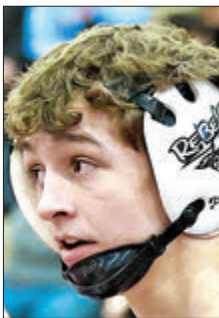


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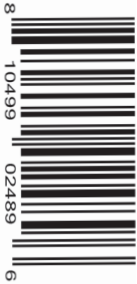
Inside

Six Jays advance to sectional match
■ Read full regional breakdown in sports, page 7A.



The Three Lakes News

\$2.00
Section A



VOL. 92, NO. 10 EAGLE RIVER, WI 54521 | 715-479-4421 | vcnewsreview.com WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025



BLIZZARD BLAST — Last weekend, the Conover Community Park was bustling with the festivities of Blizzard Blast. In support of local fire and EMS departments, visitors could participate in raffles, an artisan bazaar, horse-drawn sleigh rides and taking a shot at dunking a firefighter (don't worry, Conover Fire Chief Rob Martinson was kept warm thanks to his ice rescue suit).
—Staff Photos By JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN



City Council votes ‘no’ to ATV/UTV traffic on Highway 70 trail

BY JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN
NEWS EDITOR

The Eagle River City Council unanimously denied a request to open up the Highway 70 River Trail in Eagle River to ATV/UTV traffic.

The ordinance request was brought to the council by the Landover ATV/UTV Club, with club president Roger Flaherty presenting maps that proposed this new route at the meeting.

Requested access would have started at the intersection of County Highway H and Highway 70, where ATVs would follow the snowmobile route along Highway 70, then “cross the Mud Creek snowmobile bridge before continuing along Highway 70 as snowmobiles do,” according to Flaherty.

On the south side of Highway 70, ATV/UTV traffic would run on a newly constructed one-way trail going toward Sundstein Road, where traffic would exit Highway 70 to travel northeast on Sundstein Road, then left on W. Tamarack Street to S. Railroad Street.

The decision was unanimous in denying the request, with concerns being directed at safety, as well as sharing the trail with the River Trail Commission.

“It comes down to safety,” said Jerry Burkett. “We already have issues with ATVs crossing in forestry... I just can’t vote for this.”

There was also a letter submitted to the council by the River Trail Commission voicing their

opposition to the requested ordinance amendment.

“While we acknowledge and respect the needs of the ATV/UTV community, we want to ensure that the route designation for one user group does not take precedence over, or preclude, the development of a bicycle and pedestrian path along the same corridor,” said the letter.

In the letter, the commission says that they wish to have an opportunity to collaborate with the Landover ATV/UTV club, the Sno-Eagle Snowmobile Club, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure that all perspectives are considered in the planning and development of trails and routes entering the city before an ordinance

To TRAIL Pg. 2

Eagle River Historic District listed in National Register of Historic Places

BY MICHELLE DREW
CORRESPONDENT

Eagle River’s Historic District, located in the city’s downtown, has officially been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

This is the last step in a long process to recognize this swath of properties as historically important on both the state and national level. The national designation came through

Feb. 6 from the National Parks Service which gave the final approval. The district earned its listing in the State Register of Historic Places on Aug. 23, 2024.

The Eagle River Downtown Historic District includes buildings at 100-114 East Division St., 105-128 South Railroad St., 100-218 and 221-223 East Wall St., 118-123 South Main St., and 6 West Wall St. in Eagle River.

These designations have impacts for the business owners in the form of tax breaks regarding renovations, boosting tourism, and also can protect the downtown stretch from such things as state road building that might impinge on the streets, noted Karen Sailer, former executive director of the Eagle River Historical Society.

To PLACES Pg. 2

Rep. Tiffany re-introduces bill to delist gray wolf

BY JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN
NEWS EDITOR

Representative Tom Tiffany (R-WI), along with Representative Lauren Boebert (R-CO), led 30 GOP lawmakers in re-introducing a bill last month that would delist the gray wolf as an endangered species, and restore population management authority to state lawmakers and state

wildlife officials.

The Pet and Livestock Protection Act would require the Secretary of the Interior to reissue the 2020 Department of the Interior final rule that delisted gray wolves in the lower 48 United States. It would also ensure that this rule cannot be overturned through judicial review, preventing gray wolves from being relisted by judicial fiat.

To WOLF Pg. 3



Rep. Tom Tiffany (R)



WEATHERCORNER

Note: Precipitation amounts are recorded at 8 a.m. for the previous 24 hours.

LAST SEVEN DAYS

ONE YEAR AGO

	Hi	Lo	Prec.		Hi	Lo	Prec.
Tues., Feb. 11	8	-12	None	Sun., Feb. 11	34	17	None
Wed., Feb. 12	11	-16	None	Mon., Feb. 12	32	25	Tr. S
Thurs., Feb. 13	11	-11	0.8" S	Tues., Feb. 13	26	14	0.8" S
Fri., Feb. 14	19	-19	None	Wed., Feb. 14	40	13	None
Sat., Feb. 15	24	15	5.2" S	Thurs., Feb. 15	30	18	3.3" S
Sun., Feb. 16	15	-3	1.5" S	Fri., Feb. 16	18	4	Tr. S
Mon., Feb. 17	2	-10	Tr. S	Sat., Feb. 17	24	-4	None

LAST YEAR

The average daily high at this time last year for the next seven days was 40, while the average overnight low was 10. The average precipitation amount was 0"

Comparison

Days of precipitation recorded since Jan. 1, 2025, 37 days; 2024, 27 days. Average high of past 30 days, 2025, 20; 2024, 34. Average low of past 30 days, 2025, -2; 2024, 19.

SNOW DEPTH

Snow measured around 9" in depth at 8 am on Monday, Feb. 17.

ICE CONDITIONS

Mostly normal winter weather lately has led to great ice on area lakes, with most bodies of water seeing between 20-24" of thickness.

5-DAY OUTLOOK

Wednesday: Afternoon snow showers.

Thursday: Morning clouds and afternoon sun.

Friday: Times of sun and clouds.

Saturday: Clouds giving way to sun.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy.

PORTIONS OF THE WEATHER CORNER ARE THROUGH THE COURTESY OF DARYL RUTKOWSKI, EAGLE RIVER, AND NEWSWATCH 12 WEATHER.

Trail

FROM PAGE 1

amendment is considered. The River Trail Commission, alongside Great Headwaters Trail,

has been continuing its efforts to develop a bike and pedestrian path connecting St. Germain and the Heart of Vilas trail system via the western approach of Highway 70 into Eagle River.

Places

FROM PAGE 1

A long road

One of the first steps in moving forward to create the district was to gauge the interest from local property owners within the projected district, which proved popular among most. Karen Margelofsky, executive director of the Eagle River Revitalization Program/Main Street Program, commented that once residents were aware of the excellent benefits and understood that few restrictions apply, there was great enthusiasm for a project. Sailer and Margelofsky then spent years meeting with representatives of the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to do the legwork in order to register the district. "This has been almost a three-year process," Sailer said, with initial discussions starting in 2022. Then, in the summer of 2023, Daina Penkiunas of SHPO, visited Eagle River for a full day, touring two possible areas for nomination to the National Register. "We were later notified that the downtown had merit as a candidate," Sailer said. She and Margelofsky led the effort for the nomination process. Funding for the consultant who wrote the nomination was made available by the

Wisconsin Main Street Program. The two women, along with ERHS Director Vito Bortolotti, were among those who traveled to Milwaukee in August 2024 to speak in favor of the nomination when the committee met. "A series of public meetings was held to educate all property and business owners about the process and the benefits of a historic district," Sailer said. "They were well-attended, and Elizabeth Hilton, National Register coordinator at SHPO, led several of them." In order to answer questions of local residents and business owners one-on-one, Bortolotti began a series of lectures last September — each held at a business within the district — to give an in-depth history of the business, the building and its place in Eagle River history. Sailer stated these lectures have been very popular and will continue and expand in the future.

Historical significance

According to the WHS, Eagle River developed in the 1880s with a primary commercial corridor that forms the Eagle River Historic District. It is composed of a two-block stretch of East Wall Street and a single block of South Railroad Street that continues to serve Eagle River for both year-round residents and seasonal tourists.

The community was originally established as a lumbering town and transitioned to accommodate summer tourists that flocked to the area — first by train and then by automobile — to enjoy the North Woods' natural beauty by fishing, hunting and boating. While winter sports were introduced in the 1920s, they did not gain widespread popularity until the 1950s and continue to be popular today. In the 1970s, Eagle River focused on reinvigorating the retail district's tourist appeal by adopting a city-wide "Northwoods Rustic" theme for the construction and remodeling of downtown commercial buildings, the WHS noted. "Over 50 years later, the implementation of the Northwoods Rustic theme remains present and several of the district's buildings reflect elements of the style," WHS said in a press release. "As a result, the Eagle River Downtown Historic District exists today as a unique collection of commercial buildings that reflects the architectural style used in northern Wisconsin."

Boon to local businesses

Local business owners will benefit from the designation in a number of ways, including eligibility for state and federal income tax credits and charitable income tax deductions, as well as federal grant eligibility. Designation

NEWS

IncredibleBank donates \$7,500 to promote broadband expansion

The IncredibleBank Foundation has donated \$7,500 to the Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) in support of the corporation's ongoing broadband expansion efforts. This donation will be used to enable the VCEDC to develop a marketing campaign to promote Vilas County as a broadband destination in Wisconsin, northern Illinois, and Minneapolis/St. Paul. "This grant is incredibly meaningful to our branch and the entire community," said Heidi Reiter Kramsvogel, Market Manager of IncredibleBank's Eagle River location. "By supporting the Vilas County EDC, we are investing in the growth of local broadband infrastructure, which is essential for both residents and businesses. Additionally, this initiative will help attract more visitors to our beautiful area, boosting local tourism and economic development. IncredibleBank is proud to be a part of this positive change and to contribute to the prosperity of our community." The VCEDC is a 501c3 nonprofit organization with a mission to build a strong, diverse, North Woods economy. Key initiatives underway include broadband, one-

The IncredibleBank Foundation recently donated \$7,500 to the Vilas County Economic Development Corporation (VCEDC) in support of their ongoing broadband expansion project. Pictured, from left to right, are Alexis Scafaro, market manager Heidi Reiter Kramsvogel and VCEDC executive director. Kathy Schmitz. —Staff Photo By JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN

on-one business support, support for the Vilas County business community at large, and promoting Vilas County as an ideal and welcoming location to live and work year-round. "The foundation for a strong economy is broadband," said Kathy Schmitz, Executive Director of the VCEDC. "Now that we have achieved 86% fiber broadband coverage, Vilas County stands out among Northwoods counties. This tremendous grant from Incredible Bank Foundation will enable us to begin to transition from our focus on broadband infrastructure

implementation to promoting Vilas County as a broadband destination." Those interested in donating to the Vilas County Economic Development Corporation can visit www.vilascountyedc.org or mail a check to Box 1621, Eagle River, WI 54521.

About IncredibleBankSM

Headquartered in Wausau, Wis., IncredibleBank is a leading financial institution recognized for its innovative approach to banking. In 2024, IncredibleBank was honored with the prestigious Jack Henry

Changemaker award, celebrating outstanding achievements in leveraging technology, services and innovation. As one of the nation's top motorcoach lenders and an SBA Preferred Lending Partner, IncredibleBank is committed to providing exceptional financial solutions to their customers. With 16 locations across Wisconsin, Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and, most recently, Cape Coral, Fla., they promise an Incredible Customer ExperienceSM with every interaction. For more information, visit incrediblebank.com.

Eagle River's historic district is composed of a two-block stretch of East Wall Street and a single block of South Railroad Street. —Contributed Image

also offers protection from development projects that can include adverse effects of state or federally funded projects, such as freeway expansion, road construction, and development. "Listing on both registers makes a business owner eligible for 40% tax credits (20% Wisconsin and 20% federal) for eligible work to their property," Sailer said. "Examples of eligible work can be electrical or plumbing upgrades, roof work, facades, interior repairs (not to include decoration), and others." In addition, there are educational resources

available from the SHPO office that can help property owners make the best use of their credits. Margelofsky and Sailer added that being listed on either or both registers also enhances the area as an attraction for heritage tourism visitors — which Sailer noted is "the fastest growing segment of the market, locally, nationally and internationally." In addition to the tax breaks and protections made possible by the designation, Sailer added there are "intangible benefits that other areas have noticed, such as a renewed sense of pride and

community identity." While this is the final step needed for the downtown historic district, Both Sailer and Margelofsky noted that there are other structures, residential and commercial, that could qualify for National Register listing outside the current district. Anyone interested in learning more about the process can contact either Bortolotti at the Eagle River Historical Society at eagleriverhistory.org, or Margelofsky at the revitalization program at eagleriverrevitalization.org, for information or referrals to SHPO.

UP NORTH

COMMUNITY EXPO

FREE EXPO THURSDAY MARCH 6, 12-5PM

HODAG DOME, RHINELANDER

Businesses and non-profits from 7 counties will be there to network, provide employment information, show or sell what they do.

~FREE RAFFLES~

~PLAY ONEIDA CO. FAIR BINGO AT 1 AND 3PM~

~KIDS ACTIVITIES BY THE NORTHWOODS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM~

EXPO AFTER HOURS 5:30-7:30pm AT THE ROUMAN CINEMA:

Relax as an exhibitor or join the fun as a community member for \$10 a ticket. Sample local beer, wine, food and see who won the boothing awards!

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NEWS



HOCKEY VOLUNTEERS — The Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club managed the food and beer sales for the Pond Hockey National Championships Feb. 7 – 9 on Dollar Lake, with almost 60 volunteers and more than 500 volunteer hours. “The Sno-Eagles sincerely thank all the members and friends who made this endeavor a success by contributing trailers, use of snowmobiles or UTVs, firewood, time and talent for planning, set-up, grilling, preparing, serving, selling, and clean-up,” said the organization. “The Sno-Eagles also thank the following establishments who gave generous donations that contributed to this fundraiser: Trigs, World Championship Derby Complex, Veterans Resource Center, Eagle River Roasters, Ferrellgas, Eagle River Chamber of Commerce and the Eagle River Fire Department. This truly was a community endeavor.” Until three years ago, the Eagle River Fire Department ran the concessions. —Contributed Photos



Oneida snowmobile accident injures one

Jake Van Hefty, 22, of Minocqua was injured following a snowmobile accident in the Town of Hazelhurst in Oneida County last Tuesday morning. The Oneida County Sheriff’s Office received a call regarding a snowmobile accident on McCormick Lake in Hazelhurst just before 9 a.m. the morning of Tuesday, Feb. 11. Upon arriving on scene, the male victim was found unconscious from injuries sustained from what was believed to be a single-vehicle accident. The victim was flown from the scene to an area hospital for treatment. The Oneida County Sheriff’s Office was assisted at the scene by the Hazelhurst and Minocqua fire departments, Med 5, the Minocqua Police Department, Life Link and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

13 Eagle River condo lots to be sold at “Absolute Auction”

Thirteen approved condo lots, part of the established Voyageur Crossings Condominium development, are available to purchase during an online absolute auction. The auction opens for bidding on Thursday, March 6, and bids are to close at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13. Visit 13 CondoPads.com to register and bid. “These pads were donated to Kars 4 Kids, a nationwide nonprofit known for taking donations of unwanted vehicles and turning them into dollars to support their amazing cause,” said SVN Auction Services’ Bill Menish. “But they also take donations of real estate, and the Conger family who developed Voyageur Crossing Condominiums, made that donation, and Kars 4 Kids, retained our services to sell the pads at Online Absolute Auction. “Absolute Auction” means the properties will sell to the highest bidders regardless of price, making this a tremendous buying opportunity. The 13 condo pads are perfect for 1,340 square foot, 2 bedroom condominiums with lake views, lake access and dock access. They sit between Catfish Lake and Voyager Lake, with easy access from Highway 70 East. The address for Voyageur Crossings Condominiums is 3666 State Highway 70 East. “The utilities, septic and most infrastructure are in, according to the donors,” added Menish. The auction company is offering the condo lots separately and together. “Whichever brings the highest bids, either selling individually to 13 bidders or selling them all to a single bidder, wins the auction.” To learn more about the upcoming auction, contact Bill Menish with SVN Action Services at (502) 939-0399 or email to bill.menish@svn.com

Wolf

FROM PAGE 1

The gray wolf was previously delisted in 2020 by the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under President Trump, but pushback from conservation groups led to the rule’s reversal by U.S. District Judge Jeffrey White’s ruling in 2022. Tiffany cites the rising number of wolf attacks in Wisconsin specifically for inspiring the bill’s reintroduction. “Scientific data, coupled with the rise in wolf attacks in Wisconsin, confirms that the gray wolf population has exceeded recovery goals. Yet, activist judges continue to disregard these facts, leaving livestock, pets, wildlife, and

communities vulnerable to further harm,” said Tiffany in a statement released by his office. “The Pet and Livestock Protection Act will restore management to those who understand local needs best — state wildlife officials — and ensure that out-of-state judges can no longer dictate how Wisconsin manages its wolf population.” **Wolves of Vilas** The subject of wolf management in the North Woods has become a major point of contention in wildlife discussions in recent years, especially following several attacks in local areas, some being as recent as the last week of January when wolves were reported to be harassing pets in St. Germain and Conover. Other recent attacks include last year when a

Woodruff woman’s dog was snatched and killed by a wolf in July, and a 19-year-old Sugar Camp man was forced to shoot a wolf in September after the wolf failed to leave him alone. In these incidents, the wolves did not flee after humans attempted to scare them off by yelling and screaming. Despite these incidents, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has not yet increased warnings for hunters and civilians aside from remaining vigilant, especially when bringing pets outside. The DNR also urges those who have encountered wolves, or have witnessed depredation or harassment of pets or livestock, to make a report on their gray wolf depredation reports and maps page at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/>



Along with 30 other GOP lawmakers, Rep. Tom Tiffany has reintroduced legislation that would delist the gray wolf as an endangered species. —Contributed Photo

WildlifeHabitat/wolf/maps. For livestock and pet owners dealing with a potential wolf-involved conflict, they should call, in northern Wisconsin, 1-800-228-1368 (in state) or 715-369-5221. In southern Wisconsin, call 1-800-433-0663 (in state) or 920-324-4514. More information for livestock, pet owners and hunters is available on the wolf conflict guidance page at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/wolf/guidance.html>.

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OBITUARIES

Tom Vugrinec



Thomas Henry Vugrinec, 67, passed away on Jan. 27, 2025. He was born on Sep. 26, 1957, in Phelps, WI, the son of Thomas Victor and Henrietta Margaret Vugrinec.

Tom grew up in Land O' Lakes, WI and graduated from Eagle River High School in 1975. Tom married his high school sweetheart, Danette Caron on May 19, 1979. They had three children together.

He and his family ventured out to Wyoming in the 80's to pursue mining. Although they later divorced, he remained a devoted father to his children.

Tom was a hard worker his whole life. Most of his adult career was spent at Black Butte Coal, where he took on many different positions. He also spent time as a butcher and in the oilfield.

Tom's greatest gift was being an outstanding father and grandfather. After suffering the devastating loss of his son, he poured all his spare time and energy into his daughters and grandkids lives. He was present for their births, most of their firsts, sporting events, milestones, and graduations. He was proud of all of them and loved teaching them skills but especially creating memories with and for them that would last a lifetime. From vehicle maintenance, tying shoes, ties, or fishing knots, playing cards, backing up trailers, and butchering our own wild game. The Cribbage Master counted fast and loved stealing your points when you missed them.

Tom lived life to the fullest. He was an avid outdoorsman, creating fishing buddies with his kids and grandkids. His hobbies included camping, hunting, fishing, boating, skiing, and traveling. He shared all his happy places with his kids and grandkids.

He wanted to make sure that these memories and skills would last for generations. His one-on-one time and holiday gatherings with his family were the most outstanding times for us all.

Tom never had a favorite, each kid held a special place to him, including all the bonus kids that became family throughout the years.

Forever a kid at heart, he never hesitated to play games with his grandkids. Goalie for floor hockey, blocking shots in basketball, and taking down the older boys in wrestling matches. The eyes and the laughs always said it all. Always live and enjoy your best life. He always said, 'kids make life worth living.'

His hugs, grunts, and side eye disapprovals will definitely be missed. Even though his face didn't always show it, those hazel eyes were always smiling. Tom wouldn't want anyone to be sad. He always said, 'death is a part of life, don't be sad or mad when it's my time. Always show that beautiful smile and remember, I love you and I'll always be with you.'

Survivors include his two daughters, Cassandra Vugrinec, Michelle (Kris) Kroese of Rock Springs, WY; four grandchildren, Justice Vugrinec, Blaine Richards, Aspen Allred, and Wesley Allred of Rock Springs, WY; Mother, Henrietta Vugrinec of Pinedale, WY; sister, Laurel (Gail) Ensign of Rock Springs, WY; brother, Jim (Joni) Vugrinec of Coeur d'Alene, ID; four nephews; six nieces; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends that he considered family.

He was preceded in death by his father, Thomas Victor Vugrinec; son, Thomas Victor Howard Vugrinec; and sister, Valerie Meronk; both maternal and paternal grandparents.

Cremation has already taken place. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

PAID OBITUARY

Betty Hozan



Betty Jane Marie Hozan, age 95, of Hiles, WI passed away peacefully surrounded by family at her home early on Feb. 8, 2025. She had passed following a short stent with hospice services in the comfort of her own home.

