

Radford homicide case going to trial

Preliminary hearing
shows there's enough
evidence to move forward

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

James Radford will be bound over for trial in the homicide of his wife, Sabrina Radford, and pleaded not guilty to the first-degree charge during a hearing July 15.

The court chambers was filled with family members of Sabrina Radford and many supporters for James Radford. At times during the preliminary hearing, there were outbursts that prompted Marathon County Circuit Court Judge Lamont Jacobson, who took over the case after the recusal of the Shawano County judges, to threaten expulsion from chambers if any more occurred.

Before that, defense attorney John Swimmer tried to delay the proceedings, believing that Shawano County Sheriff's Detective Richard Wright was only going to read from the criminal complaint, making the testimony hearsay.

"This is a homicide, and we would ask for an investigating officer or an officer who has some knowledge of this," Swimmer said, asking for the hearing to be rescheduled.

Jacobson reminded Swimmer that preliminary hearings can have hearsay, as long as there's enough presented to prove that there's evidence to proceed with a trial. He denied the scheduling request.

However, Wright, the lead detective in the 10-year-old case, did not read from the report and instead answered questions from both Swimmer and Shawano-Menominee County Circuit Court Assistant District Attorney Laura Nelson about the case and what lead the sheriff's department to determine James Radford was the lead suspect in his wife's death. Wright has been with the sheriff's department for 37 years, 25 of those as a detective.

Deputies responded April 11, 2016, to a residence on County Road J in the Town of Fairbanks for a report of a

RADFORD, continued on page 2

Cheering on the AirVenture pilots flying into Shawano



Area residents wave and cheer on the pilots flying into the Shawano Municipal Airport on July 20 as part of the 28th annual EAA AirVenture Cup Race. The race, originally scheduled for July 19, was cancelled due to poor flying conditions. It was rescheduled and then shortened from a 400-mile circular route starting in Wausau, traveling through Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and ending in Merrill. Instead, the race started in Wausau and ended in Shawano. AirVenture 2026 in Oshkosh runs through July 26.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Witt-Birn FFA corn roast raises funds for scholarships



Gracie Stensberg, 7, of Eland, enjoys fresh roasted corn on the cob with her family July 17 during the Wittenberg-Birnamwood FFA Alumni Association's annual corn roast at Wittenberg Village Park.

GREG SEUBERT

Alumni group searching for new members

By **GREG SEUBERT**
Correspondent

Two consecutive big weekends in Wittenberg kicked off July 17 with the Wittenberg-Birnamwood FFA Alumni Association's 48th annual corn roast.

Wittenberg Village Park will also be busy this coming weekend with the village's annual Community Days celebration, set for July 24-26.

Dave Schmidt is the alumni association's treasurer and has attended all 48 of the organization's corn roasts. He is also one of several volunteers that helped out at the event, taking care of roasting hundreds of cobs of sweet corn and preparing and selling food.

"All the money raised here goes to scholarships for our FFA kids who are here running the cheese curd stand,"

CORN, continued on page 19

INSIDE

Air quality in Wisconsin turns bad due to wildfire smoke.

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RADFORD, continued from page 1

woman who had sustained a gunshot wound. The caller, identified as her husband, reported that his wife, Sabrina Radford, had shot herself.

Wright said that the 911 call James Radford made said he had attempted CPR on Sabrina Radford, but with the wounds she had when the first deputy arrived, it was discovered that any attempt at chest compressions would have pumped out her blood via her wounds.

At the time of the initial response, investigators were unable to conclusively determine the cause of death. However, due to the suspicious circumstances surrounding the incident, a formal investigation was initiated.

Over the course of nine years, investigators dedicated significant time and effort to this case. Numerous interviews were conducted with James Radford and other individuals connected to the case, and previously collected evidence was reexamined.

Wright testified to



Defense attorney James Schoenecker, left, smiles prior to the start of the preliminary hearing for James Radford, right, July 15 in Branch II of the Shawano County Courthouse.

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inconsistencies in James Radford's story. The detective said he originally claimed Sabrina Radford used a .44 Magnum to shoot herself with two hands, and then he switched and claimed she only used one hand when the act occurred. The gun has a six-shot barrel, but one bullet was missing, Wright said.

Wright also said that there were claims that Sabrina Radford was

cheating in the marriage, but that she had shown her husband her phone messages to prove otherwise.

Under cross examination, Swimmer pressed Wright on notes found at the scene that seemed to be suicide notes indicating that Sabrina Radford wrote that she "cannot live without you," indicating her husband. Swimmer also noted there are no indications that James Radford's fingerprints



Shawano County Sheriff's Detective Richard Wright testifies July 15 to how James Radford tried to explain how Sabrina Radford allegedly positioned the gun and fired, but that it was inconsistent with the forensic evidence and how he claimed later that she used one hand to fire the gun after saying it was two hands originally.

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were found on the gun.

Wright said the notes appeared to be in Sabrina Radford's handwriting, but the analysis on the gun, which found a minimum amount of blood on the outside and in the barrel were not consistent with a suicide.

Swimmer also questioned Wright on the audio from James Radford's interview, particularly an

inaudible area that starts with "I can't believe" and ends with "shot her," with no ability to translate what was in the middle.

In his closing argument, Swimmer said that the prosecution can't prove the gun was in the defendant's hands, and the notes written by the victim clearly indicate suicide, not homicide.

"The state has not

shown any evidence Mr. Radford held the gun, shot the gun or had anything to do with this," Swimmer said.

Nelson said in her closing argument that she has met the burden of proof, claiming there was no indication anyone else was in the room when the gun was fired. The changes in James Radford's story with detectives, along with forensic evidence indicating he did not perform CPR, solidify that proof, she said.

James Radford was taken into custody earlier in 2025 in Waukesha County. He was subsequently transported to Shawano County, where he was booked into the jail and has been held since April 15, 2025, on a cash bond of \$800,000.

The case will next hold a scheduling conference Aug. 5 by phone, as Jacobson's term as judge ends July 31. His successor will continue to preside over the case.

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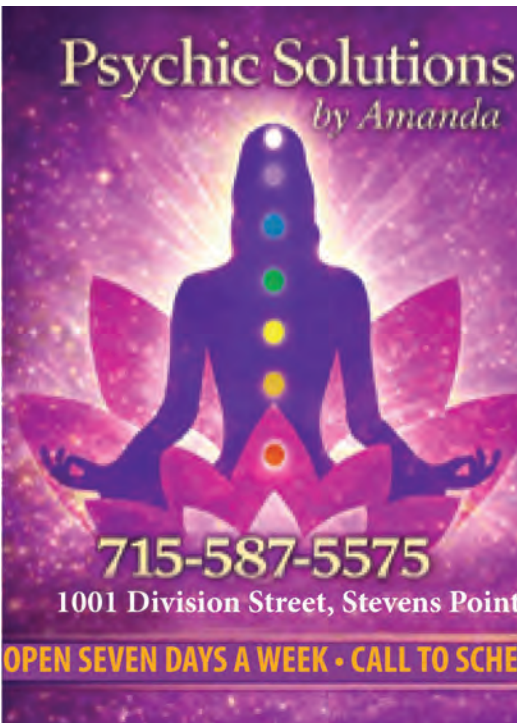


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by Amanda

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Shawano Has History wins state award

Program recognized by Wisconsin State Historical Society

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

It started out as an ambitious project to make the history of Shawano more prominent, but now Shawano Has History has caught the eye of the Wisconsin State Historical Society.

The state society has named the Shawano County Historical Society and Leadership Shawano County the winners of the state's 2026 Board of Curators Public Program Award, which recognizes those who have launched interesting and unusual public history programs the year before.

Shawano Has History has been installing plaques over the last two years on historical buildings and other public places that tell how those areas came to be in the early days of Shawano. Besides the brief information on the plaques, there is also a



A number of buildings in downtown Shawano have plaques on them detailing the unique history of each one. The project, a joint effort between the Shawano County Historical Society and Leadership Shawano County, has garnered the attention of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, which is giving the Shawano Has History program its 2026 Board of Curators Public Program Award.

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QR code that people with smartphones can use to access the historical society's website, which provides more detailed information on the city's historical sites.

To date, Shawano Has History has put up 20 plaques around Shawano, mostly in the downtown area, according to local

historical society volunteer Michael Oberle. He also maintains the historical society's website and Facebook page. In addition to installing the plaques, historical society volunteers and Leadership Shawano County alumni have also conducted classes and discussions through Shawano Community

Education and held walking tours of the plaques for locals and visitors. The next tour is planned for August.

"One of the things I've come to know, because I've been on this planet for a lot of decades, is that things turn out great when you come up with something — Shawanofest is a

good example — where you start something and then it snowballs and all these people get involved to make it great," Oberle said. "That's kind of what happened here."

Four different groups from Leadership Shawano County have helped to raise money for Shawano Has History so the historical society can purchase the bronze plaques, which can cost \$2,000 to \$3,500 depending on size. There has also been a lot of support from the city of Shawano and the Shawano Business Improvement District, and Oberle has a project planned with the help of the Menominee Nation, as the land that Shawano County sits on was tribal land centuries ago.

"We've been at Thursdayz at Franklin and the Saturday farmers markets," Oberle said.

Oberle said he turned in the application for the award early this year, not expecting anything to come of it. So he was very surprised when the Wisconsin State Historical Society contacted him and informed him the local society was getting the award. He said the honor is

on the level of a local high school teacher winning the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Teacher of the Year award or the high school basketball team winning the state championship.

"Who would think little Shawano and Leadership Shawano County and the historical society would win this?" Oberle said. "I looked at this last fall, and I thought, 'Well, why not?'"

There are still more plaques to be installed in Shawano, according to Oberle, but the historical society is planning to branch out to other areas of the county. He said Bonduel is a potential next step, as the Bonduel Community Archives could be a resource to locate historical buildings and make them stand out for visitors who come to the area.

Oberle is also looking at the historical society meeting with history teachers at Shawano Community High School to further identify historical sites in the city of Shawano and the neighboring towns to further keep history alive in the area.

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GovAI back in use at county courthouse

Change in pricing structure makes it comparable

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

A change in pricing structure for an artificial intelligence platform means Shawano County employees will continue to have access to GovAI.

Instead of paying \$9,500 for each six months for all county employees to use the program, the county will now pay a monthly fee per user and save thousands of dollars in the process.

"During the pilot program period, we determined that this type of

tool would not be needed for all county employees," said Matt Hietpas, director of technology services. "As we evaluated options, GovAI informed us that they can also provide pricing on a per-user basis moving forward, which better aligns with our expected usage. The cost would be comparable to competing products, at approximately \$30 per user per month. At this time, we anticipate initial use would be limited to approximately 20-30 users across county departments."

During the first six months of 2026, the county was enrolled in a GovAI pilot program. As that time period wound down, Hietpas and department heads said that while the program was beneficial, it wasn't necessary for



The use of artificial intelligence by Shawano County employees will continue with the use of the GovAI platform. The goal is to use AI tools where they improve efficiency, support staff productivity and provide value to the taxpayers.

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all employees to have access. Total access was the only option offered by GovAI, while others like Microsoft Copilot and ChapGPT offered services

at a per-user cost.

AI can benefit the public through interactions such as calls to government offices and chatboxes on the website,

while also benefiting employees through the use of data gathering, data management, analytics, resource planning, real time data-driven insights and drafting documents.

Examples include a sheriff's deputy using AI to review body camera and dash camera footage to create incident reports, or officials analyzing documents for duplicate information or cross-referencing.

"Microsoft Copilot remains one option under consideration, particularly because it is a Microsoft product and offers integrations with email, SharePoint and other Microsoft 365 tools already used by the county," Hietpas said "On the other hand, with GovAI, it is primarily designed for government use, which

may provide advantages for public-sector workflows and use cases. There are many other options out there, but to get started, these are the two that seemed to make most sense for our organization."

All AI-created documents still need to be reviewed by staff to ensure accuracy.

"The county's goal is to use these tools where they improve efficiency, support staff productivity and provide value to the taxpayers," Hietpas said.

Departments that determine the tool would provide value would include the cost in their budgets, subject to approval through the regular county budget process.

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Multiple agencies called out to Wolf River bridge

By LEE PULASKI
City Editor

A call about a 10-year-old jumping off the bridge along the Wolf River between the city of Shawano and town of Richmond turned out to have a happy ending after it was discovered that an older man had jumped in and was just fine.

The Shawano Police Department received a call from dispatch about 5:35 p.m. July 10

from a caller who had crossed the bridge at County Road MMM. The caller said it looked like a 10-year-old child was jumping from the bridge, according to Chief Mike Musolff. The call brought out city police officers, along with the Shawano Area Fire Department, Shawano County Sheriff's Department with its dive team and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Officials searched for almost

three hours but did not find anybody, according to Musolff. He said he received a message later through social media that the person who had jumped from the bridge was a 40-year-old man, and it was determined he was just fine after his dive.

Musolff said the agencies came together incredibly quickly, which would have worked in the favor of life had there actually been an injured victim.

"It says something that we were able to respond so quickly and take action," he said.

Musolff noted that jumping from the bridge is illegal, but no action has been taken to cite or charge the man who jumped July 10.

"We discourage people from jumping off the bridge," Musolff said. "It would have made things easier for us because people see different things. I don't fault the person for calling it in. It's great

that they called it in, because they didn't know. It's not a normal behavior to have somebody jump off a bridge."

Musolff noted that, even though a lot of resources were brought in to investigate, it was fortunate that there were no deaths, injuries or arrests.

"It's one of those things where we were like, 'Oh, it turned out to be nothing,'" Musolff said.

