

Inside This Edition...
SCHOOL NEWS
COLUMBUS
 Pages 10 & 11

We Are
 MAGAZINE 2025
 Details on Page 9

Check out all the open house information and properties for sale Page 7



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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025

VOLUME 41

ISSUE 8

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MARSHFIELD, WI

FREE

Greenwood Police Department close investigation on Greenwood Elementary bomb scare

FOR CITY TIMES
 MARSHFIELD--On Feb. 13, 2025 law enforcement responded to an incident at the Greenwood Elementary School where it was indicated a student may have had an explosive device in their backpack.

As of February 20, 2025, with assistance from the Clark County Sheriff's Department, a full investigation into the incident has been completed. After speaking to several witnesses directly involved with the incident it has been

determined no physical threat was made against any student or the school.

The investigation has uncovered that a student made comments to other students several weeks prior to the incident about a toy in their backpack being a bomb, and later recanted this information to students, indicating they were joking. At no point in the weeks leading up to the incident did any student bring this information to the attention of teachers at the school. It was also determined the student at no time had any intent to threaten or harm anyone, and is not considered to be a threat.

The Greenwood Police Deparment says, "While this incident is nothing less than traumatic, it is important to remember the response given to this incident is the same response given to any other similar incident."

The Greenwood Police Department again would like to thank their partners in law enforcement for their assistance with this matter, as well as the community, students, and staff at the School District of Greenwood for their continued cooperation and understanding as this investigation was completed.

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Mid-State BPA launches shoe drive fundraiser to raise money for national competition

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – Mid-State Technical College's Business Professionals of America (BPA) student organization is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser to raise money for students to attend BPA's national competition in Florida this May. Shoe donations will be accepted through April 3 at the Student Services and Information Center (SSIC) at all Mid-State campuses and the Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering Technology, and Apprenticeship (AMETA™) Center.

BPA members will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of shoes collected. Anyone can help by donating all types of gently used or new shoes.

All donated shoes will be redistributed throughout Funds2Orgs's network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. The



shoes will also be given a second chance by staying out of landfills and will make a difference in people's lives around the world.

Shoe donations are currently being accepted at Mid-State's Adams, Marshfield, Stevens Point Downtown and Wisconsin Rapids Campuses as well as the AMETA Center. For questions about the shoe drive fundraiser, please contact Sharon Behrens, business technology instructor and BPA advisor, at sharon.behrens@mstc.edu or 715-342-3121.

DNR awards \$6 Million in grant funds to protect surface water

Wood County to work with property owners to establish over 100 acres of harvestable buffers

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY--The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recently awarded more than \$6 million in grant funding for lake organizations, nonprofit organizations and municipal and county governments throughout the state.

This grant program provides cost-sharing for projects that restore and protect surface water. The organizations and governments receiving funding will help to restore and protect our state's surface water resources in 2025 and beyond. This year, the program received 418 applications from eligible applicants requesting nearly \$8 million.

Of the applications received, 371 grants totaling more than \$6 million were awarded. The projects are incredibly diverse, including education and outreach activities, management planning, habitat restoration, runoff management, water quality improvement projects and aquatic invasive species prevention and management. The projects selected for awards leverage a substantial amount of local funding and commit to making important contributions to our natural resource legacy.

Annually, the program supports many local and regional partnerships working to improve water quality across counties and watersheds. This year, the program was able to fund several river and lake restoration and management plan implementation projects.

"Grantees, partners and DNR staff are often most excited about implementation-type projects, as it is fulfilling to see ideas, many of which took years of nurturing, come to reality as the projects are initiated and completed," said Jen Jefferson, DNR surface water grant program manager.

Of the seven funded river restoration and implementation projects, one will replace a culvert to improve a road stream crossing (Oneida County), and four will restore segments of Mineral Springs Creek (Ozaukee County), Pigeon Creek (Ozaukee County), the Yahara River (Dane County) and an unnamed tributary to

Lake Winnebago (Calumet County).

Two other projects work to reduce runoff from land adjacent to creeks. The Cedar Grove-Belgium School District (Sheboygan County) will convert around 25 acres of farmland to a naturalized upland-wetland system and Wood County will work with property owners to establish over 100 acres of harvestable buffers.

A total of 14 lake restoration and implementation projects were funded this year and span a wide range of activities, from construction projects and alum treatments to staff positions.

One construction project is in Green Lake County, where the Green Lake Sanitary District has collaborated with many organizations and agencies to install a new barrier that will prevent common carp migration to a marsh adjacent to Green Lake.

Further north in Oneida County, the Northwoods Land Trust, Inc. will create a new staff position to conduct targeted outreach and provide technical services to landowners interested in taking steps to protect their land through conservation programs.

Finally, 156 organizations will receive support to participate in the Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) program and 38 organizations will receive support to participate in the Lake Monitoring and Protection Network (LMPN). As part of CBCW, local advocates focus on education and outreach to empower watercraft users to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. The LMPN supports lake monitoring and aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention activities on a county basis and continues to be present in 69 of 72 counties in Wisconsin.

If your local organization could benefit from a surface water grant, reach out now to determine your eligibility and begin developing your ideas before the Sept. pre-application deadline.

No criminal charges against law enforcement in Grand Rapids death

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY--Recently, Wood County District Attorney Jonathan Barnett, issued his decision regarding

the death of Sewayna E. Bombagi which occurred on Dec. 8, 2024, in the Township of Grand Rapids. The district attorney determined

there will be no criminal charges for involved law enforcement.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation investigative files, along with digital photo, video, and audio records, can be viewed on the Wisconsin DOJ website.

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Light Lunch - 12:00pm

RSVP by March 10, 2025 by calling 715-387-8454

Reminder scholarship applications are due by March 1, 2025



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Times

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Faith Lutheran Church welcomes Bishop Martin Halom for Ash Wednesday Service

FOR CITY TIMES
MARSHFIELD – Faith Lutheran Church will welcome Bishop Martin Halom as a special guest preacher for this year’s Ash Wednesday service on March 5 at 5:15 PM. Bishop Halom was recently elected Bishop of the ELCA Northwest Synod of Wisconsin.
Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal.
“We are truly blessed to have Bishop Halom join us for this meaningful service,” said Pastor Heather Brown, of Faith Lutheran Church. “His leadership and message of faith will undoubtedly be a blessing to all who attend.”
For more information about Bishop Martin Halom and his role within the ELCA Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,



please visit: <https://www.gcsynod.org/news/martin-halom-elected-bishop-of-the-elca-northwest-synod-of-wisconsin>
The service will be held on March 5 at 5:15 PM at Faith Lutheran Church. A soup supper to follow the service.

