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Anthony Gaudioso, president of OverIt, tells the story of how a group of young skateboarders approached the city to ask for help in the form of a skate park. **Star Journal photos**

## Pushing on

**Skaters, community work together for skate park; plans unveiled**

BY EILEEN PERSIKE  
EDITOR

RHINELANDER – The creation of a Rhinelander skate park is another step closer to reality. Design plans for the project were unveiled Dec. 5 during a presentation at ArtStart.

It was December 2021 when a group of young skateboard enthusiasts asked the city of Rhinelander to create more inclusive spaces – especially for at-risk youth. Many of the youth who spoke at the city council meeting back then and were at the design presentation last week, belong to OverIt, an organization for Rhinelander area teens. Their interest in a meeting space for kids who maybe don't fit a particular mold was renewed then following the death of a friend and fellow member of the group.

"I don't think any of us knew what this would look like but we were kind of just coming face to face with a disconnect in our community and facing problems that affected all of – us and clearly people beyond just us in our group – and I think we just reached a limit where we didn't have any other choice but to speak up and we knew we needed to reach out," Anthony Gaudioso, OverIt president said.

"This whole project would never have happened without the idea that came from the original group, Stephen Moren, Ava Kurilla and Jaden Roberts and unfortunately, the project gained attention and became a serious thing when we lost our friend Stephen," Gaudioso added.

Hunger Skateparks in Indiana was awarded the engineering and design bid, funded by a \$75,000 earmark by the city council. Co-owners Bart Smith and Christy Wiesenhahn have worked with OverIt, ArtStart, area art-

See **PARK** page 9

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## Rhinelanders resident makes more than 500 Christmas cards for nursing homes

BY CHRISTINA BRANDMEIER  
REPORTER

Love is the force behind Rhinelander resident Sherrill Willis' annual Christmas card drive, which began when she gave her homemade cards to the dementia ward at Friendly Village.

"The first year was kind of by accident," Willis said. "There was this lovely old woman, and I

gave her a Christmas card, and she said, 'You made that for me, and you don't even know me? Are you an angel?'"

"No, but I'm going to do this for the rest of my life now," Willis responded. She's kept the tradition going, and the endeavor has grown along the way.

Now in its fourth year, the card-making event takes place over a week near the end of November. Willis hunkers down at Old School Studio, spreads out the arts and crafts supplies, and invites the community to help her make the cards for local nursing homes.

This year, Willis had contributions from donors and 21 volunteers. "The compliments have been really lovely from women who have never done this before. They told me, 'You just make this so much fun, we love coming here,'" Willis said. "The



A table is filled with completed crafty cards, ready to spread holiday cheer. **Star Journal photo**

See **CARDS** page 3



Sherrill Willis (right) gives Debbie Pasanen from Rennes nursing home a box of homemade Christmas cards for her annual holiday drive. **Submitted photo**

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**| PUBLISHER 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.*

## Lions Club to offer free Christmas dinner

**FOR STAR JOURNAL**

The Rhinelander Lions Club will host its annual free community Christmas dinner Wednesday, Dec. 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The meal will be available for pick-up at the Trig's Deli Express entrance. It includes turkey, dressing, gravy, potatoes, cranberry sauce, a roll, and a cookie.

Home delivery is also available by calling 715-525-1068 before Dec. 24.

Donations can be sent to the Rhinelander Lions Club, P.O. Box 1005, Rhinelander, WI, 54501, or will be accepted at Trig's on the 25th.

Trig's is located at 232 S. Courtney St. in Rhinelander.

## Chamber announces winter clothing drive

**FOR STAR JOURNAL**

The Rhinelander Area Chamber of Commerce and Hodag10s are partnering for the Big Bundle Up campaign, which collects gently used coats, sweaters, hats, mittens, and other warm clothing items until Dec. 30 to support those in need.

Drop-off sites are the Rhinelander Chamber, 50 W. Kemp St., and Northland Insurance Agency, 131 Randall Avenue.

Donations will go to the Warm for Winter clothing pantry.

Warm for Winter distribution days are held at First Congregational UCC Church at 135 E. Larch St. on the last Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and the second Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. through March 2025.

For more information, contact the Rhinelander chamber at 715-365-7464.

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At Old School Studio in Rhinelander, Sherrill Willis and community members make Christmas cards for local nursing home residents and staff. **Star Journal photo**

**CARDS** from page 1

community that's springing up around this is really amazing."

Willis herself is not a professional artist. When she moved to Rhinelander from California 22 years ago, she worked in information technology. After suffering from chronic migraines, she searched for a creative and healing outlet.

"I had to let go of everything that I knew about my life and all my dreams and where I thought I was gonna go, and I stumbled across card making," Willis said. "It seems so silly to say it out loud, but it was one of those things that made me go, 'that's really cool,' and I hadn't had that feeling, that excitement, and I thought, 'well, just try.'"

That excitement still lingers as Willis set out to complete 551 cards this year, an intentionally specific amount because she went to five locations and asked for the number of residents and staff.

"I want them all to feel appreciated and seen," Willis said of those who will receive cards at Friendly Village, Rennes, Grace Lodge, and Legacy in Eagle River. She also made cards for a home in Sacramento, Calif., where her father recently passed.

Although the cards were delivered the first week of December, Willis has no plans to slow down.

"Next year's the fifth anniversary, so I have big ideas!" Willis said, adding that she plans to make 1,000 cards in 2025.

"You don't need to have any special skills for this. All you have to do is love people," Willis said. "People can hate for no reason, and I want to show that you can love for no reason, too."

Old School Studio is located at 903 Boyce Drive in Rhinelander. For more information, call 715-420-0300.

If you know an interesting person, place, or event you'd like to see featured in the newspaper, email [starjournal@mmclocal.com](mailto:starjournal@mmclocal.com).

# City to begin hiring Golf Course staff

BY EILEEN PERSIKE  
EDITOR

RHINELANDER – The Rhinelander Common Council made it official. The Northwood Golf Course will be managed as a department of city government beginning Jan. 1, 2025. The council voted 7-1 Nov. 26 against renewing the contract with Oliphant Golf Management.

At a special council meeting Dec. 3, city treasurer Wendy Bixby outlined the financial transition that would take place and Rachel Pearson, human resources manager, put together a timeline of hiring and on boarding staff as well as job descriptions for some of the management positions at the golf course.

Bob Lueder made the motion to bring the golf course in-house beginning Jan. 1, 2025 and direct the administration to post the jobs and proceed with interviews.

City Administrator Patrick Reagan said he envisions the golf course being run as a separate department within the city and is focusing only on the coming year.

"If this is what you guys would like to do, getting it transitioned over and getting it up and running – I'm honestly at this moment not thinking of the long term of it. I want to focus on getting it done right," Reagan told the council Dec. 3. "I'm sure there are going to be a lot of obstacles. It's going to be a lot of stuff that Rachel and I are going to need to figure out as we go."

