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The playground and lawn area at Riverside Park in Merrill are completely flooded, as the Wisconsin River has overflowed its banks.



The waters of the Prairie River rose very close to a home located near Merrill's Athletic Park.



Spring Flooding in Merrill

A view of the rushing waters at the Merrill dam.

Jennifer Gartmann photos.



Left: The Prairie River overflowed its banks, encroaching on the T.B. Scott Library lawn all the way up to the River Rat carving in the display case. **Right:** The boat landing is completely flooded, the parking lot is covered with water, and Riverside Park was closed to the public due to the flooding when the Wisconsin River overflowed its banks due to rapid snow melt from warm temperatures and recent rains. More photos online.

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Merrill community grieves the loss of two teens

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill community is grieving the loss of two teenagers who died this past weekend.

Aiden Grefe, age 17, and Dakota Brown, age 16, both of Merrill went missing early Sunday morning, April 16, 2023. Aiden's mother last heard from him at approximately 8:00 a.m. and witnesses indicated they had seen the two teens walking into the woods near State Rd. 17/Single Mill Rd. in the Town of Harrison in Lincoln County. At that time Aiden was believed to have

See **LOSS** page 2



Dakota Brown



Aiden Grefe

MHS presents Fiddler on the Roof this weekend

Merrill High School (MHS) Theatre Jays will present the musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*, this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in the auditorium at MHS, with four show times available.

It's been more than 30 years since students last brought the show to life in Merrill, but now in 2023, student actors are sharing the story of Tevye, a simple dairyman in what is roughly modern day Ukraine, along with his wife, Golde, who keeps him on his toes. The couple has five daughters, a fact Tevye likes to share with everyone he meets.

"A Fiddler on the Roof ... sounds

See **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF** page 8



The stage is set at the Merrill High School auditorium for this weekend's performance of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Submitted photo.

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Annual Work Zone Awareness Week highlights importance of highway safety

April 17-21, 2023, is National Work Zone Awareness Week in Wisconsin. For more than 20 years, National Work Zone Awareness Week has marked the start of construction season across our country, promoting road worker safety and cautious driving in work zones.

"Transportation investments are reaching all corners of the state and crews are rolling out the barrels to establish work zones for this year's construction season," Gov. Tony Evers said. "Work Zone Awareness Week reminds us of our call to action, but these messages do not apply to just one week. Work zone safety must be top of mind for every driver when getting in the vehicle. Safe driving is always in season."

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) reminds motorists of the importance of safe, responsible driving—especially in work zones as the 2023 construction season gets underway. In Wisconsin, work zones include highway construction

and rolling maintenance operations as well as emergency response, municipal projects, and utility work along local roads. Every year there are typically more than 300 state highway and bridge improvement projects in Wisconsin.

"Work zones are temporary, but our decisions behind the wheel can make an impact forever," WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson said. "The people working behind the barrels rely on us to drive safely. Glancing at a text or social media alert while driving is not worth it. Let's work together to avoid distractions and stay focused on the road ahead. Safe drivers create safe work zones."

Preliminary data shows more than 2,000 crashes were recorded in Wisconsin work zones in 2022, resulting in eight deaths and more than 650 injuries.

From 2018 to 2022, Wisconsin work zones saw more than 11,500 crashes causing 63 deaths and more than 4,300

injuries. Speeding, tailgating, and distracted driving are listed as common factors in a majority of crashes.

Download the 2023 Wisconsin work zone safety fact sheet.

Cell phone use is one of the most common factors in distracted driving crashes. Wisconsin law prohibits texting while driving on any road. It is also illegal to use a hand-held mobile device in work zones and in areas surrounding emergency response vehicles with flashing lights.

Drivers and passengers make up the vast majority of those injured or killed in a work zone crash, but workers remain at risk as well. Last year, a 25-year-old utility worker was struck and killed while unloading equipment on the side of a road in Sauk County. In 2021, a 57-year-old Clark County highway worker was killed and another worker was injured after

See SAFETY page 19

LOSS from page 1

been wearing a sleeveless white shirt and sweatpants, and Dakota was last seen wearing a bright pink sleeveless body suit, light blue ripped jeans, and either black high top Converse or white Vans shoes. She may also have had a gray zip-up hoodie sweatshirt with her. She did not have her phone or other electronics with her. This information was provided by family and friends on Facebook.

The weather changed dramatically on Sunday, starting with rain and transitioning to sleet, freezing temperatures, snow, and high winds as the day wore on and into Monday morning.

Family and friends searched for the missing teens to no avail.

A formal search ensued on Monday, April 17, led

primarily by Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) and Oneida County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) with assistance from the Wisconsin National Guard, multiple fire departments, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Emergency Management, the Oneida County Forestry Department, the Oneida County Land Records, the Rosewood Barn, and Derek's Town and Country. At that time, the LCSO asked that all private search efforts be halted, as they would interfere with the organized search.

On the evening of April 17, the OCSO issued a press release saying "two deceased persons were found in the Oneida County Forest in the town of Enterprise."

"The deaths are being investigated jointly by the OCSO, the LCSO, the Oneida



Brown



Grefe

County District Attorney, the Lincoln County District Attorney, and the Oneida County Medical Examiner's Department. At this time, due to the limited information that we have, no more information will be released," the release said.

While neither the OCSO nor the LCSO would confirm the "two deceased persons" were Aiden and Dakota, Aiden's mother,

Rachel Grefe, made the confirmation on her Facebook page Monday evening, saying: "As some of you may know and are aware, my son Aiden and his friend Dakota were found this evening deceased. I want to thank all the volunteers and friends and family and the community as one that has come together for my child and Dakota."

"Please keep my family and Dakota's family in your prayers as we have lost our beautiful babies and need love and strength to help get us through," her message said. "Again thank you all who have sent love through messages or showed up out on the searches! Much love from myself Aiden's mother, his sister Molly, and brother Evan and the rest of Aiden's close family!"

Additional counselors were available at Merrill High School on Tuesday, April 18, to help students.

The deaths of the two teenagers are considered an active investigation. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

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Friends of Vincent donate to Fire Safety Council

The Friends of Vincent Foundation (FOV) donated \$700 to the Fire Safety Council, Inc., in March 2023 for the purchase of fire safety and burn prevention educational materials to provide to students in our schools.

FOV is the non-profit organization that operates the Haunted Sawmill as a fundraiser to support its mission to help children in our local communities.

This past fall, the Haunted Sawmill completed its 12th season; the FOV are already hard at work preparing for their 13th year. Fittingly, this October the theme will be "the 13th Door."

In 2022, the Haunted Sawmill scared more than 8,000 guests for a good cause. The Haunted Sawmill was also voted as the #1 haunted attraction in Northeastern Wisconsin for the third year in a row by fans at hauntedwisconsin.com.

FOV purchased Christmas gifts, food, and clothing for more than 60 individuals and 25 families in 2022 as part of their Christmas Giving Program. In addition, they funded their high school scholarship, helped individual families in crisis, donated to the Fill-a-Backpack program to purchase school supplies, and assisted children going on extracurricular trips and experiences.

"The Friends of Vincent Foundation wants to get the word out about how we are here to help people in their time of need," said Gerald Hersil, the President of FOV and Director of the Haunted Sawmill. "We believe that it is our duty to help children however we can in our community. The more people that know about the help we can provide, the better we will be able to fulfill our mission."



At the Haunted Sawmill, Friends of Vincent Foundation Board members Richard Tanck, Mark Porath, Allyson English, Scott Nest, Todd Jorgenson, President Gerald Hersil, Secretary Dick Duginski, and Hunter Schalow present a check to David Graveen of the Merrill Fire Department for the Fire Safety Council. Submitted photo.

"It is incredibly rewarding to see the good that we are doing right here in our own community," said Kristin Woller, the Vice-President FOV. "The Haunted Sawmill is completely staffed with unpaid volunteers. Everything that we are able to raise via the Haunted Sawmill is able to be used to help children." The organization has an application process to assist those in need.

"We also offer direct opportunities for youth groups to earn money by working in our concessions areas during October," Woller said.

"There are so many ways that we help children," said Dick Duginski, the Secretary of the Board of Directors for FOV. "It's all the things you see by donating to all these worthwhile causes. But, maybe most importantly, it is the process

of teaching our young volunteers at the Haunted Sawmill about how important it is for them to do a good turn and lighten the load for others whenever they can do so. We stress that if everyone gave back to their own community and made it a little bit better, the world would be a beautiful place."

"The Haunted Sawmill has gone through a lot of changes in its 12 years," said Hersil. "While we hope that the young leaders of the haunt become the people that run and operate well into the future, we will continue to do everything we can

to help children in the meantime. To see our volunteers learn from our dedicated team of adults, develop new skills, come out of their shells, and develop into bright, confident, amazing adults has been an incredible experience for all of us."

"The Haunted Sawmill and FOV is not just about scaring people at Halloween, and it's not just about being able to lend a hand where we are needed," he said. "At its core, the Haunted Sawmill is really about being able to continue providing an environment that our teens appreciate and have come to feel is their home away from home. They feel like this is their safe place where they are with people that appreciate and accept them for exactly what they are. The most rewarding thing for me is when kids tell us how the Haunted Sawmill changed their lives for the better. That makes us unique and that makes us important. There is no other haunted attraction anywhere that can come close to matching the amazing things we are doing at the Haunted Sawmill."

As soon as details are finalized, show dates, times, and ticket prices for the October 2023 Haunted Sawmill will be posted on their website: hauntedawmill.org. Information and opportunities to win free tickets and merchandise are also available on the Haunted Sawmill's Facebook page or by sending Vincent Mudgett, the Haunted Sawmill's main ghou, a Facebook friend request.

Merrill City Band to perform at Loyalty Day Ceremony


The Merrill City Band is waking up from hibernation a little earlier this year. The usual start of the band's season is Memorial Day, but with the Loyalty Day Ceremony being held in Merrill this year, the band is coming alive.

On Saturday, April 29, 2023, the City Band will put on a concert at the Expo Center beginning at noon, one hour before the Loyalty Day Ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. The Merrill City Band program will include patriotic music, marches, and more.

There will be a lunch at the Expo Center starting at 10:00 a.m. and the Loyalty Day

Parade will begin from the Merrill Festival Grounds at 10:30 a.m., along with other events planned for the day.

Loyalty Day was first celebrated in 1921 and was observed as a recurring national holiday by congress in 1958. It is a day set aside for individuals to reaffirm allegiance to the United States and recognize the heritage of American freedom. Each year, the Wisconsin VFW bestows the honor to one city to host the celebration of Loyalty Day. The City of Merrill and Merrill VFW Post 1638 and Auxiliary are honored to be hosting it this year.



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Merrill Area Public Schools Head Start

MAPS Head Start has openings for the 2023-2024 school year.

This program is for children of low income families who will be three or four on or before September 1, 2023. In addition, if your child turns three during the school year, your child can be enrolled after their third birthday.

For more information and/or an application, please call Pine River School for Young Learners at (715) 536-2392. You can also find the application on the MAPS website.


Once your application is completed, please call to set up an appointment to drop the paperwork off.

Do you have a Child who will be Four Years Old on or before September 1, 2023?


Would you like to enroll them in the MAPS Pre-Kindergarten program?

For more information on the Merrill Area Public Schools Pre-Kindergarten program, you can call Pine River School for Young Learners at 715-536-2392. This is a free half day program. We can send you enrollment forms or you can find them on the MAPS website.

Once your enrollment forms are completed, please call to set up an appointment to drop the paperwork off.



Merrill Area United Way



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April 2023 -- Foto News Article

Merrill Area United Way

Dee Olsen, Executive Director

Spring is a time for refreshing, renewal, and incredible changes. April is a time when this Director reflects on her first year as United Way Director. A tornado touched down in Merrill on April 10, 2011. I was hired to start my new job on May 1st. But rather than jumping into the job, I jumped into a full-blown response campaign to raise funds and help those that were devastated by their losses. Then Director Lynn Zentner and I worked side by side that entire summer as we dealt with many ramifications from the tornado and the trail of damage it left behind, both materialistically and emotionally. Reflecting on the 2011 tornado pushes out a reminder for people to be watchful of the weather patterns and changes, and of course, stay tuned to the emergency sirens in case they sound off in the city.

With the closing of the Lincoln County University of Wisconsin Extension, the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County program was eliminated. Fortunately, some of their efforts were picked up by the Lincoln County Health Department and some of the people involved in the previous Healthy Minds program. Not all initiatives have continued. However, a youth group from Merrill High School called the RAISE YOUR VOICE CLUB is holding a Raise Your Voice for Mental Health Walk. The club's mission is to raise mental health issues awareness, advocate for change, share resources and support for others. This walk is held in partnership with National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Northwoods. The Awareness Walk is Sunday, May 7th, 2023, at the Merrill Area Recreation Center (MARC), 1100 MARC Drive, Merrill. Registration at 11:30 a.m., walk at 1:00 p.m. Consider donating to this worthy cause. Enjoy the walk, silent auction (ends at 1 p.m.), yard games, face painting, entertainment, and concessions.

