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Merrill house fire displaces occupants of two apartments

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

On Saturday evening, Aug. 3, 2024, the Merrill Fire Department (MFD) was dispatched for a report of smoke coming from a house on Genesee Street in Merrill. According to the MFD, while en route, dispatch advised that there was an occupant “upstairs” in the building. Visible smoke could be seen in the air area from several blocks away, the MFD and area residents reported.



Merrill Fire Department and other departments responded to a house fire on Genesee Street in Merrill.

Joseph Frederick photo.

“Upon arrival, MFD was met with significant fire

and smoke coming from the first and lower levels of the home,” a press release said. Engine 61 approached the back of the house from the alley where dark gray/black smoke was coming from both the garage door and garage service door and the first-level roof and windows of the house and a significant amount of fire was also visible, the MFD incident report said.

MFD went into rescue mode and, while preparing to enter the home, learned that all

See FIRE page 2



Showing animals is a big, traditional part of a county fair, and the Lincoln County Fair provides a great opportunity for local kids to show off all their hard work with their animals. (Photo from 2023 Lincoln County Fair.)

Tina L. Scott photo.

It’s Lincoln County Fair week!

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Lincoln County Fair will run this week from Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024 through Sunday, Aug. 11. This year’s lineup is packed with the normal fairgoing attractions - carnival rides, games, lots of food, beer tents, music, farm animals, fair exhibits, butter carving contest, tractor pulls, and a whole lot more!

Plus, this year the Lincoln County Fair Board is introducing a few new things to draw fairgoers down to the Merrill Fair Grounds. Grandstand entertainment

will include Eli Alger and the Faster Horses, a band from Nashville, Thursday evening at 7 p.m.; an Interactive Lumberjack Camp at 6 p.m. Friday evening, followed by an All American Lumberjack Show at 7 p.m.; Antique Tractor Pull at 11 a.m. and traditional Tractor Pull at 6 p.m., both on Saturday; and Demolition Derby at 1 p.m., including a new Kids Power Wheels Demolition Derby where kids ages 3-10 will operate their power wheels to try to pop the balloons of their opponents before their balloons are popped or their battery dies. Tickets for Grandstand events will

be available on-site. Ace Justice, an eight-foot tall interactive robot, will be roaming the grounds at times during the day, and there will be free agri-golf mini golf at the Fair Grounds, too!

Plus, the Entertainment Booth will feature live entertainment every night Wednesday through Saturday, starting with The Alternators and their special guests, the Merrill High School Jazz Band Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.; Honkeytonk Highway Thursday evening at 9 p.m.; Stetsin and Lace Friday night at 7 p.m.; and

See FAIR page 4

VOTE

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COUNTY CLERK

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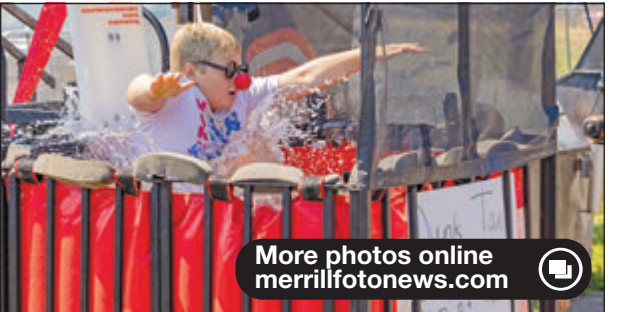
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Old-fashioned games like bobbing for apples are still fun today ... especially when the temps are in the 80's!



Archery was one of many fun activities at Gleason Fun Days this past Saturday in Gleason.

Joseph Frederick photos.

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COUNTY CLERK CHRIS MARLOWE

AUGUST 13, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION

Authorized and paid for by Marlowe for County Clerk.

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A&L, Finance Committees to discuss potential Pine Crest funding referendum in joint meeting

BY JALEN MAKI
MMC STAFF

In a special joint meeting this week, two Lincoln County committees will discuss a potential referendum related to the funding of Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill.

The County's Administrative and Legislative (A&L) and Finance Committees are scheduled to meet at the Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N. Sales St., Merrill, on Friday, Aug. 9, 2024, at 7:30 a.m. The meeting may be attended virtually at tinyurl.com/2edcsd9f.

The agenda includes discussion regarding Pine Crest financials, possible action on a resolution seeking to authorize a binding referendum, and the potential approval of the official referendum question language.

The proposed resolution, authored by District 10 Supervisor and Board Chair Jesse Boyd and co-sponsored by District 12 Supervisor Julie DePasse, seeks to exceed levy limits each year from 2025 to 2029 to fund Pine Crest operations, maintenance, and debt services.

The amount by which levy limits would be exceeded if the resolution were to ultimately be approved by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors was not provided



Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill. Tina L. Scott photo.

in the resolution and is expected to be discussed during Friday's joint committee meeting.

The resolution's proposal comes roughly one month after Merrill Campus LLC and Senior Management Inc., the organizations which were previously set to buy Pine Crest, terminated the Asset Purchase Agreement with Lincoln County in response to a lawsuit filed by Donald J. Dunphy in May.

Under the agreement, the buyers could terminate the agreement in the event that Lincoln County or Pine Crest faced legal action that would "adversely affect the operation or the financial condition" of the Merrill facility or "restrain or prohibit the consumption of the

transaction" of Pine Crest.

In the lawsuit, Dunphy, who represents District 7 on the Lincoln County Board and is a member of People for Pine Crest, a group that has advocated against the sale of the Merrill facility, alleged that Lincoln County had failed to follow best practices set forth in a Lincoln County resolution related to the sale of high-value property. By failing to follow these best practices, Dunphy claimed, the County ultimately agreed to sell Pine Crest and the County's Health and Social Services building for less than they are worth.

Dunphy also alleged that, under Lincoln County Code, the County's Forestry Committee has jurisdiction over the sale of the properties.

Dunphy also claimed that the "operating deficit experienced by the nursing home in the years prior to 2023" was a "substantial consideration" in the County Board's decision to sell Pine Crest and alleged that "an increase to the Medicaid reimbursement rate paid to public nursing homes eliminated Pine Crest's operating expense deficits beginning in the first quarter of 2023."

See PINE CREST page 4

FIRE from page 1

people were out of the house, so they switched to an offensive attack on the fire itself, beginning with the garage. An open entry door to the home was closed to reduce the amount of oxygen supplying the fire and gas was shut off at both meters; however, smoke was seen exiting around the gas pipes.

Fire crews also attacked flames in the kitchen area where they found the heaviest concentration

was in the stairwell that came up from the garage, according to MFD's report.

"With the assistance of several area fire departments, crews were able to quickly extinguish the fire and prevent any damage to surrounding homes," the MFD release said. Mutual aid fire departments from the City of Antigo, Town of Russell, Village of Maine, South Area Fire and Emergency Response District (SAFER), City of Tomahawk, Town of Pine River, and Town of

Corning all responded to the scene, and staging was set up on W. Main Street near Brooke's School of Dance.

Multiple fire crews were employed to monitor the lower level for possible rekindling of extinguished fire, look for additional fire within the house on all

floors and in the attic, and perform overhaul.

A member of Corning Fire Department was utilized as the Safety Officer, a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) was readied, and Pine River Fire Department served as staging officers. Upon arrival of Chief Finke of SAFER, MFD turned



Fire departments were on scene and extinguished the blaze quickly, but not before extensive damage to both apartments in the house. Joseph Frederick photo.

over scene command to him. After witnesses were interviewed and mutual aid departments were released from service, fire watch continued for 1-2 hours to watch for new hotspots or possible rekindles "due to elevated heat levels inside of the structure due to its construction as well as exposures on both sides of the involved structures," MFD's report said.

Three individuals, including two occupants of the house that were inside

the home when the fire was discovered and one police officer, were evaluated on-scene for smoke inhalation, with two of the three transported to Aspirus Merrill Hospital for future treatment.

Due to extensive damage to the house, no one was permitted to re-enter the building. The occupants of both apartments in the home have been displaced.

The cause of the fire is currently undetermined, the MFD said.



Firefighters from multiple departments in the area responded to the Saturday evening fire. Joseph Frederick photo.

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Two Republicans compete for County Clerk in Tuesday's Partisan Primary Election

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Two Republican candidates are running for the position of Lincoln County Clerk in the Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024, Partisan Primary Election. Steve Osness is challenging incumbent Chris Marlowe. Learn more about them to inform your voting decision here:

Name: Christopher J.



Chris Marlowe.

Marlowe

Age: 55
Family: Three Children: Megan, 28 (UW-La Crosse - Bio-Chemistry) Pharmaceutical Researcher in Madison; Emma, 20 (Junior at UW-La Crosse - Special Education); and Ty, 18 (Recent MADA Graduate and Owner, Ty's Lawn Care Service). Pets: One dog and three cats

Employment/position: Lincoln County Clerk since January 2013. Before that I spent 23 years in the paper industry gaining project management and supervision experience which has translated well to this office.

