

City issues water notice

FOR STAR JOURNAL

Last week, the city of Rhinelander issued a water let-run order beginning Jan. 27 for residents in areas with deep frost issues to prevent utility lines from freezing.

Utility customers can determine if they're authorized to run water by looking up their address at rhinelander-wi.us or city hall, 135 S. Stevens St.

Authorized customers will have their bills adjusted.

According to the city, residents should run cold water from only one fixture per property in a stream the diameter of a pencil lead, which can be checked by filling a 12-ounce container in approximately one minute.

Special cases of water-only customers or other circumstances requiring greater flow rates can be approved.

The running water list will be periodically amended with new locations when frost conditions require additions of other approved customers.

The utility department will provide further instructions with an end date as frost levels subside.

For more information, contact the water department at 715-362-2728.



The Little Rice Fire Department, in partnership with Nicolet College, held an intensive cold water and ice rescue training class Jan. 25. **Submitted photos**

Little Rice Fire Department holds rescue training

FOR STAR JOURNAL

The Little Rice Fire Department, in partnership with Nicolet College, held an intensive cold water and ice rescue training class Jan. 25.

According to the fire department, the training provided invaluable education and hands-on experience for 25 participants from the Little Rice, Pine Lake, Minocqua, and Fence fire departments.

The day began with a three-hour classroom session at the Little Rice Fire Department, during which participants learned the principles of ice rescue, practiced knot-tying techniques and familiarized themselves with specialized rescue equipment.

Following the classroom session, the group headed to the ice at Lake Killarney to implement training, conducting realistic ice rescue drills.

"This training is crucial for our firefighters and rescue personnel," said Fire Chief Larry Mathein. "With so many lakes and streams in our coverage area, ice and water rescues are a real possibility every year. It's important to stay prepared, both for our safety and for the safety of our community."

The department said statistics underscore the importance of ice rescue training. According to recent reports, Wisconsin experienced seven ice rescues just the past weekend, highlighting the dangers of unpredict-

See **FIRE DEPARTMENT** page 2



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First-ever Winterfest slated Feb. 15 in Pelican Lake

In low-snow season, event seeks to boost local biz, support AIS management

BY CHRISTINA BRANDMEIER
EDITOR

The Pelican Lake Association (PLA) will hold a new event, Winterfest, Saturday, Feb. 15, from noon to 8 p.m. at PB and J's Place in Pelican Lake.

"Since Mother Nature is not holding up her end of our winter tourism needs, we're trying to hold an event to assist a local bar with activities for the family and raise funds for the very expensive task of invasive species management for the organization," said PLA Fundraising Committee Chair Kelly Kraetsch.

At press time, snowmobile trails in Oneida County remained closed due to poor snow conditions.

In a joint public service announcement issued Jan. 24, the Oneida County Snowmobile Council and Oneida County Forestry Department stated it was a difficult decision not to open the trails earlier, recognizing how critical snowmobile season is to the Northwoods and how trail closures can adversely affect businesses and tourism dollars, a sentiment that Kraetsch echoed.

"Speaking with the local food and drink owners on the lake, winter is usually a tough time," Kraetsch

said. "However, snowmobiling helps with the slump. With the lack of significant snowfall two years in a row, they're really feeling the squeeze."

Many annual fundraisers that take place in winter are also struggling. Kraetsch added that a recent event for brain cancer, The Spanky Ride, was negatively impacted by low participation due to snowmobile trail closures. "Monico's Boondocks owner stated he only saw 60 customers on the event day. In the past, it would be well over 300."

With or without more snow, Kraetsch and the PLA, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, protecting, and enhancing the waters of Pelican Lake in Oneida County, will hold Winterfest next weekend and invite the community to attend.

Family-fun

The event will feature two tournaments for families to compete in, BucketGolf and Snowball Cornhole.

BucketGolf costs \$10 for each two-person team. The first-place winner gets half the entry fee pot, and the second and third-place winners get a quarter.

Snowball Cornhole costs \$5 for a two-person team,

See **WINTERFEST** page 4

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FIRE DEPARTMENT *from page 1*

able ice conditions. The department added that the training at Little Rice comes at a critical time, ensuring local fire departments are ready to respond to emergencies in these challenging conditions. Last year, the department successfully assisted in the rescue of a father and son who fell through the ice while fishing on the Willow Reservoir. That rescue was made possible thanks to training and specialized equipment, including ice rescue suits and the department's rescue sled, which can traverse ice and open water.

Participants in the training were enthusiastic about the hands-on nature of the exercises. One attendee remarked, "The opportunity to practice in real conditions is invaluable. Knowing we have the skills and the tools to make a difference gives us the confidence to respond effectively."

Another participant added, "It's great to train alongside neighboring departments. Teamwork is critical during these types of emergencies."

Mathein emphasized the importance of ongoing training. "Our goal is to be as prepared as possible for any scenario," he said. "And this class is a big part of that continuing preparation."

The Little Rice Fire Department is a volunteer organization of 30 dedicated members. Its jurisdiction covers approximately 150 square miles of the townships of Little Rice and Lynne, including numerous lakes and streams.



Specialized equipment makes rescues possible, including ice rescue suits and the department's rescue sled, which can traverse ice and open water.



The training involved 25 participants from the Little Rice, Pine Lake, Minocqua, and Fence fire departments.

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Parkinson's support group to be held in Rhinelander

FOR STAR JOURNAL

A new Parkinson's support group will meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 3 p.m. at the YMCA of the Northwoods in Rhinelander. The first meeting is Feb. 11 in the Dale and Gale Willcox Gathering Room.

The Wisconsin Parkinson Association (WPA), in partnership with the YMCA of the Northwoods, is launching the group to provide resources and encouragement for individuals living with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers and family members.

Participants are encouraged to bring questions and concerns to the group and connect with others facing similar challenges.

According to the WPA, with over 15,000 people in Wisconsin and more than one million nationwide diagnosed with Parkinson's—a progressive neurological disorder with no known cure—support programs are vital.

For more information, contact Marilyn Duschl at 715-362-9622 ext. 118 or mduschl@ymcanw.org.