Merrill Area United Way has fulfilled its annual obligation to United Way Worldwide by submitting our reports for United Way Worldwide Membership Certification and another report named Data Base II. We have met the standards, plus complied with United Way Worldwide directives, to ensure impact in our three major areas of: Health, Education, Basic Needs/Income.

The Merrill United Way Board Planning and Goal Setting Session is April 19th. We will assess progress, look at changing trends, and set a plan and goals to continue our organization's growth and development. The Board strives to meet the ongoing, changing needs of the community. Soon the Board members will start the spring/summer agency visits.

You make a difference when you support the Merrill Area United Way. If you want to donate, please send your check to Merrill Area United Way, P O Box 813, Merrill, WI 54452. Donations stay local. For more information about Merrill Area United Way visit our website at merrillareunitedway.org or email Delores.Olsen@merrillareunitedway.org.

OBITUARIES



Alfred E. Schmidt, 89, of Merrill, passed away Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at Pine Crest Nursing Home, Merrill.

Alfred was born September 13, 1933, in Merrill, son of the late Alfred J. and Florence (Paquett) Schmidt. Alfred enlisted in the Army National Guard on October 23, 1950, and was honorably discharged on November 27, 1951. In 1952, Alfred purchased a small dairy farm near his family and ran that farm for twelve years. In 1964, he purchased a larger dairy farm in the Town of Pine River and ran that for many years. Alfred also owned and operated Merrill Pavers in Merrill for 31 years and was a self-employed logger. Alfred married Joan Sutte and together they had ten children. He then married Angeline (Kafkas) Woytasik, and she preceded him in death on September 22, 2000. Alfred married Louise (Jones) Peterson on January 2, 2003, in Bessemer, Michigan. She preceded him in death on July 30, 2019.

Alfred enjoyed hunting, polka dancing, and the occasional game of golf. He really enjoyed his job and made many friends through his business. Alfred was a very caring person and a great friend. His greatest loves were God, his family, and his country.

Alfred is survived by his children, Tim (Cassie) Schmidt of Merrill; Kary (Nichole) Schmidt of Tomah, Scott Schmidt of Fort Lauderdale, FL, Bryan Schmidt of Chilton, Suzette (Paul) Kolaga of Lannon, WI, Rita (Steven) Timm of Princeton, WI, Jennifer (Bill) Wise of Jacksonville, FL, and Michele Lohff of Wausau; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and brother, Boyce (Bernice) Schmidt of Crivitz. Alfred was preceded in death by his two wives, Angeline Schmidt and Louise Peterson Schmidt; children, Alfred E. Schmidt and Joseph Schmidt; parents, Alfred J. and Florence Schmidt; siblings, Wilford Schmidt, Christian Schmidt, Florence 'Sis' Lee, Lorraine Eastburn, Agnes Basil.

The burial of Alfred's cremated remains will take place in Springbrook Cemetery, Town of Pine River, Lincoln County, at a later date. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family. The family would like to invite everyone who knew "Al" to a celebration of life Sunday, May 21st from Noon until 3:00 P.M. at the Eagle's Club in Merrill.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Daniel Jay Stewart, of Stevens Point, passed away at Aspirus Stevens Point Hospital on April 6, 2023, at the age of 73.

Daniel was born January 27, 1950 in Little Muskego, WI; eldest son of Jay and Ruby (Lamb) Stewart. He attended local schools and helped care for his three younger siblings; two brothers, Lawrence "Larry" and Douglas "Doug", and his sister, Sandra. At the age of 12, most of Daniel's family perished in a house fire; he and Doug, ages 12 and 9, were the only survivors. Following the tragic event, he and Doug lived with various family members and even a foster home. Eventually Daniel found himself in Iola-Scandinavia where he graduated from high school in 1969.

Following high school, Daniel worked at various places like Wausau Homes and Weinbrenner Shoe Factory. He also worked at Lincoln Wood Products Inc. for many years. Soon after leaving Lincoln Wood Products Inc., he began working as a truck driver and found his passion. He enjoyed the trucker life, traveling the country and meeting many new people along the way.

As a young man, Daniel had been married, but the two later divorced. In his marriage, he was blessed with two beautiful children; a daughter, Deana and a son, Jay. Daniel remained a constant in his children's lives; he was a very proud father who loved his kids very much. Upon becoming a grandfather, he found a new reason for living. In all the sorrows he faced in his lifetime, his children and grandchildren were the light in his eyes.

Daniel was a very active man who enjoyed the great outdoors. In his younger years, he stayed active with basketball and softball. Spending time outdoors brought him solace; while he enjoyed hunting, he loved fishing! His greatest joy in the outdoors was camping with his friends and family and sitting around the campfire. Those who knew his one-of-a-kind personality and heard his many jokes (sometimes repeatedly), can often recall memories that involved camping.

Daniel is survived by his children, Deana (Jason) Jankowsky and Jay (Jennifer) Stewart; and his five grandchildren, Austin, Sophie, Ethan, John, and Jaxson. Daniel is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family.

Daniel was preceded in death by his parents, Jay and Ruby Stewart; his 6-year-old sister, Sandra; his 4-year-old-brother, Larry; his brother, Doug, who passed in 2018; and numerous aunts and uncles.

A Celebration of Life will be held to honor Daniel's memory on June 17, 2023 at 2:00 PM at Ott's Park in Merrill, WI. Online condolences may be left by visiting www.shudafuneral.com.



Carolyn M. Meyers, 87, of Merrill, passed away Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at Woodland Court Elder Services, Merrill.

Carolyn was born November 15, 1935, in Norfolk, Nebraska, daughter of the late Carl and Hattie (Buss) Finup. She married the love of her life Dale Meyers March 18, 1955, at St. Stephen's Ev. Lutheran Church in Beaver Dam. They recently celebrated their sixty-eighth wedding anniversary. Carolyn was a legal secretary and was also a campaign manager for State Representative Sheehan Donoghue. She held a position on the Accounting Examiner's Board for many years under Governor Lee Dreyfus. Carolyn enjoyed reading, crosswords, cross stitch, and chocolate. She was a devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and loyal friend. Carolyn was the glue that held her family together. Her greatest joy in life was spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Carolyn is survived by her husband of sixty-eight years, Dale Meyers of Merrill; daughters, Kimberley (Phillip) Walker of Antigo and June Bebel (Scott Mueller) of Beaver Dam; grandchildren, Cortney, Casey, Savannah, Serena, Taylor, and Carley; and great-grandchildren, Adrianna, Braxton, Anthony, Addison, Parker, and Veda. Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Hattie Finup; daughter, Toni Marie Meyers; son, Elliott Robert Meyers; sister, Judy Meyer; and brother, Donald Finup.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Carolyn's family would like to thank the staff with Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice for their professional and personal care. They would also like to thank the staff at Woodland Court for making her feel at home and treating Carolyn like family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

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Kimberly C. Boyce, July 20, 1972- April 12, 2023.

Family gathered at her bedside at Aspirus to bid farewell to truly unique and beautiful being. Born on July 20, 1972 amid great celebration to loving parents Laurie and Phillip Boyce.

Attendance to Midway, Merrill Jr. High and Merrill High School. Further opportunities at North Central Technical College in EMS dispatch and Teaching Assistant.

Always sporting a perpetual smile with a hinting of mischievousness. Stoic durability in spite of life's turmoil. Creative resourcefulness, allocation of resources to help those in need.

Her pinnacle of pride has always been with her children and grandchildren. Brandon (son), Kaitlyn (daughter in law), Sophia (granddaughter) Brittany (daughter), Ava (granddaughter), and Katie (daughter).

She is survived by her mother, Laurie Lee, brothers; Kelly Boyce and Keith Boyce, sister; Lisa Babcock. Numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews and nieces also. Friends of cherished value also maintain.

Preceded in death by grandmother Marcia Nutter, Herbert and Louise Boyce (grandparents), and her father Phillip.

A funeral service will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm at Waid Funeral Home. Pastor Yang Yauo will officiate. A visitation will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2023 from 4:00 pm until the time of service also at the funeral home. A private burial will take place at Doering Cemetery.

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.

In Memoriam

In Loving Memory of
JOHN DOE
Apr. 9, 1954-Aug. 6, 2014

We can assist you in finding a heartfelt way to honor and remember your loved one.

It's hard to believe it's been 2 years already since you left us. We think of you every day.

Love & Miss You Jane, Sue & Bob

Stop or call our office to place your ad.

MERRILL Foto News

921 E. Main St., Merrill
715-536-7121

Memory Bear Workshop

Please join us for a time of healing as we create huggable bears from your loved one's clothing. This event will be held at **Waid Funeral and Cremation Service**, 301 Eagle Drive, Merrill, WI

CHOOSE BETWEEN TWO FREE SESSIONS:
Friday, May 5, 2023 • 4-8 p.m. or
Saturday, May 6, 2023 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Each day will start punctually as it takes the entire scheduled time to design, cut and sew the bears. One bear per family will be made at this event. We do have volunteers who can create additional bears outside this workshop. Contact Anna Winningham for more details. An evening meal will be served Friday and a light breakfast and lunch will be served on Saturday.

WAID FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICE

To reserve your spot, RSVP before April 28 by calling 715-536-4646.

We plan for a long life.

We plan to do the things we love.

We plan to watch our families grow.

We pre-plan our final wishes with them and for them.

WAID FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICE
301 Eagle Drive • Merrill, WI 54452
Phone: (715) 536-4646
Visit our website at www.WaidFuneral.com

OBITUARIES



Dennis 'Denny' L. Neumann, age 70, of Merrill, passed away on Monday, April 10, 2023, at the Aspirus Wausau Hospital, while surrounded by his loving family. He was born on December 30, 1952, to the late Ronald and Margaret (Ullmann) Neumann in Merrill. Denny attended and graduated from Merrill High School. He met Elizabeth 'Liz' Plautz, and the two were united in marriage on June 15, 1974 in Merrill, a union lasting 48 years.

Denny was employed with Merrill Millwork for over 30 years, the last part of it was as a supervisor in shipping and receiving. He retired on January 3, 2023. In his younger years, he also worked for Schultz's Wrecking. Denny was very proud to be able to fulfill his dream of building a church, and did so in Mosinee for Crossroads Assembly. Denny was also a Royal Rangers teacher for 23 years, and was the leader for the last 5 years. He was the true meaning of handyman, which he passed on to his son. Denny could build a house from the ground up, including all the work inside the house. He was skilled with working on machinery as well, especially vehicles. Denny was an avid hunter and fisherman, always enjoying that time with family and friends. Last Fall, Denny was able to see his grandson harvest his first bear and buck with a rifle that was passed down through generations of family. His faith and family were his priorities and he was a loving and supportive husband, dad, and grandpa. Denny loved children, and looked forward to watching not only his grandson race snowmobiles; but all the youth racers in the WKSRA Club. He is remembered as giving the best hugs and having a heart bigger than him.

Denny is survived by wife: Liz Neumann, daughter: Tara (Paul) Pawleski and son: Rick (Kristy) Neumann, all of Merrill, beloved grandchildren: Alex Neumann and Desi and Claudia Pawleski, along with a special granddaughter: Katelyn Hahn, sisters: Lynn (Neal) Zunker and Darcy Neumann, sister-in-law: Ann Nethery, brothers-in-law: Steve (Deb), Phil (Deb) and Tim (Cheri) Plautz, as well as many nieces, nephews and great friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, step-mother: Martha Neumann Leiskau, mother and father-in-law: Marion and Ervin Plautz, brothers-in-law: Larry Nethery and Jerry Plautz and nephew: Michael Plautz.

Family wishes to thank the wonderful doctors, nurses and support staff at Aspirus Wausau Medical Surgical / Intensive Care Unit for their care and support shown to Denny and his family during their time there.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Denny's name to a charity of your choice.

Family hosted a Celebration of Life for Denny on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at 11am at Hillside Church, 1501 Pier St, Merrill, WI 54452. Pastor Brandon Wade officiated. Visitation was held the same day from 9am until the time of the service, also at the church.

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.



Audrey M. Bloechl, 85, of Gleason, passed away Saturday, April 15, 2023, at Woodland Court Elder Services, Merrill, WI. Audrey was born June 14, 1937, daughter of the late Clarence and Bertha (Hinz) Doering. Audrey married the love of her life, Frank 'Sonny' Bloechl on November 24, 1956.

Audrey worked at Lincoln County Bank and had several seasonal jobs. She enjoyed working outside best of all. Audrey loved camping at

Buffalo Lake with her family and taking long walks around the lake. Sonny and Audrey spent many hours fishing in the surrounding lakes.

