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## Golden Apple class of 2023 announced

### Local educators recognized for excellence

BY KRIS LEONHARDT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

GREEN BAY - On Feb. 16, the Greater Green Bay Chamber and its program partners surprised local teachers in their classroom as they announced the class of 2023 Golden Apple recipients.

The program recognizes educators in the Greater Green Bay area for professionalism, leadership and innovation.

Through the program, eight individuals and/or teams are selected during a screening process of anonymous applications.

St. Bernard Catholic School Kindergarten Teacher Amanda Boeke was caught off guard as media crews entered her classroom to make the announcement on Feb. 16.

The eight-year veteran said that she "did not



Family members congratulate St. Bernard Catholic School Kindergarten Teacher Amanda Boeke in her classroom on Feb. 16.

Kris Leonhardt photo

think this was going to happen at all. So, it's just amazing. Right now, it's still hard to believe, but

it's really, really great. I've worked really hard and it just, it's an honor."

Boeke said that she al-

ways knew that she was going to be a teacher.

"I actually knew I wanted to be an educator right away

in high school. I just enjoy working with kids and helping them learn and grow. So starting in high school,

I knew that's what I was going to go for and I stuck with that," she recalled.

She also sees the kindergarten age group as a perfect fit for her.

"They don't know a ton coming in. They haven't had a lot of experience with school. So coming in, it's just great to start with that foundation in that building block and teach them new things and see them get excited about learning," she added.

During the application process, Boeke said that she works to build relationships with the students which allows her to be a more effective educator.

"I learn about my students by talking with them constantly. I make an effort to learn their sibling's names, their pet's names and their favorite things. I bring that information I have learned into my teaching, so they can make connections," she explained.

But, Boeke's commitment to the education process extends outside of the

See GOLDEN APPLE page 17



Ashwaubenon Careers in Technical Education teacher Tom Barnhart estimates that approximately one third of the student body is enrolled in CTE classes. Submitted photo

### Ashwaubenon CTE program races full steam ahead

BY WILLIAM SOQUET CONTRIBUTING WRITER

ASHWAUBENON - As Careers in Technical Education (CTE) Month comes to a close, the Ashwaubenon High School (AHS) CTE program is racing ahead.

CTE teacher Tom Barnhart estimates that approximately one third of the student body is enrolled in CTE classes.

"We really adhere to a lot of different career pathways,"

See CTE page 7

### George Stanley to join Multi Media Channels

BY KRIS LEONHARDT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

GREEN BAY - In March, George Stanley will join Multi Media Channels (MMC), parent company of The Press Times, as the company's Local News Initiatives Adviser.

In his role, Stanley will work with the Pass it Forward internship program as well as other company initiatives to nurture a healthy community journalism environment in the state.

"We are excited to have George as a part of our editorial team as we know



Stanley

he will enrich and add value to everything we are doing to revitalize local news and take it to the next level,"

said MMC CEO Patrick Wood.

Stanley stepped down as editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and regional editor for the USA TODAY Network in January 2023. He led the Journal Sentinel newsroom as editor since 2015 and managing editor since 1997.

The newspaper's work won nearly every major national award for reporting about health, business, education, justice, politics, sports and the environment, including 10 Pulitzer finalists and three Pulitzer Prize winners.

See STANLEY page 17

### Genrich, Weininger advance to April 4 election

BY KRIS LEONHARDT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

GREEN BAY - Current Mayor Eric Genrich and challenger, Chad Weininger, will advance to the April 4 ballot for the Green Bay mayor's seat following the Feb. 21 primary election.

The pair were narrowed from a field including Jane Juza and Paul Boucher.

**Results**  
Jane M. Juza - 505  
Chad Weininger - 6,189  
Eric Genrich - 6,102  
Paul D. Boucher - 279  
Write-ins - 17

**Unified School District of De Pere**  
Four candidates will move on to the spring ballot for two seats on the District of De Pere Unified School Board, as Mike LaBouve was eliminated from the race on Feb. 21.

**Results**  
Wolf Hindrichs - 1,274  
Mark Meneau - 1,606  
Melissa Niffenegger - 1,592  
Mike LaBouve - 597  
Jeff Dickert - 1,554  
Write-ins - 42

See ELECTION page 17



# HANSEN



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# Future Business Leaders of America Conference returns to Green Bay

BY WILLIAM KOPP  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

GREEN BAY – This April, Green Bay residents can expect hotels to be filled with students from around the state.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is bringing its state conference back to Green Bay at the KI Convention Center.

FBLA is a career and technical student organization with over 5,000 members — the largest business-focused student organization in the world — focused on presenting careers in a business and information-related course of action, through events and activities.

Its conference — around 20 years ago — used to always be held in Green Bay, but as times changed, so did its locations.

