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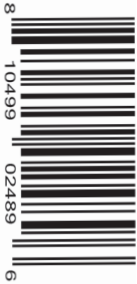


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Section A

VILAS COUNTY

News-Review



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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Voters approve  
Pines referendum

Referendum  
passes with  
67% approval

BY JOSEPHINE  
HINDERMAN  
NEWS EDITOR

Voters in Vilas County have approved the Northland Pines District operational referendum with a 1,294 to 633 vote during last Tuesday's Spring Primary election.

The operational referendum will allow the district to exceed the revenue limit for operational purposes with \$5.6 million per year for three years starting with the 2025-26 school year. This referendum will replace the current referendum, passed in 2022, for \$4.6 million per year.

District Administrator Scott Foster said that this is great news for both students and the future of the district, as this will be an opportunity for improvements and maintenance of the district's buildings, curriculum, and staffing.

"In addition to the money, the margin gives us confidence that the community values the district in what we are doing, and so we are given a chance for another three years," he said. "As we shared, we will continue to find ways to generate revenue, make cuts, and find efficiencies."

Foster adds that this operational referendum will also allow the district to continue focusing on higher academic outcomes, options

To VOTERS Pg. 3



WORLD SERIES — A group of drivers led by Reed Klinger (221) and Blaine Stephenson (102) dive into a corner at the World Championship Derby Complex during the World Series of Snowmobile Racing last weekend in Eagle River.

—Photo By Doug Etten

Laona State Bank board  
decides it will close  
Three Lakes branch

Town  
chairman  
disappointed  
bank failed  
job

BY KURT KRUEGER  
CORRESPONDENT

The Laona State Bank board of directors announced last week that it would be closing its branch in Three Lakes as of May 16, just three years after the bank answered pleas from town officials to become the town's only bank.

The decision is a huge disappointment to Town Chairman Roger Brisk, who said Laona State Bank failed to do an effective job of marketing its loan offerings to Three Lakes businesses and residents.

"Bank officials are saying, among other things, that they did not make their loan projections here," said Brisk. "But they didn't put up any banners or do any significant marketing to let Three Lakes residents know that they did loans."

Bank officials have been tight-lipped on their exact reasons for the closure announcement, saying only that it was a "difficult

decision" of the board of directors in a letter to Brisk.

"I understand this may be an inconvenience for many living in the Three Lakes area and we will do our best to minimize those disruptions," wrote Ted Ison, president of Laona State Bank. "We do offer a wide variety of online and mobile banking products to offset some of the problems created by distance."

Brisk, who said he will contact all seven lenders in the Eagle River area this week, and a couple in Rhinelander, in an attempt

To BANK Pg. 3



JUNKER SLEDDIN' — A snowmobiler caught some air while competing at junker sled races at Don Burnside Park last weekend in Three Lakes.

—Staff Photo By AUDREY LEHMAN

Ice castle's  
chilly reign ends

Commemorative  
snow globes  
on sale now

BY JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN  
NEWS EDITOR

The iconic Eagle River ice castle's chilly reign has come to an end as the Eagle River Fire Department took it down Monday afternoon ahead of higher temps forecasted for later this week.

The castle was initially slated to be taken down on March 1. The Eagle River Fire Department, responsible for the building and deconstruction of the castle, encourages people to share their favorite photos of the ice castle on social media.

This is the first time the castle has been erected in Eagle River in four years, with construction

starting in early January of this year. The process spanned over about 5 days.

The process started when the Eagle River Fire Department and dozens of volunteers cut blocks of ice from Silver Lake before constructing the castle at the historic railroad depot near downtown Eagle River.

The ice was cut using a special machine on Silver Lake, just a mile from downtown Eagle River. Firefighters and volunteers then moved the ice via a conveyor belt into awaiting pickup trucks. The ice was hauled to the depot parking lot where more volunteers use special shavers to trim ice into 13-inch, 90-pound blocks.

The ice castle tradition has been an Eagle River staple since the 1920s.

To CASTLE Pg. 2



SPRINGTIME SOON? — It seems as though spring may be right around the corner for some parts of the state as temperatures nearing the high 40s and low 50s will seemingly break the cold snap of the past several weeks. Hopefully, sounds of migratory songbirds will be returning to the North Woods as temps rise and winter gives way to spring, including the tune of Wisconsin's state bird, the American robin.

—STAFF PHOTO

St. Germain  
snowmobile  
accident kills one

A snowmobile accident in St. Germain last Saturday evening resulted in the death of one.

The Vilas County 911 Center received a call just before 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22, of a snowmobiler who struck a tree along a curve on Trail 15 near Sweet Fern Lane in St. Germain.

The snowmobiler was unresponsive when emergency personnel arrived on scene, and CPR was initiated.

The snowmobiler was transported from the scene by St. Germain 91. While en route to the hospital, life-saving measures were unsuccessful, and the snowmobiler was pronounced deceased.

The name of the deceased has not yet been released by the Vilas County Sheriff's Office.

The incident is being investigated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Units that responded to the accident included the Vilas County Sheriff's Office, St. Germain EMS, MED 5, Medical Examiner and the DNR.