Betty was born on Aug. 12, 1929, in the town of Three Lakes, WI to William and Edith Bonack. She was one of five siblings; consisting of two older sisters, Opal and Irma; one older brother, Clifford; and one younger brother, Junior. Betty attended Hiles High School, where she later graduated.

After high school, she stayed within the Hiles area where she met Jesse Joseph Houle, who she went on to marry in 1947. In the beginning years of their marriage, Betty and Jesse traveled out west where they settled briefly in Corvallis, Oregon, before they eventually settled back permanently in the Hiles area.

Throughout the course of their marriage, the two raised four boys together: Dave, Danny, Jesse, and Johnny. They built the Houle's Grocery store in Hiles, WI, where Betty and much of their family spent most of their time running through endless hours, until the very day they had sold years later.

Betty's lifetime has been riddled with a plethora of beautiful memories, as well as some tragic. In 1969 Betty's son, Danny William Houle had fallen in the Vietnam War, and in 1970 Betty's husband, Jesse Joesph Houle, passed away tragically at the age of 46, in a motorcycle accident. After these tragedies, Betty spent her time devoted as a mother, and grandmother to her beautiful, and growing family.

Betty enjoyed many outdoor activities alongside family and loved ones, enjoying countless weekends at her cottage on Pine Lake, fishing, hunting and spending time on the water. Additionally, Betty enjoyed spending her time leisurely traveling the United States, painting, camping, and capturing countless memories with photography.

She later remarried Martin Hozan, a silver star war veteran of World War II. The two continued their lives together in Hiles among their growing family, spending endless hours with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In 1979, Martin Hozan passed of a heart attack. Betty, being the strong woman and mother she was, continued to spend her time around her loved ones, always being the glue of the Houle family and a staple of the Hiles community.

Betty had a beautiful family, always surrounded by endless love, laughter and joy. She will be remembered and forever missed by the many hearts that she had touched in her 95 years here.

She is survived by her son, (Johnny Houle); daughter in law, (Crystal Houle); grandchildren Lori (Stacy) Shampo, Amy (Brian) Houle-Bukovic, Angel (Jamie) Sears, Jesse (Sara) Houle, Tonya (Paul) Cleereman, Stephanie (Johnnie) Cleereman, Melanie (Jake) Flannery, Chad (Katey) Littleton, and Danny (Maria) Houle. Additionally, Betty is survived by her twenty-five great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Betty is proceeded in death by her parents, William and Edith Bonack; first husband, Jesse Houle; second husband, Martin Hozan; good friend, Gib Mattson; and her three sons, Danny Houle, David (Mary) Houle, and Jesse "Punk" Houle.

She will be missed dearly, but her memory will live on forever in many, many hearts.

Services were held Monday, Feb. 17, 2025, at Christ Lutheran Church in Hiles visitation took place two hours prior to the service, burial was at Crandon Lakeside Cemetery and a luncheon followed at the Hiles town hall.

Online condolences may be directed to www.web.erhillfuneralhome.com

PAID OBITUARY

Sharon E. Douthit



Sharon E. Douthit of Sterling, IL passed away peacefully at her home early Saturday morning, Feb. 15, 2024.

Sharon was born Nov. 7, 1939, in Peoria County IL to parents Frank Douthit Jr. and Bernadine M. Douthit.

She attended Rome Grade School and Chilli-cothe High School. IL State was the college of

her choice for earning her bachelor's degree and Colorado State College for her master's degree. She was a lifelong learner and during her career, she earned many, many additional college credits from several sources far beyond these degrees.

She taught briefly in Colorado but the bulk of her career from 1961-1994 was as a Physical Education High School Teacher at Sterling High School. She was a very well respected, innovative teacher. She made a great impact on her students during her long teaching career in both her teaching and extracurricular sports activities.

She was an excellent role model and for many the influence made a lifelong difference. Every time she went anywhere, she would always run into former students and have great conversations with them. She loved sharing memories with them as she remembered her students well. She was always interested in them, their families and their career choices. She was well respected by her colleagues and became very close friends with many of them. She was viewed as a very capable, organized, fair, hardworking team leader.

Some of her responsibilities or positions at various times included Head of P.E. Department, Assistant Athletic Director, Supervisor for many Home Athletic Events at the Fieldhouse, and an integral part of the Golden Girls Basketball Championship Teams providing vital support for the athletes and their coaching staff. She loved all aspects of her teaching career and contributed greatly to the success of her students and the success of her extra curricular activities.

She had many interests. She co-owned a beautiful vacation home in Eagle River, WI and enjoyed years and years of peaceful summers. She was kept very busy with WI friends and other visitors that routinely went to visit them. Everyone who shared that time with her created beautiful memories. She also was very active with Field Spaniels and enjoyed being a member of all of their organizations. She loved touring the dog show circuit and personally showed many of them on their way to becoming champions. She loved the friendships she made and everything about this wonderful hobby.

She enjoyed sports of many kinds and participated throughout the years in many different ones. She loved attending church and was happy to have recently become a member locally. She loved going to Smilers, a retired teachers' group, and tried very hard not to miss their monthly luncheons.

She enjoyed a diverse group of other interests such as shopping locally and through Amazon, card playing, local concerts, boating, watching sports, donating to favorite charities, and occasionally you could see her having fun at a slot machine with a friend.

Her friends always admired her great sense of style with her choice of clothes, her fun sense of humor, her dedication and loyalty to friends and family, her energy and always being ready to get together and have fun at the spur of the moment.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her stepfather Roswell Ferguson, sister-in law Pat Douthit, nephews Tim and Tony Wolf and longtime friend, Susan Strong.

Sharon is survived by her brother, Frank Richmond Douthit III; her nieces Francie DeVries and Mary Jo (Lou) Harkenrider; nephews Jeff (Vivi) Wolf, Greg (Diane) Wolf; and all their families including surviving members of Tim and Tony Wolf. Many Kansas and Nebraska families were also special to Sharon including those of Jim Douthit, Thad Douthit, Gladys Douthit Freeling, Edith Douthit Miller and George Pfleeger. She loved all her family and treasured wonderful memories with each of them.

Sharon, you will be missed by so many because you are loved by so many. Most of all we all admire your spunk and determination that you had every day of your life no matter the ever-changing health issues that came your way. You truly made the best of every minute despite the challenges.

Sharon's family would like to acknowledge her care team family for the friendship and care they provided in her time of need.

Gathering of friends and family will take place on Saturday, Feb. 22, 2025, from 11:00-11:45 A.M. at the First Congregational Church in Rock Falls. Memorial Service will follow at 11:45 AM. Luncheon will be after; at the Rock Falls Candlelight. Burial will be at a later date at Saint Joseph Mooney Cemetery in Rome, IL.

Memorials may be made to your choice of Stormy Lake Association (WI), Congregational Church (Rock Falls), Sterling Schools Foundation, or Kidney Foundation.

You were a very special friend and will live in the hearts of many forever.

PAID OBITUARY

Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home & Alpha Crematory

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NOTICE: Obituary policy

Death notices that appear in this space weekly are written and/or edited for content and consistency by assistant editors of the Vilas County News-Review and The Three Lakes News. Obituaries written in the paper's standard format are printed at no charge. Unedited obituaries written by the family may be printed for a fee, either in the obituary column or in smaller type with a border. For more information, call (715) 479-4421.

In the midst of calamity, anxiety, or fear
Jesus alone is the source of peace.

*"You will keep him in perfect peace,
whose mind is stayed on You,
because he trusts in You."*

Isaiah 26:3

God's
Gathering
Place
A Bible Believing Church

Everyone is welcome!
Sundays 9:30 am
1695 Hwy 45N, Eagle River
www.gods-gathering-place.net

HILDEBRAND
Funeral Home
&
Cremation Specialists

SIMPLY
CREMATION
\$1,500
Includes basic services
and crematory fee

715-365-4343

Serving all of
northern Wisconsin

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SPOTTED
the easiest way
to hunt for
bargains
in our
classifieds!



VILAS COUNTY
NEWS-REVIEW
715-479-4421

ST. GERMAIN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Where the Gospel is Preached in it's Truth and Purity.

Every Saturday:

Fellowship Hour - 4:30 PM

Worship Service - 5:30 PM

Holy Communion Offered
at Every Service

All are Welcome!

1315 Hwy. 155 - (1/4 mile North of Hwy 70 & 155)
St. Germain - 715 542 3114



PUBLIC NOTICES

Legals7700

VILAS COUNTY

(One week 2/19/25)
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY
-SUMMONS-
Case No. 24SC000298
Our File #W166295
LVNV FUNDING LLC
vs.
BRYAN HOOVER
Plaintiff,
Defendant.

SMALL CLAIMS
AMENDED SUMMONS

TO: BRYAN HOOVER
13275 LUCY LAKE LN
MINOCQUA WI 54548-9659
You are being sued by: LVNV FUND-
ING LLC in the Small Claims Court of
VILAS County, located at 330 COURT
STREET EAGLE RIVER WI 54521-
8362.
A hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. on
March 11, 2025. If you do not appear, a
judgment may be given to the party
suing you. A copy of this amended
summons along with the summons
and complaint is being mailed to you.
FILED
February 12, 2025
Clerk of Circuit Court
Vilas County
Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this
February 6, 2025.
KOHNS LAW FIRM S.C.
/S/JOHN H. DANNER IV
Plaintiff's Attorney
State Bar No. 1125953
735 N. Water St., Suite 1300
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414)276-0435
WNAXLP
2742

VILAS COUNTY

(One week 2/19/25)
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY
-SUMMONS-
Case No. 24SC000310
Our File #W148314
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA
Plaintiff,
vs.
JEAN M GILLETTE
Defendant.

SMALL CLAIMS
AMENDED SUMMONS

TO: JEAN M GILLETTE
7742 POINT RD PO BOX 49
PRESQUE ISLE WI 54557
You are being sued by: FIRST
NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA in the
Small Claims Court of VILAS County,
located at 330 COURT STREET
EAGLE RIVER WI 54521-8362.
A hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m.
on March 11, 2025. If you do not
appear, a judgment may be given to
the party suing you. A copy of this
amended summons along with the
summons and complaint is being
mailed to you.
FILED
February 12, 2025
Clerk of Circuit Court
Vilas County
Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this
February 11, 2025.
KOHNS LAW FIRM S.C.
/S/JOHN H. DANNER IV
Plaintiff's Attorney
State Bar No. 1125953
735 N. Water St., Suite 1300
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 276-0435
WNAXLP
2741

VILAS COUNTY

(One week 2/19/25)
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY
-SUMMONS-
Case No. 24SC000292
Our File #W165504
DISCOVER BANK
vs.
JOEY GERACI
Plaintiff,
Defendant.

SMALL CLAIMS
AMENDED SUMMONS

TO: JOEY GERACI
1232 BLUE ISLAND RD
WOODRUFF WI 54568-9713
You are being sued by: DISCOVER
BANK in the Small Claims Court of
VILAS County, located at 330 COURT
STREET EAGLE RIVER WI 54521-
8362.
A hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m.
on March 11, 2025. If you do not
appear, a judgment may be given to
the party suing you. A copy of this
amended summons along with the
summons and complaint is being
mailed to you.
FILED
January 10, 2025
Clerk of Circuit Court
Vilas County
Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this
February 6, 2025.
KOHNS LAW FIRM S.C.
/S/JOHN H. DANNER IV
Plaintiff's Attorney
State Bar No. 1125953
735 N. Water St., Suite 1300

Legals7700

WNAXLP

Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 276-0435
2737

VILAS COUNTY

(Three weeks 2/12-2/26/25)
NOTICE OF CLAIMS DEADLINE
IN THE MATTER OF THE
MOONEY SURVIVOR'S TRUST CREA-
TED UNDER ARTICLE IV OF THE
JAMES AND ALLISON MOONEY
JOINT REVOCABLE TRUST DATED
DECEMBER 18, 2001, AS AMENDED
AND RESTATED
ALLISON A. MOONEY, whose date of
birth was January 21, 1959, died on
June 18, 2024. Pursuant to § 701.0508
of the Wisconsin Statutes, notice is
hereby given that the deadline for
filing claims for payment of the debts
of Allison A. Mooney with the trustee
of the above trust is on or before
June 10, 2025. The name and address
of the trustee is:
David W. Reinecke
c/o Foley & Lardner LLP
P.O. Box 1497
Madison, WI 53701-1497
Dated this 3rd day of February, 2025.
/s/ David W. Reinecke, Trustee
WNAXLP
2735

VILAS COUNTY

(Two weeks 2/12-2/19/25)
NOTICE OF EXPIRATION OF
REDEMPTION FOR UNPAID
TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021
OFFICE OF VILAS COUNTY
TREASURER
STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF VILAS (SS)
Notice is hereby given that the fol-
lowing tracts and bits of land situated
in the County of Vilas, sold to tax cer-
tificate by the County Treasurer of
Vilas County on the 1st day of Sep-
tember 2022 for taxes due and unpaid
for the year 2021, remain unre-
deemed in the office of the County
Treasurer of Vilas County, Wisconsin.
Opposite the description of each
parcel of land or part thereof, is the
amount of taxes, interest, and fees
calculated to the 29th of August,
2025; the redemption due on each
parcel.
Therefore, unless the said lands are
redeemed on or before the 29th date
of August, 2025, the land will be con-
veyed to Vilas County pursuant to
statute 75.07 of the Wisconsin
Statutes.
Dated at the office of the Vilas County
Treasurer, Eagle River, Wisconsin.
This 12th day of February, 2025.
/s/ Paulette M. Sarnicki
County Treasurer
Vilas County, Wisconsin

TOWN OF ARBOR VITAE

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

JACOB J GUKICH
2-484 \$914.55
PRT NE SE
WILLIAM H BOSSHARD
2-2012
PRT NE SE LNG E OF OLD RRROW
AFF 802-635 EXC WHISTLING PINES
ESTATES

TOWN OF CLOVERLAND

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

MARK A CLURE
6-309-03 \$1,322.20
PRT SE NW AFF 599740
MARILYN PICMAN
DAVID E GROSS
CHRISTINA MAJTHOUB TRT
6-1191 \$2,178.90
PRT SE SW AFF 521259

TOWN OF LAC DU FLAMBEAU

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

SAMUEL P STONE
10-886-01 \$1,640.77
PRT LOT 8 BLK 3 GAUTHIERS
TRACK SUB OF GOVT LOT 3

TOWN OF LAND O LAKES

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

HAROLD M TRACY JR
12-600 \$542.72
PRT NE NE & PRT GOVT LOT 7 S36-
43-9
AMY A CAREY
12-1028-13 \$524.34
PRT NW SE A/K/A OL 2 3CS64
JAMES A HOOK
CHRISTINE L MILLER
12-1967 \$1,946.51
E 300' OF W 630' NE NW F/K/A 5-4 &
PRT G5-4 S9
CATHY A NORDINE
12-2425 \$1,804.58
PRT GOVT LOT 2 LNG N RD
CATHY A NORDINE
12-2459 \$5,794.90
PRT GOVT LOT 3

TOWN OF LINCLON

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due

Legals7700

WNAXLP

Description

KIM M BELLIVEAU
14-165-01 \$1,456.45
PRT NE NW
LEE DUANE CLURE
ELAINE M CLURE
14-203 \$942.18
N 354' NW NE LNG E RRROW
NOTICE 482864 AFF 483420
CHARLES L POLACEK
14-443 \$1,689.27
PRT LOT 8 PLAT PINECREST AGRMT
569-183 ASSMT INC CN 445-01
NANCY J TRIPOLI TRUST
14-1945-04 \$7,649.59
PRT GOVT LOT 1 PCL 8

TOWN OF PHELPS

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

DOUGLAS G HORSTMAN
18-67 \$5,922.32
PRT GOVT LOT 2
MARK G NASCISZEWSKI
URSULA D NASCISZEWSKI
18-218-04 \$5,438.48
LOT 3 MAPLE RIDGE SUB
JOYCE A WIELICHOWSKI
18-925-2 \$823.00
LOTS 3,4,11 & 12 BLK 22 PLAT
RACINE COMMUNITY BEACH AFF
474165
TIMOTHY J WAGNER
18-951-01 \$1,296.82
LOTS 8 THRU 11 & 21 THRU 24 BLK
27 PLAT RACINE COMMUNITY
BEACH

TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

ARIZONA PROPERTIES LTD
DAVID A GOFF
22-1506-04 \$5,679.68
PRT SE NW & SW NW PCL 1 F/K/A 8-
9,7-1
PABLO GUARDIOLA JR
TAMMY GUARDIOLA
22-1753 \$1,046.97
PRT GOVT LOT 8 PCL 21 RED FOX
ASSMT INC CN 1754
SHEILA M WIXTED
22-2013-05 \$896.63
LOT 5 14CS44 PRT NW NE, SW NE &
GOVT LOT 1 & 1/15 INT OL 1

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

LADD B WILDESON
26-2694 \$859.98
PRT SW NE LOT 5
LADD B WILDESON
26-2696-04 \$1,974.71
PRT SW NE LOT 3
LADD B WILDESON
26-2696-05 \$827.03
PRT SW NE LOT 4

TOWN OF WINCHESTER

2021
Owner Names
Parcel# Amt Due
Description

DARYLL A BEHNKE
28-1697 \$1,980.73
PRT GOVT LOT 3 EXC 375-145,718-
281
DARYLL A BEHNKE
28-1721 \$1,959.78
PRT NE SE EXC 399-026,907-238
NOTE: (Contact the County Treasurer
for complete description)
WNAXLP
2727

Bids and Request for Proposals 7705

ADVERTISEMENT
FOR ELECTRONIC BIDS

(Two weeks 2/19-2/26/25)
For Construction at
Eagle River Union Airport
Eagle River, Wisconsin
Project no. EGV1010 / AIP-20

THIS PROJECT WILL BE ELECTRONICALLY BID. Paper bids will NOT be accepted or allowed.

Sealed ELECTRONIC proposals for the work described herein will be received until 2:00 p.m., local time, Thursday, March 6, 2025, by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, on behalf of the Secretary, authorized agent for the City of Eagle River, in accordance with Wis. Stat. §114.32(3). Bids will be unsealed (electronically opened) as provided above and will be publicly read. The bid opening will be broadcast live via Teams. The correct meeting and call-in information for the bid opening is:

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer, mobile app or room device
Meeting ID: 273 385 397 96
Passcode: tLjwfv
Or Dial in by phone (audio only)
+1 608-571-2209 United States, Madison
Phone Conference ID: 186 780 348#
Bid results will be posted as soon as practicable after the close of bids.