Cross-country ski clinic set Feb. 15

FOR STAR JOURNAL

In partnership with Coasters Cycle Works, the School District of Rhinelander Community Education Program will host a cross-country ski clinic for all ages on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 9 a.m. to noon at Rhinelander High School.

Participants will learn the basics of cross-country skiing.

Participants can bring equipment or contact Mike Bellile at 715-224-3522 and provide a height, weight, and shoe

size, or stop by Coasters Cycle Works in Tomahawk to get fitted by Friday, Feb. 14, and equipment will be provided at no charge.

The clinic cost is \$10 per person. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required by Feb. 13. To register, visit the community section at rhinelander.k12.wi.us.

For more information, contact Community Education Manager Mike Cheslock at 715-365-9745.

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Library love

RDL raises more than \$845,000 for renovations

FOR STAR JOURNAL

February is National Library Lover's Month, but several Rhinelander residents have been actively supporting the Rhinelander District Library (RDL) and RDL Foundation since it launched its Capital Campaign last June.

The campaign aims to renovate and expand the library's 121-year-old facility.

So far, the library said it's raised more than \$845,000 towards its \$7 million goal thanks to the support of local businesses, organizations, and individuals.

According to the library, that includes the Rhinelander Woman's Club, Walter and Donna Gager, Frasier's Plumbing, Heating and Cooling, the Northwoods Genealogical Society, and AirPro Fan and Blower Company.

"We're very grateful to these organizations and the many individuals who have shown their support for our needed renovation and expansion," said Virginia Roberts, director of RDL.

The library said the Rhinelander Woman's Club has been a benefactor of the library since its founding in 1898 and continued its support with a donation to the RDL Foundation in September.

Matching donations from Walter and Donna Gager, long-time contributors and patrons, will provide a new elevator for the updated facility.

Frasier's Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling selected the Capital Campaign as their Duck Fund recipient last September.

"Giving back to our community is one of the reasons we love what we do at Frasier's," the company said on Facebook. "The library is an essential hub of this community



Rhineland Woman's Club has been a benefactor of the library since its founding in 1898. Pictured: Christy Schneider, Heather Sturtevant, Cindy Goll, Dee Jacobs, Lynn Erbstrasser, Deb Richardson, Cindy Zielenski, Carolyn DeJongh and Sue Bessert. **Submitted photo**

for so many. The team at Frasier's voted, and they agreed that the library is special for all of us. As kids who grew up here and parents ourselves now, we're grateful to have this wonderful resource available."

In December, the Northwoods Genealogical Society presented a check for the Capital Campaign. It will continue working with RDL toward making a great genealogy department housed at the library, where the group meets monthly in the only meeting room.

Last month, Kyle Kuehneman and Nick Confer from AirPro Fan and Blower Company presented library staff with a second donation for the renovation and expansion of RDL.

"The main thing for us is supporting the community and giving back to the community," said Kuehneman.

"As the library celebrates its

128th year of service to our community, we're looking forward to ensuring we continue to provide the multitude of services that so many of us, our families, friends, and neighbors rely upon," Roberts said.

A renovation and expansion plan has been in the works for 10-plus years. The library currently occupies 15,000 square feet, with the plan adding 7,650 square feet.

Changes include replacing the elevator, improving and expanding the children's area, adding community meeting spaces, and creating work and study spaces.

Additionally, the plan will add restrooms, complete building maintenance, and install new entrances.

For more information about the Capital Campaign and to donate, visit RDLfoundation.org or send checks to P.O. Box 1225, Rhinelander, WI, 54501.

Nicolet College now accepting scholarship applications

FOR STAR JOURNAL

The Nicolet College Foundation welcomes students to apply for scholarships for the 2025-26 academic year until Feb. 28.

Awarded scholarships will be available in the fall, spring, and summer terms. The range is from \$250 to \$10,000, and the funding can help pay for tuition and books.

Any current or future Nicolet College student who is enrolled or will be enrolled in at least three credits per term and has a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher is eligible to apply.

High school seniors who plan to attend Nicolet College in the fall are also encouraged to apply for scholarships.

"Scholarships made available through the Nicolet College Foundation have supported countless students over the years," said Heather Schallock, Nicolet College vice president of community engagement and executive director of the Nicolet College Foundation.

"Our goal is to continue providing opportunities for current and future students to achieve their academic and personal dreams," Schallock added.

Prior scholarship recipients expressed gratitude for the support.

"It really means a lot, and the fact that people are willing to help other people succeed and contribute to their society is just really inspiring, and I hope to be able to do it someday," said Makayla Mahler, a nursing program student.

Early childhood education student Madilyn Baumann also echoed the desire to repay the support that has helped her succeed. "I'm determined to make the most of the generosity and give back to the community that has supported me," said Baumann.

Students interested in applying for scholarships can do so online at nicoletcollege.edu/foundation.

For more information or to donate to the Nicolet College Foundation, contact Scholarship and Donor Relations Coordinator Olivia Jopek at oejopek@nicoletcollege.edu or 715-365-4557.



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School District of Rhinelander Community Education Program February Classes

11th Annual Cross Country Ski Clinic

Brought to you by Coasters Cycle Works, participants will learn the basics of cross country skiing. If you do not have your own skis, please contact Mike Bellile at (715) 224-3522 and provide your height, weight, and shoe-size, or stop by Coasters Cycle Works in Tomahawk to get fitted prior to Friday, February 16, and equipment will be provided for you. There is no charge for use of equipment. Participants may bring their own equipment.

Date and Time: Saturday, February 15. 9:00 am – 12:00 pm **Ages:** All ages are welcome **Instructor:** Mike Bellile from Coasters Cycle Works **Fee:** \$10/person **Location:** Rhinelander High School (trails and fields) **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 13

Learn to Curl

Join us for a 3-week session and learn the fun and unique sport of Curling! Curling is a sport that you will never age out of. Learn the strategies and etiquette of the game from some of the most experienced Curlers in Wisconsin. All ages are welcome. Stick curling is also available for those with bad knees or backs. Please wear a clean pair of tennis or court shoes to class.