The one vote in favor of renewing the Oliphant contract Nov. 26 was Tom Barnett, who asked Dec. 3 what will be different this time, as opposed to when the golf course was run in-house previously. Barnett has been vocal about selling the golf course.

"I have a fear that it will fail again. And I'm pretty sure it will," Barnett said. "That has nothing to do with the employees, has nothing to do with the management, it has everything to do with, it's not going to make money."

"We're in a budget deficit; we're in a crisis actually, where we're talking about laying people off. And I'm really concerned about this that we're more concerned about a green space than we are about our budget. And we're going to keep throwing money at this? I don't get it. I understand that I'm completely alone on this and that's fine. But I know I have to say my piece about it so that people can know that there other options."

Alderman David Holt said that integrating Heal Creek and winter events would create a significant change in what might happen at the golf course in the future. Mayor Kristopher Hanus noted the last time the golf course was in-house the city had a part time administrator, a part time legal department and there was no HR department.

"I think those three all the more helping the city be equipped to manage something like this," Hanus said. So, granted, I don't know all the details of why they decided to contract it out, but I think those three things also



Rhinelander's Northwood Golf Course will be managed by the city beginning Jan. 1. The city council held a special meeting Dec. 3 to make bringing the golf course in-house official. **Star Journal photo**

help make it more manageable and efficient for the city to run."

The council voted 7-1 to make Northwood Golf Course a depart-

ment within the city government. According to Pearson's timeline, the city's goal for having a core management team in place is Jan. 13.

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**| OBITUARIES |**



**Gloria Jean Miller**, 67, of Rhinelander, passed away at home on Monday evening, November 25, 2024. Gloria was born in Rhinelander on January 6, 1957, to Eugene and Gertrude Blaszk. She attended Rhinelander area schools and was a 1974 graduate of Rhinelander High School. Gloria's pride and joy was her family. Her family always came first. She had a deep love for her children and later for her six grandchildren.

Gloria will be dearly missed by her children, Russell (Barb) Sommers, of Rhinelander, Adam (Erica) Miller of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and Ashley Miller of Rhinelander, six grandchildren, Brian Sommers, Alexander Sommers, Eli Miller, Sarah Miller, Trevor Freeman, and Sydney Miller, and her siblings, John Blaszk of Tomahawk, Diane Leverage of Tomahawk, Heidi Blaszk of Green Bay, and sister-in-law, Patti Blaszk of Rhinelander. Also surviving are nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

The visitation for Gloria will take place on Saturday, December 14, 2024, at the Hildebrand Funeral Home from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Hildebrand Funeral Home & Cremation Specialists, 24 E. Davenport Street, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, 54501, 715-365-4343. Everyone is invited to leave an online condolence at [www.hildebrandrussfh.com](http://www.hildebrandrussfh.com)

**| VIEWPOINT |**

**Climate change should unite us**

**EDITOR,**

During the campaign of 2024, we were reminded by some candidates that there is more that we have in common with each other than what separates us. For instance, take the climate chaos that the world, even our immediate world, is experiencing. When these events affect us, or someone we know, it becomes very important in our daily lives. But even if the weather is not a threat to us, we tune in every day to see what the weather will bring. We pay attention to what the weather person tells us as we plan our daily, weekly, even monthly activities: the farmer who makes planting and harvesting timelines; the hunter who plans for hunting season; the fisherman who goes out on Lake Superior to fish; the vacationer who hopes for the best weather; local gardeners who keep track of early frost warnings and rainfall forecasts; and who can forget as children when we hoped for a huge snowfall that would cancel school! We all depend on our climate's weather cycles to give us the best outcomes for our plans.

Over the past year, more and more climate catastrophes are being explained, in part, because of climate change. Even our trusted weather men and women on our local television stations are using the "climate change" phrase! We need to understand why weather patterns are changing, and what we might do to help deal with this reality. My advice is to search out responsible sources and organizations that are focused on this issue. Use the internet to find a wealth of well-researched articles and responsible organizations. Find those that you trust to give you truthful information and ideas on how you can become involved, and then do something! In our area, there is a very active Citizens Climate Lobby, a nonpartisan group that keeps its members and our elected representatives informed of the latest ways to remediate, hopefully, the causes for our climate chaos.

I do this because "Mother Nature always bats last."

*Charlotte Calhoun  
Bayfield*

**A good day at the dome**

Rhinelander families took refuge from the cold and wind last week and hung out at the Hodag Dome. The third annual Hodag Day at the Dome took place Wednesday, Dec. 4 and celebrated the Hodag's 131st birthday. Events were organized by the Rhinelander Key Club and included face painting, inflatables, live music, stories, an obstacle course, Hodag Bags Tournament and of course, photos with the Hodag himself.



Families gathered at the dome when youngsters enjoyed playing in the inflatables. The RHS Key Club organized the Dec. 4 event.

**PHOTOS BY  
BOB MAINHARDT**



A competitor runs through the obstacle course at the Hodag Dome.



The Hodag interacts with a group of kids at the Hodag Day at the Dome Dec. 4.



Winners of the Key Club second annual Hodag Bags tournament were Sam Schoppe, left and Seth Nofftz. The competition was held Dec. 4 as part of Hodag Day at the Dome.



There were games for families and children of all ages at Hodag Day at the Dome Dec. 4.

**| COMMUNITY CALENDAR |**

**Dec. 11, Rhinelander Area Food Pantry:** 4-6 p.m., distribution. Donation drop-off hours 8 a.m.-noon Mondays through Fridays. 627 Coon St. Rhinelander-areafoodpantry.org.

**Dec. 11, Line Dancing:** 6-8 p.m., The Haven, Rhinelander. Every Wednesday. For more information, call Diane at 715-282-5226.

**Dec. 11, Wildlife Wednesday - Deer:** 5-6 p.m., Treehaven, upper auditorium, room 200, W2540 Pickerel Creek Road, Tomahawk. Discover wildlife that calls Wisconsin's Northwoods home through Wildlife Wednesdays at Treehaven. Free and open to all ages.

Registration is required.

**Dec. 12, Non-Traditional Lenders Forum:** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., The Hilgermann Center, 25 Brown St., Rhinelander. Learn funding options available to small businesses. Presentations and lunch from CT's Deli will begin at noon, with networking to follow. Free, but registration is required. [efund.org/events](http://efund.org/events).

**Dec. 12, Builder's Club:** 1-5 p.m., Rhinelander District Library, 106 N. Stevens St. Legos, Magna-Tiles, and more available in the children's department. Free. 715-365-1073.

**Dec. 12, The Art of Culinary at Nicolet College**

**Opening Reception:** 4-7 p.m., Nicolet College Art Gallery, 5364 College Drive, Rhinelander. A series of exhibitions highlighting the connection between art and food. Free, open to the public. 715-365-4556.

