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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023 ■ VOLUME 69, ISSUE 41

Vehicle struck by gunfire on **US Hwy. 51**

Pursuit followed, suspect arrested, only minor injuries reported

The Marathon County Sheriff's Office is investigating an incident that occurred late evening on Friday, Oct. 6, 2023, in which a vehicle traveling northbound on US Hwy. 51 near the Village of Maine was struck by gunfire. The suspect is in custody following a pursuit spanning Marathon and Lincoln Counties. As a result of the incident, the vehicle's occupants were struck by gunfire, and a Lincoln County Deputy suffered minor injuries. This incident was isolated, and there is no ongoing threat to the community.

The Marathon County 911 Dispatch Center received a call at 8:44 p.m. from an individual traveling northbound on US 51 near Cty. Hwy. WW in the Village of Maine. The caller reported that they and their vehicle were struck by gunfire

See GUNFIRE page 6



Merrill Homecoming 2

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

The students and staff at Merrill High School (MHS) had a fun-filled Homecoming 2023 last week with activities like dress-up days throughout the week and activities to build Bluejay spirit before the football game and dance on Saturday.

Early in the week, the Senior Girls won the Powder Puff Football Game against the Junior Girls, and Katy Glaze was crowned Homecoming Queen 2023.

On a cold morning Friday the Bluejay Cross Country Team was up extra early for the Run the Ball event. The route for the event changed this year. "The Bluejay Cross Country team ran the Homecoming ball around the Hodag's football field and started their run at the intersection of Cty. Rd. J and Cty. Rd. H near the very small town of Bavaria," MHS Varsity Head Cross Country Coach Alyssa Swan said. The route then followed Hwy. H to Hwy. C and Hwy. C to Hwy. G, a total distance of 25.7 miles.

"Each athlete ran with the ball in

their possession for at least a mile and half, with most athletes running well over 3-4 miles," she said. "Our athletes ran through the cold and rain and, when we arrived at MHS, our Cross Country Seniors delivered the ball to Head Coach Wadzinski to help 'kick off' the beginning of the Homecoming Assembly!"

The assembly and then Friday night's traditional bonfire helped students and players get "fired up" and

See **HOMECOMING**

page 2

MICROCHIP & RABIES CLINIC Saturday, Oct. 14th from 9-11am at

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2023 History Hunt draws Sunflower Seeds participants from three states only \$2599 for 50 lb. bags. The Merrill Historical Society 2023 History Hunt - On Location with Bill

Rebane – was held on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023, and coordinators say it was a fun and successful day.

Eleven teams participated in the Hunt, with creative names to mesh with the theme of this year's event: B Movie Squad, Rebane's Reelz, Event Horizons, Doering Gang, PB&J, Blood Monster, The 3 Cs, Raabe Team, Alpha Coincidence, Rebane A-Go Go, and Local Extras.

In addition to several local teams, the event also drew teams from Stevens Point, Chicago, and Minneapolis. Director Bill Rebane has quite a following, organizers said.

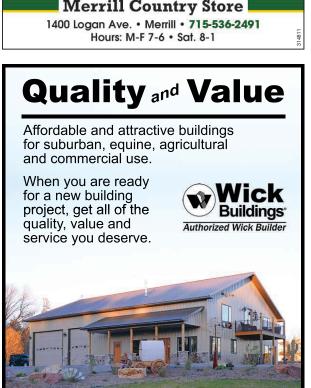
The teams went all over Lincoln County, collecting history and finding some of the shooting locations for Bill Rebane's films.

Event coordinators also want to

See **HUNT** page 7



The B Movie Squad team in Gleason Community Club Park, the location where the Giant Spider was filmed Photo courtesy of Merrill Historical Society.



For more information contact

Willie Kimmons

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HOMECOMING from page 1

warmed up for more fun and excitement to come.

Saturday, Homecoming traditional Parade added to the anticipation of the big Homecoming Football Game against Rhinelander. Engery was high, and the MHS Bluejay Marching Band and Color Guard pumped up the crowd and put on a great performance. And we can't forget the tribute to Merrill's new Silver M'ers ... always a highlight of Homecoming for the Merrill community.

Bluejays vs. Hodags

Game time meant game on! The Merrill Bluejays were ready to battle the Rhinelander Hodags and

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it was a battle to the end as the Bluejays fought to get a foothold and move the ball down the field. The first quarter finished scoreless for both teams, but during the second quarter Rhinelander scored a touchdown and made the kick to put seven points on the scoreboard.

"The Bluejays outgained the Hodags in total yards of offense led by Callum Wheeler on the ground," Merrill Varsity Football Coach Jason Wadzinski said.

But ... "Turnovers ended up being Merrill's achilles heel, and became too much to overcome," he said.

The entire second half of the game remained scoreless as neither team was able to get the ball into the end zone to score. "The

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Rhinelander Hodags won a defensive battle on Saturday 7-0," Wadzinski said.

"I'd like to thank a great crowd who came out to honor the district and the Silver M inductees," he added.

Dance the night away

After the game, it was time to head home, dust off the defeat, and get ready for the dance. The ladies brought some glamour to the occasion, and more than just the tiaras sparkled as the couples took to the dance floor for the traditional Homecoming Dance.

Maybe the team didn't get the big win this year, but all-in-all, Homecoming 2023 was a lot of fun for all those who took part, and Merrill's Bluejay Pride and school spirit shone bright in Merrill.



Bluejay Pride is soaring high during Homecoming Week.



2023 Homecoming Queen and Princesses Saturday at the Homecoming Football Game. Joseph Frederick photos.



Hot coffee, cozy blankets, good friends, and a roaring Homecoming 2023 bonfire make for a perfect October evening

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Right: A Bluejay has the ball, but there's a Hodag hanging on with all he's got!





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Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

Oct. 12 - Merrill Chamber's Annual **Celebration & Awards**

Oct. 12 - Fromm Bros. **Speakeasy**

Oct. 13 - The Cult of 13 at the Haunted Sawmill

Oct. 13 - Flash Light **Friday**

Oct. 14 - The Sawmill Ball at the Haunted Sawmill

Oct. 14 - Merrill Area Farmer's Market

Oct. 14 - Grampa's Farm

Oct. 14 - Saturday Corn

Maze

Oct. 15 - Sunday Corn Maze

Oct. 15 - Grampa's Farm

See AREA **EVENTS** page 6

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:

Food For Kids is a program providing weekend meals for qualifying Merrill students. It was started in 2014 as an "act of faith" by Rev. Sue and Don Christian and, since 2017, has been administered by a committee from St. Stephens UCC with tremendous support from faithful individuals and organizations within the Merrill community.

The growth of the program has been dramatic. By the end of the 2022-23 school year, a total of 35,780 weekend meals were provided to 303 qualifying students at a total cost of \$57,611.45--a lot of money by any standard. We assume the costs will be similar this year.

Financial support for the Food For Kids program has always depended on contributions from individuals, community groups, and business sponsorships, and an annual fundraising event by the Food For Kids committee. This year's event is a "Love Your Neighbor" Fundraising Banquet being held on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023, from 4 p.m. at Les & Jim's in Merrill. Tickets include dinner, two drink tickets, and entry into the door prize and can be purchased from Food For Kids committee members and at Dave's County Market, Park City Credit Union, and St. Stephens Church. The success for this year's Food For Kids program depends entirely upon it. Thank you for your help ... hope



Rheanna Schultz of Merrill shot this 254 lb. black bear in Lincoln County on October 7, 2023. The bear was taken Submitted photo.

Solving the mystery of the early morning sirens

About a week ago some Merrill residents wakened abruptly by the blasting of City warning sirens. Here's the scoop from Merrill Police Chief Corey Bennett: "Last night the old east (County garage) and west (former West Side FD) sirens activated without any input from our siren controls," he said. "Officers on duty attempted to deactivate them at our controls but ultimately had to make entry to facilities and manually shut off the power to the sirens."

"Once those systems were shut down, some measurements were taken of the phone lines used to trigger them," Bennett "It was discovered for an unknown reason, a triggering voltage was applied to those lines from an unknown outside source. Those voltages have increased as of the time of this post and are confirmed by our electrician. This is not the first time phone lines have caused a malfunction in the system with these sirens. Usually it is an outage vs. an activation."

"We have newer sirens on both the east and west sides which are triggered differently, triggered securely," he said. "We kept the old sirens online for redundancy in an actual emergency because more is better when it counts.

> See **SIRENS** page 6

to see you there.

- Sincerely, Bill Weber FFK Committee Member Irma, Wis.

TO THE EDITOR:

The political divide in the United States has deepened significantly over recent decades, creating a chasm increasingly difficult to bridge. This schism involves a complex web of factors, including cultural, social, economic, and ideological elements.

One key driver of this divide is that people increasingly identify with their political affiliations as part of their core identity. This leads to a tribalistic mentality, where individuals are more likely to engage with and trust those who share their political beliefs while demonizing those on the other side.

Media fragmentation exacerbates the issue. The advent of cable news, social media, and online echo chambers means people can curate their information sources to align with their pre-existing beliefs. This has created separate realities, where people are exposed to vastly different narratives and facts, making it difficult to find common

Economic disparity also factors in. As income inequality grows, so too the political divide. Many Americans feel

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

*Letters must be 250 words or less. (There will be no exceptions to this. Any letter longer than 250 words will not be printed.) *The writer must include their full name, complete address, and a

phone number where he/she can be easily reached for verification. Phone numbers and street addresses will not be published, but will be used for verification purposes, if necessary. Letters must be signed and the name, city, and state will be printed. Letters may be edited for style, grammar, and length. Form letters

or those we determine to be libelous or slanderous will not be accepted. Any letter deemed derogatory, inflammatory, or involving vulgar language will not be published. We reserve all rights to reject material submitted to this publication.

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

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

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

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Celebrating on the Road

Dear Reader,

I have been on the road for the last week in Spain hiking the Camino (the Way), which is a religious pilgrimage

that travelers have followed for centuries in honor of St. James. I walked part of it in 2015 and got the Certificate in Santiago de Compostela that indicates completion of 100 kilometers. This year I'm a little older but still have the hardiness of a native Wisconsinite.

The sights and sounds have had an impact on me; but even

more so, the people I've met have touched my heart.

Pilgrims gather from all over the world to walk the Camino, and each has a story to tell. I've been listening to wayfarers share their experiences, and it's magical to witness the growth and unfolding that wreathes through each person's life. When you look past our hats, jackets, and costumes and dig into what we're made of, it's a positive force of laughter, fun, and the joy of life, of being here – or wherever! – and sharing the celebration.

PATRICK J. WOOD Publisher

the political system primarily serves the interests of the wealthy and corporations, leading to distrust in government institutions.

Furthermore, gerrymandering and the winner-takesall electoral system perpetuate the divide, reinforcing the dominance of the two major parties and reducing the incentive for compromise.

To bridge this divide, it's essential to promote dialogue, media literacy, and education that encourages critical thinking. Reforming the electoral system to encourage third-party participation and addressing economic inequalities are also crucial steps towards a less polarized political landscape. However, achieving unity will be an ongoing challenge that requires a collective effort from all Americans.

> Nickolas Bell Merrill, Wis.