Wildwood Zoo’s Kodiak Bears, Munsey and Boda, turn 10 years old



Munsey and Boda, who turned ten years old in February, enjoying the Wisconsin winters with the fresh snow.
Photo by Wildwood Park and Zoo

BY KATIE SCHIMKE
MARSHFIELD - - Wildwood Zoo, located in Marshfield, recently celebrated the tenth birthday of their Kodiak Bears, Munsey and Boda. Munsey and Boda, born in Alaska in 2015, were found by a hunting guide named Muke Munsey. Mike called the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to report that a mother bear with three cubs had been shot. Keeping the health and wellbeing of the cubs in mind, Mike was told to

remove the cubs from their den, where they accompanied Mike to a camp where they were given water and milk. The third cub eventually moved on to live in Toledo with other female grizzly bears.
Munsey and Boda got their names from Mike Munsey who found the young cubs, and Nate Svoboda, a Kodiak Wildlife Biologist, who approved their adoption to Wildwood Zoo.
Kodiak Bears typically

have twins, but litters can range from one to four cubs. Kodiak Bear families usually live together for two to three years, making Munsey and Boda’s case a rare circumstance compared to typical routine for the breed.

See **BEARS**
page 4

Save the Date for the Marshfield United We Can 2025



In 2024, Forward Bank won the award for “Fan Favorite 251+” with their sculpture titled “Lend a Helping Can.”

FOR CITY TIMES
MARSHFIELD – The United We Can (UWC) Committee and Marshfield Area United Way (MAUW) invite your business, organization, or family to participate in “United We Can” to support local food pantries.
UWC is a canned food sculpture competition; afterwards the food is donated to the following local food programs: Little Free Pantries of Marshfield, Soup or Socks Food Pantry, Saint Vincent De Paul Food Pantry, and the MAUW NOW Program. This event is virtual, with on-location construction and online voting. There are five different categories to fit your organization; so get your team together and build a sculpture in your workplace or home.
Important Dates:
Feb. 13, 2025: Pre-Registration Begins
March 3-14, 2025: Build Dates
March 14, 2025, 5:00pm: Photo Submission Deadline
March 19, 2025 at 12:00pm: Facebook Voting Opens

March 24, 2025 at 12:00pm: Facebook Voting Closes
March 25, 2025: Winners Announced
Contest Rules:
Each team will build a sculpture of non-perishable food items in their workplace or location. Sculptures must be at least 50% non-perishable food items; food items cannot be altered nor can labels be removed; and food items must not be expired. Teams who will be building larger sculptures can contact Festival Foods or Pick ‘n Save one week prior to building and they will pull your food together for you.
To pre-register for United We Can, please contact Jenni Smith at jenni@marshfieldareaunderway.org.
To enter your submission (by March 14 at 5:00pm), email a photo of your sculpture to Jenni

Smith, along with the following information: Name of Sculpture, Name of Business/Organization/Family, Inventory of the Items used to build the sculpture (for example, 15 boxes of pasta, 20 cans of soup, etc.).
Photos will be posted on the Marshfield Area United Way Facebook page for voting. There will be several awards given out to the winners, including: Most Items Used in Sculpture, Fan Favorite (249 items or less), Fan Favorite (250-500 items used), Fan Favorite (501+ items used), Most Items Used from the Wish List.
Participating food pantries provided the following wish list: Animal Crackers, Applesauce Cups, Canned Chicken/Beef, Canned Fruit, Canned Mixed Veggies,

See **UNITED**
page 4

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Mountain High Plain Yogurt

32 oz. (Case of 6, \$8.55)\$1⁵⁵

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34.9 oz. (Case of 6, \$49.25)\$8⁹⁵

Del Monte Pineapple Tidbits

20 oz. (Case of 12, \$17.05)\$1⁵⁵

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Wood County Parks & Trails Survey now available for city residents to take

FOR CITY TIMES
WOOD COUNTY--The Wood County Parks and Forestry Department requests the public’s participation in updating the Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Plan. This plan will guide the department for the next five years and is necessary to become eligible for future Outdoor Recreation grants.
You have the opportunity to provide feedback by completing a public survey. In this survey, you can provide feedback for all existing Wood County Parks, including the recently added CERA Park. As a part of this survey, you can suggest future naming of CERA Park. The survey must be completed by March 5 and can be found at the City of Marshfield’s website or <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2woodorp>
For more information or to reach Wood County Parks and Forestry Department using one of the methods below.
Phone - 715-421-8422
Email - parks@woodcountywi.gov
Website - www.woodcountywi.gov/departments/parks
Facebook - www.facebook.com/WoodCoWisc.ParksForestry/

National History Day and Carpenters’ Hall announce expansion of Young People’s Continental Congress

Pittsville student and teacher team selected for Wisconsin

BY KATIE SCHIMKE
WOOD COUNTY – National History Day® (NHD) and Carpenters’ Hall announced the second-ever Young People’s Continental Congress (YPCC), which will again be held in Philadelphia this upcoming July. Carpenters’ Hall, the home of the nation’s First Continental Congress in 1774, has engaged National History Day as its lead educational partner to produce a program for students and teachers from across the United States and its territories. The Young People’s Continental Congress brings teacher and student teams to Philadelphia to study history, examine our country’s founding documents from a first hand perspective, visit landmarks where American history was made, and learn how the country has evolved over the last 250 years and how it continues to grow.
In 2024, NHD and Carpenters’ Hall piloted YPCC with 14 student-teacher teams from the original 13 colonies, plus one team from Philadelphia. With a passionate response to the pilot program, Philadelphia City Council – through the Philadelphia Cultural Fund – along with the Philadelphia Funder Collaborative for the Semiquincentennial and many other donors have come together to fund a 2025 iteration of the program with 27 teams. Each team includes one high school student and one teacher, for a total of 54 delegates.
This year’s YPCC delegates represent both rural and urban areas across the United States and Guam. In addition to completing online learning modules throughout spring 2025 about subjects such as the Continental Congress, the Boston Massacre, and economic liberty in Colonial America, the student-teacher teams will convene in Philadelphia from July 14-18 for a week of special programming and field learning opportunities at sites such as Carpenters’ Hall, Independence National Historical Park, the National Constitution Center, the Museum of the



