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Ice Age Trail gains National Park Service status

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) announced a boost for Wisconsin's Ice Age and North Country scenic trails, providing them improved management and access to additional funding. Since 2014, Senator Baldwin has called for this change, designating Wisconsin's trails unit status under the National Park Service, to deliver additional federal resources to maintain and preserve these critical resources for Wisconsin.

"The Ice Age Trail touches countless communities in the Badger State, charting a path from the St. Croix River,

through the heart of Wisconsin, and all the way back up to Door County. Along those hundreds of miles, local businesses, families, outdoor enthusiasts, and communities reap the benefits as visitors from all over come to enjoy Wisconsin's great outdoors," said Senator Baldwin. "I was proud to lead the charge to support both the Ice Age and the North Country scenic trails new designations, unlocking additional federal resources to ensure generations to come can better enjoy Wisconsin's wilderness."

U.S. Congressmen Mark Pocan (WI-02) and Glenn

Grothman (WI-06) also applauded the upgrade. "As a lifelong Wisconsinite, I am proud to be from a state with such a beautiful natural environment," said Grothman. "I am happy to support this bipartisan effort to ensure the Ice Age Trail has the opportunity to participate as a unit of the National Park System."

Since 2014, Senator Baldwin has introduced the National Scenic Trails Parity Act, bipartisan legislation to grant unit status to three National Scenic Trails that are part of the National Park System (NPS), including the Ice Age and North Country National Scenic Trails, to improve management, establish administrative clarity, and grant access to additional federal resources.

Joining this system will raise public awareness about Wisconsin's national scenic trails and allow them to access more funding and programmatic resources of the agency that are limited to NPS units.

"This is truly momentous for the Ice Age Trail and its thousands of supporters and volunteers," said Luke Klobberdanz, Executive Director and CEO of the Ice Age Trail Alliance. "Unit status gives the Trail, and its volunteers, the recognition it duly deserves. Make no mistake: the Ice Age Trail is world-class and the number of hours Alliance volunteers devote to it consistently rank among the top in all the National Park Service."

The Ice Age National Scenic Trail in Wisconsin is nearly 1,200 miles long. Its landscape of lakes, river valleys, gently rolling hills, and ridges are reminders that just



WILDLIFE TRACKS FOLLOW A PORTION OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL which currently has about 30 miles threading through Sheboygan County and 1200 miles through Wisconsin. - Beacon file photo by Ian Johanson

15,000 years ago, during the Ice Age, much of North America lay under a huge glacier. The North Country National Scenic Trail is expected to be a 4,600-mile continuous path when completed, crossing through Wisconsin in Doug-

las, Bayfield, Ashland, and Iron counties.

Around 30 miles of the Ice Age Trail crosses through Sheboygan County. Visit iceagetrail.org for more information.



Sunday, December 24

- 4:00pm Holy Name of Jesus
- 4:00pm Immaculate Conception
- 4:00pm Ss. Cyril & Methodius
- 4:00pm St. Clement
- 4:30pm St. Dominic
- 4:30pm St. Peter Claver
- 5:30pm St. Clement (Spanish)
- 10:00pm Holy Name of Jesus

Monday, December 25

- Midnight St. Peter Claver
- 7:30am Holy Name of Jesus
- 9:00am Ss. Cyril & Methodius
- 9:00am St. Clement
- 9:00am St. Peter Claver
- 9:30am St. Dominic
- 10:30am Immaculate Conception
- 12:15pm St. Clement (Spanish)

Holy Name of Jesus | 818 Huron Ave.

St. Clement | 707 N. 6th St.

St. Dominic | 2133 N. 22nd St.

St. Peter Claver | 1439 S. 12th St.

Immaculate Conception | 1305 Humboldt Ave.

Ss. Cyril & Methodius | 822 New Jersey Ave.

Abortion services to resume in Sheboygan

by Ian Johanson
for The Beacon

Following a final Dane County court ruling Dec. 5 on a closely-watched abortion case, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin said it "will resume abortion services at our Sheboygan health center as soon as possible." The organization had restarted abortion services in Milwaukee and Madison Sept. 18 in response to an earlier ruling by the same court.

In her final ruling, Dane County Circuit Court Judge Diane Schlipper issued a declaration that the Wisconsin statute at issue in the case

(Wis. Stat. § 940.04) "only prohibits feticide," not consensual medical abortions. Schlipper said this was "consistent with the Wisconsin Supreme Court's decision in State v. Black," a 1994 decision that focused narrowly on a specific section of that statute.

What may stand out to some observers is the fact that the title of the statute itself is "Abortion." However, in her earlier ruling, Schlipper said in the case of any conflict between a statute's title and its text, "text must control over title," and that statutory titles are not part of the statutes themselves.

Sheboygan County District Attorney Joel Urmanski, a defendant in the case who has said he would prosecute abortions, said he was obligated to comply with the ruling, but disagreed with it and intends to appeal.

"In my view, the statute plainly applies to abortions and, while it may be that the citizens of the State of Wisconsin would be better served by a different statute, I do not believe it is my job or the role of the courts to make that determination. It is an issue for the Legislature and the Governor to resolve," Urmanski said.

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IN THE PIGGLY WIGGLY MALL

Park features Benny the bison and 22 deer - all with names

by Dave Boehler
of The Review staff

You won't find Rudolph, Dasher or Dancer at the open-year-round Rustic Retreat Deer Park in Elkhart Lake, but there's Louie, Titus and Daisy.

In fact, Thomas Mueller has names for each and every one of his 22 whitetail deer.

"These are my children; I know them like the back of my hand," he said. "Everyone's got just a slight little difference, so trying to keep track of who's who is simple for someone like me. Obviously somebody else would struggle with that. But these are my children."

Mueller also has six wolf-dogs, two trumpeter swans and two bison - including one named Benny, a 19-month-old bull who weighs about 1,400 pounds.

"Benny is kind of a character," Mueller said. "He's probably our coolest animal."

The New Holstein native lives with his wife Veronica at what he calls an interactive mini zoo and wildlife educational facility located at N9463 County Road H.

There are two tours daily - by appointment only - that last from 90 minutes to two hours. Donations are accepted in place of admission fees.

"People come and learn about animals," Mueller said.



THOMAS MUELLER runs the Rustic Retreat Deer Park, which features 22 whitetails. -submitted photos

"It's all hands on, so they get to feed the deer, the bison."

Mueller bought the property

28 years ago, when it was 40 acres of open farm field. He's planted over 20,000 trees, put



A DEER AND BISON share some fun time near Elkhart Lake.

in five ponds and originally it was always a work in progress to get it set up to be some type of petting zoo.

"I just had no idea I would do a zoo with basically unique animals that people don't normally get to experience," he said. "This is pretty much what I'd hoped for. I wanted a small little thing for a retirement hobby, something fun to do. ... I don't have any help. I keep everything so simple. I do everything myself. I don't have employees."

This all came about when Mueller rescued a fawn from the side of the road near his place in 2018.

"We let it run around the yard and he would get his bottle of milk several times a day," he said. "We would feed him. He would come in the house, play with the dog. It showed me that if you can take a wild animal, and they can become that

sweet and that smart that they can carefully walk through a house without busting anything or jumping through a window, that's what started it."

So many people drove by to see the fawn, named Buddy, that Mueller decided to do a deer park.

He was still a flooring installer at the time - he retired two years ago - and little did he know the decision would change his life.

"I would've never guessed," Mueller said.

Mueller, who grew up on a farm and has been around animals his entire life, says his passion is educating people about wildlife.

"And seeing the kids' faces light up," he said. "Kids of all ages get so excited being around these animals. It's just been a lot of fun."

"These are forever pets that people can enjoy."

Dental costs: Insurance vs. Saving plan?

by Mary Kempf
Elder Benefit Specialist
Sheboygan County

If you or someone you love is looking to save money on the high cost of dental care, two options that are available include dental insurance and dental savings plans. These may sound similar, but they offer different types of benefits and have different limitations; there are pros and cons of each. It is important to know the difference between the two and choose a plan that is right for your individual dental care needs.

Dental Insurance

Dental Insurance is like health insurance. You pay premiums to the company, and then, the dental insurance company pays the dental provider on your behalf. These insurance plans will typically require copays and deductibles. Another way they are similar to health insurance is that they will oftentimes have a provider network that works much like an HMO or PPO health insurance plan.

However, a way in which dental insurance differs from

(Affordable Care Act compliant) health insurance is that some dental insurance plans have an annual maximum amount that they will pay on your behalf (sometimes referred to as a "benefit cap.") Sometimes, this maximum amount will be around \$1,000 or \$1,500. If you need a lot of dental work in a one-year period, this could mean your insurance benefits are used up rather quickly. It may also mean that more expensive items or services may not be fully covered. However, some plans do have negotiated discounted prices that you pay the provider after you reach your annual benefit cap.

Another drawback to dental insurance is that they sometimes require a waiting period before a particular service is covered, but one benefit to dental insurance is that sometimes they will cover preventative care with no co-pays. Most importantly, keep in mind that each plan is different and compare the plans to choose the right one for your needs.

Dental Savings Plans

Dental savings plans are not insurance (although sometimes they may be administered by insurance companies such as Aetna.) With a dental savings plan, you pay the provider directly, but those charges are discounted in accordance with your plan. Also,

you must choose a dentist who participates in the plan.

With a dental savings plan, there are generally no deductibles, no waiting periods and no annual maximums. However, most often, the discounted price you pay for these services is higher than the copay amount you would pay

with dental insurance. Although, considering the annual benefit caps with most dental insurance, if you need extensive dental work during a one-year period, you may end up paying less overall through a dental savings plan. Additionally, some services that are not typically covered by dental

insurance, such as cosmetic services, may be discounted through a dental savings plan.

It is often possible to have both a dental insurance plan and a dental savings plan. Finally, and most importantly, when choosing, you should weigh the pros, cons, and total costs.

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Like father, like son

■ **South's Yang hopes to follow in dad's footsteps to West Point**

Tommy Yang has been playing soccer since he was 7 years old. He still has some indoor season left with his club team, but after spending four years on South's varsity squad as a midfielder, he's turned his attention to applying for the United States Military Academy at West Point in New York.

The senior will find out in late March if he's accepted as an Army cadet, and he already met with senators to get his nomination.

"The day and night before that, I felt a sense of nervousness because I didn't think that I was good enough to apply - or I was as good as other candidates," Yang said. "But I had a talk with my dad and told myself to have self-confidence, to push myself to know that I am ready and I have the abilities, attributes, academics to compete with other candidates going into West Point."

He's also enjoying and excited about the process, too.

"Because it is my future, and I'm excited to have my life planned out to a way where I can know where I want to go," Yang said.

Yang, whose parents are from Laos (a country in Asia), was born in Fort Bragg, N.C. He says he loved the military life, as his father spent 23 years in the Army as an airborne trooper before retiring.

"I was surrounded by it," he said.

Yang, who is the Junior Band Director at South and was the president of the Hmong Student Organization Club last year, also considered attending the University of Wisconsin because his sister went there.

"But I choose West Point because I believe that I can have the opportunity to also show my leadership to others around the community when I come back as an officer," he said. "And learn from others there at the Academy who also are leaders from all around



SOUTH'S TOMMY YANG (17) has turned his attention from soccer to applying at West Point. - Photos by Tyler Jensen

America."

Yang plans on studying psychology because he believes mental health in this day and age is very important.

"My junior year was pretty stressful on me, taking care of

a lot of responsibilities, and you always have to know the well-being of yourself," he said. "And I like to understand the well-being of others, and how they can perceive things in the world."

DID YOU KNOW?

Tommy Yang's first name is MouaCheng, which sounds like 'more change.'

"My brother liked Thomas the Train a lot, and when I was born, my parents asked him what he wanted to name me," Yang said. "So Thomas is my middle name."

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Sophomore's start is impressive

■ Lutheran's Hackbarth leads basketball team in scoring, rebounding

Sophomore Brennen Hackbarth's debut as full-time varsity basketball player at Lutheran got off to an impressive start.

He opened the season with 18 points and 16 rebounds at New Berlin West.

Three days later, he made all nine free-throw attempts en route to 15 points at Roncalli.

Hackbarth leads the Crusaders in scoring and rebounding so far, after scoring a total of 14 points in six varsity games as a freshman last year.

He practiced with the varsity a season ago, but the majority of his games were played on the junior varsity squad as his coaches figured out what was in his best interest as far as his future was concerned.

