

Chippewa Valley Times

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WI Supreme Court candidate calls state voter ID law 'draconian'

Full story on page 6

Wisconsin Supreme Court
candidate Susan Crawford

Johnson calls for investigation of potential FBI leaks

THE SCONI NEWS
SERVICE

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U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson

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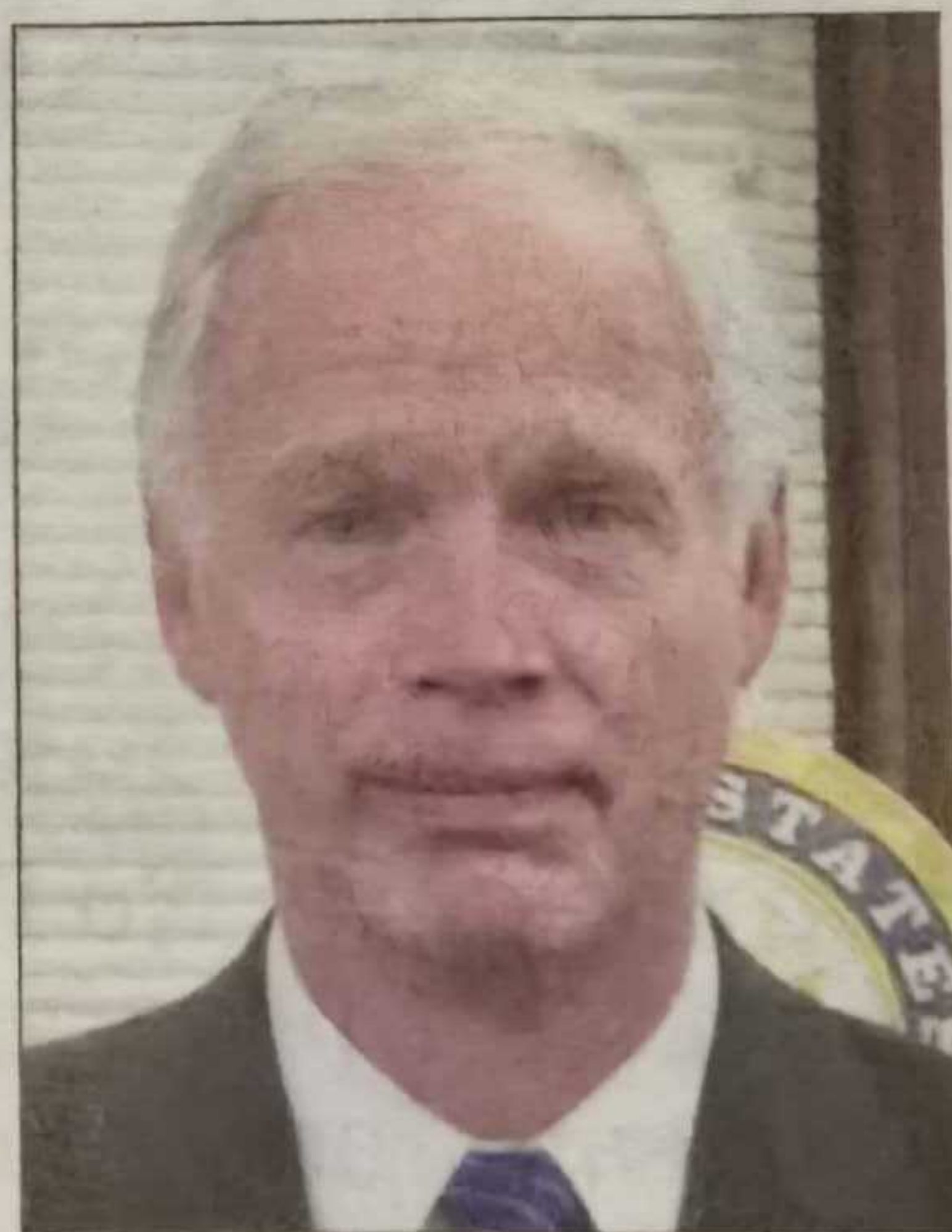
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U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson

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**Wisconsin Supreme Court
candidate Susan Crawford**

Chippewa Falls announces new water, wastewater utility rates

CHIPPEWA VALLEY TIMES REPORT

The City of Chippewa Falls Department of Public Utilities has released updated utility rates for water and wastewater services. The rates, which are determined through state and local approval processes, took place on January 2, 2025.

Water rates are reviewed and authorized by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. Customers are charged a quarterly service fee based on the size of their water meter. The larger the meter, the higher the charge. In addition to the service fee, residents pay a volume charge based on water consumption, measured in hundred cubic feet. The volume charge follows a tiered structure, with different rates applying based on usage levels.

A public fire protection charge is

included in water bills. This fee, based on meter size, funds fire protection services, including water used for firefighting, equipment testing, and training.

Wastewater rates are set by the Chippewa Falls Common Council. Customers pay a fixed billing charge covering operational and maintenance costs, along with a volume charge based on the amount of water consumed. Wastewater charges appear on the same bill as water service fees.

The city also applies a storm water fee to finance its Storm Water Management Program and comply with environmental regulations. This fee is based on the amount of runoff generated by properties. A recycling fee is included in the utility bill to fund curbside recycling services. This charge applies to single-family through four-unit residential properties.

Utility bills are issued quarterly and

due within 20 days of issuance. A one percent late payment fee applies to unpaid balances. Unpaid accounts as of October 15 are subject to a penalty and may be added as a tax lien if not resolved by November 15.

Customers have several payment options, including online payments, phone transactions, mail-in payments, and in-person payments at City Hall. A direct payment option allows automatic deductions from a bank account. Payments can also be made through a mobile app.

The city offers a sprinkling allowance for residential properties to account for seasonal water use that does not enter the wastewater system. This allowance is automatically calculated based on winter water consumption.

For more information, customers can contact the Utilities Business Office at City Hall.



Brandon Cesafsky, director of public works, City of Chippewa Falls

Tow operators can now apply for Eau Claire's 'No Preference' tow list

CHIPPEWA VALLEY TIMES REPORT

Tow operators in Eau Claire now have the opportunity to join the city's No Preference Tow List, a program designed to streamline vehicle towing when owners do not specify a preferred service. The city recently opened applications for the list, providing an opportunity for qualified operators to receive dispatch calls when law enforcement or other city officials request a tow without a specified provider.

The No Preference Tow List is designed to ensure fair distribution of tow requests while maintaining high service and safety standards. Tow operators who wish to participate must meet specific insurance and operational requirements outlined by the city. According to the application, operators must maintain at least \$2 million in commercial general liability insurance, \$1 million



Emily Berge, city council president, Eau Claire, WI

in automobile liability insurance, and \$500,000 in workers' compensation coverage. An umbrella policy is preferred but not mandatory.

Additionally, tow operators must adhere to a fee cap

of \$250, which includes all expenses related to responding to the scene, the first hour on-site, and transporting the vehicle up to 15 miles to the requested shop. This cap includes any surcharges or expedited service fees, though it does not apply to heavy-duty service tows. Operators may charge standard storage fees if a vehicle remains in their possession beyond the initial tow.

Participants in the program must pay an annual fee determined by the city to remain on the list. Failure to pay in a timely manner will result in removal. The city also requires tow companies to provide updated proof of insurance annually and notify officials of any changes to their coverage.

Another key requirement is that tow operators must not refuse a No Preference tow call once they are on the list. Applications are available on the City of Eau Claire's website.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

We've been publishing the Chippewa Valley Times online for four years.

Our goal is two-fold: (1) to provide news about state and local policy matters and politics to help you assess whether the policy decisions made by your elected officials are aligned with your values and to explain how those decisions impact your quality of life; and (2) to offer quality local content to help you stay abreast of what's happening in the community you call home.

We will present the policy arguments being made and frame the choices being offered in order to foster a dialogue that produces the most productive outcomes available.

We will provide contextual and consequential information to give you the whole story. This is a community forum where we speak with you rather than talking at you.

Consistent with that notion, we want to hear from you. We welcome your story ideas, your editorial submissions, and your constructive critiques. Tell us which stories you find helpful, which stories you enjoy and conversely, which stories missed the mark.

You can email your ideas or requests to receive full print copies to news@chippewavalleytimes.com.

Thank you,
Chippewa Valley Times Publishers

Wisconsin Supreme Court candidate faces scrutiny over past legal error

GREEN BAY REPORTER

In 2001, a critical error by Susan Crawford's office led to a rapist serving less than two years of a seven-year sentence. Crawford, who was then head of the criminal appeals unit in the Wisconsin Attorney General's office, missed a filing deadline for an appeal to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. This mistake forced the county district attorney into a plea deal that allowed Thomas Gogin, convicted of false imprisonment and sexual assault, to walk free with time served and probation.

