Work Day an order



Community columnist

Just in case you weren't

ters near Phoenix Park. morning of Tuesday, May 13, at ebrated with a kick-off party the Work Week." Eau Claire celaware, last week was "Bike to Volume One World Headquar-I ride right by there on my

pewa Falls that evening with a on my bike route. But if I some-School that afternoon, which is match at Eau Claire North High wanted to go to David's tennis to get to work ... and then back coworker, I'd have to miss the caught a ride home to Chiphow made it to work and then about halfway home and right home later that night. I really idea of stopping at Volume One. It was time to give up the

later that I had mistakenly asking if anyone was going by TEAM page, not to my main snide comments. (I found out Chippewa Falls. I was surprised posted to Simon's SOCCER to hear NOTHING — not even my area, either to Eau Claire or posted a plea on Facebook

event like the Bike to Work Week racing to get to an important when I'm far from home and again, something just didn't feel

As soon as I started riding

right. That's when I realized my

fate: FLAT TIRE!

I hate flat tires. Especially

adjusted the pannier carrying

loose and can rub against the

my laptop. Sometimes it gets

sound from my rear wheel. bike lane bridge, I heard a weird

I crossed the North Crossing

But trouble was lurking. After

I stopped momentarily and

this event.

windy weather couldn't hamper plans. Even the cloudy, cold and sitions, and other fun-sounding coffee and snacks, bicycle expoexcited to read about the free daily bike commute, so I was

sion van that can hold multiple

mighty Arnebus, our conver-

My first thought was that the

bikes, was at school, and David

escape Chi-Hi to pick me up. even though he's now 18 years old (and one week!), still can't

rack last year for the car. Fortunately, I bought a bike

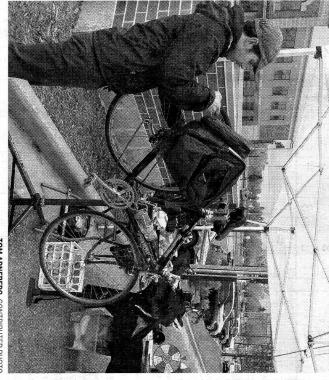
getting rescued by the wife was substitute-teaching at Christ Lutheran School that day. So Unfortunately, Beth was

Street so I'd have a place to wash tube that I always carry in my more bad news: The spare deed. That's when I discovered my hands after I did the dirty the Holiday gas station on Birch my bike about a half a mile to change the stinkin' tire. I walked handlebar bag was the WRONG Well, I guess I'll have to just

Now I just had to figure out how

Facebook wall. This was just not

As a last resort, I figured I'd



helped Tom repair his bike on Bike to Work Day. Sean Brandenburg, owner of the Eau Claire Mobile Bicycle Repair company, TOM ARNEBERG, CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

when I realized my last big When it rains, it pours. tow trucks for bicycles?) That's had FORGOTTEN MY WALLET! time in all my bike commuting, I problem — for only the second just call a cab. (Why aren't there

Claire. I am so spoiled by the wallet. Then I realized that there miles from home, flat tire and no seven miles from work and eight forget that there must be stores downtown Chippewa Falls that I amazing Spring Street Sports in in a town the size of Eau Claire, ARE some bike stores in Eau So here I am, stuck about

bike store representatives at Maybe there would be some

> ish the ride into work after all. my tire on credit, and then finthem to their bike store, I could possibly persuade them to fix I could get a ride with one of the Volume One thing! If only

ing a bike is awkward, especially walked my bike the remaining it was the only plan I had. So I counts as exercise, so I was okay 1.6 miles to Volume One. Walkwhile wearing cleats. But it still It was a long shot, I knew, but

suddenly got considerably betume One World HQ, my day CREAM! And free cinnamon BUCKS COFFEE with REAL ter. First, there was FREE STAR-When I finally reached Vol-

sugar donut holes to go with

he'll actually fix your bike on the have one right here in western Sean Brandenburg, owner of the company. I didn't even know than a tow truck for bikes, since Wisconsin. That's even better there WAS such a thing, but we Eau Claire Mobile Bicycle Repair But the best part was meeting

did. While I was busy talking on in no time. bike up on the stand, removed to Chippewa Falls native Jessie the wheel, and had a new tube (Long) Andress, Sean had my And that's exactly what he

quoted me five bucks for the money, he trusted me to mai saved my day (and restored my him a check. How much? He ride to work, and still get to the faith in humanity)! nim a lot more than that - henew tube. Needless to say, I sent tennis match at North! When mproved — I could finish the told Sean I didn't have any My prospects instantly

Starbucks and Sean Brandenday, thanks to Volume One, good, very bad day had suddenly transformed into a pretty cool My terrible, horrible, no-

door lock was in the same place bag on my bedroom dresser. rolled into work, only to discover as my billfold — in a nice ziploc that my badge that activates the I was in a good mood as I

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