

**UNLOCK YOUR CREATIVE POTENTIAL**

- Artisan-led Arts & Craft Group Workshops
- Private Parties - Beer and Wine Bar
- Beautiful Outdoor Patio

The Creative Spirit  
129 N. Prospect St  
www.thecreativespiritinmerrill.com

**NOW OPEN**  
Scan for details.

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

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
ECRWSS

**MMC**  
MULTIMEDIA CHANNELS  
LOCAL MEDIA BETTER RESULTS

# Proulx Celebration of Life



The Eagles Club was standing room only as family, friends, and co-workers came to celebrate the life of Corey Proulx on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024. Lincoln Hills Chaplain Amy Heimerl led the prayer service.



Both the Wisconsin Honor Guard and the (national) Correctional Peace Officers Foundation Honor Guard came to pay tribute to Corey, a fallen brother who gave his life in service as a correctional officer. **Tina L. Scott photos.**

# Senate Committee convenes hearing in response to Proulx's death at Lincoln Hills

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

The Wisconsin Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety convened an Informational Hearing on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024, at Merrill High School, which ran an uninterrupted seven and one-half hours long before all testimony was heard. The Senate Committee focused on a

single topic: Lincoln Hills School and the recent death of Corey Proulx, who died on June 24, 2024, when he was attacked by a youth inmate at the facility. Lincoln Hills School and Copper Lake School in Irma is currently Wisconsin's only Type 1 secure juvenile correctional facility for male and female youth in Department of Corrections (DOC) custody.

The Senate Committee, comprised of Senators Van H. Wanggaard (Chair, from Senate District 21, R-Racine), André Jacque (Vice Chair, from District 1, R-DePere) (appearing

remotely), Eric Wimberger (District 30, R-Green Bay), Jesse L. James (District 23, R-Altoona), Mary Felzkowski (District 12,

**See PROULX**  
page 5



Senator Van H. Wanggaard listens to testimony.



Senator Mary Felzkowski asks a pointed question.



The Wisconsin Department of Corrections team gives testimony before the Senate Committee. **Tina L. Scott photos.**

More photos online  
merrillfotonews.com

# Lincoln County Fair Fun!



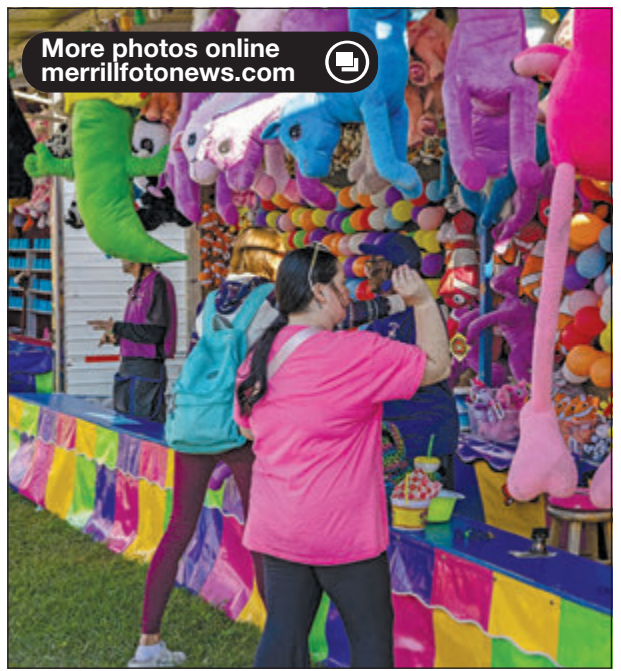
Friends Lily Schultz, Ever Smith, and Addie Peterson hanging out at the Lincoln County Fair. Addie loves the Merrill Fair - and fair rides! "She got the five-day wristband ahead of time at Incredible Bank," said her mom, Sarah Ambuhl. Addie, who is going into sixth grade at Prairie River Middle School this year, went on a total of 156 rides! "We had so much fun!" her mom said. **Sarah Ambuhl photo.**



A crescent moon hangs low in the sky over the Brickyard School one evening during the 2024 Lincoln County Fair. **Tina L. Scott photo.**



Showing and selling a pig at the market sale. **Tina L. Scott photo.**



Carnival games are always fun! **Joseph Frederick photo.**



Even though her pigs are going to market, June still likes to hug on her favorite while she has her. **Tina L. Scott photo.**

**Diamond PET FOODS**

50 LB	40 LB	40 LB
\$35.59	\$40.59	\$41.49

**RiverCountry CO-OP**

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

Merrill Country Store

**THORNE CONSTRUCTION LLC**

439683

**Your Dream Builders**

- Build & Remodel
- Complete Remodels
- Shop/Sheds
- Concrete/ICF Walls

715-432-5197  
Joseph Thorne

FULLY INSURED

**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

595086



**JENSEN & SON ASPHALT PAVING**  
Medford, WI 715-965-0577

**BLACKTOP PARKING LOTS & DRIVEWAYS**

**COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL**  
**Call - 715-965-0577**

**EnergyEdge**

58 reviews  
Read our Reviews and Experience the Difference

**Ask for Ben**

715-551-5945 • www.energyedge.info

**SPRAY FOAM • CELLULOSE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING**

**HSU Growing Supply**  
Landscaping & Gardening Supplies

Order Bulk by Phone  
Order Small Items Online or Pickup in Person

Soil • Compost • Mulch • Grass Seed • Fertilizer • Food Plot  
Ginseng Chemicals • Food Waste & Yard waste Recycling Pick up

715-675-5856 • HsuGrowingSupply.com  
237502 Co Rd W Wausau, WI 54403

**FRESH WI PRODUCE!**

**Fresh Pennsylvania Peaches**  
\$1.89 lb.  
\$3.50 ½ bu.

**Fresh Pennsylvania Nectarines**  
\$1.89 lb.

**Seedless Watermelon**  
\$5.99 each.

**DELI SPECIALS**

**Baby Swiss Cheese**  
\$4.99 lb.

**Artisan Carving Ham**  
\$4.99 lb.

**Cantaloupe**  
\$3.99 each.

**Cabbage**  
\$3 a head

**Sweet Onions**  
\$1.29 lb. \$1.15 ½ bu.

**Sweet Corn**  
\$8 a dz

**Fresh Honey Crisp and Gala Apples available by the weekend!**

SUMMER HOURS: WED. & SAT. 8AM-5PM. MON, TUES, THURS., & FRI. 8AM - 6PM

Located in Gleason. All prices subject to change. While supplies last.

**PRAIRIE PINES**  
715-873-4840

STOP IN AND ENJOY OUR FRIENDLY, AGREEABLE SERVICE!

# Town of Rock Falls Fire destroys home

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Early the morning of Thursday, Aug. 8, 2024, shortly after 8 a.m., the Merrill Fire Department (MFD) was dispatched to a report of a house fire at N3610 South End Rd. in the Town of Rock Falls, a release from the MFD said.

Lincoln County Sheriff's deputies and the MFD immediately responded, with the MFD dispatching Engine-61, Tender-65, Med-

62, and Car-60. Upon arrival, the departments discovered the home fully engulfed with visible flames, and fire crews immediately began attacking the fire and setting up a water tank.

A call for mutual aid went out through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). Tenders from the Town of Pine River Fire Department, Town of Russell Fire Department, Town of Corning Fire Department, and Town of Texas (Marathon



A house fire in the Town of Rock Falls completely destroyed the home. Joseph Frederick photo.

County) Fire Department all responded, along with a rescue truck from the Corning Fire Department and a chief officer from the Pine River Fire Department.

"Tomahawk EMS staged in Irma for ambulance coverage," the release said.

"Fire crews checked for hot spots with the assistance of Lincoln County Highway Department's pulp truck and were able to make final extinguishment."

The owner and sole occupant of the home was

home but outdoors when emergency crews arrived and was uninjured. No injuries were reported; however, the home was a complete loss and the cause of the fire had not yet been determined at the time of the MFD release.

The Salvation Army responded and assisted at the scene, and the American Red Cross and Merrill Firefighters' Charities are assisting the owner with shelter and basic needs, the release said.



A Tender from the Pine River Fire Department fills a water tank at the scene. Joseph Frederick photo.

## Superintendent's Corner . . .

# Strengthening partnerships with the Merrill community

SHANNON MURRAY  
SUPERINTENDENT



One of the key components of the mission of the Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) is creating and strengthening partnerships within our community. I am pleased that, over the years, we have been able to establish strong relationships with various aspects of the community through one of the most successful Youth Apprenticeship programs in Wisconsin, strong student organizations such as the FFA, great booster clubs and PTOs, community volunteerism with staff and students, the renewal of our Junior Achievement program, etc. Our schools and our community are certainly intertwined and rely heavily on each other for our continued success.

This year we are excited to strengthen our relationship with the community even further with the introduction of a Community Education program. Community Education, a concept that is growing throughout our state, allows community members the opportunity to take and/or teach low cost, high interest classes using our school facilities. These classes typically take place in the evenings and are a wonderful way for community members to learn about a variety of topics, socialize and network with new and old friends, and to take advantage of the outstanding facilities we have throughout our district. The potential course topics are limitless and will be based on interest from the community, but typically involve such things as cooking, fitness, arts and crafts, financial topics, technology, etc.

Because the instructors serve as independent contractors and charge a fee for the classes which is then shared with MAPS, there is the great potential for a valuable service to our community with little to no impact to our district budget.

This past winter, we pulled together a number of community members to discuss the idea of starting a Community Education program in Merrill, and the interest and support for the concept was very high. From that larger group, an advisory group of

local citizens was formed to learn all that we could about community education, to hear from other districts who have successful programs, to learn about logistics and the nuts and bolts of running such a program, etc. This community advisory group worked very hard throughout the spring and summer and recently presented the concept to our Board of Education who unanimously approved the idea for this school year.

You'll be hearing more about Merrill Community Education throughout the fall, and we expect to run our first evening classes starting this winter. In the meantime, if there is a particular topic you would like to learn more about, or something you would like to teach your fellow community members about, keep us in mind as we will be seeking your input soon.

We're very excited for what a strong Community Education program can mean to the Merrill area and look forward to continuing to build the relationships with our community that are so important to the success of both MAPS and the community we call home.

**Merrill Hymn Sing**

**Everyone Welcome!**

Friday, August 23, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for an hour of singing led by the Gleason Mennonite Church. We will also pause for a devotional and prayer. Refreshments and seating provided. Our singing is four part a cappella (without instruments).

