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## Marshfield Chamber announces Crystal Apple award winners

BY MIKE WARREN  
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – The Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation has announced its four Crystal Apple Award winners for 2023, as part of the 20th annual recognition program. The winners were announced March 1, with surprise visits to their classrooms.

This year's winners include Kendra Haessly of Grant Elementary in Marshfield, just the third two-time winner of the award. Haessly is a kindergarten teacher, and is in her final year. She will retire from teaching in June, after 21 years, including the past 14 at Grant. Haessly earned a degree in Early Childhood Education from UW-Stout in 1988 and a Master's Degree in Education from UW-River Falls in 2010.

After being nominated two years ago while teaching at Marshfield High School, Taylor Varsho is winning her first Crystal Apple.

"It's exciting to feel appreciated," Varsho said, after the surprise announcement in her third-floor Marshfield Middle School classroom. "I'm surprised. I'm excited. I'm excited to represent Marshfield Middle School," Varsho added.

Varsho has been teaching since 2017 and is in her second year as a seventh-grade Health instructor at Marshfield Middle School. She is a graduate of the University of Sioux Falls, with Bachelor of Arts degrees in Elementary and Special Education. Varsho is currently enrolled in the Masters program at UW-River Falls.

Jake Scheppler has seven years of experience and is



Taylor Varsho is surprised with a bouquet of flowers in her Marshfield Middle School classroom, as she was announced by the Marshfield Chamber Foundation March 1 as one of four Crystal Apple Award winners for 2023.  
Mike Warren photo

in his fifth year of teaching Physical Education and Health courses at Marshfield High School. He is a 2012 graduate of UW-

Marshfield/Wood County and a 2016 graduate of UW-Eau Claire.

Our fourth and final Crystal Apple winner

this year is Ron Klein of Pittsville Elementary School. Ron has 21 years of teaching experience, the last nine at Pittsville

Elementary, where he is now serving as Dean of Students. He has also taught second and third grade and served as Math Interventionist until last November. Klein is a 1997 graduate of UW-Marshfield/Wood County and a 2001 graduate of UW-Stevens Point, with a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education.

The remaining 2022-23 Teachers of Distinction include Carla MacArthur from Marshfield High School and Danielle Wilke of Marshfield Middle School. Other Teachers of Distinction from Marshfield are: Alanna Hart from Columbus Catholic; Courtney Gable of Immanuel Lutheran; James Kelty, St. John's Primary/Our Lady of Peace; Becky Whitrock from Grant Elementary; Judy Nicksic

See **WINNERS**  
page 9

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# School referendum: Beyond the price tag

## Kitchen, Commons major focus at MHS

BY MIKE WARREN  
EDITOR

Part II of V  
MARSHFIELD - If the Marshfield School District's

\$99.5 million referendum is successful on April 4, there are areas of Marshfield High School that - aside from regular routine maintenance - would get upgraded for the first time since being constructed more than 55 years ago. As our series on the proposed improvements continues, we take a closer look in this edition at the kitchen and Commons areas of MHS.

The proposed improvements were identified by the district's Community-Based Facility Planning Committee, a group of school officials and residents who have been working since May 2022 to create a new long-range facility plan for the district.

"The high school quickly took on a big component to the focus of the work and the interest that the planning committee narrowed in on," said Superintendent Dr. Ryan Christianson, during a recent program Hub City Times produced, in conjunction with Marshfield Broadcasting. "That's why such a big portion of the work for the facility referendum does focus on the high school," he added.

"The high school staff identified the Commons as the top overall facility need that we have at the high school," according to Christianson. "The Commons is the hardest-working area of any large high school facility, like a Marshfield High School. It is used every period of the day," he noted. "Kids come in and out or are constantly flowing through that. It is regularly used for activities outside of the school day. When it comes to community members and other visitors, the Commons is the most-visited space anywhere within a high school facility."

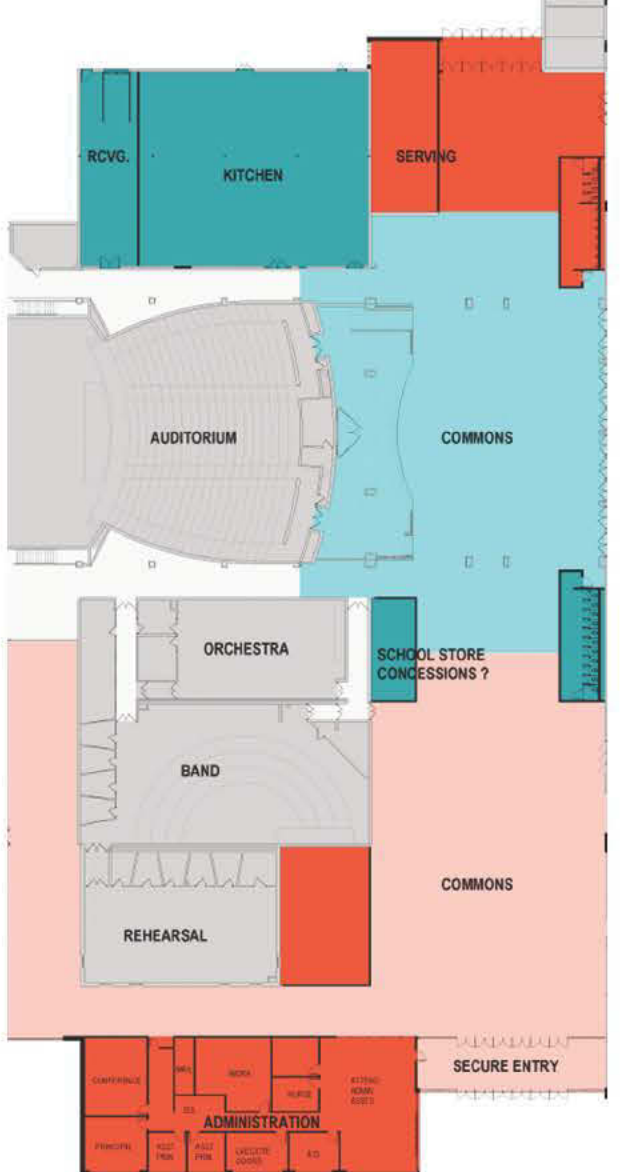
The biggest job the Commons area has during any given school day is serving as a cafeteria for the building's 1,254 students.