The bid results will be posted to the Bureau of Aeronautics' website and BidExpress.com here:

Bids and Request for Proposals 7705

WNAXLP

https://wisconsin.dot.gov/Pages/doings/bids/aeronautics/airports/arpt/bidinfo.aspx
https://bidexpress.com/businesses/5/
Electronic Bid submittal: Bids must be submitted via the bidexpress.com bidding service. No paper bids will be accepted. Bids will not be accepted past the established deadline for the close of bids.
Description of work:
Base Bid: Replace airport fence access gates and associated work.
Estimate of major quantities:
Removing Access Gates, 3 EACH;
Removing HMA Pavement, 1100 SY;
Removing Fence, 100 LF; Excavation Common, 400 CY; Base Aggregate Dense, 850 TON; Concrete Pavement and Sidewalk, 700 SF; HMA Pavement, 300 TON; Concrete Curb & Gutter, 40 LF; Chain Link Fence, 180 LF; Landscaping and Erosion Mat, 1450 SY; Flexible Polyethylene Duct, 2650 LF; Electrical Cabling, 650 LF; Electrical Handholes, 16 EACH; PVC Duct (including boring), 190 LF; Concrete Bollards, 36 EACH; Vertical Pivot Gates, 3 LS; Gate Lighting, 3 LS
Proposals: Proposal forms are included with the plans and specifications, and are subject to the provisions of Wis. Stat. §66.0901(7).
Plans and specifications: Plans and specifications can be obtained free of charge and at the following site: https://bidexpress.com/businesses/5/
Proposal ELECTRONIC Submittal: This contract is being electronically bid. The bid template within BidExpress.com platform established for the project includes all elements required to be submitted with the contract. Required fields are established within the template. Automatic checking of the bid proposal will identify if any required fields are missing and alert the bidder to complete the missing information prior to final submission. Submission of an incomplete bid will result in the bid not being opened, and/or rejected as non-responsive.
Plan holder registration required: Plans and specifications are available to anyone after completing a simple registration. There is NO cost to obtain a registration. Registration is required to be recorded as a plan holder. Registered plan holders will be notified of important project information such as issuance of addendums or other critical information. Only the prime or general contractor selecting to submit a bid is required to obtain additional Digital ID credentials. Please contact BidExpress support for registration assistance at, Phone: (888)-352-2439 / Email: support@bidexpress.com.
Bidder Digital ID Required: Firms who select to submit a bid MUST also obtain a free digital ID in addition to registering. Obtaining a digital ID is relatively quick, however it may take a couple of days to complete the process. Please request and obtain registration and digital ID's as early as possible to not jeopardize your ability to submit a bid. There is NO cost to obtain a digital ID. Please contact BidExpress support for Digital ID assistance at, Phone: (888)-352-2439 / Email: support@bidexpress.com.
Proposal guaranty: A bid security in the amount of 5% of the total amount of the bid is required for the contract. Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid bond, certificate of annual bid bond, a certified check, bank's draft, bank's check, or postal money order made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary for 5% of the total amount bid.
The electronic template will allow the following options for meeting the proposal guaranty. E-Verify bid bond (Surety2000 & SurePath), uploading a copy of the bid bond or certificate of annual bid bond, certified check, bank draft, or money order.
Any bid security, other than a E-verified bond or certificate of annual bid bond is provided, the department will require that the apparent two lowest bidders to mail or hand-deliver the original bond, certified check, bank draft, or money order to the Bureau of Aeronautics by close of business two business days following the close of bids and must be received by the Bureau of Aeronautics no later than 5 days from the posting of the bid results.
Qualification of bidders:
IMPORTANT: A paper hard copy, pre-qualified is required to be submitted PRIOR to the bid opening. The proper prequalification form must be sent to the DOT to establish prequalification and remain valid prior to the deadline for prequalification indicated below. Prequalification submitted after the deadline will be processed but a bid from that firm will not be opened for any project where the deadline has been exceeded. The following prequalification is required for this contract:
The Bureau of Project Development "Prequalification Statement" (AKA: "Highways") will apply. The proper forms can be found at: https://wisconsin.dot.gov/Pages/doings/bids/contractors/hccil/prequal.aspx
Bid proposals will be opened only from those firms that have established their qualifications for the

Bids and Request for Proposals 7705

WNAXLP

work being bid upon. If a prospective bidder has previously submitted hold a current and valid (not expired or revoked), proper statement and received prior approval from the department, a re-submittal for this project is not required.
Any prospective bidder who has not previously established their qualifications must file a pre-qualification statement on the proper forms and be received by the department no later than 12:00 noon, local time, Friday, February 28, 2025. Only prime or general contractors submitting the bid need to be prequalified; subcontractors do not need to be prequalified.
The qualification statement is a sworn statement and consist of information relating to financial ability, equipment, and experience in the work prescribed in this proposal. The statement shall be in writing on the proper standard form furnished by the department. The department will evaluate the statement and determine acceptability prior to bid acceptance. Failure to establish prequalification as stipulated will result in the bid not being opened and/or rejected.
Federal Requirements: This project is federally funded and federal provisions and requirements apply. Federal provisions made part of, but not limited to this contract include: Buy American Preference, Federal Tax Certification, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Affirmative Action, Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension, Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace.
Hours of labor and minimum wage rates: Pursuant to regulations provided by applicable federal and/or state laws, the hours of labor and minimum wage rates are set forth in the proposal.
Affirmative action: The department hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.
Affidavit of non-collusion: A required affidavit of non-collusion will be incorporated as part of the proposal for each prospective bidder. Failure to complete and sign the sworn statement makes the bid non-responsive and ineligible for award consideration. By completing the electronic signature and submitting the proposal, each bidder by or on behalf of the person, firm, association, or corporation submitting the bid, certifies that such person, firm, association, or corporation has not, either directly or indirectly, entered into agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action, in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the submitted bid. This sworn statement shall be executed and sworn to by the bidder before a person who is authorized by the laws of the state to administer oaths.
Pre-bid conference: A pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 10:00 AM at the Eagle River Union Airport Conference Room. A site visit for those interested will be held after the pre-bid meeting.
Additionally, for those unable to attend the meeting in person, a virtual option via Microsoft Teams will be provided and the information to join the meeting is listed below:
Microsoft Teams
Join the meeting now
Meeting ID: 236 100 764 638
Passcode: bQ32IE9o
Dial in by phone
+1 262-771-1345, 193515047# United States, Kenosha Phone conference ID: 193 515 047#
The purpose of the meeting and site visit will be to familiarize all concerned persons with the project and conditions at the airport.
For further information, contact Jeremy Roberts, P.E. at (920) 931-0581, email jroberts@msa-ps.com
Eagle River, Wisconsin
Represented by Kristina Boardman, Secretary
Department of Transportation
Sponsor's Authorized Agent
WNAXLP
2743

Name Change 7730

VILAS COUNTY

(Three weeks 2/5-2/19/25)
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY
Case No. 25CV7

Name Change 7730

WNAXLP

IN THE MATTER OF THE
NAME CHANGE OF
Amanda Marie Thompson
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
By (Petitioner)
Amanda Marie Thompson
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to
change the name of the person listed
above:
From: Amanda Marie Thompson
To: Amanda Marie Walker
Birth Certificate:
Amanda Marie Walker
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the
Circuit Court of Vilas County, State of
Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Martha J. Milanowski
Place: Vilas County Courthouse,
Courtroom 1
330 Court Street,
Eagle River, WI 54521
Date: February 27, 2025
Time: 11:30 am
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given
by publication as a Class 3 notice for
three (3) weeks in a row prior to the
date of the hearing in the Vilas
County News-Review, a newspaper
published in Vilas County, State of
Wisconsin.
/s/ Martha J. Milanowski
Circuit Court Judge/
Court Commissioner
January 14, 2025
WNAXLP
2731

Notice To Creditors 7735

VILAS COUNTY

(Three weeks 2/19-3/5/25)
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY
-PROBATE-
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 25PR04

WNAXLP

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
SUSAN K. KOEL
DOD: 11/22/2024
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 11/20/1943 and date of death 11/22/2024, was domiciled in Vilas County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 12875 Twin Pines Rd., Unit 2, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 30, 2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office.
/s/ Dawn Halverson
Probate Registrar
February 11, 2025
Attorney Ryan J. Long
Sturgul & Long, S.C.
312 Silver St.
Hurley, WI 54534
(715) 581-4600
Bar Number
1077239
WNAXLP
2739

VILAS COUNTY

(Three weeks 2/5-2/19/25)
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY
-PROBATE-
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 25 PR 01
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth September 1, 1950 and date of death September 23, 2019, was domiciled in Vilas County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 6230 Knuth Lane, Eagle River, WI 54521.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 2, 2025.
5. A claim may be filed at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court Street, Eagle River 54521, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office.
/s/ Dawn Halverson
Probate Registrar
January 23, 2025
Thomas E. Lawrence II
Lawrence & Tyler, S.C.
8617 Hwy. 51 North,
Minocqua, WI 54548
715-356-9403
Bar Number
1002941
WNAXLP
2729

To LEGALS Pg. 6

NOTICE
VACANCY - VILAS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
District #18 – City of Eagle River Wards, 4 & 5 and
Town of Lincoln, Ward 5

The Vilas County Board Chairman is accepting applications for an individual to be appointed to fill the unexpired term of Vilas County Supervisor, District #18, comprised of the City of Eagle River Wards, 4 & 5 and Town of Lincoln, Ward 5. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §59.10(3)(e) applicants for this appointment must be a qualified elector and a resident of District #18 for at least 28 days to be eligible to fill this vacancy. Applicants for this position should send a letter expressing interest in the position and a resume to:


Chairman Jerry Burkett
Vilas County Board of Supervisors
District #18 Applications
330 Court Street
Eagle River, WI 54521

Applications received later than Monday, March 3, 2025, will not be considered. Appointment of any applicant by the Vilas County Board Chairman is subject to Vilas County Board ratification.

Kimberly A. Olkowski
Vilas County Clerk


OBITUARIES

William “Bill” Wheeler



William “Bill” Wheeler of St. Germain died Wednesday Feb. 12, 2025. He was 90.
Mr. Wheeler was born in New Berlin, IL on Aug. 4, 1934, to Samuel and Arie Wheeler.
Mr. Wheeler owned and operated Wheeler Painting and Decorating.
Mr. Wheeler was an avid hunter and loved fishing and biking. Bill was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Boulder Junction and was a lifetime member of the Abe Lincoln Gun Club.
He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Karen; nieces, nephews as well as other family and friends.
Services will be held at a later date.
Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home in Eagle River is serving the family.

Edward “Eddie” Radant




Edward “Eddie” Radant, age 76 of Sayner, WI passed away on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025, at his residence with family by his side.
Eddie was born on Aug. 30, 1948, in Milwaukee, WI the son of Alfred and Grace (nee Ellerman) Radant.
Eddie married Carolyn Lubbert on Nov. 3, 1979.
Eddie owned and operated Hustle Inn in St. Lawrence, WI for almost 30 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing, and playing pool.
He is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Carolyn; children Greg (Rachel), Jeff (Kristyn); grandchildren, Jordan and Gemma. Further survived by his sister Marlene Boettcher; his sister and brother in laws Jerry (Vicki) Lubbert, Tom (Cheryl) Currer; and by his nephew Bruce Scheerer who helped Eddie for years at the bar. Also survived by many other relatives and close friends.
Eddie was preceded in death by his parents, Alfred (Grace) Radant; his Brother, Terry Radant; his Father and Mother in law Roy (Lucille) Lubbert; and brother-in-law Glenn Lubbert.
Celebration of Life gathering will take place on Saturday, March 1st at Weber’s Wildlife Bar in Sayner, WI from 2:00 -5:00 pm. For our southern family and friends, we will be hosting another Celebration of Life gathering at Jug’s Hitching Post Saloon & Grill 5781 Main St. Kohlsville, WI at a later date.
In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Sayner Community Church or the Plum Lake Ambulance.
Online condolences may be shared at nimgsgernfuneral.com. Nimgsgern Funeral & Cremation Services is serving the family.
PAID OBITUARY

www.vcnewsreview.com

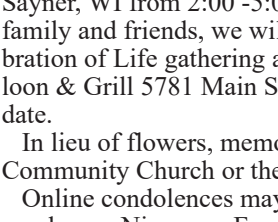
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Edward “Eddie” Radant

PAID OBITUARY



Request for Proposals – Road Work

The Town of Washington will accept sealed bids/ proposals for road work in 2025. The project is for .94 miles for culvert and asphalt work and includes pulverizing and regrading.
For road specifications, please contact the Town Shop at 715-477-2024; for additional information, contact the Town Chairman, Jim Egan at 715-479-2074.
Sealed bids/proposals must be in the hands of the Town Clerk no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, March 3, 2025. Bids will be opened at the March Board Meeting, scheduled for March 3, 2025.
The Town of Washington reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to accept the proposal deemed most advantageous to the Town.
Nancy Sobralski, Town Clerk
Town of Washington
2301 Town Hall Rd
Eagle River, WI 54521
715-479-8886

Legals
FROM PAGE 5

Notice To Creditors 7735

VILAS COUNTY
(Three weeks 2/12-2/26/25)
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY
-PROBATE-
[X] Amended
Order and Notice of Hearing Petition
On Summary Assignment
(Formal Administration)
Case No. 2025PR03
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
BARRY K. JOHNSON
A Petition for Summary Assignment
was filed.
THE COURT FINDS:
1. The decedent, with date of birth
09-12-1962 and date of death 03-03-
2024 was domiciled in VILAS County,
State of WISCONSIN with an address
of 1712 MAPLE LANE, ARBOR VITAE,
WI. 545568.
2. Creditors may bring an action by
A. filing a claim in the VILAS
County Circuit Court before the
property is assigned.
B. bringing a suit against the as-
signee(s) after the property is as-
signed. The right of a creditor to
bring an action
terminates three months after the
date of publication of this order.
3. The property may be assigned to
the creditors and interested persons
after 30 days have elapsed following
the first publication of this notice.
THE COURT ORDERS:
1. The Petition be heard and heir-
ship be determined at the VILAS
County Courthouse, EAGLE RIVER,
Wisconsin, Room Branch II, before
Hon. Daniel L. Overbey, Court Offi-
cial, on March 20, 2025, at 8:30 A.M.
2. Publication of this notice is no-
tice to any persons whose names or
addresses are unknown.
/s/ Daniel L. Overbey
Circuit Court Judge, Branch 2
February 4, 2025

John E Danner
P O Box 1148
Minocqua WI 54548
715-356-9591
Bar Number
1005567
2734

WNAXLP

Ordinances 7740

TOWN OF LINCOLN

(One week 2/19/25)
Ordinance No. 2025-01
An Ordinance to Prohibit
Commercial Open Burning
in the Town of Lincoln
Section 1. Title This ordinance shall
be known and may be cited as the
"Commercial Open Burning Ban Ordi-
nance." Section 2. Purpose The pur-
pose of this ordinance is to protect
public health, safety, and the environ-
ment by prohibiting commercial open
burning within the Town of Lincoln,
reducing air pollution, minimizing fire
hazards, and promoting sustainable
waste management practices.
Section 3. Definitions For the
purposes of this ordinance, the fol-
lowing definitions shall apply:
(a) Commercial Open Burning: The
burning of any material as part of a
business, trade, industry, or any
activity for financial gain, including
but not limited to waste disposal,
land clearing, and construction-
related burning.
(b) Town: The Town of Lincoln.
(c) Person: Any individual, corpora-
tion, partnership, association, firm,
governmental entity, or other legal
entity.
(d) Open Fire: Any fire that is not
contained in an enclosed or ap-
proved device such as a furnace, in-
cinerator, or other equipment de-
signed for combustion. (e) Prohibited
Materials: Any materials deemed ille-
gal to burn under state or federal law,
including but not limited to plastics,
rubber, treated wood, garbage, chemi-
cals, and hazardous materials.
Section 4. Prohibition (a) No person
shall engage in or permit commercial
open burning within the Town of Lin-
coln. (b) The prohibition shall include
the burning of construction debris,
industrial waste, yard waste from
commercial operations, and any
other materials related to commercial
activities. (c) This prohibition does
not apply to residential open burning
conducted in accordance with Town
and state regulations.
Section 5. Exceptions The following
activities are exempt from the provi-
sions of this ordinance: (a) Fires set
by or under the supervision of a pub-
lic official or fire department for the
purpose of fire prevention training,
firefighting instruction, or the mitiga-
tion of fire hazards. (b) Agricultural
open burning, provided it complies
with all applicable state and federal
laws and regulations. (c) Burning for
the purpose of energy production in
facilities approved and regulated by
the appropriate authorities.
Section 6. Permits and Enforcement
(a) No permits for commercial open
burning shall be issued by the Town
of Lincoln. (b) The Town's Code En-
forcement Officer or other designated
official shall enforce this ordinance.
(c) Violators of this ordinance shall
be subject to penalties as outlined in
Section 7.
Section 7. Penalties (a) Any person
found in violation of this ordinance
shall be subject to a fine of not less
than \$500 and not more than \$5,000
for each offense. (b) Each day a viola-
tion occurs or continues shall consti-
tute a separate offense. (c) In addi-
tion to fines, violators may be re-
quired to reimburse the Town for any
costs incurred as a result of enforce-
ment, including but not limited to the
cost of fire suppression.
Section 8. Appeals (a) Any person
aggrieved by a decision made under
this ordinance may appeal in writing
to the Town Board within 30 days of
the decision. (b) The Town Board
shall hear and decide appeals within
60 days of receipt.
Section 9. Severability If any sec-
tion, subsection, sentence, clause, or
phrase of this ordinance is for any
reason held to be invalid or unconsti-
tutional, such decision shall not af-
fect the validity of the remaining por-
tions of this ordinance.
Section 10. Effective Date This ordi-
nance shall take effect upon its pas-
sage and publication as provided by
law.
Adopted by the Town Board of the
Town of Lincoln on February 11, 2025

Ordinances 7740

Signed:
Bill Hassey, Chairman
Bruce Richter, Supervisor
Ken Fox, Supervisor
Kimberly Simac, Supervisor
Bill Marshall, Supervisor
Attest:
Shelly Sauvola, Clerk
2740

WNAXLP

Minutes 7725

CITY OF EAGLE RIVER

(One week 2/19/25)
City Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025
A meeting of the Common Council
of the City of Eagle River was called
to order at 6:00PM by Mayor Jeff Hys-
lop.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by
Dan Dumas and was recited by all
present.
Roll Call: Jerry Burkett, Dan Dumas,
Kim Schaffer, Vic Washelesky pre-
sent via Zoom. Also in attendance:
Robin Ginner, Becky Bolte, Cory
Hoffmann, Chris Dobbs via Zoom,
Adam Ross, and Mike Adamovich.
Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to
approve the agenda in any order.
Carried, all.
Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Burkett to
approve the minutes of the 1/14/25
Finance Committee and Common
Council meetings and minutes of the
1/17/25 Special City Council meeting.
Carried, all.
a) Street Closing/temporary sign/am-
plication/display of goods permits:
Eagle River Revitalization Program:
Eagle River Farmers Market – May 7 –
October 8, 2025, Wednesdays and
Sundays 8:30AM – 1PM; Direct Sell-
ers permit fee waiver, sandwich
boards, porta-potty, busking, and
food trucks.
Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to
approve Eagle River Revitalization
Farmers market permit with waiver of
direct sellers permit fee waiver, as
presented. Carried on a roll call vote,
all.
b) Operator's licenses: Regular:
Melissa Gauthier, Hillary Marsh, Guy
Mickelson, Rebecca Nyman
Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to
approve all regular operators li-
censes as presented. Carried, all.
Pending: Jill Delcorps Motion by
Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to approve
all pending operators licenses upon
approval from the Eagle River Police
Chief/Assistant Police Chief. Carried,
all.
c) MSA Monthly Updates: Motion by
Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve
the 2025 MSA Professional Services
Agreement as presented. Carried on a
roll call vote, all.
d) Silver Lake Beach Discussion on
closing Silver Lake Beach to all
during the construction of the road
and halting of swim lessons due to
the construction of the road.
Discussion. Beach to remain open
until road construction begins and
swim lessons will be offered for the
2025 summer season. Motion by
Washelesky, 2nd by Dumas to start
the Silver Lake Road project August
11, 2025, closing Silver Lake Beach
during road construction. Carried on a
roll call vote, all.
e) RW Baird – Debt Management and
Procurement policies: Motion by
Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve
the City of Eagle River Procurement
Policy as presented. Carried on a roll
call vote, all.
Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to
approve changes to the July 2024
Debt Management Policy, moving Fi-
nancial Advisor and supporting para-
graphs verbiage from the Debt Man-
agement Policy to the Procurement
Policy. Carried on a roll call vote, all.
Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to
approve BAIRD General Consulting
Services Agreement for up to 40
hours at \$200/hour, with Mayor
approval required for an additional 40
hours at \$200/hour.
Carried on a roll call vote, all.
f) Report from Eagle River Historical
Society Executive Director, Vito
Bortolotti: Executive Director Vito
Bortolotti presented and supplied a
written report of Historical Society
programs, work performed in the
community, and collaborations over
the course of 2024. The director was
thanked by all for a job well done.
Agenda order was changed,
addressing Item m) next.
m) Eagle River Fire Department –
Fire extinguisher inspection agree-
ment for City buildings: Motion by
Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to enter into
agreement with the Eagle River Fire
Department for fire extinguisher
inspections for City buildings.
Carried on a roll call vote, all.
g) Proposal by the Landover
ATV/UTV Club to request an ordi-
nance change designating All-Terrain
Vehicle (ATV) and Utility-Terrain Ve-
hicle (UTV) Routes on Wisconsin State
Highway 70 from the west City limits
to Forrest Street/W Division Street
and Sundstein Road. Route to origi-
nate in the Town of Lincoln at High-
way H/State Hwy 70. Motion by
Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to deny the
Landover ATV/UTV Club request for
an ordinance change designating
ATV/UTV routes on WI State Hwy 70
from the west city limits to Forrest
St/W Division and Sundstein Rd.
Carried on a roll call vote, all.
h) Proposal for updates to
SnoEagles lease of DPW buildings
for groomer and equipment storage.
Mayor Hyslop recommended that if
Council wishes to proceed with
proposed restricted sale to
SnoEagles club, proposal should be
brought to the Planning Commission
first.
i) Eagle River Pickleball Association
request for court construction behind
City Hall: Motion by Burkett, 2nd by
Dumas to refer the Pickleball
Association proposal to the Planning
Commission with a public hearing to
discuss the future and fate of the
park. Carried on a roll vote, all.

