

# Crime Stoppers of Lincoln County needs YOUR help



A black 2016 CANAM UTV with blue trim was stolen from an address in the 1000 block of S. Center Ave. in Merrill during the overnight hours of July 21-22, 2023. The stolen UTV was observed being operated by a white male the evening of July 22 on the west side of Wausau near the 100 block of S. 18th Ave. The operator and UTV fled from police and was involved in multiple suspicious persons complaints in the late evening of July 22 on the west side of Wausau. The UTV was recovered in the 100 block of N. 6th Ave. in Wausau in the early morning of July 23. If you have any information regarding the theft or operation of the stolen UTV, please contact Detective Nicole Cimino of the Merrill Police Department at 715.536.8311 or contact Crime Stoppers of Lincoln County at 715.536.3726 or access the p3tips.com site. Callers can remain anonymous and may qualify for a reward.



Joseph Frederick photos.

# Labor Day celebrations

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Labor Day celebrates the everyday people who go to work every day in every occupation in our country to keep our society functioning. Here in Merrill residents celebrated with the annual Merrill Labor Day parade, with candy for the kids, followed by the annual Lions Labor Day Car Show at the Merrill Festival Grounds. Many of



See **CELEBRATION**  
page 9

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# Kindhearted expands to meet growing needs in community

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

The Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting at Kindhearted Home Care on Aug. 23, 2023, to celebrate the expansion of the Kindhearted facility to accommodate more clients, to meet a growing need in the community.

This expansion wasn't a physical expansion of the space, as that wasn't needed. "When we built our building in 2016, we created additional space [so we would have that available] if we ever wanted to expand our services," said Diane R. Goetsch, owner of Kindhearted Home Care, LLC.

Rather, this expansion relates to increased licenses for the state certified adult day care facility. In November 2022, Kindhearted increased their licenses from 18 to 32 participants, providing the ability to meet a growing need for their services.

We see that there is a growing need for care in our community as people are living longer, wanting to age in place, living with a loved one, and there are less resources for placement in assisted livings and long-term care facilities, Goetsch said.

"Our adult day care gives them a supervised social outlet during the day or when their loved ones are at work," she said. The staff focus on providing a positive, fun, uplifting environment where everyone feels welcome and supported, she said.



The owner and staff at Kindhearted Home Care gather with Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce staff and ambassadors to celebrate their recent expansion with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Photo courtesy of Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce.

Kindhearted Home Care opened their State certified adult social center in 2012. "While caring for a client in their home, they asked about a place to take their loved one instead of having to leave their house [and moving to a nursing home or assisted living facility]," Goetsch said. That planted the seed of an idea Goetsch grew into the current and still growing facility.

Kindhearted offers a social day program that provides a supervised safe, supportive environment for adults with dementia and Parkinsons disease, elderly who are isolated or in need of social interaction, and individuals with physical and/or intellectual disabilities.

Those clients of the facility enjoy a wide variety of activities including light exercise, games, arts and crafts, educational tours and demonstrations, music, and daily community outings to go out for lunch, go bowling or shopping, and much more. Volunteers and organizations in the community provide additional positive experiences for day care attendees, such as bringing in therapy dogs. All of these activities and opportunities give attendees much-needed regular social interaction, along with a sense of purpose and accomplishment.

See **KINDHEARTED**  
page 8

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# August Garden of the Month

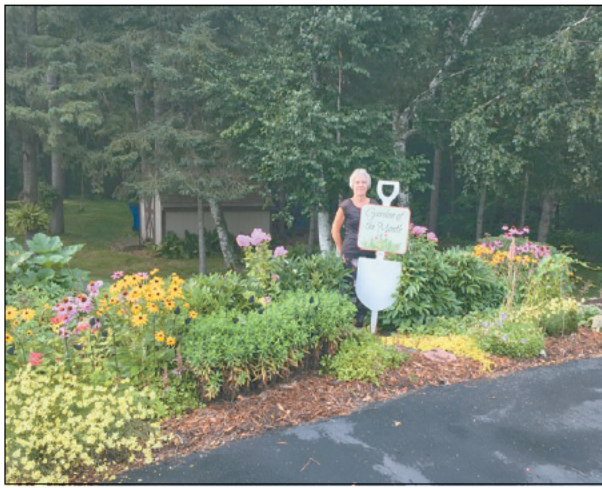
BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Park City Gardeners announced the August 2023 Garden of the Month belongs to Judy and Carl Weinert, at 2801 Glen Dr. in Merrill.

"The garden runs through the entire property, providing beauty with every step you take," said one of the Park City Gardeners who helped select this month's Garden of the Month. Set amidst large pine trees that are "surrounded by beautiful greens and unique garden art," visitors are "immediately drawn to the beautiful color of the amazing flower gardens that surround the property" in addition to the landscaping, and the Wisconsin River provides a picturesque background for the property.



A variety of blooms in various colors make the yard feel cheery, and all of the greenery adds a lush feel to the gardens.



Judy Weinert is shown in one of her flower gardens at the home she shares with her husband, Carl, at 2801 Glen Dr. in Merrill. Their property has been selected as the August 2023 Garden of the Month. **Submitted photos.**

The landscaping and gardens have been developed over a 33-year period, adding a little each year, Judy said. But she didn't just add something each year. She also had to rearrange and "move things around to find where they really fit," she said.

She selected plants to provide beauty and color throughout the growing season. "With the sunshine reflecting the beautiful color, the sparkle of a dewy morning, or the glitter of a recent rain, you just want to relax to take it all in," a Park City Gardeners member said.

Take a walk or a drive past this beautiful property to enjoy the end-of-summer beauty and color.



Tidy mulched beds, bushes, and flowers complement the neat exterior of the family home and attached garage.



Steps lead down to the river, greenery in various shades adds depth and interest, and colorful blooms steal the show.

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**Friday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> • 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM**  
**Saturday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> • 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

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### Pet of the Week

This cute red head is **Janice**. She is the sweetest girl! She loves to get attention and is good with other dogs. **Janice** came to us with 7 other hounds that are all looking for loving homes of their own. She loves to play with her toys and just look at this adorable face!! **Janice** is a hound, so someone who doesn't mind some hound talking now and then is going to be great for her. If you are interested in **Janice** or any of her friends, applications can be found on our website.

Visit all the adoptable animals at Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours: Mon-Sat 12-4PM; Sun 12-2PM. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, or visit us on the web at [www.furypets.com](http://www.furypets.com).

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## The Hanging Flower Basket Committee gratefully acknowledges all individuals, organizations and businesses for their support of the 2023 Hanging Flower Basket Project.

<p><b>EXEMPLARY DONATIONS</b></p> <p>Anonymous Woodland Court Elder Services Merrill Tool &amp; Water Jet, LLC</p> <p><b>DOUBLE POLE &amp; BASKET DONATION</b></p> <p>Culver's of Merrill Jim Blair Mark Raymer Crossbridge Community Bank ABG Masonry Inc</p> <p><b>POLE &amp; BASKET DONATIONS</b></p> <p>Glenn &amp; Barb Hartley Mitchell Metal Products In Honor of Geraldine MacSwain Staff of TB Scott Free Library</p> <p><b>POLE DONATION</b></p> <p>Norman Weisenfeld Evelyn Bjorklund Pamela &amp; James Bjorklund Dieter &amp; Pam Nickel Nancy Dabbert Gloria Ziolkowski Courtside Furniture Waid Funeral Home &amp; Cremation Irma Stine Merrill Eagles Auxiliary #584</p>	<p>Katey Swope Kris Ullmer Century 21 Best Way Realty Edward Jones - Kevin Cohrs Lise Skofronick Merrill Eagles Club Sarah Ritter Karen Karow Sally Hacker Northwoods Evergreen &amp; Wire LLC Maxine &amp; Jay Tlusty Carol &amp; Bill Weber Gary &amp; Marilyn Wright Holy Cross Sisters Aunt Lu's Antiques &amp; Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe Parkside Pre-School Center Carol Finanger Wheeler's Chevrolet Scott &amp; Kim Voigt Pioneer Transportation LTD Richard A Mamer CPA Chip's of Merrill Shirley Engel Judy &amp; Don Evans Riverside Athletic Club Northern Wire Lindy &amp; Lee Ann Lindquist Cordova Insurance Agency</p>	<p>Preceptor Alpha Beta The Chiropractic Wellness Center Jack &amp; Helene Ader Kent &amp; Sue Johnson Maggie &amp; Art Marquis Ed &amp; Sharon's Food Truck Kay &amp; Dave Smith Holly Henrich Merrill Police Association Johnsons of Merrill Bill &amp; Kathy Wulf</p> <p><b>BASKETS DONATIONS</b></p> <p>Jan Perry Taylor &amp; Stine Funeral Home Jane Ann Savaske Wisconsin Phi Master Linda &amp; Dale Janisch WJJQ Radio Carla &amp; Jeff Moore Bruce &amp; Jean English Marie Rein Park Street Properties, LLC Central Carpet &amp; Flooring, Inc Laureate Alpha Delta Mary Bauman Sid &amp; Eva Sukow Robert &amp; Connie Russell Nancy Strand</p>
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Also, our special thanks for assistance from the Merrill Street Department, Park and Rec Department, The Chamber Foundation, Cheryl Skoug, High Ground Tree Farms, and OUR WATERERS, JERRY BURNETT & GREGORY RADKE

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# State road construction projects in Lincoln County continue on Wis. Hwy. 107

Wis. Hwy. 107 remains closed to through traffic in most areas as various culverts and bridges between Merrill and Tomahawk are repaired, replaced, or improved.

Crews are installing traffic control and working on culvert replacement north of Eggert Dr., then installing seed, fertilizer and erosion mat.

The project will include paving culvert locations, installing new guardrail at the culvert over Joe

Snow Creek, installing pavement markings at the culvert locations, setting up the road closure at the culvert over Skanawan Creek, and removing guardrail at the culvert over Skanawan Creek.

A signed detour is posted to route traffic around Joe Snow Creek approximately 4.2 miles north of Wis. 64. and that detour was expected to remain in place until Sept. 1.

Then, starting Sept. 1, Wis. Hwy. 107 will be closed to through traffic

and a signed detour will be provided to replace the culvert over Skanawan Creek approximately 0.3 miles south of County S. Traffic will be routed around the project area via Cty. J, US 51, and Cty. S. This detour will remain in place until Nov. 1.

The project is scheduled for completion in November 2023.

Website: <https://projects.511.wi.gov/nc-wis107lincoln/>

# Free Strengthening Families for Caregivers program offered

The Strengthening Families for Caregivers is an eight-week program focused on providing strategies for adults to build positive relationships with children who have experienced trauma. However, the strategies that are shared are excellent for anyone who provides support to children.

The program uses scenarios to guide discussion, provides tangible tools to use, and provides opportunities to build skills. Participants will learn how trauma

See PROGRAM page 5

# History Hunt 2023: On location with filmmaker Bill Rebane

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

The Merrill Historical Society (MHS) will hold "History Hunt 2023: On location with filmmaker Bill Rebane" on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The event is designed as a fun fundraiser for the MHS, and this year, the theme will revolve around the films made in Lincoln County locations "back in the day" when many of us were old enough to remember the excitement of putting our area "on the map," so to speak.

Ito "Bill" Rebane was the man behind the movies, the most famous and successful of which, the "Giant Spider Invasion" was distributed worldwide.

This year's History Hunt will focus on his work, the films, and the local locations for the films.

"A History Hunt combines a scavenger hunt, driving/walking rally, and trivia contest," organizers at the MHS said. "Participants follow clues to locations to learn about the history of the area."

"It is NOT a race," they

emphasize. Participants can—and are encouraged to—deviate from the route to "enjoy and explore" the places they discover along the way.

Check-in time for the event is between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 7 at the MHS, 100 E. Third St. in Merrill.

Teams are required to register in advance, and registration will close on Wednesday, Oct. 4. Registration forms are available at the MHS or online at MerrillHistory.org. There is a registration fee, with a discount for MHS members. The fee includes "History Hunt driving directions, the guidebook, three raffle prize drawing tickets, and admission to the After Party," organizers said. Don't forget to give your team a catchy name.

"The minimum team size is two people, because you need a driver and a navigator, but your team can be as large as you would like."

Learn more about Bill Rebane, who came to the U.S. with his parents at age 14 and settled in Chicago, where he would later begin his film career.

In 1967, Bill moved to Wisconsin with his wife, Barbara, purchasing an old Lincoln County farm they turned into their home and Bill's film studio.

"The object of the 2023 Hunt is to find various locations used by Bill Rebane with your 3D glasses and your guidebook and then travel there to learn the backstory of these locations that appear in Bill's movies, taking some selfies along the way," organizers said. "There will also be restaurants or local taverns who have specials for the hungry and thirsty 'hunters' along the way."

Costumes are highly encouraged. "Costumes always make the event more fun for the teams and the hosts," organizers said. "Be as creative as you can in showing off costumes of movie directors and movie characters."

At 3 p.m., the hunt concludes and the After Party begins. Here the group will enjoy reliving the experience of their day and awards will be given out for: Best Team Name, Best Costumes, and Best Social Media Presence.

To sponsor the event or

donate raffle prizes, or to become a member of the MHS, call 715.536.5652 or email [merrillpast@gmail.com](mailto:merrillpast@gmail.com). More information is also available at: [MerrillHistory.org](http://MerrillHistory.org).

The Merrill Historical Society is a private nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation. Their mission is to educate the public about the Merrill area's heritage using the unique historical and cultural resources they collect and preserve.