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Twelve76 days away from opening

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Twelve76, the new fine-dining restaurant located in the former Dixon's Torchlight building at 1276 E. Green Bay St., is expected to open by the end of the month.

A meal for family and friends of owners Domenic and Sal Badalamenti was held early last week, and a soft opening for a limited number of customers was held during the middle and end of the week.

"Our vision for Twelve76 is to offer a welcoming dining experience featuring hand-cut steaks, fresh seafood, imported Sicilian pasta and

thoughtfully prepared dishes for every guest to enjoy," according to the social media post. "While we don't have dry-aged steaks available just yet, they are coming soon."

Also, the salad bar is included with all entrée purchases.

The restaurant's menu was released via its Facebook page.

Appetizers include a Caesar salad, East Coast crab cakes, cheese curds, flatbread burrata, arachine, steak crostini, bang-bang pow shrimp and hand-breaded mozzarella.

Steak and chops include prime rib, New York strip, Wisconsin Wagyu tenderloin, ribeye, top sirloin, a double smash

burger, pork steak and pork chop.

For entrées, there is pan-fried walleye, broiled lobster, pan-seared scallops, blackened Chilean sea bass, Tuscan seafood, chicken burrata, Roman mac, grilled salmon, wild mushroom ravioli and shrimp noodles.

Two brothers and their wives, Sal and Josie Badalamenti and Domenic and Fara Badalamenti, came to Shawano in 1995 from the small village of Cinisi, Sicily, via a stop in New Jersey to run a pizza restaurant.

Their first venture, Luigi's Pizza and Pasta, recently marked its 30-year anniversary.

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Domenic Badalamenti welcomes guests to a soft opening night at Twelve76, the new fine-dining restaurant located in the former Dixon's Torchlight building at 1276 E. Green Bay St. The restaurant is expected to formally open later this month. GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Celebrating Christmas in July



Members of the Silver Foxes exercise group at the Shawano Civic Center celebrated Christmas in July last week. CONTRIBUTED

Shawano FFA gives dairy products to community

Shawano FFA members, from left, Kelsey Conratt, Keira Conratt and Molly Hanson line up to hand out bags with cheeses, butter and more to community members in front of Shawano Community Middle School on July 15. FFA chapters in Shawano and Oconto counties spent the late afternoon taking part in the national Neighborhood Dairy Distribution program, which takes place each summer. The Shawano FFA handed out 150 bags with 10 dairy products donated by businesses throughout north-east Wisconsin.

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Students invited to create art for Mountain-Bay anniversary

Area grade school and middle school students are invited to create artwork for The Enchanted Trail, an outdoor student art exhibit that will be featured during the Mountain-Bay State Trail's 30th Anniversary Celebration on Sept. 26.

Friends of the Mountain-Bay State Trail-Shawano is accepting submissions now. Students are invited to create artwork inspired by the theme "Things You Can See or Do on the Mountain-Bay State Trail."

Entries might depict wildlife, hiking, biking, nature scenes or family activities – anything that captures the spirit of the trail. Artwork should be 8½ by 11 inches and may be created in any medium including crayons, colored pencils, markers, paint or mixed media. Both portrait and landscape formats are welcome.

Finished pieces will be displayed in protective sleeves along the trail near the visitor center during the Sept. 26 celebration. Students are encouraged to attend to see their work on display and receive a participation gift.

Artwork will not be returned after the event.

Additional information and student submission forms can be found in the events section of the Friends website, www.friendsofthemountainbay-trailshawano.org.

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LIVEwire enthusiasts crowd the stage on the July 16 opening night.
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Hannah Wolf dances with her son, Hugh, the afternoon of July 19.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



Risk of tick bites strong in Shawano, Oconto counties

Tick kits offered by health department

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

The Town of Doty in Oconto County and the Town of Bartelme in Shawano County are among several Wisconsin towns at the high-risk stage for tick activity.

Most of the rest of each county is in the moderate-risk stage, according to TickZone, a free daily tick-risk forecast covering 20,750 towns across 38 states, combining Centers for Disease Control and Prevention county Lyme incidence rates, satellite land cover for each town and daily weather (temperature, humidity and recent rainfall).

“Ticks need moisture and hosts. Their best habitat is the edge, where forest meets open ground: leaf litter, brush, tall grass along trails, and the line where woods meet a yard or field. That is where deer, mice and the ticks that feed on them overlap,” said Nathan Burnett, founder of TickZone (<https://tickzone.app>). “Pavement and short, dry lawn are poor tick habitat, which is why risk tracks so closely with how wooded and broken-up the land is.”

Wisconsin is one of the highest Lyme-risk states in the country, and Oconto and Shawano counties sit

well up the list.

Oconto County ranks 15th of Wisconsin’s 72 counties with a reported Lyme incidence of 246.4 per 100,000.

Shawano County ranks 26th of 72 with an incidence of 199.5 per 100,000.

Menominee County shows no reported cases, but Burnett cautions about reading too much into that number.

“It’s the smallest county in the state, about 4,200 people, and almost entirely forest. With a population that small, zero reported cases means too few to report reliably, not an absence of ticks,” he said. “The blacklegged (deer) tick is established there, and the habitat is among the highest-risk in the region. I’d call Menominee under-counted, not low-risk.”

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the number of tick bite-associated emergency department visits per 10,000 in north-eastern Wisconsin is at 32 for the week of July 6-12. The high this year was 73 for the week of May 25-31.

Shawano Menominee Counties Health Department offers these recommendations when going outdoors.

- Wear long sleeves, long pants and socks.
- Use insect repellent.
- Heart clothes and gear treated with permethrin.
- Perform daily tick checks.
- Take a bath or

BY THE NUMBERS

Every TickZone community gets a single 0 to 100 tick-risk score for the day, updated each morning. Low-risk scores are 0-33, moderate-risk scores are 34-66, and high-risk scores are 67-100.

TickZone provides a score that is a live daily reading that shifts with weather, so treat the following figures as a mid-July snapshot.

Oconto County	TIGERTON: 61
DOTY: (town) 74	RED SPRINGS: (town) 61
TOWNSEND: (town) 65	ANIWA: 60
ABRAMS: (town) 59	ALMON: (town) 60
UNDERHILL: (town) 58	BIRNAMWOOD: (town) 60
SURING: 56	FAIRBANKS: (town) 60
BREED: (town) 55	MORRIS: (town) 60
HOW: (town) 55	NAVARINO: (town) 60
MORGAN: (town) 55	ANIWA: (town) 59
RIVERVIEW: (town) 55	HUTCHINS: (town) 59
MOUNTAIN: (town) 54	BOWLER: 58
GILLETT: 53	WITTENBERG: (town) 58
CHASE: (town) 53	WAUKECHON: (town) 57
LITTLE SUAMICO: (town) 53	PELLA: (town) 56
BAGLEY: (town) 52	WESCOTT: (town) 56
STILES: (town) 52	MATTOON: 55
LAKEWOOD: (town) 50	GRANT: (town) 55
OCONTO FALLS: (town) 49	BELLE PLAINE: (town) 54
PENSAUKEE: (town) 49	BIRNAMWOOD: 52
GILLETT: (town) 47	BONDUEL: 52
MAPLE VALLEY: (town) 47	HERMAN: (town) 52
OCONTO FALLS: 46	WITTENBERG: 51
BRAZEAU: (town) 45	GRESHAM: 50
OCONTO: (town) 42	LESSOR: (town) 49
OCONTO 41	SHAWANO: 48
SPRUCE: (town) 40	GREEN VALLEY: (town) 47
LITTLE RIVER: (town) 38	HARTLAND: (town) 44
LENA: (town) 37	RICHMOND: (town) 44
LENA: 31	WASHINGTON: (town) 44
Shawano County	ANGELICA: (town) 43
BARTELME: (town) 68	CECIL: 39
GERMANIA: (town) 63	MAPLE GROVE: (town) 38
SENECA: (town) 63	Menominee County
ELAND: 61	MENOMINEE (TOWN): 45

SOURCE: [HTTPS://TICKZONE.APP](https://TICKZONE.APP)

shower after spending time outdoors.

“Stay to the center of trails, and do a tick check within a couple hours of coming inside,” Burnett said. “A shower and a hot dryer cycle on your

clothes both help.”

There are roughly 90 tick species in the U.S., but only a handful bite people and spread disease. In this area, the one that matters most is the black-legged, or deer, tick, which

carries Lyme and is established across the area. The American dog tick is also present, mainly in grassy spots.

“The lone star tick, common in the South, has not established this far north yet, though it is moving northward over time, with the occasional sighting in Wisconsin, likely hitchhiking on birds,” Burnett said.

If you find a tick attached to you, use fine-tipped tweezers, grip it as close to the skin as possible and pull straight up with steady pressure. Do not twist it, burn it or coat it in anything.

“Clean the area, note the date, and watch for a rash or fever over the following weeks,” Burnett said. “Prompt, correct removal is the single biggest thing in your favor.”

Not all tick bites result in Lyme disease, but that’s not because the ticks are clean.

“Up here, a large share of adult deer ticks do carry the Lyme bacterium, so you should not count on any given one being harmless,” Burnett said. “The reasons a bite often doesn’t lead to Lyme are different. First, not every tick is a deer tick, and dog ticks don’t carry Lyme at all. Second, an infected deer tick generally has to stay attached 24 to 48 hours to transmit. That’s why identifying the tick and removing it quickly matters so much.”

Wisconsin’s real risk

window runs from about April through late fall, with two peaks, Burnett said.

Right now, mid-summer, is the peak for nymphs, the poppy-seed-sized ticks that are hardest to spot and cause most of the bites that make people sick.

The second peak is adult deer ticks in October and November, which tends to catch hunters and hikers off guard after they’ve stopped thinking about it. Ticks go dormant in hard winter cold. A stray adult can appear on an unusually warm winter day, but that’s a minor exception, not something to plan around.

Burnett started TickZone this summer.

“A few things pushed me into it,” he said. “It’s been a record tick season, I kept running into the lone star tick turning up in new places, a tick I hadn’t even heard of until recently, and honestly, it’s personal, too. My younger brother got Lyme when we were younger. He was treated and he’s fine, but it stuck with me. I wanted people to be able to see the risk for their own town, not just a statewide number. It now pulls together CDC surveillance, land cover and daily weather across 38 states.”

Readers can look up any town themselves for free with no signup required by visiting <https://tickzone.app>.

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Bites, stings can lead to serious health issues

Summer means more time outdoors, but it also brings increased exposure to mosquitoes, bees and ticks.

While most insect bites and stings cause only mild irritation, some can lead to serious allergic reactions or illnesses such as Lyme disease. Aspirus nurse practitioner Bruce Anderson says knowing how to prevent bites and recognize when medical care is

needed can help keep outdoor adventures safe and enjoyable.

Anderson said bee and wasp stings can be especially dangerous for people with severe allergies. While most stings cause localized swelling, itching and discomfort, a severe allergic reaction known as anaphylaxis can cause difficulty breathing or swallowing and requires immediate medical attention.

Ticks present a different concern, particularly black-legged (deer) ticks, which can transmit the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. Anderson said many patients visit the clinic shortly after discovering a tick bite. Seeing patients early gives providers the opportunity to determine whether preventive treatment for Lyme disease is appropriate.

To help reduce the risk of insect bites, stings, and

tick-borne illness, Anderson offers the following tips:

- Bug spray can help prevent bites from mosquitoes, flies, and other insects while outdoors.
- Long-sleeved shirts, long pants and high socks can help reduce skin exposure to insects and ticks. When walking through tall grass, tuck pants into socks whenever possible.
- After spending time

outdoors, inspect yourself, children and pets for ticks. Early removal can reduce the risk of Lyme disease transmission.

- A rash, body aches, joint pain, fever or flu-like symptoms after a tick bite or spending time outdoors could indicate Lyme disease and should be evaluated by a healthcare professional.
- Difficulty breathing, swelling of the face or

throat, or trouble swallowing after a sting may indicate anaphylaxis and requires emergency medical attention.

“When Lyme disease is identified early, most people do well after treatment,” Anderson said.

He added that some people may experience recurring symptoms and should follow up with a specialist if symptoms persist.



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Experts weigh in on gubernatorial race

Hong, Tiffany appear to be front-runners for November

By **PETER CAMERON**
The Badger Project

With an open slot for governor on the ballot in 2026, a large group of Democrats has jumped into the ring.

Francesca Hong, the Democratic socialist and Madison Assembly representative, has narrowly led most polling in a crowded Democratic field, with former Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes close behind, though the majority of respondents have said they don't know who they will support.

Wisconsin Republicans likely have their candidate for governor, the MAGA-aligned Northwoods Rep. Tom Tiffany, but state Democrats must choose from a handful of remaining candidates in the primary election Aug. 11.

The last time Wisconsin Democrats chose a gubernatorial candidate from a packed primary, in 2018, they nominated the moderate Tony Evers, who went on to narrowly defeat the incumbent Scott Walker. Much has changed politically since then.

Can Hong win?

Democratic socialists across the country are on the rise, so it's a question many in Wisconsin and beyond are asking.

Hong, the foul-mouthed, rhetorical bomb-thrower



FRANCESCA HONG

from Madison, seems to take pleasure in flipping the bird to conservatives, which has delighted some Democrats who say they want more fight from their party.

Her strong early polling has also drawn concern from others who think she is too extreme and thus a risky candidate to run in a swing state.

