

# Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC COUNTY, WIS.

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## Lakeshore preps for winter storm

### 12 inches of snow could bury Manitowoc County

BY KRISTOPHER WEIN

Special Times Reporter

TWO RIVERS — Linda Thiry is a pro at preparing for winter storms.

"We usually keep everything in stock and buy on sale so when a storm comes, we don't have to go out," Thiry, 62, a mother of 10 grown children, said outside of the Pick n Save.

The eight months worth of canned and dried goods she has

stocked in the cabinets, freezer, and basement of her Two Rivers home will be more than enough food to last Thiry through a weekend storm that is expected to dump up to 12 inches of snow on Manitowoc County on Friday.

The storm is forecast to reach the county by tonight with the brunt of the snowfall expected to begin Saturday evening and continue through Monday, according to Tim Kallas, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Green Bay.

"What happens is that as the storm comes into the plains, the southerly winds ahead of it will transport lots of Gulf (of Mexico) moisture," Kallas said. "So as the storm then sweeps through Wisconsin, the cold air on the north side of the storm will keep all the precipitation as wet."

The wet and heavy snow could create problems for motorists, Kallas said. "Right now the best thing to do is to keep your tires inflated and have a lot of extra gas in the tank."

Loader operator Jerry Kudick uses a front-end loader to fill a dump truck with salt from a storage building at the Manitowoc County Highway Department on Thursday. A truck like this Sterling In-Case equipped with double wing (side) plows and a front reversible plow can cut a 24-foot swath through the snowy road.

They do it to keep the roads clear, then don't want to leave a lot of extra gas in the tank, either. "I would suggest that you don't travel this weekend, if you don't have to."

See STORM, A7



Defense keys jets' tourney win, C1

Seniors tread water on test scores, A5

Child passport rules relaxed, A8

Thompson says he'd never run as vice president, only as president, A7

MILWAUKEE — Former Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson said Thursday that second-best isn't good enough if the Republican presidential hopeful doesn't get the nod for top job.

Thompson, who was elected to four terms as Wisconsin governor before leaving office to serve as President Bush's secretary of Health and Human Services in 2001, has formed an exploratory committee to look into a possible campaign for the White House.

But he has been making weekly visits to Iowa, which has the nation's first caucuses for presidential nominees.

This weekend, Thompson will meet with college Republicans and visit voters at their homes.

Thompson said he and his advisers have laid the groundwork for his political campaign and are now starting to raise money.

He figures they'll need \$2.5 million to be viable in Iowa. They'll be working toward the Iowa caucus in August, and if he wins that, they'll consider launching a full bid, he said.

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## Number of searches in question

### Initial sweeps of property were for missing person

BY ANDY NELESEN

Special Times Reporter

CHILTON — A recurring question after nine days of testimony in the Steven Avery trial is why it took so many searches over so many days for investigators to turn up critical pieces of evidence linking Avery to Teresa Halbach's death.

The trial has now lasted one day longer than the initial law enforcement searches in 2005 of the Avery family property after Halbach's vehicle was found among the scrap yard's wrecks.

Prosecutors are taking a methodical approach to hitting every detail of the searches, including the fact that the initial sweeps were made in hopes of finding Halbach alive, not with an eye toward gathering evidence of a homicide.

Juries heard Thursday from the eighth cross-examination witness about what they found on the Avery property in 2005, when they found it and what they did with it after they found it.

There were other items on the floor like those found on most garages, KucharSKI said.

"If it was something we believed was blood, that would be something important," he testified.

"If we thought something was transmission fluid, that wasn't important."

As we entered the garage, the first thing we saw were the shell casings and then we also, in that general area, we found reddish-brown stains on the concrete that we believed to be blood," KucharSKI said.

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Follow trial on live video

Follow the Steven Avery trial watching live video from the courtroom on our Web site: [www.htnews.com](http://www.htnews.com). The live video begins coverage as long as court is in session.



Calumet County Sheriff's Investigator Mark Wiegert shows Calumet County Sheriff's Deputy Dan KucharSKI a rifle Thursday found in Steven Avery's bedroom during testimony at the Calumet County Courthouse in Chilton. Avery is accused of killing Teresa Halbach, 25, after she went to Avery's rural salvage lot to photograph a motorcycle he had for sale.