“In the last 20 years or so we’ve just bounced around the state to many different cities,” said Jennifer Jackson, Wisconsin FBLA state adviser. “Last year we were in the Madison area, COVID in the mix there. We’re very excited to get back to Green Bay. The Green Bay area is extremely welcoming of our students.”

Around the Green Bay area, FBLA students find opportunities to tour business partner’s facilities, business people help judge the competitive events and conduct workshops for the students.

“Discover Green Bay is amazing for us at the state level to work with to coordinate everything

from judges to lodging,” Jackson added. “Our students, you know, we bring an influx of about 2,200 students and advisors into the Green Bay area. Green Bay is just extremely welcoming and the layout of the city is great for bringing staff and students into the area.”

Jackson started off as a local chapter advisor in her previous role as a business teacher in the central Wisconsin area, and after some luck, wound up as the state advisor. She now looks over the entire operation of Wisconsin for both high school and middle school chapters.

## What to expect

From students to Green Bay residents, there’s plenty to participate in and watch at the conference.

“For students, they do everything, they compete in our 70-plus competitive events with a chance to earn a bid to go compete at the national conference in June,” Jackson said. “They also have the opportunity to attend workshops, we also have what we call our leadership academy, meant for students who didn’t qualify to attend the state conference in their event. They can continue to grow their leadership skills; we bring in an amazing keynote speaker to train them on how to be great leaders. We also do a future fair — underclassmen can look at universities, technical colleges, military, appren-

ticeships — really helping them figure out what they could do after they graduate.”

Students can also attend 10 different tours ranging from manufacturing to hospitality tourism — including Lambeau Field.

Jackson added, “It’s huge for students, especially those not from northeast Wisconsin. They may have never had the chance to go to Lambeau before. We love seeing our students shine, but also making those connections with business and industry experts.”

At the high school side of things, FBLA is expecting 2,100 students, advisors and chaperones — with about 250 at the middle school level.

“I want to thank the Green Bay area for allowing us to come in and for being so welcoming,” Jackson said. “Not every community is when we’re bringing in this many high school kids, but Green Bay is great about it. If someone in the Green Bay area is curious about [FBLA], consider being a judge, consider reaching out to us to see how you can take in the event. We love to keep adding, to have too many workshops, too many tours to offer our students.”

For those interested in getting more information you can go to <https://www.wifbla.org/> or visit the state conference April 17-18 at the KI Convention Center.

CTE  
from page 1

said Barnhart. “We have a heavy emphasis on engineering, a heavy emphasis on construction trades, a heavy emphasis on automotive and we also have a heavy emphasis on manufacturing.”

Educators at AHS work with a variety of community stakeholders to determine course offerings.

“We offer what we offer because of our advisory board. It’s made up of community members ranging from different types of educational entities, school administrators, community businesses and industries as to how they relate to manufacturing. They are our guiding compass in terms of what we offer and how we get support for what we’re offering,” noted Barnhart.

On-site facilities at AHS include multiple Haas computer numerical control (CNC) machines, a plasma table, a lathe, a vinyl cutter and multiple 3-D printers.

Students also have the opportunity to gain credit through either Northeast Wisconsin Technical College or the University of Wisconsin system in select classes.

According to Barnhart, CTE classes and machines pair well with mathematics.

“All the reasons why you had to solve for X, Y and Z in math class, this is all mathematically modeled on the computers by making a model and then having those models communicate to the different machines. It’s how you program robots, you’re connecting the dots on the Cartesian coordinate system,” he said.

Ashwaubenon also has robust extracurricular

activities in CTE-related fields.

SkillsUSA is an organization which allows students to compete in various disciplines such as welding, CNC machining, architectural drafting, automotive repair and 3-D printing.

Barnhart explained that “students go to these events and compete in these events, but I think the unique thing is that... all of our students have to have a job resume, they are required to dress professionally and they are forced to act like they are working for a client. It’s a great way to teach students how to become a professional in the world of work.”

He noted that SkillsUSA is a popular organization in the Green Bay area, with many high schools having chapters.

Ashwaubenon students have competed in events at Gateway Technical College in Sturtevant, Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton and Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

Students are currently preparing for the state competition, held at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison on April 25-26.

From there, students can then advance to the national competition, held June 19-23 in Atlanta.

They compete at Gateway Tech near Kenosha, Fox Valley Tech in Appleton and Northcentral Tech in Wausau. State is at Alliant Energy Arena in Madison and nationals are in Atlanta.

Another club that students can be involved in is Formula Student USA.

Held in conjunction with Road America in Elkhart Lake, teams of

students go through the entire process of putting a racecar on the track.

“Since it’s on a go-kart track with safety features, students are able to design, build and actually drive their cars at this event,” Barnhart said.

The experience of the annual test, which is held in May every year, can have a lasting impact on those that participate.

“There are so many kids who take their senior pictures with a car that they design — they can tell that story,” explained Barnhart.

Even for students who are not in any formal clubs, opportunities abound.