Terry Frankland, who served on the Community-Based Facility Planning Committee which came up with the referendum package, toured the Commons when it was in full operation during several lunch periods last May.

"I was astounded about what was going on there," Frankland said of his visit. "It's well organized, don't get me wrong, but the congestion is unbelievable.

Areas highlighted in red and pink indicate new construction. Dark green spaces show areas that would receive major renovation, while the lighter green indicates some minor upgrades.

Bray Architects image



We had students still waiting in line for lunch with less than 10 minutes of their lunch period to go," Frankland recalled. "And they still needed to get their lunch, eat their lunch and go to class. Now I don't know if they take some food and carry it to class. They do a good job trying to get the students through, but with that mass of people it's hard."

"It's important to keep in mind that the Commons and kitchen area of Marshfield High School continues to be the same footprint of the 1968 construction," Christianson pointed out. "When the building was constructed in 1968 we had three grades and it was built for about 800-900 students. We now have four grades with the ninth grade having moved to the high school, and about 1,200 students in the facility. When the '94 addition was put on the building to accommodate the ninth grade moving there, there was no expansion to the Commons or kitchen area. It's still the original space when the building was first constructed. We've actually operated a master schedule at Marshfield High School for almost thirty years now, driven by the fact that we have a Commons and kitchen that's too small," Christianson added.

"It's also important to note that this proposed improvement to the kitchen and Commons area not only expands the square footage space of the Commons itself, it would involve the installation of a dedicated, permanent kitchen servery space. Right now, because

it's the original kitchen that was built back in '68, we can't use that original serving area in the kitchen. We actually have mobile server units that we have to roll out and roll back in on a daily basis. So, that's really what contributes to that congestion issue that we've had for going on thirty years now."

Average daily participation in the hot lunch program at the high school is about 400 kids, along with the 125 students who are served breakfast each day. Also generating a steady crowd is the ala carte line, which sells roughly \$1,100 worth of food items each day.

But those aren't the only students served by the high school kitchen staff. The MHS kitchen is also preparing more than a thousand lunches for the district's five elementary schools.

"So, we're talking in the range of 1,400-1,500 hot lunches that are prepared in the Marshfield High School kitchen every school day," Christianson noted. "So, when we're talking about that number of meals, and the fact that we're running the hot lunches for the elementary buildings out of that same kitchen, our hot lunch program could certainly benefit from an improvement to the facilities in the kitchen at Marshfield High School."

Christianson also dispels a common misconception that bigger Commons and kitchen spaces are not needed because of a dwindling high school

See PRICE page 9

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# Empty Bowls: Raising needed funds, increasing awareness

BY TERESA DERFUS

MARSHFIELD – Empty Bowls is fully back for 2023 and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 11 at Hotel Marshfield you can try at least one of more than 20 soups dine-in or carryout.

"After several years of carryout-only because of Covid, we're so excited to welcome friends of Soup or Socks (SOS) back in person to our 12th annual event to support the food pantry while enjoying soups donated by supportive businesses and restaurants," said SOS Director Cheryl Lewis Hartl.

Empty Bowls started as an international grassroots movement by artists and crafts people to raise money for food-related charities to care for and feed the hungry in their communities.

In 2011, a Marshfield team including local artists and schools came together to plan the first Empty Bowls locally. This year, besides SOS, artists and an army of volunteers, students at Marshfield High School, Columbus Catholic High School, Grant Elementary School, Granton and Auburndale schools are participating.

The event's timing is so important, Lewis Hartl said. Inflation is rising and wages aren't keeping up. Add in a pandemic-era food benefit through the FoodShare program expired last week. That action is expected to have a huge impact on many in central Wisconsin, some who could lose hundreds of dollars each month.

"We are concerned with what's happening because some people may not have

enough to eat," Lewis Hartl said. "We recently did a survey of our clients and found 35 percent of those responding skipped meals to save money."

