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THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 | GREENBAYPRESSGAZETTE.COM

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'Rust Belt' name needs to be retired



The Green Bay Packaging's new paper mill on Quincy Street in Green Bay is the first new mill built in Wisconsin in decades. MIKE DE SISTI/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

Downtown apartment plan moves forward

Jeff Bollier
Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

GREEN BAY - City officials on Tuesday asked a downtown building owner to consider incorporating affordable housing into plans to top a downtown Green Bay building with apartments.

Peter Nugent wants to add three to five stories of apartments, 40-60 units total, to the building at 216-222 Cherry St. and connect it to the adjacent Cherry Street parking ramp via a skywalk.

The one-story building is home to Bosse's News & Tobacco and other businesses. It once had several upper floors that were destroyed by a fire decades ago. The building is now a single story only, but can still support

See **APARTMENTS, Page 2A**

Suring students may seek damages

**Five students claim
strip searches over
vaping devices**

Kent Tempus
Oconto County Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

SURING - A Madison attorney sent "a notice of event giving rise to claim" over the strip-searching of five students to three Suring School District employees and Suring's Police Chief on Feb. 15.

The notice from Madison attorney Jeff Olson is the first step in seeking damages from a public entity. The district on Tuesday released a copy of the notice, in which the names of the students and their parents had been redacted.

Olson apparently is only representing four of the girls who were searched - law enforcement documents

See **DAMAGES, Page 5A**

Truth is, Wisconsin and the Midwest just aren't that rusty

Richard Ryman Green Bay Press-Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

Editors note: This is an essay by Richard Ryman, who has covered Wisconsin business for the Green Bay Press-Gazette since 1998.

"The Rust Belt."

Three things that can be counted on are death, taxes and politicians using the term "Rust Belt" to describe an area of the country they hope will think itself desperate enough to vote for them.

Its been uttered in every presidential election since Walter Mondale ran against Ronald Reagan in 1984. We'll no doubt hear it again in the fall, when politicians, pundits, analysts and others swoop in to handicap what are expected to be hard-fought races for control of Congress.

We heard it in President Joe Biden's State of the Union speech on March 1, 2022, but with a far different emphasis. Quoting U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, he said, "It's time to bury the label Rust Belt. It's time to see what used to be called the Rust Belt become the home of significant resurgence in manufacturing."

It is good to hear the president say so,

but he too is behind the curve. Others have been saying it for a while now and that resurgence is well begun.

A little context: An online search of the term in 2020 - the last quadrennial spike in use of the term in tandem with presidential elections - turned up more than 9,000 instances of the phrase in publications around the world, ranging from Thai News Service to the London Sunday Telegraph, from NSA Notiziario Generale to the Toronto Star, from Le Mond to The Wall Street Journal.

Most references were in stories about the election that used "Rust Belt" as a sort of shorthand for a chunk of the United States that includes most of the Midwest - depending on how you define that term - and western Pennsylvania. Or all of Pennsylvania. And western New York. Well, all of New York

See **RUST BELT, Page 3A**



Seagulls follow a barge carrying "Big Blue," a crane built by Broadwind Heavy Fabrications in Manitowoc as it headed out onto Lake Michigan for delivery to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in New Hampshire. GARY C. KLEIN/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

**"The Rust Belt simply
doesn't apply anymore.
Today's manufacturing
companies are inherently
technology companies."**

Tom Still
President of the Wisconsin Technology Council,
based in Madison

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Damages

Continued from Page 1A

identified six girls — as the notice submitted to the district only notes what occurred to five students, four girls and one boy.

The notice was discussed in closed session at the March 2 special meeting of the Suring School Board. The board is scheduled to hold its regular monthly meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday.

While the notice itself is not on the agenda, the ramifications of it are. It appears the board may consider hiring someone to review the actions of school employees related to the searches, an agenda item set for discussion in closed session.

The notice says that an investigation into the events of Jan. 18 would reveal that Superintendent Kelly Casper and school nurse Emily Macha violated state code, which protects students from strip searches by school employees.

