

PROGRESSIVE
DENTAL

Stephanie L. Reimer, DDS
Dennis A. Romero, DDS

Someone Recently Asked Us,
“Why do you say Dental Care
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We understand that in **any** profession, there are those who truly dedicate themselves and care deeply, and those who don’t.
Here’s what trust means to us:
1) Some dentists are dedicated to getting an accurate, full diagnosis for every dental issue, explaining what’s wrong, what the treatment options are, and the expected outcomes. Others don’t.
2) Some offices are clear and straightforward about the patient’s out-of-pocket costs **before** treatment, and some are not.
3) Some dentists put their PATIENT’s best interest first, when the patient is in their chair - meaning that they are thinking and acting in such a way that prioritizes the best possible outcome for each patient, and some do not,
4) Some dentists have an INTERNAL dedication to exceeding standards - they are constantly competing against THEMSELVES to make sure that each treatment outcome meets the standards of excellence - not just ‘good enough,’ and some feel they ‘have nothing to prove’ and are just going through the motions,
5) A cleaning, filling, or crown isn’t the same everywhere—it’s about **who** is delivering your care, and that makes all the difference. Your outcomes are directly tied to the internal drive and dedication of your dentist (and their team). It’s about the dentist’s HANDS, HEART, and MIND working together to produce YOUR result. To some dentists, this is not ‘just a job.’ Some dentists find using their hands, heart, and mind in this way personally meaningful, and some do not
6) Some dentists and dental offices treat their patients with genuine care, as a person - not just a number, and some do not,
7) Some dentists go above and beyond for their patients in ways only their staff and families may know, giving their all because they care deeply. Others do not.

What’s the best way to communicate this in a much shorter way? We went with
“Dental Care You Can TRUST!”


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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Human Body Design

Dear Reader,

When we stop to think about the design of the human body, we might find ourselves wondering if it could have been crafted more efficiently. Consider the everyday processes of hydration and nutrition: why must we spend so much of our lives urinating or expelling waste from our bodies? Couldn't we have been designed to hydrate through the skin, or metabolize food directly into energy without the need for waste?

It's a curious thought experiment—imagining a body that functions without the need to “offload” its excesses, freeing us from the sometimes inconvenient realities of biological maintenance. Wouldn't it be wonderful to live unencumbered by these daily rituals, focusing solely on the higher pursuits of life?

Yet, when we reflect more deeply, we realize that the human body as it is designed is nothing short of miraculous. It's a complex, harmonious system where countless processes—digestion, circulation, respiration—work in synchrony to sustain us. These so-called inefficiencies might actually be part of the greater design, teaching us humility and grounding us in the rhythms of life. They remind us of our interconnectedness with nature and the delicate balance we inhabit.

Could there have been a “better” design? Perhaps. But then, would we be the same creatures we are now— resilient, adaptable, and marvelously imperfect? Perhaps the true genius of the human design lies not in its flawlessness, but in its resilience and ability to grow through imperfection.

PATRICK J. WOOD
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Author of “Reflections” a new book now available on Amazon.



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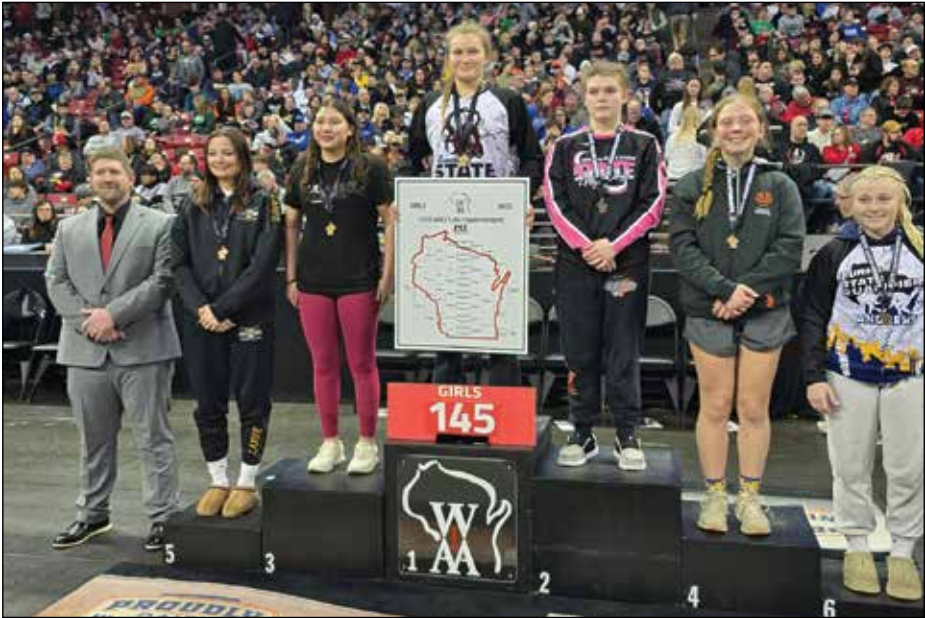
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Hofrichter Claims State Title, Kielcheski Finishes Fifth at State Tournament



NATASHA WINKLER

The Antigo wrestling team made its mark at the WIAA State Championships in Madison, with three athletes competing over three days. Olivia Hofrichter delivered a dominant performance, capturing a state championship in the Girls 145-pound division. Nolan Kielcheski battled through the tournament to secure a fifth-place finish at 165 pounds, while Jayson Arrowood ended his season after two hard-fought matches.

Hofrichter's Run to the Championship
Already a multiple-time freestyle state champion, Olivia Hofrichter entered

the state folkstyle tournament seeking her first high school title. Seeded fifth with a 39-3 record, she opened with a 50-second pin over Zoye Hilby (Dodgeland) after securing a reversal and trapping Hilby's arm. In the quarterfinals, Hofrichter avenged a past loss to Chloe LaRue (Cuba City/Benton/SW), a two-time state runner-up who entered at 40-1. After falling behind early, Hofrichter took control, scoring four nearfall points in the first period and adding a reversal to lead 10-5. She continued to dominate, using an overhook to set up a lateral and earned a 19-7 major decision victory.

The semifinal presented a major challenge—undefeated defending state champion Harlow Skenandore (Pulaski, 28-0), ranked eighth nationally. Skenandore took the first takedown and led 3-1 after the first period. Hofrichter countered a leg ride, catching Skenandore on her back and earning a stunning pinfall victory at 3:11 to advance to the finals. Facing Layla Risler (Mondovi/Eleva-Strum, 55-1) in the championship match, Hofrichter wrestled a tactical first period, keeping the score 0-0. Midway through the second, she executed a lateral drop to put Risler on her back, securing a state



title with a pin at 3:06. With the victory, Hofrichter became Antigo's second girls state champion, joining her sister Alexandra Hofrichter, a three-time state winner. She finished the season 43-3 and scored 29 team points.

