Trailer/Sheriff: Most citations issued after an accident occurs

Of the accidents previously reported in the last five years, 31 people were injured and none of the accidents were fatal. Hughes

Brown County Sheriff's Patrol Capt. Schultz said violations are hard to enforce unless a trailer is still or moving

Most citations are issued after an accident.

Five accidents occurred in Brown County in the involved injuries. The last reported trailer accident in Green Bay in which citations were issued was on

However, the database reports only the two most serious citations issued, which means some accidents caused by speeding became concerned about

or drunken driving are not included, Hughes said.

"I think it's a cautionary reminder to make sure vour hitches are in good shape and you use your safety chains," he said of Radder's death. State law does not re-

quire training for hauling basic trailers, but it should, said Ron Melancon of Richmond, Va., a er safetv. 'Why don't you need a license or something that tells the world you know

what you're doing when he asked. "It doesn't affect your life, it affects the people that are behind you." Melancon, 46, is urging states to adopt stricter

trailer standards requiring trailer training and stiffer fines for those who break the law. Melancon



proper method of attaching safety chains when preparing to tow a trailer Friday at the Department of Natural Resources building on Shawano Avenue in Howard. The safety chains are crossed and hooked onto the hitch eyes with a clip that prevents the S-hook from coming free. Jim Matthews/Pressregulations after he hit a up in 2003.

trailer attached to a pick-

Donna Moser, 46, of Wis-

consin Rapids, who lost a brother to a trailer accident, agrees penalties aren't strict enough for an improperly secured trailer. Her brother, John Lotter, was 42 when he died.

In 2005, a trailer came loose from a sport utility vehicle and crashed into her brother's car on U.S. 41 in Oconto County. He died at the scene. "People think this is a

freak accident and it's not. It happens enough, more than enough," she said. The balls on the trailer

were too small, and the safety chains were rusty, she said. State law doesn't require

a special license to hook up

most homemade trailers. On roadways, Moser has seen trailers with safety chains dragging or with

no taillights. "I would just like to see the roads safer," she said.

"When I see a trailer, it scares the hell out of me.

Moser may live in fear this summer, as more trail ing boating equipment.

The best thing for peo ed with their trailer. The bigger the trailer, the more responsibility," said Jeremy Cords, recreational safety warden for the state Resources. State law may not need

to be stricter, but drivers should use safer practices. trailers before they are

taken out, and making sure parts are properly connected. Drivers most often forget to cross safety chains be-

fore hooking to a vehicle's frame or bumper, he said. "The more you do it, the

better you get at it."

SYBLE HOPP COMMENCEMENT



Syble Hopp School Choir during the 2010 Commencement Ceremony at Thornberry Creek at Oneida in Hobart. Matthew L. Becker/Press-Gazette correspondent

Fraud/Resolution needs City Council approval

➤ From A-1

identification a statewide

'Let's give the clerk whatever tools we can, The resolution would

require full City Council approval. Clerk City

Weininger earlier briefed the Finance Committee on two suspected instances of voter fraud that occurred during the April 6 local elections. At separate polling

places, two people falsely used the identities of registered voters to cast bal-

lots, Weininger said, calling it the first time intentional fraud has been de-"It happened. It wasn't

poll worker error," he

said. "We have voter fraud Green Bay police investigated both instances but were unable to identify a

suspect in either case.

Alderman Guy Zima asked the clerk whether poll workers currently request identification from would-be voters they do not recognize. When Weininger replied that making such a request could be a crime, Zima

"That's how screwy

everything is," the alder-Opponents of a photo ID

requirement contend that cle to free and open elections, especially for people who are eligible to vote but have no driver's licenses. Supporters, however, contend that photo ID would prevent stolen identities at the ballot box. Zima said he recalls a

presidential election when he noticed several people voting in his district who he had never seen before.

"I think they were peo-

here." he said. Weininger said the city

could pass its own photo ID requirement, but such a measure, he said, would almost certainly be challenged in court He also volunteered to

conduct a survey of past voters to determine how many of them might have on election day. Without such research, he said, it could be impossible to tell whether the two recent instances of fraud were iso-

"We don't know the extent of it," he said.

