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THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023 VOLUME 69, ISSUE 24

Lincoln County Board works to save Pine Crest



Tina L Scott photo.

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

Members of the Lincoln County Board said they are concerned the community is not understanding what they are trying to do with regard to recent conversations and actions surrounding Pine Crest Nursing Home.

First and foremost, "The County Board is trying to save this service to the community," Lincoln County Supervisor Calvin Callahan said. "We know we want this service and we need this service here."

"The needs are many, but our immediate concern is that we can keep the service in the community," Lincoln County Supervisor Julie DePasse said.

"I want residents to feel secure that we've got their interests in mind, and I want staff to know that," Lincoln County Supervisor and Chair of the Lincoln County Board Don Friske said. "Stay at Pine Crest, stay working at Pine Crest, stay there. We're going to take care of it. You're going to have a job moving forward. You're going to

See PINE CREST page 2



One volunteer searcher prepares to outfit his dog in high visibility gear in preparation for the search.

Search for missing Irma man ends Sunday with wife's discovery of his body near Ice Age Trail

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

Jason Meyer, age 49 of Irma, was reported missing by his wife, Brenda, the evening of Tuesday, June 13, 2023, when he failed to return home after work as expected. Jason's family said he had been having mental health issues and exhibiting paranoid behavior, and they were concerned for his safety. He had been last seen at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday morning and apparently did not go to his jobsite as originally planned.

Jason's daughter, Ahna, located his vehicle approximately four miles away from the family home on Burma Rd., South of Hwy. E, at the Ice Age Trail trailhead early on Wednesday morning. His uneaten lunch and water from Tuesday, along with his cell phone and other personal items, were in his locked vehicle. The keys were not in the vehicle.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's (LCSO) Department responded and conducted search efforts on

Wednesday and Thursday, utilizing dogs, a drone, a plane, going door-todoor at area homes and cabins, and patrolling local highways according to the family. On Wednesday, the LCSO released a statement asking for the community's help to locate him, saying he was considered missing and possibly endangered. "We are not currently requesting help with a ground search," their release said. "We have a search currently being conducted."

See **SEARCH** page 5



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Northwoods Veterans Post introduces Show Your Wheels

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

The Northwoods Veterans Post in Merrill kicked off an opportunity for anyone and everyone to show off their pride-and-joy vehicles in an informal, fun car show. But the event, unofficially dubbed "Show Your Wheels," isn't just for cars. It also includes trucks, motorcycles, and anything else on wheels anyone wants to bring to the event to show it off, talk about it, and share it with the community.

The event kicked off on Sunday, June 18, 2023, at the Northwoods Veterans Post/Pub 1638 on Johnson St. in Merrill and drew in both exhibitors and spectators, but this first event was just the beginning of what organizers have planned.

"We just wanted to try and do something that would get people to the Post and try to show off our building and how good our food is, so

we elected to do a (drive in) car show," said Codey Schultz, who helped organize the event. There was no fee to enter or for attendees to check out all the vehicles on display.

"I go to a few car shows a year, and with the space we have at the Northwoods Veterans Post, I figured that it would be a good place to have one," said Corey Dornbrack, who was one of those who helped brainstorm

and organize the event.

He advocated for keeping it simple, fun, and easy. "I didn't want something that was overblown," he said. "Just something where you can show what you're proud of."

Tina L Scott photo.

'If it has wheels and you want to show it off, this is what it is about," Dornbrack said.

See CAR SHOW page 6



PINE CREST from page 1

have a good facility to work for. We're gonna make sure that it continues to be a viable part of the community. That's our goal."

Pine Crest is not currently for sale

"Another misconception is people think that because of what we did at the County Board meeting last month, that it's already slated for sale, and it's not," Callahan said.

Pine Crest is not currently for sale, Board Supervisors emphasized. It may be, in the future, if there is a qualified right buyer who is committed to purchasing Pine Crest and continuing to operate it as a nursing home here in the Merrill community, because the Board is committed to having this here, but they are trying to figure out the best way to

move forward with that.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Pine Crest explored all kinds of options, and the Lincoln County Board reviewed those and talked about them in depth, and they determined the next best step is to explore working with a broker who can help the County determine if there is a market for Pine Crest and what that market looks like. Hence the likely next step of putting out a bid for brokers to decide who that right candidate or firm is to provide that information.

"We're gathering all the information," Friske said, "and this is one piece of the information we don't have. For us to sit down as a 22-member Board and say, 'Yep, we're gonna sell Pine Crest.' Well, what does that mean? We have no idea if there's a market. We don't know what anybody would offer ... That is putting the decision way ahead of



Tina L Scott photos.

where we need to be."

"What we need to do is find somebody who can say, is that a viable option for Lincoln County?" he said.

There are only a few very specialized brokers with actual experience dealing with nursing homes, he said.

A qualified broker will come in and look at Pine Crest, compare it with similar size facilities and if there are facilities that have sold, what have they sold for, similar in some ways to an appraisal, Friske said.

"I think Ken [Wickham] said it best ... [the building's] best use ... is as a nursing home facility, because that's what it's built for and that's how it's going to be best utilized," he

A qualified, experienced broker can tell us what they think and that will drive a decision if we need an outside appraisal. We'll certainly look at getting one if it's needed and if there is an appraiser out there that can provide a value for a nursing home, Friske said.

There are many steps that would take place before a sale would even be considered, Board Supervisors say. A broker would have to indicate there is an interest in the marketplace, provide input on what kind of offers to purchase might be expected, it would actually have to be made known that the County is entertaining offers, an interested buyer would need to submit an official written offer to purchase, and then the County Board would need to look at any such offer(s) to determine if it makes fiscal sense for the County to accept such an offer. That's all going to take time.





More photos online merrillfotonews.com

Even if the County does get an offer to purchase Pine Crest at some point, we have a responsibility to our constituents to get what it's worth, Lincoln County Board

Supervisor Ken Wickham said. "And there will be a lot of discussion points," Friske said. "Those will all revolve around these three things: Is it the best thing for the residents, the staff, and for the taxpayers in Lincoln County? If it doesn't check those boxes, I can tell you from my experience sitting at the head of the table and watching the other 21 members, it isn't going to pass.

"So moving forward, we've got a lot of work to do."

