





Buyers' Guide

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# Gov. Evers signs novelty lighter bill in Pittsville

# Legislation was 16 years in the making

BY MIKE WARREN **EDITOR** 

PITTSVILLE — The family and the home are gone now, but the images of a tragic spring day in 2008 never did leave memories of those in Pittsville who knew Mason Stasheck. That's why the events of April 5 were bittersweet for many who were in attendance, as Gov. Tony Evers signed a piece of legislation first mentioned just a handful of months after Mason's

"We had a fatality fire earlier that year that was a classmate of the second graders in the fall," Pittsville Fire Chief Jerry Minor told us during our April 3 interview. "In

Buyers' Guide

and Surrounding Areas Since 1987.

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October, my granddaughter came home and there was an article in the Weekly Reader that said, 'Lighters are not toys,' and she handed it to me and she said, 'Grandpa, you need to make a law,' and that's where it started."

Mason Stasheck was the younger brother of a classmate of Kaitlyn Potts, Minor's granddaughter who went to him with the idea of banning toy-like lighters, like the one that Mason used to set the fire that led to his death from smoke inhalation.

"I thought that it was crazy that there were toy lighters, so I went and I told my grandpa we needed to do something about it," said Kaitlyn Potts, now 23, after the bill had been signed.

Gov. Tony Evers signed the bill in the gymnasium at Pittsville Elementary School where Mason was just getting a start on his education.

tragedy in the community," said elementary teacher Londa Kuehn, who guided that second-grade class through those tough life lessons all those years ago now. "We needed to meet their emotions and talk about that, and their compassion for the family. for the community and that yearning to want to make a difference. So the facilitation of that yearning is what brought about this bill."

Assembly Bill now 2023 Wisconsin Act 271, prohibits the sale of counterfeit and unsafe lighters to help combat the dangerous rise in knock-off lighters that fail American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standards.

"Unfortunately, counterfeit and unsafe lighters unknowingly being purchased every day by consumers and retailers," Gov. Evers said in prepared "It was definitely a remarks prior to signing



Gov. Evers signs a bill April 5 at Pittsville Elementary School, which bans the sale of novelty lighters in Wisconsin. Joining PreK-12 students were (L-R): Rep. Nancy VanderMeer, Sen. Patrick Testin, Pittsville Fire Chief Jerry Minor, his granddaughter Kaitlyn Potts, who had the idea for the legislation, and her second-grade teacher, Londa Kuehn, who helped Potts and her classmates Mike Warren photos craft the bill.

the bill. "These unsafe lighters are a threat to the safety of our communities, our families and our kids,"

See BILL page 11



Pittsville Fire Chief Jerry Minor shows Gov. Evers a few examples of the toy-like novelty lighters which will now be banned in Wisconsin, under a bill Evers signed April 5 in Pittsville, where a young child playing with such a lighter set his family's home on



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The Events Calendar will run Wednesday, May 1st and include the events for May 1st thru May 31st.

Deadline for May Events is Friday, April 26th at 10:00 am



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16 oz	ONLY	5 lbs
Pork Sausage Links Original Fully Cooked - Frozen	<b>\$2</b> 49	String Cheese Mozzarella 3 lbs
Bacon Ends & Pieces - Frozen 48 oz	ONLY \$399	Cheddar Cheese Sticks
Smoked Sausage Beef w/Cheddar - Frozen 12 oz.	ONLY \$1 89	American Cheese Yellow - Sliced 5 lbs
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# Fundraiser to help twin boys with rare disease

BY MIKE WARREN **EDITOR** 

MARSHFIELD Α Marshfield native and his family are dealing with one of the rarest diseases known to mankind, and a local fundraiser April 20 is being used to help offset some of their medical bills.

Jace and Grady Binder were born July 6, 2011 to Dustin and Erin Binder. Dustin is a Columbus Catholic High School graduate originally from Marshfield, Erin is from Dallas in south-central Barron County and the couple and their three sons live in Eau Claire.

The couple's two oldest sons, Jace and Grady, were recently diagnosed with an extremely rare disease called Pantothenate Kinase-Associated Neurodegeneration. PKAN is a rare genetic disorder that affects 1-3 individuals per million worldwide, and causes iron accumulations in parts of the brain that control motor function and progresses over time.

"Grady and Jace are twins and they're identical, so they both carry my gene that was affected and Dustin's gene that was affected," Erin Binder told us during an April 10 interview. The couple's younger son, eight-year-old Owen, is also a carrier.

PKAN affects one's

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Jace (left) and Grady Binder pose in front of a tree planted in 2011, the year the twins were born.

ability to walk, talk, eat, breathe and all muscle function.

"What happens is the brain isn't able to remove the iron from the brain, so the iron is getting collected in the motor function part of the brain, and that's where you'll see Parkinsonsymptoms," Erin explained to Hub City Times. "They're off balance, it's hard for them to chew, there's Dystonia, or muscle contractions, which can be very, very painful. They're on high doses of pain medication when they get to this point. They were kind of able to run when they were younger. Now they need our assistance

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Binder family photo to walk. They can do it by themselves, but we are there to watch them because they will fall, usually it's always

Erin said she first noticed something was wrong when Jace and Grady were babies.

backwards for them."

"I feel like I noticed issues when they were young. They were kind of unconsolable when they were born," she said. "They did kind of grow out of that, but they still had very bad tantrums."

By the time Jace and Grady were three, the Binders noticed the twins were not keeping up with other kids, and were "kind of clumsy." By the time the boys were nine, Erin said it was evident there was a problem.

Αt first, doctors suspected Developmental Coordination Disorder, but several rounds of genetic and other tests showed nothing definitive. Then, further genetic testing at Gillette Children's Hospital and Clinics in St. Paul, MN uncovered the family's rare gene history.

