

NEWS BRIEFS

Vierbicher merges with Mau

GREEN BAY – Vierbicher, a multi-disciplined consulting firm based in Reedsburg, has merged with Mau and Associates, a Green Bay-based civil engineering and land surveying company.

The merger allows both firms to benefit from an expanded presence and for the company to provide civil engineering, planning and land surveying services throughout Wisconsin.

“Creating this partnership makes perfect sense,” Rodney Zubella, CEO of Vierbicher, said. “After getting to know Mau staff, we knew right away our cultures were well-aligned. Mau brings with them an impressive reputation in northeast Wisconsin. We look forward to providing our clients with the same high level of customer-focused service that they have come to expect as we expand our services to this growing market.”

UW System announces Teaching Excellence Award recipients

GREEN BAY – The University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents has announced this year’s recipients of its Teaching Excellence Awards.

The Teaching Excellence Awards are the UW System’s highest recognition for faculty and staff members demonstrating outstanding teaching.

“These UW educators and programs are inspiring students to develop invaluable life skills,” said Regent Cris Peterson, chair of the selection committee. “With this award, we recognize the innovative, collaborative approaches to teaching that are equipping students to reach their full potential.”

Among the recipients of this year’s awards is UW-Green Bay’s First Nations Education Doctorate program.

The program is the first of its kind in Wisconsin and is housed within UW-Green Bay’s College of Health, Education, and Social Welfare.

A collaborative effort between UW-Green Bay and Tribal Nations in Wisconsin, the program is centered on indigenous knowledge systems and offers a holistic approach to education led by four full-time faculty members and elders and oral scholars from the First Nations community representing a variety of nations, including Oneida, Menominee, Lac du Flambeau, Cherokee and Delaware.

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WBAY 70: The early days

BY KRIS LEONHARDT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Part IV in our series on WBAY’s history

The station went on the air on March 17, 1953, to serve an area that was considered both heavily industrialized and a rich dairy land.

WBAY was the first television station in Green Bay and second in the state – second only to Milwaukee’s WTMJ.

A July 1953 *Oshkosh Northwestern* article states that the station operated “in an area which had as of May 1, 1953, more than 60,000 television sets.”

“When the station goes to 100,000-watt power soon, it is expected at a conservative estimate that there will be more than 200,000 sets in eastern and central Wisconsin and in upper and lower Michigan,” WBAY-TV officials speculated.

In December 1953, a 750-foot antenna began operations at 100,000 watts from the top of Scray Hill.

Area music and appliance stores quickly picked up WBAY’s presence and power in its marketing of television sets and TV antennas.

Broadcasting in those earlier days ran from 2:30 p.m. to midnight, before signing off.

“We had five-minute weather casts; we had 10-minute sportscasts. Part of the reason that is, is because sports would supply us with film. We could get NFL films; we could get Wisconsin Badgers films, and



A broadcast delivered from the Central Catholic High School auditorium in Green Bay. WBAY photo

they were supplied a couple of days after the game,” explained WBAY web manager/digital director and station historian, Ted Miller.

“Whereas, with local news, we didn’t have the cameras.

“We had newscasts, not like today; they’d be like 5-10-15 minutes of news.”

One year after going on air, plans came together for a 17-hour telethon called the “Celebrity Parade for Cerebral Palsy.”

The event was to be broadcast over both WBAY-TV and WBAY Radio for the first time May 22-23, 1954.

“This telethon, they call it a grassroots telethon. The United Cerebral Palsy had offices all over to take care of CP (cerebral palsy). They had offices in one of the hospitals here. There wasn’t a CP building at the time, but they had offices and so they would go from state to state,

city to city that had TV stations,” explained Miller.

“They would bring stars. At the time, TV was very young so the networks were like, ‘You’re going. You’re going to travel the country; you’re going to meet the people; you’re going to sell TV sets. More people watch TV; more people watch ads.

“So, they would come with these big stars to town. They’d come to the WBAY building — it was still called the Columbus Building at

the time — and people got to meet them.

“The first telethon in 1954, Tommy Bartlett was one of the masters of ceremonies, along with a Capitol Records recording artist, Helen O’Connell.”

The show originated from a remote studio set up on the stage of the Central Catholic High School auditorium in Green Bay.

“They started at 10 p.m. on a Saturday night and continued until 3 a.m. on Sunday morning. On Sunday morning, anyone could come to the auditorium and watch the telethon live in person and every kid that showed up would receive a plastic space-ship bottle,” Miller said.

Funds were collected and brought to the studio, where those fundraising were able to meet the stars.

Viewers were also able to phone in donations.

“That was 1954, a year after we went on the air, and we’ve had a telethon on WBAY every year ever since,” he added.

Next week: A growing industry

OBITUARIES



Janet “Jan” Lorraine Naumann, beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt, teacher, friend, and neighbor passed away peacefully at the age of 81, on Thursday, March 30, 2023 at Woodside Manor in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Janet was born January 4, 1942 in Eau Galle, WI, daughter of the late Raymond and Virginia (DeLong) Hofacker. She grew up on a small family farm just outside of Durand, WI with her two sisters Jean and Carol. She was a feisty young woman,

often playing in the fields with her many farm cats. Janet was one of the founding charter members of the Missouri Valley 4-H Club in 1952 and graduated from Durand High School in 1959.