Some fear she has not done enough to position herself for the more moderate voters outside of Madison she will need to win the state. While other prominent Democratic socialists like New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani and Michigan Senate candidate Abdul El-Sayed have abandoned or even denied past support for defunding the police, an incredibly unpopular political position in Wisconsin and nationwide, Hong has not done so when given the opportunity. She has called for not only defunding the police, but also abolishing it altogether.

Can Tiffany win?

The state GOP has rallied around a candidate in Tiffany who is loudly



TOM TIFFANY

and forcibly pro-Donald Trump – so much that he was one of the few elected Republicans who tried to help him overturn the 2020 election – in a year when the president is very unpopular, in Wisconsin and nationally.

That tight association has given Tiffany a lot of baggage, said Ed Miller, a political science professor emeritus at UW-Stevens Point.

“Besides his challenge to the 2020 election, he has many votes for positions that have hurt farmers, middle class and poor voters,” Miller noted.

Like Hong, experts wonder if Tiffany is too extreme to win statewide.

“Tiffany hitched his wagon to Trump and voted with him down the line, to allow this insane tariff war that's hurting Wisconsin farmers, to raise healthcare costs and make it harder to access care, to let this dumbass war in the Middle East continue no matter how much more we all pay at the pump,” said Joe Zepecki, a former

Democratic strategist who now runs his own consulting firm.

“Tiffany made those choices, which is a little like choosing – on purpose! – to run a marathon with an 800-pound anchor around your neck,” he wrote in an email.

Democrats nominating the wrong candidate could open a path to victory for him, said James Wigderson, a conservative, anti-Trump political writer.

“Barnes and Hong will allow him to do that while they are vulnerable to having their turnout numbers go down because they turn off more moderate voters while scaring (energizing) Tiffany voters,” he wrote in an online message to The Badger Project.

“Clearly, the only Democratic candidate Tom Tiffany believes he even has a chance of beating is Fran Hong,” Zepecki added. “The political environment is brutal for Republicans right now – and there is almost nothing to indicate it will get better.”

Party advantages

The Wisconsin GOP does have one thing going for it, said Aaron Weinschenk, a political science professor at UW-Green Bay, in an email.

Unlike the Democrats, they aren't having “a long, protracted primary battle,” he wrote. “It's basically been Tiffany for a while now, and he doesn't have to spend time (or resources) winning a primary. We're already seeing plenty of ads for him on social media and television (and he's therefore getting information out there to voters).”

Most of the political wind is blowing at the sails of the Democrats, many experts say.

Midterm elections usually favor the party out of power, Heim said. Juicing the numbers this year could be the Republican president's severe unpopularity.

“But the Democrats do have some history of occasionally grasping defeat from the jaws of victory,” Heim wrote. “If they, as it now appears, continue to move further left, that may be a formula for Tiffany's better chances of success this fall. But he also needs to move towards the center and downplay his MAGA side.”

“There may be more surprises in the fall than normal, giving him more of a chance, but as of now? I would put my money on the odds that would seem to favor the Democratic candidate for governor.”

The final stretch

Two of the seven Democratic gubernatorial candidates have dropped out so far and endorsed current Lt. Gov. Sara Rodriguez.

That leaves, at least for now, Rodriguez, Barnes, state Sen. Kelda Roys of Madison, former Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration Joel Brennan and Hong.

Rodriguez won a straw poll at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin's state convention in June, with Hong close behind. That poll of hardcore activists was not predictive the last time it happened in 2018. Roys finished first and the eventual primary winner, while Evers finished third.

Tiffany is not running unopposed in the Republican primary. Andy Manske, an unorthodox, political rookie and a 27-year-old medical services technician from the Milwaukee area, is also on the ballot. He faces long odds to defeat the congressman, who has millions in the bank and the support of the Republican establishment, including the president.

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BEST OF SHAWANO LEADER 2025



The Shawano Ski Sharks battled heat, humidity and smoky conditions to perform July 15 on the shores of the Wolf River at Samlley Park in Shawano. On July 16-19, the team competed in the state water ski championships and returned home with a Division 2 state title.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

Ski Sharks win D2 state title

The Shawano Ski Sharks racked up 1,374.88 points and earned the Division 2 state title at the 2026 Wisconsin Water Ski Show Championship held July 16-19 at Lake Wazeecha in Wood County.

The Ski Sharks earned first place in the Dock and Equipment Personnel, Tow Boat Driving, Overall Show, Doubles and Pyramid categories.

Ryan Strachan was named Most Valuable Male.

Second place was

earned in Showmanship, Barefoot, Jump and Swivel.

A third-place award was earned in Sound Crew Total and Ballet.

Fourth-place finishes were earned in the categories of Production and High Individual Club Act.

Shawano placed fifth in the Pick-Up Boat Crews.

Celebrating 50 years this summer, the Ski Sharks perform Wednesday evenings through Aug. 19 on the shores of the Wolf River at Smalley Park

in Shawano. The pre-show begins at 5:30 p.m., with the show getting underway at 6 p.m.

Shows are always free to the public; however, donations are appreciated. Concessions are offered on-site at every show (cash only). Bottled water, soda, sports drinks, burgers, brats and popcorn are all for sale. Raffle tickets are available at each show.

Bleacher seating is available. Many people also bring lawn chairs or blankets.

Cecil tops Pulaski for third straight Dairyland win

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

Wins are starting to add up for Cecil's Dairyland League baseball team.

The Mudhens headed to Pulaski on July 17 and returned home following their third straight win, a 9-8 10-inning victory over the Reds.

Cecil 9, Pulaski 8 (10 inn.)

The Mudhens moved into sole possession of fourth place in the Dairyland standings with the win.

Both teams got off to a fast start in the first inning. Cecil left the bases loaded without scoring, while Pulaski took a 3-0 lead.

The Mudhens bounced back in the second inning. Reese Stoltenow and Easton Engel had two-out singles, and Garrett Engel walked to load the bases. Noah Beilfuss came up with one of his three hits in the game as the Mudhens cut the lead to 3-2.

Cecil took the lead in the third inning, as Braden Uelmen and Mason Meverden singled. Isaac Boldt's double to left field tied the game at 3-3, and Trace Brehmer drew a walk to load the bases. Stoltenow and Easton Engel drove in runs with sacrifice fly balls, and Garrett Engel's double gave the Mudhens a 6-3 lead heading into the fourth inning.

Pulaski came up with a run in the bottom of the fifth inning, but three walks and a Brody Hartman single led to a run in the next inning for the Mudhens.

Pulaski tied the game with two runs in the sixth inning and one in the eighth, and the teams headed into extra innings tied at 7-7.

Cecil scored a pair of runs in the top of the 10th

inning after Garrett Engel led off the inning with a seven-pitch walk and Beilfuss and Hartman singled to load the bases. Engel scored on a wild pitch, and Meverden drove in Cecil's final run on a deep fly ball to center field.

Pulaski came up with a run in the bottom of the 10th inning of a game that lasted four hours.

Hartman picked up the win on the mound, and the save went to Meverden.

Marinette 12, Navarino 2 (7 inn.)

Sean Christiansen pitched a complete game to help give the Redbirds a win over the Rangers July 19.

Waupaca 14, Nichols 6

Waupaca scored at least one run in each inning in a win on the Nitros' home field July 19 as the Lakemen outthit the home team 15-9.

Waupaca opened the scoring with two runs in the top of the first inning and one more in the second.

Brendan Canterbury's two-run home run in the fourth inning gave the Lakemen a 5-0 lead, but Nichols scored three times in the bottom of the inning. Nick Volz and Javon Leisgang hit solo home runs.

Waupaca answered with Jason Ellie's two-run home run in the sixth inning and Canterbury added his second homer – a three-run shot – in the seventh.

Leisgang and Volz each had two hits to lead Nichols at the plate and Leisgang took the loss after giving up 10 hits and 12 runs. Winning pitcher Cam Seidl scattered seven hits and four runs over seven innings while striking out 10 batters.

Canterbury and A.J.

McDonald each had three of Waupaca's 15 hits.

Bonduel 11, Hofa Park 0 (8 inn.)

The Broncos picked up a road win July 19 over the Panthers behind Jett Thielke's win on the mound that included 18 strikeouts and one hit over seven innings.

Adam Frost, Easton Reinke, Jack Reinke, Brooks Hartlaben and Cooper Campshure each had two hits for Bonduel, while Beckett Hartlaben scored four runs. Easton Reinke had a three-run home run and drove in a team-high six runs.

Navarino 9, Nichols 6

Nichols fell to the Rangers on July 17 despite having a 9-8 advantage in hits.

Will Debrune led Nichols with three hits, including a home run in the ninth inning.

Navarino opened the scoring in the fourth inning on Mason Dingledein's solo home run.

Nichols tied the game in the sixth inning on a single from Marcus Jens and an error.

The Rangers came up with six runs on three hits in the bottom of the sixth inning to take an 8-2 lead. Ryan Boettcher drove in a pair of runs with a single.

Debrune's three-run homer in the top of the ninth cut the lead to 9-6.

Winning pitcher Spencer Dauphinee held the Nitros to three hits and two runs over five innings, while Cade Johnson took the loss for Nichols.

Boettcher, Dingledein and Owen Weber each had two hits for Navarino.

Hortonville 12, Bonduel 2 (8 inn.)

Hortonville handed Bonduel its second Dairyland loss July 15 in a rescheduled game.

DAIRYLAND,
continued on page 10

Big ninth inning lifts Wittenberg over Tigerton in BABA

By GREG SEUBERT
Correspondent

A big ninth inning gave Wittenberg's Badger Amateur Baseball Association team a come-from-behind win, as the Pilots defeated Tigerton 15-14 July 17 in Wittenberg.

West Division
Wittenberg 15, Tigerton 14

Wittenberg scored 10

runs in the bottom of the ninth inning for a win over the Tigers and improved to 8-2 in division play.

East Division
Gresham 14, Marion 9

Nate Ejnik and Mike Pecore each had four hits to lead the Gophers over the Meisters on July 17 in a rescheduled East Division game.

Wyatt Nietzer added

three hits for Gresham, while Crew Weisnicht and Lukas Pecore had two each.

Mitch Elandt led Marion with three hits.

Paul Murphy picked up the win on the mound and Blake Weatherwax took the loss.

New London 12, Clintonville 2 (7 inn.)

The Irish built an 8-0 lead thanks to seven-run

second inning and cruised to a 10-run win over the A's at Don Jirschele Field in Clintonville, a game that was rescheduled from July 17 to July 19.

New London outthit the A's 11-1 and Mike Helsten picked up the win on the mound.

Colby Schmude scored three times, hit a home run and drove in three runs for the Irish.

North Division
Birnamwood 7, Eland 3

Birnamwood defeated the Engineers in the Kings' final home game of the regular season at Rivertronics Stadium.

Hatley 12, Crandon 5

Hatley outthit the Kentucks 15-8 in Hatley.

Kodie Kocher led the Braves with four hits, while Sam Meerstein had

three and Ben Cunliffe and Braxton Olson added two each.

Cole Kupfer and Tyler Sprink led Crandon with two hits each.

Cunliffe picked up the win, and Curtis Paschen took the loss.

Antigo/Polar at Aniwa

Results not reported.

BABA, continued on page 10



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Cheering for the FIFA champions



Lauren and Kylie from Appleton cheer on Spain as Spain beat Argentina 1-0 in extra time in the FIFA World Cup 2026 at a watch party at Titledown in Green Bay on July 19.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA



DAIRYLAND, continued from page 8

Hortonville pitchers Zander Locy and Marson Burrichter held the Broncos to five hits, while the Stars got home runs from Logan Locy, Chris Atwood and Cage Kavanagh.

Chase Reinke, Adam Frost and Noah Weier each had a double for Bonduel, and Weier took the loss on

the mound.

Hortonville at Shawano

Results not reported.

July 24 schedule

Nichols at Waupaca, 7 p.m.

July 26 schedule (all games start at 1:30 p.m.)

Waupaca at Cecil; Pulaski at Bonduel; Hofa

Park at Shawano; Hortonville at Navarino; Marinette at Nichols.

Standings as of July 16

Bonduel, 10-2; Hortonville, 10-2; Waupaca, 9-1; Cecil, 6-6; Shawano, 6-6; Navarino, 3-6; Hofa Park, 3-8; Marinette, 3-8; Nichols, 2-7; Pulaski, 3-9.

BABA, continued from page 8

West Division Little Falls 15, Caroline 2

Little Falls held on to first place in the West Division standings with a home win over the Cougars.

Plover 13, Leopold 1

The Pterodactyls made the long drive to Leopold July 19 and returned home following a win over the Bulldogs.

Plover scored eight of its 13 runs in the top of the ninth inning. Kevin Jastromski led the Pterodactyls at the plate with three of the team's 14 hits. He also drove in four runs on a three-run single in the eighth inning and an RBI single in the ninth.

Plover didn't score until Brady Houston's two-run single in the eighth inning. Ryan Malveg had three

hits to lead Leopold at the plate, and Brady Hannes drove in the Bulldogs' only run.

Kaden Thauer picked up the win on the mound for Plover, and Jaden Stuhler took the loss despite striking out 18 batters in eight innings.

Scandinavia at Tilleda

Results not reported.

East Division Menominee at Gresham

Gresham's game with Menominee was cancelled due to smoky conditions and Menominee not having enough players to field a team.

Weymont at Shawano

Results not reported.

July 22 schedule

South-Central Division: Scandinavia at Plover, 7 p.m.