The original case involved Gogin forcibly assaulting a

friend after a rodeo event. His conviction was challenged on grounds of ineffective legal representation, leading to an appeals court ordering a new trial. However, trials can be emotionally taxing for victims, and repeating one could deter their participation.

Crawford's office prepared an appeal but filed it late due to miscalculations by three employees. The Wisconsin Supreme Court dismissed it as untimely. Debra Blasius, the prosecuting attorney, was left without options other than negotiating a plea deal.

Attorney General Jim Doyle claimed his office apologized to the victim,

though this was disputed by her. Eventually, Crawford personally apologized after being contacted by the victim's husband. Despite public outcry over the mishandling of the appeal, no immediate disciplinary actions were taken against her staff except for a written reprimand for Assistant Attorney General Kathleen Ptacek.

Crawford suggested that "faulty memory" might prevent understanding how the error occurred. This incident has been cited as indicative of poor judgment and transparency issues in Crawford's career as she campaigns for the Wisconsin Supreme Court.



Susan Crawford

Schimel campaign says state Democratic Party funded by George Soros, J.B. Pritzker

THE SCONI

Brad Schimel, a former Attorney General of Wisconsin and current candidate for the state's Supreme Court, has claimed that his opponent's campaign is financially supported by billionaire George Soros and Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker. Schimel made this assertion in a press release issued on February 11 through WisPolitics.

"Monday's campaign finance reports revealed that the Democratic Party of Wisconsin is funded by George Soros, JB Pritzker, and Reid Hoffman - and Susan Crawford is funded by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin," said Schimel, WI Supreme Court candidate. "Soros, Pritzker, and Hoffman's cash accounted for over 40 percent of the \$4 million in individual contributions received by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin this past month. Half of the money the Democratic Party of Wisconsin received was then transferred to Susan Crawford's campaign." According to the Associated Press, Soros contributed \$1 million to the Wisconsin Democratic Party in support of Susan Crawford's campaign. Scott Walker, the former Governor of Wisconsin, posted on X: "George Soros is pulling millions into the Wisconsin Supreme Court race because a 4-3 liberal majority will redraw Congressional districts to squeeze out 2 GOP seats."



From left: Brad Schimel, George Soros

The Schimel campaign, as reported by the Maciver Institute, said: "It is no surprise why George Soros would back a candidate like Susan Crawford; she has spent her entire career implementing a deeply dangerous and radical agenda. From releasing violent criminals, attempting to abolish voter ID, and her troubling history of coddling sex predators, Susan Crawford is George Soros' ideal investment." The statement further alleged that "On Wisconsin's Supreme Court, Susan Crawford has an agenda and Soros is buying into it."

Bloomberg reports that George Soros is a billionaire who has been a significant donor to Democratic candidates and progressive causes in the United States for decades. Through his Open Society Foundations and personal contributions, he has supported Democratic political action committees and candidates.

Illinois governor donates \$500,000 to support Wisconsin Supreme Court candidate

THE SCONI

Campaign finance records from Open Secrets indicate that Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker is supporting Susan Crawford in the Wisconsin Supreme Court race, with his firm donating \$500,000 to the Wisconsin Democratic Party. The records are dated January 28.

According to the Cook County Record, Pritzker is involving himself in Wisconsin politics by making this substantial donation to help maintain the Democratic majority on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Pritzker, who previously supported an Illinois law aimed at limiting outside donations to Republican judicial candidates, is listed in Wisconsin campaign finance records with an address linked to The Pritzker Group, his Chicago-based venture capital firm.

A user on X questioned the implications of Pritzker's financial involvement: "Why should someone in Montana or Alabama care that Illinois Governor Pritzker is pouring huge money into the Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice race? If Democrats win that seat, the court will redraw the congressional map for 2026, gaining three Democratic seats and impacting control of the U.S. House. It matters."

Beyond financial contributions,



Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker

Pritzker has actively engaged with Wisconsin Democrats. According to Wisconsin Public Radio, he delivered the keynote address at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin's state convention in Milwaukee in June 2024, emphasizing regional collaboration and shared values among Midwestern states.

Brad Schimel, running against Susan Crawford for a seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, said in a WisPolitics release that "Soros, Pritzker, and Hoffman's cash accounted for over 40 percent of the \$4 million in individual contributions received by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin this past month. Half of the money the Democratic Party of Wisconsin received was then transferred to Susan Crawford's campaign."

Wisconsin: Social Security made up 6.9% of total income in 2022

THE SCONI

In 2022, Social Security transfers in Wisconsin totaled \$25.08 billion, amounting to \$4,256 per capita, or 38.2% of total government transfers in the state, according to information from the Economic Innovation Group.

Among all government transfer programs, Social Security was the largest contributor. Medicare was the second largest, totaling \$16.28 billion, equating to \$2,763 per capita and making up 24.8% of total transfers.

Medicaid was the third largest contributor in Wisconsin in 2022, accounting for \$11.8 billion, averaging \$2,003 per capita, and represented 18% of transfers in the state. Income Maintenance transfers provided another \$6.22 billion, av-

eraging \$1,056 per capita and comprising 9.5% of government support, making them the smallest contributors.

Statewide, including all transfer types, government transfer payments totaled \$65.63 billion, and accounted for 18.1% of residents' total income, with an average of \$11,137 per resident.

Government transfer payments are non-repayable funds provided by federal, state, or local governments to support individuals in need. These payments aim to stabilize economic conditions and provide financial support during hardships. Key programs include Social Security transfers (retirement benefits), Medicare transfers (healthcare for seniors), Medicaid transfers (healthcare for low-income individuals), and income maintenance transfers

(financial assistance for basic needs).

With 18.6% of the population aged 65 and older, Wisconsin has a significant demand for programs like Social Security and Medicare. The total per capita income in Wisconsin, excluding government transfers was \$50,338, which is noticeably below the county's total income of \$61,475, emphasizing the role of government transfers in overall income.

When comparing 2022 to the previous year, Wisconsin saw an increase in its Social Security transfer dependency by 0.4%, reflecting both rising transfer amounts and stagnating or insufficient other sources of income.

Government transfers have long been a modest financial safety net, historically comprising only a small fraction



John Lettieri, President and CEO of Economic Innovation Group

of Americans' income. However, since the 1970s—sometimes dubbed the “Great Transfer-mation”—dependency has surged from 8.2% (or \$2,022

per capita in inflation-adjusted 2022 dollars) in 1970 to 17.6% (or \$11,542 per capita) in 2022 nationwide. In Wisconsin, reliance on government transfers has similarly increased from 8.5% (or \$1,986 per capita) in 1970 to 18.1% (or \$11,137 per capita) in 2022, reflecting broader national trends.