"We know a family in our area that will have a \$700 decrease in FoodShare benefits beginning this month. For some families, heaven forbid, they could have an emergency and no money to pay basic bills or buy food. So there are legitimate reasons to be concerned."

Also, helping families helps children.

"It's especially important for children to have food since they can't learn, can't sleep, can't pay attention in school when their stomachs are growling," Hartl said. "As adults we know what that's like."

Everyone is experiencing increasing costs of food and another consideration is basic items that cannot be purchased with FoodShare like shampoo, dish soap, personal hygiene products, cleaning products and toilet paper.

Empty Bowls is the only fundraiser for SOS and as important as the event is, it's also about education, pantry needs and highlighting hunger awareness in general.

Empty Bowls is also about community.

"We pull together a whole team of volunteers from the community to make the event successful," she said. "So, it's about the community coming together."

"Also, to hear the hotel ballroom filled with people having a simple meal together is heartwarming," Lewis Hartl added. "You might still be hungry when you leave, but that's some people's reality, to still be hungry."

Cost is \$10 for a 12-ounce bowl of soup and ceramic bowl; or \$15 for a flight of soup – a 12-ounce bowl and three four-ounce bowls so patrons can sample a wider variety of soups.

For more information about Empty Bowls or SOS, go to www.soupsocks.org.

# Vintage House celebrates 20 years

BY MIKE WARREN  
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – Area diners have known the structure at 10150 Highway 10 West as The Vintage House for 20 years now, but the history of the building itself dates back nearly a hundred years. Owner Ron Weis is celebrating that history this week, as he reflects on two decades of being back in his hometown.

"We have a nice customer base, and we still have some of the traditional supper club people, and then we also have those people that tour supper clubs," Weis told Hub City Times, as he reflected on what keeps him going.

Ron was born and raised in Marshfield, one of 13 children of Ervin and Marcella Weis. He studied to be a chef in California and Germany, before settling in Lodi, CA, where he worked as a chef in a five-star resort for 28 years. It was during a trip back to Marshfield to celebrate a family occasion that Ron looked at the Vintage House property, which was up for sale at the time. He closed on the property March 3, 2003.

"We opened it in May," Weis recalls. "We opened up right after Mother's



Day. We took the carpet and tile off the floor, all the way down to a really nice wood floor, and had that professionally sanded and stained," he added. "Brought in a baby grand piano and did some remodeling – new windows, new siding."

What is now The Vintage House has a colorful past, so much so that Ron highlights that history on the backs of his menus. The structure was built as a roadhouse in the early 1900s, and became a popular stage coach and Pony Express stop because of its proximity to the nearest Yellow River crossing.

During the 1930s, the facility went from a roadhouse to a speakeasy, brothel and gaming house. During the time of prohibition, notorious

gangsters Al Capone and Johnny Dillinger are said to have frequented the establishment, while running moonshine up and down the Yellow River.

In the late 1930s, the first floor was converted into a dance hall, while the upstairs became dining space. By the early 1940s the Yellow River Inn had opened up.

Another change came about in 1945, when Slim Ward opened Slim's Steakhouse. The opening was short-lived, however, as the widening of Highway 10 forced Slim's to be jacked up and moved 50 feet back, to where The Vintage House sits today. The road project kept Slim's closed for nearly a year.

Slim's Steakhouse became Baumer's for a few years in the 1960s

before it was sold to Shorty Bloczynski and became Shorty's Supper Club. He eventually sold to Bob and Sharon Geldernick, who brought back the Yellow River Inn name.

In 1982, Jerry and Darleen Southern bought the establishment and began a 17-year run as Country Pines Supper Club.

After the building sat empty and idle for almost four years, Weis brought his taste for great food and wine from northern California.

"The new chefs are taught, 'Less is best' because it's your dinner meal. It's the meal before you're gonna go to bed," Weis says. "Us older chefs were always taught to fill the plate and make it look good."

## Anne V. Adler Nursing Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established in Anne Adler's estate to benefit a nursing student in the school of Nursing at UW-Eau Claire or one who has graduated from UWSP at Marshfield or Mid-State Technical College and is doing their internship at Marshfield Clinic Health Systems or a student from Marshfield who went to UW-Eau Claire Nursing program and returns to Marshfield to do an internship at MCHS. Financial need may be considered. This scholarship may be renewed once. For more information or to donate to this fund, visit: <https://www.marshfield.foundation>.

# Marshfield Young Professionals resuming activities

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD – Marshfield Young Professionals (MYP) will be hosting a Community Open House at Blue Heron Brew Pub on Wednesday, March 8 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. for individuals and businesses looking to get involved.

There will be an informal presentation at 7 p.m. for prospective members and business sponsors. MYP will also introduce some exciting events for

current members. Games and networking areas will be set up for attendees to experience the power of connecting with like-minded individuals.

Membership is encouraged for individuals 18-40 years old and either community natives or professionals new to the area. The annual cost is \$30. The group connects young business people to interact socially, exchange ideas, share common interests, learn more about the area's business community, and engage in the community's future. MYP will host monthly socials and meetings at local businesses in 2023.

