



# PENINSULA pulse

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**on the cover** Candles for Ukraine: Christiana Gorchynsky-Trapani, a second-generation American Ukrainian and owner of Door County Candle Company in Carlsville, works alongside her father, George Gorchynsky, whose parents immigrated to the United States following World War II. Gorchynsky-Trapani has launched a candle campaign to help the people of Ukraine. To read the complete story, see the Community pages inside. Photo by D.A. Fitzgerald.

## Lodging Revenue Up \$38 Million in 2021

**Room-tax returns up 41% over 2019**

by MYLES DANNHAUSEN JR.  
myles@appulse.com

**W**ith December's room-tax report now in, the growth of tourism in 2021 can only be described as explosive.

Lodging revenues for the year were up a staggering \$38.7 million over 2019, the last full year prior to COVID-19 restrictions. Hotels, inns and vacation rentals pulled in \$133.3 million, compared to \$94.7 million in 2019. Revenue was buoyed by a 17% increase in the average daily room rate, skewed to a degree by the increase in the popularity of vacation-home rentals.

But the gross number of lodging nights filled also boomed by 20%: an increase of 112,055 nights filled over 2019, despite the number of nights available growing by just 5,562.

"We're still not sure how much of it is lag from 2020 from people who didn't get out and wanted to travel in 2021, versus more permanent change," said Juliana Behme, Door County Tourism Zone administrator.

Those numbers will only increase as receipts from late-reporting properties come in. Behme said

there are reports outstanding from 92 properties for the year.

Total room-tax collections for the year grew from \$5.1 million to more than \$7.3 million. Thirty percent of that revenue - \$2.18 million - goes into the coffers of local municipalities. That's \$640,262 more going back to the 19 villages, towns and cities that make up the Door County Tourism Zone, allocated based on collections in each community. Four percent of returns goes to the Tourism Zone, and 66% goes to Destination Door County for tourism promotion and development.

Sister Bay leapfrogged Sturgeon Bay to move into second place in room-tax revenue behind the Town of Gibraltar, which has led the county in room-tax returns since the Tourism Zone was created in 2007. Much of Sister Bay's growth can be traced to the opening of the 47-room Dörr Hotel in May 2021 and the expansion of Open Hearth Lodge.

It's conceivable that once late reports come in, the Town of Gibraltar will surpass \$1 million in returns, making it the first time an individual community has surpassed \$1 million in room-tax revenue. The Town of Baileys Harbor moved into sixth in revenue, surpassing the Village of Egg Harbor.

**Room Tax** continued on page 4

## Judge Doesn't Budge on \$250K Cash Bail

by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
debra.fitz@appulse.com

**F**ormal charges were filed Monday against the man accused of starting the fire that destroyed Butch's Bar, causing two deaths and endangering the lives of tenants.

Anthony Gonzalez, who'll turn 58 on April 13, has been charged with two counts of second-degree reckless homicide, five counts of second-degree recklessly endangering safety and one count of negligent handling of burning material. The first seven charges are felonies and the eighth a misdemeanor, but all carry a repeater enhancer that increases the penalty if he's convicted.

Gonzalez is considered a repeat criminal offender because he has previously been convicted of felony charges of manufacturing/delivering THC, and possession with intent to deliver THC. Other charges that remain outstanding include bail jumping, charged in November 2021, and the manufacture and delivery of less than three grams of amphetamine, charged in 2020.

Gonzalez made his first appearance in Door County Circuit Court, appearing via Zoom from the Door County Jail while his attorney, Public Defender Aileen Henry, argued for leniency, also via Zoom, on the \$250,000 cash bond that

Judge Todd Ehlers set during the Feb. 25 bond hearing.

Henry framed the charges as having stemmed from an accidental fire that the defendant tried to put out. She said he tried to warn residents and remained on the scene during and after the fire, fully cooperating with the investigation.

"If he is convicted of any [of these charges], he'll spend a significant amount of time in prison," she said. "But still, he did not flee. He's not a flight risk."

She said he had a criminal history, but no convictions of violence or missing court appearances. He was making \$15 an hour working 30 hours a week at McDonald's and had been displaced by the fire, losing all his possessions.

"I'm asking you to look at the totality of the circumstances and set a reasonable bond," she said, favoring a low cash bond.

Door County District Attorney Colleen Nordin argued that Gonzalez didn't flee and was available for questioning, but he wasn't aware that criminal charges were being investigated, so his "failure to flee during that time is insignificant."

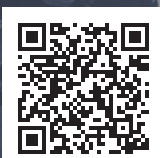
In addition, there's a charge from last year of bail jumping that's still pending.

"I think there's a high risk of flight," she said, asking the judge to keep the \$250,000 cash bail in place,

**Butch's Bar** continued on page 4

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# MAY 7, 2022





# PENINSULA pulse

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**publisher** David Eliot  
**owners** David Eliot and Myles Dannhausen Jr.  
**founders** David Eliot and Tom McKenzie

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 8142 Hwy 57, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202  
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**volume 28 issue 09**  
 20,727 copies (16,588 mailed)

The *Peninsula Pulse*, Door County's resource for news, arts and entertainment, is published weekly by Peninsula Publishing & Distribution, Inc., 8142 Hwy 57, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202.

The *Peninsula Pulse* accepts email submissions of letters to the editor and story ideas (letters@ppulse.com); press releases, happenings, gallery listings and photos (pr@ppulse.com); line classifieds (classifieds@ppulse.com); and legal notices (legals@ppulse.com). All submissions are due on Fridays at noon EXCEPT: letters, due Mondays at noon; classified ads, due Tuesdays at noon; and legal notices, due Wednesdays at 9:30 am. To order a subscription, please mail a check for \$50 for third-class mail or \$125 for first-class mail (recommended for prompt delivery) to *Peninsula Pulse*, 8142 Hwy 57, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202. If you would like to advertise, please visit doorcountymarketing.com.

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Since 1996, the *Peninsula Pulse* has been distributed free throughout Door County, and it will always be free. When the COVID-19 crisis hit, we went a step further: We began mailing this newspaper to every mailbox in Door County for the first time – again, for free.

But the paper you hold is not free to produce. Each week our team of 20 Door County residents delivers the news, the events and the stories of Door County, digging deep not just to tell you what happened, but also to find solutions and help move this community – our community – forward.

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# news

## EGG HARBOR

### Dwarf Lake Iris Could Delay Egg Harbor Highway Project

by MYLES DANNHAUSEN JR.  
 myles@ppulse.com



Dwarf lake iris. Photo by Drew Feldkirchner of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

**E**gg Harbor's Highway 42 reconstruction project could be pushed back a year because habitat for the federally threatened dwarf lake iris has been identified in the project area.

The discovery has triggered a habitat assessment by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the state's Department of Transportation (DOT), which cannot be completed until the blooming season in May and June. Only then will the DOT determine the schedule for work. According to the DNR, the plant has been identified in only two Wisconsin counties: Door and Brown.

"If federal permits are required, it could cause a delay," said Village Administrator Megan Sawyer.

Even if the habitat is discovered only outside of the village area, it would put the entire project on hold because the DOT will do the work as part of one large project for efficiency.

Until then, the village is planning as though the project will begin after its Pumpkin Patch festival in October 2022.

#### Board Approves Sidewalk Extension to Ballpark Road

The village's downtown-core project includes new curb, gutter, sidewalks and lighting. During its Jan. 26 meeting, the village board decided to extend that urbanization from the Cape Cod Motel to Ballpark Road on the east side of Highway 42 at a cost of \$18,000.

The board had previously decided to extend it from Harbor School Road to the Cape Cod Motel, and added curb, gutter and lighting to Ballpark Road. The total additional cost for the complete extension of the street urbanization comes to \$355,000.

The project already included urbanization on the west side of the highway all the way to South Trail Road. The sidewalk now ends at the Landing Resort.

The village board came to a consensus quickly during a previous meeting to extend from Harbor School Road to the Cape Cod Motel, where urbanization of the street now ends, but there was substantial debate about extending curb, gutter, lights and sidewalk to Ballpark Road. That extension made up \$140,000 of the additional cost.

During that meeting, trustee Bob Dickson noted that with the cemetery located along that stretch, there is

no chance anything would ever be developed there. But trustees Lisa Van Laanen, John Heller and Angela Lensch thought the urbanization of the east side of the highway would help to provide visual cues to slow traffic entering the village.

#### Church Street Project Ahead of Schedule

The reconstruction and urbanization of Church Street is moving ahead of the original July completion date. Village Administrator Megan Sawyer said contractors believe the work could wrap up as early as mid-June.

#### Shipwrecked Lawsuit Update

The latest lawsuit filed by the owners of Shipwrecked Brew Pub, under the name Sojenhomer LLC, continues to move through Door County Circuit Court.

Sojenhomer has asked the court to review the village plan commission's decision in October 2021 to deny a conditional use permit application sought for expanding Shipwrecked Brew Pub. The complaint alleges the permit was denied based on personal preference and speculation, and substantial evidence was lacking to deny the permit. It also asks the court to reverse the plan commission's decision.

The plan commission voted 4-2 to deny a proposal to add a 92-seat beer garden to the property without meeting the necessary parking requirements. Shipwrecked sought to pay a Fee in Lieu of Parking for 58 of the 105 spaces required by village ordinance. Those voting against the permit also cited congestion and safety concerns at the corner of Highway 42 and County G, as well as inconsistencies with the village's comprehensive plan, in addition to the parking shortfall.

