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# Gathering brings light to Powers Bluff history, future

SIRENA MANKINS  
EDITOR

ARPIN – Powers Bluff County Park is a tale of two parks. On the north side you can find swathes of forest cut away, making room for tubing and ski hills. ATV trails cut through the landscape, and flags mark the paths where new bike trails will be.

On the south side, trees hundreds of

years old reach to the sky, some still bearing the marks of the Potawatomi, Ho Chunk, Ojibwe and Menominee people who called Skunk Hill, or Tah-qua-kik, home.

“This hill has been in use for over 3000 years,” said Fred Pigeon, an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi tribe. “It was a stopping point on the trade

See **POWERS** page 15



While the south side remains largely undisturbed, the north side of Powers Bluff County Park has been cleared for winter activities, including tobogganing and skiing. **Sirena Mankins/City Times**

**SECTIONALS**



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PUBLISHER’S LETTER

The Human Condition And Its Many Variations

Dear Reader,

Remember the song “Just Dropped In (to see what condition my condition was in)” by Kenny Rogers and the First Edition? In today’s world, rare indeed is the person who enjoys what we might call perfect health. It seems that nearly everyone is managing some condition, whether it’s asthma, high blood pressure, cholesterol issues, diabetes, heart disease or one of countless other ailments. The

human condition itself appears fraught with conditions, ranging from the mild to the severe.

We try our best—eating well, exercising, following doctors’ orders—but even with all our efforts, good health isn’t guaranteed. It can be elusive, slipping through our fingers no



matter how tightly we try to hold on. And so, we adapt. We manage. We roll with the flow, accepting that our bodies, like our lives, are imperfect.

Perhaps it’s this imperfection that makes the human experience all the more poignant. Life is never entirely smooth, nor is health, but we endure and continue on, adjusting as we go. In a way, the conditions we face are just part of the larger condition we all share: being human.

PATRICK J. WOOD  
Publisher

Author of “Reflections” a new book now available on Amazon.

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# ‘Better than any other after-school job we could imagine’

## American Tea band members recall No. 1 hit, 55 years later

**SIRENA MANKINS EDITOR**  
What do the owner of a technology company, a retired school administrator and an expert in economic development have in common?

If you said not much, you'd be wrong. But if you said they all were members of a rock band with a No. 1 song, you'd be right.

It's been 55 years since American Tea Company's "I Want You Now" topped the local charts, but for Mark T. Nelson, Jim Schuh and Ken Rogers, the memories feel like yesterday.

It all started in 1967. "Ken and I were actually in a band to begin with called Foreign Matters then we changed our name to the Shadow Casters," Schuh said. "That was about the time we got together with Mark and Gary (TeStrake) and Tim (Haley). ... It was a huge improvement (in our sound), especially with Gary and Mark being excellent vocalists."

The two got that experience, in part, through musical theater at Marshfield High School. That year, Nelson was cast as Oliver and TeStrake as Fagin in the school's production of "Oliver." But it was after a performance with the Madrigal Singers that Schuh and Rogers invited the pair to join them.

"We were in our tights and everything," Nelson recalled. "Gary said, 'I'm going over to band practice. Would you like to come over and join us? They're interested in finding a keyboard player.' I said, 'You bet!'"

Mark and Gary changed out of their tights then headed over to Schuh's house, where the band was set up in the basement.

Nelson took on the keyboards, while Rogers was on guitar; TeStrake, lead vocals; Schuh, drums; and Haley on bass.

### Family foundation

From the start, they attracted an audience.

"I had several nieces and nephews living in the neighborhood nearby, so it wouldn't be unusual to have lots of kids looking in the basement window listening to us practice," Schuh said. "I still hear that from those nieces and nephews today, how much fun they had and how cool it was for them to have an uncle who was in a band."

They weren't the only family members listening in. Schuh said his mother could often be found sitting on the basement steps, offering her opinion on what songs they should learn next. The boys took that advice to heart, eventually mastering more than 100 songs and playing across four states.

"Our agent would send us from northern Wisconsin one night to eastern Wisconsin the next night – just all over the state," Nelson said.

They put a lot of miles on their old station wagon, towing a trailer behind with their instruments, often getting home at 4 in the morning –long before the age of cellphones. They said their parents had to have a lot trust.



“We didn’t have the usual high school experience of going to dances. We were traveling to play for other people’s dances.”

—Mark T. Nelson

KEYBOARDIST, AMERICAN TEA

### Finding balance

While they took their jobs as musicians seriously, they said they applied that same dedication to their schoolwork. They didn't work on school nights, but being in a band did mean they missed out on some high school experiences.

"We didn't have the usual high school experience of going to dances. We were traveling to play for other people's dances," Nelson said. "We spent a lot of time studying, a lot of time learning new songs."

Schuh, who went to Columbus Catholic High School, said the school would let him out early if they had a gig far away.

They also made some other revisions.

"They changed their dress code and allowed boys to have long hair because we were in a professional band," he said.

Nelson said he also ran into issues at the public high school. When he was a junior, he said he was going to perform with the Madrigals, but the new choir teacher refused to let him because he had long hair. He and a friend, Lynn Schloesser, petitioned the school board to drop the

See **AMERICAN TEA** page 17

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16 7 Instant Karma ..... John Ono Lennon  
3 8 The Rapper ..... The Jaggerz  
7 9 Love Grows ..... Edison Lighthouse  
4 10 Kentucky Rain ..... Elvis Presley  
14 11 Come And Get It ..... Badfinger  
20 12 Spirit In The Sky ..... Norman Greenbaum  
23 13 ABC ..... The Jackson Five  
28 14 American Woman ..... The Guess Who  
24 15 Up The Ladder To The Roof ..... The Supremes  
9 16 Ma Belle Amie ..... The Tee Set  
25 17 Never Had A Dream Come True ..... Stevie Wonder  
10 18 Easy Come, Easy Go ..... Bobby Sherman  
12 19 Celebrate ..... Three Dog Night  
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OBITUARIES

CHESTER FRANKE

Chester Franke, age 91, of Marshfield, passed away on April 20, 2025. The Hansen-Schilling Funeral Home & Cremation Center assisted the family.



RUTH STROUD

Ruth Marion Stroud, age 97 of Cambria, WI, passed away peacefully with family members by her side at Randolph Health Service in Randolph, Wisconsin.

Ruth was born on June 6, 1927 in Blanchardville, WI to Benhart and Helen Severson. The family moved to Greenwood WI, where Ruth attended grade school and high school. After leaving Greenwood, she moved to Milwaukee for a period of time, then moved to

California for about 2 1/2 years and worked in a dress shop. She came back to Milwaukee and worked at the London Hat shop as a seamstress and clerk for 39 years. She married Keith Stroud in May of 1954 in Milwaukee. They later divorced in 1972.

She is survived by her longtime companion, Charles Horvat of Cambria; sisters Dorothy Miller of Marshfield and Shirley (Ron) Schardt of Shullsburg, WI; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Ben and Helen Severson; sisters, Rosella (Edwin) Dergance, Irene (Ed) Bomback, Darlene (Ed) Trunkel; brothers Robert Severson and Bernard (Virginia) Severson; brother in law Duane Miller; and Niece Donna Trunkel.

She was a second mom to many of the nieces and nephews, who traveled to Milwaukee for further education or to work. She loved her late poodle Garcon Diamont. She had many good times at the old farm house located outside of Pardeeville on the weekends. Ruth loved collecting antiques and displayed many of them in her homes in Milwaukee, West Allis and the farm. Ruth and Chuck finished building a new house on the same property and moved in the year of 2003. There they attended to their apple trees and gardens. Together they traveled to Alaska, Colorado, Las Vegas and Memphis. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. Enjoyed listening to music, dancing, playing cards and giggling with her sisters.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. at our Savior's Lutheran Church in Greenwood WI with Pastor Elizabeth Bier officiating. A visitation will be held from 9:30 A.M. until the time of service on Saturday. Arrangements were made through Grasse Funeral Home in Pardeeville with the assistance of her niece Joanne.

