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School district survey supports higher taxes, facility upgrades

BY MIKE WARREN
 EDITOR

MARSHFIELD -- The majority of Marshfield School District residents responding to a late May telephone survey said they like the idea of facility improvements and support various levels of tax increases to address specific areas. That's what the Board of Education was told during a special presentation at its June 12 meeting.

Peter Leatherman of the Morris Leatherman Company -- a full-service market and research firm based in

Minneapolis -- reported the findings of a telephone survey conducted May 20-31, when 400 randomly-selected district residents were asked fifteen questions pertaining to things like the quality of education, the most serious issues facing the district, buildings and facilities, and more.

Leatherman reported that 70 percent of survey respondents said improvements are a good idea, with 67 percent willing to pay additional property taxes in the range of seven- to fourteen-dollars per month to fund facility improvements for the Marshfield School District.

Furthermore, two-thirds or more of those polled said they supported the idea of a tax increase for specific areas. Higher taxes for remodeled high school classrooms were

supported by 70 percent of those surveyed. Funding for accessibility and ADA upgrades received a 69 percent approval rating, while 68 percent wanted more money spent for safety and security, and 67 percent liked the idea of additional tax dollars for new heating-and-cooling systems and improved and expanded high school ag and CTE (Career and Technical Education) space. Also, 64 percent of respondents would spend additional funding on new windows, doors and roof improvements, while 60 percent said they wanted new funding to go toward high school Phy. Ed. and sports programs.

See UPGRADES page 7

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Council tables Wenzel Family Plaza bathroom building

BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD -- Marshfield officials are holding off on a project which would add permanent restrooms to Wenzel Family Plaza downtown.

With Alderman Ed Wagner absent, the Common Council on June 25 voted 8-1 to table a June 17 recommendation from the Board of Public Works to give the Boson Company the go-ahead to move forward with the construction of a permanent restroom facility in the plaza.

Alderman Mike O'Reilly voted against that recommendation, and he was among those voting to table the project at the Council level.

"I have a lot of concerns about this one. I have voiced them many times," O'Reilly stated, during Council discussion. "And at this point, I would strongly suggest that we table this item pending legal review of it."

City Attorney Harold Wolfgram backed O'Reilly's recommendation.

"It's my advice as legal counsel that you do go ahead and table this," Wolfgram told the council. "I'm not going to get into any details, but I think the real purpose of that would be to allow the current circumstances to be reviewed. You did receive some bids. My understanding is, by tabling that, we're not going to put ourselves in any jeopardy, so the circumstances aren't going to change economically by doing this, and with the intent then that, at some point, the city staff will come back and lay out what options legally are available to you, in terms of just moving forward."

That left Alderman Derek Wehrman with more questions.

"I'm not completely in the loop on this clearly, so I'm



Much of the landscaping and open space would disappear, under a plan which calls for a permanent restroom facility along the north side of Wenzel Family Plaza. **HCT Staff photo**

not sure what the legal circumstances are," Wehrman told his colleagues. "If it concerns the council, my request would be that in the future we get included on communications, so we understand what's going on, because right now

I'm hearing a lot about legal circumstances, and I'm like, 'What is happening?' and so it would be nice to be in the loop on that, so that we know why these items are falling off agendas." Wehrman had joined aldermen Brian Giles, Mike Feirer and Russ Stauber in voting to move ahead with the project when the Board of Public Works advanced its latest recommendation for the construction to commence.

Prior to the vote, several downtown business and property owners urged council members to table.

"The new restrooms are to replace the current porta-potties. There are currently two porta-potties, which are not enough for events," said Tom Witzel, a former alderman who owns Hub City Ice Cream Company at 111 W. Second St. across from the plaza, during public comments. "Where will the temporary porta-potties be placed for large events? How long will it be before the council decides the new restrooms need to be expanded? How much more of the Second Street frontage will be blocked by the expanded restrooms? The city has made comment that they need storage space for items used at the Wenzel Plaza. Where will that next building be constructed, and how much more of the plaza will be walled off when another building is constructed for equipment?"

Chris Howard, a downtown property owner, was also in opposition of constructing a permanent bathroom facility in the plaza.

"As you know, Katie Stieber made an offer to purchase Blodgett Haus and she is willing to rent bathrooms to the city," Howard told the council during his public comments. "Building would take a greenspace and obstruct the view to and from the plaza. Renting would keep the plaza beautiful. Building separates the plaza from the Second Street corridor and makes it less attractive to investors. Renting gives kids and families access to bathrooms without losing sight of the long-term vision of the Second Street corridor. Building would provide two toilets. Renting would provide five toilets right away, with the option to add a sixth - and possibly even a seventh - toilet in the future," Howard added. "That could accommodate a fairly large event without the need to rent any porta-potties."

Howard added building bathrooms would cost the

See PLAZA page 11

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Schultz leaving Marshfield Area Community Foundation

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD -- The Marshfield Area Community Foundation announces the resignation of Stacey Schultz, who has served as Executive Director for the past five years. Stacey has accepted a new opportunity as the Executive Director at the Homer Foundation in Homer, Alaska, where she will continue her work leading a community foundation.

During her tenure, Stacey has made significant contributions to the Marshfield Area Community Foundation, including the oversight of several projects and new funds administered by the Foundation, and deepening relationships with donors and partners, a June 25 press release read. Stacey's leadership has been instrumental in growing an already robust scholarship program and bringing efficiencies to several of the Foundation's processes. Stacey has been a driving force behind the foundation's mission to connect people who care with causes that matter to enrich the quality of life here in the Marshfield area, the release continued.

"We are deeply grateful for Stacey's dedication and visionary leadership," said



Schultz

Ryan Christianson, Chair of the Board of Directors. "While we are saddened to see Stacey go, we are excited for her new opportunity and are confident that she

will continue to make a positive impact in her new role."