Village Administrator Megan Sawyer said July is the earliest the village expects a decision will be made in the case.

# news NOTES

compiled by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
 debra.fitz@ppulse.com

### SHERIFF'S OFFICE ENCOURAGES CRIME TIPS ON VEHICLE DAMAGE IN NORTHERN DOOR

*Ephraim/Sister Bay* – Vehicle windows were smashed last week on multiple vehicles in northern Door County around the border of Ephraim and Sister Bay.

Four incidents were reported to the Sheriff's Office involving six damaged vehicles. The damage was reported on Feb. 23 and 24. The case is still under investigation, according to Chief Deputy Pat McCarty of the Door County Sheriff's Office.

"Serial vandalism to vehicles is not common," McCarty said. "Mailboxes are more common for multiple acts of vandalism."

McCarty encouraged anyone who may have seen something suspicious or has any information to call the Communication Center at 920.746.2416 to speak with a deputy, or call the Door County Sheriff's Office's crime tip line at 920.746.2436.

### KEEPING THE DOOR DARK

*Sturgeon Bay* – You could say that Tom Gwilym has a mission, and it doesn't involve seeing the light. He recently became one of two International Dark Sky Association advocates in Wisconsin.

Gwilym is likely more well known as the vice president of the Door Peninsula Astronomical Society (DPAS) and the lead telescope wrangler at the society's Astronomy Center near Big Creek in Sturgeon Bay.

He has always taken protecting Door County's night skies seriously, working with businesses and billboard owners to help rein in light pollution on the peninsula. Now he'll share some of that passion during a presentation, "Keeping the Door Dark," on Tuesday, March 8, 7 pm, at the Ray and

Ruthie Stonecipher Astronomy Center, 2200 Utah St. in Sturgeon Bay.



Tom Gwilym

The presentation will be based on International Dark Sky research but will also include local examples of light pollution as well as good lighting solutions.

"Many visitors to Door County have never seen the Milky Way and come here for our dark skies, which we need to preserve," Gwilym said.

The presentation is open to everyone to attend in person or via Zoom. Get the link to attend virtually by contacting the DPAS through its Facebook page, or email president@doorastronomy.org or vicepres@doorastronomy.org.

### DOOR COUNTY GRANARY WINS DESIGN AWARD

*Sturgeon Bay* – The architect who designed the future Door County Granary space has earned the 2021 Unbuilt Architecture and Design Award from the Boston Society for Architecture (BSA), which annually recognizes projects around the world that have exemplary design and a positive impact on their community. The Door County Granary was selected because the design solution will have a positive effect on Sturgeon Bay and the greater Door County community.

A jury of design professionals reviewed the submissions, awarded two projects and gave citations to an additional two. About the Granary, it said, "the design artfully reclaims an American agrarian and cultural

artifact of romantic nostalgia and transforms its structural beauty into new functionality and civic life. This is a smart reinterpretation that transforms the granary into an intimate sequence of spaces, offering a playful sense of discovery. It's a wonderful example of an adaptive-reuse project with a minimal touch for maximum impacts."

LA DALLMAN Architects is the design firm behind the award-winning project.

"We are trying to create a space that will benefit the community, engage visitors and be a source of pride and memories," said Beth Renstrom, executive director of the Sturgeon Bay Historical Society Foundation's Granary project. "We are grateful the BSA recognized those efforts with this award."

The rest of the project team includes Beane Engineering and Greenfire Management Services.

According to Renstrom, fundraising for the restoration project continues. "We still have work to do to complete our goal, and we think this recognition will help us to move forward in the next phase of this project," she said.

This is the second time architect LA DALLMAN has been recognized for its vision of the adaptive reuse of the space. The first award was bestowed last year when the design was one of five honorees in the 68th annual Progressive Architectural Awards from the journal of the American Institute of Architects.



Work continues on the Door County Granary project on Sturgeon Bay's West Waterfront. Photo by Rachel Lukas.

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This week we discuss short-term rentals (STR) with an operator of several properties who supports stronger STR regulation, but in a way that local municipalities aren't yet trying to use. Then we'll take a closer look at what we can learn from last year's stunning tourism numbers and whether we should expect more of the same in 2022.

Listen at [DoorCountyPulse.com/podcasts](http://DoorCountyPulse.com/podcasts)

## connect with your reps

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Room 10 West  
State Capitol P.O. Box 8952  
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Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov

**State Senator André Jacque**  
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Sen.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov

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608.266.1212  
Office of Governor Tony Evers  
115 East Capitol  
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EversInfo@wisconsin.gov

**U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin**  
baldwin.senate.gov  
202.224.5653  
709 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**U.S. Senator Ron Johnson**  
ronjohnson.senate.gov  
202.224.5323  
328 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510  
**U.S. Representative Mike Gallagher**  
gallagher.house.gov  
202.225.5665  
1230 Longworth HOB  
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# news

## Stable Growth All Year Long *continued from page 1*

### Collections by Municipality

Municipality	Total Room-Tax Revenue
Gibraltar	\$998,929
Sister Bay	\$985,676
Sturgeon Bay	\$927,469
Ephraim	\$832,686
Town of Egg Harbor	\$658,484
Baileys Harbor	\$588,730
Village of Egg Harbor	\$569,805
Town of Liberty Grove	\$548,792
Sevastopol	\$475,286
Nasewaupsee	\$202,516
Jacksonport	\$172,068
Washington Island	\$133,397
Town of Sturgeon Bay	\$69,071
Gardner	\$67,819
Union	\$22,287
Clay Banks	\$11,310
Town of Forestville	\$2,448
Village of Forestville, Brussels	\$0

Open Hearth's general manager, John Zacek, said growth was consistent all year long.

"Even with our 13 additional rooms, our occupancy rate across the board was higher than in 2019," he said. "We were a little surprised."

Zacek said it's too soon to consider 2021 the new baseline, but he's hopeful.

"I'm skeptical based on conversations I've had with customers," he said. "A lot

of people were coming here for the first time and said they came because other travel was limited."

But that also means a lot of travelers were introduced to the county for the first time and may return. In addition, Zacek points to the growth of Door County as a wedding destination - particularly the Northern Haus venue down the road from Open Hearth - as well as events such as

the Christkindmarkt, which brought many December visitors. One reason to believe the trend will continue? Advance bookings are up for his business.

"So many people have been turned down because of lack of availability that people have been trained to book earlier," Zacek said, which reverses a two-decade trend toward last-minute bookings.

## Gonzalez Allegedly Started Fire by Spilling Lighter Fluid *continued from page 1*



The demolition of the Butch's Bar building leaves a space on the corner of 3rd Avenue and Nebraska Street that has not existed since 1919, when the Butch's Bar building was constructed. The bodies of the two men who died in the Butch's Bar fire having been recovered, the building was demolished and reduced to a pile of rubble. Photo by Rachel Lukas.

a request also made via Zoom by family members of one of the deceased.

Ehlers said that although he appreciated Henry's arguments in favor of a lower bond, he couldn't lower it given the seriousness of the charges and the penalties those charges carried. All eight charges added together carry a maximum sentence of 135 years, repeater penalties included, and fines of up to \$335,000.

"If there were ever a potential to abscond, that would be the circumstances," Ehlers said. "[A] \$250,000 cash bond is significant, but I'm not going to be revising that. It's appropriate, reasonable and necessary."

### Gonzalez Accused of Starting Fire with Lighter Fluid

According to the criminal complaint, police dispatch was alerted to the fire at 3:37 am on Feb. 22, and Sergeant Kyle Engebose of the Sturgeon Bay Police Department was the first on the scene. He witnessed smoke billowing from the building and flames coming from the side. At the front of the building closest to 3rd Avenue, a man would be rescued by the Sturgeon Bay Fire Department ladder truck out of a second-floor window. He was taken to a Milwaukee-

area hospital for significant burns and smoke inhalation.

Gonzales had lived in Sturgeon Bay since 2014, and in Butch's Bar's room 3 for the past two years. He exited the building the night of the fire and allegedly told responding officers that he "spilled lighter fluid on my bed" while trying to light a lighter that was "like a Zippo," according to the complaint.

The statement Gonzales gave investigators later, according to the complaint, was that he fell asleep while watching TV and woke up during the early-morning hours wanting a cigarette. He grabbed the closest lighter, which he described as a "torch-type lighter," according to the complaint.

The lighter was out of fluid, so Gonzalez allegedly grabbed the can of fuel to fill up the lighter off the table next to his bed, and while still in bed, attempted to fill the lighter. He allegedly said he could not see very well and started spraying fluid all over while trying to fill the lighter, getting some on his hands and the corner of the mattress.

Once he got the fuel in the lighter properly, according to the complaint, he struck the lighter once to light his cigarette, but it did not light. He struck it again, according to the complaint, at

"which point his hands caught fire, and the corner of the mattress also caught on fire."

Gonzalez allegedly tried to stifle the fire with a pillow. When that didn't work, he pulled the fire extinguisher off the wall of his room, and "he thought he pulled out the pin and used the extinguisher on the fire on the bed," according to the complaint, but "the next thing he knew, there was smoke coming from the ceiling."