"He just continued to develop into the player that he is now," coach Nick Verhagen said. "Brennen's always been



BRENNEN HACKBARTH (35) is playing well as a sophomore on Lutheran's basketball team. - Photo by Jenni Pickel

a special player. This off-season, he ramped things up with his AAU team and he really has become a gym rat. When we're in the gym at 6 o'clock in the morning or 6:30, he's there every day, every time. He just doesn't miss days of working at getting better at his craft. He appreciates his current skill level, but is also motivated in continuing to maximize on what that future potential looks like for him on the court both in high school, and he's certainly motivated in playing at the next level as well."

Hackbarth isn't the only youngster contributing for Lutheran, however.

The top-five scoring leaders for the Crusaders does not include any seniors, as those roles have been filled by junior Andrew Kreuger, freshman Oliver Leibham, junior Jake Thomas

and sophomore Zach Leonhard.

Verhagen knew they would need a couple of games to get themselves comfortable with what their specific roles would be. He says they also continue to mature in practice and hopes it translates over to conference games that begin this week.

"I'm really excited about what this is going to look like in a month, two months," Verhagen said, "because we're just so young. So it's hard to really have expectations for the group given how young we are. But we're pushing them in practices and games, and asking a lot of them. Which maybe as we reflect on it, it might not be as fair, but I think it's what they want. I think they want those high expectations and it'll eventually come. It's a patient process for us, but we're still winning games, which is pretty cool."

Bach is named top assistant player

Whistling Straits' David Bach has been tabbed assistant player of the year by the Wisconsin Section of the Professional Golfers' Association of America.

He wins his third Wisconsin PGA Assistant Player of the Year award, becoming just the fourth in the state to get at least three titles. His winning point margin was the largest for an assistant since 2017.

After taking a backseat to Josh Grisa in 2022, Bach was determined to reclaim the award. The friendly rivalry among the Kohler Golf colleagues is one that doesn't include many secrets. They've had an ironclad grip on the award since 2019, by alternating back and forth as the titleholder.

The duo had challenged each other for this honor but they had never faced each other one on one in match play.

On Sept. 10, they would battle until the very end at Whistling Straits. Neither player would lead by more than two holes, however Bach would lead most of the match. That was until he three-putted on No. 17 to go one down.

He then backed it up by finding the fairway bunker off the tee on No. 18, and the odds of forcing extra holes would seem unlikely.

With 180 yards to go and a bunker lip in front of him, Bach would somehow hit the green with a seven-iron and two putt for par. It would be good enough to force extra holes, and eventually a par on the very next hole would deliver him the match win.

"I hit a career shot to square the match on No. 18," Bach said. "I don't think if I had 100 golf balls, I'd be able to hit the shot I hit to twenty feet."

In Bach's words the match was his fondest memory of his run to the points title.

"Beating Josh in the match play was pretty cool," Bach said. "He and I were jarring back and forth the last few years with this award and this was the only time we've really gone head-to-head. So, to have that one up on him was pretty good."

To put a cherry on top, Bach would wrap up his season by making the cut and finishing in a tie for 31st at the National Car Rental Assistant PGA Professional Championship in Florida in November.



That looks unfair

KEYYANA JUDKINS is surrounded by four opposing players in a recent South basketball game. - Photo by Tyler Jensen

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That was then ...

■ Highlights from the past two weeks

North's swim team finished second in the nine-team Plymouth Invitational on Dec. 2, as Aadin Terrazas won three events.

The freshman came in first in the 200-yard individual medley in 2 minutes 05.94 seconds and in the 100 free in 48.58. He also helped the 200 free relay win in 1:32.53, with Trevor Graham, Griffin Pond and Owen Smith.

Terrazas, Pond, Drew Thomas and Smith placed second in the 400 free relay as well. Graham's winning time in the 100 backstroke was 56.98, and he was runner-up in the 100 butterfly. Pond was third in the fly as well as the 200 free.

"We're looking forward to what Aadin can bring to the team this season," coach Deylin Steinbruecker said. "He's already won us several key events during our first few meets. We'll be seeing him at state this year along with Trevor Graham and few others as well."

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Almost like last year

Lutheran won its first six games last season and got off to a 5-1 start this year. The only loss was to Beaver Dam, which was ranked fourth in the Division 2 state poll last week.

Faith Pape is averaging a double-double so far (11 points and 12 rebounds per game), while Addy Verhagen leads the squad in scoring (15 ppg).



AADIN TERRAZAS wins three events in the Plymouth Invitational. - Photo by Patrick Kirchner

... this is now

■ Highlights for the next two weeks

The first of two meetings between the South and North basketball teams will be held on Saturday.

The Golden Raiders will host two games that day, beginning with the girls at 6 p.m. followed by the boys at 7:45.

Last year, North's Cale Buboltz had a total of 42 points while shooting 9 of 15 from three-point range, and the Golden Raiders' Sarah Shear scored a career-high 24 points in the first game of the series.

The schools meet again, this time at South, on Jan. 27.

De Pere at South boys, 7 tonight: The reigning Division 1 state champion and top-ranked team in the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association's poll (as of last week) comes to town riding a 33-game winning streak (assuming it won Friday). De Pere has a total of only seven losses since the start of the 2020-21 season.

Lutheran at Christian girls, 7:15 tonight: The Eagles will try to pull off the upset against the Crusaders, who were ranked fifth in the Division 4 state poll last week.

HOCKEY

Sheboygan at Whitefish Bay/Nicolet/Shorewood, 2 p.m. Dec. 23: The Red Raiders get to play at the MSOE Kern Center, which is where the Milwaukee Admirals practice as well.

WRESTLING

North double dual, 5 p.m. Dec. 21: Green Bay Preble, De Pere and Ashwaubenon will visit the Golden Raider mats.



DOMINICK ADAMAVICH (34) and Aidan Nienhuis are excited to play North on Saturday night. - Photo by Lisa Reed



NAOMI DOSS and Christian's basketball team hosts Lutheran tonight. - Photo by Chris Hendrikse

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OBITUARIES



MARY MARGARET CAPPELLE

Mary Margaret (Delaney) Cappelle, 82, Sheboygan, passed away Tuesday, December 5, 2023. She was born September 11, 1941, in Omaha, Nebraska to John and Dorothy M. (Londo) Delaney. Mary attended St. Patrick grade school, St. Joseph Academy, Vocational school and had been employed by the city of Green Bay Water and Utility. She worked as a payroll administrator. She married Myron

“Mac” Cappelle. He preceded her in death on August 10, 2003. Mary loved the Packers, Notre Dame and travelling. She enjoyed bowling and swimming. She is survived by her godchild, Robert (Amy) Van Effen, Patrick (Jenna Bauer) Evans; cousins, Thomas (Amy) Van Effen, Dr. Kathy Van Effen; stepchildren, Jules (Chris) Cappelle, Cindy Cappelle, Cheryl (Denis) Heimerl. Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Myron; cousin, Richard VanEffen, special friend, Leo Stutz; very dear friends, Kay and Mike Evans. Friends and family will gather at St. Dominic Catholic Church, 2133 N 22nd St, Sheboygan, from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 27, 2024; Memorial Service to follow at 11 a.m. To send online condolences, please go to www.BlaneyFuneralHome.com.

Death Notices

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 Betty Babler, Suchon Funeral Home.
 Joanne L. Bartzen, Reibold Novak Funeral Home.
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THE CAPITOL REPORT
 by WisPolitics.com

Brewers hit home run at Capitol

Baseball season is over, but Brewers fans should pay attention to a team victory at the Capitol. The Major League Baseball team is going to get half a billion dollars in new public money over the next 27 years to take care of maintenance at American Family Field in Milwaukee. And it didn't have to cross any of its red lines in the process. The Legislature recently put the finishing touches on a nearly \$675 million funding package. Those touches included a ticket surcharge on non-Brewers events to lower the state's contribution while making sure Milwaukee County and the city will have spots on the reconfigured board that will oversee the stadium district. The changes were just enough to get 19 members of the state Senate on board — changes agreed to by the Assembly as the GOP-run Legislature sent the bill to Democratic Gov. Tony Evers. An earlier version of the bill that cleared the Assembly included a \$411 million contribution from the state, \$135 million combined from Milwaukee County and the city, and no spots on the district board for the two local governments. Still, co-author Rep. Rob Brooks, R-Saukville, quickly signaled to a Senate committee that backers were open to changes that would lower the state contribution and give locals a seat at the table. The first tweaks in an amendment approved in committee dropped the state's contribution by nearly \$30 million through a ticket surcharge on non-Brewers events. The team agreed to pitch in another \$10 million, and regular audits of the stadium district's finances were added. Publicly, Senate Democrats kept pushing for more changes, including representation for Milwaukee County and the city on the reconfigured stadium district board considering the money the local governments were putting into the deal. They also wanted a lower contribution from the state. Privately, they were getting pressure from organized labor and Evers to back the deal with Republicans short of the 17 votes needed to pass it. Just ahead of the vote, the ticket surcharge got a boost, the state's contribution dropped to \$365.8 million, and Milwaukee County and the city got their spots on the board. In the end, it was just enough

to cobble together the support of 19 senators. As much as the Brewers — or at least their ballpark — will get, insiders note none of it will make the team uncomfortable. Some critics are still confused over the lack of a ticket tax on Brewers games. That was a key provision that made the Milwaukee Bucks deal work — a no-brainer to those who saw it as essentially a user fee. But the team considered it a non-starter, worried it would hurt attendance in one of the smallest markets in Major League Baseball by driving up costs. Yet, as concerned as the team seems to be about costs for the average fan, the Brewers sure don't seem worried about beer prices, critics fume. Some wanted to see the team commit to development around the stadium, but the final bill only includes studying the feasibility of that. And other ideas like clawback provisions to redirect proceeds from a future sale of the team to Wisconsin taxpayers never got any traction. While even some who backed the final deal weren't thrilled with the terms, no one wanted to be seen as the roadblock that triggered the Brewers to leave Wisconsin. Ever since Evers introduced his plan to give the stadium district \$290 million in surplus state money upfront to invest and then cover maintenance costs through 2043 — only for GOP leaders to reject it — the belief has been the team would eventually get a deal from the state. It was just a matter of the numbers. Getting a package to the finish line, insiders say, was more a credit to the Capitol players involved than the team. While backers of the deal were happy to ensure professional baseball will stay in Wisconsin through 2050, they haven't always been fans of how the Brewers approached its lobbying effort at the Capitol. Insiders still can't get over principal owner Mark Attanasio buying a larger stake in a European soccer club at the same time he was asking Wisconsin taxpayers to pony up more money for stadium maintenance. For some Dems, the efforts by Evers' office and labor were key in getting it done. Sen. Dan Feyen, R-Fond du Lac, and Brooks shepherded the legislation through the process. Meanwhile, Senate leaders Melissa Agard, D-Madison, and Devin LeMahieu, R-Oostburg, knew the numbers they could get from their caucuses, and it all came together in the end with a couple of votes to spare.

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Two fatalities in car, semi-truck crash

On Thursday Dec. 7 at approximately 3:33 p.m. the Sheboygan County Emergency Dispatch Center received several 911 calls regarding a semi-tractor trailer that had flipped at the intersection of State High-

way 32 and County Road J, in the Town of Sheboygan Falls. Further calls indicated that potentially two other vehicles may have been involved. Sheriff's deputies and two Orange Cross Ambulances were immediately dispatched as more information continued to come in.

Preliminary investigation revealed that it was a semi-truck and a single other vehicle accident. A 2017 Jeep Cherokee

being driven by a 67 year old female from the Town of Sheboygan was operating west on County Road J and had stopped at the intersection. The vehicle then continued west and pulled into the path of a semi truck traveling south on State Highway 32. The semi, a 2002 Kenworth, was being operated by a 26 year old male from Denmark, WI.

Both the operator and her 37 year old passenger, also of the

Town of Sheboygan, died as a result of their injuries in the collision. The deceased individuals from this incident were identified Friday as 67 year old Debra

A Krueger and 37 year old Jennifer L Rozek.

The accident is still under investigation.

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Maple 'sugar shack' on tap for Plymouth City Park

by **Emmitt B. Feldner**
for The Beacon

PLYMOUTH - A maple syrup sugar shack will soon be the newest attraction at City Park.

At their Nov. 28 meeting, the City Council formally accepted the donation of a maple syrup processing structure, to be located in the northwest corner of the north side park, from the Plymouth Maple Association.

"The purpose is trying to help educate people about this (local) agricultural product," council member John Nelson, a driving force behind the project, told his colleagues.

Nelson presented a model of the proposed 18-foot by 24-foot New England style sugar shack, to be built with wood siding and cupola.