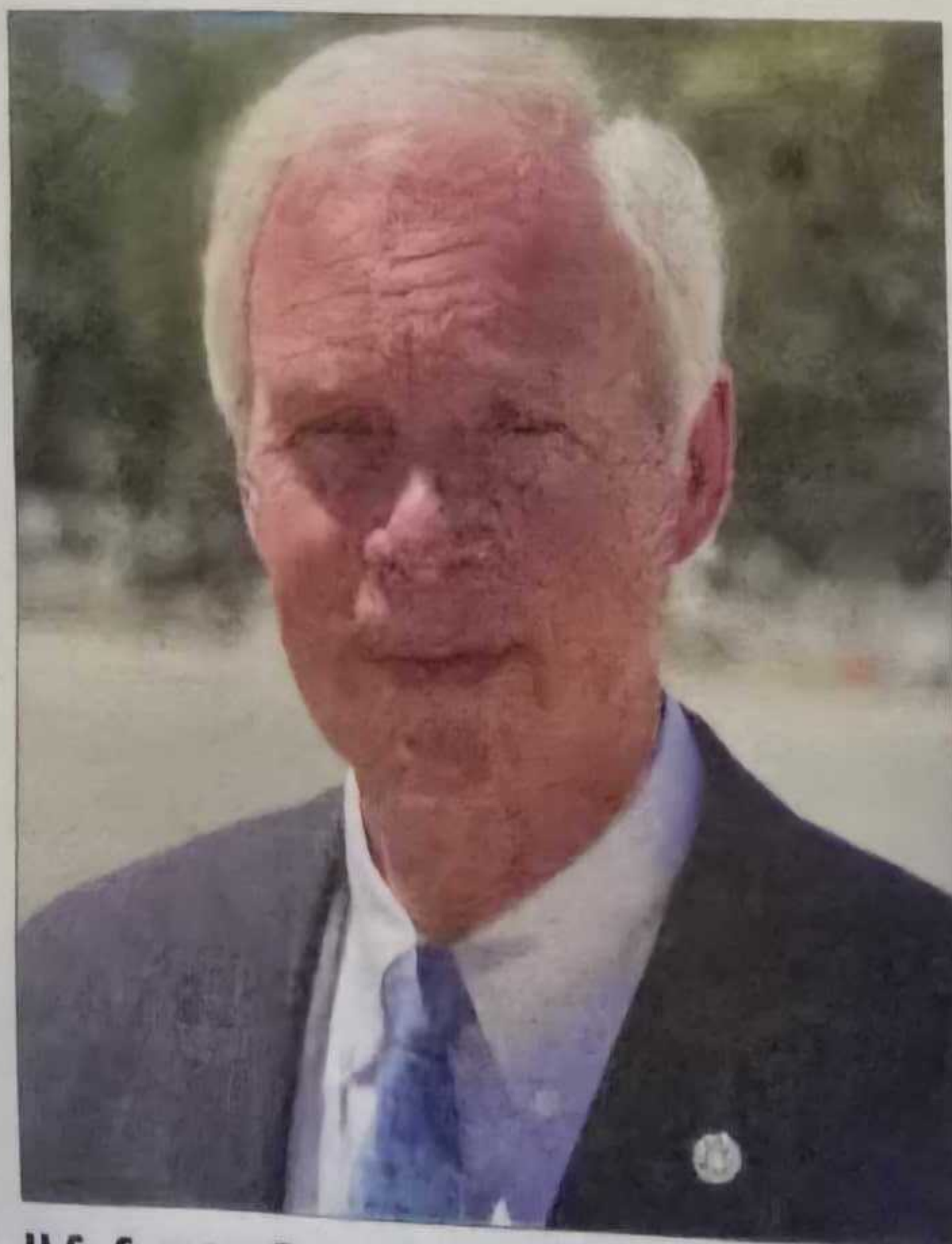
According to the Economic Innovation Group's analysis, these trends are not merely short-term responses to economic pressures but rather reflect a profound, long-term transformation in how government support is integrated into American life. The study illustrates that structural shifts—from rising healthcare expenses and demographic changes to stagnant wages—have significantly increased dependency on government transfers.

Johnson, Cruz propose legislation against China's organ harvesting

THE SCONI

U.S. Senator Ron Johnson from Wisconsin has collaborated with Senator Ted Cruz of Texas to introduce the Falun Gong Protection Act. This legislative measure targets individuals involved in or complicit with involuntary organ harvesting, mandating sanctions against them. Additionally, the bill requires the Secretary of State to present a report to Congress on the organ transplant policies and practices of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

The initiative responds to ongoing human rights violations by the CCP, specifically targeting Falun Gong practitioners. Senators Rick Scott of Florida and Thom Tillis of North Carolina also support this legislation.



U.S. Senator Ron Johnson for Wisconsin

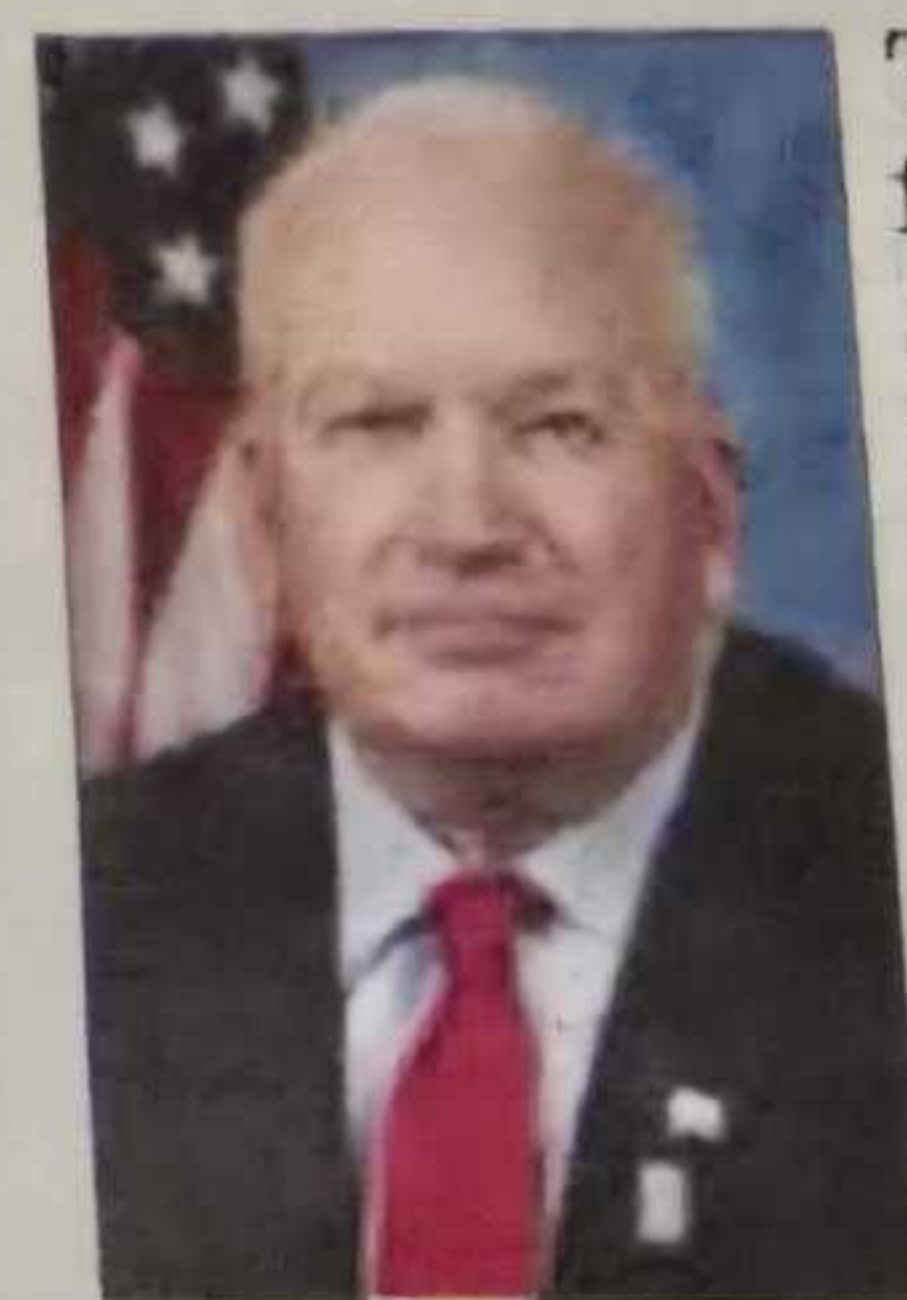
Congressman Fitzgerald supports Trump's vision in 2025 joint address

WAUKESHA TIMES

Congressman Scott Fitzgerald has expressed his support for President Trump's recent Joint Address to Congress. In a statement, Fitzgerald highlighted the president's focus on economic growth, border security, and government accountability.

“Tonight, President Trump laid out a bold vision for America—one that focuses on strengthening our economy, securing the border, restoring accountability in government, and reaffirming America's leadership on the world stage,” said Fitzgerald. He emphasized Trump's commitment to tax cuts and reducing wasteful spending as resonating with Wisconsin residents who seek an effective government.

Fitzgerald praised the administration's policies aimed at prioritizing American jobs and energy independence while addressing crime and protecting free speech. He also noted



Scott Fitzgerald
U.S. House of
Representatives
from Wisconsin's
5th district

Trump's call for fiscal responsibility as crucial in tackling inflation and stabilizing the economy.

The congressman expressed eagerness to collaborate with fellow lawmakers to promote what he described as “pro-growth, pro-security and pro-America policies.” According to Fitzgerald, these initiatives are necessary for providing Americans with a

responsive government focused on their needs rather than political partisanship.

“I stand with President Trump in his mission to restore prosperity and get our nation back on track,” he concluded. “As he said tonight: ‘America is back!’”

8,421 students enrolled in Chippewa County school districts in 2023-24

CHIPPEWA VALLEY TIMES

There were 8,421 students enrolled in Chippewa County school districts in the 2023-24 school year, 2.3% less than the previous year, according to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

The county's data showed that 12th grade had the biggest classes with 680 students, while first grade saw the smallest enrollment that year with 516 students.

Countywide, Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District welcomed the most students during the 2023-24 school year.

The main offices of all districts mentioned in the article are located in cities associated with Chippewa County.

Nearly 850,000 students were enrolled in Wisconsin schools in the 2021-22 school year. This is a 0.85% decrease from the year before. In sharp contrast to declining public school figures, enrollment in charter schools rose 4.5% to more than 52,000.

In 2022, there was roughly one teacher for every 14 students in a Wisconsin classroom, compared to the national average of 1:16.

