



Dasty recovers from blastomycosis

MPD holds K9 benefit to pay for treatment



BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Dasty (pronounced Dah-see), the Merrill Police Department's (MPD) K9 Officer joined the Department last November after the MPD's first K9 Officer, Eros, retired in Sept. 2022 after serving eight years. Officer Josh McCaskill is Dasty's partner and handler.

Unfortunately, less than four months after starting on duty, Dasty became severely ill and was diagnosed with blastomycosis (blasto), requiring hospitalization, expensive medical care, and ongoing treatment. Those expenses aren't in the MPD's budget, so now the MPD is holding a K9 benefit to help pay for all the expenses associated with Dasty's illness and treatment.

Dasty is diagnosed with blasto

"On March 2, 2023, K9 Officer Dasty was taken to Rockwood Vet in Merrill by Officer McCaskill," said MPD Officer Ben Hintze who is helping with the benefit. "Ultimately, Dasty was diagnosed with blastomycosis ... resulting in him being taken to Blue Pearl Animal Hospital in the Fox Valley for emergency treatment."

See **DASTY** page 14



The VFW State Honor Guard of Wisconsin was among those marching in the parade and carrying flags in a heartwarming display of patriotism on a very cold April morning. **Joseph Frederick photos.**

Loyalty Day draws vets and community support for patriotism

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The annual Loyalty Day celebration held in Merrill on Saturday, April 29, 2023, drew veterans, their families, and members of the community who came to show and share their patriotism. Though unseasonably

cold for the end of April, dozens of community members young and old came out to watch the Loyalty Day Parade pass by, salute the many American flags included in the parade, and do tribute to the veterans who work to secure the freedoms

See **SUPPORT** page 13



Many veterans and special guests were in attendance at Merrill's Loyalty Day celebration.

Sawmill Brewing Company voted America's favorite brewery

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Sawmill Brewing Company was voted most popular brewery in America in the Hop Passport 2023 March Brewsanity Tournament that concluded on April 23.

Hop Passport markets breweries, distilleries, meaderies, and cideries by selling digital and paper coupon books to consumers, and this was the company's first ever such tournament to allow fans and customers to select their favorite brewery in the nation.

The Sawmill Brewing Company ultimately won out over more than 1,200 breweries that entered the competition, co-owner Zach Kubichek said.

See **BREWERY** page 14



Sawmill Brewing Company.

Tina L. Scott photo.

www.merrillfotonews.com

Former Oneida County Sheriff's Sergeant sentenced for stalking and disorderly conduct

On May 1, 2023, the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) announced former Oneida County Sheriff's Patrol Sergeant, Stetson Okeefe Grant, 36, of Rhinelander was sentenced to 90 days in jail and three years of probation after a jury found him guilty of one count of stalking and one count of disorderly conduct in February of 2023.

"This conviction was possible because of the efforts of the law enforcement professionals who worked on this case and the bravery of the victim," said Attorney General Kaul. "Thank you to everyone who worked to hold the defendant accountable for his crimes."

"I want to thank Special Agent, Shane Heiser, the Oneida County District Attorney office, and the Oneida County Sheriff Office (OCSO) for all their assistance with this prosecution," said Price County District Attorney Karl Kelz. "I also want to thank the victim in this matter for

having the courage to tell the jury exactly what she had to endure from the defendant."

The evidence presented at trial established that Grant stalked a person from February of 2019 through August of 2020. According to the criminal complaint, Grant would stop by the victim's house without her consent and while he was on duty for the OCSO. The complaint states Grant would make the victim feel uncomfortable in her own home and would not leave when she asked him to. When the victim warned she would call the police on Grant, he replied, "I am the police."

The DOJ Division of Criminal Investigation led the investigation. Price County District Attorney Karl Kelz served as the special prosecutor. Victim/witness services were provided by Price County.

DOJ launches dashboard for state arrests

Attorney General Josh Kaul, on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, announced the launch of a new dashboarding tool on the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) website that allows users to explore arrests submitted to the state's criminal history repository (CCH) by law enforcement agencies across the state.

A release from DOJ said the CCH is a fingerprint-based database that contains detailed information, including arrests and arrest charges.

"The database is an accumulation of information submitted by Wisconsin law enforcement agencies and other criminal justice system entities, as required by applicable state statutes," DOJ stated. "Wisconsin law enforcement agencies must submit documentation of all

felony and a subset of misdemeanor arrests to the CCH. The CCH, however, accepts documentation of any arrest Wisconsin law enforcement submits."

DOJ noted that some agencies might submit all arrests, irrespective of the level, while others might only submit felonies and the misdemeanors required by state statute.

"Users of the dashboarding tool will be able to explore the number of arrests, the number of unique individuals arrested, and arrest rates on both a statewide and county level for whatever timeframe is selected," DOJ said. "User-selectable filters related the offense(s), including specific statute, category, subcategory, and whether it was a misdemeanor or felony, along with arrestee options, can be applied for more exploration."

"At DOJ, we strive to make as much data available to the public as possible," Kaul stated. "This new dashboard makes government more transparent and open to the public, while also serving as a great tool for researchers and other members of the public interested in learning more about arrest data in our state."

The dashboarding tool is refreshed weekly and is available at www.bit.ly/3V2yWkR.

Little League Parade is Friday, May 5

The Merrill Little League players will hold their annual parade this Friday, May 5, 2023, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (Players who wish to ride in the parade should be at the former Stark Automotive building, 705 block of S. Center Ave. in Merrill, by 5:30 p.m.)

The Little League Parade will follow their usual route: from the former Stark Automotive parking lot down Center Ave. heading north, across the bridge to the roundabout, then west on Hwy. 64 (First St. turning into Second St.) to Prairie River Middle School/ Polk Street, then turning eastbound on Hwy. 64 (First St.) to Mill St., turning south on Mill St. to Main St., then east on Main St. to Center Ave., and going south on Center Ave. back over the bridge and returning to the former Stark Automotive parking lot where it began.

All of the Little League players are hoping the community will come out along their parade route to cheer them on!

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Carol Garcia is celebrating her 90th Birthday!

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

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Weston man receives 137-month prison sentence for trafficking methamphetamine

Charge resulted from Lincoln County Sheriff's Office investigation

A Weston man received a 137-month federal prison sentence for trafficking methamphetamine. Ryan P. Murray, 45, was sentenced to the roughly 11-year prison term on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, by Chief U.S. District Judge James D. Peterson according to a release from the office of Timothy M. O'Shea, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin. The prison term will be followed by eight years of supervised release.



Murray

along the path Murray had travelled leaving the crash scene, and within Murray's crashed vehicle, deputies found a Kel-Tec rifle, 10 loaded extended magazines, and a suppressor, according to the release.

At the time of the incident, Murray had five active arrest warrants and nine open state

criminal cases, including four involving possessing a firearm as a felon and another involving substantial battery.

The release said Murray has since been convicted and sentenced in many of his state cases and is currently serving multiple state prison sentences, with an anticipated release date of Feb. 16, 2028.

"As it relates to the firearms involved in this case, Murray was convicted of possession of a firearm by a felon in Lincoln County Circuit Court Case No. 2022CF14 on April 11, 2022, and was sentenced to 180 days in county jail," the release stated.

Peterson ordered that Murray's 137-month federal sentence run concurrently to the remainder of his state prison sentences and to

any sentences imposed on his still-pending cases.

At sentencing, Judge Peterson noted that the protection of the public was the primary driver of the sentence in this case.

"He highlighted Murray's nearly unrelenting pattern of criminality for over 25 years and that Murray was a drug dealer who goes heavily armed," the release stated. "Murray's history of guns, violence, and drug trafficking represented a clear danger to the community."

The charge against Murray was the result of an investigation conducted by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven P. Anderson prosecuted the case.

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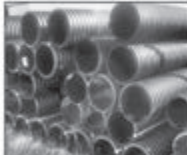


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For more information on the Merrill Area Public Schools Pre-Kindergarten program, you can call Pine River School for Young Learners at 715-536-2392. This is a free half day program. We can send you enrollment forms or you can find them on the MAPS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

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



253857

Merrill Area Public Schools Head Start

MAPS Head Start has openings for the 2023-2024 school year. This program is for children of low income families who will be three or four on or before September 1, 2023. In addition, if your child turns three during the school year, your child can be enrolled after their third birthday.

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

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

253859

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OBITUARIES



Audrey M. (Johnson) Janik-Germic, age 86, of Merrill, passed away at her home on Sunday, April 23, 2023, while in the company of her loving family and under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services. She was born in Merrill, WI on February 3, 1937, to the late Gust and Alma (Farmen) Johnson. Audrey was a life-long resident of Merrill and dearly loved being a part of a small, friendly community. On January 25, 1954, she was united in

marriage to Ben Janik in Pine City, MN. Sadly, he preceded her in death on September 13, 1973. Audrey married Frank "Fra" Germic in July of 1982, but sadly, on September 30, 1994, he also passed away. Audrey was a member at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Merrill and was very active in her early years, teaching Sunday School, helping at the Lutefisk suppers and funeral meals. She was also a Girl Scout leader and a hospice volunteer. Audrey was a lover of all things old and a collector for all her life. She worked for 40 years at Helmstadter Jewelers in Merrill. Audrey was a people person and loved helping others. She was also an avid Green Bay Packer fan. Audrey loved her family deeply and cherished the times spent together. Her grandchildren knew their grandma!

Audrey is survived by children: Julie (Bill) Krueger and Jeff (Rogene 'Genie') Janik, 3 grandchildren: Erin Gano, Ben (Katie) Janik and Nathan (RaeAnn) Janik, 4 great grandchildren: Noah, Carter, Ruby and Aurora, nephews: Dr. Richard (Lynn) Cherwenka, Brad (Margo) Pophal and Stanley "Buzz" Pophal Jr., niece: Kathy Proulx (Eddie) and many special friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, husbands: Ben Janik and Frank Germic and 3 beloved sisters: Wilhemine (Red) Crotteau, Alice (Rich) Cherwenka and Phyllis (Stan) Pophal.

