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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023

VOLUME 125 ISSUE 4 \$1.25

Kaisers donate \$1 million to UWP

by Alison Parkins
UW-Platteville

To Corey Kaiser, "Midwest Nice" is more than just a slogan.

"To me, 'Midwest Nice' means we would rather see people do well," said Kaiser, a 2018 graduate of UW-Platteville. "That's something that has always resonated with me, whether throughout my business career or my personal life."

Kaiser and his wife Teah expressed this sentiment with their recent pledge of \$1 million, through the Kaiser Family Foundation Corp., to the UW-Platteville Foundation to support facility upgrades on campus.

After graduating with a degree in business administration, Kaiser created the brand The608, locally marketing Wisconsin-branded clothes. The company quickly gained traction and Kaiser rebranded to Wisconsin Clothing Co. He then merged with his family's BrandL Embroidery & Imprints to become WCC Brands, with a retail brand of Wisconsin Clothing Co.

Kaiser is the main owner and manager of the company, which has now expanded well outside the 608 area code, selling its products in nearly 50 retail locations and two flagship

stores across the state, in addition to booming online sales.

Kaiser said he is not afraid to describe himself as a "homer," having grown up in the small community of Kieler and attended UW-Platteville — 10 minutes from home.

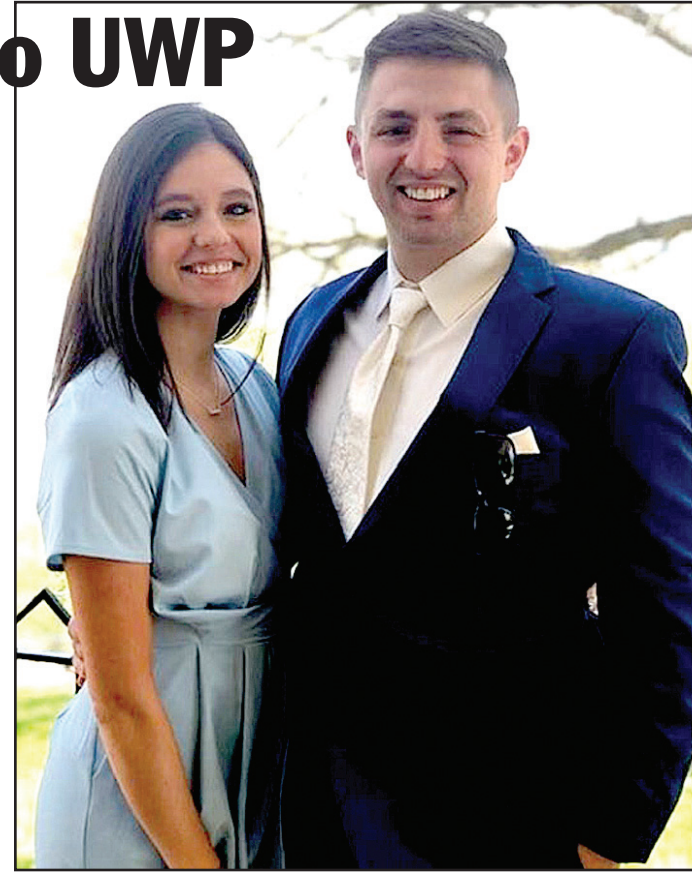
"I've always loved my small town of Kieler, and I went to UW-Platteville because it was close," said Kaiser. "I lived in Platteville and still had the college experience. I have always loved Wisconsin communities; everyone has each other's backs."

Kaiser's love for Wisconsin communities not only drives his company's brand — which he describes as "clothing by Wisconsinites for Wisconsinites" — but also moves him to give back to the communities that are the backbone of his brand, especially in Southwest Wisconsin.

"I am honored to be a Pioneer, especially when I see how well the university is doing and all of the new projects. I want to be able to help," he said.