The YP group is one of many in the state of Wisconsin. The community organization was established in 2004 as part of a Leadership Marshfield project. The group continues to serve as an arm of the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Any membership or sponsorship inquiries can be directed to the MYP Board at [marshfieldyp@gmail.com](mailto:marshfieldyp@gmail.com). Events and information will be published on the Marshfield Young Professionals Facebook page.

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## Honoring Marshfield's 150th

# Marshfield 150 for 150: Caroline Hartl Allen

### NOMINATED BY THE NORTH WOOD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Caroline Hartl Allen spent a lifetime sharing time and talent with the community of Marshfield. As a member of the school board, she assured children of a quality education by meeting their needs, and those of the teachers, staff and community, as she liked to say, "without extravagance." Willing to roll up her sleeves, she earned a reputation for getting things done. In business, long before women received recognition for their leadership skills, she was successfully managing the Hartl family businesses and real estate holdings.

Caroline was born Nov. 20, 1912, in Marshfield, the daughter of Louis A. and Theckla (Backus) Hartl. She attended local grade schools and graduated from McKinley High School in 1929 at the age of sixteen. She then attended Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, earning an Associate Degree in 1931. She went to the University of Wisconsin-Madison next, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1934.

Caroline went on to complete an administrative dietetic internship at the Women's Educational and Industrial Union at Boston, where she later served as dietitian for the C.F. Hovey Department Store. When she left Boston, she accepted a position as manager of the College Club of Chicago and later served as assistant director of residence halls for UW-Madison.

Returning to Marshfield in 1944, Caroline joined organizations such as the Parent-Teachers Association, the Marshfield Woman's Club, the Marshfield Business and Professional Woman's Club and the Marshfield Girl Scouts. Not one to stand

quietly on the sideline, she was soon filling leadership positions in these organizations.

Feeling that her education, business experience and interest in children might benefit the school board, Caroline ran unsuccessfully in her first attempt for a seat on the Board of Education in 1953. Five years later she won, not only her first three-year term, but also the election itself, outpacing the other six candidates. She successfully ran for her place on the school board ten more times before retiring in 1991.

During her 33-year tenure as a school board member, Caroline made sure district children received the best education possible. She supported the teaching staff and was open to new, innovative teaching strategies and equipment. She understood that students sometimes have family or social issues to contend with, so she spearheaded the hiring of the first social workers in the Marshfield School District. At the same time, she maintained her stance that all children be treated equal educationally, and that the district's expenses be kept on a budget.

As a member of the Board she saw the completion of a new Grant Elementary School at 605 W. Kalsched Street in 1963, a Madison Elementary School addition that same year, the new Marshfield Senior High School in 1968, additions to the former Lincoln and Washington elementary schools in 1968, remodeling and an addition to Junior High in 1969, the new Board office building in 1970, and the new Grant School, at 425 W. Upham Street, in 1992.

While the new high school was still under construction Caroline visited Al Bitzer's basement workshop to pick up a duck carving and mentioned

him that it would be nice if the high school had one of his works. When he told her that the Class of 1959 had given the school a carving as a class gift, she replied, "I mean, they should have a big one." And that's how the idea of Al's tiger originated. Al's tiger, the 16-foot carved Bengal tiger on the west wall of the high school commons area, was dedicated in January 1970.

Caroline represented the Marshfield School District for the Cooperative Education Service Agency No. 7 for years, and in 1964 was the first to head the agency's Board of Control. She continued as chairwoman for more than a decade. The district is now part of CESA No. 5. She also served for 12 years on the Wood County Human Services Board, with a focus on the Department of Developmental Disabled.

Believing that it's never too early to think about a child's reading skills, the Right to Read effort in the Marshfield public schools was established in the late 1970s. That program, with the cooperation of Caroline and a local bank, gave every newborn baby at St. Joseph's Hospital a colorful picture book, and encouraged parents to stress reading for instruction, entertainment, enrichment, satisfaction, and fulfillment.

Community involvement extended beyond Caroline's efforts on behalf of school children. About 1950, when conversations around town turned to the city's lack of a historical society, or any means of preserving some of the worthwhile relics of the pioneer days, she took a stand. At a Woman's Club meeting in April 1952, Caroline cited Marshfield's need for a museum, and suggested that it could be made into a community project sponsored by the club.

Five months later a meeting to consider a



historical society was held. Those attending voted unanimously to organize a group to be known as the "Marshfield Historical Society." Caroline was one of just five individuals signing the articles of incorporation officially forming the society in October 1952. At the society's organizational meeting a month later, she was elected a member of its first board of directors. The society's name changed to North Wood County Historical Society in 1956.

As the city prepared to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the 1887 Marshfield Fire in 1962 Caroline donated an antique horse-drawn hose cart to the Marshfield Fire Department in memory of her father. He had purchased the cart to preserve a piece of Marshfield history when the department bought its first gasoline-powered fire truck years earlier.

Likely remembered best as a dedicated community volunteer, Caroline should also be remembered as a successful businesswoman. She was the owner and manager of the Hartl Manor apartment buildings on North Central Avenue and the Marshfield Brewing Company. She had the distinction of owning the only Wood County brewery, the smallest brewery in the United States, and at one time was one of only two women in the nation operating breweries. Like her father, who had founded the former Citizens National Bank, Caroline was a founder of Tri-County State Bank (later M&I Bank and BMO).

