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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025 ■ VOLUME 41 ■ ISSUE 8 ■ 715-256-4446 ■ WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI

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Wisconsin Rapids man sentenced to 9 years for methamphetamine trafficking and illegally possessing firearms

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – Timothy M. O'Shea, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Bradley Rosenthal, 42, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, pleaded guilty and was sentenced on Feb. 12, by U.S. District Judge William M. Conley to nine years in federal prison for possessing methamphetamine intended for distribution and possessing two loaded firearms as a felon.

Rosenthal sold methamphetamine to a confidential informant three times in Feb. 2024. On March 13, 2024, law enforcement received a report of suspected drug activity at a car wash located in Nekoosa, Wisconsin. Officers responded to the car wash where

they encountered Rosenthal. After a K9 alerted to the presence of illicit substances, law enforcement searched Rosenthal's vehicle and found 266 grams of methamphetamine, two loaded firearms, a Taser, \$2,000, and drug distribution paraphernalia. Rosenthal is prohibited from legally possessing firearms because of a prior felony conviction.

At sentencing, Judge Conley expressed concern at Rosenthal's "repeated serious crimes," which include prior drug trafficking and firearms offenses, and his continued "endangerment of others."

The charges against Rosenthal were the result of an investigation conducted by the FBI Central

Wisconsin Drug Task Force and the Wisconsin Rapids and Nekoosa Police Departments. The ATF Madison Crime Gun Task Force also assisted with the case. The ATF Madison Crime Gun Task Force consists of federal agents from ATF and Task Force Officers (TFOs) from local agencies including the Dane County Sheriff's Offices and the Fitchburg, Madison, Sun Prairie, and La Crosse Police Departments. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jennifer Remington and

Megan Stelljes prosecuted this case.

This case has been brought as part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), the U.S. Justice Department's program to reduce violent crime. The PSN approach emphasizes coordination between state and federal prosecutors and all levels of law enforcement to address gun crime, especially felons illegally possessing firearms and ammunition and violent and drug crimes that involve the use of firearms.



Youth Art Month Exhibit to open at The Alexander House

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – The Alexander House will celebrate Youth Art Month with an exhibition showcasing the creative talents of students from the Nekoosa Public School District, grades K-12. The exhibit will run from Feb. 23 through March 25, 2025, at The Alexander House, 1131 Wisconsin River Drive, Port Edwards.

An opening reception will be held on Sunday, Feb. 23, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., offering visitors an opportunity to view student artwork and meet the teachers who inspired the students: Missy Rokser, Amanda Wright, and Hannah Heimer.

Youth Art Month is a national celebration sponsored by the National Art Education Association and recognized in Wisconsin by the Wisconsin Art Education Association. It promotes the importance of art education in schools and highlights the creativity of K-12 students across the country. Each year, The Alexander House proudly supports this initiative by hosting a dedicated student exhibition.

The Alexander House is open to the public on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Special openings and group tours can be arranged by calling 715-887-3442.

For more information, visit <http://alexanderhouseonline.org> or follow The Alexander House on Facebook.

DATCP announces Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board election results

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has certified the 2024 Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board (WCPB) election results. The following corn producers started three-year terms as elected members of the WCPB on Feb. 1, 2025:

- District 4: Cal Dalton, Endeavor, Adams, Columbia, Juneau, Marquette, Monroe, and Waushara Counties
- District 8: Casey Kelleher, Whitewater, Jefferson, Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth Counties
- District 9: Whilden R. Hughes, Janesville, Green and Rock Counties

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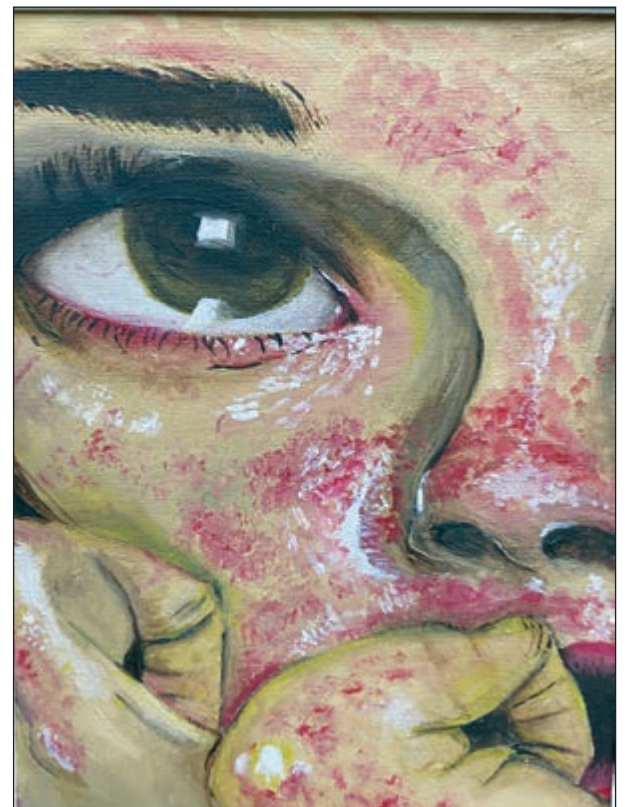
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Alexander House CENTER FOR ART & HISTORY

Celebrate Creativity with Us! You're invited to the Opening Reception for the Youth Art Month Student Art Exhibit Showcasing artwork from the talented students of the Nekoosa Public School District.

When: Sunday, February 23, 2025 • 1:00–4:00 p.m.
Where: The Alexander House Center for Art and History - 1131 Wisconsin River Drive, Port Edwards, WI
Refreshments will be served as we honor young artists and their creativity.

Exhibit Dates: February 23 – March 25, 2025
Gallery Hours: Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Stay connected! Visit us on Facebook at Alexander House Center for Art and History or online at alexanderhouseonline.org.
We look forward to celebrating with you!

