

★ MEMORIAL DAY ★

REMEMBER & HONOR

Kevin J. Blake
(715) 204-0084
www.KevinBlake.firstweber.com

FIRSTWEBER
REALTORS
The human side of real estate.

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MERRILL, WI
PERMIT NO. 35

POSTAL CUSTOMER
ECRWSS

MMC
MULTIMEDIA CHANNELS
LOCAL MEDIA BETTER RESULTS

Food lovers gather for first annual Food Truck-a-Palooza

**BY RICK ARGALL AND TINA L. SCOTT
MMC STAFF**

Merrill's first-ever 2024 Food Truck-a-Palooza kicked off the summer season at the Merrill Festival Grounds on Saturday, May 18, 2024, under sunny skies and with summer-like temperatures that topped off somewhere around 80 degrees.

The event featured almost 20 food trucks and more than 65 craft and vendor booths. Local Wisconsin musician, Brad Emanuel, provided the entertainment under the big tent that featured an ample amount of picnic tables for families to sit in the shade and enjoy their food throughout the day. A 50/50 raffle was held by the Lincoln County Humane Society, and a cornhole tournament was on the slate for competing event goers.

Vendors came from around the region to feature arts and crafts that were available for purchase. "We came down from Rhinelander for this event and will definitely be interested in doing this again next year," said Chris Kott, owner of Up North Baskets and Etc., not long after the event had started. "So far we are very pleased."

Other vendors sold everything from "crazy pens" to decorative drink tumblers. "A little something for everybody," said another vendor.

The lines at the food trucks were steady all day long as vendors hustled to keep up with their customer orders. "I enter as many of these events as I can throughout the year," said Jeff "Fries" Felzkowski, owner of Little Devil Mini Donuts from Tomahawk. "Sales have been good so far," he said when asked early in the day.

Food lovers had many options to choose from, including



A view of the Merrill Festival Grounds as lines began to form at the on-site food trucks for Food Truck-a-Palooza last Saturday. **Joseph Frederick photo.**



Food Truck-a-Palooza offered lots of delicious food options! **Joseph Frederick photo.**

gyros, steak sandwiches, brats, burgers, chicken, and much more.

"We all ordered gyros, and they are very good," said event-goer Steve of Merrill who asked we just use his first name. "[And] the pricing is commensurate with the portion sizing," he said.

Families had many options to choose from with offerings that appealed to both adults and children. "We both had pork sliders and brisket, while our kids had cheese curds and fresh-squeezed lemonade," said Billy Haight and Brittany Walker from Merrill. "The sliders were tender and delicious, while the brisket was juicy and was very good. Our kids just loved the fresh-squeezed lemonade. It

was a great family day!" Walker said.

"My family tried a variety of items from different food vendors, and they were all excellent," said Merrill Mayor Steve Hass. "The mini donuts were my downfall; there is nothing like a hot donut." He said he also bought a pie to take home and his family enjoyed that on Sunday. "That was excellent also."

Former Green Bay Packer linebacker Michael Hunt and his wife, Paula, were among the event attendees and made several stops throughout the day at the booths and food trucks around the Merrill Festival Grounds. "We both had a smashburger; that was very good," Paula said. "We also enjoyed The Sawmill truck that was serving beverages, and everything seems to be a great value. Merrill is doing a great thing."

The adult beverage area was definitely a popular area, especially later in the day with the addition of live music.

"This event exceeded my expectation by four times,"

See FOOD TRUCK page 3

Merrill Country Store

WE HAVE IT ALL!

• Hardware • Fasteners • Pest Control
• DIY • Feed • Lawn & Garden

1400 Logan Ave. • Merrill • 715-536-2491
Hours: M-F 7-6 • Sat. 8-1

Thinking of advertising in the
FOTO NEWS?
WE CAN HELP
YOUR BUSINESS GROW!

The Merrill Foto News is direct mailed by zip code to over 14,600 homes every Thursday.

Phone:
715-536-7121

Email:
FotoNewsAds@mmclocal.com

Address:
2011 E. Main Street
Merrill, Wisconsin

IF YOU DON'T GET A
PAPER AT YOUR HOME OR
BUSINESS EVERY WEEK...
Please contact your Local Post Master
or speak with your mail carrier

Direct mailed by zip code to
over 14,600 homes every Thursday!

**Your
Hometown
Newspaper
Since 1956**

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Rate Increases

Dear Reader,
The United States Postal Service recently announced another 10% increase in their rates effective July 14, 2024.

Since 2021, there have been five previous rate increases; this is the sixth. This announcement coincides with severe deterioration in the USPS's performance; simply put, the mail is often late. These rate increases affect individuals sending mail as well as newspapers delivering the news. The rate increases have grown to a crisis. Your voice is needed, to ask Congress to place a moratorium on any rate increases, effective immediately. Mail is a vital service to all Americans and provides information that cannot be transmitted digitally. The USPS's price increases have been so aggressive that mail volume is declining, which creates a death spiral: Each rate increase reduces the mail volume, making another rate increase necessary, leading to still more volume declines.

Consider the following:

First Class Mail Stamps

24 percent increase since 2022; another 7.8 percent increase scheduled for July 14, 2024.

Periodical Mail (Paid Newspapers)

Periodical postage increase for July 2024 will be about 5-7 percent increase since January 2024.

EDDM (Free Newspapers)

11 percent increase for community newspapers; the rate increase means newspapers are paying about

33 percent more for postage than three years ago.

Many newspapers rely on the mail to deliver local news to big, medium-sized and small communities alike. We depend on the Post Office and need it to succeed, but not at the cost of our ability to continue serving our readers.

For easy reference, following is contact information for your Senate and Congressional representatives, as well as State Senate and Assembly members. Please call them or leave a message on their constituent website.

Ask them to put an immediate stop to postal rate increases that affect all of us. This action will help stabilize local news in your and our communities and preserve the stewardship that the print medium has had in helping our communities to stay strong, dynamic and filled with character.

Your Congressmen

- 1st District: Bryan Steil (R) - (202) 225-3031
 - 2nd District: Mark Pocan (D) - (202) 225-2906
 - 3rd District: Derrick Van Orden - (202) 225-5506
 - 4th District: Gwen Moore (D) - (202) 225-4572
 - 5th District: Scott L. Fitzgerald - (202) 225-5101
 - 6th District: Glenn Grothman (R) - (202) 225-2476
 - 7th District: Tom Tiffany (R) - (202) 225-3365
 - 8th District: Currently vacant
- Thank you for your help in this noble endeavor.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

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

Merrill Foto News **ADVERTISING WORKS!**

"We have worked with the Foto News for decades, and will continue to. They're very prompt and will work with you on the details of your advertisement."

Brandon - Member Services
Riverside Athletic Club • 715-536-2481

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

Used Cars!
 BUYING OR SELLING...
 The Classifieds can work for you.
CALL: 715-536-7121 VISIT: MERRILLFOTONEWS.COM

The Eagles Club
 1205 N Lake St. • Merrill, WI 54452
Open to the Public • (715) 536-7471
NO FOOD SERVED: Sat. & Sun. - Special Events Only

DINNER SPECIALS MAY/JUNE

TUESDAY NIGHTS
MAY 28TH - CHOP SUEY
JUNE 4TH - LIVER & ONIONS
 Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

FRIDAY NIGHTS
MAY 24TH - BLUEGILLS
MAY 31ST - WALLEYE
 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

RedMax

RedMax RTZ 42"
 Compares to TORO time cutter w/Fab deck. Plus, more features!

- Kawasaki Engine
- Cast Iron Spindle
- 3.5 Fuel Tank
- 11 X 6-5 Tires Front
- ZT-2200 EZTI Trans
- 18 x 8.5 - 8 Rear Tires
- 10 ga. Fab Steel Deck
- 3 Year Warranty

Reg: \$3,799
Special \$3,299

Specials on all RedMax RTZ Series

WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS

North Central Power Equipment
 715-370-3002
 4001 Dixie Ave, Wausau • 1 mile N of Fleet Farm. Hwy K, then E on Emery to S on Dixie • Open M-F 8-4:30

Open from 8 am - 4 pm on Memorial Day

DELI SPECIALS

Colby Jack Cheese \$3.89 Lb.
 Hard Salami \$6.89 Lb.

GREAT SNACK
 Salted Corn Chips w/Flax..... \$4.49 Lb.

PRODUCE
 Fresh Rhubarb \$2.99 Lb.

GREENHOUSE
 Large Patio Tomatoes \$12.95 Each
 Vegetable Plants 2" Pot 99c Each
 Vegetable Plant 4 Pack \$2.99 Each
 Individual Wave Petunias 3-4" Pots \$4.49 Each Or 3/\$12

Check out our Super Selection of Hanging Baskets and Porch Planters! Its worth the drive!

PRairie PINES
 Located in Gleason. All prices subject to change. While supplies last.
 715-873-4840
 STOP IN AND ENJOY OUR FRIENDLY, AGREEABLE SERVICE!

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

Friday, May 31, Noon – 5pm
 Saturday, June 1, 8am – Noon
 Merrill Festival Grounds – Sell Building Sales Street Entrance, Merrill, WI
 For more information and the list of accepted items go to:
www.goodnewswi.com

E-Cycle Facts:

- Last year's Merrill Event collected over 34,000 pounds!
- 99% of the material dropped off to us is recycled.

Proceeds Benefiting Merrill Optimist Club & Good News Project

Good News Project
 1106 N. Fifth Street
 Wausau, WI 54403
 715-843-5985

PUBLISHER'S LETTER
Memorial Day

Dear Reader,
 As Memorial Day approaches, we're reminded of the solemn duty to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedoms. It's a day to reflect on the bravery and selflessness of those who gave their lives in service to our country.



Yet, amidst this reflection, we can't ignore the tragic reality of war – the senseless need for power, resources, and subjugation that often drive conflicts. Innocents become collateral damage in these atrocities, bearing the burden of decisions made far from their homes.

As we commemorate Memorial Day, we must contemplate the deeper meaning behind it. It's a day not just to mourn the fallen, but to question the necessity of war itself. Can't we aspire to a world where diplomacy triumphs over conflict, where peace prevails over violence?

Though the observance of Memorial Day will endure, let it also serve as a beacon of hope – a hope that one day, the need to wage war will fade into history, replaced by a collective commitment to dialogue, understanding, and peace.

PATRICK J. WOOD
 Publisher
 Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

Memorial Day events

Former Iranian hostage is keynote speaker

In the Merrill area, VFW Post 1638 placed grave flags on the graves of veterans in the Merrill Memorial Park and St. Francis Cemeteries to honor those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The flags will remain until the evening of June 3.

At 6 a.m. on Monday, May 27, representatives from the Post will erect large flags in the cemetery, weather permitting, in preparation for the annual Memorial Day ceremony. This year's event will take place on Monday, May 27, at the Veteran's Memorial in St. Francis Veteran's Memorial Cemetery, located at 2700 Thielman St. in Merrill. The Merrill City Band will make its first appearance of the 2024 season and will start playing at 10:30 a.m., followed by the ceremony beginning at 11 a.m. The concert and ceremony will

feature patriotic selections, hymns, and marches. As always, *Marches of the Armed Forces* will honor the five branches of the service. This is a combined program led by VFW Post 1638 and supported by members of the American Legion, DAV, AMVETS, Auxiliaries, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Knights of Columbus.

This year's keynote/featured speaker will be U.S. Marine Kevin Hermening who was held hostage by Iran for 440 days, along with 52 other American diplomats. Hermening was witness to a rescue attempt that cost the lives of eight United States servicemen.

