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# WAUPACA County Post

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**LOCAL**



First State Bank's proposed new corporate headquarters to be built in downtown New London.

Rendering courtesy of First State Bank

## Bank donates building to library

First State plans new facility in New London

BY ROBERT CLOUD  
SENIOR EDITOR

NEW LONDON – First State Bank plans to build a new corporate headquarters in downtown New London.

The bank also plans to donate its current building at 113 W. North Water St. to the New London Public Library, according to First State Bank President and CEO Bob Van Asten.

Van Asten spoke at a news conference Tuesday, April 12.

Joining Van Asten at the news conference were New London Public Library and Museum Board President Virginia Schlais, Library Director Ann Hunt, Museum Director Christine Cross and Mayor Mark Herter.

“New London has been First State’s home since 1933,” Van Asten said. “A lot has changed in banking and our organization over the years, but our commitment to the community never wavered.”

Van Asten said the new facility will encompass the area where First State’s drive-up is currently located.

It will combine the lobby, drive-up and local operations into one facility.

Construction is planned



First State Bank’s existing 26,000-square-foot building will be renovated to provide space for the New London Public Library.

Photo Courtesy of First State Bank

to begin this summer and be completed by the spring of 2023.

“Our board of directors was adamant that this large building that we are in today would not sit vacant,” Van Asten said. “They envisioned this iconic building in New London’s downtown to serve a much greater purpose.”

### Library donation

The bank will transfer ownership of the building to the library when it opens its new corporate headquarters in 2023.

In addition to the building, First State Bank plans to donate \$50,000 toward the project.

“Today’s libraries are not

just a place for books, they are resource centers where community members can gather and learn,” Van Asten said. “We are excited to help propel this vision forward for the library and make it a cornerstone of New London’s downtown.”

Schlais said the library will shift its plan from building an annex across the street from the library to refurbishing the two-story bank to house the entire library.

The library and museum board formally approved the donation the day before the press conference.

“This significantly larger, 26,000-square-foot facility makes it possible for all current library services and the new community resources

that were envisioned as part of the annex to come together, downtown, under one roof,” Schlais said.

Earlier, the plan was to house the traditional library materials in the old building at 406 S. Pearl St. and build a 10,000-square-foot annex across the street.

The annex would house a teen center, computer lab, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) labs, fabrication labs, a large community room with a kitchen, music and video studios and mall study rooms.

“Our architect, Keller, has done a thorough evaluation of the bank building

**Library**

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

## Roots of Jazz

Singing the blues

BY ROBERT CLOUD  
SENIOR EDITOR

WAUPACA – Jazz and blues vocalist Erin Krebs will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Waupaca High School Commons.



Krebs

Her performance is part of the Roots of Jazz series, cosponsored by Winchester Academy, the Waupaca Area Public Library and Waupaca Historical Society.

Krebs and her partner, blues guitarist Jeff Johnston, will showcase the music of classic female blues singers such as Mamie Smith, Ma Rainey and Bessie Smith.

Krebs was awarded the WAMI (Wisconsin Area Music Industry) Female Vocalist of the Year for 2019 and in 2018 the Krebs and Johnston duo was recognized as the 2018 Jazz Artist of the Year.

She was also a nominee for Female Vocalist of the Year (2016, 2017, 2018) and Jazz Artist of the Year in 2017.

Krebs received her bachelor’s of music education degree in 2003 from the

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

She taught music in schools for a decade, and is currently focusing on her career as a vocalist and teaching private lessons on woodwinds, piano and voice.

Krebs has been a featured guest with the Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra, The Jazz Orgy, UW-Oshkosh Jazz Ensembles, Fond du Lac Symphonic Band and more.

Her debut album, Love Always Wins, was released in June 2016.

### Tickets

The concert is free, but advance tickets are required due to limited seating.

Tickets are available from The Bookceller, 110 S Main St., Waupaca, or can be reserved by calling 715-258-2555.



Sarah Gorman hugs Clintonville Police Officer Kaytlyn Garbers, as Gorman’s husband, Patrick, and son look on. Garbers helped save the life of the Gormans’ son.

Bert Lehman Photo

## Garbers receives lifesaving award

Officer helped save an infant

BY BERT LEHMAN  
STAFF REPORTER

CLINTONVILLE – Kaytlyn Garbers, an officer with the Clintonville Police Department, received a lifesaving award after she helped save the life of a 5-week-old infant.

Garbers was presented the award at the April 12 Clintonville City Council meeting.

Clintonville Police Chief Craig Freitag told the council that on March 15, Garbers responded to a call for an infant who was choking, turning blue and not responding.

“When she arrived on scene, she made contact with the parents of the 5-week-old child,” Freitag said. “After initial observations of the child, the training quickly kicked in, and she checked for a pulse and found no pulse. She also observed no signs of the child breathing.

The child was also blue in color.”

Freitag said Garbers immediately began using life-saving measures, including CPR chest compressions.