Its primary purpose would be to serve as a demonstration site for the annual Plymouth Maple Festival, school classes and more,

Nelson said.

The Plymouth High School construction classes will build the structure, including cutting down trees from various local property owners to construct the building.

Nelson emphasized that the shack will be built at no cost to the city. It will utilize solar power for necessary lights and other electricity. The shack would be built on a concrete slab.

City Administrator/Utilities Manager Tim Blakeslee said the city would require a maintenance agreement with the Plymouth Maple Association to ensure the city would not incur any costs with the building.

It will require site plan approval from the Plan Commission before it can be built,

Blakeslee added.

Nelson said the shack has the potential to raise funds for the city. He noted that City Park has roughly 75 maple trees that could be tapped in the spring and turned into maple syrup and other products that could be sold by the city.

The projected cost for the shack is around \$16,000, Nelson noted. "The labor will be almost all volunteer," he said.

The association will use its own funds to pay for all con-

struction costs, Nelson assured the council.

He stressed the educational value of the project and the importance of the maple industry in the state.

"Wisconsin is either the third or fourth highest (maple syrup) producing state in the country," Nelson related.

He noted that local indigenous people produced syrup for centuries and taught their processes to the first European settlers.

Food/News Recipes, tips & nutrition

Spaghetti is the star of this casserole

Comfort foods often are on the minds of home cooks when the mercury drops. Rich and savory dishes that warm from the inside can chase away the chills of winter weather and bring the entire family together around the table.

Spaghetti is often paired with meatballs and covered in marinara sauce as an ideal comfort dish. But there's much more to this pasta, and it can be enjoyed in many different ways. In this recipe for "Chicken Spaghetti" courtesy of Ree Drummond, who is known as the "The Pioneer Woman," on Food Network, spaghetti is paired with several ingredients and baked into a tasty casserole that can easily accommodate a crowd.

Chicken Spaghetti 8 servings

- 2 cups cooked chicken
- 3 cups spaghetti, uncooked and broken into two-inch pieces
- 2 cans cream of mushroom soup
- 2 cups grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup finely diced green pepper
- 1/4 finely diced onion
- 1 4-ounce jar diced pimentos, drained
- 2 cups reserved chicken broth from pot



- 1 teaspoon Lawry's Seasoned Salt
- 1/8 teaspoon to 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1 cup additional grated sharp cheddar cheese
1. Cook one cut up fryer chicken and pick out the meat to make two cups.
2. Cook spaghetti in same chicken broth until al dente. Do not overcook. When spaghetti is cooked, combine with remaining ingredients except additional 1 cup sharp cheddar.
3. Place mixture in casserole pan and top with remaining sharp cheddar. Cover and freeze up to six months, cover and refrigerate up to two days, or bake immediately: 350 F for 45 minutes until bubbly. (If the cheese on top starts to get too cooked, cover with foil.)

Dreaming of Baking Vegan Triple Chocolate Beet Cake



Myra Stokdyk Eischen
Certified Advanced Baker

vegan one yet. I did however love the pretty glaze on the non-vegan recipe- so made 1/2 of the cake with the ganache and 1/2 with glaze- adjusted to be vegan as well. Then I thought it might look pretty to make the ganache and just drizzle the fuchsia glaze over the top- I was right- it was appealing. You could also sprinkle with powdered sugar instead of frosting or glazing. The recipe said you could serve with vegan ice cream and fresh strawberries.

I think if you don't tell you family and friends that this cake has beets in it, or it is vegan they will never know. The texture is the best I've had with a vegan cake- it is moist and a little more dense but not super heavy. The flavor is great too.

Credits: "under500calories.com"

I hope everyone has a safe and healthy holiday season, and will

be ready to bake again in January.

Sweet Dreams!

Note #1: Make sure your ganache is cooled down before you drizzle glaze on it.

Note #2: I used 15 oz. can beets, drained and pureed. Save the juice for glaze. This way you can make this year-round.

Note #3: The recipe just calls for chocolate chips. I found Ghirardelli non-dairy dark chocolate chips. They were large chips so I chopped them up so they wouldn't sink.

Note #4: The recipe given seemed large for my pan - so I am writing how I adjusted it to 3/4 recipe.

Note #5: I mixed by hand, but you could use a mixer- don't overmix.

Note #6: When making vegan items remember to check that all of your ingredients do not contain: dairy products, eggs, gelatin, or other animal related products.

Note #7: You can adjust most recipes to vegan by using 1/4 c. applesauce to equal 1 egg, you can substitute almond, oat, coconut milk for animal milk.

Note #8: Recipe said you can store it in a large airtight container. You can freeze up to 3 months and let it thaw for 1 hour before serving.

Note #9: This can also be made into 2 8x4 loaf pans.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hannukah to all of my readers.

I have been asked by several readers to include some vegan recipes and tips. I have not had a lot of experience baking with this- I made a few cakes years ago- but not recently. While reading a book, the lead character tried a chocolate beet cake- without success. This got me thinking that if I could find a decent recipe for that, it could work into my vegan column. I also have several farmer friends that raise beets so I hope they enjoy this recipe.

I found several recipes; I chose one that was not vegan and one that was. I made the vegan one first and was satisfied with the results so didn't try the non-

Vegan Triple Chocolate Beet Cake

In large bowl mix:

- 2 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 1/2 c. +1 T. cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 1/2 t. baking powder
- 1 1/2 t. baking soda
- 1 1/4 t. salt

In small bowl mix:

- 1 1/2 c. beet puree (3-4 small beets)*
- 3/4 c. warm water
- 1/2 c. +1 T. applesauce*
- 1/4 c. vegetable oil
- 3/4 t. vanilla extract
- 3/4 c. chocolate chips*

Stir the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients until just moistened. Fold in the chocolate chips.

Pour into sprayed and floured 10" Bundt pan.

Bake 45 min. at 350°. Take out of oven and cool for 15 min. before dumping out of pan onto plate. Finish cooling. Glaze or cover with ganache.

Chocolate Ganache:

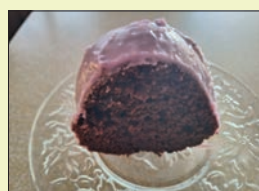
Melt in microwave for 30-45 seconds:

- 3/4 c. +2 T. canned coconut milk
- Remainder of 10 oz bag choc.chips

Cool slightly and drizzle over entire cake. Use offset spatula to make sure it is all covered.

Alternative glaze Mix:

- 1/2 c. powdered sugar
- 2 t. coconut milk
- 1 T. beet juice
- 1 t. clear vanilla



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Escaping the black hole of worrying

by Bryan Golden
DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com

Worry is an all-consuming black hole which drains your time, emotions, and physical wellbeing. Worry is insidious because you are so used

to it that you aren't aware how often, or how readily, you worry. For some people, worry is a way of life. We grow up being taught, by example, to make worry a regular activity. We worry about what happened. We worry about what is happening now. We worry about what might happen. We worry about what others will do. We worry about what other people won't do. We worry

about just about everything. Worry becomes a default reaction to uncertainty. At the very least, worry is like being in a rocking chair; it's a lot of activity which doesn't get you anywhere. At its worst, worry causes, or worsens, physical and mental ailments.

Some of the many conditions worry can be responsible for include stress, anxiety, headaches, high blood pressure, coronary issues, sleep disorders, and eating disorders. Ironically, people

commonly react to the onset of these maladies by worrying even more. Taking control of and reducing worry has no negative side effects. The only impact of this strategy is a substantial improvement in your quality of life, and a markedly higher level of happiness.

Regardless of how much you currently worry, you can substantially decrease the level. This starts with recognizing how much you worry and then making a commit-

ment to doing what it takes to reduce the degree to which you worry. Here are some practical strategies for reducing worry. Stop worrying about the past by recognizing there is nothing you can do to change it. There are two lessons to be learned from your past; what worked and what did not. Eliminate any behavior which does not bring you your desired results. Keep repeating those actions which have been successful. Past bad decisions are counteracted by making better decisions now.

Issues, which you are concerned about, fall into two categories. There are those things which you can't do anything about. Since there's nothing you can do about them, let each one go. Your energy is better spent with the second category, those things you do have influence over. With these issues, replace worry with action by taking the necessary steps required to accomplish your objective.

Keeping things in perspective reduces worry. Many of the things you worry about don't matter, or are irrelevant. Don't devote any time to them. They are not worthy of your attention. Ask yourself if what you are worried about today will matter 5 years from now. If it won't, save yourself the 5 years and stop worrying about it now.

Have positive expectations for today and tomorrow. Don't think about what you don't want. Do not become embroiled in an endless cycle of what if scenarios of what could go wrong. Instead, focus your concentration on visualizing exactly what you want to achieve and how you want your future to look.

There is a solution for every problem. Your objective is to find it. Stop rehashing problems over and over, from every possible angle. Identify a problem once, and then get to work fixing it. Solutions are only implemented through action.

Believe in yourself. You have what it takes to live the life you want. You can attain your goals. Your past does not limit you, it prepares you.



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Student plans first responder fun day

by **Dave Boehler**
for The Beacon

One year ago at this time, Cheyenne Stirdivant was still grieving the loss of her grandfather after he passed three days after Thanksgiving. Little did the Sheboygan South student know her father was also going to die of a heart attack on

Christmas morning. “It was devastating, and it felt like my whole world flipped,” she said. “Me and grandpa would always go hunting together. He got the deer and I was the one who always had to clean up after his mess. And we would always build stuff together, and it was a bond that was unique

because we’d go watch hockey games together and bond over sports and everything.” “And I’d always play softball with my dad, go to watch all his games. Also build stuff together. Just having those little moments and a lot of teaching moments with him. And I’m following in his path to possibly do the same career as him, as an electrical engineer.”

Her father Josh had started his own business a couple of months earlier and was working on a house when her mother found him dead that Christmas morning.

Stirdivant was home watching her younger sister and brother, trying to reach her mom by phone to figure out what was going on.

Her mother Lacey returned home and informed them, and eventually Stirdivant learned of the important role first responders played that morning. From calming her mom down as she frantically tried calling for help,



CHEYENNE STIRDIVANT AND HER GRANDFATHER

to the compassion they showed upon arrival and the assistance they offered.

So last spring, Stirdivant thought it would be a good idea to pay them back as part of her senior project.

“Around town, you can see them working,” she said. “And you hear about all these different things. After hearing a lot of

other stories too, I figured this would be a great project.”

She wanted some type of family fun day for the first responders, so she ran the idea past South’s dean of students and various other leaders involved with the senior project.

“It was baby steps, I guess,

see FUN DAY page 15

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Parade Judges
Kim Strysock - Retired SF CMS
Elodie Dufaur & family - Excuse My French Bakery

Parade Celebrity
Ed & Cindy Evanoff from Evans
Vehicle & driver provided by Kennedy Ford

Toys for Tots Parade Donations
Faith United Methodist Church

Musical Entertainment
SFHS Choral & Instrumental Groups
Open Door AV Entertainment Specialist

Community Christmas Tree Lighting
Friends of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Art & Fay Risse, SF Utilities

All Parade Participants
SF Police Department, SF Department of Public Works, Bemis Manufacturing

Thank You to all of our supporters who helped us celebrate!

First responders recognition day

FUN DAY from 14

because at first I was thinking just maybe a get-together and different possibilities, like food trucks," Stirdivant said. "But then I figured out that would have been too much. Then I reduced it to maybe just grill out. And then from there, I included games to try making it a little bit more family friendly - and not just food - and tried to turn it into a carnival kind of."

The final result is Emergency Responder Fun Day on May

10 at Elks Lodge in Sheboygan for the county's first responders and their families.

There will be free bowling, a dunk tank, a bounce house and various games like bean bag toss.

"It means a lot to me that I can make a big impact on my community," Stirdivant said. "And I've heard from many people it's just amazing what I've accomplished so far, and how they don't think even as an adult they could pull it off."

Stirdivant was even featured recently on the TMJ4 TV station because of what she's doing.

"It's just amazing how the word could spread so fast," she

said.

In addition to going to different companies for donations, Stirdivant set up a Go Fund Me page (search Emergency Responder Appreciation on its website) to raise money.

Those interested in helping out can also donate gift baskets for a raffle the day of the event, or email Stirdivant at cheystirdivant@gmail.com.

"There's definitely hiccups in the road with paperwork I need for certain companies and stuff, but my office ladies and my school has been nothing but helpful," Stirdivant said. "I think it's going easier than I imagined, since we're at a third of our goal already."

WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Christmas Eve Celebrating the Birth of Jesus Christ

December 24 at 5:00pm

Following the word of God as it is written

Fountain Park United Methodist Church

9th & Erie Avenue • 920-452-1319

www.fountainparkgmc.org

TGIF FISH FRY DIRECTORY

Friday Perch Fish Fry
in The Granary Bourbon Bar at The Blind Horse
5pm - 9pm

The GRANARY BOURBON BAR

And \$5 rail Old Fashioneds!

Reservations recommended at TheBlindHorse.com

The Blind Horse Restaurant & Winery
6018 Superior Ave., Kohler | TheBlindHorse.com | 920-467-8599



FRIDAY FISH FRY
10:00AM-9:00PM
PERCH • WALLEYE • COD
BLUE GILL • SHRIMP
- Dine In or Carry Out -

WIN A FREE FISH DINNER! STOP IN FOR DETAILS

STRIKES HAPPY HOUR Tues-Fri 3:30-5:30pm
Bar & Grill LAKESHORE LANES

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www.LakeshoreLanes.com

JACK'S GRILL

Come check out our **Friday Fish Fry Menu!**

One Long Drive • Sheboygan Falls
920-467-1500 • GOLFTHEBULL.COM
Just south of the roundabout at Hwy 32 & 28

PETEK'S TAVERN
2702 S. 8TH STREET • SHEBOYGAN

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY PERCH SPECIALS

Perch Sandwich
Child Perch Plate
Reg. Perch Plate
Double Perch Plate
Perch & Shrimp Combo

BEST FISH IN TOWN!

All dinners include: French Fries, Coleslaw & Bread

CALL 920-452-6504
Serving Food Mon, 11am-6pm; Tues.-Sat. 11am-9pm; Sun. 11am-6pm

Sheboygan County's Best Friday Fish Fry
4:30-9:00pm
Reservations Recommended

Breaded Perch Plate & Dinner | Sartori MontAmoré & Potato Crusted Walleye

Baked or Beer Battered Cod

500 Quit Qui Oc Lane
Elkhart Lake, WI
920-876-2833
quitquiegolf.com



925 North 8th St., Sheboygan
920-459-8155

Serving Daily
Wed-Thur 4:00-8:00
Fri-Sun 4:00-9:00

DINE IN -OR- TAKE OUT

FRIDAY FISH FRY FISH SPECIALS

- Beer Battered Cod
- House Breaded Perch
- Broiled Walleye
- Broiled White Fish

Plus our regular menu

FRIDAY fish fry

WALLEYE • PERCH
COD • SHRIMP
- Beer Battered or Breaded -

Choice of Potato, Choice of Cole Slaw or Applesauce,
Buttered Marble Rye Bread, Lemon Wedge & Tartar Sauce

Dine In or Carryouts

Fat Cow
Pub & Eatery

Sun CLOSED
Mon-Thur 11am-9pm
Fri-Sat 11am-10pm

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SERVING SIX DAYS A WEEK NOT JUST ON FRIDAYS

- SANDWICH SPECIALS
- DINNER SPECIALS
- FRESH HOMEMADE DELI SALADS

Carry Out Available

Schwarz
RETAIL FISH MARKET

SHEBOYGAN 920-452-0576
MON & THURS 8-6 • TUES & WED 8-3
FRI 10-7 • SAT 9-2 • Closed Sundays



\$1.00 off a fish plate
of more than \$10
With this Coupon!

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552 Evans Ave, Sheboygan

Friday FISH FRY

We serve Perch, Bluegill, Haddock, Shrimp, and offer weekly Seafood Specials!
A full menu (burgers, sides, etc.) is also available!

Served 4pm - 8pm

Carry-outs available!

Delivery, Curbside Pick-up & Take-out Available!



TOY DRIVE & ESSENTIAL ITEMS
(HATS, GLOVES, SOCKS, CASH, ETC.)

SATURDAY/DECEMBER 16TH

SUPERIOR BAR & GRILL
2607 SUPERIOR AVE. SHEBOYGAN

STOP IN, HAVE A DRINK, EAT SOME FOOD, SAY HI AND PLEASE DONATE!

ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF ANYTIME NOW TIL DECEMBER 16TH AT

FULL THROTTLE INK
TATTOOS & PIERCINGS

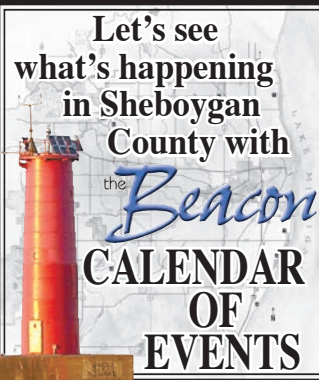
406 E. MILL STREET, PLYMOUTH
920-449-5067

501 N MAIN STREET, SHEBOYGAN FALLS
920-467-2215

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
525 N. 6TH STREET, SHEBOYGAN
920-459-3123



Let's see what's happening in Sheboygan County with the *Beacon* CALENDAR OF EVENTS



CALENDAR ITEMS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL TO: reviewclassifieds@gmail.com PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS A MINIMUM OF 2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE. Events charging fees or selling items may be included when a display ad is scheduled.

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 31 "WE WANT YOUR HIDES": Lions throughout the state of Wisconsin are accepting donations of deer hides and tails to support Wisconsin Lions Camp for the disabled. Local donations can be dropped off at Terry's Bait & Tackle northeast of Plymouth at N5947 Willow Road, north of Hwy 23. From there Lions from the area will salt, store, and transport the donations to the camp in Rosholt at end of hunting season. Thank you & call/text Lion Jeff at 920-579-5680 for more information.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 15 PHS Comedy Team Performance: 7 p.m. in the Plymouth High School Amphitheater, 125 S. Highland Ave. Featuring improvisational games played by Jolly Pranksters team members, with audience participation

highly encouraged. Free and open to the public. www.plymouth.k12.wi.us, 920-893-6911.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 16 Cabin Fever Series: Creating Ornaments & Gifts: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kohler-Andrae State Park 1020 Beach Park Lane, Sheboygan, Nature Center. Drop in at the nature center to create holiday ornaments, gift tags, and more. Vehicle admission required. 920-451-4080.

Music for a Festive Season, presented by the Sheboygan Pops Concert Band and the SASD 4th/5th Grade Choir: 7 pm at Lutheran High School's Performing Arts Center, 3323 University Drive in Sheboygan. Join the Sheboygan Pops Concert Band for a Boston Pops-style Holiday Concert! The concert includes an audience sing-along and guest performance by the Sheboygan Area School District 4th/5th Grade Choir, directed by Kristin Sorenson. Santa Claus will make a special appearance! The band will perform classics like "Sleigh Ride", "The Night Before Christmas", "Bugler's Holiday" and "The Typewriter", along with other Holiday favorites. The concert will showcase the talents of Wayne Wildman as guest soloist and narrator. Also featured will be band members Scott Winkler, Brian Hanes and Jim Schleider on trumpet, and Karen Kiehl on saxophone. www.SPCB.weebly.com.

MONDAY DECEMBER 18 Practice the skills you need to communicate with confidence and excellence: 6pm to 7:30pm. Members work through the Pathways education curriculum to develop speaking

and leadership skills and competencies. Visit us at no charge. Membership is less than \$150 per year. Attend in person or virtually: Bethany Reformed Church, 1315 Washington Ave, Sheboygan, WI 53081. Visit our website for more information and access the Zoom meeting link. https://2121.toastmasters-clubs.org/.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23 FREE CHRISTMAS DINNER: 4:00-7:00pm. Reservations Required. Call by Dec 16 920-893-900. Laack's Tavern & Ballroom, W4302 Cty Rd JM, Sheboygan Falls.

MONDAY DECEMBER 25 Free Admission Christmas Day Skate: 12:00 -3:00 pm. Sheboygan Lakers Ice Center, 1202 S Wildwood Ave, Sheboygan. 1 FREE admission with every non-perishable food item donated. Skate rental not included. 920-458-3111.

EVENTS AT JOHN MICHAEL KOHLER ARTS CENTER
608 New York Ave. Sheboygan 920-458-6144 generalinfo@jmkac.org www.jmkac.org

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 7, 2024: Asberry Davis: Run Your Own Way: The Art Preserve of the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, 3636 Lower Falls Road, Sheboygan, WI 53081. Art Exhibition: 4 works believed to be the only surviving pieces from Davis' art environment.

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 14, 2024: Cloth Origins: Journey: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

RING IN The New Year!



JOIN The Village at 170 TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH DINNER & DUELING PIANOS

DECEMBER 31, 2023
DOORS OPEN at 6:00 pm
DINNER at 7:00 pm
DUELING PIANOS at 9:00 pm

\$98.00 per Person
*Tables Available

Includes: Beef Tenderloin, Salmon, Chicken Marsala, Rice Pilaf, a Bundle of Vegetables, and a Delicious Dessert.

CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT

FOR TICKETS CALL JEFF AT 920.918.0352 OR EMAIL: thevillageat170@gmail.com



The VILLAGE at 170
170 Rangeline Road • Kohler
920-467-2584 • village170.com

Motorcoach Tours... A most rewarding Discovery



Outer Banks of North Carolina
Saturday, June 1 - Saturday, June 8, 2024

Come explore the outer banks of North Carolina with Discovery Tours. Fun filled, informative and beautiful scenery awaits. Oh, and lots of lighthouses!



Double Occupancy: \$2540. Call our office for more information!

Discovery Tours
1139 Pennsylvania Avenue • Sheboygan
920-459-2960 800-444-2960

Office Hours Mon-Thur 8-4 Fri 8-12

Many more One-Day & Extended Tours available! Call for a free brochure or visit www.discoverycoachtours.com

believed to be the only surviving pieces from Davis' art environment.

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 14, 2024: Cloth Origins: Textiles from the HMong Journey: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. An homage to the creativity of HMong ancestors and living artists, this exhibition features works by three HMong artists, unraveling ancient practices rooted in human connections, landscapes, and ancestral wisdom.

NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 4, 2023: Recent Acquisition: Mary Jo Schwalbach: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Recent Acquisition: Mary Jo Schwalbach will showcase a selection of the artist's so-called "collages," made from detritus gathered on the shores of Lake Michigan.

NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 18, 2024: Bea Fremderman: Weeds Compared to Flowers: Bea Fremderman collects discarded detritus, assembling her gatherings as sculptures which are internally illuminated, emanating the textures of their parts and refracting forms and color resulting in an immersive installation.

NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 18, 2024: Sunny Leerasanthanah: Naturalization: In a newly commissioned multimedia installation, artist Sunny Leerasanthanah uses invasive species as a lens to look at human immigration and xenophobia in the United States.

NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 25, 2024: Rose B. Simpson: Counterculture: The Art Preserve of the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, 3636 Low-

er Falls Road, Sheboygan, WI 53081. Art Exhibition: Seven cast-concrete figures act as witnesses—reminders that the natural world is continuously watching humanity. **NOW THROUGH APRIL 21, 2024: Sharing the Same Breath:** Nine artists consider the world's complex web of kinship and connectivity. Featuring works by Juan William Chávez, David Freid, Lindsey French, Emilie Louise Gossiaux, Nina Katchadourian, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Marie Watt, William Wegman, and Dyani White Hawk.

NOW THROUGH JUNE 16, 2024: Cloth as Land: HMong Indigeneity: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., John Michael Kohler Arts Center, 608 New York Ave., Sheboygan. Centering the voices of three HMong-

American artists, Cloth as Land investigates a place for HMong Indigeneity within contemporary HMong art.

710 N 8th Street, Sheboygan
www.meadpl.org
920-459-3400

Mead Public Library has announced its events and classes featuring educational, cultural and social activities for children, teens and adults. For a complete list, including

EVENTS AT MEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Sly's Midtown Saloon
And Grill

508 N 8TH ST, SHEBOYGAN • 920.783.6644



\$100 OFF Regular Price Food Purchase of \$10 or more

Sly's Midtown Saloon and Grill. Not valid on brat special. With this coupon from The Review at time of purchase. Limit one per customer. Not valid with any other offer. Expires January 31, 2024.

Sound Advice

SUSAN L FENRICH, BC-HIS*, President
Welsch Hearing Aid Company, Inc.
"CELEBRATING 58 YEARS OF SERVICE!"
2223 S Memorial Place, Sheboygan 53081
*Board Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences



Better Hearing This Holiday Could Be "Glad Tidings"!
By Susan L Fenrich, BC-HIS, Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences

During the holiday season, all the way to the New Year celebrations, people everywhere will be hosting or attending joyful, noisy gatherings. But if you have an untreated hearing loss, all the laughter and conversation around you may not be music to your ears. Instead of feeling closer to your family and friends you may feel isolated. If you can't hear well and participate in the conversations and festivities, you may spend the holiday season feeling sad. Not the joy you should be feeling at this time of the year. But help is available.