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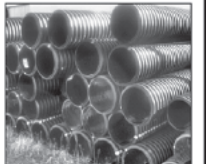
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WHEN: Saturday, September 23, 2023  
WHERE: Kitchenette Park 211 W. 1st Street, Merrill, WI 54452  
REGISTRATION: Begins at 8:00 a.m. ride starts at 8:30 a.m.  
COST: \$30.00 includes long sleeve shirt if registered before Sept. 16, 2023  
\$35.00 for registrations after Sept. 16, 2023 NO SHIRT FOR LATE REGISTRATIONS OR DAY OF REGISTRATIONS.  
COURSE: 10, 30 or 50 mile ride. (maps provided at registration table)  
Send check payable to: CITY OF MERRILL 1100 MARC DRIVE MERRILL, WI 54452

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LONG SLEEVE CHILD SIZE: YOUTH SMALL \_\_\_\_\_ MED. \_\_\_\_\_ LARGE \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_  
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WAIVER OF LIABILITY: In consideration for my right to participate in the Merrill Colorama Bike Tour, I for myself, my heirs, assigns, beneficiaries, personal representatives and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have or may acquire against the city of Merrill, the Merrill Recreation Dept., all sponsors and tour officials and all agents and persons acting for and on behalf of all such entities for claims of damages, demands or actions whatsoever in any manner that arise as a result of my participating in said bike tour. The undersigned participant is physically capable to ride (having no illness or medical reason to abstain.)

Your signature if over 18 years old \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature if rider is under 18 years old. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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# OBITUARIES



**Tylor Dale Hartwig**, age 54, of Irma, WI, passed away on Saturday, August 19, 2023, at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital. Tylor was born in Merrill, WI, on February 18, 1969, to the late Francis "Bud" and Shirley (Juneau) Hartwig.

Tylor was a lifelong resident of Lincoln County where he met his love, Charlotte, in Junior High School. They were lifelong friends and along their journey were married in a small ceremony.

His children were his many dogs over the years which included Grand Night Champion Lady, and Diesel. Earlier this year, he lost his dogs, Adam and Missy. In addition, he doted on his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends of the family. Plus, the children that knew him as their second father.

He was passionate about many things. Family and friends were the most important followed by his love for truck pulling, fishing with family, hunting, gardening, making maple syrup, and always had time for shooting the breeze with friends over coffee or a meal. Tylor loved the outdoors and made his career in the logging industry. Over the years, he worked with so many being self-employed as Tylor Hartwig Trucking, and CT Trucking, along with driving dump truck and log trucks for others. He was currently working at Wilson Forestry, LLC and really enjoyed the team of people he worked with. He was also a current Skanawan Town Supervisor. Tylor was a member of St. John Lutheran Church. He may not have expressed his faith to many, but he did live by his faith. He was active in many associations including the Midwest Pullers Association, Lincoln Gun Club, and the Northern Wisconsin Houndsmen Association. He also helped in organizing the Lincoln County Fair Truck and Tractor Pull. Tylor was a person who could talk to anyone and always had a story to tell. His heart was big and was known to give the shirt off his back. Tylor was an organ donor and will help others live thanks to his unselfish desire to always help others in need. He was a fun-loving and supportive man that will be missed by family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte Downing; his sister, Shelly Hartwig; his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Mary and Jim Downing; his sisters-in-law, Kelly Hartwig, Carla Hartwig, Ann Zastrow, and Barb Wais; his brother-in-law, John Wais; his nieces, Randi (Max) Callos, Haile Nelson, and Cassie Hartwig; his nephews, Bradley (Mindy) Litzen, and Adam (Ben Schorr) Zastrow. He is further survived by many great-nieces and great-nephews. Tylor was preceded in death by his parents, Shirley and Bud Hartwig; his brothers, Kelley and Kim Hartwig; his brother-in-law, Clark Downing; and his nieces, Jessica Hartwig and Jerrica Woller.

Memorial services for Tylor Hartwig will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at 12:00 PM, at Generations Funeral Home. Heidi Stevenson will officiate. The family will receive friends for visitation from 10:00 AM until the time of services at 12:00 PM. Following the service, a luncheon/celebration will continue until 4:00 PM at the Maple Bear Campground (formerly Birkensee's Campground). Generations Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family.



**Elaine Hodgson** July 6, 1925 - August 28, 2023 Elaine Dorothy Martha Rakow was born July 6th, 1925, on her mother's birthday in Pine River, Wisconsin to Olga Maria Magdalena Voigt and Herbert Walter Rakow. She was called to live with our Father in heaven on August 28th 2023.

At the age of 14 her family moved to the town of Merrill, Wisconsin to live in a beautiful home at 611 Superior Street. She and her 5 sisters were so

happy to be in the "BIG CITY" In May of 1942 she moved to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin to work in the shipyards as a "Rosie the Riveter" for 33 months. These times were hard work, but she told so many stories about those times. How she enjoyed the freedom and the friends she made.

After the war Elaine enrolled in "Needle Trades" (furrier school) back home in Merrill. There is where she met her future husband Glenn L. Hodgson. She was employed by Fromm Brothers Furrier Trade in Merrill, until moving to Chicago after her marriage.

She and Glenn were married June 29th, 1946, in Merrill, WI., and shortly thereafter moved to Chicago to work in the fur trade on State Street. She worked for several different furriers in downtown Chicago and Evanston, Ill. during her career. While in Chicago they raised two children and were very involved in their community of great neighbors. They were faithful members of Redeemer Lutheran Church of Park Ridge, IL. For 35 years. Elaine was always willing to help whenever and wherever needed. She was always baking coffee Cakes or cookies for church and school bake sales or for neighbors in need. At Christmas time she would bake dozens of cookies to give away.

After Glenn retired, they moved to "Sunset" a beautiful lake community in Davis, IL. Elaine lived out her life enjoying going for pontoon rides on the lake and later in life just enjoying the beautiful view of the lake from her bay window. Elaine & Glenn were members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Durand, IL. She remained in her home until her death because of the devotion of her son Michael who took such good care of her and Glenn for many years.

Elaine was preceded in death by her parents, Glenn her husband of 73 years and sisters Delores Markstrom, Maryann Karow, Natlee Christoffersen, Verdella Winkelmann, many wonderful in-laws, and Granddaughter Janiece Gina Vitek.

Elaine will be fiercely missed by daughter Glenda and husband John Vitek, son Michael Hodgson, Granddaughter Jacqueline G. James and husband Joshua, Great Grandson John Paul James, Sister Ramona Feldman, Brother-in law Jerry Hodgson, numerous nieces and nephews and many lifelong friends.



**Alan F. Janquart**, 77, of Merrill, passed away Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at his home under the care of his family and Interim Hospice.

Al was born April 25, 1946, in Green Bay, son of the late Norman and Laverne (Linszen) Janquart. He married Gale Lindstrom on October 1, 1966, in Green Bay. On October 1, 2023, they would have celebrated 57 years together. Al worked for Wisconsin Public Service for over 40 years and retired in 2010. He worked most of those years at the Merrill Hydro Dam. Al also worked as a carpenter and built two houses. He and his family eventually resided in both of those houses. Al was an avid sportsman and outdoorsman and belonged to the Harrison Hills ATV Club. Al enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, using his ham radio, and spending time with his son Todd going to Morgan Creek Hunting Lodge, a warm and welcoming 'guys camp'. He loved going there most of all with his brothers: Tim, Jerry, and Paul, all three waited to welcome him into heaven. He was a very patient man who loved his family, especially his children and grandchildren.

Al is survived by his wife, Gale Janquart of Merrill; son, Todd (Sue) Janquart of Marenisco, Michigan; daughter, Tracey (Lance) Romanowski of Merrill; grandchildren, Riley Janquart, Spencer Janquart, Rachael Romanowski, and Erin Romanowski; sister, Julie Janquart (Julie Van Lannen); brothers, David (Candi) Janquart, Rick Janquart, Bob (Kathi) Janquart, Tom (Alice) Janquart, and Joe Janquart (Michelle Crooks); brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Darlene Janquart, Joyce Janquart, Will Hogan, Steve (Mary) Lindstrom, Wendy Lindstrom, Mark (Vicki) Lindstrom, Jane (Greg) Stevenson, Dan (Pam) Lindstrom, and Amy (Conrad) Sternot; numerous nieces and nephews; his beloved dog, Piper; and his grand dogs, Charlie and Scout. Al was preceded in death by his parents, Norman and Laverne Janquart; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Jack and Dorothy Lindstrom; brothers, Tim Janquart, Jerry Janquart, and Paul Janquart; sister, Mary Hogan; sister-in-law, Kellie Janquart; and nephew, Daniel Janquart.

The family would like to thank the entire team at Interim Health and Interim Hospice for their care, especially Tim, who led the care team, palliative care nurses, Danielle and Sarah, and Al's nurse, John. They were so careful with Al and with Gale and her feelings. The family would also like to thank all of the doctors and staff at Aspirus Cancer Center for the excellent care of Al over the last four years, Aspirus Urology, Orthopedic Associates of Wausau, especially Dr. James Sutherland, Dr. Benjamin Herdrich of Surgical Associates for his excellent aneurysm care time and time again, Dr. John Wheat and his wonderful nurse, Eva, for family care, always using a calm and gentle approach, and the Merrill Fire Department for their help getting Al back home.

Lastly a shout-out to many family and friends in the CB radio world, those friends on Facebook, and Paula, who came to the house to cut Al's hair. All of you were so very important in his life, especially when he could no longer walk.

The memorial service for Al will be held at 1:30 P.M. on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home. Visitation will begin at 11:00 A.M. Saturday at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)

## Backpack project update

On Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, children and families visited PRMS to pick up backpacks and school supplies. Through the generous donations of individuals, organizations, and businesses, those young students are off to a great start for the 2023-2024 school year.

Monetary donations are still graciously accepted, allowing MFTHCI to purchase items at sale prices throughout the year. Donations can be sent to MFTHCI-Backpacks at PO Box 793 in Merrill.

Families of students in grades K-6 who qualify for free or reduced school lunch under federal guidelines that are new to the Merrill area, or those that were unable to pick up backpacks on Saturday the 12th, should contact Jana at Children's Wisconsin at 715.539.5441 to get needed supplies.

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**Alan V. Weiland** passed away on August 29, 2023.

Alan is survived by his wife of 56 years, Gerrie; his daughter, Kerri (Randy) Radtke; granddaughters, Nicole (Austyn Stoerzer), Brooklynn and Brittney; his son, Dave (Kari) Weiland; grandson, Korbin; sister, Leila Nikolai; and sister-in-law, Vonnie Siewert.

He was the son of the late Versal and Iona Weiland.

Alan enjoyed coffee at Blue Willow with the guys on Tuesday mornings; monthly get togethers with Jake and Barb, the gals at MECU, especially Tuesdays, and his beloved hunting shack with his son Dave and friends.

We will miss his wonderful sense of humor, his love for his family, his white hair, and just Alan being Alan.

The family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Sylvan Crossings and Aspirus Hospice Services for their care of Alan. And to the neighbors and friends who helped us through this difficult time.

As were his wishes, there will be no services. Helke Funeral Home is assisting the family.

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If you would like to be part of the 2023 publication, Contact **Jennifer Gartmann** at (715) 218-1644 Or **Dinah Schneider** at (715) 905-1001

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**PROGRAM** *from page 3*

affects children, how a child's trauma can affect us as caregivers, how to create a safe environment, help understand and manage feelings and behaviors, develop connections and healing, and learn how to become an advocate for the children you support.

Each session builds on the prior session so it is important that a participant attends each session if possible. We understand how busy life can be and know that things come up so we will work to keep everyone caught up if you do need to miss a session.

We BELIEVE in creating a safe environment for learning and will never ask participants to speak to their own trauma or their child's trauma. We

UNDERSTAND that the material we share can evoke strong feelings and emotions and COMMIT to allowing participants to take the space and time they need and WILL be available for participants after sessions if they need to process.

The program will be offered free, in person, on Wednesday afternoons from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Lincoln County Service Center, Room 156. The program begins on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2023, and concludes on Wednesday Oct. 25, 2023. To register, go to [bit.ly/SFFFall23](https://bit.ly/SFFFall23) or call/text Kristine Shorey at 715.218.0326. For more information, contact Brenda Rasmussen at [Brenda.Rasmussen@co.lincoln.wi.us](mailto:Brenda.Rasmussen@co.lincoln.wi.us); or Kristine Shorey at [Kristine.Shorey@co.lincoln.wi.us](mailto:Kristine.Shorey@co.lincoln.wi.us); or Rebecca Kludy at [Rebecca.Kludy@co.lincoln.wi.us](mailto:Rebecca.Kludy@co.lincoln.wi.us).

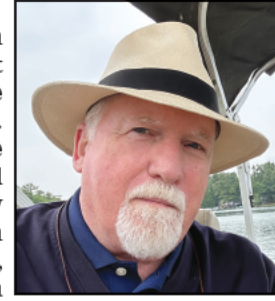
**PUBLISHER'S LETTER**

**Driving The Body Hard**

Dear Reader,

We all take life at a certain pace. Some are chill and let it happen. Others are more deliberate and plan it all out. And then there are those that are riding the winds and tackling the storms with only the illusion of fear. Based on those options, life can be long, much longer, or possibly a little shorter.

There isn't any way to judge which is the better choice because we all punch



out eventually at the end of the trail. So the question is, do you want to cross over to the other side pristine and completely intact? Or do you want to leave everything on the field, from nose to toes? Maybe it depends on what you're trying to do - accomplish some good things, or hang out and watch the world go by. Your call.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
Publisher

**To the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors, the employees and residents of Pine Crest Nursing Home and our fellow citizens of Lincoln County,**

We are a group of people from all over Lincoln County who have come together out of deep concern for the future of our 5 Star county owned Pine Crest Nursing Home. Some of our County Board supervisors appeared to be under the belief that after their failure to pass the resolution to allow voters to decide on one option of keeping it county owned, we would go away.