Caroline Hartl Allen was a true community leader, consistently demonstrating a keen interest in the welfare of Marshfield citizens, both young and old. She helped make Marshfield a better place.

## PUBLISHER'S LETTER

### The Cycle of Life

Dear Reader,

After five grandsons, our family recently welcomed our first granddaughter into the fold. This happy occasion was a reminder of the tremendous responsibility of meeting all of a baby's basic needs in the natal stage of life.

It is a joyous event as the parents, supported by the rest of the family, renew their commitment to raising all of their children in a conscientious manner. This young soul is joining two curious, exuberant, chaotic, and budding boys. The new addition makes it three, which translates into a circus at times.

As grandparents we are there to help, though there is no certain prescription or formula for love. Everyone has their own way of doing things, which we need to celebrate as a part of the diverse tapestry we live in. Each of us radiates love in a multitude of ways – and that's the point. At the end of the day, it's all good for the children and for the family.

Welcome to the world, young Shannon Grace. Let the wild rumpus begin!

**PATRICK J. WOOD** - Publisher  
Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"



## Family concert at UWSP-Marshfield campus

### FOR HUB CITY TIMES

**MARSHFIELD** -- The Hub City Symphony will be presenting a Family Concert at the Helen Conner Laird Theater on March 10 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each for general seating. Generous donors have allowed for children up to age 18 to attend free with an adult. UWSP students can also attend for free. These tickets are available at the box office, which opens an hour before the concert.

The music is a mix of lighter pieces that the whole family will enjoy. Some highlights include "A Simple Introduction to the Orchestra," with narration read by UWSP-Marshfield Campus Executive Tony Andrews. "Parade of the Ewoks" from the Star Wars movies and "On the

Trail" from the Grand Canyon Suite are two more enjoyable selections. A new feature of this concert is the 'play-along,' where young concert-goers are invited to the stage to play percussion instruments along with the orchestra on the children's song "Bell Horses."

The Hub City Symphony is housed on the UWSP-Marshfield campus at 2000 W. Fifth St. in Marshfield. Directed by Kristine Johaneck, the symphony is made up of musicians from the area who enjoy rehearsing together on Thursday evenings. The group is administered by the department of Continuing Education of the university, and financially supported by the Laird Foundation for the Arts.

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Marshfield High School's FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) Chapter competed at the regional STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition) competition Feb. 13 at SPASH in Stevens Point. FRONT ROW (L to R): Caitlyn Kundering, Danielle Meddaugh, Sophia Morrell, Riley Chaltry, Ally Leonhardt, Aubrianna Brown. BACK ROW: Karsyn Miller, Evalyn O'Brien, Chaz Heiman, Abigail Wendt, Grace Will, Presley Franklin, Araceli Rocha, Sarina Strasser, Gracie Tennesen. They will now be at the Wisconsin FCCLA State Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells in April. Submitted photo

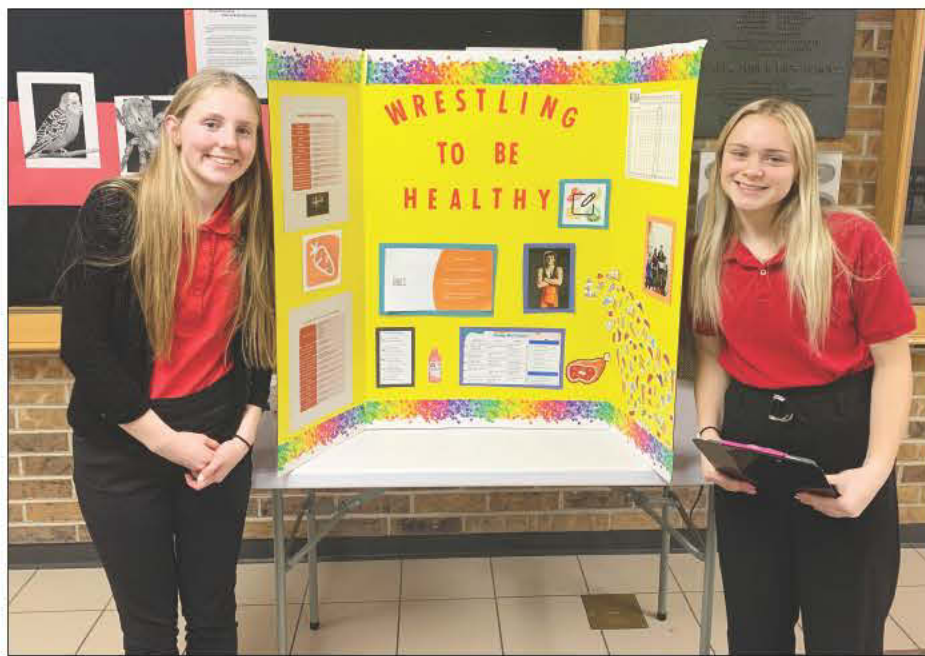
## Family, Career and Community Leaders of America



Danielle Meddaugh and Caitlyn Kundering show off their display entitled, "Happy, Healthy Hygiene," at regional FCCLA competition in Stevens Point. Meddaugh and Kundering joined MHS teammates Chazlyn Heiman, Evalyn O'Brien and Karsyn Miller in earning silver awards for creating and carrying out a Child Services Lesson Plan. Submitted photo

