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Police Lights of Christmas donates \$200,000 to police departments

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – On Dec. 3 the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department participated in the 2024 Police Lights of Christmas hand-off event at Vanderverst Harley-Davidson. During this event, Officer Jenkin and Officer McHugh received

Donation
CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

Accent Photography by Kim Martin Photo by Wisconsin Rapids Police Department

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LOCAL

WISCONSIN RAPIDS

City Times

Buyers' Guide

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Crash in Rudolph leaves three with critical injuries

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – On Dec. 2, 2024 at approximately 3:59 p.m. Wood County Central Dispatch received report of a two vehicle crash at the intersection of CTH C and CTH S in the Township of Rudolph. A SUV was traveling west-bound on CTH C approaching CTH S. A pickup truck was traveling northbound on CTH S approaching CTH C. The pickup truck failed to yield the right-of-way and the vehicles collided in the intersection of CTH S / CTH C. Both vehicles

came to rest in the north-west ditch with the SUV on its side. The operator of the pickup received minor injuries. The operator and two juvenile passengers in the SUV received critical injuries. The two juveniles were flown by helicopter to Marshfield Medical Center and the female operator was transported by ambulance to Marshfield Medical Center. CTH C, CTH S and Zubella Rd were closed for several hours. The crash remains under investigation. Wood County Deputies were assisted by Wood

County Sheriff's Rescue, United Ambulance, Rudolph Fire Department/First Responders, Wisconsin Rapids Ambulance, Lifelink III Helicopter, Aspirus Medevac Helicopter, Wisconsin State Patrol and Wood County Central Dispatch. Those involved in the crash include the driver of pickup, Jack Rogers (Age 25) of Wisconsin Rapids, WI and the driver of SUV, Kamie Pupols (Age 40) of Milladore, WI as well as 2 Juvenile Passengers (6 years old and 15 months old).



Photo by Wisconsin Rapids Police Department

DONATION

FROM PAGE 1

gift cards in the amount of \$2,500 and backpacks with essential supplies that they will hand out to people in need in the community during the holiday season and

through out the new year. Police Lights of Christmas is an annual event that raises money that is converted into gift cards for Wisconsin police departments to hand out in their local community, with 2024 seeing a total \$200,000 of gift cards. To

celebrate the event, over 100 squad cars from dozens of communities and counties line up and turn their lights and sirens on for ten minutes. This event is the largest law enforcement parade in the area.



Mid-State Technical College graduates gather before the College's spring 2024 commencement ceremony on the Wisconsin Rapids Campus. This year's fall ceremony will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14.

Mid-State to celebrate commencement Dec. 14

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – Mid-State Technical College will host its mid-year graduation with an indoor ceremony at the Wisconsin Rapids Campus at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. The event is designed to celebrate all graduating students, their families and invited guests. Nursing graduate Samantha Hanley, Wisconsin Rapids, will deliver the stu-

dent address. The faculty send-off will be delivered by Kelly Nelson, Nursing instructor and program director. The event will also feature an address from Mid-State's Board Chairperson Richard Merdan and an alumni address from Mid-State's 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award winner, Stephen Kage '78. In-person attendance is reserved for ticket hold-

ers. The event will also be livestreamed for anyone wishing to join remotely. For more information or to view the livestream on the day of the event, visit mstc.edu/graduation. You can also find highlights of the day after the ceremony on Mid-State's Facebook (MidStateTech) and Instagram (midstate_technical_college) accounts and at #MidStateClass24.

Ciara Zdroik, PA-C, receives Aspirus OME Compassion Award

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – For the 6th year, the Aspirus Office of Medical Education (OME) is recognizing the collaboration and contributions made by Aspirus Health Physicians and Advanced Practice Clinicians (APCs) as clinical teachers for medical students and APC students. This year's Joy Award goes to Ciara Zdroik, certified physician assistant with Aspirus Riverview Behavioral Health.

As a clinical teacher, Zdroik exemplifies the heart of a healer to her student(s); helps learners understand the role of a healer and recognizes the privilege of caring for patients. One physician assistant student said, "Ciara was an incredible preceptor, showing an immense amount of compassion and enthusiasm for her field of behavioral health. She easily created an environment of trust for her patients, who clearly were so



Zdroik

thankful for her care. Ciara was an excellent teacher and role model

for me as a future PA. She is very deserving of this award!"

www.WRCityTimes.com

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Bologna Fully Cooked Un sliced - Frozen 9 lbs..... ONLY 99¢ a lb	Butter Salted Quarters 16 oz..... ONLY \$2⁹⁹	Cheese Crackers Extra Toasty 21 oz..... ONLY \$1⁹⁹
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Chicken Breast Skinless, Boneless Frozen 5 lbs..... ONLY \$1⁹⁹ a lb	Mozzarella Cheese Diced 10 lbs..... ONLY \$1⁷⁹ a lb	Chicken Breast Chunks Raw Seasoned - Frozen 6 lbs..... ONLY 99¢ a lb
Bratwurst Original Fully Cooked - Frozen 19 oz..... ONLY \$1⁹⁹	Havarti Cheese 9 lbs..... ONLY \$2⁴⁹ a lb	Hot Dogs Pretzel Wrapped Frozen 16 oz..... ONLY \$1⁹⁹
Turkey Breast Sliced, Fully Cooked Frozen 32 oz..... ONLY \$3⁹⁹	American Cheese Yellow, Sliced 5 lbs..... ONLY \$7⁹⁹	Banana Bread Ready to Bake, Frozen 30 oz..... ONLY \$1⁹⁹
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Scam calls on the rise claiming to be Wood County Sheriff's Department

FOR CITY TIMES
WOOD COUNTY – In recent weeks, Wood County residents have received an increase of phone calls from individuals claiming to be from the Wood County Sheriff's department, utilizing the phone number 715-421-8700, regarding alleged warrants for failure to appear for jury duty. Wood County Sheriff's Department wants the public to please be advised that they are not initiating such calls. Do not provide personal information to these callers.