We are not going away. We are more encouraged than before.

We have over 900 petition signatures to keep Pine Crest county owned. Over 120 people were present at that August 15 County Board meeting and six spoke eloquently of the economic benefits, the compassion and the moral contract our ancestors created in this community. Still, thirteen supervisors voted to deny the citizens of Lincoln County our say in this matter.

The crowd left that meeting embarrassed by the actions of the Board.

Board members were throwing numbers around like confetti. They could not even agree on which numbers to use for their arguments. At least three board members plainly stated they did not understand the math involved but were going to vote (in spite of their lack of understanding) to sell Pine Crest.

Marathon County completed an exhaustive review of their ownership of their nursing home and determined that the best choice for the county—both economically and morally—was to continue to own and maintain the best facility possible.

In contrast, some Lincoln County supervisors assured those present at the meeting they were in favor of keeping Pine Crest even as they moved forward with a brokerage agreement; they blamed other parties and previous supervisors for the problems this Board does not seem able to address. At least one of those who spoke had clearly stated an intent to work for selling or closing Pine Crest before the last election and before the ad hoc committee's report on Pine Crest's viability.

We believe, the Board is derelict in its fiduciary duties by not ordering an independent appraisal and for not performing an economic impact study on the effects of selling or closing Pine Crest, especially given the likelihood that any purchaser will drastically limit the number of Medicaid funded beds.

Furthermore, what will be the economic impact of

- Potentially shutting down or cutting back a major employer in the county and sending all of that revenue, payroll, gas taxes, retail sales and other related economic benefits to other counties?
- What will it cost the county to transfer up to 60 Medicaid-funded residents to other nursing homes in other counties; how much will it cost to maintain Pine Crest for 6 months or more of a shutdown process with dwindling revenue?
- What will be the impact of the perceived quality of life in Lincoln County? How will shutting down care for the elderly and violating the promises we have made to the residents during their lifetime of paying taxes and bettering this community affect this county's reputation and the desire for businesses to locate and expand here and for new residents to move here?

Yes, the Board might save some money short-term by closing or selling Pine Crest, but the Board has a responsibility to the overall economy of the county. They are failing in their duties to fully understand the impact of their decisions and make those potential impacts clearly understandable to their constituency.

Other counties have found ways to fund their county owned nursing homes. If our Board of Supervisors cannot figure out how to keep Pine Crest, we respectfully suggest they consult with the leadership of Marathon County to see how it can be done.

**People For Pine Crest is here. We are staying and we are growing in numbers. We are advocating for the employees and residents. We are advocating for the way of life and the charge left to us by our ancestors who established a legacy through which we would care for the most vulnerable in our community. It is a battle for the soul of this county. We deserve leaders who understand that.**

**We rightfully demand SOLUTIONS—not excuses! VISION—not confusion! LEADERSHIP—not pandering!**

Respectfully and Resolutely,

Don and Ruthann Dunphy  
Kim Hanson  
Robert and Virginia Richards  
Robert and Diana Smith  
Rev. Mike and Sue Southcombe  
Dora Gorski  
Ron Dustan  
Mark and Irene Mehlos  
Scott and Kelly Wallace  
Kris Block  
Ronald and Melissa Schroeder

Todd and Renea Frederick  
Bill and Carol Wendorf  
In memory of Henry Meier  
Bill and Sandy Lussenhop  
Dennis and LuAnn Grefe  
Walter and Cheryl Hobbs  
Sr. Celine Goessl  
Sr. Kathy Lange  
Louise Doescher  
Richard L. Brown & Catherine LeMay-Brown  
Paul and Susanna Gilk  
Karen Nocco

Ray and Judy Woller  
Gene and Karleen Bebel  
Scott and Linda Doerr  
John Cotter  
John Cotter, Jr. and Kelleen Wistein  
LeRoy and Connie Fischer  
Chip and Sandy Mosser  
Glenn and Barb Hartley  
Robby and Trina Johnson  
Drs. Steve Dahm & Laurie Wolf-Dahm  
Drs. Greg Gill & Kathy Krohn-Gill

### Budget Publication 2023-24 Required Published Budget Summary Format

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified voters of the Merrill Area Common Public School District comprised of the City of Merrill, Towns of Birch, Corning, Harding, Harrison, Merrill, Pine River, Rock Falls, Russell, Schley, Scott and such parts of Ackley and Vilas as are in such district, that the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing of said district for the transaction of school business and the approval of the tax levy for the 2023-2024 school year will be held in the Merrill High School Auditorium (1201 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin – please enter the building at Door #16) on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. Detailed copies of the budget are on the MAPS website or available in the office of the Superintendent of Schools.

GENERAL FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	6,442,249.26	8,642,979.30	8,879,419.43
Ending Fund Balance	8,692,405.90	8,879,419.43	8,879,419.43
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>			
Transfers In (Source 100)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Local Sources (Source 200)	10,257,093.74	7,995,421.98	7,487,061.00
Inter district Payments (Source 300 + 400)	6,634,951.00	5,988,737.00	5,983,737.00
Intermediate Sources (Source 500)	337,622.15	247,328.95	379,904.00
State Sources (Source 600)	21,985,866.57	21,558,450.96	20,802,070.00
Federal Sources (Source 700)	2,199,022.37	2,205,151.21	2,962,873.85
All Other Sources (Source 800 + 900)	835,990.48	73,884.38	83,000.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>42,250,546.31</b>	<b>38,068,974.48</b>	<b>37,698,645.85</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>			
Instruction (Function 100 000)	17,393,756.13	16,004,679.56	14,687,888.98
Support Services (Function 200 000)	15,831,980.68	15,233,347.54	16,450,294.67
Non Program Transactions (Function 400 000)	6,774,652.86	6,594,507.25	6,560,462.20
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>40,000,389.67</b>	<b>37,832,534.35</b>	<b>37,698,645.85</b>

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	1,505,448.43	1,537,427.90	1,586,085.17
Ending Fund Balance	1,537,427.90	1,586,085.17	1,586,085.17
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>1,309,589.53</b>	<b>1,498,864.91</b>	<b>872,697.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>1,274,219.47</b>	<b>1,473,530.33</b>	<b>925,339.00</b>

DEBT SERVICE FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	79,794.15	59,524.40	59,524.40
Ending Fund Balance	59,099.40	59,949.40	59,524.40
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>1,154,560.87</b>	<b>111,350.38</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>1,175,255.62</b>	<b>110,925.38</b>	<b>0.00</b>

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	1,990,997.71	1,880,947.65	1,628,746.68
Ending Fund Balance	1,880,947.65	1,628,746.68	1,628,746.68
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>988.60</b>	<b>556,780.37</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>111,038.66</b>	<b>808,981.34</b>	<b>0.00</b>

FOOD SERVICE FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	307,410.47	535,546.49	485,309.48
Ending Fund Balance	535,546.49	485,309.48	447,601.48
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>1,561,242.72</b>	<b>1,286,615.05</b>	<b>1,168,350.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>1,333,106.70</b>	<b>1,336,852.06</b>	<b>1,206,058.00</b>

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	24,869.95	10,399.54	(31,298.02)
Ending Fund Balance	10,399.54	(31,298.02)	20,138.14
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>184,330.75</b>	<b>247,793.30</b>	<b>365,000.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>195,874.31</b>	<b>289,490.86</b>	<b>313,563.84</b>

PACKAGING & COOPERATIVE FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ending Fund Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES &amp; OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses**

ALL FUNDS	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
<b>GROSS TOTAL EXPENDITURES ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>44,089,884.43</b>	<b>41,852,314.32</b>	<b>40,143,606.69</b>
Interfund Transfers (Source 100) ALL FUNDS	3,529,602.06	3,689,156.16	3,504,644.10
Refinancing Expenditures (FUND 30)	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>40,560,282.37</b>	<b>38,163,158.16</b>	<b>36,638,962.59</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE INCREASE NET TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES FROM PRIOR YEAR</b>		<b>-5.91%</b>	<b>-3.99%</b>

**PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
General Fund	9,960,417.00	7,490,777.00	7,344,844.00
Referendum Debt Service Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non Referendum Debt Service Fund	546,603.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Expansion Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Community Service Fund	166,000.00	225,000.00	350,000.00
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL LEVY</b>	<b>10,673,020.00</b>	<b>7,715,777.00</b>	<b>7,446,011.00</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE INCREASE TOTAL LEVY FROM PRIOR YEAR</b>		<b>-27.71%</b>	<b>-3.50%</b>

## LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

7700

Legals

7700

Notice is hereby given that the following application has been filed with the City Clerk, Merrill, WI:  
**New Class B (Beer Only) Liquor License**  
 Smokehouse TX BBQ, LLC  
 722 E 2nd St  
 Merrill, WI 54452  
 Yareldi Gutierrez, Agent  
 License Period: Current licensing period through 06/30/2024.  
 Lori Anderson-Malm  
 City Clerk  
 Published Sept 7, 2023 WNAXLP

**Public Notice**  
 Opportunity Development Centers, Inc. (ODC) hereby provides notice that it intends to apply to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the following transportation projects under Section 5310 to serve seniors and individuals with disabilities in Lincoln County:  
 1 Van-rear loading ramp with the capacity for 3 ambulatory & 1 wheelchair.  
 Individuals or agencies wishing to comment or receive additional information about this application should contact Ann Lepak at 715.424.2712 or alepak@odcinc.com.  
 Formal comments or requests for additional information must be received in writing or by email 14 days after publication.  
 Published August 31, September 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2023 WNAXLP

**RAZE ORDER**  
 (Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §66.0413)  
 TO:  
**OWNER Nathaniel Fabbri**  
**Amanda Fabbri**  
**PROPERTY ADDRESS**  
 700 E 3rd Street  
 Merrill, WI 54452  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
 Land described as H. Streeter's Addition to the City of Merrill, Lot 6 and the west 1/2 of Lot 5, Block 8, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.  
 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Merrill, by its Building Inspector, hereby

declares that the building located on the above described property is old, dilapidated or out of repair and, consequently, dangerous, unsafe, unsanitary or otherwise unfit for human habitation and unreasonable to repair. **THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Owner of said buildings located on the above described property shall raze the buildings on or before **September 29, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.** To raze a building means to demolish and remove the building and to restore the site to a dust-free and erosion-free condition. If the buildings on the property described herein contains personal property or fixtures which will unreasonably interfere with the razing of the building or if the razing makes necessary the removal, sale or destruction of the personal property or fixtures, the City of Merrill Building Inspector hereby Orders the removal of the personal property or fixtures on or before **September 29 at 4:30 p.m.** PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, if the Owner fails or refuses to comply within the time prescribed herein, the City of Merrill Building Inspector or other designated officer may proceed to raze the buildings located on the above described property through any available public agency or by contract or arrangement with private persons or to secure the buildings and, if necessary, the property on which the buildings are located if unfit for human habitation, occupancy or use. The cost of razing or securing the buildings shall be charged in full against the real estate upon which the building is located and, if that cost is so charged, it shall be a lien upon the real estate and may be assessed and collected as a special tax. Any portion of the costs charged against the real estate that is not reimbursed under Wis. Stat. §632.103(2) from funds withheld from insurance settlement may be assessed and collected as a special tax.  
 City of Merrill  
 Published 8/24/23, 8/31/23 & 9/7/23  
 WNAXLP



The Boquist family held a lemonade stand and donated the proceeds to the Lincoln County Humane Society. The girls are shown here loving on some of the animals. "Thank you so much, girls!" shelter staff said. Submitted photo.

**TOWN OF MERRILL**  
 MERRILL, WISCONSIN

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**OPEN BOOK 2023 ASSESSMENT ROLL**  
 The Assessor will be at the Town of Merrill Community Center, W4594 Progress Avenue, on Monday, September 25, 2023 from 4:00 to 7:00 P.M.  
 Please bring your assessment notices. Time will be limited to 15 minutes for each person.

**NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW**  
 The Board of Review for the Town of Merrill will meet at the Town of Merrill Community Center, W4594 Progress Avenue, Monday, October 2, 2023 from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M.  
 Property owners wishing to make a formal objection to an assessed valuation must obtain an objection form from the Town Clerk and schedule an appointment 48 hrs. in advance of hearing. 715 536 4383.  
 The extensive Board of Review notice can be found on Town of Merrill website and Town Hall door.  
 Mitzi Flegner, Clerk  
 www.townofmerrill.net  
 RECYCLE

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Published August 24 & 31, & September 7, 2023 WNAXLP

**TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE**  
**SUNDAY, SEPT. 17<sup>TH</sup>**  
**AGRA PAVILION, MERRILL • 1-4 PM**

**HOLY CROSS SISTERS**  
**100 YEARS IN MERRILL**

**VISIT WITH THE SISTERS**

**DISPLAYS-LIVE MUSIC**  
**DOOR PRIZES-REFRESHMENTS**

# SC Swiderski breaks ground on new Alexander Estates complex

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

On Aug. 1, 2023, the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce and SC Swiderski (SCS) held a groundbreaking ceremony at 2015 Webster St. in Merrill, the location of the complex that will be known as Alexander Estates. (Webster St. was extended by the City of Merrill in preparation for this development and now connects Eugene St. and Alexander St., and the new complex will be located on this new street.)

Short formal ceremonies prior to the ceremonial groundbreaking included a

few words from special guests including Clyde Nelson, Executive Director of the Merrill Chamber, and Merrill Mayor Steve Haas. A large number of SCS employees involved in many phases of the project, along with Merrill City Council members, Merrill Chamber staff and ambassadors, team members from REI Engineering, representatives from County Land and Title and North Shore Bank, and special guest, Woody the Woodchuck from the Wausau Woodchucks Baseball Team, gathered along with neighbors from the area to learn more about the scope of the project.