Please join the community in helping to honor those who keep us safe and fight for our freedom. Feel free to bring a lawn chair or blanket for your family's comfort.

In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Northwoods Veterans Post Hall at 601 Johnson St. in Merrill.



Plautz's Pub LLC.
 310 E. 2nd St., Merrill
 715-536-4611

SERVING FOOD DAILY TILL 8PM

HOURS
 MONDAY • Noon - 6pm
 TUE. - FRI. • Noon - Close
 SATURDAY • 4pm - Close
 SUNDAY • 11am - Close

MAY BOOZE OF THE MONTH
CAPTAIN
 \$5.00 - 16 oz. Pint

SATURDAY & SUNDAY MAY 25TH & 26TH CLOSED

WEEKLY BRIEFING - MAY 23RD - 27TH

THURSDAY - PORK LOIN
 FRI FISH FRY - CATFISH
 SATURDAY - PRIME RIB
 SUNDAY - BROASTED CHICKEN
 BINGO - PORK SANDWICH
 MONDAY - ALFREDO

THIS WEEKEND! BINGO 4PM SUNDAY, MAY 26TH!

Conference Room & Hall Rental Available
 Open at 4pm Mon. & Thurs. • Open at Noon Fri.
 Open at 11am Sat. & Sun. • Closed Tues. & Wed.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
 601 Johnson St., Merrill • 715-536-5708
 NOW HIRING! P/T - KITCHEN

★★★★★ WE SELL FLAGS! ★★★★★

Check us out online!
merrillfotonews.com

ZURKO'S SUPER HOLIDAY FLEA MARKETS

FRIDAY - May 24 ~ ANTIGO ~ FAIRGROUNDS

SAT & SUN - May 25 & 26 SHAWANO FAIRGROUNDS

Hours: 7 am - 4 pm / \$2 • Treasures!
 www.zurkopromotions.com
 VENDORS WELCOME • 715-526-9769

RED GRANITE BAR AND GRILL
 EST. 1933
 FOR A GOOD OLD TIME

11420 S. County Rd. K, Merrill WI • 715-536-9391
 Sun. 7am-2am, Mon.-Thurs. 11:30am-2am, Fri. 11:30am-2:30am, Sat. 7am-2:30am, Dine-in • Takeout • NO Delivery

Saturday & Sunday
 Breakfast 7am-11am
 Mimosas & Bloody Mary's

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

Sunday & Tuesday
 Broasted Chicken
 12 Noon-8pm

Friday
 Fish Fry 12 Noon-8:45pm

Red Granite Bar & Grill
 Order Online - Check wait times or just stop in!
 Find us on f

COSMO Theatre
 KIDS • \$5.00
 SENIORS • \$5.00
 Main St. • Merrill ADULTS • \$8.00

MOVIES AND SHOWTIMES
 5/24/24 TO 5/30/24
 Mondays All Seats \$5.00

GARFIELD
 "PG" (1HR 41MIN)
 FRIDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM
 SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:45, 7:00PM
 MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM
 TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

FURIOSA: A MAD MAX SAGA
 "R" (2HR 28MIN)
 FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:00PM
 SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:15, 7:00 & 9:00PM
 SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:15 & 7:00PM
 MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM
 TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

IF
 "PG" (1HR 44MIN)
 FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:00PM
 SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:15, 7:00 & 9:00PM
 SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:15 & 7:00PM
 MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM
 TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

www.cosmomovies.com
715-536-4473

STEER YOUR WAGONEER

WIN A 2024 JEEP WAGONEER

HO-CHUNK GAMING WITTENBERG

N7198 US HWY 45 | WITTENBERG, WI

PRIZE PAYOUT BREAKDOWN
 DRAWING | JUNE 1

8:30PM	\$1,000 CASH
9:00PM	\$1,000 CASH
9:30PM	\$1,000 CASH
10:00PM	\$1,000 CASH
10:30PM	\$1,000 CASH

GRAND PRIZE DRAWINGS

11:00PM	Jeep & \$1,000 CASH
11:30AM	\$4,000 CASH
12:00AM	\$5,000 CASH

Two brothers, two instruments, two secrets revealed ...

Taps

BY MICHAEL CAYLOR

Twenty-four notes. That is all that it takes to play it.

Those notes, however, can produce strong emotions in even the most stoic person. Many of our nation's strongest warriors cannot make it through those 24 notes without shedding a tear. Most of those strong warriors will someday lay in repose as they are played over them.

This is the story about two instruments and two men, men who never served in the military but who had such great respect for service members and *Taps* that it caused them to take a family secret to their own graves. It will also tell how those instruments will be returned to the hallowed grounds in Merrill to sound at least one more rendition of those 24 notes.

The origin of the song known as *Taps* goes back to the Civil War. Brigadier General Daniel Adams Butterfield was not impressed by the buglers' late-night sounds which told his soldiers it was time to turn in. He and bugler Oliver Wilcox Norton wrote *Taps* to honor the brave men who had just fought what was known as the Seven-Days Battle. When the bugler finished playing those new notes that night in July of 1862, the whole camp knew the day was done. Those sounds soon spread to other camps, and by the end of the war, even the Confederates were playing *Taps* to signal the end of day. (It should be noted that later research claims Butterfield just re-wrote an earlier bugle call.) It is believed the first sounding of *Taps* at a funeral was during the Peninsular Campaign of the Civil War in 1862. A young cannoner was killed, and fearful the traditional three volleys of fire over the grave would bring more fire from the enemy, Capt. John C. Tidball ordered instead that *Taps* be played.

Melvin F. Talbot was born in Merrill in 1903. Talbot was born to a devout Catholic family and lived in close proximity to the church, the Catholic School, and the Merrill High School, where he stood out in his class. At the age of 14, Melvin began playing the trumpet and later became a member of the Merrill High School orchestra and also began playing engagements with local dance bands. Melvin joined the Merrill City Band in 1918 and was a member for nearly 40 years, directing the band for almost 10 of those years and most of the time also directing the Wausau City Band. As president of the City Band, he was instrumental in establishing the Merrill High School Band and spearheaded the drive for new uniforms; this drive included the United States Marine Corps Band coming



Melvin and Clifford Talbot. Submitted image.

to Merrill for a concert. The war, which would soon be known as the war to end all wars, was raging across the globe when the United States became involved in 1917. Like every town and city in America, men of the community went off to do their service for their country, and many did not return. In 1918, when the first native son came home to be buried after losing his life in battle, Melvin was called upon to come to the cemetery and play *Taps* at the young See TWO page 15

FOOD TRUCK from page 1

said Mayor Hass, who had originally proposed the idea as a way to utilize the Merrill Festival Grounds/Fairgrounds more. "For a first-time event, we did not know what to expect. ... The variety of vendors that participated was amazing, from the food choices to the crafters."

Hass said he estimated 3,000 people attended throughout the day. "We didn't have a way of counting the people," he said, "[but] the food lines were long and stayed long throughout the day."

"People from all around the area came to this event, and it shows that advertising pays off," he said. "The live remotes were great from the radio stations, and the ads in the Foto News really worked for us. We also used our Marketing and Communications Committee to authorize additional marketing efforts. All of this helped make this event great."

"This will definitely be an annual event," Hass said. And event organizers see

ways they can make it even bigger and better for 2025. "We will be looking at ways to make it run smoother next year. We will evaluate what worked well and what needs improvement. But overall, this was a fabulous event."

"The sponsors deserve a lot of credit," he said. "This was the first time, and they all jumped on board to make this event happen. We couldn't do it without their support."

"Social media specialist, Hallie Savall, took this idea and ran with it and deserves a lot of credit," Hass said. "She went above and beyond, and so did her family. They worked super hard to make this event a success."

The Mayor, too, worked the event, arriving at 8 a.m. and working until 7 p.m., pitching in with the nitty gritty work, from selling wrist bands to changing paper towel rolls and hauling garbage carts. "I also want to thank the City staff for helping out and the volunteers from the Chamber, Incredible Bank, and the Fair Board," Hass said.



Jeff "Fries" Felzkowski prepares mini donuts for patrons. Rick Argall photo.



A cornhole tournament was one of the highlights of the event that didn't involve food. Joseph Frederick photo.

Buying or selling - the Classifieds can work for you. Call 715-536-7121

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
RUMMAGE SALE
Join Us!
Thursday, May 30th 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Friday, May 31st 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
LUNCH AVAILABLE! ENTER AT DOOR #7

FREUDENTHAL MFG.
W6322 CTH O, Medford, WI

Moveable, U- Shaped Clotheslines From \$289 - \$359 10, 12, 15, 20 foot lengths, 10 ft. wide, 6 ft. high, 7 lines standard. Made with special galvanized, high strength steel tubing.	Picnic Table Frame Only \$169.95
Swing away Mailbox Stands \$145.95 	Culverts: Polyethylene, dual-wall, smooth interior, corrugated exterior. We stock all sizes from 4" to 60" diameters. 20 ft. standard length.

CALL FOR CULVERT PRICING
1-800-688-0104 • www.freudenthalmfg.com

What's Happening at **St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store**
1004 E. Main Street, Merrill
Hours: Monday thru Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM

Friday, May 24 Nifty Thrifty Sale
(50% off everything in the store!)
Special hours for that day only: 7 AM – 7 PM

Also check out our:
Mystery Bags ranging from \$2 to \$10
Wedding dresses in our "Dress Your Best Boutique"
Our daily color rotation sale prices!

Merrill Area Public Schools Head Start
MAPS Head Start has openings for the 2024-2025 school year. This program is for children of low income families who will be three or four on or before September 1, 2024. In addition, if your child turns three during the school year, your child can be enrolled after their third birthday.

To enroll go to the MAPS website enrollment page. For more information or for help enrolling, please call Pine River School for Young Learners at 715-536-2392.

Do you have a Child who will be Four Years Old on or before September 1, 2024?
Would you like to enroll them in the MAPS Pre-Kindergarten program?

This is a FREE half day program.

To enroll go to the MAPS website enrollment page. For More information or help enrolling, please call Pine River School for Young Learners at 715-536-2392.

MERRILL Foto News

Office Hours: Monday - Friday • 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Mailing Address: Foto News, 2011 E. Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452, (715) 536-7121, Fax: (715) 539-3686
Ad & News Deadlines: Display Advertising: 12:30 p.m. Monday; Classified Advertising: 11:30 a.m. Monday
News or press release submissions must be one week prior to pub date.

Patrick J. Wood Publisher publisher@mmlocal.com	Tina L. Scott Editor tscott@mmlocal.com	Heidi Schult Front Office Manager/CSR
Tim Schreiber General Manager tschreiber@mmlocal.com	Jennifer Gartmann Sales Consultant jgartmann@mmlocal.com	Heidi Griebel Customer Service Representative
Rick Argall Circulation Manager	Rachel Crockett Graphic Designer	

THE FOTO NEWS (ISSN 0191-8958) is published weekly by Multi Media Channels LLC, N2919 County Road QQ, Waupaca WI 54981. Subscription price by mail: \$100 per year; domestic U.S. Mail only, nonrefundable but transferable. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE FOTO NEWS, 2011 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452.
© Copyright Multi Media Channels LLC 2024. All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication or any of its contents may be reproduced, copied, modified, or adapted without the prior written consent of Multi Media Channels LLC.

CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

OBITUARIES



Marjorie "Marge" Dawn Heidemann, age 97, of Merrill, passed away Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at Pine Crest Nursing Home, Merrill.