City of Wisconsin Rapids offers kids Christmas camp

FOR CITY TIMES
WISCONSIN RAPIDS – Kids aged six to ten years old are invited to the first ever Camp Christmas. On Dec. 23 from from 9:00 am to noon kids can enjoy Christmas games, make their own Christmas gift to take home, build a Pop-Tart house, and watch a Christmas movie. \$15 for residents and \$20 for non-residents. Camp Christmas is located at Centralia Center. Pre-registration is required and can be completed at wr.activityreg.com. For questions call 715-421-8240.

Sen. Testin named vice-chair of Joint Finance Committee

FOR CITY TIMES
WOOD COUNTY – Sen. Patrick Testin announced he has been named the Senate vice-chair of the Joint Finance Committee. The Joint Finance Committee is responsible for determining all state appropriations and expenditures, including the biennial budget. Sen. Testin was first appointed as a member of the committee in 2022. “As Senate vice-chair of JFC, I will be more heavily involved in the negotiation process when putting together our state's two-year spending plan and deciding what to do with our projected \$4.6 billion budget surplus,” Sen. Testin said. “It is an absolute honor that my colleagues have the confidence in me to be a leading voice in handling our state's finances,” Sen. Testin added. “It is a responsibility that I take very seriously and I cannot wait to begin the budget proceedings in January. One of my top priorities will be making key investments in our state while also reducing the tax burden on the hard-working taxpayers of Wisconsin.” The next biennial budget will cover the two-year period from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027.

Birth Announcement

Jordy Jett Wilkinson (aka J.J. Wilkinson) was born on Dec. 3, 2024 at 3:53 in the afternoon in Stevens Point, WI, weighing 7lbs and 6ozs and measuring 20 1/2" long. Parents are Danny Roman Wilkinson and Kalie May Tokarski.



Lt Wagner and Lola were visited by members of Chapter 101 of the Vietnam Veterans of America. They discussed Lola's impact both in and outside of the jail. Wood County Sheriff's Department thanks them for the donation to the K9 Program.

www.WRCityTimes.com

WISCONSIN RAPIDS

Buyers' Guide

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INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN

WW & LC

WISCONSIN-RAPIDS

The purpose of this position is to provide technical support for the Water Works and Lighting Commission's and the City of Wisconsin Rapids computer information systems and SCADA environment. The work is performed under the direction of the Information Systems Administrator. This is an exempt (non-union) position.

The minimum training and experience required to perform the essential job functions are an Associate's Degree in Computer Science or related field, two years system administration and networking experience, or any combination of education and experience that provides equivalent knowledge, skills and abilities.

Working knowledge of Microsoft operating systems and software as well as virtual environments. Must have ability to troubleshoot networking and workstation problems. Desired skills would include knowledge of SCADA systems, cloud environments, and cyber security.

WW&LC offers a full benefit package including competitive wage, health and dental insurance, paid holidays, vacation, and participation in the Wisconsin Retirement System. Selected candidate must successfully pass a physical including drug screen and a reference and background investigation.

An application packet is available at the Water Works and Lighting Commission office at 221 16th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin or online at www.wrwwlc.com. All questions should be directed to Matt Stormoen at 715.422.9053.

A completed application, resume, and a cover letter must be submitted in a sealed envelope and must be received by 12:00 Noon on January 10, 2025. This position will remain open until the position is filled.

428584

Incorporate Community Foundation Scholarships available to area students

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – More than 195 scholarships will be available through Incorporate Community Foundation for the 2025-2026 academic year. All scholarships are available through a single application process. The application will be available online Monday, Dec. 16, 2024 – Friday, Jan. 24, 2025. Scholarships provide support to high school students seeking assistance for college and technical college educational costs. There are also scholarships available for

non-traditional students pursuing post-secondary education, and scholarships for college students in their second year and higher. Each scholarship is unique. Some are established in a specific field of interest, and others are created to honor loved ones. The common element in all scholarships is the charitable spirit of the donors who created them. “We believe that education gives people the opportunity to realize their potential. We’re grateful

for the individuals, organizations and groups who make these scholarships possible,” said Kim Shields, who oversees Incorporate’s scholarship program. For more information about a scholarship fund or general questions, please contact Shields at kshields@incouragecf.org or call 715-423-3863. The application deadline for scholarships is Jan. 24, 2025. For more information, or to apply, visit www.incouragecf.org for students.

