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## Town Hall meetings: The future of Pine **Crest Nursing Home**



Pine Crest Nursing Home, Merrill.

Tina L. Scott photo.

#### BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

On Friday, March 31, 2023, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors announced they will host two Town Hall Meetings to gather public opinion on the future of Pine Crest Nursing Home. The public is invited and encouraged to come to offer input and ask questions about the specific options outlined in the Ad Hoc Committee on Pine Crest's report, which was recently submitted to the Board for review.

The meetings will be held:

• Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at the Bradley Town Hall, 1518 W. Mohawk Dr. in Tomahawk; and

· Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Lincoln County Government Services Building, Room 257, 801 N. Sales St. in Merrill

These town halls "will allow information sharing and community input," Lincoln County Administrative Coordinator Renee Krueger said. "There will be no decision making at these town halls."

Questions may be submitted in advance of the Town Hall Meetings at: https://co.lincoln.wi.us/

See PINE CREST page 2



An amazing view of the historic Lincoln County Courthouse tower and the city of Merrill taken from a vantage point on East Street showcases the beauty of a community blanketed in white after the snow storm. Joseph Frederick photo.

# April 1 snow storm hits northern Wisconsin

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR** 

Old Man Winter got the last laugh on April 1 when northern Wisconsin was hit with an April Fool's Day snow storm. On March 31, 2023, Friday's day of rain turned to snow in the night, dumping about a foot of snow on the city of Merrill by the time it stopped around 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, with higher snowfall amounts going north. For the first time many residents could remember, a portion of Hwy. 51 was entirely closed. Northbound and

southbound lanes of Hwy. 51 were closed at approximately 2:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 1, between Lincoln Cty. Hwy. K and U.S. Hwy. 8 because of snowy/icy road conditions and impassable roads, and after numerous vehicles were disabled between Hwy. J and Hwy. S.

The sun came out late morning to begin warming up the temps, and just as that sun was peaking out, some residents in the city lost internet service. That was around 10:15 a.m. Power outages also affected some Merrill and area residents at varying

times during the storm, but most had power restored by the end of the day on Saturday.

Around mid-morning on Saturday, both northbound and southbound lanes of Hwy. 51 were re-opened to traffic, except that northbound motorists still needed to exit the highway at the Hwy. S off ramp near Tomahawk and get back on the Hwy. S on ramp to drive around a disabled semi. That semi was removed and that

See SNOW STORM

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# Easter Egg Hunts for kids and adults this Saturday

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR** 

#### **Annual Merrill Area Parks** and Recreation Department Easter Egg Hunt for kids

Beginning at 10:00 a.m. this Saturday, April 8, 2023, the Merrill Parks and Recreation Department will hold their Annual Easter Egg Hunt, this year at Lion's Park in Merrill (on Third St. west of Prairie River Middle School, across from Stange's Park). This one is just for the kids who are invited to come and hunt for Easter eggs and get some candy or a prize. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras, as the Easter Bunny will be there and they can take photos of their children with the infamous rabbit.

See the Merrill Parks and Recreation Dept. Facebook page for more information, rules, and if there is a change in venue.



Admittedly, the upcoming Merrill Easter Egg Hunts will bear little resemblance to this springy, green grass image of coatless children in short sleeves about to frolic in the warm sun in search of Easter eggs, but it illustrates the concept. Not surprisingly, it's difficult to find stock images of Easter Egg Hunts in the snow and cold, yet many Merrill residents will have fond memories of exactly that. Stock photo.

#### Easter Egg Hunt for adults and kids at the Sawmill Brewery

That same day, Saturday, April 8, both kids and adults can get into the action with an outdoor Easter Egg Hunt for both adults and kids at the

Sawmill Brewing Company, 1110 E. 10th St. in Merrill, beginning at 12:00 noon. The Easter Bunny will also be there for photos. Chef C's Munchie Mobile food truck is also scheduled to



or stop by our office at 921 E. Main St. - Downtown Merrill.



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#### PINE CREST

from page 1

administration/webform/pine-crest-questions.

"Please help your County Board Supervisors determine the future of Pine Crest Nursing Home operations and the role of Lincoln County Government," a press release from the County Board said.

#### **Background**

On June 21, 2022, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution to form an Ad

Hoc Committee on Pine Crest and provided that: "The scope and duties of this Committee were defined as follows: 1) Review the existing financial concerning obligations Pine Crest, and to review the prudence of any future contractual obligations concerning Pine Crest made by either signed contract or County Board resolution; 2) Review the original and current use of the Pine Crest building and grounds; 3) Review the Nursing Home Management Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding (repair and maintenance of durable medical equipment and removal/rearrangement furniture) of between Lincoln County and North Central Health Care as such documents relate to the building and bed licenses; 4) Provide a report to the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors outlining the past and current successes, failures, and status of Pine Crest Nursing Home; and 5) Provide recommendations to the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors for consideration, detailing areas of improvement for Lincoln County's overall

position concerning Pine Crest Nursing Home."

At the March 21, 2023 County Board Meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee on Pine Crest presented the Lincoln County Board with their findings, which includes detailed alternatives, options, and measures for addressing the Pine Crest Facility and Nursing Home. This report can be viewed on the Lincoln County website at: https://co.lincoln.wi.us/ bc-County-Board/page/ County-Board-meeting-49 and anyone with an interest in Pine Crest will want to review the findings and in particular, the options presented.

A video recording of the March County Board Meeting is also available for viewing at the same link.

#### Pine Crest Nursing Home in jeopardy

"Pine Crest served the Merrill and surrounding communities for more than 60 years and it is extremely unfortunate that the Lincoln County Board has been placed in the situation of having to consider options that would include selling this facility," Calvin said Callahan, Assembly District 35th State Representative and member of the Lincoln County Board. [Editor's Note: Selling the facility is just one of the options being considered.]

"This has been created by a substantial loss in funding in the Medicaid Supplemental Payment program by Gov. Evers's Administration," he said.

Calvin pointed out that the changes have not impacted all county-run nursing homes the same, however.

"While the Administration has created budget deficits at Pine Crest and many other countyrun nursing homes across the state, Rock and Dane County nursing homes now have budget surpluses," he said. "In fact, 23 countyrun nursing homes had a \$16,413,500 total reduction in revenue, while Rock County received \$2,168,200 and Dane County received \$7,281,600. Once again, even on as simple an issue as elder care, the governor has cast aside the rest of the state and placed his focus on southern Wisconsin."

"Ten Wisconsin nursing homes closed in 2022 and two have already closed in 2023," Callahan said.

"Pine Crest has requested \$1.2 million dollars from the \$15 million that Lincoln County levies from local taxpayers to make up the shortfall created by the Evers Administration," he said, referring to the letter Don Friske, Chairman of the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors, sent to Gov. Tony Evers on March 17. [See article in March 23 edition of the Merrill Foto News, also available online at https://merrillfotonews. com/2023/03/22/friskeappeals-to-evers-for-pinecrest-nursing-home-

support/.]
As of this writing, Friske said he had not heard anything back from Gov. Evers in response to the







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# Local officers respond to potential threat, focus on de-escalation

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR** 

On Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at about 3:00 p.m. the Merrill Police Department (MPD) responded to the report of a person "making threats primarily focused on selfharm by officer," near the area of Grand Ave. and State St. in Merrill, according to a press release issued by the MPD. Residents in the area were notified and asked to remain indoors, and no one was allowed to come into the area during the time officers were assessing the situation.

"The subject was reportedly armed with bladed or edged weapons," MPD Police Chief Corey Bennett said in the release.

Trained to respond to potential crisis situations, officers took immediate preventative action to protect the public, neighbors, and any others who might be in contact with

the person who was the subject of the call, by establishing a secure perimeter around the residence where the subject was located. Officers took all necessary precautions but handled the alleged threat in a manner consistent with de-

"The subject remained in the residence and would not come out to officers for further investigation of the problem," the release said. "After a length of time trying to initiate contact and voluntary compliance, a threat assessment was completed by our command staff, personnel on scene, and consultation with Lincoln County Sheriff's Office SRT leadership. At that time a unified decision was made to disengage from the scene rather than force a potential deadly encounter by obtaining a warrant to enter the home.'

Other facts taken into consideration included no known threat to the community at large, no known felonies involved, and other occupants of the dwelling being placed in a safe location until this situation is further investigated and resolved," he said.

The following day, the MPD made multiple follow-up attempts and established contact with the individual at approximately 3:15 p.m. on March 29.

"The subject voluntarily cooperated with law enforcement at that time," the release said. "The subject was detained pending further investigation into the original circumstances and to provide other forms of

The MPD considers this an active investigation and is working to initiate any assistance the subject may require.

## PINE CREST from page 2

#### Shortfall from state adds to the problem

Before learning of the more than \$1.2 million shortfall for 2022, Lincoln was County already looking at the options for Pine Crest, as evidenced by the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Pine Crest back in June. The recent news of that shortfall from the State of Wisconsin only compounded the problem.