"We are immensely grateful for this impactful gift from the Kaiser family," said UW-Platteville interim chancellor Dr. Tammy Evetovich. "Partnerships, such as this one, within our Southwest Wisconsin community

See KAISERS page 3A ▶



Teah and Corey Kaiser

Local officials want more state money

by David Timmerman
newseeditor@tds.net

LANCASTER — State Sen. Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) and Rep. Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City) held a listening session in a packed community room at Schreiner Memorial Library.

While dozens spoke, three main themes came from a majority of the people in attendance — fix the state-local partnership that for the past dozen years has starved local governments of funding, add more local input when siting large wind turbines, and increase funding for local schools.

Marklein and Tranel mostly sat silent for the one-hour 13-minute meeting, except for introductory and closing remarks, giving most of the time to the constituents who came to the afternoon meeting.

A large contingent of local officials spoke at the meeting seeking a reprieve from the controls that have been in place for the past 12 years on shared revenue and property tax levy limits.

As part of the Act 10 legislation passed in 2011 Marklein (who was in the Assembly at the time) and Tranel were involved in the cut of shared revenue funding to all local governments, with constraints imposed on employee salary raises, language to reduce the power of public employee unions, and increased requirements for employee payments into health insurance and retirement funds to give local governments way to compensate for the funding cuts.

The state cut shared revenue funding by 7 percent, but the average cuts to local governments in Southwest Wisconsin were significantly

See SESSION page 2A ▶



The BarberShop Rock Spa is on the first floor of the building at 190 Market St. (top and above), with a new novelty section on the first floor (below). Speakeasyfifty50 is on the second floor.

Business owners want second liquor license for 'novelty' business

'Our laws were not intended to accommodate this exact situation'

by Steve Prestegard
editor@theplattevillejournal.com

The owners of two Platteville businesses want to do something novel with their businesses.

So novel that apparently state law does not allow what they propose to do.

Jeff and Lisa Haas, owners of BarberShop Rock The College Barber, The Spa Boutique at BarberShop Rock, and Speakeasyfifty50 want to, as Lisa Haas said, "combine and elevate the upper Speakeasyfifty50 and the BarberShop Rock" spa.

Speakeasyfifty50 is on the second floor of the Haases' building at 190 Market St., one floor above the spa. The College Barber is at 250 W. Main St.

The Haases have applied for a Class A liquor license to allow retail liquor sales in the spa. The Haases already have a Class B liquor license for Speakeasyfifty50.

The city License Committee did not take action on the Haases' application. One committee member, District 2 Ald. Eileen Nickels, was not present, meaning no action could be taken by the other two members, Common Council president Barb Daus and District 4 Ald. Ken Kilian, if one didn't agree to the other's motion.

"Although they both stand on their own as independent businesses right now the pandemic did crush some of the spirit people once had for socializing with libation in hand," said Lisa Haas. "The BarberShop Rock has long standing amazing clientele with an endless referral system that we've worked hard to maintain. The Speakeasyfifty50 has luckily fed off that, which was the idea.

"The new business plan will elevate the lower level with many quality to-go cocktails, quality wines, bourbons and other hard to procure spirits. We hope to introduce educational tastings and options for entertainment at home. The back room of the barber shop

See LICENSE page 5A ▶

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Inside

SOUTHWEST
A photo mystery

SOUTHWEST: 1B

She
Many faces, all helping

Union: Battery plant closing
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The Hillmen's big week

The SWC boys and girls basketball titles may be decided in Platteville games this week.

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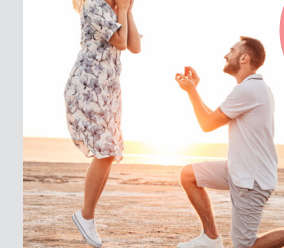
2022	High	Low	P"
Jan. 16	44	35	.32
Jan. 17	37	32	—
Jan. 18	36	31	—
Jan. 19	35	28	.20
Jan. 20	31	19	—
Jan. 21	25	24	.01
Jan. 22	27	19	—
Week's precip.....	0.53		
2023 precip.....	0.70		
Average precip.....	0.22		

