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FREE

Chestnut Center marks twentieth anniversary

**BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR**

MARSHFIELD – The Chestnut Center for the Arts has been around now for two decades, and those who run the place hope you’ll be able to enjoy it for at least another twenty years.

“We want to be here

for the city of Marshfield and the surrounding community,” said board member and volunteer Edie Smazal, during our May 16 tour of the facility.

The nonprofit Chestnut Center for the Arts was founded in the summer of 2003 by a local couple and art lovers who had common

“ The arts are food for the soul.”

– **Edie Smazal**

Chestnut Center for the Arts



The Chestnut Center for the Arts, 208 S. Chestnut Ave., turns 20 this year. Its main office and classrooms are located in a portion of the facility originally approved in 1959 and constructed in 1960, which faces West Third Street.

Mike Warren photo

visions to transform a historic building into a community arts center, according to the center’s website. Chestnut Center for the Arts – officially opened in 2004 – exists today due to broad community support, various fundraisers and by renting out space in the building, which served for many years as First Presbyterian Church.

“We support ourselves through the gallery and through things that we

sell,” said Smazal. “We reach out to different artists we know of. We try to keep it fairly local. Normally we get artists from central Wisconsin. We find them at art fairs. We find people that just do interesting things. We try to get a variety of artists.”

See **CENTER** page 15

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National Eucharistic Pilgrimage

https://stjohnsmarshfield.org/june-10th-11th-2024-national-eucharistic-pilgrimage-procession-and-activities/

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2. Altar Stop #1 Counter Form

3. Continue to Altar Stop #2 at North Hume across from the Water Tower

4. Continue to Altar Stop #3 at Hanson-Schilling Funeral Home

5. Continue to Altar Stop #4 at the POW/MIA War Memorial

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Marshfield named Purple Heart City



George Banda from the Milwaukee-based Military Order of the Purple Heart delivered the keynote address, during May 23 ceremonies at the American Legion naming Marshfield a Purple Heart City.
Kris Leonhardt photos



Kathy Banks takes a look May 23 at a medallion presented to her by the American Legion's Mike Feirer, for her work in organizing Marshfield's annual Honor Walk.

BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – Marshfield has become just the third city in Wisconsin to receive Purple Heart City designation. The honor was officially announced May 23, during the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry's Business After 5 event, held last month at American Legion Post 54.

"Paul Rogers and Kathy Banks approached me with this idea, and here we are celebrating Marshfield as a Purple Heart City. Also, Tammy Neve, Commander of this outstanding American Legion Post 54, who too helped to make this happen, thank you all three and thank you everyone for the support," said Mayor Lois TeStrake, after she had read the official city proclamation supporting the naming of Marshfield as a Purple Heart city. "The banners up around the city, they look amazing. I'm sure you've seen a few, and there's quite a few, and thank you. Thank you to the City of Marshfield for allowing this to happen, Visit Marshfield – who actually paid for the banners on Veterans Parkway – what a great community effort that they have put forth with us, and also Heinzen Printing for doing the job seamlessly and beautifully."

The Purple Heart designation is a significant milestone in Marshfield's ongoing efforts to recognize and appreciate the acts of resiliency demonstrated by the brave men and women who have served our country, read an official press release. The Purple Heart is awarded to United States Armed Forces members who have been wounded or made the ultimate sacrifice in combat. It is a symbol of courage, sacrifice, and unwavering dedication to the principles of freedom and democracy.

Mayor TeStrake's proclamation underscores the city's commitment to supporting and honoring its veterans and their families, the release continued. The Purple Heart City designation is not just an honor; it's a promise – a promise to remember, appreciate, and support the heroes among

us who have displayed remarkable courage and resilience during their service.

George Banda from the Milwaukee-based Military Order of the Purple Heart came to Marshfield to deliver the keynote address during the May 23 ceremony at the American Legion on South Maple Avenue.

"This is a very special moment for the city of Marshfield," Banda told the audience. "The Purple Heart is a medal that is revered by all veterans and civilians alike. It's a medal that nobody wants. You don't go out and try to earn it, believe me, but when you get it it's a very special thing to have."

The Purple Heart, or Badge of Military Merit, was established by Gen. George Washington following the Revolutionary War. Although never abolished, the award of the badge was not proposed again officially until after World War I, when Gen. Douglas MacArthur proposed it be revived, and in 1931 reopened work on a redesigned medal. Purple Hearts were again being awarded by February of 1932, with the first one going to MacArthur.

"It's an incredible, special medal and if you ever see someone with a Purple Heart, please thank them for their service and their sacrifice because it is such a special award," said Banda, a Milwaukee native who served in Vietnam as an Army combat medic, and who has been awarded both a Purple Heart and a Silver Star medal for his service and bravery.

"One of the other things I need to tell you is that I am so impressed with this post. It is jaw-dropping," Banda added. "When I came in through the door and I looked around, I'm going, 'Oh my God.' And I've been to many, many posts throughout the state of Wisconsin and the country. This is like number one. I mean, this is incredible. And that shows something about the support that you have from the community, from people who want to support and fund things like that, so when you have people that step up and give you the funds to be able to do it, and then have the community support it and get everybody together to build something this beautiful, this is just wonderful."

Banks, meanwhile, received special recognition during the evening's festivities for her work in organizing Marshfield's annual Honor Walk, which remembers the city's veterans with special banners hung from light poles along Central Avenue and Veterans Parkway.

"I'll tell you what, this is not an easy program," said longtime American Legion volunteer and organizer Mike Feirer. "She sure takes a lot of grief for this, but it's a beautiful program. We started with sixty in Marshfield and she's now on four-hundred around the state in the area."

Feirer presented Banks with a medallion that reads "Post 54 Marshfield" on the front and "Kathy Banks, for your dedication to our Veterans" on the back.

See **PURPLE HEART** page 7

To all Brooklawn Memory Gardens Cemetery lot owners and families

Brooklawn Cemetery will be holding a meeting on June 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Richfield Town Hall
8478 Richfield Drive, Marshfield WI

Agenda items will include nomination of new officers and designation change from non-stock corporation to non-profit.

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MARSHFIELD HUB CITY Times

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| OBITUARIES |

ALONZO "LON" OFFICER
Alonzo "Lon" Officer, 85, of Marshfield, passed away on May 25, 2024. The Hansen-Schilling Funeral Home & Cremation Center is assisting the family.

ALAN STUART ROSE
It is with a heavy heart that the family of Alan Stuart Rose announces his passing on May 18, 2024 at home under the care of Adoray Hospice.
Alan was born on July 21, 1972 and lovingly adopted by Duane and Berdie Rose on August 14, 1972. Alan was the son of the late Duane & Berdie Rose, He was dad to Connor Rose.
A graveside service will be at the West Spencer cemetery in Spencer, WI on June 18, 2024 at 11:00am.

**JAMES E. JONES**
James E. Jones, Sr., 93, of Marshfield, entered eternal life on Friday, May 24, 2024, at his home, surrounded by his loving family.
He proudly served his country in the Korean War, being honorably discharged in 1954.
He owned and operated Jones Welding and Repair in Auburn-dale until retiring. He then pursued his passion for wood-working, which he continued until shortly before his death.
His integrity and character were evident in the quality of his precise workmanship. He was truly a gifted man.
James is survived by his children: James Jr. (Charlotte), Mary Michlig, Judy (Mike) Forst, Karen (Kendall) Kolbeck, Donna, Bob (Loretta), and Connie Brockman; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brothers: John (Marge) and Larry (Donna); and sisters-in-law: Patti Mitchell and Bev Zellner.
He was preceded in death by his soulmate and wife, Margaret, in 2016; sons-in-law: Ron Michlig and Jeff Brockman; grandson Sheldon Michlig; brothers: Tom and Mike; brothers-in-law: Bill Brown, Ken Mitchell, and Joe (Pidee) Zeller; and sister-in-law Mary Ann (Sissy) Brown.
Rembs Funeral Home is assisting the family. There will be no public visitation. His wishes were for a private family service at a later date.