Refreshments included donuts from Helene's Hilltop Orchard and Ana Blair's Coffee on the Go.

When completed, Alexander Estates will include nine multi-generational buildings in three different styles, featuring eight different floor plans. Some will be single level units, while others will be multi-level. All will rent at current market rates, and SCS is already starting a list for those interested in renting at the property. Rental rates will include heat, water, sewer, cable, Wi-Fi, trash pickup, lawn care, and snow removal. Altogether, the new complex will add 68 new units to help provide additional needed housing in Merrill.

Apartments will each feature a private entrance, attached or detached garage, private laundry, and patio or balcony. And, the apartment homes are pet friendly



A representative of SC Swiderski makes opening remarks at the ground-breaking event for Alexander Estates. Submitted photos.



Merrill Mayor Steve Haas speaks on behalf of the City of Merrill, thanking SC Swiderski for their ongoing commitment to the development of housing projects here in Merrill.

for cats and dogs and feature green space throughout the site, SCS representatives said.

As with the other three current communities in Merrill—SCS Merrill,

SCS Fox Point and Northside Estates—the Alexander Estates property will feature on-site management to address any tenant needs.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** to the qualified voters of the **Merrill Area Common Public School District** comprised of the City of Merrill, Towns of Birch, Coming, Harding, Harrison, Merrill, Pine River, Rock Falls, Russell, Schley, Scott and such parts of Ackley and Vilas as are in such district, that the **Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing** of said district for the transaction of school business and the approval of the tax levy for the 2023-2024 school year will be held in the **Merrill High School Auditorium** (1201 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin – please enter the building at Door #16) on **Monday, September 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.** Detailed copies of the budget are on our website, on file in the office of the Superintendent of Schools and at most Merrill financial institutions.

Published September 7 & 14, 2023 WNAXLP

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<b>Ham - Cubed</b> Fully Cooked - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY <b>99¢</b>	<b>Muenster Cheese</b> 6 lbs. ONLY <b>\$2.69</b> a lb.	<b>Snack Sticks</b> Ends & Pieces 16 oz. ONLY <b>\$3.99</b>
<b>Turkey Breast</b> Sliced Oven Roasted Frozen 32 oz. ONLY <b>\$2.69</b>	<b>Provolone Cheese - Smoked</b> 6 lbs. ONLY <b>\$2.29</b> a lb.	<b>Summer Sausage</b> Original 12 oz. ONLY <b>\$2.49</b>
<b>Bacon - Thick Cut</b> Applewood Smoked Frozen 16 oz. ONLY <b>\$2.89</b>	<b>Colby Jack Cheese</b> 5.5 lbs. ONLY <b>\$2.49</b> a lb.	<b>Smoked Sausage</b> w/Cheese - Frozen 6 lbs. ONLY <b>\$6.99</b>
<b>Sausage</b> Crumbles - Frozen Spicy Italian, Fully Cooked 5 lbs. ONLY <b>99¢</b> a lb.	<b>Cheddar Cheese</b> Sliced 16 oz. ONLY <b>\$1.69</b>	<b>Pork Sausage</b> Original - Frozen 12 oz. ONLY <b>99¢</b>
<b>Pork Loin Fillets</b> Assorted Flavors - Frozen ONLY <b>\$1.89</b> a lb.	<b>Butter Quarters</b> Unsalted 16 oz. ONLY <b>\$2.69</b>	<b>Angus Beef</b> Patties - Uncooked 5.33 oz patties - Frozen 10 lbs. ONLY <b>\$2.99</b> a lb.
<b>Smoked Sausage</b> w/Cheddar Cheese - Frozen 28 oz. ONLY <b>\$2.99</b>	<b>Butter Balls</b> Salted 8 oz. ONLY <b>\$1.49</b>	<b>Salmon Patties</b> Ready to Cook - Frozen ONLY <b>\$2.89</b> a lb.
<b>Hashbrown Patties</b> Frozen 22 oz. ONLY <b>\$1.29</b>	<b>String Cheese</b> Smoked 8 oz. ONLY <b>69¢</b>	<b>Ham Steak</b> Thick Cut - Frozen ONLY <b>\$1.29</b> a lb.
<b>Hot Pockets</b> 30 ct. Cheeseburger - Frozen 120 oz. ONLY <b>\$11.89</b>	<b>Ham - Cubed</b> Fully Cooked - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY <b>99¢</b>	<b>Hot Dogs Cheese</b> Uncured - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY <b>\$1.89</b>

*In-store ONLY. We reserve the right to limit quantities.*

## 2023 FALL MERRILL HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULE

<b>Boys Football (Varsity, JV, &amp; JV2)</b>			
Thurs. Sept. 7	Antigo (JV2)	Away	5:30 pm
Fri. Sept. 8	Antigo (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Mon. Sept. 11	Antigo (JV)	Away	5:30 pm
Thurs. Sept. 14	Lakeland Union (JV2)	Home	5:30 pm

<b>Girls Tennis (Varsity &amp; JV)</b>			
Fri. Sept. 8	Wausau West (Varsity)	Away	12:00 pm
Sat. Sept. 9	Wausau West (Varsity)	Away	9:00 am
Tues. Sept. 12	Stevens Point (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:00 pm
Thurs. Sept. 14	WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:00 pm

<b>Girls Swimming (Varsity &amp; JV)</b>			
Sat. Sept. 9	Lodi (Varsity)	Away	10:00 am
Thurs. Sept. 14	Wausau East (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:30 pm

<b>Girls Cross Country (Varsity &amp; JV)</b>			
Tues. Sept. 12	Gartzke Flowage (Varsity)	Away	5:45 pm

<b>Boys Cross Country (Varsity &amp; JV)</b>			
Sat. Sept. 9	Standing Rock (JV)	Away	10:40 am
Sat. Sept. 9	Standing Rock (Varsity)	Away	11:50 am
Tues. Sept. 12	Gartzke Flowage (Varsity)	Away	5:00 pm

<b>Girls Volleyball (Varsity, JV, &amp; JV2)</b>			
Thurs. Sept. 7	Marshfield (JV & JV2)	Away	5:30 pm
Thurs. Sept. 7	Marshfield (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Sat. Sept. 9	Multiple Schools (Varsity & JV)	Home	9:00 am
Thurs. Sept. 14	Wausau East (JV & JV2)	Home	5:30 pm
Thurs. Sept. 14	Wausau East (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm

<b>Boys Soccer (Varsity &amp; JV)</b>			
Thurs. Sept. 7	Marshfield (JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Thurs. Sept. 7	Marshfield (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Mon. Sept. 11	Three Lakes (Varsity)	Home	5:00 pm
Thurs. Sept. 14	D. C. Everest (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. Sept. 14	D. C. Everest (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm

*The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:*

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### KINDHEARTED from page 1

Services are also available for area children with physical and/or intellectual disabilities. "In 2013, we changed our program description to have an intergenerational environment," Goetsch said.

In addition, Kindhearted offers in-home services to many clients in the Merrill area community. "Our supportive home care companion/homemaker services assist/allow our clients to remain living in their homes," Goetsch said, for clients who need both short-term and long-term care.

Kindhearted Home Care initially began as a business to provide supportive home care services, and they continue these services as the foundation of their business today.

Those in-home care services include post-operative assistance, respite care so family members can take a break, personal care and dressing assistance, meal planning and preparation, laundry and ironing, housekeeping, shopping and running errands, coordinating and scheduling appointments, and providing supportive companionship.

In working with clients over the years, Goetsch identified additional needs within the community and set out to meet those needs. That ultimately resulted in construction of the adult social center building at 120 S. Mill St. in Merrill. "In 2016, we built a new center to incorporate all our services under one roof," Goetsch said. "We also added a Health & Fitness Center [that is] open to the public. This gives community members a place to improve their strength, balance, and stability in a clean, friendly, and comfortable environment with cardio and strengthening equipment."

"We also have a barrier-free shower room, so if you or a loved one are concerned with safety while showering or if



Kindhearted clients enjoy music time at the adult day care center. Photo courtesy of Kindhearted Home Care.



The health and fitness center is open to the public. Contact Kindhearted to learn more.

your shower/tub is no longer accessible to your needs, we can help with either stand-by or full assistance," Goetsch said.

In addition, Kindhearted provides toenail care for those who are not diabetic, with a pre-assessment.

Goetsch and the Kindhearted staff don't just provide services to their clients; they provide those services with care and compassion and develop real relationships with the people they serve and their families. "We take care of people," Goetsch said.

"I look back over the years of more than 1,000 clients and families I have met with, and we served in this community," Goetsch said. "They all have a story."

"I have laughed, cried, and mourned the loss of their

loved ones," she said. "I have met people that I will cherish forever and call friends."

Goetsch and her staff provide tangible assistance with client's physical needs, but they do much more than that. They are "making a difference in the ordinary, everyday life of a person" and they experience that difference through the "smiles, joys, tears of gratefulness from a client/participant and their family members."

"We love what we do," Goetsch said, speaking for herself and her staff. "Helping all our clients/participants and community is what keeps us motivated."

"Because of what we do at Kindhearted Home Care, we are making a positive difference in the community, and that is our success."

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- DAY 4:**  
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• Visit Dingle  
• Return to Limerick

- DAY 5:**  
**LIMERICK**  
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• Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the locals
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• Visit Kilkenny Castle  
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**CELEBRATION** *from page 1*

the food stands were also open for the occasion, providing for great food and great fundraising opportunities for those local organizations whose volunteers were working in the stands.

And it looks like a good time was had by all who attended, despite the heat!



**20<sup>th</sup> year - Merrill Flea Market and Craft Show**  
 at The Merrill Enrichment Center 303 N Sales St. Merrill, WI.  
 Sat. Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> from 8am-3pm.  
 Contact person Jody Malsack at joendjody@charter.net  
 or 715-536-5266.

Food Available 10am-3pm

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 SEPT. 19TH - TACO SALAD (CHICKEN OR GROUND BEEF)  
 Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
 SEPT. 8TH - WALLEYE  
 SEPT. 15TH - CATFISH  
 Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM  
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Joseph Frederick photos.

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# THE GLEASON CORNER

## Gleason Mennonite Church welcomes visitors

BY TINA L. SCOTT, EDITOR

The Gleason Mennonite Church began in January 2001 as an outreach of the Athens Mennonite Church. Andrew Wissell and his family lived in the Gleason area and traveled to Athens to worship with their Brethren, so when the Athens Mennonite Church began looking for a place to establish another church, Wissell suggested Gleason. "[The Wissells] were instrumental as to why we picked Gleason as a place to go," said Jonathan Martin, Bishop of the Gleason Mennonite Church.

Six men—Luke Martin, Jonathan Martin, Jonathan Showalter, Aaron Scarce, Mervin Brubaker, and Burdette Weirich—and their families came from Athens to begin and establish the Gleason Mennonite Church and community under the direction of the Bishop of the Athens church. Luke Martin was the new congregation's first pastor.

The families purchased land and homes, established businesses, and planted roots that have grown deep in the community. Additional leadership was ordained in Gleason, and in 2009, Jonathan Martin was ordained as Bishop. Thus the Athens Mennonite Church became their "sister" church rather than a "parent" church.

Today the Gleason Mennonite Church is its own entity, with Jonathan Martin as its Bishop; three additional ministers—Luke Martin, Elwood Derstine, and Nathaniel See; and a Deacon—Jonathan Showalter. The church is a part of the Nationwide Fellowship of Mennonites here in the United States, and they are one of many Mennonite and Anabaptist churches and communities throughout the world.

The Gleason Mennonite Church is developing outreach churches of its own, including one in Polar, Wis. (established in 2018) and two in Uganda (East Africa). Jonathan Martin is also currently assisting as Bishop of the Mennonite church in Augusta, Wis.

The Mennonite church, as a whole, and the Gleason Mennonite Church are also very involved in missionary work. Outsiders might think the Gleason Mennonite community to be a small, rather isolated community, but they are actually actively involved with other Mennonite communities across the nation. Their youth attend camps and Bible schools in other states, are involved in mission work, and develop friendships far beyond central Wisconsin, including internationally.

### A quick primer on the Gleason Mennonite Church: The faith

The Gleason Mennonite Church is a Christian faith community that devoutly adheres to the teachings of the Bible, using the King James Version for worship and preaching, and they baptize youth or adults when they themselves make

the decision to become believers/members and to actively practice the faith. They believe in a two-kingdom concept: There is God's kingdom, and there is the devil's kingdom, and each person must choose which kingdom they will serve. Mennonites firmly believe they will serve God and His kingdom.

During worship, the men sit in pews on one side of the church and the women on the other. Sunday morning worship services are two hours and include Bible study and 40-minute Sunday School for the children, interactive discussions about the teaching of the week among the men, singing (no instruments), scripture readings, and preaching/teaching. Afterwards, another hour is filled with lively conversation and visiting for all. After that, it is home for dinner where many are likely to be hosting other members for more visiting.

Except on the first and third Sundays of the month, there are also Sunday evening services, one of which is a singing service and the other is a topic evening, on a topic selected by one of the Brethren. There are no Bible studies/catechism at those services. On Wednesday evenings, except on the fourth Wednesday of the month, they also have a prayer meeting. Children attend all services with their parents.

The men and women refer to each other as Brothers and Sisters. The church celebrates communion twice a year in special services dedicated to communion and makes careful, earnest preparations in advance of these occasions.

### Visitors are welcome

One might think all Mennonites are born into the faith/community, but the Gleason Mennonite Church welcomes visitors to come to their worship services, and some visitors do later become members.

