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Merrill Food Truck-a-Palooza is this Saturday

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The City of Merrill is set to host its first-ever Food Truck-a-Palooza at the Merrill Festival Grounds this Saturday, May 18, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Held at what was formerly known

as the Lincoln County Fairgrounds, Merrill Mayor Steve Hass came up with the idea as a way to promote utilizing the Merrill Festival Grounds more “and knowing that Merrill needed something to bring

See **FOOD** page 3

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Northern Lights

ABOVE: Images of the Northern Lights from this past weekend's beautiful display of color, as captured overlooking Lake Alexander near Merrill. **Blue Sky Photography/Peter Tesch photo.**

RIGHT: This image of the Northern Lights this past weekend also captured the path of a meteor as it traveled across the night sky. **Blue Sky Photography/Peter Tesch photo.**



May 18-26 is Buddy Poppy Campaign Week in Merrill

Stop and get a red poppy to wear this week in honor of veterans who died for freedom



BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

On Friday, May 10, 2024, Merrill Mayor Steve Hass issued a proclamation that the week of May 18-26, 2024, be designated as “Buddy Poppy Campaign Week” in Merrill and asking that “all citizens pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom by wearing the Memorial Poppy during this week.”

“The City of Merrill supports the annual Buddy Poppy Campaign for the VFW Post 1638 and Auxiliary to honor our fallen” and “recognizes the

Mayor Hass presented the Buddy Poppy Week proclamation at City Hall. Shown from L to R: Michele Rathke, 2022-23 State Commander for the VFW; Kathy Palazzo, Chaplain; John Rathke, VFW 1638 Post Commander; Mayor Steve Hass; Denni Radloff, Auxiliary President; and Jeff Radloff and Jill Schmunk, Auxiliary members. **Submitted photo.**

importance of honoring those who have worn our nation's uniform,” the proclamation said. “A nation at peace must be reminded of the price of war and the debt owed every service member who has died in the name of liberty and freedom ...”

became a symbol of the blood shed during battle, and in 1922, the “Buddy Poppy” became an annual reminder of lives sacrificed on battle fields, distributed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) posts and their

After World War I, the red poppy

See **POPPY** page 2

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MERRILL Foto News

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

A Glimpse Into Tragedy

Dear Reader,

Those of you who read this column regularly may have noticed my enduring interest in poetry. Today I would like to share a poem that few have seen. It was written by William McHale, my grandfather, and appeared many years ago in the Chilton Times-Journal, which he published in the 30s and 40s.

The poem is heartfelt and sad, dealing with the death of his son in early childhood. This brings to mind the oft repeated maxim that parents should never have to bury their children. Over the years the poem has meant a great deal to everyone in our family, helping my siblings and cousins to remember the uncle that we lost without ever knowing him.



PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

For Michael
Had I But Known

Had I but known he did not come to stay,
That he was just a transient little guest
By heaven sent and thither shortly bound
How avidly his smallest small request
I should have heard, and its appeasement found.

If I had known he entered at my gate
Only to pause on his far homeward flight -
Sweet soul ordained to bear no taint of earth -
How I had schemed to make the hours more bright
And shield his dimpled hands from every hurt.

But I knew not. There are tomorrows yet,
I thought, to mend the playthings wrecked today.
Then, lo, a muffling silence stilled the noise
Of clamorous mirth, for he had gone his way
And left my heart like his poor broken toys.

William McHale

POPPY from page 1

auxiliaries throughout the United States. The first year, poppies were imported from France, but the VFW soon discovered having paper poppies made by disabled, hospitalized, and aging veterans and then shipping them to VFW posts and auxiliaries for distribution was a better way and also provided veterans with a small source of income. Funds raised through the annual "Buddy Poppy Campaign" go to veterans and dependents and orphans of deceased veterans who are in need, while the wearing and display of the red poppies continues to honor the lives lost in service to our country.

Locally, members of Schmitt-Manecke-Donner Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 1638 and Auxiliary will have Buddy Poppies available in several locations in Merrill during the week of May 18-27. VFW Post 1638 Auxiliary President Denni Radloff, VFW Post 1638 Chaplain Kathy Palazzo, and Auxiliary member Jill

Schmunk are co-chairing this year's event. "We are looking forward to seeing everybody and will be grateful when the donations are counted and used to benefit veterans," the co-chairs said. "Please help the cause and thank you for your continued support."

"Proceeds from Buddy Poppy distributions must be used to benefit disabled veterans, veterans with unmet needs and their families, and the family members and orphans of deceased veterans," they said. "What better way to help our veterans in the community than by distributing this little flower of remembrance."

Look for VFW Post 1638 and Auxiliary members at Dave's County Market or in the First Street Coffee Station/Park City Credit Union parking lot area and plan to stop, make a donation, and get a Buddy Poppy. Then wear your Buddy Poppy proudly this week in remembrance of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Buddy Poppies are also available at the Northwoods Veterans Post, 601 Johnson St. in Merrill, during business hours.



More photos online merrillfotonews.com

VFW Post 1638 Commander John Rathke with his grandson, Rowan, and Mayor Steve Hass are all wearing red, a fitting way to prepare for the annual Buddy Poppy Campaign Week and the distribution of the symbolic red paper poppies.

Submitted photo.

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Advertisement for Garage Sale Kits Available, including pricing stickers, signs, balloons, and a success pamphlet.

Advertisement for Johnsons Downtown Merrill featuring a 'STOP' sign graphic and 'BIG SAVINGS' on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Advertisement for St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, including dates for Saturday and Friday sales, and information about mystery bags and wedding dresses.

Advertisement for Merrill Area Farmer's Market, highlighting the opening day on Saturday, May 18th, and listing various products available.

Advertisement for RedMax equipment, featuring the RZT 42 model and listing various specifications and prices.

Advertisement for the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo, including dates (June 7-9, 2024), location (Merrill, WI), and ticket information.

Latest report highlights progress at LHS, CLS

DOC continues to work on revising administrative code

MADISON, Wis. – On April 5, 2024, the 19th report from the federal court-appointed monitor for Lincoln Hills School/Copper Lake School (LHS/CLS) was filed, noting continued improvements at the juvenile facility.

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) is now in substantial compliance with 43 (or 86%) of the 50 provisions identified in the consent decree, 7 more than the previous reporting period.

The consent decree stems from a 2017 lawsuit over conditions at the facility under the previous administration. Under Gov. Tony Evers, the DOC has been in either partial or substantial compliance with all provisions of the consent decree.

“The department is grateful to the monitoring team for their recognition of the important work going on at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake schools and for their assistance as we continue to make improvements,” DOC Deputy Secretary Jared Hoy said. “DOC is especially proud of our employees there who have been energized by the progress. That enthusiasm and passion is positively impacting our care of

the youth there.”

In the latest report, the department gained substantial compliance in provisions relating to administrative confinement, staffing, and morale.

The court-appointed monitor visited LHS/CLS in March and conducted 52 interviews with staff and youth.

“Staff morale was exceptionally good overall at the time of the site visit,” the monitor wrote. “Staff were extremely friendly from the moment you walked through the front door. The new staff who were on-the-job training expressed their excitement to begin their positions, stated the training was good, and genuinely were happy with their decision to join the team. Staff also said to the monitoring team that they felt safe at the facility and loved their jobs.”

The monitor noted that overall interactions between leadership, staff, and youth were positive and the general atmosphere during the visit was calm.

A major improvement noted in the report was the Division of Juvenile Corrections full implementation of The Mandt System.

The Mandt System uses trauma-informed positive behavior support to help build relationships and create a safe environment for all. The program replaced an older

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FOOD from page 1

the community together,” said Hallie Savall, Social Media Specialist for the city of Merrill.

“The Food Truck-a-Palooza is a new event to Merrill,” said Merrill Mayor Steve Hass. “It will have food trucks, music, a craft and vendor show, cornhole tournament, adult beverages, and a bounce house for kids.”

“Having multiple things to do at the Food Truck-a-Palooza will bring more enjoyment to the community,” Savall said. “We are excited to see this event happen in the city of Merrill.”

“This event is both a city celebration and tourist attraction,” Hass said. “We want people to see Merrill as a place where people can come together and have a great time. Bringing in people from other communities is a great way to showcase some of what Merrill has to offer. We are centrally located to several other communities and to have this event here just makes sense.”

