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WAUPACA County Post

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LOCAL



Former Iola Mills owner Tom Fucik, left, and new owner Ed Lemar at the tail race of the mill. The cement enclosure behind them houses the water turbine that generates electricity. James Card Photo

New steward for hydropower

Iola Mills generates the juice

BY JAMES CARD
STAFF REPORTER

IOLA – Tom Fucik and Ed Lemar looked over Iola Lake and brainstormed ideas on how to handle the weeds.

A weed-cutting boat came through and the flotsam gathered into a floating mass at the gate of the head race. The weeds end up choking the water flow to the mill which in turn slows down the generation of electricity.

Their relationship is one of a mentor and apprentice as first- and second-generation hydropower operators. Lemar purchased Iola Mills from Fucik in January 2023 and he is now learning what it takes to keep the hydroelectric turbine in operation.

At a spot where the tail race enters the penstock there is a mound of aquatic weeds that farmers will later pick up for garden mulch. Throughout the summer Lemar goes there and rakes out weeds multiple times a day.

Fucik understands the toil and the commitment.

At one point the weed raking was too much and he gave up and turned off the turbine. He couldn't take it anymore but then he snapped out of his ennui and turned it back on. As the man who restored the mill and the hydropower, that was what he was called to do and he could not live to let such renewable energy go to waste. He went back to raking weeds.

Power by water

The evolution of the mill is like that of other Wisconsin towns. Settlers harnessed the power of water to build sawmills to convert the tim-

ber into lumber as the land was being cleared. Later on, these mills were converted to grind grain as farming took off.

The mill in Iola was no different. It started as a sawmill in 1853 and was converted to a grist mill for wheat and corn in 1860. A turbine for producing electricity was installed but it was a short-lived operation and small scale.

Fucik bought the place in 1996 and the last time the original turbine was used was in the 1950s. It was rebuilt and re-commissioned

Hydropower
CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

Solar energy facility proposed

Site planned near Clintonville

BY BERT LEHMAN
STAFF REPORTER

CLINTONVILLE – NextEra Energy Resources LLC has proposed a 250-megawatt photovoltaic solar energy generating facility in the towns of Larrabee and Matteson.

The company discussed its plans at a May 22 meeting at the Clintonville Community Center.

Information about a proposed was shared with attendees of an informational meeting held

The informational meeting was hosted by NextEra Energy Resources LLC,



Danilo Cabrera, on right, project director for NextEra Energy, and another representative from NextEra, speak with an attendee to the informational meeting held May 22 regarding a proposed 250-megawatt solar energy facility in the towns of Larrabee and Matteson. Bert Lehman Photo

which is looking to build the 125-megawatt battery energy storage system in addition to the solar energy generating facility.

The company is located in

Juno Beach, Florida.

Two representatives from NextEra Energy spoke with the Clintonville Tribune-Gazette about the proposed project.

Danilo Cabrera, project director for NextEra Energy, said it is not yet known how many acres of land the site would include. The company is still in the process of securing land to lease for the project. He said the proposed facility would be in Larrabee and Matteson.

“When projects are selected, there's usually a couple of fundamental things that take place,” Cabrera said. “One, connection to the grid. We have to have a point of interconnection, and here we have one. Two, there has to be a customer in the area, normally the customers are utilities customers. We have that in the area as well. And the last

Solar
CONTINUES ON PAGE 4

Investigation finds no criminal conduct by sheriff's office

Altered reports violated policy, but not law

BY ROBERT CLOUD
SENIOR EDITOR

COUNTY – A special prosecutor who investigated allegations against the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office has declined to file charges.

“I have not found evidence to support that any individual associated with the incident involving the Waupaca County Sheriff's department engaged in criminal conduct under the laws of Wisconsin,” according to Amber Hahn, an assistant district attorney



Wilz

in Fond du Lac County who was appointed as a special prosecutor.

Deputy Stephens

In a June 18, 2023, memorandum, Hahn noted that the initial incident leading to her investigation was a

Investigation
CONTINUES ON PAGE 9



William Zelenski after hearing the jury's verdict of guilty Friday, June 23.

Zelenski convicted in homicide trial

Killed girlfriend's son over stolen reptiles

BY ROBERT CLOUD
SENIOR EDITOR

WAUPACA – A jury convicted William Zelenski, 46, of first-degree intentional homicide Friday, June 23, after a weeklong trial.

Judge Raymond Huber scheduled a sentencing hearing for Tuesday, Aug. 22.

Huber also ordered a presentencing investigation. Zelenski faces life in prison.

Zelenski killed Ryelee Manente-Powell with a 12-gauge, double-barrelled shotgun. The victim was 18 at the time of his death on the night of Oct. 19, 2020.

Manente-Powell had been involved in stealing reptiles, guns and liquor

from Zelenski on Oct. 15, 2020.

Isherwood's closing arguments

In closing arguments, Assistant District Attorney Veronica Isherwood focused on two key elements in Zelenski's defense case – that he was acting in self defense and the killing was an accident.

She noted that Manente-Powell lost his life 977 days earlier.

“Throughout the investigation he (Zelenski) claimed it was self defense,” Isherwood said. “Except that Ryelee Manente did not have a gun. He did not have a knife. He did not have a baseball bat. He had no weapons on him.”

Zelenski had a knife, a bat, a hammer and other

Zelenski
CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

Independence Day festivities in Waupaca County

Communities throughout Waupaca County are celebrating the Fourth of July holiday with parades, family activities and fireworks.

Waupaca

Waupaca's Fourth of July celebration begins at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 4, with a parade down Main Street.

The Knights of Columbus will hold their annual barbecue chicken and hamburger lunch at South Park at 11 a.m.

Fireworks will launch at 9:30 p.m. over Shadow Lake in South Park. Tune to Lakes 92.7 at 9:30 p.m. for patriotic music.

The Knights of Columbus will have their popcorn and snack wagon at South Park for the fireworks.

New London

A fireworks show sponsored by Festival Foods is scheduled to start at 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 4, in New London.

The best view for the fireworks are in Hatten Stadium where the gates open at 6:30 p.m. with games provided by New London Parks and Rec and entertainment with Yo DJ.

No concessions will be sold, but carry-ins are encouraged. No pets allowed per city ordinance.

In case of rain, fireworks will be at 9:45 p.m. Saturday, July 8.

Clintonville

Fireworks Country will put on a show at dusk on Monday, July 3, at Olen Park in Clintonville.

Sponsored by Clintonville



Athletic Club, the celebration begins at 5 p.m. with food, refreshments and youth baseball at Don Jorschele Stadium. No charge for admission.

Weyauwega

A fireworks show will be held at the Waupaca County Fairgrounds in Weyauwega at dusk on Monday, July 3.

Fremont

Big Bang Fireworks will put on a show Sunday, July 2, in downtown Fremont at dusk. Food trucks will be serving from 5 to 10 p.m. The Web-footers will put on a water-ski show at 6 p.m.

Fremont's annual Fourth of July Kiddie Parade in downtown Fremont starts at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, July 4. Registration is at 9 a.m. across the street from Premier Bank. There will be soda and prizes and it is open to kids of all ages. The Fremont Fire Department will sponsor the parade.

Iola-Scandy

The Scandinavia Chamber of Commerce Fireworks Celebration will be Monday, July 3, at Taylor Field in Iola.

The event kicks off at 5:30 p.m. with a co-ed softball game between the Iola-Scandinavia Class of 2023 and Class of 2024 and 2025. The battle for the axes between the Iola and Scandinavia fire departments will follow.

Fireworks will begin at dusk on Monday. Patriotic music will play during the fireworks and the I-S Chamber and T-Birds Booster Club will sell

food, beverages and popcorn. Rain date is set for Wednesday, July 5.

The I-S Chamber of Commerce Fireworks Raffle tickets will be sold locally and prior to the fireworks. Winners will be announced before fireworks begin.

Manawa

The annual Manawa Rodeo parade is set to take place on at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 1, in downtown Manawa.

Hortonville

Damn Yankees Watering Hole, N3517 County Trunk M, Hortonville, will host a fireworks show at 10 p.m. Saturday, July 1.

Wildside, an '80s rock tribute band, will begin performing at 6 p.m.

HYDROPOWER

FROM PAGE 1
in 1999. It has been in operation ever since.

The turbine generates between 5 to 15 kilowatts depending on the water flow and time of year.

"In the spring melt when we have it fully open all the way, it's making 15 (kW) or even a little more. It powers everything and then we sell some back to the utility as well. The cool thing about water power is that solar power only happens during the day, wind power only happens when it's windy,

but this thing is running all the time" said Lemar.

"Except when it's down for maintenance," said Fucik. "Or choked with weeds."

Lemar groaned as the new gaurdian of the mill and the two of them commiserated for a moment on their shared hardship of keeping the head race cleared of the troublesome aquatic vegetation.

Tail race stories

Down in what could be considered the basement of the mill is the home of



The historic Lola Mill has been a focal point for community and youth activities, as well as a hydroelectric generating facility. File Photo

the turbine. Water pours in from the head race from Lola Lake and plunges into the penstock that holds the turbine and then it flows out in a tail race that resembles a cross between a trout stream and a lazy river tube float found at water parks.

When Fucik bought the mill in 1996 it was a quagmire.

"Everything was caving in. It was all muck and full

of dead animals, hip flasks, wood and steel. I took out about 35 to 40 truckloads in a wheelbarrow. It was crazy," he said.

Fucik laid drain tile and poured new concrete and brought it back a civilized condition. He walked over to a knee-high wooden box with a hinged lid. He flipped it open and inside was a hole about the same size as a toilet seat.

"There was a wood deck that went across [the flowing water] and this one-hole sat right in the middle. The old boys used to come down here and do their business and sent it all down to Scandinavia," said Fucik.

An old timer that grew up in Iola came to visit the mill with this daughter. He told a story of when he was a boy, he and his friends would go fishing under the mill. One day he opened the lid of the rustic toilet and in the current was a brown trout. He got his fishing rod, hooked the fish and pulled it through the now two-way hole. His daughter never believed the story until it was verified that day.

Fish are attracted to the dark basement setting, the cool water and the forage getting flushed out of the penstock. Snapping turtles are common. While work-

ing on restoring the mill, Fucik would take swim breaks to cool off in the summer. One morning he witnessed a family of four river otters that cornered a large school of fish and the otters took turns protecting the escape route while one slaughtered and feasted on the trapped prey.

Fucik pointed out a strange-shaped metal device with two large balls. It was a centrifugal governor.

"Usually they used it to regulate speed. Here they used it to track speed," he said as he pointed to a wooden gauge needle. "They had this set up to know how much power they were generating by the speed. The faster those iron balls go, the more the centrifugal force pulls them out. That's where the saying, 'Going balls out,' originated from," said Fucik.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Happy 4th of July

Dear Reader,

On July 4, 1776 the Continental Congress adopted the declaration of independence, declaring the 13 American colonies as a new nation separate from British rule. This bold act of defiance set in motion a revolutionary journey towards freedom, democracy, and self governance.

Amidst the 4th of July festivities is a time for reflection and gratitude. Americans take a moment to remember the sacrifices made by those who fought for independence and to honor the ideals upon which this nation was founded.

The 4th of July remains as an integral part of American culture serving as a day to honor the past, celebrate the present, and envision the future. As we come together in parades, firework displays and family gatherings, we pay tribute to the principles of freedom and independence that define our nation. This day reminds us that the United States of America, built on the dreams and determination of its people, continues to strive for a more perfect union.



PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"

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ZELENSKI

FROM PAGE 1

weapons on the backseat of his car. Police also found another gun in the trunk.

Isherwood also noted that Zelenski did not begin claiming the shooting was accidental until the trial.

