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Now that's a jump!



Kicking up dust!



Racers on a variety of dirt racing machines take a lap. Joseph Frederick photos.

More photos online
merrillfotonews.com

Northern Wisconsin Dirt Track Racing

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Racers were kicking up dust as they rounded the corners and caught some air taking the jumps on the dirt race track at the Merrill Fair Grounds this past Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024. Northern Wisconsin Dirt

Track Racing held their second annual event, drawing participants with a variety of dirt track racing machines and racers including youth and adults. With classes for bikes and quads, the event included more than 20 classes including super pee wee, pee wee, outlaw, improved stock, open 2 stroke,

powder puff, and more, making for a great family-friendly race day. The event also included a kids pedal bike race and power wheels race during intermission. Billed as "a track made by racers, for racers," the family-oriented event is entirely run by volunteers who start working at 7

a.m. to get the track ready and stay until the entire day is finished. The track was ready for practice around 12:30 p.m. and the races were scheduled to start at 2:30 p.m. More photos are available on our website and also at the Northern Wisconsin Dirt Track Racing Facebook page.



Perennial lilies surround a vintage washtub filled with colorful plantings. Photo courtesy of Park City Gardens.

More photos online
merrillfotonews.com

August Garden of the Month

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Twenty years ago, Heather and Mark Gehring moved into their home at 503 W. Taylor St. in Merrill. Faced with a large yard that was lacking in color, Heather began the journey

to create a yard and garden that would be alive with vibrant color. Each year Heather converts more of the yard to garden space and also frequently rearranges and adds more color to her existing gardens. "She starts early in the

spring before the snow melts using mini greenhouses in the basement," Park City Gardens nominators said. "Over the years, she has gathered some beautiful garden art pieces along the way," they said. While some were purchased new, others were treasures discovered

and aquired, as Mark has a love of old engines and farm equipment." While Mark said he takes little credit for the beautiful gardens, "it is evident See AUGUST GARDEN page 3



Metal birds peek out from beneath a variety of flowering plants.



Heather Gehring is recognized for her many years of creativity and gardening at Heather and Mark Gehring's W. Taylor St. home in Merrill. Photos courtesy of Park City Gardens.

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Athens World Fair



Billed as the Athens World Fair, this year's fair was the 119th Athens Fair held in Athens, Wis. - A four day event of activities, music, food, rides, and exhibits.



The Athens Fair Parade is a highlight of the four-day fair each year. Here, the Merrill High School Marching Jays get organized at the edge of town, preparing to take part in the annual parade. Nothing like having more Bluejays in town! [Both Athens High School and Merrill High School have the bluejay as their mascot.]



Running from Aug. 15-18, fair attendees could tour the animal barns, enjoy carnival rides, or play games like this five-year-old who was taking aim at a target. Tina L. Scott photos.

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PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

Republicans Tiffany, Felzkowski, Callahan to face Democratic challengers in November

U.S. Senate, House races set; State referendums rejected

BY JALEN MAKI
MMC STAFF

Wisconsin voters decided federal, state, and local primary races, as well as the fates of two referendum questions, in the Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024, Partisan Primary Election.

Voters cast ballots by party preference.

According to preliminary results from the Lincoln County Clerk's Office, 3,855 Lincoln County voters participated in the

Republican primary, while 2,207 voters cast ballots for the Democratic ticket. The Libertarian Party had nine voters, while the Wisconsin Green and Constitution parties had two voters and one voter, respectively.

U.S. Senate

On the Republican ticket for United States Senate, Eric Hovde emerged victorious with roughly 86% of the vote, soundly defeating Charles Barman and Rejani Raveendran.

Incumbent Democratic Senator Tammy Baldwin was not challenged in last week's election. She will defend her seat against Hovde in November.

Hovde easily won Lincoln County with 3,162 votes, according to preliminary results. Charles Barman tallied 404 votes in the county, while 222 votes went to Raveendran.

U.S. House of Representatives

Republican U.S. Representative Tom Tiffany, who currently

represents the Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, did not face a primary opponent and will look to defend his seat this fall.

In the primary to represent the Democratic Party against Tiffany in November, Kyle Kilbourn came out on top with about 58% of the vote, defeating Elsa Rae Duranceau, who garnered about 42%.

Duranceau, with 1,038 votes, carried Lincoln

See PRIMARY RESULTS page 6



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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




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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

The Transitory Tapestry of Life

Dear Reader,

In the grand tapestry of existence, where threads of time and space weave the intricate patterns of our lives, we find ourselves often pondering the nature of our transient state. Life, as Seneca observed, is on loan to us—a fleeting gift with an inevitable expiration date. Every breath we take, every moment we cherish, is a testament to the temporality that characterizes our existence.

As we navigate through the days, we become acutely aware of the ticking clock that governs all we hold dear. Our possessions, our achievements, even our relationships, are bound by the same immutable constraints. They are all subject to the inexorable passage of time, destined to fade or transform as the sands of our personal hourglass continue to trickle down.

This realization can be both humbling and enlightening, prompting us to reflect on what truly holds value in our fleeting journey. Faith, beauty, and truth—concepts that have long captivated the human spirit—are, in fact, deeply personal constructs. Their relevance and resonance are determined by the beholder.

Faith, whether in a higher power, a cause, or oneself, is a beacon that guides us through life's uncertainties. Beauty, a subjective experience, lies in the eye of the beholder, evoking emotions that range from joy to melancholy. Truth, often elusive, is a quest for meaning that varies with perspective and experience. These elements, though intangible, shape our perceptions and give color to our existence, yet they too are subject to the flow of time.

As we continue our sojourn, we must acknowledge that we are but one chapter in the ever-evolving story of humanity. Each day, new seeds of time are sown, bringing forth fresh faces, ideas, and dreams. We are continually supplanted by the next generation, each bringing their own unique contributions to the collective narrative. This cycle of renewal is a reminder of our place in the

AUGUST GARDEN
from page 1

that he is very proud of Heather's creation," nominators said. "The flower garden definitely welcomes you in and makes you smile when you pass by."

Enjoy a walk or drive by the Gehrings' Taylor St. garden before the beautiful blooms of their summer garden begin to fade.



grand scheme—a single link in an endless chain of life.

The beauty of recognizing our temporal state lies in the clarity it brings. It encourages us to live with intention, to savor the fleeting moments, and to find meaning in the transient. It urges us to invest in what truly matters—our connections, our passions, and our personal growth. By embracing the impermanence of life, we can foster a deeper appreciation for the present and cultivate a legacy that, while finite, resonates beyond our own existence.

In this ephemeral dance, let us find solace and inspiration. For it is within the fleeting nature of life that we discover its true value. We are all on loan here, but in our brief tenure, we have the power to leave an indelible mark on the ever-turning pages of time.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

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1100 Marc Drive, Merrill, WI 54452

Entry Deadline is Friday, August 23rd

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



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During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us...your expression of sympathy will always be remembered. We would like to thank Woodland Court: Darrel, Missy & staff for the loving care they gave our mother the last few years while she resided there. Their compassion and kindness did not go unnoticed.

Thank you to Merrill Aspirus Hospital and the Merrill paramedics EMTs for the care, comfort and support they gave our mother while she was transported and a patient there. Thank you to Dr. Brenda Banaszynski for being her primary care physician at Marshfield Medical Center Merrill for so many years and to all the other specialists who cared for her needs. Our thanks to Waid Funeral Home for their professionalism. Anna Winningham & Megan Klug, we appreciate your help in guiding us through this difficult journey. Our thanks to Les & Jims Lincoln Lanes for the beloved tribute to our mother on their sign. What a truly beautiful act of kindness. Love to all who sent their condolences, sympathies, cards, photos, etc... We are truly Blessed.

Love, The Family of Judith L. Kaminski "Judy"

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY
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Merrill Area Public Schools Annual Legal Notices

NOTICE OF CHILD FIND ACTIVITY

Merrill Area Public Schools locates, identifies, and evaluates all resident children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The school district has a special education screening program to locate and screen all children with suspected disabilities who are residents of the district and who have not graduated from high school. Upon request, the school district will screen any resident child who has not graduated from high school, to determine whether a special education referral is appropriate. A request may be made by contacting the Director of Special Education.

Annually the district conducts developmental screening of preschool children. Each child's motor, communication, and social skills are observed at various play areas. Each child is weighed and measured, and the child's hearing and vision is checked. The information is used to provide the parent with a profile of their child's current development and to provide suggestions for follow-up activities. Parents learn about community services available to them, and speak with representatives of agencies serving families. The information from screening is also used to determine whether a child should be evaluated for a suspected disability. When school staff reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability, they refer the child for evaluation by a school district Individualized Education Program (IEP) team.

Developmental screening will be part of the kindergarten registration this spring.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency, who reasonably believes a child, brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability, has a legal duty to report the child to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made. The referral must be in writing, and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. Others who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability may also refer the child to the school district in which the child resides.

STUDENT RECORDS

The school district maintains pupil records, including information from screening and special education referral. All records directly related to a student and maintained by the school district are pupil records. They include records maintained in any way including, but not limited to, computer storage media, video and audiotape, file, microfilm, and microfiche. Records maintained for personal use by a teacher and not available to others, and records available only to persons involved in the psychological treatment of a child, are not pupil records.

The school district maintains several classes of pupil records.