Instructor: Terri Gleason and others **Fee:** \$35/person **Ages:** All (youth under 10 years of age must be accompanied by an adult) **Location:** Rhinelander Ice Arena **Third Offering:** Sundays, February 9 - 23, 6:00 – 8:00 pm **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 6 **Fourth Offering:** Mondays, February 10 - 24, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, 9:00 – 11:00 am **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 6

Golf Lessons – Level 1

This beginner program is for individuals wishing to learn about the game of golf. You will develop the basic skills and knowledge of golf, which will allow you to feel comfortable golfing with friends and family. The lessons will consist of explanation of topics and skills, followed

by practice on either the Simulator or the turf. Come learn golf in an informative, fun, and low pressure environment! Everyone who completes the class will receive a punch card for 4 hours of simulator time. **Ages:** Adults **Instructor:** Mike Tolvstad **Fee:** \$40/person **Location:** Hodag Dome **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 12 **Second Offering:** Mondays and Wednesdays, February 10 – February 26, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 6 **Third Offering:** Mondays and Wednesdays, March 3 – March 19, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 27

Beginner Square Dance Lessons

Square dancing is a great way to exercise and socialize! It is a fun activity for families, couples, and single people of all ages. No experience is necessary. If you have previous experience square dancing, consider joining as a refresher course or to help with the beginners. The class will be led by an experienced square dance caller who makes dancing fun and easy to learn!

Dates and Times: Thursdays, February 20 - May 22, 6:30-8:30 pm (no class on March 20 or April 17) **Ages:** 7 years old to adult **Instructor:** Jimmie Burs **Fee:** \$15 per person **Location:** Cedric A. Vig Outdoor Classroom (CAVOC Lodge) **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 18

Intermediate Square Dance Lessons

These lessons are intended for people who completed the Fall Beginner lessons, or for former and current square dancers, as a way to strengthen their dance skills in the mainstream program.

Dates and Times: Wednesdays, February 19 - May 14, 6:30-8:30 pm (no class on March 19) **Ages:** 7 years old to adult **Instructor:** Jimmie Burs **Fee:** \$15 per person **Location:** Cedric A. Vig Outdoor Classroom (CAVOC Lodge) **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 17

Pre-registration is required. Space is limited. To register, please visit the 'Community' section of the School District of Rhinelander website: <https://www.rhinelanderk12.wi.us/community/community-education-classes.cfm>. Online registration is available with a credit or debit card. Paper registration is available by mail or drop off. If you have questions, please contact Community Education Coordinator Mike Cheslock at 715-365-9745, chesmik@rhinelander.k12.wi.us.

| OBITUARIES |



Judith Arlene Dufrane, a long time Rhinelander resident, passed away peacefully January 22, 2025, at Allouez Parkside Village in Green Bay, WI. Judy was born June 12, 1942 in Waukesha, WI to Robert and Vienna (Kuismi) Stark. When Vienna unexpectedly passed from tuberculosis in 1943, Robert returned home to Ramsay, Michigan. There he met and married Elizabeth Veda who lovingly raised Judy, her older brother Gary, and younger sister Sharon.

After high school, Judy moved to Milwaukee with her best friends to begin her adult life. There she met the love of her life Louis Dufrane. They were married June 29, 1963, and while living in Milwaukee, had their first born, Charles. In 1965 they moved to Rhinelander and later were blessed with daughters Cheryl and Michele. Sadly, in 1970 Charlie was tragically taken when struck by a car after getting off the school bus. Despite the heartbreak, Judy pressed on caring for her family and welcomed another daughter, Nicole. She went on to earn her associate degree in accounting from Nicolet College.

After retiring, Judy and Louie became snowbirds. They enjoyed traveling together with their dog Bailey in their fifth wheel, until Louie passed away unexpectedly in 2003, leaving a void in her heart. Judy, being a true Finn displaying SISU, continued to pull that camper south for several years with a girlfriend as her co-pilot. She eventually gave up traveling and settled back in Rhinelander year-round. There she enjoyed visits with her grandchildren and rides on the pontoon boat. Judy was not one to quit or give up, no matter what life threw at her. A decline in her health brought her to reside in Green Bay.

She loved her family, music, crossword puzzles, cribbage, ice cream and the Green Bay Packers.

Judy is survived by her daughters Cheryl Glaeser, Michele (Jeff) Antonuk, and Nicole (Mark) Waffle; her grandchildren Emily and Erik Glaeser, Jack and Charlie Antonuk, Vienna and Dayne Waffle. Siblings-in-law Keith Dufrane, Dennis (Linda) Dufrane and Wendy (John) Ikola. Also surviving are nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to her parents, husband and son, she is preceded in death by her brother Gary Stark, sister Sharon Miskovich, son-in-law Mark Glaeser and granddaughter Nina Mari Antonuk.

The Dufrane family wishes to thank the memory care staff at Allouez Parkside Village for their care over the last six years and Moments Hospice for the additional care and support this past year.

Per Judy's wishes, a private family service will be held.



Nancy Dart Opie, age 90, passed away January 19, 2025 at Bradenton Hospice House, Bradenton, FL. Nancy was born on August 4, 1934 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin to Leslie and Frances Anderson Dart. From a young age, she cared for people. At age 12, she cared for her younger sisters, a newborn and a 3-year-old, while their Mom was bedridden. At age 17, at Three Lakes HS, she was appointed as a student member of the Oneida County Health Board.

At age 18 she was off to Milwaukee County School of Nursing earning her diploma in 1955. In June 1955 she married Fred Opie of Milford, NH. While in Milwaukee, Marie, their daughter was born and Nancy worked in pediatric nursing. The family led an active life moving from Milwaukee to Louisville, KY where she worked as a nurse and received her Bachelor's degree. They then moved to Cincinnati, OH where she received her Master's degree in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing. While working at the University of Cincinnati, she was also a visiting professor at Indiana University. Moving to Indiana in 1992, she received her doctorate in nursing at IU and served as chair of the Department of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing until 1996. Nancy received awards for her dedication to nursing. She was a published author of documents related to mental health nursing. Nancy was an IU faculty member until retirement in 1998.