"As of Oct. 19, 2020, the beginning of this trial, he wants you to believe that pulling the trigger was an accident. It was Ryelee's fault," Isherwood told the jury. "He didn't tell Tiffany Powell it was an accident, Ryelee's own mother. He didn't tell Tara Dalrymple it was an accident when she was at the scene screaming, 'Why did you do this?' In fact he said, 'He came at me. I had no choice.' Does

this sound like an accident to you? Nine-hundred and seventy-seven days later, it's an accident."

During the trial, Zelenski spoke about his experience as a police officer and how he was trained to de-escalate situations.

He also testified he was afraid of Manente-Powell, who had a history of violence, including domestic abuse and a fight while he was in jail.

"He learned how to control a subject under arrest," Isherwood said. "So when it's convenient for him, he draws on this police training that at the time he hadn't used in over 15 years (when Zelenski left the Waupaca police force). But when it's not convenient for him, all

thoughts of his police training go out the window."

She reminded the jury of the judge's instructions regarding the use of deadly force in self defense.

"The only way he gets to use deadly force is if he believes he is going to die," Isherwood said.

Isherwood referred to the doorbell camera video that shows images just prior and shortly after the shooting, but not the shooting itself.

"He's (Ryelee) walking down the street. You see him stop. Bill and Tiffany come to him, not the other way around," Isherwood said.

Tiffany Powell, the victim's mother and Zelenski's girlfriend, was at the scene and she aimed the shotgun at Manente-Powell. She was

convicted of first-degree reckless endangerment with a weapon and felon in possession of a weapon on Dec. 2, 2022. She is currently serving a 15-year prison sentence.

Isherwood also reminded the jury of testimony indicating that Zelenski told witnesses, "I'm going to tase and handcuff Ryelee."

Zelenski had decided he was going to arrest Manente-Powell, Isherwood said.

"Except he's not a law enforcement officer," she said. "He did not have the right to handcuff Ryelee. He did not have the right to attack and tase him. He did not have the right to point a firearm at him, much less pull the trigger and kill him."

Food drive during Waupaca July 4 parade

WAUPACA - Trinity Lutheran Church in Waupaca will collect money and food to benefit the Waupaca Area Food Pantry during the

Fourth of July parade in downtown Waupaca.

Those planning to attend the 10 a.m. Independence Day parade are invited to

bring a monetary donation or nonperishable food along the parade route, where Trinity volunteers will collect them.

Community members in past parades since 2013 have contributed more than 3,700 pounds of food and over \$4,800.



Happy
Independence Day
Local Investment. Jobs. Clean Energy.

Waupaca NEWS



The Waupaca High School Class of 1973 held its 50th reunion at Hidden Waters Golf Course on Saturday, June 24.

Tim Koll Photography

Waupaca County sheriff's report

- June 19 – A female caller reported a missing kayak that she believed was stolen to be sold for drug money.
- June 19 – A New London man on Pershing Road reported he suspected his brother-in-law poisoned his bee hives.
- June 19 – A Waupaca man on Casey Road reported his cell phone was stolen out of his vehicle and it was pinging somewhere in King.
- June 19 – A Weyauwega man on Collum Road reported he has some property under a land contract. It increased in value and believed it involved some kind of insurance fraud.
- June 19 – A Clintonville man on County Trunk D reported a Hispanic man came to his door and said he needed the police. The man smelled strongly of alcohol.
- June 19 – A Waupaca caller on Woodland Circle reported her neighbor took a bunch of garbage and debris and barricaded her front door.
- June 20 – A Weyauwega caller on High Street reported a 63-year-old woman woke up and was unable to use her left arm and her left leg was going numb.
- June 20 – A Big Falls caller on Harrison Street reported one of the neighbor's children banged on her door, tried to take a toy from her and bent her finger back and took off with a tricycle.
- June 20 – A Waupaca woman on Mill Street reported a man was trespassing on her property.
- June 20 – An Ogdensburg man on Blue Mountain Lake Road reported people were messing with a fishing boat that was sitting unattended for months.
- June 20 – A Stevens Point caller reported her son's ex-girlfriend was at the Cobblestone in Fremont and was high on methamphetamine and was "blowing up their phones."
- June 20 – A New London caller on Buelow Road reported her boyfriend punched her in the face.
- June 20 – A female caller that has power of attorney for a man with dementia requested help getting him to the hospital. The man did not want to go and was increasingly angry.
- June 20 – A Waupaca caller on Tomahawk Trail reported a burglary. The back service door was busted open and he was making a list of stolen items.
- June 21 – A New London man on Hickory Ridge Lane reported his money was stolen for non performance of a contract by roofers that did not finish their work.
- June 21 – An anonymous caller reported a woman was violating the absolute sobriety condition of her bond by using methamphetamine at a man's house.
- June 21 – An lola caller on Bestul Road reported identity theft. Someone took out a loan

- in his name.
- June 21 – A Waupaca caller on King Road reported a man who sold him a vehicle was now threatening him.
- June 21 – An Ogdensburg caller on County Trunk B reported a juvenile was receiving threatening messages from a friend's parent via Facebook Messenger concerning a Tik-Tok video.
- June 21 – A female caller reported a man was drunk by the way he was texting her and was currently on a boat on the Chain O' Lakes.
- June 21 – A Clintonville caller on State Highway 45 requested a welfare check on an Amish family that she had not seen around for a few days. A dog was barking and she was worried.
- June 21 – Outagamie Sheriff Department reported a man was suicidal with a gun. His mother tracked him with a GPS and he was in New London.
- June 21 – Lifeline Medical Alert reported a man called and said he was "going to end it all" by a mobile home with a red shed and said he was "done with his family."
- June 22 – A 911 caller reported a suicidal woman who said she wanted to drink herself to death.
- June 22 – A Waupaca caller on Larson Road reported a juvenile on an ATV with a loud muffler was on his property.
- June 22 – A Waupaca woman on Grandview Road reported a suspicious two-door hatchback with a man inside parked across from her driveway.
- June 22 – A Weyauwega caller on Hillside Drive reported a woman stole a bottle of perfume from her.
- June 22 – An anonymous caller reported a woman passed out in the driver's seat of a vehicle in a bar parking lot. The vehicle was still running and it had a "dog lady" sticker on the back.
- June 22 – A 911 caller requested an ambulance for a man passed out in a parking lot with vomit on the ground.
- June 22 – Rawhide Youth Services reported a broken window.
- June 22 – Tomorrow's Children in Waupaca reported a juvenile who was destroying a room.
- June 22 – A Manawa caller on Bridge Street reported a highly intoxicated woman who was being belligerent and attempting to leave in her vehicle.
- June 22 – A Waupaca caller on Mill Street reported a disgruntled woman was "getting in his face" and there were bond conditions that she should not have contact with him.
- June 23 – Rawhide Youth Services reported a juvenile runaway.
- June 23 – A caller reported a garbage fire growing quickly next to a barn.
- June 23 – A New London

- caller on Hickory Ridge Lane reported she paid a roofing contractor \$14,000 and the project was unfinished.
- June 23 – A Manawa caller on State Highway 161 reported he received a letter from Alliant Energy stating they were going to turn his electricity off.
- June 23 – Marshfield Clinic requested a welfare check on a man who was looking for a nebulizer. They could not reach him for two days and were worried something happened.
- June 23 – A Tigerton man reported a trespassing man that was golfing with his dog. The only way onto the field was to jump the fence.
- June 23 – A 911 caller requested an ambulance for an older man that fell and hit his head.
- June 23 – A New London woman on Cook Street reported an intoxicated female was walking down the road saying that her family left her.
- June 23 – A Weyauwega man on Alfred Street reported a man was stumbling in the middle of the road near Cramer Car Care.
- June 24 – A 911 called reported a barn was smoking. No flames and there were cows in the barn.
- June 24 – Bethany Home requested an ambulance for an elderly female bleeding from the head.
- June 24 – A female caller requested a welfare check for a female and her boyfriend. At 4 a.m. she received a text from her that read, "Help."
- June 25 – An unknown caller reported power lines dangling on other power lines. It was smoking and there were small flames.
- June 25 – A Waupaca man on Raymond Drive reported an 80-year-old woman with a pulse but not breathing.
- The water patrol stopped 32 boats during this period. Residents called in three controlled burns. A large brown and black pig was reported running down Smith Road. An Embarrass caller was bitten by a cat. An anonymous caller reported horses that looked neglected and had ribs showing. An anonymous caller reported five cows in the roadway. An unknown caller reported a mature raccoon was struck by a car and three baby raccoons were stranded near the roadway.

Al-Anon meets in Waupaca

WAUPACA – Waupaca Area Al-Anon meets twice a week at Faith Community Church, 2641 County Trunk K. The meetings are held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays and from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays.

City band plays at vets home

WAUPACA – The Waupaca City Band will continue its summer concert series at 7 p.m. Friday, June 30, at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in King. Recently retired city band director Mark Kryshak will conduct. This week's program will take place on the bandstand and feature well-known patriotic and American classics throughout the performance. The featured selection for the evening will be a fantasy overture based upon four songs that date from the earliest years of the United

States. The songs are "Yankee Doodle," "Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier," "America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)" and the "Star Spangled Banner." The composition is titled "Broad Stripes and Bright Stars" and arranged by Robert Longfield. The group will also pay tribute to all branches of the military with the "Armed Forces Salute" and recognize all veterans for their military service. The children's march for this week will be John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever" and a child will be chosen by random drawing

to lead the parade around the bandstand. The program is free of charge and will last about an hour. Audience members are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs and blankets for seating. In the event of rain the concert will be moved to Waupaca High School located at the intersection of Hwy 22 and King Road. Parking at the facility will be available in designated parking lots but there will be no parking on the campus streets.

City seeks public input

WAUPACA – The Waupaca's elected officials and city staff are preparing to work on updating the city's strategic plan. This is the city's roadmap of efforts to focus on over the next several years. The city is seeking feedback to help guide key areas of focus. The strategic plan seeks to utilize available resources to accomplish key goals and objectives to make Waupaca

even better. This could include improving services, adding services and achieving key goals to help grow the community. The city last completed a strategic planning process in 2019. Some key accomplishments of this process included completing the Main Street reconstruction process, moving forward with a new public works facility, hiring a drug enforcement officer and a sec-

ond police school liaison officer and working with developers to bring more housing to Waupaca. An important component of this process is to gather feedback from local residents, business, visitors and others. Elected officials and city staff will review and discuss feedback as this process starts in July. The survey can be accessed at cityofwaupaca.org.