**GLORIA JEAN WALKER**
Gloria Jean Walker, 75, of Marshfield, passed away peacefully on May 29th, 2024 with her family by her side.
Gloria was born on August 11, 1948 to Edward and Celia Weister in Marshfield. She graduated from Marshfield Senior High School in 1966. After graduation she traveled to Hot Springs, Arkansas, making her home there for several years. In September of 1976 she met the love of her life, Joe Walker. They were united in marriage on October 13, 1978 in Shreveport, Louisiana and lived there until moving to Loyal, Wisconsin. While in Loyal, Gloria ran 2nd Time Around resale shop. In August 2009, Gloria and Joe moved to McGhee, Arkansas. She opened a resale shop until her retirement in 2015. Gloria was well known for great cooking and baking. She would set up her miniature Christmas village for over 30 years. After her husband passed in February 2021, Gloria moved back to Wisconsin.
Gloria was preceded in death by her parents, brother Joseph and sister in law Dawn Weister. She is survived by brothers Henry "Butch" Weister and Gary Weister, sisters Debra (Bob) Kelly and Barb Barber, and numerous nieces and nephews.
Special thanks to her special friend Gay Taylor and Compassus Home Health Care.
A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, June 16, 2024 from 4:30 – 8:00 pm at Wildwood Station Wildwood Park, Marshfield, Wisconsin.
Condolences can be sent online at www.rembsfh.com

FLOYD HITCHCOCK JR
Floyd Hitchcock Jr, 92, of Marshfield, passed away on May 29, 2024. Hansen-Schilling Funeral Home & Cremation Center assisted the family.

RICHARD KOPPER
Richard Kopper, 79, of Marshfield, passed away on May 29, 2024. Hansen-Schilling Funeral Home & Cremation Center assisted the family.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Deus Ex Machina

Dear Reader,
Have you ever found yourself in a situation where everything seemed hopeless, only to have a miraculous solution present itself seemingly out of nowhere? We've all experienced these moments, where the hand of fate intervenes in our lives, providing a deus ex machina.
What, you may ask, is a deus ex machina? This Latin expression means "machine of the gods" and describes a plot device – an unexpected twist – that straightens out a situation that appeared to be irresolvable. "How did our hero escape their certain demise from that horror of horrors?" Through a deus ex machina.
From narrowly avoiding accidents to miraculously acing exams we were sure we'd fail, these instances defy rational explanation. They're the moments when the universe conspires in our favor, offering a reprieve when all seemed lost.
Deus Ex Machina is more than just a literary device; it's a reflection of life's mysterious ways. Sometimes, we find our own solutions through sheer determination or ingenuity. Other times, the solution finds us, appearing when we least expect it and providing a way out of situations that to all appearances were impossible. In a world where some events defy simple explanations, Deus Ex Machina offers a provocative frame of reference for life's inexplicable twists and turns. So the next time you find yourself in a bind, remember that sometimes, the hand of fate is just waiting to guide you to safety. Or, we might think of this as the Machinery of God working in our lives.

PATRICK J. WOOD
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Armed stalker apprehended after police pursuit
Incident occurred near MHS graduation ceremony

FOR HUB CITY TIMES
MARSHFIELD – A Marshfield man is facing a handful of charges after police caught him with a loaded gun near a residence he had been warned to stay away from.
Marshfield police officers were dispatched shortly after noon on May 25 to the area of Edison Street and Hinman Avenue, for a report of a man who appeared to be having mental health issues. The man, who appeared to have a firearm on his hip, backed away from officers and started running through back yards. Officers recognized the suspect as the same man who was recently issued a warning stalking letter to stay away from a Marshfield resident's home who lived near that area.
As more Marshfield officers and Wood County Sheriff's Deputies arrived on the scene, the man was seen trying to gain access to his victim's home. Officers shouted commands at the man to get down on the ground. The man did not comply and fled on foot. After a short foot pursuit, the man was taken into custody without incident. A loaded .22 caliber revolver was recovered from the man's waist. He was then transported to the Wood County Jail in Wisconsin Rapids after medical clearance was completed at Marshfield Medical Center.
Charges requested through the Wood County District Attorney's Office include: Stalking with a Dangerous Weapon; Carrying a Concealed Weapon; Carrying a Firearm on School Grounds; Resisting an Officer.
The man was briefly on Madison Elementary School property (sidewalk) and at no time was he on the grounds of nearby Marshfield High School, where graduation ceremonies for the class of 2024 were taking place outdoors at Heiting Community Stadium.
The man was later identified as a 66-year-old Marshfield man who lives outside the city limits in Marathon County.

Family Health Center of Marshfield Welcomes A New Primary Care Provider

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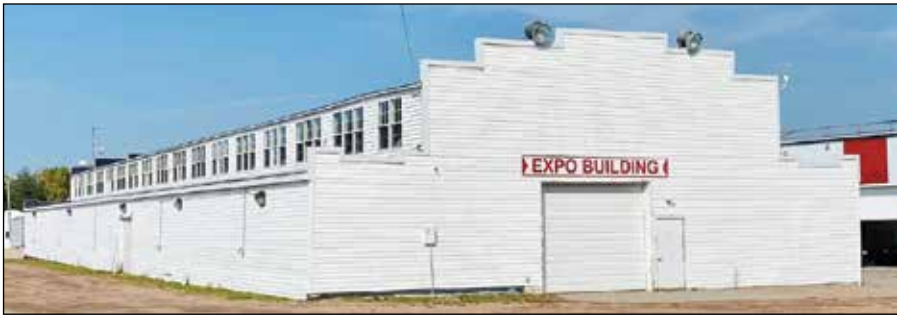
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Dennis Bangart Agricultural Scholarship

This scholarship was created in memory of Dennis Bangart. He had a pure passion for agriculture and poured his heart into volunteering to observe the next generation create similar passions. He felt that "you just need to plant the seed and youth would grow." Dennis had an undeniable passion for dairy cattle and agriculture. He wore his heart on his sleeve during activities. He enjoyed selling starter project calves to area youth so he could watch them thrive and grow and have the same opportunities he had while growing up. If you'd like to donate to this fund please go to www.marshfield.foundation and click the DONATE NOW button and do a search for this fund.

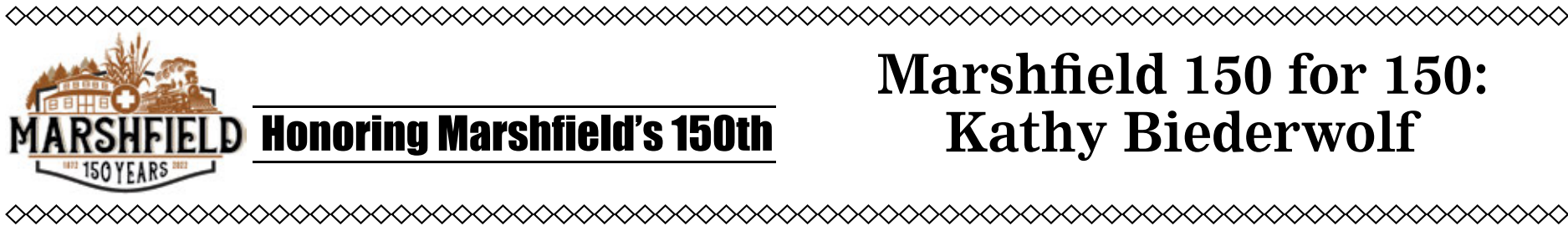


Historic Preservation Month: Out & About

We want to thank you, the readers of Hub City Times, for playing Out & About 2024, and to the staff at Hub City Times for including this column in their publication. The announcement of our grand prize winner from these past five weeks of clues will be in the next issue of Hub City Times.

