwood Drive and North Pathfinder Circle in the Town of Wescott; a noise disturbance on Schabow Street in Gresham; five 911 calls; two traffic hazards; three welfare checks; two crashes, one involving deer.

June 24
Deputies responded to 33 incidents, including suspicious activity on West Sandy Drive in the Town of Washington; suspicious activity near Spruce and Angle roads in the Town of Belle Plaine; pursuit of a fleeing vehicle near state Highway 22 and County Road BE in Shawano; a disturbance on Poplar Road in the Town of Richmond; a noise disturbance at Lakeview Quick Mart, 417 S. Warrington Ave., Cecil; trespassing on Deering Road in the Town of Washington; a disturbance on Third Street in Leopolis; suspicious activity on County Road HH in the

Town of Wescott; four 911 calls; two reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; three welfare checks; one crash.

June 23
Deputies responded to 49 incidents, including a noise disturbance on High Street in Bonduel; threatening on Anderson Avenue in the Town of Wescott; trespassing on Foesch Road in the Town of Wescott; bail jumping at the courthouse, 311 N. Main St., Shawano; theft on Lake View Drive in Aniwa; eight 911 calls; four reckless driving incidents; three traffic hazards; one welfare check.

June 22
Deputies responded to 34 incidents, including a disturbance at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St., Shawano; an animal bite on Broadway Road in the Town of Richmond; a disturbance on North Warrington Avenue in Cecil; suspicious activity near East Green Bay and North Cecil streets in Bonduel; a scam on Oak Ridge Court in the Town of Wescott; four 911 calls; one reckless driving incident; four traffic hazards; two welfare checks; one deer-related crash.

SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT

June 28
Officers responded to 33 incidents, including operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated near East Richmond Street and South Airport Drive; a noise disturbance on South Bartlett Street; a weapon offense near South Franklin and West Pine streets; a weapon offense on East Robin Lane; a disturbance near state Highway 47-55 and Curt Black Road; operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated near Lake Drive and North Shore Lane; a drug offense at Lieg Park, 1013 S. Water St.; fireworks on South Lafayette Street; suspicious activity on South Sawyer Street; a disturbance on East Randall Street; suspicious activity outside Smokey Joe's, 538 S. Main St.; three 911 calls; 14 traffic stops; one reckless driving incident; one crash.

June 27
Officers responded to 39 incidents, including attempted burglary on South Sawyer Street; a fight in progress at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; a disturbance on East Zingler Avenue; property damage on South Andrews Street; three 911 calls; 19 traffic stops; three welfare checks; one crash.

June 26
Officers responded to 41 incidents, including a disturbance on state Highway 47-55; suspicious activity

on East Green Bay Street; harassment on West Picnic Street; bail jumping at All Aboard Nutrition, 620 S. Main St.; a weapon offense near West Picnic and South Smalley streets; suspicious activity on North Lafayette Street; theft at CoVantage Credit Union, 911 E. Green Bay St.; fraud on South Sawyer Street; suspicious activity on South Bartlett Street; operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated near South Main and East Green Bay streets; two 911 calls; 14 traffic stops; two reckless driving incidents; one welfare check.

June 25
Officers responded to 58 incidents, including suspicious activity on South Sawyer Street; theft at Shawano County Humane Society, 1290 Jaycee Court; suspicious activity at All Aboard Nutrition, 620 S. Main St.; an intoxicated person at Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St.; theft at Walmart, 1244 E. Green Bay St.; a noise disturbance at Lakeshore Lanes, 210 N. Airport Road; a disturbance on Acorn Street; three 911 calls; 34 traffic stops; one welfare check.

June 24
Officers responded to 16 incidents, including child abuse or neglect at a redacted location; fraud on South Sawyer Street; fraud on South Hamlin Street; a disturbance on East Center Street; one 911 call; three traffic stops; four welfare checks.

June 23
Officers responded to 55 incidents, including failure to register as a sex offender on South Kadletz Street; suspicious activity on East Division Street; a vicious animal near South Franklin and West Eagle streets; trespassing on South Washington Street; a disturbance at Three Little Birds, 134 S. Main St.; a drug offense at ThedaCare Medical Center, 100 County Road B; disorderly conduct near South Bartlett and West Danks streets; an animal bite on South Franklin Street; a drug offense on County Road MMM; property damage on East Green Bay Street; a disturbance on South Smalley Street; three 911 calls; 26 traffic stops; one welfare check; one crash.

June 22
Officers responded to 52 incidents, including a disturbance at Kwik Trip, 1241 E. Green Bay St.; a disturbance at Sharona's Bar, 111 S. Washington St.; theft on East Richmond Street; one 911 call; 31 traffic stops; two reckless driving incidents; four welfare checks.





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All roads lead to Franklin Park



The band Road Trip was the featured performer June 25 at Thursdayz@Franklin in Shawano. The Kids from Wisconsin were set to perform July 2, and Fire on High will play July 9. Food trucks, raffles and a relaxing time with friends and family round out the weekly concerts.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



FAIREST, continued from page 1

She added she gets to be outdoors for much of her time as Fairest of the Fair, a spot she enjoys having grown up on a farm. “I really enjoy seeing everyone outside in community settings,” Zeeman said. “I feel like it’s a really special year, and I’m going to have a lot of fun.” Besides the Shawano County Fair, Zeeman said she’s most looking forward to participating in the Outagamie County Fair, which was wrapping up during her coronation but will be an event she gets to visit in 2027 as her reign comes to a close. Zeeman attends Fox

Valley Technical College, where she is pursuing a degree in the culinary arts. She is also currently a member of the Landstad 4-H. The four other contestants were recognized during brunch, as well. Hannah Yeager was named first runner-up, while Faith Posbrig, Matti Koehler and Kendall Wilcox were named fair ambassadors. The 2025 Fairest of the Fair, Olivia Danley, spoke briefly about her experience before crowning Zeeman as her successor and giving her an idea of where her life will be going over the next year.

“This journey has been nothing short of incredible, and it is something that I will carry with me for the rest of my life,” she said. “The number of people I have had the privilege of meeting, the events I have had the honor of attending and the lessons I have learned along the way have shaped me in ways I never expected.” Details about Zeeman and what she’ll be doing between now and next June will be featured at www.shawanocountyfair.net, as well as the Fairest’s Facebook page.

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

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Vintage Edition Stove

*Minimum purchase of four windows required. See store for details.



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