## Strang makes a plea on Dassey's behalf

BY ANDY NELESEN

Special Times Reporter

CHILTON — Steven Avery's defense lawyer Dean Strang has equated a trial of this size to the Super Bowl and the World Series wrapped into one for an attorney who likes to try cases.

Strang's passion for the practice of law — and the presentation of evidence to 12 average people —

has been evident when he masters a smile even after six hours of detailed testimony.

After a spirited debate Thursday over a juror's history with



prosecution with Halbach on Oct. 31, 2005.

Strang, a co-counsel, Jerome Buting, first filed a reporter's question about Dassey at Iowa conference in the basement of Calumet County courthouse following Thursday proceedings.

"Mr. Dassey has his own case," Buting said. "He has a Fifth Amendment right not to testify. We cannot subpoena him and expect that he's going to testify. He can easily invoke his rights. He has a lawyer; he has his own case..."

Both Avery, 44, and Dassey, are charged with the killing of free-

See DASSEY, A7

## Congressman gets earful at town meeting

### Citizens share opinions with Rep. Petri

BY CHARLIE MATHEWS

Special Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — Immigration policies, the war in Iraq and tax cuts were among the topics discussed at Thursday afternoon's town hall meeting hosted by U.S. Rep. Tom Petri, R-Royal Lac, at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum.

"Nation building is wrong and you guys didn't do a thing to stop George Bush," Britlin's Don Glaiser told the veteran politicians in a high-volume diatribe against the war in Iraq.



has given Iraq adequate time and opportunity to establish democracy, Sanders said Iraq's citizens are better off than they were five years ago.

"I am all for helping them out, but at the end of the day, not long do we help," wondered Petri, first elected to Congress in 1979.

"The idea of a nationwide is out, but the Iraqis come from a biblical tribe perspective," said Petri, a Harvard Law School graduate. He has expressed doubts that a unified Iraq with Kurds, Shiites and Sunnis is possible.

"I favor identifying groups of Iraqis that we support, and we let them do the job of policing their neighborhoods," Petri said, acknowledging that will

work legally in the U.S.

He said he would like to expand his operations, but can't when faced with the uncertainty of knowing whether relatives of the Mexican nationals he employs will be able to obtain proper documentation for entry into the U.S.

Petri offered no solutions, saying, "There are quick, simple, broad things we might do that would screw things up even more."

Wilfert said he believes most Americans would rather see young workers come into the U.S. from outside its borders, and perform work inside America, than having the work completed abroad.

Wilfert said workers in his fields have the appropriate "green cards" allowing them to

On the Web

[www.house.gov/Petri](http://www.house.gov/Petri)

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A GANNETT NEWSPAPER

HERALD TIMES REPORTER

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Friday, February 23, 2007-A7

### SEARCHES

From A1

"The probable blood spots we saw, we photographed them and swabbed them. We were looking for what ever jumped out at us," Kucharski said. "It was just a general search."

Jerome Buting, one of Avery's lawyers, spent the late part of Thursday morning badgering Kucharski about what he found on the Avery property and how he documented his discoveries.

■ Why Kucharski did not document the contents and condition of the items in Avery's garage before removing a snowmobile in their search for evidence.

■ How Kucharski miscounted the number of 22-caliber shell casings found on the garage floor. Kucharski's evidence notes indicate he found 10 spent shells. It were sent to the State Crime Lab for analysis.

■ How four men searching the garage did not find a bullet fragment that was discovered by Manitowoc County Sheriff's Detective David Remiker during a search in early March. The bullet fragment is deemed the "Magic Bullet" by Avery's lawyers — was later determined to have Halbach's DNA on it.

"Did you see a bullet on Nov. 6, 2007?" Buting asked Kucharski, who said "No."

"Because if you had, you would have collected it, right?" Buting said.

"Correct," Kucharski said. "Because it would have been an extremely important piece of evidence."

Buting said, pressing Kucharski to agree. "There were four of you in that garage and none of you found a bullet or a bullet fragment?" Buting asked.

"Correct," Kucharski said. A Calumet County Sheriff's deputy — witness No. 29 testified Thursday that he was with Remiker when the fragment was found and said he took custody of the metal shard after it was discovered and later passed it along to a state Justice Department agent.

Avery's lawyers argue that Manitowoc County Sheriff's Lt. James Leuk and Sgt. Andrew Colborn planted the most important evidence, including the key to Halbach's SUV. The defense team cites as motive Avery's 2004 wrongful conviction lawsuit, which was filed after he spent 18 years in prison for a sexual assault in Manitowoc County that DNA later proved he didn't commit.