WEATHER FORECAST:
www.weather.gov/[Zip code]

Records	High	Low
Jan. 16	54 1933-30 1888	
Jan. 17	60 1894-25 1982	
Jan. 18	55 1880-27 1994	
Jan. 19	51 1921-27 1993	
Jan. 20	59 1906-28 1985	
Jan. 21	54 1921-28 1994	
Jan. 22	51 1964-26 1994	
Average	25 17	



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- ♥ ENGAGEMENT PROPOSAL STORY (150 WORDS OR LESS)
- ♥ DIGITAL PHOTO OF THE COUPLE
- ♥ NAME OF PERSON SUBMITTING STORY
- ♥ WEDDING DATE
- ♥ WHERE THE COUPLE IS FROM

DEADLINE: 2-13-23

Man found dead in Alaska

SEWARD, Alaska — Eugene Taylor, who was reported missing by Darlington police Jan. 17, was found dead Thursday at his home following a welfare check by Alaska State Troopers.

Taylor, 75, who was raised and graduated in Darlington, was a resident in Darlington and Seward, Alaska.

Darlington police and Alaska State Trooper received several calls about Taylor's whereabouts. The Alaskan State Troopers, after exhausting all leads and contacting Taylor's relatives, entered

Taylor's home and found the man deceased.

According to the Peninsula Clarion foul play is not suspected.

There is evidence that Taylor was in Alaska since Nov. 15.

Taylor had been reported missing once before, in August. A Silver Alert was issued in Alaska Aug. 11 when he was believed to be hitchhiking from Seward to Anchorage. That alert was updated the same day saying that Taylor had been found safe.

Union: Plant closing

by Jason Kreul
timeseditor@tds.net

FENNIMORE — Energizer may choose to close its Fennimore plant in the next year or two, according to union officials.

Although Energizer Holdings has communicated nothing, union officials also informed employees at Energizer's Portage plant the company plans to close that facility as well, putting a total of more than 600 employees out of work in the near future.

Teamsters Local Union 695 sent a letter to union members Jan. 17, warning Energizer employees that the corporation was planning to close both of its Wisconsin operations.

In a statement Thursday, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters said it is fighting the plans to close the facilities and move some operations to a nonunion plant in North Carolina, and other jobs overseas.

"Energizer is putting a plan in motion to kill hundreds of good jobs here in America and offshore them in favor of even bigger profits," said Teamsters General President Sean O'Brien in the release. "Some workers have been in these factories for more than 40 years. The American public should be outraged by these plans. Our entire union is furious. If Energizer thinks it's going to outsource American jobs and destroy Wisconsin communities, we've got news for them — the Teamsters are coming and we will stop at nothing to protect American workers."

A flier sent to union members at both plants Jan. 23 stated that additional meetings between union leaders and Energizer management are scheduled for Feb. 14-15.

A, B and separation of each

► LICENSE from page 1

will now become a juice bar, eventually open to the general public once we learn the ins and outs. I've realized that our clientele wants options so why not give it to them."

State law does not allow businesses with Class B licenses to buildings with other businesses except for hotels, restaurants, combination grocery stores and taverns, combination sporting goods stores and taverns (in cities with less than 10,000 population, villages and towns), bowling alleys or recreation premises, movie theaters, painting studios, or clubs, societies or lodges.

The Haases applied for the Class A license under the Class B exception "novelty store and tavern." Part of the spa now includes a display of decorative socks for sale.

"There are a lot of exceptions in those rules, but barber shops are not one of them," said Lisa Haas, who added that novelty shops are "more of what we're trying to accomplish."

But Derrick Schleis, a special agent with the state Department of Revenue, said

calling the Haases' business a novelty store "doesn't really apply."

The problem with the Haases' application is the potential mixing of the two licenses between the second-floor bar and the first-floor spa. The Haases propose to have Class A liquor deliveries through the spa front door, and Class B liquor deliveries through the back door, which connects to the bar and the basement where the liquor is stored through a stairway.