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**Fifth Annual Saint Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner**  
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 11:00 am to 1:00 pm  
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**Dine In - Dillenburg Hall**  
 (Carry Outs will be available)  
**The cost per dinner is \$13.00**  
 There will be a child's Hot Dog Meal available for purchase  
 Sponsored by Our Lady of Peace's Action Council



Presley Franklin and Sophia Morrell earned a Gold Award in "Sports Nutrition", for their design of a nutrition and hydration plan for a wrestler entitled, "Wrestling to be Healthy." Earning a silver award in the "Professional Presentation" event were Ally Leonhardt and Aubrianna Brown with, "Who's Minding the Children: The Childcare Crisis." Earning a bronze award were Araceli Rocha and Riley Chaltry, presenting "Unhealthy vs. Healthy Diets." Submitted photo

## Celebrate Wisconsin agriculture on March 21

BY TAYLOR SCHAEFER  
 WISCONSIN'S 75TH  
 ALICE IN DAIRYLAND

MADISON -- It is nearly one of my favorite days of the year, National Ag Day.

This year, on March 21, the United States recognizes National Ag Day to bring attention to and celebrate the important role agriculture plays in our daily life. The National Ag Day program encourages every American to understand how food, fiber and renewable resource products are produced, value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a

strong economy, appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products, and to acknowledge and consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food, fiber and renewable resource industries. Cities, organizations, and individuals across Wisconsin host events to celebrate this impactful day.

From volunteer events to educational opportunities, there's something for everyone. The State of Wisconsin also hosts Ag Day at the Capitol, this year on March 29. You can join farmers and agriculturists from across Wisconsin and learn more about state issues affecting agriculture, plus meet with your state representatives. You can learn more about National Ag Day at [www.agday.org](http://www.agday.org) or more about Wisconsin's Ag Day at the Capitol at <https://wfbf.com/events/ag-day-at-the-capitol/>.

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# Metal Tech opportunities at Marshfield High School

BY JENNIFER FREDRICK CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARSHFIELD

**MARSHFIELD** – The School District of Marshfield has many opportunities available to students to help them learn more about careers in manufacturing.

Marshfield High School's Metal Technology program has been growing steadily in student enrollment over the years. In addition, there are many opportunities for area employers, parents, and community members to be involved. Marshfield High School (MHS) offers nine courses to teach students about technical skills, manufacturing processes, and employability skills needed to work in manufacturing careers. Seven of these courses are offered for dual credit through Mid-State Technical College,



Through Marshfield High School's Metal Technology program, students and their parents have opportunities to experience what it's like to work in a manufacturing career, by taking field trips outside of the school day, like this one to S&R Truck of Marshfield.

Submitted photo awarding high school students college credits before graduating from high school.

Innovative Fabrication is a unique course offered to MHS students by Mr. Bergelin (MHS Art teacher) and Mr. Will (MHS Technology Education teacher). This course combines art with metalworking to create work that requires technical expertise with inventiveness. A new course at MHS, Advanced Manufacturing, taught by Mr. Behling (MHS Technology Education teacher), introduces students to

high-tech CNC equipment. Students appreciate the hands-on curriculum in Metal Technology courses, whether they're learning about welding theory, machining, manufacturing processes, or design.

In the senior level course, Metal Technology Capstone, Mr. Will's students network with human resources and industry professionals from many local manufacturing businesses. This fall, industry professionals constructively evaluated students' first welding projects of the school year, talked with students about opportunities in the industry, and reviewed characteristics of an ideal employee at their places of business. These professionals will return at the end of the school year to see student progress and discuss employment opportunities.

Learning in the classroom is important and so is experiencing what it's like to work in a manufacturing career. Throughout the school year, Mr. Will facilitates a series of field trips outside of the school day. Students

and their parents tour high tech and progressive manufacturing companies in our community. These experiences help students

with their parents make informed decisions about employment. Not only are Marshfield High School

See **TECH** page 9

## George Stanley to join Multi Media Channels

BY KRIS LEONHARDT MMC SENIOR EDITOR

**GREEN BAY** – In March, George Stanley joins Multi Media Channels (MMC), the publishing company of this weekly, as the Local News Initiatives Adviser.

In his role, Stanley will work with the Pass it Forward internship program, as well as other company initiatives to nurture a healthy community journalism environment in the state.

"We are excited to have George as a part of our editorial team as we know he will enrich and add value to everything we are doing to revitalize local news and take it to the next level," said MMC CEO Patrick Wood.

Stanley stepped down as editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and regional editor for the USA TODAY Network in



Stanley

January 2023. He led the Journal Sentinel newsroom as editor since 2015 and managing editor since 1997.

The newspaper's work won nearly every major national award for reporting about health, business, education, justice, politics, sports and the environment, including 10 Pulitzer finalists and three Pulitzer Prize winners.

Stanley has participated in several national programs aimed at finding a sound future for local news, including the Table Stakes News Transformation

program run by the American Press Institute, Lenfest Foundation and Temple University.