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WAUPACA'S Fourth of July CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, JUNE 30
12:00pm - Granite Cellar Open (inside Danes Hall)
6:00pm - Music/Karaoke at H. H. Hinder Brewing Co.
6:00pm - Music/Paul Deakin Country Classics at Chain O' Lakes Bar & Grill
7:00pm - Music/Waupaca City Band at Wisconsin Veterans Home
8:30pm - Music/Dustin Lee at Clear Water Harbor

SATURDAY, JULY 1
9:00am - Waupaca Farmers Market downtown on East Fulton Street
6:00pm - Music/First Avenue at Chain O' Lakes Bar & Grill
7:00pm - Music/Ike Arumba and the Infidels at Rustic Woods Campground
9:00pm - Music/DJ G-Spot at Indian Crossing Casino
9:30pm - Music/DJ Scotty V at Clear Water Harbor

SUNDAY, JULY 2
2:00pm - Music/Dr. Dobbe at H. H. Hinder Brewing Co.
3:00pm - Music/A-Town Unplugged at Clear Water Harbor
9:00pm - Music/Ask Your Mother at Indian Crossing Casino
9:30pm - Music/Doozey at Clear Water Harbor

MONDAY, JULY 3
11:00am - Indian Crossing Casino Open
12:00pm - VFW Brat Fry at H. H. Hinder Brewing Co.
3:00pm - Music/Pat and Patience at Clear Water Harbor

TUESDAY, JULY 4
9:00am - Simpson's Open
10:00am - 4th of July Parade - North Main proceeding South to Lake Street
10:00am - Granite Cellar Open (inside Danes Hall)
11:00am - Knights of Columbus Chicken BBQ or Burger Lunch at South Park
11:00am - Indian Crossing Casino Open
12:00pm - H. H. Hinder Brewing Co. Open
4:00pm - Knights of Columbus Popcorn Wagon at South Park
6:00pm - Chain Skiers Water Ski Show - Wisconsin Veterans Home at King
6:00pm - Shane Hardwicke at Clear Water Harbor
Dusk - Fireworks over Shadow Lake at South Park
Dusk - Tune to Lakes 92.7 for Patriotic Music

Non-perishable food items and monetary gifts will be collected during the parade by Trinity Lutheran Church for the Waupaca Area Food Pantry.

Tag your photos: #wearewaupaca

Fireworks! Bring your lawn chairs and radio. Parking available in the Waupaca Recycling Center with a freewill donation to Rotary Club of Waupaca. Donations support Rotary Youth Projects and The Fireworks.

www.VisitWaupacaChainOLakes.com

Fireworks over Shadow Lake at South Park Sponsored in part by:

Bernatello's Foods
City of Waupaca
Community First Credit Union
Farmers State Bank
Town of Farmington
L & L Propane
Waupaca Foundry, Inc.
Waupaca Area Convention & Visitor Bureau

AJ Holly & Sons Funeral Home
Knights of Columbus
Rotary Club of Waupaca

Community Insurance
Faulks Bros. Const.
H. H. Hinder Brewing Co.
Innovia Consulting
Janssen Accounting

Neumann's Piggly Wiggly
Riverhill Dental
Shindig Waupaca
Town of Waupaca

Fireworks show by: Sundown Fireworks LLC

Clintonville NEWS

Students recognized on Awards Day

CLINTONVILLE - Students at St. Martin Lutheran School were recognized when St. Martin Lutheran School held its Awards Day June 2.

Student council members were given pins. This included Rylee Brendemuehl, president; Jady Ebert, vice president, and class representatives Tylie Kersten, Jacob Marquardt, Adela Brendemuehl, Eliana Harris, Kate Heineman, Jessa Baierl, Randi Kersten and Orren Korth.

Music awards were given to Halle Curtis, Rhianna Miller, Jady Ebert, Levi Wolf, Kayleigh Wedde, Scott Zimmerman, Brianna Birling, Calleigh Zoellick, Rylee Brendemuehl, Lillian Pagel, James Nolan and Myles Pluger for their years of participation in band, chimes and praise team.

Myles Pluger and Lillian Pagel were recognized for participation in Solo and Ensemble.

John Baierl, Tylie Kersten, Henry Reindl and Jacob Marquardt were recognized for earning over 400 points in the Accelerated Reader program.

Run Club participants were honored, including Hailey Burmeister and Jady Ebert for their exemplary leadership skills.

Presidential Physical Fitness National badges were given to Raeden Miller, Tyson Laack, Patron Hoffmann, Kate Heineman, Madison Harbaugh, Lucy Yaeger, Lily Reindl, and Charlie Papendorf. Presidential badges were earned by Brynleigh Birling and Casen Maul.

Track winners were announced from the May 19 meet, and the lower grades received ribbons. The upper grades took third place over-



St. Martin Lutheran School students who received music awards were, from left, Rylee Brendemuehl, Myles Pluger, Lillian Pagel, Levi Wolf, Calleigh Zoellick, Scott Zimmerman, Kayleigh Wedde, James Nolan, Rhianna Miller, Jady Ebert, Halle Curtis and Brianna Birling. Submitted Photos



Accelerated Reader Award recipients for more than 400 points included, from left, John Baierl, Tylie Kersten, Henry Reindl and Jacob Marquardt.



St. Martin Honor Society students, from left, are Myles Pluger, Lauren Van Straten, Levi Wolf, Rylee Brendemuehl, Cole Eberhardt, Lillian Pagel, James Nolan, Calleigh Zoellick, Mia Zaldivar, Rhianna Miller, Brianna Birling and Halle Curtis.

all in the St. Paul, Bonduel meet. Brianna Birling set a meet record for the seventh and eighth-grade girls in the 100 meters with a time of 13.30 seconds.

Spelling Bee winners were given certificates and ribbons. For the third year in a row Corbyn Hagberg finished in second place and Lillian Pagel finished in first place.

St. Martin Honor Soci-

ety recipients were Brianna Birling, Rylee Brendemuehl, Cole Eberhardt, Halle Curtis, Lillian Pagel, James Nolan, Lauren Van Straten, Myles Pluger, Calleigh Zoellick, Rhianna Miller, Levi Wolf and Mia Zaldivar. These students maintained a 3.2 grade point average during their 7th and 8th grade years.

Awards
CONTINUES ON PAGE 9

Tests show PFAS levels safe

EPA to test city water

BY BERT LEHMAN
STAFF REPORTER

CLINTONVILLE - The PFAS levels in the city of Clintonville's water tested safe according to state water sample tests.

That was the message Dave Tichinel, manager of Clintonville Utility, relayed to the Clintonville City Council at its June 13 meeting.

He said that PFAS are a big issue across the United States.

PFAS are a group of chemicals used to make fluoropoly-

mer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease and water, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

All of the entry points for the city's wells have been sampled, Tichinel said. This includes sampling by the state of Wisconsin.

According to the state samples, Tichinel said there were no detections of phosphorus in the city's water system at the entry points, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"I'm very happy with that," Tichinel said.

The sampling to be conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency was scheduled to take place June

21. Tichinel said the council would be furnished with those results as soon as the city receives them.

"As of right now, there's no detects (of phosphorus) on the state level," Tichinel said.

Tichinel said the tests cost about \$1,200 per sample, and the city was scheduled to do tests for four straight quarters.

"We did one, and I was able to put in for a reduction of the last three quarters of the sampling," Tichinel said. "I found out, actually, this morning, that the DNR OK'd it. They're sending me the paperwork to where we'll save that money for the rest of the year and not have to sample for PFAS, probably for three to six years."

Summer camp seeks volunteers

MARION - Volunteers are needed for Waupaca County ARC Inc. summer day camp being held at Keller Lake Park on County Trunk G near Marion.

The week-long camp for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities will take place from Aug. 7-11.

Individuals who are age 12 years and older are welcome to volunteer by contacting Camp Director Cindy Carrick at 715-823-2823 in Clintonville for a volunteer registration form.

The day begins at 9:30 a.m. when buses bring the campers to the park and ends at

3:30 with buses departing.

Volunteers are assigned to a unit and will accompany assigned campers as they participate in the day's activities of fishing, boating, arts and crafts, swimming, basketball and hiking.

The noon meal is provided for everyone.

SOLAR

FROM PAGE 1

thing is land available. Typically, pretty flat is what would benefit from a solar farm.

"We have a team that does the prospecting. They identify, they start talking to landowners seeing if they can secure some land, if there's interest. Then they determine if it is a viable area, and they continue with it."

Cabrera said the goal of the meeting was to "share benefits about the project."

"There's a lot of questions when you hear about solar projects," he said. "What is it about? That's why we're here, our availability to answer any questions, any concerns you may have. There is a lot of misinformation out there, so we want to clear everything up."

When asked what misinformation is out there, Cabrera responded, "You can Google it, there is so much." Naomi Morrison, resources spokesperson for NextEra Energy, said one of the benefits of the proposed facility would be additional tax revenue for the community.

According to information sheets handed out at the meeting, the facility would be expected to generate approximately \$25 million in additional tax revenue for the community over the first 25 years of the project, and would represent a potential \$430

million capital investment.

During construction, 250 construction jobs would be generated. The facility would create no water or air pollution, and would not use water to generate electricity.

Cabrera said the proposed project would also provide income to the owners of the land being leased by NextEra Energy.

Morrison said NextEra Energy would pay for the construction of the facility, and landowners the leased land would not have to pay for anything.

She added that NextEra Energy has a solar site in Manitowoc County - Point Beach Solar Energy Center. It also has a wind project in Dodge County.

Cabrera said the company is also constructing a solar project in Grant County.

Timeline

Cabrera said it is still early in the proposed project's timeline. He said the company is still trying to secure land leases for the project.

After land leases are secured, then the company would seek the proper permits to construct the facility, which can take a year or more. After the permits are secured, then construction would begin.

According to information sheets the company distributed at the meeting, the proposed facility would be-

gin commercial operation in 2026, pending local and state approvals.

"I think what's important to note is that right now we're going through the permitting process with the state of Wisconsin," Morrison said.

Cabrera added, "And we've communicated with some of the city commissioners, the city manager. We've connected with the Chamber of Commerce and other non-profit organizations, so they've been aware. We've been in communication with them over the last several months."

City Administrator Caz Muske told the Tribune-Gazette that NextEra Energy has been in contact with the city of Clintonville. She said the city currently has no agreements with the company.

If the proposed facility is constructed, Cabrera said energy generated at the facility would be added to the electric grid through a substation.

"Whoever owns that substation, we would work with them on an agreement," Morrison said.

Muske said the city of Clintonville and Shawano Electric Utilities, which make up Badger Power Marketing Authority, met with NextEra Energy on March 14 "to better understand their business model and to ensure it meets all state laws."

"Additionally, NextEra was informed of the application process to interconnect," Muske said.

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New London & Hortonville NEWS

NL replacing lead water lines

BY ROBERT CLOUD
SENIOR EDITOR

NEW LONDON – At its June 20 meeting, the New London Common Council voted 10-0 in favor of an ordinance to replace lead and galvanized water lines city-wide.

The purpose of the ordinance is to reduce lead in city drinking water and ensure that tap water quality meets the standards of the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

“Ideally,” the ordinance seeks “to reduce lead contaminant levels to zero in city drinking water for the health of city residents.”

The ordinance also seeks to “eliminate the constriction of water flow caused by mineral rich groundwater flowing through the lead or galvanized water service pipes and the consequent buildup of mineral deposits inside lead or galvanized pipes.”

Galvanized pipes have a

zinc coating that can corrode over time, causing elevated levels of lead in the water.

The ordinance gives New London Utilities the right to inspect water lines on customers’ property.

It also requires property owners to replace lead or galvanized pipes at their own expense.

Owners’ options are to hire a licensed contractor or pay the city to repair the lines.

Owners who select the city to replace the lines can either pay the entire amount upon completion of the work or request that the amount be placed on their property taxes to be billed in annual installments plus interest.

The ordinance also allows New London Utilities to discontinue service to any property served by lead lines that have not been replaced.

Earlier in the meeting, the council approved a resolution to adopt the ordinance upon one reading.

Costs

CBS Squared Inc. of Appleton prepared a May 2023 engineer’s report for New London Utilities.

The report estimated the total costs to replace the lead water services to nine properties on Quincy Avenue.

The public portion of the project includes approximately 500 linear feet of 6-inch diameter water main, 575 linear feet of 8-inch diameter water main, spot installation of gate valves to existing water mains, valves, hydrants, water services, sidewalk restoration, asphalt restoration and associated work.

Costs for the overall project are estimated at \$406,282.

Total costs for the private lines leading into the property are estimated at \$34,200.

Individual property owners will be assessed \$3,800 each.