Prosecutors explain that ev-

Jerome Buting, Steven Avery's attorney, holds up keys found in Avery's bedroom while questioning Calumet County Sheriff's Deputy Dan Kucharski Thursday during testimony at the Calumet County Courthouse in Chilton.

"That's in the sense of 'It's possible that alters put it there' again," Kucharski said.

Under additional questioning, Kucharski admitted that he wasn't watching to ensure Leuk and Colborn didn't plant evidence, bolstering the theory that it was possible.

Testimony closed Thursday with the prosecution questioning Avery's property and Sheriff's Deputy Dan Kucharski.

Buting asked Kucharski to describe the search of the garage. Kucharski said he was with Leuk and Colborn when they searched the garage. He said they searched the garage for a couple of feet away from the garage door.

"Based upon your position that did you believe that a couple of feet away from the garage door is where the key was?" Kucharski asked.

"Well, first of all, they would have had to have the key," Kucharski said. "I think the only person that would have had the key was the person that killed James."

That comment drew an objection from Buting on the grounds that it was speculative. Manitowoc County Circuit Judge Patrick Willis agreed, sustained the objection and struck the comment from the record.

"What about your observations (main) you believe it was impossible or improbable to plant that key?" Kucharski asked.

"My actual observation, I would have to say that it could be possible, as in I was doing other things. I was taking photographs, I was searching the neighborhood," Kucharski said.

"So if we just limited it to if it was possible they could do it without me seeing it, then yes, I guess it is possible."

"In that in the sense of anything's possible?" Kucharski asked.

Larry Wood, truck driver with the Manitowoc County Highway Department, explains Thursday how the sagger works on the salt attachment of the Sterling line-side dump truck he uses to plow Interstate 43. Today, the county highway commission will begin filling the dump boxes of the snowplow trucks with salt in preparation for this weekend's forecasted winter storm.

### STORM

From A1

#### Keeping roads clear

Manitowoc County Highway Department staffers will finalize plans early today for road maintenance through the weekend, said Gary Kennedy, county highway commissioner, who expects to use all department employees and every piece of equipment to keep roads clear.

"It's going to be difficult to keep the roads open," Kennedy said. "That's a lot of snow in 48 hours with high winds."

Forecast 35 mph winds and persistent snowfall more than likely will keep the Manitowoc County Airport closed on Saturday and Sunday, Kennedy said.

Highway crews probably will work 16-hour shifts remaining open for the more than 20,000 motorists who use Interstate 43 each day before clearing state and county highways.

Kennedy said overtime pay for weekend road maintenance could total \$75,000. Instead of relaxing at his cottage in Silver Cliff in Marinette County this weekend, Dale Carbo, co-owner of Riverside Landscaping in Manitowoc, expects to be working around the clock clearing snow from the 825 W. 4th St. parking lot in Manitowoc and 130 other commercial and residential customers.

Carbo and his employees will work on a 24-hour schedule with the help of a dozen trucks and an end loader. He said if heavy snow is left to sit, it could take 70 percent longer to remove.

Kristopher Winn: 920-656-7122 or kwinn@htrnews.com

Andy Nielsen writes for the Green Bay Press-Gazette.

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**DESSEY**

From A1

Strang interrupted and took over Buting's place at the podium with an expletive plea.

"Look, look... we're not going to talk about that, but I want to talk to you as human being to human being," Strang said, the fatigue of nine days worth of jury trial evident on his face.

Brian Daesy is a boy, he's a child," Strang said. "He is presumed innocent here of the most serious crime anybody can be charged with."

"Let this kid have a fair trial," Strang said, accenting his words by pounding his fist on the podium. "Let him have his own day in court. He's not here."

"This isn't his trial and you know, heavens knows, that we had a hard enough time to protect a grown man's right to a fair trial here in the place of the press," Strang said. "Let this poor kid have a jury who will presume him innocent... please."

Daesy, who faces a homicide charge, along with a handful of other felonies stemming from Halbach's death, is expected to go to stand trial in April.

Andy Nielsen writes for Green Bay Press-Gazette.

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Amirah Kozlowski, finalist from season one of **Lakeshore's Rising Stars**, will perform at 8:30pm! Get there early!

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