We would like to thank the staff at Randolph Health Service for the care they provided for Ruth.

Memorials may be given in honor of Ruth to a pet shelter or another charity of your choice. Always Loved. Never Forgotten. Forever Missed. Online condolences may be made at [www.grassefs.com](http://www.grassefs.com). Grasse Funeral Service in Pardeeville is serving the family

One injured in town of Seneca house fire

CITY TIMES STAFF

SENECA – A late-afternoon fire destroyed a home in the town of Seneca on Wednesday, April 24, sending one person to the hospital.

Vesper Fire Department officials said in a release an adult male was taken to Marshfield Medical Center for burn injuries. His condition is not known at this time, but multiple pets were killed in the fire.

When firefighters got to the home on Haferman Road, they found it fully engulfed in flames, which had also spread to multiple vehicles burning in the driveway. They fought the fire for about three hours.

A motorcycle in the garage started the fire, Fire Chief Dennis Dederich said in the release. The home, contents and multiple vehicles were a total loss.

People living in the home are being assisted by American Red Cross.

Vesper firefighters were assisted by Port Edwards, Nekoosa, Wisconsin Rapids, Rudolph, Arpin, and Pittsville fire departments. Additional assistance was provided by United Ambulance, Wood County Sheriff's Dept. Wood County Central RIT, WE Energies, Wis Rapids Water & Light Commission, and Wood County Dispatch.

Marshfield School Board short 1 member after resignation

CITY TIMES STAFF

MARSHFIELD – Marshfield School District's school board is looking for candidates after one of its members resigned.

Steven Kizer is stepping down after one year into his first term, after taking a new job out of state, school district officials said. He was first elected to a three-year term in April 2024.

The School Board now has 60 days to fill the position; if no one is chosen by then, Board President Mark Konrardy may appoint someone to the seven-member board.

The person selected to fill out Kizer's term will serve until the April 2026 election, where the Top 2 vote-getters will serve full three-year terms. The third vote-getter would take the last year of Kizer's vacancy then be up for reelection again in 2027.

To be eligible for appointment, the candidate must:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Have no disqualifying prior criminal convictions
- Be a resident of the school district for at least 28 consecutive days at the time of applying for the vacancy

Applications are available on the school district's website, [marshfieldschools.org](http://marshfieldschools.org).

Bakery owner serves more than a meal



Volunteers serve a free Easter dinner at Slice of Heaven Bakery in the town of Rome.

Submitted photo

SIRENA MANKINS  
EDITOR

ROME – Ordinary people can do extraordinary things with simple acts.

For the owner of Slice of Heaven Bakery in the town of Rome, it comes naturally. Rebecca LaCount says she grew up in a very large

family of 16 children. When she was 12, LaCount says her sister, Sue, died. From that tragedy, she learned how simple act of kindness could have a big impact.

"The local bakery in town donated day old bread and donuts after her funeral," LaCount said in an email. "This generosity went on for years. Sue died,

then my grandma who lived with us died, then my other grandma, then another sister, then my brother, then another brother ...

"Month after month, year after year, this bakery faithfully donated to our family. And on birthdays,

See **BAKERY**  
page 6

Buyers' Guide

HUB-CITY

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| HISTORY |

Showstopper: The nickelodeon

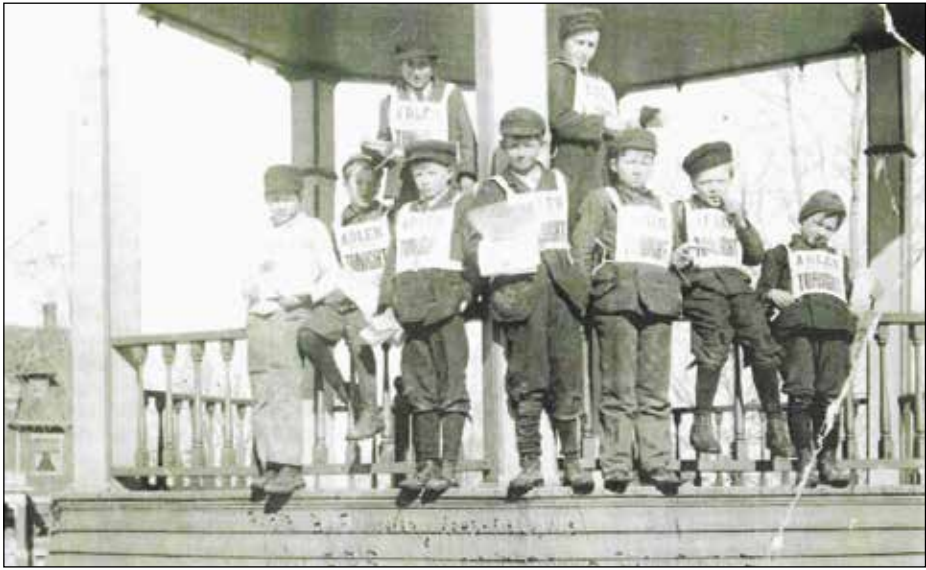
BY KRIS LEONHARDT  
SENIOR EDITOR

Continued from previous week

Phillip's son, J.P., was forced to quit his elementary education at the Catholic school and help out in the hall, as well as the family farm. By the age of 11, he was organizing a team of "bill boys" who promoted the numerous shows, after-school and on weekends.

Though Philip Adler was looking to fill a niche with his businesses, he was often striving just to stay ahead. When Adler learned of a group of investors planning to build another opera house in the city, he added a stage and changed the venue's name to the "Adler Opera House."

The added stage increased the Opera House's draw. Coupled with Adler's other business interests, the responsibilities of the House became too much. Adler looked to outside management to ease his workload.



The Adler bill boys, led by J.P. Adler at center, in the late 1890s.  
North Wood County Historical Society/J.P. Adler family collection

While Philip concentrated on his other concerns, the young J.P. acted as stage manager, while heading up the family's bill posting business, Marshfield Poster Advertising.

During the following years, under hired management, many changes occurred within the film industry. Distributors

formed exchanges who now rented out moving films to dedicated movie houses. Traveling projectionists set up store fronts with little effort and began to show films.

With the supply of films ever increasing, film exchanges began charging more for new films. This set a standard for years to come

and would bring on the advent of the nickelodeon five-cent movie.

"All across the country the little store shows known as nickelodeons were doing a gold-rush business in the midst of the economic recession of 1907," Eileen Bowser wrote in The Transformation of Cinema 1907-1915.

"In downtown entertainment districts, the nickel shows congregated in the same blocks with the herd instincts of overdue city buses. The shows ran continuously from morning to evening.

"By 1908 or 1909, only the very smallest towns lacked a moving-picture theater of

some sort."

Small picture houses began popping up around the city of Marshfield, which did little to secure the steady operation of the Adler Opera House. After four years of declining management, Philip leased the hall to his now 21-year-old son, J.P.

The activities within the film industry during prior years placed J.P. in a challenging position as he entered the business. With fierce competition from the nearby Unique Theater, J.P. knew he would have to be innovative to succeed.

Little did he know, it was just the beginning.

To be continued



Housing coalition plans fundraiser

developmental disabilities, as well as aging adults. Studies show that the retirement-age adults are one of the fastest growing new homeless groups in America today, in part because of the shortage of affordable housing.

ENC officials say they're dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding of neurodiversity and autism while promoting healthy aging. People on the autism spectrum make up between 2 and 3% of the population.