FFA members compete at state

BY KIMBERLY MURPHY
FFA REPORTER

NEW LONDON – The New London FFA attended the State FFA Convention June 12-15.

Heidi Weyland received the 3-star leader award at the first session of convention.

Brooke Casey, Section 8 FFA State Officer from New London, was session chair for the second session and helped recognize all proficiency winners and local school administrators Scott Bleck and Brian Yerky for their support this year.

During this session Lora Korth received second for Forage Production and fourth for Diversified Agriculture.

Brook Casey received fourth for Equine Entrepreneurship and is competing at the national level in her Veterinary Science proficiency area.

FFA members Carolyn Backes, Heidi Weyland, Jake Flocker, Hanna Gorman and Evan Retzlaff competed in the Agricultural Issues Leadership Development Events. They received first place and will be competing at nationals this fall.

Evan Retzlaff sang in the State Choir through the week as well.

On the second day of convention Heidi Weyland and Lora Korth received their state degrees. To receive their degrees, they needed to deliver agriculture speeches and spend a lot of time or invest money in a Supervised Agricultural Experience.

Evan Retzlaff, Samantha Prah and Shannon Prah competed in the Agriculture Fair. Retzlaff received a silver rating and the Prahls received first gold on their agriscience board and have a chance



State FFA officer Jeremiah Ihm, on left, presents a first-place award to Brooke Casey of New London for veterinary science proficiency.



New London FFA members Samantha Prah, left, and Shannon Prah with their first-place agriscience project at the state FFA convention. Submitted Photos

to move on to nationals.

At the final session of the evening, Lora Korth received fourth place for Star in Agriculture and was in the top 10 for Star Farmer.

On the final day of convention, New London won the digital scrapbook competition and Brooke Casey was retired from state office.

July activities at New London library

NEW LONDON – Summer Reading continues at New London Public Library.

Adults, teens, and children can still sign up for the reading program. The last day to turn in reading logs is Friday, July 28.

Weekly take-home kits will once again be available for all ages. Children’s kits are as follows:

- July 3-7: Home Depot kit
- July 10-14: Frog toy
- July 17-21: Water squishy
- July 24-28: Weaving turtle

The July teen kit will be paracord bracelets, and adults can pick up kits for a fabric scrap flower.

From 1:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, July 13, the Waupaca County 4H carnival will be set up outside the library. The rain

location will be the Emanuel School commons.

Also on Thursday, July 13, library staff will host an adult “Take a Break to Make” craft where they will be making cement leaf casts. Registration is required by calling 920-982-8519. Time slots are 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. The rain date will be Monday, July 17.

Teens can head to the library from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, July 20 for another round of Dungeons and Dragons. This event is for all experience levels. Registration is required by calling 920-982-8519.

From 1:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, July 27, the library will host an event called Kindness Rocks and Rolls. The Wolf River Art League will inspire rock painting, and attendees

will also have the opportunity to make iced drinks using blender bikes borrowed from Safe Routes to School. Later, from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., teens will also be able to use the blender bikes, as well as make marshmallow catapults. The rain location will be Hatten Park.

Outdoor Story Time will take place at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, June 14 to July 26. Registration is required by calling 920-982-8519. A special story time featuring Percy the bulldog will take place on July 26.

The Next Chapter Book Group will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, July 24. They will discuss Sarah Nisha Adams’ “The Reading List.” Books are available at the circulation desk.

Food drive precedes concert

NEW LONDON – Kids from Wisconsin will hold a Stuff the Bus food drive from noon to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 6, at New London High School.

The ensemble of singers, dancers and musicians, ages 15-20, will perform at the high school at 7 p.m. that same evening.

Kids from Wisconsin has partnered with Second Harvest and Feeding America in an ef-

fort to raise awareness about food insecurity in Wisconsin.

Food donated in New London will go to the Washington Center Community Cupboard.

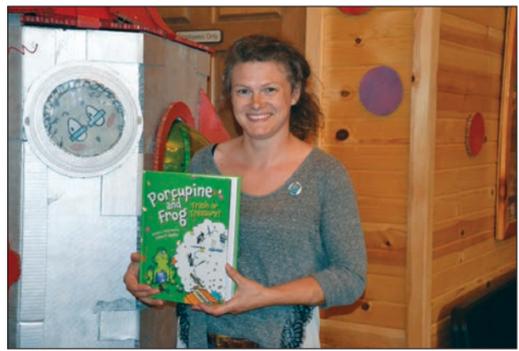
“We are excited to partner with Kids from Wisconsin in this powerful collaboration,” said Rita Thiel of the Washington Center Community Cupboard. “Their platform provides an incredible opportunity to engage communities, spark

conversations and mobilize individuals to take action against food insecurity.”

The Kids from Wisconsin’s summer tour includes more than 30 cities, offering performances that showcase the state’s young talent ages 15-20.

To learn more about the Stuff the Bus campaign and the Kids from Wisconsin’s summer tour, visit www.kidsfromwi.org/.

Wega-Fremont NEWS



Jolene M. Hedtke recently released her second children’s book, “Porcupine and Frog: Trash or Treasure?” The book has a recycling theme and includes a workbook in the back. James Card Photo

Author debuts second book

BY JAMES CARD
STAFF REPORTER

WEYAUWEGA – Marion author Jolene Hedtke hosted a book launch party on June 24 at Animal Haven Zoo.

It is her second children’s book in the Porcupine and Frog series.

“My son could read when he was 2. When I would take him to the library he would come home with stacks of books and go right through them. So we started making our own stories. Porcupine and Frog were one of those stories. We always tried to have humor in the stories and make them silly and funny,” said Hedtke.

The two main characters are an odd contrast: the thin-skinned frog matched with a prickly porcupine.

Her son is now 13 years old.

“So that story had been in my office for years since I last took it out,” she said.

In September 2022 she brought the story back to life and published her first book, “Porcupine and Frog.” In her second book, “Porcupine and Frog: Trash or Treasure?” she explores a recycling theme. Her next book will be about bullying.

Both hardcover books were published by Orange Hat Publishing in Waukesha.

“I wanted to work with somebody close and that I could meet with in person,” she said.

She is a self-taught artist and she illustrated both books with alcohol markers and ink. There are worksheets in the back of both books. The books can be ordered at online booksellers and also at www.orangehatpublishing.com.

Amateur radio gets through

BY JAMES CARD
STAFF REPORTER

WEYAUWEGA – In the parking lot of the old IGA grocery store there was an odd sight on June 24. Metal tape measures were stretched out on the ground and locked at full length in all directions. The ends were clipped to the metal base of a radio antenna. Carl Young explained that grounded antennas work much better and this was a hack to get better reception and the tape measures were slick to work with as opposed to wrangling around with coils of wire.

Young is a former U.S. Navy radio operator who was once in a situation



The Waupaca County ARES/RACES hosted an American Radio Relay League field day in Weyauwega. As a clever hack, they connected metal tape measures to the antenna bases to get better reception. They demonstrated how amateur radio can get messages through during emergencies.

James Card Photo

where the enemy was jamming all radio communication. He was able to identify and pinpoint where

the jamming signals were coming from and he relayed these coordinates to a fighter group that took care

of the airwave interlopers with some Hellfire missiles.

“That quieted them down real fast,” he said.

Young and his wife, Carol Young, are members of Waupaca County ARES/RACES. They were part of the American Radio Relay League field day in Weyauwega to demonstrate how amateur radio works and how it is relevant in a world dominated by the internet, smart phones and text messages.

“One of the major reasons for doing this in Weyauwega today was to bring awareness that we actually

Radio

CONTINUES ON PAGE 9

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Manawa NEWS

Mid-Western Rodeo weekend starts June 29 in Manawa

BY HOLLY NEUMANN
STAFF REPORTER

MANAWA – Rodeo fans are gearing up for the Mid-Western Rodeo, scheduled for Thursday to Saturday, June 29 to July 1, in Manawa.

This year's specialty acts include trick rider Dusti Dickerson, rodeo clown "Danger" Dave Whitmoyer, the Rodeo City Riders and the Pink Ribbon Rebels Drill Team.

A Family Night performance will be held June 29, followed by fireworks and live music from DAM Country at 10 p.m.

Military Appreciation Night will be held June 30. Military members are invited to attend this special performance at 7:30 p.m. and must present a military ID or American Legion membership card at time of ticket purchase to receive a free seat in the military/veteran section.

Fans are encouraged to wear red, white and blue to show their support.

Events will continue July 1 with the Stampede Fun Run/Walk at Lindsay Park at 7:30 a.m., the rodeo parade at 10 a.m. and a 2 p.m. performance. Sizzling Sonny's Rockin' Road Show will entertain at 5:30 p.m., followed by a second rodeo performance at 7:30 p.m.

Pulaski High School's marching band will be in the parade.

"They will be marching in the 2024 Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade," rodeo secretary-treasurer Connie Klotzbuecher said. "Dignitar-



Jody Green gets his rope on a calf during the tie-down roping event during last year's Mid-Western Rodeo in Manawa. The 65th rodeo will be held Thursday to Saturday, June 29 to July 1.

Holly Neumann Photo

ies from the Rose Bowl Committee, including Pasadena Tournament of Roses President Alex Aghajanian, leading lady Paula Aghajanian, executive vice president Ed Morales and executive vice president spouse Lisa Morales will be at our parade."

A chicken barbecue will also take place at 11 a.m. July 1 at the rodeo grounds, while a free dance with live music by the Holler will take place at 10 p.m.

Fans are encouraged to wear pink in an effort to raise awareness of breast cancer.

Vendor and foods stands will be available each day.

Some changes at the venue will give attendees a better experience, according to rodeo chairman Pete Ziebell.

"We have added two new food merchandisers and three cash registers," he said. "This should speed up the food lines considerably. We also have assigned seating. This way, we can't oversell the general admission and it should keep the crowds manageable."

The rodeo has also added the Women's Ranch Bronc Championships to the performances.

"Girls from Europe, Australia, Canada and the U.S. will compete," Ziebell said. "It's scored very much like saddle bronc riding with a few exceptions: no mark out, you can ride with both hands and you ride in a western saddle. After that, it's judged on the horse and the rider, much like saddle broncs."

Advance ticket prices are \$22 for reserved adult and \$11 for children ages 12 and under. General admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. All tickets will cost an additional \$1 at the gate.

Tickets for the 2 p.m. performance on July 1 are \$22 for adults, \$20 for general admission and \$11 for children. Call the rodeo office at 800-747-6336 to purchase tickets.

"Tickets will still be sold the day of the show, but we advise everyone to buy online to get the seat they want, as our ticket sales have doubled since last year," Klotzbuecher. "A ticket purchase link can be found on the rodeo website, manawarodeo.org."

An ATM is available on the grounds and shows will be held rain or shine.

Meet this year's rodeo royalty

MANAWA – Sturm Memorial Library in Manawa will host Mid-Western Rodeo royalty and their horses on Friday June 30.

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the library's backyard.

Queen Ava Johnson from Weyauwega and Princess Ashley Bierman from Manawa will ride their horses from the rodeo grounds to the library and be on hand for a meet and greet. Photo opportunities will be available and Johnson and

Bierman will have signed photographs to pass out.

A bonus this year is an appearance from Miss Teen Rodeo Wisconsin, who will ride along for the program.

Royalty

CONTINUES ON PAGE 11

Iola-Scandinavia NEWS

Iola Car Show unveils new welcome sign

IOLA – Visitors to Iola may have noticed a new sign promoting the Iola Car Show.