Marjorie was born July 30, 1926, in Merrill, daughter of the late Ray Turbin and Delores (Egan) Cotter. She graduated from Merrill High School in 1944 and then was employed at the former Co-op Grocery Store in Merrill. She married Victor Heidemann on September 13, 1947, at the former St. Luke's Lutheran Church in the Town of Pine River. Marge farmed with her husband in the Town of Pine River until retirement in 1988. He preceded her in death on

March 6, 2014. Marge was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church and was a former member of Calvary Christian Women. She loved to read and do word puzzles. She also enjoyed collecting ceramic tea pots and decorating her living areas with wall hangings, flower arrangements, and knick-knacks.

Marjorie is survived by her son, Timothy (Kelley) Heidemann; daughter-in-law, Laurie Heidemann; grandchildren, Heath Heidemann, Heather (Jason) Wolff, Ross (Melissa Gilbert) Heidemann, Dirk (Jessica) Heidemann; great-grandchildren, Cade, Aaron, Allison, Tavin, and Brynlee; brother, John Cotter; and half-sister, Ellen Barbre. Marjorie was preceded in death by her husband, Victor Heidemann; parents, Ray Turbin and Delores Cotter; stepfather, John N. Cotter; infant son, Michael Heidemann; son, Scott Heidemann; grandson, Justin Ames; sister, Geraldine Dotter; half-brothers, William Turbin, Richard Turbin, and David Turbin; brother-in-law, Gordon Dotter; sister-in-law, Gene Cotter; and her grandparents, aunts and uncles.

The funeral service for Marjorie was held at 11:00 AM, Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at Calvary Lutheran Church, Town of Pine River. The Rev. Jennifer Hoffman officiated. Interment will take place at St. Paul's Cemetery, Town of Pine River. Visitation began at 9:00 AM, Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at the church. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

The family wishes to extend a special thank you to the staff at Pine Crest Nursing Home and Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services for their love and compassionate care.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com.



Stephen "Steve" Wayne Patrick Bathke, age 36, of Gleason, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, May 13, 2024, while at work in Rib Mountain, WI. He was born on March 17, 1988, in Milwaukee, WI and was the son to the late James Bathke. Steve attended and graduated from Antigo High School. He married his best friend and love of his life, Patricia Zahuronos, on June 6, 2020. She survives. Together, they were raising their 2-year-old

son: Clyde.

Steve was currently employed at Ryder Transportation in Rib Mountain, WI as a diesel mechanic. First and foremost, in his life, was his son. He adored him and was attentive to his every need. Family was a priority for Steve, especially his wife and son. They had just come back from a memorable and fun family vacation in the Dominican Republic. Steve loved to be outside, whether it was going for a walk with Patricia and Clyde, casting a line to catch that big bass, or hunting in the woods for a wall-hanger! He enjoyed "tinkering" with machinery of any kind, and would come up with all types of survival tools. Steve loved his animals, especially his Dobermans. He is remembered as a kind, strong and determined man, that was also loyal and compassionate. Steve will be missed dearly, but the memory of him will live on.

Steve leaves behind his wife: Patricia "Trish" Bathke, his pride and joy, his son: Clyde Bathke, brother: James (Rachel) Bathke, sister: Tania (Shannon) Hoffman, nephews: Walker and Wyatt Bathke, niece and goddaughter: Willow Bathke. He is further survived by his beloved pets, his dogs: Zeus and Dixie, cats, chickadees and his pet turkey: "Big Pimpin". He was preceded in death by his father, uncle: Danny Bathke, cousin: Bobby Bathke and dogs: Micyah and Ellie.

A Celebration of Life for Steve will take place on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at Waid Funeral Home in Merrill. Rev. David J. Sutton will officiate. Visitation will take place on Saturday, May 25, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. until the time of the service, also at the funeral home.

In lieu of cut flowers, family requests that vegetable plants, trees or perennials be sent so that the family can plant them in memory of Steve.

A special thank you goes to the employees at Ryder Transportation that tried to assist Steve in his time of need. Your efforts were truly appreciated.

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



Phyllis Kay Fausch

The family of Phyllis Kay Fausch, age 80, of Irma, is saddened to announce her passing. She died peacefully on Friday, May 10, 2024, at Aspirus Hospital, Merrill. She was born on August 16, 1943, in Merrill, WI, the daughter of Harvey and Catherine (Wiegandt) Kriewald. Phyllis was a member of the Merrill High School Class of 1961.

On February 17, 1968, Phyllis was united in marriage to Harlan H. Fausch in St. Stephens United Church of Christ in Merrill, a union that would last for over 56 years. This marriage was blessed with two daughters, Julie and Amy.

Phyllis had an adventurous spirit. She was a skydiver in her younger years. She traveled the world extensively and enjoyed taking road trips many places in the United States with her family, friends, and was especially fond of trips with her sister, June. Phyllis was a line dancer and attended many country music festivals, taking in the music and camping. She had a love of flowers and would decorate their Tug Lake home with a beautiful floral landscape every summer. Phyllis was a Packer fan and attended many games at Lambeau Field including the Ice Bowl Championship game in 1967.

A longtime resident of their home on Tug Lake, Phyllis enjoyed walking several miles daily, pontoon rides, bonfires and taking in beautiful sunsets. Phyllis and Harlan were fond of spending winters in Naples, FL; enjoying the ocean and escaping the Wisconsin cold.

She was a life-long member of St. Stephens UCC in Merrill, was a former Sunday school teacher, delivered Meals on Wheels and volunteered in the Holy Cross Hospital Gift Shop.

Phyllis had a very caring nature. Her family is forever grateful for the care and devotion Phyllis gave to her mother, Catherine, in her final years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sister, Carol Nichols, brother-in-law, Robert Nichols, nephew, David Nichols.

Phyllis is survived by her husband, Harlan, daughters, Julie (Bill) Ratajczyk of Reedsburg, Amy Wojtusik of Irma, sister, June Kriewald of Merrill, grandchildren, Katherine Ratajczyk of Crystal, MN, Rebecca (Alex) Hinz of Oshkosh, Sarah Ratajczyk of Menasha, Emily Wojtusik of LaCrosse, and Harlan Wojtusik of Rhinelander, great granddaughter, Elianna, nephews, Steven (Kim) Nichols, Thomas (Dena) Nichols, John (Mary Jo) Nichols and Matthew Nichols along with other relatives and friends.

A memorial service for Phyllis Fausch will be conducted at 11:00 AM on Friday, May 24, 2024, at St. Stephens United Church of Christ, Merrill, with Reverend Michael Southcombe officiating. Visitation will be held Friday morning from 9:00 AM until the time of the service, at the church. A private family burial will take place in Merrill Memorial Park at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Stephens United Church of Christ, Lincoln County Humane Society or a charitable organization of your choice. The family extends a very heartfelt thank you to the staff of Aspirus Hospital, Merrill for the wonderful care and comfort given to Phyllis.

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

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

Remember, and be remembered with a granite memorial from
TOMAHAWK MONUMENT CO.
 YOUR FAMILY'S PERSONAL MEMORIALIST
 Specialists in Pre-Needs Planning
 FROM SELECTION TO DESIGN TO SETTING, ALL OF OUR WORK IS PROUDLY DONE IN-HOUSE
 20 N. 2nd St., Tomahawk, WI • 715-453-6523
 Visit us at: www.tomahawkmonument.com
 Email us at: contactus@tomahawkmonument.com

30 to 60 Day Turnaround On All In Stock Monuments (100 plus monuments in stock)
 • Custom Etching
 • Pre-Need Monuments
 • Final Dates & Inscriptions
 • Custom Cemetery Work
Merrill Monument
 N2182 CTH K Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-6654
 EMAIL US: merrillmonument@gmail.com
 STORE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 9am - Noon & 1pm - 4pm

WAID
 Funeral Home & Cremation Service
 Locally owned and Operated
 301 Eagle Drive, Merrill, WI • 715-536-4646
 Since 1888, we have continued to improve upon our services and facilities to better serve our Merrill area community.
 WWW.WAIDFUNERAL.COM
 Email: info@waidfuneral.com

S. Thomas Tompach, age 83, of Merrill, passed away on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at the Aspirus Wausau Hospital. He was born on May 17, 1940 to the late Stanley and Averill (Hanson) Tompach in Alton, IL. Tom attended and graduated from high school before going on to earn his bachelor's degree in English from Marquette University. He married Linda Nikolai on December 15, 1984 in Merrill. She survives.

Tom worked in various positions over the years, including as a purchasing manager at Zimpro in Rothschild, and as an Operations Analyst for Wausau Insurance before retiring.

Tom is survived by his wife: Linda, children: Matthew (Angela) Tompach, Paul (Stacey) Tompach, Luke Tompach, Roy Sefton and Michele Sefton, 9 grandchildren: LeslieAnn, Rebecca, Kathryn, Madeline, Olivia, Charlie, Stephanie, Brett and Morgan, 1 great grandchild: Sophia and sister: Mary (Marc) Nielsen. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Per Tom's request, no services will be held. Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com.

Taylor & Stine
 Funeral Home and Cremation Services
Leah D. Reist, Director
McKenna K. Meunier, Director
 903 E. Third St. • Merrill, WI
 715-536-6244
www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

Mid-Wisconsin Cremation Society
 Direct Cremation
 Pre-Arrange Available **\$980.00** Locally Owned and Operated
 Complete
 948 Grand Ave. Schofield
715-359-6488
HonorOne.com



Jan M. Gartmann, 59, of Rothschild, passed away Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Jan was born on September 25, 1964, on a U.S. Army Post in Verdun, France, daughter of Jan D. and Joanne (Skrbec) Milos. Growing up, Jan and the family lived in various places due to her father's service in the Marines, Army, and Air Force. Jan was always proud of the military heritage in her family. Jan graduated from Layton High School in

Layton, Utah in 1982. She met Mark Gartmann while he was serving in the military and they were married on December 3, 1987, in Utah. He survives. Jan attended UW-Stevens Point and received a two-year degree. She received her mediation certification in Minnesota and worked as a mediator around the area.

Jan was a great cook and an even better baker. Jan had an avid curiosity for life. She enjoyed going to garage sales and thrift shopping. She was very crafty and talented at decorating and also enjoyed redoing furniture. Jan also enjoyed sewing and tending to her flower gardens. She loved spending time with her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, Mark Gartmann of Rothschild; mother, Joanne Milos of Clearfield, Utah; daughter, Victoria Gartmann (Joey Vanouse) of Rib Mountain; sons, Colby Gartmann (Jade Romatowski) of Wausau, Zachary (Mackenzie) Gartmann of Kronenwetter; and Austin Gartmann of Wausau; grandchildren, Maiya and Caedyn Gartmann and Walker and August Gartmann; sisters, Mary Jane Milos of Clearfield, Utah and Peggy Milos (Mark Greenman) of Hooper, Utah; and several nieces, nephews, and in-laws. Jan was preceded in death by her father, Jan D. Milos; and father-in-law, Rueben Gartmann.

The funeral service for Jan was held at 11:00 AM, Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill. Deacon Jim Arndt presided. Interment took place in Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery. Visitation began at 9:00 AM, Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at the funeral home. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

Thank you Merrill businesses for your support of our graduates!

