



4DAY FORECAST
FOR SPARTA, WI FROM ACCUWEATHER.COM

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
54 36	48 19	48 23	40 15

Sparta Red 6th Grade Boys basketball team crushes league and tournament play



SEE PAGE 16

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MONROE COUNTY HERALD

Your Local State Award-Winning Newspaper

VOLUME 166 | NUMBER 26

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

ONE SECTION | 16 PAGES

Spring Election 2025 unofficial results tallied for Monroe County and Wisconsin

Nation watched as Crawford won most expensive state race ever

By BENNY MAILMAN
Editor

The eyes of the nation were on Wisconsin as the Spring election for 2025 saw the most money ever spent on a single election for a state position, that of Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice, funneled into those efforts. Brad Schimel had the financial backing of the controversial Elon Musk, a multi-billionaire who was thrust into the political

spotlight when Donald Trump saw a presidential victory in November's election of 2024. Susan Crawford claimed 1,301,128 votes to Brad Schimel's 1,063,244. In Monroe County, Brad Schimel pulled the most votes, with 8,292 votes to Crawford's 6,649 votes. Please note that these results, as well as all that follow, are unofficial until all areas have been canvassed. In her victory speech, Justice Crawford said that she never thought a small-town girl from Chippewa Falls would ever be put up against the wealthiest man in the world, and then secure a victory against him.

'ELECTION'
cont. pg. 5

SASD board approves policy 8220 changes to -30 windchill

Discussion centers frostbite, waiting for buses, students walking

By JAYME BAHL
Staff Writer

Sparta Area School District (SASD) board of education held a monthly meeting at 6 p.m., on Monday, March 24th, 2025, in the Meadowview Middle School cafeteria. All the evening's consent agenda items were discussed and pre-approved at the SASD committee of the whole meeting, which took place on Monday, March 17th, 2025. Items on the consent agenda for the evening included the approval of minutes, bills, employment recommendations, changes

to weather conditions policy 8220, accident and critical illness insurance to employees, staff device buyback, Early College Credit Program Fall applications, the 2025-2026 Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) contract, and budget revisions from the 2024-25 school year. While the initial consent agenda included policy 8220, Amy Lopez, board member, requested the item be removed from consent and allotted a separate discussion and vote on the agenda. The board agreed to the agenda alteration with no objection from the school administration. Through swift action, a motion by Anthony Scholze, seconded by Lopez, the board approved the consent

'SASD'
cont. pg. 6



There were 200 attendees at the Fallen Outdoors banquet, held at the Sparta American Legion, on March 29th. The packed room paid tribute to the evenings honored guests, the Vietnam Veterans. An uproarious standing ovation served as a belated, but heartfelt welcome home for the veterans. Master of Ceremonies and event coordinator, Chad Schauf, (Left) keeps the excitement with raffles going throughout the night. Herald photos by John Gessner.

Fallen Outdoors Banquet welcomes Vietnam Veterans home

Host Schauf touches all bases on busy event night

By JOHN GESSNER -
Herald Staff Writer
By BENNY MAILMAN -
Editor

On Saturday, March 29th, The Fallen Outdoors (TFO) of Wisconsin held its annual fundraising banquet at the Sparta American Legion, located at 1116 Angelo Road, in Sparta. Tickets were limited to 200, which filled the room but allowed for higher chances to win one of sixty door prizes, which included twenty guns and multiple big item prizes, from several different raffle sites within the event. Dinner was catered by the American Legion Post. March 29th coincidentally happens to be the date set aside for the observance of Vietnam Veterans, commemorating the hardships suffered and sacrifices made by nine million Americans and their families during the Vietnam War. The Military Assistance Command (MACV) departed South Vietnam on March 29,

1973, marking two decades of involvement in Southeast Asia. Although combat operations concluded on that day, the embassy and advisors remained to train the South Vietnamese Army to assume responsibility for the war. The last Americans eventually left Vietnam on April 30th, 1975, as the North Vietnamese Army captured the Capital, Saigon. **Host and MC Schauf** Master of Ceremony and event coordinator, Chad Schauf, recognized the Vietnam Veterans and their families who were present at the banquet by issuing a hardy "Welcome Home." Schauf had everyone in the packed room stand, except for the Vietnam Veterans. A round of applause was requested by Schauf. Attendees responded with a boisterous moment of whooping and hollering that would have drowned out the base drum on a drill field and muffled the cannon blast. Several Vietnam Veterans were seen nodding in acknowledgement of the long, overdue welcome home. As the night progressed, Chad kept the excitement moving as raffles and firearms

were awarded throughout the night. Jason Bohnert, from the Cashton based "Trigger and Tackle" shop, provided instant computerized background checks, to ensure winners could take their firearms home with them. **Who are the Fallen Outdoors Personnel?** The Fallen Outdoors is a nationwide movement of veterans helping veterans, by providing companionship and exciting outdoor activities for all veterans, throughout the year. Every dollar raised remains in Wisconsin, to support various veteran-based charities and events. The Fallen Outdoors team lead, Nick Kibler, addressed the assembly, stating that the Wisconsin chapter held 150 hunting and fishing events last year, with 631 veterans attending. Nick mentioned that one board member, Cody Scheidler, personally escorted 166 veterans to several of the events last year. The Wisconsin chapter staff is small but effective, consisting of five board members and twenty-two veteran volunteers. No one is paid for their work, they

thrive off the satisfaction of vets helping vets. There was one Fallen Outdoors member, veteran Gary Jones, who lives in Florida and couldn't make the event. Jones believes so strongly in the cause that he donated \$1,100, which was used to purchase and give away twenty banquet tickets, which were given to deserving veterans. The Fallen Outdoors national was founded by Eric Bakken, in 2015. He was born and raised in Minnesota and joined the United States Army at 20-years old. He has a wonderful wife, Nikki, and a beautiful daughter, Finnley, who is named after his best friend, Eric Finniginamm, who was killed in Afghanistan during their first tour, in 2009. He served in the army for almost 8, years as an infantry grunt. During that time, he deployed several times for Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan). In 2015, he left the Army to pursue his dream of growing The Fallen Outdoors to its full potential.

'FALLEN OUTDOORS'
cont. pg. 5

Massive cuts by Federal Government stop 1.1 million pounds of food assistance for Wisconsin families

Farmers to take financial hit

By HETTI BROWN
Executive Director Couleecap

Last week, Wisconsin agencies operating The Emergency Food Assistance Program, or TEFAP, were

notified that our food banks and pantries will not receive 1.1 million pounds of milk, eggs, cheese, and meat from the USDA that families in Wisconsin rely on for nutrition. These food resources were expected, starting in June, from the federal Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). The CCC was established in

1948, to stabilize and support farm income from price fluctuations. The program provides funding to TEFAP, which was created in the early 80's to redistribute surplus food produced by farmers and other food producers to food banks and pantries. By doing so, the program supports our nation's farmers, while

providing nutritious food to people who are hungry. The cancellation of these food programs is not just unnecessary, it is cruel. Wisconsin families struggle with the high costs of living and rely on food pantries for nutrition. Rent prices have consistently risen year-over-year, interest rates are the

highest they have been in years, and according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (eia.gov), costs of electricity, natural gas, and propane have risen between 14-20.5% from 2019-2024. Wages just don't go far enough to cover necessary costs while leaving enough for food.

This decision to cut funding to this program will not only affect the individuals relying on food pantries to fill a gap in their ability to feed their families, but also the farmers who provide food through this program. Now is not the time for the federal government to cut programs that are so essential to our communities.



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Use the QR Code to submit a letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor



Photos by Wayne Edgerton.

Winter Wonderland in Ridgeville

Dear Editor,
A quarter inch of freezing rain fell on the town of Ridgeville on Saturday night and Sunday, on the ridge south of Tomah. We had some minor tree damage and were not able to travel Sunday. We are near the intersection of Hwy A and Hwy T. It was a winter wonderland Monday morning. I thought you'd like to see a few pictures.

Wayne A. Edgerton
Ridgeville

SASD Budget Coming Together

As the Sparta Area School District moves closer to closing out our 2024-25 budget, preparation for the next school year's budget is coming together. Through the positive consumerism of our employees' use of our health insurance, we received a 4.7% decrease in our renewal. This is fantastic news and is a testament to our staff. As I have been sharing earlier, our budget situation for next year involved heavy reductions to our budget; this insurance news greatly helps, but it is not a permanent solution to our future budgetary needs and outlook.

The legislators are continuing their process to gather input on the next biennium budget and working through the process in Madison. Our District is still lowest in the state in per pupil funding and transfers a large portion of our budget (about \$5 million) to fund required services for our students with disabilities, which currently has us receiving less than 30% of cost reimbursement from the state. If you have questions about our budget, school funding, or anything else, in regards to our District, please feel free to contact me.

Go Spartans!!!
Sam Russ

Senator Testin disappointed in veto of testing standards bill



Patrick Testin
24th Senate District

Senator Patrick Testin (R-Stevens Point) is voicing his disappointment over the governor's decision to veto a bill that would have revived previous education standards that measure the academic achievement of Wisconsin's students.

Last year, Department of Public Instruction Superintendent, Jill Underly, and DPI officials lowered the threshold for what is considered proficient on state tests and changed the terms that describe student success. Underly's new standards also no longer align the cut scores that pupils must attain to reach each category with the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

"With these revisions, Underly is trying to hide her failures as the DPI superintendent by artificially inflating the achievement levels of students and by making it virtually impossible to compare data from past years," Sen. Testin said.

"Simply put, Underly is attempting to pull the wool over all of our eyes."

According to National Assessment of Educational Progress test standards, only 31 percent of young Wisconsin students are proficient in reading, which puts the state at 34th in the country. Yet, Underly's watered-down benchmarks claim that 53 percent of Wisconsin pupils are proficient in reading.

"Wisconsin parents deserve to know exactly where their children stand so they can get the help they need and better prepare for the future," Senator Testin said. "Even Governor Evers himself proclaimed that it was a mistake for Underly to change how school children are measured on state academic tests. Legislative Republicans tried to fix that mistake by passing a bill that would have taken us back to the old standards that were used when Governor Evers was the DPI superintendent.

"By vetoing that legislation earlier today, Governor Evers has proven that he cares more about playing partisan politics than ensuring our kids receive a high-quality education," Senator Testin added.

Submit your letter to us at editor@monroecountyherald.com

Cambodian Calmness, Heartprint, Understanding and Realization



Benny Mailman - Editor

Greetings Super Cool, Awesome, Magnificent Humans of Monroe County and Beyond! Well, another election in the books. It seems we are in perpetual competition throughout our lives. If we find ourselves not in competition, well, we jump to support someone else who is in competition. I spot very few instances nowadays where someone is "kind of" supporting a candidate. It really seems that we are in an "all or nothing" energy field, which is awesome, when you win.

When I was living in Cambodia, I had a chance to witness many things that were different from here, in the United States. I saw water buffalo every day. I saw elder women and men pushing carts, selling root vegetables or other types of Khmer snacks, like papaya salads and spicy snails. There were folks who would walk around with all the ingredients for a soup, then when asked, would put it all together for the customer, on the spot.

When someone asks me to describe the Khmer culture, I reply, "That is like trying to explain winter to someone who has lived in the desert their entire life ... words would prove to be a futile attempt at providing a semblance of understanding."

The majority of families cook with a propane-fueled hot plate. They go to the fresh market every day, which serves as a social functionality as well. Refrigerators are tiny, if they have them at all. But try and find a culture that is

happier than the Khmer. They work hard, not to take a vacation or have a kitchen remodel, but to survive—literally.

I have Australian friends, Wendy and Garry O'Brien, who run a nonprofit called Heartprint. They build homes for the homeless, with Garry leading the way. They teach all children, regardless of ability. They take them swimming and provide food for so many, as well as bicycles for the youth.

When I taught on Cambodia, I was the first foreigner many of those students had ever seen. It is simple, and there is such a calmness to simple. Looking out for one another, depending on each other, and laughing as they traverse the journey put on them from their geographic location and circumstance.

I miss living there immensely, but I know for now, I am where I am supposed to be, and I Love it. The difficult and emotional part of living in the United States is the current division, of an all or nothing attitude in politics. We are at such a fever pitch here, and that will only last until one of two things happens: We calm down and breathe, or we fight. No one wins if we fight.

I implore everyone to consider bringing the intensity level down. Understanding can be met with understanding. Realization is enlightenment. Well, those are my thoughts. Remember to be kind in thought, word, and deed. Oh yeah, and remember to stay awesome, Monroe County.

Our Mission: Welcoming Businesses, Unifying the Community, Creating Possibilities

By Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lance Hauser

Greetings Chamber members and fellow Spartans!

We are officially 25% of the way through 2025, how can that be? March was a very fun month here at the Depot, as I got the opportunity to get out of the office a little bit more and meet some of our great members and community businesses. I can say firsthand that the members I had the chance to visit were so great and welcoming to me, and I'm excited to get out and meet more of you.

Let's start with our biggest win of 2025: the Annual Banquet/Awards Banquet. I looked around the room and I couldn't stop smiling. The event was held at the beautiful and spacious Wisco 8. If you haven't had the opportunity to stop out and see Wisco 8, you are missing out. Stop out and visit them soon, I know they'd love to see you.

The food was catered this year by Club 16. We had crispy chicken wings, homemade meatballs, little smokies, meat and cheese trays, etc. Lisa was so great to work with when setting up this event. Lisa made sure that we had everything we

needed, and they were able to work within my budget, still providing the event with all that we wanted. The food was absolutely perfect for the event. Don and his team were on site the entire time, completely taking care of set up, refilling, and tear down at the end.

Club 16 is available for all of your catering needs. Thank you to Don, Lisa, and the rest of the Club 16 staff. They were great to work with, the food was perfect, and I highly recommend using them the next time you are in need of a caterer.

We doubled our attendance from last year. In 2024, The Chamber had 80 guests registered and this past event had over 150 people that registered. I want to thank each and every one of you that made a space in your busy schedules to attend. I hope you enjoyed the event, and we hope you'll join us next year.

In March, we had three awesome ribbon cuttings. We kicked then off with "Be Happy." They are a new family-owned business in Sparta, located in Jones Plaza. They offer delicious, nutritious, and colorful drinks & snacks that will fuel your body and brighten your day.

Our next ribbon cutting was to welcome "Crystal Eclipse" to their new location in Downtown Sparta, on Water Street. Naomi and her staff had such a great turnout for their event. Naomi was

giving tours of her store and discussing her products and what all her store has to offer. "Crystal Eclipse" offers high quality raw/polished crystals, carvings, 3D printed figures, vendor space, and so much more.

Closing out our ribbon cuttings was welcoming "Family Promise" to their new permanent location, on Oak Street. Jesse, Mykala, and their board were welcoming everyone that attended. We toured the facility, enjoyed some refreshments, and toured the living areas that are upstairs. Family Promise assists families experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness, in Monroe County, through a community-based approach. They offer

assistance in multiple ways, ranging from speaking with landlords, involving case managers, to providing safe and affordable housing.

These are great people, and we were happy to be a part of their special day.

For future ribbon cuttings and all other events, please follow our Facebook page.

In closing, I'd like to remind everyone reading this of the Chamber's AMAZING raffle going on. Raffle tickets are \$50 each and we've only printed 500 of them, with the top prize being a trip to Mexico. What other Chamber is offering something like that? Call us at 608-269-4123 to get your tickets now!

Be good to one another and I'll see you next month :-)

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Herald encourages letters to the editor on current issues. Please limit letters to 500 words or fewer. Anything over 500 words will be at the editor's discretion. Letters should not contain any libelous statements. The Herald reserves the right to edit letters or not publish those it deems inappropriate. Writers may submit one letter per week, if the submissions do not clearly emanate with redundancy.

The Herald will accommodate all submissions that are clearly written by subscribers and legitimate local submissions. The Herald will not repost any items that have been clearly written by professional entities for a mass level of distribution. Letters must be signed and include the author's address and phone number for verification; letters will not be

published without this information. The Herald will not publish a letter to the editor from a political candidate in an upcoming election or thanking the voters. Those candidates can purchase advertising space. Letters must be submitted in an electronic format, through e-mail or through monroecountyherald.com. Letters can be e-mailed to editor@monroecountyherald.com, please put "letter to the editor" on the subject line or go to monroecountyherald.com under submissions, click letter to the editor.

The deadline for either guest opinion or a letter to the editor is Friday at noon for a Monday paper or Wednesday at noon for a Thursday paper.

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MONROE COUNTY HERALD



SCAN TO SUBSCRIBE

What's Happening Upcoming Area Events

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS POLICY: Groups that earn profits from their event are asked to place a display ad in the MC Herald in order to be included in "Upcoming Area Events." Any non-profit adult organization or church will get a 25% discount on advertising. Half price ads are available for second run. There is no charge for youth groups. Items placed in "Upcoming Area Events" cannot contain prices, and the word "raffle" is prohibited. Regular consumption events must be run as a paid advertisement. We appreciate your cooperation. E-mail to mail@monroecountyherald.com to place your item.

THE TOMAH ROTARY CLUB AND MONROE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COALITION, will present four Community Events focused on lifelong well-being through prevention, mindfulness and belonging. They will be held on the following Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM - March 26, April 23, May 14 and June 4. The Conversations will take place at Cranberry Country Lodge, 319 Wittig Road, Tomah, WI. The first event will cover key topics such as childhood brain development; the second, adolescent disconnection and connection; the third, self-discovery in mid-life; and the fourth, navigating aging.

TOMAH FFA ALUMNI EUCHRE CARD PARTY. American Legion Hall in Tomah. **April 5, 2025, 3:30pm.** 800 Wisconsin Avenue, Tomah.

APRIL 14 - SACS MEETING FOR THE PLANNING OF THE 2025 SACS RALLY WILL BE HELD AT 6:00 PM AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, 612 N WATER ST. THE SACS RALLY WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 1 AT EVANS BOSSHARD PARK. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE. MONDAY April 14th, 12pm-5pm; Tuesday, April 15th, 1pm-6pm. Trinity Lutheran Church, 612 N Water St., Sparta. Appointments are greatly appreciated and

honored. Call 877-232-4376. Cookie, brownies, & other snacks available.

DRIFTLESS ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE APRIL 12, 1 PM DRIFTLESS ACADEMY - SPARTA 138 N WATER STREET, SPARTA, WI. Join Us for Our Grand Opening Open House! Come check out our brand-new Jiu Jitsu gym. We're celebrating with free seminars, live demonstrations, and a chance to meet our instructors and community.