- "Progress records" include grades, courses the child has taken, the child's attendance records, immunization records, required lead screening records, and records of school extra-curricular activities. Progress records must be maintained for at least five years after the child ceases to be enrolled.
- "Behavioral records" include such records as psychological tests, personality evaluations, records of conversations, written statements relating specifically to the pupil's behavior, tests relating specifically to achievement or measurement of ability, physical health records other than immunization and lead screening records, law enforcement officers' records, and other pupil records that are not "progress records". Law enforcement officers' records are maintained separately from other pupil records. Behavioral records may be maintained for no longer than one year after the child graduates or otherwise ceases to be enrolled, unless the parent or adult student specifies in writing that the records may be maintained for a longer period of time. The school district informs parents when pupil records are no longer needed to provide special education. At the request of the child's parents, the school district destroys the information that is no longer needed.
- "Directory data" includes the student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, photographs, degrees and awards received, and the name of the school most recently, previously attended by the student.
- "Pupil physical health records" include basic health information about a pupil, including the pupil's immunization records, an emergency medical card, a log of first aid and medicine administered to the pupil, an athletic permit card, a record concerning the pupil's ability to participate in an education program, any required lead screening records, the results of any routine screening test, such as for hearing, vision, or scoliosis, and any follow-up to the test, and any other basic health information, as determined by the state superintendent. Any pupil patient health care records under sections 146.81 to 146.84, Wisconsin Statutes. Any pupil record concerning HIV testing is treated as provided under section 252.15, Wisconsin Statutes.
- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and section 1118.125, Wisconsin Statutes, afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible

students") the following rights with respect to education records:

- **The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of receipt of the request.** Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. The school district will comply with the request without unnecessary delay, and before any meeting about an individualized education program, or any due process hearing, and in no case more than 45 days after the request has been made. If any record includes information on more than one child, the parents of those children have the right to inspect and review only the information about their child or to be informed of that specific information. Upon request, the school district will give a parent or eligible student a list of the types and locations of education records collected, maintained, or used by the district for special education. The school district will respond to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the records. A representative of the parent may inspect and review the records.
- **The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading.** Parents or eligible students may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- **The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA and state law authorize disclosure without consent.** The exceptions are stated in 34 CFR 99.31 and section 118.125 (2) (a) to (m) and sub. 2(m), Wisconsin Statutes. One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosures to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. Also, the district discloses "directory data" without consent, unless the parent notifies the district that it may not be released without prior parental consent. Directory information may be disclosed to any person after October 15th, unless any parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem, or eligible student, informs the district that all or any part of the directory information may not be released without prior consent of the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem, or eligible student.
- **Access By Military Recruiters – (Additional Release Notification)** MAPS shall provide, upon a request by military recruiters or an institution of higher education, access to high school student names, addresses, and telephone listings, referred to as directory data under s. 118.125, Wis. Stat. A high school student or the parent/guardian of the student may request that this information not be released without written parental consent.
- **The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA.** The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20202-4605.

SPECIAL EDUCATION, SCREENING & REFERRAL PROCEDURES

Any person aware of a child between the ages of birth through 21, who may be experiencing physical, mental, emotional, or learning problems, may contact their respective Director of Special Education to initiate screening services that will determine if a referral for special education is appropriate. In addition to the director, any teacher or

administrator would be able to assist in making a referral.

Referral Procedure: The school district shall solicit and receive referrals of students with suspected special educational needs from all persons who have reasonable cause to believe that such needs exist. Specific state criteria will be adhered to in determining eligibility for specific impairment. Referrals of suspected special education children shall be referred to the Director of Special Education.

IEP Evaluation: Whenever a child is referred who is suspected of having a special educational need, the school district shall establish an Individual Educational Plan team of evaluators (IEP team). The appointment of this team shall be the responsibility of the Director of Special Education. Parents/Guardians are included in the IEP process, including decisions related to the review of existing data and determination of what, if any, additional data may be needed in the evaluation.

Procedural safeguards for evaluation include the following:

The notice of intent to evaluate shall be provided to the parents at each annual IEP, Evaluation or Re-evaluation meeting that will include:

- A full explanation of the due process/procedural safeguards;
- A description of the evaluation proposed, an explanation of why the evaluation is proposed, any options that were considered, and the reasons why those options were rejected;
- A description of each evaluation procedure used as a basis for the evaluation;
- The type of professionals conducting the evaluation;
- A description of any other relevant factors.

Written parental/guardian consent shall be obtained when a child is being evaluated for the first time within the district. This consent form shall include:

- A statement documenting that the parent understands the content of the notice;
- Information on the general areas to be evaluated;
- Information on the general types of procedures to be used.

Each school district provides programming for the students exhibiting any of the following impairments: autism, cognitively disabled, emotional behavioral disorder, hearing impaired, learning disabled, orthopedically impaired, other health impairment, physically impaired, speech and language, traumatic brain injury, and visually impaired.

Revoking Consent for Services

You may revoke consent for your child to receive special education and related services at any time.

If you revoke consent, the school district will provide you with a prior written notice explaining when it will stop providing special education and related services to your child. Once special education and related services end, your school district:

1. Is not required to make a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) available to your child;
2. Is not required to have an individualized education program (IEP) meeting or develop an IEP for your child;
3. Is not required to offer your child the discipline protections under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); and
4. Is not required to amend your child's special education records to remove any reference to your child's receipt of special education and related services.

SPECIAL NEEDS VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) allows a student with a disability, who meets certain eligibility requirements, to receive a state-funded scholarship to attend a participating private school. Information on the program can be accessed on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's website at <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/special-needs-scholarship>.

EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS

Homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children residing in the district and be provided with comparable services. Homeless children/youth will not be required to attend a separate school or program for homeless children and will not be stigmatized by school personnel.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE EXCEPTION

Upon a child's parent's or guardian's request of the Merrill Area Public School Board and with written approval of the child's parent or guardian, any child who is 16 years of age or over and a child at risk, as defined in Wisconsin State Statute 118.153 (1) (a), may attend, in lieu of high school or on a part-time basis, a technical college if the child and his or her parent or guardian agree, in writing, that the child will participate in a program leading to the child's high school graduation.

PUPIL NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

It is the policy of the public schools that no person may be denied admission to any public school in the district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program activity because of the person's sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, or any other category protected by state or federal law as required by s. 118.13, Wis. Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Each district encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy. A formal complaint resolution procedure is available to address allegations of violations of the policy in the school district.

ACCOMMODATING A STUDENT'S RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

Merrill Area Public Schools Board of Education recognizes that reasonable accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements may have to be made from time to time because of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs.

Parents/Guardians may make requests regarding the above to the building principal. All requests shall be judged individually, based upon state and federal guidelines. The principal shall inform the parents/guardians in writing of his/her decision in a timely manner. If a parent/guardian is not satisfied with the building principal's decision, he/she may appeal to the District Administrator and, if necessary, to the Board. Appeals beyond the Board may be made to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in accordance with provisions of state law.

Accommodations made under this policy shall be provided to students without prejudicial effect. Please reference Policy 5110, Equal Educational Opportunities.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

School districts are required by section 118.16 (4) (d) of the state statutes to provide each student enrolled in district schools with a copy of established school attendance policies. In addition, school districts are required by section 118.15 (1)(f) of the state statutes to notify students and their parents/guardians of the following at the beginning of each school term:

- (1) their right to request the school board to provide the student with program or curriculum modifications as outlined in section 118.15 (1) (d) of the state statutes, and
- (2) the decision-making process to be used in responding to such requests under sections 118.15 (1) (dm) and (e) of the state statutes.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Any complaint regarding the interpretation or application of the district's student non-discrimination policy shall be processed in accordance with the following grievance procedures:

1. Any student, parent/guardian or resident of the District complaining of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability in school programs or activities shall report the complaint in writing to the District Administrator.
2. The District Administrator, upon receiving such a written complaint, shall immediately undertake an investigation of the suspected infraction. The District Administrator will review with the building principal, or other appropriate persons, the facts comprising the alleged discrimination. Within 30 days after receiving the complaint, the District Administrator shall decide the merits of the case, determine the action to be taken, if any, and report in writing the findings and the resolution of the case to the grievant.
3. If the grievant is dissatisfied with the decision of the District Administrator, he/she may appeal the decision in writing to the School Board. The School Board shall hear the appeal at its next regular meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose of hearing the appeal. The School Board shall make its decision in writing within 15 days after the hearing. Copies of the written decision shall be mailed or delivered to the grievant and the District Administrator.
4. If the grievant is dissatisfied with the School Board's decision, he/she may, within 30 days, appeal the decision in writing to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
5. Discrimination complaints relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement or the provision of free appropriate public education (FAPE) of a child with special educational needs shall be processed in accordance with established appeal procedures outlined in the District's Special Education Handbook.
6. Discrimination complaints relating to programs specifically governed by federal law or regulation shall be referred directly to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Contact: Amber Haluska, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education 1111 North Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452

Copies of these complaint procedures shall be included in staff and student/parent handbooks.

2009 WISCONSIN ACT 96 - INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Merrill Area School District would like to inform staff, students, parents, and the public of the district's indoor environmental quality (IEQ) management plan. The plan was initially developed in 2013 and is reviewed as necessary. The plan was developed as deemed appropriate for the district. Questions and concerns should be directed to the IEQ Coordinator, Dale Bergman, 715-536-7383. Copies of the plan are available at the district office for a fee. The district office is located at 1111 N Sales St., Merrill WI 54452-3198.

ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

In compliance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), this is notice that the Merrill School District has an Asbestos Management Plan at the school district office. The plan is available for inspection by the public, parents, and district employees. The district performs six month periodic surveillance of asbestos in February

and August and full re-inspections every three years. For more information please contact the district office at 715-536-4581 ext. 10100.

STUDENT BULLYING

Merrill Area Public Schools is required to distribute the district's policy prohibiting bullying to all students enrolled in the school district and to their parents and guardian annually. They must also provide a copy of the policy to any person who requests it.

STUDENT LOCKER SEARCHES

Merrill Area Public Schools has adopted a locker search policy specifying that the board retains ownership and possessory control of all student lockers and designating the school official, employee or agent positions that may conduct locker searches are required by section 118.325 of the state statutes to provide each student enrolled in the district with a copy of the district's policy (Rule 446.0). Designated school officials, employees or agents may search a student's locker without the consent of the student, without notifying the student and without obtaining a search warrant.