Merrill High School Co-op Program

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| Megan Benton
Anna Bowe
Alayna Boyd
Isaak Clapper
Olivia Dzwonkowski
Elexa Emmer
Grace English
Emma Frazier
Lacey Frisch | Painted Sunset Ranch
Auntie Ray's Coffee House
Helene's Hilltop Orchard
B&H Construction
The Grand Stand
Riverside Athletic Club
Bell Tower Residence
Helene's Hilltop Orchard
Merrill Park & Rec and
Kwik Trip #386 | Emerson Iwen
Mariah Jacoby
Jonathon Kracht
Zachary Lusher
Chloe Malinowski
Nathaniel Mattson
Alexis Ollhoff | Auntie Ray's Coffee House
Les and Jim's Lincoln Lanes
Arby's Restaurant
Culver's Restaurant
Dairy Queen
Kwik Trip #241
Smiling John's Christmas Trees
and Helene's Hilltop Orchard
MAPS Prairie River Middle School
Aspirus YMCA
The Grand Stand
The Grand Stand
Les and Jim's Lincoln Lanes
MAPS Washington Elementary
After School Program
Arby's Restaurant
River Country Co-op
Nanny | Justin Sabatke
Donald Salisbury
Addison Schneider
Kaden Schwandt
Ashlyn Shoey
Julia Shull
Sophie Simon
Annalee Streich
Owen Taylor
Brock Wakefield
Adison Warren | Kwik Trip #241
McDonald's Restaurant
Polka-Dotted Pie
Culver's Restaurant
B's Nest Bar and Grill
MAPS Prarie River Middle School
Ana Blair's Boutique
Kwik Trip #386
Culver's Restaurant
Culver's Restaurant
Stoney Acres Farm and
Culver's Restaurant
Jeb's Bar and Grill
Dairy Queen and
Auntie Ray's Coffee House
Merrill Park & Rec and
Helene's Hilltop Orchard |
| Katy Glaze
Hannah Hayes
Carson Henrichs
Aaron Hipke
Linzee Hixon
Allison Hoock
Austin Hotchkiss
D'Ondre Houghton | The Pet Spa
Z's Fork Horners Bar and Grill
Culver's Restaurant
Culver's Restaurant
Dairy Queen
Auntie Ray's Coffee House
Arby's Restaurant
Express Market by Festival Foods | Ciana Orzech
Savannah Orzech
Madison Ott
Mia Ott
Nicholas Palecek
Mckenna Pickard | Alexia Pophal
Alexis Rogers
Brooke Rudie | Jorden Weisman
Kayli Wirtala | Alayna Wyland |

Youth Apprenticeship Program

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| Alayna Amundson
Carter Baade
Chase Brantner
Jaden Bush
Yandel Carrillo-Vidal
Victoria Catlin
Malaynie Dengel
Graham Dodge
Claire Duley
Bryce Eggebrecht
Jeffrey Eisner III
Grace Faber
True Fairfield
Laken Frederick
Christian Gilbert
Jacob Graap
Landon Hipke
Brandon Humphrey
Allison Hunter
Brady Kanitz | Pine Crest Nursing Home
Krueger Wholesale Florist, Inc.
Lincoln Wood Products Inc.
Zastrow The Beer Man
Zastrow The Beer Man
T.P. Corp.
Woodland Court Elder Services
Painted Sunset Ranch
Duley Farms
Walmart - Merrill
Weinbrenner Shoe Company
Athenian Living
Zastrow The Beer Man
Geiss Meat Service
Brickner Park City
Russ Davis Wholesale Inc.
Brickner Park City
Lincoln Wood Products Inc.
Geiss Meat Service
Lincoln Wood Products Inc. | Nicholas Kriegel
Regena Lahti
Gene Lohse
Chloe McRae
McKenna Meyer
Madelyn Mootz
Ian Morgan
Zachary Morris
Zander Ney
Jayce Oberg
Sawyer Peterson
Olivia Pierce
Nolan Polak
Kaiden Ratzlaff
Morgan Schmidt
Benjamin Schneider
Sommer Seefeldt
Kendel Semling
Archer Slattery
Dylan Smith | J&J Lee Construction
Lincoln Wood Products Inc.
O'Reilly Auto Parts
WEB, Inc.
Incredible Bank
St. John's Lutheran Christian Care
Bell Tower Residence
Walmart - Merrill
Brickner Park City
Goetsch's Welding and Machine, Inc.
Peterson Brothers Sand and Gravel, LLC
Aspirus Wausau Hospital
Pine River Wreath
Merrill Area Public Schools
Bell Tower Residence
Goetsch's Welding and Machine, Inc.
Pine Crest Nursing Home
Schmitt and Koppelman
Lincoln Wood Products Inc.
Zastrow The Beer Man | Matthew Steffen
Gracie Such
Gretchen Such
Nora Trojanowski
Thomas Troyer
Alexa Vandeweerd
Ana Voermans
Phillip Vogel
Sophie Wendorf
Isabel Wendt
Macy Wesbrock
Anna Westfall
Carson Woellner
Chloe Wolf Belant
Alex Woller
Roman Wunsch
Sergei Wunsch
Alayna Wyland | Breaman Merrill Ford
Crossbridge Community Bank
St. Francis Xavier School
Pine Crest Nursing Home
Aspirus Wausau Hospital
Bell Tower Residence
Pine Crest Nursing Home
Nieman Brands
Burgener Contract Carriers Ltd
Woosters Garage
Bell Tower Residence
Park City Credit Union
Zastrow The Beer Man
Aspirus Wausau Hospital
Walmart - Merrill
2 Boys and A Lawnmower
2 Boys and A Lawnmower
Aspirus Wausau Hospital |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|

| LEGAL NOTICES |

Continued from page 5.

Legals 7700

Merrill Area Public Schools Regular Board of Education Meeting April 17, 2024 – Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:30 PM in the Board Room. Board members present: All. Board members absent: None. Others Present: Superintendent Murray, MAPS Administrators, Black and Rudie, 11 people from the staff and public and Recorder Woller.

Yingling left the meeting at 5:33 p.m. MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the schedules, course offerings and registration materials for MAPS Summer School Enrichment 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Woller to approve the 2024-2025 Elementary Student Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Osness to approve the 2024-2025 course descriptions for Prairie River Middle School. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Woller to approve the 2024-2025 high school student handbook/agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the Head Start 2024-2025 T/TA plan. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Gremler to approve the new SEL coach positions as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Proulx to approve the 2024-25 fiscal year addendum of the Taher Food Service contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Osness to approve the purchase order for Laprea Education, Inc. for \$10,889.10 for decodable classroom library books. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Ashbeck to approve the proposal from Lee Recreation for playgrounds at Kate

Legals 7700

Goodrich & Washington Elementary with Principals making final equipment and proposal selection. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Krueger to approve the amended CESA 9 contract to include an additional 1.5 day of CSI time. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the facilities projects as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the renewal of health insurance with Aspirus Health Plan with a 9.5% increase as presented for FY25. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Proulx to approve the renewal of the dental insurance for FY25 with reduced monthly rate deduction rate as presented with employee deduction portion absorbing the decrease. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the renewals for voluntary benefits as presented. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Ashbeck to approve the additional step to the teacher compensation plan. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Proulx to approve a stipend for CTE Coordinator. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the administrator and professional staff compensation plan and issue contracts for 24-25 and provide a 3% increase to staff not on a plan. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to eliminate the After School Program Coordinator support staff position held by Payton Lewandowski at the conclusion of 2023-2024 school year grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Legals 7700

MOTION by Proulx, second by Gremler to approve the attached personnel report, contingent upon release of contract for hirings and upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Liberty to approve consent agenda items a through d, which includes minutes of the March 27, 2024, and April 10, 2024 meetings; the second reading and approval of Policy 6611 District-Supported/Sponsored Student Activity Accounts; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,307,183.99; and, donations totaling \$2,615.00. Motion carried with Woller abstaining from the approval of the April 10, 2024 minutes; and, Krueger abstaining from a portion of the March 27, 2024 minutes.

MOTION by Krueger, second by Ashbeck to adjourn at 6:48 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Kendra Osness
Board Clerk
KO/tlw
(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)
Published May 23, 2024 WNAJLP

Merrill Area Public Schools Special Board of Education Meeting April 22, 2024 – Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Board members present: Ashbeck, De Rizzo, Gremler, Liberty, Proulx and Blake. Board members absent: Hornischer and Woller. Others present: Superintendent Murray, Caylor and Recorder Woller.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Kevin Blake for

Legals 7700

President. Motion carried unanimously.

Board President for the 2024-2025 term is Kevin Blake.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Brett Woller for Vice President. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Vice President for the 2024-2025 term is Brett Woller.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Gremler to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ron Liberty for Board Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Clerk for the 2024-2025 term is Ron Liberty.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Gremler to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Paul Proulx for Board Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Treasurer for the 2024-2025 term is Paul Proulx.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Ashbeck to approve the board goals (as written) for the Board of Education for 2024-2025. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to hold one regular monthly board meeting on the 3rd or 4th Wednesdays of each month, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Ashbeck to appoint Paul Proulx as representative to the CESA #9 Board of Control, with myself (Ron Liberty) as Alternate Delegate. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Gremler to appoint Kevin Blake as WASB Delegate and Ron Liberty as the Alternate Delegate. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Gremler to adjourn at 6:11 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Liberty
Board Clerk
RL/tlw
(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting

Legals 7700

the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)
Published May 23, 2024 WNAJLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
Case No. 23-CV-94
COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION,
Plaintiff,
v.
MATTHEW L. SCHULT
AND U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION,
Defendants.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on October 9, 2023 in the amount of \$72,956.98 the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as follows:
TIME: June 11, 2024 at 10:00 am
TERMS: Pursuant to said judgment, 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the Lincoln County Clerk of Courts. (Personal checks cannot and will not be accepted). The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the clerk of courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation for the sale or else the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff. The property is sold 'as is' and subject to all liens and encumbrances.
PLACE: Lincoln County Courthouse, Main Entrance, 1110 East Main Street, City of Merrill and Lincoln County
DESCRIPTION: Lot One (1), in Block Six (6) of J.M. Smith and Company's Third (3rd) Addition to the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. ~This is a purchase money mortgage ~This is the homestead of the mortgagor
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 211 N. Ohio Street, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452-1744

Legals 7700

DATED: April 25, 2024
Ken Schneider
Lincoln County Sheriff
Attorneys for Plaintiff
413 N. 2nd Street, Suite 150
Milwaukee, WI 53203
414-271-5400
Galanis, Pollack, Jacobs & Johnson, S.C. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt. Published May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2024 & June 6, 2024 WNAJLP

TOWN OF PINE RIVER, LINCOLN COUNTY NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR LICENSE

Notice is hereby given that the following applications have been filed with the Clerk for the Town of Pine River.

RETAILERS "CLASS B" WINERY PERMIT AND RETAILERS CLASS "B" FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGE: Melissa Hoffman, Sunset Hollow Ranch, W3193 Pine River Rd, Merrill WI 54452. RETAILERS CLASS "B" FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGE: Sheryl Chism, Agent, Chism Trail Ranch LLC, N1200 Liberty Rd, Merrill, WI 54452. RETAILERS CLASS "B" AND "CLASS B" FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGE AND INTOXICATING LIQUOR: William Robert Naef, Bill's Bar, N1594 Hwy 64, Merrill, WI 54452. Please recycle. Amanda Herdt, Clerk
Published May 23, 2024 WNAJLP

meone who
 s or her life
 ng bigger
 eself.”

mpbell

ation’s Heroes on
al Day

Open to the public to attend

7, 2024

here is bad weather the ceremony will be moved to the
 on 601 Johnson Street.

playing. Ceremony will begin at 11:00 AM.

ST 1638 and Auxiliary.