PUBLIC HISTORY PROGRAM THURSDAY, APRIL 24: "Wisconsin for Kennedy: The Primary that Launched a President and Changed the Course of History," by author BJ Hollars, UW-Eau Claire English Professor. Please note that to provide more seating space, this program will not be held at the Local History Room but nearby at the Sparta United Methodist Church, 210 N. Court St. Parking available in Museum/Monroe County Parking Lot off Central Ave. Free admission but a \$1 donation to offset programming costs is always appreciated. For more information visit www.facebook.com/mclhr or call 608-269-8680.

SOCIAL FUNDRAISER AT THE MT TABOR BAR, MAY 3, 2025. 1PM TO 5PM. Music by Burch Brothers. Raffles. 50/50. Come join us all for some fun while we raise needed funds to keep our Mt Tabor Cemetery maintained. Bring your lawn chair. S792 County Hwy V, Hillsboro, WI

SPLASHIN' IN CASHTON COMMUNITY SPLASH PAD FUNDRAISER. SUNDAY, MAY 4TH. DOORS OPEN AT 11AM. At the Cashton Community Hall, 811 Main St, Cashton Food, live music, bingo, raffles, auction, kid's activities.

TOM WOPAT IN CONCERT, MAY 3, 2025. 6PM AT MONROE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, EXHIBIT BUILDING. Scott Wilcox & James Olson open the show at 6pm. Tom Wopat starts at 7pm. Car show in Midway 12pm-4pm. Meet & greet with Tom Wopat. Tickets on sale at Tomah Museum. 321 Superior Ave., Tomah. This is a fundraiser for Tomah Area Historical Society & Museum.

CLASS OF '76 Breakfast will be the first Tuesday of the month at the Family Restaurant at 10 AM. in the back room.

MOTHER'S DAY CHICKEN Q. SUNDAY MAY 11TH. Cashton Community Hall. 11am to 2pm. Sponsored by Cashton Community Club.

TOMAH AMERICAN LEGION POST 201 Legion and Auxiliary meeting every 2nd Thursday of every month. Doors OPEN at 5:00 pm, meetings start at 6:00 pm.

AMERICAN LEGION POST #100 in Sparta has their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the month starting at 7PM. The Auxiliary starts at 6:30 on the third Wednesday of the month. All veterans and families of veterans are welcome to join the legion. Stop by 1116 Angelo Rd for more information.

VFW POST 2112 monthly membership meeting, **first Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.** Auxiliary meeting **second Tuesday at 7:00pm.** All meetings at the Post Home, 121 South Husk.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 9438 MIDDLE RIDGE - BANGOR - WEST SALEM monthly meeting. 1st Tuesday each month, 6:00 pm St. Teresa Parish, West Salem.

THE SPARTA GARDEN CLUB: The Garden Club is changing the cadence, of their Monthly meeting, to the Third, Tuesday. The New Time: 11:30 am to 1 pm. Note, our meeting may last longer because of topics. Anyone with an interest in gardening is welcome to join and become a member. The New Location: Sparta Floral & Greenhouses, 636 E. Montgomery Street, Sparta WI.

THE TRI-COUNTY CHAPTER #1386 OF NARFE (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES) MEETS MONTHLY (March thru November) the 3rd Thursday of the month at Perkins Restaurant, 1015 E. McCoy Blvd. (Hwy. 21), Tomah, WI. Lunch is available at 11:30 AM - order off the menu. The meeting starts at approximately 11:45AM. All members, their guests, and interested retired federal employees are welcome.

SPARTA FREE LIBRARY hosts **TR-I-N-G-O (BINGO Trivia)** at **VFW Post 2112 (121 S. Rusk)** on the **4th Wednesday of the month.**

Game starts at **5:30pm.** No admission fee. Join the fun as we play four games, each game being a different category.

CLASS OF 64 Breakfast will be the first Monday of the month unless its a holiday then it will be the second Monday, 9 a.m. at the Family Restaurant.

BANGOR VFW POST 8278 monthly meeting. **3rd Tuesday each month, 7:00 pm** Legion clubrooms. New members welcome.

BANGOR AMERICAN LEGION POST 40 & LEGION AUXILIARY monthly meeting. **2nd Tuesday each month, 7:00 pm** Legion clubrooms. New members welcome.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) is not about dieting or selling a special food plan. We give support and tools to make lifetime changes. Join us Mondays from 3:00-3:45 at the Methodist Church. Call Nila at 608-797-2784 with any questions.

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY EVENINGS. St. Clare Health Mission of Monroe County provides **FREE MEDICAL CARE** for uninsured adults. Registration 5-6:30 p.m. at Mayo Clinic, 310 W. Main St., Sparta. For more information about services and eligibility, visit www.stclaremonroecounty.org or call 608-366-5343.

SPARTA LIONS CLUB MEETING Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. Sparta VFW starting at 6:30 pm. We are always looking for new members!

SPARTA GROUP #1 (AA) has meetings Monday through Fridays at NOON. There are also meetings seven days a week at 7 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. The meetings are held at the Masonic Valley Lodge on the corner of Montgomery and South Court streets. Use the side entrance. Hotline Numbers: 608-784-7560 OR 1-866-491-8004

SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD PANTRY is in Sparta the third Monday of each month at **2:30p.m.** at the winter (Nov. through April) location at **1121 E. Montgomery St., the Sparta Hockey rink**; the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00p.m. at the **Tomah Fairgrounds (1625 Butts Ave.)**; and the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:00a.m. at the **Norwalk Village Hall** for curbside pickup.

EVERY TUESDAY, 7 P.M. Are you struggling with someone else's drinking? **AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP** is there to help. Meetings are held at the Sparta United Methodist Church, 210 N. Court St.

SENIORS AT THE BARNEY CENTER, AGE 40 AND OLDER. We play 500, Euchre, & we will probably have a table of Canasta. 1st Thursday of the month 1:00 p.m. and 3rd Saturday pot luck & cards, 11:30 a.m.

Monroe County to lift seasonal weight restrictions

The seasonal weight restrictions placed upon Monroe County highways will be removed effective Monday, April 07, 2025. The restrictions on each individual highway will remain in effect until the signs have been removed. All weight restrictions on bridges will remain in effect, as posted at the bridge. Restrictions on vehicle weight are placed each spring, to reduce damage while the road base is unstable. This year the restrictions were posted on March 10th. The typical limit on most Monroe County highways is 40 tons

total vehicle weight. Permits to transport oversize and overweight loads may be requested by submitting an application to the Highway Department. Application forms, the Policy on Vehicle Weight Restrictions & Permits, and a fee schedule may be found on the Highway Department web-page, at www.co.monroe.wi.us. For further information please contact the Highway Department by telephone at (608) 269 - 8740 or via e-mail at highways@co.monroe.wi.us.

City of Sparta Hydrant Flushing & Brush Pick-up

The City of Sparta will be flushing hydrants the week of April 7th - April 11th, 2025

Please limit your laundry during this period as lighter clothes could discolor. If this happens, call 269-4340 Ext 5155 or 5156.

The City will be picking up brush the same week of Hydrant Flushing

Please place in the gutter, away from the curb line but parallel with the street prior to April 7th. Please Do Not put brush out after the 7th. Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

Sparta Water Utility and Public Works Dept.

SUDOKU

Answers on page 14

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Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10				
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CLUES ACROSS

- Narrow piece of wood
- African desert
- Waxy covering on birds' beaks
- Sour
- Infrequent
- Former AL MVP Vaughn
- Policemen wear one
- Out of the question
- Used to chop
- Symptoms
- Not moving
- Folk singer DiFranco
- Comedian Armissen
- Quantitative fact
- Incline from vertical
- Scottish musician
- Rooney and Kate are two
- Positioned
- A very short time
- Tropical American shrubs
- Yemen capital
- Spanish municipality
- Medical professionals
- Fibrous material
- Confined condition (abbr.)
- Without covering
- "Mad Men" honcho Don
- Hockey position
- Taste property
- Fertile spots in a desert
- They precede C
- "Requiem for a Dream" actor Jared
- Try a criminal case
- Liberal rights organization
- Spoke
- Insect repellent
- Extinct flightless bird
- Appetizer
- After battles
- It neutralizes alkalis
- Beverage container
- Partner to "Pa"
- Gray American rail
- Salt of acetic acid
- Canadian province
- Dish made with lentils
- Narrative poem of popular origin
- For each one
- Come to terms
- Test
- More dishonorable
- Unit of loudness
- The Ocean State
- Monetary unit in Mexico
- Lying down
- Thus
- Where LA is located
- Western State

Answers on page 14

INCOME TAX PREPARATION

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MAY 3, 2025

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608-372-1880 (Museum) • 608-377-2474 (Shawn Zabinski)
608-372-4417 (Grace Blaskey) • website: www.tomahmuseum.com

Funds raised will go toward the Tomah Area Historical Society and Museum

OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES

JIMMY A. SCHROEDER

April 1, 2025

Jimmy A. Schroeder, Sr., 73 of Kendall passed away on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at the Tomah Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Tomah.

A Funeral Service will be held on Friday, April 11, 2025, 11:00 AM at First Baptist Church of Necedah, W6295 23rd Street W., Necedah, WI 54646. Pastor Kevin Meinke will officiate. Burial will be at a later date. Relatives and friends

are invited for a time of visitation on Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at the Smith-Nelson Funeral Home, 112 E. South Railroad Street, Kendall and at the church on Friday from 10:00 AM until the time of the service. Online condolences can be offered by visiting www.sonnenburgfamilyfh.com

Sonnenburg Family Funeral Home

TRENT D. DAVENPORT

February 7, 1972 — March 29, 2025



Trent Davenport

SPARTA-Trent D. Davenport, 53, of Sparta, WI, passed away on Saturday, March 29, 2025. Born on February 7, 1972, in Sparta, he was raised in the same community and graduated from Sparta High School in 1990.

Following high school, Trent proudly served his country as a jet engine mechanic in the United States Air Force. His military career took him across the globe, with assignments in England, Saudi Arabia, Panama, and Turkey. It was during his time in Grand Forks, ND, that he welcomed his three children, Chelsea, Anthony, and Thomas into his life.

After returning to Sparta, Trent worked in various mechanical roles, including driving a semi-truck, a milk truck, and as a diesel mechanic. His skills and hard work led him to become a supervisor at Fort McCoy, where he continued to serve his community with pride.

A passionate athlete, Trent was a standout in track and cross-country during high school, earning a four-year varsity letter in track. He enjoyed participating in 5K races with his family, along with cross-country ski races. He also cherished his time spent fishing, hunting, and his love for RC airplanes.

Above all, Trent's greatest joy in life came from his grandchildren, who adored him deeply.

Trent is survived by his parents, Debra and Carl Davenport; children, Chelsea (Codey) Christophersen Anthony Davenport, and Thomas (Leah) Craft; wife, Laura; brother, Ryan (Cherie) Davenport; grandfather, Don Larson; grandmother, Donna Larson; grandchildren, Scarlett and Hazel Davenport, Jarvis, Brady, Sawyer, and Oliver Dierks, Echo, Hunter, and Gunner Flores and Chloe Craft; niece and nephew, Maggie Davenport, and Dale Kukowski; as well as many extended family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers, James Davenport and Lawrence Donskey; and grandmother, Judith Davenport.

Trent's legacy of service, dedication, and love for his family will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. His infectious smile and caring spirit will be deeply missed.

A private family service will be held.

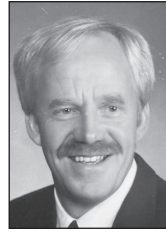
Online condolences may be offered at www.schanhoferfh.com

Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation, Sparta, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation

JOHN ROBERT "BOB" CLEMENTS

March 25, 1949 — March 31, 2025



John Clements

John Robert "Bob" Clements, peacefully passed away on March 31, 2025 at the age of 76 at Lakeview Health Center in West Salem, WI.

Bob was born March 25, 1949 to John E. and Beulah (Swanson) Clements and grew up in Cashton, WI. After graduating from Cashton High School, he attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, graduating with a civil engineering degree, but his true passion was business. An energetic and talented entrepreneur, Bob was managing the accounting books for his father's construction business from a young age and demonstrated an intuitive understanding of business with a real knack for marketing and real estate.

He first met his wife Barbara J. Hutchison of neighboring Ontario in 1966 when he gave her mother Carol Hutchison - who was his high school English teacher - a ride home after her car broke down. Barb and Bob married July 17, 1970 on a sweltering summer day at tiny Brush Creek Lutheran Church in rural Ontario, WI. They raised two daughters in Cashton and six Old English Sheepdogs over the course of nearly 55 years of marriage. Bob was frequently seen driving around rural WI with a sheepdog hanging its shaggy head out the window of his "PETLIMO" license-plated SUV and in later years walking energetically, and occasionally beingwalked energetically, by the family sheepdog on daily outings.

Bob enjoyed golf, skiing, fast cars and traveling. A lifelong Wisconsin Badger sports fan, he relished his

regular trips to Madison and remained a loyal season ticketholder from the dismal 1970's through to the Rose Bowl eras of Wisconsin football. Less well-known, Bob loved music, serenading his daughters to bed to the tune "Goodnight Irene" and introducing multiple generations to his favorite John Prine albums, singing along with an impressive deep bass voice.

Bob is deeply missed by his wife, Barbara Clements of Cashton; daughters Aimee (Kepler) Davis of Evans, GA and Rebecca Clements of London, United Kingdom; sisters Jane and Christine (William Drago) Clements; brother James (Gail) Clements; 3 grandchildren (William, Andrew and Elizabeth Davis), family sheepdog Georgie and many relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Beulah Clements, beloved aunt Beverly Swanson, father- and mother-in-law Daniel and Carol Hutchison, sister Cathleen Clements, sisters-in-law Susan Hutchison and Kristine Curtis and brother-in-law Dan Hutchison.

The family would like to thank the staffs of Gunderson Memory Care Unit in La Crosse and Lakeview Health Center for their skilled care in recent months, as well as family friend Kim Erickson for her steadfast support, humor and kindness to Bob and his family.

A service will be held Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 11:00 AM at the Torkelson Funeral Home in Cashton, WI. In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes cards and memorials donated to the Alzheimer's Association or the American Humane Society.

Torkelson Funeral Home

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Winners at Duplicate Bridge on Tuesday, April 1, were:

First place - Ken Kuhn and Maila Kuhn. Second place - Doug Furnier and Sandra Schaefer. Third place Tie - David Hollmann and Lloyd Larson & Bev Donahue and Donna Mesner.

This group meets regularly each Tuesday afternoon at 12:30 p.m. in the Hospitality House of St. John's Episcopal Church.

Interested participants are welcome. Partnerships can be arranged. Contact Bev Wendorf at 269-6405 or 487-9299.



Happy Birthday
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JOYCE A. WEINKE

April 2, 2025

SPARTA-Joyce A. Weinke, 77, of Sparta, died Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at Gunderson Health Systems, La Crosse. Arrangements will be announced by Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation, Sparta.

Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation

ARLYCE BAHNUB

July 30, 1931 — April 1, 2025

Arlyce Bahnum, 93, passed away on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at Grand View Nursing Home in Blair, Wisconsin.



Arlyce Bahnum

Arlyce was born on July 30, 1931, in Cataract, Wisconsin to Violet and Alvin Parlow. They lived in Melrose and then moved to Black River Falls.

Arlyce graduated from Black River Falls High School in 1948.

In addition to her "farmers wife barn duties", Arlyce worked at the Court House in BRF, Dietary Aide at Pine View Nursing Home, and a greeter at McDonalds in Black River Falls.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, William Bahnum, her sister, Phyllis (Waughtal) McCormick, nephew, Steven Waughtal, and son, Mark Bahnum.

Arlyce is survived by her children, Connie Kain (Bill), Betty Bills (Mike), Kaye Quall (Randy) and daughter-in-law, Rebecca Ihle and Patrick McCormick. Arlyce has 8 grandchildren, Shelly Asmussen, Jason Dormady, Lori Wittkopp, Lisa Bills, Kevin Bills, Katrina Quall, Alisha Quall, and Bryan Bahnum. Arlyce has 10 great-grandchildren.

The funeral service will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, Little Norway Lutheran Church. A visitation will be held at the church from 10:00 a.m. until the service with burial and committal following the service. All in attendance are invited to join the family in a meal and fellowship at the Black River Falls American Legion, Hwy. 54, Black River Falls.

Torgerson's Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Torgerson's Funeral Home

MEETINGS

- The regular meeting of the Bangor School Board of Education will be held in the Bangor Middle/High School on Wednesday, April 9th, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. A link will be provided at (www.bangor.k12.wi.us)
- School District Board Of Canvassers Of The Tomah Area School District. Friday, April 4, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at

the Tomah School District Office, 129 W. Clifton Street, Tomah, WI.

■ School District Board Of Canvassers Of The Tomah Area School District Monday, April 7, 2025, At 11:00 A.m.

The Meeting Will Be Held At The Tomah School District Office, 129 W. Clifton Street, Tomah, WI.



MONROE COUNTY HERALD

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Wisconsin for Kennedy: Public History program coming to Sparta

There will be a Public History program at 7 p.m., on Thursday, April 24th: "Wisconsin for Kennedy: The Primary that Launched a President and Changed the Course of History," by author BJ Hollars, UW-Eau Claire English Professor. Please note that to provide more seating space, this program will not be held at the Local History Room, but nearby, at

the Sparta United Methodist Church, located at 210 North Court Street. Parking will be available in the Museum/Monroe County Parking Lot, off of Central Avenue. Admission is free, but a \$1 donation, to offset programming costs, is always appreciated. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/mclhr or call 608-269-8680.

Tomah Rotary and MCMHC to host Community Events

The Tomah Rotary Club and Monroe County Mental Health Coalition will present three Community Events focused on lifelong well-being through prevention, mindfulness and belonging. They will be held on the following Wednesday nights, at 6 p.m. - April 23rd, May 14th and June 4th. The Conversations will take place at the Cranberry Country Lodge, located at 319 Wittig

Road, in Tomah, Wisconsin. The first event will cover adolescent disconnection and connection; the second, self-discovery in mid-life; and the fourth, navigating aging. The format of the conversations will be speaker presentations, Q & A, and possible demonstrations. The public is encouraged to attend these free events. Light refreshments will be provided.

