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They knew how to spell ‘incunabulum’ – they deserved to win

by Sarah Hall
for The Beacon

A charmingly costumed duo from Mead Public Library emerged victorious at the Family Resource Center of Sheboygan County’s first-ever Corporate Spelling Bee on April 18, correctly spelling “disingenuousness” for the win.

Based on the wild cheering which then rose from the crowd of more than 120 people at Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan, you would have thought they had cinched the World Cup. The competition was intense!

Coming in a close second among the seven teams competing was a trio from the Plymouth School District’s Riverview Middle School, the only other one to advance to the final round.

Both teams were initially flummoxed by “embouchure” (the way in which a player applies the mouth to a brass or wind instrument). But then the middle school team also stumbled on the words “incunabulum” (a book printed before 1501 – who knew?) and “denouement” (a critical scene), before the library team correctly spelled both.

Defeat was all in good fun: RMS counselor Sadie Menn had admitted just beforehand that “we were not even expecting to get this far!” Her teammates were teachers Jessica Barrington and Tanya Strauss.

The purpose of the first-time event was not necessarily to demonstrate spelling prowess, but to raise awareness and funds for the Family Resource Center – and it netted more than \$12,000. However, one contestant did reveal that he had been looking to redeem himself, spelling-wise, ever since elementary school.

The library team, which was the only one there without a third member serving as an alternate, showed a certain attentiveness and determination from the start... and also won the award for best costumes. Friends of the Mead Public Library President Librarian Marge Giesen was dressed as The Velveteen Rabbit and Librarian Carol Munroe came as Miss Frizzle from the Magic School Bus Series, complete with a stuffed lizard and bus beside her on stage.

The spelling bee theme was “BUZZworthy Books” and participants had been encouraged to dress up as their favorite literary characters.

Other teams competing were from Bank First, Laffey, Leitner & Goode Law Firm, Plymouth Public Library, Sargento and the Sheboygan Jaycees.

The bee included a networking cocktail hour, a dinner, a silent auction, a wine pull and a photo booth. One of the most exciting features was one allowing audience members opportunity to “buy back” an eliminated team for \$100.

Witty, bee-themed messages about the FRC’s programs scrolled across large screens during dinner: For example,



“Three Literacy Council adult students passed the U.S. Citizenship test in 2023 and “bee” came naturalized citizens.”

“This event was the first of what we hope becomes an annual tradition and signature fundraiser for our organization,” FRC Executive Director Trisha Erpelding said afterwards. “I can’t say enough about what it meant to celebrate the FRC and its programs with a room full of staff, board, supporters, and program participants, in such an engaging and unique

way. So many attendees have reached out since the bee to share their sentiments on how different, fun and impactful the evening was.”

Emceeding the event was Jay Johnson, who has taught social studies and theater at Sheboygan North High School for 32 years and been the drama company director for 15 years.

“I like words and so I was excited about being the host,” he said, before getting the word list and realizing there were some on it he had no clue how to pronounce.

He joked that “the people who planned this might have been a little too literal. When they needed judges, they got actual judges.”

He then introduced spelling bee AND real-life Circuit Court judges Rebecca Persick and Natasha Torry, who wore their judicial robes and presided at a table up front. With them was timekeeper George Palmer.

The words “maraca,” “clowder” (a group or cluster of cats), “hippopotamus” and “ennui” (a feeling of listlessness) stumped spellers early on.

Teams were gradually eliminated as they got some especially tricky words wrong, such as “ostentatious,” “rhinoceros,” “grievous,” “chrysanthemum” and “lackadaisical.”

The loudest whoops and cheers came from the table of participants there to support Laffey, Leitner & Goode Law Firm – and they, of course, won the Spirit Award.

At the end of the night, the theme for next year’s bee was announced: “Spelling Through the Years: BEE Your Favorite Decade!”

Established in 1997, the FRC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting young children, their families and adults through parenting education and adult literacy programs, offered free of charge.

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County Sheriff Roeseler to retire for family

Sheriff Cory L. Roeseler has submitted his retirement notice to Governor Evers' Office, with the intent to retire on June 3, 2024, according to a news release.

Roeseler started with the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office on January 8, 1991 as a deputy. He was promoted to Corporal, Detective, Lieutenant of Criminal Investigations and Captain of Patrol/Criminal Investigations over that 27-year span. He was appointed sheriff in 2018 and elected for terms in 2019 and 2023.

Prior to working at the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office, he was a deputy with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office and part time patrolman / dispatcher for the Kiel Police Department. He was also the part-time Chief of Police for the Cascade Police Department for 15 years prior to being appointed Sheriff.

Roeseler grew up in the rural Kiel area and graduated from Kiel High School. He attended Moraine Park Technical College where he received an Associate Degree in Police Science. He and his wife Holly reside in Sheboygan.

After over 35 years in law enforcement Roeseler is retiring to care for family members. His father recently passed away and he is looking forward to caring for and spending time with other family members. His parents, wife and other family members have been his biggest supporters throughout his career and now it is time to focus on them.

He has also made so many other great friends and worked with so many great co-workers over the years. He has so many people to



thank. He had wonderful mentors since he was in high school and throughout his career. His goal was always to make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Sheriff Roeseler would also like to thank all residents of Sheboygan County that have supported him so heavily over his career and recent elections. "I have been so blessed to have received so much support from everyone over the past 33 years in Sheboygan County, with 7 of them as Sheriff" Roeseler said.

"As I reflect on my career, I am so grateful for all of the opportunities that I had. I couldn't have asked for any more from my career. I will always be grateful for the career I had," said Roeseler.

At the present time, Captain Matthew Spence of the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office is the appointed Undersheriff of Sheboygan County and will fill the vacancy at noon on June 3 until such time as provided by law or the Governor makes an appointment.

Sheehan to run for 26th Assembly District



Joe Sheehan, former superintendent of the Sheboygan Area School District and executive director of the Sheboygan County Economic Development Corporation, has announced his candidacy for the 26th Assembly District.

The redrawn 26th Assembly District map now includes the entire city of Sheboygan, the Town of Wilson, and the Town of Sheboygan, reuniting city and town residents in one legislative district.

"I am running for the Assembly because we need leaders who will listen and respond to their constituents. Women must have access to a full range of health care. Public education budgets have been underfunded for more than a decade, and that must change now. Urgent environmental issues impacting our air and water quality need to be addressed."

Sheehan went on, "Working as the executive director of the

Sheboygan County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC), in partnership with an incredible group of committed local employers, I had firsthand experience supporting our current employers and bringing new businesses into our area. I know how important a dedicated and available workforce is to our economy. To make sure that happens, our legislature needs to support working families with access to affordable housing, health care, and childcare that they can actually afford."

"It's time that legislators start to work together again to make this happen. Bringing people together to solve problems was a hallmark of my twenty years as superintendent of the SASD and my work as executive director of the SCEDC. I will bring these skills, energy, and broad experience to the Assembly."

Sheehan states, "I am blessed to watch my grandson learn and grow here. I am eager to start knocking on doors and listening to the people living in the 26th. Together we can make our future even brighter."

Rep. Katsma to leave Assembly

Representative Terry Katsma (R-Oostburg) announced his decision to not seek reelection for a 6th term in the Wisconsin State Assembly. His departure signifies the conclusion of a distinguished period of public service to the State of Wisconsin.

"It has been an honor to represent the 26th Assembly District for 10 years," Representative Katsma stated. "I have been proud to serve the residents throughout Sheboygan County. I want to thank my constituents for allowing me to represent you."

Representative Katsma was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 2014 and he currently serves as the Vice-Chair of the powerful Joint Committee on Finance and is a member of the Assembly Committee on Financial Institutions.

After working 34 years at a community bank, Representative Katsma brought his common sense private sector experience to serve in the Assembly. While in office, he has been a strong advocate for limited government and worked to shape fiscal policies to keep the state's fiscal condition on a path of prosperity. He has sought to improve Wisconsin's business climate, remove needless government red tape, develop the state's workforce, and strengthen our economy.

"During my time in office, my top priority has been to protect Wisconsin taxpayers and I have worked tirelessly to reduce the tax burden on families and small business. I am proud of the legislative

see KATSMa page 4

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Pickleball paddles created to help promote suicide awareness

by Dave Boehler
for The Beacon

Lilly Schroeder didn't see it coming.

"No, especially because I'm not very skilled at games or, like, team sports," the 2013 Sheboygan North graduate said. "I always was an individual athlete. Back in high school, I always did swimming and running. So I'm not very hand-eye coordinated or anything like that. So definitely not."

After picking up pickleball during a work event in August, Schroeder not only fell in love with the game, she decided to start her own business by designing paddles that can be bought at LinkPickleball.com.

"My career has been at the Kohler Company in marketing, and we had a team-building event at Vollrath Park," she said. "So I played it with my coworkers for the first time. I was planning on heading back to work that day and skipping the outing a little bit early, but had so much fun that I ended up staying there until like 7 p.m."

"I felt like it was a really nice game for people of all levels, and I definitely was not expecting to like it so much. But around that time, (pickleball) was really start-

ing to blow up and I kept hearing about it. So I'm really happy that I was able to give it a try that day, because who knows where I would have been otherwise."

Schroeder says she always wanted to be an entrepreneur, and she double-majored in marketing and management in college with hopes of having something that was her own.

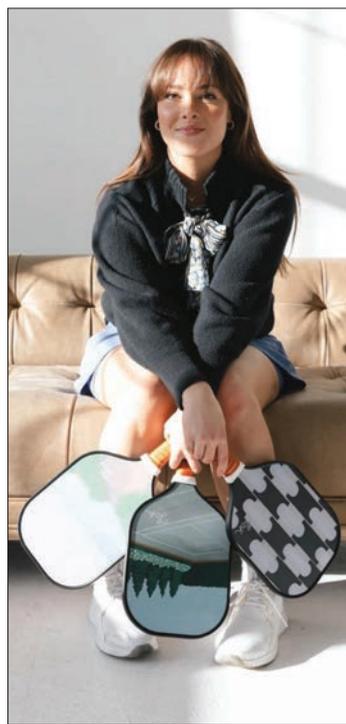
She also wanted to be able to contribute to funds and nonprofits that benefit and spread the word for suicide awareness, because she lost her best friend at the age of 19 to suicide.

So pickleball, where two or four players hit a perforated, hollow plastic ball with paddles over a 34-inch high net - think tennis - was her way to donate in honor of her friend.

"That was really the motivation for me behind actually deciding to do this," Schroeder said. "It's a lot of work. I come home from my normal 9 to 5, and I work tirelessly on it, but that's ultimately the driving force for me to actually go ahead and do this."

After playing pickleball that first time, Schroeder ordered some paddles online the following day and started playing with her husband.

"So I ordered just like the cheapest pack off of Amazon,"



LILLY SCHROEDER has three specifically-designed pickleball paddles for sale. - Photo by Lisa Young Photography

she said. "And none of my friends had really played pickleball before, so I wanted to get a four-pack that I could play with and provide the paddles to get some friends to

come play with me, because no one had equipment to play.

"So I was like, I'm going to get them to play with me. And because I want to play so badly, I should provide the paddles. I bought like a really cheap four-pack from Amazon. And then when I played with friends and family, they also started to love it. And we started playing more frequently; I wanted to just find (paddles) that were cute versus my ugly graphic one from Amazon."

"And so I had started researching, and I really could only find like one other company that made unique style paddles. And they were like well over \$100. And just transparently, I didn't think that they were even that cool, to put it plainly. They didn't really have anything that stood out to me for that price."

Schroeder, knowing that pickleball was the fastest growing sport in America, wanted to design her own paddles and got most of her inspiration from Pinterest.

"My first idea was doing an ode to Sheboygan," she said. "I'm obviously born and raised from Sheboygan. I think there's truly like no better place to be than the Sheboygan lakefront in the summer. And so I just had an idea of

what I wanted for the brand and what the brand meant to me, really what pickleball meant to me. And that means the time I get to spend with my family and friends as well as the beautiful Sheboygan lakefront. I love playing at Vollrath right on the lake and at the course across from the YMCA."

Schroeder talked to a friend who was an artist and designer, and she took her ideas and drew up some designs for the paddles.

Schroeder came up with the name "Linkpickleball", and her first day of online business was April 11.

"To me, like the best part about pickleball was how much I found myself every week spending time with my family and close friends," she said. "Texting them like, 'hey, you want to play pickleball tonight?'"

"Getting together with them for an hour, I really found that I was able to spend meaningful quality time with my family and friends doing something that's active outside and things like that. So my brand is all about the connection to each other and playing together, spending that quality time, that's really what I cherish so much about pickleball."

To buy paddles, visit www.linkpickleball.com

KATSMIA from 3

accomplishments to pass historic tax cuts and return surplus monies back to the hardworking people of Wisconsin," Representative Katsma said.

Reflecting on his decision, Rep. Katsma added, "Wisconsin is a wonderful place to live, work, and play. In this next chapter, I look forward to spending more time with my children, grandchildren, and many friends, as well as, traveling and taking more road trips with my wife, Nancy. All my life, I've never forgotten the Biblical advice, 'to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God'."

Katsma represents the 26th Assembly District including the cities of Sheboygan and Sheboygan Falls; the villages of Adell, Oostburg, Random Lake, Cedar Grove, Cascade and Waldo; and the towns of Lima, Holland, Sherman, Wilson and Lyndon.

Waterfront master plan developing

SHEBOYGAN - The Department of Public Works, in direct collaboration with the Smith Group, will host a public meeting and workshop on April 30, 2024, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Mead Public Library held on the 1st floor in the Rocca Room.

This event aims to gather individuals interested in the future of the Sheboygan Waterfront and Marina Master Plan for an open discussion,

idea exchange, and engagement opportunity.

Attendees can expect:

- Interactive workshops and group discussions
- Opportunities to network: Connect with people who share a passion for the Sheboygan waterfront's future.

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South has one year left in Fox River

Redwings will move to new league in 2025-26

With the exception of football, South is going to have a new conference.

It doesn't have a name yet, but the WIAA Board of Control voted last Tuesday to approve Conference Realignment Task Force recommendations of the non-football plans remanded by the Board at its meeting last month.

The new league, which will be implemented beginning with the 2025-26 sports seasons, will feature Plymouth, Kettle Moraine Lutheran, Kewaskum, Port Washington, West Bend East and West Bend West.

Redwings Athletic Director Chris Hein says the move out of the Fox River Classic Conference is a good opportunity and there are a couple of things that are going to be better for South and the families.