July 24 schedule

North Division: Hatley at Eland, 7 p.m. Elderon at Antigo/Polar, 7 p.m. East Division: Plover at Clintonville, 7:30 p.m. South-Central Division: Plover at Clintonville, 7:30 p.m.; Caroline at Weymont, 7 p.m.; New London at Wittenberg, 7:30 p.m. West Division: New London at Wittenberg, 7:30 p.m.; Caroline at Weymont, 7 p.m.

July 26 schedule (all games start at 1:30 p.m.)

North Division: Aniwa at Crandon; Birnamwood has bye. West Division: Tilleda at Leopold; Gresham at Tigerton; Little Falls has bye. East Division: Clintonville at Shawano; Gresham at Tigerton; Menominee at Plover; Marion at Scandinavia. South-Central Division: Menominee at Plover; Marion at Scandinavia.

‘Timeless Teachings’ to fill Woodland Bowl with stories

Smithsonian partnership allows pageant to get materials needed for show

By **LEE PULASKI**
City Editor

A summer tradition for the Menominee for the last 10 years returns again, but it will be doing so without its matriarch.

The Menominee pageant, where participants tell stories through pantomime, dance and audio recordings, will be performed July 29 at the Woodland Bowl in Keshena. This year’s show, “Timeless Teachings,” and was written by the Menominee Pageant Players Guild. The show includes adapted versions of “A Sampling of Menominee Legends” from the Menominee Tribal Historical Office and “The Legend of the Dells,” written by the late Theresa Wescott.

The pageant program, which was revived in 2016 after decades of absence, received an added boost this year after it was recognized by the Smithsonian Institution and added to its Festival of Festivals — the only Wisconsin event to get that honor.

The Smithsonian partnership, along with the Menominee Powwow Committee, the Wisconsin Arts Board and Taproot Artists and Community Trust, has allowed the College of Menominee Nation to purchase new lights and special effects equipment, along with a sound system designated specifically for the pageants.

“Timeless Teachings” will be the first time the pageant players have put together a show without any input from its matriarch, Grace “Bea” Corn. She died in 2025 before that year’s pageant was performed. Dawn Wilbur, Corn’s daughter, recalled how excited her mother was when it was announced that the Menominee pageants would return with a request for materials from past pageants.

“Not long before that, my cousin and my uncle had all of my grandpa’s papers,” Wilbur said, noting that it was decided that those papers should be stored at Corn’s home. “Oddly enough, one of the first boxes that we went through had the pageant stuff that my grandpa had back when he revived it years ago (in the late 1950s). When my mom saw that call, she said, ‘They’re having a meeting. Will you come with me?’ She gathered some of the files, and we came here to CMN. I could see the total excitement on Ryan (Winn) and Lloyd (Frieson)’s faces.”



Dawn Wilbur performs a monologue during the 2025 Menominee Pageant production.

CONTRIBUTED

Wilbur noted that, once the files were looked at, the people involved with reviving the pageants knew their mission would be successful.



Grace “Bea” Corn, shown in a publicity photo for the original pageant productions, was the matriarch for the latest revival that started in 2016. She died in 2025. This year’s pageant, “Timeless Teachings,” will be dedicated to Corn and the work she put into pageants past and present.

CONTRIBUTED

Otter Run owner sees surprise mink visit

When Jon and I bought Otter Run in Townsend in 1993, it was advertised as 87 acres on the Townsend Flowage. As recorded on the survey map, the property is composed of three distinct parcels. Perfect. Ah, nothing’s perfect. Thirty

acres of it is underwater so only 57 acres actually belong to us.

What? Yes. Thanks to Wisconsin State Statute Chapter 28, if you are a U.S. citizen, you own that acreage as much as we do. A founda-

tional principle rooted in the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, Chapter 28 was incorporated into the Wisconsin Constitution in 1848.

Commonly known as the Public Trust Doctrine, the statute holds that navigable waters are “common highways and forever free” for the use of all state residents and U.S. citizens, without tax, input or duty. The doctrine is administered by the state of Wisconsin and entrusts the state legislature with the primary duty to enforce it.

Chapter 28 has never been an issue for us. When Oconto County lowered the Flowage in 2013 to repair the dam, Jon posted a sign on the lakebed: “Lots for Sale.” His silly sign drew some inquiries but no offers. All in good fun.

Seriously, an occasional boater disembarks on our shoreline to relieve a full bladder or retrieve a wayward fishing lure caught in the brush instead of the mouth of a trophy bass. No worries. We have even helped solve the problem if asked.

Over the years, our shoreline has been the scene of some very interesting woodland creature behavior. One particularly relevant example involves Lee Stehula, a now-deceased cousin who lived next door. When Lee saw otters running up and down our dock, he suggested we call our piece of poor man’s paradise, Otter Run. Perfect.

Speaking of perfect, one encounter I’ll never forget came when I went to check out loud splashing sounds close to our dock. I arrived just in time to observe a huge muskie take a big northern pike out for lunch. The muskie played with his catch, then gulped it down and rolled over several times as if celebrating. I couldn’t help but laugh aloud.

Another occurrence we still see now and then is muskrats frolicking in the water. In spring, we watch for the muskrat mating ritual. This humorous activity of procreation always brings to mind the Captain and Tennille song, “Muskrat Love.”

One incident I wish I had witnessed happened over the Sunday of Fourth of July weekend. As is our custom, we went out on the pontoon after the boat traffic died down. I packed some snacks and filled our cooler with adult beverages, chef salads, grilled bread, and brownies for dessert.

We prefer late afternoon boat rides that culminate with anchoring at our favorite



KATHLEEN MARSH
COLUMNIST

TIMELESS, continued from page 11

speaking their lines with the correct Menominee pronunciation.

“Not everybody can read Menominee as it’s written down in the script,” he said.

Mary Mault is another intern who is handling the administrative side of things and assists stage manager Melinda Cook. Mault handles the scheduling for rehearsals and Zoom meetings, along with coordinating all the actors, dancers and other roles the pageant needs to be a success.

“I’m kind of more comfortable with what I do, because I’m not really an actor,” Mault said. “I kind of stay on the sidelines, which I like.”

Cedar Fernandez is interning to take the lead on set and prop designs. She said she’s working to make this show seem like a zoom into individual

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: “Timeless Teachings,” a Menominee pageant
WHEN: 9 p.m. July 29
WHERE: Woodland Bowl, W3002 Fairgrounds Road, Keshena
ADMISSION: Free, but any donations received will be used to fund next summer’s production
FYI: The show is suitable for all ages. It runs 90 minutes with no intermission.

scenes with the spotlight bringing all the attention to the action. Having more materials helps to make that a reality.

“We’re looking at expanding it more than we’ve done in previous years,” Fernandez said. “We’re still working through a lot of details yet, to be honest, though. As far as stage design, I’ve been around it, but I haven’t gone to this level of leadership on it.”



Extremely hot temperatures moved preparations July 13 for the Menominee pageant “Timeless Teachings” inside the College of Menominee Nation as, from left, Jeremiah Moses Jr., Cedar Fernandez, Mary Mault and Dawn Wilbur go over notes from the previous scene.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Winn, who teaches theater at CMN and has done extensive research on past pageants, is directing the show again this year. He said that

this year’s show is based off stories recommended by the Menominee

Historical Museum to be told during the summer months. From those, the pageant players were able to get four stories, along with an original song about the sturgeon.

“They have values that anyone, Native or non-Native, can benefit from hearing,” Winn said. “We tried to use those not only to perpetuate this wisdom but recognize, as we celebrate anniversaries and the passage of time, that wisdom remains.”

“Timeless Teachings” also marks another milestone as the Menominee celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Woodland Bowl, known mainly as its arena for most of the outdoor powwows but originally started as a space to perform the Menominee pageants whenever the Keshena Fair was held.

lpulaski@newmedia-wi.com

THEME: CAMPING ACROSS

- 1. Soapy enemy
- 5. Architect’s software, acr.
- 8. Professional number cruncher, acr.
- 11. Through, to a poet
- 12. Z, NATO phonetic alphabet
- 13. Garden pest
- 15. Chinese monetary unit
- 16. Sportscaster Andrews
- 17. Certain water birds
- 18. *Luxury camping
- 20. Scratch’s target
- 21. Same as coho
- 22. DNA transmitter
- 23. Explanation backed by evidence
- 26. Gottfried ____, calculus co-creator
- 30. R in rpm
- 31. Er on Periodic table
- 34. Bowling ball path
- 35. Arabic VIPs
- 37. .0000001 joule
- 38. Financial woes
- 39. Cecum, pl.
- 40. “Et tu, Brute?” speaker
- 42. Food morsel
- 43. Siren, e.g.
- 45. * __ camping, or camping without shelter
- 47. Siesta
- 48. “There it is,” † Paris
- 50. Gold or frankincense or myrrh, e.g.
- 52. *Fire starter
- 55. American chameleon

- 56. Antioxidant-rich berry
- 57. New Mexico art colony
- 59. Nymph chaser
- 60. Nonclerical
- 61. Poet Pound
- 62. High school parent org.
- 63. Be off base
- 64. Ready for picking
- DOWN
- 1. Eye infection
- 2. College party chant
- 3. Russia’s __ Mountains
- 4. Western European city-state
- 5. Collectible in a cabinet
- 6. Skirt shape
- 7. Animal waste
- 8. Chocolate candy, to a Brit
- 9. Essence
- 10. Marketing creations
- 12. Gentle breeze
- 13. Raspberry drupelets
- 14. *Like drinking water
- 19. Customs and conventions
- 22. “Losing My Religion” band
- 23. *Leave no ____
- 24. Egyptian falcon god
- 25. Put out on a curb
- 26. Totes or tugs
- 27. Orient’s bigwig
- 28. Preface, e.g.
- 29. Piquant
- 32. * __ bag or __ canister
- 33. Rage
- 36. *Waterproof cover (2 words)
- 38. Funny
- 40. Large edible mushroom

CROSSWORD

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- 41. Of low pH
- 44. Serve food at events
- 46. Restaurant staff member
- 48. “The ____ of Wakefield”
- 49. On the radio (2 words)
- 50. *Annoying biting fly
- 51. Tiny quantity
- 52. Leafy green
- 53. Like Hitler’s Germany
- 54. *Good Ol’ Raisins and Peanuts
- 55. Venomous snake
- 58. Greek letters on campus

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Great Crested Flycatcher moves into neighborhood

We have a new neighbor in our yard this summer, the Great Crested Flycatcher. It lives up to its name with its distinctive gray crest giving it a big-headed look, seemingly at odds with its small slender body size. The bird's back, neck and head are brownish gray, belly yellow and its long tail is mostly rusty red. It's a dapper looking bird.

What first clued me into the bird's presence was its distinctive call described by The Cornell Lab All About Birds (AAB) website as a loud "whee-eeep" whistle that rises fast in tempo and ends sharply. This is one of four basic calls made by both the males and females during the day. It is thought to serve as a contact call between a mated pair or between parents and young and is also made by either parent to warn of an intruder or predator near the nest site.

It's the bird's call rather than a sighting of it that will likely alert you too to its presence. This is because, according to AAB, these flycatchers prefer being high up in tree canopies where they are hard to see. From these high vantage points, they hunt for larger insects, peering in all directions,



A Great Crested Flycatcher brings a mulberry to the young in its nest tucked into a hollow limb of the author's old backyard apple tree.

CATHY CARNES

bobbing their heads and swooping to give chase to flying prey.

Flycatchers are persistent when pursuing prey, darting and hovering to snatch up insects. In their haste, may even crash into foliage in pursuit of it. Now that's being laser focused. They

spend little time on the ground, preferring to fly from place to place rather than to walk or hop.

To our delight, after hearing the flycatchers for a few

days, a pair decided to nest in our old apple tree. I noticed them flitting about the branches of the tree seeming to assess it for a suitable nesting site.

Nest building is done mostly by the female with the male staying close. We saw the female busily bringing nesting material to an old hollow limb in the tree – first a beak full of dried grass and then a fluffy bright yellow artificial looking feather, half the size of the bird, was slipped into the nesting cavity. Interestingly, AAB reports that shed snake skins are often used in nest construction as are feathers, fur, bark, egg

shells, paper, cloth, onion skins, twigs and grasses.

While Great Crested Flycatchers prefer to nest in tree cavities, according to AAB, they will also use nesting boxes, hollow posts, and even pipes, cans and boxes if they are of suitable size.

If you'd like to attract flycatchers to your yard, AAB suggests setting up a nest box and outfitting it with a predator guard to protect the eggs and young from intruders. Hang the nest about 3-20 feet above the ground in an open woodland located where there are clear flight paths to the box opening. You can find a flycatcher nest box plan at <https://nestwatch.org/learn/all-about-birdhouses/birds/great-crested-flycatcher>.

presence, you may also find them using nesting cavities in old orchards, woody urban areas including parks, cemeteries, golf courses and maybe even your own backyard.

Great Crested Flycatcher breed throughout the eastern U.S. and much of southern Canada. AAB notes that they are medium-to long-distance migrants. Most of the birds winter in southern Florida, southern Mexico, Central America and northwestern South America. Leaving their northern breeding grounds in September, they start returning north to the southern U.S. by mid-March. Rather than migrating in flocks, they migrate alone.

Listeners for the breezy "whee-eeep" whistles of the Great Crested Flycatcher in your neighborhood or when in wooded areas. Remember to look up high in the trees for them, and maybe you too will get to see them flitting energetically in and out of the canopy intent on the chase.

We eventually heard young in the nest and watched as the adults brought mulberries from our tree across the yard to their already "whee-eeep" whistling chicks. Berries and fruits are part of their diet, as well as insects such as dragonflies, butterflies, cricket, bees and wasps.