448001

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Mid-State Technical College named 2025 Firm of the Year by MACCI

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – The Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MACCI) has named Mid-State Technical College its 2025 Firm of the Year, recognizing the College's contributions to workforce development, economic growth and community engagement. The honor was presented at MACCI's Annual Dinner on Wednesday, Jan. 29, where Mid-State was also celebrated for 105 years of service to the Marshfield community.

Mid-State's Marshfield Campus has played a vital role in preparing students for in-demand careers locally. The campus employs nearly 40 full-time staff and faculty, and 80 percent of its graduates remain in the district, directly benefiting area employers and the economy. The campus serves nearly 1,500 students, an increase of 12 percent over last year.

Since 2020, collaborations with the City of Marshfield and Marshfield Fire and Rescue produced expanded firefighter and emergency responder training. In 2022 partnerships with Pittsville and Auburndale High Schools led to the creation of Mid-State's Meat Cutting



Mid-State Technical College was presented with the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry award at MACCI's Annual Dinner on Jan. 29. Pictured, front row left to right: Dr. Alex Lendved, Mid-State dean of the Marshfield Campus and School of Applied Technology; Dr. Shelly Mondeik, Mid-State president; and Betty Bruski-Mallek, Mid-State Board of Directors member. They are surrounded by Mid-State staff.

and Butchery program. "We are incredibly honored to receive this recognition, which highlights the power of collaboration in building a strong workforce and thriving community," said Dr. Alex Lendved, Mid-State's dean of the Marsh-

field Campus and School of Applied Technology. "For over 105 years, we have strategically partnered with businesses, schools and organizations to maximize resources, expand educational access and create opportunities that drive economic success and

workforce innovation in the region."

Mid-State continues to invest in the Marshfield community, with two new outreach locations in 2023, Mid-State on Central and Mid-State at Marshfield Clinic. Both locations expand access to educational

resources in the Marshfield community and bring workforce training closer to its students and employers.

During the 2023-2024 school year, the College awarded over 3,000 credits to Marshfield-area high school students, saving

families over \$700,000 in tuition costs. The campus also provides adult education through High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) and General Educational Development® (GED®) coursework, English language learner courses and workforce training, as well as essential resources like a food pantry and public health vending machines.

Mid-State's commitment to excellence has also earned state and national recognition, including a 100 percent NCLEX pass rate for nursing graduates in 2023 and being named one of the top four nursing programs in Wisconsin in 2024. Additionally, Mid-State was ranked number one in enrollment growth in the Wisconsin Technical College System in 2022-2023 and is a top-10 finalist in the 2025 Bellwether Award competition.

"While we don't do what we do for recognition, we are incredibly proud and honored to be named the 2025 Firm of the Year," said Mid-State President Dr. Shelly Mondeik. "We look forward to continuing to serve the Marshfield community, strengthening partnerships and expanding opportunities for generations to come."

Announcing the winners of the 2025 Wood County Poster Contest

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – This year marked the 20th year the Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department hosted a local conservation awareness poster contest. This contest is part of a state and national initiative where local winners proceed to the area contest, area contest winners move

forward to the state contest which is held during the annual WI Land + Water Conference, and state winners then move forward to the national contest hosted by the National Association of Conservation Districts.

This year, the first-place winner was Henry Gunderman, who also advanced onto the North Central



Area contest. The second-place winner was Aubree Bellanti and the third-place

winner was Joey Petersen. All three winners are 5th grade students at Auburn-

dale Elementary School.

The poster contest includes five age groups, grades K-12, with the winner of each age group ad-

vancing to the area contest. Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department would like to increase participation as this year they only received posters in grades 4-6. If you or someone you know is interested in submitting a poster in 2026, keep an eye on the Wood County Land &

Water Conservation website and/or the WI Land + Water website in the fall to see what 2026's theme and contest guidelines will be.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department at (715) 421-8475 or landcons@woodcounty-wi.gov.



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Sex offender to be released in Sigel

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – On Feb. 18, 2025, Anthony L. Fox was released. He will be residing at 3396 County Highway C in the township of Sigel, Wood County, Wisconsin. Fox was convicted of three counts of 2nd Degree Sexual Assault of a Child in Wood County in 2014. Fox has been designated as a Level 2 Sex Offender. He is a lifetime registered sex offender and has a lifetime GPS monitor, which is in place.



If you have questions about this bulletin or the situation in your community, please contact the Division of Community Corrections - Department of Probation and Parole at phone (715) 384-8832 or (715) 422-5077.

Name: Anthony L. Fox
Age: 45
White Male

Height: 6'2"
Weight: 286 pounds
Hair Color: Brown
Eye Color: Brown
Tattoo(s): Neck-Doll; Back-Satan; L Shoulder-Skull; L Arm-Flaming Skull, GIR Character; L Wrist-Skull, Robot; R Shoulder-Banner, Korn; R Arm-Star, Slip Not Symbol; R Wrist-skull, Alien, ZIM

UW-Stevens Point December graduates 2024

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY--The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point conferred degrees to 462 graduates for the fall 2024 semester. The following students from the Wood County area graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in Dec. of 2024.