Ms. Kate Van Haren

American Revolution, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Delegates will also co-create and sign a joint declaration of their aspirations for American democracy, just as their historical counterparts issued the Declaration of Colonial Rights and the Declaration of Independence.
“We are excited to expand the Young People’s Continental Congress for a second year and represent the United States’ full geographic diversity,” said Carpenters’ Hall Executive Director Michael Norris.
“National History Day is thrilled to once again help lead YPCC,” said NHD Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. “YPCC is a unique opportunity for students and teachers to collaborate as they study our country’s founding era, examine primary documents and locations in the city where history was made and meet people from across the country and world. As we prepare to celebrate America’s 250th birthday in 2026, YPCC is the perfect program to engage students and teachers in examining the past while looking toward the future.”
“On behalf of the Philadelphia City Council, I want to congratulate the 54 delegates of the 2025 Young People’s Continental Congress,” said City Councilmember Mark Squilla, whose district



Olivia Moore

includes Carpenters’ Hall. “We are excited to welcome these bright students and teachers to the birthplace of our nation’s democracy this summer. The delegation is set for a unique week of immersive experiential learning in the city where the Continental Congress met starting in 1774. We look forward to showing them the many gems that make the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection a world-class destination, from historical and cultural sites to the famous foods like cheesesteaks and soft pretzels that shape Philadelphia’s identity. City Council’s philanthropic support of YPCC is another investment in safeguarding our democracy, as these caring and dedicated high school students are our future leaders.”
Representing Wisconsin, Ms. Kate Van Haren and Olivia Moore will travel to Philadelphia this summer from Pittsville Elementary School and Pittsville High School
On the application process, Ms. Van Haren said, “When I first learned about the Young People’s Continental Congress, I immediately thought of Olivia. Having taught her in fourth and fifth grade, and later having her as a teaching assistant in my classroom, I have witnessed firsthand her remarkable passion for

United States history. The application process involved submitting our resumes and responding to questions about the importance of America’s founding - a topic I knew Olivia would approach with genuine enthusiasm and insight.”
Olivia developed her passion of history early in elementary school from Ms. Van Haren, leading to her excitement at the chance to share this opportunity with her now as a high schooler. As part of her application process, Olivia wrote an extensive essay describing her passion for history and how she will implement her experience and knowledge to her community following her July trip to Philadelphia.
In preparation for their trip to Philadelphia, both Ms. Van Haren and Olivia are participating in rigorous studying and training. Their preparation includes learning directly from historians about the founding era of American history, attending webinars, academic reading followed by analyzing sources, and more. On the preparation, Ms. Van Haren said, “Through spring 2025, we’re participating in online learning modules covering crucial topics like the Continental Congress, the Boston Massacre, and economic liberty in Colonial America. This background knowledge will significantly

See CONGRESS page 13

Suspect in custody following Neillsville garage fire

FOR CITY TIMES
MARSHFIELD--On Feb. 13, 2025, at approximately 11:30 p.m., the Neillsville Police Department, Neillsville Fire Department, and Neillsville Municipal Ambulance Service responded to a report of a garage fire at 300 Park Street in the City of Neillsville. Upon arrival, authorities found the unattached garage fully engulfed in flames.
Law enforcement interviewed the residence’s occupants, and after further investigation, police interviewed Christian A. Doss. During the interview, Doss admitted to setting fire to an object inside the garage that had been left unattended. As a result of the investigation, Doss was arrested at approximately 12:20 p.m. on Feb. 14, 2025. He was subsequently booked into the Clark County Jail on charges including Second Degree Reckless Endangering Safety, Disorderly Conduct with a Domestic Abuse Enhancer, Criminal Damage to Property, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

11 Wisconsin communities receive grants to plant nearly 400 trees

FOR CITY TIMES
WOOD COUNTY--Alliant Energy named 11 Wisconsin communities to receive grants totaling over \$50,000 through the company’s Community Tree Planting program, part of its One Million Trees initiative. In Wood County, Vesper was given \$5,000 to plant 37 trees.
“Our commitment to supporting the communities we serve is unwavering,” said David de Leon, president of Alliant Energy’s Wisconsin energy company and senior vice president of operations. “The Community Tree Planting program grants advance our commitment to environmental stewardship and, more importantly, help these Wisconsin communities achieve tree restoration goals, improve energy efficiency and provide environmental benefits for generations to come.”
Alliant Energy partners with Trees Forever to help

See TREES page 14



STORE SPECIALS:

Feb. 26th-March 4th, 2025


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Spring Primary Election narrows Marshfield School Board candidates down to four

BY KATIE SCHIMKE

MARSHFIELD--On Feb. 18, the Primary Election for Marshfield School Board resulted in four remaining candidates. Dan Griesbach, Dominic Pernsteiner, Cathy J. Gorst, and Coleman Grosbier all will move on to the general election held on April 1. Two candidates from the remaining pool will earn a seat on the Marshfield School Board following general election results.

University of Minnesota Duluth announces Dean’s List for fall semester 2024

FOR CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD--The University of Minnesota Duluth has announced its Dean’s List for Fall Semester 2024. Students on the Dean’s List have achieved a grade point average of 3.50 or higher while earning a minimum of 12 letter-graded credits. The following students from the Wood County area were named to the Dean’s List.

Marshfield, WI

Leah Brown, College of Arts, Hum. & Soc. Sci, History BA
Sidney Mattson, College of Arts, Hum. & Soc. Sci, Environmental, Sustain & Geog. BA; Spanish Studies

Stratford, WI

Greta Hill, Education & Human Service Pro, Integr. Elementary and Spec. Ed BA Sc

SkillsUSA Wisconsin Regional Competition scheduled for Menomonie

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY—The final SkillsUSA Wisconsin regional competition in 2025 will be held on Thurs. Feb. 27 and Fri. Feb. 28, with the majority of the competitions being conducted at the University of Wisconsin – Stout. Almost 20 students from the Wood County area will be competing.