S & S Bar
 418 Grand Ave. Merrill
 715-536-4664
 Open Daily at 9AM
 Hall Rental Available.
 Low carry out prices on booze, beer & ice!

**WRAP IT UP
 Food Truck
 Every Monday**

Serving the Community Since 1934



Taylor-Stine
 Leah D. Reist, Director • McKenna K. Meunier, Director
 Tammy Klade, Pre-Need Ins. Agent
 Funeral Home and Cremation Services
 903 E. 3rd Street • Merrill • 715-536-6244
 www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

BREAMAN Merrill

 www.breamanmerrillford.com
 1301 N. Center Ave., Merrill, WI 54452
 (Hwy 51, Exit 211 then south 1.5 miles)
 715-536-4542 - Sales
 715-536-3039 - Parts/Service

IN MEMORY OF MANY.
 IN HONOR OF ALL.
 THANK YOU.

Ziebell's
 DOOR COMPANY
 715-539-9410
 ziebelldoor.com
 Merrill, WI

CWW CARQUEST
 Central Wisconsin Wholesale, A.P.
 715.536.9669 715.536.2424
 1209 E Main Street • Merrill WI 54452
 www.cwwap.net
 Two great stores at 1 location!

AUGIE'S COLLECTIBLES
WE ARE ALWAYS BUYING...

- Old U.S. coins, proof sets & paper money.
- Also buying gold & silver jewelry, watches & diamonds.
- No Collection too SMALL or LARGE

715-453-3141
 11 South 2nd Street Tomahawk, WI 54487

GEISS
 Meat Service
 NEW Retail Store Meat Processing

W4490 Pope Rd., Merrill, WI
 715-536-5283 Bus.
 www.geissmeat.com • Find us on f

For All of Your Appliance Sales & Service Needs!

Greg's Gruett's Appliance
 715-536-4545
 414 W. Main St., Merrill
 www.gruettsappliances.com
 Greg & Tammy Kornack Owners
 Sales • Services • Parts

Speed Queen
Maytag
GE

Your Full Service Appliance Store!!
 6 Months FREE Financing
 (To Qualified Credit)

SUBWAY
 eat fresh.
 Drive - Thru Available

210 S. Pine Ridge Ave. • Merrill
 715-539-2005
 www.subway.com
 Open Mon-Sat 7am-9pm • Sun 8am-8pm

T.B. Scott Free Library
 106 West First Street • Merrill, WI
 715.536.7191 • www.tbscottlibrary.org

RiverCountry CO-OP

CENEX C-STORE 1300 N CENTER AVE. 715-536-5600
COUNTRY STORE 1400 LOGAN AVE. 715-536-2491

WWW.RIVERCOUNTRYCOOP.COM

CM SOLUTIONS
 INSURANCE AGENCY
 www.cmsolutionsinsurance.com
 A Subsidiary of Church Mutual Holding Company, Inc.

DEPENDABLE and LOCAL insurance, offering coverages to fit your **UNIQUE** needs:

- Home Flood
- Auto ATV/Recreational
- Umbrella Business

GET A QUOTE TODAY!
 Contact your local agent, Denise Humphrey.
 715-539-5201
 dhumphrey@cmsolutionsinsurance.com

CAR WASHES START AS LOW AS \$4.00!
 Expires 9-15-24

D-Best Car Wash
 3456 E Main St, Merrill, WI 54452
 715-393-5743
 northwoodswashplus@gmail.com

Automatic Manual

Knab Insurance Agency, Inc.
 Ready To Serve All Your Insurance Needs!
 1314 E. Main., Merrill, WI 54452
 715-536-4833

GRINNELL MUTUAL
 Trust in Tomorrow!

Dave's County Market
 WE VALUE FRESH WE VALUE FAMILY WE VALUE YOU!

www.davescountymarketmerrill.com
 300 E. 1st Street, Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-2571

park city CREDIT UNION
 Celebrating Life. Celebrating You.
 MERRILL • TOMAHAWK • MINOCQUA • RHINELANDER
 715-536-8351 • parkcitycu.org
 Federally insured by NCUA.

715-536-5652

Hello? Merrill Museum? You're open! 9-1! Mon-Fri! We'll be there!

KRUEGER PLUMBING LLC
 715-536-3617
 1600 W Taylor St, Merrill
 Quality plumbing services you've trusted for years!
 MP #252751 • WDNR Pump #7054 • HVAC #267488

OPEN MEMORIAL DAY

CHIPS
HAMBURGERS
 "Home of the Bluejay Burger!"
 1203 E. 3rd St., Merrill, WI 54452
 715-536-6532
 www.chipshamburgersmerrill.com
 Celebrating Over 50 Years Serving Our Community!

AUTO JOCKEYS
 SALES • SERVICE • DETAILING
 715-536-1900
 Full Automotive Services & Detailing
 Free Pickup & Delivery
 MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
 www.autojockeys.com
 400 E. 2nd St., Merrill, WI 54452

NAPA AUTO PARTS
 www.NAPAonline.com

Merrill Store
 1010 E. Main, Merrill WI 54452
 715-536-8336
 Mon.-Fri. 7-6, Sat. 7-4, Sun. 8-12

Tomahawk Store
 1513 N. 4th St. Tomahawk, WI 54487
 715-453-5534
 Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5:30, Sat. 8-3, Sun. Closed

DAIRY QUEEN
 905 N. Center Ave., Merrill, WI
 715-536-5821
 Open 7 days a week at 11:00 am

EAGLES CLUB
 1205 Lake St. • Merrill
 715-536-7471 • 584.localfoewi.com
 Like us on Facebook

DR. RONALD J. PIFFL, OPTOMETRIST
 1007 E 1st St • Merrill
 715-536-2020 • 715-536-3250
 drpiffleyecare.com

RANGER CITY
CUSTOM-CUT FRESH BEEF, PORK & CHICKEN
merrilldistributing.com

Merrill Distributing Inc.
SINCE 1912
UniPro

Frostman
fish market

Your Local Food Service and C-Store Partner

Merrill Distributing, Inc.
1301 N. Memorial Dr., Merrill • 715-536-4551
www.merrilldistributing.com

Check us out on

715-536-5708

NORTHWOODS VETERANS POST
601 Johnson Merrill WI

Schmitt-Manecke-Donner
VFW Post 1638
PUB 1638

Post 1638
Troop 503
Girl Scouts Merrill
Pack 503

Post 46
Chapter 29
Post 2000

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church and School

Worship Services @
8 am & 10:30 am Sundays, and
6 pm Monday evenings

Daycare • Preschool • 8th Grade Classes Offered

1104 E. 3rd Street, Merrill, WI 54452
Church 715-536-4722 • School 715-536-7264
www.stjohnmerrill.org

WAID FUNERAL HOME
& Cremation Service

Providing prearranged funerals and affordable services.

Paul Waid, Licensed Director/Owner
Anna Winningham, Licensed Funeral Director/Manager
Samantha Finucan, Licensed Funeral Director
Megan Klug, Office Manager
Cindy Latzig, After Care Coordinator

301 Eagle Drive, Merrill, WI 54452
(715) 536-4646
www.waidfuneral.com

WOODLAND COURT ELDER SERVICES, LLC
Assisted Living

715-536-3399 • 715-539-9700
1102 S. Center Ave., Merrill, WI 54452
www.woodlandcourtelder.com

INTERFLEX GROUP

1401 W. Taylor St.,
Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-5400

Image is everything. Packaging defines it.

www.interflexgroup.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

PIONEER TRANSPORTATION LTD.
(715) 536-9789
www.pioneertrans.com

Merrill Tobacco Shop +
2411 E Main St., Suite 104, Merrill
merrilltobaccoshop@gmail.com

\$1.50 OFF Any Tobacco on Each \$40 Spent. No limit.

\$2.00 OFF Any Roll of Chewing Tobacco OR any large Bag of RYO, OR Pipe Tobacco

EXTRA \$5.00 OFF \$40 or More on anything in-store except cigarettes & lotto

Buy 2 Premium Cigars, Get the 3rd Cigar of same or lesser value for only **\$3.00**

Must be of legal age to use this coupon. Coupons may not be combined. Limit one coupon per day per customer. Valid only at Discount Smoke Shop. Expire 9/15/24 • CHM

PARTS SERVICE

GOLD MEDAL Trailer Sales
1-800-413-5639
www.goldmedaltrailersales.com

715-536-1202

"We Service R.V & Campers."

ANTENNA SYSTEMS, SUB-PUMPS, REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS... WE HAVE YOU COVERED!!

SALES • DESIGN • INSTALLATION • SERVICE

Merrill House Of Music
Service and Sales Since 1946

& HOME ENTERTAINMENT

Home Electronics Musical Instruments Custom Audio/Video

912 E. Main St., Downtown Merrill
715-536-5352

SURGE PROTECTION FOR: GARAGE DOOR OPENERS, COMPUTERS, ANTENNA SYSTEMS, SUB-PUMPS, REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS... WE HAVE YOU COVERED!!

1004 East First St.
Merrill, WI 54452
(715) 536-5594
ci.merrill.wi.us

merrill
Experience more to life!

Sponsored by the City of Merrill

WESTSIDE MARKET **EASY WASH LAUNDROMAT**

DISCOUNT GROCERY • LIQUOR
1504 W Main Street
Merrill, WI 54452

1500 W Main Street
Merrill, WI 54452

Bringing business back to Merrill's Westside!

MARK RAYMER • RYAN PEACOCK
715-218-3277 • 715-432-5707
psycho_buzz@yahoo.com/ryanleighrice@hotmail.com

One Way Collision Center is now:

CALIBER COLLISION
2602 E. Main Street
Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-6511
www.caliber.com

Jon Dehnel - General Manager

Firefly Lodge **1913**

MERRILL SHEET METAL HEATING & COOLING

CHIMNEY SWEEP

HEATING • COOLING • FIREPLACES • STOVES
(715) 536-2262 • www.merrillsheetmetal.com

OAK PARK DENTAL

2402 E Main St, Suite 8 Merrill, WI
715-539-0441
www.oakparkmerrill.com

Dr. Steven DeMille & Dr. Ed Long

RIVERSBEND REALTY GROUP LLC
Tina 715-297-6912
tina.riversbendrealty@gmail.com
Jess 715-574-5377
jess.riversbendrealty@gmail.com

TREASURE CHEST STORAGE LLC
Call for Availability
715-574-5377
New 3rd Building!

Memorial Day & Every Day
We Thank You For Your Service

THANK YOU, VETERANS!

Church Mutual INSURANCE

A PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE MERRILL COMMUNITY

Learn about our hometown commitment at churchmutual.com/hometown

© 2024 Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I.

SILVERMAN CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CENTER

Dr. Steven Silverman, DC CCST
1501 E. Main St. • Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-1444 • 715-551-3981
www.silvermanchiropractic.com

OCCH Services

1302 E Main Street
Merrill WI 54452
Office: (715)539-6641
tammy.strehlow@occhservices.com

Tammy Strehlow – Owner
www.occhservices.com

Closed May 27th - 31st • See you June 3rd!

MERRILL MONUMENT
N2182 County Rd. K • Merrill
715-536-6654

CENTRAL CARPET & FLOORING, INC.
1320 E. Main St., Merrill, WI
715-536-1411

PODEWELTZ REPAIR SERVICE, LLC
W2810 Hwy. C, Merrill, WI 54452
www.podeweltzrepair.com • 715-536-6791

FIRST WEBER, INC.
Realtor: Kevin J. Blake • 715-204-0084
100 S. Mill St., Suite 102 • Merrill
www.KEVINBLAKE.FIRSTWEBER.COM

LINCOLN WOOD PRODUCTS, INC.
Merrill, WI • 715-536-2461
www.lincolnwindows.com

MERRILL Foto News

Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it.

