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Marshfield responds in big way to ‘Wreaths Across America’ Day

BY MIKE WARREN EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – Over 225 registered volunteers on Dec. 16 spent part of a damp, overcast Saturday morning laying more than 500 wreaths on the graves of Marshfield veterans at Hillside Cemetery.

For the first time, Marshfield was an official Wreaths Across America (WAA) location, joining more than 3,700 other locations across the country for National Wreaths Across America Day. Coordinated and led by local volunteers, groups, companies and individuals raised funds to sponsor the placement of 546 veterans’ wreaths on the headstones of fallen service members laid to rest here.

“The response that we’ve had, I think this is going to be something that continues,” said Tim Norlin, VP of Driver Employment at Roehl Transport and Wreaths Across America Location Coordinator for Marshfield Hillside Cemetery. “We’re going all in. And I was just in Washington, D.C. and I met with the ‘Wreaths’ people out there and I told them that we exceeded our goal, so Wreaths Across America said, ‘Here’s what we’re going to do, Tim. For every wreath you get sponsored between December 16 and when we pick the wreaths up on January 16, we will match you one for one.’ So, if we can get 500 sponsors in 30 days, they’ll throw in another 500 wreaths,” Norlin said.

For \$17 apiece, families, individuals, and companies can sponsor as many wreaths as they wish.

“It’s to cover the costs of harvesting, manufacturing, shipping,” Norlin told Hub City Times. “They have a number of corporate sponsors. They actually have fundraising opportunities for non-profits. For every wreath they sell they get five dollars.”

The wreaths come from Columbia Falls, Maine, 70

See WREATHS page 7



Danielle Wojcik, Spencer, lays a wreath on the grave of a veteran, during Marshfield’s “Wreaths Across America” event Dec. 16 at Hillside Cemetery. Mike Warren photo

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Matthew Barteck lays a ceremonial wreath representing the U.S. Army, during Marshfield’s National Wreaths Across America Day ceremonies, held Dec. 16 in the Veterans Field of Honor at Hillside Cemetery. Mike Warren photo

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PUBLISHER’S LETTER

New Dreams for a New Year

Dear Reader,

As we bid farewell to the year that was and welcome the promising embrace of a brand new chapter, there's a sense of renewal and hope that washes over us. The New Year is a canvas, a blank slate upon which we have the opportunity to paint our dreams and aspirations. It's a time for reflection, recalibration, and the pursuit of becoming the best version of ourselves.

In the spirit of this fresh start, we often find ourselves making New Year's resolutions. These resolutions are more than just promises; they are commitments to growth, self-improvement, and the pursuit of our true potential. They represent the belief that we can write a new and better story for ourselves in the coming year.

Each resolution is like a stepping stone on the path to self-discovery and personal betterment. Whether it's a commitment to lead a healthier lifestyle, strengthen relationships, or chase long-held dreams, resolutions hold the power to transform our lives. They serve as a compass guiding us toward our most authentic and fulfilled



selfes.

We are excited to embark on this journey of self-improvement and discovery with you in the pages of our publications. We are committed to bringing you insightful content, practical advice, and inspiring stories that will empower you to achieve your resolutions and fulfill your aspirations.

In this season of new beginnings, let us cherish the hope and potential that the New Year brings. Let us embrace the opportunity to start afresh and to work diligently on becoming the best version of ourselves. Together, as a community of readers and dreamers, we can turn the pages of this new chapter and write our own extraordinary stories.

Wishing you a Happy New Year filled with inspiration, determination, and the realization of your most cherished dreams.

With warmest regards,
PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

Security Health Plan honors staff member's deployed husband in flag raising ceremony



Members of Marshfield VFW Post 1866 conduct a ceremonial flag raising Dec. 14 at Security Health Plan, recognizing the donation of an American flag by Air Force Reservist Shawn Schroeder, whose wife Gaby is an SHP team member. The flag flew onboard aircraft in Saudi Arabia on Aug. 23, in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. **Mike Warren photo**

BY MIKE WARREN EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – Security Health Plan of Wisconsin, Inc. now has an American flag to proudly display, thanks to the efforts of an employee who wanted to honor her husband, and help other military service members as well.

With members of the Marshfield Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 1866 (Mueller-Hintz Post), Marshfield High School band, and Security Health Plan staff present, SHP on Dec. 14 hosted a flag-raising ceremony to honor and celebrate a staff member's deployed husband.

"Today was basically saying 'Thank you' for the flag that my husband had given my team,"

said Gabriel Schroeder, following the ceremony in front of the Security Health Plan building at 1515 N. St. Joseph Ave.

Early in 2023, Security Health Plan's Health Services Department orchestrated an initiative by organizing a friendly competition among its members. The purpose was to foster a spirit of generosity and community engagement. The challenge centered on supporting charities of individual choice, encouraging participants to channel their passion for philanthropy – and in Gaby's case, honor her husband's military service at the same time, adding a deeply personal dimension to the charity drive.

With her husband, Shawn, serving in the Air Force Reserve and deployed in Saudi Arabia at the time, Schroeder's connection to the cause was profound. In a heartfelt display of support, she and her team spearheaded a collection effort to gather essential items for Shawn and fellow active-duty troops stationed abroad. In appreciation of the donation, Security Health Plan received an American Flag that flew onboard combat aircraft.

"When you're on deployment, [it's] one of the things to say 'Thank you for your support,' especially for the spouses worried about you and taking care of everything at home and all that stuff," Shawn Schroeder told Hub City Times.

Stationed out of Minneapolis, MN, Shawn Schroeder – an 18-year veteran of the Air Force Reserve – was deployed first to Afghanistan in 2011, then Saudi Arabia for much of 2023, returning in October. He brought back with him two American flags which flew on communications airplanes during his time in Saudi Arabia. One went

to Security Health Plan. The other went to City Hall at 207 W. Sixth St., where Shawn is employed by the City of Marshfield as an IT Specialist.