After retirement, Fred and Nancy moved to Venice, Florida where she mentored teens at a local school, was active in her church, and learned to make baskets (many have been passed on to family members). They spent summers in Northern Wisconsin where she helped with the Sugar Camp Senior meals and enjoyed many gatherings with family and friends. She loved watching birds both in Florida and WI. While in Florida, she often took visitors to the Rookery and the Venice breakers to watch the birds. Always curious, she took trips to many parts of the world including Antarctica, India, China, Nepal, Sweden, England, Italy and more.

She cared for her husband until he died in 2014 of Lewy Body Dementia. Sadly, in 2022 she lost her only daughter, Marie, to cancer. She didn't forget her Northwoods roots taking time to educate others on how to care for her Mom after cancer surgery. Unfortunately in 2014, she was hit by a car resulting in having to spend the last years of her life in nursing homes and hospice care. She gave back even then by a grateful smile for those who worked so hard to care for her.

She is survived by her son-in-law Fred Williams, brother Bernie Dart (Joanne), sister Karen Stroede (Dan), sister Peg Thomas (Earl), sisters-in-law Carol Dart and Betty Dart, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by parents Leslie and Frances Dart, husband Fred Opie, daughter Marie Opie Williams, and brothers Denny Dart and Elwood Dart.

This is a quote from one of her nursing students, "she's a wonderful human being who gets to know individuals and offers guidance along with sympathy and patience". That was Nancy. We will miss her.

To share a memory or to send a condolence to the family visit www.farleyfuneralhome.com.

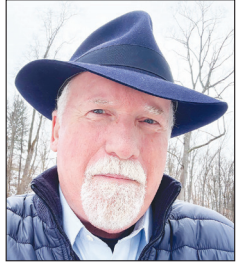
A memorial service will be held in the spring. She will be interred at the Sugar Camp cemetery.

| PUBLISHER LETTER |

Current Spaces and Empty Chair Echoes

Dear Reader,

Yesterday afternoon was bitterly cold, yet the sun shone brightly—a fitting reflection of the emotions in my heart. As I walked into the memory care unit of a Senior Living home I'd been visiting regularly to see my father-in-law Francis for the past two years, the familiar faces greeted me like old friends. They were scattered around the big room, watching yet another rerun of Mary Tyler Moore—or maybe it was The Dick Van Dyke Show. Their smiles, warm and welcoming, made me feel that despite not living there, I still belonged.



Lark stood up the moment she saw me, her arms outstretched for a hug. "You just made my day!" she exclaimed. "Where have you been these past few weeks?" I laughed, feeling a rush of appreciation for her words. Jimmy, wearing the black fedora I'd finally given him after months of promises, tipped it with a grin. I was wearing one too. We traded stories about "the good old days," and he launched into a tale I'd heard before. I didn't mind. I never did.

But my visit was more subdued this time because not everyone was there anymore including Francis, whose presence had always been both tender and sharp. Nick and Jack were also gone; their chairs, once as familiar as their faces, sat empty around the tables. I had been there to say goodbye to Nick, holding his hand and asking him to watch over his family, who clung to one another in quiet grief around his bed. Those goodbyes leave a mark, even as they remind us of the beauty in connection.

Karen, seated near the corner, reached for my hand. She launched into a vivid story about her days as a nurse in the ER. Her eyes sparkled with pride as she spoke. Beside her, Mary Lou motioned for me to come closer to her wheel chair. When I asked how she was doing, she lifted her hands like she was holding onto an invisible ledge. "Just hanging on," she said with a wry smile.

The aides began rounding everyone up for dinner so I made my last rounds, shaking hands, giving hugs, and sharing brief, meaningful exchanges. Lark pulled me into one last embrace before I pushed the buttons at the exit door to let myself out.

As the door clicked shut behind me, I couldn't help but reflect on the inevitable. Someday, I'll be in a place like this. Everything will be taken care of—meals, medications, and all the needs of a frail body. But even with all the care in the world, the loneliness lingers. Most of the residents were waiting, one step away from the reunion that comes when the spirit departs a worn-out body. Still, there was beauty in that waiting. It wasn't despair but a quiet anticipation of something more—a peace I could almost feel as I walked to my car.

Driving away, I thought about the rest of my day and all my tomorrows. I made a promise to myself: I'll savor the moments, big and small; I'll hold tight to joy, squeezing every drop from the time I have left. And one day, when I find myself in a room like that, I hope someone will walk through the door to remind me then of the life I'm living now.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

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

| DEATH NOTICES |

Joyce Louise Alsteen, 73 of Rhinelander, died Jan. 8, 2025. Carlson Funeral Home.

SDR K-12 Art Show opens

FOR STAR JOURNAL

An opening reception for the School District of Rhinelander's K-12 Art Show will be held Thursday, Feb. 6, from 4-7 p.m. at ArtStart.

The annual show features artwork created by students throughout the district from various media, including drawings, paintings, sculptures, prints, collages, and ceramics.

The show will run through February. Gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

A virtual tour will be available at artstartrhinelander.org.

ArtStart is located at 68 S. Stevens St. in Rhinelander.

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Lorrie Cirilli, 94, of Rhinelander, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday morning, January 29, 2025. A complete obituary will appear in a future edition of the Star Journal. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Hildebrand Funeral Home & Cremation Specialists, 24 E. Davenport St., Rhinelander, WI, 54501, 715-365-4343. Everyone is invited to leave an online condolence at www.hildebrandfh.com

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WINTERFEST from page 1

and winners will receive a custom cornhole board made by Robert Brautigam and Jenna Stone.

Food and live music

PLA said soups, meat and cheese trays, and a pulled pork sandwich special will be available, and donations of sides and desserts are appreciated. Winterfest-goers can purchase beverages at the bar throughout the event. Lovin' Country will provide live music from 5-8 p.m.

Raffles

Winterfest includes two raffles, one for a \$1,000 first-place cash prize and another for an ice fishing package, complete with an Eskimo P1 propane auger and a one-person shelter sled donated by a PLA member and Ardisam Inc.

