



Waukesha South esports team wins second state title

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WAUKESHA COUNTY



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Saturday, June 24, 2023

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Shine of the times

Car wash popularity rising



Photos by Katherine Beck/Freeman Staff

The view from inside a car wash.

By Katherine Beck
kbeck@conley.net.com

For many growing up in America, a car wash meant mom or dad handing you a bucket filled with a big sponge and soapy water and being told to wash the car in the driveway. Increasingly, that method has gone by the wayside as more people opt to drive through a standalone car wash or one attached to a gas station. The growing popularity of car washes can be witnessed by the locations being constructed around Waukesha County, sometimes even across from one another like in Muskego.

Adam Trzebiatowski, planning manager for Muskego, said car washes aren't unusual in the city, although in the past they have tended to be at gas stations whereas the two that are being built are free-standing operations. When the proposal for the Jilly's Car Wash came forward on the east side of Moorland Road on Commerce Center Parkway at about the same time the proposal for the A.J. Car Wash on the west side of the road was presented, the two developers were made aware of each other's plans, but they decided to proceed. While their operations will be similar, Trzebiatowski said their appearances will be very different.

Waukesha is also getting two new car washes, however, they will be on opposite sides of town. Both are being constructed on the sites of former restaurants that have been demolished. Land near the corner of Sunset



A vehicle goes through the car wash at Kwik Trip off Racine Avenue in Waukesha on Friday. About half of Kwik Trip locations have a car wash.

Drive and Grand Avenue that was home to a convenience store and Pho King restaurant has been prepped for a Tsunami Car Wash. Drive a few miles across the city, and the future home of a Jilly's Car Wash can be found on property that was the site of Albanese's Road House at 2301 Bluemound Road.

Neither Jilly's nor Tsunami Car Wash responded to requests for comment for the story. Several Jilly's have been constructed across southeastern Wisconsin. The Waukesha location will include a stacking lane which will allow for up to 16 vehicles. There will be 20 stalls for vacuuming and cleaning cars after they have gone through the wash.

See WASH, PAGE 6A

By the numbers

16,976 car washes in the United States in 2019

\$14.7 billion was the valuation of the industry in 2022

\$11.2 billion was the valuation of the industry in 2014

84.2% of washing and cleaning services were for cars and light-duty trucks in 2017

\$5 billion of \$9.7 billion car wash sales in 2017 were for automatic washing and waxing services

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Statista

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WAUKESHA

Teacher behind 'Rainbowland' controversy to have hearing on July 12

Melissa Tempel faces possible termination

By Karen Pilarski
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WAUKESHA — The School District of Waukesha teacher who brought attention to the removal of a song from a spring concert will have a hearing on July 12 regarding her possible termination. Melissa Tempel is a dual language teacher at Heyer Elementary School for the first grade.

Superintendent Jim Sebert confirmed to The Freeman the date of her hearing. Tempel hasn't responded to repeated requests for comment.

During the hearing, Tempel will have the right to legal representation at her expense, as well as the right to call witnesses, present evidence and/or testimony on her behalf and to cross-examine district witnesses. At Tempel's request, the hearing may be held in open session.

The Alliance for Education in Waukesha, on behalf of Tempel, previously provided a copy of the investigation letter to The Freeman. The letter was from Sebert to Tempel.

According to her Twitter profile, Tempel calls herself a "teacher activist."

The letter, dated May 15, said the district completed its investigation into Tempel's conduct in response to the "Rainbowland" song not being included in a Heyer Elementary School concert.

The letter said Tempel is entitled to agree or disagree with the decision over the song however her way of expressing it was "inappropriate." The letter said she violated various district policies and didn't raise her concerns through the appropriate channels.

See TEACHER, PAGE 6A

Two finalists selected for Menomonee Falls superintendent

Interim Superintendent James Heiden's contact was extended

By Karen Pilarski
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MENOMONEE FALLS — The School District of Menomonee Falls Board of Education has selected two finalists for its next superintendent of schools following a nationwide search and first-round interviews: Jerome Sardina and David Muñoz.

