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# Raise Your Voice Mental Health Awareness Walk walkers brave the rain

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Despite the dreary, wet weather, groups of walkers braved the rain to participate in the fourth Annual Raise Your Voice Mental Health Awareness Walk held at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC) in Merrill on Sunday, April 28, 2024. A number of pets also came along for some exercise and attention. Interestingly, both exercise and pets have been known to help improve one's mental health.

In addition to walking the outlined route, other activities added to the festivities for the day, most of which took place indoors due to the rain: yard games,

a blow-up obstacle course, face painting, a coloring station, raffles, and walking tacos and walking desserts were all available. This year's event emphasized a theme applicable to both walking and managing mental health challenges: "Don't forget to look back and see how far you've come."

The event was hosted by Merrill's Raise Your Voice Club, a student-run organization at Merrill High School, and sponsored by Aspirus and the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Northwoods. Raise Your Voice Club exists to help raise awareness of mental health, advocate for change, share resources, and support others.



Walkers turned out to take part in the Raise Your Voice Walk despite the damp weather. **Joseph Frederick photo.**



Students came out to support Raise Your Voice. **Joseph Frederick photo.**

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**MERRILL Foto News** Call Today 715-536-7121

## Lindstrom celebrates her 100th birthday in Silver Sneakers style

BY RICK ARGALL  
MMC STAFF

As Ruth Lindstrom awoke on Friday morning, April 26, 2024, she approached her day as she so often does, doing what she loves to do. She loaded up with her son, David Lindstrom, and headed for her exercise class at Riverside Athletic Club in Merrill. The Silver Sneakers program eagerly awaited her arrival, as she walked through the front doors and into the gym. After walking past many cards, balloons, and decorations, she was now aware that they were having a surprise birthday party to help her celebrate this historic and monumental day in her life. Many friends and family members greeted her with a thunderous salute, singing *Happy Birthday* to her.

"Group exercise is a great way to meet new friends and is a very important part of my weekly activities," Ruth said.



Ruth Lindstrom is 100 years old and the object of many birthday wishes and much affection on this special day. **Rick Argall photo.**

The class continued on with music from the decades of Ruth's life playing through the speakers, dating back to

the 1920's. Ruth took her front-row seat and exercised with the rest of the group, wearing a smile that was impossible to hide.

When exercise class concluded, the crowd moved to other rooms in the gym and presented Ruth with a large sheet cake, coffee, and birthday presents. Once again, her family and friends joined in together and sang *Happy Birthday* to her. When asked about the keys to a healthy and happy life for her, Ruth said: "My faith in the Lord Jesus Christ." She also said: "It's important to eat right, exercise, and have good friends. I do Silver Sneakers two to three times a week."

Born on April 26, 1924, in Akron, Ohio, Ruth has many fond memories of her childhood growing up during The Great Depression. "I was the oldest child," she said. "I was always working on the farm, with many jobs

See **LINDSTROM** page 2

## SVDP celebrates Yunek's 99th birthday and her 20 years as a SVDP volunteer

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) held a birthday party for Agnes Yunek at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store on her 99th birthday - April 23, 2024. "We celebrated with her since she had volunteered with our program since we opened in 2003," said SVDP Director of Outreach Sue Norenberg. "She is such a special lady."

"Agnes is amazing!" said Lisa Breaman, "Agnes is truly loved and inspired by those who know her and volunteered with her."

"She's amazing! If you know her, you know a saint!" said Sue Schiher, another SVDP volunteer who became a close friend to Agnes. Over the years, they shared rides to SVDP and built a friendship based on their mutual faith and similar interests and hobbies.

Like anyone who has lived for nearly a century, Agnes has faced challenges through her years - the kinds of

challenges that have a profound effect on one's spirit and can result in feelings of loneliness and isolation - but Agnes fought back against those feelings, with faith and a desire to "help other people" by becoming a volunteer. Volunteering helped get Agnes out of the house, interacting with other people regularly, and doing something for others, which kept her active and engaged in her community.

She isn't the type of woman who was going to let the challenges of life take her down.

In their retirement years, after Agnes retired from a manufacturing job, Agnes and her husband, Ben, moved into Merrill. The parents of one son, Jim, Agnes had longed for more children, but it wasn't to be. She does have grandchildren and great-grandchildren, but they don't all live here in town. So when Ben died unexpectedly in 2010, it left Agnes feeling isolated and alone. Her Catholic faith and volunteering helped keep her going.



Other volunteers, now friends, greet Agnes and wish her a happy 99th birthday at her party. **Photo courtesy of SVDP.**

A cancer survivor, Agnes suffered a significant hearing loss from

See **SVDP** page 2

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## PUBLISHER'S LETTER

### The Journey Over The Destination

Dear Reader,  
Recently I reread a poem entitled "Ithaca" by the Greek writer P.J. Cavafy. He writes about traveling to the island of Ithaca which was made famous by Homer's Odyssey. He describes the journey as something magical, something that conjures up adventures beyond the body... perhaps to the soul.

*Better that it lasts for years,  
so you're old by the time you reach the island,  
wealthy with all you gained on the way,  
not expecting Ithaca to make you rich.*

*Ithaca gave you the marvelous journey.  
Without her you wouldn't have set out.  
She has nothing left to give you now.*

*...Wise as you will have become, so full of experience,  
you'll have understood by then what these Ithacas mean."*

The message is the importance of the journey over the destination. We don't normally see it that way because we are always striving apart from the day at hand, looking beyond the corners to where we are headed. Perhaps we need to pause and ponder the here, here, not the there, over there.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
Publisher

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full of adventure, full of discovery.*

*"...Hope your road is a long one,  
May there be many summer mornings when,  
with what pleasure, what joy,  
you are entering harbors you are seeing for the first time;  
... But don't hurry the journey at all.*

### SVDP from page 1

the chemotherapy she underwent to battle her cancer. She overcomes this challenge using technology - a teletype phone and a speech-to-text app - that enables her to read what people are saying or asking rather than actually hearing the words herself.

Agnes has a strong work ethic and isn't one to stay idle for long. Perhaps that - and her strong faith - are two of the secrets to her long life. She attends daily Mass when it is available and "prays the rosary daily while she rides her stationary bike for five miles," Breman said.