More than 335 students from the following schools will compete:

Altoona High School, Altoona, WI (7 students)
Arcadia High School, Arcadia, WI (10 students)
Barack Obama School of Career & Tech Ed (BOSCTE), Milwaukee, WI (6 students)
Black River Falls High School, Black River Falls, WI (8 students)
Bruce Public Schools, Bruce, WI (6 students)
Chetek-Weyerhaeuser High School, Chetek, WI (26 students)
Chippewa Falls Senior High School, Chippewa Falls, WI (8 students)
D C Everest High School, Weston, WI (14 students)
Dodgeland High School, Juneau, WI (4 students)
Durand High School, Durand, WI (4 students)
Eau Claire North High School, Eau Claire, WI (13 students)
Elmwood High, Elmwood, WI (5 students)
Fall Creek High School, Fall Creek, WI (9 students)
Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau High School, Galesville, WI (9 students)
Hartford Union High School, Hartford, WI (18 students)
Holmen High School, Holmen, WI (4 students)
Ladysmith High School, Ladysmith, WI (7 students)
Lincoln High School-Alma Center, Alma Center, WI (11 students)
Lincoln High School-Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin Rapids, WI (8 students)

Marshfield Senior High School, Marshfield, WI (10 students)
Memorial High School, Eau Claire, WI (5 students)
Menomonie High School, Menomonie, WI (14 students)
Merrill High School, Merrill, WI (3 students)
Mount Horeb High School, Mount Horeb, WI (11 students)
New Auburn High School. New Auburn, WI (6 students)
New Richmond High School. New Richmond, WI (22 students)
Rice Lake Senior High School, Rice Lake, WI (3 students)
Shawano High School, Shawano, WI (4 students)
Slinger High School, Slinger, WI (13 students)
Spooners High School, Spooner, WI (21 students)
St. Croix Falls High School, St. Croix Falls, WI (5 students)
Stanley Boyd High School, Stanley, WI (11 students)
Unity School District, Balsam Lake, WI (11 students)
Wausau West High School, Wausau, WI (15 students)
Webster High School, Webster, WI (5 students)

The competitions run from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Feb. 27 and from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 28. Judging will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Feb. 28, with awards and closing ceremonies at 12:30 p.m.

Those who place in the regional competition will advance to participate in the 52nd annual SkillsUSA Wisconsin State Leadership and Skills Conference in Madison. Other competitors in the category can participate in the State Leadership and Skills Conference until the maximum number of competitors in the category is reached. State competitions will occur at the Alliant Energy Center. The 2025 conference will feature more than 1,750 middle, high school, and college/post-secondary students, over 200 teachers, and more than 300 industry volunteers working in over 75 competitions.



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| POLICE CALLS |

On Feb. 15, at 9:26 in the evening a caller in Port Edwards described witnessing a vehicle driving erratically, with the passenger of the vehicle hanging out of the front passenger window and yelling at other drivers.

On Feb. 15 at 9:31 in the evening a Saratoga caller reported two young males were trying to follow the caller home, and then threatened to burn the caller's home down. The caller did not want to enter their residence due to this.

On Feb. 15 at 9:51 in the evening a caller in Lincoln reported underage drinkers drinking at a bar.

On Feb. 18 at 10:41 in the morning a caller from Vesper reported library books were now assumed to be stolen. The individual who checked out books from the Vesper Library was advised they were due to be returned, and the individual claimed they would come in to the library and pay for them instead, but they never provided payment.

On Feb. 19 at 12:42 in the afternoon a caller in Nekoosa reported a customer drove away before paying for gas that cost \$49.79. The caller requested assistance in viewing the security footage.

On Feb. 19 at 11:32 in the evening a Saratoga caller reported that their roommate had come home and physically assaulted the caller. The roommate punched the caller multiple times and had a hammer, the caller advised dispatch they were holding a baseball bat for self defense.

This week in Wisconsin history

BY KATIE SCHIMKE

WOOD COUNTY--On Feb. 24, 1894, Milwaukee City Hall was built. Architect Henry C. Koch and Company was chosen to complete the project. The building cost \$945,311 to complete, with \$71,624 spent on interior design. Adjusted to today's inflation, the building would cost over \$30 million to build, and almost \$3 million in interior design.

On Feb. 27 in 1904 the second State Capitol building burned in Madison, Wisconsin. At two in the morning, night watchman Nat Crampton smelled smoke and stumbled upon a recently varnished ceiling in flames. A second watchman was called to assist, but the water pressure to operate a hose was not enough to extinguish the fire. Governor Robert M. La Follette called in neighboring fire departments in Janesville and Milwaukee for assistance, and the fire was finally extinguished completely the next day by ten o'clock in the evening. Losses were totaled around \$1 million, adjusted to today's inflation would cost approximately \$32 million.

On Feb. 27 in 1969 students at the University of Wisconsin Madison protested through campus in regards to low enrollment numbers of Black students.

In pop culture, on Feb. 26 1975, the number one song was "Best of My Love" by The Eagles. The best selling movie in America on Feb. 26, 1975 was The Towering Inferno, directed by John Guillermin. The Towering Inferno follows a high rise building that catches on fire, filled with A-list guests played by Paul Newman, Faye Dunaway, Fred Astaire, and more.

Wisconsin History provided by The Wisconsin Historical Society.

Planning for planting: Federal crop insurance sign-up deadline approaching

BY KELSEY WILLARDSON, POLICY ASSOCIATE, CENTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS

WOOD COUNTY--A farmer's work is never done. Even in winter, farmers are planning for the next planting season. For many operations, planning ahead includes signing up for federal crop insurance.

The deadline to sign up for most types of coverage is March 15, 2025. As weather events become more unpredictable and severe and market fluctuations continue, federally-backed crop insurance is an essential risk management tool for many farmers.

A wide range of coverage is available for agriculture operations. Newer programs, such as Whole Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) and its subprogram Micro Farm, serve small- to medium-sized, diversified, and organic operations particularly well. These programs are available throughout the U.S. regardless of county and fit all of an operation's production under a single policy. The policies provide coverage based on an operation's revenue history and protect against losses from natural causes, such as flooding, hail, and drought, as well as losses from market changes.

Other types of coverage, including multi-peril yield and revenue protection, also support operations in times of loss. It is important for a farmer to speak with an agent to learn what type of policy best suits their needs and operation.