“We are looking forward to having families out and about kicking off summer with a bang and enjoying a great community event,” Savall said.

Hass said his goal is for Food Truck-a-Palooza to become an annual event that continues to grow each year. “We are looking to the future and bringing more to the event as well,” he said.

“Attendees can expect to experience more to life with the community as a whole,” Hass said. “The City of Merrill is excited to bring this event to the area. We have been looking for something that our community and the surrounding communities can come together and enjoy. What better way than food, drinks, music, crafts, cornhole, and fun!”

Nearly 20 food trucks offering a huge variety of options - from pizza, tacos, gourmet hot dogs, and smoked foods to cheese curds, thai food, gyros, wraps, sandwiches, and mini donuts will be at the event. “The food trucks are coming from as far away as Sheboygan with several from the Merrill, Tomahawk, Rhinelander, and Wausau areas,” Savall said.

More than 60 craft and vendor displays will offer

everything - from clothing, books, and tumblers to crocheted items, signs, soaps, woodworking, and much more - coming from Merrill, Tomahawk, Minoqua, Wausau, Rhinelander, Antigo, and other areas to share their wares.

WDEZ and WJMT will broadcast live from the event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Brad Emmanuel will provide live music from 3:30 to 7 p.m.

The event includes a cornhole tournament that will cap out at 40 teams. Those interested in participating can pre-register by emailing, Goldensandcornhole@gmail.com; walk-ins will be welcome IF spots are available. Sign-up and registration begins at 11:30 a.m. and the tournament begins at noon and will run throughout the day.

The event is designed to have activities and fun for all ages, with a bounce

house and a bounce obstacle course for kids to enjoy, and beverages for all ages, including adult beverages, available for purchase.

“The Boys and Girls Club will also be here to talk about the offerings they have for our local community,” Savall said.

The Lincoln County Humane Society (LCHS) will also hold a big raffle and a 50/50 cash raffle to raise funds for the shelter in conjunction with the event. Advance tickets can be purchased at the LCHS during business hours.

“Everyone that we have talked to has been excited to see this event come to Merrill,” Savall said. “Seeing the support has really helped drive the promotion of the event and to help bring it to life.”

“Our amazing sponsors are excited to be a part of this event and see it grow each year. We really appreciate the support

from them and the belief that this will be a great event,” she said.

Follow the event’s Facebook page, Merrill’s Food Truck-a-Palooza, for announcements and all current information, including spotlights of sponsors and the food trucks with their menus.

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John Piotrowski



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Here’s what John has to say about our club: “January 19th, 1968 Life Magazine article motivated me to start working out (article about the interior arteries of the heart). Ever since then, I wake up early, keep a rigid schedule at Riverside maintaining my big pipes.”

Merrill Area United Way



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May 2024

Merrill Area United Way

Dee Olsen, Executive Director

On the cusp of a busy spring and summer, United Way is geared up for several initiatives. The United Way annual Planning and Goal Setting meeting was held on April 17th. While it is great to assess your progress, it also provides opportunity to be creative in making changes and addressing new efforts to keep the organization vibrant and moving forward. Additionally, although not crystal clear yet our local Merrill Area United Way is aware that United Way Worldwide has developed a new and improved approach to better serving communities with a clearer model for our organizations focus area. This will be tied to changes in marketing and messaging across the board. The balance of the year will be challenging as we work through the forthcoming changes to a path of greater service. Some of these changes come at a time when we are working on upgrading our website, thus, allowing us to incorporate the United Way Worldwide new “Brand Refresh” initiatives. Our new initiatives will be monitored by the staff and Board of Directors as we move forward, with occasional “Coffee and Conversations” to bring the Board together.

In the upcoming months United Way will also be seeking the mid-year reports required from our funded agencies. This gives us a preliminary overview of the success the agencies have inspired to meeting their goals for the year. This outreach effort is coupled with the annual agency visits conducted by our United Way Board of Directors member. The Board members meet with each agency to better understand the level of activity and challenges the agencies may be facing. This aids the Board to make better informed decisions as they review funding applications and consider annual agency allocation requests. This process enhances our relationships and strengthens the programs offered, assuring United Way dollars are used to best serve people’s needs.

United Way has announced Leslie Blasing will be returning to Merrill, WI for her third annual show “Concert For A Cause”. Blasing is a phenomenal entertainer out of South Padre Island TX. The concert committee is already working on various planning aspects for this event being held on Tuesday, August 13 at the VFW Post 1638, 601 Johnson Street, Merrill, WI. All profits from the 2024 Concert will go to the “Disaster Relief Fund” established by United Way following the 2011 tornado. This fund helps families impacted by an uncontrollable disaster, like a fire, flood, or tornado when other financial resources are not available. Concert tickets will be available online at Eventbrite and at local ticket outlets. Tickets will be \$25 in advance, and \$30 at the door and includes a heavy appetizer buffet, entertainment, and dancing. There will be a cash bar, raffle prizes, and 50/50 raffles. Additional details to come. Check the Merrill Area United Way website – merrillareaunitedway.org and Leslie Blasing’s website – www.lesliepresents.com or <https://www.facebook.com/leslie.blasing>.

Always keep our community healthy by Living United, helping others, volunteering, and giving financial support. Donations can be mailed to Merrill Area United Way, P O Box 813, Merrill, WI 54452. Dollars stay local! For more information about Merrill Area United Way visit: merrillareaunitedway.org or email Delores.Olsen@merrillareaunitedway.org.

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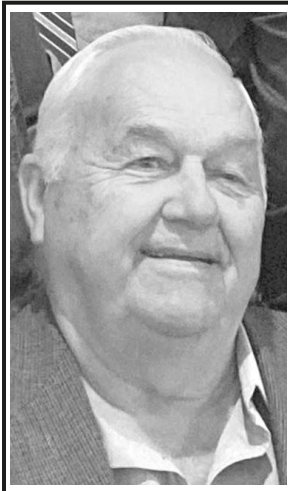
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OBITUARIES



Roger F. Hanneman, 81, of Merrill, passed away Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at his home. Roger was born November 25, 1942, in Wausau, son of Elmer and Berdina (Wendt) Hanneman. He married Darlene Doering on April 3, 1964, in Pine City, Minnesota. She preceded him in death on February 24, 2020. Roger started his career as a school bus driver and eventually became an over-the-road truck driver. He started Roger Hanneman Trucking in the early 1980's and ran that business for more than thirty years.

Roger enjoyed fishing and hunting, and woodworking. He loved spending time working on his lawn and driving his lawnmower. Roger was very handy with mechanical projects and was always able to help; he knew a little bit about everything. Above all, Roger loved his family.

Survivors include his daughters, Kathy Wendorf (David Fischer) of Menominee, MI and Kris (Austin) Wagner of Edgar; sons, Scott (Amy) Hanneman of Gleason and Jim (Diana) Hanneman of Merrill; grandchildren, Jaelyn (Bryan Reiter) Wendorf-Reiter, Jordan Wendorf, Steve (Eryn) Hein, Douglas (Emily) Wagner, Crystal (Nick) Allmann, Aly (Cole) Matz, Wilson Hanneman, Kyle (Cassandra) Graveen, and Bryce Graveen (Briana Minjarez); great grandchildren, Camden, Jaxon, Rocsen, Zander, Olivia, Hayden, Reid, and Tianna; sister, Carol (John) Nortman of Black River Falls; and brothers, DuWayne (Karen) Hanneman of Antigo, Kenneth Hanneman of Yuma, AZ, and Glen (Marsha) Hanneman of Illinois. Roger was preceded in death by his wife, Darlene Hanneman; and parents, Elmer and Berdina Hanneman.

The memorial service for Roger will be held at 11:00 A.M., Friday, May 17, 2024, at St. John Lutheran Church, Merrill. Rev. David Szeto will officiate. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:30 A.M. Friday at the church. The burial will take place in Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery, Merrill. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



David W. Krause,

aged 85, left this earth and entered into God's kingdom on Monday, May 6, 2024. David was born July 31, 1938 in Merrill, Wisconsin to the parents of Ruth (Karau) and Elmer Krause. He joined the Navy at 17 years old and traveled to Japan, Hawaii, and California. After serving four years in the Navy, he returned home and met the love of his life, Joanne Zastrow in July of 1961 and traveled between Merrill and Milwaukee to be with her until they married December 2, 1961.