The notice details the search of one student by Principal Zachary Beeksmas and Suring Police Chief Kevin Schneider, who is incorrectly identified in the document as being from the “Oconto County Police Department.”

Under state law, anyone wishing to sue a public entity or its employees must first file a claim with an entity, generally within 120 days of the event in question.

The damages sought would be listed in an “itemized claim of relief,” though the notice says that may be served later. After the claim is received, the entity has 120 days to disallow the claim, or if it doesn’t respond, the claim is disallowed at that point.

The claimants can then have six months to file suit.

Olson previously told USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin that he plans to draft a settlement proposal and move on through litigation if a settlement isn’t reached.

When asked if the district took any action on the notice after its March 2 meeting, where it was apparently discussed in

closed session, Suring School Board President Wayne Sleeter said by email the district would have no further comment.

Following an investigation by the Oconto County Sheriff’s Office, District Attorney Edward Burke on Feb. 15 announced he would not bring charges alleging an illegal strip search by a school employee as the students’ private areas were not exposed.

However, on Feb. 28, Burke filed six counts of false imprisonment against Casper, saying she lacked legal authority to confine the students in a small restroom located off the nurse’s office, where the searches of the six girls occurred.

Casper was searching the students to find vaping devices. She is scheduled to make her initial appearance in Oconto County Circuit Court on March 23.

Casper was placed on paid administrative leave at the March 2 meeting, which she did not attend. Michelle Pendl, curriculum coordinator, was named interim superintendent to handle day-to-day duties, but those requiring a superintendent’s license will be handled by Sleeter.

In addition to the board possibly considering hiring someone to review the actions of school employees related to the searches, the closed portion of the agenda says there will be discussion and potential action “regarding the procedure to implement, including the engagement of non-district personnel, to review the performance of employees which may involve the disclosure of pupil records.”

Also in closed session, the board is scheduled to consider “employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data” for employees, along with administrative contracts.

Early in the meeting, there will be a public comment session, with speakers allotted five minutes each. The agenda notes the board asks people who speak during the public comment session not to bring up personnel issues about district employees.

Benita Mathew of the Green Bay Press-Gazette contributed to this story.

Contact Kent Tempus at (920) 354-6075 or ktempus@gannett.com.

Rust Belt

Continued from Page 3A

acerbated by the pandemic.

“We certainly know that those who are close to retirement age, that thought I’ll stick around for three or five more years, they are deciding to leave now,” he said. “They’re tired. They’re exhausted. The problems are compounded, certainly, by the pandemic and the talent shortage, frankly. They’re saying ‘I can leave now, so I’m going to leave now.’”

Becky Bartoszek, president of the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce, cited a 20% increase in retirements since the start of the pandemic.

Communities anchored by a top-flight research university, such as Iowa City, Ann Arbor, and State College, thrive in an economic era in which talent and innovation dominate, Austin wrote in his report on the Midwest.

Wisconsin’s network of four-year, private and technical colleges, which blanket the state, doing research, training and retraining workers, and attracting new talent, fit that approach.

“We have more significant university communities than anywhere on the planet,” said Wisconsin Technology Council’s Tom Still.

The coronavirus pandemic made the worker shortage worse, but it also showed the way for some workers to improve their circumstances, and for employers to attract them by allowing them to work remotely.

As mentioned, workers are fleeing the large metropolitan cities for small towns and better quality of life.

“Some of the tech talent is looking to be free of the craziness on the coasts,” Austin said. “The Great Lakes is a spectacular place to be.”

To be sure, scars remain as cities large and small continue the transition, from Milwaukee and its Tower Automotive remains to Manitowoc and the Mirror Aluminum site. And communities continue to try to save important businesses, such as the Verso paper mill in Wisconsin Rapids.

Rural areas that lost low-tech manufacturing have had a harder time recovering because those kinds of jobs are not coming back, but the smaller cities that are the hubs to those areas have joined the revolution.

Progress and challenges

Wisconsin’s transportation system is an advantage to many communities, especially if the need is to move goods north or south. If the need is to move east and west, the center core of the state, north of I-94 and south of State 29, is decidedly in the “you can’t get there from here” category.