"I was not expecting this," Shawn said in reaction to the flag-raising ceremony at SHP headquarters. "When my wife told me that they wanted me to come up here, I was just thinking some small 'Thank you for your service.' So, when I pulled up and saw the band and everything, I was definitely not expecting that, so that's pretty cool."

"Usually he's the one that does the big deal," Gaby told us. "I am so proud of my team for supporting our deployed troops, including my husband, with this fun team-building exercise. The way Security Health Plan has honored Shawn and all troops with this flag-raising ceremony is so special. Now, every time I enter the building and see that American flag, I'll think of my husband."

The American Flag presented to Security Health Plan included a certificate of authenticity stating that the accompanying flag flew onboard aircraft under the call sign "Pack 15" that was assigned to the 430th Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron "Black Wolves" on Aug. 23, while supporting Operation Inherent Resolve.

"Security Health Plan is proud to support our military and our staff who are spouses to those who serve," said Security Health Plan Chief Executive Officer Krista Hoglund. "It is an honor to receive this flag. This serves as a reminder to honor our troops and their sacrifices every day."

The donated flag is stored in a protective case and is currently on display in Security Health Plan's office lobby.

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UNPACKING History


The Green Bay Packer Hall of Fame generously opened their vault to share pieces of Packer history with the Times to be highlighted periodically for our readers. For more information on the hall of fame, visit www.packershofandtours.com. If you would like to donate Green Bay Packer memorabilia to the Packer Hall of Fame, contact Katie at (920) 965-6986 or katief@gbphof.com.

Hurdis McCrary's 1929-30 gold NFL Championship mini football, August "Mike" Michalske's 1929 NFL Championship pocket watch and Lavvie Dilweg's 1931 NFL Championship lighter (on loan) in the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame.

Tori Wittenbrock photo

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| OBITUARIES |



FLOYD F. HAMUS
Floyd F. Hamus, age 88, of Marshfield, passed away on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at The House of the Dove, Marshfield with his loving family by his side.

A private family Mass of Christian Burial will be held. Entombment will be at Hillside Cemetery Mausoleum, Marshfield, WI at a later date.

A Celebration of Life will be on Thursday, December 28, 2023 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Hotel Marshfield, 2700 S. Central Ave., Marshfield.

Floyd was born on October 26, 1935, in Eau Claire, WI to Jacob and Frieda (Erdman) Hamus and was a 1953 graduate of Auburndale High School. Floyd was united in marriage to the love of his life, Patricia M. Knoll on April 4, 1959, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stratford, WI.

After graduating high school Floyd began his work career owning a Pepsi-Cola distributorship. After a serious accident, Floyd joined Hub City Motors as a salesman. The business was then purchased by the L.L. Felker Company and Floyd became a sales manager then general manager and later purchased the dealership along with Warner Von Holzen at which time they renamed it V & H Ford. The focus of the dealership was then switched from cars and light trucks to heavy trucks with a niche of specially equipped heavy trucks. Floyd's love of the business was evident to all who knew him.

During his business career Floyd stayed active in many clubs and organizations. After 45 years in the business, Floyd retired in 2000 at the age of 65. Retirement afforded Floyd and his wife Patricia more time to continue giving back to their community of Marshfield as well as surrounding communities. Floyd's donation of time, talent and fundraising efforts contributed to projects such as the Wildwood Station, Wildwood Park and Zoo, Marshfield Medical Center, Cattails Place (formerly known as Hope Lodge), Hamus Nature Preserve and numerous other community projects. The Bear Den and Cougar Exhibit were his final passionate fundraising endeavors, both of which gave him great joy.

During his free time Floyd enjoyed hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, motorcycling and golfing.

Over the years, time spent at the family cottage on Lake Nokomis, Tomahawk, hunting cabin in the Granton area and their home in Superstition Mountain AZ blessed Floyd with lasting friendships and many wonderful family memories.

Floyd is survived by his loving, devoted wife of 64 years, Patricia; their children, Shirley (Monte) Lamer of Tomahawk, Jeff (Michelle) Hamus and Lisa (John) Thornton of Marshfield, and six grandchildren, Jacob (Katie) Hamus of Waunakee, Jenna (Spencer) Rohn of Castle Pines, CO, Melina (Keeley) Susienka of Rochester, MN, Nick Thornton (fiancé Jill Hiebert) of Chillicothe, IL, Hunter Lamer of Olympic Valley, CA and Paige (Troy) DeYoung of Marshfield; and six great-grandchildren, Mason, Ellie and Zoey Hamus, Stella and Siena Rohn, and Lennon Susienka as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He is further survived by his sister and brother-in-law Darleene (Earl) Giese, brothers and sisters-in-law, Bill Dieringer, Benny (Rhonda) Knoll, Allie (Diane) Knoll, Cathie Knoll, and Wally Stencil.


He was preceded in death by his parents, his parents-in-law, Edward and Stella Knoll Sr., a sister Mona Dieringer, an infant sister Rosalie, a sister and brother-in-law, Janet (Willard) Kiehl, brothers and sisters-in-law, Edward (Mary Ellen) Knoll Jr., Clem Knoll, Jerome Knoll, Annette (Ernie) Raschke, Anne Knoll, Susie (Ervin) Stencil-Burish, Arlene Stencil and infant Edwin Knoll along with niece Tammy Hornung and nephews Jimmy Knoll, Mark Knoll, and Ricky Kiehl.

Memorials may be sent via the following link: https://marshfieldcf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund/funit_id=1101 or mailed to MACF: 211 E. 2nd St Suite 2; Marshfield, WI 54449 or go to www.marshfield.foundation and click the Donate Now button and then choose Hamus Donor Advised Fund.

The family wishes to extend a special thanks to Stoney River Memory Care for taking care of Floyd for the past three and a half years, Marshfield Medical Center, Marshfield, and to The House of the Dove for their compassionate care during the last three days of his life. We also want to thank ALL of his caregivers over the past years including his sister Darleene and brother-in-law Earl.