Federal crop insurance is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency and sold by private agents throughout the country. To look for an agent, farmers can visit rma.usda.gov/tools-reports/agent-locator. This resource now includes specific help for farmers interested in WFRP and Micro Farm.

The Center for Rural Affairs has developed several resources for farmers who are new to or have questions related to crop insurance. These can be found at cfra.org/crop-insurance-resources. One-on-one support is also available, and producers are encouraged to contact Kelsey Willardson at kelseyw@cfra.org if interested.

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Aspirus promotes early heart disease detection with Coronary Calcium Score Scan



FOR CITY TIMES
WOOD COUNTY--Heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the United States, often developing silently before symptoms appear. In recognition of Heart Month, Aspirus Health is raising awareness about an advanced, non-invasive test, the coronary calcium score scan, which helps identify heart disease before symptoms arise.

This quick and painless CT scan measures calcium buildup in the coronary arteries, providing a clearer picture of a person's heart health. The scan results in a numerical calcium score that helps doctors assess a patient's risk for heart disease.

"The results do matter," says Dr. Daniel Krause, a cardiologist at Aspirus Heart Care. "A score of zero is ideal, meaning no calcification. Most people

have a score under 100, but if it's over 100, we take a closer look at risk factors. A score above 400 is concerning and may lead to further evaluation, such as stress testing."

With this information, doctors can create personalized prevention plans, including lifestyle modifications, medication, or additional screenings if necessary.

The scan is particularly beneficial for individuals between the ages of 40 and 70 who have risk factors for heart disease, such as:

- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Diabetes
- A family history of heart disease
- Smoking history
- Obesity
- A sedentary lifestyle
- Chronic stress

Even those without symptoms could benefit if they have one or more of these risk factors.

"This is a great screening

tool," says Dr. Krause. "It's quick, affordable, and highly effective at helping us determine heart disease risk in patients who may not have symptoms."

Coverage for a coronary calcium score scan varies by insurance provider. Many insurance plans do not cover the test, meaning patients may need to pay out-of-pocket. At Aspirus, the average cost of the test is \$99. Patients should check with their insurance provider or health care facility for specific cost details.

HeartMonth serves as an important reminder that early detection saves lives. Individuals concerned about their heart health are encouraged to speak with their primary care provider or cardiologist about whether a coronary calcium score scan is right for them. Taking action now can help reduce the risk of heart disease and improve long-term heart health.

UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield students create sustainable crafts



BY KATIE SCHIMKE
MARSHFIELD--Students at UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield were able to create sustainable crafts with the help of UWSP Marshfield Environmental Club. Professor and Environmental Club Advisor, Laura Lee, guided students through the process of making crafts and art with sustainable materials like pinecones, blackberries, pomegranate, vinegar, salt, lemon juice, onion peels, and more. Some of these materials were used to make natural dyes to dye shirts, the same way bleach and processed dyes are used to tie dye clothes and fabrics. The UWSP Marshfield Environmental Club and Advisor Laura Lee are looking forward to holding more activities for Earth Week near the end of April.



Photos by Laura Lee

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How To Apply Fill out the online application on the Department of Public Instruction's website. The easiest and best way to apply is to contact our President, David Eaton, at 715-387-1177 ext. 3302 or eaton.david@columbusdons.org.

When To Apply February 3, 2025 to April 17, 2025 for the 2025-2026 School Year. No applications will be accepted after the deadline, 4:00pm, April 17, 2025.

Who Can Apply Any child currently enrolled in our school - or another private school - and entering 4K, 5K, 1st, or 9th grade next year. Any other child not enrolled in a private school prior to the second Friday in January during the school year.

Income Limits The program is limited to families with incomes equal or below 220% of the federal poverty level (ranges from approx. \$44,968 for a single parent with one child to \$99,312 for a married couple with six children). Call to find out if you qualify!

Columbus Catholic High School (CCHS)

MCLA (Marshfield and Columbus Leadership Alliance) is a youth committee of the Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth (MACY). MACY strives to reduce and prevent underage drinking and drug use and reduce youth mental health disparities. MCLA is composed of youth representatives from Marshfield public and private high schools. Their goal is to develop and implement an annual prevention plan focusing on substance abuse, anti-bullying, and mental health disparities in their respective schools.

February 11 through 14, the CCHS MCLA planned activities to promote Kindness Week. Each day had a different theme such as Gratitude, Positivity, and Compliments. Students were invited to participate in activities to spread kindness throughout the week, including:

- Placing post-it notes with positive sayings throughout the school.
- Each student received a positive message magnet on his/her locker.
- An opportunity to anonymously write a positive message to another student, teacher, and staff person, and have it delivered.
- Free hot cocoa (called "Pour it Forward") and Little Debbie snack cakes for sale on Friday.
- A bonus Dress Down Day on Friday, February 14th; students were encouraged to wear pink and/or red in honor of Valentine's Day!

St. John the Baptist Primary School (SJBP)

On Friday, February 7th, the students at St. John the Baptist Primary School celebrated their "100th Day of School" in some very creative ways! The Preschool, 4K and 5K students participated in activities such as: 100 Day Trail Mix Snack (which involves counting different ingredients by 10 to get to 100), a 100 Exercise, a 100 Kisses Scavenger Hunt and 100 piece cereal necklaces. In the library, students read stories about the 100th Day of School. Some students even brought in 100 piece collections or pictures from home.

The 5-Year-Old Kindergarten classes tried to see if they could receive 100 pieces of mail! The kindergartners asked family and friends to send a little note to wish them a "Happy 100th Day" of school. Mrs. Schlagenhaft's class received 130 pieces of mail; Mrs. Krieg's class received 133 pieces of mail; and Mrs. Brock's class received 114 pieces of mail! Thank you to all the family and friends who took time to send letters!



Alexander Stepanovs and Aanand Reddy Devadigari, students from Mrs. Bauer's 4K class, display a special craft they worked on during their 100th Day of School on February 7, 2025.



A close up of one of the letters received in Mrs. Schlagenhaft's class in honor of the 100th Day of School.



A close up of one of the letters received in Mrs. Schlagenhaft's class in honor of the 100th Day of School.



Mrs. Schlagenhaft's 5K displays the 100+ pieces of mail her class received!



Each high / middle school student was greeted Monday morning with a positive message magnet on his/her locker!