And adding the shortfall caused by the changes to the tax levy for Lincoln County "would unsustainable and fiscally irresponsible for the Board to pass," Callahan said.

'Unfortunately, same thing is happening in other counties across Wisconsin. Does the governor care about what is happening to these communities up north? It certainly doesn't appear so. It is my hope that the Administration looks into this and changes direction before it is too late," Callahan said.

current state "The leadership has offered little if any help, and the current economic climate is basically adding fuel to the fire," said Christopher Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk.

"Publicly owned assisted living facilities are not a common venture," he "Operating and maintaining this facility with the current state rate formulas is unsustainable. We do not have the tax levy to commit to our aging

"The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors are actively seeking public input prior to any decisions being made regarding the fiscal challenges facing us regarding Pine Crest Nursing Home," Krueger said.

have a very conscientious Board that wants to represent their constituents to the best of their ability. We need the public input on how we proceed with this venture. We are at a crossroad in determining if our County government should remain in the assisted living business," Marlowe

#### The future of Pine Crest to be decided

"At the April 18th County Board meeting the County Board Supervisors will begin discussing the information in the report, the information

gathered during the town hall meetings, and the information received constituents from in their respective districts, thereby beginning the decision-making process," said Don Friske, Chairman of the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors.

"While it is fair to say fiscal concerns resulted in the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee being formed," he said, "it has never been to the exclusion of how any changes to the current operation could impact our Pine Crest residents, their families, and the staff that provides their care."

"I believe the decisions concerning how Lincoln County moves forward concerning Pine Crest Nursing Home will be discussed around three guiding points:

"a). How does Lincoln

County address continuation of specialized medical care for our aging population.

"b). How are we best able to provide a stable work environment for the staff of Pine Crest.

"c). In considering a-b above, we must ensure County taxpayers considered are and well represented in the process," Friske said.

"The timeline on a final decision on any changes to the current system will be determined by the County Board as we move forward," he said.

"The Lincoln County Supervisors and Administration continue to express their gratitude for the quality of care that the North Central Health Care employees provide and the responsiveness and collaboration of the

current administration," Krueger said.

"Pine Crest Nursing Home is a wonderful asset to our community," Marlowe said. "The staff and management are top notch."

The County will be compiling a "Commonly Questions" Asked document on their website to "allow for our citizens to access as much information as possible," Krueger said. "We are committed to providing as much information to residents, employees, and the community as it becomes available."



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## OBITUARIES



June J. Magray, 81, lifelong resident of the Town of Pine River, Lincoln County, passed away at her home on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, surrounded by her family.

June was born June 3, 1941, in Merrill, daughter of the late Edward and Stephanie (Lebon) Uttech. She married Alvin 'Mickey' Magray on April 20, 1963 in Merrill, and he preceded her in death on Decem ber 31, 1982. June and Leonard 'Len' Polak were married on March 13, 1993, he

survives. June worked for thirty years at the former Wausau Employers Insurance; she retired in 1996. June and Len co-owned and operated J&L Excavating for ten years.

June was a member of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church Gleason. She enjoyed vegetable and flower gardening baking, traveling, and 4-wheeling. She also enjoyed spend-ing time with her family at their cottage on Lake Buteau in Harrison.

June is survived by her husband of thirty years, Leonard 'Len' Polak of Merrill; sons, Michael (Kelly) Magray of Merrill and John (Vanessa) Magray of Kewaskum; stepchildren, Amy Matz of Parker, CO, Dennis (Sheila) Polak of Merrill and Delmer (Tracey) Polak of Merrill; grandchildren, Alexis (Alex) Yost, Trevor Magray, and Aubrey Magray; great-grandchildren, Aries and Axel; step grandchildren, Alison (Josh) Pint Stanfield; Adam, Nolan, Grant, and Jack Polak, and Drew and Alana Polak; step great-grandchildren, Arlo and Lennon; sister, Darlene Rethaber of Merrill; and sister-in-law, Diana Uttech of Merrill.

June was preceded in death by her first husband, Alvin Mickey' Magray; parents, Edward and Stephanie Uttech prother, James Uttech; stepson, Chad Polak; and brother-inlaw, Oswald 'Ozzie' Rethaber.

A memorial service for June will be held at a later date. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefune ralhome.com



Seven Lampley Richards, precious baby boy of Charlie Donald James and Tara Kim Richards Lampley, passed away on March 24, 2023 in St. Paul Minnesota. He was born on March 24, 2023

He is survived by his parents, brothers: Carter and Damon Lampley, maternal grandma: Myoung Lampley, and paternal grandparents: Janet Bohn and Glenn Richards. He was pre ceded in death by his brother Titan Lampley and maternal

grandpa, David Lampley. Private funeral services will be held for Nicky at Waid

Funeral home

Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com.





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Andersen Sr., age 83, of Melbourne, FL, formerly from Merrill, WI, passed away on Tuesday, March 21 at Northern Alabama Medical Center in Florence AL. Ken was born on August 27, 1939 to the late Donald and Margaret (Pullen) Andersen in Antioch, IL. After graduating from Antioch High

School in IL, Ken volunteered

Kenneth 'Ken' W.

for the United States Army from 1961-1963 and the Reserves until 1967. He met Faye Johnson and the two were united in marriage on November , 1965. Sadly, she passed away on January 15, 2014.

Ken worked as a lineman for Commonwealth Edison for 35 years. After his retirement, Ken enjoyed being a retired 'snowbird", spending summers in Merrill, WI and winters in Melbourne, FL, to be near each of his and Faye's families He also enjoyed volunteering at Viera Hospital in Melbourne, FL for over 10 years, where he would drive the golf cart and transport people to and from the hospital. He loved that job, meeting people and getting fresh air. Ken enjoyed being outside gardening, whether it was his vegetable or flower gardens, or manicuring and mowing his lawn. He would also feed and watch the birds in his yard, go on bike rides, play and go for walks with his beloved family dogs, especially his dear yellow lab, "Sweet Pea" or take a swim when the weather was nice. Ken would often go raspberry and strawberry picking and he enjoyed his time with his various coffee clutch groups and friend groups. Ken was an avid Green Bay Packer and Milwaukee Brewers fan Ken is remembered as a generous and humble man; he will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Ken is survived by children: Jeff (Marci) Andersen, Ken Andersen Jr. (Stacey) Andersen and Heidi (John) Draper sisters: Ann Atkins, Jane (Terry) Cooper, Mary Paladino brother: Donnie (Jean) Andersen Jr., grandchildren: Shawn Draper, Jacob (Megan) Andersen, Noah Andersen and Rachel Andersen, sisters-in-law: Sharon (Ron) Pankow and Rita (Jerry) Wendt, both of Merrill, brother-in-law: Daniel (Lori) Johnson of Irma, as well as many nieces, nephews. great nieces and great nephews. He was preceded in death by his beloved parents: Margaret & Donald Andersen Sr. beloved wife: Faye (Johnson) Andersen, beloved grandson Eric Andersen and brother-in-law: Lauren "Ole" Johnson.

The funeral service for Ken will be held on Friday, April 14 2023, at 11am at Waid Funeral Home. Rev. David Szeto will officiate. Visitation will be held on Friday, April 14, 2023 from 9am until the time of the service, also at the funeral home. Military honors to be conducted at the funeral home following the service. A time of fellowship and visiting will follow the military honors and take place in the Lincoln Room at the funeral home. A private burial will be held at Chat Cemetery in the town of Birch.

For those unable to attend the funeral service in person, it will be live streamed, beginning at 11am, and will later be posted as a recording for future viewing. It can be found under his obituary on the funeral home website.

In lieu of flowers, family requests that donations in Ken' name be directed to the Lincoln County Humane Society. Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com.

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# Gov. Evers approves \$9,564.75 in Lincoln County Forest road aid

## Improvements provide access to land that helps define Northern Wisconsin

MADISON, Wis. - Gov. Tony Evers, and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), announced this week that more than \$319,000 in state funds will go towards improving more than 900 miles of county forest roads in 24 Wisconsin counties.

Lincoln County is approved to receive \$9,564.75 for 27.25 miles of eligible roads.

"Wisconsin's county forests cover more than 2.4 million acres and are home to thousands of campsites, hundreds of miles of trails, and countless opportunities to enjoy the outdoors," said Gov. Evers. "Fixing the forest roads ensures folks from across our state can continue to access these public lands, recreate, and enjoy and appreciate Wisconsin's natural resources."

WisDOT administers the state's County Forest Road Aid program, which was established to help defray county costs for the improvement and maintenance of public roads within county forests.