As Bob Hope's trade song says: "Thanks for the memories."

Condolences may be sent online to www.rembssf.com



BERNARD J. SCHULD
Bernard J. Schuld, Sr., age 95, passed away peacefully with family at his side on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at his home in the Town of Cameron.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 am on Friday, December 29, 2023, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Marshfield, with Rev. Douglas Robertson officiating. Burial will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery. The visitation will be from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm on Thursday, December 28 at Rembs Funeral Home, Marshfield, where the Knights of Columbus will recite the rosary at 4:00 pm. A visitation will also be from 9:00 am until service time on Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Bernard was born March 28, 1928, in Marshfield, to Alvin and Florence (Harter) Schuld and attended St. John's Parochial School.

Bernard began his farming career in southern Wisconsin where he met the love of his life, Blanche Straka and they were married on June 2, 1952, in Montfort, WI. In 1959 they moved to Marshfield where he took over his father's farm and together Bernard and Blanche farmed and raised their large family.

Bernard was a man of faith, family and farming. He enjoyed playing sheephead and polka dancing. He was a longtime member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, an honorary life member of the Knights of Columbus, John Eisen Council #1799, and a former volunteer fireman for the Town of Cameron and former Constable for the township.

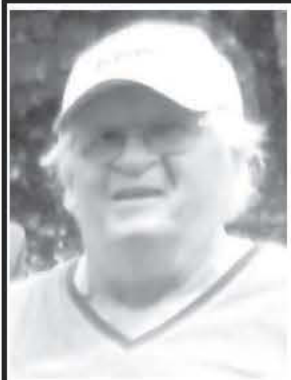
He is survived by his children, Diane Zimmermann, Sharon (Dan) Bubolz, Judy (Greg) Coleman, Jeff (Roxann) Schuld, Marilyn (Roy) Krier, Mary Jo Przybylski, Cathy Erwin, Charles (Susan) Schuld, Pat (Darla) Schuld, Theresa (Larry) Reckner, Roger (Debra) Schuld, Lynn (Randy) Pankratz, Janell (Ryan) Monnier and James (Val) Schuld, and a daughter-in-law, Kimberly Schuld. He is also survived by 53 grandchildren, many great grandchildren and great great grandchildren. He is further survived by a sister, Carol (Mike) Stack and sisters-in-law, Mary Ann Schuld and Joyce Stencil.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, a son, Bernard Schuld, Jr., grandsons, Lance and Bobby, and brothers, Eugene, Lavern, Leo and Ernie Schuld.

A special thanks to St. Croix Hospice and Marshfield Clinic Pharmacy on Central Avenue.

Memorials may be designated to Sacred Heart Catholic Church or Relevant Radio.

Condolences may be sent online to www.rembssf.com



KEVIN W. KENNOW
Kevin W. Kennow, 64, Marshfield, passed away on Friday, December 15, 2023 at Marshfield Medical Center.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 am on Friday, December 22, 2023 at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Marshfield where visitation will be from 10:00 am until service time. Rev. Jared Clements will officiate. The service will be streamed online at www.facebook.com/rembsfuneralhomes. Burial will follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Marshfield. Rembs Funeral Home is assisting the family.


Kevin was born on January 23, 1959 in Marshfield to Wilder and Isabelle (Ryan) Kennow. He graduated from Spencer High School in 1977. He married Sara Kleinschmidt and had 2 daughters together. They later divorced after 25 years of marriage.

Kevin enjoyed his train set, reading tractor books, going to flea markets, shopping with his children, spending time with his grandchildren, riding his moped, going to the zoo, and listening to music every afternoon. When at home, he liked watching The Price Is Right, The Young and the Restless, and the news. He also loved the holidays. He was always excited to buy gifts for his family and even had all of his gifts bought and wrapped already for this Christmas.

He is survived by his daughters, Monica (Tom) Paul of Stratford, Amy (Justin) Gorst of Granton, grandchildren, Joshua and Hailey Paul, and Autumn and Eric Gorst. He is further survived by his sisters, LucyAnn (John) Scheuer of Marshfield and Mary Jo Kennow of Marshfield, niece, Melissa (Ian) Bell, nephews, David (Paula) Scheuer, Patrick Scheuer, Steve (Tisha) Scheuer, and Mike (Carrie) Scheuer, 6 great nephews, and 6 great nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Wilder and Isabelle, and brother, Rodney Kennow.

Condolences may be sent online at www.rembssf.com



CALVIN (CAL) CHARLES YOUNG
In Loving Memory of Calvin (Cal) Charles Young

Calvin Charles Young, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully on November 29, 2023, at the age of 95. He was born on March 23, 1928, in Loyal, Wisconsin, and his journey came to a close in Tucson, Arizona.

Calvin was a devoted husband to Marjorie Merle (Holmes) Young, and together they created a loving family. He is survived by his children: Clifford (June) Young, Mark (Patricia) Young, and Scott Young. His legacy extends through his grandchildren: Autumn Zoehbauer, Maureen Staschke, Ryan Young, Katie Jacobson, and Seth Young. As well as his great-grandchildren: Jade Kogovsek, Declan Kogovsek, Calvin Young, Greyson Staschke, Leo Young, Freya Staschke, Connor Jacobson, and Margot Young and his surviving sister, Hazel (Young) Rogstad.

Calvin found joy in the simple pleasures of life, cherishing moments spent with his family. He spent his final days playing bingo and solving puzzles with his loving partner, Margaret Hiratsuka. His love for travel, passion for westerns, fishing adventures, and the beauty of gardening were sources of immense happiness throughout his 95 years.

The family invites friends and well-wishers to join them in a Memorial Service to celebrate Calvin's life on January 6th at 2 p.m. in Tucson, AZ. For more details and to share memories, please visit his memorial website at forevermissed.com. Calvin will be remembered with love and fondness, his spirit living on through the memories he created with those he held dear.