Stacey's last day with the Marshfield Area Community Foundation will be Aug. 9. The Board of Directors is confident they speak on behalf of the entire community as they wish her all the best in her future endeavors and look forward to seeing the continued success of the of the Foundation through this transition and beyond.

The Board of Directors has initiated a search for a new Executive Director and is committed to finding a leader who will continue to build on Stacey's accomplishments. Information on that role is available at www.marshfield.foundation/executivedirector. The application deadline is July 8.

For more information, please contact the Executive Committee at director@marshfield.foundation.

About the Foundation

The Marshfield Area Community Foundation, Inc. is a public, 501(c)(3) charity established in 1993. Since its inception the Foundation has grown from an initial challenge grant of \$25,000 to over \$14 million in assets. These funds include unrestricted funds, designated funds, field of interest funds, scholarship funds, donor advised funds, project specific, fiscal sponsorship funds and legacy funds. More information is available at www.marshfield.foundation.

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OBITUARIES



MARY ANN GESSERT
Mary Ann Gessert (Collins), 77, passed away on Sunday, June 16, 2024, at the House of the Dove in Marshfield. Mary was born on May 12, 1947 in Marshfield, WI to Sidney and Esther (Camden) Collins and attended and graduated from the Loyal school system. On August 1, 1969, she was united in marriage to Lawrence Gessert. They were married for almost 51 years until his death in 2020.

She had several jobs over the years including a position as personnel and training manager at K-Mart in Marshfield, where she worked for 20 years. Mary was a devoted wife and a loving mother and sister. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends.



ARNOLD "ARNIE" "A.J." H. JAGODZINSKI
Arnold "Arnie" "A.J." H. Jagodzinski, age 91, of Owen, passed away surrounded by his loving family on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at the Colonial Center in Colby under the tender care of Heartland Hospice. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Owen. Father Timothy Oudenhoven will officiate. Interment to follow at Riverside Cemetery in Withee with Military Honors provided by Owen American Legion Post #123, Owen-Withee Vets Club and Thorp VFW Post #9057. Family and friends are welcome from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Wednesday at the church. The Maurina-Schilling Funeral Home in Owen is entrusted with the arrangements.

Arnold was born on June 15, 1933, the son of Paul and Clara (Miller) Jagodzinski in the Town of Green Grove. He attended Atwood School. Arnold served in the US Army from 1957-59, stationed at Ft Chaffee in Arkansas. On August 1, 1959, Arnold was united in marriage to Patricia Chudyk at St. Mary Catholic Church in Colby. They later divorced.

Arnold was a farmer all his life and was a lifelong resident of Green Grove. He loved Green Grove and never wanted to stray too far. Arnold also loved singing, playing guitar and played in bands all his life. Arnold is survived by his four children: Arnold R. (Carrie) Jagodzinski, Kathleen (Rodney) DeCaire, Kristalin Leonhardt (Mike Warren Kobs) and Jason (Nicole) Jagodzinski; seven grandchildren: Amanda (Ben) DeCaire-Denk, Courtney (Michael) Gable, Cody (Annie) Clark, Lucas Jagodzinski, Stephanie (fiancé, Shane Zahradka) DeCaire, Kyra Jagodzinski and Devin Jagodzinski; three great-grandchildren: Aubrianna Denk, Ryan and Griffin Gable. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and his friend, Jim Leonhardt and all those who assisted him. He is preceded in death by his parents; his daughter, Kristine Klair Jagodzinski; seven brothers and sisters: Margie Buchholz, Donald Graham, Emily Makovec, James Jagodzinski, Lillian Reed, Paul Jagodzinski and Ruthie Knecht and his long time girlfriend, Emerita Phillips. A special thank you to Dr. Carolyn Ostrander, Mary Mack and Heartland Hospice and the staff at the Colonial Center for their compassionate care of Arnold. Family and friends may express condolences online at www.maurinaschilling.com.



JOYCE M. WISKERCHEN
Joyce M. Wiskerchen, 87, Marshfield, passed away in the early morning of Friday, June 21, 2024, at the Stoney River Assisted Living Center in Marshfield, WI.

A Memorial Service will be held at Remb's Funeral Home, 300 S. Oak Ave, Marshfield, on Friday, June 28, 2024. The family will receive relatives and friends beginning at 3:30 pm followed by a memorial service to be officiated at 4:30 pm by the Rev. Jared N. Clements. A reception and meal will follow next door at Rembs Celebration Center. Cremains will be placed in Hillside Cemetery after the meal.

Joyce Monica Gotz was born on April 8, 1937, in Auburndale to George and Bernice (Baltus) Gotz, growing up on a farm. Joyce attended St. Mary's Catholic School and later graduated as a member of the class of 1955 from Columbus Catholic High School in Marshfield. Following graduation, she was employed as a private secretary at the Roddis Lumber Company, later known as the Weyerhaeuser Company.

She was married to Ronald J. Wiskerchen on October 31, 1959, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Auburndale. In addition to raising their six children, Joyce was regularly active in the local community, including as a member of the Marshfield Garden Club for over 50 years. She also organized many local events including the first "Christmas Cookie Walk" fundraiser and the first "Salad Luncheon and Style Show", both at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church. She enjoyed spending winters in Scottsdale, AZ, and summer days at the family cottage on the Big Eau Pleine reservoir and since 1990 at Mead Lake. Joyce is survived by six children: Judy (Thad) Edwards, Pensacola, FL, Tom (Chris) Wiskerchen, Scottsdale, AZ, Nancy Wiskerchen, Marshfield, Kathy (Joe) Burnett, Spencer, John (Lorri Prince), Stevens Point, Jay (Brooke Bailey), Los Angeles, CA. She is further survived by 11 grandchildren: Christopher, Ben, Anna, Jaynie, Laura, Wyatt, Jack, Erica, Jordan, Sam, and Grace. Joyce is further survived by her sisters Lois Hauke, Wisconsin Rapids, and Rosemarie Weber, Bakerville. Preceding her in death was her husband of 64 years, Ronald J. Wiskerchen, daughter Jane at birth, her parents, George and Bernice Gotz, Auburndale, and sisters, Lucille Wolf, Marshfield, and Dorothy Cournoyer, Wausau. In lieu of flowers and plants, memorial gifts may be designated in Joyce's name to the Marshfield Garden Club, for their city beautification activities conducted throughout the year. Condolences may be sent online to www.rembsfh.com