One is the reduction of quite a bit of travel.

"Currently we're making seven trips, over 120 miles round trip at least, in the FRCC," Hein

said. "And I think the longest round trip we would have in the new conference would be 86 miles. So, I mean, just financially, and in terms of travel time for our athletes, for parents, for fans, that's one benefit of the new conference."

Another benefit, according to Hein, is South will be the largest school in terms of enrollment in the new league.

"And that is helpful when we're talking about competitive equity and just our kids having a better chance to compete night in and night out," he said. "And the competition, I think, is going to be a little bit more competitive. So that's also something that is beneficial for our student-athletes."

The obvious downfall of the move is no longer being in the same conference as North (besides football).

"That's not ideal," Hein said. "We're obviously still going to work with them and play them non-conference in all sports, so it won't be a big change in terms of North and South playing each other. But we won't be in the same conference. And, no, that's not ideal. So we'll miss some of the rivalries that have been de-



ABBY SCHNEIDER and all non-football athletes will be in a new league in 2025.

- Photo by Tyler Jensen

veloped."

The fact there will be seven teams in the yet-to-be named league in some ways can be a negative or a positive, according to Hein.

"You can look at it in differ-

ent ways, right?" he said. "We'll have to schedule a lot more non-conference games in all sports. But that opens up opportunities. That gives us an opportunity to try to schedule more games with teams that we think are good for us. And that can mean less travel. Like we can have more local games."

"And then not having to commit to eight to 10 basketball games in the Green Bay area every year, or Pulaski or Bay Port."

NIL is voted down

A much-deliberated Name, Image, Likeness proposal was defeated last week at the WIAA's 128th Annual Meeting in Stevens Point.

Schools voted 219-170 to reject the proposed NIL language that would have allowed student-athletes to engage in promotion and revenue opportunities and activities not associated or identified with their team, school, conference or the WIAA, which included a number of prohibited NIL activities.

Executive Director Stephanie Hauser says the failed vote does

not end the discussions on NIL.

"We will continue this conversation with our membership in response to the trend across the nation with other high school associations allowing some opportunities for Name, Image, Likeness," she said. "The Annual Meeting vote is evidence of the ownership the membership has in the democratic process. The WIAA staff provides information, rationale and possible unintended consequences, but it's ultimately up to each member school to determine how to cast its vote."

Hein thinks NIL talk isn't going away either, and the outcome of the vote essentially asked for more time.

"This was thrown at us pretty quickly," he said. "So I would anticipate it's going to get voted on at the April meeting again next year. But I think there will be a lot more questions that will be answered. And we'll see how that vote turns out next year."

"It doesn't mean we'll never hear about it again. We need more time to answer the questions that a lot of us had about how this was going to be implemented, what were the rules specifically."

North grad hired as UWGB coach

Sheboygan North graduate Kayla Karius (nee Tetschlag) was named head coach of UW-Green Bay's storied women's basketball program.

Karius, who played at Green Bay from 2007-11, was introduced at a press conference on Thursday.

"I'm thrilled to be returning to my alma mater and honored to be only the fourth head coach of Green Bay Women's Basketball," she said. "This is the premier women's basketball program in our state and is located in one of the most innovative and booming communities. I look forward to carrying on a strong tradition of championships on the court and excellence in the classroom."

Karius sure has one impressive resume.

She not only helped the Golden Raiders reach the state basketball tournament in 2006 and '07, she led Green Bay to four Horizon League titles and three NCAA Tournaments - highlighted by a trip to the NCAA Sweet 16 her senior year in 2011 (when she was also tabbed conference player of the year).

Karius then played four seasons in Europe after graduating from UWGB, and was inducted into North's Wall of Fame in 2017 and into the Phoenix Hall of Fame in 2023.

She replaces former UWGB coach Kevin Borseth after spending two seasons at the University of South Dakota, where she led



KAYLA KARIUS is introduced as new Green Bay coach on Thursday.

- Photo by @gbphoenixwbb

the Coyotes to a 23-13 record last season that ended with a pair of wins in the WNIT.

"How exciting to bring Kayla back home," Borseth said. "Her coaching experience coupled with her familiarity and love for our program are going to serve her well at Green Bay. I'm excited about the future of Green Bay Women's Basketball."

Karius has her work cut out for her, however.

The Phoenix has had a winning record in 47 straight seasons, second to Tennessee (50).

Green Bay has been a dominant force in the Horizon League, winning 17 of 30 conference tournaments since joining in 1994-95.

And overall, UWGB has won 29 regular-season conference championships, 20 conference tournament titles, and made 19 NCAA tournament appearances.

"We are thrilled to welcome Kayla and her family back home to Titletown," UWGB Director of Athletics Josh Moon said. "Kayla epitomized the Green Bay Way as a player, and she is a rising star as a coach. She will take this program to even greater heights. It's so special for our team to be able to be led by someone who has been in their shoes and believes to her core of the power of Green Bay basketball."

- by UWGB staff

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Marx to play junior hockey

■ Plymouth senior will play for Badlands Sabres

Plymouth's Gaven Marx signed a tender last week to play junior hockey for the Badlands Sabres of the NA3HL.

The senior, who spent four seasons on the Sheboygan co-op varsity squad, will compete in the North American Tier III Hockey League. He reports to Rapid City, S.D. for training camp in August.

"Playing in other places other than Sheboygan really helped me become good enough to play at this level," said Marx. "But Sheboygan hockey is really the reason I'm as good as I am. Not a whole lot of Sheboygan kids do this."

Unlike most sports, hockey players with the intention of playing in college have to go the juniors route first.

Junior teams began reaching out to Marx his sophomore year and six organizations recently offered him tenders.

"It comes down to where you want to play, the coach, the organization, the team, the history, the success," Marx said. "I really liked their head coach, South Dakota is a cool area and the team is pretty good."

Marx was also interested in playing for Granite City in Minnesota and the Northeast Generals in Massachusetts.

Badlands told him he could make an impact right away, however.



NORTH DOUBLES TEAM George Phillips (left) and Gavin Seefeldt help beat South in tennis. - Photo by Isabelle Torres



MARIA ZYLSTRA (left) had a six-goal, three-game stretch recently. - Photo by Chris Hendrikse



GAVEN MARX will play junior hockey. - Photo by Chris DiStefano

In case you missed it ...

North's tennis team blanked South, 7-0, last week, highlighted by Austin Kohn's 3-6, 6-3, 10-7 victory over Touger Yang at No. 4 singles.

Other results included Oliver Quintero over Ty Smith at No. 1, Tyler Konrad over Kyle Flook at No. 2, Elijah Lee over Aiden Blomwillis at No. 3, Sawyer Brault/Alex Distefano over Ben Beumler/Misael Gonzales at No. 1, George Phillips/Gavin Seefeldt over Ryan Binversie/Matthew Wigg at No. 3, and Aiden DeRuyter/Will Rollins over Andrew Yang/Xia Xiong at No. 3.

GOLF

Lutheran medalist cruises

Elliott Leibham won the Big East South Mini-Meet at Riverdale last Tuesday with a 38 - five strokes ahead of the competition. Oliver Leibham and Reid Kuchinski tied for second at 43, and Jack Macgillis (44), and Alexis Leganchuck (45) also helped the Crusaders finish first in the team standings.

Miller leads North

Ryder Miller's two-day total of 150 was eight strokes shy of medalist honors at the annual North Invitational at Blackwolf Run and Whistling Straits. Almost 50 schools participated.

TRACK AND FIELD

Too close for comfort

North's boys nearly won the 10-team Little Chute Invitational on April 20, but the host Mustangs finished with 126.5 points compared to the Golden Raiders' 125.3. Ryan Lang won the 400, Ian Willemsen claimed the 3,200, and Landon Schwaller, Alexander Schober, Sam Webb and Alexander Hernandez won the 800 relay.

SOFTBALL

Offense usually rolls

Lutheran has scored at least nine runs in five of its first seven games, highlighted by Gretta Rick's four RBI game in an 11-1 win over Green Bay West/East last Tuesday. She's had a hit in each of her first seven contests and has driven in nine runs.

SOCCER

Crusaders rebound nicely

After losing its first two games by 3-1 scores, Lutheran/Christian won its next three by a combined score of 13-2. Maria Zylstra had a total of six goals during the stretch.

... and so you don't

The softball rematch between North and South is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on May 9.

The visiting Golden Raiders won the first game, 15-0, on April 18.

GOLF

at Blackwolf Run, 8 a.m. Wednesday: All four Sheboygan schools will be among the teams competing.

at Quit Qui Oc, 10 a.m. Friday: Two days later, they all will compete again against many more schools.

TENNIS

North Invitational, 10 a.m. May 10 and

8:30 a.m. May 11: A dozen other schools will participate in the two-day event, including South and Plymouth.

SOCCER

Wrightstown Quad, 10 a.m. May 11: Lutheran's first game is against West Bend on Field 2, and it will face Wrightstown or Seymour in the second game.

TRACK AND FIELD

Big East Conference Championship, 3:30 p.m. May 13: Christian and Lutheran will gauge how they stack up to the rest of the league.



SOUTH'S Bianca Schneider (left) chats with **Abby Meulbroek**. - Photo by Tyler Jensen

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Veteran contenders, rising newcomers

■ Solid mix of both expected to square off this season at Plymouth Dirt Track

by Jeff Pederson
for The Beacon

A solid mix of area veteran contenders and rising newcomers are expected to square off for A-main victories and track titles at the Plymouth Dirt Track, including defending Late Model division champion Brad Mueller of Random Lake and 2023 Grand National co-champion Brian Gilles of Plymouth, as the season opener is set for Saturday at the Sheboygan County Fairgrounds.

After earning seven A-main victories in 2023 and placing second in the PDTR 360 Sprint Car point standings in each of the past two seasons, Ben Schmidt of Plymouth returns with momentum and motivation on his side in his quest for a second track title.

But one highly popular and successful competitor who won't appear on the track is three-time and reigning PDTR 360 Sprint Car champion Brandon McMullen of Oshkosh.

Shortly after the conclusion of his title-winning 2023 season, the Plymouth native and all-time winningest driver in PDTR 360 Sprint Car A-main competition announced his intentions to step away from racing.

Some schedule highlights

The 20th season of PDTR-sanctioned competition and 65th year overall of regular weekly events will showcase action in no less than 12 different divisions during the 19-event campaign, which runs through Sept. 28.

For the second consecutive season, the weekly program will include a steady rotation of guest divisions competing alongside the 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals and B Mods, which will serve as the three regular weekly divisions.

"The response to bringing in the various different divisions last year was great," PDTR Director of Marketing Bill Weinaug said. "It attracted a bunch of new fans to the track, which exposed our facility to a wider region of race fans, drivers, teams and series."

After a highly successful debut last season, the Super Six Late Model Series is set to return for seven events.

In addition, the Dirt Kings Late Model Tour will make a pair of stops on Aug. 23 and Sept. 21 for the annual Wildman Watson Classic.

The Street Stock division will be featured on a pair of nights, while the High School Racing Association is in line to make its PDTR debut.

"The Street Stock division had contacted us for a few years looking to race at Plymouth. It worked out late last season and they put on a good show. We'll have them at the track for two nights this season and possibly look at expanding it going forward."

The fourth annual Road America Challenge featuring the IRA 410 Sprint Car Series and PDTR 360 Sprint Cars has developed into an annual must-see marque event.

This year's version of the Road America Challenge will take place in conjunction with the NTT IndyCar Series weekend at the nearby Road America on June 8.

Wall of Fame night returns

Vintage Modifieds are set to join the regular PDTR divisions on July 13, which also serves as the third annual Plymouth Racing Wall of Fame Induction Night.

The Wall of Fame Class of 2024 includes many of the most popular and successful drivers in track history, including the late Fuzzy Fassbender, Donny Gochen, Dave Haag, Steve Hoffmann, Randy Markwardt, Pete Ostrowski, the late Steve Schad and K.J. Skelton.

The McMullen Racing Family, which features former racers Brandon, Tim and Jerry McMullen, will also be inducted in the racing families category.

Former flagman Bill Krueger along with track workers Lee Glomski and John Laack will also be inducted in the Dedicated to Racing category.

Fans will have a chance to interact with their past racing heroes as part of a meet-and-greet autograph session as well.

The Plymouth Dirt Track will again host the annual Dairyland Classic motorcycle race on May 31.

No racing will take place on Memorial Day weekend, Fourth of July weekend and the Saturday leading into the week of the Sheboygan County Fair.

What else is going on?

Several special promotions and kids events will serve as a focal point of the 2024 campaign.

Free admission for all police,



AFTER PLACING SECOND in the 360 Sprint Car point standings each of the two seasons, Ben Schmidt of Plymouth heads into the 2024 campaign with his sights set on another title. - Photo by JW's Car and Racing

fire, EMS and military members will be in place as part of "You're Our Heroes Night" on May 11.

The PDTR racing program on June 15 will include a checkered flag giveaway.

The June 29th program will include an American flag giveaway.

The annual candy and coin drop will take place Aug. 3.

Driver introductions are set on June 1 (360 Sprint Cars), June 15 (Grand Nationals), June 22 (B Mods) and June 29 (Late Models).

"We're having more kids' events this year," Weinaug said. "We also have the pits open every night after the races for fans and kids to get up close to the cars and drivers."

According to Weinaug, PDTR's top-notch facilities, high-quality food offerings and diverse blend of weekly and guest racing divisions, along with several appearances from IRA 410 Sprint Car Series and Dirt Kings Late Model Tour regional touring series helps the track stand out from other venues in the area.

"I believe the variety of classes and on-track action along with keeping the show moving really helps to set us apart from others, along with our great racetrack food that is the best in the region," Weinaug said. "I'll put our food menu and quality up against any track in the area."

This and that ...

Start times for the first four nights of the season will move up one hour, with pit gates opening at 2 p.m., grandstand gates at 4, hot laps at 4:30 and racing at 5.

On normal race nights beginning on June 1, pit gates will open at 3, grandstand gates at 4:30, hot laps at 5:30 and racing at 6.

Ticket prices will remain unchanged from the 2023 season at \$15 for adult general admission.

"Sponsorship opportunities are still available, including signage, event, night sponsorship, table-display set ups and if you'd like to donate money to the purse for a certain division, that's an option too," Weinaug said. "We can also host group, company, club outings, which can include driver meet and greets and ticket discounts for groups of 20 or more."

For more information or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, call (920) 627-1217, email bweinaug@shebcfair.com or visit www.plymouthdtr.com.