During Kindness Week, post-it notes with positive messages were posted all throughout the school.



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COLUMBUS CATHOLIC AREA SCHOOLS

SCHOOL NEWS



Señora Jaime's Homeroom got to pick Father Clements's style for the day, but all Columbus students helped to raise a total of \$2,844.59 for Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Columbus Catholic High / Middle School (CCHS/CCMS)

For one week each year, Columbus Catholic Schools celebrates “Catholic Schools Week” in conjunction with the National Catholic Education Association. This past year, Catholic Schools Week was January 26 through February 1, 2025; lots of fun activities were planned for each grade level at each school.

At Columbus, the middle school and high school homerooms engaged in a “Change War Fundraiser” to raise money for Sacred Heart Catholic Church. If the classrooms raised at least \$2,000, then the Columbus Chaplain, Father Clements, would shave his beard and the classroom that raised the most could pick the design that he had to wear for an entire school day!

Collectively, the homerooms raised \$1,144.59. Combined with an anonymous donation of \$1,700, the challenge Father Clements put out was met and his beard was shaved during a special assembly on Tuesday, February 11. The winning homeroom who raised the most (and selected the style) was Señora Jaime's HS homeroom! We thank Mr. Coombs for photographing the event.



The final result. We also thank Father Clements for “taking one for the team!”



Kristen Niehaus, from Split Ends Hair Salon, volunteered to do the honors on February 11th.

Our Lady of Peace Intermediate School (OLPI)

On January 30th, several students at Our Lady of Peace shared their many gifts with teachers, peers, and family members for our first annual Catholic Schools Week Talent Show. Performances included band, piano, guitar, and vocal productions along with dance, cheer, and comedy acts. Two students even showed off Rubik's Cube skills.



Each month, students are also nominated by their teachers for the Virtue of the Month. January's virtue was patience. Our recipients were Pearl H. (3rd grade), Henry H. (4th grade) and Dante D. (5th grade). The virtue for February will center around kindness. It will be a hard decision, because our school is filled with much compassion and empathy to celebrate. Pictured here are the Our Lady of Peace Intermediate School Students of the Month for January.



Charlton Berger wowed the audience with his puzzle skills during the Our Lady of Peace Intermediate Talent Show on January 30th.



Members of the Columbus Youth Cheer Team shared their skills during the Talent Show.

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Ryan Bohem, a UWSP graduate student, is currently studying two native fish species to bring awareness to current game management practices in hopes to aid in their ecosystems.

UWSP graduate student uncovers secrets of Wisconsin’s little-known buffalo fish

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY--University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate student Ryan Bohem is shedding light on a little-known native fish species in Wisconsin, spearheading research that could inform how fisheries are managed across the state.

Bohem, a student in UW-Stevens Point’s College of Natural Resources, is studying the population dynamics of bigmouth and smallmouth buffalo. These two native fish species often go unnoticed in traditional fisheries management. Despite their longevity—some live up to 70 years—and their ecological importance, they have rarely been the focus of scientific inquiry.

Bohem’s study is shifting understanding of buffalo populations. His research focuses on the age structure, reproductive patterns and growth of buffalo in 14 waterbodies across Wisconsin. Additionally, the study investigates the contribution of buffalo to harvest at bowfishing tournaments across Wisconsin.

“Bigmouth and smallmouth buffalo are lesser-known native species that have garnered more attention in recent years due to their capacity to live to old ages,” said Bohem. “Our goal is to gather the data needed to make informed decisions about managing these populations, especially as bowfishing becomes more popular.”

Bowfishing, which involves shooting fish with a bow and arrow, often at night, has brought buffalo into focus. Buffalo contributed moderately to tournament harvest in 2023 and 2024, representing about 17% of total harvest over the two-year period.

To analyze the relative resiliency of buffalo to harvest, Bohem and his team used advanced techniques to estimate the age of the fish, finding maximum lifespans ranging from 14 to 71 years.

They also discovered significant variation in how quickly buffalo reach reproductive maturity, with some populations maturing in as little as two years and others taking more than six.

“These findings show how adaptable buffalo are, but they also highlight the need for careful management,” said Daniel Isermann, director of the Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit and Bohem’s advisor. “Not all populations will respond the same way to harvest pressure.”

Theresearch,conductedincollaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Bowfishing Association, is the state’s first formal assessment of bowfishing harvest across the landscape. It provides essential data that could inform future regulations and conservation strategies.

For Bohem, the project is more than an academic exercise. It represents a chance to elevate awareness of an understudied species and contribute to the long-term sustainability of Wisconsin’s aquatic ecosystems.

“It’s exciting to conduct novel research on an understudied native fish,” he said. “Non-game native species like buffalo have historically received little management attention, but their role in aquatic ecosystems is just as important as that of native sportfish.”

Bohem’s findings could inform how other native, non-game fish species are monitored and managed.

“Research like this is essential for making informed decisions,” Bohem said. “It’s exciting to be part of something that could actually affect management on the landscape.”

Bohem will graduate in Jan. and presented his results at his graduate public seminar in Dec.

CONGRESS

from page 5

enhance our experience in Philadelphia because we’ll have the historical context to truly understand the importance of the places we’re visiting, such as Carpenters’ Hall, Independence National Historical Park, the National Constitution Center, the Museum of the American Revolution, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. When we stand in these historic spaces, we’ll be able to connect our months of preparation to the physical locations where these pivotal moments in American history took place.”

Olivia enjoys the preperation that involves activley learning with the other delegates, before they even step foot into Philadelphia. From a wide background of voices, Olivia and other delegates can collaborate and share their ideas. Olivia said, “The second part of this learning is collaborating with other student leaders from around the United States and Gaum. The Young People’s Continental Congress sets this up by giving us monthly discussion boards and live meets. These help us to debate our ideas and opinions about a variety of events surrounding America’s founding.”

On what she is most excited about during her time in Philadelphia, Ms. Van Haren said, “While I’ve been fortunate to visit Philadelphia many times before, I’m particularly excited to experience the city through this unique collaborative lens with Olivia and our fellow delegates.”

Olivia, then, when asked about what she is most looking forward to during her July trip, said, “Unlike Ms. Van Haren, I have never visited Philadelphia before, so I am very excited to visit the places where it all happened. I will enjoy immersing myself in history, seeing where the debates happened, standing in the places that our founding fathers made history in, and examining some of the most patriotic documents.”

