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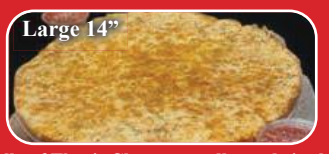
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LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

Second-grader turns entrepreneur

by **Jeff Pederson**
for The Beacon

When thinking about the prototypical business owner, an elementary school student probably doesn't come to mind.

Operating his own business did come to the mind of Mack Martens at the ripe young age of 7.

With the help of his father, Carl, the second-grade student at Etude Elementary School in Sheboygan opened Sunny Stripes Landscaping in spring and has hit the ground running ever since.

"Mack started the business, though the name came from me," Carl said. "'Sunny' or 'Sunny Stripes' has been my nickname since college, and I've been holding onto it for a few years waiting for the right thing to put it on. For a landscaping company, it turned out to be a natural fit."

While the business is named after his father, Mack is the one who does the heavy lifting.

"Mack is the reason there's a company at all," Carl said. "Last winter, he was getting himself up early to shovel and run the snowblower for people on our street. Some mornings he was out before I was. Around the same time, he kept asking me what I actually do at work.

"I told him I build websites and help businesses find customers," he said. "He told me we wanted to own a landscaping company, and eventually be a farmer. So, we sat down together over the winter and built the first version of sunnystripes.com. That's really the origin of it – a kid who already liked the work, a name I'd been sitting on, and a dad who happened to know how to put a business behind both."

Over the past few months, Mack and Carl have added to the website to include instant quote builders for lawn care, aeration, topdressing and snow removal. In addition, customers can now order and pay for services online.



MACK MARTENS, a 7-year-old second-grade student, owns and operates Sunny Stripes Landscaping with help from his father, Carl. – Submitted photo

Although Carl assists with various paperwork-related duties a kid can't handle, Mack handles much of the day-to-day duties.

"The paperwork is mine and everything else is his," Carl said. "A 7-year-old kid can't sign a contract or carry a liability policy, so the business is registered, insured, and bonded in my name. I handle billing, insurance, and the equipment that isn't safe for a kid to be near.

"Everything else belongs to Mack – his email address, his decisions about the business," he said. "The tools, trailer, and equipment he has purchased himself with what the business has brought in. My title is operations manager. I drive the truck, do the heavy work, and provide guidance. Mack's the owner. Our customers understand the arrangement immediately, and they gush over him. He's shy at first, but he warms, and his work ethic and the care for his craft are better than a lot of adults I've worked with."

SunnyStripes Landscaping provides a wide range of landscaping and snow removal services throughout Sheboygan County, including Sheboygan Falls, Kohler, Sheboygan, Plymouth, Howards Grove, Oostburg, Cedar Grove, Random Lake, and the smaller towns in between.

"Spending time with dad is my favorite thing about it," Mack said. "Going out to eat between jobs...and ice cream, and getting to drive the machines. Also, cutting grass and snow blowing is a lot of fun."

To contact Sunny Stripes Landscaping, call 920-943-6422, email carl@sunnystripes.com or visit sunnystripes.com

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Did you know that when we vote on November 3rd in addition to political candidates, there are also three amendments to the state constitution on the ballot.

#1 Governor's Partial Veto

Q: What would it do?
Would add language to the state constitution prohibiting the governor from using a partial veto to create or increase taxes or fees through changes to budget bill language.

Questions to consider:
- Should the governor's veto authority be limited or remain broad?
- How should power be balnced between legislative and executive branches in our state?
- Would limiting the partial veto improve checks and balances in state government?
- Should changes to veto authority be addressed through the constitution or through legislation?

#2 Worship During Emergencies

Q: What would it do?
This amendment would add language to the Wisconsin State Constitution stating that the government cannot close houses of worship or limit the number of people who can attend religious services during a declared state of emergency, such as a pandemic.

Questions to consider:
- Should the state constitution explicitly protect religious gatherings during emergencies?
- How should governments balance religious freedom with public safety during crises?
- Should emergency powers apply equally to all types of gatherings?
- Is a constituional amendment the appropriate place to address this issue?

#3 Government Entity "Discrimination"

Q: What would it do?
Would add language to the state constitution prohibiting state or local governments from granting preferential treatment or discriminating based on race, sex, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, education, administration, or government contracting.

Q: What would change?

Currently:
State and local governments may adopt policies or programs intended to promote diversity or address disparities. There are also laws in place already to prohibit discrimination.

If the amendment passes:
- Governments would be prohibited from granting preferential treatment or discriminating based on any race, sex, ethnicity, or national origin in certain public programs or decisions.
- The impact would depend on how the amendment is interpreted and implemented by government institutions and courts.

Questions to consider:
- What role should diversity or equity programs play in government institutions?
- Should these policies be determined through laws or the constitution?
- How might the amendment affect public universities, hiring practices, or contracting policies?
- Could the amendment have unintended consequences for existing programs, such as Head Start, scholarships, curriculum, and community assistance?

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

Why this matters:
The language of constitutional amendments can shape policy for decades; it's important for voters to carefully review the purpose and potential impacts of each proposal.

VOTE 411 ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

Former PHS teacher found guilty of sexual assaults

by **Ian Johanson**
for The Beacon

Former Plymouth High School teacher Marcie K. Zimmerman, 44 of St. Cloud, charged with sexually assaulting one of her own female students in 2023, pleaded no contest and was found guilty of two felony counts in a Fond du Lac court on Oct.6.

The two counts of sexual assault of a student by a school instructional staff person are class H felonies with a maximum sentence of a $10,000 fine and/or six years imprisonment each. Zimmerman now awaits a sentencing hearing Jan. 8 where the judge will determine the actual penalties.

Zimmerman reached a plea agreement with prosecutors which requested dismissing one lesser felony charge and two misdemeanors. She signed the plea the week before her trial was scheduled. The dismissed charges will be read in, which means the judge can consider the underlying conduct when imposing sentence. Zimmerman will also automatically be placed on the sex offender registry for 15 years.

In court, Judge Laura Lavey noted that the victim's mother disagreed with the plea deal in a written statement, and asked for it to be vacated. However the judge said she was unable to force any specific plea deal, and the only alternative was to proceed with trial. No mention was made of disagreement by the victim, who has a victim impact statement on file with the court. Both statements are sealed.

Fond du Lac County Assistant District Attorney Kristin Menzl was asked by the judge in court to explain the reasoning behind the agreement. Menzl said the plea was for the two most serious charges for which the state has the strongest evidence, and that it was important to hold Zimmerman accountable as a teacher. "You never know" what a jury will do, she said.

If the case had gone to trial, the sexual assault charges would have required proving Zimmerman had "sexual contact" with the victim, defined as intentional touching of private parts, either directly or over clothing, with the intention of becoming sexually aroused.

The criminal complaint describes both touching as well as sexual intercourse, which was covered by the two dismissed charges. However intercourse with a child 16 or older, with the actor 19 or older, is a misdemeanor. The remaining dismissed but read-in felony charge was for exposing a child to harmful material - in this case, alleged exchange of sexually-explicit videos and pictures.

The victim was 16 and 17 in 2023 when the assaults occurred, according to the criminal complaint.

Since arrest, district says it has addressed staff discipline, boundaries, anti-grooming

The Beacon asked the Plymouth School District administration for an update on its own internal investigation resulting from the charges against Marcie Zimmerman, as well as on any subsequent actions taken to help prevent teachers, coaches, other school staff and volunteers from committing sexual assault against students in the future. This was the response:

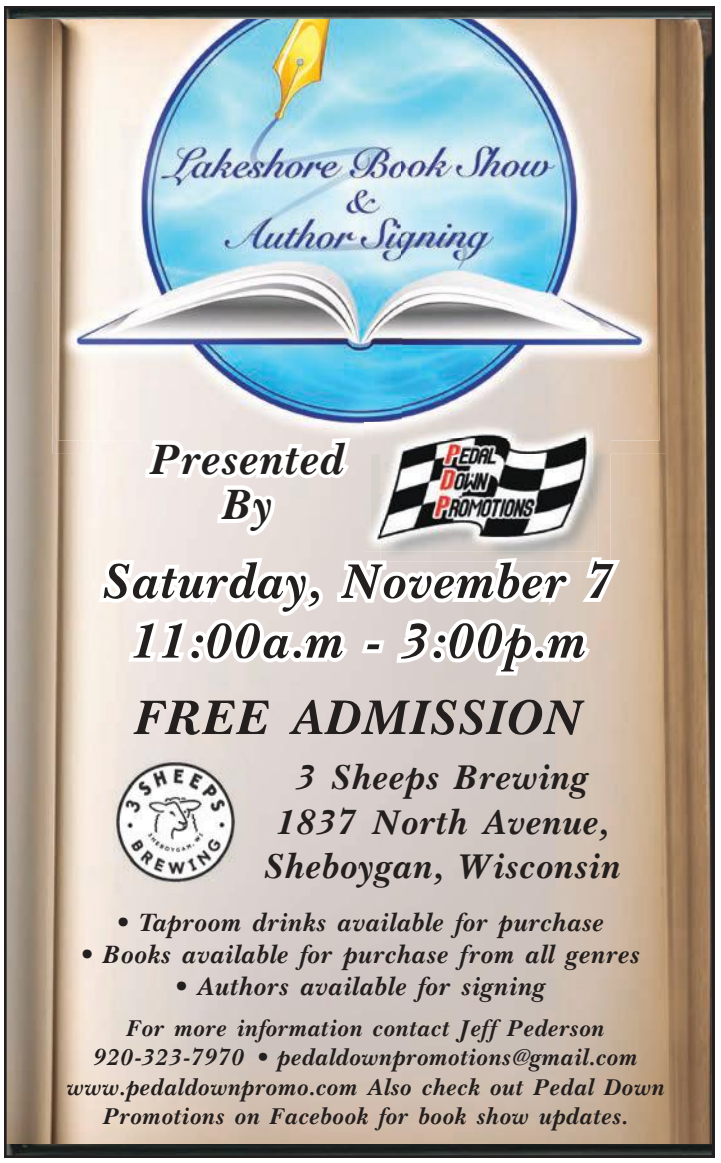
"Any allegation of inappropriate interactions with children concerns and saddens us, so we will continue to do everything in our power to make sure our students are safe and protected.

Since learning of the arrest last year, we:

• Updated our templates for formally addressing staff disciplinary issues.

• Addressed the importance of professional boundaries during our professional development in 2025 and 2026.

• Provided all staff with anti-grooming training during our back-to-school professional development this year. We also are providing training to all coaches, volunteers, etc., in compliance with Wisconsin Act 89."



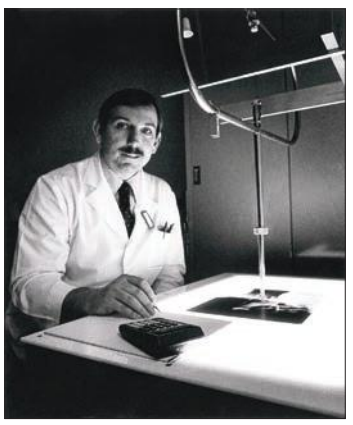
Late Sheboygan native donates $1M to Lakeland science programs

The late Ronald Scheele, a 1966 Lakeland University graduate and Sheboygan native who had an accomplished career as an educator and scientist in the field of medical physics, always traced the roots to his success back to the support he received at Lakeland.

Scheele, who died on Oct. 1, 2024, at the age of 80, was grateful for the scholarships that allowed him to attend Lakeland. He directed his executors to pay it forward, enabling generations of future Lakeland students to follow in his footsteps.

Lakeland has received a $1 million gift from Scheele's estate to provide for scholarships and create new programs for future LU science students.

Half the gift will establish the Ronald Scheele Memorial Scholarship, which will be awarded to students pursuing a degree in the basic sciences who demonstrate financial need and maintain the required grade point average. The scholarship will be renewable annually, much like the award that Scheele received.



RONALD SCHEELE

The remaining $500,000 will create a science and healthcare innovation program growth fund. This allocation will provide support for science and healthcare innovation and program development including capital projects, program development, equipment and related institutional priorities within these fields.

Scheele demonstrated his love of math and science at an early age, serving as the secretary of the Science Club and winning first place in the science fair at Sheboygan South High School, to placing as a top quarter finalist in the state mathematics competition.

Throughout the course of his life, Scheele displayed a steadfast commitment to science and his trade as a nuclear physicist. He published numerous scientific articles and was the co-author of the book "Elements of Radiation Protection" that is still used as a college textbook. He was instrumental in the establishment of the professional license issued by the state of Texas for medical physics.

Scheele's passion for education led him to establish the scholarship in his name and he requested that any memorials be in the form of donations to the scholarship, which will support future scientists in enhancing their Lakeland education to change lives and improve medical care for our future generations.

Classmates, friends and others are invited to donate and contribute online by visiting lakeland.edu/give.





Van Denend hits milestone

Melissa Neeb gets emotional when she talks about Madelyn Van Denend, whether it's how the Christian senior overcame a season-ending basketball injury last year or reaching 1,000 volleyball kills last week.

"It's really amazing and inspirational for people who are going through a similar thing, also for us coaches as we watch a kid with that much determination and heart and selflessness," Neeb said.

Neeb, who coaches the outside hitter in volleyball, was actually watching the livestream of the Eagles' basketball game in which Van Denend tore her anterior cruciate ligament last season.

"I saw it, but I didn't know it was that bad," Neeb said.

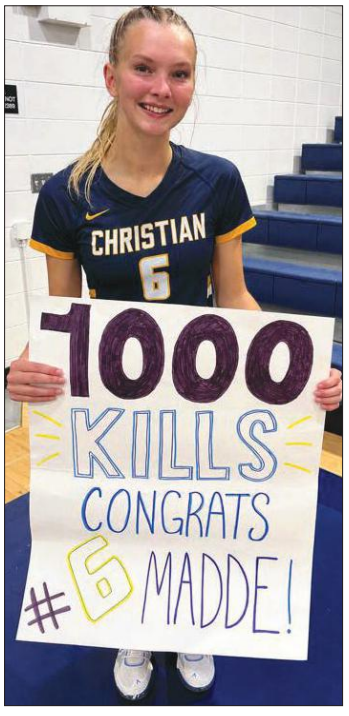
Van Denend was injured in November, had surgery in December and also missed the track and field season last spring (she won a regional championship in the 200 as a sophomore).

"You don't know how long it will take to recover and if you will get your senior season back for volleyball," Neeb said. "And so it's easy to be discouraged in that. But in it, she worked so hard, was super disciplined on her recovery and therapy that she did. And instead of feeling sorry for herself or being discouraged, she helped out some of our middle school programs coaching volleyball players and just really grew up so much as a leader, I swear."

Van Denend, who made all-Big East Conference second team a year ago, was able to begin her fourth season on varsity on Day 1 of practice.

And in a 3-1 victory over Cedar Grove-Belgium on Oct. 8, she recorded her 1,000th kill – a first in Neeb's six years running the program.

"We wanted that so bad for her and it was also extra exciting being Senior Night," the coach said. "So we got to celebrate it on court. … And if she hadn't worked as hard as she had, there's no guarantees that she would have been back for this season. So it was very special for her teammates and just for all the people that have supported her. It was a super fun moment."