Hours: Mon.-Wed. 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Thursday; Fri. 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

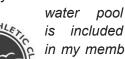
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Any questions call 715-612-1728 Or 715-453-5809 the days of the event



Patrick J. Wood Publisher publisher@mmclocal.com

Tim Schreiber

General Manager tschreiber@mmclocal.com

Rick Argall Circulation Manager Sue Schroeder

Graphic Designer

Tina L. Scott Editor tscott@mmclocal.com

Dinah Schneider Sales Consultant

dschneider@mmclocal.com Jennifer Gartmann Sales Consultant

igartmann@mmclocal.com

Heidi Schult Front Office Manager/CSR Heidi Griebel

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| OBITUARIES |



Barbara L. Brose, 87, of Merrill, passed away Saturday October 7, 2023, at Bell Tower Residence, Merrill.

Barbara was born October 7 1936, in the State of Washington, daughter of the Ralph late and Reba Nervik. (Newgord) married LeRoy Brose on June 29, 1958. He preceded her in death on May 30, 2015 Barbara and her husband were the owners/operators of J.W Perry Inc., a wholesale floral

distributorship with locations in several states. They also owned/operated Brose's Flower Center in Merrill. Barbara enjoyed playing the piano golfing, traveling, playing bridge and cribbage, and shopping. She was also an excellent seamstress. Above all, Barbara enjoyed spending time with her family.

Survivors include her daughters, Sondra Engel of Merrill and Holly Brose-Selissen of Tomahawk; three sons, Frank (Barb) Brose of Tomahawk, Greg Brose of West Bend, and Don (Angie) Brose of Tomahawk; sixteen grandchildren Austin, Sierra, Kerry, Emily, Nicholas, LeRoy, Joe, Jake, Roddy, Roseanne, Carrie, Kayla, Brooke, Calla, Jaxsen, and Meadow; and several great-grandchildren. Barb was preceded in death by her husband, LeRoy Brose; parents, Ralph and Reba Nervik; and siblings, Betty Ann Brose Ralph Nervik, and John Nervik.

The funeral service will take place at 11:00 A.M., Saturday October 14, 2023, in the Assisi Hall at Bell Tower Residence, Merrill. Please use the north parking lot and the north entrance to the Assisi Hall. Entombment will follow in Merrill Memorial Park Mausoleum, Merrill. Visitation will be from 4:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. Friday, October 13, 2023 at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill.

Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made a www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Elbridge 'Al' H. Curtis, 94 of Merrill, passed away Sunday, October 8, 2023, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Al was born January 25, 1929, in Wisconsin, son of the late Hilton and Helen (Bull) Curtis. He married Marlene Thompson on April 23, 1953, in Poynette. She preceded him in death on December 2, 2020. Al was a teacher and taught at Merrill High School for many years. He was the director of the Merrill School Forest, where he was famous for making

green pancakes. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church. Al was a conservationist, environmentalist, and a social activist. He publicly advocated for Pine Crest Nursing Home and was a published author. Al enjoyed hunting in Vilas County, fishing in Lake Superior, trapping, camping, and traveling, especially to Alaska.

Al is survived by his sons, Dennis Curtis of Merrill and

Doug Curtis of Gleason; grandchildren, Andrew Curtis of Medford and Sarah Matthias of Merrill; great grandchildren, Skyler, Isabell, Mackenzie, and Brady; sister, Eleanor Walters; and brother, Hugh Curtis. Al was preceded in death by his wife, Marlene Curtis; and parents, Hilton and Helen Curtis.

The funeral service for Al will be at 4:00 PM Saturday October 14, 2023, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill The Rev. Jess Wakefield will officiate. Visitation will begin at 2:00 PM Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will take place at 3:00 PM Sunday, October 15, 2023, at Rocky Run Cemetery, Rio, Wisconsin.

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





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Sally Ann Tupa, age 80, of Wisconsin passed Merrill, away on Saturday, October 7. 2023 with her family by her side at Wausau Manor in Wausau, Wisconsin. She was born on March 4, 1943 to the late Warre (Cartwright) Heages (Cartwright) Wisconsin. Merril late Warren and Delores Hedges Oshkosh, Wisconsin. She graduated from Merrill High School in 1961. Sally met the love of her life, Kenneth Tupa Sr. and were married on August 5, 1961 at Burean

Baptist Church in Tomahawk They were married for 62 wonderful years.

Sally was a homemaker and worked as a crossing guard from 1990 to 1998 at Franklin School which she enjoyed very much. Her and Ken enjoyed going for boat rides together and fishing. Sally loved to go support her husband in the ice drags as well. She loved the Brewers and Packers and going to garage sales.

She was often called "Silly Sally" for her sense of humor She had a beautiful personality who got along with just about everybody. She adored animals, was a great cook and sewed just about everything for her kids and grandkids including Halloween costumes and outfits that they would wear to school. She also enjoyed quilting and going on camping trips with the family to the Phillips and Minocqua

Sally is survived by her husband, Ken Tupa Sr., children: Lora (Dave Sr.) Reichelt, and Ken (Tiffany) Tupa Jr., grandchildren: David (Nicole) Reichelt Jr., and Jason (Samantha) Reichelt, great-grandchildren: Jackson and Louis Reichelt, and siblings: Darlene Cigel, Charles Hedges, and Richard Hedges. She was preceded in death by her parents Warren and Delores Hedges.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, October 13, 2023 at 11:00 am at Waid Funeral Home in Merrill. Rev. Scott Gustafson will officiate. A visitation will be held from 9:00 am until the time of service also at the funeral home. Interment will take place at Merrill Memorial Park

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lincoln County Humane Society in loving memory of Sally.

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.



"Jon" Mark Jonathan 59 Zwicky, Wisconsin, formerly of Merrill and Ashland WI, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 Jon was born on January 26, 1964, to Jack Zwicky and Joan Mulhollon. He graduated from Merrill Sr. High School in 1982 where he met the love of his life Patience "Pati" Zwicky. They were united in Marriage at Trinity Lutheran Church Merrill on August 2, 1986 They were blessed with three

children.

In high school Jon was a member of Merrill Marching Jay's and Jazz band where he played the Tenor Sax. He also enjoyed playing the bass guitar in his garage band "Dog's Breakfast Blues." Jon was an avid vehicle enthusiast and loved working on anything with a motor. He was a member of the Street Machine's Unlimited car club in the 1980's, proudly displaying his 1971 Mach 1 Mustang whenever possible. He and Pati owned and operated Jon's Cruiz Inn Tavern in Merrill in the mid 80's where many great memories were made. He enjoyed four wheeling, snowmobiling, and collecting hot wheels. One of his favorite past times was watching the ships come into the harbor on Lake Superior near his home in Ashland. He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren. His face lit up when they were near. Jon's family will remember him as a kind

and patient person who enjoyed making others smile.

Jon is survived by his sons: Josh (Rachel) Zwicky Iron River, WI, Travis (Errika) Zwicky, Clara City, MN, and Cameron Zwicky Beloit, WI; grandchildren: Evan Zwicky, Vallerie Zwicky, Oliver Zwicky, and Sullivan Zwicky; sister Julie Zwicky; sister-in-law, Julie (Bruce) Weber; nephew Chris Weber; and nieces Kaylyn Weber and Rachel (Andy

He was preceded in death by his wife Pati Zwicky; Mother Joan Mulhollon; Father Jack Zwicky; parents in-law Emil and Carol Rosenau. A Celebration of Life for Jon will be held on October 15th, 2023, from 1-4 p.m. at the Cosmo Hall, 805 E Main Street, Merrill, WI. Roth Family Cremation Center Viroqua WI is assisting the family.

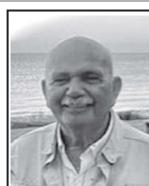
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Dewey R. Zentner, age 81, died peace-fully at St Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton. With his multi-

ple surgeries and hospitaliza tions, his nine lives have now resulted in his eternal homego ing. Dewey was born the son of Ralph and Emma (Hulke) Zentner on July 20, 1942, in Merrill, WI. Dewey grew up in Merrill attending Lincoln grade school and Merrill High School.

He met the love of his life, June Tesky, the daughter of Richard and Mildred (Bartsch) Tesky while attending Jr. high and the two dated while in high school. June tells the story of knowing she would marry Dewey from the age of seventeen, they were married on June 30, 1962, at St. John Lutheran Church. They celebrated their 61st wedding an niversary in 2023.

Dewey enlisted in the Marine Corp in 1966 and served in

the CAC Unit for 13 months during the Vietnam War. Following his deployment with the Marines, Dewey and June settled in Wausau and they spent 55 years there before moving to Appleton in 2022 to be near their daughter and her family. Dew was employed at The House of Merrill, Green Bay Packaging, Marmet Corp and Modu-line Windows prior to retiring in 2002.

Dewey and June had one daughter, Darci (Craig) Gerrits and were blessed with three granddaughters Jaida (Alex Ploor), Delainey and Maitea. Dew was the most loving and thoughtful man who was totally devoted to his family. He was known for his quick wit, and his ability to joke and tease at any moment.

Dewey enjoyed hunting, trap shooting with Dave Zibton, going to Eric "Ace" (I'll take the toe but not the leg!) Oestreich's hunting cabin in New Wood and spending time at Jill & Craig's cabin in Tomahawk as well as going to the casino with cousin Al "Doodie" & Joy Hulke for a run at the leprechaun game.

He is survived by his wife June, daughter Darci (Craig) Gerrits; granddaughters Jaida (Alex Ploor), Delainey and Maitea; sister-in-law Joan Schmidt; nephew & nieces: Tom (Lynn), Jeff (Deb), and Mike (Linda) Zentner, Jim (Kathy) Schmidt, Jamey (Butch) Maki, and Jill (Craig) Haupt. Preceding him in passing are his parents, June's parents, brother Don who was killed in Korea, brother Dale (Audrey) and brother-in-law Jim.

The family would like to extend its appreciation to the staff at Ascension St. Elizabeth, especially Dr. Misty Johnson and Erin Davidson, PA of Heart and Vascular for the many caring gestures and excellent care provided to Dew during his vari ous stays this summer and also to Pastor Dan Johnston from Bethany Lutheran Church, Appleton.

A funeral service for Dewey took place on Wednesday October 4, 2023, at 12:00pm at Bethany Lutheran Church 530 West Parkway Blvd, Appleton. Friends and family gath ered at the church from 10:00am until the service began Dewey will be laid to rest at Central Wisconsin Veteran's Cemetery, King.

In Dewey's words: It's Fine, I'm Fine, Everything is Fine...



Virginia Estelle Bergman, age 88, of Parish, WI, passed away on Tuesday, October 3 2023. She was born on October 14, 1934 in the town of Enterprise, WI, and was the daughter to the late Mike E. and Cora E. (Pond) Robison. Virginia attended and graduated from high school in Elcho WI. She met the love of her life, LaVerne Frederick Bergman, and the two exchanged marriage vows on June 15, 1957 in Antigo, WI. Sadly, he preceded her in death

on July 27, 2009.