She also "irons all of her sheets and most of her laundry after they line-dry outside once a week" in addition to baking homemade apple pies and pumpkin bars for events and to share with other volunteer friends and even EMT's who sometimes visit her when responding to her occasional LifeLine calls, Breman said.

Agnes has also always loved to read. "I buy a bunch of books from SVDP, read

them all, and then bring them back to sell," Agnes said.

And she loves to write lots of cards and letters, writing to family and friends and just other people "who are in need of well-wishes and prayers," Breman said. Over the years, Breman said Agnes has also embroidered many, many dish towels she's given away as gifts; made "clown dolls" for newborns; and "washed and ironed baby clothes and cleaned up dolls she then sent to the Indian missions for their little ones until the cost of postage made it too expensive to continue this act of kindness (now she sends a monetary donation instead)."

As a volunteer at the SVDP Thrift Store, Agnes worked at the store 2-3 days each week pricing clothing, mending clothing items in need of repair that were still "too good to throw out," and washing other items that were still good enough to use as rags, preparing them as "rag bundles" to sell. "I don't throw out much," Agnes said. Her long life also prepared her to be thrifty, to waste as little as possible, and to be a



More photos online [merrillfotonews.com](http://merrillfotonews.com)

Food, cake, and a sign to wish Agnes a "Happy Birthday" ... "Love Your St. Vinnie's Family" with a "We love you!" note let Agnes know she has touched many lives and made an impact. Photo courtesy of SVDP.

good steward of all that was entrusted to her. Her faith has impacted every aspect of her life, and is evident in this mindset, as well.

"SVDP has been so grateful for Agnes's 20 years of volunteering at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store!" Breman said. "She is a living, senior example of the cognitive and physical health benefits of volunteering and is beating isolation by maintaining and building relationships."

"God bless you, Agnes!" she said. "You are a blessing to us all! HAPPY BIRTHDAY!"

Currently, Agnes has had to take a break from her volunteering at the SVDP Thrift Store "due to health issues," Norenberg said. But that doesn't mean she's idle. "Every day I am busy because I have all my prayers to say," Agnes said. "When you get older and closer to dying ... you say more prayers!"

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### PET OF THE WEEK

Meet **Shelby!** She is a nice girl who is going to need a home where she is the only pet. She has been around other pets but was not doing well with them. She does know a few commands and is housebroken. She is going to be best in a home with a fenced in yard. She is also kennel trained. Shelby is going to be good in a home that is a little more on the calm side.

Visit the **Lincoln County Humane Society**, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours: Mon. - Sat. 12-4PM; Sun. 12-2PM. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, visit us on the web at [www.furypets.com](http://www.furypets.com).

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### LINDSTROM from page 2

to do, and was like the hired man."

"I have been pretty healthy over the years and have had a pretty good life. My husband passed away six years ago and [I] have many fond memories of my life with him. We went to Arizona for 17 straight winters and served as Bible translators there."

Ruth's son, David, explained her diet and the meals he prepares for her daily. "Chopped beef with blueberries covered in mayonnaise is her favorite,

and I pretty much make that for her daily," David said. "She insists on it."

Ruth lives with David, and he provides assistance for her daily care as needed. "My son, David, takes good care of me, and you just have to keep going and enjoying your life," Ruth said.

"Ruth has been an inspiration to us all, a pillar for what we should all aspire to be," said Brandon Wilde, Riverside Athletic Club President and Owner. "Happy 100th Birthday, Ruth!"



More photos online [merrillfotonews.com](http://merrillfotonews.com)

In honor of her 100th birthday, Paul Kienitz (former owner of Riverside Athletic Club) gifted Ruth Lindstrom with a very special Bible, autographed by Lee Greenwood. The Bible was presented to Ruth by her son, David, at her 100th birthday party at Riverside Athletic. Rick Argall photo.

# TRAP 2024



**HEAD COACH:** Kevin Holz (4th year as Head Coach, 12 years as Coach)

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Dave Lepak (former Head Coach) 12 years; Ashley Voigt 3rd year; and Norb Holz, John Esser, Robbin and Steve Ranta, Sarah Malluege, Matt and Stacey Wallace, Rich and Julia Ashbrenner, Landon Dalsky, and Eric Meyer. Team Photographer: Cali Brown. Parent Volunteer: Amy Brown.

**2023 RECORD:** Nine week season

**2024 TEAM:** 66 SCTP registered athletes

**KEY RETURNERS:** 47 returning athletes, 10 Seniors

**KEY LOSSES:** Four Seniors

**KEY NEWCOMERS:** 19 new athletes in grades 6-12 this year.

**2023 RECAP:** Highlights of the 2023 season included having the Female Intermediate State Champion, the

Harshaw Shoot is sporting clays, and challenging our athletes without competing against other teams.

**2024 OUTLOOK:** Every week presents a new challenge and chance to do better. We enjoy watching our athletes get better each week as they grow in skill and confidence.

**A FINAL WORD FROM THE COACH:** This is our biggest year yet with 66 SCTP registered athletes. Trap shooting is one of the fastest growing sports in the nation. With the growth of our team, we have also been working hard to host the Conference shoot in 2025. The support and donations from the community and families has enabled us to expand and install additional trap houses. We hope for good weather on Tuesdays for our matches and look forward to watching our athletes have fun and be safe while enjoying a lifelong sport.

## Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

May 2 - Open Mic Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.

May 2 - BINGO at St. Francis Xavier School

May 4 - Brooke's School of Dance production

May 4 - First annual Adam Smith Scholarship Golf Outing

May 4 - General Inland Fishing Season Opens

May 5 - Brooke's School of Dance production

May 5 - Gleason Lions Pancake Breakfast and Blood Drive event

May 5 - Open House at Camp Birch Trails

May 8 - Trivia Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.

May 9 - Open Mic Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.

May 12 - BINGO at VFW

For more information, go to: [merrillchamber.org/events](http://merrillchamber.org/events) or contact the event sponsor.