All are welcome to attend and visit, regardless of ideology. Visitors will be warmly welcomed, treated with respect, and likely invited to dinner afterward, Jonathan Martin said. As Bishop, he is happy to answer questions about the Mennonite faith, traditions, culture, and lifestyle.

However, while the Mennonites love everyone, they do disagree with many emerging social ideologies and believe individuals are responsible for reconciling their sinful behaviors, whatever that may be, with God, so joining the faith requires reconciling any sinful behaviors and adhering to the tenets of the Mennonite faith as a part of becoming a member.

[Stay tuned to the Gleason Page to learn more about the Gleason Mennonite culture and community in a future edition.]



Singing and harmonizing are important parts of the Mennonite worship service. Tina L. Scott photo



Gleason Mennonite Church interior worship space. Tina L. Scott photo

**Gleason Mennonite Church**  
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For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.  
Matthew 18:20

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# Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT Guide



## Keep Your Home Cozy in Cool Weather With These Upgrades



(StatePoint) When the temperatures drop and the precipitation turns cold, efficiently keeping your home cozy and warm is likely a top priority.

As you make home upgrades this fall, be sure to use materials designed to withstand extreme weather events and which help manage indoor climate control. Doing so will mean greater comfort and more affordable energy bills, not only when it's cold, but all year long.

### Roofing

As your first defense against all kinds of weather, your roof sustains a lot of wear and tear. Consider prioritizing durability, strength and weather resistance in a new roof by opting for metal. The good news? You can get a classic appearance with this material, thanks to updates in roofing technology. For example, the energy-saving metal roofing offered by ProVia has the textured appearance of natural slate or shake shingles, but is constructed of highly durable 26-gauge steel, for added strength and lifetime protection from wind, rain, hail and corrosion.

### Siding

Is your home is ever drafty or chilly when the temperatures drop and the wind kicks up? The culprit may be insufficient insulation. Keep in mind that most wall

insulation is placed only between the studs, and wall studs make up to 25% of the wall surface of an average home. You can fill in these insulation gaps with insulated vinyl siding that's been tested and proven to increase the R-value (a measure of a material's resistance to heat flow) of an exterior wall. One of the most energy-efficient exterior claddings on the market, CedarMAX insulated vinyl siding is one such choice that can help reduce your energy bills. Plus, its strong, rigid foam backing offers greater impact resistance against rain, hail, sleet and snow, making a siding upgrade a good project to consider before the first winter storm.

### Windows

Windows are a common point of heat transfer, and as such, they play a huge role in the comfort of your home. It's not often that you have to purchase windows for your home, but when you do, you'll want to ensure that they deliver the best in energy efficiency and comfort. ProVia's vinyl windows, for example, are ENERGY STAR-certified, to help keep your home warm in winter (and cool in summer).

### Interior Décor

You may not think about your interior decorating choices as something that

See UPGRADES page 13

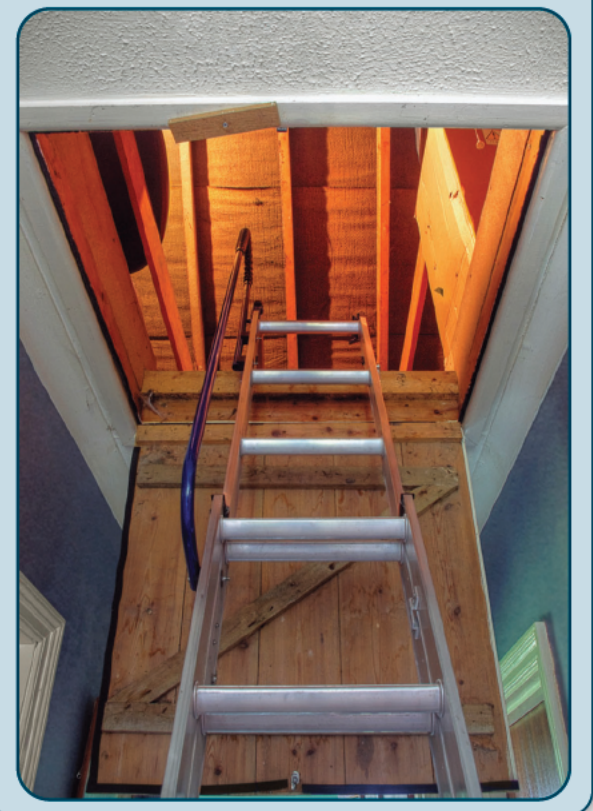
## Turn your attic into livable space

Houses typically feature various areas that are traditionally designed for storage, such as garages, basements and attics. However, with some renovation, these spaces can be transformed into livable areas.

Homeowners who would like to convert attics into livable spaces need to take certain things into consideration before starting an improvement project. While the attic may seem like it has plenty of room and is structurally sound enough to walk in, that's not necessarily so. To be converted into usable living space, an attic must be brought up to the standards of modern building codes, according to the design experts at Board & Vellum. Retrofitting beams and insulation can eat up available space in an attic. Thus, it is best to consult an expert to see if an attic can be converted.

Furthermore, an attic that was not initially designed as a room when the house was built can add extra "load" upstairs if it is converted. That could

See SPACE page 14



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# Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT Guide



## Prepping for a Paint Job

One of the best ways to improve your home's curb appeal is a fresh coat of paint. Here are some helpful tips to prepare your home's exterior for a beautiful and durable finish:

- 1. Clean Exterior Surfaces** - Use a hose and scrub brush or pressure washer with detergent solution to wash the home exterior. To combat mildew, use a mildewcide or a solution of one part household bleach to three parts water. Rinse after cleaning.
- 2. Scrape & Sand** - Scrape away any paint that is flaking. Surfaces that aren't flaking should be sanded.
- 3. Repair Rotting Wood or Surface Damage** - Replace or repair any rotting wood with an exterior surface repair compound. Once the compound has dried, sand the surface.

- 4. Replace Caulk** - Remove and replace old caulk and putty from around windows, sills, doors and trim.
- 5. Protect Surrounding Areas** - Use drop cloths to cover nearby cars, gardens, decks, patios, outdoor furniture, etc.
- 6. Prime Any Bare Wood** - Use a primer to protect and prep any unpainted surfaces where repairs have been made. A primer should also be used when painting over a dark or bright surface with a light color.



## Choosing a Paint Finish

Use these tips to help choose the smartest sheen for your home:

### High Gloss

Rich in color and easy to clean, this finish is a popular choice for doors, shutters and high-touch surfaces. Its highly reflective quality makes imperfections more visible, so it takes skill to apply and may not be the best choice for older homes or surfaces that are not in good condition.

### Satin

This low-luster finish, also known as eggshell, has a slight gloss that aids surface cleaning and helps camouflage imperfections, making it a popular choice for exterior siding and brick.

### Flat

Flat or matte finishes help hide imperfections because they have no luster, but may require more effort to clean and maintain.

### Semigloss

A popular choice for trim, this easy-to-clean finish is durable and resistant to moisture and has a less reflective sheen than a high-gloss finish.

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The ideal temperature window for painting is between 50° and 80° fahrenheit. Remember that high winds could throw a wrench into your project timeline. Heavy rain or high humidity can cause blistering if the newly painted surface hasn't dried completely. Avoid painting in direct sunlight.

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# Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT Guide



## How to prepare a fireplace for the winter



As hours of daylight shorten and fall gives way to winter, thoughts shift from fall foliage to spending time cuddling under warm blankets and being cozy indoors. A fireplace can improve the ambiance of any room and help to create a warm and welcoming gathering spot.

Home fireplaces typically are wood-burning or gas. Though maintenance for these fireplaces differs, certain preparatory steps must be taken to prepare a fireplace for winter.

### Clear the clutter

Items can accumulate in areas that are not in use, and a fireplace is no exception. Take

a few hours to remove any belongings from in front of the fireplace and clean the mantle thoroughly.

### Have the chimney cleaned

Hire a professional chimney cleaning company to inspect the chimney and clean it thoroughly before winter. According to BobVila.com, a chimney should be cleaned once a year, or after about every 80 fires. The National Fire Protection Association says failure to properly clean chimneys is one of the leading contributors to home fires. That's

See FIREPLACE page 14

### UPGRADES from page 11

could potentially improve your home's energy efficiency, but many such updates will not only make your home look more cozy, they'll actually help keep it warm. Thick area rugs are a good place to start, as they provide insulation underfoot. Likewise, cellular shades or Roman shades can help stop heat transfer around win-

dows, and wall tapestries or fabric-like wallpaper can provide a touch more insulation on walls.

To learn more about building and renovating with comfort and energy savings in mind, visit [provia.com](http://provia.com).

By selecting the right products during a renovation, you can prepare your home for greater comfort and energy savings in cool weather.

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# Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT Guide



FIREPLACE from page 13

due to creosote, a highly flammable residue that builds up in the flue that lines the chimney.

### Inspect the interior

The interior of a wood-burning fireplace is likely lined with fire bricks. Check for cracks and loose joints. Hire a professional mason to make any repairs, as special materials are needed to withstand the heat of fires.

### Install a chimney cap and screen

According to Family Handyman, a chimney cap is a protective covering that goes over the top of the chimney. It is made of steel or copper mesh with a cap on top. This protects the chimney from rain and downdrafts and keeps animals and debris from getting into the chimney.

### Prune overhanging branches

If there are trees close to the home and the chimney, cut them back, as they can be a fire hazard. Branches and leaves also can restrict the proper draft of the chimney.

### Assess the outdoor vent

Gas fireplaces typically emit exhaust through a vent in the home. Remove any blockages from the vent, including leaves, cobwebs and debris.

### Check glass or other coverings

The glass or face of the fireplace helps regulate carbon monoxide exposure and protects people from the flames. Be sure the glass covering is intact.

### Clean ceramic logs

Gas fireplaces use ceramic logs, rocks or beads that can become dusty. Clean them prior to use. Dirty ceramic logs can be a fire hazard and produce an unpleasant burning smell.

### Check the blower and pilot

If the fireplace has an electric blower, clean and dust it so it doesn't become clogged. Inspect the pilot light for any wear and tear that includes wiring or structural issues.

It takes several steps to prepare fireplaces for cold weather seasons when they're most likely to be used with frequency.

SPACE from page 11

present certain structural problems. That means a structural engineer also must be consulted to see if adding beams, flooring and drywall will necessitate other changes elsewhere in the home to accommodate the extra load.

In order to have a functional attic room, building codes will dictate that it needs to be accessible by a full-size staircase. Also, it will need to have another exit in case of an emergency so that will likely be an accessible window, according to the home information site The Fill. Homeowner's budgets and renovation plans will need to factor into these considerations. Homeowners also are advised to check local permits to determine what else may be required to go forward. It is best to follow the rules. Lack of a permit for work can affect the ability to sell a

home down the line.

Individuals also should plan for heating and cooling upgrades as the home will need to have ductwork installed in the attic, or at the least, a stand-alone heating and cooling unit. As heat rises, it can get quite warm in an attic, so ventilation and comfort should be considered. The attic will need to be wired for electricity for lighting and other needs. Air sealing and additional insulation can the attic space more comfortable as well. Consult with a qualified electrician and an HVAC technician and have an energy audit done to discuss needs.

Attic renovations can give homeowners more space in their homes, which can be used as offices, bedrooms or cozy corners. This is no small undertaking and all of the right steps need to be followed to ensure a legal, safe and successful renovation.

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**CAVAPOO Pups** ready now; also 2 Toy Poodle pups, & 5 miniature Golden Retriever pups. \$500-\$800. Vaccinated, wormed, health guarantee, delivery part way. Call or text 715-850-1933.

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**Dogs 7272**  
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**GOLDENDOODLE PUPPIES** Your New Best Friend awaits! **\$450 715-267-6470**

**GOLDENDOODLE PUPS** 7-12 weeks old, \$500-\$800 Cute! Socialized! Call **715-409-0533**

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**POMERANIAN PUPS** Family Raised. Unique Colors. No Sunday Calls **715-512-0824**

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**MOYEN GOLDENDOODLES** Light-Dark Golden with white markings. Shots/Wormed/ Dewes Removed/Vet Checked. Family Raised. Can Deliver. Ready Soon. \$550-\$750 **715-721-0246**

**MOYEN GOLDENDOODLES** Shots/Wormed/Dewes Removed/Vet Checked. Can Deliver. Ready Soon. \$550-\$750 **715-721-0246**

**Purebred Golden Retriever pups** dewormed, shots, vetchecked. **\$450 CASH ONLY Greenwood WI 715-267-6306**

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**12 Ton Catepillar Trailer** or Round Hay Bails, 22ft tilt bed, dual tandem, pinto hitch, \$2,500 Cash, **830 Case Tractor** \$5,000 Cash, **920-470-5080**

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**Online Bidding Ends Thursday, September 14th**  
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**2720 Glen Dr, Merrill • \$219,900**  
2 car attached Garage entry on the mid-level with half bath and laundry. Main level is spacious including 3 bedrooms, Dining area with patio doors to a side yard deck, and pantry in the kitchen. Finished basement. Pretty area across from the Wisconsin River.

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**601 Division St, Merrill • \$184,900**  
Amazingly large garage is steps away from the entry into the mudroom. Large kitchen with new appliances. Main level laundry, full Bath, and bedroom. Upper level family area, 2 bedrooms and bath. A charmer with much of the old style woodwork. New metal roof, vinyl siding, much new electrical, new vinyl plank flooring, newly painted, and modern furnace.