Central Wisconsin State Fairgrounds, specifically the Expo Building. Built in 1925 parallel to the grandstand, the building is 204 feet long, 60 feet wide and 18 feet high. Large window sashes, each containing 12 panes of glass, surrounded the entire building on four sides directly

See OUT & ABOUT page 7



Honoring Marshfield's 150th

Marshfield 150 for 150: Kathy Biederwolf

NOMINATED BY KATHY CAMPBELL AND THE FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ADULT CHOIR

Marshfield's artistic community blossoms beyond other small cities. Many in that community can thank Kathy Biederwolf for helping their own talents blossom.

That's what great teachers do. Kathy's mentors included a world-renown choral music leader at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Not long after, she taught for around 15 years at Marshfield High School – showing students how the richness of music can connect with whatever careers they pursue.

She also spent decades in her church and community as a choir conductor, singer and piano/organ accompanist. She has enriched countless cultural and spiritual lives. That's because Kathy Biederwolf never stopped teaching. It shows during rehearsals.

"She has ears like radar," said Thom Gerretsen, a tenor in the Adult Choir at Marshfield's Faith Lutheran Church. "I stand 20 yards away, hidden among other singers while she plays the piano. And she tells how I screw up a note! That's amazing: I'm so thankful."

A native of Red Wing, Minnesota, Kathy is a 1969 graduate of Luther in music and German. She was in the school's Nordic Choir, which entertains audiences worldwide. The group performed in Marshfield Jan. 29, 2024. Kathy and fellow Nordic alum Bonnie Brix joined the students in singing their final song.

Kathy was a singer and accompanist for the late Weston Noble, who led Luther's choir for 57 years. Another Nordic Choir singer – former music instructor and Faith Choir Director Julie Crist – recalls that Kathy was one of Weston's favorite accompanists. "I believe he told me that with a twinkle in his eye," Julie later said.

At Marshfield High, Kathy taught music theory and directed the school's choir and Madrigal Singers. She also taught German to students and has long put that skill to good use for the region's Central Chamber Chorale. "When we perform music in German, she helps guide us to proper pronunciation," said Chorale singer Ann Stevning-Roe, who also chairs the group's board.

Kathy followed Lyle Iverson as the high school's choir director. Another skilled choral leader, Greg Reiersen, then took her place to lead Faith Lutheran's choir. Greg called her a "truly valuable resource" in his own teaching years.

She extraordinarily shares her faith, serving the final one-third of Marshfield's first 150 years in numerous leadership and performing roles at Faith Lutheran while



helping worshipers in their spiritual journeys.

Kathy once joined others to fill in as the church's main organist and choral accompanist. After repeat stints as Adult Choir director, she later settled into more permanent roles selecting hymns for Faith's traditional services and as the choir's accompanist.

Julie Crist called Kathy's talent a beautiful gift. "Her

ability to masterfully play any piece of music put in front of her is invaluable," and Faith is blessed immeasurably by her "willingness to use her gift to serve in so many ways." For two months in 2024, Kathy added another role: leading Faith's choir from the piano after the previous director left to have an early-arriving baby.

It wasn't the first time she was thrust into unexpected service. Ann Stevning-Roe was helping a judge at a regional school solo/ensemble competition around 2010 when a young singer's accompanist fell ill and supplied a compact disc that couldn't be heard. "The student and her mother were in a panic," said Ann, who arranged for Kathy to transpose the song so the student could sing it.

The youngster advanced to state competition.

For years, Kathy has given the Central Chamber Chorale her alto singing voice and accompaniments that sometimes needed more than two hands. She has also performed with the Marshfield/Wood County Symphony Orchestra and the community's former Palm Sunday concerts.

Her piano music has enhanced many theatrical productions at UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield and other local stages. It keeps singing actors in tune, accentuates speaking parts and helps scenes flow smoothly.

"The world of theatre here in Marshfield would not be the same without Kathy," said Donna Thompson, who has directed plays and their music for numerous local performances. "She has made my job so much easier. Her ability to play so many styles of music and in any key is so impressive."

Faith Lutheran choir members called Kathy a faithful, humble servant who shows support for her home-state pro football team, the Minnesota Vikings. "A true musician in every sense of the word," said soprano Ruth Stram.

In the city's next 150 years, Kathy Biederwolf's imprint will live on in others with an impact well-deserving of her place among Marshfield's 150 notables in its initial one-and-a-half centuries.

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Preview/Open House Date:
Friday, June 14, 2024 (2pm-5pm) or by Appointment, (715) 305-2475

Preview/Pick Up Location:
Iggy's Auction, 206 E. Depot St. Marshfield, WI 54449

View Auction Catalog, Terms & Bid Now at Iggy'sAuction.com

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Open House Tues., June 4th from 3:30pm-5:00pm, N4143 Cty Rd G, Ladysmith, WI 54848

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Minor leads three agencies on high-speed chase

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD – An area minor is spending time in the Marathon County Juvenile Detention Center, after allegedly stealing a car in Spencer and leading officers from three agencies on a high-speed pursuit through parts of Wood and Clark counties.

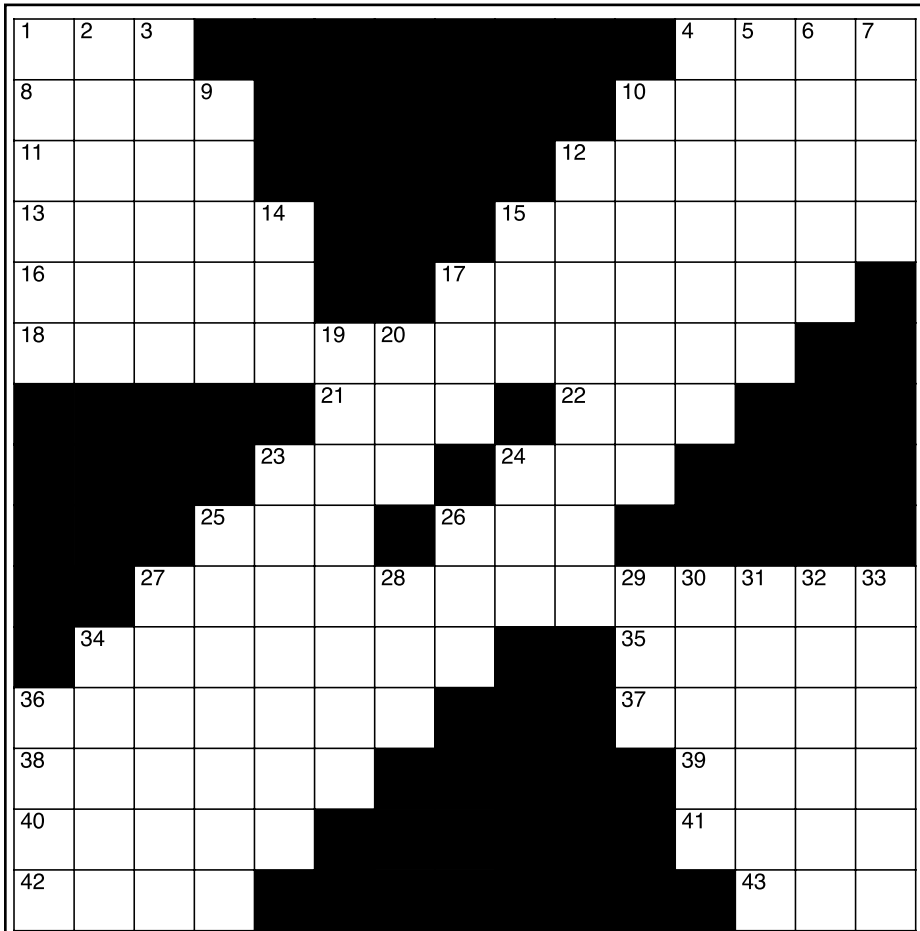
The pursuit began at approximately 4:26 a.m. on May 29 on Hwy. 186 at US Highway 10, in the Town of Auburndale. That’s when a Wood County Sheriff’s Deputy observed a vehicle traveling northbound on STH 186 approaching US Highway 10. The vehicle failed to stop at a stop sign at US Highway 10 and continued westbound on US Highway 10. The deputy activated the squad lights and siren in an attempt to stop the vehicle, but the vehicle failed to yield and proceeded westbound at a high rate of speed. The pursuit continued until turning northbound on South Central Avenue in the city of Marshfield.