The funeral service for Audrey was held on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 11:00am at Waid Funeral Home. Rev. David Szeto officiated. Visitation was held on Saturday, April 29, 2023, from 9:00am until the time of the service, also at the funeral home. Interment at Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery immediately follow the service.

Family requests that donations in Audrey's name be directed to the Merrill Historical Society or the Lincoln County Humane Society.

Audrey's family wants to express their appreciation and gratitude to Jeanie at Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services, for her genuine care and compassion that she had shown to Audrey and her family.

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.



Helene Pagoria was welcomed into the arms of Christ at her home on Saturday, April 22, 2023 after a long and courageous battle with ovarian cancer. Helene's faith and love of her family brought her comfort throughout her life.

Helene was known by many as the Pie Lady and began planting apple trees on her Grandparent's farm in 1979 alongside her husband, Dave. Through their hard work, creative vision and spirit, they built a successful apple farm that has touched the lives of so many people in central and northern Wisconsin. Every fall, families came to Helene's Hilltop Orchard to not only pick apples or pumpkins, but to go for a hay wagon ride, pet goats, eat the most delicious apple delicacies, and so much more. She balanced the demands of being an entrepreneur business woman with her desire to support the community and be a wonderful mother to her three children, Olivia, Dustin, and Natalie. Described by Helene as a "family affair" she was so proud of the business she and Dave built alongside their children and grandchildren. Family was the most important thing to Helene, and she always attributed the success of the orchard to the hard work and dedication of the entire family. "We couldn't have done it without everyone," Helene said.

Helene was immensely proud of her three children Olivia, Dustin, and Natalie. She celebrated every success, stood with them through every challenge, and prayed for them every day. As her children's families grew over the years, so did Helene's love. Helene loved spending time with her grandchildren and always made sure they knew how much she loved them.

Helene loved to read, garden, and do puzzles. She loved listening to music, especially when her grandchildren were singing. She loved taking walks outside and being in nature. She loved to watch the loons with Dave from their dock in Northern Wisconsin. She was always the first to volunteer to make a birthday cake or Christmas dinner and shared her extensive baking knowledge with her children and grandchildren. She had a goofy sense of humor that brought joy to everyone around her. Her kids always wore the best homemade Halloween costumes that were sure to be applauded, but at times made trick-or-treating more challenging. Thanks Mom :)

She will be remembered as kind, loving, strong, and selfless woman. Helene was a devoted wife, a caring mother and grandmother, and a dear friend. Her legacy will live on through her children and grandchildren who embody so much of her spirit and Midwestern pride.

She is survived by her husband David Pagoria and their children, Olivia (Mark) Telschow, Dustin (Margaret) Pagoria, Natalie Pagoria; grandchildren, Meagahn Telschow, Oscar Telschow, Malaina Telschow, Evelyn Pagoria, Charlotte Pagoria, Isabel Pagoria, and Bennett Pagoria. She is also survived by her mother Florence and loving siblings.

Per Helene's wishes there will be no services held at this time.

Jack (John) Wilbur Kleinschmidt & Carol Jean (Boettcher) Kleinschmidt



Jack (John) Wilbur Kleinschmidt, 88 and Carol Jean (Boettcher) Kleinschmidt, 88, both of Merrill passed away Friday March 17, 2023. Jack at Aspirus Hospital Wausau after a long illness and Carol at home.

Jack was born in Merrill, March 11, 1935, to Rose (Redmond) and Wilbur Kleinschmidt. Jack attended Merrill Senior High School and Served in the United States Air Force in Korea. Following service in the United States Army Jack moved to Los Angeles California where he worked as a Printer and Lithographer, met his first wife Gail (Griffin) and had two sons, Michael and Dennis. He returned to Wisconsin in 1970.

Carol was born in Merrill, September 16, 1934, to Irene (Toellner) and Leslie Boettcher. Carol attended Merrill Senior High School and married Gerald Knospe (who preceded her in death) and had two children Cheryl and Patrick. She worked at Merrill Manufacturing and as a homemaker. Following her marriage to Jack in 1973 they opened The Pot O' Gold in Merrill in 1976 where she worked behind the counter and managed the store until it's closing in 1982. In 1983 Jack and Carol moved to Harshaw Wisconsin for retirement but ended up opening and running for many years The North Wisconsin Truck Stop until 1993 when they returned to Merrill.

Jack and Carol are survived by their three sons Michael and Dennis Kleinschmidt and Patrick Knospe. A daughter, Cheryl preceded them in death. They are survived by four grandchildren and two great - great grandchildren. A celebration of their lives is planned for later this month of May at their home in Merrill.



Roger Schenzel, of Wausau, Wisconsin, passed away on April 25, 2023, surrounded by loved ones. He was known to family and friends as "Robin Lee".

Roger was born on August 3, 1932, to parents, Otto and Norma, in Merrill, Wisconsin. Roger spent his career as an entertainer. Remembered for his signature songs Pretty Patty, The Puppet and song Sugar Plum, which charted in the top 100 in the nation. He was a member of the bands The Lavenders and The Royal Host and was even presented with the key to the city by the mayor of Minneapolis. In recognition of his accomplishments, he received the lifetime Achievement Award from the Rock N Roll Hall of Fame in Wausau, Wisconsin. He also served in the U.S. Army from 1952 ~ 1954, during the Korean War.

Roger is survived by his wife Karen; their daughter Melody; his daughter Karrye and son-in-law Patrick; his daughter Tammy; and his grandchildren Johnathan, Paul and Kenzie.

Mid Wisconsin Cremation Society is assisting family at this time. On line condolences may be expressed at MWCS.WS



John L. 'Jack' Pagels, 81, of Merrill, passed away Monday, April 24, 2023, at his home under hospice care, surrounded by his family.

Jack was born June 25, 1941, in Milwaukee, son of the late Ernest and Margaret (Otto) Pagels. He was an entrepreneur and a jack of all trades. Jack was a people person and could have a conversation with anyone. He enjoyed traveling, especially to New Orleans and most recently, Key Largo.

Jack is survived by his best friend and business partner of thirty-six years, Brian Duginski of Merrill; daughter and favorite son-in-law, Penny (Tim) Braun of Shiocton; son, Jeff Pagels of Merrill; grandchildren, Gavin (Brynn) Braun, Erin (Jim) Fiel, Craig (Megan) Braun, Cody (Sabrina) Pagels, Logan Pagels, Bryton Pagels, and Lariah Pagels; numerous great-grandchildren; sister and favorite brother-in-law, Margie (Bruce) Chadwell; and brother, Bobby Pagels. Jack was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Margaret Pagels; brothers, Richard Pagels, Ernest Pagels, and Jerry Pagels; and grandson, Chase Braun.

Per Jack's wishes, no services will be held. Please visit the funeral home website to share a story or memory of Jack with his family. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Jerome F. "Jerry" Dahlke, age 91, of Athens, WI, formerly of Loyal, WI, passed away on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at Pine Crest Rehab Center in Merrill, WI, under the care of Aspirus Hospice. Funeral services were held at 11am on Monday, April 24, 2023 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Loyal. Rev. Emmanuel Famiyeh officiated, and burial followed in St. Anthony Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers

were his grandsons: Evan White, Luke Werner, Mark Werner, Grant Dahlke, Mitchell Dahlke, David McMullen, Timothy McMullen and Christopher White. Military rites will be conducted by the Loyal American Legion Post #175. Visitation was held at the church, on Monday, from 9:30am until time of service.

Jerome Francis Dahlke was born at the family home in the Town of Lisbon, Waukesha County, WI, on March 11, 1932. He graduated from Waukesha High School in 1950. After completing high school, Jerry worked in the dairy industry, until being inducted into the U.S. Army on March 14, 1952. He served during the Korean Conflict until his honorable discharge on December 17, 1953. He was united in marriage to Janice O. Holzem on June 19, 1954, at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Menomonee Falls, WI. Jerry continued his dairy career, eventually buying his own Golden Guernsey distributorship in Hartland, WI. After selling his dairy route in the mid 70's, they built JD's Restaurant & Motel in the Northern Wisconsin town of Winchester. After retiring, they moved to Brownsville, TX, then to the town of Loyal, and now reside close to family in Merrill.

Jerry is survived by his loving wife Janice, of Athens; four children: Jean White of Fond du Lac, WI, Judy (Dave) McMullen of Andover, MN, John (Kathy) Dahlke and Joe (Dorly) Dahlke, both of Merrill, WI; 14 grandchildren; 7 step grandchildren; many great-grand and step great-grandchildren; one brother: Fred (Ruth) Dahlke of Menomonee Falls, WI; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death his parents; one daughter, Jackie Werner on April 19, 2021; two sons-in-law: Daniel White and Lawrence "Butch" Werner; and two sisters: Marge Smatlak and Mary Hilger.

The family would like to thank the staff at Pine Crest Rehab Center and Aspirus Hospice for their compassionate care given to Jerry, and also to Dorothy from St Matthew's in Wausau for her spiritual care shown to him.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.cuddiefh.com.

Cuddie Funeral Home of Loyal, WI is assisting the family with arrangements

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OBITUARIES



Marland G. Gennrich, 87, of Gleason, passed away Sunday, April 23, 2023, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Marland was born July 15, 1935, in Lincoln County, son of the late August and Irene (Marshall) Gennrich. He married Shirley Bloechl on August 24, 1957, at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Merrill. Marland was a dairy farmer for most of his life, and also worked for Standard Oil, Trantow's, and Fox Point Sportswear. He also drove school bus, and drove Geri-Van, taking people to their medical appointments. Through the years, Marland and Shirley supported the St. Jude's Children's Hospital and the Arbor Day Foundation.

Marland was instrumental in helping get the 'Harrison Ski Hill' built and running. He was an original 'Tall Tales Hunting Club' member. He loved attending his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren's sporting and school events. He was a great wrestling fan and loved playing ball.