Christian's Madelyn Van Denend got her 1,000th kill. - Submitted photo

One that Van Denend won't forget, especially after what she learned because of the injury.

"I think being able to come back from it really tested my resilience," she said. "Being able to go through this was really eye-opening as much as it was unfortunate. I feel like it built me more than it took me down, and I think it made me really reset my perspective on what it means to be an athlete and a player in general."

Teammate getting close

Samantha Veldkamp, a senior middle hitter, is also approaching 1,000 kills at Christian.

"So we've got to make this season go on as long as possible so she can get there," Neeb said.

Playoffs begin this week

Christian is seeded second and Lutheran is fourth in the Division 4 playoff bracket, and each receives a first-round bye.

The Eagles will host either No. 7 Hilbert or No. 10 Random Lake on Thursday.

The winner of that contest is expected to take on No. 3 Manitowoc Roncalli in a regional final on Saturday.

The Crusaders will get No. 5 Ozaukee or No. 12 Kohler in Round 2.

Top-seeded Sevastopol should be waiting as the regional final opponent.

In Division 1, North is seeded 13th and travels to No. 4 Cedarburg Thursday.

And in Division 2, South is No. 12 and visits No. 5 Denmark Tuesday.

No. 1 Christian/Lutheran in tough bracket

Even though the Christian/Lutheran boys soccer team is ranked No. 1 in Division 4, returning to the state tournament is not going to be easy.

The top-seeded Eagles (17-0-2 overall), who were in the tourney three years in a row from 2021-23, are in a loaded bracket.

There's second-ranked Kohler, No. 6 Cristo Rey Jesuit, No. 8 Howards Grove/Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah and No. 10 Racine St. Catherine's.

Barring major upsets, undefeated conference champion Christian/Lutheran will have to beat two of those teams to reach state.

"Yeah, we expected the one seed and didn't have any obstacles in the way as far as that goes," co-coach Keith Hendricks said. "Kohler wanted it as well, but we beat Kohler, so they really didn't have a whole lot to complain about being the No. 2 seed. Obviously, we like the No. 1 seed. We feel like Kohler is tough. Three through 10 are all very good in our bracket.

"It's going to be a dogfight."

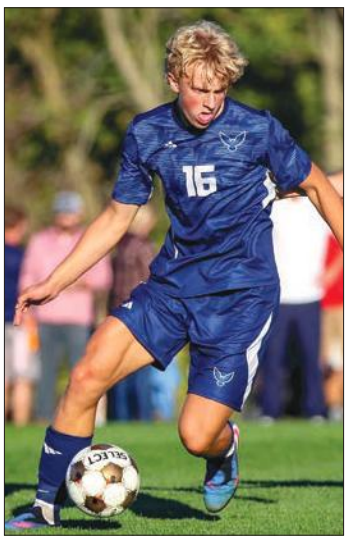
The first game for Christian/Lutheran will be at 4 p.m. Thursday against visiting Eastbrook Academy (seeded 16th) or Salam (17th).

The regional final is Saturday, against No. 8 Brookfield Academy or No. 9 Kenosha St. Joseph.

The likely opponent in the sectional semifinal on Oct. 29 is No. 4 Racine St. Catherine's or No. 5 Howards Grove/Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah.

Expect No. 2 Kohler or No. 3 Cristo Rey Jesuit in the sectional final, set for 1 p.m. on Oct. 31.

"I think we're peaking," Hendricks said. "Our best soccer is yet to come yet. We're very deep. We put subs in, and the quality of play does not drop off an ounce, really. So it's really exciting to see.



Connor Schmitz, Eagles soccer team is seeded first. - Photo by Carla Solle

"We're going through who we're going to nominate for all-conference, and we have three or four subs that would start on most other teams, we feel like. And we can't nominate, you know, 15 guys, even for honorable mention. We think they should be honorable mention as subs, because they would start everywhere else and do very well. That's the problem we have, and it's a really fun problem to have."

Garza joins squad

Zac Garza has joined Hendrickson as co-coach.

"It's a great partnership, actually," Hendrickson said.

Garza is the head coach of the girls' team at Cedar Grove-Belgium, and he's helped his father coach the boys at that school as well.

Hendrickson says Garza has been wanting to coach in a faith-based environment, but could not commit full time.

The changed a couple of weeks ago, however.

"I just kind of turned the reins over to him, because he's certainly a better coach than I am," Hendrickson said.

"We're both head coaches, but he does most of the coaching, honestly."

North, South seeded No. 5

The Golden Raiders are seeded fifth in Division 1 and host No. 12 Oshkosh North at 7 tonight.

The winners will likely get No. 4 Germantown in the second round two days later.

The Redwings are also fifth, but in Division 2. They host No. 12 Kaukauna at 5 tonight with hopes of advancing to probably play No. 4 Pulaski on Saturday.

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Letters lift Brewers to World Series?

■ *Longfellow second graders sent them to team before playoffs started*

Dave Boehler



THE BEACON
SPORTS EDITOR

There's a number of reasons the Milwaukee Brewers are in the World Series.

Pitching.

Hitting.

Coaching.

And - perhaps - letters.

Second graders in Lynette Pittner's class at Longfellow Elementary School wrote a good-luck letter to the team before the playoffs started.

They're pretty sure that the Brewers all saw their letters and that's why they keep winning," she said.

What did the letter say?

"Dear Brewers,

We are very proud of you!

You must have worked very hard at baseball to win 103 games.

All of your practice paid off.

We will practice our reading as much as you practice baseball.

We hope you keep on winning and win the World Series.

Your 2nd grade fans,

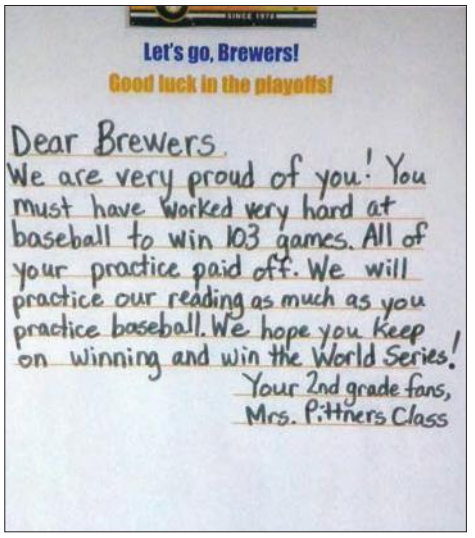
Mrs. Pittner's class."

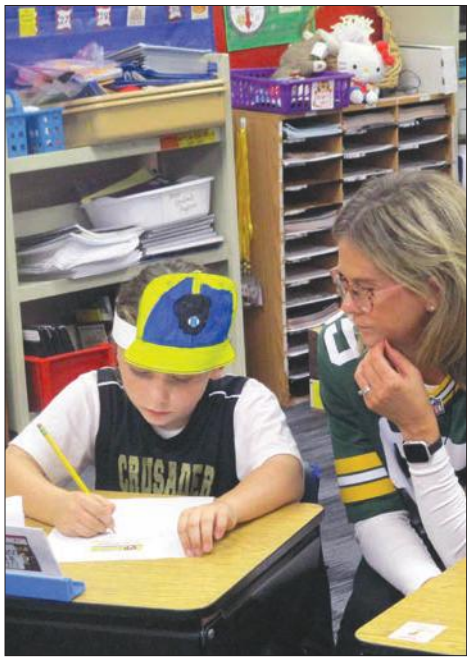
Pittner, who's been teaching for 40 years, also had the students write their own letters based on that week's school theme of setting goals and how to achieve them.

"You know, how these guys started out as little league players when they were in elementary school hoping to get to the World Series, and that was their goal," Pittner said. "Then they practiced, worked hard, made mistakes, didn't give up, and now they're reaching their dreams.

"We had a discussion of things that are hard in second grade, and one was reading. How, if we keep practicing our reading and set our goals for reading, we can be better readers too. And we talked about it kind of spirals into any career. If you really like cooking, you're going to practice cooking, you're going to get your training in cooking, and everything's not going to work out right the first time, but you're going to keep trying and practicing until you've got it figured out."







Second graders in Lynette Pittner's class at Longfellow wrote letters to the Brewers at the start of the playoffs. - Submitted photos



The second graders, however, play soccer more than baseball.

"I've been trying to explain a lot about the baseball words that they would be hearing on the news and stuff," Pittner said. "Like baseball diamond. We have a lot of multi-language kids here, so a baseball diamond is not like a diamond ring. Then we talked about home plate is not like a plate you put on the dinner table. Home plate is something that you run to. And a home run, you don't run to your home, you run across the base.

"We talked about all those multi-meaning words, which are very confusing to kids who really don't even know what an out is or any of that kind of stuff. So we've gotten a lot of mileage out of the Brewers. Then as they progress through each level - because the kids know about leveling up on a video game - we talked about, okay, they need three wins and then they can level up to the next round.

"So now they're leveling up to be the world champion is how we described it to them (Friday morning)."

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Chourio, Knocke deliver in the clutch

■ *Sheboyganites' video is seen over 18,000 times*

Video of Jackson Chourio's game-winning hit Oct. 4 has been seen countless number of times by Brewer fans.

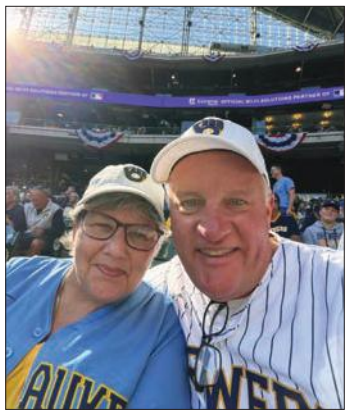
Imagine filming one - just eight rows from the field - between home plate and Milwaukee's dugout.

"I was basically looking right down the third-base line," Sheboygan's Scott Knocke said.

His wife, Plymouth native Kelly Knocke, wasn't surprised he caught the moment Chourio drove in the tying and go-ahead runs in the bottom of the ninth inning in Game 2 against San Diego.

"I was looking at my husband going, here he goes again, taping stuff, because we were just laughing at him this weekend," she said. "Because he's one that takes pictures and videos all the time of everything, and we're laughing at him because he has so much stuff on his phone. I'm like, he's not living in the moment, he's videotaping."

Apparently it was worth it, because the video (posted at facebook.com/scott.knocke) was given a 'thumbs up' 18,800 times and was shared 753 times as of Friday afternoon.



Kelly and Scott Knocke were at Game 2 against the Padres. - Submitted photo

For those who don't know, Milwaukee trailed San Diego by one run entering the bottom of the ninth.

What was Kelly thinking?

"We're going to lose this and I hate to say it, I got real nervous that this is going to be just the same as last year or the year before," she said.

The Padres also had one of the league's best pitchers on the mound to get the final three outs. Instead, he walked three batters to load the bases and bring Chourio to the plate.

What was Scott thinking, after he woke up that day in Boston to visit his daughter at Harvard and landed in Chicago at 11:30 a.m.?

"I'm like, this is going to be big, so I started recording," he said.

"It's the whole at-bat. Of course, when he got the hit, I just let the camera roll because the whole place just erupted. I've been going to Brewer games in County Stadium, and I've never experienced that kind of pandemonium where everybody just went nuts. I mean, even walking out, the ushers, the security, the cops, were high-fiving people."

Locals are enjoying Brewer Fever

The Bastil Family not only drove from Sheboygan to attend Milwaukee's victory over Los Angeles Monday, they ended up sitting next to former Brewer pitcher Ben Sheets (he threw out the first pitch) and his wife.

Here's a look at some other locals and their social media posts:

Shelley: OMG I'm ugly crying right now!! Go Brewers!!

Collin: I literally ran a lap around my grandparents kitchen after the back 2 back jacks. Do it for Ueck. I am so happy. Party like its 1982. Ps it is so nice to see my grandparents as excited as i am. Love you guys.

Sherry: I'm watching the Brewers game and the girl sitting to the right of Front Row Amy looks and has the same mannerisms as me. I wish I was in her place right now.

Amy: Great game Brewers. We're going all the way!

Valerie: In case you missed last night's hero: The Marathon Man and his 11th-pitch HR!!!! It was electric, and Mitchell to follow was the foam on the beer! Thanks for the hospitality Beth and Mike! PS: wish there was a praying mantis emoji lol. Love our Brew Crew!!!!

Maxwell: There's no quit in this Brewers team. What a game!

Chris: Man, no one on FS1 wants the Brewers to win.

John: Who's meeting me at Ranieri's Four of a Kind Bar & Grill to watch the game tonight?

Dakota: Is it 7 p.m. yet?

Michael: Wow. I remember exactly where I was the last time they clinched the pennant, and I'll never forget today either. Go Brew Crew.

Ryan: BREWERS!!!!! OMG the year I was born was the last time. 44 years. Let's Gooooooooo.

Tim: Every year I say, "we got a team this year that can do it." Or "it feels different this year." And then we get sucker punched … man, we are going. We are there. Job is not done. Can't believe it. Wow. So happy for our team.



This was the scene at Am Fam Field when Milwaukee clinched a spot in the World Series. - Photo by Kayla Prahl



Kimberly Wilson (left), who works in Sheboygan, enjoys the win Monday with her friend. - Submitted photo



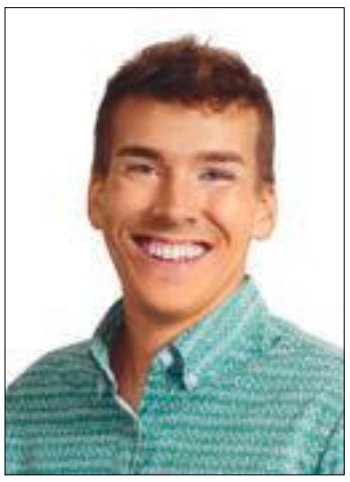
Sheboygan's Jordan Rodriguez (left) and Newton's Steve Sommerfeld attend the game Sunday. - Submitted photo



The Bastil Family of Sheboygan were also at the game Monday. Picture (from left to right) are Emma, Brian, Max and Samantha. - Submitted photo

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JOHN ANTHONY MEISE

John Anthony Meise, 36, of Waukesha, passed away unexpectedly and tragically on Sunday, October 4, 2026, while running the Milwaukee Lakefront Half-Marathon.

John was born on August 29, 1990, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, to Jeff and Debbie (Smith) Meise. Raised in Sheboygan, he graduated from Sheboygan North High School with the Class of 2008. He continued his education at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism in 2012.

On April 8, 2017, John was united in marriage to the love of his life, Lauren Elizabeth Hodge. Together, they built a life filled with love and laughter, raising their four children: Mason (11), Owen (8), Lucy (4), and Isla (1), alongside their cherished dog, Tilly (6).

After college, John lived and worked in Oshkosh for six years before he and his family relocated to their current home in Waukesha in 2019. That same year, he began his career at QuadMed, where he spent seven years growing professionally and advancing to the role of Brand & Digital Marketing Manager.

John will be remembered as a bright, affable, and dedicated father, husband, a loving son and brother, and a cherished friend and colleague. He was a man of immense skill, intelligence, talent, and a wonderful sense of humor. Above all, John loved his family and cared for others.