Another Silent Night?

Sometimes silence is golden – like when your ears are under assault from dangerously loud noises, and you find yourself wishing for some peace and quiet. But living in total silence or hearing only muffled sounds is not healthy for your well-being. Numerous studies have shown that untreated hearing loss has a negative impact on relationships, as well as on social and work-related interactions. This often leads people to feel embarrassment, loneliness, isolation, and depression.

The good news is that there is encouraging evidence to suggest that the use of assistive technology with hearing loss can improve all aspects of our lives. One research study noted that with the use of hearing aids participants

experienced improvement in hearing and quality of life within a few short weeks. There is no reason to wait any longer to get your hearing tested. Make that the first item on your holiday "to-do" list. Give the gift of better hearing to yourself!

All I Want for Christmas Are Digital Hearing Aids!

This year, every main hearing aid manufacturer has made improvements to their digital hearing aid technology. Hearing with hearing aids is so much better than before, making conversations clearer, while minimizing that background noise during family get-togethers. Hearing aid users today are just saying that "Everything is clearer!" In addition, many improvements have been made to help hearing on both Apple and most Android smart phones and even Bluetooth flip phones. Some smart phone apps even allow you to customize your own hearing programs. But don't forget that using smart phones with your hearing aids is a get to and not a have too.

Now is the best time of the year to Test Drive a pair of hearing aids so you can see how well you hear your friends and family during your Holiday Gatherings. Don't let this Christmas be another "Silent Night!" Call Welsch Hearing Aid Company at 920-452-0213 to schedule your hearing test today!



ADDITIONAL WALL Fundraiser!

This will allow more veteran's names to be added!

Recognition Partners

- Title Partners • \$20,000 and over**
 - Title Branding on all material and onsite displays on dedication day
 - Posters, flyers, releases, website, banners, print, radio mentions
 - Name engraved on the SCVM Donor Wall
- Associate Partners • \$10,000 and over**
 - Associate Branding on all materials and onsite displays on dedication day
 - Posters, flyers, releases, website, banners, print, radio mentions
 - Name engraved on the SCVM Donor Wall
- Support Partners • \$5,000 and over**
 - Support Branding on all materials and onsite displays
 - Branding on banners, website, posters and event programs
 - Name engraved on the SCVM Donor Wall
 - Recognition during dedication day program
- Helper • \$1,000 and over**
 - Mentioned in the Dedication event programs
 - Name engraved on the SCVM Donor Wall

Any donation under \$1,000 is greatly appreciated as well!

SCVM is a 501C-3 Non-Profit Organization

Please send your donations to:

Sheboygan County Veterans Memorial
P.O. Box 953
Sheboygan, WI 53082-0953

For more information, contact Allen Nohl, SCVM Chairman at:
920-207-1196 or anolh@excel.net

www.scvmemorial.org

storytimes, book clubs, movies and workshops, and to register visit our website or call.

All programs are free and open to the public, with funding provided by the Friends of Mead Public Library and the Mead Library Foundation.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12: Drop-In Tech Help: 1-2 p.m., The Loft, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Offering one-on-one help with e-content, mobile devices, social media, email, photos and more. 920-459-3400.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12: Ukulele Lessons with Lil' Rev: 6:30-7:30 p.m., The Loft, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Learn to play "Asheville Junction" in this free ukulele class taught by Sheboygan musician Lil' Rev. Register at the www.

meadpl.org events calendar or call 459-3400.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18: Winter Gardening Workshop: 5:45-7:45 p.m., The Loft, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Learn about pruning, winter weeding, bulbs, winter sewing and other cold-weather gardening activities in this free workshop with Christina Wilke-Burbach. Register at the www.meadpl.org events calendar or call 459-3400.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19: Bitty Book Club: 9:30-10:30 a.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m., The Loft, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Join staff from the Family Resource Center and Progressive Beginnings as they bring stories to life with book-themed activities. Receive a free to take home (while sup-

plies last). Recommended for ages 2-5. 920-459-3400.

EVENTS AT ELKHART LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY
All of these events take place at Elkhart Lake Public Library 40 Pine Street, Elkhart Lake 920-876-2554
elkhartlakepubliclibrary.org

EVERY WEDNESDAY: Coffee Hour & Book Chat: 10 am, library. Coffee, conversation, and a sneak peek at this week's new releases.

EVERY THURSDAY: Toddler/Preschool Story Time: 9:30 am, library. Stories, songs, and activities for children age 5 and under and their caregivers.

SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH: Book Club:

1:00 pm, Grashorn Civic Center. For more information and our current selection, please email elcirc@monarchlibraries.org.

EVENTS AT PLYMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

All of these events take place in the Plymouth Public Library's Meeting Room: 130 Division Street, Plymouth, WI 53073 and are free and open to the public. 920-892-4416. See our website www.plymouthpubliclibrary.net for full details.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: Drop-In Math Help: 3:00-6:00 pm. For grades 6-12. Bring your math homework and our expert will help you out. No registration required.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12: Teen Snack & Chat: 3:00 pm For 11-18. Join us for snacks and hang out with your friends.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13: Craft Club: 3:30pm Need a break from holiday stress? Join us to create paper snowflakes! Ages 9+.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14: Game Night: 4:30 pm. For all ages. A fun place to play your favorite board games or a new one. No registration required.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18: Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Club: 6:00 pm. We are discussing The Bear and the Nightingale by Katherine Arden. Join us for one or both sessions. No registration required.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19: Teen Anime & Manga

Please call your church or check online for updates

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

SHEBOYGAN

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Grace based - Christ centered - Biblically rooted
2411 Weeden Creek Rd. Sheboygan
(across from Jackson Elementary School)
920-452-4860

Sunday School 9:00am
Sunday Worship 10:15am

Wednesday 6:00pm- AWANA Children & Youth Ministry - for ages 3-18 (Sep thru April)
www.bbcshsheboygan.org

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

428 Geele Avenue • 920-458-3112
www.ChristCommunitySheboygan.org

Watch our online service live every Sunday on Facebook, Wednesdays 10am on TV8 (WSCS)
Sunday Schedule

9:00am Sunday School for all ages during the school year
10:00am Morning Worship
Come grow with us!

CONGREGATION BETH EL

1007 North Ave.
Jewish Shabbat Services
Saturdays 10:15-11:45

follow by a luncheon and conversation
Jewish holidays celebrated
Religious School ages 5 and up
Website: Facebook-Beth El Congregation

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

3836 Enterprise Dr. Sheboygan, WI
Service times


Sunday School 10am, Morning Worship 11am,
Evening Worship 6pm, Wed Evening 7pm
www.cornerstoneofsheboygan.org
You have Friends at Cornerstone!
(920) 207-6019

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Christian Science Services and Reading Room
2512 North 9th Street • 920-458-2673

Christian Science is based on the teachings and healing works of Christ Jesus

We invite you to our church to find peace, comfort & healing with God's Blessings during the Holiday Season & into the New Year!
10:00am Sunday - Church Service and Sunday School
7:30pm Wednesday - Testimony Meeting

Child care provided 

Reading Room Hours:
Wednesday 6:30-7:30pm

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month 10am-1pm

Please visit our website & Listen to the "Daily Lift" Devotions, Weekly "Sentinel Watch" Inspirational Podcasts & Testimonies of Healing!

ChristianScienceSheboygan.com

(Our church is not associated in any way with Scientology)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SHEBOYGAN


1429 North Fifth Street, Sheboygan • (920) 457-7891

EMAIL: fpcsheboygan@gmail.com

WEBSITE: fpcsheboygan.org

Reverend Cyndy Little

Join us for Sunday Worship Services

and Wednesday Bible Study 

Sunday Services:

Zoom Service 9:00 AM • Church Service 10:00 AM

Wednesday BIBLE STUDY 2:30 PM

FELLOWSHIP AFTER CHURCH SERVICE

EVERY FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY

FOUNTAIN PARK GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

N. 9th & Erie Avenue • 920-452-1319

Pastor Warren Waddell

"Still following the word of God as it is written!"

Saturday Worship 5:00pm • Sunday Worship 9:00am

For more information visit:

Website: www.fountainparkgmc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/FountainParkGMC

Sunday school for all ages 10:15am

Free Community Meal for those in need

every first Sunday from 4:30-5:30pm

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1011 N. 7th Street in Sheboygan • 920-452-9659

www.gracesheboygan.com

Sunday Worship Schedule:

8:00 a.m. Mass

9:00 a.m. Adult and Children's Formation

10:15 a.m. Mass with Organ Music and online live streaming

Weekday Worship Schedule:

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Sunday-Thursday

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Sunday-Thursday

5:00 p.m. Corporate Rosary, Monday

6:00 p.m. Mass, Wednesday

All Saints Chapel Summer Worship Schedule:

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.,

Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day,

Weddings by appointment

N7902 County Rd. P in Elkhart Lake

All are welcome!

OAKBROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH

1624 Broadway Avenue • 920-457-0801

Pastor Jim Hess

Sunday Worship 10:00am

Service of Family & Belonging

 oakbrookcommunitychurch

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

1019 N 7th Street, Sheboygan 920-458-4343

Pastor Tyler Werner

Sunday Worship 9:00am with Holy Communion

Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10:00am

Watch Sunday services LIVE on facebook.com and connect

with us on our website at stmarksheboygan.com

UNITY SPIRITUAL CENTER

A Gathering Place for Spiritual Growth

2409 North 8th Street • 920-452-5447

Sunday Service: 10:30am

www.unityofsheboygan.org

Contemporary Music

Senior Spiritual Leader:

Rev. Aubree-Lynn Maugeri

Connect with Us On Facebook

http://Facebook.com/UnityofSheboygan



105 Pine Street, Sheboygan Falls
920-467-4181



FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES, llc



Celebrating life of the individual, the family, & the community

123 South Street
Plymouth
920-449-5455



433 Monroe Street, Sheboygan Falls
920-467-3192 Open: Mon.-Fri. 8-5



600 Broadway, Sheboygan Falls
920-467-2606
www.bloominonbroadway.com

Call us to get your church listed in this directory of Weekly Worship Services... 920-893-6411 x14

Club: 4:00 pm. For ages 11-18. Nerd out about your favorite fandom as we talk and watch anime. No registration required.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21: Lego Club: 4:00 p.m. For ages 6+. Show us your LEGO skills and creativity, as you create your LEGO masterpiece with friends. No registration required.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22: No School Friday Movie: 11:00am For all ages. No school? No problem! Join us at

our free movie event. Check the website for more details.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28: Reading Dragons Monthly Meet-Up: 4:00 p.m. For 1st-5th graders. Join your fellow Dragon Trainers to play games, eat snacks and do crafts.

EVENTS AT GENERATIONS

Generations Center
1500 Douglas Dr., Plymouth
920-892-4858

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12: Plymouth Bird & Nature Club Holiday Celebration/Fundraiser: 6:30pm. Call Gena at 920-528-7430 for more information.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15: DIY Wreath Making: 11:00am. \$10 per participant. Fee includes supplies, instruction, and the final product. RSVPs are required by the 13th. RSVP to 920-892-4858.

GENERATIONS CENTER MONTHLY ACTIVITIES: 1500

DOUGLAS DR., PLYMOUTH. 920-892-4858

Foot Clinic: Various Fridays and Thursdays. Call 920-892-4821 for appointment.

Chair Massage: Various Mondays and Thursdays. Call 920-892-4821 for appointment.

Silver Sneakers Circuit: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, 8:00am & 10:00am. Must pre-register.

Chair Pilates: Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 11:00am. Must pre-register.

Chair Yoga: Monday, 10:00am. Must pre-register.

Cardio Fit: Tuesday & Thursday, 7:30am. Must pre-register.

Walk Fit: Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30am. Must pre-register.

Arthritis Exercise Class: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30am & 11:00am. Must pre-register.

Tai Chi Chih: Tuesday & Thursday, 1:15pm. Must pre-register.

Tat & Chat: Monday, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

Wii Bowling: Tuesday & Thursday, by appointment. Must pre-register.

Ceramics: Wednesday, 9:00am. Must pre-register.

Ping Pong: Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:00am. Must pre-register.

Strength and Conditioning: Mondays & Wednesdays 7:15am. Must pre-register.

Yoga Flow: Mondays & Wednesdays 9:00am. Must pre-register.

Yoga for Balance and Stability: Fridays 9:00am. Must pre-register.