Marland enjoyed fishing and deer hunting. He and Shirley loved to travel. Together they made a trip to Switzerland, Austria, and several other countries with the National Ski Patrol on a skiing expedition. Other places they've traveled to include Hawaii, Niagara Falls, Branson, Nashville, and Florida. They also travelled to California and went to 'The Price is Right.' Later in life Marland enjoyed doing sticker books and jigsaw puzzles, the one-thousand-piece ones really kept him going. All in all, the road through life was wonderful.

Marland is survived by his wife of sixty-five years, Shirley Gennrich; children, Rick (Cindy) Gennrich, Russ Gennrich (Sharon Polacek), Kim (Jeff) Zettler, and Chris (Jodi) Gennrich; daughter-in-law, Sally Gennrich; grandchildren, Niki Gennrich, R.J. (Jamie) Gennrich, Amber (Corey) Chonsky, Kodi (Crystal) Gennrich, Rob (Kim) Johnson, Alex (Cassidy) Zettler, Austin Zettler, Kegan Gennrich, Kellen (Megan) Gennrich, and Kelsie Gennrich; step-grandchildren, Paul and Jenny; great-grandchildren, Max Kuhn, Ivy and Etta Gennrich, Charlotte and Lillian Chonsky, Devin Gennrich, and Riley and James Johnson; sister, Audrey Krahn; sister-in-law, Dorothy Gennrich; and many nieces and nephews. Marland was preceded in death by his parents, August and Irene Gennrich; son, Rodney Gennrich; great-granddaughter, Aiyana Gennrich; brother, Edward Gennrich; and brother-in-law, Bob Krahn.

A celebration of Life for Marland will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at the Gleason Bowling Center. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Phillip D. Kamke, 89, of Merrill, passed away peacefully Wednesday, February 15, 2023.

Phil was born April 24, 1933, in Merrill, WI, son of the late William and Verna (Plautz) Kamke. He graduated from Merrill High School in 1951. Phil received his Bachelor's Degree in Economics from UW Stevens Point in 1957 after serving two years in the US Army during the Korean War. Phil married the love of his life, Marge Zipp, on June 17, 1961. Together they raised two children, Nancy and David.

Phil spent 58 years as President of Wm Kamke & Sons, Inc, a farm and lawn implement business. He cherished the many friendships he made through his business and many sporting events playing city league softball, church dartball, league bowling, and many, many years of golf. Phil had a great love for football having played in high school, the US Army, and at UW Stevens Point.

Phil and Marge spent quality time with their family traveling the US and camping in their GMC motorhome. As they got older, they eventually made Orange Beach, AL, their winter home. The friends they made in Orange Beach, from near and far, will always be cherished.

Phil is survived by his wife, Marge; their children, Nancy Borelli of Merrill and David Kamke of Breckenridge, CO; grandchild, Stephanie (Bradley) Baumgart, and great-grandchildren, Maci and Tucker, all of Merrill. He is further survived by many brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Phil was preceded in death by his parents, William and Verna Kamke; his brother, Roger Kamke; and his in-laws, Fred and Olga Zipp.

A memorial service for Phil will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 12, 2023, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill. Rev. Michael Southcombe will officiate. The family will receive friends and family beginning at 9:00 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Gay E. Oberg, 87, of Merrill, passed away Sunday, April 23, 2023, at Aspirus Merrill Hospital surrounded by his family.

Gay was born November 14, 1935, son of the late Ernest and Gladys (Thompson) Oberg. Gay was born in Lincoln County at the old County Home on Highway 17. He married Sally Lenore Krueger on October 5, 1957, in Merrill. She survives. Gay attended Newwood School and graduated from Merrill High School. He ventured West and worked with his cousin, Harlen, as a painter at the Hanford Atomic Plant in Washington state. He eventually returned to Wisconsin and enlisted in the United States Army on July 7, 1955. He was stationed stateside at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Fort Carson, Colorado, and Fort Polk, Louisiana. He then spent a year in Tokyo, Japan with the Far East Command. Gay honorably served his country and was discharged on June 28, 1957.

He worked for Merrill Plumbing and Johnson Controls before becoming co-owner of M & G Plumbing & Heating Merrill's west side. Gay was a Master Plumber and designer. Gay served as President of the West-Side Business Association. After 13 years in business, he went on to work for the UA Local 434 Plumbers and Pipe Fitters and retired at age 62.

Gay was a lifelong Christian and was very active with St. Stephens United Church of Christ. He served as the president on the church council and helped with missions for many years.

He enjoyed watching wildlife and helped spearhead the Friends of Council Grounds group as the co-founder and president. He loved the park and enjoyed spending time there. He was passionate about the wilderness. Gay shot target rifle for the Midwest Rifle Association and received many sharp shooting awards.

Gay was a Mr. Fix-It. He could repair, repurpose and reuse just about anything. He was always working on a project and could fix anything. He liked building and landscaping projects, and also enjoyed gardening, photography, and puzzles. He traveled all over the United States and enjoyed spending time in the Western states.

Gay is survived by his wife of 65 years, Sally Oberg; daughter, Lynn Oberg-Hinz (Jeff Hinz); son, Scott (Julie) Oberg; four grandchildren, Adam Dotter, Elly (Troy) Hanson, Sheena Oberg (Ty Zimmerman), and Kathleen (Steve) Rauchle; three great-grandchildren, Tillie, Finn, and Kane; sisters, Nancy (Jerry) Kunkel and Sharon (James) Garski; sister-in-law, Gayle Oberg; brother-in-law, Charles (Maripat) Krueger; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Gladys Oberg; mother-in-law, Lenore Ehlert; siblings, Jerry Oberg, David Oberg, Richard Oberg, Ronald Oberg, and infant Bonnie; and nephews, Steve Oberg and Chris Garski.

The funeral service for Gay was held at 11:00 A.M., Friday, April 28, 2023, at St. Stephens United Church of Christ, Merrill. Rev. Michael Southcombe officiated. Entombment will take place in Merrill Memorial Park Mausoleum with military rites conducted by V.F.W. Post 1638, Merrill. The visitation began at 9:00 A.M., on Friday at the church. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

The family suggests memorials in Gay's name be directed to St. Stephens United Church of Christ, Merrill.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Robert Kohnhorst, 58, beloved Son and Father, was called to his eternal resting place on April 29, 2023. He entered this world on September 26, 1964 in Wausau, WI, born to Robert and Lois Kohnhorst. He is survived by his daughter Felisha Brzezinski. (2) Granddaughters: Zayna, and Elsie. (2) Brothers: Terry (Sheila) Kohnhorst and James (Darlene) Kohnhorst. Sister: Barbara (Donald) Stetz and many other nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Brother: Thomas Kohnhorst. Nephew: Ryan Kohnhorst.

A Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday May 9, 2023 at 11:30 AM at Thrive Church (400 Grand Ave, Wausau, WI 54403). Pastor Sheldon Miles will officiate. Visitation will be held from 10:00 AM until the hour of service at the church.

In Lieu of flowers, please make a donation to any local animal shelter in Memory of Rob.



Rev. Larry G. Jourdan, 70, of Kewanee, passed away on Sunday, March 5, 2023 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. Larry was born June 20, 1952 in Merrill, WI, the son of Gene and Irene (Mork) Jourdan.

He served his country in the U.S. Army during Vietnam. He obtained his Doctorate in Theology and was the Pastor and Founder of the Living Hope Fellowship Church in Kewanee and Covenant Life Ministries International of Kewanee, IL and Ukraine.

Larry loved helping people in need whether it was spiritually or simply being a friend and assisting them with a project in their home.

Larry is survived by cousins and loved ones. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Following cremation rites, a memorial service was held at 12:00 p.m., Friday, March 17, 2023 at Rux Funeral Home in Kewanee with Pastor John Reside officiating. He will be interred at Chat Community Cemetery in Irma, WI on May 10, 2023 at 10:00 AM. Pastor David Sutton will officiate.

Memorials may be directed to Covenant Life Ministries in Kewanee.

Please send announcements, news briefs, photo submissions and letters to the editor to: tscott@mmclocal.com

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Linda Blake – Betty Smith – (Co Chairs)
And Val Schleuter

In Loving Memory Of

Kiedi Larkee

Who passed away
May 10, 2006

*God looked around His garden,
He found an empty place.
He then looked down upon this earth and
Saw your tired face.*

*He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful;
He only takes the best.
He saw the road was getting rough,
So He closed your weary eyes and whispered,*

"Peace Be Thine."

*It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you didn't go alone,
for part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.*

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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.

<u>Items taken for free:</u>	
Air conditioners	Grills (charcoal or gas)
Humidifiers	Batteries
Lawn mowers	Bed frames (metal)
Microwaves	Dehumidifiers
Patio furniture (metal)	Dishwashers (steel tub)
Refrigerators (electric or gas)	Dryers
Stoves (electric or gas)	Farm equipment
Washers	Freezers (chest or upright)
Fuel oil tanks	Hot Water Heaters

<u>Items with charges:</u>	<u>Items not taken:</u>
Junk tires \$8.00 each	Tractor/large truck tires
TVs \$30.00	Drain, fuel, & hydraulic oils
Computers \$30.00	Paint
Monitors \$30.00	
Tires on aluminum/steel rims \$6.00 each	

Remember to Recycle

Published April 27, May 4, 2023

Becky Dallman, Clerk

WNAXLP

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Watching Familiar Memory Ghosts

Dear Reader, Recently I found myself in a rocking chair looking out over a merrily blazing fire pit. In the distance, a river flowed languidly toward its far-off destination. The sun drifted across the sky as a once-vigorous wind mellowed into a gentle breeze.



As I delved into a bag overflowing with recollections, familiar memory ghosts materialized to guide my visit to times gone by. How well I knew those days, and the conversations that shaped my life to become what it now is. Under the gentle supervision of the memory ghosts, the past came alive into the present moment.

They quietly left after the reverie ended. I made a note to myself, "Live in the present so fully so that the memory ghosts of the future will spark an even richer dialogue."