Past or present elected offices held, dates served: I won the 2012 County Clerk race and have been uncontested until now. I have not aspired for other offices since then and do not intend to aspire for other offices while serving as our Clerk. This position commands my full attention and is not a 9-5 job like people might think. I cannot just leave my work at the office. I am always on the clock, which is not easy. I attend many evening meetings and work some very long days, whether it is an election or we are training our election inspectors.

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: I have been involved with community organizations since moving back to Merrill from college in 1989. I became the assistant high school hockey coach

and have been coaching pretty much since. I was the program's head coach on two different occasions and coached regional and state hockey teams where I earned a bronze medal at the USA Hockey's U17 Girls National Tournament. I was a board member for the Merrill Youth Hockey Association and served as vice president, president, and player development coordinator. In 2012 I was elected to the Silver "M" Board of Directors and served on our executive committee as both the secretary and then president guiding the program's investment changes which has accelerated the clubs proceeds from our investments. I was a member of the St. John School Board when my children were attending.

Professionally and while in the Clerk's office, I became the District 7 Chair of the Wisconsin County Clerks Association (WCCA). I am currently the treasurer for the Wisconsin County Constitutional Officers (WCCO) which all county constitutional officers are eligible for membership. I am also the president of the WCCO Legal Defense Fund. I have a strong voice at the state level and am regarded as a leader amongst my state peers whom have been very supportive as well as outside election integrity groups. I am not the only election official being targeted in the state.

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek and what makes you qualified to fill the office you seek: I really didn't know what I was getting into when I first answered the call to run for the office. It has changed my life and

career path immensely. I do not ever regret the fact that I became an elected official and take great pride in being the Lincoln County Clerk. I fully respect the position, the people I serve, and even my opponent and his right to run against me. The Clerk's office is an integral part of our local government. The almost 12 years now has allowed me the time to fully learn the position and hone my professional management skills which I believe the County benefits from. I have a new Deputy who is still learning the position, but is doing great. I hired her last year and owe it to her to fight for my job. It would be less than ideal to change our County Clerk at this time. I feel I have done a good job in office and there is not a reason to make a change.

In office I have drastically affected the delinquent tax totals that in 2008 began to climb and then climaxed in 2014 at \$2.1 M. I have worked very hard to determine which of our delinquent properties needed to be taken by the County. I take pride in the fact that I work with our delinquent property owners to find ways to manage their debt, offering payment plans and/or identifying state and federal aid available to them. This has allowed me to positively affect the lives of others, which is something that I focus on in all aspects of my life. I can honestly say that since 2014 that the total delinquent tax amount at the end of 2023 is down roughly 70% from where it was then. The 2013 number is roughly \$650 K which still sounds high but it is the best place we have been in at least 23 years. I only have the number from

2001 forward but would be willing to say we are in the best place we have been in 50 years. Our delinquent tax amounts are now at a manageable state, and I will continue my efforts in hopes of lowering that number even more. The Tax Delinquent Collection Process involves many county offices and is a group effort that I am tasked with leading.

Our election integrity is second to none in my opinion. We have great municipal clerks and election inspectors who diligently adhere to state law and are very detailed in their work on Election Day. We train face to face here at the Lincoln County Service Center. On July 30 we held two election refresher trainings and had roughly 130 of our 200 election workers in attendance.

Many of the things that I have cited are centered on the Merrill area where I have lived almost my whole life. I have many friends in the Tomahawk and rural towns. For many years I coached against Tomahawk Youth Hockey and High School Teams. I have the utmost respect for their hockey program and the people involved. I will be at the State Tournament when they win the high school state championship, which they are poised to do this year or in the near future. I also played old-time pick-up hockey with the boys for years at Sara Park. I have made a lot friends that way and in the past 12 years have made a ton more working with our local town governments and the Tomahawk School District on their Re-Apportionment

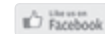
See COUNTY CLERK page 8

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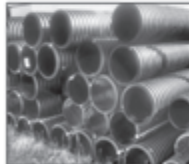
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OBITUARIES



Lorraine Poi passed away peacefully July 30, 2024 at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. She was born August 5, 1939 daughter of John and Ella (Mosher) Hopp. On November 22, 1958 she married Patrick Madden who preceded her in death on August 18, 1966. She married Burt Poi Jr. March 18, 1972 preceding her in death. Her final love was Frederick Doepke also preceding her in death August 8, 2011.

Lorraine loved NASCAR and knew every driver by name. She also enjoyed watching the Brewers and calling her favorite son in law and sister Phyllis to discuss the games. She was an avid Wisconsin sports fan.

Lorraine was a graduate of Merrill High School class of 1957 She was a lifelong factory worker at multiple different businesses, you may see her name on a window somewhere around the world.

Lorraine sadly lost her oldest son Gary Madden August 1, 2004.

Survivors include her daughters Cheryl Madden, Susan (Pat) Schilling, and Amy Schilling. Grand children Andrew Madden, Lucas (Nick Cota) Schilling, Lauren (Andrew) Gale, Samantha (Kyle) Schilling, Patrick Madden; Great grand children, Grayslyn, Merielle, Kayveen, Jensen Dietrich; Sisters Vernetta (Louis) Heuser, Darlene (Joe) Wimmer and brother Roger Hopp.

Besides her parents, husbands and friend she was preceded in death by her son Gary Madden and 3 siblings Vernon Hopp, Harold (Barb) Hopp and Phyllis Frederick, brother in law Danielle Harkner and sister in law Jean Hopp.

A private burial with immediate family will be scheduled at a later date.

Patrick J. Rasmussen, died on 8/4/2024. He was born on 4/10/1950 to Leslie and Marcia (Whitney) Rasmussen. He is survived by his wife Lynn (Sayers) Rasmussen. The Funeral Service is Saturday, August 10, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at Waid Funeral Home.



Scott Allen Pfaff

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Scott Allen Pfaff, age 59, at his home in the town of Scott on July 31, 2024.

Scott was born on May 28, 1965 in Merrill, WI. He graduated from Merrill High School with the class of 1983, and he went on to further his education at NTC in Wausau, WI, earning his Associate's Degree in Police Science. Scott subsequently spent the majority of his career serving as a 911 dispatcher for Marathon County until his retirement in 2018. His coworkers were as close as family, and he took joy in being able to offer emergency assistance to his community.

Scott's high school sweetheart, Sherri Stahel, was his soulmate. They exchanged vows on September 6, 1986, and his devotion to her was unmatched. Theirs was the kind of love you only find in fairy tales, and we take comfort that they are reunited. Together they grew a family, and Scott selflessly committed himself to being a devout father and mentor for his children, and eventually his grandchildren as well.

Scott enjoyed all things outdoors. He could often be found making birdies on the golf course, hitting home runs on the softball field, and in the wilderness, hunting and fishing. Scott's skills at dartball were legendary. Scott was also a member of Faith Lutheran Church. His boisterous sense of humor and quick wit filled holiday gatherings with warmth and light. Scott will be remembered for his loving, protective, and supportive nature. He had a selfless spirit and offered help to all who needed it.

Scott is survived by his parents: Lee and Diane Pfaff of Merrill, WI, daughter: Chelsea (Troy) Powell of Beloit, WI, with their children: Ronan and Emma, son: Andrew (fiancé Jon) Pfaff of Minneapolis, MN, brothers: Craig (Chris) Pfaff of Merrill, WI and Tim (Dawn) Pfaff of Grafton, WI, sister: Jamie (Troy) Pieper of Merrill, WI, along with numerous nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles. He is further survived by his father-in-law: Eugene (Donna) Stahel, along with a large number of extended in-law family members. Scott is additionally survived by many dear friends and his close work family. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife: Sherri Pfaff, maternal and paternal grandparents, mother-in-law: Mary Stahel and biological father: Ronald Zemke.

To honor Scott's wishes, no formal services will be held. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to his wonderful friends and coworkers for their ongoing support and care shown to Scott over the years.

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.

PAID LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

To the Editor:

An open letter to Lincoln County supervisors:

On Aug. 20, 2024, we will be asked to vote on a resolution authorizing a binding resolution to raise the tax levy for the period 2025-2029. I have read the proposed resolution and my takeaway is that the proposed additional taxes are to pay the following items:

- An annual obligation to pay \$440,000 from the tax levy under our management contract with NCHC.
- \$400,000 yearly in salary and benefits for the four maintenance personnel permanently assigned to Pine Crest.
- \$630,000 yearly to service the debt for the 2017 addition to Pine Crest.
- \$1,200,000 per year to build up a reserve fund to repair and replace the elements of Pine Crest's physical plant as they age.