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**September 13-15, 2023**  
CLARK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS - Neillsville, WI

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY:**  
8:30 a.m. Small Items  
11 a.m. Buggies & Equipment

**THURSDAY:**  
8:30 a.m. Outside Lot of Misc. Merchandise, Harnesses  
10:00 a.m. Draft Horses  
2:00 p.m. Craft & Furniture Auction

**FRIDAY:**  
8:30 a.m. Collars, followed by the Tack Sale  
10:30 a.m. Standard bred  
5:00 p.m. Saddle Horses, Ponies & Mules (2nd ring)

**CHECK-IN TIMES:**  
Monday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Tuesday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**DRAFT HORSE CONSIGNMENT FEE: \$20**  
**NO SHOW FEE: \$100**

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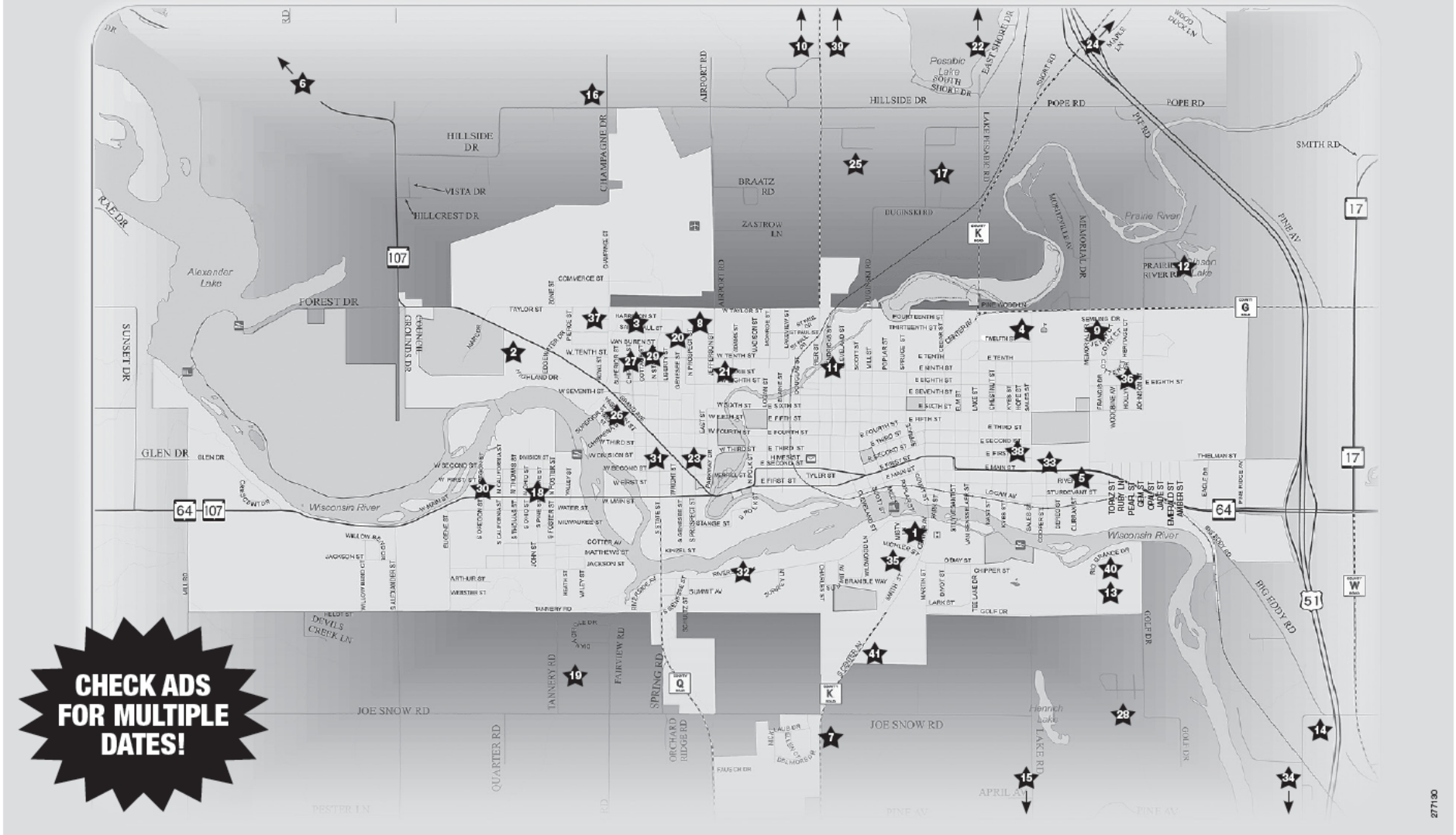
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# Merrill Citywide Rummage Sales Saturday, Sept. 9th

## Check our Classified Section for even more sales.



- | City Wide Rummage Sale   | 7000 |
|--|------|
| <b>01. 1102 Michler Crest.</b> Sept. 8th 8:30-5:00, Sept. 9th 9:00-2:00. Household items, decor, women's and Junior clothing, kid's toys, daybed, fire table with chairs and much more. Items priced to sell!  |      |
| <b>02. 906 Rock Ridge Ct.</b> Apt 11 Merrill. HUGE Sale! Household! BINS! Baby-Adult! Christmas-Fall-Toys-DVDs-Lemonade 10am-7pm FIRM! Fri. & Sat, One time only!  |      |
| <b>03. 1300 North State St.</b> LOTS TO SEE!! Girls name brand clothes. Guy Stuff Tools, Furs, Hunting Equipment, TONS of CD's & DVD's. Sept 8th & 9th • 9A-4P   |      |
| <b>04. 1204 N. Sales St.</b> Christ Ev. Lutheran Church, Sat. 9/9 • 8AM-2PM, FREE clothing & more. FREE food & water. FREE restrooms for visitors. Freewill donations will be given to the Merrill Food Pantry. Doors open rain or shine. Find us across the street from Merrill High School.  |      |
| <b>05. 2204 River Street,</b> Saturday Sept. 9, 8am-3pm, household items, household decor, furniture & toys.   |      |
| <b>06. W7247 Straight Pine Rd.</b> Go N of Merrill on Hwy 107 to River Rd. turn left on River Rd. Garage Sale Fri. & Sat. Sept. 8 & 9 8-4. Collectables, Automotive, Sporting Goods, Household Items, Pet Products, and much more.   |      |
| <b>07. Household Sale- 1 mi. South of Hospital - Hwy K @ Freedom Storage.</b> Tablecloths, Christmas & Home Decor, Dishes, Pots, Pans, Roasters, Casserole dishes, Very little clothing. You name it, we got it. Sept 9th • 8A-4P  |      |
| <b>08. 301 W. Taylor St.</b> Across from Airport. Fri & Sat • 9AM-4PM. Outdoor fireplace, Chest Freezer, Microwave, Yard fountain, Wood & Glass coffee table, Good seasonal decor items, Tools & Misc.   |      |
| <b>09. 2403 Semling Drive.</b> Back to school supplies, various sizes of men's, women's, children's, pre-teen's clothes & shoes, movies, books, kitchen items, seasonal decorations, & many miscellaneous items. Fri & Sat, Sept 8-9 • 8 a.m.-4 p.m  |      |
| <b>10. N6680 Schooley Rd, Irma.</b> 8A-6P • Thur-Sat Multi-Family Rummage Sale. Tools, Women's clothes, Building Supplies, Boat, Household, Hunting supplies.  |      |
| <b>11. 506 E 9th St.,</b> Men's XL clothing, Women's clothing & Accessories. Kitchen & household items. Books, holiday items & Misc. Fri. & Sat. Sept. 8th & 9th, 8-4:30.  |      |
| <b>12. N2188 Gibson Lake Dr.,</b> Friday 1-4, Saturday 8-4. Family Sale - Girls clothes 4T-12, shoes, toys, kitchen items, women's shoes/clothes M-L.  |      |
| <b>13. 707 Rio Grande Dr.</b> Saturday Only! 8 AM - 4 PM. Hunting & Snowmobile/Clothing & Gear, Tools and Misc.  |      |
| <b>14. N1310 Center Rd, Merrill.</b> Fri & Sat, 9-5, Fishing Poles & Gear, Boys Clothes (12T-Medium), Name Brand Clothing Mens & Womens (M-XXL), Shoes, Household Items, Glassware, Movies, Toys, Games.   |      |
| <b>15. W4795 Creek Ave.</b> (Off lake Rd, south of town). Thur-Sat. Sep 7-9 • 7A-5P. Clothes, Toys, Hats, Games, Household, Decor, Stuffed animals, Shoes.   |      |
| <b>16. W5706 Hillside Dr.</b> Sept 9 • 8:30A-4P. Stock Pile Trek women's bike, Jeffie Propane Ice Auger, NuWave Air fryer, Croc pots, Dehydrator, Kids snow pants, boots, Teens, Womens, Men clothes, Lether jackets. Too many things to mention.  |      |
| <b>17. N2395 Gen Dr.,</b> just north of Merrill. Hello, Early Birds! Sat., Sept. 9 • 6am to 6pm! Holiday decor, Household items, clothing for all seasons, miscellaneous treasures! ALL PRICED TO SELL!  |      |
| <b>18. 201 N Pine Street.</b> Saturday Only! 8-1. Random house supplies, kitchen appliances, pots & pans, some dog items, furniture, lamps & TV stand.   |      |
| <b>19. N1424 Tannery Rd.</b> Multi Family Sale! Thurs. 3:30-6, Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-5. Lots of items including Clothes (Women's, Men's, Kid's), Toys (Barbies, Nerf Guns, Games, etc.), Household Goods, Wood Stove, Gardening, and so much more. Come check us out!   |      |
| <b>20. 1009 N Genesee F-S-S, 9-7.</b> New Med. Leather Chaps, Antique Wood Bed Frame, Handmade Quilts, Jewelry, Most Books 25¢, Hardcover/Westerns 50¢, More.  |      |
| <b>21. 903 Adam St.</b> Thurs. Sept. 7 thru Sat. Sept. 9, 9am-5pm. Twin box spring mattress 3 years old, like new rollaway cot, like new car seat booster seat, Kid's clothing, chair, tools.  |      |
| <b>22. N2767 E Shore Dr.</b> Fri. 9/8-Sat. 9/9, 8am-4pm. Household items, yard tools, some antiques, over 50 single use puzzles, square dance dresses, fishing lures.  |      |
| <b>23. 303 N. Prospect St.</b> Wed-Sun • 7A-4P. Variety of things, Holiday decor, Collection of records, Cookbooks, Adult & Kids books, VHS, Clothes, Tools, Housewares.   |      |
| <b>24. W4509 Hwy C.</b> Rain or Shine, Indoor Sale. Fri./Sat. 8-5. Outdoor motors, canoe, growing supplies, fans, cash register, musical equipment, furniture, lots of Free and 99¢ items.   |      |
| <b>25. W5231 Pa Tray Ln.</b> Thursday 5-7pm, Friday & Saturday 8am-4pm. Furniture, Treadmill, Household Misc. & Clothing Men's & Women's Medium- X Large.  |      |
| <b>26. 613 Wisconsin Street.</b> Thursday Noon-4pm. Friday & Saturday 8am-4pm. Lots of books, Original oil paintings, Women's & Men's clothing, Household Misc.  |      |
| <b>27. 802 W 10th St.</b> Garage-Estate Sale. Furniture, Antiques, Kitchen items, Glassware, Pictures, Tools, Books, Adult & Teenage boy's Clothes, TV, Electronics, X-mas & Household decor and so much more. Fri. 8/8, 9-4, Sat. 8/9, 8-3.   |      |
| <b>28. 1311 N Golf Drive.</b> Sept. 7&8-Thurs.-Fri 8-5pm, Sept. 9 - Sat. 8-10am. Queen bedroom set, Twin bed frame, end table, 4 bar stools, tv, Snowblower, bikes, Robot Roomba, security gates, baby swing, baby playmat, microwaves, Nesco Roaster, pictures, Loads of Fall-Christmas decor, Christmas tree, wreaths, patio seat cushions, moving blankets, bedding, throw pillows, queen mattress topper, pet supplies, women-men's clothing, winter coats, winter boots, shoes, jewelry, movies, books. |      |
| <b>29. 1002 N State.</b> 9/8 9-3, 9/9 9-4, 9/10 8-3. Boy sale 9m-2T name brand, plus size woman's clothes dressy and casual, decor, Men's Big and Tall, name brand.  |      |
| <b>30. 206 N. Oregon St.</b> 9:00-4:00. Multi Family Sale. Women's clothes, Books, Office Supplies, Educational materials, Household items, Games, Puzzles, Bedding & Much More!   |      |
| <b>31. 301 N. State St.,</b> Sat. Only! 8:30-4:15. Radial Arm Saw, Wedding decorations. Romance books, craft books, craft supplies, purses, tote bags, New Avon, vintage Avon perfumes, giftable items, men's 34" waist jeans, shoes, collectables, houseplants, cookie jars, coffee makers, glass wear, X-mas decorations, many misc. items - 15 tables to shop from. Some free items.  |      |
| <b>32. 200 W Riverside Ave.</b> Sat. 8-5. Chest dresser, accent furniture, vintage items, asst'd Holiday decor, asst'd good condition carpentry tools, 4X6 cat cage.   |      |
| <b>33. 2210 E Main St</b> Sept 9 9A-3P. New S.S. WI Fire ring, Wooden sled, Trek kids trailer, Oak chairs & bar stools, 10" Craftsman compound miter saw, Steel trailer.   |      |
| <b>34. N822 Majestic Ln.</b> (3 miles South of the Dollar Tree) Sept. 6-9, 8 00-5:00. Something for everyone. Grill, Lawnmower, camping, tools, electronics, decorations, fishing gear.  |      |
| <b>35. 1103 Michler Crest</b> Friday Sept 8, Saturday Sept 9. 8:00-4:30 PM. Name Brand clothing Women's, Men's, Girls, Boys, Toys, Winter coats, Boots, Handbags, Silver jewelry, Barstools, Fire pit ring, Adirondak chairs, Garden fencing, Lamps, Ice auger, Linens, Fine art, Area rug, DVD's, So Much More.   |      |
| <b>36. 805 Hollywood Dr.</b> Fri. 10-4 & Sat 8-3 Multi Family Sale! Lots of children's items, clothing, crafting and general household items. All items priced to go!  |      |
| <b>37. 1105 Harrison St.</b> Sept 8, 8-3; Sept 9, 8-12. Childrens clothes: Girls NB to 3T, Boys NB to 2T, Household items, New Papparazzi Jewelry all \$2, Other Misc.   |      |
| <b>38. 1810 East 1st Street.</b> Sept. 6-10, 8-5. Tools, women's & men's clothing, household items, Jacuzzi, lawn furniture, decorations, audio & video equipment, office furniture & more.  |      |
| <b>39. W5401 ROW RD</b> 5-Families! Thursday - Saturday 8am - 5pm Rain or Shine Teen, Women's & Men's name brand clothing, toys, Nintendo DS, DVDs, Books, Crafts, Scrapbooking, household items, decor, electronics, sports gear, furniture, trek bike, Harley clothing & lea her, Wood working tools, router, drills, grinders, nail guns, stain, saws, Fishing equipment, goose decoys, Trail cameras, UTV tires, gym equipment, and so much more!!   |      |
| <b>40. 2501 Rio Grande Dr.</b> Sept. 7-9 Thurs.-Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-2. Dining table & chairs, full size foldable crib with mattress, high chair, baby gate, umbrella stroller, end tables, dehumidifier, laundry sorter, household misc.  |      |
| <b>41. 1001 South Center Ave.</b> Thursday - Sunday, 8-5. Something for everyone!  |      |