He loved his wife and worked very hard to allow her to be a stay-at-home mom and raise their three children, Mark, Sherri, and Kevin. David had many jobs including working at American Motor Corp., Marathon Electric, Weinbrenner Shoe Company, and Northern Wire. He also ran his own business, Dave's Cleaning Service.

David cherished his family time with Joanne as they attended their children's sporting events, band competitions, and school concerts. He spent many hours playing basketball in the driveway, baseball in the field next door, taking bike rides, and helping build sledding paths in the winter. Weekends during the summer were spent as a family camping in Tomahawk or taking day trips to Tug Lake to swim and picnic. These activities all contributed immensely to his children's love of the outdoors.

When the first grandchild came and could not say Grandpa, David took pride in being called "Pucka." He and Joanne spent their early retirement years as loving babysitters for their grandchildren. As grandchildren got older, he would attend holiday concerts, sporting events, and teach them how to play cribbage. David loved hearing about his grandson in Eau Claire and was proud of his musical talents. He enjoyed watching his grandchildren grow and loved to brag about all of their accomplishments.

David enjoyed fishing, tinkering in the garage, and using any means possible to fix things around the house. He was always a jokester and loved to tease anyone he could. If you asked him how he felt, you knew the answer would be "with my fingers." He also loved to tell you his three favorite vegetables were lettuce, turnip, and pea. You could ask him who would win any sports game, and his answer always was "the team with the most points."

David is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Joanne (Zastrow) Krause, his two sons, Mark Krause (Minneapolis) and Kevin Krause (Eau Claire), his daughter Sherri (Dennis) Schulz (Merrill), his two granddaughters, Camryn and Deylah Schulz (Merrill), two grandsons Joshua Krause (Eau Claire) and Dawson Schulz (Merrill), grand dogs Midas and Clutch, sister Bonnie (Gerald) Gerhardt (Milwaukee), several nieces, nephews, and in-laws.

David was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Janice Rajek and Cheri Volkman, brother Donald Krause, nieces Jean Mondeik and Crystal Josiger, nephew Randall Rajek, and dogs Peanut, Pebbles, Sam, Katie, cats Murphy and Muffin, and grand dogs Emmett and Cooper.

David's uplifting, humorous and positive attitude will be missed by everyone who knew and loved him. He was a fantastic husband, father, grandpa, Pucka, and friend. We were blessed to have such a great man in our lives.

The memorial service for David was held at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill. Rev. Michael Southcombe officiated. The family received friends beginning at 9:00 A.M. Tuesday at the funeral home. The burial took place in Springbrook Cemetery, Town of Pine River, Lincoln County, with graveside military rites conducted by V.F.W. Post 1638, Merrill. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



William M. "Bill" Beyer,

age 93, of Gleason, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill, Wisconsin.

Bill was born on November 12, 1930, in the Town of Schley, Lincoln County, son of the late William J. and Jessie (Fox) Beyer. He married Marion Kanitz on April 7, 1956, at St. Stephen's United Church of Christ in Merrill. Bill served in the Army where he received the National Defense Services Medal and Army of Occupation Medal. During his time in the service, he was stationed in Germany for a part of his tour. After leaving the service he worked for the Lincoln County Highway Department for 34 years until the early 1990's as a heavy equipment operator. Bill started to play the accordion when he was around age 16. Throughout the years he played with many musicians including the Louis Zdrzil Recording Orchestra and in the Beyer Two polka band with his son Alan.

Bill loved to hunt and fish. He harvested trophy deer during both the archery and gun hunting seasons. He also caught a lot of brook trout fishing in the local creeks and rivers. Bill enjoyed working with his Kubota tractor, cutting firewood and riding his 4-wheelers on his property. Bill enjoyed snowmobiling, fishing, skiing, camping and spending time with his wife and children. During his 30+ years of retirement, Bill and Marion met with friends daily at the local McDonald's to enjoy each other's company.

Bill is survived by his wife, Marion Beyer; 3 children, Alan (Georgie Johns) Beyer, Janis Beyer, and Jeffry (Leah) Beyer; 5 grandchildren, Logan and Jacob Beyer, Kylie (TJ) Brunett, Konnor and Kamryn Beyer; 2 great-grandchildren, Jackson and Ella Brunett; and sister, Barbara Holtz. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, William J. and Jessie Beyer; sisters, Wilma Shankwitz and Nettie Jirtle; and brother, Ronald Beyer.

The funeral service for Bill was held at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at St. Stephen's United Church of Christ in Merrill. The Rev. Michael Southcombe presided. Visitation began at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday at the church. The Taylor-Stine Funeral Home in Merrill is assisting the family. Burial will take place at a later date at the Forest View Cemetery.

In remembrance of Bill's life and love, the family asks that any charitable donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. <https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html>.

Special thank you to all that cared for Bill at the Woodland Court Elder Services and Pine Crest Nursing Home.

Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

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Donald Llewellyn Freeman was born on June 4, 1934, in Cedar Bluffs, Nebraska, the son of Louis and Ella Freeman, who moved to Rupert, Idaho, in 1936. He was the oldest of seven children, of whom the younger six all survive him: Louis and Daniel Freeman, Delores Peterson, Louella Woods, Vickie Fisher, and Pamela Freeman. Donald was trained as a Lutheran school teacher. He graduated from Concordia Teachers College (now Concordia University) in Seward, Nebraska, in 1956. He taught primary school students in Snohomish, Washington, between 1956 and 1960, then in Merrill, Wisconsin, between 1960 and 1966. After a period working as a restaurant manager in Merrill in the late 1960's and 1970's, he was hired as a teacher for the Wisconsin Division of Juvenile Corrections, Southeast Regional Office, and was eventually promoted to administrative duties. During this time, he mainly lived in Mukwonago, Wisconsin. He earned a master's degree in education from the University of Wisconsin system while working for the Wisconsin Division of Juvenile Corrections. After retiring, he returned to live in Rupert. He is survived by three sons, Douglas, Daniel, and Devin, and five grandchildren. His beloved parents and daughter, Denise, predeceased him. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Rupert and was very active in the Rupert Senior Center.

Don enjoyed fishing and watching all types of sports. Don was a lifelong Green Bay Packers fan and even attended the famous Ice Bowl (1967).

Don's funeral is May 23, 2024 in Rupert, Idaho. Don will be interred in the Paul Cemetery, Paul, Idaho.



WAID FUNERAL HOME
301 Eagle Drive • Merrill, WI 54452-3714
Phone: (715) 536-4646
Website: www.WaidFuneral.com
Email: info@waidfuneral.com

Lincoln County Supervisor McCrank announces bid for State Assembly

Democratic candidate hopes to unseat Republican incumbent Calvin Callahan

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

On May 13, 2024, Lincoln County Supervisor for Lincoln County District 3, Elizabeth McCrank, announced her candidacy for Wisconsin Assembly District 35, running on the Democratic ticket. Currently, Republican Calvin Callahan holds the seat, and he recently announced his bid for re-election, as well.

Assembly District 35 includes all of Lincoln and Langlade Counties and portions of Marathon, Shawano, and Oconto Counties.

In a press release, McCrank said she pledges "to focus on real district problems and challenges, including rural population decrease, school and library support, comprehensive care needs of the youngest and oldest in our communities, the climate for entrepreneurs, and people's right to make health care decisions for themselves."

As current Supervisor for Lincoln County District 3, McCrank is currently on the Board of Canvass and the Solid Waste Committee and has also served on the Lincoln County Land Services, Highway, Social Services, and Lincoln County Emergency Planning Committees. In addition, she is a member of the Merrill Historical Society and serves on the Merrill Historic Preservation Committee, sits on the Board of Trustees for the T.B. Scott Free Library, and belongs to the Merrill Noon Optimists Club and Lincoln County Sports Club.

McCrank has dubbed her campaign "McCrank for the People" and has a Facebook page at facebook.com/McCrankForThePeople. The intro in her page reads, in part, "Elizabeth is passionate about ensuring that people's voices are being heard in our community and in Madison."

"McCrank's diverse private and public sector work experiences help her identify and understand real-life issues. She is presently employed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison, but has worked in light construction, taught college and GED students, bussed restaurant tables and bagged groceries," her release said.