Abbotsford, WI

Catie Clement, Bachelor of Science, Special Education, Magna Cum Laude
Chase Sperl, Bachelor of Science, Communication

Auburndale, WI

Victoria Hasenohrl, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude
Alexander Ponshock, Bachelor of Science, Finance, Management, Cum Laude

Colby, WI

Cassandra Gosse, Bachelor of Science, Accounting, Business Administration, Finance, Cum Laude
Emma Peavey, Bachelor of Science, Health Sci and Wellness

Hewitt, WI

Abby Richards, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Cum Laude

Loyal, WI

Wyatt Dietsche, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration
Alexis Schreiner, Bachelor of Science, Social Work - Branch, Summa Cum Laude

Marshfield, WI

Kimberly Backaus, Bachelor of Science, Psychology
Blake Bennington, Associate of Science, Ldrshp Proj Mgmt-Branch, Cum Laude
Mya Ellis, Associate of Arts and Sciences, Assoc Arts Sci-Branch, Summa Cum Laude

Sienna Frome, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Interior Architecture
Logan Griesbach, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education

Marissa Guyer, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude

Ray Kesler, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration

Morgan Lass, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude

Nathan Rucker, Associate of Arts and Sciences, Assoc Arts Sci-Branch

Graduates
CONTINUES ON PAGE 8

Craft lessons to be taught March 6

DENISE MANCL AND NICOLE MANCL
CULTURAL ARTS COORDINATORS HCE

Home and Community Education will be holding another craft lesson on March 6 from 1:00 to 3:00 at

First Congregational UCC Church. The church is located at 311 2nd Street Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. This time we will feature instructions on how to make a pinecone flower plaque and cupcake liner flowers.

All of the supplies will be provided. Pre-registration is required. Please call the Wood County extension office at 715-421-8437 to register. The cost for the plaque will be \$6 and the flower craft will cost \$2 (6

flowers). When you call to pre-register you will be informed as to where to send your payment. Please register by February 27. This lesson is open to the public, and we look forward to seeing you there.



Red Cross: Donors needed now to build up the blood supply

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY – The American Red Cross urges donors to give blood or platelets in Feb. to help build up the blood supply after thousands of donations went uncollected last month.

People of all blood types – especially those with type O negative blood – are encouraged to make and keep their donation appointments so hospitals can continue to ensure critical care for patients this winter.

Since the beginning of the year, hundreds of blood drives have been canceled and more than

16,000 blood and platelet donations have gone uncollected due to severe winter weather and wildfires. As Feb. continues, so does the potential for additional weather systems to disrupt blood drives. Flu and other seasonal illnesses are spreading, which could also force more people to cancel scheduled donation appointments, compounding the impact to collecting

lifesaving blood products.

Give with your whole heart this month. To book a time to give blood or platelets, use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

As a thank-you, all who come to give Jan. 27-Feb. 28, 2025, will get a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. See RedCrossBlood.org/Flurry for details.

Wood County Donation Opportunities

Marshfield
2/19/2025: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Marshfield Clinic Health System YMCA, 410 West McMillan St

Wisconsin Rapids
2/20/2025: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., McMillan Library, 490 E. Grand Avenue

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St. John's Episcopal Church to host Quiet Day

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – St John's Episcopal Church, 320 Oak Street in Wisconsin Rapids, will host a pre-Lenten Quiet Day on Saturday morning, March 1 from 9:00am to noon.

There is no charge to attend, though it is requested you call ahead (715-432-2332) to let the church know you are coming.

The topic of the Quiet

Day will be "Stations of the Cross – Devotional Prayer to Help Lead Your Life". The Presentation will be led by Dr Michael J. Durnin, President and Founder of Via Crucis Leadership LLC. Dr. Durnin dedicated his career to higher education as an educator, instructor, football coach and administrator for multiple colleges and universities.


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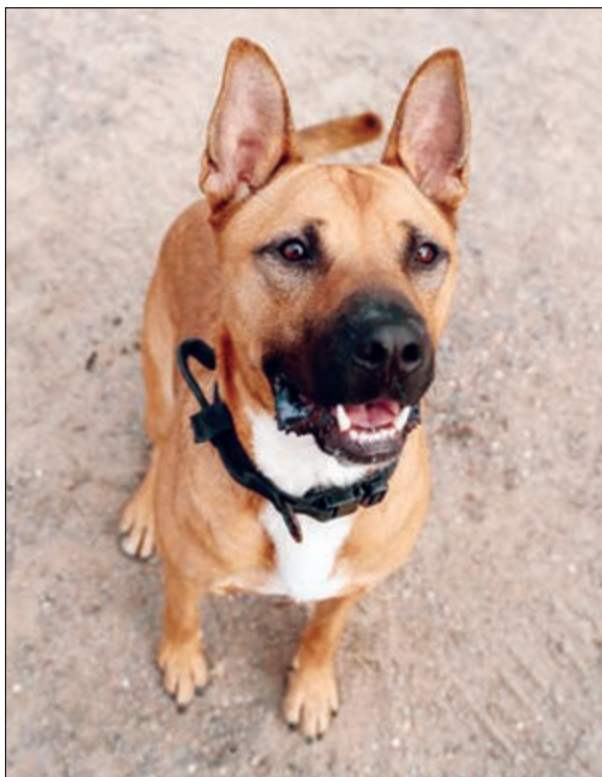
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The Wagner family of Wisconsin Rapids has reached five generations. This photo was taken at the home of Corinne and Preston Powers in Mesa, AZ, on Jan. 12, 2025. From right to left: Ron Wagner, of Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Kat Wagner, of Apache Junction, AZ. Crystal Wagner, of Apache Junction, AZ. Carma Echert, of Gold Canyon, AZ. Rosadette Echert, of Gold Canyon, AZ.



South Wood County Humane Society Pet of the Week

Meet Hennessy: A Fun, Smart, and Energetic Companion! Hennessy is a dog with a big personality and tons of energy to match! He's all about playtime and loves every type of toy, especially when it's time for a thrilling game of fetch. His enthusiasm is contagious, and he'll keep you on your toes with his playful spirit. Hennessy also has a soft side-he can't resist a good belly rub and will happily roll over for one anytime! This smart and driven boy is eager to please, which makes him an excellent candidate for a focused, intense training program. With some guidance and consistency, Hennessy will thrive and be an incredibly well-behaved companion. However, he will need formal training with a behaviorist on his manners and would benefit from an owner who can commit to his training.