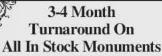
See ROAD AID page 7

#### **LCHS February donors**

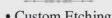
The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to thank everyone who donated in February:

Jill Krueger; Jenny Rice; Tony & Patricia Gokey; Meghan Stevenson; Dean Barker; Jessica Stengle; Tammy Pick; Kimberly Freund; Cynthia Shaw; Irene Faber; Kimberley Lewandowski; Janice Seiser; LouAnn Meisner; Kim Hintz; Darlene Raunio; Cecil Ballou; Ursula & Michael Stearns; Leslie Gaughan; Johnson & Johnson Matching Gifts Program - David Brand; Nadine Appel; Liberty Mutual Group & United Health Group; Give Lively Foundation; Marie Adams; Dennis Gourlie; Judy Hall; Carol & Gary Hartwig; Kerry Hass; Mark Mesarch; Sherri Opper; Jane Parsons; John Schaffer; Donna Stapleton; Diane Witscheber; Peggy Bauman; Ruth James; The Community; Gale Wolff; Michael Oemichen; Stephanie Schreiber; Town of Schley; Carol Davidowski; Nancy Specht; Angeline Marquis; Amazonsmile; Pamela Welch; Janet Selnes; Delores Slizewski; Jamie Peel; Groundswell Charitable Foundation – Christine Tonelli; Kendra Hawley; Roger Schroeder; Joy of Grooming; Ivy Catlin; Sharayah Lee; Tasha Jaeger; Susan Sternot; Network for Good (facebook); Chip's Hamburgers; Bell Tower Residence – Pumpkin Contest; Lisa Beresford; Paypal Giving Fund; Jane Parsons; Amy Hameister; Hilary Scully; Peggy Bauman; Nancy Kasper; Anonymous; and GoodCoin Giving Fund.

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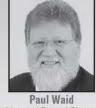
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CITY OF MERRILL COMMON COUNCIL
RDA Joint Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 MINUTES
Regular Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers 5:15 p.m.
I. Call to Order: Mayor Hass called the joint meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. The following elected officials, der heads and residents we heads and attendance:

Common Council, Elected Officials, Alderperson Caylor, Heads Russell, Alderperson (remote), Alderperson Fermanich Alderperson Lupton, Alderperson Rick, Alderperson Weix, Alderperson Sabatke, Mayor Hass, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, City Attorney Hayden, Finance Director Unertl, Fire Chief Klug, Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey. RDA Committee: Tony Kusserow,

Rebecca Rutkowski, Clyde Nelson (remote), Mark Bares and Jim and Koppleman were excused
Others in attendance: Bill Bialecki,
Brooke and Jordan Burton, Nathan

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II. Public Comment - there was no III. Closed Session:

City Attorney Hayden read the closed session language.
Alderperson Rick made a motion to enter into closed session. Alderperson Weix seconded. The motion passed on a 12/0 voice vote. Common Council and RDA members were included in the

vote. City Clerk Anderson Malm took minutes

without objection. The Common Council and RDA members discussed the potential TID 8 development and negotiation of potential development incentives. Following discussion Alderperson Rick

made a motion to reconvene in open session. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Reconvene in Open Session:

The committee reconvened in open session at 5:40 PM.

Alderperson Lupton made a motion to grant \$35,000 for a development incentive to Brooke's Dance Studio for the move to and renovation of a vacant building on the west side. Alderperson Weix seconded. The motion carried on an 8/0 roll call vote with the Common Council voting.

V. Adjournment–Alderperson Rick made a motion to adjourn. Alderperson seconded and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at

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a loved one in February.

Francis

Girl. Sasha Jane, born to Shanna Thorson and Cody

of Kronenwetter.

Thorson of Athens.

Legals 7700

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori L Anderson-Malm – City Clerk Published April 6, 2023

5:44 PM

WNAXLP

DATE SIGNED: March 14, 2023

Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GERALD O. LOKEMOEN
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration) Case No. 2023 IN 14

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: for An application administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth 9/22/1938 and date of death 1/28/2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N2950 State Highway 107, Merrill, WI

 All interested persons waived notice.
 The deadline for filing a claim against. the decedent's estate is June 23,2023.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office. ATTORNEY Andrew W. Schmidt. SCHMIDT & SCHMIDT, S.C.

PO Box 146, Wausau WI 54401 715-845-9621 Bar No. 1030985 Published 3/23/23, 3/30/23 & 4/6/23.

DATE SIGNED: March 29, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT
COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Tom R. Lindquist
Nation to Credition

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023 IN 18
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: for An application administration was filed. informal

 The decedent, with date of birth 4/9/1935 and date of death 2/1/2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1500 O'Day St., Merrill, WI 54452.

3. All interested persons waived notice.

The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 7-21-2023. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office. Dan C. Koblitz

completed objection form.

Legals

Silver Spring, MD 20904 301-960-5857 Bar No. 1102710 Published April 6, 13 & 20, 2023

NOTICE

CITY OF MERRILL TAXPAYERS
The Board of Review for the City of
Merrill will meet on, Wednesday, April
26th at 3:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers. This meeting is a statutory meeting to hear appeals from the Assessment Roll of the City of Merrill. The Board of Review will meet for a minimum of two hours. Anyone wishing to appear before the Board of Review shall obtain an objection form from the Clerk/Treasurer's office at City Hall. Objection forms should be completed and returned to the Clerk/Treasurer's office by Friday, April 21, 2023. An appointment to appear before the Board of Review will be scheduled for all persons returning a completed objection

No person shall be allowed to appear before the Board of Review, to testify to the board by telephone or to contest the amount of any assessment of real or personal property if the person has refused a reasonable written request by certified mail of the assessor to view such property.

After the first meeting of the Board of Review and before the board's final adjournment, no person who is scheduled to appear before the Board of Review may contact, or provide information to, a member of the board about that person's objection except at a session of the board.

No person may appear before the Board of Review, testify to the board by telephone or contest the amount of any assessment unless, at least 48 hours before the first meeting of the board or at least 48 hours before the objection is heard if the objection is allowed under sub. (3) (a), that person provides to the clerk of the Board of Review notice as to clerk of the Board of Review notice as to whether the person will ask for removal under sub. (6m) and if so which member will be removed and the person's reasonable estimate of the length of

time that the hearing will take.

When appearing before the board, the person's estimate of the value of the land and of the improvements that are the subject of the person's objection and specify the information that the person used to arrive at that estimate

No person may appear before the Board or Review, testify to the board by

NOTICE

**CITY OF MERRILL TAXPAYERS** 

The City Assessor will be available, Wednesday, April 19, 2023 from 9:00 to

at 715-577-1875 to set up an appointment or discuss their assessment.

11:00 a.m., in the City Assessor's Office at City Hall. Anyone seeking additional

The Board of Review for the City of Merrill will meet on, Wednesday, April 26,

meeting to hear appeals from the Assessment Roll of the City of Merrill. The Board of Review will meet for a minimum of two hours. Anyone wishing to

to the Clerk/Treasurer's office by, Friday, April 21, 2023. An appointment to

The Merrill City Hall is accessible to the physically disadvantaged. If special

2023 at 3:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers. This meeting is a statutory

appear before the Board of Review shall obtain an objection form from the Clerk/

Treasurer's office at City Hall. Objection forms should be completed and returned

appear before the Board of Review will be scheduled for all persons returning a

Lori Anderson-Malm

City Clerk

accommodations are needed, please contact the Merrill City Hall at 715-536-5594.

information regarding their assessment may contact the City Assessor, Kitt Koski,

7700

telephone or object to a valuation; if that valuation is made by the assessor or the objector using the income method: unless the person supplies to the assessor all of the information about income and expenses, as specified in the manual under s. 73.03 (2a), that the assessor requests. The municipality or county shall provide by ordinance for the confidentiality of information about income and expenses that is provided to the assessor under this paragraph and shall provide exceptions for persons using the information in the discharge of duties imposed by law or of the duties of their office or by order of a court. The information that is provided under this paragraph, unless a court determines that it is inaccurate, is not subject to the rights of inspection and copying under s

Lori Anderson-Malm

City Clerk
The Merrill City Hall is accessible to the physically disadvantaged. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the Merrill City Hall at 715-536-

Published April 6, 2023

Notice is hereby given that the following application has been filed with the City Clerk, Merrill, Wisconsin: Arbuda WI, LLC DBA Cobblestone Inn &

3209 E Main St Merrill, WI 54452 License Period: 4/17/2023-6/30/2023 Lori Anderson-Malm

City Clerk Published April 6, 2023 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION PO BOX 107 ANTIGO, WI 54409

103 N. VALLEY ST MERRILL, WI 54452

PUBLICATION SUMMONS CASE NO. 23-CV-12 HON. GALEN BAYNE-ALLISON

Money Judgment: 30301 The amount claimed exceeds \$10,000.00 AND Other Contracts Case Code: 30303 WIS. STAT. §810 REPLEVIN

#### Legals 7700

To each person named above as a

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 40 days after the date of first

publication, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452, and to Galanis, Pollack, Jacobs & Johnson, S.C., plaintiffs attorneys, whose address is 839 North Jefferson Street, Suite 200, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 You may have an attorney help or

If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of

#### Legals

money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or

seizure of property.