During her last term as Lincoln County Board Supervisor, "McCrank twice supported a referendum on the status of Pine Crest Nursing Home, introducing a resolution tabled by Supervisor Calvin Callahan in May 2023, and then supported Supervisor Norbert Ashbeck's August 15, 2023, resolution that died by a vote of 13-9."

According to her release, McCrank said, "We need leaders who believe that government is not just of the people and by the people, but FOR the people. We need to focus on real-life issues that the majority of our residents face, not contrived crises and gimmicky culture war issues meant to distract from our legislators' ineffective governance."

"Working people need someone honoring them, focusing on them and, most importantly, listening to them," she said. "We need to re-open the conversation about what the public

wants from its government, and if the public wants a government different from a party's desires, the public should win out over the party. Rather than disassembling local government and making our communities less attractive, we need to develop customized solutions for local circumstances, involving those most affected."

"Freedom for all includes freedom for women to make their own healthcare choices without interference from government or others who assert their personal freedom but choose to treat others like second-class citizens," she said in her closing statement in her release.



Elizabeth McCrank

READ ■ REUSE ■ RECYCLE



Congratulations to the winners and

Thank you

to Allaboard, Dugout and Northway for hosting the Adam Norman LOC tournament May 11, 2024. It feels so good to be loved and amazing to see everyone! Your generosity is much appreciated and will go a long way to ease recovery until I can get back to work.
Love you all.
Adam Norman

380455

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**In loving memory of
 Ted Bartz
 8/2/1956 - 5/13/2021**

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal
 loves leaves a memory no one can steal
 Your life was a blessing,
 your memory a treasure.
 You are loved beyond words and
 missed beyond measure.
 Not a day goes by when you aren't
 in our thoughts or hearts.

Still so loved and missed each and
 every day by your whole family
**Debbie, Becky (Shawn),
 Perry (Teresa), Jenny (Joe),
 Amber (Corey), Rob (Jackie), and
 His Beloved Grandkids and
 the rest of his family**

**IN MEMORY OF
 SHARON L.
 HARRIS**
 May 11, 1950 - May 18, 2021

This is year number three,
 how it still pains me so...
 Feels like it was yesterday,
 when I let your hand go.

I thought time was the healer,
 for pain they say...
 I'm so sorry Mother,
 mine just won't go away.

Everyday, I still say,
 that it just isn't fair...
 To not have you here,
 to love and to care.

At night in my dreams,
 it's like you're still here...
 Upon awakening you're not,
 and I shed another tear.

Mother my dear I wish you were here,
 I need to hear your voice...
 I know you would if you could,
 and that you love me so,
 and not being here wasn't your choice.

What a beautiful life of memories we made,
 I do remember them all...
 It's what get's me through life, here on earth,
 "MEMORIES" to catch me when I fall.

Sadly, and deeply missed,
 Love,
 Monique

378063

MAPS accepts April donations

The following donations were approved and/or accepted at the April 17 Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) Board of Directors meeting:

A check from Park City Credit Union in the amount of \$65 from the proceeds of selling school-issued debit cards for Student Council; the following donations for the Raise Your Voice Walk 2024: Brickners' Park City \$50, Knights of Columbus Council 1133 \$500, and Breaman Merrill Ford \$250; money from Merrill Noon Optimist Club valued at \$250 for Teen Mental Health First Aid program support at the Merrill High School; and funds from the Bierman Family Foundation valued at \$1,500 for giving a bike helmet to every student at Pine River School for Young Learners.

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On New 2024 Models

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268 HP

2024 Hornet AWD
Sale Price \$38,206*

#36233

32 MPG HWY

2024 Jeep Compass LUX
Sale Price \$33,085*

#36108

Cummins Diesel

2024 2500 Tradesman
Sale Price \$64,722*

#36130

HEMI V-8

2024 Durango R/T
Sale Price \$53,460*

*Plus tax, title, license and service fee.

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WEEKLY BRIEFING - MAY 16TH - 20TH
 THURSDAY - CHICKEN WINGS & FRIES
 FRIDAY FISH FRY - PERCH & CATFISH
 SATURDAY - CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC
 SUNDAY - BROASTED CHICKEN
 MONDAY - LASAGNA

BINGO 4PM SUNDAY, MAY 26TH!

Conference Room & Hall Rental Available
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 Open at 11am Sat. & Sun. • Closed Tues. & Wed.

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CAPTAIN
 \$5.00 - 16 oz. Pint

SATURDAY MAY 18TH
BINGO
 Open 11am, Start 1pm
CASH PRIZES, FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS
PROGRESSIVE JACKPOT
GRILL OUT COME JOIN US

SATURDAY & SUNDAY MAY 25TH & 26TH CLOSED

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 NO FOOD SERVED: Sat. & Sun. - Special Events Only

DINNER SPECIALS MAY
TUESDAY NIGHTS MAY 21ST - MEATLOAF
MAY 28TH - CHOP SUEY
 Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

FRIDAY NIGHTS MAY 17TH - CATFISH
MAY 24TH - BLUEGILLS
 Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM

CARRYOUTS AVAILABLE
 • MONDAYS: Soup & Sandwich Available 3-7pm
 • LUNCH AVAILABLE: TUES. & FRI. 11am-2pm WED. & THURS. 11am-8pm
 Specials • Fish Fries • Homemade Soup
 • DINNER MENU: TUES. 4-8pm & FRI. 4-8pm
 • SATURDAY: Bar Open at 3pm
 • SUNDAY: Bar Open From 11am-7pm
HAPPY HOUR: TUESDAY-THURSDAY • 3-6PM

Visit our Website! 584.localfoewi.com

Merrill Lions Club

The Merrill Lions Club invites you to attend an open house to learn more about the club and what we do in and for the Merrill community!

WHEN: Monday, May 20, 2024
 5:30 – 7:30 PM

WHERE: Merrill Eagles Club
 1205 Lake Street

During the open house, you'll be able to learn more about:

1. Membership
2. Community projects
3. Use of fundraising dollars
4. Club history
5. Leo Club for youth ages 12 – 18 years
6. Lions Camp in Rosholt, WI
7. Lions Eye Bank
8. Merrill community Lions events

Appetizers will be served, and beverages are available to purchase from the Merrill Eagles Club.

Come join us and learn more about how we live our motto: **We Serve!**

LINCOLN COUNTY SPORTS CLUB

26th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER & OPEN HOUSE
 May 18, 2024 from 11:00am – 4:00pm

(Raffle Drawings start at 2:30pm)
Located at the Club – W5071 SCHULZ SPUR DR
EVERYONE IS WELCOME – NO CHARGE TO ATTEND
FOOD, BEVERAGES & MUSIC ALL DAY

Over 30 general raffle packages totaling over \$15,000 in prizes to be won!
General Raffle packages include \$5000 in Cimino's Gift Cards, Meat Raffles, Dining Packages, Booze Raffle, Kwik Trip Gift Cards, Fleet Farm Gift Cards, Grocery Shopping Spree, Packers & Brewers packages, Gift certificates from Hold-Up Display, HuntersGoldHD/AktivBlue, Grizzly Ears and much more!
 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.

Kids Events with Door Prizes & Kids Raffles

GENERAL RAFFLE TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT SEVERAL LOCAL BUSINESSES IN
TOMAHAWK (Billy Bob's Bar & Grill, NAPA), **MERRILL** (PowerHouse Lawn & Leisure, Cimino's Gun & Archery, The Hub Inn, The Rock, NAPA), **IRMA** (JEB's Bar & Grill) **GLEASON** (Gleason Bowling Center, Z's Fork Homers) **WAUSAU** (Chase Outdoors & The King Company) **WESTON** Wine & Spirits.
 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.
 AAW will be demonstrating their All-Terrain Wheelchairs – take one for a spin!
 Adult Balloon Darts for special prizes
 Wagon Rides around the property
 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 **lcscsportsclub.com**

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

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 Breakfast 7am-11am
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Mondays
 \$5 Burger & Home Fries
 Dine-in only & additional toppings are extra.

Sunday & Tuesday
 Broasted Chicken
 12 Noon-8pm

Friday
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 MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

THE FALL GUY
 "PG13" (2HR 6MIN)
 FRIDAY: 7:00PM
 SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM
 MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

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 List your garage/rummage sale or items for sale in the classifieds.