Raffle tickets are available at Pelican Lake establishments PB and J's Place, Boiling Springs Tavern, Dive on 45, Gerrit's Lakeview Inn, and Roadside Pub.

The cash raffle costs \$20 for three tickets, and the ice fishing package is \$10 per ticket.

The cash raffle drawing will be at 5 p.m., and the ice fishing package at 6:30; participants don't have to be present to win.

PB and J's Place is located at 885 Hwy 45. Donations will go towards the management of Pelican Lake Waters. For more information, visit pelicanlakeassociation.org.

Police academy set for March

FOR STAR JOURNAL

A free Citizen's Police Academy will be held from Wednesday, March 5 to Wednesday, April 23, meeting once weekly between 6 and 10 p.m. with the Rhinelander Police Department.

The department said it designed the academy to give students insight into the daily activities of law enforcement, intending to build a strong community bond and encourage citizen involvement in policing.

The program will teach citizens about firearms, defensive and arrest tactics, patrol procedures, drug investigations, criminal investigations, and operating while under the influence.

Students will also complete a four-

hour ride-along with Rhinelander police officers and a night of training with the Rhinelander Fire Department.

Any interested citizens who reside, own property or a business, or work in Rhinelander are encouraged to apply at the Rhinelander Police Department or rhinelanderpd.gov.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and not have any criminal records; the police department will conduct background checks and reserves the right to accept or refuse any application.

The Citizen's Police Academy is limited to 12 participants.

For more information, contact Sgt. Chad Brown or Detective Sgt. Brian Colombino at 715-365-5300.



Let the games begin!

The Oneida County Fair hosts bingo nights on the second Thursday of every month until May at Cabaret Cove (1540 Pueblo Drive) in Rhinelander, with the next one set for Feb. 13. Doors open at 5 p.m., and games begin at 6. It's cash only, with all proceeds benefiting the summer fair. For more information, visit ocfairwi.com. **Submitted photo**



Food pantry donates to pregnancy center

Ruby's Pantry, a ministry of Calvary Baptist Church in Rhinelander, recently donated \$1,000 to the New Dawn Pregnancy Resource Center. From left to right are Pastor Rod Ankrom from Calvary Baptist Church, Glenda Roesler, office receptionist at New Dawn Pregnancy Resource Center, and Carol Schumacher, a volunteer at Ruby's Pantry. Ruby's Pantry is a pop-up food pantry held on the third Tuesday of every month from 4:30-6 p.m. at the National Guard Armory in Rhinelander. For more information, call 715-362-4792 or visit explorecalvary.com. **Submitted photo**

| ONEIDA COUNTY WARRANTS OF THE WEEK |

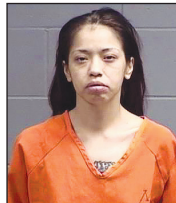
The Oneida County Sheriff's Office is asking for your assistance in locating these individuals. If you have seen or have information regarding their whereabouts, please contact the Oneida County Sheriff's Office at 715-361-5100.



Joshua A. Hartwig, 37, Tomahawk. Fail to appear. BODY ONLY



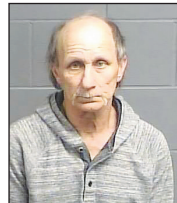
Emily A. Linklater, 18, Lac du Flambeau. Fail to appear. BODY ONLY



Jade W. Beson, 33, Lac du Flambeau. Fail to pay. BOND: \$573



Caleb J. Primmer, 36, Antigo. Fail to appear. BODY ONLY



Michael J. Blaschka, 63, Mosinee. Fail to appear. BODY ONLY

ONEIDA COUNTY COURT REPORT

JAN. 23-29

Jon Lee Askland, 54, Stanley, possess drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, and possession of THC, \$2,500 signature bond. AIA March 7.

Gary W. Dencker, 68, Rhinelander, OWI (second), \$1,000 signature bond. AIA Feb. 24.

Marjorie A. Meyers, 58, Woodruff, refuse/comply rabies quarantine order, \$1,000 signature bond. AIA Feb. 25.

Daniel N. Stevens, 57, Minocqua, refuse/comply rabies quarantine order.

Scott Bart Humiston, 50, Rhinelander, resisting or obstructing an officer, battery or threat to judge, prosecutor, or law enforcement officer, \$1,000 cash bond. PH Feb. 5.

Brandon L. LaPalm, 37, Rhinelander, battery and criminal damage to property, both with repeater modifiers, \$1,000 cash bond. AIA Feb. 7.

Skylar E. La Barge, 31, Bloomington, Minn., OWI (second), \$1,000 signature bond. AIA Feb. 25.

Brandon Lawrence Boh, 23, Arbor Vitae, negligent operation of motor vehicle, homicide by negligent operation/vehicle, \$10,000 signature

bond. PH Feb. 21.
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

| VIEWPOINT |

Prioritizing public school funding

EDITOR,

Charter schools and all religious and private schools siphoning off our tax dollars from the state education budget are made possible because of the Republican-dominated legislature's guarantee to do so. This same legislature continues to fund only 29% or about \$14,000 per student of the special education cost for our public school students while covering 100% or up to \$23,000 of the charter, private, and religious school students. Then, our legislators added an additional guarantee to cover 90% of anything over the \$23,000! Result? More

school referendums on spring ballots. Northland Pines' February referendum and Three Lakes and Rhinelander's April referendums are no surprise. This unfair, preferential treatment of more tax dollars going to charter, religious, and private schools will ultimately destroy our public education system. In her budget, our DPI Superintendent Jill Underly asked the state to cover 90% of mandated special education costs for any public school student instead of its measly 29%. To my knowledge, the other two

DPI candidates, one a charter school proponent, have remained silent on this issue. Unless we elect legislators and DPI superintendents willing to fight for your and my tax dollars going to our public school students rather than significantly more going to charter and private school students, you and I, as property owners, will once again tax ourselves so our children can get an education that allows them to compete in today's world. *Kay Hoff, Minocqua*

Taste of Chocolate launches in downtown Rhinelander

FOR STAR JOURNAL

Eat local chocolate and support local businesses – that's the goal of the Downtown Rhinelander Inc. (DRI) Taste of Chocolate fundraising event sponsored by Nicolet National Bank.