FALLEN OUTDOORS

(Continued from Front Page) Bakken stated, "One thing I wanted to strive for when I built TFO was that I wanted it to be open to all veterans, of all branches and backgrounds. I have seen too many great men and women left behind because they didn't meet a certain criterion, and I will not follow suit. If you served honorably, then you are my brother and sister. I do not care how long you served, what branch, what job, combat or garrison, wounded or untouched. The Fallen Outdoors is here for you and I am here for you!"

The Fallen Outdoors banquet was a huge success. They would like to thank their long list of supporters and donors, too long to list here. They include several sportsman shops, firearms dealers, fishing supply dealers, banks, offices, restaurants, businesses, and private individuals throughout Monroe County and beyond. To find out more about The Fallen Outdoors events in Wisconsin, check their Facebook page at: **The Fallen Outdoors Midwest All Veteran Community Page**, or the national Website: **www.TheFallenOutdoors.com**.

Bear Creek News

by Pat Christensen

Gram Christensen spent last Thursday visiting Cara Potter at Rome and Great Granddaughter Laylah, who was visiting her Grandparents. Ken and Sue Olsen played cards at the Senior Center, on Tuesday. Bonnie Hedding visited her Aunt Ruth and Doug Murry, last Friday, in Tomah. Bonnie Hedding visited her mom, Kate Batten, in

Shennington, on Sunday. Bonnie Hedding visited Randy Waltemath, in Wyeville, on Sunday. Fred Waltemath and friend, Carter, from Tomah, visited Aunt Bonnie Hedding, on Sunday. Alicia Waltemath, from Wyeville, visited her sister Bonnie Hedding, on Sunday afternoon.

Health Matters

by April Anderson
Monroe County Health & Well-Being/FoodWise Educator

Food Waste Prevention Week

Food Waste Prevention Week is April 7th – 13th, 2025. Why is it important to reduce food waste? Wasting food is costly. Each year, Americans lose more than \$218 billion on wasted food. Food is wasted throughout the food supply chain, including at the farm, in transit, and at home. This results in wasted land, water, labor, energy and other inputs used in producing, processing, transporting, preparing, storing, and disposing of discarded food. Households are responsible for the most wasted food.

In the U.S., roughly 40% of all food grown and produced is never eaten, while at the same time 1 in 5 people lack consistent access to nutritious food. Redistributing food that would otherwise have contributed to food waste, to those who need it, could help reduce food insecurity. When food goes to landfills, it emits a powerful greenhouse gas called methane, which is harmful to our environment. Methane traps heat in the atmosphere and contributes to global warming.

What can we do?
One positive step we can take is to shop wisely, by planning meals, using shopping lists, purchasing accurate quantities, and avoiding impulse buys. We should also properly store foods and correctly utilize fridge space. For example, the fridge needs air to circulate to be efficient. Allow enough space in between foods, so that cold air can circulate all around. Be conscious of food age, and freeze it before it spoils. Use all parts of food and process foods, so that they last longer with techniques, like canning, fermentation and preserving. Interpret date labels as estimates of top quality rather than end dates for safety (unless the words "use by" appear before the date).

In addition, consider utilizing the FoodKeeper App, which is available as a mobile application for Android and Apple devices. The FoodKeeper helps you understand food and beverage storage. It will help you maximize the freshness and quality of items. By doing so you will be able to keep items fresh longer than if they were not stored properly. It was developed by the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service, with Cornell University and the Food Marketing Institute.

- Resources**
- <https://www.foodwastepreventionweek.com/>
 - <https://sites.rutgers.edu/food-waste/>
 - https://www.nrdc.org/bio/nina-sevilla/preventing-wasted-food-across-food-supply-chain?mc_cid=085b1e6947&mc_eid=6f5088cbb4
 - <https://www.foodsafety.gov/keep-food-safe/foodkeeper-app>

Social Media in 2025: Growth, Authenticity, and the Rise of Meaningful Connections

By STEVIE VELASQUEZ
Herald Staff Writer

In 2025, social media continues to be a driving force in digital communication, with platforms reaching record-breaking user bases. Facebook remains the largest social media network, boasting an impressive 3.04 billion users. YouTube follows closely, with 2.5 billion users, while both WhatsApp and Instagram maintain strong positions, with 2 billion users each. TikTok, the short-form video giant, has surged to 1.5 billion users, demonstrating the growing preference for video-based content. In total, over 5.22 billion people worldwide are active on social media, reinforcing its integral role in modern life.

As social media evolves, so too do the trends that shape user engagement. One emerging shift is the move toward authenticity, particularly among parents. A recent survey found that over 60% of parents are abandoning the polished, 'picture-perfect' portrayal of parenting in favor of sharing genuine and unfiltered moments. This trend reflects a broader societal movement toward realism and relatability, with users increasingly valuing honest and transparent content over curated perfection.

Beyond personal content, the landscape of digital interaction is changing, with a renewed focus on meaningful connections. Platforms are recognizing the need for more constructive and positive conversations. One example is

the relaunch of Digg, a once-popular content aggregation site that is now refocusing on "humanity and connection." By leveraging artificial intelligence, Digg aims to foster respectful and engaging discussions, counteracting the often toxic environment of online discourse.

The intersection of artificial intelligence and social media is another key development in 2025. AI-driven tools are not only improving content curation and moderation but also enabling users to interact in more personalized and meaningful ways. Social platforms are incorporating AI, to enhance user experience, filter harmful content, and provide more tailored recommendations, ensuring that engagement remains both enjoyable and safe.

Despite these advancements, challenges remain. The rapid expansion of social media raises concerns about data privacy, misinformation, and the mental health impacts of constant digital connectivity. As platforms work to balance engagement with user well-being, the emphasis on authenticity and constructive communication could mark a turning point in the evolution of social media.

With billions of users logging in daily, social media in 2025 is more than just a tool for entertainment—it is a global hub for communication, self-expression, and social change. As trends continue to evolve, one thing is clear: authenticity and meaningful connections are shaping the future of digital interactions.

4th Annual Career, Job, and Education Fair at SHS

On Thursday, April 10th, Sparta High School will be hosting the 4th Annual Career, Job, and Education Fair. Representatives from over 40 businesses and 20 colleges will speak to SASD students, in grades 8th – 12th.

The students will start their experience in the auditorium with a panel discussion with eight alumni from Sparta High School. In this presentation, students will hear about former SHS students' career paths and what their current positions entail. Before attending the fair, they will receive a BINGO card with questions for them to ask the college and business representatives.

This event was started by Lori Hagen, the high school Academic Career Planning Coordinator, and Jamie Adams, the high school Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator, to help connect students to their career pathways.

The Career, Job, and Education Fair will be open to students from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. From 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., the businesses will be available for any community member looking for a new opportunity within the Career Pathways.

Senidoggies and Betty's Tacos food trucks will be

Correction for March 27 edition

In the Thursday, March 27th edition of the *Monroe County Herald*, on the back page article, "Evans Print & Media Group Collects 40 awards at WNA Banquet," in the outline for the photo, Nicolette Nauman was misspelled as Nicollette Nauman. The Herald regrets this mistake.

ELECTION

(Continued from Front Page)

State Superintendent
The race was much closer for the Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction, where incumbent Jill Underly saw 1,148,451 votes, to her opponent, Brittany Kinser's 1,022,350 votes. In Monroe County, Kinser took the most votes, with 7,727 votes to Underly's 6,006 votes.

Sparta Area School Board
There were three candidates running for the Sparta Area School Board: David Burnett, Dave Gaunky, and William Lasko. The vote would keep them in alphabetical order, as Burnett received the lion's share of the votes, at 3,389. Dave Gaunky came in second, with 2,615 votes. As the top two vote getters, Burnett and Gaunky won the two available seats. William Lasko finished 220 votes behind Gaunky, at 2,395.

Also on the ballot was the Voter ID Requirement, which had a crushing 62.8 percent of voters in favor of the measure, with only 37.2 percent voting no. This officially puts the Voter ID Requirement into the constitution of Wisconsin. In Monroe County, the vote was 10,573 for the measure, with only 3,978 in opposition.

Local Results within Monroe County

Sparta Mayor
For the City of Sparta mayoral race, Kevin Riley will be returning to guide and direct the city towards its future goals and endeavors for business development, the well-being of the community, and serving as top ambassador for Sparta. Mayor Riley defeated challenger, Tom Livangood, with a total of 1,788 votes. Livangood received 728 votes.

Sparta Alderperson District 2
For Sparta Alderperson for District 2, Write-in challenger, Beau Burlingame, mounted a late drive to challenge incumbent Kevin Brueggeman. As a write-in candidate, Burlingame's name did not appear on the ballot. The mountainous endeavor proved too steep, as Brueggeman secured victory, with 171 votes to Burlingame's 23 votes.

Sparta's Uncontested Alderpersons
There were three more even-numbered district elections for the City of Sparta that were uncontested. Maintaining their Alderperson positions were Robert Arnold – District 6, and David Kuderer – District 8. Troy Harris chose not to run for his seat for District 4. Filling the District 4 seat, uncontested, was Todd Wells.

Tomah School Board
The Tomah School Board saw four candidates running for two positions. Catey Rice took the most votes, at 3,104. Heidi Hammes placed just ahead of Daniel Crego, with 2,624 votes, compared to Crego's 2,566 votes. James Newlun garnered 2,302 votes. Rice and Hammes retain their seats on the board.

City of Tomah Alderpersons
The only contested race for the City of Tomah Alderpersons was for District 5. Alex Bess and Mitchell Koel faced off on the April 1st ballot. Koel took the victory by pulling in 136 votes to Bess's 116. Uncontested races, where Alderpersons will maintain their seats, included Travis Scholze – District 1; John Glynn – District 3; and Nellie Pater – District 7.

Bangor's Referendum
Bangor's referendum, on a 3-year non-recurring \$900,000 Operations budget, passed, with 820 voters saying yes. There were 734 voters casting votes against the referendum. The school district had tried to pass this last year, as a recurring referendum, but it was voted down.

Judges
Judge Todd Ziegler ran uncontested and will retain his position of Circuit Court Judge Branch 1. Judge Jennifer Nashold also ran uncontested and retains her position of Court of Appeals Judge District 4.

Full results can be found on the websites of Monroe County, at <https://www.co.monroe.wi.us/departments-county-clerk/elections>
For City and School board results, go to the respective websites of each institution.

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SASD

(Continued from Front Page)

agenda in a 7 - 0 vote. Then Lopez recommended an additional change to closing at a windchill temperature of -30 degrees Fahrenheit. The consent agenda had recommended closing at a windchill temperature of -35 degrees.

After a short discussion and additional clarification, the board moved to approve the adjustment suggested by Lopez, in a 6 to 1 vote.

All items were approved by the Committee of the Whole and were forwarded to the full board, where they were all approved.

Budget Revisions for 2024-25 School year

Previously, at the SASD committee of the whole meeting, Leah Hauser, Director of Finance, provided an in-depth explanation of the budget revisions requested. Hauser began by explaining additional revenue changes, which totalled \$393,892. "For revenue, we [SASD] had that increase of \$15,000 in the local sources, which is largely due to the sale of surplus property. We had all our Promethean boards, which were in the classroom, sold on the surplus auction and that revenue came in. We also have some additional aids coming in from state and federal grants that we didn't know of at the original budget."

Next, Hauser explained the changes to expenses. First, she showed a reduction to the estimated employee Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) owed. "We do pay out our HRA [Health Reimbursement Arrangement] for employees, which is a benefit that goes along with our health insurance," Hauser said. "We did budget \$50,000 higher than actual, so we were able to reduce the expense budget because of that."

Second, Hauser shared an increase of \$7,500 in building budget expenses. "This is to support the additional furniture and resources needed at Southside [Early Learning Center] to go to all day 4K," Hauser explained.

Third, Hauser pointed out that there was a \$24,881 expense added to the central office budget. "This is due to property tax chargebacks, which we are given that amount from the state," Hauser explained. "I did not have this at the original budget."

Last for expense changes, Hauser increased the employee wellness budget by \$1,000. "Typically, it is \$1,000, and it just wasn't included in the original budget, so I am fixing that," she said.

Hauser summarized, "All those net together to be \$900,000, to the good, from where we were at for the original budget. Original budget, we had a deficit going into fund balance of \$1.49 million, and that is down to about \$1.4 million now."

Hauser then reminded the committee, "There will be two more budget revisions throughout the remainder of the year, prior to June."

Additional Conversation on Policy 8220 Weather Closing Change

After Patrick McKenna, Board President, introduced policy 8220 back to the floor, Lopez explained her rationale for pulling the item off the consent agenda. "I pulled this just to get some further clarification on the windchill factor," Lopez said. "I apologize for not being at the committee meeting, but I did listen. I heard Dr. Burnett's recommendation for windchill, and I do see a potential issue."

Lopez continued, "I know that we only ask our students

to be at the bus for 5 minutes before they are picked up. In reality, I am assuming, that there are times when parents need the students to leave a little earlier or stand out there a little longer. Parents need to go to work or whatever. But I am also thinking about the students who might have to walk to school."

Lopez proposed, "If we were to leave the windchill at -35 degrees [Fahrenheit,] because it is an 'or,' right? We are talking about changing it to -20 for the actual temperature and -35 for the windchill. If we were to leave it at -35 for the windchill, I am concerned about the students walking in, to school. How far out does a student have to live for them to get busing?"

Dr. David Burnett, board member, added, "I thought we had actually changed it to a -25 windchill, but that is not the case?"

SASD superintendent, Sam Russ, answered, "It was from my understanding, unless I misunderstood the motion, we only change the temperature from -25 to -20. That was the extent of it."

Dr. Burnett continued, "Well, at -35 windchill, I am not exactly sure how many

minutes to frostbite. It has to be down in the range of 5 or close to it. I know that at -25 windchill, you have got 15 minutes, and to me, 15 minutes is enough variability that if a bus doesn't get there, we may have someone out there for 15 minutes. I really feel that a -25 windchill ought to be the limiting factor."

Russ shared an alternative view of the frostbite range. "If I am reading the chart correctly, -25 is in the 30-minute range, according to the chart."

Dr. Burnett was unsure of the chart's accuracy. "The problem with the chart is it gives you 30-, 10- and 5-minutes, but it doesn't give you 15. When you look it up what it is for that value and calculate it, it is 15-minutes for -25."

Hauser interrupted Dr. Burnett and Russ momentarily to answer Lopez's question on the bus service range. "We do offer busing to all students throughout the district. We do not utilize a walk zone. With that being said, the DPI [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction] walk zone is up to 2 miles. That is not saying everybody has a bus stop right out their door, though."

Lopez pulled up another chart for board comparison. "As I am looking at weather.gov, the windchill chart; at -34 and -36 windchill, with a -5 temperature, like actual temperature outside, we are looking at 10 minutes before we have the potential for frostbite for exposed skin."

Todd Wells, board member, joined into the conversation with a consideration for the chart analysis. "Also based on that chart, we are going to have 40 mile per hour winds, too. Part of the arguments that I made last time is that when Sam is making this call, he's making this call at 5:00 a.m. in the morning. So, likely your outcomes will improve."

Lopez argued, "At 5:00 a.m., it would be a call for potentially a 2-hour delay, but we are still looking at the potential for frostbite within 10-minutes. -35 is considerably cold. I would not be opposed at all to raising that. It doesn't mean school has to be cancelled, it could just be postponed and give the time for the windchill to warm up. You can see by then that it is. Then we don't have the potential for students to be standing outside for more than 10 minutes or walking

to school for more than 10 minutes."

Russ reminded the committee the rules for a 2-hour delay. "We do forecast for, at about 9:00 a.m., what it is going to look like," Russ said. "If the data shows it is not going to be looking any better, we are done. It is all based on data."

New Recommendation by Lopez Approved

After conversation between the board members, Russ and Hauser, Lopez made a new recommendation for policy 8220. "I move to recommend to change the policy to -20 actual temperature and -35 windchill, on policy 8220," Lopez said. Dr. Burnett seconded the motion.

Colin Burns-Gilbert clarified, "The only change from committee would be to bring that down to -30 for the windchill?"

Lopez confirmed that was the only change.

McKenna called for a voice vote, which resulted in 6 'yay' and 1 'nay,' from Wells.

SASD committee of the whole will meet again on Monday, April 14th, 2025, at 6 p.m., in Meadowview cafeteria.

1st Community Credit Union holds 64th annual meeting

1st Community Credit Union held its 64th Annual Meeting on March 31, 2025, at Sparta American Legion Post 100, in Sparta, Wisconsin. The 42 member-owners attending the meeting elected two directors, Doug Allen and Claire Sweet, to three-year terms.

Chairperson, Wendy Whitehead, introduced the members of the Board of Directors and recognized the Executive leaders of the credit union, who have over 187 years of experience. Ms. Whitehead expressed gratitude to the credit union's members for their support and engagement

throughout the year, which contributed to the steady growth of 1st CCU. She talked about the 5-year anniversary of the Tomah branch, recent enhancements, such as the new Online Business Loan Application, and 1st CCU's community involvement throughout 2024, including over \$39,000 donated to local causes and \$7,000 in scholarships awarded to local graduating seniors.

Treasurer, Phil Yahnke, reported on the Credit Union's Financial Condition. 2024's growth brought assets to over \$266 million dollars. Members' deposits are

federally insured by NCUA. The credit union issued loans totaling \$84.9 million in 2024. Since forming in 1961, the credit union has loaned out over \$1.7 billion dollars to members.

President Brad Bauges discussed the Don't Tax My Credit Union grassroots outreach and encouraged members to visit the website, at donttaxmycreditunion.org. Other highlights shared by Mr. Bauges and members of the Management team included an upcoming remodel of the Sparta branch, plans for rolling out a Mobile Wallet service later in the year, as well as a

new Add-On Youth Certificate coming soon. Members were also encouraged to take advantage of resources provided by the credit union, to help members learn about avoiding fraud.

The Board of Directors then took several great questions from members. 1st CCU remains financially sound, and the partnership between the members and the staff continue to drive the credit union to be strong.

Following the annual meeting a re-organizational meeting was held to elect the officers of the board.

Thank you to all the donors and volunteers who made our 8th Annual nasa Fundraising Banquet a success. We appreciate your support in helping us, help others.