PDTR SCHEDULE

April 27 - Opening Night featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Wisconsin wingLESS Sprint Cars, 5 p.m.

May 4 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Late Models, 5 p.m.

May 11 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Late Models, 5 p.m. (Your Our Heroes Night - free admission for police, fire, EMS, military members)

May 18 - Interstate Racing Association 410 Sprint Cars, PDTR 360 Sprint Cars, Wisconsin wingLESS Sprint Cars on-track 5:30 p.m.

May 31 - Dairyland Classic Motorcycle Race

June 1 - Weekly Program PDTR 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Late Models, 6 p.m. (360 Sprint Car driver intros)

June 8 - Road America Challenge Interstate Racing Association 410 Sprint Cars, 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, on track 5:30 p.m.

June 15 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Lightning Sprints, 6 p.m. (Grand National driver intros, free checkered flags)

June 22 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Badger Midgets, 6 p.m. (B Mod driver intros)

June 29 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Late Models, 6 p.m. (Late Model driver intros, free American flags)

July 13 - Plymouth Racing Wall of Fame Night, Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Late Models with Vintage Modifieds, 6 p.m.

July 20 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Late Models, High School Racing Association, 6 p.m.

July 27 - Interstate Racing Association 410 Sprint Cars, PDTR 360 Sprint Cars B Mods., on-track 5:30 p.m.

Aug. 3 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Lightning Sprints, High School Racing Association, 6 p.m. (Candy and Coin Drop)

Aug. 10 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, Late Models (championship), 6 p.m.

Aug. 17 - Weekly Program featuring 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods, INEX Legends, Street Stocks, 6 p.m.

Aug. 23 - Dirt Kings Late Model Series with 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals (championship), B Mods (championship), 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 31 - County Fair Race featuring Interstate Racing Association 410 Sprint Cars and PDTR 360 Sprint Cars, on-track 5 p.m.

Sept. 21 - Wildman Watson Classic Dirt Kings Late Model Tour with A Modifieds, Wisconsin WingLESS Sprint Cars and Street Stocks.

Sept. 28 - Wisconsin Sprint Car Championships Interstate Racing Association 410 Sprint Cars, 360 Sprint Cars, Wisconsin Wingless Sprint Cars, Lightning Sprints championship night, on-track 5 p.m.



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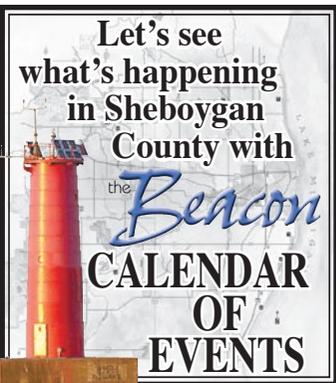
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Events charging fees or selling items may be included when a display ad is scheduled.

WEDNESDAY MAY 1

Understanding Medicare: 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Plymouth High School Library, 125 S. Highland Ave. Learn about the U.S. health insurance program for seniors. Free, but register with Community Education & Recreation by April 21. www.plymouthwi.myrec.com, 920-892-5068.

FRIDAY MAY 3

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 MAY 4

Spring Candlelight Hike: 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. Kohler-Andrae State Park 1020 Beach Park Lane, Sheboygan, parking lot P7. Enjoy a self-guided walk on torch-lit woodland trails; then enjoy entertainment and activities around the campfire. Vehicle admission required. 920-451-4080.

TUESDAY MAY 7

Discovery Bird Walk: 8:00 a.m. Kohler-Andrae State Park 1020 Beach Park Lane, Sheboygan, Black River Trail. Join Master Naturalists Janet & Andy Raddatz for a guided bird walk. Age 12 and up. Vehicle admission required. 920-451-4080.

WEDNESDAY MAY 8

Discovering Wildflowers: 1:30 p.m. Kohler-Andrae State Park 1020 Beach Park Lane, Sheboygan, Black River Trail. Join Master Naturalist Karen

Merlau and discover the many wildflowers growing along the Black River Trail. Vehicle admission required. 920-451-4080.

MONDAY MAY 13

PHS Band Concert: 7:30 p.m. in the Plymouth High School Auditorium, 125 S. Highland Ave. Featuring both PHS bands performing a number of selections, plus a combined tune. Free and open to the public. www.plymouth.k12.wi.us, 920-893-6911.

TUESDAY MAY 14

Discovery Bird Walk: 8:00 a.m. Kohler-Andrae State Park 1020 Beach Park Lane, Sheboygan, Black River Trail. Join Master Naturalists Janet & Andy Raddatz for a guided bird walk. Age 12 and up. Vehicle admission required. 920-451-4080.

EVENTS AT JOHN MICHAEL KOHLER ARTS CENTER

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Thu: 10AM-8PM

Sat and Sun: 10AM-4PM

generalinfo@jmkac.org

www.jmkac.org

NOW THROUGH JUNE 16, 2024: Cloth as Land:

HMong Indigeneity: Centering the voices of three HMong-American artists, Cloth as Land investigates a place for HMong Indigeneity within contemporary HMong art.

NOW THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024: The Secret of Muddy Water:

Exhibition celebrates the industries rooted in Wisconsin and the Arts/Industry residency in the Kohler Co. factory.

NOW THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024: Joyce Kozloff: How We Know What We Know:

Across paintings, frescoes, installations, and sculpture, Joyce Kozloff uses maps to reveal the limits and possibilities of knowledge and relationships that govern systems of power.

NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 2, 2025: Mad Dash:

50 Years of Arts/Industry. FREE, All ages. Chronological installation of artworks, letters, photographs, and promotional materials dating from 1974 to the present. It reveals the origin and history of Arts/Industry residency program.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 2, 2025: Clocking In:

2024 Arts/Industry Residents: FREE, all ages. As part of the Arts Center's celebration of Arts/Industry's fiftieth anniversary, the twelve artists in residence at the Kohler Co. factory during 2024 will exhibit their work in a yearlong group exhibition, presenting

four residents' work at a time in rotations of approximately four months each.

EVENTS AT MEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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 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.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1:

LEGO Club: 3:15-4:30 p.m., Children's Activity Room, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Kids can get creative with the library's supply of LEGOs. Recommended for grades K-6.

THURSDAY, MAY 2: Tech Help @ Uptown Social:

11 a.m.-noon, Uptown Social, Sheboygan. Mead Library staff will offer one-on-one tech support with email, navigating your device, setting up online accounts and more.

THURSDAY, MAY 2: Make it @ Mead:

5-6:30 p.m., Imaginarium, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Make your own paper lantern during this free, all-

ages makerspace program.

SATURDAY, MAY 4:

Mead Comic Con: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Mead Library, Sheboygan. Celebrate Free Comic Book Day at the library, with cosplay, retro gaming, Jedi Academy for kids, crafts and free comics.

TUESDAY, MAY 7: Genealogy Club:

6-7 p.m., Public Conference Room #2, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Share tips on genealogy and meet other researchers. All experience levels are welcome.

TUESDAY, MAY 14: Coffee Talks with Kohler Credit Union:

10:30-11:30 a.m., Rocca Room, Mead Library, Sheboygan. Learn to avoid social media scams in this free discussion with Kirsten Coenen, of Kohler Credit Union.

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 MONDAY (starting May 13): Baby & Me Storytime:

10:00am. Babies from newborns and 24 months are invited to bring their parent or caregiver for storytime! No registration required.

EVERY TUESDAY (starting May 14): Family Story-

time: 10:00am. Get ready for fun songs, dances, and exciting stories! Most appropriate for preschoolers, but all are welcome. No registration required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 – MAY 1: Library Book Sale:

Call or see website for hours. Support the library by checking out our book sale. We have a wide selection of books for all ages.

THURSDAY, MAY 2: Morning Book Club:

10:00 am. Join the Morning Book Club to discuss a new book each month. Copies available for pick up.

TUESDAY, MAY 7: Teen Gaming & Hanging:

3:00 pm. For ages 11-18. Play on our Nintendo Switch, bring your own, or try one of our games. No registration required.

TUESDAY, MAY 7 & 21 AND WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 & 22: Doggy Tales:

4:30 pm & 5:30 pm. For grades 1- 8. Registration required. Get some read aloud for practice with Gus, a trained therapy dog!

THURSDAY, MAY 9: 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, MAY 13 – SATURDAY, JULY 27: Summer Reading Program:

For all ages. Join us for a summer of fun! Read books to win prizes and goodies.

TUESDAY, MAY 14: Teen Snack & Chat:

3:00 pm. For 11-18. Join us for snacks and

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Schedule, dates and activities may be adjusted due to Wisconsin's ever-changing weather conditions.

These activities are designed for families with children/grandchildren ages Pre-K to 12th grade, accompanied by at least one adult. All events are free of charge. Required to register in advance online: <https://bit.ly/mhagreatoutdoors>.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15: Mindful Hike & Art Make and Take: 1:00-3:00pm. River-edge Nature Center (Saukville).

SUNDAY, MAY 26: Family Yoga in the Woods: 10:30-11:30am. Blackwolf Run Yoga Platform (Kohler).

THURSDAY, JUNE 13: Gardens and Books Exploration and Art Make & Take: 1:00-2:30pm. Bookworm Gardens (Sheboygan).

EVENTS AT GENERATIONS

Generations Center
1500 Douglas Dr., Plymouth
For more info,
call 920-892-4858

TUESDAY, APRIL 30: Great Marriages Info Session: 11:00am. Learn about the Great Marriages organization and what services they provide. Please call 920-892-4858 to RSVP.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30: Consumer Fraud Protection Series: 5:00pm. Learn about

safe online shopping. All are welcome. Please call 920-892-4858 for more information.

TUESDAY, MAY 7: Aging with Style Senior Expo: 11am - 3pm. Meet with local experts that can make your life happier, healthier, and wealthier. Pre-register to be eligible for door prizes.

FRIDAY, MAY 10: Spring Wildflowers at Maywood: 11am - 3pm. Maywood, 3615 Mueller Rd, Sheboygan. Join Generations at Maywood to view and learn about Spring Wildflowers.

MONDAY, MAY 13: Sugar Shack Presentation: 1pm. Learn about the proposed Sugar Shack from the Plymouth Maple Association.

TUESDAY, MAY 7: Aging with Style Senior Expo: 11am - 3pm. Meet with local experts that can make your life happier, healthier, and wealthier. Pre-register to be eligible for door prizes. Please call 920-892-4858 to RSVP.

MONDAY, MAY 13: Sugar Shack Presentation by Plymouth Maple Association: 1pm. Learn more about the proposed Sugar Shack from members of the Plymouth Maple Association.

GENERATIONS CENTER MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

1500 DOUGLAS DR., PLYMOUTH. 920-892-4858

Parkinson's Support Group: 3rd Friday of the month at 1:00pm. Call for more information.

Parkinson's Focused Exercise: Friday, 12:00pm.

Dance Fusion: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30am.

Chair Dance: Monday & Wednesday, 12:00pm

Silver Sneakers Circuit: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, 8:00am & 10:00am.

Movement for Brain, Body,

& Balance: Monday, 11:00am.

Chair Pilates: Wednesday & Friday, 11:00am.

Chair Yoga: Monday & Wednesday, 1:30pm.

Cardio Fit: Tuesday & Thursday, 7:30am.

Walk with Ease: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday, 2:30pm. In partnership with the Sheboygan County ADRC.

Walk Fit: Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30am.

Arthritis Exercise Class: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30am & 11:00am.

Tai Chi Chih: Tuesday & Thursday, 1:15pm.

Strength and Conditioning: Monday & Wednesday 7:15am.

Yoga Flow: Monday & Wednesday 9:00am.

Yoga for Balance and Stability: Friday 9:00am.

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

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

Reflexology: Tuesday mornings. Call 920-892-4821 for appointment.

Widow or Widower Support Group: Monday, 11:00am. Travel Program - Various trips: Call for more information.

Knitting & Crocheting Club: 2nd Friday of the month, 11:00am.

Book Club: 4th Monday of the month, 3:00pm.

Dog Club: 2nd Friday of the month, 11:00am. Location varies. Call for more information.

Hiking/Snowshoe Club: Thursday, 2:00pm.

Biking Club: Tuesday, 9:00am. Location varies. Call for more information.

Mini Golf League: At Tom & Jerry's Mini Golf, Thursday, 10:00am.

Tat & Chat: Monday, 1:00pm.

Ceramics: Wednesday, 9:00am.

Wii Bowling: Tuesday & Thursday, by appointment.

Ping Pong: Monday & Wednesday, 10:00am.

Cribbage: Monday, 1:00pm. Hand and Foot Canasta: Monday, 1:00pm.

Duplicate Bridge: 1st & 3rd Monday, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.

5 10 15 Sheepshead: Tuesday, 1:00pm & Monday & Friday, 8:00am.

Farkle: 1st & 3rd Thursday, 1:00pm.

Bonco: 2nd Monday, 4:30pm.

Party Bridge: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 1:15pm.

Dominoes: 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 1:00pm.

Bingo: Wednesday, 1:30pm.

Scrabble: Thursday, 9:30am.

Mah Jongg: Thursday, 1:00pm.

EVERY SUNDAY

Al-Anon Meeting: 6:00pm. The Riteway Club, 4627 S. 12th St, Sheboygan. Contact Jennie 920-901-4550.

EVERY MONDAY

T.O.P.S. Weight Loss Support: 9:45am-11:00am (*please arrive before 10am*). 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.

SECOND MONDAY

OF THE MONTH

Compassionate Parents: Grief Support for families that lost a child: 6:00-8:00pm. Mental Health America, 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth, WI 53073.

THRIVE: Chronic Pain Support: 6:30pm. Virtual through ZOOM. Fill out the form at bit.ly/mhasupportgroupsignup to receive ZOOM link.

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Christian Women Connect After 5: Al & Al's Steinhaus, 1502 S. 12th St, Sheboygan, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., buffet meal, features a business, organization or interest in our county, and an inspirational speaker affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries. Call Lynn for reservation or more info at 920-467-4929.

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

the *Beacon*

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AI-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

features a business, organization, or interest in our county, and an inspirational speaker affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries. Call or text Ann for a reservation or more info at 920-946-3898.

ners: 1907 Club, N 21st St., Sheboygan, 9:30am. Call 920-838-5249 for more information.
AI-Anon Serenity Seekers: Meets at Right Way Club, 4627 S. 12th St, Sheboygan, 9:30am. Call 920-918-6324 for information.
AI-Anon Meeting: 9:30-10:30am. Do you worry about someone else's drinking? Help and hope are available. AI-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.
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 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.
Christian Science Reading Room: 6:30-7:30pm. A quiet

SHEBOYGAN NORTH HIGH PLANT SALE



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SATURDAY, MAY 4 • 4:00-9:00PM
SUNDAY, MAY 5 • 9:00AM-3:00PM

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FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

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. Rogers Behavioral Health, (Main Entrance), 1108 S. Wildwood Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081.

SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Going Further: Mental Health Recovery Support: 5:00pm. Rogers Behavioral Health, (Main Entrance), 1108 S. Wildwood Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081.

THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Christian Women Connection: Sheboygan Yacht Club, 214 Pennsylvania Ave, Sheboygan, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m., brunch,

LAST TUESDAY 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
AI-Anon Wednesday Win-



FURever Home

Luna

Do you believe there's a perfect dog out there for every dog person? Because we do, but it's been over 245+ days and Luna still hasn't found her forever person.



She's often overlooked, but all the volunteers and staff just ADORE her! She's smart, playful, treat-motivated, and has soft honey-colored fur. Luna is 3 years old and weighs 75 lbs. She loves walks, playing, and cuddles but is also an independent lady who likes to take in the world at her own pace.

She's a smart cookie who's treat-motivated and loves to learn, so obedience school would really help her master leash manners, control her excitement, and manage her reactivity. She needs to be in a home without cats or small dogs (she thinks they're toys!).

Luna is a big fan of the simple things in life: rolling around in the grass, soaking in the sun, and splashing in the pool. She has quite a bit of energy, so she's ready for adventures, but she also knows how to relax and loves a good snuggle.

She's been around children of all ages and knows to be careful around them, but they probably shouldn't be in control of her leash until she learns she doesn't need to pull when she gets excited.

Are you and Luna a perfect match? Come meet her at the Humane Society and find out.

For more information on adopting Luna or how to submit an application, please visit www.adoptsheboygancounty.org or call 920-458-2012

Join us for our 60th Anniversary Gala at the Berkshire in Sheboygan for an evening of good food, shelter pets, and good company. Sponsor, attend, bid online from home or donate by visiting 2024HSSCGala.givesmart.com

Come see us for lunch at Miesfeld's Triangle Market for a Brat Fry, Bake Sale, and an adoptable pet on May 31, 2024

Ales and Tails Humane Society of Sheboygan County's 60th Anniversary Party at 3 Sheep's Taproom on July 28th. Mark your calendars and watch for more details.

Courtesy of The Plymouth Review and The Sheboygan Beacon

It's Our 60th Anniversary!

Join us for the Humane Society of Sheboygan County's Anniversary Party Gala. *You're in for a treat!*

Friday, May 10
5:30-9:30pm
The Berkshire
 821 N. 8th St | Sheboygan

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MAY 31-JUNE 2

MotoAmerica Superbikes & Vintage MotoFest

JUNE 6-9

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JUNE 21-23

WeatherTech Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints

JUNE 28-30

Trans Am SpeedTour

JULY 11-14

WeatherTech International Challenge
with Brian Redman

JULY 26-28

GRIDLIFE Music & Motorsports Festival

AUGUST 1-4

IMSA SportsCar Weekend

AUGUST 16-18

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Buffalo Joe

Saturday May 4
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Suzie and The Detonators

FRI, May 10.....Triva/DJ/Karaoke 7pm-12am

Saturday May 11
7pm-11pm



Karen's Hit List

Friday May 17
7pm-11pm



Ronnie Nyles & Tina Dimmer

Saturday May 18
8pm-12am



PRODIGAL SONS

FRI, May 24.....Triva/DJ/Karaoke 7pm-12am

Saturday May 25
7pm-11pm



Luma Knotty

Friday May 31
7pm-11pm



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place to pray & read the Bible. Christian Science publications and to study other books, pamphlets and materials. All are welcome! First Church of Christ, Scientist, 2512 N 9th St., Sheboygan. 920-458-2673.

Christian Science Testimony Meeting: 7:30 pm. We invite you to share testimonies of healings, experiences, and/or remarks on Christian Science. All are welcome! First Church of Christ, Scientist, 2512 N 9th St., Sheboygan. 920-458-2673.

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.

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. Mental Health America, 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth, WI 53073.

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 elcinc@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.

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



Happy Mother's Day

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for our upcoming Christmas Season. For additional info call Jim 920-946-6703 or Bill at 920-980-1733.

FIRST & THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

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.

SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Plymouth Area Garden Club: 6 pm September thru May in the Craft Room at Generations in Plymouth to discuss garden related topics. Contact Sandy for more information. 920-912-3817.

THIRD 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.

Hope is Alive: Support for mothers who have lost a child to suicide: 6:00-7:00PM. Mental Health America, 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth, WI 53073.

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 at 920-374-9302 for information.

Plymouth Food Pantry: 2225 Eastern Ave., 10-noon. Elkhart Lake & Plymouth school districts. Call 893-2989 for information.

The Way Youth Group: The Upper Room, 1125 N 8th Street, Sheboygan. 6:00-8:00pm. Looking for something fun for your kid to do this weekend? The Upper Room in downtown Sheboygan is hosting a Youth Group for ages 12-18 years old on Saturday nights. Come join us from 6-8pm for worship, a bible-based lesson, food, games and fun! See you there!

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

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 rail-

road antiques. Open for your viewing pleasure.

Christian Science Reading Room: 10am-1pm. A quiet place to pray & read the Bible. Christian Science publications and to study other books, pamphlets and materials. All are welcome! First Church of Christ, Scientist, 2512 N 9th St., Sheboygan. 920-458-2673.

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.

SECOND & FOURTH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

Women Within: 1907 Club, 2908 N 21st St, Sheboygan. 11:00 AM. 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.

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.

Christian Science Reading Room: 10am-1pm. A quiet place to pray & read the Bible. Christian Science publications and to study other books, pamphlets and materials. All are welcome! First Church of Christ, Scientist, 2512 N 9th St., Sheboygan. 920-458-2673.

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Sartori Master Cheesemaker featured on Top Chef episode

DJ Dave Boehler
for The Beacon

Don't waste time asking Pam Hodgson if she knows who ends up winning Top Chef: Wisconsin.

"I'm going to find out with the rest of us, and I'm going to speculate with the rest of us," she said.

The Sartori employee, one of only two women Master Cheesemakers in the world, was on the third episode of the television show that aired April 3 (and every Wednesday night) on Bravo.

"I think it's really good for Wisconsin," Hodgson said. "It's showing all the things that we know and love here to everybody else."

The show features chefs competing against each other in culinary challenges. They are judged by a panel of professional chefs and other notables from the food and wine industry, with one or more contestants eliminated in each episode.

But before Top Chef picked Wisconsin for its 21st season, Hodgson and a number of cheesemakers were invited to Madison in late 2022 to talk about dairy with the show's producers and share various samples.

"So they could really get a taste of what Wisconsin is," Hodgson said.

After Top Chef decided to pick the Badger state, Hodgson got an email late last spring inviting her to participate in an

episode. "I don't know that I ever expected to be on Top Chef in any function or anything like that," Hodgson said. "But looking at the whole thing, it's a tremendous opportunity for us in Wisconsin to showcase what we're about. The particular episode that had Wisconsin cheeses, as an industry we got product placement from coast to coast because of that. And that's just a really neat opportunity."

Filming began this past August, and Hodgson's two-day excursion started in Top Chef's kitchen that was set up in an industrial building in Oak Creek.

After the chefs did a Quick-fire Challenge for the show, Hodgson and Uplands cheesemaker Andy Hatch were brought out to announce the theme for that episode's Elimination Challenge: its first-ever cheese festival.

The following day, Hodgson and others were told to meet at a church parking lot so they could take a bus to an unknown site to continue filming.

"There's a lot of secrecy around it," she said.

So much so, Hodgson had to sign what she called a "pretty serious" non-disclosure agreement.

"Which basically said if you talk about what you saw or what happened on the show before it airs ... we're going to hold you liable for a very large sum of money," she said. "So I was kind of like, okay, I don't need to talk about this until the show airs."



SARTORI'S PAM HODGSON (second from left) was featured on the TV show Top Chef: Wisconsin earlier this month. — photo by NBC Universal

The cheese festival was held at The Cupola Barn in Oconomowoc, and Hodgson was able to bring a plus-one: Allison Klauke from Sartori's marketing department.

A full sun - with humidity - made it one of the hottest days of the year during filming outside.

"I really give all the chefs a lot of credit for doing a great job in that environment," Hodgson said. "Everybody was pretty hot and ready to be done at the end of the day."

The chefs prepared various dishes, and contestant Kaleena Bliss featured Sartori's Merlot BellaVitano in a mac and cheese dish with wine-soaked mushrooms.

"I think she really understood what that cheese was,

and she made a dish that complimented the best parts of that cheese," Hodgson said. "So I was really delighted in that."

Hodgson and plenty of other guests milled around the venue from food station to station, as crews continued to roll the cameras.

Some seven-plus months later, Hodgson watched the episode with the rest of America.

"This whole opportunity wouldn't have happened if I wasn't working at Sartori," she said. "Sartori is so innovative and creative in trying new things with products. Cheese is ancient, right? There's thousands of different varieties of cheese, and at Sartori, they're always trying to create new 'wow' experiences, new cheeses. Without a doubt, the oppor-

tunity came my way because I work at Sartori, and I'm very appreciative to that."



The Review and Sheboygan Falls News

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On a nice warm spring day, head outside, and take a moment to slow down. Feel the warmth from the sun, listen to the wind through the trees or the birds chirping, smell the fresh flowers, and look for the bees, butterflies, and other pollinators visiting your space. It is estimated that "about 75% of the world's flowering plants and about 35% of the world's food crops depend on animal pollinators," according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and spring is the perfect time to discover how you can support them.

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) states "a pollinator is any animal that visits flowering plants and transfers pollen from flower to flower, thus aiding plant reproduction." Other pollinators in North America include hummingbirds, flies, beetles, wasps, and even bats in some places. Some of these animals, like the butterfly, pollinate other plants on accident when searching



DAIRY DELIGHTS

Ashley Hagenow, 76th Alice in Dairyland

for nectar, while bees purposefully collect pollen as a protein source for their young, making them very effective pollinators. Wisconsin's pollinator-dependent crops account for over \$275 million in annual production. These crops include apples, cranberries, cherries, green beans, pickling cucumbers, and fresh market fruits and vegetables.

If you would like to help pollinators in your yard or community, here are a few tips from a variety of Wisconsin-based resources like the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and DATCP, who have more tips available on their websites.

- Give water and shelter. Pollinators need water to drink and safe places to rest, avoid bad weather, and spend the winter. You can provide brush and leaf piles, leave areas of longer grass or patches of bare earth, and provide water, such as a bird bath.

- Plant a variety of flowers that bloom at different times during the year, especially native varieties, in many different colors.

- Bees can't see red, so they are attracted to blue, white, and yellow flowers.

- Butterflies are drawn to orange, red, and yellow.

- If needing to use pesticides, be sure to thoroughly read and follow the label directions,

avoid spraying onto flowering plants or other areas popular to pollinators, and rotate pesticide types, helping to avoid pesticide resistance.

It is almost swarm season for our most familiar pollinator, the honeybee. When a colony outgrows its home, about half of the bees, along with a new queen, will leave in search of a new home, creating their own colony. The "swarm" and its queen will gather in a space outside of the hive like a tree, bush, or other structure, while scout bees go and look for a new home. Although a giant pile of honeybees may be frightening at first, these swarms are typically quite docile and pose no

threat to you or your family. If a swarm comes to you, visit wihoney.org/find-local-honey to find a beekeeper who can come collect the swarm and give them a new home.

As I have traveled across Wisconsin visiting different classrooms in our state, I love sharing more about our valuable pollinators, such as honeybees, who help us to grow a diverse group of foods that Wisconsin agriculture is known for. Honeybees, and many other species of pollinators, help to keep agriculture in Wisconsin strong and vibrant!

Agriculture in Wisconsin, and across the world, would look a lot different without our pollinators' help. Visit your local University of Wisconsin Extension Agency office, talk to a local beekeeper, or reach out to DATCP's Apiary Program for more information on how you can help our pollinators thrive.



Honeybees purposefully collect pollen as a protein source for their young, making them very effective pollinators! (Credit: Canva)



Hummingbirds are another plant pollinator that aid in plant reproduction. (Credit: Canva)



The butterfly might pollinate other plants on accident when searching for nectar! (Credit: Canva)



The Wisconsin Honey Producers and the Wisconsin Honey Queen are great resources for honeybees and honey in Wisconsin! (Credit: Alice in Dairyland)

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13-term veteran chosen to chair county board

by Emmitt B. Feldner
for The Beacon

SHEBOYGAN – Town of Rhine Supervisor Keith Abler is the new chair of the Sheboygan County Board.

Abler, who is beginning his 13th term on the County Board, was elected on the first ballot by the board Tuesday, getting 23 votes with one abstention and Supervisor John Nelson absent.

Supervisor Curt Brauer, who represents the 10th District on the south side of the city of Sheboygan, was elected vice-chair on one ballot, with 22 votes and two abstentions.

"We'll keep on carrying on doing the right things for Sheboygan County," Abler said in thanking the board for his election. "We'll

continue on the service this great county has been building."

Abler served as board vice-chair for the previous four years under former board chair Vernon Koch.

County Board rules limit the chair and vice-chair to a maximum of two two-year terms.

Although it is not a written rule, the election of Abler and Brauer continues a board tradition of splitting the chair and vice-

chair positions between one supervisor from outside the city of Sheboygan and one from the city.

The board also elected three supervisors to serve on the Executive Committee along with the board chair and vice-chair.

Supervisors William Goehring of Random Lake and Edward Procek and Kathleen Donovan from the city of Sheboygan were elected to the other three Executive Committee positions.

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by Jackie Sharfenberg
retired DNR naturalist

For many of us who walk the Tamarack Nature Trail around Mauthe Lake, we remember often getting wet, muddy feet as we tried to dodge water puddles found between the campground and the bridge over the Milwaukee River – East Branch. As of this spring, this is no longer the case! The trail in that section has been reconstructed to raise it above puddle level and drain water through culverts under the trail. It took some hard work on

behalf of the Kettle Moraine State Forest – Northern Unit’s staff to complete this project. The crew faced several setbacks caused by permit delays, wet weather, unfrozen ground, bird nesting seasons, and equipment failures, but they laid the last stone this past winter. The first step of the project involved installing many culverts to direct water under the trail. Next, the staff laid down large rock to form a foundation for the trailbed. This was followed by a layer of medium-sized gravel. When funding becomes available, a third layer of finer gravel will be added to make the trail even more accessible to more people.