Though having experienced the eras of history in classrooms and training, Ms. Van Haren is looking forward to how the Young People’s Continental Congress will provide an immersive learning experience for both herself and Olivia, particularly when understanding how the founding era still effects our world today nearly 250 years later.

The national stage they are able to represent small town Pittsville on does not fall short for either Ms. Van Haren or

Olivia, with their pride evident in taking their rural Wisconsin roots to the national stage. Ms. Van Haren said, “It’s an incredible honor to represent Pittsville at the Young People’s Continental Congress. When you’re selected as one of just 27 teams from across the United States and Guam, you feel a deep responsibility to represent your community well. Pittsville has become such a special home for me. Although we’re a rural community, the warmth and support I’ve experienced here has been remarkable. The families here have consistently demonstrated how much they value their children’s education, and their commitment to learning has made my work as an educator particularly rewarding.”

Olivia hopes to inspire other small town students to strive for big goals as well, saying, “As a small rural community we don’t have many chances to represent our school at this national level. I believe that being chosen for this sets an example that we can do amazing things. It also shows someone else that they can do it too. My hope for this is to inspire my fellow students to take a risk.”

Ms. Van Haren’s pride for her student is clear, but perhaps the most evident when explaining how Olivia’s experience in preperation and her summer trip to Philadelphia will give back to the Pittsville community. Ms. Van Haren explained, “One of the most exciting aspects of this program is its emphasis on giving back to our community. As part of our YPCC requirements, Olivia will be sharing her knowledge through local outreach, and she’s already embracing this opportunity in true educator fashion. She’s developing plans to create a project teaching younger students about our nation’s founding era, and in characteristic Pittsville community spirit, our local library has already stepped forward to host whatever educational program she envisions following her Philadelphia experience. Beyond this, Olivia will be putting her newfound knowledge and research skills to work through a National History Day presentation. This project will allow her to demonstrate the deeper understanding of American history she’s gained through the Young People’s Continental Congress experience. As her teacher, watching her develop both as a student and a future educator is particularly rewarding. The way she’s approaching these outreach opportunities exemplifies why I knew she’d be perfect for this program.”

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from page 5

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ODC celebrates 60 years

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS-

Sixty years ago, in 1965, a small group of parents and community leaders had the forethought and courage to look to the future in meeting the employment needs of people with disabilities. They believed that by forming partnerships with their communities, they could do great things.



Julie Strenn



Ann Lepak

peer mentoring and guardianship services. All of ODC's programs are designed and intended to promote independent living, inclusion and community integration of people with disabilities within the workplace andmall aspects of community life.

Ann Lepak, ODC's Director of Public Relations and Fund

This small group of citizens helped to create the “South Wood County Sheltered Workshop” and the “Marshfield Rehabilitation Workshop” to provide employment opportunities for adults with disabilities. Just 5 years later, the two workshops merged to become Wood County Workshop.

In 1975, Wood County Workshop changed its name to Opportunity Development Centers, Inc. (ODC). Over the last 60 years, ODC has grown and changed while still focusing on supporting people with disabilities.

According to a 1967-68 annual report, ODC supported 167 adults in 1 program (center-based work) in Wood County. Today, ODC supports more than 1,500 individuals through 20 programs and services in 21 Wisconsin Counties. What started out as a center-based work program for adults with disabilities is now a full-service agency that supports individuals with disabilities of all ages to achieve their work and life goals. ODC offers a variety of programs and services, which include employment, community pre-vocational training, self-employment, school transition, Project SEARCH, mental health services (including outpatient mental health clinics), children's long-term support, community day services, independent living skills, housing counseling, assistive technology, community connection services,

Development, has dedicated 33 years of employment to ODC. She is amazed at how the organization has grown and changed significantly throughout the years. Lepak has had the unique experience of working in many departments throughout her time at ODC, including supporting individuals to find and maintain employment and starting and leading Project SEARCH sites in Wisconsin Rapids, Wausau and Stevens Point.

“I truly believe in the work we do at ODC. ODC is a very special organization and I feel honored to have had the privilege to come to work here every single day for the past 33 years. I've enjoyed being a part of all of the growth and change we've gone through over the years. It's amazing to think back to how different it used to be when the majority of work took place at ODC, compared to now the majority of individuals we support are working and participating in the community,” Ann Lepak said.

“ODC's success is a credit to the many people that are partners in our mission. We could not do any of this without our employees and the support of community members, families, small businesses and large corporations, clubs, churches, private foundations and community groups. We look forward to what can be accomplished in the next 60 years,” said Julie Strenn, President and CEO.

Sunburn and windburn: Winter skin damage culprits

WOOD COUNTY--Spending time outdoors on a cloudy winter day can do more than just chill your skin. Sunburn and windburn can damage skin that's not properly protected. Use sunscreen and thick moisturizer when outdoors in the winter to avoid a sneaky duo of skin damage culprits – sunburn and windburn.

Most people associate sunburn with hot, sunny days, but the sun's rays are just as harmful when it's cold outside.

“You can absolutely get sunburned on a cloudy or overcast day, so it is important to protect your skin daily,” said Melissa Koopmann, dermatology physician assistant with Marshfield Clinic Health System. “I think the easiest

way to do this is get in the habit of applying a moisturizer with built-in SPF every morning, year-round. If you are spending time doing outdoor activities, reapplying every two hours also is needed.”

Protect your skin in the winter by following the same sun protection rules recommended for summer:

Use broad-spectrum sunscreen and lip balm with SPF 30 or higher.

Apply sunscreen to exposed skin every two hours.

Use sunscreen indoors if you spend most of your day near a window or in the car.

Wear sunglasses outdoors.

Wear sun protective clothing like wide brimmed hats.

“Chronic sun damage leads to an increased risk of skin cancer and premature aging of the skin. All the years of sun damage can add up and can lead to concerning skin lesions, fine lines, wrinkles and sun spots,” Koopmann said. “Skin that is exposed to cold and windy climates for an extended period of time can develop windburn,”

Windburn looks and feels similar to sunburn. It makes skin red, dry and irritated. Sometimes skin feels hot and looks swollen. It's most common on the face, but any exposed skin can get windburn.