Janet went on to study at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, where she graduated in 1963 with a degree in elementary education. She took her first teaching job in Mequon, Wisconsin, where she started teaching 2nd graders at Range Line School, transferring to Donges Bay School in 1966. While teaching in Mequon, Janet lived in the city of Milwaukee. It is here she met her future husband, Donald Naumann, just before his enlistment in the Army. Janet and Donald courted throughout his time in the military, and upon his return from service, the couple married on April 16, 1966, a marriage which lasted 55 years.

When the couple relocated to Green Bay, Wisconsin, Janet took a teaching position for 2nd grade at Pioneer School in Ashwaubenon. The couple built a modest home near the school, and in 1973 became parents to their only son (Christopher). In 1977 Janet transferred to Valley View Elementary School where she remained the rest of her career. She was a passionate and beloved educator, teaching over 600 children in her tenure. In 1992, Janet was nominated for an Ashwaubenon Teacher Recognition award.

Janet enjoyed walking and visiting with friends and neighbors. She designed and helped build her dream “retirement” home with Donald and took great pride in maintaining its lush flower beds. She enjoyed mother nature and adopted a family puppy “Cuddles” in retirement. She also bonded with the neighborhood wildlife, feeding birds, deer, and many critters. She affectionately named one of them “Sammy the Squirrel”. Janet had an infectious laugh. Often with her sisters, they would enjoy long laughing fits about the silliest of topics. Her sense of humor carried into everything she did. She also was a very generous person, offering countless hours of knitting and crocheting beautiful gifts and producing hats and mittens for children in need.

Several years into retirement, she began to experience ongoing health challenges that carried throughout her sunset years. From a chronic pain condition, to a heart valve replacement surgery and breast cancer, through it all she managed a smile and toughed it out. Always asking if “we were having fun yet?”

Janet is preceded in death by a sibling (Carol), and her husband (Donald). She is survived by a sister (Jean), her son Christopher Naumann (Melissa Bowman, Isaac and Evan Bowman) and many loving nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 8th at Lyndahl Funeral Home, 1350 Lombardi Ave. Visitation will be between 12 noon and 2pm with a brief memorial service to begin at 2pm. The service will be available online for friends and family who cannot travel. Additional expressions of sympathy, memories and photos may be shared on his tribute page at www.lyndahl.com

ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION COUNTRY PROPERTY ON 4 ACRES HOUSEHOLD GOODS, TOOLS, MISC. GARDEN TOOLS N1503 LANEY ROAD, SEYMOUR, WI 54165 SATURDAY, APRIL 15th

Starting at 11:00 a.m. Lunch Available on Grounds
LOCATED: West of Pulaski 3 miles on Hwy 156 to Hwy 55, then south 2 miles on Hwy 55 to Redwood Drive, then east on Redwood Drive, 1 mile to Laney Road, then 1/2 mile south to the property, OR, North of Seymour 7-1/4 miles on Hwy 55 to Hofa Park Drive, then east on Hofa Park Drive 1 mile to Laney Road, then north 1/2 mile north to the property. Watch for auction signs.
COUNTRY PROPERTY ON 4 ACRES OF LAND IN THE PULASKI SCHOOL DISTRICT: Property consists of a 1-1/2 story 5-bedroom home with full bath upstairs and half bath on main level, full basement. There is also a 3-car detached garage and a small barn on the site, with a paved driveway. The yard is beautiful with many mature trees. This home will be sold to the highest bidder.

ABSOLUTE AUCTION TERMS: This property will be sold ABSOLUTE WITH NO RESERVE on the day of the auction. High bidder shall sign an Offer to Purchase and related documents and put down 10% of the final sale price on the day of the sale. Offer will be written as a cash offer not subject to financing, and the transaction will be closed by a title company to guarantee clear title. Closing to be held within forty-five (45) days of auction ending. Property is being sold “As Is - Where Is” with no warranties of any kind either expressed or implied. **NO BUYER’S PREMIUM** Bank check or personal check will be accepted for down payment.

OPEN HOUSE: There will be an OPEN HOUSE held on SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. with a member of Nolan Sales present to answer questions about the property.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS, TOOLS, & MISC. GARDEN TOOLS: Eureka vacuum cleaner; Ironing board; Large suitcase; New bathroom vanity w/sink; New bathroom sink faucet; Crafting supplies; Full size mattress pad, Full size quilt w/2 pillow shams; Pillows; Small stool; Electric heater; Desk chair; Full size bed frame w/white metal headboard; Full size bed frame w/mattress & box spring; Antique 3/4 wood bed w/frame, box spring & mattress; Chandelier on a stand; Small chandelier; Antique dry sink, 31-1/2”; 4-slice toaster; Kitchen cart; Toaster oven; New roaster; 42” Oak dining table w/2 leaves, (2) Kitchen chairs; Metal hall table; 47” flat screen TV; Leather recliner; (2) side tables; Sectional sofa; (3) Occasional chairs; (3) plant stands; 41” sofa table; Side table, 18-1/2”x15”; (2) lamps; Antique side table, 18” x 36”, opens to 36” square; Armoire w/ shelves & (2) drawers, 43”x22-1/2”x78-1/2”; (2) Mirrors; Baby crib; White kitchen cupboard, 47-1/2” wide x 19” deep x 75-1/2” tall; 47” Hall table; Misc. household items; Dishes; Lawn & garden items; (2) Walkers; White flocked Christmas trees; Christmas ornaments; Large wood garden bench; (4) Lawn chairs; Metal garden bench; (2) Small wood benches; 5-piece patio set; (3) Antique concrete garden urns.

Sale clerked by Nolan Auction, Inc. Regular auction terms - cash or personal check. Everything sold as is, where is. No Warranties. If you have property to trade or sell, contact our office.

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