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

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

Lincoln County trails remain closed

The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department announced on April 27, 2023, that, due to the cold, wet spring conditions and frost still working its way out, Lincoln County's summer ATV trails, horseback riding trails, and mountain bike trails remain closed until further notice. For trail updates, go to: www.co.lincoln.wi.us or call the trail hotline at 715.539.1033.

Rhineland Expo brings resources to veterans

BY EILEEN PERSIKE
MMC STAFF

The Hodag Dome in Rhineland was a one-stop shop for Northwoods veterans last Friday, April 28, 2023. A Veterans Benefits Expo featured more than 70 vendors, including Veterans Service Officers (VSO) from Lincoln County and six other counties; one tribal VSO; the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain; Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs; and several veterans' organizations.

It has been four years since this event was last held, and the first year at the Hodag Dome. Oneida County VSO Tammy Javenkoski said with the extra space organizers made the event as big as they could to attract vets.

"So many veterans didn't do things when they were young - you know, they're young, invincible, they have jobs, and now that they're getting older and they need more help, maybe financially, maybe physically, it's just really beneficial for them," Javenkoski said. "We've really tried to think about all our veterans, young and old, native and non-native, LGBTQ, suicide awareness, help for homeless and those in danger of being homeless. I think we really hit it all here."

Lincoln County VSO John Olson said his goals for the expo were twofold.

"To provide the resources to veterans and to bring representatives



Hundreds of veterans and their families attended a Veterans Benefit Expo Friday at the Hodag Dome in Rhineland. Eileen Persike photos.

of the different agencies that they work with so they can ask questions and get answers face to face," Olson said. "Second, to show the support we have for the veterans, but more importantly, for us is to get a touch point with a lot of veterans we haven't met with or seen before and let them know the resources available to them."

Every county in Wisconsin has a Veterans Service Office but, Javenkoski added, with a staff of one or two, it is difficult to reach as many vets as they would like.

"Budgets are limited, so we can't advertise as much as we'd like to," Javenkoski said. "So this way we can have a ton of vendors in one place, and it gives people the opportunity to learn a lot."



Lincoln County Veterans Service Officer (VSO) John Olson, center, talks with a representative of K9 Patriots of Wisconsin at the Veterans Benefit Expo Friday at the Hodag Dome in Rhineland. At left is Lincoln County deputy VSO Tiffany Daigle.

Citizen training offered for Water Action Volunteers (WAV) program

BY TOM BOISVERT
CONSERVATION PROGRAM MANAGER

The Water Action Volunteers Program (WAV) is a statewide network of citizen scientist volunteers committed to monitoring as much of Wisconsin's 86,000+

miles of streams and rivers as possible. WAV's goal is to preserve, protect, and restore the state's streams and rivers by collecting high-quality stream data that's useful for decision-making and natural resource management.

Every year, volunteers monitor more than 600 stream locations throughout Wisconsin. This effort wouldn't be possible without the ongoing partnership between University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), and, of course, our dedicated volunteers. But who are

WAV volunteers? In short, they're your neighbors. They are students, teachers, retirees, outdoor enthusiasts, families, and farmers. WAV volunteers enjoy science and spending time outdoors, and they value the waters and natural resources of Wisconsin.

To help grow the WAV program, Lincoln County's Land Services Department is hosting an upcoming WAV training. The training will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at the Prairie Trails Park in Merrill. This training course will provide an overview of the WAV program and the science behind the

baseline parameters that are collected in the field. Being familiar with WAV and the monitoring science and methods prior to the in-person field training is highly encouraged. An online introductory monitoring course can be found at: https://wateractionvolunteers.org/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/.

If you are interested in attending this training, please register online using this link: https://forms.gle/XEukeR4MpKSSaDgs6 or call the Lincoln County Land Services Department at 715.539.1054 to register by phone.

Lake service providers reminded to take AIS prevention steps when installing docks and lifts this spring

The open water season is right around the corner. Docks, boat lifts, rafts, and other water structures will soon be installed at a fast pace. Although this is an extremely busy time, it is still important to take special care whenever possible to help prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

Lake service providers throughout the Northwoods should remember to properly clean and disinfect equipment before moving to another waterbody; inspect equipment for aquatic vegetation, mud, sand, mussels and snails; remove anything that

may have been found and discard on shore; drain all excess water from equipment before transport; and dry the equipment when possible.

The Lincoln County Land Services Department also encourages a thorough inspection of the equipment being installed. It is important to note that some equipment, docks, boats, etc. are bought second hand. Therefore, these items may have been in a different waterbody recently and should be checked thoroughly.

For more information, contact Tom Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager, at 715.539.1054.



Lacey Frisch

FFA MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Lacey Frisch, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named FFA Member of the Month for April 2023. Lacey joined FFA a few years ago because she is interested in agriculture, she said.

Since joining, she has helped with the fruit sale, and she is currently helping grow the plants for the plant sale coming up. She will be going to state for Wildlife CDE, as well. Lacey played tennis in both 9th and 10th grades.

She currently holds two part-time jobs. She works at Kwik Trip where she helps cook, cashiers, and cleans, and for the Merrill Parks Department during open skates and at the aquatic center. In her free time, she enjoys hunting and fishing.

The daughter of Mary and Chris Frisch of Merrill, Lacey has a 3.8 GPA and plans to be a heavy equipment operator after she graduates from high school.

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MACA presents Copper Street Brass

The Merrill Area Concert Association (MACA) will present Copper Street Brass in concert at the Merrill High School Auditorium on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Copper Street Brass is a Minneapolis-based sextet composed of two trumpets, trombone, tuba, French horn, and percussion with several members doubling on keyboard, percussion, guitars, and electric instruments. The group presents a variety of music in bold innovative ways with a friendly and charming stage presence.

From the bigwigs of Mozart and Haydn to the big hair of Led Zeppelin and STYX,

music from the '70s is covered in a whole new way. "That '70s Show" cleverly features music from the 1770's, 1870's, and 1970's, from classical and opera, jazz and folk, to rock and disco, with something for everyone!

Attendance at MACA events is open to members only, but joining is as easy as purchasing a season membership which supports MACA's ongoing mission to provide live performances by professional musicians for the entertainment and betterment of the Merrill area community. To join, go to: www.merrillconcerts.org, email MerrillConcerts@gmail.com, or contact Diane at 715.722.3401.

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GENERAL RAFFLE TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT SEVERAL LOCAL BUSINESSES IN TOMAHAWK
(Tomahawk Furniture, Twin Bay Resort & Pizza, Road Lake Pub, NAPA), MERRILL (PowerHouse Lawn & Leisure, Cimino's Gun & Archery, Jokin Joes, NAPA, Leroy's Barber Shop), IRMA (JEBs Bar & Grill) & GLEASON (Gleason Bowling Center, Z's Fork Horners). Tickets will also be on sale at the Fundraiser/Open House on May 20. Don't miss your opportunity for a chance to win one of these wonderful prize packages!

12 Non-Profit organizations will be at the Fundraiser/Open House to discuss their organizations, answer questions along with special giveaways.

AAW will be demonstrating their All-Terrain Wheelchairs - take one for a spin!
Erv's Sales & Service will be demonstrating their ATV/UTV's
Blades & Boards will have an Axe Throwing area - come give it a try!
Adult Shooting Contest on the new ranges (guns & ammo provided)
Kids will have an opportunity to try archery with 3-D targets, fish and shoot balloons for door prizes.

For details on prize packages, ticket prices, where to purchase tickets and general information about the club and the fundraiser/open house, visit the LCSC website at lcscsportsclub.com
We hope everyone will join us in supporting the club and our community.

Camper's Delight

WIN THE FINAL CAMPER & EBIKE
MAY 27 | 10PM

The time is now to enter to win the last of three camper packages at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg! Will you be chosen as the lucky winner on May 27 at 10pm? Barrel drawings begin hourly at 7pm for \$1000 Cash with a midnight winner of \$2,000 Cash.

To be eligible, earn 25 points up to 3x per promotional day to receive a total of \$50 Rewards Play and an entry into the Camper's Delight drawings. While earning your points, you just might be one of our **Hot Seat winners chosen every 30 minutes Thursday - Saturday from 10am - 10pm to win up to \$80 Rewards Play or \$100 Cash.**

HO-CHUNK GAMING WITTENBERG **HALF HOUR HOT SEATS THURSDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 10PM**

EMPLOYMENT

ADVERTISE Call 715-536-7121 TODAY!



PIONEER
TRANSPORTATION LTD.

HIRING DRIVERS

Home Weekly | Paid Weekly

If you're looking for a change, check us out!
If you've worked here before and left, come on back!

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

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



Now Hiring

Come join the world's leading dairy company and maker of award-winning cheeses!

MERRILL – 8100 County Road K South
North of Wausau ~ 5 miles from Fleet Farm!

Maintenance Technician
Pay commensurate with experience • Monday through Friday - 1st shift • Rotating ON-CALL weekends - NO regular weekend schedule
\$1000 HIRING BONUS



We offer competitive wages and excellent benefits!


- Generous Paid Time Off (PTO) and 9 Holidays immediately upon hire
- 401(k) Retirement Program - up to 7% employer contribution
- Medical, dental and vision plans
- Company paid short-term disability and Life Insurance

Visit this and other openings on INDEED or at our Company website listed below

<https://lactalisamericangroup.com/careers/merrill>

JOIN THE #LACTALIS EXPERIENCE

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KOLBE

WINDOWS & DOORS

We're for the visionaries.®

We are currently seeking Maintenance Technicians to support first shift production on the four-day shift (Monday through Friday from 5am-3pm) and our three-day shift (Thursday through Saturday, 5am-5pm).

Essential Job Functions:

- Troubleshoot and repair small production equipment such as routers, drills, chop saws, sanders, drill presses, power miter boxes, table saws glazing systems, as well as basic and intermediate repairs to major machines.
- Building maintenance repair on garage doors, exit doors, floor patch.
- Repair on production support items – low lifts, material conveyors, and material carts.
- Small tool repair knowledge (all pneumatic types).
- Complete projects working from orders or hand drawn prints.
- Assist other skilled tradesmen such as Class 1 technicians, carpenters, and electricians.
- Complete documents including timesheets, purchase requisitions, repairs, and noted areas on work orders.
- Follow all safety procedures and lock-out procedures on every machine.
- Understand and maintain knowledge of chemicals (Right-To-Know).
- Adjust machines to ensure quality assurance standards.
- Estimate time and parts needed to repair equipment.