The working concept is 40 units of two-bedroom cottage-type apartments in duplexes or triplexes, each with a garage. The walkable community would include a

See FUNDRAISER page 7

FOR THE CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD – An area nonprofit group focused on creating affordable housing is planning its annual fundraiser for May 3.

Everyone Needs a Community Inc., or ENC, is partnering with Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corp. to build a new neighborhood housing model in Marshfield, with a focus on affordable rentals.

The lack of affordable housing can be especially hard on people with

Help us investigate end-of-life care solutions in Wisconsin

Death: It's an unavoidable part of life we often avoid talking about. So folks who are seriously ill may not know how to navigate their final years or months.

Many have turned to hospice care for emotional, physical and spiritual support for themselves and loved ones.

But the national landscape of hospice care is changing, including in Wisconsin. Once run primarily by mission-driven nonprofits, the industry is increasingly privatizing, with private equity playing a growing role.

Wisconsin Watch is partnering with the Multimedia Channels publications Green Bay Press Times, Northwoods Star Journal, Waushara Argus, Merrill Foto News, Marshfield Hub City Times and Wisconsin Rapids City Times to better understand how our communities access hospice and other end-of-life services.

We want to hear your questions and perspectives— whether your experiences



Stock photo.

have been positive, negative or somewhere in-between. Or maybe you're wondering how to navigate a new experience.

If you'd like to help shape our reporting, please fill out this brief form, and a reporter will follow up. Or feel free to contact Sirena Mankins directly at smankins@mmlocal.com. We will not publish any details you share without your permission.

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# MARSHFIELD AREA PET SHELTER PET OF THE WEEK



Hi, I'm Rue and I'm about 1 year old! I am a very sweet girl and I can't wait to grace your home with my presence! I love an open lap and getting lots of pets, so get your hands warmed up! My only quirk is that I don't like other cats or dogs. But if you're looking for a solo act to keep you entertained, then I'm definitely the girl for you. Apply for a visit!

My adoption fee is \$100.

Marshfield Area Pet Shelter does not have open hours for public viewing of adoptable animals, rather are by appointment only. If interested in adopting, please complete the adoption application. Once your application is approved, an appointment will be scheduled to visit with your desired pet.

Online application can be found at: [www.marshfieldpetshelter.org/adoption-application](http://www.marshfieldpetshelter.org/adoption-application)

**Marshfield Area Pet Shelter can be reached by call or text at 715-486-5140.**

**All animals are vet examined, spayed/neutered, blood tested and microchipped. If old enough, they receive routine vaccinations.**

## Raabe celebrates 100th birthday

**FOR THE CITY TIMES**

Tom Raabe, long-time resident of Wisconsin Rapids, celebrated his 100th birthday on April 17. Tom was born on Baker Street at the home of his grandparents, the late Harry and Margaret Blackburn. His parents are the late Henry and Ruth Raabe.

Tom grew up in Stevens Point, attending Saint Stevens Grade School and the newly completed P.J. Jacobs High School. He enjoyed playing on the football and basketball teams, and cornet in the band. He graduated in 1943.

Shortly thereafter, Tom was drafted into the U.S. Army, serving in the 29th Division during WW II, where he was on the front lines in the invasion of Germany. He attained the rank of PFC.



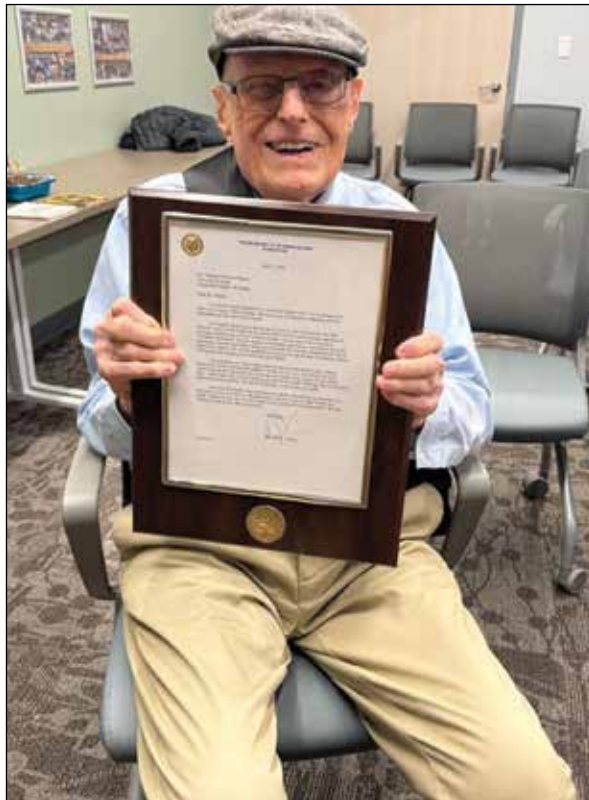
Tom Raabe stands in front of his office door at the close of his professional career in 2007 at the age of 82.



Tom Raabe always wears a paperboy hat, an ode to his youth as a member of the St. Stevens Paperboys of 1939. St. Stevens Grade School is in Stevens Point.

After the war, Tom attended Northern Illinois School of Optometry in Chicago, graduating in 1948. He married Terry Drapes in 1954, and together they raised five children. Their family includes nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Terry passed away in 2006.

Tom practiced optometry in Wisconsin Rapids for 56 years, retiring in 2007. His many former patients will recall his office on the second floor in the Wood



Tom Raabe at his 100th birthday celebration held at the VA clinic in Wisconsin Rapids. The plaque contains a letter from the Secretary of the Veterans Administration.

### Submitted photos

Block Building, located on the corner of 2nd Street and East Grand Avenue. Tom is a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish and a long-time member of the Knights of Columbus.

Back in March, Tom began practicing for the coming golf season. His past achievements include a hole-in-one at the age of 66, a par at the age of 99 and an eagle in a bestball tournament that same year. He continues to reside at his home since 1967.



## BAKERY

there just so happened to be a cake in there for us.”

She vowed to give back, with her family setting the example. They volunteered at their church for dinners and festivals, where there also was a Day of Compassion. That day, LaCount said they fed about 5,000 people and also offered free haircuts and entertainment.

With her bakery, she said it's the perfect place to give back.

“Holidays can be so lonely,” she said. “I’m so honored that I can provide a meal for those who may not afford it, or provide a place for the lonely to congregate. And even if people aren’t lonely or if they can buy their own dinner, maybe they just don’t wanna cook.”

This year for Easter, they served more than 100 people and collected donations for the Hannah Center in Wisconsin Rapids. They also offered free meals on Thanksgiving and



People enjoy a free Easter dinner at Slice of Heaven Bakery in the town of Rome. **Submitted photo**

Submitted photo



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Christmas.

"My goal every day at the bakery is to provide a place where people feel safe, loved and welcomed," LaCount said. "I'm so happy we can provide that.

"People have been generous with their time, money and love throughout my life. I'm just thrilled that it's my turn."

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# Children’s House gets \$100K grant

**FOR THE CITY TIMES**

WOOD COUNTY – An area child care center will be able to expand after earning a grant through the American Rescue Plan Act.

Childcaring Inc. awarded the \$100,000 Capacity Building Grant to Children’s House of Montessori, a licensed group child care center in Marshfield. The funding is aimed at addressing the ongoing need for increased child care access in Wood County and central Wisconsin.

It will support Children’s House in expanding its capacity by creating new child care slots, enhancing facility infrastructure and supporting the needs of the community, Childcaring said in a release. The funding is part of a broader initiative to invest in sustainable, long-term solutions to the region’s child care shortage. They also said it’s part of Childcaring’s ongoing commitment to strengthening early childhood systems and supporting working families across the region.

