



Hope, friendship and new hearts saved two local lives

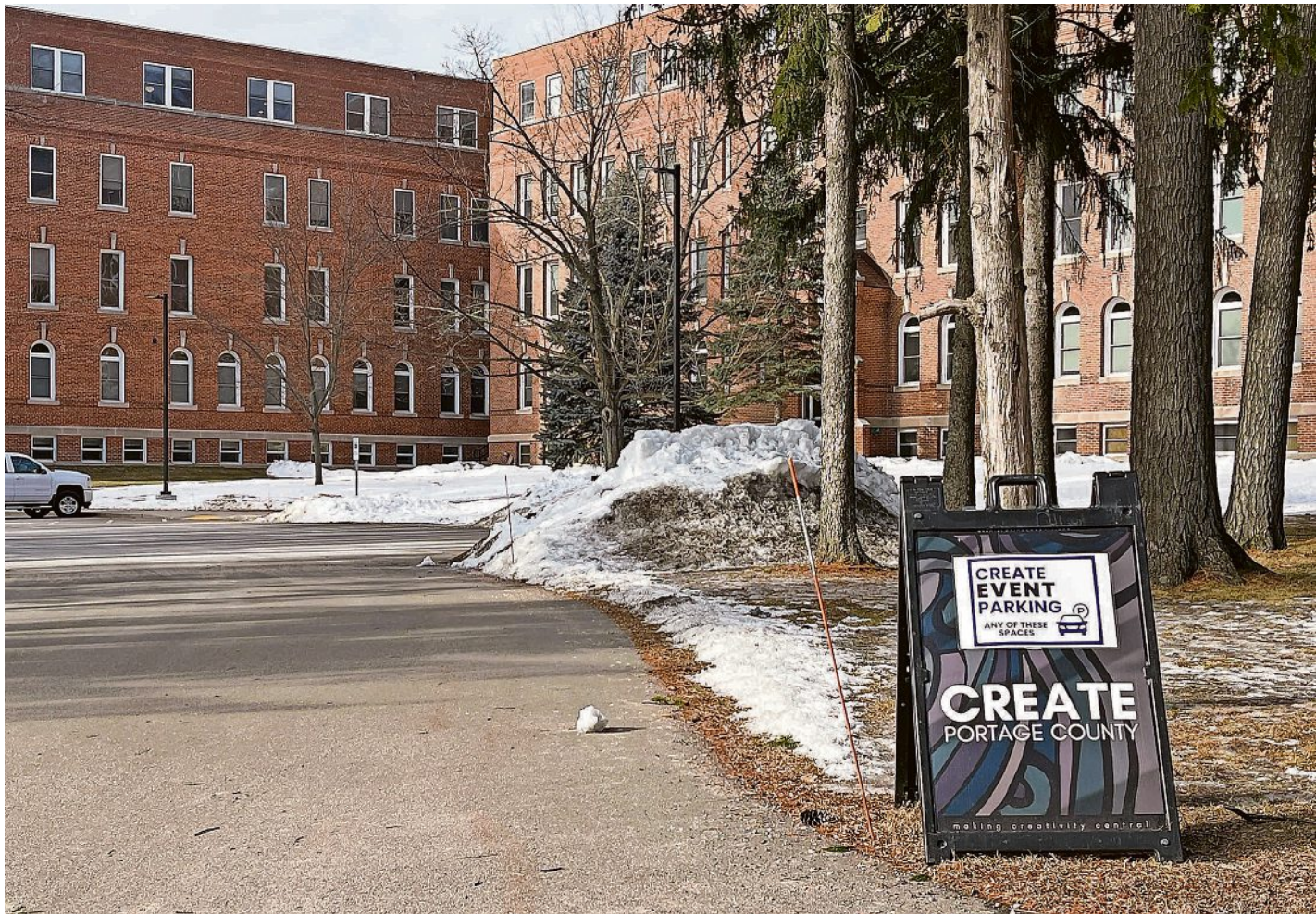
SPORTS, 1B

Stevens Point Journal

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Developing stories



Central Rivers Farmshed has plans to move to a new home alongside CREATE Portage County on Maria Drive. CAITLIN SHUDA/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Eight area projects to watch in 2026

Caitlin Shuda
Stevens Point Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

STEVENS POINT – A few development projects are in the works throughout the Stevens Point area in 2026. The Stevens Point Journal reviewed some of the biggest projects happening

in the area to get the latest updates and share what you can expect to see with these projects this year.

Central Rivers Farmshed

Central Rivers Farmshed shared an announcement earlier in January about its plans to relocate to a new home alongside CREATE Portage County at The Grove, the former convent property on Maria Drive. The new Farmshed space will include two kitchens available for rent: one will

focus on processing, and the other will offer traditional uses. Flash freezers will also be available to freeze local produce. According to that announcement, the group will host a listening session Feb. 25 to collect feedback from potential kitchen renters to discuss memberships. As of the Jan. 12 announcement, the group aimed to complete kitchen construction by April 1. For more information, visit **See PROJECTS, Page 4A**

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM Valentine's Day event offers free admission

Nida Tazeen
AI-assisted reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK

STEVENS POINT – The Central Wisconsin Children's Museum will offer free admission Feb. 14, according to a community announcement. The free day, sponsored by Gadgets & Goodies of Plover, will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will include a heart-themed craft activity. The event, called Give a Little Love, aims to celebrate love, creativity and togetherness. Museum guests of all ages are encouraged to spend the day exploring the museum's hands-on exhibits and creating Valentine crafts with their loved ones. Jacob Brandt, owner of Gadgets & Goodies at 3027 Village Park Drive in Plover, expressed his excitement about supporting the event. "I want families in our community to really take advantage of this opportunity to visit the museum, spend time together, and make lasting memories," Brandt said. For more information about the event or other upcoming programs, visit the Central Wisconsin Children's Museum at <https://www.cwchildrensmuseum.org>. *This story was created by reporter Nida Tazeen, NTazeen@usatoday-co.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.*

Explore space this February at UW-Stevens Point planetarium

Nida Tazeen
AI-assisted reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK

STEVENS POINT – The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Allen F. Blocher Planetarium will host a series of free shows in February, offering the public a chance to explore various aspects of space. The shows will take place at 2 p.m. Sundays, according to a community announcement. Each session will last about an hour and will include a 25-minute presentation focusing on the current

night sky over central Wisconsin, highlighting bright stars, constellations and planets. Planetarium seating is first-come, first-served and can accommodate up to 55 people. Groups of eight or more may schedule a special showing of any planetarium program by calling 715-346-2208 or completing an online request form. There is a cost for these requests. The planetarium is located on the second floor of the UW-Stevens Point Science Building, 2001 Fourth Ave., Stevens Point. Parking is available in Lot D behind the building and is free in all university

lots after 7 p.m. and on weekends. **Show topics range from black holes to Mars missions** The schedule is as follows: • Feb. 1: "Forward! To the Moon!" will feature Kari Byron from "MythBusters" and "Crash Test World" discussing NASA's space endeavors in the 21st century and the next steps toward establishing lunar outposts. • Feb. 8: "Mars: The Ultimate Voyage" will explore the challenges of future human expeditions to the red planet.

- Feb. 15: "Variable Stars in the Winter/Spring" will explain how some stars change in brightness over time.
- Feb. 22: "The Largest Black Hole in the Universe" and "The Incredible Power of Quasars" will present two short shows about black holes and quasars.

Junior Scientist program returns

A Junior Scientist planetarium program, "Leo and Art," will be offered from 3:30 to 4:10 p.m. Feb. 8, with a book

See PLANETARIUM, Page 3A

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