**This is a Free, outdoor event!**

**Location: Normal Park (Gazebo)**  
600 North Center Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.  
Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

**Psalm 100:1, 2**

**CLOVERDALE COUNTRY STORE**

2 miles South of Curtiss on Hwy. E 715-223-4797

We accept: SNAP/EBT Cards

<b>Beef Patties</b> Uncooked - Frozen 5 lb. . . . . ONLY \$1.99 a lb	<b>Ham</b> Hickory Smoked Bone-In, Spiral Cut Frozen 9 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$1.29 a lb	<b>Miracle Whip</b> Original 30 oz. . . . . ONLY \$2.29
<b>Pecan Pie</b> 8 inch Pre-baked - Frozen 24 oz. . . . . ONLY \$2.99	<b>Orange Juice</b> No Pulp 52 oz. . . . . ONLY \$1.99	<b>White Sugar</b> Granulated 50 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$32.95

**OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30-6:30 • SATURDAY 8:30-4:00**

<b>Chicken Breast</b> Skinless, Boneless Frozen 5 lbs. . . . . \$1.99 a lb	<b>Mozzarella Cheese</b> Low Moisture 8 oz. . . . . ONLY 99¢	<b>Roast Beef</b> w/Gravy 10 oz. . . . . ONLY 89¢
<b>Ham</b> Boneless Extra Lean - Frozen 1.5 lb. . . . . ONLY \$1.29 a lb	<b>Cream Cheese</b> Original 4-8oz . . . . . ONLY \$5.99	<b>Celsius Kiwi Guava</b> 12-12 oz . . . . . ONLY \$8.99
<b>Chicken Tenders</b> Breaded - Uncooked Frozen 5 lb. . . . . ONLY \$1.99 a lb	<b>Cheddar Cheese</b> Shredded 5 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$9.99	<b>Cranberry Cocktail Juice</b> 32 oz. . . . . ONLY 99¢
<b>Chicken Fries</b> Breaded - Uncooked Frozen 5 lb. . . . . ONLY \$1.99 a lb	<b>Cheddar Cheese</b> 5 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$1.89	<b>Graham Crackers</b> Honey 19.2 oz. . . . . ONLY \$1.89
<b>Chicken Nuggets</b> Breaded - Uncooked Frozen 5 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$1.69 a lb	<b>American Cheese Sliced</b> 5 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$6.99	<b>Bacon</b> Center Cut - Frozen 17 oz. . . . . ONLY \$2.69
<b>Chicken Breast</b> Sliced - Oven Roasted Frozen 20 oz. . . . . ONLY \$1.99	<b>Monterey Jack Cheddar Cheese</b> Shredded 5 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$9.99	<b>Bacon</b> Ends/Pieces, Maple Frozen 2 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$1.89 a lb
<b>Hashbrowns</b> Shredded - Frozen 3 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$2.99	<b>Cheddar Cheese</b> Medium 8 oz. . . . . ONLY \$1.69	<b>Bison 85-15%</b> Ground - Frozen 16 oz. . . . . ONLY \$3.99
<b>Sausage Patties</b> Original - Fully Cooked Frozen 30 oz. . . . . ONLY \$2.99	<b>Mixed Vegetables</b> (Corn, Beans, Carrots) Frozen 16 oz. . . . . ONLY \$1.49	<b>Tator Tots</b> Browned - Frozen 32 oz. . . . . ONLY \$2.29
<b>Blueberries</b> All Natural - Frozen 24 oz. . . . . ONLY \$2.99	<b>Onion Rings</b> Breaded, Frozen 4 lbs. . . . . ONLY \$5.99	<b>Salami</b> Sliced - Cotto - Frozen 16 oz. . . . . ONLY \$1.29

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





A donor gives blood at the MASH event in Merrill.



Kurtis Schulz impersonating Hawkeye Pierce.



Transporting a patient during a reenactment.

Tina L. Scott photos.



Volunteers in gear help lend authenticity to the MASH event.

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

# MASH Blood Drive in Merrill

TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

The Community Blood Center (CBC), in partnership with VFW Post 1638, held their annual Merrill MASH Blood Drive event last Thursday, Aug. 8, 2024, from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Northwoods Veterans Post on Johnson St. in Merrill, Once again the Merrill community turned out to donate blood at the life-saving event, which is one of the largest annual blood drive events in the community.

Presenting donors received a t-shirt and lunch/refreshments, and this year the t-shirt was a special shirt created for the CBC's larger summer initiative: the Summer Tour for All Types (STAT).

The CBC of Appleton conducts blood drives in communities and serves an area from Northcentral Wisconsin and the Northwoods to the Fox Valley area and down to Chicago, and MASH events in these communities are a part of the STAT.

"The summer months are a particularly challenging time for blood collection, as people become busier and donating blood isn't always a

top priority," said Julie Van Groll, CBC Marketing and Public Relations Manager. "In addition, recreational traumas and injuries can lead to an increased need for blood."

"Every summer, we are faced with urgent needs for blood and are working hard to find new ways to attract donors and encourage those eligible to donate," said John Hagins, CBC President and Chief Executive Officer. "The reality is that one in seven people entering a hospital will need blood.

See MASH page 5

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

### Area students graduate from UW-Stout

The following area students graduated on May 4, 2024, from University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie, Wis. The university graduated 1,037 students, with 828 undergraduate and 209 Graduate School students this spring.

- Jobe Miller, Athens, BS Mechanical Engineering
- Ananda Van Wie, Merrill, BFA Industrial Design

### Area students graduate from UW-Whitewater

More than 1,500 students graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater at spring commencement, held May 11, 2024, at Kachel Fieldhouse in the Williams Center including the following students from our area:

- Kelli Morgan, Merrill, Social Work - MSW
- Nicole Valera, Merrill, Social Work - BS, graduated Cum Laude

### Area students receive degrees from UW-River Falls

Students from our area were among 676 students receiving degrees from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls following fall commencement in Dec. 2023. Bachelor's degrees were awarded to 603 undergraduates, while 73 students received graduate degrees.

At graduation, four types of merit awards are recognized:

**Senior Merit** - Graduating seniors who have maintained a 3.500 grade point average (GPA) for their last 60 credits at UWRF.

**Cum Laude** - Graduating seniors with a minimum cumulative 3.700 GPA for their entire college career at all institutions.

**Magna Cum Laude** - Graduating seniors with a minimum cumulative 3.800 GPA for their entire college career at all institutions.

**Summa Cum Laude** - Graduating seniors with a minimum cumulative 3.900 GPA for their entire college career at all institutions.

Graduates from our area

included:

- Evan Neigum, Athens, Bachelor of Science, Animal Science, Cum Laude
- Maleah Redmann, Athens, Bachelor of Science, Animal Science, Summa Cum Laude
- Madison Gerbig, Gleason, Bachelor of Science, Dairy Science, Summa Cum Laude

### Area students named to Dean's List at UW-Milwaukee

The following area students were named to the Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for the Spring 2024 semester.

- Abraham Miller, Athens, Architecture Undergraduate
- Daniel Zorowski, Athens, Biomed Sci & HCA Undergraduate
- Fletcher Ellenbecker, Merrill, Eng & Comp Sci Undergrad
- Benjamin Freyer, Merrill, School of the Arts Undergrad
- Danielle Korman, Merrill, Social Welfare Undergraduate
- Adam Polak, Merrill, Eng & Comp Sci Undergrad

### Saara named to Iowa State University spring 2024 Dean's List

Jack Saari of Merrill, Mechanical Engineering, was recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the spring semester 2024 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must earn a GPA of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

### Local students named to Dean's List at UW-Superior

The following local area students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-Superior for academic achievement during the Spring 2024 semester:

- Destiney Wampole, Athens
- Allie Maschke, Merrill
- Elizabeth Reinhardt, Merrill
- Sarah Schlueter, Merrill

To be named to the Dean's List, students must have completed 12 degree-seeking semester credits and achieved at least a 3.50 GPA (on a 4.0 scale).

**Pet of the Week**



**Coco** is such a sweet and goofy girl! She is just over 5 years old and ready to find someone to go on adventures with! She loves to play in the water and to play ball! She is a little picky about other dogs but seems to do better with males vs other female dogs. **Coco** is at the shelter waiting to find her forever home!

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

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

PATTI KOPETZKY SKIDMORE'S FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21ST**

**JOIN US!**

Pine Ridge Family Restaurant  
1302 N. Center Ave  
Merrill, WI

PINE RIDGE FAMILY RESTAURANT WILL DONATE 10% OF PROCEEDS TO PATTI'S FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

**Freudenthal Mfg.**



- One piece Polyethylene construction
- Available in two sizes 68" or 78" diameter
- 5 or 6 window option
- 9" x 26" smoked glass oval windows
- Window in door • Roof vent option
- Windows & door frame with weather stripping
- Designed for gun or bow
- 2 1/2" bottom flange for ground staking
- Easily mounted to your raised platform
- Costs up to 30% less than many other brands

**FROM \$989 to \$1149** Hunting Blinds

**W6322 CTH-O Medford, WI 54451 | 1-800-688-0104**

What's Happening at **St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store**

1004 E. Main Street, Merrill, WI

Hours: Monday thru Saturday 9AM to 5PM

**Nifty Thrifty Sale**  
Friday, August 23, 2024

**SALE 50% OFF**

**OF EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!**  
(Sale and non-sale items all off 50%)

SIGN UP FOR OUR MONTHLY RAFFLES AFTER YOUR PURCHASE!

**AUGUST RAFFLE: WIN A FAMILY PACK FROM HUGO'S PIZZA!**

**AND REMEMBER...THRIFTING IS FUN!!!**

**PLAN NOW FOR THE LABOR DAY PARADE!**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> AT 10AM**



To enter the Merrill Labor Day Parade please go to [www.ci.merrill.wi.us/parks](http://www.ci.merrill.wi.us/parks) and fill out your entry form or fill out the following information and mail to:

**Merrill Parks & Recreation,**  
1100 Marc Drive, Merrill, WI 54452

Entry Deadline is Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>

Group \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Having Music? \_\_\_\_\_

Parade line-up will be published in the August 29<sup>th</sup> issue of the Foto News. We will be lining up in the Merrill Manufacturing Parking Lot on State Street.

**MERRILL PARK & REC DEPT.**

**SMITH CENTER**  
1100 Marc Drive, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452

Monday-Friday 7:30am Until 4:00pm • Phone 715-536-7313

Find us on Facebook

**MERRILL Foto News**

**Patrick J. Wood**  
Publisher  
publisher@mmlocal.com

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

**Heidi Schult**  
Front Office Manager/CSR

**Heidi Griebel**  
Customer Service Representative

**Tim Schreiber**  
General Manager  
tschreiber@mmlocal.com

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

**Rick Argall**  
Circulation Manager

**Niki Piechota**  
Graphic Designer

**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.

THE FOTO NEWS (ISSN 0191-8958) is published weekly by Multi Media Channels LLC, N2919 County Road QD, 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 AUDIT BY **CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL**



# OBITUARIES



**Cindy Luedtke**, 66 of Merrill, Wisconsin died unexpectedly on August 4, 2024, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Cindy was born in Merrill on August 29, 1957, to the late Eugene and Shirley (Schmidt) Luedtke. She attended Wausau West High School and graduated with the class of 1975. After graduation, Cindy started a remarkable lifelong 47-year career with Ino Foods, now known as Lactalis American Group where she worked as a cheese packager.

Cindy greatly enjoyed bowling and spending time with cherished friends. Most of all, she adored her nieces and nephews. When they started having children, she enjoyed attending her great nieces' and great nephews' events and being their number one fan. She never missed their Christmas programs that were always her favorite.

As a member of Faith Lutheran Church, Cindy looked forward to decorating the church over the last few years for different seasons.