**Dec. 12-14, ArtStart Winter Gallery Exhibitions:** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, and Friday, Dec. 13; 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. Featuring "Passing Through Wonderland" from artist Andrea Kidd and "Past, Present, and Future" from Cassandra Smith. 715-362-4328 or [artstartrhinelander.org](http://artstartrhinelander.org).

**Dec. 13, Northwoods Low Vision Support Group:** 10 a.m.-noon, Cedar Room, Aging and Disability

Resource Center, 100 W. Keenan St., Rhinelander. Discussion topic: Managing the holidays with low vision. Brent Goodman, [rhi.vip.club@gmail.com](mailto:rhi.vip.club@gmail.com) or 715-525-2060.

**Dec. 14, Rhinelander Area Food Pantry:** 9-11:30 a.m., distribution. Donation drop-off hours 8 a.m.-noon Mondays through Fridays. 627 Coon St. Rhinelander-areafoodpantry.org.

**Dec. 14, Indoor Farmers Market:** Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon throughout the fall and winter at the YMCA of the Northwoods, 2003 E. Winnebago St., Rhinelander. 715-362-9622 x 118.

See **CALENDAR** page 5

**Pets of the Month**

**Ace** is a lively and intelligent Pomsky (Pomeranian-Husky mix). This year and a half energetic boy is always ready for an adventure and loves to stay active. While he might be a bit shy at first, but he warms up quickly and becomes a loyal companion.

Ace gets along well with other dogs and is also good with cats. He would thrive in an active family with older children who can keep up with his playful spirit and provide plenty of exercise.

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**Dora**

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# Holiday Happenings

A roundup of this week's holiday-themed events across the Northwoods

**Dec. 11-Jan. 1, Lights of the Northwoods:** 5-9 p.m., Hodag Park, 509 Rose St., Rhinelander. Nightly light displays, holiday music, bonfires, special weekend activities, including a visit from Rhinelander's Santa and a fireworks show on New Year's Day. Free admission. Collections of food and monetary donations will support area food pantries. [Lightsofthenorthwoods.org](http://Lightsofthenorthwoods.org).

**Dec. 11-29, A Christmas Wonderland:** Over one million lights on display at Rondele Ranch, 8959 Hwy K, Harshaw. Walking tours are Fridays and Saturdays from 5-9 p.m., plus Thursday, Dec. 26, 5-9 p.m. Driving tours Sundays and Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Closed Dec. 24 and 25. \$20 per car; cash only at the gate. Proceeds support

local non-profit groups. 1-844-WI-RANCH.

**Dec. 12, Compassus Tree Lighting:** 6 p.m., 111 E. Davenport St., Rhinelander. Attendees will receive ornaments to write a loved one's name on and place on the Tree of Love. 800-234-3542 or [maryellen.kaminski@compassus.com](mailto:maryellen.kaminski@compassus.com).

**Dec. 13, Santa at PCCU:** 3-4:30 p.m., 151 S. Courtney St., Rhinelander. Stop by Park City Credit Union for a free photo with Santa.

**Dec. 13, Olde Time Christmas:** 5-8 p.m., Pipke Park, Presque Isle. Horse-drawn sleigh rides, sledding, ice skating, hot cocoa, a bonfire, and Santa and Mrs. Clause. 715-686-2910.

**Dec. 13-14, Santa's Snack Shop by the Rhinelander Woman's Club:** 5-8 p.m., in the pavilion at Hodag

Park, by the boat landing, in cooperation with Lights of the Northwoods. Homemade soups and chili, sweet treats, snacks, hot chocolate, and cider. Pictures with Santa, a coloring table, and small prizes for children. For more information, see the Rhinelander Woman's Club Facebook page.

**Dec. 14, Conifers Family Program:** 10-11:15 a.m., Treehaven, W2540 Pickerel Creek Road, Tomahawk. Free, all-ages program to discover festive facts about the various native conifers that decorate the Northwoods landscape. Involves a 0.7 mile slow-paced hike with frequent stops. Free, but registration is required. 715-453-4106.

**Dec. 14, Railroad Museum Christmas Open House:** noon-6 p.m., Pioneer Park

Historical Complex, 705 Martin Lynch Drive, Rhinelander. Lights and model rail displays, cookies, cocoa, Santa, and speeder rides; sleigh/wagon rides noon-3 p.m. \$5 donation per adult; free for children. 715-369-5004.

**Dec. 14, "Miracle on 34th Street":** 6:30 p.m., Presque Isle Community Center, 8306 School Loop Road. Live radio adaptation. Free program. No advance reservations; first come, first seated. Doors open at 6 p.m. with a cash bar and complimentary coffee and cookies after. New members welcome. 715-904-9063.

**Dec. 14, Christmas Train Village Show:** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Hosted by the Northwoods Model Railroad Club. The 2024 display will be set up in the Train Station Shops in Minocqua, in the former

Clothes Connection Unit, 611 Oneida St. All ages. Free. Visit [facebook.com/northwoodsmodelrailroadclub](http://facebook.com/northwoodsmodelrailroadclub).

**Dec. 14, Cookie Walk and Craft Sale:** 9:30-11 a.m., United Methodist Church of the Pines, 415 Chippewa St., Minocqua. Cookies sell out quickly. The cost is \$10 per pound. The craft items are individually priced. 715-356-3041.

**Dec. 15, "Peace on Earth" musical presentation:** 10 a.m., Calvary Baptist Church, 320 Lincoln St., Rhinelander. For more information, go to [explorecalvary.com](http://explorecalvary.com) or call 715-362-4792.

**Dec. 15, The Northwoods Singers Holiday Music:** 4 p.m., Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Eagle River. Free will offering; refreshments to follow.

**Dec. 15, Santa Brunch and Christmas Pajama Party:** Two seatings, 9 a.m. or 1 p.m., Rhinelander Pub, 33 N. Brown St. Wear your favorite cozy pajamas for a morning of holiday fun, featuring breakfast favorites, festive crafts, a special gift, and time with Santa. Adults: \$34.99, children \$24.99. Contact the pub to purchase tickets: 715-362-2918.

**Dec. 17, Christmas Soirée — Small Business Holiday Party:** 6:30-10 p.m., Rhinelander Pub, 33 N. Brown St. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., buffet at 7. Tickets can be purchased at the pub or via email at [catering@rhinelanderpub.com](mailto:catering@rhinelanderpub.com). Tickets are \$29.99 per person, including all food items with a cash bar. Tickets with an open bar are \$39.99 per person. 715-362-2918.

## CALENDAR from page 4

**Dec. 16, AA and Al-Anon Meetings:** 7 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church, 21 W. Timber Dr., Rhinelander. 715-362-5910.

**Dec. 16, Overeaters Anonymous:** 1 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 235 N. Stevens St., Rhinelander. 715-362-4258.