The Great Crested Flycatcher can be found in woodlots and open woodlands, especially those with deciduous trees and forest edges, according to AAB. Dead snags and dying trees provide important cavities used as nest sites. Because they tolerate human

Cathy Carnes is a retired biologist in Oconto who worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Green Bay Field Office and prior to that with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch in Buffalo, New York. As endangered species coordinator for the USFWS, she helped conserve and recover federally listed threatened and endangered species in Wisconsin.

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Full Bloom Events assists in special moments



Owner Karen Wassenberg poses by her counter at Full Bloom Events LLC, at 750 E. Green Bay St., Shawano. Her shop offers full-service flowers and more. CONTRIBUTED

Wassenberg expecting business to branch off into other entities

By KAY REMINGER
Correspondent

Life's unique and individualized moments are made more special with the help of Full Bloom Events, 750 E. Green Bay St., Shawano.

Owner Karen Wassenberg opened her storefront shop part time on May 1, with opening full time June 22.

Full Bloom Events' floral shop offers full-service flowers and much more.

Starting her business just doing florals for weddings and balloon décor for parties, it morphed into additional décor such as backdrops for events like baby showers, bridal showers and corporate events. Also offered are inflatables for parties, corporate events and church happenings. She can also add balloon garlands or arches to the inflatables for more personalization.

"I do personalized décor, floral artistry and balloon installations for various occasions such as weddings, birthdays, graduations and corporate events," said Wassenberg. "I am really proud to be a local business dedicated to bringing client's visions to life with careful attention to detail."

Starting out doing florals for friends and family, Wassenberg had an Etsy shop for a while doing flowers for proms and homecomings and sending them out across the country.

"On the side, I do vinyl décor, Christmas ornaments, teacher appreciation gifts, shirts and most special events," said Wassenberg. "Anything can be made better with a balloon. Balloons make everyone smile. Flowers do the same thing. They bring both joy and comfort to people."

She was previously employed as branch manager of Associated Bank. Recently, one of her coworkers had lost her dog.

"I felt I needed to do something for her, so I created an arrangement of a puppy dog from carnations and included the rainbow bridge poem in a frame. She was touched," said Wassenberg.

Full Bloom Events will be taking off in other directions, branching off into new entities called Petals and Pops, which will be an all-inclusive flower and balloon unit, and DK Premier Party Rentals, which will make available cotton candy, popcorn and a slushy machine for rent, as well as their

already established inflatable rentals.

Family includes three boys at home — Corbyn, 14, and twin boys Ryder and Caden, 11.

"My boys are my helpers, working in the back, organizing stuff. They cut flowers and help me with balloon setups," said Wassenberg. "My boyfriend, D.J., is a huge supporter. He was the brains behind this whole thing, giving me encouragement and help."

With her aim to make people happy, Wassenberg strives to make every event memorable.

"My goal is to make special occasions even more memorable, or in the case of the most vulnerable of times, to comfort them with flowers and balloons. History has told us that these are the best two ways to bring cheer to people. They bring me a lot of joy," she said. "I continue to learn every day about new floral and balloon techniques. They are both an art. I love being happy, and I just want to bring that happiness to others."

For information, contact Wassenberg at 715-701-6419, via Instagram at fullbloomeventsdecor or email her at info@fullbloomeventsdecor.com.

Maintain flavor, freshness of this year's harvest

Keep homegrown vegetables and those purchased at the farmer's market fresh and tasting their best. Selecting and harvesting vegetables at their peak and storing them properly will provide maximum flavor and nutritional value from every bite.

Check the garden regularly and harvest vegetables as recommended for the best flavor and nutritional value. Look for harvesting guidelines from reliable sources like your local extension service.

Harvest ripe vegetables early in the morning for the best quality and when the plants are dry to avoid spreading disease. Take a basket or container large enough to accommodate the harvest to minimize stacking that can lead to bruising that shortens the storage life. Use a knife, snips or pruners for

harvesting vegetables that can't easily be removed from the plant. You'll reduce the risk of damaging the plant during harvest. Move the harvest to a cool, shaded location or properly store to extend its shelf life.

When purchasing fresh vegetables from the farmer's market, buy what will be consumed or preserved in the next few days. Canning, freezing and dehydrating excess produce is a great way to enjoy vegetables long after the harvest season has passed.

Regular harvesting keeps the plant producing. Do remove and compost those past their prime. Leaving them in the garden to rot attracts unwanted insects and increases the risk of disease.

Wait to wash vegetables until right before preparation. In the meantime, store them properly

GARDENING WITH MELINDA MYERS



MELINDA MYERS
COLUMNIST



Cool-season root vegetables, like carrots, can be left in the ground longer in cooler climates for an even sweeter flavor. WWW.MELINDAMYERS.COM

to help extend their shelf life. Onions, garlic, white and sweet potatoes and tomatoes are best stored out of the refrigerator. Onions and garlic lose their crispness; tomatoes turn mealy and they all can develop unsavory flavor and texture when exposed to

use unperforated sealed bags that create too much humidity and condensation that can lead to mold and bacterial growth.

Thoroughly wash and rinse vegetables under running water right before preparation to remove dirt and pesticide residue. Use a small brush for potatoes, cucumbers or other vegetables with skins that contain nutrients and fiber. If you opt to immerse the vegetables in water, use a clean bowl as your sink drain may harbor microorganisms.

For longer term storage, match the storage temperature and humidity to the vegetables. Some vegetables like lettuce, other greens, and leeks prefer 32-41 degrees and high humidity. Others, like cucumbers, snap beans and peppers, prefer a bit warmer temperatures, 45-55 degrees and humid conditions. Pumpkins, winter squash and potatoes prefer a bit warmer temperatures at 50-60 degrees and lower humidity. Store dry garlic and onions at room

temperature (65-70 degrees) and out of direct sunlight.

Carrots, turnips, and parsnips are all cool-season root vegetables that thrive in cooler soil temperatures and can be left in the garden longer for an even sweeter flavor. Spread mulch around these plantings once the soil around the plants is cool to protect the plants from temperature extremes and make winter harvesting much easier. Finish harvesting before the ground freezes and damages the roots.

Enjoy the flavor and nutritional benefits fresh-from-the-garden vegetables provide. Then extend these benefits with proper handling and storage.

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

MINK, continued from page 11

dining spot, a quiet bay where we enjoy our meal. As always, this was a lovely way to end to a wonderful weekend with family. When we returned home, I headed up to the house while Jon batted down the hatches and relaxed on shore in one of our new lawn chairs.

Suddenly, he was startled by an animal that ran right by his feet with a big bullhead in its mouth. In

the moment it took him to realize it was an adult mink, the animal, equally surprised, dropped its catch and ran.

Then, as Jon watched in quiet amazement, the mink stopped and turned to look back. In a scene reminiscent of a spaghetti western standoff, they sized each other up. When Jon didn't say a word or make a move, the mink returned to take

possession of its prize and scurried away. My mate was still grinning when he eagerly recounted his experience.

We had seen mink over the years, but this had to be a once in a lifetime occurrence. I googled "American Mink" and learned that northern Wisconsin's extensive wetlands and forests provide some of the best mink habitat in the state.

In fact, mink are common throughout northern Wisconsin, especially in areas with abundant water and healthy wetlands. However, they're secretive and fast, so up-close sightings are rare and brief. Lucky Jon.

The best place for meeting a mink is in a brushy wetland. Excellent swimmers, they frequent shorelines of rivers, streams, creeks, lakes,

ponds, and marshes. They set up housekeeping in areas with fallen logs, rock piles and undercut stream banks and routinely use abandoned beaver ponds and lodges as burrows. Their diet includes fish, frogs, crayfish, muskrats, ducks and even small mammals.

If you're serious about seeing one, go to a quiet shoreline or beaver pond at dawn or dusk. Look for

a long, dark-brown animal with a low, bounding gait and bushy tail. And keep your camera handy. Jon's encounter happened so fast he didn't have time to get a photo. Shoot.

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

WHAT’S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, JULY 24

SHAWANO: American Red Cross blood drive, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Shawano City Hall, 127 S. Sawyer St. Appointments at RedCrossBlood.org or 800-733-2767.

OCONTO: Storytime, 10:30 a.m., Farnsworth Public Library, 104 Park St. Story and crafts for preschool children. A caregiver must stay with the child.

WITTENBERG: Community Days, 5-11 p.m., Washington Park, 104 Park St. Carnival rides 5-10 p.m., live music, food stands, raffles.

LENA: Thunder On Main, 6-8 p.m., Main Street. See the cars and meet the drivers from AMSOIL Champ Off-Road Nationals. Giveaways, music, food and drinks.

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

ABRAMS: Comedy City, 7 p.m., Nancy Byng Community Theater, 5852 Maple St. Improv performance hosted by Abrams Spotlight Productions Inc. and Glovers Bar and Grill. \$15. Doors open 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 25

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

LENA: AMSOIL Champ Off-Road Nationals, gates open 8:30 a.m., Dirt City Motorplex, 414 E. Main St. Tickets \$27 to \$369. Information at dirtcitylmc.com.

OCONTO: Emplify Health by Bellin Kids Triathlon, 8:30 a.m. to noon, Bond Community Center, 1201 Park Ave.

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

LENA: Carol’s Cow Camp,

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Alsteen Farms, 9399 Belgian Road. Hands-on farm experience for children and families. \$35 per child.

CROOKED LAKE: Crooked Trails ATV Club Hamburger and Brat Fry, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Crooked Lake Sportsmen’s Club, 15526 County Road W. Basket raffles, meat raffles, food and drink.

WITTENBERG: Community Days, noon to 11 p.m., Washington Park, 104 Park St. Carnival rides noon to 10 p.m., live music, food stands, raffles, face painting, balloon animals, fireworks at dusk. Bike giveaways at 5, 6 and 7 p.m. (Must be present to win.)

LAKEWOOD: Weinerfest North, noon to 8 p.m., Memorial Park, 17258 North Road. Food, live music, raffles, demonstrations.

EMBARRASS: Fun Daze, 4-8 p.m., Embarrass Fireman’s Park, 130 Depot St. Food, music by Jaidyn LaBorde, more.

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.

SUNDAY, JULY 26

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

WITTENBERG: Community Days, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Washington Park, 104 Park St. Community breakfast 7-11 a.m., church service, parade 11 a.m., carnival rides noon to 4 p.m., live music, food stands, raffles.

LENA: AMSOIL Champ Off-Road Nationals, gates open 8:30 a.m., Dirt City Motorplex, 414 E. Main St. Tickets

\$27 to \$369. Information at dirtcitylmc.com

SURING: Brat fry and pie/ice cream social, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., on the bridge at Riverside Park, 205 E. Main St. Hosted by Friends of the Suring Area Public Library and the Suring Area Historical Society.

SHAWANO: Arts and Crafts Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mielke Arts Center and Mielke Park, N5649 N. Airport Road. Hosted by Shawano County Arts Council. Awards at 3 p.m.

ABRAMS: Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Town Square, 5877 Main St.

TOWNSEND: Wisconsin Days, 1-4 p.m., Pintsch’s Olive Pit, 18904 State Highway 32. Celebrating Wisconsin-made products, polka music by the Wilber Brothers, Wisconsin food specials.

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

TUESDAY, JULY 28

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto County Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., Memorial Field. Race Car Night. Music with Codi Ness.

SHAWANO: Naberhood Block Party, 6 p.m., The Naberhood, 214 S. Main St. Arts and Crafts Night.

OCONTO: Tunes on Tuesday, 6-8 p.m., Beyer Home, 917 Park Ave. Music with Neverly Brothers.

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

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

OCONTO FALLS: See the

Seed: Cover Crops from Seed to System, 1-2:30 p.m., Wagner Farms, N6928 County Road BB. A walk-through of a local farm for a hands-on cover crop discussion, hosted by Shawano County Land Conservation Department, Shawano County Watershed Advisory Council, and Green Bay West Shore Demonstrations Farm Network.

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

OCONTO: National Walleye Tour Mandatory On-site Check-in and Rules Meeting, 4 p.m., Oconto Riviera, 1240 McDonald St., for participating anglers.

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks Water-ski 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. Omaeqnome-newak Wetohkatikamek Center, 2700 Mianaceqtawak Road. Information: Mindy Thunder at 715-799-3835 or mthunder@mitw.org.

THURSDAY, JULY 30

OCONTO: National Walleye Tour, takeoff at 7 a.m. or first safe light, weigh-in 3:15 p.m., Oconto Waterfront Park and Harbor, 1301 Harbor Road. Details at https://national-walleyetour.com.

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.

SOBIESKI: American Red Cross blood drive, 1-6 p.m., Little Suamico Fire Department, 5974 County Road S. Appointments at RedCrossBlood.org

or 800-733-2767.

KESHENA: Summer Bash, 4-6 p.m., College of Menominee Nation, N172 State Highway 47-55. An evening of games, food and community, with prizes and more for students applying for fall 2026.

SHAWANO: Thursdays at Franklin, 6-8:30 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Milly and the Mayhem. Bring your own chairs. Food and drink available, 50/50 raffles.

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

FRIDAY, JULY 31

OCONTO: National Walleye Tour, takeoff at 7 a.m. or first safe light, weigh-in 3:15 p.m., Oconto Waterfront Park and Harbor, 1301 Harbor Road. Details at https://national-walleyetour.com.

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.

BOWLER: Bowler Bash, Bowler Pond and Park, 104 E. Main St. Food, refreshments, raffles, music 8:15-11:45 p.m. All-you-can-eat corn \$8 wristband; AYCE corn and tap beer \$15 wristband.