We're trying to be as transparent as we possibly can be, he said. "We've instituted a lot of things to improve transparency in Lincoln County. ... All our meetings are

> recorded. Everything's online. You can watch them at any time. We've done town hall meetings; we've had multiple special meetings. Public comment has been very robust. We've allowed public comment online, at the meetings, and in an effort to ensure that people know ...We're not making predetermined decisions."



Pet of the Week



Dave's

Merrill, WI

Neytiri was found outside at someone's property where they fed and took care of her for awhile but were unable to keep her. She seems to be a very sweet and social girl who will do well in just about any home. Her adoption fee includes her spay. She is up to date on vaccinations and microchipped. Come meet Neytiri today! Visit all the adoptable pets at the Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours by appointment only. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, or visit us at





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FRUIT UPDATE

- Strawberries should soon be available Oregon Blueberries arrive July 11. Michigan will be
- available around the same time or a little sooner. Georgia & South Carolina peaches may not be available due to crop failure.
- Pennsylvania Peaches will likely be available late July/early August

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Party on P holds three-day event in Pine River

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Hwy. P in the Town of Pine River held their annual three-day "Party on P" bash on June 16, 17, and 18, 2023, on the church grounds.

Music and dancing under the big tent were a big hit all three days, with live music by Carl Jackson, Mark Wayne, Grudgeville Grass, KT Country, Bryce Thomaschefsky, and Jim Pekol and GB Band, and a polka church service on Sunday.

Between the Greg Metz fish fry on Friday, the BBQ chicken dinner on Sunday, and food and drinks at the concession stand, there was plenty of food and refreshments.

Kids enjoyed the free bouncy house and games, and raffles provided a chance to walk away a winner at the end of the day on Sunday.

What initially began in 2001 as a one-day church cookout for the people of St. Paul's parish, has evolved in the 22 years since into a local event that draws people in from throughout Lincoln County and the surrounding areas, with a focus on a wide variety of styles of live music and something for everyone in the family to enjoy.



Order up! Serving up hot food at Party



colored bouncy are always a big hit with the kids.

Tina L Scott photos.

Right: Kids line up to take a turn at some of the





Left: Live music was one of the highlights of Party on P, a three-day annual summer celebration at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Hwv. P in the Town of Pine River.

Lincoln County cooling centers named

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) released the 2023 list of cooling centers for Lincoln County.

"Summer is finally here!" a press release from LCHD said. "While

- GLEASON BOWLING CENTER, N4878 HWY 17, GLEASON 715.873.4588 Monday, 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
- LES & JIM'S LINCOLN LANES. 1208 N. CENTER AVE., MERRILL 715.536.9405 Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-9p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Saturday, 3 p.m.-11p.m.
- MERRILL ENRICHMENT CENTER, 303 N. SALES ST., MERRILL 715.536.4226 Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

many people look forward to the warmer temperatures, it's important to remember that hot conditions can turn dangerous quickly and pose a risk to health and safety, especially for infants and children, older adults, and individuals with certain medical and chronic conditions."

"Lincoln County is fortunate to

- RIVERSIDE ATHLETIC CLUB, **500 S. CENTER AVE., MERRILL** 715.536.2481 Monday-Thursday, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
- SMITH MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER (MARC), 1100 MARC DR., MERRILL 715.536.7313 Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4p.m.
- T.B. SCOTT FREE LIBRARY, 106 W. FIRST ST., MERRILL 715.536.7191 Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- TOMAHAWK CITY HALL, 23 N. 2ND ST., TOMAHAWK 715.453.4040

have designated cooling centers," the release said. "A cooling center is an air-conditioned facility where Lincoln County residents are invited to get relief from extreme heat during business hours."

The list of cooling centers in Lincoln County for 2023, with business hours,

Monday- Friday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m., 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

TOMAHAWK PUBLIC LIBRARY,

300 W. LINCOLN AVE., **TOMAHAWK** 715.453.2455 Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.;

 TOMAHAWK SENIOR CENTER, 113 S. TOMAHAWK AVE., **TOMAHAWK**

Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

715.453.5757 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

 WAL-MART, 505 S. PINE RIDGE **AVE., MERRILL** 715.536.2414 Monday-Sunday, 6 a.m.-11 p.m. PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Fifteen Minutes of Fame

DEAR READER.

I recently viewed a colored sketch that Andy Warhol made of Marilyn Monroe. His 15 minutes of fame statement came to mind. Whether it is 15 minutes, 15 months or 15 years, fame is fleeting, for stars like Marilyn and ordinary people alike.



Our lives take place in a

nanosecond of a universe that is 13.7 billion years old. We experience temporary highs and lows as the "it girl" in high school plays, the college sports star with the promise of professional glory, or the shrewd business person who amasses a bundle of money. From the macro view, none of these achievements is more than a hill of

And then the sunset comes and we get old. If things went well, we are recognized by our peers, devoted to our families, and loved by those we know and love in return. We aspire to a sense of fulfillment and the belief that what we thought and did mattered.

Fifteen minutes of fame, or 15 minutes of oblivion - at the end of the day, it hardly matters. What does matter is our values, our character, and the kindness we shared with others. Time cannot tarnish this ineffable reality of connection and impact on another human being.

> PATRICK J. WOOD Publisher

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

Merrill City Band kicks off gazebo concerts

The Merrill City Band usually begins its season on Memorial Day, but this year they got an early start. "The band has a long history with our veterans, and members were honored to be part of the Loyalty Day Ceremony in April and the Memorial Day ceremony in May," said Merrill City Band Director Linda Becker.

Now it's time to kick off the summer series of Wednesday night concerts in the Normal Park gazebo. The weekly concerts will begin on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 7 p.m. and continue each Wednesday evening through Aug. 9.

"Bring a lawn chair and come on down to the park for an evening of concert band music," Becker said. "There will be something for everyone, and the 50/50 raffle will be in full swing. Hope to see you there!"

Beat the heat

The Lincoln County Health Department offers the following safety tips for beating the heat this summer, focusing on prevention, protection, and intervention.