2025 Donors

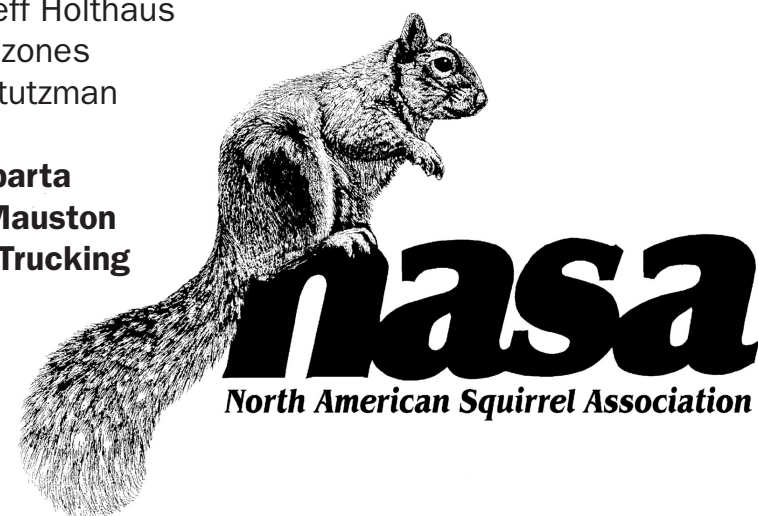
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EDITORIAL

THROUGH MY LENS

Baseball, softball moving to summer season in 2027

By NATE BEIER
Sports Editor



I didn't take the time on Monday to point out that the sports department took a much-needed break last week and skipped putting together any sports for our publications (technically we mustered a page for the Cashton Record, but it wasn't planned).

In any case, we needed a break and we're in the 'between seasons' time, so I thought it was best to shut things down. We did.

We returned this week and had a some games to talk about. That was nice.

In fact, it was nice to have great weather at the end of last week to enjoy games in. I went to Black River Falls to watch Tomah softball open its season. Sunshine and favorable temps truly make watching baseball or softball fun versus an obligation (like was the case Tuesday in 40 degree temps and relentless wind blowing).

That's why the news from the WIAA regarding the moving of baseball and softball to the summer in a couple of years really made my ears perk up. You see, I've been an advocate of summer base/softball for years - especially seeing how it works well in Iowa.

It looks as though our diamond days will start in the middle of May with first games happening the week after Memorial Day.

The WIAA stated in a press release that they're willing to try the move because it makes 'common sense.' The percentage of games that get cancelled each year is over 30%, meaning kids aren't getting the full benefit of the sport and athletic directors are forced to designate extra resources in scheduling and rescheduling contests.

Now, the American Legion baseball association isn't necessarily happy about the move, I'm sure, but there's time in the back half of July and first part of August that can still be used for Legion ball. The number of kids participating in Legion has dropped steadily over the past two decades, though, so I'm not surprised the WIAA isn't overly concerned with intruding on their territory.

Wait, is this still April Fool's Day? Can't we celebrate it for more than a day? Aw shucks.

Yes, this was another April Fool's Day special.

Let's face it, the WIAA isn't known for making sensible decisions and we all know no one really wants to make the right move and push base/softball into the summer. We'd rather let basketball and football coaches sink their talons into kids when they should be being kids and enjoying sunsets in right field.

Legion baseball does exist, but when our towns can't get their local kids to stay and play for their local posts, it really shows how little clout Legion holds for some folks.

We'll trudge through the mire that is April base/softball and maybe one day we'll treat those sports right. Happy April Fools!

SOFTBALL CASHTON

Keep building: Sparta softball looking to continue making forward progress with experienced lineup

By ERIC AUER LEE
Sports Writer

After a confidence-boosting summer, the Sparta High School softball team will look to win its first MVC game since 2021 this spring.

"Overall most of these girls played Legion softball last summer," coach Erik Jones said. "They won the West Salem regional and played at state for the second year in a row. Got the first state victory in the young Legion softball program's history, but the experience that they gained from those games will hopefully carry over into spring."

A conference win would be the team's first since it beat La Crosse Aquinas to open the 2021 season, and the Spartans showed improvement last year. After failing to win a single game in 2022 and

2023, Sparta finished 2-16 overall last spring.

Only two players are gone from last season's team — Greta Anderson and Elivia Shepherd — giving the Spartans plenty returning experience, including a junior class that includes Elexa Jones, Morgan Revels, Izzy Mickelson, Kadynee Erickson, Avery Abbott, Alexandra Zimmerman, Allie Martinson and Lily Siefert.

"They will all play a role in our success this season," Erik Jones said. "Other girls look to them to lead them both on the field and off."

Revels and Elexa Jones both earned second-team all-conference honors last season, and Mickelson will handle most of the pitching duties after missing part of last year with an injury.

■ SPARTA, pg 10



Sparta's Kylie Burton makes contact with a pitch during her first at-bat of the season Monday afternoon. Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.

POINTS OF PROGRESS

WINS RETURN

After back-to-back seasons without a win, Sparta came away with a pair of non-conference victories in 2024.

MVC

Tuesday, April 27, 2021 was the last time Sparta carved out a league win. That season the Spartans went 1-11 in league play and were outscored by 10.5 runs a game. In 2024, Sparta went 0-12, but lost by an average of 11.6 runs a game. This year the SHS coaching staff hopes to change that trend with a solid nucleus of experienced returning players.

BASEBALL TOMAH 13 BLACK RIVER FALLS 2 (5)



Stocking hats and Strikeouts

Tomah's Breckin Sheldon winds up to deliver a pitch during the first inning of Tuesday's game with Black River Falls. Sheldon picked up the win, allowing zero hits and striking out seven in four innings of work. Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.

Timberwolves weather cold temps, persistent wind in season opening rout of Black River Falls

By ERIC AUER LEE
Sports Writer

Maybe it was the earlier start than usual. Or maybe it was the cold and dreary weather for the Tomah High School baseball team's season opener.

Either way, Breckin Sheldon wasn't as sharp as he wanted to be on the mound in the first inning on Tuesday, April 1, against visiting Black River Falls. But once he settled in, Sheldon shut down the Tigers and helped the Timberwolves earn a 13-2 win in five innings.

Sheldon walked three batters and allowed one run, but he kept Black River Falls without a hit and struck out seven in four innings of work.

"Few walks in the first inning. I was around the zone, I thought, but just got to be a little more accurate," Sheldon said. "... When I got warm, I think I was dialing in."

Sheldon got a groundout to start the game but followed with a walk and hit two batters to load the bases. A groundout to second baseman N Hendricks brought one



Tomah's Cade Rezin keeps warm with a stocking hat while turning a keen eye on the field from the dugout during Tuesday's game. Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.

of those runners in before Sheldon struck out G Bolger looking to end the inning.

After Tomah (1-0) plated five in the bottom half of the first, though, Sheldon struck out the side and looked confident for the rest of his time on the mound. He only

faced four batters in the third and fourth innings while striking out three.

"We knew he had to get better from last year on throwing fastballs for strikes early in the count," Timberwolves coach Ryan Brookman said. "He was

Few walks in the first inning. I was around the zone, I thought, but just got to be a little more accurate... When I got warm, I think I was dialing in.

- Breckin Sheldon, Tomah junior

much better at that, obviously, in the second, third and fourth (innings) than the first. Very happy to see him make that adjustment."

"No hits there, so that's a big plus," Sheldon added.

■ TOMAH, pg 10

GIRLS SOCCER
BARABOO 3
SPARTA 0

Spartans' defense surrenders first half goals

By NATE BEIER
Sports Editor

A pair of first half goals put Sparta behind in the season-opening night of the girls soccer season - ultimately leading to a 3-0 loss to put SHS at 0-1 in the new year.

Baraboo built its 2-0 lead on a pair of goals by Kylee Hollenbeck-Smith in the 24 and 39 minute of the game. The second goal was listed as being scored at 39:59 - just ahead of the halftime buzzer.

Hollenbeck-Smith finished the hat trick in the 68 minute of the game.

The Thunderbirds placed 15 total shots on goal on a night that featured winds and seasonal precipitation.

Sparta has held to just 9 shots on goal, all of which were stopped by Rachel Wegner.

The game was the first for any Mississippi Valley Conference team. The other games scheduled for Tuesday - Logan's tilt with Menomonie, Aquinas at Adams-Friendship and Arcadia's home stand with Melrose-Mindoro - were all canceled or postponed due to inclement weather.

UP NEXT

Sparta will look ahead to Thursday, April 3 for a chance to notch the team's first win of the season. The Spartans are scheduled to play at Mauston starting at 6. The SHS strikers posted a 3-1 win over the Golden Eagles last season which was the opener that was played on April 5.

TOMAH

The Tomah girls soccer team kicks off its season.

The Timberwolves finished 2024 with a mark of 10-7-1 and was 8-4 in MVC play after posting a 4-0 record in the pod play portion of the league schedule. That run helped the T-Wolves take fifth in the MVC.

Tomah will be on the road for a series of games to start the 2025 season.

On April 3, Tomah will be at Menomonie. After that, the THS group will play at Baraboo and will open MVC play on April 15 at La Crosse Central.

Coach Kjetil Garvin and company will entertain Sparta on April 17 for its first home game.

WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST AWARDS

Evans Media sports department combines for 10 first place awards

By ERIC AUER LEE
Sports Writer

Results from the Wisconsin Newspaper Association's Better Newspaper Contest were revealed at the group's annual convention back on March 8 in Madison.

The Evans Media sports department garnered 10 first place finishes across its three publications, *Monroe County Herald*, *Hillsboro Sentry-Enterprise* and *Cashton Record*.

Aside from the 10 top awards, the

group - which consists of editor Nate Beier, former writer Zach Rastall and designer/photographer Logan Everson - also captured 14 other awards.

"I'd like to believe we hold ourselves to a high standard in terms of how our pages look, the photos we choose to go in and the special coverage we provide to our teams," said Beier.

"Winning awards for the work we do is fair validation for the effort we invest. The sports department has had

good support from Greg and Kyle Evans who have allowed us to 'go big' when we need to and pursue the production of special sections for our most prominent teams," said Beier.

"Other publications don't have that sort of support, which is why they can't keep up to what we're able to pull together."

Among the awards, Beier cites the Wonewoc-Center volleyball state championship and the Bangor X-Peat as two of the biggest successes.

"We've won four or five special

section awards over the years. It's obvious we put the 'special' in special section. That's a great feeling."

Wonewoc-Center's state championship volleyball run was the basis for a trio of first place awards, which also included Zach Rastall's story about the title-winning match and a photo by Beier as the team received their first place trophy.

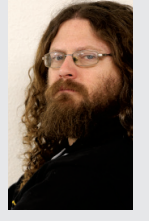
The *Monroe County Herald* had four firsts, *Hillsboro Sentry-Enterprise* four and *Cashton Record* a pair of first in sports.

EDITORIAL

THROUGH MY LENS

Thankful for the team

By NATE BEIER
Sports Editor



I know I already wrote a column for this edition. However, that was a work of fiction.

What I want to include here is a work of non-fiction.

Our sports department has done some fine work over the years and each award season I'm filled with gratitude for the folks that have put up with my high standard of content creation and delivery.

The last four years I've leaned on Zach Rastall as our main sports writer. He did many great stories about our local athletes. State trips. State champions. First round losers. The entire gamut of sport.

He moved on this fall to be part of the Trempealeau County Times.

I was glad to see he won something for his writing work in our Wisconsin Newspaper Association contest again. After judging other states' competitions, all I can say is that it's not easy to come up with a first place finish in those categories.

Zach was a freight train, just chugging along when he worked for us. Unlike most of the writers here, Zach had four deadlines to meet each week as we produced two Monroe County Heralds a week as well as an issue of the Hillsboro Sentry-Enterprise and an issue of the Cashton Record.

I always felt he outwrote just about every other scribe here and was very vocal about giving him his due. He was good for us and very, very good for our sports department.

I'm hoping we can get our new writer, Eric Auer Lee, some WNA accolades next year. Eric's been great for us as well and has really taken a liking to our teams and communities. Again, he's got four days of deadlines to meet. It's not easy, and it's more than most writers have to deal with. If you see him at a game, please give him a hearty 'thank you.'

The last component of our sports department has been Logan Everson. Her help with photo and design work has been instrumental in raising the bar for the sports pages of all of our publications. She took over as the Cashton Record editor last May, so we've had to respect the time she needs to grow that paper into something great.

In any case, Logan and Zach and now Eric have been vital to the success of what we do here. Please, please let her, know they're appreciate if you see them in the wild. Thanks.

MONROE COUNTY HERALD

- 2 - Best Sports Pages
Nate Beier, Zach Rastall, Logan Everson
- 2 - Local Sports Column
Nate Beier
- 2 - Visual Storytelling
Nate Beier
- 2 - Sports Feature Photo
Nate Beier
- 2 - Best Headlines
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Nate Beier
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Zach Rastall

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- HM - Sports Feature Photo
Nate Beier

CASHTON RECORD

- 2 - Best Sports Pages
Nate Beier, Logan Everson
- 2 - Sports Action Photo
Nate Beier



IN PHOTOS: OPENING DAY FOR SPARTA SOFTBALL

photos by Nate Beier/GX3 Media



- 1. Sparta jacket stitching
- 2. Third base with freshly worked dirt around it
- 3. American Flag detail on the SHS softball jerseys
- 4. Sparta's home field in Memorial Park
- 5. Elexa Jones puts a ball in play during the third inning
- 6. Kaydence Erickson grips her catcher's mask and glove before taking the field
- 7. The Sparta team is reflected in the sunglasses of coach Erik Jones during his pregame meeting Tuesday Monday
- 8. Morgan Revels celebrates the team's third out in the first inning
- 9. Emma Selbrede draws contact with a pitch
- 10. Emily Woodworth watches the American Flag flutter in the wind before Monday's game
- 11. Ali Solberg advances on a ball hit to centerfield
- 12. The SHS infield corps stack their gloves on second base while the National Anthem ushers in the new season.



THIS WEEK SPORTS PREVIEW

WHAT to WATCH In sports



Kennedy Brown, Cashton. Cashton will kick off conference play by hosting Brookwood Monday afternoon. Herald photo by Logan Everson/GX3 Media.

SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULES Due to inclement weather, schedules and times are subject to change. Please visit each school's webpage or the conference websites (see below) for the most up-to-date schedules for your teams. We print schedules based on information from the conference calendar website.

Friday, April 4
BASEBALL Marshfield at Tomah, Westby at Sparta
SOFTBALL Cashton at Viroqua, Sparta at Portage, Alma-Pepin at Bangor
TRACK AND FIELD River Falls invite (Sparta) @ UWRF

Saturday, April 5
BASEBALL Ithaca at Cashton
SOFTBALL Ithaca at Cashton



Aiden Klema, Tomah. Klema went 1-4 and scored a run in Tuesday's game against Black River Falls. Herald photo by Logan Everson/GX3 Media.

Monday, April 7
BASEBALL Tomah at La Crosse Logan, Sparta at Holmen, Bangor at Hillsboro, Brookwood at Cashton
SOFTBALL Sparta at Wisconsin Dells, Bangor at Hillsboro, Brookwood at Cashton

Tuesday, April 8
BASEBALL Viroqua at Sparta
TRACK AND FIELD Bangor invite (Bangor, Cashton), Royall invite (Brookwood)
SOCCER Richland Center at Sparta

AREA SCHEDULES section with QR codes for Mississippi Valley Conference, Coulee Conference, and Scenic Bluffs Conference.

HERALD SPORTS STAFF
Editor - Nate Beier
Reporter - Eric Auer Lee
Lead Designer - Nate Beier
Designer - Logan Everson
Photographer - Nate Beier
Photographer - Logan Everson

SOFTBALL ROUNDUP



Tomah's (from left to right) Haylee Pingel, Addison Brieske, Lauren Echelberg, Brooklyn Chapman and Marah Noth huddle together along the front side of the dugout during Tuesday's game with Baraboo. Low temps and windy conditions made for a less-than-comfortable, but typical early-April softball experience for both Tomah and Baraboo. Herald photo by Logan Everson/GX3 Media.

Wall takes no-hit bid into seventh

By ERIC AUER LEE
Sports Writer

Another strong performance from junior pitcher Anna Wall on Tuesday, April 1, helped the Timberwolves win their third in a row to start the season, defeating Baraboo 11-2.

TOMAH 11 BARABOO 2
Wall was charged with two runs, but neither was earned. She allowed only one hit, walked three and struck out 15 while pitching all seven innings.

The Thunderbirds (1-1) scored once in the second and once in the third. Their run in the second came via multiple passed balls after a walk, and their run in the third was aided by an error and a hit batter.

Wall didn't surrender a hit until there were two outs in the seventh, and Tomah (3-0) offered plenty of support at the plate to wipe away those mistakes in the field.

Avery Chapman went 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles and two RBI from the clean-up spot, and Avery Brohmer also had a double and drove in two runs.

Both doubled in the Timberwolves' three-run second inning — which gave them a 4-1 lead — and Chapman's second double scored Brohmer as part of a six-run sixth inning.

Tomah took advantage of two Baraboo errors in the sixth and also got triples from Libby Mathison and Nola Mullikin as it pushed its lead to 11-2. Brielle Plueger joined Chapman as the Timberwolves' two players with multiple hits, finishing



Tomah's Lily Noth sends a ball over the pitcher's circle after making contact with a pitch in Tuesday's non-conference game with Baraboo. Herald photo by Logan Everson/GX3 Media.

with a pair of singles.

BARABOO 15 SPARTA 5 (6)
The Spartans (0-1) trailed 8-0 in their season opener on Monday, March 31, before they got on the board with two runs in the bottom of the third inning.

The Thunderbirds (1-1) plated one in the first before rallying for six runs in the second and adding one in the third.

Lizzy Mickelson got a popout to start the top of the second but hit the next batter. Baraboo then strung together four straight singles and made it 5-0 on a dropped third strike. A walk and another single made it 7-0, but Mickelson worked out of a bases loaded jam with a strikeout and a groundout.

Mickelson walked in another run in the third but helped her own cause in the bottom half of the inning by advancing Kadynce Erickson to third base with a groundout. Erickson scored on a passed ball in the next at-bat, and Morgan Revels did the same later in the inning to cut the Thunderbirds' lead to 8-2.

Mickelson did more damage at the plate in the fourth, sending a line drive to center field for a two-out, three-run inside-the-park home run.

Baraboo, though, responded with a run in the fifth and four more in the sixth while holding Sparta scoreless to earn the run-rule win.

