

MANITOWOC COUNTY LEADERSHIP RE-ELECTED



Nancy Rivera of Post 477 – St. Nazianz and Tom Pope of Post 88 – Manitowoc have been reelected to new terms as County Commander and Vice Commander, respectively. They were formally sworn in during a recent ceremony, where the oath of office was administered by The American Legion National Vice Commander Steve Weismann during his visit to Worthington Enterprises in Chilton. Worthington Enterprises was honored as the recipient of the 2025 Department of Wisconsin Employer of Veterans Award.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

BADGER LEGIONNAIRE • JUNE/JULY 2026



MANITOWOC COUNTY HOSTS YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY

The American Legion Manitowoc County Youth Government Day (YGD) was held on April 21, 2026 at the Manitowoc County Courthouse.

A group of 93 students, along with 14 members of the Legion Family, participated in this year's program. The day was filled with meaningful and engaging experiences, beginning with the opportunity to observe a live court hearing and then to meet and interact with newly elected County Executive Tyler Martell.

Participants received an introduction to courtroom proceedings, and toured key county facilities, including the County Clerk's Office, the County Jail and the Coroner's Office.

The program concluded with a lunch pro-

vided by the American Legion, followed by an address from Tim Zadalis, a retired U.S. Air Force Major General. General Zadalis encouraged students to persevere through failure, shared insights on servant leadership, and reflected on a powerful experience attending the funeral of a World War II Missing In Action (MIA) service member. He described presenting the American flag to the Veteran's 80-year-old daughter who was just 18 months old when her father's plane was shot down over Belgium thus underscoring the lasting impact of service and sacrifice.

Manitowoc County Youth Government Day continues to grow and improve, inspiring the next generation to lead and serve their communities.

ANNUAL HONORS AT ST. NAZIANZ



American Legion Post and Sons of the American Legion Squadron 477 St. Nazianz recognized their 2025 Legionnaire and SAL Member of the Year. LEFT: Post Commander, Kevin Nett, recognized USAF Veteran Gary Bonnett as the Legionnaire of the Year. RIGHT: Dan Reinke accepted the SAL Member of the Year award from Squadron Commander Ken Skattebo.