Audrey loved going to rummage sales every week in the summer. She enjoyed gardening and canned many vegetables every year. She was well known for her baking. She made the best bars and treats.

Sonny and Audrey enjoyed traveling with family and friends. They visited almost all the states, including Alaska and Hawaii multiple times. Audrey also enjoyed going to family baseball games and snowmobiling with her family.

Audrey is survived by her husband, Frank 'Sonny' Bloechl; children, Sherri (Tim) Diels, Brian Bloechl, and Debra (Russ) Jablonski; six grandchildren, Leah (Justin) Bloechl-Gruna, Sarah Jablonski (Tim Stahnke), Jenna (Matt) Loveless, Jacob Jablonski (Emily Hurley), Keith Diels, and Kristina (Zach) Patterman; and several great-grandchildren. Also, siblings, Robert Doering, Marion Kohnhorst, Marvin Doering, Joyce Olson, and Patty Geiss, along with many nieces and nephews. Audrey was preceded in death by her parents; and brothers, James Doering and Donald Doering.

Audrey's family would like to thank the staff at Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services for their professional and personal care. They would also like to thank the staff at Woodland Court for making her feel at home and helping Audrey's family during this difficult time.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, April 30, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. at the Gleason Bowling Center. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Lincoln County Humane Society. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Marlin Robert 'Bob' Hart Sr., 81, of Merrill, passed away Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Bob was born May 25, 1941, in Meadville, Pennsylvania, son of the late Marlin L. and Larieta M. (Deshner) Hart. He married Darlene L. Stockton on August 15, 1959, in Linesville, Pennsylvania. She survives. In 1959, Bob graduated from Meadville Senior High School and went to work for his uncle at Barlow Well Drilling Company where he learned the skills of well drilling and plumbing. When his uncle suddenly and unexpectedly passed away, he took a job at a truck stop. Then Bob joined Wickes Lumber Company as a yard loader then as an outside salesman, traveling throughout northwestern Pennsylvania. In 1964, Bob went to work for Etling Window & Door Company in Barberton, Ohio. In 1965, that company bought Goodjohn Sash & Door Company in Leavenworth, Kansas and Bob was transferred to Leavenworth with responsibility for development of territory in the states of Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, and Iowa. With success there he advanced to a similar position for the states of Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and relocated back to Barberton, Ohio in 1967.

When Etling Window & Door Company was sold to Georgia Pacific Corporation in 1968, his successes had been recognized by industry contacts that invited him to become National Sales Accounts Manager of Semling & Menke Company in Merrill. He served in that capacity for about 20 years and then became the manager of the print shop for Semling & Menke Company for the next 17 years which called for less travel and afforded more time for family and Masonic interests. Bob retired in 2008.

In retirement, despite some health issues, Bob continued to enjoy the outdoors and kept busy brewing a large variety of wines. He took special pride in the clarity of the finished product that is bottled only after a year in process. Bob enjoyed gifting most of his wine to others. He also enjoyed working outside, especially on his lawn, hunting, fishing, camping, and building. He loved spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Brother Bob was initiated into the Leavenworth Masons Lodge No. 2 in Leavenworth, Kansas on May 1, 1967. Bob was elected Junior Warden in 1974 and Senior Warden in 1975, then he was advanced to Worshipful Master after only two stated communications when Worshipful Master Plants was suddenly transferred by the United States Geological Survey to Salt Lake City. Bob was elected Worshipful Master in 1976 and again in 1977, so in total he served three years as Worshipful Master. Bob served on the board of directors for the Masonic Building Association for several years. He also served as Associate Bethel Guardian (Dad Hart) for Jobs Daughters Bethel #17 for twelve years. In July of 2017, Bro. Bob received his 50-year pin from the Grand Lodge of Kansas.

Bob is survived by his wife, Darlene Hart of Merrill; son, M. Scott (Sheryl) Hart of Fremont; grandchildren, Eric (Taylor) Hart, Tyler Hart (Corina VanDuser), Michael (Jenny) Hart, Bryan Hart, and David (Olivia) Hart; great-grandchildren, Emily, Sawyer, and Chase; and cousins, Vivian Deshner and George Deshner. Bob was preceded in death by his son, M. Robert 'Bob' Hart Jr.; parents, Marlin and Larieta Hart; brothers, George Hart and Richard Hart; and aunt, Betty Deshner.

The Masonicfuneral service for Bob will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, April 24, 2023, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home. Visitation will begin at 9:00 A.M. on Monday at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Sally J. Bell, 88, of Merrill, passed away Friday, April 14, 2023, at her home.

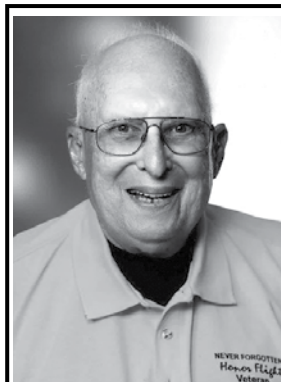
Sally was born December 5, 1934, in Merrill, daughter of the late Herbert and Louise (Payne) Hehling. She married Robert Bell on June 11, 1955, in Merrill. He preceded her in death on October 12, 1979. Sally worked as a secretary at the Holy Cross Hospital and Weinbrenner Shoe Company for many years. She enjoyed sewing, stamp collecting, reading and going to the casino with her family. Sally loved

her dogs and cats.

Sally is survived by her sons, John Bell of Merrill, Thomas (Debra) Bell of Menominee, and Michael Bell of Merrill; grandchildren, Jamie Bell, Jenny (Matt) Preusse, Robert Bell, Michael Bell, Matthew Bell, and Trevor Bell; great-grandson, Landon Preusse; and sister, Linda Wilson. Sally was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Bell; son, Patrick Bell; parents, Herbert and Louise Hehling; and brothers, Allen Hehling and James Hehling.

Per Sally's wishes, no services will be held. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Frank J. Sus Jr., passed away on Saturday, April 15, 2023, after a long battle with cancer and heart failure. Frank was

born on September 16, 1943, to the late Frank J. Sr. and Rose Sus in the city of Racine, WI. He grew up in Racine, WI, where he graduated from Horlick High School in 1961. Frank met the love of his life, Miss Dawn (Willis) at Don's Outlet where he bagged groceries at her register. He joined the Air Force in 1963,

and asked Dawn to marry him. They flew to South Rislip Air Force Base in Middlesex, England, where Frank would be stationed and they would be married at The Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the District of Uxbridge County of Middlesex on June 20, 1964. While in England, they would be blessed with the birth of their first daughter, Carrie-Ann. They would return to the states in 1967. He began working at Twin Disc Inc. and spent the next 21 years working as a machinist and supervisor. During those years, Frank attended Carthage College and received his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and his Masters in Accounting. Frank and Dawn were blessed with two more children, Frank J. III and Kellie Marie. Over the years, Frank enjoyed playing sports with all his friends, spending time with family and watching his children grow into adults and giving him many grandchildren. In 1988, Frank and Dawn moved to Elcho, WI. They started Eight Reasons Group Home and Sus Transfer in Antigo, WI. He officially retired in 2014. Frank enjoyed time with family, fishing, watching NASCAR and socializing. He joined the American Legion of Merrill and became the treasurer. He found a dear friend in Reinhold Lenz and the two of them would be at The Veterans Cup of Coffee on Wednesdays, weather and health permitting. He was also a member of The Man of Honor.

Frank is survived by three children: Carrie-Ann (Fred) Schroeder, Frank J. (Shelly) Sus and Kellie (Greg) Nowack, 14 grandchildren, brother-in-law: James (Sue) Willis, sisters-in-law: Pam (Mike) Scholz and Edith Slater, many nieces and nephews and special friends: Elmer and Ericka Giese, Susie Thomas, Reinie Lenz, Roberta Schwelitz, Wayne Detlaff and Tom and Veronica Thomas. A special thank you to his sidekick and granddaughter, Anna Lorraine, for all the help and laughs she has given her Papa over the last few years. He was preceded in death by his parents, sweet wife: Dawn Sus, 2 children, sister: Susan Oby, sisters-in-law: Laura Rouse and Tracey Detlaff and brothers-in-law: Bob Rouse and Ken Slater.

There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 1pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Wausau, WI. Military honors will take place at the church immediately following the service.

As an expression of sympathy, memorials may be sent to Kellie Nowack, W8713 State Highway 64, Merrill, WI, 54452. All donations will be divided between the Never Forgotten Honor Flight and The Veterans Cup of Coffee Club.

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.



Enid Schuster, 94, of Wausau, beloved wife of the late Martin Schuster, passed away on April 16, 2023.

Enid was born on September 10, 1928 in the Town of Berlin, daughter of the late Edward and Elsie (Kilian) Neitzke. Enid married Martin on November 8, 1947 in Colorado Springs, CO. She and Martin farmed together until 1984. In her spare time Enid was a baby sitter, enjoyed doing needle work and working in her flower beds.

She is survived by her three children: Michael (Reva) Schuster, Lyle Schuster, and Rita (Daniel) Pittsley. Enid also leaves 8 beloved grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Enid also leaves a former daughter-in-law, Lynette Schuster, sisters-in-law: Dala Knies, Selma Weber, and Fraulene Neitzke, along with numerous extended family and friends. She is preceded in death by a sister, Irmgard Bartelt, and two brothers, Werner and Leroy Neitzke, along with a grandson, Cody Schuster.

Visitation will be held on Friday, April 21st from 4 PM - 7 PM at Helke Funeral Home, 302 Spruce Street, Wausau, a prayer service will follow at 7 PM in the funeral home. Visitation will continue on Saturday, April 22nd from 1 PM - 3 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Naugart, with a service to follow at 3 PM. Burial will follow in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery Naugar

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRIL 6, 2023

Boy, Wilmer Junior, born to Whitney Waldvogel and Wilmer Pineda-Estrada of Birnamwood.

Boy, Lincoln Txawj Xaav, born to Elizabeth Weisenberger and Jason Weisenberger of Wausau.

APRIL 7, 2023

Girl, Holland Kate, born to Elisabeth Wagner and Kurt Wagner of Wausau.

APRIL 8, 2023

Boy, Lawson John, born to Sarah Sturm and Ben Sturm of Merrill.

Taylor & Stine

Funeral Home and Cremation Services

Leah D. Reist, Director
McKenna K. Meunier, Director

903 E. Third St. • Merrill, WI
715-536-6244

www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

Check us out online!
merrillfotonews.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We welcome letters to the Editor, a chance for members of the community to comment on issues of concern to them. All letters must be original, not duplications of letters addressed to public officials or written by others. The views and opinions expressed are those of the letter writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication, its publishers, Editor, or staff.

TO THE EDITOR:

WE NEED TO SAVE PINE CREST NURSING HOME!
Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill, Wis., is in dire need of funding!

North Central Health Care Facilities of Wausau, et al., have already shut down Lincoln County's Lincoln Industries which served a population of vulnerable individuals, special needs people. They also closed

doors permanently on the Northern Valley Workshop in Wausau, as well as the Community Corner Clubhouse, all organizations serving our most vulnerable individuals. Now Pine Crest Nursing Home is on the chopping block.

Our most vulnerable citizens are losing their support programs and facilities. We need to do whatever it takes to save Pine Crest Nursing Home!

I am willing to pay more in taxes to support our elderly citizens' security in an excellent facility that provides professional, compassionate care for them. Are you? We all get OLD and one day may need to reside there ourselves.

Please contact Gov. Tony Evers and all of our elected representatives, insisting that they fight for us and help us save Pine Crest Nursing Home.

-P. A. Laessig
Merrill, Wis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

- *Letters must be 250 words or less. (There will be no exceptions to this. Any letter longer than 250 words will not be printed.)
- *The writer must include their full name, complete address, and a phone number where he/she can be easily reached for verification. Phone numbers and street addresses will not be published, but will be used for verification purposes, if necessary. Letters must be signed and the name, city, and state will be printed.
- *Letters may be edited for style, grammar, and length. Form letters or those we determine to be libelous or slanderous will not be accepted. Any letter deemed derogatory, inflammatory, or involving vulgar language will not be published. We reserve all rights to reject material submitted to this publication.
- *Letters will be published on a "first come, first served" basis. Any letters which we are unable to publish in the printed newspaper may be run online at www.merrillfotonews.com and/or may be printed in the paper at a later date.
- *In fairness to all, and due to space constraints, there is a limit of two letters per year from an individual writer. Additional letters may be submitted to our Paid Letters to the Editor column and will require payment in full prior to publication at the same rate as Political Letters to the Editor (see policy below).