YOUTH OPTIONS PROGRAM

The district is required to provide information about the Youth Options Program annually to all students enrolled in the school district in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades. This notice must be given prior to October 1. (Policy 343.42)

Merrill Area Public Schools administers a Youth Options Program in accordance with state law and regulations and Board Policy (343.42). The high school guidance office shall be responsible for administering the Youth Options Program.

HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTION

If requested, parents/guardians will be provided with an outline of the human growth and development curriculum used at their child's grade level and information about how they can inspect the complete curriculum and instructional materials.

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

The district is required to provide an annual notice to each household in the district informing parents/guardians of the child nutrition programs offered in the district and eligibility requirements for free or reduced price meals/milk. An application form must also be included with the notice. This information should be provided at the beginning of the school year.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The school board is required to notify, by January 1 each year, the parent/guardian of each student enrolled in the district of the right to request a school and school district performance report. The report must be distributed to those parents/guardians who request it by May 1 each year. If the district maintains an Internet site, the school and school district performance report must be made available to the public on that site.

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS AND EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

Annually, each public school, including a charter school, and private school participating in a parental choice program, must provide to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in or attending the school a copy of the school's accountability report including the most recent school accountability performance category. Annually a list and description of educational options available to pupils must be provided to parents and guardians. These reports and options are available on the district website at <http://www.mapsedu.org/district/district-profile.cfm>

NOTICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION RESOURCES

The school board must annually inform its professional staff of the resources available from the DPI and other sources regarding suicide prevention. Information describing the suicide prevention resources and services and how staff can access them, along with model notices, are available on DPI's website.

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE INFORMATION

The school district must provide the parents/guardians of students enrolled in grades 6-12 in the district with information about meningococcal disease, including: (a) the causes and symptoms of the disease, (b) how it is spread, and (c) how to obtain additional information about the disease and the availability, effectiveness, and risks of vaccinations against the disease.

TITLE I PROGRAMS

Merrill Area Public Schools is required to notify parents of their parent involvement policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Parents are to be notified at the beginning of the school year that they may request and obtain information regarding:

- (1) The professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers, including the following: (a) whether the teacher has met state licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject area(s) taught; (b) whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status through which state licensing criteria have been waived; and (c) the undergraduate degree major of the teacher, and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, including the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- (2) The professional qualifications of paraprofessionals providing instructional-related services to their child.

The above notification must be given to the parents of each student attending a school in the district that receives Title I funds, not just to the parents of students participating in the Title I program. Parents who request teacher and/or paraprofessional qualification information must be provided the information in a

timely manner.

School Report Card – Districts must publicly disseminate a report card to parents and the public that includes the following information at the district and school levels: (1) aggregate student achievement at each proficiency level on state tests, including comparisons to state averages; (2) disaggregated student achievement at each proficiency level on state tests by race, ethnicity, gender, disability status, migrant status, English proficiency, and status as economically disadvantaged (the local data must also show a comparison to state averages); (3) comparisons of student achievement by subgroup to the state's annual measurable objectives for each group on each test; the percentage of students not tested disaggregated by the above subgroups; (5) the most recent two-year trend in student achievement in each tested subject area and grade level; (6) graduation rates for high school students by subgroup and compared to state averages; (7) the professional qualifications of teachers (aggregate and disaggregated comparing high-poverty to low-poverty schools); (8) the percentage of teachers teaching with emergency or provisional licenses (aggregate and disaggregated, comparing high-poverty to low-poverty schools).

School report cards must be disseminated to all parents of students attending district schools and be in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. Districts must also make the report cards widely available to the public through means such as posting on the Internet, distribution to the media, and through public agencies.

In addition to the above notifications, a school receiving Title I funds must:

- Notify parents if their child is assigned to, or taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher(s) who is not "highly qualified." This provision applies to all teachers in a school that receives Title I funds, including substitute teachers, not just those who work in Title I programs.
- Provide each parent information on the achievement level of their child on each of the state academic assessments as soon as is practicably possible after the assessment is taken.

Wisconsin's ESEA Flexibility Waiver requires school districts to notify parents, when applicable, that their child's school has been named a Title I Priority School or Title I Focus School. School districts with one or more Priority Schools must:

- (1) Seek input from families and the community in selecting meaningful interventions aligned with the turnaround principles to be implemented in these schools and
- (2) Include in Priority School interventions ongoing mechanisms for family and community engagement.

In the case of a school identified for school improvement, for corrective action or for restructuring, a district must notify the parents of all students enrolled in the school of their option to transfer to another public school served by the district. This notification must be given at least 14 days before the start of the school year. The district must also notify parents of eligible students of the availability of supplemental education services in a manner that is clearly distinguishable from other school improvement information that parents receive. The notice must inform parents of the benefits of supplemental education services and indicate providers who are able to serve students with disabilities of limited English proficient students.

PROGRAM FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

The district must, no later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year, give the parent(s) of each child identified for participation or participating in such a program the following information:

- (1) why the child is placed in the program; (2) the child's level of English proficiency; (3) how that level was determined and the status of the child's academic achievement; (4) methods of instruction in the program in which their child is placed and those of other available programs; (5) how the program will meet the educational needs of their child; (6) how the program will help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation; (7) the specific exit requirements for the program; (8) in the case of a child with a disability, how the program meets the child's IEP objectives; and (9) information about parental rights. For a student not identified as limited English proficient prior to the beginning of the school year, the district must notify parents within the first two weeks of the child being placed in such a program.

STUDENT PRIVACY

Merrill Area Public Schools shall protect the privacy rights of parents/guardians and their children. The District shall also comply with all applicable state and federal laws regarding the administration of student surveys. This applies only to surveys containing the students' personally identifiable information. No student shall be required to participate in any survey associated with a school program or the District's curriculum, or which is administered by a third party in the schools, if the survey includes one or more of the following items:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian;
- Mental and psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
- Sex behavior or attitudes;
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships;
- Legally recognized privileged or

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- analogous relationships such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers;
- Religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian; or
- Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program.

The building principal shall notify parents and guardians at the beginning of each school year of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when such survey activities are scheduled involving their children. Parents and guardians shall be given the opportunity to request that their child not participate in a survey containing the above information. If a survey containing any of the above information is funded in whole or in part by a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education, written consent shall be obtained from the student or, in the case of a minor student, the student's parent/guardian before the student participates in the survey.

USE OF CAMERAS AND OTHER RECORDING DEVICES IN LOCKER ROOMS

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of protecting the privacy interests of the District's students and is committed to safeguarding students' privacy in the locker room facilities. As required by law, the Board establishes the following locker room privacy policy.

To protect the privacy of students, non-staff access to locker rooms for the purpose of interviewing or seeking information from any student in the locker room is prohibited.

Video recording devices of any type may be used in the locker room provided that no students are present in the locker room when the recording device is being used.

Parents may enter the locker room on a limited basis, with prior approval of the coach or teacher. The parent is not permitted to interview or seek information from any student or use a recording device to record or transfer images. A "recording device" means a camera, a video recorder, cell phone with video and/or photograph capabilities, or any other device that may be used to capture, record or transfer images.

No images of a nude or partially nude person in the locker room may be captured, recorded, or transferred under any circumstances by any individual. To protect the privacy of the District's students, parents, other adult residents of the community, and any public that may utilize the locker room facilities, no person may use a cell phone to capture, record, or to transfer a representation of a nude or partially nude person in the locker room.

Furthermore, the Board believes that safety is of the utmost importance. Therefore, notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, if necessary, emergency rescue personnel will be permitted into the locker room and will be given access to any tools necessary to do their job.

District officials may refer any violations of this policy to law enforcement for possible criminal prosecution who violate State law.

This policy shall be publicized annually and posted in each locker room in the District.

© Neola 2012
Legal 175.22, 942.08, 942.09, Wis Stats. 2007 Wisconsin Act 118

VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL NOTICE

The governing body of a virtual charter school is required by section 118.40(8)(f) of the state statutes to inform the parent/guardian of each student attending the virtual charter school, in writing, at the beginning of the school year of the following information:

- The name of the members of the school board that contracted for the establishment of the virtual charter school and the administrators of that school district, and how to contact them.
- The names of the members of the virtual charter school's governing body, if different than the persons in item (1) above, and how to contact them.
- The names of the members of the virtual charter school's parent advisory council, and how to contact them. Each virtual charter school is required to have a parent advisory council that meets on a regular basis.
- The names of the staff of the virtual charter school, and how to contact them.

LEGAL REF: Wisconsin Statutes, Section 118.13
Wisconsin Administration Code, PI 9 Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964 Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Under Wisconsin Statutes Section 118.15 (1) (b)
Any questions concerning these policies should be directed to:

Merrill Area Public Schools
Amber Haluska
Director of Pupil Services and Special Education
1111 N Sales Street
Merrill WI 54452
(715) 536-4581, Ext 10008

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals 7700

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: 07/26/2024
/S/HON. GALEN BAYNE-ALLISON
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BR I
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing
Case No. 24-CV-90
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF
Lunayah Ann Ritchie

By (Petitioner) Stacy Ann Essert
NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Lunayah Ann Ritchie
To: Lunayah Ann Essert
Birth Certificate: Lunayah Ann Ritchie

IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Honorable Galen Bayne-Allison
Place: Lincoln County Courthouse-Br 1 Courtroom
1110 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452
Date: 09/09/2024
Time: 2:00 PM

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Foto News a newspaper published in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.
Published: 8/8/24, 8/15/24 & 8/22/24
WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL
1004 EAST FIRST STREET
MERRILL, WI 54452

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

All persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard at a public hearing to be held by and before the City Plan Commission of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, commencing at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 1004 East First Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the following proposed matters, to wit:

- Wendorf Construction Inc., requesting approval of a Preliminary Plat of Tall Pines Subdivision per M.M.C. Sec 111-114, located in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. Legally described in PIN# 251-3106-122-0147.
- Wendorf Construction Inc., requesting rezoning of Tall Pines Subdivision, located in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, from Industrial to R-1 Residential for the construction of single family homes per M.M.C. Sec. 113-38, with the exception of lots 29 and 30 being rezoned to Thoroughfare Commercial per M.M.C. Sec. 113-40. Legally described in PIN# 251-3106-122-0147.