DATED at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on March 29, 2023. GALANIS, POLLACK, JACOBS & JOHNSON, SC Attorneys for Plaintiff /S/ Electronically signed Joshua J. Brady WI State Bar No. 1041428 P. O. Address: 839 N. Jefferson Street, Suite 200 Milwaukee, WI 53202 Telephone: (414) 271-5400 Published April 6, 13 & 20, 2023

#### TOWN OF PINE RIVER

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING for the Town of Pine River, in the county of Lincoln, for the transaction of business as is law required or permitted to be transacted at such a meeting, will be held on SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023 at 1:00 PM at the Pine River Town Hall, N1647 Deer Run Ave., Merrill. Seven days prior to the meeting, the Annual Report will be posted at www.townofpineriver.com. You may also contact the clerk to request a copy.

Please Recycle

Amanda Herdt, Clerk

Published April 6 & 13, 2023

# TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

#### TOWN OF MERRILL BID NOTICE

The Town of Merrill is seeking bids for the mowing and trimming of the Town Hall lawn. Bids will be accepted until April 18, 2023, 5:00 pm.

Please send bids to:

Merrill Town Hall

W4594 Progress Ave. Merrill, WI 54452

www.townofmerrill.net

Published April 6, 2023

RECYCLE WNAXLP

# TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

#### TOWN OF MERRILL ANNUAL MEETING

The ANNUAL MEETING for the Town of Merrill will be held at the Town of Merrill Community Center TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023 AT 6:00 PM, and will include voting to separate the position of Clerk/ Treasure. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING for the Town of Merrill will be held at the Town of Merrill Community Center TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023, FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL MEETING.

RECYCLE

www.townofmerrill.net

RECYCLE

Published April 6, 2023

WNAXLP

## Published April 6, 2023 WNAXLP

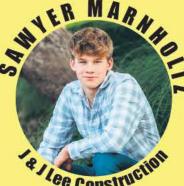
UDENI These students were chosen because of their exemplary performance at their place of employment. CONGRATULATIONS!

CLINA ESP



Olka-Dotted Pie





"YA has helped me learn to balance my schedule and the importance of having a good work ethic. It's a great way to earn credits and work at the same time." Alayna Pozorski

"Based on the high level of performance Alayna has delivered since she's been here, it's apparent that she will be able to accomplish anything she sets her mind to. Her positive attitude, great work ethic and attention to detail is what makes her a star." Matt Eder, Stange St. Facility Manager

"I've enjoyed field trips and learning about different careers thanks to guest speakers. YA has given me lots of skills that I will use in the future." Angelina Esparza

"Angelina excels in every task we give her. She is an excellent worker who is very dependable and adapts to new responsibilities. This honor is well deserved." Jen Schlaefer, Polka-Dotted Pie

"YA has helped me prepare for going into a trade. It has definitely helped me figure out what I want to do for a living." Sawyer Marnholtz

"Sawyer is a great worker and goes the extra mile to get the job done right. I can start him on a project and let him finish up and don't have to worry about it. He will finish and clean up on his own." Jeremy Lee, J& J Lee Construction

MERRILL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP

Support for this ad was provided through the Merrill Community Foundation Beyond Crayons & Computers Grant and The Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Grant.

COMMUNITY

#### Nancy Kasper. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Hinsa; Alvin by Bill Heideman; and Steve Willis by City of Merrill,

Find us on

Facebook www.facebook.com/ Merrill Foto News

#### www.merrillfotonews.com

#### Pet of the Week



SPONSORED BY Dave's County Market Merrill, WI

Looking for a big special guy that is independent and easy to take care of? This is the cat for you. Moses is neat, clean and quiet. He enjoys the company of other cats but would do just fine in a home as an only cat as well. He loves a long nap in a sunny window, being brushed and hanging out with people. His adoption fee includes his neuter, up to date vaccinations and microchip!

Visit all the adoptable pets at the Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours by appointment only. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, or visit us at . www.furrypets.com.











#### Charolette Wise Daughter of

**Becky & Seth Wise** Charolette is in Kindergarten at Kate Goodrich Elementary School. She was nominated by Ms. Stacy Mattson

What is your favorite subject in school? Why? I like math because I like when we do



"minuses" (subtraction). What is your favorite part of school? Why? My favorite part of school is gym class because we get to run around. I like to play turtle tag.

What would you like to do/become someday? Why?

When I grow up I would like to be a police officer because you get to help people.

Charolette comes to school every day with a smile on her face and is ready to learn. Her enthusiasm is contagious! She is kind to others and treats everyone with respect. She is an awesome role model for her Kindergarten peers.

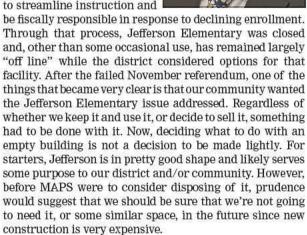
Student of the Week Sponsored by: 1401 W. Taylor St., V Merrill INTERFLEX GROUP (715) 536-5400

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER ...

# An Update on Jefferson Elementary School

The topic of a vacant Jefferson Elementary remains alive and well as a subject of discussion around our community, so I wanted to take this opportunity to update everyone on where MAPS is regarding the future of that building. First, some background:

Two years ago the district decided to consolidate our elementary schools as a way to streamline instruction and



In addition to understanding our current facility needs better, there is this perception in our community that we could simply sell it for a million dollars and all of our budget issues would be solved. That is simply not the case. In fact, to keep things in perspective, the Sparta School District recently sold a vacant elementary school (this winter) for \$10,000. Now, that's not to say that Jefferson would sell for a





similar amount, but it does show the reality when thinking that selling will provide some large financial windfall to MAPS.

So, given these things to consider (and many more), I asked the Board this winter to permit a facilities study of all of our buildings to see how Jefferson Elementary fits into our current and future instructional needs, to understand all of our facility conditions, and to ensure that we are making the best use of our best facilities. That project was awarded to the team of Bray/Miron.

Over the past few months, the Bray/Miron team has come into our district on several occasions and evaluated all of our facilities - from Pine River, to Central Office, to the School Forest, and everything in between — to understand what we have, the condition of all of our buildings, future needs regarding maintenance and upkeep, etc. In addition, they have worked with staff and administrators to understand how our remaining buildings serve our students from an educational standpoint and what challenges and opportunities exist. At the end of March, the Bray/Miron team presented their initial findings to the Board in a workshop that included a rundown of the state of our facilities and provided a number of options to consider. These options, of which there were many, covered virtually every scenario under the sun from simply maintaining what we have and disposing of Jefferson, to grade reconfigurations, to adding on to some buildings, etc. Everything is being looked at. Of course, not all of these options are realistic for our district and community at this time and many will be eliminated over time, but we wanted to be thorough and make sure no stone is being left unturned during this study. As we move forward, the options will be whittled down as we work toward a solution - making best use of our best facilities.

To use a baseball analogy, we are basically in the bottom

**Spring Breathes New Life** 

See SUPERINDENTENT page 7















Grace Faber, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named FFA Member of the Month for March 2023. Grace Joined FFA this year.

"I like all the activities we hold and all the different opportunities they have for us to participate in," she said. "We do dress-up days for FFA week and have a chill dinner hunting weekend. I've gone to just about all the activities they hold including the Homecoming Parade, as well as the chill dinner and whatnot."

"I joined FFA because I like to be outdoors and a lot of my friends are in it, so it's just more fun," Grace said. "My grandparents have two horses and we have three dogs at home; it's just fun to have animals to play with and

In her free time, Grace plays soccer, a sport she's played in every year since she was four years old. She plays midfield as a member of the Merrill High School Soccer Team and plays all positions on her Club Soccer Team.

Grace works at an area greenhouse in the summer and also works on a food truck during the Athens Fair.

In her free time, she likes to play soccer, go fishing, go camping, and being on the lake all summer on her family's pontoon boat. The daughter of Troy and Sara Faber of Hamburg, Grace has a 3.6 GPA and plans to attend college after high school graduation to "study in the medical field/possibly be a physical therapist or something of that sort."



COLDWELL BANKER ACTION Independently Owned and Operated Congratulations from this sponsor:

Gail Abegglen 715-551-8016 2402 E. Main St., Merrill



Grace Faber

FFA Members highlighted in this feature are selected by the **Executive Committee of** the FFA, not by the sponsor.





Merrill Aerie #584 recently donated \$500 to Merrill Police Department's K-9 Project for the blastomycosis treatments of K-9 Dasty. Shown receiving the donation is Dasty's handler, Officer Josh McCaskill, and K-9 Officer Dasty. Presenting the check (L to R) are Aerie Secretary Scott Doerr, Aerie President Dave Sherfinski, and State President Jerry Leopold. Submitted photo.