There is no known cure for PKAN, but the family is hopeful some promising research leads to positive genetic therapies. They have been in touch with Dr. Susan Hayflick, a medical geneticist with Oregon Health & Science University who has studied PKAN for 30 years, and who says new therapies could be as close as five years off.

The family was recently met with another obstacle when Mayo Clinic Health System announced the

# See **FUNDRAISER**

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#### | OBITUARIES |

#### **NEIL J. FLEMING**

Neil J. Fleming, 85, Marshfield, passed away on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at House of the Dove, Marshfield.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Neil was born on December 4 1938 in Marshfield to John "Doctor J.B." and Halcyon (McNeill) Fleming. He graduated from Marshfield Senior High School where he participated in baseball, basketball football, and track and was later inducted into the Tiger

Hall of Fame. He also attended the University of Miami and

University of Wisconsin where he played football.

Neil retired as manager of USDA Rural Development in Medford. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and planting flowers. He is survived by his wife, Donna, children, Jill Fleming Suzanne (Doug) Maxwell, Jerri Wilson, and Jack Fleming, grandchildren, Christy (Rick) Gorge, Ryan Fleming, Ben Favero, Nathan Favero, Carly (Art) Shanks, Kristin (Mikael) Wilson, Brittani Fleming, and 6 great grandchildren. He is further survived by his cierte Lorg (Beller Wilson). further survived by his sister, Jane (Robert Welch) Schreiner, brother, Robert Fleming, sister-in-law, Jean Fleming, brother-in-law, Gary (Patty) Barnett, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, James "Jim" Fleming.

Memorials may be designated to Wounded Warrior Projectand Marshfield Area Pet Shelter (MAPS).

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the nurses and staff at Marshfield Medical Center on 8 North and House of the Dove.

Condolences can be sent online at www.rembsfh.com



#### **DELORES E. GUDEN**

Delores E. Guden, Pittsville, passed away Thursday, April 11, 2024.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 am on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at St Joachim Catholic Church Pittsville with Rev. Steven Weller officiating. The service will be streamed online at www.facebook.com/rembsfu neralhomes. Burial will follow at Brooklawn Memory Garden Cemetery, Town of Richfield and serving as pallbearers will

grandchildren, Melissa Brey, Evan Guden, Lindsey Guden, Jacob Ortner, Joshua Lang, Kyle Masanz, Dustin Zdun, and Matthew Gudel. Visitation will take place on Monday, April 15 from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Rembs Funeral Home in Marshfield and from 10:00 am until the time of the service on Tuesday at St. Joachim. A rosary service will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday at Rembs.

Delores was born on November 10, 1933 to William and Ella (Werth) Weber. She graduated from Stratford High School in 1952. She married Phillip J. Guden on February 21, 1955 in Marshfield. He passed away on April 24, 2002.

Delores was always a hard worker, always on the go. She worked at Weinbrenner Shoe Factory as well as waitressing. She farmed with her husband for 45+ years until his passing. After retiring she worked at Bethel nursing home for 10 years, later doing adult foster care for 18 years. During her downtime, she enjoyed spending time with family, watching her grandkids/great grandkids, and working on her cross stitching. She took pride in keeping her flowers looking nice and working in the garden. Delores enjoyed baking, as well as serving for the church as her faith was very important to

She is survived by her children, Marjorie (George) Brey of Pittsville, James Guden of Marshfield, Dennis (Debra) Guden of Arpin, Marcella (Joseph) Ortner of Pittsville, Mar ion (David) Lang of Marshfield, Mary Lou (Scott) Masanz of Arpin, Marietta (Michael) Zdun of Marshfield and Marie Gudel (Dan Varsho) of Pittsville; 22 grandchildren, and 18 great grandchildren.

She is further survived by her sister, Audrey (Bob) Helsten of Spencer and sisters-in-law, Annette Weber and Violet Weber, both of Marshfield and Janice (Dennis) Krahn of

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Ella, husband, Phillip, son, LaVern Guden, great grandson, Boyd Altmann, brothers, LaVerne and Eugene Weber, and sister, Esther Schmoll.

The family would like to thank Compassus Home Health Care & Hospice, and an extra special thank you to her granddaughters, Amber and Miranda, for their loving care during

her final days. Condolences may be sent online at www.rembsfh.com

# **CELEBRATION OF LIFE** Michael J. Frankwick



We invite you to join our family as we remember and celebrate the life of Michael J. Frankwick.

Please come and share your memories and stories of the times you shared with Mike!

at Bakerville Sports Bar 10631 County Road B, Marshfield, WI **Sunday, April 28th, 2024 • 1-4pm** 



#### **JAMES** SCHUELLER

Kory James Schueller, age 49 of Marshfield, WI, passed away April 5, 2024 at the Marshfield Medical Center in Marshfield. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM on April 11, 2024 at North Ridge Church in Marshfield (1021 West McMillan Street) Visitation will be held prior to the service from 9:30 to 11:00 AM at the church. There will be a luncheon to follow at Hansen-Schilling

Home in Marshfield (1010 East Veterans Parkway) Kory was born on December 2, 1974, the son of Donald and Jaclyn (Behrens) Schueller in Marshfield. On January 13 2024, Kory was united in marriage to the love of his life Heather Jo (Baxter) Schueller in Marshfield.

Kory was a member of North Ridge Church. In his spare time, he enjoyed spending time with his nephews, traveling with his wife, hunting, and enjoying the outdoors. He especially enjoyed fishing in Canada with his family and friends Those who knew Kory best will miss his caring nature funny sense of humor, and special "turtle power."