Hennessy is a bit picky with other dogs, so he would do best as the only fur-baby or he would need a patient, experienced owner who can help him with socialization and create positive, controlled introduc-



tions. Because of his high energy and prey drive, he would do best in a home without children.

If you're looking for an energetic, intelligent, and lovable dog who's ready to bond with you and tackle new challenges together, Hennessy could be the perfect fit for your home! Hennessy has been at the shel-

ter for almost 300 days and is eager to find his forever home.

Those interested in Hennessy can fill out an adoption application online at <https://www.swchs.com/adopt/adoption-application/>

South Wood County Humane Society can be reached at office@swchs.com or 715-423-0505

Located at 3621 64th Street N. Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Sunday and Monday: Closed
 Tuesday: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Wednesday: Closed
 Thursday: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Friday: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Saturday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm



United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties 2024 and 2025 Board of Directors with CEO Tari Jahns, at the 2024 Annual Meeting held on Feb. 12, 2025.

United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties welcome Incoming Directors at Annual Meeting

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS--United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties held its 2024 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025 at Prevail Bank, welcoming new directors and thanking outgoing directors for all their time and hard work.

Recognition of outgoing directors:

Dr. Shelly Mondeik, Mid-State Technical Collet, for 5 years of service

2025 Officers were elected:

President Brian Dewitt
Vice President Jason Deitz
Secretary Heather Gehrt
Treasurer Nathan Quinnell

Directors elected to three-year terms:

Dale Bikowski, Community Member
Jason Deitz, WoodTrust
Brian Dewitt, ERCO Worldwide
Mandy Lang, Mid-State Technical College
Eric Preu, Ruder Ware
Nathan Quinnell, Prevail Bank

Directors elected to two-year terms:

Brian Hanson, Community Member

Directors elected to one-year terms:

Jamey Lysne, Solarus
Dave Orcutt, Domtar

And finally, the Board thanked Dale Bikowski for his service as the 2024 President. Bikowski welcomed Brian Dewitt as the 2025 Board President.

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Community Calendar

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

BAR BEATS

The Swing Doctors 3/13- Bullseye Golf Club, Wisconsin Rapids. 16-piece jazz/swing. 7pm. 715-423-2230

ON STAGE

Pete Revelle & 4 on the Floor - Thurs. 2/20, Central Wisconsin Cultural Center, 2651 8th St, S, Wisconsin Rapids. Jazz. Starts at 2pm. Free admission. culturalcenterarts.com

Bachelors of Broadway: Gentlemen of the Theatre - Thurs. 2/20, Performing Arts Center of Wisconsin Rapids, 1801 16th St S, Wisconsin Rapids. Enjoy Broadway favorites performed by three singers & a 9-piece band. Starts at 7:30pm. \$49 adults, \$10 students. savorthearts.com

ONGOING

Celebrate Recovery - Every Tuesday, hosted by Love Inc. at St Lawrence Church basement, 530 10th St N, Wisconsin Rapids. Come share adult fellowship through hurts, hang-ups & habits guided by the Beatitudes in a 12

step format. Non denominational. Starts at 6:30pm. 715-424-5683 for questions

ARTS/EXHIBITS

The Alexander House - Opens Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1131, Wisconsin River Drive, Port Edwards. Art gallery and historical museum with a focus on lumbering and papermaking exhibits. Opens 1pm-4pm. <http://alexanderhouseonline.org/>

Central Wisconsin Cultural Center - Opens Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 2651 8th St S, Wisconsin Rapids. Open from 10am-5pm. Free admission. <http://www.culturalcenterarts.com/index.html>

South Wood County Historical Museum - Exhibits closed until 4/1, 540 3rd St. S, Wisconsin Rapids. Office will be open Tues.-Thurs. from 10am-3pm. <http://www.swch-museum.com/>

LIFELINES

Blood Drive - Thurs. 2/20, McMillan Library, 490 E. Grand Ave, Wisconsin Rapids. Starts at 10am. redcrossblood.org

Community news online. **WRCityTimes.com**

Classifieds

Miscellaneous Sales 7212
FLORIDA BOUND EMPTY TRUCK. Can move household & Cars - CHEAP! Local 414-520-1612

Auctions 7282
Accepting Consignments! WCO & Manure App. Equip. For 3/25 Online Auction Call Parker: 715-642-3981 Consign your items today! Sell from any location! HansenAuctionGroup.com

Firewood 7244
Firewood: Thick, dry oak slabwood, NO EDGINGS! 6 or 12 cord loads. Pre Season Pricing. 715-459-5311

Guns 7264
57th ANNUAL NCWGCA Spring Gun Show Merrill Expo Building (Lincoln Co. Fairgrounds) North Sales St, Merrill, WI **March 7th and 8th, 2025**
Hours Open to Public:
Friday 3pm-8pm
Saturday 9am-4pm
Admission \$5. Youth under 14 free (with paid adult)
Sponsored by:
North Central WI Gun Collectors Assoc. Inc
Call Fred 715-443-2825

Wanted to Buy 7268
\$\$\$ CASH \$\$\$
I Buy Out Estates, Barns, Hoarder Houses Basements.
Military Items, Gold Silver Coins, Old Musical Instruments & Jewelry. Guaranteed I'll Buy More Than My Competitors.
Call Randy 715-204-2578

BUYING OLD COMICS
Spring Cleaning Time!
Have any 40's 50's 60's or 70's comics with 10-25 cent covers? Call 715-345-1438.