Through Table Stakes, the Journal Sentinel learned to innovate, reach readers they hadn't been serving before, and dramatically grow both digital-only circulation revenue and grant-funded journalism projects.

Stanley helped found the O'Brien Public Service Fellowship program at Marquette University's journalism school, which is fully endowed by a \$10 million donation.

In this program, experienced journalists spend an academic year working on a major public service journalism project that they then bring back to their newsrooms.

A student returns with

See **STANLEY** page 9

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Wisconsin is an amazing place to live and work, which is why I've chosen to call it home. I was born and raised in the Pacific Northwest and grew up understanding the importance of family and community. When I moved to Wisconsin in 1996 those values were strengthened as I forged a career in mental health. My husband and I have a blended family, with 3 children between us (2 of whom are adults now). In 2021 our lives were forever altered as our first granddaughter was born, something that spurred me on to make some life changes. I have always had an eclectic bundle of interests from music, art, and Russian culture to investments, small business development, and Real Estate. In 2022 I decided to pursue my interest in Real Estate as a career, so I completed the necessary courses leading to my Real Estate License. Making this shift has allowed me to be able to spend more time with my family while enabling me the ability to do something new and exciting. I have a love and passion for helping people make their goals and dreams a reality, and I am excited to see how I can make this happen as a Real Estate Agent. Please call or email me if you have any questions, or to discuss your options. Thank you!

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### Town of Richfield looking to hire Town Clerk:

Candidates must maintain all town records, attend all Board meetings, be well versed in budget & finance, and have excellent computer skills including working with QuickBooks.

Resumes must be postmarked by Friday, March 17th. Non Township residents may apply.

Email resumes to: clerk@townshipofrichfield.com, or mail to Town of Richfield C/O Tammi Pernsteiner 7400 Richfield Drive, Arpin, WI 54410

## WINNERS from page 1

of Lincoln Elementary; Marilee Critelli from Madison Elementary; Kristi Vantassel of Nasonville Elementary; Christy Treankler of Washington Elementary.

Other area Teachers of Distinction include: Jennifer Wilke, Spencer Middle/High School, Wendy Comstock, Spencer Elementary; Cody Schmidt, Auburndale Middle/High School; Corey Bugar, Auburndale Elementary; Valerie Bradfish, St. Joseph's Catholic in Stratford; Andrew Radloff, Granton Schools; Alix Madden, Pittsville High School; Penny Wehrs, Greenwood High School; Stacia Jacoby, Greenwood Elementary; Julia Backaus, Neillsville Middle/High School; Monika Luebke,

Neillsville Elementary. Partners in Educational Excellence and Workforce Development received a total of 1,512 nominations for 362 different teachers. From those names, an online ballot was created for teachers to vote on their top selections. A minimum of one teacher was selected to represent each school.

As the selection process moved forward, recommendations from school principals were provided, along with personal statements from the finalists, describing their educational philosophies. The written materials identified ways these teachers inspire and motivate students, their use of innovative projects or programs, as well as their involvement in the community and their pursuit of professional development.

The final step occurred Feb. 16-17, when the Teachers of Distinction met with a selection panel comprised of leaders from area businesses who place a high value on an educated workforce. Final selections were based on expertise (professionalism, knowledge of subject matter); innovation (advanced classroom techniques, teaching methods); and leadership (student guidance and rapport, reputation among colleagues, community involvement).

All Teachers of Distinction will be honored at the Crystal Apple Awards banquet to be held Thursday, May 4 at Hotel Marshfield.

Hub City Times is a proud sponsor of the Crystal Apple Awards program.

## PRICE from page 2

student population.

"We do not have declining enrollment at the high school level," he says. "The school district as a whole, and certainly at the high school level, has benefited from open enrollment. It is pretty common for students from surrounding communities and other districts when they get to the high school level, because of the wide variety and diversity of course offerings that we have, to transfer into our high school. Our high school enrollment numbers are quite healthy. But again, it's important to keep in mind that the issue that we're talking about

here has been an issue for thirty years. This isn't a new issue."

Along with a relocated main office and secure entrance, the Commons area would be expanded to the south, and would fill in the concreted space that currently exists between the fieldhouse and music area on either side. A new high school main office would also be added adjacent to the secure entrance, just to the west.

"There's not a clearly-identifiable single main entrance into the building," Christianson noted.

The plan also calls for a reconfigured circle drive for improved traffic flow and more efficient student pickup and dropoff activities. "That is another

common concern that we hear regularly from parents," Christianson said.

Another noticeable change would reconfigure the current teacher/visitor parking lot that's within the circle drive, to allow for entry from the south, along with an additional driveway into and out of that lot from Becker Road.

District officials will hold a community informational meeting on the proposed improvements on Monday, March 20 at 6 p.m. in the Marshfield High School library, with an optional building tour to follow. The district also has information related to the referendum on its website at www.marshfieldschools.org/referendum.

## TECH from page 7

students exposed to high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand careers, so are students at Marshfield Middle School. In October, Marshfield Middle School eighth graders and their teachers explored careers in manufacturing through the Heavy Metal Tour. The tour highlighted exciting career pathways in regional manufacturing. Students learned about engineering and design, welding and

fabrication, robotics, and numerous other exciting career and educational opportunities located in the Marshfield area.