Kory is lovingly survived by his wife, Heather, and his par ents Donald and Jaclyn. He is further survived by his twin brother, Kevin (Jennifer) Schueller of Spencer, WI, and his two siblings Debra Schueller (Gunnar Coffman) of Silver Spring, MD, and Randy (Maryjo) Schueller of Marshfield He is also survived by his nieces and nephews: Kyden and Kaesyn Schueller, Mimi Coffman, Raella and Riley Schueller, and Zachary Savoy.

He will be dearly missed by family and friends.

Online condolences may be made at www.hansenschilling funeralhome.com for your convenience.



#### KYLE W. TISDELL

Kyle W. Tisdell, 38, of Hewitt, Wisconsin, passed away unexpectedly on March 26, 2024, in Gulf Shores, Alabama

Funeral services will be held at 11 am on Tuesday, April 9th at Christ Lutheran Church, of ficiated by Rev. Andrew Belt Burial will follow at a later date. A visitation will be held from 4 pm to 8 pm on Monday, April 8th, at Christ Lutherar Church. Serving as Pallbearers will be Garrett Tisdell, Artic Balderas, Jared Ystad, Brent

Ystad, Gregg Knapp, and Patrick Johnson. Serving as Honorary Pallbearers will be Tyler Smazal, Adam Schultz, Chris Vandeberg, Joe Seitz, and Cory Strasser.

Kyle was born on August 22nd, 1985, in Aurora Minnesota to Jeff and Treva (Robison) Tisdell. He graduated from Marshfield Senior High School in 2004. He met the love of his life, Jessica Balderas, in 2005 and they were inseparable They were united in marriage on July 20, 2013. On June 5 2008, they had their beautiful daughter Kyllie Anne Tisdell who is her daddy's world. Kyle worked at Quality Roofing for ten years and enjoyed his work there.

Kyle was known for his diverse interests and his love for his family and friends. He enjoyed scratching lottery tickets fishing, socializing by a fire, fantasy football, sports, softball, pool, golf, mini-golf, game nights, playing cribbage ring toss, coaching archery, volunteering with Sleep in Heav enly Peace, and playing Nintendo Switch with his daughter.

His love for his family and friends was like no other. As a friend Kyle was at his best. A man who would always put everyone else first before himself in everything. He was a friend you could count on and was always ready to lend a hand or just share a laugh. His smile was never ending.

There was never any doubt that Kyle's main priority in life was his love for his family and friends. He was a supportive son, brother, uncle, and especially a loving husband and father. Kyle's obituary could go on and on to describe what a wonderful man he was in this world.

Kyle was survived by his loving wife Jessica, daughter Kyl lie, his parents Jeff & Treva Tisdell, in-laws Carlos and Rob bie Balderas, sister Brianne (Brian) Thompson, brother Garrett (Alison) Tisdell, brother-in-law Artie (Chas) Balderas and sister-in-law Breanna Balderas. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews Tayllor, Andrew, Carmen, Ellee Mallory, Kaiden, Jackson, Brooklynn, and Kamdyn along

He is preceded in death by both his maternal and paternal

The family extends their gratitude and appreciation to AJ Rasmussen, Adam Schultz, and Derek Pryzbylski for all their help and assistance until the medical teams arrived. They also extend a heartfelt thank you to the Gulf Shores Alabama EMT team for their services and compassionate care. The friends and family that show up to say goodbye will tell his story best. The family has kindly requested attendees to dress casually for both the visitation and funeral, in memory of Kyle's down-to-earth nature.

In leu of flowers, the family kindly requests monetary contributions during this unexpected period of hardship.



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#### MARY ANNE MORTVEDT

Mary Anne Mortvedt (Drachenberg) 69, Stevens Point, WI passed away with family by her side on April 3

Mary was born June 6, 1954. at St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield, WI to her parents, Jerome & Eleanor (Sersch) Drachenberg of Stratford, WI.

Mary attended St. Joseph's Catholic School in Stratford WI and Stratford Public High School graduating in 1972 Mary was very active in high

school. She was her class secretary; was in the Art & Drama Club all four years and was the Vice President her Senior year. She was also in choir, band and Glee Club, of which she was the president. She was also in the Future Home Makers of America, on the Tiger Tales Staff and was a member of the National Honor Society. She really enjoyed being a cheerleader all four years of high school for basketball football and wrestling. She was so proud of her cheerleading that she wore her cheerleader uniform to a class reunion 30 years after graduation.

Shortly after graduation, on June 10, 1972, she married Eric (Rick) Mortvedt, they later divorced. They had two daugh ters, Stacey Lee & Heather Lynn.

Some of the best times of her life were at their home on Lincoln Avenue (Spencer, WI). Mary had a full garden where she attended to her plants. In the fall they canned vegetables and froze meat that Rick had hunted. Together they spent free time with friends at the movies and restaurants and enjoyed camping and hiking adventures. Rick loved winter camping, Mary not so much. Canoeing trips were often taken and Mary liked the fast water best. Mary had a special place in her heart for her neighbors wherever she lived, especially Mary & Dennis Frank.

Mary had many jobs outside the home. Some notable ones were WDLB Radio, Prange's, J.C. Penney and Rainbow Foods, where she did mostly sales and customer service When she moved to Stevens Point, WI she worked for Copps, Kwik Trip & Mader News Service.

Mary loved to travel when she was able. A trip to Alaska to see the Iditarod was top of the list. She also appreciated her time in San Francisco riding the street cars and visiting the wharf. Mary made many memories on trips visiting family and experiencing the mountains in Colorado.