Anyone having any questions regarding the hearing should contact Zoning Administrator, Darin Pagel at 536-4880.
Dated: August 19, 2024
CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN
By: Lori Anderson-Malm
City Clerk
Published August 22 & 29, 2024
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

To Advertise Call
715-536-7121



While visiting their Nana, Caleb and Charlotte stopped to donate some toys and food for the dogs and cats. Thank you for donating to Lincoln County Humane Society!
Submitted photo.

PAID LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

Adding this expense to the referendum has you paying these expenses twice.

Also included in the referendum is \$630,000 to pay the debt for the 2017 addition to Pine Crest. This annual debt payment has always been covered by Pine Crest's revenues. The Board is asking you to pay taxes for a debt even though it's covered by other revenue.

Pine Crest requires significant maintenance funds over the next 10 years. The County Board estimates that the cost can be met with an annual tax increase of \$2,386,400. Therefore, the referendum should have been limited to \$2,400,000.

- Donald Dunphy, Merrill, Wis.

County Board Supervisor, District 7

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

To the Editor:

Dear Voters:
You are being deceived by the County Board. A binding referendum will appear on the November ballot asking you to vote to increase taxes \$5,000,000 a year to fund Pine Crest. The tax increase is twice the amount needed.

The County Board padded its referendum by including annual operating expenses of \$800,000 that have been paid out of your taxes for many years without exceeding the property tax cap.

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

DEADLINE THURSDAY, AUGUST 29!!!

16th ANNUAL MERRILL CITYWIDE FALL RUMMAGE SALE

To Be Held All Over the Merrill Area Saturday, September 7th

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

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

OBITUARIES

Lorena J. 'Lori' Sosnovske



Lorena J. 'Lori' Sosnovske, 86, of Merrill, formerly of Gleason, passed away Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at Bell Tower Residence, Merrill.

Lorena was born November 16, 1937, in Merrill, daughter of Herbert and Dorothy (Bergman) Lee and grew up on a farm in Langlade County. As a youth, Lori was a member of 4-H in Langlade County. She graduated from Antigo High School with the class of 1955. After graduation, Lori spent six years in Milwaukee doing

office and factory work. During a trip home for the weekend, she met Louis Sosnovske. They were married on May 29, 1962.

Lori kept busy by helping her husband on their dairy farm and raising four children. She enjoyed field work, especially chopping, raking, and baling hay. She drove a tractor on the family farm until she was 80 years old. Her involvement in 4-H continued when she became a leader for the Dudley Doo-Rites and proceeded onto becoming a member of the 4-H Leaders Association in Lincoln County.

Lori was a longtime member of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Gleason. She was a member of the Worthwhile Women's Club in the Town of Summit and the Merrill Chamber of Commerce Dairy Promotion Committee. Lori was also a charter member of the Gleason Lion's Club and collected eyeglasses for the Wisconsin Lions Foundation. She volunteered with the Good Samaritan Hospital Auxiliary, AMPI, and Foremost Farms Women's Dairy Promotion. You could find her scooping ice cream at various places including Hodag, the county Fair, and Gleason Lions Club activities. Lori was a fan of the Milwaukee Brewers. She enjoyed country music, bowling, gardening, baking, quilting, and needlework. She especially enjoyed helping her son Marty and grandson Ben with their maple syrup production.

Survivors include her children, Brenda Sosnovske of Kewaunee, WI, Tena (Steve) Peterson of Gleason, Marty (Mary) Sosnovske of Gleason, and Cory (Anastasia) Sosnovske of Stevens Point; six grandchildren, Jessica (Steven) Cak, Jeri Peterson, Ben Sosnovske, Drexel Sosnovske, Alexander Sosnovske, and Maxwell Sosnovske; three sisters, Patricia Hubbard of Milton, WI, Janet (David) Way of Stevens Point, and Jane (Greg) Brown of Pensacola, FL; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Lori was preceded in death by her husband, Louis Sosnovske; parents, Herbert and Dorothy Lee; granddaughter, Alissa 'Aly' Sosnovske; and brother-in-law, Charles Hubbard and Robert (Betty) Sosnovske.

The memorial service for Lori will be held at 12:00 P.M., Saturday, August 24, 2024, at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Gleason. Rev. Greg Laska will officiate. The family will receive friends at the church beginning at 9:00 A.M. Saturday. The inurnment will take place at Summit Cemetery, Langlade County. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

In Lori's words, "In lieu of flowers, give blood and eat dairy foods."

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

Jeffery Clark Radloff



Jeffery Clark Radloff, 72, of Merrill, WI passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, August 10, 2024 at Monument Health Sturgis Hospital, Sturgis, SD with family at his side while attending his 32nd Sturgis Rally.

Jeffery Clark Radloff was born July 4, 1952 in Wausau, WI to Wallace Theodore and Bette Jane (Krueger) Radloff. He grew up in Wausau and graduated from Wausau East High School in 1971. During his high school years he was a member of the Rib Mountain Ski Patrol. He then attended schooling at Kenosha Technical College and graduated with a degree in Law Enforcement. Following graduation, he was hired by the State of Wisconsin and worked at Ethan Allen Juvenile Correctional facility in Wales, WI. He later transferred to Lincoln Hills Juvenile Correctional facility in Irma, WI. Jeff was well respected by management and co-workers, serving in the capacity of a youth counselor and security guard during his 30+ year career.

On September 9, 1978 Jeffery was united in marriage to Denise Louise (Denni) Jorgensen. They have one son, Marcus Jens Radloff. Jeff and Denni owned and operated Radloff's Carpet Cleaning for 38 years. Marcus worked alongside Jeff for many of those years.

Jeff and Denni both rode motorcycles and were members of the Harley Owners Group. They now drive an orange and black Polaris Slingshot. They enjoyed spending time in the Black Hills during the Sturgis Rally and have met people from all over the world; that have since become lifelong friends. After retirement, they came out west during the summer and worked for friend's Wendy and Dan Smith that (then) owned Sturgis View Campground. Jeff was a life member of the Auxiliary to Schmitt-Manecke-Donner VFW Post 1638 in Merrill, WI. The VFW's annual Buddy Poppy Drive was his favorite activity. He also removed snow from the Merrill Veteran's Memorial site located in the St Francis Xavier Cemetery in Merrill. Jeff was also a life member of the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, MI. Jeff competed in Bench Press Power Lifting most of his life and working for the State of Wisconsin made him eligible to compete in the World Police and Fire Games. He won gold medals for Bench Press Power Lifting in Indianapolis, IN in 2001, Barcelona, Spain in 2003, Quebec City, Quebec Canada in 2005 and he won a silver medal in Adelaide, Australia in 2007. Jeff and Denni met people from all over the World and enjoyed visiting all these countries. Jeff trained for these competitions at Franck's Gym in Wausau, WI with the support of Bryan Franck (owner). In his retirement years, Jeff was a member of Riverside Athletic Club and enjoyed working out and spending time there with his friends in the morning. Jeff and Denni would walk a section of the River Bend Trail in Merrill almost every day and stopped at local businesses to chat. Jeff was a Green Bay Packers season ticket holder and he and Denni attended at least a couple games a year. In the 1980's he obtained his Master Diver certification, which included night diving and ice diving. The highlight of his diving career was being able to dive the Crystal River caverns in Florida. Jeff also enjoyed musky fishing, his personal record was a 50 inch, 36 pound Musky caught during a tournament with co-workers from Lincoln Hills School. Jeff also enjoyed bow hunting for bear and deer and spending time at their cabin in the Town of Pine River.

Jeff was larger than life and had a big personality and an even bigger sense of humor, he loved to joke around with family and friends. He also loved for friends to call him "Daddy" or "Big Daddy". He loved being the center of attention and created laughter, mischief and sometimes mayhem where ever he went. His wife Denni gave God a "heads-up" that Jeff is going to be a handful. His family and friends will miss his many "one liners" - everyone had their favorite! Jeff had a big and kind heart and was always willing to help anyone in need, even strangers. Jeff loved to watch the Wheel of Fortune and very seldom missed a show. Jeff leaves behind countless friends that loved and will miss him dearly, every one of them has a funny crazy story to tell. He, indeed, lived a great story!

Jeff was especially proud of his family. His wife Denni worked alongside him and was a partner in everything he did. He was so proud of his son Marcus' 21 year career in the Army Reserves. Marcus deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan in 2003 and 2012 respectively. Jeff's (then) future daughter-in-law Amy Woller also deployed to Iraq in 2003.

Jeff is survived by his wife Denni Radloff, son Marcus (Amy) Radloff of Tomah, WI, sister Sandra (Patrick) Brady of The Villages, FL and brother Bruce (Eva) Radloff of Mission Viejo, CA. He is further survived by niece's AnLyss (Eric) James, Elizabeth Schuette, Jennifer Radloff and nephew Dylan (Lauren) Radloff. He is preceded in death by his father Wallace Theodore Radloff and mother Bette Jane (Krueger) Radloff.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Northwoods Veterans Post, 601 Johnson St., Merrill, WI on Friday, September 13, 2024 from 3:00-7:00. Online condolences may be left at www.kinkadefunerals.com

August Critic's Choice Movie at the library

On Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2024, at 1 p.m., the T.B. Scott Free Library will present their August Critic's Choice Movie Event. In this month's feature film, Harrison Ford portrays John Thornton, who befriends the big Saint Bernard mix, Buck, in a family friendly adaptation of the classic Jack London novel.

Many trials await the two in the Arctic Circle during the late 19th century gold

rush.

Although considered an adventure drama, there are many lighthearted moments in the film. Interestingly, Buck is portrayed by a former Cirque du Soleil performer who is digitally transformed into the big, fun-loving dog.

Enjoy the afternoon with friends, family, and delicious popcorn at the library.