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

SATURDAY, AUG. 1

LAKEWOOD: Lakes Country Arts and Craft Show, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Festival Grounds, 17258 North Road, featuring only items made by the exhibitors. Buy and sell items and imported items are not permitted.

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

DOTY: Doty Firefighters

Picnic, noon to 5 p.m., County T and Star Lake Road. Food, ice cream social, games, raffles, beer and brats.

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

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

TOWN OF UNDERHILL: Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee Annual Field Day, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Grover Tree Farm, 5519 Downtown Lane. Guest speakers, tours, catered lunch buffet, silent auction. \$27.50 per person, register by July 24 at www.witreefarm.org/tree-farm-field-day.

BOWLER: Bowler Bash, Bowler Pond and Park, 104 E. Main St. Food, refreshments, raffles, parade at 2 p.m., FFA Alumni cow and horse drop contests, bike raffle 4 p.m., music with Model Citizens 7:30-11:30 p.m., fireworks at dusk.

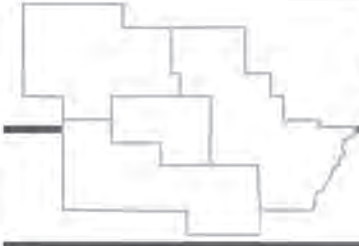
LENA: WUMPA Truck Pulls, 6 p.m., Dirt City Motorplex, 414 E. Main St.

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.

SUNDAY, AUG. 2

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 It’s Just Us Band. Bring your lawn chairs.



CLASSIFIEDS

In Person or Call: 715-526-6188 • 715-526-2121
Monday thru Friday 9:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Online: classifieds@newmedia-wi.com

SHAWANO LEADER **OCONTO COUNTY TIMES HERALD** **WITTENBERG ENTERPRISE & BIRNAMWOOD NEWS**

Ad Deadline: 3pm Thursday Prior

MISCELLANEOUS

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-833-518-2155

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Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/27/26.) Call 1-844-260-2934

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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-425-2108 today!

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Small square bales, mixed.
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New and used hunting and fishing items, green and pink Depression glass, camper and camping equipment, tools, furniture (including 12 chairs), jewelry, purses, housewares, seasonal decorations, men's, women's, and children's clothing in all sizes, Silver and Miss Me jeans, and lots of Harley Davidson clothing.

August 5-9
8:00 am-5:00 pm
8814 Highway 22 W, Oconto Falls, WI
Located in the large pole building.

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Starting at \$855 + Deposit Tom
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2 bedrooms
Great loc. Garage avail.
Starting at \$950 + Deposit Tom
715-280-0525

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REMEMBER TO PACK
SOME JUICE.



i45 model
as shown in photo

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- 145-4500w

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PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

July 19
Deputies responded to 38 incidents, including bail jumping on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; a noise disturbance on Riverside Drive in the Town of Wescott; a fire control burn on Maple View Road in the Town of Lessor; disorderly conduct on North Cecil Street in Bonduel; five 911 calls; eight traffic stops; three reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks; one crash.

July 18
Deputies responded to 55 incidents, including a disturbance on Highland Drive in the Town of Washington; a death investigation on Beech Road in the Town of Richmond; a disturbance on Balsam Row Road in the Town of Wescott; assault on Green Valley Road in the Town of Angelica; criminal damage on Granite Street in Tigerton; automobile theft on Ah Toh Wuk Court on Stockbridge-Munsee land; suspicious activity on North Airport Road in the Town of Wescott; fireworks on Pit Lane in the Town of Hartland; suspicious activity on state Highway 156 in the Town of Maple Grove; four 911 calls; eight traffic stops; six reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; two welfare checks.

July 17
Deputies responded to 73 incidents, including property damage at Breakaway Bar and Grill, N2921 County Road Y, Town of Belle Plaine; fraud on Field Street in Birnamwood; fraud and two reports of suspicious activity at the county jail, 405 N. Main St., Shawano; operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated on West College Avenue in Wittenberg; harassment on Sarah Street in Birnamwood; theft on North Washington Street in Bonduel; trespassing near state Highway 47-55 and Strauss Road in the Town of Wescott; a counterfeit bill at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg, N7198 U.S. Highway 45, Town of Wittenberg; fireworks on County Road B in the Town of Waukechon; six 911 calls; 19 traffic stops; four reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; three welfare checks; four crashes, one involving deer.

July 16
Deputies responded to 37 incidents, including four 911 calls; five traffic stops; seven reckless driving incidents; three traffic hazards; four welfare checks; one crash.

July 15
Deputies responded to 43 incidents, including harassment on West Vinal Street in Wittenberg; property damage on Hidden Pines Lane in the Town of Washington; harassment on Knoke Street in Gresham; a scam on County Road G in the Town of Grant; intoxication at Coachlight Bar and Grill, W5814 Lake Drive, Town of Westcott; two 911 calls; 17

traffic stops; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks; two crashes.

July 14
Deputies responded to 83 incidents, including suspicious activity near Wipperwill Lane and Pioneer Drive in the Town of Wescott; criminal damage near South Howard and West School streets in Wittenberg; counterfeit money on North Cecil Street in Bonduel; theft on state Highway 47-55 in the Town of Wescott; disorderly conduct near state Highway 47-55 and County Road A in the Town of Wescott; 14 911 calls; 28 traffic stops; three reckless driving incidents; two traffic hazards; four welfare checks; five crashes, three involving deer.

July 13

Deputies responded to 68 incidents, including theft on Rosenow Lane in the Town of Morris; suspicious activity near County Road S and Lot Lane in the Town of Angelica; assault on Fourth Street in Mattoon; drugs near County Roads C and E in the Town of Green Valley; theft on East Freeborn Street in Cecil; suspicious activity on East Park Street in Bonduel; suspicious activity near state Highway 29 and Bucholz Lane in the Town of Seneca; drugs near state Highway 118 and Pine Road in Cecil; five 911 calls; 32 traffic stops; one reckless driving incident; one welfare check; two crashes, one involving an animal.

SHAWANO POLICE

DEPARTMENT

July 19
Officers responded to 24 incidents, including a disturbance on South Maiden Lane; theft at You Store Mini Storage, 3525 E. Richmond St.; suspicious activity outside Domino's Pizza, 704 E. Green Bay St.; one 911 call; eight traffic stops; one reckless driving incident; one welfare check; two crashes.

July 18
Officers responded to 19 calls, including a disturbance on West Wescott Avenue; a disturbance on Balsam Row Road; harassment at the county jail, 405 N. Main St.; a disturbance on Madison Way; three 911 calls; one traffic stops; three welfare checks; two crashes.

July 17

Officers responded to 26 incidents, including threatening on Highview Avenue; theft at a redacted location; vandalism on East Division Street; harassment on West Richmond Street; fireworks on West Fifth Street; suspicious activity on South Franklin Street; threatening on South Hamlin Street; one 911 call; one traffic stop; one traffic hazard; one welfare check; two crashes.

July 16
Officers responded to 21 incidents, including fraud at CoVantage Credit Union, 911 E. Green Bay St.; two 911 calls; four traffic stops; two reckless driving incidents; one traffic hazard; two welfare checks.

July 15
Officers responded to 46

incidents, including a drug offense at Amerivu Inn and Suites, 211 Waukechon St.; a drug offense at Waukechon Road; bail jumping at Dunham Sports, 1211 E. Green Bay St.; a scam on Estates Lane; theft on North Lafayette Street; harassment on South Main Street; harassment on Waukechon Street; a disturbance at Amerivu Inn and Suites, 211 Waukechon St.; two 911 calls; 19 traffic stops; one reckless driving incident; one traffic hazard; three welfare checks; one crash.

July 14
Officers responded to 26 incidents, including suspicious activity on South Lafayette Street; harassment on East Richmond Street; a vehicle fire at Reinhart Foods, 1260 County Road B.

07/24, 31/2026

SHAWANO COUNTY TREASURER - PUBLIC LAND SALE NOTICE

Auction Opens: Tuesday, July 21, 2026
Auction Closes: Monday, August 19, 2026 Website: www.wisconsinsurplus.com

The Shawano County Treasurer's Office will sell properties acquired by in rem foreclosure under WI Stat. §75.521. Properties are sold "AS IS", with no written or implied warranties. Photos, legal descriptions, and maps are available at www.wisconsinsurplus.com (search "Shawano County") Or auction link is <https://wisurplus.ws/26-992>. To place a bid, follow instructions on the Wisconsin Surplus website. Final bids are approved by the Shawano County Executive Committee.

Municipality	Parcel Number	Property Address	Description	Approximate Acreage	Appraised Value
Village of Mattoon	151-152200060	328 4th Street, Mattoon, WI	VIL OF MATTOON S 50' OF N 219.2' OF W 223' NW 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC 15 T29N R12E	.560	\$8,100
Village of Wittenberg	191-401000040	502 S. Mission St., Wittenberg, WI	VIL OF WITTENBERG BETHANY ADD LOTS 1 & 2 BLK 3	.353	\$50,000

WNAXLP

7/24/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Absentee ballot requests for the August 11th, 2026
Partisan Office Election

Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may request to vote an absentee ballot. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen, who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, who has resided in the ward or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for at least 28 consecutive days before the election. The elector must also be registered in order to receive an absentee ballot. **Proof of identification must be provided before an absentee ballot may be issued .**

You must make a request for an absentee ballot in writing or online at MyVote.wi.gov.
Contact your municipal clerk and request that an application for an absentee ballot be sent to you for the primary or election or both. You may also submit a written request in the form of a letter or you may apply for an absentee ballot online at MyVote.wi.gov. Your written request must list your voting address within the municipality where you wish to vote, the address where the absentee ballot should be sent, if different, and your signature. You may make application to your municipal clerk for an absentee ballot in person, by mail, by fax, by email or at MyVote.wi.gov.

Voting an absentee ballot by mail
The deadline for making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail is: 5:00 p.m. on August 7th, 2026.

Note : Special absentee voting application provisions apply to electors who are indefinitely confined to home or a care facility, in the military, hospitalized, or serving as a sequestered juror. If this applies to you, contact the municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

Voting an absentee ballot in person
You may also request and vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office or other specified location during the days and hours specified for casting an absentee ballot in person. **See list below.**

**The first day to vote by Absentee ballot in the municipal clerk's office is TUESDAY, July 28th, 2026.

	Municipal Clerk	Phone Number	Address to Obtain Absentee Ballot	Hours for In Person Absentee Voting
Towns				
Tn. of Almon	Heather Matsche	715-571-2561	W16650 Co. Rd. N, Birnamwood, 54414	By Appointment
Tn. of Angelica	Connie Przybylski	920-822-8191	N3285 Co. Rd. C, Pulaski, 54162	By Appointment
Tn. of Aniwa	Tammy Resch	715-432-4123	N10485 Cherry Rd., Birnamwood, 54414	By Appointment
Tn. of Bartelme	Beth Grosskopf	715-853-2161	N7525 Maple Rd., Bowler, 54416	By Appointment
Tn. of Belle Plaine	Kristine Vomastice	715-524-2690	N3002 State Hwy 22, Clintonville, 54929	Tues / Thurs 9:00 am – 3:00 pm; Sat 8:30 am – 11:00 am or By Appointment
Tn. of Birnamwood	Pamela Fischer	715-370-8884	N9291 Riverview Road Birnamwood, 54414	Tues 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Thurs 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm or By Appointment Mon - Fri
Tn. of Fairbanks	Jennifer Dzioba	715-881-1751	N3614 Co Rd. J, Tigerton, 54486	By Appointment
Tn. of Germania	Kim Meisner	715-881-0921	W18852 Cty Rd P, Wittenberg, 54499	By Appointment
Tn. of Grant	Sarah Knaup	715-851-1414	W12704 Co. Rd M, Caroline, 54928	By Appointment
Tn. of Green Valley	Rose Nygaard	715-851-5264	W1734 Hwy E, Cecil WI 54111	By Appointment
Tn. of Hartland	Carrie Bohm	715-851-3107	N4058 Highline Rd., Bonduel, 54107	By Appointment
Tn. of Herman	Chris Cerveny	715-280-0824	W11252 Grunewald St, Gresham WI 54128	By Appointment
Tn. of Hutchins	Jan Fischer	715-903-0707	N11814 Hutchins-Aniwa Rd., Birnamwood, 54414	By Appointment Mon – Fri
Tn. of Lessor	Alexis Olson	920-606-8435	N2350 Two Creek Road Bonduel WI 54107	By Appointment
Tn. of Maple Grove	Kathy Luebke	920-822-5414	W1236 Main Laney Dr., Pulaski, 54162	By Appointment
Tn. of Morris	Jennifer Dzioba	715-881-1751	N3614 Co Rd. J, Tigerton, 54486	By Appointment
Tn. of Navarino	Kim LaViolette	920-525-2008	N281 St. Hwy. 187, Navarino, 54107	By Appointment
Tn. of Pella	Karen Habeck	715-823-6259	W10233 Co. Rd. D, Clintonville, 54929	By Appointment
Tn. of Red Springs	Gwen Olsen	715-787-3356	W11019 W Townhall Rd., Gresham, 54128	By Appointment
Tn. of Richmond	Erica Davel	715-526-6527	N5170 Co Road MM, PO Box 240 Shawano 54166	By Appointment
Tn. of Seneca	Raymond Rigbsby	715-851-2251	N5866 Rock Rd Leopoldis, 54948	By Appointment
Tn. of Washington	Kara Skarlupka or Cathy Phillippi	715-851-6592 704-651-4943	PO Box 219, Cecil, 54111 111 E Hofman St., Cecil 54111	By Appointment
Tn. of Waukechon	Christine Prey	715-853-2344	W7005 St. Johns Church Rd., Clintonville, 54929	By Appointment
Tn. of Wescott	Angela Vreeke	715-526-9853	N5794 Old Keshena Rd, PO Box 526, Shawano 54166	July 28-30 9:00 am - 3:00 pm August 3-6 9:00 am - 3:00 pm August 7 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Tues – Thurs: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Fri - Aug 8 – 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Tn. of Wittenberg	Maria Donat	715-253-3222	W17395 County Rd. Q, Wittenberg, 54499	By Appointment
Villages and Cities				
Vil. of Aniwa	Mary O'Neill	715-218-2364	N11895 Summer St., Aniwa, 54408	By Appointment
Vil. of Birnamwood	Jodi Dombrowski	715-449-0059	463 Slate Rd., Birnamwood WI 54414	By Appointment
Vil. of Bonduel	Michelle Maroszek	715-758-2402	117 W. Green Bay St., PO Box 67, Bonduel, 54107	Mon – Thurs 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Fri - 8:00 am to 11:00 am
Vil. of Bowler	Kerry Breitrick	715-851-4713	107 W. Main St., PO Box 68 Bowler, 54416	By Appointment
Vil. of Cecil	Teri Westerfeld	715-745-4428	111 E. Hoffman St., PO Box 159, Cecil, 54111	Mon - Thurs 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Vil. of Eland	Denise Larson	715-881-0028	W19141 Maple St., Eland WI 54427	By Appointment
Vil. of Gresham	Judy Kristof	715-787-3991	801 Main Street, PO Box 50, Gresham, 54128	By Appointment
Vil. of Mattoon	Angie Copas	715-851-0222	310 Slate Ave., PO Box 225, Mattoon, 54450	Mon and Thurs 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Vil. of Pulaski	Jessica Giese	715-489-3107	585 E. Glenbrook Dr., PO Box 320, Pulaski, 54162	Mon - Thurs 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Fri 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Vil. of Tigerton	Helen Selle	920-822-5182	221 Birch St., PO Box 147, Tigerton, 54486	Mon - Fri. 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Vil. of Wittenberg	Traci Matsche	715-535-2262	208 W. Vinal St., Wittenberg, 54499	Mon - Thurs 7:30 am - 5:00 pm
City of Marion	Mary Rogers	715-253-6063	217 N. Main, PO Box 127, Marion, WI 54950	Mon - Thurs 8:00 am to 4:00 pm or by Appointment
C. of Shawano	Lesley Nemetz/ Deputy Lisa Bohr	715-754-2124 715-526-6138	127 S. Sawyer St., Shawano, 54166	Mon - Thurs 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Fri 8:00 - 11:00 am