Mary is survived by her daughters, Stacey Mortvedt (Mike Mueller) and Heather (Chris) Stuedemann. She is further survived by her brother, Pete (Julie) Drachenberg, Jefl Drachenberg, Cheryl (Dale) Hauke and her two sisters-inlaw, Cathy Grassl and Donna Grassl and many nieces and nephews. Mary is also survived by a special, dear friend Lisa Perreault.

She was preceded in death by her parents Jerome (2020) Eleanor (2014) Drachenberg and her brothers Daniel Grass (2014), Richard Grassl (1982) and David Grassl (1958).

The family would like to thank the caregivers at Willow brooke Assisted Living & River View Lodge Assisted Living for the care and friendship they provided Mary. Also thank you to The Marshfield Clinic Health System care team for the compassionate way they communicated the diagnosis of

A memorial service will be held at Sauter/Rembs Funeral Home in Stratford, WI on Thursday, April 25.



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# Founders Network event comes to Wood County

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

STEVENS POINT -- Business owners and non-profit directors at all stages are invited to expand their networks by meeting other entrepreneurial members of their communities and the folks behind entrepreneur-support programs close to home. Founders Network events are intended to make space for local entrepreneurs and entrepreneur-minded individuals to meet, share and cultivate ideas together.

Featured speakers include Erin and Chris Howard (Howard Properties and Development) of Marshfield and Mike Hobbs (Event City Design and The Cranberry Creamery) of Pittsville. A new central Wisconsin financing tool will be shared, thanks to the Central Wisconsin Economic Development Fund.

This Founders Network session is hosted at the Pittsville Lions Clubhouse in Pittsville on Thursday, April 18 from 5:30-7 p.m., and is open to folks from any nearby community, free of charge. Check-in begins at 5:15 p.m. and the event includes appetizers and a cash bar.

By attending this event, you are invited

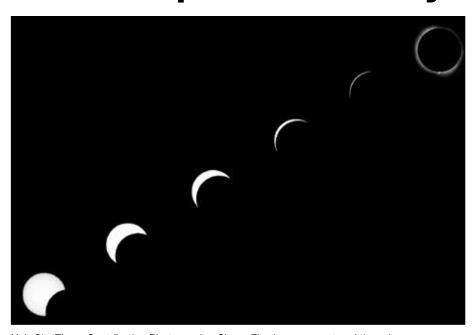
Meet business owners and executive directors from the community; Exercise vour creative thinking muscles; Share current hurdles you are facing in your organization; Offer up your services, or request help finding some; Hear two local business owners share their founding story or their next planned product or service; Request specific topics or activities for future Founders Network events.

Founders Network events are planned by local entrepreneurs and supported by UW-Stevens Point Sentry School of Business and Economics, CREATE Portage County, and other members of "Build the Basin," a regional advancement effort in north-central Wisconsin. To stay in touch with Founders Network events in Wood County, follow Founders Network on Facebook and/or LinkedIn, join the Founders Network: Wood County group, or email carie.winn@uwsp.edu.

Details and registration is here:

https://www.eventbrite. com/e/founders-network-woodcounty-meet-up-registration-851541051207?aff=oddtdtcreator

# Time lapse to Totality



Hub City Times Contributing Photographer Shane Fitzsimmons captured these images, as seen through a solar filter-equipped lens. They show where portions of the sun were hidden by the moon for over two hours on April 8. Peaking at 86 percent obscured, central Wisconsin fell outside the roughly 120-mile-wide band of totality that stretched across 15 U.S. states. Areas within the swath from Texas to Maine were treated to three to four minutes of a total solar eclipse, including Hot Springs National Park, Ark., where Fitzsimmons captured the time lapse.

**Shane Fitzsimmons photo** 

# Help shape deer season for your community

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

MADISON Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and County Deer Advisory Councils are seeking public input to prepare for the 2024 deer season.

Each county Wisconsin has a County Advisory Council Deer meets annually to provide input and recommendations to the DNR on deer management in its county.

County Deer Advisory Council recommendations are based on deer metrics, county deer population objectives and public feedback. Information on each county's harvest and population metrics can be found on the Wisconsin Deer Metrics System database (https://dnr.wisconsin. gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/ deermetrics.html). Local County Deer Advisory Councils will consider public comments when creating recommendations for the DNR.

Interested members of the public are encouraged to participate in the discussion at their local County Deer Advisory Council meeting. At these meetings, councils review county data on fawn-to-doe ratios, harvest trends, herd health, deer impacts on agriculture, forest health, collisions

CALL TO SERVICE



Help shape the upcoming deer season by providing feedback and attending your local County Deer Advisory Council meeting. Ricardo Reitmeyer photo

hunter experience. This information is reviewed annually to respond to deer harvest, winter severity and other factors that impact the upcoming deer

The 2024 County Deer Advisory Council meetings will occur between April 22 - May 2, 2024.

Clark County Advisory Council meeting: April 23, 6:30 p.m., Clark County Courthouse, 517 Court St. - Room 500, Neillsville

Wood County Deer Advisory Council meeting: April 23, 7 p.m., Sandhill

Operations

Following the County

building,

Deer Advisory Council process, the DNR will bring recommendations for the 2024 season to the Natural Resources consideration in June.