Sardina has been the superintendent of schools at Iron Mountain Public Schools in Iron Mountain, Michigan, since 2019. From 2014-2019, he served as principal at South Haven High School in South Haven, Michigan. From 2007-2014, he served Stephenson Middle School and High School in Stephenson, Michigan, in roles including principal, assistant principal and athletic director. From 1994-2007, Sardina was a law enforcement officer for Greenfield in Wisconsin.

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WEATHER



Tomorrow:
Showers likely
High 78 / Low 56

See complete forecast on Page 8A

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Celebrating our 25th year in Waukesha County



Photo submitted by Nancy Storrs

A photo of the cast of "Flanagan's Wake" at the West Bend Masonic Center. The comedy will complete its run March 18 and 19. "People are loving the improv comedy," said Nancy Storrs, founder of the West Bend Theatre Company.



Photo submitted by the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts

A performance by the Milwaukee-based Irish band áthas. The group will perform at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts on Friday, March 17, including performances by the Schauer Center Irish Dance Troupe.

Step out in the style of the Emerald Isle

Celebrating with a wee bit o' fun o' the Irish

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt
Special to Conley Media

There are plenty of ways to ring in St. Patrick's Day both today and in the days ahead, from enjoying food and drink to taking in live performances.

In West Bend, the improv comedy "Flanagan's Wake" returns to the West Bend Masonic Center with performances on Saturday and Sunday.

The show is an interactive performance with live music. The audience celebrates the life of a character named Flanagan, according to the website.

"What could go wrong at an Irish funeral with an open bar?" the theater website asked.

"Join the villagers of Grappling, County Sligo, Ireland," as they tell tales, sing songs and mourn the passing of one of their own, the dearly departed Flanagan," the site said.

There are still tickets available for the weekend shows, according to Nancy Storrs, founder of the West Bend Theatre Co.

"People are loving the improv comedy," she said.

"Flanagan's Wake" is one of the longest-running shows in Chicago history, the site said.

The show is for ages 13 and up, according to the theater company.

Food, drink and parades

If looking for some good food

and drink, Brewed Omen in Hartford is opening early at 6 a.m. on Friday, St. Patrick's Day, according to Bill Ohm, co-owner with his wife Ane Ohm of the brew pub and tasting room and the restored Millstream Building.

The business opened in downtown Hartford last fall.

The early hours are modeled after the festive atmosphere of Milwaukee's Water Street, Ohm said.

Brewed Omen will be open until 10 p.m., featuring four Irish beers.

"Two are brand new from Foxtown Brewing in Mequon, one is from Third Space in Milwaukee and one is from over in Ireland," Ohm said. "We were a little liberal with the Celtic theme and we've got a couple of Scottish beers, too. One from Scotland and one from Madison."

Also available are four Irish whiskeys and shamrock-shaped pretzels from Milwaukee Pretzel Company. The location will be serving a limited edition Reuben and corned beef flatbread, according to Ohm, who said there will be live music during the day as well.

Upstairs from Brewed Omen, Bridges 120 will be serving green waffles, Ohm said.

There are a few all-day parking lots within walking distance of the location, which are listed on the Brewed Omen website, according to Ohm.

What to know before the show

Flanagan's Wake

What: One of the longest-running shows in Chicago theater history is in West Bend with a local cast, according to the West Bend Theatre Company website.

"Brian Ballybunion, Flanagan's best friend and drinkin' mate, says, 'we'll keep 'wakin' himself until we get it right,'" the site said, of the improv comedy show, which includes live music. The show covers the misadventures of Flanagan at work, at play and, of course, at the pub, the site said.

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 17; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 18; and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 19.

Where: West Bend Masonic Center, 301 N. University Drive, West Bend.

How much: \$25 to \$28. All seating includes a

choice of non-alcoholic Irish beer, root beer or water. Must provide proof of age to purchase traditional brews from the licensed bartender.

More info: The show is for ages 13 and up.

áthas

What: The Milwaukee Irish band áthas will perform a combination of traditional and newly composed Irish dance tunes, according to the performance center website. The Schauer Center Irish Dance Troupe will perform throughout the evening.

When: 8 to 10 p.m. Friday, March 17.

Where: Sharon Lynne Center for the Arts, 3270 Mitchell Park Drive, Brookfield.

How much: \$36. A ticket promo code for 10% off is wcfriends10.

More info: The box office is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and the number is 262-781-9520.