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

Wanted to Buy 7268
WANTED: FENTON GLASS ITEMS, CALL CHARLOTTE 715-366-2574

WANTED TO BUY: ANTIQUES, ANY OLD STUFF, TOOLS, FURNITURE - ESTATE ITEMS, ETC. I'LL DIG THROUGH PILES. CALL JERE 715-366-2574

Dogs 7272
ACA Golden Retrievers D.O.B. 12/25/24. Vet checked, dewormed, 1st shots. Great with children. \$650 715-267-6493 (2/17)

ACA Golden Retrievers D.O.B. 12/25/24. Vet checked, dewormed, 1st shots. Great with children. \$650 715-267-6493 (2/17)

AKC GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS \$600! GOLDEN RETRIEVER/ LAB CROSS PUPS \$350! Call 715-671-3092 (#267331)2/24

AUSTRALIAN SHEPARD PUPS! Tri & Merle color READY NOW. \$400 OBO- Color only Call 920-905-4665. (2/17ns)

AUTHENTIC ORIGINAL ATBA Teddy Bear Puppies @ the most delightful little dog you will ever meet! Non-shedding, shots, wormed, health guarantee. 715-787-4293 teddybearpuppy.com 267996DS (2/17)

CAVAPOO PUPS \$400 Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver 715-255-2661 (#269146)2/17)NW

CAVAPOO PUPS. Shots, Dews, Wormed Vet Ck'd Health Guaranteed \$500 Call 715-470-0458 No Text (#509642) 2/17 amsm

CAVASCHON POODLES! Born 11/29/24 3-M \$150. Also 3-Year-Old Pure Bred German Shepherd \$150. OBO 715-669-7306 (2/17)

Dogs 7272
GOLDEN DOODLE PUPS! \$700 Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver 715-255-2661 (#269146)2/17nw

PUREBRED GOLDENRETRIEVER PUPPIES! Registered shots, dewormed \$300 OBO. 715-773-1867 Greenwood WI. (2/17)

REGISTERD CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPS. Shots, Dews, Vet Ck'd Ready NOW Health Guaranteed \$700 Call 715-470-0458 (#509642) 2/17 amnw

YORKIE 1-M Born Dec. 25 Ready 2/12 \$700 Cash Vet Ck'd And Shots 715-299-1988 (2/17n)

YORKI POO & HAVAPOO PUPPIES! DEW, Vet Ck'd and Shots. Tri Color Chocolate 715-937-4425 (2/17)

Lots and Acreage For Sale 7466
CRANDON WI. 106 Acre Gravel Pit for sale 3.5mil. Can divide Pit Stumpage Available Volume Discounts. Also 10 Acre on town rd. Power Available Land Contract Available \$89,000 Call 715-493-6121 (2/25)

Motorcycles 7502
BUYING SALVAGE MOTORCYCLES-ATVS-WATERCRAFT 920-850-9299 Local Dealer Pickup

CONVENTION & EXPO CENTER AT CEDAR CREEK 10101 MARKET ST ROTHSCHILD, WI

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Leather goods & more.
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Skilled Trades 7175
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1928 Hwy. 70 West - Minocqua, WI 54851

GLAZIER WANTED: Busy glass shop in Minocqua, WI seeking experienced glazier to join our team. Duties include all types of residential and commercial glass work. HT Glass offers competitive wages, Paid vacation and holidays, IRA plan with employer match & year-end bonuses. Willing to assist the right candidate in moving to the Minocqua area. Apply or request application to: htglassminocqua@gmail.com or in person

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Grave Thoughts From The Graveyard

Dear Reader,
Today, I visited a graveyard to pay respects to a recently departed family member. The cemetery was vast, and we found ourselves lost amidst rows of unfamiliar headstones. After wandering both on foot and by car, weaving past names unknown to us, we finally reached the gravesite.



Standing there, I couldn't help but think about this place—where those who were once so visible and vibrant in life are laid to rest, becoming part of the quiet, unremembered landscape. The sun beat down with hardly any shade, and the graves seemed tightly packed, which made me wonder about the business side of burial plots—

how every inch is planned, sold, and filled.

But more than that, my mind wandered to the fate of the souls. After death, where do they go? Surely, they don't linger here. While the dead no longer have a care or say in their resting place, there's an undeniable finality to it. They are gone from the world we know; and at an immediate or lingered point in time, their bodies become the forgotten invisible. After all of their toils, they are buried away somewhere out of sight, and out of mind.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher
Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

Letter to the Editor

Nicotine, especially from vapes, significantly affects teens today. In 2023, one in three high school students in Wisconsin reported using tobacco or nicotine products (YRBS, 2023). This epidemic impacts our friendships, mental health, school performance, sports, and family life. We need to empower students across Wisconsin to share their experiences with vaping and nicotine.

environmental harm affects all students, even those who don't use these products. In our Unfiltered Voices project, we collected stories revealing fears of using school bathrooms due to vaping, trust issues among friends, and peer pressure. Many, including myself, have friends struggling with asthma or other health problems due to nicotine.

Youth are trying vapes and tobacco products daily, leading to addiction. This interferes with focus in class, health risks, and

At Lincoln High School, we are actively working to address the vaping issue and help students understand the dangers of nicotine. I personally know

someone who, after quitting vaping, can run better and breathe more easily. This issue is real, and we want our voices to be heard.

You can get involved by sharing your story and joining FACT, a youth-driven movement dedicated to making a difference. As a FACT member, I aim to educate our community about the harmful effects of tobacco and nicotine. Visit FACTmovement.org to learn more about our initiatives across the state.

ISABELLE KARDASH
LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

Police Calls

On Feb 6. at 11:50 in the morning a Nekoosa caller reported witnessing a hit and run in a parking lot, stating that multiple security cameras also recorded the incident.

On Feb 6. around 12:30 in the afternoon a caller from Grand Rapids described seeing a large fire in a lot next door. The caller was concerned that the fire would spread due to heavy winds.