PRIMARY RESULTS from page 2

County. Kilbourn tallied 947 votes in the county.

Wisconsin State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Mary Felzkowski, who represents Wisconsin's 12th Senate District, ran for the Republican nomination unchallenged.

Felzkowski will take on Democrat Andi Rich in November. Rich did not face an opponent on the Democratic ticket.

Wisconsin State Assembly

In the Republican primary race for the Wisconsin State Assembly, incumbent District 35 Representative Calvin Callahan defeated challenger Todd Mayr by a roughly 85% to 15% margin.

After running unopposed for the Democratic nomination, Elizabeth McCrank will go head-to-head with Callahan this fall. McCrank and Callahan previously served on the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors together, until Callahan's resignation last September.

Referendum questions

Wisconsin voters rejected a pair of referendum questions that sought to amend the state Constitution to allow the State Legislature to have more authority over how federal money allocated to Wisconsin is spent.

Under current law, which has stood since the 1930s, that power is vested in the governor.

The two referendums failed by roughly 57% to 43% and 58% to 42% margins, respectively, according to preliminary

results.

The statewide results were not reflected in Lincoln County, where question one was supported by a 3,164-vote to 2,851-vote margin, and question two received 3,215 votes in support and 2,844 votes against.

Lincoln County District Attorney

Current Lincoln County District Attorney Kristopher Ellis did not face a challenger in the Democratic primary race.

No Republicans entered the race for District Attorney. Ellis will be unopposed on November ballots.

Lincoln County Clerk

Two candidates vied for the Republican nomination in the race for Lincoln County Clerk.

Current Clerk Christopher Marlowe defeated challenger Steve Osness by a 2,273-vote to 1,665-vote split, according to preliminary results.

With no Democrats seeking the Clerk post, Marlowe will be the lone candidate on November ballots.

Lincoln County Treasurer

Robbin Gigl, who currently serves as Lincoln County Treasurer, was not opposed on the Republican ticket in her bid to return to the post.

No Democrats entered the race. Gigl will appear on November ballots unchallenged.

Lincoln County Register of Deeds

After seeking the Republican nomination unopposed, and with no Democrats in the race, current Lincoln County Register of Deeds Sarah Koss will be the lone candidate this fall.

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REPORTS

MERRILL FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS

For five weeks (July 8-Aug. 18, 2024):

- Alarm system sounded due to malfunction 3
- Arcing, shorted electrical equipment 2
- Building fire 3
- Camper or recreational vehicle (RV) fire 1
- Carbon monoxide incident 1
- CO detector activation due to malfunction 1
- Confined Space Standby 1
- Dispatched and cancelled en route 2
- Dispatched and cancelled en route (EMS)- Mutual aid received 1
- Dispatched and cancelled en route (EMS) 12
- EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury 208
- Gas leak (natural gas or LPG) 1
- Good intent call, other 4
- Grass fire 2
- Motor vehicle accident with injuries 7
- Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped) 1
- No incident found on arrival at dispatch address 1
- Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire 1
- Passenger vehicle fire 1
- Power line down 1
- Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator 1
- Rescue or EMS standby 3
- Smoke or odor removal 1
- Smoke scare, odor of smoke 1
- Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional 1
- Standby for Tomahawks E.M.S. 5
- Swimming/recreational water areas rescue 1
- TOTAL INCIDENTS / CALLS FOR 2024: 1424**

MERRILL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS (JULY 8 - AUGUST 18, 2024)

- 7-8-24**
At 12:49 p.m. officers responded to a local gas station for a report of a counterfeit \$50 bill being used. Police seized the bill, and investigation is ongoing.
- At 8:15 p.m. officers responded to an active fight in progress at a local laundromat. When police arrived on scene, suspects had fled but were later located and arrested.
- 7-9-24**
At 5:15 p.m. officers responded to the report of a male unconscious inside a vehicle at a local gas station. Police arrived and contacted the male who was found to be highly intoxicated. The male was arrested for operating while intoxicated (OWI).
- At 6:22 p.m. officers responded to a local gas station in reference to a report of an intoxicated male outside drinking alcohol behind the building. The male was contacted by police and found to be on active probation with rules prohibiting alcohol use or possession. The male was arrested for a probation violation.
- 7-10-24**
At 12:36 p.m. officers were requested to take an individual into custody for a probation violation. Officers responded and took the individual into custody without incident.
- At 7:24 p.m. officers were requested to respond to a Lincoln

County Deputy's traffic stop for assistance. Officers stood by while the Deputy conducted a probable cause search of the vehicle. Items located in the vehicle consisted of drug possession, paraphernalia, and an open alcoholic beverage. The parties were issued multiple citations.

- 7-11-24**
At 10:54 a.m. officers responded to a hit-and-run complaint at a local gas station. It was reported that the vehicle was hit, and the striking vehicle fled the scene. The crash is still under investigation.
- At 8:10 p.m. officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. The passenger of the vehicle was found to have an open bottle of alcohol and admitted to drinking. The passenger had a bond condition of no consumption of alcohol and was taken into custody.
- At 9:33 p.m. officers responded to a report of disorderly conduct. A father and daughter were reported to be yelling outside a residence. It was determined that the reporting party had not paid the daughter for a babysitting job. The daughter was paid and the father was warned for disorderly conduct.
- 7-11-24**
At 2:55 p.m. officers responded to a crash involving two vehicles at a local business. Officers determined that one party had left after giving the other one their information. Officers will be following up with the other driver.
- 7-12-24**
At 5:46 p.m. officers, along with EMS, responded to a request for a welfare check on a person at their apartment. The person was located and determined to be disoriented. The person was transported to the local hospital.
- At 5:52 p.m. officers respond to a local park in reference to a welfare check on a female at that location. Police contacted the female who admitted to having mental health issues. The female was transported for mental health treatment.
- 7-13-24**
At 1:12 a.m. officers respond to an apartment regarding an assault that occurred between two roommates. Police determined the suspect brandished a knife during the assault. The suspect was taken into custody.
- At 1:19 a.m. officers responded to a crash involving an intoxicated driver who struck a parked vehicle. The driver was detained by officers and arrested for OWI.
- 7-14-24**
At 3:56 p.m. officers responded to a report of a disturbance at a residence. Upon arrival officers contacted the parties involved and determined one of the involved parties had an active warrant. The suspect was taken into custody and transported to jail.
- 7-15-24**
At approximately 1:40 p.m. officers responded to Aspirus Merrill Hospital for a report of a male patient that was trying to leave. It was determined that the patient was going to be committed to North Central Health Care Center (NCHCC). The male patient was later transported to NCHCC.
- At approximately 4:29 p.m. an officer received a report of a historic sexual assault. The investigation is ongoing.

- 7-17-24**
At 5:05 p.m. officers responded to a local business for a report of multiple juveniles causing damage. All the juveniles were banned from the local business, and officers are investigating the damage to the property.
- At 11:59 p.m. officers were dispatched to a local business for an intoxicated person. Officers determined the intoxicated male had open bond conditions that he violated, and the male was arrested for bail jumping.
- 7-18-24**
At 8:06 p.m. officers responded to an ATV that had caught fire on the roadway. The fire was able to be put out, but the ATV was a total loss. It is unknown what caused the fire to start.
- 7-19-24**
At 10:50 a.m. officers were notified of an individual with an active warrant for their arrest. The individual was arrested without issue and taken to the Lincoln County Jail.
- 7-20-24**
At 1:17 a.m. officers responded to residence for a report of fireworks being ignited at the residence. Multiple burn marks were located on the porch, and a firework was also located. Officers were unable to identify a vehicle or suspect at this time.
- At 10:02 p.m. officers responded to a residence for a disorderly conduct complaint. It was found that there was a verbal argument between a male and female party. The parties separated for the night.
- At 11:50 p.m. officers responded to a vehicle that was swerving on the highway and was coming into the city limits. Officers located the vehicle and stopped them for speed. The occupants were found to be juveniles. Citations were issued for speed and tobacco violations.
- 7-21-24**
At 5:44 p.m. officers responded to a report of a theft of a fishing pole. The suspects were located and the fishing pole was returned to the owner. One suspect had an open bond with absolute sobriety and was founded to have been drinking. The male party was taken into custody.
- 7-22-24**
At 6:14 p.m. officers responded to a report of a tree branch on the power lines, causing fire and power line issues in the area of Elm St. and E. 8th St. This caused a power outage for portions of Merrill.
- At 7:50 p.m. an officer responded to a dog at large complaint in the 600 block of N. State St. Due to previous warnings, the dog owner received a citation.
- 7-23-24**
At 8:25 a.m. officers responded to a two-vehicle crash on E. Main St. Officers determined that one of the drivers was under the influence of an illicit substance. The driver was arrested for Operating Under the Influence and was booked into the Lincoln County Jail. Neither driver sustained any injuries.
- 7-24-24**
At approximately 4:36 p.m. an officer took a forgery fraud complaint in which a person was scammed out of approximately \$3,000 worth of gift cards. The investigation is ongoing.
- At approximately 8:32 p.m. an officer conducted a traffic stop on N. Center Ave./ Lake St. The driver was cited for operating without a valid license.
- 7-26-24**
At 5:57 p.m. officers responded to a local business for a disorderly male. The male was arrested for disorderly conduct and was booked at the Lincoln County Jail.
- At 6:46 p.m. officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was arrested on an active warrant and booked at the Lincoln County Jail.
- 7-27-24**
At approximately 10:51 p.m. an officer conducted a traffic stop on Willow Bend Ct. near Jackson St. The driver and passengers showed signs of impairment from alcohol. The driver was arrested for OWI.
- 7-29-24**
At 9:13 a.m. a male was arrested for a probation violation at the request of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC).
- At 12:16 p.m. a store reported a man had been sleeping/staying in his vehicle for the past day in their parking lot. Contact was made with the man who attempted to conceal a baggie of marijuana. The man was also found to have a vape pen containing THC. The man was cited for possession of THC.
- At 2:58 p.m. a convenience store reported a man had stolen a charity jar containing money from the store a few days prior. Investigation is ongoing.
- At 7:45 p.m. a caller reported he reviewed his home surveillance camera footage and found two juvenile females had come to his residence earlier and appeared to be attempting to sell something. One of the juveniles then urinated in his yard. The investigation is ongoing.
- 7-30-24**
At 10:13 a.m. a caller reported an attempted burglary at a residence under construction. Investigation is ongoing.