Minutes 7725

j) Planning Commission Recommen-
dations:
Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Schaffer to
accept Planning Commission recom-
mendation and approve conditional
use permit to Premier Eagle River,
LLC for Phase II of a their develop-
ment: building an additional four
buildings in the multi-family housing
complex consisting of up to 48 units
total, pursuant to Zoning Section 106-
393 Uses permitted by conditional
grant: (6) Multi-family housing in ex-
cess of two units on Parcel #221-
1060-05, described as NW-NE, Sect.
34, T40N, R10E, PRT NW NE EXC
507081.547546.593411. The parcel is
located at the northeast corner of US
Highway 45/East Pine Street, Wall
Street, and State Highway 70 East.
Carried on a roll call vote, Ayes:
Dumas, Schaffer, Washelesky Nays:
None Abstaining: Burkett
Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Burkett to
accept the Planning Commission re-
commendation, granting approval to
sell Parcel #221.995 at the southeast
corner of N. Indiana Street and E.
Hospital Road. .82 acres, zoned Of-
fice Residential, and described as
SE-NW, Sect. 28, T40N, R10E, PRT SE
NW EXC 430-5 with the following con-
ditions: The parcel must be devel-
oped with 12 months of purchase,
asking price of \$60,000, and deed re-
striction requiring exterior of building
to be complete within one year of
starting construction. Carried on a
roll vote, all.
k) Golf Course: Ginner reported that
the kitchen floor is being raised at
the golf course restaurant.
l) Department of Public Works:
Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to
approve the listing of the no longer
used 2008 Chevy Silverado pick-up
truck on the Wisconsin Surplus
Auction site. Carried on a roll call
vote, all.
n) Approve payment of the bills for
the City and the Golf Course: Motion
by Schaffer, 2nd Burkett to approve
payment of the bills for the city and
the golf course as recommended by
the Finance Committee. Carried on a
roll call vote, all.
o) Treasurer's monthly update:
Hoffmann provided budget reports
for December 31, 2024 and January
31, 2025 along with a written report.
Hoffmann stated that the golf course
will need to be fronted money from
the City to cover expenses until
Spring as club house building repairs
have depleted their balance. Ginner
reported that golf course pass fees
will begin to come in soon.
p) Police chief monthly update on
departmental activities: Chief Dobbs
provided a written 2024 Annual
Activities Report along with monthly
reports from Assistant Chief Ross
and Chief Dobbs.
q) Administrator's monthly update
on activities of all departments: Gin-
ner provided a written report. Motion
by Dumas, 2nd by Washelesky to ap-
prove the purchase of tablets for
Council/Mayor/City Staff use with
subsequent IT requirements, to re-
place paper Council packet, no to
exceed \$2700 for hardware and \$700
annually for software. Carried on a
roll call vote, all.
r) Clerk's monthly update: Bolte
provided a written report.
Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to
Adjourn to Closed Session at 8:27PM
according to Wisconsin State Statute
1985 (1):
Subsection (f) Considering financial,
medical, social or personal histories
or disciplinary data of specific
persons, preliminary consideration of
specific personnel problems or the
investigation of charges against
specific persons except where par.
(b) applies which, if discussed in
public, would be likely to have a
substantial adverse effect upon the
reputation of any person referred to
in such histories or data, or involved
in such problems or investigations.
i. Decision on reinstatement of golf
course annual pass privileges
Subsection (c) Deliberating or negoti-
ating the purchasing of public prop-
erties, the investing of public funds,
or conducting other specified public
business, whenever competitive or
bargaining reasons require a closed
session.
ii. Decision on status of offers
submitted to the City for the
purchase of Parcel #221-457 on the
west side of Bond Street south of the
T-Docks boat landing, zoned single-
family residential and described as
SECT. 28, T40N, R10E, PRT OUTLOT
D LAKE PARK ADDN.
AND Subsection (c) Considering em-
ployment, promotion, compensation,
or performance evaluation data of
any public employee over which the
governmental body has jurisdiction
or exercises responsibility; and
iii. Succession Planning for the
Eagle River Golf Course Golf Pro
Position.
iv. Administrative Employment
Agreements & Amendments for Ad-
ministrators, Clerk and Treasurer
Motion carried on a roll call vote, all.
Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to
Reconvene in Open Session at
9:15pm according to Wisconsin State
Statute 19.85 (2) with possible action
on closed session agenda items.
Carried on a roll call vote, all.
Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Burkett
to approve presented administrative
employment agreement for
Clerk Bolte as presented. Carried on
a roll call vote, all.
Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas
to approve presented administrative
employment agreement for Treasurer
Hoffmann as presented. Carried on a
roll call vote, all.
Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Burkett to
approve presented administrative
employment agreement amendment
for City Administrator Ginner as pre-
sented. Carried on a roll call vote, all.
No other action taken.
Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to
adjourn at 9:20PM. Carried, all.
/s/ Becky Bolte - Clerk

2738

WNAXLP

NEWS



CAPITOL VISIT — Vilas County Clerk of Courts Beth Soltow traveled to Madison recently to discuss the county's legislative priorities for the upcoming congressional session with Rep. Rob Swearingen. —Contributed Photo

Vilas County court report

Eagle River woman pleads not guilty to multiple drug possession charges

Brooke Bennett, 32, of Eagle River, pleaded not guilty to one felony count of narcotic drug possession and one felony bail-jumping charge at an arraignment hearing last week. Bennett also pleaded not guilty in another drug-related case and had bond conditions changed. A judicial pretrial was scheduled for April 8, at 10 a.m.

Shawn Rock, 34, of Hatley, failed to appear for his initial appearance on one felony charge of possession of amphetamine/LSD/ Psilocin. Judge Daniel Overbey authorized a body-only bench warrant for the nonappearance.

Jeffery Bauman, 29, of Lac du Flambeau, appeared for two separate cases involving multiple felony charges. In one case, with one felony charge of fleeing/eluding an officer, and two bail-jumping charges, a cash bond was

forfeited for \$2,500 after the state motioned for the forfeiture. A \$300 cash bond was also forfeited in a case involving one felony charge of knowingly trafficking food stamps (>\$100-\$5,000) and one felony bail-jumping charge.

A judicial pretrial was set for March 18, at 9:15 a.m.

Rylee Kresl, 34, of Conover, pleaded guilty to one felony count of second-degree reckless endangering safety with the use of a dangerous weapon, and a party to a crime modifier, at a plea hearing last week. A sentencing hearing was set for April 21 at 3 p.m.

Jordan Kresl, 34, of Conover, pleaded no contest and was found guilty on one felony charge of 2nd-degree recklessly endangering safety, at a plea hearing. There was a party to a crime and use of a dangerous weapon modifier attached to the

charge. The court denied the motion to remove the GPS monitor and denied a request for contact with the co-defendant.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for April 21, at 1:30 p.m.

Ezekiel Charette, 34, of Washburn, was bound over for arraignment on one felony charge of possession with intent of narcotics and one felony bail jumping charge.

Not guilty pleas were entered and a judicial pretrial was set for March 18, at 9:30 a.m.

Wade Chapman, 43, of Lac du Flambeau, pleaded guilty and was found guilty of three felony charges involving battery to emergency care providers, methamphetamine possession, and criminal damage to property. He had all sentences stayed for two years of probation with conditions. He will also pay \$2,551.60 in restitution and \$518 in court costs.

POLICE REPORT

Vilas County Sheriff

The Vilas County Sheriff's Office reported a total of 217 incidents last week, which included 16 911 hang-ups, two abandoned vehicles, five car versus deer accidents, one hit-and-run accident, one personal injury, 14 traffic accidents, six property damage accidents, three agency assists, six burglary alarms, five ambulance requests, two dog bites, one attempt to locate, one ATV complaint, one battery to prisoner, six conditions of bond, one child abuse report, seven citizen assists, one property damage report, one death investigation, one disorderly conduct, five deer in roadway, three disturbances, one domestic violence complaint, two drug problems, 13 sick leaves, one escort, one family

trouble, one structure fire, three vehicle fires, one firearm denial notice, 10 frauds, one internet fraud, two harassments, eight warrant confirmations, two dumpings, 18 information reports, one jail medical incident, one lifeline alarm, one DOC offender release, one protection order, one probation violation, five vacation checks, one search warrant, two lewd and lascivious reports, nine snowmobile accidents, one snowmobile violation, three subject removals, one suicide attempt, four suspicious circumstances, one theft, one threat, seven hazards, five traffic violations, one transport warrant, two property trespasses, four utility problems and 12 welfare checks.

A total of 18 people were taken into custody and booked into the Vilas

County Jail.

Eagle River Police

The Eagle River Police Department failed to provide an incident report before the press deadline for this week's publication.

Three Lakes Police

The Three Lakes Police Department reported a total of 49 incidents last week, which included three accidents, three citizen assists, one motorist assist, 22 business checks, one civil matter, one disturbance, two extra patrols, one hazard, one welfare check, one information report, one narcotics violation, one parking violation, four recreational incidents, one service report, one shoplifting, one speed board, one suspicious circumstance and three traffic stops.

CLASSIFIEDS

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 7524

WANTED TO BUY: Military items
from World War II or older, U.S.,
German, Japanese; such as hel-
mets, headgear, edged weapons,
pistols, rifles, military collections,
etc. All calls welcome, if no answer
leave message with area code,
920-627-5333.

Restaurant and Hotel 7150

THE HILLSIDE TAVERN: in
Sayner is hiring kitchen employ-
ees to enhance their team. Any-
one welcome to apply, must be
17+. Will train motivated individu-
als. Clean and well maintained
kitchen. Team oriented staff. Com-
petitive pay on experience.
Email info@hillsidetaverngrill.com

Miscellaneous Services 7374

SERVICES: Offering housekeep-
ing and outdoor maintenance. Also
available for small handyman jobs.
References available Call Jon @
920-418-0651.

CLASSIFIEDS
Call 715.479.4421
to place
your ad today.



Sports



Rebel Jays sophomore Reegan Roy, top, defeated Tucker Keberlein by pin in the WIAA regional championship match in the 106-pound weight class last Saturday in Crandon. —Photos By William Zuelke

Six Rebel Jays advance to sectionals

BY WILLIAM ZUELKE
CORRESPONDENT

The Wabeno-Laona-Three Lakes varsity wrestling team had a successful WIAA Division 3 Regional Championship meet last week in Crandon where six wrestlers earned a ticket to the sectional tournament to be held later this week at Valders High School. This is the highest number of sectional qualifiers since the inception of the co-op between the high schools of Wabeno, Laona and Three Lakes.

This will also mark back-to-back visits to the sectional championship for top-rated sophomore wrestler, Reegan Roy, who at 106 pounds went on to be a state qualifier in his freshman year. He will be joined by teammates Hayden Demerath (150 lbs.) and Jayse Demerath (126 lbs.), who both made the cut last year. Rounding out the squad are first-time sectional qualifiers Max Clark, Ryker Schingeck, and Brody Hoffman, who will wrestle in the 113, 120, and 175-pound weight classes in Valders.

For the balance of the varsity wrestlers, the expectation is for most to return to a team that earned praise from the coaching staff.

“This season has been great so far,” according to head coach Seth Senter. “Coach (Colin) Schubert and I still have goals set for this year, but the skill, character and chemistry of this team has been at high levels. Sending six of our kids to sectionals is an honor, a testament to their individual talents, and a collective commitment



Brody Hoffman, right, looks to make a move during a regional match last week. He was one of six Rebel Jays to advance to the WIAA D3 sectional match this week.

between the wrestlers and the coaches to succeed.”

Roy is the team leader of the sectional qualifiers, with 49 match victories against only two losses this season. He finished the regional meet placing first with a 3-0 record, including two pins over Karter Stetz of Rosholt and Tucker Keberlein of Shiocton in his last two matches. Schingeck also placed first and went 3-0 in the tournament, with two pins over Owen Schuelke of Manawa and Parker Boomsma of Lena.

Clark placed second while (Jayse) Demerath and Hoffman each placed third in their respective weight classes. For the second year in a row, (Hayden) Demerath earned his spot by placing fourth. The Rebel Jays also collected 139.5 points as they finished fifth as a team in a field of 13 regional high schools. This was a 50-point improvement compared to the same tournament last season.

Senter called out the specific efforts of (Hayden) Demerath and Hoffman after the tournament.

“Hayden had a short season following a serious injury. Wrestling is a tough sport and it will always expose an injury weakness on the mat. This is a tough kid, and it has been impressive to see him rebound and succeed,” he said. “A lot of wrestlers would have folded, but today he showed a lot of grit and determination.”

“Brody also showed a lot of grit today as he fell short to a top contender, Cruz Palubicki (of Crandon), twice in the last couple of weeks in matches that could have gone either way,” explained Senter. “Brody is also a top contender, and we picked up on some technical adjustments to work on this week, which could serve him well as the two will likely meet again in a sectional match.”

Highlights for Rebel

Jays not advancing included pin victories for Sawyer Jameson and Nolan Milham, along with a sixth-place placement with a 2-2 record in the regionals for Cameron Tilton; while in a separate girls regional competition last Friday, Kyra Beaber lost a quarterfinal match in Wausau against Rycene Yang of Wausau West, ending her season.

“All of these kids are talented and will hopefully return next season to build on the solid wrestling experiences of this year,” Senter said of this group.

The WIAA Division 3 Sectional Championship tournament will take place this Saturday, February 22, at Valders High School. First matches are scheduled to take place at 10 a.m. The top three wrestlers in each weight class will advance to the state championship competition the following week in Madison.



Sideline Scoop

BY JACOB HEID

Wisconsin currently sits as 3-seed

Badger basketball fans found out during the Wisconsin versus No. 7-ranked Purdue game on CBS this past weekend that No. 16-ranked Wisconsin was named a current 3-seed and the 11th overall seed in the top-16 seed reveal for the upcoming March Madness Tournament. In addition, Wisconsin left Mackey Arena in West Lafayette Saturday with a 94-84 win to add to its already strong resumé this season.

It’s easy to say, but it’s definitely a true statement that this Wisconsin team is the best that fans have seen since the 2015 national runner-up team.

Wisconsin sits at 20-5 overall and 10-4 inside the Big Ten Conference, just a half-game behind Purdue, a full game behind second-place Michigan State, and a 1.5 behind league-leading Michigan. The top half of the conference remains tight, including seventh-place Illinois, just two games behind the Badgers. The two squads played each other in a big conference game this past Tuesday at the Kohl Center.

The season Wisconsin is having comes down to the help of the transfer portal after AJ Storr left for Kansas after the conclusion of last season. Sixth-year transfer John Tonje came to Wisconsin after one season with Missouri last year and four previous years at Colorado State. The impact Tonje has had on the team is a key talking point. He can flat-out shoot the basketball, and, on top of it, can create his own offense which filled the shoes of Storr. Tonje leads Wisconsin in scoring at 19 points per contest and is shooting at a 47% clip this season. He is also nearly 41% from the 3-point line.

John Blackwell is in his second season under Greg Gard and has made a massive sophomore jump as a starter after getting run time off the bench as a freshman. He is one of many shot-creators on the perimeter for the Badgers, which is what makes this team so scary. He is averaging 15 points per game and is also shooting 47% from the floor. Max Klesmit, Nolan Winter and Steven Crowl all round out the balanced offensive attack at roughly 10 points per game each for the three of them.

Tournament games almost always come down to the free throw line, which is something Wisconsin is successful at. It leads the country in team free throw percentage at nearly 84%.

After last year’s first-round exit, Wisconsin is primed for a second-weekend run this year or better in my opinion. With the top-quality wins already this season, they’ve played a consistent brand of basketball for the whole year. The Badgers will now look to try and lock up a top-four seed in the conference for a double-bye in the Big Ten Tournament in early March.

Wisconsin hosted Illinois this past Tuesday, before bringing Oregon to town this Saturday, Feb. 22, at 11 a.m. The Badgers also have a matchup in East Lansing against Michigan State in a crucial BIG game on Sunday, March 2.

Three Lakes-Phelps girls split NLC, noncon contests

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

It was a mixed week of results for the Three Lakes-Phelps girls basketball team as they held a 24-23 halftime lead against Northern Lakes Conference foe Crandon Feb. 11, but lost 56-40. The Lady Jays finished the week with a 47-36 win Feb. 13 at Mellen. Shots came pretty easy for the Lady Jays in the first half as they clung to an early lead at home against the Cardinals.

Defense turned into offense as junior Kailyn Fogerty was off to the races and converted on the fast break to take an early 4-1 lead. Junior Haylee Barnekow extended that lead to 9-3 later after a 3-pointer. Crandon made its first push about halfway through the first half to make it an 11-11 game with 7:30 to go.

The Cardinals and Jays went toe-to-toe for the remainder of the half which ended in a one-point advantage for the Jays at the break.

Lily Palubicki scored 17 of the 23 first-half points for Crandon as she was dominant in the game and

finished with 28 points.

“She had one of the best games I’ve seen her play against us,” said TLP head coach Rich Javenkoski about the performance of the Crandon senior.

Barnekow dialed up another triple and a fast-break bucket to keep the TLP offense warm early into the second half to hold a 32-26 advantage. The offense went quiet from there and Crandon’s offense exploded in the last 15 minutes of the game.

“We played one of the best games of the year for most of the game, but the game turned and we couldn’t finish,” stated Javenkoski. “They started pressing us and we committed a few turnovers.”

The Cardinals ended the game on a 30-8 run which led to the 56-40 Lady Jays loss.

Barnekow and Ayla Connor each had eight points, while Libby Eppler finished with seven points.

TLP hit the road later in the week for a nonconference game at Mellen, where TLP battled in the first half after a slow start, and it was a 16-14

To CONTESTS Pg. 9

Jays end four-game skid with NLC win at Florence

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

The Three Lakes boys basketball team returned to the win column last week after taking a Northern Lakes Conference showdown at Florence, 56-43, on Feb. 13. The Jays also fell in a 62-39 nonconference game against Prentice in Three Lakes earlier in the week.

“It was nice to finally get a win. It has been a long stretch with us playing extremely difficult teams, where we have been competing in almost all of those games, but just can’t get a win, and we finally did at Florence last week,” said Three Lakes coach George Lurvey.

Three Lakes got a balanced scoring attack in the Bobcats win, with three

players with 10 or more points.

The Jays had a loose rotation, allowing for most of the kids to play in the game, and they pressed for the entire 36 minutes.

“We were able to play a lot of players and press the entire game, forcing Florence into 18 turnovers. Our shooting percentage was still not great, but I think we are improving,” Lurvey said about the game plan.

Three Lakes shot 36% from the floor and 20% from behind the 3-point line in the win.

Freshman Easton Lurvey and senior Peyton Pitlik led the Jays with 14 points apiece, while Owen Liebscher finished the game with 10.

Lurvey grabbed 15 boards, while Pitlik finished

with eight rebounds.

In what was probably the toughest game of the season according to (George) Lurvey, the offense struggled to get anything going as the game went along. Prentice also outrebounded Three Lakes 39-16.

Three Lakes got out to a 9-2 lead early before Prentice took the lead back at 10-9 with 13 minutes left in the first half.

Just a few minutes later it was a 17-12 Prentice lead as it kept a 30-22 lead early in the second half. Levi Lurvey hit a pair of triples to get within five and 13 points at different times of the second half, but Prentice’s offense became too much.

With shooting just 14-44 from the floor, the Jays’ defense kept them in the

game, but couldn’t hang on with the sub-par shooting.

“We managed to contain their two best players in the first half with pretty solid defense, and then they wore us down in the second half,” explained Lurvey. “No matter how good of defense we played, it would have been difficult to get a win by scoring only 39 points.”

Pitlik finished the night with 14 points and six rebounds.

Three Lakes continued the drive to the end of the regular season with a back-to-back against Phillips and Elcho this past Monday and Tuesday. It will end the week with a trip to Lena Friday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m.

The boys playoff seedings will be released this Sunday, Feb. 23, for the WIAA boys basketball playoffs.

SPORTS

Pines takes third place in GNC tourney; ends regular season

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northland Pines boys hockey team took home third place in the Great Northern Conference tournament after beating Lakeland Union Saturday 4-0 in the third-place game at Rhinelander Ice Arena.

The team also closed its last home game against Pacelli Feb. 13 in a 4-0 win in Eagle River.

Pines got bumped to the third-place game of the GNC tournament after being shut out 6-0 against front-runner Tomahawk earlier in the week on Feb. 11.

Lakeland edged out Northland Pines 3-1 the first and only time the two teams met early in the season, but the Eagles looked and got revenge in conference tournament play.

“It feels good to finish off the regular season on a high note. The boys did their jobs and worked hard,” said Pines hockey coach Zach Otto.

Pines came out focused and ready to go in the opening period, as it blitzed the T-Birds early in the game with a trio of goals.

Points and goals leader, junior Josh Graves, got the Eagles on the board first, with an unassisted goal at 1:53 of the first.

Jazek Jantzen followed

that up with a goal for himself less than a minute later to quickly double up Lakeland.

Graves worked with the puck again and hit the twine for a second time to put the Eagles up 3-0 at the 6:03 mark of the period.

“We came out in the first period ready to go. We put in 3 goals 6-7 minutes into the 1st period,” stated Otto.

The Eagles played as a unit in the defensive zone, contributing to Pines completing the shutout.

“Lakeland had a few good pressures throughout the rest of the game, but we played tight in the D-zone and got through it,” explained Otto.

Cooper Saari wrapped up the scoring early in the second period at 1:40, and the defense took it from there with a four-goal advantage.

Goaltender Evrett Leslie continued his strong week between the Pipes by stopping all 13 T-Bird shots he faced.

Pacelli win

The Eagles also played Stevens Point Pacelli at home a few days prior and avenged a 6-0 loss to Tomahawk on Feb. 11 with a 5-0 win over the Cardinals. This was the first of two shutouts for the Eagles last week. The opening period started with an even-strength goal by



The Northland Pines boys hockey team heads into the playoffs after finishing the regular season with two shut out wins against Stevens Point Pacelli and Lakeland.

Michael Schmidt with 33 seconds left. Two goals by Graves and one by Jantzen put the Eagles in firm control, 4-0, heading into the final period. Pacelli wasn't able to get anything past Leslie in this one, as the Eagles also controlled the defensive zone.

Leslie finished the shutout with 13 saves.

“We’ve shut out our last two opponents and were able to put points up on the board, which is great for the team’s confidence going into playoffs,” stated Otto.

The Eagles will now look ahead to the WIAA boys D2 playoffs after finishing the regular season 12-12 overall. The No. 4-seeded Eagles will host Antigo in the opening round of the playoffs this Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m.



Northland Pines had a prime scoring chance in the opening period of the 5-0 win against Pacelli on Feb. 13. Pacelli goaltender Isaac Andrich extended his pad to deny the chance.

Eagles lose to Medford, Mosinee as offense gets off to slow start

BY GARY RIDDERBUSCH
CORRESPONDENT

The Northland Pines boys basketball team lost a pair of Great Northern Conference (GNC) games to two of the top three teams in the league last week, falling to Medford 47-29 and Mosinee 69-37.

The two losses dropped the Eagles record to 5-6 in the GNC, putting them in fourth place behind Rhinelander and Medford at 8-2, and Mosinee at 7-2.

Playing at home against Medford last Friday night, the Eagles started slow and the Raiders built a 17-4 lead with 7:30 to play in the half.

“We got ourselves into a hole early to start the game, but our defense really picked up,” said Pines coach Terry Klemett.