Kielcheski's Fifth-Place Finish

Nolan Kielcheski (43-7) capped his high school career with an impressive fifth-place finish at 165 pounds, earning four victories in the tournament. He started strong with a first-round pin in 1:57 against Landon Busch (Cuba City/Benton/SW). In the quarterfinals, he faced Drake Petersen (Saint Croix Falls, 44-7) in a close match. Despite fighting off multiple cradle attempts, Petersen secured one late in the second period, taking a 4-1 lead. Kielcheski battled back but fell 4-2, sending him to the consolation bracket.

Determined to fight his way onto the podium, Kielcheski edged Andrew Thompson (Baldwin-Woodville) in sudden victory (3-0) after scoring a late takedown. In the consolation semifinal, he locked up an over/under position, threw Matheo Ngbemeneh (Somerset) to the mat, and secured a pin at 2:35.

The fifth-place match saw Kielcheski face Carter Ries (Big Foot/Williams Bay,



51-5). He built an early 5-0 lead with a takedown and nearfall points, then added

See **WRESTLING** page 4

Peace Lutheran Guatemala Mission Team 2025 Fundraiser

A team of 7 from Peace Lutheran Church in Antigo will be traveling to Guatemala in May 2025 on a short-term mission trip



FOR MMC

Partnering with Pray America in serving widows and orphans in Mayan communities in the mountainous region of Chichicastenango and surrounding communities in NW Guatemala. Throughout the week, our team will learn about the Mayan culture and focus on building relationships while sharing the gospel and love of Jesus through the various ministry programs such as the after school children's education and soccer programs, making home visits, and helping at the feeding programs where Bible classes are held for children & widows. We will also do various building projects to meet the needs of individual families. It will be a very full and fulfilling week!

The 2025 team is having a fundraising

"walking taco dinner" at Peace Lutheran Church on Sunday 3/16/2025 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The community is invited to attend and support this fundraising effort.

The 2025 Team includes: Dan & Sarah Stoehr, Joan Bauknecht-Peterson, Dan Smith, Danielle Storch and sons Graylin & Max all from Peace Lutheran Church. There will also be four additional team members from Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church in Door County. The 2025 Mission Trip Fundraiser on Sunday March 16th from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 300 Lincoln Street is to help cover building project costs and to offset individual trip expenses. The community is invited to attend and support this fundraising effort.

Antigo Times™
www.AntigoTimes.com

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Antigo Times is published weekly by Multi Media Channels LLC, N2919 County Road QQ, Waupaca, WI 54981. Periodic postage rates paid at Shawano, WI.

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| OBITUARY |

Betty Pyatt



Betty Jane Pyatt, of Deerbrook, died on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at Aspirus Langlade Hospital. She was 86 years old. She was born on February 14, 1939 in Jefferson, a daughter of the late Raymond and Rose (Schemm) Heine. She married Patrick Pyatt in 1990 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Betty was a graduate of Jefferson High School, class of 1957. She was a graduate of Rosston School of Hair Design in Ontario, California. Betty owned Northcentral Hair Lines in Merrill for 30 years.

She was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Merrill.

She enjoyed golfing, four-wheeling, and being outdoors.

Survivors include her husband, Patrick of Deerbrook; a son, Douglas (Karen) Drost of Merrill; a daughter, Tammy (Joseph) Wessling of Merrill; three grandchildren, Dan (Alicia) Drost, Kendra (Logan) Flynn, and Olivia Cooper; and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by two brothers, Raymond, Jr. and Howard Heine.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Bradley Funeral Home is assisting the family. Online obituary and condolences at www.bradleyfh.com

Film Screening of
“Being Mortal”
A Community
Event that Explores
End-of-Life Care

NATASHA WINKLER

Peace Lutheran Care Ministry Program is hosting a “Being Mortal” Community Seminar on March 13th from 6-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is a free event and no pre-registration is necessary.

The seminar will feature viewing of the PBS Frontline documentary “Being Mortal” followed by an interactive discussion with those in attendance. Several Aspirus providers and hospice & palliative care representatives will be there to participate in the follow up discussion.

Information about Advance Care Planning will also be shared and attendees will learn how to take concrete steps to identify and communicate wishes about end-of-life goals and preferences. Pastor Dave Karolus from Peace will be

See CARE page 5

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| POLICE & COURTS |

ANTIGO POLICE REPORTS

MAR. 4TH

Around 4pm a caller reported a road block near 2nd Ave., stating they were starting transmission work on the vehicle and the e-brake failed and the car rolled into the road, also the keys were locked inside the vehicle.

A traffic stop took place near Langlade Rd. & Elmo St., just after 6pm resulting in a citation for failure to stop at stop sign and also written warnings for failure to carry drivers license and no proof of insurance.

Just after 1:30pm a noted report was taken involving fraud, stating a Postal Inspector out of Milwaukee was inquiring about a local resident who is suspected of being involved with several scams.

Just before 6pm during a traffic stop near Gowan Rd. & Forrest Rd., a subject was detained for a probation warrant.

MAR. 1ST

A citation was issued after a traffic stop near Neva Rd. & Ackley St. for no license & no insurance.

A two car accident took place near Clermont & Medkik Ave. just before 2pm. No injuries, no EMS was requested. One driver was cited for no insurance.

Around 10pm, officers reported suspicious activity near the 500 Block of Edison St., stating they were out walking with someone who did not want to stop.

FEB. 28TH

After a traffic stop near Superior St. & Irving St. around 7:20am, officers stated they mailed a citation for unnecessary acceleration.

Around 10am an animal complaint call came in. Caller stated a dog keeps defecating in his yard and caller asked for an officer to come clean it up. Officers informed the caller that it is not a law enforcement matter.

During a traffic stop just before 10am near Clermont St., officers issued a verbal warning for a cracked windshield, no front plate and no insurance.

Just before noon a noise complaint came in from a local apartment complex. Caller stated the downstairs neighbor had been yelling since around 6am. Officers spoke with the subject who stated they were playing but are going to work now so all will be quiet.

An animal complaint came in just before 4pm. Caller stated the neighbor’s dog houses are submerged in water and the dogs were tangled up. Officers made contact with dog owner and also went to view the conditions.

FEB. 27TH

Just before 5:30am dispatch received a call regarding suspicious activity. The caller stated a vehicle in the neighbors yard was running for several hours with the lights on. Officers went to the location and spoke with the property owner to learn that this person had returned from the hospital and simply forgot to shut their vehicle off.

A traffic stop near Superior & 6th Ave. around 9:20am resulted in a citation for operating while suspended.

A written warning was issued around 11:30pm during a traffic stop near 6th Ave. & Lincoln st. for no insurance and a defective brake lamp.

Just before 10pm a call for suspicious activity came in stating the caller has been seeing a particular vehicle

WRESTLING
from page 4

another takedown and cradle to seal a pinfall win at 3:55, earning his podium spot.

Kielcheski finished his senior season at 43-7, scoring 13 team points and securing his place as one of Antigo’s top competitors.

Arrowood Battles at 150 Pounds

Jayson Arrowood (38-9) competed in the 150-pound

parking outside their home and the neighbors home and caller does not recognize the vehicle. Caller stated they were out there right now. Officers arrived and spoke to the registered owner of said vehicle, who stated their friend lives nearby.