“This grant is a game-changer for our center and the families we serve,” said Megan DeLeske, director of Children’s House of Montessori. “We’ll be able to welcome more children into a safe, nurturing environment while also providing better support for our educators. This investment helps ensure that parents in our

community can go to work knowing their children are receiving high-quality care.”

Kelly Borchardt, director of Childcaring, emphasized the importance of community collaboration and innovation in addressing the region’s child care challenges.

“This funding is not just about expanding a building – it’s about strengthening the foundation of our workforce and supporting the well-being of families,” Borchardt said. “We’re thrilled to see this grant

See **GRANT**  
page 17

CLARK COUNTY  
HUMANE SOCIETY  
PET OF THE WEEK

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**Meet Eggie!** Eggie came to CCHS with her 7 siblings from a local farm the week before Easter. That’s why she has an Easter-themed name! This adorable Heeler mix is about 9 weeks old (estimated DOB 2/24/25) and weighs 9.5 pounds currently. Eggie is a happy girl with a sweet personality. She is always excited to see people and can’t wait to start sharing good times. She is very pretty with a short-haired coat that is black, white and merle. She also has bright brown eyes and always has a smile on her face! She’s certainly going to bring lots of love and happiness to her new family! With any rescue, training and socialization are incredibly important to the success of the pup. Apply for Eggie today! Clark County Humane Society can be reached during open hours of 12-3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday. Phone number: 715-743-4550. Email: [petshester@email.com](mailto:petshester@email.com) Mailing Address: CCHS, P.O. Box 127, Neillsville, WI 54456 Located at W3926 State Hwy 73, Neillsville, WI 54456 To fill out an application for Eggie head to Clark County Humane Society’s website or the application can be found at [bit.ly/CCHSadopt](https://bit.ly/CCHSadopt).

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**FUNDRAISER**  
*from page 5*

community center focused on healthy aging and understanding autism.

The fundraiser will be May 3 at the Eagles Club, 1104 S. Oak Ave., Marshfield. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., with music featuring DJ Bob Halle from 5 to 9:30 p.m. There will be a photo booth, raffle baskets, silent auction and games. For more information, go to ENC’s website, <https://e-n-a-c.org>

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A weekly feature highlighting school news from around the area!

# AUBURNDALE AREA SCHOOLS

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Year of busy learning at Auburndale Elementary

Auburndale Elementary continues to provide an amazing learning environment where students learn reading, writing and arithmetic, and how to be a great friend to all. It has been a busy year of learning to read, reading to learn, math equations, writing and caring for one another. We have some fun activities to wrap up the successful school year and celebrate. At the end of May we will have our annual Field Day where students and staff, along with high school helpers, get to play some fun games, laugh and get wet. We also get to have a sweet treat and spend some time together amongst friends and classmates before the summer starts. We, Auburndale Eagles, continue to soar at AES.



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A weekly feature highlighting school news from around the area!

# PITTSVILLE AREA SCHOOLS

# SCHOOL NEWS





### Prom court announced

Pittsville High School's Junior class is proud to present Prom 2025: Fishin' in the Dark. It will be held on May 3 from 8-11:30 p.m. in the High School Gym. Autumn McDaniel and Wyatt Coates will be the announcers for the evening. The Grand March will start at 8:30 p.m., and spectators are welcome, starting at 8 p.m., for \$3 per person. Children 10 and younger get in free. Spectators are asked to leave within 15 minutes of the end of the Grand March to allow the students to enjoy their night. The junior class would also like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Gina Zickert for all her hard work organizing prom over the past 12 years, and to wish her well as she steps down from the role. Future classes will miss her expertise.

Now, the moment you've all been waiting for! This year's prom court includes the following students (left to right in the photo): Ellie Rayburn (daughter of Kim and Dan Rayburn) escorted by Peyton Leigh (son of Robin Geiger and Cory Leigh); Kennedy Parkison (daughter of Missy Leigh and Ryan Parkison) escorted by Dawson Luther (son of Rhonda and Dane Luther); Kalli Montag (daughter of Katie and Jake Montag) escorted by Mason Hetzel (son of Karrie and Justin Hetzel); Lana Vollert (daughter of Leslie and Dan Vollert) escorted by Daryn Luther (son of Danielle and Dan Luther); Phoebe Vanatta (daughter of Wendy and John Vanatta) escorted by Titus Rees (son of Becky and TJ Rees).

### Pittsville teacher wins national grant for summer fellowship

HOUSTON, TX – Fund for Teachers, one of the nation's leading organizations supporting preK-12 educators, has announced its 2025 grant recipients – including Andrea Galván from Pittsville Elementary School.

Galván submitted a proposal to enroll in Spain's University of Valladolid for an immersive language, academic and cultural experience to deepen expertise and understanding in teaching regional linguistic variations and cultural practices within the Spanish-speaking world, particularly those specific to Spain. After a rigorous review process, her proposal was selected, and she was awarded \$5,000 to make it happen.

Galván is one of 357 PK-12 teachers from across the United States awarded a total of \$1.625 million to pursue self-designed learning expeditions across 79 countries in six continents this summer.

This group of educators also comprise the Fund for Teachers' 25th cohort of FFT Fellows. Since 2001, Fund for Teachers has invested \$39 million in 10,225 teachers from across the United States.

Galván said she is very thankful for this opportunity and very excited to travel to Spain this summer for this immersive language and cultural experience.

Fund for Teachers recognizes that teachers are the key learners in their classrooms. As such, FFT grants give educators the freedom to determine what and where they need to learn to ultimately enhance students' academic and emotional growth.

"Teachers play the pivotal role in shaping students' academic success and, in many cases, their social and emotional well-being in an increasingly unpredictable world," said Karen Eckhoff, executive director. "Fund for Teachers believes that their unwavering commitment to America's students deserves our full support, empowering educators to pursue the growth opportunities they deem most impactful for their students' futures."

For more information about Fund for Teachers' grant opportunities and their impact on educators, students, and school communities, visit [fundforteachers.org](https://fundforteachers.org) or connect on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

### Grant adds books to library

The Pittsville High School was selected as a recipient of the 2025 Global Libraries Grant. The high school library will receive 26 books that highlight human rights and migration, which will be available for students to check out and explore. This exciting addition to the library will help diversify and internationalize book choices for our readers. Thank you to the UW Madison Institute for Regional and International Studies National Resource Center for choosing Pittsville High School as a recipient for this grant.

### After-school program in 2nd year

The Pittsville After School Program is now proudly in its second year of serving students and families in the Pittsville community. Held at Pittsville Elementary School, the program continues to grow in both numbers and impact, welcoming between 50 to 60 students each night.

Open to students from 4-year-old kindergarten through 8th grade, the program offers a safe, supportive and enriching environment after the school day ends. Students receive nutritious snacks, homework assistance, and a variety of engaging educational activities that promote learning and personal growth.

This successful initiative wouldn't be possible without the support of our incredible team. Dedicated school staff, enthusiastic high school student volunteers, generous community members, and valued business partners all play a vital role in making the program such a positive experience for our kids.

One of our standout partners is Pet Supplies Plus of Marshfield. Twice a month, Kim and her team visit the program to provide hands-on learning opportunities focused on the animals from their store. These sessions give students a chance to meet and learn about unique animals (Guinea Pigs, Ferrets, Uromastix, Fire Skink, Chinese Cave Gecko, Racing Hamsters, just to name a few) and their care needs. Kim's passion and ability to connect with the students make each visit a highlight — students are always excited to learn, laugh, and explore new things during these educational adventures.

If you're interested in learning more about the Pittsville After School Program or how you can support it, please contact Mr. Ron Klein at [kleinron@pittsville.k12.wi.us](mailto:kleinron@pittsville.k12.wi.us) or reach out directly to the school.

Together, we're building a stronger community and a brighter future for our students — one afternoon at a time.