- · Stay hydrated. Drink a lot of water. Avoid alcoholic beverages, coffee, tea, and sodas.
- · Avoid going outside in extreme heat. Limit outside activity to early morning or late evening.
- · Wear sunscreen. Sunburn affects your body's ability to cool down and can make you dehydrated.
- If you don't have air conditioning, keep shades drawn and blinds closed, but windows slightly open.
- · Keep lights off or turned down.
- · Limit the use of the stove.
- Wear lightweight, loose, light-colored clothing.
- Take cool baths and showers.
- · Don't leave anyone, including pets, in a parked careven for a few minutes.
- · Check up on family, friends, and neighbors during extreme heat. If you are unable to reach them, call 911 and request a well-being check.

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| OBITUARIES |



Randall 'Randy' L. Hill, age 66, of Merrill, WI, passed away at his home on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, after a brief bout of cancer, with his loving family by his side. He was born to the late Robert and Marion (Bagley) Hill in Merrill, WI. Randy attended and graduated from Merrill High School with the class of 1975 and went on to further his education at UW-Madison. He met and fell in love with Delnice while wrestling at the Olympic Tryouts in 1976 and the two exchanged marriage

vows in 1977. She survives.

Randy worked as an estimator in tool & dye at Wire Products in Merrill, was the regional manager for Dashir Management Services and worked in maintenance for several public schools. Randy was very active in coaching wrestling and gymnastics and was a state level referee for wrestling. He also coached for the state GRECO wrestling teams. Randy also ran Hill's Trophy and Engraving. He was a member of the Silver M's for Merrill football. Family and friends knew if they went outside, they could find Randy working on peeling logs by hand for the log home he was planning to build, working with the horses, watching the birds or helping the kids with the chores on their hobby farm. He was a hard-working, genuine man that was kind, humble and always had people laughing! Randy was a God-fearing man that consistently read his Bible and kept his faith strong. He was a loving husband, father and "Opa" and memories of him will remain with his family and friends for-

Randy leaves behind his wife of 45 years: Delnice Hill, sons: Adam (Maureen) Hill, with their children: Finn, Seamus and Angus, Michael (Keri) Hill, with their children: Carter, Drew and Kendall and Kevin (Melissa) Hill, with their children: Orion and Brynlee, along with sisters: Mary (Jim) Hill and Sara (Jeff) Simon and sister-in-law: Kris Hill He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers: Jeff and Mikê Hill.

A Visitation for Randy will be held on Friday, June 30, 2023, from 1pm-5pm at Waid Funeral Home. The family prefers you do not send flowers or plants.

The family wishes to thank the Aspirus Merrill Hospital Marshfield Medical Center in Weston, Merrill Fire Depart ment and the Merrill Police Department for their compassionate assistance and care shown to Randy and his 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.



Molins (Riebe), a Merrill native, was April 27, has joined

her father Howard Riebe, her mother Jessie Riebe and a brother Robert Riebe on May 24, 2023.

She retired from the United States Army after twenty years of distinguished service in 1992. After retirement from the U.S. Army she was a ware house manager at Fort Hood until her second retirement in

She is survived by her husband Anthony of Texas, son Derek of Louisiana, and a daughter Kelly of Arkansas. She leaves behind five grandchildren and five brothers, Jim and Bev of Sycamore IL, Dave and Mary of Janesville, Bill and Marge of West Allis, Jeffery (Sam) Kris of Tomahawk Johnny and Sara of Merrill, Sister-in-Law Sharon of Arling on WA and many nieces and nephews.

A small family and military service was given with military rites for Nancy, with entombment following.

A lady of caliber by all measures she will be missed by

hose who loved and knew her. Until we meet again my love







Dawn Mavis Kleinschmidt, age 76, of Merrill, Wisconsin passed on Wednesday, June 14 2023 at Woodland Court in Merrill. She was born on August 26, 1946 to the late Erwin and OIga (Gruling)

Kriehn in Merrill, Wisconsin.
On January 24, 1970, Dawn married Jack Kleinschmidt in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. He precedes her in death. Dawn was a "Navy Wife." She met Jack in Merrill and moved to Norfolk, Virginia and even-

tually back to Merrill. Dawn worked at Weinbrenner for many years and tended bar in her younger years. She enjoyed gardening, canning and going fishing with her husband. She was famous for her salsa, Christmas cookies and her ability to capture bats. Loved cheering on the Milwaukee Brewers, attending a number of games over the years with the Kriehn family members. She also loved her Green Bay Packers.

She loved attending church, spending time with her grand-kids, shopping and going out to eat with Louise. Dawn was a Red Hatter, she attended bible study and was involved in a number of groups at Trinity Lutheran Church in Merrill.

Dawn was a strong woman, who always went above and beyond for her family who she loved very much.

Dawn is survived by her daughter: Julie (Rodney) Young son: Jeff (Mary) Kleinschmidt, grandchildren: Adam (Heidi) Kleinschmidt, Nick (Jessica) Kleinschmidt, Benjamin Young, and Alexandra (Brendan) Dinges, great-grandchildren: Emmalynn, Conner, Santiago, Shailene, Lucas, Kira, Ella, and Julian, and brothers: Gerald (Judy) Kriehn, and Ronald (Mary Lou) Kriehn.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Kleinschmidt, parents, granddaughter, Melissa Kleinschmidt, infant brother, Victor Kriehn, brother, Eugen Kriehn, nephew, Brian Kriehn, and niece-in-law, Kathy Kriehn.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 10:00 am at Waid Funeral Home. Rev. Scott Gustafson officiated. A visitation was held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Waid Funeral Home and again on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 from 9:00 am until the time of service also at the funeral home. Interment will take place at St. Paul's Cemetery in the Town of Scott.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Humane Society of Lincoln County or to Trinity Lutheran Church in Merrill.

The family would like to thank the staff at Woodland Court for taking care of her through her journey with Alzheimer's. 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.



Joyce A. Klebenow, 83, of Merrill, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 13 2023, at Stoney River Memory Care, Marshfield.

Joyce was born April 4, 1940 in Merrill, daughter of the late Clarence and Elsie (Schmidt) Bade. She married Melvin Klebenow on September 24 1960, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Merrill. Joyce and Melvin were dairy farmers for over thirty-five years, in addition to this she also spent ten years working at Rondelé

Cheese. Joyce enjoyed sewing, baking, gardening, playing cards, going to a Friday fish fry, serving her church on the ladies aide, and spending time with her family. Joyce and Melvin loved to travel. They went on many trips to Germany, Switzerland, Cancún, and Alaska.