Survivors include her sisters, Judy Schlueter and Vickie (Tim) Bartelt; and brothers, Russell Luedtke and Brian (Marilyn) Luedtke all of Merrill. She is further survived by her God children, Nicole (Alonte) Denning of Houston, TX, Heather (Nate) Burtman of Merrill, and Jessica (Damian) Eisenhauer of Amherst, WI. Also surviving are her nieces and nephews, Amy Henderson of Dallas, TX, Lucas (Christy) Bartelt of Stevens Point, WI, Sean Luedtke of Vernon Hills, IL, Breann (James) Nelson of Minneapolis, MN, and Tania (Justin) Switlick of Marathon, WI; and her great nieces and great nephews, Presleigh, Ethan, and Calvin Hansen, Eli and Genevieve Burtman, Oliver and Wesley Bartelt, Luke and Jake Switlick, and Zaniyah and Zyaire Nelson

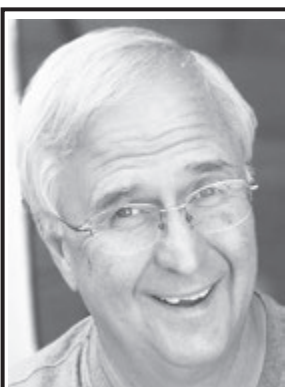
She is preceded in death by her parents, Eugene and Shirley Luedtke; her brother, Jody Luedtke; and her brother-in-law, James Schlueter.

The Funeral Service for Cindy will be held at 6:00 PM, Thursday, August 8, 2024, at Faith Lutheran Church, Village of Maine. Rev. Donald Love will officiate. The burial will take place on Friday at Maple Grove Cemetery, Village of Maine. The family will receive friends beginning at 4:00 P.M. Thursday at the church. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)

**Agnes Ann Yunek, a.k.a "Butz"**, age 99, passed away on Tuesday, July 30, 2024. She was born on April 23, 1925, to the late Herman and Veronica (Lang) Fritsche in Dorchester, WI.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Agnes Took place on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Francis Catholic Church in Merrill, WI. Visitation was on Thursday, August 8, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at Waid Funeral Home in Merrill, WI.



**Peter J. Lokemoen**, 76, of Merrill, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, August 4, 2024, in Merrill.

Pete was born on August 26, 1947, in Merrill to the late Olaf "Ole" Lokemoen, and Adeline A. Plautz Lokemoen. On April 24, 1971, he married Karla Kobs; she survives.

He was employed by the city of Merrill as an engineer for over 36 years; his attention to detail can be found in projects throughout the city and his legacy will be a part of Merrill's infrastructure for years to come. Much like his father and brothers, Pete was proud of his time playing in the Merrill City Band, having reached the milestone of 52 years when he retired.

He enjoyed biking, racquetball, and swimming with his grandson. Pete also served on the board of directors of Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery, currently as vice-president. He previously had been elected to the Merrill City Council and more recently was appointed to the City Plan Commission.

Survivors include his wife Karla, his sons Andy (Lindsay) of Stevens Point and Matthew (Amanda) of Moab, UT, his grandchildren, Olen and Emmy, his brothers Jim (Kris) Lokemoen and Dick (Becky) Lokemoen both of Merrill, his niece Jennifer Peterson and his nephew Brad Normand. He is further survived by his brothers in law, Paul (Connie) Kobs of Iola and Walt (Roxy) Kobs of Stevens Point.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Private family graveside services were held on Friday, August 9, 2024, at Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery; the Rev. Justin Smoot of Our Saviours Lutheran Church officiated, burial followed the service.

The Taylor Stine Funeral Home is serving the family, online condolences can be made at [www.taylorstinefuneral.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneral.com)



**Daniel "Bear" Carpentier**, 63, Town of Merrill, went to a clear-cut pine job in the sky on Monday, August 5, 2024.

He was born on January 9, 1961, to Josephine (Rubbino) Carpentier and the late Marvin Carpentier. On August 10, 1984, he married Lynette Zocher in the town of Berlin.

For 47 years Dan was a logger, doing the job he loved. He enjoyed many different hobbies that included hunting fox, coon, bear with his plott hounds along with deer hunting and fishing with his children and grandchildren. Dan loved spending time with family whether it was just enjoying time together or playing cards and telling tall tales around the kitchen table. He enjoyed listening to music by the good ole boys; Willie, Waylon, Johnny, Hank and David Allen Coe. He also enjoyed making and smoking homemade venison sausage and most recently buckboard bacon. If you were to ask him, his wife enjoyed dragging him to the casino when really, we all knew it was his idea. There was never a dull moment with Dan with his quick wit and not knowing what was going to come out of his mouth. The morning crew at the truck stop never knew what they were in for.

He is survived by his loving wife, Lynette Carpentier. His beloved children, Joseph (Stephanie) Carpentier, Joshua (Jenna Hass) Carpentier, Jenah (CJ) Rickman. His three handsome grandsons that he adored, Tanner, Mason and Maxxis and two beautiful granddaughters, Lexie and Libby. He was also survived by his mother, Josephine (Rubbino) Carpentier. His siblings, Cindy (Artie) Beach, Nancy (Les) Weber, Debbie Carpentier, Kathy (Steve) McDonough and Mike (Jeanette) Carpentier. His mother-in-law, Shirley A. Zocher, brother-in-law, Dennis Zocher and sisters-in-law, Dawn (Victor) Soczka and Gail (Todd) Racino. He also had many nieces and nephews who loved their Uncle Dan in their own special way.

Dan was preceded in death by his father Marvin Carpentier, his maternal and paternal grandparents, his Aunt Gina Rubbino, brothers-in-law Murray (Moe) Eykamp, Craig Woller and sister-in-law Shirley M. Zocher.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers please drink a shot of Crown Royal and enjoy nature. Fondly missed, never forgotten and in our hearts forever.

Dan's family would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Paramedics of the Merrill Fire Department, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, the staff at the Aspirus Merrill Hospital, the Air Medical Team from Life Link III and the Doctors and Nursing staff from St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay for the love and respect shown to Dan and his family during his brief stay.

Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)

[www.merrillfotonews.com](http://www.merrillfotonews.com)

**30 to 60 Day Turnaround On All In Stock Monuments**  
*(100 plus monuments in stock)*



**Merrill Monument**  
N2182 CTH K  
Merrill, WI 54452  
715-536-6654

- Custom Etching
- Pre-Need Monuments
- Final Dates & Inscriptions
- Custom Cemetery Work

EMAIL US: [merrillmonument@gmail.com](mailto:merrillmonument@gmail.com)  
STORE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 9am - Noon & 1pm - 4pm




**WAID FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES**  
301 Eagle Drive, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452  
Phone (715) 536-4646 • [www.WaidFuneral.com](http://www.WaidFuneral.com)  
Email: [info@waidfuneral.com](mailto:info@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](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)

Remember, and be remembered with a granite memorial from



**TOMAHAWK MONUMENT CO.**

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](http://www.tomahawkmonument.com)  
Email us at: [contactus@tomahawkmonument.com](mailto:contactus@tomahawkmonument.com)



**Mid-Wisconsin Cremation Society**

Direct Cremation  
Pre-Arrange Available **\$980.00** Complete Locally Owned and Operated

948 Grand Ave. Schofield  
715-359-6488  
[HonorOne.com](http://HonorOne.com)



**James W. Engel**, age 87, of Merrill, passed away on Friday, August 9, 2024 at Woodland Court Elder Services in Merrill, and while under the care of Compasses Hospice. He was born on January 29, 1937 to the late Otto and Elvira (Krause) Engel in Merrill. James met the love of his life, Jacqueline Belke, and the two were united in marriage in Merrill. Sadly, she preceded him in death on September 18, 2020.

James was a logger at heart, a job that he loved, but he also had worked in road construction during the summer months; he had an incredible work ethic. He and Jackie enjoyed taking road trips. They especially enjoyed traveling to Hawaii and Alaska. James also looked forward to his fishing trips to Canada with his family. He was a true outdoorsman, and was an avid hunter. When he wasn't outdoors, James liked to gamble at the casinos. He was a generous, understanding and strong-willed man that will be sadly missed.

James is survived by his daughters: Jamie Kalvestran, Jody (Gary Sr.) Granger and Tracy (Fred) Krueger, grandchildren: Linsey (Aaron) Remig, Daniel (Alyssa) Kalvestran, Jeremy Heckendorf, Rod (Jamie) Gennrich and Amber (Corey) Chonsky, great grandchildren: Oliver, Millie & Lainey Kalvestran, Ivy & Etta Gennrich and Caylah, Charlotte & Lillian Chonsky, step-grandchildren: Gary Granger Jr., Germaine Eisel, Gwen Berg, GERALYN Wilcosz and Garrick Granger and sisters: Nancy (Lee) Gille and Darcy Taylor. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife: Jackie Engel and great granddaughter: Makena Erickson.

Per James' request, no formal services will be held at this time.

The family would like to extend a sincere thank you to the staff at Woodland Court and Compasses Hospice for their excellent care.

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](http://www.waidfuneral.com).

## In Memoriams

In Loving Memory of  
**JOHN DOE**  
Apr. 9, 1954-Aug. 6, 2014



*It's hard to believe it's been 2 years already since you left us. We think of you every day.*

Love & Miss You  
*Jane, Sue & Bob*

*We can assist you in finding a heartfelt way to honor and remember your loved one.*

**Stop or call our office to place your ad.**



**Merrill Foto News**  
2011 E. Main St., Merrill  
715-536-7121

## Did you know?

The Merrill Foto News website contains even more stories and photos that don't fit into our print edition.

[www.merrillfotonews.com](http://www.merrillfotonews.com)





**Valencia (Val) Barbara Jane Grunenwald**, passed away peacefully at her home in Merrill, WI on August 9th surrounded by her loving family. Val was the cherished daughter of the late Leslie and Clara Smith, also from Merrill. Born March 29, 1928, at her parent's home on Naugart Drive in the Town of Maine, she spent 96 years as part of the Merrill community.

Val met the love of her life, Floyd Grunenwald, at a popcorn wagon in downtown Merrill. Following Floyd's return from World War II, they were married on June 8, 1946, with the wedding reception held at Plautz's Pavilion. Floyd, who preceded her in death in 1987, was her steadfast partner in life and business. In 1960 they purchased the Beacon Bar and Restaurant, where she enjoyed serving her famous flavor crisp pressure fried chicken and homemade stuffing. Val was a proud member of the Tavern League of Wisconsin for 65 years, serving as Treasurer in the 1960's. In 2023, Val was inducted with Mike into the Wisconsin Old Fashioned Hall of Fame. Through the years, her warmth and hospitality turned many customers into lifelong friends.

She is survived by her sons, Bob (Janet) and Mike. Mike continues to honor his parents' legacy by operating the Beacon Bar and Restaurant.

