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THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023 VOLUME 69, ISSUE 17

Death of two Merrill teens still under investigation

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

The death of two Merrill teens who went missing on Sunday, April 16, 2023, and whose bodies were found in the Oneida County Forest on Monday, April 17, is still under investigation. Press releases issued by both Oneida County and Lincoln County Sheriff's Offices on Tuesday confirmed the deaths of Aiden Grefe, age 17, and Dakota Brown, age 16, and in a press conference Tuesday, Oneida County Captain Terri Hook said she would not go into detail but exposure was likely a factor in their deaths.

"Obviously, everybody knows what the weather was like this weekend, it went from being really warm

See **DEATHS** page 14





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Riverside has a lot to offer, but what makes it different from other gyms is the quality of staff. They go out of their way for the members and are friendly to talk to. A big thank you to and having a positive



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for making the gym a place that I look forward to going atmosphere.



Andy and Michelle Geiss with family.

Submitted photo.

Geiss Meat Service takes homes 17 awards from WAMP

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

Geiss Meat Service of Merrill attended the Wisconsin Association of Meat Producers (WAMP) Conference in Madison April 12-16, 2023. They attend annually and participate in the Wisconsin Specialty Meat Championships, the largest cured meat product show in the United States, which gives WAMP members the opportunity to have their products

judged and rated. This show makes it possible for participants to compare their product with other processors in the state.

This year Geiss Meat Service brought home 17 awards and 2 honorable mentions:

- · R.W. Bray Award of Excellence-Best of Show - Commercial Ham (this is the big trophy)
- Grand Champion-Kielbasa
- · Grand Champion-Pineapple Pizza
- Grand Champion-Bone-In Ham
- Grand Champion-Peppercorn Bologna
- · Reserve Grand Champion-Beef Strip
- · Reserve Grand Champion-Chili Cheese Wieners
- · Champion-Braunschweiger
- · Champion-Beef & Pork Bacon
- · Champion-Old World Sausage
- Champion-Smoked Reserve

See **GEISS** page 8

Lincoln County Board discusses options for Pine Crest, approves raise for **Correctional Officers and Sergeants**

BY TINA L. SCOTT **FDITOR**

Supervisors met the morning of April 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Highlights from the meeting included an in depth discussion of the various options presented in the Ad Hoc Committee on Pine Crest report, appointment of a new Director of Emergency Management, approval of \$1.00 per hour raise for most Lincoln County Correctional Officers and Sergeants, and acceptance of \$100,000 of funding

from the American Rescue Plan.

The Lincoln County Board of

Pine Crest options and alternatives discussed

Board Chair Don Friske presented the list of options and alternatives found in the Ad Hoc Committee's report (NOTE: the full Report of Nursing Home Review and Possible Alternatives is available on the Lincoln County website) and opened the floor for discussion and questions, and each option was discussed in considerable detail. While no formal action took place regarding any of the options, in-depth discussions led the Board to effectively remove some of the options from further consideration.

The three over-riding options presented in the Ad Hoc Committee's report were that:

- 1. Lincoln County continues to operate Pine Crest as a county-owned nursing home;
- 2. Lincoln County ceases operating Pine Crest as a county-owned nursing home; or
- 3. They hold referenda to allow the voters of Lincoln County to decide whether Lincoln County should continue to operate, fund and/or maintain Pine Crest Nursing Home.

See PINE CREST page 14

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Merrill, Wisconsin







www.merrillfotonews.com



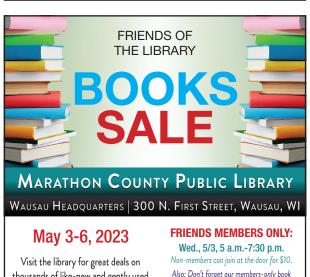






We look forward to praising God with the Jim Pekol Band as they lead our congregation in worship with polka music on Sunday, April 30th at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM.

The Jim Pekol Band was formed in 1979 when most of the members were teenagers, and made up of accordion, piano and drums. After a few years the piano was replaced by a banjo, and this combination remains to this day, with Jim on accordion, Marilyn Pekol on banjo and piano, and a variety of drummers - currently their son Bob. The Pekol Band played for weddings, public dances and polkafests, and now is very popular for Oktoberfests and church services. From 1986-1996 members of the band, either individually or collectively were called upon to play with Frank Yankovic when he was in the Wisconsin/Minnesota/ Upper Michigan area. Many of the lyrics they use for the polka service were written by Gladys Woller from Tomahawk, and the combination of songs they use are unique for each church.



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Please note: Due to the pandemic, the book sale oom's occupancy may be limited, and face masks are encouraged according to CDC guidance.

Jincent do

When: Saturday, April 29th

11am to 1pm

Time: 10am to 5pm

Also: Don't forget our members-only book sales on the third Saturday of every month!

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Thu., 5/4, 9:30 a.m.-7:30p.m. Fri., 5/5, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Bag Sale: Sat., 5/6, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. All you can fit in a bag for \$6. Saturday only!

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Events: • BlueJay 96.3 Radio remote - 11am to 1pm

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Immanuel **Lutheran Church** in Corning celebrates new organ



Removing the old organ from the balcony and lifting the new organ up to the balcony to be set in its place required the use of a lift and men from the congregation at Immanuel Lutheran Submitted photo. Church in Corning

Immanuel Lutheran Church in the Town of Corning on Leafy Grove Rd. is celebrating the installation of a new organ, which was completed on Dec. 5 and 6, 2022, and immediately used in worship at the Dec. 7 Advent service. They then held a concert to showcase the new Rodgers Inspire 2-Manual organ in early February with Val Bartlein, the owner of Classic Church

EVERYTHING

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Organs and himself a wellknown concert organist, playing to demonstrate the capabilities of the new instrument. Singers from the Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir participated in the concert, which included creative arrangements of hymns, historical organ favorites, and a few surprises.

The concert was attended by an enthusiastic audience of music lovers from across the state. "I enjoyed hearing the capabilities of the new organ demonstrated in beautiful pieces," said Katie Globig of Oconomowoc, who attended with her children. "Timpani, bagpipes, a full string orchestra, all from the organ-it was amazing. I have a much greater appreciation for the role of the organ in worship."

The new organ is a big deal to the congregation for a number of reasons. First, this new digital organ has capabilities that far exceed those of older instruments, such as the older analog organ that

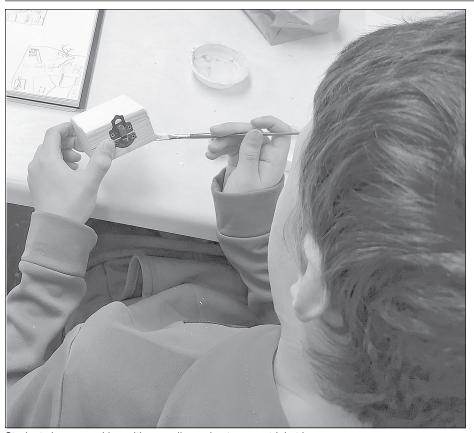
An music for many years to come."

The congregation voted to purchase the organ and an upgraded sound system at their July 2022 meeting. Work on the new system then began in September with the installation of

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had been purchased by the congregation in 1986, more than 35 years ago. Organ Search Committee was formed in 2021 under the direction of then Church President, Len Francoeur. "We visited many churches with Val to hear the variety of organ options available to us," he said. "So when we finally settled on the Inspire 233, we knew we were getting an organ that would give us beautiful and uplifting

See **ORGAN** page 3

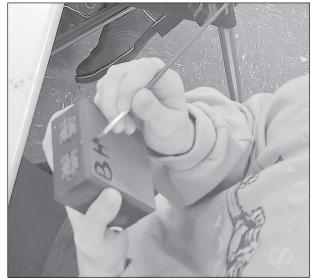


Students began working with a small wooden treasure trinket box.

May ArtShare Exhibit "Treasured Book Boxes"

TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

The T.B. Scott Free Library Beyond Books: ArtShare Community Exhibit for the month of May 2023 is called "Treasured Book Boxes" and will feature the artwork of fifth and sixth grade students from St. John Lutheran School in Merrill. Bill Pittman donated the wooden trinket boxes to the library's Youth Services Department to be used for an art-related project. Students then decorated the boxes to represent their favorite books, choosing scenes and book covers to paint to convey the stories that mean the most to them. The exhibit runs the month



Students then painted and decorated their boxes to represent their favorte book.

of May and is located on Scott Free Library in the the second floor of the T.B. Carnegie Wing.

Lincoln County adopts Vision Statement and Branding

BY TINA L. SCOTT **FDITOR**

At the April 18, 2023, Lincoln County Board meeting, County Supervisors also unanimously approved the adoption of the following Vision Statement and Branding:

Lincoln County Vision Statement Lincoln County will preserve the unique

characteristics and resources that make it an exceptional place to live, work, and play; we will work together, holding ourselves and each other accountable, to weave the fabric of community and provide opportunity to our citizens.

Branding

Lincoln County - Where the Northwoods Start and the Adventure Begins

This marks the first time Lincoln County has had a developed and articulated Vision

On Jan. 31, 2023, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors and other community members participated in a facilitated process during which they developed the Lincoln County Visions Statement to help them "develop a future desired state." The Administrative and Legislative Committee then met on March 21 to discuss the recommended statement and made a few minor changes to develop the final wording.

Articulating a Vision Statement for Lincoln County definitively will help the Board "guide the decision making process to best allocate resources in a manner that aligns with operations of the County with that vision" the resolution said.

The branding statement, or tagline, for Lincoln County helps direct future strategic planning and marketing of Lincoln County, the resolution said.

ORGAN from page 2

dedicated electrical circuits, audio wiring, lots and lots of cable, and sound speakers. The church also added studio-grade microphones for the choir.

Secondly, it was a big deal because the removal of the old organ and installation of the new organ was a tricky thing. A group of men from the congregation guided the old organ onto a mechanical lift and then eased it over the balcony railing and down to the ground floor. The new organ went up into the balcony the same way, and viewers

said it made them a bit nervous watching that big investment be cranked up on the lift and going up into the air.

Now the congregation is enjoying beautiful music and uplifting musical effects and sounds formerly unheard of in their sanctuary from a single instrument. The investment can now produce the musical rendition of an entire orchestra

from a single instrument. The public is invited to attend worship at Immanuel Lutheran Church during a regular service to hear the new organ for themselves.

Merrill Lions donate to Merrill Park & Rec

The Merrill Lion's Club recently presented the Merrill Parks & Recreation Department with a check for \$7,000 to help defray the City's costs for installing security cameras at Stange and Kitchenette Parks. The Merrill Parks & Recreation Department received funding through the 2023 budgetary process to install security cameras at Kitchenette and Stange Parks this year to try to decrease the growing amount of vandalism over the past few years.

"We are very thankful for the generous donation from the Merrill Lion's Club," said Dan Wendorf, Parks & Recreation Director, "We are very fortunate to have such



Submitted photo.

wonderful and supportive community partners. This donation will not only help offset the cost of the project, but will help us

protect our beautiful parks and amenities for everyone to continue to enjoy here in the City of Parks.'

Verhasselt is named **Lincoln County Director of Emergency Management**

Tyler Verhasselt has been appointed to the position of Lincoln County Director of Emergency Management.

Verhasselt brings more than 15 years of experience serving in the United States Air Force, including 6 combat deployments and as a Police Officer in southwest Wisconsin the role. Most recently, he served as Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the Joint Security Operations Center in the Middle East

where he spearheaded a joint task force with special operations from US Air Force Central Command (AFCENT) to provide a quick reaction force and air to ground support during the 2020 Iranian Crisis. His



actions received recognition from US Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) who awarded him the SSgt. Todd "TJ" Lobracio Award for Excellence and his second US Air Force Commendation Medal. In addition to Verhasselt's military and law enforcement experience, he brings many years of higher education with an Associate and Bachelor in Criminal Justice and, notably, a Masters in Management-Public Administration.

His passion for public service and his profound experience in emergency management and crisis response, indicate he will be a valuable asset to Lincoln

In The Lite Electric nominated for Greater Wausau Chamber **Small Business of the Year**

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

In The Lite Electric of Merrill was nominated and then selected to be a finalist in the Greater Wausau Chamber's 2023 Small Business of the Year award in the Business to Consumer category. The winners in each category were announced at an awards ceremony on April 13, 2023, and while In The Lite Electric didn't take the win in their category, they were honored to recognized by their peers with the nomination and finalist selection.

"We are truly honored and would like to thank everyone who has supported us over the years," the owners said. "A special shoutout to all of our employees and clients for making In The Lite what it

Additionally, In the Lite Electric recently shared the following Spring Safety Tips:

- · Ladders-even those made of woodthat come into contact with a power line can prove fatal. Keep all ladders at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines.
- · Unplug outdoor tools and appliances when not in use.
- · Water and electricity do not mix. Avoid damp conditions-including wet grass-when using electricity.



