Green Bay PRESS-GAZETTE

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U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin speaks in support of preserving and expanding the American shipbuilding industry at Fincantieri ACE Marine in Green Bay on Aug. 26. PHOTOS BY TORK MASON/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

'This is a fight that we have to wage'

Baldwin argues national interest of building American ships

Jesse Lin Green Bay Press-Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin argued additional American shipbuilding is needed to advance the country's economic and national security interests in opposition to China in her second vistir to Green Bay in a month.

The Democratic lawmaker appeared Aug. 26 at shipbuilding company Fincantieri Ace Marine, 201 S. Pearl St. – to promote a bill she introduced with several Democratic and Republican colleagues as a means to increase American welfare and safety, and herself as a bipartisan defender of the working class.

She had previously visited the shipbuilder in 2024 to highlight a federal investigation into Chinese trade practices in the industry. Baldwin's return continued a history of the senator's legislative interest in Great Lakes shipping. Or as the Baldwin put it in her opening remarks in front of Fincantieri Ace Marine workers: "Same topic, but we're on the next chapter."

The senator presented a stark decline of American shipbuilding trends, harkening back to the post-World War II era when "our nation led the world in commercial shipbuilding," she said. A July 2024 fact sheet by the U.S. Maritime Administration showed the United States had the world's largest fleet of "4,446 ships of all types and sizes" by the end of WWII. She contrasted the past to the present when she said the United States produced fewer than 10 commercial ships in 2024 compared

U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin asks Chuck Nicklas a question during a welding demonstration at Fincantieri ACE Marine in Green Bay on Aug. 26.

to China's 1,700.

According to the United Nation's Trade and Development arm, three countries accounted for over 95% of the ships built in 2024: China led the pack at 54.57%, followed by South Korea at 28.02% and Japan at 12.56%. These three East Asian economies have had market dominance of the global shipbuilding industry since at least 2014, the oldest year for when the United Nations has data publicly available.

See BALDWIN, Page 4A

Nominate the 'Coolest Thing Made in Wisconsin'

Jeff Bollier
Green Bay Press-Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

Nominations have opened for the annual Coolest Thing Made in Wisconsin celebration of Wisconsin's expansive manufacturing economy.

Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce and Racine-based Johnson Financial Group have partnered once again on the contest, which its 10th year highlighting manufacturers as WMC says contributes almost $74 billion and nearly 500,000 jobs to the state economy.

See COOLEST THING, Page 4A

Jolly Good Soda was named the Coolest Thing Made in Wisconsin for 2024. Jolly Good employees celebrated the award during Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce's annual Business Day event, on Oct. 17, 2024, in Madison.
PROVIDED BY WISCONSIN MANUFACTURERS AND COMMERCE

Wimberger blames Evers for expected veterans homeless shelter closures

Jesse Lin
Green Bay Press-Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

To a roomful of veterans in Howard who wanted answers as to why the veterans' homeless shelters in Chippewa Falls and Bellevue were closing, State Sen. Eric Wimberger (R-Oconto) on Aug. 25 said Democratic Gov. Tony Evers was solely responsible.

Around that premise, the argument made by Wimberger — an attorney and a veteran of the Marine Corps — was this: He wasn't sure why the governor and head of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs James Bond wanted to let the two homeless

See WIMBERGER, Page 6A