Skills:

- Must have a minimum of 1 year of maintenance experience.
- Must be cooperative and work in a positive manner with other team members.
- Possess light electrical skills for repairs on light fixtures, common on-off switches, making extension cords, common electrical component parts.
- Possess plumbing skills for repair on restrooms, rental property, and waterlines.
- Must possess good communication skills.
- Possess basic skills in welding, hydraulics, pneumatics, and electrical.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently.
- Must have the ability to maintain concentration and composure under sometimes stressful situations.

Additional Requirements:

- Must provide complete set of hand tools and lockable tool storage unit.
- Team member must be able to perform work assignments using ladders, scaffolding, man lifts, and tow motors.

Apply online at www.kolbewindows.com/careers

EOE

WE'RE HIRING!

2 MERRILL LOCATIONS



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
- FINAL ASSEMBLY (1st & 2nd Shifts) \$21.50 - \$23.00/HR

LET'S TALK

(715) 722-1884

Hiring Bonus & Attendance Bonus

SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS



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.



NOW OFFERING... 3 - DAY WEEKENDS!

APPLY IN-PERSON

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

OHIO STREET LOCATION

- 4 10-Hour Days
- Both shifts available
- OT on Friday
- Excellent Low-Cost Benefits:

Individual: \$80/Month

Spouse: +\$128/Month

Child: +\$42/Month

SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS

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

EMPLOYMENT

NOW HIRING

• **Cook/Kitchen Staff • Bartenders**

- Exceptional customer service skills - Team player
- Experience preferred but not necessary

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

PUB 1638
601 Johnson St., Merrill • 715-536-5708
UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

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



MIDWEST INDUSTRIAL SEWING CORPORATION NOW HIRING

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

- Industrial Sewer
- Tarp Repair
- General Labor

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

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

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

TOWN OF MERRILL IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR • CLERK POSITION

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

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.

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

MITCHELL METAL PRODUCTS
EXCELLENCE FROM START TO FINISH

Looking for something fresh? We're Hiring...

Full Time – Part Time – Summer Help

Monday – Thursday
(4) 10 Hour Days – OT opportunity on Friday's

Part time – Monday – Friday
(5) 5 Hour Days – 1 st shift

Open Positions

Plating Department • Machine Operators
Wreath Ring Department • Assembly • Welding

Fill out an application online at: mitchellmetalproducts.com/about/career-opportunities

Or stop in and pick up an application at:
Mitchell Metal Products
905 South State Street, Merrill, WI 54452

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

Lincoln Windows

Come Join Our Team We're Hiring!

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

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

Lincoln Wood Products-Employment Office

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

Great Northern Cabinetry
Distinctive Cabinetry Since 1972

NOW HIRING TRUCK DRIVER

Great Northern Cabinetry, in Rib Lake, is a manufacturer of high quality, handcrafted cabinets for your kitchen, bath, etc.

CDL Class A Truck Driver with clean driving record

Home on weekends
EOE

Equipment:
Tractor/Trailer and Cube Van
Excellent customer service skills
Pay is negotiable
\$2500 sign on bonus
Company credit card for expenses

Benefits:
Life, medical, dental, vision insurance, 401k, and more!

Apply in person - 749 Kennedy St., Rib Lake
<https://greatnortherncabinetry.com/connect/careers>



Graphic Packaging INTERNATIONAL

Are you looking for a manufacturing career?

- Excellent Pay! Starting at **\$20.00/hour** + Shift Differential!
- High Earnings Potential. Up to \$70,000 in your first year!
- 401(k) Match up to 4%! Plus Annual Raises!
- 10 Paid Holidays + 2 Paid Personal Days Per Year!
- Medical, Dental, & Vision Coverage after 60 days!
- Advancement Opportunities!
- Take pride in making packaging for world reknown food brands!
- Find your next career at GPI, and check us out on our website!

\$2,000 Retention Bonus

GPI is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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

Apply Online at GRAPHICPKG.COM/CAREERS/



CLASSIFIEDS

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

EMPLOYMENT

WE'RE HIRING!

APPLY NOW!
GBP.COM/CAREERS

6845 Packer Drive - Wausau, WI 54401 - www.GBP.com

GENERAL LABOR

- Safely operate or assist in the operation of manufacturing machinery, material handling equipment and general plant operations.
- Complete quality checks as required.
- Report irregularities, maintenance needs, and quality issues to supervision.
- Any other duties assigned by supervision.

*This full-time position offers a competitive wage and comprehensive benefit package that includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, AD&D, pension and 401(k) plan.



GREEN BAY PACKAGING
WAUSAU DIVISION



KOLBE

WINDOWS & DOORS

We're for the visionaries.®

Seeking Full Time 1st Shift Production Team Members

No Experience Required
Now Offering a Three-Day Work Week!
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 5am-5pm
\$20.55 per hour
OR

We Also Offer a Four-Day Work Week!
Monday thru Thursday, 5am-3pm
\$18.50 per hour

Excellent benefits package including an Aspirus on-site clinic for team members and their families, daycare assistance, robust wellness program with rewards, two health plan and dental plan options, paid vacation and holidays, 401(k) with matching funds, tuition assistance.

Apply online at
www.kolbewindows.com/careers

EOE

Health Care 7115

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

Professional and Technical 7135

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

Skilled Trades 7175

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

Announcements 7005

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

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 & Stratford businesses

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

Huge Rummage Sale
Wausau Church of Nazarene
1102 N. 1st Ave.
May 4 & 5 (7-5pm), May 6 (7-1pm)
Clothes- All sizes .50, Coats \$1, Shoes \$1, Misc. and some furniture. Baked Goods- See you there!

Merrill: Thursday, 5/11-Saturday, 5/13, 8 a.m.- 12 p.m. Multi family spring cleaning sale- a little bit of everything- Kids and adult clothes, houseware, decor, toys and men's garage goodies!-Reasonable prices to it all! W5006 Hillside Drive

Multi Family Rummage Sale during Weston Rummage Sale Weekend. Adult men and women's clothes, housewares, glasswares, outdoor recreation & landscaping items, tools, holiday decorations of all seasons, vintage items, books, crafts, office supplies and much more. May 4-6 Thursday & Friday 8am-5pm, Saturday 8am-3pm. Address 5305 Alex St, Weston.

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202

GARAGE SALE KITS NOW AVAILABLE!
Let Garage Sale Gail help you with your next sale!
Kit Includes:
• 2 garage sale signs
• 140 pricing stickers
• 3 balloons
• 1 pen
• 1 inventory sheet
• How to have a successful garage sale pamphlet
• 1 coupon for \$5 off your NEXT classified ad!

ONLY \$5.00 PER KIT! *
* With the purchase of a classified ad.

Available at
Merrill Foto News
2011 E. Main St., Merrill

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 contact us for more information. Kristin Kittel 715-600-2963 abittaboveeq@gmail.com



Made for Mom Craft Show: Unique vendors, Auntie Ray's coffee, chair massages, a photographer, cookies and more! Questions? Contact Maria at (715)351-0748

Estate Sales 7208

CW ESTATE SALE 1006 Cotey Drive Merrill WI 54452
Thurs. 5/4/23 12-5pm
Fri. 5/5/23 12-5pm
Sat. 5/6/23 10-3pm
Sun. 5/7/23 10-2pm (1/2 off)
LOTS AND LOTS of new/used tools, New Clothing, Holiday decor, New shoes, kitchenwares, tons of storage totes, offware and furniture, Knick knacks and more! Definitely not one to miss!



Wausau: Friday, 5/5, 12 p.m.- 5 p.m., Saturday, 5/6, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m., Sunday, 5/7, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. 1108 McIntosh St. Full house! This sale includes a 1998 Buick Century with very low miles.
- NO EARLY SALES. We DO NOT give out prices or information prior to the sale. Please do not text, call or email requests.
-First come, first served. Deli style numbers will be given out starting at 11:00am on Friday.
- Go to JANE'S Estate Sales on Facebook or estatesales.org for photos. 1108 McIntosh St

Auctions 7282

BUSINESS REDUCTION AUCTION
Forklift, Enclosed Trailer Paint Booth & More
Online Bidding End 5/8 Appleton, WI
Office: 715-539-6295
View Catalog & Bid Now at HANSENAUCTIONGROUP.COM (WCAN)



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!

