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Remembering former Lt. Gov. Margaret Farrow

County Executive Paul Farrow,
others recall and praise his
‘trailblazing’ mother

By Karen Pilarski
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WAUKESHA- Wisconsin’s first female Lieutenant Gov. Margaret Farrow, 87, died March 8. Her son, Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow, said in a statement: “I feel fortunate and blessed to have been raised by one of my personal heroes.”

Paul Farrow described his mom in his statement as caring but frank.

“Her humility caused her to shy away from being fussed over,” he said.

She loved all things Wisconsin

Margaret Farrow loved all aspects of Wisconsin. The proud Wisconsin resident’s license plate was, “WI A 10,” which she has had for decades, her son said.

She grew up in Kenosha and enjoyed summers at the cabin her parents built in Oneida County.

“We are fortunate that we were able to do the same in the house that is now a treasured family retreat, and still enjoy the waters that our grandfather taught us to fish in,” Paul Farrow said.

Margaret Farrow met her husband of 65 years, John Farrow, through Marquette University.

Despite all her accolades and success, she was a mother first.

She was known for making ice rinks in the driveway, racing sailboats and other nature-related fun.

One hobby she was passionate about was muskie fishing. She participated and won several muskie tournaments around Wisconsin, Paul said.

Paul Farrow said raising five children was a full-time job but always taught her children to enjoy the simple things.

“She taught us to appreciate sunsets, something we all did, coincidentally, the night before she died,” Paul Farrow said.

Long public service record

Margaret Farrow’s public service spanned fifty years. She was first elected to the Elm Grove Village Board in 1976, and then elected as village president in 1981.

She was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1986, and the Wisconsin Senate in 1989. In the senate she served as assistant majority leader, until being appointed Wisconsin’s 42nd lieutenant governor in 2001.

Margaret Farrow was the first woman to hold the position, Paul Farrow said.

She served a term as member of



Submitted photo

Former Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Margaret Farrow’s son, Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow, called her a “trailblazer.”

the UW Board of Regents in 2013 to 2017.

“She was a trailblazer. Not only because of her significant positions as a woman in what was very much a man’s world at the time, but because of the way she stood up for all of the people of our community and our state to represent their best interests for decades,” Paul Farrow said.

She served on the Wisconsin Eye Board of Directors since 2001 and stepped down as chair in 2021.

“I can’t state enough how lucky I am to be Margaret Farrow’s son and

how much I will miss her,” Paul Farrow said.

Condolences from elected officials

Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly said the following: “My sympathies to the Farrow family. Margaret Farrow was a wonderful person and a trailblazer in Wisconsin politics. There is a certain symmetry in her day of passing coinciding with International Women’s Day.”

See FARROW, PAGE 2

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INSIDE



**Civil War
museum opens
in Delafield**

Page 2



**Lake Country
business expands
with Barkin’ Up
Delafield**

Page 3



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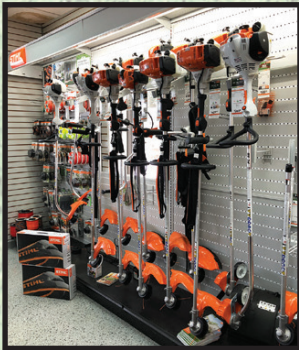
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Civil War museum opening in Delafield

‘Labor of love’ attraction is free of charge

By Dan Colton
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DELAFIELD — Bob Brown just wanted an office where he could read his books.

Now that office — or “man cave” as described by Brown — is open to the public as the Civil War Museum of Delafield. And it’s free of charge.

The one-room museum in downtown Delafield isn’t filled with rare artifacts like muskets, uniforms and letters written by soldiers who fought in the war; instead, it is full of hand-painted wall and battle maps that catch the eye and tell a story.

Brown, 71, spent decades as a businessman before moving to Delafield with his wife last summer. Before long, he was inspired to transition the office to a museum after visiting a local arts festival. He noticed one young artist had a large collection of hand-drawn maps, and after leafing through some of them, Brown stumbled upon a highly detailed map of the famous Pickett’s Charge during the battle of Gettysburg in 1863.

