

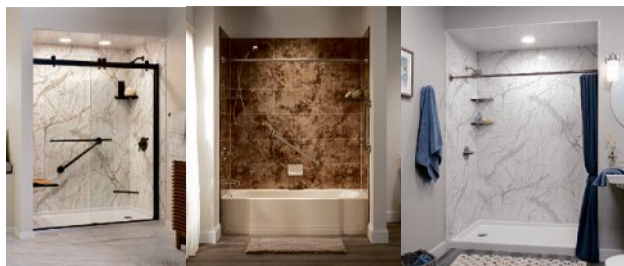
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The Sheboygan Press

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Wisconsin's teacher apprenticeship 'stalling'



Policy intended to help ease staff shortage

Miranda Dunlap
Wisconsin Watch

Matthew Jacobson found his calling in middle school history class.

As a sixth grader at St. John Vianney Catholic School in Brookfield, he voluntarily completed additional research projects and jumped at the chance to present to his classmates. He never saw the extra assignments as work — he was having fun. When Jacobson's teacher told him he'd make a great educator himself, he set his sights on the profession. In high school, he participated in Elm Brook School District's future teachers program and planned to enroll

in university for his teaching degree.

But life had other plans. Several weeks before his high school graduation, Jacobson was forced to move out on his own. He picked up a cooking job to "pay the bills and survive." The gig didn't leave extra money or time for college.

"I didn't really know how to get back into college and go meet my dream," Jacobson said.

Two years later, he heard about a novel apprenticeship program, where future teachers earn money working in schools as they obtain their education

See **APPRENTICESHIP**, Page 4A

Matthew Jacobson, a teacher apprentice, poses for a photo in a Brookfield Elementary School classroom on May 22. Jacobson is one of only eight apprentices in the statewide program. PHOTOS BY JOE TIMMERMAN/WISCONSIN WATCH

"There's plenty of time, but it's not taking off like it did in other states, and it's simply because of the funding."

Trent Sorensen
Fox Valley Technical College dean

Manitowoc crane departs harbor for Hawaii

Patti Zarling

Manitowoc Herald Times Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC — Fans of the "Big Blue" cranes made in Manitowoc may have missed the boat if they didn't get their binoculars and camera out Friday, when another crane headed out of Manitowoc Harbor.

Crane P-82 left around 7 a.m., assisted by the Ocean Tower tugboat, according to a Facebook post from Manitowoc Mayor Justin Nickels. The MarineTraffic app showed it was out on Lake Michigan late Friday morning.

The giant crane is headed to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Oahu, Hawaii.

Ocean Tower tug returns to Manitowoc for another crane shipment

The Ocean Tower tug has returned to Wisconsin after towing Crane 70 from Manitowoc to the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Washington state.

The boat left Manitowoc on Nov. 18, 2025, and arrived on the West Coast a few months later.

The tug traveled through the St. Lawrence Seaway to the Atlantic Ocean during the first few weeks of the trip, then moved down the coastline. The Ocean Tower stopped at the Port of Norfolk in Virginia before leaving for the Panama Canal on Dec. 19, according to the MarineTraffic app. According to the app, it then made its way up the West Coast, arriving in San Diego on Feb. 6 before heading to the Port of San Francisco on Feb. 9.

It is expected to make a similar journey through the Panama Canal with the second crane before heading to Hawaii.

Manitowoc crane will travel through the Panama Canal to Hawaii

Officials from Wisconsin Heavy Fabrication estimated in November

See **HAWAII**, Page 5A

Weather pattern forecast to keep firm grip on U.S.

'Omega block' locks in stagnant, split pattern

Doyle Rice and Janet Loehrke
USA TODAY

A weather pattern named for the Greek letter omega is guiding the United States' weather as May turns to June, forecasters said, and the pattern is forecast to continue.

An "omega block" weather pattern will linger in some form for a while — locking in cool air for some and hot air for others. It could also redirect storms

in unusual ways.

This omega block has been locking in a stagnant, split pattern: very warm and dry weather in the north-central United States, cooler and wetter along the coasts and South, with slow-moving systems raising flood risks in the wet zones, according to the National Weather Service.

"Blocking patterns like this are known to cause wacky weather as high pressure jams the jet stream and displaces storm tracks to the north and south," ABC 17 meteorologist Nate Splater said on his blog in late May.

The pattern could persist for weeks.

A more open, weaker version of the omega block will set up June 4-12, AccuWeather meteorologist Paul Pastelok said.

According to Pastelok, an omega block is a large, nearly stationary, upper-level high-pressure area that gets caught between two upper-level low-pressure areas. This pattern is common in April and May, when upper-level low-pressure areas are "cut off" from the main flow of air.

The effect of the weather pattern will depend on location.

See **WEATHER**, Page 4A



Much of the South and Southeast will remain active with daily rain and thunderstorm chances into early June, the Weather Prediction Center said.

KAILA JONES/TCPALM FILE

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