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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY

|OBITUARIES|



Aiden David Paul Grefe, a sweet and gentle soul known by many names; son, brother grandson, nephew, cousin and friend passed away on April 17, 2023. He was born on February 10, 2006 to Rachel Lynn (Graham) Grefe and Jeffrey Paul Grefe at St Claire's Hospital in Weston, Wisconsin. Aiden attended Merrill High School as an 11th grade student.

Aiden would do anything for the ones that he loved. He was extremely compassionate for

other people, including his family that he loved with every bit of his heart. He was his little brothers "right hand man" from day one. He was also known for the joy he brought to his younger cousins; "he was never afraid to play like a kid." Aiden had a great love for the outdoors, whether it be snow boarding, skateboarding, shooting hoops or hanging out. He also had a great work ethic and worked at McDonalds and more recently at Hardee's in town.

If Aiden touched your heart, know that you hold a piece of him there forever.

Aiden is survived by his mother, Rachel (Nick Weisenfeld) Grefe, father: Jeff Grefe, siblings: Molly Moon and Evan Grefe, maternal grandparents: Tammy Kottke, Bruce (Mary) Graham, and Colleen Graham, paternal grandparents: Dave (Julie) Grefe, aunts and uncles: Dan (Sara) Graham, Sally Graham, Bryanna (Darian) Scheer, Bruce Q. (Felicia) Graham, Amber (Kevin) Progar, Pat Adams, Josh (Sheena) Grefe, Monica (Rob) Allen, and Becky Grefe, his closes cousin: Tanner Graham and many other cousins, great aunts great uncles, and second cousins.

He was preceded in death by his great grandparents, Lyod (Marian) Kottke and Bruce (Patricia) Graham, great uncles Wade Kottke, Keith Kottke, and Dale Kottke, cousin: Titus

Kottke, and baby Kalepp.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, April 24, 2023 at 11:00 am at Les & Jim's Lincoln Lanes Banquet Hall 1208 N Center Ave., Merrill, WI 54452. A visitation will be held on Monday, April 24, 2023 from 8:00 am until the time of service also at Les & Jim's Lincoln Lanes Banquet Hall.

For those unable to attend the memorial service in person, it will be live streamed, beginning at 11:00 am, and will later be posted as a recording for future viewing. It can be found under his obituary on the funeral home website.

In loving memory of Aiden, donations may be made to a future memorial fund in Aiden's name.

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





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Dakota Grace Brown, 16, of Merrill, passed away Monday, April 17, 2023.

Dakota was born October 10. 2006, in Stevens Point, daughter of Lynnea Brown and Chad Brown. Dakota was a sophomore at Merrill High School She recently started working as a dietary aide at Pine Crest Nursing Home, Merrill. Her goal after high school was to travel and explore the world.

Dakota absolutely loved her family and friends. She adored her brothers and loved taking

care of her two dogs and three cats. Dakota always though about everyone and made sure they were okay. She told everyone she loved them and had the biggest heart. Dakota's favorite hobby was tending to her plants at home. She also enjoyed music and fashion.

Survivors include her mother, Lynnea Brown (Caleb Peckham) of Merrill; father, Chad (Riley) Brown of Fox Lake, WI; brothers, Jay Brown and Peyton Brown both of Merrill; half-siblings, Remington, Oliver, Milo, Hudson Kingston, and Jasmine; maternal grandfather, Curtis (Anita) Brown of Rockville, MD; maternal grandmother, Ann Bledsoe of Rome, WI; paternal grandfather, Rick (Bonnie) Brown of Shawano; paternal grandmother, Michele (Cameron) Sims of Fox Lake, WI; Caleb's parents, Richard (Barb) Peckham of Wisconsin Rapids and Goldie (George) Peckham of Gleason; and many close friends. Dakota was preceded in death by her maternal step-grandfather, John Bledsoe.

A celebration of life will be held from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill.

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



Henrietta "Etta" Schultz 93, was born in Wausau Wisconsin to Harold Elson and Theophilia 'Theo' Golla Elson on December 3, 1929 and passed away peacefully on Monday, April 17, 2023 at home with her family by her

Etta was met at heaven's door by her maker, her husband Wib, her parents, her daughter, Connie Tessmer, her grandson Garrett Schultz, and siblings Delores Jonas, Myra Schuster Phyllis Corda, LaVern Elson and Mary Elson. She is survived by her brother Russell Elson of Tucson, AZ, as well as many grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great

grandchildren.

Etta attended Wausau Senior High School. She was the founder of Al-Anon in the Wausau area. She was employed at H.C. Pranges, North Central Technical College as an instructor for DUI classes, Lincoln Hills, The Best Western, and Westwood Conference Center. In her younger years she and Wib enjoyed traveling the state for square dancing conventions. Etta was an avid seamstress, sewing for her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was also very talented at knitting and crocheting. She made 76 afghan blankets over the years for family members. She was also an excellent cook and baker; making family meals for

the holidays was one of her many joys. Etta was married to Wilbur "Wib" Schultz on June 15, 1946 in Wausau after meeting at a dance at the Labor Temple They enjoyed 64 years together raising their children, Connie (Duane) Tessmer, Barbara Herrington, Randy (Marge) Schultz, Terry (Jeannine) Schultz, Sue Duranceau, Mary Schultz, Chris (Deonn) Schultz and Sandra Adamski. A memorial service will be held on Friday, May 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. for Etta and Wib together at Restlawn Memorial Cemetery in Wausau with military funeral honors for Wib.

The siblings would like to thank their sister Barbara for taking such great care of their mom for the past 12 years and their sister Sue for assisting the last several years. This allowed Etta to remain in her home as she wanted to up until the time of her passing. Barb's care and devotion made Etta's last years the best they could be...

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.

Joann Eugenia Anderson March 18, 1941 -**April 20, 2023**

Joann Eugenia Anderson, age 82, of Merrill, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 20, 2023, on the "Patio of Paradise" in North Miami Florida. Joann was born March 18, 1941, in Chicago, the oldest of five children (baby brother passed away at 2 years old). She graduated from Good Counsel High School in Chicago, in 1959, and attended Wright Junior College in Chicago. On November

1959, she married her high school sweetheart, her one and only, Arthur A. Anderson, whom she met while roller skating at the Hub Roller Rink.

Joann was a loving wife and devoted mother of nine children. She stayed at home while raising her kids to be faithful, respectful, and kind. "Just try your best," "Be Good and Have Fun," "Treat others the way you want to be treated", and "Call me late, but don't call me late for dinner" were just a few sayings you would hear Joann say. Joann took pride in being a Certified Nursing Assistant and Restorative Aide for 26 years at Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill, Wisconsin. Patients would always migrate toward her because of her positive energy and constant smiles. Everyone who was blessed to know Joann knows how much she cared for others because she lived her faith in our Lord Jesus Christ each and every day. You walked away from Joann wanting to be a better person. Joann was a long time active member of St. Francis Catholic Church in Merrill. She was a proud member of the church choir, attended her bible study groups, and participated in many church events. Joann's greatest joy was spending time with her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, family and friends. Joann was known for being hospitable welcoming everyone into her home. She loved to prepare meals for others to enjoy. Joann spent her last four years being cared for by her daughter Michelle - her very own angel on earth. Michelle poured her heart and soul into making sure that her mom lived each moment as healthy and happy as possible.

Joann was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur A Anderson, her parents, Stanley S. Martin and Carolyn (Duginski) Martin, brother, Stanley (Sonny) Steven Martin, sister-in-law, Krystyna Martin, and brother-in-law, Donald Stahl. Joann is survived by her sister, Mickey Stahl, her brother, Thomas F. Martin, nine children: Michelle Anderson, North Miami, Florida, Suzanne (Tim) Devine. Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Laura Anderson, Folsom, California Christine (Lee) Lau, Merrill, Wisconsin, Nadine (Dan Kannel, Plum City, Michael (Veronica) Anderson, Merrill Paulette (Scott) Severt, Merrill, Edward (Janelle) Anderson Ferryville, and Steven (Heather) Anderson, Winneconne, 23 grandchildren: Mitchell (Jeanne), Mallory Dorn (Alex) McKenzie Schmitt (Chris), and Max Devine, Brittany Bell (Tommy) and Austin Malm, Emily and Sam Lau, Brandon Shelby Wells (Josh), and Jazmin Kannel, Bruce and Gunnar Anderson, Pankaj and Harsha Kumar, Cole (Makenzie) Severt and Sierra Bell (Jesiah), Brooke, Sage, and Drake Anderson, and Margaret, Jed, and Luella Anderson, ten great grandchildren: Thomas and Julia Devine, Murphy Dorn Joelle and Cooper Schmitt, Forest and Giana Bell, Oliver Wells, Eliza Severt, Nora Bell and many other loved family members and friends.

Viewing will be from 9:00-10:45 am on Friday, April 28th at Waid Funeral Home with the funeral Mass of Christian Burial to follow at St. Francis Catholic Church in Merrill Wisconsin. Father Maria Vallabhaneni will officiate. The burial will follow the Mass at St. Francis Catholic 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.



Robert "Big Bob" Everett, age 70, of the Town of Merrill, WI, passed away on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at his home. Bob was born on May 11, 1952, in Maryland to the late Dudley and Lois (Neubauer) Everett. He grew up in Beloit and moved to Maryland when he was 16. Bob was a 1970 graduate of the Aberdeen High School in Maryland.

Bob worked as a union glazier for many years. He enjoyed snowmobiling, four wheeling, riding his Harley, and his beloved dogs, especially his most recent dog, "Buddy". Bob loved getting together with friends weekly at Rock Island Percent in Merrill where he could drink Budweisers and shoot Resort in Merrill where he could drink Budweisers and shoot the breeze. He was an avid Nascar fan and a huge Terry

Labonte fan before his retirement.
Survivors include his son, Jeff (Steph Helvey); his siblings, Jeff Paul, Sherri Beeman, Kevin Everett, Deb Everett, and Robin Crane; his grandchildren, Taylor (Scott Steckbauer) Everett, and Morgan Sefton; and his great-grandchildren, Sage, Corbin, Elund, and Ember. Bob is further survived by his dog, Buddy. He was preceded in death by his father, Dudley Everett; his mother, Lois Paul; his stepfather, Walter Paul; his stepmother, Barbara Everett; and his brother, Shane

Per Big Bob's request, a celebration of life will be held at a later date at Rock Island Resort and will be announced at that time. Generations Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family. You may view Bob's obituary and leave on-

line condolences at generationsfuneral.com.

Bob's family would like to thank the following who assisted at his home when he passed away: the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, and Best Friends Animal Care Center.

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| OBITUARIES |



Dawn Eilene Evenson

June 15, 1963 - April 7, 2023 Dawn Eilene Evenson (59 years old) passed away on April 7, 2023 at the University of Minnesota hospital. She was a living miracle in so many ways, was loved by all who knew her, and is finally at peace.

Born June 15, 1963 in Merrill WI she was the loving daughter of MaryAnn (Marth) and Harold Woller. She worked as an accountant and bookkeeper for Lincoln County, Riverside and First Presbyterian church, and Faith Lutheran Church

She was a lifelong member of Faith Lutheran Church. Dawn had a passion for rummage sale-ing, loved spending time with her great-nephews and great nieces, with family

and friends, and at the lake in Chetek. She was preceded in death by her mother, MaryAnn.

She is survived by her loving husband, Andrew and son Jason (Ali), of Merrill, WI; father Harold (Phyllis), siblings Donna (Brian), Allen; nieces Nicole (Jonathan) and Erin (Bret); brother-in-law Scott, sister-in-law Karen, niece Darby, nephews Patrick and Tucker; and her adorable great nieces and nephews.

A service will be held at the Faith Lutheran Church on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 11am; visitation at 10am. There will be a private family gathering to follow. Memorials are preferred to the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge, 2500 University Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414. Donations may be made online at https://tinyurl.com/258ftvrv.



Frederick August Schepp passed away peacefully while surrounded by his family on December 28th, 2022. He was 90.

The memorial service for Fred will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Saturday, May 6, 2023, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Town of Corning. The Rev Joel Danner will officiate Visitation will begin at 9:30 A.M. Saturday at the church. Burial of Fred's cremated remains will take in the church cemetery. Following the burial, a lunch will be held Schult's Country Inn Taylor-Stine Funeral Home Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstine funeralhome.com

Together we will be

and Dakota Brown.

hosting a Benefit May 21st

Merrill to raise money for

the families of Aiden Grefe

at the VFW Pub 1638 in

There will be basket raffles,

52 card raffle, t-shirts and

Delicious food by Mergets

much more to check out!