State law requires complete separation between the two operations.

"Our laws were not intended to accommodate this exact situation," said Schleis. City officials appear to believe they have no leeway under state liquor license law. Under state law municipalities may enact more stringent liquor license regulations than state law, but not less stringent regulations.

Daus moved to deny the Haases' application, but Kilian did not second Daus' motion.

Jeff Haas said the Haases plan to resubmit an application for the Class A license.

either side of the fence, have you talked to your neighbors before signing up your land for wind turbines or solar panels? Yes, it's your land, but these projects affect everyone in the neighborhood just as your cattle running loose in my yard affects my property.

These wind turbine and solar projects pit neighbors against neighbors. One neighbor needs the money to continue farming, whereas the opposing neighbor does not want to be saddled with the effects of shadow flicker and infrasound. Who is right? Who is wrong? We

JOURNAL Obituaries

GARY P. JONES

Gary Paul Jones, 74, of Platteville, dear brother and friend, passed peacefully from this life on Jan. 20, 2023.

He was born June 23, 1948 to Leonard and Hazel Jones of Rewey. He later graduated from Platteville High School, where he excelled in the sport of pole vaulting. His education in the engineering program at Wisconsin State University, Platteville, was interrupted after three semesters by military service in Vietnam. Although Gary was awarded the Purple Heart, he was scarred by the war experience for the rest of his life. Later he was a member of Veterans for Peace. He married Jill Nicholson in Platteville and attended Madison Business College. Eventually Gary settled on a career in construction and became a skilled wood worker. He spent several decades living and working in Key West, Florida. Always athletic, he thrived on going barefoot, diving, biking and beach volleyball. He had a heart for nature and animals. Gary was a free spirit. Freedom always meant more to him than monetary things. Retaining contact with his roots in the Welsh Settlement near Rewey, he eventually gravitated back to southwest Wisconsin.

Gary is survived by siblings: John (Sherri) Jones; Charles (Jean) Jones; and Sally (Mark) Redfern; — also Molly Vick, his companion of many years; close friend Randy Henderson, and others. He is preceded in death by his parents and sister, Karen (Phil) Gottschalk.

Gary's friends are invited to remember him at a gathering Feb. 10, 2023, at 5 p.m., at Badger Bar in Platteville. A Memorial Service will be held in Rewey this coming spring. Martin Schwartz Funeral Homes & Crematory, Lancaster, is serving the family. Gratitude goes to the caring staff and hospice at Copper Leaf in Wild Rose, WI, and to Gary's loyal friend, Randy Henderson.

RANDALL D. GRIMES

Randy says it's last call! Randall D. Grimes passed away on Jan. 21, 2023.

How do you sum up the legend of Randy Grimes in only a few paragraphs? You abbreviate to protect the innocent and maybe some less than innocent... Over the last 36 years, Randy had become a staple of the community, and his anthology includes the likes of random horses in bars, mischievous napkin plans, and bowling misadventures. It goes without saying that it's up to you, the reader, to cherish these memories and carry these legends on.

Randy was born on Feb. 16, 1959, to Joe and Edith (Murphy) Grimes. He joined his brothers, Jerry, Ron, Ted and Doug who thoroughly entertained the Chestnut/Division neighborhood for many years, or thoroughly terrorized depending on who you ask. If you know about the "Palisade Lounge", then nothing more needs to be said.

After graduating from Platteville High School in 1977, he worked for his brother Ted at Ted's Place. In 1986, he purchased the bar; and in 1987 changed it to The Windsor Food and Spirits. After growing the bar and adding a full kitchen, he had a successful supper club for many years. Randy thanks Lynn Jenkins (for her patience), Savage (for his talent), Scott Floerke (for his culinary skills), and all of his employees for their dedication over the years. If you ever had his prime rib and clam chowder soup in the bread bowl — you won't forget it. In 2007 he transitioned the restaurant to Chicago's Best and enjoyed a new chapter of the restaurant business. After a fire destroyed the restaurant on Aug. 25, 2012, he took his management and people skills to the University Wisconsin — Platteville and worked with Dining Services until his health issues forced him into early retirement in the fall of 2022.