"We're hoping to have some traffic before and after the Erin parade at 11 a.m.," he said.

The Town of Erin's 43rd annual St. Patrick's Day parade is slated to begin at 11 a.m. at the intersection of Highway K and Shamrock Lane before traveling north to end at Highway 167.

Highway K will close at 10 a.m., parade organizers told Conley Media.

Music and dance

In Brookfield at 8 p.m. Friday, March 17, the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts will feature the Milwaukee Irish band áthas.

The band "lights the dance floor on fire with a combination of traditional and newly composed Irish dance tunes," the arts center website said.

"Fierce fiddle, driving bodhrán

and funky guitar riffs come together to lift listeners' feet, drinks, and spirits," the band website said.

The group's name is the Irish word for joy and happiness, the site said.

The band is "firmly rooted in the traditions of Irish music, constantly seeking inspiration from the past masters and passing on their knowledge by teaching throughout Milwaukee," the group's website said.

Tickets are limited and have been selling quickly, so it is recommended to call or purchase them in person at the box office ahead of the show, according to Jen Moran, marketing and communications director for the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts.

Moran said áthas has played across the region, including Irish Fest in Milwaukee, the

Oconomowoc Arts Center, Irish Fest LaCrosse, Chicago Celtic Fest, Buffalo Irish Centre in New York, and more.

The show will also feature the Schauer Irish Dance Troupe.

"It's becoming a sell-out," said Moran, who said organizers have moved the show to the center's main stage.

"It's a bigger performance area and we wanted room for the dancers," she said, noting the dancers will perform ahead of the show around 7:45 p.m.

"Different dancers will come up during the concert," Moran said.

The evening will include a limited run of Guinness and a signature drink of the night called an Irish Mule, "a whiskey-twist on the classic," the site said.

"It will be a lot of fun," said Moran, of the evening's festivities.

New this week: 'Ted Lasso,' 'Agent Elvis' and 'The Boston Strangler'

(AP) — Here's a collection curated by The Associated Press' entertainment journalists of what's arriving on TV, streaming services and video game platforms this week.

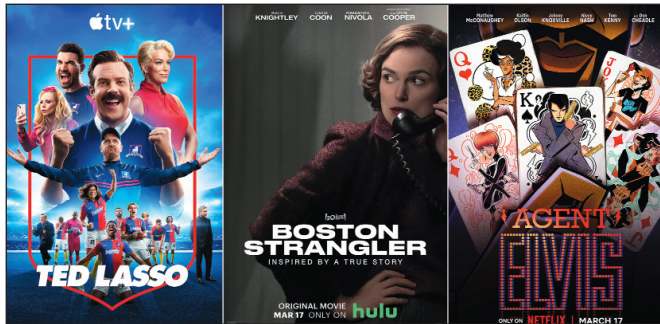
Movies

Keira Knightley and Carrie Coon play the Boston Record American reporters Loretta McLaughlin and Jean Cole, who connected several Boston-area murders in the early 1960s to a single suspect they dubbed the Boston Strangler. The serial killer sexually assaulted and killed at least 11 women between 1962 and 1964. The case has been the subject of many books and movies over the years, but writer-director Matt Ruskin's is the first to focus on the reporters. "The Boston Strangler" debuts on Hulu on Friday.

— AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr

Television

"Ted Lasso" returned Wednesday to Apple TV+



Apple/Hulu/Netflix via AP

This combination of images shows promotional art for "Ted Lasso," the Apple TV+ series premiered its season three on Wednesday, left, "Boston Strangler," a film premiering Friday on Hulu, center, and "Agent Elvis," an animated series premiering Friday on Netflix.

with all the heart, one-liners, and pop culture references viewers have adored from its first two seasons. The Emmy-winning series starring Jason Sudeikis, Brett Goldstein, Hannah Waddingham and Juno Temple picks up a few months following where season two ended. Sudeikis, who is a co-creator of the series, has said season three is the end of this story but has not provided a clear answer as to whether

the show could take a new direction, launch a spinoff or return for another season down the road.