See REPORTS page 8

Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

- Aug. 22 - Gazebo Nights Concert: Still Reckless
- Aug. 24 - High And Low Auto Show at the MARC
- Aug. 24 - Tails and Ales at Sawmill Brewing Co.
- Aug. 25 - Gleason Lions Pancake Breakfast
- Aug. 29 - Gazebo Nights Concert: Copper Box
- Aug. 31 - HonkyTonk Highway at Rock Island Resort
- Sept. 1 - Bingo at VFW
- Sept. 2 - Merrill Labor Day Parade
- Sept. 2 - Merrill Lion's Club Labor Day Car Show
- at Merrill Festival Grounds
- Sept. 5 - Bingo at St. Francis School
- Sept. 7 - Hillside Alive at Normal Park
- Sept. 7 - Community Wide Rummage Sales
- Sept. 7 - St. Francis Xavier Sportsmens Banquet
- Sept. 7-8 - Paper Cities Kennel Club AKC All-Breed Dog Shows, Tests and Trials at MARC

For more information, go to: merrillchamber.org/events or contact the event sponsor.

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"R" (1HR 59MIN)
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AUG. 30TH - BLUEGILL
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Pet of the Week

Mr. Romeo here! This handsome man is looking for a home to call his own! He is great with other cats and loves to get all the attention and chin scratches! Romeo is just over 8.5 years old and loves to be loved!

Visit all the adoptable pets at 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 at www.furrypets.com.

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Hartwig organizes flotilla

TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

Greg Hartwig, who is Vice Chair of the Lincoln County Republican Party, organized a flotilla on Lake Alexander this past Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024, with a Donald Trump theme. "The on and off sprinkles kept some people away but we had about a

dozen boats," Hartwig said. "People were watching from shore and on their docks."

The boats were decorated with American flags, Trump signs and flags, and one even had a near life-size blow-up doll of former U.S. President Donald Trump and the Republican candidate for this year's Nov.

Presidential election. This is the second such flotilla Hartwig has organized, with the same theme. "We had one four years ago, it was in the same location, [and] was a fun way to get people out on the water," he said.

"Wish the weather was nicer, but we all had a good time," Hartwig said.



More photos online merrillfotonews.com

Greg Hartwig photos.



Lincoln County supporters join Tammy Baldwin for her "Rural Leaders for Tammy" coalition and Rural Wisconsin Tour launch at Breitenmoser Family Farms. Photos courtesy of Tammy Baldwin campaign.

Incumbent Senator Baldwin campaigns in Merrill

TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

Incumbent Democratic Senator Tammy Baldwin kicked off her re-election campaign last week and stopped at Breitenmoser Family Farms on Joe Snow Rd, just outside of Merrill last Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024. Baldwin's Lincoln County area supporters joined her as she started her "Rural Leaders for Tammy" coalition and Rural Wisconsin Tour launch

at the farm; got a tour of the 500-cow family-owned dairy farm from the farm's owner, Hans Breitenmoser; shook hands, chatted, and met with area constituents and supporters; and posed for photos.

Baldwin's two-day campaign took her to Weyauwega, the Chippewa Falls area, and New London, before ending in Granton. The tour was designed "to highlight the importance of our farmers, rural businesses and agribusinesses, and

rural Wisconsin's voices this Election Day," a press release from Baldwin's campaign said.

"Wisconsin is a proud rural state known for its world-class agriculture and the best workers in the world," Baldwin said. "I know our farmers and rural communities always have our backs, which is why I promise I'm going to have their backs in Washington. Because when our rural communities thrive, Wisconsin thrives."



Tammy Baldwin chats with Lincoln County supporters at her "Rural Leaders for Tammy" coalition and Rural Wisconsin Tour launch at Breitenmoser Family Farms.



Tammy Baldwin tours Breitenmoser Family Farms with owner, Hans Breitenmoser.

More photos online merrillfotonews.com

REPORTS from page 7

At 10:53 p.m. an officer observed individuals at a park in violation of the park curfew. Among them was a male who was found to have two warrants for his arrest. The man was arrested for said warrants.

8-1-24

At 12:49 a.m. officers were dispatched to a report of a man chasing another man in the street, armed with a hammer. Police contacted the suspect that had wielded the hammer and took him into custody on fresh charges as well as an outstanding warrant.

At 6:00 p.m. officers responded to a report of a hit-and-run crash at a local gas station. Suspect vehicle description was provided. Investigation is ongoing.

8-2-24

At 10:04 a.m. a caller reported being bitten by a dog while walking with her friend. The owner of the dog was determined, and it was found she had been

previously cited for animal at large. The owner was cited for second offense animal at large.

At 2:21 p.m. a male was arrested for a probation violation at the request of the Wisconsin DOC, and at 3:14 p.m. another male was arrested for a probation violation at the request of the Wisconsin DOC.

8-3-24

At 1:08 p.m. a caller reported the theft of a cooler. The caller had accidentally left the cooler at a gas station and when he realized this, he returned and found it gone, and nobody had turned it in at the gas station. The officer will be reviewing surveillance video to determine who took the cooler.

At 2:55 p.m. a caller reported a male yelling and swearing at a juvenile female. The juvenile then yelled for the caller to call 911, as she did not know the man. The man continued yelling and swearing while the officer was on scene investigating the report. The man was arrested for disorderly conduct and was also found to have a warrant for his arrest.

8-4-24

At 2:41 a.m. an officer conducted a traffic stop for a speeding violation. The 20-year-old driver displayed characteristics indicative of intoxication. The man agreed to field sobriety tests and, as a result of those tests, was arrested for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

8-7-24

At 9:40 a.m. a caller reported a suspicious male peering into vehicles and walking through yards in a neighborhood. The male provided two different names and was ultimately detained. The man was found to have methamphetamine in his pocket and was arrested for possession of methamphetamine and bail jumping. Charges are possibly pending from other agencies for other criminal acts.

At 2:55 p.m. a citizen turned in a cell phone found near the library. The owner is unknown at this time.

At 3:53 p.m. a juvenile reported being harassed by another juvenile. Contact was made with

the juvenile's father to have him have his son cease the harassing behavior. The son, however, again approached the juvenile and two others and began swearing at them at the Lincoln County Fair. The juvenile will be cited for disorderly conduct.

At 4:00 p.m. a caller reported a man passed out behind the wheel of a vehicle in a store parking lot. Contact was made with the man after he was finally able to be awakened. He was found to be heavily intoxicated and was arrested for OWI.

8-8-24

At 11:54 a.m. officers were advised of a missing three-year-old at the fair. The child was found to be with a grandparent, after a misunderstanding between the parent and grandparent.

At 1:22 p.m. a store reported three females shoplifting in the store. Contact was made with the females and they were cited for retail theft.

At 6:16 p.m. a caller reported his vehicle as stolen and said he suspected his son. It was found the son had used the vehicle the previous day and had been arrested for OWI. The officer found the vehicle was still at the location where the traffic stop was made. The officer gave the owner a ride to the vehicle to get it.

At 7:49 p.m. officers at the fair were notified of a fight in the parking lot. It was found an intoxicated man had confronted a group in the parking lot and began punching one of them. The man was arrested for disorderly conduct.

8-9-24

At 2:10 p.m. officers located two male individuals in an argument at the Lincoln County Fair. It was determined that one of the males who was drinking had open bond conditions prohibiting him from consuming alcohol. The male was arrested for two counts of bail jumping.

At 7:06 p.m. officers responded to a dog running loose in Merrill. The dog was returned to its owner and the owner was cited for animal at large second offense.

8-11-24

At 11:20 a.m. officers and Merrill Fire Department (MFD) responded to a vehicle on fire. Officers were able to extinguish the fire with fire extinguishers as MFD arrived. Officers then conducted traffic control while the vehicle was turned over to the fire department.

At 6:32 p.m. two males were cited for loitering after they were found on the roof of an abandoned building without permission of the owner.

At 6:52 p.m. officers responded to a residence after a male with a warrant through the Wisconsin DOC was reported to be present. The man leaped out of a second story window and fled in a vehicle. Investigation is ongoing.

At 10:13 p.m. a caller reported a female stole stuffed animals from her storage unit. It was found the caller had given the stuffed animals to the woman who was supposed to return them but didn't. She was advised the matter was a civil issue.

8-12-24

At 6:48 a.m. a female became upset with staff at the hospital. The female swore at staff and threw a soda which spilled all over the floor. The female left prior to officers' arrival, but she will be cited for disorderly conduct.

At 5:01 p.m. a caller requested an ambulance for her husband. Due to language barrier, it was unknown why. When officers responded, it was found no ambulance was needed, but the husband had locked her out of the residence. In speaking to the husband, it was found his wife had slapped him the previous night following an argument. The wife was arrested for domestic disorderly conduct.

8-13-24

At 3:07 a.m. a caller reported a bat in her residence with no way to remove the bat. Officers were able to capture the bat and released it back outdoors.

At 2:26 p.m. officers responded to a welfare check at a residence. A male who had a warrant for his arrest was confirmed to be present. The man's mother locked the residence up and attempted to leave a short time later in her vehicle. The woman refused to comply with the officer when he told her to stop and exit the vehicle. The woman then opened the garage, and officers located the man with the warrant. The man was arrested for his warrant and his mother was arrested for resisting an officer after she began trying to pull away from officers.

At 7:22 p.m. an officer took possession of five different credit cards, debit cards, and/or wallets that had been turned into the lost and found at the Merrill Fair Grounds during the fair and went unclaimed. The officer will be attempting to track down the owners.