"In the fall of 2022, we approached Iola Village Board President Jennifer Schustek with an idea we were really passionate about," said Joe Opperman, the show's executive director. "We – the staff at the Iola Car Show – are always talking about the recognition our community garners as a result of the national notoriety generated from the annual Iola Car Show event. We want to encourage those within the village to embrace that attention and find ways to bring more people and business to town with similar theming, showing cohesiveness as a community, and capitalizing on what we have here that is unique from other small towns. We wanted to lead by example and pitched the concept to renovate the Welcome to Iola sign near the car show grounds on the west end of town. It's one of the first things people see when they drive into town."

The car show agreed to take on the project, including costs and labor to see it through.

Last September, Matt Marquardt, the car show's new director of swap, started to decorate a space.

"The goal was to capture an image that put our automotive theme in the forefront, but also included many other important elements of the community," Opperman said. "We knew in order to be impactful, this sign needed a vehicle that would garner a lot of attention. We wanted it to be a local car and wanted it to be owned by someone who was an outstanding member of the community. We didn't have to look far at



Ron Hardel's restored 1969 Ford Mustang is featured on a new sign in Iola that promotes the Iola Car Show.

Submitted Photo

all to find the perfect fit.

Ron Hardel has been a staple of the community for generations.

"It's hard to find someone who doesn't know him and doesn't have great things to say about him," Opperman said. "In addition, Ron is the owner of an amazing 1969 Ford Mustang Mach 1, which we knew would be the perfect statement car. We wanted the finished product to be a surprise for Ron and the community and we worked with Ron's grandson

Josh to coordinate the car for the photo shoot."

Eric Danielson, a close friend of the show who does photography as a hobby, helped position the car and camera for the photo shoot and with edits.

"This really was a team effort, including many members of the Iola Car Show staff and volunteers, and it wouldn't have happened

without the support of Jennifer Schustek and Village of Iola," Opperman said. "We are so excited to ignite a vision within the town and hope the community can appreciate the effort of so many. A small garage on the edge of town serves as a welcome to travelers and is just the start of what our small town has to offer. We hope this is a catalyst for inspiration to locals and a demonstration of what we can do together."

The sign was unveiled June 19.

"Ron's appreciation was evident as a few tears streamed down his face and it was hard for the rest of the group to keep emotions in check seeing the surprise and happiness on his face," Opperman said. "At the unveiling, he talked about his late wife Carol of 66 years and what the car meant to them and how it was at her urging to finally get the car restored."



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INVESTIGATION

FROM PAGE 1

criminal trespass complaint on Aug. 31, 2020, when Waupaca County Deputy John Stephens impounded and searched a vehicle belonging to Peter Klotzbuecher.

Stephens knew that Klotzbuecher was a suspect in a burglary investigation and believed there may be evidence from the burglary inside the vehicle.

Stephens called then-Capt. Julie Thobaben "to ask for clarification regarding whether an inventory search or evidence search should be completed on the vehicle."

"Deputy Stephens did not recall being told to stop searching if he found evidence of a crime and to get a search warrant," the report says, which also notes that was Stephens' first inventory search.

He found receipts from a pawn shop relating to the burglary investigation.

In his report, Stephens wrote, "It was also decided that Peter's red Pontiac would be towed and taken to the Manawa evidence garage to be inventoried and searched for any possible evidence related to past thefts with Peter."

Thobaben changed this sentence to read, "It was also decided that Peter's red Pontiac would be towed and taken to the Manawa garage to be inventoried and searched."

Noting that Stephens was coached regarding sheriff's department policies and how he should conduct future searches to be consistent with policies and the law, the memorandum concludes that Stephens "did not take any actions that could be considered criminal offenses."

Capt. Thobaben

According to the memorandum, Thobaben directed Stephens to conduct an inventory search.

"Captain Thobaben recalls telling Deputy Stephens that if he came across evidence related to the burglary case he was to stop and obtain a warrant," the memo says.

Thobaben made the change in the report to better reflect her own recollection regarding the search.

Hahn reports that any changes in a report should be limited to simple grammar or punctuation and any changes beyond that should be made by the author of the report.

Although Thobaben's

AWARDS

FROM PAGE 4

Eighth-grade students received merit badges for extracurricular activities in which they served in the past four years. Brianna Birling and

RADIO

FROM PAGE 5

exist," said Young.

"We have memorandums of understanding with Red Cross, our county, FEMA and Wisconsin Emergency Management. We support them and that's our role," said Chuck Fritz, a former firefighter.

If there was another train derailment in Weyauwega or some other kind of disaster where the city lost power and communication, the amateur radio operators are ready to help. There is a hierarchy of how to works. Mayor Rich Luedke would

changes did not comply with departmental policies, "they were not done in violation of any criminal statutes."

"Captain Thobaben was not under oath, she did not attempt to conceal her actions and she believed she was changing the report to be more accurate, not less so," Hahn reports. "While some may say her belief was inaccurate, it does not rise to the level of criminal conduct."

Chief Deputy Artz

Following the discovery of changes in Stephens' report for the Klotzbuecher case, the district attorney's office changed the attestation clause in criminal complaints involving the sheriff's office.

At the beginning of the narrative portion of criminal complaints, there is a clause that attests to the reliability of the reports and records that underlie the charges.

Complaints involving the sheriff's office attested that reviewing officers had not changed the reports.

Initially, the sheriff's office refused to sign the complaints.

Then-Waupaca County Chief Deputy Carl Artz signed 80 complaints, "but later testified under oath that despite what the attestation clause stated he did not independently speak with the reviewing officers to confirm that the reports were not changed from what the original author wrote before they went to the District Attorney's Office."

Artz assumed that the reviewing officer was following departmental policies. The District Attorney's Office assumed that the person who signed the attestation clause had questioned the reviewing officers and independently verified that there had been no changes.

However, there was no evidence that the district attorney's office ever provided written directives to the sheriff's office regarding their expectations, Hahn's memorandum says.

In a June 8, 2022, hearing on a felony drunken driving case, Judge Raymond Huber found that there was "nothing that would suggest that the complaint as sworn to by Chief Deputy Arts is not factually accurate," according to the memorandum.

Wilz said the lack of communication had been a big part of the problem between the sheriff's office and the district attorney's office.

Moving forward, he hopes they can work together. "I think it's business as usual as far as working with the district attorney's office and providing the best service we can to the community," Wilz said.

lenges, commit to a project and make difficult decisions. She was also willing to work with others, understand issues clearly and honor a commitment while diplomatically showing concern for others.

Sheriff Wilz

Hahn's memorandum says Sheriff Tim Wilz testi-

Myles Pluger received medallions while Lillian Pagel, Calleigh Zoellick, and Rylee Brendmuehl achieved the next level, receiving stars.

The Leadership Award was received by Halle Curtis for her willingness to take on chal-

lay a message for an ambulance call. If the system goes down, we're there," said Fritz.

He was sitting in a three-year old enclosed trailer that acts as a command post for the group. Inside is a wall-length desk with three stations for radio operators. They put in new flooring, windows and it is fully electrical for plugging in and getting to work.

If there was an emergency and communication was lost, Young recommends using a weather radio for civil defense announcements and news.

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Local baseball coaches, players headed to all-star games

BY GREG SEUBERT
SPORTS EDITOR

WAUPACA – The season isn't quite over for a pair of local high school baseball coaches and three area players.

Waupaca's Rocky Mondello and Hortonville's Greg Yeager will team up with Fox Valley Lutheran's Joel Kramer to coach the North team at the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association's annual All-Star Classic in Oshkosh.

Six games are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 30 and July 1, at E.J. Schneider Field at Oshkosh North High School.

The All-Star Classic includes 72 recently graduated high school players from throughout the state. The North team is scheduled to play the South team at 4 p.m. June 30, the West team at 12:30 p.m. July 1 and the East team at 4:30 p.m. July 1.

"It's an honor," Mondello said. "I've been coaching here in Waupaca for 23 years and this was my seventh year as a head coach. You get nominated by other coaches that you meet along the way."



Hortonville's Nate Vela is one of 18 players named to the North team at the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association's upcoming All-Star Classic in Oshkosh. Vela's teammate, Camden Kuhnke, and Marion's Jaden Stuhr are also on the team's roster. Waupaca's Rocky Mondello, Hortonville's Greg Yeager and Fox Valley Lutheran's Joel Kramer will coach the team, which will play three games Friday and Saturday, June 30 and July 1. Greg Seubert Photo

Mondello will coach the team, along with Yeager and Kramer.

"The way I understand it is we work together to come up with our starting lineup and our strategy for

our three games," he said. "I got to see a lot of these guys play and coach at the state tournament. You might get to see one or two of these guys on a team, but now, you get to see 72 of them

on four teams combined and that's what's going to be pretty neat."

Unlike all-star football and basketball games in Wisconsin, the All-Star Classic isn't broken down

by division. The North team has players from large schools in the Green Bay and Fox Valley, as well as small schools such as Marion and Coleman.

The roster includes area players Camden Kuhnke and Nate Vela of Hortonville and Jaden Stuhr of Marion. Other players on the team are Deuce Musial II and Landon Lozier (Notre Dame); Max Mueller (Chilton); Lucas Miller (Denmark); Brayden Deering and Evan Olson (Kimberly); Boone Kirst (Ashwaubenon); Hunter Loser (Kewaskum); Garrett Hietpas (Appleton North); Ashton Henning (Shawano); Payton Kohnle (Kewaunee); Bryce Erdmann (Manitowoc); Jake Lucas (Kaukauna); Erik Grey (Oshkosh West); and Will Bieber (Coleman).

"Out of the 18 players that I have on my roster, 17 are going to play college baseball and four are Division 1 players," Mondello said.

The team's Division 1 recruits are Kuhnke (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), Kirst (Central Michigan University), Hi-

etpas (University of Northern Colorado) and Lozier (Michigan State University).

"It's unbelievable, the talent in this area," Mondello said. "We don't get a lot of exposure and we don't have the season that Florida, Arizona or other states like that have. I think people are beginning to hear more about our Wisconsin players and that's a big thing for our kids. They put in a lot of work and it's hard not having a Division 1 (college) program in the state. The WBCA lobbies UW-Wisconsin to have a team again. It would be nice to have a Division 1 program here where our kids could go."

"Obviously, you want to win and all of the kids that are on the team are going to want to win," he added. "Everybody gets an opportunity to play and everybody will get an opportunity to start between those three games. The approach is to have fun and watch some phenomenal baseball with literally 72 of the best baseball players in the state. It's going to be a lot of fun to watch and be a part of."



New London's Kenna Mix was named one of the Bay Conference's two softball players of the year after she helped lead the Bulldogs to state for the second straight season. Greg Seubert Photo

Bulldogs place three players on first team

BY GREG SEUBERT
SPORTS EDITOR

REGION – New London's softball team has seven all-conference players, including the Bay Conference's co-player of the year.

Bay coaches named Kenna Mix and Seymour's Addison Wery as the players of the year.

Mix joined teammates Sommer Krull (infielder) and Eve Hedtke on the first team. Mix and Krull were

unanimous choices as a pitcher and infielder, respectively, while Hedtke

The second team includes New London's Jensen Mix (infielder), Brooklyn Fuerst (outfielder) and Mackenzie Bruette (utility player), while Shelby Glodowski made the honorable mention team as an infielder.

Softball

CONTINUES ON PAGE 11



Henry Williams is one of five Waupaca baseball players to receive all-conference recognition from the North Eastern Conference. Williams made the first team as an outfielder. Greg Seubert Photo

Comets, Truckers on all-conference teams

BY GREG SEUBERT
SPORTS EDITOR

REGION – Twelve Waupaca and Clintonville baseball players have been named to the North Eastern Conference's all-conference teams.

The first team includes Waupaca's Henry Williams (outfielder) and Clintonville's Kade Rosenow (outfielder).