Elvis Presley famously loved comic books and now the late singer is the star of his very own animated series coming to Netflix. In "Agent Elvis," Presley — voiced by Matthew McConaughey — is still the King of Rock 'n' Roll but also moonlights as a government spy by night. Kaitlin Olson, Johnny

Knoxville, Niecy Nash and Don Cheadle also voice characters. Priscilla Presley, who is a co-creator and executive producer, plays herself. "Agent Elvis," premiering Friday, is the first adult animated project from the studio behind "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse." The show is violent, profane and features a NSFW chimpanzee, so definitely not suitable for kids.

A new re-telling of "Marie Antoinette" comes to PBS on Sunday. This version stars Emilia Schüle, as a teenage Antoinette who is sent to Versailles to marry the future King of France, played by Louis Cunningham. PBS says this "Marie Antoinette" tells the story from a more modern lens, focusing on how the young woman navigated the politics of the French court, pressure to deliver an heir and made her mark on Versailles and history. James Purefoy plays Louis XV.

— Alicia Rancilio

Video games

John Cena is back in

the ring for WWE 2K23, the latest edition of 2K Sports' long-running pro wrestling series. The "Peacemaker" actor is featured in this year's Showcase mode, which puts you in the trunks of the big lug during the biggest matches of his career. You can also choose from dozens of other WWE stars, from legends like

Hulk Hogan to current headliners like Roman Reigns, or create your own rookie brawler from scratch. The 2023 model also introduces WarGames, a fan favorite in which teams of three or four compete in two rings covered by a steel cage. Chaos ensues Friday on PlayStation 5/4, Xbox X/S/One and PC.

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Don't monkey around on taking winter trip to zoo



Photo submitted by the Milwaukee County Zoo

"Because we don't have big crowds (in winter), the animals seem to be a little more intrigued and take notice."

— Jennifer Diliberti-Shea, Milwaukee County Zoo public relations manager, on the draw of free admission next week

LEFT: A pair of De Brazza's monkeys, Holly and Hugo, are now at the Milwaukee County Zoo at the Primates of the World building.

Area zoos add holiday style, admission specials

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt
Special to Conley Media

If you visit Shalom Wildlife Zoo before the end of the year, David Fechter is sure you'll leave with a boost of happiness.

People sometimes arrive at the zoo looking stressed, but everyone leaves looking happy, he said.

"We want people to have fun," said Fechter, who with his wife Lana Fechter owns the Town of Farmington zoo.

The zoo is offering "Christmas at the Zoo" through Dec. 31, a drive-through event filled with lights and animal residents of the zoo.

The event has been held annually for the past decade, according to David Fechter.

"The drive-through takes about an hour," he said, noting that participants each receive a little stuffed animal at the ticket booth.

"It's a little present from Santa Claus," he said, noting that the displays throughout the zoo are lit with LED lights and the exhibits with flood lights in the dark hours.

"It takes our entire staff 20 days to decorate. That's working eight-hour days," Fechter said. "You can see it for miles."

Following the drive-through, participants may park and enter the gift shop to buy hot chocolate or animal feed for the petting zoo.

"We have a campfire going. People can roast marshmallows or hot dogs," said Fechter, who said the event is popular with various area groups.

"We get a lot of little mini-buses. Some schools come with their vans," he said.

Reservations are not needed to attend, according to Fechter, who said animals should be viewable for attendees.

"They'll all be out. It's a big zoo and animals are in big exhibits," he said. "Actually, the animals like the cold weather."

Sometimes visitors ask whether animals like tigers or zebras are OK in colder temperatures.

"Where they live it gets cold as well. They're actually more active in the cold weather," Fechter said.

There are indoor exhibits for those animals not comfortable in colder temperatures, according to Fechter.

He said the holiday event is good for attendees of all ages.

"We just had someone here who was over 100," Fechter said, noting some participants bring their families in a pick up truck for the drive-through.

"We have one guy who brings a whole wagon," said Fechter, who encouraged visitors to this year's exhibition.



Photo submitted by the Milwaukee County Zoo

Elk at the Milwaukee County Zoo last year. The zoo is offering free daytime admission during the week of Dec. 26-Dec. 30 as a way of "giving back to the community," according to a press release.



Photo submitted by Shalom Wildlife Zoo

Jona the tiger watches the holiday display at Shalom Wildlife Zoo earlier this week. It takes the staff 20 days to decorate the property for the event, according to David Fechter, owner.