PATRICK IMHOFF
Patrick Imhoff, age 75, of Marshfield, passed away from his battle with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy early Monday, June 24, 2024, at Three Oaks Health Services in Marshfield. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 AM Monday, July 1, 2024, at St. John the Baptist Church (201 W Blodgett Street) in Marshfield. Visitation will be held at St. John the Baptist Church from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM July 1, 2024. Burial will take place at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Marshfield.

Pat was born December 24, 1948, the son of Bill and Lois Imhoff (Meyers) in Dodgeville. He graduated from Webb High School of Reedsburg in 1967. On June 1, 1974, Pat was united in marriage to the love of his life Helga (Maraszek) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Reedsburg, WI. Those who knew Pat well knew he was truly a man of his faith. In his spare time, he enjoyed spending time with family and friends, golfing, reading, sports, reffing, walking his dogs, dining out and spending time on the patio relaxing and sitting by the fire. Pat is lovingly survived by his wife: Helga; children: Joe (Jenny) of Milwaukee; Michael (April) of New Fairfield, CT; grandchildren: Reagan of Milwaukee and Gianna and Mason of New Fairfield, CI; siblings: Bill Imhoff of Reedsburg; MaryJo Cooper of Reedsburg; Jean McGuire of Highland; Jane (Tom) LaBansky of Reedsburg; and Louise (Gordy) Muehe of Hillpoint and Margaret (Gary) Smelcer of Hillpoint. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews and many great nieces and great nephews. He will truly be missed. Pat is preceded in death by his parents: Bill and Lois, his brothers: Paul (infancy) and Jim; his brother-in-laws: Jim McGuire and Gary Cooper; his sister-in-laws: Nancy Imhoff and Dee Imhoff; his nephew: Tom Imhoff; and many aunts, uncles and his grandparents.

We wish to thank Three Oaks Health Services, Heartland Hospice, Wells Nature View and Inclusa for their great care of Pat during his illness. Online condolences may be made at www.hansenschillingfuneralhome.com for your convenience. In lieu of flowers, remembrances of Pat's life and love can be made through donations to Cure SMA (www.curesma.org) or the Muscular Dystrophy Association (www.mda.org).

Marshfield native named to Marquette Dean's List

MILWAUKEE -- Melanie Lang of Marshfield has been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2024 semester at Marquette University in Milwaukee. Lang is pursuing a Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies. To make the Dean's List, students must have earned at least 12 credits for the spring 2024 semester and have no

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Honoring Marshfield's 150th

Marshfield 150 for 150: Lori Belongia

NOMINATED BY DEB JOHNSTON

The Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library became a reality because the community recognized and supported its need. It wouldn't exist without the donation of its namesake, Everett Roehl, the advocacy of Mayor Chris Meyer and the countless others who helped move the project forward. Standing out amongst the others was the tireless effort of a humble leader, former library director Lori Belongia, who rallied the community to the cause. Over the decade-long project, she never lost sight of the goal to provide a state-of-the-art library for Marshfield's current residents, as well as for future generations.

For years, Lori – with the encouragement of the library board – nurtured the idea of renovating and improving the existing library space for future needs. The push towards a new building developed from a design charette held in July 2010, where all the conceptual designs created shared a common feature – locating a community/senior center in the existing library space and building a new library.

Over the next five years Lori facilitated and coordinated all phases of the new building design and construction with city officials and departments, library staff, community volunteers, donors, architects, and contractors. Ground was broken on July 31, 2015 and the new Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library opened to the public with a ribbon cutting on Sept. 6, 2016.

Karen Hocking, who with her husband Bill served as members of the new library's fundraising committee, said, "Lori was an amazing leader in advancing the building project through a very lengthy process while continuing to manage the daily functions of the library."

Asked once what is unique about the culture of the Marshfield library, Lori responded, "This library exists to find ways to say 'yes' to the ideas, needs, and desires of our community. This is their library. We are here to make this a better place to live, learn, work, and play. Of course, it's not possible to be and do all things, but we look for ways to collaborate, compromise, and bring other partners into the mix to concentrate on what we can do."

That "can do" attitude and willingness to collaborate with others was perhaps Lori's greatest strength as a leader at the library. While working as the library's adult services supervisor, Lori participated with the Marshfield



History Project to create the two Marshfield history books, *The Marshfield Story: Pieces of Our Past* in 1997, and *The Marshfield Story: Windows to Our Past* in 2000. Project Coordinator Don Schnitzler credited Lori's willingness to say, "I can do that" as important to seeing both books published. She helped with typing, editing, proofreading, promotion and indexing. Schnitzler added, "Most importantly indexing, Lori's push for a thorough index greatly enhanced the value of both books, by improving their usability."

In 2006, the library joined the Historic Preservation Month Planning Committee, a collaboration of local historical associations, societies and groups, to increase awareness and interest in local historic records and education. Three activities have been hosted at the library each year during Historic Preservation Month. The "Marshfield Past, Present and Future" middle school art exhibit was originally coordinated by Lori and middle school art instructor Eric Nelson; a Community History Program, which has since evolved into the monthly Spoken History lecture series; and an introductory family history workshop. Lori's collaborations also extended beyond Marshfield's boundaries as seen in efforts related to the Wood County Veteran's Memorial Project in 2007 and adoption of the LZ Lambeau Vietnam Veteran's Obituary Project for orphan counties in 2010.