A rural Lincoln County farm makes a picturesque winter scene after Saturday's snow storm passed through. One might think it's the perfect image of January in Wisconsin, but the photo Joseph Frederick photo. was actually taken on April 1, 2023.

#### **SNOW STORM** from page 1

section of Hwy. 51 re-opened at 12:51 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

Final snowfall totals were reported to

be 4.0" in Wausau, 12.0" in Merrill, 13.5" in Irma, 16.0" in Minocqua, and 17.0" in Tomahawk with snow depths increasing even more in some areas to the northeast.

Yes, March 2023 definitely went out like a lion.

#### SUPERINTENDENT

from page 6

of the second inning on this project and there is a lot of work to do moving forward. Understanding the costing and savings of the different options is an important upcoming step. In addition, more input from staff, families and the community is needed, and those opportunities will be provided over the next few months. However, we are taking our time and doing it right, and we continue to progress

nicely toward that goal.

I believe a vacant Jefferson Elementary school represents a real opportunity for our district and community if handled well. So, as we go through this study and process, please know that we are working hard to come up with a thoughtful solution that includes community input so that we can ensure that MAPS is making the best use of our best facilities. I appreciate your patience and I will keep you updated on our progress.

Shannon Murray, Superintendent

#### ROAD AID from page 4

"The first county forest in Wisconsin got started almost 100 years ago in Langlade County with the idea to turn abandoned loggers' land into a public asset," said WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson. "Today, these lands help define Up North in Wisconsin, and WisDOT works with our local partners to ensure that forest infrastructure improves tourism, industry, and agriculture."

County Forest Road Aids are separate from the larger General Transportation Aids (GTA) program, and to qualify for the state funding, roads must meet minimum design standards of a 16-foot surface width and a 20-foot roadway width. They must also be located within county forests, be open and used for travel, be part of a comprehensive county forest land-use plan, and cannot be town roads, county, or state highways. The 2019-21 biennial budget signed by Gov. Evers increased ongoing funding for this program by \$71,800 over the biennium, raising the rate per mile provided to eligible counties from \$336 per mile to \$351 per mile.



A Fraction Of The Cost Of Replacement



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Patios

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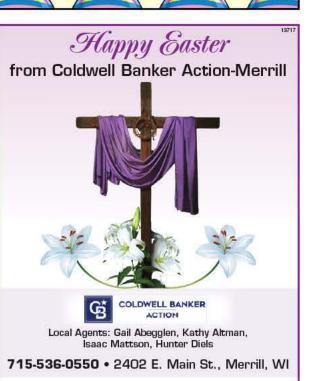




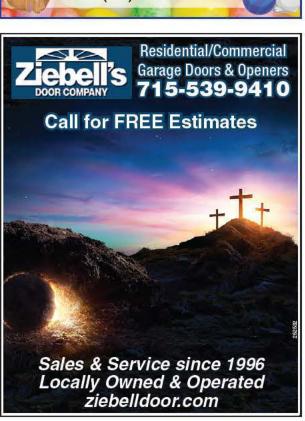














Carved Ham • Broasted Chicken • Eggs • Sausage • Bacon Pancakes • Potato Pancakes • Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • Biscuits & Gravy • Salad Bar

Open at 4pm Mon., Thurs. & Fri. • Closed Tues. & Wed. Open at 11am Sat. & Sun.



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# LENT SPECIA

Now Thru Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023 EVERY DAY, ALL DAY!



Antigo, Merrill, Tomahawk Certain restrictions apply, not valid with other offers. WISA

# Culvers

#### ALL DAY **FUNDRAISER**

10AM - 10PM

Thursday, April 13, 2023 **DONATING** 

10% OF SALES LITTLE LAKE

ALSO A Fresh **Baked Goods Sale!** 

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FLAVOR OF THE DAY **OREO OVERLOAD** 

Culver's of Merril 3349 E. Main St. 715-536-3444 www.culvers.com

#### www.merrillfotonews.com

#### COSMO KIDS • \$5.00 Theatre SENIORS • \$5.00 Main St. • Merrill ADULTS • \$8.00

#### Mondays All Seats \$5.00 THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE "PG" (1HR 32MIN) Starts Wednesday 4/5

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:00PM SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:15, 7:00 & 9:00PM SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:15 & 7:00PM MONDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM TUESDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

#### **DUNGEONS & DRAGONS:** HONOR AMONG THIEVES

"PG13" (2HR 14MIN)
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:15PM SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM MONDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM TUESDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

## JOHN WICK: CHAPTER 4

"R" (2HR 49MIN)
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM FRIDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM MONDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM TUESDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

715-536-4473

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715-536-4611 "NOW SERVING **SANDWICHES**"

#### HOURS

MON. - FRI. Noon - Close SAT. 4pm - Close SUN. Noon - Close

#### APRIL BOOZE OF THE MONTH MALIBU

\$5.00 - 16 oz. Pint SATURDAY APR. 8TH

Opens 11am, Starts 1pm **CASH PRIZES** & SNACKS

#### SATURDAY APR. 15TH CRIBBAGE

TOURNAMENT Opens 11am, Starts 12pm \$40 PER TEAM **FIRST 12 TEAMS PAID** 

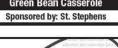
# 'DINNER@FIVI

Join us every Monday at 5:00PM for

a community meal open to all.

Saint Stephens **United Church of Christ** 903 E 2nd Street, Merrill. Free will donations accepted.

Monday, April 10th Menu: Ham, Cheesy Potatoes, and Green Bean Casserole





www.facebook.com/ Merrill Foto News



418 Grand Ave., Merrill

THIS WEEK'S DRINK SPECIAL: SUMMER HUMMER

\$4 PINT MIXERS; \$2 TUB MIXERS; \$2 SHOTS

out prices on Booze. Beer & Ice

Hall Rental Available • 715-536-4664



**TUESDAY NIGHTS** APR. 11TH - MEATLOAF APR. 18TH - CHOP SUEY Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

**FRIDAY NIGHTS** R. 7TH - COCONUT SHRI APR. 14TH - WALLEYE Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM CLIP-N-SAVE

# The Eagles Club Open to the Public • (715) 536-7471

NO FOOD SERVED: Sat., Sun., Mon.-Only Special Events

DINNER SPECIALS APR. CARRYOUT AVAILABLE MONDAY: Bar Open at 3pm

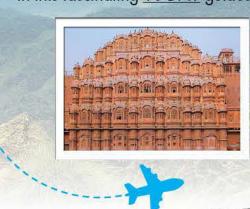
LUNCH AVAILABLE:
TUES. & FRI. 11am-2pm
WED. & THURS. 11am-8pm
Specials • Fish Fries • Homemade Soup
DINNER MENU: TUES. 4-8pm

& FRI. 4-8pm SATURDAY: Bar Open at 3pm SUNDAY: Bar Open From 11am-7pm Visit our Website! 584.localfoewi.com HAPPY HOUR: TUESDAY-THURSDAY • 3-6PM

# Travel this Fall with Fellow Readers of this Publication!

# - Majestic India -Departs Sept. 25, 2023

Experience the richness of Indian culture in this fascinating 10 DAY guided tour!









For more information: Visit Toursmmc.com or contact Devi with INDUS TRAVEL at (866) 978-2997 Ext. 913 or Email Devinath@IndusTravels.biz



\$2,849 (Includes Airfare from ORD or MSP)

# **Historic Scotland -**Departs Oct. 1, 2023

Discover & explore Scotland on this awesome 8 DAY journey.





DELMAN



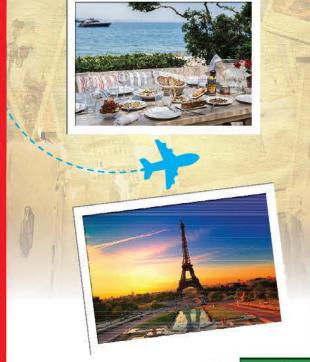
For more information: Visit Toursmmc.com or contact Chris Brough with Adelman Discoveries at (866) 952-2884 or Email CBrough@AdelmanTravel.com

#### Book & SAVE \$200! \$3,249

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# - Beautiful France -**Departs Oct. 11, 2023**

Experience everything the French Riviera has to offer on an 8 DAY tour.







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# CLASSIFIEDS

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General Employment

7110



Are you looking to drive with a new team that offers competitive pay for your experience? Do you want to be home daily or more often than your current carrier? WVT is seeking to add Class A CDL drivers! We are a bulk carrier operating hopper trailers. Daily and regional runs are available as and regional fulls are available as full-time & part-time positions. We offer heath care & vacation. Please call for additional info: (715) 693-6564

#### Professional and Technical

New Sounds New Sites & a New Career catch your eye? We can help! Train with SCDTI for your CDL. Call 715-942-2700 ext 102

You've Got It! Somebody Else Wants It! Check The Classifieds.