**To Advertise Call**  
715-536-7121

**MORE RUMMAGE SALES THIS WEEK**

Rummage Sales This Week	7200
<b>Rummage Sale 208 N Prospect Street,</b> Thurs-Sat, 8-3. Clothing, Home Decor, Crafts, Tools, Black Bear Items, Antiques and Much More!	
<b>TOMAHAWK- 402 Pine Ridge Lane.</b> Big Sale Sept. 8 & 9, 9-5. Big Sale- duck decoys, hunting items, women's Harley riding boots, holiday items, kids thru adult 3X clothing & more.	
<b>TOMAHAWK- 9690 Rocky Rd,</b> on Cty. L, Lake Nokomis. Sept. 8, 9, 10, 9-5. Variety of girls', women's, men's new & clean summer/winter clothing; some baby girl clothes; lots of shoes & misc. items.	
<b>Wausau: 236611 N. 128th Ave.</b> FRI 9/8 thru SUN 9/10, 8a-6p. Tools, hardware, insulation, siding & soffit, roofing materials, housewares, tractor items, canning supplies, Christmas decor, costume jewelry.	

Rummage Sales Upcoming	7202
<b>GARAGE SALE KITS NOW AVAILABLE!</b> Let Garage Sale Gail help you with your next sale! <b>Kit Includes:</b> • 2 garage sale signs • 140 pricing stickers • 3 balloons • 1 pen • 1 inventory sheet • How to have a successful garage sale pamphlet • 1 coupon for \$5 off your NEXT classified ad! <b>ONLY \$5.00 PER KIT! *</b> * With the purchase of a classified ad. <b>Available at Merrill Foto News</b> 2011 E. Main St., Merrill	

# Merrill Citywide Rummage Sales Saturday, Sept. 9th



# 2023 FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

**HEAD COACH:** Alyssa Swan, 6 years as Head Coach  
**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Heath Seefeld, Ethan Schneider  
**2022 RECORD:** 7th for boys and girls at the Wisconsin Valley Conference Meet

**KEY RETURNERS:** Girls – Brooklyn Kraegenbrink, Amber Radtke, Danielle Schielke, Gracie Vanvuren, Robin Schmidt; Boys – Kaden Schwandt, Tony Countryman, Parker Klebenow, Jonathan Myszka, Brady Eggebrecht, Treg Knospe, Jacob Mueller

**KEY LOSSES:** Girls – Madison Crossman, BreannonHerd, Olivia Bares, Lily Grefe; Boys – Elliot Hanson, Logan Knospe, Caleb Norton, Ian Schuetze

**KEY NEWCOMERS:** Erik Grunewald (Freshman), Norah Schmidt (Sophomore), Charlotte Van Der Nest (Freshman)

**2022 RECAP:** We had a rewarding season in terms of PR (personal records) made on the team. The athletes put in a lot of work during the cross country season and they saw steady improvement as the season went on. There were multiple tough races that challenged my athletes, but they were always ready for the challenge.

**2023 OUTLOOK:** We are focusing on making easy days easy and hard days hard while incorporating strength into our training. The team is up for the challenge and ready to cheer each other on.

## CROSS COUNTRY



Frontrow, L to R: Gracie Van Buren, Charlotte Van Der Nest, Norah Schmidt, Danielle Schielke, Mia Smith, Amber Radtke, and Robin Schmidt. Back row, L to R: Kaden Schwandt, Jacob Mueller, Treg Knospe, Tony Countryman, Jonathan Myszka, Brady Eggebrecht, Parker Klebenow, and Erik Grunewald. Missing from photo: Brooklyn Kraegenbrink. Submitted photo.

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** The Cross Country Team has always been a family that supports each other through thick and thin and nothing has changed this year. The team

isn't as large as I would have hoped for, but I have some of the best athletes out there: kind, willing to take on challenging workouts, and who are always there for each other.



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# FOOTBALL

## JAY STADIUM



Katie Hanson photo.

**HEAD COACH:** Jason Wadzinski - 15th year of Varsity coaching, 3rd year as Head Coach of the Merrill Bluejays

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Greg Thorson, Alex Marx, Isaac Buntrock, Andrew Plisch, Michael Augustiniak, Troy Pieper, and Gavin Wroblewski

**2022 RECORD:** 5-4

**2022 POST SEASON RESULTS:** 1st round loss to Rice Lake

**RETURNING ALL-CONFERENCE:** Senior Brody Lange, GNC Honorable Mention 2022 and led the team in sacks at Defensive End; Senior Erik Mann, GNC Honorable Mention 2022 and leader of the defense as Middle Linebacker

**KEY RETURNERS:** Senior D'Ondre Houghton, starting Safety, led the team in interceptions in 2022; Junior EJ Weix, starting Safety and Receiver; Junior Russell Gruetzmacher, starting Left Tackle; and Junior Aiden Lonsdorf, starting Outside Linebacker and Tight End

**KEY LOSSES:** Ryder Depies, Nate Brzoznowski, Brian Ball, and Bradyn Pieper

**KEY NEWCOMERS:** Junior Jacob Schmeltzer, starting Quarterback; Junior Kaiden Henrich, starting Runningback; and Junior Ivan Amador-Gonzalez, starting Cornerback

**2022 RECAP:** The 2022 season was a special one in Merrill as it marked the first playoff qualification in recent years. Runningback Nate Brzoznowski will be missed as he led the GNC in rushing yards. Two-way starter at line Ryder Depies will also be hard to fill in addition to the leadership of Brian Ball and Bradyn Pieper. The Bluejays had the number 1 ranked defense in the GNC in 2022 and are looking to continue that production moving into 2023.

**2023 OUTLOOK:** Building upon what we've put together the last two years, the offseason work has improved and we have systems in place both offensively and defensively that have some continuity now. We need to focus on mental mistakes

and play fundamentally sound football. Too often in high school sports the more disciplined teams find themselves in the win column.

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** The Merrill community has been incredibly supportive and I'm very excited for this season to begin

**2023 TEAM ROSTER:** #0 Aiden Lonsdorf, #1 Brody Lange, #2 EJ Weix, #3 Jacob Schmeltzer, #5 Aidan Houghton, #6 Ben Gruett, #7 Ethan Ravn, #8 Hunter Opper, #9 Erik Mann, #10 Jace Olson, #11 Ivan Amador, #13 Noah Clifford, #14 D'Ondre Houghton, #15 Isaak Clapper, #16 Bobby Hoffman, #17 Keylin Allen, #18 Quinten Tomajcik, #20 Callum Wheeler, #21 Josue Amador, #22 Preston Schuelke, #26 Kaiden Henrich, #27 Carson Woellner, #33 Tommy Troyer, #35 Brett Suchocki, #45 Cole Schoerner, #48 Keegan Waliczek, #52 Micah Plautz, #53 Josh Riste, #54 EJ

See FOOTBALL page 24

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**Good Luck Bluejays!**

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L to R: Maycie Zastrow, Sarah Rell, Chloe Belant, Kaytlyn Hulke, Lauren Belsky, Jenna Malluege, Korina Kraegenbrink, Rose Dornbrack, Parker Wagenaar, and Emily Frahm. Stacy Literski photo.

**HEAD COACH:** Brad Barton (4th year as Head Coach, 8th year overall)

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Morgan Wilde (4th year)

**2022 RECORD:** 1-15 overall last year (0-6 Conference)

**POST-SEASON:** Lauren Cohrs and Madisin Jacobs won one match at sub-Sectionals last year. They did not qualify for Sectionals.

**RETURNING ALL-CONFERENCE:** Lauren Cohrs graduated, so not returning, but she was Honorable Mention last year.

**KEY RETURNERS:** Senior Lauren Belsky, Sophomore Emily Frahm, Junior Sarah Rell, Senior Chloe Belant, Junior Kaytlyn Hulke, Sophomore Rose Dornbrack, and Sophomore Korina Kraegenbrink

**KEY LOSSES:** We lost to DC Everest and Marshfield pretty easily, so that was a wake-up call for us. We usually beat or come close to them.

**KEY NEWCOMERS:** Sophomore Jenna Malluege, Freshman Greta Peterson, Freshman Addison Pickard

**2022 RECAP:** We had a successful year. We lost eight players from the previous year. We had the fewest number of players in the last seven years. We had to play with a partial Varsity line-up (we defaulted all three Varsity doubles spots), but it was needed. The girls have improved and are now ready for Varsity this year.

**2023 OUTLOOK:** We have a lot of the keys to our success in place already. We have had a lot of court time this year (the girls have really put in the time in the off-season). We have the right attitude as a collective unit this year. Last year we vacated all three of our Varsity doubles spots every meet. We had a lot of inexperienced Freshman last year and not enough upperclassmen to fill those spots. This year I made the decision to have a full Varsity line-up. I told the girls in the off-season, do not be surprised if we have a full Varsity line-up this year. It is part the coach's responsibility to get them ready for Varsity and part the girls' responsibility to improve their games and I feel that both parts have been met this year. Sometimes when put in a situation where you have to elevate your game, you do.

**CONFERENCE OUTLOOK:** We have more girls out this year than last year (19 compared to 13). We have a much more eager team to learn and excel in tennis this year than

last year. Our goal this year is to win one Conference meet. Wausau West, Stevens Point, and Marshfield will be very hard to contend with. We should be able to compete with DC Everest, Wausau East, and Wisconsin Rapids, though. The next two years after this year look very good, as most of our players are Freshmen and Sophomores this year.

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** We had one of the best Tennis Booster moms this year in Jessica Belant (Chloe Belant's mother). She headed up setting up all of our fundraisers this year. She also made props to display at these fundraisers. She made survival fun kits for the girls. She set up our tennis bonder this year. Without her, our coaching staff would have been really overworked. Thank you, Jessica! I would also like to thank Clinton Wallis. He has been instrumental throughout the years with Merrill Tennis. He is one of the Wausau Tennis Center Professionals who helps our girls out during the winter months. He instructs them on Sunday mornings. He also heads up our Tennis Camp in the summer.

**EMILY FRAHM IS ONE TO WATCH THIS YEAR.** The sky is really the limit for her. She has put in so much time with tennis (personal lessons, tennis indoors in the winter). I would not be surprised if she is playing number one singles this year. It might go back and forth all year between her and Senior Lauren Belsky. Lauren took her Junior year of tennis off to focus on other things, but thank goodness she came back this year. She is our number one singles player right now. She played number one singles some of the time her Sophomore year. Chloe Belant and Sarah Rell are pairing up to play number one doubles this year. I am glad we have two of our best players playing this spot, as number one doubles is a very coveted sport. Chloe has always been a doubles specialist. She unfortunately had to play singles her Junior year last year due to the amount of people that came out for tennis last year. We have some very competitive newcomers this year. Greta Peterson, Jenna Malluege, Addison Pickard, and Lauren Rice are the first four that come to mind. Greta is an interesting story this year. She switched from swimming last year to tennis this year. I know the swimming coaches were sad to see her leave, as she was a very good swimmer. Greta started from ground zero this year in tennis, but is already advancing quickly in the ranks.

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**HEAD COACH:** Kasie Holt, 1st year Varsity Head Coach, 8th year with Merrill Volleyball

**ASSISTANT COACH:** Lindsay Krueger, 3rd year

**STATISTICIAN:** Lindsey Casper, 5th year

**JV COACH:** Jamie Pieper, 2nd Year

**JV2 COACH:** Molly Dallman, 2nd year

**VOLUNTEER COACH:** Chey Pyka, 1st year

**2022 RECORD:** 16-18

**2022 POST SEASON RESULTS:** Lost in the second round of Regionals to Mosinee

**RETURNING ALL-CONFERENCE:** Avery Hoff (2nd Team), Maddy Ott (Honorable Mention), and Alexa Emmer (Honorable Mention)

**KEY RETURNERS:** Every single one of our 11 returning players are an important piece to the puzzle of being successful this year. Avery and Emma Hoff return as our starting setters, with Avery being one of our strongest outside hitters. Katie Heckendorf saw limited Varsity playing time last year, but has really solidified her swing—that combined with her quickness and vertical is going to be tough for others to compete against. Chloe McRae and Lex Emmer return as our starting middle hitters, both bringing their attacks to a new level. McKenna Meyer and Emerson Iwen round out our strong front row on the right side. Our back row is solid with Maddy Ott, Jalie Severt, and Ava Detert—all three are quick, scrappy, smart, and some of our strongest servers, as well. Finally, Anna Bowe is returning with an unfortunate knee injury that is keeping her from physically playing on the court. However, that has not stopped Anna. She is a phenomenal leader and just as important off the court as she was on it. She is able to see through the net so well and help her teammates with whatever they need to be successful.