Gonzalez allegedly pounded on a neighboring tenant's door, who attempted to help put out the fire, but it was too hot by that time to enter the room.

Gonzalez denied being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances, according to the complaint.

In addition to the cash-bond requirement, Gonzalez was ordered not to have any contact with the other residents of the building or the relatives of the two deceased men who were recovered from the fire scene - the first on Feb. 22, the second on Feb. 24.

Gonzalez's preliminary hearing will be held March 31, 1:15 pm, in Door County Circuit Court.

### DOOR COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

Those municipalities that publish their legal notices with us are indicated below with "LEGALS."

#### COUNTY OF DOOR, POP. 28,650 - LEGALS

co.door.wi.gov  
920.746.2200  
County Board meets 4th Tuesday of month  
City Clerk: Jill Lau  
jlau@co.door.wi.us

#### TOWN OF BAILEYS HARBOR, POP. 1,069 - LEGALS

baileysharborwi.org  
920.839.9509  
Town Board meets 2nd Monday of month  
Clerk: Haley Adams  
admin@townofbaileysharborwi.org

#### TOWN OF BRUSSELS, POP. 1,129

townofbrussels.com  
920.825.7618  
Town Board meets 2nd Wednesday of month  
Clerk: JoAnn Neinas  
jonein789@centurytel.net

#### TOWN OF CLAY BANKS, POP. 392

townofclaybanks.org  
920.493.7383  
Town Board meets 2nd Monday of month  
Clerk: Jessica Bongle  
townofclaybanks@gmail.com

#### TOWN OF EGG HARBOR, POP. 1,404

townofegggharbor.org 920.743.6141  
Town Board meets 3rd Monday of month  
Clerk: Pam Krauel  
clerk@townofegggharbor.org

#### VILLAGE OF EGG HARBOR, POP. 207 - LEGALS

villageofegggharbor.org  
920.868.3334  
Village Board meets 2nd Monday of month  
Clerk: Lynn Ohnesorge  
lohnesorge@villageofegggharbor.org

#### VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM, POP. 288 - LEGALS

ephrain-wisconsin.com  
920.854.5501  
Village board meets 2nd Tuesday of month  
Clerk/Treasurer: Andrea Collak  
acollak@ephrain-wisconsin.com

#### TOWN OF FORESTVILLE, POP. 1,109

forestvilletown.com  
920.856.6551  
1364 Mill Road, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
Town board meets 3rd Monday of month  
Clerk: Ruth Kerschler  
clerk@forestvilletown.com

#### VILLAGE OF FORESTVILLE, POP. 427

villageofforestville.com  
920.366.3640  
Village board meets 3rd Monday of month  
Clerk: Tiffany Dufek  
villageclerk@centurylink.net

#### TOWN OF GARDNER, POP. 1,228 - LEGALS

townofgardner.org  
920.825.1137  
Town board meets 2nd Wednesday of month  
Clerk: Amy Sacotte  
togclerk@townofgardner.org

#### TOWN OF GIBRALTAR, POP. 1,057 - LEGALS

gibraltarwi.gov 920.868.1714  
Town board meets 1st Wednesday of month  
Clerk: Kelly Murre  
clerk@townofgibraltar.us

#### TOWN OF JACKSONPORT, POP. 727 - LEGALS

jacksonport.org  
920.823.8136  
Town board meets 4th Tuesday of month  
Clerk/Treasurer: Theresa Cain-Bieri  
jtownclerk@jportfd.com

#### TOWN OF LIBERTY GROVE, POP. 1,783 - LEGALS

libertygrove.org 920.854.2934  
Town board meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of month  
Clerk/Treasurer: Anastasia Bell  
tlibertygrove@gmail.com

#### TOWN OF NASEWAUPEE, POP. 2,114

townofnasewaupsee.com 920.495.0920  
Town board meets 3rd Thursday of month  
Meetings: 3388 City PD  
Clerk: Jill M. Lau  
nasewaupseeclerk@gmail.com

#### TOWN OF SEVASTOPOL, POP. 2,743 - LEGALS

townofsevastopol.com  
920.746.1230  
Town board meets on the 3rd Monday of month  
Clerk/treasurer: Amy M. Flok  
office@townofsevastopol.com

#### VILLAGE OF SISTER BAY, POP. 966 - LEGALS

sisterbaywi.gov 920.854.4118  
Village board meets 3rd Tuesday of month  
Clerk: Heidi Teich  
info@sisterbaywi.gov

#### CITY OF STURGEON BAY, POP. 9,467

sturgeonbaywi.org 920.746.2900  
Common Council meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of month  
Clerk: Stephanie Reinhardt  
info@sturgeonbaywi.org

#### TOWN OF STURGEON BAY, POP. 826 - LEGALS

townofsturgeonbay.us  
920.743.3908  
Town board meets 1st Monday of month  
Clerk: Nancy Anschutz  
nlschutz@yahoo.com

#### TOWN OF UNION, POP. 995

sites.google.com/site/townofuniondoor/home  
920.866.8011  
Town board meets 2nd Wednesday of month  
Clerk: Beth Hanson  
unionclerk026@gmail.com

#### TOWN OF WASHINGTON, POP. 719

washingtonisland-wi.gov  
Town board meets 3rd Wednesday of month  
Clerk/Treasurer: Alexandria McDonald  
townoffice@washingtonisland-wi.gov



doorcountybroadband.com

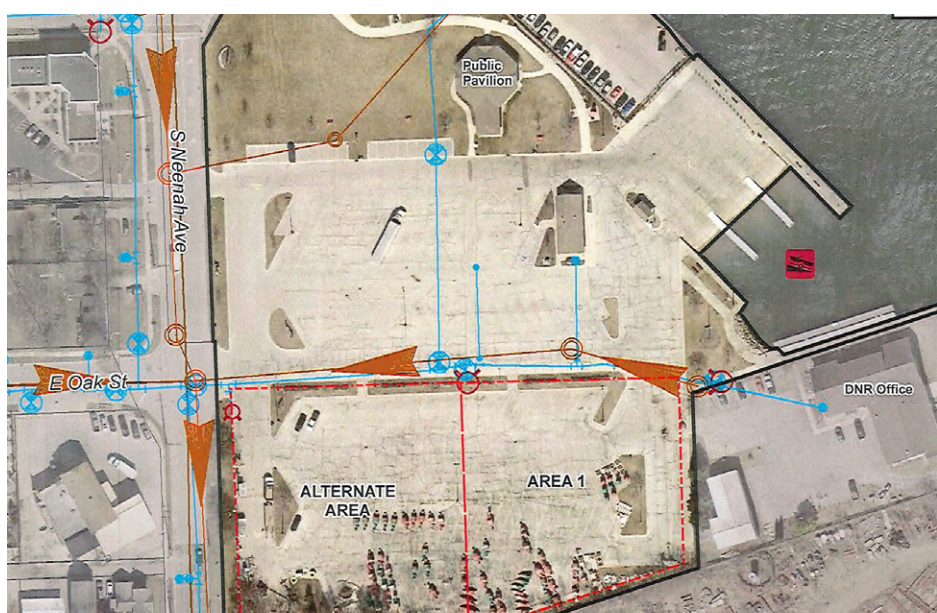
920.868.9100

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**STURGEON BAY**

**Hands Off Sawyer Park Boat Launch, Nault Says**  
And council agrees



The alternate sites shown on this map of the Sawyer Park boat launch parking area have been taken off the menu of potential locations for a NERR headquarters site. Only the Public Pavilion and green space behind it (shown above, left) are at play. Source: City of Sturgeon Bay.

by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
debra.fitz@ppulse.com

Of the sites the City of Sturgeon Bay has identified as potential National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) headquarters locations, the 190-stall parking area of the Sawyer Park boat launch will be eliminated following a strong argument made by one alder who swayed the rest. Sturgeon Bay has been working during the past year on its pitch to become the NERR site.

“One of the things we think we need to do is some of the heavy work and share with the NERR site-selection committee [at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay] a kind of menu of sites located within the city” that could be used, said Josh VanLieshout, city administrator.

The identified city-owned sites were Sunset Park, the Yacht Club property and Sawyer Park. The city is also querying owners of other sites. These include the privately owned Shipyard Development property near Martin Park and the former vacant Younkers building at 56 N. 4th Ave. that’s owned by the County of Door. The county recently revealed that it did not have a use for the building that it purchased in 2019 for \$505,000.

A NERR facility would make improvements to underserved areas of Sunset Park, VanLieshout said, and the land the city owns at the Yacht Club is

vacant and undeveloped. The Sawyer Park boat launch site was considered because of its location next to the Department of Natural Resources site.

Alder Gary Nault said during the Common Council’s March 1 meeting that he was “shocked” to see the Sawyer Park boat launch on the menu. Nault took the council all the way back to the 1980s, when the city bought the land and received state and federal grants to turn it into a launching site. The grants were funded by user fees, and to this day, the operation and maintenance of the site is funded by boaters and anglers.

“It’s known as one of the best launching ramps on Lake Michigan,” he said, and it brought in \$54,000 in 2021 in launching fees. The fishing tournaments that bring in anglers from around the country and the increase in recreational boating all help to fuel Sturgeon Bay’s economy.

“This is not the time to start cutting space in our very popular ramp,” Nault said. “It’s time to start looking for more [boat launch areas].”