Virginia enjoyed her work farming, whether it was chicken veal or dairy cows, she always gave it her best. She was a proud member of the AMPI Women's Group and enjoyed that comradery. Virginia was also a past secretary of the ladies aid at church and president of the Worthwhile Women. She looked forward to traveling and would do so every chance she had. Virginia was a skilled and talented seamstress and worked for Lindy Cleaners in Rhinelander for some time. She loved animals, dog-sitting and seeing all of the wildlife in her yard, she would feed them all! Virginia was a dedicated volunteer at Bethesda for 20 years, and would often have "bonus" kids around. She was passionate about giving back to others. She was a member at Luther Memorial Church in Gleason, and was very active in the church. Her faith and relationship with God were very important to her. Virginia will be sadly missed, but never forgotten.

Virginia is survived by her children: Frederick Bergman of Parish, WI, Christine Sackett of Rhinelander, WI and Calvin (Linda) Bergman of Laughlin, NV, granddaughter: Casandra Rae (Joe) Meirhofer of Rhinelander, WI, grandson: Robert Sackett Jr. of San Diego, CA, great grandchildren: Miles Sackett, Laura Sackett and Paydn, Monty and Celina Meirhofer, and sister: Joyce Helser of Pelican Lake, WI. She was preceded in death by her husband, son-in-law: Robert Sackett, brothers: Wilbur (Sylvia) Robison and Leon (Shirley) Robison and brother-in-law: Rudy Helser.

A visitation for Virginia was held on Tuesday, October 10 2023, at Luther Memorial Church in Gleason from 9:00am until 11:00am, with the memorial service following. Pastor Greg Laska will officiated.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Virginia's name may be directed to either the Luther Memorial Church, Gleason or the Wild Instincts Organization (http://wildinstinctsrehab.

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.

| OBITUARIES |



Joan Louise Kobielus, 92, of Merrill, Wisconsin and Sun City, Arizona, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on October 3rd, 2023 at her winter home in Sun City

A Celebration of Life will be held at 10 am, Saturday October 14th at White Pine Pavilion in Bloomer, Wis consin. Visitation will be from 10-11am with a Celebration Service at 11am. Burial will follow at Auburn Cemetery with lunch at White Pine

Pavilion. Arrangements are being handled by Olson Funera

Home of Bloomer, Wisconsin.

Joan was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin to Arthur W. and Freda A. (Stelter) Franz on February 8, 1931. She and her younger sister Barbara lived in and attended school in Bloomer, Wisconsin. Joan graduated from the University of Wisconsin - Madison in 1953 with a Bachelor of Science in Education/Biology. Joan was a member of Sigma Kappa Sorority at UW-Madison and a member of the UW

Dolphins Synchronized Swim Team.

Joan met the love of her life, Walter George Kobielus during a college work summer at Everett's Resort in Eagle River, WI. Joan and Walt married on September 5, 1953 in Madison. After brief stays in Portage, Ladysmith and Park Falls, Walt's profession as a pharmacist brought the family to

warm and welcoming Merrill.

Walt unexpectedly passed away in October 1962, leaving 31-year-old Joan to support four young children. Facing a world of uncertainty during a period when few womer worked outside the home, Joan picked herself up, dusted herself off and began working for the Merrill Area Public School (MAPS) system as a substitute teacher. In her fierce dedication to providing the best she could for her children (eventually putting all four children through college), Joan began teaching full-time. She studied in summers and in her 'free-time" to earn a Masters Degree in Education. Mrs Kobielus became one of the most highly-regarded teachers in the MAPS system during her three decades-long career She wore many hats, including that of debate coach. Mrs. K was best known for being a favorite and best loved "English teacher." Mrs. K strongly believed in every student and encouraged the development of their unique capabilities and

Joan K. loved to travel. She traveled the United States and the world extensively. When she wasn't going to school to further her own education, she took every opportunity to travel the country with her family. She almost always drove because "you can't easily learn about a place if you fly over it." She managed to cover the country - East to West and North to South, stopping at every...yes, EVERY educational Historical Marker, creating precious memories for all along

Joan adored Disney World, a favorite destination for her to take her off-spring. They visited dozens of times over the years. As recently as December, 2018, "Grandma Jo" hosted a week-long family Christmas vacation in Disney World that was attended by every single one of her kids, grandkids, and

great-grandchildren (23 happy souls in all).

Joan had many friends. She was an active member of multiple bridge clubs in Merrill and Sun City, Arizona; and in the Laureate Rho Chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority in Merrill. She honed artistic capabilities and creative skills with fellow craft club members in Wisconsin and Arizona creating art and gifts with her knitting, hardanger embroidery, needlepoint, zipper-art and other crafting.

She was involved in Community Theater, loved swimming water skiing and snow skiing. She supported international education, hosting an AFS exchange student from Turkey and sending two daughters to Japan and Germany on the

Joan was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Merrill and volunteered at Holy Cross Hospital Gift Store. In her down time, she loved to read.

Joan was preceded in death by husband, Walter Kobielus parents, Arthur and Freda (Stelter) Franz, baby brother Richard Franz, sister Barbara Lederer and brother-in-law Kenneth Lederer.

(Joan) is survived by her children: Pamela Kobielus of Sun City, AZ; Rebecca Deignan (Christopher) of Cary, IL; Susan Casper (Timothy) of Arlington Heights, IL, and John Kobielus (Mary Beth) of Merrill, WI.

Her Grandchildren, Patricia Schroeder (John), Jamie Deignan, Kimberly Kane (Sean), Alexandra Gregory (David), Elizabeth Casper, Jax Kobielus and Timothy will miss Grandma Io dearly

Great-Grandma Jo loved her 10 great-grandchildren: Colette and Calvin Schoeder; Owen & Morgan Deignan; Nolan Nora and Eli Kane; Hudson and Coraline Gregory, and Lucas Deignan plus her 12 nieces/nephews; and 13 great nieces/nephews.

Also mourning "Mom" is Joan's hosted AFS exchange student (1977-1978) son Can Verdi of Istanbul, Turkey who attended Merrill Senior High School with her high-school age children.

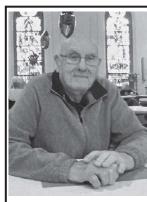
Special friends and loved ones left behind include Kathy Bastian, Christina Deignan, Kaitlynn Smolen and Lois Wood. AFS students' "grandchildren" and their families in Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and Thailand were treasured people in her life. All are considered family.

Friends and neighbors in Merrill, WI and Sun City and elsewhere will miss her.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to suppor the many superior education programs & opportunities offered by Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) or by the T.B. Scott Library's Genealogy & Local History Room; or to the American Kidney Fund.

The family wishes to extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Donald Evans (ret.), Dr. Hitpreet Sanghera, and Dr. Joseph Babiarz (ret.).

Check us out online! merrillfotonews.com



Edward Donald Strasser, 93 a resident of Bell Tower Residence, Merrill, Wisconsin, passed away Monday, October 2, 2023, under the care of hospice services at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

He was born January 21 1930, in Merrill, son of the late Albert and Pauline (Tobalski) Strasser. He married Barbara Wolff at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Merrill on November 25, 1950. They had celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary shortly before she

passed away on May 24, 2011. Edward worked at Weinbrenner Shoe Company for 40 years and then worked at Semco for 10 years. He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church all his life and looked forward to the Lenten fish fry's. Edward took pride in making various wood working projects for family and occasionally donating things he made for benefits. He enjoyed the time he was at Bell Tower Residence playing Bingo, cribbage, Sheepshead, men's club, reading books on his Kindle, social hour, attending church services, and many other activities and celebrations. Edward loved spending time with his family and enjoyed sharing his love for licorice, Kit-Kats, and marshmallow Easter eggs

Survivors include his children, Chris (Mark) Gano, Allan (Cheryl) Strasser, Ron Strasser, Laurel (Steve) Stine, Sally (Thomas) Schmidt, Karen (Randy) Wojciechowski, Teresa (Mike) Schreiber, Jill (Bob) Brady, and Patricia Meyer, all of Merrill; 24 grandchildren, Carrie, Steve, Leah, Jennifer, Kelly, Kristopher, Jodie, William, Joel, Melissa, Tyler, Adam, Jake, Robin, Ryan, Katie, Michael, Josh, Ashley, Lucus, Jordan, Amanda, Kimberly, and Jesse; 44 great-grandchildren; 8 step grandchildren; 17 step great-grandchildren; 2 step great-grandchildren; 2 step great-grandchildren; 2 step great-grandchildren; 3 step great-grandchildren; 4 step great-grandchildren; 4 step great-grandchildren; 4 step great-grandchildren; 5 step great-grandchildren; 6 step great-grandchi dren; 2 step great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and

In addition to his wife and parents, Edward was preceded in death by his siblings, Walter (Agnes) Strasser, Albert Strasser Jr., Raymond (Regina) Strasser, Joseph (Margie) Strasser, George (Norma) Strasser, Lawrence (Ethel Strasser, Dorothy (Prosper) Koppa, Marie (Bill) Leopold Orville 'Bud' (Priscilla 'Pat') Strasser, and infant Lucille Strasser; and his wife's siblings.

The Mass of Christian Burial took place at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Merrill. Father Mariadas Vallabhaneni presided. The burial took place in Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery, Mer rill. Visitation was from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Monday October 9, 2023, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Merrill, or Bell Tower Residence

Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Robert "Bob" J. Lee, Sr., age 88, of Tomahawk, WI, passed away on Tuesday, October 3 2023, at Tomahawk Health Services under the care of Compassus Hospice. Bob was born on July 13, 1935, in Downers Grove, IL, to the late Robert E. and Dorothy (Kerstin) Lee.

Bob graduated from Downers Grove High School in 1954 and in 1955, he married his school sweetheart Beverly Jankowski. In 1969 he moved his family to Tomahawk where he joined the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department. After 26 years, he

retired as Chief Deputy. Bob was a member of the Tomahawk School Board for many years and also served on the Tomahawk City Council and the Tomahawk Police and Fire Commission. He was a member of the Lincoln County Board of Directors and proudly served as Tomahawk's mayor from 2000 to 2014. In 2022, Bob was presented with Chamber of Commerce Tomahawk Achievement award.

Survivors include his wife, Beverly Lee; his children, Melody (Mike) Young, Cathy (David) Koth, Robbie (Tiffany) Lee, and Mike (Robin) Lee. Bob is further survived by seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Dorothy.

Bob's family would like to thank the staff at Riverview Nursing Home and the Memory Care Unit at Tomahawk Health Services for their care.

A celebration of life gathering for Robert Lee will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at Besse's on Clear Lake, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Generations Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family. You may view Bob's obituary and leave online condolences at generationsfuneral.com.

id-Wisconsin Cremation Society Direct Cremation

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Complete 948 Grand Ave. Schofield

715-359-6488 HonorOne.com

Philip James Benzinger, 81, most recently of

Owen, WI, passed peacefully surrounded by loved ones on September 29, 2023 while residing at Clark County Rehab and Living Center under the tender care of Promedica

Hospice. Phil was born on December 8 1941 in Merrill, WI to Margie (Deates) and Albert Benzinger He was baptized at St. Francis Xavior Church on January 25 1941. He was a long time member of St. Mark's Lutheran

Church of Wausau and later of St. John's Lutheran Church of Withee.