Erickson and Elexa Jones

each had two hits, and the former scored two runs. Mickelson's home run was her only hit, and she allowed 16 hits and walked 10 while striking out five in six innings in the circle.

UP NEXT

Tomah was scheduled to open MVC play on Thursday, April 3, at La Crosse Logan before hosting Holmen on Tuesday, April 8.

Sparta was scheduled to host Holmen on Thursday, April 3, and play at Portage on Friday, April 4. Next week, the Spartans play at Wisconsin Dells on Monday, April 7, before returning home on Tuesday, April 1, to face Onalaska.



Sparta's Izzy Mickelson winds up to deliver a pitch during Monday's game with Baraboo. Mickelson, who spent some time sidelined by injury last year, will look to anchor the Spartans' defense from the pitcher's circle this spring. Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.

SPARTA
from pg 7

"She is healthy this season, and I am expecting a great year out of her in the circle," Erik Jones said.

Run support will also be key, and the team placed an emphasis on hitting during the offseason.

"One of our focuses this offseason was to try to increase our power at the plate," Erik Jones said. "Coach Angle has taken on that task and really focused on squaring up the ball and driving it. Last season we hit two home runs during the season and we expect to surpass that this season."

Mickelson hit an inside-the-park home run in Sparta's season opener on Monday, March 31, putting the team well on pace to pass that mark, but the 15-5 loss in six innings to Baraboo also showed there is still room for improvement.

Mickelson walked 10 batters and allowed 11 earned runs and the Spartans committed two errors, for example.

There were positives, too, including Erickson and Elexa Jones each registering a pair of hits and the team only striking out three times. That gives Sparta something to build on.

"Most of these girls have been with me the past two years and they have gotten better every year," Erik Jones said. "Looking forward to seeing these girls put together complete games."

Doing so will be crucial to ending a losing streak in the

Coach Angle has taken on that task and really focused on squaring up the ball and driving it. Last season we hit two home runs during the season and we expect to surpass that this season.

- Erik Jones,
Sparta softball head coach

MVC, which had four teams with at least eight conference teams last season.

"We play in a tough conference with a lot of good teams, but these girls believe that they can play with anyone," Erik Jones said. "As a coaching staff, that is how we are approaching every practice and game."

The Spartans were scheduled to open their MVC slate on Thursday, April 3, at Holmen and follow with away games at Portage on Friday, April 4, and at Wisconsin Dells on Monday, April 7. They return to conference play on Tuesday, April 8, at home against Onalaska.



Batting helmets wait for the offense to return from the field during Tuesday's game. Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.



Despite the wintry feel to Tuesday's game, players still stuck to their traditional summery mid-game snacks for the opening day of high school baseball. Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.

TOMAH
from pg 7

"I think the defense played really well, just got to be around the zone more."

He also gave credit to the team's offense, which jumped on Black River Falls early.

Hendricks grounded out to lead off the bottom of the first, but J Steffel doubled to left center and Tomah had runners on second and third after A Klema reached on an error. That set the plate for T Frandsen, who singled to left field to score Steffel and tie the game at 1-1.

B Haun walked in the next at-bat, Klema scored on a wild pitch, and Sheldon reached on another error to make it 3-1. C Clay followed with a double to the gap in left center, and G Courtney scored Sheldon with a groundout to the right side of the infield to push the Timberwolves' lead to 5-1 — a welcome contribution from the bottom part of the lineup.

"We did not do a good job putting the ball in play last year. We got into the middle of our lineup, and it was a problem. We couldn't produce runs at all in there," Brookman said. "... We've got to get more production from the middle of our lineup if we're going to compete."

Courtney's RBI was a good example of that, and it also was one of a plethora of solid Tomah at-bats. He trailed 0-2 in the count but stayed patient and battled back to a 3-2 count before driving in Sheldon.

"We just have to have good at-bats. We've kind of talked about that. I thought we did up and down the lineup," Brookman said. "... It was a big deal to just get a ball



Tomah's Jackson Steffel belts out the first extra base hit for the Timberwolves during the first inning of Tuesday's game with Black River Falls. Steffel reached second on the hit and went on to score the team's first run of the year on a single by Tucker Frandsen. Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.

in play to get a run in right there."

The Timberwolves finished with eight hits — with Haun leading the way by going 2-for-2 with two walks and two RBI — and scored in each of their four innings at the plate. They batted around in the first and the third, and a three-run fourth gave them a 13-1 lead heading into the fifth.

Quinn Gerke came on in relief of Sheldon and allowed a run but got two straight outs to end the game after hitting a batter.

The performance was an encouraging sign for Tomah, which finished 6-21 last season and was just 1-11 in the MVC. The Timberwolves have about 80% of their pitching and 75% of their at-bats back from last season, Brookman said, giving the team some much-needed experience to build on this year.

Gerke and Hendricks are expected to join Sheldon in the rotation, and the win over the Tigers showed Tomah should be able to compete even with a few injuries —

namely to Owen Laudon and Peyton Smith.

"We've got some good depth. We've got some guys that didn't play today that'll help us, too," Brookman said. "Finally have depth. We haven't had that for a couple of years."

When all put together, Sheldon has high hopes for the year.

"I think we're going to have a very good record, top three in the conference," he said. "... We're going to surprise a lot of people, I think."

AREA CHURCH NEWS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS)
 Joel Neumann, Pastor
 www.faithwels.com • 715-284-0772
 Facebook: Faith Ev. Lutheran Church
 YouTube: @faithev.lutheranchurch-bla9393
 6774 Acorn Avenue
 Worship Service:
 SUNDAY - 9:45 A.M.

ROCKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BANGOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 106 E. Main Street, PO Box 44
 Rockland, WI 54653
 Church Phone: 608-486-4539
 Francis Hewuse II, Pastor
 Phone: 608-343-7237
 E-Mail: pastorfran2@yahoo.com
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School -9:30 a.m.
 Confirmation -9:30 a.m.
 Even number months- Worship at Bangor Presbyterian Church
 Odd number months - Worship at Rockland United Methodist Church

IMMANUEL AND SALEM United Methodist Church
 Norwalk, WI
 Immanuel -403 So uth Main Street
 Salem - County Highway T
 608-823-7523
 Pastor Fran Hewuse II
 10:15 a.m. Worship Service - First Sunday of the months May thru October, worship at Salem. All other Sundays at Immanuel.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST Summit Ridge
 16545 Kellogg Avenue
 Norwalk, WI 54648
 608-269-2655
 Father Eric Berns and Father Fernando Lara
CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS
 Saturday: 8:00 p.m.
RECONCILIATION
 Saturday: 7:30 p.m. before Mass.

KENDALL EV. FREE CHURCH
 Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.,
 Thursday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.,
 Pastor John Olson.
 One block uphill from Ergo Bank
 104 E Hall Street
 Kendall, WI 54638

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (The Little Red Church)
 322 N. Water St., Sparta, WI
 Church Office 608-269-4266
 Interim Clergy Rev. Canon Kathy Charles
 Email-sjecsparata@outlook.com
 Sunday- 10:00am In Person and Virtual Service

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 ELCA
 612 North Water Street
 Sparta, WI 54656 • 608-269-5081
 www.tlcsparata.org
 Josh Buzbee, Pastor
Michelle Hyatt, Youth & Family Minister
 God's Love ~ Our Hearts
 God's Work ~ Our Hands
Current worship opportunities:
April 6: 9am Worship with communion.
 Fellowship - Julie & Jerry Ender. 10am Sunday School. 10am 4H youth Room. 11am Pastor's Bible Study
April 9: 8am Men's breakfast - Family Room. 6-7 Dinner Church
April 13 Palm Sunday: 9am worship with communion. 10am breakfast & egg hunt. 11am pastor's bible study.
April 17: 6:45am Maundy Thursday worship with communion.
April 18: 6:45am Good Friday
April 19: 6:45am Easter Vigil worship w/ communion
April 20 EASTER SUNDAY: 6:45am Worship w/ communion. 9am worship w/ communion. 10:30am Worship w/ communion.
April 27: 9am Worship w/ communion. (loose change offering) Fellowship council. 10am Sunday school. 10am 4G youth room. 11am Pastor's bible study.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH WELS
 21693 Cty Hwy A (Ridgeville)
 Tomah, WI 54660
 Pastor Robert Gerke
 (608) 487-1170
 Sunday Worship: 9:30 A.M.
 Bible Study(Th): 10:00 A.M.
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 beginning Ash Wednesday, March 5th until Easter.
Lenten Church Service to follow at 6 p.m.

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 115 W. LaCrosse Street, Tomah, WI
 Pastor Elizabeth Voigt
 608-372-6242
 tomahucc@gmail.com
 Find us on Facebook at UCC Tomah
 No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome to join us for worship. We worship in person at 10 am on Sunday and 6 pm on Wednesday for the Come as You Are service.
 We look forward to seeing you!
 Watch for Children's Celebration Sunday On the 2nd Sunday of the month resuming in the Fall at 10 am!

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20752 State Hwy. 27, Sparta, WI 54656
 Rev. Donald A. Ehler, Pastor
 Cell phone: 608-792-0481
 Email: chman1@centurylink.net
SUNDAY
 8:45-9:45 a.m. Discovery Land in the Fellowship Hall (Sunday School)
 9:00-10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Family Worship -Everyone is welcome-in person or at www.facebook.com
 Weekly CD available, new nursery
 11:00 a.m. Coffee hour-fellowship hall.
 11:00 a.m. Confirmation class (TBA)
WEDNESDAY
 9:00 a.m. Mid-week Bible study
 Holy communion-monthly on the 1st Sunday.

FAITH EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
 "Christ's Love to Us, Demonstrated Through Us".
 6644 St Hwy 16, Sparta - 608-269-5469
 Ministry office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
 E-mail: office@spartafaith.com
 Website: www.spartafaithfree.com
Ministry Staff:
Brian Young - Senior Pastor
SUNDAY:
 8 and 10:45 a.m. Worship Services. Visit Faith's website for livestream options using Facebook and YouTube. Nursery (birth-3 yrs.) available during both worship services. Children's Church (3 yrs.-2nd grade) available during second service.
 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday Discussions for Adults
WEDNESDAY:
 5:30-7 p.m. Kids Kingdom (during school year) for students in grades PreK thru 6th. Free meal for Kids Kingdom children and their families (5:30-6 p.m.) Programming from 6-7 p.m.
 6-7 p.m. Women's Bible study; free nursery (birth to PreK) for those attending the study.
 7-9 p.m. Youth Group for students in grades 7-12
 Men's Bible Study from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
 Please go to Faith EFC's website for other events or call the ministry office.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
 319 W. Main St., Sparta
 Rectory Phone 608-269-2655
 www.spartacatholic.org
Fr. Eric Berns and Fr. Fernando Lara
CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS
 Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday: 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 1:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. (Spanish Mass)
RECONCILIATION
 Friday: 11:00 a.m. - Noon;
 Saturday: 3:30 p.m.
 For Hispanic Reconciliation, call Father Fernando Lara.

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 201 N. Water St., Sparta, WI 54656
 Office: 608-269-5100
 Email: cucc@centurytel.net
 Pastor Priscilla Hemmersbach

Worship Services: Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
ALL ARE WELCOME
 We believe that each person is unique and valuable. It is the will of God that every person belongs to a family of faith where they have a strong sense of being valued and loved.
Vision Statement: *United in Christ's love, a just world for all.*
Mission Statement: *United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.*
To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.

CASHTON FOUR POINT LUTHERAN PARISH
 Brush Creek, Fish Creek Ridge, North Coon Prairie and Portland Lutheran Church
 621 Lewis St., Cashton, WI 54619
 608-654-7798
 Pastor Patrick Ziems
 www.fourpointparish.org
 prest4pt@yahoo.com
 Apr 6: 9:15 - North Coon Prairie Worship / Coffee
 11:00 - Fish Creek Ridge Worship / Dinner
 Apr 8: 1:00 - Bible Study at the Parsonage at 621 Lewis St. in Cashton. Everyone is Welcome!!
 Apr 9: 7:00 - Lenten Services at North Coon Prairie - 6:00 Soup Supper
 Apr 12: 4-7 pm - Brush Creeks Annual Pancake Supper. All are welcome.
 Apr 13: 9:15 - Brush Creek Worship /Coffee following Worship
 11:00 - Portland Worship
 Apr 15: 1:00 - Bible Study at the Parsonage at 621 Lewis St. in Cashton. Everyone is Welcome!!
 Apr 17: 7:00 - Maundy Thursday Worship at Portland
 Apr 18: 1:00 - Good Friday Worship at Brush Creek
 Apr 19: 1:00 - Cemetery clean up at North Coon Prairie (Rain date will be Apr 26)
 Apr 20: **EASTER WORSHIP:**
 6:30 - Brush Creek
 8:00 - Portland
 9:30 - Fish Creek
 11:00 - North Coon Prairie
 Apr 22: No Bible Study
 Apr 27: 9:15 - Fish Creek Ridge Worship / Coffee following Worship
 11:00 - North Coon Prairie Worship / Dinner
 Apr 29: 1:00 - Bible Study at the Parsonage at 621 Lewis St. in Cashton. Everyone is Welcome!!

ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
 419 Jefferson Ave., Sparta
 Church: 608-269-4966
 School: 608-269-6001
 email: church@sjsparata.com
 www.sjsparata.com
 Pastor Jonathan Hackbarth
 Pastor Micah Schoeneck
Sunday, April 6 8:00am & 10:30am - Worship Service w/ communion

Tuesday, April 8 9:30am - Women's Bible Study
Wednesday, April 9 6:30am - Men as Christians at Sparta Family Restaurant
 6:00pm - Midweek Lent Service
Sunday, April 13 8:00am & 10:30am - Worship Services

BETHANY, IMMANUEL, TRINITY ELCA
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
 539 South St. Cashton, WI 54619
 (608) 654-5236
 Pastor - Amanda Schultz

BETHANY
 Sun., April 6 - worship at 11:15 a.m.
 Wed., April 9 - Lenten services at noon and 6:15 p.m. At Trinity
 Sun., April 13 - Palm Sunday parish worship at Trinity at 9:30 a.m.
 Thurs., April 17 - Maundy Thursday worship Trinity, 6:15 p.m.
 Fri., April 18 - Good Friday worship at Immanuel at 6:15
 Sun., April 20 - Easter Sunday worship at 11:15 a.m.
IMMANUEL
 Sun., April 6 - worship at 8:30 a.m.
 Wed., April 9 - Lenten services at noon and 6:15 p.m. At Trinity.
 Sun., April 13 - Palm Sunday Parish worship at Trinity at 9:30 a.m.
 Thurs., April 17 - Maundy Thursday worship at Trinity at 6:15 p.m.
 Friday, April 18 - Good Friday worship at Immanuel at 6:15
 Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday worship at 8:30 a.m.
 Sun., April 27 - worship at 8:30 a.m.
TRINITY
 Sun., April 6 - worship at 9:30 a.m.
 Wed., April 9 - Sticky Faith, 3-4:30
 Wed., April 9 - Lenten services at noon and 6:15 p.m. With confirmation at 5:30 p.m.
 Sun., April 13 - Palm Sunday Parish worship at 9:30 a.m. with Family Sunday School at 8:45 a.m.
 Wed., April 16 - No Sticky Faith
 Thurs., April 17 - Maundy Thursday worship at 6:15 p.m.
 Fri., April 18 - Good Friday worship at Immanuel at 6:15 p.m.
 Sun., April 20 - Easter Sunday worship at 9:30 a.m.
 Wed., April 23 - Sticky Faith, 3-4:30
 Sun., April 27 - worship at 9:30 a.m.
 Follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/cashtonthreepoint)
 Pastor Amanda is working and available for prayer, conversation, and support. Contact the church office at 608-654-5236.

SPARTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 210 N. Court St., Sparta, WI
 Pastor Lourdes Magalhães
 Office Phone: 608-269-6949
 Office Hours: 9 a.m. -3:30 p.m.
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship Service Website: www.spartaumc.net
 Sunday services livestreamed on Facebook & recorded on YouTube and uploaded to our website.

Friday, April 4:
 8:00 a.m. Men's coffee at Family Restaurant
 8:15 a.m. Women's coffee at La Herradura Restaurant
Sunday, April 6:
 9:00 a.m. Worship.
Monday, April 7:
 9 a.m. Free Bakery "K" street entrance
 3 p.m. TOPS Mtg., Garden Rm.
Tuesday, April 8:
 5-6 p.m. Free Soup Supper
 7 p.m. Al-Anon Mtg., Garden Rm.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BANGOR
 1612 Pearl Street, Bangor
 Church Phone: 608-486-2670
 Francis Hewuse II, Pastor
 Phone: 608-343-7237
 E-mail: pastorfran2@yahoo.com
 Church email: bangorfirstpreschurch@gmail.com
 Facebook: Bangor First Presbyterian Church
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Even number months - Worship at Bangor First Presbyterian Church
 Odd number months - Worship at Rockland United Methodist Church
 ALL ARE WELCOME!

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 West Salem WI, 54669
 608-786-3038
 Pastor Peter Adelsen
 765-860-5204
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 Sunday School 10:30 - adult and children Bible Study Wed. 10:30am
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 Email: office@wspop.org Website: wspop.org
 Facebook: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church @wspoplcms

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 401
 16th Ave N, Bangor, WI 54614
 608-486-2754
 Sunday Services: 8:00 & 10:00 am
 Sunday School: 9:10 am
 Sunday Bible Study: 9:15 am
 Midweek Study: Tues. @ 7:00 pm & Wed. @ 9:00 am

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
 307 W. Warren St, Tomah, WI
 608 343 7322
 Pastor Dawn Lindberg
 Worship services Sundays at 9:30am
 Wednesdays at 6:30pm
 Follow us on Facebook: Peace Lutheran Church - Tomah
 where Sunday worship is live streamed
 Website: peace.lutherantomah.org
 e-mail: peacetomah@gmail.org
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CATARACT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 5228 Cataract Rd., Cataract, WI. 54620
 Pastor Loretta Waughtal
 Office 608-488-5311, Cell 608-386-1862
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School during worship.
 Communion is the 1st Sunday of each month.