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BEVERLY A. WILLIAMS
Beverly A. (Payne) Williams, age 83, passed away peacefully with family at her side on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at Marshfield Medical Center after a courageous battle with cancer.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am on Thursday, December 21, 2023, at Rembs funeral Home, Marshfield, where a visitation will be from 9:00 am until service time. The service will be streamed online at www.facebook.com/rembsfu in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Marshfield, and serving as pallbearers will be Syla Hatala, Larry Rogers, Nick Liebe, Allan Rothenburger, Shandon Blank and Jimmy Langerud.

Beverly was born on October 12, 1940, in Adams County, to Harvey and Olive (Evans) Payne and attended P.J. Jacobs School, Stevens Point. She was united in marriage to Myron W. Williams, Sr. on February 7, 1959, in Wausau, Wisconsin. He died on December 10, 2021.

In addition to raising their five children, Bev and Myron were loving and devoted foster parents to many children for over 50 years from 1974 until the present time.

She enjoyed camping, attending tractor shows, flower beds, gardening, bird watching, word puzzles, and her family, especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her children, Myron "Mike" (Terri) Williams, Jr. of Waupaca, Laurie Krug (special friend - Ken Kilty) of Marshfield, Donna Tysver and Sheila Pohle, both of Chili, Pamela (Eric) Fredrickson of Marshfield and adopted daughter Jolie Williams of Plover, and foster children, Tim Liebe of Stevens Point, Mark Sternweis of Marshfield, and several other foster children. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren and one great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter Cindy Marie at birth, a grandson, Jammie Joe Tysver, sons-in-law, Ron Krug, Mark Tysver, and Don Pohle, sisters, Bertha Morris, Gladys Stevens and Janet Brown and brothers, Harvey, Jr. "Sonny", Norman, Richard, and Stanley Payne.

A special thank you to Palliative Care, Oncology staff, and Darla Meddaugh.

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Publisher
Patrick J. Wood,
publisher@mmclocal.com

General Manager -
Mike Hollihan

Editor - Mike Warren

Graphic Designer
Tamara Mortensen

Office Manager/
Graphic Design
Kevin Granquist

Sales Account Executive
Peggy Sue Behselich

Delivery
Jim Jozwiak

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BY KRIS LEONHARDT
SENIOR EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – The Marshfield Area Community Foundation and Marshfield Hub City Times are seeking nominations for the second annual “Good Heart Award.”

Nominations will be accepted Jan. 1 – Feb. 14, closing on Valentine's Day, for high school seniors who have gone above and beyond in spreading positivity and kindness in their community. Nominees must be a student at a Marshfield school – public or private – or can be a home-schooled Marshfield resident.

The chosen recipient will receive a \$1,000 award to give to the nonprofit of their choice, as well as a presentation dinner with family and friends.

“Working at the Marshfield Area Community Foundation

See AWARD page 7

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Honoring Marshfield's 150th

Marshfield 150 for 150: Amber Kiggins-Leifheit

NOMINATED BY GEORGETTE FRAZER

Amber Kiggins-Leifheit's decades of dedication to community life, and especially to the quality and accessibility of our children's educational opportunities here, has made a lasting impact on our city.

Amber was born in Portage, Wisconsin, attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, earning her BS in Medical Technology. She moved to Marshfield in 1990 with her husband, Tom, and their two children, Matt and Kate. In Marshfield, Amber found what became a lifelong passion for education and community service. After moving to town, Amber began volunteering at her kid's preschool, Pied Piper Preschool. She served as the administrator for ten years, culminating her time there by negotiating a merger between the Marshfield YMCA and Pied Piper Preschool to form the YMCA Pied Piper Preschool Early Learning Center. This merger helped both organizations maintain enrollment and balance their budgets.

She later volunteered in leadership positions with the YES Committee, passing four successful school district referendums, most notably the referendum that provided the funding to build the new Madison and Washington Schools, and remodel Lincoln and Nasonville schools. During her tenure almost \$50,000,000 in referendums were passed.

At the same time, Amber dedicated herself to hands-on work in the schools. She was a substitute teacher in the Marshfield School District from 1998-2008, often taking on long-term assignments and supporting students with special educational needs. She served as the Executive Director of Pathway Partners Mentoring Program from 2005 to 2008, matching Marshfield High School students with professional mentors from the larger Marshfield community.

Amber was elected to the school board in 2008 and served three consecutive three-year terms, deciding not to run again in 2019. She served many roles in her time on the board. She served eight years as Vice-President and four years as Treasurer. She chaired the Employee Relations, Curriculum, Finance, and Communication committees. Over this period, Amber championed many of the board's positive steps in the areas of curriculum, personalized learning, new schools and athletic facilities.

Many of these projects involved collaborating with members of the larger community. She is proudest of the work she did in conjunction with the foundation to help



make sure all students could have the tools they needed to succeed, whether that be a warm coat, new boots so they could walk to school, or a bed to sleep in.

Amber was the director of the Marshfield Area Community Foundation for eleven years. During this time, she increased the foundation's assets from \$2.8 million to \$16.2 million, while growing the number of funds from 79 to over 215.

She began the foundation's Speak Your Peace initiative, providing training to Marshfield's business leaders in civil discourse and conflict resolution. This curriculum gave the participants tools to use in everyday conversations with co-workers, neighbors, friends and family. Groups from organizations like Simplicity Credit Union, the Marshfield High School Student Council, the Wood County Human Services Department, and Staab Construction took part in the program.

As the foundation's director, Amber was an expert at building relationships with donors. She made a point of meeting one-on-one with donors large and small and was always just a phone call away. She made donors feel valued and was uniquely skilled at identifying charitable opportunities that could maximize community impact, while staying true to donors' vision for the community.