He was a loving younger brother to Gary (Lois) Benzinger of Merrill and older brother to Jack (Sue) Benzinger of Sturgeon Bay, Carol (Jerry) Bird of Wausau, Sandy (Perry) Ackeret of Stevens Point, Colleen (Larry) Lasecki of Green Bay and Scott (Julie) Benzinger of Wausau. He was the uncle to many nieces and nephews through his siblings and by marriage whom he loved dearly and enjoyed visiting with them any chance he got.

He would often tell childhood stories of exploring the outdoors, bird hunting and swimming in the river out to the island. He loved playing baseball and basketball, being with family and friends and playing a good prank on his siblings or mom. He graduated from Merrill High School on May 26 1960. It is there he met the love of his life, Wanda Jean Krueger, and they were married on Oct. 6, 1962

Shortly after the wedding, Phil left for Air Force basic training. Afterwards, Phil and Wanda moved to Texas and ived on base while he served. After a short stint, Phil and Wanda returned to Merrill. Their journey together found them also living in Waupaca and Wausau. Phil was a loving dedicated husband and took care of Wanda through many illnesses. Shortly after Wanda passed on August 18 2008, Phil moved to Owen to be with his family.

Phil loved working with and getting to know people. He had many jobs as a kid, creating his hard work ethic, but as an adult, he started working as a meat cutter and eventually was co-owner of a grocery store. For most of his career, he worked in sales. He was a successful salesman, known for his friendly personality and trustworthy customer service. He started out by selling insurance and as a Phillips Liquor Distributor. He worked for a short time at Wausau Paper Mill where he learned about the mechanical process there. He then took that knowledge and his sales experience to work for Able Distributing of Wausau and later for Mechanical Supply out of Escanaba, MI. He ended his working years in another customer service role at Sir Speedy in Wausau. In 1968, while living in Wausau, Phil and Wanda had their

daughter Kay Lynn. He was a loving and caring dad who was active in her life. He had been her Sunday School teacher and bowling coach. He shared his love of the outdoors taking her camping and teaching her how to fish He passed on his love of grilling and taking the back roads.

His family grew more when Kay Lynn (Benzinger) married Paul Heggemeier Sr. of Owen. He was later blessed with 6 grandchildren Heather Rae (Allen) Pedralen of Eau Claire, Tiffany of Owen, Emily of Allenton, Stephany of Chippewa Falls, PJ of Altoona and Benjamin of Eau Claire. He passed away with joy in his heart, knowing a great grandson was on the way. He loved being a grandpa. He was always available for sleepovers and adventures. He was their biggest fan coming to as many sporting events and performances a

You might have known him as Phil, PJ, Benny, Mr. B Grandpa B. or Schlop. But if you knew him, you knew of his big smile and warm personality. He was loved and will be

dearly missed by many.

On Friday, October 13th, the family of Phil Benzinger will be holding a visitation from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. and a Memorial Service at 6:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Withee, WI with a Celebration Of Life to follow at IGYs Bar and Grill also in Withee. Military Honors provided by the Owen American Legion Post #123, Owen-Withee Vets Club and Thorp VFW Post #9057. The Maurina-Schilling Funeral Home in Owen is entrusted with the arrangements.

Family and friends may express condolences online at www.maurinaschilling.com

GRIEF EDUCATION AND SUPPORT

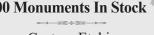
Grief can be overwhelming and paralyzing. These workshops will help to better understand the grieving process and healthy responses to cope with death and loss.

10/25/23: Introduction to Grief & What to Expect 11/1/23: Understanding the Stages of Grief 11/8/23: Developing New Coping Skills 11/15/23: Moving Forward: A New Normal

All sessions are held from 4-5pm. Location: Bible Presbyterian Church, Merrill, WI

NO COST to attend, call/text 608-567-8582 or email MZJCoaching@outlook.com





- Custom Etching • Pre-Need Monuments
- Final Dates & Inscriptions
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EMAIL US: merrillmonument@gmail.com STORE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 9am - Noon & 1pm - 4pm



Legals

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

Room Probate Office

Bar Number 1102710

Dan C. Koblitz, Attorney 2320 Parallel Lane Silver Spring, MD 20904 Telephone 301-960-5857

application administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth 1/17/1958 and date of death 7/26/2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State

of WI, with a mailing address of W2455 Burgener Ave., Merrill, WI 54452. 3. All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a claim against

the decedent's estate is January 12,

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

Published 9/28/23, 10/5/23 & 10/12/23 WNAXLP

NOTICE IN REPLEVIN STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WASHINGTON COUNTY

Case Code 31003

You are hereby notified that a summons

and complaint has been issued to recover possession of the following described goods and chattels, to wit: 2014 HYUNDAI ELANTRA - VIN:

5NPDH4AE8EH486367 of which I, the plaintiff am entitled to the possession, and which you have unjustly taken and

NOW. THEREFORE, unless you shall

appear in the Circuit Court of Washington County, located in Room 2254 of the Washington County Courthouse, 484 Rolfs Avenue, in the

City of West Bend, State of Wisconsin, on November 6, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. before the calendar judge or any other

judge of said court to whom the said

action may be assigned plaintiff and for damages for the detention thereof and

Dated at Milwaukee. WI this 9th day of

Case No. 23-SC-1061
To: SHANA LYNN HARTMAN

unlawfully detain from me.

October, 2023. ALLY CAPITAL CORP. d/b/a ALLY BANK

Milwaukee, WI 53203

Tele: 414-271-5400 PO No.: 10083.73

By: Zachary L. Enstrom, Attorney State Bar# 1102479

413 N. 2nd Street, Suite 150

Published October 12, 2023

|LEGAL NOTICES|

Legals

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: 09/29/2023 /S/HON. GALEN BAYNE-ALLISON CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BR I STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Notice and Order for

Name Change Hearing Case No. 23-CV-112 IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF Cyrus Elexander Ryan

By (Petitioner) Sebastian Williams By (Co-Petitioner) Lindsay Danielle

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: Cyrus Elexander Ryan To: Cyrus Elexander Williams Birth Certificate: Cyrus Elexander Ryan IT IS ORDERED:

This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of

Judge's Name: Honorable Galen Bayne-

Place: Lincoln County Courthouse BR I

1110 East Main St., Merrill, WI 54452 Date: 11/07/2023 Time: 10:30 AM

If you require reasonable accommo-dations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Foto News a newspaper published in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.

Published: 10/5/23, 10/12/23 & 10/19/23

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: 09/29/2023 /S/HON. GALEN BAYNE-ALLISON CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BR I STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 23-CV-113
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME

Titan John Ryan By (Petitioner) Sebastian Williams By (Co-Petitioner) Lindsay Danielle

Legals

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: Titan John Ryan
To: Titan John Williams
Birth Certificate: Titan John Ryan

IT IS ORDERED:

This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of

Judge's Name: Honorable Galen Bayne-Place: Lincoln County Courthouse BR I

1110 East Main St., Merrill, WI 54452 Date: 11/07/2023 Гime: 10:30 AM

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED.

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Foto News a newspaper published in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.
Published: 10/5/23, 10/12/23 & 10/19/23

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: 3/3/23 /S/Robert R. Russell CIRCUIT JUDGE/COURT

COMMISSIONER STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY

Notice and Order for

Name Change Hearing Case No. 23-CV-116 IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF Rosetta Sue Ford

By (Petitioner) Rosetta Sue Ford NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: Rosetta Sue Ford

To: Rosetta Sue Brubacher Birth Certificate: Rosetta Sue Brubacher IT IS ORDERED: This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of

Judge's Name: Robert Russell Place: Lincoln County Courthouse 1110 East Main St., Merrill, WI 54452

Legals

Гime: 11:35 am If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not

provide transportation. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Foto News a newspaper published in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin. Published: 10/12/23, 10/19/23 &

10/26/23

DATE SIGNED: September 19, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar STATE OF WISCONSIN,

CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Mark A. Kanitz

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023 IN 42

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: for informal 1. An application administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth 2/18/1959 and date of death 6/21/2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State

of WI, with a mailing address of W5063 S. Shore Drive, Merrill, WI 54452. 3. All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 12,

5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office Dan C. Koblitz, Attorney 2320 Parallel Lane Silver Spring, MD 20904 Telephone 301-960-5857 Bar Number 1102710 Published 9/28/23, 10/5/23 & 10/12/23

DATE SIGNED: September 19, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer

WNAXLP

CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Ernest P. Weisskopf

Probate Registrar STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Notice to Creditors

Legals

7700

Public Notice Lincoln County Local Emergency Planning Committee Notice of Public Availability of Information

LINCOLN COUNTY EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF **INFORMATION UNDER 42 USC**

CHAPTER 116 AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS UNDER WIS. STAT. 323.60 & 323.61 Subject to the requirements of Section 324 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization (SARA) of 1986, notice is hereby provided on the availability of information collected under SARA Title III also known as the Emergency III, also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know

Act (EPCRA). EPCRA submissions and information submitted to, or developed by, the Lincoln County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), are available for public inspection at the Lincoln County Emergency Management Office location at 801 N. Sales Street, Merrill, WI 54452 during normal

business hours.
Submissions, information and records available may include, but are not limited to:

County Wide EPCRA Strategic Plan
 Facility EPCRA Off-Site Response Plan
 Chemical Inventory Reports

Chemical Safety Data Sheets

Chemical release notification and written follow-up reports

NOTE: Information available is limited to compliance with 42 USC Chapter 116 and does not include all chemical information for facilities and transportation incidents that may pose a threat to human health, safety, and the

environment.

Questions or open records requests regarding information collected under EPCRA can be directed to the Lincoln County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) contact below: Tyle Verhasselt, Director of Emergency Management • 801 N. Sales Street. Merrill, WI 54452 • (715) 536-6228 • tyler.verhasselt@co.lincoln.wi.us
Published October 12, 2023 WNAXLP

AREA EVENTS from page 2

Oct. 15 - Fall Color Hike **Rib Mountain State Park**

Oct. 18 - St. John **Lutheran School Annual** Bazaar

Oct. 18 - Team Trivia **Nights at Sawmill Brewing Company**

Oct. 19 - Open Mic Night at Sawmill Brewing Company

Oct. 19 - Karaoke Night at Hy-Da Way

Oct. 20 - Phaedra's Phobia Night at the **Haunted Sawmill**

Oct. 20 - Flash Light **Friday**

Oct. 21 - Blackout Night at the Haunted Sawmill

Oct. 21 - Fall & Holiday

Market at Sawmill **Brewing Company**

For more information, go to: merrillchamber.org/ events

City of Merrill Property For Sale

The City of Merrill is offering these formerly tax delinquent properties for sale. This is a sealed bid sale. Please submit bids using the bid form available online or at City Hall, for the properties below by Tuesday October 24th, 2023. Bids will be considered based on highest bid amount and proposed use.

Property Address Property PIN # 503 Wisconsin Street 25131061130177 306 N Cleveland Street (Vacant Lot) 25131061230351 305 East Street (Vacant Lot) 25131061130413 211 N Cleveland Street (Vacant Lot) 25131061230371 400 E 4th Street (Vacant Lot) 25131061140194

Bidders are responsible for checking the accuracy of the provided information. Bids must be submitted to the Clerk Treasurer's Office in a sealed envelope marked 'PROPERTY BID" no later than 4:00 pm Tuesday October 24th, 2023. Property will be conveyed via Quit Claim Deed. The City of Merrill reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept the bid most advantageous to the city. For more information please contact Darin Pagel at 715-536-4880.