DRI partnered with the Fun Factory Sweet Shoppe to produce a variety of specialty chocolate bar flavors sold at participating businesses for \$5.

Each chocolate bar will have a ticket that could result in winning Downtown Bucks ranging from \$5 to \$20 or coupons from various businesses.

Additionally, 12 chocolate bars will have golden tickets, and those lucky enough to find one will enter the grand prize drawing for \$500 in Downtown Bucks.

Customers can purchase as many chocolate bars from as many businesses as they would like in the quest to find a golden ticket.

"This is a large fundraiser for our downtown organization," said Bob Lueder, DRI president. "Visit our local businesses, purchase chocolate bars for family and friends, and support your local businesses."

Chocolate bars will remain on sale until Feb. 14 while supplies last.

A list of participating businesses can be found on the Downtown Rhinelander Inc. Facebook page.

72ND ANNUAL MEETING

In-person & virtual options are available!

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

7:00 p.m.

CoVantage
CREDIT UNION

If you are attending in person:

▶ The meeting will be held at the **Antigo High School, 1900 West 10th Ave., Antigo**. Registration starts at 6 pm.

If you are attending virtually:

▶ Please complete the registration form at: covantagecu.org/annualmeeting. We will send instructions via email on how to access the meeting.

▶ On Monday, February 17, you will receive an email with instructions from email@covantagecu.org.

Need a ride?

A bus is available. Please call CoVantage at 800-398-2667 for details.

| COMMUNITY CALENDAR |

Feb. 5, 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.

Feb. 5, Line Dancing: 6-8 p.m., The Haven, Rhinelander. Every Wednesday. For more information, call Diane at 715-282-5226.

Feb. 5, RAREA meeting: 11 a.m., CAVOC, 4321 S. Shore Drive, Rhinelander. Bring a bowl and spoon for Chilly Chili or your own lunch. Coffee will be provided. Habitat For Humanity's Ann Sorensen is the speaker.

Feb. 5, Beginning Stargazing and Introduction to Smart Telescopes: 5-7 p.m., Nicolet College Campus Fieldside Center, room 102. \$35/person; maximum 24 students. 715-365-4410.

Feb. 5, Creative Writing Workshop: 1-4 p.m., Campanile Center for the Arts, 131 Milwaukee St., Minocqua. \$45. 715-356-9700 or campanilecenter.org.

Feb. 5, DNR Career Fair: 2-7 p.m., Woodruff Town Hall. Talk one-on-one with DNR staff about full-time and part-time opportunities in a wide variety of careers. Email CarrieB.Wilson@wisconsin.gov or call 608-416-3143.

Feb. 6, Support Group: 2 p.m., ADRC, Tamarack Room, 100 W. Keenan St., Rhinelander. Peer-led mental health support group. Safe and confidential space open to anyone 18 or older. The topic will be Enjoying Your Own Company. Visit supportingeachother.online for more information or call Dan at 715-360-5796.

Feb. 6, Thursday Night

Trivia: 7-10 p.m., Backwaters Bar and Grill, Rhinelander. Join teams of up to six to compete in a live hosted trivia game of 50 questions. Weekly on Thursdays through May 15. 715-369-5645.

Feb. 6, 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. 715-365-1070 or rhinelanderlibrary.org.

Feb. 6, SDR Student Art Exhibition Opening Reception: 4-7 p.m., ArtStart, 68 S. Stevens St., Rhinelander. The School District of Rhinelander Student Exhibition features K-12 student work, including paintings, drawings, prints, collage, ceramic sculpture, and mixed media. 715-362-4328.

Feb. 6, Jewelry Making with Sammie: 5-6 p.m., Rhinelander District Library, 106 N. Stevens St. Learn how to wrap Lake Superior rocks with wire to make a necklace pendant. Ages 18-plus. Free, but registration is required and space is limited. 715-365-1070 or rhinelanderlibrary.org.

Feb. 7, Intro to Fly Tying Class: 5-6:30 p.m., Mel's Trading Post, 105 Brown St., Rhinelander. Learn the art of fly tying in this kid and beginner-friendly class. Free to attend, but class size is limited. Email to sign up: emilyp.melstp@gmail.com.

Feb. 7, Women's Business Collective Second Annual Networking Night Out: 6-9 p.m., The Pines Event Center, 5840 Forest Lane, Rhinelander. A social mixer for current and future women entrepre-

neurs in the Northwoods. 715-401-0725.

Feb. 7-8, Laugh-a-Cadabra: 7-9 p.m., Rondele Ranch, 8959 Hwy K, Harshaw. A show featuring comedian magicians Justin Rivera and Dewayne Hill. Tickets: \$35 online or \$40 at the door (if not sold out). Rondeleranch.com.

Feb. 7-8, American Pond Hockey Invitational: Noon, Aqua Bowl, Minocqua. A premier winter event celebrating the spirit of hockey, community, and outdoor recreation. Americanpondhockey.com.

Feb. 8, Rhinelander Lions 49th Annual Fisheree: 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Hodag Park Boat Landing, 598 Rose St. Ice fishing contest with prizes awarded in several categories. Participants must be over 11 years old. Free kids (11 and under) fishing event also held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more info: rhinelanderlionspr@gmail.com or Rhinelander Lions on Facebook.

Feb. 8, Valentine's Day Vendor Market: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., The Hilgermann Center, 25 S. Brown St., Rhinelander. A pop-up market featuring vendors and artists selling a wide variety of gifts for Valentine's Day. 952-564-1668 or thehilgermann@gmail.com.

Feb. 8, Kendell's Korner: 10-10:30 a.m., Mel's Trading Post, 105 Brown St., Rhinelander. Test your Wisconsin fish knowledge and create fish out of homemade clay. Free. 715-362-580.

Feb. 8, Bug Tussel University, Tech Help: 10 a.m.-noon, Rhinelander District Library. One-on-one help with your basic tech questions. 715-365-1070 or rhinelanderlibrary.org.

Feb. 8, 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.