“So I found an overhead projector and decided to (paint) this map on my brick wall,” Brown said. It was one of the first steps towards transitioning from man-

cave to educational display in what he described as a “labor of love.”

Brown moved to Delafield in June and rented a one-bedroom apartment with his wife. There wasn’t enough room to sit back, relax and read his volumes and maps which he’d spent years collecting, according to Brown.

But now, he has plenty of space to read in comfort and to share his love of history.

“I want to tell these stories,” Brown said. “I want people to learn ... I want you to come in and in 35 or 45 minutes to leave but to have learned something.”

Brown said each month at the museum will include a new battle display and educational pieces. He also said there will be presentations by authors and history experts to keep people coming back.

Another possibility, according to Brown, is to bring in small school groups for a lesson on the war.

He hopes people who come to shop in Delafield will take the time out to visit.

“The audience I want to capture ... are the couples who come to Delafield to shop,” Brown said. “If you’re going to shop in Delafield, put me on the list. Before you leave, stop in and see me.”



A look inside the Civil War museum in Delafield.

Photo courtesy of Bob Brown

Brown is joined by Dick Niles, the resident historian at the museum and the driving force behind turning Brown’s office into an educational space to enjoy with the public.

Niles and Brown are clearly enthusiastic about their project. They sat around one of the big map tables and talked about the Civil War, discussing the triumphs and tragedies the war brought to the American people.

Brown said the Civil War is among the most-written about events in the nation’s history. He wants to deliver a slice of that at no cost to visitors simply because he loves it.

“How do you sum up 100,000 books and four years (of war) in an hour?” he asked. “How do you do that? You really can’t, but I can take a swing at it.”

Brown said the museum is set to open in March. For more information go online at www.civilwarmuseumdelafield.com.

Brown said normal hours will likely be set from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays.

The museum is located at 528 Wells Street, Suite F.

Visit the museum’s Facebook page for more information at <https://bit.ly/3JNpoDA>.

Farrow

From Page 1A

Reilly’s dad was in politics and he met Margaret off and on through the past 40 years, he said.

He described her as always being a warm and nice person.

“They sure had one hell of a mom,” Reilly said.

Wisconsin state Sen. Alberta Darling, R-River Hills, released the following statement: “Margaret Farrow was a trailblazer and a fearless leader. I am proud to have called her a friend. As the first woman to serve as Wisconsin’s Lieutenant Governor,

Margaret’s legacy will continue to inspire many women in politics — including me.

I was lucky to serve alongside Margaret for several years. In fact, when we served together, the majority of Republicans were women.

Margaret was passionate, tough, honest and kind. She believed in her community and believed in our great state. It is impossible to have met Margaret Farrow and not be encouraged and inspired by her. My thoughts and prayers are with her family, especially her son, Paul.”

Wisconsin Republican gubernatorial candidate and former Wisconsin lieutenant governor

Rebecca Kleefisch also released a statement.

“Lt. Gov. Margaret Farrow was a mentor and friend. She was an inspiration to me and thousands of Wisconsinites. Lt. Gov. Farrow was proof that strong women build remarkable legacies, are the architects of excellent policy, and leave lasting marks on history. I will miss her dearly.”

Wisconsin U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Oshkosh, said: “Margaret Farrow represented her community and our state with a rare combination of political conviction and dedication. Her principled political career should be seen as a roadmap for how

Republicans can serve with class and conviction without the need to resort to vitriol. Margaret always impressed and inspired me as a party leader, as I’m sure she did with countless other Republican office holders. Jane and I send our sincere condolences to Paul and the entire Farrow family.”

At this time the family asks for privacy.

Interim UW System President and former Republican governor of Wisconsin Tommy Thompson said: “She was a grand lady of politics, of the Republican Party. And I always called her the Margaret Thatcher of Wisconsin.”



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A group of four-legged friends spend time together at Barkin' Up Delafield.