AAA State of Play considered Wisconsin to have the 14th best teacher to student ratio in the U.S.



Cadott Community School District Superintendent Josh Spaeth (2023)

Enrollment in Chippewa County Over 10 Years



WI Supreme Court candidate Crawford calls state voter ID law 'draconian'

GREEN BAY REPORTER

Wisconsin Supreme Court candidate Susan Crawford called the state's voter identification law "draconian" after she challenged the law in court as a private lawyer representing the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Network, Inc.

That case, which she lost, specifically challenged the photo identification requirement for voters. That law had been passed in 2011 by the Republican-controlled state legislature.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court upheld the law in a 2014 ruling.

"I fought against Act 10. The draconian voter ID law," she wrote in a 2018 Capital Times column.

Crawford is running against former Wisconsin Attorney General Brad Schimel in the April 1 election for the state Supreme Court.

Currently a Waukesha County Circuit Judge, Schimel defended the voter ID law in court when he served as attorney general.

"Our legal team did an outstanding job defending Wisconsin law, from the trial court to the U.S. Supreme Court," said Schimel, according to Courthouse News.

In a 2018 interview on WISN-AM, Schimel asked listeners if they thought U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wisc.) or President Trump would have won in the state without the voter ID law.

"How many of your listeners really, honestly, are sure that Sen. Johnson was going to win re-election or President Trump was going to win Wisconsin if we didn't have voter ID?" Schimel asked.

The Supreme Court race comes at the same time Wisconsin voters will choose whether or not the state voter ID law will become part of the state Constitution, reported the Badger Institute.

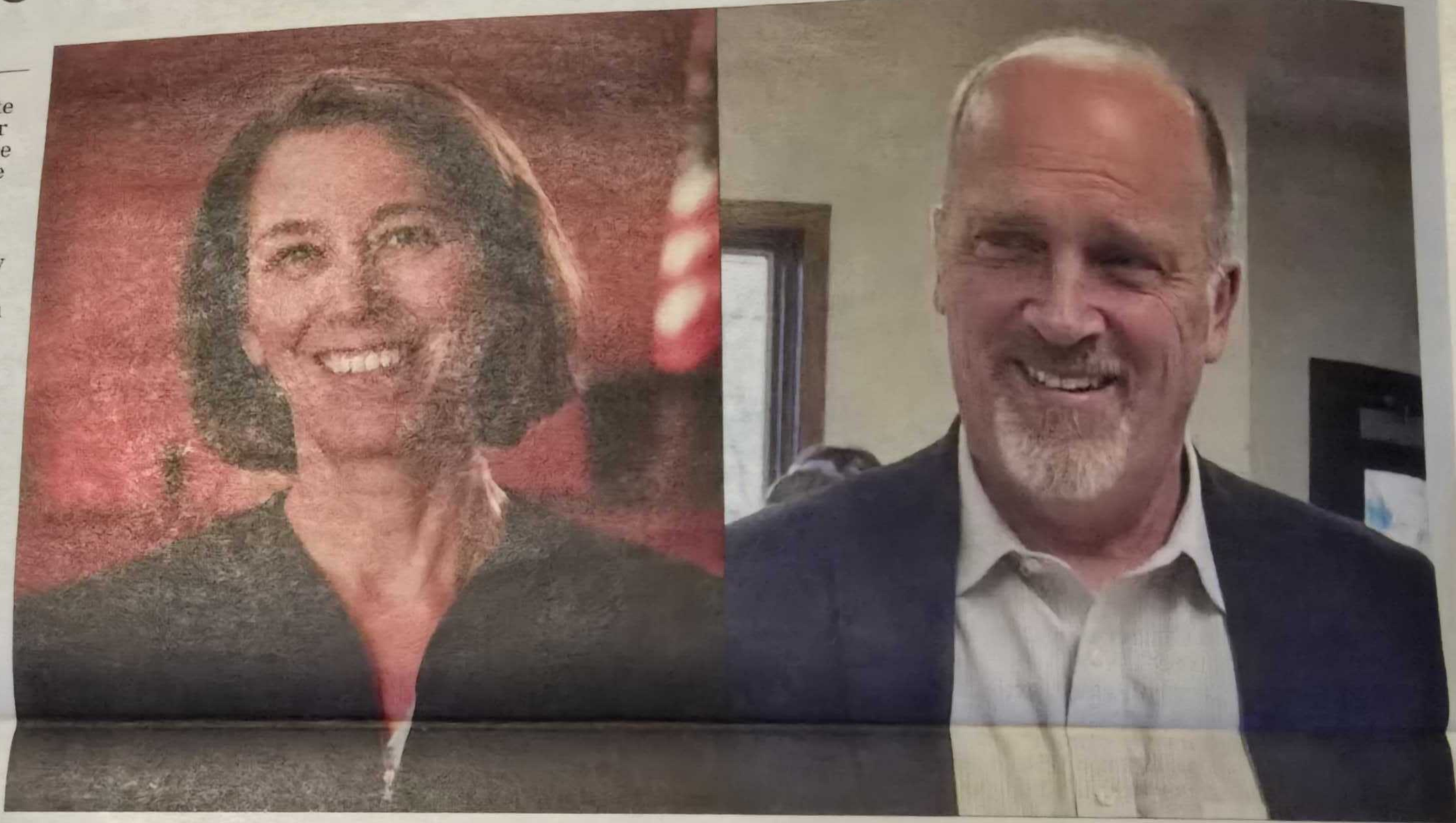
In an article titled, "Supreme battle shaping up over voter ID," the Badger Institute's managing editor, Mark Lisher, wrote of Crawford's past challenge to voter ID law.

Lisher wrote that both Crawford and Schimel declined to provide a "position" on the law, so as not to prejudice the case.

Schimel's campaign, however, told Lisher that, "Susan Crawford was the attorney who fought to abolish Wisconsin's voter ID law, which raises serious ethical questions."

"Can Wisconsinites trust her to rule objectively on this matter?" Schimel's campaign asked in a statement.

Eighty-seven percent of Wisconsin voters support voter ID, according to a Feb. 2025 poll conducted by TIPP Insights for the League of American Workers (LAW). Only 9% of voters in that poll said they were opposed to



Wisconsin Supreme Court candidates Susan Crawford (pictured left) and Brad Schimel

“

Susan Crawford was the attorney who fought to abolish Wisconsin's voter ID law, which raises serious ethical questions.”

– Former Wisconsin Attorney General Brad Schimel's campaign

voter ID.

"Clearly, the vast preponderance of reasonable Wisconsinites recognizes that any important activity in life requires identification, from boarding a plane to staying at a hotel," said LAW President Steve Cortes.

Cortes said the April 1 election could "matter materially" for Wisconsin voters when it comes to the future of voter ID in the state.

"Since a voter ID referendum is also on the ballot for April 1, and many Democrat activists look for the Supreme Court to invalidate any voter ID

requirements, this issue could matter materially not just for Wisconsin, but for the whole country, given its national importance," wrote Cortes. "In addition, Democratic activists in Wisconsin, backed by out-of-state billionaire Reid Hoffman, have made it crystal clear that they believe electing Crawford to the court can result in The Democrats picking up two additional US House seats."

"The logical inference there is that an activist, partisan Wisconsin supreme court could redraw contested districts, just as that court already did for the state legislature," said Cortes.

In terms of the two Supreme Court candidates' positions on voter ID, Cortes cited a 2012 Twin Cities Pioneer Press article in which he said, "Crawford compared sensible voter requirements to racist rules used in Jim Crow era to prevent black Americans from voting."

"It's very much like a poll tax," Crawford said.

Wisconsin voters can visit MyVoter.gov for information on voting in the April 1 Election.

Analysis: Wisconsin one of 36 states requiring voter ID

THE SCONI NEWS SERVICE

Wisconsin is one of 36 states that require voters to present identification at the polls. That's according to an analysis of state laws by The Sconi.

Wisconsin's voter ID law was passed in 2011 by the state legislature and signed into law by Gov. Scott Walker (R). The law requires voters to provide a government-issued photo ID to cast a ballot.

Legal challenges delayed implementation, but the law took effect in 2016 and has remained in place.

Among the legal challenges to the law was that of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Network, Inc. (LWV) Current Wisconsin Supreme Court candidate Susan Crawford represented (LWV) in that challenge.

That case, which Crawford lost, specifically challenged the photo identification requirement for voters. The Wisconsin Supreme Court upheld the law in a 2014 ruling.

"I fought against Act 10. The draconian voter ID law," she wrote in a 2018 Capital Times column.

Crawford is running against former Wisconsin Attorney General Brad Schimel in the April 1 election

for the state Supreme Court.