8-14-24

At 1:05 a.m. officers responded to a local gas station for a report of a shoplifting complaint. The suspects fled the scene but were identified. Investigation is ongoing.

At 4:07 p.m. officers were dispatched to a report of a hit and run on E. 2nd Street. Police were later able to make contact with the suspect driver and the driver was cited for various violations.

8-15-24

At 6:43 p.m. officers were dispatched to the report of a disturbance. Upon arrival officers contacted the caller who reported having a verbal altercation with another person at their house. It was determined the male had

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Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202



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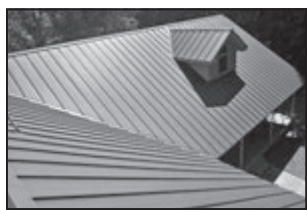
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REPORTS from page 8

an active warrant. After a foot pursuit with the male, he was apprehended and arrested for his warrant.

8-16-24

At 4:13 p.m. a caller reported she struck a concrete barrier in a business parking lot. A crash report will be completed.

At 6:49 p.m. a caller reported a raccoon problem in her neighborhood and felt the cause was a neighboring vacant residence. Contact was made with the owner of the vacant residence, and he stated he recently was in the residence and there was no sign of raccoons or other vermin. The owner further stated he would be checking on the residence in the near future as well.

At 8:27 p.m. a caller reported a package stolen from her mailbox three days prior. Investigation is ongoing.

8-17-24

At 10:53 a.m. a caller reported a vehicle had struck a pedestrian. The driver will be cited for failure to yield to pedestrian in crosswalk.

At 5:58 p.m. a caller reported a male at a tavern, drinking alcoholic beverages in violation of a bond. This was confirmed and contact was made with the man. He was charged with bail jumping.

At 11:42 p.m. a Menominee officer requested assistance with a juvenile runaway who was becoming problematic. The officer had met with the juvenile's foster

parents, and she became upset after her cell phone was taken away. Ultimately the juvenile was transported to juvenile secure detention.

8-18-24

At 10:46 a.m. a caller reported locating drugs and paraphernalia after cleaning out the residence of a former/evicted tenant. Methamphetamine and paraphernalia were located. Investigation is ongoing.

At 6:38 p.m. a caller reported finding a wallet in her yard. The officer was able to identify and contact the owner who will make arrangements to pick her wallet up.

At 10:05 p.m. a caller reported a female was slumped over sleeping or passed out in a vehicle in a store parking lot. The vehicle was found in gear when the officer arrived, and he was able to wake up the female. A search of the vehicle revealed methamphetamine, a THC vape device, prescription medication, and several pieces of drug paraphernalia. The female was arrested for possession of methamphetamine, possession of THC (2nd+), possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of illegally obtained prescription, and probation violation.

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD: JULY 14 - AUG. 11, 2024

On 07/18/2024 deputies responded to an address on Bittersweet Ln. in the Town of Pine River to attempt to locate a male subject who had an active warrant through Wisconsin Probation and Parole. Deputies were granted permission to enter the property in an attempt to locate the wanted person. Upon entering the house, the deputies observed the wanted subject, a 45-year-old man from Merrill retreat to a bedroom of the house. Deputies followed the subject and took him into custody. The subject was resistive and uncooperative with the deputies. The deputies took him to Aspirus Merrill Hospital for medical clearance prior to taking him to the Lincoln County Jail (LCJ). The subject remained uncooperative throughout the process.

On 07/19/2024 a deputy on patrol attempted to stop a vehicle that he had observed traveling at a high rate of speed. The vehicle refused to stop right away and then pulled into an address on Snow Hill Rd. in the Town of Corning. When making contact with the driver, a 24-year-old man from Merrill, it was learned that his driver's license was revoked and that he didn't have a court-ordered ignition interlock device installed on his car. The driver was taken into custody for the two violations and transported to the LCJ.

On 07/20/2024 a deputy on

patrol observed a vehicle leaving a gas station on E. Main St. in the City of Merrill that he recognized as a vehicle of interest by the Oneida County Sheriff's Office (ONSO) for its involvement in a shoplifting case. The deputy conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle and identified the driver as a 21-year-old woman from Madison. The ONSO requested that the woman be taken into custody. After the arrest, LISO deputies did locate items in the vehicle that had been stolen. The subject was transported to the Oneida County line where she was turned over to their investigating deputy.

On 07/20/2024 the Price County Sheriff's Office (PRSO) notified the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LISO) of a possible disturbance at an unknown exact location on the side of the Rd. on STH 86. It was reported that the reporting party was riding with her father who had been drinking. Once the vehicle stopped, the reporting party exited the vehicle and went to an address on STH 86 for refuge. The father, a 44-year-old man from Minocqua, left the area, leaving his daughter behind. A short time later, LISO received a call that a vehicle matching the suspect's vehicle description was observed going into the ditch and then back out and continuing on STH 86. A short time after that, PRSO reported that they had a caller on the phone who reported the suspect was stopped on the side of the road in Lincoln County and involved in some form of altercation. Deputies with LISO arrived on scene and found several cars to be stopped at the location. The deputy immediately took the suspect into custody. The suspect was aggressive and resistive towards officers, so standard field sobriety tests were not performed. While being transported to the LCJ, the suspect made several threats toward the deputy's life. The suspect also physically assaulted the deputy by grabbing her leg while the deputy was attempting to adjust the handcuffs for a more comfortable fit. The deputy used minimum force to stop the suspect from assaulting her and was not injured. The suspect was taken to the hospital for medical clearance before being booked into the LCJ for multiple crimes to include OWI with a passenger under 16, disorderly conduct, resisting an officer, battery to law enforcement, threats to law enforcement, damage to property, and recklessly endangering safety. The deputy was not injured.

On 07/27/2024 deputies were sent to an address on Spring Lake Rd. in the Town of Merrill for a suspicious vehicle complaint. It was reported that an older green trailblazer with loud exhaust was seen driving up and down the road, stopping at each driveway in the area. When the first deputy arrived in the area, he located a vehicle matching the description given of the suspect vehicle. The deputy attempted to make contact with the suspect vehicle and the driver fled from the deputy, prompting a vehicle pursuit. The deputy continued to chase the vehicle for some distance where speeds were approaching 100 mph. At one point, the deputy lost sight of the vehicle and discontinued the pursuit. The deputy then waited for backup deputies to arrive on scene prior to conducting a search of the area. The deputies did locate the suspect vehicle abandoned with no one around. The suspect vehicle was impounded, and the deputies have a good lead on the suspected driver. The investigation continues. LISO received assistance from Langlade County Sheriff's Office (LGSO), the Wisconsin DNR, and the Wisconsin State Patrol.

On 07/28/2024 LISO received a complaint of a reckless driver traveling on USH 51 near the 207 mile marker in the Town of Pine River. The reporting party said the vehicle, a white Lincoln, was swerving all over the road, going from one side to the other. Due to the reporting party's information, the deputy located the vehicle and stopped it to investigate. Once stopped, the deputy made contact with the driver, a 27-year-old woman from Gleason. In speaking with the driver, the deputy observed signs of impairment. The deputy requested the driver do field sobriety tests which the driver agreed to do. As a result of those tests, the driver was taken into custody for a first offense of OWI. The driver was later released to a responsible party.

On 07/30/2024 deputies were sent to an address on STH 86 in the Town of Tomahawk for a reported domestic dispute. Upon deputies arrival, they made contact with a 42-year-old woman from Eagle River. According to the deputies, the two were having a heated verbal argument and in the process, the woman intentionally backed her car into the man's car. In response to that, the man then smashed the window out of the woman's car. Both the man and woman were arrested for domestic disorderly conduct. They were transported to the LCJ.

On 07/31/24 deputies responded to the area of CTH W and Deer Run Rd. in the Town of Pine River for a reported car vs deer crash with injuries. Deputies found that the driver of the vehicle involved in the crash had been southbound on CTH W when it struck a deer. Both the driver and passenger suffered minor injuries from the crash.

On 08/1/2024 the sheriff's office took a call of a possible funnel cloud north of Walmart. Squads from both LISO and Merrill Police Department (MPD) were in the area and reported not seeing anything. No damage was reported with this event. Pictures that were captured by community members and shared with news

media on Facebook did show what appeared to be a funnel cloud in the reported area.

On 08/01/2024 deputies were sent to the area of the north curve on CTH X at STH 64 in the Township of Pine River for a vehicle that had spun out and went in the ditch. It was reported by the first reporting party that the female driver appeared to be under the influence. The second reporting party on scene was an off-duty Crandon Police Officer. It was further reported that the female driver was asking that law enforcement not be called and she was trying to leave the scene. The off-duty officer prevented her from leaving. When the first deputy arrived on scene, he made contact with the driver, a 49-year-old woman from Antigo. The deputy noticed signs of impairment. The deputy asked the driver to perform some sobriety tests to which she refused. It was also learned that per the LGSO, the car she was driving had been reported as stolen. The woman was then arrested for her fifth offense of OWI, as well as bail jumping, probation violation, and drive motor vehicle without owner's consent.

On 08/06/2024 deputies were dispatched to an address on Herb Mitchell Rd. in the Town of Bradley for a domestic-related incident. The victim, a 69-year-old woman from Oshkosh, was reporting to be the victim of a domestic disturbance that occurred between her and her fiancé, a 64-year-old man from Irmal. During the call with dispatch, the victim reported that the male subject had armed himself with a shotgun. As deputies arrived on scene, the victim was able to leave the house, and she was evacuated by deputies. The male remained barricaded in the house armed with the shotgun. The Lincoln County Special Response Team (SRT) was activated and responded to the scene. Team negotiators were able to make contact with the male suspect via telephone and, in talking with him for several hours, were able to convince him to surrender to SRT members without incident. The victim was transported to a safe location for the night; she was not injured. The suspect was transported to the LCJ where he was booked in for domestic disorderly conduct and battery with additional charges pending. The LCSO was assisted by the MPD.