All Greenhouses and Bakery Closed on Sundays and Ascension Opening Friday April 26th

Outdoor Skills Center, 1715

Advisory Council meeting:

Wausau Park Department

29,

April

Marathon County Deer

7

p.m.,

County Hwy. X, Babcock

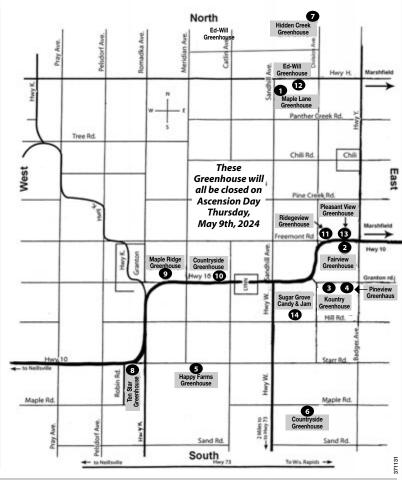
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- 11. Ridgeview Green W1265 Fremont Ave. Granton, WI 54436
- 5. Happy Farms Greenhouse W2257 Starr Rd Granton, WI 54436
  - Chili, WI 54420 W1030 U.S. Hwy 10

Granton, WI 54436

W1489 Hwy H.

- Countryside Greenh & Bakery W1509 Maple Rd. inton, WI 54436
- 14. Sugar Grove Candy & Jam W1500 Hill Rd. Granton, WI 54436
- 7. Hidden Creek Greenh N6829 Division Ave. Spencer, WI 54479

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# GRANTON HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWS

A weekly
feature
highlighting
school news
from around
the area!

# **Granton Alumni Career Fair**



On Friday, March 8th, a team of five committee members (Kim Aumann, Shelly Schmitz, Dana Klein, Karoyln Naedler and Ashley Vine) put on the first ever Granton Alumni Career Fair. The theme was "The Path Doesn't Matter But Your Attitude And Effort Do". We wanted our students to understand that whatever path they choose after high school, they can be successful. Four alumni members spoke to the middle and high school students about their path to success. These speakers' paths varied from going to college, going to technical school, joining the military and going straight into the workforce. Students learned that most employers are looking for employees that have a great attitude and show effort. Each of the sixteen career clusters were represented at a table that the students visited. Students were excited to hear about different careers and know that all the representatives graduated from Granton. The career fair was a hit with alumni members, students and staff. Our goal is to have this event every other year.

### **Granton Bulldog Community Store**

The Granton Bulldog Community Store opened about three years ago with a goal to have school spirit items readily available for students. The Granton Village had the old library vacant and offered it as a store option. The space is perfect and even had a little extra room to add an art gallery. The art gallery space has art for sale by local artists, from Granton students, to graduates to community members. For example a few of the items you can find

would be photography, pottery, digital drawings and crochet items. The store also of course has all your bulldog spirit needs from t-shirts to hoodies, from shorts to sweatpants, from lunch boxes to backpacks and so much more. The store is normally open Wednesdays from 4 to 6pm and one Saturday a month. Check the school website (www.granton.k12.wi.us) for more information.







# Granton Book Fair

April 22-April 26 Monday 9:00-4:00, Tuesday 8:00-7:00, Wednesday 8:00-4:00, Thursday 8:00-7:00 Friday 8:00-4:00

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The Section 7 FFA Leadership Development Event is an event that brings together FFA members from Clark, Wood, Marathon, and Portage Counties and allows them to compete in various speaking contests. This year's contest was hosted at Granton School on March 11. In order to participate in these contests, competitors needed to place in the top 2 of their event at the district contest earlier this winter. These competitions included Employment Skills, Parliamentary Procedure, Quiz Bowl, Discussion Meet, Creed Speaking, Prepared Public Speaking, and Extemporaneous Speaking. Granton was well-represented at the sectional contest as we had Tori Seif in Prepared Public Speaking, Abby Schoessow in Extemporaneous Speaking, and Jordan Berg competing in Discussion Meet and Employment Skills. In addition, the chapter had a Parliamentary Procedure team and Middle School Quiz Bowl team competing. Students placing 1st place in their respective contests advanced to the state contest in June. Granton will represent Section 7 in three speaking events at the state level this June; these events are Jordan Berg in Discussion Meet, Parliamentary Procedure (team members: Jordan Berg, Emma Brookhart, Anna Kayhart, Kadyn Marg, Abby Schoessow, and Tori Seif,) and Middle School Quiz Bowl (team members: Samiyah Modjweski, Sarah Seif, Fletcher Struensee, Iris Vine, and Liberty Young). Great job to all FFA members who participated in Leadership Development Events and congratulations to those who are advancing to the state level!



Granton's Track and Field team is off to a great start this year following the conclusion of the indoor season. While the team is small with only 10 athletes this year (8 on the girls team, 2 on the boys team), everyone is able to find which events suit them best. We are led this year by four seniors (Anna Kayhart, Maya McConkey, Abby Schoessow and Faustina Thomas) and three juniors (Jordan Berg, Koltin Luchterhand, and Emma Woller). They are joined by sophomores Emma Brookhart and Brady McConkey and freshman Mayleth Gonzalez.

While hampered with a lack of practice facilities the team always finds a way to creatively work on their events which showed at the Marshfield Tiger Girls Indoor Invite when the 4 Lap Relay team consisting of Jordan Berg, Anna Kayhart, Maya McConkey, Abby Schoessow, and Faustina Thomas earned a medal by placing 3rd out of 13 teams, finishing only behind DC Everest and Marshfield.

With small numbers a team championship is not a top goal, but having individuals place at conference and qualify for sectionals will be the main things we strive for as a team. For others it will be the consistent improvement and finding a way to contribute. We are hoping for a very successful outdoor season.





# NEILLSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWS

A weekly feature highlighting school news from around the area!





Mrs. Strangfeld helps students in K-12 find the right book materials and classes for

through databases, proofreads scholarships, essays, and resumes for high school students, and assists students and staff with Google questions.