**Dec. 16, Bridge Games:** noon, American Legion Hall, 121 W. Front St., Minocqua. \$4. Call Lee at 715-356-4243.

**Dec. 16, Baby Storytime:** 10 a.m., Rhinelander District Library. Stories, songs, and playtime. Free to the public. 715-365-1070 or [rhinelanderlibrary.org](http://rhinelanderlibrary.org).

**Dec. 16, Rhinelander Area Food Pantry:** 3-5 p.m., distribution. Donation drop-off hours 8 a.m.-noon Mondays through Fridays. 627 Coon St. [Rhinelanderareafoodpantry.org](http://Rhinelanderareafoodpantry.org).

**Dec. 17, Preschool Storytime:** 10 a.m., Rhinelander District Library. Stories, flannels, songs, and fun for ages two and older. Free to the public. 715-365-1070 or

[rhinelanderlibrary.org](http://rhinelanderlibrary.org).

**Dec. 17, Teen Art Experience:** 4-5:30 p.m., ArtStart, 68 S. Stevens St., Rhinelander. Youths ages 13-plus are invited for open studio time with local artists. Participants can expect a casual art-making experience with different materials and projects. Free, but registration is required. 715-362-4328.

**Dec. 17, Ruby's Pantry:** 4:30-6 p.m., National Guard Armory, 1136 Adams Way, Rhinelander. Pop-up food pantry. For a \$25 cash donation, receive an abundance of grocery items, no income requirements. Bring two boxes that can be exchanged when picking up the food, which is delivered to your vehicle. 715-362-4792 or [explorecalvary.com/rubys-pantry](http://explorecalvary.com/rubys-pantry).

**Dec. 18, Business After Five:** 5-7 p.m. An informal social where business people get together to network and exchange ideas while developing new relationships in the community. Call the Rhinelander Chamber to find out the location: 715-365-7464.

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<p><b>Treat Yourself or Someone Special!</b> \$25 Gift Card— Now Only <b>\$20!</b></p>	<p><b>Terramar Base Layer</b> Warm—easy to care for <del>\$44.95</del> <b>\$34.95</b></p>	<p><b>Rocky Merino Socks</b> <del>\$19.95</del> <b>\$9.99</b></p>	

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2024-25  
WINTER  
SPORTS

Photos by  
Bob Mainhardt

## SPORTS TEAMS AND CALENDARS



### BOYS BASKETBALL

Dec. 10..... Home vs. Wittenberg-Birnamwood	Jan. 31..... Home vs. Northland Pines
Dec. 13..... Away at Northland Pines	Feb. 4..... Away vs. Wausau West
Dec. 17..... Home vs. Ashland	Feb. 7..... Away vs. Tomahawk
Dec. 20..... Home vs. Tomahawk	Feb. 11..... Home vs. Shawano
Jan. 3..... Away vs. Wausau East	Feb. 14..... Away vs. Lakeland
Jan. 7..... Away vs. Three Lakes	Feb. 18..... Home vs. Laona-Wabeno
Jan. 10..... Home vs. Lakeland	Feb. 21..... Home vs. Mosinee
Jan. 14..... Away vs. Mosinee	Feb. 27..... Away vs. Medford
Jan. 17..... Home vs. Medford	March 4, 7, 8..... Regionals TBA
Jan. 21..... Home vs. Merrill	March 13..... Sectional at Ashland
Jan. 24..... Away vs. Antigo	March 15..... Sectional at La Crosse Central
Jan. 28..... Away vs. Wisconsin Rapids	March 20..... State

In front, from left, head coach Derek Lemmens, coach Caleb Winter, Seth Nofftz, Greyson Gremban, Dylan Hopfensperger, Devon Feck, Jackson Weinzattl, Myles Eagleson. In back, coach Kurt Zalewski, Truman Lamers, Dominic Lehman, Hayden Schommer, Evan Shoeder, Jatyn Barkus, Abe Gretzinger, Rowan Wiczek, coach Chad Bolckema, coach Brandon Karaba, coach Nick Karaba.



### BOYS HOCKEY

Dec. 12..... Home vs. Tomahawk
Dec. 17..... Away vs. at Stevens Point Pacelli
Dec. 19..... Away vs. Waupaca
Dec. 27-28..... Away at Ozaukee
Jan. 2..... Home vs. Marshfield
Jan. 7..... Away vs. DCE
Jan. 10-11..... Away at Merrill
Jan. 14..... Away vs. Northland Pines
Jan. 16..... Home vs. Medford
Jan. 21..... Away vs. Mosinee
Jan. 23..... Home vs. Shawano
Jan. 28..... Away vs. Chequamegon
Jan. 30..... Home vs. Lakeland Union
Feb. 1..... Away vs. Ashland
Feb. 4..... Away GNC Meet
Feb. 6..... Home vs. Kingsford
Feb. 11..... Home GNC Meet
Feb. 18, 20..... Regionals TBA
Feb. 25, 28..... Sectional at Mosinee
March 1..... Sectional TBA
March 6..... State TBS

In front, from left, coach Dave Denis, coach Wil Losch, Nathan Cordy, Dylan Shefvland, Asher Rivord, Gabe Kennedy, Drake Nelson, head coach M.J. Laggis, coach Bryan Kronberger. In back, Kadin Rodziczak, Riley Squires, Jack Turek, Zach Edyvean, Logan Leonard, Karter Massey, Van Tulowitzky, Timber Cronauer. Not pictured, Carson Plehn, Carter Nelson.

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## BOYS SWIMMING

Dec. 12..... Away vs. Tomahawk  
 Dec. 14..... Home Invitational  
 Dec. 17..... Home vs. Shawano  
 Dec. 19..... Away vs. Antigo  
 Dec. 23..... Home Alumni Meet  
 Jan. 7..... Double Dual at Medford  
 Jan. 11..... Invitational at Ashwaubenon  
 Jan. 14..... Double Dual at Lakeland  
 Jan. 17..... Invitational at Appleton North  
 Jan. 23..... Double Dual at Home  
 Jan. 25..... Invitational at Shorewood  
 Feb. 7..... GNC at Home  
 Feb. 15..... Sectional at Ashwaubenon  
 Feb. 21..... State at Waukesha South

In front, from left, Brock Arrowood, Michael Schiek, Shawn Denis, Dolan O'Malley, Mathias Fugle, Samson Shinnars. Middle row, Broden Wagner, Matthew Woods, Daniel Meier, Charlie Antonuk, Dean Gillingham, Chris Larson, Judson O'Malley, Paul Denis. In back, coach Brent Olson, head coach Jenny Heck.