“After about 40 chest compressions, the child began crying and breathing,” Freitag said. “All the while she was performing CPR, she remained calm, and was gathering information from the parents on the scene.”

After the Clintonville Area Ambulance Service took over, Garbers began comforting the parents of the child, Freitag said.

“Because of her calm demeanor, quick assessment and training, her efforts successfully saved a human life that day,” Freitag said. “We are very proud of her actions that day. The professionalism she displayed that day is remarkable under those circumstances.”

Garbers is a part-time officer for the Clintonville

**Garbers**

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

## New senior center director

Wanty rolls out new programs

BY JAMES CARD  
STAFF REPORTER

WAUPACA – Andrea Wanty is the new director of the Waupaca Senior Center. Previously she was the director of assisted living at Bethany, a position she held for the past seven years.

Before that Wanty worked for 18 years at the Weyauwega Health Care Center (now called Crossroads) where she specialized in working with memory care patients.

She studied at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and at Fox Valley Technical College and is a licensed practical nurse.

There has been one theme throughout her career: she often worked with patients at the end-stage of



Andrea Wanty is the new director of Waupaca’s Senior Center.

James Card Photo

their life. She admits that caring for people near their end took its toll. The pandemic made it worse.

“There was a moment. I took care of end-stage everything: end-stage life, end-stage diagnosis, everything like that. Families would always say to me, ‘I wish you would have known

them when they were younger and happy and doing things they enjoyed,’ and I would hear that over and over again,” said Wanty. “It sparked when this position opened. This is my opportunity to be with people when they are happy and healthy and still working with an aging community but not at the level that I was. So I applied and took a leap of faith.”

Wanty is a Waupaca native. She graduated from Waupaca High School in 1997 and has a husband and two teenage children.

“I feel like I might have underestimated the power of this place when I was just learning about it. I did not know the magnitude of people that came through in a day. And the classes—how many people attend the classes. Cardio drumming has 50 people in that class.

It’s impressive,” said Wanty. Line dancing is also popular and both of those activities will be featured in the Fourth of July parade this year.

She has been on the job for two weeks and she already has two new programs ready to be rolled out in June.

One is the Fox Valley Memory Project. It’s a support group for people with memory loss and their caregivers. It will be held twice a week and it includes their Mindworks program which promotes brain health and overall wellness.

Another is building a partnership with the Aging and Disability Resource Center though Waupaca County. They have a variety of resources for the older population of the community such as transportation, food and other basic needs.

### LIBRARY

FROM PAGE 1

and is now designing plans that transform the bank to fulfill the library's vision as a community resource center," Schlais said.

### Timeline

Work on renovating the building for the library will begin in the spring of 2023 after First State has relocated its headquarters. Schlais said it is expected to take four to six months.

"The hope is that the library will be opened by the end of 2023," Schlais said.

After the library has vacated the building at 406 S. Pearl St., the museum will have the opportunity to expand from its current location in the lower level to encompass the entire building.

"The ripple effect of a gift like the one made to the library by First State Bank is just amazing," Schlais said.

Herter noted that the



The New London Public Library is currently sharing a building with the New London Public Museum at 406 S. Pearl St. Photo Courtesy of First State Bank

New London Library and Museum Board recognized the changing needs of the community.

"The board has spent endless hours in trying to create more programming space as they continue to grow and meet the needs of our community," he said.

Herter said the bank's donation provided the city with a "great opportunity."

"It will keep this beautiful building thriving with a new purpose and allow

the library to expand its services in the heart of our downtown," he said.

He noted that giving the museum more space will allow it to expand its exhibits and its programming.

During construction of the new facility, First State Bank will work with its general contractor, Keller, on ways to keep drive-up access as convenient as possible. Access to the current lobby will not be affected during construction.

### GARBERS

FROM PAGE 1

Police Department, starting with the department in December 2021. This is her first patrol officer position. Prior to joining the Clintonville Police Department, Garbers worked for the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office as a corrections officer.

Sarah Gorman, the mother of the child, told the council that she never expected that she would need to call 911 for her infant son.

"But when we did, the best people were there," Gorman said. "Thank you to Officer Garbers for totally taking over because I was a wreck, and we wouldn't be standing here today if it weren't for you. Thank you so, so much for all you do. Thank you to the rest of the squad for all you do and all your work. I can never thank you enough."

Garbers said that without the help of the parents of the child, she would not have been able to save the infant.

"They had him in the perfect position for us to help," Garbers said. "They were making sure they stood back. They provided any information we asked for. They remained calm, they remained calm with dispatch, and that would have been the only way we would have been able to get there when we did."

"I really have to extend a hand out to both of them because without what they did, I would not have been able to do anything when I go there."

### PUBLISHER'S LETTER

## A Pause and Recalibration

Dear Reader,

Have you ever wanted to take a pause – just stop everything and have time stand still? Maybe you wanted to squeeze more time out of a happy event like a wedding, birth of a baby, or being with someone you're attracted to. Maybe you wanted more time to grieve for a loved one, perhaps someone who died suddenly or way too young. Maybe you wanted to figure out who you really are as opposed to who others may think you are.



