



Sheboygan Falls shines 3 years after being down to 6 players

SPORTS, 2B

The Sheboygan Press

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Crews work on removing the damaged trolley car, Feb. 9, 1911, where a Sheboygan trolley car plunged into the Sheboygan River on the Eighth Street Bridge, killing three women. SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER

Streetcar tragedy of 1911 sparked inquest, manslaughter charge



Throwback
Gary C. Klein
Columnist
Sheboygan Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - WIS.

20th century for the city.

How Car No. 54 went off the Eighth Street bridge

SHEBOYGAN – A fatal 1911 trolley car crash dealt a blow to the city’s trolley system and marked the beginning of its long decline.

The electrically powered trolley car plunged into the Sheboygan River at the Eighth Street bridge 115 years ago, claiming the lives of three women when the rail car fell into the icy 9-foot depths of the Sheboygan River. It was one of the biggest news stories of the early

Several minutes before 9 a.m. on Feb. 9, 1911, the tug Peter Reiss went through the drawbridge. A few moments later, Car No. 54 went into the river at a speed of around 20 mph.

Immediately after the incident, Peter Reiss tugboat Capt. Groh went with full steam on to try to save those who had gone down.

The streetcar hit the bridge’s stone abutments, rolled over, righted itself and sank.

Survivors and witness accounts of the Sheboygan streetcar accident

According to newspaper clippings provided by the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center, Motorman George Thieme, who claimed the brakes failed on the car, jumped off the car as it went in.

Conductor Weber and traveling salesman Paul W. Etzold of Milwaukee also jumped to safety.

The three suffered minor injuries, with Etzold going to the Hotel Foeste to receive medical attention.

See KLEIN, Page 2A

Political rhetoric blamed for shooting

Zac Anderson
USA TODAY

On the night an alleged assassination attempt against President Donald Trump was foiled after a burst of gunfire at a press gala, the president later took to the podium in the White House briefing room and talked about unity, love and peacefully resolving political differences.

“This was an event dedicated to freedom of speech that was supposed to bring together members of both parties with members of the press,” Trump said April 25. “And in a certain way, it did – because the fact that they just unified, I saw a room that was just totally unified.”

A day later, Trump told “60 Minutes” that Democrat “hate speech” was creating dangerous conditions. Not long after, the White House began lashing out at Democrats and the media over the shooting.

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt blamed political violence on “demonization” of Trump by Democrats and the media, saying in an April 27 press conference that “the left wing cult of hatred” against the president has “gotten multiple people hurt and killed, and it almost did again this weekend.”

Democrats responded by pointing to Trump’s long history of incendiary rhetoric, including calling political opponents “vermin” and the “enemy within.” House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries said Republicans need to “clean up your own house.”

The debate around political rhetoric contributing to violence has flared up

See SHOOTING, Page 4A

Get the Gig returns May 14 to pick Levitt AMP opener

Nida Tazeen
Sheboygan Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

SHEBOYGAN – Residents can help choose who will perform at this summer’s Levitt AMP Sheboygan Music Series by voting at the Get the Gig competition May 14.

Three bands will compete for the opening act slot at the City Green, according to a community announcement. The lineup includes Dance Bul-

lies, a country western band; Plutonians, an alternative rock group with 1990s influences; and Social Cig, a Midwest indie skate rock band known for its energetic style.

Get the Gig 2026 will begin at 6 p.m. May 14 at Paradigm Coffee & Music. The event will feature live music, food and community energy, according to the announcement. It will coincide with Paradigm’s Vegan Burger Night, with a menu of vegan options and desserts available for purchase. Beverages

and food can be purchased by cash or card.

The event is open to all ages, and everyone will have a chance to vote for their favorite band.

The Levitt AMP Sheboygan Music Series is supported in part by the Levitt Family Foundation, a national organization that partners with communities to activate underused outdoor spaces.

The event is presented by the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, a nonprof-

it organization dedicated to presenting and preserving the work of contemporary artists through exhibitions, commissions, residencies, community arts programming and publications.

This story was created by reporter Nida Tazeen, NTazeen@usatoday.com, with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Journalists were involved in every step of the information gathering, review, editing and publishing process. Learn more at cm.usatoday.com/ethical-conduct.



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