Joyce is survived by her husband of sixty-two years, Melvin Klebenow of Merrill; daughters, Rhonda (John) Heisler of Illinois, and Renee (Daniel) Kolehouse, of Merrill; sons Brian (Marlys) Klebenow and Keith (Sara) Klebenow both of Merrill; 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren, sister, Ethel Natzke; brothers, Harvey (Ardell) Bade and Roger (Darlene) Bade.

The visitation for Joyce will begin at 9:00am on Saturday June 17, 2023, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Town of Berlin The funeral service will follow at 12:00pm at the church The Rev. Andrew DeGier will officiate. Burial will follow in Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery, Town of Berlin. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

The family wishes to extend a special thank you to the staff of Stoney River Memory Care Center and ProMedica Hospice for the care that Joyce received.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefune

ralhome.com



James 'Jim' Pankow, 92, of Merrill, passed away peace

fully on Wednesday, June 15, 2023.

Jim is survived by his wife, Emily Pankow of Merrill daughter, Sharon (John) Zortman of Rib Mountain; son, Jim Pankow Jr. of Plymouth, WI; seven grandchildren, Mary (Rick) Klemm, Kristine Downing, Kathleen (Rick) Swoboda, Amy Nichols, Aron (Nicole) Pankow, Andrew (Annette) Zortman, and Jennifer (Brad) Knispel; fifteen great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson. Jim was preceded in death by his parents, August and Josephine 'Jo Pankow; infant granddaughter, Susan Pankow; and three sisters, Ellen, LoRae, and Rosalie.

A private Mass of Christian Burial will be held. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting



Michael John Osborn, age of Merrill, Wisconsin passed away on Sunday, June 18, 2023 in Merrill, Wisconsin He was born on April 12, 1973 in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Michael worked as general la borer for Lincoln Industries and was a die-hard Green Bay Packers Fan. He also loved NASCAR, always cheering for the winning car. He was in the Special Olympics in the early 90's, participating in track and shotput. Michael will be deeply missed by his family

and friends. He will be remembered for his strength to pull through hard times, his mischievous personality, and his ability to always smooth talk the ladies.

Michael was the son of Judy Doerr, brother of Ashley (Matthew) Radtke and Stephanie (Matt) Prey. He is further survived by his nieces and nephews: Bryanna, Ayden Chayse, Thomas, and Cheyenne, step-father: Brian Doern and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his Osborn and Doerr grand

parents, and uncles and cousins.
The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to the past and present caregivers of Our Way Inc., and a special thanks to Colleen, Michelle and Carla.

A Celebration of Life and Remembrance Service will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at 15925 S CTY Road K, Merrill, WI 54452.

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



Joyce Jeanette Ninmann July 8, 1938 - June 7, 2023 Joyce

Watertown/Merrill -- Joyce Jeanette Ninmann, 84 of Watertown, formerly Merrill was called to her heavenly Father on Wednesday, June ' 2023, at Marquardt Memorial Manor of Watertown.

Joyce was born July 8, 1938 the daughter of Alfred and Clara (Borchardt) Vandre in Merrill, WI. Joyce enjoyed knitting and gardening in her spare time. Above all else, she cherished time spent with her

Joyce is survived by: her children Penny (Daniel) Sullivan of Watertown, Barbara Bartelt of Winchester, KY, Julie Bartelt of Watertown, and Michael Bartelt of Milwaukee grandchildren Justin (Lisa) and Kayla Magritz, Krist Quaderer; great-grandchildren Alexis and Noah Braker, Clint Ir., Tatiana, and Evelyn Parker, Dayne Wegner; Siblings Alan (Cindy) Vandre of Merrill, Beverly Kloss of Beaver Dam, Richard (Kathy) Vandre of Merrill, Leroy (Lorri) Van dre of Merrill, and Betty (Mike) McGraw of Gleason. Joyce is also survived by many nieces, nephews, other realtive

Joyce is preceded in death by her parents, sisters Joann (Lavern) Krueger and Barbara Vandre, and other relatives.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00am on Monday July 24, 2023, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in the Town of Corning, WI. Visitation will take place at the church from 10:00am until the time of service. Burial will follow the ser vice at the church cemetery.

The Pederson-Nowatka Funeral Home is caring for the family. To place an online condolence, please visit www





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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

TO THE EDITOR:

Why is the majority of the Lincoln County Board blindly rushing past its duty to "serve and protect" our heroes by moving to sell Pine Crest? I've known residents there including brave combat vets, law enforcement, teachers, people providing goods and services, and others who selflessly served the less fortunate; people who served and protected our community to the very best of their abilities for decades.

It is estimated that a private organization would need about \$700,000 in profits annually to run Pine Crest. What would they cut?

parents had long term insurance coverage and could have gone anywhere. The first three places they entered were for-profit facilities carefully handpicked by my brother and sister, both experienced health care professionals. All three were disasters with inadequate and unhappy staff, resulting in frequent falls, infections, and trips to the ER and rehab facilities.

After Mom died, we found a small town facility like Pine Crest with outstanding care where the staff was fairly compensated, had long time camaraderie, and enjoyed working together. They were far more efficient and productive than what I witnessed

in for-profit homes. It was a longer trip to visit Dad there, but well worth it. He loved the place, and was noticeably healthier and happier.

Please contact your County Supervisor by phone asap before bids for a broker are considered next week. Tell them it's time to invest in Pine Crest, not sell it. Let's take our time, secure grants and funding, and honor these heroes.

> Mark Mehlos Merrill, Wis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

*Letters must be 250 words or less. (There will be no exceptions to this. Any letter longer than 250 words will not be printed.)

*The writer must include their full name, complete address, and a phone number where he/she can be easily reached for verification. Phone numbers and street addresses will not be published, but will be used for verification purposes, if necessary. Letters must be signed and the name, city, and state will be printed.

*Letters may be edited for style, grammar, and length. Form letters or those we determine to be libelous or slanderous will not be accepted. Any letter deemed derogatory, inflammatory, or involving vulgar language will not be published. We reserve all rights to reject material submitted to this publication.

*Letters will be published on a "first come, first served" basis. Any letters which we are unable to publish in the printed newspaper may be run online at www.merrillfotonews.com and/or may be printed in the paper at a later date.