### Memorial gazebo honors former student

Students from the Building and Construction class at Pittsville High School are putting their skills to meaningful use by constructing a memorial gazebo in honor of a beloved former student, Lucy Vanatta, who passed away in the Spring of 2024.

The project, which began earlier this school year, is more than just a hands-on learning experience—it's a heartfelt tribute that has brought the entire school community together. Located in a quiet corner of the school's campus, the gazebo will serve as a peaceful learning space for reflection and connection.

The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of the semester, with the dedication ceremony planned shortly thereafter. As the structure takes shape, it stands not just as a symbol of remembrance, but as a testament to the power of community, learning and legacy.



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2025

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Categories and businesses are selected by an independent Best of Marshfield committee.

BEST OF

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AREA

2025



**Nominated in the BEST OF MARSHFIELD 2025....**

- BEST BURGER •
- BEST FISH FRY •
- BEST LIVE MUSIC •

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BEST OF MARSHFIELD AREA

TOP 3 WINNERS FROM 2024

Food Category:

Best Burger

1. Nutz Deep li

2. Lumberyard Bar & Grill

3. Pour Choices

Best Cocktail Lounge

1. Libby Mcneill's Food & Drink

2. The Hideout Bar & Lounge

3. Crabby's Lounge

Best Coffee Shop

1. Coffee Cabin

2. The Daily Grind

3. Uptown Coffee Company

Best Hometown Café

1. Melody Gardens

2. The Kitchen Table

3. Central Café

Best Fish Fry

1. Nutz Deep li

2. Pour Choices

3. Buck-A-Neer Supper Club

Best Hotel Restaurant

1. Lumberyard Bar & Grill

2. Libby Mcneill's Food & Drink

3. The Rivers

Best International Food

1. Royal Tokyo

2. J-Rolls

3. Nagoya Japanese Restaurant

Best Mexican Restaurant

1. El Mezcal

2. Casa Amigos li

3. Taqueria El Sol

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BEST OF MARSHFIELD AREA



Best Specialty Beer On Tap

- 1. Hop & Grape
- 2. Nutz Deep li
- 3. Blue Heron Brewpub

Best Steak

- 1. Buck-A-Neer Supper Club
- 2. Libby Mcneill's Food & Drink
- 3. The Rivers

Best Specialty Pizza

- 1. Scotty's Pizza & Chicken
- 2. Marshfield Country Club
- 3. Blue Heron Brewpub

Best Sweet Treats

- 1. Weber's Farm Store
- 2. 2 ½ Cups Cupcakery & Bakeshop
- 3. Hub City Ice Cream Company



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& GAMES

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category...

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BEST BURGER & BEST FISH FRY

NOMINATED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES FOR 2025:

\*BEST BURGER

\*BEST FISH FRY

\*BEST SPECIALTY DRINKS

\*BEST LIVE MUSIC

\*WRITE-IN FOR BEST BARTENDER OR SERVER

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BEST OF HOTEL RESTAURANT

BEST OF SPECIALTY PIZZA

BEST OF STEAK

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BEST OF MARSHFIELD AREA

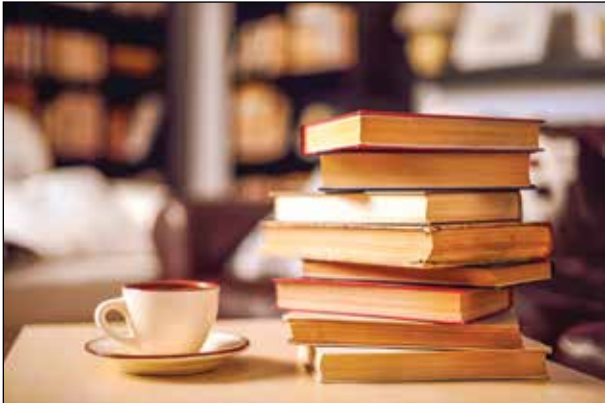
Best Bartender Or Server

- 1. Ariel Gorst – Buck-A –Neer Supper Club
- 2. Kati Schutz – Nutz Deep II
- 3. Andy Meddaugh – Pour Choices

Shopping Category:

Best Car Dealership

- 1. V & H Automotive
- 2. Gross Buick Of Marshfield
- 3. Associated Sales & Leasing



Best Hobby Shopping

- 1. Thimbleberry Books
- 2. Good Day Sunshine Records
- 3. Dave's Guitar Shop

Best Downtown Shopping

- 1. Kailey's Kandles
- 2. 2 ½ Cups Cupcakery & Bakeshop
- 3. Victory Apparel



Best Floral & Plants

- 1. Mill Creek Gardens
- 2. Hefko Floral Company
- 3. Schalow's Nursery

Outdoors Category:

Best Outdoor Recreation Area

- 1. North Wood County Park
- 2. George W. Mead Wildlife Area
- 3. Powers Bluff County Park

Best Trails For Walking/Biking

- 1. Hamus Nature Preserve Trail
- 2. Wildwood Connector Trail
- 3. Weber Park Trail

Entertainment Category:

Best Festival

- 1. Maple Fall Fest
- 2. Central Wisconsin State Fair
- 3. Hub City Days

Best Historic Attractions

- 1. World's Largest Round Barn
- 2. Upham Mansion
- 3. Lest We Forget Military

Best Hotel/Motel

- 1. Hotel Marshfield
- 2. Woodfield Inn & Suites
- 3. Hampton Inn & Suites

Best Interactive Visitor Experience

- 1. Escape Room Marshfield
- 2. The Grey Dog Axe Throwing
- 3. Board & Brush Creative Studio

Best Live Music

- 1. Wenzel Family Plaza
- 2. American Legion
- 3. Nutz Deep II

Best Visitor Attraction

- 1. Rotary Winter Wonderland
- 2. Wildwood Park & Zoo
- 3. Jurustic Park



BEST OF  
MARSHFIELD  
★ ★ ★ AREA  
2025

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CAR DEALERSHIP  
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BEST OF MARSHFIELD AREA



Tourism Awards

OFFICIAL BALLOT | 2025

Best of Marshfield voting results will be announced in the June 18th Marshfield Hub City Times Awards Edition.

BEST OF

MARSHFIELD

AREA

2025 BALLOT

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MARSHFIELD HUB CITY Times

FOOD/DRINK

- BURGER:**
- ☐ 501 Sports Bar
- ☐ Blue Heron Brewpub
- ☐ Buck-A-Neer Supper Club
- ☐ Lumberyard Bar & Grill
- ☐ Nutz Deep II
- ☐ Pour Choices
- ☐ T-Bones Bar & Grill
- ☐ The Rivers
- ☐
- COFFEE SHOP:**
- ☐ Cattails
- ☐ Coffee Cabin
- ☐ The Daily Grind
- ☐ Uptown Coffee Company
- ☐
- CULTURAL CUSINE:**
- ☐ Al Madinah
- ☐ GT Hawaiian BBQ / China Chef
- ☐ J-Rolls
- ☐ Mojo's Pasta House & Cajun Cookshop
- ☐ Nagoya Japanese Restaurant
- ☐ Royal Tokyo
- ☐ World Buffet
- ☐

- FISH FRY:**
- ☐ Belvedere Supper Club
- ☐ Buck-A-Neer Supper Club
- ☐ Lumberyard Bar & Grill
- ☐ Marshfield County Club
- ☐ Nutz Deep II
- ☐ Pour Choices
- ☐ Riveredge Golf Course
- ☐
- HOMETOWN CAFÉ:**
- ☐ Central Café
- ☐ Melody Gardens
- ☐ Sunrise Restaurant & Bar
- ☐ The Kitchen Table
- ☐
- HOTEL RESTAURANT:**
- ☐ Libby McNeill's Food & Drink
- ☐ Lumberyard Bar & Grill
- ☐ The Rivers
- ☐
- MEXICAN RESTAURANT**
- ☐ Casa Amigos II
- ☐ El Mezcal
- ☐ Sanchez Bar & Grill
- ☐ Taqueria El Sol
- ☐