These four items total an annual expense of

\$2,670,000. I believe we can fully fund Pine Crest for much less. The debt service is being paid out of Pine Crest's operating revenue. This was true even when Pine Crest was running operational deficits in years past. Thus, there is no need to ask the taxpayers to foot this bill. Also, the salaries of the four permanently assigned maintenance workers have always been paid out of the County's coffers without the need to increase taxes. The contractual obligation to pay \$440,000 annually to NCHC was meant to bolster the operating budget of Pine Crest when it was running operating deficits. Now that Pine Crest is consistently operating in the black, we can and should negotiate with NCHC to eliminate this expense.

That just leaves the \$1,200,000 annually to build up a reserve fund. Since we know that everything eventually wears out and must be replaced, I think putting aside money in a reserve fund makes sense. I also think that this expense is the only one we need to consider when voting for the proposed binding referendum.

- Donald Dunphy,
Merrill, Wis.
County Board Supervisor, District 7

The cost for Paid Letters to the Editor is \$40.00 per letter of up to 250 words, plus \$10.00 per additional 50 words, and must be prepaid prior to printing.

Robert James Stoeckmann



(89) of Keene, NH, surrounded by his family, passed peacefully to his heavenly home on Saturday, July 27, 2024 after a lengthy illness. He was born on December 11, 1934 to Albert and Grace (Dichraff) Stoeckmann of Merrill, Wisconsin.

He graduated from Eagle River High School in 1952, received an FAA Aircraft and Engine Mechanical License, and completed USAF flight school. Major Stoeckmann retired from USAF in 1978 as a Command Pilot with over 5000 hours of flying time. He flew 185 combat missions in South East Asia during the Vietnam War. Upon his Air Force retirement he moved with his family to Keene, NH.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Elizabeth (Weber) Stoeckmann, and children Walter Stoeckmann, Brenda Stoeckmann, Susan Bobka/Todd Novak, Martin Stoeckmann, and Kurt Stoeckmann; seven grandchildren; four great grandchildren; his brother Roger Stoeckmann; and many nieces and nephews.

Bob is predeceased by his parents, and siblings George, Harold, Ruth, Helen, and Dorothea.

Funeral services were held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Keene, NH on August 3, 2024.

Fletcher Funeral Home of Keene, NH, had been entrusted with the arrangements. To read an extended obituary, watch a recording of the service, express condolences to the Stoeckmann family, or to share memories of Bob, please visit www.FletcherFuneralHome.com.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 10, 2024

Boy, Troy Donald, born to Sheneae Zempel and Kevin Zempel of Merrill.

JULY 18, 2024

Boys, Jaxon David Hendrickson and Carter Matthew Hendrickson, born to Tiffany

Hendrickson and Steven Hendrickson of Stevens Point.

JULY 25, 2024

Boy, Angelo Reuben, born to Monique Marmolejo and Raymond Banena of Merrill.

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Email: info@waidfuneral.com

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McKenna K. Meunier
Licensed Director

Tammy Klade
Non-Licensed Support Staff Licensed Pre-Need Insurance Agent

903 E. 3rd Street • Merrill • 715-536-6244
www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

FAIR from page 1

Bogfoot followed by Black of Heart starting at 7 p.m. on Saturday Night. New Testament Church will offer services in the tent at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

Don't forget to visit the Brickyard School, and stop in to see the exhibits and livestock and small animals 4-H'ers have been working hard on all year long!

Carnival ride wrist bands are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the ticket booth at the fair, with wristband times as follows: Wednesday and Thursday from 6-10 p.m. and Friday, Saturday, and

Sunday from 1-5 p.m. This year a Mega Band will also be available for \$100 in advance or \$125 at the ticket booth. Advance wristbands are available at Dave's County Market, Park City Credit Union's Merrill and Tomahawk locations, and both the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce and Tomahawk Chamber of Commerce.

As always, admission to the Lincoln County Fair is free, although there is a charge for parking in the Fair Grounds - \$5 per day or \$15 for a season pass.

Hope to see you at the fair!

PINE CREST from page 2

In a written answer filed in Lincoln County Court in June, Lincoln County Corporation Counsel Karry Johnson acknowledged that the Merrill facility's operating deficit was one of several factors considered by the County Board in reaching the decision to sell Pine Crest and denied Dunphy's claim that the facility's first quarter 2023 operating expense deficits were eliminated by a Medicaid reimbursement rate increase.

Johnson also refuted Dunphy's allegation that the change in circumstances as a result of the Medicaid reimbursement rate was ignored by the County and said the Board was not required to follow the best

practices laid out in the resolution referenced by Dunphy.

Dunphy's allegation regarding jurisdiction of the properties being vested in the Forestry Committee was also refuted by Johnson.

Dunphy said in an interview with the *Merrill Foto News* that the lawsuit was his "vehicle to keep Pine Crest from being sold."

"I was opposed to the decision to sell Pine Crest from the beginning," Dunphy said. "When I ran for (Lincoln) County Board, I told everyone I talked to that I would do my best to reverse that decision. ... My goal is to have the Court declare the sales contract null and void."

According to court records, Dunphy's lawsuit was dismissed on Monday, July 29.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

The Ebb And Flow Of Love

Dear Reader,

Love is one of the most profound and transformative experiences of the human condition. It can ignite our spirits, inspire our dreams, and shape our lives in ways we never imagined. But as many of us have experienced, the passionate flames of early love can dim over the years, and relationships that once felt unbreakable can face challenges and sometimes unravel. Why is it that people fall in love, only to find themselves falling out of love as time passes?

The initial spark of love often comes from a place of curiosity and excitement. It's driven by a powerful mix of physical attraction, emotional connection, and the thrill of discovering someone new. In those early days, everything feels fresh and exhilarating. We see our partners through rose-colored glasses, focusing on their strengths and overlooking their flaws. This stage, often referred to as the honeymoon phase, is marked by high levels of dopamine and oxytocin, the hormones responsible for pleasure and bonding.

However, as time goes by, the intensity of these feelings naturally wanes. The routines of daily life set in, and the imperfections of our partners become more apparent. The very traits that once seemed endearing can start to feel irritating.



This shift is a normal part of the relationship cycle, but it can lead to feelings of disillusionment if we don't recognize and adapt to it.

One reason people fall out of love is that they grow and change. Our experiences shape us, and as we evolve, so do our needs and desires. What brought us together initially may not sustain us as we develop new interests, values, and goals. Sometimes, couples grow together, but other times they grow apart. This divergence can create a sense of distance and incompatibility that is difficult to bridge.

Additionally, as we accumulate knowledge and experiences, our tolerance for certain behaviors can diminish. The patience we once had for minor annoyances may wear thin. The optimism that sustained us through rough patches may be replaced by a more pragmatic outlook. While this increased awareness can lead to healthier boundaries and more honest communication, it can also make us less forgiving and

more critical.

Despite these challenges, falling out of love doesn't have to be the end of the story. Relationships can endure and even thrive through these transitions if both partners are willing to invest the effort. Open communication, mutual respect, and a commitment to growth are essential. It's important to continually nurture the bond, finding new ways to connect and support each other.

Falling in love is often effortless, but staying in love requires intention and resilience. As we navigate the complexities of our relationships, let us remember that love is not just a feeling but a choice. It is a journey of discovery, not only of our partners but of ourselves. Embrace the changes, cherish the memories, and strive to cultivate a love that withstands the test of time.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals 7700

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: 07/26/2024
/S/HON. GALEN BAYNE-ALLISON
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BR I
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 24-CV-90
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Lunayah Ann Ritchie
By (Petitioner) Stacy Ann Essert
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Lunayah Ann Ritchie
To: Lunayah Ann Essert
Birth Certificate: Lunayah Ann Ritchie
IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Honorable Galen Bayne-Allison
Place: Lincoln County Courthouse-Br 1 Courtroom
1110 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452
Date: 09/09/2024
Time: 2:00 PM
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Foto News a newspaper published in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.
Published: 8/8/24, 8/15/24 & 8/22/24
WNAXLP

Legals 7700

BY THE COURT
DATE SIGNED: July 22, 2024
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Roberta Joanne Bonnell
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 2024 IN 25
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 02/19/1940 and date of death 07/15/2024, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 501 Liberty St, Merrill, WI 54452.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 11-08-2024.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
Margaret Osnes
1301 N State St, Merrill WI 54452
715-218-4975
Published 7/25/24, 8/1/24 & 8/8/24
WNAXLP
STATE OF WISCONSIN -
CIRCUIT COURT- LINCOLN COUNTY
Civil Claim Publication
Summons and Notice
2024CV000063
Case Code: 30301
Capital One, N.A.
c/o Blitt & Gaines, P.C.
731 N Jackson Street, Suite 660
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Plaintiff(s)
vs.
Tammy E Neeb
W4385 Chase Hill Dr
Irma, WI 54442
Defendant(s)