John's greatest joy was spending time with Lauren and their children. He took a heartfelt interest in their activities and celebrating their accomplishments. He loved taking long walks and runs through their beautiful neighborhood with Lauren, having custard dates, and enjoying cozy popcorn nights at home. He would cheer on Mason at baseball and football games or volunteer as his basketball coach. With Owen, he loved building LEGO creations and rooting for him at baseball and basketball games. He happily joined Lucy in playing dolls and Barbies, and his creativity and goofy spirit shone through in imaginative play with Isla. Whatever they were doing, John treasured the chance to be by their side.

John was blessed with a bright and creative mind that was used in everything he used from DIY home improvement projects to his thoughtful communication and engaging content creation. He approached challenges with patience, determination, and care. His family and friends will remember his giant bear hugs, contagious laugh, bright smile, and his joy for life.

John's warm personality and great spirit will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

John is survived by his wife of nearly 10 years, Lauren, and their four children, Mason, Owen, Lucy, and Isla; his parents, Jeff and Debbie Meise; his parents-in-law, Thomas and Jill Hodge; his brothers, Ryne Meise and Mark Meise; his sisters, Kelsey Bohr and Kristin (John) Brandes; his sister-in-law, Kristin (Brock) Bennett; and his grandmother, Judie Meise. He is further survived by many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. John was preceded in death by his son, Jackson; his grandparents, Barb and Jim Smith; and his grandfather, Ernie Meise.

Visitation will be held on Friday, October 23, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 11:45 AM at Krause Funeral Home, 21600 West Capitol Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin. A Service celebrating John's life will follow at 12:00 PM.

For those who wish to honor John's memory, a GoFundMe has been established to support Lauren and their four children. The family is deeply grateful for the outpouring of love, kindness, and support. https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-for-john-meises-family

Death Notices

Cara Anne Abumere, Ballhorn Chapels Funeral Home.

Annette Buchner, Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home.

Ellsworth "EJ" Caljouw, Wenig Funeral Home.

Audrey J. Claerbaut, Wenig Funeral Home.

Marvin Dekker, Ballhorn Chapels Funeral Home.

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David C. Freitag, Ballhorn Chapels Funeral Home.

Judith L. Johnston-Jarvis, Olson Funeral Home.

Cody Christian Jordi, Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home.

Willard Alfred Jost, Ballhorn Chapels Funeral Home.

Janet "Jan" Koepke, Suchon Funeral Home.

Marilee Kumbera (nee Graskamp), Peace of Mind Funeral Home.

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Doreen P. Meifert, Ballhorn Chapels Funeral Home.

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Healthy Sheboygan County seeking feedback on community health data

SHEBOYGAN – The Healthy Sheboygan County Coalition hosted a Data Walk Open House on Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at Jake's, a Lakeland Community. Approximately 58 community members attended the event.

The open house showcased key health data collected across the community from January through April 2026. Interactive displays highlighted critical topics affecting local residents, including healthcare access and navigation, activity and nutrition, mental health, substance use, housing, and child care.

If you were unable to attend the event, you can view the presented data by topic area and the full 2026 data reports on the Healthy Sheboygan County website and submit your ideas to improve the health of Sheboygan County by completing the feedback form. Anyone who provides their feedback can opt-in for a chance to win a Walmart gift-card.

Healthy Sheboygan County is a community-based initiative seeking to make positive changes in the health status of Sheboygan County. Members and representation includes Public Health, local health care agencies, schools, businesses, and community representatives that work together to help the community live better, longer lives.

Every three years Healthy Sheboygan County conducts a Community Health Needs Assessment. The data from these assessments informs the Sheboygan County Community Health Improvement Plan.

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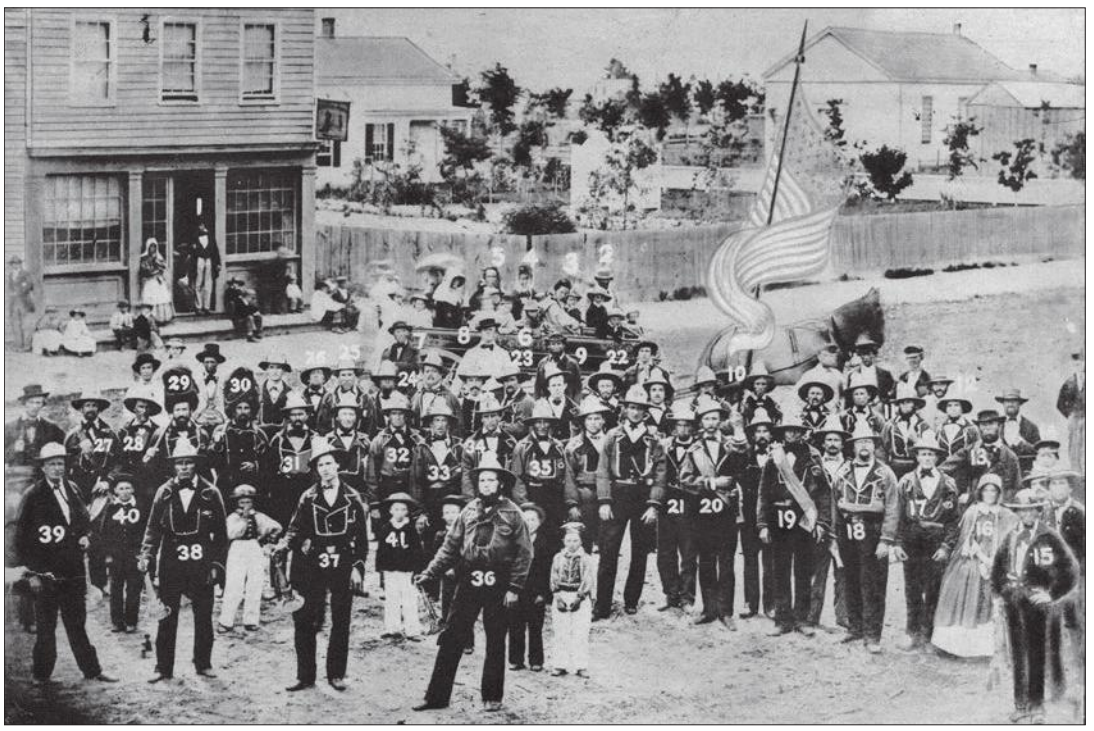
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A Look Back... on volunteer firefighters



by **Sarah Hall**
for The Beacon

In the mid-1860s image above which is one of the earliest known photos of Sheboygan's volunteer firefighters, members of Fire Protection Company No. 1 – accompanied by some of their wives and children – are gathered on North 8th Street just north of Erie Avenue, facing west. The building in back of them was J.M. Heinzelmann's boot and shoe store.

By this time, Sheboygan's firefighting force had already greatly expanded since its creation about two decades earlier, according to "Legacies of Firefighting: A History of the Sheboygan Fire Department: 1846-1998."

"The volunteer companies of the time were as much a social organization as they were fire departments," the book states – which perhaps explains the presence of family members in the group photo above. Such was the clout associated with firefighting that many of the individuals in this elaborately staged, very large group photo were painstakingly identified; their names are shared below.

What would eventually evolve into the fire department got its start when what was then the Village of Sheboygan appointed its first three fire wardens in 1846. They would conduct inspections, issue safety directives pertaining to stoves, chimneys and pipes and issue fines of $5 for a first violation and $25 for each succeeding offense (steep charges at a time when the average household income was about $15/month).

In 1848, the village organized its first hook and ladder company, engine company and firehouse in the 600 block of North 7th Street, on the future site of the Sheboygan Press Building. Fourteen men served on this first company: G.P. Farnsworth, V.E. Goring, C.J. Moore, W.S. Anable, J.T. Kingsbury, E. Young, E.S. Goodriche, J.S. Harvey, John Friedman, L. Testeweide, C. Roggenback, J.N. Merritt, J. Price and W.W. King.

Early fire engines "were pulled by men who would pick a spot on the ropes that were in the front of the rig and race towards the fire," the department's book notes. "As time passed and new rigs became heavier, the men who pulled these rigs were replaced by teams of trained horses that proved to be much

See **LOOK BACK,** page 19

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Courtesy of The Plymouth Review and The Sheboygan Beacon

the Beacon

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Nutt Hill gets a smoother ride

submitted by
Nutt Hill

Visitors to Cheese Capital Winter Park will notice an important change when they return to Nutt Hill for the 2026–27 winter season.

Over the summer, improvements were made to the 550-foot snow tubing run to create a more enjoyable experience for visitors.

Eric Otte, an engineer with JE Arthur, said his firm developed a new grading plan for the hill that reduced the steepness of the tubing run.

The original layout largely followed the existing contours of the hill, resulting in a maximum slope of nearly 33%. Excavation work completed this year has reduced the maximum slope to under 24%.

The Cheese Capital Winter Park board was looking for ways to improve and enhance the tubing experience for visitors.

"The key components of a tubing hill are acceleration, channelization and deceleration," Otte explained. "Pick up speed to get down the hill, stay in your lane, and decelerate and stop at the bottom of the hill."

Nutt Hill also features an automatic conveyor that transports snow tubers, skiers and snowboarders back to the top of the hill, allowing them to enjoy another run without having to climb back up.

A New Project for JE Arthur

JE Arthur has experience working on a variety of grading projects, but the Nutt Hill project offered something new for the firm.

"This is our first tubing, skiing and snowboarding hill," Otte said.



A view of fall foliage from the top of Nutt Hill. – Beacon photo by Sarah Hall

The grading improvements are designed not only to change the slope of the tubing run, but also to improve the overall experience and visibility of the hill.

"If you look down the hill from the top, you will actually be able to see the entire tubing run," Otte said.

Visitors will also notice additional grass growing on the hill. The grass will help prevent erosion and reduce water runoff, another long-term improvement.

Come See the Changes

Nutt Hill offers a local and affordable winter activity for families and visitors of all ages. The Cheese Capital Winter Park board and management team are continuing to make improvements and enhancements with the goal of providing an affordable and enjoyable winter experience.









Red Cross offering gift cards for blood

In October, the American Red Cross asks people to book a time to give blood or platelets to help keep the blood supply as strong as possible this fall. The seasons may change, but the need for blood is constant. Donors of all blood types are being called on to roll up a sleeve and give hope to hospital patients who rely on transfusions.

While October can be a shoulder season between severe summer and winter weather, it is often unpredictable. When the blood supply is stable, blood products can be moved wherever and whenever they are needed — even in the face of natural disasters. A single appointment could help provide hope and healing for patients in your community and across the country.

Don't wait. Make an appointment today and keep it on the calendar. Visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App to

see **RED CROSS,** page 11

RED CROSS from 10

schedule a donation appointment.

All who come to give Oct. 19-Nov. 22, 2026, will get up to $20 in Gift Cards — that's a $10 Amazon Gift Card by email and 500 bonus points, which can be redeemed for a $10 e-gift card through Blood Donor Rewards! Visit RedCrossBlood.org/Maze for details.

Upcoming Sheboygan County blood donation opportunities:

- 10/23/2026: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sheboygan Trades and Labor Hall, 1104 Wisconsin Ave
- 10/30/2026: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sheboygan Trades and Labor Hall, 1104 Wisconsin Ave
- 11/6/2026: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Etude Group, 830 Virginia Ave
- 11/6/2026: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sheboygan Trades and Labor Hall, 1104 Wisconsin Ave

Dreaming of Baking

Gridley Dairy No Bake Cheesecake



Myra Stokdyk Eischen
Certified Advanced Baker

I was looking for a recipe for my article and found a recipe booklet from 1940 from the Gridley Dairy. I decided to research this a little bit further as I had never heard of it. Gridley was founded in 1897 and its headquarters were on 8th street in Milwaukee. The architects for a three- story brick and concrete milk processing and bottling building were Leenhouts and Guthrie. The dairy was one of the largest in the city. They were also the first to use glass bottles for milk. Gridley was one of the earliest to have the entire milk operation pasteurized by 1903. In a November 1928 article in the Milwaukee Journal, it stated that it was the states' largest manufacturer of sweet cream butter, producing more than 4 million pounds in 1927.

In 1942 Gridley Dairy was purchased by Borden's and for some years bottles were labeled Borden's Gridley Division. In 1948 Borden's dropped all references to the Gridley name.

Credits to: Jeff Buetner and the Milwaukee Public Library for details.

The recipes in this booklet were fairly well written, and even gave suggestions for options to change up the recipe. In my earlier years, this is how I remember the consistency of cheesecake. Made with cottage or ricotta cheese, rather than the smooth cream cheese texture which is often used today.

I was a little skeptical if it would set- up as the custard portion never really got thick.

Note #1: I only had an individual serving box of corn flakes in the house, and we don't eat them, so I substituted 2 individual serving boxes of frosted flakes for the balance needed. and cut back the sugar to 1/3 c.

Note #2: I think I would cut back the butter in the crust to 1/3 c. instead of ½ c.

Note #3: I used 2 ½ envelopes gelatin. I'd use 3 envelopes next time.

Note #4: I cooked the custard about 20 min. It thickened somewhat, but it never got as thick as I thought it should.

Note #5: I did use 1 lemon and 1 orange and cut the vanilla back to 1 t. I used 1 T. orange zest and 1 T. lemon zest.

Note #6: I put 1 # small curd cottage cheese through sieve. I think I should have drained it for awhile as well.

Note #7: I froze the cheesecake, and it was extra delicious while frozen. I was afraid with the gelatin it may break down, and the crust would get soggy- but it worked out great! Very refreshing for a summer treat!

Sweet Dreams!

Gridley Dairy No Bake Cheesecake

Credit: Gridley Dairy Home Service Department



Set oven rack in the middle and preheat to 350º.

Spray 9" springform pan with non-stick cooking spray.

Crush:
1 ½ c. cornflakes
(measure after crushed)*

Mix in:
½ c. sugar*
1 t. cinnamon
½ c. melted butter*

Put aside ¾ c. for top. Pat remainder in pan.

Soften:
2 T. Knox unflavored gelatin*
¼ c. cold water

In top of double boiler whisk:
2 egg yolks
1 t. salt
½ c. milk
1/c. sugar

Cook until mixture thickens* stirring occasionally. Remove from fire.

Add :
gelatin mixture
Zest of 2 lemons*

Whisk until gelatin is dissolved. Cool.

Before it hardens beat in:
1 # dry cottage cheese*
Juice from 2 lemons*
2 t. vanilla*

Beat:
2 egg whites

Beat:
1 c. whipping cream

Fold whites and cream gently into cheesecake.

Pour on top of crust. Sprinkle with reserved crumbs.

Chill thoroughly for 4-5 hours or overnight before slicing and serving.

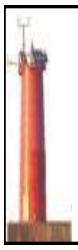
For mild lemon flavor, omit zest.

For citrus flavor use 1 lemon and 1 orange and ½ of vanilla instead of 2 lemons.









the Beacon Reaching over 27,000 City of Sheboygan mailboxes

A Fresh Outlook on Hearing Care, with a Long-Term Commitment to our Community

Hear Again America may be a new name in the Sheboygan and Manitowoc County communities, but our commitment to helping people hear better is anything but new. We are here for the long term, and we are excited to bring a fresh outlook, new options and a different approach to hearing care to the communities we call home.