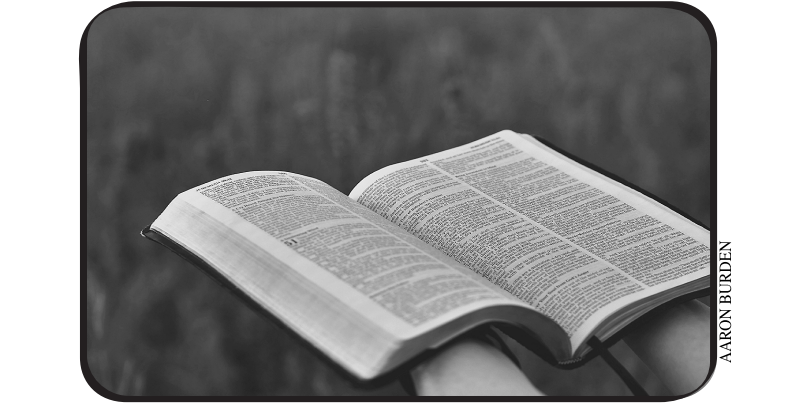
MELROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 101 Douglas St., Melrose WI 54642
 Pastor Loretta Waughtal
 Office 608-488-5311, Cell 608-386-1862
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 10:30 a.m.
 Communion is the 1st Sunday of each month

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
 MISSOURI SYNOD
 1221 La Grange
 Tomah, WI 54656
 Pastor - Noah Rogness
 Worship: Sunday 9:00am
 Fellowship: 10:00am
 Bible Study/Sunday School: 10:30am

BELLS COULEE CHIMES
BELLS COULEE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 N7289 County Highway E, Bangor, WI 54614
 608-486-4415
 Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
 Lay Minister - Sara Hallberg
 Bells Coulee Evangelical Lutheran Church is nestled in the hills North of Bangor, Southeast of Mendota, at the junction of County Roads E and DE in the Township of Burns, La Crosse County, Wisconsin.

Our congregation first began meeting at this location in 1900. We are a friendly congregation who welcomes any and all visitors and new members. Please join us for worship.
 We invite you to stay for Fellowship Coffee after worship on the first Sunday of the month or Potluck Luncheon on the third Sunday of the month.
 Worship Sunday at 10:00 am
 followed by fellowship meals the 1st and 3rd Sundays
 Confirmation meets at 9 am
 Sunday School classes meet after Children's Sermon

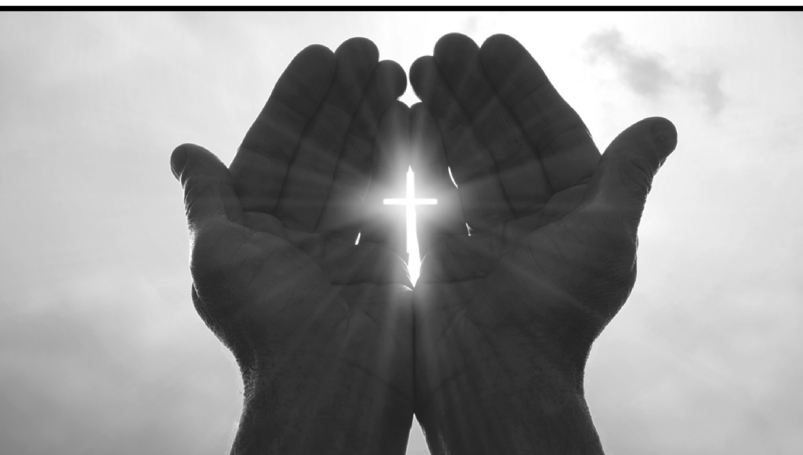
I Love The Old, Old Story



God's mercy and love, salvation's promise, and Jesus paying for our sins is an old story.
 For generations that old story became new for each person that decided to believe.
 It's a story about receiving.
 Make that old story new again this week in church.

I am about to do a new thing....

Isaiah 43:16-21
 Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8 Psalm 126
 Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for
 Sunday, April 6, 2025
 Fifth Sunday in Lent



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An
**Outdoorsman's
 Journal**



By
Mark Walters

MY EZ SEASON

Hello friends,

This week I am writing to you about a series of bad luck that has happened to me, and I feel it makes for a pretty interesting story. Every year from around the 1st of April until the end of Wisconsin's deer gun season I have what I call my "busy season" and to be perfectly honest, it about kicks my hinder. For several years now my busy season has not ended until I return from my annual Mississippi deer and hog hunt in early January.

As I have written about, this late December, while hunting and camping in The Delta

National Forest in west central Mississippi a tree fell on my 2017 GMC, smack dab on the cab and it was not pretty. Long story short, I made it home with the truck and a month later it was rebuilt, which cost my insurance company \$17,900.

The night I arrived home after a 952-mile trek pulling my toy hauler trailer with broken windows and a crunched cab I was proud that I got the old girl home. I was shutting the lights off in my house to call a long day quits and I noticed a long and very ugly wound on my 8-year-old golden retriever Ruby's belly. That wound ended up being cancer, my vet and myself did everything we could do to save Ruby and that was not meant

to be, as she passed away 16 days later on my living room floor.

The following week, I started to notice a scratch in my throat, headaches and fatigue, I was getting better then I helped host an ice skating party which was on a snowy night and I became very ill for 7 days. To this day, about 50 days later, I have not fully recovered my stamina. The illness that whacked me, the loss of Ruby, and a truck-guy being without his truck for a month was not a positive start to my EZ Season.

So we all know that when we fall, we must get back up. My pond biologist had told me that I need more habitat for my fish and minnows. I already had quite a bit but took on the

task with about twenty, 20-foot oak and maple tops from a logging job. I would put the butt end on shore and have the top facing out on the "ice" and when spring came it would sink down for my long term fishing/retirement plan.

I was super ambitious and was confident the ice was safe. I got a bit too close to the aerator while dragging the biggest tree top across the pond, over 14-feet of water. My right foot, leg and upper body fell through the ice faster than you can blink an eye. I had 2 problems, one I was in very cold water that was deep and two, my left leg did not fall through the ice as it did not break, and I was stretched as fast as you can imagine. In other words, tie your right foot

to an atv, tie your left foot to another atv, have two drivers go opposite directions real fast, it was not pretty.

If anyone is fairly experienced at falling through the ice and getting out, it is me. I honestly thought I was fine, about an hour later I noticed I had hurt my left ankle, knee and my back. Two hours later I was 100% worthless, all I could do was crawl. I knew I needed help, so a host of neighbors answered my call. My house was not perfect and before they arrived, I swept my floors while crawling and was simply put, was a mess.

The next day my doctor told me she was concerned my ankle was broke, x rays revealed a severe sprain. That fall happened 4 weeks ago, I am healing but my balance, especially when cutting firewood is not good.

Just to put a tad more love into this story, I'm fishing

and camping on the ice on the Mississippi river then get a text from one of my Polish neighbors down the road a piece. Here is what it said "there are 3 bulls in my back yard." I knew it was 3, shorthorn 600, pound heifers and I was doinked as my neighbor is surrounded by forest and I was 4 hours away.

Thank God for my neighbors for the 500 thousandth time! These shorthorns are so tame that even though they were lost in the forest, my good buddy Daren Plantz who helps feed, had carried a bucket and kept calling, when they came out from their adventure which was a good half mile from my house the neighborhood worked together on a roundup and all's well that ends well took place!

Can't wait for this dang EZ season to end!

Sunset

Icy Wonders of Chequamegon Bay

By HEAVEN WALKER

Note from Emily Stone: I'm so excited that Heaven has joined our Museum team! Heaven will be guest writing for Natural Connections about once a month. I'm looking forward to following her journey of discovery in the Northwoods!

After moving to a new and exciting place, adventure is always calling. When a friend visiting the Northwoods suggested we go on a night tour of the ice caves on the shore of Lake Superior, I was all in. However, ice conditions on Lake Superior are known to change rapidly, and strong winds can break up the ice, causing dangerous conditions.

Chequamegon Bay is protected from the ever-changing elements of open water, making the ice conditions more predictable and stable than the open lake.

Because of this, the ice caves of Chequamegon Bay were accessible to us, while the coveted Apostle Islands Ice Caves have not been accessible since 2015. The protected nature of the bay also means that the Chequamegon ice caves are less dramatic than those of the Apostle Islands, but are still remarkable.

Geared up with snow pants, heavy coats, and headlamps, with toe warmers tucked into our boots, we trudged across the dark, snowy landscape down to the ice-coated Lake Superior, where we met our guide. As our tour group followed down the well-traveled path toward the ice caves, I couldn't help being amazed at the landscape of Chequamegon Bay. Even lit by headlamp, the icy rock outcrops and vastness of the bay were beautiful.

Our path took us parallel to shelf ice. The large chunks

of ice heaped up were a stark reminder of how powerful the wind can be, and how the conditions of the lake are ever changing. Shelf ice is caused by strong winds breaking up sheets of ice and sending them toward the shore. The ice slabs were 10+ inches thick, and as someone who does not venture onto ice often—it was some of the thickest ice I had ever seen.

The different layers of ice glowed bright blue to a cloudy white in the light of my headlamp. White ice forms when snow has melted on top of the frozen lake and refreezes. As a result, the new white ice is full of air bubbles and made up of smaller crystals, making it half as strong as clear ice. Blue ice forms on calm water that allows large ice crystals to form with relatively few air bubbles, and is the strongest type of ice. I was glad for the

large layer of luminous blue ice.

The first ice cave was a wonder to behold. Crouching low, we shuffled into the crack that was the cave entrance. The light from our headlamps danced across the cave walls and highlighted the mass of clear ice that extended from the ceiling to the surface of the lake. As other tour guests took pictures with the glowing ice, I was marveling at the cave formation. Sitting under a low-hanging section of the cave, I began to think about how these caves along Chequamegon Bay are formed.

These sandstones are the youngest of the rocks along the Chequamegon Bay. They were formed by streams that flowed from the surrounding highlands into small lakes, depositing sediment. The sediments left behind by these ancient waterways turned into the sandstones we see today.

The cave I was sitting in was shaped by the relentless force of waves slowly eroding away at the rocky cliff face over thousands of years. With each slap of a wave, the caves are changing. Ice also plays a role in eroding the cliffs.

One cliff in particular was covered in a very impressive frozen waterfall seemingly made up of hundreds of glistening white icicles all melded into one. The gigantic ice formation was a natural work of art.

Upon first glance, I thought the ice originated from the top of the cliff. However, the more I looked, I realized that the ice was not only from the top, but was bursting out of the rockface. These icy formations are created by groundwater seeping through the cracks in the stone, and icicles forming in contact with the frigid air.

These beautiful ice formations play a large part in

sculpting the lakeshore. Each time ice forms in the cracks and pores of the sandstone cliffs, it contributes to the process of erosion. Ice in the pores of the rock slowly erodes the cliff face, grain by grain. Ice that forms in the cracks of the cliff expands and makes the rock face more and more unstable. Eventually, the sandstone cliff face crashes down into the depths of Lake Superior, revealing a brand-new canvas of rock.

As our tour came to an end, I took one last look around Chequamegon Bay. Lit by the light of the moon, the bay was still alluring. After spending a few hours looking at the ice formations and caves, I knew I would be back again. With the changing nature of Lake Superior's shoreline and the changing of the seasons, there will always be something new to discover.

DNR Learn To Hunt Bear Program Seeks Applicants And Instructors



The Learn to Hunt Bear programs helps teach new and novice hunters the skills they need to target black bear in Wisconsin. Photo credit: Wisconsin DNR

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and conservation partners are encouraging novice hunters who want to learn about bear hunting in Wisconsin to apply for the Learn to Hunt Bear program.

The Learn to Hunt Bear program is intended to promote awareness and understanding of bear hunting in Wisconsin, particularly for those who are interested in hunting bear on their own in the future. The program includes multiple classroom and field sessions, culminating with a bear-hunting experience. Participants will learn about bear biology, population management, habits, habitat, hunting techniques, regulations and safety.

Anyone who has not previously participated in the Learn to Hunt Bear

program or received a bear harvest authorization is encouraged to apply. Participants must be at least 10 years old, and there is no maximum age.

The number of Learn to Hunt Bear programs offered varies annually and will influence the number of participants selected. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by June 1.

Interested participants should complete the online application by May 1. The application, program guidelines and more information can be found on the DNR's Learn to Hunt Bear webpage.

Become A Learn To Hunt Bear Instructor

The DNR is also looking for experienced bear hunters interested in becoming Learn to Hunt Bear program instructors. The

number of participants in the program is dependent on the number of volunteers who can instruct novice hunters. Potential instructors need at least five years of bear hunting experience and must consent to a background check.

The DNR will work with instructor groups to develop a Learn to Hunt Bear program in their area or help individual volunteers find an existing group to work with. Interested volunteers should notify Emily Iehl, DNR Hunting & Shooting Sports Program specialist, at emily.iehl@wisconsin.gov by April 18.

More information for instructors can be found on the Learn to Hunt Bear webpage under "Learn to Hunt Bear Instructors."

DNR Recruiting Wardens For 2026 Class

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will accept applications for the next class of conservation wardens from April 10 through May 6.

The DNR expects to hire about 10 full-time wardens for the upcoming 2026 class. Successful applicants will begin their law enforcement officer training in January 2026 or April 2026, depending on experience level.

DNR conservation wardens serve in urban and rural stations statewide. They enforce laws protecting fish and wildlife, the environment, state parks and forests, and outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Wardens also serve as ambassadors and educators, teaching the public about natural resources, outdoor safety and environmental conservation.

The DNR encourages applicants from various backgrounds. No prior involvement in hunting and fishing

activities, experience operating recreational vehicles or law enforcement experience is required. The DNR offers comprehensive, in-house training to all new hires.

Applicants will need to meet minimum requirements and possess some of the desired skills and abilities such as:

- Solid communication skills and a willingness to serve and communicate with our diverse public.
- A strong passion for and interest in protecting people and natural resources.
- Honesty, integrity, self-motivation, self-confidence, determination, curiosity and professionalism.
- The ability to self-direct daily work activities in an efficient and accountable manner without close supervision.
- Negotiation, listening and problem-solving skills.
- An eagerness to learn.

The DNR will host a virtual webinar on April 22 from 5 to 6 p.m. to discuss the hiring process and training program. Conservation wardens statewide will hold open "office hours" sessions for prospective applicants. Webinar registration and "office hours" information can be found on the DNR's website.

The public can watch a brief video about the conservation warden career on the DNR's YouTube channel.

Questions and inquiries can be directed to Wisconsin DNR recruiting officer Mary Bisch at Mary.Bisch@wisconsin.gov or 920-500-0332.

The conservation warden career offers opportunities to protect the state's natural resources, build relationships and serve our communities in essential ways. Learn more about the career on the DNR's Warden Recruitment webpage.



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources expects to hire about 10 full-time wardens for the upcoming 2026 class. Photo credit: Wisconsin DNR



Sign up for the webinar at the Warden recruitment webpage.

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Wisconsin Legends and Lore

The stolen Medal of Honor

By JOHN GESSNER
Herald Staff Writer

The Medal of Honor is the highest military award for bravery that can be conferred on a member of the American armed forces. It is bestowed for a deed of supreme valor. More often than not, the Medal of Honor is awarded posthumously, when the action resulted in the death of a service member. Congress established the Medal of Honor in 1861, at the beginning of the Civil War.

Wisconsin citizens have been the recipients of 63 Medals of Honor. Of that total, 22 medals were awarded during the Civil War. One of those medals was to Arthur MacArthur, of Milwaukee, who was the father of WW2 General, Douglas MacArthur, also a recipient of the Medal of Honor. Twelve were awarded during the period between the Civil War and WWI, for conflicts on the western frontier, the Philippines, the Boxer Rebellion in China, and the Spanish-American War.

In 1916, congress convened a board to provide stricter standards for the award and to establish additional awards for heroism, such as the Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star. From

WWI to present day, only 39 more medals were awarded to Wisconsinites, the last from the Vietnam War. Of the Wisconsin recipients, eighteen are buried in Wisconsin, seven in Arlington Cemetery, two at Pearl Harbor, one buried at sea, with the others in various states or overseas.

Design Changes through the Years

The medal has gone through significant design changes, starting as a red, white, and blue ribbon with an eagle and an inverted star. It then went to a blue pendant ribbon, with thirteen white stars, to today's version of a blue-ribbon worn around the neck. Each of the three services, the Army, Navy, and Air Force, have a slightly different design. Early headstones or grave markers typically had H.O.H. or simply MH designation. Later versions had the medal engraved in the stone, with gold highlighted letters.

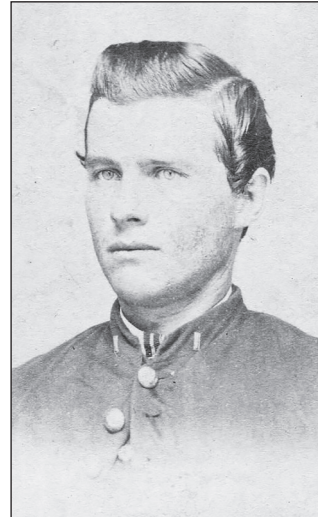
The Wisconsin Lore

The Madison based Wisconsin Veterans Museum, www.wisvetsmuseum.com lists Wisconsin Medal of Honor recipients, as well as their burial sites around the state. In the Walnut Grove Cemetery in Retreat, Wisconsin, in the lower southwest corner of

the state, lies the grave of Francis A. Wallar, who was awarded the Medal of Honor during the Civil War. His marker identifies him as a 1st Lieutenant, Company I, 6th Wisconsin Infantry, Aug 15, 1840, to April 30, 1911. An additional marker indicates, "Awarded Medal of Honor by Congress for Valor at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863."

On the first day of the three-day battle of Gettysburg, then a Corporal, Wallar engaged a Confederate soldier in hand-to-hand combat, captured him and seizing the highly valued battle flag of the 2nd Mississippi Infantry regiment. The encounter happened in what was called the "bloody railroad cut."

Since the unit colors were rallied around during the fog of war, it could be envisioned that several Confederates followed the flag back to the Union lines, or at least tried to recapture it. What is well known is that the fight over the flag was not an easy one. Wallar served to the end of the war in 1865 and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. Military records spell his last name as Waller. After the war, he returned to Vernon County, and served as the county sheriff.



Civil War Veteran Francis Wallar, Medal of Honor Recipient. Internet Photo.

By law, the Medal of Honor cannot be bought or sold. Issuance of the medal is tightly controlled. Museums and organizations receive medals from families, or they can make an official request for a copy of the medal. for public display. After Wallar's death, the prized Medal of Honor was donated to the Vernon County Museum by his family. However, in 1977, it was stolen from the museum. There were no suspects in the theft and the museum was doubtful that it would ever be recovered. However, fourteen years later, a collector stumbled across the medal in Bedford, New Hampshire and it was returned to the museum, where it resides today.