Marshfield officers were now assisting with the pursuit, which traveled down

Maple Ave., Eighth Street, Ninth Street, and South Oak Ave., then onto County Highway H. The pursuit continued on CTH H into Clark County, where a pursuit intervention technique was used to end the chase. Clark County Deputies responded to assist.

There were not any injuries sustained from this incident, but there was property damage to one Marshfield business, a Marshfield patrol squad and a Wood County patrol squad. It was later discovered the vehicle involved was stolen from the Village of Spencer. The juvenile operator of the vehicle was taken into custody without further incident.

Violations include Fleeing, Operating without Owner’s Consent, OWI (1st Offense), Speeding, Failure to Stop at Stop Sign and Hit-and-Run Causing Damage to Property. The juvenile was transported to the Marathon County Juvenile Detention Facility. The juvenile’s name will not be released.



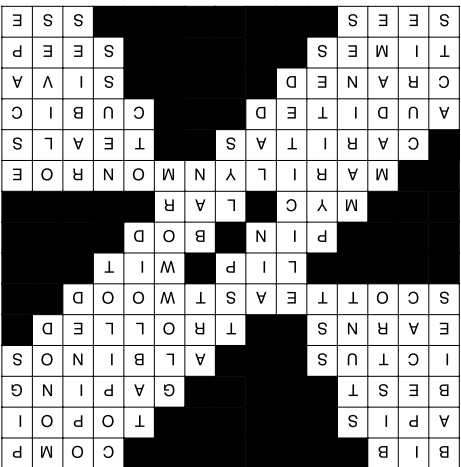
©MetroCreative

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Baby’s dining accessory
- 4. Something free
- 8. Ancient Egyptian deity
- 10. Set-like mathematical categories
- 11. Top-quality
- 12. Expansive
- 13. Seizure
- 15. People with congenital absence of pigment
- 16. Gains
- 17. Mocked online
- 18. Clint’s son
- 21. Body part
- 22. Humor
- 23. Code number
- 24. Your physique
- 25. Family of regulator genes
- 26. LA football player (abbr.)
- 27. “The Blonde Bombshell”
- 34. Charity
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Examined closely
- 37. A type of equation
- 38. Stretched uncomfortably
- 39. Indian religious god
- 40. Clocks
- 41. Slowly leak through
- 42. Witnesses

- 43. Midway between south and southeast
- ## CLUES DOWN
- 1. Nestlings
 - 2. Induces vomiting
 - 3. A place to eat
 - 4. Partner in the air
 - 5. Offered one’s take
 - 6. Nobel-winning French biologist
 - 7. Farm animals
 - 9. Prevent from growing
 - 10. Sensationalist periodical
 - 12. Soft-bodied beetle
 - 14. Very fast airplane
 - 15. Imaginative creation
 - 17. Recipe measurement (abbr.)

- 19. Evoked a response
- 20. French river
- 23. Shiny yellow minerals
- 24. Make illegal
- 25. U.S. military branch
- 26. River in France and Belgium
- 27. A woman of refinement
- 28. Male child
- 29. Type of medication
- 30. German city
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. Mediterranean dietary staple
- 33. Sneak out
- 34. Radioactivity unit
- 36. Performs on stage



379503

Marshfield police looking for man accused of punching woman he met online

BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – Marshfield police are trying to locate a man who a Wisconsin Rapids woman says punched her in the face during their initial encounter. The alleged incident occurred between midnight and 2:25 a.m. on May 30 in the 500 block of North Central Ave.

The woman, 46, told police she was driven to Marshfield from Wisconsin Rapids by a friend, who dropped her off to meet up with a man named Brian, whom she had met through an online dating

app a few days earlier. According to the police report, the alleged victim said the two met on Central Avenue near The Spot Bar, 500 N. Central Ave. During their two-hour interaction, the woman stated Brian became angry after a phone call from an unknown individual and punched her in the mouth, apparently without provocation. The woman also said she knew very little about Brian, other than he drove a black Toyota Corolla with a dent on the passenger side of the vehicle.

The man is facing possible charges of Battery if caught.

Merkel joins Forward Bank

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD -- Lea Merkel has joined Forward Bank as a mortgage lender at the Marshfield location.

In joining the mortgage lending team, Merkel will guide customers through the home buying and refinancing process. She will also work closely with other areas of Forward to uncover opportunities to strengthen the customer relationship and provide additional solutions.

“I have worked closely with different members of the Forward team on community projects throughout the years,” commented Lea Merkel, Mortgage Lender at Forward Bank. “Joining this dedicated team has been a wonderful process. Together we will serve our home buyers in the Marshfield area and continue to build on our 105-year legacy.”

Merkel has earned her bachelor’s in business management from Lakeland University and her master’s in management and leadership from Western Governor’s University. Having worked in



Merkel

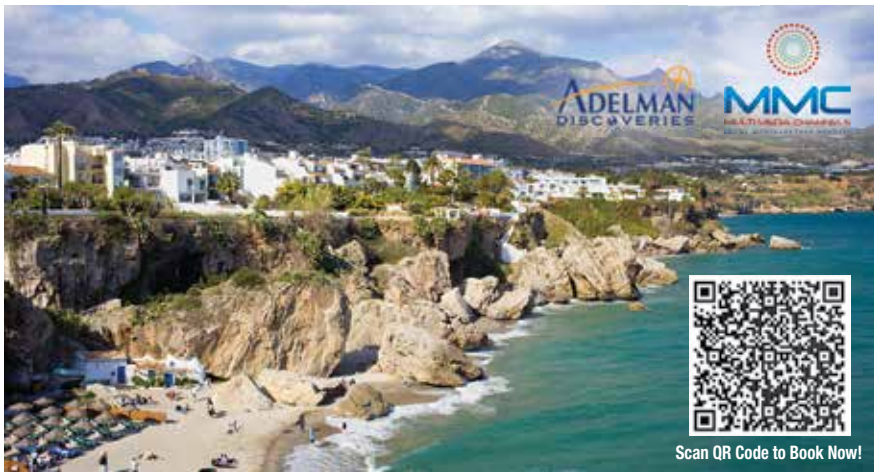
various industries, from higher education to healthcare and now banking, she truly realizes it is not what you are doing, but who you are serving.

When not at work or volunteering, Merkel enjoys being outside with her family playing hockey in the winter and swimming all summer. She is proud to be living, working, and raising her son in her hometown of Marshfield.

“Lea is a great addition to our Marshfield team and the group of Mortgage Lenders serving all of our communities,” said Holly Zopfi, VP / Mortgage Lending Director at Forward Bank. “She not only brings strong connections within the community but adds a new energy and perspective to the lending process.”