Book Club: 4th Monday of the month 3:00pm. Must pre-register.

Dog Club: 2nd Friday of the month 11:00am. Must pre-register.

Hiking/Snowshoe Club: Thursdays, 2:00pm. Must pre-register.

Cribbage: Mondays, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

Hand and Foot Canasta: Mondays, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

Duplicate Bridge: 1st and 3rd Mondays, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

5 10 15 Sheepshead: Tuesdays, 1:00pm and Mondays & Fridays, 8:00am. Must pre-register.

Farkle: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

Quarter Sheepshead: Fridays, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

Party Bridge: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1:15pm. Must pre-register.

Dominoes: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1:00pm. Must pre-register

Bingo: Wednesdays, 1:30pm. Must pre-register.

Scrabble: Thursdays, 9:30am. Must pre-register.

Mah Jongg: Thursdays, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

Widow or Widower Support Group: Mondays, 11:00am. Must pre-register.

Travel Program - Various trips: Call 920-892-4858 for more information.

EVERY MONDAY

T.O.P.S. Weight Loss Support: 9:45am-11:00am. St Paul's U.C.C., Sheboygan. Call Noreen for info 920-467-1248.

T.O.P.S. Weight Loss Support--Chapter WI 1363: 10:00am-11:15am. Fountain Park UMC, Sheboygan. Call Doreen for more info: 920-893-8118.

Al-Anon Meeting: 4-5pm. Do you worry about someone else's drinking? Help and hope are available. Al-Anon meeting for those affected by another's alcoholism. Rightway Club, 4627 S 12th St, Sheboygan. Call 1-888-425-2666 or visit al-anon.org for more information.

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My name is Dr. Jeff Wild, owner of Wild Chiropractic. Over the past 35 years since we've opened the doors, I've seen thousands of people leave the office with back pain relief.

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Life is too short to let pain slow you down. Call now. 458-8886.

For information on the services at Wild Chiropractic, check us out at chiropractorsheboyganwi.com

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SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Compassionate Parents: Grief Support for Families that lost a child. 6:00pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore at Mental Health America 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.
THRIVE: Women's Chronic Pain Support. 6:30pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore virtual through ZOOM. Contact MHA Lakeshore 920-458-3951 for more information.

Lakeshore at Mead Public Library-Rocco Room. 710 N. 8th St., Sheboygan.

EVERY TUESDAY

Camo Quilt Project: 439 Factory St., Plymouth. 9am-3pm. Quilts are donated to soldiers. Linda, 627-3460, linda.camoquilt@gmail.com.
GriefShare Support Group: Evangelical Free Church, 1710 N. 15th St., Sheboygan, 9:30am-11am. Support for those who've lost a loved one. 920-452-6520.
Plymouth Food Pantry: 2225 Eastern Ave., 2-5pm. Elkhart Lake & Plymouth school districts. Call 893-2989 for information.
Knight Chess: Sheboygan Falls Library, Lower Level.

4-7pm. Information (920) 234-2010.

T.O.P.S. Weight Loss Support: 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. 1st Presbyterian Church, 1429 N. 5th Street, Sheboygan. Call Jane for info: 1-414-698-6346.
LGBTQ+ 12 Step Recovery Program: 6:00pm. The Right Way Club, 4627 South 12th Street, Sheboygan. Ask for Dan L. 920-226-8145.

Al-Anon: 6:30pm. Alliance Church, 1203 Fairview Dr, Plymouth, 6:30pm. Use the south door. 920-254-2097

The Sheboygan Railroad Museum: 6:30 to 9:00 PM. 1001 North 10th St., Sheboygan. Home to 8 train layouts in various scales and many railroad antiques. Open for your viewing pleasure.

Concordia Singing Society: Rehearsals 7:00-8:30pm, 1130 N. 9th St, Sheboygan. Knowledge of German not required. Info: 815-883-0035. concordiasingerswi.org

Alliant Energy Wives and Widows of Retirees Breakfast: 9:00 a.m. Sheboygan Family Restaurant. 2704 S. Business Drive.
Lemonade: Widow's support group. 6:00-7:30pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore at Roger's Behavior Health (Main Entrance) 1108 S. Wildwood Ave., Sheboygan.

OF THE MONTH

There is Hope Suicide Loss: Support for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. 6:30pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore at Mental Health America 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly): Weight Loss Support Meeting: 9:00-10:30 a.m. Sheboygan Falls Library. 9-10:30 a.m. First meeting is FREE! For more info, please call Riki at 920-946-2425 or check out www.tops.org.

Camo Quilt Project: 439 Factory St., Plymouth. 9am-3pm. Quilts are donated to soldiers. Linda, 627-3460, linda.camoquilt@gmail.com
Al-Anon Meeting: 9:30-10:30am. Do you worry about someone else's drinking? Help and hope are available. Al-Anon meeting for those affected by another's alcoholism. Rightway Club, 4627 S 12th St, Sheboygan. Call 1-888-425-2666 or visit al-anon.org for more information.

Coffee Hour & Chat: Elkhart Lake Public Library, 40 Pine St, 10am. 920-876-2554.

Al-Anon Wednesday Winners: 1907 Club, N 21st St., Sheboygan, 9:30am. Call 920-838-5249 for more information.

Al-Anon Serenity Seekers: Meets at Right Way Club, 4627 S. 12th St, Sheboygan, 9:30am. Call 920-918-6324 for information.

Family Nights: * NOT IN JUNE, JULY OR AUGUST
 * Plymouth Alliance Church, 1203 Fairview Drive, 6:00-7:30pm. Family night offers something for everyone! Kids

LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Here Comes the Sun: Support for family and friends of an adult with mental illness. 5:30-7:00pm. Hosted by MHA

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PreK-5th meet for Rooted, youth 6th-12th grade meet for Anchored, and adults meet for small groups. Nursery is also available for infants and toddlers. 920-893-5525

Divorce Care: A faith-based program offering help, hope & healing for those in all stages of divorce. Will meet on Wednesday nights as interest/need demand. Please contact Dana at 920-980-7637 for meeting details and see divorcecare.org for program information.

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Vollrath Company Retirees Breakfast Club: Fountain Park Restaurant, 922 N. 8th St, Sheboygan. 8:15 am. Call 920-287-7419 for more details.

Over 60+ in our county? (AACC) Adell Area Community Center, 510 Seifert St, Adell (920) 994-9934, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Mary Kempf your Elder Benefit Specialist from the Aging Disability Resource Center. Please give Mary a call at 920-467-4076 before stopping to make sure she has an open appointment or send an email to mary.kempf@sheboygancounty.com.

Overdose Loss: Support for those that lost someone to overdose. 6:00-7:00pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore at Mental Health America 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Fostering Support: Support for parents and guardians in the fostering and kinship care world. 6:00-7:00pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore at Mental Health America 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Over 60+ in our county? (AACC) Adell Area Community Center, 510 Seifert St, Adell (920) 994-9934, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Mary Kempf your Elder Benefit Specialist from the Aging Disability Resource Center. Please give Mary a call at 920-467-4076 before stopping to make sure she has an open appointment or send an email to mary.kempf@sheboygancounty.com.

EVERY THURSDAY

Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry: 529 Giddings Ave, Sheboygan Falls. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Please remember to bring the following each time you visit: Photo ID, Current Utility Bill, Paper Grocery Bags.

Storytime: Elkhart Lake Public Library, 40 Pine Street, Elkhart Lake. 9:30 am. Stories, songs, and activities! No registration required. Call (920) 876-2554 or email elcirc@monarchlibraries.org for more information.

AA Step & Tradition Study: Grace Episcopal Church, 1011 N 7th St., Sheboygan, 10am. Use the Ontario Street entrance.
North Side Christian Food Pantry: 2133 N. 22nd St., Sheboygan, 12:30-2pm. Call 920-458-7070 for information.

Overeaters Anonymous Meeting: 4:30pm - 5:30pm. Our Redeemer Church, 1808 Eastern Avenue, Plymouth. OA is a fellowship of individuals who through shared experiences, strength and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. Please use back door with key coder. 920-889-3719.

Spirit Within: Rogers Behavioral Health, Community Room, 1108 S Wildwood Ave, Sheboygan. 4:45 PM. A meeting of collective, spiritual support for anyone interested in exploring their spiritual path,

whatever that means to them. All beliefs and views are welcomed. No cost or need to register.

GriefShare Support Group: Evangelical Free Church, 1710 N. 15th St., Sheboygan. 6:30-8pm. Support for those who have lost a loved one. 920-452-6520.

HHT A cappella (Plymouth Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society) meets every Thursday at 7 pm to 9:00 pm at Generations, Intergenerational Center, 1500 Douglas Drive, Plymouth (enter on north side of building) All singers welcome. Free voice lessons. No need to read music as learning CD's are provided. Rehearsing for our upcoming Christmas Season. For additional info call Jim 920-946-6703 or Bill at 920-980-1733.

SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
Women Within: Rogers Behavioral Health community room, 1108 S Wildwood Ave, Sheboygan. 6:30 PM. Making our wellbeing and need for connection a priority in our lives. All women are welcome. No cost or need to register. Any questions, call or text Jill at 920-609-5151.

THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
Free Parent-Tot Skate: 9:30-10:30am. Sheboygan Lakers Ice Center, 1202 S Wildwood Ave, Sheboygan. FREE for Kids ages 5 and under. Skate rental included. Helmets are strongly encouraged. 920-458-3111.

EVERY SATURDAY
Let it Begin with Me Al-anon Meeting: 1907 Club, 2908 N. 21st St., Sheboygan, 9:30am. Call Debbie, 207-2774 or Mark

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SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry: 529 Giddings Ave, Sheboygan Falls. 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM. Please remember to bring the following each time you visit: Photo ID, Current Utility Bill, Paper Grocery Bags.

Plymouth Button Box Club: 10am-Noon. Plymouth Library, 130 Division Street, Plymouth. Learn about and marvel at the history and beauty of buttons. All are welcome who are also intrigued by these little pieces of art. Questions? Email btnplywi@gmail.com.

THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
Lakeshore Miniature Makers, builders of dollhouses, roomboxes, etc. Trinity Lutheran Church, 6522 South Business Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081 9 am to 3 pm. New members always welcome. Call Elaine at 920-452-4798 for more information.

The Sheboygan Railroad Museum: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. 1001 North 10th St., Sheboygan. Home to 8 train layouts in various scales and many railroad antiques. Open for your viewing pleasure.

FOURTH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
Women Within: 1907 Club, 2908 N 21st St, Sheboygan. 11:00 AM. No cost or need to register. Any questions, call or text Jill at 920-609-5151.

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COURT REPORT

November 20 to November 24, 2023
 Court was not held Thursday or Friday due to the Thanksgiving holiday.
Revoke Probation
Lewis, Gerivonne M., 12/5/1997, Sheboygan, Jail 16 months, Still owes \$1,441.00.
Traffic
Brachmann, Jeffrey D., 2/1961, Sheboygan, Inattentive Driving, \$200.50.
Eisner, Elliot D., 4/1997, Sheboygan, Operate after Revocation/Suspension of Registration, Speeding on Freeway (20-24 mph), \$451.40.
Malueg, Jacob A., 3/30/1990, She-

boygan, Operate w/PAC (2nd), Jail 10 days, License Revoke 12 months, Ignition Interlock 12 months, \$1,441.00.
Mendez, Edvino P., 10/1971, Sheboygan, Fail/Yield Right/Way from Stop Sign (Resulting Bodily Harm), \$389.50.
Merritt, Lesley R., 12/1996, Driving Wrong Way on Divided Highway, \$326.50.
Sobczak, Myca J., 5/2004, Sheboygan, Operate Left of Center, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, \$413.60.
Vannice, Christian Lee, 6/2000, Sheboygan, Fail/Stop at Stop Sign, \$175.30.
Operating while Revoked
Carter, Joseph L., 4/3/1994, Sheboygan, (due to alcohol/controlled substance/refusal), \$654.00.
Soto, Daniel E., 4/3/1988, Sheboygan, (due to alcohol/controlled substance/refusal), \$528.00.