MERRILL Foto News
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Upon arrival Thursday morning, initial responders found the buildings completely consumed by fire. Photo courtesy of Merrill Fire Department.



The structures were a complete loss. Photo courtesy of Merrill Fire Department.

Early Thursday morning fire destroys Rock Falls home and garage

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

The Merrill Fire Department (MFD) reports an early morning fire on Thursday, May 9, 2024, completely destroyed a home and unattached garage in the Town of Rock Falls. The Lincoln County 911 Dispatch Center received a report of a structure on fire at N5621 State Rd. 107 and dispatched the MFD at approximately 4:35 a.m. The MFD initially responded with Engine 61, Medic 62, and Tender 65.

Lincoln County Sheriff Deputies were the first to respond and verified the building was fully engulfed "with a majority of the structure being consumed

by the fire and a power line down near the residence," and at that time "it was unknown if the residence was occupied."

A call went out for additional resources. Tomahawk EMS, Wisconsin Public Service, Pine River Fire Department, Corning Fire Department, and Town of Russell Fire Department responded, and a General Alarm was issued for off-duty Merrill firefighters, according to the MFD.

"Upon arrival of the first responding units, heavy fire was noted to the residence, along with an unattached garage, with a majority of the structure already consumed by the fire," the MFD said. The initial crews

set to work to extinguish the blaze and also cool a 500 lb. propane tank near the structure; it was then shut off at the valve."

"Rural water supply operations were set up and deployed," the MFD said. "On-scene crews were able to extinguish the fire and performed overhaul. It was later confirmed that there were no occupants in the building."

According to the MFD, both the home and unattached garage are a total loss. While the cause of the fire remains under investigation, the initial investigation suggests the fire was unintentional.

No injuries were reported.

Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

- May 16 - Open Mic Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.
- May 18 - Merrill Spring Citywide Garage Sales
- May 18 - Food Truck-a-Palooza at Merrill Festival Grounds
- May 18 - Lincoln County Sports Club Open House/Fundraiser
- May 19 - Girls on the Run North Central Wisconsin Celebratory 5K
- May 22 - Trivia Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.
- May 23 - Open Mic Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.
- May 24 - Merrill High School Graduation
- May 26 - BINGO at VFW

AREA EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT
 For more information, go to: **merrillchamber.org/**
 events or contact the event sponsor.

MERRILL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

05-06-24
At 12:38 a.m. officers received a dog barking complaint on S. Oregon St. The owner wasn't able to be spoken to at that time. The case is still an active investigation.
At 5:41 p.m. a report of a gas drive-off occurred at a local gas station. The case is still an active investigation until the matter is resolved.
At 6:43 p.m. officers received a report of two service dogs attacking each other near the checkouts at an area department store. One person left the scene before officers arrived. The case is an active investigation at this time.
At 6:38 p.m. a cell phone was found in the area of the Incredible Bank and turned over to law enforcement.

05-07-24
At 8:51 a.m. officers received a report of a box truck traveling on Champagne St. in violation of street weight limits. The truck was not located in the area.
At 9:48 a.m. a report of a truck backing into an orange road construction barrel that also damaged a guard rail was reported at the Merrill High School. The crash was property damage only.
At 10:49 p.m. officers received a report of a stolen cell phone from an address on Francis Dr. The investigation is still active.

05-08-24
At 2:26 p.m. officers responded to a crash at a local business.
At 4:38 p.m. officers responded to a dog in a vehicle at a local business.
At 5:35 p.m. officers conducted a search warrant at a local residence. One arrest was made

in connection with the search warrant.
At 11:27 p.m. officers took a male into custody for a probation violation at a local residence in connection with a drug complaint.

05-09-24
At 11:18 a.m. officers responded to a complaint of a female juvenile who ran away. The female later returned home to her residence.
At 3:50 p.m. officers responded to a theft complaint at a local residence.

05-10-24
At 7:43 a.m. a store reported a female had stolen outdoor décor. The female has been identified and follow-up will be completed with her.
At 2:30 p.m. an officer located a vehicle blocking traffic. The driver was hauling a bed and part of the load became loose. The

female struggled in attempting to re-secure the load to the roof of her vehicle. The officer hauled the remaining items to the female's residence.
At 7:27 p.m. a bicyclist reported he had been sideswiped by a vehicle while riding his bicycle. The bicyclist sustained minor injury as a result. The officer is attempting to identify the other vehicle and driver to complete a crash report.
At 10:10 p.m. a caller reported someone had pounded on her front window of her residence and then fled.
At 11:00 p.m. a caller reported someone had pounded on his front window of his residence and then fled.

05-11-24
At 11:47 a.m. a caller reported the previous night someone had pounded on his residence wall. Today he discovered damage to his siding. One of the individuals

was captured on camera and investigation is ongoing.
At 12:56 p.m. a caller reported someone had struck her vehicle in a business parking lot and left the scene. The striking vehicle was captured on the business' surveillance camera and investigation is ongoing.
At 3:49 p.m. a caller reported receiving ongoing, harassing text messages and phone calls from his ex-girlfriend. The ex-girlfriend was cited for harassing phone calls.
At 7:06 p.m. a caller reported a teenaged male walking around with an open bottle of whiskey. Officers located the man and found the bottle was iced tea.

05-12-24
At 3:11 p.m. a store reported a driver had struck and damaged a sign in their parking lot and then left the scene. The driver was located and had left due to a language barrier. A crash report was completed.

In Honor of Memorial Day, our office will be closed on Monday, May 27th.

Early Ad Deadlines for the May 30th Issue Display & Classified Ads: Friday, May 24th at 3pm

READ ■ REUSE ■ RECYCLE

PROGRESS from page 3

system known as Principles of Subject Control, which is commonly used in correctional settings but isn't as well suited to the therapeutic work of juvenile corrections.
As of January, The Mandt System is the sole model for the prevention and de-escalation of negative behaviors in juvenile corrections. Academy recruits are trained in this method and juvenile corrections staff receive quarterly refreshers.
A couple measures of the system's success:

In a 2-year comparison of 2022 and 2023, there has been a 44% decrease in the use of mechanical restraints, a 32% decrease in use of force incidents, and a 50% decrease in AC placements. There has also been a reduction in workplace injuries.

DOC has seen a dramatic improvement in the percentage of staff members who reported fearing for their safety. In 2019, that statistic reached an all-time high of 80% of LHS staff. In October 2023 after Mandt implementation, that number fell to just 16%.
DOC is also continuing to work on updating state administrative code related to juvenile corrections to reflect current best practices and the latest research on child development.

Changes to chapter DOC 376 of the state's administrative code, which governs security in Type 1 juvenile correctional facilities, have been referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety and Assembly Committee on Corrections.

A listing of all monitor reports can be found here on the department's website at: tinyurl.com/Lincoln-Hills.

Pet of the Week

Sam is a big beautiful boy! We are told he enjoys scratches behind his ears especially and enjoys a saucer of milk in the morning. **Sam** will do best in a living situation where he can be king of the castle within a quiet sanctuary, retirement situation. **Sam** is terrified of children so no kids or other pets will be the dream life for our **Sam**. He is neutered, up to date on vaccinations and chipped.

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

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A huge THANK YOU

To all those in the community who came out for food & drinks in remembrance of James Teal.

We had such an amazing turn out and reminiscing of times past was a real blessing! The venue was packed to the max with those who came to celebrate in the memory of Jim.

Especially thanks to:

- Dan & Dawn Packard for the excellent food, Held's Bar & helpers for use of the location and staff and to Donner & Soozy Ullman for bringing the tent!

With heartfelt gratitude,
The Teal Family –
Janice, Jim, Jasen & Jessie

Student of the Week

This Week's Featured Student is **Destiny Schultz**
Daughter of **Michelle Schmidt**
Destiny is in 2nd grade at Trinity Lutheran School. She was nominated by Mrs. Thompson.

What is your favorite subject in school? Why?
I like math, unless it's minuses. But my favorite subject is writing because we're working on Mother's Day cards, and I like making them.

What is your favorite part of school? Why?
I like chess club. I like learning about chess. I like learning with Mrs. Russell.

What would you like to do/become someday? Why?
I want to be a cheerleader. I want to cheer for a blue team or a red team. I also want to be a singer cause my grandma says I'm a good singer.