Published October 5 & 12, 2023

WNAXLP

PRMS September Youth Optimist

Mylie Kufahl, an eighth grader at Prairie River Middle School (PRMS), is the September Youth Optimist of the Month. "Mylie is an exceptional student who consistently demonstrates strong academic performance, outstanding leadership skills, and a genuine dedication to making a positive impact in her community. said Ms. Marcie Hanson in her nomination.

"As a student in my co-taught English class, Mylie consistently demonstrates a deep understanding of complex literary concepts and an impressive ability to articulate her thoughts with clarity and precision."

Throughout Mylie's time at PRMS, she has continuously demonstrated high levels of academic learning earning her a place on the school's academic honor's list," she said. Mylie has been active on the PRMS volleyball team, where her leadership skills. teamwork, and dedication have been instrumental in the team's success, Ms. Hanson

"Mylie has also been an active member of the Student Council, where she has helped to improve the school others is truly remarkable." Mylie lives in Gleason and is the daughter of Catherine Kufahl and Casey Mulford

MHS September Youth Optimist

Brooklyn Kraegenbrink, a Senior at Merrill High School, is the September Youth Optimist of the Month. "Having coached Brooklyn in Cross Country the past four years, I've gotten to know her very well," said Mrs. Alyssa Swan in her nomination of Brooklyn. "She is so optimistic, helpful, and kind, even on the worst days, hard practice days, etc. By being supportive and picking people up when they're down, Brooklyn is truly our team's biggest cheerleader!"

"Brooklyn is very active in many activities in and out of school and still maintains a high GPA (4.0) while excelling in her classes," she said. "I'm so proud of the person Brooklyn is and has become; I can't wait to see where life takes her!"

Brooklyn is on the Varsity Track and Field Team and the Varsity Cross Country Team; is in Marching Band (section leader & spirit award), Jazz Ensemble, First Chair Wind Ensemble, and Solo Ensemble; and is in MHS Link Crew, Junior Optimist Club (PR representative), Raise Your Voice Club, MHS Student Council, Tri-M Music Honor Society (President), National Honor Society, and LEAD club.

Brooklyn also volunteers as a private ÿgure skating coach for Wausau Learn

to Skate and a Junior ÿgure skating coach, at Washington elementary as an after-school caregiver, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, for Project Linus, as a vacation Bible school helper, and she also helps deliver free Thanksgiving

After graduating from high school, Brooklyn plans to attend college and major in elementary education. She is the daughter of John and Kelly Kraegenbrink



Optimist Clubs: "Bringing Out the Best in Kids" Merrill Noon Optimists – Wednesdays at 12:00 noon at the Eagles Club, 1205 Lake St., Merrill

Adult volunteers join Optimist Clubs to conduct positive service projects in their communities aimed at providing a helping hand to youth. Their upbeat attitudes empower vouth to be the best they can be. Optimists International, with 3,000+clubs, conducts 65,000 service projects, serving more than six million youth annually. Locally, Merrill Noon Optimists serve 3,000+ area youth, contributing or organizing events and service projects in our Merrill community.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Notice is hereby given that the following application has been filed with the City Clerk, Merrill, WI:

Change of Agent on Class B Beer/Class
B Liquor Combo License
James Helman, Agent Social & Sick Benefit Society 418 Grand Ave License Period: Current licensing period through June 30,2024. Lori Anderson-Malm Published October 12, 2023

WNAXLP

WNAXLP

Notice of Elderly and Disabled Transportation Public Meeting:

A county meeting will be held on Monday, October 23 beginning at 9:30 AM in the County Board Room 257, Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N. Street, Merrill transportation programs for the elderly and disabled and develop plans to improve transportation services for those in need. The meeting will provide the basis for Lincoln County's Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan as Services Transportation Plan as required under federal and state regulations. The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) is coordinating the meeting on behalf of WisDOT and the County. Those persons unable to attend the meeting and would like to submit comments in advance may send them. comments in advance may send them to: NCWRPC, 210 McClellan St. Ste. 210, Wausau WI 54403 or email to dlandeau@ncwrpc.org. Seniors or dlandeau@ncwrpc.org. Seniors or persons with disabilities who would like to attend the meeting and require a ride or other accommodations should contact the Lincoln County Social Services Dept at 715-539-1331. The location is dlandeau@ncwrpc.org
Published October 12 & 19, 2023

GUNFIRE from page 1

Following the initial report, multiple calls were received about the incident. and a suspect vehicle description was obtained. The vehicle that had been struck by gunfire safely pulled over, its occupants received medical attention from first responders in Lincoln County, and they were transported to a local hospital for non-lifethreatening injuries.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office located the suspected vehicle. The driver failed to comply with deputies' orders to stop, prompting a pursuit that extended back into Marathon County. Reports suggested the suspect vehicle exited US Hwy. 51 and headed south on Hwy. W, back into Wausau. The Wausau Police Department deployed tire deflation devices to bring the pursuit to an end. However, the suspect vehicle evaded these

The pursuit ended when a Lincoln County Deputy

disabled the suspect's vehicle with their patrol vehicle in the City of Wausau. The Lincoln County Deputy suffered minor injuries from the crash. After the pursuit, the northbound lane of US Hwy. 51, where the initial incident occurred, was temporarily closed for approximately three hours to facilitate the investigation.

As a result of the investigation, 41-year-Bennie Zachariah old Green, from Tony, Wis., arrested. was Charges of Attempted Homicide, Recklessly Degree Endangering Safety, Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Operating While Intoxicated (2nd), and a Department Corrections Warrant are being forwarded to the Marathon County District Attorney's Office for consideration. Green is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Marathon County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin State Patrol, Wausau Police Department, Wausau Fire Department, and Marathor County District Attorney's

This is an ongoing investigation, and no further details were available as of the time of this writing. According to the Marathon County Sheriff's Office, any additional information will be posted to their Facebook page when available.

SIRENS from page 3

However, because reliability is now in question, I am taking both of the old sirens offline indefinitely. If we are $able\,to\,return\,them\,to\,service$ with a secure, closed control system, we will explore that cost/benefit through normal government business.'

"In the meantime, our citizens need and deserve their rest," Bennett said.



ANTIGO GUN SHOW Antigo Ice Arena

2023

Friday 3pm to 8pm



Saturday 9am to 5pm

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SHOW

Sunday 9am to 3pm \$8 (14 & Under FREE) 608-752-6677



Team PB&J at the Merrill Airport. Invasion from Inner Earth was filmed there.

HUNT from page 1

thank the many sponsors and participants in this year's History Hunt.

Cora had some amazing stories to share around Schultz Spur, Tomahawk Historical Society pitched in and offered history to share (braving the rather cold, windy day), the Gin Mill in Tomahawk, Rusty & Linda DeBroux at the Bethany Church Studio, Angie at 17 Scoops in Gleason for some great stories (and a gift certificate), Marie Rein at the Brickyard School house where a scene from Devonsville Terror was shot, Paul Proulx reminiscing with the history hunters at the Sheriff's Office (and Sheriff Schneider for letting us use the squad and parking lot), and sponsors Johnson Gifts, Sweeter Times, and West Side Market (who gave prizes but also got in the fun interacting with history hunters).

Additional sponsors that offered prizes were Weinbrenner Shoe Company, Incredible Bank, AmericInn, Cosmo Theatre, and Sutton's Wine Bar. And Ballyhoos did a wonderful job of hosting the After Party with great snacks, organizers said.

The Merrill Historical raffled Society also autographed Bill Rebane

Rebane's Reelz and Blood Monster tied for the Best Costume award; Alpha Coincidence won Best Team Name; and B Movie Squad received Best Social Media Presence. A special award was given to PB&J as the Longest Participating Team.

"We are so appreciative of our community businesses for their continued support of all the activities in Merrill." Johnson said.

"The Bill Rebane exhibit will be up at the Merrill Historical Society Museum for several months yet, so if you missed the hunt, come and see what the excitement was all about!" said Brandon Johnson. Merrill Historical Society.

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ Merrill Foto News

Pet of the Week



This stunning girl is **Aurora**! She came in as a stray and is now up for adoption! She is a very sweet girl and loves to run around and play with her toys! She seems ok with most dogs from what we have seen 🛭 but will need to meet any new dog she may live . with. We are unsure if she has ever lived around . cats at all. Our best guess is that Aurora is about . 3 years old.

SPONSORED BY **Foto News** 2011 E. Main St.

Visit the Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours: MON. - SAT. 12-4 PM • & SUN. 12-2 PM. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, • or visit us on the web at www.furrypets.com.

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Make your advertising WORK by calling 715-536-7121, or stop by our office at 2011 E. Main Street.





Bently Carroll

Son of Corey Carroll & Bethany Williams and Christina Carroll Bently is in 3rd grade at Washington Elementary School. He was nominated by Mrs. Schulz.

What is your favorite subject in school?

My favorite subject is math because I like numbers and solving problems

What is your favorite part of school?

l like helping my friends because it makes me feel good. 6 📥

What would you like to do/become someday? I want to be in the Army to save the country.

Bently is to be recognized for his ability to show empathy to all. Bently is to be recognized for his ability to snow empathy to all. He is an outstanding helper to both staff and students and a great friend. When he sees a student having a dicult time, he goes alongside them to make sure they have a better day. Bently is to be recognized also for his perseverance as he continues to work be recognized also for his perseverance as he continues to work hard, even when tasks become dicult. We are extremely proud of you, Bently. Keep up the great work!

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



The Rebane's Reelz team in the Gin Mill in Tomahawk. Scenes from the Invasion from Inner Earth were filmed there. And check out those costumes!

Photos courtesy of Merrill Historical Society.



The moment that you left me, my heart split in two. One side

filled with memories, the other side died with you... I often lay awake at night when the world is fast asleep, and take a walk down memory lane with tears upon my cheek. Remembering you is easy, I do it everyday but missing you is a heartache that never goes away. I hold you tightly within my heart and there you will remain. You see life has gone on without you, but will never be the same.

I Love You Always & Forever ~Mom~



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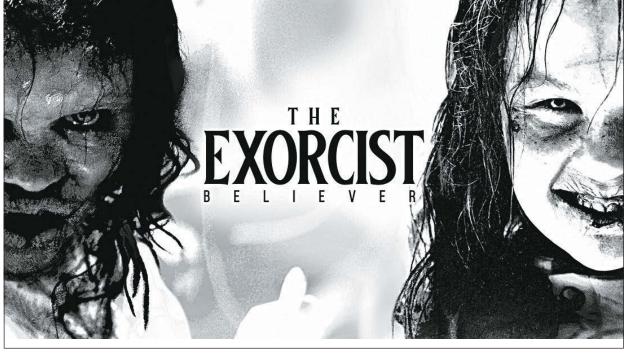
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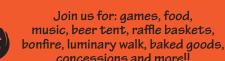
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N365 Cain Creek Road Merrill, WI

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Family Friendly walk filled with jack-o-lanterns, mason jars, and luminary bags. Free will donation at entrance.