Lori's tireless efforts on behalf of the library and

community have been recognized in the past. In 1997, as the adult services supervisor and assistant library director, Lori was named Main Street Marshfield Downtown Employee of the year. In 2008, under her leadership as library director, the library earned the Governor's Archive for Archival Achievement Award. It recognized the library's continued work to build a local historical and genealogical collection in a variety of formats and the community partnerships that led to the publication of two Marshfield Community Stories Projects in 2006 and 2007. Lori was recognized in 2016, with the John Christner Local Historian Award for her contributions to the Marshfield History Project and longstanding commitment and support of collecting and protecting historical records for Marshfield and the surrounding communities. Later that same year, Lori also received a Marshfield People of the Year Award for her efforts related to the new Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library.

In 2020, just prior to Lori's retirement from the library, Friends of the Marshfield Public Library shared stories, poems, and music about remarkable people when their annual *Timeless Tales* presented "People Who Make a Difference!" As readings and performances neared the end, Jean Swenson, FOMPL member and former library board president, called Lori to the stage and highlighted some of ways in which she had made a difference here during her 33 years of service at the library. In closing remarks Jean said, "Lori made Marshfield more beautiful by planting the seeds of reading for kids and adults, which blossomed into our new library and community center. She has made a difference and for that we are grateful."

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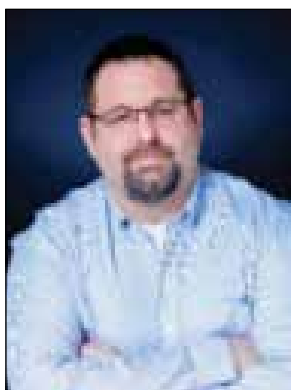
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Adam D. Steiner Legacy Scholarship

This scholarship fund was created in memory of Adam D. Steiner. Adam's true passion surfaced after beginning his career in agricultural technology and robotic dairy farming equipment. His family created this scholarship in Adam's memory to support an educational path for students wanting to advance in the agricultural field. Adam had great respect for the family farm and special consideration will be given to those individuals who grew up on a working farm. He left us far too soon, but we are hoping his legacy will live on for many generations. For more information or to donate to this fund, visit: <https://www.marshfield.foundation>.

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MARCC hosts Annual Garden Tour, entertainment

MARSHFIELD -- Marshfield Area Respite Care Center (MARCC), a United Way Partner, hosts its 28th Annual Garden Tour on Sunday, July 14, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. The tour includes a self-guided tour of these five beautiful gardens:

Dean Liska & Steven Korzinek, 118605 and 118607 Logger Rd., Stratford;

John & Carol Berg, 1401 S. Adams, Marshfield;

Helen & Greg Brown, 814 W. Fourth St., Marshfield;

Mike & Carolyn Schulein, 1100 Onstad Dr., Marshfield;

Julie Tharp, 808 W. Upham, Marshfield

The tour includes entertainment at Wesley United Methodist Church, 211 S. Maple Ave. The Heart O' Wisconsin Sweet Adelines will perform at 2 p.m. The Marshfield Ukulele Group will perform at 3 p.m.

Also at Wesley United Methodist Church (WUMC) will be a tea with treats, a drawing, raffle, and silent auction.

Tickets are \$10 and available now at Schalow's Nursery, MACCI, and at MARCC, 211 S. Maple Ave. Tickets will be available at WUMC and at all garden sites on July 14. For more information, please contact Marilyn Seidl-Kramer at 715-384-8478 or 715-305-8224.



Dean Liska & Steven Korzinek will be showing off these gardens at 118605 and 118607 Logger Rd., Stratford, during the 28th Annual Garden Tour offered by the Marshfield Area Respite Care Center. Submitted photo

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Echoes

Dear Reader,

What is the meaning of life?

I don't think the question can be answered in any universal sense. But each of us is faced with a more personal question: What is the meaning of my life?

Recently I spent some time pondering this question, and came up with some conclusions that try to answer it, at least for myself. My answer came to me in verse. If you are with me this far – the big question of meaning in life, whether short or long, whether sweet or sour – then I hope you will enjoy this poem.



PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

- Ephemeral Echoes -

In fleeting moments, our lives unfold,
A whisper of time, so brief, so bold.
We gather treasures, build empires high,
Yet dust and shadows claim them, by...and by.

What worth are riches, amassed with pride,
When we depart, we leave them slide.
The houses of stone, the gold we glean,
Fade into whispers, a forgotten dream.

For in this world, our stay is brief,
A tale of joy, of pain, of grief.
We grasp at moments, clutch to hold,
Yet time slips by, relentless, cold.

We journey onward, beyond the veil,
Where earthly gains cannot prevail.
No wealth or power can cross that gate,
Only warmth and kindness we create.

So ponder not on what we own,
But on the seeds of care we've sown.
For in the end, what truly remains,
Are the hearts we've touched, the love that reigns.

Let go of burdens, the worldly chase,
Embrace the light, the higher grace.
For in the end, we all must see,
There's something beyond you and me.

And as we leave, with nothing in hand,
We find our place in a promised land.
So live with purpose, love with might,
For what we leave is pure and bright.

###

Marshfield resident receives accounting scholarship

WAUKESHA – Christian Chin, a Marshfield resident and UW-Madison student, has received a LeRoy C. Schmidt 150-Hour Scholarship for \$2,500 from the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants (WICPA) Educational Foundation.

The LeRoy C. Schmidt 150-Hour Scholarships are named after former WICPA Executive Director LeRoy C. Schmidt, CPA, who served from 1990 to 2006. He was passionate about promoting the accounting profession and actively involved in the 150-hour legislative process. Multiple recipients are selected for this scholarship.