On 08/06/2024 deputies were sent to an address on Joe Snow Rd. in the Town of Scott for a report of a juvenile being out of control causing damage to his house. It was reported by the parent that the juvenile was punching holes in the wall and trying to get the keys to the car to leave. The first deputy arrived on scene and made contact with the juvenile and after a few minutes, the deputy reported that they had deployed the use of their taser to get the juvenile under control. The juvenile was then taken into custody and transported

to Aspirus Merrill Hospital for medical clearance. Once done, the juvenile met with Lincoln County Social Services before being transported to the Washington County Juvenile Detention Center. The juvenile was taken into custody for criminal damage to property and resisting arrest.

On 08/07/2024 deputies were dispatched to an address on CTH Z in the Town of Scott for a suspicious persons report. It was reported that it appeared as though a male subject was scoping out residences in the area. At the time, the male was driving a black Dodge Charger and it was later learned that the vehicle was stolen out of another jurisdiction. About 45 minutes later, the MPD was assigned to a suspicious person complaint with a subject who matched the description of the suspect from out on CTH Z. The suspect, a 20-year-old man from Wausau, was taken into custody by MPD for unrelated charges.

Following the arrest, a deputy from the sheriff's office located the stolen black Charger on Hilly Rd. in the Town of Scott. Immediately after finding the stolen car, the sheriff's office received a call from another citizen who resides on Hilly Rd., reporting that their pickup truck had been stolen. That vehicle was then located on CTH Z. It was later determined that the suspect stole another vehicle from CTH Z and left it in the City of Merrill where MPD officers had contact with the suspect. It is believed that the suspect was involved in stealing vehicles in other counties as well. He was transported to the LCJ where he was booked in for felony bail jumping and operating a motor vehicle without owner's consent.

On 08/8/2024 a deputy was dispatched to a business on Brandenburg Ave. in the Town of Scott for a theft complaint. The business was reporting that they had a male subject detained for stealing a pack of cigars. When the deputy arrived on scene, he made contact with the suspect, an 18-year-old man from Fort Gay, W. Va. The male subject advised that he stole the cigars because nobody would buy them for him and that he was out of substance for his vapor smoking device. The suspect had been traveling with his family at the time. The subject was taken into custody and transported to the LCJ.

On 08/08/2024 deputies and a Merrill Fire Department ambulance were sent to an address on Grundy Rd. in the Town of Birch for a report of a juvenile being out of control, causing damage to the reporting party's house. It was reported by the juvenile's grandfather that the juvenile was damaging his home and was not acting right. When deputies arrived on scene,

See REPORTS page 12

Business and Commercial 7475

AUCTION - ON-LINE "ONLY!" 9am. Sept. 1 to 5pm Sept. 10. Amazing Business Opportunity for two adjacent businesses in downtown Antigo WI w/exceptional gross sales. Dixie Lunch & Fifth Avenue Restaurant. OPEN HOUSE AUG. 24TH from 3-5pm. www.nolansales.com for photo's & details. Nolan Sales LLC, Marion WI. Auctioneers Lic#165 & #142

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MAKE THIS THE SUMMER EVENT



Squirt Division (8-10 years old) Youth Summer Classic Champions.



Peewee Division (11-12 years old) Youth Summer Classic Champions.

Photos courtesy of Merrill Youth Hockey Association.

Youth Hockey: Youth Summer Classic Champions announced

On Aug 9-11, 2024, the Merrill Youth Hockey Association welcomed more than 130 youth hockey players from Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, and Michigan to the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC) to compete in the Youth Summer Classic

Hockey Tournament. Players signed up as individuals and then were put on one of six teams in their age division.

On Sunday, in the Squirt Division (8-10 years old), the Gray Team became the Youth Summer Classic Champions. The players from this team included:

Beau Bashynski (Wausau), Lincoln Bumber (Wausau), Avery Gerber (Pleasant Prairie), Carter Hall (Wausau), Tanner Hall (Wausau), Conner Hormig (Cross Plains), Carlie Lark (Wausau), Beckett Neumann (Wausau), Axel Reichel (Marquette), Lenie Schapp (Merrill), Sam

Smith (Merrill), Cameron Tyler (Rothschild), and Carlos Vieyra (Skokie).

In the Peewee Division (11-12 years old), the Black Team became the Youth Summer Classic Champions. The winning players from this team included: Finn Brzezinski (Green Bay), Noah Doucette

(Greenville), Lucas Hagenbucher (Merrill), Xavier Kranig (Beloit), Owen Meyer (Reedsburg), Kaden Pyne (Wisconsin Dells), Maverick Sarkela (Little Suamico), Liam Seep (Horicon), and Christian Skansberg (Wausau).

Both divisions enjoyed "hoisting the Summer

Classic Cup," just as the adults did the weekend before. This is our new yearly tradition; it is a fun take on what National Hockey League (NHL) players do after winning the Stanley Cup.

Black Squirrel Scurry Triathlon results

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The annual Black Squirrel Scurry Triathlon was held Saturday, July 29, 2024.

The Black Squirrel Scurry is a fun triathlon event for charity, considered a "paddling triathlon." The race



A bicyclist competes during the cycling portion of the Black Squirrel Scurry triathlon.



The bicycling portion of the race took racers through and past Council Grounds State Park.

includes 2 miles paddling kayaks on the Prairie River, a 17.5 mile bike ride featuring the River Bend Trail out to the countryside of Lincoln County, and a 5k trail run through the Merrill Area Rec Complex and Council Grounds State Park.

Dozens of athletes gathered to take on the challenge, including those who raced as individuals or in tandem or relay teams. Racers included many northcentral Wisconsin residents and other athletes from as far away as Michigan, Iowa, and Illinois.

Individual racers ranged in age from 15 to 72, with Merrill's 15-year-old Erik Grunenwald being the youngest competitor and the only athlete under age 18. He came in at a very



Melissa Omernick of Gleason runs during the Black Squirrel Scurry on July 29.

respectable time of 1:48:27, beating his time from last year by more than 11 minutes. He was the sixth place male finisher.

For the men, individual racer 55-year-old Gerard Lauzen of Ironwood, Mich., took first place and individual overall with a time of 1:35:04, followed by 28-year-old Chris Dade of Madison (1:39:22), 55-year-old Joe McCabe of Wausau (1:40:24), 54-year-old Doug Carbone of Merrill (1:45:47), and 20-year-old Ian Schuetze of Merrill (1:47:57), taking second through fifth places, respectively.

For the women, individual racer 50-year-old Wendy Licht of Merrill took first place and individual overall with a time of 1:48:20, followed by 47-year-old Melissa Omernick of



A racer paddles his kayak during the first leg of the paddling triathlon on the Prairie River.

Joseph Frederick photos.

REPORTS from page 11

they located and made contact with the 17-year-old juvenile from Merrill. The juvenile was transported to Aspirus Merrill Hospital for medical clearance and then taken into custody for domestic disorderly conduct. The juvenile, being 17 years old, was transported and booked into the LCJ

On 08/11/2024 a deputy was dispatched to the boat landing on Dean Rd. in the Town of Bradley for a complaint of criminal damage to property. The reporting party reported that while he was at the boat landing, a vehicle came into the parking lot area driving at reckless speeds and spinning doughnuts. While doing so, the suspect vehicle kicked up several rocks that struck the reporting party's vehicle, causing

damage to the paint. The suspect and vehicle are described as a blue Ford Ranger with a topper and something white on the back end like a sticker. The driver is described as an older white male with gray hair and beard. Contact was made with neighbors in the area who reported having problems with this vehicle for a period of time now. The case is still under investigation.

Gleason (2:02:30)(beating her last year's time by 23 seconds), 38-year-old Katie Behn of Minocqua (2:10:56), 53-year-old Lori Smerz of St. Charles, Ill. (2:15:00), and 39-year-old Dana Klug of Merrill (2:18:15), taking second through fifth places, respectively.

In the tandem, relay, and double tandem races, racers included a pair of 99-year-old racers - Graciela

Porras-Lopez competed in the double tandem mixed race as part of the River Llamas team, and Katie Hagen of Rhinelander competed in the double tandem mixed race as part of the Ben & Katie team.

Team Owl took first place for tandem mixed teams. The Northwoods Veterans Post and Friends of the River Bend Trail will be the beneficiaries of this

year's event, along with a small donation to Scout Troop 503 and the VFW Auxiliary.

For more information, go to: blacksquirrelscurry.com.

Next year's Black Squirrel Scurry will be held on Saturday, July 26, 2025. Registration will open March 1, 2025, at Runsignup.com.

2024 Merrill High School Fall Sports Schedule

Boys Football (Varsity, JV, and JV2)			
Fri. Aug. 23	Osceola (JV2)	Away	4:00 pm
Fri. Aug. 23	Osceola (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Mon. Aug. 26	Crandon (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. Aug. 29	Crandon (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Cheer/Dance Team (Varsity & JV)			
Fri. Aug. 23	Osceola (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Thurs. Aug. 29	Crandon (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Girls Swim & Dive (Varsity and JV)			
Thurs. Aug. 22	Multiple Schools - Invitational (Varsity)	Home	5:00 pm
Tues. Aug. 27	Medford (Varsity)	Home	5:30 pm
Girls Tennis (Varsity and JV)			
Fri. Aug. 23	Rhinelander (Varsity)	Away	9:00 am
Mon. Aug. 26	WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity & JV)	Away	9:00 am
Girls Volleyball (Varsity, JV, and JV2)			
Sat. Aug. 24	Multiple Schools (Varsity, JV, & JV2)	Home	9:00 am
Thurs. Aug. 29	Marshfield (JV2)	Away	4:00 pm
Boys Soccer (Varsity and JV)			
Thurs. Aug. 29	Lakeland Union (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thurs. Aug. 29	Lakeland Union (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Girls Cross Country (Varsity and JV)			
Thurs. Aug. 29	Rhinelander (Varsity)	Away	10:00 am



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