A traffic stop just after 1pm near Dorr St & 5th Ave., led to a subject being taken into custody. After a probable cause search, it was found that the subject had an out of state warrant and was taken into custody.

Just after 4pm officers issued a written warning for no insurance and failure to carry a drivers license.

LANGLADE COUNTY SHERIFF REPORTS

MAR. 3RD

An animal on highway call came in around 8:30am stating there was a white & dark colored horse running in the road near Cty. Rd. K & Luther Ln. By the time officers arrived they were unable to locate.

Just after 10:30pm during a traffic stop near US 45 & Cty. Rd. G officers issued a written warning for failure to maintain exhaust.

MAR. 2ND

A call for a harassment complaint came in just before 2pm from near State Rd. 55. Caller stated that someone keeps calling and messaging and harassing them. They reported 50 calls between the previous day and the current day. Officers made contact with the subject who was advised to stop calling.

MAR. 1ST

Just before 5:30pm officers took a report for suspicious activity near State Rd. 52, stating in the last week it appeared their son’s home had been robbed and the locks had been changed.

FEB. 28TH

Around 6:40am officers took a report for criminal damage near N Langlade Rd. The report stated that someone hit their mailbox and their neighbors mailbox. Officers stated the said vehicle should have damage.

A traffic stop near State Rd. 64 around 8:15pm resulted in a verbal warning for speed.

Around 9pm a traffic stop near Superior St., & 6th Ave. resulted in a verbal warning for defective exhaust, no proof of insurance, no reg. lamp activated.

FEB. 27TH

Around 12:30pm near Cty. Rd. G, a ‘road blocked’ call came in reporting there was a large piece of plastic in the northbound lane. Officers responded and removed the plastic.

A traffic stop just after 8:30pm near US 45 & Mapleview Rd. resulted in a verbal warning for speed.

A traffic stop near S Superior & Forrest Rd just after 9:30pm resulted in a verbal warning for multiple violations.

Around 10:15pm near US 45 & Cty. Rd. G a traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning for a defective headlight.

Just before 11pm near US 45 & Old 26 during a traffic stop, officers issued a verbal warning for a defective headlight.

A traffic stop near State Rd 47 & Sugarbush Rd. officers gave a verbal warning for no insurance.

division, but his run ended after two close matches. In the first round, he took an early 3-0 lead against Isaac Dunnom (Osceola, 44-17) but gave up a late reversal, falling 4-3.

In the consolation round, Arrowood led early against Trey Zemke (Winneconne) but was caught in a cradle, losing 6-3. He concluded his season with a 38-9 record.

Looking Ahead

With the folkstyle season now complete, many Antigo wrestlers will shift focus to Greco and freestyle wrestling in the coming months, continuing to build on their success.

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Opioid Deaths Drop as Initial Settlement Funds are Distributed

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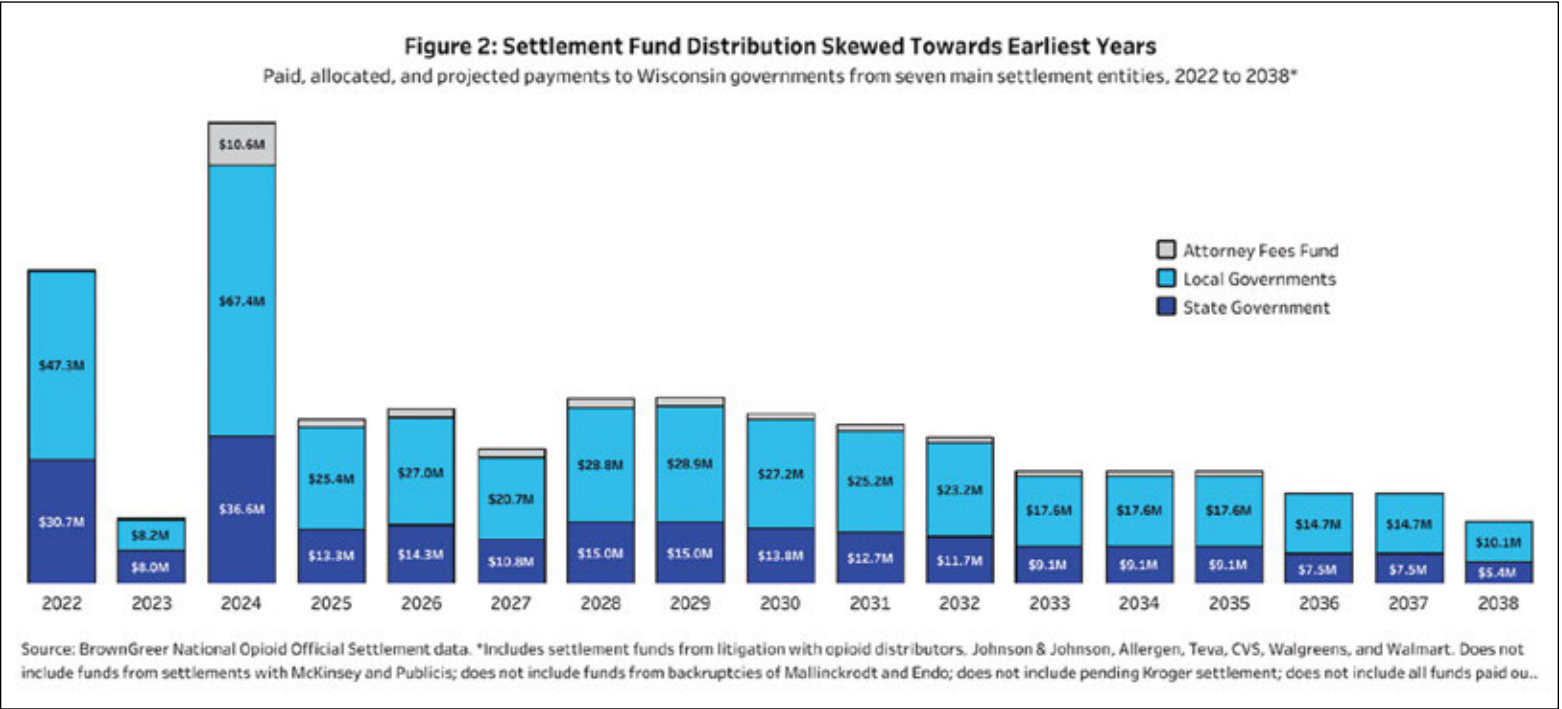
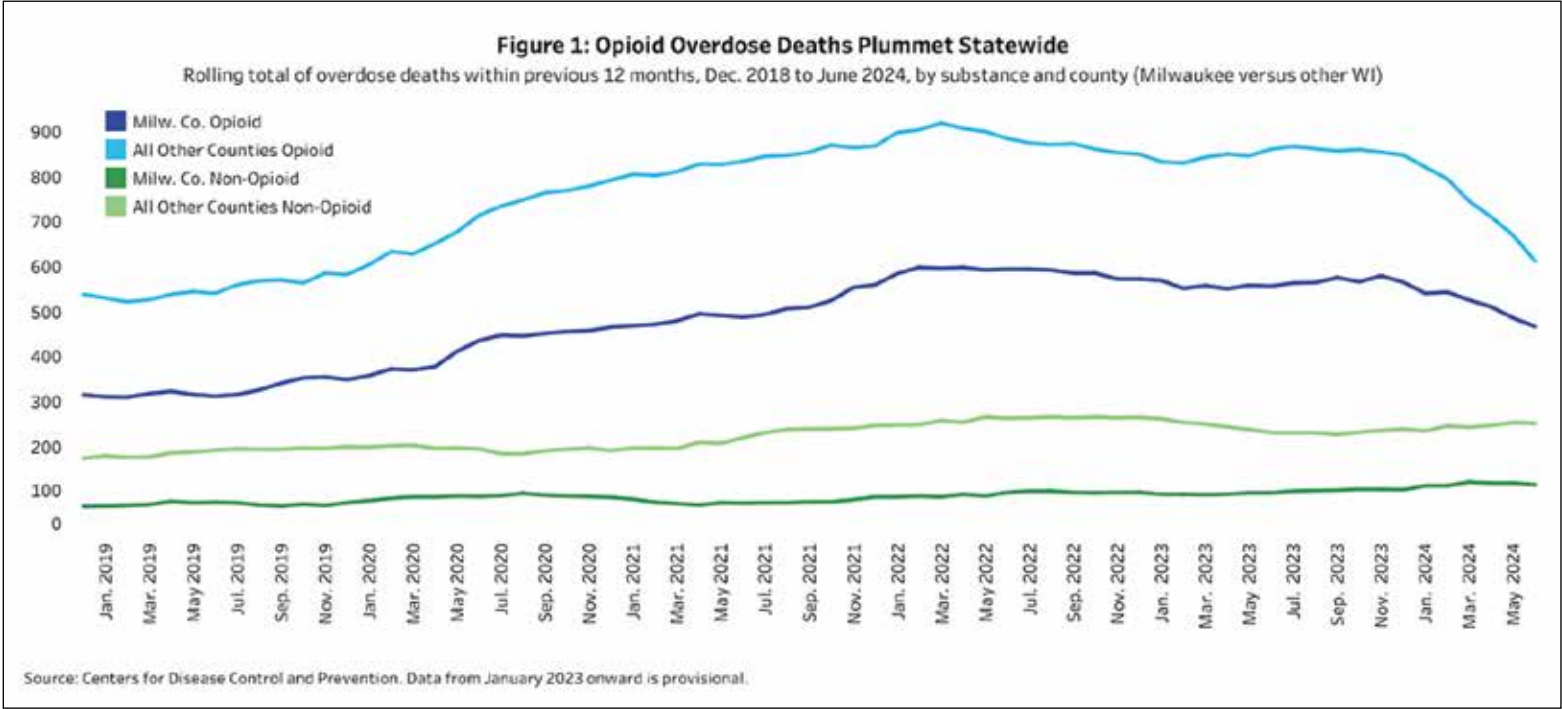
The state of Wisconsin and 87 local governments have begun to spend funds they have received from opioid settlements, which has brought \$208 million into the state so far and will total roughly \$780 million by 2038. Meanwhile, recent data show overdose deaths in Wisconsin have begun to decrease for the first time in decades, a promising sign as the state now looks to expand programming to prevent and treat opioid usage.