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

Musical Instruments 7220

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

Furniture and Home Decor 7236

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)

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 7250

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

Outdoors 7262

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

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 visit naturehills-deal.com/bloom71** (WCAN)

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266

DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? GET RESULTS! Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 **Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-800-236-0737 www.pdsadnet.com**

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

Dogs 7272

ACA BICHON FRISE PUPPIES Shots/Vet \$600 No Sunday Calls **715-409-3321 (495932)**

ACA COCKER SPANIEL PUPPIES Shots/Vet \$500 No Sunday Calls **715-409-3321 (495932)**

AKC REG. COCKER SPANIEL PUPS NEW Big Litters! 50% OFF!!! shots & wormed **920-563-3410 mornings(#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)**

Dogs 7272

BOSTON-PUPPIES.COM has Mini Goldendoodles, Cavapoos & more **715-921-9708 (516695)**

CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPPIES Vet chk/wormed/vac \$400; **AMERICAN ESKIMO RAT TERRIER SHIBA MIX PUPPIES:** M & F \$50 715-223-0782

GOLDENDOODLE PUPPIES 7 weeks old, shots/wormed, \$650 Family Raised 715-255-2418

GOLDENDOODLE PUPS, Health Cert & vet chkd \$895 715-409-0533

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS ACA Reg., F-\$300, M-\$300, great w/kids! **Bonduel 715-745-4546**



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

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

MINI GOLDENDOODLE PUPS 2-M \$200 each, Shots/Dewormed **715-754-5699**

PUREBRED GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES Shots/Wormed, Super Friendly F-\$600, M-\$550 cash only **715-267-6370**

PUREBRED YELLOW LAB PUPPIES Vet checked 1st shots \$400 **715-384-2421**

REG. CAVALIER PUP Ready Now, shots/wormed/dews \$400 715-470-0458 #509642-DS

REG MINIATURE POODLE PUPPIES dewes, shots, vet checked, wormed Non-Shedding \$850 **READY to go! 715-536-0697 (WCAN)**

Rottweiler Puppies AKC Shots, wormed, tails done, dew claws done, vet checked \$1000 715-498-6408

TEDDY BEAR & BICHPOO PUPPIES vet checked UTD shots \$600-\$1000 **715-703-8981**

Pet Services 7280

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 **1-844-244-7146** to get a free quote or visit insurebarkmeow.com/wicp (WCAN)

Hay and Straw 7288

FS HAY 50# Bales Green no Rain Grass 1st crop \$4 per bale second \$5 FREE DEL in full loads within 100 miles of DALE WI **920-878-0005 920-878-0288** no mess no text (WCAN)

Agriculture Services 7292

Hand Crafted Garden & Storage Sheds, Garages & Cabins. Many Styles and Options. Sizes from 8' x 8' up to 15' x 40' are available. Call **BAKER BARN, LLC** 715-873-3338 mile North of Gleason, Hwy 17

Vacation For Rent 7421

WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get FREE informational package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! FREE consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. **CALL 844-374-2565 (WCAN)**

Motorcycles 7502

BATTERY MART
3607 Schofield Ave. Schofield 715-359-9019

Free Testing & Installation!

LOWEST PRICES

Paying Cash for Old Batteries!!

Motorcycles 7502

FOR SALE 2006 Honda Shadow 600 Black, less than 10k miles. New Tubes & Tires. \$4,200 OBO Call 715-882-3410

Docks 7516

USED DOCK \$500 715-351-0441

Miscellaneous Recreational 7530

FOR SALE: 8-horse, 2-stroke Mercury boat motor. Excellent condition. \$800 obo. 715-302-9186

Passenger Cars 7538

PARK CITY CREDIT UNION - MERRILL 2008 FORD ESCAPE 4D XLT 4WD 3.0L V6 COLOR: WHITE MILEAGE: 159,328 VIN: 1FMCU931X8KE21231 MINIMUM BID \$1,550.00 OR BEST OFFER Please contact Trish @ 715-536-8351 Ext. 4233

SUVs 7544

2017 Chevy Equinox LT 4 cyl., front w.d. 44,000 miles, gray metallic, remote start, heated seats, roof rack, rear camera, good condition, hitch, non-smoker, \$17,900. 715-675-7834, non-texter

PARK CITY CREDIT UNION - MERRILL 2008 SATURN OUTLOOK 4D XE AWD 3.6L V6 COLOR: SILVER MILEAGE: 161,812 VIN# 5GZEV13708J114767 MINIMUM BID \$1,950.00 OR BEST OFFER Please contact Trish @ 715-536-8351 Ext. 4233

Vehicles Wanted 7554

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

Specialty Vehicles 7564

FOR SALE '48 Ford Deluxe Coop, 9" Ford Rear with title \$1,700. '57 Chevy Truck Cab \$750 OBO. '54 Chevy 2 Dr. Sedan, titled \$3,000 OBO. ALL FOR \$5,000 Call 715-882-3410

Miscellaneous Transportation 7574

DONATE YOUR CAR or TRUCK to HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3-Day Vacation. Tax Deductible. Free Towing. All paperwork taken care of! **CALL 844-374-3067 (WCAN)**

Money to Lend 7300

Inflation is at 40 year highs. Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have \$10k or more in debt? Call National Debt Relief to find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! Free quote: 1-877-592-3616

Attorney and Legal 7306

Diagnosed with lung cancer? You may qualify for a substantial cash award - even with smoking history. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help!! Call 24/7, 1-877-648-2503

Insurance 7308

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Vehicles & Special Items: 2010 Subaru Forester AWD 4 dr. w/128,000 mi., 2000 Chevy LS 2WD pickup truck; Schuld approx. 8 tn. bulk feed bin, Em-Bee 300 gal. flat top bulk tank w/comp.; step saver w/wash release; 5 Surge S.S. milk buckets, smaller Surge vac pump; 500 gal. fuel barrel w/hand pump, lick tank, Badger 20 R.D. silo unloader, Badger 16' S.D. silo unloader, Badger barn cleaner w/160' of 16" ccw chain & head, small wooden cattle trailer, some bags of fertilizer; approx. 400-500 bu. oats **Outdoor Items & Tools:** Starcraft 14' alum. fishing boat & Honda 7.5 h.p. outboard motor, Ariens 14.5 h.p. riding lawn mower w/32" deck, Troy-Bilt riding lawn mower 38" deck, White self propelled #650 lawn mower, Troy-Bilt rear tine roto-tiller, Troy-Bilt Econo-Horse rear tine tiller, Stihl MS290 chainsaw, Eskimo gas ice auger (like new), port. ice fishing shanties, Kawasaki 220 Bayou ATV; cement mixer, 3 pt. post hole digger, misc. tractor chains, old platform scale, anvil, misc. air compressors, misc. steel gates, Jackson steel lawn cart, Planet Jr. garden planter, deer stand, Craftsman drill press, Craftsman radial arm saw, DeWalt 9" power mitre saw, Powermatic #73 dust collector, Campbell Hausfield 115 Flux-Core welder, old stationary planer, Craftsman 12" band saw, Lincoln AC/DC arc welder, Cal-hawk joiner, Craftsman 12" wood lathe, Ridgid joiner, bench grinder, Craftsman belt sander, Ridgid 10" comm.. table saw, asst. of power tools (skil saws, drills, jig saws, sanders, etc.); nut & bolt inventory, Belsaw sharpener, nut & bolt bins, pipe clamps, port. air comp., lots of misc. hand tools, ATV ramps, old farm & granary tools, several piles of lumber, some misc. siding tin, lawn cart, 2 cross bows, honey extractor, bee hives, Tasco telescope, arrows, coolers, ice fishing misc., logging tongs, misc. bikes, old wood sleigh, stanchions, several LP cylinders; lg. pile firewood (6 cord+); **Firearms:** Remington 790 6mm rifle; Remington 700 270 cal. w/ scope; Browning 25-06 rifle; Stevens 20 gau. single shot; West Point 20 gau. single shot; Traditions .50 cal. muzzle loader; some ammun. **Antiques & Collectibles:** Rayo oil lamp, coffee grinder, (2) Hoosier cupboards, asst. of mantle clocks, 2 Crown 10 gal. salt glazed crocks, Crown 15 gal. crock, wash tubs & stand, Pyrex bowls, 2 Enterprise sausage stuffers, kraut cutter, blanket box, old dressers, record albums, **Household:** Samsung big tub washing machine (like new), Hotpoint elec. dryer, Frigidaire glass top elec. stove, Amana refrigerator/freezer, 2 chest freezers, 5 cu' chest freezer, Pfaff elec. sewing machine, chest of drawers, lg. wooden china hutch, desks, Kitchen Aid mixer, small kitchen appliances, lots of dishes, lamps, lg. elec. meat grinder, puzzles, canning jars, misc. glassware, pictures & wall decor., misc. stereo equip., small metal gun case, end tables, benches, **Real Estate (Sells at 12:00 Noon):** 172+ acre farm w/buildings offered in parcels. Terms of Sale: Successful bidder will be required to deposit 10% earnest money (non-refundable), on sale date and sign appropriate offer to purchase forms, indicating a cash sale. NO Buyers Fee! Closing to be within 45 dates of auction date. All information set forth is believed to be accurate, however, property is being offered "as is" with no implied warranties or guarantees by seller or sellers agents. All announcements on auction day will take precedence over previously advertised information. For more information contact Christensen Sales Corp., Abbotsford, WI 715-223-6345

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"THC is Changing" campaign to raise public awareness about potential harm to youth

On April 20, 2023, Marshfield Clinic Health System announced their Northwoods Coalition (MCHSNC) has launched a new statewide initiative called "THC is Changing" to educate youth and youth influencers about the potential health hazards of THC, as youth are a targeted market for many of the newest THC-infused products.

"Tetrahydrocannabinol or THC is the chemical in the cannabis plant that is responsible for psychoactive qualities when consumed," the release said. "A loophole in the 2018 Farm Bill allows the sale of products containing a certain level of THC in Wisconsin. These products can be purchased by anyone, including youth, in most Wisconsin counties."

In response to growing concerns about youth use and availability of THC, MCHSNC formed an ad-hoc workgroup derived from the Northwoods Coalition Advisory Board to tackle the issue. MCHSNC, which includes more than 45 local substance use prevention coalitions in northern Wisconsin, provides training, technical assistance, funding and networking opportunities to member coalitions, the release said.

"The campaign is aimed at influencers of youth and encourages them to know the risks and get the facts about

See THC page 13

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L to R: State VFW Commander Michele Rathke, Master of Ceremonies Clyde Nelson, and Brigadier General Scott D. Legwold. **Joseph Frederick photos.**

SUPPORT
from page 1

Americans enjoy.

National Loyalty Day celebrates more than the loyalty Americans have for the United States, also looking at the historic events that led to the formation of the country. According to the Loyalty Day 2023 booklets distributed during the parade, the first National Loyalty Day held in 1921 was “during the First Red Scare—a time when America was struggling with far-left extremism. It is during this period of uncertainty that the day came into being and was initially celebrated as Americanization Day.”

“The motive of the celebration was also to counter May Day that was commemorated by workers all over the world,” the Loyalty Day history page in the booklet said.

In 1955 the U.S. Congress officially recognized National Loyalty Day in response to “a great threat in the form of the rise of communism” and in 1958 President Dwight D. Eisenhower declared the day a legal holiday “to be celebrated with great fervor” in recognition of the nation’s history and the great value of the gift of freedom.

