



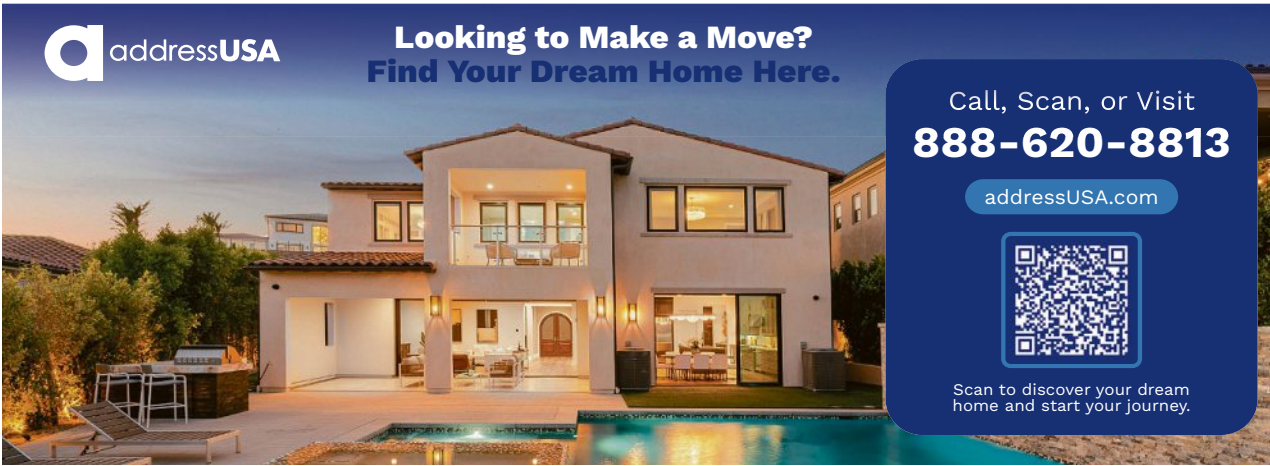
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WAUSAU DAILY HERALD

MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026 | WAUSAUDAILYHERALD.COM

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The UWSP Foundation and the UW Wausau Campus Foundation are merging, increasing scholarship opportunities and improving how aid is awarded to local students. PROVIDED BY UWSP

Foundation merger will bring more scholarships

Nida Tazeen
Wausau Daily Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK

WAUSAU – Students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point at Wausau are expected to see expanded scholarship opportunities following a merger between two fundraising organizations tied to the campus.

The integration of the UW Wausau Campus Foundation and the UWSP Foundation is designed to improve fundraising capacity and streamline operations, according to a community announcement. Leaders from both groups said the move has been shaped by years of planning and local input.

“This represents a new collaborative vision for the future of our Wausau

foundation,” said Brad Zweck, executive director of the UW Wausau Campus Foundation. “We envision a significant range of educational benefits and efficiencies, including enhanced fundraising capabilities.”

Partnership aims to expand student support

Officials say the agreement will widen access to financial support while strengthening ties between the campus and the broader Wausau community.

Moving forward, the merger is expected to enhance the educational experience locally, said Lada Xiong-Vang, UW Wausau Campus Foundation Board past president. “This strong partnership will only cast a wider net to reach

more students, improve their experience, and continue to show value for our local community and business economy, adding value to all.”

William Broussard, CEO of the UWSP Foundation, said the collaboration builds on more than three years of discussion with donors, board members and community stakeholders.

“A cooperative agreement has been discussed and negotiated for more than three years, with input from UWSP Wausau donors and board members and the greater Wausau community,” Broussard said. “This collaborative effort offers a path forward that commits to the UW Wausau Campus Foundation’s longstanding mission,

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State prison population is older than ever

Zachary Suri
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

Wisconsin is putting more people in jail for drunken driving, even as the state’s prisons face overcrowding and increased costs, a new report from the Wisconsin Policy Forum finds.

The report, released on July 9, analyzed data from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the National Incident-Based Reporting System. Lead author Liam Farin found that Wisconsin has some of the lowest penalties for drunken driving first offenders in the nation, but some of the most aggressive punishments for repeat offenders. This has led to a spike in older adults imprisoned for OWI, he said.

When the Policy Forum conducted a comprehensive study of the state’s criminal justice system in April, researchers were surprised to find a large number of older adults in Wisconsin’s prisons. That number was in large part driven by OWI incarcerations.

Farin said he suspects that higher prison sentences for repeat OWI offenses and higher alcohol use among older adults have contributed to the increase.

Putting more older people in prison has increased prison costs, Farin said. “Oftentimes older adults are more prone to have higher costs associated with medical costs, things like that. But also, thinking about the social costs as well when we’re sending more people into prisons, that also has impacts on communities and the reentry process as well,” Farin said.

The health care expenses of the

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Athens Caring Circle opens new food pantry July 15

Nida Tazeen
Wausau Daily Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK

Athens Caring Circle will open the doors to its new food pantry at 704 Pine St. in Athens with a community open house and ribbon cutting from 2-6 p.m. July 15.

The event will include tours, refreshments and opportunities for visitors to meet organizers and learn about operations, according to a community announcement. A separate monthly pantry distribution is scheduled from 4-6 p.m. July 16.

Community members, donors, local officials and service partners are invited to tour the facility and mark the milestone for the nonprofit, which focuses on addressing food insecurity in western Marathon County.

“The new pantry in Athens represents what can happen when a community comes together to care for its neighbors,” said Stacey Botsford, president of Athens Caring Circle. “We are grateful to everyone who helped make this vision a reality and excited about the impact this facility will have for years to come.”

Tours, ribbon cutting, donations planned

Open house activities will run throughout the afternoon, with a ribbon cutting planned at 5 p.m. Attendees can speak with board members, explore volunteer opportunities and learn how to support the pantry financially, according to the announcement.

Organizers will also collect donations during the event, with contribution stations focused on specific needs such as meat and staple foods. The pantry is seeking cereal and peanut butter donations and will offer dairy vouchers from Main Street Market to help provide milk and other fresh

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The Athens Caring Circle’s new food pantry at 704 Pine St. in Athens will host a community open house and ribbon cutting from 2-6 p.m. on July 15. PROVIDED BY ATHENS CARING CIRCLE

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Volume 118 | No. 164
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