Our owners are proud to call Sheboygan Falls home, and their commitment to this community is at the heart of everything we do. Our goal is simple: **to help people hear better and, in doing so, help them stay connected to the people and experiences that matter most**.

Hear Again America has been serving communities since 2013. When we decided to bring the Hear Again America model to Wisconsin, we knew we wanted to partner with an organization that shared our values and had the experience, resources and commitment to help us serve our community for years to come.

Hear Again America is backed by one of the largest audiologist-owned practice organizations in the country. That support was a major reason we chose to become part of the Hear Again America family.

But this partnership goes far beyond simply putting a name on the door.

Each week, we communicate with members of the Hear Again America corporate team about our business, marketing, patient care and ongoing staff training. That continued support allows us to keep learning, growing, and improving the way we serve our patients. **We believe it is the attention to the little details that can make a big difference in the overall patient experience—and ultimately set us apart**.

In many ways, **Hear Again America chose us just as much as we chose them**.

We believe that is what makes this partnership special. We are locally owned and deeply invested in the people around us, while having the support, knowledge and resources of a larger organization behind us.

Our vision is to offer people in Sheboygan and Manitowoc counties another choice when it comes to their hearing care. We believe people deserve options, personalized attention and a hearing care experience that is focused on their individual needs—not simply a one-size-fits-all approach.

We understand that choosing someone to help with your hearing is a personal decision. It requires trust, compassion, and a commitment to truly listen. Those are the values we intend to bring to every person who walks through our doors.

Our commitment isn't simply to open our doors and serve patients. **It is to become a trusted part of the community—one patient, one family and one conversation at a time**.

We are here for the long haul, we will continue to expand, and we look forward to building relationships, supporting our neighbors, and helping create stronger, more connected communities by helping people hear better.

Hear Again America is proud to be part of Sheboygan and Manitowoc counties, and we look forward to serving our communities for many years to come.

SCAN ME!

HearAgainAmerica



Mariah Siarkowski
Licensed Hearing Instrument Specialist

Nikki Klemme
Executive Director



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Local companies offered worker training grants

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers, together with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), kicked off Manufacturing Month by announcing $6.6 million in grants to 84 employers, including three Sheboygan County companies, to train 3,823 Wisconsin workers through the Wisconsin Training for Resilient Advanced Industry Needs (WisTRAIN) employer grant program.

As announced during Gov. Evers' 2026 State of the State address, the new WisTRAIN program is supported by federal funding secured by the Evers Administration to help deliver employer-driven, occupational skills training focused on advanced manufacturing and artificial intelligence (AI).

Projects will train workers for the future by addressing industry shifts resulting from technological advances, expanding access to industry-recognized credentials, supporting digital equity and literacy, and increasing employer-education partnerships. These projects will also ensure that employers remain competitive as the economy and workplaces adapt to new technologies. More information on the WisTRAIN employer grant program can be found on DWD's WisTRAIN webpage.

The Sheboygan County organizations offered grants include:

Georgia-Pacific LLC
$39,600

Training two incumbent and four new maintenance technicians in digital documentation and knowledge management, AI-powered knowledge platforms, and structured troubleshooting methodologies in partnership with Lakeshore Technical College.

Old World Creamery LLC
$38,080

Training 25 incumbent and three new employees to serve as on-site experts and technology champions supporting digital manufacturing tools, automation troubleshooting, and food-safety compliance.

Sargento Cheese Inc.
$312,699

On-the-job training for 126 incumbent workers using vendor trainers and experts as it relocates manufacturing to a new 384,000-square-foot facility with new integrated equipment and enhanced ergonomics.



Ghostly graveyard scene

Here lies the setting of North Point Cemetery located in front of a home along North 2nd Street in Sheboygan. The Grim Reaper, Cthulu, and other creatures stand guard over the bodies buried here. - Beacon photo by Ben Yang

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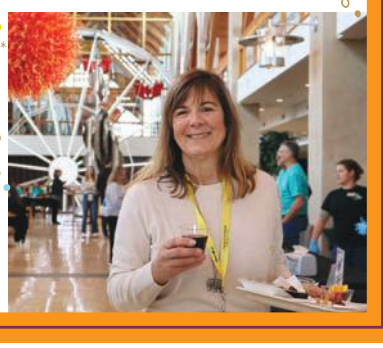
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a fundraiser hosted by LaValley Home & Garden to benefit GLC

Join us for an experience inspired by nature. Proceeds benefit Glacial Lakes Conservancy's mission to protect and presever land and water.

ABOUT: At this event you will create your own unique porch pot using natural and repurposed materials that are ecologically conscious, safe for wildlife, and hand-foraged from GLC preserves. LaValley Home & Garden will guide you through simple, step-by-step instructions. Come enjoy refreshments, community, and creativity!

WHEN: choose from Nov. 20, 5pm, Nov 21, 9:30am, Nov 21, 12pm
LOCATION: Jakes Cafe, 529 Ontario Ave. Sheboygan, WI
COST: $130 - includes all materials



SIGN-UP REQUIRED:
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call us at 920-828-0001

LaValley home, garden & natural habitat

Glacial Lakes Conservancy

Food/News *Recipes, tips & nutrition*

Dip into this at your Halloween party!

Halloween is a wildly popular holiday, and that popularity extends to adults as well as kids. Halloween parties dot many a social schedule come late October, and parties mean food. While it's customary to indulge in a few candied treats on Halloween, adults may want something with a little nutritional value as well. This "Halloween Dip With Carrots and Canapes" from Lines+Angles can make the perfect homemade party offering this Halloween.



Halloween Dip With Carrots and Canapes
Makes 4 servings

For the dip:
3 large avocados, halved, pitted, peeled and diced
1 garlic clove, minced
1 lime, juiced
1 dash Tabasco® sauce
1/2 cup sour cream
3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1 small handful cilantro, finely chopped

To serve:
6 large carrots
1/2 cup sour cream
1 handful stuffed olives, sliced
1 handful seedless red grapes, sliced
5 slivered almonds

1. For the dip: Mash together avocado, garlic, lime juice, Tabasco®, sour cream, salt, and pepper in a serving bowl until smooth.
2. Stir in chopped cilantro. Cover and chill until ready to serve.
3. To serve: Peel and cut two carrots into thick coins. Top with sour cream and then olive and grape slices.
4. Cut the remaining carrots into finger shapes. Use a paring knife to shave down their ends into nail beds. Make a thin incision at the end of the nail beds and slide a slivered almond into them to mimic fingernails.
5. Serve finger carrots in the prepared avocado dip with the carrot coins on the side.

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Drinking Habits 2



October 23 – November 1, 2026
Matinee & Evening

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The Sisters of Perpetual Sewing miss the excitement of the old days when they were saving convents and reuniting long-lost families. So, when they learn that the orphanage where Paul and Kate grew up is in peril, they can't wait to come to the rescue. Everyone pitches in to mount a play to raise money, but it's no easy feat when Kate's expecting any day, Sally's hiding from stagefright-stricken Paul after another flight from the altar, Mother Superior's acting is unexpectedly narcoleptic, and the sisters' award-winning wine keeps getting switched with the grape juice. The merry mix-ups multiply in this warm and winsome sequel to Drinking Habits.



November 20 & 21, 2026
Matinee & Evening

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Marilyn Monroe & Martina McBride



November 7, 2026
Matinee Only

$77.50 plus tax

Shania Twain & Pat Benatar



November 7, 2026
Evening Only

$77.50 plus tax

Stacey Whitton Summers is a singer/songwriter /actress that hails from Reno, NV and comes from a musical family of eight. She has been entertaining audiences since age seven. Her adolescence was filled with studies & performances of classical voice, theater, saxophone. When entering her college years she decided to pursue a singing and acting career.

After pursuing her Degree in Opera and Theater, she was cast in the role of "Marilyn Monroe" for the Las Vegas based show, "Legends in Concert." Since then she has used her talents in makeup /wig design, comedy and voice manipulation to recreate other icons for the stage and TV.

During the last twelve years Stacey has been meticulously recreating icons such as Shania Twain, Pat Benatar, Martina McBride Marilyn Monroe, Gretchen Wilson, Katy Perry and "The Judds" for live stage shows such as world-renowned Legends In Concert as well as her own one woman show. She has starred on TV shows such as ABC's "The Next Best Thing," E! Television's "Country's most Shocking" along with appearing as a featured artist on over 40 variety TV shows. She has shared the stage with original greats such as Dolly Parton and Dom DeLuise.

Stacey toured internationally and received media praise from Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Florida, Myrtle Beach, and Branson to the Bahamas, Singapore, Australia, Canada, and many parts of South and Central America. She has spent the last decade in Las Vegas where Shania Twain herself paid a visit to the Vegas strip to see Stacey perform. She has enjoyed singing for Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s Birthday Bash and the National Rodeo in Las Vegas; however, one of Stacey's highest honors was to perform for the U.S. Troops at the U.S. Naval Base on the private island of Diego Garcia. Stacey is a seasoned professional in many genres of music and has released 4 of her own CDs.

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Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr. brings music, learning and nostalgia to the stage

SHEBOYGAN — School is in session, and Theater for Young Audiences is bringing some familiar classroom favorites to the stage. The organization will kick off its 38th season with "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.," a fast-paced one hour musical featuring 20 young performers from schools across Sheboygan County and beyond.

Performances will be held at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, 608 New York Avenue, for one weekend only.

Based on the beloved and award-winning 1970s animated television series, "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." combines catchy music, humor and learning with iconic songs such as "Conjunction Junction" and "Just a Bill."

The story follows Tom, a young schoolteacher who is nervous about his first day in the classroom. Hoping to relax, he turns on the television, only to have a colorful cast of characters representing different facets of his personality emerge from the TV set. Through imagination, music and plenty of energy, they show Tom how to connect with his students and make learning fun.

The production is directed by Amara Kennedy, with music direction by Paul Sucherman.

Performance dates and times are:

- October 23rd - 7:00 p.m.
- October 24th - 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- October 25th - 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are available at tyasheboygan.org or at the theater immediately prior to each performance.

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"Driftless" exhibition brings Wisconsin photography and Mid-Century art to Sheboygan



Submitted photo

SHEBOYGAN - Open Spaces Gallery will present "Driftless," an exhibition featuring evocative photography of Wisconsin's Driftless region by Rich Maciejewski, recent photography by Michael Huibregtse, and mixed-media work by the late Georg Vihos.

The exhibition will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, at Open Spaces Gallery, 3893 Enterprise Drive in Sheboygan. Admission is free and open to the public.

Maciejewski's "Driftless" series explores the distinctive landscape of southwestern Wisconsin, including its bluffs, coulees, protected natural areas, and the 90-mile environmental corridor known as the Lower Wisconsin Riverway. His black-and-white photographs reveal the unexpected beauty of the region's "half wild" places while capturing a connection to nature that is often touched by a sense of mystery.

Maciejewski has photographed in Sheboygan County since the late 1970s, beginning his career with the Plymouth Review before spending more than 30 years as a staff photographer and photo supervisor for Kohler Co. He now lives and works in Madison, where his photography focuses on Wisconsin's arts and natural environment.

The exhibition will also include recent still lifes and other photographic work by Michael Huibregtse. Huibregtse served as Kohler Co.'s lead photographer and photo manager from 1999 until recently. Before joining Kohler Co., he was an award-winning advertising photographer based in Milwaukee's Third Ward. He now owns and operates Open Spaces Gallery.

Mixed-media work by mid-century modern artist Georg Vihos will also be on display. Vihos, who lived from 1937 to 2013, created work that has been described as spiritual and uplifting, capturing "the essence of things of the air." His professional honors included the Louis Comfort Tiffany Prize in 1968 and a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship from 1969 to 1970.

Maciejewski and Huibregtse will be present during both exhibition dates to meet visitors and answer questions about their work. Lisa Vihos, Georg Vihos' daughter, will also attend to discuss her father's life and artistic legacy.

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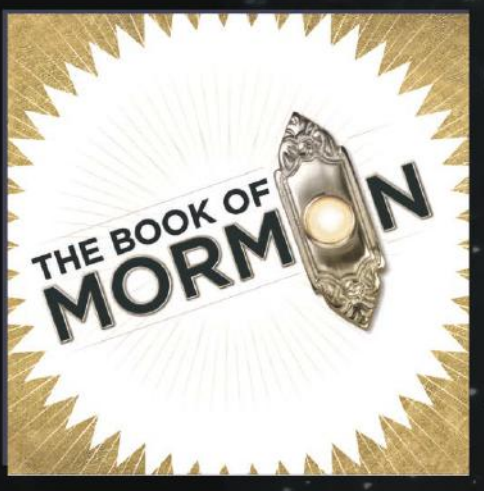
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LOOK BACK from 9

more efficient."

In this era, volunteers fought fires as bucket brigades drawing water from a series of cisterns built below ground on 8th Street," according to a Facebook post by the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center. "Brick-lined, the 14 foot by 20-foot storage tanks were located at intersections between Fountain Park and the Sheboygan River. Each cistern held about 4,000 gallons of water supplied from an artesian well in the park."

By 1865, Sheboygan had established a second firehouse at 809 North 8th Street, between Wisconsin and Niagara Avenues and close to where Relish Kitchen Store is now, which was the base for what was called the Sherman Company. It was a frame building two stories high and 20 feet wide, and cost $825.

Within ten years, two more stations had emerged in the city – for a total of four – including one at South 14th Street and Indiana Avenue and another at 1122 North 8th Street.

The fire department's book points out that rivalry between the companies was intense and they would compete to see who would be the first to arrive at the fire and the most skilled at putting it out.

In 1888, Fire Station No. 2 at 809 North 8th Street was renovated and became the central firehouse.

Names of the persons in the mid-1860s photo above were recorded as follows: 1-J.M. Heinzelmann, 2-George Liebl, 3-Mrs. George Liebl, 4-Mrs. Christ Neumeister, 5- Mrs. Oehler, 6- Children in Wagon, Anna Liebl/Mrs. Jacob Vollrath, John, Jacob, and George Liebl Jr., 7-Mr. Wieck, 8-Mr. Neuendorf, 9-Mr. Radolinski, 10-Mr. Bishop, 11-Henry Nordhorst, 12-Henry Bowe, 13-Mr. Kuehling, 14-Gus Wedell, 15-John Kauer, 16-Mrs. Louis Diestelhorst, 17-Otto Wedell, Sr., 18-August (Rote) Telgener, 19-David Brand, 20-Louis Diestelhorst, 21-Math Stalter, 22-Charles Oehler, 23-H.K. Voight, 24-Peter Kirst, 25-William Koenig, 26-Chas. Weintz, 27-Louis (Trummel) Meier, 28-Louis Augspurger, 29-John Kroeff, 30-Hubert Bessinger, 31-Sebastian Brechtel, 32-Casper Reinwand, 33-Carl Weimer, 34-Peter Guelsdorf, 35-Mr. Schermeyer, 36-Anton Ecke, 37-Chas. Imig, 38-Andreas Brandt, 39-August poll, 40-George Bessinger, 41-Henry Weimar. Others in the picture not positively identified were as follows: W.M. Root, Nic Ort, Gehr, Degenkolbe, Christ Messner, G. Rehwaldt, Trilling, Roeder, Luecki, Roenitz, Vollrath, Emil Sauer, John Sandrock, Sonntag, Lange, Petterit, Baumann, Herman (Butter) Meyer, Knocke, Steckhan, Christ Oldenburg, Burkard, Roth, Adoplhe and Emil Lebermann.