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## St. John Lutheran School announces 2023-2024 third quarter Honor Roll

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Hess, Bentley Kropp, Lily Schultz, Julia Skaar, Poppy Geisler, Brynlee Heidemann, Ruby Hoffman, Delana Podeweltz, Samuel Szeto, Esther Verpoorten, Lola Klug, Joanna Szeto, Izabella Erickson

**HONORS (3.5 - 3.75):** Evie Klug, Lillian Mattson, Aaron Swanson, Chelsea Wengeler, McKinley Hess, Malayna Kufahl, Macie Lange, Isabelle Podeweltz, Madilynn VenRooy, Corbin Mattson, Siobhan Schuetze

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**Tina L. Scott**  
Editor  
tscott@mmlocal.com

**Jennifer Gartmann**  
Sales Consultant  
jgartmann@mmlocal.com

**Heidi Schult**  
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## NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to qualified electors of the MERRILL AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT that due to a resignation, there is a limited-term vacancy on the School Board until the April 2025 election.

An elector desiring to be a candidate for this position must file a **letter of interest and resume** at the MERRILL AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE, 1111 NORTH SALES STREET, MERRILL, WI 54452, PRIOR TO 4:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024. Two written questions will also be asked to be completed before the interviews to be held on May 22, 2024.

Any qualified elector of this District who has filed a resume' and letter of interest before the deadline, shall be required to submit to a criminal background check. Persons convicted of felonies will not be considered for Board appointments.

The Board of Education will interview and name the individual to fill this position until April 2025.

Published May 2 & 9, 2024

## FFA MEMBER OF THE MONTH

**Colton Smith**, a Sophomore at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named FFA Member of the Month for April 2024. Colton joined FFA earlier this year because his cousin encouraged him to join. He has participated in the fruit sales and strawberry sale so far. "I have learned a lot in my first year," Colton said.

"I help my mom out in the garden and also help with canning and pickles, and I also am raising a rabbit. My rabbit has become a house rabbit, so it is potty trained and likes to roam all over the house," Colton said.

Colton has participated in Special Olympics since sixth grade - in bowling, snow shoe, and track events (running, long jump, javelin throw) - and has been shooting trap on the Bluejay Trap team for four years. "[I] have some really awesome coaches that have helped me and encouraged me to the best I can do," he said.

He has been a member of 4-H since kindergarten, volunteers with LEO Club at the Lion's Fair booth, and helps with the Little Lakes Memories banquet. In addition, he works part-time at Merrill Aspirus Hospital as a dietary aide. In his free time, Colton likes to kayak, camp, four wheel, ride bike, play video games, and read about WWE Wrestling and watch it on TV. He also likes to hang out with his friends playing video games and going to the trampoline park.

The son of Dawn and Bruce Smith of Merrill, Colton has a 4.0 GPA.

**Colton Smith**

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FFA Members highlighted in this feature are selected by the Executive Committee of the FFA, not by the sponsor.

# OBITUARIES



**Judith Ann Kimmons**, 86, a longtime resident of Irma, passed away Monday, April 22, 2024, at Pine Crest Nursing Home, Merrill.

Judy was born March 26, 1938, in Merrill, daughter of William and Mildred (Peterson) Lutzke. Judy graduated from Merrill High School with the Class of 1956. She married Dale R. Kimmons on August 11, 1956. He preceded her in death on September 20, 2008.

Judy began her working career as a nurse's aide at the former Holy Cross Hospital in Merrill. She also worked at Hanson Glove and the Watergate

Restaurant. She worked at the Irma Post Office and the Merrill Post Office as a clerk. Judy became a temporary caretaker for Kay Smith, a job that evolved into a full-time position due to their friendship.

Judy was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Irma. She was very close with her church family and was very involved in the church. Judy served as the president of the Ladies Aid, the secretary of the Church Council, and the regional secretary of the LWML.

Judy enjoyed taking care of her lawn and riding her lawnmower. She was a fan of Milwaukee Brewers and the Green Bay Packers. Judy had a special relationship with her sister, Patsy, and enjoyed playing cards with her sister and their cousins. She loved attending her grandchildren's events.

Survivors include her daughter, Tracey (Delmer) Polak of Merrill; sons, Willie (Cindy) Kimmons of Merrill, Scott Kimmons of Merrill, and Todd (Patti) Kimmons of Black River Falls, WI; grandchildren, Jessica (Dorian) Turner, Shaun (Becky) Kimmons, Breann (Ben) Bonke, Dakota (Alysian) Kimmons, Drew Polak, and Alana Polak; great-grandchildren, McKenzie Kimmons (Aaron Meyer), Owen Bonke, Novalee Kimmons, and Forest Kimmons; one great granddaughter, Reagan; sister, Patsy Travis of Merrill; sister-in-law, Shirley Martin of Bakersfield, CA; and many nieces and nephews. Judy was preceded in death by her husband, Dale R. Kimmons; parents, William and Mildred Lutzke; grandson, Justin Kimmons; brother-in-law, Wayne 'Sid' Travis; and several sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.

The funeral for Judy was held at 11:00 A.M., Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Irma. Rev. David Sutton officiated. The burial took place at Bethany Cemetery, Town of Birch, Lincoln County. Visitation was held from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill, and after 9:30 A.M. Wednesday at the church. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)

# In a five-game week, Merrill Varsity Baseball Team wins two, loses three

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

"It was a long week with five games," said Shawn Schultz, Head Coach for the Merrill Varsity Boys Baseball Team.

"We started out in Mosinee on Monday with a huge 8-6 victory," he said. "We got some tough pitching performances from EJ Weix and Isaak Clapper, and we did a good job with the bats, including a big three-run homerun from Brady Kanitz. It was great to see the guys come back and play well after a tough doubleheader the last time out."

The April 22, 2024, game saw high scorers Isaak Clapper (4 AB, 2 H, 2 R) and Sam Reimann (3 AB, 2 H, 2 R, 1 RBI) each bring in two runs for the Bluejays, while Brady Norton, Brady Kanitz, Carter Baade, and Nicholas Palecek each brought in a single run in the game, outscoring the Mosinee Indians by two points in the final score and bringing home a win for the Bluejays.  
**Box Score: Merrill 8 @ Mosinee 6**

On Tuesday, April 23, the Stevens Point Panthers came to Merrill to compete at Merrill's Athletic Park and the Bluejays suffered a crushing shutout defeat, losing 10-0.

"We saw their #1 and Marschke was tough," Schultz said. "He limited us to a single hit, and they did

a good job putting pressure on our defense."