POLITICAL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

All letters submitted as an endorsement for a political candidate, referendum, or political agenda will carry the same guidelines as above; however, they will be charged \$40.00 per letter of up to 250 words in length. Longer political letters will be accepted but will be charged \$10.00 per additional 50 words. All political letters must be prepaid prior to printing. Letters to the Editor will not be accepted from candidates running for election or representatives of an organization endorsing their own referendum, as these are clearly advertisements and not opinion letters; those submissions will be referred to our Advertising Department to be run as paid ads.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

On One or Multiple "Happily Ever Afters"

Dear Reader,

When we marry we take a snapshot in time. Yes, this is the girl or boy of our dreams based on the perception of who and what they seem to be right then, at that specific moment. We truly believe there is no one on this planet like this person. On our wedding day, we think that we won the lottery and will live happily ever after.



But years later, we look at that person and wonder if she or he is whom we would want to live the rest of our life with. Maybe their growth took them down a path far from your own. Or maybe there was no growth at all, and in fact it seemed like they went backward, to an earlier level of maturity.

Forty-one percent of all first marriages end in divorce. It is worse for second and third marriages: Sixty percent and seventy-three percent, respectively.

Oftentimes, this need not be. Yes, it is true that divorce sometimes is necessary because of violence or lack of trust. But at other times, the rain is followed by the sun and a rainbow. Where there is beauty, there is hope.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

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

OP ED

Support your local community newspaper

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Local community newspapers are important. They provide information about local politics, elections, city and county government, and newsworthy legal matters, and they let you know what is happening at a hyper local level that impacts YOU in the community. That might be good news, like a reduction in property taxes (we can all hope, right?) or the City of Merrill being recognized with a special honor, or it might be bad news, like an arrest, car accident, fire, or tornado.

But your local newspaper isn't CNN. They aren't just concerned with printing a long laundry list of every depressing thing they can find.

Local community newspapers, like the Merrill Foto News, also support the local community. They support local schools, community organizations, churches, businesses, non-profits, civic entities, and individuals. They share information and run stories on new businesses, people you should know, human interest pieces, high school sports, activities at local schools and churches, community events, local history, fundraisers, programs available to the public, how national news might be affecting the local community, and so very much more.

Everyone loves to see their child's name and face in the local newspaper, whether that is because their child was on the Honor Roll or in the local school play. They like to read about their child's sport's team and

their child's individual accomplishments. They're proud of their child and often clip these news items, along with sponsored features like Student of the Week, Athlete of the Week, Youth Optimist of the Month, and FFA Student of the Month, to go into scrapbooks or tuck away as a memento.

Churches love to see their congregation and its events featured. So do community organizations. And being featured in an article about business, or having a feature article done on your individual business is great free publicity! Everyone benefits from coverage in their local newspaper.

And ... it's a lot easier to save or clip and frame a photo or article from your local newspaper than it is to save a mention on social media.

Many community newspapers, like and including the Merrill Foto News, are mailed FREE to all the residents in their local areas.

Did you know that the Merrill Foto News is mailed FREE to nearly 14,500 homes EVERY week? These days, the distribution is done via U.S. Postal mail to ensure delivery to every household in the Merrill (54452), Athens/Hamburg (54411), Gleason (54435), and Irma (54442) areas. And copies of the Foto News are also available on racks throughout the Merrill and Gleason communities and in some local stores. In addition, we have readers outside our area who pay to have the Foto News mailed to them each week.

The cost of paper has gone up (along with everything else) in the last year. But paper has gone up a lot. That's increased

the cost of producing the local newspaper.

Do you know who helps keep your local community newspaper coming to your mailbox each week at no cost to you? Well, the staff obviously, but also the advertisers who pay for the ads in that local newspaper.

At the Foto News, we really appreciate each and every business, organization, and individual that advertises in our newspaper. Truly. And we want you, the

readers, to thank those advertisers, to shop and do business locally, and to help them get a good return on their investment by mentioning you saw their ad in the Merrill Foto News.

But because a local community newspaper is a service to the community, we also want to invite businesses,

See OP ED page 8

Celebration of Life/Internment for Ronald H. (Ron) Machel

Ronald H. (Ron) Machel passed away on December 16, 2022 in Burnsville, MN. Ron was born May 6, 1942 in Wausau, WI to Harold Machel and Mildred (Kiepke) Machel Koenig. He is survived by son, Rob (Jen) Machel and daughters, Sara (Jeff) Beach, Heidi (Kevin) Houck, Holly Machel; grandchildren, Elena and Isabel Machel, Alden and Emma Beach, Adela, Lilian and Bernadette Houck; sister, Nancy (Paul) Storm Spano and step-brother, Lyle Koenig.

Please join Ron's family in his Celebration of Life/Internment on Saturday, May 6, 2023: 12:30pm - graveside prayer service at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, 5304 44th Avenue, Village of Maine, Wausau, WI

Followed by:
1:00pm - lunch reception, music, sharing memories and favorite stories of Ron at Willow Springs Town Hall Lower Level, 5480 Hillcrest Drive, Village of Maine, Wausau, WI.

Forever in our hearts, Rob, Sara, Heidi, Holly, Nancy

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WIN ME!
Each Customer Gets a Ticket With Purchase of \$25 or Greater to Enter Into a Drawing. Starts April 14th. Drawing May 12 for Mother's Day

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Bacon Irreg. Sliced Hardwood Smoked - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY \$1.99	Bacon Sliced Frozen 15 lbs. ONLY \$2.29 a lb.	Bacon Hickory Smoked Sliced - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY \$2.69	Honey Ham Thin Sliced - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY \$1.29	Beef 73/27 Fine Ground - Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$2.29 a lb.	Pollock Fillets Skinless - Boneless Frozen 10 lbs. ONLY \$2.99 a lb.	Half Hams Smoked Bone-In - Frozen 8 lbs. ONLY 99¢ a lb.	Polish Sausage Skinless - Fully Cooked Frozen 6 lbs. ONLY \$3.99	Pork Sausage Regular - Frozen 32 oz. ONLY \$2.99	Pizza - Fully Stuffed Three Meat - Frozen 31.7 oz. ONLY \$4.49	Pizza Thin Crust Pepperoni - Frozen 15 oz. ONLY \$1.69	Butter Salted - Quarters 16 oz. ONLY \$2.99	Butter Salted - Whipped 5 lbs. ONLY \$12.89	American Cheese Sliced - Yellow 5 lbs. ONLY \$9.89	American Cheese Sliced - White 3 lbs. ONLY \$5.89	Cream Cheese Original 48 oz. ONLY \$3.49	Cheddar, Monterey Jack, Hot Pepper Cheese Blended Cubed 5 lbs. ONLY \$8.99	French Fries Golden Curis - Frozen 28 oz. ONLY \$3.49	Pork Sausage Links Fully Cooked - Frozen 9.6 oz. ONLY 99¢	Pollock Raw, Breaded Frozen 4 lbs. ONLY \$2.79 a lb.	Sour Cream Light 5 lbs. ONLY \$5.99	Shredded Cheese American - Sharp 5 lbs. ONLY \$8.99	String Cheese Mozzarella 10 lbs. ONLY \$12.89	Gruyere Cheese Applewood Smoked 8 oz. ONLY 59¢	Feta Cheese Crumbles 5 lbs. ONLY \$4.89	Blue Cheese Crumbles 5 lbs. ONLY \$4.89	Parmesan Cheese Shaved 5 lbs. ONLY \$4.89	Hot Dogs Uncured - Frozen 10 oz. ONLY 99¢	Bacon End Pieces - Frozen 3 lbs. ONLY \$1.69 a lb.
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In-store only. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Spring Tire Sale

\$1 TIRE!
WHEN YOU BUY 3
NOW thru April 30th
*Some Brands Excluded

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Jeep Chrysler Dodge Ram

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

from page 1

crazy no, but in our little village of Anatevka, you might say every one of us is a Fiddler on the Roof, trying to scratch out a pleasant, simple tune, while trying to not break their necks." So says Tevye as he opens the show with a metaphor that can be applied to so many things in life.

The storyline in this dramatic musical focuses on the couple's eldest three

daughters, the traditional use of a matchmaker in another time and place in history, and love. Together with the joys of living a simpler life and traditions that hold that simpler life together, are interwoven the themes of growing up and growing older, and growing through life in general.

Deeper still is the story of what was happening to the Jewish community all over the world as the Russians persecuted them all across Asia in what would be a harsh foreshadowing of the future.

How and who will the daughters fall in love with and what must Tevye do to keep their traditions alive, all while under the ever-watchful eyes of the Russian soldiers of the shtetl where they live?

Overarching the whole story, is the theme of light. Tevye is a light bearer and must foster that light through and in his people, his friends, and his daughters and must keep it burning even in the darkest of times.

Under the direction of Richard Linder Burbach, young community actors



A scene from a dress rehearsal of Fiddler on the Roof. Submitted photos.



Some of the cast members of the MHS Theatre Jays production of Fiddler on the Roof. Four shows this weekend.

meet the challenge to take on serious themes and serious characters in this rendition of Fiddler on the Roof.

The Theatre Jays hope their audience will draw parallels from the story they act out on the stage in words and song and apply those themes to their own lives. In our modern world, what can we take from what we see in this story and how can we apply it to our own lives? Can we be someone's

light, through even their darkest of times? Can we hold fast to the traditions of our lives while allowing them to evolve in our ever-changing world?

The Theatre Jays program are seeking donations to support ongoing production costs, educational opportunities,

and upgrades to local theatre technology. Donations can be made via: qrco.de/bc4ZhJ

Tickets are on sale at www.showtix4u.com/events/TheatreJays and will be on sale until two hours before the beginning of the productions. Tickets are for sale at the door.



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April Critic's Choice free movie event

T. B. Scott Free Library will host their next Critic's Choice Movie Event on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

The movie they will present is set in 1962 and is a biographical comedy-drama about a famous African American classical pianist and his Italian American bodyguard driver. As they travel the deep south on a controversial concert tour, they develop a lifelong friendship.

This movie won three Academy Awards, including best picture, and stars Mahershala Ali and Viggo Mortensen.

As always, there will be free popcorn and refreshments.

OP ED from page 7

organizations, and individuals who don't usually or frequently advertise in the Foto News to consider doing so. Not only will it increase awareness of your message within the community, but doing so actually helps support your community by ensuring your local community newspaper can continue to operate. And not just that, but increased advertisers means more pages to print all of these community news stories. That's how we can grow the number of pages we're able to produce each week. Which in turn means we can include more of your favorite features and more information about the things you want to know and see in print.

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Signs a home exterior needs updating

Renovations are a great way for homeowners to reshape their homes. Some may aspire to renovate so their home is more reflective of their personal taste, while others may do so in an effort to make their homes better align with modern styles and sensibilities. Regardless of why a homeowner chooses to renovate, the need to do so is often evident to the naked eye, especially when the time comes to update home exteriors.

Curb appeal is often discussed in regard to the effects it can have when selling a home. But curb appeal is equally important for homeowners who aren't putting their homes on the market. A well-maintained, aesthetically appealing home is a source of pride, while a home with fading curb appeal can make homeowners feel a

little sheepish. Homeowners who want their homes to maintain their curb appeal can look for signs that it's time to update their home exteriors.

Curling shingles: The roof may not be the first thing people think of when pondering curb appeal, but a damaged roof can contribute to problems that ultimately affect the exterior and interior of the home. Multiple curling shingles indicate it's time to replace the roof. The sight of curling shingles is not pretty, but the larger issue in such instances is the potential for costly water damage when water gets in through the affected shingles.

Dated entry door: Many home improvement experts insist they can determine when a home was built or most recently renovated simply by looking at the front



door. Steel and glass doors are popular in modern homes, so homeowners with front doors with ornate designs and oval glass inserts can likely benefit from an upgrade to their entryway. A modern front door can make a statement

and real estate experts note how popular updated front doors are among buyers.

Unightly landscaping: It's not only the physical components of the home that may suggest an update

is necessary. Homeowners without a green thumb may have exterior landscaping that has seen better days. If a spring or summer day spent tending to your landscaping is not your ideal weekend pastime,

then consider replacing unsightly landscaping with low-maintenance plants or hardscaping. These alternatives to more needy plants can create curb appeal without requiring any extra work for homeowners.

Cracked driveways/walkways: If the driveway looks like a busy road at the end of snow plowing season, chances are that's adversely affecting the impression people have of your home. In addition, cracked walkways indicate a need for renovations, as these areas are front and center when welcoming guests.

Updating a home's exterior can restore curb appeal and help homeowners feel better about their properties.