Friday - Fish Fry Saturday - Steak Sandwiches and Sexy Butt BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwiches.



bonfire, luminary walk, baked goods, concessions and more!! Fall Fest for families to enjoy. Portion of proceeds

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Movie Reviews



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BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM **GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER**

The Exorcist: Believer

(In theatres now)

Rated R for language, violence, and disturbing content

When I was 12, my parents pulled the trigger and got cable, and with that package came HBO, so I could watch movies unedited at home. I was excited; my parents, not so much. As a proud member of Generation X, I was often left to my own devices while my parents went out and did their thing. On one such occasion, I was told clearly, I was NOT to watch The Exorcist, which was the Saturday night HBO movie.

So, of course, I watched it. Now, as a kid, you don't

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always know right away when you have messed up, but boy howdy, I knew immediately that I had made a critical error in judgment. As a cradle Catholic, The Exorcist messed me up. Its slow build, its shocking (by 1970's standards) graphic nature and flat-out scary tone, ensured I attended Mass without complaint for some time after my viewing.

Over the years, there have been a few sequels that ranged from oh-sovery-bad to at-least-it-wasentertaining, so when I heard a direct sequel with some of the original cast was being made, I was intrigued. Then came a fairly decent marketing campaign and I was actually a little excited to see a solid scary movie, because let's face it, they are few and far between.

So, I plopped down my free pass, grabbed my popcorn and soda, and headed into the theatre.

Spoiler Alert

It was all downhill from there. To say this was a bad film would be an insult to bad films. It is a hodgepodge of standard scary movie tones. It goes out of its way to make sure every religion is represented (I refer to the multiple people from every religion including, I swear, voodoo, that perform the exorcism in this film, as "The God Squad") and the only death is the Catholic priest who shows up to save the day, only to get wacked within three minutes.

It was so ridiculous and dumb I actually felt my IQ start to drop as I watched this film.

Oh, and as to the original cast, total screen time about seven minutes.

One star out of five possible stars for this abomination of a film. Avoid it at all costs. If someone tries to get you to watch it, unfriend them immediately and run away; they are not your friend.

And to my friends at the Cosmo: Well done passing on this one. You would need to sanitize the screens to get the stink of this one out of there.







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OPENING

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state-led supplemental online learning program. We partner with over 240 schools to provide excellent learning opportunities for students. We're looking for a program assistant to join our amazing team. Ideal candidates will possess a strong service mindset and an aptitude for using various software applications as well as the ability to multitask and prioritize

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Provide clerical support to WVS program directors who coordinate and administer WVS services

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For complete job description and application information, go to: https://www.cesa9.org/about/employment.cfm

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Mon-Fri 7am (approx 6-8 hrs) Nov. 27th through Dec. 15th.

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Oct. 14th and 15th Sat. 10-3 Sun. 10-2

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Call with questions at 715-536-4383

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Regular scheduled work week is Monday through Thursday 6:30 am to 4:30 pm with

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www.co.lincoln.wi.us (career opportunities)

listed on the Lincoln County web page at

or applications can be picked up at the

John Hanz, Highway Commissioner, may

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Lincoln County Service Center at 801 N. Sales Street (upper level) Merrill, WI.

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Lincoln County

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10/13.12

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First come, first served. Del style numbers will be given out starting at 11:00am on Friday. Go to JANE'S Estate Sale on acebook or estatesales.org for photos, starting on the evening Sunday, 10/8. 5409 Rock Rapids Dr

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GUN SHOW OCT 13 14 & 15 ANTIGO ICE ARENA 1633 Neva Antigo, WI. 608-752-6677 bobandrocco.com

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Dogs 7272

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Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off - limited time! Financing available. 1-855-417-1306

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7324

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The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/mo! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options avail. Quality materials & professional instal-lation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer -FREE virtual in-home consultation now & SAVE 15%! Call today! 1-877-651-1850 (WCAN)

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APPLY NOW AT: WEINBRENNERUSA.COM AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Luther Memorial to dedicate new church building in Gleason

Luther Memorial Church in Gleason will dedicate their new church building and sanctuary this Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, at 2 p.m., and all are invited to the Dedication Celebration Service and Open House. Refreshments will be served after the service. The new church is located at N5308 Town Hall Rd. in Gleason, just off Hwy. 17.

AUCTIONS

A "LIVE & ONLINE" NOLAN SALES AUCTION

& BONNIE OURADA **LUCKY DEVIL FARMS**

W10848 CO RD N, ANTIGO, WI 54409 * 715-627-7606 or 715-610-1438 (KEN)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th

Starting at 11:00 AM Lunch Available on Grounds LOCATED: 1 mile North of Antigo on US Hwy 45 to Co. Rd N then West on "N" 2-1/4 miles to the site. Watch for auction signs. WELL KEPT ONE OWNER FARM MACHINERY: John Deere 7810 tractor, 4x4, 4768 hrs; John Deere 7730 tractor, 4x4, 3020 hrs; John Deere 7520 tractor, 4x4, 4790 hrs; Kvernland Mode EG 85-240-9 5-bottom rollover plow, sn: 5745; IH 5400 15' 3pt grain drill; Fertilizer/ grass spreader, 3pt; White 22' tandem disc; Case 22' DOT 3 disc; 12 row 30" cultivator; John Deere 7' 3pt hyd. blade; Case IH 32' ÿeld cultivator; 20' "at rack hay wagon; Koyker 53' 8" pto auger; Hardy Navigator 2000 pull-type sprayer w/90' booms; EZ Trail Model 3400 350 bushel gravity box w/auger & gas motor, tarp; Clark Model C365-CP35 4000# forklift w/hard tires, LP gas, sn: 365L-0025-9394FB.

POTATO & IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT: Harrison 160 Clod

Hopper; Lockwood potato bagger for 5 lb, 10 lb, 15 lb, and 20 lb bags; Cadman 4000 wide-body hose reel; 1 mile of 6" Shur-Rane hook & latch irrigation pipe; 1993 Freightliner truck w/Lockwood 20' potato box; 1989 Freightliner truck w/Lockwood 22' potato box; True Seal 50' x 24" TrueScale "at elevator, single phase. SPECIAL ITEMS: 4400 bushel grain bin w/dryer "oor & sweep unloader; 16' tandem car hauler trailer; 8' single-axle trailer; (2) 1100 gallon diesel fuel tanks w/electric pumps; 350 gallon diesel fuel tank w/hand pump; 1967 Chev 60 dump truck w/14' "atbed, air brakes; Portable fuel tank.

ONLINE BIDDING will be available on the machinery at https://www equipmentfacts.com and https://www.proxibid.com. A 5% BUYER'S PREMIUM will be added to the high bid for any items purchased online. AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is 1-owner equipment that was purchased new and serviced by the dealer.

Sale clerked by Nolan Auction, Inc. Regular auction terms - cash or personal check. Everything sold as is, where is. No Warranties.
SALE CONDUCTED BY

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PO Box 486, Marion, WI 54950 * (715) 754-5221 or 1-800-472-0290 Tim Nolan & Gerald "Sonny" Nolan, Reg. WI Auctioneers, Lic. #165 & #142 Visit our website at www.nolansales.com for more photos.

Green Bay Packers search for 40+ foot Christmas tree

Seventeenth annual Festival of Lights at Lambeau Field set for Dec. 2, donate to Toys for Tots at event

The Green Bay Packers and Festival Foods are set to host the 17th annual Festival of Lights at Lambeau Field, Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023.

The Packers again are seeking assistance in finding a tree. Anyone from Wisconsin or the Upper Peninsula of Michigan who has a 40-50 foot evergreen tree and wants to donate it to the event is asked to submit a proposal, in 100 words or less, on why his or her tree should be used for Festival of Lights and be displayed at Lambeau Field through the holiday season. Proposals should include a photo of the tree, and can be submitted through Wednesday,

Proposals and photos can be submitted for consideration online at packers.com/fans/festival-of-lights.

The Packers will arrange for the tree to be harvested and transported to Lambeau Field on Monday, Nov. 27. The owner of the selected tree will receive four tickets to the Packers-Buccaneers game on Dec. 17, 2023.

The tree selected for last year's event was submitted by Paula and Al VanderGrinten of Green Bay, who donated their blue spruce tree. In recognition of providing the tree for the event, they received four tickets to last season's Packers-Vikings game on Jan. 1, 2023.

The family-themed Festival of Lights event, free to the public, will take place in the Lambeau Field Atrium, and feature cookie decorating, holiday movies and cartoons, holiday card making, photo opportunities with Santa Claus, and area high school choirs performing holiday music.

Later, the event will move out onto Harlan Plaza for the formal lighting of the tree.

Volunteers will also be on hand during the event to collect toys and donations for Toys for Tots. Families attending the Festival of Lights are encouraged to donate new, unwrapped toys to help families in need this holiday

DNR seeks hunter participation in statewide Deer Hunter Wildlife Survey

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages hunters to participate in this year's Deer Hunter Wildlife Survey. This survey is an opportunity for hunters to report which animals they observe while deer hunting.

Data from these reports helps DNR researchers to better understand the relative abundance and distribution of mammals, birds and other species of wildlife across Wisconsin. Past efforts have provided the DNR with valuable information for managing many wildlife species.

The survey period is open now through Jan. 7, 2024, requires no registration and observations can be submitted from the field

with a smartphone, at home from a computer or through the mail to:

of Natural Resources C/O Jes Rees Lohr, DNR

Wisconsin Department

Research Scientist 2801 Progress Road Madison, WI 53716

Jessica.ReesLohr@ wisconsin.gov or 608-228-

Hunters should include the following information in their survey submissions:

- · Date(s) hunted. · Numbers of hours
- hunted.
- · County in which they hunted.
- · Zone referenced on the deer management unit map. See map at: https://widnr. widen.net/s/jdqgztt6ph/ deer_zonesssforweb
 - · Land type (public vs.



Data from these reports helps DNR researchers to better understand the relative abundance and distribution of various species of wildlife across Wisconsin

Photo courtesy of Wisconsin DNR.

private).

- · Weather conditions at the time of sighting.
- · Type and number of animals observed.

Participants can find a list of animals to report and

learn more about the survey by visiting the DNR's Deer Hunter Survey webpage at: https://dnr.wisconsin. gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/ wlsurvey.