Forward Bank currently has offices in Athens, Colby, Dorchester, Greenwood, Marshfield, Medford, Park Falls, Phillips, Rib Lake, Stanley, Thorp, Three Lakes, and Withee in Wisconsin; and Lake City in Minnesota. For more information, please visit www.forward.bank.

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UW-Stevens Point undergraduates honored for scholastic achievement

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

STEVENS POINT -- The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point honored more than 2,300 undergraduate students for attaining high grade point averages during the spring semester of the 2023-2024 academic year.

Full-time undergraduates who earned grade points of 3.90 to 4.0 (4.0 equals straight A) are given the highest honors designation. High honor citations go to those with grade point averages from 3.75 to 3.89 and honor recognition is accorded to those with grade point averages from 3.50 to 3.74.

Personalized certificates of scholastic achievement are sent to those who earned highest honors distinction.

Students who received honors include:

Abbotsford - Courtney Bittner, Highest Honors; Catie Clement, Highest Honors; Keith Kalepp, Honors; Kimberly Lecheler, Highest Honors; Bridgett Pogodzinski, Honors

Arpin - Rachel Eckes, Honors; Fletcher Raab, Honors; Julianna Wuethrich, Honors

Auburndale - Jared Anderson, Highest Honors; Josephine Ertl, Honors; Victoria Hasenohrl, Highest Honors; Mattea Kowalski, Highest Honors; Julia Kumm, Honors; Taylor Kunding, High Honors; Alexander Ponshock, High Honors; Georgi Schmutzer, Honors

Colby - Emma Kroll, High Honors; Rilynn Lieders, High

Honors

Granton - Josephine Voigt, High Honors

Loyal - Wyatt Dietsche, Honors; Katelyn Geier, Highest Honors; Aubre Robida, High Honors; Leah Scherer, Highest Honors; Alexis Schreiner, High Honors

Marshfield - Kaleb Abney, Highest Honors; Monica Apsey, Honors; Ava Baka, Honors; Blake Bennington, Honors; Abby Brown, High Honors; Alyson Dietsche, Honors; Mya Ellis, Highest Honors; Skylar Faber, Highest Honors; Brian Fay, Highest Honors; Sienna Frome, Honors; Kaelee Gagnon, Honors; Logan Griesbach, Highest Honors; Marissa Guyer, Highest Honors; Brynn Harrington, High Honors; Egan Hill, Highest Honors; Logan Homolka, Highest Honors; Alex Jahnke, Honors; Emmalee Jicinsky, Honors; Emma Karau, Highest Honors; Savannah Klimpke, Highest Honors; Kaitlyn Kunding, Honors; Morgan Lass, Highest Honors; Tyler Linzmeier, High Honors; Sydney Mauritz, Honors; Matthew McEwen, Highest Honors; Max McGiveron, High Honors; Ellie Meyer, Honors; Sofia O'Brien, Highest Honors; Elizabeth Pischel, Honors; Claire Rootellis, Honors; Reese Scheibe, Highest Honors; Kassandra Scherbarth, High Honors; Nichole Specht, Highest Honors; Lindsey Tyrolt, Highest Honors; Hannah Viergutz, Highest Honors; Autumn Vine, Honors; Olivia Warren, Honors; Joshua Weiland,

High Honors; Molly Wells, Honors; Ethan Welter, Honors; Emma Wendt, Highest Honors; Madelyn Wiskerchen, High Honors; Karson Wright, Honors

Neillsville - Morgan Bethea, Highest Honors; Benjamin Fields, High Honors; Jayda Harris, Highest Honors; Brooke Magnus, High Honors; Sheryl Sebesta, Honors; Terren Stockheimer, Highest Honors

Pittsville - Sam Bowden, Honors; Joselyn Buchli, Highest Honors; Madeline Hensel, Highest Honors; Raina Manlick, Highest Honors; Devin Miller, Honors

Spencer - Haley Laber, Honors; Samantha Lee, Highest Honors; Cierra MacArthur, Highest Honors; Zalexis Mannigel, Highest Honors; Zachary Roe, Highest Honors; Colten Schillinger, High Honors; Kaitlyn Schmidt, Honors; Kaelyn Schreiner, Highest Honors; Andrew Sieracki, Honors; Emily Wehrman, Honors

Stratford - Kaitlyn Asplund, Honors; Brett Bangart, High Honors; Bailey Bauer, Highest Honors; Jaden Bauer, Highest Honors; Samantha Budtke, Highest Honors; Hailey Chapel, Highest Honors; Sarah Dickinson, Honors; Brooklyn Dillinger, Highest Honors; Devyn Palmer, High Honors; Braeden Schueller, Honors; Kale Weisenberger, Honors; Megan Wiese, Highest Honors

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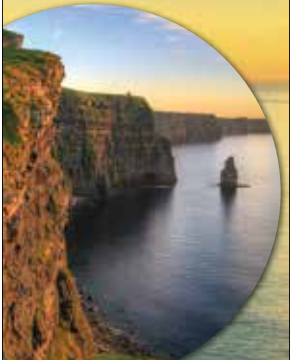
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JUNE 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

OBSERVANCES

14th - Flag Day

16th - Father's Day

19th - Juneteenth


20th - Summer Begins!

Events and special promotions happening locally this month!

Featured Events

IT'S TIME TO GET OVER YOUR PAST AND START LIVING TODAY!

Theresa Blume, spiritual life coach and owner of *Girlfriends Corner* will be speaking in the Pierce Plaza building about how she overcame her past with faith, and using her God-given gift. She will demonstrate for the first time in public how she uses her gift to help others.



Saturday, June 15th from 1-3pm

Event is located at **Pierce Plaza • 2001 S Central Ave. Marshfield**

Cost of the event is \$20

Register by June 14th, cost is \$18

Includes a free copy of Theresa's book "Becoming Theresa."

There will be businesses and vendors with free giveaways!

For more information call 715-383-2866



FRIDAY, JUNE 14

Marshfield Country Club

4-Person Team Scramble Includes 18 Holes, Cart, Lunch, Raffles & more!

NEW THIS YEAR: Hole-in-One Challenge

Chance to win a \$15,000 home remodel voucher

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SPEAKING OF PETS.....

JUNE 15: National Foster a Pet Month

JUNE 4-10: Pet Appreciation Week

JUNE 23: Take Your Dog to Work Day

JUNE 27: PTSD K-9 Awareness Day

Natural Family Festival!

Saturday, June 29, 2024 • 9am-5pm

Food & Refreshments available! **Columbia Park, Marshfield** **Bouncy Houses for the kids!**

Special Speakers to include:



Lois TeStrake
City of Marshfield Mayor



Jason Storms and Family



JR Harrison
The Natural Family Foundation

Sponsors/Volunteers needed, call Ray at 715-660-8176



SPENCER HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWS

A weekly feature highlighting school news from around the area!

Cinco De Mayo day celebration



We had a fun-filled afternoon celebrating Cinco de Mayo and learning about Spanish speaking cultures. From painting like Spanish Artist Joan Miro' to dancing, soccer, and bilingual animal games while wearing Alebrijes animal masks, students created so many memories with our high school Spanish Club, Spanish Classes, and Art Club!



Crystal Apple Award Teachers of Distinction

Congratulations to Emma Winkelman and Janet Wolf on being selected as Crystal Apple Award Teachers of Distinction



Distance Learning Educator of the Year

Congratulations to Lisa Vann, for being named the Wisconsin Association Distance Education Network WADEN 2023-24 Distance Learning Educator of the Year



Elks Recognition

Each year the Marshfield Elks Lodge honors the outstanding students from twelve area high schools in our district in different categories of achievement. Their intent with this program is to recognize students in scholastic areas that do not receive much if any, formal recognition for their efforts in the classroom.