Opioid deaths in Wisconsin fell in June 2024 to their lowest level since April 2020, according to provisional federal data measuring deaths over the previous 12 months.

The most recent statewide count from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows 1,075 opioid overdose deaths during the 12 months ending in June 2024 (see Figure 1). These figures remain daunting and could still be revised, and deaths have not fallen as rapidly in Milwaukee County as they have in the balance of the state. If they hold, however, they would indicate a continued downward trend in opioid deaths that started toward the end of 2023 – not just in Wisconsin, but nationwide.

For decades, prescription opioids accounted for the largest share of overdose deaths of any substance, but in the mid-2010s, deaths from synthetic opioids – primarily fentanyl – skyrocketed to surpass those from prescription drugs. The recent drop in overdose deaths likely has multiple causes. But it may be possible to build on this positive trend through state and local spending that is financed through settlements with pharmaceutical manufacturers, retailers, and distributors.

From 2022 to 2038, Wisconsin is set to receive around \$780 million from the settlements. According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), the state had received \$75.3 million



by the end of 2024, of which \$64.4 million (85.6%) had been allocated but only \$15.4 million (24.0%) had been spent. Meanwhile, local governments in Wisconsin had received almost \$123 million by the end of 2024, according to the directing administrator of those funds.

In this brief, we examine opioid deaths and also use the state reporting to show how Wisconsin and its 87 local governments who were party to the litigation have begun to spend these funds. We first lay out how funds are distributed and

the policies that govern this spending before delving more deeply into specific uses of opioid settlement funds.

Wisconsin's Opioid Settlement Policies

In 2021, a large group of state and local governments reached settlements with three pharmaceutical distributors of opioids and Johnson & Johnson, a manufacturer, that were meant to resolve ongoing litigation and investigations brought against these companies. In 2022, CVS, Walmart, Walgreens, and two more manufacturers

also agreed to settlements. In addition, five other entities have agreed to payouts through national settlements, states-only settlements, or bankruptcy. In total, almost \$57 billion will be distributed across the country. At least 85% (or more, depending on the agreement) of that total "must be used for

abatement of the opioid epidemic."

Passed in the summer of 2021, Wisconsin Act 57 determined how the state and local governments that had signed onto the litigation could receive and spend their settlement dollars. Three in every ten dollars will go to the state health department, while

the remaining 70% will go to local governments.

Data from BrownGreer – the firm serving as directing administrator for the national opioid settlement – provides the best estimate of how funds will be distributed

See OPIOID page 9

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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Elcho Area Community Food Pantry Mondays 2:30-4:30pm. Wednesdays 4-6pm, 11224 Antigo St., Elcho. Food will be distributed based on availability and # of family members. Note that the pantry is not open on holidays, or on days when the schools are closed because of snow. 715-275-5010. In accordance with federal civil rights laws and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Community Closet Open Mondays 10am-Noon, Wednesdays 4-6pm & Saturdays 9-10am, N9570 Hwy. B, Summit Lake (across from the Summit Lake Post Office) Free Clothing and Jackets (Baby to XXL). Clothing donations are welcome. Everyone is welcome!

Senior Cribbage Group Mondays 1pm. Summit Lake Town Hall N 9575, County Rd B, Summit Lake. CURRENTLY ON HOLD DUE TO LOW PARTICIPATION- PLZ CALL IF INTERESTED: Judy Beecher 715-219-4333

Group Dance Class & Social Tuesdays 6pm. Northstar Lanes 400 Prosser Pl., Antigo. learn to dance in a fun, social setting! Each week the lesson rotates to another



style of Latin or Ballroom dance (Salsa, Bachata, Cha Cha, Waltz, Rumba, Foxtrot, Swing, etc.) NO PARTNER (OR EXPERIENCE) REQUIRED! Doors open by 5:45pm. The 45-minute class begins at 6pm and afterwards we'll play a variety of music so everyone can dance and have fun!