*In fairness to all, and due to space constraints, there is a limit of two letters per year from an individual writer. Additional letters may be submitted to our Paid Letters to the Editor column and will require payment in full prior to publication at the same rate as Political Letters to the Editor (see policy below).

POLITICAL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

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

SEARCH from page 1

On Thursday, LCSO updated their release on Facebook, asking people in the area to "check their game/trail cameras" for signs of the missing man.

"At this point we have conducted a search of the area by ground, air, K9s, and checked the water way," the LCSO concluded. According to the LCSO, many agencies assisted in the search

According to the family, deputies suggested canines had "hit" on a few

areas to the north of the Ice Age Trail. However, no real signs of Jason were found.

Late Thursday evening, the LCSO called off search efforts, saying they had exhausted their resources, the family said.

On Friday, the family began organizing their own ground search, with the assistance of extended family and friends and neighbor Mike Specht, who also enlisted the help of the Lincoln County Sports Club and its members. They called for volunteers who were physically capable of walking easily in the woods and thick forest to help.

More than 100 volunteers came Saturday morning, equipped with bug spray and wearing high visibility clothing, to conduct a ground grid search which began at 9:30 a.m. Peter Anderson of Medford and Specht helped coordinate and direct the volunteers who turned out to help with the search.

Despite the heat, volunteers made a thorough and grueling search of most of the area north of the Ice Age Trail all the way to Hwy. E amid dense, difficult to navigate terrain.

During the search, volunteers found some sticks and LCSO deputies confirmed the arrangement of sticks was man-made, the family said. However, there was no solid evidence to link the spot to Jason in particular. With the family and volunteers fighting exhaustion, the family agreed to regroup and commence another search Sunday morning.

This time the family would target their search, again north of the Ice Age Trail, near very swampy terrain in the area near and adjacent to where the sticks had been found. They asked for volunteers who were capable of not only navigating the woods and understanding a compass, but also walking for extended periods in VERY dense and wet areas in the County Forest located on the north end of Burma Rd. and Hwy. E. They asked volunteers to bring hip/chest waders if they had them, as well as regular hiking/hunting boots.

Sunday morning, that search started around 8:00 a.m., drawing approximately 40 volunteers who came to tackle the terrain again on Father's Day in the search for Jason.

While volunteers were searching the swampy area north of the Ice Age Trail, at about 9:45 a.m., the missing man's wife, Brenda, discovered Jason's body in the edge of the woods, just to the south of the Ice Age Trail and just south of several logs stacked in a pile that had been left there by area loggers immediately to the side of the trail. His body



Left: Volunteers in high visibility clothing gather to help with a family-organized Saturday search for a missing Irma man.



A long line of vehicles parked on Burma Rd. grows even longer as more volunteers Tina L. Scott photos. arrive to help in the search.



Ice Age Trail, trailhead at Burma Road facing east.

was located just 25 feet from the edge of the Ice Age Trail and just 100 feet from the edge of Burma Rd. but on the south side of the trail, not the north side where all search efforts had been concentrated.

Mark Heckendorf, Lincoln County Deputy Coroner, responded to the scene, and on Monday, June 19, Lincoln County Coroner Valerie Caylor examined the body and confirmed Jason had died by suicide due to self-inflicted injuries. She determined he had died sometime on Friday, June 16, after being missing more than 72 hours.

Jason's immediate family-wife, Brenda; daughter, Ahna; and son, Isaac-are understandably traumatized.

"This has been the worst week of our lives," Brenda said. Yet the family deeply appreciates the kindness of many of the deputies and the outpouring of support from the community.

"We just want to say thanks to all those people that came out here," Isaac said on behalf of the family. "We were overwhelmed by the support from the community, and it meant the world to us that everybody came out here to look for my dad. And because of you guys, we found him, and that brings us closure, so we're eternally grateful for that."

TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

BID NOTICE

The Town of Merrill, Lincoln County Wisconsin will be accepting sealed bids for ditch mowing all town roads (Approx 81 miles). Contractor to provided certificate of insurance

showing liability & workers comp. coverage. Sealed bids can be submitted to the Town of Merrill W4594 Progress Ave, Merrill, WI 54452.

Bids will be opened on July 10, 2023 at town board meeting.

The Town of Merrill reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the town. TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD

Published June 22 & 29, 2023

WNAXLP

|LEGAL NOTICES|

7700 Legals

BY THE COURT DATE SIGNED June 9, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer

Probate Registrar STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY N THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Bonnie Joy Schmidt Notice to Creditors

(Informal Administration) Case No. 2023 IN 27 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

for application informal administration was filed. 2. The de 11/08/1949 The decedent, with date 08/1949 and date of date of birth death 05/16/2023, was domiciled in Lincoln

County, State of WI, with a mailing address of W2566 Violet Ln, Merrill, W 3. All interested persons waived notice 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is October 6,

5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.

Dianna Gustafson N11980 CTY RD CC Tomahawk, WI 54487 715-966-1198

Published 6/22/23, 6/29/23 & 7/6/23 WNAXLP

DATE SIGNED June 6, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY N THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JUNE J. MAGRAY Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023 IN 26

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE An application for informal administration was filed.
 The decedent, with date of birth June

1941 and date of death March 28, 2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N1412 Highway 64, Merrill,

All interested persons waived notice The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is October 6, 2023

5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 East Main Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office. Attorney Jason Krautkramer

Legals

Eckert & Krautkramer, LLC PO BOX 1185 Wausau, WI 54402-1185 715-842-0907 Bar No. 1092990 Published June 15, 22 & 29, 2023

DATE SIGNED May 31, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023 N 24
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

for An application administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with 09/04/1941 and date 12/03/2022, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin. mailing address of W8237 Highland Ave, Merrill, WI 54452.

3. All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is September 29, 2023.

5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 East Main Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office.