On Feb 6. at 3:20 in the afternoon a Port Edwards caller requested extra patrol due to an individual in an apartment complex who was trying to open people's doors and unscrewing outdoor lights between 8:00 and 10:00 at night.

On Feb. 7 at 10:00 in the morning an employee at a gas station in Auburn-

customer had driven off after fueling their vehicle without paying, they believe this could have been unintentional.

On Feb. 7 at 4:25 in the afternoon an Auburndale caller described an erratic driver who was swerving around the roadway, the caller stated they were headed in the direction of The Store.

On Feb. 7 at 9:18 in the evening an Arpin caller reported being the victim of computer crimes, describing that they had been blackmailed and sent money digitally.

On Feb. 8 at 4:08 in the afternoon a Port Edwards caller described a child inside a laundromat was shaking vending machines inside the building and then moved outside to throw sticks around while

still on the property.

On Feb. 8 at 5:40 in the evening a caller from a gas station in Biron called to report a dumpster diver on the property. The caller said they had video footage and that the individual who was dumpster diving threatened the caller not to call the police.

On Feb. 9 at 7:40 in the evening a rottweiler dog entered the Dollar General in Nekoosa. A collar and leash were put on the dog and the dog was transported to the police station.

On Feb. 11 at 4:16 in the evening a Pittsville caller reported a snowmobile had caught on fire and was unable to be put out without assistance. The caller stated the fire was burning six to seven feet away from the nearest building.

DNR seeking public comment on Future Wildlife Management Objectives

FOR CITY TIMES

WOOD COUNTY--The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is currently drafting a strategic plan for managing our state's wildlife species and habitat and is seeking public feedback on the plan's objectives.

in on the draft plan's objectives and share which are the most important to them.

For more information on the strategic planning process and to participate in this public input opportunity, visit our Wildlife Management Strategic Plan Updates webpage. The webpage explains the planning process, contains a link to the input form and allows individuals to stay engaged in the planning process by signing up to receive occasional updates. We an-

icipate the input form will take about 10 minutes to complete. Participation is voluntary, and all responses are anonymous. For input to be considered, submissions must be completed by Friday, Feb. 28, 2025.

The public is also encouraged to sign up for periodic email updates on the DNR's strategic planning process.

If you have any questions about this process or the input form, contact DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov.

Wisconsin Rapids Rafters prepare for an exciting 2025 season

BY KATIE SCHIMKE

WISCONSIN RAPIDS—The Wisconsin Rapids Rafters have been a community staple for fifteen years, with their near decade and a half in the Northwoods League, and the rich history of Witter Field backdropping their home games—their 2025 summer season is shaping up to be memorable for both the devoted season fanatic and casual baseball fans.

The Rafters have played in Wisconsin Rapids since their introduction to the community in June of 2010, and as Ken Day, Rafters General Manager, describes, “We’re not a major league, but we’re pretty close. We bring the exciting intensity of the game with a more hometown, local feel.”

That hometown local feel is established from within, with each player living with a host family in the area during their time on the Rafters. Collegiate level baseball players finish up their spring season at their respective colleges and universities, and then move right into their summer season with the Rafters. Athletes join the Rafters from all across the country, coming to Wisconsin Rapids and joining the community with a host family. Jake Adams, Assistant General Manager, says, “We’re always looking for host families. It’s a great opportunity and it makes lifelong connections for both the player and the family.”

For the upcoming 2025 season, new head coach



Coach Thomas “Ziggy” Ziegrowski is already building an impressive roster. With an emphasis on the community’s support and involvement, Coach Thomas’ saying will carry the Rafters into a successful 2025 season, “We are riding the Raft together this summer, be ready to Grab an Oar.”

With a packed 72 game schedule (36 games at home and 36 games away), the Rafters give plenty of opportunities for the community to come support and see a thrilling game of baseball. For avid fans and casual viewers alike, a Rafters game has something for everyone.

“Even if someone has been to a Rafters game over a dozen times, each game promises something new and exciting to see.” General Manager Ken Day explains, “We have something for everyone, from first time fans to season ticket holders, there’s something for everybody.”

The Rafters promise a devoted and committed team, with players rolling in straight from the spring



season into the Northwoods League. The players come to the Rafters to learn new skills and be seen by scouts who frequent the games to recruit new talent into the major leagues. Several Rafters players have gone onto the major leagues, including Kyle Teel of the Chicago White Sox and Bryson Stott of the Philadelphia Phillies. Former Rafters players have also gone onto coaching positions in the major leagues. Going to a Rafters



game could mean watching future major league stars in their early days, something that excites their loyal fan base.

Assistant General Manager Jake Adams explains, “We have an extremely loyal fan base. We have 1500 fans at each home game that bring the energy and excitement to the field the minute the gate opens.”

Though the Wisconsin Rapids Rafters have been around since 2015, their

home games are played on Witter Field which has been around for nearly 100 years, built in 1928. Witter Field and its historic backdrop provide a vintage and nostalgic feel to lifelong baseball fans that have watched the game and its fields evolve over the decades. Witter Field has stayed true to its roots with improvements embellishing the stadium over the last century. More recent additions to the field include the “Rat Trap”—a private deck above the third baseline that has made for comfortable private outings since 2013. Also in 2013, the Rafters added the “Home Plate Club” right behind home plate, with tables making it a prime spot to watch a Rafters win, and 2021 saw an addition to the “Home Plate Club” due its’ popularity. In 2015, a “Craft River” was installed beneath the “Rat Trap” where you can watch your drink float to you down a water stream. In 2017, the Rafters added accessible seating with the ability of a grant, making a comfortable spot for wheelchair users to watch right

by the first baseline. Witter Field has evolved with the generations and provided comfortable and exciting new features, but remains a historic hotspot for the community.

