

Man who ate, drank for free gets caught

By ANN MEYER

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Being nice only gets a restaurant owner so far.

If customers skip out on a restaurant bill, expect them to get caught. They might just get a pair of cuffs slapped around their wrists. They also could land in jail.

Martin Espinosa, owner of La Cabana, at 2812 10th St. in

Menominee, let Randell Wayne Tipler, 60, walk out of his restaurant without paying Oct. 21 after he said he forgot his wallet. "He pretended like he didn't have his wallet," Espinosa said.

So Espinosa told Tipler, "You can walk out. But I've got to call the cops."

"They never come back," Espinosa said. "I gave him a half hour. He was going to go back and get his wallet and then he would pay." Tipler's bill at La Cabana

was over \$90 for drinks and fish tacos.

Instead of returning to pay, Tipler went to The Watermark Restaurant and Bakery next door, where he also is accused of skipping out without paying. Tipler allegedly hit five area restaurants over four days in October, drinking excessively, according to police reports.

"The guy's going everywhere, just ordering up food," said Tim Murray, owner of The Watermark,

Pirate's Cove and Murray's Irish Pub and Grille in Menominee. "My thought was he was homeless and lives at one of the shelters." Police did not provide an address for Tipler or information about his whereabouts, and the EagleHerald was unable to reach him for comment.

Menominee police picked up Tipler Oct. 21 at The Watermark restaurant, handcuffed him and arrested him. He was taken to Aurora Bay Area Medical Center

with chest pains and difficulty breathing and admitted, according to police. But he didn't stay long, because police cited him for theft at a restaurant the following day.

It was the fourth day in a row that Tipler allegedly ate and drank without paying and was cited.

Police took notice Oct. 19 when Tipler allegedly drank and ate at the Eastside Bar in Marinette. He

See ARREST, A2



Peshtigo Elementary Learning Center students talk directly to astronaut Mark Vande Hei Wednesday at the school. Teacher Jodi Van Vooren and principal Kate Willett are pictured. Van Vooren is the cousin of Vande Hei, who spoke to the students from outer space.

Special to the EagleHerald

Bulldogs in Space

Peshtigo students talk with astronaut at International Space Station

By Special to the EagleHerald

PESHTIGO—Students in the Peshtigo Elementary Learning Center (PELC), last week, had the opportunity to speak with Mark Vande Hei, an astronaut currently working on the International Space Station.

Mission Control of NASA worked with Peshtigo's technology team to coordinate a half-hour of live questions and answers from PELC to the International Space Station on Wednesday.

Vande Hei is a retired Army colonel who was a combat engineer and later a professor at West Point. Vande Hei is also the cousin of Peshtigo's fourth-grade teacher, Jodi VanVooren. He was selected by NASA in 2009 and already completed a six-month trip to the Space Station.

For his second trip to the

"Kids want to know more and more and I anticipate this will inspire them to learn new things. The kids who were selected to ask questions were all smiles when they returned to class. The rest of us listened to the questions and answers and could hear cheers coming from the other classrooms as students would hear the voice of a classmate."

Melissa Sherman
PELC teacher

International Space Station, "Astronaut Mark" as Peshtigo students called him, will be spending a year in space.

Much work had to be done in advance to coordinate between NASA Mission Control and the Peshtigo technology team of Larry Schultz and Dave Bloch.

"Dave and I loved participating in 'Bulldogs in Space.' The experience was exhilarating. We

never thought we would be working with Mission Control at NASA to troubleshoot and collaborate about connectivity," Schultz said. He explained that it took several trial runs between the district and NASA.

"The end result was a success and definitely a career highlight for information technology,"

See SPACE, A3

Spies Library lowers age for library card, gets set for A/V room

By ANN MEYER

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MENOMINEE—Starting today, Spies Public Library in Menominee will allow 16- and 17-year-olds with a driver's license to register for a card without their parent's signature, the Library Board of Trustees said Friday.

Younger youth are still required to have a parent sign the registration form for a library card. The change was made to allow teens who drive themselves to the library to obtain a library card and take responsibility for their library accounts, instead of turning them away if their parents aren't present, Library Director Blair Nelson said at the Board of Trustees meeting.

Nelson said "a couple of patrons weren't able to get a card for that reason. They're coming in on their own."

On Tuesday, new audio-visual equipment will be installed on the library's first floor in the first step of what Nelson hopes will be a new, expanded community space for movies and presentations.

About \$9,273 from the Klar Bequest will be used to purchase the equipment. The Menominee City Council approved the use of the funds at its Nov. 15 meeting. Creative Entertainment Services and Management Group is installing the system, Nelson said.

Nelson said to open up the A/V room to expand the number of people who can participate will require removing a wall. The library hasn't yet obtained bids for this work. The board also discussed proposals received for a new heating, ventilation and air condition system, but decided to seek an expert's help in determining the best option.

The trustees also agreed to adopt a new donation policy to avoid misunderstandings about how the library handles donations and gifts. "The library will, to the best of its ability, try to comply with the wishes of the donor of gift, bequest, memorial, etc. However, the library director, and thereby library board reserves the right to decide if its purpose is practicable and in the best interest of the library. The library has the right to refuse gifts and retains unconditional ownership of accepted gifts," the policy states.

Blair said the policy, which is similar to one used at the library in Bayfield, Wis., where he previously served as library director, will help avoid misunderstandings if people donate artwork or materials the library doesn't have space to display. The materials become the property of the library and can be sold, donated or disposed of at the library's discretion.