Legals 7700

If you need help in this matter because of disability, please call: 715-536-0319
PUBLICATION SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING
TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT(S):
You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s).
Within forty (40) days of August 8, 2024, exclusive of said date, you are required to serve upon plaintiff's attorney an answer to the complaint. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is: Lincoln Courthouse, 1110 E Main St, Suite 205, Merrill, WI 54452, and to Blitt & Gaines, P.C., attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 731 N Jackson Street, Suite 660, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not serve an answer within the 40 days, the court may enter a judgment against you according to the demand of the complaint. A copy of the complaint has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated this 8th day of August 2024
Blitt & Gaines, P.C.
Attorney David Olefsky, SBN: 1088471
Attorney Elizabeth J. Schweiger, SBN: 1065978
731 N Jackson Street, Suite 660
Milwaukee, WI 53202
888-920-0620
Published August 8, 15 & 22, 2024
WNAXLP



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NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ELECTION
August 13, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the several towns, villages, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, the following questions will be submitted to a vote of the people pursuant to law:

2023 Assembly Joint Resolution 6 Enrolled Joint Resolution

To create section 35 of article IV of the constitution; **relating to:** the appropriation authority of the legislature and the allocation of moneys Wisconsin receives from the federal government (second consideration).

Whereas, the 2021 legislature in regular session considered a proposed amendment to the constitution in 2021 Senate Joint Resolution 84, which became 2021 Enrolled Joint Resolution 14, and agreed to it by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, which proposed amendment reads as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 35 of article IV of the constitution is created to read:
[Article IV] Section 35 (1) The legislature may not delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated.

(2) The governor may not allocate any federal moneys the governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule.

SECTION 2. Numbering of new provision. If another constitutional amendment ratified by the people creates the number of any provision created in this joint resolution, the chief of the legislative reference bureau shall determine the sequencing and the numbering of the provisions whose numbers conflict.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution is agreed to by the 2023 legislature; and, be it further

Resolved, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be submitted to a vote of the people at the election to be held on the second Tuesday of August 2024; and, be it further

Resolved, That the questions concerning ratification of the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be stated on the ballot as follows:

QUESTION 1: "Delegation of appropriation power. Shall section 35 (1) of article IV of the constitution be created to provide that the legislature may not delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated?"

QUESTION 2: "Allocation of federal moneys. Shall section 35 (2) of article IV of the constitution be created to prohibit the governor from allocating any federal moneys the governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule?"

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS AS TO THE TWO QUESTIONS

Explanatory statement regarding Question 1:

The Wisconsin Constitution requires the legislature to appropriate funds from the state treasury only by passing a law, which requires a vote by both houses of the legislature. Wis. Const. art. VIII, § 2. Question 1 would add a new provision to say that the legislature cannot delegate this "sole" power to appropriate funds.

A "yes" vote on Question 1 would vote to create a new provision of the Wisconsin Constitution—Wis. Const. art. IV, § 35(1). That provision would prohibit the legislature from delegating its duty that it pass a law in order to appropriate money from the treasury under Wis. Const. art. VIII, § 2.

A "no" vote on Question 1 would vote not to add Wis. Const. art. IV, § 35(1) to the Wisconsin Constitution.

Explanatory statement regarding Question 2:

In times when Wisconsin receives undesignated federal funds from the U.S. government, the Wisconsin Constitution does not limit the ability of the governor to choose how the funds he accepts are divided among state and local agencies. Question 2 would add a new provision to the Constitution to prohibit the governor from choosing how to allocate such federal funds he accepts unless the legislature, through a joint resolution or some other process to be developed by the legislature, agrees with the governor's proposed allocation of those funds.

A "yes" vote on Question 2 would vote to create a second new provision of the Wisconsin Constitution—Wis. Const. art. IV, § 35(2), which would prohibit the governor from choosing how to allocate undesignated federal monies he accepts unless the legislature, by joint resolution or other process, agrees with the governor's proposed allocation of such funds.

A "no" vote on Question 2 would vote not to add Wis. Const. art. IV § 35(2) to the Wisconsin Constitution.

Sincerely

Done in the County of Lincoln, Wisconsin, on this
18th day of June, 2024.

Christopher J. Marlowe

Published August 8, 2024

(Lincoln County Clerk)

WNAXLP

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

LOCATION AND HOURS OF POLLING PLACES LINCOLN COUNTY

At the Partisan Primary Election to be held on August 13, 2024, in Lincoln County, the following are the designated polling places:

| PRECINCT | POLLING LOCATION |
|--|--|
| Town of Birch 1 | Town Hall, W4762 County Rd. H |
| Town of Bradley 1 - 5 | Bradley Town Hall, 1518 West Mohawk Dr. |
| Town of Coming 1 - 2 | Town Hall, N1569 State Rd. 64 |
| Town of Harding 1 | Town Hall, N3246 County Road E |
| Town of Harrison 1 - 3 | Town Hall, N10095 County Road B |
| Town of King 1 - 2 | Town Hall, W4450 County Road A |
| Town of Merrill 1 - 5 | Merrill Town Hall/Community Center, W4594 Progress Ave |
| Town of Pine River 1 - 4 | Town Hall, N1647 Deer Run Ave. |
| Town of Rock Falls 1 - 2 | Town Hall, W5895 Rock Falls Dr. |
| Town of Russell 1 | Russell Town Hall, N5369 State Road 17 |
| Town of Schley 1 - 2 | Town Hall, W1696 County Rd. C |
| Town of Scott 1 - 2 | Town Hall, N563 Lake Rd. |
| Town of Skanawan 1 | Town Hall, N8506 County Road H |
| Town of Somo 1 | Town Hall, N12070 Fire Station Rd. |
| Town of Tomahawk 1 | Town Hall, Inter. Hwy 86 & Hwy. O |
| Town of Wilson 1 | Town Hall, N10802 County Road CC |
| CITY OF TOMAHAWK Wards 1 - 6 | SARA Park Activities Center, 900 West Somo Ave. |
| CITY OF MERRILL | |
| 1 st District | Bierman Building, 303 N Sales Street |
| 2 nd District | City Hall, 1004 E. First Street |
| 3 rd District | Bierman Building, 303 N Sales Street |
| 4 th District | Smith Center, 1100 Marc Drive |
| 5 th District | Smith Center, 1100 Marc Drive |
| 6 th District | Bierman Building, 303 N Sales Street |
| 7 th District | City Hall, 1004 E. First Street |
| 8 th District | Bierman Building, 303 N Sales St. |

Contact your municipal clerk if you have any questions concerning your polling place.

All polling places will open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m.

All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.

Christopher J Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk

Published August 8, 2024

WNAXLP

2024 LEG

Notice of Partisan Primary and Sample Ballots
August 13, 2024
OFFICE OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY CLERK
TO THE VOTERS OF LINCOLN COUNTY:

Notice is hereby given of a partisan primary to be held in Lincoln County on August 13, 2024, at which the nominees for the offices named below shall be chosen. The names of the candidates for each office, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office under the appropriate party, each in its proper column, together with the questions submitted to a vote, if any, in the sample ballot below.

Information to Voters

Upon entering the polling place and before being permitted to vote, a voter shall state their name and address, show an acceptable form of photo identification and sign the poll book.

***If a voter does not have acceptable photo identification, the voter may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles. If the voter is unable to sign the poll book due to disability, a poll worker may write the word "exempt."**

If a voter is not registered to vote, they may register to vote at the polling place serving their residence if the voter provides proof of residence. Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot. Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall enter a voting booth or go to a machine and cast their ballot. The vote should not be cast in any manner other than specified here. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the voter in marking their ballot may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked. A voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward. An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote but the official may not advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

Assistance for Voting

A voter may select an individual to assist in casting their vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that they are unable to read, have difficulty reading, writing, or understanding English, or that due to disability are unable to cast their ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the voter. If a voter is unable to state their name and address, an assistant may also do so for the voter.

At the partisan primary, the voter shall select the party of their choice.

Voting for candidates of more than one party may invalidate the ballot. The voter must cast a vote for individual candidates.

Where Optical Scan Voting is used

- If a party preference *is designated*, and votes are cast for ballot candidates of another party or write-in votes are cast in another party, only votes cast in the designated party will count.
- If a party preference *is not designated*, and votes are cast for candidates (or write-in votes are cast) in more than one party, no votes will be counted

Within the party of their choice, the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using an *electronic ballot marking device (Express Vote)* to mark an **optical scan** ballot, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select the party of their choice. The voter shall then touch the screen at the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen at "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen at "no" if opposed to the question.