Mouthwatering Mayham.

|LEGALS|

CITY OF MERRILL 1004 EAST FIRST STREET MERRILL, WI 54452 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard at a public hearing to be held by and before the City Plan Commission of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, commencing at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1004 East First Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the

following proposed matter, to wit;
1.) Brian Lee, 100 N Polk Street, requesting rezoning from Public to Business under M.M.C. Sec. 113.428 for 100 N Polk Street in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. Legally described in pin# 251-3106-141-0050. Anyone having any questions regarding the hearing should contact Zoning Administrator, Darin Pagel at 536-4880. Pated: April 10, 2023. Dated: April 10, 2023 CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN By: Lori Anderson-Malm

City Clerk Published April 20 & 27, 2023

DATE SIGNED: April 18, 2023 Electronically Signed by Kelly Schremp STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT
MARATHON COUNTY
Wisconsin Auto Finance Inc. dba CNAC of Wausau VS.

MICHAEL A MURPHY
Inded Summons and Complaint Small Claims

Case No. 2023SC000528 Sm Claim, Claim Under \$ limit 31001 Wisconsin Auto Finance Inc. dba CNAC of Wausau 2600 N 20th Ave Wausau WI 54401 Defendant: MICHAEL A MURPHY

Merrill, WI 54452 If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-261-1300 at least 10 working days prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide

that the countransportation.

SUMMONS

You are being sued as described on the attached complaint. If you wish to dispute this matter: You must appear at the time and place

judgment entered for what the plaintiff is

When to Appear/File an Answer: Date: 5/17/2023 Time: 10:00 am

Place to Appear/File an Answer: Marathon Co Courthouse-Wausau Courtroom A

100% of the proceeds from this benefit will be split between the

two families. There will be a donation box at the event the day of

and a box for cards for the family to take home forever.

Dakota Brown

Legals 7700

500 Forest Street Wausau WI 54403 Date Summons Issued: 4/18/2023 Published: April 27, 2023

Merrill Area Public Schools Regular Board of Education Meeting March 15, 2023 – Minutes

Blake at 5:30 PM in the Board Room.
Board members present: Gremler,
Krueger, Osness, Proulx, and Blake. Board members absent: Liberty, Volpe, Woller and Yingling. Others Present: Superintendent Murray, MAPS Administrators, Rell and Rudie; 6 people from the staff and public and Recorder

carried unanimously.

MOTION by Krueger, second by Gremler to approve the Head Start 2023-2024 T/TA plan. Motion carried

MOTION by Proulx, second by Krueger to approve the purchase of an additional camera server. Motion carried

MOTION by Krueger, second by Osness to approve the donations of an 8' Tidd Tech Snow Roller (valued at \$2,529) and a 6' Tidd Tech Snow
Groomer/Tracksetter (valued at
\$10,962) from the Friends of the
Evjue/Merrill School Forest. Motion

carried unanimously.
MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger
to approval of the WIAA Boys Hockey
Cooperative Team Renewal for 2023-2024: as well as the WIAA Girls Hockey

to approve the purchase of chromebooks in the amount of \$1,082,947.50 to be purchased with ESSER funds for grades 3-12. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness to approve the purchase of iPads in the amount of \$224,372.50 to be purchased with ESSER funds for grades K-2.

to approve the grant/donation from an anonymous donor through the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin for mental health navigation services at MAPS. Motion carried

MOTION by Krueger, second by Proulx

Lincoln County UW

Extension office for Mental Health
Navigation services for one year as
presented. Motion carried unanimously.
MOTION by Proulx, second by Gremler
to approve the compensation plan
adjustments for a 2% increase for any
staff that exceed the last step of the plan, adjust contract days to 210 for all Elementary and Middle School Principals and Associate Principals, and

MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness to approve the attached personnel report, contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Krueger to approve consent agenda items a through c, which includes minutes of the February 15, 2023, and March 6, 2023, meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,028,321.13; and, donations totaling \$5,570. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the February 15 2023 minutes

Blake called for a motion to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section

The meeting was called to order by

MOTION by Proulx, second by Krueger to approve the 2023-2024 Federal Head Start Grant, Motion carried unanimously. MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness to approve the Head Start Cost Allocation Plan for 2023-2024. Motion

Cooperative Team Renewal for 2023-2024. Motion carried unanimously. MOTION by Osness, second by Proulx

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger
to approve the CESA 9 2023-2024

shared service contract as presented with a projected cost of \$252,943. Motion carried unanimously. MOTION by Osness, second by Proulx

to approve the agreement with the Lincoln County UW

staff that exceed the last step of the removal of professional advancement language for Support Staff. Motion

19.85(1) (f) except where par. (b) applies; and, 118.125. The purpose of the closed session is for the consideration of (and possible action regarding) applications for participation in the Early College Credit and Start College Now programs; and, to consider and act upon parental requests for student opt out of state assessments, including the potential for a closed session(s) to review the specifics applicable to the affected student(s) if the discussion of such in open session would be likely to have an adverse effect upon the reputation of such student(s) pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats Any such closed session(s) shall be immediately followed by reconvening in open session for further consideration and, ultimately, action upon the parental requests. MOTION by Proulx, second by Krueger to adjourn into executive

session. Motion carried unanimously on

MOTION by Krueger, second by Osness to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger

to approve Student A and Student B to opt out of state assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness

to approve the 2 Early College Credit courses and the 2 Start College Now courses as presented in closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Krueger, second by Osness to adjourn at 6:43 p.m. Respectfully submitted,

Kendra Osness Board Clerk KO/tlw

(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.) Published April 27, 2023

Merrill Area Public Schools Special Board of Education Meeting

April 12, 2023 – Minutes
The meeting was called to order by
Blake at 6:34 p.m. in the Board of Education room.

Board members present: Blake, Liberty Osness, Proulx, Volpe and Woller. Board members absent: Gremler, Krueger and Yingling. Others present: MAPS Administrators and Recorder

session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Sections 19.85(1)(a); (f) except where par. (b) applies; and, 118.125. The purpose of the closed session is the following: conduct two (2) student expulsion hearings, deliberate, and act regarding the same. President Kevin Blake asked for a contemplated motion to go into closed session. MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe. Motion carried

mon a roll call vote.

MOTION by Woller, second by Volpe to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kendra Osness Board Clerk

Published April 27, 2023

(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street Merrill Wisconsin)

Merrill Area Public Schools Special Board of Education Meeting March 29, 2023 – Minutes

The meeting was called to order by The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Board members present: Gremler, Krueger, Osness, Proulx, Volpe, Woller, Yingling, and Blake. Board members absent: Liberty. Others present: Superintendent Murray, MAPS administrators, people from the staff and public and Peoporder Woller. public and Recorder Woller.

There was a presentation on the current status of the district facilities study and discussion regarding the findings to

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Kendra Osness Board Clerk

KO/tlw (The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)

Published April 27, 2023 WNAXLP

Merrill Area Public Schools Special Board of Education Meeting

March 30, 2023 – Minutes
The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:31 p.m. in the Board Room Board members present: Gremler, Krueger, Osness, Proulx, Volpe, Woller, Yingling, and Blake. Board members absent: Liberty. Others present: Superintendent Murray, Dr. Strike, and Peccyrler Woller Recorder Woller.

Blake called for a motion to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Sections 19.85(1)(c); and, (f) except where par. (b) applies. The purpose of the closed session is to consider and discuss specific positions and staff members in regards to preliminary consideration of non-renewal of teaching staff. MOTION

by Volpe, second by Proulx to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to adjourn at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted. Kendra Osness

|LEGAL NOTICES|

7700

Board Clerk KO/tlw (The official minutes in their entirety are

available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.) Published April 27, 2023

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WALWORTH COUNTY 7611 East County Road A

BUCK JUMPERS HUNTING CLUB,

Janesville, WI 53546

Plaintiff

An administratively dissolved Wisconsin corporation, Defendant.

Case No.: 2023CV0212 PUBLICATION SUMMONS To: Buck Jumpers Hunting Club, Inc., An Administratively dissolved

Wisconsin corporation
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the
plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you.

Within forty (40) days after (date of publication) you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is delivered to the court, whose address is 730 Wisconsin Avenue, Racine, WI 53403, and to Devine Hahn, S.C. plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 840 Lake Avenue, Suite 300, Racine, Wisconsin 53403. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not demand a copy of the

complaint within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. Dated April 4, 2023.

By: DEVINE HAHN, S.C.

Apple D. Cohen Bay No. 1101542

Anne D. Cohen, Bar No. 1101542 Attorneys for Plaintiff, Tracy Reiff Mailing Address: 840 Lake Avenue, Suite 300 Racine, WI53403 (262) 632-7541 (262) 352-7541 (262) 364-2088 (fax) Published April13, 20 & 27, 2023

WNAXLP

7700

NOTICE

Springbrook Cemetery **Association Annual Meeting**

May 5, 2023 7 PM

Pine River Town Hall

TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

TOWN OF MERRILL **ANNUAL MEETING**

The **ANNUAL MEETING** for the Town of Merrill will be held at the Town of Merrill Community Center MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023 AT 6:00 PM,

RECYCLE www.townofmerrillwi.gov

RECYCLE

Published April 27, 2023

WNAXLP

ATTENTION: TOWN OF SCHLEY

The Town is sponsoring a "CLEAN-UP DAY" Saturday - May 13, 2023 - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Bring your old appliances and recyclables as listed below to the Schley Town Hall. You must be a Town of Schley resident. The Town will pay half of the regular fee for you.

Items taken for free: Air conditioners

Humidifiers Lawn mowers Microwaves

Patio furniture (metal) Refrigerators (electric or gas)

Stoves (electric or gas) Washers

Fuel oil tanks Items with charges: Junk tires \$8.00 each

TVs \$30.00 Computers \$30.00 Farm equipment Freezers (chest or upright) Hot Water Heaters

Batteries

Items not taken: Tractor/large truck tires Drain, fuel, & hydraulic oils Paint

WNAXLP

Grills (charcoal or gas)

Dishwashers (steel tub)

Bed frames (metal)

Dehumidifiers

Monitors \$30.00 Tires on aluminum/steel rims \$6.00 each

Remember to Recycle Published April 27, May 4, 2023

Becky Dallman, Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice City of Merrill Code of Ordinances Section 14-36(b) declares lawns, grass and noxious weeds on non-agricultural lots or parcels of land which exceed eight inches of length affect public health and safety.

Code of Ordinances Section 14-34 defines noxious weeds and further delineates the duties of the owner or occupant of the property to remove the noxious weeds.

All property owners, or occupants are responsible for keeping their property areas, including boulevards, mowed and trimmed. Failure to do so will result in mowing and trimming by the City and an assessment

of costs which may result in an assessment on the property tax roll. A copy of the Lawn Regulation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Section 26-56 of the Code of Ordinances states that "No person shall deposit any refuse, leaves or grass clippings in any gutter along any public street, road, alley or highway.

Section 32-94 states that "It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit, or cause to be deposited, dumped, sorted, scattered or left any rubbish, stone, wire, earth, ashes, cinders, sawdust, hay, glass, manure, filth, paper, snow, ice, dirt, grass, leaves, construction waste, garbage or other offensive or noxious material in any public street, sidewalk, alley, or upon any public property.'

Dated this 17th of April 2023

CITY OF MERRILL RONALD R LIBERTY STREET AND WEED COMMISSIONER 715-536-4222

Published April 27, 2023

WNAXLP

Slam the Scam: Just hang up, don't text back, delete the email

The fourth annual Slam the Scam Day was recognized on March 9, 2023, but every day should be Slam the Scam Day. What does Slam the Scam mean? In short, it means just hang up the phone. If you receive calls that you suspect may be fraudulent or scams, hang up, and if you get repeated and persistent calls, talk to your phone provider about apps or programs that could pre-screen incoming phone numbers to help reduce or eliminate scam calls. For instance, T-Mobile has a Scam Shield app to block or reduce scam calls and enable users to report scam calls and texts.

Scammers are getting smarter, using every means necessary to scam unsuspecting people, and often target the elderly or particular groups of people.

In addition to phone calls, these days scams can also come in the form of unsolicited text messages. Robotexts (texts auto-generated) are one of the latest methods. Scammers are even reaching out to people via social media and instant messages. And, of course, scams also still come via unsolicited emails.

The best scammers typically use one of these tactics: they play on your generosity, they use fear (i.e., threaten you with arrest, disconnection of services, or that your computer will crash, or suggesting one of your loved ones is in jail or something else bad happened to them, or they are giving you something that sounds way too good to be true ("Congratulations, you've won ...") ... for just a payment of ... In every case, they want either your personal information or your money in one form or another (cash, debit card numbers, wire transfer, for you to buy gift cards or pre-paid debit cards) or both.