The library won't accept gifts with restrictions attached to the donation, according to the policy. It also doesn't attempt to determine the value of gifts in-kind donations.

See SPIES, A2

"I think it's an excellent thing to have. I did not read anything in it that I didn't agree with."

Doug Schoen
Spies Public Library Trustee

Good morning,
Sharon Wilson!
Thank you for subscribing
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DEATHS

Betzinger, Gary L.
Constine, Gladys M.
Dettrich Jr., Roger F.
Heckel, Joseph A.
Hemminger, Anita J.
Krygoski, Susan E.
Weber, Michael J.

INSIDE

State: Third party to probe Oxford High School's actions ahead of shooting. **A7**

Sports: Marine girls pick up first win of the season. **B1**



TODAY: Partly sunny with chance of snow. Temps will drop after 9 a.m.
HIGH: 30 LOW: 3

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Two area foundations combine forces

UW-Marquette County and UW-Green Bay join

GREEN BAY— The UW-Marquette County Foundation Inc., a philanthropic society of individuals dedicated to supporting public higher education in Marinette County, is combining forces with the UW-Green Bay Foundation to create efficiencies and eliminate duplication of fiduciary duties. The two groups determined that the focus needs to be on growing the number of college degree earners in the region to retain and attract employers in today's fast-paced changing economy. The college degree attainment rate in the region is 26% compared to 33% nationally.

"The missions of the two

entities overlap and it makes sense to work collaboratively with the University's affiliated Foundation for fiduciary purposes," said BA Berquist, board chair of the UW-Marquette County Foundation. "The local UW College campus was integrated with UW-Green Bay in 2018 and now the campus offers a growing number of classes and even four-year degree options. The time has arrived to roll up our sleeves and work together to re-envision what public higher education looks like in our region going forward."

"The Marinette Campus is one of four access points and is critical to our mission to reach students who seek educational opportunities close to home," said University Chancellor Michael

"Donors can still support important programs offered by the University, the only difference is that gifts will flow through the UW-Green Bay Foundation. Gifts can be restricted for use at the UW-Green Bay, Marinette Campus and donor intent on existing endowed funds will be honored."

Tony Werner

UW-Green Bay Foundation President

Alexander. "Today's students seek a combination of learning modalities, and with 12% growth at the Marinette Campus this year we are building momentum for expanded educational

opportunities for the region."

Donors to the UW-Marquette Foundation will see little change in how their support benefits public higher education.

"Donors can still support

important programs offered by the University, the only difference is that gifts will flow through the UW-Green Bay Foundation," according to UW-Green Bay Foundation President Tony Werner. "Gifts can be restricted for use at the UW-Green Bay, Marinette Campus and donor intent on existing endowed funds will be honored. Philanthropic support for public universities is on the rise nationally as state support continues to decline, and we are experiencing the same trends here in Wisconsin."

Current board members of the UW-Marquette Foundation were invited to serve on the Marinette Campus Advisory Board, a group that meets periodically to offer a local perspective on the regional nature of the university.

FROM A1



Special to the EagleHerald

Peshtigo School District Information Technology Director Larry Schultz works with NASA Mission Control to set up live streaming with an astronaut last week in Peshtigo.

SPACE:

Schultz said.

Principal Kate Willett and associate principal John Bell also helped set up the event. Willett facilitated the question and answer session.

"I believed this event really showcased our students' natural curiosity and put a smile on all our faces. Despite technical difficulties with the visual feed which were beyond our control, I'm very grateful for the crisp, clear audio we were all able to listen to," Willett said.

Peshtigo students have been exploring a number of NASA developments. They've been learning about space exploration and what life is like as an astronaut. Teacher Jennifer Barker encouraged students to learn more about satellites.

Fifth-grade student Dominic Burns shared what he learned about the space race, "when the USSR and the US were competing to show which country was stronger and smarter."

Students related the space race to sports and competition. "This was such a good way for students to experience something new and gain more background knowledge to pull from as they read," teacher Melissa Sherman said.

In preparation for the live Q & A event, students researched topics they personally found most

interesting.

"Some students were researching black holes, while others learned more about the sun and stars. Still others were amazed how the audio connection could travel so far with only a 45-second delay in live communication," according to VanVooren.

VanVooren's students watched videos about life at the space station.

"The ones they were most interested in were how to shower and use the bathroom in space. Another interesting one was how to play tennis in space," she said, adding, "I

think they have even more questions now than they did before the interview."

Selected students were allowed to directly question Vande Hei.

"It's amazing how bringing community members into the classroom contributes to curiosity and learning," sixth-grade teacher Loretta Rich said.

"Kids want to know more and more and I anticipate this will inspire them to learn new things," Sherman said. "The kids who were selected to ask questions were all smiles when they returned to class. The rest of us listened to the

questions and answers and could hear cheers coming from the other classrooms as students would hear the voice of a classmate."

It was a rare opportunity for Peshtigo students to speak live with an astronaut in outer space.

"I never thought I would talk to an astronaut one day," fourth-grader Adam Falkenberg said.

Meanwhile, student Landon Klug beamed, "This is honestly the best day of my life!"

Editor's note: This article was submitted by the Peshtigo School District.



EagleHerald/Ann Meyer

Billboard replaced

A billboard with the message, "Spread Hope Get Vaccinated," from the Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center has replaced a sign from Public Health of Delta and Menominee Counties on 10th Street that warned "Marijuana and Alcohol Can Harm Your Unborn Child." The EagleHerald wrote about the billboard Nov. 19. The sign is next to Lloyd Flanders, which hasn't required COVID-19 vaccines for its workers.

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