

# The Weekend Gazette

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Richards

## June trial set in shooting death of UW-Whitewater gymnast

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ELKHORN — A high-profile trial for a former UW-Whitewater wrestler accused of killing his girlfriend, a national champion gymnast, is set for June as attorneys prepare to battle over expert testimony.

Chad T. Richards, 24, appeared via video in Walworth County Court in Elkhorn on Thursday for a scheduling hearing. He is charged with first-degree intentional homicide in the Aug. 30, 2024, shooting death of Kara Welsh.

The trial was originally scheduled for December 2025 and later pushed back to the following June. Walworth County Circuit Court Judge Kristine Drettwan on Thursday discussed with attorneys for both sides a rigorous discovery schedule to ensure they're prepared.

The case has increasingly focused on forensic evidence.

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KYLIE BALK-YAATENEN/KYLIE.BALKYAATENEN@APG-SW.COM

"The Perfect Christmas," written and directed by Brenda Brotzman, is on stage Friday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m. at Roxbury Church of Christ, 2103 Roxbury Road.

## 'None of us is perfect; and that's the whole point'

### Roxbury Church kids stage original Christmas story

**KYLIE BALK-YAATENEN**  
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JANESVILLE — When the lights shine down and children take their places for Roxbury Church of Christ's "The Perfect Christmas," it becomes clear the production is more than a holiday performance. It's about sharing the true meaning of Christmas.

The original Christmas play was written and directed by Brenda Brotzman, the church's children's ministry

director, and features performers ranging in age from 6 to 14. It brings together families, faith and a shared love of theater, both on stage and behind the scenes.

"I couldn't find a play that said exactly what I wanted it to say," Brenda said. "So, I decided to write one."

The story follows a group of kids preparing a Christmas party in hopes of impressing their new youth pastor, each with their own idea of what makes Christmas "perfect," from

decorations and food to games, music and gifts. As the planning unravels, the focus shifts to what truly matters.

The setup is

reminiscent of "A Charlie Brown Christmas," with kids fully in charge of the party, planning

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Milwaukee Judge doesn't testify in her trial for helping immigrant

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Milton High School honor roll

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