Our recipients were:

- Art Drama- Savana Weyer
- Music- Aubrey Loveland
- Mathematics- Devyn Schmidt
- Science- Alexis Mlsna
- Language Arts- Aleric Ott
- Technology Education- Logan Ehlert
- Social Studies- Nathan Kieffer
- Business Computers- LeeAnn Lang
- FACE- Hannah Reckner
- Leadership- SaDe Giles
- Agriculture- Chris Schmidt



Honoring Excellence Banquet

Congratulations to Nathan Kieffer and Devyn Schmidt on representing us at the Honoring Excellence Banquet which celebrates some of the top students in Marathon County. Also congratulations to Mr. Jon Wagner and Mr. Jared Klimmer for being selected as their honored educators respectively. Thank you to The Spencer Chamber of Commerce for their sponsorship of this event.



Day on the Farm

It's always a great day on the farm, especially if you're a kid. The rain and mud didn't discourage this group of Spencer students from being full of energy and full of questions about cows, cow food, milk and cheese, large farm machinery, etc. Spencer held their Food for America program and Safety Day on the Farm at MARS, under the leadership of Spencer Ag instructor Sam Schmitt, and his ag students.



Special Education Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Kylee Becker for receiving the Special Education Teacher of the Year award last night at the Marathon County Special Education Awards and Recognition Night. We are so proud to have such amazing teachers working with our students



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STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWS

A weekly feature highlighting school news from around the area!



Field Trip

Our 4th-grade class had the opportunity to visit the capital for one of their social studies activities!



Congratulations to our Marawood Conference Baseball Champions!



Congratulations to our boys and girls track teams on being Marawood Conference Champions!



Snowcones

Thank you to Mrs. Bornbach's Food Class for making snowcones for the entire third grade!



Taxidermy

Our Wildlife & Fisheries class had an class lesson on taxidermy. Drew Cage Recieved the 'staff choice' award!



Pie-A-Teacher

The Juior Class hosted a Pie-a-Teacher competition to raise funds for school improvements. They raised over \$800.



Congratulations to Mette on receiving the 'student choice award' during the art show.



Eire Fisher won the 'staff choice award' during the art show.



Congratulations to Keirstyn and Lucy on receiving the 'people's choice award during the art show.



Student of the Month

Congratulations to Sadie Weigel for receiving the May Student of the Month!

Archery
Congratulations to Alexa Krieg for her outstanding performance at the National Archery Tournament. Alexa earned a trip to Daytona for the World's Tournament.





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WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! **PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!** For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact **The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)**

Rummage Sales This Week7200

AUBURNDALE, 10702 County Rd. M, TOO GOOD TO MISS! Thur & Fri, June 6 & 7, 8a-6p & Sat, June 8, 8a-11am. Kids climbing tower, picnic table, wagon, sleep bags, toys, misses & men's clothing, bedding, cannon printer, 5 gal glass jugs, 6x6x6 greenhouse, suitcases, books, Purple Martin house, tools, drill press, Household items & Misc.

BIGGEST RUMMAGE SALE IN TOWN!
Don't miss this one!
Marshfield
1st Presbyterian Church
200 S. Lincoln Ave.
Thur. June 6, 4-7pm
Early Bird Sale
Fri. June 7, 6am-4pm
\$50% Off Sale
Sat. June 8, 7-10am **Bag Sale**
Anything you can fit in a bag \$2
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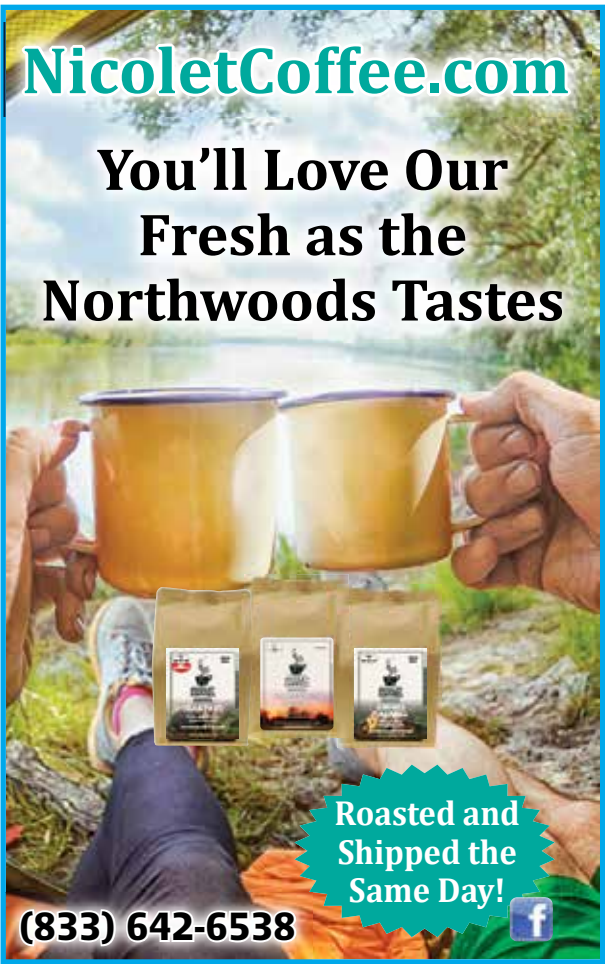
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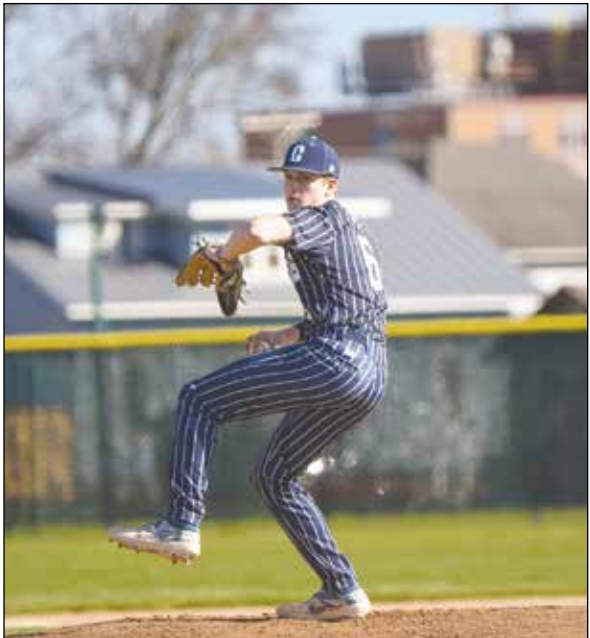
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| SPORTS |

Dons drop home game in baseball playoffs



Columbus sophomore Mac Konieczny, seen here pitching against Neillsville/Grantton in a 13-2 win April 25 at Hackman Field, gave up just one run on one hit while striking out seven, in four innings of work May 29 against Eleva-Strum, in a Div. 4 Regional semifinal at Safford Field.

Lucky Shot Media photo

BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – In a game delayed one day by rain, the Columbus Dons saw their baseball season come to an end, with a 2-1 loss to Eleva-Strum in a Div. 4 Regional Semifinal, played May 29 at Marshfield High School's Safford Field.

The day started off great for Columbus. Sophomore pitcher Mac Konieczny struck out the side in the top of the first inning. But in the top of the second inning, Konieczny walked Jake Bjerke, who would soon take second after Mac's pickoff attempt sailed past first baseman Cy Becker. But when Bjerke tried to take third on a bunt by Carter Gunderson, Konieczny atoned for his earlier error, fielded the ball cleanly, then threw it to older brother Emmitt Konieczny out near second base, who relayed the ball to Carter Sommer at third to get the lead runner, as Gunderson reached first on the fielder's choice.