Thanks to Amber's sharp intellect and financial savvy, donors knew they could trust the foundation to grow their donations and maximize their tax deductions. Jim

Conterato described Amber as "thoughtful, open-minded, creative, and motivated." Amber created a community foundation that swept broadly across the city of Marshfield, enhancing the quality of life for all citizens.

Under Amber's wise management, and with \$7,738,000 in gifts from over 550 donors, the Community Foundation played a key role in developing or improving major projects in Marshfield, including the Adler Bear Exhibit at Wildwood Park, Hamus Park, the Boson Tennis Complex, Griese Park, Weber Park, and the Graham Olson and Miller baseball fields, Marshfield Area Pet Shelter, the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library, Wenzel Plaza, and the foundation's largest project, the new Marshfield High School athletic facilities.

Amber enjoyed working with community leaders to help make these projects successful. She saw that Floyd Hamus was a powerhouse. When he threw his support behind a project it was going to happen. Bill Heiting was a tremendous fundraiser. Everyone knew if you got a call from Bill, he wanted a donation. The Everett Roehl Public Library took several years to raise the \$3.1 million the city required for the project to begin. Lori Belongia and Bill Hocking were amazing, sticking with the project, and leading it to a successful outcome.

Alongside her busy career, Amber was an active volunteer with many Marshfield organizations. She is especially proud of the work with Marshfield Habitat for Humanity. She served on the board for eight years, with two terms as the chair. During those years, Habitat built or refurbished five houses for deserving families.

She served in leadership positions on other boards, including the Personal Development Center, Sunrise Rotary, AFS, Sister Cities, Chapter CY PEO, Marshfield Area United Way Allocation Committee, Wood County Literacy Council, Healthy Lifestyle Coalition, New Visions Gallery, 80 Feet is Enough! and the Wisconsin Easement Action Team. She was also a deacon at her church. Having volunteered with Amber on many of these initiatives, Dr. Mark Borchart said, "Amber is an exemplar of selfless civic service. She never sought personal accolades; her first thought was always about successfully completing the work at hand."

You can't drive through Marshfield without seeing at least one project that Amber helped to make happen; and you certainly can't raise a child here without feeling her lasting impact.

On the road with Alice: Celebrating Wisconsin Christmas trees

BY ASHLEY HAGENOW
WISCONSIN'S 76TH ALICE IN DAIRYLAND

MADISON -- On a recent warm and breezy November day, I traveled to Door County to cut down the first official Christmas tree of the Wisconsin holiday season. After a turn in the small town of Forestville, I knew I was in the right place when I came upon a classic red pick-up truck with a big Christmas tree in the bed.

I spent the morning learning from Randy Krueger of Krueger Tree Farms about his business, techniques to use a saw, and Christmas tree longevity tips. The Kruegers, located in Sturgeon Bay, were such wonderful hosts and knowledgeable producers.

According to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, more than 700,000 Christmas trees are harvested every year in our state, with a significant increase during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the 10-15 years that trees are grown before being harvested, they absorb carbon dioxide, release oxygen, and provide wildlife habitat. Once the tree is harvested, it is shaken to remove loose needles, wrapped to make for easier transporting and loaded up for the trip to its new home for the holidays. On average, two or three trees are planted the following spring for each tree that is cut down, continuing the cycle of benefits.

Whether you get your tree right after Thanksgiving, or wait until closer to Christmas, there are plenty of best practices for keeping your tree looking fresh right up until your gatherings. A well-cared-for tree should remain fresh at least three to four weeks before drying to an unsightly level. The Wisconsin Christmas Tree Producers Association is your one-stop resource for all things Wisconsin Christmas trees, and they share the following tips:

Avoid whittling down the sides of the trunk to fit a stand,



Each year, Alice in Dairyland cuts down the first Christmas tree to kick off the Wisconsin holiday season.
Alice in Dairyland photo

as the outer layers of wood are the most efficient in taking up water and should not be removed;

For most Christmas trees, the stand should hold at least 1 gallon of water. A cut tree will absorb a surprising amount of water, particularly during the first week, so replenish the water daily;

Check the stand daily and add water to make sure that

See TREES page 7



MARSHFIELD GUN SHOW

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WREATHS

from page 1

miles east of Bangor – one of the country’s eastern-most communities along the northeast Atlantic Coast.

“My wife and I had the opportunity to do Arlington last year and it was a pretty special event for us,” said Norlin. “I’m not a veteran, but my father served in World War II. Arlington’s a very special place, and we were so moved by that experience that I came back and told Rick Roehl what a wonderful event it was and said, ‘We need to get involved with this organization.’ So, we agreed to move some loads of wreaths. The folks at ‘Wreaths’ invited us out to visit with them. On our way back here we decided we needed to bring this to Marshfield.”

This annual event seeks to further the year-long mission to Remember, Honor, Teach, ensuring that the memory of those who served our country endures.

“It’s so important that we honor our veterans,” Norlin added. “They say they’re never forgotten until you don’t say their name, so we gotta say their name. As long as we do that they’re remembered.”

“It is an honor and privilege to stand before you and with all of you today to remember the men and women who dedicated their lives, and in some cases gave their lives, to protect our great nation,” said Tammy Neve, Air Force Veteran and Commander, American Legion Post 54, Marshfield, in comments during a public ceremony prior to the wreaths being laid. “As Americans, we often take for granted those things we’re able to choose freely. This is why it is so important to do what we are gathered here to do today. In keeping with the mission of the National Wreaths Across America, we are not here to honor

the deaths of our veterans. That’s what we do on Memorial Day. Rather, we are here to remember their lives and their service, to honor those who are currently serving and to teach others about the sacrifices these men and women make and have made every day to protect our great nation,” Commander Neve added. “I encourage all of you to teach your children and grand children about the things that make America both good and great, to appreciate the price that is paid for the freedoms that we enjoy. When you join the military you write a blank check payable to the United States of America for the amount of up to, and including, your own life.”

The public ceremony also included the laying of honorary wreaths for each branch of the U.S. Military, one representing POW/MIA and another for Gold Star families.