- SPECIALTY DRINKS:**
- ☐ Blue Heron Brewpub
- ☐ Hop & Grape
- ☐ Lumberyard Bar & Grill
- ☐ Nutz Deep II
- ☐ The Hideout Bar & Lounge
- ☐
- SPECIALTY PIZZA:**
- ☐ 501 Sports Bar
- ☐ Blue Heron Brewpub
- ☐ Libby McNeill's Food & Drink
- ☐ Marshfield Country Club
- ☐ Scotty's Pizza & Chicken
- ☐
- STEAK:**
- ☐ Belvedeer Supper Club
- ☐ Buck-A-Neer Supper Club
- ☐ Libby McNeill's Food & Drink
- ☐ The Rivers
- ☐
- SWEET TREATS:**
- ☐ 2 ½ Cups Cupcakery & Bakeshop
- ☐ Hub City Ice Cream Company
- ☐ Melody Gardens
- ☐ Weber's Farm Store
- ☐

ENTERTAINMENT

- FESTIVAL:**
- ☐ Central Wisconsin State Fair
- ☐ Dairyfest
- ☐ Hub City Days
- ☐ Maple Fall Fest
- ☐
- HISTORIC ATTRACTION:**
- ☐ Marshfield Heritage Museum
- ☐ Upham Mansion
- ☐ World's Largest Round Barn
- ☐
- HOTEL/MOTEL:**
- ☐ AmericInn by Wyndam
- ☐ Hampton Inn & Suites
- ☐ Holiday Inn & Conference Center
- ☐ Hotel Marshfield
- ☐ Woodfield Inn & Suites
- ☐
- INTERACTIVE VISITOR EXPERIENCE:**
- ☐ Board & Brush Creative Studio
- ☐ The Clubhaus
- ☐ Discovery Education Station
- ☐ Escape Room Marshfield
- ☐ The Grey Dog Axe Throwing
- ☐
- LIVE MUSIC:**
- ☐ American Legion
- ☐ Blue Heron Brewpub
- ☐ Chestnut Center for the Arts
- ☐ GoodFella's Pub
- ☐ Hop & Grape
- ☐ Libby McNeill's Food and Drink
- ☐ Nutz Deep II
- ☐ Pour Choices
- ☐ Wenzel Family Plaza
- ☐
- VISITOR ATTRACTION:**
- ☐ Jurustic Park
- ☐ Rotary Winter Wonderland
- ☐ Vandehey Waters
- ☐ Wenzel Family Plaza
- ☐ Wildwood Park & Zoo
- ☐

**BEST BARTENDER OR SERVER:** *(Write-in only)*

Name

Business

SHOPPING

- CAR DEALERSHIP:**
- ☐ Associated Sales & Leasing
- ☐ Gross Buick of Marshfield
- ☐ V & H Automotive
- ☐ Wheelers Chevrolet GMC
- ☐
- DOWNTOWN SHOPPING:**
- ☐ 2 ½ Cups Cupcakery & Bakeshop
- ☐ Circle the Date
- ☐ Jeweler's Palette
- ☐ Kailey's Kandles
- ☐ Rae Baxter's Fashions
- ☐ Rocky Road Boutique
- ☐ The Day Spa Boutique & Merle Norman Cosmetics
- ☐ Victory Apparel
- ☐

- FLORAL & PLANTS:**
- ☐ Hefko Floral Company
- ☐ Illusions Floral & Gifts
- ☐ Mill Creek Gardens
- ☐ Schalow's Nursery
- ☐
- HOBBY SHOPPING:**
- ☐ Dave's Guitars
- ☐ Dragon's Roost
- ☐ Good Day Sunshine Records
- ☐ Gypsie Hollow
- ☐ Oddities, Manga, & Games
- ☐ Thimbleberry Books
- ☐
- HOME FURNISHINGS:**
- ☐ Back Porch
- ☐ Mall Furniture
- ☐ Mittens Home Appliance
- ☐ Off the Wall Custom Framing & Art
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- ☐ Hamus Nature Preserve Trail
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## POWERS

from page 1

route from Central America up to Escanaba, Michigan, where the copper mine was. So you find a lot of copper down in Central America that came from here.”

That history and the fight to preserve it will be celebrated at the first-ever Spring Gathering, organized by Friends of Powers Bluff and spearheaded by Fred and his wife, Germaine.

“When I was 7 years old, my grandfather, Jim White

### IF YOU GO

**What:** Spring Gathering & Homecoming  
**When:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. May 3  
**Where:** Powers Bluff County Park, 6990 Bluff Drive, Arpin  
**Parking:** 7073 County Road N; shuttle bus available  
**Organizers say to bring a chair**

#### Schedule

- 10 a.m., opening ceremony, Dominic Ortiz, Prairie Band Potawatomi
- 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., spring wildflower walk, Robert Freckmann
- 11 a.m., Skunk Hill history, Paul Demain, La Courte Oreilles Reservation
- 1 p.m., medicinal plants, Misty Cook, Stockbridge Munsee Nation
- 2 p.m. raised beadwork Master Artist, Karen Ann Hoffman, Oneida Nation

#### Ongoing

- Silent auction (final call at 2:15 p.m.)
  - Children’s crafts and gift giveaway
  - Jackie Redwoman, Little River Band of the Ottawa Nation
  - Fred Pidgeon, Prairie Band Potawatomi, and his wife, Germaine, will share their 24 years of collected photos and information on the history of Skunk Hill.
  - Friends of Powers Bluff, welcome and information tent
  - Bike corral and fair,
- Note: All events will be at the top of the hill except the bike corral, which will be at 7073 County Road N*



here where you can dig six feet and put a burial in, but that was not the custom,” Germaine added. “The natives were very much different about wanting to keep their loved ones close.”

The trees also served as a type of street sign. Indians would tie down branches of “talking trees” in certain ways to create elbows that would point in a certain direction.

“It’s like a scavenger hunt ... because it’ll take you to the next tree, which takes you to the next tree,” Fred said. “The distance from the trunk to the elbow lets you know where to walk around the tree and look.”

They could guide someone to a hidden water source or a cache of food or other supplies.

When the Pigeons heard about the county’s plans for the park, they spoke out at County Board meetings. Archaeologists were brought in by the county, while the tribes brought in cadaver dogs. The two sides were at an impasse.

“They kept telling us if we could prove that there was a burial” they would change their plans, Germaine said. “They wanted name of the person, birth date, death date and exactly where they were. Then they would put a five foot circle around that site and preserve it.”

The burial grounds are just part of the Native American history that can be found at the park. There are also dance rings and mosaics, including leaping fish, deer, bear and an eagle.

“Each of those formations had a spot where they could put a sacrifice dish, where they could honor their loved ones,” Germaine said. “We were told by an elder from way northern Wisconsin that before there were tribes, there were clans. And what we have there is a medicine group with clan symbols. They would get together and decide, do we go to war? Don’t we go to war?”

Pigeon, brought me to Skunk Hill,” Fred said. “It was a special trip, just he and I. When he was sure he had my attention, he spoke. ‘This place has been sacred to our Anishnabik since time before beginning. Someday you will be the one to fight to save it.’”

That fight began in 1999, when Wood County officials at the time had plans to expand the county park as a way to bring in more money. The tubing and ski hills were already there, but they wanted to add to them. Their solution: Cut down the trees on the other side.