Police Calls

On Nov. 27 around 10:00 in the morning a male subject entered a store in Rudolph vocalizing suicidal intentions that he said would be masked as an accident. He later returned and said he was kidding and joking around, then asking others in the store to not call the police. The male was reported to be heading towards Rapids and was acting strange. On Nov. 28 an ambulance was called for a male who was throwing up a black substance in Grand Rapids. The male was reported as too weak to get

up and passing blood. On Nov. 29 at 5:00 in the evening a caller from Port Edwards reported that they had ordered Taco Bell through DoorDash. When the caller opened their food order that had been delivered they discovered “a piece of paper with writing on it” and requested to speak with an officer. On Nov. 30 at 10:00 a stove top fire in Rudolph’s Hillcrest Village Apartments was reported. The stove was turned off and the fire was put out. On Nov. 30 at 3:00 in the

afternoon a caller in Saratoga told dispatch their brother had stolen some of their belongings and was already working on pawning the belongings. On Nov. 30 at 6:00 at night a caller in Wisconsin Rapids reported their bathroom window was gone. The motion light outside the home had been one but the caller could not see anyone but was home alone. On Dec. 1 at 1:00 in the afternoon a caller in Saratoga reported a bay horse was running loose and cutting through yards. On Dec. 1 a caller in Marshfield reported at 3:00 in the afternoon that their tire had been slashed at Pick N’ Save and they had video of the incident taking place.

Community Calendar

To submit calendar events, please email information to entertainment@mmclocal.com

BAR BEATS

Thursday December 12 - The Swing Doctors · Bullseye Golf Club, Wisconsin Rapids. 16-piece jazz/swing. 7 pm. 715-423-2230

ON STAGE

Boogie & the Yo-Yoz: Christmas with You · Thurs. 12/12, Performing Arts Center of Wisconsin Rapids, 1801 16 th St S, Wisconsin Rapids. Variety. Starts at 7:30 pm. \$49 adults, \$10 students. savorthearts.com
Pete Revelle & 4 on the Floor · Thurs. 12/19, Central Wisconsin Cultural Center, 2651 8 th St, S, Wisconsin Rapids. Jazz. Starts at 2 pm. Free admission. culturalcenterarts.com

EVENTS/SPECTATOR SPORTS

Learn to Curl · Wednesdays 12/4-12/18, Tri-City Curling Club, 131 Hurley St, Wisconsin Rapids. Learn the stone delivery, sweeping, scoring. Wear loose clothes; clean shoes. Starts at 6 pm. \$40 adults, \$15 for ages 21; under. 715-421-5607
Holly Days · Sat. 12/7, Historic Point Basse, Nekoosa. Experience a historic celebration of the Christmas season in the 1800’s, tour the buildings; learn about Christmases past, enjoy scavenger hunting, hot cider and Christmas cookies, decorate the Christmas tree in the schoolhouse; hear what Christmas was like for the Wakely family; other citizens of Historic Point Basse. Starts at noon. \$3 adult, \$1 student, free for pre-school members. <https://historicpointbasse.com/>
Christian Women’s Connection Ladies Brunch · Wed. 12/11, Bullseye Golf Club, Wisconsin Rapids. Speaker will be Don McCumber, retired mechanical engineer from Madison,

WI. Don will be sharing “Choices-a COVID Recovery Miracle”. Special feature will be music by “Aspiring Acapella”. Reservations are essential. Starts at 9:30 am. \$20 includes meal, tip and program. 815-994-1317 or 701-741-5905 for reservations
8th Annual Christmas Tree Walk · Fri.-Sun. 12/13-12/15, South Wood County Historical Museum, 540 3rd St. S, Wisconsin Rapids. Check out the variety of Christmas trees. 11 rooms of holiday magic. Starts at noon on 12/14-12/5 and 5 pm on 12/13. Free. <http://www.swch-museum.com/>

ARTS/EXHIBITS

The Alexander House · Opens Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1131, Wisconsin River Drive, Port Edwards. Art gallery and historical museum with a focus on lumbering and papermaking exhibits. Opens 1 pm-4 pm. <http://alexanderhouseonline.org/>
Central Wisconsin Cultural Center · Opens Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 2651 8th St S, Wisconsin Rapids. Open from 10 am-5 pm. Free admission. <http://www.culturalcenterarts.com/index.html>
South Wood County Historical Museum · Exhibits closed until 4/1, 540 3rd St. S, Wisconsin Rapids. Office will be open Tues.-Thurs. from 10 am-3 pm. <http://www.swch-museum.com/>

LIFELINES

Blood Drive · Wed. 12/18, McMillan Library, 490 E. Grand Ave, Wisconsin Rapids. Starts at 10 am. redcrossblood.org
Blood Drive · Thurs. 1/2, McMillan Library, 490 E. Grand Ave, Wisconsin Rapids. Starts at 10 am. redcrossblood.org

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@MetroCreative Level: Intermediate

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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WisDOT, WCHA applaud snowplow drivers across Wisconsin

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – Governor Tony Evers proclaimed Dec. 2 as Snowplow Driver Appreciation Day in Wisconsin to remind motorists to slow down and give space to snowplow drivers to safely do their jobs. In partnership with the Wisconsin County Highway Association (WCHA), the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) urges drivers to pay attention on Wisconsin roads this winter.