Spoiled Ballots

If a voter spoils an **optical scan** ballot, they shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official, who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

After Voting the Ballot

After an official **optical scan** ballot is marked, it may be inserted in the security sleeve, so the marks do not show. The voter shall then insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

The following is a sample of the official ballot

Christopher J. Marlowe

Christopher J. Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk

Official Primary Ballot
Partisan Office and Referendum
August 13, 2024

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------------|
| A | Lincoln County | B | State of Wisconsin | C | August 13, 2024 |
|---|----------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------------|

The ballot below is for Publication purposes only. This ballot includes all of Lincoln County's April 5th Political Races. All Lincoln County Ballots may be viewed on the county website at: <https://co.lincoln.wi.us/county-clerk/page/absentee-and-sample-ballots>. Your ballot specific to your address may be found at: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot>.

Notice to voters: if you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (see end of ballot for initials).

| General Instructions | Democratic Party Primary (cont.) | Republican Party Primary (cont.) | Constitution Party Primary continues on back of ballot. | Wisconsin Green Party Primary | Referendum (cont.) |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help (absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk). To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: ● To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: ● | Legislative and State Representative to the Assembly District 35 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Elizabeth McCrank <input type="radio"/> Calvin Callahan <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Legislative and State Representative to the Assembly District 35 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Todd Mayr <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Constitution Party Primary (cont.) Legislative and State District Attorney Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | <i>If you vote in this party's primary, you may not vote in any other party's primary.</i> Congressional United States Senator Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | State Question 2: "Allocation of federal moneys. Shall section 35 (2) of article IV of the constitution be created to prohibit the governor from allocating any federal moneys the governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule?" <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| | Special Instructions for Voting in a Partisan Primary In the Partisan Primary: • You may vote in only ONE party's primary. • If you choose a party, votes cast in that party will be counted. Votes cast in any other party will not be counted. • If you do not choose a party, and you vote in more than one party, no votes will be counted. You must vote for individual candidates | County County Clerk Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Kristopher Ellis <input type="radio"/> write-in: | County County Clerk Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Chris Marlowe <input type="radio"/> Steve Osness <input type="radio"/> write-in: | County County Clerk Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Legislative and State State Senator District 12 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: |
| Party Preference Section Choose a party in which to vote Fill in the oval next to your party choice, like this: ● Choose only ONE <input type="radio"/> Democratic <input type="radio"/> Republican <input type="radio"/> Constitution <input type="radio"/> Libertarian <input type="radio"/> Wisconsin Green | Register of Deeds Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | County Treasurer Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Register of Deeds Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | County County Clerk Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | |
| <input type="radio"/> End Democratic Party Primary <input checked="" type="radio"/> End Constitution Party Primary <input type="radio"/> End Republican Party Primary <input type="radio"/> End Wisconsin Green Party Primary | Republican Party Primary <i>If you vote in this party's primary, you may not vote in any other party's primary.</i> United States Senator Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Eric Hovde <input type="radio"/> Charles E. Barman <input type="radio"/> Rejani Raveendran <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Constitution Party Primary <i>If you vote in this party's primary, you may not vote in any other party's primary.</i> Register of Deeds Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Sarah Koss <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Libertarian Party Primary <i>If you vote in this party's primary, you may not vote in any other party's primary.</i> Congressional United States Senator Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | County County Treasurer Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | |
| Democratic Party Primary <i>If you vote in this party's primary, you may not vote in any other party's primary.</i> Congressional United States Senator Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Tammy Baldwin <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Legislative and State Representative in Congress District 7 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Tom Tiffany <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Constitution Party Primary United States Senator Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Legislative and State State Senator District 12 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Referendum To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "Yes," like this: ● To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to "No," like this: ● State Question 1: "Delegation of appropriation power. Shall section 35 (1) of article IV of the constitution be created to provide that the legislature may not delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated?" <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| Legislative and State State Senator District 12 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Andi Rich <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Legislative and State State Senator District 12 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> Mary Felzkowski <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Legislative and State Representative to the Assembly District 35 Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Wisconsin Green Party Primary Register of Deeds Vote for 1 <input type="radio"/> write-in: | Referendum continues at top of next column. | |
| Democratic Party Primary continues at top of next column. | Republican Party Primary continues at the top of next column | Constitution Party Primary continues at the top of the next column. | Wisconsin Green Party Primary begins at top of next column. | Initials of inspectors who remade ballot | |

Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

Aug. 7-11 - Lincoln County Fair at Merrill Festival Grounds
 Aug. 8 - Merrill MASH Blood Drive at VFW
 Aug. 8 - Eli Alger and the Faster Horses in the Grandstand at the Lincoln County Fair
 Aug. 9 - All American

Lumberjack Show in the Grandstand at the Lincoln County Fair
 Aug. 9-11 - Merrill Youth Hockey Association Youth Summer Classic Tournaments at the MARC
 Aug. 10 - Antique and traditional Tractor Pulls in the Grandstand at the

Lincoln County Fair
 Aug. 10 - AIS Snapshot Day at Prairie Trails Park
 Aug. 11 - Demolition Derby (incl. Power Wheels Demo Derby) in the Grandstand at the Lincoln County Fair
 Aug. 13 - Merrill Area United Way Concert For

A Cause - Leslie Blasing Concert
 Aug. 14 - Merrill City Band concert at Normal Park
 Aug. 15 - Gazebo Nights Concert: Andy Z and the Spankin' Monkees
 Aug. 15 - Bankers Square Lunchtime Concert Series -

David Michael Sargent
 Aug. 15-18 - Athens Fair
 Aug. 16 - Free Movie Night at Merrill Airport: Top Gun
 Aug. 17 - Benefit for Brandi at Rock Island Resort
 Aug. 17 - Northern Wisconsin Dirt Track Racing at Merrill Festival Grounds

Aug. 18 - Athens Parade
 Aug. 18 - Trinity Merrill Block Party at the MARC
 Aug. 18 - Bingo at VFW
 For more information, go to: merrillchamber.org/ events or contact the event sponsor.

Free Movie Night Under the Stars



Encanto on the big screen at Normal Park.

Joseph Frederick photo.



Saturday's Free Movie Event in Normal Park was the perfect place for families to settle in for a picnic and some family-friendly fun before the movie began. Joseph Frederick photo.



Face painting was a huge hit with the kids at Saturday's afternoon and evening Free Movie Event in Normal Park. Joseph Frederick photo.



Oh boy! Even in the heat, this little guy - or is he a tiger? - is having fun at free movie night! Joseph Frederick photo.

DATCP accepting applications for Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin grants through Sept. 9

FOR THE MERRILL FOTO NEWS
 MADISON, Wis. - The 2024 Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin (BLBW) grants are open to applicants until 11:59 p.m. on Sept. 9, 2024. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) will award a total of up to \$200,000 in BLBW grant funding in 2024.
 BLBW is a competitive grant program designed to strengthen Wisconsin's agriculture and food industries by helping farms and businesses more efficiently process, market, and distribute locally grown food products. BLBW grants provide consumers with access to more Wisconsin-grown food products, including organic vegetables, hops varieties, hazelnut products, locally grown grain, and other value-added products.
 Qualified applicants include individuals, groups, or businesses involved in Wisconsin production agriculture, food processing, food distribution, food warehousing, retail food establishments, or agricultural tourism operations. Funded projects must report on increased local food sales, created and retained jobs, and new investments.
 Projects can receive grant funds for up to three years. Grant requests must be between \$5,000 and \$50,000.

Eligible project expenses include compensation for personnel, consultant services, materials, and supplies. Projects must show a one-to-one match of cash or in-kind support accounting for at least 50% of the total project budget.
 DATCP will use a competitive review process to select the most qualified projects. Selected project contracts and work may begin in November 2024. Grant information and application materials are available at the DATCP website.
 DATCP staff will hold an informational webinar via Zoom from noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 6, to discuss creating a successful proposal, with time allotted for questions. Participants can register to attend the webinar and to receive a link to the recording.
 Since its inception in 2008, 584 applications have been submitted for BLBW grants, requesting a total of more than \$20.3 million in funding. Of those applications, 117 projects have been funded, totaling more than \$2.97 million. Previous grant recipients have generated more than \$14.49 million in new local food sales, created and retained more than 500 jobs, and benefited more than 5,400 producers and 5,289 markets.
 For more information, go to DATCPdadgrants@wisconsin.gov.