Mamma Mia! by AHS Drama Club Through Mar 15th For more information call 715-623-7611 ext. 2313.

Line Dancing Mar 10th & 17th 1-2:30pm. Senior Center of Langlade County 623 Edison St., Antigo. Line Dancing-Instructions and handouts are provided for every dance. No prior knowledge of line dance is necessary. The goal of the class is to have fun while getting to know others and learning steps to dance.

Monday Funday with Jack Lake Silent Sports Association Mar 10th & 17th 5pm. Jack Lake Mountain Bike Trail N8375 Park Rd., Deerbrook. Come enjoy an evening of mountain biking, trail running, or hiking. Choose your preferred activity. Come solo or bring a friend. Meet others who enjoy time outside and stay after for social time. Laid back atmosphere, go at your own pace, enjoy the outdoors! All abilities welcome!

StrongBodies Program (Virtual) Mar 11th & 13th 9-10:15am. This will be a virtual program via Zoom that you can follow along with at home. Sign up online at <https://go.wisc.edu/j9468d>

Cardio and Strength Training Mar 12th 4:30-5:30pm. Senior Center of Langlade County, 623 Edison St., Antigo. Cardio and strength training at the senior center with Dawn. This is designed for all levels of fitness. There is no charge.

Cribbage League Mar 12th & 19th (Wednesdays) 6pm. Northstar Lanes 400 Prosser Pl., Antigo. Weekly payouts; no need to sign up or attend every week.

Red Light Therapy Seminar Mar 12th 430-530pm. Senior Center of Langlade County, 623 Edison St., Antigo.Join us for our FREE educational seminar where Dr. Amanda and Dr. Emily will talk all about Red Light Therapy, what it is, how it works work, what it can do for you so you can improve your mobility, pain, energy, and LIFE! The Seminar is FREE and you do NOT need to be a Senior Center Member to attend - we just ask that you register so we have an idea on the number of people so we can have adequate resources and seats available and ready to start PROMPTLY at 4:30 PM! To register: send us a direct message, call us 7159036074 or head to the senior center to sign up!

34th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Mar 15th 12pm. The parade will run from the Tombstone Pickerel Sno-Club Clubhouse on Country Road DD to Saint Mary's Church on Highway 55.

Blood Drive Mar 17th 10:30am-4pm. SS. Mary & Hyacinth 819 Third Ave., Antigo.

MEETINGS

Police and Fire Commission - Regular Meeting Mar 10th 5pm. City Hall 700 Edison St., Antigo.

Parks, Cemetery and Recreation Commission - Regular Meeting Mar 10th 5:30pm. City Hall 700 Edison St., Antigo.

Common Council - Regular Session Mar 12th 6pm. City Hall 700 Edison St., Antigo.

GROUPS

AA Support Group (Open) Wednesdays 7pm. 1005 Fifth Ave., Antigo.

AA Meetings Tuesdays at 7pm at the Elcho UCC Church N11291 Dorr St., Elcho.

AA Meetings Sundays 10am. White Lake Community Center 615 School St., White Lake. Any questions call 715-219-0305

Alanon/Nornon Group Mondays 1:30pm. Antigo Community Church School (old St. Mary's), 723 Deleglise St., Antigo. Enter in the back please. For more information including other meeting times and locations call (715-623-4904).

Alzheimer's Support Group Second Monday of the month 5-6pm. Rolalia Gardens Door #3 519 Flight Rd., Antigo. 715-610-6681

Alzheimer's Association Virtual Support Groups Coffee for Family Caregivers, 2nd Monday of the month 5:30pm-6:30pm. For Persons Living with Mild Cognitive Impairment, 2nd Wednesday of the month 10-11:30am. Family Caregivers for a loved one with Frontotemporal Degeneration 3rd Wednesday of the month 6-7:30pm. Family Caregivers for a loved one with Dementia in the early stages 4th Tuesday of the month 10-11:30am. Family Caregivers for a loved one with dementia living at a facility every other Friday 10-11:30am. Phone In Caregiver Support Group the last Tuesday of every month 10-11:30am. To register for any of the support groups contact the 24/7 helpline. 800.272.3900

AVAIL Support Group Meetings on Mondays, 5:30pm-7pm, Wednesdays 10:30am-12pm, Thursdays, 10:30am-12pm and again at 5:30pm-7pm, Fridays 3-6pm. AVAIL Inc. 1410 N. Superior St., Antigo.

Baby & Me Support Group Wednesdays from 1-2pm in the Langlade Birthing Center 112 E 5th Ave, Antigo, second floor. Facilitator: RN/International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. For more information please call 715-623-9280. No fee.

Broken Arrow Christian Recovery Meeting Thursdays 7pm. 1005 Fifth Avenue, Antigo.

Community Recovery Bible Study Fridays 6pm. Aspirus Langlade Hospital 112 E. Fifth Ave., Antigo- in the large conference room.

GriefShare Community Grief Recovery Seminar and Support Group: Feb. 17th through May 12th 5-6:30pm. Peace Lutheran Church 300 Lincoln St., Antigo. Each weekly session is on a different grief topic. Park in the 8th Avenue lot and enter Door #3 for the Fellowship Hall. Sessions are FREE and no pre-registration is necessary.

Life Recovery Group & Christian Recovery Meetings Wednesdays 8:30am. Church of the Nazarine 230 Elm St., Antigo. This group is for anyone struggling with addiction, anxiety, food, depression, relationships, etc. There will also be Christian Recovery meetings at the same place and time.

Narcotics Anonymous Mondays 8am, Tuesdays, Fridays & Saturdays 7pm. 1005 Fifth Ave., Antigo.

Overeaters Anonymous Mondays 7-8pm. SS. Mary & Hyacinth Parish Center, 819 3rd Ave., Antigo. Room #4 Contact: Rose Marie, 715-623-2128.

Stroke & Neurological Support Group (2nd Friday of the Month) Langlade Co. Senior Center 623 Edison St., Antigo.

If you have an upcoming event or ongoing group activity that you would like to include, please email the information to nwinkler@mmclocal.com

LENT SPECIAL!

Ash Wednesday March 5 - Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

EVERY DAY, ALL DAY!



6" Tuna

\$3.99!

Reg. \$5.69

Tuna Salad

\$4.99!

Reg. \$7.69



Antigo, Merrill, Tomahawk

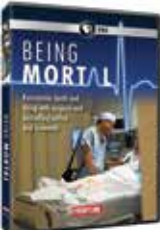
Certain restrictions apply, not valid with other offers.

447987

“Hope is not a plan.”

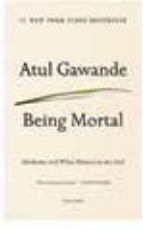
Join Us for a free screening and discussion of the PBS FRONT LINE film BEING MORTAL. Based on the best-selling book by Atul Gawande, MD, this documentary explores the hopes of patients and families facing terminal illness and their relationships with the physicians who treat them.