Friends and camaraderie were the defining goals of his life. He was a proud former member of various community organizations including the Elks Lodge and the Platteville Fire Department. He thoroughly enjoyed the numerous bowling leagues (the ABC Bowling Tournament stories are epic). He was also a proud member of the Platteville Golf and Country Club, having served on the Board of Directors and, of course, in the kitchen.

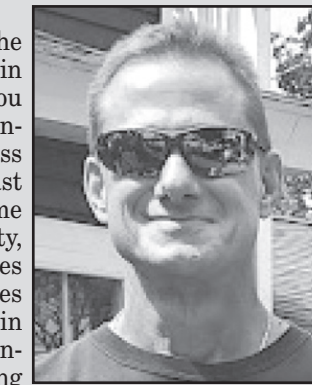
He is survived by his wife, Carol Campbell, his stepchildren, Nicholas Campbell and Haley Romanek (Dakota Wilson). He is further survived by his brothers, Jerry (Velma), Ted (Shelly) and Doug and countless friends. He is also survived by his former wife, Judy Downs, and her children Kaitlin Harty, Raymond Downs, and Michael Downs. He was predeceased by his parents, his brother Ron, his sister-in-law Linda, his nephew Corey, and friends who are waiting with a beer and a story.

The family wishes to thank Agrace Hospice (Jessica, Bryanna, Olivia and Els), Michelle Hauser, and Dr. Lisa Lepeak for their compassion and support throughout his cancer fight. We also wish to thank every one of his friends — you all played important parts in his story (some can be shared and some probably shouldn't). Raise your glass.

A memorial service will be held at Melby Funeral Home on Feb. 4 at 11 a.m. A Celebration of Life will be held at The BarN (6935 Mound View Road, Platteville) immediately following the service from 12 — 3 p.m. The Melby Funeral Home is serving the family. Online condolences can be made at www.melbyfh.com. Memorials may be made to the Randy Grimes Memorial Fund in order to establish a scholarship for budding entrepreneurs.

need to talk to our neighbors regarding the future of our area. If Pattern Energy and the other wind development companies have their way, there won't be anyone left to be neighbors. People will be leaving the area and when people leave, so does their money.

Mineral Point is a historic town with Shake Rag Street and Pendarvis drawing tourists. How many tourists will come when we are surrounded by 650-foot wind turbines? How many people will have ill effects from infrasound and shadow flicker?



PAUL LEONARD HOFFMAN

Paul Leonard Hoffman, 86, of Potosi, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 21 at Southwest Health Center in Platteville, surrounded by his family.

He was born on Nov. 11, 1936, in Happy Corners in Smelser Township; the son of Elmer and Mary (Scharff) Hoffman, the oldest of eight children. He married Donna Jean Mann on Feb. 27, 1960 at the Lutheran Church of Peace, Platteville. He went square dancing, was a 4-H Leader, and established snowmobile trails in Grant County. He was a farmer until 1990, then worked for 5-Star Stock Removal, UW-Platteville, Lands' End; self-employed delivering newspapers and donuts, and working at Big K Farms.

Paul is survived by his loving, devoted wife Donna; their 3 children; 10 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren (2 on the way); 2 brothers, a sister, a brother-in-law, 2 sisters-in-law, and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends. Paul was preceded in death by his parents, siblings: Jeanette Nohns, John, Raymond, and Arthur Hoffman, a brother-in-law Gary Mann, and a sister-in-law Margaret Thiele.

Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. with services to follow on Thursday, Jan. 26 at Melby Funeral Home, Platteville. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

ALVIN MENNINGA

Alvin Menninga, 90, Stoughton, passed away on Monday, Jan. 16 at Skaalen Nursing and Rehab Center.