The council voted to amend the Sawyer Park listing so that it remains on the site-selection menu, but only the green-space portion, not any of the parking.

The decision puts the sites on a list of potential locations for a NERR. If Sturgeon Bay were selected, any negotiations for any of the city-owned parcels would return to the council for deliberation.

**STURGEON BAY**

**Farmers Market Management Transferred**

by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
debra.fitz@ppulse.com

The Sturgeon Bay Common Council unanimously transferred management of the Sturgeon Bay Farmers Market to Destination Sturgeon Bay (DSB) beginning with this year’s season, which runs every Saturday, June 4 - Oct. 15, 8 am - 12 pm.

“DSB looks forward to increasing communication with the Farmers Market vendors, filling vacant booth spots with daily vendors on a weekly basis, increasing the Sturgeon Bay Farmers Market promotional and marketing efforts, and providing a positive impact on a weekly event that is so important for our community,” said Cameryn Ehlers-Kwaterski, DSB’s executive director.

Transferring the management to the professional marketing and event organization was seen as a good move by all parties, including the market’s regular vendors. What hadn’t been embraced by a number of regular vendors were the plans DSB rolled out a month ago for a change in the location from Market Square to 3rd Avenue. The vendors said at that time they were caught by surprise and confused as to how it would work logistically with vehicles, setup and teardown.

“I think there was a lot of disappointment in the beginning because this started on social media, so I think it put a bad taste in everyone’s mouth,” said Alder Kirsten Reeths.

Ehlers-Kwaterski agreed that the original plan was “a bit premature,” but she said they’ve made positive steps since then to increase communication with the vendors.

That included a Feb. 28 Zoom meeting that DSB held with the vendors. About 25 people attended and submitted questions via chat. During that meeting, two location options were presented, though DSB hasn’t decided yet which one would be used. The first location would use only half of Market Square on the Nebraska Street side, then Nebraska Street from 5th to 3rd avenues, and 3rd Avenue from Michigan to Oregon streets.

The second option would use just those streets, not half of Market Square, with the addition of Nebraska from 3rd to 2nd streets as needed for daily vendors.

Vendors were present at the March 1 council meeting, but none spoke during the public-comment period.

Although details need to be worked out, DSB told the council it intends to increase the number of vendors, have a staff person at the site from opening to closing every Saturday and form a committee that will include vendor members. DSB may also bring back the acceptance of EBT cards so that SNAP benefits can be used for purchases. Bathrooms and additional resources would also be more accessible in the DSB office, which is open on Saturdays during the Farmers Market hours.

“Maybe they can’t make everyone 100% happy, but they can make positive changes and really make the market a destination place,” said Alder Helen Bacon.

City Administrator Josh VanLieshout said he’s in the process of drafting a license agreement that would be signed in the future between the city and DSB.

“They can keep going, and we’ll keep going, and it should all come together nicely,” he said.

“Don’t give up; don’t take anything personally; and don’t take no for an answer. You never know what you’re going to learn along the way.” SOPHIA AMORUSO

**business**

**Proposed Development at Woldt’s Corner Includes Starbucks**

by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
debra.fitz@ppulse.com

A developer is interested in constructing a three-unit commercial building with a Starbucks on the Sturgeon Bay corner that’s home to Woldt’s Corner Pub.

“Right now we have a set of plans,” said Christopher Robinson-Sullivan, City of Sturgeon Bay planner and zoning administrator. “They’re asking questions to make sure they’ve met general zoning codes.”

The national coffeehouse and roastery chain would anchor the development.

“There’s two other tenant spaces that we don’t know anything about,” Robinson-Sullivan said.

The restaurant located on the busy corner of South Duluth Avenue and Highway 42/57 has been closed since last year, but on the market for longer than that. Rumors of a sale were rampant

but not supported by official real estate transactions, and they still aren’t. The property remains on local and digital real estate sites as an active listing for \$1.1 million. City officials said the sale would take place, as such sales normally do, once all approvals had been secured.

At this early conceptual phase, the Woldt’s Corner Pub building would be razed; six smaller rental units behind the pub building would be moved; and a two-story home that’s also behind the pub building would remain.

The development could be on the agenda for the plan commission’s next meeting, which is scheduled for March 30, Robinson-Sullivan said.

The development is an allowed use at the site, which is zoned for general commercial, but the plans show a drive-through window and that requires a conditional use permit (CUP) from the city’s plan commission.

The city is currently updating its codes, and that drive-through CUP requirement could be eliminated. If that were the case by the time the developer submits official preliminary plans, those plans would need to make only one public stop in front of the city’s Aesthetic Design and Site Plan Review Committee.

A Starbucks is currently located a short distance away, inside Target. Robinson-Sullivan said Starbucks has separate agreements with Targets and would not move out of that store if the free-standing store were built.

(From top right) The Woldt’s Corner Pub building would be replaced by a three-unit commercial structure anchored by a Starbucks if conceptual plans viewed by the City of Sturgeon Bay become a reality. Photo by D.A. Fitzgerald.

The real estate has not been sold yet, according to both local and digital real estate sites.



**BUSINESS briefs**

**NEW EQUIPMENT INCREASES PRODUCTION AT SEAQUIST**

Seaquist Orchards has increased its production by 40% with a new conveyor that no longer requires the manual inversion of jars during the canning process of jams, salsas, pie fillings and other products.



Cole and Lisa Seaquist.

“Prior to this equipment [conveyor line], we were manually flipping jars over on baking sheets and then flipping them over again after our jars finished their inversion [cooling] time,” said Cole Seaquist, co-owner and canning operations manager at Seaquist Orchards. “This equipment completes the inversion time immediately after the capper

and before the labeler, so once the jars exit the labeler, they are ready to be cooled and then boxed.”

The new equipment came from Multi-Conveyor, a Winneconne, Wisconsin-based manufacturer, that also added dual belt-drive assemblies prior to the first inverter to ensure the accurate inversion of larger, heavier jars.

Seaquist currently has one line at its Sister Bay canning facility and two lines at the Egg Harbor cherry plant.

**RURAL CHILD CARE WEBINAR MARCH 9**

Are you, like so many others, overwhelmed by the many difficulties in the rural child care system? Hear about some partnership models and projects happening in west-central

Minnesota that are working to recruit and retain family and center child care programs.

The Radically Rural: Rural Child Care webinar will be offered March 9, 2 pm, and presented by Nancy Jost. She’s the director of early childhood at West Central Initiative and a champion for creating the best possible start for children toward a healthy life of learning and achieving.

Following the program, participants will have discussion time to share models that are working in their rural community.

To register, visit ticketelf.com/events/rural-childcare-we-can-do-so-much-3-9-2022.



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# Wider Boardwalk for Ridges



Ridges volunteers donated their time and labor to a previous effort to widen some of the boardwalk and will do so again for another widening project.

## Town officials endorse project

by CRAIG STERRETT  
sterrettc64@gmail.com  
Peninsula Pulse contributor

The leadership of The Ridges Sanctuary in Baileys Harbor wants to improve a boardwalk so people of all abilities can make their way over wild lands and marshy ridges between the historical Upper Range Light to the Lower Range Light.

The organization needs permission to replace that aging stretch of boardwalk with one that's wider than those allowed in the county's zoning ordinance, and the Baileys Harbor Town Board is not standing in the way.

Plan Commission Chair Tim Tishler said The Ridges wants to create a boardwalk that's 72 inches wide – 12 inches wider than the dimensions in the county's ordinance, and more than wide enough for two wheelchair users to meet and pass one another. In addition, Tishler said The Ridges plans to install a wooden

toe rail along the edges of the boardwalk for safety.

The Baileys Harbor town board said Feb. 10 that it's in favor of the variance and confident that The Ridges, which specializes in protecting the environment, can avoid negative impacts.

Andy Gill, executive director of The Ridges, said his organization needed the board's permission to satisfy county regulations.

"We applied for the variance through the county," Gill said. "At that point, I made a presentation to the county Parks and Facilities Committee, and they endorsed the project. Finally, it ends with the County Board of Adjustment on March 22."

Gill said that ideally, he wants to start the project as soon as the weather breaks but doesn't know how much it will cost, given the dramatic increases in lumber prices during the past year.

The labor costs are set, however, because volunteers will do the work – just as they installed the 72-inch-wide boardwalk that leads northeast from the education center. Volunteers also know how to build a boardwalk and its supports with minimal disturbance of the soil.

"We're doing what they call 'punch-ins,'" Gill said. "We sink big pieces of lumber that serve as the foundation for the posts that come up. Then we'll just replace that four-foot [Range Light] boardwalk with a six-foot boardwalk that will be similar to the Hidden Brook Boardwalk," which is eight feet wide. The sixth-foot width of the new boardwalk will meet all Americans with Disabilities Act specifications for elevated boardwalks, he said.

"Currently, there are bump-outs on the boardwalk, but that is not necessarily the most advantageous way to allow wheelchairs to pass," Gill said.

Also during the Feb. 10 Baileys Harbor meeting, a Ridges supporter, Maureen McGrath, urged the town board to create a crosswalk from the boardwalk where people can cross Ridges Road near the beach. But Town Chair Don Sitte said that would also require permits to widen the road for pedestrians, and previous efforts to create pedestrian lanes have failed. He said plans to widen the shoulder there have been shot down over concerns of impacts on "foliage."