Operate w/o Carrying License
Gotchy, Nic C., 5/28/1966, Sheboygan, \$217.10.
Hernandez, Armando A., 4/8/1992, Sheboygan, \$217.10.
Howard, Angel S., 10/25/1998, Sheboygan, \$217.10.
Husby, Makenzie Lee, 1/20/2001, Sheboygan, \$217.10.
Mata, Megan K., 6/4/1995, Sheboygan, \$217.10.
Waechter, Amber M., 2/27/1998, Sheboygan, \$217.10.
Operate a Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance
Cruz Garcia, Anthony C., 5/2001, Sheboygan, \$200.50.
Misdemeanors and other charges
Blackburn, Jessica L., 9/18/1997, Sheboygan, Retail Theft-Intentionally Take (<=\$500), (Misdemeanor), Operate w/Restricted Controlled Substance, (1st w/ Minor Passenger <16

years), (Traffic), Jail 12 months (imposed/stayed), License Revoked 12 months, Ignition Interlock 12 months, \$1,910.00.
Lampe, Richard A., 4/7/1994, Sheboygan, Obstructing an Officer, (Misdemeanor), Possession of Marijuana (<25 g), (Forfeiture) Jail 9 months (imposed/stayed), \$885.50.
Matulewicz, Brian W., 12/29/1994, Sheboygan, Resist/Failing to Stop, (Misdemeanor), OWI (1st) (Traffic), Jail 45 days, Community Service 100 hours, License Revoke 9 months, Ignition Interlock 12 months, \$1,467.00.
Misdemeanors
Cruz-Otero, Kenneth Y., 12/21/1997, Sheboygan, Retail Theft-Intentionally Take (<\$500) (3 counts), Jail 30 days (stayed), \$1,351.00.
Mcalister, Michael J.T., 9/9/1990, Sheboygan, Resisting or Obstructing an Officer, Resisting/Failing to Stop, Disorderly Conduct, Jail 30 days (stayed), \$1,739.00.
Mederos, Steve R., 2/15/1977, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct w/Use of Dangerous Weapon, \$666.00.

Ringel, Jalen M., 7/6/1992, Sheboygan, Possession of THC (Repeater), Jail 30 days (stayed), Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$455.00.
Schoen, Cary R., 12/23/1975, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct, \$591.00.
Wojculis, Dustin A., 8/13/1977, Sheboygan, Retail Theft-Intentionally Take (<=\$500), (3 counts), \$1,351.00.
Felonies
Grams, Brianna Lee, 1/27/1984, Sheboygan, Possession of Methamphetamine, Jail 4 months, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$530.00.
King, Devin A., 7/2/1987, Sheboygan, 2nd degree Sexual Assault of Child (2 counts), 3rd degree Sexual Assault (3 counts), Expose Genitals/Pubic Area/Intimate Parts to Child, Expose Child to Harmful Material, Prison 20 years, Extended Supervision 10 years, Sex Offender Registry, \$3,768.20.
Wilburn, Andron A., 12/23/1979, Sheboygan, Battery (Domestic Abuse-Repeater), Prison 18 months (imposed and stayed), Extended Supervision 6 months (imposed and stayed), \$630.00.



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Hello friends,
The fun and games The Red Brush Gang has while staying at our temporary home in the Meadow Valley Wildlife Area in northern Juneau County has come to an end.

There are hundreds of square miles to explore and the entire last seven days of the deer gun season is all drives for the gang and they are extremely physical, sometimes wet, and these days, as much as I hate to say it, we are the last ones to the dinner table and there isn't much meat.

In simple terms, where we hunt, a very solid population of wolves have consumed many of the deer before we arrive and especially as the years pass.

Friday, November 24th
High 27, low 14

Today, most of the gang came back to camp and our total amount of guns for the season would be 21. So far, we have whacked one buck, as embarrassing as that is to say (I have always told it like it is in this column).

On Monday we started our drives. They are generally

in one-mile squares, but we did not see a buck. On Tuesday we did not see a buck. Today we hunted a very unique area where there has been a long-term project to restore the Little Yellow River in The Necedah National Wildlife Refuge and the project is being undertaken by the staff at the refuge. I have hunted the banks, or should I say dikes, of this river since 1971 and it is very interesting to see what is happening. With the restoration there is a lot more water on what would be the outside of the dikes and it is very obvious that with fresher and more water more habitat is being created.

On the other hand, I was in what would be the deepest water today on our first drive and this water was frozen but not quite enough to hold my weight. Towards the end of the drive, I broke through in mid-thigh deep water and when I tumbled forward, both of my feet crisscrossed and got tangled in some red brush under the ice.

Simply put, I was floundering and my nephew had to come in for an ice rescue. On the next drive I fell forward in the same situation, did not require an ice rescue and when we made it back to the truck at the end of the day, my clothes were frozen solid.

Saturday, November 25th
High 29, low 18

The best part about not getting any deer is that we are well aware that we get to go to camp and have as much fun until well after midnight as possible. There is not a complaint about our lack of success, or should I say empty deer pole. If you have been reading this for very many years, you are well aware, we used to fill the pole.

This year, as usual, our buck contest ended on Monday night and Tim Rittmeyer won the "Buck Cup." He will now get to put his name and the size of his buck on, which was a fork horn and dare I say, four

points smaller than the next closest buck on the cup. Tim loves his wife and children, and especially himself, but the loving, hugging and kissing the Buck Cup got every night and especially the fact that yours truly did not win, made it appear that this was the best week of his life. Tim also wanted everyone to know that he got the only buck in camp. Today, we drove new country in much drier land, and we all had a good feeling before and after our day. We had the kids take charge (25- to 36-year-olds) and us old-timers just followed orders. On our last drive, a buck was actually spotted and even a bullet was flung in its direction but to no avail, as it was wearing a bullet proof vest; naturally on the same drive a wolf was also spotted.

Hopefully the local wolf population all goes Vegan and maybe we will get two bucks next year!

Sunset



November 27, 2023 to December 1, 2023

DCA

Banko, Nicholas R., 7/14/1994, Sheboygan, Bail Jumping (Felony-DCA-1 year), Battery, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse), Disorderly Conduct, Jail 90 days (45 days stayed), \$455.00.

Haggins, Demivory N., 9/7/2002, Sheboygan, Strangulation and Suffocation (Felony-DCA), Disorderly Conduct, Battery (Domestic Abuse), Resisting/Obstructing an Officer, (Misdemeanors), Jail 127 days, \$1516.20.

Palmer, Darrick V., 4/27/1994, Sheboygan, Substantial Battery-Intend Bodily Harm, (Felony-DCA-1 year), Bail Jumping (Felony-DCA-1 year), Disorderly Conduct, (Misdemeanor), \$591.00.

Revoke Probation

Hernandez, Spencer B., 11/21/2001, Sheboygan, Prison 7 years, Extended Supervision 8 years, Still owes \$204.00.

Forfeitures

Daniels, Katherine L., 11/1992, Sheboygan, Trespass to Land, Littering, \$464.00.

Hernandez, Gabriela, 7/1980, Sheboygan, Resisting/Obstructing an Officer, Disorderly Conduct, \$716.00.

Leonhardt, Kenya T., 7/1999, Sheboygan, Retail Theft, \$389.50.

Weiss, Steven S., 1/1990, Sheboygan, Trespass to Land, Littering, \$464.00.

Traffic and other charges

Hutchison, Tristin A., 8/3/1996, Sheboygan, OWI (2nd) (Traffic), Bail Jumping (Misdemeanor), Jail 20 days, License Revoke 16 months, Ignition Interlock 16 months, \$2,023.00.

Wilke, Jessie R., 5/21/1991, Sheboygan, OWI (4th), (Traffic), Bail Jumping (Felony), Prison 14 months, Extended Supervision 2 years, License Revoke Lifetime, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$7,198.18.

Traffic

Flores, Maria L., 7/23/1986, Sheboygan, Operating while Revoked (due to alcohol/controlled substance/refusal), \$654.00.

Gabrielse, Cherie Ann, 7/1971, Sheboygan, Speedometer Violations, \$175.30.

Mason, Vanessa M., 3/1970, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle

w/o Insurance, Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto, Operating while Suspended, \$576.30.

Mobley, Joshua A., 11/1999, Sheboygan, Unreasonable and Imprudent Speed, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Proof of Insurance, \$223.10.

Reyes Ortiz, Irma, 7/1983, Sheboygan, Exceeding Speed Zones, (20-24 mph), Possess Open Intoxicants in Motor Vehicle-Driver, \$489.20.

Schwartz, Marcel A., 1/1993, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Fail/Stop at Stop Sign, Operate after Revocation/Suspension of Registration, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, \$751.60.

York, Amy S., 1/1979, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Operating while Suspended, \$401.00.

Operate w/o Valid License

Frei, Kevin J., 6/1970, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Krebsbach, Brandan M.,

10/1990, \$200.50.

Operate a Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance

Jines, Dangelo D., 3/1990, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Stipe, Dultin S., 11/2001, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto

Karls, Daniel Lee, 12/1977, Sheboygan, \$175.30.

Novak, Rebecca A., 7/1980, Sheboygan, \$175.30.

Speeding on Freeway

Mervar, Peter J., 6/2002, Sheboygan, (25-29 mph), \$515.50.

Exceeding Speed Zones

Stubblefield, Wyatt D., 7/2004, Sheboygan, (1-10 mph), \$200.50.

Trilling, Carter D., 6/2004, Sheboygan, (1-10 mph), \$175.30.

OWI

Bensing-Lange, Devlin I., 8/2000, Sheboygan, License Revoke 6 months, Ignition Interlock

12 months, \$968.00.

Trilling, Justine A., 7/26/1965, Sheboygan, (2nd), Jail 5 days, License 15 months, Ignition Interlock 15 months, \$1,630.00.

Misdemeanors

Byrd, Willie, 4/12/1970, Sheboygan, Carry Concealed Weapon, Possession of THC, \$1390.50.

Christmas, Spencer L., 5/18/1994, Sheboygan, Criminal Damage to Property, Disorderly Conduct, Bail Jumping, \$1363.00.

Johnson, Brianna, 4/27/1999, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse), Criminal Damage to Property (Domestic Abuse), \$1,108.00.

Marver, Hunter R., 1/16/2004, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct, Resisting/Obstructing an Officer, \$898.00.

Pointer, Alan T., 8/17/1990, Sheboygan, Carry Concealed Weapon, \$471.00.

Felonies

Fennessy, Stephanie C.A.,

9/1/1990, Sheboygan, Retail Theft-Intentionally Take (>\$500-\$5000), Jail 45 days, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$540.00.

Kuhfuss, Brian L., 5/25/1972, Sheboygan, 2nd Degree Sexual Assault of Child, Prison 25 years, Extended Supervision 15 years, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, Sex Offender Registry, \$1,580.00.

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Holiday Gift Guide

Check out this issue for ideas on Christmas gifts for everyone on your shopping list.

A guide to dining out for holidays

For some people there is no better way to celebrate the holidays than to spend time with friends and loved ones around the dinner table.

Although cooking and dining at home are popular this time of year, some celebrants may not have the time or the inclination to host the holidays at home.

Preparing and serving holiday meals to guests can be

time-consuming. In fact, many holiday hosts and hostesses lament that hosting duties can compromise the time they get to spend with the ones they love each year.

Dining out is one way to save time and free up more moments for interacting without the pressure of food shopping, cooking and cleanup.

The following are some tips for families who opt to dine out for the holidays.

- **Confirm restaurants are open.** Many restaurants close on major holidays to enable staff to spend time with their own family members.

This may be more so for

Thanksgiving and Christmas than with week-long celebrations like Chanukah and Kwanzaa.

Verify with restaurants if they have holiday hours, and more importantly, that they will be open on the day you will be dining out. Christmas Day falls on a Monday in 2023, which typically is a day that many restaurants are closed.

- **Make a reservation.** If you find an establishment open for the holiday, reserve a table early. Also, some restaurants may ask for a deposit on reservations to ensure you show up.

- **Expect some menu changes.** To account for reduced staff

or even ease in meal service, some restaurants may opt for a price-fixed holiday menu or a limited menu from their typical offerings.

Some may showcase a seasonal menu that caters to holiday favorites they think diners will expect. There also may be fewer substitutions or customizations allowed.

- **Avoid peak dining times.** Restaurants may fill up after church services or around dinner time. Consider reserving your table for a less popular hour to reduce the propensity for long waits or being rushed out.

- **Be patient.** Kitchens can

get backed up on a holiday, and it may take longer than expected for food to make it out to tables.

Cut kitchen employees and servers a break as they are likely frazzled. They are trying their best to service all patrons.

- **Plan to tip generously.** It's the season of giving, and you should make sure you take care of your server. You can make the day even brighter with some words of gratitude and a nice gratuity.

- **Pace alcoholic beverages.** It's normal to enjoy some spirited drinks during holiday celebrations. It's easier to indulge a bit more at home and you do not need to get behind the wheel.

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How to honor various faiths during a party

The holiday season is a time to gather and celebrate with family. In recent years, families have become more and more diverse, particularly in regard to faith.