Friday, Oct. 20th 10 AM

Large Auction for Gallenberg Lane Feedlot W8081 Gallenberg Lane, Antigo, WI

Located 4 miles Northeast of Antigo on Hwy 52 to Gallenberg Lane, then 1/4 mile East. Real Estate is Sold 4 Tractors, Chopper, Skid Steer & More:

John Deere 6300 2WD tractor w/ 2 door Cab, SyncroPlus & 34" radials, 1978 IH Farmall 886 Diesel tractor w/ Cab, IH Farmall 706 gas tractor w/ wide front, 3pt, 34" radials & Completely Rebuilt, Ford 6610 Diesel tractor w/ Cab, John Deere 5730 self propelled Chopper w/ Cab,



2600 hours, 40 knife drum, rotary screen, 3R30" corn head, Lancaster kernel processor & newer 630 hay head, 2013 Bobcat S650 2 Speed skid steer w/ 4300 hours, Skid steer buckets, pallet forks, grapple & feed pusher, Miller Pro 4200gal Manure Tanker, 2016

H&S HD 370 TA Box spreader w/ endgate & poly liner, Landoll 2220 Weatherproofer II 1shank Disk Ripper, Farm Aid 430 portable TMR Mixer w/ DigiStar scale, Kelderman TwinRake hitch w/ NH 258 & 260 rolabar



rakes, 3pt 6ft Brush Cutter, JD 1075 running gear w/ 9x18 flat rack, Pequea bale feeder wagon, 30ft Steel Feeder wagon, Potato Bin Piler, Pallet boxes, NH 615 3pt discbine mower & Equipment

> Trucks, Trailer & Farm Items: 2007 Ford Escape 4x4 SUV w/ 131k miles, 2001 Ford Ranger 4x4 w/ 147k miles, 1988 Chevy 3500 4x4 pickup w/ 454 V8, automatic & 71k miles, 84 IH 1654 truck w/ 6.9 diesel, 5 speed & Feed Box,

40ft Alum. Open Top semi trailer, (50) 4x5ft net wrapped Bales of Hay, (50) 4x4 Bales of Hay, Bale rings, County Line cattle chute w/ auto headgate, Guard Rail, Ritchie SS waterers, (75) Assorted Farm Gates, Treated wood corner posts, Zareba fencer, Insu-



lators & Wire, Tire chains, Barn tools, Barn fans, 20gal ATV sprayer, SS rinse tanks, Gate-hung feeders, Driveway grader, Tow cable, Ant. Barn carriage, Tire mineral feeders & Farm Items

ATV, Mower & Tools: Yamaha Big Bear 350 4x4 w/ new tires, John Deere LX280 mower, North Star 4000PSI hot water Washer w/ Honda motor, HD racks for Steel, Pails of Bolts, Copper wire, Hose, Alum extension ladder, Wagon, Sleds, Trailer hitches, Torpedo heaters, Assorted Lumber including Cedar, Rolling Carts, Shelving, Steel horses, Parts Cabinets, Corrugated steel, Doors, Chairs, Dehumidifiers, Bedroom furniture, Table & chairs & Miscellaneous

Terms of Sale: Cash or Check w/ Letter of Credit. RWAC #480 Cols. Henry & Len Yoap, RWA 338 & 339 11149 Ledge Lane, Coleman, WI 54112 www.yoapandyoap.com

YOAP & YOAP Auction & Real Estate (920) 604-1704

St. John's Annual Bazaar is Oct. 18

St. John Lutheran School, 1104 E. 3rd St. in Merrill, will hold their Annual Bazaar on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

in the school gym.

Ladies Aid will have all the usual goodies available, including

handcrafted items, scarves, mittens,

plants, homemade baked goods, jelly, jam, and garden produce.

Mother's Club will have items for all ages including potted plants, pumpkins and gourds, crafts, cards, napkins, and loads of sweet treats. Delicious chili, chicken soup, hot beef, chicken salad sandwiches, and homemade pie will be served in the church basement from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. or until sold out. Carry outs are also available.



143489 WHIPPOORWILL RD, MARATHON, WI 54448 * 715-409-8884 (Ron) **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th**

Starting at 10:00 a.m. Lunch Available on Grounds LOCATED: West of Wausau on County Road NN 5 miles to County Road O, then south on "O" 1/2 mile to Whippoorwill Road, then East on Whippoorwill Road 1/4 mile to the site. Watch for auction signs.

EQUIPMENT & TOOLS: JCB 524B telehandler w/forks & bucket, sn: SLP524506E1068744; Pettibone T8044 telehandler, 5791 hrs, sn: 4528; (2) Concrete mixers, gas powered; Shark pressure washer, Honda powered, diesel ÿre boiler; Honda EB5000 generator; (7) Mortar mixers, gas powered; (2) 20" Masonry saws; (4) Brick/block saws, electric; Husqvarna masonry chop saw, electric; Wire feed welders Stick welders; Shop Vacs; Torpedo heaters, gas & diesel Extension ladders; Pump sprayers; Water transfer pumps, gas powered: Wheel barrows: Air compressors: Miller portable welder, gas powered; Oxy/Acetylene torch set; Walk-through scaffolding; Rockwell table saw; Tool boxes; Large selection of hand tools too numerous to mention!!

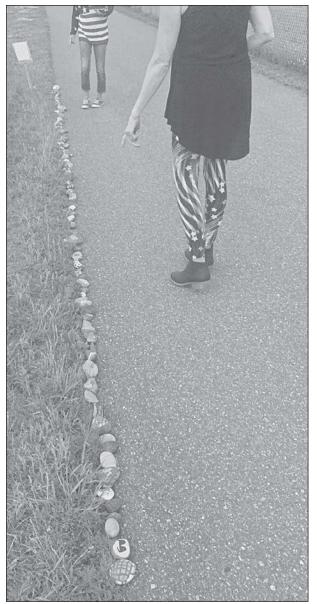
SPECIAL ITEMS: 2012 Ford F-350 crew cab pickup truck 4wd; 8' box, vin: 1FT8W3BT0CED17746, w/8'6" Westerr MVP3 plow, ; 2001 Custom 25+5 trailer w/pintle hitch, air brakes; 2004 Load Trail 25+5 20,000# gooseneck trailer w/ dovetail and ramps; (2) 8'6"x20' shipping containers; 8'6"x30' portable o'ce trailer; Large Asst. of Bricks & Concrete blocks. MANY MISC. ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION!! ONLINE BIDDING will be available at https://www. equipmentfacts.com. A 5% BUYER'S PREMIUM will be

added to the high bid for any items purchased online. Sale clerked by Nolan Auction, Inc. Regular auction terms cash or personal check. Everything sold as is, where is. No Warranties

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Jake the Snake, created from more than 300 painted rocks along the River Bend Trail, just continues to grow!

Jake the Snake donations

Thank you, Merrill Community, for making "Jake the Snake" over 300 rocks long on the River Bend Trail! The following individuals made a \$325 donation to the Lincoln County Humane Society (LCHS): Sheryl & Randy L., Mary & Russ L., Debbie Alvin and her dog Ollie, and owner of Images Sandy Gipple and her dog Ruby (pictured). "Thank you to all who participated to make this happen!" employees at the LCHS said.



Sandy Gipple with Ruby (left) and Debbie Alvin and Ollie (right) present an LCHS employee with a donation check.





Annual leaf raking event

Making a few changes this Make A Difference Day

Merrill's 28th annual Make A Difference Day will be held Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023, with registration for volunteers at 8:30 a.m. at the T.B. Scott Library.

Projects will run from 9 a.m. until about noon. There will be a bus for volunteers that don't have transportation. Workers should bring rakes and gloves. No lunch will be served this year, but cookies, soda, water, and other goodies will be plentiful.

If you need help raking your yard, please contact Stacy Stevens at 414.539.0182 by Wednesday, Oct. 25. Letters were sent to all homeowners who had their yards raked last year with a postcard to return. All homeowners requesting help must register each year. Homeowners are reminded to have enough CLEAR plastic bags for yard



waste available for workers. Individuals volunteering to rake yards can sign up the day of the event. If possible, groups and organizations should call the number listed above to give an approximate number of youth and adults volunteering. Please

consider giving a few hours of your time to help those in our community in need. Working together-WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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LCHS August & September Honorariums

The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to thank everyone who donated in honor of a loved one in

Boris the cat by Carol Page; Wendy by Earl & Sylvia Welker; Mark Cray by Jim & Pat Brimacombe; Corky Woodward by Penny Callahan; Siggy by Carrie Hunt; Becky Heintz's Birthday by Joseph Leggett; Terry & Nancy Kasper's 50th Anniversary by Carl & Mary Moscherosch; Bernice Perry by Linda Blake; Dorothy Bergh by Laurie Bergh; and Michael Moellendorf by Robert & Jean Hoeft, Mike & Kathy Peeters, Lincoln County Health Department, Sandy Sherfinski, and Mike & Kathy Peeters.

And also thanks to those who donated in honor of a loved one in September:

Mike Moellendorf by Mike & Vonya Ellsworth, Russell & Mary Leyk, Paul & Janalee Anderson, Jennifer Whitty, Dennis & Luann Grefe, Chris & Mary Stamm, Dennis & Barbara Hintze; Abby by Dennis & Barbara Hintze; Jean Folta by Robert & Peggy Bauman; Sharon Dinges by Mike & Gwen Schmidt, Gerald & Dawn Schmidt & Family; Heidi Krueger by Gerald & Dawn Schmidt & Family; Frieda Kleinschmidt by Linda Blake; Bernice Perry by Mary Kelly, Jan Perry & Family; Valerie Pfaff by Susan & Joseph Stoker; Vicki Jenks by Anna Enters; Micki Laatsch by Thomas & Sally Schmidt

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Bridges Virtual Academy ranked #1 Online High School in Wisconsin by Niche

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Online High School in Wisconsin. BVA also earned second place in the Best Charter High School (online and traditional) in Wisconsin category.

BVA scored high in the many factors that Niche uses to capture the climate, culture, and academic rigor experienced by a student attending Bridges Virtual Academy. Most notably, BVA teachers received a rating

"While we have always known that BVA is a wonderful place to learn and grow, we're so proud of our students and staff for earning this national distinction," Assistant Director Jaime Farkas said. "We are so thankful for the families and staff that work together to make BVA worthy of national attention".

To see BVA's school profile and the full list of 2024 rankings, methodologies, and data sources used by Niche, go to: niche.com.

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Senator Mary Felzkowski named 2023 WCA Friend of County Government

Co-named with Representative Kurtz for work on shared revenue bill

Wisconsin Counties The Association (WCA) has named Senator Mary Felzkowski (R-Irma) and Representative Tony Kurtz (R-Wonewoc) as co-recipients of their "2023 WCA Friend of County Government" designation. The two were honored for their work on the shared revenue bill.

The award is the highest honor given by the Association to an individual or individuals who have performed outstanding service to county government in their official capacity. The award was presented at the 2023 WCA Annual Conference in Sauk County.

Assembly Bill 245, the shared revenue bill, was signed into law June 20, 2023, as Wisconsin Act 12. The legislation was crafted and led through the legislative process by both Felzkowski and Representative Kurtz.

"Senator Felzkowski, alongside Representative Kurtz, spearheaded what could be described as the most important piece of legislation in generations here in Wisconsin," said WCA President & CEO Mark D. O'Connell. "Because of their efforts working alongside local governments, as well as our team, this new law



will provide much needed funding to counties and other local units of government."

"This was a bipartisan effort of the Legislature and the Governor, where both sides of the aisle worked together to find common ground," he said. "Plain and simple, without the leadership of Senator Felzkowski and Representative Kurtz, we would not have Act 12. We would not have a sustainable funding source tied directly to the economic success of our state and our communities. Their leadership will have a profound impact on Wisconsin for generations to come."

"We are grateful for Senator Felzkowski for her work, vision, and $commitment\ to\ getting\ this\ legislation$ across the finish line," O'Connell said. "We are incredibly proud to present them both with this award and name them our '2023 WCA Friend of County Government."

Backyarding on a budget: Six money-saving hacks for fall

Fall is an opportune time to set up your backyard for year-round success. Work put into landscaping in the fall determines the quality of the space for all of your family's backyarding activities, from family football games at Thanksgiving and Easter egg hunts in the spring, to taking your office to the back patio and meditation in a backyard hammock.