The day’s events began with a police escort of American Legion officials and the tractor/trailer which carried the wreaths from Roehl Transport to Hillside Cemetery.

About Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. Wreaths Across America started as a simple gesture of thanks that has grown into a national, yearlong movement of dedicated volunteers and communities coming together to, not only remember the nation’s fallen and honor their service, but to teach the next generation about the value of freedom.

Those interested in volunteering for Wreaths Across America or sponsoring a wreath for Hillside Cemetery are invited to www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/WIHCSCM to learn more.

TREES

from page 5

the level of water does not go below the base of the tree;

Keep displayed trees away from sources of heat (fireplaces, heaters, heat vents, and direct sunlight);

Monitor your tree for dryness. Run your fingers across the needles to determine if they are dry and brittle. If the needles break easily or fall off in your hand, the tree is dry and should be removed from the house.

After the holiday season is over and you are ready to dispose of your Christmas tree, there are some environmentally-friendly options you can take. The exact options will vary based on your location,

so a little bit of research can help identify your plan of action. Generally speaking, Christmas trees are primarily recycled in a few main ways. Many local municipalities will collect trees after the season ends to turn them into mulch. This mulch is then used as a weed barrier, along walking paths, and more. Some locations will put trees out on a frozen lake so after the lake thaws, trees will become submerged and form fish habitat. These biodegradable trees can also be left outside in appropriate locations after removing all decorations to become wildlife habitat or to decompose back into the environment. It is important to not burn your Christmas tree in your fireplace because the sap will add to creosote build-up, which can become a fire risk.

AWARD

from page 4

gives me the opportunity to see kindness every day. I see people supporting our community for those in need as well as projects to benefit Marshfield,” said Marshfield Area Community Foundation Executive Director Stacey Schultz. “The Good Heart Award lets us see that kindness in our youth, specifically seniors in high school. These students are getting ready to take their next step into the world. It seems so important to highlight the value they hold with kindness. We hope this award will highlight the wonderful acts of kindness all around us,” Schultz added.

The inaugural recipient, Carter Grove, was nominated by one of his teachers, Jennifer Fredrick, Career & Technical Education Coordinator at Marshfield High School.

“Carter Grove has positively impacted the Marshfield community for many years and will continue to be an outstanding volunteer and leader,” Fredrick stated in her nomination. “As Carter’s teacher for two years, I have consistently observed his compassion, generosity, and desire to positively impact the lives of others.”

To place a nomination, visit the foundation’s website at www.marshfield.foundation. foundation and click on the button to access the nomination form, or email info@marshfield.foundation.



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We are looking for a candidate who meets the following requirements:

- Ideally, a bachelor's degree is preferred, with a minimum requirement of a certificate of completion from a technical college.
- Proficiency in various electronic reporting systems is mandatory, and a readiness to adapt to evolving reporting and system demands is essential.
- A comprehensive grasp of Microsoft Office, particularly MS Word and Excel, is a requirement.
- The candidate should possess the ability to assertively manage situations that influence CDA's success.
- Exceptional communication skills, both written and verbal, are a must.

We seek candidates who exhibit the following qualities:

- High levels of professionalism, skill, and financial management proficiency to support the Director of Business Services.
- Ability to work efficiently within deadlines, while exercising good judgment and discretion and maintaining personal and professional boundaries.
- Meticulous attention to detail at all times.

Position salary will be commensurate with experience.
The CDA is an equal opportunity employer.

Application Deadline: January 5, 2024
Qualified candidates are kindly requested to submit their resumes via email to Carol.Kerper@marshfieldcda.com, or mail to 601 S. Cedar Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449.
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Marshfield Parks, Recreation and Forestry names Volunteer of the Year



Josh Weiland (center) poses with his family and city Parks, Recreation and Forestry representatives, after accepting the department's Volunteer of the Year award. Submitted photo

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD -- The city's Parks and Recreation Department has a large number of volunteers who dedicate their time and talents. Those volunteers coach, organize senior citizen activities, maintain landscape beds, pick up trash and litter, remove invasive species, plant trees, and secure donations for facility improvements, among many other services. Since 2001, the Marshfield Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee has annually recognized a special volunteer whose efforts have stood out, both in their service to the department and the City of Marshfield as a whole.

This year's Volunteer of the Year is Josh Weiland. Currently, Josh is a freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, majoring in Wildlife Ecology/Management with a minor in Captive Wildlife. He is active on campus, participating in the Herpetology Club, taking care of reptiles and amphibians. Josh possesses a strong desire to care for animals, which has driven his desire to be a zookeeper.

Josh is a volunteer at Wildwood Zoo, where he has displayed strong leadership skills. While at the zoo, he independently prepares diets, designs and builds enrichment for the animals, and creates enrichment schedules for the staff to implement on the days he isn't there. Additionally, he assists with special events, such as "Howl-oween" at the Zoo and holiday enrichment. Josh has more responsibility than any previous volunteer and never fails to find a task to work on, often without direction.

Before volunteering at Wildwood Zoo, Josh volunteered for three years at the

Marshfield Area Pet Shelter. Before college, Josh attended Columbus Catholic High School, where he graduated with high honors, maintaining a GPA of 4.0. Josh learned the value of teamwork, spending four years on the soccer and golf teams and earning the coaches' award for soccer in 2021. Josh is also an accomplished trumpet player, participating in concert band, jazz band, pep band, and solo ensemble. Josh played "Taps" through the American Legion at Veteran funerals and memorial parades. Josh's hobbies include a love for Marvel, fantasy football, and playing golf. Josh is compassionate, dependable, and a finisher when it comes to work. Aside from his strong work ethic, Josh is a pleasure to work around. He is courteous and friendly to all members of the zoo and guests. The city has heard many positive comments about his interactions throughout his time at the zoo. He shows up for his shifts with a smile on his face, ready to complete any task.