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 AUGUST

TUESDAY NIGHTS
 AUG. 13TH - CHICKEN CORDON BLEU
 AUG. 20TH - CHIMI'S
 Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

FRIDAY NIGHTS
 AUG. 9TH - LAKE PERCH
 AUG. 16TH - CATFISH
 Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM

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 • 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

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 COME AND SEE US AT THE BEER TENT AND CHECK OUT OUR DELICIOUS CHICKEN STAND!
 Conference Room & Hall Rental Available
 Open at 4pm Mon. & Thurs. • Open at Noon Fri
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 10 lbs. or more on U-Pick & receive 10% OFF

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 KIDS • \$5.00
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IT ENDS WITH US
 "PG13" (2HR 10MIN)
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 MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

HAROLD AND THE PURPLE CRAYON
 "PG" (1HR 32MIN)
 FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:00PM
 SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:00, 7:00 & 9:00PM
 SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:00 & 7:00PM
 MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE
 "R" (2HR 7MIN)
 FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM
 SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM
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 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

ST. THERESE AUGUST FEST

113 W. Kort Street
 Rothschild/Schofield, WI

SATURDAY - AUGUST 10TH
 4:00 PM - 11:30 PM

MUSIC by:
 DOUBLE BARREL 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm
 HYDE 7:30 pm - 11:30 pm

SUNDAY - AUGUST 11TH
 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

POLKA MASS at 10 am - Church

MUSIC by:
Polka Access Band and POLKA PAK
 Bands alternating on the Grounds
 From 11:00 am - 4:30 pm

Chicken, Ham, Sausage & Kraut Dinner
 Included mashed potatoes & gravy, dressing, vegetable, relishes, rolls & butter, desserts, coffee & milk (regular & chocolate)
11:00 am - 1:30 pm (School Cafeteria)
 Carry-out orders are available

BINGO • 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm
 (Air Conditioned Church Basement)

CASH & PACKER RAFFLE - Over \$4,000 in prizes. Get your tickets on the Picnic Grounds!
 Drawing: August 11, 2024 at 4:30 pm - 113 W. Kort St.

~ EVENTS FOR BOTH DAYS ~

Bucket Raffles • Cherry Tree • Beer Tent • Food Stand • Flea Market
 Bakery Spin, Ice Cream, Pierogies, & Frozen Polish Sausage Stand
 Children's Games

ABSOLUTELY NO CARRY-INS!!

COUNTY CLERK from page 3

Project.
I feel I have worked hard for all my constituents and now I need your help. I am asking for your vote on August 13 at the Partisan Primary. There is not a democratic candidate, so this election will determine who our Lincoln County Clerk will be for the next four years.
For more about me, please check out my Facebook page at "Marlowe for County Clerk."
Name: Steve Osness
Age: 46
Family: Wife - Kendra Osness, and two daughters - Payge and Raya Osness
Employment/position:



Steve Osness.
Work in Maintenance for the Merrill Area Public Schools
Past or present elected offices held, dates served: --
Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: --
WHY have you chosen to run for the office you seek and WHAT MAKES YOU qualified to fill the office you seek: I've

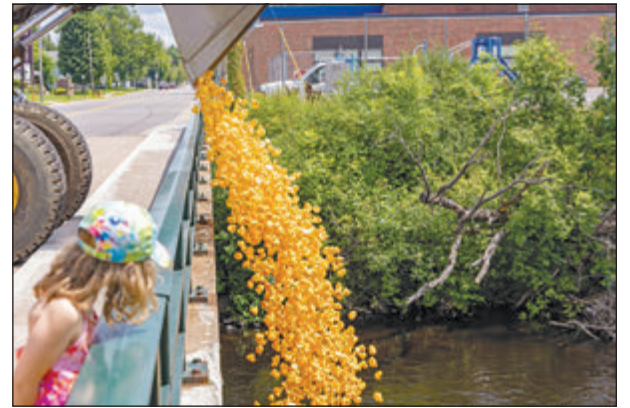
chosen to run for Lincoln County Clerk because I value transparent and efficient government. The Clerk's office is essential in maintaining public records, overseeing elections, and upholding the integrity of County operations. I care deeply about ensuring these processes are fair and transparent. If elected, I look forward to bringing a fresh perspective to the office.
My goal is to provide exceptional service while making information and services more accessible to all residents and those we partner with.

Currently, I sit on Merrill Park and Rec Committee. These experiences have given me a deep understanding of our community's needs and how to address them in a responsible and effective way.
Not only do I have experience on County and City positions, I hold a Business Management Marketing Degree which has helped in my past work experience as an Auditor for WPS Health insurance Customer service and, combined with working at Church Mutual Insurance as a National Customer Service Agent, will be a great combination for the Clerk's position.

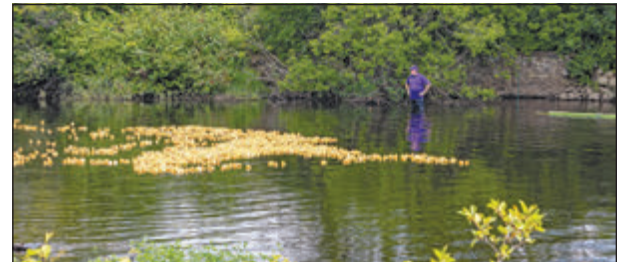
I bring a unique combination of experience and skills that make me well-suited for the role of Lincoln County Clerk. I have had the privilege of serving on the Lincoln County Board from April 2022 to April 2024 as well as on the Merrill City Council from April 2018 to April 2022. I was Chairperson of the City Sewer and Water Committee while on Common Council, and Co-Chair of Emergency Management Committee for Lincoln County.

During the summer months when I am not at work, I spend my time on the softball field coaching my youngest daughter's softball team or spending time with my family planning for our next sporting event.
All these past and current roles have afforded me the knowledge, motivation, and dedication I would bring, if elected as your Lincoln County Clerk.

Lions Club Duck Race



A little girl watches as hundreds of rubber ducks are dumped off the Third Street Bridge into the Prairie River as part of the 2024 annual Lions Club Duck Race fundraiser last Thursday, Aug. 1.



And the race is on ... as the ducks float downstream with the current.



Even the fierce heat and humidity couldn't stop a crowd from coming to see the Lion's Duck Race and to find out if they won! Joseph Frederick photos.

More photos online merrillfotonews.com

In Loving Memory of
Bernice "Hunsie" Perry
1 Year Ago
Heaven Needed Mom
So many things of Mom I Miss --
Her gentle hug and tender kiss.
I still can feel her warm embrace.
And picture yet her loving face.
A mothers' tasks are never done.
And Heaven must have needed one.
For angels came and took her hand
And led her to God's promised land.
She's surely kept quite busy there
While brushing little angels' hair.
And making sure they're dressed just right.
Not staying out too late at night.
Although there's sadness, this I know --
She's waiting there, her face aglow
I close my eyes and I can see --
Her arms still open Wide for me.
I miss you more than words can
say and love you even more Mom!!
I Love You
Toni

Pet of the Week
Meet Spencer! My goodness this boy is just the sweetest! He is a dashing boy with charm and good looks! Spencer is good with other cats and loves to get attention!
Visit all the adoptable animals at Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N Memorial Dr., Merrill. Hours: Mon-Sat 12-4 PM & Sun 12-2 PM. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, or visit us at www.furrypets.com.

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DEADLINE THURSDAY, AUGUST 29!!!

16th ANNUAL MERRILL CITYWIDE FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Clean Out the Basement Sweep Out the Garage!
To Be Held All Over the Merrill Area
Saturday, September 7th

- It's Simple to Run a Sale:
- Just place your own classified ad in the Sept. 5th Foto News.
 - We will pinpoint your address on our citywide map.
 - Starting at \$10.00 for a 5 line classified ad. (Approximately 25 words)
 - \$1.00 for each additional line of your ad.
- Make Some CASH!

Stop in to place your ad in the office and put your number on the map.
DEADLINES:
All ads must be placed before
3:00pm Thursday, August 29.
Don't wait, get your ad set up today and beat the RUSH!

Merrill Citywide Rummage Sale Map

Get Rid of That Clutter!

Garage Sale Kits Now Available at the Foto News! Only \$5 with the purchase of your garage sale ad.

Email your ad to: FotoNewsAds@mmclocal.com
Merrill Foto News
(715) 536-7121
OFFICE LOCATION:
2011 E. MAIN STREET, MERRILL

The Family of Corey Proulx
Kathy & Ed (Mom & Dad), Hanna Proulx Harris (Daughter) and Deann Roble (Fiance')
Wish to say to all who shared their sympathy and generosity with us at the Celebration of Life for Corey on Saturday, August 3, 2024, THANK YOU!
We also want to thank the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation National Honor Guard - The Honor Guard of Wisconsin - for their participation.
We also want to thank Amy Heimerl, Chaplain and LHS for the wonderful prayer ceremony, Tina Scott from Foto News and Channel 7 news for local news coverage, last but not least - all the people from the Eagles Club for making this celebration a success.
Thank You All & God Bless You All.

MERRILL GO-ROUND

Parents!
Just a reminder...
You Must Pre-register your child/children for the Merrill-Go-Round bus transportation for the 2024 - 2025 school year.