And in all cases, scammers make the circumstances urgent. They want you to act fast, right now, before you lose this opportunity or before something bad happens to you or someone you love, etc. Really, they want you to act fast before you think about the situation or investigate further and realize they are a fraud, that this is a scam, that you are being played, and that they are trying to take your money. Scammers are incredible imposters and awesome actors. Most sound very legit. Don't fall for it.

Key signs of a scam, according to the Social **Security Administration**

A press release from the Social Security Administration provides the following basic signs of a scam to help identify and stop fraudulent activity.

Remember:

- Scammers **pretend** to be from an agency or organization you know to gain your trust.
- Scammers say there is a **problem** or a prize.
- Scammers pressure you to act immediately.
- Scammers tell you to pay in a specific way.

Common scams

Common scams include:

- Free vacations and prizes ("You've won ...")
- Phishing scams (Asking for your personal information)
- Loan scams
- · Job scams (see separate article: "How to spot a job scam" in this edition)
 - Phony debt collectors
 - Fake charities
 - Medical alert/scams targeting seniors
 - · Warrant threats
 - · Threatening calls from the IRS
 - · Phony technical support calls
 - Lottery scams
- Family members or friends in peril and/or scammers pretending to be your family members or friends urgently needing money
- · Bank fraud calls
- Amazon impersonators
- Insurance and health care scams
- · Website password requests
- Fake customer requests
- Other urgent requests

This list isn't all-inclusive. Scammers are constantly

figuring out new ways to get people to give them their money and/or personal information. That, of course, leads to identity theft and potentially even greater financial losses.

First, know this: If you owe money to Social Security, the agency will mail you a letter with payment options and appeal rights. You should never pay a government fee or fine using retail gift cards, cash, internet currency, wire transfers, or pre-paid debit cards. If something changes with Medicare, they will also contact you by mail.

Likewise, if you owe money to a creditor, whether that is a utility company, medical facility, credit card company, or anyone else, as long as that entity has your correct mailing address, you will receive mail notification of those debts unless you have opted out of paper statements. (If in doubt, call to find out and ask for paper statements again.)

And you will only receive text messages or emails from legitimate businesses or creditors if you have opted in to receive texts or emails from a particular agency, bank, or creditor.

More details on scam tactics

Some of the most widely-known scam call, text, and email tactics include:

- 1. Telling you that your auto warranty is almost up (when you don't even have an auto warranty).
- 2. Saying there is a problem with the delivery of your package. (If you're expecting a package, reach out to the

merchant directly to inquire.)

- 3. Calls, texts, or emails requiring payment by mailing cash, wire transfer, internet currency, pre-paid debit cards, or retail gift card payments to fix problems or avoid arrest.
- 4. Contacting you to say there is a problem with your Social Security Number and asking you to call back to clear up the problem and/or to "verify" your Social Security
- 5. Messages saying you've been approved for a loan you didn't apply for.
- 6. Calls or messages indicating someone tried to charge something to your credit or debit card. (While fraud detection agencies are legit, it is best to call your bank or credit card company directly if these types of calls sound at all suspicious or if the caller is asking for anything other than confirmation of whether or not you made a specific purchase to a specific merchant in a specific amount on a specific date and if that was really you, and the caller should provide that information to you, not the other way around. If in doubt, hang up and call your bank or card company directly using the number on the back of your credit or debit
- 7. Calls, texts, or emails from the Social Security Administration (SSA). The SSA communicates via mail, not phone, text, or email unless they are calling you

See **SCAM** page 13

How to spot a job scam no matter how sophisticated

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) of Wisconsin warns applying for a job online can be risky business these days, and since many employers (even local ones) now work with third-party job sites, it's important to know what to watch for.

If you are applying to jobs online, constantly research before accepting an interview or employment offer. Job scammers have gotten very sophisticated, convincingly claiming to represent real employers, requiring interviews, and even providing phony job offer letters. These cunning new twists on traditional job scams have increased in BBB's Scam Tracker. In fact, according to BBB's latest Scam Tracker Risk Report, employment scams climbed to the second most risky scam type - after online purchases.

How this scam works

- You apply online through a reputable, third-party job-seeking site. A few days or weeks later, you get a text message or email asking if you are still interested in the position or a similar one at the same company. Since you made your contact information available to your potential employer when applying, the message doesn't strike you as unusual.
- · If you reply to the message, the scammer will invite you to interview for the job. This is when red flags start to appear. Instead of doing a traditional interview, the "employer" asks you to download a messaging app and answer a few

questions via text. Then, you're offered the position on the spot, with great pay and benefits. Your new "employer" may even send you a convincing offer letter. After your "job offer," the phony employer asks you to complete a form with your personal and banking information, claiming they need it for direct deposit. In other cases, the scammer may ask you to set up a home office, either with your funds or money they'll send you in a (fake) check.

 If you send money or share your personal details, it will now be in the hands of scammers. You're unlikely to get your money back, and your shared personal information puts you at risk of identity theft.

How to avoid similar scams:

- Research the person who contacted you. If you suspect the person contacting you could be a scammer, look them up. A quick online search should reveal if they work for the company they claim to represent.
- · Do more research on the company. You may have done this before you applied for the position. Still, if you get a surprise offer to interview, it's worth doing more research to learn more about their hiring process, home office requirements, salaries, and benefits packages. If these don't align with your offer, you could be dealing with
- Don't fall for jobs that seem too good to be true. They probably are. If you are offered a job - without a

formal interview - that has excellent pay and benefits, it's likely a scam.

For more information, go to BBB.org.

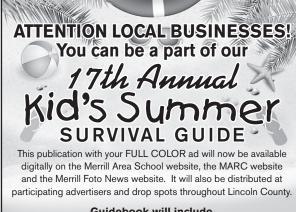
Read more about employment scams in BBB's 2022 Scam Tracker Risk Report on the BBB.org website. Learn to spot the signs of a scam by reviewing the BBB Tip: Employment Scams available online and read more about job scams in their job scam study.

Also, if you've been the victim of a scam, report it to BBB Scam Tracker. By reporting your experience, you can help others avoid falling for the same scam.

For more information or further inquiries, contact the Wisconsin BBB at www.bbb.org/wisconsin, 414.847.6000 or 1.800.273.1002. Consumers also can find more information about how to protect themselves from scams by following the Wisconsin BBB on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

For more than 100 years, the Better Business Bureau has been helping people find businesses, brands, and charities they can trust. In 2021, people turned to BBB more than 200 million times for BBB Business Profiles on 6.3 million businesses and Charity Reports on 25,000 charities, all available for free at BBB.org. There are local, independent BBBs across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, including BBB Serving Wisconsin which was founded in 1939 and serves the state of Wisconsin.





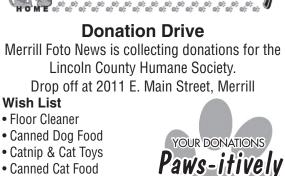
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- Summer Safety Tips
- Boredom Busters
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- Laundry Detergent & Dryer Sheets
- Garbage Bags (13 Gallon with Drawstring Preferred)

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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Everything

DEAR READER,

We live in a world that seems to have everything. And vet, we don't always feel that way. So here's a question to ask those you love: "What is the one thing that I can do for you that would help you over the next three years?"

If you could grant a wish to the ones vou love, those who are most special and closest to you, what would they ask of you? How could vou help their lives



be better and easier? What would they say?

And the next question is, would you grant their wish? That is the true test of love: The offer of giving, and then the gift.

PATRICK J. WOOD Publisher

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

N5179 Bradley Street, Gleason, WI 54435 Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with singing. Psalm 100:1, 2

STORE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 6:30 pm • Sat. 8:30 am - 4 pm • Closed Sunday

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American Cheese Sliced - White

Chicken Breast Breaded - Uncooked

Salami - Cotto

Meat Balls Italian - Frozen

Patties Oval - Frozen

Frozen

📤 Spring Time Hymn Sing ᆂ

Everyone Welcome!

💎 Friday April 28th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. 🥍

Join us for an evening of worship – a capella singing,

an inspirational message, and refreshments.

Hosted by the Gleason Mennonite Church

Event Location: the Gleason Community Lions' Park

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:

I grew up eating home-cooked meals from the basic food groups. The word "organic" never came up. At the same time, they were spraying DDT on playgrounds and other public places for mosquitoes. We never questioned the danger to all living things, including us. Today chemicals are still used routinely to eradicate "unwanted" species for our agendas, poisoning native species and the very pollinators that turn our plants to produce, drain into our lakes and groundwater, and kill beneficial organisms that keep soil loose and alive. No wonder we are pouring more and more chemicals every year into an artificial future.

Organic farming uses less harmful methods to secure a healthier solution: Saving space for native plants encourages pollinators to forage, birds to help with insect control; planting pest-deterring flowers like marigold and nasturtium; companion planting to rotate the nutrients in the soil; mulching to keep weeds down and retain moisture during dry spells; low-till to keep carbon from escaping into the atmosphere for global warming; diversifying crops to account for changing weather patterns.

Eating and growing organically makes

sense, not just for your own health, but as preventative medicine and a sustainable future for all.

- Rita Wiechman, Merrill, Wis.

TO THE EDITOR:

In response to Publisher Patrick Wood's 3/30/23 letter, "God: A Cautionary Tale":

When God created the world, it was good. But God gave mankind a free will. Humans had the choice to either obey or disobey God. At the moment Eve and Adam chose to disobey God, by eating the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, sin entered the world. We agree with the publisher that humans messed up the perfect world God created. But God wasn't surprised. He knew mankind would sin and He had a plan in place to free us from that sin. God promised to send a Savior who would crush sin and death forever. Every one of us has also sinned, in our thoughts, words, or actions. Our sin deserves death and separation from our Holy God forever. We could never do enough good to outweigh our sin. All of our righteousness is like filthy rags before a Holy God. But God loved the world so much, that He sent His only Son into the world. This Son, Jesus, lived a perfect life, died in our place, and rose again. Because of Jesus, there is still good in the world. And because of Jesus, each of us has the opportunity to one day enter a place where sin, and its consequences, are no more. Heaven is open to anyone who places trust in Jesus alone. That's God's grace.

Genesis 1, 3; Romans 3:23, 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; Isaiah 64:6, John 3:16; Revelation 21:4. - Chris and Angela Aldrich, Merrill, Wis.

Deveined - Tail On - Frozen

Oven Ready - Frozen

Ham Steak - Thick Cut Hardwood Smoked -FrozenON

Fully Cooked - Browned Tender - Frozen

Fully Stuffed - 3 Meat Frozen

Bread Sticks Cheese Stuffed - Frozen

Hash Browns

Pizza

Bacon

Hickory Frozen

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Yogurt Koolaid, Cherry Blue Raspberry

Cheez Whiz

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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

*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.



Visit our web site at www.bricknerfamily.com - Email: Parkcityservice@bricknerfamily.com

Jeep

Check out State Park passes at the library

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced the expansion of "Check Out Wisconsin State Parks At Your Library." The program provides library cardholders the opportunity to check out day passes to state parks, forests, and recreation areas, such as Council Grounds State Park.

Starting Monday, May 1, 2023, more than 160 libraries across Wisconsin will make nearly 6,300 day passes available. The passes are valid for free single day admission for one vehicle at any state park, forest, or recreation area where admission is required.

The initial program offered 1,000 day passes to 20 libraries across Wisconsin.

"We had a great response to our pilot program over the winter, and we are confident this summer and fall opportunity will be just as successful," said Steve Schmelzer, Parks and Recreation Management Bureau Director. "Through this program, Wisconsinites will be able to visit our state park properties this summer without the barrier of a fee. Come explore Wisconsin's special outside places this summer!"

Check Out Wisconsin State Parks At Your Library is a collaborative effort between the DNR, Wisconsin Library Association's Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries, and Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The cost of day passes at 84 libraries was underwritten by the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks, a grant from the C.D.

SENIORS • \$5.00

ADULTS • \$8.00

heatre

SHOW TIMES EFFECTIVE 4/28/23 TO 5/4/23

Mondays All Seats \$5.00

ARE YOU THERE GOD?

IT'S ME MARGARET

"PG13" (1HR 45MIN) FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM

SATURDAY:

1:00, 3:15, 7:00 & 9:15PM

SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:15 & 7:00PM MON THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

AIR

"R" (1HR 51MIN)

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Pubus

310 E. 2nd St., Merrill

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"NOW SERVING

SANDWICHES"

HOURS

MON. - FRI. Noon - Close

SAT. 4pm - Close

SUN. Noon - Close

APRIL BOOZE OF

THE MONTH



State park daily admission passes will soon be available for check out at more than 160 libraries across Wisconsin.

Photo courtesy of Wisconsin DNR.

Besadny Fund of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, and two Green Tier businesses.