"Josh has positively impacted the operations of Wildwood Zoo," said Wildwood Zoo Manager Sarah Storandt. "He is highly trusted and able to work independently while making a big difference. Over the year-and-a-half that he has been volunteering, he has been incredibly reliable, positive-minded, and always helpful. I truly believe Josh will go on to do great things in the field of animal care and I look forward to seeing his career unfold after he completes his degree. It has been our pleasure to help him gain experience. We appreciate everything he has done for the zoo and the department."



BY KRIS LEONHARDT
SENIOR EDITOR

UW-Green Bay began the inaugural session of its "History of the Green Bay Packers Certificate" program on Sept. 6. The virtual, eight-week, two-hour class allows participants to "uncover the team's storied history and get an inside look at the Packers Hall of Fame." Over several months, we will provide a glimpse of the class experience through Titledown 101.

Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame Curator Brent Hensel said that he is working to do two main things with the exhibits and displays in the museum.

"I'm looking to tell a story and represent either a moment in Packers history or tell a really interesting story," he said. "And so the Packers didn't do me any favors by losing that game against the Giants (Oct. 9, 2022).

"So, how do I make it interesting, with just a loss? So, what we focused on was all of the Packer fans going over to London and invading London."

Hensel said that in the museum industry "sometimes rather than reinvent the wheel, you borrow ideas from other museums you visit."

He added that this was the case with the "exploding uniform" display.

History on display through stories



After the Packers won the 1961 NFL championship, Head Coach/GM Vince Lombardi handed out gifts, including these mink stoles.

George Silk/
LIFE magazine photo

"We borrowed this idea from the Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee, they have an exploding motorcycle.

"So, you look at the motorcycle straight on and it's all put together and then you look at it from the side and you see every piece of equipment.

"We did that same thing with the Packers uniform, so you can see the different pieces of equipment that they wear.

"One of the things we learned from when we reopened this facility back in 2014, we originally had a player in it — it was actually Eddie Lacey — and then that player either (ends up) leaving or getting traded...

"It's kind of complicated to put the pieces on the tension wire and keep them there, so we've since went to the generic No. 1 in order to keep it consistent going forward."

Another item on display that told a story was a helmet that Packer linebacker Ray Nitschke wore in 1960.

"You'll see this big hole in it and there's a

red circle around it," Hensel said. "It was late September in 1960. They were practicing outside and a thunderstorm comes rolling in. Practice is almost over. Ray is kneeling on the sideline with his helmet on and basically his helmet saves his life. Lightning strikes the tower and a bolt from the tower comes falling down and hits him in the helmet. And you see the hole where it was. If he was not wearing his helmet, it would probably kill them. And so it saved his life."

Hensel said one other storytelling artifact is a mink stole.

"In the Lombardi era, we highlight each of the five championships that they won, under Vince Lombardi, including the 1961 championship — the first one hosted here in Green Bay in Titledown U.S.A.

"Another really fun unit of artifact is under Lombardi, after they won the 1961 championship he gave gifts, including this mink stole, to all of the players' wives. Lombardi had a number of ladies' men on their team that had numerous girlfriends, and Lombardi was afraid that if he gave one to these certain players they would give it to whoever was the random girlfriend of the month. So, in order to avoid this he made the players that were single or bachelors give the mink stole to their mother."

For more on the program, visit www.uwgb.edu/certificate-programs/history-of-the-green-bay-packers.

| SPORTS |

Stratford, Edgar take rivalry to Lambeau Field

BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR

GREEN BAY – Thirty-one days after each community had celebrated their latest state high school football championship, members of the Stratford Tigers and Edgar Wildcats found themselves back on the gridiron – this time facing one another.

In this rare mid-December clash, Stratford and Edgar were not trying to outdo each other on the scoreboard, but

rather between the goal lines. During halftime of the Dec. 17 game between the Green Bay Packers and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, three members of each school's football team – a quarterback and two of his teammates – participated in the Packers' High School Quarterback Challenge, an on-field competition offering each school the opportunity to demonstrate their passing and catching skills to the fans at Lambeau Field.

Sponsored by Hewlett Packard

Enterprise and Camera Corner Connecting Point, each school has two attempts to complete the longest pass, with both receivers from each school having the chance to catch. Whichever team wins receives a \$500 donation for their school.

These two particular schools, separated by 14 miles in Marathon County, have been engaged in one of the best and most talked about high school football rivalries this state – and country, for that matter – has ever seen. The two teams have squared off sixty-six times since 1965, while mostly dominating the Marawood Conference. Even though recent WIAA realignment has taken Stratford out of that conference, they continue to play one another in a non-conference matchup each year. Edgar leads the overall series, 37-29.

Unofficially, you could now make that 38. The Wildcats beat the Tigers in the Quarterback Challenge by completing both of their passes, with QB Teegan Streit connecting with Karter Butt on a short pass and Brett Baumgartner on a much longer throw. Even though he slipped, Stratford halfback Gavin Leonhardt reached back and hauled in a pass from quarterback Jack Tubbs for one completion. But on the trio's second attempt, fullback Koehler Kilty could not corral a longer pass that went off the fingertips of his outstretched hands.

For five of the six players, this was the final chapter in their Stratford-Edgar story. Only junior Tiger quarterback Jack Tubbs returns next season.

The Packers first featured the High School Quarterback Challenge in 2015.



Stratford's Gavin Leonhardt goes out for a pass from Tiger QB Jack Tubbs, which he completed, Dec. 17 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, during halftime festivities of the Packers' matchup with Tampa Bay.

Dons win thriller



Columbus senior Mattea Schlafke drives in on Loyal defender Autumn Zvolena, during a Cloverbelt Conference matchup Dec. 19 at Columbus Catholic High School in Marshfield. The Dons overcame a 19-13 halftime deficit for a thrilling 37-34 win. They were led by Sam Casperson with 14 and Gracie Wilczek with 9. Maggie Callaghan added 5 points and Schlafke chipped in 4 in a winning effort. The Greyhounds were led by Olivia Nikolai with 12. Lucky Shot Media photo



Stratford's Koehler Kilty could not haul in this pass, while participating in the High School QB Challenge Dec. 17 at Lambeau Field.