**KEY LOSSES:** Olivia Troyer (OH) and Erica Arneson (DS)

**KEY NEWCOMERS:** Freshman Grace Reimann, OH

**2022 RECAP:** Last season, we had the skill, but the mental game beat us. We were quick to dig ourselves into a hole. When the pressure to win started to set in, we usually were able to give an awesome fight back, but it was often too late

# VOLLEYBALL



Merrill Varsity Girls Volleyball Team. Row 1: Emma Hoff, Maddy Ott, Hannah Hayes, Alexa Emmer, McKenna Meyer, Chloe McRae, Emerson Iwen, Jalie Severt, Anna Bowe, and Avery Hoff. Row 2: Katie Heckendorf, Breleigh Raasch, Kaela Clearveaux, Coach Chey Pyka, Coach Lindsay Krueger, Coach Kasie Holt, Coach Jamie Pieper, Coach Lindsey Casper, Coach Molly Dallman, Grace Reimann, and Ava Detert. Submitted photo.



Merrill Girls Volleyball JV Team. Row 1: Jazlin Severt, Madison Robbins, Lily Hoff, Hannah Bostrom, and Gabby Wheeler. Row 2: Coach Pieper, Reese Kaminski, Olivia Barker, Kaela Clerveaux, Brooklyn Harding, Breleigh Raasch, and Olivia Collinsworth. Submitted photo.



Merrill Girls JV2 Volleyball Team. JV2 Row 1: Vanessa Pintor, Abbie Krueger, Miley Krueger, Abby Johnson, Avery Hoock, and Madison Kersten. Row 2: Coach Molly Dallman, Grace Wegner, Morgan Wienke, Grace Hoff, Lily Berndt, and Laci Wirtala. Submitted photo.

to pull out the win. If you look at our scores, most games were lost within a handful of points. This carried all the way to the end of our season and is why we ended up losing in the early post-season.

**2023 OUTLOOK:** This year, 10 of our 15 varsity players are Seniors and 2 are returning Juniors. When you have a team with that many upperclassmen and that much experience, you expect magical things to happen. Again, we have the

physical talent; it will be a true test to see if we can win the mental game. We have switched up a few things with our offense that I think will be important to gaining momentum right away in matches. I believe in these girls, and I believe all of our goals are attainable this season.

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** Our Seniors picked this year's team slogan to be "Leading a Legacy." At first, I thought,

See VOLLEYBALL page 24

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# GIRLS SWIMMING



Front row: Addison Jirovec, Brenna Jirovec, Claire Jirovec, and Marissa Miles. Middle row: Coach Winter, Deylah Schultz, Katelynn Klimeck, Emily Winter, and Coach Kanitz. Back Row: Caroline Durbin, Bailee Sommer, Paricia Priebe, and Olivia Pajtash.

Erin Mckeen Photography.

**HEAD COACH:** Kristie Winter 10th year  
**ASSISTANT COACH:** Ginger Kanitz 8th year  
**2022 RECORD:** Finished 3rd in the Wisconsin Valley Conference

**2022 POST-SEASON RESULTS:** Finished 5th at WIAA DII Sectionals; 18th at WIAA DII State

**RETURNING ALL-CONFERENCE:** Bailee Sommer and Olivia Pajtash Honorable Mention 400 Free Relay

**KEY RETURNERS:** Junior Olivia Pajtash - Captain. Olivia is a strong all-around swimmer and team leader. She finished 4th at both Conference and Sectionals last year in the 500 free. She is a great team player and will swim whatever I ask of her. I expect her to mix things up a bit early this year; we will see where her niche falls as the season progresses. Junior Bailee Sommer - Bailee is a strong sprinter in both the butterfly and freestyle. She has 2 years experience at the state meet anchoring the 200 Medley Relay. Her postseason experience will be very beneficial this year. Sophomore Addison Jirovic - Addie will be taking over the lead backstroke position this season. She was part of the State-qualifying 200 Medley Relay last year, swimming the butterfly leg. She has a strong work ethic and worked very hard during the off season. She is coming in much stronger and faster than where she was last year.

**KEY LOSSES:** Amber Winter - 2-year Captain, 13-time State qualifier, and 2022 State Champion in the 100 Breaststroke. Amber will be swimming for UW-Eau Claire this fall. Caitlynn Pehleke - 2022 Captain, Sprint freestyler. Caitlynn will be swimming for UW-Whitewater this fall. Megan Miles - Backstroke - finishing 3rd at Sectionals in the 100 back and a member of 2022 State-qualifying 200 Medley Relay. Megan will be swimming at UW-Oshkosh this fall. Mya Wilde - Mya was a 4-year Varsity letter earner who would swim anything needed to help the team. Mya hung up her goggles at the end of last season but she will be part of the UWEC Blugold Marching Band this fall. We wish all these graduating team leaders well as they pursue their next level of competition this fall.

**KEY NEWCOMERS:** Freshman Marissa Miles - Marissa was a standout on our middle school team taking 1st in both the 100 IM and 50 fly at the middle school Conference meet in 2022. Marissa is a year-round swimmer who will transition quickly to be a leading point earner on the high school team. Freshman Deylah Schultz - Deylah was also a point-earning member of the middle school team last season. Deylah is already showing significant growth and will also be a point earner this year in high school.

**2022 RECAP:** We had a very young but talented team last year with seven Freshmen, two Sophomores, and strong leadership from our four Seniors. We finished 3rd in the Valley for the 3rd time since 2018. The Valley has some tough DI teams like SPASH and DCE who outnumber us 3 to 1 to contend with. That strong competition all season helps us prepare for the post-season when we drop to DII and see teams closer to our size. Our young team pulled together and grew a lot during 2022, sending our medley relay, along with Amber Winter in the 200 IM and 100 Breaststroke individually to State. This experience gave the team a taste of how exciting the trip to Waukesha can be.

**2023 OUTLOOK:** This season we still have a small young team, but we have a lot of experience for our age. We are still going to be striving for that 3rd spot in the Valley, then pushing for a relay to make it to State. Marissa has her eye set on the team 100 fly record; if she succeeds, she will also have an individual shot for a trip to Waukesha. Our Juniors are already stepping up to be great leaders, so the sky's the limit for this group of hard working ladies.

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** Merrill High School Girls Swim has come so far in the past 10 years. I look forward each season to the new levels of skill and determination that these ladies are bringing. We are super excited to also be hosting the Sectional meet again this year. Having the home advantage can be both good and bad. The girls are relaxed and know their pool and competition well, but getting that same level of excitement from an away meet can be difficult to build. I know our ladies are up to the challenge. This should be another strong season for the Lady Jays. Swim Fast!

# DANCE TEAM



Submitted photos.

**HEAD COACH:** Cassandra Lezotte - 4th year  
**ASSISTANT COACH:** Sydney Roberts - 4th year

**2022 RECORD:** State finalists last year - took second at Regionals with our Hip Hop routine to qualify

**KEY RETURNERS:** Junior Molly White, Sophomore Adison Clark, Sophomore Maddie Prentice, Sophomore Mylee Sykes, and Sophomore Liberty Fuchs

**KEY LOSSES:** Alex Schulz and Conor Sayles graduated last year

**KEY NEWCOMERS:** Nine incoming Freshmen: Alyssa Schneider, Bryn Imhoff, Emilie English, Emily Hayes, Kinsey Literski, Marielle Nass, Paige Byer, Shanna Herdt, and Tatiana Anderson

**2022 RECAP:** Last year our team struggled with numbers. Having a team of eight with only six eligible to perform at our Regional and State level competitions is difficult in the dance team world, but our team beat the odds and took second at our Regionals competition anyway. This allowed us to compete at the WACPC State Dance Competition for our third year in a row!

**2023 OUTLOOK:** This year we have a very strong group of girls and, thankfully, our team has grown considerably this season. We now have a total of 14 dancers! We're

still in the very start of our season, but I can see a lot of potential with our incoming Freshmen, and we are expecting a great year. Merrill Dance Team will also be learning and performing a Pom routine this year along with their Hip Hop routine, which will be a new challenge for the team, as we have not previously competed with this style of dance.

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** We perform at both JV and Varsity Basketball halftimes. All games/performance are located at Merrill High School in the fieldhouse.

**PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE FOR THE SEASON:**

- Tuesday, November 14 - Girls BB
  - Tuesday, November 28 - Girls BB
  - Saturday, December 2 - Ashwaubenon Competition
  - Friday, December 8 - Boys BB
  - Friday, December 21 - Boys BB
  - Friday, January 5 - Boys BB
  - Saturday, January 13 - Kaukauna Competition
  - Friday, January 19 - Girls BB
  - Thursday, January 25 - Boys BB
  - Saturday, January 27 - Regionals Competition
  - Saturday, February 3 - State Comp
  - Thursday, February 8 - Boys BB
  - Thursday, February 15 - Girls BB
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**HEAD COACH:** Ryan Schroder - 3rd year as Head Coach  
**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Zack Asmundsen - 3rd year, Bryan Schroder - 10th year  
**2022 RECORD:** 1 - 16 - 0  
**2022 POST SEASON RESULTS:** Loss to Antigo in penalty kicks  
**RETURNING ALL-CONFERENCE:** Kekoa Schuetze, Jonathon Kracht  
**KEY RETURNERS:** Kekoa Schuetze (GK), Jonathan Kracht (D), Sebastian Trevino (D), Vincent Keenan (D), Clayton Evans (M)  
**KEY LOSSES:** Angel Maldonado Nava, Josh Henderson, Nathan Mattson  
**KEY NEWCOMERS:** Michal Slaby (Sr) (D) foreign exchange student from Poland; 8 incoming Freshman  
**2022 RECAP:** 2022 was a difficult season with many injuries and a very young team. We did get our first Varsity win since 2019 in that season and were one goal short of winning our first playoff game in many years.  
**2023 OUTLOOK:** Our core group of players from last season has returned for 2023 and our Freshmen players have increased our roster. When I took over the program in 2021, we had 12-15 players, so an injury or a suspension really hurt our team and our ability to compete. I anticipate significant changes in our scores this season with our talented group of new and returning players.  
**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** We have a game the Friday before Homecoming and the bonfire, against Rhinelander at 6 p.m.



Front row, L to R: Omar Antonio, Colin Apprill, Jack Moore, Kekoa Schuetze, Jackson Pierce, Connor Zdroik, Ivan Lee, and Jacob Shimel. Back row, L to R: Mike Slaby, Vincent Keenan, Jonathon Kracht, Sebastian Trevino, Tyler Spade, Samuel Hagemeister, James Crockford, Liam Zdroik, and Elijah Hohman. Submitted photo.

**VOLLEYBALL** from page 22

"Shouldn't it be 'Leaving a Legacy'?" I was instantly reminded of this past year with Kris Krug retiring and the legacy that she left. Kris was the Head Coach for Merrill Volleyball for 24 years and has built one of the most successful athletic programs at Merrill High School. I have been thankful to have been able to soak up as much knowledge as I can from her these last seven years. I have surrounded myself with a coaching staff that are all Merrill Volleyball alumni; together we complement each other well to make a great team. Between our smart, kind, and talented players and our coaching staff's passion, pride, and knowledge, I am so excited to lead this new legacy together.



Front row L to R: Akeela Conley, Bridget Steinagel, Macy Wesbrock (Team Captain), and Ana Voermans. Second row L to R: Molly White, Megan Cordova, and Maddie McCoy. Third row L to R: Keeley Benedict, Adison Clark, Liberty Fuchs, Ralph Nance, Kaylynn Allen, Mylee Sykes, Sylvia Hanson, and Gemma Malone (Bluejay). Fourth row L to R: Emily Raymer (Bluejay), Sadie Schleif, Rory Gates, Miranda Osness, Justice Kunze, Kayleigh Strey, and Natalee Clifford. Missing from photo: Katy Glaze (Co-Captain) Sarah Fuchs photo.

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**HEAD COACH:** Sarah Fuchs - 2nd Year coaching in Merrill (7 years previously in California)

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Christina Clifford - 1st Year coaching in Merrill (5 years previously in California)

**2023 OUTLOOK:** We had our 4 remaining cheerleaders from the 2022 season return (5 Seniors graduated) and, in addition, we gained 19 more cheerleaders for the 2023 season.

excited to see the MHS Varsity Cheer program grow this year, and we are looking forward to a fantastic season supporting and cheering on our Varsity Football team on their journey to Playoffs!! Go Bluejays!

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** We are very



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**FOOTBALL** from page 20

Marmolejo, #55 Jax Hanson, #56 Alvis Winters, #58 Carson Brooks, #59 Ryan Coates, #62 Austin Depies, #63 Jase Steinagel, #64 Seth Morgan, #66 Russell Gruetzmacher, #67 Noah Klug, #69 Mikal Plautz, #70 Mason Bloch, #73 Morgan Sykes, #75 Caden Parham-Stevenson, #76 Josh Gustum, #77 Korbryn Brown, #78 Max Kuhn, #82 Tony Stricklin, #84 Jayden Chase, and #88 Landon Vullings.

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