Voter ID laws differ among states in terms of strictness and the types of identification accepted.

Fourteen states and the District of Columbia do not require voters to present identification at the polls. These states include California, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Washington. These states use other verification methods, such as signature matching or providing personal details.

Among states that require voter ID, some have stricter requirements than others. In Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, voters must present a government-issued photo ID. Those without ID may cast a provisional ballot but must follow additional procedures after Election Day for their votes to be counted.

Other states require identification but do not mandate a photo. Arizona, North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming require voters to present an acceptable form of ID, but it does not have to include a photograph. If a voter does not have the required ID, they must complete additional steps to verify their identity.



Former Gov. Scott Walker

In Alabama, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Tennessee, voters are asked to show a photo ID. If they do not have one, they may verify their identity through other means, such as signing an affidavit or presenting a non-photo ID.

Some states require identification that does not have to include a photograph. In Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Montana, Oklahoma, Virginia, and West Virginia, voters may present any form of identification. If they do not have an acceptable form of identification, alternative verification procedures are available.

Voter ID requirements continue to change as states pass new laws or update existing ones. Voters should be sure they understand the requirements in their state before Election Day.

State	Voter ID Required? (Y/N)
Alabama	Y
Alaska	Y
Arizona	Y
Arkansas	Y
California	N
Colorado	Y
Connecticut	Y
Delaware	Y
District of Columbia	N
Florida	Y
Georgia	Y
Hawaii	Y
Idaho	Y
Illinois	N
Indiana	Y
Iowa	Y
Kansas	Y

State	Voter ID Required? (Y/N)
Kentucky	Y
Louisiana	Y
Maine	N
Maryland	N
Massachusetts	N
Michigan	Y
Minnesota	N
Mississippi	Y
Missouri	Y
Montana	Y
Nebraska	Y
Nevada	N
New Hampshire	Y
New Jersey	N
New Mexico	N
New York	N
North Carolina	Y

State	Voter ID Required?
North Dakota	Y
Ohio	Y
Oklahoma	Y
Oregon	N
Pennsylvania	N
Rhode Island	Y
South Carolina	Y
South Dakota	Y
Tennessee	Y
Texas	Y
Utah	Y
Vermont	N
Virginia	Y
Washington	N
West Virginia	Y
Wisconsin	Y
Wyoming	Y

Voter integrity patriots: Don't sleep on the April Wisconsin race



Well, thankfully, the common-sense citizens of Wisconsin overwhelmingly support identification requirements for this sacred act of civic engagement.

— Steve Cortes, League of American Workers founder and president

Steve Cortes, founder and president, League of American Workers

BY STEVE CORTES

Hopefully, patriots across the country are truly 'not tired of winning yet' with the new Trump/Vance administration. Even those still basking in the afterglow of earning the White House plus both houses of Congress—need to buckle down and get back to work, to secure and extend the present momentum.

The Wisconsin state Supreme Court race on April 1 may seem obscure to a lot of voters nationwide, and even to some in the Badger State itself. But this race matters materially for that swing state and, in turn, for the nation.

Right now, the state high court is split 4-3 for the liberals, and that activist court intervened in 2024 to bring back the dubious practice of unattended ballot drop boxes, just before last November's voting. Although President Trump did win the state and win Wisconsin, it was a photo finish, and the tightest victory of his incredible swing-state sweep.

Only 29,000 votes separated Trump from Harris, a state with over 3.3 million cast. In addition, the solid GOP US Senate nominee, Eric Lipton, did not prevail, despite the many vulnerabilities of incumbent Senator Tammy Baldwin. So, this court race in Wisconsin carries huge national implications. If the radical leftist candidate Susan Crawford wins, the liberal court will

tilt even further left. In addition to the terrible and corruption-inducing practice of drop boxes, she clearly threatens voter identification requirements for casting ballots.

In fact, as an attorney suing the state of Wisconsin, Crawford called voter ID rules "draconian." That radical stance was reported by even the biased Milwaukee Journal Sentinel in an article titled: "Susan Crawford is mum on voter ID. That wasn't always the case."

Similarly, the Twin Cities Pioneer Press reported that Crawford compared sensible voter ID requirements to racist rules used in the Jim Crow era to prevent black Americans from voting. She made the ludicrous claim that any requirement to show ID is "very much of a poll tax."

But what do the people of Wisconsin think of voter ID?

Well, thankfully, the common-sense citizens of Wisconsin overwhelmingly support identification requirements for this sacred act of civic engagement. The margin, in fact, is an astonishing 87% in favor of voter ID and a mere 9% opposed. Clearly, the vast preponderance of reasonable Wisconsinites recognizes that any important activity in life requires identification, from boarding a plane to staying at a hotel.

This poll was commissioned by my populist advocacy organization, the League of American

Workers, and conducted by TIPP Insights. It used a sample universe of over 1,000 registered voters that split 50-49% between Trump and Harris voters, exactly in line with the final 2024 vote totals in that state.

Importantly, in a politically polarized era, this issue is not at all partisan. In fact, a stunning 89% of Kamala Harris voters in Wisconsin support voter ID. In addition, 78% of blacks, 85% of Hispanics, and 89% of women all support this common-sense protection for voter integrity.

So, the evidence is overwhelming that patriotic heartland voters of every partisan stripe want clean, transparent elections.

The best way to ensure that outcome of fairness and openness is to elect Brad Schimel for the Wisconsin high court.

Brad Schimel: conservative candidate for Wisconsin's Supreme Court

Plus, patriots all over the country should pay close attention, and help however they can, since the 2026 midterms and the 2028 presidential races could well hinge upon what happens shortly in this Midwestern battle.

Steve Cortes was a former senior advisor to President Trump and JD Vance, a former commentator for Fox News and CNN, and president of the League of American Workers, a populist right pro-laborer advocacy group.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING

about Voter ID and the WI Supreme Court Election

"The record is clear that Crawford has a long, on-the-record history of wanting to do away with Wisconsin's voter ID law. As far back as January of 2012, Crawford was in court fighting to keep the state's voter ID law (officially known as Act 23) from becoming law."