Since then, every President is required to announce the celebration of the day, ask for the U.S. flag to be raised on all important government buildings, and to order the organization of ceremonies like parades, fireworks, events in school, etc.

Not all states hold parades and special events for Loyalty Day anymore, but Wisconsin proudly does. With Merrill’s own Michele Rathke holding the position of 2022-2023 Wisconsin VFW State Commander, the City of Merrill and the Schmitt-Manecke-Donner VFW Post 1638 and Auxiliary were a natural choice to host this year’s Loyalty Day Parade and events.

While the Loyalty Day Parade was one highlight of the celebration, there were many other activities throughout the entire day and evening to commemorate the day.

A buffet breakfast at the Merrill Eagles Club started things off early at 7:00 a.m., lunch was available at the Merrill Expo Center, and the Merrill City Band performed a selection of patriotic tunes for all to enjoy at the Expo Center at noon.

At 1:00 p.m., a program began that included opening ceremonies by the



Area veterans travel military style in the Loyalty Day parade.



Guests listen during the Loyalty Day program at the Merrill Expo Center.

State VFW Honor Guard, an invocation by Chaplain Scott Gustafson, and master of ceremonies Clyde Nelson from the Merrill Chamber of Commerce, introducing special and distinguished guests as well as guest speakers.

State Representative Calvin Callahan presented the State of Wisconsin’s Loyalty Day Proclamation and Merrill Mayor Steve Hass presented the City of Merrill’s Loyalty Day Proclamation, both recognizing May 1, 2023, as Loyalty Day.

State VFW Commander Michele Rathke, State Auxiliary President Faith Elford, VFW Past Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch II, and Loyalty Day Chairperson Bill Bialecki all spoke. Brigadier General Scott D. Legwold gave the keynote speech, as well as acting as the Loyalty Day Parade Grand Marshal.

Awards presentations and closing ceremonies were followed by a break in activities.

At 5:00 p.m. a dinner and Testimonial Roast and Celebration began at the Northwoods Veterans Post in honor of Rathke and Elford, followed by a free barn dance there, open to the public, with music provided by Carl Jackson.



Brenda Mueller from Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church presents a check for \$4,000 to Chief Executive Officer Kim Larsen and members of the Merrill Boys and Girls Club. The funds were part of the Gerald and Lorraine Muschinske Memorial Fund. The Boys and Girls Club located at Prairie River Middle School (PRMS) serves 75 students with plans to expand. Also present were PRMS Principal Diane Goetsch and Our Saviour’s Council members Bruce Schleif and Aimee Pederson. **Tom Mueller photo.**

THC *from page 12*

novel THC in Wisconsin,” said Meagan Barnett, Community Health Manager. “THC is truly changing. Currently, there aren’t resources out there for coalitions to start this conversation and there are many different factors and terms such as hemp, CBD, THC, marijuana, and Delta that can be confusing for some people.”

Marshfield Clinic Health System and MCHSNC are committed to preventing THC use among youth in Wisconsin through the “THC is Changing” public awareness and education campaign. The public will begin to see campaign messaging throughout northern Wisconsin as substance use prevention coalitions begin to implement. The goals of the “THC is Changing” campaign are to educate youth influencers about the rapidly evolving substance available to youth and to start talking to youth about the dangers of use. Social media posts, informational handouts, advertisements, and billboards are among the resources that will be used by coalition members to educate audiences in their community.

“Although novel THC products may be legal to consume right now, kids do run the risk of testing positive on a drug

test because we don’t really know what is being consumed, as these products are not regulated,” Barnett said. “In addition, the potential short- and long-term effects on young, developing brains are extremely concerning.”

To learn more about the “THC is Changing” public awareness campaign and to get facts about the evolution of this substance and its dangers to Wisconsin youth, contact Barnett at 715.221.8422 or barnett.meagan@marshfieldclinic.org.

For questions regarding Northwoods Coalition, contact Marshfield Clinic Health System, Center for Community Health Advancement at 715.221.8400 or email communityhealth@marshfieldclinic.org.

Marshfield Clinic Health System is an integrated health system serving Wisconsin and Michigan’s Upper Peninsula with more than 1,600 providers comprising 170 specialties, health plan, and research and education programs. Primary operations include more than 60 Marshfield Clinic locations, 11 hospitals, Marshfield Children’s Hospital, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute, Security Health Plan, and Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. marshfieldclinic.org.

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BREWERY from page 1

The competition was set up in many rounds with breweries going head to head in a March-madness style competition, all competing in an online voting competition in 48-hour voting timeframes, and the winners of each round moving on to the next competition in brackets.

Merrill's Sawmill Brewing Company first went up against Leinenkugel's Brewery in the Wisconsin competition, and they started out the underdogs, Kubichek said. They didn't expect to beat Leinenkugel's.

But their loyal customers voted, and they did.

After that initial win, the Sawmill Brewing Company advanced to the next round and the next until online votes from their customers and supporters got them into the elite eight in Wisconsin, then the final four in Wisconsin, and then helped them beat McFleshman's Brewing Company in the State Championship to become the Wisconsin State Champions. Approximately 100 Wisconsin breweries were in the competition.

From there, the Sawmill went on to compete head to head with the top breweries in other states within the region. They won the Regional Championship, advanced to win the Midwest Championship, and finally, against what they thought to be unbeatable odds, they won the National Championship against Common John Brewing Co. of Manchester, Tenn.

"We've been pretty much the top vote getter the whole way," Kubichek said, still sounding amazed. In the end, the Sawmill won by just 208 votes. "Every last vote counted," he said.

The key to their success and the win was all due to their loyal customers, Kubichek said.

Their social media campaign was strong, their bartenders encouraged customers to vote, and loyal customers and their hometown community led the push all the way to the win, drawing in friends and family to help with the vote.

"It's been crazy. I can't believe how many votes we've gotten over the last few weeks," Kubichek said the day after the win.

"We wouldn't be here without all of you guys," said Sawmill Brewing Company brewer Ben Osness in a live Facebook broadcast addressing their loyal social media followers.

"This puts Merrill on the map," he said. "We're all, you know, hometown kids from Merrill here, trying to make a name for ourselves and trying to do a positive impact on our community, and this is just overwhelming for all of us and so surreal ... it's all because of you guys, and (we) couldn't be more thankful and appreciative, and it just makes me want to make better beer for you all ..."

"We've seen this community really rally behind us," said Maria Schmelling, marketing and public event manager at Sawmill Brewing Company. "We knew we came from a great community, but definitely seeing the numbers, seeing the amount of people sharing it and how far it reached and people messaging us or commenting saying that they told their families in California or other states, telling them that they should vote, and just the amount of



Zach Kubichek, co-owner of the Sawmill Brewing Company holds up a crowler of beer. Cheers to a big win!

Tina L. Scott photo.

votes that we got to first place ... that really meant a lot ... from around the United States and around the world, we really appreciate all the support."

"The brewing community is just such a cool, tight knit community," Kubichek said. He is just grateful to "everybody who supported us along the way."

"It was really cool to see how much each brewery cared about their brewery and their own hometown," Schmelling said.

"For this award to come through the brewing community is just ... such an honor for all of us," Osness said.

In addition to a National Championship trophy, the Sawmill Brewing Company wins \$1,000 in the contest, to be donated to the charity of their choice.

Kubichek said their loyal customers and voters got them the win, so they will get to decide which local charity will be the recipient of that \$1,000. The Sawmill Brewing Company team will pick four local charities and then "will send it out to a vote," he said.

"Since you guys did all the voting this whole time, we want you to be a part of it, as well," Kubichek said in the live broadcast thanking the community for their support. Watch the Sawmill's Facebook page for more information about voting to select the charity.

"There will also be a party that Hop Passport's putting on sometime this summer," Osness said. "To be determined, maybe June or July ... so stay tuned for that."

Seven years brewing success in Merrill

The Sawmill Brewing Company will celebrate seven years of successful brewing in Merrill this month, and this win will motivate them to work even harder and be even better as they gear up for summer, the team said.

They are also planning a Seventh Anniversary Party at the Sawmill on Saturday, May 13, with lots of food, live music all day, a lot of seasonal beers and some new releases, and a lot of fun



DASTY from page 1

"Blasto is a fungus that is found in the environment, usually in moist areas with decaying leaves and wood," he said. "Once the fungus spores are inhaled, the spores commonly settle in the lungs and airways to the lungs, which can cause severe respiratory issues."

"Dasty had a very hard time breathing while fighting the infection and had a respiratory rate of 115 breaths per minute for a significant time while being treated. Days passed as Dasty continued to fight and was at risk of losing vision in his right eye and even death," Hintze said. "Staff at the police department missed our fellow officer, and hoped for a miracle."

"During those passing days, with the aid of medical staff and medication, Dasty miraculously improved," he said. "On March 9, Officer McCaskill and Dasty were given the good news that his lungs had improved enough to go home."

Since returning home, Dasty has continually improved, with short training sessions, and was anxious to get back to work. "However, Dasty must continue his treatment for some time, to fight any blasto that might still be active within him, and to prevent the respiratory issues from returning," Hintze said.

"On March 23, Dasty was cleared to return to full duty," he said. "Since then he has been utilized to assist with search warrants and other street deployments."

Merrill's second K9 Officer

"A 1 1/2-year-old German Shepherd. Dasty was originally raised by a civilian family in Germany," Hintze said. "Dasty was hand chosen by Steinig Tal Kennel in Camblesport, Wis. to become a potential Police K9 in the United States."

"In July, 2022, the MPD's K9 handler Josh McCaskill and his son personally picked Dasty from Steinig Tal Kennel."

But Dasty is not a typical pet, he stressed. "He is the City of Merrill's K9 Officer, helping to keep all of us safe."

"Dasty is very important to the City of Merrill, as he is called upon to handle a wide variety of incidents—tasks that a human officer can simply not do as well as a K9 officer," Hintze said. "Dasty is trained in drug detection, suspect apprehension, article searches, tracking, and handler protection. These tasks may include Dasty aiding in the apprehension of a dangerous criminal, drug sniffing, or tracking of a person who has become lost or missing. By the MPD having Dasty always readily available, he continually makes our community and city a much safer place to live."