But the tribes consider the hill a sacred place, where they would gather to hold ceremonies, collect medicinal plants, make maple sugar and bury their loved ones, according to Tara Mitchell, the tribal historic preservation officer for the Prairie Band Potawatomi.

The shallow graves often were covered by logs and marked by stones. Planted near the head was a tree sapling. “The thought was that the sapling got its nutrients from grandpa, and therefore, as long as that tree lived, you could come and talk to grandpa,” Fred said. “He was in that tree.”

Because of the rocky nature of the hill, those burial sites differed from White people’s.

“Their challenge was that, yes, there’s not any place up

See POWERS page 17

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This estate sale offers the opportunity for high value shopping at great prices. This home located near The Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids is full of an interesting variety of high quality items. A small sampling of those items includes: **Jewelry:** 1/2 carat Diamond Necklace, other Fine jewelry including gold/diamonds/silver, dozens of vintage pins, Disney items, watches. **Furniture:** 50" 4K UHD TV, pair of Italian marble-topped Weiman side tables, marble top vintage dresser, large elegant entertainment center, vintage pantry cabinet, crib frame, Drexel buffet, gun case, multiple china cabinets, glass bar cart, metal serving cart, vintage mahogany chair & drum table, blanket chests, coat trees, lamps, wicker chest, tile-top living room table set, various upholstered side chairs, Amana upright freezer, 2 fridge/freezer combos. **Décor:** extra large wall mirrors, faux flowers/arrangements, framed art, many coastal themed items, holiday. **Collectibles:** vintage currency and coins including US, confederate and foreign, various GB Packer items, stamps, Bossons Chalkware heads, Bart Starr autographed football, sports cards & figures, Fenton glass, white hobnail pieces, 1950's Wisc Rapids Taxi items, vintage photos and paper ephemera. **Kitchen:** extensive array of stemware and other glassware, vintage flatware sets, 51 pc Wallace Sterling Silver Flatware/Servers Set in case, Le Crueset Dutch Oven/Grill Pan NIB, Tupperware, Osterizer Blender, Vitamix 5200 Blender, canning jars-various sizes, Oxo canisters, cake stands, Cutco, Wilton, Instant Pot Duo Plus, barware, other small appliances. **Household:** Ladies footwear sizes 7-8, Ladies clothing dressy and casual (sizes XS-L including many petite), purses, Toby Weston tapestry handbags, vintage Mister Ernest beaded handbag, many vintage hats, vintage infant/toddler clothing, throw pillows, antique & vintage hand-stitched and tied quilts, Dresden Plate hand-quilted king size quilt, Noritake China, American Limoges China w/22k gold trim, steamer, Step2Bed mobility stool, Jazzy>Select Elite ES motorized scooter, SpanAmerica therapeutic mattress. **Garage/Outdoor:** Ryobi cordless blower, gardening tools, flower pots, hand tools, hardware, yard tools, metal lawn bench & chairs, pet crates, Radio Flyer wagon, Packer stadium seats, golf club set, and so much more. **Special Notes:** Numbers will be handed out starting 30 minutes prior to the sale on Saturday only. Numbers determine order of entry when sale opens. All items are sold AS IS with no guarantees. Card payments of \$100 and up incur 3% processing fee. Sales tax will be applied to all purchases per Wisconsin State Statute. **For updates and photos follow our Facebook and Instagram pages - JR's Estate Services.**

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453012



## AMERICAN TEA

from page 3

hair requirement in the school district’s dress code.

“They came out of their meeting and said, ‘We’re dropping the whole dress code,’” Nelson recalled. “Lynn and I were big heroes because ... girls could wear jeans which was forbidden before.”

### Cutting vinyl

In 1969, American Tea competed in a series of battle of the bands competitions, taking first in Medford and second in Eau Claire. But they were disqualified from state because they played too many paid gigs and a couple band members were in the musicians union. If they had won there, they would have gotten a chance to cut a record at a recording studio.

Instead, they decided to write songs and make a record of their own. While they were performing at The Barn in Illinois, another musician suggested they check out Golden Voice Recording Co.

They brought three songs with them – one they were sure would impress the studio. But the owner instead pushed the band to record “I Want You Now.”

That decision put them on the airwaves.

“When we were traveling to gigs, we would stop at radio stations and give them a record, and sometimes they would interview us live on the radio,” Schuh said.

Back then, radio stations had disc jockeys on site, spinning actual records instead of having syndicated playlists set by a central studio. The band would tell fans they could buy a copy of their record – and they would ask fans to call their radio stations and request their song.

It worked, taking “I Want You Now” to No. 1 on the local charts.

### Building a base

While they were getting air time, they also kept up with their live gigs, building up their fan base.

“If we played at Waupaca, we would have people from Appleton driving there, we would have people from Wausau or Stevens Point coming over there,” Nelson said.

Among the band’s influences were Creedence Clearwater Revival, Santana and The Doors.

“Gary sounded just like Jim Morrison (lead singer for

The Doors), and he looked a lot like him,” Schuh said. “People would come to see us who had seen The Doors, and they would say your singer sounds better than Jim Morrison.”

But they never lost sight of who paid the bills.

“We grew to understand that owners liked us to take breaks,” Nelson said. That way, the kids could head over to the bar for another drink before getting back on the dance floor.

Schuh added that they were always there on time.

“We gave them what they were paying for,” Schuh said. “We did what we were supposed to do.”

### Separate ways

The group’s last show was Labor Day weekend in 1970. Despite hopes of being discovered and reaching the national scene, it never happened. They disbanded just 17 weeks after hitting the Top 10, going on to attend different colleges.

“If we weren’t going to college, Uncle Sam wanted us,” Rogers said, referring to the war in Vietnam.

They all got college deferments for the draft – except Schuh. He said his was denied; instead, he wrote a conscientious objector application and went to work.

“I worked at a mental institution in Eau Claire,” he said. “It’s kind of like a place where you send people when you don’t know where else to put them.”

Rogers said American Tea’s impact stayed with him for a lifetime.

“The creativity, the focus on relating to people, the hard work and of course the music made a difference in how I approached all my life challenges,” he said. “I am thankful for the experience and hoped I created some similar experiences for other people through my life’s work.”

While their paths diverged after high school, music and the arts remain a big part of all their lives.

Nelson, president of Microscopy Innovations, is a co-founder of Chestnut Avenue Center for the Arts in Marshfield.

Rogers went on to become a music teacher and, later, a school administrator.

And after retiring from his career in boosting the economies of cities’ downtown areas, Schuh is still performing as half of the Mark Healy and Jim Schuh Duo.

“It was better than any other after-school job we could imagine,” Nelson said.



A rock formation known as the Singing Indian greets visitors to Powers Bluff County Park. Fred and Germaine Pigeon have organized the first Spring Gathering at Powers Bluff County Park.

## POWERS

from page 15

Eventually, the county and tribal officials came to an agreement, which led to the formation of Friends of Powers Bluff.

Now, when major work needs to be done, the Pigeons said the county brings in tribal elders. There are plans in place to expand the mountain bike trails on the park’s north side.

“But this part of the hill, the sacred 80 acres ... it’ll become a silent park of solitude and reflection, a safe place to go in that because when this road deteriorates, they’re not going to replace it,” Germaine said. “If people want to get here, they’ll have to either park on the other side and walk in from the back, or park at the lower edge and walk in.”



Fred Pigeon demonstrates how to use a divining rod. He and his wife, Germaine, have organized the first Spring Gathering at Powers Bluff County Park.

# Boys & Girls Club of Marshfield hits 85% of fundraising goal

### FOR THE CITY TIMES

MARSHFIELD – The Boys & Girls Club of Marshfield has reached 85% of its \$1 million fundraising goal, bringing a local Club closer to reality. Right now, the first-ever Marshfield site is set to open June 16.