Francis Wallar's Medal of Honor. Stolen from the Vernon County Museum in 1977, found in New Hampshire and returned to the museum in 1991. Herald photo by John Gessner.



Grave of Francis Wallar in Walnut Mound Cemetery, Retreat, Wisconsin. Herald photo by John Gessner.

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TV GUIDE April 4 - 10

FRIDAY EVENING											APRIL 4, 2025			
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30				
ABC-WXOW	Shark Tank (N)	20/20 (N)					News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	(35) Nightline					
CBS-WKBT	NCIS "Breathless" (N)	Fire "Dirty Money" (N)	S.W.A.T. "Hall Mary" (N)				News 8 (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert (N)	(35) Midnight					
FOX-WLAX	United Football League Birmingham Stallions at Michigan Panthers (N) (Live)						News (N)	(35) Big Bang (10:5) Big Bang (10:5) Sheldon						
NBC-WEAU	Grosse "Germination" (N)	Dateline NBC (N)					News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Meyers					
PBS-WHA	Week (N)	Here Now	Austin City Limits Celebrates 50 Years (N)				Wonders "Niagara Falls"	Director's Cut						
A&E	Live PD	Live PD	Live PD (SP)	Live PD (N)	Live PD	Live PD	(05) Live PD	(35) Live PD	(05) Live PD	(35) Live PD				
AMC	**** Air (23) Ben Affleck, Jason Bateman, Matt Damon. (P)						**** Moneyball (11) Jonah Hill, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Brad Pitt.							
APL	Treehouse Masters	Treehouse Masters	Treehouse Masters				Treehouse Masters	Treehouse Masters						
COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy				
DSC	Gold Rush "Dredge, Baby, Dredge!" (N)				(15) Outback (N)		(15) Gold Rush-Res.	Gold Rush						
ESPN	(6:00) NCAA W. Basketball	Women's (N)	NCAA Wom.	Second Semifinal: Teams TBA (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportCtr (N)						
FREE	(20) **** Maleficent: Mistress of Evil (19) Elle Fanning, Harris Dickinson, Angelina Jolie.						The 700 Club	Boy/World	Boy/World					
LIFE	The Rookie "Brave Heart"	The Rookie "Triple Duty"	(05) The Rookie "Threshold"	(05) The Rookie			The Rookie "Brave Heart"							
PARMT	**** Grumpy Old Men (93) Walter Matthau, Jack Lemmon.	(05) **** Grumpy Old Men (95) Jack Lemmon.	(05) **** Dirty Grandpa (16)											
SYFY	(6:25) **** Escape Plan 2: Hades (18)	**** Ghost Rider (07) Eva Mendez, Wes Bentley, Nicolas Cage.	SurrealEstate "Buckaroo"											
TNT	(5:30) **** The Meg (18)	True Detective "Part 3"	(20) True Detective: Night Country "Part 4"	(40) **** The Meg (18) Jason Slatham.										
WGN-A	Cuomo (N) (Live)	On Balance (N) (Live)	Banfield (N) (Live)				Cuomo	On Balance						
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Hacks	(40) Hacks	(20) **** Avengers: Infinity War (18) Robert Downey Jr.							

SATURDAY EVENING											APRIL 5, 2025			
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30				
ABC-WXOW	United Football League Memphis Showboats at D.C. Defenders (N) (Live)						News (N)	(35) Fast "Family Gatherings" (N)	(35) Deadline t					
CBS-WKBT	(6:00) NCAA M. Basketball Second Semifinal: Houston vs. Duke (N) (Live)						News 8 (N)	(35) Weather Gone Viral	(35) Storm of					
FOX-WLAX	(6:30) MLS Soccer Portland Timbers at Austin FC (N) (Live)						News (N)	Bensinger	Extracted "The Hunt"	NEW Shark Vacuum!				
NBC-WEAU	The Wall "Tom and Kasey"	Dateline NBC					Saturday Night Live (N)	News (N)	Saturday Night Live (N)					
PBS-WHA	My Life	(45) Queens of Mystery	Ab Fab				Murder Myster.	**** The Duchess (08) Ralph Fiennes, Keira Knightley.						
A&E	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	(05) Storage	(35) Storage	(05) Storage	(35) Storage					
AMC	(6:30) **** Indiana Jones & The Temple of Doom	(14) **** Raiders of the Lost Ark (81) Karen Allen, Harrison Ford.	(45) **** Indiana Jones & the Temple of Doom											
APL	My Cat From Hell	My Cat "Bad Cat Karma"	My Cat From Hell "Fat Elvis"	My Cat "Psychic Disconnect"	My Cat From Hell									
COM	(6:30) **** 22 Jump Street (14) Jonah Hill.						Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy		
DSC	Contraband "On the Rocks"	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized
ESPN	(5:00) Fight Night (N) (Live)	UFC Fight Night: Emmett vs. Murphy (N) (Live)												
FREE	Movie	(50) **** Ratatouille (07) Voices of Ian Holm, Lou Romano, Patton Oswalt.					**** Zootopia (16) Ginnifer Goodwin.							
LIFE	**** Give Me Back My Daughter (25) Gabourey Sidibe. (P)						**** The Girl in the Garage: The Laura Cowan Story	**** Give Me Back My Daughter						
PARMT	(10) **** Grown Ups 2 (13) Kevin James, Adam Sandler.	(15) **** Grown Ups (10) Kevin James, Chris Rock, Adam Sandler.												
SYFY	(6:30) **** Taken (08) Liam Neeson.	**** The Taking of Pelham 123 (09) Denzel Washington. (P)	SurrealEstate "Buckaroo"											
TNT	All Elite Wrestling: Collision (N)						**** The Hunger Games (12) Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Jennifer Lawrence.							
WGN-A	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime									
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Hacks	(40) Hacks	(25) **** Justice League (17) Henry Cavill, Ben Affleck.							

SUNDAY EVENING											APRIL 6, 2025			
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30				
ABC-WXOW	American Idol "807 Hollywood Week: Showstopper" (N)						The \$100,000 Pyramid (N)	News (N)	(35) Inside Ed. (05) Top 10					
CBS-WKBT	Elton John and (N)	Tracker "Pretentatual"	Watson				News 8 (N)	Outdoors	Sports (N)	The Equalizer				
FOX-WLAX	Simpsons (N) Family Guy	The North (N) Krapopolis	News (N)	(35) Heroes			(05) Big Bang (10:5) Sheldon	(05) Sheldon	(35) Sheldon					
NBC-WEAU	The Americas (N)	Suits LA "Good Times" (N)	Dateline NBC				News (N)	(35) Invest.	(05) Opry					
PBS-WHA	Call the Midwife (N)	Wolf Hall-Light (N)	Marie-Antoinette (N)				Antiques Roadshow US	Austin "Wynona"						
A&E	WWE LFG "Making Your Move" (N)		WWE Rivals				WWE (N)	(35) WWE	(05) WWE LFG					
AMC	(5:30) **** Twister (96)	Dark Winds (N)		(10) Dark Winds	(20) **** Twister (96) Bill Paxton, Helen Hunt.									
APL	Yellowstone Wardens	Yellowstone Wardens	Yellow "Overtime Pay"				Yellowstone Wardens	Yellowstone Wardens						
COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy				
DSC	Naked and Afraid "Enter the Queen" (N)						Filthy Fortunes	Filthy Fortunes	Afraid "Enter the Queen"					
ESPN	(6:00) Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at Boston Red Sox (N)						NHL Hockey Vegas Golden Knights at Vancouver Canucks (N) (Live)		SportCtr (N)					
FREE	(5:15) **** The Incredibles 2 (18)	Voices of Holly Hunter, Craig T. Nelson.	(35) **** The Jungle Book (16)											
LIFE	**** Sinister Surgeon (24) Samantha Neyland Trumbo. (P)	(05) **** Girl in the Video (24) Tia May Watts, Cush Jumbo.	**** Sinister Surgeon (24)											
PARMT	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue (N)	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue								
SYFY	(6:30) **** Thor: The Dark World (13) Chris Hemsworth.	**** The Black Phone (22) Mason Thames, Ethan Hawke.												
TNT	(4:30) NHL.Hoc. Post-Game	**** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (17) Zoe Saldana, Bradley Cooper, Chris Pratt.	**** The Flash (23)											
WGN-A	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime									
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Hacks	(40) Hacks	(20) **** Black Adam (22) Aldis Hodge, Dwayne Johnson.							

MONDAY EVENING											APRIL 7, 2025			
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30				
ABC-WXOW	American Idol "808 (Head to Head)" (N)						Paradise "Wildcat Is Down"	News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	(35) Nightline				
CBS-WKBT	Champ. (N)	NCAA M. Basketball Championship: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					News 8 (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert (N)	(35) Midnight					
FOX-WLAX	Extracted "Mystery Box" (N)	TMZ Presents (N)					News (N)	(35) Big Bang	(05) Bob Heart	(35) Housewife				
NBC-WEAU	The Voice (N)	The Voice (N)					The Hunting Party (N) (SF)	News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) TBA (N)				
PBS-WHA	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Paradise "Christmas 2022"					POV "He's My Brother"	Call the Midwife (N)	John McGive	WI Foodie				
A&E	Live PD	Live PD	Live PD	Live PD	Live PD	Live PD	(05) Live PD	(35) Live PD	(05) Live PD	(35) Live PD				
AMC	**** Lethal Weapon 3 (92) Danny Glover, Joe Pesci, Mel Gibson.	**** Lethal Weapon 4 (98) Danny Glover, Joe Pesci, Mel Gibson.												
APL	Homestead "Raney Returns: Big Sky, Bigger Problems"	Homestead Rescue "Washout on the Oregon Trail"	Homestead Rescue											
COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy				
DSC	Contraband "On the Rocks"	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized
ESPN	(6:00) GameDay Rookie (N)	30 for 30	30 for 30				SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)						
FREE	Movie	**** Jumanji (95) Bonnie Hunt, Kirsten Dunst, Robin Williams.					The 700 Club	Boy/World	Boy/World					
LIFE	The Rookie "A.C.H."	Gypsy Rose (N)	(05) Confessions (N)	(05) Gypsy Rose	The Rookie "A.C.H."									
PARMT	**** Legally Blonde (01) Luke Wilson, Reese Witherspoon.	**** Overboard (87) Kurt Russell, Edward Herrmann, Goldie Hawn.												
SYFY	(6:10) **** The Black Phone (22)	(35) **** Halloween Kills (21) Judy Greer, Jamie Lee Curtis.	(10) **** Leprechaun: Origins											
TNT	Movie	**** Mad Max: Fury Road (15) Charlize Theron, Tom Hardy.	(15) **** The Batman (22) Zoë Kravitz, Robert Pattinson.											
WGN-A	Cuomo (N) (Live)	On Balance (N) (Live)	Banfield (N) (Live)				Cuomo	On Balance						
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Hacks	(35) Hacks	(20) American (50) American (25) American (55) American							

TUESDAY EVENING											APRIL 8, 2025			
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30				
ABC-WXOW	Will Trent (N)	The Rookie (N)	Bad Romance-20/20 (N)				News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	(35) Nightline					
CBS-WKBT	FBI "Lineage" (N)	FBI: Int "Dead Dead" (N)	FBI-Wanted "Gut Job" (N)				News 8 (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert (N)	(35) Midnight					
FOX-WLAX	Cleaning "Mercy" (N)	Alert: Missing "Lay" (N)	News (N)	(35) Big Bang	(05) Big Bang	(35) Sheldon	(05) Bob Heart	(35) Housewife						
NBC-WEAU	St. Denis	The Voice "The Blind Auditions, Part 2" (N)					News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Meyers					
PBS-WHA	Roots "Finding My Roots" (N)	Independent. "WE WANT THE FUNK!" (N)	American Experience				WI Foodie	NOVA						
A&E	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	(05) Neighbor.	(35) Neighbor.	(05) Neighbor.	(35) Neighbor.				
AMC	**** The Book of Eli (10) Gary Oldman, Mila Kunis, Denzel Washington.	**** World War Z (13) Mireille Enos, James Badge Dale, Brad Pitt.												
APL	Wardens "Fire in the Hole"	Wardens "Adult Skip Day"	Wardens of the North	Wardens of the North	Wardens "Fire in the Hole"									
COM	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Daily Show	(35) FamilyGuy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy				
DSC	Street Outlaws (N)	Moonshiners	Moonshiners:				Filthy Fortunes	Street "Virginia is for Racers"						
ESPN	(6:00) NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey Vegas Golden Knights at Colorado Avalanche (N) (Live)				SportsCenter (N) (Live)							
FREE	(5:50) **** Aladdin (92)	(55) **** Turning Red (22) Rosalie Chiang.	The 700 Club	Boy/World	Boy/World									
LIFE	Castle "Secret Santa"	Castle "Significant Others"	(05) Castle				Castle "Secret Santa"							
PARMT	**** Django Unchained (12) Christoph Waltz, Leonardo DiCaprio, Jamie Foxx.						**** Olympus Has Fallen							
SYFY	(5:25) **** Ambulance (22)	**** Plane (23) Mike Colter, Yoson An, Gerard Butler.	SurrealEstate "Buckaroo"											
TNT	(6:30) Basketball Boston Celtics at New York Knicks (N)	NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Phoenix Suns (N) (Live)	NBA on TNT											
WGN-A	Cuomo (N) (Live)	On Balance (N) (Live)	Banfield (N) (Live)				Cuomo	On Balance						
WTBS	(6:00) Baseball Philadelphia Phillies at Atlanta Braves (N)	MLB Close	Pregame (N)	Women's Friendlies USA vs. Brazil (N) (Live)										

WEDNESDAY EVENING											APRIL 9, 202			
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 2 BEDROOM GROUND LEVEL TOWNHOUSE: 1115 Aspen Blvd., attached one car garage, water/sewer, all appliances included. Lease and security deposit required. 608-269-4224.
70 RUMMAGE SALES
 GARAGE SALE: 1104 Jefferson Ave., Sparta. April 3, 4, 5, Thurs. 4-7, Fri. 8-3, Sat. 9-1. Tools, household, canning jars.

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S	L	A	T	S	A	H	A	R	A		
C	E	R	E	A	C	I	D	U	L	O	U
R	A	R	E		M	O		B	A	D	G
U	N	I	M	A	G	I	N	A	B	L	E
F	E	V	E	R	S	I	D	L	E	A	N
F	R	E	D		S	T	A	T	H	A	D
				P	I	P	E	R		M	A
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C	O	C	A	S		S	A	N	A	A	
A	S	I	N		D	O	C	S		B	A
L	T	D		B	A	R	E		D	R	A
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				O	R	A	T	E	D		D

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT MONROE COUNTY Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2025-PR-17
 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
 Frederick A. Eick
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
 1. An application for informal administration was filed.
 2. The decedent, with date of birth 12/12/1939 and date of death 09/27/2024, was domiciled in Monroe County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 26142 Oriole Avenue, Ontario, WI 54651.
 3. All interested persons waived notice.
THE COURT ORDERS:
 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 06/27/2025.
 5. A claim may be filed at the Monroe Co. Courthouse Courthouse, 112 South Court Street, Sparta, WI 54656.
 Mary S. Miller
 Probate Registrar
 03/17/2025
 Darla A. Krzoska
 Bosshard Parke ltd.
 750 3rd Street North, Suite A, La Crosse, WI 54601
 (608) 782-1469
 State Bar Number 1025533
 3/20, 27, 4/3 WNAJLP

TOWN OF SPARTA - BID NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given: The Town of Sparta will be accepting bids for the following materials. This material will be picked up or delivered to the appropriate site for road maintenance and/or stockpile in 2025. Bids requested in tonnage for 3/4 inch and 1 1/4 inch gravel, Rip Rap, Breaker Run size rock, 3/8 or 7/16 Granite chips/ pea gravel, recycled black top, recycled concrete. Paving with hot or cold mix, sealcoating. All materials should be 100% Virgin material. Request prices for delivery and/or pick-up. Please submit bids and Proof of Liability Insurance by 6:00 pm on April 15, 2025. Bids should be submitted to the Sparta Town Hall, 5724 Hamlet Ave, and marked as "BIDS". Bids will be opened and reviewed at the April Town Board Meeting at 6:30 pm, April 15, 2025. The Board meeting will follow the Town of Sparta Annual Meeting which starts at 6 pm. The Sparta Town Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Or to accept the bid deemed most advantageous to the town. Any questions should be directed to Town Chairman, Kevin Raymer, 608-633-3944. Town of Sparta Clerk
 4/3, 10 WNAJLP

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9	5	8	1	4	3	7	6	2
7	4	3	2	6	9	8	5	1
5	6	9	4	2	8	3	1	7
8	7	4	3	1	6	5	2	9
3	1	2	5	9	7	6	8	4
4	9	7	6	8	1	2	3	5
2	8	5	9	3	4	1	7	6
6	3	1	7	5	2	4	9	8

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Monroe County Sanitation, Planning & Zoning Committee will examine at a public hearing a petition by Michael Krueger Jr., for a **change of zoning** district from R2-Suburban Residential to GA-General Agriculture for 4 parcels located on Jargon Ave., Sparta, WI, in the NE 1/4, NW 1/4 and the NW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 7, T16N, R3W, Town of Wells, tax parcel numbers, 046-00148-6000, 046-00148-6200, 046-00148-6400, and 046-00148-6600 total acres, 6.64 described as follows:

Lot Sixteen (16), Seventeen (17) & Nineteen (19) of Deerfield Woods and, Lot 18 of Certified Survey Map recorded in Vol. 29 CSM on page 163, as Document No. 697072, located in All of Lot Eighteen(18) and a 20 foot private Drive of Deerfield Woods.

Reason for change of zoning is to allow animals.

This hearing will be held on April 21, 2025 at 6:00 P.M., at the Monroe County Justice Center Monroe County Board Assembly Room 1st Floor - Room #1200, 210 W Oak St, Sparta, WI 54656. Any person may appear in person by his/her agent or attorney, to give testimony for or against this matter.

Alison Elliott-Monroe County Zoning Administrator

4/3, 10 WNAXLP

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT
MONROE COUNTY
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 25PR16**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

Alice Manke

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 09/28/1927 and date of death 01/16/2025, was domiciled in Monroe County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 503 Water Street South Room 205, Sparta WI.
3. All interested persons waived notice.

