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**((●))** Top Economic-Development Director Resigns / Four Firms Invited to Reimagine Baileys Harbor's Waterfront / Get Weird at Winterfest / Whitefish, Wolves and Bears on NRB Meeting Agenda

**on the cover** **The Winter Fleet Arrives.** The Great Lakes freighter *John J. Boland* slinks through the ice-chunked waters of Sturgeon Bay toward its winter port at Fincantieri Bay Shipbuilding. Local photographer Paul Haan captured this photo and others of the winter fleet's arrival during the past week. To see a Peninsula Pulse slideshow of the vessels that features more of Haan's work and the work of local photographer Luke Collins, go to [doorcountypulse.com](http://doorcountypulse.com).

# County Sizing Up Projects for Cash Infusions

by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
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Some of the primary issues that make life more difficult if not a true struggle in Door County – broadband, child care, affordable housing, mental-health issues – may receive an infusion of dollars from the County of Door.

The Door County Board of Supervisors will consider a list of projects during its Jan. 25 meeting that could be funded with the county's \$5,374,185 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars. The ARPA money can be spent on a range of government operations that fall under broad categories addressing public-health emergencies and negative economic impacts, serving those hardest hit or improving access to infrastructure. The money must be obligated by Dec. 31, 2024, and spent by Dec. 31, 2026.

The county held a public-input meeting last week to take suggestions about the ARPA allocations. Some who spoke reiterated requests already on the county's short list of projects. Others represented local nonprofit organizations, two of those elder-care agencies – Advocates In-Home Care and Do Good Door County.

Another request came from HELP of Door County, which deals with domestic violence that has "drastically increased and also the lethality" under the stressors of COVID-19, said Milly Gonzales, the organization's executive director, during the Jan. 12 public meeting.

"I have three advocates serving the entire county, and we're understaffed and underfunded," she said. "The last two years have been brutal."

Gonzales and others were asked to summarize in writing their specific requests.

*continued on page 3*

## Who's Getting What

by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
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The \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), a federal stimulus bill to aid public health and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, included \$350 billion – known as the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – in emergency funding for state, local and territorial and tribal governments.

State governments and the District of Columbia will receive \$195.3 billion of the state portion. Wisconsin's share was \$2.5 billion. The County of Door's slice was \$5,374,185. Fifty percent of that money was awarded in 2021, with the remainder coming in 2022.

Municipalities with populations of fewer than 50,000 – which is every municipality within Door County – needed to file electronic requests with the state by June 18, 2021, in order to receive their share of the money. If any municipality did not file a timely request, those payments may be significantly delayed or forfeited.

The allocation for the City of Sturgeon Bay is \$935,108.87. The other allocations, based on 2019 census populations, are as follows, according to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

MUNICIPALITY	AMOUNT
Baileys Harbor	\$108,750.63
Brussels	\$115,554.08
Clay Banks	\$40,297.39
Egg Harbor (town)	\$141,197.88
Forestville	\$115,030.74
Gardner	\$124,136.91
Gibraltar	\$108,750.63
Jacksonport	\$74,942.69
Liberty Grove	\$183,902.65
Nasewaupee	\$212,058.49
Sevastopol	\$279,046.37
Sturgeon Bay (town)	\$86,874.90
Union	\$104,145.21
Washington	\$75,152.02
Egg Harbor (village)	\$21,143.05
Ephraim (village)	\$29,307.20
Forestville (village)	\$42,704.77
Sister Bay (village)	\$97,865.10
Sturgeon Bay (city)	\$935,108.87

# Partners Prepared for Gibraltar's Public 4K

Area children's centers have offered kindergarten-prep programs for a decade

by CRAIG STERRETT  
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The Gibraltar Area School District is one of only four in the state that does not provide a free, publicly funded 4-year-old kindergarten program.

That doesn't mean, however, that kindergarten-prep programming has been unavailable in the district.

"We are not behind in educating 4-year-olds," said Cindy Trinkner-Peot, executive director of Northern Door Children's Center in Sister Bay, about her center and others near the north end of the peninsula. "In my tenure here, 95% to 99% of every child who goes to Gibraltar has had the experience either in Northern Door Children's Center or Peninsula Preschool in Ephraim or at The Ridges."

Northern Door Children's Center has provided the equivalent of state-approved 4K programming since 2007 at a cost of \$10 for three hours per weekday, or for free two days per week for parents who cannot afford that tuition. This year, Northern Door has 20 children in a 4K classroom, and this month, the Gibraltar school board was poised to give final approval to a one-year pilot



Hattie places a wooden leg for Mat Man, a song-oriented, play-based educational game designed to help children learn about shapes, letters and more in the 4-year-old classroom of Karen Corekin at Northern Door Children's Center. The center and Gibraltar Area School District are planning to team up to provide publicly funded 4K education next year. Photo by Craig Sterrett.

program to provide 4K preparatory education in 2022-23 to 30 or more students, with half of them on the Fish Creek campus and half at the children's center in Sister Bay.

Trinkner-Peot said she's excited to partner with the district to help give children the

emotional, social and educational foundation they will need in school, and the center is ready to tweak its curriculum to match programming at the Gibraltar campus for the next school year.

Gibraltar Superintendent Tina Van Meer, who was in charge of 4K programming at a district

*continued on page 4*

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DOOR COUNTY

MAY 7, 2022

HALF MARATHON & NICOLET BAY 5K

doorcountyhalfmarathon.com