“Every winter, Wisconsin’s snowplow drivers show up no matter the conditions to make sure the roads are safe for you,” WisDOT Secretary Kristina Boardman said. “We are grateful for their commitment to keeping our roads clear, but we need to do our part to keep them safe. Please, focus on the road ahead at all times; be patient and give extra space to snowplows; and, when possible, avoid traveling during major winter storms.”

For more than 100 years, Wisconsin has maintained a unique partnership with the state’s 72 county highway departments. During the winter, county highway workers keep interstate, U.S. and state highways safe by snow plowing,



salting and applying liquid brine. WisDOT works closely with Wisconsin counties year-round to establish best practices and test new tools for safety and efficiency.

“With great gratitude we appreciate the dedication of our snowplow drivers. They work overnight, weekends and holidays so that we can get to where we need to be,” WCHA Executive Director Patrick Vander Sanden said. “WCHA stands with WisDOT in urging patience and vigilance for all motorists traveling during storms. Please be aware, and give the snowplows the room to work.”

Wisconsin allows flashing green warning lights on county or municipal maintenance vehicles – in addition to red or amber lights. The green warning lights are meant to increase safety, enhance driver awareness and improve visibility of maintenance vehicles.

Plan ahead to prevent impaired driving this holiday season

Dec. Law of the Month: Impaired driving

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – Dec. is here, and with it, another season of holiday celebrations. Don’t cut the party short by driving impaired—it is dangerous, reckless and never the only option.

Wisconsin State Patrol’s Dec. Law of the Month brings attention to impaired driving laws and encourages motorists to find safe ways to get to their destinations this holiday season.

“Across the state, Wisconsinites are celebrating the holidays and the end of another year,” Wisconsin State Patrol Superintendent Tim Carnahan said. “We encourage everyone to take responsibility and plan ahead if you plan to celebrate. Designate a sober driver ahead of time, take public transit, or use a rideshare program to keep yourself and others safe on the roads. There is never an excuse for driving impaired.”

On average, someone is injured or killed in an impaired driving crash every two hours in Wisconsin. In 2023, there were over 7,700 impaired driving crashes that claimed the lives of 186 people on Wisconsin roads.

In Wisconsin, drivers are prohibited from operating any vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of more than 0.08. Under Wisconsin’s “not a drop” law, drivers under age 21 are prohibited from having any detectable amount of alcohol in their system. Drivers may not have any illegal drugs in their system when behind the wheel.

Motorists who refuse a blood/breath alcohol test will lose their license for at least one year and may have their vehicle impounded.

Over 7,500 law enforcement officers across the state are trained in Advanced Roadside Impaired

Driving Enforcement (ARIDE). This helps law enforcement detect impaired drivers and get them off the road.

With almost 400 Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) across the state, Wisconsin is helping lead the nation in eliminating drug-impaired driving. DREs help prevent tragedies by identifying the signs of drug-impaired driving and securing convictions to keep them off the roads.

The Wisconsin State Patrol is continuing to highlight the danger that impaired driving poses throughout the holiday season with its Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign. Running from Dec. 13, 2024, through Jan. 1, 2025, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over is an annual holiday partnership with local law enforcement to keep Wisconsin roads safe and free of impaired drivers.

Driving impaired carries serious consequences. Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) charges can cost you around \$10,000. Stay safe and save money on the road this holiday season:

- Select a sober designated driver ahead of time. If you’re feeling impaired, you are likely over the 0.08 Blood Alcohol Concentration limit and should not drive.
- Remember you have options: take the bus, call a taxi, use a rideshare or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- If you have a friend who is about to drive under the influence, step in. Take away their keys and get them home safely.
- If it’s your turn to be the sober driver, take that job seriously.
- If you suspect a driver is impaired, safely gather as much information as you can about the vehicle, driver and location. Then call 911.

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Gloria & Kelli

Our Offices will be Closed

December 23, 2024 - December 27, 2024

There will be no issue of the Wisconsin Rapids City Times on January 1, 2025

Ad deadline for our December 25, 2024 publication is Wednesday December 18 - 4pm.

Wisconsin Rapids City Times Buyers' Guide

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urbansgreenhouse.com



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SNOWPLOWS

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Wisconsin shows mixed housing performance in 2024

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – The Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) announced that 2024 is shaping up to be a year of significant growth and progress, with a 12.8% year-to-date (YTD) increase in activity compared to the same period in 2023. The latest data is compiled of county-specific statistics through Sept. for building permits submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services.

“A total of 10,203 permits were reported through Q3 for 2024 compared to 9,049 permits during the same period in 2023, reflecting a 12.8% growth”, said WBA President Jim Doering. “Activity in just Q3 is up 1.5% compared to Q3 of 2023.”

Counties Leading in Growth:

- Milwaukee County:** +132.1% (383 in 2024 vs. 165 in 2023)
- Waupaca County:** +107.7% (135 in 2024 vs. 65 in 2023)
- Pepin County:** +88.2% (32 in 2024 vs. 17 in 2023)
- Marquette County:** +77.4% (55 in 2024 vs. 31 in 2023)

Strong Quarterly Growth:

- Iowa County:** +175.0% (22 in 2024 vs. 8 in 2023)
- Pepin County:** +175.0% (11 in 2024 vs. 4 in 2023)
- Kenosha County:** +62.9% (57 in 2024 vs. 35 in 2023)

Counties Experiencing Declines:

- Door County:** -44.5% (111 in 2024 vs. 200 in 2023)

Racine County: -31.8% (137 in 2024 vs. 201 in 2023)

Adams County: -28.4% (68 in 2024 vs. 95 in 2023)

“We are pleased with the growth that we have seen thanks to more stabilized interest rates, increased awareness of the need of housing, and our work enacting pro-housing legislation and loan programs to support new construction projects,” said WBA Executive Director Brad Boycks. “We continue to look for new ways address Wisconsin’s housing needs.”

