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House panel Dems release Epstein photos showing Trump, Clinton

INSIDE, 3A

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Playing their part



Door County businesses shine in 'A Wisconsin Christmas Pie'

Kendra Meinert
Green Bay Press-Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

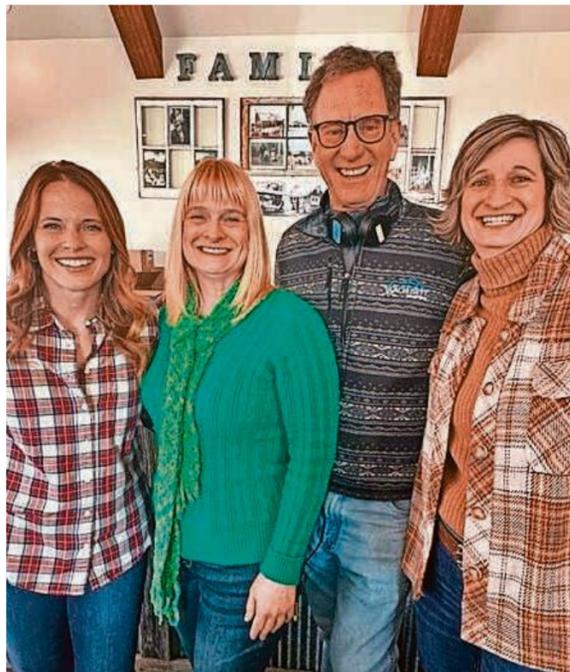
The story in "A Wisconsin Christmas Pie" is fiction, but the Door County movie serves up the real thing when it comes to locally made cheese. In a scene where pastry chef Emma Parker is looking for a way to put her own twist on a recipe worthy of winning the cherry pie bake-off, she gets some help from a friend who happens to work at Renard's Artisan Cheese — as in the real-life, family-owned, fourth-generation cheesemaker outside Sturgeon Bay that's a must-stop for people on their way up to or back from Door County.

Had Emma (played by Katie Leclerc) ever thought that Renard's cheese could be the ingredient that takes her pie over the top? Jennifer (Anna Zhang) has one variety in particular in mind.

"This is Renard's cherry cheddar. A Wisconsin legend. The cheese lover's dream," she tells her. "Aged six months, it's buttery, complex, sweet and savory, tangy and dynamic and made with real Door County cherries. ... I love this cheese more than my husband."

A natural reaction between the cheese culture and cherries gives it a vanilla flavor that's so good Emma could grate it right into her pie crust, Jennifer says. But that's probably something they just dreamed up for the movie, right?

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Actress Katie Leclerc, left, and director John Stimpson pose for a photo with Carrie Lautenbach-Viste and Erin Lautenbach of Lautenbach's Orchard Country in Door County during filming of "A Wisconsin Christmas Pie." The sisters show up as extras in the movie as customers in their own store.

PROVIDED BY STACI GRIESBACH

TOP: Katie Leclerc as pastry chef Emma Parker, left, is offered a sampling of cheeses from Renard's Artisan Cheese by her friend, Jennifer (played by Anna Zhang), in "A Wisconsin Christmas Pie." The cherry cheddar made at the family-run Door County business makes its way into her cherry pie crust.

PROVIDED BY CHERRY PIE FILMS LLC

Indiana lawmakers reject new maps

Republican senators defy political pressure from Trump

Kathryn Palmer and Terry Collins
USA TODAY

Indiana state lawmakers have rejected a proposed map that would have created two new heavily red-leaning districts, a blow to President Donald Trump's hotly contested redistricting campaign.

The state Senate on Dec. 11 voted down a plan that would have made Indiana join a half-dozen other states that passed new congressional maps ahead of the 2026 midterms. Trump was unable to convince enough Republican state senators to approve the redistricting plan, even though the GOP holds a supermajority in the chamber.

In a rare setback for Trump's party, 21 Republicans voted against the bill — more than the 19 who voted for it — while all 10 Democrats voted against it.

During a signing ceremony at the White House hours later, Trump downplayed his defeat in Indiana.

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Packers pep rally in Denver before game

Richard Ryman
Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

Green Bay Packers fans will begin their weekend in Denver with nice weather and a Saturday night pep rally. The free Packers Everywhere pep rally is scheduled for 6 p.m. Dec. 13 at Wally's Wisconsin Tavern, 1417 Market St., Denver. Festivities and prize giveaways will begin at 4 p.m.

Rebecca Zaccard will emcee the rally, which includes Packers giveaways and music and entertainment provided by a local DJ. The rally will feature appearances by Packers alumni Lynn Dickey and Paul Coffman. A roundtable discussion between packers.com's Wes Hodkiewicz and Mike Spofford, as well as Packers alumnus and Packers Radio Network sideline analyst John Kuhn, will conclude the event.

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