## GIRLS BASKETBALL

Dec. 13..... Home vs. Northland Pines  
 Dec. 20..... Away vs. Tomahawk  
 Jan. 3..... Home vs. Wisconsin Rapids  
 Jan. 7..... Away vs. Three Lakes  
 Jan. 10..... Home vs. Lakeland  
 Jan. 14..... Home vs. Mosinee  
 Jan. 17..... Away vs. Medford  
 Jan. 24..... Away vs. Antigo  
 Jan. 28..... Away vs. Assumption  
 Jan. 31..... Away vs. Northland Pines  
 Feb. 4..... Home vs. Stevens Point  
 Feb. 7..... Home vs. Tomahawk  
 Feb. 11..... Home vs. Shawano  
 Feb. 14..... Away vs. Lakeland  
 Feb. 18..... Away vs. Wausau East  
 Feb. 21..... Away vs. Mosinee  
 Feb. 25, 28..... Regionals TBA  
 March 1..... Regionals TBA  
 March 6..... Sectional at Ashland  
 March 8..... Sectional at Mosinee  
 March 13..... State

In front from left, Reese Gehrig, Ella Miljevich, Dawsyn Barkus, Kelsey Winter, Kara Monk, Vivian Lamers. Row two, JaLyn LaChapelle, Ava Kurilla, Lexi Beran, Makenna Sternitzky, Aubryn Clark, Gracie Anderson. Not pictured, Amelia McIntyre.



## WRESTLING

Dec. 14..... Invitational at Forest County Potawatomi  
 Dec. 19..... Away at Antigo  
 Dec. 20..... Invitational at Hodag Dome  
 Dec. 27-28..... Invitational at River Falls  
 Jan. 11..... Invitation at Valders  
 Jan. 16..... Quad meet at Mosinee  
 Jan. 23..... Quad meet at Home  
 Jan. 25..... Invitational at Wausau East  
 Jan. 30..... Triangular at Three Lakes  
 Feb. 8..... GNC Meet at Lakeland  
 Feb. 15..... Regional at Hayward  
 Feb. 22..... Sectional at Amery  
 Feb. 27..... State at UW-Madison Field House

From left in front, Mya Swanson, Cassidy Lindner, Wyatt Crowell, Trevor Denton, Allen Wisniewski, Grady DeBay, Ivan Loka, Hoyt Dantoin. Row two, Dresden Klaver, Gavin Dotter, Gage Anderson, Shayden Hylleberg, Avrom Barr, Tony Boldt. In back, Aiden Ostermann, Reid Schultz, Gus Porter, Brock Sternitzky, Brayden Krueger, Dom Hakala, Cyrus Leisure, Logan Schwinger.

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## GYMNASTICS

Dec. 14.....	Home* vs. multiple schools
Jan. 14.....	Away at Wisconsin Rapids
Jan. 21.....	Home vs. Antigo
Feb. 1.....	Away at Antigo
Feb. 4.....	Home vs. Lakeland
Feb. 8.....	Away at Marshfield
Feb. 11.....	Away at Mosiness
Feb. 15.....	Away at Ashland
Feb. 22.....	Away at Stevens Point
March 1.....	Sectional TBA
March 7.....	State TBA

\*Home meets at YMCA of the Northwoods

In front, coach April Denis, Vayda Ives, Addison Fish, Wendy Fronk, Karly Gillingham, Hope Dickinson, head coach Kristina Aschenbrenner. Row two, Sam Aschenbrenner, Emeline Hintz, Arianna Crossman, Alexis Smith, Margherita Tibaldeschi, Olivia Ruetz. Row three, Adalynn Strobel, Morgan Cahee, Lexi Skubal, Mollie Arneson, Brynn Teter, Sophie Miljevich.



## NORDIC TEAM

Emma Mankus, Kali Skubal, Kayla Skubal, Mya Gillen, Jonathan Calhoun, Aaron Calhoun, Douglas Hartmann. Not pictured, Iain Rumney.



## ALPINE TEAM

In front, Lucy Eddy, Regan Moore, Karlie Yunkers, Lindsey Hoerchler, Callie Hoerchler. Row two, Ben Olson, Henry Schmitz, Roan Childs, Michael Brunette. Row three, Garrett Hull, Robert Guolee, Jackson Moore, Marshal Durkee, Holden Schmitz, Kamden Kostrova, Soren Dumar.

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In front, Lucy Eddy, Regan Moore, Karlie Yunkers, Lindsey Hoerchler, Callie Hoerchler. Row two, Ben Olson, Henry Schmitz, Roan Childs, Michael Brunette. Row three, Garrett Hull, Robert Guolee, Jackson Moore, Marshal Durkee, Holden Schmitz, Kamden Kostrova, Soren Dumar.

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**PARK** from page 1

ists and a steering committee to create a skate park that would be a place for youth to gather and hang out, but also be of interest to the general public.

They presented their initial plans to a group of more than 40 skaters, city council members and interested community members.

“Thanks for having us, what a cool community,” Smith said. “We love your enthusiasm and think it’s amazing.”

The preliminary plans offered a couple of theme options, a mythical forest or a lighthouse beacon. The forest option, with elements that include subtle nods to the Hodag, forests and green space, had overwhelming support among

the group.

“The Hodag is everywhere,” Wiesenhahn said. “It really came through as important so we dug a little deeper and thought about your woods and what kind of woods do these creatures come from. We’re from a wooded area in Indiana so I get it; the idea of the cabin and the movements you can’t account for. So we thought that the mythical forest idea was a good place to start.”

The designs were opened up to discussion, with suggestions from attendees. City alder Carrie Mikalauski said as a non-skater, she wanted the park to be representative of the community as a whole.

“Something that everyone can be a part of, so the very beginning [skill

level], intermediate and some more difficult things – what those are, I have no idea, but that’s the idea we were hoping for,” Mikalauski said. “But I think it’s beautiful the way that it is.”

The plight of OverIt to help fight mental illness, loneliness and social isolation was taken up as a community development project that incorporated art as a way of coping.

Furthering the cause, Rhinelander was one of 18 cities nationwide chosen to participate in the One Nation One Project arts and health initiative in 2023; the skate park was selected as the city’s big project.

Though the ONOP project unveiling was July 27 – before any structural work for a skate park was

done, the steering committee invited the community to participate in “A Push Against Loneliness” event that included a March Against Social Isolation, a skate jam, music and other events.

Gaudioso agreed that isolation is a concern among all age groups and said he thinks the skate park is a good thing, not just for skaters but for the entire community.

“There’s a lot of isolation that happens in rural towns just like Rhinelander and there’s a very tight knit community here, but [other towns] don’t always have these safe spaces and these mediums to connect with each other and I think when you don’t have those you see a lot of people face mental health issues, communication issues. We don’t always get the connection in our community that we



Hunger Skate Parks brought preliminary designs for the skate park that will be built near the Hodag Park beach house. Attendees of the unveiling of the plans were asked to vote on some of the elements.

want to see,” he said. “But we just keep pushing on.” After input from the community, a design will be finalized, and then fundraising will begin. It’s anticipated the cost for the skate park will be upwards of \$1 million dollars.