The Eagles fought back to cut the deficit to 27-19 at the half and trailed 33-23 with 8:46 remaining in the game.

“After the break, we had many chances to really challenge them, and we could not make a basket,” said Klemett.

“We had many open looks that just didn’t drop.”

The Raiders outscored Pines 9-4 in the final five minutes to get the victory.

The Eagles made 8 of 16 field goals for 50%, but shot just 4 of 26 from 3-point range for 15%. Mylo Albrecht led Pines with nine points, followed by Jack Albrecht with seven points. A.J. Muench had eight rebounds, while Cody Vojta had six boards.

“I was pleased with how hard we played,” said Klemett. “If you would have told me we’re going to hold a good Medford team to 48 points, I would have bet we would have won.”

Last Tuesday, the Eagles traveled to Mosinee after beating the

Indians in the fieldhouse back on Jan. 7.

Like the Medford game, the Eagles got off to another slow start against Mosinee, trailing 12-0 early, but Pines was able to cut the Mosinee lead to 15-9 with 7:23 to play in the half. Mosinee went on a 13-6 run to lead 28-15 with 1:47 in the half. The Eagles trailed 30-19 at the intermission.

Mosinee built a 49-31 lead in the second half and cruised to the 69-37 victory as Pines committed 24 turnovers. Pines was 8 of 25 on field goals and 4 of 14 on 3-pointers, taking just 39 shots in the game.

“I thought we battled hard for the most part,” said Klemett. “We were in the game, but we turned the ball over way too many times to give us a chance.”

Pines’ 6-foot-6 sophomore Ethan Miller had 14 points and six rebounds in the game. Mylo Albrecht and Jack Albrecht each had nine points, but no other players had more than three points as the Eagles offense struggled.

“It was a tough week, but a good challenge for us as we gear up for the playoffs,” said Klemett.

Pines, 5-6 in the GNC and 11-10 overall, was scheduled to host Crandon in a nonconference game on Tuesday of this week and will host Antigo (3-6 in the GNC) on Senior Night this Friday, Feb. 21, in the final game of the regular season. Both games start at 7:15 p.m. A win against Antigo this Friday would give the Eagles a .500 record in the GNC and a fourth-place finish ahead of Lakeland, Antigo and Tomahawk.

The WIAA playoffs are just around the corner and the playoff brackets for boys basketball will be released Sunday, Feb. 23.



The Northland Pines Eagles dropped two games last week inside the Great Northern Conference. The Eagles fell 75-36 at Northland Pines High School Feb. 11 and at Medford 68-29 on Feb. 14.

Lady Eagles drop fourth straight GNC contest

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northland Pines girls basketball team had a tough week of Great Northern Conference games last week

as the Eagles fell to the two top-four teams, 75-36 at home to Mosinee Feb. 11 and 68-29 at Medford on Feb. 14.

Pines dropped to 1-10 in GNC play and 5-17 overall, but head coach Jaclyn

Halsey says the record struggles don't tell the full story about the team.

“Some may look at our team as struggling, but due to our lower shooting percentage, it’s hard for those on the outside to see the strides these girls have made. I see it every single week. We are much better on defense as a team,” said Halsey. “Our confidence in each other has grown. Girls have had individual personal growth. Our girls have built upon the chemistry they had coming into the season. I find that they play better in a read-and-react situation, rather than concrete offense sets.”

Mosinee came to Eagle River last Tuesday to try and hold on to the slight lead it has in second place of the GNC. Pines battled early defensively as it opened in a 2-3 zone, and later switched to a 1-3-1, before Mosinee started to run away with the game later in the first half.

As the first half moved along, the Indians’ length and outside shooting power started to take a toll as they

dominated the offensive and defensive glass which led to second-chance points and some 3-point shots. That made it a 30-9 lead before Pines made a bit of a run with 3-pointers by senior Vienna Klemett and junior Rynn Darr to make it a 44-20 deficit at halftime.

From there, Pines was held to just 16 points in the second half as Mosinee extended its lead.

Senior Vienna Klemett and junior Rynn Darr each finished with 10 points, while Ryley Darr had nine points and Natalie Kohn had seven.

The Medford game started with lower energy than normal, but the Eagles just trailed 15-7 with 10 minutes left in the half.

“We started off with lower energy than normal versus Medford. It took two timeouts to really get our team moving. Energy is best created on defense and then carried over on offense. Medford plays with a high post - low post combination,” stated Halsey. “Our game plan was

SPORTS

Smith has career night for Tech in league win

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

It was a night to remember for Michigan Tech redshirt freshman and former Northland Pines basketball standout Gabe Smith, who recorded a career-high 18 points in his first career start as a Husky in a 78-73 win over Saginaw Valley State Feb. 8.

Smith shot 3-of-5 from the floor and hit 1-of-2 3-pointers in 33 minutes. He also grabbed three rebounds in the win.

Michigan Tech's aggressiveness put the Huskies at the charity stripe 38 times in the game. Smith made 11 of 12 free throws to lead the team and was key to his 18 points.

In a game with 16 lead changes and nine ties, the two teams battled back and forth in the first half, which led to a 32-32 tie at the break. Smith drilled his lone 3-pointer for an early lead in the second, off an assist by teammate Marcus Tomashek, before the game remained at one possession for the first 13 minutes.

Smith later made a pair of free throws after being fouled on a dunk attempt near the seven-minute mark during a crucial 8-2 Husky run.



Gabe Smith –Photo Courtesy of Michigan Tech Athletics

“Gabe was awesome in his first career start,” said Michigan Tech head coach Josh Buettner about Smith's performance.

His career night comes a game after he had 12 points in 19 minutes in a game Feb. 6 against Wayne State University, Mich.

Michigan Tech is right in

the mix for first place in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) as the Huskies tied with Lake Superior State at 11-3 in league play as of Feb. 12 and 16-6 overall. MTU has four regular season games left before the start of the GLIAC Tournament March 5.

Pines Co-op loses regional tune-up to Union

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northland Pines girls hockey co-op lost a 9-4 game at the Wisconsin Valley Union in a regional tune-up game as the two teams face each other in a regional playoff game Thursday, Feb. 20, in Stevens Point. The Eagles' regular-season finale last Friday against the Badger Lightning was canceled due to snow throughout the state.

In a high-scoring affair, the Eagles were outshot 42-13 but tied their second-highest goal total this season with four goals, despite a troubling regular season offensively.

“we are finally scoring now, but still having trouble in the defensive zone,” said Pines head coach Jeff Stebbeds.

WVU got on the board early (2:17) in a scoring-heavy first period, before Pines junior Ava Carillo found the answer as she buried the puck just over a

minute later on one of the Eagles' five shots on net in the period.

The two teams skated to a 1-1 tie until after the midway point of the first where WVU spread the lead to two, 3-1, after goals at 9:00 and 12:14, including one on the power play.

Pines stormed back with an answer with less than two minutes on the clock before WVU put the lead back up to two, 4-2, after one period.

It was all the home team in the second period as WVU outshot Pines 15-2 in the middle frame and scored three more unanswered goals to make it a 7-2 game after two periods.

The deficit didn't deter the visiting Eagles from making one final push in the third.

Six more shots for Pines went towards the net but only two got behind WVU netminder Kylin Wright. Ruby Kasper found a powerplay tally at 11:58, almost a minute and a half into a body-checking

penalty. Bella Nowak got credited with the helper.

Carillo netted his second of the night to get back within three, 7-4, but two more late-period scores put the game out of reach.

Pines freshman goaltender Lucy Nowak got the start and played two periods with 22 saves on 29 shots faced. Junior Jayln Zadnik finished the third period with 11 saves on 13 shots faced.

“We are hoping to head into the playoffs with some momentum on our side,” noted Stebbeds. “The girls continue to work hard and hopefully we can play spoiler in the playoffs.”

Pines will face the Wisconsin Valley Union in Stevens Point for a third time this season this Thursday, Feb. 20, in the opening round of the WIAA girls hockey playoffs. Visit the Vilas County News-Review Facebook page or <https://www.vcnewsreview.com/> for a posted game story online.

Portage Lake gets the best of Falcons again

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

The Eagle River Falcons made an Upper Peninsula road trip this past weekend in more Great Lakes Hockey League (GLHL) action, which included a loss to the Portage Lake Pioneers for a second straight weekend. The weekend started Feb. 14 with a 4-0 shutout up in Calumet against the Wolverines.

Eagle River was on the second game of its back-to-back weekend road trip and got tripped up by Portage Lake again, losing an 8-5

contest.

The Falcons led 3-2 after the first and 4-2 after the second, but the Pioneers netted six goals in the third to make a furious comeback.

The team opened the weekend on a perfect Valentine's Day as the stout defense held up for all 60 minutes to allow Mike Madosh to make saves on all 23 shots that he faced to record his first shutout in his fourth start of the season. Richard Yeshe, who is tied for the league lead with six wins in net and second in average goals against, did not play.

Offensively, Todd Koritzinsky continued to accumulate points with his goal-scoring and passing ability. He finished the night scoring or assisting on three of the four goals, burying one into the back of the net. He moved his season points total to 32, which ranks fifth in the GLHL.

Jacob Robinson, Mike Otto and Lucas Otto also tallied goals during the win in Calumet.

Eagle River is back on the road this weekend for one game against the M&M Shamrocks on Saturday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m.

getting stops and running fast breaks offensively,” explained Javenkoski.

Barnekow led the charge on offense in the final 18 minutes, as she scored all 22 points in the second half.

“Barnekow had a fantastic second half. She played an amazing game,” said Javenkoski.

TLP played the inside-out game to tire out Mellen's interior, which put the Lady Jays in prime scoring positions. Junior Paige Brafford was a main contributor to getting points on the board.

“Our goal was to attack the low post, and [Paige] was

a facilitator, and she moved the ball around very well,” stated Javenkoski.

With the split, the Lady Jays moved to 7-12 overall and 0-6 inside the NLC. The Jays hosted Elcho at home this past Tuesday and travel to Elcho this Thursday, Feb. 20, at 6 p.m. The busy week will continue as the girls host parent night against Niagara Friday, Feb. 21, at 7:15 p.m. The Jays received the No. 7 seed in their section and will host No. 10-seed Rosholt in the opening round of the playoffs on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 7 p.m.

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PRESENTS

Senior Spotlight

Eliana Conrad, Northland Pines alpine skiing

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

The Senior Spotlight series will highlight the senior athletes in the area around the communities of Eagle River, Three Lakes, and Phelps. This week, Eliana Conrad, a Rhinelander/Northland Pines alpine ski team member is in the spotlight.

Conrad is new to the sport and is also a part of the Plum Ski-ters Water Ski show team and theatre at Northland Pines.

Here is more on the Pines senior:

Do you have a nickname your friends and family call you?

“Sometimes people shorten my name down to Ellie or Elles since my name is kind of long, but I don't have a specific nickname that my friends or family call me.”

When did you get into skiing and have you competed in all four years of high school?

“I actually didn't start skiing until a few years ago. I have waterskied my whole life and downhill clicked for me the first time I tried it. I used to ski with Team Z racing, but I didn't join the school's team until last year. I wish I had been able to do it earlier.”

What makes skiing a good high school sport?

“The most obvious reason is that skiing and snowboarding are incredibly fun. Also, skiing has a culture that is super cool. Even within our division and the teams we are “competing” against, there is still a sense of camaraderie. Also, skiing is a lifetime sport. You see people of all ages hitting the slopes.”

Do you play other sports in the fall or spring?

“Besides downhill skiing, I am on the Plum Ski-ters Water Ski Show Team in the summer. Besides that, I am



very involved in the theater and music program at Pines. I have been in the One-Act play and Musical every year, and this year I was able to be a student director for “Something Rotten!” which was a really cool experience.”

Who is your biggest role model in the skiing world?

“I would have to say, my coaches. They put in so much time and effort, and they inspire me to be the best skier and person I could possibly be.”

What's a pre-race tradition that you do before every meet?

“I like to do breathing exercises beforehand to ground myself in the moment, as well as take a second to meditate and envision the course, and how I am going to approach it.”

Do you have plans for after high school?

I will be attending UW-Madison in the fall and studying Chemistry as a pre-med student. I also hope to ski with the club race team that is offered through Hoofers. Even once my racing career is over, I know that skiing will remain a big part of my life. There is no place I would rather be than the mountain.”



HOME RUNS — The Three Lakes Oneida Village II dart ball team had three players hit homers in the final game of the season. Pictured from Left to right: Alex Swanson, Linda Swanson (Alex's grandmother) and Missy Zanzinger.

–Contributed Photo

Upcoming

High School Varsity Hoops Schedules

Feb. 20 - Feb. 26

Northland Pines Eagles



Boys Basketball

Fri., Feb. 21 vs Antigo - 7:15pm

Girls Basketball

Fri., Feb. 21 at Antigo - 6:45pm

Three Lakes Blue Jays



Boys Basketball

Fri., Feb. 21 at Lena - 7:00pm
Mon., Feb. 24 at Elcho - 6:00pm

Girls Basketball

Thurs., Feb. 20 at Elcho - 6:00pm
Fri., Feb. 21 vs Niagra - 7:15pm

Subject to change please check team websites

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SPORTS

Cline tabbed NAHL Midwest Star of the Week

Fourth
Windigo
player to get
recognized
this season

BY JACOB HEID
SPORTS EDITOR

After a dominating sweep of the Janesville Jets two weekends ago, Wisconsin Windigo assistant captain Zach Cline was recognized as one of the NAHL stars of the week last week. He was named Midwest Star of the Week for his three-goal, one-assist performance in the two home games.

Cline joins teammates Lucas Szyszka, Logan Nikolaus and Braydon Beahm as the four Windigo players to be honored already this season.

The Michigan native scored one goal in Friday night's 4-1 victory, while tallying two goals and one assist in a shutout win Saturday. He also finished the weekend with a +4 rating.

"Cline had a great weekend with 3 goals and 1 assist – certainly deserving of Midwest Player of the Week honors," said head



Wisconsin Windigo's Zach Cline was named Midwest Star of the Week this week after his three-goal, one-assist performance over a two-game sweep of the Janesville Jets last weekend in Eagle River.

coach John Mitchell after the weekend sweep.

On top of the offensive production, Cline was on the ice to help kill nine Jets powerplay chances throughout the weekend.

Cline has shown his unselfishness this season.

He leads Wisconsin with 25 assists, is second with 38 points, and is third with 13 goals.

The Windigo sit in first place in the Midwest Division with a 30-10-1-2 record and 63 points. The Anchorage Wolverines and

Fairbanks Ice Dogs are tied for second place with 56 points through 40 games.

Wisconsin returns to action at home versus the Springfield Jr. Blues Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21-22, with both games slated for 7 p.m.

—Contributed Photo

STANDINGS

EAGLE RIVER DARTBALL

Results of 2/12/25		
Team results: Eagle Lanes		
3, Mud Creek 1 0; Shotskis 3,		
Veterans Center 0; Club 45 2,		
Mud Creek II 1; Sweetwater 1 2,		
Club Denoyer 1; Thunderbird 2,		
Sweetwater II 1		
Top women shooters: Billie Jo		
Ernst 8/29, Kim Winter 4/29,		
Donna Adams 2/11, Bonnie		
Omerick 2/16		
Top men shooters: John Ariola		
13/23, Dan Welzien 12/30, Bob		
Wise 10/23, Joe Struck 8/22,		
Pete Aiello 6/19, Bill Ernst 6/28,		
Brian Arnoldussen 5/18, Mark		
Krupka 5/18, Dan Haggard		
5/18, Frank Merkle 5/19, Keith		
Popp 4/20, Tony LaChapelle		
3/16		
Home runs: Madonna Kamppi		
2, Bonnie Omerick 2, Kristi		
Wethington, Cherie Winquist,		
John vanHise		
Standings	W	L
Eagle Lanes	29	13
Shotskis	27	15
Sweetwater II	26	16
Club 45	25	16
	(one tie)	
Thunderbird	24	18
Sweetwater I	22	20
Club Denoyer	16	26
Veterans Center	15	26
	(one tie)	
Mud Creek II	14	28
Mud Creek I	11	31

Standings	W	L
Rendezvous	182	74
Racks and Rods	162	94
Pine Isle II	155	101
Spiritview II	153	103
Spiritview Eagles	135	121
TOL II	135	121
Legion OV	124	132
Black Forest	122	134
TOL I	119	137
Spiritview I	117	139
Pine Isle I	79	177
Hideaway	53	203

EAGLE RIVER
POOL LEAGUE

Results of 2/13/25		
Results: Lumpy's 10, Log Cabin		
6; Club 45 III 10, Club 45 II 6;		
Brew's Pub 11, Club 45 I 5;		
Uncle Kent's II 9, Denoyer's II		
7; Eagle Lanes 10, Northern		
Exposure 6; Denoyer's I 9, Uncle		
Kent's I 7		
Eight Ball Runs: Andy Spalding		
(2), Cal Wick, Gary Dennison,		
Don Kleinder		
Standings	W	L
Eagle Lanes	194	94
Brew's Pub		108
Club 45 III	171	117
Northern Exposure	166	122
Denoyer's I	157	131
Uncle Kent's I	153	135
Lumpy's	140	148
Club 45 I	129	159
Denoyer's II	122	166
Uncle Kent's II	115	173
Log Cabin	102	186
Club 45 II	99	189

GREAT NORTHERN
CONFERENCE HOCKEY

Final 2024-25 standings		
Standings	W	L
Tomahawk	10	0
Mosinee	8	2
Antigo	6	3
	(one tie)	
Lakeland	5	4
	(one tie)	
Northland Pines	5	5
Waupaca	3	7
Medford	2	8
Rhineland	0	10

Eagles

FROM PAGE 8

to take care of business with a 1-3-1 zone, as that provides our defense with someone who is always assigned to those positions. To start the game this worked very well for us. We forced Medford to utilize other offensive options."

The Raiders countered that with a well-balanced offensive attack which helped push the game to 30-11 with 4:18 to play in the half.

Pines went into the locker room down 40-16, with Klemett scoring seven first-half points.

The Eagles kept the deficit to 23 early in the second before the Raiders extended their advantage to 30 with 13 minutes left.

"Our movement and

spacing were better; however, our turnovers were still an issue, as they also were in our Mosinee game. Nothing hurts more than when we are working against strong opponents, and then we start beating ourselves with mistakes," explained Halsey. "With that being said, we still ended up getting plenty of looks to score, but we just couldn't knock down our shots."

Klemett finished with a team-high 14 points, with Kohn and Kaydence Brost each having six points.

The Eagles returned home for senior night against Wittenberg-Birnawood before ending the regular season at Antigo Friday, Feb. 21, at 6:45 p.m.

Pines received the No. 10 seed in its D3 section for the WIAA girls playoffs and will travel to No. 7-seeded Amherst on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 7 p.m.

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NORTHLAND PINES LADY EAGLES - Members of the Northland Pines girls basketball team are, back row from left, Kayleigh Jones (manager), Lucy Lurvey (varsity assistant Coach), Jaclyn Halsey (Varsity Head Coach), Tatum Meier, Morgan Nyman, Natalie Kohn, Jesse Smith (JV coach), Sammy Nampel (manager); Bottom row from left, Ryley Darr, Kaydence Brost, Vienna Klemett, Ellie Smith, Rynn Darr, Aubrey White



THREE LAKES/PHELPS BLUEJAYS - Members of the Three Lakes/Phelps girls basketball team are, back row from left: Alivia Jones, Kaitlyn Andrews, Libby Eppler, Paige Brafford, Kaylee Cornelius, Kassidy Williams, Hope Eisel. Front row from left: Haylee Barnekow, Sydnee Millard, Kailyn Fogerty, Kylee Wilson. Not pictured: Isabella Kowalkowski.



DIVISION 3
SECTIONAL 2

Full brackets available
online at wiaawi.org.



DIVISION 5
SECTIONAL 2

Full brackets available
online at wiaawi.org.



#1 Wittenberg-Birnawood		
@Wittenberg-Birnawood		#9 Oconto Falls
		@Peshtigo
		#8 Peshtigo
		#5 Wrightstown
		@Wrightstown
		#12 Clintonville
TBD		
@Seymour		
#4 Seymour		
@Oconto Falls		#3 Menominee Indian
		@Menominee Indian
		#11 Sturgeon Bay
		@Tomahawk
		#6 Tomahawk
		#7 Amherst
		@Amherst
		#10 Northland Pines
TBD		
@Freedom		
#2 Freedom		
#1 Assumption		
@Assumption		#9 Northland Lutheran
		@Loyal
		#8 Loyal
		#5 Greenwood
		@Greenwood
		#12 Newman Catholic
		#13 Athens
		@Almond-Bancroft
		#4 Almond-Bancroft
		#3 Pittsville
		@Pittsville
		#14 Elcho
		#11 Tri-County
		@Columbus Catholic
		#6 Columbus Catholic
		#7 Three Lakes/Phelps
		@Three Lakes/Phelps
		#10 Rosholt
		#15 Port Edwards
		@Pacelli
		#2 Pacelli

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NEWS-REVIEW

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Lifestyle

Section B

715-479-4421

EAGLE RIVER, WI 54521

vcnewsreview.com

Wednesday, February 19, 2025



SOMETHING ROTTEN —

Last weekend, over 50 Northland Pines music students participated in the cast, crew and pit orchestra to deliver a performance of “Something Rotten,” a contemporary musical set in 1596, under the direction of Kate Janssen.
—Staff Photos By
AUDREY LEHMAN



Not that you asked, but ...