“All of us have one little glitch in our connectivity. You want to go north/south, we are in excellent shape,” Rohloff said.

Communities such as Manitowoc, sandwiched between I-43 and Lake Michigan, lost significant manufacturing, but aren’t out of the game yet.

Arizona-based AMMO Inc. is building a 160,000-square-foot small-arms ammunition manufacturing plant in Manitowoc’s industrial park just west of the interstate. The project could create 150 jobs.

AMMO Inc. is a U.S.-based, technology-driven ammunition manufacturer whose products are sold both in the retail market and to the government.

Also in Manitowoc, Ripon-based Alliance Laundry Systems purchased a former Manitowoc Crane plant and moved some operations there, and Redline Plastics built a 117,900-square-foot manufacturing facility in the I-43 Technology and Enterprise Campus, doubling the size of its previous home.

Economic development organizations there are working to connect those companies with workforce training and capital investment, said Jamie Zastrow, executive director of Project Lakeshore, an economic development entity.

A better brand

So, we need a better brand. One used occasionally is The Third Coast, a nod to the long Great Lakes coastline that touches so many states in the aforementioned designation that shall not be named. The Blue Belt also acknowledges the region’s ties to water, which will become increasingly important in the decades ahead.

In that regard, Rohloff says we might one day refer to the Sun Belt as the Sand Belt.

“The future is going to be about water. We have a substantial resource that works to our advantage,” he said.

The Technology Council’s Still also likes the I-Q Corridor. “I” can stand for what you want it to — interstate, innovation, ideas, investment, intellectual property — and “Q” for quality. The corridor, which extends from Chicago to Minneapolis is a critical mass of high-tech and high-manufacturing companies, and wide enough to encompass all of Wisconsin.

“It can rival what you see in places like California,” Still said. “We have a well-educated populace, a workforce that’s not afraid to work, predictable costs of doing business, generally strong infrastructure and livable cities.”

Contact Richard Ryman at (920) 431-8342 or rryan@gannett.com. Follow him on Twitter at @RichRymanPG, on Instagram at @rrymanPG or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RichardRymanPG/.

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World’s #2 Smartest Man Reveals Secret “Genius Pill”

Supercharge your brain and think better than ever.

He has one of the highest IQ scores ever recorded.

He beats Einstein and Stephen Hawking in the genius directory.

Yet you have probably never heard of him, officially the world’s second smartest man.

Some experts say it’s because his intelligence was almost by accident, the result of an unusual “smart pill” he takes every morning.

And he agrees. He has said that the pill makes his brain work better by preventing or slowing the brain’s inevitable aging process, it’s sort of like being smarter.

NEW BRAIN-BOOSTER FLYING OFF SHELVES

Al Sears, M.D., recently released a brain-boosting supplement based on this pill that has become so popular, he’s having trouble keeping it in stock.

Dr. Sears is the author of over 500 scientific papers on anti-aging and recently spoke at the WPBF 25 Health & Wellness Festival featuring Dr. Oz and special guest Suzanne Somers. Thousands of people listened to Dr. Sears speak on his anti-aging breakthroughs and attended his book signing at the event.

All told, 27,432 bottles of this pill have been sold — and everyone who takes it reports similar mind-blowing results.

MULTIPLE STUDIES WITH SHOCKING RESULTS

One study found the key ingredients doubled the memory and cognitive function of 430 patients in just 24 weeks. Another study published in Neurology found the key ingredients not only stopped age-related brain shrinkage in over a thousand seniors, it even boosted brain size, especially in the brain’s memory center.

Researchers at a prestigious California university analyzed brain scans from 265 seniors who took this smart pill and compared the group to the placebo and found on average, this made their brains 28 years younger. And that’s with just a single weekly dose. Imagine what it could do for you if you took it every day!

One of Dr. Sears’ patients from West Palm Beach, Florida, was very concerned when his memory started slipping. “I was worried when I started blanking out on things that used to be routine. All those ‘senior moments’ started way too young. But they suddenly stopped when I started taking Omega Rejuvenol. Now, I feel my focus and memory are back at age-30 levels.”