She is also survived by her sister, Verdelma Guest -Park Forest, IL; her brother, Leslie (Sherri) Smith -Marshfield, WI; and her grandsons: Chris (Sarah) -Merrill, WI, Nick (Caroline) -Columbia, MO, Alex (Moriah) -West Salem, WI, and Ty (Tylar) -Raleigh, NC. Val was also blessed with eight great-grandchildren who brought immense joy to her life: Erik, Emily, Ella, Cade, Cora, Calvin, Layla, and London.

She is further survived by in-laws Duane (Carol) Grunenwald, Al Schmolze, Phyllis (Clarence) Kosteci, and Laverne Grunenwald.

Val was preceded in death by her husband, Floyd Grunenwald, and her brother, Stan Smith and his wife Doris, and by-in-laws Edward (Ruth) Grunenwald, Lavine (Lorenz) Krause, Douglas (Lorraine) Grunenwald, Lloyd (Gladys) Grunenwald, Wilbur Grunenwald, Jeanette Schmolze, Eugene (Mabel) Grunenwald, Vilas Steidinger, Marilyn Grunenwald, Jack Guest, and Barbara Grunenwald.

Known for her vibrant spirit, Val had a deep passion for flower and vegetable gardening and was an enthusiastic supporter of Merrill Bluejay sports, the Milwaukee Brewers, and the Green Bay Packers. Throughout the years she was proud to sponsor numerous local teams. Val's family was her greatest joy, and she delighted in following her grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's sporting events.

Visitation was held Wednesday August 14, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Taylor & Stine Funeral Home. A celebration of Val's life will be held on August 15, 2024, at Trinity Lutheran Church of Merrill, with visitation beginning at 9:30 a.m. and the service at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Scott Gustafson will officiate. Internment will take place at Maple Grove Cemetery following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, the Lincoln County Humane Society, or the Merrill Historical Society.

Val's memory will forever live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefunerlahome.com](http://www.taylorstinefunerlahome.com)

**MASH**  
*from page 3*

That could be an expected or routine blood need or an unexpected trauma or emergency situation. Whatever the reason, we must ensure that blood is available. Patients are relying on the generosity of local blood donors. Merrill MASH is a great opportunity to help."

MASH events help add a fun and engaging way to attract donors to participate to help the CBC maintain a reliable supply of all blood types.

**Local volunteers help set the scene**

In Merrill, a group of local volunteers with their own military memorabilia help set the scene for the annual MASH event, setting up staging outside at the Northwoods Veterans Post and dressing in Army attire and/or Hawaiian print shirts (depending on what time you happen to see them there). The young men donate their time and use of their props to add a little more fun and authenticity to the MASH theme of the event for the entire day. Two of this year's re-enactment volunteers - Rick Smith and Kurtis Schulz - have been doing so for years, and this year two others joined them for the day. Bradley

Stine (Schulz's nephew) and Chase Frankel. The four brought out military tents, sand bags, ammo boxes, non-operational weapons, and other gear - even a stretcher and a military ambulance - to set up a scene reminiscent of the MASH 4077 unit as seen in the 1970 movie and subsequent television series that ran from 1972-1983. Smith and Schulz said they really enjoy the annual event and doing reenactment type activities. Smith has been staging for the MASH event for the last 11 years, and Schulz has been involved for the last 8.

**PROULX** *from page 1*

R-Tomahawk), Kelda Roys (District 26, D-Madison), and LaTonya Johnson (District 6, D-Milwaukee), asked to hear from Wisconsin DOC Secretary Jared Hoy, DOC administration officials, current and former DOC staff who work at or had worked at Lincoln Hills School and/or Copper Lake School, and Proulx's affected family members.

For those interested, the entire hearing was videotaped and can be viewed at: [wiseye.org/2024/08/06/senate-committee-on-judiciary-and-public-safety-60/](http://wiseye.org/2024/08/06/senate-committee-on-judiciary-and-public-safety-60/). You will need to set up a free user account to access the video.

DOC Secretary Hoy and the DOC/Lincoln Hills administration prepared presentation/testimony and subsequent questions from the Senate Committee lasted more than three and a half hours. Members of the Senate Committee were pointed in questioning the DOC team. At times, the DOC team declined to answer some specific questions, citing the active and ongoing investigation into Proulx's death and their own internal investigation.

Hoy's team credited changes in how the Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake facilities have operated since the implementation of various aspects of a court-ordered consent decree that resulted from a 2017 lawsuit and investigation for creating a facility that has "maintained the safety of the youth detained as well as staff and administrators" and said, "We measure the effectiveness of what we are doing ... by looking at things such as workplace injuries, restraint use, both physical and mechanical, and the overall safety of both staff and youth in which we provide services. From fiscal year '22 to fiscal year '23, we have seen a reduction of 1.4 million in worker compensation claims."

Another nearly four hours of testimony followed from Proulx's family, co-workers, and past and current employees at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake.

Some of the testimony given by current and past employees working on the front lines at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake differed from the information provided by the DOC Team. Current employees who

**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

**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)

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

work at Lincoln Hills School openly shared that they were coming forward to talk about the real conditions at the juvenile correctional facility even though they feared possible retaliation.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**Legals** **7700**

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0029319-11-0  
Permittee: Town of Russell Sanitary District #1, N5333 Rice Lane, Gleason, WI, 54435

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Town of Russell Sanitary District #1, Town Hall Road, Gleason, Wisconsin  
Receiving Water And Location: Unnamed effluent ditch to the North Branch Prairie River within the Prairie River Watershed in the Upper Wisconsin River Basin in Lincoln County  
Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Town of Russell owns and operates a domestic wastewater treatment system. The plant designed to treat 48,000 gallons per day currently treats an average of 18,000 gallons per day (2019-2023 data). Wastewater (influent) generated from each home enters individual septic tanks, then flows into a public septic tank. The wastewater then travels to a dosing tank where water is mixed with treated wastewater (effluent). It is evenly distributed over one of four filter beds. Water from the filters is sent back to the dosing tank and filtered again. After re-filtration the effluent is disinfected seasonally (May-September) using an ultraviolet system and discharged to an unnamed drainage ditch tributary to the North Branch of the Prairie River in Lincoln County. The solids from the septic tank are pumped regularly to prevent the discharge of accumulated solids to the sand filters. These solids are considered septage and are regulated under NR 113, Wisconsin Administrative Code, for septage disposal.

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be September 30, 2029. Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Changes from the previous permit include: [1] Effluent fecal coliform monitoring and limits have been replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits effective at the end of a schedule. [2] An effluent Phosphorus limit based on the Wisconsin River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) will be required at the end of the Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus schedule. [3] Annual effluent Total Nitrogen (TKN, N02+N03 and Total N) monitoring in rotating quarters throughout the permit term was added to the proposed permit.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 635-4131, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov  
Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Amy Garbe, DNR, 141 NW Barstow St, Room 180,

**Legals** **7700**

Waukesha, WI 53188, (608) 716-9968, Amy.Garbe@wisconsin.gov  
Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above-named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (715) 635-4131 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/Public>

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Merrill Foto News, 2011 E. Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, August 15, 2024

WNAXLP

**TOWN OF PINE RIVER, LINCOLN COUNTY**  
**FIRE ENGINE BID REQUEST**

**The Town of Pine River is selling a 1984 Seagrave Fire Engine Pumper. Minimum bid \$4,500; sold as-is.**

For more information contact Tony at 715-409-3252. Sealed bids must be received by start of town board meeting September 3, 2024 at 7 PM and can be delivered in person or mailed as: Fire Engine Bid, C/O Dave Breunig, N1647 Deer Run Ave., Merrill WI 54452. The Town of Pine River reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Please Recycle Amanda Herdt, Clerk  
Published August 15 & 22, 2024 WNAXLP

**TOWN OF PINE RIVER, LINCOLN COUNTY**  
**DUMP TRUCK BID REQUEST**

**The Town of Pine River is selling a 2010 International Tandem Dump Truck with plow and wing; 113,000 miles. Minimum bid \$45,000.**

For more information contact Greg at 715-218-1451. Sealed bids must be received by start of town board meeting September 3, 2024 at 7 PM and can be delivered in person or mailed as: Dump Truck Bid, C/O Dave Breunig, N1647 Deer Run Ave., Merrill WI 54452. The Town of Pine River reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Please Recycle Amanda Herdt, Clerk  
Published August 15 & 22, 2024 WNAXLP

**BIDS WANTED**  
**TOWN OF SCOTT**

The Town of Scott, Lincoln County, is accepting bids for crushing a minimum of 20,000 tons of ¾" road base in the Town of Scott pit. Project completion expected no later than December 31, 2024.

Sealed bids will be accepted until 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Bids will be opened and discussed at the town meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The town board reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Questions can be directed to Chairman Ron Lemmer (715) 212-9676. Please mail sealed bids marked CRUSHING BID to P.O. Box 857, Merrill, WI 54452.

Published August 15, 2024 WNAXLP

**PUBLISHER'S LETTER**

**Blueprint For The End Of Days**

Dear Reader,

How do you want to exit this world and transition to the next?

There are two fundamental ways to approach the end of life, aside from extraordinary circumstances.

The first way is to grow old and do the ordinary things necessary to get along. You die with your hearing intact. You can still see clearly. Your voice remains strong. You have most, if not all, of your teeth, and your brain functions well enough to know what day it is. You can walk and manage basic needs independently. Ultimately, you pass away peacefully in your sleep.

The second path is to live life to the fullest, pushing your limits every day. Your vision diminishes, your voice weakens,



and your hearing fades. You have only a few teeth left, and your body is marked with wrinkles and scars. You fought hard for good causes and never shied away from a challenge. You practically crawl to your grave, having given everything you had. You face the afterlife unafraid, with the remnants of your soul.

So, which path will you choose—the easy way, with its stately graces and comforts, or the challenging route, overcoming obstacles and conflicts, leaving the world a better place behind you?

It's your call.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
Publisher

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





# Public Service Announcements

## **MERRILL-GO-ROUND PARENTS – IMPORTANT REMINDERS!**

Transportation services are provided for intra-city school children: The bus operators and their routes run on schedule. There are many unfortunate variables that interject into each route that can cause unsatisfactory service. We all need to understand how important efficiency is. All scheduled rides must be pre-paid in advance. All same day rides must be paid when boarding the bus, there is no charging of bus fare. Passengers without their fare will be denied.

**1.) CHILDREN MUST BE READY & WAITING FOR THE BUS** - The bus should not have to wait for the child! If there are 5 children that hold up the bus for 2 minutes, that bus will be 10 minutes late for school. We have seven "School Tripper" routes each day, transporting over 250 children. Please help by doing your part to keep schedules running on time.

**2.) NO SHOWS** - If your child is a scheduled pick-up and is ill, or will not be taking the Merrill-Go-Round for any reason, you must call the office with your cancellation. This is our greatest time loss! We cannot release the bus from an address until the child is accounted for. Confirmation of a cancellation takes as long as 6 minutes. Unfortunately, we average five "no shows" each day. This accumulates hours of lost time each week. We realize it's not always easy to get through on the phone, but please keep trying, your call will be answered in the order which we receive it. Advance notices are greatly appreciated. Transit is Extension 246.