We may not have a magic wand to exercise that option, but we can slow ourselves down and take a slower pace, maybe catch a breath or two and wander off the beaten path. To stop and pause and think about what you are doing and where you are on the continuum of life may recalibrate your direction to something better—certainly not something worse.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
PUBLISHER

Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"

## Waupaca County sheriff's report

• April 11 – Eastside Mobil Express on Royalton St. in Waupaca reported two gasoline drive-offs on this day. They provided video evidence to the deputy.

• April 11 – An Ogdensburg man called to report that he clicked a link in a PayPal email that resulted in his account being remotely hacked and \$12,000 removed from his account. He called his bank and closed the account.

• April 11 – A Waupaca woman reported that her credit was frozen. She learned that a loan was taken out in her name the night before. She called the company listed on her credit report email and a male reported that an Audi was purchased for \$39,000.

• April 11 – A Waupaca Parks & Rec crew doing some cleaning reported finding a purse filled with drug paraphernalia that included two needles.

• April 11 – A man on Loop Road in Larsen reported a suspicious parked pickup that had been reported stolen.

• April 11 – A Waupaca woman on Melody Lane reported illegal burning. There was smoke in the neighborhood with a horrible smell.

• April 11 – A Marion woman reported that her neighbor broke two steps on her stairs and her disabled father was unable to leave the house.

• April 12 – A Waupaca woman on Park Lane reported loud noise. Her neighbor plays in a garage band. She talked to him previously to no avail.

• April 12 – A Waupaca woman on Akron Road reported her missing cat was locked in her neighbor's garage and she was unable to contact the neighbor.

• April 12 – A Manawa woman called to report she

had a domestic incident with her boyfriend. No injuries.

• April 12 – An 86-year-old Waupaca woman on King Road reported that someone knocked on her door at around 11 p.m. She thought someone might be lurking around and was scared to go to bed.

• April 13 – A New London woman on Larry Road reported her husband was gone when she got up. When she left the house, his vehicle was down the road in a field. He was nowhere around.

• April 13 – The Wisconsin Veteran's Home in King reported a male resident had his hands around a female resident's neck and was choking her. No ambulance was needed. Both have dementia.

• April 13 – A Waupaca woman on Hill Street called to report her father was verbally abusive to her sister and had been verbally abusive to her in the past. She said she didn't feel safe there and wanted to go somewhere else for the night.

• April 14 – An attorney living in Weyauwega reported her concerns about a case she was working on. She was worried that a male involved in the case may try to retaliate against her and her family and animals on her property.

• April 14 – A crew from the Waupaca County Highway Dept. reported finding needles along the curve north of Silver Creek Road.

• April 14 – A Marion man on County Trunk G reported he was bitten by a fox. The fox was still under his deck.

• April 15 – A female from Marion called to speak with an officer in reference to a possible sex offense.

• April 15 – A New London woman on Larry road called to report a moving

company that would not release her property despite them already being paid.

• April 16 – A caller from Royalton Street in Waupaca reported an intoxicated man standing in the middle of the road and text messaging.

• April 16 – A Waupaca caller stated he observed a man with a stocking cap pulled over his face. He was near the The Hut and gesturing at passing vehicles like he had a gun.

• April 16 – A Manawa woman on Bridge Street called to report that the night before, someone came into their house and stole money out of her daughter's wallet.

• April 16 – A Clintonville woman on Harriet Street called to report a trespasser who would not leave. It was a parental custody-related dispute.

• April 16 – An Iola man on Johnson Road reported that when he returned home, someone had entered and plugged up his sinks and turned the water on. They also carved something into his wall.

• April 16 – A Manawa woman on Bridge Street called to report a man in his early 20s was out of control and threatening his mother. There was yelling in the background.

• April 17 – A New London woman reported she had argued with a man all night and that things got more heated than they should have on her part but she ended up with bruises. The man said he was leaving and she heard the front door slam.

• April 17 – A New London woman on Stage Road called to report that some people were gassing her house and they had a mechanical cat in her backyard spying on her.

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## Man accused of stealing vehicle

Suspect faces charges in four counties

COUNTY – Dimitriy P. Dikhtyar, 28, Green Bay, is charged with driving a vehicle without the owner's consent, three counts of felony bail jumping, misdemeanor theft and negligent operation of a vehicle.

On Dec. 3, 2021, Marion

Police Officer Eric Krause was at the station when he took a call from a man who reported that "Peaches" had stolen his van.

The criminal complaint identified Peaches as Dikhtyar.

The victim told Krause that in addition to his van, Dikhtyar also stole his cell phone, tools and numerous items that were in the van because he was moving.

According to the criminal

complaint, the victim was at Dikhtyar's home in Appleton earlier that evening. He became concerned for the safety of some children after learning that Dikhtyar's girlfriend had sex with another man.

The victim drove Dikhtyar to Marion where they had dinner at the victim's home.

Vehicle

CONTINUES ON PAGE 9

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