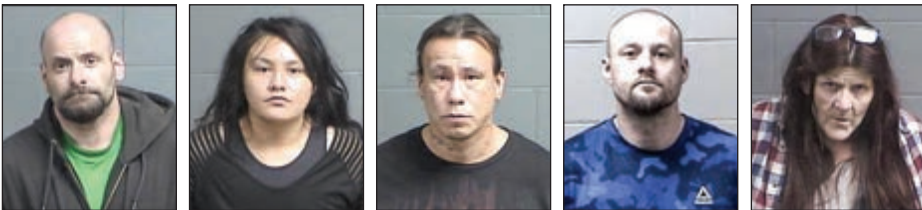
**A tale of two legends**



On Dec. 3, the Rhinelander Chamber of Commerce invited the community to take holiday photos with two legends at once – Santa and the Hodag. Local photographer Heather Collins captured the special moments, and the chamber provided hot cocoa and other sweet treats. **Star Journal photo**

**ONEIDA COUNTY WARRANTS OF THE WEEK**

The Oneida County Sheriff’s Office is asking for your assistance in locating these individuals. If you have seen or have information regarding their whereabouts, please contact the Oneida County Sheriff’s Office at 715-361-5100.



**Scott R. Eades**, 44, Rhinelander. Fail to appear: BODY ONLY  
**Lavonne P. linklater**, 26, Lac du Flambeau. Fail to appear: BODY ONLY  
**John D. Negani Jr.**, 40, Harshaw. Fail to appear: BODY ONLY  
**Clayton D. Collins**, 43, Laona. Fail to appear: BODY ONLY  
**Anna M. Smith**, 59, Eagle River. Fail to appear: BODY ONLY

**ONEIDA COUNTY COURT REPORT**

NOV. 28-DEC. 5, 2024

**Blue Sky Ozhaa Giizhigoo Meshigaud**, 18, Laona, charged with OWI (first with passenger < age 16). Signature bond \$1,000. AIA Jan. 28.

**Jerrod L. Breivogel**, 36, Rhinelander, charged with disorderly conduct. Signature bond \$1,000. AIA Jan. 3.

**Kathryn L. Stolzman**, 30, Rhinelander, charged with disorderly conduct. Signature bond \$1,000. AIA Jan. 3.

**Cory A. DeMeyer**, 53, Rhinelander, pleads not guilty to charges of disorderly conduct/domestic abuse and strangulation and suffocation/domestic abuse. Signature bond \$1,500. PH Dec. 30.

**Angel D. Malone**, 17, Gleason, charged with possession of methamphetamine, possess drug paraphernalia and possession of THC. Signature bond \$2,500. AIA Jan. 3.

**Michael L. Wells**, 31, Rhinelander, charged with OWI (3rd), resisting or obstructing an officer, criminal trespass to dwelling and two counts of bail jumping-felony. Signature bond \$2,500. AIA Dec. 23.

**Payton W. Lanke**, 21, Rhinelander,

charged with possession of child pornography, sex registry violation and bail jumping-felony. Cash bond \$10,000.

**Forest D. Freeman**, 40, Minocqua, has charges of IID tampering/fail to install, operating while revoked and charge of possession of THC dismissed. Pleads guilty/no contest to possession of drug paraphernalia. Fined \$263.50.

**Richard J. Wolniakowski**, 40, Milwaukee, has charges of IID tampering/fail to install and operating while revoked dismissed.

**Linda M. Harrison**, 64, Presque Isle, has charge of retail theft (<=\$500) dismissed.

**Victor M. Reyes**, 39, Lac du Flambeau, has charges of false imprisonment and disorderly conduct dismissed.

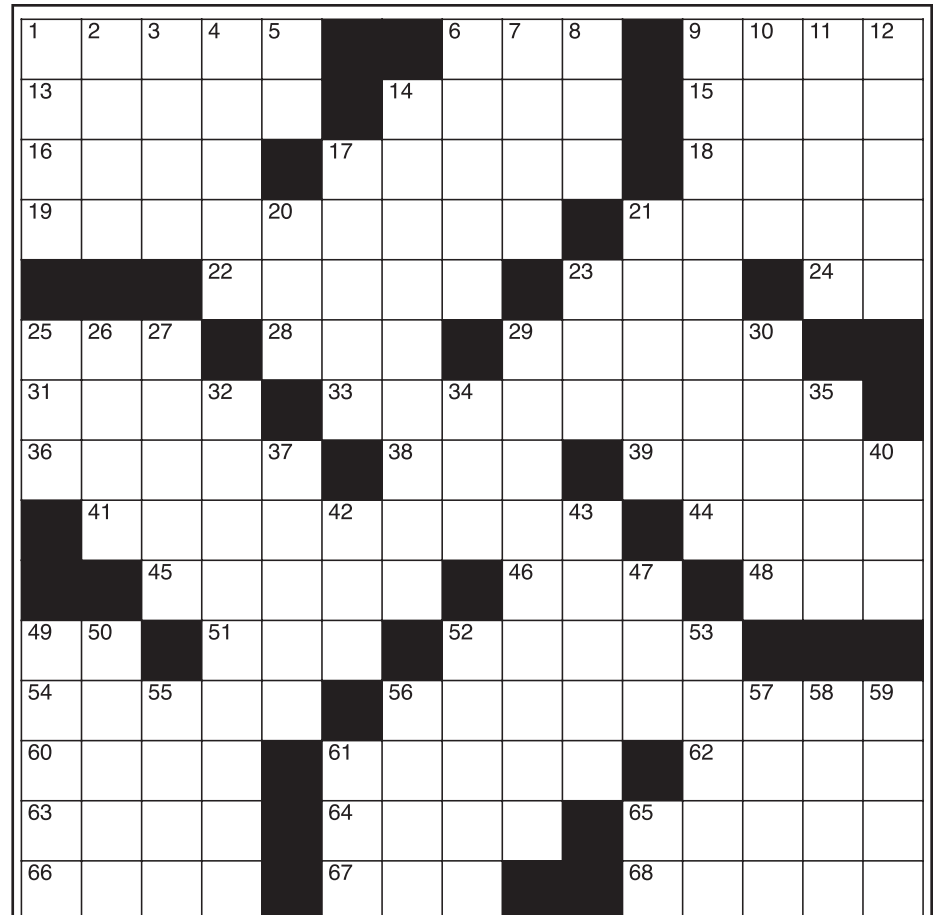
**John C. Mcgeshick**, 31, Lac du Flambeau, pleads guilty/no contest to retail theft (>\$500-\$5,000) and retail theft (<=\$500). Two charges of bail jumping-felony are dismissed. Sentenced to 30 days in jail; fines/fees \$243.

derly conduct, two charges of batter or threat to judge, prosecutor or law enforcement, possession of THC and possess drug paraphernalia. Cash bond \$10,000. AIA Dec. 9.