The financing for this remake of the trail came from

many sources. They included two large donations from dedicated Tamarack Trail enthusiasts and many smaller gifts from other trail users. The Friends of the Kettle Moraine doubled their contribution with a grant from a Knowles/Nelson Stewardship Fund. The Kettle Moraine State Forest – Northern Unit covered the labor costs. As you can see, it took a whole team to bring this project to fruition.

As the two-mile Tamarack Nature Trail circles Mauthe lake, it traverses several plant communities including a floodplain forest, a pine plantation, and cedar swamp. It also crosses the East Branch of the Milwaukee River twice – at the spillway dam where the river leaves Mauthe Lake

and upriver from where it enters the lake. With all this diversity, the trail provides a hot spot for birders, especially in the spring when those long distant migrants stop over to rest and refuel.

The Northern Unit is known for rugged trails, but the Tamarack Nature Trail proves the exception with its flat terrain making it a perfect trail for all types of walkers and hikers including families with children. The trail offers a great destination for your out-of-town guests to enjoy a bit of the Northern Unit while stretching their legs while visiting to catch up on local happenings. You can jump on the trail at the

Mauthe Lake Recreation Area where there are bathrooms, a sandy swimming beach, shaded picnic tables, and playground. You can also access the trail from the Forest Headquarters by the maintenance shop in which there are also bathrooms. Remember that a Wisconsin State Park System vehicle admission sticker is required to park at the Mauthe Lake Recreation Area.

Lace up your walking shoes, leave your rubber boots at home, and head out to the new and improved Tamarack Nature Trail. No matter the season, you can always find something special as you travel along the trail.

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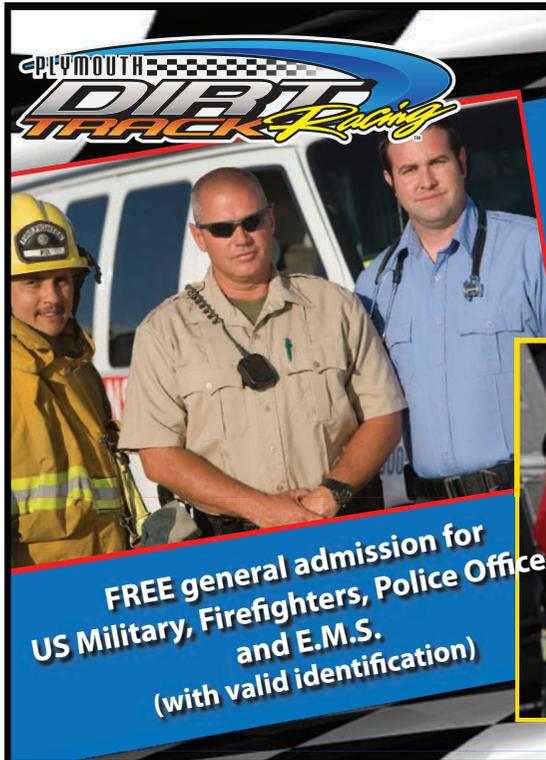
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Lewis Classing will be done after all teams have completed 4 rounds.



Sheboygan Falls Conservation Club

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Food/News Recipes, tips & nutrition

How to build a better burger



Backyard barbecue season is starting to heat up. Although many people grill all year long, grilling season kicks into high gear in spring and summer.

Burgers will always be quintessential grilling fare. It should come as no surprise that the month of May is National Hamburger Month. That's likely due to Memorial Day weekend — which many view as the unofficial start of summer — being one of the first times of the year people begin grilling burgers. Despite burgers' popularity, it's easy to make mistakes when preparing them. These tips can help anyone build a better burger.

Use freshly ground meat

Buying ready-made ground meat (of any variety) is taking a gamble because you don't know when it was ground, how many

animals it came from or how it was handled. By freshly grinding the meat at home you will have greater control over the cut of meat and the fat content. Personally ground meat will be fresher, especially when you get nice cuts of meat directly from your local butcher. Top chefs suggest dicing cold meat into chunks and freezing for about 10 minutes prior to grinding for the best results.

Fat is key

For the most juicy, flavorful burger, you'll want a ratio of 80 percent meat to 20 percent fat. Some people like to eat lean, but with a burger, the fat will be necessary and it's better to select leaner meats for other dishes.

Don't overwork the meat

Handling the burger patties too much can lead to dense,

tough burgers. Gently shape the burgers into round, 1-inch thick, flat discs. To prevent the burgers from rounding in the middle during cooking, press a dimple with your thumb in the center of the patty to help it cook evenly. It's a smart idea to weigh each patty to ensure uniformity of size and even cooking.

Don't add salt early on

Salt added to the ground meat before it's shaped can draw the liquid out of the meat, leaving a dry burger behind. Sprinkle salt sparingly while it is cooking for flavoring.

Avoid overcooking

Most health authorities recommend not leaving any pink meat in a burger made from ground meat. According to BBC Good Food, burgers can be cooked for 5 to 6 minutes on each side for medium and 8 to 9 minutes per side for well done. For the best results, use a food thermometer to check internal temperature. The USDA says ground meat, whether it's pork, veal, beef, or lamb, should be cooked to 160 F

Flip as desired

The cooking resource Serious Eats debunked the myth that burgers should only be flipped once. Flipping the burger repeatedly, as often as once every 15 seconds, encourages faster, more even internal cooking and can dramatically reduce cooking time.

Keep the patties separate

Let everyone build their own burgers, as keeping the cooked meat away from the burger buns for as long as possible will reduce the chances of the juices making the buns soggy. Soft,

squishy buns tend to make for good burger eating, as they will not overwhelm the meat with too much crusty bread.

The smell of grilling burgers is in the air. Ensure that every burger is a masterpiece by utilizing some important cooking tips.



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April 8 to April 12, 2024

DCA

Adkins, Joseph R., 2/14/2006, Bail Jumping-Misdemeanor-2 years, Criminal Damage to Property-Party to a Crime-Misdemeanor, 2 years.

Harris, Savon T., 5/6/1998, Sheboygan, Intimidate Victim-Dissuade Reporting (Domestic Abuse-Misdemeanor)-2 years, Disorderly Conduct-(Domestic Abuse-Misdemeanor)-2 years, Bail Jumping (Misdemeanor)-2 years.

Revoke DCA

Earls, Emilio A., 9/2/2002, Sheboygan, (guilty on 3 counts of Reckless Driving-Cause Bodily Harm), Jail 90 days, owes \$1,555.00.

Forfeitures

Smith, Michael S., 10/1988, Sheboygan, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, \$200.50.

Traffic and other charges

Heil, Orion L., 5/1996, Sheboygan, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Forfeiture), Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, (Traffic), \$401.00.

Traffic

Anaya-Santillan, Mario A., 6/28/1988, Sheboygan, Operating while Revoked (due to alcohol/controlled substance/refusal), \$654.00.

Castillo, Emanuel, 8/1984, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Operating while Suspended, \$401.00.

Cisneros, Taylor A., 2/2000, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Fail/Stop for Unloading School Bus, \$527.00.

Flores Panameno, Fernando E., 5/1985, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Operate w/o Valid License, \$401.00.

Garcaijimenez, Martin, 8/1983, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Operate w/o Valid License, \$401.00.

Hawkins Sr., George J., 1/1992, Sheboygan, Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto, Operating while Suspended, \$375.80.

Her, Choua, 6/1981, Sheboygan, Driving Wrong Way on Divided Highway, \$326.50.

Luckett, Vincent L., 4/1993, Sheboygan, Display Unauthorized Vehicle Registration Plate, \$238.30.

Petty, Damein L., 2/1969, Sheboygan, Operate after Revocation/Suspension of Registration, \$175.30.

Rodriguez, Esperanza A., 10/1997, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Proof of Insurance, \$210.50.

Ryan, Breanna L., 4/1988, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, \$401.00.

Turner, Alexander D.D., 4/1997, Sheboygan, Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto, Speeding on Freeway (25-29 mph), License Suspension 15 days, \$476.60.

Vue, Mai Tong, 7/1992, Sheboygan, Operate motor Vehicle w/o Proof of Insurance, \$10.00.

White, Daniel A., 1/1967, Sheboygan, Driving too fast for Conditions, \$213.10.

Wilson, Kaden J., 4/2006, Sheboygan, Unsafe Turn at Intersection, \$358.00.

Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt

Meyer, Jason T., 6/2004, Sheboygan Falls, \$10.00.

Mueller, Jeffrey R., 12/1963, Random Lake, \$10.00.

Winkel, Gregory S., 7/1961, Sheboygan, \$10.00.

Fail/Stop for Unloading School Bus
Baeza, Diego, 3/2005, Sheboygan, \$326.50.

White, Corey J., 12/1985, Sheboygan, \$326.50.

Operate while Suspended

Kinney, Ian T., 5/1987, Sheboygan Falls, \$200.50.

Operate w/o Valid License

Mendez-Ibarra, Lizbeth, 2/1986, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Speeding on Freeway

Vang, Jimmy, 9/2005, Sheboygan, (20-24 mph), \$276.10.

Willis, Joseph P., 12/2003, Sheboygan, (20-24 mph), \$276.10.

Exceeding Speed Zones

Kramer, Tina J., 11/1955, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), \$175.30.

Licari, Lori Ann, 8/1988, Sheboygan, (25-29 mph), \$250.90.

Regazzi, David J., 11/1995, Sheboygan, (20-24 mph), \$225.70.

Sixel, Alicia L., 4/1986, Sheboygan, (20-24 mph), \$225.70.

Hash, Dorien M., 11/22/1995, Sheboygan, (2nd), Jail 10 days, License Revoke 12 months, Ignition Interlock 12 months, \$1441.00.

Richter, Joshua J., 1/4/1988, Sheboygan, (2nd), Jail 30 days, License Revoke 14 months, Ignition Interlock 14 months, \$1,713.50.

Saeger, Megan L., 7/24/1990, Sheboygan, (3rd), Jail 45 days, License Revoke 31 months, Ignition Interlock 31 months, \$3,401.00.

Misdemeanors

Andrus, Nicholas A., 9/21/1999, Sheboygan, Intentionally Mistreat Animals, \$654.00.

Diaz Jr., Miguel A., 11/4/1990, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse-3 counts), \$1,823.00.

Douglas, Ryan A., 8/28/1989, Sheboygan, Possess/Illegally Obtained Prescription (Repeater), Jail 90 days, \$455.00.

Filz, Andrew J., 11/8/1970, Sheboygan, 4th Degree Sexual Assault, Jail 10 days (stayed), \$455.00.

Schmidt, Skyla R., 2/9/2003, Sheboygan, Retail Theft-Intentionally Take <\$500, (Repeater), \$465.00.

Misdemeanors and Felonies

Humphrey, Dejuan L., 3/6/1982, Sheboygan, Sex Offender Registry-Fail to Register-Other State or Federal, Battery by Prisoners, (Felonies), Disorderly Conduct (Misdemeanor), Jail 19 months, \$1,531.00.

Felonies

Cruz, Efrain N., 6/2/2002, Sheboygan, 1st Degree Child Sex Assault-Sexual Contact or Sexual Intercourse with Child under 13, Jail 12 months (stayed), Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, Sex Offender Registry-Lifetime, \$1,312.80.

Medina-Fonseca Jr., Carlos E., 9/3/2001, Sheboygan, Bail Jumping (3 counts), Jail 90 days (stayed), \$1,594.40.

Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Quezada-Aguilar, Gloria O., 4/9/1977, Sheboygan, (2nd within 3 years), \$654.00.

Operate a Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance

Olivera, Heidi, L., 2/1979, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Rivera, Garret I., 2/2000, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto
Brewer, Damon B., 3/1999, Sheboygan, \$175.30.

Speeding in 55 mph Zone
AGarrett, Jashanti U., 1/2004, Sheboygan, (1-10 mph), \$213.10.

Speeding on Freeway
Bailey, Brian K., 11/1968, Sheboygan, (35+ mph), License Suspension 15 days, \$515.50.

Krezinski, Paula L., 9/1993, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), \$276.10.

Exceeding Speed Zones
Dziadulewicz, Lisa Ann, 6/1966, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), \$200.50.

Gonzalez, Ruby R., 1/2001, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), \$200.50.

Harris, Patrick A., 5/1990, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), \$200.50.

Misdemeanors and Others
Jacobs, Arlond D., 8/27/1989, Sheboygan, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Misdemeanor), Disorderly Conduct, (Forfeiture), \$1173.50.

Turner, Tiondaye N., 11/5/1990, Sheboygan, Resisting or Obstructing

an Officer, (Misdemeanor), Operating w/o Carrying License (Traffic), Jail 60 days, \$672.10.

Misdemeanors

Kocmoud, Kenneth R., 5/27/1990, Sheboygan, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Jail 4 days, \$455.00.

Leonhardt, Kenya T., 7/13/1999, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct, Jail 30 days (stayed), \$1794.65.

McNeal, Brandon A., 1/10/1984, Sheboygan, Resisting or Obstructing an Officer, \$455.00.

Mungon, Christopher D., 11/21/1990, Sheboygan, Battery (Domestic Abuse), Jail 135 days, \$555.00.

Felonies

Froh, Cody A., 11/5/1992, Sheboygan, Neglecting a Child (No Harm and Child > 6 years or Disability), Possess Firearm/Convicted of a Felony, Possession w/Intent-THC (>1000-2500 g), Prison 16 months, Extended Supervision 24 months, \$1,494.40.

Miracola, Crystal M., 12/16/1979, Sheboygan, Bail Jumping (2 counts), Possession of Methamphetamine, Prison 4 years (imposed/stayed), Extended Supervision 6 years (imposed/stayed), Jail 6 months (stayed), Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$1,610.80.

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Forfeitures

Terry, Shania R., 7/2005, Sheboygan, Petty Theft, \$389.50.

Disorderly Conduct

Jones, Christa D.R., 2/16/1992, Sheboygan, \$300.00.

Jurado, Amy E., 8/30/1985, Sheboygan, \$204.50.

Yang, Xoua, 12/12/1992, Sheboygan, (2 counts), \$661.00.

Traffic

Harris, Karen A., 3/1950, Sheboygan, Fail/Yield Emerging from Non-Highway Access, \$175.30.

Helling, Cory Lee, 5/1986, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Speeding on Freeway (20-24 mph), \$476.60.