K9 costs

"Having a police department K9 does not come cheap, however," Hintze said. "Many of these dogs and their handlers need to be highly trained. As a community we are fortunate to have the Bierman Foundation that generously donated the funds to purchase Dasty, along with all the training and equipment needed for the program."

"Officer McCaskill, Dasty's handler is a 12-year veteran with the MPD. He, along with Dasty, went through a four-week training course at Steinig Tal, once Dasty had been brought to the United States. Officer McCaskill has a background with Police department K9's, as he was very active with helping K9 handler Lt. Drabek (with Eros)."

The costs of Dasty's emergency visit, hospitalization, and treatment were unexpected expenses, however.

"The costs that were incurred with Dasty's hospital stay and continued treatment will be a substantial expense," Hintze said. "We are asking for your help, to support our K9 Dasty so that he can continue to help keep our community safe."

K9 Fund Benefit

"In an effort to help defray some costs, the MPD will be teaming up with the Sawmill Brewing Company for a K9 benefit," he said.

On Wednesday, May 10, 2023, a late afternoon/early evening K9 Fund Benefit will be held at the Sawmill Brewing Company, 1110 E. 10th St. in Merrill. Live music will be provided by MPD's very own Detective Matt Waid. Officer McCaskill and K9 Dasty will be there for a meet and greet. And MPD Officer John Stubbe will be available to answer law enforcement related questions or for kids interested in seeing the squad car and some of the tools used while on duty, Hintze said.

A food truck will be on site serving pulled pork, Reuben sandwiches, brats, nachos, and more beginning at 4:30 p.m., with all proceeds being donated to the MPD K9 Fund.

The Sawmill Brewing Company will donate a portion of beer sales sold during the evening to the K9 Fund, as well.

"All in an effort to keep Dasty healthy and on the job in Merrill," Hintze said. "We look forward to the evening and your support in our effort of making Merrill a safer place to live with Dasty on the job!"

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MERRILL Foto News

Merrill Citywide Rummage Sale Map

Map provided by the Lincoln County Land Information and Conservation Department - Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

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MHS TRACK AND FIELD:

Boys and Girls relays stand out

Both teams finish strong overall with great performances in multiple events

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Wausau East Sawmill Invitational

On Tuesday, April 25, the Merrill Varsity Track and Field Team traveled to Wausau East to compete in the Sawmill Invitational. Seven other teams—from Wausau East, Crandon, Lakeland Union, Mosinee, Rhinelander, Tomahawk, and Wausau West—were scheduled to attend.

“The Merrill Bluejays track team put forth a strong effort,” said Alec Oestreich, Head Varsity Track and Field Coach.

Ultimately, the Girls Team took third place out of seven participating teams and the Boys Team finished fifth out of seven teams.

“The meet saw many individual accomplishments as well as impressive relay team results,” Oestreich said.

“Among the individual achievements, Madison Crossman sprinted to victory in the Girls 200m race, setting a new personal best time of 26.05 seconds, with Brian Ball matching her performance by finishing first in the Boys 200m,” he said.

“Bailee Sommer showed impressive endurance by finishing third in the Girls 400m race,” Oestreich said.

“In the field events, Alexa Emmer secured third place in shot put, while Amber Winter and Dafney Yates made a powerful duo in the discus event, claiming the first and third positions, respectively,” he said.

“Jace Olson leaped to a third place finish in long jump, and Hunter Stadler vaulted his way to a third place finish in pole vault.”

In the relays, the Boys 4x200 team took first place, the Girls 4x200 team took second place, and the Girls 4x400 team and Boys

4x100 team both finished in third place. “The long-distance runners shone,” Oestreich said. The Girls took first place in the 4x800 race and the Boys took second place in that same event.

“Overall, the Merrill Bluejays Track Team displayed their athleticism and dedication in the competition, achieving notable success in both individual and relay events,” Oestreich said. “The team, coaches, and community can be proud of their accomplishments and look forward to the continued growth and success of the athletes in future meets.”

Stevens Point Conference meet

On Tuesday, April 11, the Merrill Track and Field Team headed to UW-Stevens Point.

“The Merrill Bluejays Track and Field Team showed grit and determination as both the Boys and Girls squads fought hard at the indoor conference meet in Stevens Point,” Oestreich said. “Unfortunately, a string of key injuries took a toll on the overall standings, but several team members stepped up and delivered impressive individual performances.”

“One standout athlete was Alexa Emmer, who placed third in the shot put event,” he said. “Emmer’s powerful throw garnered her a well-deserved spot on the podium and showed that she is a force to be reckoned with in the competition.”

“Meanwhile, Jalie Severt proved her skill in the pole vault, taking home fifth place with a height of 8’00”. Severt’s determination and technique helped her achieve a remarkable result, displaying her dedication to the sport and her team,” Oestreich said.

“Madi Crossman stole the show by not only winning the 200m dash but also setting a new school record in the process,” he said. “Crossman’s blistering speed allowed her to excel in the event, earning her the top spot in conference. In addition, Crossman demonstrated her versatility by placing third in the 400m dash, proving that she is an all-around powerhouse for the Bluejays.”

Despite the challenges of injuries, the team made some great showings and showed their tenacity.

“... the athletes’ resilience and individual successes showed their potential to excel in the future,” Oestreich said. “With the track season still underway, the Bluejays will undoubtedly continue to strive for greatness and represent their school with pride.”



Jace Olson competes in the long jump. Jason Wadzinski photos.



Dafney Yates gives it her best throw for Merrill.



Jalie Severt competes at the April 25, 2023, Track and Field meet.



Elliot Hanson gives it his all at the Wausau East Sawmill Invitational.

2023 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

<u>Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV and JV2)</u>			
Thurs. May 4	Wausau East (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:00 p.m.
Thurs. May 4	Wausau East (JV2)	Home	5:00 p.m.
Sat. May 6	Waunakee (Varsity & JV)	Away	11:00 a.m.
Mon. May 8	Wausau West (JV2)	Away	4:00 p.m.
Tues. May 9	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:00 p.m.
Thurs. May 11	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:00 p.m.
<u>Girls Softball (Varsity and JV)</u>			
Thurs. May 4	Wausau East (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Tues. May 9	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. May 11	D. C. Everest (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:30 p.m.
<u>Boys Golf (Varsity, JV and JV2)</u>			
Fri. May 5	Multiple Schools (Varsity)	Home	2:00 p.m.
Mon. May 8	Wausau Country Club (Varsity)	Away	3:00 p.m.
Tues. May 9	Greenwood Hills (Varsity)	Away	2:00 p.m.
Thurs. May 11	Crane Meadow (JV)	Away	3:00 p.m.
<u>Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV)</u>			
Thurs. May 4	Wausau East (Varsity)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. May 4	Wausau East (JV)	Away	5:00 p.m.
Sat. May 6	Lodi (Varsity)	Away	9:00 a.m.
Tues. May 9	Wausau West (JV)	Home	5:00 p.m.
Tues. May 9	Wausau West (Varsity)	Home	7:00 p.m.
Thurs. May 11	Marshfield (Varsity)	Home	7:00 p.m.
<u>Boys Track & Field (Varsity & JV)</u>			
Fri. May 5	Otto Bacher-Multiple (Varsity)	Home	5:00 p.m.
Tues. May 9	Wausau West (Varsity)	Away	4:00 p.m.
Thurs. May 11	Rhinelander (Varsity)	Away	4:00 p.m.
Thurs. May 11	Stevens Point (JV)	Away	4:00 p.m.
<u>Girls Track & Field (Varsity & JV)</u>			
Fri. May 5	Otto Bacher-Multiple (Varsity)	Home	5:00 p.m.
Tues. May 9	Wausau West (Varsity)	Away	4:30 p.m.
Thurs. May 11	Multiple Schools (JV)	Home	4:00 p.m.

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Madison “Madi” Crossman, a Senior at Merrill High School, has been named Athlete of the Week. Madi is a 200- and 400-meter sprinter on the Merrill Varsity Track & Field Team. She started running Track in middle school beginning in sixth grade. Madi also runs for the Varsity Cross Country team and started running cross country in middle school in seventh grade.

At school, Madi is a member of the National Honor Society, National Computer Science Honor Society, and Girls Who Code. She is also a Graphic Designer (officer) for Raise Your Voice and helps with the yearbook.

In her free time, Madi is really into weight lifting and running, she said. She also likes to go camping and do water sports like boating and tubing with friends and family. She also likes to shoot targets with her dad.

The daughter of Jason Crossman of Tomahawk and Sara Schreiner of Wausau, Madi maintains a 3.8 GPA and is committed to competing in Track and Field at St. Norbert College in DePere, majoring in Graphic Design and Business. She hopes to pursue a career in Marketing.

Congratulations from these sponsors:

Madison Crossman

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

Please direct comments or suggestions to fotonews@mmclocal.com

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On March 19, 2023, the Merrill Eagles held a Pancake Breakfast Benefit for Barry Burrow to assist him with medical expenses. Pictured L to R: Bryan Plautz, Aerie Pancake Breakfast Chair; Sharon and Barry Burrow; and Sue Heckendorf, Auxiliary Pancake Breakfast Chair.

Submitted photo.

MERRILL FOTO NEWS
Student of the Week
 This Week's Featured Student is
Micah Mooneyham
 Son of
John & Lori Mooneyham
 Micah is in 10th grade at New Testament Church Christian Academy. He was nominated by Ms. Hohman.



What is your favorite subject in school?
 Why?
 History is my favorite subject, because I love to learn about the past.

What is your favorite part of school?
 Why?
 My favorite part of school is lunch time. I really like to hang out with my friends and my school has the best lunch.

What would you like to do/become someday?
 Why?
 I would like to become a firefighter, to save and help people.

Micah is a very diligent student. He loves to help wherever needed. He goes above and beyond to encourage and uplift his classmates.
 - Ms. Hohman

Student of the Week Sponsored by:
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