

# PENINSULA pulse

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# 2022

Education | Gibraltar

### Pandemic Drives Second School Board Resignation

Green | Local Water Wells

### 2021 Water-Quality Survey Results

Outdoor | New Year's Eve & Day

### A Cherry Drop, a Polar Plunge & a Parade

Arts & Entertainment

Art | Wintertime in Door County

### Creators Replenish & Rejuvenate in Off-season

Art/Literature



**(((•))) Donation Builds New Walking Path / County Fronts Money for Cana Island Lighthouse Project / Getting to Know the James Webb Space Telescope / Resolve to Run in 2022**  
on the cover The iconic imagery of a Door County New Year's Day. Happy 2022! Graphic design by Andrew Kleidon.

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## Education Upward Trend in Lower Incomes

“Every student can learn – just not on the same day, or the same way.” GEORGE EVANS

### More Door County families reported as financially disadvantaged

by CRAIG STERRETT  
sterrett64@gmail.com  
Peninsula Pulse contributor

Door County has a reputation for wealth, tourism and red-hot real estate, but many of its schools are educating an increasing number of children from low-income families.

The percentage of students from “economically disadvantaged” households in the Gibraltar, Southern Door and Sturgeon Bay school districts has increased steadily over the past five state report cards.

For the first time, Sturgeon Bay’s disadvantaged families surpassed 51%, qualifying the district for a high-poverty aid grant from the state of just over \$59,000. The money will arrive the fourth Monday

### Percentage of Economically Disadvantaged by School District/Year

The guidelines establish that students in a household of four with an income of \$34,450 per year or less qualify for free school meals. If a family’s yearly income is between \$34,450.01 and \$49,025, children are eligible for reduced-price meals. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

School	2020-21	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Gibraltar	41.6%	37.5%	29.0%	26.8%	26.1%
Sevastopol	34.1%	33.9%	24.6%	37.5%	39.7%
Southern Door	41.7%	41.1%	36.2%	34.6%	34.3%
Sturgeon Bay	51.7%	46.4%	40.9%	39.6%	43.4%
Washington	14.6%	0%	36.2%	38.8%	43.4%

The state did not release a report card for 2019-20 because state testing did not take place during the pandemic outbreak in spring 2020.

of March, said Jacob Holtz, business manager for the Sturgeon Bay district. The state aid offsets the use of local tax revenue in the budget.

“It will be recorded toward our general-fund revenue; however, it does not increase any revenues,” Holtz said.

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## news NOTES

by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
debra.fitz@ppulse.com

### ATV/UTV USE DENIED ON SEVASTOPOL ROADS

Sevastopol – There are 3,271 people registered to drive ATVs/UTVs in Door County, according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Door County Chief Deputy Pat McCarty said the towns that allow ATV/UTV use on some town roads include Baileys Harbor, Brussels, Gardner, Nasewaupsee, Union and Washington.

The Town of Sevastopol will not be joining that list now that the Sevastopol Town Board decided by consent not to grant a request to allow ATV/UTV routes on town roads.

“I don’t think it’s appropriate for our town at this time,” said Dan Woelfel, Sevastopol town board chair, summing up what four of the five supervisors said during the Dec. 12 meeting. The supervisors’ primary concerns were safety

issues and the addition of off-road vehicles to town roads that are already enduring higher traffic due to increased visitor numbers.

“We have enough traffic as it is without increasing it,” Woelfel said.

The board did not vote on the request because Woelfel said it wasn’t necessary when all but one of the supervisors – Mark

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**MAY 7, 2022**

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