Ignaciogonzales, Fernando, 7/1999, Sheboygan, Fail/Stop for Unloading School Bus, Operate w/o Valid License, \$527.00.

Perez, Jennifer J., 10/1989, Sheboygan, Operate after Revocation/Suspension of Registration, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, \$375.80.

Sessions Jr., Andrew K., 11/1987, Sheboygan, Operate after Revocation/Suspension of Registration, \$175.30.

Shane, Adam L., 7/1977, Sheboygan, Speedometer Violations, \$175.30.

Shinn, Alice A.M., 10/2005, Sheboygan, Fail/Stop at Stop Sign, \$175.30.

Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt

Fitzgerald, Robert E., 11/1970, Sheboygan, \$10.00.

Hill Jr., Joel L., 6/1981, Sheboygan, \$10.00.

Shulak, Roxanne L., 10/1970, Sheboygan, \$10.00.

Operate while Suspended

Lee, Pa Nhia, 5/1994, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Moore, Rayisha L., 4/1994, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Operate w/o Valid License

Alvarez, Marisol R., 5/1999, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Diazmayra, Miguel A., 9/1991, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Fenton Jr., Tyrone D., 3/1999,

Popular area gift store sets up shop in Sheboygan Falls

by **Jeff Pederson**
for The Beacon

After spending over 30 years in Sheboygan County operating from six different locations, Surprises! has made the move to Sheboygan Falls. Under the ownership of Lynn Siever Rouse, the origin of Surprises! dates back to the mid-1990s when it opened in a shanty along Sheboygan's Riverfront business district. Flash forward to 30 years later, and Surprises! has opened at its seventh, and



LYNN SIEVER ROUSSE has relocated Surprises! retail store from its former location in Sheboygan to 610 Broadway St. in downtown Sheboygan Falls.

according to Rouse final, location nestled within the bustling, historic downtown Sheboygan Falls business district at 610 Broadway St. Rouse, who is a lifelong resident of Sheboygan County, is pleased to be collaborating with longtime friend, Bonnie Roth, in launching the latest incarnation of Surprises!, which officially opened its doors to customers on Wednesday, April 17. "We're happy to again offer a traditional gift shop retailing in the era of disappearing small business gift shops," Rouse said. "Unfortunately, we've outlasted many of our long-term vendors who did not survive the pandemic." Shortly after learning in

late 2023 that she would no longer be able to operate the store at its former Sheboygan location, Rouse began a search for a suitable Surprises! storefront and the perfect spot in downtown Sheboygan Falls came calling. "After being an established Sheboygan retailer for all these years, we love the charm and community atmosphere seen in the Sheboygan Falls shopping district," Rouse said. "Wanting to relocate during the first quarter of 2024, the new location checked off all the requirements for setting up an exciting, new space while offering the charm and warmth of a historic, older building. "Our favorite locations

have been the older storefronts built long ago," she said. "The interior of the new Surprises! store in Falls is reminiscent of the wood finishes seen in the riverfront shanties from the early days in Sheboygan. What's old is new again!" True to its past form, Surprises! will provide a unique shopping experience for those searching for the perfect gift or a hard-to-find item ranging a bit outside the ordinary. "Surprises! will continue to be a gift resource for those seeking unusual and unique items for their personal use or to give to those special people

see SURPRISES page 21

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SURPRISES from 20

in their life,” Rouse said. “After beginning as a small costume jewelry retailer and growing into a shop with a wide variety of gift lines for people of all ages, our quest has been to offer something not seen in other stores in our area.

“We stock the shelves with mostly new gift items, but a variety of vintage collectibles will be available for the first time in Sheboygan County as well,” she said.

According to Rouse, the store will showcase a wide range of intriguing items from the world of entertainment and popular culture.

“A private collection of ‘Wizard of Oz’ items is being sold for the first time in decades,” Rouse said. “Items featuring many ‘stars’ will stock the shelves, including Elvis Presley, Marilyn Mon-

roe, Lucille Ball, Betty Boop and more.

“And, by demand, the ever-popular Italian-style charm bracelets will continue to be available for a new generation of buyers,” she said. “Costume jewelry from U.S. designers and sources abroad will be showcased too. As has been our goal for our business, we strive to have items available for every budget.”

After setting up shop at a variety of different locations over the past three decades, Rouse feels like she has found a special home for Surprises! in Sheboygan Falls.

“The Sheboygan Falls Chamber-Main Street program promotes the total environment of retail, whether the business is a food establishment, a salon, a specialty retailer of specific goods, a service business, or a place to get a beer after work, which we appreciate a great deal,”

Rouse said. “There are so many food and shopping choices that are thriving in a great atmosphere of working together in Falls.

“When introducing myself to my retail neighbors, everyone was welcoming and happy to have another shopping destination within the downtown Falls business district,” she said. “We find Sheboygan Falls to be small-town retailing at its finest. In addition, downtown Falls has so much to offer all within a short walking distance.”

With the benefit of a loyal customer base already in place, Rouse hopes to retain her longtime supporters, while attracting a new contingent of Sheboygan Falls Surprises! shoppers.

“Surprises! has a long-established clientele, so we believe those Sheboygan residents who want what we offer, will come to the Falls store.”



Sound Advice
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New Hearing Aid Battery Packaging Could Pose Problems for Seniors

In August of 2022, Congress passed a bill with bi-partisan support mandating that inserted button cell batteries be sealed in child-proof packaging after the horrific death of an 18-month-old child who had swallowed what’s commonly known as coin battery.

These batteries are often used in remote controls, greeting cards, and hearing aids.

The law, known as Reese’s Law, was named after a little girl who swallowed a remote-control battery and the electrical current and chemicals from the battery burned a hole in her esophagus and trachea, requiring multiple emergency surgeries during her two-month stay in the hospital before she died in December of 2020.

“We noticed a button battery missing in our home and so we rushed her to the ER,” her mother Trista Hamsmith said. “We had countless scopes, surgeries, scans, and sedation,” she said. “It was 47 days from the day it started until the day she passed.”

From 2011 through 2021, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has recorded 27 deaths and an estimated 54,300 injuries treated in emergency rooms associated with ingested or inserted button cell or coin batteries. Nancy Cowles, the executive director of Kids in Danger, an organization that works to promote product safety for children, says the new law will save lives. “There are around 3,500 incidents a year in which children, usually children, swallow button batteries. Not all of those result in serious injury, but many of them do.”

However, many in the hearing aid industry worry that the more secure child-proof packaging could pose an obstacle for hearing aid users as seniors often struggle with dexterity issues and these batteries are quite small.

Audiologists and Hearing Aid Specialists alike are concerned that seniors may not change their batteries or open all their batteries at once to make them more accessible, which would negate the effects of the child-safe packaging. Others have commented online that they think this new law will lead to more hearing aid users opting for rechargeable hearing aids.

Nevertheless, the new packaging was tested rigorously by CPSC to prove accessibility to seniors, and the CPSC delayed enforcement of the law until this March to allow hearing aid manufacturers time to roll out the new security measures.

“In designing the new packaging, we’ve also been careful to ensure that existing hearing aid users can access our batteries quickly and easily,” says Paula Brinson-Pyke, director of marketing for Rayovac. “In the tests that we commissioned, 99% of seniors were able to open the packs for the first time in less than a minute, and this time was halved on the second attempt.

In the testing, seniors were given instructions on how to open the packaging:

- Remove the drained battery from your device.
- Sit down with your battery pack and a pair of scissors, ideally over a table.
- Carefully use the scissors to cut and open the pack and access the hearing aid batteries one by one. Think of this as like cutting a slice of a pizza.
- Remove the hearing aid battery from the package.
- Remove the tab and let sit for five minutes to allow air to activate the battery.
- Insert the battery into your device with the flat side facing up and close the door.

Hearing Aid users can also watch this short YouTube video for a visual demonstration: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Si6AKj-1doQ&t=1s>

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PEOPLE IN MOTION



Atley Gay, Will Casey, Marge Stokes

MERIT FINANCIAL ADVISORS PARTNERS WITH ACCESS INVESTMENT ADVISORS TO EXPAND PRESENCE IN WISCONSIN

Merit Financial Advisors (“Merit”), a Georgia-based financial advisory firm with its Wisconsin-hub based in Sheboygan Falls, WI, specializes in financial planning and wealth management solutions for high-net-worth individuals/families and those navigating life transitions, announced today it has acquired Access Investment Advisors (“AIA”). The firm, based in Manitowoc, WI, will expand Merit’s existing presence in the region.

This is Merit’s fifth acquisition in the Wisconsin region. Merit’s presence in the state began in August of 2022 with a partnership with a firm formerly known as Mersberger Financial Group. Today, the legacy Mersberger Financial Group team in Sheboygan Falls leads the Wisconsin region for Merit and serves as the regional headquarters, supervising the firm’s local growth and operations in the state. The Sheboygan Falls team has acquired four additional firms in Wisconsin since joining Merit. Additional acquisitions include Jochimsen Wealth Management in Sheboygan (acquired in September 2022), Reis Financial Services in West Bend (acquired in June 2023), and WealthPlan in DePere (acquired in May 2023).

Merit is strategically focused on continuing to expand their geographic footprint in Wisconsin and is actively seeking additional entrepreneurial focused owners to join the firm in the region. Merit expects to continue adding several new office locations per year in Wisconsin for the foreseeable future.

Founded by Will Casey, CFP®, Access Investment Advisors specializes in investment management and financial planning. Will has over 40 years of experience in the industry and will join Merit as a Wealth Manager and Partner. AIA’s operations and client support teams of Atley Gay and Marge Stokes will also join Merit.

“For quite some time, I have been focused on finding a partner to provide continuity to our clients as well as growth opportunities for our staff – and Merit is that partner,” shared Will. “Partnering with Merit ensures our clients will be well cared for into the future and will continue to experience the same level of personal attention to which they had grown accustomed. I am equally excited to offer Merit’s technology platform and tools to our clients, further enhancing their experience.”

“We are thrilled to welcome AIA to the Merit team and are excited about the impact of this partnership for Wisconsin clients,” said Joshua and Zachary Mersberger, Merit Partners and Regional Directors of the Wisconsin region. “We look forward to broadening Merit’s footprint in the region and providing AIA clients with an even more robust level of service. As we continue to grow Merit’s presence in the state, we are excited for the contributions Will and his team will bring to the table.”

The AIA merger was finalized on March 22, 2024.

About Merit Financial Advisors

Merit Financial Advisors is a national wealth management firm that supports both the independent broker-dealer and RIA models. Merit exists to enrich the lives of those they serve, and its mission is to revolutionize the client experience by building the RIA of the future. Based in Atlanta, Georgia, Merit has over 40 offices throughout the U.S. and managed \$10 billion in assets as of December 31, 2023 (\$7.15 billion in advisory, \$2.7 billion in brokerage assets, and \$242 million in assets under advisement).

For more information, please visit www.meritfinancialadvisors.com
 Securities offered through LPL Financial, member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advice offered through Merit Financial Group, LLC, an SEC-registered investment adviser. Merit Financial Group, LLC, Merit, Merit Financial Advisors are separate entities from LPL Financial. Merit Financial Advisors (as Mersberger Financial Group, Inc.) has been voted for eight consecutive years the 2016-2023 Best Financial Planning Services of Sheboygan County.



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WELCOME TO THE RACES - A tree which was previously creatively carved into branches with race cars at the ends has been reworked into a welcome sign at gate 6 of Road America on State 67 near Elkhart Lake. -Beacon photo by Ian Johanson



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The dancing woodcocks charmed us

by Emily Stone

Naturalist/Educator
Cable Natural History Museum

Peent.

I heard it first, since I knew what to expect. I pointed eagerly toward a featureless place in the bushes. Peent. The brand-new birder with me strained to pick that one sound out of the thicket. Peent. We waited; breaths held. Peent. We wanted more.

At the next grassy opening along the road, we heard another peent. We paused, peering into the place where grasses met alders. Twittering sounds burst from the grass, and a flappy little flier rose in a broad spiral, soon clearing the treetops and circling

up toward the crescent moon.

Fatter than a robin, smaller than a grouse, the winged shape twittered ever higher into the navy blue. About 200 feet up, the twittering became sweet chirping, and the American woodcock sideslipped down like a falling leaf. Peent. Back on his dancing ground, the male began his courtship display again. Peent. My friend and I turned to each other, grinning.

Nature has invented some pretty interesting courtship behavior over the eons, and American woodcocks are a lovely example. Somewhere in the bushes, a female woodcock pretends not to watch the male's strenuous antics. If he passes muster, she will let him approach her, bobbing with his wings raised, to seal the deal. That's it, though. She goes off to build a nest and he keeps displaying.

Over a decade ago, in Maine, I spent another evening surrounded

by woodcocks. The blueberry bald reminded me of Friar Tuck's iconic haircut. Low shrubs and lichen-covered rocks dotted the top of the hill, with a shaggy forest forming a circle around the crown. As dusk fell, woodcocks peented and twittered and chirped in ethereal surround sound, as if in my own private Omnitheater. Private, except for an acquaintance who was not a birder. He stood by – bored – while I slowly spun in circles, high on the wonderment of nature.

Fast forward a couple years to my closest encounter with a woodcock. His peent buzzed right through the thin nylon of my tent wall. When I sat up in my sleeping bag to look out of the mosquito netting, his funny shape was just a few feet away, strutting on the packed dirt of the campground. I could see the silhouette of the woodcock's three-inch-long bill open with each peent. Absolutely thrilled, I poked my tent mate so

that he wouldn't miss this cool experience. Grumbling about the noise, he pulled his sleeping bag up over his ears.

Like people, woodcocks' peculiarities are what make them fun to get to know. For example, they have some great nicknames: timberdoodle, Labrador twister, and bog sucker top the list. And their oddly fantastic attributes don't stop there. Sure, having big eyes on the top of a pointy head looks like a badly drawn cartoon, but that gives woodcocks the ability to see danger in any direction. Probing the mud for food with a super long bill doesn't seem like elegant dining, except that using their flexible, sensitive bill tip, woodcocks can both perceive a worm and grab it, all underground.