Dawson Schulz spent three innings on the mound and Sam Reimann two in the five-inning game.  
**Box Score: Stevens Point 10 @ Merrill 0**

After a day to regroup, the Bluejays were facing off against the Panthers again on Thursday, April 25, this time at Stevens Point's Bukolt Park, with the Panthers having the added benefit of the home field advantage.

"They [the Panthers] did a good job hitting the ball again," Schultz said. "We did a better job against a good pitcher; we put some runs on the board and had some opportunities for more, and we didn't strike out."

Brady Kanitz (2 AB, 1 H, 1 R) and Nicholas Palecek (1 R) both scored for Merrill. Carter Kaminski pitched 3.1 innings and Cooper Wendorf was on the mound for one inning.

"Offensively, they [Stevens Point] were really tough both nights," Schultz said.  
**Box Score: Merrill 2 @ Stevens Point 12**

Friday, April 26, the Bluejays were back on the ball diamond, this time traveling to Jack Hackman Field in Marshfield, and this time they came home celebrating a big 11-2 win.

"We played a makeup with Marshfield from April 11," Schultz said. "It

was extremely windy, but Brady did a great job on the mound keeping us in the game early."

"We got one in the second to take the lead, but they came back with two in the bottom of the third," he said. "We took the lead with three in the fifth. [Then] we took advantage of a couple of miscues by Marshfield to tie it up, and Brady had a two-out two-run single to give us the lead for good."

"Some walks and a few more miscues allowed us to break it open in the sixth," Schultz said. "Sam Reimann came in to finish up, and he did a great job, as well. It was a good team win."

Kanitz pitched 5.2 innings, and Reimann pitched 1.1 innings in the game. Carter Kaminski (2 R, 1 RBI) and Isaak Clapper (5 AB, 3 H, 2 R, 2 RBI) each scored two for the Bluejays, while Brady Norton, Sam Reimann, EJ Weix, Dawson Schulz, Cooper Wendorf, Nicholas Palecek, and Carter Baade each brought home a run for the team.  
**Box Score: Merrill 11 @ Marshfield 2**

"On Saturday, [April 27] we traveled to Lakeland for a doubleheader but found out along the way it would only be one game," Schultz said.

"Isaak Clapper started on the mound for us and did

a good job throwing strikes and giving us a chance to get on top. We took the lead with a single run in the top of the second on a Carter Baade sac fly," he said.

"They came back with two in the bottom of the inning and added one in the fourth to take a 3-1 lead. We had runners every inning and left two on in the fifth and the bases loaded in the sixth," Schultz said. "Sam Reimann led off the seventh with a homerun to left, and Brady Kanitz followed with a base hit to left. But that is where the comeback ended."

"We had a ton of baserunners in the game but couldn't come up with the big hit and ended up leaving 11 on base," he said.

"EJ Weix came in and finished on the mound and threw well."

The Lakeland Union Thunderbirds took the win by a run, ending the game 3-2.

**Box Score: Merrill 2 @ Lakeland 3**

"We have a great opportunity this week with two games with Wausau East and then Tomahawk at home on Friday. We finish up with two down in Waunakee on Saturday. So we will continue to work at playing consistent baseball in all three phases," Schultz said.

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# Lincoln County summer ATV/UTV, horseback riding, and mountain bike trails now open

The Lincoln County Forestry, Land, and Parks Department announced last week that "With the relatively early, dry spring we have had, Lincoln County's summer ATV/UTV trails, horseback riding trails, and mountain bike trails" opened effective at 8 a.m. on May 1, 2024. "Please stay on the designated trail, observe and follow all signs, and respect private property the trail may pass through," a release said. Additional updates are available at [co.lincoln.wi.us](http://co.lincoln.wi.us) or via the trail hotline at 715.539.1033.

# Callahan announces campaign for re-election to State Assembly

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

Republican incumbent Calvin Callahan has announced he will run for re-election to the Wisconsin State Assembly to represent the 35th Assembly District which includes all of Lincoln County and Langlade County, and parts of Marathon, Shawano, Oneida, and Oconto counties.

As of this printing, no other Republican candidates have registered to run against Callahan in the Aug. 13, 2024, Primary Election; however, there is still more than a month for candidates to register. The filing deadline for candidates is June 3, 2024.

The General Election



Calvin Callahan.

for the Wisconsin State Assembly is on Nov. 5, 2024.

During the 2023-2024 term, Callahan was Chairman of the Consumer Protection Committee and Vice Chairman of both the Forestry, Parks, and Outdoor Recreation Committee and the Insurance Committee. He also served on the Corrections Committee,

the Labor and Integrated Employment Committee, the Sporting Heritage Committee, the State Affairs Committee, and the Ways and Means Committee.

"Calvin came to you three years ago with a vision that there should be no reason why your kids, grandkids, and great-grandchildren can't raise their families

here at home in northern Wisconsin," a release from Callahan's campaign said.

According to his release, during the last Assembly session, Callahan said he was proud to a part-of, have co-authored, and have voted for a historic \$4.4 billion cut for Wisconsin residents and tax-free retirement income; repealing the personal property tax; pushing for implementing a wolf population goal in preparation for future hunts; a ban on "gender-mutilating surgeries for minors; a ban on men competing in women's sports; securing \$90 million+ in childcare funding; and increases in shared revenue for local governments.

"Calvin will continue to demand fiscal responsibility and fight for our vision, cut taxes, stand up for our sporting heritage, fight for our fair share of funding, and fight for our Northwoods values," the release said.

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 Special **DAY OF THE EVENT Raffles**, which will be available only at the Fundraiser/Open House on May 18, include a Winchester Gun Safe, Recliners, 50/50 Cash raffles, PowerHouse Choice of One and more.

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Tickets will also be on sale at the Fundraiser/Open House on May 18. Don't miss your opportunity for a chance to win one of these wonderful prize packages!

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

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Kids will have an opportunity to try archery with 3-D targets, fish and shoot balloons for door prizes, and check out the Sheriff's Bearcat Armored Vehicle.

For details on prize packages, ticket prices, where to purchase tickets and general information about the club and the fundraiser/open house, visit the LCSC website at [lcsportsclub.com](http://lcsportsclub.com)

We hope everyone will join us in supporting the club and our community.

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# How to create more privacy on your property



An inviting backyard can serve as a welcome retreat from the hustle and bustle of daily life. After a long day at the office or an exhausting day spent transporting kids to and fro, it's hard to resist the allure of a peaceful outdoor space in which to unwind.