INSURANCE CUSTOMER SERVICE REP: Greater Insurance Service is seeking an organized and highly self-motivated Customer Service Representative to join our Antigo team! You'll be responsible for creating insurance policies, advising po-tential clients on coverage, and converting quotes into new poli-cies. You'll also help resolve billing issues, change policies and make policy recommenda tions. Active Wisconsin license preferred or be willing to obtain upon hire. Competitive pay and benefits. Brittany Anderson 608

#### Announcements

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#### Announcements

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money!
PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT
SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Con-sumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)

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CLOTHES SIZES 0-18, TOYS, BABY FURNITURE & EQUIP-MENT, BOOKS, MOVIES & MORE! APRIL 6: 7AM-8PM. APRIL 7: 9AM-8PM. APRIL 8: 8AM-2PM (MOST ITEMS 50% OFF SAT. Items marked ND are not) Central WI Convention & Expo Center ROTHSCHILD. www.abc-consign.com

HUGE ABC KIDS SPRING & SUMMER

# **EMPLOYMENT**



WITTENBERG-BIRNAMWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

WITTENBERG-SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### ENBERG ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL **LEAD SECRETARY**

#### **FULL-TIME**

#### Secretary duties may include:

- · Strong technology skills proficient in software programs such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Google Documents, and Publisher
- Must be able to create documents, newsletter, advertisements, brochures
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- · Multi-tasking skills
- · Positive public relations skills
- · Organizational skills
- · Able to efficiently use all aspects of Skyward student management
- · Ability to work inter-departmentally with all other secretarial/district staff
- . Data-entry of behavioral and attendance
- information Must be able to post information/documents on district website
- First Aid/CPR trained
- · Other school or district level responsibilities as assigned

The school secretary is under the general administrative supervision of the School Principal and under the clinical supervision of the District Nurse. Other duties may include; administering first aid and medications to students, documenting and maintaining student records with confidentiality, assistance with health screenings, and maintenance of supplies.

#### Confidentiality is extremely important!!

#### To Apply:

Please send letter of interest, resume and references to Nick Firari, Principal 300 S Prouty St., Wittenberg, WI 54499

Phone: 715-253-2221 • nfirari@wittbirn.k12.wi.us

#### Deadline to Apply: Friday, April 14, 2023

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District does not discriminate in the employment of professional staff on the basis of the Protected Classes of race, color, national origin, age, sex, creed or religion, genetic information, handicap or disability, marital status, citizenship status, veteran status, or military service. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Megan Marcks, Pupil Services Director, 400 West Grand Ave, Wittenberg WI 54499, 715-253-2213 ext. 1108 or mmarcks@wittbirn.k12.wi.us

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- Excellent low-cost health benefits

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• Excellent Low-Cost Benets: Individual: \$80/Month Spouse: +\$128/Month Child: +\$42/Month



7272

7250

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7214

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Applications are now being accepted to fill a Highway Worker position-CDL Drivers. Starting wage is \$18.49 to \$21.55 per hour depending upon qualifications.

Regular scheduled work week is Monday through Thursday 6:30 am to 4:30 pm with overtime opportunities. Job description, duties, responsibilities, and applications are listed on the Lincoln County web page at www.co.lincoln.wi.us (career opportunities) or applications can be picked up at the Lincoln County Service Center at 801 N. Sales Street (upper level) Merrill, WI. John Hanz, Highway Commissioner, may be reached at 715-539-2554 if you need additional information or have questions.

# **EMPLOYMENT**

## **FULL-TIME OPTICIAN**



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Submit Resume to: Dr. Ron J. Piffl, Optometrist 1007 E. 1st Street, Merrill, WI 54452

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We need a craftsman that can take charge, train junior carpenters, and someone who understands the ins and outs of construction. Having this person lead the daily projects from start to finish, while communicating with customers their concerns and/or issues, are just a few of the things we need here at Big Pine Renovations. Other duties include, but are not limited to:

- Inspecting the work of others
- Correcting problems as needed Being prepared for each day's work
- Making sure people are working as a Team
- Following timelines within the schedule
- Ability to set the pace providing goals/tasks
- A good understanding of multiple trades
   Ability to read/interpret drawings, plans and/or blueprints
- A good understanding of everything that is happening on their jobsite, because we want our lead carpenters to know they are responsible for their jobsites. Pay commensurate to experience. \$35 on up, plus possible ownership

We here at Big Pine Renovations act as a team in everything we do. We want this new lead carpenter to instill these traits as well. We are an unusual team of individuals looking to fix and assess any issues presented to us. If this is something that intrigues you, apply now. We are looking to grow our team and provide our customers the very best remodeling job they have ever seen. Working towards a 4 day work week!

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## 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 breds

#### 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** 

#### PUBLISHER'S LETTER

## The Transient Nature of Life

DEAR READER,

7362

7370

7374

Time ravages the body. No matter how much we fight its assault on bones and sinews, eventually the battle is lost and we succumb to the

There are a few that dare to dream, that venture to alter old things and create something new. These are the



great disrupters, who fly high towards the sun. Some make it; others, like Icarus, fly too close and fall.

Everyone has a place in the all-encompassing tapestry weaving itself on the continuum. While discernment is ubiquitous to all who look at themselves and others in the web, real judgment will occur when passing through the abyss. No one escapes the abyss.

PATRICK J. WOOD, Publisher

Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"

## **REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS**



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Jess 715-574-5377 Riversbendrealtygroupllc.com

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## REPORTS

#### LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

# WRAP UP FOR THE PERIOD OF: 03/05/2023-03/11/2023 A 20-year-old-Merrill man escaped

injury following a one-vehicle crash on Friday morning, March 10, 2023. Deputies responded to the crash shortly before 6:00 a.m. near the intersection of Brandenburg Ave. and Cty. Rd. Q, in the Town of Scott. A preliminary investigation indicated the vehicle the man was driving was eastbound on Cty. Rd. Q, when it slid sideways while attempting to turn on to Brandenburg Ave., struck the ditch, and rolled onto its side.

A 35-year-old Appleton man escaped injury following a one-vehicle crash during the early morning hours of Monday, March 6. A preliminary investigation indicated the vehicle the man was driving was eastbound on US Hwy. 8 in the Town of Wilson when it lost control, entered the ditch, and rolled over.

Four motorists reported striking deer in Lincoln County this past week.

## 03/26/2023-04/02/2023

Deputies were kept quite busy through the course of the late-season winter storm over the weekend. Between Friday evening, March 31, and mid-day Saturday, April 1, deputies responded

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not

perish but have eternal life."

- John 3:16



(715) 873-3338 N5696 State Rd. 17, Gleason, WI 54435

Displays in Rhinelander and at our Shop Located 1 Mile N. of Gleason on Hwy 17 to 47 weather-related calls for service; including reports of downed power lines, roads being impassable due to snowfall, numerous vehicles in the ditch; and two weather-related motor vehicle crashes. No injuries were reported as a result of the weather-related activity.

A 65-year-old Merrill woman avoided injury following a one-vehicle crash on Friday morning, March 31. Deputies responded to the crash just before 7:00 a.m. near the intersection of Cty. Rd. Z and Hilly Rd., in the Town of Scott. A preliminary investigation indicated the vehicle the woman was driving lost control after meeting a patch of ice, entered the ditch, and rolled over.

A 19-year-old Tomahawk man avoided injury following a one-vehicle crash on Wednesday evening, March 29. Deputies responded to the crash just before 5:00 p.m. near the intersection of Cty. Rd. D and Cloverbelt Rd.,

715-218-3772 or a FREE Consultation v.kindheartedhomecare.com

in the Town of King. A preliminary investigation indicated the vehicle the man was driving was eastbound on Cty. Rd. D, when it lost control after swerving to miss a deer, traveled through the ditch, and struck a power pole.

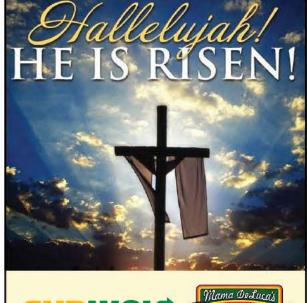
An 18-year-old Merrill man was taken into custody following a traffic stop on the evening of Sunday, March 26, in the Town of Pine River. A deputy on patrol stopped the vehicle the man was operating, upon observing it traveling 72 mph in a 55 mph speed zone, near the intersection of Cty. Rd. W and Alpine Avenue. During contact with the man, the investigating deputy noted signs indicative of impairment and the odor of intoxicants. A driver's license check revealed the man's operating privileges had been suspended, and open intoxicants were located inside the vehicle. As a result, the man was taken into custody on a 2nd offense

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charge of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (OWI) and cited for operating after suspension and open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

Four motorists reported striking deer this past week in Lincoln County, up from three the week before. One motorist reported striking a bear this past week. The vehicle involved sustained moderate front-end damage. The bear had left the scene before the arrival of the responding deputy.