About the Wisconsin Builders Association

The Wisconsin Builders Association is a professional trade association comprised of 21 local associations dedicated to helping members build communities around the state.



The public is encouraged to provide their input on the draft Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan by Dec. 15, 2024.

Photo by Wisconsin DNR.

DNR seeking public input on the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is seeking public input on the draft Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

The SCORP describes the supply and demand for outdoor recreation in Wisconsin. The draft Wisconsin SCORP includes an analysis of the motivations for recreating and the barriers Wisconsin residents may experience preventing them from participating in outdoor recreation.

States are required to complete SCORPs every five years to be eligible for participation in the Land and Water Conservation

Fund State Assistance Program.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund was enacted by Congress in 1965 “to strength the health and vitality of the United States” through the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation resources and facilities. States are allocated funds as matching (50%) grants for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation sites and facilities.

The public is encouraged to submit comments using the online public input form on the DNR’s Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan webpage. Comments

may also be sent via U.S. mail, phone or email. Submit comments by Dec. 15, 2024 to:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
C/O John Pohlman, DNR Property Planner
101 S. Webster St.
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707
John.Pohlman@wisconsin.gov or 608-264-6263

Access the online public input form.

Following the close of the public comment period, the department will summarize the input received and adjust the report as necessary before submitting the final report to the governor for his consideration.

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Thou __ do it
- 6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 9. Brainstem part
- 13. Town in New York state
- 14. Little (Spanish)
- 15. Continent
- 16. Retch
- 17. Short-billed rails
- 18. Small period of time (abbr.)
- 19. Confused
- 21. A team needs one
- 22. Woman in ancient times
- 23. Republican Party
- 24. Spanish be
- 25. “The Godfather” character Johnny
- 28. Not around
- 29. City in Zambia
- 31. A type of beginning
- 33. Numb
- 36. Gurus
- 38. Small, gray-headed crow
- 39. Vehicle type
- 41. Disorders
- 44. One point east of southeast
- 45. Indian soldier
- 46. Tree type
- 48. Midway between south and southeast
- 49. It cools your home
- 51. Corn comes on it
- 52. Ship’s deck
- 54. A way to bake
- 56. Improvised
- 60. Butterfly genus
- 61. Baseball fields have them
- 62. Designated space
- 63. Discharge
- 64. Two of something
- 65. Once more
- 66. Part of your face
- 67. Tax collector
- 68. Cassia tree

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One-time Aaron Rodgers target
- 2. Wings
- 3. Overly studious person
- 4. They protect your valuables
- 5. The Volunteer State
- 6. Non-hydraulic cement
- 7. Horse mackerel
- 8. Jackson and Diddley are two
- 9. Splendid displays
- 10. Mountain in NE Greece
- 11. A daughter or your brother or sister
- 12. German surname
- 14. Having more than one husband at a time
- 17. Romanian city
- 20. Energy
- 21. Makes less hot
- 23. Gas diffusion electrode
- 25. Former CIA
- 26. Set an example for others
- 27. Support of a particular person

- 29. One from the Big Apple
- 30. Mountain range
- 32. Violate the sanctity of something
- 34. Supervises flying
- 35. Talks
- 37. Persian male given name
- 40. Born of
- 42. Forcibly take one’s possessions
- 43. Discounts
- 47. Knockouts
- 49. Posh Colorado destination
- 50. Form of therapy
- 52. British rock band
- 53. Type of virus (abbr.)
- 55. The U. of Miami mascot is one
- 56. Volcanic crater
- 57. Middle Eastern nation
- 58. Sinn __, Irish organization
- 59. Ethiopian lake
- 61. Bits per inch (abbr.)
- 65. Equally

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421-008

Create a new holiday tradition by giving blood or platelets

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – As holiday celebrations continue into Dec., the American Red Cross encourages donors to keep the blood supply top of mind by giving blood or platelets this month. Type O negative blood donors and those giving platelets are especially urged to give now to help ensure patients can continue to receive the care they need in the coming weeks.

Record-breaking Nov. travel is expected to carry into the new year, which could cause some potential donors to put off blood donation until after the holiday season. In addition to millions of Americans traveling to spend holidays with loved ones, extended vaca-

tions are also surging in popularity at a time when fewer people may be available to give lifesaving blood products.

Bring joy to someone facing a medical emergency; give something that means something with a blood or platelet donation. Schedule an appointment this Dec. by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

For a limited time, those who come to give Dec. 9-15, 2024, will receive a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Those who come to give Dec. 16, 2024-Jan. 3, 2025, will receive an exclusive Red Cross long-sleeved T-shirt, while supplies last.