Privacy is a key component of any backyard oasis. Some homes may be so remote that privacy isn't an issue. But many suburban homeowners recognize they might need to tweak their landscapes if they hope to create a private

oasis outside.

### Fencing or planting?

Most homeowners looking to create more privacy on their property will have to choose between fencing and planting. Fencing provides immediate privacy because, once it's installed, no one can see into the yard. Fencing also doesn't require watering or other immediate upkeep, which will be necessary when planting to ensure tree roots can establish themselves.

But planting has its benefits as well. Planting

for privacy is essentially creating a living fence that can grow over time and provide even more privacy as trees reach maturity. Plants also tend to be less costly than fencing. The home renovation experts at BobVila.com estimate that fencing projects typically cost between \$1,667 and \$4,075.

However, fencing projects can cost considerably more than \$4,000, especially for homeowners with large properties they want to enclose. Large, mature trees can be expensive, though it's unlikely they will cost as much as fencing. In addition, fencing requires more maintenance and will potentially need to be replaced, while native trees won't require much upkeep and can last for generations.

### Planting:

Homeowners who choose to plant for

privacy will next have to decide which type of plants to add to their properties. Evergreens provide year-round privacy because they don't shed their leaves, so these are the ones most often chosen when creating a living fence. A number of varieties of evergreen trees can do the job, but it's important that homeowners consult with a landscape architect prior to choosing trees so they can ensure the trees will thrive when faced with the growing conditions on their properties. During such a consultation, homeowners may discuss the following popular privacy trees.

### Leyland Cypress:

The Arbor Day Foundation notes that the Leyland cypress

is popular for hedges and boundaries, likely because a typical tree reaches a mature height of 60'-70' and can spread as wide as 25'. The Leyland cypress grows fast, which may appeal to homeowners who don't want to wait to establish privacy.

### Green Giant Arborvitae:

There are different varieties of the arborvitae, but the Green Giant tends to be the go-to option for privacy. The ADF notes that Green Giants will grow up to three feet per year until they reach maturity, providing a fast-growing option for privacy planters. The Green Giant can spread as wide as 20 feet at maturity, which is another attribute that makes it so popular among

homeowners desiring privacy.

### Eastern White Pine:

The ADF notes that the eastern white pine, which can reach heights as high as 80 feet, is favored in spacious yards. That's likely due to its height and its potential spread, which can reach 40 feet. Homeowners who choose the eastern white pine might like it for its resemblance to a Christmas tree, and in fact it is widely used for that purpose. The privacy provided by the eastern white pine is significant, but it might be best suited to especially large properties.

Whether it's fencing or planting, homeowners have many options to consider as they seek to create more privacy on their properties.

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# Minor exterior upgrades that can help sell a home

The home improvement industry has been booming for years, but forecasters are projecting a deceleration in 2023 and perhaps beyond. Estimates from the Home Improvement Research Institute, which is the leading market research resource for the home and building products industry, indicate that growth in the home improvement products market is expected to decelerate from 7.2 percent in 2022 to 1.5 percent in 2023. Inflation continues to affect consumer spending, and homeowners may be looking to spend less on renovations in the year ahead.

Minor upgrades that aren't as costly as larger

projects can still make a big difference, especially among prospective buyers. When looking for minor upgrades that can help sell a home, homeowners can rely on Remodeling magazine's annual "Cost vs. Value Report." That report analyzes costs for an assortment of remodeling projects and determines the value of those projects at resale. Though resale value depends on a host of variables, including location, the following are some relatively minor exterior upgrades that impress buyers and provide a strong return for homeowners.

### Garage door replacement:

Garage doors matter

more than sellers may recognize, as various real estate professionals note that buyers appreciate homes with updated garage doors. That's good news for homeowners, as the "2022 Cost vs. Value Report" indicated homeowners recoup roughly 93 percent of their garage door replacement investment at resale. The average cost of such a job is right around \$4,000, making this a budget-friendly remodeling project.

### Window replacement:

The cost of new windows will depend on just how many windows must be replaced. But there's no denying

buyers like the idea of low emissivity (low-E) windows, which can cut energy bills by a significant amount over time. The Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy estimates that heat gain and heat loss through windows is responsible for between 25 and 30 percent of residential heating and cooling energy use, so sellers who can tell buyers they have new low-E windows can emphasize those savings in home listings. The "2022 Cost vs. Value Report" indicates that homeowners recoup roughly two-thirds of their investment in new windows at resale.



Updated garage doors add curb appeal and provide a strong return on homeowners' investment at resale.

### Landscaping:

Well-maintained landscaping is another home exterior component that can make a strong first impression on buyers. A recent survey of nearly 7,000 realtors conducted by the National Association of Realtors found that upgrading a landscape recouped roughly 83 percent of homeowners' initial investment at

resale. In addition, 11 percent of realtors surveyed indicated that an upgraded landscape was the decisive factor that closed the deal for the house.

Updating a home's exterior doesn't have to bust homeowners' budgets. Many affordable projects also provide a substantial return at resale.

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# The benefits of planting native species



lawns and gardens and a healthier planet as well.

**Native plants are built for local climates:**

One of the issues gardeners who plant exotic plants run into is keeping those plants thriving when weather turns harsh. For example, exotic plants may require extra watering in areas that experience drought or even long periods without precipitation in spring and notably summer. The United States Environmental Protection Agency reports that at least 40 states anticipate water shortages by 2024. Planting native plants

can help to combat those shortages by reducing the need to water plants

capable of thriving in local conditions, native plants tend to require less

amendments in order to maintain the look of exotic plants. And though it's not always the case, exotic plants tend to cost more at nurseries than natives.

**Native plants save gardeners time:**

In addition to saving money, native plants don't require as much attention. Though spring and summer is a great time to be in the yard, it's also a great

time to be out and about. Because native plants thrive in local conditions, gardeners won't need to spend much of their free time tending to them. Exotics tend to require a lot of extra attention and effort, especially

**Native plants blend in with an existing landscape:**

Native plants look natural within an existing landscape, adding some instant aesthetic appeal without breaking the bank. When planting exotics, homeowners may feel a need to redesign their entire gardens to create a certain look (think Japanese garden). That can quickly consume a budget and take up a lot of free time in both the short- and long-term.