General Manager Ken Day explains, “I have fans who still come in and talk about the history of the field and the nostalgia it brings. The history of the field has impacted the fan base in such a neat way.”

The Rafters have seamlessly tied history together with the future, promising a nostalgic and vintage feel to the game that is hard to find in 2025, paired together with modern features like the Craft River. The Rafters are proud to support their community and offer a place to unwind each summer, however, the Rafters are always looking for support in the form of host families to host their players. Host families not only become closer to their community and Rafters family, but create unique connections with their player that last a lifetime.

WRSC boys place fifth at the CWSC Conference Meet with four champions

FOR CITY TIMES

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – The Central Wisconsin Swim Conference (CWSC) held the Conference Championships in Tomahawk on Feb. 8-9. As part of the fourteen-team event, the Wisconsin Rapids Swim Club (WRSC) boys finished in fifth place, with the Krakens getting eighth place overall.

The Central Wisconsin Swim Conference is made up of the following teams: Lakeland Swim Club (Minocqua), Rhinelander SC, Bloomer SC, Medford SC, Merrill Aqua Jays, Eau Claire AC, Rice Lake SC, WRSC, Flambeau ST (Lady-smith), Phillips Wave, Antigo Penguins, Black River Falls, Tomahawk, and Bay Area SC (Bayfield). In the men’s division, Lakeland scored 1644.5 points, Rhinelander 882, Bloomer 548.5, Flambeau 478.5 and Wisconsin Rapids 427.

In an exciting two-day competition, WRSC saw four individuals become Conference Champions. At the age group program, Travis McMahon placed first in the 50yd Breaststroke, 50yd Freestyle, 50yd Backstroke, second in the 50yd Butterfly and 100yd Breaststroke, and third in the 500yd Freestyle. Travis also has three state qualifying times in the 50yd Freestyle, and 50yd and 100yd Breaststroke.



Mason Ironside

The Kraken’s Senior program saw Tretton Delaney win the 50yd Breaststroke and set a new conference record in the 50yd Butterfly. Tretton also placed second in the 50yd and 100yd Freestyle, and 100yd Breaststroke. Joey Doebereiner remained undefeated this year in the 50yd Backstroke. Joey also finished second in the 100yd Backstroke, and 200yd Freestyle, and fourth in the 50yd and 100yd Freestyle. AJ Plummer finished first in the 100yd Butterfly. AJ also scored a pair of thirds in the 50yd and 100yd Freestyle. Finally, Gavin Knoll finished third in the 50yd Backstroke, fourth in the 100yd Backstroke, a pair of eighth places in the 50yd and 100yd Freestyle.

Addison Borek, from the senior girls program, placed second in the 50yd Butterfly, also setting a new

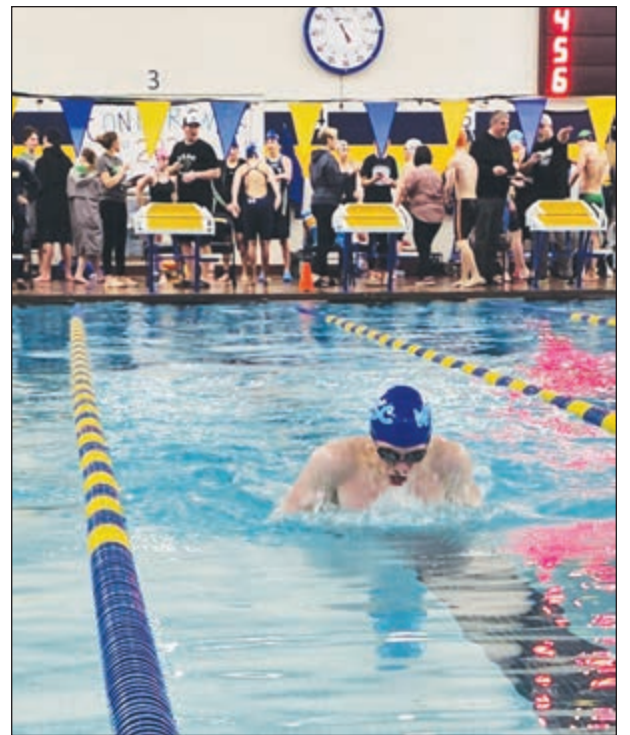
club record. Addison also finished fourth in the 50yd Breaststroke, and eighth in the 100yd Breaststroke and 100yd Individual Medley.

Other top finishers included Anna Gumz placing sixth in the 50yd Backstroke, seventh in the 50yd Breaststroke, 25yd Freestyle, 50yd Freestyle, 25yd Breaststroke, and ninth in the 25yd Backstroke. Mason Ironside fifth in the 50yd Backstroke and seventh in the 100yd Backstroke. Nola Woller finished in sixth in the 100yd Butterfly, Jameson Bernette seventh in the 100yd Breaststroke. Emry Jennings finished eighth in the 50yd Backstroke. Elyxa Peck finished eighth in the 200yd Individual Medley, and ninth in the 50yd Breaststroke. Vivian Zacher finished in ninth place in the 50yd and 200yd Freestyle. Lilly Reetz

finished ninth in the 50yd Backstroke. Mya Marquard finished ninth in the 200yd Backstroke. Reese Koch finished ninth in the 50yd Butterfly. Finally, Chasten Delaney finished ninth in the 50yd Breaststroke.

Other swimmers doing great and achieving personal record swims included Chris Carlson, Cole Graumann, Aubrey Knoll, Payton Kraklow,

The age group relays saw the boys finish third in the 200 Freestyle Relay with Travis McMahon, Mason Ironside, Milo Jennings and Emry Jennings. The girls 200yd Freestyle Relay finished ninth with Abbie Graumann, Kensington Lercher, Anna Gumz, and Janessa Rucinski. The 200yd Medley Relay placed eleventh with Anna Gumz, Emma Kay, Janessa Rucinski and Kensington Lercher.