Maile Rudebusch/Special to The Freeman

Nothing but wags at Barkin' Up Hickory

Lake Country business expands with Barkin' Up Delafield

By Maile Rudebusch
Special to The Freeman

DELAFIELD — Barkin' Up Delafield isn't your typical doggy daycare or boarding facility. Owner Ben Nader first opened Barkin' Up Hickory in Pewaukee almost ten years ago and only a year ago he decided to expand — opening the doors at Barkin' Up Delafield.

"I was living in Los Angeles at the time, and I wanted to own a business since I was like ten years old," said Nader. "A friend of mine was taking her dog to a doggy daycare out there. I was getting the itch to move back to Wisconsin, and I was like, I can do that."

With his passion for business and a love of dogs, opening his first facility seemed like the next logical step. After Pewaukee became a success, Nader decided to open a second location. He always had his sights set on expanding the business. He eventually came across the land where Barkin' Up Delafield now sits.

Nader pinpointed the Delafield area for his second location because he knew that there was a need for a dog daycare in the area. He and his wife were driving

past the land in 2017 and thought that it would be the perfect spot to build on. The location is ideal, located right next to Interstate 94 and Highway 83. Nader got approval from the bank and the city of Delafield. After a few hold-ups with contractors, he found a builder and opened Barkin' Up Delafield in November of 2020.

Nader says what sets Barkin' Up apart from other doggy daycare and boarding facilities is the personal touch that he and his employees put into their work.

Taylor Hamilton, manager at Barkin' Up Delafield, explained that one of the biggest things that set them apart from the competition is that there is no mandatory nap time. Dogs who come for daycare or boarding get constant play time and attention from the staff. Many doggy daycare and boarding facilities charge extra for play-time or walks, but Barkin' Up does not.

"At Barkin' Up Delafield we have attention to detail," Hamilton said. "We give the dogs everything that they need in the kennel at night. We have someone here early in the mornings to let them out and feed them breakfast. Somebody is here late at

night to take them out again, give them dinner. We give them all the attention that they need while their parents are gone."

Pets can lounge around on couches and chairs if they desire.

"With the Pewaukee location, I'm always here. And now I've got a lot of good people that are (at Delafield)," Nader said. "The familiarity of the staff is everything, everyone always knows each dog's name and has a love for them."

Not only do the staff at Delafield love the dogs that they work with, but they also understand dogs and what goes into caring for them.

"Our staff is very good at understanding behavioral cues when it comes to dogs. We care about animals and the customers, the owners, they're all very kind people and we would do almost anything we could to make their dogs happy," said Hamilton.

The employees at Barkin' Up Delafield have an impact on their customers as well.

"It's mind-blowing how much people care and how much people love us, even though we're a business and that's what we're here for. It kind of goes beyond that," Nader said.

Nader hopes to expand the business in the future with additional locations.

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Tell us a little about yourself: I am a WI Native that grew up in New Berlin. Seven years ago, my family decided to lay down roots in the Pewaukee community. My background in Real Estate and Property management spans almost 2 decades. I have three amazing children, Theo 21, Kane 13, and Olivia 6 and my incredibly supportive husband, Brandon.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Spending time with my family which mostly involves travel, boating, skiing, and trying new local restaurants. We are currently renovating our second investment property. This is a family affair at its finest. Our kids have been very involved in the process, learning how to demo and work with contractors on each aspect of the renovation. It brings such joy to see my kids have the entrepreneurial spirit I have and can only hope it inspires them to carry on the legacy.

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Journeys to culinary excellence

James Beard Award semifinalists have ties to Lake Country

By Rebecca Seymour
Special to The Freeman

OCONOMOWOC — Recently the James Beard Foundation announced the semifinalists for its 2022 Restaurant and Chef Awards, recognizing “exceptional talent in the culinary and food media industries” from around the country.

Among the 13 Wisconsin chefs and restaurants being considered for the prestigious award, two chefs have significant connections with Oconomowoc and the Lake Country area.