Additionally, libraries could purchase day passes, and 62 libraries purchased 3,865 passes for their patrons to utilize. Along with the day pass, the cardholder can pick up a variety of DNR materials.

Check us out online!

merrillfotonews.com



Andy Geiss and Chad Charbarneau.

Submitted photo.

GEISS from page 1

Badger Brat

- · Reserve Champion-Breakfast Maple Links
- · Reserve Champion-Bacon
- · Reserve Champion-Smoked Brat
- Reserve Champion-Smoked Chicken
- · Reserve Champion-Traditional Boneless Ham
- · Reserve Champion-Liver Ring
- · Reserve Champion-Traditional Stick
- Honorable Mention-Bologna
- · Honorable Mention-Peppered Bologna Loaf

Most of these items can be found in Geiss Meat Service's new retail store at W4490 Pope Rd. in Merrill. Their new retail store opened on Labor Day 2022 in the rotunda building when entering the Geiss/Little Florida Trailer park area and provides much more space to offer more products to consumers.

A grand opening for the new retail store is planned for

"We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our employees for all of their hard work and dedication," Andy and Michelle Geiss said.

LCHS March donors

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

Meghan Stevenson; Dean Barker; Peggy Bauman; Darlene Raunio; Cecil Ballou; Keri Martin; Tomahawk Farmer's Market Corp; Frontstream; Dale Casperson; Beverly Cornelius; David Freed; Candice Jacobson; Kristin Sobiesczyk; Julie Guzinski; Mark & Janet Abell; Nadine

See **DONORS** page 14

Pet of the Week

Meet Nali, she is a black beauty! She is a

very lovable girl who has found her way to

the shelter. Nali has lived with other cats

and dogs in her former life. She is a laid back cat that would probably fit in just about any home styles. Her adoption fee

includes her spay, up to date vaccinations

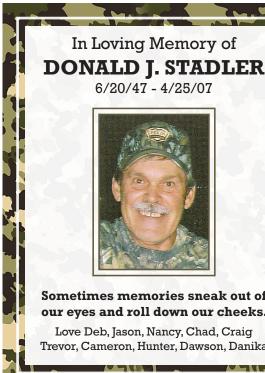
Visit all the adoptable animals at Lincoln •

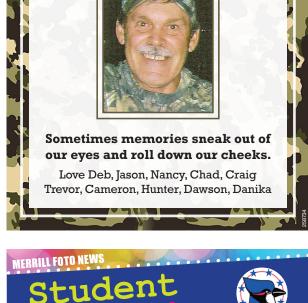
County Humane Society, 310 N Memorial •

Dr., Merrill. Hours: Mon-Sat 12-4 PM & Sun

12-2 PM. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459,

or visit us at www.furrypets.com.















This Week's Featured Student is

Willow Kultgen



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Merrill

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THANK YOU MERRILL COMMUNITY!

and microchip.

Dr. Ronald J.

>i**f**f

Optometrist

The Merrill Wrestling Booster Club would like to thank the Merrill community for their continued support of Merrill wrestling - whether it's purchasing the club coupon cards and Escape tickets or cheering the wrestlers on at home dual meets and tournaments - we appreciate you!

We would especially like to thank the individuals and businesses that have supported the Club's largest fundraiser, the Escape, with their donations and everyone who purchases Escape tickets and attends the event.

And, a special shout out to our Merrill wrestling coaches and parents who work with our wrestlers!



EMPLOYMENT

TOWN OF MERRILL

IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR

FULL-TIME SHOP/BUILDING & ROAD MAINTENANCE FOREMAN

Flexible Schedule
*POSITION REQUIRES - CDL CLASS B
(If not licensed, please contact us
for more information)

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE IN GLASS BULLETIN BOARD AT W4594 PROGRESS AVENUE

AND AT--www.townofmerrillwi.gov Call with questions at 715-536-4383



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Must be able to work full-time. Must be at least 18 years old.

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EQUIPMENT SALES CONSULTANT

Duties to include:

Assisting customers in the sale of new and used equipment, including demonstrating products, creating quotes, and delivering equipment.

Sales experience with ag equipment knowledge preferred.

Wages: base pay plus commission

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Duties to include:

Diagnosing and repairing tractors or equipment, including engines, transmission, hydraulics, and electrical.

Must have mechanical experience, or

Must have mechanical experience, or schooling and your own tools. **Wages** based on experience.

Benefits include:

health insurance, paid vacation, and retirement.

E-mail: timrew@rewmotors.com

or Call: 715-449-2524

Located N9705 US Hwy 45 Birnamwood & N2960 US Hwy 45 Antigo

WE ARE HIRING Industries WELDERS! Wages: \$18-28/hr Wages: \$18-28/hr Full Time: (4) 10s Part Time: Flexible Excellent Benefits: Copay only medical plan & more APPLY AT AGRAIND.COM/CAREERS AGRA Industries 1211 W Water St Merrill, WI • 715-536-9584

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



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! Id Shift Monday – Friday, 3rd Shift Sunday – Thursday

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 Nexturn Swiss Screw Machine Set-up Operators Hyper Quadrex Machine Center Set-up Operators

> Paid Vacation after 90 days! 401(k) with company match Full benefits package Employee referral program

Scholarship program available to employee dependents!

G3 Industries, Inc.

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1877

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.

254169

NOW HIRING CNA's, RN, LPN ALL Shifts, Full Time

You will earn between \$16.25 and \$20.75 depending on experience and shift worked. Plus \$5,000 sign-on bonus for CNA's, \$7,500 for Nurses.

Come join us and make a difference in people's lives.
Call 715-453-2164 or apply in person.



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

Apply in person or email tgrenwalt@nshorehc.com

PARAMOUNT INSTALLERS LLC

Paramount Installers, LLC is currently accepting applications for full-time or seasonal

INSTALLATION TEAM MEMBERS

The ideal candidate must be 18 or older with a high school diploma or GED, able to work as a member of a team, willing to learn, be detail oriented and able to handle multiple tasks with minimal supervision. Candidates MUST be able to work at various heights and outdoors in all climates and hold a valid driver's license. Our installation crews travel all over the lower 48 states, and applicants should be prepared to be gone for several weeks at a time.

Apply online at

www.structuresunlimited.com/employment/

or stop in and fill out an application:
Paramount Installers, LLC
118280 Forward St, Stratford, WI 54484
(715) 687-2453

260



Are you looking for a manufacturing career?

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- ☐ Excellent Pay! Starting at **\$20.00**/hour + Shift Differential!
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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!

GPI is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Apply Online at GRAPHICPKG.COM/CAREERS/

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

\$2.000

Retention

170857

CLASSI

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



Come Join

(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.



Negative FirstWeber The human side of real estate: www.KevinBlake.firstweber.com

OPEN HOUSE, SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH



2714 W. MAIN ST, MERRILL • OPEN HOUSE 11AM - 1PM. Topped with a new roof. .. this home is almost Country!!! This 2,084 sq. ft. ranch home is set on a pretty tree lined lot that has the best of both worlds. .. country feel. .. city convenience. Three large bedrooms, 2 and half baths, main floor laundry and spacious rooms throughout, gives you the comfort of a full family home. Patio doors lead to a deck off the dining, and to the tree lined backyard. Basement is finished with a huge family room with a bar. 2 car attached insulated garage and a blacktop drive. **\$200,000**.

General Employment

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 heath care & vacation. Please call for additional info: (715) 693-6564

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

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NO WAITING LIST to Train for your CDL. Call SCDTI 715-942-2700 ext 102

OTR TRUCK DRIVERS FT/PT Fleet Dreams! Competitive wages & full benefits. Mileage, Drop pay, Paid weekly Home weekends, NO east/west coast, 28 central states. Van & Hopper Division. Agriculture experience a plus. Fox Valley company since 1958 Call Frank 920-788-6242 or 920-858-0238. Van Groll Trucking, Kaukauna

Announcements

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EMPLOYMENT

Home Weekly I Paid Weekly

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TOWN OF MERRILL IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CLERK POSITION TREASURER POSITION

> Clerical experience and knowledge of Quick Books, Word and Excel are beneficial, but not required. Willing to train for either position.

TOWN OF MERRILL W4594 PROGRESS AVE • MERRILL. WI 54452 715-536-4383

Applications available in glass case bulletin board outside of town hall or at townofmerrillwi.gov.

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)

City Wide Rummage Sale

7000

It's the Annual **RUMMAGING AROUND** STRATFORD 2023

Thurs., May 4th • 8am-6pm Fri., May 5th • 8am-6pm Sat., May 6th • 9am-3pm 114 SALES!!! Maps Available May 1st at

www.stratfordwi.com



YOUR WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY JUST GOT BIGGER!

- CREW MEMBERS \$18.65 20.15/HR
- **DEPARTMENT MANAGER** (2nd Shift) DOE
- FREIGHT LOADER (1st & 2nd Shifts) \$20.37 \$21.87/HR

LET'S TALK • FINAL ASSEMBLY (1st & 2nd Shifts) \$21.50 - \$23.00/HR (715) 722-1884

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GREAT BENEFIT PACKAGE Health Insurance with low premiums!

Individual \$80/Month, Spouse + \$128/Month, Child + \$42/month

Dental, Vision, Retirement, & Life Insurance **Paid Holidays and Vacation**



Now Offering 4 Day Work Weeks (With OT on Fridays)

Sierra Pacific Industries is an (EOE) Equal Opportunity Employer, including those with a disability and veterans.

We are tear

Now Offering... 3 - Day Weekends!

APPLY IN-PERSON

Two Merrill Locations: 605 N. Ohio St. | 1815 Water St.

Questions? Call: 715-722-1884

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Ohio St. Location 4 10-Hour Days (Both shifts available, OT on Friday)

Excellent Low-Cost Benets:

Individual: \$80/Month Spouse: +\$128/Month Child: +\$42/Month

2022 Monthly Rates

7262

Rummage Sales This Week

Huge Garage Sale Thur/Fri/Sat. Apr 27/28/29, 9-5, N2536 Spruce Ln, 2 miles N of PO. Little bit of everything. Clothes dishes, books, tools, puzzles, antique pcs, office supplies, etc.

Huge indoor yard sale rain or shine. N383 Hilltop Lane, Merrill. 8am - 6pm, Fri 4/28 & Sat 4/29 Household and kitchen items, collectibles, willow tree figurines, red wing, yard and garden, hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, back-packing, kayaking, and canoe gear. No junk, priced to sell.

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 election 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

Weston Annual Neighborhood Rummage 4313 W. Raybelle Dr. Thur 4/27 & Fri 4/28 8a-6p

Sat 4/29 8a-5p Antiques & collectibles, crocks, designer purses, costume jewelry, electronics, furniture, household, baby items, newborn-18 mos girls clothing, womens clothing sm-3X, gas grill, office desk, AC floor unit w/window vent & much more!

Rummage Sales Upcoming

SAVE THE DATE! May 18, 19 & 20.

Walk-thru-house moving sale. Jones Drive, Rothschild. Watch for future ad with details.

Craft Sales 7204

Art Antique and Handcrafted Show and Sale: Announcing our 2nd annual Antique, Art and Handcrafted Show and Sale When: June 3rd and 4th Time: 10am to 4pm Where: Aspire Ranch N721 Range Line Rd Merrill WI If you would like to be a vendor at our sale please con tact us for more information Kristin Kittel

715-600-2963 abittaboveeq@gmail.com



Unique vendors, Auntie Ray's coffee, chair massages, a photographer, cookies and more Questions? Contact Maria a (715)351-0748

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, Primi-tives, Ford Brush Guard w/winch, much more. NO EARLY SALES.

Auctions 7282



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!

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

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

N295 Tree Lane, Merrill, WI 54452 Phone: 715-443-5000 www.integritysales.com Ross Landes RWA#3017 Integrity Sales & Auction LLC RWAC#517
Consign Now! Low Fees!

Antiques and Collectibles

FLEA MARKET SUNDAYS 7am-4pm SHAWANO FAIRGROUNDS weather permitting 715-526-9769 zurkopromotions.com

FLEA MARKET SUNDAYS 7am-4pm SHAWANO FAIRGROUNDS weather permitting 715-526-9769 zurkopromotions.com

Computers and Electronics 7216

Switch & 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 service. Call 1-855-903-3048

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)

Wooden Rocker for porch or indoors, excellent condition \$75.00. Call 715-218-5757

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.

FREE FIREWOOD

You cut and haul. Unlimited supply. Town of Texas. Call Frank: 715-212-1790

Lawn and Garden

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



MULTI MEDIA CHANNELS IS LOOKING FOR A **MARKETING** AND SALES **CONSULTANT**

The position involves meeting with businesses to find out their needs and create a marketing plan with our lineup of print products. This position sells advertising to businesses to help them grow via weekly newspapers, special sections, web ads, and a variety of specialty magazines.