Spring and summer present ideal growing conditions for many plants, making these seasons an ideal time to tend to lawns and gardens. Though it's easy to succumb to the temptation of exotic plants, avid gardeners and eco-conscious planters recognize the significance of native plants.

Novices may not realize that native plants are much better for a landscape and the local ecosystem it calls home. Recognition of the many benefits of native plants can make for healthier

if conditions become dry in late spring and summer.

**Native plants save money:**

It's also important to note that native plants save homeowners money. Because they're

watering, which can help homeowners reduce their utility costs. But native plants also require less upkeep, which means homeowners can save on potentially costly, not to mention eco-unfriendly, pesticides and other

time to be out and about. Because native plants thrive in local conditions, gardeners won't need to spend much of their free time tending to them. Exotics tend to require a lot of extra attention and effort, especially

Planting season marks a great time to revitalize a landscape. Choosing native plants when doing so pays numerous dividends for homeowners and the planet they call home.

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# Budget-friendly ways to freshen up your home's exterior

As any homeowner knows, renovation projects tend to cost a lot of money. The average cost of a home renovation is difficult to gauge, as such endeavors run the gamut from complex projects like a kitchen overhaul to simpler ones like painting a room inside a home. Indeed, the National Association of the Remodeling Industry notes that scope is what drives the cost of a renovation project.

Though there might not be an "average cost" of a renovation project, homeowners can expect to spend thousands of dollars on projects that are not very small in scale. Navigating such an expense at a time when inflation remains high might be difficult for some homeowners

looking to maintain the appearance of their home exteriors. However, there are many budget-friendly ways homeowners can tend to the exterior of their properties.

### Power washing:

Power washing won't break the bank but it can revive the look of a home. Power washing removes dirt and grime from the siding of a home and a power washing can be used to clean porches, walkways and patios as well. Hardware chains like Home Depot and Lowe's typically rent power washers, but homeowners who don't want to do it themselves can hire a professional for a few hundred dollars, if not less. Power washing after winter can be a good idea, as the elements can take a toll on a home's

exterior. A good power washing before spring and summer entertaining season can thus give a home a fresh, clean look without breaking the bank.

### Furnished front porch:

A furnished front porch can serve as a welcome sign to neighbors and provide a great place to relax with a morning cup of coffee and a good book. Homeowners with a small porch won't need to bust their budgets to upgrade their front porch furnishings. Some small chairs with bright cushions, a small table and a rug underfoot can revamp an entryway at low cost.

### Window box installation:

Installing window box planters is another cost-effective way to brighten up a home's exterior. Homeowners can hang window boxes outside windows on the front of their homes and then fill them with brightly

colored flowers to add an inviting pop of color to their home exteriors. The experts at Better Homes & Gardens urge homeowners to take weight into consideration before buying window planters. Keep in mind that soil and developed plants can be heavy, so look for a sturdy box as well as one that has drainage holes.

### Replace hardware:

Another simple way to freshen up a stale exterior is to replace hardware. Door knobs, knockers, house numbers, and even the mailbox can appear dated after a while. Replacing these items is inexpensive and quick but can have a profound impact on how the exterior of a home appears to residents and visitors.

Exterior renovations need not break the bank. Various simple and inexpensive tweaks can quickly revitalize the exterior of a home.



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# The role of nature in home design in the years ahead

Outdoor living spaces were prioritized during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, when public gatherings were greatly limited and individuals were urged to stay home as much as possible. Such demands have had a ripple effect on various industries, including home design. According to a survey conducted by the New Home Trends Institute in collaboration with Pro Builder, 58 percent of the more than 300 residential architects, designers and design-minded builders who participated said connection to the outdoors/nature will be an important influence on their design choices in the years to come. In addition, 45 percent of respondents indicated increased attention will be afforded to outdoor entertaining spaces.

So what might the outdoor spaces of homes built in the not-so-distant future look like? Respondents to the survey anticipated a growing demand for various built-in outdoor features, including:

- Firepits or fireplaces
- Outdoor kitchens
- Gazebos or pergolas
- Pools
- Spas or hot tubs

Though trends and consumer demands are ever-shifting, architects and designers are anticipating that future homeowners will want more developed outdoor living spaces and greater access to nature, which is something current homeowners can keep in mind when renovating their properties.



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MERRILL FOTO NEWS

**Student of the Week**

This Week's Featured Student is **Javier Reyes**  
 Son of **Emmanuel Reyes & Corina Velasquez**

Javier is in 2nd grade at Kate Goodrich Elementary School. He was nominated by Mr. Klapperich.

**What is your favorite subject in school? Why?**  
 I like science, math, and reading because I really like science because I had a science magic kit and it made bubbles that blew up. It's cool because I learn a lot of things.

**What is your favorite part of school? Why?**  
 I like math and recess and lunch. I like playing with my friends because they give me happy times.

**What would you like to do/become someday? Why?**  
 I would like to be a musical artist where you paint music and sing it. Someone on the bus told me that it could be a career. I've never seen it before, but they told me it's just writing the lyrics and singing them and then painting it.

This school year Javier has made us all proud. He is not afraid of challenges in his school work and will do his best to meet his goals. He has made wonderful progress as he prepares for third grade. Javier is a good friend to everyone because he knows how important maintaining good relationships is as we grow. I look forward to seeing his smile and friendly greeting each morning. He knows that our school is a safe place to learn and grow, and it is evident that he wants to make sure everyone around him feels the same way. Javier is a wonderful person and I'm excited to see all of the great things I know he'll do one day.

~ Mr. Klapperich

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# Merrill Varsity Girls Soccer shutout by DC Everest

BY RICK ARGALL  
MMC STAFF

The Merrill Varsity Girls Soccer team hosted conference rival DC Everest on Thursday night, April 25, 2024, at Jay Stadium in Merrill. In what turned out to be a high-scoring contest for DC Everest, their goals came early and often, as Merrill was unable to net a goal and was defeated 8-0 in a time-shortened game at 65:21.

A goal by the Evergreens at the 1:50 mark of the first half set the tone early as DC Everest jumped out to a 1-0 lead and never trailed after that, and Merrill played most of the half in their own end of the field. The Evergreens added goals at 3:59, 7:07, 16:18, 25:06, and 37:34 of the first half to take a 6-0 lead at halftime.