Sam Ek is the executive chef at Odd Duck, which is a semifinalist for Outstanding Restaurant. Co-owned by Melissa Buchholz and Ross Bachhuber, the popular establishment just moved from Bay View to 939 S. Second St. in Walker's Point-Milwaukee. Ek grew up in Oconomowoc; his parents Jeff and Kathy still call the community home.

Kyle Knall executive chef/co-owner of Birch, located at 459 E. Pleasant St. in Milwaukee is in the running for Outstanding Chef. Knall also works at the Stone Bank Farm Market located on 75 acres of protected farmland in the heart of Lake Country.

“This recognition is a huge honor, and it means a lot. I started cooking when I was 17 in Birmingham. Both of my mentors Frank Stitt and Michael Anthony have won James Beard Awards, so it’s been something that I’ve held in high regard. As a chef, I’m always pushing myself. Not for the award, but because it’s what I love to do,” explained Knall.

Knall’s culinary journey took him from Birmingham to Gramercy Tavern in Manhattan. He was executive chef at Maysville in New York City, opened Kenton’s in New Orleans, and served as executive chef at Electric Lemon in New York’s Equinox Hotel.

In the fall of 2020, when the pandemic made running a restaurant in New York City impossible, Knall and his wife Meghan moved to Wisconsin.

“My wife’s family is from Brookfield and used to own the grocery store called V. Richards. We knew we wanted to raise our family in Wisconsin,” he explained. “Meghan’s family took us to Stone Bank Farm Market when we first moved here,

and I immediately felt a special connection – it was so beautiful. I started working there a couple of weeks later.”

Immersing himself in learning about Wisconsin’s growing seasons, Knall helped set up a kitchen and started to prepare cuisine for Stone Bank Farm’s barn dinners and made-to-order menu using ingredients grown on the property.

“This is a dream I’ve always had. Having the opportunities to work with local farmers and plug in seasonal and local ingredients in our menus at Stone Bank and Birch is very special,” Knall admitted.

Homegrown to table

After graduating from Oconomowoc High School in 2006, Sam Ek eventually enrolled in the culinary arts program at Milwaukee Area Technical College.

“I had no clue what I wanted to do and randomly chose the culinary program and loved it. I was such a picky eater growing up, so that needed to change,” he admitted, laughing.

Ek’s passion for the food industry grew while working at Summerfest for Mike Derynda, owner of Culver’s of Oconomowoc, and then as a line cook at Piano Blu in Pewaukee where he met Ross Bachhuber, future founder of Odd Duck.

He cut his teeth preparing food in other restaurant kitchens until landing at the Odd Duck in 2014.

“I started as a line cook and worked my way through the kitchen and over time I became more confident and creative. I’ve been the executive chef for two years and I love the work,” he said. “There’s a team of us that collaborate to come up with the menus and ideas for dishes – it really is a great group effort.”

On having the James Beard Award spotlight shining on the Odd Duck, “It’s awesome that our team has been nominated for Outstanding Restaurant. It’s also nice that Milwaukee is getting some national attention,” said Ek.

The James Beard Award finalists will be announced this month, followed by the 2022 Restaurant and Chef Awards Ceremony which will take place at the Lyric Opera in Chicago on June 13.

For more information, visit www.jamesbeard.org/blog/the-2022-james-beard-award-semifinalists.



Photo courtesy of Michelle Relford of Stone Bank Farm Market

Kyle Knall is executive chef/co-owner of Birch (Milwaukee), and is a semifinalist for Outstanding Chef in the 2022 James Beard Foundation’s Restaurant and Chef Awards. Knall also helps run the kitchen at the Stone Bank Farm Market, located on 75 acres of protected farmland in the heart of Lake Country.



Photo courtesy of Art Montes

Sam Ek is the executive chef at Odd Duck (Milwaukee), which is an Outstanding Restaurant semifinalist in the 2022 James Beard Foundation’s prestigious Restaurant and Chef Awards. Ek grew up in Oconomowoc and graduated from Oconomowoc High School in 2006.



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