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Schiek to run for Oneida County circuit judge

DA set to take on Burns in spring election

By Richard Moore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Oneida County district attorney Michael Schiek is officially running for Oneida County circuit court judge, for the seat first vacated by Patrick O'Melia upon his retirement this past year and now held by Mary Roth Burns.

Burns is filling out the remainder of O'Melia's term, which ends next July 31, and has already declared her candidacy for a full term.

Schiek confirmed his candidacy to *The Lakeland Times* late last

week, and said he would be providing more information about his run this week. Schiek's candidacy surfaced on the Facebook page of the Oneida County Republican Party, which urged its members to circulate nomination papers for the district attorney.

The Feb. 21 primary is non-partisan, but the GOP stressed that Schiek is a conservative who has run as a Republican for district attorney, a partisan position.

Schiek has been a member of the

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Criminal charges filed against man accused of running from police

BY RIVER NEWS STAFF

Thirteen criminal counts were filed Friday against the 32-year-old Shawano man who was captured Wednesday evening after attempting to evade police in the Lakeland area.

The defendant, Cody J. Huebner, made an initial appearance in Oneida County Circuit Court Friday afternoon at which time Judge Mike Bloom noted that 13 criminal counts, as well as a number of citations, had been filed against him.

Due to an issue with the state's on-line court record database, no case number was assigned at the time of the court appearance and the criminal complaint was not immediately

available.

Thus, as of press time, it was unknown whether the complaint charges both misdemeanors and felonies, just that there are 13 criminal counts.

After noting that Huebner's criminal history includes convictions for burglary and theft, and outlining a series of events that took place Wednesday when officers attempted to arrest Huebner on a probation warrant,

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Huebner



IT'S SNOWTIME

TREVOR GREENE/LAKELAND TIMES

Craig Hatch shovels snow in front of his families' downtown business, Imaginuity, on Thursday, Dec. 15, in Minocqua. The snow on Thursday was heavy, and Hatch said he didn't want his daughters or wife shoveling it, even though he said he was supposed to be at work.

Santa for all: How a Minocqua business is doing Santa different

Sensory Santa visits offered for children with special needs and disabilities

By Trevor Greene
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

It's a challenge for people living with disabilities and special needs; in public, certain situations or environments can make them feel anxious and oftentimes alienated.

Kim Laureano's eight-year-old son Vincent can relate.

Originally from Naperville, Ill., Laureano, like so many others, has been visiting the Northwoods since she was a child herself. During the pandemic their trips up north became frequent, and the laidback, small town feel grew on them.

"We were just here a little bit longer, a little bit longer (each trip), and realized it honestly was a good environment especially for my son, who has a lot of sensory needs himself," she said.

Laureano said when her son was about three or four years old, downtown Naperville would hold a Christmas Village event lasting a few weeks before Christmas.

The festivities, she said, included a Santa visit which kept in mind children with special needs and disabilities.

Visits were in a quiet setting and by appointment. It was the ideal alternative for Vincent, who otherwise may have not gone to a conventional visit with Santa, packed with people, loud noises and a million cameras.

"It was so key for our family to reserve a spot," Laureano said. "We had to plan out a lot of things for him. The holidays can be a very stressful event, especially when you have a kid who's a little bit more sensitive to some of the chaos and the stress ... so having an event with the environment like that tailored to his needs just made a world of a difference."

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Lac du Flambeau, Oneida County public safety committee to meet

The proposed \$178,000 contract for ambulance service to the town in 2023 is the issue

By Brian Jopek
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The Lac du Flambeau town board, meeting in a brief special meeting the morning of Dec. 14, decided it would like to meet with members of the Oneida County public safety committee regarding the town's ambulance contract with Oneida County.

At the moment, the town has two ambulances manned by volunteer staff.

In October, Oneida County Sheriff Grady Hartman made a formal presentation to the town board regarding the contract, offering at that meeting a reduced amount for 2023 of \$178,000.

The original amount was in the \$240,000 range.

Traditionally, the amount town has been paying Oneida County, this year almost \$60,000, has been based on the number of ambulance runs county ambulances and crews would make if Lac du Flambeau ambulance personnel couldn't.

For 2023, the amount is based on the town's assessed equalized value, something the town board is having an issue with.

At a special meeting in November, days after the Oneida public safety

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