Fourteen accounting students in total received scholarships from the WICPA Educational Foundation. Recipients were selected by the WICPA Educational Foundation's Scholarship Selection Committee based on academic achievement, community service, personal statements and recommendation letters.

The WICPA Educational Foundation supports programs to improve awareness of the accounting profession and ensure the advancement and vitality of the profession.



Chin

LANG

from page 4

disqualifying grades. The GPA threshold varies by college - for the College of Education and the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences, undergraduate students must have at least a 3.7 to be named to the Dean's List.

The undergraduate GPA requirement is 3.5 for the following colleges: the Diederich College of Communication, the College of Business Administration, the College of Health Sciences, the Opus College of Engineering and the College of Nursing. All other programs have a 3.75 GPA minimum.

Marquette University is a Catholic, Jesuit university that draws over 7,600 undergraduate and 3,700 graduate and professional students from nearly all states and more than 60 countries. Find out more about Marquette at marquette.edu.



Lang

4th of July Events!

Come Out For The Marshfield 4th Of July Fireworks Celebration!

Marshfield Fairgrounds • Fireworks start at 10:00 PM.
Rain Date is Friday, July 5th at 10:00pm

LOYAL • July 3-West Side Park
ABBOTSFORD • July 4-Red Arrow Park
GREENWOOD • July 4-George Scherer Athletic Park

NEILLSVILLE • July 4-Clark County Fairgrounds.
PITTSVILLE • July 4-Parade at noon. Fireworks at Dusk
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UPGRADES from page 1

"Folks are very much driven by needs versus wants," Leatherman told board members. "Athletics are a want in the minds of the public in difficult financial times. It is unusual to have that level of sixty percent support."

As for a potential referendum to achieve additional funding to make facility improvements, half of those polled said they already have their minds made up, without even knowing what it is they'd be voting on.

If they heard the district was going to ask for a property tax increase, 26 percent of the 400 residents surveyed said they'd be all for it, while 24 percent were against all. The other 50 percent said they're still persuadable.

"It's always going to come down to the persuadables," Leatherman said. "In the 90s and the first part of this century, that persuadable category was seventy-five to eighty percent. Where we're at now is we have half the people that have made up their minds with no information, because I haven't told them what the money's going to be used for. I haven't told them how much it costs," Leatherman added. "You have fifty percent that are for it or against it regardless of the details, and that's just the current state of where we're at when we're talking about funding requests."

And while there is support for additional taxes going toward new-and-improved facilities, 86 percent agreed the district's current buildings and facilities meet the needs of educating today's children.

"But it's a soft yes. It's yes, not strongly yes," said Leatherman. And, ideally, if you do go for a facilities request, the discussion is how do these improvements improve the quality of education for children. There are very few districts across the upper Midwest that like bright, shiny buildings for bright, shiny buildings' sake. It's function. It's form. It's education and how it improves the kids' future."

That education also received high marks from those polled. Sixty-two percent said the quality of education in the school district was good, while 21 percent said it was excellent.

"You're twice the norm on the excellent rating," Leatherman noted.

As for what they like the most about the Marshfield School District, 23 percent gave teachers their vote, but high achievement statistics, good academics and sports all

got high marks.

"It's basically a statistical tie between the personnel side and the academic quality, with the actual curriculum being at a lower level of what they value most in the district," said Leatherman.

As for the most serious issues currently facing the district, 13 percent said it was a lack of funding, while 13 percent identified discipline/bullying as the most pressing matter. Meanwhile, 17 percent see no problems with the district.

"Before the pandemic the norm was twelve percent," Leatherman noted. "People have found more things to be unhappy about," he said. "Since the pandemic it's been driven down to five percent, so you're three times the number of boosters. And these folks are supportive throughout, whether we're talking about their perceptions on financial quality, administration, governance or potential funding requests. That's a large reservoir, unusually high reservoir of boosters than we typically see in 2024."

Some of those boosters agreed district and elected officials have been good stewards of their tax dollars. Of those surveyed, 73 percent said the district spends the taxpayers' money effectively and efficiently, while four out of five agreed residents receive a good value for their investment. Seventy-six percent said the district does a good job of involving the community and are satisfied with decision-making.

Teachers were given the highest job performance rating, at 86 percent. The

superintendent and administration had a 72 percent approval rating, while 68 percent gave the Board of Education a positive review.

Of the 400 people who took the survey, 28 percent were 18 to 34-year-olds, while another 28 percent were 65 and older. Sixty-nine percent lived within the city limits of Marshfield, while the rest were in rural areas of the district. Thirty-three percent have lived in the district 10 years or less, while 25 percent have been residents for 11 to 20 years, and 22 percent have been district residents for over 30 years.

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Note: There will be a drop box outside our office door, or you can mail your entry.

DEADLINE DATE! 5:00PM JULY 11, 2024

F	C	Y	Q	H	Y	C	T	X	I	Z	C	T	C	K	X	U	T	J	E
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4TH OF JULY Word Search Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City//State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____

I Would Like To Spend My Winnings At: _____
 (name of ONE participating merchant at left)

Engines roared as Honor Ride arrived at The Highground

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

NEILLSVILLE -- On May 27, 176 motorcyclists from across Wisconsin began their ride to honor fallen service members and Veterans for the 14th Annual Honor Ride.

The Highground hosted nine routes this year: Wisconsin Rapids, Neillsville, Appleton King/Waupaca, Minocqua, Eau Claire, Wausau, Milwaukee/Madison, Boscobel/Tomah, and Onalaska. The routes met at the American Legion Post 73 in Neillsville for lunch and a chance to win one or more of the twenty-five raffle prizes available during the event. As the routes lined up for the Memorial Day ride through town, the Neillsville



Riders arrive at The Highground during the 2024 Honor Ride.

Volunteer Fire Department took the lead as escort, followed by the Patriot Motorcycle Hearse as the motorcycles rode behind.