Photo and background courtesy of the Sheboygan Fire Department and the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center. Visit the center's Facebook page, their website at www.schrc.org and their headquarters at 518 Water Street in Sheboygan Falls.

2027 TRAVEL SHOW

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PEOPLE IN MOTION



Dr. Paul Carlsen

Lakeshore College President named to 2027 Wisconsin Titan 100

Dr. Paul Carlsen, president of Lakeshore College, has been named a 2027 Wisconsin Titan 100 recipient, recognizing his leadership, innovation and impact on higher education, workforce development and the regional economy.

Carlsen is the only Wisconsin technical college president named to the 2027 list and has been the only representative of Wisconsin's technical college system recognized since the Titan 100 Wisconsin program began in 2023.

The Titan 100 recognizes Wisconsin's top 100 CEOs and C-level executives for their leadership, vision and contributions to their industries and communities. Together, the 2027 honorees and their companies generate more than $39.4 billion in annual revenue and employ more than 41,000 people across the region and beyond.

Since becoming president of Lakeshore College in 2017, Carlsen has led significant initiatives to expand educational opportunities, strengthen workforce development and respond to the evolving needs of students and employers. Under his leadership, Lakeshore has become a statewide leader in competency-based education, expanding flexible, student-centered learning opportunities. He also helped advance transfer pathways through university partnerships, expanded programming in high-demand fields such as healthcare and commercial truck driving, and championed investments that strengthen the region's workforce and economy.

Carlsen's leadership extends beyond Lakeshore College. He serves on the board of directors of the American Association of Community Colleges, the New North board, the Sheboygan County Economic Development Corporation board, and the Wisconsin Maritime Museum board. Through these roles, he advocates for innovative approaches to education, stronger institutional partnerships and solutions that address workforce needs across Wisconsin and the nation.

"I'm honored to be recognized among Wisconsin's Titan 100. This recognition also reflects the dedication of our faculty, staff, students and community partners. At Lakeshore College, we work together to create opportunities that help individuals succeed, strengthen our workforce and contribute to thriving communities. I'm proud of what we're accomplishing together and look forward to continuing this work to make a lasting difference across our region," Carlsen said.

The 2027 Wisconsin Titan 100 honorees represent a broad range of industries, including education, construction, finance, manufacturing, technology, healthcare and nonprofit leadership.

Carlsen will be honored at the 2027 Wisconsin Titan 100 Awards on Jan. 21, 2027, at Fiserv Forum.



Amy Hanson

Lakeshore College marketing professional receives NCMPR District 3 Rising Star Award

Amy Hanson, senior marketing specialist at Lakeshore College, has been selected as the 2026 District 3 Rising Star Award recipient by the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations (NCMPR).

The annual Rising Star Award recognizes a newcomer to the two-year community and technical college marketing and public relations field who demonstrates creativity and talent and shows promise for a successful career in the profession. NCMPR presents one Rising Star Award in each of its seven districts.

Hanson was nominated for the award by Ann Deuser, director of marketing at Lakeshore College. "Hanson has established herself as an innovative and results-driven marketing and public relations professional. She has led and supported high-impact initiatives that have strengthened the college's brand, expanded student recruitment efforts, and created lasting marketing assets," Deuser said.

Hanson received the award during NCMPR District 3's Awards of Excellence ceremony Oct. 6 in Madison. The ceremony was part of the district's annual conference, held Oct. 5-7.

As the District 3 Rising Star recipient, Hanson automatically becomes one of seven finalists for NCMPR's national Rising Star Award. The national award will be presented at NCMPR's national conference in Chicago in March 2027.

About Lakeshore College

Lakeshore College, formerly known as Lakeshore Technical College, is a comprehensive community and technical college educating more than 9,000 students annually. Students enroll at Lakeshore to master real-world, employable career skills and start their pursuit of a bachelor's degree. Lakeshore faculty and staff are focused on providing each student an individualized learning experience.

Lakeshore College is a nationally recognized two-year college. The college was ranked #2 in the nation by Washington Monthly, #17 in the nation by Forbes, #2 in the state by WalletHub.com, a top-150 two-year college by the Aspen Institute, a 2024 Bellwether Award winner, and named the 2021 Large Business/Industry of the Year by the Chamber of Manitowoc County.

Approximately 800 students graduate from Lakeshore each year, and associate degree graduates report earning a median salary of $61,355 within six months of graduating. In addition to the Cleveland campus, Lakeshore educates students at learning campuses in downtown Manitowoc and downtown Sheboygan. Classes are also offered at additional sites throughout the district. Visit Lakeshore at lakeshore.edu.

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SAFETY TIPS FOR TRICK-OR-TREATING

It is essential to prioritize safety on Halloween, and following these guidelines can help.

- Make sure costumes are short. Costumes that drag on the floor are tripping hazards, which can lead to injury. Be sure that costumes do not cover the feet or drag on the ground.
- Trick-or-treat in groups.
- Make sure costumes and trick-or-treat bags feature reflective tape. Trick-or-treaters also can carry flashlights or glow sticks to improve visibility, and stick to areas with streetlights if going out after dark.
- Stay on sidewalks.
- Eat before trick-or-treating. All candy and other treats should be inspected by an adult before it is eaten.
- Keep pets in a quiet room away from the action to prevent them from getting loose, injured or scared enough to bite or scratch someone.
- Avoid masks that obstruct vision.
- Test out makeup beforehand. Heed the warnings on packaging and avoid putting makeup too close to the eyes or lips.

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Kohler	Saturday, Oct 31 • 5-7pm
Oostburg	Saturday, Oct 31 • 4-7pm
Plymouth	Sunday, Oct 25 • 3-5pm
Random Lake	Sunday, Oct 25 • 3-5pm
Sheboygan	Saturday, Oct 31 • 4-7pm
Sheboygan Falls	Saturday, Oct 31 • 4-7pm
St. Cloud	Saturday, Oct 24 • 3-5pm
Waldo	Saturday, Oct 31 • 4-7pm

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Lakeshore Family Funeral Homes
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Family owned and operated

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news
The Plymouth Review Current



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Agriculture in Milwaukee County

DAIRY DELIGHTS

Anastasia Poull, 79th Alice in Dairyland

Milwaukee County is hosting the 80th Alice in Dairyland Finals, May 13-15, 2027. In preparation for the finals, I am visiting Milwaukee County at least once a month to highlight agriculture in this part of the state!

This is an incredible location for the finals as the Alice in Dairyland program reaches eight decades of age, especially because the very first Alice in Dairyland was selected in Milwaukee County! The program began in 1948 as part of Wisconsin's centennial celebrations. Margaret McGuire was selected amongst hundreds of applicants to represent Wisconsin agriculture as Alice in Dairyland. Today, the Alice in Dairyland interview process culminates in a three-day finals event that rotates to a new county each year.

This year, "Something Historic is Coming Home" to Milwaukee County. Exploring Milwaukee County's unique agricultural landscape has been extremely interesting! In July, I visited Purple Door Ice Cream, a locally sourced ice cream shop in Milwaukee that creates one-of-a-kind flavors with natural colorings and is invested in the growth of the community.

August started with 11 days in West Allis at the 175th Wisconsin State Fair! Organizations such as the Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Promotion Board actively engage with fairgoers to share the story of Wisconsin agriculture! As far as agriculture goes, dairy farms are not the most prominent in Milwaukee County. In fact, the Milwaukee County Zoo has the only working dairy farm in Milwaukee! During A La Carte at the Zoo, I joined the Family Farm staff for a full tour of the farm and learned about their work to educate people about agriculture.

September brought a wide variety of locations and visits! I started the month at Trimborn Farm in Greendale for their Harvest of Arts & Crafts event. This historic site is home to a Cream City brick farmhouse, which is one of the last and largest stone barns in Wisconsin. An exciting new development is the Heritage Hen Collection, which is bringing hens back to the chicken coop on site!

My next visit was to Aromatic Acres, an urban flower farm in Wauwatosa. They grow thousands of specialty cut flowers and foliage on less than half an acre at the Firefly Ridge Community Gardens. We stopped in for a quick scoop of custard from Gilles Frozen Custard, which is Wisconsin's oldest frozen custard stand! It was delicious!! To close out the month, I attended the Bayside Fall Fest. This community event celebrates the fall season in Wisconsin with a village picnic, petting zoo, live music, and many other ways to engage!

Along my journeys in Milwaukee County, I also have the opportunity to connect with a very special group of people. The 80th Alice in Dairyland Finals Planning Committee is a group of volunteers who are passionate about the Alice in Dairyland Program and Milwaukee County. I love hearing their plans for the finals and I can't wait for the details to be revealed as the year continues!

Join us for the 80th Alice in Dairyland Finals! Friday and Saturday evening are ticketed events open to the public. Friday includes four impromptu questions for each of the Top Candidates to answer, and a Commodity Showcase where the candidates share a product they made using a Wisconsin commodity while educating attendees. Saturday includes the final introductions, impromptu speeches, prepared presentations, a farewell speech from the outgoing Alice in Dairyland, and concludes with the announcement of the next Alice in Dairyland!

Learn more about the 80th Alice in Dairyland Finals and how to become Alice in Dairyland at AliceInDairyland.com.

Alice in Dairyland is a one-year, full-time public relations professional employed by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). Each year, Alice in Dairyland travels over 45,000 miles, promoting Wisconsin agriculture, as authorized by Wis. Stat. § § 93.07(3), 93.40(1)(e), and 93.44(1)). Alice in Dairyland conducts hundreds of media interviews, speeches, and school presentations in her position.



80th Alice in Dairyland Finals Milwaukee County Logo



79th Alice in Dairyland at the A La Carte at the Zoo event at the Milwaukee County Zoo



79th Alice in Dairyland on a tour at Aromatic Acres in Wauwatosa with one of the owners

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Food bank launches ham and turkey drive to feed families during the holidays

SHEBOYGAN – Sheboygan County Food Bank (SCFB) is inviting the community to help fill tables across Sheboygan County during the upcoming holidays through a Holiday Ham and Turkey Drive, October 19 through November 9.

Community members, businesses and organizations are encouraged to donate hams and turkeys that will help SCFB provide these special holiday meal staple foods to local food pantry guests through the end of the year.

"The holidays are often centered around sharing a meal with the people we care about and we want to make sure our neighbors experiencing food insecurity to have that same opportunity," said Patrick Boyle, Executive Director of Sheboygan County Food Bank. "Donating a ham or turkey is a simple way to help make the season a little brighter for a local family."

SCFB is also encouraging local employers to participate in the drive. For the past several years in November Nemak has been donating excess hams that they purchased for employees to SCFB rather than letting them go unused. Sheboygan County Food Bank has been grateful for this generous partnership that has supported local families for Thanksgiving.

Businesses that provide hams or turkeys to employees during the holiday season are invited to donate any excess items to the Food Bank. Employers can also purchase additional hams or turkeys specifically for the drive or organize a collection among employees. Businesses that expect to have surplus hams or turkeys beyond November 9 are encouraged to contact Jodie Zajkowski, SCFB's Warehouse and Logistics Manager, at 920-453-0169 or jodie@sheboygancountyfoodbank.com to coordinate a donation.

Food donations can be dropped off Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 3 PM at Sheboygan County Food Bank (3115 N. 21 Street in Sheboygan, Door C) during the drive. Donation receipts are available upon request.

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Rooftop Artists



The Veg Patch Dispatch

Stephanie Bartel • OLD PLANK FARM

Artwork has been a recurring topic of conversation in recent weeks at the farm. It has mostly been discussed while dangling from the rafters of our construction project—a new pole shed—and in reference to whatever bit of carpentry we happened to be scrutinizing.

"It's perfect," I said when we shimmied another wind brace into place. I held one end up to the truss that my legs were wrapped around, while crew-member Bob held the other end up to the truss next to where he was perched. He's tall enough so that his feet could anchor to one roof purlin while his knees rested on the purlin above, allowing him to move with Spiderman's efficiency; or at least I think that's why the other guys have been humming that theme song a lot. My less than super-heroic stature does not allow for this graceful technique, so whenever I was up on the roof I had to curl any of my available limbs around whatever framing lumber was within reach, making me look like a scared possum with a cordless drill.

"It's off," Bob said, referring to the angle of the wind brace we were holding.

I squinted up toward his end of the board to try and see the slight degree of difference between the cut we'd just made and the two-by-four that was butting up against it.

"It's artistic," I'd refute cheerfully, and that would revive our debate about art versus engineering, the digital world versus the real world, and Rembrandt versus Picasso. "We decided you're a Rembrandt,"

see VEG PATCH, page 23

VEG PATCH from 22

I told Bob one day. "He was a very realistic artist."

I am glad I had a Rembrandt on my team for this project, so that my Picasso tendencies didn't get the best of our new building. I have been destined for a Picasso view of the world since childhood, which I explained to Bob one afternoon while we were hanging around on the roof waiting for a board to be handed up from one of the crew members on the ground.

When I was in fifth grade art class, we were given an assignment of replicating famous paintings. We all picked randomly from a group of pictures that were turned upside down on a table at the front of the room. One at a time each student went to the table and turned over a laminated page. I watched as pictures were chosen by my classmates: a flower in a vase, an ocean at sunset, a house in a pasture, and other still-life paintings were taken from the table.

When it was my turn, I went up and reached into the pile and flipped over a painting. Pablo Picasso's "Guernica" lay in my hands. Looking at it for the first time, I was stunned by the incoherent mosaic of colors and shapes covering every inch of the page. Fragments of images I could barely comprehend, let alone piece together with my colored pencils. Scowling, I took the painting back to my desk and studied it more. There were animal heads and human heads and feet and limbs all cut and patched together like a broken kaleidoscope. There was no end to each part, and nowhere to begin.

I looked up at the teacher. *Seriously?* I questioned her silently with my brooding eyes. As I worked (honing in on the cow's head as the starting point), I wondered about why all the other kids only had to draw a few simple objects, while I had to tackle what seemed like a never-ending mess. Thinking back, I still wonder why the Picasso painting was included for a bunch of ten-year-old school kids to recreate, and why was I chosen to work on it? Then again, wasn't I the one who reached my own hand into the pile and chose it for myself?

Our new pole shed turned out as square and straight as any around, thanks to Rembrandt (and the Maestro, the President, and the Other Ryan, but their stories will have to wait until another time). It has little evidence of anything Picasso, unless you look very closely at two exposed concrete rings around the columns in the back of the shed. Here you'll find a collage of hands that were pressed into wet cement: mine and the four other farmers-turned-carpenters from my 2026 crew. In this way—and only this way—our team is set in stone, and whenever I look at our handprints I'll see us all working together once again: prying up rocks, lifting trusses high into the bright blue sky, scaling walls, and arguing about art.