I would nominate Destiny Schultz. She is a respectful listener and shares with other students. She demonstrates love and care to her classmates.
~ Mrs. Thompson

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

In memory of MICHAEL "LOOPY" CAYLOR MAY 14, 2009

What we would give if we could say, "Hello Dad" in the same old way.

To hear his voice and see his smile, to sit with him and chat for a while.

So if your father is still here, cherish him with care, for you'll never know the heartache until you see his empty chair.

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Bacon Bits Fully Cooked - Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.99 a lb.	Yogurt Protein Strawberry 12-6 oz. ONLY \$2.99	Yogurt Protein Cherry 12-6 oz. ONLY \$2.99
Pumpkin Pie 8 in. No Sugar Added, Frozen 22 oz. ONLY \$1.99	Muenster Cheese 6 lbs. ONLY \$2.29 a lb.	Grape Jelly 128 oz. ONLY \$3.99

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Sausage Patties Fully Cooked - Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$5.99	Colby Jack Cheese Horns 6 lbs. ONLY \$2.99 a lb.	Orange Juice 48 ct. cups 192 oz. ONLY \$3.99
Sausage Links 12 ct. - Fully Cooked Frozen 9.6 oz. ONLY \$1.29	Cheddar Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.89 a lb.	Pasta Sauce Arbabbiata 24 oz. ONLY \$1.29
Bacon Original Center Cut - Frozen 17 oz. ONLY \$3.29	Pizza Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.89 a lb.	Honey Pure - In a Bag 5 lbs. ONLY \$7.99
Pork Sausage Sage - Uncooked Frozen 16 oz. ONLY \$1.99	Mozzarella Cheese Shredded 5 lbs. ONLY \$9.99	Wheatful Cereal Blueberry 15.5 oz. ONLY \$1.49
Pork Sausage Original - Uncooked Frozen 32 oz. ONLY \$4.99	Cheddar Cheese Shredded 5 lbs. ONLY \$8.99	Onion Petals Battered RTC - Frozen 40 oz. ONLY \$4.99
Beef Patties Seasoned - Uncooked Frozen 32 oz. ONLY \$3.99	American Cheese Sliced - Yellow 5 lbs. ONLY \$8.99	Pulled Pork Smoked, Fully Cooked Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$2.99 a lb.
Meatballs Original - Fully Cooked Frozen 64 oz. ONLY \$8.99	Provolone Cheese Smoked 6 lbs. ONLY \$2.29 a lb.	Pork Crumbles Fully Cooked - Frozen 12 lbs. ONLY 99¢ a lb.
Hot Pockets 12 ct. Pepperoni - Frozen 54 oz. ONLY \$8.99	Hash Browns Shredded - Frozen 3 lbs. ONLY \$2.99	Turkey Breast Mesquite - Fully Cooked Frozen 10 lbs. ONLY 99¢ a lb.
French Fries Crinkle Cut - Frozen 32 oz. ONLY \$2.49	Black Forest Ham Ends - Pieces, Frozen 9 lbs. ONLY 89¢ a lb.	Bread Sticks w/Cheese Tomato Basil Frozen 14.5 oz. ONLY \$2.99

In-store ONLY. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

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Questions? Call: 715-722-1884

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Rummage Sales This Week 7200

8th Annual TOWN OF WAUSAU Rummage Sale Weekend
Fri. 5/17 & Sat. 5/18, 8-5 Sun. 5/19, 11-4.
Brats, burgers & hot dogs daily 10-5 by Cub Scout Pack 435 at Sunset Store & Gas Station, Hwys Z & J. Watch for signs east of Wausau along Townline Rd (Hwy N), Hwy Z (Franklin St), Hwy 52 (east Wausau Ave), Evergreen Rd., Hwy X (Camp Phillips Rd) & Hwy J north of Hwy N out to Hwy 52 & Sunrise Rd & north on Sunrise Rd. Address lists/maps available at starting point addresses, Sunset Store & Sunrise Bar.

Garage Sale Merrill 309 N Stuyvesant St., in alley, Fri. 10-5, Sat. 9-5.

Merrill: Saturday, 5/18, 7 a.m.- 5 p.m. Antiques, old Lincoln county rodeo booklets, household items, craft items, girls clothes, elliptical, lots misc. items.
W4742 Sni Der Vil Dr

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

Mosinee: 2367 Whitetail Dr. HUGE PRE-MOVING SALE
TH 5/16-SAT 5/18, 7a-6p
Housewares, antiques, horse stuff, some furniture, Simplicity lawn tractor w/catcher & snowblower, men's clothing, power & hand tools, steel angles, pipe, pole barn steel, black stove pipe, parlor stoves, toy cars & trucks, CD's & cassette tapes, books, puzzles, beer & misc. signs, and much more.
715-571-8590 or 715-551-8592.

N2451 Airport Rd. Thurs. 12-5, Fri. 10-4. Attention crafters lots of crafting supplies and crafts, plus much more.

Wausau 142197 Countryside Dr. (address formerly known as 11507 Evergreen Dr.)
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Wausau: 234799 Stacy Circle
FR 5/17 & SAT 5/18, 8a-6p
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Merrill man dies in Lincoln County Jail; autopsy finds he died of natural causes

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

A Merrill man died while in custody at the Lincoln County Jail on Saturday, April 27, 2024. According to an independent investigation conducted by the Langlade County Sheriff's Office, 68-year-old Terrence Andrew Wiegel of Merrill, was found unresponsive in a holding cell in the booking area of the Lincoln County Jail just after 4 p.m. on April 27 by a corrections officer, shortly after his evening meal tray was served. He was found lying on his bunk but did not respond when the officer called out to him. The officer immediately entered the cell and shook him, then radioed for assistance and began CPR. Additional corrections officers arrived to assist with life-saving measures, which included use of an AED device, and emergency medical services arrived on scene within six minutes of finding the man and continued CPR for another 11 minutes. However, life-saving measures ultimately proved unsuccessful.

The Langlade County deputy's report indicated that, per his review of video evidence in the investigation, Wiegel had been routinely checked on by a corrections officer and found to be lying down on his mattress on his bunk and breathing at 2:59 p.m. but it appears he may have had a medical incident just minutes later, after the corrections officer had left the area.

Wiegel had been in the most secured section of the jail, a holding cell by himself, with a camera, the deputy said.

Wiegel had been arrested and booked

into the Lincoln County Jail the prior night at approximately 9:32 p.m. on Friday, April 26, on a charge of Theft of Mail. The Langlade County deputy investigating the incident reported: "I was told inmates are typically kept in holding cells in booking for 24 hours before being moved to general population. Terrence had been in the same holding cell since he was booked in. There was video footage of that holding cell for the entire time that Terrence had been incarcerated. I reviewed the video footage of the holding cell from the time Terrence got booked in until after EMS left."

Wiegel was the only person incarcerated in the holding cell from the time of his booking until the time of his death.

At the time of his booking, according to the paperwork, Wiegel "did not appear to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs when he was brought in. Terrence did not appear to have any major medical concerns. Terrence had stated he had a sinus infection and asthma."

Corrections officers reported Wiegel had been cooperative during booking and had at various times said he had "a hard time breathing but stated Terrence had been very talkative and seemed okay." Wiegel met with the Jail nurse, but he declined to use the inhaler he brought with him and had only taken Tylenol during his time in the holding cell.

Immediately following the death, the scene was taped off, Lincoln County Coroner Valerie Caylor responded to perform her duties, and the Langlade County Sheriff's Office came in to do an independent investigation. The Langlade County deputy

was on scene at approximately 6 p.m.

"With the death of anyone in our jail, per policy and standard procedures we have an outside agency conduct an investigation," Grant Peterson said on behalf of Lincoln County. "In this particular case we requested the Langlade County Sheriff's Office to investigate the matter." He said while the matter was being actively investigated by Langlade County, Lincoln County had opted not to release any information "so as not to interfere with their investigation."