Players on the second team include Waupaca's Parker Krcmar (infielder); and Clintonville's Bryce Cartwright (catcher) and Gavin Christopherson (infielder).

The honorable mention team includes Waupaca's Jeffrey Nelson (pitcher), Jay Nikolai (catcher) and Alex Gusmer (designated hitter); and Clintonville's Jack Yeager (pitcher), Blake Weather-

erwax (infielder), Kolton Barkow (outfielder) and Kaleb Rath (utility player).

North Eastern Conference All-Conference Baseball Teams First Team

Pitcher: Ethan Ovsak*, senior, Denmark; Trevor Vande Hey, sophomore, Wrightstown; Charlie Vandenberg, junior, Little Chute. Catcher: Quade Thompson*, junior, Wrightstown; Rheis Johnson*, senior, Denmark. Infielder: Eli Retzlaff*, senior, Fox Valley Lutheran; Garrett Johnson*, senior, Little Chute; Carson Clausen*, junior, Freedom; Jaycob Dittmer, junior, Denmark. Outfielder: Kade Rosenow, junior, Clintonville; Henry Williams, junior, Waupaca; Caden Kerrigan, senior, Little Chute. Utility player: Lucas Miller*, senior, Denmark.

Designated hitter: Quinn Jahns, senior, Fox Valley Lutheran.

Second Team

Pitcher: Ryan Routhiaux, senior, Luxemburg-Casco; Drew Joten, senior, Little Chute. Catcher: Bryce Cartwright, senior, Clintonville; Trenton Feucht, senior, Freedom; Lincoln Thede, sophomore, Fox Valley Lutheran. Infielder: Isaac Dittmer, senior, Denmark; Gavin Christopherson, sophomore, Clintonville; Carter Kriewaldt, senior, Freedom; Parker Krcmar, senior, Waupaca. Outfielder: Nolan Perry, senior, Denmark; Jack Vosters, senior, Freedom; Corey Riesop, junior, Fox Valley Lutheran. Utility player: Cole Bozile, junior, Oconto Falls. Designated hitter: Eli Kapienos, sophomore, Denmark.

Honorable Mention

Pitcher: Jack Hermann, senior, Wrightstown; Jack

Yeager, junior, Clintonville; Jeffrey Nelson, senior, Waupaca; Cooper Smith, freshman, Marinette; Braeden Schley, junior, Luxemburg-Casco; Jack Adler, sophomore, Oconto Falls. Catcher: Jay Nikolai, junior, Waupaca.

Infielder: Ethan Doubek, sophomore, Marinette; Blake Weatherwax, junior, Clintonville; Corey Riesop, junior, Fox Valley Lutheran; Everett Nowak, senior, Fox Valley Lutheran; Braden Vandermoss, senior, Oconto Falls. Outfielder: John Wertel, senior, Denmark; Kolton Barkow, senior, Clintonville. Utility player: Sam Sommerfeldt, junior, Marinette; Landon Derenne, sophomore, Luxemburg-Casco; Kaleb Rath, senior, Clintonville.

Designated hitter: Alex Gusmer, junior, Waupaca; Cole Jauquet, senior, Luxemburg-Casco. Player of the year: Lucas Miller, senior, Denmark. • Denotes unanimous selection.

North Eastern all-conference softball teams include local players

BY GREG SEUBERT
SPORTS EDITOR

REGION – The North Eastern Conference's all-conference softball teams include four players from Waupaca and Clintonville.

The second team includes Waupaca's Macie Studzinski (catcher) and Hailey Bechard (infielder); and Clintonville's Natalie Sunita (designated player).

The honorable mention team includes Waupaca's Rachel Thobaben (infield-

er) and Olivia Grall (outfielder); and Clintonville's Brookelyn Hopp (catcher), Claire Kasson (outfielder) and Kelsey Maus (utility player).

North Eastern Conference All-Conference Softball Teams First Team

Pitcher: Peyton Vandeloo, sophomore, Freedom; Savannah Jandrin, senior, Luxem-

burg-Casco; Wynn Erdman, junior, Marinette. Catcher: Kala McVay, sophomore, Freedom; Josie Dörner, junior, Luxemburg-Casco. Infielder: Olivia Ullman, junior, Denmark; Rylie Murphy, senior, Freedom; Payton Kaminski, junior, Luxemburg-Casco; Kylie Hanson, senior, Luxemburg-Casco. Outfielder: Sadie Jarmolowicz, senior, Freedom; Grace Kahr, junior, Luxemburg-Casco; Amelia Danielscak, freshman, Oconto Falls. Designated player: Jillian Jorgensen, senior, Luxemburg-Casco. Utility player: Ashlyn Schultz, junior, Denmark.

Second Team

Pitcher: Maggie Frank, freshman, Denmark; Lily Kurek, senior, Oconto Falls. Catcher: Madelyn Birling, senior, Little Chute; Macie Studzinski, junior, Waupaca. Infielder: Audrey Bagnat, sophomore, Denmark; Lauren Scheibe, senior, Freedom; Barrett Cole, freshman, Marinette; Madison Wilson, senior, Wrightstown; Hailey Bechard, freshman, Waupaca. Outfielder: Kourtney Moeller, freshman, Freedom; Anna Vandermause, junior, Luxemburg-Casco; Destiny Walker, junior, Marinette. Designated player: Natalie

Sunita, junior, Clintonville. Utility player: Kierstin Kriewaldt, senior, Freedom.

Honorable Mention

Pitcher: Brookelyn Blob, junior, Fox Valley Lutheran; Mallory Colwell, sophomore, Wrightstown. Catcher: Brookelyn Hopp, senior, Clintonville; Melayna Sokulski, junior, Fox Valley Lutheran; Keira Cole, junior, Oconto Falls. Infielder: Macy Jean Cain, senior, Fox Valley Lutheran; Addison Wegand, junior, Little Chute; Regan Hermanson, sophomore, Marinette; Ci-

enna Grawey, senior, Marinette; Peyton Berman, senior, Marinette; Maddy Maloney, sophomore, Oconto Falls; Rachel Thobaben, senior, Waupaca; Kaia Leick, sophomore, Wrightstown. Outfielder: Claire Kasson, senior, Clintonville; Emma Olsen, sophomore, Denmark; Grace Jensen, junior, Little Chute; Randi Metzler, sophomore, Oconto Falls; Olivia Grall, senior, Waupaca; Briley Durocher, sophomore, Wrightstown. Utility player: Kelsey Maus, sophomore, Clintonville. Player of the year: Kylie Hanson, senior, Luxemburg-Casco.

Hoyord, Sivertson suit up for all-star softball games

IOLA – Two softball players represented Iola-Scandinavia High School June 13 at the Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association's annual Senior All-Star Softball Series in Wisconsin Dells.

Marin Hoyord and Jaelyn Sivertson played on the Division 4/5 Gray Team, which also included Cristen Casey, Sadie Galbreath and Ava Schill (Assumption); Nicole Fehey (Barneveld); Leah Davis (Edgar); Laura Heim and Ellie Schueler (Howards Grove); Ciarrh Davis and Gracie Freitag (Juda/Albany); Abby Borchardt (Random Lake); and Tessa Berg (Stratford).

The team played two games at the Woodside Sports Complex.

Coaches nominate players based on their softball accomplishments throughout their high school careers. Other Iola-Scandinavia players that have played in the series are Alexa Christoph and Makayla Much (2022); Mackenzie Kielblock and Hannah Melum (2020);

Kendall Johnson (2017); Jane Oligney (2015); Mary Marx and Morgan Oppor (2011); Kendall Erickson (2010); Anne Marx and Lizzy Nelson (2009); Cailin Foerster (2008); Ashley Draeger and Brooke Anderson (2007); Ashley Johnson (2006); and Eulalie Moe (1997).

Hoyord and Sivertson are four-year varsity letterwinners in softball and have each played in more than 80 varsity softball games. They were part of the Thunderbirds' 2023 and 2022 state tournament and sectional championship teams; and 2023, 2022 and 2021 regional championship teams.

Hoyord was the Thunderbirds' starting catcher as a sophomore before moving to second base as a junior and senior. Sivertson was the T-Birds' starting shortstop for her entire high school career.

Both players also received Academic All-State honors, ranked in the top 10 of their class academically and graduated with a grade-point average above 3.7. Hoyord will

attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison to major in marketing and Sivertson will attend UW-La Crosse to major in radiology.

"Marin and Jaelyn are very deserving of this honor to be an all-star," Iola-Scandinavia softball coach Tom Anderson said. "They started playing softball together at a very young age in Plover and on travel league teams, which helped them develop tremendously as softball players. They also played volleyball and basketball during high school. They have excelled in the classroom and have even ventured into acting their senior year by participating in the musical 'Grease.' Finally, both young ladies have great family support."

Proceeds from the all-star games will go to Special Olympics Wisconsin, which provides sports training and competition for nearly 10,000 athletes with cognitive disabilities in 18 different sports year-round.



Iola-Scandinavia High School's trap team recently competed at the state trap shooting championship. Submitted Photo

I-S trap team competes at state meet

BY HOLLY NEUMANN
STAFF REPORTER

ROME – Iola Scandinavia High School's trap team made its third appearance at the High School State Trap Shooting Tournament, held June 10 at the Wisconsin Trapshooting Association grounds in Rome.

The team was one of 64 teams competing with more

than 800 shooters.

Top shooters for Iola-Scandinavia included Mason Jarosh (95/100), Elton Williams (92/100), Carson Zietlow (87/100), Lewis Peterson (86/100) and Korbin Williams (83/100).

Jarosh, Williams, Zietlow and Peterson all shot a perfect 25/25 round.

This is the fourth year that Iola-Scandinavia has

had a high school team that has grown from 11 students to as high as 35 students from Amherst and Iola-Scandinavia high schools.

The team is open to students in grades 6-12 who have a hunter's education certificate.

Contact Peter Bruno at istrapteam@gmail.com if interested in joining the team.

Amateur Baseball Leagues

BABA South-Central Division

June 25 results: New London 7, Plover 4; Green Lake at Weymont, postponed; Scandinavia had bye. June 30 schedule: New London at Scandinavia; Plover at Green Lake; Weymont has bye.

East Division

June 25 results: Clintonville at Neopit, postponed; Marion at Gresham, postponed; Caroline 13, Shawano 2 (East/West game). July 1 schedule: Tilleda at Gresham (East/West game). July 2 schedule: Shawano at Clintonville; Neopit at Marion.

West Division

June 23 result: Tigerton 10, Caroline 3. June 25 results: Tilleda at Little Falls, postponed, rescheduled for July 23; Caroline 13, Shawano 2 (East/West game); Tigerton at Leopolis, suspended in third inning, to be continued July 22. July 1 schedule: Tilleda at Gresham (East/West game). July 2 schedule: Little Falls at Leopolis.

North Division

June 25 results: Eland 6, Elderon 1; Birnamwood at Aniwa, postponed, rescheduled for July 4; Antigo/Polar at Hatley, suspended in fourth inning, to be continued July 28; Wittenberg had

bye. June 30 schedule: Antigo/Polar at Birnamwood. July 2 schedule: Wittenberg at Eland; Elderon at Hatley; Aniwa has bye.

Dairyland

June 23 results: Waupaca 11, Nichols 1; Cecil 5, Hofa Park 4; Navarino at Shawano, no score reported; Hortonville had bye. June 25 results: Waupaca 3, Pulaski 0; Hortonville 10, Cecil 2; Bonduel 11, Shawano 1 (7 inn.); Navarino at Nichols, postponed; Hofa Park had bye. June 30 schedule: Hofa Park at Shawano; Bonduel at Navarino. July 2 schedule: Waupaca has bye; Nichols at Hortonville; Cecil at Pulaski.