Ridges Road resident Dave Greco spoke at the meeting and said the road really needs room for pedestrians, and "foliage will grow back."

## SISTER BAY

# Sister Bay Gets Pebble Beach Boost

by MYLES DANNHAUSEN JR.  
myles@ppulse.com

When Sister Bay joined forces with Door County Land Trust to protect Pebble Beach from development in 2019, the village was hopeful that the state would support its efforts with funding from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship fund.

Two years later, that wish has come at least partially true.

The state's Joint Finance Committee has granted the village \$392,000 in Knowles-Nelson funds to offset the village's share of the purchase. That's about half of what the village had requested, according to Tasha Rass, the village's finance director.

The committee initially denied the village's request without indicating why – a move that seems to have become a habit of the Joint Finance Committee, which consists of 16 members of the state Senate and Assembly, any of whom can anonymously object to a grant award and stall the process.

The Village of Egg Harbor faced the same problem when it applied for funds to support the purchase of 170 feet of shoreline from the Alpine Resort for \$875,000 in 2021. In that case, Egg Harbor accepted a \$249,000 award – the most the DNR can award without approval from the Joint Finance Committee.

At the request of the Village of Sister Bay, Rep. Joel Kitchens prodded senators who were opposed to the grant to reach a compromise.

"I am glad that by working together with my Senate colleagues, we were able to get this funding component taken care of and move this important project forward," Kitchens said. "This is a unique piece of land that is perfectly aligned to the preservation goals of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program."

The village bought the property for \$2.4 million, then worked with Door County Land Trust to raise \$500,000 in donations from hundreds of individuals to help secure the purchase. The village put up the rest with hopes of securing grants and additional donations to offset the cost to taxpayers.

The Land Trust also helped to steer a \$1 million grant from the Coastal Management Program's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the project. With the grant, the village will

owe \$608,000 for the beach property, which had an assessed value of \$3,370,400 when it was purchased.

The 16.8-acre parcel includes 600 feet of shoreline and has been a favorite of locals and visitors for generations. For nearly a century, the public enjoyed views of the beach and sunset from Little Sister Resort, and for nearly 20 years from Fred & Fuzzy's Waterfront Grill. After the village worked with the Land Trust to acquire the beach portion, the resort and restaurant were sold and closed to the public in 2020.

The village has set minimal development goals for the area, but it hopes to improve parking to ease the burden on neighbors, and to add restrooms, benches and a boardwalk to the beach to make it accessible to those with mobility issues.

## green NOTES

### Latest report assesses changes, discusses solutions

The Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) has released its 2021 climate-assessment report, "Wisconsin's Changing Climate: Impacts and Solutions for a Warmer Climate." The report is the most comprehensive assessment to date on the effects of climate change in the state and includes details on the continued warming and increased precipitation throughout Wisconsin.

The report found that since 1950, statewide temperatures have warmed by 3 degrees F, and precipitation has increased 17%. Meanwhile, the last two decades have been the warmest on

## How Climate Change Is Affecting Wisconsin

record, and the past decade has been the wettest. The report stresses the need for significant and rapid reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions and identifies steps that Wisconsin can take to store carbon, reduce emissions and adapt to a wetter and warmer future.

Led by UW-Madison's Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the report is the product of 14 working groups that include more than 200 scientists, practitioners and Wisconsin residents representing more than 50 national, state and local agencies, nonprofit organizations and universities. A science advisory board peer-reviewed the final report.

In 2019, Gov. Tony Evers signed Executive Order #52, launching the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change and directing the DNR to work with WICCI and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies to release a new climate-assessment report. The previous report was released in 2011.

WICCI is a nationally recognized collaboration of scientists and stakeholders – formed as a partnership between the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and the DNR – that works to help Wisconsin residents and policymakers understand the effects of climate change.

"The report contains critical information and will be a valuable tool for Wisconsinites as the state takes its next steps to become more climate resilient," said Pam Porter, WICCI co-director and DNR policy adviser.

The report also highlights the ways in which climate change is affecting communities across the state. Those in the Driftless region noted that an increase in flooding has deeply affected agriculture and homes across the area. In the state's northern regions, a warmer and wetter climate has meant changes to plant and animal life. And communities are experiencing eroding bluffs and infrastructure issues along the coast because of fluctuating water levels.

"It is not our imagination that extreme weather, in general, is getting more pronounced, and the price tag for the extreme events is rising," said Steve Vavrus, WICCI co-director and Nelson Institute senior scientist – often disproportionately more for some communities than others, including low-income communities, communities of color, Tribal Nations and other indigenous communities.

Although the report outlines sobering data about the future climate, changes in attitudes toward climate change and an improved understanding of climate-change science have led to creative solutions. The report outlines many of these solutions, including reducing greenhouse gasses, increasing continuous living cover and rotationally managed pasture on farmland, implementing habitat-management changes, and designing and building infrastructure that accounts for future climate conditions.

## SEED LIBRARY LAUNCHES PACKET-DESIGN CONTEST

The Door County Seed Library is hosting a **seed-packet art contest** to honor the **Ken Paschke bean**: a bean bred in Door County and named after local gardener Ken Paschke, who has been growing and **saving the beans** for 55-plus years.

Through his dedicated seed-saving efforts, Paschke has **created a new variety** for Door County's particular soil and climate. He gave the bean seeds to the **Door County Seed Library** in 2020, and it's working with local growers to help maintain this **special variety**.

The winning art design will be printed in color on the Ken Paschke bean packets, which will be **distributed free** through all Door County Library branches.

The art contest is open to **all artists**, beginner to experienced, and the submission **deadline is April 1**. Request more details and **submission guidelines** by emailing [info@DoorCountySeedLibrary.org](mailto:info@DoorCountySeedLibrary.org).

## WILDLIFE RESCUE, TRANSPORT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to help injured and orphaned wildlife? **Wildlife of Wisconsin (WOW)** – a wildlife-rehabilitation facility north of Manitowoc – is looking for volunteers in the **Door County area** to rescue and/or transport wildlife in need.

Transport volunteers are needed to **pick up injured** or orphaned animals that are **already contained** in a box or carrier at a



home or business and **transport them** to WOW's facility or another site to receive medical care and/or shelter.

A **training session** will be held **March 12, 1:30–3 pm**, at Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St. in Sturgeon Bay. **Registration** is required by calling 920.732.3918 or emailing [WOW@tm.net](mailto:WOW@tm.net).

## 'REGENERATIVE ORGANIC' THE FOCUS OF MARCH 19 PROGRAM

Robert Rodale coined the term "regenerative organic" to distinguish a kind of farming that goes **beyond sustainable** and proved that soil health is intrinsically linked to the **total health** of our food system.

On **March 19, 1 pm**, join the Village of Egg Harbor and Nathanael Gonzales-Siemens and Léa Vereecke from the **Rodale Institute** for Healthy Soil, Healthy Food, Healthy People for a **free program**

highlighting regenerative and organic practices for farm resilience and human health.

In conjunction with the work that the Rodale Institute and the village have undertaken to enhance land-management practices on the public orchard, managed by **Seaquist Orchards**, the program will



focus on orchard growing and regenerative organic farming practices for Door County's cherries, apples and other crops. The program will be held at the **Kress Pavilion**, 7845 Church St. in Egg Harbor. Or, register for a **virtual option** at [kresspavilion.org/orchard](http://kresspavilion.org/orchard).

## VOLUNTEER AT STATE PARKS, PUBLIC LANDS

The Wisconsin **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** is seeking volunteers to help care for state parks and public lands. Volunteers make a world of difference by providing excellent **customer service** to

visitors and expanding recreational and **educational opportunities**.

To make volunteering easier than ever, the DNR has launched a new online portal called **Volunteer Impact System** to help people search and sign up for volunteer opportunities in a variety of state parks, **trails, recreation areas** and forests.

**Learn more** at [dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/parks/volunteer](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/parks/volunteer).

## APPLY TO BECOME A STATE CONSERVATION WARDEN

The Wisconsin **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** is accepting applications through **March 6** for the 2023 class of conservation wardens: credentialed **law-enforcement officers** stationed in rural and urban communities statewide to enforce laws that protect fish and wildlife, the **environment**, state parks and forests, and outdoor-recreation **enthusiasts**.

Conservation wardens also serve as **ambassadors and educators** – teaching the public about natural resources, outdoor safety and **environmental conservation** – as they build relationships, protect the state's natural resources and **serve communities** in essential ways.

The DNR will hire about a **dozen full-time** wardens for the upcoming class, and they will begin **training in October**. Applicants must be at least 21 upon hire and must already have earned, or are planning to earn, at least **60 college credits** within their first five years of being hired.

**To apply**, visit [wisc.jobs](http://wisc.jobs) and search for Job ID 4757.



## WILD THINGS

# Fishing Licenses Purchased Now Are Good through March 31, 2023

by KEVIN NAZE  
gofishwisconsin@gmail.com



If you've been wanting to join Wisconsin's fishing family, now is as good of a time as any because 2022-23 fishing licenses went on sale March 1. They're good for the remainder of this season (through March 31), as well as for the April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023 license year.

First-time buyers, as well as those who haven't purchased a license in at least a decade (known as lapsed anglers), can buy for a bargain price: just \$5. If you want to fish for Great Lakes salmon and trout or inland trout, you'll need to add - and pay additionally for - stamp privileges, which are used to fund stocking and other fisheries needs.