Stephanie Bartel is the owner of Old Plank Farm in Plymouth, WI. She writes a weekly column for subscribers at plymouth-review.com







What is The Beacon?

It is a "free local newspaper" for Sheboygan residents so they can experience the value of intensely local news. It is The Review "lite", but very different from free "shopper" publications.



Halloween Disney World

Mickey Mouse, Lilo and Stitch, Ursula, the Evil Queen, and other Disney characters gather on the front lawn of this home on North 4th Street in Sheboygan to celebrate the Halloween season. - Beacon photo by Ben Yang



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Wednesday 6:00pm - AWANA Children & Youth Ministry
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Prayer Time: 9:30 Sunday
Website: https://ourgbc.com
Phone: (920) 395-3904
Email: pastor@ourgbc.com

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Sunday Worship Schedule:
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10:15 a.m. Mass with Organ Music and online live streaming
Weekday Worship Schedule:
7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Sunday-Thursday
5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Monday and Tuesday
5:00 p.m. Corporate Rosary, Monday
6:00 p.m. Deacon Mass, Wednesday
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Men's Minsitry: 1st & 3rd Saturday 10:00 AM

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ZionSheboygan.org
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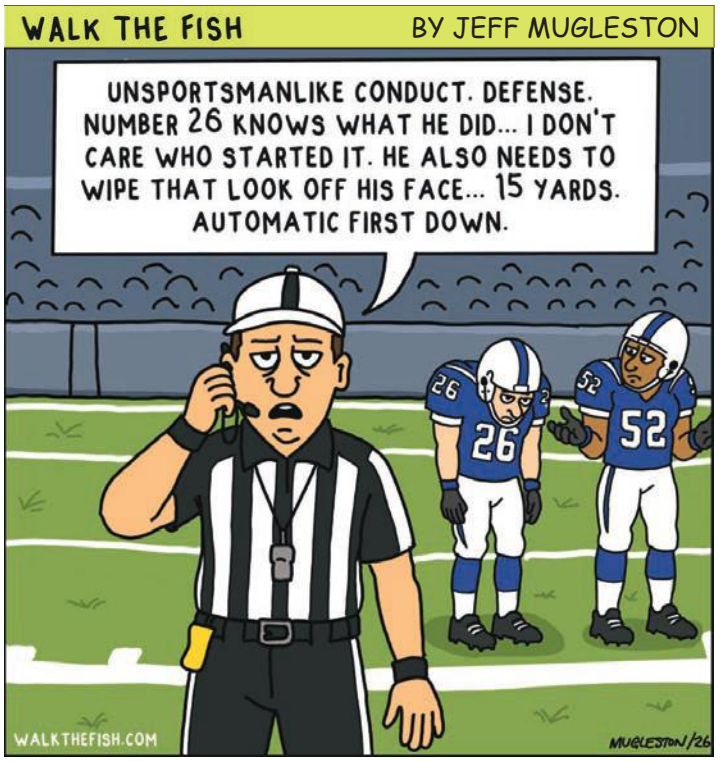


Veterans can have their names engraved on the Sheboygan County Veterans Memorial Wall, located at 3901 Wilgus Ave., Sheboygan

For an application, go to
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or contact Allen Nohl
with questions… 920-207-1196

BELOW IS A LIST OF NAMES OF THIS YEAR'S VETERANS ENGRAVED ON THE WALL

Ahl, Frank X.	WWI	Army
Ahl, Jerome F.	WWII	Army
Altmeyer, Robert C.	WWI	Coast Guard
Benzscawel, Thomas R.	Vietnam	Navy
Beringer, Daryl L.	Vietnam	Army
Blaul, Richard J.	Peacetime	Marine Corps
Block, Ted C.	Vietnam	Army
Bohenstengel, Henry M.	Vietnam Era	Army
Boll, Eugene H.	Korea	Army
Campbell, James P.	Vietnam	Air Force
Campbell, Peter J.	Gwot	Air Force
Charles, Terrence L.	Vietnam	Marine Corps
Crneckiy, Carl J.	Peacetime	Army
Differt, Kenneth P.	Cold War	Army
Drescher, Jonathan R.	Vietnam /Cold War Era	Army
Drewry, David J.	WWII	Army Air Force
Goetz, Alfred A.	WWII	Army Air Force
Gottsacker, Harold A.	WWI	Army
Greenwald, Kenneth J.	Korean Era	Air Force
Grunwald, George A.	WWI	Army
Grunwald, O. William "Whitey"	WWII	Navy
Gutoski, Steven D.	Vietnam	Air Force
Hagen, Matthew J.	Gwot	Army
Hamann, Charles	Peacetime	National Guard
Heinrich, Thomas W.	Vietnam	Army
Heinrich, Walter J.	WWII	Navy
Hicks, Victor C	WWII	Army
Hofschild, Dennis L.	Vietnam	Air Force
Hofschild, Harold R.	WWI	Army
Hoppert, Henry C.	WWII	Army
Hunkins, Clarence J.	Korea	Army
Huss, Jessica L.	Gwot	Army
Ibe, Adam	WWII	Army Air Corps
Ibe, Clarence H.	WWII	Navy
Ibe, David	WWII	Army
Ibe, Edward H.	WWII	Army
Jenko, Jacob A.	WWII	Navy
Junker, Robert E.	WWII	Army Air Force
Juntz, James L.	Cold War	Army
Kaiser, Bruce E.	Vietnam	Army
Kanz, Dennis E.	Vietnam Era	Navy
Kapellen, Joseph E.	WWII Era	Army
Koch, Gordon J.	Vietnam/Gwot	Air Force
Kopf, Dennis J.	WWII	Navy
Kopf, Jacob	WWI	Army
Krueger, David C.	Peacetime	Army
Kruschke, Glen A.	Cold War	Navy
Kuehn, Raymond P.	WWII	Marine Corps
Leicht, Sr., Roman H.	WWI	Army
Leonhardt, Jack	Cold War	Army/Air Force
Mc Bain, Larry E.	Vietnam Era Desert Storm Era	Air Force
Meyer, Charles J.	Vietnam Era	Army
Miller, Sr., Jack K.	WWII	Army
Minster, Robert A.	Peacetime	Army
Mitwede, Steven R.	Vietnam	Navy
Mueller, Roger J,	WWII	Army
Neese, Clayton W.	Gwot	Air Force
Ninneman, Kevin A.	Peacetime	Marine Corps
Nowack, Merlin A.	Peacetime	Coast Guard
Oonk, Roger A.	Vietnam Era	Navy
Papendieck, William C.	WWI	Navy
Parra, Joseph M.	Lebanon	Marine Corps
Peters, Roger D.	Vietnam	Army
Peterson, Lawrence W.	WWI	Navy
Pha, Tony	Vietnam	Army
Prettie Jr., Max R.	Vietnam	Marine Corps
Renzelman, Daryl J.	Vietnam Era	Army
Repphum, Gary P.	Vietnam	Army
Reysen, Russell J.	Vietnam	Army
Riviers, Daniel J.	Vietnam	Navy
Ribbens, Wilbert G.	WWII/Korea	Air Force
Ritt, Jeffrey J.	Peacetime	Marine Corps
Swedberg, Richard G.	Gulf War Era	Marine Corps
Bossard, Collin E.	Gwot	Air Force
Roth, Dr. Richard R.	WWI	Army Air Force
Rudie, Eugene C.	Korea	Army
Ruh, Randall J.	Peacetime	National Guard
Saak, Daymond P.	Vietnam Era	Navy
Schmitt, Donald R.	WWII	Navy
Schmitt, Richard F.	WWII	Navy
Schoen, James M.	Vietnam	Army
Schuler, Gordon E.	WWII	Navy
Seefeldt, Gordon D.	Korea	Army
Seehaver, Myron K.	Korea	Army
Seehaver, William D.	Peacetime	Army
Stempihar, Michael R.	Vietnam	Marine Corps
Stoelb, Francis G.	WWII	Army
Streiber, Adam A.	Civil War	Army
Thibodeau, Bruce M.	Vietnam	Army
Thome, Richard G.	Korea	Army
Van Engen, Richard J.	Korea	Air Force
Wangerin, Stewart B.	WWI	Army
Weinhoff, Dennis J.	Vietnam	Navy
Yurk, Richard A.	Vietnam Era	Army
Zore, Carl J.	WWII	Army



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Words run horizontally, vertically, diagonally, and backwards. Numbers show the page each word appears on in this issue.

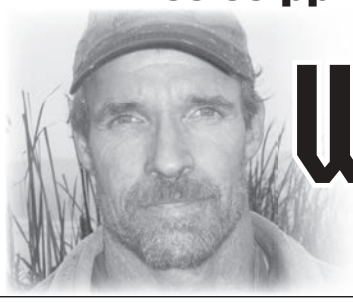
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Mississippi Duck Hunt 2026



Wilderness Journal

Mark Walters • OUTDOOR COLUMNIST

Hello friends,

Fifty-five duck seasons ago, I camped on an island on the Mississippi River near Ferryville with my brothers Mike and Tom, and my dad, the late Robert Walters.

I took one shot, was scared of the kick of the gun and could not believe it when a beautiful drake wood duck fell out of the sky.

I spent the 2026 southern Wisconsin duck opener with 12 friends and family members, and this year's story will just be bursts of memories from another great adventure.

Friday, October 2nd
High 75, low 46

The mood is better than incredible for the start of this experience; we have as much fun at camp as we do hunting. As usual my mode of transportation during the hunt and scouting would be my 17-foot canoe with my trusty "duck dog" Red in the front.

I put a good 4 miles on the canoe, saw very few ducks and watched the sky until dark. What I saw is undisputable: mud motors can go anywhere that I can go, almost, and they make a lot of noise. Simply put, you cannot stop progress.

Our camp consists of a bunch of guys that cook great meals and we sit in a circle around the campfire and laugh a lot.

Saturday, October 3rd
High 72, low 46

I paddled 1.5 miles and was very comfortable 90 minutes before shooting started at sunrise.

I no longer care about numbers, just quality shots and Red doing well. I fired two shells this morning, the first dropped a teal, the second was a miss. Red retrieved the teal and I was happy.

Joey Snodie and my stepson Joey Dushek limited out "six each" and were all smiles at the midday campfire.

Travis Dushek was hunting by himself and fired a total of nine shots and dropped three geese, five teals and a drake mallard.

Some people in our group did not get a bird, others came back to camp with a couple. Joey Snodie had an eagle just about grab one of his dead teal when it was being retrieved.

On the afternoon hunt, Riley Schuster, Trent Schuster and Troy Ringlestetter were hunting the same spot. Riley dropped his first duck of the day which was a drake wood duck. Trent's golden retriever Ivy was swimming out to fetch the woodie and what was probably the same eagle flew over and snatched it, the boys said the eagle had a heck of a time flying with it, but did.

Tonight I hunted a good two miles from camp and was paddling back in the dark when Jeff Moll and his 30-year-old son Nate came across me.

Nate and I have been doing outdoor stuff since he was born; his dad and I have been doing outdoor stuff for about 53 years.

I held onto their rig and took a very nice ride back to camp. On the hunt, I dropped a drake woodie which Red did a fine job of retrieving.

The campfire experience was epic with everyone forcing themselves to stay up as late as possible and quite successful.

Sunday, October 4th
High 77, low 50

I took the ez route so that I could hunt with Travis this morning. It paid off when I bagged a teal and a pintail and was able to shoot the jaw with a boy, "I guess at 35 he is a man," that I have been doing outdoor stuff with since he was 6.

Everyone but Jeff and I left today. The two of us had a great time watching the campfire and as usual, laughing a lot!

Stay active til you die,

Sunset



FEAST, THEN FUN

Kick off the holiday season with Thanksgiving weekend at The Osthoff Resort & Spa. It's a weekend filled with great food, live entertainment, and traditions worth sharing.



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Thursday, November 26 • 10 AM -2 PM

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Lakeshore College invites community to explore career opportunities



CLEVELAND – From exploring more than 65 career programs to getting hands-on with welding, Lakeshore College is inviting community members to discover what's possible at its Chart Your Course Community Open House on Wednesday, Oct. 28.

The open house will take place from 3–7 p.m. at Lakeshore's Cleveland Campus, 1290 North Avenue in Cleveland, and will give prospective students and community members an opportunity to explore career options, tour campus facilities, meet faculty and current students, and connect with experts who can answer questions about financial aid, scholarships, admissions, academic support and more.

As part of the event, visitors interested in skilled trades can Make Some Sparks! while learning more about welding careers and Lakeshore's welding programs. The hands-on opportunity gives participants a chance to experience welding firsthand and learn how technical education can lead to rewarding careers in the manufacturing and skilled trades industries.

"Whether someone is just starting to explore career options or considering a career change, this event provides an opportunity to experience Lakeshore College firsthand," said Dr. Paul Carlsen, Lakeshore College president. "Visitors can explore our programs, talk with faculty and students, tour our facilities and discover the many pathways available to help them reach their goals."

Lakeshore's Cleveland Campus will be open for personalized tours during the event, including innovative learning spaces such as culinary labs, the manufacturing center, dental labs, nursing classrooms, law enforcement training areas, information technology areas and the maker's space. Guests can explore associate degrees, certificates, technical diplomas, apprenticeships and transfer-to-bachelor's partnerships.

For those interested in welding, Lakeshore offers programs designed to develop hands-on skills for careers in the industry. The College is hosting its Make Some Sparks! welding career exploration event in partnership with the American Welding Society Lakeshore Section, providing participants with opportunities to experience welding and learn more about the field.

Guests can also learn

see CAREERS, page 29

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CAREERS from 28

about student clubs and campus activities, credit for prior learning, military benefits, childcare and other student resources. Food trucks and campus activities will add to the community event atmosphere.

There is no application fee to apply to Lakeshore College, and prospective students can apply even if they have not yet decided which program they want to pursue.

Registration is encouraged. To learn more or register, visit lakeshore.edu/openhouse and lakeshore.edu/sparks.



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Free guided tours at Waelderhaus: 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. 1100 Riverside Drive, Kohler. View stained glass, wrought-iron craftsmanship and woodwork in the Austrian style of the Bregenzerwald region, ancestral home of the Kohler family. Reservations encouraged for groups over 10 people, walk-ins welcome! Call 920-453-2851 or email jen.balge@kohler.com for more information.

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36th Annual Coats for Kids Campaign: 8:30am to 4pm, Mon-Fri, Coat drop off location Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home, 1535 S. 12th St, Sheboygan. Drop off NEW coats, hats, mittens, snowpants, for children and adults. Coats will be distributed through The Salvation Army to Sheb Cty residents in need. 920-452-7711.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24: Stellaluna Meets Wisconsin Bats at Kohler-Andrae State Park: 1:00 p.m. Sanderling Nature Center. This family-friendly presentation will share the fascinating world of bats as we read "Stellaluna" and create a bat craft. Vehicle admission required.