Tretton Delaney

The middle school girls 200yd Freestyle Relay placed eleventh with Clairra Jennings, Kyndel Borek, McKenna Anderson, and Mya Marquard. The 200yd Medley Relay placed eleventh with Clairra Jennings, Kyndel Borek, Nola Woller, Mya Marquard. The pre high school girls 200yd Freestyle Relay placed fourth with Addison Borek, Reese Koch, Mackenzie Miloch, Vivian Zacher. The 200yd Medley Relay placed fourth with Ellie Graumann, Vivian Zacher,

Addison Borek, and Mackenzie Miloch.

The senior boys placed second in both the 200yd Freestyle and Medley Relays. The free relay was Jameson Benette, Joey Doebereiner, Gavin Knoll, and Tretton Delaney. The medley relay was AJ Plummer, Joey Doebereiner, Gavin Knoll, and Tretton Delaney. The senior girls 200yd Medley Relay placed 10th with Lilly Reetz, Maddie Graumann, Elyxa Peck, and Allyson Coates.

“The Wealth InFormation Lady”: Passing Along Your Assets



The Wealth InFormation Lady

BY LOUANN SCHULFER, AWMA®, AIF®
ACCREDITED WEALTH
MANAGEMENT ADVISOR SM
ACCREDITED INVESTMENT
FIDUCIARY®, PUBLISHED AUTHOR

It is a great feeling as a parent to have achieved your own financial success, having helped your children along the way, with assets to pass along to the ones you love. The timing of how you pass the assets on can matter a great deal.

Several years ago, I had

a client who had a sizeable piece of shoreland that was gifted to him by his father. The land had been in the family for a few decades. Since the father had gifted the land while he was still alive, the original cost basis was transferred to the son. The son wanted to sell some

of the land and was shocked when he learned of the capital gains taxes that would be subjected upon him. Capital gains are assessed when an asset appreciates: the difference between the cost basis (what the land was purchased for) and sale price is subject to capital gains taxation. Had his father left the land to his son as part of an inheritance, the son would have received a “step up” in basis, meaning the new basis is the value of the land on the date of death. Had the son sold the land shortly thereafter, with a step-up in basis, he would not have the capital

gains issue. We strategized on the timing of the sale of the land: he could pay less in capital gains taxes if he sold the land in a tax year when he had low income. Hopefully, he can coordinate that with a year where land values are up.

I had another client whose father gifted a stock and mutual fund portfolio to her a few months before he had passed away. The stocks and mutual funds were purchased decades ago and had gone up in value quite nicely. Same story as above: had her father transferred the assets at his death with her as

beneficiary, she would have received a step up in basis, could have liquidated the account shortly thereafter and she would not have had a capital gains issue. We transferred the stocks and mutual funds and began a tax-harvesting strategy to ultimately mitigate some or all of the capital gains.

Both stories are notable examples of successful and generous parents. Had they timed the gifting differently, the capital gains implications could have been significantly reduced and simplified. But both are also great examples of how in many cases, planning

isn't over until it's over, as we were able to strategize with intent to improve their situations. Remember to consider all aspects of planning when passing along your assets.

LouAnn Schulfer of Schulfer & Associates, LLC Wealth Management can be reached at (715) 343-9600 or louann.schulfer@lpl.com TheWealthInformation-Lady.com SchulferAndAssociates.com, or louann.biz

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GRADUATES

FROM PAGE 3

Reese Scheibe, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Summa Cum Laude

Nichole Specht, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, Summa Cum Laude

Emma Wendt, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, Special Education, Magna Cum Laude

Madelyn Wiskerchen, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education

Neillsville, WI

Sheryl Sebesta, Bachelor of Science, Family and Consumer Sci

Nekoosa, WI

Zachary Gray, Bachelor of Science, Computer Information Sys

Elizabeth Walker, Associate of Arts and Sciences, Assoc Arts Sci-Branch

Pittsville, WI

Gunter Nusbaumer, Bachelor of Science, Fish and Water Resources

Port Edwards, WI

Alison Breitrack, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Cum Laude

Megan Shields, Bachelor of Arts, Dance, Elementary Education, Summa Cum Laude

Rudolph, WI

Nathan Krommenakker, Bachelor of Science, Physical Education, Cum Laude

Spencer, WI

Zalexis Mannigel, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude

Stratford, WI

Kaitlyn Asplund, Bachelor of Science, Business Admin - Branch, Cum Laude

Jaden Bauer, Bachelor of Science, Business Admin - Branch, Summa Cum Laude

Braeden Schueller, Associate of Arts and Sciences, Assoc Arts Sci-Branch, Cum Laude

Vesper, WI

Marki Gillette, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Summa Cum Laude

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Julia Andres, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education

Tyler Beyer, Bachelor of Science, Physical Education, Cum Laude

Austin Capelle, Bachelor of Science, Psychology, Cum Laude

Kobe Carlson, Bachelor of Science, Psychology

Carolina Corral, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration

Brian Harms, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration

Cheryl Hayes, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood

Education, Magna Cum Laude

Jemini Johnson, Associate of Arts and Sciences, Assoc Arts and Sci-Main, Cum Laude

Sierra Schindler, Bachelor of Science, Conservation Law Enfmt

Emma Steckbauer, Bachelor of Science, Psychology, Magna Cum Laude

John Webster, Bachelor of Science, Accounting, Finance, Spanish, Magna Cum Laude

Taylor Wentland, Bachelor of Science, Accounting, Finance, Magna Cum Laude

Roger Zeledon, Bachelor of Science, Marketing

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