Residents and nonresidents aged 16 and older are required to purchase a license in order to fish. That's more than 1 million paid anglers. No firm estimates are available, but many believe that number could easily be doubled when adding kids aged 15 and younger who aren't required to have a license.

To browse a list of frequently asked questions about Wisconsin fishing, check

out [gowildagent.wi.gov/Pages/Fishing.aspx](http://gowildagent.wi.gov/Pages/Fishing.aspx). Regulations pamphlets are available wherever licenses are sold, or review them through a link at [dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing).

## Fishing Changes Coming

March 6 is the last day to fish in smaller Green Bay tributaries and ditches before they're off limits to give northern pike, walleyes and other species a chance to spawn. They'll remain closed through the end of April.

More important locally is March 15: the last date to keep yellow perch on Green Bay until May 20. The two-month closure has been in place for more than a decade and may be part of the reason for a resurgence in perch fishery.

Starting March 8, the bay walleye limit drops to one fish larger than 15 inches. That same day, the Fox River's trophy fishery changes to a daily bag of one walleye of a 28-inch minimum size.

Right now some anglers are focusing on pike, walleye and perch that are moving shallower into bays and harbors and off creek mouths in preparation for spawning. Others are fishing deep water for whitefish, with some bonus smelt, burbot and brown trout showing up in some locations.

Although it's likely there will still be plenty of ice for fishing during the coming weeks, anglers must closely monitor changing conditions.

Thawing temperatures, rain and the midday sun that's getting higher in the sky each day will all work to weaken the ice, causing thin spots around docks, islands, reefs and shorelines. Strong offshore winds can also open pressure cracks and strand fishers. If you haven't

been out lately, check with local bait shops for the latest conditions and areas to avoid.

Ice shelters can be used day and night on Green Bay waters through March 13; after that date, anglers may continue to use a shelter, but they must remove it daily when not in use.

March 6 is the deadline for removing shelters on inland waters south of Highway 64, and March 13 for inland waters north of that line. If fishing the Fox River in the De Pere area, shelters must be removed daily because of rapidly changing conditions.

## Trout Tournament Set

The first open-water Great Lakes fishing contest of the season is set for April 7-10 in Door and Kewaunee counties. Depending on the weather these next few weeks, it could also mean some cautious walk-on ice fishing in bayside harbors.

New this year, the Baileys Harbor Brown Trout Tournament is offering daily port prizes and more than \$8,000 total in cash and prizes for the four-day event. Keep up with the latest on the event's Facebook page, or visit [baileysharbor.doorcounty.com](http://baileysharbor.doorcounty.com).

## Comment on Waterfowl

Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologists will present three public hearings starting at 7 pm March 8-10 via Zoom on the proposed 2022 migratory game bird seasons. The state's Natural Resources Board will set the final season structure - which is expected to be similar to recent years - during its April meeting.

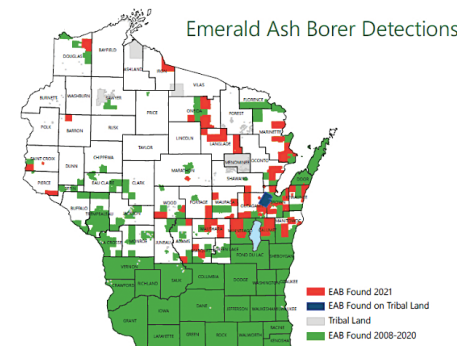
To join the Zoom meetings, call 312.626.6799. The meeting ID for March 8 is 854 6054 3864; for March 9, it's 858 5613 4638; and for March 10, it's 865 1174 4876.

Alternatively, you can learn more beginning March 8 at [dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/waterfowl](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/waterfowl), and email comments about waterfowl seasons and regulations to [taylor.finger@wisconsin.gov](mailto:taylor.finger@wisconsin.gov) or [allicyn.nelson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:allicyn.nelson@wisconsin.gov).

## Emerald Ash Borer

Last year, the emerald ash borer was found in 90 more Wisconsin communities, including 66 townships, 14 villages and 10 cities. That brought the state's total to 898 known communities.

The DNR said the emerald ash borer has now been found in 61 counties and believes additional unreported infestations are present.



This map shows the path of the destructive emerald ash borer through Wisconsin.



Hannes Johnson of Washington Island won the recent Lions Club ice fishing derby with this monstrous, 28.03-pound northern pike.

## Education

“A teacher is a compass that activates the magnets of curiosity, knowledge and wisdom.” EVER GARRISON

### Southern Door Semester 1 Honor Rolls

#### SOUTHERN DOOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

##### Academic High Honors

##### Grade 8

Cruz Anschutz, Lauden Berg, Charlotte Bloniarz, Emma Bousley, Claire Cmeyla, Lillian Delwiche, Logan Euclide, Ava Everard, Arianna Ferron, McKenna Guilette, Alanah Kaye, Addison Kluge, Vance Krauel, Nora LeFevre, Samantha Massart, Sara Montana, Audrey Plzak, Carrie Renard, Ava Uecker, Landon Vandertie, Attyson Wilson

##### Grade 7

Richard Bongle, MaKayla Bouche, Kyleigh Clafin, Caleb Delwiche, Liam Finger, Troy Geisel, Grace Gutschow, Elise Jackson, Kaitlyn Kluge, Ollie LeRoy, Ryker Lohrey, Tara Maccaux, Samantha Melville, Maiya Olson, Audrie Schley, Karina Schmiling, Daylia Sund, Reese Vogel, Teagan Williams

##### Grade 6

Amira Anschutz, Elloise Bloniarz, Alyssa Bouche, Mia Delcore, Austin Ferron, Lana Finger, Jordan Fish, Samuel Ford, Caleb Guilette, Sarita Hernandez Perez, Violet Jackson, Chelsie Jacquet, Portia Karsten, Jocelyn Kiehna, Mason Kovacs, Tyler LaLuzerne, Adley LaVine, Clark LeFevre, Bryce LeGrave, Keshawn Lezine, Isabella Martinez, Madeline Merkle, Addison Miller, DeMarco Parks, Addison Paye, Kennedy Pierre, Sophia Price, Kaitlin Riemer, Octavia Severinsen, Kadince Shefchik, Isaac Sorenson, Kylee Starr, Jesse Thorson, Nikaya Trusova, Colton Valley

#### Academic Honors

##### Grade 8

Cooper Arsenault, Cameron Cochart, Madyson Counard, Samantha Coyer, Liliahna Czoske, Sage DeFere, Genesis Duarte Espinoza, Harlette Feuerstein, Marlen Garcia Hernandez, Gavin Geisel, Colt Gilbertson, Laila Ianson, Jonni Jacobe, Eli Jadin, Isabel Jeanquart, Malintzi Jimenez Polster, Lane Langrick, Ashley Larson, Anna Massart, Jack Monfils, Frances Nellis, Makiyah Parks, Reyanna Schmidt, Jack Scoville, Sydney Turner, Joslyn Uecker, Trevin Veaser, Grace Wagner, Lilly Wrenn

##### Grade 7

Lainey Alexander, Emiah DeFere, Samuel Gebhardt, Elmer Jeanquart, Kayla Johnson, Ethan Moll, Lydia Palmieri, Breleigh Papham, Paige Penovich, Luke Reinhardt, Isaac Rouer, Lance Veaser, Abigail Verhagen, Elias Wallace, Delaney Wilke

##### Grade 6

Hoyt Austad, Brandy Blasier, Brock Delveaux, Collin Everard, Brooke Fox, Kollin Jauquet, Iris Kramer, Sienna Miller, Vincent Price, Bryce Ross, Reed Schmidt, Seth Schupbach, Amaya Snow, Haily Starr, Emmahlynn Weckler, Jade Wrenn

#### SOUTHERN DOOR HIGH SCHOOL

##### Academic High Honors

##### Grade 12

Lane Aleson, Marcus Alrand, Mathew Floyd, Kaylee Griep, Thomas Grosbeier, Collin Grota, Brandon Kaczmarek, Andrew Kluth, Hailey Kroening, Chloe LaCrosse, Katelyn

LeCloux, Hayley LeRoy, Stephany Massart, Alexander Montana, Jacob Norton, Anna Olson, Luke Olson, Brodie Overbeck, Natalie Patza, James Paul, Jacob Pierre, Caleb Quigley, Drew Rass, Alaina Thiry, Shaun Tooley, Aubrey Urban, Andrea Vandertie

##### Grade 11

Amanda Austin, Elizabeth Carstens, Allianna Dufek, Maxine Gemis, Alec Guilette, Greta Gutschow, Beyounce Hernandez, Rachel Kaser, Josephina Kennedy, Chloe Lustila, Victoria Marchant, Benjamin Nachtwey, Jack Peterson, Emily Purdy, Taylor Renard, Brooke Strege, Dylan Taylor, Matthew Zittlow, Laura Zittlow

##### Grade 10

Ava Badovski, Sophia Counard, Madison Davis, MaKenna Geyer, Blake Guilette, Thomas Jackson, Hailey Kincaide, Zephaniah LaLuzerne, Mason Motquin, Joshua Nachtwey, Danica Neville, Mikayla Pieschek, Isabella Price, Noah Rass, Emma Savoiz, Hannah Schley, Spencer Slezewski, Bryce Starr, Nele Thiers, Abigeal Tooley, Tatiana Vesley, Abigail Williams, Emily Willming, Yana Zenefski, James Zittlow