Attorney Julie H. Nommensen 15 S Lincoln St. Unit 2 Elkhorn, WI 53121 (262) 723-4700 Bar No. 1063765 Published June 8, 15 & 22, 2023

WNAXLP

Notice is hereby given that the following application has been filed with the City Clerk, Merrill, WI: Change of Agent on Class A Beer/Class

A Liquor License Christina Jaeger, Agent Krist Oil Company (Krist Food Mart #88) 105 S Center Ave Merrill, WI 54452

License Period: 06/26/2023-06/30/2023 and 07/01/2023-06/30/2024 Lori Anderson-Malm

Published June 22, 2023

WNAXLP

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Services:

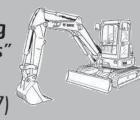
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- Skid Loader Work

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ATTENTION TOWN OF CORNING RESIDENCE **AND LAND OWNERS:**

Clean up day will be held on June 24th, 2023 at the Town Garage from 8 am to noon.

Items to be taken are: Resident pays Rim and Tire (Steel or Aluminum) \$6.00 each No tractor tires or large truck tires.

TVs, Computers, Monitors, Refrigerators (gas or electric)

\$30.00 each Air conditioners, Dehumidifiers, Freezers (chest or upright),

Refrigerators (electric or gas)

\$20.00 each

Free items: Batteries

Junk Tires

Dish Washers (with steel tub) Fuel Oil Tanks

Lawn Mowers Microwaves Farm Equipment Old metal Bed Frames Metal Patio sets Hot Water Heaters

Washer & dryers

No <u>Garbage will be accepted.</u> No Drain oil, fuel oil, hydraulic oil, paint, tractor tires or large truck tires.

Rick Hass, Town Clerk.

Please Recycle

Published June 15 & 22, 2023

WNAXLP

CAR SHOW from page 1

Of their inaugural event, "we even had a UTV there," Schultz said.

The event is "also a place that like-minded people can get together and talk about what makes them happy," Dornbrack said. "With the Post involving veterans and youth, this can be a common ground for them. They can talk about the vehicles, share ideas, and form a friendship."

"Cars, trucks, and bikes are also what some use to help cope with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and other anxiety," he said.

At the first event, "We did have a random vote for who had Best in Show in three classes," Schultz said.

The winners this time around included a 2007 Road Glide for Best in Show in the motorcycle class, a 1969 Ford Mustang in the car class, and a 1972 Chevy Cheyenne Special in the truck class. That truck was also voted Most Unique, Schultz said.

Bragging rights for the Best Paint Job at the show went to a hugger orange 1972 Chevy Nova, he said.

"We appreciated everyone that took time out of their



Tina L Scott photos.

day to come and look and bring their car [or other wheels] down," Schultz said.

While the initial event started out with a nice selection of vehicles on wheels, organizers see this as just the beginning.

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"I'm hoping to see this happening at least monthly, if not every other week," Dornbrack said. "As long as there is an interest, I feel it can run itself."

"The scouts and or veterans groups could also have a small fundraiser like root beer floats," he added.

"[It's] just an idea to get people together to enjoy their

passion," Dornbrack said. Watch the Northwoods Veterans Post ads in the Foto

News and the Northwoods Veterans Post Facebook page to see when the next Show Your Wheels event will be held.





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TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

"PG13" (2HR 24MIN) FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:30PM **SATURDAY:** 1:00, 3:45, 7:00 & 9:30PM SUNDAY: 1:00 3:45 & 7:00PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

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"PG13" (1HR 57MIN) FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:15PM SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:45, 7:00 & 9:15PM SUNDAY: 1:00. 3:45 & 7:00PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY



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FRIDAY NIGHTS

JUNE 30TH - SHRIMP Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM CLIP-N-SAVE

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& FRI. 4-8pm SATURDAY: Bar Open at 3pm

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FLORAL DEPARTMENTNew Full Service Floral Shop Available at County Market. Ask for Rose.

All Sales Good Through Tuesday, June 27th, 2023! Limits are in place on some items. Items based on availability. Sorry, no rainchecks.



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Announcements

7005

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maintenance

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Rummage Sales This Week

502 N. Center Ave. Thurs. June 22nd & Fri. June 23rd 9-5. Baby and boy clothing, new and used children's books, games, toys, records and more.

BIG SALE 805 Elm St., Wausau. SAT 6/24 8a-4p. Lots of tools, household, furniture, TV, lamps, holiday decor & much more!

Garage Sale, 8AM to 4 PM Thurs. June 22, Fri. June 23 & Sat. June 24. Rain or Shine. Fishing gear, hunting stuff, tools, dolls, archery gear, knives, antiques, collec-tables. N2466 Pit Road, Merrill. HWY 51 N - Exit K, Turn Left, Left on Pope, Right on Pit.

Garage Sale at W8271 Brook Dr., Merrill. Wed 12-5; Th & Fri 9-5. Kids clothes. Adult clothes, Backpacks, Jackets, Toys, Bikes, Fish tanks & so much more.



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7200

HUGE MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE! Computers, electronics figurines, furniture, self propelled lawn mower, tent, stroller, Christ mas, fishing and so much more Don't miss this one! Thurs. 6/22-Sat. 6/24 8:00-5 00. 1003 Cotey Drive, Merrill.

Irma Garage Sale Rain or Shine. Wed June 21, 3-6. Thurs. June 22, Fri. June 23 & Sat. June 24, 8-5 each day. 7 miles N on Pier St. (JJ) from Merrill P.O. Turn left on Olivotti Lake Rd. Go 1/2 mile to W5496 First house on the right. Lots of gently worn Am Eagle Levi's, Old Navy, blue jeans, sizes 2 thru size 12. Also lots of other Brand Name nice as new clothing, various sizes. Woman's Leather Harley Jacket size Small. Home decor, lots of kitchen, household items, shoes, purses, Christmas, crafts and men's tools. Like new 4 oak and leather kitchen swivel chairs, roll top desk and Much More! Always willing to negotiate prices! Garage is full of nice

Large 9 Family Sale: N1305 Deer Run Ave, Merrill. Everything you can imagine and more to furnish office or household, display stands, Large items, solid furni-ture, 7 Days a Week, 9am-5pm, weather permitting.

MERRILL: N2950 HWY 107 HUGE SALE inside Barn. Furni ture Jewelry Tools Antiques Toys, Garden, Household, Home decor, Misc. NO Early Sales CASH ONLY. 6/23 & 6/24 8A-3P

Merrill Sale, W6660 Joe Snow Rd. Thur & Fri, June 22 & 23, 9-5; Sat 24, 9-1, Rototiller, Drill press. Tools, Riding lawnmower, Outdoor games, Ladies & Teens girls, Men's Clothes, Cookbooks, Clothes, Household & Free items.