**Jamie L. Cornelius**, 34, Appleton, charged with resisting or obstructing, disorderly conduct, to charges of battery or threat to judge, prosecutor or law enforcement, possession of THC (2nd+ offense) and possess drug paraphernalia. Cash bond \$10,000. AIA Dec. 9

**ABBREVIATION KEY:**

- DPA - Deferred Prosecution Agreement
- DEJ - Deferred Entry of Judgment
- WSP - Wisconsin State Prison
- ES - Extended Supervision
- PAC - Prohibited Alcohol Concentration
- IID - Ignition Interlock Device
- DL - Driver’s license
- AIA - Adjourned initial appearance
- PTAC - Party to a crime
- WHS/POP - Withhold sentence/period of probation
- DRI - Dismissed but read in
- PTC - Pre-trial conference
- PH - Preliminary Hearing



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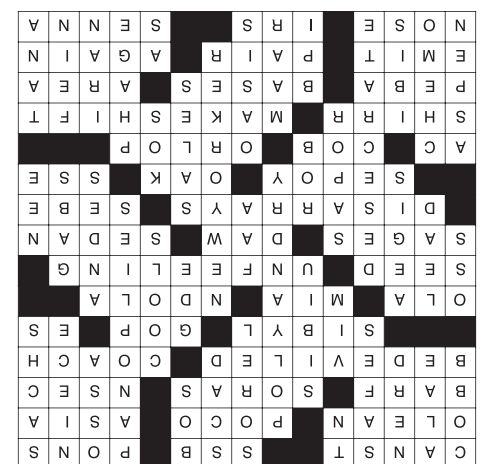
**CLUES ACROSS**

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



421406

# New Ace Hardware store opens in Antigo

ANTIGO – The “helpful place” opened its doors Dec. 3 in Antigo. The new Antigo Ace Hardware store, located at 715 Superior Street, will bring the company’s knowledgeable, service and brands to help Antigo residents succeed with their everyday home maintenance projects.

“Our mission is to provide customers with the neighborly advice and assistance they have come to expect from Ace,” said Bob Jaskolski, president and CEO of T.A. Solberg Company. “We look forward to becoming a helpful and valuable neighbor to the community, both inside and outside the walls of our store.”

Antigo Ace Hardware is the second hardware store opened by the local T.A. Solberg Co., Inc. and owners Trig and Tula Solberg. Store manager is Jeff Dodd; Payton Van Rixel is the assistant manager. The store has been designed to reflect the needs of the Antigo community, including solutions to home maintenance needs, and an array of quality products such as paint, lawn and garden.

The 15,000-square-foot store carries brands like Milwaukee Tool, Ego, Stihl, Weber, Benjamin Moore and Scotts, as well as hardware, electrical, plumbing items, automotive and home décor, and niche products such as Mud Pie.

The grand opening festivities took place Dec. 2 and included holiday sales and giveaways and more throughout the coming weeks.

Trig’s Ace Hardware is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact the store at 715-618-8185.

# FBLA/DECA to hold Jeans for Teens drive

FOR STAR JOURNAL

Rhineland High School FBLA/DECA will hold its annual Jeans for Teens drive from Dec. 18 to Jan. 7, collecting gently used jeans for community members in need.

To donate, the collection sites to drop off jeans are Rhineland High School, James Williams Middle School, Crescent Elementary School, Pelican Elementary School, Central Elementary School, Maurices, Rhineland District Library, Campfire Coffee and Creamery (A’La Mode), Bath and Body Creations, and the YMCA, in the box wrapped in Christmas paper.

Donations will go to the Frederick Place homeless shelter.

For more information, call 715-365-9500.



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# Safest gun deer season in 40 years

Deer harvest up statewide, locally mixed

BY EILEEN PERSIKE  
EDITOR

WISCONSIN – The deer harvest was up and firearm incidents reached a 40-year low during the nine-day gun deer season that concluded Dec. 1.

Statewide, the DNR said the harvest was up about five percent over 2023, which is a little ahead of the five-year average. License sales were also up.

“So given the late start of the gun season that we’ve been talking about up to this point, that’s really about as good as we could have expected, to have held our harvest similar to last year and actually saw some increases in a few places,” Jeff Pritzl, DNR deer program specialist, said during a press briefing Dec. 3.

Preliminary figures show hunters registered 189,622 deer during the 2024 gun deer season, including 89,787 antlered and 99,835 antlerless deer.

Pritzl pointed out that the Central Farmland zone was the winner in the state, with hunters shooting more than 111,000 deer during the gun season. He said the difference in the numbers demonstrates a continued long-term shift away from what is called hunting effort in the Northern Forest.



Scene from Wisconsin state park. DNR photo

Hunting effort is tracked through a survey that is mailed to 10,000 deer hunters across the state.

“Having done this survey for decades, what we’ve seen overall is our total days of hunter effort or trips that hunters make across the state has been relatively stable – in the range of 7 to 7.5 million per year,” Pritzl said. “But those hunting trips have really shifted, specifically for the gun deer season.”

What is interesting, Pritzl noted, is the decline in hunter effort actually began in the mid-1990s, when the harvest in the north was at its peak. It wasn’t so much a response to a lack of opportunity in the north, but an expanding opportunity that was surpassing the north in the southern half of the state.

“Cumulatively over the past 30 years, our days

of hunting effort in the Northern Forest now are about half what they were in the 1990s,” Pritzl explained. “So that puts into perspective why we are seeing declining harvest numbers in the north that aren’t necessarily tied directly to declining deer numbers; again part of that shift has been to the south, but it has also been toward the archery season.

“Our archery buck harvest in the Northern Forest this year is running over 30% ahead of last year. As a different metric that covers a greater period of time would suggest that the declining harvest we’re seeing in the Northern Forest isn’t a direct parallel to the deer population up there,” Pritzl said.

### Hunting incidents

There was just one non-fatal hunting incident dur-

ing the gun deer season. In fact, the DNR’s hunter education administrative warden said 2024 was the safest gun deer season in 40 years. Renee Thok said the incident took place Nov. 29 in Vernon County. There were three nonfatal hunting incidents in 2023. Six out of the last 10 gun deer seasons have been fatality free, with the average rate of incidents in the previous 10 years being 5.6 per season.

The regular gun deer season took place Nov. 23-Dec. 1 and is followed by the statewide muzzleloader season Dec. 2-11 and the statewide antlerless-only four-day hunt Dec. 12-15. Select farmland zones also have an antlerless-only holiday hunt Dec. 24-Jan. 1.

### 2024 harvest Nov. 23-Dec. 1

Central Farmland.....	111,011
Central Forest.....	6,989
Northern Forest.....	29,500
-Oneida Co.....	1,491
Southern Farmland.....	42,122
Statewide bow as of 12/3/24.....	99,739
2024 Total as of 12/3/24.....	289,361

### License sales

<b>Gun, archery, crossbow</b>	
2024.....	791,023
2023.....	788,697
<b>Gun only</b>	
2024.....	553,652
2023.....	553,479

# Three Rhineland schools rank among the best in state

FOR STAR JOURNAL

Three School District of Rhineland schools were recently ranked among the 2025 Best Schools in Wisconsin by U.S. News and World Report.