BY ERIC JOHNSON

The other February holiday

“Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, leave the rest to God.” — 40th U.S. President Ronald W. Reagan (1911-2004)

When it comes to the month of February, the celebration of Valentine’s Day always steals the spotlight. Not surprisingly so, as it can be lucratively leveraged by retailers to pad the bottom line, the road to which is paved with romantic greeting cards, candy and chocolates, floral arrangements, and all manner of holiday tchotchke from light-up necklaces to twisted, heart-shaped live bamboo canes.

Following the sales charts, Valentine’s Day does rake in the bucks at \$27.4 billion, following Christmas, Labor Day and Mother’s Day, but ahead of Easter, Father’s Day, Halloween, the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving.

Despite the sales on linens and major appliances, the February third Monday observation of the President’s Day national holiday, this year on Feb. 17, is barely a blip on the retailing radar, ranking 13th overall in economic impact.

According to Visual Capitalist, only 3% of respondents considered President’s Day their favorite holiday, tied for last in the survey alongside Juneteenth, St. Patrick’s Day and Columbus Day, and behind

To JOHNSON, Pg. 9

Sno-Eagles sponsor weekly snowmobile rides

The Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club of Eagle River sponsors weekly snowmobile rides on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Both rides start at the old train station in Eagle River at 10 a.m. The rides will return to the train station at about 3:30 p.m. The group picks a destination for the day’s ride and lunch location along the route.

The Thursday ride is slower paced. All rides are contingent upon trail conditions. Trail conditions are updated daily on the Sno-Eagles website at snoeagles.org.

Notice of cancellation will be posted on the Sno-Eagles website Events page at <https://snoeagles.org/events/>.



WHEEEE! — Two kiddos skirt around the corner of the recliner race track at Blizzard Blast held in Conover last weekend. Along with recliner races, there was ice bowling, archery and snowshoe demonstrations.
—Staff Photo By
JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN

LIFESTYLE

Doll club to meet Thursday

The Enchanted Doll Club of the Northwoods will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 1 p.m. in the meeting room of the Kalmar Senior Center located at 1011 N. Railroad St. in Eagle River.

The theme of the meeting will be celebrating February with dolls. Members and guests will bring and share dolls dressed in red, dressed for Valentine's Day, or even dressed to honor President's Day.

The doll club welcomes guests who would like to learn more about dolls or to share their dolls. For more information about the program, or the doll club, contact Judy Wainwright at 715-482-9804.

Public libraries to host virtual Hunger Games trivia contest Feb. 25

Public libraries in the Northern Waters Library Network will be hosting a free Hunger Games Trivia Night on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

Fans of the Hunger Games series of books or movies can test their knowledge at this free trivia contest that pits them against other fans of the series from throughout northern Wisconsin and beyond.

This event will be held virtually via Zoom so participants can join in from wherever they are, on their favorite device.

Click the link on the Boulder Junction Public Library website at the scheduled time to participate at <https://www.boulderjunctionlibrary.org/event/hunger-games-virtual-trivia-night/>.

For further information, call the Boulder Junction Public Library at 715-385-2050.

Fishing and Faith seminar to be held in Rhinelander

The Christian Musky Fellowship Club is excited to host its annual Fishing and Faith Seminar on Saturday, March 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Rhinelander.

This year's seminar will feature Justin Gaiche, a lifelong outdoorsman and musky fishing expert. Gaiche has spent 20 years guiding on the Wisconsin River and is a winning tournament angler. He also owns Chase Outdoors, a leading fishing and hunting retailer in Wisconsin.

Joining Gaiche as a speaker is popular Greg Kizewski, a well-known bass tournament angler, owner of 3-G Smallmouth Solutions, and maker of custom bass jigs and musky swim jigs.

Also present at the tournament will be the father-son fishing duo, Sam and Roy Umlauf. They will share their musky fishing adventures and discuss the important role faith plays in their lives.

Admission is free, with a goodwill offering of \$5 taken to benefit the Rhinelander food pantry.

This event is alcohol-free, with door prizes throughout the day, including musky tackle and lures, gift cards, and books on fishing and faith.

Light refreshments will be available throughout the day.

The Christian Musky Fellowship Club is an inter-denominational, non-profit organization that brings together those who love faith, fellowship, and musky fishing. The club hosts monthly meetings, fishing outings, and other group activities. They are always welcoming new members who want to share a boat and share their faith.

For more information, contact Jim Korducki at 414-559-0880 or jim.korducki@gmail.com.

Badger Bridge details results

First place – Bob Dow and Jerry Baerenwald.
Second place – Mary Jo Berner and Dorothy Hospodar.
Third place – Ed Stoever and Bob Busakowski.
Fourth place – Joel DeAngelo and Jackie Walker.

Badger Bridge meets every Monday to play duplicate bridge. All are welcome, starting at 11:45 a.m. at Kalmar.

ADVERTISE HERE

Call 715-479-4421 TODAY!

Public Notice

Forest Lake Association is applying for a permit to apply aquatic herbicide ProcellaCOR EC to approximately 13.3 acres of Forest Lake, Vilas County, for control of Eurasian watermilfoil, an invasive exotic aquatic plant. The treatment application will occur most likely in May or June of 2025. Warning signs will be posted prior to treatment. Adjacent riparian property owners will receive a copy of the permit application. The applicant will hold a public informational meeting on the proposed treatment if five or more individuals, organizations, special units of government, or local units of government request one. The person or entity requesting the meeting shall state a specific agenda of topics including problems and alternatives to be discussed. The request for the public informational meeting must be sent in writing to: Tom Macak at forestlakepf@outlook.com and a copy to: the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources – Northern Region Headquarters 107 Sutliff Ave. Rhinelander, WI 54501-3349, within five days after this public notice is published. For additional information, contact Forest Lake representative: Tom Macak: 715-600-1941 or forestlakepf@outlook.com.

446093

WNAXLP

Plum Lake equestrian faire raises \$500 for animal sanctuary

Plum Lake Event & Equestrian Center announced that its Equine Health & Wellness Faire raised \$500 in support of Best Friends Animal Sanctuary.

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary is a leader in the no-kill movement and provides refuge and rehabilitation to thousands of animals each year. To learn more about their mission, visit bestfriends.org.

To see what's coming up next at Plum Lake Event & Equestrian Center, visit plumlake-equestriancenter.com.



Dr. Alison French, Homestead Veterinary Care, presents Equine Acupuncture.



Guests at the Feb. 8 Equine Health & Wellness Faire, Plum Lake Event & Equestrian Center in Sayner. —Contributed Photos

Backward Glances

Compiled by Josephine Hindermann

One Year Ago - 2024

Sabrina Blanchet made snowmobile racing history last year at the World Championship Derby Complex (WCDC) in Eagle River by becoming the first female driver to be crowned the Vintage World Champion in the event's illustrious 22-year history... The question of whether the racing surface would be available and ready at the Derby Complex had been the question of the week. Up until late last week, crews were unable to even build ice following what was a long stretch of above normal temperatures, which kept WCDC race director Craid Marchbank sitting on pins and needles.

10 Years Ago - 2015

U.S. Representative Reid Ribble and Sean Duffy of Wisconsin have introduced a bill to delist the gray wolf as an endangered species in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan, and return management responsibility for the animal to the states... The bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to reissue final rules relating to delisting of the gray wolf in the Western Great Lakes and Wyoming under the Endangered Species Act of 1973...The bill, H.R. 884, would reinstate two decisions of the Fish and Wildlife Service to delist the gray wolf from the Endangered Species List and allow states to continue their population management plans. The Endangered Species Act and the ability of the Fish and Wildlife Service to re-list the gray wolf in the case of future population changes are left entirely intact.

20 Years Ago - 2005

A 38-year-old Rhinelander man, armed with a handgun, was shot by Oneida County Sheriff's Department officers Saturday, Feb. 12, after the department responded to a 911 call to a residence on Hilltop Road in the town of Pelican. Matthew S. Dombrowski was killed in the incident... Sheriff Timothy Miller said the sheriff's department received a call at 6:48 p.m.



SILVER BLADES, 1965 —The annual Silver Blades of 1965 ice show, set for this Saturday and Sunday, February 20-21 at the Eagle River Sports Arena, will present 15 numbers, with close to 100 skaters in the production. —STAFF PHOTOS

that the person located at the residence was suicidal. After arriving at the residence, officers encountered Dombrowski armed with a handgun and, based on the circumstances, shot the man, who died from gunshot wounds... Miller said deputies Kurt Koacz, Matt Geenan, and Grady Hartman were required to discharge their firearms in the incident.

30 Years Ago - 1995

On Feb. 19, 1945, U.S. soldiers stormed ashore at Iwo Jima. Their objective was to take the small, volcanic island from the Japanese and secure the strategic airfield for American bombers. World War II, the Pacific Theater, and the landing on Iwo Jima are 50 years in the past, but Dr. Everett C. Eickhoff of Land O' Lakes remembers...He is nearing 80 now, but in his military-erect bearing is a glimpse of the young lieutenant (jg) who was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service to his country during the battle for Iwo Jima, a battle immortalized by the Pulitzer-prize- winning photograph of U.S. Marines raising the flag on Mount Suribachi on Feb. 23, 1945.

40 Years Ago - 1985

Vilas County's timber

harvest program ranked second in Wisconsin during 1984 for income per acre earned, an accomplishment that is complemented by aggressive development of recreation and wildlife habitat programs to enhance public use of the forest. According to the annual report compiled by Tom Geders, county forester, Vilas received \$6.20 per acre in 1984, second only to Barron County's \$7.06 per acre total. The state's average was \$3.15 per acre.

50 Years Ago - 1975

Efforts by the U.S. Forest Service to help the deer herd, in what is described as a "problem area," are apparently meeting some success according to reports from observers... Morse Reese, assistant ranger with the Forest Service, on a special tour for the News-Review, explained how timber cuts timed to help the deer herd are being used in a yard northeast of Phelps. Reese said the management practices that provide food for the deer "have benefitted them a great deal since they started in the Phelps yard three years ago..." Reese states, "I hate to estimate, but there are at least hundreds of deer in this yard. We have reports of up to 500 in the one sale area."

60 Years Ago - 1965

With the addition of a snowmobile to the Lac du Flambeau police force, the problem of vandalism to vacant property has dropped 60% said Chuck Gebhard, chief of police in Flambeau... the police department has to patrol some 200 miles of shoreline and the use of the snowmobile has cut down on the break-in problem and saved many hours of work...The Flambeau region has many valuable summer homes, and these are prime targets for break-ins throughout the winter. Gebhard said that in the past an officer could patrol from the road and watch for tracks leading into the woods, but if anyone wanted to gain entrance in any of these homes, they could walk in from the lake, and the break-in could go undetected for months.

70 Years Ago - 1955

Grade school districts in the Eagle River area will be forced to act on the consolidation problem or lose the right to levy a school tax, county superintendent of schools John Marson warned today...Under a Wisconsin law requiring the attachment of school districts that do not operate schools to adjacent districts which do, both Cloverland and Washington districts will be suspended June 30, 1955... The situation will force a radical change in the public graded school system in the city of Eagle River, and in the three adjacent townships of Lincoln, Cloverfield and Washington.

80 Years Ago - 1945

Having enough points to return to civilian life was the good fortune of Sgt. Kenneth Marsh, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Marsh, Star Lake, the first man to enlist in the Armed forces from his town, and the first man to receive an honorable discharge.

Due to the poor condition of the bound volumes of old newspapers used to compile Backward Glances, we will only include 90 and 100 years ago if the quality of the books allows.

LIFESTYLE

Northern Waters
Genealogical Society
to meet March 4

The Northern Waters Genealogical Society invites the public to their next meeting on Tuesday, March 4, from 2 - 3 p.m., at the Boulder Junction Community Center located at 5392 Park Street.

A brief business meeting will follow. A Zoom option is also available.

This month's program is "Polish Immigration to America: When, Where, and How" with guest speaker, Steve Szabados, by Zoom. When did Polish ancestors immigrate, where did they leave from, why did they leave, how did they get here? These are questions many hope to find the answers to. This presentation discusses the history of Poland and gives some insights into possible answers to the questions about ancestors' immigration. The program will help go beyond the names, dates and genealogical charts, and bring ancestors back to life for the enjoyment of all family members — current and future.

Steve Szabados is a genealogy lecturer and author.

He has been researching his ancestors since 2000 and has traced ancestors back to the 1600s in New England, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and the 1730s in Poland, Germany, Bohemia, Hungary, Slovakia and Slovenia. He has given numerous presentations to genealogical groups and libraries in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

He has also published over fifteen genealogy books. His mission is to share his passion for family history with as many people as he can. He is a former board member of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, and he is a genealogy volunteer at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library. Steve also is the genealogy columnist for the Polish American Journal.

This program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information, or to request the Zoom link, call 715-686-7339.



CUPID CREW — The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Vilas County was chosen for Wish of a Lifetime/Cupid Crew to deliver roses to homebound older adults in the nutrition program and caregivers for Valentine's Day. The ADRC has also partnered with 4th grade Northland Pines Elementary School students to decorate Valentine's Day cards to go along with each rose. The ADRC has collected over \$300 in donation to give back to Wish of a Lifetime and AARP. Pictured from left to right are Judi Heikkinen, Anna Moore, Pam Cira, Kamie Kolb, Jennie Johnson and Mary Ellen Duranso, who are all Meal Site Managers for the ADRC Nutrition Program.

— Contributed Photos



Winter Mini-Concert Series
to feature Loreta Maciulis
at Land O' Lakes Arts

LOLA's Winter Mini-Concert Series continues with Loreta Maciulis, offering a free, family-friendly performance in a cozy setting that celebrates music and community in downtown Land O' Lakes.

A life-long lover of music, Loreta Maciulis hails from Lithuania, a European nation known for music appreciation at all levels. Loreta is a singer, composer, teacher, soloist and conductor, and is currently a chorus member of the renowned Chicago Lithuanian Opera Company.

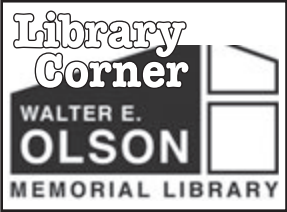
After her childhood violin studies, Loreta attended and graduated from the music conservatory in Kaunas, Lithuania's second-largest city and Loreta's hometown. Singing at church and festival programs, she also was a music teacher at a well-known boys' choir school before moving to Chicago in 2000, eventually becoming an American citizen while continually performing and honing her craft.

Loreta was the music teacher at the Suburban Chicago Lithuanian Saturday School and has sung as a soloist in Lithuania, in the Chicago area, in Australia, and most recently, in Los Angeles.

She has produced six albums and composed a hymn, "My Prayer," which was sung at Pope John Paul II's visit to Lithuania.

With her husband, Richard (Rocky), Loreta enjoys summers at their cabin and cottage at Black Oak Lake, while residing mainly in suburban Chicago.

Although most of her songs and concerts are in her native Lithuanian language, she is striving to learn gentle American songs, as well as jazz and blues tunes.



The Library is open for in-person visits and curbside service. As always, Wi-Fi access and digital services are available 24/7. Have questions? Find answers at olsonlibrary.org and contact the Library at 715-479-8070 or olsonlibrary@gmail.com.

Here's what else you need to know about current Library happenings:

- February is "Love Your Library Month", and there's a lot to love! Tell us your library love story for a chance to win a \$50 VISA gift card! Submit your story at the Library or online at tinyurl.com/3b5hjm9.
- Monday, Feb. 24, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.: Ice Block Blast. Kids, come design and build your own Lego ice castle! You'll also have the chance to experience being a penguin using virtual reality. Fun and snacks are guaranteed.
- Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6 p.m.: Hunger Games Trivia. Join us for an in-person trivia night on all things Hunger Games! Bring your team or compete solo to show off your smarts and win bragging rights.

- Saturday, March 1, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.: Monthly Mending Day. Call or stop by to sign up! Bring your clean clothes (or a well-loved toy) to the Library for free mending by our wonderful volunteers. You can even check out a sewing machine if you want to do your own mending or crafting projects.
 - Saturday, March 1, 11 a.m.: Check out our new Historical Fiction Book Club! This month, we're straying into nonfiction with "She-Wolves: The Women Who Ruled England Before Elizabeth" by Helen Castor.
 - Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.: Coffee Brewing 101. Join Becca from Old Man Murph's Coffee Roasters for sips and tips in this hands-on coffee brewing session. Learn about the factors of a great brew, try out different brew methods, and enjoy some coffee!
- Weekly offerings**
- Mondays & Wednesdays, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: Nicolet Academic Success Center. Get help with GED and college prep, computer skills, academic support and more.
 - Mondays, 2 - 3:30 p.m. - Hone your skills at Ukulele Practice. Don't play? Bring another instrument — or your voice — and join us!
 - Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - Story Time with Ms. Tori. Bring

- your grown-up for stories, songs, and fun!
- Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Seated Yoga. Come as you are! Chairs will be provided.
 - Thursdays, 9 - 11 a.m. - Aunt Gracie's Sewing Circle
 - Thursdays, 4:30 - 6 p.m. - Silent Book Club. Bring your current read (or find one here), then take some time for yourself.
 - Fridays, 10 - 11 a.m. - Wiggle, Giggle & Shake music and movement program for kids 0-5.
- Monthly offerings**
- Free Mending Day (1st Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.) - March 1 (April 5)
 - Eagle River Genealogical Society (1st Mondays, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.) - March 3 (April 7)
 - Compassus Grief Support Group (1st Thursdays, 1 - 2 p.m.) - March 6 (April 3)
 - Memory Café (2nd Mondays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.) - March 10 (April 7)
 - Growing Together Family Support Group (2nd Thursdays, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.) - March 13 (April 10)
- Find books, puzzles, movies and more! A reminder that the Walter Olson Library Friends (W.O.L.F.) has ongoing book sales in the Library lobby. For information, or to join W.O.L.F., contact the Library.

Senior Citizen Menus

February 24-28
Sponsored by ADRC of
Vilas & Oneida Counties

Eagle River

More Than A Meal Café at The Rock Mission Center Serving at noon

Lighter substitute available in place of main entrée: grilled chicken salad. Reservations or cancellations must be made 24 hours in advance. Call Jennie Johnson at 715-891-1221 to reserve or cancel a meal.

Monday, February 24
Chicken florentine, penne pasta, cauliflower, mandarin oranges, and a fruit pie square.

Tuesday, February 25
BBQ pork rib on a whole wheat hoagie; German potato salad, coleslaw, diced peaches, and butterscotch pudding.

Wednesday, February 26
Cabbage roll casserole, country trio veggie, whole wheat bread, pineapple, and fudgy black bean brownies.

Thursday, February 27
Beef vegetable stew, biscuit, whole kernel corn, dark greens salad, dressing, and a cookie.

Friday, February 28
Lemon and herb chicken, baby reds, carrots, biscuit, and diced pears.

salad, dressing, and a cookie.

Friday, February 28
Lemon and herb chicken, baby reds, carrots, biscuit, and diced pears.

Phelps

Golden Years Café, Northern Exposure Restaurant Serving at noon

Lighter substitute available in place of main entrée: Healthy salad. All meals are served with fat-free milk, whole grain rolls/bread with margarine. Meals are served Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon. Reservations or cancellations must be made 24 hours in advance. Call Judi Heikkinen at 715-545-3697 to reserve or cancel a meal.

Monday, February 24
Beef and bean burrito with lettuce, tomato, cheese, salsa and sour cream, and a banana.

Wednesday, February 26
Spaghetti and meat sauce, green beans, garlic bread, and a Halo.

Friday, February 28
Baked fish, baked potato rounds, corn, whole wheat bread, and pears.

corn soup, carrot sticks, dinner roll, and grapes.

North Lakeland
Elementary
School (NLES)

Manners Café
Serving at 11:15 a.m.
Butter and margarine offered. Coffee and fat-free milk served with each meal. For reservations, contact Mary Ellen Duranso at (715) 904-0065 at least 24 hours in advance.

Tuesday, February 25
Walking tacos with beef, black beans, and cinnamon apples.

Wednesday, February 26
Pulled pork on a whole grain bun, baked potato, baby carrots, and oranges.

Thursday, February 27
Chili with whole grain pasta, mixed greens salad with cucumbers, whole grain dinner roll, and pears.

Three Lakes

Reiter Center
Serving at 11 a.m.
Contact 715-499-3738 at least one day in advance to make or cancel a reservation.

Monday, February 24
Chicken florentine, penne pasta, cauliflower, mandarin oranges, and a fruit pie square.

Tuesday, February 25
BBQ pork rib and a whole wheat hoagie; German potato salad, coleslaw, diced peaches, and butterscotch pudding.

Wednesday, February 26
Cabbage roll casserole, country trio veggies, whole wheat bread, pineapple, and fudgy black bean brownies.

Thursday, February 27
Beef vegetable stew, biscuit, whole kernel corn, dark greens salad with dressing, and a cookie.

Land O' Lakes

Love of Life Café, Gateway Lodge Serving at 11:30 a.m.
Butter and margarine offered. Coffee and fat-free milk served with each meal. Lighter substitute in place of main entrée: Grilled chicken salad. Place reservations and choice with Anna Moore (715) 547-6076 at least 24 hours in advance.

Tuesday, February 25
Meatloaf, mashed potato and gravy, corn, whole wheat bread, pears, and ice cream.