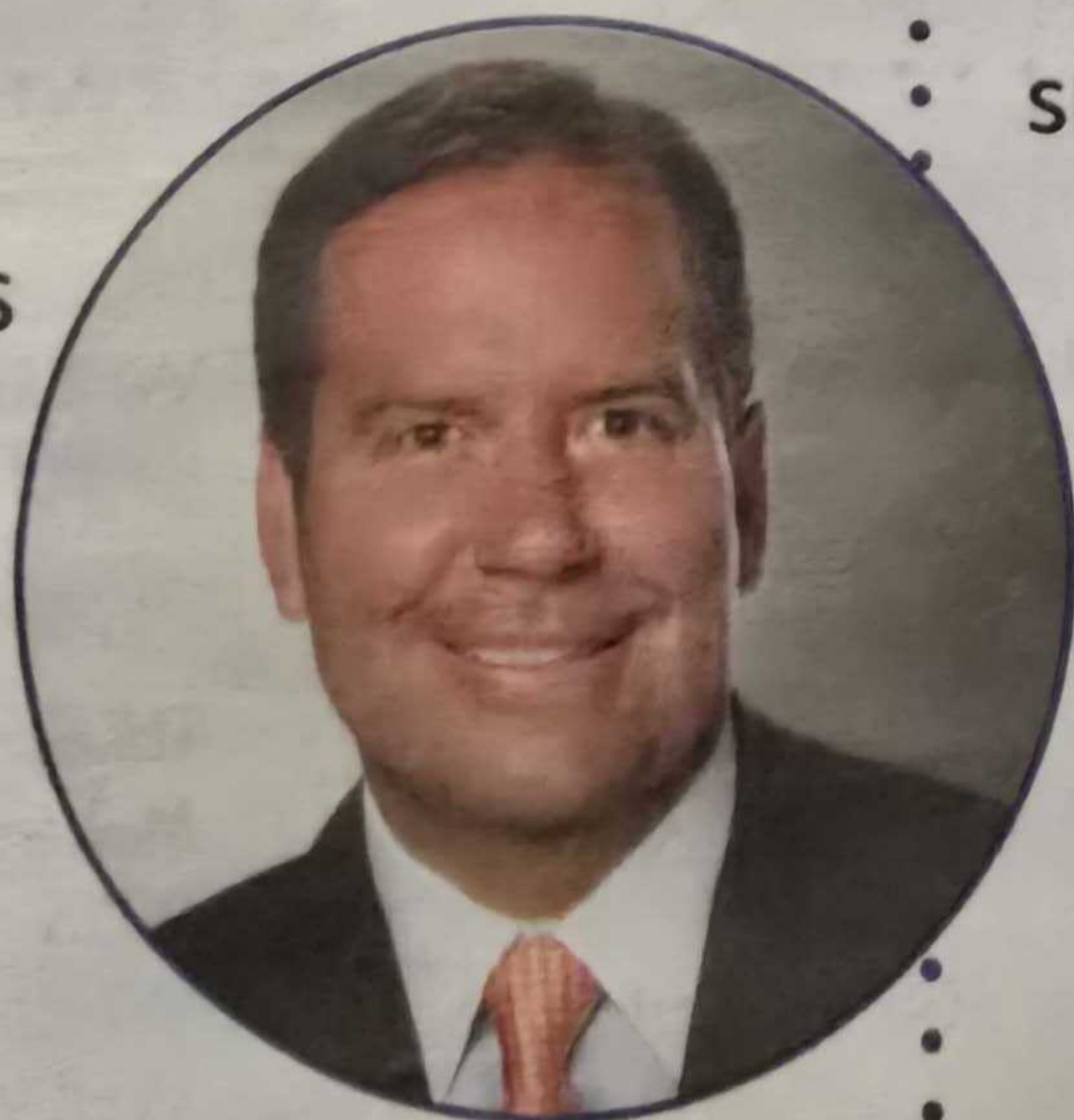
— **Benjamin Yount, The Center Square**



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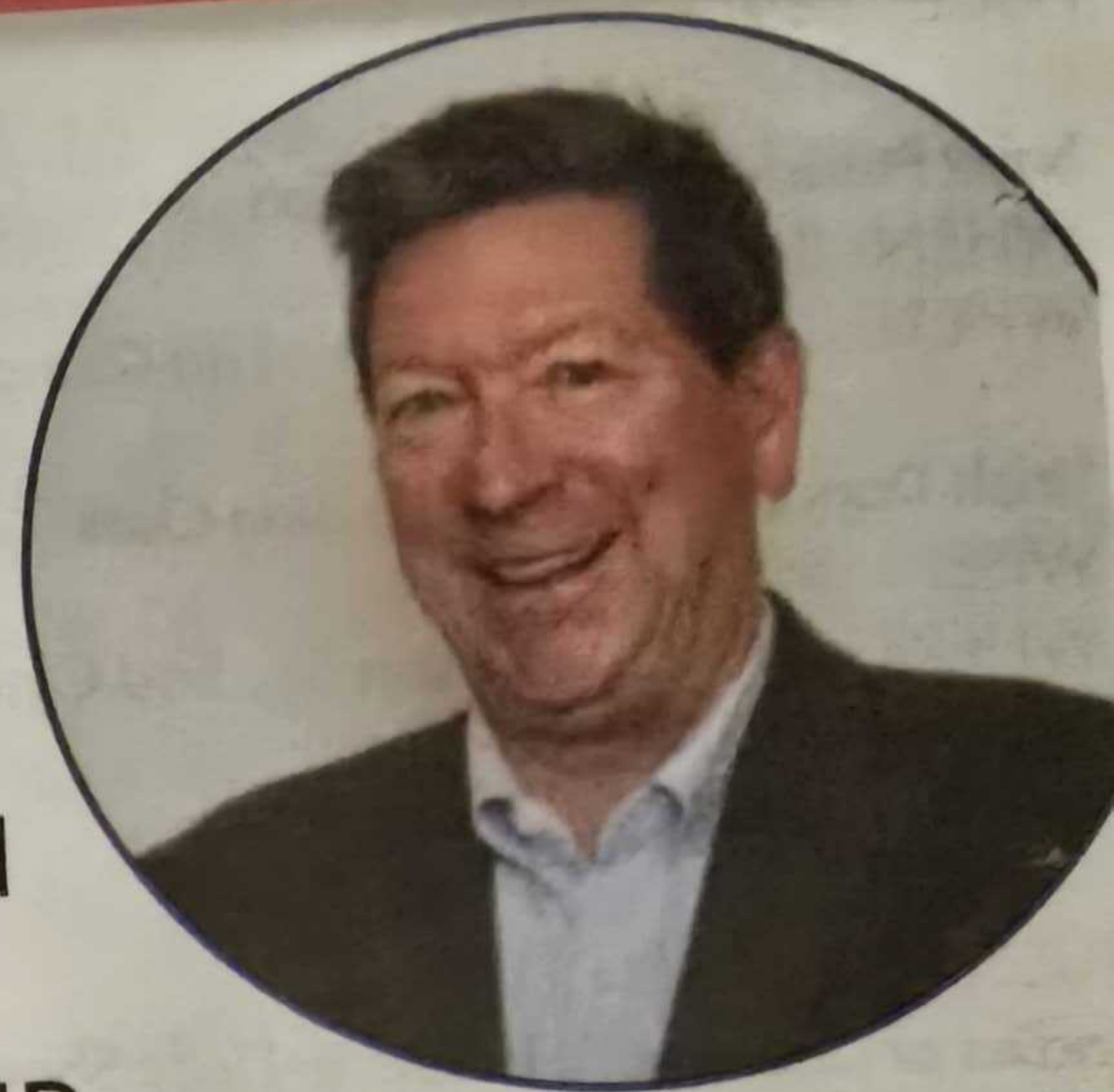
In private practice, Crawford was part of a legal team that tried to invalidate the picture ID requirement in 2014. They lost the case. In a newspaper profile in 2018, Crawford referred to the voter ID law as 'draconian.'"

— **Mark Lisher, managing editor, The Badger Institute**

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"Susan Crawford's disdain for a law that is supported by the overwhelming majority of Wisconsinites can't be hidden. If elected, it's nearly guaranteed Crawford and the liberal Supreme Court majority will dismantle this critical safeguard and jeopardize the integrity of our elections."

— **Andrew Iverson, Executive Director for the Republican Party of Wisconsin**



EVENTS

PAGE 10

MONDAY, MARCH 17

St. Paddy's Day Celebration at Metropolis

WHEN: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

WHERE: Action City Trampoline Park & Fun Center, 2402 Lorch Ave., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$49

Saint Patrick's Day Celebration

WHEN: 3-9 p.m.

WHERE: 2526 Golf Road, Eau Claire

"Irish Dance Club" Barre Fusion Class

WHEN: 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: 313 E. Madison St., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$0-15

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

Ladies of Country: A Tribute to Dolly Shania

Reba & Martina

WHEN: 6 p.m.

WHERE: RCU Theatre - Pablo Center at the Confluence, Eau Claire St., Eau Claire

Intuitive Herbalism

WHEN: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: 1813 Brackett Ave., Eau Claire

Boombox Bingo by Geeks Who Drink

WHEN: 6:30-9 p.m.

WHERE: The Phoenix Taproom & Kitchen, 402 Graham Ave., Eau Claire

Music Bingo at The Reboot Social

WHEN: 7-9 p.m.

WHERE: Reboot Social, 220 S. Barstow St., Eau Claire

Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Prep & Test

WHEN: 7:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: 2109 Fairfax St., Eau Claire

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Nick Foytik at the VFW (Starr)

WHEN: 5 p.m.

WHERE: VFW Club 305, Eau Claire

Spring Surg Tech Club Bingo

WHEN: 5-7 p.m.

WHERE: Chippewa Valley Technical College - Business Education Center, W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire

Let's Dance! Level 1 Session 2 Salsa Classes

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Market & Johnson Clearwater Recital Hall, Eau Claire

Back to the 90's Trivia Night at The Plus!

WHEN: 7 p.m.

WHERE: The Plus, 208 S. Barstow St., Eau Claire

Ladies of Country

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: RCU Theatre - Pablo Center at the Confluence, Eau Claire St., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$45.88-58.10

Let's Dance! Level 2 Session 2 Salsa Classes

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Market & Johnson Clearwater Recital Hall, Eau Claire

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Makers' Weekend Creative Retreat - Spring 2025

WHEN: 11 a.m.