See the film and be part of a national conversation that brings medical & faith professionals and community members together around the shared responsibility of discussing what matters most to patients and families facing difficult treatment decisions and how to have these conversations ahead of a medical crisis.



See the documentary.

Join the conversation.



“Hope is not a plan”

Atul Gawande

Explore what matters to you.

This Community Seminar will be:

Thursday, March 13th from 6 to 8 pm

Peace Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Park on 8th Avenue and enter Door #3

Sponsored by Peace Care Ministry. Questions? Call Sarah Stoehr at 715-484-2393 or the Church Office 715-623-2200.

448938

Town of Neva Residents Vote for Doug Curler

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• www.townofnevawi.gov

• Non-Partisan/For All

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• UTV/ATV on Town Roads

• Strong Support for Sheriff and 911 Dispatchers

I would appreciate YOUR Vote to Continue to Serve You

USMC Vet NRA Life Member

Authorized and Paid for by Doug Curler, 20th District Supervisor, Neva Town Chair, US Marine Veteran, NRA Life Member

447121

St. Matthew Lutheran Church - Deerbook

Chili & Chicken Dumpling Soup Supper with assorted Torts

Thursday, March 13th

Serving 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm


Carry-outs Available

Dine-in \$10.00

Carry-outs \$8.00

for QT jar

Check out our Ladies Aid Craft & Bake Sale Table



447240

OPIOID

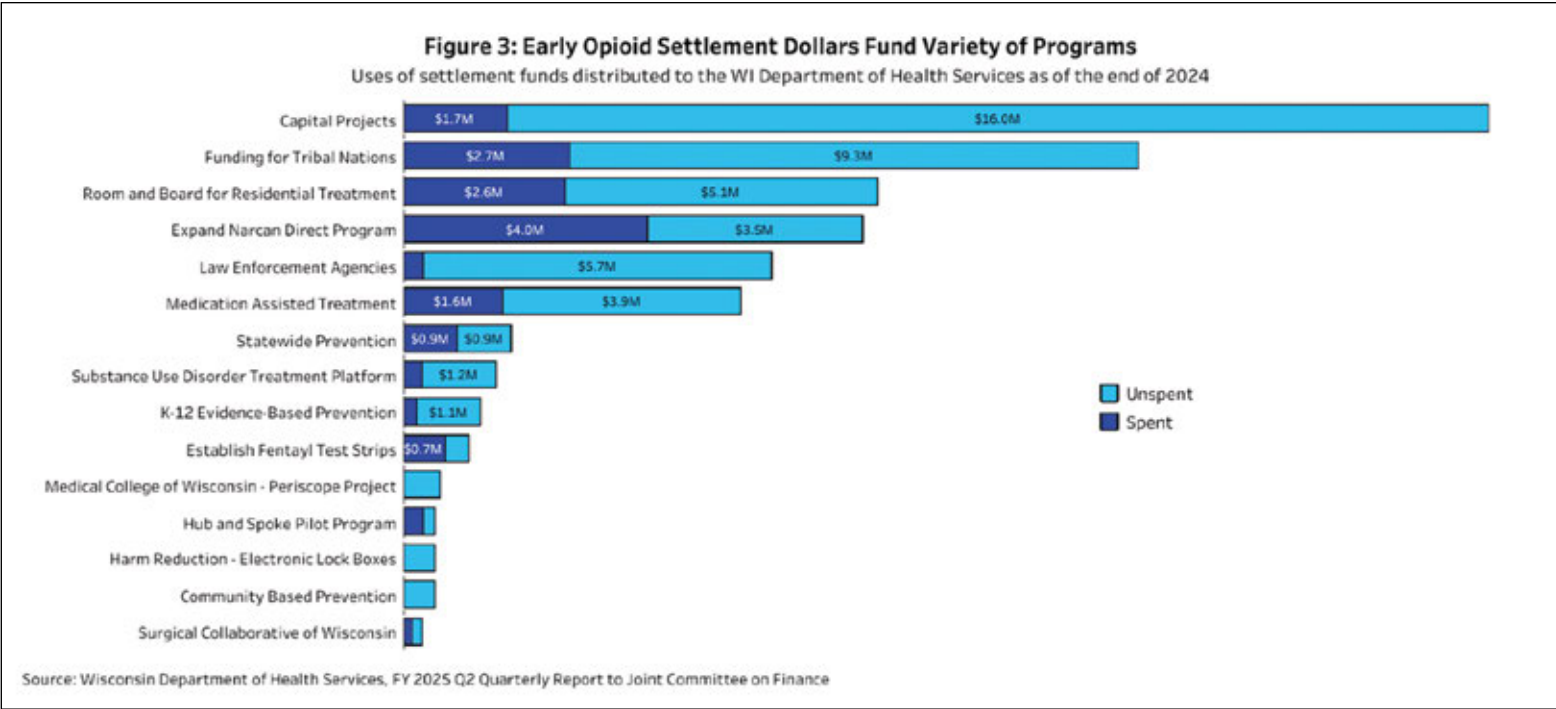
from page 7

in Wisconsin over time. As shown in Figure 2, 2024 and 2022 were the years in which the largest amounts of funding were delivered to Wisconsin governments over the lifetime of the settlements. The funds will continue to be received over a long time period, however, with more than \$250 million set to be delivered in 2030 and after.

Local government beneficiaries include 71 of the state's 72 counties (all except Polk) as well as 16 municipalities in Douglas, Kenosha, Marinette, Milwaukee, and Racine counties. To receive settlement dollars, local governments had to join litigation on or before June 1, 2021. From the 70% split, one-fifth of that amount (14% of the total settlement) is set aside in an Attorney Fees Fund to compensate the plaintiffs' lawyers, while the rest is distributed based on a formula applied to all settlement fund dollars that considers a locality's population and how it has been impacted by the opioid epidemic. Milwaukee County will receive by far the largest proportion of local dollars at 25.2%, followed by Dane County (8.2%), the city of Milwaukee (7.8%), and Waukesha County (6.0%).

How Wisconsin's Settlement Funds Are Being Spent

There is not yet spending data available for most of Wisconsin's local governments that are party to opioid settlement dollars. Key informants we interviewed noted that counties and municipalities might have spent 2023 determining where best to devote their resources, as opposed to immediately spending their settlement allotments. These governments have



also been hesitant to spend initially, as they have been working to finalize various opioid-related revenue streams and do not want to spend what they do not have. This May, each local government will have to report on its 2024 settlement fund uses due to requirements that were built into Act 57; this reporting will likely give a better sense of local government uses of opioid settlement funds.

The settlement funds received by the state by the end of 2024 represented

only a fraction of the total amount Wisconsin ultimately will receive. As noted above, \$64.4 million of the \$75.3 million the state had received was allocated and \$15.4 million had been spent. According to officials at DHS, the department determined where best to use funds through a combination of feedback from a wide range of impacted communities, monitoring of state and national data, and other evidence-based practices. Ultimately, however, the Legislature's Joint Finance

Committee determined how opioid dollars would be spent.

State reporting provides insight into how funds are being used by DHS (see Figure 3).