Merrill came out and played solid

defense in the second half to minimize the DC Everest attack, but was unable to get quality shots on goal in an effort to get back into the game. Two more goals were scored by the Evergreens, as the score grew to 8-0 at the 65:21 mark and the game was called by the referees, ending in a victory for Everest.

“We knew going into this game that we would have our hands full,” said Dan Kufahl, Head Coach for the Merrill Girls Varsity Soccer Team. “DC Everest is the class of the Valley Conference and one of the best in the state.”

“The Lady Jays played them tough, as usual, but Everest’s experience and skill was too much to handle and we ended up losing 8-0,” he said. “As an appreciator of great soccer, it was impressive to watch DC Everest play their game. As the Head

Coach of the opposing team, not so much. But it gave the Lady Jays a front row seat to what it takes to play elite level soccer, and we all walked off the pitch having learned something new.”

“We are going to take those lessons we learned and get back to work for two games this week,” Kufahl said after the game. “Tuesday we have Three Lakes coming to town, and Thursday the ladies host Wausau East. Both games should be very competitive, and we are looking forward to getting back in the win column!”

The Merrill Varsity Girls Soccer team looks to rebound as they travel to Three Lakes on Tuesday, April 30. Game time is scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

**Box Score:**  
**DC Everest 8 @ Merrill 0**



More photos online  
[merrillfotonews.com](http://merrillfotonews.com)

Here we have Allison Hoock, Addie Elliott, Grace Faber, Reggie Lahti and Anna Bowe defending on a Everest corner kick. **Melissa and Brad Kracht photo.**

# Bluejay Trap Team starting their season on a five-week winning streak

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

The Merrill Bluejay Trap Team started their season on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, with a matchup against Wausau Skeet & Trap. The Bluejays took the win in Week 1, scoring 116 to Wausau’s 111.

The Merrill Bluejay Varsity Trap Team scored another win in Week 2, competing against Medford Area Trap Club, with a score of Merrill 115 to Medford 97.

In Week 3, Merrill took a third consecutive win, with the Varsity Bluejays scoring 116 against the Northland Pines Eagles’ score of 99.

Merrill’s Varsity shooters got the win again in Week 4 against SPASH. The SPASH Shooting Club scored 114, but the Bluejays edged out ahead of them for the win with a score of 116.

The winning streak for Merrill continued into Week 5 with the Bluejay Trap Team shooting a 111

to take the win versus the Antigo Red Robins’ score of 107

Four weeks of regular season shooting remain in the nine-week regular season, and the Bluejays are aiming for a perfect season if they can pull it off. So far, they are well on their way, and if their aim is true, they just might hit their target.

Currently, the Mosinee Trap Team is also on a five-week winning streak. Merrill will face off against Mosinee in Week 8 of competition this season.

### Individual Varsity performances

After five weeks of shooting, Merrill Varsity shooter Christopher Holz sits in fourth place in the Conference with a score of 116, separated by just two points from the first place shooter in the Conference who currently has a score of 118.

Nicholas Kriegel (114), Bobby Hoff (114), Landon

Hipke (106), and Landon Klockziem (106) are other current high scorers for the Merrill Varsity Team. Kriegel scored a perfect 25 in Week 4 of competition.

JV shooter Matthew Maas also scored a perfect 25 in Week 5 of competition. Maas currently sits in first place in the entire Conference in Junior Varsity competition with a score of 113.

Also in JV competition, Merrill’s Maria Ashbrenner is currently in first place in the Conference for female competitors with a score of 107, and Merrill’s Lily Kufahl is currently in third place in the Conference for female competitors with a score of 87.

Jaxon Ames of Merrill is also currently in fifth place in the Conference at the Intermediate Entry level of competition for male competitors with a score of 96.

## 2024 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

Boys Track (Varsity & JV)			
Fri. May 3	D. C. Everest (JV)	Away	4:30 pm
Fri. May 3	Multiple Schools (Varsity)	Home	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 9	Stevens Point (JV)	Away	4:00 pm
Girls Track (Varsity & JV)			
Fri. May 3	Multiple Schools (Varsity)	Home	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 9	WI Rapids (JV)	Away	4:00 pm
Thurs. May 9	Rhineland (Varsity)	Away	4:00 pm
Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV & JV2)			
Thurs. May 2	Wausau East (JV2)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 2	Wausau East (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Fri. May 3	Tomahawk (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Sat. May 4	Waukeg (Varsity & JV)	Away	11:00 am
Mon. May 6	Rhineland (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Mon. May 6	Wausau West (JV2)	Away	5:00 pm
Tues. May 7	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 9	Wausau West (JV2)	Home	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 9	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Girls Softball (Varsity & JV)			
Thurs. May 2	Wausau East (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 pm
Mon. May 6	Antigo (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Tues. May 7	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:30 pm
Thurs. May 9	D. C. Everest (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 pm
Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV)			
Thurs. May 2	Wausau East (JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 2	Wausau East (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Tues. May 7	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 9	Marshfield (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 9	Marshfield (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

**Anna Bowe**, a Senior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. When Anna was in first grade, she started playing soccer for the City League, then played for Prairie River Middle School (PRMS), and in high school played both JV and Varsity as a Freshman, before advancing to full-time Varsity as a Sophomore. This year she is Goalie for the Girls Varsity Soccer Team.

Anna also plays volleyball, having started in the fourth grade for the Junior Jays, then playing for PRMS, and then being split between JV and Varsity as a Freshman at MHS, before moving up to full-time Varsity as a Sophomore on the MHS Girls Varsity Volleyball Team and also playing Club Volleyball for Medford Storm. Unfortunately, this year Anna couldn’t play volleyball because she tore her ACL; however, she did coach for Medford Storm instead.

At school, Anna’s favorite class this year is AP Chemistry, and she is Treasurer and Historian for National Honor Society, a member of Junior Optimist Club, a member of LEAD, and on the LINK Crew. She works at Auntie Ray’s Coffee Shop as a barista and volunteers at her church, St. Stephens UCC, for Vacation Bible School and Messy Church, where she is also active in the Youth Group. In her free time, Anna likes to read, bake, and go camping.

The daughter of Dean Bowe and Kristine Bowe of Merrill, Anna has a 4.0 GPA and plans to go to college after high school to become a physical therapist.