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBER AND HONOR

**“A hero is someone
 who has given his
 life to something
 greater than himself.”**

- Joseph

Remembering Our
Memorials

Merrill Memorial Day Event

When:

Where: Veterans Memorial Cemetery off Thielman Street
 Northwood’s Veterans

Time: 10:30 AM the Merrill City Band will

Sponsored by the VFW

Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

May 23 - Open Mic Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.
May 24 - Merrill High School Graduation
May 26 - BINGO at VFW
May 27 - Merrill City Band

plays/Memorial Day Ceremony
May 29 - Trivia Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.
May 30 - Open Mic Night at Sawmill Brewing Co.
May 31 - Third Annual

E-Cycle Event at Merrill Festival Grounds
May 31 - Merrill Baseball Association Tournament at MARC
Jun. 1 - Third Annual E-Cycle Event at Merrill

Festival Grounds
Jun. 1 - Merrill Baseball Association Tournament at MARC
Jun. 1 - Gleason Lions Club Annual Golf Tournament

Jun. 1 - Apex Angels & Warriors Wolf/Wolfdog Rescue & Sanctuary Open House
Jun. 2 - Merrill Baseball Association Tournament at MARC

Jun. 3 - 46th annual Merrill Chamber Golf Classic
For more information, go to: merrillchamber.org/events or contact the event sponsor.

General Employment 7110
OTR TRUCK DRIVERS FT/PT
 Put Your Career in Gear!! Competitive wages & full benefits. Mileage, Drop pay, Paid weekly Home weekends, NO east/west coast, 28 central states. Van & Hopper Division. Agriculture experience a plus. Fox Valley company since 1958
 Call Frank 920-788-6242 or 920-858-0238. Van Groll Trucking, Kaukauna

EMPLOYMENT

Get results finding the right person for the job!
Call Today! 715-536-7121



Russ Davis Wholesale Crazy Fresh

WE ARE HIRING



Open Positions:

- Warehouse Night Loader 2nd Shift
- Full time, part-time and seasonal shifts available

JOIN OUR 100% EMPLOYEE OWNED COMPANY!
 We offer flexible schedules, competitive wages & an ESOP!
 Starting wage \$19/ hr. plus picking and weekend shift incentives
 Russ Davis Wholesale
 1200 Commerce St
 Merrill WI 54452
 715-539-2800

Stop in and fill out an application or visit <https://www.russdaviswholesale.com/careers>.



Come Join Our Team We're Hiring!

- 1st Shift Full-Time Production Workers
- Summer Helpers Full-Time
- Maintenance Technicians

To Apply:

- Go to www.indeed.com
- Apply in person at 1400 W. Taylor Street (employment office – SW corner)
- Or Email your resume to gebeyer@lincolnwindows.com

We are an equal opportunity employer.

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

Full Time – Seasonal – Summer Help
 Monday – Thursday
 (4) 10 Hour Days – OT opportunity on Friday's

Open Positions:
 1st Shift • All Production Areas

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

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

SIGN ON BONUS!

Occasional Weekdays & Weekends Class A & B Drivers Needed

Prefer a driver to hold Class A and B.

\$27.30 per hour w \$3.00 per hour extra on weekends. Quarterly safety and performance bonus also!

Please call Cheri 715-848-5183 EXT. 140 or apply online at our website at www.drivemarathonmail.com

Marathon Mail Service, Inc.
 Well established Family business for Over 50 years!

NOW HIRING

Class A Commercial Drivers Quad Axle / Semi Truck positions

Quad Axle / Semi Truck \$30.00 per hour. Heavy Haul \$34.00 per hour.

Teamsters Local 662 Union

Full Benefit Package – Health, Dental, Vision, Life, 401K with company match, Holiday Pay, Vacation

Send resume to jesse@riverviewUSA.com
www.riverview-construction.com 715-675-3117

You've Got It! Somebody Else Wants It! Check The Classifieds.

JOIN OUR TEAM

BOTH LOCATIONS!

- 4 10-Hour Days
- Both shifts available
- Possible OT on Friday
- Attendance BONUS (Up to additional \$1.50/hr)
- Retirement & Life Insurance
- Paid Holidays and Vacations
- Excellent Low Cost Benefits (Health, Dental, Vision)

Individual: \$88/Month
 Spouse: +\$140/Month
 Child: +\$63/Month

• Crew Member \$19.21 - \$20.71/HR

APPLY IN-PERSON

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

Visit us online at spi.careers

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

CLASSIFIEDS

Insurance 7308
UP TO \$15,000 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral & other final expenses. Call **Physicians Life Insurance Company 844-433-5898** or visit www.Life55plus.info/wcp (WCAN)

Health Care Services 7310
DENTAL INSURANCE. From Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Don't Wait! Call now! Get your **FREE** Dental Information Kit with all the details! **855-807-9516** www.dental50plus.com/wcommunity#6258 (WCAN)

MobileHelp, America's Premier Mobile Medical Alert System. Whether you're home or away, for safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! **1-855-491-0732** (WCAN)

STROKE & CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death, according to the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION. Screening can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact **Life Line Screening** to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149! Call **1-888-675-5048** (WCAN)

Internet 7318
CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS home Internet with Earth-Link. Enjoy speeds from 5G & 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, & data plans up to 300 GB. Call **844-223-7265** (WCAN)

Internet 7318
Get DISH Satellite TV & Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus limited Time Up to \$600 in Gift Cards. Call Today! **1-844-897-8523** (WCAN)

HughesNet Satellite Internet: 25 mbps starting at \$49.99/mo! Get More Data, FREE Off-Peak Data. FAST download speeds. Wifi built in! FREE Standard Installation for lease customers! Limited Time **Call 1-844-829-5070** (WCAN)

Satellites and Antennas 7324
DIRECTV All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct & get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ & Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call **DIRECTV 1-888-925-9452** (WCAN)

DIRECTV OVER INTERNET Get your favorite live TV, sports, & local channels. 99% signal reliability! **CHOICE** Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max & Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/CHOICE Package or higher) No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call **IVS 1-833-574-1746** (WCAN)

Gutters and Gutter Cleaning 7356
ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a **FREE** LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call **1-877-920-3533** (WCAN)

Home Building Supply 7358
DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call **AmeriGlide** today! **1-888-686-1458** (WCAN)

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL Can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer.) Offer ends 6/30/24 Call **833-224-4977** (WCAN)

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY with a GENERAC Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a **FREE** 5-year warranty w/ qualifying purchase. Call **1-877-626-1009** today to schedule a free quote. it's not just a generator. Its a power move. (WCAN)

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments & No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. **BCI Bath & Shower.** Many options available. **Quality materials & professional installation.** Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call today! **1-877-651-1850** (WCAN)

THINKING ABOUT INSTALLING A NEW SHOWER? American Standard makes it easy. **FREE** design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call **1-844-479-1327** today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/wcp (WCAN)

Painting and Wallpaper 7364
FRITZ BARN PAINTING Rusty Roofs, Metal buildings Free Est 608-221-3510 920-821-6311

Jerry's Painting & Staining: Any exterior painting/staining job. Farms, Homes, Sheds, Roofs, Grain Bins, Log Homes, Cabins, Homes. **Free quotes. Call 877-881-4242**

Roofing and Siding 7370
REPLACE YOUR ROOF w/the best looking & longest lasting material, steel from **Erie Metal Roofs!** 3 Styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% OFF Installation + Add'l 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders) Call Erie Metal Roofs **1-877-845-6606** (WCAN)

Announcements 7005
WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! **PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!** For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact **The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128** (WCAN)

You've Got It! Somebody Else Wants It! Check The Classifieds.

Rummage Sales This Week 7200
HOSTA SALE HOSTA SALE - Waupaca Still just \$5each! Friday - Sunday May 24 - 26 8am-3p **OVER 100 VARIETIES** Blues Minis-GIANTS, Sun-Tolerant Fragrant, Gold & Variegated. South of Waupaca Hwy K past Red Mill. Left on East Rd N1850 East Rd Waupaca

HUGE RUMMAGE Sale- Thur., Fri., Sat. 5/23-25, 9-4 & Sun., 5/26, 10-noon. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 12 E. Wisconsin Ave., Tomahawk, across from Cross-bridge Bank.

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202
245851 Berlin Ln, Merrill. Fri & Sat 5/31-6/1, 9am-5pm Many vintage items! Tools, table saw, woodstove, backpacks, tent, shade canopy, antique dresser, bookcases, chairs, tables, file cabinets, two ten speed bikes, Ladies size 6 figure skates (new), picture frames, bowties, home-made aprons, household items and more. Priced to sell. Cash only.

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202

GARAGE SALE KITS NOW AVAILABLE
 Let Garage Sale Gale help you with your sale!
Kit Includes:
 • 2 garage sale signs
 • 140 pricing stickers
 • 3 balloons
 • 1 pen
 • How to have a successful garage sale pamphlet
 • 1 coupon for \$5 off your NEXT classified ad!
ONLY \$5.00 PER KIT!*
 * With the purchase of a classified ad.
 Available at:
Merrill Foto News
2011 E. Main St., Merrill

STAND OUT from the crowd!
Advertise your business to thousands of potential customers each week
715-536-7121



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFESSIONAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE DIRECTORY

Your Dream Builder

THORNE CONSTRUCTION LLC
 Fully Insured • Joseph Thorne • **715-432-5197**

SCRAP METAL
We'll Pick it Up
 • Clam Truck Service
 • Dumpster Service
 • Buying Cars & Trucks
 Serving Central & Northern WI for over 80 years
 Prompt Service • Fair Prices
Cousineau Recycling
 Hwy. 45 South, Antigo • Toll Free 866-330-3730 or 715-623-2372

The CLASSIFIEDS

can take you places!
715-536-7121

NORTHERN WISCONSIN'S LARGEST RARE COIN & PRECIOUS METALS COMPANY IS ALWAYS BUYING
 • Old U.S. coins, proof sets & paper money.
 • Also buying gold & silver jewelry, watches & diamonds.
 • Old sports cards - 1969 & earlier. Currently paying top prices.
 • No Collection too SMALL or LARGE
 • Sports Wear & Memorabilia Headquarters
Augie's Collectibles
 11 South 2nd St. • Tomahawk, WI 54487
 Open Mon. & Tues., 10am - 5pm or by appointment.
(715) 453-3141

Quality At Its Finest
Kenneth Schug Excavating & Trucking, LLC
 For All Your Excavating Needs
 Site Work • Ponds • Basements • Driveways • Demolition • Ditching
 Drain Tile • Lawns • Exterior Plumbing • Septic Systems • Manure Pits • Etc.
 Fully Insured • Residential, Commercial & Agricultural
ATHENS, WI • 715-257-7193

M-J ROOFING
 • Shingled Roofs
 • Tear Offs
 • Fascia & Soffit
 • Rubber Roofs
 Locally Owned • Fully Insured • State Certified • Free Estimates
715.224.2375 Tomahawk, WI

PODEWELTZ
Repair Service, LLC
 Heating • Cooling • Sheet Metal

TRANE W2810 Hwy, C, Merrill
(715) 536-6791
It's Hard To Stop A Trane?