Feb. 8, Indoor Farmers Market: Saturdays, 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.

Feb. 8, Trivia Night: 6:30 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church, 320 Lincoln St., Rhinelander. Participants must come as a team of up to six people and be ready to test their general trivia knowledge. The team entry fee is \$25. No pre-registration is required. All proceeds benefit the New Dawn Pregnancy Center. 715-362-4792.

Feb. 8, Three Lakes-Brule River Trails Gun and Meat Raffle: 5-8 p.m., Spiritview Lakeside, Three Lakes. Raffle tickets are available at most Three Lakes establishments and will be available to purchase at the event. 414-550-8961.

Feb. 8, Soul of Langston: 2-4 p.m., Campanile Center for the Arts, 131 W. Milwaukee St., Minocqua. A one-man stage play about American poet, playwright, and civil-rights activist Langston Hughes. Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$10 for students. 715-356-9700.

Feb. 9, Northwoods School of Dance Competition Team 5th Annual Showcase: 1-3 p.m., Rhinelander High School Auditorium. Free show admission. Proceeds from a 50/50 raffle, raffle baskets, and a bake sale help cover fees, choreography, and team needs. Contact: dancenorthwoodscompteam@gmail.com.

Feb. 9, Community Open Swim: 9 a.m.-noon, Sundays through May 19, Heck Family Community Pool, Rhinelander High School. Visit the community section at rhinelander.k12.wi.us. Contact: Mike Cheslock, 715-365-9745 or cheslmik@rhinelander.k12.wi.us.

wi.us.

Feb. 9-23, Learn to Curl: 6-8 p.m., Rhinelander Ice Arena. Registration deadline: Feb. 6. Visit the community section at rhinelander.k12.wi.us. Contact: Mike Cheslock, 715-365-9745 or cheslmik@rhinelander.k12.wi.us. Also available Mondays, Feb. 10-24, 9-11 a.m.

Feb. 10, Warm For Winter: 4-6 p.m., First Congregational UCC, 135 E. Larch St., Rhinelander. New and gently used warm clothing, shoes, boots, coats, hats, mittens, toys, and bedding. No income requirements. Place donations in the bin outside the church or the tub in the Oneida County Health-ADRC building. 608-345-7305 or Warm For Winter Facebook page.

Feb. 10, Personal Essentials Pantry (PEP): 3:30-5 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 724 Arbutus St., Rhinelander. Use entrance A on the corner of Prospect and Wabash. PEP provides products necessary for personal and household cleanliness and good health. 715-362-2091.

Feb. 10, Cookie Decorating Class: 5-7 p.m., Rhinelander District Library. Join Eileen Daniel from Handcrafted by Eileen to learn different tips and techniques for decorating sugar cookies. Free, but registration is required and limited to 16 people. 715-365-1070 or rhinelanderlibrary.org.

Feb. 10, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide: 9 a.m.-4 p.m., ADRC of Oneida County, 100 W. Keenan St., Rhinelander. Free tax assistance; by appointment only. 715-369-6170.

Feb. 10, Overeaters Anonymous: 1 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 235 N. Stevens St., Rhinelander. 715-362-4258.

Feb. 10, Bridge Games: noon, American Legion Hall, 121 W. Front St., Minocqua. \$4. Call Lee at 715-356-4243.

Feb. 10, Rhinelander Area Food Pantry: 3-5 p.m., distribution. Donation drop-off hours, 8 a.m.-noon, Mondays through Fridays. 627 Coon St. Rhinelander-areafoodpantry.org.

Feb. 10, Tiny Tot Time: 10 a.m., Rhinelander District Library. Caregivers can

connect with each other and their little ones as they play and learn. 715-365-1070 or rhinelanderlibrary.org.

Feb. 10-26: Golf Lessons: Level one, 10 a.m.-noon; Hodag Dome. Registration deadline: Feb. 6. Visit the community section at rhinelander.k12.wi.us. Contact: Mike Cheslock, 715-365-9745 or cheslmik@rhinelander.k12.wi.us.

Feb. 11, Parkinson's support group: 3 p.m., YMCA of the Northwoods, Rhinelander. For individuals living with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers and family members. Contact: Marilyn Duschl at 715-362-9622 ext. 118 or mduschl@ymcanw.org.

Feb. 11, Rhinelander Woman's Club February Meeting: The Pines Event Center, 5840 Forest Lane. Doors open at 11 a.m.; lunch catered by Crimson Curry Cafe at 11:30; business and speakers start at noon. The speaker is John Bigley on bees, and Eric Burke from the Rhinelander School District will discuss the upcoming school referendum. See Facebook for more information.

Feb. 11, Film premiere: 6:30-9:30 p.m., The Hilgermann Center, 25 S. Brown St., Rhinelander. "A Kingdom of Tea and Strangers" documentary by Houston and Debbie Coley, with music and sound design by Nate Sheppard. Tickets cost \$7 and can be purchased online at thehilgermann.com/events/premiere. 952-564-1668.

Feb. 11, Preschool Storytime: 10 a.m., Rhinelander District Library. Stories, flannels, songs, and fun for ages two and up. 715-365-1070 or rhinelanderlibrary.org

Feb. 11, Teen Art Experience: 4-5:30 p.m., ArtStart, 68 S. Stevens St., Rhinelander. Teens 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.

Feb. 12, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide: 9 a.m.-4 p.m., ADRC of Oneida County, 100 W. Keenan St., Rhinelander. Free tax assistance; by appointment only. 715-369-6170.

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Miscellaneous for Rent 7442



Publisher's Notice All real estate advertised here-in is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Hunting Land For Sale 7486

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Miscellaneous Real Estate 7487

Oneida County owned Real Estate For Sale: A detailed list of the properties, bid form and other information can be obtained from the County website at <http://www.oneidacountywi.gov> under Announcements click 'Real Property Sale Offerings', or contact Land Information Office, email llo@oneidacountywi.gov PH 715-369-6179. Bids due March 7th, 2025, 4PM. Parcel and minimum bid: CA-735-15 \$2,000.00; MI-2392 \$750.00; PE-177-1A \$190,000.00; RH-193 \$750.00; RH-783 \$14,900.00; RH-808-1 \$2,500.00.