##### Grade 9

John Paul Alrand, Braylon Berg, Madeline Clark, Ellie Engerson, Kayleigh Erickson, Madeleine Finger, Benjamin Grota, Molly Hall, Kelsey Johnson, Katherine Kroll, Mariska LaLuzerne, Finley LaVine, Morgan Miller, Evelyn Parks, Mason Paye, Caden Pierre, Marissa Shefchik, Alaina Shimon, Kendra Shimon, Alexis Tassoul, Luke Walentowski, McKenzie Warner, Grant Weber

#### Academic Honors

##### Grade 12

Avary Anderson, Brock DeGrave, Desirae Guilette, Kameron Hayes, Benjamin McDonald, Avery Pavlik, Riley Phillips, Nicholas Pierre, Logan Rahn, Anna Staudenmaier, Kobey Suda, David Willming

##### Grade 11

Jenna Barnaby, Gary Barta, Madisyn Baudhuin, Kaden Borkovetz, Christian Counard, Erin Griep, Colbi Jacquet, Jonas Jandrin, Nickolas Kallin, Lance LeGrave, Hunter Malvitz, Callie Miller, Michael Nessinger, Bethany Paye

##### Grade 10

Aiden Arsenault, Charlotte Collet-Letailleur, Wesley Counard, Hailey Diemert, Brooklyn Ellison, Trevor Englebert, Gaige Geisel, Elizabeth Golwitzer, Eliana Grosshuesch, Eliana Kerscher, Alexis Massart, Ella Miller, Noah Moll, Sawyer Olson, Paige Olson, Cody Penovich, Tyler Plzak, Jasmine Poe

##### Grade 9

Kyanna Borkovetz, Cole Buechner, Breeanna Carroll, Lucas Conard, Kailey Guilette, Samuel Ingersoll, Nevaeh Krueger, Eden Madden, Breanna Motquin, Danielle Schinktgen, Landon Schley, Alexa Starnard, Robert Wetzel, Talan Younk

#### CORRECTION

In the listing of Gibraltar High School Honor Roll students published in our Feb. 25 issue, the names of Amelia and Hannah Zoschke were misspelled. We regret the error.

## EDUCATION briefs

### FORUM FOR GIBRALTAR SCHOOL PARENTS MARCH 4

The current Gibraltar Schools superintendent, Tina Van Meer, is retiring, and because the school board has searched for a new superintendent only twice during the past 26 years, its members believe it's essential to understand what the school community values in its next district leader.

Therefore, the Gibraltar Schools superintendent-search consultants will host a Zoom forum for school parents Friday, March 4, 12 pm. (An additional forum was held March 3.) Parents can join the forum at [zoom.us/j/99331286837](https://zoom.us/j/99331286837) to let the consultants know about the professional and personal characteristics they want to see in the new superintendent.

In addition to the forums, the district is collecting the same information through a survey, available until March 11, at [ecrasurvey.com/gibraltarsuperintendentsurvey](http://ecrasurvey.com/gibraltarsuperintendentsurvey).

### ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

The Rotary Club of Sturgeon Bay's Four-Year Scholarship Committee has opened the application process to Door

County Class of 2022 students. The focus of the scholarships is on one of the key principles of Rotary: "Service Above Self."

Rotary will award scholarships of \$1,000-\$2,500 to students in the upper 50% of their high school class who are seeking a four-year degree through a full-time course of study at an accredited college or university.

The Rotary Club of Sturgeon Bay Charitable Trust funds these scholarships, and the club expects to award its typical amount of \$20,000.

Rotary is partnering with Write On, Door County to offer essay-writing assistance. Learn more at [writeondoorcounty.org](http://writeondoorcounty.org). Complete scholarship information and application instructions are available at [doorcountyscholarships.org](http://doorcountyscholarships.org). Applications must be submitted by March 15.

### FORMER PULSE INTERN PURSUES MASTER'S IN ARIZONA

Former Peninsula Pulse entertainment intern Maddy Schierl will begin pursuing her master's degree in art and visual culture education in the fall through the University of Arizona's School of Art. She plans to have a community and museums emphasis, with the goal of learning how to design and implement socially responsible, liberating art-education programs that recognize the importance of all artistic traditions - and especially those that have historically been excluded from museum and gallery spaces.

"I credit my time at the Pulse with teaching me how to be a better writer and with consistently showing me the power, necessity and nuance of local media," Schierl said.

She earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Notre Dame and lives in Tucson. Schierl interned at the Pulse during the summers of 2019 and 2020.



Maddy Schierl



VOTE - Darrick DeMeuse

County Board Supervisor  
District 14

APRIL 5, 2022

Approval and Post for by Darrick DeMeuse

8 MARCH 4-11/2022

PENINSULA PULSE

# perspectives

“Tolerance implies a respect for another person, not because he is wrong or even because he is right, but because he is human.” JOHN COGLEY

## PULSE OF PHILANTHROPY

# The Problematic Shift from 'We' to 'I'

by BRET BICOY,  
President and  
CEO, Door County  
Community  
Foundation

I read something truly fascinating the other day that is indicative of a troubling trend in our nation: During the past 50 years, in all the books published in the United States, the frequency of the word “I” has doubled.

This fact comes from Robert Putnam’s book, *The Upswing: How America Came Together a Century Ago and How We Can Do It Again*. Putnam is a Harvard professor best known for his groundbreaking research into our country’s loss of social capital. He summarized his original findings 25 years ago in the landmark book *Bowling Alone*.

The title comes from Putnam’s observation that more Americans were bowling than ever before, yet rather than joining with friends and neighbors in bowling leagues, most were, instead, bowling alone. His research documented the slow erosion of interpersonal connections that have bound Americans together for generations.

The predilection of Americans to join with one another in service of a common purpose has been the essential ingredient in our country’s success. Consider the document that gave birth to our nation, the Declaration of Independence. It begins with our country’s founding principle: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” Yet to realize these rights, our founders set forth an equally important and, at the time, uniquely American

principle: that our success as a country requires us to commit to our fellow citizens.

Our founders explicitly rejected the idea that a monarchy, church or aristocracy should command our loyalty. They were imagining a new kind of nation in which our first loyalty was to each other, so they explicitly bound themselves to one another. Recall the last sentence of our most hallowed national document: “And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.”

During the 25 years since *Bowling Alone*, Putnam has documented that the decline of our shared commitment has only accelerated. In *The Upswing*, he identifies common trends across economics, politics, society and culture. He defines a “meta-trend, a phenomenon we have come to call the ‘I-we-I’ curve: a gradual climb into greater interdependence and cooperation [which peaked about 50 years ago], followed by a steep descent into greater independence and egoism [today].”

This waning of one of the founding principles that is essential to American greatness – our willingness to mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor – is undermining the very thing that makes our liberty possible.

Two centuries ago, Alexis de Tocqueville, a young French political scientist, visited the United States to study our new form of government. His book *Democracy in America* remains an iconic summary of American society and political life.

“Americans of all ages, all conditions and all dispositions constantly form associations,” wrote Tocqueville. “If it be proposed to inculcate some truth, or to foster some feeling, by the encouragement

of a great example, they form a society.”

This was a completely foreign concept to Europeans such as Tocqueville. In his experience, ordinary people did not voluntarily band together around causes of their own choosing.

“I met with several kinds of associations in America of which I confess I had no previous notion; and I have often admired the extreme skill with which the inhabitants of the United States succeed in proposing a common object to the exertions of a great many men, and in inducing them voluntarily to pursue it.”

Tocqueville was surprised that these associations of ordinary people weren’t organized or led by those of high office or great public stature. Instead, they were gatherings of regular citizens. This simply was not how things were done in the “great” nations of his time.

“Wherever, at the head of some new undertaking, you see the government in France, or a man of rank in England, in the United States you will be sure to find an association,” wrote Tocqueville. “Thus, the most democratic country on the face of the earth is that in which men have, in our time, carried to the highest perfection the art of pursuing in common the object of their common desires, and have applied this science to the greatest number of purposes.”

This ability to come together in common purpose, to commit to one another as a united people, has long formed the central tenet of American exceptionalism. Yet as we increasingly turn away from the “we” to focus on the “I,” it has become politically advantageous for demagogues to demonize those who are different or who have opinions that differ from their own. Rather than enter civic life rooted in a shared identity as Americans, we are increasingly segregating ourselves by our differences and thereby losing our willingness to commit our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor to each other in service of the whole. The implications of this shift are profound and enormously troubling.

“As Tocqueville rightly noted, in order for the American experiment to succeed, personal liberty must be fiercely protected, but also carefully balanced with a commitment to the common good,” writes Putnam. “Individuals’ freedom to pursue their own interests holds great promise, but relentlessly exercising that freedom at the expense of others has the power to unravel the very foundations of the society that guarantees it.”

Thankfully, the lessons of our past form a road map for our national rejuvenation. Putnam notes that between 1870 and 1920, Americans founded more civic organizations at a greater rate than at any other point in history. This explosion of shared civic action formed the foundation of a renewed national commitment to serving a common – and more inclusive – good.