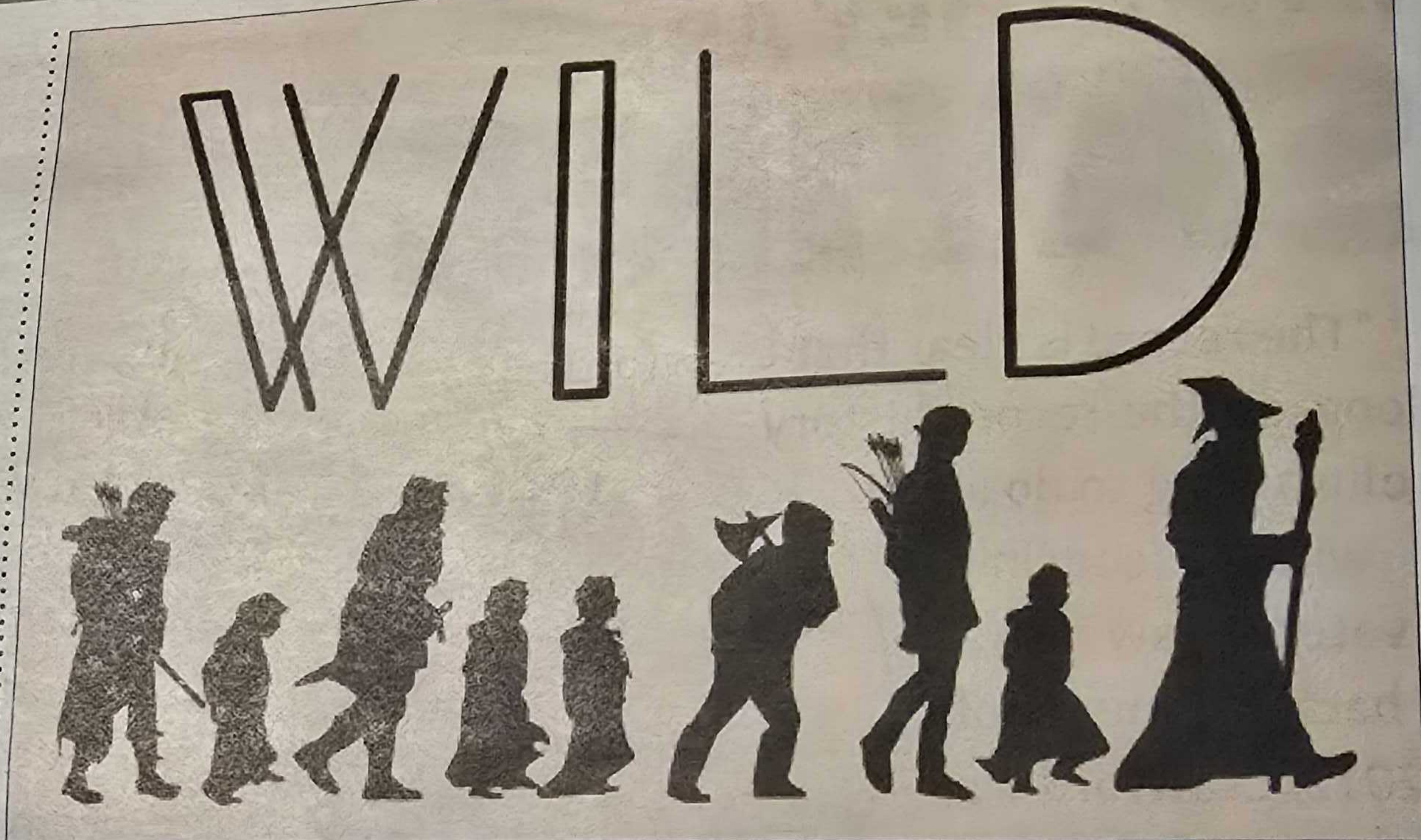
WHERE: The Lismore, 333 Gibson St., Eau Claire

R.E.S.P.E.C.T - Aretha Franklin Tribute

WHEN: 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: RCU Theatre - Pablo Center at the Confluence, Eau Claire St., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$33.14-65.26



all events

A WiLD Hobbit's Feast

Step into the Shire for A WiLD Hobbit's Feast on Wednesday, March 19, at 6 p.m. at 800 Wisconsin St., Building 2, Suite 210, Eau Claire! In place of our traditional St. Patrick's Day Dinner, we're bringing Middle-earth to life with a night of feasting and merriment. Cosplay encouraged—the best-dressed guest wins a grand prize basket more precious than the One Ring! All are welcome—Wizards, Elves, Dwarves, Hobbits, and more. Enjoy a delicious themed menu in a celebration worthy of Rivendell. (Sorry, Spiders and Dragons need not apply!) Join us for a truly magical evening!



The Sonnentag Center

Jeff Foxworthy on Tour

Catch Jeff Foxworthy on Tour at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 22, at the Sonnentag Event Center, 1061 Menomonie St., Eau Claire! With a career spanning decades, Foxworthy is the best-selling comedy recording artist in history, a multiple Grammy nominee, and the author of over 26 books. Inducted into the Georgia Music Hall of Fame, he's famous for his redneck jokes but also masterfully finds humor in everyday family life and human nature, drawing comparisons to Mark Twain. Don't miss this night of hilarious storytelling from one of the most beloved comedians of all time! Tickets: \$35.

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Red Hot Comedy

WHEN: 7-9 p.m.

WHERE: The Red Mixer, 2526 Golf Road, Eau Claire

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Collectors Con 2025

WHEN: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

WHERE: Lismore Hotel, 333 Gibson St., Eau Claire

2025 Wisconsin Sport Show

WHEN: 3 p.m.

WHERE: Chippewa Valley Expo Center,

5150 Old Mill Plaza, Eau Claire

PRICE: \$5-10

Root to Rise - a Qigong, Yin Yoga and Sound Bath Experience

WHEN: 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: Bella Black, 930 Galloway St., Eau Claire

Paint Your Pet | The Brewing Projekt

WHEN: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: 1807 N. Oxford Ave., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$82-114

Saltydog Live at The Plus!

WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHERE: The Plus, 208 S Barstow St., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$10-15

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Mushroom Mayhem: Mushrooms of Wisconsin

WHEN: 9:30 a.m.-Noon

WHERE: 400 Eau Claire St., Eau Claire

Spring Has Sprung Kubb Tournament

WHEN: 10 a.m.

WHERE: Wagner's Lanes and The Complexx, 2159 Brackett Ave., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$45

Eau Claire - Beyond The Veil Expo

WHEN: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

WHERE: Best Western Plus Eau Claire Conference Center, 3290 Mondovi Road, Eau Claire

PRICE: \$5-30

Mushroom Mayhem: Amending and Enhancing Garden Soil with Mushrooms

WHEN: 1 p.m.

WHERE: 400 Eau Claire St., Eau Claire

Costaki Economopoulos live at The Brickhouse Pub & Grub

WHEN: 7 p.m.

WHERE: Brickhouse Pub & Grub, 2233 Birch St., Eau Claire

PRICE: \$20

Rend Collective at RCU Theatre - Pablo Center at the Confluence

WHEN: 7-9 p.m.

WHERE: RCU Theatre - Pablo Center at the Confluence, 128 Graham Ave., Eau Claire

Once More, Autumn | Record Release Show

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Manz Gibson Street Entry, Eau Claire

PRICE: \$0-15

The Part Time Duo at The Plus

WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHERE: The Plus, 208 S. Barstow St., Eau Claire

ATHLETES IN ACTION

These local athletes will be playing on college teams this weekend.



Vincent Trapani

Baseball
UIC Flames
Right Handed Pitcher
Memorial High School
Eau Claire
Next Game: vs. Northern Illinois
Huskies, Wed March 26, 2:00
PM



Austin Suttle

Baseball
Maryville Scots
Pitcher
New Richmond High School
Cincinnati
Next Game: vs. Sewanee Tigers,
Tue March 25, 3:00 PM



Kaden Russo

Baseball
Concordia Golden Bears
Right Handed Pitcher
Elk Mound High School
Elk Mound
Next Game: vs. Minnesota
Crookston Golden Eagles, Fri
March 28, 1:30 PM



Carter Vieth

Baseball
UW Eau Claire Bugolds
Catcher
Elk Mound High School
Elk Mound
Next Game: vs. UW Whitewater
Warhawks, Sat March 29, 1:00
PM



Libby Bygd

Softball
Luther Norse
Catcher
Boyceville Middle/High School
Boyceville
Next Game: vs. Kalamazoo
Hornets, Tue March 25, 10:00
AM