A bit of confusion then followed, and it seemed to rattle the Columbus defense just enough. While the next batter – Calvin Barneson – was at the plate, Gunderson was suddenly awarded second base, and nobody seemed to know why. A few pitches later, Barneson struck out. Or so most thought. Eleva-Strum coaches argued the third strike on Barneson was actually the second, because an earlier pitch by Konieczny was a quietly-called balk which now explained Gunderson's trip to second base. Following the Eleva-Strum appeal, Barneson's strikeout was nullified and he resumed his at-bat. Konieczny walked him on the next pitch. Tyler Webb's subsequent single loaded the bases for the Cardinals with just one out. The next batter, Brady Zimple, sent a sacrifice fly ball out to leftfield, which scored Gunderson from third. Konieczny struck out the next batter to end the inning.

The Dons tied the game in their half of the third inning. Nate Nemitz drew a one-out walk, then went to second on a passed ball by Eleva-Strum pitcher Carter Gunderson. The next batter, Blake Jakobi, singled, then stole second. Mac Konieczny helped his own cause by sending a sacrifice fly to centerfield, scoring Nemitz from third. After Emmitt Konieczny walked, Cy Becker lined out to Gunderson on the mound to end the Columbus threat, with the game now tied at 1 apiece.

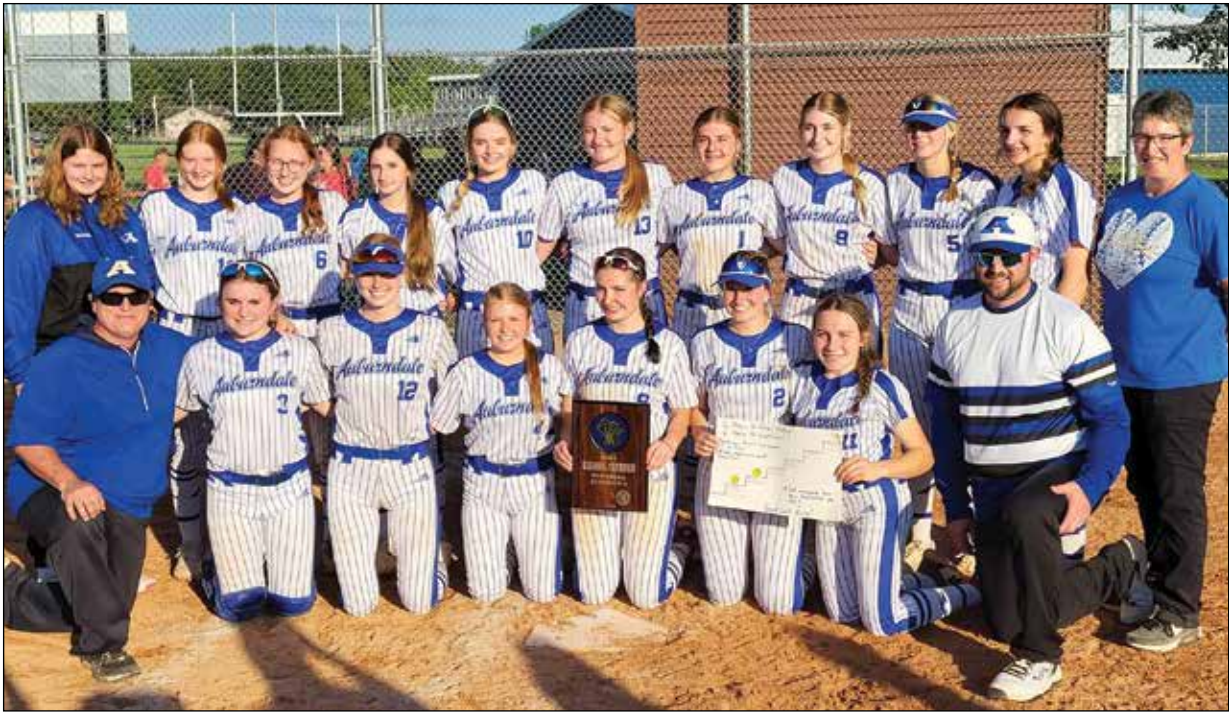
It remained that way until the top of the sixth inning. Emmitt Konieczny issued a leadoff walk to Zimple that would come back to haunt the Dons in a big way. While the elder Konieczny was striking out the next batter, Zimple stole second, then advanced to third on a groundball out by Brady Nichols. The next hitter for the Cardinals – Justin Becker – delivered what turned out to be the game-winning hit, an RBI single that scored Zimple, giving the visitors a 2-1 lead.

In the bottom of the sixth and seventh innings, Gunderson struck out four of the seven batters he faced, en route to a complete-game win. No come-from-behind win for Columbus on this day, like they had the week prior, when they scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning, in a 6-5 win over Elmwood/Plum City in a Regional Quarterfinal contest May 23.

Against Eleva-Strum, the Konieczny brothers combined for eleven strikeouts while giving up just three hits. Gunderson, meanwhile, struck out eight Columbus batters in the win for the Cardinals.

The Dons ended their season 16-4. Three of those losses came in their last four games. The Dons were the undefeated champions of the Eastern Cloverbelt Conference, at 10-0.

Eagles punch ticket to state softball tourney



BY MIKE WARREN
EDITOR

MARSHFIELD – With two outs in the sixth inning of a scoreless game, catcher Dani Blomberg blasted what some historians might consider the biggest hit to date in Auburndale softball history.

With runners at second and third and stepping in to face one of the state's premier softball pitchers – Eleva-Strum's Ruby Bartholomew – Blomberg uncorked one down the right field line for an opposite-field triple that scored Mya Krings from third and Breleigh Grimm from second. The shot to right was the second hit of the game for Blomberg, and just the third of the game for the Eagles, who with the 2-0 win advanced to the WIAA Div. 4 State Semifinals

on Thursday, June 6. Auburndale will play Cuba City at 6:30 p.m. at Goodman Diamond in Madison. Play-by-play coverage of that game will be provided by SportsRadio 92.3 FM – WOSQ. Pre-game programming starts at 6 p.m.

In a Sectional Championship game – played May 30 at Blair-Taylor High School – which was scoreless through five-and-a-half innings, Auburndale came to bat in the bottom of the sixth, with the top of the order due up. It was now or never. Krings led off the inning with just the second Auburndale hit of the game. Morgan Griesbach then used a sacrifice bunt to, not only move Krings into scoring position, but eliminate a potential double play

See **EAGLES** page 14

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| SPORTS |

Marshfield Columbus basketball tournament returns

MARSHFIELD -- After a one-year hiatus, the Columbus Catholic Schools "Summer Kickoff Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament" is back with some changes. This year, the tournament will be held Friday, June 7, starting at 8:30 a.m., but the event will be held indoors at the Columbus Catholic High School gymnasium.

The tournament is open to the general public, for students who just completed grades 3-8. There will be separate divisions for each grade and gender, and a maximum of eight teams per division. The cost is \$100 per team.

To register your team, visit the Columbus Catholic Schools website at www.columbuscatholicschools.org. Proceeds for the event will benefit the Columbus Catholic High School basketball program.



EAGLES
from page 13

situation. The strategy paid off in a big way. The next batter, Grimm, sent a groundball to Eleva-Strum shortstop Maddea Brown, who booted the ball, allowing Grimm to reach first base on the fielding error and giving Krings a free pass to third. After Samantha Stanton struck out, Blomberg delivered her magical shot a few moments later. With Blomberg still at third, Taylor Anderson struck out to end the inning. Now there was just a small matter of three outs to record, and the history books would be rewritten.