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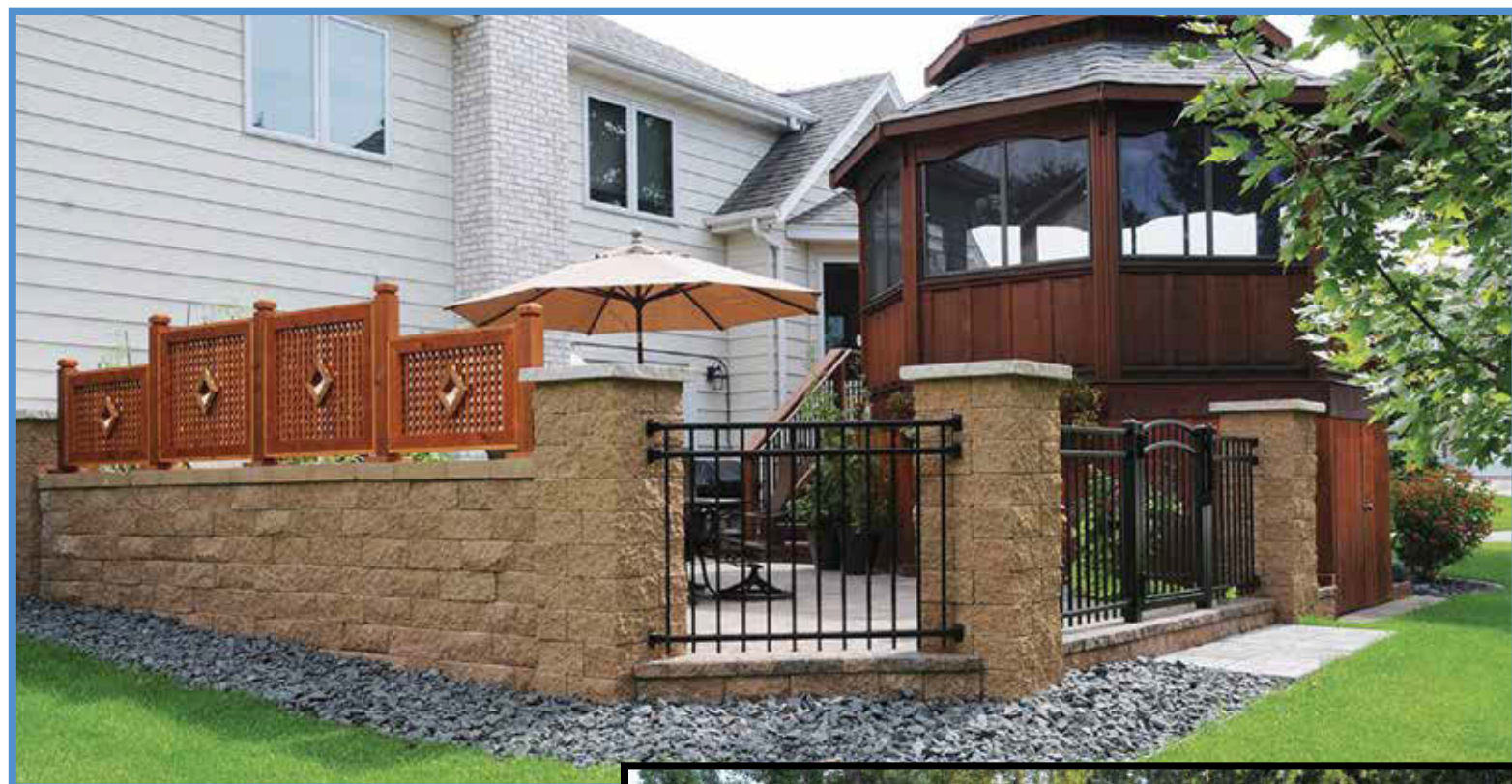


5 off-the-wall uses for retaining walls

(BPT) - Segmental retaining wall (SRW) systems make attractive walls, but they also are used to build many beautiful and functional outdoor features for homeowners and professionals alike. As the most versatile resource in a professional landscaper's tool box, SRWs can also be used by do-it-yourself landscapers with a little know-how. Whether you need to transition a slope, shore up soil or create beautiful landscaped features, one retaining wall system - the VERSA-LOK retaining wall system - can do it all.

YouTube creator and construction pro Stanley "Dirt Monkey" Genadek calls VERSA-LOK the "gold standard" of retaining walls. "VERSA-LOK's solid, pinned units are superior to hollow, lipped blocks that require fill and might trap water," says Genadek, who owns a landscaping and excavating company in Mendota Heights, Minn. "It's the one block that can do it all. VERSA-LOK is the gold standard in SRWs as far as I'm concerned."

Says Scott Arnold, manager of Villa Landscapes, a design and install landscaping firm in St. Paul/Minneapolis: "Retaining walls are most often employed to



address grade changes in the landscape and to retain soil. But as the 'Legos' of landscaping tools, retaining wall units can be used to create many beautiful and functional features such as outdoor kitchens, fireplaces and seating."

Seating

From creating seat walls to stadium seats, retaining walls are for sitting. One

popular application is a freestanding seat wall around a patio or fire pit. Retaining walls are perfect to set into hillsides such as amphitheater seating, where they retain soil while offering a place to sit. Other options include stadium seating, replacing cold, noisy and more expensive aluminum bleachers as well as a couch or bench designed with SRWs.

Functional features

Retaining wall units can make beautiful tiered gardens, raised garden beds, planters, tree rings plus fire and water features. One common application is a raised patio, where retaining wall units serve as a foundation for a paver patio surrounded by freestanding walls in place of a wood deck. Creative homeowners and installers have used retaining wall units for lighted column posts, waterfalls, hot tub platforms or mailbox columns.

Steps/stairs

Going up and down a slope is easier with solid stair foundations created from



retaining wall units. From stairs out the back patio to steps for access within a hardscape design such as a multi-level patio, retaining wall units are a safe support for stair treads and pavers.

Fencing

Keep people moving the right way with freestanding walls used as fencing or partitions. A parapet wall is a back-to-back wall that serves as a barrier for vehicles and pedestrians. Stepped-down freestanding walls are used

alongside ramps for easy access. Custom columns designed with lighting and fencing with timbers or rail posts can serve as a fence solution.

Signage

Both residential and commercial signage can be created with retaining wall units. Stately columns with house numbers at the end of a driveway, a landscaped entrance sign to a community development or a mailbox pillar are features easily

created with retaining wall units. Monument signs can be built as freestanding walls, with channel letters, a signboard or neon mounted on the surface.

The endless design options afforded by retaining wall systems are limited only by the imagination. With a variety of colors and textures, retaining walls can do it all, beautifully. If you can design it, you can build it with VERSA-LOK.

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Are you making these 5 common spring lawn care mistakes?

(BPT) - Longer days and bountiful sunshine mean the outdoor season has arrived. As excited as you may be to enjoy the fresh air out on your lawn, there are several spring lawn care tasks to complete first.

It's no secret that homeowners love a lush green lawn, with 36% of American homeowners revealing that their lawns are a top investment in both time and money, according to TruGreen's new survey*. However, it can be easy to make common lawn care mistakes that can jeopardize both the look and health of your lawn.

"While homeowners may want a quick fix for getting their lawn ready, there is no one-size-fits-all approach to maintenance, which can often result in mistakes and an unhealthy lawn," said Brian Feldman, director of technical operations at TruGreen. "This season, take a step back and ensure you're not falling victim to some common lawn care mistakes our expert team has witnessed."

The professionals at TruGreen, the nation's leading lawn care provider, are helping make sure you're not falling into the most common lawn care mistakes among homeowners, including:

Mistake 1: Overwatering your lawn

While it's tempting to shower your lawn with water (and love), be mindful that doing so is not only wasteful and can increase your water bill, but can also drown out your emerging lawn - especially during rainy months.

PRO TIP: Follow the general rule to water 1-2 times a week for a total of 1 inch of water.

Mistake 2: Improper fertilization

Fertilizer provides your lawn with critical nutrients.

Mistake 3: Bagging your lawn clippings

Think of leaves and trimming as vitamins for your lawn, as they are filled with beneficial nutrients for the soil. Rather than reaching for the trash bag to remove these clippings from your lawn, leave them be. They help your lawn grow stronger and healthier.

PRO TIP: Remove the bag from your mower to disperse the lawn clippings and mow them back into your lawn.

Mistake 4: Mowing your lawn too short

When the mower blades are set too low, they can



However, if not applied correctly it can damage your lawn. Every lawn is unique, requiring some research to determine the best fertilizer, technique, frequency and quantity of product.

PRO TIP: Connect with a lawn care professional to plan a proper fertilization regimen for your lawn's unique needs based on various factors, including your region's climate and grass type.

damage the grass plant. Unfortunately, damaged grass is more prone to weeds, drought stress and disease.

PRO TIP: For most grass types, maintain a minimum length of 3 inches to encourage grass to flourish. As a rule of thumb, don't cut more than 1/3 inch of a grass blade in a single mow.

Mistake 5: Overlooking weed prevention

Timing is everything in lawn care. While it can be tempting to plant spring seeds to get your lawn back up to your standards, the best time for seeding is actually

in the fall. But keep in mind, there are other critical things that should be tackled this season to achieve a healthy, green lawn.

PRO TIP: Don't wait to protect your lawn from unsightly weeds. Work with a lawn pro to apply a pre-emergent weed control to stop weeds from germinating throughout your lawn.

A green lawn of your dreams is possible when you avoid and correct these common lawn care mistakes. If you have questions or need further expertise to verify your current lawn care habits, consult a lawn care professional at TruGreen.com.

*Survey conducted by OnePoll on behalf of lawn care company TruGreen polling 2,000 Americans with a yard/lawn.

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The many styles of front doors

A grand entryway simply wouldn't be complete without an impressive front door. A front door can dazzle guests and create a homeowner's desired vibe before anyone even steps inside, which only underscores how important the choice of door style can be.

When shopping around for a new front door for their homes, homeowners can consider the many popular styles as they seek to choose one that fits an existing scheme or use a new front door as a springboard to a redesigned home interior.

FARMHOUSE:

Farmhouse doors are not all one and the same. Traditional farmhouse doors provide a rustic look that's become popular in-home decor over the last decade or so. Modern farmhouse doors are a little less rustic because they incorporate more contemporary elements into their design. Each option is ideal for homeowners who aspire to create a farmhouse vibe in their home interiors and exteriors.

MODERN:

Modern front doors tend to boast a bold look and many are made up of large glass panels. Some homeowners prefer modern front doors because the glass in them allows lots of natural light into their home's interior. The added light in the entryway appeals to homeowners who want to brighten up these spaces, which tend to be dark in homes with more traditional doors.

TRADITIONAL:

Traditional front doors may

be the most recognizable to today's homeowners. Often solid wood but sometimes enhanced with glass, traditional doors may feature subtle, yet ornate designs. Traditional front doors might feel out of place in modern or rustic homes, so they're generally best suited to homes with owners that prefer more traditional decor inside their homes.

CUSTOM:

It's important that homeowners recognize they need not pigeonhole themselves into a particular design style for their front doors. Custom front doors may be costly, but many door manufacturers or contractors customize front doors. Custom doors may suit homeowners with unique ideas about decor, and some can even mimic other popular styles while still featuring subtle differences. For example, homeowners can request an arched double



door that, while unique, features many of the same qualities that characterize traditional doors, including ornate designs.

A front door can greatly

influence the first impression people get of a home. That makes it worth homeowners time and effort to explore the many different front door styles now available.

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5 easy ways to refresh your bathroom for spring

(BPT) - There's nothing like the warmer temperatures, blooming flowers and longer, brighter days to inspire you to take a fresh look at your home, and the ideal place to get started is in one of your most-used spaces: the bathroom. Spring is the perfect time to refresh your bathroom, so why not go beyond a thorough cleaning to make the room feel brand new? Fresh, seasonal colors give the room an upgraded look, and products like a new toilet seat let you continue that spring-fresh feeling all season.

Here are simple ideas to help you get started on revamping your bathroom this spring.

1. Invite more color

Start with swapping out some of the simple elements in your bathroom, taking the opportunity to brighten the

space with fresh new colorful towels, bathmats and even a new shower curtain. Choose light, appealing colors and/or patterns based on natural elements that will bring more of a springtime feeling into your home.

2. Decorate thoughtfully

Consider adding some easy decorative accents, like glass jars filled with cotton swabs, small soaps or garden flowers. A little goes a long way, so choose just a few of these accents to help give the room a sense of spa-like elegance, without making it seem overly busy or cluttered.

3. Think attractive storage solutions

Include smart and visually appealing storage options



such as a few pretty baskets on shelves for holding extra guest towels, for example. Baskets are also really useful for keeping that extra clutter off of your countertops, and

you can easily organize them by categories like toiletries, washcloths and makeup.

4. Upgrade your seat

Spring cleaning for your bathroom isn't complete without a new toilet seat. The Mayfair by Bemis Affinity is an attractive plastic seat that installs easily and is designed for a precise fit, so it never moves after you install it. The seat also features quiet closing to avoid unpleasant slamming. Best yet, the hinges are designed to let you easily remove the seat for thorough cleaning - and when you're finished cleaning, you simply place the seat back on the toilet and close the hinge caps. The durable plastic seat wipes clean effortlessly for that final touch on a fresh, spring bathroom feel.