**3.) POOR WEATHER CONDITIONS** - This is the one element we cannot control. Poor weather conditions bring on many time variables such as dressing children appropriately for the weather conditions, passengers in need of assistance boarding or exiting the bus, bad road conditions, etc. These should be the only times the routes cannot keep their schedules.

**4.) PROPER BEHAVIOR** - Children must comply with the bus riding rules! Be ready with pass fare - When the child boards, he/she should have their bus fare in hand to give to the driver. This saves additional time spent searching for their money. We highly recommend student bus fares to be purchased (in advance) by the month.

**PROMPT AND PROPER SEATING** - The child should find a seat quickly and remain in that seat until exiting the bus.

**NORMAL CONVERSATION** - Talking is welcomed, however, loud, discourteous talking or conversation disturbs the other passengers and disrupts the driver.

**NO EATING OR DRINKING ON THE BUS** - Children abuse this rule most frequently. Treats or snacks that you may allow the children to take to school, never seem to make it past the bus. We spend countless minutes daily upholding this rule. Not only does this demand the driver's attention, it also adds chores to the bus cleaning at the end of the day.

### **CHEWING GUM IS PROHIBITED.**

All of the above rules are enforced by policy and are punishable by temporary or permanent suspension. Our operators are dedicated to the comfort and safety of all of our passengers. Your children are an enjoyable and rewarding part of our day, so we greatly appreciate your support and confidence in our transportation services. Please call the Merrill-Go-Round office with any questions or comments you may have. Together we can improve the system for all!

Thank You  
The Merrill Transit System

## Notice to Disabled of Opportunity to Comment

The Merrill-Go-Round provides public transportation service for the City of Merrill. We have five (5) busses, each equipped with two (2) designated areas for the securement of mobility devices to provide an equal quality level of service throughout our business day. The Merrill Transit System receives federal funds to offset a portion of its operating deficit. As a condition of receiving these funds, we must certify that special efforts are being made to provide transportation for our disabled population within our service area.

The Merrill Transit System meets this commitment by:

- Extensive sensitivity training for bus operators
- Providing equal and quality service for the disabled
- Providing daily transportation for all WI DHS clientele.
- Providing daily transportation to the Senior Nutrition Site

Any individual or group desiring to provide written comments on the service and efforts of the Merrill Transit System are asked to do so.

Comments can be addressed to:

**MERRILL TRANSIT SYSTEM**  
c/o Bradley Brummond  
**Transit Administrator**  
1004 E. First St., Merrill, WI54452

**– Note –**  
Elderly and disabled persons, please contact our office for reduced fare passes.

## **Senior Citizen Grocery Plan**

On Thursdays, senior citizens are picked up FREE of charge and taken to a local grocery store to do their food shopping. This service is sponsored by Dave's County Market.

A "Grocery Run" bus is provided at 8:30 a.m. with courteous drivers that assist you with your bags. Take advantage of this special opportunity by calling ahead!

## **PARENTS!**

*Just a reminder...*

You Must Pre-register your child/ children for the Merrill-Go-Round bus transportation this 2024-2025 school year

## **SOLICITATION OF POTENTIAL MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.**

The City of Merrill is soliciting the names of potential Minority Business Enterprises which can provide goods, equipment, and services such as fuel, tires, cleaning/office supplies, etc., for the operation of the Merrill Transit System.

A firm which feels it is potentially qualified as a Minority Business Enterprise or Women-Owned Business Enterprise, should contact: Bradley Brummond, Transit Administrator, 1004 E. First Street, Merrill, WI 54452.

The firms named will be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, who will contact the firms as to the process involved in the certification process.

## ***Courteous, Prompt and Inexpensive!***



**OFFICE HOURS:**  
**7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. WEEKDAYS**  
**CALL: 715-536-7112**

The Merrill-Go-Round is a Unique Demand/Response public Transportation System that offers curb to curb service for the low rate of \$2.00 for the general public and \$1.00 Elderly/Disabled. Simply call one hour in advance before you want to ride.

## **SCHOOL YEAR REMINDERS...**

\*If automotive problems, bad weather, or any other emergencies occur, just call the Merrill-Go-Round for prompt, courteous service.

\*The Merrill-Go-Round's schedule leaves the East and West sides of town on the hour (schedules may vary at peak times). So, even in a last minute crisis, you and/or your children may receive service within the hour.

\*If your child has a scheduled pickup and is ill or will not be taking the Merrill-Go-Round for any reason, you must call the office and cancel. Everyone must do their part to keep the buses on schedule.

\*If your child has missed his/her scheduled ride, you must call our office so the next available bus can service you.

***We Also Have Small Group Rates, Call our office for details...***



# Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

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. 16-17 - Steak for Paws Cookoff at Powerhouse Lawn & Leisure  
 Aug. 17 - Benefit for

Brandi at Rock Island Resort  
 Aug. 17 - Prairie River Barn 2024 Change of Seasons Vendor Sale  
 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  
 Aug. 20 - 12th annual

Community Night Out at Merrill Expo Center  
 Aug. 22 - Gazebo Nights Concert: Still Reckless  
 Aug. 24 - High And Low Auto Show at the MARC  
 Aug. 25 - Trinity Merrill Block Party  
 Aug. 25 - Gleason Lions Pancake Breakfast  
 For more information, go to: [merrillchamber.org/events](http://merrillchamber.org/events) or contact the event sponsor.

# Back-to-school immunization requirements, Health Dept. youth immunization clinics

August is National Immunization Awareness Month and the Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) would like to inform the public of updates to immunizations in Wisconsin.

New changes to school immunization requirements now include:

— One dose of Meningococcal Vaccine for students entering 7th grade and a booster dose for eligible students entering 12th grade.\*

— Parent report of chickenpox disease is no longer acceptable for exemption from the varicella (chickenpox) vaccine requirement. Children must have a diagnosis of chickenpox from a qualified health care provider (M.D., D.O., N.P., or P.A.) to be exempt from this requirement; however, existing exemption options still apply.\*

\*Changes will go into effect for the 2024-2025 school year unless further legal change occurs prior to this school year. For full guidance on Wisconsin's school law requirements, go to [dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/reqs.htm](http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/reqs.htm).

"Vaccines help to support a healthy and balanced lifestyle, keep your immune system strong, and prepare children's immune systems to keep them growing, learning, and thriving," said Kristi Krombholz, Public Health Nurse. Children needing a vaccine should schedule an appointment with their provider, pharmacist, or health department.

Children who have no health insurance, children with health insurance but no vaccine coverage, children on Medicaid/Badgercare, or children who are Native American/Alaskan Native can receive all routine immunizations, including the flu vaccine, through the Lincoln County Health Department.

Students that meet the guidelines above, are welcome to attend the Health Department's Youth Vaccine Clinic on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2024, or Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2024, from 3-6 p.m. at the Health Department. Pre-registration is required. To register, call the Health Department at 715.536.0307 or set up an appointment online at [bit.ly/4aBilUa](http://bit.ly/4aBilUa).

If you are unsure what shots your child may need or you want to schedule an appointment, contact

your child's healthcare provider or call the LCHD at 715.536.0307. To find more information about vaccine preventable diseases, visit [lincolncountyhealth](http://lincolncountyhealth)

department.com or find them on Facebook. Lincoln County Health Department is always striving for a safer and healthier Lincoln County.

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

**MOVIES AND SHOWTIMES**  
8/16/24 TO 8/22/24  
Mondays All Seats \$5.00

**ALIEN: ROMULUS**  
"R" (1HR 59MIN)  
FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM  
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM  
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM  
MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

**IT ENDS WITH US**  
"PG13" (2HR 10MIN)  
FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM  
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM  
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 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  
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM  
MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM ONLY

[www.cosmomovies.com](http://www.cosmomovies.com)  
**715-536-4473**

**STEPPIN OUT**

**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. 20TH - CHIMI'S  
AUG. 27 - BOURBON CHICKEN  
Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
AUG. 16TH - CATFISH  
AUG. 23RD - 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](http://584.localfoewi.com)

**WEEKLY BRIEFING - AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup> - 19<sup>TH</sup>**

THURSDAY - CHICKEN LEGS  
FRIDAY FISH FRY - BLUEGILL  
SATURDAY - STEAK & SHRIMP  
SUNDAY - BROASTED CHICKEN  
BINGO - CHICKEN LEGS & FRIES  
MONDAY - CHICKEN ALFREDO

**THIS WEEKEND! BINGO 4PM SUNDAY, AUGUST 18TH!**

**JACKPOT IS OVER \$480!**

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  
WE SELL FLAGS!

**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**  
Roasted 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](https://www.facebook.com/redgranitebarandgrill)

**Blueberries**  
Utech's Rainbow Farm

**AVAILABLE FOR PICKING**  
Open every day 9am-5pm

• CERTIFIED ORGANIC BLUEBERRIES  
Unsorted 5 lb. bags \$20  
• Blueberries \$3.50/lb, you pick  
10 lbs. or more on U-Pick & receive 10% OFF

**715-536-7271**  
3880 Rainbow Dr., Merrill  
9 miles N. of Wausau on Hwy. K, E. 1/4 mile on Rainbow Dr.

**EARLY DEADLINE NOTICE**  
for the September 5th Issue of your Foto News.

**MERRILL Foto News**  
2011 E. Main St., Merrill • (715) 536-7121

Our office will be closed Monday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of Labor Day.

**CITYWIDE RUMMAGE SALE ADS:**  
Deadline Thurs., Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm

**ALL DISPLAY & CLASSIFIED ADS DUE BY:**  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 30<sup>th</sup> AT 3:00 PM

Have a Safe and Fun-filled Labor Day

**COMING UP**  
Be a part of the **Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT Section**

Don't miss out on being a part of our special Fall Home Improvement Section.

Your ad will be delivered to over 62,700 homes in the Wausau and Merrill area!

Call our office to speak to your sales representative today.

**715-842-4424** **715-536-7121**

**LOOK FOR OUR 2024-25 Made In Wisconsin Magazine**

**COMING SOON TO RACKS NEAR YOU!**

Cheese, Maple Syrup, Toys, Beer, Wine, Sausage, Tools, Kringles, Brats, Vitamins, Candy, Lumber, Shoes, Chocolate, Trolley, Rubber, Potatoes, Docks, Trapping, Motorcycle, Cranberries, Boots, Fabrication, Small Engines, Plastics, Fans, Paper, Faucets, Machinery, Electrical, Fishing, Soaps

If you would like to be part of the 2024-25 publication, Contact **Jennifer Gartmann** at 715-218-1644 or email [jgartmann@mmclocal.com](mailto:jgartmann@mmclocal.com)

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE: OCT. 2, 2024**  
Publishes October 30, 2024

**GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT**  
WWW.CENTRALWISCONSINSTATEFAIR.COM

**THE DWEEBES**  
TUES, AUGUST 20 | 7:30 p.m.  
FREE WITH GATE ADMISSION  
Performing in The Family Entertainment Tent

**DYLAN SCOTT**  
WED, AUGUST 21 | 7:30 p.m.  
\$35 GRANDSTAND | \$45 TRACKSIDE | \$75 VIP  
Performing in the Grandstand  
Tickets include gate admission if purchased before entering the fair

**HAIRBALL**  
THURS, AUGUST 22 | 7:30 p.m.  
\$25 GRANDSTAND | \$35 TRACKSIDE | \$45 VIP  
Performing in the Grandstand  
Tickets include gate admission if purchased before entering the fair

**DAUGHTRY**  
FRI, AUGUST 23 | 7:30 p.m.  
\$40 GRANDSTAND | \$50 TRACKSIDE | \$80 VIP  
Performing in the Grandstand  
Tickets include gate admission if purchased before entering the fair

**BULLS, BRONCS -N- BARRELS**  
SAT, AUGUST 24 | 7:30 p.m.  
ADULTS (13 & UP) \$25  
CHILDREN (5-12) \$15 | 4 & UNDER FREE  
Performing in the Grandstand  
Tickets include gate admission if purchased before entering the fair

**OBSESSION WITH DESTRUCTION DEMOLITION DERBY**  
SUN, AUGUST 25 | 2:00 p.m.  
ADULTS (13 & UP) \$25 | CHILDREN (5-12) \$15 | 4 & UNDER FREE  
Performing in the Grandstand  
Tickets include gate admission if purchased before entering the fair



# CLASSIFIEDS

**General Employment 7110**

Caregiver needed part-time. 2 nights a week & every other weekend. Merrill Area, \$16/hr. 715-574-1045

**Check Us Out Online!**  
merrillfotonews.com

**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

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
Call 715.536.7121 to place your ad today.