According to the district, Northwoods Community Elementary School ranked No. 321 and Central Elementary School No. 366 out of 1,002 best elementary schools in Wisconsin.

The elementary schools were ranked on performance on state-required tests and how well they prepared students for high school.

Rhineland High School ranked at No. 194 out of 569 best high schools in the state, based on performance on state-required tests and how well they prepare students for college, career, or military service.

This marks the second year in a row that Northwoods Community Elementary School has been acknowledged by the U.S. News and World Report. It also ranked No. 1 in the School District of Rhineland. Central Elementary School scored its first ranking and is No. 2 in the district.

# Legion celebrates 105 years

FOR STAR JOURNAL

Rhineland’s Dahlberg-Makris American Legion Post 7 celebrated its 105th year in the community during a November meeting.

Post commander Bob Smith said the meeting captured the legion’s commitment to mentoring youth, sponsoring wholesome programs in the community, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting national security, and continuing devotion to fellow servicemembers and veterans.



Two automated external defibrillators were donated at the meeting, one for the Rhineland Vets Center and one for the Rhineland VFW. Pictured, from left, are Bob Smith, American Legion commander; Skip Dulin, DAV commander; Denise Crump; Dan Keck, NCO club commander; and Jeff Winkler, VFW commander. Submitted photos



Veteran Larry Rappley receives his Quilt of Valor.

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**Music fest benefits nonprofits**



Three nonprofit organizations received \$1,000 in donations at the recent Ecumenical Music Fest at the Nativity of Our Lord Parish in Rhinelander. From left are Mary Grieco and Mary Dahl, planning committee members; Timberly Martin, assistant director of the Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault; Kristin Bonamo, executive director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness-Northern Lakes; and Amy Kriesel, planning committee member. Not pictured is Maggie Peterson, board president of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Northwoods. Submitted photo

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# Hodag Highlights

## BOYS BASKETBALL

The Hodag boys basketball team played the second game of the basketball doubleheader on Friday against their first conference foe Antigo at home. The Hodags controlled the game from the outset and had a 39-13 lead at halftime. The pressure defense and offensive ball movement in the second half by the Hodags gave Rhinelander its first conference win 69-40. Leading the Hodags in scoring was Truman Lamers with 20 points followed by Devin Feck with 16.



Evan Shoeder scored on this play in the paint for two of his nine points.



Senior Truman Lamers made the dunk in the first half and finished with 20 points in the game.



Abe Gretzinger was fouled going to the hoop early in the game.



Junior Devin Feck scored two of his 16 points on a breakaway layup on an Antigo turnover.



Little Hodags played for spectators during halftime during both games.



Vivian Lamers scored two points with a fast-break layup.



Sophomore Aubryn Clark follows through on a free throw in overtime getting her to 41 points. Clark shot and made two more in the overtime to get to a record-breaking 43.



Kara Monk battles for a loose ball late in the second half against Antigo.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

Conference play began for the Hodag girls basketball team on Tuesday, Dec. 3, with a home game against Medford and then a home game against Antigo in a doubleheader Friday, Dec. 6.

Against Medford, the girls were down in the first half by 21 points but started a comeback to close the gap to a score of 32-16 at the half.

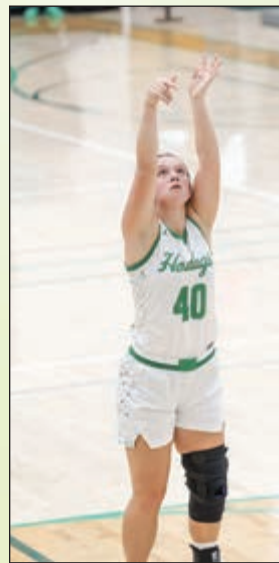
The Hodags, mainly Aubryn Clark, continued to close the gap until the end of the game as the Hodags were down three with eight seconds left. Clark brought the ball upcourt, set up for a three-point shot, and made it to tie the score with under five seconds remaining.

Medford could not get a good shot off and the game went to overtime. Medford scored first and scored five in the overtime.

The Hodags scored 10 with Clark scoring 10 on a field goal and four free throws that would give her 43 points for the game and the record for points in a game formerly held by Ava Lamers. Vivian Lamers and Dawsyn Barkus each scored a field goal in the overtime to give the Hodags the 63-58 win. On Friday the Hodags hosted Antigo and controlled the game with constant ball pressure and easy bas-



Senior Dawsyn Barkus shot a three against Antigo and scored eight points in the contest.

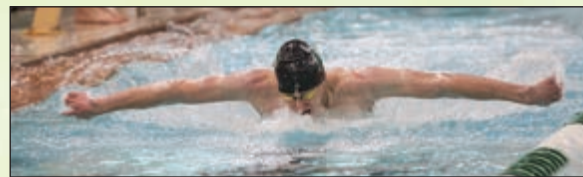


Senior Kelsey Winter follows through on a free throw against Antigo Friday. Winter scored eight points.

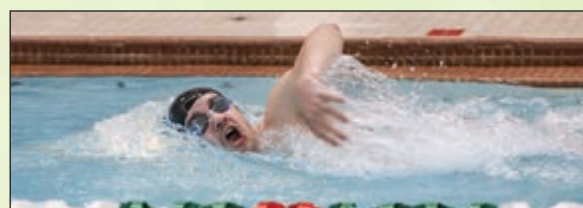
kets. Rhinelander held a 43-20 halftime advantage and finished with a 75-35 win. Clark was the leading scorer with 24 points and also in double digits was Vivian Lamers with 17.

## BOYS SWIMMING

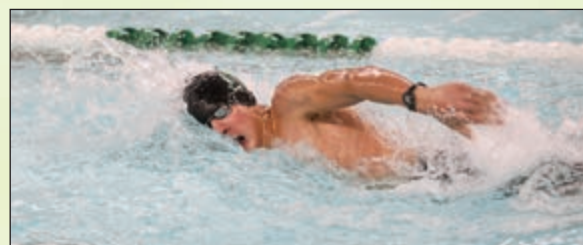
The Hodags boys swimming team hosted two meets last week, Medford on Tuesday, Dec. 3, and Lakeland on Thursday, Dec. 5. The boys won all 11 events on both days to defeat Medford 134-31 and a shorthanded Lakeland 138-13. Lakeland only had three of their four swimmers on hand for the meet.



Senior Shawn Denis placed first in the 100-yard butterfly against Medford.



Samson Shinner won the 500-yard freestyle.



Freshman Dean Gillingham won the 200-yard freestyle against Lakeland.



Judson O'Malley, a sophomore, won the 100-yard backstroke on Thursday.



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