Visit ToiletSeats.com for more options to help you find the perfect seat

from Bemis Manufacturing Company.

5. Refresh your windows

After giving your bathroom windows a thorough cleaning inside and out, consider updating how they look overall with new window treatments. One terrific on-trend idea is to install roller blinds or Roman shades in lighter colors. If you opt for blinds or shades made from thin-enough fabric, they will still provide much-needed privacy while also letting in some natural light - helping the whole room feel lighter and brighter.

Ready to get started on refreshing your bathroom? These are all ideas you can easily DIY - no plumber or designer required! - that will make a big difference for the look and feel of your bathroom, right away. Then you can relax and enjoy your room all season long.

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Baker Barns LLC
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 Sizes from 8'x8' to 14'x40'
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 Please Call Anytime For Service. We Are Here For You.
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715-536-6791



CLASSIFIEDS

Deadline: Monday at 11:30 a.m.
Phone: 715-536-7121
Fax: 715-539-3686

EMPLOYMENT

MIDWEST INDUSTRIAL SEWING CORPORATION **NOW HIRING**

We're proud of our workers and our work, and we're hiring for the following positions:

- Industrial Sewer
- Tarp Repair
- General Labor

These are year round full time, part time, seasonal positions. We offer excellent starting wages of **\$17 FT more with experience.** We offer...paid vacation, holidays, insurance, 401k 4 1/2 day work week & no forced overtime.

Apply in person at 6702 Venture Circle, Weston, WI EOE/M/F

WALK IN WEDNESDAYS

On the spot interviews from 12:30 – 3:30 every Wednesday. Get a plant tour • Ask questions • Turn in a resume.

Shifts available to meet everyone's schedule!
2nd Shift Monday – Friday, 3rd Shift Sunday – Thursday.
\$1.00 Shift differential for 2nd & 3rd shifts!

We are looking for skilled:
Makino CNC Set-up Operators
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Paid Vacation after 90 days!
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NOW HIRING CNA's, RN, LPN ALL Shifts, Full Time

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720 E. King Road,
Tomahawk, WI
(715) 453-2164

Apply in person or email tgrenwalt@nshorehc.com

General Employment 7110

Wind Valley Transportation LLC

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 full-time & part-time positions. We offer health care & vacation. Please call for additional info: (715) 693-6564

Health Care 7115

Urgently Needed! Part-time IN HOME CAREGIVER. Must have at least 1 year experience. EXCELLENT PAY. Call or Text Michele at 715-921-0790.

Professional and Technical 7135

3 WEEKS & BE ON THE ROAD to a better paying job! Train with us to get your CDL without a wait list! 715-942-2700 ext. 102

Skilled Trades 7175

Full Time Small Engine Mechanic: Looking to hire a full time experienced small engine mechanic. Must be dependable, neat and have own tools. Hours are Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm possible overtime. Stop by Ingman's Service 2508 County L Tomahawk WI for an application. Sheryl Garfield

Skilled Trades 7175

QUALITY HOMES OF IRMA is seeking a Qualified Service Technician to service Manufactured and Modular Homes. \$30 to \$40 per hour depending on experience. Apply in person at Quality Homes, just off Hwy 51 in Irma, WI. 715-453-6613

Announcements 7005

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo.com/ads

Announcements 7005

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 & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)**

Don't be late with your Classified Deadline **Mondays at 4:00 pm**

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

Help Wanted
10-15 Hours Per Week
General Retail Work

Pick up application at
SVDP Thrift Store
1004 E. Main St., Merrill, WI or
Inquire at: 715-539-1131

Baumgart Waste Removal is looking for Drivers with A Class B CDL License for

Full time & Part time
Monday thru Friday
Please APPLY in person at
1304 Cotter Ave., Merrill, WI
or Call 715-536-4692

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Come Join Our Team We're Hiring!

- 1st Shift Production (FT, \$19.06-\$20.14 per hour, 90 day probation, OT)
- NEW- 1st Shift Summer Help (FT, \$17.60 per hour, OT, Must be 17+)
- NEW- 2nd Shift Production (FT, +\$1.80 premium per hour)

"Seeking quality people to make a quality product."
For additional information visit lincolnwindows.com/Careers

Lincoln Wood Products-Employment Office

Apply In-person at 1400 W Taylor Street or Email resume to gebeyer@lincolnwindows.com
We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Lincoln County Highway Department Highway Worker

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.

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- Take pride in making packaging for world reknown food brands!
- Find your next career at GPI, and check us out on our website!

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GPI is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Apply Online at GRAPHICPKG.COM/CAREERS/

Plant Location:
200 Central Bridge St.
Wausau, WI 54401

CityWide Rummage Sale 7000

It's the Annual RUMMAGING AROUND STRATFORD 2023
 Thurs., May 4th • 8am-8pm
 Fri., May 5th • 8am-8pm
 Sat., May 6th • 9am-3pm
114 SALES!!!
 Maps Available May 1st at www.stratfordwi.com & Stratford businesses

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202

MARATHON CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES!
 Thur & Fri, April 27-28, 7AM-7PM.
 120 houses!
 Some houses open Wed.- Sat
 Maps available at houses.

Miscellaneous Sales 7212

Sterling Rare Find Pocket Volt Meter, valuable to collector \$25. Call 715-218-0376.

Antiques and Collectibles 7214

FLEA MARKET SUNDAYS
 7am-4pm SHAWANO FAIR- GROUND'S weather permitting
715-526-9769 zurkopromotions.com

Furniture and Home Decor 7236

PLYMOUTH FURNITURE: QUEEN MATTRESSES FROM \$199 40 Styles on Display! All Sizes Avail. PlymouthFurnitureWI.com 2133 Eastern Ave Plymouth WI **920-892-6006** Open Daily (WCAN)

Lawn and Garden 7250

New & Used Lawn & Garden Equipment
 Large selection serviced and ready for spring! Full service small engine repair. Tillers, mowers, chainsaws, log splitters & more. North Central Power Equipment 2803 Emery Dr, Wausau 1 mile north of Fleet Farm off Hwy K, east on Emery Dr. 715-370-3002

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

Huge! Huge! Huge! Community Sale
 Dozens of families have donated clothing, furniture, toys, household items and more. At Good News Church, 145919 Lowland Ln, Mosinee, just out of town off Cty. B. 2 DAYS ONLY: Thursday, April 20, 8a-8p & Friday, April 21, 8a-4p. Bag & half-price sale: Friday only. Proceeds go toward Camp Scholarships, Childrens & Youth Ministries. Pictures will be posted on FB.

Estate Sales 7208

Mega Estate Sale N4235 Cty Rd. K (North of Merrill). April 27 4PM-8PM, April 28, 29 & 30 6AM-5PM Wood & Metal Working power and hand tools, chainsaws, garden tools, Vintage Autos for parts, Hunting & Fishing, Tiller, Primitives, Ford Brush Guard w/winch, much more. NO EARLY SALES.

Auctions 7282

ISA INTEGRITY SALES & AUCTION
 Trust Built on Integrity
Wednesday, May 3rd thru Wednesday, May 10th
Live On-Site & Online Sale 8 AM Start

Heavy Equipment, Forestry Equipment, Dump Trucks, Semi's, Trailers & Much More!

Computers and Electronics 7216

Switch and save up to \$250/yr on talk, text & data. No contract or hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time get \$50 off any new account. Use code GIFT50. 1-855-903-3048

Firewood 7244

DRY OAK & Hard Maple, \$250/cord. Over 15 mi is extra. Have hard wood in wood shed over a year old. Clean & no bark. 715-351-1888 or 715-873-4196.

Outdoors 7262

"GO FISH - CANADA!" KING-FISHER RESORT Cabin-Boast Motor-Gas \$88 per person/day. **JULY/AUG/SEPT SPECIAL \$83** per person/day, Easy Driving Access **800-452-8824** www.kingfisherlodge.com (WCAN)

Saturday, 4/22/23 8am-3pm
 1224 Jefferson Street, Wausau. TOTAL SPRING CLEAN OUT. Loads of antique & vintage stuff. Come & get it, priced to sell!! NO EARLY SALES!

Flea Markets 7210

Vendors Wanted for 2023 Flea Mkt/Craft Sale-Sept. 9, 2023 at Merrill's Enrichment Center 303 Sales St. Booth-\$35 ea. for a 10x10 space. Multiple spaces available. Contact Jody Malsack at joeandjody@charter.net or 715-536-5266. Paperwood will be sent via e-mail.

NEW since 2022 Consign Now with BUY - IT - NOW!

Skid Steer Attachments, Shop Equipment, Tools, Unused Tool Boxes, Implements and Much More!

Musical Instruments 7220

HOLD GUITARS WANTED! GIBSON, FENDER, MARTIN, etc. 1930's to 1980's. TOP DOLLAR PAID. CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-433-8277

Furniture and Home Decor 7236

Lounger w/full size Mattress (new) \$500 3pc Patio set Wine color glass table top \$80 Call **715-323-6041**

THE CLASSIFIEDS
 SMALL ADS BIG DEALS

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202

Kronenwetter: Huge Shed and Garage Sale April 27, 28, 29, Thurs-Friday 8 to 6, Sat 8 to 4 at 2080 Old Hwy 51 (1-1/2 mile south of Cedar Creek Mall)
SHED: truck repair equipment; wash basin, steam pressure washer, tires, rims, oil and fuel filters; tools, grease, parts, welder, antique tools, old cub cadet, old air compressor, generator, grinder, horse tack, saddles plus much more.
GARAGE: clothing including large selection of western men's clothing med & large, glassware, household, fishing, hunting, knick knacks, MLPony, horse models, plus much more. See pictures on Craigslist. 715-359-4184

N295 Tree Lane, Merrill, WI 54452
 Phone: 715-443-5000
www.integritysales.com
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 Integrity Sales & Auction LLC
 RWAC#517
Consign Now! Low Fees!

NOW HIRING

- Cook/Kitchen Staff • Bartenders
- Punctuality - Ability to multi-task
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- Experience preferred but not necessary

Stop in & fill out an application or send resume to manager@pub1638.com

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If you've worked here before and left, come on back!

Full Time, Part Time, OTR & Regional Runs
 We are flexible & have runs to match your needs

Contact Jody • **715-536-9789 x 2**
jokemoen@pioneertrans.com • www.pioneertrans.com

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FRESH? WE'RE HIRING!

Department Managers Water Street & Ohio Street

- We are looking for qualified Department Managers to work collaboratively with our windows division. Must have the ability to lead & motivate a crew.
- Excellent low-cost health benefits

Employee: \$80/Month
 Child: +\$42/Month
 Spouse: +\$128/Month
 Deductible: \$250/Ind. \$500/Family

SIERRA PACIFIC WINDOWS

If you are qualified and would like to join our team please send a cover letter referencing the position and resume to:
SARAH EVANSON
 605 N. OHIO STREET, MERRILL, WI 54452
715-722-1884 OR VISIT: SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS

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We are Hiring!

Now Offering... 3 - Day Weekends!

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 Two Merrill Locations:
 605 N. Ohio St. | 1815 Water St.
 Questions? Call: 715-722-1884

OHIO ST. LOCATION
 4 10-Hour Days
 (Both shifts available, OT on Friday)
SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS

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

SIERRA PACIFIC WINDOWS

f Find us on **Facebook**
www.facebook.com/MerrillFotoNews

Guns 7264
GUN SHOW APRIL 28, 29 & 30th SAUK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, BARABOO, WI Fri. 3pm-9pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun 9am-3pm. For more info: 563-608-4401 or marvkrauspromotions.net (WCAN)

Guns 7264
CASH FOR GUNS
 Antique or Modern Rifles • Pistols • Shotguns
HIGHEST PRICES PAID
Also Buying:
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Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266
DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL?
 GET RESULTS! Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 **Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-800-236-0737 www.pdsadnet.com**

Dogs 7272
 Are you a pet owner? Do you want to get up to 100% back on vet bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call 1-844-774-0206 to get a free quote or visit insurebarkmeow.com/ads

Dogs 7272

Mini Aussiedoodle Puppies:
 F1 Mini Aussiedoodle puppies. Family raised, well socialized, velcro dogs, low-to-no shed. Very smart, easy to train. Up to date on vaccines and deworming. Vet checked. Visit online at www.towerviewkennels.com or on Facebook. WI State Licensed and Inspected #DS402426. \$1250 Text/call: 715-360-5848. Towerview Kennels

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WEBSTER STREET ESTATES
2004 WEBSTER STREET, MERRILL, WI APARTMENT HOMES

BRAND NEW!