Edgar and Stratford coaches and players, after competing in the Packers' High School Quarterback Challenge Dec. 17 at Lambeau Field. Players (L-R) Karter Butt, Brett Baumgartner and Teegan Streit represented Edgar, while Jack Tubbs, Gavin Leonhardt and Koehler Kilty competed for the Tigers. Tori Wittenbrock photos

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MMCCU spreads holiday cheer with meals for underprivileged families

FOR HUB CITY TIMES
MARSHFIELD -- In the spirit of community and the holiday season, MMCCU (Marshfield Medical Center Credit Union) teamed up with Marshfield Area United Way to make a meaningful impact on the lives of underprivileged families in the community. Recognizing the increased strain on local food pantries, MMCCU took a proactive approach to support families in need during these challenging times.

MMCCU purchased and packed 65 Christmas meals, carefully curated to bring joy and warmth to those facing financial hardships this holiday

season. Each family receiving a Christmas box will find a complete festive meal, including a succulent ham, potatoes, gravy, green beans, pie, and all the trimmings to create a delicious Christmas feast.

David Murphy, President of MMCCU, expressed the credit union's commitment to community and the core values that define credit unions.

"Credit unions are all about community, and we believe in giving back to those who need it the most. This holiday season, we wanted to make a meaningful difference in the lives of families facing challenges. Our goal is to spread joy and show that we are here for our

community."

The local food pantries, which typically provide support during this time of year, are facing unprecedented demand, leaving them overwhelmed. MMCCU recognizes the urgency of the situation and has targeted their assistance towards families enrolled in the Nutrition on Weekends program.

By partnering with Marshfield Area United Way, MMCCU not only provided essential support but also demonstrated the power of collaboration in addressing community needs.

As MMCCU continues to exemplify the credit union philosophy of "People Helping People," they encourage other organizations to join the effort and make a positive impact on the lives of those facing hardships this



(Left to Right): MMCCU team members David Murphy, Shelly Hughes, Tiffany Schara, Jerry Litwaitis, and Stephanie Rasmussen prepare and pack Christmas meals at the United Way in Marshfield. Submitted photo

holiday season.

For more information on how you can help the community, reach out to Marshfield Area United Way.

The top 5 needs at the United Way NOW program are: Jelly (strawberry or grape); Granola bars; Fruit snacks; Goldfish crackers; Animal crackers.

34.02.23

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Level: Intermediate

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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5.8.3.40

Nursing graduates recognized in Mid-State's fall pinning ceremony

FOR HUB CITY TIMES
WISCONSIN RAPIDS -- Mid-State Technical College recognized the achievements of its 42 Nursing program completers in a pinning ceremony Dec. 12 on the Wisconsin Rapids Campus. Graduates were joined by their family and friends in the celebration.

The nursing pinning ceremony is a celebratory endcap to a nursing student's academic career and a bridge between nursing school and a nursing career. It honors and celebrates nursing students and their journey to becoming a nurse. It is also a day of celebration for the nursing faculty who have helped the students reach their goals.

"The nursing pinning ceremony marks the transition from aspiring nursing students to dedicated healthcare professionals," said Deb Johnson-Schuh, dean of



Mid-State's fall 2023 Nursing graduates in the days leading up to their Dec. 9 graduation and Dec. 12 pinning ceremony on the College's Wisconsin Rapids Campus. Submitted photo

the School of Nursing. "The nursing pin is a symbol of pride and responsibility. It signifies earning the trust of others to be their caregiver and advocate."

According to Johnson-Schuh, the graduating Nursing program students completed several rigorous courses over the past few years. These courses required them to write numerous nursing care plans, practice endless skills in labs and attend over 750 hours of clinical.

"The students' journey to this pivotal point has been challenging and demanding," Johnson-Schuh added. "Their hard work and determination brought them here today. As they continue in their nursing journey, they will be called upon, to integrate into their practice, the same core values that define Mid-State Technical College: Integrity, commitment, accountability, respect and excellent service."

For Mid-State's pinning ceremony, each graduating student selects a registered nurse who is a family member, friend or faculty member to join them on stage to place the nursing pin on the graduate during the ceremony, welcoming them into the profession of nursing. While the graduate is being pinned a recorded message from the student is shared with the audience. The Nursing graduates also take a vow to always help those who are sick or injured.

Mid-State's nursing pinning ceremony stems from a proud tradition reaching back to Florence Nightingale in the 1860s, the first nurse to receive a pin when she was awarded the Red Cross of St. George for her work in the Crimean War. Nightingale in turn honored outstanding nursing graduates with a medal of excellence, which in time inspired a tradition in the US to award all graduates with a pin, beginning in 1880 with Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing in New York City. By 1916, pinning had become a common practice in schools of nursing throughout the United Kingdom and the United States.

The actual pin used in the nursing pinning ceremony is unique to each school, incorporating a design that symbolizes the school's beliefs about nursing. The Mid-State pin has both a lamp and a book, the lamp being a traditional symbol of excellence that dates back to Nightingale, also known as the Lady with the Lamp.

Following are Mid-State's area fall 2023 Nursing graduates recognized in the Dec. 12 nursing pinning ceremony:

Melinda Brueggen – Arpin; Hailey Budtke – Spencer; Briana Fox – Pittsville; Samantha Fuehrer – Owen; Erika Grimm – Marshfield; Taylor Heil – Marshfield; Josie Jakel – Curtiss; Lauren Koopman – Loyal; Breiana Krise – Marshfield; Jessica Kuchta – Marshfield; Rebecca Puent – Marshfield; Cassie Roggenbauer – Marshfield; Brooke Wayerski – Pittsville.

Learn more about Mid-State's Nursing program at mstc.edu/programs.

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