**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**

**2401 W Jackson St. Apt 3, Aug. 15-17, 8-5.** Electric dirt bike, electric wheel chair, shoes, clothes, purses, wallets, toys, puzzles, 1/4 barrel. 1/2 price Sat. **CASH ONLY!**

**TOMAHAWK- 9690 Rocky Road on County L. Fri., Sat., Sun., Aug. 16, 17, 18, 9-5.** Beautiful clothes for school, lots of shoes, baby girl clothes, lots of misc.

**Wausau: 1021 S. 15th Ave. TH 8/15 & FRI 8/16, 8a-5p; SAT 8/17, 8a-noon**  
Mens & womens clothes XL-4XL; lots of decor; bedding; shower chairs; Amish books; new queen-sized metal box spring; (2) standing fans.

**Rummage Sales This Week 7200**

**Wausau: 3015 N. 12th Street SAT 8/17 & SUN 8/18, 9a-2p** Harley memorabilia; antique glassware; misc. household; clothing sz 2x-4x. Too much to list!

**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

**Wausau west 1417 N. 2nd Ave. TH 8/15 & FRI 8/16, 9a-5:30p**  
Rain or Shine  
Don't miss this GREAT SALE! Large outdoor playhouse; men's clothing; jewelry; old postcards & record albums, books & more!  
Plus, everyone needs Tupperware - here it is - drop in!

**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

## EMPLOYMENT

**PCA**  
PACKAGING CORPORATION OF AMERICA  
TOMAHAWK MILL

**WE ARE HIRING**

**PRODUCTION LABORERS**

**APPLY ONLINE**  
careers.packagingcorp.com

**STARTING HOURLY WAGE: \$28.10**  
\$32.01 + WITHIN 60 DAYS OF TRAINING

**SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**

**Lincoln Windows**

**Come Join Our Team We're Hiring!**

- Production Workers
- Product Development Designers
- Quality Technician

**To Apply:**

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

**We are an equal opportunity employer.**

**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](http://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

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

**JOIN OUR TEAM**

**THREE-DAY WEEKEND**

**SIERRA PACIFIC WINDOWS**

- Crew Member \$19.79 - \$20.40/HR

**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**

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

**Visit us online at [spi.careers](http://spi.careers)**

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

**WE ARE HIRING A MARKETING AND SALES CONSULTANT**

**Wausau Times & WausauTimes.com**

We are looking for an outgoing and friendly individual to be a Sales and Marketing Consultant in the Wausau area.

This person will help local business owners market themselves through many different media channels including digital advertising, web ads and print media. The right candidate will use our statewide reach to help promote local events and businesses to drive traffic to Wausau and their business.

Outside sales experience is a plus but we will train the right individual and reward them with a competitive base salary, the ability to earn extra commission, solid benefits, no nights or weekends along with expense and mileage reimbursement.

If interested, please email [tschreiber@mmclocal.com](mailto:tschreiber@mmclocal.com)  
Subject line: Sales

**MMC**  
MULTI-MEDIA CHANNELS  
LOCAL MEDIA BETTER RESULTS  
E.O.E.



**Firewood 7244**  
**DRY OAK & Hard Maple,**  
 \$250/cord. Over 15 mi is extra.  
 Have hard wood in wood shed  
 over a year old. Clean & no bark.  
 715-351-1888 or 715-873-4196.

**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

**Find us on  
 Facebook**  
**Merrill Foto News**

**Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266**  
**DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL?**  
 .... GET RESULTS! Affordable ad-  
 vertising 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 Develop-  
 ment Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-  
 920-922-4864 www.pdsadnet.  
 com**

**Wanted to Buy 7268**  
**STONEWARE WANTED**  
**Collector paying \$1000+/-** for  
 Red Wing salt glazed or  
 advertising crocks, jugs, churns &  
 water coolers. (612) 685-6762

**Dogs 7272**  
**ACA RED GOLDEN RETRIEVER**  
**PUPS** shots/wormed Born 5-22-24  
 \$350 715-229-4929

**Dogs 7272**  
**AKC German Shepherd Pups**  
 DOB JUNE 9 \$400 OBO Very  
 Nice, Shots Call 715-304-1097

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

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

**CAVAPOO PUPPIES** 1-M, 2-F  
 Non-Shedding, Vet/shots wormed  
 \$600 715-701-2066

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

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

**English Springer Spaniel Pups**  
 Ready to go! shots/dewormed  
 \$800 715-257-1360

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

**Dogs 7272**  
**Mastiff,** 3 years old, Male,  
 well trained, shots updated,  
 a fine dog. \$100,  
 715-921-5604.

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

**POMERANIANS APRI REGIS-  
 TERED** Full of love, Friendly Very  
 Cute, Great fun! Vet chk, shots,  
 \$800 Unregistered Litter \$600  
 715-654-5149

**PUREBRED BOSTON TERRIER**  
**PUPPIES** no papers,  
 shots/wormed, vet checked Ready  
 Aug 7 2-F, 3-M \$475 715-654-  
 0060

**REG GOLDEN RETRIEVER**  
**PUPS** Shots/Wormed, Vet Ckd  
 \$500 715-267-6370 No Sun Calls

**REG YORKSHIRE TERRIER**  
**PUPPIES** Vet checked/ wormed/  
 dewes \$1100 No Sun Calls 715-  
 409-3321 (495932) (WCAN)

**Hay and Straw 7288**  
**FOR SALE HAY** Good grass mix  
 baled without rain. Round bales &  
 small square bales. Free Delivery  
 in Full Loads. 920-878-0005 Dale  
**Hay Farm, No answer, try again**  
 (WCAN)

**Agriculture Services 7292**  
**FRITZ BARN PAINTING** Rusty  
**Roofs, Metal buildings** Free Est  
 608-221-3510 920-821-6311

**Hand Crafted Garden & Storage**  
**Sheds, Garages & Cabins.**  
 Many Styles and Options.  
 Sizes from 8' x 8' up  
 to 15' x 40' are available.  
**Call BAKER BARN, LLC**  
 715-873-3338  
 mile North of Gleason, Hwy 17

**Apartments for Rent 7400**  
**705 1/2 Wisconsin St.** Merrill, pet  
 friendly, lg 2br upper apartment,  
 garage, big lawn, W&D hookups,  
 quiet neighborhood, walking dis-  
 tance to Kate Goodrich, We re-  
 spond to service requests. \$679  
 mo + sec., no sun calls 715-558-  
 5282.

**Vacation For Rent 7421**  
**WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP,**  
**LLC Timeshare Cancellation Ex-**  
**ports** Over \$50,000,000 in time-  
 share debt & fees cancelled in  
 2019. Get FREE informational  
 package & learn how to get rid of  
 your timeshare! FREE consulta-  
 tions. Over 450 positive reviews.  
**CALL 844-374-2565 (WCAN)**

**Lots and Acreage For Sale 7466**  
**CRANDON, WI (Forest County)**  
**10 acres** on a town road, power  
 available, Land Contract Avail-  
 able, \$89,000; Also 142 Acre Ac-  
 tive gravel pit. Call Fred 715-  
 493-6121 (WCAN)

**Motorcycles 7502**  
**For Sale:**  
**2013 Speedmaster Triumph**  
 4000 miles, like-new!  
 \$7000 obo.  
 218-553-1412

**REAL ESTATE**

**DEB WOLLER-ESTATE SALE**  
**Fri. Aug. 16 • 8am-5pm, Sat. Aug. 17**  
**8am-5pm, Sun. Aug. 18 9am-2pm (Half Off)**  
 149332 Mandarin Ln., Wausau WI  
 Lawn Boy Zero Turn Lawn Mower, Yard Spike Aerator, Toro Snow Blower, Generator, Ladder,  
 Toolbox, Saw Horses, Vice, Craftsman Grinder, Craftsman Sander, Air Compressor, Table Saw,  
 Craftsman Spreader, Wheel Barrow, Ladders, many many tools, Rare beautiful 5-gallon Red  
 Wing Bee Hive Jug, Red Wing 2-gallon crock, All Famous Havana 5cent Cigars Spittoon,  
 Vintage Barber Items, Antique Popcorn Maker, Atlas, Frosty Crate and Bottles, Baystate  
 Ice Box, Two Silver place settings, Bottle Opener Collection, Antique Baby Buggy, Antique  
 Lantern, Oil Lamps, Beautiful Antique Glass Hutch, Vintage Pictures of Jesus, many other  
 pictures, Metal DIAL Typewriter, Small Metal Pool Table, Carnival Glass, Frigidaire Freezer,  
 Speed Queen Washer, Maytag Dryer, Cushioned Adjustable Dining Room Chairs, Berkey  
 Water Filter, Recliner, Couches, Loveseat, Glider, Rocker, Kitchen Aid Mixer, End Tables,  
 Lamps, Corner shelves, Roll Top Desk, Marcy Home Gym, Pool Table, Outdoor Decorations,  
 Lava rock, Bench, Garden Hoses, Canning Jars, much more!!  
 Please go to [www.dwollerauctionsestatesale.com](http://www.dwollerauctionsestatesale.com) for photos  
**TRULY SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!!**

**EMPLOYMENT**

**PART TIME  
 MAINTENANCE CUSTODIAN  
 CITY OF MERRILL**  
 The City of Merrill is seeking applications for the position of  
 a Part-Time Maintenance Custodian. This position provides  
 maintenance and custodial services for T.B. Scott Free Library.  
 This position would troubleshoot and perform repairs and keep  
 the grounds clean; work closely with other employees to meet  
 maintenance and custodial needs; and resolve problems to  
 ensure efficient and safe operations of the facilities. Applications  
 will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information  
 please visit the City of Merrill website under employment.  
 (<https://ci.merrill.wi.us/employment>)