The municipal clerk will deliver voted ballots returned on or before Election Day to the proper polling place before the polls close on August 11th, 2026. Any ballots received after the polls close will not be counted. No in-person absentee voting may occur on the day before the election.

WNAXLP
SHA-265

LEGAL NOTICES

7/10/26, 7/17/26, 7/24/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No.
26CV112

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Ariana Faith Suehring
By
Ariana Faith Suehring
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Ariana Faith Suehring
To: Noah Wyatt Suehring
Birth Certificate: Ariana Faith Suehring

IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County, State of
Wisconsin
Hon. William F Kussel Jr.
311 Main St Br 2
Shawano, WI 54166
August 03, 2026
8:15 a.m.

WNAXLP
SHA-251

7/24/26, 7/31/26, 8/7/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Charles C. Miller
**Notice Setting Time to Hear
Application
and Deadline for Filing Claims
(Informal Administration)**
Case No. 26 PR 48

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
7/27/1947 and date of death 7/3/2022,
domiciled in Shawano County with
a mailing address of 318 Church St.
Tigerton, WI
3. The application will be heard at the
Shawano County Courthouse 311 N.
Main Street, Shawano, Wisconsin Room
202 before Gwen Hoffman Probate
Registrar, on August 28, 2026, at
10:00am.
You do not need to appear unless you
object. The application may be granted if
there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate October 30,2026.
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse 311 N. Main St.
Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202.
Probate Office
6. This publication is notice to any
persons whose names or address are
unknown.
Cathryn Zeinert
13239 44th Ave.
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715-797-4702

WNAXLP
SHA-264

7/24/26, 7/31/26, 8/7/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
MENOMINEE COUNTY
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26NC02

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Raivyn Wheeler Ramon Crowe
By Leah Pamonicutt
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Raivyn Wheeler Ramon Crowe
To: Raivyn Ramon Wheeler Pamonicutt
Birth Certificate: Raivyn Wheeler Ramon
Crowe
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Menominee County, State of
Wisconsin
Judge Name: Honorable Jean Grignon
Place: Menominee Tribal Court
W3293 Wolf River Dr, Keshena, WI
54135
Date: August 17, 2026
Time: 10:00a.m.

WNAXLP
SHA-266

HOUSE
FOR SALE

NEW MEDIA INC.

715-526-6188

7/10/26, 7/17/26, 7/24/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

Electronically signed by Gwen
Hoffman

Probate Registrar
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
JEFFREY J. LINGL
06-29-2026
Register in Probate
Shawano County, WI
2026PR000041
COUNTY

**Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)**
Case No. 26 PR 41

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
09/07/1951 and date of death 04/21/2026
was domiciled Shawano County, State of
Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 712
Maiden Lane, Shawano, WI
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is October 9, 2026
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
Courthouse,
311 N. Main Street,
Room 202, Probate Office
Shawano, Wisconsin 54166
James Vomastic
1488 E Green Bay St.
Shawano, WI 54166
715-851-3669
1045783

WNAXLP
SHA-252

7/24/26, 7/31/26, 8/7/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Georgia Ann Carley
**Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)**
Case No. 26 PR 44

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
02/22/1951 and date of death
06/16/2026 was domiciled Shawano
County, State of Wisconsin, with a
mailing address of W5065 Rainbow
Circle, Shawano, WI 54166
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is October 23, 2026
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
Courthouse,
311 N. Main Street,
Room 202, Probate Office
Shawano, Wisconsin 54166
Kerri Piller
2411 Jeffery Lane
Schofield WI 54476
715-297.2190

WNAXLP
SHA-263

7/24/26, 7/31/26, 8/7/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

SHAWANO COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Donald S. Paiser
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
**Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)**
Case No.
24 PR 46

1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
12/24/48 and date of death 01/04/26, was
domiciled in Shawano County, State of
WI, with a mailing address of W6719 Curt
Black Rd.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is October 23.2026
5. A claim may be filed at the
Shawano County Courthouse,
311 N. Main St,
Room 202, Probate Office
Shawano, Wisconsin,
WNAXLP
SHA-267

7/24/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CITY OF SHAWANO
Notice of Open Book and Board of Review

Pursuant to s.70.45, Wis. Stats. The assessment roll for the Year 2026 assessment
will be open for examination on **Wednesday, August 12th from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00
p.m.** If you wish to speak with an assessor, please contact Nick Laird at Associated
Appraisal Consultants 1-920-749-1995 or by email nlaird@apraz.com for an **Open Book
appointment**. The Open Book sessions will be held via in person at Shawano City Hall,
127 S Sawyer Street, Shawano, WI.

Instructional material will be provided following the open book to persons who wish to
object to valuations under s.7047, Wis., Stats. The State requires an objection form to be
filed 48 hours prior to the Board of Review hearing. The Board of Review will be meeting
at Shawano City Hall on September 22, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lesley Nemetz, City Clerk
City of Shawano

WNAXLP
SHA-270

7/10/26, 7/17/26, 7/24/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
SHAWANO COUNTY

Amended
**Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No.
26CV101**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF**
Estella Sherriemoneee Gonzales
By
Estella Sherriemoneee Gonzales
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Estella Sherriemoneee Archer
To: Billie Page Dillinger
Birth Certificate: Estella Sherriemoneee
Gonzales
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Shawano County, State of WI
Katie Sloma
Shawano Co Courthouse BR1
311 N. Main ST .
Shawano, WI 54166
August 18, 2026
8:15 a.m.

WNAXLP
SHA-253

7/17/26, 7/24/26, 7/31/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Angela D. Owen
**Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)**
Case No. 26 PR 40

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
03/22/1974 and date of death 05/13/2026
was domiciled in Shawano County, State
of Wisconsin, with a mailing address
of 115 S. Smalley Street, Shawano, WI
54166
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is October 23, 2026
5. A claim may be filed at the
Shawano County Courthouse,
311 N. Main Street,
Wisconsin, Room 202, Probate Office.
Shawano, WI 54166

WNAXLP
SHA-261

7/24/26, 7/31/26, 8/7/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT

SHAWANO COUNTY
**Notice Setting Time to Hear
Application and Deadline for Filing
Claims
(Informal Administration)**
Case No.
26 PR50

Michael J. Curtis
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal
administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth
1.29.56 and date of death 3.13.26
domiciled in Shawano County, State of
WI with a mailing address of W6525 Mork
Rd Shawano, Wisconsin 54166
3. The application will be heard at the
Shawano County Courthouse 311 N.
Main St. Shawano, Wisconsin, Room 202
before Gwen Hoffman Probate Registrar
on September 3, 2026 at 10:00 am
**You do not need to appear unless you
object. The application may be granted
if there is no objection.**
4. The deadline for filing a claim against
the decedent's estate is October 30, 2026
5. A claim may be filed at the Shawano
County Courthouse 311 N.Main ST
Room 202- Probate office.
6. This publication is notice to any
persons whose names or address are
unknown.

WNAXLP
SHA-269

7/17/26, 7/24/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

**Notice of Public Hearing
Planning, Development and Zoning
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 5, 2026 @ 9:00 AM
Shawano County Courthouse, Rooms
A & B**
**Members: Ken Capelle, Curt Korth,
Kathy Luebke, James Radtke, Vacant**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that a public
hearing will be held by the Shawano
County Planning, Development and
Zoning Committee under the Shawano
County Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 40, in
Rooms A/B on August 5, 2026 at 9AM, to
consider the following application:
Z-8-26: Micah R Laude, vendee and
Agent for Dorothy M Hofman, Vendor and
owner request zone change from the FP,
Farmland and Forest Preservation Zoning
District to OAR, Open Lands, Agriculture
and Residential Zoning District for the
purpose of razing an existing Single-
Family Dwelling and constructing a new
Single-Family Dwelling on approximately
22.083 total acres. Property is located
and described as Part of the West ½
of the Fractional Southwest ¼, Section
6, T26N R12E, Now Known As Lot 1 of
Certified Survey Map #5211, located in
the Town of Fairbanks. Tax Parcel: #014-
06320-0020. Property Address: N4618
Malueg Road.
Z-9-26: William Bowers, agent for Bradley
W Bowers, owner and Mathew J &
Stephanie L Mielke owner request zone
change on 63,709 feet of parent parcel
#018-33220-0010 from the FP, Farmland
and Forest Preservation Zoning District
to the A-R Agricultural Residential Zoning
District to combine with parcel #018-
33220-0000 via Certified Survey Map.
Parcel 1 is located and described as the
Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ Except
the North 136' of the East 265', Section
33, T26N R13E, Located in the Town of
Grant. Currently vacant land. Parcel 2 is
located and described as the North 136'
of the East 265' of the Northwest ¼ of
the Northwest ¼, Section 33 T26N R13E.
Property Address: W13617 Draeger Road.
Any interested person may address
the Planning, Development and Zoning
Committee by letter or appear in person,
or by agent, and be heard at the public
hearing. Written correspondence must
bear a legible signature of the author as
well as the primary address of the signer.
The Committee will accept and review all
previously received pertinent information
relative to the above listed item(s) during
the open session of the public hearing on
August 5, 2026. Notice is further given
that printed copies of these proposals
are available for public inspection in the
Planning and Development office during
regular business hours.
Please note that upon reasonable notice,
effort will be made to accommodate the
needs of any person wishing to attend
who, because of disability, requires
special accommodation through
appropriate aids and services. Call
715-526-6766 to leave a message for
arrangements.
Dated this July 8, 2026
For: The Shawano County Planning,
Development and Zoning Committee
By: Kyle Waelchli, Zoning Administrator

**NOTE: Any person may appear at the
public hearing and be heard and/or
submit comments to be read into the
record for Committee consideration.
Correspondence must bear a legible
signature of the author as well as the
primary address of the signer.
Accommodations due to disability can
be made by calling: 715-526-6766
Meeting notice emailed/posted:**
Shawano County Courthouse,
Department of Human Services,
Shawano County Library, Shawano
Leader, WTCH Radio, Shawano County
Civic website @ coshawanowi.civicweb.net

WNAXLP
SHA-260

7/24/26, 7/31/26, 8/7/26
STATE OF WISCONSIN
SHAWANO COUNTY

Jean Grignon, Tribal Court

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT
COURT, MENOMINEE TRIBAL
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Alejandro Jose Crowe
By Alejandro Jose Crowe
**Notice and Order
for Name Change Hearing
Case No. 26 NC 03**

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the
name of the person listed above:
From: Alejandro Jose Crowe
To: Alejandro Memphis Pamonicutt
Enter the name as it currently appears on
the birth certificate. Alejandro Jose Crowe
IT IS ORDERED
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit
Court of Menom. Tribal County, State of
Wisconsin:
Honorable Jean Grignon
Menominee Tribal Court
W3293 Wolf River Dr
Keshena, WI 54135
August 17, 2026
9:30AM

WNAXLP
SHA-268

COURT NEWS

• Sydney A. Kassube, 32, Shawano, had his probation revoked Jan. 28 from a 2020 conviction for possession of narcotic drugs, felony bail jumping and misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct, possession of a controlled substance, possession of THC and possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge William Kussel Jr. sentenced him July 13 to one year in the county jail.

