



Unity key in Bucks’ title run in 2020-2021

SPORTS, 1B

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Scared by death?



End-of-Life doulas Gil-Marie Janssen, left, and Martha Badger, founders of the Greater Milwaukee Death Doulas, at a coffee shop on June 29. PHOTOS BY DONNISA EDMONDS/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

Doulas provide peace, support, meaning at end of life

Donnisa Edmonds
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Gil-Marie Janssen knows people think that talking about death brings it closer to you. “So if I talk about death, I’m going to die?” she asked. “If I talk about sex, I’m going to get pregnant? Is that the way it works?” Working through these beliefs is part of Janssen’s rather uncommon life’s calling – serving as a death doula. A former school counselor, she found herself drawn to working with kids dealing with loss, and hoped to expand on that work in retirement. Then, her mother got sick. When her mother was placed in at-home hospice care, Janssen and her seven siblings regularly visited to support her parents. In the end, her mother died at home, surrounded by the whole family, in what Janssen calls a beautiful and sacred experience. The experience inspired Janssen to discover death doulas. Her first training was around the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. She later started volunteering with local hospices. After Janssen’s second training, a mutual friend introduced her to Martha Badger. Badger was a nurse for 35 years and, as she puts it:



Badger and Janssen’s death café sign, an example of a Death Deck, and a collection of books exploring death, dying, and the end-of-life, are all designed to spur conversation.

nurses see a lot of death and dying. “Every once in a while a patient would ask me if they were dying. Nobody was telling them if they were dying or not,” said Badger. “In a professional way, I’d say, ‘Yeah, you are,’ and that would bring an enormous relief to the patient.” Upon retiring, or “rewiring” as Badger prefers, she recalled a 20-year-old memory of her Reiki teacher telling a group of students that she was helping a terminally sick friend and her family come to terms with the friend’s death.

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Wisconsin Bike Fed makes license plate with help of familiar designer

Hope Karnopp
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

When Melissa Putzer began asking her acquaintances to sign forms to launch a Wisconsin Bike Fed license plate, one friend asked if she knew David Hornung. She didn’t know who he was or what he had done, only that Hornung had designed a previous license plate. Putzer eventually learned Hornung designed the most ubiquitous plate in Wisconsin: The original

“America’s Dairyland” scene, with the iconic red barn, green trees, orange sun and white sailboat. “Dave asked me, ‘Are you a graphics artist?’ And that was a big, emphatic no,” Putzer said. “I’d worked as a chemist, I have a degree in microbiology and an MBA, but I can’t draw.” He then offered to help the bicycle advocacy organization design its own specialty license plate – for free. “I felt like I was being punked in reverse,” Putzer said. “It was just serendipity, really.”

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Dog shot 8 times in Shawano County

Investigators need leads

Vivian Barrett
Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

After locating a dog with eight gunshot wounds and other traumatic injuries in the Town of Maple Grove, the Shawano County Sheriff’s Office is seeking the public’s help in generating investigative leads. On July 15, the sheriff’s office received a report of a dog that had been found with apparent gunshot wounds near Cedar Drive and Maple Road, the office said in a July 16 news release. The dog was given emergency treatment by Specialized Veterinary Care of Shawano and is currently under the care of the Shawano County Humane Society. The humane society has named the dog Sunny, though very little information is known about his history or where he came from, the release said. Sunny is a brown mixed-breed dog weighing approximately 35 pounds and is believed to be around 8 years old. Veterinary staff confirmed Sunny suffered eight gunshot wounds, a broken leg and other traumatic injuries. Based on the condition of the injuries, it is believed they occurred two to four days before he was found, the release said. Sunny remains under veterinary supervision and is awaiting medical clearance before undergoing more procedures, the release said. The sheriff’s office said it currently has no known witnesses or suspects. Sunny had a microchip registered to an out-of-state person and investigators are working to identify any previous owners or any shelters who may have cared for him. The sheriff’s office is asking members of the public to share any information they have related to Sunny and his injuries. The release noted that “every piece of information, no matter how small it may seem, could prove valuable.” Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the sheriff’s office’s non-emergency dispatch center at 715-526-3111 or email Deputy Josh Heider at josh.heider@shawanocountywi.gov. The sheriff’s office also asked for the public’s patience as the investigation continues, stating “cases such as this are especially challenging when there are no witnesses and limited investigative leads.” For anyone interested in supporting Sunny’s care and recovery, the Shawano County Humane Society is accepting donations for the cost of his ongoing treatment, the release said. Vivian Barrett is the public safety reporter for the Green Bay Press-Gazette. You can reach her at vbarrett@usatodayco.com or (920) 431-8314.



The Shawano County Sheriff’s Office located a dog with eight gunshot wounds July 15. They are asking for the public’s help with investigative leads. PROVIDED BY SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