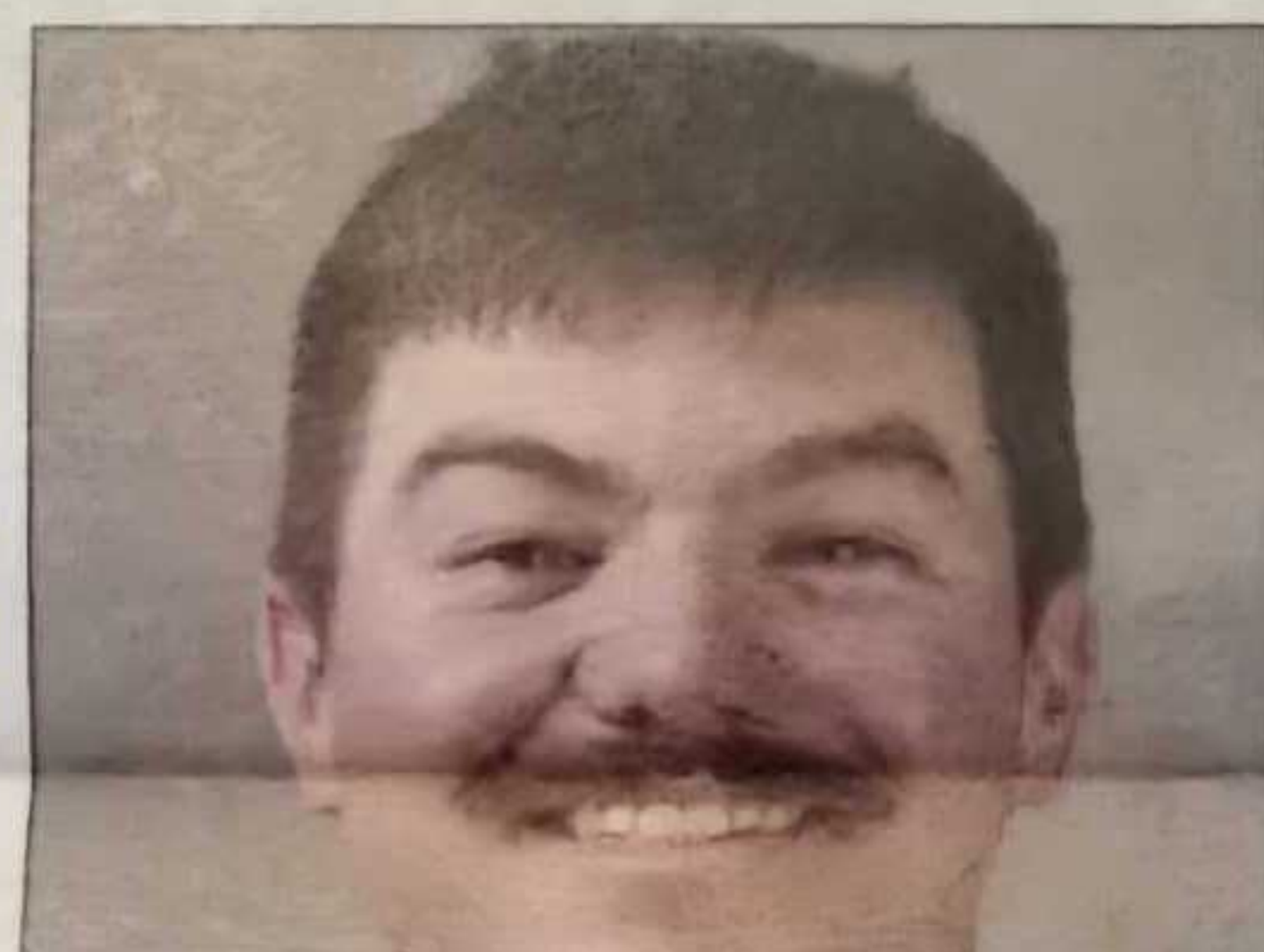
Evan Gustafson

Baseball
North Dakota State Bison
Catcher
Altoona High School
Eau Claire
Next Game: vs. South Dakota
State Jackrabbits, Fri March 28,
3:00 PM



Walker Retz

Baseball
St. Thomas Tommies
Right Handed Pitcher
Boyceville Middle/High School
Boyceville
Next Game: vs. Kansas
Jayhawks, Tue March 25, 6:00
PM



Caleb Gardow

Baseball
Southwest Minnesota State
Mustangs
Catcher
Chippewa High School
Chippewa Falls
Next Game: vs. South Dakota
State Jackrabbits, Wed March
26, 3:00 PM



Hannah Larson

Softball
Augsburg Auggies
Infield
Elk Mound High School
Menomonie
Next Game: vs. UW River Falls
Falcons, Thu March 27, 4:00 PM



Calley Olson

Softball
Minot State Beavers
Pitcher
Bloomer High School
Bloomer
Next Game: vs. UMary
Marauders, Wed March 26, 1:00
PM



Brody Von Berge

Baseball
Luther Norse
Pitcher
Hudson High School
Hudson
Next Game: vs. Simpson Storm,
Fri March 28, 3:00 PM



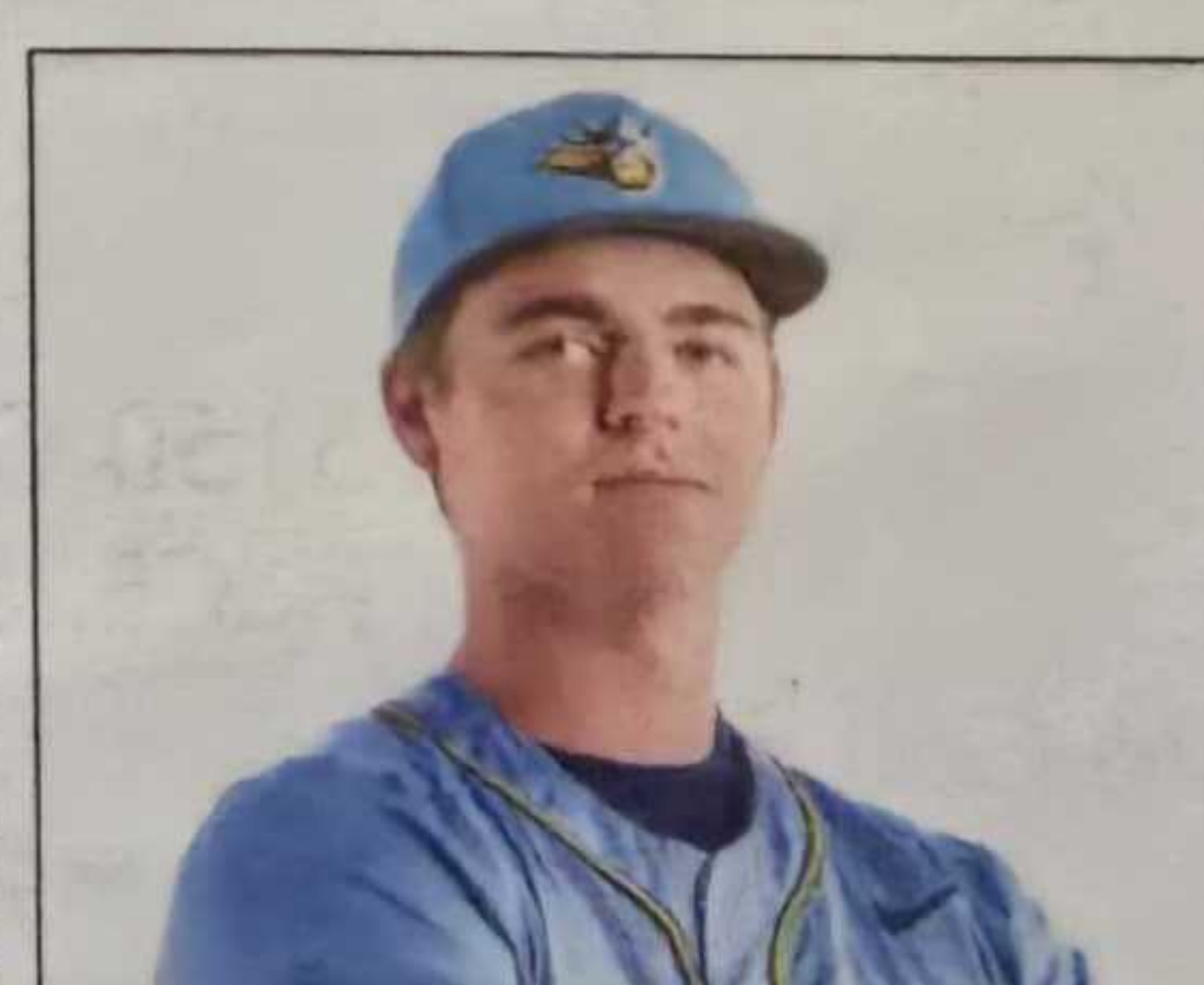
Avery Johnson

Softball
Concordia Golden Bears
Outfield
Hudson High School
Hudson
Next Game: vs. Winona State
Warriors, Wed March 26, 2:00
PM



Mackenzie Bird

Softball
UW-Superior Yellowjacket
Catcher/Infielder
Menomonie High School
Menomonie
Next Game: vs. Martin Luther
Knights, Fri March 28, 3:30 PM



Logan Von Berge

Baseball
Augustana Vikings
Right Handed Pitcher
Hudson High School
Hudson
Next Game: vs. Minnesota
Duluth Bulldogs, Fri March 28,
4:00 PM



Carson Windeshauser

Baseball
UW Eau Claire Bugolds
Infield
Memorial High School
Eau Claire
Next Game: vs. UW Whitewater
Warhawks, Sat March 29, 1:00
PM