In the Eleva-Strum seventh inning, Terris Quick drew a leadoff walk, just one of two issued by ace Morgan Griesbach. The next batter, Jaelyn Knutson, lined one right to Auburndale second baseman Breleigh Grimm, who then quickly threw to first base to double off Quick, who was running on the play. Then Griesbach did

what she had been doing all afternoon – strike people out. And with a trip to the state tournament just one out away, Eleva-Strum's next batter – freshman infielder Mariah Steffenson – didn't stand a chance. Griesbach made quick work of Steffenson, recording her ninth strikeout of the game, and sending the Eagles on a trip south to kick off their summer vacation. Griesbach pitched a complete-game, three-hit shutout for the win.

Auburndale is now 21-3 and has not lost a game since April 25. During their postseason run thus far, the Eagles beat Necedah 15-0 in four innings, in a Regional Semifinal May 22 at Auburndale High School. The following evening, Auburndale knocked off Marathon 7-2 at home, to claim the Regional championship.

In the Sectional Semifinals on May 28, the Eagles scored a 5-0 win over Stratford, one of just three teams to beat Auburndale all season. The next night, the Eagles made history and claimed their spot at the state tournament in Madison.

Security Health Plan wins awards for quality service

FOR HUB CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD -- Security Health Plan of Wisconsin, Inc., has been honored with several awards from the Service Quality Measurement (SQM) Group. In 2023, SQM benchmarked over 500 leading North American contact centers.

Security Health Plan received 'Call Center World-Class First Call Resolution' certification for the eighth consecutive year. For the World-Class FCR Certification program, SQM surveyed a minimum of 800 customers about their contact with Security Health Plan. The call center team demonstrated outstanding professionalism, empathy and efficiency in assisting members with inquiries and concerns during their first call.

"Collaborating with a customer-centric organization like SQM affords us unending support and guidance in providing first call resolution to our members," said Security Health Plan Director of Member Experience and Contact Center Ken Baur.



"The focused feedback survey process we receive from our members provide us with opportunities to improve our processes time and again."

In addition to receiving this certification, Security Health Plan was also recognized

for excellence in several other key areas. These include 'Highest Customer Service Award for the Health Care Industry,' 'Highest Customer Service Award for the Non-Profit Sector,' and 'World-Class Customer Experience Certification' since 2016. These awards reflect the ongoing efforts to not only meet but exceed the expectations of members and employees alike.

"Security Health Plan is honored to receive these prestigious SQM awards," said Baur. "They serve as a reminder of our shared commitment to providing the highest quality service to our members."

Additionally, Security Health Plan teammates were recognized by SQM for their outstanding efforts. Shelby Stangl and Todd Leonhardt were finalists for 'Agent of the Year'; Tanalee Luedtke was a finalist for 'Supervisor of the Year'; and Whitney Brodhagen was the winner of the 'Agent Improvement Award.'

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CENTER

from page 1

And while the Chestnut Center features plenty of art, it also has actual artists. Gene Wesley and Kathryn Petke are current artists in residence whose paintings are being featured this month at the Chestnut Center, which gets a small percentage of each painting's proceeds.

Also featured is the center's "Once Loved Art," a growing collection which has been donated to support community art and theatre programs for all ages.

But there are many forms of art, and the Chestnut Center has them all.

"Being an arts center, we don't just focus on art itself," Smazal noted. "We also focus on theatre arts and we focus on music and we're trying to get a variety of the arts here, as much as we possibly can offer. We're somewhat limited with our spacing."

In the spacing it does have – thanks to an education wing which the church added in 1960 – the Chestnut Center offers a lot, from oil-painting, watercolor, and rose mauling classes to Taekwondo and Zumba classes, and more.

"We're really trying to reach out to the community," says Smazal, who teaches toddler music classes.

"I was teaching music in public schools and I was retiring from Spencer, and I thought, 'I want to do something with music.' I did K-12 and I thought, 'I'll try toddlers,' and I just love it. It's been twelve years now," recalled Smazal. "And as you gradually get involved in the place, you understand what they're doing and you get excited about their mission, and I was capable of doing some of those things. It's been a real exciting thing for me because I see this place growing and expanding and people coming here and wanting to be a part of it, and I just want the community to know about us and know that we are vital and we are there for everybody."

Everybody, and just about anything.

"The arts are food for the

soul," said Smazal. "Our community has been real supportive of needs of the community, like a family that needs help or they raise money for so-and-so, and I think we forget that we need support for our own souls. And whether it's coming to a performance or whether it's taking an art class, some people send us real nice heartfelt notes about, 'Boy, this class meant a lot to me,' 'I didn't know I had this much talent,' or 'The teacher was so good about making me feel good, not knowing what I was doing, and I really came away with something really special.' People love taking our clay class and our stained glass classes."

The performance venue regularly features musical and comedy acts, plays by various groups – including the Marshfield Area Actors – and more.

The center will also host "Enchanted Forest," a series of summer theatre camps, June 24-27 and July 22-25, for students in grades 3 through 6.

A summer art camp, "Exploring the Wonders of Nature," is also planned for July 15-18, for students in grades 1 through 8.

"We get involved with Make Music Day," Smazal added. "We were one of the groups that organized that, and this is our fourth year coming up June 21, so we're having entertainment at Wenzel Plaza and Columbia Park."

On June 15, the Chestnut Center will host a Daddy/Daughter Date Night event. There will also be an open house July 27, during Main Street Marshfield's annual Hub City Days celebration. Other upcoming events include the classical chamber music of South Beach Up North on Saturday, Aug. 3. The Old Time Brass polka band will be featured during the Harvest Moon Family Dance, Saturday, Sept. 14. A Halloween Dance will follow on Friday, Oct. 25, complete with costume judging and DJ Ben Holbeck. And this November, the center will host "An Evening of Jazz," featuring musicians from area high school jazz bands.

"And then afterwards we're going to have a little reception and have



The Chestnut Center for the Arts is located within the former First Presbyterian Church, which marks its 100th anniversary in 2024. Submitted photo

a birthday cake," Smazal added.

That event will mark the 100th anniversary of the one-time First Presbyterian Church holding its first service in that building in December of 1924.

Jamaican Kitchens Catering is headquartered at Chestnut, as is Jenni Jane Photography. And there's space available for rent, like the music therapist who currently rents a room for her practice. A few spaces remain on the lower level.

"It's a quiet area of the building," Smazal says. "You're not getting too much interruption here."

The ballroom is also featured on the lower level of the building, which has featured fundraising events, live music and more.

"What we're looking at for the future – and we've priced this out with some estimates and some different things – is to get a lift to take people into the ballroom," said Smazal. "And then to get you from the street, we would have another lift or possibly a ramp and then a handicapped bathroom. That's what we're hoping to look at in the future, to make the building accessible to our people. The Aster building across the street, you know, we want them to come to our events. They want them to be here for things, and they



A favorite space among patrons, wedding parties and other visitors is the refurbished Fireside Room, highlighting some of the features of the original 1924 church building.

Mike Warren photo

can get upstairs currently, but not down."

"We're looking for support," Smazal told us. "We've been doing the Art Champions campaign. We would like to reach fifty-thousand to cover our costs. We have to keep this building running. We have lots of rooms that haven't been named yet, so we're hoping we can keep ourselves around for another twenty years. The thing that's holding us back is just the funding that we need to keep from year to year, because we want to be long-range planners. We're

starting an endowment fund and we're hoping that people think of us in their estate planning and think of giving us something to keep us secure so that we're not going year to year hoping, 'Are we going to survive?' We need to have the arts in Marshfield."

The Chestnut Center is

also available to rent for weddings, parties, meetings and more.

You can visit during normal business hours, Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by appointment. The center's website is www.chestnutarts.org.

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Level: Intermediate

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The Chestnut Center's main gallery features exhibits which are rotated in and out about every six weeks.

Mike Warren photo



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