**MULTI MEDIA CHANNELS  
 THE PARENT COMPANY OF THIS  
 PUBLICATION, IS LOOKING FOR A  
 MARKETING  
 AND SALES  
 CONSULTANT**  
 The position involves meeting with businesses to  
 find out their needs and create a marketing plan  
 with our lineup of print products. This position  
 sells advertising to businesses to help them grow  
 via weekly newspapers, special sections, web  
 ads, and a variety of specialty magazines.  
**This position offers competitive pay and  
 benefits, no nights or weekends, mileage and  
 expense reimbursement.**  
**EMAIL MIKE HOLLIHAN AT**  
**MHOLLIHAN@MMCLocal.COM**

**MITCHELL  
 METAL PRODUCTS**  
**EXCELLENCE FROM START TO FINISH**  
**Looking for something  
 fresh? We're Hiring...**  
 Full Time - Seasonal - Summer Help  
**Monday - Thursday**  
**(4) 10 Hour Days -**  
**OT opportunity on Friday's**  
**Seasonal 2nd Shift**  
**Monday - Thursday • 3pm - 1am**  
**Open Positions:**  
**1st Shift • All Production Areas**  
**Sign-On  
 Bonus**  
**Fill out an application online at:**  
**[mitchellmetalproducts.com/about/career-opportunities](http://mitchellmetalproducts.com/about/career-opportunities)**  
**Or stop in and pick up an application at:**  
**Mitchell Metal Products**  
**905 South State Street, Merrill, WI 54452**

**BUSINESS DIRECTORY**  
 NEIGHBORHOOD PROFESSIONAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE DIRECTORY

**LOKEMOEN  
 CONSTRUCTION**  
**SPECIALIZING IN ALL YOUR  
 HOME IMPROVEMENT  
 AND BUILDING NEEDS!**  
 Call or text us  
**715-921-6911**

**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**

**JENSEN  
 Chip & Seal Coating**  
**715-965-9199**  
 ✓ Seal Coating  
 ✓ Crack Sealing  
 ✓ Striping  
 ✓ Topsoil  
 Commercial, Residential & Township Spray Patching  
[Jensenchipsealcoat@gmail.com](mailto:Jensenchipsealcoat@gmail.com)

**KITSEMBLE  
 EXTERIORS**  
**Roofing:** Shingles • Rubber • Steel **Siding:** Vinyl  
**Decks, Windows & Remodels**  
 Free Estimates • Reasonable Rates  
**Cell: (715)610-5808**  
 Owner: George Kitsemble Jr.  
 Serving Central WI for over 30 years.

**RIB MT  
 MARINE**  
 SINCE 1954!  
 1220 Flieth St  
 Same location since 1954  
 715-845-3355  
 Wausau's only full service marine dealership  
 ✓ Boat Repair and parts  
 ✓ Used Boats  
 ✓ Motor Repair and Parts  
 ✓ Trailer Repair and Parts  
 ✓ Storage (Winterization)  
 ✓ Oil Change kits  
 ✓ Mercury Outboard Motors  
[www.ribmountainmarine.com](http://www.ribmountainmarine.com)

**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

**PODEWELTZ  
 Repair Service, LLC**  
 Heating • Cooling • Sheet Metal  
**TRANE**  
 W2810 Hwy, C, Merrill  
 (715) 536-6791  
 It's Hard To Stop A Trane?

**Pine Grove Seamless Gutters**  
 Call For Free Estimates  
 • 5" - 6" Gutters • Leaf Guards  
 • Garage Doors • Siding/Decks  
 • Soffit - Fascia • In House Trim Work  
**Merlin Schrock**  
**Work • 715-560-8308**  
**Home • 715-773-8292**  
 Lublin, WI

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

**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**



**Vehicles Wanted 7554**  
**DONATE YOUR CAR.** truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-844-406-2647 today! (WCAN)

**GET A BREAK ON YOUR TAXES!** Donate Your Car, Truck or SUV to assist the blind & visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup & secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND today at 844-374-3067 (WCAN)

**Miscellaneous Transportation 7574**  
**FOR SALE:** 1998 Suzuki Marauder \$750; Also 2000 Ford Van E-150, 6,000 miles with rebuild motor. No rust, \$1,200. 715-370-1728

**Insurance 7308**  
**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/wicommunity #6258 (WCAN)

**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**  
**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 EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G & 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, & data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-223-7265 (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)

**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)

**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)

**Home Building Supply 7358**  
**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 8/25/24 Call 833-224-4977 (WCAN)

**PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES WITH BRIGGS & STRATTON PowerProtect(TM)** standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty 7 years (\$849 value) Proudly made in the USA. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-855-918-3220 (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**  
**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)

# Rep. Tiffany introduces bill to create first National Park in Wisconsin

**FOR MMC**  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Tom Tiffany (WI-07) on July 23, 2024, introduced the Apostle Islands National Park and Preserve Act. This legislation would re-designate the Apostle Islands from a National Lakeshore to a National Park. The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands, chaired by Rep. Tiffany, on July 24 held a hearing on this legislation.

"Know as the crown jewel of Wisconsin, the Apostle Island National Lakeshore is truly an unrivaled destination that is more than worthy of being elevated to a crown jewel of the National Park system," Congressman Tiffany testified during the July 24 hearing. "The Apostle Islands are rich in natural, cultural, and historic resources. Comprised of 21 islands and 12 miles of mainland shore on Lake Superior in northern Wisconsin, the Apostle Islands contain numerous scenic cliff formations and arches, sea caves, and sandy beaches. From abundant forests and fisheries to dramatic cliffs and caves, there's truly no place in America like the Apostle Islands. This area also contains a collection of underwater shipwrecks and what the National Park Service calls the largest



Rep. Tom Tiffany.

and finest collection of lighthouses in the country."

"My legislation is very straightforward," Tiffany continued. "It would simply re-designate the majority of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore into the Apostle Islands National Park. My bill also maintains the heritage of hunting within the Apostle Islands by designating Sand Island - a popular hunting destination - as the Sand Island National Preserve. Protecting hunting access is paramount to me as the chairman of this subcommittee, and we worked for over a year with local stakeholders to ensure that active hunting locations were not harmed by this bill."

"Further, my legislation directs the National Park Service to enhance interpretive [signage] within the Apostle Islands to include more information about the area's rich fur trade, logging, and fishing industries. This information will also honor the Ojibwa tribes, the original inhabitants of the Apostle Islands, who have called the area home for centuries."

"While this legislation was just introduced, it reflects an effort that has been several decades in the making," Tiffany further testified. "In 1930, nearly a century ago, Congress

first authorized a study to designate the Apostle Islands as a National Park. Roughly forty years later, President John F. Kennedy described the islands as part of our American heritage, and the area was designated as a National Lakeshore. Now, by elevating the Apostle Islands from a National Lakeshore to a National Park, we can ensure that thousands more are able to visit this area. It is my hope that many more will be able to experience this hidden gem once the Apostle Islands are designated as Wisconsin's first National Park."

Rep. Tiffany also submitted 21 letters from various communities, locally-elected leaders, and local business organizations in support of his proposed bill.

"The designation of the Apostle Islands as a National Park will have a positive impact on our local economy, bringing more visitors to the area who contribute to local businesses," State Sen. Romaine Quinn (R-Cameron) testified. "Increased tourism will create new job opportunities, stimulate economic growth, and support the livelihoods of many residents in the Bayfield area and beyond. A National Park Service study found that communities within 60 miles of a National Park saw an average increase in tourism spending by 14 percent, with related job growth of 11 percent."

Specifically, this legislation would elevate the current National Lakeshore - first established in 1970

See **TIFFANY** page 11

# DEADLINE THURSDAY, AUGUST 29!!!

## 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MERRILL CITYWIDE FALL RUMMAGE SALE

To Be Held All Over the Merrill Area  
**Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**

- It's Simple to Run a Sale:
- Just place your own classified ad in the Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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@mmlocal.com

**Foto News**  
 (715) 536-7121  
 OFFICE LOCATION:  
 2011 E. MAIN STREET, MERRILL

## MAPS hires new Kate Goodrich Elementary Principal for 2024-2025

Merrill Area Public Schools recently announced Heather Kahr has been hired as the new Elementary Principal for Kate Goodrich Elementary School for the 2024-2025 school year. Kahr earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. She has 16 years of elementary experience, most recently as a Principal in the Wausau School District. Prior to that, Kahr was the Associate Principal at Kate Goodrich, which affords her the unique opportunity to reconnect with students, parents, and staff in the District, while building new relationships with incoming families.

In her free time, Kahr enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband and two children, hunting and camping, and watching her son play baseball and daughter participate in gymnastics.

Kahr is eager to return to the Merrill community and



Heather Kahr.

advocate for every child at Kate Goodrich Elementary School. "I am excited at the opportunity to return to Merrill and lead alongside such an amazing group of dedicated educators and colleagues," she said. "I look forward to engaging with the community and working collaboratively to ensure our school continues to thrive and excel."

"We are fortunate to welcome Heather back to the District in this new role," Superintendent Shannon Murray said. "She is greatly committed to the success of all students."



# Pine Crest referendum language headed to County Board for consideration

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

At a joint meeting of the Lincoln County Administrative and Legislative (A&L) Committee and the Finance and Insurance Committee held last Friday, Aug. 9, 2024, the Committees passed a resolution authorizing a binding referendum on the issue of exceeding the tax levy to finance the continued operation of Pine Crest Nursing Home for the next five years and approved the referendum question language. The matter now goes before the entire Lincoln County Board for consideration at their Aug. 20 regular County Board meeting.

After discussion regarding the Pine Crest financials and what number would be most accurate to include in the proposed referendum language, to reflect the County's actual needs to cover both nursing home operating expenses and debt service, as well as the maintenance needs of the buildings, the Committees settled on a figure of \$5 million dollars per year for the next five years, 2025-2029, for a total of \$25 million dollars. Most of the maintenance on the buildings has been long deferred and the Committees, with input from the maintenance staff, said the maintenance cannot continue to be deferred and the issues must be addressed.

This referendum would

not necessarily address the facility's long-term needs but would cover only the next five years.

Pine Crest Nursing Home was set to be sold to Merrill Campus LLC and Senior Management Inc. this year, but the buyer terminated the Asset Purchase Agreement with Lincoln County in response to a lawsuit filed by Donald J. Dunphy in May. Dunphy 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. He ran for office saying that, if elected, he would stop the sale of Pine Crest, and his lawsuit had the desired result, as a clause in the agreement stated the buyers could terminate the agreement in the event of legal action and they exercised that option on June 28. Dunphy then dismissed the lawsuit; however, the Lincoln County Board - anticipating that Pine Crest Nursing Home would no longer be County-owned in 2025 - had not planned to cover the costs of operating and maintaining the nursing home for 2025 and beyond.

As a result, the Lincoln County A&L and Finance and Insurance Committees are recommending the Lincoln County Board put the matter of financing the County-run nursing home on the November ballot, to let voters decide if they are willing to finance the maintenance and operation

of Pine Crest with an increase in their taxes. The People for Pine Crest group has long advocated for sending the matter to a referendum.