For example, data from the Pew Research Center indicates that 46 percent of Jewish adults between the ages of 18 and 29 are children of interfaith marriages.

A greater number of interfaith marriages means it's likely holiday hosts will be celebrating among family and friends with different religious backgrounds than their own.

In an effort to ensure everyone feels welcome, hosts can consider these ways to honor various faiths during their holiday celebrations.

- **Learn about other faiths.** Knowledge of other faiths can help hosts create a more inclusive and welcoming atmosphere during the holiday season.

For example, a Christian host welcoming a Jewish friend or relative into their home for the holidays can learn about the festival of Chanukah prior to opening their home to guests.

- **Incorporate what you've learned into the party.** After learning about the

holiday celebrations of other faiths, hosts can incorporate that new knowledge into their decor and celebration.

When planning the meal, prepare a traditional holiday dish a guest might eat when celebrating their own faith or culture. This can make for a meal that's both welcoming and more flavorful at the same time.

- **Let guests chip in.** Extended family members and friends from different religious backgrounds may be proud of their faith and enthusiastic about the chance to share it with the people they love most.

A holiday gathering is the ideal time to embrace this spirit. Encourage guests from different religious backgrounds to bring something that reminds them of their own religious celebrations.

That can be a particular food or beverage, a playlist of holiday songs or a small gift such as an ornament to incorporate into holiday decor.

Guests can then share as much as they would like to about their faith, including any holiday traditions that they typically engage in.

- **Reduce emphasis on a particular holiday.** When hosting friends and fam-

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

ily during the holidays, avoid placing too great an emphasis on a particular religious holiday.

It's alright for hosts to offer well wishes and even recite prayers that reflect their faith, but try to emphasize how enjoyable it is for everyone to gather under one roof and celebrate the season together.

Celebrating with family is

a significant component of the holiday season for people of all faiths, so emphasizing togetherness during this special time of year is something all guests will appreciate.

Holiday hosts can embrace various strategies to make sure guests from all religious backgrounds feel welcome at their homes this holiday season.



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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



Holiday sales near trillion dollar mark

Retail sales during the 2022 holiday season inched ever closer to crossing the trillion dollar mark. Though total retail sales during the November-December holiday season fell short of National Retail Federation forecasts, the group still reported that sales totaled \$936.3 billion in that period in 2022. Though a host of variables, including inflation, affect how much consumers spend during a given holiday season, it's not outside the realm of possibility that 2023 could be the year shoppers cross the trillion dollar threshold. That would require an increase of a little less than \$64 billion in spending compared to 2022. Such an increase is not unheard of, even in a single year, as NRF calculations based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicate holiday season spending between 2020 and 2021 increased by just under \$106 billion

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

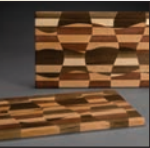
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The perfect holiday party playlist

Experienced party hosts understand that certain elements are essential to throwing a successful get-together.

Guests expect a few things when they arrive, with good food and drink topping the list. Music also figures into

the magic formula for a well-received party.

The late Aretha Franklin said, "Music does a lot of things for a lot of people. It's transporting, for sure. It can take you right back, years back, to the very moment certain things happened in your life. It's uplifting, it's encouraging, it's strengthening."

The power of music is so strong that party hosts know they must curate a playlist to complement the festivities.

When hosting during the holiday season, hosts can rest easy in the knowledge that curating a playlist tends to be easier than at other times of the year. That's due in large part to the prominent role some classic holiday tunes play come December. When curating a holiday party playlist, be sure to include these options.

- **"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"** (1943): This is a song written for Judy Garland for the MGM musical "Meet Me in St. Louis." Many artists have covered it, including Frank Sinatra and Sam Smith.

- **"Run Rudolph Run"** (1958): Written by Chuck Berry, and first performed by him, the song is a 12-bar blues. It's similar in style to Berry's popular "Johnny B. Goode."

- **"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year"** (1963): Recorded by Andy Williams for his first Christmas album, this song is a celebration of holiday gatherings with friends and family.

- **"What Christmas Means to Me"** (1967): Stevie Wonder's recognizable tenor shines through on this song that shares all the traditions that help make Christmas merry and bright.

- **"Happy Christmas (War is Over)"** (1971): John Lennon and Yoko Ono released this song in 1971. Though it's a protest song against the Vietnam War, it has since become a Christmas standard.

- **"Santa Claus is Coming to Town"** (1975): Bruce Springsteen's rocking version of this song is one no holiday playlist should be without.

- **"Do They Know It's Christmas?"** (1984): Written by Bob Geldof and Midge Ure, this song was recorded to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia. It features Band Aid, a supergroup made up of popular Irish and British musical artists.

- **"All I Want for Christmas Is You"** (1994): Love it or loathe it, Mariah Carey's song is one of the few modern Christmas songs to enter the esteemed Christmas music canon. It also helped pave the way for Carey to be forever tied to Christmas.

- **"It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas"** (2011): Several artists have recorded this song, which was written in 1951. Jazz standards artist Michael Bublé made it his own in 2011.

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Fun books to read children this season

The holiday season is a special time of year for people of all ages, but children might be the most enthusiastic celebrants come December.

Children spend much of the holiday season anticipating the arrival of the man in the red suit, and that enthusiasm can be contagious.

Families have their own unique traditions during the holiday season, but one popular way to harness kids' enthusiasm between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day is to read them holiday stories.

There's no shortage of great holiday books for kids, but here are a handful that kids may remember well into adulthood.

- **"The Polar Express,"** by Chris Van Allsburg: The beloved tale is the story of a young boy who boards a mysterious train bound for the North Pole.

- **"The Littlest Elf,"** by Brandi Dougherty: Part of a series, this story focuses on a tiny elf named Oliver and a series of misadventures as he navigates his way through Santa's workshop.

- **"Olive, the Other Reindeer,"** by Vivian Walsh: Olive is no ordinary reindeer. In fact, Olive is a dog who heads to the North Pole believing she is a reindeer. Her decision to join Santa's team ultimately benefits the big man and his trusty reindeer.

- **"The Miracle of the First Poinsettia: A Mexican Christmas Story,"** by Joanne Oppenheim: A little girl named Juanita is the star of this retelling of a traditional Mexican tale with a valuable lesson.

- **"Gingerbread Mouse: A Christmas Holiday Book for Kids,"** by Katy Bratun: A fallen tree branch almost ruins Christmas for Mouse, whose determination and resourcefulness mixed in with a little Christmas magic ensures she finds a place to call home in time for the holidays.

- **"A Night in Santa's Great Big Bag,"** by Kristin Kladstrup: Santa saves the day in this tale starring a young boy's favorite stuffed animal, whose excitement for Christmas compels him to climb into Santa's big bag of presents on Christmas Eve.

- **"Santa Claus and the Three Bears,"** by Maria Modugno: This twist on the popular tale "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" finds three unsuspecting bears encountering a familiar fellow in a red suit upon returning home after a nighttime walk.

- **"Twas the Night Before Christmas: Edited by Santa Claus for the Benefit of Children of the 21st Century,"** by Clement C. Moore: Parents will appreciate this updated version of the popular tale that, among other things, has removed the ref-

erence to Santa smoking.

- **"How the Grinch Stole Christmas!"** by Dr. Seuss: Children can join generations of fans that came before them as they

hear the redemption story of the Grinch who was once determined to ruin Christmas for the happy people of Who-ville.

- **"The Nutcracker,"** by the

New York City Ballet: The classic story is retold based on famed choreographer George Balanchine's production.

The holiday season is steeped

in tradition.

Reading new and classic holiday stories to children is one tradition any family can enthusiastically embrace.

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

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Hosting the holidays when times are hectic

Who wouldn't love the holiday season to unfold similarly to the plot of a made-for-TV movie?

In such films, families get along, townsfolk are overcome with the holiday spirit and even minor obstacles all get worked out by the time the credits roll.

Hosting the holidays in the real world doesn't always go so smoothly.

The period between Thanksgiving and New Years Day can be hectic, as social schedules fill up and work demands mount before people take an end-of-year break.

Food may not turn out perfectly and gifts may be purchased in the eleventh hour. In fact, most people's holiday celebrations may be more "Clark Griswold" than "Norman Rockwell." However, a few tips can help any host

See HOSTING/37

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HOSTING from 36

handle a hectic holiday season.

Set the date early

Give guests plenty of time to plan for your event. If it is a holiday social gathering that does not take place on the holiday itself, provide at least three weeks' notice so guests can plan accordingly. This also allows you plenty of time to work backward from that date to ensure all details are accounted for.

Keep it simple

Instead of a four-course dinner with gourmet fare, consider something small and easy. A gathering that's not geared around trying to impress can ensure hosts have time to kick back and relax with their guests — something everyone can use during this busy time of year.

Choose a theme, like hot cocoa and cookies or cocktails and charcuterie, so you won't

See **HOSTING/38**

HOLIDAY HOURS

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HOSTING from 37

have as many tasks to tackle. Asking everyone to bring a dish also reduces hosts' workload.

Space out cleaning

Rather than a mad dash to the finish line the day of the event, space out getting the home in order the entire week prior to the party.

Focus on the rooms that will get the most attention, such as living areas, bathrooms and kitchens.

Prepare overnight spaces

If guests will be spending one or more nights, decide where they will sleep. Choose a private spot away from the hustle of the household, such as a den, home office space or

even a finished basement.

Create a welcome basket that includes some creature comforts and necessities, such as extra toiletries, a book, note with Wi-Fi password, and some individually wrapped chocolates.

Set aside a quiet retreat

Sometimes you may need to sneak away for a moment to take a breather from the action. Delegate a private space where you can retreat for a few minutes to catch your breath and do some relaxation exercises.

Then you may return refreshed and ready to interact with guests once again.

Some simple strategies can help hosts navigate the often hectic holiday season.



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Safely decorate home exteriors for holidays

A person doesn't have to drive far or look too closely to be inspired by holiday decor come the month of December. Enthusiastic celebrants go to great lengths to express their holiday spirit, and that typically includes decorating their home exteriors.

Home holiday decorations are a tradition in millions of households.

Though the tradition helps make this special time of year even more festive, decorating a home exterior for the holidays is not without certain safety risks. Homeowners must prioritize safety when decorating their home exteriors for the holidays. These tips can ensure the holiday season is as safe as it is special.

- **Never decorate alone.** The buddy system should be employed when decorating a home for the holidays. No fewer than two people should decorate a home. A second person can ensure a ladder remains steady while hanging lights and can help lift potentially heavy lawn

decorations, thus reducing the risk for injury.

- **Use the appropriate decorations and tools.** The American Red Cross urges individuals to use only decorations designed for outdoor use when decorating their home exteriors.

Indoor lights should never be strung outdoors, even on small spaces. In addition, the Red Cross recommends homeowners who intend to use nails or hooks to hang decorations first confirm they are insulated, which can help to avoid electrocution and reduce fire risk.

- **Plug decorations into the correct outlets.** The energy experts at FirstEnergy note that outdoor lights and inflatable decorations should be plugged into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Older homes may not be equipped with such outlets, particularly on their home exteriors. Replacing existing outlets with GFCIs is a quick and relatively inexpensive job that a professional electrician should be hired to handle before decorating for the holidays.

- **Utilize a timer for exterior lights.** Lights should be not kept on overnight, which can be costly and pose a safety hazard.

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Utilize a timer so lights come on at night and turn off around bedtime, if not earlier.

- **Inspect decorations.** Exterior string lights and other plug-in decorations should be inspected at the beginning of each season to ensure there are no frayed or cracked wires. Damaged wires pose a significant fire hazard, so any damaged strands should be discarded and replaced.

- **Pick the right day to decorate.** Consult the weather forecast prior to decorating the exterior of a home. Pick a day when efforts to decorate won't be compromised by wind, rain, snow, or other inclement weather.

If it's already snowed, avoid decorating until the snow has melted, as there could be ice lingering beneath the snow. It's also unsafe to work on a snow-covered roof. Decorate on a day

with ample daylight and pause decorating if weather takes a sudden, unexpected turn for the worse.

It can be fun to decorate a

home's exterior for the holiday season. But homeowners must prioritize safety and take every step necessary to reduce their risk for accident or injury.

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Whole House
DUCT CLEANING
Cannot be used with any other offers.
Expires January 31, 2024

FREE FURNACE
*Purchase a qualifying Heat Pump and get the furnace FREE!**
Take Advantage of all the incentives for heat pumps
*96% 2-stage variable speed furnace. Does not include labor.