#### NEILLSVILLE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE NATIONAL PARAPROFESSIONALS DAY









# **Academic Letter ceremony**

This is the 34th year that Neillsville High School has held this program. Students are eligible for their first academic letter if they maintain a 3.5gpa for two consecutive semesters. Thereafter, they can earn a second or third academic letter for maintaining a high level of performance in the years that follow.



Receiving first Academic Letter Front row: Danielle Bobak, Rachel Dux, Jessica Kuhn, Devyn McDonald, Olivia Langreck, Emerson Ormond, Karczyn Schmitz, Rebecca Veltus, Baylee Walker, Amelia Holcomb. Back Row: Andrew Hoeser, William Gabriel Sheikh, Kaiden Strey, Drinka, Hunter Schultz, Maximos Heck, and Ryan Kuester. Not pictured: Ava Miller

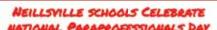


Receiving Second Academic Letter (Pin) Front row: Klarris Canfield, Morgan Strangfeld, Sydney Subke, Tyla Uptergrove, Shylah Walk, Megan Reinart, Addison Moen. Middle Row: Kaylee Lawrence, Sophie Hanson, Gracie Schoengarth, Kenadi Urban, Gabriella Kuhn, Kennadi Evans, Olivia Hahn Back Row: Andrew Winder, Armin De La Cruz, Zachary Magnus, Alex Strey, and Elida Shields. Not pictured: Alexis Makaris.



Receiving Third Academic Letter (Pin) Front row: Kylee Hamm, Sydney Magnuson, Jada Gurney, Olivia Koprek, Paige Voigt, Lilly Opelt, Paris Opelt, Abigail Koepp, and Cali Moseid. Second row: Ashten Schultz, Micah Zoschke, Austin Gross, Jace Pekol, Macey Dickinson, Addison Anderson Ruskin, Ellie Walter, and Eliana Subke. Back row: Cameron Waters and Mark Jorgenson.

TECH ED CAPSTONE CLASSES







Haine-Teaching

PROFESSIONALS DAY

4th grade students visited the UW-Geology Museum in Madison, where they discovered fossils, minerals and more! They also learned











Horticulture students Zach M., Brody B., Abram B., Dominic H. and Colter D. planting flowers from seed in the school greenhouse.

FFA members help put or the 4th grade farm field trip (Food for America). They spend the afternoor serving as tour guides an helping with the Ag.



NEILLSVILLE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE

NEILLSVILLE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE









NES students enjoyed doing several fun STEM activities in the library arranged for them by Mrs. Brey and Mrs. Strangfeld.



# 5th Graders Visit The Highground







TECH ED METALS CLASSES



#### NEILLSVILLE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE NATIONAL PARAPROFESSIONALS DAY

NEILLSVILLE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE

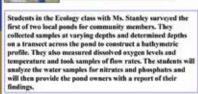
















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#### **Rummage Sales This Week**

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7208

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#### **MARATHON CITY WIDE SALES!** TH & FR 4/25 & 4/26, 7AM-7PM. 113 houses!

Some houses open Wed.- Sat Maps available at houses.

#### **Estate Sales**

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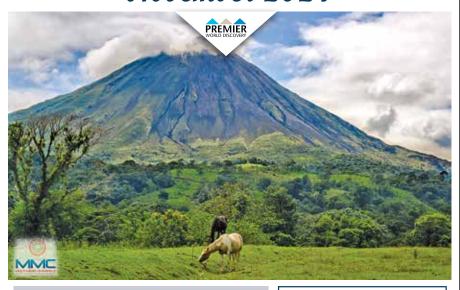
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# MARSHFIELD Honoring Marshfield's 150th

# Marshfield 150 for 150: Jean Abbey Rowe

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Jean Abbey Rowe was born Aug.14, 1927 in Fenton, Michigan to Wilhemina "Minnie" and John Chester Abbey. She was the youngest of six children, three boys and three girls. Her father died when she was a young girl as did the sibling closest in age to her. This left Jean, her sister, and mother on their own. When Jean was a teen, and the only child still at home, her mother remarried. Her stepfather was of questionable character but even then, Jean knew her mind and stood up to him. She graduated from high school in 1945 as the valedictorian of her class.

Jean was the only one of her brothers and sisters to go to college. She graduated with a B.S. degree in Nursing in 1948 as part of the Cadet Nurse Corps.

Jean met her future husband, Dr. Richard Rowe, while working on the Dermatology Ward just before graduating. They were married in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Oct. 1, 1949 and moved to Marshfield in June of 1950, where they moved into Hartl Manor. Dr. Rowe began his practice at Marshfield Clinic and Jean became very active in the community.

Their first child, Ann, was born while they were living at Hartl Manor. Their second, Robert, was born while they were living at their first house on Wood Street. They moved to their "forever" home on Oak Street where brothers Benjamin and Timothy joined the family.

Jean was elected to the Board of Education in 1964. She took her youngest child, Tim, along with her when she canvassed neighborhoods, his three-year-old voice proclaiming, "Bote por Mommy!" Jean knew the value of a good education and wanted to champion one for every child in the Marshfield Public School System. She served for 24 years, 12 as the first female board president. As school board president, she was able to hand each of her children their high school diplomas. Jean spoke at District and State School Board Conventions and served on an Interim Education Committee of the Wisconsin State Legislature.

Marshfield continued to grow and the need for a new high school became evident. Jean chaired the efforts to get it built. Her daughter was in the first class to attend and graduate from the new school. To open the new school, a basketball game was arranged between the best team in the state, Milwaukee Lincoln, and Marshfield High School. Leading up to the game, four students from each school were exchanged for a week. Jean's daughter was one of them. The Tigers lost the game.

Her love and respect for education was passed down to her children and grandchildren, all of whom graduated from college, some with advanced degrees.