Merrill: Thursday, 6/22-Friday, 6/23, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Household Decor, Women's L-XL, Men's Toys, Precious Moments, Of Yarn. Priced To Sell Jeans. W6244 Joe Snow Rd

Tomahawk: Thursday, 6/22, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. Sale 6-22- 6/24 & 6/29-7/1 8am-5 pm Home consolidation sale. Everything must go! DEALS to be made. Collectible -D56 village, Beer Mirror, glass & prints., Furniture - tables, chairs, end table, bookcases & more Home goods, sporting goods, tools and much more. N11002 Terry Rd



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Estate Sales 7208

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JANE'S

vice or estatesales.org

Estate Sales & Services LLC

Rothschild: Friday, 6/23,12 p.m.-5 p.m., p.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, 6/24,9 Sunday, 6/25,10 a.m.-1 p.m. DOUBLE ESTATE HOUSE FULL!

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 or Facebook or estatesales.org for more info & photos. 315 Yawkey

Flea Markets 7210

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7272

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MERRILL

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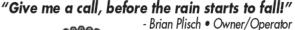
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Michler Crest construction project started June 16

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Traffic will be limited to local traffic only. There will be days when access will be limited.

Garbage will be picked up on the regular schedule.

For questions, please contact Dustin Bonack in the Merrill Street Department at 715.536.4222.

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Gleason Lions Club holds **Heritage Days**

EDITOR

On June 17 and 18, 2023, the Gleason Area Lions Club held their annual Heritage Days event on their Bradley Street grounds in Gleason.

Saturday the main event was the mud bogs, with lots of mud-slinging fun for all ages to to watch and food and drinks available on-site.

On Sunday, a combination of activities drew attendees, starting with a pancake breakfast and a Luther Memorial Church bake sale from 8 a.m. to noon.

Truck and tractor pulls began at 11 a.m. and other food and beverages were again available on the grounds. In the evening, DJ Ice provided music. Raffles also added to the

Attendees were welcome to camp on the grounds, and some visitors took advantage of the opportunity, staying for the entire weekend





As noon nears, the line for food inside the Lion's Club building started to get a big longer.

Left: Enjoying fries and a brat. and neighbors?



Above: With the green flag, a competitor is pulling strong in Sunday's Heritage Days tractor pulls.

Tina L Scott photos.

Right: Weighing in. The scale might look a bit rickety, but it's still doing the job!

Left: A row of tractors in bright colors makes a vibrant image.

Below: Spectators watch the track to catch all the pulling action on Sunday at Heritage







A vintage truck stands out from more late-year models.







Saturday, Lange 🏶 🛈 June 24th, 2023 uction & Realty 10:00 AM MOVING OUT OF STATE SALE Merrill Enrichment Center, 303 N. Sales St. Merrill See Website for Directions. WATCH FOR SIGNS! China Cabinet • Books • Recliner • Table Lamp • Highboy Dressers Shelf • Desk • Blankets • TV Stand • Piano • Crocks • Side Table Pictures • Mirrors • Night Table • Quilt • Antique Potty Chair • Bedroom Set Wood Desk ◆ Hoosier Cabinet ◆ Wooden Toboggan ◆ Christmas Decor Hammock ◆ Glider ◆ Pedal Boat and much, much more! \prime isit our website for pictures, details, terms & conditions a



Heritage Days had a play area set up for the kids.

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Merrill, WI

Friday, June 30th 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM Saturday, July 1st 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



Art with Mergets Mouthwatering Mayhem Friday afternoon/evening. (With a charge)

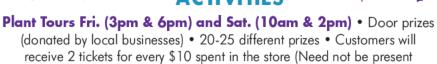
Fish fry • pulled pork • hot beef • Free water and soda • Free hot dogs for kids only • Samples of Sticks & sausage (Fri. & Sat.) • Samples of Bacon, breakfast sausages & links (Sat. 10am-12pm)



Melissa Baumann of Sunset Hollow Ranch Winery

Wine Tasting Friday 1-4pm and Saturday 11am-2pm Beer available for purchase Friday only





to win) • Ribbon cutting ceremony with Merrill Chamber of Commerce at 10:30am Friday, June 30th



Silver M Club introducing pavers to honor Silver M'ers at Jay Stadium

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

The Silver M Club in Merrill is introducing engraved pavers that will honor all Silver M'ers at Jay Stadium.

The project, which began at Jay Stadium at Merrill High School (MHS) last week, involves "replacing some deteriorating concrete squares with pavers that will eventually be engraved" with the names of each Silver M'er, Silver M member and project coordinator Jay Wicke said.

"Every Silver M'er will be recognized by the time the project is complete," he said.

SGS Environmental Contracting of Merrill donated machinery and labor to remove the existing concrete squares. Silver M'ers and other volunteers installed 1,750 plain brick pavers, including MHS Varsity Football Coach Jason Wadzinski and players Aiden Lonsdorf, Carson Brooks, Russell Gruetzmacher, Plautz, and Micah Plautz. Peterson Sand and Gravel, Dale Bergman and the Merrill Area Public Schools buildings and grounds crew, brick layer Dave Barney, and MHS Fab Lab Director Josh Zalewski also helped with the project.

The MHS Fab Lab will engrave the bricks, beginning when school starts and working on the bricks as they are able. There are 18 extra bricks to begin the initial engraving. When they are complete, volunteers will remove 18 plain bricks and replace them with the engraved bricks, and so on.

Ultimately, all Silver M'ers, both alive and deceased, will be represented with an engraved brick on the walkway, Wicke confirmed.

When asked the total current number of Silver M'ers, he said: "We currently have 857 members on our mailing list."

The Silver M Club was formed in Merrill in 1944. MHS Varsity Football players who letter in the sport go on to become Silver M'ers 25 years after they letter. The Club also recognizes Varsity lettermen at the 50-



From L to R standing on the new bricks at Jay Stadium that will be engraved with the names of Silver M Club members: Tom Barker, Silver M Club Treasurer; Jake Schlueter with SGS Environmental Contracting; Jay Wicke, Silver M Club member and project coordinator; Jay Schlueter with SGS Environmental Contracting; and Merrill Mayor Steve Hass. Tina L. Scott photo.

and 75-year marks. Players become Golden M'ers after 50 years and Diamond M'ers after 75 years.