Wiegel was transported to Madison for an autopsy by Lincoln County Coroner Caylor and provided her preliminary findings and diagnoses report dated April 30, 2024, to Langlade County. According to that report, the autopsy determined the cause of death as natural pending blood test results. "She confirmed no trauma to indicate Wiegel was victim to a crime. She specifically noted cardiac and pulmonary issues," the report said of the forensic pathologist who had conducted the autopsy in her presence.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Geological time
- Ooze
- A set of eight
- Obstruction
- Swiss mathematician
- Philosophy
- The night before
- A timid person
- Unifies
- Gangs
- Alternative name
- Acumen
- Cathode-ray tube
- Tantalum
- Soluble ribonucleic acid
- Humiliate
- Earthy pigment
- Air Force
- Adult males
- Stiff untanned leather
- Before
- Atomic #18
- Beer mug
- Nostrils
- Type of chef
- Midway between north and east
- They ___
- Splits
- Walk in a timid manner
- Preserved animal skin with hair
- Popular donut shop item
- You smear it on bagels
- Don't know when yet
- Equal to 10 amperes
- Synthetic acrylic fiber
- One point south of due east
- Of mixed ancestry
- Home of the Pyramids
- A way to change color

CLUES DOWN

- Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- Untangle
- One from the U.S.
- Academic terms
- San ___ Obispo, in California
- Not healthy
- Self-assessment questionnaire (abbr.)
- Arugula genus
- VIII
- Makes a monarch
- Tormentor
- Commercials
- Sprinkle
- Make a mistake
- Freshwater fishes
- Vermont town
- Man-made device
- Entrap
- Places to store important things

- Accumulate
- Greek mythological nymph
- Gregory __, American dancer
- Denotes past
- Becoming popular again
- Indicates position
- Came before
- An extra seed-covering
- Cheerful
- Deli sandwich staple
- Skateboarders love them
- Mandela's party
- Sierra lake
- Nickname for Elizabeth
- Remove from record
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Former NFLer Newton
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Work unit
- Town in Cambridgeshire

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Merrill Varsity Baseball goes 2-1 in games against Rhinelander and Wausau West

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill Varsity Baseball Team traveled to Rhinelander to play baseball last Monday, May 6, 2024, and brought home a win. "We fell behind early 2-0 after Rhinelander advanced on a couple of misplays and had a couple of base hits, but that is all they would get," said Shawn Schultz, Head Varsity Baseball Coach. "Sam Reimann settled in and pitched five strong innings, and Isaak Clapper finished strong, striking out five of the seven batters he faced to end the game."

"Offensively, we struggled early to make solid contact," he said. "We finally put some hits together in the fifth when Carter Baade reached on a walk and Brady Norton singled. Sam Reimann drove in both with a double to right center to

even it up. Then in the seventh, Carter led off with a single to center and came in to score on a Norton base hit."

Box Score:
Merrill 3 @ Rhinelander 2

On Thursday, May 9, Merrill hosted Wausau West. "[It was a] well played game by both teams," Schultz said. "Brady Kanitz pitched well for us on the mound. He gave up two on a double in the second that put West up 2-0."

"They got another single run in the third when a line drive to left hit a divot and took a right turn in front of our outfielder, allowing the runner to score from first. But that was all they would get," he said. "Sam Reimann got us within two in the top of the fourth with a long homerun to left and scored another in the sixth with a base hit to left after Brady Norton singled and stole second. We had

runners on first and third in the seventh after Cooper Wendorf, and Ben Thom had back-to-back hits but left them stranded to end the game."

Box Score:
Wausau West 3 @ Merrill 2

On Friday, May 10, Merrill then went to Wausau West to play on their home field. "West got two in the first with a couple of walks and some help, but we answered back with three of our own in the bottom of the inning," Schultz said. "Brady Norton led off with a line drive single and then we used some walks and miscues by West to take a 3-2 lead. West answered back with two runs on a couple of hits in the top of the second to make it 4-3."

"But in the bottom of the third, we put up five," he said. "Reimann led off with a single and Brady Kanitz hit a double to score him. Then we had run scoring hits by Wendorf, Baade, and Norton to make it 8-4. EJ Weix came out in the top of the fourth and shut them down with a quick ground out and two strikeouts. Dawson Schulz came in to relieve Weix in the fifth and pitched three strong innings to finish them off."

Box Score:
Merrill 9 @ Wausau West 6

"We only had three games this week but played well in all three," Schultz said. "We have three games again next week and seed on Wednesday night to find out who and where we will start our playoffs. We have been playing pretty consistent baseball and continue to improve every game - lot of fun with this group of guys."



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LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

For week ending May 12, 2024

On 05/8/2024, a deputy was sent to the Pride Dam in the Town of Bradley to investigate a report of a male subject with a gun. The reporting party, a 64-year-old man from Tomahawk, reported that he was fishing at that location when an unknown male subject, along with a passenger and dog, pulled up in a big red pickup truck. The dog then urinated on the reporting party's tackle box and jacket, so the reporting party yelled at the dog. The unknown male suspect told the reporting party not to yell at his dog and then displayed a gun. The suspect, along with his passenger and dog, left the area. No better description of the suspect vehicle or suspects were available. No one was injured.

patrol observed a vehicle in which she believed the driver had a revoked driver's license. The stop took place on STH 64 near French Ridge Rd. in the Town of Pine River. After stopping the vehicle, the deputy went to make contact with the driver, a 49-year-old woman from Merrill. As the deputy spoke to the driver, she noticed signs of impairment and, as a result, asked the driver to perform standard field sobriety tests. As a result of those tests, the driver was arrested for a second offense of OWI. She was then transported to the Lincoln County jail where she was booked for the offense.

On 05/08/2024 the sheriff's office received a complaint from the Children's Hospital of Milwaukee to report a possible case of child abuse. It was reported that the alleged abuse took place at the father's home on Heritage Rd. in the Town of Pine River. Staff from the hospital reported that a three-year-old child was brought to the hospital with bite marks on his right upper arm and forearm. Pictures provided to the investigating deputy by the hospital clearly showed injuries consistent with someone being bitten. When deputies went to the suspect's place of work to question him about the bite marks, the suspect, a 25-year-old Merrill man, elected not to speak to the deputies without a lawyer present. The suspect was placed under arrest for child abuse and transported to the Lincoln County Jail. The suspect was later heard talking on the phone admitting to biting the child, but that it wasn't that hard, and it was in response to the child biting others.

On 05/11/2024 a deputy on patrol stopped a vehicle on USH 51 at the 211 mile marker in the Town of Merrill for vehicle equipment violations. Upon making contact with the driver, a 21-year-old man from Marathon, the deputy detected the odor of marijuana. As a result of that, the deputy conducted a search of the vehicle and located numerous drug items. The driver was subsequently arrested for possession of marijuana and transported to the Lincoln County Jail where he was turned over to corrections officers.

On 05/11/2024 deputies were dispatched to an address on Lilac Ln. in the Town of Schley for a reported domestic dispute that was physical in nature. The fight was reported to be between a 55-year-old Gleason woman and her 20-year-old daughter. The deputies discovered that the daughter was the predominate aggressor by yelling at and hitting her mother. As a result, she was arrested and transported to the Lincoln County Jail and booked for domestic disorderly conduct and battery.

On 05/12/2024 a deputy on patrol sopped a vehicle on USH 51 near USH 8 in the Town of Bradley for a speeding violation. When the deputy made contact with the driver, an 18-year-old woman from Pine Grove, Ill., and her passenger, a 19-year-old woman from Marengo, Ill., in speaking with the woman and her passenger, the deputy detected the odor of marijuana from inside the car. In conversation, the driver admitted to smoking marijuana two hours before the stop. Due to her smoking marijuana prior to driving, she was asked to perform standard field sobriety tests. As a result of those tests, she was arrested for an offense of operating while under the influence of a restricted controlled substance 1st offense, as well as possession of Psilocybin. The passenger is being referred for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Deputies conducted 57 traffic stops and 14 security checks during this timeframe and responded to 1 car vs. deer crash. The 911 Center had 2 hang-up calls and 13 nuisance calls.

On 05/11/2024 a deputy on



SELL IT FAST

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Week 7 and the Bluejay Varsity Trap Team remains undefeated

This week they face off against rival Mosinee

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Week 7 was a nailbiter for the Merrill Bluejay Varsity Trap Team. Going in undefeated, they faced off against Lakeland Union High School and the weekly score was a tie: 119-119. Their last Varsity shooter, Landon Hipke, shot a perfect 25, saving the matchup and resulting in the tie. Reverse Run (RR) scores were used to break the tie, resulting in a Bluejays win, with a RR score of Merrill 72-Lakeland 49.