For details on both offers, visit RedCrossBlood.org/Gifts.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Dec. 4, 2024-Jan. 3, 2025:

Marshfield
12/19/2024: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Marshfield Clinic Health System YMCA, 410 West McMillan St

Pittsville
1/3/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Lions Club Building, 5572 Fourth Ave

Wisconsin Rapids
12/18/2024: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., McMillan Library, 490 E. Grand Avenue
1/2/2025: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., McMillan Library, 490 E. Grand Avenue

NicoletCoffee.com

You'll Love Our Fresh as the Northwoods Tastes

Roasted and Shipped the Same Day!

Fighting food insecurity through the deer donation program

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages hunters to donate Wisconsin-harvested deer through the DNR's Deer Donation Program. The program supports Wisconsin residents in need by helping stock food pantry shelves with ground venison made from donated deer.

“There are many individuals that face food insecurity, and the Deer Donation Program is a wonderful opportunity for hunters to help those in need,” said Marcus Ruffedt, DNR Wildlife Program specialist. “According to data from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, more than 900,000 Wisconsin residents received food assistance in 2023. There remains a high demand

for the venison this program provides, and we hope hunters continue to donate deer and make a difference in their communities.”

Since the program began in 2000, hunters have donated over 98,000 deer, totaling nearly 4 million pounds of venison, to help Wisconsinites in need. A network of venison donation partners, including county land and water conservation departments, food pantries, charitable organizations, USDA-Wildlife Services and participating meat processors, all help administer and implement the program.

Hunters interested in donating a Wisconsin-harvested deer to the Deer Donation Program should follow these steps:

Field dress the deer.
Register the deer

through GameReg. When dropping it off, you will need the registration confirmation number.

Test the deer for CWD before taking the deer to a processor if harvested from a CWD-affected county. A list of CWD sampling locations is available on the DNR's Chronic Wasting Disease Sampling webpage.

Contact a participating processor before dropping off the deer to ensure they have the capacity to accept it. More processors may be added later in the season.

Bring the deer to the processor. If donating a deer being tested for CWD, inform the processor and provide the CWD barcode number. The processor will not distribute the deer until the results are known.

Hunters and non-hunt-

ers may also support the Deer Donation Program through a monetary donation at any license sales location or online through their Go Wild account. Visit Wisconsin's Deer Donation Program webpage to learn more about the program.

Avoid Lead In Venison. Deer harvested with lead bullets have been shown to have tiny lead particles or fragments remaining in a portion of the processed meat. Some of the lead fragments may be too small to see during processing. Although research has not linked lead in venison to human health effects, hunters are encouraged to use non-lead ammunition. Visit the DNR's Safely Eating Venison webpage for more information and steps to reduce potential exposure.

PUBLISHER’S LETTER

The Joys and Blessings of Christmas

Dear Reader,

Christmas holds many meanings for those who celebrate this special day and the season that surrounds it. At its heart, Christmas signifies the birth of Christ, a moment of profound spiritual importance. But it also brings to mind the joy of giving, with gifts and presents for little boys and girls, each package wrapped with love and anticipation.

While we often find ourselves striving to be our best during the holiday season, the true magic of Christmas shines brightest in the eyes of a child. In their wonder and delight, we are reminded of the simple, pure joy that this time of year brings.

Merry Christmas to all.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

Author of “Reflections” a new book now available on Amazon.



Legals7700

STATE OF WISCONSIN - CIRCUIT COURT – ADAMS COUNTY CREATIVE FINANCE, INC. 815 Business Park Road PO Box 454 Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965, Plaintiff, v. JEREMY ALLEN HAYES 1022 Long Bow Court Nekoosa, WI 54457 Defendant. Case No. 24CV130 SUMMONS THE STATE OF WISCONSIN To each person named above as a Defendant: You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above Creative Finance, Inc., by its attorney, Christopher M. Kern, filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. Within Forty (40) days the 3rd day of December, 2024, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is: Clerk of Circuit Court, Adams County Courthouse, 401 Adams Street Suite 6, Friendship, Wisconsin 53934, and to Plaintiff's attorney, Christopher M. Kern, 815 Business Park Road, PO Box 454, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, 53965. You may have an attorney help or represent you. If you do not provide a proper answer within forty (40) days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. 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 3rd day of December, 2024. General Counsel for Plaintiff Signed By: Christopher M. Kern Christopher M. Kern State Bar Number: 1093883 Creative Finance, Inc. 815 Business Park Road P.O. Box 454 Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965 Phone: (608) 254-6855 Fax: (608) 253-5005 legal@creativefinanceinc.com Publish December 11, 18 and 25, 2024 WNXALP

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WOW!!! ZURKOS MASSIVE HOLIDAY GIFT & CRAFT SHOW. Sat Dec. 21 at the Fabulous Appleton Expo (Downtown Appleton 150+ Holiday Vendors. Info. www.zurkopromotions.com or 715-302-0932 (12/2)

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The Wisconsin Rapids Swim Clubs begins conference action at Rice Lake

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – The Krakens began their conference schedule with a meet at the Rice Lake Community Pool in Rice Lake on Nov. 30. “The Rice Lake facility is a 25 meter pool. The pool is about 3 feet longer than a yard pool,” said Head Coach Dave Kontz. “It provides our swimmers with a different experience to overcome and the Krakens did very well.”