This position offers competitive pay and benefits, no nights or weekends, mileage and expense reimbursement.

EMAIL MIKE HOLLIHAN AT MHOLLIHAN@MMCLOCAL.COM

7214

7264

"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.kingfis

SPRING HAS SPRUNG & IT'S PLANTING SEASON AGAIN! This year Nature Hills, America's

largest online plant retailer, has an exclusive offer -French Manicure

Panicle Hydrangea. Sale price just \$24.60 plus s/h. Call for details and order today. Call Nature Hills Plant Nursery 1-844-503-2720 or

naturehillsdeal.com/

herlodge.com (WCAN)

bloom71 (WCAN)

Outdoors

GUN SHOW APR 28, 29 & 30TH. WAUSAU/ROTHSCHILD, Central WI Conf & Expo Ctr 10101 Market St. Rothschild 608-752-6677 www.bobandrocco.com

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 mar**vkrauspromotions.net (WCAN)

THE GUN BUYER will be at the Ashland Gun Show, April 28/29th looking for the following Guns: Ruger Model 77 & Ruger 44 Carbines, Remington Model 788's Model 700 Heavy Barrels & Model 700 Mountain Rifles. Dan Wesson Pistol Pak. Also looking for Beretta BL-3 20 gauge & any Older New Condition Guns. Call the GUN BUYER 608-548-4867 or stop by

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.

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)

Wanted to Buy 7268

STONEWARE WANTED Collector paying \$1000+/for Red Wing salt glazed or adver-

tising crocks, jugs, churns & water coolers. (612)685-6762

Up To \$100,000 for old Guitars, Amps & Basses! Free Ap-praisals/Free info I'll come to you WI Christian Dealer 920-467-4762 (WCAN)

7272

Dogs

ACA BICHON FRISE PUPPIES Shots/Vet Checked, dews, dewormed \$600 No Sunday Calls 715-409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

Dogs

ACA COCKER SPANIEL PUP-PIES Shots/Vet Checked, dews, dewormed \$500 No Sunday Calls 715-409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

7272

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

AKC PUPS, GOLDEN RETRIEVER shots/dews/wormed/Vet \$450-\$650 715-255-2661 (269146)



American Labs, black chocolate and silver. Raised ir iving room and played with daily by my two boys. Dew claws re moved, dewormed regularly, and veternary health check before Readv April 28th \$1000. Patty 920-883-2613

AKC REG. COCKER SPANIEL PUPS NEW Big Litters! 50% OFF!!! shots & wormed 920-563mornings(#268588) (WCAN)

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

AUSSIE PUPPIES Shots Vet ch'd/worm Merles \$500, Tri's \$400 715-754-2682 (513867)

BOSTON POODLE CROSS PUP-PIES \$200 SIBERIAN/BOSTON Mix \$400 shot/worm 715-921-

Dogs 7272

CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPPIES Vet chk/wormed/vac \$500; AMERICAN ESKIMO RAT TERRIER SHIBA MIX PUPPIES: M & F \$50 715-223-0782

Cute & Friendly POMPSKY PUP-**PIES!** Ready to Go May 16. F-\$350, M-\$300 **715-773-1643** after 6 leave message

FOR SALE Golden Doodle 7mos old. Aussie Retriever 1yr old. Standard poodle adult female 4-7yrs old. All vaccines, housebroke, good family dogs. 715-610-7105

FOR SALE: MINI BERNESE Friendly! \$850 608-396-1987

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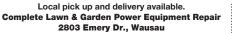




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Marshfield Clinic Health System ends masking requirement

On April 14, 2023, the Marshfield Clinic Health System announced they would no longer require patients and staff to wear masks under most circumstances, effective April

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently announced it is planning for the federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 to expire May 11, their release said.

The Health System continually monitors state and regional COVID-19 trends, including rates of hospitalizations and community transmission, to

determine if policies can be adjusted. In mid-March, the Health System lifted all visitor restrictions and removed COVID-19 testing requirements on hospital admissions and preoperative surgical cases.

"Patient, visitor and employee safety is our number one priority for those entering and working in our facilities, and every COVID-19 guideline we put in place during the pandemic was for their protection," said Dr. Samantha Klebe, Chief Medical Officer, Marshfield Clinic Health

See MASKING page 14

SCAM from page 6

back regarding a matter you initiated or unless they are authenticating your online account. They don't ask for your information.

- 8. Calls or messages indicating your benefits will be increased for a fee or payment (Social Security or any kind of benefits).
- 9. Calls claiming to be from Medicare asking you to "verify" or provide your Medicare number, saying Medicare is issuing new cards, claiming your Medicare coverage is about to be canceled, saying you can receive early access to special vaccines or you have an appointment for free genetic testing, telling you that you qualify for free medical supplies, saying you're eligible for a refund, or telling you that you're pre-approved for a cheaper or better plan.
- 10. Calls or messages saying your computer is infected and will crash and they will help you fix it and asking you to download a software or share your computer screen with them. (They do this to get into your computer and hack into your personal information.)
- 11. Calls, texts, or emails asking for your website or computer passwords.

Avoid becoming a victim of a scam

Here are some tips to help avoid getting scammed:

- 1. Don't answer telephone calls from numbers you don't recognize. If you do, and the call seems at all suspicious, hang up immediately.
- 2. If you get a voice mail telling you to call back about a matter that sounds fishing, don't call back.
- 3. If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Hang up the phone.
- 4. Don't respond to unsolicited text messages from people you don't know.
 - 5. Never give out your passwords or PIN numbers.
- 6. Never make payments by purchasing gift cards or prepaid debit cards for anything. This is a well-known scam tactic, where scammers tell people to purchase gift cards and then give them the numbers on the back of the cards.
- 7. Never make payments by wire transfer, internet

currency, or by mailing cash.

- 8. Calls that demand immediate payment are suspect. If you know you are behind on a bill, hang up the call. Find a legitimate number on your billing statement to call to make payment and call that number to pay the amount due to ensure you are really dealing with your creditor and not some scammer. If the caller threatens arrest, you know for sure it's a scam.
- 9. Ignore text messages about matters unfamiliar to you such as those telling you there is a problem delivering an order. (If you placed an order with a merchant, call that merchant directly to see if there is a problem or call the legitimate number for the delivery service to inquire.)

10. If you receive a call or text indicating someone tried to charge something you didn't authorize to your credit or debit card, hang up and call your bank or credit card company directly. Don't give out any of your personal information or credit or debit card information unless you initiate the call.

- 11. Don't respond to unsolicited emails, offers, or claims. Again, look up an authorized phone number or email for the agency the email claims to represent and reach out to see if the email is legit before responding. See all of the above tips, as well. (i.e., don't purchase gift cards for anyone asking you to do so in an email, don't provide your credit or debit card information via email, and don't respond to any supposed creditor with payment information this way)(See #6 and 7 above)
- 12. Any call, text, or message that references you getting arrested is a scam. That's not how the legal system works.
- 13. Never give out your personal information or Social Security number to someone you don't know for a reason you didn't initiate.
- 14. Never share personal information via text or email, and never give out personal information to someone who is calling you. (See #8, 9, 10, and 11 above).
- If you suspect you have been the victim of a scam, report it to your local police or sheriff's department and also the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The FTC is the main agency that collects scam reports. Report the scam to the FTC online at https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/ or by phone at 1.877.382.4357 (9:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. ET)



15TH ANNUAL MERRILL CITYWIDE

Clean out SPRING RUMMAGE SALE Sweep

To Be Held All Over The Merrill Area Saturday, May 20th



Hugo's Pizza donated \$250 to St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) this past month. Hugo's has been donating 10% of all gift card sales, which now totals more than \$600, for the past three years. Pictured from L to R: Freida Swanson, SVDP President; Colleen Bostrom, Hugo's owner; and Sue Norenberg, SVDP Outreach Manager. **Submitted photo.**

MASKING from page 13

System. "Given the current trends showing lower rates in hospitalizations and community transmission, we believe we're in a position to adjust some of those guidelines while maintaining a high level of safety and precaution"

People may still choose to wear masks, and the Health System will support their choice to wear one and staff will wear a mask if requested. Departments that serve immunocompromised or specialty patients will return to pre-COVID policy and procedures for masking. Departments and medical procedures that wear masks as part of its normal practice, such as during surgeries, will continue to do so. Masks are encouraged for patients with symptoms consistent with a COVID-19 infection, a COVID-19 exposure, or other infectious respiratory illnesses

The Health System will continue to monitor COVID-19 activity to determine if guidelines need to be put back in place, the release said.

DEATHS from page 1

to really cold and they got caught in it," she said. She added that at this time there doesn't seem to be any foul play involved.

"You can see that this is a very vast forest and without these resources it would have been even more difficult that it was [to find them]," Hook said Tuesday, indicating on a map the area where the teens were found and thanking all those who helped in the search.

"We know where they started and then we believe we had some other information that was kind of leading us in different directions, and that's why we had such a vast area to search," she said. "You can see, some of these are trails and some are logging roads, so there is a lot of area out there. And they're young people and can walk well."

The circumstances surrounding the deaths of the two teenagers remains an active investigation.

Lincoln County Coroner Valerie Caylor confirmed forensic autopsies were conducted on April 18 at UW Madison Hospital. "I am awaiting the formal results of those examinations," she said. "Toxicology samples, which is a standard post mortem investigation tool, have been sent off to our independent lab for analysis; consistently it takes several weeks for those results. In the meantime, I continue to meet with Sheriff's investigators in order to aid them as needed."

"Once toxicology and formal results have been received, I will meet with investigators, families, and then a formal statement will be released to the media," Caylor said.

Additional counselors have been available to assist students at both Merrill High School, where Aiden and Dakota attended, and Prairie River Middle School, where siblings of the teens attend.

Funeral services were held this past Monday, April 24, in the Merrill High School Auditorium for Aiden Grefe, and on Tuesday, April 25, for Dakota Brown at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home.

More information will be shared as it becomes available.

DONORS from page 8

Appel; Liberty Mutual Insurance Company; Ruth James; Nicole Wilke; Tomahawk Main Street; Pamela Welch; Janet Selnes; Peggy Jaeger; EM & PL Berg; Steven Heimerl; Patricia Klucarich; Northern Wire Team; Wisconsin Trailblazers Sled Dog Club, Inc; Kendra Hawley; Peggy & Bob Bauman; Network for Good; Ivy Catlin; Sharayah Lee; Tasha Jaeger; Natalie Wegner; Michele Huston; Angeline Marquis; Robert Zipp; Paypal Giving Fund; Amy Hameister; Jane Parsons; Duel Harmon; Karen Nocco; Rick & Judith Lombard; Hilary Scully; Ivan Voigt; Greg & Betsy Sommer; and Ervin Walkowski.

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IncredibleBank donated \$1,000 to help fund the fourth grade Washington School trip to Madison. This trip is the highlight of fourth grade. Students spend the year studying Wisconsin history and then make a trip to Madison each May. "Students will have the opportunity to visit the Henry Vilas Zoo followed by a tour of our State Capital. Students wait all year for this special trip in May," said Lisa Hass, fourth grade teacher at Washington School.

Submitted photo.

PINE CREST from page 1

Under the first option whereby Lincoln County would continue to operate Pine Crest as a county-owned nursing home, four alternatives for effectively doing so were examined: generate additional revenues, decrease expenses, pursue new management arrangement for operating Pine Crest, or demolish the existing Pine Crest facility and rebuild a new facility of appropriate size.

The Committee's seven different ideas for generating additional revenue were discussed at length. The options for renting rooms in unused wings to Pine Crest employees for living quarters and creating an assisted living wing would require some considerable renovations and expense and a cost/benefit analysis would need to be conducted to determine the viability of those options, Board members agreed. It was also a concern that, since Pine Crest is currently experiencing staffing issues that limits the number of residents, this staffing issue would also limit use as an assisted living facility. Staffing is a big concern.

The option to add a daycare for Pine Crest employees or community daycare was effectively removed from consideration, as the logistics would be a big challenge and Bill Bialecki said there are a number of other community projects underway hoping to address that challenge. It was also noted Trinity's existing child care facility needs additional employees, so staffing would be an issue, as well.

The option to create a space for foster care needs was also effectively dismissed because the Department of Health Services (DHS) would not likely approve the use in proximity to nursing home use.

Adding dialysis treatment capabilities would require some adaptation of the space and partnering with an agency to provide that service, but could work.

Adding additional dementia treatment capabilities could be feasible. While a new wall and door would need to be added, Pine Crest currently has 20 beds in the existing dementia unit, and there is always a wait list, so there is a need for this.

One option was to ask North Central Health Care (NCHC), which currently manages Pine Crest, to explore additional means to increase the current census and address staffing shortages. The Board asked NCHC to put together a list of what they are doing currently for their review.