When the new turf was installed, a silver M was placed at midfield and silver M's were placed on the field at the 25-yard lines along the sidelines. Silver M's are also located at the NW and NE corners of the outside fencing at the stadium, and golden/

diamond M's mark the 50-yard line, Wicke

The Silver M Club is fundraising to pay for the cost of the bricks. To date, \$1,900 has been raised, Silver M Club Treasurer Tom Barker said.

To donate toward the project, checks may be mailed to: Silver M Club bricks, PO Box 805, Merrill WI 54452.

Merrill Trap Team goes 7-2 for 2023 season

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

The Merrill Trap Team began their season competing amid snow and snowstorms in late March 2023 and wrapped up their competitive shooting season the end of May after which a number of Merrill shooters went on to compete at the Conference level.

During their nine-week season, the 2023 Trap Team, which is open to students in grades 6-12, included 56 registered athletes competing in one of four shooting divisions: Level (Intermediate Intermediate (Intermediate Advanced), Junior Varsity (JV), and Varsity. Five new coaches joined the lineup this year, for a total of 16 coaches who volunteered their time, knowledge, supervision, and training to the Merrill Trap Team in 2023.

This year's Merrill Varsity Trap Team was made up of 14 athletes competing at the highest level: Cooper Apprill, Lydia Ashbrenner, Louis Blum, Christian Candler, Ian Dreikosen, Kati Drury, Lacey Frisch, Landon Hipke, Bobby Hoff, Nicholas Kriegel, Aidan Malzahn, Ben Schneider, Matthew Steffen, and Jake Walsh.

Shooting on Tuesday evenings from 4-7 p.m. on their "home field" at the Lincoln Gun Club, Merrill's results and scores were entered, and athletes then waited to learn how their competitors would score when they shot at their locations, since opposing teams frequently shoot on different days of the week. All scoring was done virtually and entered online.

During the season, the Merrill Trap Team competed against teams from Mosinee, Lakeland, Wausau, Tomahawk, SPASH, Northland, Rhinelander, Medford, and Antigo.

In overall season results, the Merrill Varsity Trap Team finished 7-2. JV and Intermediate Advanced also each finished 7-2, and Intermediate Entry shooters finished their season 5-4.

Four Merrill athletes finished in the top five for the entire Conference, including Varsity shooters Bobby Hoff (second place, missing first place by one bird) and Landon Hipke (fifth place) and JV shooters Christopher Holz (first place) and Jameson Wyland (fifth place)

Three female shooters from Merrill also ranked in the top five female shooters in the Conference, including Varsity shooters Lacey Frisch (second place) and Lydia Ashbrenner (fifth place) and Intermediate Advanced shooter Maria Ashbrenner (second place).

Week-by-week Varsity results for the 2023 Trap Shooting season:

Week 1: Merrill Bluejays won against Rhinelander High School with a team score of 110-104.

Week 2: Merrill Bluejays lost to Mosinee Trap Team with a score of 113-117.

Week 3: Merrill Bluejays won against Lakeland Union High School with a score

Week 4: Merrill Bluejays won against Tomahawk Claybusters with a score of 118-

Week 5: Merrill Bluejays won against Antigo Red Robins with a score of 122-112.

Week 6: Merrill Bluejays lost to SPASH Shooting Club with a score of 113-118.

Week 7: Merrill Bluejays won against Northland Pines Eagles with a score of 123-

Week 8: Merrill Bluejays won against Medford Area Trap Club with a score of 116-111.

Week 9: Merrill Bluejays won against Wausau Skeet and Trap with a score of 120-

2023 Merrill Summer **Baseball Schedule**

Babe Ruth 7th Grade (Blue)			
Tues. June 27	Wausau Bone & Joint	Away	6:00 p.m.
Thurs. June 29	Mosinee Purple	Away	6:00 p.m.
Babe Ruth 8th Grade (White)			
There are no scheduled events for this week.			
Babe Ruth 8th Grade (Red)			
Wed. June 28	Athletic Park	Athletic	6:00 p.m.
Junior Legion			
Fri. June 23	Stevens Point (DH)	MARC	5:30 p.m.
Mon. June 26	Wausau	MARC	5:00 p.m.
Tues. June 27	Rib Lake (DH)	Athletic	6:00 p.m.
Thurs. June 29	Marshfield	Away	5:00 p.m.
Post 46			
Thurs. June 22	WI Rapids Lincoln	Away	7:00 p.m.
Mon. June 26	Wausau	Athletic	8:00 p.m.
Tues. June 27	DC Everest	Away	7:00 p.m.
Thurs. June 29	Marshfield	Away	8:00 p.m.
Merrill Rangers			
Sun. June 25	Whittlesey	Athletic	1:30 p.m.
Tues. June 27	WI Rapids	Away	7:00 p.m.

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



PROTECTING THE GRE ∕\TER GOOD'



DNR reminds bikers to purchase state trail pass

The Wisconsin Department of Natural (DNR) reminds outdoor Resources recreators that 2023 state trail passes are available and may be required when exploring Wisconsin's state trails.

A state trail pass is required for all people age 16 or older biking, in-line skating, horseback riding, or off-highway motorcycling on specific state trails. A state trail pass is not required for walking

Trails requiring a pass are in state parks, forests, and recreation areas, in addition to stand-alone state trails. Signs are posted at trailheads on the trails that require a state trail pass. County and local trails in Wisconsin may have their own fees, and state trail passes are not valid at those locations.

During a recent enforcement campaign, DNR wardens talked with 773 bikers on state trails and reminded more than 300 to purchase a pass.

Annual trail passes are \$25 for residents and non-residents. A \$5 state trail day pass is also available.

State trail passes are available only at individual properties, licensed vendors, or self-registration stations. Trail fee revenues are used for maintaining and operating state tralls and tralls in state parks, forests, and recreation areas. Collecting these fees allows the DNR to maintain the trails and deal with erosion, trash removal, fix cracks and potholes to ensure safe surfaces, trim brush, and remove fallen trees.

A 2023 state park and forest annual vehicle admission sticker or a day pass for admission to parks, forests, and recreation areas may be required for entry in addition to the state trail pass.

For more information on Wisconsin state trail passes, visit the DNR state trail pass



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