"Some people in the public are arguing that taxpayers are willing to fund it and they want to," said District 12 Supervisor Julie DePasse. "I think this would finally answer that question, at least for the next five years. It would answer the question. If taxpayers do want to keep the service and increase their taxes, they can vote Yes, and if they don't, they can vote No. And if it's No, then we have to look at sale again."

### Debating the referendum and the language

"We also need to understand that in the last few years people have had to pay so much extra," said District 2 Supervisor Lori Anderson-Malm. "We only have 28,000 people in Lincoln County ... We have not increased our population. So we're asking all these people ... living paycheck to paycheck - paying more for gas, paying more for food ... [to pay more]."

"The surrounding areas, we're all going or going to be going through reevaluations for property. The city of Merrill is going through that right now. The city of Merrill will probably - there's a good chance that some residential properties could go up 10%," she said.

Anderson-Malm shared her frustration about the termination of the sale of Pine Crest. "We had a really good deal - we had a fantastic deal - that would have not only benefited the residents, the employees, it would have benefited the City, the County, the school, and NTC," she said. "Because right now as a public building, we get no taxes from that. If it would have been a private entity, we would have gotten property taxes. And again, that would have helped all four entities ... It's so frustrating that there was a good solution and these people [the buyers] were willing to take on that debt. But it's gone now. So if we have to have a referendum, great. Let's have a referendum. Let's get it on the ballot in November. If it fails, I don't want to hear one more thing about it. I don't want to hear one more thing - that we didn't talk to anybody, that there was no transparency - which is false. I don't want to hear anything. If this fails I don't want to hear any complaining. None."

District 20 Supervisor Angela Cummings said Lincoln County already has one of the highest tax rates in the area and she is concerned that putting Pine Crest out there as a referendum isn't giving taxpayers the complete picture, as there are other big financial issues Lincoln County is also facing. "I feel like we're doing a disservice if we do just one referendum without encapsulating all of the financial problems," Cummings said.

Time is of the essence in approving the referendum language, as the Lincoln County Board will need to decide on the final language

at their Aug. 20 meeting in order to get the referendum on the November 5, 2024, ballot.

The Lincoln County Board does have the option to change the dollar amount requested as they consider the referendum language at their Aug. 20 meeting, so the referendum language isn't yet final, and the County Board must vote to decide if the referendum will, in fact, appear on the November ballot at all. But if Friday morning's meeting was any indication, putting the matter to a referendum vote may be the County Board's only viable options at this point.

The final resolution coming out of Friday's meeting included language that stipulated the Administrative and Legislative Committee would also provide residents of Lincoln County with more complete information regarding Pine Crest Nursing Home to include past and anticipated finances, budget deficits, bed-licenses, residency census, and facility maintenance needs; obligations, liabilities, support, and services funded from the County tax-levy and State supplemental payments; current debt; and other material the Committee determines applicable

to provide voters with complete information. The Committee shall also include information about the existing and anticipated County operating budget and capital improvement program needs, obligations, liabilities, and shortfalls for purposes other than for Pine Crest Nursing Home for which debt service and/or tax levy increase referenda may be necessary during the next 10 years.

"We have an obligation, as a County Board, to provide information to the electorate so that they can make a well-informed decision," District 18 Supervisor Ken Wickham said. "And knowing what other we may come asking for over the next 10 years ... we have all these other needs out there, and I would hate to have our residents vote on this and approve something and then County Board turns around and takes out debt service without a referendum ... and there's nothing they can do about it except pay the taxes on it ... so I think we have an obligation to inform."

The final amended motion passed 7-2 on a roll call vote with supervisors Wickham and Cummings voting against the resolution for a referendum.

### TIFFANY from page 10

- to National Park status without altering its existing boundaries. The Apostle Islands National Park and Preserve Act would also designate Sand Island as a National Preserve to maintain existing hunting access.

This would not be the first time a National Lakeshore became a National Park. In 2019, Indiana Dunes, once a National Lakeshore, was designated as a National Park. While our neighboring states of Minnesota, Michigan, and Indiana all enjoy National Parks, Wisconsin does not yet have one.



Pictured, L to R: James Hoppe of Packaging Corporation of America (PCA), Lincoln County Highway Commissioner Jason Lemmer, Governor Tony Evers, Price County Highway Commissioner Roger Petrick and Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Assistant Deputy Secretary Joel Nilsestuen. Submitted photo.

## Gov. Evers visits Tripoli to highlight support for road infrastructure

On Thursday, July 25, 2024, Gov. Tony Evers visited grant recipients in Tripoli to highlight projects that received funding through the new Agricultural Roads Improvement Program (ARIP). He was joined by Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Assistant Deputy Secretary Joel Nilsestuen.

Lincoln County received over \$3.5 million to improve local roads and infrastructure along County Highway YY.

The day prior, Gov. Evers and WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson announced nearly \$50 million in state investments through the ARIP to help support 37 projects across 28 Wisconsin counties. The projects are aimed at helping support Wisconsin's farmers, producers, and agricultural industries by improving rural roads and bridges that are critical to moving and transporting products, crops, and livestock, among others, efficiently and

effectively across the state. In June 2023, Gov. Evers signed 2023 Wisconsin Act 13 to expand the Local Roads Improvement Program to include agricultural road improvement projects by creating the ARIP. Weeks later, in July 2023, Gov. Evers signed the 2023-25 biennial budget, which provided \$150 million for the ARIP to improve transportation infrastructure that provides access to agricultural lands or facilities.

## 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)

Wed. Aug. 21 Colby - Invitational (Varsity) Away 2:00 pm

### Girls Tennis (Varsity and JV)

Sat. Aug. 17 WI Rapids Lincoln (JV-Jamboree) Away 9:00 am

### 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!



The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:





# Aspirus offers tips on strengthening social bonds in the digital era

Aspirus Health recently offered tips on strengthening social bonds in the digital age.

“Human beings are inherently social creatures,” Aspirus said in a release. “From the moment we are born, relationships help us navigate the world, teaching us how to interact, express ourselves, and build communities. These connections are essential not just in childhood, but throughout our lives, significantly impacting our overall health and well-being.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in three adults in the U.S. experiences loneliness, while one in four lacks adequate social and emotional support.

Aspirus said these factors are associated with increased susceptibility to various health challenges, including heart disease, stroke, dementia, depression, and anxiety.

“Social connections are just a part of being human,” said Tracy Clay, a Family Medicine Nurse Practitioner at Aspirus Health. “Without social connections, we’re isolated. Isolation can lead to depression.”

The good news is that in today’s digital age, connecting with others is easier than ever before, Aspirus said.

“We don’t have to rely on just pen and paper, and we don’t have to rely on just calling someone,” Clay said.

While texting has become a popular mode of communication, Clay encourages more personal interactions.

“Seeing people face to face, interacting, reading their responses is super important,” she said.

Social media platforms offer another avenue for maintaining connections.

“It’s fun to watch people’s pictures scroll by,” Clay stated. “It gives you that connection. You see their faces. You see their pictures.”

“Beyond social media,

technologies like FaceTime have made it possible to connect visually with loved ones, enhancing the feeling of closeness,” Aspirus said. “Teaching elderly individuals to use such technology can bring joy and a sense of connection to their lives. However, Clay warns against the overuse of social media. Constantly comparing oneself to others based on curated snapshots can be detrimental.”

“We have to remember that those snapshots we see on social media are also oftentimes staged,” she said.

Aspirus said limiting time spent on these platforms is essential to avoid feelings of inadequacy and isolation.

Clay suggests practical steps to reduce social media use, such as placing your phone in another room



Clay Photo courtesy of Aspirus Health

and engaging in real-world activities.

“If I put my phone down and I go outside, I might see a real person, and that would be helpful too,” she said.

“Building and nurturing social connections can take time and effort,” Aspirus

said.

Aspirus provided the following tips from the CDC and National Institutes of Health (NIH) to enhance social wellness:

• **Get involved:** Join community groups, take classes, or volunteer. Engaging in shared activities can help form meaningful bonds.

• **Be active together:** Participate in physical activities with others. This can positively impact your health and create opportunities for connection.

• **Support and appreciate others:** Show gratitude and support to those around you through small acts of kindness.

• **Bond with your kids:** Build strong emotional bonds with your children by being responsive, supportive, and available.

• **Limit social media:** Reduce practices that lead to feelings of disconnection, such as excessive social media use.

• **Consult healthcare providers:** Talk to a healthcare provider about concerns related to stress, loneliness, and social isolation.

Social connections profoundly impact our mental and physical health, Aspirus said. “Without relationships and social connection, we don’t have a lot of meaning frequently in our lives,” Clay said. “By taking steps to enhance our social wellness, we can improve our quality of life and foster a sense of belonging and support in our communities.”

For those seeking additional support, visit [aspirus.org/find-a-provider](http://aspirus.org/find-a-provider) to connect with an Aspirus healthcare provider in your area.

## Community Night Out is Aug. 20

TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

Merrill’s 12th annual Community Night Out will be held this Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2024, from 4-7 p.m. at the Bierman Building and Merrill Fair Grounds. The public is invited to

come down and see all of the services the Merrill community provides and offers. Learn more about the Merrill Police Department, Merrill Fire Department and EMS, Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office, Wisconsin State Patrol, Wisconsin Department of Natural

Resources, Crime Stoppers of Lincoln County, Merrill Enrichment Center, T.B. Scott Library, Northcentral Technical College, Merrill Park & Recreation Department, and more!

The Merrill Police Department and Merrill Fire Department will have

special presentations, and there are free bus rides available to and from the event courtesy of the Merrill Go Round. Be sure to reserve your ride in advance by calling 715.536.7112 before 4 p.m. on Aug. 20. Pick ups will take place during the 5

o’clock hour, with the bus returning to load up riders for the return home at 6:45 p.m.

Enjoy free food and activities for the entire family, and music will be provided by Bluejay 96.3 radio. The event will take place rain or shine.



#36294 \$26,495\* 2024 Jeep Compass Sport 4x4 • 32 MPG HWY



#36326 \$45,695\* 2024 Jeep Grand Cherokee L Limited • 6200 lb Towing Package



#37009 \$58,995\* 2025 RAM 1500 Crew Cab • New 420hp Hurricane Engine



#36286 \$398/Month\*\* 2024 Jeep Compass Latitude Lux 4x4 Sale Price \$29,085\*\*



#36332 SoftTop 2024 Jeep Wrangler Sport Sale Price \$29,890\*



#36314 \$50,995\* 2024 RAM 2500 Crew Cab • 6.4 L HEMI V-8

\*Plus tax, title, license and service fee. \*\* 39 month/39,000 mile lease to qualified credit.

Brickners Park City, Inc. Jeep CHRYSLER DODGE RAM

3000 EAST MAIN STREET MERRILL Phone: (715) 536-2833 Toll free 800-499-JEEP (5337) LOCATED 1/2 MILE WEST OF HWY. 51-64 INTERCHANGE Visit our web site at www.bricknersparkcity.net

MAKE THIS THE SUMMER EVENT

CHECK US OUT ONLINE! merrillfotonews.com

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