A final option to increase revenue by means of adjusting the County tax levy to cover the cost of Pine Crest debt service was discussed but Board members agreed they did not like this option because it would increase the cost to tax payers without their input and they don't want to go that

Six options for decreasing expenses for operating and/ or maintaining Pine Crest were presented in the Ad Hoc Committee's report, and several of those were also discussed in detail. It was agreed establishing a replacement reserve fund to pay for major maintenance/repair needs made logical sense.

The option to sell or lease parts of the Pine Crest building for other uses was ruled out since any use in that close of proximity to a nursing home facility must be compatible with licensing.

Downsizing the facility permanently or demolishing currently unused wings to decrease maintenance and operations costs also didn't seem feasible to the Board since they would still be left with the same debt on the building, so those options were effectively eliminated.

None of the Board members favored pursuing a new management arrangement for operating Pine Crest at this time, as they have been pleased with how NCHC is managing the facility.

Relocating Pine Crest to another existing facility didn't seem feasible or beneficial to Board members.

Likewise, demolishing the facility entirely and building a new, smaller facility was eliminated because again, the County would still be left with the existing debt.

The Board then turned to discussing the various options under the option of ceasing to operate Pine Crest as a county-owned nursing home. As previously discussed, the Board didn't feel demolishing the building was a viable option. However, selling the Pine Crest facility with the stipulation that it must continue to be operated as a nursing home was a viable option to at least consider, Board members agreed. They said the highest and best use of the facility is as a nursing home, and this meets a need in the community. There appears to be little value in it as an empty building based on what they've seen in other communities, so they wouldn't favor that. But a nursing home facility the size of Pine Crest is marketable, Board members have been told. They may wish to get an appraisal on the facility in the future and have additional discussions with the appropriate parties to consider this option further.

Another option in the report was to sell the Pine Crest and Social Services facilities together, in light of their close proximity to one another on the property. The Board discussed that, should an appropriate buyer for the nursing

home be found who wishes to do that and then lease the Social Services facilities back to the County, that might be an option to consider, as well.

The final option to hold referenda to allow the voters of Lincoln County to decide whether Lincoln County should continue to operate, fund, and/or maintain Pine Crest Nursing Home is definitely still one the Board is considering, as well. As they weigh all the options, however, Board members stressed that they would consider the results of such a referendum to be a clear and definitive direction from the voters, which they would then follow, so they would want to ensure they've done their homework and provided voters all of the detail and facts necessary to inform their vote if they pursue this option.

Board Supervisor and State Representative Calvin Callahan mentioned that he and State Senator Mary Felzkowski plan to introduce a budget motion to direct DHS to pay nursing homes their supplemental payment for 2022 from the budget surplus by Sept. 30, 2023, to address the unexpected shortage now facing Lincoln County (as previously reported). He is hopeful that will move forward to make Lincoln County and other nursing homes in the state whole for 2022.

Chair Friske asked Supervisors to come to next month's Board meeting prepared to tell which option(s) they favor for moving forward and why and said he hopes they will be able to move closer to making actual decisions on the future of Pine Crest at that time.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, John Greenwood, Mike Ravn, and Kevin Stevenson all spoke in support of the Board's approach to addressing the Pine Crest matter and said they appreciated the Town Hall meetings and how those meetings were conducted to seek input from Lincoln County residents.

Resolutions passed without issue

The County Board approved the appointment of Tyler Verhasselt as the new Director of Emergency Management as a part-time exempt employee by a unanimous voice vote.

They also unanimously (voice vote) approved a resolution to accept \$100,000 of Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) funding (\$50,000 in 2022 and \$50,000 in 2023) from the American Rescue Plan, to be used to offset current expenditures in the general fund.

Sheriff's Office Corrections Division wage adjustment resolution

A resolution to address a staffing crisis at the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) in the Corrections Division (having lost 25% of their experienced personnel in the last year), citing low wage and fringes compared to other agencies and private sector as their reason for leaving, approved a pay incentive request by the LCSO to address the issue by reducing the number of Correctional Officers and Corrections Sergeants from the current authorized and budgeted 21 to 20 and then using the dollars saved from the elimination of one Correctional Officer position to move both Correctional Officers and Corrections Sergeants up two steps on the current pay scale, not to exceed the maximum step on the grade, was carried by a voice vote (one nay vote, the rest in favor). Prior to the vote, Sheriff Ken Schneider indicated he did not support the passage of the resolution because his staff did not support it. He said his original intent was to give everyone on his staff a \$1.50 per hour increase, but the current resolution provided a \$1.00 per hour raise for most, but not all, of his staff. During discussion, the Board suggested there might be other options, such as a one-time bonus, to help compensate those staff members who do not receive an increase in their hourly wage under this resolution but this resolution would at least address some of the concerns and help recruit employees at this time and Schneider could propose that to the Board in the future.

Resolution to fully fund UW-Extension

While there was a resolution to fully fund the UW-Extension on the Agenda for the meeting, brought forth by Supervisor Julie Allen and co-sponsored by Supervisors Mike Loka, Greta Rusch, and Brian Hafeman, Chair Friske ruled the resolution was improperly brought before the Board, citing it was substantially similar to resolutions already discussed, debated, and deliberated. Allen made a motion to appeal the Chair's ruling, seconded by Hafeman. A roll call vote on whether Friske's ruling should stand was taken. A majority of those present at the time voted in favor of the Chair's ruling (12-4 with Supervisors Rusch, Hafeman, Loka, and Allen dissenting), so this resolution was not discussed.

Resolution for Advisory Referendum on Pine Crest

A resolution for an advisory referendum to determine a course of action for the County Board to pursue concerning the future of Pine Crest Nursing Home authored by Supervisor Elizabeth McCrank (who was not present) and co-sponsored by Supervisor Allen was not discussed. A motion to lay over the resolution to next month was unanimously approved.

Art contest open to Wisconsin public school students

WEA Member Benefits' eighth annual student art contest focuses on "All things Wisconsin"

"All things Wisconsin" is the theme of the eighth annual student art contest sponsored by WEA Member Benefits and the WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc.

Students enrolled in grades K-12 in a Wisconsin public school are invited to submit pieces that show what comes to mind when they think about Wisconsin. This could mean art capturing our different seasons, things to do, places to see, the little things that make our state special, people of Wisconsin, etc.

Monetary prizes from the WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc., will be awarded to 11 student winners, with 1 student artist receiving the "Loeymae Lange Best in Class" award. The "Best in Class" award is named in memory of Loeymae Lange, a former art teacher at Cooper Elementary School in Burlington, Wis. Her brother, Dr. Paul Lange, and his wife, June, continue to honor Loeymae's legacy by establishing an endowment gift to the WEA Member



Benefits Foundation, Inc. to honor her love for the arts and all she did to inspire students. Her legacy will live on through this generous gift in the form of monetary prizes for art contest winners.

"Wisconsin has so many wonderful people, places, things, and moments, and we are excited to see it captured through students' perspectives and artistic expressions," said David Kijek, WEA Member Benefits President and CEO. "It's wonderful to be able to recognize and reward talented students and teachers in Wisconsin, and we thank the Langes for the additional financial support to be able to do so. We hope other individuals will join in donating to the Foundation to help fund future opportunities for budding artists."

The deadline to enter the 2023 student art contest is Friday, May 5, 2023. Finalists will be announced in May. More information about the art contest, including contest rules, eligibility, and art submission information is available at weabenefits. com/studentartcontest.

HONOR ROLLS

St. John Lutheran **School** announces 2022-2023 third quarter **Honor Roll**

Highest Honors -

Ruby Hoffman Addelyn Ineichen Evan Voigt

High Honors -3.76-3.99

Marshall Besaw Poppy Geisler Adalyn Schooley Siobhan Schuetze

Honors - 3.5-3.75

Claire Charbarneau Jude Charbarneau Izabella Erickson Brynlee Heidemann Lola Klug Macie Lange Delana Podeweltz Eva Storm Joanna Szeto Samuel Szeto Madilynn VenRooy Christian Voigt

Prairie River Middle School 2022-2023 third quarter **Honor Roll**

Eighth Grade

4.00 GOLD: Lily Berndt, Paige Byer, Maycee Eisner, Emilie English, Abigail Gauerke, Erik Mackenzie Grunenwald, Herdt, Shanna Herdt, Claire Hintz, Brody Klebenow, Justice Kunze, Mya Meyer, Nathaniel Miller, Marielle Nass, Evan Olson, Tyson Ott, Greta Peterson, Addison Pickard, Grace Reimann, Evyn Schmitz, Peyton Smith, Kayleigh Strey, Isabella Stutting, Charlotte Van Der Nest, Grace Wegner, Lauren Zuelsdorff

SILVER: 3.750-3.999 Tatiana Anderson, Zachary Bacon, Allyson Boquist, Marvin Downs, Rory Gates, Stuart Gehris, Arianna Gray, Peyton Hagenbucher, Xavier Hanke, Davin Harder, Reese Kaminski, Izabella Klockow, Mark Marvin, Mason Meyer, William Miemietz, Vanessa Pintor, Grant Polak, Layla

Schmidt, Derek Schult, Laci Wirtala

BRONZE: 3.50-3.749 Blerian Alimi, Landan Blaubach, Alexandra Carreto, Natalee Clifford, Josilynn Geiss, Jayden Graap, Emily Hayes, Avery Hoock, Madison Kersten, Trenton Klimek, Danika Kuehl, Marissa Miles, Carlina Nebbergall, Jackson Pierce, Ryker Remington, Colton Ruplinger, Deylah Schulz, Matthew Wiederhoeft, Wienke, Emma Morgan Ziebell

> See **HONOR ROLL** page 16

MAPS accepts April donations

The following donations were approved and/or accepted at the April 19, 2023, Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) Board of Directors meeting:

Donation of funds from the Aspirus Merrill Hospital valued at \$6,500 for SEL committee review of curriculum and to participate and conduct trainings, review appropriate lessons for each grade level to personalize lessons for students, and communicate with building level staff about implementation of the curriculum; a check from Church Mutual valued at \$250 for the Kate Goodrich PBIS Program; a check from Central Carpet and Flooring valued at \$50 for the Kate Goodrich PBIS Program; funds from Diane Belter and James Prete valued at \$200 for The Nest at the high school in memory of Steve Willis, Merrill graduate; funds from the Merrill Area United Way valued at \$1,000 for The Nest at Kate Goodrich, Washington, PRMS, and MHS; 10 KEMOs from Scott Streich valued at approximately \$200 for MAPS in memory or Bud Taylor; funds from Los Mezcales valued at \$500 for the MHS Travel Club Classical Adventure, 2023, and to help defray the cost of student participants' trip; the following donations from the Merrill Aqua Jay Swim Team: a backstroke starting device, valued at \$900; backstroke flags, valued at \$649; a timing cable backbone, valued at \$1,120; hand paddles, valued at \$357; and, foot fins, valued at \$663; funds from Richard and Sharon Schmidt valued at \$200 for Merrill High School lunch accounts; funds from the Optimist Club of Merrill valued at \$1,000 for MHS Teen Mental Health First Aid curriculum; and, funds from Aspirus Merrill Hospital valued at \$2,000 for providing programs for MHS students identified with substance-related needs by pupil services, administration, and school resource officer.

2023 Merrill High School **Spring Sports Schedule**

Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV and JV2)

4:30 p.m. Thurs. April 27 Stevens Point (Varsity & JV) Home Thurs. April 27 Stevens Point (JV2) 4:30 p.m. Away Sat. April 29 Multiple Schools (Varsity & JV) Home 11:00 a.m. Wausau East (Varsity & JV) Tues. May 2 5:00 p.m. Home Wausau East (JV2) Tues. May 2 5:00 p.m. Away Wausau East (Varsity & JV) Thurs. May 4 5:00 p.m. Away Thurs. May 4 5:00 p.m. Wausau East (JV2) Home **Girls Softball (Varsity and JV)** Marshfield (Varsity & JV) 4:30 p.m. Thurs. April 28 Home Mon. May 1 WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity & JV) 4:30 p.m. Away Tues. May 2 4:30 p.m. Stevens Point (Varsity & JV) Home Thurs. May 4 Wausau East (Varsity & JV) Away 4:30 p.m. Boys Golf (Varsity, JV and J Fri. April 28 Ridges Golf Course (Varsity) 2:00 p.m. Mon. May 1 Wausau Country Club (Varsity) 2:00 p.m. Awav Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV) D. C. Everest (JV) Thurs. April 27 Away 5:00 p.m. Thurs. April 27 D. C. Everest (Varsity) 7:00 p.m. Awav Tues. May 2 Crandon (Varsity) Home 7:00 p.m. Wausau East (Varsity) Thurs. May 4 4:30 p.m. Away Thurs. May 4 Wausau East (JV) 5:00 p.m. **Boys Track & Field (Varsity & JV)** Tues. May 2 Stevens Point (Varsity & JV) 3:30 p.m. Away

Girls Track & Field (Varsity & JV)

D. C. Everest (Varsity)

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



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3:30 p.m.