Woodcocks can even dance! Stepping one foot forward, they'll bob their body rhythmically while their head stays eerily still, then take a step and bob again. TikTok

has discovered all the pop music with just the right beat to match the woodcock's moves. Scientists aren't sure why woodcocks do this funny walk, but stirring up earthworms for easier feeding is one hypothesis. Food wasn't their priority under the crescent moon last week. The peents came from both sides of the gravel road. The beginner birder and I listened to a particularly loud male call for a few minutes, and when he took to the air, we stumbled forward over grassy hummocks to get closer to where we'd thought he'd been. When his twitters turned to chirps, we crouched low and tried to become invisible. Peent. No luck, he'd landed behind us. It didn't matter. Grinning in the darkness, we talked about all the amazing events of the evening on our way back to the car. I'm not sure what traits woodcocks are looking for in a partner, but I want to hang out with someone who goes looking for woodcocks!

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Lake sturgeon not listed as endangered in draft ruling

After conducting a thorough species status assessment using the best available science, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) determined lake sturgeon do not require listing under the Endangered Species Act, according to a USFWS news release. The Service's 12-month finding shows ongoing management efforts, such as fish stocking, have contributed to the conservation and resiliency of the species.

"Today's announcement shows the power of collaborative conservation and the impact it can have for species like the lake sturgeon," said Midwest Regional Director Will Meeks. "The fact that we're seeing more and more lake sturgeon populations spawning in their historical habitat is a clear sign that restoration efforts are progressing. This success is credited to many partners including states, Tribes, local organizations and others across the country coming together to conserve this species."

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) said in its own news release that it is aware of the announcement. The DNR is reviewing this finding and will continue to follow the sturgeon management practices outlined in the Wisconsin Sturgeon Management Plan.

Visit the DNR website at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing/species/sturgeon> for more information on sturgeon management.

The USFWS draft rule can be found on their website at <https://www.fws.gov/press-release/2024-04/collaborative-conservation-keeps-lake-sturgeon-endangered-list>



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Frederick Douglass





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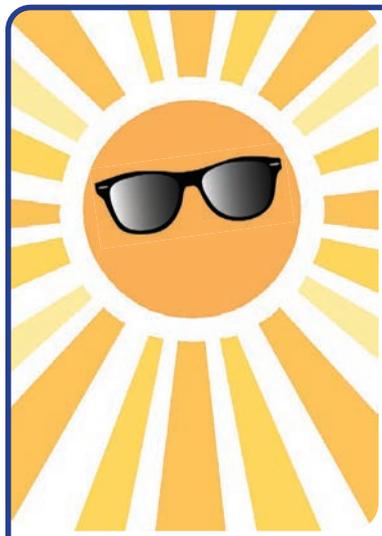
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An excellent youth turkey hunt



WILDERNESS JOURNAL

Mark Walters • OUTDOOR COLUMNIST

Hello friends,
 This week's column is full of interesting experiences, so I have to be vague.
 Carsyn and Conner Thiede are the 13- and 11-year-old children of Tyler and Patsy Thiede of Mayville. I met this family through my very good friend, the late Rod Bensley, and we have become very good friends and do at least one deer hunt and one turkey hunt together in the Burnett area at what is called The Foul Mouth Hunt Club.
 Each hunt, I switch kids and have witnessed them shoot deer and turkey. Justin "Beamer" Braun is part of this group and one of Tyler's lifelong friends from growing up in the Burnett area, and Justin is very good at helping people to harvest turkey. Chad Reifschneider is also a part of this gang, and this weekend his children Kensie and Joey would be hunting, as well with Chad and Tanner Weber. To close out, our gang would have Jim Klug and his 8-year-old son Jameson. Jim grew up with Beamer and Tyler, is now a fire chief in Colorado and came home to introduce his son to hunting and see his buddies. Jim and Jameson

would be guided by Beamer.
Friday, April 12th
High 66, low 40
 Since getting to know these guys, Chad and Tyler and their children, they have become very active in The Dodge County Chapter of KAMO.
 So today I arrived at "The Lodge" and there is an immediate problem. The land I was going to take Conner hunting is no longer available. I had to do some hard thinking and came up with Jeff Pausma. Jeff and his wife Melissa are local dairy farmers. I had never met Jeff, but he reads this column and when Michelle passed away he contacted me and said some very nice things. I just happened to put Jeff in my phone, made a call

and just like that we had the green light. Conner, Tyler and I headed over to the Pausma farm, which I fell in love with as soon as I saw it. Jeff gave us the tour and all was perfect for our world. Saturday, April 13
 High 59, low 31 Our morning started off at camp with a very tired Tyler. Fourteen-year-old Joey Reifschneider and Tanner Weber would be hunting public land near Beaver Dam, and these guys would see 13 toms but they were on private land. Tyler and Carsyn would have lots of deer experiences while hunting private land adjacent to the Horicon Marsh. Jim, Jameson and Beamer would have an excellent hunt as they all realized that Jameson loves to hunt. The afternoon hunt

was where big memories were made. Beamer did an excellent job calling in a beautiful tom and Jameson whacked his first bird and without a doubt, a hunter was born. Conner and I had moved our setup to where I thought the birds had roosted the night before and had hundreds of amazing experiences watching ducks and geese. With 30 minutes of legal hunting left, I heard a bird fly into its roost; the problem was it was on private land and we were hunting a marshy pasture. No problem, we would get one in the morning. Over the next 15 minutes, we watched 13 hens and toms fly into trees 25 to 40 yards away. Our luck switched, a hen appeared as it had crossed the marsh, we could not shoot

it, but it was fun to watch. I kept working the call, there were 6 minutes left to hunt.
 A very large tom made a mistake and came on our side of the fence but out of range. The hen flew up to the roost, and the tom was furious with my jake decoy. Four minutes left, he got in range, Conner made an excellent shot and whacked a humongous turkey. Tyler had made a bet hours earlier with me that if I did not get my hunter a turkey both my hunter and I would have to jump into a very cold stream. Tyler and Carsyn would go swimming, not Mark and Conner!

Sunset



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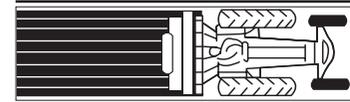
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SEASONED HARDWOOD FOR SALE: \$225 Full cord, \$75 Face cord. Free delivery within 15 miles. **920-467-2032.**

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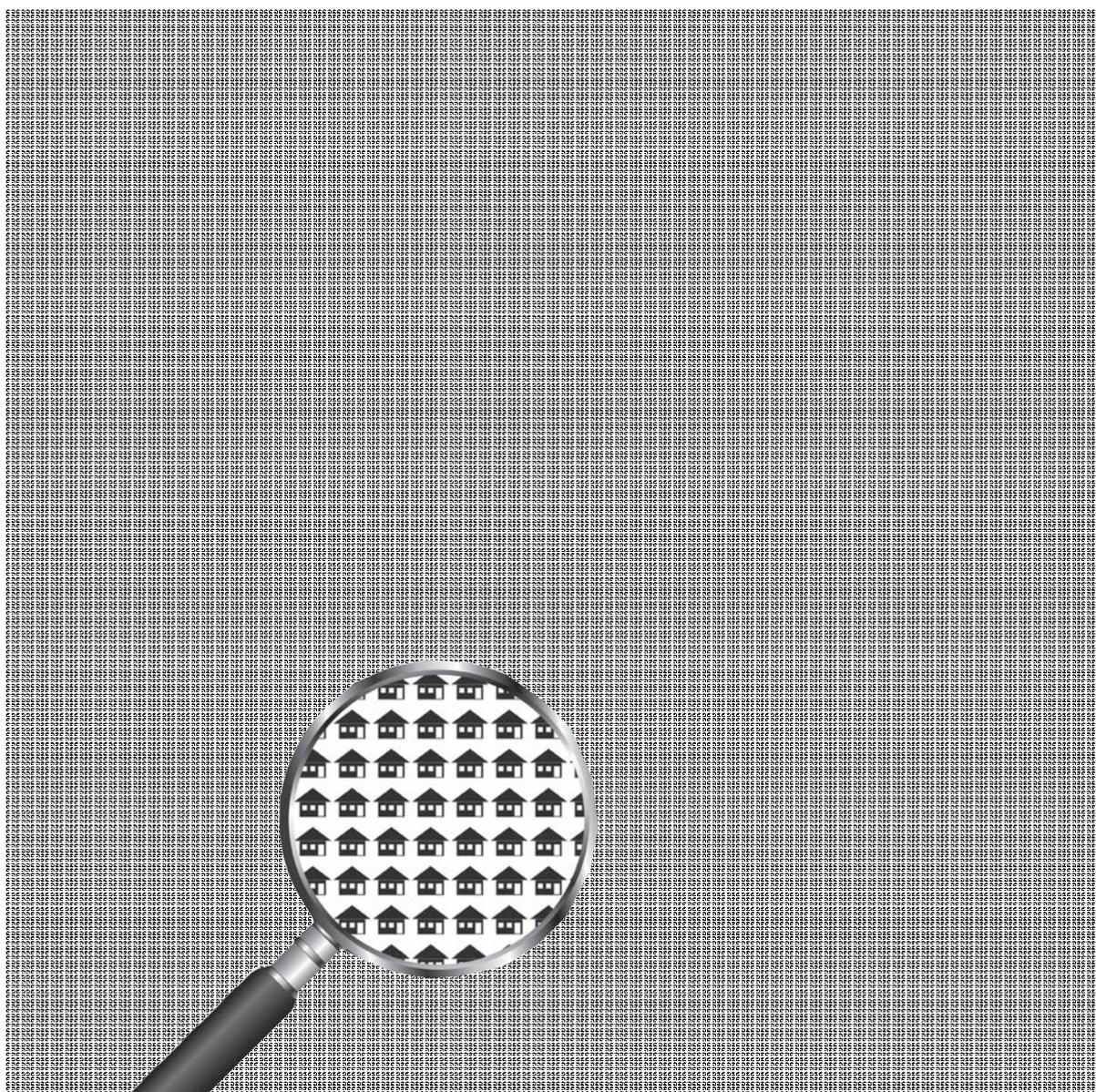
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PLANTS, BAKERY, TREASURES, TAG: Friday May 10, 1-5pm, Saturday May 11, 9am-2pm (half price tag), 35+ garden club members present special lily bulbs, perennials, annuals, decorative potted plants for Mom, flower/garden related treasures and tag. **Racer's Hall, W4408 County Road C, Plymouth**

SHEBOYGAN CITY

Multi-Family Garage Sale: May 2-4, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 9AM-4PM. Tons of Women's, men's, and girl's/boy's clothing/shoes. Kitchen items, household items/decor, kids indoor and outdoor toys, games, books, jewelry, purses/bags, craft/party items, electronics, Blu-ray/DVD, bedding, holiday, and much more! **1324 Camelot Blvd. (South side Sheboygan)**

Multi-Family Garage Sale: May 2-4, Thursday 8AM-7PM, Friday 8AM-5PM, Saturday 8AM-3PM. Womens/Mens clothing - assorted sizes, kids toys, lamps, shoes, purses, misc. household items, books, glass coffee table, end tables. **SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE! 5315 Wild Meadow Dr., Sheboygan.**

SHEBOYGAN FALLS

ESTATE SALE: May 2, 3PM-7PM, May 3, 8AM-4PM, May 4, 8AM-4PM. 50" Vizio TV, Sleep Number bed, washer/dryer stack, Red Wing pottery, other vintage dinnerware, holiday/outdoor decorations, furniture, storage containers, kitchen table/6 chairs, small kitchen appliances, medical equipment i.e., electric scooters, walkers, etc. Complete household. **MOTIVATED SELLER! 844 South Cypress, Sheboygan Falls.**

ESTATE SALE: Friday, May 3, 8AM-4PM and Saturday, May 4, 9AM-3PM. This is a **Make an offer unless otherwise marked and CASH ONLY** sale. Furniture, Wurlitzer piano, antiques, square dance gear, household items, electronics, crafting items, outdoor items, Ariens Compact 24" snow blower, small gas grill and much, much more miscellaneous. **114 Menominee Drive, Sheboygan Falls**

SURROUNDING AREA

GARAGE SALE: Thursday, Friday and Saturday May 2-4, 8AM-5PM. **BIG VARIETY. N8285 County Rd P, Elkhart Lake**

ESTATE SALE May 2-3, 10AM-6PM. Porch or tree swing, lawn and deck furniture, birdhouses and feeders, cutting board and spoons, small window air conditioner and more. No clothes. **1125 Stonebridge Drive, Howards Grove**

GARAGE SALE: May 3, 8AM-3PM, May 4, 8AM-2PM. **N8976 County Rd. J Elkhart Lake.**

Elkhart Lake's 45th Annual Village Wide Garage Sale: May 3-4, 9AM-4PM.

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Moraine Gardens celebrates 45 years in business

Submitted by
Moraine Gardens

On Mother's Day weekend in 1979, Moraine Gardens opened its greenhouse doors for the first

time. What was once the Nowicki family farm has become a flourishing greenhouse and garden center.

When Steve and Janet Nowicki opened Moraine Gardens in May of '79 they had a small store space and just one greenhouse. At that time, the main focus of the business was land-

scaping: planning and planting landscapes, lawns, and more. The greenhouses have greatly expanded from one to many, and the business has transitioned into a greenhouse garden center—growing and offering trees, shrubs, perennials, annu-

See **MORaine/31**

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MORaine from 30

als, vegetables, garden decor, and more!

Geraniums have always been a popular flower; in fact, red geraniums were one of the first flowers sold on that first Mother's Day! Though we still grow and sell red geraniums, we now have many more colors and styles to choose from.

We then found a specialty in creating custom pots and baskets. Over the past 10 years we have also expanded to offer a variety of workshops, including container gardening, fairy gardens, and Christmas porch pots and wreaths.

Though the greenhouses have grown and changed; Janet says one thing has remained the same, "getting to know the nice customers who have come through the door over the years." Steve and Janet value the relationships and memories that they have formed with the community over the past 45 years.

Over the years, Steve and Janet's daughter Emily has learned from her parents and inherited their "green thumb", along with their passion for gardening. Emily and her husband, Dave, will keep the business in the family and continue to honor the legacy of Moraine Gardens! They value learning from her parents' vast plant knowledge and look forward to continuing to grow in the coming years.

Come and visit us this Mother's Day weekend to celebrate 45 years of business with us! As always, we'll have a wide assortment of pots, baskets, and other Mother's Day gifts, as well as trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, and vegetables. Visit our website: <https://moraine-gardens.co/> or stop in to browse our beautiful plant selection. You can find us at W4930 Sumac Road in Plymouth, WI. For every blooming thing, Moraine Gardens has you covered!