So far, the state has devoted the largest share (27.5%) of its funds to capital projects at or for treatment facilities. Arbor Place in Menomonie and

Meta House in Milwaukee each received \$4.91 million to add a combined 80 treatment beds and requisite services for women, many of whom are pregnant, postpartum, or parenting. Two more capital projects in Milwaukee County and northeastern Wisconsin have been funded within the last year. An ongoing question

for healthcare providers and community nonprofits who receive capital funds will be whether they have the capacity to operate facilities once they are built or expanded.

Wisconsin's 11 federally recognized tribal governments have received a total of \$12 million to use


See OPIOID page 15

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May 3rd, 2025**
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contact John Steger
715-350-9610



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Alderman City of Antigo - April 1**



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Running for the Right Reasons**

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MAR
29**



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GREEN**

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7:30 PM	\$500 CASH
8:00 PM	\$750 CASH
8:30 PM	\$750 CASH
9:00 PM	LAWN MOWER
9:30 PM	\$1,000 CASH
10:00 PM	LAWN MOWER
10:30 PM	\$1,500 CASH
11:00 PM	TRACTOR
11:30 PM	\$2,000 CASH
12:00AM	LAWN MOWER

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DNR Asks Public To Report Black Bear Den Locations

DNR

The black bear den survey season is winding down, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages the public to submit any den locations they find across Wisconsin in order to help with ongoing black bear research.

The Black Bear Litter and Diet Survey aims to generate new estimates of black bear reproductive rates within each bear management zone and improve the accuracy of the population models used to manage them. Additionally, researchers are investigating a connection between consumption of human food sources and bear reproduction since diet can affect cub survival rates and litter sizes.

After cubs are born, black bear dens get noisier. During this time of year especially, people might hear unusual small sounds such as squeaking, grunting, humming or sucking, which usually means the cubs are nursing.

After spotting a den, the public is encouraged to maintain a safe distance of approximately 30 yards and report the following information to the DNR:

- GPS coordinates
- A photo of the den, ideally showing it in relation to its surroundings
- Description of the site and surrounding area

Any information on bear activity near the site, including whether cubs were heard

DNR staff will work with den reporters and landowners to visit the den before deciding to survey it, determining if the den is safe, accessible and in use. The research team may be unable to visit every reported den location this season. Dens that are known to be currently occupied will be prioritized.

What Data Will Be Collected

DNR staff will collect biological data from these dens, including sex, weight and body measurements. Mother bears, or sows, will be outfitted with GPS collars, one



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12				13		14			15				
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of the most important pieces for collecting data. Collars help staff learn more about bear foraging behavior and locate the sows in the following years. Revisiting the sows will help staff determine the reproductive success of each sow, such as her litter frequency, litter size and the survival rates of the cubs. Data on sow weight, body measurements and age are also collected.

While surveying, bear health and safety are a top priority. Designated staff monitor

the sow’s breathing and heart rate while the rest of the team quickly gathers the needed samples and measurements. Any cubs present at the den are carefully weighed and sexed. Cubs are tucked into staff’s coats to keep them warm because the cubs cannot yet regulate their own temperature. Once researchers are finished, the sow and cubs are put back into their den.

To report a known black bear den, visit the DNR’s black bear den submission form.

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3-15-25
5-10-25

WRAP

WISCONSIN REGIONAL ART PROGRAM

If your artwork receives a state award at this regional exhibit it will be eligible for submission to the annual AWA State Art Exhibit being held this year at the Center for the Visual Arts in Wausau WI, August 20 - Sept 27, 2025.

Antigo Visual Arts Gallery is located on the 2nd floor of the Langlade County Historical Museum. 404 Superior St. Antigo WI

REGISTER INFO:
HTTPS://WISCARTISTS.WILDAPRICOT.ORG
OR ANTIGOVISUALARTS.ORG

JOIN US AT ANTIGO VISUAL ARTS BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE, ANTIGOVISUALARTS.ORG

MARCH 15 2025
RECEPTION
5-7 PM

450173

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Unsheared sheep
 - Rock TV channel
 - Streetcar
 - Concerning
 - Expression of recognition
 - Greek goddess of youth
 - An iPad is one
 - Adult beverage
 - Manning and Wallach are two
 - Makes a petty verbal attack
 - Tyrion Lannister’s nickname
 - Pointed ends of pens
 - Wristwatches
 - Body part
 - Made a mistake
 - Adjusted
 - Turkish honorific title
 - Yell
 - Historic Alabama city
 - Cub
 - Type of sea bass dish
 - To call (archaic)
 - Unfortunate
 - Separate oneself from others
 - Hero sandwiches
 - Former OSS
 - Open spaces in a forest
 - Innermost brain membranes
 - Fortune
 - Hunting expedition
 - Doomed queen Boleyn
 - Peyton’s little brother
 - Type of wrap
 - Scottish tax
 - Soviet Socialist Republic

64. An increase in price or value
- CLUES DOWN**
- Works of body art
 - Abba __, Israeli politician
 - A desert in Asia
 - Eat greedily
 - Doomed French queen
 - Beat
 - One who survives on blood
 - As a consequence
 - Counted on
 - Acquired Brain Injury Behavior Science
 - Unclean
 - One who does not drink
 - Wild ox of the Malay Archipelago
 - __ student, learns healing
 - Bacterial skin infection
 - Expresses surprise
 - What one says on a wedding day
 - Crony
 - Where you entered the world (abbr.)
 - Unit of length
 - Side that is sheltered from the wind
 - More (Spanish)
 - Autonomic nervous system
 - Violent troublemakers, originally in Paris
 - Statements that something is untrue
 - Greek alphabet letter
 - Suspends from above
 - Popular types of cigars
 - Girls
 - U.S. philosopher and logician
 - Nocturnal hoofed animal
 - Relaxing spaces
 - From a distance
 - Form of Persian
 - Amounts of time
 - Trigonometric function

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И	В	В	В	С		Д	В	Н		С	В	Д					
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447988

St. Patrick's Day Word Search



G O L D R G S H A M R O C K J D
G F N N D B Q Z C H L I I L P P
F J E P D Y Q S G O E R S M B Q
G E M E R A L D C I P E D D L E
I N M U U U C C L R R L K I A Z
R A I N B O W E O I E A F U R H
H C A S N Q R L V Q C N T M N X
Q L U C K Y V T E L H D H D E Q
A G K D I G J I R X A I R I Y A
D S B Z N D O C N Y U F W X T X
Y I L W X U J P K B N K D M O G
M L N P O T O F G O L D C U P H

Correctly complete the puzzle, return this page and you will be entered to win **ONE \$25 gift certificate** to be spent at your choice of one of the participating businesses on this page!

Contest Rules:

In the puzzle, find and circle all the words listed in the boxes at the top of each participating merchant's advertisement or artwork. No purchase necessary. Must be 18 years or older to win. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4PM ON MARCH 27th, 2025. One entry per household or address, all duplicated will be disqualified. The winner will be notified by phone call. Submit your entry by dropping it off or mailing it to:
Word Search C/O Antigo Times
PO Box 408
Waupaca WI, 54981

Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

Phone _____

I would like to spend my winnings at _____

(Name of Participating Merchant from this Page)

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FOR MMC

Few home improvements can change the look of a room faster and more affordably than a painting makeover. In fact, homeowners often turn to paint before they make any other renovations. Home Light, a real estate technology company, says painting a home's interior can net a return on investment as high as 107 percent.