The top swims of the day started with Milo Jennings by finishing in first place in the 50 meter Backstroke. Milo also captured a second in the 50 meter Freestyle, third in the 25 meter Freestyle, and fourth in the 25 meter Backstroke.

Anna Gumz grabbed first place in the 50 meter Backstroke. Anna also swam a 25 meter Backstroke to fifth place, 25 meter Butterfly to sixth place and 25 meter Freestyle to seventh place.

Tretton Delaney has become one of the senior leaders of the team. As the “Most Valuable” swimmer of 2023-24 season, he continues to dominate with a pair of first place awards in the 50 meter and 500 meter Freestyle, and a second in the 100 meter Freestyle.

Addison Borek continues to show her versatility and



Nola Woller

is one of the top swimmers in the conference. Addison finished first in the 50 meter Butterfly and 100 meter Breaststroke. She also placed third in the 100 meter Freestyle.

As a returning conference champion in the 50 meter Butterfly, Elyxa Peck won the event again. Elyxa also finished with a pair of second places in the 100 meter Freestyle and 50 meter Breaststroke.

Emry Jennings swam well to finish in second place in the 100 meter Freestyle. Emry also swam to a third

in the 50 meter back and a fourth in the 50 meter Freestyle.

Other “top six” finishes were Chirstopher Carlson with a third in the 100 meter Backstroke: Chasten Delaney with a pair of sixth places in the 100 meter Freestyle and 50 meter Backstroke. Nola Woller placed in fifth place in the 100 meter Freestyle: Mya Marquard placed fourth in the 50m meter Breaststroke.

The final swimmer to be at his very first swim meet was Noah Grosskopf. Noah swam to a tenth place in the 50 meter Backstroke and 18th place



Anna Gumz



Kyndel Borek

in the 50 meter Freestyle.

The Relays are the first and last event in each session. “Our swimmers work very hard in practice to become part of these relays,” said Coach K. “As always, the Krakens are hard to beat.” The girls and boys senior 200 meter Freestyle Relays took first place. Swimming for the

girls were Addison Borek, McKenna Anderson, Payton Kraklow, and Elyxa Peck. The boys relay had Joey Doeberiner, Christopher Carlson, Chasten Delaney and Tretton Delaney. In the Medley Relay, these boys finished in third place, while the girls finished in 4th place.

The middle school girls

relay finished with a pair of second places. Swimming for Rapids in the 200 meter Medley and Freestyle relays were Mackenzie Miloch, Clairra Jennings, Nola Woller, and Kyndel Borek.

The Kraken’s beginners finished with an eighth place for the 200 meter Freestyle Relay. Swimming for WRSC were Anna Gumz, Emma Kay, Rhiannon Zabawa, and Janessa Rucinski.

The Krakens have started competing in the Central Wisconsin Swim Conference. They will round out 2024 with swim meets in Phillips on Dec. 14.

The Wisconsin Rapids Swim Club (WRSC) is a non-profit organization open to the public. The Club is part of the Wisconsin Rapids Recreation Department. WRSC is designed exclusively for educational, competitive, and recreational purposes. The Krakens are geared for children ages 5-18. Practices are at the Lincoln High School Community pool on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. For more information on how to join the Wisconsin Rapids Swim Club, call the Wisconsin Rapids Parks and Recreation Department at (715) 421-8240 or visit the Wisconsin Rapids Swim Club Facebook page.

Cranberry Classic leads to a strong night of basketball

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – The Panther Girls split a pair of games over the weekend in the 40th Annual Cranberry Classic. On Friday night, the Lady Panthers used a strong start to jump out to an 18-0 lead over Nekoosa on route to a 46-7 first half lead. The Panthers continued a strong defensive effort in the 2nd half and finished with a 66-13 victory to move to 2-1 on the season.

Pittsville had 4 players in double-figures, led by Emma Bowden with 15 pts, Brynn Friday with 13, Reese Grimm with 12, and Kaylee Jacobson with 11. Grimm led the Panthers with 6 rebounds, while Lana Vollert

had 4 assists and Brooke Grossman had 5 steals.

The Panthers met #1 in D5 Assumption for the championship game on Saturday Night and were unable to overcome 41 turnovers and an Assumption team that shot 13-21 from 3 pt for the night. Pittsville trailed 13-15 midway through the first half, but Assumption finished on a 15-7 run to lead 30-20 at the half. The Royals shot 8-11 from three in route to the 10 point halftime lead. Pittsville came out with the first 3 points of the 2nd half to trim the lead to 7 and were within 8 with 12 minutes to go, but could not overcome a turnover total that dou-

bled their team turnovers combined for the first three games of the year. Pittsville shot 54 percent from the field to 51 percent for Assumption, but were outshot from three point range 13-21 compared to 3-6 for the Panthers. Pittsville also won the rebounding battle 34-16 and forced 16 assumption turnovers, but neither were enough to overcome the blistering three point shooting and turnover discrepancy.

Pittsville’s Reese Grimm had 13 pts, 9 rebounds, 5 assists, and 2 steals, while Brynn Friday led Pittsville with 10 rebounds. Brooke Grossman led the Panthers in steals with 4.



