In 1858 Baruch made national news when a libelous article about him was published in the National Police Gazette, the 19th century equivalent of today's tabloid television shows. On July 8, 1858, The Milwaukee Sentinel, which had originally reported the Police Gazette story, printed a front page apology to Schleisinger Weil and devoted a third of a page to his detailed denials of the various charges. Although these false rumors never completely died after they were refuted, Baruch was subsequently returned to Madison by the voters.

By the 1860s B. S. Weil had Big Cedar Lake's first house erected on the west side of the lake, near the corner of Highway 144 and County K. He moved his growing family there from Slinger, although he maintained his various interests in the Village. His children attended the country school house, which was located on what is now the northeast corner of Arthur Road and Highway 144. Although the Weil's lake home was undoubtedly a modest house by today's standards, contemporary descriptions refer to it as a "fine country home." It was here that the Weils hosted European nobleman Prince Paul von Wurtenburg during the Prince's tour of the United States. It was a tragic loss when their country home burned down about 1880. Weil never rebuilt the country house, although his daughters later built adjoining summer homes on the site, one of which still stands today. Baruch's West Bend "city" house is also standing today on 8th Avenue, just north of Highway 33.

Eventually Baruch Schleisinger Weil and family moved to Milwaukee, where a sizeable Jewish community was developing. He died at his son's Chicago home on March 26th, 1893, at the age of 90. Today there are over 70 direct descendants of Baruch and Eliza Schleisinger Weil. About half of the Weil descendants live within 100 miles of Slinger, and the rest are scattered throughout the United States. Almost all of them, regardless of where they live today, make it a point to return to Slinger at least once each summer.

(Steve Simon is a great great grandson of B. S. Weil. Jim Mann is a great grandson of B. S. Weil. Bob Anderson is a great great grandson of both Moses Weil, Baruch Schleisinger Weil's father-in-law, and William Wightman, one of the four founders of West Bend.)

---

**Obituary of B.S. Weil**

**DIED YESTERDAY IN CHICAGO AT THE AGE OF 91.**

**HE WAS ONE OF WISCONSIN’S BEST KNOWN GERMAN-AMERICANS.**

**HE WAS THE FOUNDER OF SCHLEISINGERVILLE AND REPRESENTED HIS DISTRICT REPEATEDLY IN THE ASSEMBLY AND STATE GOVERNMENT.**

Baruch Schleisinger-Weil died yesterday forenoon at the home of his son Eugene in Chicago at the age of 91. He was one of the earliest settlers in Wisconsin.

The real/right name of the deceased was Schleisinger. After his marriage to the daughter of a well-known Rabbi and explorer named Weil, he then added Weil to his original name or Weil for short at times.

He came from Strasburg in Alsace where he was a horse trader/buyer for the French government and a leader for King Louis Philip. He was also a member of the French deputy chamber. Before the fall of the King, he left his homeland and came first to New Orleans where he stayed for a short time and by undertaking a large clothing business lost a lot of money. In 1845 he came to Washington County to what is now Schleisingerville and was to be named after him. He bought over a thousand acres on the southern end of Cedar Lake and parcelled it, and in a short time it increased in value. He built a villa near the lake.

Weil was always an eager and respected politician and did so as a Democrat. He was a member of the first Senate of the State of Wisconsin and helped with the State constitution. In 1853, 1856 and 1857 he was a member of the State Senate. In the years 1852, 1871, 1872, 1873 and 1880 he was in the Assembly from Washington County. In the later years he was the oldest member of the legislature corporation. Mr. Weil reached the age of 91 years and was always cordial and charitable. In his marriage to his second wife, they had three sons and two daughters who are all in Chicago.

He, like no one else, faced the trust and reliance of the Germans in Washington County; and his name, like some other spirited people, was found in every farm house. He was small of stature but had an iron-like constitution and kept it until very old. Unfortunately, he began losing the sight of his laughing black eyes; and in his last hours was finally robbed of his strength. When at some time the history of Wisconsin will be written, the name of Baruch Schleisinger-Weil will stand out; and his name will be placed first as a German-American with a city named in his honor.

(This obituary was translated from German by Joe Weninger, with assistance from Mary Rank, as it appeared in a German Milwaukee midweek paper dated March 29, 1893.)

---

The Story of Washington County by Carl Quickert, 1923. Sited by Jim Mann.
The State Bank of Slinger was established on April 4, 1904 at the intersection of Washington Street and Kettle Moraine Drive. From that time forward, the banking industry, as well as the bank itself, has gone through change. For 73 years, the State Bank of Slinger remained as one office primarily servicing the Village of Slinger and the surrounding community. As the industry began to grow and change, the necessity for the bank to grow and change to keep pace became evident. On October 25, 1976, the State Bank of Slinger moved its banking operations to 300 East Washington Street, its present location.

Another big event in our bank's history occurred on January 20, 1984. This was the merger of the State Bank of Slinger with F&M Financial Services Corporation. What an expansion of market area this became. Stretching out across the state with locations in places such as Eagle River, Stetsonville, Fond du Lac, Oconomowoc, and of course, Menomonee Falls among others, an F&M Bank could easily be found. On December 1, 1988 we built a brand new F&M Bank in the City of Hartford. Along with the development of the city, our new bank would grow and become established.

Again, a transformation was on the horizon. On October 19, 1992, F&M Financial Services Corporation was merged with Associated Banc-Corp. Founded in 1970, Associated Banc-Corp. is a diversified multibank holding company headquartered in Green Bay. As of December 31, 1993, we had $2.98 billion in assets and we now serve markets in Wisconsin and Illinois through 80 banking locations. Even though Associated Banc-Corp. is a large corporation, we are still dedicated to serving the smaller communities and have strong community ties dating back to the late 1800's and early 1900's.

At Associated Bank in Slinger, our Community Bank President is Dale T. Tietz. Dale has been with the bank for 21 years. The Slinger Office currently employs 14 bankers both full-time and part-time with 132 years of banking experience to their credit. They are Jeff Biege, Pat Ellie, Kathy Gessner, Linnette Herther, Mari Leininger, Rose Metke, Annette Mueller, Jamie Mueller, Karen Nadelhofer, Dianne Retzlaff, Jennifer Weber and Jayne Wolf. Our commitment is to service and to servicing the Slinger Community. We may have grown throughout the years, but we haven't forgotten where our roots lie.