"Feeling and hearing the rumble of so many bikes really stirs emotions inside me on such a reflective day," says a Veteran of Operation

Enduring Freedom.

This year, Leathernecks MC Road Warriors members performed the Honor Guard to place a Legacy Stone for a fallen Marine brother after the Memorial Day ceremony. Chris Pettis, executive director of The Highground, introduced

retired Air Force Veteran Eric Chandler as the guest speaker. Eric was an F-16 pilot who was deployed three times to enforce the no-fly zone during Operation Southern Watch. Eric provided a phenomenal speech that won't be forgotten. The Neillsville Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts helped with the Pledge of Allegiance and the somber ringing of the bell during the reading by guest volunteers of the 100 KIA names from the Korean War to present day.

The Highground is beyond grateful for the volunteer ride organizers and leaders—Appleton King/Waupaca & Wisconsin Rapids: Bill Flemal and Doug Maurtiz with VFW Riders District 7, Neillsville: Dennis and Tracy Fick; Minocqua: Kenneth Lanier; Eau Claire: David Loudon; Wausau: John Napierala with Bull Falls HOG Chapter 4667; Milwaukee/Madison: Chad & Rhonnie Garcia; Boscobel/Tomah: Mark Konichek; and Onalaska: Eric Johnson with American Legion Riders District 7.

Thank you to the
See HONOR page 11



Kayaking workshop at Brunet Island State Park during this year's Ice Age Trail Female Veterans Retreat.

Submitted photos

JULY Events and special promotions happening locally this month!

JULY 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

IMPORTANT DATES
 4th - Independence Day
 25th-27th - Hub City Days

Featured Events

Marshfield Senior Center
PIE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL
 Senior Center on 2nd street
 July 15th - 1-2:30pm

\$2 piece of pie, scoop of ice cream and coffee
 Entertainment by Ukulele Music

To promote your August events on this page, contact Peggy Sue at 715-305-4345 or email: marshfield@mmclocal.com

WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

THE SOUNDTRACK OF THE VIETNAM WAR

Rolling Stone's #1 Best Music Book of 2015

DOUG BRADLEY AND CRAIG WERNER

"We Gotta Get Out of This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War" was named "Best Music Book of 2015" by Rolling Stone magazine. Submitted image

Pittsville Area Community Theater presents

The Tin Woman

A heartwarming dramatic comedy inspired by a true story

Written by Sean Grennan
 Directed by Roxie Wetterau

JULY 12, 13, 19, & 20 - 7:30 p.m.
 JULY 14 & 21 - 2:00 p.m.

Pittsville Auditorium
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 pittsvilletheater@gmail.com

General Admission Tickets: Eventbrite
 \$12 in advance
 \$15 at the door

Classifieds

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MARSHFIELD AREA RESPITE CARE CENTER

28th Annual Garden Tour

Sunday, July 14th, 2024
 1:00 to 4:30

Tickets: \$10.00

GARDENS:
 Carolyn & Mike Schulein • 1100 Onstad Dr.
 Julie Tharp • 808 W. Upham
 Carol & John Berg • 1401 S. Adams
 Helen & Greg Brown • 814 W. 4th St.
 Dean Liska & Steven Korzinek
 118605 & 118607 Logger St, Stratford

There will be a tea with treats at the Wesley United Methodist Church 1-4:30 pm
 Also, a door prize registration and a raffle Heart O'Wisconsin Sweet Adeline's at 2:00
 Marshfield Ukulele Group 3:15

Tickets available at:
 Marshfield Area Respite Care Center, Schalow's Nursery and Garden Center, the MACCI, and the gardens the day of the tour or for further information contact:
 Marilyn Seidl-Kramer 384-8478 or 305-8224

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CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements 7005

Hub City Times Classified Ad Deadline
To place a classified ad call our office at 715-384-4440 or online at classifiedsmmc.com before 10am on Friday. Your ad will run in the paper the following week. Cost starts at \$10/week for 5 lines (appx 25 words). Prepayment is required.

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! **PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!** For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact **The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)**

Estate Sales 7208

Estate Specialists Estate Sale
July 4-5 @ 9:00 Am Thursday & Friday
310 W 28th Circle, Marshfield Near Airport
Items To Include: Several Shelving Units, Car Ramps, Hand & Power Tools, Bench Vise, Hand Saws, Up Right & Chest Freezers, Air Compressor, ATV Jack, Hose Reels, Gas Cans, Lawn & Garden Tools, Bandsaw, Oak Dining Room Table & Chairs, Kneehole Desk, Oak Bookshelf, Blankets, Sheets, Kitchen Cookware & Bakeware, Small Appliances, Tupperware, Office Desk & Chair, File Cabinets, Sofa, Recliner Chair, Bar Stools, Sentry Floor Safe, Lamps & End Tables, Cedar Chest, Antique Oak Wash Stand & Blanket Chest, Queen Size Bed, Antique Oak Rocking Chair, Antique Dishes, Depression Glass, RW Crock & Spongware Adv Bowls, 1941 Coca Cola Tray, Antique Toys, Vintage Zenith Turntable, Records, Books, Dometop Trunk, Antique Clock, Kraut Cutter, Luggage, Kirby Vacuum, Pet Carrier, X-Mas Decor, Storage Totes, Antiques, Antique Gem Roller Organ With Wooden Cobbs, Lightning Rods & Balls, Hundreds Of Real Photo Postcards, Old Photo Albums, Hull, Roseville, McCoy Pottery, Carnival Glass & Small Items.
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ACA REG Golden Retriever Pups Shots/Wormed Great Pets \$300 715-667-3342

AKC BERNESE MOUNTAIN PUPS Born May 6, used to children, Friendly & cute, 1st shots/vet checked \$1000 Also Mini Aussie-Doodles Born May 18 \$1000 715-669-3847

AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS black/red shots good temp 715-250-1317 715-250-4426

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Dogs 7272

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HONOR from page 8

Neillsville Fire Department, the Neillsville Police Department, the Clark County Sheriff's Department, the Tomah Police Department and the Black River Falls Police Department for providing safe passage to The Highground. Information about next year's Honor Ride will be available online later this year at thehighgroundhonorride.com.