"Give me a call, before the rain starts to fall!"
 - Brian Plisch • Owner/Operator
LOCALLY OWNED
 Serving the area for 20 years.
FREE ESTIMATES
 Bus: 715-297-0907
www.bpseamless.com Email: bpseamless@gmail.com
Great Look, Great Price, 5% off if you mention this ad.

Wisco Spray Foam, LLC
 N16465 Bachelors Ave,
 Thorp, WI 54771
 Commercial Residential & Agricultural
Free Estimates
 Call Jerry at 608-696-8617

BADGER STATE STEEL ROOFING

FREE ESTIMATES!
 Tired of re-roofing your house?
TRY A STEEL ROOF!
 • Snaplok (hidden fastener) • Can Be Installed Over An Existing Roof • 40 Year Factory Warranty • 4-Star Hail and Fire Resistant • Ventilated At Peak • Energy Star Efficient • 28 Colors Available
Jerry Stutzman Do it Once, Do it Right! **715-314-2295**

Call Mark 715-503-5460
 • Hidden Fastener Snap Lock
 • Ventilated at Peak
 • 4 Star Hail & Fire Resistant
 • Can Be Installed Over Existing Roof
Wisco Steel Roofing, LLC
 Tired Of Re-Roofing Your House?
Try a Steel Roof!
CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE

RIB MT MARINE

 SINCE 1954!
 1220 Flieth St
 Same location since 1954
715-845-3355 www.ribmountainmarine.com
 Wausau's only full service marine dealership

- ✓ Boat Repair and parts
- ✓ Used Boats
- ✓ Motor Repair and Parts
- ✓ Trailer Repair and Parts
- ✓ Storage
- ✓ Oil Change kits
- ✓ Mercury Outboard Motors

Maple Ridge Construction
Specializing In:
 Metal and Asphalt Roofing
 House Roofs
 Barn Roofs
 Vinyl Siding
 And More!
715-560-5840
 Call us from Noon to 1:00 or 7:00 at Night


IncredibleBank would like to congratulate all the 2024 graduates!




McKenna Meyer





incrediblebankSM
3210 E. Main St., Merrill • 715-536-3210
www.incrediblebank.com

Congratulations!



TAPANGA WOLLER
ON ALL YOUR HARD WORK!

We are so proud of you!
Love Mom & Dad
Tapanga is graduating from the nursing program at NTC

The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to thank Evelyn and Connor. They donated much-needed supplies as part of their advent calendar last holiday season!

Submitted photo.

Congratulations!

CLASS OF 2024 • The Best is Yet To Come!



Mia Ott
Merrill High School
Live the life you imagined and follow your dreams. Keep working hard and stay humble. So proud!
Love, Mom & Dad



Jerzie Rusch
Merrill High School
We are all so very proud of you!
Love Dad, Mom, Brandon & Jaden



Mason Thomaschfsky
MADA
We are so proud of you!
Love you to the moon and back.
Grandma Terri & Grandpa Harvey



Alex Woller
Merrill High School
Remembering you finger painting now graduation! WOO HOO! Congratulations
Love, Mom and Grandma & Grandpa



Victoria Jo Catlin
Merrill High School
We have enjoyed watching you grow over the years congratulations girl!
From all of us that love you



Jalie Severt
Merrill High School
Congrats J! God's blessings on your next chapter. We love you!
Mom, Dad, Jazi & Jilli



Andrew Proulx
Merrill High School
You make us all so proud.
Chase your dreams and catch them.
We love you.
Love, Mom



Parker Welch
Merrill High School
Love you baby.
Love, Mom and Dad



Isabel Wendt
Merrill High School
Congratulations Bel!
Love, Joshua




Ethan Ravn
Merrill High School
So proud of you and very excited for your future.
Love, Gpa & Gma Ravn



Addison Schneider
Merrill High School
Good luck at UW Whitewater.
We are so proud of you!
Dad, Mom, Brennah, Evie (meow) & Stella (meow)



Jaden Bush
Merrill High School
So proud of you kid!
Keep being you!
Love, Your Family!



Emma Frazier
Merrill High School
Congratulations Emma!
We are so proud of you.
Love, Your Family



Allison Wolff
Merrill High School
Congratulations!
We are very proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad



Maddy Ott
Merrill High School
So proud! Keep letting your light shine.
You will continue making a difference in this world!
Love, Mom & Dad



Madelyn Mootz
Merrill High School
Congratulations, Maddie!
We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom Jesse & Kaleb



Michael Dickman
Merrill High School
Be brave. Be silly. Be adventurous. Be kind.
Be free. Be you, and know we're so proud of you.
Love, Mom, Josh, Zac, Kai, Brie, and Nik



Dawson Schulz
Merrill High School
Congratulations Boss!
We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad, Carmyn & Deylah



Clayton Evans
Merrill High School
Congratulations!
We are very proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad



Landon Hipke
Merrill High School
We are so proud of you!
Reach for the stars, Bud!
Love, Your Family



Chloe Belant
Merrill High School
So proud of you! Look forward to your future successes too!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Caelyn



Gabrielle Krueger
Merrill High School
She said she would, so she did!
Love, Mom, Dad & Joey



Sebastian Ollmann
Merrill High School
You did it! So proud of your achievements.
Wishing you much success in the future.
Love, Dad



Blake Wood
Merrill High School
We are so proud of you!
Way to go Buddy!
Love, Mom, Dad, & Brady



Carson Woellner
Merrill High School
We are so proud of you!
Mom, Dad, Cole, Bird, Casie, Jaden



Akeela Conley
Merrill High School
Way to go!!
We are so proud of you!
Love, Your Family



Kaiden Ratzlaff
Merrill High School
We are so very proud of you!
Good luck at UW-Stout!
Love, Mom, Dad & Hailey



Elexa Emmer (Lex)
Merrill High School
You continue to amaze us Lexilou!
So proud of all your accomplishments!!
Love, Mom and Dad



Zach Morris
Merrill High School
We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad



Macy Wienke
Merrill High School
Congratulations on all your achievements in High School! Good luck @ Univ. MN Duluth!
Love, Dad & Mom



Anna Westfall
Merrill High School
Go do GREAT things!
We love you.
Your family

Bluejay Varsity Trap Team has Conference Championship in their sights

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

In Week 8 of competition, the Merrill Bluejay Varsity Trap Team faced off against the Mosinee Trap Team - their biggest rival - and pulled off an exciting win, 119-116. Both teams went into Week 8 undefeated, so it truly was a showdown between the two leading teams in this year's Conference competition. With the win, the Merrill Bluejays emerged the victors and are currently the standouts: the only undefeated team in the Conference.

Two Varsity shooters scored perfect 25's this week to help the Bluejays claim their victory: Robert (Bobby) Hoff shot another 25 and Matthew Steffen also shot a perfect score of 25.

After this week's shooting, Merrill Varsity shooter Bobby Hoff rose to first place Varsity shooter in the Conference with a score of 188. Lakeland's Ethan Schumacher is close on his heels. He ties him with a score of 188, but Hoff remains in the lead with 99 RR compared

to Schumacher's 78 RR. Merrill's Christopher Holz retains his third place position in the Conference with a score of 187.

Merrill's JV Team also beat the Mosinee competition this week, winning 118-106. And three Merrill JV shooters are in the top five shooters in their division: Mathew Maas, Mason Meyer, and Alex Petrowski are in second, third, and fourth places, respectively, with scores of 184 (75 RR), 181 (92 RR), and 181 (80 RR). Merrill's Maria Ashbrenner and Lily Kufahl retain their spots as first and second place female JV shooters in the Conference, with scores of 173 and 148, respectively.

This week, in Week 9, which is the final round of regular Conference shooting, Merrill will compete against the Rhinelander High School Trap Team. The Merrill Varsity Trap Team is keeping the Conference Championship in their sights, hoping to complete their 2024 regular Conference season undefeated.



Matthew Steffen shot a perfect score of 25 in Week 8 of competition.

Photo courtesy of Merrill Bluejay Trap Program.



Robert Hoff scores another 25 this week.

Photo courtesy of Merrill Bluejay Trap Program.



More photos online merrillfotonews.com

Left fielder Alayna Wyland digs in at the plate!

Rick Argall photo.

Merrill Varsity Softball Team routs Rhinelander in regional playoffs

BY RICK ARGALL MMC STAFF

The Merrill Varsity Bluejays Softball Team (6-16) hosted a regional playoff game versus Rhinelander (1-15) at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex on Friday, May 17, 2024. The game would mark the last home game of the season for Merrill, as they cruised to an 11-0 win over the Hodags.

"It was a fun game. We put good things together piece by piece and everybody did what we were supposed to do," said

Head Coach Ali Krohn. "When you do the little things right, it works out for you, so this will be good going into Tuesday when we go to New London."

The Bluejays jumped out to an early 4-0 lead after one inning and dominated the game behind strong pitching from Senior Sophie Wendorf (5.0 IP, 2 H, 6 SO, 0 ER) who earned the win. Merrill was led at the plate by Ava Detert (1-1, 1 R, 2 RBI, 1 BB), Senior Lexi Ollhoff (2-3, 1 R, 2 RBI), and Senior pitcher Sophie Wendorf (1-3, 2

RBI), as the game was called after 5 innings due to the 10-run rule. Mia Ott and Mackenzie Herdt each had two walks apiece, and Mia Ott added three stolen bases to pace the offense. The Bluejays totaled 11 runs for the game on seven hits and no errors.

Merrill advances to the second round of the 2024 WIAA State Girls Softball Tournament Regionals at New London on Tuesday, May 21.

Box Score: Rhinelander 0 @ Merrill 11

TWO from page 3

man's burial. Many a soldier was laid to rest with Melvin playing for their final call, with eventually Melvin's younger brother Clifford joining in the effort. The two would play separately, or if they were both available, they would play together, with one of the two being off in the distance repeating the notes from afar.

When World War II broke out, our young men went off to fight again, and then the same with the Korean War. Each time the first local casualty was brought home from those wars, Melvin and his bugle were asked to sound *Taps*.

Clifford Talbot went off to college at UW-Stevens Point. While a student there, he contracted what we would consider a minor health condition, but in the 1930's, it proved fatal. Clifford was brought back to Merrill in November of 1937 and buried in the Talbot family plot at St. Francis Cemetery. When he was buried, no one played *Taps*. As Clifford, much like his brother Melvin, had never served in the armed forces, that honor would not normally be afforded to the young man.

The evening Clifford was laid to rest, his brother Melvin excused himself and went down with his wife Marie to the cemetery, and over the fresh grave, Melvin played *Taps* for his younger brother. As they turned to walk from the grave, Melvin remarked, "There will be no one to play *Taps* at my funeral someday." With Melvin's great respect for the military, he swore his wife to secrecy that the ceremony was performed,

as Melvin did not want to upset any members of the military by providing that honor.

Melvin became a well-respected businessman in the Merrill community. He had started working at the former Lincoln County Bank in 1921 where eventually he obtained the position of cashier and then executive vice president in 1953. He attended the University of Wisconsin banking school and had graduated as president of his class just a few years earlier. He went on to serve on numerous boards, commissions, and in local clubs.

In January of 1963, Melvin Talbot suffered a heart attack on a Friday evening. He was brought to Holy Cross Hospital where he died that Sunday night at the age of 59. After a funeral mass that Wednesday morning, Melvin was buried at St.

Francis without *Taps* being played.

Or was it?

Monica Talbot, sister to Melvin, confessed later on in life that she tried to pay someone \$20 (\$200 today) to play *Taps* that day; however, the temperature was -25 and the musician told Monica his lips would freeze to the mouthpiece.