Both her daughter's Camp Fire Girls' group and her sons' Boy Scout troops had Jean volunteering as a leader. She also volunteered with the Red Cross Bloodmobile, the American Association of University Women, the Philanthropic Educational Organization International Sisterhood, and was a lifetime member in the North Wood County Historical Society. The St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary and the Wood County Medical Auxiliary had her as a charter member.

The Rowes were members of First Presbyterian Church. Jean was on the search committee to find a minister to replace the departing one. She also chaired the efforts to build the new Presbyterian Church.

Jean worked hard, but she liked to have fun, too. She and Richard were members of the dance club that met at Hotel Charles. She was an avid Bridge player and hosted Bridge Club often. There were also Marshfield Clinic parties held at their house.

In her spare time, she loved to read and could devour a book in short order. The family had a cottage on the Big Eau Plain Flowage and enjoyed spending weekends there. Once Richard retired, he and Jean liked to travel, often with friends.

Richard died in 1996, just five months shy of the couple's 47th wedding anniversary, and Jean continued to live in their house with support from their good friends, Donna and Alvin Berres, their family, and other friends from the community. A fall necessitated her move to the Marshfield Care Center where she died Oct. 11, 2010. Her service was held at the new Presbyterian Church.

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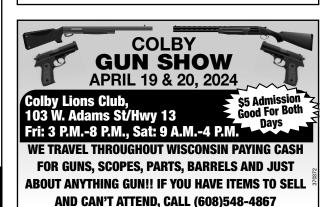
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BILL from page 2

Evers continued. "Kids are especially vulnerable to the dangers of unsafe lighters and fire-play, and unfortunately the folks here in Pittsville know that tragedy first-hand. Not only do these unsafe lighters endanger the lives of kids and our families, but they also place a burden on our emergency response personnel, who - with great courage - combat these preventable disasters. This law prioritizes the safety of our communities by taking these harmful lighters off the market and providing resources to customers, store owners and distributors to ensure they're making informed decisions when making a purchase."

Legislation aiming to prohibit the display and sale of certain lighters to minors had been introduced during almost every legislative session since 2009 but had failed to pass both the Assembly and the Senate until now. Evers, a former teacher and state school superintendent, was elated to be the one to sign the bill into law.

"It's something you just can't predict," Gov. Evers told us after the bill-signing ceremony. "It started here. The fire chief and others worked really hard to make it happen here in Pittsville, and now here I am signing it into law sixteen years later. It's amazing."

Gov. Evers had heard of the legislation, but did not realize its path to signage had taken nearly two decades, nor did he realize the bill was the result of a fire-related death in the community.

"It's also a good learning lesson for the students here, certainly about the safety issue, but also how government works," Evers added.

Evers said he had asked Chief Minor the same question we asked the governor. This seems like a no-brainer, so why did this take so long?

"You know, he (Minor) would get pushback about Nanny State and is this really the role for government and that sort of thing," Evers told us. "Well, something that causes kids to have a fire in their house and somebody died, that's a big deal and we needed to respond and [it] took sixteen years, but we did."

What Minor thought was going to be "a slam dunk" took multiple hearings over numerous legislative sessions.

"We wrote letters to the current senators and assembly people and to Governor Dovle at the time," Minor said. "Amy Sue Vruwink was our lead in the Assembly and Julie Lassa was our lead in the Senate and they had the bill written and we started going to hearings and I can't even begin to tell vou how many hearings we went to," Minor recalled. "The kids came along on some of them. I think we tried everything we could come up with for all those years."

Minor said there were several years when nothing happened, not even a hearing. Then he said the COVIDrelated pandemic derailed the bill yet again. And that's when an unlikely ally came along.

"We were approached by BIC Lighter on this, and they didn't know that we already had been trying this," said Minor. "And they came onboard hot and heavy and they had a lot of contacts within the Capital from previous

Before Minor knew it, the bill had cleared both the Assembly and the Senate with very little opposition, and was ready for the governor's signature.

"It actually took me a couple days to realize that it's

done," said Minor. "Sometimes it doesn't feel like it's real

Marshfield Buyers' Guide • Hub City Times

"I don't recall the number of states that have banned them. It's quite a few and we wanted to be part of that," Minor added. "BIC came on board with us as a huge partner, and we've always had the support of the lighter

Following the bill-signing ceremony, Chief Minor demonstrated some novelty lighters for Evers, who had not seen them prior to his Pittsville visit.

"No I haven't and I'll tell ya, that is one scary thing," the governor said during our conversation. "To think that something that doesn't look like a lighter is a lighter, that's a bad start. It minimizes the fact that what's inside and what you use it for is really dangerous."

The lighter Mason used in 2008 is not known. Minor said all but the metal components melted and were destroyed in the fire.

Assembly Bill 917 passed with bipartisan support and support from the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association, Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association, and the Wisconsin State Firefighters Association.

Assembly Bill 917, now 2023 Wisconsin Act 271:

Provides that no person may offer for sale or sell, or offer a free sample of, a counterfeit lighter or unsafe lighter;

Provides that the prohibition would not apply to any of the following:

The interstate transportation of counterfeit or unsafe lighters that pass through Wisconsin; or

The storage of counterfeit or unsafe lighters in a warehouse or distribution center if the warehouse or distribution center is not open to the public for the purposes of retail sale or distribution.

Defines lighter as any electrical or mechanical device that operates using any type of fuel and that is intended for use in igniting cigarettes, cigars, pipes, charcoal or gas grills, or fireplaces;

Defines counterfeit lighter as a lighter that infringes on an intellectual property right of a citizen of the United States or a person that is protected by federal or state intellectual property law; and

Defines unsafe lighter as:

A disposable or refillable cigarette, cigar, or pipe lighter that does not comply with ASTM International standard

A utility, grill, or fireplace lighter, a lighting rod, or a gas match that does not comply with ASTM International standard F2201-20.