Wednesday, February 26
Chicken Caesar salad, Indian

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WEENIE ROAST — Dozens of sledders converged on a parking lot off Sheltered Valley Road last Sunday to attend the annual Weenie Roast put on by the Northern Lights Snowmobile Club of Three Lakes, where they enjoyed a campfire, hot dogs and refreshments. —Contributed Photo



The Three Lakes junker sled races return to Three Lakes this Saturday at Don Burnside Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Junker sled races set this weekend in Three Lakes

The 10th annual Junker sled races return this weekend, Saturday, Feb. 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Don Burnside Park in Three Lakes. There will be a \$5 spectator fee. The entrance to the races will be off of County Highway A just outside of town. The races will return after the event was canceled due to the unseasonable winter last year.

Any racing snowmobile must be a 1990 model or older, with a \$500 cap on the value of the sled. The races welcome amateur racers of all ages, including kids racing, and merchandise. Food and refreshments from Three Lakes-Brule River Trails will be sold throughout the day of family-friendly racing. With just 11 racers in the inaugural event back

in 2015, organizers say there usually are roughly 170 individual racers who occupy over 250 entry spots in the races. For more information on the upcoming event, contact event organizer Chris Dobbins at 715-490-0293. Further history on the Three Lakes Junker sled races can be found at <https://junkersled.com>.

Lions Club rose sale begins

The Three Lakes Lions Club has launched its 2025 Roses for Spring Sale, with proceeds once again going toward the Three Lakes school's nutritional project. Residents in Three Lakes and the surrounding areas can purchase a dozen roses for \$18, with delivery provided to homes and businesses. Order forms are conveniently located at various business locations around town. Sales are ongoing until April 1, with delivery on April 26. Jill Norship, the school's food service director, utilized funds from the club's 2024 sale to help purchase hydroponic gardens and a tumbler-style



To ROSES, Pg. 9 One of the Lions Club rose recipients. —Contributed Photo



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Books the Other Channel book discussion group will discuss The Charm School by Nelson DeMille on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 6:30 p.m. The group meets in person at the library or online via Zoom. Email demmerlibrary.org to receive sign-in information.

Weekly Offerings
Story Hour is a free

program for young children and their caregivers. Join us on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Demmer Maple Room. Children will listen to stories, engage in music and movement, explore different art mediums and more. Have you started looking at your family tree and don't know where to go next? Let the Three Lakes Genealogical Society help you. The group loves to assist new, novice, and expert family sleuths find more records and more answers to questions. They are offering active "office hours" in the local history room of the library where you can drop in and ask your questions on

Thursdays, 2 - 4 p.m. Call the library for more details.

Monthly Offerings

- In-Person and Virtual D&D (1st & 3rd Sundays)
- Harry Potter Club (1st Monday)
- Lego Club (2nd Monday)
- Crafternoon (2nd Tuesday)
- Drop-in Scrabble (2nd & 4th Thursdays)
- Oneida County Veterans Service Open Office Hours (3rd Wednesday)
- Writers Group (1st & 3rd Thursdays)
- Books: The Other Channel (4th Tuesday)

For more information, call the library at 715-546-3391.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH — Three Lakes Junior High and High School recently announced their January students of the month. Pictured, from left to right, are senior Eli Erickson, sophomore Sumerr Ridgeway, junior Melanie Stauffer, freshman Jack Westfall, 8th grader Mercedes Hendrickson, 7th grader Aspen Gall and Junior High Principal Phil Urdike. —Photo By Jen West

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www.cnaads.com *Kantar Millward Brown, Feb. 2018



The Town of Three Lakes is Accepting Applications to Rent Watercraft Slip Space on a Public Pier on Lone Stone Lake for the 2025 season

Applications must be received by March 7, 2025 and be accompanied by a certified check, money order, or personal check in the amount of six hundred dollars (\$600.00).

Applications are available on the Frequently Asked Questions page of the Town Website townofthreelakeswi.gov or by calling the Town Office at 715-546-3316.

Participation in last year's program does not guarantee participation this year. Requesting certain slips is not encouraged by applicants. If several applicants request a certain slip, all names will be entered into a drawing where one name will be chosen for that slip.

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LITTLE CITIZENS — Three Lakes Elementary School recently announced its January Citizens of the Month, along with Bluejay Award winners. Pictured, from left to right, in the back row, are 4th grader Lily Gasper (Bluejay Award), 4th grader Teddie Gensler, 6th grader Cash Johnson, 5th grader Ian Baucknecht and 4th grader Bo Bisnette (Bluejay Award). Pictured, from left to right, in the front row, are 1st graders William Kleinbans, kindergartner Kinsley Kelley, 2nd grader Harper Bock, 3rd grader Isabella St. Louis (3rd) and 1st grader Johvi Rickling. —Photo By Jen West

BOB HUGHES

LAND O' LAKES

715-547-3343
bob.cheri59@yahoo.com



RADAR RUN — Bent's Camp Radar Run 2025 held in Land O' Lakes saw record attendance, raising money for Frosty Snowmobile Club.

Top left: Snowmobiling is a family affair with this crew.

Top right: One of hundreds of radar racers.

Middle: This duo is dressed for fun at Bent's Camp.

Bottom left: "The food was well worth the wait in line."

Bottom right: Nikki McGill Bikini winner posing with her award.

—Photos By Bob Hughes



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GREAT NORTHERN JERK-OFF — The 31st Annual Great Northern Jerk-Off jerky contest was held at Club 45 in Conover. Money raised from the event will be donated to Warm the Children.

Top: Pictured left to right is Lenny Johnson of Eagle River, who came in 2nd place for beef/venison category and Jen Payne, owner Club 45.

Right: Thomas Crawford of Phelps was awarded 1st place in the beef/venison category and the People's Choice Award.

—Photos By Jacki Hildebrandt

LAND O' LAKES

BOB HUGHES | 715-547-3343 | bob.cheri59@yahoo.com



Come to the library for a Wicked Event. There will be a screening of the film “Wicked” at 1 p.m. and again at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 6. This event will feature themed treats and drinks. The movie will be shown on the library’s big screen. Come see the movie that everyone is talking about!

Is Scrabble your game? The library is hosting a Scrabble afternoon on Wednesday, March 12, at 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome and the game boards will be provided. With enough interest, this may become a regularly scheduled program.

Dottie Reeder will be teaching an Artisan No-Knead Bread Class on Thursday, March 13, at 4:30 p.m. Space will be limited for this class, so registration is required. Call the library to sign up.

Start getting your recipes perfected for the Land O’ Lakes Library’s 3rd Annual Bar Cookie Crawl baking

contest on March 20. This is a bar cookie baking competition open to all bakers. The winning bar cookie will be chosen by a panel of judges. Taste-testers are encouraged to attend as well.

Qigong and Balance classes, taught by Dottie Reeder, are offered on Fridays from 9 - 10 a.m. Qigong is free of charge and all are welcome.

Mahjong games are held Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in the downstairs community room. Beginning and experienced players are invited to play.

Storytime Read n’ Play is held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 10:30 a.m. All children and their caregivers are welcome.

Lego Club is held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Children may be dropped off or take the bus to the library. A release form must be signed before children can participate. Call the library with any questions.

New fiction on the shelves: “Beast of the Northwoods” by Annelise Ryan, “Three Days in June” by Anne Tyler, “The Life Cycle of the Common Octopus” by Emma Knight, “The Eagle’s Prey”

by Simon Scarrow, “The Quiet Librarian” by Allen Eskens, “The Queens of Crime” by Marie Benedict, “Lie for a Million” by Janet Dailey, and “The Crash” by Freida McFadden.

Stop into the library to see a Corpse Flower! These rare and endangered plants grow up to 6 inches per day and may reach heights of 12 feet. Native to Indonesia, the corpse flower gets its name from the rotten stench that is released once the plant blooms. During its flower stage, the plant requires no water, and will flourish with nothing but sunlight. This plant was donated to the library by Dick Mendham of Sunrise Lodge, who has been cultivating corpse flowers for many years. The corpse flower is available for viewing in the library’s fireplace room and has already grown several feet.

Library hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Wednesdays from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call the library at 715-547-6006, visit landolakeslibrary.org, or find the library on Facebook and Instagram.

SHARON GIFFORD

PHELPS

715-617-0308
gifford.se3@gmail.com

Phelps Maple Syrup Fest seeks participants

The 14th annual Phelps Maple Syrup Fest, sponsored by the Phelps Chamber, is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, at the Phelps School, with the Chamber actively seeking craft vendors, sponsors, and volunteers.

The event has hosted up to 70 craft vendors in past years, selling a wide variety of products, including handmade pottery, leather crafts, artwork, fishing lures, jewelry, and favorite brands. The Arts and Crafts fair will be in addition to the many maple syrup-themed activities and demos happening throughout the school and in the community.

Phelps Maple Syrup Fest continues to grow and has attracted thousands of visitors, while celebrating the heritage and history of maple syrup production in the area.

The Phelps Chamber of Commerce also invites local businesses to consider sponsoring or volunteering. Community members are also invited to volunteer.

For more information, contact the Phelps Chamber at chamber-office@phelpswi.us or call 715-545-3800.



The 14th Annual Maple Fest will be held April 5 at Phelps School. Pictured is a face painting booth at last year's festivities.

—Contributed Photo

Phelps welcomes new fire chief

The Phelps Fire Department welcomes new Fire Chief Jeremy Ryan as former chief Norm Mesun steps down. Mesun has been serving the department for 43 years as a volunteer fireman, secretary, treasurer, chief, and back to fireman.

Ryan, a five-year member of the department, previously served as a Training Officer and Lieutenant before being appointed Fire Chief on January 1, 2025.

“My journey in the fire service was inspired by my father, who was a full-time firefighter and paramedic in the City of Racine. His dedication and service guided me toward this career path at a young age.”

Ryan began his firefighting career as a live-in intern with the Pleasant Prairie Fire and Rescue Department while attending firefighting school.

After completing training, he was hired by the



Pictured on left is Phelps Fire Chief Jeremy Ryan and on right is former Phelps Fire Chief, Norm Mesun.

—Photo By Sharon Gifford

Kenosha Fire Department, where he served until August, 2015.

Following his move to Eagle River, he was briefly

a member of both the Eagle River Fire Department and St. Germain Fire Department before joining Phelps.

“Over the years, I have earned certifications as a Firefighter I and II,

To CHIEF, Pg. 9



New Releases in Adult Fiction this month: “Knife Skills for Beginners” by Orlando Murrin, “The Stolen Queen” by Fiona Davis, and the latest “Alex Cross Thriller: The House of Cross” by James Patterson.

New Young Adult Fiction: “After Life” by Gayle Forman, “An honest, heart-breaking elegy to how memory makes relationships eternal.” - Jodi Picoult.

Story Time with Mrs.

Laura at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11. Join us for the reading of a few books with our favorite storyteller! Everyone is welcome!

Writer’s Workshop is Wednesday, March 19, at 12:30 p.m. This free group meets monthly and is open to adults at any stage of writing. The meetings offer structured support, encouragement, feedback and responses, as well as help with goal setting and more. Call the library for more information.

Next Chapter Book Club will meet on Wednesday, March 19, at 10 a.m. The book choice this month is “The God of the Woods” by Liz Moore.

Book copies for meetings are available for pick up at the library or call to reserve. For more information about the current book, upcoming book choices, and meeting dates and times, visit the library website under the Adult Programming tab. Call the library for more information on how to join this group.

Don’t have time to stop by during our operating hours? Call and ask about the library’s outside lockers so you can pick up books and other items at your convenience!

Free puzzle and magazine exchange is in our entryway. New materials are added often. The Phelps-Land O’

Lakes Lions Club’s used glasses receptacle is located in the entryway as well. Donations of used glasses and hearing aids are greatly appreciated.

Library hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Wednesday 2 - 6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. WiFi and digital services are available 24/7 and can be accessed either inside during business hours or anywhere in the parking lot.

Find the library online at phelpspubliclibrary.org or on Facebook at Eleanor Ellis Public Library. Contact them by phone at 715-545-2887 or email director@phelps.wislib.org.

DEADLINES FOR SECTIONS

LIFESTYLE TOWN PAGES

FRIDAY 10 AM THURSDAY 4 PM

BID NOTICE

Sealed bids for the 2025 Phelps Department of Public Works (DPW) Building in Town of Phelps, Wisconsin, will be received until 10:00 AM on March 14, 2025, at the Town of Phelps office, 4495 Town Hall Rd, Phelps, WI 54554 or Emailed (bid addresses will be stated on bid documents).

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. Email BIDS@jhassinger.com for bidding information regarding this project. Plans and specifications will be available March 3rd, 2025, via a link sent to interested parties.

WNAXLP

BID NOTICE

Community Park Pavilion Updates

The Town of St. Germain is seeking bids for updates to the Community Park Pavilion area and parking lot. The work needs to be completed by Memorial Day Weekend 2025. The bid includes removing grass and concrete on the north and west sides of the pavilion and paver bricks on the south side of the pavilion and replacing these areas with asphalt paving; creating a drain system on the north side of the pavilion; removing the concrete on the northeast corner of the pavilion and replacing it with new concrete; chip seal and fog seal pavilion parking lot. Drawings and specifications are available by contacting Tom Christensen via email; tom.christensen@stgermainwi.gov. Your bid is due at the Clerk's office by 5:00 PM on March 3, 2025. The Town Board will award the winning bid during a meeting on Monday March 10, 2025 starting at 6:30 PM.



LIONS DONATION — The Phelps-Land O’ Lakes Lions Club recently donated \$2,000 to the Headwaters Food Pantry located in Land O’ Lakes. Monies were collected at numerous events throughout the year. Blank said, “We’d like to thank everyone that supported us at these events. We couldn’t have done it without you.” Pictured left to right, back row, is Lion Steve Chandler, Lion Rollie Alger, Lion Peter Schindelholz, Lion Brett Miller and Lion Brain Blank. Front row stands Lion John Huza, Lion Bill Reckling, Lion Gretchen Vespo and Lion Robert Weber. Missing from the picture is Headwaters Representative, Paul Schaeffell.

—Photo By Sharon Gifford

Outdoors

DNR asking for input on wildlife strategic plan

THE Wildlife Management Program of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) says it is developing its next Strategic Plan, and the public has only until Friday, Feb. 28, to weigh on seven goals they've already developed.

That may come as a shock to our readers because I didn't know they had a plan, or that they ever asked the public before, in broad terms, what it wants to see in terms of management and habitat work when it comes to deer, bear, waterfowl, furbearers and other wildlife.



In the Outdoors

BY KURT KRUEGER

As an example, Wisconsin is pretty much the bear capital of the lower 48 states, in terms of population and annual harvest. But the average hunter never voted on that one.

But to be clear, your input will be given and processed in a manner that might feel somewhat manipulated, because the first and most important step in this survey process asks each of us to rank pre-determined goals.

The good news is that two of those goals are strengthening the long-term viability of game species, and preserving hunting and trapping opportunities.

However, the list includes support for wildlife viewing, crop damage, enhancement of animal and plant diversity, reducing risks to human health, and "public awareness of wildlife and their habitats."

The problem with that preemptive manipulation is that the department has already dug its heels in on goals for the next plan, and our only choice is to prioritize what they've come up with.

So once again it feels like the DNR is asking for public input for the sake of saying they got public input, though they've pretty much identified the major objectives before getting our input.

"The DNR values public input and believes that it is important for Wisconsinites to weigh in on the draft

plan's objectives and share which are the most important to them," read a press release sent out last week.

"After the public input form is closed, the team will review all the responses and consider any needed changes. The team is listening and cares about what the public thinks, so every response is important," it read.

In any case, it's probably a mistake not to get involved. One of the pages in this 10-minute survey asks the public to rank importance on some services the DNR provides, such as the pheasant stocking program, free testing for chronic wasting disease (CWD), providing wildlife habitat on public lands, and assisting landowners with habitat work on private land.

At a time when inflation has strained budgets and resources, the department is asking for some guidance on where those limited resources and staff time will be focused. Investing more in one project often comes at the expense of some other project.

It's probably my general distrust of the department that prompted me to seek out the public input form and complete the online survey, because any sort of public input opportunity is better than none at all.

It might be a bureaucracy that's heavily influenced by a governor who gets to appoint the DNR secretary, but there are a lot of great staff members doing their best to fight the red tape politics to get things done on the ground for wildlife and their habitats.

There's a comment section at the end of the survey that allows uninhibited input, just in case you want to say something specific about future planning that goes beyond the state objectives of this revision process.

The scribbler weighed in on concerns about northern deer management and our



The state is seeking public input on a draft strategic plan for future management of bear, deer and other wildlife and wildlife habitat, with a Feb. 28 deadline for completing the online survey.

—Photo By The Author

loss of quality hunting opportunities due to predator issues, a lack of logging on the national forest, and other topics.

In a nutshell, you have until next Friday, Feb. 28, to go to the DNR's website and complete the survey form regarding the Wildlife Management Strategic Plan.

The more hunters who do that, as opposed to the general public or the anti-hunting community, the more chance that DNR resources will be targeted to the projects and programs important to hunters and trappers.

DNR asks public to report bear dens

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is asking the public for help in reporting bear dens, as den survey season is in full swing, and the DNR's bear research team is still searching for publicly reported den locations.

If someone is outdoors and hears a frequent squeaking, humming or sucking sound, they should take note because it could be denning cubs.

Den location reports play a vital role in the data collection efforts for the ongoing Black Bear Litter and Diet Survey, which aims to improve the accuracy of state population models and inform bear management decisions across the state.

If someone suspects the location of an active den, and would like to report it to the DNR, they should maintain a safe distance of at least 30 yards and then follow these steps:

- Take note of surroundings. Are there any visible tracks, scratch marks on trees, scat or damaged vegetation nearby? Have there been recent bear sightings in the area? Are there any noises coming from the den?
- Drop a pin in a phone to record the GPS coordinates of the location. If this is not possible, try to remember a detailed description of where the den is located on the property in question.

If the phone has a camera, take a photo where the den is visible.

- Learn more about the study, and submit den locations, reporting them online.

Note that due to staffing capacity, the bear research team may not be able to contact people about their reports; reports with information suggesting the den is active will be prioritized to meet research study requirements.



WEEKLY TRAIL RIDES — The Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club in Eagle River offers weekly snowmobile rides in the area. The rides are held each Wednesday and Thursday, starting at the historic train depot in downtown Eagle River at 10 a.m. The rides return to the depot at about 3:30 p.m. The ride leader and group pick a destination for the day's ride and a lunch stop along the route. Last Wednesday's ride took snowmobilers to Boulder Junction, where the group took a break along a scenic trail in the Vilas County Forest. The Wednesday ride is usually a little longer and at a faster pace, while the Thursday ride is shorter and paced for all riding levels.

—Photos By Gary Ridderbusch



Fishing with the guides

BY GEORGE LANGLEY

Nice bit of real winter

What a nice bit of "real" winter we've had this last week! We're thankful for the new 6" or so of snow, and the fact that it's been extra fluffy, so no real problems getting around on the ice. It's nice to be able to count on some "normal" winter weather, and some real cold and snow was perfect. We've not heard any complaints about slush yet, but it's getting to be about that time of the year. We're grateful we've gotten this far and not had that particularly wet problem! We're seeing from 20" to 28" of ice throughout the area — finally might be time to bust out the auger extension.

All the winter sports enthusiasts are glad for this last bit of snow. Cross country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling are all great options right now and we're all happy to have the opportunity, as last year there was none due to lack of snow. This last weekend was a Federal holiday, so we saw a lot of happy people through — the fishing is good, and we've got just two weekends left in the game fishing season. After that, it's on to panfishing, then waiting for open water and that first Saturday in May!

Walleye fishing has been decent, and we saw a ton of people out last weekend. Tip-up action is still dominating the walleye fishing. Most anglers are still setting deep, and the best action is still after dark. Suckers or shiners are working, and the normal action has been good numbers with decent size — perfect for a dinner.

Northern action has been very good. Tip-ups with large shiners set over the weeds have been best all winter. As we've been saying all winter, look for the deeper weeds for this type of fishing. They are aggressive and hungry! Afternoon action has been fantastic, but these fish will eat all day long and are a great distraction from the mid-day slowdown we see with walleye.

Panfish fishing has been good to great throughout the area. Crappies have been hitting on vertical jigs with waxies or crappie minnows, on the weed edges at 6-10' on the Chain.

Rosie reds have been working great for these guys, too. Setting up like this increases the chances you'll grab some of the walleye as they move in and out of those weeds. Bluegills are in the weeds and have been active. Waxies or spikes have been best for the 'gills. The perch bite has been okay, but not great. If you're looking for these guys, fish right at the bottom. If the ice holds out (and we expect it'll be a great late season), we're looking forward to some great crappie fishing after the game season ends.

This is one of those winters where we're glad for the cold and snow. After last year, it's nice to be back to what we all think of as normal. We're starting this week with some major cold, but ending it with what looks like some pretty ideal late-season ice fishing weather. With only two weekends left in the season, now is the time to target those walleye and stock the freezer until May. The walleye straight out from under the ice are the best tasting fish you'll find anywhere in the world. Get yourself some!

Good luck and good fishin'!

Our View

Hats off to Blizzard Blast

Last weekend Blizzard Blast was hosted in the Conover Community Park in support of several area fire and EMS departments, and hats off to Kelly Kraetsch and her team of event volunteers for being able to make this blast of an event a reality. The event was billed as “Winter Fun for Everyone,” and we certainly think it lives up to that title!

It was such a beautiful day for the event, too, with picturesque snowfall, plenty of snow on the ground for kiddos to sled on, and snowmobilers to enjoy as they took to the trails across the North Woods. You couldn’t ask for a more perfect setting for an aptly named ‘Blizzard Blast.’