OFFICE HOURS:
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays
Call: 715.536.7112

CLASSIFIEDS

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)**

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

ICE & MUSKY FISHING EQUIPMENT SALE
FRI 8/9 & SAT 8/10, 8a-6p
3807 Powers St., Weston
Follow signs.

MERRILL: W5561 Joe Snow Rd. 7/25-8/8, 8A-6P. 2 Matching Twin Beds and Dresser, Prom/Bridesmaid Dresses, Books, Knitting Needles, Crafts, etc.

Moving Sale: N2980 Southend Road, Merrill. Aug. 8-13, 9-5. Chop Saw Stand, Jointer, Oak Cabinet, Kitchen Set, Stationery Bike, Rocking Chair, Artwork, End Tables, Glassware, Patio Set, Crossbow, Guns, Gun Safe, Misc.

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202



GARAGE SALE KITS NOW AVAILABLE

Let Garage Sale Kits 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

Merrill: N2224 Cty Rd K. Friday, 8/9-Sunday, 8/11, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. Household items, vanities, toilets, and more!

Wausau: 918 Ross Ave.
TH 8/15 thru SAT 8/17, 8a-4p.
Plus-size womens office wear, ladies bicycle, 6-person tent, bunk beds, books, counter top fridge, 30x48 outdoor utility cart, Amish goods, homemade crafts, household items & decor.

Estate Sales 7208

AUCTION for the RALPH KLATT ESTATE to be held at N6535 LAKE DRIVE, CECIL, on **SATURDAY, SEPT. 7th at 11:00AM** Shawano Lake home & more, Personal Property. www.nolansales.com for details, photos & maps. Conducted by: **NOLAN SALES LLC**, Marion, WI 1-800-472-0290 WI Auctioneers, Lic. #165 & #142 (WCAN)

Merrill: Friday, 8/9-Saturday, 8/10, 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. Estate Sale. Bikes, Yard & Hone tools, woodworking supplies, Chain saw, Callaway golf clubs, China, Cut glass goblets, Beer making Equip., Sewing machine, Fischer Price toys, Barbies and camper/house, home decor, kitchen supplies and dishes. Cash or Venmo only. Sorry no early sales. 1805 E 3rd Street

Computers and Electronics 7216

SWITCH & SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text & data. No contract & no hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more info, call 1-844-883-1477 (WCAN)

Furniture and Home Decor 7236

PLYMOUTH FURNITURE: QUEEN MATTRESSES FROM \$199 40 Styles on Display! All Sizes Avail. PlymouthFurnitureWI.com 2133 Eastern Ave Plymouth WI 920-892-6006 Open Daily (WCAN)

Lumber 7242

Deer Creek Logging: If you have timber that needs harvesting give us a try. Good prices paid for Basswood 7" and up. Can log with horses. Call 715-560-5840

Heating and Cooling 7246

For Sale: Air conditioners
7000 BTU: \$75.
10,000 BTU w/remote: \$125.
Will deliver. 715-610-1452

Lawn and Garden 7250

New & Used Lawn & Garden Equipment
Servicing all brands.
Full service small engine repair. Snowblowers, tillers, mowers, chainsaws, log splitters & more. North Central Power Equipment 4001 Dixie Ave, Wausau 1 mile north of Fleet Farm off Hwy K, east on Emery Dr. to South on Dixie 715-370-3002

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266

DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? GET RESULTS! Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 **Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-920-922-4864 www.pdsadnet.com**

Dogs 7272

AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS black/red shots good temp 715-250-1317 715-250-4426

AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS DOB June 9, \$400 OBO Very Nice, Shots Call 715-304-1097

AUSSIE PUPS Blue Eyed Merles & Tris Family Raised Super Friendly \$400-\$700 715-250-2793

BEAGLE PUPPIES Friendly, Ready to go, shots & wormed \$150 715-229-2364

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To Apply:

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

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mitchellmetalproducts.com/about/career-opportunities

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

Dogs 7272

BEAGLES (AKC)
2 males
ready for new homes on Aug. 1st
Shots, vet-checked.
715-432-2162

CAVALIER PUPS Red & White, shots, dewormed, sociable 2-M 2-F \$500 715-669-5928

CAVAPOO PUPPIES 1-M, 3-F Non-Shedding, Vet/shots wormed \$600 715-701-2066

Dogs 7272

Cavapoo Puppies, 1st Shots & dewormed, non-shedding, cuddly, cute & friendly, ready Now. \$500 CASH. Call or Text 715-223-5078.

COCKER SPANIEL PUPPIES
shots/wormed/dews/vet No Sun
Calls 715-257-1158

CORGI PUPS (Parents Reg.) Vet checked Shots/wormed Well socialized with kids \$600 Shawano 715-758-6282 (WCAN)

Dogs 7272

German Shepherd Puppies: Vet checked/vaccinated, dewormed, temperament tested, well socialized. Ready Aug. 10th. \$850.00. 715-764-0001

MINIATURE POODLE pups; (3) Cavapoo pups; (3) miniature Golden Retriever pups. Vaccinated & wormed. Written guarantee. Delivery part way. \$600-\$800. Call or text 715-850-1933.

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August 13 Partisan Primary Election

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024, is Wisconsin's Partisan Primary Election, and voters will head to the polls to pick their poison, so to speak. In other words, this is a Partisan Primary Election, so voters will need to choose up front whether they want to vote for candidates who are on the Democratic or Republican

ticket, but *not* candidates in more than one party. Technically, voters could opt to vote for candidates from either the Democratic, Republican, Constitution, Libertarian, or Wisconsin Green party; however, there are no candidates from the Constitution, Libertarian, or Wisconsin Green parties listed on the Aug. 13 ballot, so that becomes a non-issue. For the purpose of a

primary, you can't cross over and pick candidates from more than one party. And, since it is a Primary, the "primary" purpose of this election is to narrow the field of candidates to one on each party's ballot for the Nov. 5 election.

In many cases, candidates are running unopposed on their respective partisan tickets in this August election, meaning no other

candidate within their *own* party has stepped forward to challenge their run for office. Come November, a single party in each party will go head-to-head against their competitors from the other political party.

Follow the instructions
It's important to really follow the instructions when

you vote in a Partisan Primary Election. Up front, first question, you'll need to decide in which party you plan to cast your votes. Because you can only vote in one party's primary - if you want your votes to count.

After you pick your party for this election, you'll need to *only*

vote for candidates in that party on this ballot. Only votes cast in that party will be counted. Votes cast for any candidates in any other party will *not* be counted. If you don't choose a party up front and then you vote for candidates in more than one party, then none of your votes will be counted.

Voters to decide constitutional amendment questions

BY MIKE WARREN
MMC STAFF

WISCONSIN - Who should be tasked with spending Wisconsin's share of billions of federal dollars?

In Wisconsin's partisan Primary elections on Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024, voters will decide the fate of two referendum questions which - if approved - would change the state Constitution to

allow the legislature to have more authority over how money which comes from Washington, D.C. is doled out. Currently, that authority lies with the governor's office.

The two questions will appear statewide as follows:

Question 1: "Delegation of appropriation power. Shall section 35 (1) of article IV of the constitution be created to provide that the legislature may not

delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated?"

Question 2: "Allocation of federal moneys. Shall section 35 (2) of article IV of the constitution be created to prohibit the governor from allocating any federal moneys the governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule?"

"Effectively, the two questions - if ratified by the voters - would give the legislature authority by rule or by joint resolution

of the two houses (Senate and Assembly) to make a determination on approval of federal funding that comes in," Bob Lang, a spokesman for the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau, told MMC. "Right now, that is under the discretion of the Governor, and it was prominently used during the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act and ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding that came in during the pandemic by the Governor, when there were discretionary funds that he

could use, which he did.

"In some instances, federal monies currently go to a specific purpose identified in legislation, but the passage of these would basically - rather than having the Governor unilaterally determine the use of those funds - the legislature would be able to do so by joint resolution and by rule," Lang added.

The Wisconsin Governor's current authority dates back to the 1930s, when the office was given the power during the Great Depression.

"Whenever the United

States government shall make available funds for the education, the promotion of health, the relief of indigency, the promotion of agriculture, or for any other purpose other than the administration of the tribal or any individual funds of Wisconsin Indians, the Governor on behalf of the state is authorized to accept the funds so made available," that law reads.

If approved by voters on Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024, the constitutional changes would go into effect in Jan. 2025, prior to the start of the next legislative session.