"Come and enjoy life. This is what matters, family and happiness," he said.

Milwaukee's 'Frosty Free Week'

The Milwaukee County Zoo is also inviting visitors over the holiday break, with an

offer of free daily admission from Dec. 26-Dec. 30 as part of the zoo's "Frosty Free Week."

"We've done it for several years. We're happy to be able to do it," said Jennifer Diliberti-Shea, public relations manager for the zoo.

The zoo offers the free admission week as a means of giving back to the community.

"We feel like we are a community partner. Not only in the immediate area but in all of southeast Wisconsin and even in northern Illinois," she said.

The event is a means for visitors to enjoy the zoo without feeling like they need to stay for a certain length of time, according to Diliberti-Shea.

She added that some visitors find the animals are especially interactive during this time of year.

"Because we don't have big crowds (in winter), the animals seem to be a little more intrigued and take notice," Diliberti-Shea said.

The zoo recently welcomed a returning species, a pair of De Brazza's monkeys, which visitors can see during the "Frosty Free Week," according to a press release.

Both arrived at the zoo from other accredited Association of Zoos and Aquariums institutions, and are part of a "colorful and dynamic species known for their white facial hair," according to the release.

"With their white belly, speckled grayish coat and black extremities, they have an elegant appearance," the release said.

De Brazza's monkeys are arboreal and spend most of their time in the trees and shrubs between the forest canopy and the ground, the zoo statement said.

"Their diet primarily consists of fruit and seeds and De Brazza's monkeys play an important ecological role as a seed disperser," the release said.

Zoo-per attractions

Frosty Free Week

What: The Milwaukee County Zoo offers a week of free daytime admission. Regular concessions and attraction rates apply. This does not apply to the Zoo's Wild Lights night event.

When: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday from Dec. 26 to Dec. 30. The zoo is closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Where: The Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee.

More info: 414-771-3040.

Christmas at the Zoo

What: A holiday drive-through at the Shalom Wildlife Zoo featuring "unique holiday displays and decorations," the zoo website says. Following the drive-through, visitors may visit the petting zoo and a campfire. Animal feed for the petting zoo is available for purchase in the

gift shop. **When:** Open daily through Dec. 31. **Where:** Shalom Wildlife Zoo, 1901 Shalom Drive, Town of Farmington. **How much:** \$10 per person, free for ages 2 and under. Pay at the drive-up ticket booth. No reservations needed. **More info:** shalomwildlife.com.

Streaming this week: 'Top Gun: Maverick' lands on Paramount+

(AP) — Here's a collection curated by The Associated Press of what's arriving on streaming services this week.

■ At long last, "Top Gun: Maverick" is coming to a streaming hub. The biggest film of the year is gearing up to land on Paramount+ as of today after its high-flying run in theaters in which it became the highest grossing film of the year with over \$1.4 billion in worldwide ticket sales. In the unlikely chance you've been holding out for this moment to finally watch the film which finds Tom Cruise back in the cockpit, the AP's Mark Kennedy, in his review, wrote that "Top Gun: Maverick" is "a textbook example of how to make a sequel."

■ Netflix also saved a big gun for the holiday corridor with Rian Johnson's "Glass Onion: A Knives

Out Mystery" hitting the service on Friday. The crowd-pleasing whodunnit brings back Daniel Craig's honey-voiced detective Benoit Blanc and puts him on a private Greek island with a group of self-styled disruptors to solve a new mystery (what the mystery is is even part of the mystery this time). The star-studded cast includes Edward Norton, Janelle Monae, Kate Hudson and Dave Bautista. With its wealthy protagonists, intrigue and enviable vacation fashions, it's a terrific chaser for those mourning the loss of "White Lotus" season 2.

■ Also coming to Netflix is "Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical," which will be available to watch Christmas Day. The adaptation of the 2011 stage musical (itself an adaptation of the 1988 children's classic) follows a young girl with a big imagi-

nation who decides to take a stand against her tyrannical keepers. Emma Thompson plays Miss Trunchbull and Lashana Lynch is Miss Honey, while Alisha Weir takes on the title role in this

well-reviewed romp that doesn't shy away from the source material's darker themes.

— AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr

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