Something new is happening at Marshfield High School this spring. Sponsored by industry, Mr. Will is offering an opportunity on the MHS campus for adults in our community to explore a career, learn a new hobby, or just build a project out of metal. There are 48 adults that applied for the opportunity with

various welding skill levels. Participants will learn in the safety and convenience of the Marshfield Metal Tech Welding Lab, focusing on basic settings and techniques with the Wirefeed (GMAW) Welding Process on Steel.

If you'd like to know more about opportunities in Career and Technical Education in the School District of Marshfield, visit the website at https://www.marshfieldschools.org/cte.

## STANLEY from page 7

each fellow to their home newsroom for a summer internship paid for by the program.

Stanley is past president of the News Leaders Association and a board member of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Before becoming managing editor of the Journal Sentinel, he was business editor and before that he was a reporter for the Milwaukee Sentinel,

the Wichita Eagle and Ducks Unlimited magazine with an expertise in environmental and conservation reporting.

He started his career at the Lake Geneva Regional News after graduating from the University of Wisconsin.

He and his wife Pam grew up in Allouez. They have five adult children and seven grandchildren.

"I'm excited about working with the Multi Media Channels, the Press Times and the Pass

it Forward internship program as foundation stones to strengthen community news coverage in Wisconsin," Stanley said. "For our democracy to work the way it's supposed to, people need to be informed about what's going on at all levels with our schools, law enforcement, roads, zoning, taxes, new developments, you name it. The business models that supported this local reporting are rapidly changing and we've got to find ways to retain and rebuild it."

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# Craft distillery to open in Knowlton

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

KNOWLTON -- A family-owned and operated distillery, named Knowlton House Distillery, will be opening soon. Offering distillery tours, classes, craft cocktails, and food, the distillery will be located across from Mullins Cheese.

The distillery's flagship product line, called TenHead, includes vodka and gin crafted from milk sugar (whey), a byproduct of making cheese.

Founded by Luke and Heather Mullins, the distillery is a marriage of their respective professions and passions. As a fourth-generation cheesemaker with Mullins Cheese, Luke comes from a long line of dairy farmers and cheesemakers. Heather, educated in distilling with a master's degree in brewing science, has worked as a product development scientist aiding other distilleries and breweries.

"We're not the first to distill spirits from milk sugar," says co-founder and head distiller, Heather Mullins. "There is a handful of distilleries that do it worldwide. But it just feels right that we distill from milk in Wisconsin. We're confident that nobody is more committed to showcasing these spirits at their best," she adds. "After all, dairy isn't just the pride of our state. It's the pride of our family."

While the concept of distilling vodka and gin from milk sugar may seem novel, Heather points out that it's a

concept dating back nearly a thousand years and produces traditional-tasting spirits.

"Just like potato vodka doesn't taste like potatoes, milk vodka doesn't taste like milk. It's still a very traditional vodka. However, it has a smoother, more velvety texture due to its source," says Heather.

Knowlton House teamed up with local Logan Erikson of Paper City Studios to assist in the design along with Marawood Construction of Marshfield to bring it to life.

"We are humbled to be selected as the general contractor for Knowlton House Distillery," said Marawood co-owner, Ben Vance. "The Mullins have been a long-time client of Marawood, so to see their dream of owning and operating a craft distillery come to fruition and being part of that is an honor."

"We're excited to be working with Marawood Construction on this project," said co-founder, Luke Mullins. "It's always great to work with another local, family-owned business. Keeping both the design and construction local helps us to create a space that feels authentically Wisconsin while still meeting our unique needs."

Construction on the distillery began in September 2022, with an anticipated opening of spring 2023.



Construction is moving along on Knowlton House Distillery, thanks to work being done by contractors such as Marawood Construction and House of Heating, both of Marshfield. Luke and Heather Mullins anticipate a spring opening. House of Heating photo

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\*Quick Lane®-installed retail purchases only. Limit one offer per customer. Offer valid through 3/31/23. Cannot be combined with any other tire manufacturer-sponsored rebate/offer. Offer not available in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Quick Lane® is a registered trademark of Ford Motor Company.

**The Works Vehicle Checkup**

GO FOR THE WORKS®

**\$49.95**

- Synthetic blend oil change
- Tire rotation and pressure check
- Brake inspection
- Multi-point inspection
- Fluid top-off
- Battery test
- Filter check
- Belts & hoses check

**Quick Lane**  
TIRE & AUTO CENTER  
at V&H Automotive

Valid at Quick Lane® at V&H Automotive only. Up to six quarts of Motocraft® oil and oil filter. Taxes, diesel vehicles and disposal fees extra. Hybrid battery test excluded. Some restrictions apply. Coupon must be presented at time of write-up. Expires 3/31/23

**Coolant Flush**

The cooling system protects some of your vehicle's most expensive components: the engine and transmission. Temperature extremes can take a toll. Visit Quick Lane® for an expert inspection of your vehicle's cooling system and a replacement of damaged or worn parts

**\$149.95**

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We service all makes and models.

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**Quick Lane® at V&H Automotive**  
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