"Work in your yard, and it will work for you. That's always been our motto, but it's particularly important to follow this credo in the fall when we can make the most impact in our yards," said Kris Kiser, President & CEO of the TurfMutt encourages people to care for and use the green space around them. "You don't have to break the bank to create a backyard that will serve many purposes for your family year-round."

Here are six moneysaving hacks for creating the backyard of your dreams from the TurfMutt Foundation:

1. Clean out flower beds & add mulch. Simply cleaning out your flower beds (use a leaf blower to make quick work of the task) and adding a fresh layer of mulch works wonders. New mulch not only holds weeds at bay, it also helps retain moisture around plants,



trees, and shrubs.

2. Prune bushes & trees. Trimming bushes, shrubs, and trees is another inexpensive way to make a big impact in your yard's aesthetic. Use a chainsaw, trimmer, or hedger to remove dead or dying branches and stems. This preserves the health of the main branch and improves the shape of the plant. Pruning also encourages plants to flower later.

Keep grass mowed weeded. Regular and lawn mowing helps your grass stay healthy and strong and improves the overall appearance your yardscape without spending much money. In the fall, cut your lawn shorter than during the rest of the growing season and continue to mow until your grass goes into hibernation for the winter.

perennials. Pick Perennials-those hardy plant species that will return again in the springare a smart money choice because you only have to buy them once to enjoy them for years to come.

Plant climateappropriate species. Native plants-those that occur naturally in your regionare a smart buy any time of the year. They are more

likely to thrive in your micro-climate without maintenance watering. They are also better for local wildlife and pollinators and help preserve the balance of the natural ecosystem.

6. Look for deals. Many nurseries and home improvement stores offer end-of-season sales essentials landscaping from plants to outdoor power equipment (mowers, trimmers, leaf blowers. etc.) that make even big backyarding tasks easier.

For more information, sign up for Mutt Mail, a monthly e-newsletter with backyarding tips and all the news from the TurfMutt Foundation. To learn more about creating the yard of your dreams, visit TurfMutt.com.

TurfMutt was created by the Outdoor Power Institute's **Equipment** *TurfMutt* Foundation and has reached more than million children, educators, and families 2009. Through since education partners such as Weekly Reader, Discovery Education, and Scholastic, TurfMutt has taught students and teachers how to "save the planet, one yard at a time."

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We apologize if we inadvertently left someone out. For more information, contact Ginny @ 715-536-9605

Merrill Varsity Cross Country Team is running hard

TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

Home meet

On Sept. 26, 2023, Merrill hosted a Cross Country meet, joined by runners from Bonduel and Gresham high schools. "Our home meet went well!" said Alyssa Swan, Merrill Varsity Cross Country Head Coach. "We had a couple new schools join the meet and ended up with a lot of medals won by

Merrill Boys placed as follows: 2nd place overall: Erick Grunenwald (18:57), 7th place overall: Parker Klebenow (20:26), 8th place overall: Jacob Mueller (20:53), 10th place overall: Kaden Schwandt (21:24), followed by Brady Eggerbrecht (21:31), Treg Knsope (22:17), Anton Countryman (22:49), and Jonathon Myszka (23:41).

Merrill Girls placed as follows: 6th place overall: Charlotte Van Der Nest (24:28), 9th place overall: Danielle Schielke (25:31), 10th place overall Mia Smith (26:12), followed by Alanna Rodgers (27:35), Robin Schmidt (28:05), and Brooklynn Kragenbrink (28:06).

Medford invitational

On Sept. 28, Merrill runners traveled to Medford for an invitational, competing athletes from Medford. Rhinelander, Tomahawk, and Lakeland Union high schools. This was a great competition against the other athletes, but also for Merrill runners competing against themselves. Many Merrill athletes set their own PRT (Personal Record Time).

"The course was flat and had many loops, but our athletes gave it their all!"

Erick Grunenwald (18:22) finished in seventh place overall for the Merrill Boys. Time for other male Merrill runners: Parker Klebenow (20:03), Anton Countryman (21:02), Brady Eggerbrecht (21:16), Kaden Schwandt (21:37), Jacob Mueller (21:59), and Jonathan Myszka (23:19).

The Merrill Girls finished as follows: Charlotte Van Der Nest (23:18), Danielle

See CROSS COUNTRY page 16





Merrill Cross Country runners are pushing hard, but enjoying the scenery on this leg of their route through a wooded area in early autumn.

Photo courtesy of Merrill Cross Country.

Merrill Cross Country runners display their medals won at a recent meet.

Boys Football (Varsity, JV, & JV2)							
Thurs. Oct. 12	Mosinee (JV2)	Away	5:30 pm				
Fri. Oct. 13	Mosinee (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm				
Mon. Oct. 16	Mosinee (JV)	Home	5:30 pm				
Girls Swimming (Varsity & JV)							
Thurs. Oct. 12	D. C. Everest (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:30 pm				
Tues. Oct. 17	Marshÿeld (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:30 pm				
Girls Cross Country (Varsity & JV)							
Sat. Oct. 14	Standing Rock Park (Varsity)	Away	10:00 am				
Boys Cross Country (Varsity & JV)							
Sat. Oct. 14	Standing Rock Park (Varsity)	Away	10:00 am				
Girls Volleyball (Varsity, JV, & JV2)							
Thurs. Oct. 12	Wausau West (JV & JV2)	Away	5:30 pm				
Thurs. Oct. 12	Wausau West (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm				
Tues. Oct. 17	Menominee (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm				
Boys Soccer (Varsity & JV)							
Thurs. Oct. 12	Wausau East (JV)	MARC	4:30 pm				
Thurs. Oct. 12	Wausau East (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm				
Tues. Oct. 17	Antigo (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm				

Please go to www.wiaawi.org for more playoff schedules and brackets.

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



PROTECTING THE GREATER



Merrill Swim Team makes a splash with a win against **Wisconsin Rapids**

TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR**

The Merrill Girls Varsity Swim Team competed against Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln at the Prairie River Middle School (PRMS) pool on Oct. 5, 2023, and the Lady Jays made quite the splash, taking first place in all but one event. In two events, the Merrill Girls took first, second, and third place, effectively shutting out their competition, and in another two events, Merrill Girls took both first and second places.

Kristie Winter, Head Coach for the Merrill Girls Varsity Swim Team, shared the results:

The Merrill Girls took first place in the following events:

Event 2. 200 Yard Medley Addison with Relay. Olivia Pajtash, Marissa Miles, and Claire

time of 2.02.37.

Event 4. 200 Yard Freestyle, with Olivia Pajtash coming in at 2:12.85.

[Note: Merrill also took second and third place in this event, with Emily Winter coming in at 2:22.63 and Deylah Schultz coming in at 2:28.93.]

Event 6. 200 Yard IM, with Marissa Miles coming in at 2:26.77.

Event 10. 100 Yard Butterfly, with Addison Jirovec coming in at 1:10.69. [Note: Merrill's Caroline

Durbin came in second

place with a time of 1:14.36.] Event 12. 100 Yard Freestyle, with Marissa Miles coming in at 58.21.

Event 14. 500 Yard Freestyle, with Olivia Pajtash coming in at 5:59.78. [Note: Merrill's Patricia Priebe came in second place

with a time of 6:44.14.] Event 16. 200 Yard

Jirovec coming in with a Freestyle Relay, with Claire Jirovec, Emily Winter, Brenna Jirovec, and Melissa Miles coming in with a time of 1:52.75.

See **SWIM** page 16

Sarah Rell, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Sarah started playing tennis in middle school when her sister, who was on the MHS Tennis Team, taught her how to play. As a Freshman, she started playing Varsity Tennis, competing in singles, and this is her first year playing doubles.

At school, Sarah is in National Honor Society, Tri-M (music honor society club), Clara Lux Choir, and Link crew. She sings with her family at church, is in confirmation class, and volunteers for the Snack Shack, Lenten Fish Fries, and other activities at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. She also works part-time at First Street Coffee Station and nannies for three boys, ages 1, 3, and 9. Sarah enjoys reading, baking, going shopping and out for coffee with her mom and sisters, and attending school events with friends.

The daughter of Kevin and Sandy Rell of Merrill, Sarah has a 4.0 GPA. After graduation. she plans to attend a four-year college to study something science related but is still undecided on a specific career path.

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Sarah Rell

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

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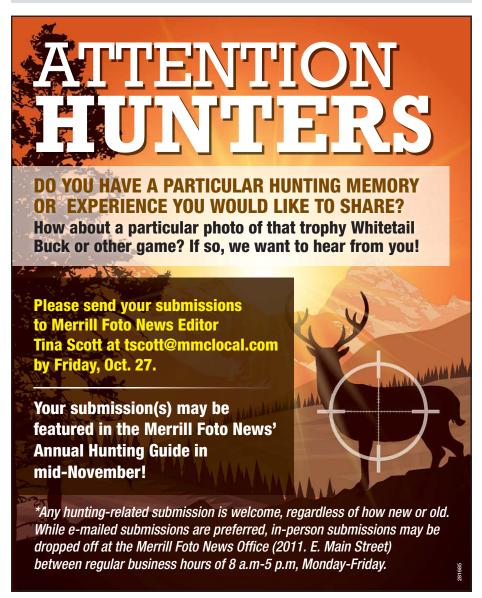
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LCHS September Donors

The Lincoln County Humane Society would like the following donors for their support in September:

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Your generosity is greatly appreciated!





Skyla made jewelry, which she sold to raise money, and then she used the funds to buy much-needed supplies for the Lincoln County Humane Society.

Submitted photo.

SWIM from page 15

Event 18. 100 Yard Backstroke, with Addison Jirovec coming in at 1:08.60.

Event 20. 100 Yard Breaststroke, with Emily Winter coming in at 1:24.73.

[Note: Merrill also took second and third place in this event, with Katelyn Klimek

coming in at 1:28.86 and Brenna Jirovec coming in at 1:30.07.]

Event 22. 400 Yard Freestyle Relay, with Oliva Pajtash, Patricia Priebe, Caroline Durbin, and Addison Jirovec coming in with a time of 4:27.09.

Box Score:

Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln 57 @ Merrill 108

CROSS COUNTRY

from page 15

Schielke (25:17), 10th place overall Mia Smith (26:00), Brooklyn Kragenbrink (28:53), and Robin Schmidt (28:59)

Northland Pines invitational

The Merrill Varsity Cross Country Team traveled to Northland Pines on Oct. 3 for an invitational with lots of competition. Merrill athletes were competing against runners from Tomahawk, Rhinelander, Antigo, Hurley, Florence, Crandon, and Laona-Wabeno.

"The day started off hot, which

concerned me and the athletes," Swan said. "But they showed up and we brought home a few medals!"

Boys: The Merrill Boys Team took fourth place out of six teams. Erick Grunenwald (18:54) took sixth place overall, Other boys' times: Parker Klebenow (20:34), Brady Eggerbrecht (21:41), Anton Countryman (22:35), Jonathan Myszka (23:31), Treg Knospe (25:05), and Jacob Mueller (26:37).

Leading the Merrill Girls, Charlotte Van Der Nest (23:37) placed 9th overall. Other girls' times: Alanna Rodgers (26:09), Robin Schmidt (27:53), and Brooklynn Kragenbrink (29:36).

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