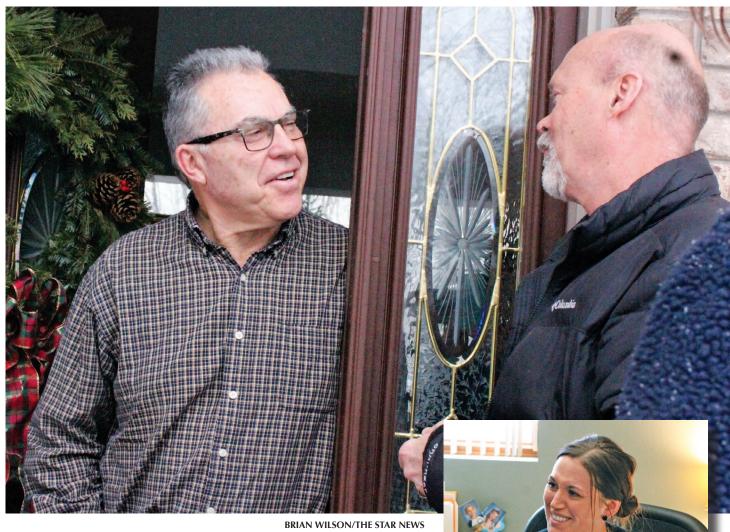




Medford Show Choir competes Page 16



Dr. Perry Arndt reacts as selection committee member Chip Courtney (right) informs him that he has been named as the Lifetime Achievement Award winner for 2023. (Photo right) Amanda Lange reacts to being told she was selected as the Medford Area Chamber of Commerce 2023 Person of the Year. The recognition banquet will be January 28.

Lange, Arndt to get Chamber honors

Dr. Perry Arndt Lifetime Achievement honoree; Amanda Lange named 2023 Person of the Year

> BY BRIAN WILSON **NEWS EDITOR**

The Medford Area Chamber of Commerce recognition awards have returned this year with Amanda Lange being named the 2023 Person of the Year and Dr. Perry Arndt receiving Lifetime Achievement Award recognition.

Also being recognized, Jeff Miller will receive the J.A. O'Leary Distinguished Community Service Award and

Gwen Jones is the inaugural winner of the Gwen Jones Ambassador of the Year Award. In addition, Vi Nelson is being recognized with an employee excellence award.

The award ceremony will be held Saturday, January 28 at the Centennial Community Center in Stetsonville.

See CHAMBER on page 9

SHAW REPORT RELEASED

A mess

Misunderstandings, missteps, manipulation; remedies highlighted in attorney's report on VSO

> BY BRIAN WILSON **NEWS EDITOR**

Taylor County was deficient in its handling of interactions with former veterans service officer Shellie Shaw.

That is the finding from a 17-page executive summary prepared by attorney Jacob Curtis of Attolles Law on behalf of the county's insurance carriers.

In August 2022, the county reached out to its insurance carrier, County Mutual Insurance, to conduct a review of the relationship of the Taylor County Veterans Service Office and the County Board leadership. The Insurance carrier assigned the case to Attolles Law of Milwaukee. Attorney Curtis conducted interviews and reviewed extensive documentation in preparing the report.

A draft version of the report had been presented to county board supervisors during closed session at their October board meeting. On January 5, the final executive summary was released to the public after being revised on January 4.

The report reviewed the county's interactions with Shaw from the exchange of emails between Shaw and former Human Resources Director Marie Koerner regarding the office hours during the 2021 holiday season; to the change in the

See REPORT on page 5



Former veterans service officer Shellie Shaw raises concerns at the July 20 Veteran Service Committee meeting

Page 9: Rib Lake Ice **Fishing contest results**



SPORTS: Tatum Weir breaks 1,000 points



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