Wisconsin Rapids defeats Wausau East in fist swim meet of year

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – Wisconsin Rapids had a victory of 88-69 against the Wausau East swim team in the first sanctioned swim meet of the season. While Wisconsin Rapids saw sev-

eral new personal records set by team members, Head Coach David Wittenberg says the true victory of the night was the camaraderie and team support that made the night so special. Wittenberg said, “I couldn’t

be more proud of these young men for their effort both in and out of the pool. This win is not just a milestone for our program but also I hope a glimpse of the bright future ahead.”



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Katie Schimke

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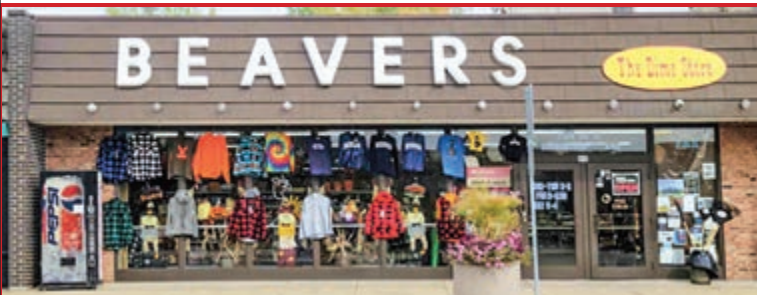
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“The Wealth InFormation Lady”: Social Security’s More Recent Changes



The Wealth InFormation Lady
BY LOUANN SCHULFER, AWMA®, AIF®
ACCREDITED WEALTH
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ACCREDITED INVESTMENT
FIDUCIARY®, PUBLISHED AUTHOR

The Trustees Reports for our Social Security OASDI (Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) Trust Fund have indicated since 2012 that changes need to be made to the system. The reports have essentially said that if nothing is done legislatively, the trust fund reserves would become depleted sometime between 2033 and 2035, which would mean that about three-fourths of expected benefits would be able to be paid out, coming from the payroll taxes collected from workers each year. The last major overhaul to the system was in 1983 when President Reagan signed into law the Social Security Amendments. There have been a few notable changes that you may or may not recall more recently which

trimmed a couple of claiming strategies. The legislative modifications to Social Security were due to section 831 of the 2015 Bipartisan Budget Deal that was signed into law on November 2, 2015 (you can read it at congress.gov). The changes affected couples who planned on using the “file and suspend” strategy. The elimination of “file and suspend” went into effect on May 1, 2016. If you turned full retirement age (66) before April 30, 2016, you were still eligible to take advantage of the “file and suspend” strategy, as long as you’d “filed” for the file and suspend prior to April 30, 2016, even if you did not want your spouse to begin receiving benefits immediately. “File and suspend” allowed a spouse who had

reached full retirement age to file for benefits, but then immediately suspend them. “Filing” for benefits allows benefits to be paid to you, a spouse or a dependent of yours. “Suspending” the benefit suspended YOU from receiving money from social security, but your spouse or dependents still could while your personal benefit was allowed to continue to grow by earning “delayed retirement credits” until the maximum age of 70. This allowed a married couple, for example, to receive ½ of the social security benefit through the spousal benefit option, by the spouse who had reached FRA having filed and suspended. Both spouses’ own personal benefits could then continue to grow until the maximum age of 70. “Restricted Application” was the second elimination for social security recipients. “Restricted Application” allowed a person who had reached full retirement age to file for benefits, “restrict” THEIR personal benefits and collect a spousal benefit from

their spouse who was receiving their own benefit. Therefore once “file and suspend” was eliminated, the spouse who’s benefit was being claimed upon, would have to be receiving their monthly check from social security (in other words, they can not take advantage of the delayed retirement credits by allowing their benefit to grow while their spouse collected the spousal benefit). Restricted application was available to anyone who turned 62 prior to the end of 2015. That means if your spouse was receiving their benefit, you could file at FRA and receive your spousal benefit, delaying your own benefit and switching over at a later date when your benefit, through delayed retirement credits, become higher than your spousal benefit. With the above changes signed into legislation in 2015, filers have been and are now deemed to be filing for all of the benefits that they are eligible for (for example, your own, and your spousal benefit if you are married, or if you were married

for at least ten years, are divorced and not remarried). You will then receive the higher of the two benefits, and will not be allowed to switch later on (to your own benefit which under the old rules, could have grown to a higher amount through “delayed retirement credits”). You can check your annual social security statement at ssa.gov. I have found their site to be easy to use and very helpful. Your local social security office is also a great resource. To understand how social security benefits will coordinate with your retirement income strategy, I highly recommend that you do a more complex analysis. There are decisions to be made that once elected, can not be undone. Seeking the advice of an experienced professional is a great idea. Time will tell when and how we see the next legislative changes unfold. There have been some modest adjustments to the system, looking back at Social Security’s more recent changes. LouAnn Schulfer of

Schulfer & Associates, LLC Wealth Management can be reached at (715) 343-9600 or louann.schulfer@lpl.com TheWealth-InformationLady.com SchulferAndAssociates.com, or louann.biz Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC. Accredited Wealth Management Advisor SM and AWMA® are trademarks or registered service marks of the College for Financial Planning in the United States and/or other countries. The Accredited Investment Fiduciary® designation is earned through the Center for Fiduciary Studies. Content in this material is for general information only and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. Schulfer & Associates, LLC Wealth Management and LPL Financial are not endorsed by or affiliated with the United States Social Security Administration or any government agency.

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