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518 Water Street
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
920-467-4667
www.schrc.org

HISTORY ON THE MOVE: Tuesday, October 20, 2026, 12:00pm. Generations Intergenerational Center, 1500 Douglas Drive, Plymouth. The Torke Bombings in Plymouth. Dan Buckman, president of the Plymouth Historical Society, will entertain and enlighten you with the crazy story of the Torke Bombings that took place on Thursday, October 11, 1928, and Tuesday, November 13, 1928, when explosions rocked Plymouth. The program is free of charge and open to the public. No registration is necessary.

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.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20: Great Decisions Lecture: 6:30-8 p.m., Rocca Room. Join UW-Milwaukee Professor Shale Horowitz for a free lecture on U.S.-China relations.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26: Halloween Glo-Party: 4-6 p.m., Story Garden. Kids can wear their costumes or brightest neon colors and get ready to glow at this Halloween party featuring glowing decorations, music, dancing and hands-on activities.





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COURT REPORT

September 28 to October 2, 2026

DCA

Orozoo Cardoso, Yoseline, 5/8/2002, Sheboygan, Neglecting a Child (Specific Harm did not Occur), (Misdemeanor-DCA-2 years).

Disorderly Conduct

Thao, Kia Ta, 12/1/1997, Sheboygan, $834.50.

West, Unique C., 4/28/1992, Sheboygan, $393.50.

Selling Alcohol to Underage Persons (1st)

Boor, Gabrielle L., 1/2008, Sheboygan, $452.50.

Traffic

Baines, Drayshiah Si, 5/1997, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Violate Child Safety Restraint Requirements-Child 4 Years of Age but less than 8 Years of Age, $350.60.

Blockmon, Darryl T., 8/1983, Sheboygan, Operate w/o Valid License, Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto, $375.80.

Bogard, Brandon K., 5/1986, Sheboygan, Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt, $385.80.

Dominguez, Annastacia E., 10/2006, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Speeding in a 55 mph Zone, (20-24 mph), $426.20.

Kalesavich, Kourtney R., 7/1992, Sheboygan, Inattentive Driving, $187.90.

Lee, Ber Wablong, 5/1962, Sheboygan, Fail/Obey Traffic Officer/Signal/Order, $175.30.

Theisen, Dante A., 8/1998, Sheboygan, Automobile Follow too Closely, $200.50.

Vreeke, Maurice A., 8/1993, Sheboygan, Speeding on Freeway (16-19 mph), Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt, $260.90.

Wriedt, Gregory K., 3/1971, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Failure of Operator to Notify Police of Accident, $590.00.

Zamora, Jonathan A., 4/1998, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Speeding in a 55 mph Zone (25-29 mph), License Suspension 15 days, $451.40.

Zollicoffer White, Delon D., 11/2002, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Proof of Insurance, $385.80.

Zamudio, Marina R., 3/1980, Sheboygan, (20-24 mph), Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt, $286.10.

Operate a Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance

Sina, Thomas J., 10/1985, Sheboygan, $200.50.

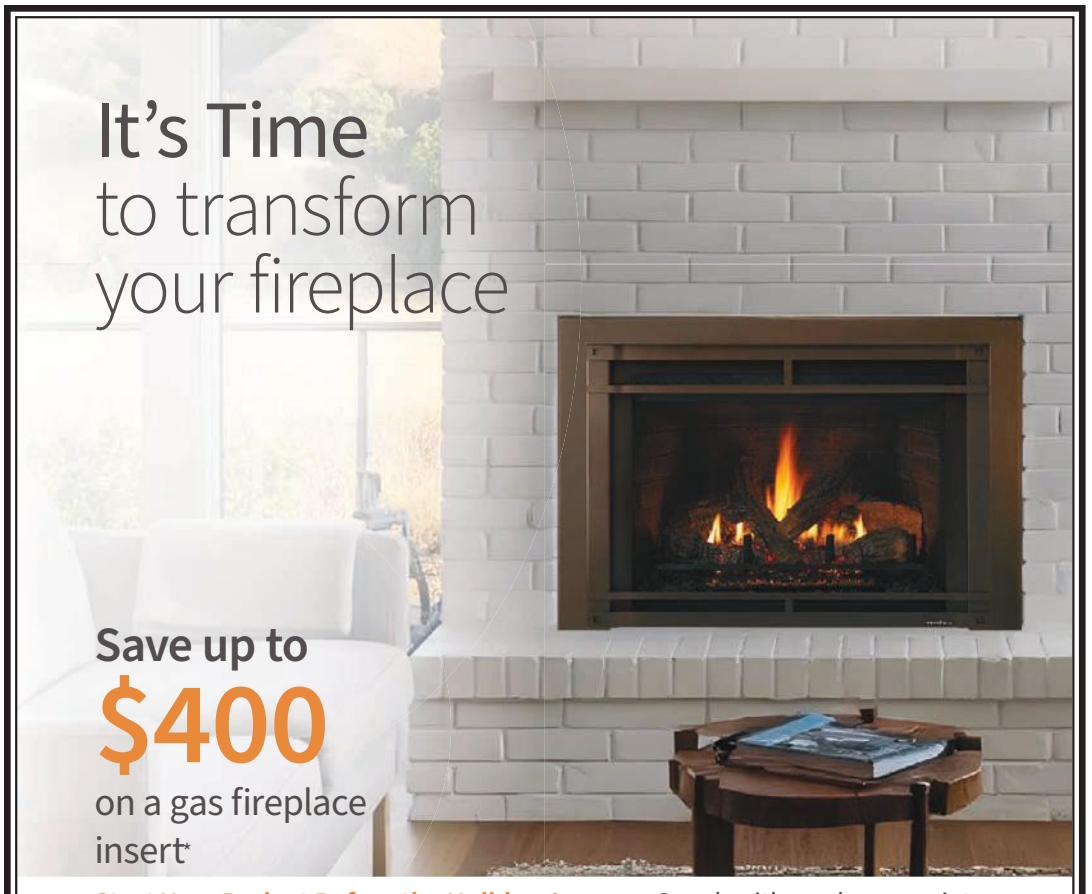
Ugo, Venesa C., 12/1982, Sheboygan, $200.50.

Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto

Schroeder, Kristin S., 4/1980, Sheboygan, $175.30.



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COURT REPORT

Unreasonable and Imprudent Speed

Post, Nathan R., 6/2000, Sheboygan, $213.10.

Speeding in a 55 mph Zone

Aviles Maldonado, George, 10/1993, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), $200.50.

Bruns, Lora M., 7/1984, Sheboygan, (20-24 mph), $225.80.

Daughtery, Gary D., 12/1955, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), $175.30.

Lor, Nor, 5/1982, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), $175.30.

Speeding on Freeway

Bruyette, Alexander W., 11/1995, Sheboygan, (25-29 mph), License Suspension 15 days, $301.30.

Platz, Tyler J., 11/1988, Sheboygan, (1-10 mph), $200.50.

Speeding on Expressway

Felsinger, Zachory T., 10/1998, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), $250.90.

Exceeding Speed Zones

Bergin, Tricia A., 7/1975, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), $175.30.

Pier, Daymion K., 8/2001, Sheboygan, (25-29 mph), $250.90.

Schorer, Aaron J., 8/2006, Sheboygan, Falls, (30-34 mph), $295.00.

OWI

Martinez Gonzalez, Ashley V., 11/23/1994, Sheboygan, (3rd), Jail 120 days, License Revoked 26 months, Ignition Interlock 26 months, $3,594.90.

Marver, Connor J., 8/15/2006, Sheboygan, (2nd), Jail 5 days, License Revoked 12 months, Ignition Interlock 12 months, $1,675.50.

Seitz, Gwendolyn M., 5/2003, Sheboygan, (1st), License Revoked 8 months, $1,024.50.

Misdemeanors

Olivas Caldaron, Osmar E., 9/25/2005, Sheboygan, Criminal Damage to Property (Domestic Abuse), Criminal Trespass to Dwelling (Domestic Abuse), Disorderly Conduct, Jail 4 months (2 months stayed), $1,351.00.

William-Davis, Dylan D., 6/9/2000, Sheboygan, Battery, Criminal Damage to Property, Jail 120 days (stayed), $2,946.66.

Disorderly Conduct

Fondek, Noah J., 6/10/1988, Sheboygan, (Domestic Abuse), Jail 90 days (imposed/stayed), $555.00.

Garcia, Marcos Y., 11/23/1999, Sheboygan, (Domestic Abuse), $754.00.

Peco, Aliza L., 9/4/2002, Sheboygan, (2 counts), $898.00.

Misdemeanors and other charges

Martinez, Jordan R.D., 2/26/1998, Sheboygan, Intimidate Victim/Domestic Abuse Crime (Felony), Battery, (2 counts Domestic Abuse), Disorderly Conduct (3 counts-Domestic Abuse), Bail Jumping, Theft-Movable Property <=$2500, (Misdemeanors), Operate w/o Carrying License Exceeding Speed Zones (16-19 mph), Operating while Suspended, (Traffic), Jail 282 days, $4,430.10.

Miller, Michael D., 1/5/1990, Sheboygan, Battery (Domestic Abuse), Resisting/Obstructing an Officer, (2 counts-Misdemeanor), Strangulation and Suffocation, Bail Jumping (Felony -2 counts), Jail 330 days, $3,235.00.

Felonies

Banks, Danny E., 3/30/1994, Sheboygan, Possession w/Intent Cocaine (<1-5 g), Bail Jumping, Prison 1 year, Extended Supervision 1 year, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, $1060.00.

Barreno-Orellana, Pablo R., 7/2/1990, Sheboygan, Possession of Child Pornography (2 counts), Prison 6 years, Extended Supervision 12 years, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, Sex Offender Registry, $2048.00.

Pantoja, Alex, 3/8/1985, Sheboygan, Manufacture/Deliver Cocaine (<1-5 g), (Repeater), Prison 5 years, Extended Supervision 5 years, $530.00.

October 5 to October 9, 2026

DCA

Schmidt, Melinda Jo, 8/21/1981, Sheboygan, 2nd Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety, (Felony-DCA), Cause Injury/Operate While under Influence (Misdemeanor), Jail 106 days, License Revoked 1 year, Ignition Interlock 1 year, $1,394.40.

Operate Vehicle w/o Park Admission Sticker

Bowles, Deontay A., 1/2006, Sheboygan, $162.70.

Veloz Jimenez, Lucero G., 12/1998, Sheboygan, $162.70.

Disorderly Conduct

Canales, Aleyna E., 7/18/2000, Sheboygan, $393.00.

Dean, Jr., Jeffrey L., 4/3/1980, Sheboygan, $217.10.

Derby, Morgan K., 9/3/2006, Sheboygan, $150.00.

Gahagan, II, Russell A., 3/2007, Sheboygan, $326.50.

Forfeiture and Traffic

Fogle, Matthew D., 7/1990, Sheboygan, Possession of Marijuana (<25 gm), (Forfeiture), Operate after Revocation/Suspension of Registration (Traffic), $564.80.

Traffic

Acevedo, Sebastian M., 6/2006, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Proof of Insurance, OWI (1st), License Revoke 8 months, Ignition Interlock 12 months, $1166.25.

Baldwin, Jayveion D.L., 5/2003, Sheboygan, Exceeding Speed Zones (25-29 mph), Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, $451.40.

Beck, Bradley T., 8/1998, Sheboygan, Operate w/PAC>0.15 (1st), License Revoked 6 months, $1,125.50.

Blakqori, Zyrafete, 6/1980, Sheboygan, Non-Registration of Vehicle-Auto, Operate w/o Carrying License, $325.40.

Chapman, Cody L., 5/1993, Sheboygan, OWI (1st), License Revoked 8 months, $1056.00.

Goldstein, Jay M., 11/26/1957, Sheboygan, Hit and Run, $843.00.

Herrera Romero, Joel A., 12/21/1991, Sheboygan, Operate w/o Carrying License, Operate w/o Valid License (2nd within 3 years), $871.10.

Kolasani, Balaram, 7/1989, Sheboygan, Fail to Obey Traffic Officer/Signal, $175.30.

Leonhard, Mari A., 3/1987, Sheboygan, Fail/Stop at Stop Sign, $175.30.

Martinez-Zarate, Jorge L., 8/8/1982, Sheboygan, Operate w/o Valid License (3rd+ within 3 years), $780.00.

Nelson, Jermie S., 5/1977, Sheboygan, Fail/Yield while Making Left Turn, $175.30.

Pena, Kimberly A., 8/1985, Sheboygan, Failure to Yield/Right of Way in Roundabout, $175.30.

Operate w/o Carrying License

Phillips, Antonio S., 10/8/1990, Sheboygan, $517.10.

Operate a Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance

Lazo, Dena Jo, 10/1973, Sheboygan, $200.50.

Exceeding Speed Zones

Kegler, Kiersten J., 9/2003, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), $200.50.

Luma, Nevzat, 3/1963, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), $200.50.

Nass, Will R., 6/1978, Sheboygan, (1-10 mph), $175.30.

Oliva-Sosa, Orlando I., 11/2002, Sheboygan, (35-39 mph), $358.00

Misdemeanors

Harrell, Daquerius R., 6/17/1995, Sheboygan, Criminal Damage to Property, Jail 22 days, $465.00.

Kong, Mong, 3/23/1998, Sheboygan, Possession of Firearm while Intoxicated, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, $455.00.

Mojeck, Travis Lee, 2/12/1984, Sheboygan, Resisting or Obstructing an Officer (Repeater), Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Repeater), Bail Jumping, (Repeater), Jail 30 days (stayed), 12 months (imposed/stayed), $1,153.00.

Schoen, Chynna N., 8/28/1992, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct, $654.00.

Stone, Karen S., 10/1/1945, Sheboygan, Battery (Domestic Abuse), Jail 67 days, $555.00.

Misdemeanors and other charges

Luther, Jacob M., 6/11/2003, Sheboygan, OWI (3rd)-Traffic, Ignition Interlock Device Tampering/Fail to Install/Violate Court Order, (Misdemeanor), Jail 60 days, License Revoked 34 months, Ignition Interlock 34 months, $3,281.00.

Felonies

Earls, Kascha L., 6/27/1989, Sheboygan, Possession of Narcotic Drugs, Possession of Methamphetamine Prison 2 years (imposed/stayed), Extended Supervision 4 years (imposed/stayed), Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, $1,064.40.

Leubner, David S., 9/24/1986, Sheboygan, Possession of Methamphetamine, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, $496.40.

Terry, Shania R., 7/29/2005, Sheboygan, Theft-Moveable Property-Special Facts, Community Service 75 hours, $603.00.

Ugo, Venesa C., 12/31/1982, Sheboygan, Possession of Methamphetamine (Repeater), Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, $530.00.







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MONEY MATTERS

Tips and strategies for making your money go further in all aspects of life, including the grocery store, when traveling or buying a home, and while shopping online and more.

What does financial fulfillment actually feel like?

submitted by
Paul & Annie Leal
Edward Jones
Financial Advisors

Feeling financially fulfilled means so much more than just the number in your bank account. It's about being able to take your family out to dinner without calculating whether you can afford it. It means sleeping soundly on a Sunday night, knowing that if the water heater gives out tomorrow, you can handle it. And it's saying yes to a vacation because you planned ahead and the money is there.

In short, financial fulfillment is the feeling that your money is supporting the life you want.