Prior to Gov. Evers signing the bill, Minor had a special message to all members of the Pittsville student body who had gathered to witness the historic occasion.

"When you get an idea about making something safer for others, when you get or are asked to pursue an idea that others feel is a good thing, when you know your idea is a good one, don't let go of it. Keep working to get it accomplished. Keep telling your story. Keep looking for support to make it happen. You can realize your dreams and ideas, but nothing comes easy. Don't give up when you know it's the right thing."

"I think that this journey and the way that I got to see my grandpa really take control and make it a reality was really awesome," Potts told us. "So proud of him."



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#### **ISPORTS**

# MHS girls take 2nd at WVC Indoor Invitational

# Tiger boys finish in fifth place

#### FOR HUB CITY TIMES

STEVENS POINT – The Marshfield High School girls' track and field team finished in second place, at the Wisconsin Valley Conference Indoor Invitational, hosted April 9 by UW-Stevens Point.

The Tigers finished with a team score of 145.5. Stevens Point won the event with a top team score of 161. Wausau West finished in third place with 110, followed by D. C. Everest (96.5), Wausau East (45), Merrill (10) and Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln (8).

"Our team scored in all fifteen events and had many top All-Conference places," said Head Coach Ali Luedtke.

All-Conference Finishes:

1st place:

4x200-meter Relay (1:52.06 - Devyn Le Moine, Gracie Ridgway, Ayana Bousum, Hannah Ridgway); High Jump (Gracie Ridgway - 5' 0"); Triple Jump (Ella Allar - 33' 7.5")

2nd place:

Pole Vault (Devyn Le Moine - 9'6"); High Jump (Emma Ridgway - 5' 0") 3rd place:

1,600-meter run (Natalie Scharenbroch - 5:34.35); 60-meter Dash (Olivia Page - 8.30); 400-meter Dash (McKenzie Holm - 1:04.74); 800-meter Run (Natalie Scharenbroch - 2:29.60); 200-meter Dash (Olivia Page - 27.71); 4x400-meter Relay (4:25.73 - Ashley Grancorvitz, McKenzie Holm, Lucy Luedtke, Ella Allar)

On the boys' side, Marshfield finished fifth as a team, with 59 points. Stevens Point was first (200), followed by D. C. Everest (124.5), Wausau West (83) and Wausau East (73.5). Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln was sixth (36) and Merrill came in seventh (2).

Highlights for the Tiger boys' squad included a first-place finish for Ethan Knecht in the Shot Put (50-03.25).

Dirk Vanderwyst grabbed a second-place finish in the High Jump (6-03.00).

Monty Woltmann took third in the Triple Jump (40-03.50).

Owen Hoernemann secured a third-place finish in the 1,600-meter run (4:34.81) and a fourth-place finish in the 3,200-meter competition (10:32.99).



The 800-meter Relay team of Devyn Le Moine, Gracie Ridgway, Ayana Bousum, and Hannah Ridgway grabbed a first-place finish at the WVC Indoor Invitational, held April 9 at UW-Stevens Point.

Submitted photo

#### **PUBLISHER'S LETTER**

#### When Autumn Comes

Dear Reader,

There is an indescribable sadness in dying. Dying, while a solitary act, invites the many connections and networks of love a person has affected prior, to be a part of this final physical farewell.

Every being dies. All living things animated by the spark of life eventually will

be extinguished. Those who die through some earthly tragedy or by the direct or indirect hand of others, elude the myriad of issues facing death. But for most, there is no art in dying. Most don't die gracefully or well, because the process is polluted by unceasing grasping for those last wisps of earthly life. One would think the Creator of life would have provided a better way.

Life has an unknowable expiration date, an autumn. We look back at the memories that nurtured us through the years. We summon all the childhood ones when we floated in clouds of love with our parents, grandmas and grandpas, and brothers and sisters. Then come the later memories after school was left behind, when we lived through joyful and sorrowful adventures with dear friends. Perhaps we had our own little ones; then came the day when they had their own progeny; and so on.

The question arises: Why are we here? If we are to love one another, why do so many find themselves without love? If we are here to lock arms and embrace as brothers and sisters, why do so many try to dominate their fellows? If we can't responsibly share and care for our brethren, will there be another Ark followed

by a flood and renewal for the venerable ones?

Is there perhaps, as most Christians believe, a Hereafter when the Creator appears in tangible form again wielding an irresistible force of attraction that embraces the good souls with Him? At the same moment, does He release the unworthy into the abyss of oblivion?

Ruefully, autumn comes around for us all, and we weep for what once was but now is lost beyond recall. At the moment of departure, there's a profound sorrow attached to those who lived with a noble purpose; and possibly a momentary sigh of relief when the evil ones are gone.

PATRICK J. WOOD

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#### **FUNDRAISER**

from page 3

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closures of Prevea Health clinics in the Chippewa Valley, where Jace and Grady – now sixth-graders – were going for physical, speech and occupational therapies.

An April 20 fundraiser for the family will help cover their medical expenses and equipment that insurance does not cover, which is expected to exceed \$250,000. The

fundraiser is being held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Bakerville Sports Bar and will feature a cornhole tournament, silent auction items, bake sale and 50/50 raffles. The cornhole tournament is accepting 48 two-person teams at a cost of \$50 per team. For more information, contact Chad Breitzke at 715-305-7766.

The Binders have also set up a Go Fund Me page, which can be found by searching for "Miracles for Grady and Jace."



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