He was born on the family farm in Marion County, Iowa, on Oct. 11, 1932, the son of Gysbert and Ethel Menninga in Pella, Iowa and graduated from Pella Christian High School. He completed his education with a bachelor of arts at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., and a master's degree from UW-Platteville.

Alvin was a professor of English at UW-Platteville for 32 years until his retirement in 1998. Alvin married Lois Swart in 1952 and they later divorced. In 1984, he married Leanne Gunderson Hart.

Alvin and Leanne met when both were singing in the Platteville Chorale. When rehearsals for the Chorale moved to the new arts building, the baritone sat behind the sopranos. At one rehearsal the director, Gerald Darrow, asked the group to introduce themselves to someone they didn't know. Leanne turned around and introduced herself to Alvin. He took her outstretched hand and kissed it. A date followed that rehearsal. Together, they enjoyed many years of traveling and knitting, attending knitting conventions and visiting national parks.

Before moving to Stoughton, they enjoyed living across from the big "M" outside of Platteville where family, especially grandchildren, had fun climbing the steps to the top of the Mound.

Alvin is survived by his wife, Leanne; 10 children, Grace Jones, Ethel (Doug) Cox, Ruth Menninga, Patti (Tom) Filipiak, Anne (Don) Lawinger Janet Fritsch, Alvin (Kristi) Menninga, Becky (Leif) Mogensen, Leslie, (Alan) Gardner and Karen (James) Underwood; 32 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; siblings, Clarence (Irene), Gysbert (Sylvia), Larry (Mary Jo) and Phyllis (Ray) Klapwyk; and a host of nieces, nephews, extended relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Lois Menninga; brothers, Setrith (Jean), Bernie (Grace) and Arlan (Joann); sisters, Arlene (infant), Kathryn (Nick) Braafhart, and Elizabeth (Gerald) Van Dusseldorp; son-in-law, Paul Jones; and granddaughter, Rachel Bakken.

Memorial services were held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at Christ Lutheran Church, with visitation from 9:30 a.m. until the time of services at the church. Friends and relatives were invited to a luncheon, immediately following the service, at the church. Memorials may be made to Skaalen Retirement Services, 400 North Morris Street, Stoughton, WI 53589, or Christ Lutheran Church, 700 County Road B, Stoughton, WI 53589.

Please share your memories of Alvin by posting on his Tribute Wall at www.CressFuneralService.com. Cress Funeral Services in Stoughton is assisting the family,

JASON MICHAEL MULLIKIN

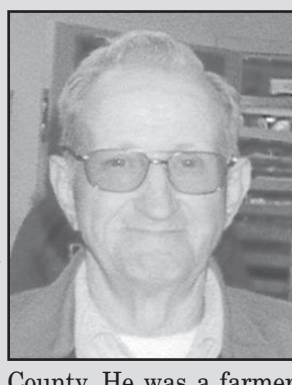
Jason Michael Mullikin, 44, died Jan. 19, 2023 of natural causes.

Jason was born on Dec. 1, 1978, the son of Jeffrey and Tena (McKillip) Mullikin. He worked mostly as a carpenter and enjoyed doing farming work.

He is survived by his two sons, Taylor and Tanner (fiancé, Megan Riechers) Mullikin, their mother Jenni, granddaughter Harper Mullikin, his parents Tena (Carl) Moldenhauer, sisters, Jenny (Jarred) Altfillisch and Carla (Bryton) Rentschler, brother Donald (Dawn) Mullikin, nephew Neal, niece Maddie and friend Nicole. Preceded in death by his father Jeffrey Mullikin, grandparents, and uncles.

Jason enjoyed fishing, camping, tubing, visiting the Dells and spending time with family. He had been a member of the Jaycees and Dairy Days committee for a number of years.

A celebration of life will be held at Pioneer Lanes in Platteville Feb. 4, 5-9 p.m. Memorials can be made to the Jason Mullikin Memorial Fund at Mound City Bank. Melby Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at www.melbyfh.com.



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