• Brandon J. Turney, 26, Bonduel, pleaded no contest July 13 to two counts of felony bail jumping and two misdemeanor charges of resisting or obstructing an officer. Kussel levied fines and court costs and sentenced him to nine months in the county jail, time deemed served.

• Ethan R. Lewis, 18, Shawano, pleaded no contest July 15 to stalking, two counts of child abuse intentionally causing harm and two misdemeanor counts of resisting or obstructing an officer. Kussel imposed and stayed a prison sentence, then placed him on four years of probation with conditions.

• Jessy L. Hanson, 47, a Wausau man serving a prison term at Stanley Correctional Institution, pleaded no contest July 13 to possession with intent to distribute

amphetamine/methamphet-amine and felony bail jump-ing. Judge Katherine Sloma sentenced him to two years, six months in prison followed by five years of extended su-pervision with conditions.

• Trisha A. Cardish, 46, Su-ring, pleaded no contest July 14 to two counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor charges of operating while re-voked and violating an ignition interlock device order. Sloma levied fines and court costs of \$1,631 and sentenced her to 60 days in county jail.

• Hope M. Olmo Guzman, 41, Shawano, pleaded no contest July 15 to possession of methamphetamine, felony bail jumping, misdemeanor charges of operating without a license and hit and run, and three counts of misde-maneor bail jumping. Kussel levied fines and court costs of \$1,818.50 and sentenced her to 180 days in county jail.

• Tristen L. James, 23, Keshena, was charged July 13 with felony bail jumping, four misdemeanor counts of battery and a single misde-maneor count of disorderly conduct. Sloma set a \$250 cash bond and scheduled a status conference for July 29.

• Forrest S. Webster, 29, Gresham, was charged July 13 with felony bail jumping. Sloma set a \$5,000 signature bond and scheduled a status conference for Aug. 10.

• Tony R. Rootes, 36, Green Bay, was charged July 16 with strangulation and suf-focation and a misdemeanor count of battery. Sloma set a \$500 cash bond and sched-uled a preliminary hearing for July 29.

Conservation Congress seeks resolutions

The Wisconsin Conser-vation Congress is asking Wisconsin residents to sub-mit proposed resolutions for the 2027 hearings.

The WCC is an indepen-dent organization of resi-dents that advises the Wis-consin Natural Resources Board and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Re-sources on how to respon-sibly manage Wisconsin's natural resources.

Wisconsinites can sub-mit proposed resolutions via the online process start-ing Aug. 1. Resolutions must meet the following criteria, where the concern must be of statewide im-pact; practical, achievable and reasonable; and within the mission and vision of the WCC.

An individual resident may submit no more than two resolutions per year. Those interested in sub-mitting a resolution are encouraged to reach out to the resolution review com-mittee or their WCC county chair for guidance in draft-ing a resolution.

For further information or questions, contact Paul Reith, chairman of the Wis-consin Conservation Con-gress, at 608-616-0808.

07/24/2026
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
OCONTO COUNTY

In the Interest of:
M.D.B.
Born to: A.M.R.

**NOTICE ANDORDER OF HEARING
(For Publication)**
Case No. 2026TP000004

TO:
Lavono F. Brady, Jr.
317 ½ W. Richmond St., Shawano, WI
54166
912 S. Oakland Ave., Green Bay, WI
54304

Physical Description: African American
male, 5'8" tall, @190 lbs., heavily tattooed
including face – "B" between eyebrows,
bald head, brown eyes, born 10/25/1993
and any unknown parent at unknown
address.

Additional identifying information:

Date of conception:
10/27/2017 – 12/26/2017
Place of conception:
Green Bay, WI
Date of birth:
08/24/2018
Place of birth:
Green Bay, WI

IT IS ORDERED:

This Notice be published advising you
that a Petition for Termination of your
parental rights to the above-named
child be heard before the Honorable Jay
Conley, Oconto County Courthouse,
Courtroom B/Building C, 301 Washington
St., 1st floor, Oconto, WI 54153 on August
6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR, the court
may hear testimony in support of the
allegations in the Petition and grant the
request of the petitioner to terminate your
parental rights.

You have the right to have an attorney
present. If you desire to contest the
matter and cannot afford an attorney,
the state public defender may appoint an
attorney to represent you.

If you fail to appear and the court
terminates your parental rights, either a
motion to seek relief from the judgment
of a notice of intent to pursue relief from
the judgment must be filed in the trial
court within 30 days after the judgment is
entered, in order to preserve the right to
pursue such relief.

If you require reasonable
accommodations due to a disability to
participate in the court process, please
call 920-834-6859 prior to the scheduled
court date. Please note that the court
does not provide transportation.

BY THE COURT:
Hon. Jay N. Conley
Circuit Court Judge Branch II

Dated: July 16, 2026
Drafted by:
Attorney Enn K. Fay
N14 W23777 Stone Ridge Drive #200
Waukesha, WI 53188
262-347-2001
State Bar No. 1045724
WNAXLP

Air quality alert issued for Wisconsin

Wildfire smoke from Minnesota, Canada covers area

By KEVIN PASSON
Editor-in-Chief

Smoke from wildfires in Minnesota and Canada has moved into the area, leaving a dim haze across the state that can be seen in every direction.

The smoke has created unsafe air quality, and prompted the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to issue a statewide alert, in effect until noon July 16.

Depending on where you live, the Air Quality Index is expected to reach the orange level, unhealthy for sensitive groups – red, unhealthy for everyone – or purple, very unhealthy.

The unhealthy category includes Menominee, Oconto and Shawano counties.

Sensitive groups should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion, while everyone should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

Smoke entered northern Wisconsin the night of July 14. Smoke will continue south-southwest, approximately reaching a La Crosse to Janesville line by midnight July 15. Statewide impacts hit July 16. The heaviest smoke impacts, including the potential for Hazardous Air Quality Index, are expected across northwest Wisconsin, especially in communities along Lake Superior. Lake enhanced smoke concentrations will also be possible for communities near Lake Michigan.

Wildfire smoke contains fine particulate matter, tiny particles that can travel deep into the lungs and even enter the

bloodstream. Exposure can worsen asthma and other chronic lung diseases, increase the risk of heart-related complications, and irritate the eyes, nose and throat, particularly among children, older adults, pregnant women and people with underlying health conditions.

“The impact of poor air quality cannot be overstated,” said Dr. Tony Malik, hospitalist for Aspirus Health, which has clinics and hospitals in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. “Whenever we have poor air quality, it can cause exacerbation or flare-ups for people with chronic lung diseases, coronary artery diseases and other chronic diseases.”

Aspirus Health encourages residents to take steps to protect themselves whenever wildfire smoke affects the region.

- Know the Air Quality Index (AQI) where you live before spending extended time outdoors.
- Limit prolonged or strenuous outdoor activity when air quality reaches unhealthy levels.
- Keep windows and doors closed when smoke levels are elevated.
- Use a high-efficiency air filter or portable HEPA air purifier if available.
- If you must be outdoors for extended periods in heavy smoke, consider wearing a properly fitted N95 respirator.
- Avoid adding to air pollution by postponing brush burning, campfires and other outdoor burning during poor air quality events.

Residents experiencing persistent coughing, shortness of breath, chest pain, wheezing or other concerning symptoms should seek medical attention promptly.

In addition to the poor air quality, hot and humid conditions continued, as well.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

CORN, continued from page 1

Schmidt said. “We give up to six scholarships. The highest they can get is \$1,000, and some are \$500.”

Visitors started standing in line for sweet corn long before it became available at 6 p.m.

“We moved it up from 6-10 (p.m.) vs. what it used to be, 7-11,” Schmidt said. “Years ago, all these guys were farmers. We no longer have any small farmers. We’re all getting older, so we went with 6-10.”

Weather doesn’t play a factor into how many people show up for the corn roast, according to Schmidt.

“In 2019, we had a tornado go through and we had to evacuate to the grade school,” he said. “As soon as it was done, we got the all-clear. We had rain, but the crowd came right back out to have their corn. We also have steel that we put

on top of the coals so in case we do have rain, it doesn’t put the fire out.”

This year’s roast included 375 dozen ears of corn that came from Peck’s Farm Market near Spring Green and 300 pounds of cheese curds.

“We’ll give away 100 ice cream bars and 130 12-packs of soda and water,” Schmidt said.

The food stand also included brats, hamburgers and beverages.

The association has used Peck’s Farm Market for corn for 47 of the 48 years, Schmidt said.

“All except one year when we had to get it from Indiana,” he said. “We’re usually the first (corn roast) in the area. The first planting at Peck’s Farm Market was under black plastic. They had corn on the Fourth of July. It’s worked out well.”

Schmidt said the corn roast is a great way to get

the word out that the organization is always looking for new members.

“We’re becoming elder statesmen here, and we have to get some young blood in,” he said. “We’re working on it. With the scholarships that we give, we’re hoping that they come back the following year and pay it back.”

He encouraged anyone who participated in Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School’s FFA program to join the alumni group.

“It’s important, because our members are getting older and we need the young ones to step up to the plate with new ideas,” he said.

Besides raising money for scholarships, the alumni association also supports local FFA students and programs, Schmidt said.

“We give proficiency awards to kids for

different projects,” he said. “We donate some money for the state (FFA) convention and national convention.”

Wittenberg-Birnamwood’s FFA chapter has won several awards over the years.

“There aren’t a lot of family farms, but there are still kids in FFA because it’s not just farming,” he said. “There are different things for them.”

This year’s corn roast was held a week before Community Days, which has been moved back on the calendar.

“They couldn’t get the carnival to come in August, so that’s why they moved it to next week,” Schmidt said. “Some families have reunions and some classes have reunions around this weekend. It’s always the third Friday in July.”

seubert4@gmail.com



Jason Rosenow, of Wittenberg, volunteered to shuck cobs of corn to be eaten at the Wittenberg-Birnamwood FFA Alumni corn roast.

GREG SEUBERT

OBITUARIES

MICHAEL D. EKERN

Michael D. Ekern, 79, of Eland, died Sunday, July 12, 2026, at Marshfield Medical Center, Weston.

Mike was born May 25, 1947, in Rice Lake, the son of Duane and Mary (Reckenthaler) Ekern.

Mike was a United States Army veteran, serving from 1968-70. Mike was a proud veteran and was able to go on the Honor Flight in 2025 with his son, Scott.

On Sept. 30, 1978, Mike was united in marriage to Katie Verkuilen.

Mike attended UW-Stevens Point and graduated with a degree in natural resources. He worked for the DNR, traveling to South Dakota. Mike later discovered his love for building and working with his hands, which led him to his carpentry career. He worked as a union carpenter for Carpenters Local 804, until his retirement.

Mike enjoyed hunting, fishing, traveling, being outdoors and making



maple syrup. He was active in his community as an assistant Boy Scout leader and president of the Eland Historical Society. Mike loved spending time with his family and attending the kids’ sporting activities.

Mike had a heart that always put others first, and he found joy in helping others. His compassion and kindness were shared with everyone he met. He leaves behind a legacy of love, selflessness and genuine goodness that

will never be forgotten.

Mike is survived by his wife, Katie; three children, Laura (Derek Grove) Ekern, Lindsay (Greg) Cole and Scott (Kristin) Ekern; eight grandchildren, Alex, Luke, Gavin, Landon, Lydia, Owen, Olivia and Jack; siblings, David (Debbie) Ekern, Maureen (Jim) Mantor and Marilyn (Ted Hegstorm) Brenna; brothers- and sisters-in-law, Barbara Ostrowski, Betty (Elroy) Koskey, Richard (Julie) Verkuilen, Pat Miller and Joyce Verkuilen; and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents and mother- and father-in-law, Leslie and Hattie Verkuilen.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2026, at Schmidt and Schulta Funeral Home, Wittenberg. Pastor Wes Jedras will officiate. Visitation will be on Friday from 11 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

07/24/2026

Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District
Board of Education Meeting July 27, 2026

July 27, 2026
6:40 P.M. - Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
7:00 P.M. - Regular Board Meeting Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School

AGENDA

I. Meeting Called to Order, Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.84(1).

II. Roll Call of the Board - Pledge of Allegiance

III. Motion to Approve the Minutes of the June 22, 2026 Regular Meeting as Circulated.

IV. Communications and Delegations

V. Public Comments

VI. Board Concerns or Reports

VII. Student Representative

VIII. Financial Report

IX. Approve the Agenda

X. I. The Board will adjourn to Closed Session at the close of the meeting pursuant to WI.STATS.19.85(1)© for Personnel Matters, and 19.85 (1)(g) for Legal Matters and 19.85(1)(e) for Negotiations.
II. The Board will reconvene to Open Session to ratify any decisions made in Closed Session.

XI. Administrative Reports
-Birnamwood Elementary and Middle School
-Wittenberg Elementary and Middle School
-Witt-Birn High School
-Pupil Services
-Technology
-Reading Specialist
-Aquatic Center

XII. Old Business
None

A. Teacher Hires for Approval

B. Support Staff Hires for Approval

C. 2026-2027 Academic Standards for Approval

D. ACT 89 Policy Adoption for Approval

E. Classroom Furniture Purchase for Approval

F. 2026-2027 Budget for Information

G. 2025-2026 Seclusion and Restraint Report for Information

XIII. Adjournment

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