“Windburn is never fun to endure, but luckily usually only lasts a few days before resolving,” she said. “The good news is it does not have long-term effects the way sunburn does.”

Prevent windburn by covering skin with clothing and wearing sunglasses or goggles on cold, windy days. Apply a thick moisturizer to exposed skin every two hours in addition to sunscreen and lip balm. Check the weather and try to avoid being outside for a long time when the wind chill is very low.

If you do experience windburn, treatment options include:

Warm skin with lukewarm water.

Apply gentle, unscented moisturizers.

Wash your face with a mild, moisturizing cleanser.

Drink plenty of water.

Humidify the air in your home.

If needed, ibuprofen can help reduce inflammation.

Avoid harsh skin treatments like exfoliators, peels and products that contain alcohol.

Don't pick your skin.

Koopmann stresses the importance of being proactive in prevention of both sunburn and windburn. “When spending time outside, whether in the cooler or warmer months, take a few minutes to prepare and protect your skin. It truly pays off in the long run,” she said.

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| SPORTS |

MMS girls gymnastics win B Division Team Title at Rhinelander's Gymnastic Invitational

BY KATIE SCHIMKE

MARSHFIELD--In their final invite meet of the season, Marshfield Middle School girl's gymnastics came in first place with 133.200 points, followed by Rhinelander in second place with 128.45 points, and Antigo in third place with 81.35 points.

Marshfield's athletes swept the podium in the All-Around B Division with Maci Kuehmichel securing first place All Around Championship - scoring 35.5, Emi Tippen came in third, Kaidence Keding came in fourth, and Elenah Degenhardt earned fifth.

For B Vault, Marshfield's Emi Tippen came in first, Maci Kuehmichel came in third, Quinn Miller came in fifth, and Kaidence Keding came in sixth.

On the B Bars, Kelsey Wray took first while Maci Kuehmichel took second, and Elenah Degenhardt secured a fifth place win.

Marshfield athletes excelled on the B Beam as well, with Maci Kuehmichel taking first, Emi Tippen taking third,

and Kaidence Keding taking fifth,

On the B Floor, Maci Kuehmichel took first, Quinn Miller secured a second place, and Emi Tipped earned a sixth place win.



Left to right - Quinn Miller, Emi Tippen, Ruby Mealey, Maci Kuehmichel, Elenah Degenhardt, Kelsey Wray, Leeann Luedtke, Kaylee Fredrick, Kaidence Keding.



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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

The Gift of Life And
The Inevitable Abyss

Dear Reader,

One of God's greatest gifts is the gift of life. But that gift comes with an expiration date. In the grand scheme of eternity, our time on this earth is just a speck—here today, gone tomorrow. No matter who we are, where we come from, or what we accomplish, the end awaits us all. And when our time runs out, we disappear into the abyss of humanity, fading away into the vast ocean of those who have come before us.

We all leave our mark—some big, some small. Some build empires that echo through the ages, while others quietly tend to their families, neighborhoods, or communities. No matter the scale, each mark has value. But eventually, every empire crumbles, every accomplishment is forgotten, and every individual falls into the same great oblivion. It's a humbling reality and a universal truth.

So, knowing this, the question remains: What do you want to do with your life?

Will you spend your days chasing material things that rust and decay, or will you invest in moments that last beyond your time here—moments of kindness, love, and connection that ripple through the lives of others? Will you lift up those around you, plant seeds of goodness, and be an instrument of peace, or will you let your days slip away, consumed by the trivial?

Life is fleeting, and none of us know how much time we have. But within this brief window, we all have a choice. What legacy will you leave? What will you do with your gift of life? Will you simply exist, or will you dare to make your mark?

Our moments are few, and our time is short. But even a small spark can light up the darkness. So let's make it count. Before we vanish into the abyss, let us live with purpose, gratitude, and a commitment to make the world just a little bit better for those who will follow.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.



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| SPORTS |

The UWSP Marshfield Marauders are
the 2024-2025 WCC Champions



UWSP at Marshfield Men's Basketball earned the title of WCC Champions after defeating Blackhawk Tech 81-72 in a close game on Feb. 17.

Photo by UWSP at Marshfield Marauders Men's Basketball

FOR CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD--The Marauders knocked off top seeded Blackhawk Talons 81-72 to secure the WCC Championship.

It was a slow start for both teams as some early nerves played a factor,

leading to a 4-4 score five minutes into the game. After dropping 43 points on Blackhawk in their last matchup, it was clear that the Talons were going to do all they could to slow do the Marauders leading scorer Owen Hanson (Marshfield). They often denied him ball down low or ran double teams at him once the ball found his hands. After a couple great assists from Hanson, one to a diving Tyler Linzmeier (Columbus Catholic) for a layup and another to a wide-open Sam Everson (Menasha) at the three-point line, the Marauders offense started to heat up. As the teams traded baskets back and forth, it was Brennen Peterson (Pittsville) who saved his best shooting for the biggest game of the year. To close out the half and start the second half, Peterson hit four 3-pointers to build the Marauder lead. From there, Hanson and Everson handled the scoring inside as the size of the Marauders started to wear down the Talons. Jake Skroch (Stratford) was a man among boys down low grabbing every rebound in sight, often leading to second chance scores. The Talons showed a lot of fight and never game up, but every time they tried to go on a run to get back in the game, the Marauders found a key stop or a key basket. As the game came down to the final minutes, the Talons ramped up the pressure and gave the Marauders one final push. However, a second chance three by Cy Becker (Columbus Catholic) and back-to-back three pointers by Linzmeier squashed any hope remaining for the Talons. Skroch was able to seal the game, and a stellar four-year career with the Marauders, at the free throw line. When the final seconds ticked off the clock, the Marauders were the 2024-2025 WCC Champions. Everson led the Marauders with 25 points and 10 rebounds. Hanson added in his own 21 points, 13 rebounds and 6 assists. Peterson added in 12 points while Linzmeier had 9 points of his own. Skroch finished out his four-year career with the Marauders with 9 points, 20 rebounds, and 7 assists. Becker rounded out the scoring with 5 points.

The Marauders will say goodbye to four players to graduation this year; Sam Everson, Brennen Peterson, Owen Hanson, and Jake Skroch. All four have made huge contributions to the Marauder program over the last few years and will get to go out as well-deserved Champions.

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