Trap team donation

Wings Over Wisconsin, a statewide organization with a chapter based in Waupaca, recently donated \$1,000 to the Waupaca Comet Clay Crushers trap team. The team held a fundraising shoot June 24 at the Waupaca Conservation League grounds near Waupaca. From left are Rylee Nelson, Garrett Grundman, Colton Schulz, team coach John Woodliff, Ezra Woodliff, Ciaus Kegley and Ethan Selvik. The donation will be used for targets, shells and travel expenses for the team, which competes each spring.

Greg Seubert Photo

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE 10

Bay Conference All-Conference Softball Teams First Team

Pitcher: Kenna Mix*, junior, New London; Addison Hervey, sophomore, Xavier. Catcher: Addison Wery*, sophomore, Seymour; Ella Bauman, sophomore, Xavier; Eve Hedtke, sophomore, New London. Infielder: Sommer Krull*, senior, New London; Karleigh Linssen, senior, West De Pere; Morgan Miller, junior, Seymour; Addie Lund, junior, Menasha. Outfielder: Nevaeh Wagendorf*, senior, West De Pere;

Taylor Papendorf, junior, Menasha; Corinne Setliff, sophomore, Seymour. Utility player: Leah Kocken*, senior, West De Pere.

Second Team

Pitcher: Kylie Van De Loo, senior, Menasha; Gillian Herala, sophomore, Seymour. Catcher: Kelsie Mohr, junior, Menasha; Morgan Hansel, senior, West De Pere. Infielder: Jensen Mix, junior, New London; Karly Helf, junior, Menasha; Ella Arendt, junior, West De Pere; Mariah Potter, junior, Xavier. Outfielder: Maddie Zaves, senior, Menasha; Marissa Tomashek, sophomore, Shawano; Brooklyn Fuerst, senior, New London; Megan Burns, junior, West De Pere. Utility player: Mackenzie Brutte, senior, New London.

Honorable Mention

Catcher: Aisha Hohn, senior, Green Bay West/East. Infielder: Eve Rausch, sophomore, Menasha; Shelby Glodowski, junior, New London; Abigail Bystol, junior, Shawano; Jade Kruse, junior, West De Pere. Outfielder: Cailey Everard, senior, Seymour; Sammy Shuey, sophomore, Menasha. Utility player: Teagan Massey-Plamann, freshman, Menasha. Players of the year: Kenna Mix, junior, New London; Addison Wery, sophomore, Seymour. * – Denotes unanimous selection.

ROYALTY

FROM PAGE 6

The Wisconsin Workers 4-H Club will serve sweet treats on the front porch from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The meet and greet is one of several programs taking place during the library's eight-week-long summer reading program, which began June 12 and continues through Aug. 4.

The program is designed to keep youth reading and engaged with their public library through the summer months. The main portion of the program will be reading and logging reading activity using the Beanstack app or online program. The resource rewards readers with fun digital bad-

ges. Those who earn enough badges will be able to pick out a book of their choice for the library to purchase for them or they can have a book donated in their name to the library.

The badges will also earn drawing slips for gift cards awarded at the end of the summer. Beanstack is easy to use and very handy for parents who have more than one child in the program.

The reading portion of the program is open to all ages, including adults. Last year, more than 150 people of all ages participated in Manawa's reading program. The library will host other programs for children and teens, as well as weekly activities, crafts and games.

Research has proven that

kids who keep reading over the summer retain their language and reading skills needed to succeed in the next school year.

Libraries across the country host summer programs to keep reading fun and rewarding. Contact the library at 920-596-2252 or visit www.manawalibrary.org for more information. The library also has Facebook and Instagram pages under Sturm Memorial Library.

Brochures with a complete schedule of events were sent home with each student in the Manawa School District and are available at the library throughout the eight-week program.

Children, teens and families can register at any time.

Village board taking concerns to attorney

BY HOLLY NEUMANN
STAFF REPORTER

SCANDINAVIA – The Scandinavia Village Board Meeting on June 13 got off to a rocky start with a 2-1 vote for the approval of the agenda.

Trustee Becky Morgan voted against it.

"I voted no because the intention of the agenda was not known," she said. "When there is a change that affects positions, it should be known instead of being dealt with at the meeting. As one of the newest board members here, I know that the communication has to change dramatically."

One of the agenda items included the resignation of Trustee Bob Fredy and the appointment his replacement.

According to Fredy, he never told Board President Dave Mork that he was resigning and the village did not receive a letter of resignation.

Trustee Mike Hayes then read information regarding meeting conduct. He noted that citizens may address the board with permission of the presiding officer as to matters being considered at the time.

"If you have any questions that need to be brought up to the board, you raise your hand and you will be allowed to speak," Mork said.

During public comment, Morgan read a statement from Trustee Patrick Knautz, who was unable to attend the meeting. Knautz's statement addressed concerns with Fredy's resignation and outdoor dining space. She attempted to read a state from Mike Beacom as well, but was told she could not.

"We are not getting into that now," Mork said. "It is not appropriate at this time and all the board members have already read it."

Lisa Shirek, who owns Sliced, wanted the letter entered into public record and read it during public comment.

Fredy read a statement from Village Clerk Renee Smith, who was resigning from her position effective immediately. This action will not be acted on until the next meeting.

Casey Beyersdorf of the Waupaca County Highway Department, discussed snow-

plowing within the village. The idea of parking on opposite sides of the street was one option, but Hayes pointed out there is an ordinance in place for winter parking that does not allow parking from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m. from Nov. 15 to April 1 on any village street.

"We have to follow it, unless we change it," Hayes said. "We cannot go against our ordinance."

Fredy asked to amend the ordinance before winter parking takes place.

Shirek attempted to ask a question about winter parking, but was called out of order.

The board also discussed the possibility of vacating a portion of right-of-way adjacent to 305 N. Main St.

"We are not going to vacate any village properties, streets or anything," Mork said. "I don't think that will be feasible."

Deputy Clerk Judy Watson told Mork this was suggested by an attorney representing the Wisconsin League of Municipalities. A right-of-way cannot be sold, but it can be vacated. The property would then be owned by adjacent property, who would be liable for it.

"We are going to have to look into it further with our attorney," Mork said.

Morgan presented a proposal for additional parking for the village. The cost of the project is \$13,870, which would be split between the village and town of Scandinavia.

"If we did this, it would not be relegated for one business," Hayes said. "It would be public parking."

"I'm concerned about municipal parking," Town Chairman Gary Marx said. "We are going to be losing three to four spots on the south side of the building because we are putting a generator in, so there will be limited parking on the end of the municipal building. I want to make sure everyone understands that."

No permitted parking will be allowed.

Shirek once again had some questions regarding parking, but was told she was out of order.

"We are working on parking," Mork said.

"I would still like to further

discuss parking options," Shirek said.

Fredy reminded Shirek that hopefully by November the village will have something in place.

"I think when talking about this, we will be amending our ordinance," Fredy said. "We will keep it on the agenda."

The matter will also be discussed further at the next joint meeting.

The board moved on to discuss the village's new outdoor dining ordinance.

"There is already a street and sidewalk ordinance in place," said Hayes, who just learned about the ordinance. "It's not allowed. We already have an ordinance against this."

Shirek asked if she could apply for a variance and again was told she was out of order.

"We did not make the ordinance," Mork said. "It was put in place years ago."

Fredy noted that last fall, the board gave Shirek permission for outdoor dining space, providing that she put up and take down barriers at her own cost.

"How does that fall under this?" Fredy asked.

"How did we overlook this ordinance and why did we go through all of this?" Morgan asked.

"Because nobody looked to see if there was an ordinance," Mork said.

"Isn't that our job as a board?" Morgan asked. "How much stuff have we gone through and put Lisa through? This is nonsense."

Shirek was not allowed to speak on the matter.

Watson said the ordinance does not refer to outdoor dining and that was the purpose of making a new ordinance. "It seems like this ordinance should have been brought up prior to the meeting since it is so critical," community member Kristy Stacy said.

Beth Watson questioned why the board could change an ordinance for snow removal, but not for outdoor dining.

"None of us are attorneys and we don't understand what is written in the ordinances," Mork said. "I cannot answer that."

Hayes said it needs to be figured out by the village's attorney.

Village board meets in Iola

BY HOLLY NEUMANN
STAFF REPORTER

IOLA – The Iola Village Board discussed demolition of the Knuettel property during its June 12 meeting.

The property, located at 430 S. Main St., is condemned and village officials want it removed.

Bids have been received from Lashua Excavating Inc. and Chad Bestul Excavating and would include the home and barn on the property.

The bid from Lashua Excavating Inc., in the amount of \$22,250 was conditionally approved, pending funding from the Community Development Authority.

The board also approved annual entertainment and musical permit applications for Thirsty Perch, Iola Car Show and Iola-Scandinavia Chamber of Commerce.

Community member Erika Flowers expressed her concerns with the music.

"The time allowed in not rea-

sonable," she said. "The decibel level is not reasonable. I don't understand why one particular bar can bully the village and bully the board and get what they want. There is a lack of concern for the greater good of the village. I am asking you as a board to please think about families."

In other business, the village clerk/treasurer position will be posted. Laura Krogwald was appointed as acting clerk/treasurer, retroactive to June 1.

Iola man charged with reckless homicide

Drug overdose leads to death

BY ROBERT CLOUD
SENIOR EDITOR

COUNTY – Allegedly giving a friend a ride to Milwaukee to purchase cocaine resulted in a charge of first-degree reckless homicide as party to a crime for Sawyer D. Mortensen, 22, Iola.

On Saturday, March 25, Waupaca County Deputy Jason Claussen responded to a reported overdose on State Highway 110 in the town of Union.

When he entered the house, he found Trevor T. Hanson, 27, lying face down on the

bathroom floor. Hanson was not breathing, was cold to the touch and had no pulse.

Earlier that day, Hanson's father had knocked repeatedly on Hanson's bedroom door. Initially, he assumed Hanson was sleeping late. When he tried to enter, the door was locked.

He then entered the room through a window from the porch and found his son's body.

Detective Sgt. Nate Nelson reviewed contents of Hanson's cellphone. He found multiple conversations between Hanson and Mortensen on March 24, making arrangements for Mortensen to drive Hanson to Milwaukee to purchase cocaine.

The Mid-States Organized

Crime Information Center provided data from traffic surveillance cameras, confirming that the two men drove from Waupaca County to Milwaukee and back on March 24.

According to the criminal complaint, Mortensen told investigators he drove Hanson to Milwaukee, where they acquired and ingested cocaine.

Dr. Adam Covach, the chief medical examiner in Fond du Lac County, conducted an autopsy.

Covach reported Hanson's "cause of death was related to cocaine, diazepam, fentanyl, heroin and xylazine toxicity."

Mortensen was released from custody after posting a \$10,000 cash bond.

He faces up to 40 years in prison if convicted.