Female Veterans enjoy four-day Outdoor Skills Retreat

Nature-based activities are proven to boost mental health, lessen anxiety and add to physical and spiritual well-being. To harness these benefits, The Highground led a four-day female Veterans retreat May 30-June 2 near Holcombe. This was the second annual Ice Age Trail hiking retreat offered by The Highground, with kayaking instruction added this year at Brunet Island State Park.

Female Veterans sometimes find it hard to locate and join groups of women who share a military background. Often isolated, many of these Veterans also are managing post-traumatic stress (PTS) and/or are survivors of military sexual trauma. The intent of this retreat was to encourage camaraderie and education within a nature-based atmosphere of trust, safety and fun.

The female Veterans experienced several confidence-building skills workshops, including how to set up and use their individual backpacking tents, stoves, outdoor cooking techniques, and how to kayak. Post-traumatic stress (PTS) management skills with meditation and mindfulness activities were integrated into each day. These activities, along with trail hiking, were enjoyed within the company and camaraderie of female veterans and retreat volunteers.

Planning for the retreat was closely collaborated with Vicki Christianson of the Ice Age Trail Alliance, Veteran Pete Kitzhaber, who has several years of experience leading back-country group hiking and camping expeditions, Veteran Pete Kern, operations manager at The Highground, who led the mindfulness workshops, and Zachary Thon of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources/Brunet Island State Park. Kaylee Gransee, Linda Tomsevics, Kathi Kramasz and Erin Stauffenecker of the Wausau Whitewater and Team River Runner Milwaukee Chapter coordinated and led kayak instruction and a morning group paddling excursion around Brunet Island State Park. The kayak rental was donated to the retreat by the Friends of Brunet Island State Park.

The Birch Creek Town Hall and township members helped make the retreat a comfortable and enjoyable experience for all by allowing the town hall and surrounding area to be a base of operations. The group set up their individual campsites in the wooded area around the Birch Creek Town Hall and used the town hall to wash up, hold some workshops and activities, and eat some of their meals. Nightly bonfires provided a great setting for conversation, laughter and s'mores.

Retreat Veterans were given supplies to take home that will help them to continue backpacking and to experience PTS growth. Among the items that they received were PTS/MST management books and resources, backpacking daypacks, tent lanterns, compasses, hiking poles, water bottles, and more. All Veterans were also given the choice to take home one of the following: a backpacking two-person tent, a sleeping bag and sleeping pad, or a backpacking stove, fuel and mess kit.

A multiple-day Veterans' event such as this requires a lot of support. In addition to the individuals and groups mentioned already, there were several sponsors that helped create this successful female veterans retreat. These sponsors included a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and additional funding from The National Society of the Dames of the Court of Honor, Maureen Hornung, Carol Shea, Harold Schmitt, Dreier-Bushee-Vanderboom American Legion Post 156, Dorothy and Dean Evensen, Pam Graham, the American Legion Eau Claire County Counsel, and donations made in the memory of Deb Klabon.

To sponsor or support The Highground's Veterans Programs, please call 715-743-4224 or email Theresa Hebert, retreat coordinator at The Highground, at museum@thehighground.org.

See HONOR page 12



Support our Sponsorship Group for 2 WAYS TO HELP

#GivingInJuly

When you sponsor 2 veterans' wreaths through our group, we receive 3 wreaths to place at our selected participating location this December!

When you sponsor a \$17 veteran's wreath through our Sponsorship Group, our organization receives \$5 back to support our own mission!

Help Marshfield, WI Veteran Council honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave December 14th at Hillside Cemetery. Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/WI0091



Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, which was begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. The organization's yearlong mission - Remember, Honor, Teach - is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in December at Arlington and at thousands of veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

PLAZA from page 2

community \$250,000, or \$1,315 per square foot, while Stieber is asking \$2,000 per month in rent.

"A local realtor estimated the market value at between \$2,385 and \$2,700 a month," Howard noted. "Katie's offering a lower rent than market value to make it an even easier decision for you, and to create a win-win agreement."

Howard also said building bathrooms would provide 190 square feet of space, while renting from Stieber would provide more than 600 square feet of bathroom space, plus more than 1,600 square feet of storage for the plaza.

"The consultants you hired to give you advice on developing the Second Street corridor sent a letter saying they do not support building bathrooms at the proposed location," Howard told aldermen. "That should matter to you. Vandewalle (& Associates) understands place-making, economic development and small business. That's why you hired them. They suggested locating

bathrooms on the east side of the plaza, where there just happens to be bathrooms already built that are available for rent."

According to a June 17 memo from Parks & Recreation Director Justin Casperson to the Board of Public Works, the Wenzel Plaza bathroom project "includes the construction of a block stand-alone building located on the north side of the plaza and centrally located between east and west sides. The work shall include, but not limited to: electric, plumbing, HVAC, masonry, steel, rough and finish carpentry, roofing, insulation, doors, frames, hardware, restroom fixtures, painting, signage, toilet accessories, concrete, excavation, landscaping, and site restoration. The budget for the project is \$262,500. The project has incurred costs in the amount of \$39,283.00 for architectural and engineering design work and construction and bidding document preparation. The balance is \$223,217."

Blodgett Haus is the former Penney Court at 222 S. Central Avenue. Its back entrance is just across an alley from the plaza.

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| SPORTS |

Chaparrals use marathon inning to sink River Bandits

BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD -- When it's your night, it can be a lot of fun. When it's not your night, it can be excruciating. Such was the case in the June 26 matchup between the Marshfield Chaparrals and the Pittsville River Bandits at Hackman Field in Marshfield.