Homes/Sales increased across the state for third consecutive quarter ter regionwide (they were

"During this spring, we've actually had multiple offers on homes, and homes selling for more than what they were listed for," she said. "We haven't had that since 2003-04

It was the third consecu-

home sales statewide and the second of double-digit growth, according to John Flor, chairman of the Wisconsin Realtors Associa-

association's the Northeast Region, which includes 14 Northeastern Wisconsin and Fox Valley counties, sales were 18.5 That compares with 16.8

percent statewide, 10.8 percent in the Midwest and 11.4 percent national-

and Fond du Lac counties saw slightly fewer sales.

Peeters said he expects improvement to continue throughout the summer.

His company's sales were up 46 percent in April. "Our managers said the

activity has been carrying over into the month of May," he said. "We are entering the peak season for home selling. We are anticipating it will be fine.

Peeters said median home prices were 3.5 percent more in the first quardown 0.5 percent in Brown County), which is a sign home values are stabilizing. There are still a lot of

foreclosed houses in the market. Maus-Martens said, but appraisers are beginning to leave distressed properties out of their comparable price appraisals, which relieves like this," Peeters said.

the downward pressure.

Mortgage interest rates, which were at 4.87 percent gage on Monday, will likely climb later in the year, when the Federal Reserve Board is expected to set a higher target.

"We are anticipating rates are not going to stay

Proposed plan for downtown De Pere adds housing, trail, office space, shops

BY PATTI ZARLING If you go pzarling@greenbaypressgazette.com

DE PERE — A proposed long-range plan for the city's downtown includes more housing, office space and retail shops, as well as trails and parks to draw people to the Fox River.

An initial plan, to be presented publicly today, proposes a new west-side trail, a pedestrian promenade at Wells Park just south of the Claude Allouez Bridge and a new park near Thilmany Nicolet Mill, among other changes.

De Pere officials have been working with consulting firm RDG Planning & the variety of stores and

The Downtown Steering Committee will take public comment about the downtown plan at 7 p.m. today in the lower level of the St. Norbert College Bemis Conference Center, 100 Grant St., De Pere. The plan also will be presented at the De Pere Area Chamber of Commerce's De Pere at Dawn event from 7:15 a.m. to 9 a.m. today at the Bemis Center.

Design for about a year on a 10-year plan for the city's two downtown districts.

Consultants have met with business owners. community members and government officials to form concepts for the east and west sides. The plan looks at features such as parking, building facades, lighting, green space and

restaurants.

"What we found throughout the process is that De Pere already has a lot of things to offer, we just need to market ourselves better," Planning Director Ken Pabichsaid. "We found people that live here didn't always understand some of the amenities we offer.'

Already, the downtown looks different compared

the east side, George Street and parts of Broadway were redone, a new Claude Allouez Bridge was built and a multilane roundabout now serves as the eastern approach to the Claude Allouez.

Across the river, roads also were redone to accommodate the new bridge, and St. Norbert College built the Mulva Library and more student housing. Planners would like to expand on those changes, Pabich said.

■ A two-level development, with an urban promenade at Wells Park. The promenade would be level

lower development along Front Street would cut into the slope to provide parking and retail or restaurant space.

■ A two-way traffic system on Main Avenue and the Fox River's west bank.

with a few years ago. On with Broadway, while a Reid Street to allow vehicles to head east and west. Currently, Main handles one-way traffic heading west, and Reid carries east-

> bound-only travelers. ■ A recreational trail on

RELEGI





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a day of shopping, pampering and time together in downtown Appleton.

Visit Greenbay.MomsLikeMe.com and tell us about a special mom you know. You may

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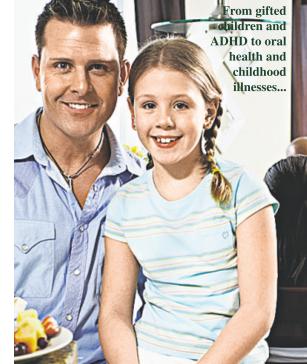
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