2023 Spring All-Conference Athletes

Clintonville

North Eastern Conference

Baseball

Kade Rosenow, First Team
 Bryce Cartwright, Second Team
 Gavin Christopherson, Second Team
 Jack Yaeger, Honorable Mention
 Blake Weatherwax, Honorable Mention
 Kolton Barkow, Honorable Mention
 Kaleb Rath, Honorable Mention

Softball

Natalie Sunita, Second Team
 Brookelyn Hopp, Honorable Mention
 Claire Kasson, Honorable Mention
 Kelsey Maus, Honorable Mention

Track
 Lauren Zwirschitz, First Team (girls' 100-meter hurdles)
 Sam Wegener, First Team (boys' high jump); and
 Honorable Mention (boys' long jump)
 Mckaylee Stephenson, Second Team (girls' 100-meter dash)
 Trystan Krueger, Honorable Mention (boys' 400-meter dash)
 Emily Taylor, Honorable Mention (girls' shot put)

Girls' Soccer

Olivia Olmsted, Honorable Mention

Hortonville

Fox Valley Association

Baseball

Camden Kuhnke, First Team, Player of the Year
 Thomas Burns, First Team, Co-Pitcher of the Year
 Nate Vela, First Team, Co-Pitcher of the Year
 Turner Kuhnke, First Team
 Joe Fischer, First Team
 Hayden Timm, Honorable Mention
 Evan Mahan, Honorable Mention
 Brett Sommer, Honorable Mention

Softball

Bella Dontje, First Team
 Paige Lillie, First Team
 Grace Danoski, Second Team
 Mara Hedtke, Honorable Mention
 Molly Kelly, Honorable Mention
 Savannah Teale, Honorable Mention

Track

Ben Smith, First Team (boys' shot put, discus)
 Eathan Lund, Second Team (boys' pole vault)

Girls' 400-meter relay team, Second Team
 Girls' 800-meter relay team, Second Team
 Tori McGowan, Honorable Mention (girls' shot put)
 Paige Morrell, Honorable Mention (girls' 400-meter dash, 800-meter run)

Girls' Soccer

Maddie Garrow, Honorable Mention
 Lilly Hannemann, Honorable Mention

Iola-Scandinavia

Central Wisconsin Conference-East

Baseball

Parker Gullixson, First Team
 Alek Rogalla, Second Team

Softball

Jaelyn Sivertson, First Team
 Brooklyn Berrens, First Team
 Maddie Much, Second Team
 Clara Koles, Second Team
 Marin Hoyord, Honorable Mention

Track

Charlie Vater, First Team (boys, 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs); Second Team (boys' 800-meter run)
 Ian Koss, First Team (boys' long and triple jumps)
 Jensen Rice, Second Team (boys' 110- and 300-meter hurdles); Honorable Mention (boys' 100-meter dash)
 Boys' 3,200-meter relay team, Second Team

Boys' Golf

Brandon Phillips, Honorable Mention

Manawa

Central Wisconsin Conference-East

Baseball

Tanner Nienhaus, Second Team
 Dakota Stroud, Second Team
 Spencer Strebe, Honorable Mention

Softball

Lily Krenke, First Team
 Kelsey Behnke, First Team
 Briley Rosin, Honorable Mention
 Ellie Stroesenreuther, Honorable Mention

Track

Boys' 1,600-meter relay team, First Team
 Lexi Hedtke, First Team (girls' high jump); Second Team (girls' long jump)
 Olivia Santos, First Team (girls' discus); Second Team (girls' shot put)
 Nathan Gorman, Second Team (boys' high jump)

Girls' 3,200-meter relay team, Second Team
 Abby Elmhorst, Honorable Mention (girls' 100-meter hurdles)
 Drake Frasier, Honorable Mention (boys' 400-meter dash)

Alivia Trinrud, Honorable Mention (girls' long jump)
 Boys' 3,200-meter relay team, Honorable Mention

Boys' Golf

Ben Stern, Second Team

New London

Bay Conference

Baseball

Ayden Kanaman, Second Team
 Easton Sievert, Second Team
 Ethan Herzfeldt, Honorable Mention

Softball

Kenna Mix, First Team, Co-Player of the Year
 Eve Hedtke, First Team
 Sommer Krull, First Team
 Jensen Mix, Second Team
 Brooklyn Fuerst, Second Team
 Mackenzie Bruette, Second Team
 Shelby Glodowski, Honorable Mention

Track

Kyle Wisniewski, First Team (boys' high, long and triple jumps)
 Ian Oberstadt, Second Team (boys' triple jump)
 Jackson Pecher, Second Team (boys' shot put)
 Girls' 1,600-meter relay team, Second Team
 Jenna Handschke, Honorable Mention (girls' high jump)
 Macy Reybrock, Honorable Mention (girls' triple jump)
 Kylie Johnson, Honorable Mention (girls' discus)
 Boys' 3,200-meter relay team, Honorable Mention

Boys' Golf

Jonah Schlueter, First Team
 Will Grable, Second Team
 Drew Freeman, Honorable Mention

Girls' Soccer

Grace Leone, Honorable Mention
 Kate Johnson, Honorable Mention

Waupaca

North Eastern Conference

Baseball

Henry Williams, First Team

Parker Krcmar, Second Team
 Jeffrey Nelson, Honorable Mention
 Jay Nikolai, Honorable Mention
 Alex Gusmer, Honorable Mention

Softball

Macie Studzinski, Second Team
 Hailey Bechard, Second Team
 Rachel Thobaben, Honorable Mention
 Olivia Grall, Honorable Mention

Track

Molly Martens, Second Team (girls' triple jump)
 Boys' 1,600-meter relay team, Second Team

Boys' Golf

Dylan Smith, Second Team

Girls' Soccer

Mia Koehler, First Team
 Kasandra Young, Honorable Mention
 Sophie Saunders, Honorable Mention

Weyauwega-Fremont

Central Wisconsin Conference-East

Baseball

Bryce Dittman, Second Team
 Chris Gunst, Honorable Mention
 Jaden Rice, Honorable Mention
 Eli Boelter, Honorable Mention

Softball

Jaden McCoy, First Team
 Olivia Witkowski, First Team
 Lulu Fernandez, Honorable Mention
 Hailey Wohlt, Honorable Mention
 Reilly Claassen, Honorable Mention

Track

Isiah Schuh, First Team (boys' pole vault)
 Clay Fee, Second Team (boys' pole vault)
 Boys' 400-meter relay team, Second Team
 Boys' 800-meter relay team, Second Team
 Cathryn Gunst, Second Team (girls' high jump)
 Olivia Sedlar, Second Team (girls' pole vault)
 Broc Billington, Second Team (boys' triple jump)
 Caden Meisenhelder, Honorable Mention (boys' pole vault)
 Ava Loehrke, Honorable Mention (girls' pole vault)
 Kameron Zielke, Honorable Mention (boys' 110-meter hurdles)
 Jordan Zastrow, Honorable Mention (boys' long jump)
 Girls' 3,200-meter relay team, Honorable Mention

Boys' Golf

Charlie Mueller, Second Team



Parker Krcmar, Waupaca, Second Team, baseball



Macie Studzinski, Waupaca, Second Team, softball



Hailey Bechard, Waupaca, Second Team, softball



Henry Williams, Waupaca, First Team, baseball



Jay Nikolai, Waupaca, Honorable Mention, baseball



Rachel Thobaben, Waupaca, Honorable Mention, softball

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Gavin Christopherson, Clintonville, Second Team, baseball



Kade Rosenow, Clintonville, First Team, baseball



Brooklyn Berrens, Iola-Scandinavia, First Team, softball



Jack Yaeger, Clintonville, Honorable Mention, baseball



Lauren Zwirschitz, Clintonville, First Team, track



Ian Koss, Iola-Scandinavia, First Team, track



Blake Weatherwax, Clintonville, Honorable Mention, baseball



Natalie Sunita, Clintonville, Second Team, softball

Congratulations to All Athletes!
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Clara Koles, Iola-Scandinavia, Second Team, softball



Marin Hoyord, Iola-Scandinavia, Honorable Mention, softball



Grace Danoski, Hortonville, Second Team, softball



Evan Mahan, Hortonville, Honorable Mention, baseball



Parker Gullixon, Iola-Scandinavia, First Team, baseball



Maddie Much, Iola-Scandinavia, Second Team, softball



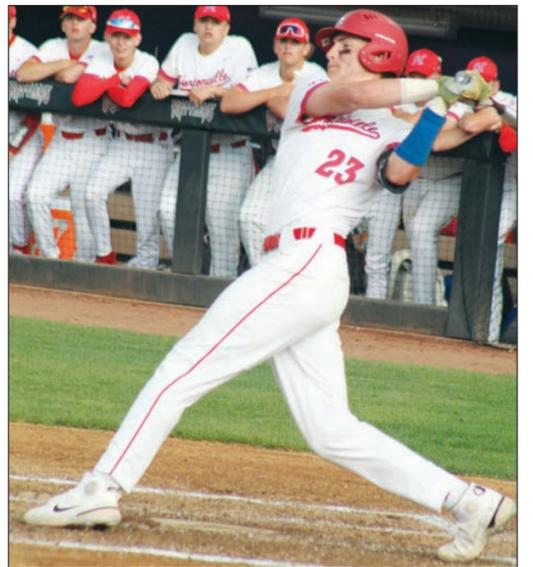
Paige Lillie, Hortonville, First Team, softball



Charlie Vater, Iola-Scandinavia, First Team and Second Team, track



Jaelyn Sivertson, Iola-Scandinavia, First Team, softball



Joe Fischer, Hortonville, First Team, baseball

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Drew Freeman, New London, Honorable Mention, boys' golf



Shelby Glodowski, New London, Honorable Mention, softball



Eve Hedtke, New London, First Team, softball



Jensen Mix, New London, Second Team, softball



Sommer Krull, New London, First Team, softball



Ayden Kanaman, New London, Second Team, baseball



Easton Sievert, New London, Second Team, baseball



Ethan Herzfeldt, New London, Honorable Mention, baseball



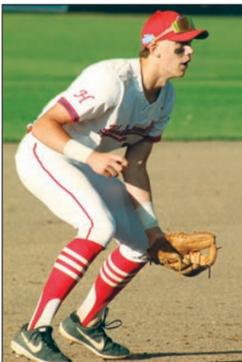
Camden Kuhnke, Hortonville, First Team, baseball



Kenna Mix, New London, First Team, softball



Mara Hedtke, Hortonville, Honorable Mention, softball



Brett Sommer, Hortonville, Honorable Mention, baseball



Nate Vela, Hortonville, First Team, baseball



Jonah Schlueter, New London, First Team, boys' golf

Congrats Bulldog Athletes!

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Hayden Timm, Hortonville, Honorable Mention, baseball



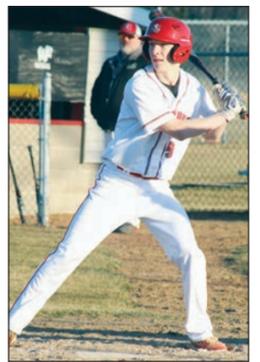
Thomas Burns, Hortonville, First Team, baseball



Tanner Nienhaus, Manawa, Second Team, baseball



Reilly Claassen, Weyauwega-Fremont, Honorable Mention, softball



Chris Gunst, Weyauwega-Fremont, Honorable Mention, baseball



Kelsey Behnke, Manawa, First Team, softball



Olivia Santos, Manawa, First Team and Second Team, track



Clay Fee, Weyauwega-Fremont, Second Team, track



Abby Elmhorst, Manawa, Honorable Mention, track



Dakota Stroud, Manawa, Second Team, baseball



Bryce Dittman, Weyauwega-Fremont, Second Team, baseball



Cathryn Gunst, Weyauwega-Fremont, Second Team, track



Hailey Wohlt, Weyauwega-Fremont, Honorable Mention, softball



Lexi Hedtke, Manawa, First and Second Team, track



Jayden McCoy, Weyauwega-Fremont, First Team, softball



Lulu Fernandez, Weyauwega-Fremont, Honorable Mention, softball

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Angie Sasse will be 97 on July 3 "And learning Poker!"

Happy Birthday Mom Love, The Kids




Spencer Strebe, Manawa, Honorable Mention, baseball



Olivia Witkowski, Weyauwega-Fremont, First Team, softball

Congratulations all area athletes!

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