And then there’s Pete, age 69, who had suffered from progressively weaker memory for 11 years. At one point he was unable to remember his locker combination. But within four months of taking this smart pill, he’s now a math wizard. In fact, he went back to work as a CPA at a large corporation.

The best part is, the supplement has no adverse side effects, you don’t need a prescription or a doctor’s visit, and it’s 100% natural.

POWERFUL ‘Nootropic’ VITAL TO BRAIN HEALTH

“Omega Rejuvenol is a true wonder drug for brain health,” said Dr. Sears. “This ‘nootropic’ substantially increases brain volume while supporting mental sharpness and memory.”

“The key ingredient of my smart pill is a little-known fatty acid called DHA. Scientists are just beginning to recognize this nutrient as the world’s most powerful ‘nootropic.’”

Your brain is almost entirely made up of fats, 60% of which is DHA. And DHA is essential because it helps your brain grow new branches and renew and rejuvenate itself so you can keep your brain power and sharp thinking.

Top scientists acknowledge we don’t get enough DHA in our modern diet. Over the last several decades, our food supply has dramatically changed. DHA is no longer as available as it used to be, not even in fish oil or fish.



Developed by top anti-aging doctor, new ‘smart’ pill supercharges your brain 100% naturally.

THE SEARCH FOR BETTER DHA

So Dr. Sears went looking for better, more concentrated sources of omega-3 DHA. And he found it where nobody else was looking... literally at the bottom of the earth.

Krill are tiny shrimp-like creatures that swim in huge biomasses in the pure, cold waters near the South Pole.

Nature magazine hails them as the basic source of energy for almost all marine life in the world’s oceans.

It turns out that DHA found in krill oil is able to penetrate into nearly every cell in your body in a far superior way than fish oil.

In a study published in Nutrition Research, krill oil, fish oil and olive oil were compared to see which one raised omega-3 levels higher.

Seventy-six people took 2 grams of krill oil, fish oil or olive oil every day for four weeks — then their omega-3 levels were tested. The results were surprising, to say the least.

Those taking olive oil saw their omega-3s rise 2.9%. Those taking fish oil saw their omega-3s rise 131.8%. But those taking krill oil saw their omega-3s skyrocket 178.4%. That’s 30% MORE omega-3s absorbed from krill oil than from fish oil!

SECOND SOURCE OF RARE, POTENT DHA

Omega Rejuvenol also includes a second unique source of omega-3. The Argentinian squid thrives by the billions in the icy, pure waters off the tip of South America.

What got Dr. Sears’ attention is this mighty mollusk is loaded with DHA. “After this special squid oil is processed, it delivers over 65% DHA — the highest concentration of DHA ever achieved in natural medicine!” said Dr. Sears.

DHA is a lifesaver because every one of your cells has built-in receptors that absorb it, and every one of your cells craves it. Fueling your body with high levels of DHA can do wonders for your health, and your brain in particular.

With this first-ever combination, you can flood every cell in your brain with the world’s most powerful “nootropic” and get the full range of brain-boosting benefits it has to offer.

WHERE TO FIND OMEGA REJUVENOL

Right now, the only way to get this powerful one-two punch for a sharp memory and brain-boosting benefits is with Dr. Sears’ breakthrough Omega Rejuvenol formula.

To secure bottles of this hot, new nootropic, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at 1-800-962-7918 within the next 48 hours. “It takes time to get bottles shipped out to drug stores,” said Dr. Sears. “The Hotline allows us to ship the product directly to the customer.”

Dr. Sears feels so strongly about this product, he offers a 100%, money-back guarantee on every order. “Just send me back the bottle and any unused product within 90 days, and I’ll send you your money back,” said Dr. Sears.

The Hotline will be taking orders for the next 48 hours. After that, the phone number will be shut down to allow them to restock.

Call 1-800-962-7918 to secure your limited supply of Omega Rejuvenol. You don’t need a prescription, and those who call in the first 24 hours qualify for a significant discount. To take advantage of this great offer use Promo Code NP0322OM17 when you call in.

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