THE COURT ORDERS:

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 05/20/2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 S. Court Street, Sparta WI 54656 Room 2300.

Mart S. Miller
Probate Registrar
03/17/2025

Jack D. Buswell
Arndt, Buswell and Thorn
101 W. Oak Street, Sparta, WI 54656
(608) 269-1200
State Bar Number 1008176
3/20, 27, 4/3 WNAXLP

Our File #W170244
Case No. 25CV000009
**STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT
COURT MONROE COUNTY
DISCOVER BANK
Plaintiff,**
vs.
**BILLY R TYLER
Defendant.**

**AMENDED SUMMONS
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
TO: BILLY R TYLER
202 MURDOCK ST APT 205
TOMAH WI 54660-1299**
You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within Forty (40) days after March 27, 2025, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is: CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, MONROE COUNTY, 112 S COURT ST, ROOM 2200, SPARTA WI 54656 and the Kohn Law Firm, Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 735 N. Water St., Suite 1300, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If no Complaint accompanies this Summons you must respond within the said 40 day period with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiff's attorneys at their respective addresses listed above.

If you do not provide a proper answer to the Complaint or provide a written demand for said complaint within the 40 day period, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin March 13, 2025.
KOHNS LAW FIRM S.C.
ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED BY:
/S/JOHN H. DANNER IV
JOHN H. DANNER IV
State Bar No. 1125953
Attorney for Plaintiff

3/27, 4/3, 10 WNAXLP

The annual meeting for the Wood Cemetery Association will be **April 17, 2025** at 7 p.m. at the Town of Byron meeting room at 32386 St Hwy 21. All are welcome to attend. 3/27, 4/3 WNAXLP

**FALL CLEAN UP NOTICE
TOWN OF ADRIAN**

The Town of Adrian will have a large item clean up on Friday April 11, 2025 from noon until 6:00 pm and Saturday April 12, 2025 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. You must have a Town of Adrian emergency address to bring items to clean up. The following items will be accepted, T.V's 25 in. = \$20.00 and greater than 25 in. = \$25.00. If they are altered in any way the cost will be \$30.00 per unit. Batteries = \$5.00 each. Tires off rims - car size = \$5.00 each, truck size = \$6.00 each, light bulbs - fluorescent tubes - 8 inch = \$1.00 and 4 in = .50 each. Mattresses will be \$75.00 each. We accept iron, but it has to be put in a separate dumpster. Please do not bring wood or wood ashes, burn barrels, fuel tanks or gas cans. If you have any questions, please contact any board member.

Kathy Schmitz
Adrian Town Clerk
3/20, 4/3 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN. CIRCUIT COURT, MONROE COUNTY
Notice Setting Time to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration)
Case No. 25 PR 18
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Edward C. Ross Jr.
DOD: 02/24/2025

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 10/04/1951 and date of death 02/24/2025 was domiciled in Monroe County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 24767 Livingston Road, Wilton, WI 54670.
3. The application will be heard at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 S. Court Street, Sparta, Wisconsin, Room 2300, before Mary Miller, Probate Registrar, on April 21, 2025, at 2:30 P.M. You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is June 20, 2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 S. Court Street, Sparta, Wisconsin, Room 2300.
6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or address are unknown.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 608-269-8701 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
Date Signed: March 15, 2025
Electronically signed by
Mary S. Miller
Probate Registrar
Form Completed by:
Attorney Joshua D. Shudlick
Shudlick Law Office LLC
1501 Kilbourn Ave., PO Box 586,
Tomah, WI 54660
608-372-4104
Bar Number 1084905
3/20. 27. 4/3 WNAXLP

**Case 2025PR000020
Filed 03-21-2025**

DATE SIGNED: March 21, 2025
Electronically signed by Hon. Todd L. Ziegler Circuit Court Judge
**STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT,
MONROE
IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF
DONALD V. MARTEN**
Date of Death: February 4, 2025

Case No. 25 PR 20
A Petition for Summary Assignment was filed.

THE COURT FINDS:

1. The decedent, with date of birth August 12, 1931 Monroe and date of death February 4, 2025 County, State of Wisconsin was domiciled in with an address of 331 South Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin 54656
2. Creditors may bring an action by A. filing a claim in the Monroe County Circuit Court before the property is assigned.
- B. bringing a suit against the assignee(s) after the property is assigned. The right of a creditor to bring an action terminates three months after the date of publication of this order.
3. The property may be assigned to the creditors and interested persons after 30 days have elapsed following the first publication of this notice.

THE COURT ORDERS:

1. The Petition be heard and heirship be determined at the Monroe County Courthouse, Sparta Wisconsin, Room 3100 before Honorable Todd L. Ziegler, Branch I - VIA ZOOM, Court Official, on May 19, 2025 at 2:15 pm.
2. Publication of this notice is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown. If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call (608) 269-8701 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

Form completed by:
Attorney Penny J. Precour
Address: 808 Superior Avenue,
Suite 201, Tomah, Wisconsin
54660
Telephone Number: (608) 372-2014
Bar Number: 1022320
3/27, 4/3, 10 WNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID REQUEST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Leon requests bids for ¾" Rock, 1¼" Rock, Breaker Run, Shot Rock, Rip Rap, Hot Mix, Cold Mix, Seal Coating and Crack filling.

Bid in **TONS** for hot mix, gravel, chips, breaker run, and shot rock, using 100% virgin material, hauled, placed and furnished. **IMPORTANT: No fuel surcharges should be included in submitted bids. We prefer projects completed by September 1, 2025, but we do acknowledge extreme weather events may cause scheduling changes.**

For specifications, please contact Chairman Greg Selbrede at (608) 487-2411.

Sealed bids and quotes must be received at the Leon Town Hall, 8108 Jackrabbit Ave., Sparta, WI 54656 by 5:00 p.m. on Monday April 14, 2025. Electronic bid submission is preferred, but bids can be mailed to Town of Leon, 8108 Jackrabbit Ave, Sparta, WI 54656, or can be placed in the secure drop box on the Town Shop building. **Bids will be presented to the board and discussed publicly during the Monthly Town Board Meeting on April 16, 2025 which will start at 6:00 p.m. at the Leon Town Hall.**

The Leon Town Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept that bid deemed most advantageous to the Town.

Kristy Brown, Clerk
Town of Leon
3/20, 27, 4/3, 10 WNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID REQUEST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Leon requests bids for a Tractor and Boom Mower. For specifications, please contact Chairman Greg Selbrede at (608) 487-2411 or Town Patrolman Bruce Peterson at (608)487-0324.

Sealed bids and quotes must be received at the Leon Town Hall, 8108 Jackrabbit Ave., Sparta, WI 54656 by 5:00 p.m. on Monday April 21, 2025. Electronic bid submission is preferred, but bids can be mailed to Town of Leon, 8108 Jackrabbit Ave, Sparta, WI 54656, or can be placed in the secure drop box on the Town Shop building. **Bids will be presented to the board and discussed publicly during the Annual Meeting on Wednesday April 23, 2025 which will start at 6:00 p.m. at the Leon Town Hall.**

The Leon Town Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept that bid deemed most advantageous to the Town.

Kristy Brown, Clerk
Town of Leon

3/27, 4/3, 10, 17 WNAXLP

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**Ordinance No. 2025-03-04-D
CREATING
DIVISION 3 OF ARTICLE VII OF
THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE
CITY OF TOMAH**

The Common Council of the City of Tomah, based upon request of the Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce, do ordain as follows:

SECTION ONE: Division 3 of Article VII, Tomah Convention and Visitors Bureau, of the Municipal Code is hereby created as follows:

DIVISION 3. TOMAH CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
Section 2-625. Composition; residency; compensation.

The Tomah Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) shall consist of eight members. Appointed members shall include the following: one representing the common council of the City of Tomah; one representing the Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors; one representing the Monroe County Agricultural Society; one being from city management; two representing a city motel/hotel; one representing a city retail establishment; and one representing a city restaurant or bar. The city mayor shall appoint members subject to confirmation by the common council. No compensation shall be paid for serving on the Tomah Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Section 2-626. Terms of Office.
(a). Administrative members. The term of office for the following shall be one year: Representative of the common council, city management representative and a representative of the Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors. Any administrative member shall not be subject to a term limit and would be eligible for reappointment by the mayor on an annual basis.

(b). Citizen members. The term of office for the following members shall be three (3) years: representative of the Monroe County Agricultural Society, representative of city retail establishment, two representatives of a city motel/hotel and a representative of a city restaurant or bar. All citizen members shall be eligible for reappointment by the mayor at the end of his/her three (3) year term.

Section 2-627. Meetings; rules and regulations.
Regular meetings shall be held every other month at a time approved by the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) members. Five members of the CVB shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the CVB. At the regular meeting following the organizational meeting of the council, the CVB members shall elect a chairperson and vice-chair for a one-year term. Absent such an election, the President/CEO of the Chamber of Commerce shall serve in that capacity.

Section 2-628. Powers and duties.
To provide oversight for the affairs of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, along with the control and management of its business and property, under the direction of the President/CEO of the Chamber of Commerce.

SECTION TWO: This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication.

READ: 03/18/20025
PASSED: 03/18/2025
PUBLISHED: 04/03/2025
Paul Dwyer, Mayor
ATTEST:
Rebecca Weyer, Clerk
4/3 WNAXLP

**TOWN OF SPARTA
PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING**

The Town of Sparta Planning Commission will meet Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Sparta Town Hall. To be addressed: Randy Giraud requesting approval of a Certified Survey Map on Gavel Ave; Scott Davis requesting approval of a Certified Survey Map on State Hwy 27; additional agenda items may be posted at the townhall. For concerns on the above items, contact Steve Mason, Planning Commission Chairman, 608-633-0500.
4/3 WNAXLP

CHIP SEAL BID REQUEST

The Town of Lincoln, Monroe

County is accepting sealed bids

for chip seal. Road to consist

of a dark, single or double chip

granite sealcoat. Your bid should

be priced per mile of 20' wide road.

3 miles of work is anticipated in 4

locations. For further project and

bid information please contact

Greg Zingler, Town Chairman, at

6125 County Hwy O, Tomah, or by

calling 608-378-3316. Bids will be

opened and awarded on Tuesday,

April 22, 2025 at 6:30 pm at

the Town of Lincoln Fire Dept.

Meeting Room, 506 Hartwell Dr,

Warrens, WI. The Town of Lincoln

reserves the right to accept or

reject any or all bids or any part(s)

thereof, waive any informalities

in the bidding process, and to

accept the bid proposal or portion

of a bid proposal deemed most

advantageous to the Town.

4/3, 10 WNAXLP

The Savvy Senior

by Jim Miller

How seniors can save on auto insurance

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you offer any tips to help seniors save on their auto insurance? I recently turned 70 and got hit with a 25 percent premium increase on my car insurance and am looking for ways to save.

- Older Driver

Dear Driver,

As auto insurance rates across the country continue to rise for all drivers, seniors can face an even bigger price hike, once they reach their 70s and their driving skills begin to decline. Fortunately, there are ways you can reduce your premiums. To find out what discounts may be available to you, contact your auto insurer and inquire about these options.

Increase your Deductible

Paying a higher deductible could save you big on premiums. For example, raising your deductible from \$500 to \$1,000 can bring your annual premiums down by 15 to 20 percent, on average.

Adjust your Coverage

If you're driving an older vehicle, you may want to consider dropping collision and/or comprehensive coverage if your premium is more than 10 percent of the car's value. Collision insurance covers damage to your car if you're involved in a crash (or if you're the victim of a hit-and-run) and comprehensive covers damage caused by acts of nature (such as storm damage), vandalism, theft, or fire. But if you're scaling back to liability coverage, make sure you have enough to pay for damages out of pocket if you're in an accident or your car sustains damage due to weather, theft, or another non-collision event.

Take a defensive driving course

Some insurance companies offer defensive driving discounts – between 5 and 15 percent – to drivers who take a refresher course to brush up on their safety skills. Organizations such as AARP (aarpdriversafety.org), AAA (aaa.com/stop), and The National Safety Council (nsc.org) provide these classes, for around \$20 to \$30 and they can be taken online.

Report your mileage

Most insurers offer discounts to customers who drive limited miles each year, which is usually beneficial to

retirees who drive less because they don't commute to work every day. These discounts usually kick in when your annual mileage drops below 7,500 or 10,000, depending on your provider.

Bundle policies

If your auto insurance policy is issued by a different company from the one insuring your home, call each insurer and ask if bundling the policies would be cheaper.

Sign up for driver monitoring

Some insurers offer discounts based on how and when you use your car. They will monitor things like your acceleration, braking habits, driving speeds and phone use, via smartphone app or a device that plugs into your car's diagnostic port. Drivers can be rewarded anywhere from 10 to 30 percent for safe driving.

In addition, many insurance providers also offer discounts to drivers who do not have any violations or accidents for three or more years.

Ask about membership discounts

Many insurers offer discounts through professional associations, workers' unions, large employers or membership organizations, such as AAA, NARFE, AARP, etc. You could even qualify for savings based on the college you attended or the fraternity or sorority you belonged to decades ago.

Improve your credit

You may be able to lower your car insurance premium by paying your bills on time and reducing the amount of debt you carry. Insurers look at how their customers manage credit to get an idea of risk and to price policies. Better rates are given to those with good credit scores, typically 700 or above.

Comparison shop

To find out if your current premium is competitive with other insurers, shop around through insurance marketplace websites like TheZebra.com, Insurify.com, Lemonade.com or Policygenius.com. Or use an independent agent (see trustedchoice.com/agent) to help you compare.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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Whole Bone-In Hickory Smoked



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John F Martin Semi Boneless

Half Hams 8 lb Avg



\$3.99 lb.

Boneless Carving Hams



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\$8.99 lb.

JARED'S Smoked Meats

- PULLED PORK
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FRIDAY APRIL 4

SATURDAY APRIL 5

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

BAKE SALE

SATURDAY APRIL 12

9 - ?

Fundraiser for Sparta Mennonite School

FRESH MEAT SPECIALS

Choice **Meaty Beef Short Ribs**



\$6.99 lb.

Choice **Tri-Tip Sirloin**



2 Pack **\$7.99 lb.**

FRESH **Pork Tenderloins**



2 Piece Pack **\$3.19 lb.**

John F Martin - Center Cut **Hickory Smoked Ham Steaks**



\$4.99 lb.

DELI SPECIALS

Seltzer's • All Beef Naturally Smoked **Lebanon Bologna**



Regular or Sweet **\$7.29 lb.**

Sandwich Sliced **Pepperoni**



Great for Pizza **\$6.49 lb.**

John F Martin **Regular Franks**



Great Quality • Skinless **\$3.79 lb.**

Part Skim **Mozzarella Cheese**



Sliced or Chunk **\$4.99 lb.**

Wisconsin **Mild Cheddar Cheese**



\$5.99 lb.



Tomah Health medical operations director Dr. Jill Boulden, left, presented ceremonial checks to Families First of Monroe County board member, Jessica Grauel, and Chasing Daylight Animal Shelter treasurer, Sharel Martin, to mark Doctors' Day. Contributed photo.

Tomah Health recognizes MDs with local donations

Tomah Health thanked area doctors by supporting two area not-for-profit organizations, on March 31. In recognition of Doctors' Day, \$1,000 donations were given to Chasing Daylight Animal Shelter and Families First of Monroe County, on behalf of the hospital and its providers.

"We are very fortunate to have a great medical staff that helps us provide quality health care services to Tomah and the surrounding communities, 365 days a year," said Tomah Health Medical Operations director, Dr. Jill Boulden. "As a community hospital, the recognition is an important way to support organizations that share in hospital's mission and a small way to show our appreciation to area health care professionals."

Chasing Daylight Animal

Shelter treasurer, Sharel Martin, M.D. said the contribution will help support operations at the shelter near Tomah. "The funds are extremely appreciated more than anybody probably realizes. We do not receive any governmental funds from anybody, so we are highly dependent and reliant on the community supporting us. Those funds are a necessity to our function to allow us to provide the medical care that the animals need," added Martin.

Families First of Monroe County board member, Jessica Grauel, said the donation is greatly appreciated. "The funds that we attain in our county all stay in our county and are used to serve citizens of our county that need any kind of financial assistance,

primarily families, elderly, and disabled," explained Grauel. "I feel people need it the most now, just the way the economy is. So, anything that we can get is very much welcomed." Created in 1994 by the Monroe County Planning Council, Families First addresses the unmet needs of individuals and families in crisis living in Monroe County.

Tomah Health has made similar Dr. Day donations to local organizations for more than 15 years. The very first Doctors' Day observance was organized in the state of Georgia, on March 30, 1933. Legislation was introduced in both the House and Senate in 1990, establishing a national Doctors' Day, which was signed into law by then President, George Bush.

Sparta High Junior Prom King and Queen chosen



On Saturday, March 29th, Junior Prom was held at Sparta High School. (Top photo) Chosen as King and Queen were Aaliyah Pastick, as queen, and Angel Martinez as king. Back row, from left to right: Parker Calkins, David Fabry, Camden McTaggart, Xavier Centeno, and Kayden Kaat. In the front row, from left to right: Skylah Simao, Reese Johnson, Delia Mathison, Prom King - Angel Martinez, Prom Queen - Aaliyah Pastick, Amani Konye, and Paige Ehlinger.



(Right photo) Prom Queen Aaliyah Pastick and Prom King Angel Martinez. Contributed photos.

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Sparta Red 6th Grade Boys basketball team crushes league and tournament play

On the weekend of March 29th-30th, the Sparta Red 6 grade boys basketball team participated in the Wisconsin State Invitational Championship Tournament, in the large school division. They went 5 - 1 over the course of the weekend, clutching the third place trophy by the completion of the tournament. They beat River Falls (twice), Ashwaubenon, Rice Lake, and Port Washington.



The tournament weekend capped a spectacular season, where these boys became champions of their league tournament and the McDonald's tournament. They finished the season with an overall record of 31 - 8 and went 13 - 1 in league play.

Front row, from left to right: Henry Kingeter, Evan Brown, Evan Lydon, and Camden James Webster. Back row, left to right: Coach Bud Berendes, Jase Greeno, Jase Weck, Ezra Berendes, Matthew Lawson, Head Coach Nick Kingeter, and Coach Christopher Brown. Contributed photo.

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