2bed/2bath with attached garage
Special \$500 off of first month rent
Heat Included, Pet Friendly
715-409-8692
Professionally Managed by Premier Real Estate

Phillips Gun Show
 Saturday, April 22, 2023
 Burger's Bar & Grill
 784 North Lake Ave, Next to A&W Phillips, WI
 Admission Free
 Doors open at 9 AM
 Time: 9 AM to 3 PM
 Contact: Jackie Barnes
 phillipsgunshow@yahoo.com or call/text 715-820-1347
 Limited Vendors tables avail. \$20 2 rooms full
 Ammo, Guns, Local School Gun Raffle, AR gun parts, Plus More
 Come hungry over 30 kinds of hamburgers available

VIVINT. SMART SECURITY, PROFESSIONALLY INSTALLED
 One connected system for total peace of mind. FREE professional installation! Four FREE months of monitoring! Call now to customize your system. **1-855-756-2112 (WCAN)**

Dogs 7272
AIREDALE \$200 & BOSTON POODLE CROSS PUPPIES \$200 SIBERIAN/BOSTON Mix \$400 shot/worm 715-921-9708

AKC BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG PUPPIES shots, dewormed, vet checked \$1200 715-383-9776

AKC Purebred Brittany Pups
 For Sale Excellent temperament. Hunting & Show Quality. Shots & Vet Checked. Health Guarantee. \$1,200 call/text 715-350-1715

AKC Labrador Puppies: Stunning American Labs, black chocolate and silver. Raised in living room and played with daily by my two boys. Dew claws removed, dewormed regularly, and veterinary health check before leaving. Ready April 28th. \$1000. Patty 920-883-2613

Hunting Equipment 7265
 For Sale Cass Creek Electronic Turkey Game Call in container \$25. Call 715-218-0376.

SWITCH & SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text & data. No contract & no hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more info, call **1-844-883-1477 (WCAN)**

UP TO \$15,000 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral & other final expenses. Call **Physicians Life Insurance Company 844-433-5898** or visit www.Life55plus.info/wcp (WCAN)

BERNEODOODLE/AUSSIE MTN DOODLE/BERNESE MTN PUPPIES: Ready to go Apr 13 & May 3 shots/worm/vet \$1,800-\$2,200. The Aussie Mtn Doods are Blk-Tri, Brwn-Tri, BlueMerle-Tri We are local, in WI and have been breeding for 12 yrs barnyard-berners@gmail.com or 715-758-6385

CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPPIES Vet chk/wormed/vac \$800; **AMERICAN ESKIMO RAT TERRIER SHIBA MIX PUPPIES:** M & F \$100 715-223-0782

FOR SALE Golden Doodle 7mos old. Aussie Retriever 1yr old. Standard poodle adult female 4-7yrs old. All vaccines, housebroke, good family dogs. 715-610-7106

GOLDENDOODLE PUPS shots/wormed/dews Can Del. \$450-\$650 **715-255-2661 (269146)**

GOLDENDOODLES & RED AUSSIE DOODLE, vac/worm/dews Family Raised \$400 **715-721-0246**

HAVAPOO PUPS Small Non-Shed shots/dews/wormed Vet chkd \$700 **715-255-2661 (269146)**

LAB-RED HEELER MIX PUPPIES 1st shots, dewormed \$100 Ready to Go **715-654-5016**

MINI COCK-A-POOS Hypo-allergenic, Non-shed, shots/vet F-\$600, M-\$500 715-758-2433

MINI GOLDENDOODLE PUPS Vet checked, 1 year health guar. \$795 715-944-7796

Purebred Rottweiler Puppies, males & females available. Ready April 15, dewes/first shots/vet checked. Call 920-960-2618 to schedule a visit and for details.

PUREBRED WHITE GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES \$450 John W229 Granton Rd. Chili WI 54420

Dogs 7272
REG. CAVALIER PUP Ready Soon, shots/wormed/dews \$500 715-470-0458 #509642-DS

SHIH'TZU PUPPIES: Females, \$600, black & white, dew claws removed, parents on site. Manawa, not text. 920-4702121.

TEDDY BEAR & BICHPOO PUPPIES vet checked UTD shots \$600-\$1200 **715-703-8981**

WELSH CORGI/BEAGLE PUPPIES shots, ready to go! friendly \$300 OBO **715-229-2364**

HANSEN AUCTION GROUP LIVE/ONLINE AUCTION
Nitke Spring 4-Day Contractor Auction Thousands of Items - Live & Online Bidding
 Still time to Consign! Accepting Consignments Delivered by April 22nd
April 27-28 & May 1-2 Heavy Equipment, Trucks, Trailers & More! 990 Happy Hollow Road, Mosinee, WI 54455
 Auction Schedule:
 LIVE & ONLINE - Nitke Ring 1 - Thursday, April 27th Starting to Close at 8:30am - Heavy Trucks, Trailers and Vehicles
 LIVE & ONLINE - Nitke Ring 1 - Friday, April 28th - Starting to Close at 8:30am - Construction Equipment, Skidsteers, Lawn Care and Restoration
 NEW THIS YEAR!
 RING 2 IS ONLINE ONLY - BIDDING CLOSURES MONDAY & TUESDAY
 ONLINE ONLY - Nitke Ring 2 - Monday, May 1st Starting to Close at 10:00am
 Misc. Items- Skid Steer Attachments, Boats, Lawn & Garden and More
 ONLINE ONLY - Nitke Ring 2 - Tuesday, May 2nd - Starting to Close at 10:00am - Misc. Items- Industrial, Tools, Truck Parts & Accessories & More
 See Website for Open House Details
For more information call: 715-539-6265
 Terms: 10% Buyers Fee. Bryce Hansen, registered WI auctioneer 1225
LEARN MORE AT HANSENAUCTIONGROUP.COM OR NITKEAUCTIONS.COM

ONLINE AUCTION ANOTHER AUCTION WITH COL. RENÉ BRASS
www.colrene.net
(Online Bidding Opens: April 22-27th)
(Open House April 22nd (9AM-11:00AM))
Huge Auto Repair Auction!
(9552 HWY K) Harshaw, WI
 Truck: 2000 Ford Excursion 4x4 (No Rust) only 119k miles, must see! Like new **Tire Machines:** Ranger R980xr tire machine, Ranger DST2420 tire balancer, wheel weights **Large amount of specialty tools:** see website!
Bolt/hardware Cabinets, Tools: See online catalogs for full list! **60+ New Tires, Lawn tractor:** JD 316 all hydraulic Supplies, Office equipment & more!
PICKUP & PAYMENT: Saturday, April 29th (9AM-Noon) Terms: Cash or good check, credit cards. Sales tax charged. 10 % buyers fee. Not responsible for loss or accidents. Settlement made before removing items. Conditions: Sold as is, where is. Announcements made on auction day take precedence over printed material. R.W.A. Col. René Brass #424, Col. Robert St. Louis #450, 6728 Whitefish Lk. Rd., Three Lakes, WI 54562. PH: 715-367-1668

ONLINE AUCTION ANOTHER AUCTION WITH COL. RENÉ BRASS
www.colrene.net
(Online Bidding Opens: April 29th- May 4th)
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Coville
sold their beautiful Lake Home!
Open House April 30 (9AM - 10AM)
(N2276 Rae Dr.) Merrill, WI
Pontoon Boat: 2012 Premier 231 Castaway w/115 Merc. Optimax, pontoon trailer **Utility Trailer:** Like new **Lawn Tractor:** Cab Cadet **Like New Home Contents:** Flat screen TV's, king bedroom set, Beauty Rest Black Hybrid plus bed w/adj. base, reclining sofa & matching recliner, dining table, Northwoods decor, bar stools, Rooster collection, computer desk and chair, vanity, wicker trunk, kitchenware, Shark vac, appliances, area rugs, Lg. vase, butter churn, Singer sew machine, kraut cutter, file cabinet, glider rocker, refrig, lamps, Cedar chest, safe, end tables, room divider, portable air conditioner & more!
Tools: table saws, miter saw, Lg. vise, dollies, air compressor, Rigid shop vac, versa ladder & others, nail guns, circular saw, carpenter's work bench, hitches, wooden keg, shelving, fuel cans, fire retardant clothing & more!
Yard/Sporting: Like new Honda push mower, generator, snowblower, wheel barrow, blower, yard tools, wagon, fishing poles, golf clubs, troll motors, Coleman lantern & stove, BBQ grill, waders, putting green, pub style patio table, wishing well, boat bumpers, RV satellite, antique fish tackle & more!
PICKUP & PAYMENT: Sunday, May 7th (9AM-Noon) Terms: Cash or good check, credit cards. Sales tax charged on some items. **10 % buyers fee.** Not responsible for loss or accidents. Settlement made before removing items. Conditions: Sold as is, where is. Announcements made on auction day take precedence over printed material. R.W.A. Col. René Brass #424, Col. Robert St. Louis #450, 6728 Whitefish Lk. Rd., Three Lakes, WI 54562. PH: 715-367-1668

2022 Specials

TRUCK MONTH

Loaner Special

2022 Jeep Cherokee Limited
 Stock #34471
 MSRP \$41,485 Sale \$38,235*

2022 RAM 1500 Quad Cab
 Stock #34355
 MSRP \$48,254 Sale \$40,990**

Demo Special

2022 Chrysler 300 AWD
 Stock #34469
 MSRP \$42,975 Sale \$39,975*

2022 RAM 1500 Quad Cab
 Stock #34482
 MSRP \$49,537 Sale \$42,990**

* Plus tax, title, license and service fee.
 ** Plus tax, title, license and service fee. Includes \$1000 finance rebate, to qualified credit.

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 Phone: (715) 536-2833
 Toll free 800-499-JEEP (5337)
 LOCATED 1/2 MILE WEST OF HWY. 51-64 INTERCHANGE
 Visit our web site at www.bricknersparkcity.net

Connexus Credit Union donates to St. Vincent de Paul to help replace faulty electrical equipment in Merrill store

On April 7, 2023, Connexus Credit Union advised they will donate \$5,000 to St. Vincent de Paul of Merrill, through their philanthropic program, Connexus Cares. This donation is in response to their request for support to replace faulty electrical equipment in their Main Street store in Merrill.

The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Merrill accepts donations to support their Outreach Services program, which helps community members with emergency needs such as Wisconsin Public Service disconnections, rental evictions, medical bills, vehicle repairs, diapers, food, gas, and other related emergencies. Connexus Cares' support of this necessary upgrade ensures that funds raised through the thrift store can go directly to community members in need.

In a joint statement, Outreach Manager Sue Norenberg and Conference President Freida Swanson shared the critical need for support at St. Vincent de Paul. "We do foresee many requests coming into our

programming in the very near future due to COVID-based support ending, Foodshare family monies returning to pre-COVID amounts, and the moratorium for heating billings ending soon. We feel blessed that Connexus Credit Union has partnered with St. Vincent de Paul's mission in the Merrill area."

"When Connexus Cares learned of St. Vincent de Paul's immediate need for support that would allow them to continue serving members of the Merrill community, we were honored to lend a helping hand," said Boyd Gustke, Connexus President & Chief Executive Officer. "St. Vincent operates in the heart of Merrill, providing much-needed assistance to individuals and families with the goal of creating a better future for all. Connexus Cares is fortunate to continue to partner with them in this admirable effort."

Connexus Credit Union employs more than 670 employees and serves more than 445,000 members across all 50 states with over \$5.2 billion in assets. The Wausau-



Representatives of St. Vincent de Paul in Merrill accept a donation from Connexus Cares. Submitted photo.

based credit union has been nationally recognized for excellence by Forbes, CNN Money, NerdWallet, Kiplinger, and Bankrate.

MERRILL Foto News

We're **MOVING** BUT NOT TOO FAR

New Facility Will Be Open May 1st

New Location
2011 E. Main St.

Main St.

S Sales St.

S Cooper St.

ATTENTION LOCAL BUSINESSES

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!

The Foto News will be running congratulations pages with photos of all the graduating seniors and bios on the top students.

Call Today 715-536-7121

Christ United Methodist Church mission projects touch lives near and far

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Christ United Methodist Church has been focusing on mission projects that touch lives both near and far, here in the Merrill community and as far away as Africa and other third-world countries globally.

Despite the limitations of the pandemic, the congregation remains passionate about its dedication to missions, both local and global, which continued in 2021, 2022, and 2023, with plans to continue their work long into the future.

Little Dresses for Africa Mission invitation

Members of Christ United are inviting the public to join them in the Church Gathering Room at 300 N Mill St. in Merrill on Saturday, April 29, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for a work day making "Little Dresses for Africa."

The "Little Dresses for Africa" program creates simple little dresses, made simply by reconstructing pillowcases and adding embellishments, which are then sent to orphanages, churches, and schools in Africa to be distributed to young girls. The intent of the mission project is not only to supply these girls with articles of clothing, but also to plant the message in the hearts of these young girls that they are worthy, organizers said.

Bring your own sewing machine or come help with cutting, pinning, ironing, or hand-stitching. ALL skill levels are needed and welcome, organizers said.

The dresses are simple, yet time consuming to put together, they said. However, the time they spend creating the little dresses is a time of fellowship, laughter, and love. "We're not only sending dresses ... we're sending HOPE," they said.