Merrill remains narrowly undefeated going into Week 8.

Similarly, their biggest rival, the Mosinee Trap Team pulled out a narrow win in Week 7 with a score of 119 against the Tomahawk Claybusters.

This week will be the showdown [or shootout] between the two undefeated rivals: Merrill vs. Mosinee. The Merrill Varsity Bluejays will need to bring their steady, consistent shooting if they are to take the win.

After this week's shooting, Merrill Varsity shooter Christopher Holz held onto his third place position in the Conference and Bobby Hoff advanced to fourth place in the Conference. Both have a score of 163, but Holz leads slightly with 125 RR compared to 74 RR for Holz.

Holding fast to their undefeated status, the Merrill Bluejay Trap Team will rely on their heavy hitters/straight shooters on Varsity to see if they can pull out the win against Mosinee this week.

The JV and Intermediate Advanced teams also won their matches against Lakeland, 121-112 and 100-80, respectively.

In JV, Merrill's Mathew Maas holds third place in the Conference with a score of 160 and Merrill's Mason Meyer is in fifth place in the Conference with a score of 157. For female shooters, Merrill's Maria Ashbrenner and Lily Kufahl hold fast to their leading positions in first and second place female competitors with scores of 151 and 127, respectively.



Last week's final Merrill Varsity shooter, Landon Hipke, shot a perfect 25 to help Merrill pull out a very narrow win. Photo courtesy of Merrill Bluejay Trap Team.



More photos online
merrillfotonews.com

Merrill Senior Mia Ott prepares to defend as the pitch is delivered.

Rick Argall photo.

Merrill Varsity Girls Softball Team blanked by DC Everest

BY RICK ARGALL
MMC STAFF

The Merrill Varsity Bluejays Softball Team ran into a buzz saw at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC) versus DC Everest on Thursday night, May 9, 2024, which was also Senior Night for Merrill. Two DC Everest pitchers, Mara Meverden and Addison Kluck, combined for a six-inning no hitter, while striking out 13 Merrill batters. The Evergreens didn't allow a runner to reach base, defeating the Bluejays 10-0.

"It was a tough game for us. They had strong pitching and we tried not to play into their strengths. It was difficult to lay off those rise balls, so we are trying to work on pitch selection and playing to our strengths," said Head Coach Ali Krohn. "We will continue to work on pitch selection as we head into our final week and on to the post season."

Box Score:
DC Everest 10 @ Merrill 0

The Merrill Girls (5-14) traveled to Medford (11-7) on Friday night May 10, 2024, and came home with a win, 14-12. Mia Ott was the high scorer, bringing home three runs for the Lady Jays.

The Varsity Girls returned home for the Youth Night makeup game versus Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln on Monday, May 13. (Score not available at the time of printing.) The regular season finale was scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at Wausau West.

The first round of regional matchups has been released and Merrill will host Rhinelander at the Marc on Thursday, May 16, at 4:30 p.m.



Senior Night! Front row L to R: Lexi Ollhoff, Sophie Simon, Kayli Wirtala, and Alayna Wyland. Back row L to R: Sophie Wendorf, Olivia Pierce, Mia Ott, and Caina Orzech.

Photo courtesy of Merrill Softball Program.

MERRILL FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS

For week ending May 12, 2024

Building fire 1	Police matter 1
Dispatched and cancelled en route(EMS) 1	Smoke scare, odor of smoke 1
EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury 30	Standby for Tomahawks E.M.S. 1
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition 1	
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG) 1	Total This Week: 38
Motor vehicle accident with injuries 1	TOTAL INCIDENTS/CALLS FOR 2024: 783

2024 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

Boys Track (Varsity & JV)			
Mon. May 20	D. C. Everest-Multiple (Varsity)	Away	4:00 pm
Thurs. May 23	Hudson-Sectional (Varsity)	Away	4:00 pm
Girls Track (Varsity & JV)			
Mon. May 20	D. C. Everest-Multiple (Varsity)	Away	4:00 pm
Thurs. May 23	Hudson-Sectional (Varsity)	Away	4:00 pm
Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV & JV2)			
Thurs. May 16	D. C. Everest (JV2)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 16	D. C. Everest (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Mon. May 20	Crandon (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Mon. May 20	Stevens Point Red (JV2)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 23	Stevens Point Red (JV2)	Home	5:00 pm
Girls Softball (Varsity & JV)			
Thurs. May 16	Rhinelander (Varsity)	Home	5:00 pm
Fri. May 10	Medford (Varsity & JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV)			
Thurs. May 16	Wausau East (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 16	Wausau East (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Fri. May 17	Portage (Varsity)	Home	6:00 pm
Tues. May 21	WI Rapids Lincoln (JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Tues. May 21	WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Thurs. May 23	Multiple Schools (JV)	T. B. D.	5:00 pm
Thurs. May 23	Multiple Schools (Varsity)	T. B. D.	7:00 pm

For all playoff schedules and brackets please go to www.wiaawi.org

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Robert Hoff, a Senior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Robert "Bobby" Hoff recently shot a perfect 25 in weekly competition for the Merrill Varsity Bluejay Trap Team and is one of the top shooters in the Conference. Raised around guns, Bobby was taught gun safety and learned to shoot at an early age. [His mom owns Cimino's Gun Shop.] He began shooting competitively in the summer league for the Weston Trap Club when he was in seventh grade and, in eighth grade, he joined the Merrill Bluejay Trap Team. He continues to shoot for both and also in the summer trap league for the Lincoln County Gun Club.

With a love for history and working with wood, Robert enjoys his history and building construction and tech classes at school. During the school year, he works part-time at Cimino's Gun Shop, and during the summer, he works at Sorensen Construction.

In his free time, Bobby works on his truck [a 1984 Chevy K10], helps on the family ginseng farm, hunts [deer, turkey, bear, duck, goose], and likes to fish, shoot targets or clay pigeons, ride snowmobiles or four-wheelers, and hang out with friends. He attends St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marathon.

The son of Robin Hoff and Deb Hoff of Athens, Robert has a 2.0 GPA and will join the workforce, working full-time at Sorensen Construction immediately after graduation.



Robert Hoff

Congratulations from these sponsors:



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

Please direct comments or suggestions to fotonews@mmclocal.com



L to R: Brant Suchocki, Allison Hunter, Brett Suchocki, Remington Skic, and Austin Depies.

Submitted photos.

Merrill wrestlers compete in State Freestyle and Greco-Roman Wrestling Tournament

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Several Merrill wrestlers traveled to Madison on May 4-5, 2024, to compete in the State Freestyle and Greco-Roman Wrestling Championship at the Aliant Energy Center. Allison Hunter, Adison Clark, and Dusty Schmirler competed in freestyle, while Brett Suchocki competed in Greco-Roman, and Brant Suchocki, Broc Suchocki, Remington Skic, Hunter Opper, and Austin Depies competed in both styles.

“Freestyle is a similar style of wrestling to folkstyle wrestling, which is what all high school wrestlers compete in throughout the regular season,” said Brian Suchocki, Merrill Head Wrestling Coach. “The main difference is in the scoring, but some techniques and rules are different for both styles. Greco-Roman wrestling is a style of wrestling where you cannot use legs in the same way as freestyle or Greco-Roman.”

“The Freestyle and Greco State Tournament brings out many of the

best high school, middle school, and youth wrestlers in the state,” he said.

Brant took first place in Freestyle and second place in Greco-Roman, Allison took third place in freestyle; Brett took fifth place in Greco-Roman, Remington took sixth place in Greco-Roman, and Austin took sixth place in Greco-Roman.

“It’s awesome to see so many Merrill wrestlers willing to compete at this level,” Suchocki said. “These wrestlers trained hard to compete, and the experience will help them in their future wrestling endeavors.”



The Merrill 12U Traveling Baseball Team started their season in Rhinelander on April 13-14, 2024. They defeated Kingsford, Mich. 13-4, then defeated Shawano 10-2, then defeated the Plover Americans 11-4 to take the Championship. Pictured in front, L to R: Shaban Kiskoski, Parker Simon, Jack Seliger, Colton VanLieshout, and Cam Neumann. Back row, L to R: Ben Schmeltzer, Taylor Timm, Oliver Kahr, Aiden Adams, and Cameron Thom. Submitted photo.

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