Earlier in the 2022-23 school year, approximately 50 CTE students took a field trip to the International Manufacturing Trade Show in Chicago.

It was an experience that Barnhart described as world-class.

“It’s kind of like the Detroit Auto Show, but this would all relate to manufacturing. The students get to see trendy technologies that the world is seeing for the first time at this show. It’s a glimpse into the future of manufacturing for all those students,” he said.

When asked about special events for CTE Month in February, Barnhart shrugged off the notion of a special month.

“We do things special every month. We really try to do things to incentivize learning around here,” he said.

“We’re always trying to do little incentivizing things to get the word out about CTE. My mission is not to graduate students with skillsets; it’s to help students know the pathways and see the benefits.”

**Press Times**

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Editor-in-chief..... Kris Leonhardt      kleonhardt@mmclocal.com  
Sports Editor ..... Greg Bates              gbates@mmclocal.com  
City Pages Editor..... Janelle Fisher        jfisher@mmclocal.com  
Contributing Writers ..... Mallory Allen, Mara Allen, Michael Callahan,  
Kana Coonce, Stephanie Faudoa, Josephine Hinderman, Will Kopp,  
Jordon Lawrenz, Melanie Rossi, William Soquet, Josh Staloch, and Lee Reinsch

Advertising & Marketing..... Mick Gotta              mgotta@mmclocal.com  
Advertising & Marketing..... Dyan Black              ddoxsee@mmclocal.com  
Advertising & Marketing..... Rhonda Bartels              rbartels@mmclocal.com  
Advertising & Marketing..... Paula Smits      paula.advertising8972@gmail.com  
Subscriptions ..... 715-258-4360  
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**STANLEY**  
from page 1

Stanley has participated in several national programs aimed at finding a sound future for local news, including the Table Stakes News Transformation program run by the American Press Institute, Lenfest Foundation and Temple University.

Through Table Stakes, the Journal Sentinel learned to innovate, reach readers they hadn't been serving before and dramatically grow both digital-only circulation revenue and grant-funded journalism projects.

Stanley helped found the O'Brien Public Service Fellowship program at Marquette University's journalism school, which is fully endowed by a \$10 million donation.

In this program, experienced journalists spend an academic year working on a major public service journalism project that they then bring back to their newsrooms.

A student returns with each fellow to their home newsroom for a summer internship paid for by the program.

Stanley is past president of the News Leaders Association and a board member of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Before becoming managing editor of the Journal Sentinel, he was business editor and before that, he was a reporter for the Milwaukee Sentinel, the Wichita Eagle and Ducks Unlimited magazine with an expertise in environmental and conservation reporting.

He started his career at the Lake Geneva Regional News after graduating from the University of Wisconsin.

He and his wife Pam grew up in Allouez. They have five adult children and seven grandchildren.

"I'm excited about working with the Multi Media Channels, the Press Times and the Pass it Forward internship program as foundation stones to strengthen community news coverage in Wisconsin," Stanley said. "For our democracy to work the way it's supposed to, people need to be informed about what's going on at all levels with our schools, law enforcement, roads, zoning, taxes, new developments, you name it. The business models that supported this local reporting are rapidly changing and we've got to find ways to retain and rebuild it."

**ELECTION**  
from page 1

**Howard village president**

Burt McIntyre and J.D. Kopp will move on to the April 4 ballot in the race for Howard village president.

**Results**

Michele Swaer - 521  
Burt R. McIntyre - 1,467  
J.D. Kopp - 1,066  
Write-ins - 16

*Results are unofficial until a full canvassing has been completed.*



Amanda Boeke is surrounded by her kindergarten class after the Greater Green Bay Chamber and its program partners surprised her in her classroom. **Kris Leonhardt photo**

**GOLDEN APPLE** from page 1

classroom door.

"I strive to be a leader and a colleague that people can rely on and go to for help. I have complete confidence saying that I'm a leader. A few years ago, I wouldn't have necessarily said those words. Over the last few years, I have tried to step up within my school. I have taken on different leadership roles and have worked at bettering myself," she said.

Boeke's fellow recipients include Andrew Belter, De Pere High School; Sarah Morgan, Pulaski Community Middle School; Kristen Possley, Bay Harbor Elementary School; Heather Potts, Lineville Intermediate School; Michael Smits, Parkview Middle School; Derek Zahn, Pulaski High School; and the Kennedy Elementary School Special Education Team of Madeline LaBott, Rylee Schmitt and Hope Smeester.

"I know there are a lot of people that, you know, are really grateful for educators, but we just put in so much time and effort behind the scenes. We focus everything on the kids. So it's all about them. We don't do anything for ourselves. So, just being able to be recognized and to recognize multiple teachers is really great," Boeke said.

*Over the next seven weeks, The Press Times will highlight the remaining 2023 Golden Apple recipients in front-page spotlights.*

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