**Anna Bowe**

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# THE GLEASON CORNER

BY TINA L. SCOTT, EDITOR

## Ma's Place

Ma's Place, N5375 State Hwy. 17 in Gleason, is a family restaurant owned by sisters, Barbara Nickel and Cindy Schielke, who purchased the property nine years ago, completely remodeled the entire building, and then opened and named the restaurant in honor of their mother, Cecile Nicholson. "We couldn't call it Cecile's because it would sound like an Italian restaurant," Barb said. The restaurant isn't Italian at all, but rather a typical "mom and pop" style restaurant featuring a variety of home style breakfast and lunch options and fish fries on Friday nights.

"Our mom used to cook at a bunch of the restaurants around town," Barb said. She would have loved to have her own little restaurant like this, she said. Their mother, who had eight children altogether, started cooking at area restaurants in the years that followed her husband's sudden and untimely death in 1983 at the age of 45.

"She was a hell of a cook," Barb said of her mom. Cindy seems to take after her in that regard. "That girl, she can put out a breakfast, I swear to God, in four minutes," Barb said of Cindy. "I've had customers say, 'I didn't even get a drink of my coffee yet, and she's got my breakfast out here.' She's a speed demon."



Ma's Place.

Tina L. Scott photo

"We are known for our blueberry pancakes," Barb said, "And our hamburger, which is never frozen." Barb said they deal a lot with Merrill Distributing. "They work very well with Cindy. That's her job. She does the ordering. She's the kitchen queen."

Barb handles the "front of the house" greeting customers, waiting tables, taking orders, and doing the bookwork for the business. "[This was] me and Cindy from the get go," Barb said. Their husbands, Hank and Craig, are listed on the paperwork, mostly in name only, she said. Cindy's husband comes in to help sometimes, sometimes some of their kids come in and help, and another lady comes in to help them on Fridays, "But pretty much it's just me and Cindy," she said.

Her favorite thing about having Ma's Place? "The people," Barb said. "We've met so many wonderful people ... because we're centrally located." They have a steady clientele of locals and get steady traffic from Hwy. 17, she said.

The business will soon celebrate their ninth anniversary, but is for sale, and the ladies hope to find a buyer with their same passion for serving the community. With both their husbands retired, they'd like to join the men in kicking back. "We want to spend some time with grandkids and family, and Cindy loves fishing, her and her husband," Barb said. "[And] me and my husband, we want to do some camping with our kids."

Now for sale going on two years, "We just keep thinking it's not happening yet because the good Lord hasn't got the right one in mind yet, to walk through our doors,"

Barb said.

Ma's Place is in the upper level and seats 57, plus the new deck seating, and the lower level is pretty much a clean slate, Barb said. It could be set up for meetings, a party space, living quarters. A parking area in front, large yard area in back, and a three-car garage are included in the property.

"It's been very profitable," Barb said. "It's hard work. ... But I mean, we're only open until 2 o'clock. You know, and Friday night is our only other night that we're open later. And I mean, it works out good for Cindy and I. ... She can go, and her and her husband can do something. I can go home and mow my lawn, or go by my kids." They have the rest of the afternoon and every evening except Fridays to do as they please, and she said it works really well.

A new buyer could step right in; the property is for sale as a turnkey business. "You give me money, I give you keys," Barb quipped. If new owners kept the name, Ma's Place, "It'd be great," she said. The sisters would love to see the restaurant they created in honor of their mom continue on.

Ma's Place opens at 6 a.m. and gets a lot of early morning traffic, "especially in the summertime," Barb said. Current hours are: 6 a.m. - 11 a.m. Monday and Tuesday, closed Wednesday, 6 a.m. - 2 p.m. Thursday, 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday, and 6 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Cecile Nicholson's graduation picture hangs in Ma's Place restaurant, as a tribute to her.

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 Sunday Worship with communion 10:30 am  
 Sunday School 9:15 am

**GLEASON AREA LIONS**

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
 Sunday, May 5th • 8am-12noon  
 Gleason Lions Park N5179 Bradley St., Gleason  
**SAME GREAT FOOD WITH 4 SERVING OPTIONS**  
 SENIOR/CHILDREN • STANDARD • UNLIMITED PANCAKES ONLY  
 BELGIUM WAFFLE WITH TOPPING • UNDER 5 - FREE

Serving: Regular & Potato Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Applesauce, Milk or Coffee  
 We serve Pure Wisconsin Maple Syrup produced by Local Suppliers

**COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE • 8:00am-12:30pm**  
 Walk-ins welcome, or call for an appointment,  
 Toll Free at 1-800-280-4102. You will get a Ticket For FREE breakfast when you donate blood.

• Portable Storage Sheds • Garages • Garden Sheds  
 • Cabins

**Lead Time: 10 Weeks and Counting!**

**Baker Barns LLC** Sizes from 8'x8' to 14'x40'  
 Free Local Delivery

(715) 873-3338  
 Displays in Rhinelander and at our Shop Located 1 Mile N. of Gleason on Hwy 17

**Gleason Mennonite Church**  
 5626 State Road 17, Gleason, WI

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.  
 Matthew 18:20

**Customer Appreciation**

Bring in this ad for a **FREE** small soft serve ice cream cone  
 Come one, come all...**FREE ICE CREAM!!!**  
 Good through May 18th, 2024 and group of up to 5 people.

SUMMER HOURS: WED. & SAT. 8AM-5PM. MON., TUES., THURS., & FRI. 8AM - 6PM  
 Located in Gleason. All prices subject to change. While supplies last.

**PRAIRIE PINES** 715-873-4840  
 STOP IN AND ENJOY OUR FRIENDLY, AGREEABLE SERVICE!

**SKAAR FAMILY FARM**

High-quality feed for your herd. Locally & humanely raised food for your family.

**Farm Fresh Meat**  
 Farm Raised Beef, Pork, & Chicken  
 Available as quarters, halves, bundles and individual cuts

**High Quality Hay**  
 Small Square Hay Bales  
 Round Hay Bales

**Farmhouse Creations**  
 Homemade natural soaps & handcrafted items

Hay Inquiries - Tom Skaar 715-551-0508  
 Meat Inquiries - Leah Skaar 715-551-9096  
 www.SkaarFamilyFarm.com  
 Skaar\_Family\_Farm@yahoo.com  
 facebook.com/SkaarFamilyFarm