For more information about this project, call the church office at 715.536.4676.

Biogas stoves for family cooking through Heifer International

A recent mission project at Christ United was collecting funds to purchase biogas stoves through Heifer International

See **PROJECTS** page 20

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Merrill Citywide Rummage Sale Map

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MMC acquires Delphos Herald media properties

GREEN BAY, WIS. – Multi Media Channels (MMC), the owner of the Merrill Foto News, and a host of other newspapers throughout Wisconsin, has acquired multiple media properties from Delphos Herald, Inc. and the Cohen family.

The purchase included The Vilas County News Review, The Three Lakes News, and The Northwoods Trader in Eagle River; the Iron County Reporter and The Reporter Shoppers' Guide in Iron River, Mich.; and The Central Wisconsin Resorter and Waushara Argus in Wautoma.

"We are excited to assume the Cohen family's stewardship of these publications," said MMC CEO Patrick Wood.

"We intend to strengthen and enrich the community by continuing to provide strong reporting on local news and sports and powerful advertising options for retailers and employers. It is our intention to sustain the Cohen family's legacy through the years to come by maintaining, and if possible exceeding, the high standards of journalistic integrity and customer service they set during their tenure."

"We have the utmost respect for the Cohen family, and we believe that the enduring partnership of all of our colleagues, both here and in the rest of the company, will forge a strong alliance that supports the vitality of the community. We appreciate the support we have had from our financial partner, Nicolet National Bank. Over the years we've found our relationship with them to be invaluable," added MMC financial consultant, Thomas Wood.

Roberta Cohen said her family has owned the Vilas County News-Review, The Waushara Argus, and the Iron County Reporter for many years.

"My father, Murray Cohen, who passed away in December 2021, loved to visit these newspapers. He was proud to be associated with the incredible newspaper professionals that work at each of these newspapers," she said.

"I appreciate the amazing job these teams do, telling the stories of the people who live and work in their local communities with award-winning journalism. And now, I feel confident that I can entrust these newspapers to a company that shares the same vision and values that my sister, Jennifer Shneiderman, and I have and that my father had. Family-held Multi Media Channels, led by the Wood family, is well-suited to take over the reins immediately and continue my family's legacy. I'm excited to work with them on the transitioning ownership of the Vilas County News-Review, the Waushara Argus, and the Iron County Reporter while maintaining the journalism excellence that readers and advertisers have come to expect."

MMC began its work in community newspaper publishing in Denmark, Wis., in 1953. Under the leadership of its founder, Frank Wood, the business expanded into other markets. Today, the company remains in the Wood family, owned and operated by both family members and employees, publishing 31 weekly and 4 monthly print publications and 28 digital channels that serve the central, northern, and eastern regions of Wisconsin.

The sale closed on April 14, 2023.

SAFETY from page 2

being struck by a vehicle while removing a fallen tree during a storm.

"It only takes a momentary distraction to create a deadly situation on the road," Wisconsin State Patrol Superintendent Tim Carnahan said. "Through enforcement and public safety efforts, our goal is to motivate drivers to behave responsibly. Everyone must do their part behind the wheel to stay safe; remember: buckle up, phone down."

We want everyone to get home safely each day. A moment of being distracted while driving can result in lives being changed forever.

How can people help?

- Drive safely. Be courteous, avoid distractions, and obey posted speed limits.
- Leave the phone alone. Texting while driving is illegal statewide, and talking on a hand-held mobile device is illegal in work zones.
- Move over, or slow down, when you see workers and vehicles with flashing lights along the highway. Wisconsin's Move Over Law applies to maintenance operations as well as emergency response units.

• Buckle Up, Phone Down. Take the pledge at wisconsin.gov/BUPD and share your commitment with others. Participants are encouraged to share a thumbs up/thumbs down photo on social media using the hashtag #BuckleUpPhoneDown and then challenge friends, family and coworkers to do the same.

Show support for work zone safety with the social media hashtags #WorkWithUs, #NWZAW, #WorkZoneSafety, or #Orange4Safety (but please never text and drive).

Wednesday, April 19, was "Go Orange Day" with Wisconsin residents participating by wearing orange in support of highway safety. (Tag it on social media with #Orange4Safety and #GoOrangeDay)

A nationwide moment of silence is planned for Friday, April 21, 2023, for people who lost their lives in a work zone incident. There is no set time for Friday's national moment of silence, the WisDOT advised. Rather, they "are asking the public at some point in their day to pause and reflect on those lives lost," the Department said when questioned.

Visit wisconsin.gov and search "work zone" for more tips and information.

WisDOT reminds drivers to be alert for Adopt-A-Highway crews

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) reminds drivers to stay alert for Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, who routinely collect trash and recyclables along state highways during the springtime.

"It's a sign of spring to see people so generously taking time to remove trash and debris from our roadsides," WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson said. "We are grateful to the thousands of Wisconsinites for their commitment to the Adopt-A-Highway program. We all play a role in keeping these volunteers safe – please watch the road ahead and slow down."

Last year, Wisconsin Adopt-A-Highway groups collected more than 140 tons of trash and recyclables. More than 11,400 volunteers spent over 3,800 hours cleaning Wisconsin roadsides last year. Adopt-A-Highway workers are asked to clean up their assigned two-mile

state highway segment at least three times per year. County highway crews gather the bagged materials for proper disposal. Automated forms on the Adopt-A-Highway website streamline reporting cleanup efforts.

The interactive map shows areas maintained by Wisconsin's 3,017 Adopt-A-Highway groups as well as routes still available for additional volunteers. Of the 11,800 miles of state highway in Wisconsin, about 2,368 miles are available for adoption, so there is still room for interested volunteers.

As part of the program, WisDOT furnishes safety vests, highway worker signs, a safety training video, trash bags, and two permanent signs identifying the group. Each group must provide one adult supervisor for every five or six volunteers. Groups do not work in dangerous areas like medians, bridges, or steep slopes.

WisDOT reminds drivers

to buckle up, put the phone down, and follow speed limits on Wisconsin highways, especially when these volunteer groups are working along the roadside.

Learn more at wisconsin.gov/adoptahighway, including a video about the Adopt-A-Highway program.

2023 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV & JV2)

Thurs. April 20	WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:30 pm
Thurs. April 20	WI Rapids Lincoln (JV2)	Home	4:30 pm
Fri. April 21	Tomahawk (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 pm
Mon. April 24	Abbotsford (Varsity)	Away	4:30 pm
Tues. April 25	Stevens Point (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:30 pm
Tues. April 25	Stevens Point (JV2)	Home	4:30 pm
Thurs. April 27	Stevens Point (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 pm
Thurs. April 27	Stevens Point (JV2)	Away	4:30 pm

Girls Softball (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. April 20	D. C. Everest (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 pm
Thurs. April 27	Marshfield (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 pm

Boys Golf (Varsity & JV)

Tues. April 25	Tribute Golf Course (JV)	Away	3:00 pm
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Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV)

Tues. April 25	Stevens Point (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Thurs. April 27	D. C. Everest (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. April 27	D. C. Everest (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm

Boys Track and Field (Varsity & JV)

Tues. April 25	Wausau East (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:00 pm
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Girls Track and Field (Varsity & JV)

Tues. April 25	Wausau East (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:00 pm
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The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Jalie Severt, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Jalie is on the Merrill High School Varsity Track Team where she does sprints, relays, and pole vault. She has been doing Track since her Freshman year. Jalie is also on the Merrill Varsity Volleyball Team, playing back row, and she has been dancing at Brooke's School of Dance since she was about four years old, focusing on jazz, lyrical, and hip hop.

At school, Jalie is involved in Raise Your Voice and Student Council, she was just accepted into National Honor Society, and she will be on the Link crew for next year. Her favorite subjects are history and science. She is active in the youth group at Trinity Lutheran Church and sings with the worship team at contemporary services.

In her free time, Jalie enjoys art, painting, playing guitar, playing volleyball with family and friends at her house (they have a sand volleyball court there), going camping with family, snowboarding with family, and helping her family with their business, Barnes Creek Daylilies.

The daughter of Jesse and Karli Severt of Merrill, Jalie has a 3.6 GPA. She is planning to go to college after high school graduation to possibly pursue something in the medical field.



Jalie Severt

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

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Karow of Merrill inducted into WSGS Hall of Fame

Sharon Karow of Merrill was inducted into the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society's (WSGS) Virginia V. Irvin Volunteer Hall of Fame (HOF) at the organization's recent Gene-A-Rama Conference in Eau Claire March 24-25, 2023.

The Virginia V. Irvin Volunteer HOF was established to honor exceptional service rendered to, or through, WSGS or one of its Affiliated Societies.

Karow and Joyce Bacher were the co-founders of North Pines Genealogy Group. Karow served as President since its inception on February 18, 1985; Karow has found many ways to keep a core group of active volunteers engaged, sought out quality programs and speakers, and involved membership in activities. Karow has helped develop numerous initiatives, including negotiating permanent storage at T.B. Scott Free Library; creating the group's website, Constitution, Bylaws, and officer job descriptions, which are reviewed annually; creating a Membership Handbook; connecting membership to local resources; and recently wrote "Search Guide to Genealogical Resources in Lincoln County." She also developed a Heritage Certificate Program for North Pine members.

Karow has been active



Sharon Karow (middle) receives a plaque commemorating her induction into the WSGS Virginia V. Irvin Volunteer Hall of Fame in March. Shown with her in photo are her niece, Debbie Merkel (on left), and Rosanne Schlieff (on right).

Submitted photo.

in the bi-annual Heritage Fair getting speakers and creating displays; teaches a multi-session class for the public entitled "Beginning Your Genealogical Adventure" each spring at the library; and makes presentations to clubs and civic groups in Merrill and Wausau by request. Karow recently helped orchestrate the purchase of the Wistein Krueger Funeral Home Records; recovery of sixteen years of research on the Trinity Lutheran Church which includes 10,000 records; and wrote and published her family history.

Statewide, Karow has been active, reaching out to all WSGS Affiliates as the Northwoods District Representative while serving on the WSGS Board

for nine years. She has also been the Advocacy Chair for WSGS 2015-2020, served on the Executive Board for WSGS 2015-2020, served on the Wisconsin Genealogical Council 1995-1997, and volunteered at Merrill Historical Society 2014-2019.

Karow's "Beginning Your Genealogical Adventure" class is an eight-week course held at the T.B. Scott Library, usually in the Board Room on the 3rd floor, and typically on Wednesdays beginning in late September. There is a fee for the class which covers the cost for a booklet and copies recipients receive in class, and the class is limited to eight students. For more information, contact Karow directly via email at: SLKarow9@AOL.com or call 715.218.0609.



Lincoln County Corrections Officer Rebecca Krohn recently completed and graduated from the 200-hour Jail Academy held at Nicolet College in Rhinelander. A post on the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office's Facebook page said Krohn, who has been working in the Jail Division since May 2022, was honored during graduation, receiving the 2023 Nicolet College Jail Academy Partner Award. "This award is given to the individual who displays the character and qualities of an ideal partner and is given based on the recommendations of her fellow classmates," the Sheriff's Office said. "Congratulations Rebecca, and thank you for your hard work and dedication."

Photos courtesy of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office



PROJECTS from page 18

for families to use for cooking. In many areas that Heifer International works with, it is the task of young children, often girls, to collect wood or whatever they can find for the family to use for cooking, mission organizers for this project said. These youth often roam far from the villages to find enough fuel for the family needs which puts them in great danger in such communities. In addition, smoke inhalation in poorly ventilated homes often leads to chronic lung and eye diseases.

By providing biogas stoves, the families can use animal waste for cooking, thus reducing the risk to the children, as they do not have to roam in unsafe areas to find fuel, organizers said. There are also environmental advantages to using these

types of stoves, they added.

An informational display was created at the church and the project was a huge success, enabling the church to send a check for \$1,441.00 for the purchase of such stoves for families in villages in Africa.

Mission projects both near and far

Christ United supports multiple mission projects right here in Merrill including the Fill-a-Backpack program and the Summer Lunch Program.

They also support other mission projects reaching others much farther away such as Freshwater Wells, Ghana Medical Supplies, Mujilla Falls Missionary, and Operation Christmas Child.

In addition, they help sponsor Souper Bowl of Caring, Easter Chicks, Turkey Bags, and the Vegetable Seed Program.

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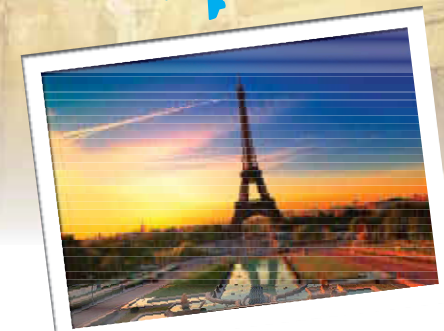


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