Many years later in life, Mike Talbot, who contributed most of the details to this story, was speaking with his grandmother Marie about her husband, his grandfather Melvin. Mike said it was a tragedy, that with all of the ceremonies Melvin performed, he never was able to get *Taps* played at his own funeral. It was then that Marie told her grandson the family secret regarding Clifford's death. Mike then shared the story of Clifford receiving *Taps*, and how his grandfather Melvin had never received

the honor, with his mother Mary. Mary told Mike that Marie's story was totally true, and then she told him the story she had been sworn to secrecy about from 26 years earlier. Mary told Mike that his father, Jim Talbot, came home on February 16, 1963, Melvin's 60th birthday. He told his wife, "There is something I must do," and off he went to the cemetery. As he stood over the frozen ground that held his father's remains, Jim played *Taps* with Melvin's bugle.

At the time, Jim had no idea that his father Melvin had performed the same solemn ceremony for his brother Clifford years earlier.

Over the years, the solemn *Taps* ceremony has been repeated probably a thousand times in Merrill. Thankfully, for the most part, it was as we buried a member of the military who came home safely after their service. I doubt few are left who ever heard a Talbot sound *Taps*, as it has been more than 60 years

since that bugle or trumpet has sounded a note.

This Memorial Day, Mike Talbot and his family will be present near the Veterans Memorial in St. Francis Cemetery. The military and members of the public will gather, as they always do, to pay respect to those who gave their lives for this great nation. When the time comes, *Taps* will sound over the grounds. And for the first time in nearly 90 years, those 24 notes will come from Melvin's bugle and Clifford's trumpet.

2024 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

Boys Track (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. May 23 Hudson-Sectional (Varsity) Away 4:00 pm

Girls Track (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. May 23 Hudson-Sectional (Varsity) Away 4:00 pm

Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV & JV2)

Thurs. May 23 Stevens Point Red (JV2) Home 5:00 pm
Thurs. May 23 Northland Pines (Varsity) Home 5:00 pm

Girls Softball (Varsity & JV)

Playoff Schedule updated at www.wiaawi.org

Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. May 23 Lakeland Union (Varsity) Home 6:00 pm
Tues. May 28 New Richmond (Varsity) Away 7:00 pm

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

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



LOOK FOR OUR **Wisconsin Breweries, Wineries & Distilleries Guide for 2024**

COMING SOON TO RACKS NEAR YOU!

MMC MERRILL COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

If you would like to be part of the 2024 publication, Contact **Jennifer Gartmann** at **715-218-1644** or email **gartmann@mmclocal.com**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE: MAY 29, 2024
Publishes June 26, 2024

Marshfield Clinic Health System now including military status in patient health record

Patient military and veteran status will also be used for research in patient communities

Military experiences and exposures are well-known factors that affect individuals' health and well-being, both in the short and long term. This is especially true when active military personnel and veterans mobilize and deploy to hazardous environments, whether that means combat or natural disaster responses.

To better diagnose and treat current military and veterans, staff and physicians at the Marshfield Clinic Health System are now asking patients about having been in the military or are currently serving.

In the intricate tapestry of veterans' experiences, both domestic and international exposures play a significant role. From traversing the globe to confronting natural disasters at home, their journey encompasses austere environments, biological and chemical exposures, and the enduring legacy of traumatic events. As caregivers, it's imperative to recognize these multifaceted challenges to deliver holistic care. Understanding and facilitating access to the array of resources available is essential in honoring their service and ensuring their well-being.

Corey Cronrath, M.D., medical director of Marshfield Clinic Health System's Occupational Health service line, believes understanding a patient's military status and experience is crucial for enhancing their health care.

"As a physician and a veteran, I have been privileged to witness the

dedication and sacrifice of our service members firsthand," Cronrath said. "They face a myriad of dangers – from the toxins of burn pits to enemy fire – both at home and abroad. Some of these exposures lead to immediate health issues, while others manifest over time, posing unique challenges to their health. It's crucial for us, as the health care team, to understand these challenges. They affect not only our service members but also their families and communities. By understanding and being aware of the risks and hazards they have faced, we can better support them through the services available within and outside of the Marshfield Clinic Health System."

The questions will be a regular occurrence for those patients aged 17 and older, repeating every three years or until the history is completely captured.

Many people likely already share with their care providers if they have military experience or are a veteran during a normal annual visit. That information is often recorded in typed notes called social histories. Given the advancement in information technologies, the Health System has designed a set of discrete questions to capture these facts more consistently, creating much more reliable and organized data. If patients respond "yes" to whether they have served in the military or are currently serving, additional questions will open, including:

- Branch(es) of service
- If they were deployed or mobilized
- Years of service or if they are currently serving

This improvement to the patients' medical records will better inform health care providers about what may be affecting patients' health. It can provide more depth for diagnostics and can better inform

treatment plans. This is critical for a state like Wisconsin where a number of the riskiest occupations are well-represented, including construction, transportation, and agriculture (both farming and forestry). Wisconsin is home to an estimated 350,000 veterans. Information about patients' military history, occupation, and industry will not affect their health insurance costs or coverage.

These data regarding patients' work also places health researchers at a new cutting edge of possibilities.

"This innovation places our research team at a tremendous advantage and could change the game," said Bryan Weichelt, Ph.D., associate research scientist with the National Farm Medicine Center at Marshfield Clinic Research Institute. "We will be one of the few health systems in the country equipped to examine health data in light of someone's work and military history. And this new development is quite timely given recent federal legislative actions such as the PACT Act and its impact on veterans' eligibility and access to health care, including VA-funded Community Care, which veterans can receive at the Marshfield Clinic Health System, once enrolled."

"This change will help us provide better care for our patients who are serving or who previously served in the military, and it will further our system-wide efforts to capture population health data and provide better care coordination for veterans," Marshfield Clinic representatives said. "Adding this question into the registration process also allows us to better connect our patients to additional services of which they are eligible and helps our care teams identify possible exposures or risks that may have led to current ailments."

Area businesses come together for Merrill Chamber HR Workshop

Thirteen area businesses came together at the Park City Credit Union Community Room on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 for the first Regional Human Resources (HR) Workshop. The event was designed to gather HR professionals from area businesses and workforce resource organizations to share insights, collaborate, and connect. The 25 individuals that attended participated in a variety of conversations designed to foster connections and share themes they are seeing within the HR environment whether that be challenges or incentives used to attract and retain talent.

"This idea stemmed from our [Merrill Chamber] Human Resource Committee. We continue to hear about the struggle it can be to find and retain talent, and because of this Committee we have heard it's not an isolated issue, so let's make the resources known and get those individuals together into one room and continue to grow our community in a positive way," said Merrill Chamber Executive Director Clyde Nelson.

The Chamber collaborated with Centergy to bring in representatives from North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development

Board, CW Solutions, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, and Northcentral Technical College to deliver the tools available to employers and job seekers and the education given to area students going out into the workforce.

"It was a valuable morning for these individuals, and we hope that we can continue to offer these types of workshops through the Chamber," said Nelson. "As a benefit to our Chamber members, we offer the opportunity to meet quarterly with our HR Committee. Whether you are an HR professional or a small business owner, it allows you the opportunity to hear about the new laws that affect the hiring process and allows you to ask more seasoned professionals for advice on employee or hiring situations happening within your company."

This event was free and open to both Chamber members and non-chamber members. It was sponsored by the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce, Centergy, Park City Credit Union, and Nicolet National Bank. For more information on resources available to you, please visit the Merrill Chamber website: www.merrillchamber.org.

Click It or Ticket

The annual Click It or Ticket campaign is back, reminding drivers to buckle up. Law enforcement agencies across Wisconsin, including the Wisconsin State Patrol, are stepping up patrols for the annual Click It or Ticket seat belt enforcement campaign.

The campaign coincides with the Memorial Day holiday weekend, which is the first long holiday weekend of summer. The roads are especially busy during this season, so officers will be out encouraging motorists to wear their seat belts. The national Click It or Ticket campaign runs from May 20 to June 2, 2024.

"We hope buckling up becomes a habit for everyone on the roads," State Patrol Superintendent Tim Carnahan said. "Encourage others to buckle up too. It's a simple step that's proven to save lives."

State law requires all drivers and passengers to wear a seat belt when traveling in Wisconsin. Children must also be in the proper child safety seat for

their age and size. Penalties are higher for transporting unrestrained children, and passengers can also be cited.

The goal of Click It or Ticket is not simply to issue citations, but to educate the community on the lifesaving benefits of wearing a seat belt. A 2023 survey found that 8% of Wisconsin motorists still do not wear seat belts.

"Our goal is to promote safety on the roads," Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Bureau of Transportation Safety Director David Pabst said. "Buckling up is one of the best ways to reduce injuries and save lives during a crash."

In addition to Click It or Ticket, WisDOT's Buckle Up Phone Down campaign encourages drivers and passengers to be aware of the dangers of not wearing a seat belt throughout the year. Take the Buckle Up Phone Down pledge at wisconsindot.gov/BUPD. Join as an individual, community group or business and commit to traffic safety on every trip.



MERRILL Foto News VISIT US ONLINE!
 WEBSITE: merrillfotonews.com
 FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/merrill.fotonews

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Dawson Schulz, a Senior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Dawson started playing T-ball when he was young and progressed through "Little League and all the stages - minors, majors, played travel ball," then started on the MHS JV Baseball Team as a Freshman before joining the Merrill Varsity Baseball Team in his Sophomore year. He pitches and also plays second and third base.

At school, Dawson's favorite class is the building construction class. "We're helping build a duplex with the Merrill Housing Authority," he said. He works part-time at Geiss Meat Service.

In his free time, Dawson likes to hunt (deer and bear, bow and rifle) and fish and participate in pretty much any outdoor activities, he said. "We have a cabin, so I go fishing quite a bit in the summertime," Dawson said.

The son of Dennis and Sherri Schulz of Merrill, Dawson has a 3.6 GPA. After graduation, "I am going to NTC and taking their Gas, Utility and Construction Course," he said. His goal is to work in the power industry, possibly for WPS.

Congratulations from these sponsors:

PROTECTING THE GREATER GOOD | Church Mutual INSURANCE | INTERFLEX GROUP | Image is everything. Packaging defines it.

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

Dawson Schulz

Real Rewards, Year After Year Nicolet NATIONAL BANK 3% .00 APY
 800.369.0226 | NicoletBank.com

Real Rewards Checking (Real Rewards) is available for consumer deposits only. Annual Percentage Yield ("APY") is accurate as of 1/1/2023. Real Rewards is a variable rate account. Your APY may change at any time after your account is opened, at the discretion of Nicolet National Bank. Real Rewards is a tiered rate product. If qualifications are met for the qualification cycle, Tier 1: The portion of your balance that is equal to or less than \$15,000 will earn 3.00% APY. Tier 2: The portion of your balance that is over \$15,000 will earn 0.01% APY. The APY for Tier 2 will range from 0.40% to 3.00%, depending on the balance in your account. If qualifications are not met for the qualification cycle, your entire balance will earn 0.01% APY. You must enroll in online banking and e-statements in order to qualify. Transactions required each qualification cycle: At least ten posted and cleared debit card transactions (ATM-processed transactions do not count as qualifying debit card transactions), and at least one posted and cleared direct deposit of payroll or social security. Disclosed APY assumes all interest remains on deposit. Fees and withdrawals of interest will reduce earnings and APY. All Nicolet National Bank checking accounts are subject to credit approval. Additional terms and conditions apply. See Nicoletbank.com for details. Member FDIC.