# Easter Season

Easter

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# 2023 EASTER CHURCH SERVICES

#### ASCENSION EPISCOPAL

218 Pier St., Merrill Rev. Amy Heimerl

Maundy Thursday: 5:30 pm Agape Meal followed by service. Good Friday: 6:00 pm Service Easter Sunday: 10:30 am Service

ATHENS ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH

220 Kreutzer St., Athens Pastor Craig Diedrich

Good Friday: 6:30 pm Service
Easter Sunday: Free Pancake Breakfast

at 9:00 am.

10:00 am Easter Service

#### ATHENS CHRIST UNITED CHURCH

712 Pine St., Athens Rev. Teri Hanson

Good Friday: 2:00 pm Service Easter Sunday: 9:00 am Service

#### **BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1605 County Rd. G, Merrill

Rev. Andy Perry

Good Friday: 7:00 pm Service
Easter Sunday: Breakfast from

9:00—10:00 am 10:30 am Easter Service

#### CHRIST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELLS)

1204 N. Sales Street, Merrill

Pastor Neal Behm

Maundy Thursday: 6:30 pm (in-person)
Good Friday: 6:30 pm (in-person)
Easter Sunday: 8:00 am (in-person & online)

Web: christmerrill.com/easter Facebook: facebook.com/christmerrill

YouTube: youtube.com/@christmerrill

#### CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

300 N. Mill Street, Merrill

Good Friday: 6:30 pm Service Easter Sunday: 10:30 am Service Facebook: Merrill Christ United

Methodist Church

Pastor Mike Zahn

#### FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

15425 County Road K South, Merrill

Pastor Donald Love

Good Friday: 1:00 pm Service Easter Sunday: 10:15 am Service

#### HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

-MERRILL 508 Eugene St., Merrill

Good Friday: 6:00\* pm Service Live Stream Worship & Sermon 6:00 pm

Easter Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30\* am Service Live Stream Worship & Sermon 10:30 am

\* Children's ministry Available

#### HILLSIDE CHURCH

1501 N. Pier St., Merrill Pastor Brandon Wade

Good Friday: 6:30 pm Service Easter Sunday: Breakfast at 8:30 am

10:00 am Easter Service

#### IMMANUAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

N1660 Leafy Grove Rd., Merrill

Rev. Joel S. Danner

Maundy Thursday: 6:00 pm with Holy

Communion

Good Friday: 7:30 pm Service

Service with Holy Communion

Breakfast following 7:00 am Service 10:00 am Easter Service with Holy

#### JOURNEY CHURCH

1212 S. Center Ave., Merrill Pastor Brad Main

Good Friday: 6:00 pm Service Easter Sunday: 9:39 am Service

#### LUTHER MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

N5302 Town Hall Rd., Gleason

Pastor Greg Laska

Maundy Thursday: 7:00 pm Service Good Friday: 2:30 & 7:00 pm Services Easter Sunday: 6:30 & 10:30 am Services Easter breakfast between Sunday Services

This page brought to you by PROTECT THE GRE

Pastor Tryphine Schruba

Maundy Thursday: 6:00 pm Service

Good Friday: 3:00 & 6:00 pm Service

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300 Logan St., Merrill

**LUTHERAN CHURCH** 

Good Friday: 3:00 & 6:00 pm Services
Easter Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 am Services

#### PARK CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

216 Grand Ave., Merrill Rev. Stephen Tiffany

Easter Sunday: 9:00 am Fellowship Breakfast

10:30 am Worship Service

#### SAINT STEPHENS UCC

903 E. 2nd Street, Merrill
Rev. Michael Southcombe

Maundy Thursday: 6:00 pm Service and

Meal in Fellowship Hall

Good Friday: 6:00 pm Service

Easter Sunday: 6:30 & 9:00 am Services

## ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

1708 E. 10th Street, Merrill Fr. Maria Vallabhaneni

Holy Thursday: 7:00 pm Mass Good Friday: 1:00 pm Service Easter Vigil: 8:30 pm Service

Easter Sunday: 7:30 & 9:00 am Services Divine Mercy Sunday: April 16th at 3:00 pm

#### ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

1104 E. Third Street, Merrill

Pastor David Szeto

Maundy Thursday: 10:00 am & 6:00 pm Good Friday: 1:00 & 7:30 pm Services Easter Sunday: 6:00, 8:00 & 10:30 am Services

#### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Fr. Maria Vallabhaneni

Good Friday: 6:00 pm Service Easter Sunday: 11:00 am Service

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#### ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN -HAMBURG

134058 County Road L, Athens

Pastor Donald Love
Maundy Thursday: 6:30 pm Service

Good Friday: 6:30 pm Service Easter Sunday: 8:30 am Service

#### ST. PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

N6537 Old HWY 51, Irma

Rev. David Sutton

Maundy Thursday: Divine Service 7:00 pm Good Friday: Tenebrae Service 7:00 pm Easter Sunday: Sunrise Divine Service

Easter Breakfast between services

Divine Service 8:30 am

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

W2604 City Rd P, Merrill

Rev. Greg Laska

Maundy Thursday: 5:30 pm Service with Communion

Good Friday: 5:30 pm Service Easter Sunday: 6:30 & 8:30 am

# Services with Communion THE GATHERING TABLE

925 E. Main St., Merrill Holy Saturday: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

## TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN

107 N. State St., Merrill

Maundy Thursday: 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm (Radio 6:00-7:00 pm; Facebook Live:

Good Friday: 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm (Radio 6:00-7:00 pm; Facebook Live:

6:30 pm)

Easter Sunday: 6:00, 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 am

6:30 pm)

(Radio 6:00-7:00 am & 10:30-11:30 am; Facebook Live: 9:00 & 10:30 am)

#### WILDWOOD CHAPEL

W106 CTH C, Gleason

Pastor Mike Zahn

Good Friday: 4:00 pm Service Easter Sunday: 9:00 am Service

25252

# 2023 Merrill High School Girls Basketball Banquet

On Sunday, March 26, 2023, the Merrill High School Girls Basketball Team had their 2023 end-of-season banquet to wrap up a successful season.

Players, managers, coaches, and family members gathered and players were recognized for their contributions during the season. [See photos.]

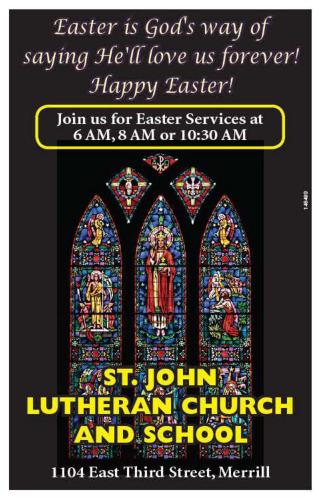




Left: Team awards were given out at the banquet. From L to R, Sophie Wendorf received the Team Over Me Award, Mia Ott was named Offensive Most Valuable Player, Maddy Ott also received the Team Over Me Award, Prayla Pyan got the Glass Cleaner Rebound Award, Alayna Pozorski was named Defensive Most Valuable Player and overall Team Most Valuable Player. Note: The Team Over Me Award is a team award given to one or more players who are recognized for always putting the team before themselves. Right: Three players were recognized by the Wisconsin Valley Conference. From L to R: Mia Ott was named 1st Team All Conference and Prayla Pyan and Alayna Pozorski both got All Conference Honorable Mention.

Submitted photos.





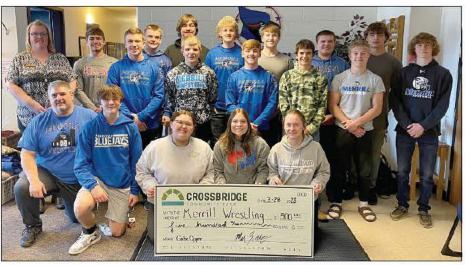












Front row, L to R: Merrill Head Wrestling Coach Brian Suchocki, Ryan Coates, Janna Jacobson, Erica Arneson, and Bridget Steinagel. Middle row: Gabe Opper of Crossbridge Community Bank, Noah Klug, Brett Suchocki, Callum Wheeler, Dusty Schmirler, and Brady Norton. Back row: Hunter Opper, Josh Gustum, Austin Depies, Carson Brooks, Mikal Plautz, Gage Lassa, and Joey Jensen.

# Crossbridge Community Bank contributes to Merrill Wrestling Program to honor service values

Crossbridge Community Bank recently donated \$500 to the Merrill Wrestling Program, on behalf of Universal Banker Gabe Opper, as part of the bank's ongoing commitment to service in the community. Opper was chosen randomly among employees as part of the bank's employee engagement Purpose First Program, which recognizes staff for their commitment to the organization's values, one of which is

service to the community.