This initiative, led by the Boys & Girls Club of Portage County, is a direct response to the voices of local families, schools and community leaders who know how important it is to invest in our youth. With support from the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce, the School District of Marshfield and the entire community, this new Club will provide safe, supportive and enriching summer programming for children at Grant Elementary.

The \$1 million goal will fund the start-up costs and the first two years of operations for the Club. This includes opening a school-based location for elementary students at Grant Elementary this summer, hiring and training dedicated youth development professionals, providing impactful programs, opening a school-based location for the 2025-26 school year at Lincoln Elementary, and laying the groundwork for a future stand-alone Boys & Girls Club facility.

This initiative is made possible in part by a \$500,000 leadership gift from Jon and Annette Vandehey, who have committed to matching every additional dollar donated — meaning contributions now go twice as far.

To help the Boys & Girls Club reach their goal and make a lasting impact on the lives of youth in Marshfield, donations can be made at <https://tinyurl.com/yu89wxt7>.

To learn more about what’s ahead for the Boys & Girls Club of Marshfield, visit <https://www.bgclubpc.org/marshfield>.

The Boys & Girls Club of Marshfield will offer programs focused on academic success, healthy lifestyles, and character development. Our goal is to empower children and teens with the tools they need to build great futures.

## GRANT from page 7

going to a center that’s deeply rooted in its community and dedicated to growing access for those who need it most.”

The ARPA funding also offers a separate opportunity for Family Child Care Providers to receive up to a \$10,000 grant. Another opportunity to apply for a \$100,000 Group Center grant will be announced this fall.

Individuals interested in starting a regulated child care program in Wood County are encouraged to reach out to Childcaring.

Childcaring offers child care resource and referral services, supports child care providers and helps families find care that meets their needs.

For more information about Childcaring’s grant programs and services, go to [www.childcaring.org](http://www.childcaring.org), email [info@childcaring.org](mailto:info@childcaring.org) or call (715) 841-9490.

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# Drivers urged to use caution in work zones

### FOR THE CITY TIMES

Construction season is approaching, which means crews will soon be out fixing and building roads and bridges. Drivers have one of the biggest roles in keeping work zones safe for construction crews.

The Wisconsin State Patrol’s April Law of the Month encourages drivers to help create a safe space for crews who work on and alongside the road.

“Construction crews and county highway personnel often work within feet of traffic,” said Superintendent Tim Carnahan said. “These people need to be able to rely on drivers to do their part to ensure a safe work zone. The Wisconsin State Patrol is working to combat unsafe driving in work zones with the help of troopers on the road and overhead with our Air Support Unit. Last year, we issued over 7,000 citations and warnings for traffic law violations in work zones.”

Speeding, following too closely, and distracted driving cause most work-zone crashes. These crashes are preventable. According to preliminary data for Wisconsin, there were 2,174 work zone crashes in 2024, resulting in 10 fatalities and 779 injuries. On average, that is one work zone crash every three hours.

### Work zone safety tips

Driving safely and slowly through work zones will protect workers and motorists. Wisconsin’s laws further protect road workers, with penalties for traffic violations doubling in work zones.

Do your part to keep work zones safe with these tips:

- Buckle up, phone down. Eliminate distractions. State law prohibits the use of hand-held electronic devices in work zones, except to report an emergency. Looking down

for just 5 seconds at 55 mph takes a driver’s eyes off the road for the length of a football field.

- Plan ahead. Leave early or take an alternate route when construction is anticipated. Know before you go with 511 Wisconsin. Download the 511 Wisconsin app or call 5-1-1 for the latest travel information across the state.
- Expect the unexpected. Speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be shifted, and crews may be working on or near the road.



- Keep your distance. Rear-end collisions are common in work zones, so give yourself extra space.
- Be patient. If you don’t see workers, that doesn’t mean they’re not there. Always be watchful for workers and vehicles throughout the work zone.
- Move over or slow down for stopped emergency vehicles with warning lights activated. The Move Over Law requires drivers to move out of the lane closest to a maintenance worker or emergency responder. If you can’t

move over, slow down.

- Use the zipper merge strategy when lanes are reduced; take alternating turns to merge.

View the April Law of the Month video and news release online: [wisconsin.gov/Pages/about-wisdot/newsroom/law/lom.aspx](https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/about-wisdot/newsroom/law/lom.aspx).

# Layered with Love





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**FREE Small Sunday for Mom on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11th**



**Pick up a DQ® Cake for mom!**  
Available in-store, on the DQ® Mobile App or [DQcakes.com](https://DQcakes.com)

# JOIN US

# MAY 10, 2025

## DOWNTOWN

## Wine & BEER WALK

Registration: 10:30 am to 11 am at Second Street Community Center  
Walk: 11 am to 2:00 pm **\$30 DOWNTOWN WINE OR BEER WALK TICKET**



### BESTIE BINGO

After the Downtown Wine & Beer Walk at Second Street Community Center  
2:30PM to 4:30PM **\$25 PER TICKET**

**\$50 FOR BOTH EVENTS PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!**  
**SCAN CODE OR VISIT [MARSHFIELDAREAUNITEDWAY.ORG](https://MARSHFIELDAREAUNITEDWAY.ORG)**

\*PARTICIPANTS OF THE DOWNTOWN WINE & BEER WALK AND BESTIE BINGO MUST BE AGED 21 AND OLDER.\*

Brought to you by:



## E.N.C., Inc. Presents:

# A NIGHT OF MUSIC & FUN!

Join us for an unforgettable night with **DJ Bob Halle!**

**Saturday, May 3, 2025 at the Eagles Club!**

A Fundraiser/Friendraiser event to support the building of a healthy-aging, autism-friendly, affordable housing community in Marshfield, WI.



**Capture Memories with our fun PHOTO BOOTH!**



**let's Party**

Everyone Needs a Community

ENC, Inc.

**THE EAGLES CLUB**  
1104 S. Oak Ave., Marshfield

**Doors open at 4:30 • Music 5-9:30**  
**\$5 Cover Charge for adults 18+**  
Cash Bar, Cash Food, Door Prizes, Raffle Baskets  
Silent Auction, Paddle Wheel, 50/50 Raffle, Card Raffle, Rake Raffle, Pot of Gold Baskets

## MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

# We love your mom a whole **Brunch**,too!

## SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

## 10:30AM-1:00PM

Adults **\$24.00**  
Children **\$12.00**  
Children 3 and under **EAT FREE**

**Reservations required. Call 715.387.2700.**



2700 South Central Avenue • Marshfield , WI • [libbymcneills.com](https://libbymcneills.com)





***Join Us AT OUR HIRING EVENT!***

**We're Growing**  
— and So Can Your Career!



If you're looking for more than just a job —  
if you're ready for a career with purpose, growth,  
and a company that's going places —  
don't miss our Hiring Event!

**Tuesday, May 6th • 11am to 6pm**

**Marshfield Oak Avenue Community Center**  
*(The Old Armory) 201 S. Oak Ave., Marshfield WI*

- WE'RE HIRING FOR MULTIPLE ROLES:***
- 2nd and 3rd shift positions  
*including quality assurance  
and laboratory technicians*
    - Maintenance techs
  - Diesel truck mechanics
    - Machine operators
  - Production employees
  - Shipping/receiving and forklift operators

- ON-THE-SPOT  
INTERVIEWS!***
- Immediate job offers  
for select roles
  - Meet our awesome team
  - Learn about our growth,  
benefits, and opportunities  
for advancement

***Bring your resume, bring your energy —  
and let's make something great happen!***

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**Grassland Dairy | Growing Together. Building Futures.**  
**For more info: Call: 7152675184 or**  
**Email: [human.resources@grassland.com](mailto:human.resources@grassland.com) | [www.grassland.com](http://www.grassland.com)**