It was an event that was both good fun, with recliner races, ice bowling, snowshoe demonstrations, a game carnival for kiddos, a sledding hill, and horse-drawn sleigh rides, and for a good cause, as funds raised from the event are going towards the Phelps, Conover and Land O’ Lakes fire departments so that they may purchase new equipment otherwise unavailable to small town fire departments.

The event has been able to raise almost \$300,000 since its inception in 2014, and we hope to see this kind of support continue for local fire and EMS departments.

We hope to see Blizzard Blast return next year — and many more after.


Behind the editorial ‘we’

Members of the Vilas County News-Review editorial board include News Editor Josephine Hinderman, Assistant Editor Audrey Lehman and Sports Editor Jacob Heid.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SUBMIT LETTERS TO:
News-Review Editor
P.O. Box 1929,
Eagle River, WI 54521
or newsreview@mmclocal.com
See Letters Policy for guidelines



Savvy Senior

YOU ASK THE SENIOR QUESTION – WE FIND THE SAVVY ANSWER.
SYNDICATED COLUMN

How Much Do You Have to Make to File Taxes in 2025?

DEAR SAVVY SENIOR,

What can you tell me about the IRS income tax filing requirements for retirees this tax season? My earned income stopped when I retired last March, so I’m wondering if I need to file a tax return this year.

—Retired in 2024

DEAR RETIRED,

Whether or not you are required to file a federal income tax return this year will depend on how much you earned last year, as well as the source of the income, your age, and filing status.

Here’s a rundown of this tax season’s IRS tax filing requirement thresholds.

For most people, this is pretty straightforward. If your 2024 gross income — which includes all taxable income, not counting your Social Security benefits unless you are married and filing separately — was below the threshold for your filing status and age, you probably won’t have to file. But if it’s over, you will.

- Single: \$14,600 (\$16,550 if you’re 65 or older by Jan. 1, 2024).
- Married filing jointly: \$29,200 (\$30,750 if you or your spouse is 65 or older; or \$32,300 if you’re both over 65).
- Married filing separately: \$5 at any age.
- Head of household: \$21,900 (\$23,850 if 65 or older).
- Qualifying surviving spouse: \$29,200 (\$30,750 if 65 or older).

To get a detailed breakdown on federal filing requirements, along with information on taxable and nontaxable income, call the IRS at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you a free copy of the “1040 and 1040-SR Instructions for Tax Year 2024,” or you can see it online at [IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1040gi.pdf](https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1040gi.pdf).

Check Here Too

Be aware that there are other financial situations that can require you to file a tax return, even if your gross income falls below the IRS filing requirements. For example, if you earned more than \$400 from self-employment in 2024, owe any taxes on an IRA, Health Savings Account or an alternative minimum tax, or get premium tax credits because you, your spouse or a dependent is enrolled in a Health Insurance Marketplace plan, you’ll need to file.

You’ll also need to file if you’re receiving Social Security benefits, and one-half of your benefits plus your other gross income and any tax-exempt interest exceeds \$25,000, or \$32,000 if you’re married and filing jointly.

To figure all this out, the IRS offers an online tax tool that asks a series of questions that will help you determine if you’re required to file, or if you should

To SAVVY, Pg. 9

EDITORIAL

OPINION/COMMENTARY



2023 BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST AWARD WINNER

JUDGED WISCONSIN’S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR



NATIONAL GENERAL EXCELLENCE
THIRD PLACE, 2018
SECOND PLACE, 2020
FIRST PLACE, 2022

Waterfowl are really something special

It may be the middle of the winter, and a mighty cold winter at that, but for me it’s never the wrong time to talk some duck talk.

Of all the creatures God has put on Earth, including humans, in my mind none are more beautiful than wild ducks and geese.

For us middle-United States people, wood ducks are at the very top in the looks department, at least in my humble opinion. Whether looking at wood ducks in full spring breeding plumage through a camera lens, binoculars, or just with the naked eye, one cannot help but feel total amazement that one wild animal could be so beautiful.

Iridescent hues of brilliant green, red, cinnamon and blue, along with spotless white and deep black, simply leap out at you with unparalleled beauty.

Ever since I was knee high to a grasshopper, ducks have captivated me with their beauty.

Even the black, gray and white plumage of a Canada goose — I lump geese in with ducks as my favorite wild creatures — is an awesome sight to behold when two or three hundred of them fly over you not 10 yards above your head, both in hunting season and any other time in the spring, summer or fall.

I could tell a million stories about my duck hunting forays over the past 63 years, but no story would be complete without touting a group that is one of the main reasons people like me are still able to watch waterfowl in numbers of many millions.

That story, of course, is that of the one organization that has done more to preserve the habitat ducks and geese need to survive and thrive in all over North America. That organization is Ducks Unlimited, and I am proud to say that I have been a DU supporter since 1979 when I first attended a local fundraising dinner on a friend’s ticket.

In 1982 I got together with six other duck and goose lovers to form the Plum Creek Chapter of DU in Sayner. Our chapter has thrived ever since, raising thousands of dollars each year for wetlands conservation. I am especially proud and honored to be a DU Life Sponsor, an honor bestowed by DU on members who have contributed \$10,000 or more at chapters all over the U.S.

Chapters all across North America, and that includes those in Mexico and Canada along with the U.S., have conserved and preserved millions and millions of acres of precious prairie, river and lakes habitat in the 87-year history of the organization.

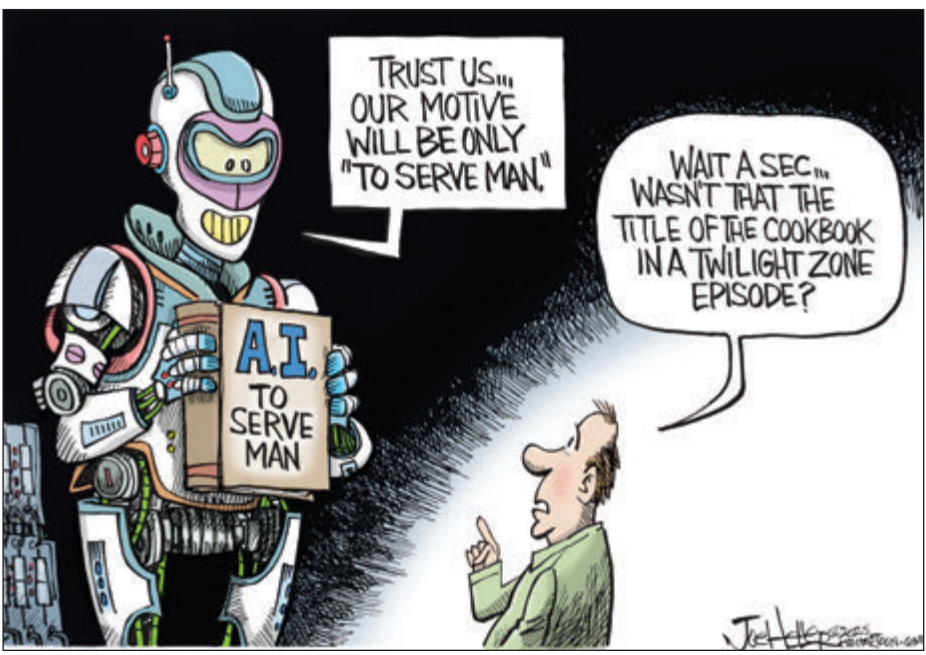
Last year, for the first time, over one million acres were conserved in a single year. Over 678,000 members and another one million-plus supporters made that happen, in large part from proceeds of over 5,200 local events.

What really stands out for me, in the annual DU report members receive, was the fact that 83 cents of every dollar raised by DU goes into actual habitat acquisition, conservation



Trails & Tails

BY WILL MAINES



To MAINES, Pg. 9

Respect in disagreement: Reflections on the Boulder Junction ATV Debate

To the Editor;

Thanks to those who led me in the ATV battles, those who fought alongside me, and those who quietly supported those of us on the front line. I also want to thank those who opposed us passionately, while trying to be civil. There are many, but I only have space to mention a few.

First is Dennis Duke, who has done and continues to do more for Boulder Junction than I ever can. He is involved in many projects in Boulder Junction, most recently the very successful ice skating ‘Glide.’ Dennis’ business seems to me to be a model for others to follow. I have been aware of no gloating by him or his ATV Club over the result – celebrating, sure; who doesn’t celebrate their wins?

Lisa Penner, who spoke on January 28, is another. As I listened to her on that day, I felt she was doing very well bringing out ATV positives, while minimizing criticism of those who favor serenity. As she walked back to her seat, I very quietly told her, “Good job.” After the county board vote was tallied and a brief recess was called, the first thing I did was to congratulate Lisa on the victory she and her associates had won. I appreciate that she responded by telling me that I had been a worthy opponent.

Finally, there is another speaker, Rich Hajt. He spoke of an individual who had complimented him and with whom he spent some hours on two separate occasions discussing the ATV question. He was speaking of me.

Rich seemed frustrated that I could compliment his approach, but was unwilling to compromise with him. I could go on for hours about why we were unable to reach what he felt was a compromise, but that is not my point.

What is most important to me is to share my belief that you can disagree – vehemently, even – with those you respect and like. A prime example is the close friend/arch-foe relationship that existed between deceased U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Antonin Scalia.

Almost all of us were taught as children to love our enemy. I would tone that down to, ‘Respect those you disagree with.’

As adults, many of us seem to have forgotten. There is far too much demonizing of those who don’t share our opinion today. Hate can hurt those to whom it is directed, but hate is more likely to hurt those who feel that emotion.

Democracy needs us, especially our leaders, to frequently disagree with each other, but to do so in a respectful manner.

We were taught that loving our enemies will make us perfect. I am far from perfect and often fail to do as I say. Our world, country, state, communities, and each of us, individually, would be far better if we all, at least, tried.

Steve Halverson
Boulder Junction

Passing along your assets

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 sizable 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

What Others Say

BY LOUANN SCHULFER, AWMA®, AIF®
ACCREDITED WEALTH MANAGEMENT ADVISORS
ACCREDITED INVESTMENT FIDUCIARY®, PUBLISHED
AUTHOR THEWEALTHINFORMATIONLADY.COM

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.

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OPINION/COMMENTARY



LOOK OUT! — A youngster who was one of many to race down the hill of Conover Community Park at Blizzard Blast last weekend. The event was held to support local fire and EMS departments, with firefighters from Phelps, Land O’ Lakes and Conover volunteering for a number of activities. —Staff Photo By JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN

Maines

FROM PAGE 8

and preservation work. The amount paid to leaders of the organization and paid staff amounts to a miniscule number. Last year DU passed the 2-million-dollar mark of a 3-million-dollar conservation effort aimed for by the end of 2026. The program is called Conservation for a Continent and includes all four flyways that waterfowl use in North America. The one million acres conserved and improved in

the last year totaled the size of the entire state of Rhode Island. What excites me is that it isn’t only old graybeards like yours truly who have bought into DU. Campus numbers at colleges and universities all over the U.S. now number over 280,000, which makes me feel good about keeping this great conservation effort going for many decades more, hopefully forever. With all that said about DU, when it comes down to aesthetics, I am head over heels in love with all species of waterfowl. From the

often-ridiculed coot to the most beautiful of green-head mallards, greater scaup, otherwise known as bluebills — they of the bright yellow eyes — stately pintails, bright cinnamon teal and brilliant white snow geese, I love them all. From the first open water of spring when mallards, wood ducks and their brethren begin returning, until ice covers the lakes forcing them south in late fall, I spend hours and hours and hours sitting at the edge of our lakes and backwoods ponds, doing nothing but quietly watching with great

thanks, all the species of ducks and geese which bless us with their company. Yes, I shoot a number of ducks each fall, and I thoroughly enjoy roast duck on my dinner plate, but just having the privilege of watching them quietly go about their daily business with no intent of harm being done to them means the world to me. Just think, in a mere matter of six weeks or so, I will begin to once more see my favorites of all favorites return to north Wisconsin. I’ll be keeping my eyes peeled for the first to arrive.

Johnson

FROM PAGE 1

every holiday including sixth place Valentine’s Day, eighth place Super Bowl Sunday, another February observance, and tenth place Earth Day. As a child, I remember President’s Day, a federal holiday set aside for honoring all U.S. presidents, as being a bigger deal, but then that was before the taint of President Richard M. Nixon’s 1972-74 Watergate scandal. Heck, I remember even before the 1971 implementation of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act and the resulting dawn of the President’s Day sales at W.T. Grant, F.W. Woolworth, Sears, JCPenney and Gimbels, years when President George Washington’s birthday was celebrated on Feb. 22 and Lincoln’s birthday was celebrated on Feb. 12, creating a month filled with construction paper elementary school crafts including Valentines hearts, Washington silhouettes, and Lincoln stovepipe hats and log cabins, as well as historical deep dives into a studious Lincoln doing his homework on the back of a shovel in the family’s dirt floor frontier log cabin, and a scallywag young Washington ‘fessing up to chopping down the family cherry tree. I don’t remember doing any crafts for other February-born presidents. William Henry “Old

Tippecanoe” Harrison (1873-1841) was the nation’s shortest-tenured president, serving one month from March 4-April 4, 1841, as the first president to die in office, creating a constitutional crisis in the process. And actor and former California Gov. Ronald Wilson Reagan (1911-2004) had yet to ascend to his 1981-89 presidency from his humble working class youth in Tampico and Dixon, Ill. I’m not sure what craft imagery you would have used in a classroom to commemorate Whig president Harrison. Of his campaign symbols, log cabins and hard cider, log cabins were already used for Lincoln crafts, which left teachers between an educational rock and a hard place — a hard cider barrel or a tombstone. Not surprisingly, Harrison was not a part of February classroom crafts. But on a more serious side, having been a lanyard-wearing member of the White House Press Corps, albeit briefly, in my 36-year journalism career, I think the low profile of Presidents Day today has more to do with a national personal disconnect with our presidency. While gone with button shoes and stovepipe hats are the days of public visiting hours to personally bend the president’s ear at the White House, it’s still possible to visit the president’s house, albeit in a different way. Having toured Washington’s Virginia



Seen on June 22, 2024 is the Young America’s Foundation Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home and Visitors Center, 810 S. Hennepin Ave., Dixon, Ill. Reagan lived here from 1920-23 and remembered his formative years in Dixon fondly. Tours, available April-December, include a pre-tour film in the visitor’s center and a docent-guided tour of Reagan’s National Register-listed circa-1891 boyhood home. —Photo By Eric A. Johnson “Mount Vernon” home-turned-living-history-museum along the Potomac River twice, visited the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill., and explored the unassuming Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home and Visitor’s Center on Hennepin Avenue in Dixon, Ill., last summer, the tangible up-close-and-

personal encounters walking in the footsteps of history lend a new perspective on the presidency, and our presidents, that’s hard to put into words. But it’s a new, deeper perspective that’s worth the trip. Eric Johnson can be reached at eric@fyinorthwoods.com.

Chief

FROM PAGE 6

Apparatus Operator for Aerial and Pumper, and Certified Fire Officer,” Ryan noted. “I have also served as a Fire Instructor and completed numerous NIMS certifications and Incident Command training.” Beyond the fire service, Ryan works full-time as a real estate agent for Eliason Realty of the North and serves as a Town Supervisor on the Phelps Town Board. In his free time, he enjoys

spending time with his kids, golfing, snowmobiling, boating, hunting, fishing and working on projects in his shop. “As Fire Chief, I am honored to lead an incredible group of dedicated volunteers who are committed to providing exceptional service to our community while maintaining a fiscally responsible budget. Their commitment, courage, and willingness to answer the call—whether in emergencies, training, fundraising, or improving the department—are truly inspiring,”

he shared. “My vision for the department is to continue fostering strong relationships among our members, their families, and the community. While I have ambitious plans to enhance training and implement operational changes that will improve safety and better protect our town, I am fortunate to work with an exceptional team that makes these goals attainable. “I also want to recognize and thank the families of our firefighters. Without their unwavering support, none of us could dedicate the time

and energy required for this noble calling. “A special acknowledgment goes to Former Fire Chief Norm Mesun for his 43 years of service and leadership. His dedication to the department and the community is unparalleled. I am fortunate to have both a strong working relationship and a valued friendship with him, which has made this transition seamless. Thank you to all who support our department—we could not do this without you.”

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.



Thank you, Eagle River Hospital

To the Editor; I am writing this letter to thank the staff of the Aspirus Eagle River Hospital for the outstanding care I received during my recent 18-day hospitalization. I fell in my home on Jan. 11 and fractured my pelvis. The first responders were incredible in caring for me and transporting me quickly to the emergency room. The emergency room staff were efficient, compassionate and reassuring, and moved quickly to get the necessary tests done to diagnose my injury. The x-ray technician was so careful in moving me as I was in severe pain. Once I was admitted to a room, everyone, from the nurses, CNA’s, hospitalists, therapists, custodial staff and chaplain were competent, caring, and gave me wonderful care. Their care encouraged and helped me start my road to recovery. Thank you and God Bless you for your dedication to your patients and to the community that you serve. Barbara L. Zima

Savvy

FROM PAGE 8

file because you’re due a refund. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete. You can access this tool at [IRS.gov/Help/ITA](https://www.irs.gov/help/ita) – click on “Filing Requirements – Do I need to file a tax return?” Or you can get assistance over the phone by calling the IRS helpline at 800-829-1040. Check Your State Even if you’re not required to file a federal tax return this year, don’t assume that you’re also excused from filing state income taxes. The rules for your state might be very different. Check with your state tax agency before concluding that you’re entirely in the clear. For links to state tax agencies see [Taxadmin.org/fta-members](https://www.taxadmin.org/fta-members). Tax Preparation Help If you find that you do need to file a tax return this year, you can Free File at [IRS.gov/FreeFile](https://www.irs.gov/freefile), which is a partnership

program between the IRS and tax software companies. Your 2024 adjusted gross income must be below \$84,000 to qualify. Or, if you have a simple tax situation and your income is below \$200,000, or \$250,000 if you’re married and filing jointly, you can now file your taxes for free through the new IRS Direct File program in 24 states at [DirectFile.IRS.gov](https://directfile.irs.gov). If you need some help, contact the IRS sponsored Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program, which provides free tax preparation and counseling to middle and low-income taxpayers, age 60 and older. Call 800-906-9887 or visit irs.treasury.gov/freetax-prep to locate services near you. You can also get tax preparation assistance through the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide service at [AARP.org/findtaxhelp](https://www.aarp.org/findtaxhelp) or call 888-227-7669. Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.

Roses

FROM PAGE 4

compost bin. This innovative approach aims to enhance the school’s cafeteria offerings, and provides educational opportunities for students. The school’s Tech Ed teacher and students played a significant role in this initiative by fabricating wheel platforms,

allowing the units to be easily transported between elementary and high school classrooms. Leafy greens grown in these gardens are now being used to supplement the cafeteria’s menu, promoting healthier eating habits among students. For more information, call Lions Club President Nancy Lawohn-Ohman at 414-630-2468, or check out their FaceBook page at Three Lakes Lions 27-C2.

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Voyageur Lake

- 11 BR/11 BA, 7859 sq ft luxury home
- 100' sand frtg, professional landscaping, covered patio
- Game room, full wet bar, theater, private

\$5,100,000

MLS#209184

Two Sisters Lake

- 4 BR/3 BA, around 3700 sq ft, 3 car garage
- 349' sand frtg, crystal clear water
- Wide 2.3 AC lot, western views

\$1,075,000

MLS#209397

Wisconsin River

- 3 BR/3 BA, 20+ AC, 2 car attached garage
- 2200' frtg, barn, fenced pasture, deck
- Several updates, finished extra garage

\$719,000

MLS#208488

Long Lake

- 2 wooded AC on Three Lakes Chain
- Gradual slope to water
- Throughfare to Eagle River Chain

\$599,900

MLS#210236

Eagle River

- 4 BR/3.5 BA, 2575 sq ft townhome
- Home 34, new construction, near ER Chain
- Community clubhouse, indoor pool, bb court

\$539,500

MLS#209209

Three Lakes

- 1955 sq ft commercial building
- 2 offices, 2 BA, kitchen, conference room
- Private parking, nicely finished

\$479,900

MLS#210422

Little St. Germain Lake

- 3 BR/3 BA, 1479 sq ft condo
- 2100' shared sand frtg
- 3 units—1 BR/1 BA, kitchen, and LR each

\$324,900

MLS#206949

Ironwood, Michigan

- Prime commercial location, over 6300 sq ft
- Lg wraparound bar, open & pvt dining areas
- Walk-in coolers, updated roof & updated HVAC

\$299,000

MLS#210339

Prentice

- 3 BR/4 BA ranch, finished basement w/bar
- 4000+ sq ft, 2+ AC, family room
- 1600+ sq ft of attached garage space

\$295,000

MLS#209114

Marenisco, Michigan

- 120 AC, Ottawa National Forest
- Lake Gogebic nearby, low taxes
- Investment opportunity, CFA plan

\$165,000

MLS#210131

Stella Lake

- 10+ AC, electric at private road
- 300' frtg, covenants and restriction
- Road maintenance agreement

\$149,000

MLS#210205

Presque Isle River

- 40 AC in Ottawa National Forest, secluded
- 600' frtg, easy access to trails, hunters paradise
- Mixture of hardwoods and pines

\$69,000

MLS#210629

Presque Isle

- 1.76 AC, wooded corner lot
- Deeded lake access as an owner
- Private preserve, common acreage

\$17,900

MLS#207185



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