"Putting purpose first is paramount in how we conduct business," said Director of Marketing, Jesica Witte. "It makes sense that it translates into how we choose to support our community and our staff. What is important and what gives each individual purpose is as unique as the

See WRESTLING page 16

#### MHS TRACK AND FIELD INVITATIONAL:

# Girls "emerged victorious"

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

The Merrill GIrls Varsity Track and Field Team started their season out with an indoor invitational meet in the Merrill Fieldhouse on Tuesday, March 30, 2023. Nine schools participated: DC Everest, Edgar, Faith Christian Academy, Rib Prentice. Lake, Waupaca, Wausau East, Wittenberg-Birnamwood, and Merrill.

And out of all nine, the Merrill Girls took first place, starting their season out with a victory and setting the bar high.

"In an exceptional exhibition of athletic

prowess, the Merrill High School Girls Track Team emerged victorious," said Alec Oestreich, new Merrill Varsity Head Track and Field Coach.

The Merrill Girls Varsity
Track and Field Team
totaled "an outstanding
130 points," he said,
outperforming their closest
rival, Wausau East, who
had 124 points. "Edgar,
Wittenberg-Birnamwood,
Rib Lake, Waupaca, and
Prentice trailed in the
rankings."

Oestreich listed some of the stand-out accomplishments of the

Merrill girls at the meet:
• The 4x770m Relay team

of Olivia Bares, Breannon Herdt, Norah Schmidt, and Bailee Sommer took first place "dominating the competition," Oestreich

- The 4x380m Relay team of Madi Crossman, Mia Smith, Olivia Troyer, and Jalie Severt took first place.
- Norah Schmidt placed first in the 800m and second in the 3200m race.
- Madi Crossman finished second in the 200m dash.
- Brooklyn Kragenbrink took second place in High Jump.

See TRACK page 16

## MHS Track Boys team finishes third in first season invitational

The Merrill Boys Varsity Track and Field Team kicked off their season with an invitational at Merrill on Tuesday, March 30, 2023. Eight schools participated: Edgar, Prentice, Rhinelander, Rib Lake, Waupaca, Wausau East, Wittenberg-Birnamwood, and Merrill.

"In a fierce contest that saw top-notch performances from all participating schools, the Merrill High School Boys Track Team finished third overall with a respectable score of 82 points," said Alec Oestreich, Merrill's new Varsity Head Track and Field Coach.

"Edgar took the top spot with 137 points, followed by Wausau East, who earned 131 points," he said. "Waupaca, Rib Lake, Rhinelander, Wittenberg-Birnamwood, and Prentice rounded out the competition, earning 79, 72.5, 52, 36, and 14.5 points, respectively."

"The Merrill High School track team showcased their talent with several individual accomplishments," Oestreich said "Hunter Stadler secured second place in Pole Vault with a remarkable 9'6" effort. Jace Olson leaped to third place in Long Jump, covering an impressive distance of 18'9"."

In the relay events, the 4x152m team, made up of Adam Bares, Erik Mann, Galen Franke, and Clayton Evans, sprinted their way to a third place finish, "displaying excellent teamwork," he said.

"Additional standout performances included Brian Ball's first place finish in the 200m race and Ian Schuetze's third place finish in the 3200m race," Oestreich said. "These achievements reflect the hard work and determination of the athletes and their coaching staff."

The Merrill High School Track and Field Team and its supporters can take pride in the boys' strong showing during this competition, he said.

"As they look ahead to future events, the team will undoubtedly continue to strive for even greater success on the track"

# 2023 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

|                 | Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV & JV2)   |          |          |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Sat. April 8    | Madison West (Varsity, JV)          | Away     | 11:00 am |
| Sat. April 8    | Madison West (JV Scrimmage)         | Away     | 1:30 pm  |
| Tues. April 11  | Marshfield (Varsity & JV)           | Away     | 4:30 pm  |
| Tues. April 11  | Marshfield (JV2)                    | Home     | 4:30 pm  |
| Thurs, April 13 | Marshfield (Varsity & JV)           | Home     | 4:30 pm  |
| Thurs, April 13 | Marshfield (JV2)                    | Away     | 4:30 pm  |
|                 | Girls Softball (Varsity & JV)       |          |          |
| Thurs, April 6  | WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity & JV)    | Home     | 4:30 pm  |
| Tues, April 11  | Stevens Point (Varsity & JV)        | Away     | 4:30 pm  |
| Thurs. April 13 | Wausau East (Varsity & JV)          | Home     | 4:30 pm  |
|                 | Boys Golf (Varsity & JV)            |          |          |
|                 | No Scheduled Events For This Week   | ·        |          |
|                 | Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV)         |          |          |
| Thurs. April 6  | Lakeland Union (Varsity)            | Away     | 7:00 pm  |
| Tues. April 11  | Three Lakes/Phelps (Varsity)        | Home     | 7:00 pm  |
| Thurs, April 13 | WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity)         | Away     | 7:00 pm  |
|                 | Boys Track and Field (Varsity & JV  | $\Gamma$ |          |
| Thurs. April 6  | Wausau West (Varsity)               | Away     | 4:00 pm  |
| Tues. April 11  | Multiple Schools-UWSP (Varsity)     | Away     | 3:30 pm  |
|                 | Girls Track and Field (Varsity & JV | 7)       |          |
| Thurs. April 6  | Marshfield (Varsity)                | Away     | 4:30 pm  |
| Tues, April 11  | Multiple Schools-UWSP (Varsity)     | Away     | 3:30 pm  |
| Thurs, April 13 | Marshfield (Varsity)                | Away     | 4:30 pm  |

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# ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Merrill High School (MHS) Senior **Alayna Pozorski** has been named Athlete of the Week. Alayna has been playing Point Guard on the Merrill Varsity Girls Basketball Team since she was a Freshman. This year she was named Defensive Most Valuable Player and overall Most Valuable Player for the team at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 season. She also plays summer league basketball for the Ultimate Team Camp (UTC) Fire Team. Alayna said she is enjoying her small animals and English classes at MHS this year. She is involved in the Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program this year and as part of that works part-time at Mitchell Metals in the factory. She was named YA Student of the Quarter for third quarter of the 2022-2023 academic year.

When not working or at school, Alayna likes to hang out with her friends and family – going shopping, to the movies, out to eat, or attending sporting events like MHS Football and Boys Basketball games and Brewers baseball games.

The daughter of Rhonda Pozorski of Wausau and Glenn Pozorski of Merrill, Alayna has a 3.4 GPA and plans to attend Northcentral Technical College to pursue an apprenticeship and become an electrician.

Congratulations from these sponsors:

i







Alayna Pozorski

Athletes highlighted in this feature are selected by the Foto News editorial staff, not by the sponsors.

Please direct comments or suggestions to fotonews@mmclocal.com



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Applications will be available or go to our website and complete an application prior to the event at <a href="https://www.Kolbewindows.com/careers">www.Kolbewindows.com/careers</a>.

Watch for Signs!

## WRESTLING from page 15

individual themselves."

"As part of our 2023 giving campaigns, we wanted to make sure our staff is directly involved in building their community how they see fit," she said. "Our service value reads: We exist to serve not just as a bank, but an essential, active part of the fabric of our community."

"We are involved, invested, and aware of where we can make the biggest impact within our neighborhoods, cities, and communities," Witte said. "We hope that gifts like the one given today can help boost programs that play a direct and important role in our employees' lives."

Opper was able to choose any non-profit or community program to receive the donation. She decided to impact a program her son has been involved with since his preschool years and selected the Merrill Wrestling Program which is near and dear to her family.

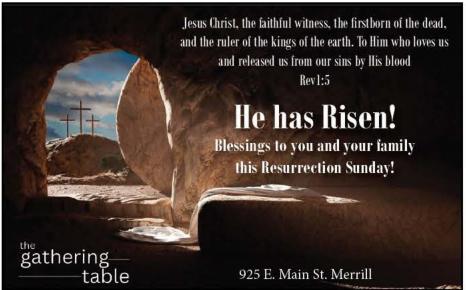
"The team always gives so much to the kids and looks out for the kids, and they always have," Gabe Opper said. "It is nice to give something back."

Crossbridge Community Bank is a purpose-driven, local financial institution that seeks to make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of their customers and the future of their community through the unique structure and culture of mutual banking. With locations in both Merrill and Tomahawk, the two locations share more than 100 years of history in their communities, as true community banks and partners. They recently changed their name to Crossbridge Community Bank to better reflect their shared history.

#### TRACK from page 15

- The 4x228 Relay team of Olivia Troyer, Mia Smith, Avery Hoff, and Brooklyn Kragenbrink took second place.
- Elexa Emmer took second place in Shot Put with a throw of 32'10".
- Amber Winter closely followed, taking third place in Shot Put with a throw of 31'8.5".
- Jalie Severt took third place in Pole Vault.
- Gracie Vanvuren placed third in the 1600m race.

"The extraordinary performance of the Merrill High School Girls Track Team demonstrates their steadfast dedication and determination," Oestreich said. "Focusing on future contests, the team is poised to sustain its success."





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