Consider the collective national accomplishments that were to follow: victory over Nazi tyranny, women’s suffrage, overcoming the Depression, rural electrification, civil rights, the national highway system and so many other blessings that we all enjoy today. The seeds of these shared national successes were planted in ground made fertile by earlier local collective efforts in communities across the nation.

Today, hope can be found in the rebirth of local organizations and charitable groups whose work reminds us that the “we” must be central to our identity if our communities and our nation are to thrive.

In my next column, I’ll write about some of the efforts underway on our peninsula to help the people of Door County bind themselves to one another in service of a better future for us all.

Contact Bret Bicoy at [bret@givedoorcounty.org](mailto:bret@givedoorcounty.org).



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EDITOR'S NOTE

# When Cynicism and Kindness Are Not Mutually Exclusive



by DEBRA FITZGERALD  
debra.fitz@ppulse.com

The word 'healthy' rarely modifies skepticism or cynicism anymore, as if there's no longer such a thing. It's still OK for journalists to be skeptical, but not cynical. They both basically mean to be questioning of facts or motives, but they say skepticism comes from an open mind, cynicism from a closed one - that skepticism *hardens* to cynicism.

Fear of being labeled a negative thing like 'skeptic' or 'cynic' prevents many from questioning facts or motives. I

think we can thank positivity for this. She knocked down the two miscreants, banishing all naysaying. Upon her throne positivity placed kindness, a ruler worthy of the crown.

But here's the unlikely duo picking themselves up and brushing off their butts. They're shouldering into the bewildered crowd, proving skepticism and kindness, positivity and cynicism are not mutually exclusive. If kindness and positivity won't stop one country from invading another, will Russia be stopped because we know that people are motivated largely, sometimes purely, by self-interest?

We've sanctioned Russian banks and Russian officials and oligarchs close to Vladimir Putin. The U.S. Department of

Treasury lists them all and how those actions are expected to hobble those institutions and individuals. "Sanctions" may seem like a slight word, too small to combat the muscular "Russian invasion." Those who own a London estate or a Mediterranean yacht and send their children to private European schools apparently don't view sanctions as slight.

A skeptic may wonder whether that's been done too late. Surely these types of sanctions couldn't have been a complete unknown. Surely during that long lead-up to this invasion, they were managing to stash their assets, protect their wealth. If this is the case, sanctions won't work.

Some oligarchs, like Evgeny Lebedev, the Russian-born owner of London's *Evening Standard* newspaper and son of

the former KGB agent Alexander Lebedev, published a front-page statement this week with a headline that read, "President Putin, Please Stop This War," beside a photo of a young Ukrainian girl killed by shelling. He had not previously come out against the invasion.

Other wealthy Russians are also speaking out. They are said to be doing this because the sanctions are working and they are trying to save whatever they can of their fortunes.

A skeptical position, a cynical take perhaps. But if not this, what would cause Putin to please stop this war?

## Letters to the editor

### Gibraltar Redmann Property

I read with interest the article in the Feb. 25 Pulse regarding the TIF process for the development of the Redmann property in Fish Creek ("Gibraltar TIF District Gets Assembly Approval") and have a couple of comments.

I recently read the minutes of the numerous board and commission meetings held by the town. I continue to be amazed that the Pulse is the best source of information to understand what is going on with local government. Perhaps disappointed or disgusted would be a better description of how I feel about the level of public disclosure of major financial events impacting taxpayers, of which I am one.

Regarding the Redmann development, there should be significantly more public input into the design and future of the property once it involves public financing, incentives and subsidies. Clearly the private development of the parcel is not feasible or it would have happened.

I support the town's efforts to support affordable housing because I recognize the difficulty that restaurants and most other businesses have finding help.

As a private residential developer, it is my opinion the town should use its involvement in the project to reevaluate the entire zoning and use of the Redmann property. This concept occurs in every development I have completed, regardless of public financing.

Specifically, there should be required public benefits contributed as part of the process, including expanded access, walking trails and amenities such as a simple park or picnic area. In addition, the entire project should be reviewed with possible rezoning to limit the number of housing units to fewer than the 200 currently allowed. The latter comment should be considered because of the obvious existing excessive traffic and congestion already occurring in Fish Creek.

I encourage the town board to disclose more, include the public in major developments, and use its financing and zoning powers to add benefits to the entire area, including benefits to those

visiting and utilizing the businesses for which the TIF will help.

Paul Apfelbach  
*Fish Creek and Mequon, Wisconsin*

### Coming Gun Legislation

Our Wisconsin Assembly has been very busy of late in regard to all things guns. The Republican Senate Bill 570 would limit the legal liability of gun and ammunition manufacturers - a move I believe would protect them from big payouts following mass shootings.

Let's not forget Assembly Bill (AB) 478, which would expand the rights of gun owners with concealed-carry permits and shift the age necessary for a conceal permit from 21 to 18 years old.

Then there are bills - AB 777, 831, 832, 833, 836 and 837 - that want to allocate approximately \$25 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act funding to recruit, retain and equip law-enforcement officers.

I've read that resignations and retirements were up in 2021 among law enforcement, so there is a problem. But if an officer would see a person with a gun, open or concealed, how are they supposed to know in a split second whether that is a "good" or "bad" person? Maybe if there were fewer guns - not more - in the hands of individuals, it would be safer for law enforcement, and we wouldn't have such a problem with retaining and recruitment.

In the end, safety is an issue for both the police and the community. No one should be in harm's way every time they step outside, or sit in a car or on their sofa, or lie in their bed. I agree with Democratic Minority Leader Gretta Neubauer that legislators should focus on things such as universal background checks rather than protection for gun manufacturers.

We all have a responsibility to pay attention to what our elected officials are doing because at times it might not be for the common good.

Carol Schmidt  
*Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin*

### Nonpartisan Playing Field

When one party has a lockhold on the legislature, bad things happen. We have a Republican legislature in Wisconsin that has a lockhold because of gerrymandering. Fortunately, we have a Democratic governor who wields a veto pen.

Democrat Tony Evers was elected governor in 2018 because the gubernatorial election includes the entire state - whereas the Republican legislature back in 2011 manipulated the 33 Senate districts and 99 Assembly districts to ensure a decade of legislative majority for the Republicans.

Losing voting rights is the bad thing that's happening right now in Wisconsin. The Republican legislature is poised to pass a slew of election laws that increase partisan control of voting rules, counts and reporting; and set up barriers to voting that effectively disenfranchise large segments of the population, such as those whose jobs make it difficult to get to the polls, or who don't have cars to get there, or who are elderly or sick.

Evers has often used his veto pen to offset the Republican legislative monopoly, but with Republicans using their power to make electoral procedures subject to partisan control, we must worry that even if these bills fail to become law now, they are likely to succeed if a Republican becomes the next governor.

Both political parties in America have a history of abuses of power. That's why it's imperative to keep the playing field fair. Unfortunately, gerrymandering will prevail in Wisconsin for another decade - the Wisconsin Supreme Court is currently deciding between several electoral maps that basically continue the current Republican gerrymander. Therefore, we must be sure the Democratic Party remains in control of the governor's office in the November election.

When one party controls the rules to ensure its own victory, it is no longer accountable to voters. We can pray for the day when Republicans and Democrats work together for the good of the people, but that will happen only when both parties have to work for your vote.

Karen Wilson  
*Fish Creek, Wisconsin*

### Parallel Universe

Fellow citizens of these United States of America, are we living in some sort of parallel universe? We just witnessed the president of Russia - former diabolical butcher of the KGB Vladimir Putin - invade a neighboring democratic country, Ukraine, and kill every child, woman and man in his way under the guise of "ridding the country of Nazis."

If that wasn't bizarre enough, the former Republican president praised Putin by saying he "admires him, and his invasion of Ukraine was genius."

In what universe is that pure act of evil acceptable? To all of you with signs on your lawns supporting him for president in 2024, and all supporters in general, is this really who you are? Is this what the Republican Party stands for? Growing up, who in your house used the expression, "You're judged by the company you keep"? It was my mother.

Pete Thelen  
*Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin*

### PENINSULA PULSE LETTERS POLICY

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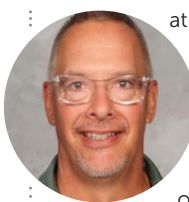
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## ))sports

**"To look like you are a real sports fan when there is a game on TV, just yell, 'Oh, come on!' every now and then at the TV."** DEMETRI MARTIN

### HOF COACH MARK JONAS TAKES REINS OF SOUTHERN DOOR FOOTBALL

Southern Door High School has named Mark Jonas as its varsity football coach and administrative



knowledge to our program," the school said in a press release.

athletic director. He will start his new role in July.

"Coach Jonas has an incredible résumé and brings years of successful experience and

Jonas served as head coach at Oconomowoc, Kaukauna and Ashwaubenon on his way to being inducted into the Wisconsin Football Coaches Hall of Fame (HOF) in 2022.

The school's announcement said that in addition to his football knowledge, Jonas has a passion for fitness and weight training that

will enhance the experience of all students in all sports.

"I am ecstatic with the hiring of Mr. Mark Jonas as the varsity football coach and athletic director," said interim athletic director Jim Smasal. "This fulfills one of the main goals that we established when I first joined the district, which was to attract an experienced candidate to

meet the long-term needs of the district."

Smasal voluntarily resigned his position, effective June 30, as soon as Jonas accepted the position at Southern Door, but he will be continuing on at the district in a consulting capacity.

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