Tues., May 2

Elexa Emmer, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Elexa has been on the MHS Varsity Track Team since she was a Freshman and competes in shot put and discus. She has played on the MHS Varsity Volleyball Team since she was a Freshman and played volleyball from third through eighth grades at Trinity Lutheran School. Outside of school, she also plays Club Volleyball and pickleball, and she is very excited about the new pickleball courts coming to Merrill.

At school. Elexa is involved in National Honor Society, Junior Optimists, Raise Your Voice, LEAD, and Link Crew, and her favorite classes are organic chemistry and anatomy and physiology. Elexa volunteers at Hillside Church, leading their hospitality ministry and coffee team. She also volunteers helping the

In her free time, Elexa likes baking, especially cupcakes; reading; playing games with family; and deer hunting and bass fishing.

The daughter of Chad and Carla Emmer of Merrill, Elexa has a 3.9 GPA. She is planning to go to college to become a wildlife biologist.

Congratulations from these sponsors:

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Elexa Emmer

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HONOR ROLL

from page 15

Seventh Grade

GOLD: 4.00 Brooklyn Clabots, Kaleb Cook, Genisot, Brady Shane Gibson, Sawyer Grubb, Megan Gustum, Marie Lilee Hagemeister, Haltinner, Kane Hanson, Orion Hill, Haley Hoock, Connor Josiger, Claire Kufahl, Mylie Kufahl, Finlee Lange-Peronto, Annabelle Lee, Isaac Lersch, Alexis Lonsdorf, Karlee Ravn, Chayse Reinichen, Kylie Roberge, Olivia Schmidt, Brianna Schmirler, Decklin Schotz, Broc Suchocki, Mikenna Vandeweerd, Emma Wendt, Cameron Wszalek

SILVER: 3.750-3.999 Brooklyn Bellin, Azalea Blake, Lilly Bong, Peyton Brown, Caleb Gennrich, Cecilia Gerbig, Henson, Kallen Kylee Hoffman, Ava Latzig,

Denver McCaskill, Eliza Rogers, Alina Savagian-Demoss, Fletcher Talerico, Madeline Voigt, Anna Whited, Benjamin Zastrow

BRONZE: 3.50-3.749 Madisyn Anderson, Ian Asinas, Alana Brendemuehl, Karmen Brietzke, Austin Doering, Alexis Fehr, Annabella Foust, Tiberius Giese, Marihanna Hulce, Noelle Iverson, Christian Kinningham, Averv Kolinski, Jacey Lyon, Zander Meyer, Jameson Jackson Morgan, Roggenbuck, Alicia Schneider, Nikolajs Schulz, Tayla Stieber, Tanner Vanvuren

Sixth Grade

GOLD: 4.00 Alle Bergh, Ella Bergh, Darby Bonnell, Brianna Boyd, Keira Clerveaux, Alexandria Derizzo, Colton Fox. Madilynn Geiss, Autumn Genisot, Jameson Gerdes. Jaedyn Goetsch, Cody Henson, Huston, Jase

Kassandra Johnson, Andrew Josiger, Mara Kautzer, Willett Knospe, Julio Martinez-Sontiago, Mathew Mueller, Khloe Olson, Payge Osness, Abigail Parks, Korbet Ravn, Draven Sangster, Aili Sayles, Kinzie Stevenson, Cadence Stutting, Luke

Wegner SILVER: 3.750-3.999 Ella Burrow, William Chula, Aaron Collinsworth, Bethany Crockford, Moses Gates, Mia Hanson, Kyla Hoffman, Demitri Easton Romatoski, Michael Schreiber, Nicole Zeine

BRONZE: 3.50-3.749 Calleigh Berlik, Mason Bowman, Henry Chrudimsky, Lvdia Faber, Jacob Hanson, Allie Kohnhorst, Aubrey Krombholz, Leo Lazare, Kelsey Pankow, Raiyna Perez, Brielle Wozniczka

Fifth Grade

GOLD: **4.00** Issac Bushar, Emma Daley, Parker Hannemann.

Preston Hannemann. Oliver Kahr, Delyla Maudrie, Addilyn Mulrooney, Cooper Schwartzman, Hunter Staskiewic

SILVER: 3.750-3.999 Caelyn Belant, Darren Breunig, Iva Brownell, Sylvia Durbin, Slater Fredericks, Payten Nelessen, Alexander Neumann, Lexi Renken, Connor Savagian-Demoss, Carter Schmidt, Aiden Schultz, Hank Skomars, Makavla Talerico, Cameron Thom, Brayden Wiederhoeft, Kvle Yingling, Claire Ziebell

BRONZE: 3.50-3.749 Hailey Boyd, Leighton Burrows, Alavna Galarza, Aaron Haltinner, Allie Isaacson, Trenton Lapsenberg, Emma Myers, Brookelynn Roehl, Avery Roggenbuck, Schenzel, Claire Schroder, Kolbie Shimel, Ashton Taylor Thom. Timm. Colton Vanlieshout, Braxston Wozniczka























Auction Date and Start Time: Saturday, May 6 beginning at 9:00 AM Auction Location: 5500 Clairemont Drive, Appleton WI 54913

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TRACTORS AND COMPACTS: Ford 1210, 2577 hours, 4WD; Ford 2N, 540 PTO, Gas; John Deere 2355, 7642 Hours, 2wd, one remote; John Deere 4105, 2226 hours, loader, 4WD, hydro; John Deere 4210, Cab with heat, loader, hydro; John Deere 5420, 2381 hours, 4WD, loader; Kubota BX23, TLB, 4WD; Kubota BX2660, 1115 hours, loader, 4WD; Kubota L3901, '21, 26 Hours, loader, like new; Kubota L3901, '21, 224 Hours, 4WD; Massey Ferguson 231, "low use" off of a golf course; New Holland Boomer 24, '16, 196 Hours, cab with heat; New Holland Boomer 47, '14, 588 hours, loader, hydro; New Holland TC33D, 1956 hours, loader, hydro; New Holland TC34DA, 706 hours, 4WD, "nice", New Holland TC45DA, Jodale Perry Cab, 2 remotes, loader; New Holland TN60A, 1786 hours, 4WD, Loader; New Holland TZ24DA, only 599 Hours, hydro, loader; Simplicity Powermax 9020, Loader, Newer Kohler Engine; Yanmar SX3100, only 93 hours, loader, 4WD, hydro, forks, mid mount deck; Snapper GT600, 440 hours, diesel, loader; Kubota LX2610, '21, 39 Hours, Deck, Cab, heat, AC; John Deere 3033R, '19, 130 Hours, cab, heat, ac, loader; Yanmar SC2400, '12, 361 Hours, 4WD, 60" Deck; Kubota B3350, 253 Hours, 4WD, 60" Deck, "NICE"; Case IH Farmall 40C, '14,665 Hours, 4WD, Loader; New Holland Boomer 3040, '13, 880 hours, cab, heat, AC, loader; John Deere 4510, 1763 hours, 4WD, Loader; New Holland Powerstar T4.75, 1767 hours, cab, heat, AC, loader, 4WD; Kubota BX2680, '18, 1040 Hours, 4WD, Deck

ZERO TURNS: Ariens Zoom 2352, 52" Deck, Turbo bagger & Snow blade; Cub Cadet Z-Force LX54, '17, 232 hours, 54" Deck; Cub Cadet **ZTX5 48**, '21, 369 hours; **Dixie Chopper XFG3300**, 905 hours, 60" deck; **Dixon ZTR44**, 22 HP, 44"; **Ferris IS2100**, 19' 432 Hours, 52" Deck; **Ferris IS2100**, '20, 46 Hours, 52" deck; **Ferris IS2100**, '20, 110 Hours, 61" Deck; **Ferris IS600**, '16, 104 Hours 48" deck; **Ferris IS600**, '14, 334 Hours; **Ferris IS700**, '17, 435 Hours; **Gravely ZTXL52**, '17, 210 Hours; **John Deere F1145**, front mower, 1993 hours, diesel, 72" deck; **John Deere** F1145, front mower, 1787 Hours, diesel, 72" deck, John Deere F680, Bagger, John Deere Z525E, '20, 67 Hours, 54" Deck; John Deere Z665, '11, 605 Hours, 54" deck; John Deere Z930M, '18, 982 Hours, 60" deck with turbo Bagger; New Holland MC35, 2956 Hours, cab, 72" deck, 72" blade; Simplicity Champion, 817 Hours, 50" deck, bad trans; Simplicity Consumer, 44" deck, turbo bagger, needs work; Toro 322 Groundmaster, 72" deck; Ferris IS1500, 330 Hours, 48" deck; Dixie Chopper Xcaliber, 33 HP Generac Eng; John Deere Z960M, '16 1811 Hours; John Deere Z960M, '20, 809 Hours; Ferris ISKAV23 Pro Cut Z, 947 Hours, 61" Deck; Cub Cadet RZT L42, '18 42" Deck; Simplicity ZT2000, '14, 46" deck; Scag Tiger Cub, 804 Hours 48" Deck; Simplicity Contender XT, '19, 4 Hours; John Deere 1435 II, 26 HP Yanmar Diesel, cab with heat, 72" deck; John Deere Z710, '10, "non runner'

RIDING LAWN MOWERS: Bolens H14, Tiller, Craftsman G5500, 151 hours, 54" Deck; Craftsman T2200, "non runner"; Cub Cadet DSG2140, 42" deck, needs work; Cub Cadet LGTX1054, '12, 360 hours, 54" deck; Cub Cadet LTX1042, '10, 458 hours; Cub Cadet LTX1050KW, 322 hours, bagger; Husqvarna GT52XLS, '13, 570 Hours; Husqvarna TS354XD, '22, 40 hours, 24 HP Kaw, 54" Deck; Husqvarna YTH1542, 832 hours, 42" deck; John Deere X724, '09, 725 hours, 62" deck; John Deere 54" Blade, Hyd lift/angle; John Deere LX255, 15 HP Kohler, 42" deck; John Deere X590, '16, 344 Hours, turbo bagger; John Deere X750, '21, 19 Hours, Yanmar Diesel, turbo bagger, "Like New"; MTD Yard Machine, 38" Deck, needs work; Simplicity Broadmoor, 44" deck; Simplicity Prestige, 391 hours, turbo bagger; Simplicity Regent, 38" deck, bad trans; Simplicity Regent, 38" deck, needs engine work; Toro Wheel Horse 38" deck; Craftsman DYT4000, 570 Hours, 42" Deck; John Deere 125A, 702 Hours, 42" Deck; Simplicity Broadmoor, '11, 304 Hours, 44" Deck; John Deere X730, '17, 505 Hours, 54" deck with power bagger; John Deere 425, 60" Deck, hyd lift, power steering, John Deere X465, 62" Deck, Hyd lift, power steering; Craftsman GT6000, '11, 455 Hours

UTVS & ATVS: Coleman AT125UT, Youth ATV, '21, electric start; Polaris Sportsman 700, 3631 miles, snow plow; Polaris Ranger Crew Diesel, '16, 868 Hours; John Deere Gator 6x4, 4099 hours, gas; Kawasaki Praire 700 ATV, 4WD, 696 hours; John Deere Buck EX 650, "nice"; John Deere XUV 835R, '21, 469 Hours, Cab, Heat, AC, "has it all!"; Cub Cadet Challenger 750 EPS, '17, 246 Hours, camo, EFI

MISCELLANEOUS: Exmark 36" Broom, '15, 36" broom; Lesco 200 Gallon 400' Sprayer, spray gun, built for back of pickup; Lawn Roller, 80" x 31"; Ferris Venture XC FS2300, '21, 9 Hours, Sprayer/spreader; Protero PV18, Hopper Bagger, turbo, brackets; Brillion 9' Cultipacker, 15" packer wheels; Lawn Roller, 80" x 31"; Lawn Roller, 23" x 20"; Poulan Pro Snow Blower, 27"; DR Leaf and Lawn Vacuum, 6.6 HP eng; Cab off JD X730, 2 doors, heater; Speeco 22 Ton Logsplitter, Horizontal/Vertical; Walk Behind Lawn Roller, (1) Steel, (1) Poly; GNC Industries Stand on Fertilizer, "needs work";

SKID STEERS & MINI EX: New Holland L218, '12, 2677 hours, cab, heat, AC; John Deere 320, cab with heat; Bobcat S590, '21, 17 Hours, cab, heat, AC; New Holland C245, '19 1112 Hours, Cab, Heat AC; Takeuchi TB228, 1112 Hours, New tracks;

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