The two Dairyland League teams squared off in a non-league amateur baseball game that started like any other. There were the introductions of the starting lineups and the singing of our National Anthem. The kids in attendance got to run around the bases prior to the first pitch, which was thrown out collectively by Children's Miracle Network kids and families. Then the game started, and quickly went in two very different directions for the respective clubs.

The top of the first inning was fairly routine. Evan Haley smacked a leadoff single for the visitors. Dylan Luther followed with a single, which he turned into a double as Haley broke for third, where he was thrown out. After Ben Friday was retired, Ryan Schwanebeck hit an RBI base hit that scored Luther. Grant Rademan then struck out to end the Pittsville first.

That's when the hit (and run) parade began for the home team. During a 35-minute onslaught, the Chaparrals

unleashed a 17-run, 13-hit inning, using 22 batters while going through two Pittsville pitchers.

The inning featured three plate appearances by the first four batters in Marshfield's lineup.

Leadoff hitter Isaiah Baierl went 2-for-2 with a walk, three RBIs and three runs scored. Kenny Schultz went 2-for-2 with a walk, two runs batted in and two runs scored. Riley Bauman cracked two doubles, drove in a pair of runs and scored twice. And Logan Homolka smacked a two-run single and a three-run triple while scoring once. Every batter but one got at least one hit in the inning. The only one who didn't -- Carsten Jirschele -- still walked and scored, along with everyone else in the Marshfield lineup.

The first inning lasted 45 minutes, the same amount of time it took to play out the remainder of the six-and-a-half inning game, which ended on the 10-run rule.

The rest of the contest was fairly routine. The Chaps added another run in the third inning before Pittsville tacked on a run in the top of the fourth. In the home half of that inning, Marshfield's bats came alive once again, although these were different bats, now that the Chaps had substituted out many of their starters by this time.

The five-run outburst featured eleven Marshfield batters, RBI singles by Bauman, Cole Hediger, Al Lalicata and Ben Dietsche, a base hit by Luke Wirtz, a walk to Jirschele and

two hit batters.

Pittsville's offense came alive in the sixth, scoring four runs, thanks to base hits by Dylan Luther and Ben Friday and four walks issued by Jirschele.

Logan Homolka picked up the win for Marshfield. He surrendered one earned run on three hits while striking out three over the first two innings. Jirschele pitched the next four innings before Colin DeBoer closed the door on the River Bandits in the top of the seventh inning.

The Chaps improved to 6-3 with the win, which was their fifth in six games. They have an upcoming schedule which includes five consecutive home games at Hackman Field.

Marshfield will host Waupaca Wednesday, July 10 at 7:15 p.m., Whittlesey on Sunday, July 14 at 1:30 p.m., Rhinelander on Saturday, July 20 at 1:30 p.m., Everest on Sunday, July 21 at 1:30 p.m. and Merrill on Wednesday, July 24 at 7:15 p.m.

The River Bandits also have a five-game homestand coming up. Pittsville will host Abbotsford on Wednesday, July 10 at 7 p.m., Interwald on Sunday, July 14 at 1:30 p.m., Westboro on Sunday, July 21 at 1:30 p.m., Medford on Saturday, July 27 at 7 p.m. and Wisconsin Rapids on Tuesday, July 30 at 7 p.m.

Check each team's Facebook page for updates.

HONOR from page 11

The Highground presents Badger Talk on music of Vietnam era

The Highground Veterans Memorial Park will host a Badger Talk by University of Wisconsin-Madison Professor Emeritus Doug Bradley on Sunday, Aug. 4 at 1 p.m. Bradley will present, "We Gotta Get Out of This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War," which places popular music at the heart of the American experience in Vietnam. The presentation explores how and why U.S. troops turned to music as a way of connecting to each other and the world back home and of coping with the complexities of the war they had been sent to fight. It also demonstrates that music was important for every group of Vietnam veterans—black and white, Latino and Native American; men and women; officers and "grunts"—whose personal reflections drive the book's narrative.

Doug Bradley is a veteran of the Vietnam War and has written two books, *DEROS Vietnam: Dispatches from the Air-Conditioned Jungle* and co-authored, with Professor Craig Werner, *We Gotta Get Out of This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War*, which was named "Best Music Book of 2015" by Rolling Stone magazine.

This presentation is part of The Highground's annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion combining Vietnam exhibits, Huey helicopter displays (a landing is planned weather permitting) and the 1 p.m. presentation by Doug Bradley, which will all be free and open to the public.

Lunch will be free for Vietnam veterans who RSVP before July 31. Vietnam veterans can RSVP with one guest by contacting Theresa by email at museum@thehighground.

org or by calling 715-743-4224.

24th Annual Ride to Remember

Join us on Saturday, Aug. 17 for the 24th Annual Ride to Remember® when we pay tribute to our Veterans, POWs, KIAs, and MIAs. Every third weekend in August, dedicated motorcycle enthusiasts gather to support The Highground's continuing mission to Honor, Educate and Heal our Veterans, families and all who visit.

The entry fee is \$25 per rider or \$45 for a rider with passenger and includes a rocker or patch and lunch.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the American Legion in Neillsville (6 Boon Blvd, Neillsville, WI 54456). Join any of the day's scenic rides led by experienced motorcyclists:

Ride 1: 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Ride 2: Noon-2 p.m.; Ride 3: 1-2 p.m.

Highlights of the event include vendors, a huge "Basket Babes" raffle and live music from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Legion. A procession to The Highground will leave the Legion at 2:45 p.m. followed by a short ceremony. For more information or questions, send an email to events@thehighground.org or call 715-743-4224.

The Highground was founded as a Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 1984 and continues to honor and remember all who have served in any era to this day. More information about The Highground is available online at thehighground.us.

The Highground is located at W7031 Ridge Rd, Neillsville WI 54456. thehighground.us.

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