Although painting is a project that can be tackled by do-it-yourselfers, there are various advantages to calling in a professional to handle painting projects. Here is a look at some of the benefits to working with a professional painter.

Cut down on the job time

A professional painter can reduce the project timeline. Painters have the skill set and experience to complete a project in a timely manner. This means the job will be streamlined from preparation to clean-up.

Pay attention to details

Professional painters are likely to do a job that is nearly

flawless, especially after homeowners exercise their due diligence and vet painters carefully. Professionals will pay attention to the small details that less experienced painters wouldn't think about.

Reduce your workload

Painting can be a time-consuming job, and most of it occurs even before you pick up a brush. It can take hours to prep walls, patch holes, remove moldings, and apply painter's tape. Homeowners who do not have much time are better off leaving trusting the project to a professional.

Painters already have equipment

Do-it-yourselfers may need to buy new tools before beginning the job. This means brushes, rollers, tape, tarps, trays, and much more. Unless you plan to paint multiple times, this can make stocking up a considerable investment. Professionals already have all the right gear and tools of the trade.

Lasting results

Professional painters understand which products will produce the desired results, depending on the wear and tear of the space. Paints are not all created equal, and certain walls, floors and trim may require unique priming and preparation that novices are not familiar with. Professional painters can help ensure durability and save homeowners from having to do the job again in a few months or years.

A safer experience

Painting can be a challenging job when it involves painting hard-to-reach spaces and/or climbing and balancing on tall ladders. Homeowners are not at risk of injury when hiring a professional painter. In addition, professional painters should be licensed and insured. This means if an injury or incident occurs, the homeowner will not be on the hook for the cost.

A fresh coat of paint can produce amazing results. Leaving the work to a professional can ensure a job is done correctly and beautifully and completed on time.

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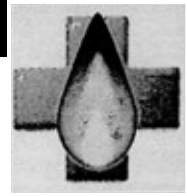


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6	8	7	1	9	9	8	2	4
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1	9	4	6	9	8	2	8	7
7	6	8	9	2	4	9	8	1

OPIOID
from page 9

on prevention, treatment, recovery, harm reduction, health care, and more in their communities.

Nearly \$7.5 million has gone to the Narcan Direct Program and its expansion. In 2022 alone, 135 law enforcement agencies spanning the state received a combined 31,560 doses of Narcan, the brand name of naloxone, which can immediately reverse an opioid overdose. Additional state dollars went to provide fentanyl test strips (\$1.1 million). These resources are meant for use by opioid users and individuals most likely to witness an overdose, and in some cases are made available in public spaces such as libraries, community centers, and fire and police stations through the use of vending machines.

DHS set up a grant program for law enforcement agencies around the state. Grants are awarded to keep those with opioid dependencies out of jail or treat them while in jail, train staff on addiction medications, and support and develop community drug disposal systems.

The state provided counties and tribal governments around the state with \$7.8 million to cover room and board costs for Medicaid members in residential opioid treatment. While Medicaid might cover aspects of that treatment, federal law prohibits coverage for room and board, which is a major disincentive for individuals who might otherwise use this level of care.

Each of these projects was funded in state fiscal year 2025, which will run until June 30. Reporting from DHS also shows new uses, like data collection, monitoring and reporting; a public awareness campaign; and maintaining profiles of Wisconsin-based substance use treatment providers on a public website.

As previously noted, Milwaukee County is set to receive the largest amount of settlement funds across all Wisconsin local governments. After netting out fees for attorneys, the county expects to receive around \$102 million over the nearly two-decade timespan of the settlement. As seen in Figure 1, opioid overdose deaths

in Milwaukee County are falling, but at a slower rate than deaths in all other counties combined; 43.3% of all Wisconsin opioid overdose deaths in the year ending in June 2024 occurred in Milwaukee County, the largest share since at least the beginning of 2019.

The county used a comprehensive application process and a panel of expert reviewers to approve \$16.5 million for 15 projects in an initial “cohort” for three fiscal years (2023 to 2025). The largest of these projects was a \$4.8 million effort to provide prevention, treatment, and harm reduction grants to community-based organizations that target historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in Milwaukee. Other projects focused on harm reduction, project coordination, delivery of services to vulnerable populations such as the elderly or homeless, or new staffing or materials for various county agencies.

A second cohort funded \$8.5 million for seven new projects in the three fiscal years starting in 2024. Beyond general system enhancements, the largest project in this cohort was a \$2.4 million effort to expand Mobile-Integrated Health, allowing fire departments around the county to respond with the necessary resources when they receive a call for an individual experiencing an overdose.

The state, Milwaukee County, and other settlement recipients also have to consider how to spend funds knowing that they will diminish over time and run out after 2038. Milwaukee County officials are currently working to set up data systems to monitor the efficacy and reach of their projects, and are working closely with numerous county agencies so that when settlement funds run out, those agencies can divert operating revenues toward best practices. For example, Milwaukee County's Office of Emergency Management received funds to create a dashboard that provides a deeper level of detail and visibility to Emergency Management Services calls for suspected overdoses. Knowing where and when overdose incidents are occurring in Milwaukee County will allow policymakers to better target education, resources, and interventions. Similarly, state officials note their work with communities to prepare



them to sustain themselves once funds are no longer available.

Conclusion

The downward trend in opioid overdose deaths in Wisconsin since late 2023 is welcome news after they previously had increased for decades. Now, the state will have around \$780 million to spend through 2038 on measures meant to continue pushing that trend in the right direction. According to the administrator for the national opioid settlement, over \$208 million of that total has made it to the state, and it is being spent on overdose prevention and treatment in ways that are tailored to the needs of individual communities and regions across the state.

One charge for policymakers – especially early on in the life of these one-time funds – will be to examine which programs and policies have the greatest effect on driving down opioid usage and overdose deaths locally, and why. That may be difficult to determine. Some research shows, for example, that the nationwide decrease in overdose deaths might be more attributable to changes in the fentanyl supply that make it both less potent and less available. The nature of illicit opioids – what form they come in, what non-opioid substances

are mixed in, and more – changes over time, and this can impact outcomes and programming such as the number of overdoses, efficacy of certain treatments, and more.

State leaders note that the number and geography of overdose deaths are metrics they use to help determine program success, in addition to testimony from communities throughout the state. Should a program in Wisconsin prove locally beneficial, lawmakers or local officials could choose to direct funding to that program via the budget process, sustaining it after settlement funds have run out. Those officials may wish to remember, however, that a variety of local and national factors might impact which programs and policies are most effective at combatting opioids abuse over time.

Early data show that settlement funds have already been put to use by law enforcement, corrections institutions, human services agencies, health departments and more. Policymakers should continue to seek out stories of success, as state and local agencies tailor their approach to the opioid epidemic to best meet the needs of Wisconsin residents.

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