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Open House
Monday, August 12th
4:30 - 6:00 pm

W2657 Sunrise Rd. Merrill
3 bedroom 1 bath home with large 2 car garage and shed. Home sits on 1 acre and there is an acre across the road that comes with the home.
\$169,000

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AUCTIONS

HANSEN AUCTION GROUP ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

479± Acres Offered in 2 Parcels, 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath Home & Outbuildings, Airstrip, Wooded Recreational Land Near Ladysmith - Rusk County, WI

Welcome to your private paradise! This exceptional 479-acre wooded recreational property offers endless opportunities for adventure and relaxation. The centerpiece is a spacious 4-bedroom, 3-bath, 2500-sq-ft home featuring a unique lookout tower, perfect for taking in the breathtaking views. Additional highlights include multiple outbuildings for storage and hobbies, an airstrip with a hangar for aviation enthusiasts, a private pond, and frontage on the Thornapple River. Whether you're seeking a serene retreat or an outdoor enthusiast's dream, this property has it all. Being offered in two parcels, bid on either one or a combination. Parcel 1 includes home, outbuildings, private pond on 52± acres. Parcel 2 includes hangar, airstrip and 427± acres of wooded recreational land with frontage on the Thornapple River. Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind opportunity!

N9197 Fedyn Rd, Ladysmith, WI 54848
Online Bidding Ends Tuesday, August 13th
In conjunction with Hansen Real Estate Group

For More Information Call: Nate Obitz: 651-249-4739
Hansen Auction Group: 715-607-4411, Bryce Hansen: 715-418-1030
Terms: 7% Buyers Fee. Bryce Hansen, registered WI auctioneer #225

BID NOW AT HANSENAUCTIONGROUP.COM

ONSITE AUCTION! SAT, AUG 17TH ONLY 11:00AM

ESTATE OF SHELDON VOIGT AUCTION
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A young rider leans in and gives his horse the lead as they sprint for the finish line.

Tina L. Scott photo.

4-H Horse Show held Saturday before Lincoln County Fair

TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

In prior years, the 4-H Horse Show has typically been held during the Lincoln County Fair. However, this year, it was held the Saturday prior to the beginning of fair week, on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024. Volunteers and the kids in the 4-H horse program put in a long day in the hot sun competing in events that started around 8:30 a.m. and didn't conclude until after 4 p.m.

Winners (Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion) of each competition/category are as follows.

Halter

Grand Champion - Madilyn Klump; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

Pony Showmanship

Grades 3-5: Reserve Grand Champion - Jaxon Savaske Simonsmeier

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madilyn Klump; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

Horse Showmanship

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Emma Savaske Simonsmeier; Reserve Grand Champion - Lily Schultz

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Jaedyn Goetsch; Reserve Grand Champion - Shelby Yates

Grades 9 and over: Reserve Grand Champion - Blake Wood

English Pleasure - Ponies

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madilyn Klump; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

English Pleasure - Horses

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley; Reserve Grand Champion - Ava Steinke

English Equitation - Ponies

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madilyn Klump; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

English Equitation - Horses

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Ava Steinke; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

Western Pleasure - Ponies

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madilyn Klump; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

Western Pleasure -

Horses

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Lily Schultz; Reserve Grand Champion - Mason Anderson

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley; Reserve Grand Champion - Ava Steinke

Western Horsemanship - Ponies

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madilyn Klump; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

Western Horsemanship - Horses

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Lily Schultz; Reserve Grand Champion - Mason Anderson

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley; Reserve Grand Champion - Ava Steinke

Walk Trot

Grades 3-5: Reserve Grand Champion - Charlotte Besaw

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Shelby Yates

Grades 9 and over: Reserve Grand Champion - Blake Wood

Trail Class

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Lily Schultz; Reserve Grand Champion - Charlotte Besaw

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley; Reserve Grand Champion - Madilyn Klump

Gymkhana - Plug

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Mason Anderson; Reserve Grand Champion - Emma Savaske Simonsmeier

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson; Reserve Grand Champion - Ava Steinke

Grades 9 and over: Grand Champion - Lexi Elsholtz; Reserve Grand Champion - Blake Wood

Gymkhana - Flag Race

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Emma Savaske Simonsmeier

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson; Reserve Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson

Grades 9 and over: Grand Champion - Blake Wood

Gymkhana - LT Special

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Lily Schultz; Reserve Grand Champion

See HORSE

SHOW page 12

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The Veritas Steel Adult Tournament hockey team.



The Sawmill Brewing Company adult hockey team.



The Coldwell Banker- Gail Abegglen adult hockey team competing at last weekend's tournament.

Merrill Youth Hockey Association Summer Classic Tournaments The Adult Tournament was held last weekend, Youth Summer Classic is this weekend

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill Youth Hockey Association kicked off their Summer Classic Tournaments this past weekend with their adult tournament. Adult players registering as individuals came from throughout Wisconsin, as well as Iowa and Michigan. They were then drafted by team captains to compete in a fun-filled event and

for a chance to host the Summer Classic Cup, Jason Rominski, President of the Merrill Youth Hockey Association said, "Each team is sponsored by a local business and gets to choose their team's Captain," he said. "This year's sponsors included The Sawmill Brewery, Burgener Contract Carriers, Coldwell Banker- Gail Abegglen, and Veritas Steel.

"Team Burgener Contract Carriers won

the Adult Tournament for the second year in a row!" Rominski said. "This year's team Captain was Merrill native Ben DeBroux. DeBroux drafted his team to include Jake Furrer (Wausau), Pat Burge (Merrill), Bryce Befort (Merrill), Eric Janke (Merrill), Jim Lawrence (Stevens Point), Ivan DeBroux (Merrill), Riley Rosengren (Merrill), Ryan Smrecek (Sioux City), Jason Hurd (Wausau), Trevor

Janke (Weston), and Parker Tomczyk (Mosinee)."

The adult event was a precursor to this weekend's Youth Summer Classic Tournament, to be held this coming weekend, Aug. 9-11, 2024 at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex. The youth will take the ice beginning Friday at 4 p.m.

"Beat the heat and come down to cheer on the kids and grab some delicious food!" Rominski said.



This year's winning team in the Adult Tournament is the Burgener Contract Carrier's team, led by team Captain and Merrill native Ben DeBroux. Other team members, in no particular order, included Jake Furrer (Wausau), Pat Burge (Merrill), Bryce Befort (Merrill), Eric Janke (Merrill), Jim Lawrence (Stevens Point), Ivan DeBroux (Merrill), Riley Rosengren (Merrill), Ryan Smrecek (Sioux City), Jason Hurd (Wausau), Trevor Janke (Weston), and Parker Tomczyk (Mosinee).

Photos courtesy of Merrill Youth Hockey Association.

HORSE SHOW from page 11

- Emma Savaske Simonsmeier
Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Ava Steinke; Reserve Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson
Grades 9 and over:



Lily Schultz and Tex round a barrel in the gymkhana barrel racing competition.
Tina L. Scott photo.

Grand Champion - Lexi Elsholtz; Reserve Grand Champion - Blake Wood

Gymkhana - Barrels
Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson; Reserve Grand Champion - Ava Steinke
Grades 9 and over: Grand Champion - Lexi Elsholtz

Gymkhana - Pole Bending
Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Emma Savaske Simonsmeier; Reserve Grand Champion - Lily Schultz
Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson; Reserve Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley

Grades 9 and over: Grand Champion - Blake Wood

Gymkhana - Keyhole
Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Mason Anderson; Reserve Grand Champion - Lily Schultz
Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Ava Steinke; Reserve Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson
Grades 9 and over: Grand Champion - Blake Wood

Pleasure Hi Point (Receiving belt buckles)
Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Lily Schultz; Reserve Grand Champion - Emma Savaske Simonsmeier

Grades 6-8: Grand Champion - Adalyn Schooley; Reserve Grand Champion - Ava Steinke

Grades 9 and over: Grand Champion - Blake Wood

Gymkhana Hi Point (Receiving belt buckles)

Grades 3-5: Grand Champion - Emma Savaske Simonsmeier; Reserve Grand Champion - Lily Schultz
Grades 6-8: Grand

Champion - Madisyn Anderson; Reserve Grand Champion - Madisyn Anderson

Grades 9 and over: Grand Champion - Blake Wood; Reserve Grand Champion - Lexi Elsholtz



A horse and rider grab the flag and round the first barrel at the beginning of the flag race.
Tina L. Scott photo.

2024 Merrill High School Fall Sports Schedule

Boys Football (Varsity, JV, and JV2)

Thurs. Aug. 15 Northland Pines (Varsity & JV) Away 3:00 pm

Girls Swim & Dive (Varsity and JV)

Practice begins Tuesday, August 13th!

Girls Tennis (Varsity and JV)

Practice begins Tuesday, August 13th!

Girls Volleyball (Varsity, JV, and JV2)

Practice begins Monday, August 19th!

Boys Soccer (Varsity and JV)

Practice begins Monday, August 19th!

Girls Cross Country (Varsity and JV)

Practice begins Monday, August 19th!

Boys Cross Country (Varsity and JV)

Practice begins Monday, August 19th!



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