Garden store supports animals, conservation

Submitted by
LaValley Home & Garden

LaValley Home & Garden is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that is formerly known as Fringe Benefits Thrift Store. All store proceeds support local animal rescue groups and nature conservation efforts through our grant funding program. Our mission is to create a world where home, garden, natural habitat and community come together. We hold true to our values of supporting non-profit work, community education and product affordability.

With a new name and new location, 820 Madison Avenue in Howards Grove, we began with a soft opening in November of 2023 featuring seasonal décor, unique gifts and a variety of houseplants. Now we are ready to celebrate our Grand Opening on May 23 through May 26th with the arrival of perennials, vegetables, trees and shrubs, unique garden and home décor, artisan made jewelry, pet wellness essentials and a build-your-own succulent terrarium event (pre-registration required at lavalleyhg.org)!

At LaValley, we are passionate about native landscaping. As a Wild Ones Affiliate and a Proven Winners Certified Garden Center, we are proud to amplify the sustainable landscaping movement by providing our customers with a variety of native plants. In addition, we offer non-native and hybrid varieties that are also non-invasive

See LaValley/32



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The Buzz about bees

Warm weather and extra hours of sunlight spark flowering trees and plants to bloom anew. This is the time of year when the air is sweet with the aroma of blossoms and the familiar hum of insects can be heard all around.

Not all "bugs" are the same this time of year. While you probably won't want ants invading your backyard grill fest,

the presence of bees nearby can be a good thing — even if those curious yellow-and-black critters get a little close for comfort from time to time. That's because almost 90 percent of wild plants and 75 percent of the leading global crops depend on animal pollination, indicates the World Wildlife Federation.

Bees are remarkable creatures in small packages. The

following are some bee facts to buzz about, courtesy of the WWF, Save the Bees™, NASA, and the Texas A&M University Honey Bee Information Site.

- There are roughly 20,000 species of bees around the world. Most of them are solitary bees.

- Bees have five eyes. Two of the eyes are large compound eyes with hexagonal facets. The other three are small, simple eyes.

- Honeybees have a move called the "waggle dance." It is a clever way of communicating to tell them where to go to find the best sources of food.

- Bees can carry up to 122 times their body weight in pollen and nectar.

- Bumblebees leave footprint scents behind. They are able to distinguish between their own scents, the scent of a relative and the scent of a stranger as they look for food. They also can avoid flowers already vis-



- It can require nectar from two million flowers to make one pound of honey.

- Many bees are not aggressive. Simply moving away from them can prevent a person from being stung. Generally, bumblebees and honey bees will only sting by accident or if a nest is being disrupted.

- Wasps are different from bees in that they are mostly known to be predators. They eat other insects and often food that people eat, which is why wasps are more likely to be found around your cookout. Bees tend to be covered in hair, while wasps (which include yellow jackets) are smooth.

Bees are remarkable creatures and should be celebrated as the weather warms up.

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LaVALLEY from 31

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Hidden gem in tiny town on State 32

Submitted by
Vintage of Ada

Nestled into the gently rolling countryside of Sheboygan County is the tiny hamlet of Ada, which you might have breezed through hundreds of times. What you may not know is that Ada is home to a hidden gem called "Vintage of Ada." This remarkable shop is owned by an enterprising couple, Susan & Ric Puls.

Susan, a retired teacher, and Ric, a retired woodworker, have beautifully combined their talents in this successful business.

You'll find a surprising assemblage of goods in this shop, ranging from furniture to garden wares; kitchen items; cloth-



ing & accessories; books; artwork; architectural pieces, and their specialty, vintage Pyrex. While the couple does a bit of traveling to bring home treasures from as far away as Lancaster, PA, a surprising amount

of their stock is found within 20 miles of their home.

"This is an inventory we have no control over," Susan states, "We never know what we may discover."

Because of the amount of

time involved in hunting down, cleaning, repairing, and painting required before an item reaches the shop floor, Vintage of Ada is only open 6 days a month. Friday-Sunday on the FIRST & THIRD weekends are their days of operation, however, appointments may be made for other times.

Stepping through the doors of the shop, the remarkable beauty of the structure surprises many new visitors. The old beams, pine floors, & clerestory windows show the attention to detail that Ric's work is known

for. As you wander through the shop, you'll find inspiring displays that have been described as "curated." Susan's purpose for this is simple. "Everything in the shop is special & has a story behind it. My job is to honor that story & give each piece the attention that it deserves."

Susan & Ric, like many other Mom & Pop business owners, have put something special into this business besides hard work & long hours. Their

See VINTAGE/34

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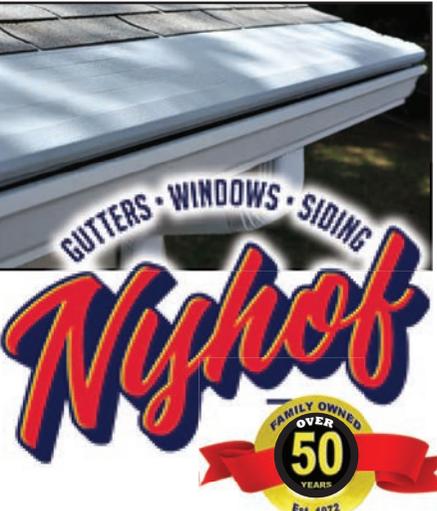
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Tips on how to reseed or replant lawns

Spring marks the return of flowering plants and warm weather. And homeowners know that spring also ushers in the return of home renovation season. Homeowners undoubtedly

have an extensive list of projects on their to-do list this spring, and that may include helping their lawns and gardens recover after a long winter. Unpredictable weather, which can include drought and excessive rainfall and everything in between, can take its toll on a lawn. In certain instances, the best solution may be planting new grass. But homeowners can consider these tips before they begin the process of reseeding or replanting

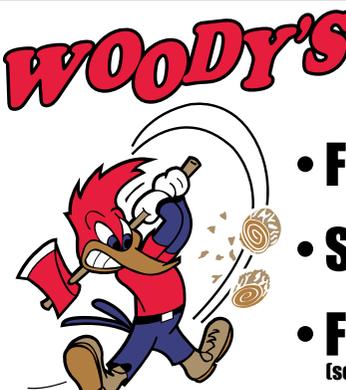
their lawns.

• **Scarify the lawn.** Scarifying a lawn can help to create a clean slate, but the timing must be right. Various lawn and garden experts, including those at BBC Gardeners' World Magazine, recommend scarifying in spring or early autumn. But don't jump the gun when scarifying in spring by scarifying before the lawn has started to grow after a dormant winter. Scarify when the soil is a

little wet and the grass is once again actively growing. Scarifying can remove any lingering weeds from last season and also pull up any moss that might have taken hold over the winter. Without weeds and moss to contend with, freshly planted seeds are in better position to thrive.

• **Work with a landscaping professional.** Homeowners with manageable lawns can likely scarify their own lawns with a relatively inexpensive plug-in scarifier. However, scarifying can be a strenuous physical activity, particularly for homeowners with large lawns. In such instances, homeowners can benefit from working with a qualified landscaping professional. Such a professional can scarify the lawn and subsequently reseed or replant new grass. The latter task is not so simple, as the lawn care experts at Scotts® note that choosing the correct seed is a vital part of reseeding or replanting a lawn. Choosing seed may sound simple, but it's a potentially complex decision that requires knowledge of the

See LAWNS/35



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VINTAGE from 33

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LAWNS from 34

existing grass, including when to plant it. Certain grasses are best planted in spring or early fall, while others are best planted in summer. A qualified landscaping professional can identify the existing grass and plan the seeding or planting around this important detail.

• **Prepare to water the lawn.** Watering is vital to the long-term success and health of freshly planted grass seed. Scotts® urges homeowners to keep the top inch of soil consistently moist, but not soggy. That requires a daily commitment, and setting a multi-function hose nozzle or sprinkler to the mist setting once per day or more if it's hot outside can increase the chances grass will grow in thick and strong. Scotts® recommends keeping the top two inches of the soil moist until the new grass reaches a mowing height of roughly three inches. Once that benchmark has been reached, watering frequency can be cut back to about twice per week, but now the soil should be deeply soaked instead of misted. The soaking will help roots grow deep into the soil.

Spring is a great time for homeowners in various regions to reseed or replant their lawns. With the right approach, homeowners can enjoy a full and lush lawn throughout summer.

Watch out for these poison yard plants

Spending time in the backyard can be restorative and relaxing. When selecting foliage, it's wise for homeowners to familiarize themselves with certain plants that may not be very welcome in their entertaining areas — particularly those that are dangerous.

• **Hogweed:** This is an invasive plant that grows throughout North America but is particularly well-known along the Atlantic coast. The sap in the leaves can cause phytophotodermatitis, which is a chemical reaction after exposure to sunlight. Painful, severe blisters can form on the skin wherever it touches, and hogweed sap may cause blindness if it gets into the eyes.

• **Lily of the Valley:** This plant is known for delicate, bell-shaped flowers and a sweet scent. While Lily of the Valley is not poisonous to touch, if ingested, toxic glycosides in the flowers, berries, leaves, and stems may cause a host of problems, including disorientation, vomiting, blurry vision, and rashes.

• **Bleeding Heart:** Native to woodlands, this perennial loves the shade. It produces unique flowers that resemble tiny pink or white hearts with drops of blood at the bottom. Roots and foliage of Bleeding Heart contain alkaloids that are toxic to animals if ingested in high quantities.

• **Nerrium Oleander:** All parts of this beautiful shrub are extremely poisonous. It should definitely be kept away from pets and treated with caution or avoided altogether.

• **Foxgloves:** Adored among

pollinators, Foxgloves produce towering pink and white trumpet blooms in early summer. The whole plant is toxic if eaten, however. People who eat any part or attempt to make tea may find their heart rate slowing down or becoming irregular.

• **Stinging Nettle:** Brushing up against Stinging Nettle can be a painful experience. The plant has tiny stinging hairs on its leaves and stems.

very poisonous member of the carrot family. If consumed, Wild Hemlock, which looks like parsley, can cause health problems. Toxins also can be absorbed through the skin.

• **Deadly Nightshade (Belladonna):** A beautiful plant that produces shiny, black cherry-like berries, this contains a poison that can paralyze the gastrointestinal muscles and eventually the heart. The Royal Horticultural Society says that even rubbing up against it can irritate the skin.

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Reap the rewards of a Florida room in your home

When the sun is shining and the weather is warm, who doesn't want to be outside enjoying all Mother Nature has to offer? The great outdoors often beckons, but it also has bugs. Insects, particularly nuisance bugs like mosquitoes or biting flies, are unwanted visitors when enjoying the great outdoors.

Weather also can put a damper on outdoor plans. It's challenging to get fresh air and enjoy the yard when it's raining or conditions are especially

humid. Instead of limiting time spent outdoors to those occasions when conditions are favorable, homeowners can install Florida rooms to maximize their outdoor living potential.

The term "Florida room" calls to mind different things. Some define it as a walled extension of a home that features a roof — such as a covered patio, or lanai. According to Tripod Aluminum, Inc., a manufacturer of aluminum building products, a Florida room also may be a screened-in enclosure

that surrounds a pool area and is designed to keep bugs and wildlife out of the water. People also may consider a Florida room a sunroom, and it may be screened or feature actual windows that can be opened, according to the resource from Farmhouse to Florida.

Those thinking about renovating to include Florida rooms can consider the following details.

See Florida/39



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What to know about buying a home in a low inventory market

People who have shopped for homes at any point over the last few years are undoubtedly aware that inventory is low. While low inventory has affected home prices and priced some buyers out of certain markets, the good news is the tide may have started to change as 2023 drew to a close. In fact, a December 2023 report from the National Association of Realtors® indicated home sales rose by nearly 1 percent in November,

a month during which single-family home construction also rose by 18 percent compared to October.

Each of those figures could prove a harbinger of good things to come for buyers in 2024. But it can still pay dividends for such buyers to prepare themselves to buy in a low inventory real estate market.

• **Prepare to offer more than asking price.** Data from the NAR indicates nearly

one-third of all homes (28 percent) purchased in October 2023 sold for above asking price. When buyers have fewer homes to choose from, the competition for homes on the market increases, and that typically means buyers will offer more than asking price for homes they truly want. It might not be necessary to offer more than asking price on a given home, but it's something buyers in a low inventory market must be ready to do.

• **Prepare to find additional money, if necessary.** Offering more than asking price can be tricky, particularly if a buyer's offer exceeds the appraised value of the home. The real estate listing service Trulia notes that most lenders will not approve a mortgage for more than the appraised value of a home. Conventional wisdom may indicate it's never a good idea to offer more for a home than its appraised value, but that scenario has played out with greater frequency in the current low inventory market. Buyers who feel they need to offer more



See Market/39

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Market from 38

than the appraised value to get a home will have to come up with the extra funds to make up the difference that their mortgage won't cover.

• **Flexibility can be your friend.** A low inventory market is a seller's market. Buyers who can be flexible in regard to seller's demands and requests might be getting the keys to a new home faster than those who are not as accommodating. Some sellers may request a quick closing, while

others may need extra time in the home until they can move into their own new property. Entering the process with the intention of being flexible can be an advantage for buyers in a low inventory market.

• **Patience can prevail.** It might seem as though there will never again be ample inventory on the real estate market. However, the increase in single-family home construction and forecasts predicting mortgage rates will drop

suggest the real estate market could feature more inventory in the months to come. Buyers concerned about going over-budget or making a hasty decision are urged to remain patient if they cannot find a home that works for them personally and financially.

A low inventory real estate market may not be normal. But savvy buyers can still navigate such a market and find a home they love.

Florida from 37

• **You don't need to live in Florida.** Florida rooms may be most associated with the Sunshine State, but you don't need to live there to have one. Consider your climate and build a Florida room that will meet your needs. Do you want to enjoy the space year-round? If so, you might need some sort of heating or cooling to keep things comfortable.

• **Decide on the right location.** While Florida rooms traditionally are in the backyard, select a spot that works for you. If you want to maximize morning sunrises, for example, locate the room on the side of the home that faces east. If a view from another side of the house is particularly striking, place the Florida room there.

• **Determine your needs.** Will you be cooking or entertaining in the Florida room? If so, design a space that will feature cooking and eating areas. Ensure plenty of ventilation for a grill, and consider other appliances to reduce the need to make trips into the house. Although the Florida room creates some measure of weather protection, choose furniture and fixtures that can stand up to outdoor conditions.

• **Add privacy as needed.** Curtains, greenery, shades, and other details can create privacy when you don't want to be visible to neighbors.

Florida rooms add useful space to a home and can help residents connect with nature even when conditions outside are less inviting.



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