Miscellaneous Real Estate 7487

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

Equal Housing Opportunity

All Real Estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to Federal and State Fair Housing Laws which prohibit discrimination on the basis of color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, handicap, lawful source of income, or marital status of the person maintaining the household, and sexual orientation. We will not accept advertising indicating an intention to discriminate. our readers are informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. If you think you have been discriminated against, call the Fair Housing Council, 1-877-647-3247 or HUD toll-free at 800-424-8590.

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The Lakeland Union High School District is currently seeking a full-time, 12-month, Payroll & Payables Specialist. This position is available beginning May 5, 2025 to allow for an overlap during the transition of duties and responsibilities. Competitive salary plus benefits available.

Individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences are encouraged to apply.

Education (preferred but not required):

- Minimum of an Associate's Degree in Accounting, Human Resources, Business Management, or a related field.
- Training on state and federal financial reporting requirements.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office suite, Google Suite, Skyward, and related software.

Experience (preferred but not required):

- Knowledge of state and federal reporting requirements, particularly W-2's, 1099's, WT-7, ACA, and WRS.
- Using tact and diplomacy in dealing with people.
- Compiling, organizing, preparing and maintaining an assortment of records, reports and information in an effective and efficient manner.
- Performing work with a high degree of accuracy and promptness.
- Designing and implementing office practices and procedures.
- Experience at a school district or CESA using the WUFAR accounting code system
- Experience using Skyward software.

Application deadline is February 14, 2025. Please apply on WECAN at <https://wecan.education.wisc.edu/#/> (I.D. #226132)

For questions about this position, please contact: Mr. Edward Then, Business Manager Lakeland Union High School, 9573 State Hwy 70, Minocqua, WI 54548 Or email: then@lakelandunion.org 715-356-5252, ext. 1663

General Employment 7110

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Hodag Highlights

HOCKEY

On Monday, Jan. 27, the Hodag hockey team traveled to Waupaca for a makeup game due to snow on Dec. 19.

The Hodags played strong for the first half of the first period but allowed a goal with about seven minutes left and then a second with only 41.5 seconds remaining.

Neither team would score in the second as Rhinelander's defense held up.

Waupaca scored a third goal in the third period, and Drake Nelson scored a goal to make the score 3-1.

The Hodags pulled the goalie to try and put more pressure on the net, but Waupaca scored an empty net goal in the final 4-1 score.

In the loss, Rhinelander only had about half as many shots on goal as Waupaca.

The team played back-to-back conference games on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 30 and 31.

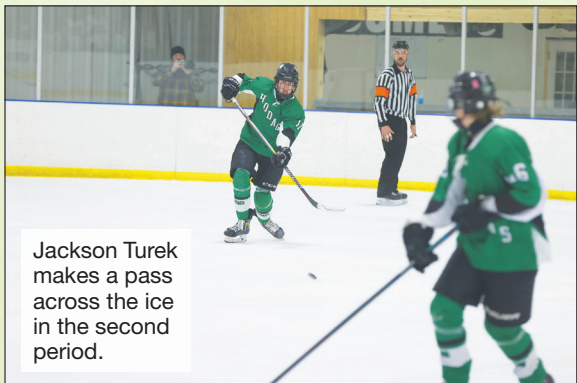
The Lakeland Thunderbirds played at the Rhinelander Ice Arena and won 8-0 and at Mosinee, the Hodags lost on Friday 5-0



Goalie Asher Rivord is about to cover the puck after a shot on goal early in the game.



Dylan Shefelvand skates the puck through neutral ice.



Jackson Turek makes a pass across the ice in the second period.



Logan Leonard battles to keep the puck in his control.

WRESTLING

The Hodag wrestling team was in Three Lakes Thursday, Jan. 30, as the host team, consisting of a co-op between Laona/Wabeno and Three Lakes, faced the Hodags and Iron Mountain, Mich.

The Hodags first wrestled against Iron Mountain, a team with only four wrestlers.

The Hodags won two of the four contested matches, getting pins by Gage Anderson and Logan Schwinger, and defeated Iron Mountain 54-12 thanks to the forfeit wins for the Hodags.

Against the Three Lakes co-op, the Hodags Logan Schwinger won by technical fall. Reid Schultz and Avrom Barr won with pins. The Hodags lost against the host team 46-29.



Logan Schwinger wrestled against Iron Mountain, pinned his opponent, and had a technical fall win in his second match.



Reid Schultz won his first match against Iron Mountain and won with a pin against the Three Lakes co-op.

BASKETBALL

On Tuesday, Jan. 28, the Hodag boys basketball team played at Wisconsin Rapids, taking on the Wisconsin Valley Conference Red Raiders.

The Hodags led for the whole game, but it was close throughout the first half, with the Hodags only up 29-23.

The Raiders did get within three points in the second half, but a little run by the Hodags spread the gap, and the Hodags came away with a 63-45 win.

Jatyn Barkus led all scorers with 20 points, Evan Shoeder with 14, and Truman Lamers with 11.

On Friday, Jan. 31, the team hosted the Northland Pines Eagles.

The Eagles held the lead for most of the first half, but the Hodags staged a comeback and led at the half 24-23.

The Hodags' defense intensified after the half and created turnovers, and the Eagles had trouble getting an open look and were outscored in the second half by a 32-15 margin, giving the Hodags a 56-38 win.

Four players scored double digits for the home team, with Devon Feck and Evan Shoeder putting up 13 points, and with 10 points each was Jatyn Barkus and Truman Lamers.

The Hodags' win and a Mosinee win over Medford on Friday put the Hodags and Medford in a tie for first place in the conference with 6-2 records.



Truman Lamers shot as he was going to the floor and made the basket for two of his 11 points.



Rapids Brody Gilbertson goes for the shot fake that allowed Jatyn Barkus to take an easy mid-range shot for two of his 20 points.



Evan Shoeder has a clean block on the shot of Rapids' Jarett Szlagowski. Shoeder scored 14 points in the game.

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