Yet true fulfillment is surprisingly rare. Only 16% of Americans are financially fulfilled, according to a 2026 study by Edward Jones and Gallup, "Money and Meaning: Understanding Financial Fulfillment." Those at the other end of the spectrum, the financially stressed (32%), often say that money regularly controls their daily decisions. Most Americans (51%), however, fall in the middle — the financially conflicted. They manage to get by but often carry a persistent undercurrent of worry.

Notably, where you land on this spectrum has less to do with your income than you might expect. More than half of households earning $175,000 or more are still financially conflicted.

Building the foundation

So, the question becomes, "What do financially fulfilled people do differently?" Simply put, they tend to have foundational planning structures in place. Five behaviors show up consistently among the financially fulfilled, and they're simple steps you can take, too.

Build an emergency fund (98% of fulfilled have this)**.** Aim for saving three to six months of living expenses in a liquid, easily accessible account. When you know you can handle the unexpected, you stop bracing for it, and lower stress gives you a higher quality of life.

Create a financial plan for retirement (91% of financially fulfilled have one). It's hard to feel in control if you don't know where you're going. A retirement plan puts a real number on what you'll need and lays out a clear path to get there, with built-in protection against life's unexpected curveballs.

Save intentionally for major milestones (87% of financially fulfilled do)**.** A home renovation, a new vehicle or a child's education don't have to feel disruptive. Setting money aside deliberately for the milestones you anticipate means you can say yes without scrambling.

Put an estate plan in place (66% of financially fulfilled have)**.** Estate plans are not just for the wealthy. A will and basic estate plan help ensure what you've worked for still reflects your wishes after you're gone.

Work with a financial advisor (60% of financially fulfilled who sought any guidance have used an advisor in the past year). The internet is great, but real guidance comes from a credentialed person who knows you and your family and what you want your money to do for you.

Knowing that your money is working toward the life you want doesn't happen by accident. Feeling financially fulfilled is worth the effort and may be more achievable than you realize.

Take your first financial step with Meadowland Credit Union

When we think about our finances, we often focus on numbers—income, savings, and what we believe those figures say about our success. For many, achievement is measured in dollars earned. We're taught that working harder, working smarter, or working longer increases our chances of financial growth. And at the core of it all is a simple desire: security. Money, after all, can provide peace of mind.

But what if you—or someone you care about—is struggling to truly understand or manage their finances? Taking that first step toward financial stability can feel overwhelming. The real question is: are you willing to take it?

If you're even considering saying "yes," Meadowland Credit Union is here to help. Reach out to us at **920-467-8105** and ask for **Fritzy**. At Meadowland, we proudly live by the credit union philosophy of *people helping people*. We offer **free credit counseling, budgeting assistance, and debt restructuring**—all designed to help you move forward with confidence.

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Medicare Open Enrollment Is Coming, Are You Ready?

submitted by
Kurt Wiegert
CFP® , Wealth Manager and Partner
Merit Financial Advisors

Medicare, the federal health insurance program for Americans ages 65 and older, covers more than 70 million people, and fall is a busy time for the program.

Like retirement planning, understanding Medicare takes time and success depends heavily on your personal choices. There are four parts to consider:

Part A covers hospital stays, skilled nursing care, hospice, and some home health care.

Part B pays for doctor visits, outpatient care, medical supplies, and preventive services.

Part D helps pay for prescription drugs.

Part C, or Medicare Advantage, is offered by private companies approved by Medicare combining Part A, Part B, and usually Part D, and often include extra benefits like dental and vision.

Medigap, also known as Medicare Supplement Insurance, should not be confused with Medicare Advantage. Medigap works alongside Original Medicare (Parts A and B) and helps cover out-of-pocket costs such as deductibles, copays, and coinsurance. It supplements Original Medicare rather than replacing it.

With Medicare Open Enrollment starting in October, here are the main things you should know and consider.

What is Medicare Open Enrollment and who is eligible?

Despite the name, Open Enrollment is a short annual window for people already on Medicare, and it runs from October 15 to December 7. This is not the first time you sign up at age 65; instead, it's a chance to review your Part D prescription drug plan, check for changes in coverage or costs, or switch between or into Medicare Advantage plans from private companies. These plans are network-based and work differently from traditional Medicare.

What are the most avoidable mistakes when it comes to Medicare Open Enrollment?

One of the biggest Medicare mistakes is signing up at 65 and then never reviewing your coverage over the years. Many people don't realize how much costs can go up over time. Out-of-pocket expenses and premiums often rise 10-15% each year, so it's important to include these increases in your planning.

Another thing people often overlook is IRMAA, or Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount. This extra charge is added to Medicare Part B and Part D premiums for higher-income people, and it affects more people than you might expect, highlighting the importance of planning for Medicare early as part of your overall health insurance planning.

Also, remember the Birthday Rule. In many states, if you have a supplement plan, you can switch to any policy of equal or lesser benefits without medical underwriting within a limited window around your birthday.

Finally, plan ahead. One of the biggest mistakes is focusing only on the monthly premium or choosing the plan that looks best for a single year. Medicare Advantage plans often offer extra benefits, low or no premiums, and bundled drug coverage. However, if your healthcare needs increase over time, you may face higher out-of-pocket costs through copays and coinsurance costs. If you later want to switch back to Medicare Supplement (Medigap) coverage to help pay out-of-pocket costs, you may need to go through medical underwriting, which might be difficult if your health has declined.

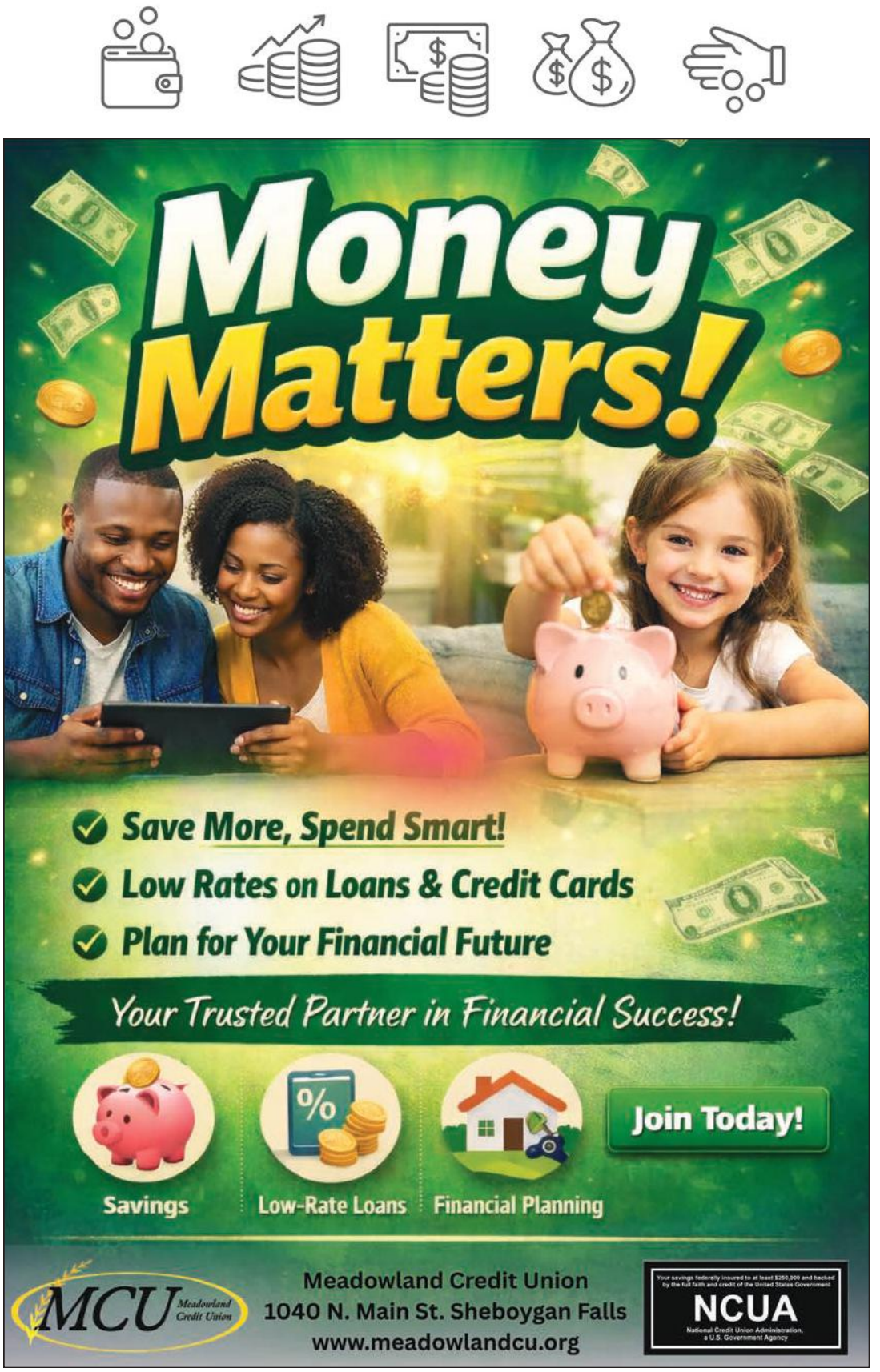
How can financial advisors support Medicare planning?

Advisors can play an important role in helping clients evaluate Medicare decisions as part of their overall financial plan. Healthcare costs, coverage choices, IRMAA surcharges, and prescription drug expenses can all affect retirement cash flow and long-term planning. By incorporating Medicare into the broader financial planning process, clients can make more informed decisions that align with their goals and circumstances.

Because healthcare needs and plan options can change from year to year, it is important to periodically review your coverage to determine whether it still meets your needs. Medicare should not be viewed in isolation. Coverage decisions should be evaluated alongside taxes, retirement income planning, and overall financial objectives.

Don't let Medicare run on autopilot—work with a professional to connect your coverage, taxes, and premium costs. Interested in reviewing your Medicare plans? Merit Financial Advisors offers complimentary consultations to help bring clarity and structure to your financial life. Let's start the conversation today.





Simple ways to build your savings each day

It might surprise some young adults to learn that savings accounts once yielded substantial interest earnings. But since the recession of 2008, interest rates on savings have remained well below 1 percent. By comparison, Bankrate notes that savings account interest rates hovered around 5 percent in 1980.

The low interest rates on savings may help to explain why fewer adults seem to be emphasizing building their savings. The United States Bureau of Economic Analysis defines the personal saving rate as the percentage of disposable income that people save. While the 30-year average personal save rate is 5.7 percent, in April 2026 the rate was 2.6 percent, or less than half the 30-year average.

Inflation has made it harder for people to save, but there's still value in saving disposable income even if it won't yield much in interest. Savings accounts can help people navigate emergencies like job loss or costly vehicle repairs. Savings also can be used to finance home renovations, saving homeowners money on interest charges associated with loans or second mortgages. Indeed, there's much to gain from building savings, and people can accomplish that goal in various ways.

• **Establish automatic deposits on payday.** Many adults now receive their paychecks via direct deposit into their checking accounts. Those deposits are automatic and require little of account holders beyond the initial enrollment. The same hands-off approach can be applied to depositing money into a personal savings account. Account holders need only set up automatic transfers on paydays so a portion of their weekly or biweekly paycheck is deposited directly into a savings account on payday. The automatic transfers ensure some disposable income is routinely set aside for savings and therefore not at risk of being spent on impulse buys or other less important expenditures.

• **Include saving in your monthly financial budget.** Financial advisors strongly advise adults to prepare monthly budgets. A budget makes it easier to accomplish short- and long-term financial goals and decreases the chances disposable income will be spent impulsively. When tailoring a monthly budget, be sure to include money set aside for savings among the weekly and monthly expenditures. Include savings deposits among other monthly expenditures like mortgage payments, car payments and utility bills.

• **Adjust your spending habits.** The "couch economy" is a term used within the financial sector that refers to the increase in people shopping more and more from home. A recent study from Visa, Inc., found that online and in-app payments expanded in every market studied between 2019 and 2026. Simply put, it's never been easier for people to spend their money, and that convenience could be coming at the cost of savings. Adults looking to build their savings can make a concerted effort to adjust their spending habits so they're in better position to save. When faced with the temptation to pay for streaming content or order meals via delivery services or scroll through shopping apps on a smartphone, adults can pause and ask if such expenses are truly necessary. Resolving to wait five minutes before making a purchase might afford consumers time to recognize when they're buying out of necessity and when they're spending impulsively or out of pure convenience. This small adjustment might be enough to reduce frivolous spending and increase savings.

There's no denying adults are saving less money than people did years ago. While it's easier than ever to spend, some simple tweaks can help people rebuild their savings and reap the rewards that such discipline can offer.





What to know about long-term care insurance



Insurance is a safety net that can help people confront accidents, injuries and other unforeseen events. People may be quick to associate insurance with injuries or property damage, but one insurance product is designed for something that has little to do with broken bones or homes wrecked by strong storms.

Long-term care insurance is an asset that can help people afford the fact that many are living longer. Indeed, a report from the National Center for Health Statistics in early 2026 indicated that life expectancy for someone born in 2024 reached 79 years in 2024. Life expectancy for someone born a year earlier was 78.4.

Longer life expectancies are good news, but when people live longer, they may need to tweak their financial approach to ensure they can afford the expenses associated with a longer life. Long-term care insurance can be a part of such changes. Families may have some common questions about long-term care insurance, including whether or not a family member needs it, what it covers and other details.

Will I even need long-term care?

A recent study from the Department of Health and Human Services concluded that nearly half of all men and 64 percent of women who reach the age of 65 will require significant long-term care during their remaining years. For the 14 percent of people the DHHS estimated will need more than two years of paid care, the cost will exceed $120,000. Long-term care can help to cover those costs, as AARP® notes that Medicare coverage for long-term care covers little more than hospitalization after an illness or injury. Medicaid also might not be an option until seniors have spent all of their savings and exhausted additional assets beyond their homes and vehicles.

Won't I be covered by government programs in my golden years?

AARP® notes that a survey from the nonprofit organization KFF (formerly the Kaiser Family Foundation) found that it's a widely held misconception that Medicare would finance a long stay in a nursing home if the need arises. However, long-term care insurance can help to finance a stay in a long-term care facility.

What are the basics of a long-term care policy?

The National Council On Aging notes that standalone long-term care policies typically indicate a benefit amount, a benefit period and an elimination period. The benefit amount refers to the maximum amount the policy pays per day for long-term care services. The NCOA notes that many long-term care policies include protection against inflation so benefits keep pace with rising costs. A benefit period is the duration during which benefits will be paid, while the elimination period is how long new policy holders must wait before benefits can begin. Elimination periods are why it can be vital for adults to take out a long-term care policy before they get sick so they can access their benefits the moment the need for long-term care arises.

Who can I consult about a long-term care policy?

Insurance agents and financial advisors can help adults and their families navigate long-term care insurance so they can find the best fit for them. Financial advisors can be especially helpful, as AARP notes decisions surrounding long-term care policies may hinge on prospective policy holders' asset portfolio.

Long-term care insurance can be the safety net some people need as they grow older and hope to cover the costs associated with living longer.



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