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WEATHER CORNER

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. 18 .....	7	-10	None	Sun., Feb. 18 .....	28	3	None
Wed., Feb. 19 .....	14	-10	None	Mon., Feb. 19 .....	37	-1	Tr. S
Thurs., Feb. 20 .....	23	-6	0.3" S	Tues., Feb. 20 .....	48	19	None
Fri., Feb. 21 .....	29	-14	None	Wed., Feb. 21 .....	51	24	None
Sat., Feb. 22 .....	32	8	Tr. S	Thurs., Feb. 22 .....	51	23	None
Sun., Feb. 23 .....	40	21	Tr. S	Fri., Feb. 23 .....	33	4	None
Mon., Feb. 24 .....	45	29	0.4" S	Sat., Feb. 24 .....	32	-1	None

**LAST YEAR**

The average daily high at this time last year for the next seven days was 45, while the average overnight low was 13. There was precipitation on one day, measuring 0.7" of snow.

**Comparison**

Days of precipitation recorded since Jan. 1, 2025, 41 days; 2024, 28 days. Average high of past 30 days, 2025, 23; 2024, 38. Average low of past 30 days, 2025, 1; 2024, 19.

**SNOW DEPTH**

Snow measured around 7" in depth at 2:30 pm on Monday, Feb. 24.

**ICE CONDITIONS**

Mostly normal winter weather lately has led to great ice on area lakes, with most bodies of water seeing between 22-28" of thickness. Ice should hold over well into Spring.

**5-DAY OUTLOOK**

<b>Wednesday:</b> Morning snow showers.	Hi:40	Lo:29
<b>Thursday:</b> Cloudy.	Hi:35	Lo:23
<b>Friday:</b> Chance of afternoon rain and snow showers.	Hi:38	Lo:14
<b>Saturday:</b> Considerable cloudiness.	Hi:18	Lo:2
<b>Sunday:</b> Mix of sun and clouds.	Hi:29	Lo:18

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

Spring Primary carries out smoothly across Wisconsin

Local election officials across Wisconsin reported no significant issues in the Spring Primary on Tuesday, setting the stage for the upcoming Spring Election on April 1.

“We are always pleased when things run smoothly across the state,” said Wisconsin Elections Commission Administrator Meagan Wolfe. “Even in a smaller election such as a Spring Primary, clerks need to be ready to handle whatever comes their way. We’re grateful for the skill and dedication of our clerks in Wisconsin.”

The nonpartisan Feb. 18 Spring Primary narrowed the number of candidates who will appear on the April 1 Spring Election ballot. Based on unofficial results, Jill Underly and Brittany Kinser advanced to the April 1 ballot in the State Superintendent of Public Instruction race in the only statewide contest on Tuesday’s ballot. There were many contested primary elections in local races around the state, the unofficial results of which will be available on each of Wisconsin’s 72 counties’ websites.

Election results are not final until they are certified. Municipal Boards of Canvassers offer the final verification and certification of municipal-level contests, such as primaries for mayor and city council, and also review county and state-level contests before forwarding to the county; School Districts Boards of Canvassers offer final verification and certification of school district contests; county boards of canvassers offer final verification and certification for county-level contests, such as the primaries for county board, and also review state-level contests before forwarding to the WEC; and the chair of the WEC offers the final verification and certification for state-level contests, such as the primaries for circuit court judge.

The deadlines associated with each canvass are available in the WEC’s 2025 Calendar of Election Events at <https://elections.wi.gov/calendar/print>.

The Chair of the WEC must certify the Tuesday, Feb. 18, election results by March 4. The WEC will publish official state-level results once they have been through the canvass process certified by the WEC Chair. The WEC does not centrally compile unofficial results. However, unofficial election results are available on county websites, and a list with links to these county election sites is available here: <https://elections.wi.gov/wisconsin-county-election-websites>.

The WEC does not plan to calculate preliminary, unofficial statewide turnout figures for Tuesday’s election. The most reliable and accessible source of turnout estimates would be local election officials, who can speak to turnout in their respective communities.

It is normal for unofficial election results to change slightly as election officials conduct canvasses to ensure an accurate vote total while completing the certification process.

Castle

FROM PAGE 1

Commemorative snow globes

To commemorate the ice castle, the Eagle River Fire Department is now selling limited edition 2025 Eagle River Fire Department Snow Globes for \$75 each. The snow globes have 2D renderings of the ice castle inside.

The snow globes are approximately 4 inches in diameter and hold a blue LED light.

The department says that the snowglobes are still in the early stages of production and are anticipated to arrive in October, 2025.

Those who order one will be contacted via the email address they provide on the order form when the snow globes are ready to be picked up. When ready, the snow globes can be picked up from the Eagle River Fire Station. The department is also offering a shipping option for an additional charge.

To order a snow globe, visit <https://shorturl.at/RNz6P>.

For more information, on both orders and up-to-date ice castle information, visit the Eagle River Fire Department Facebook page at <http://facebook.com/EagleRiverAreaFireDepartment>.



The Eagle River Fire Department says that the ice castle is set to go down before or on March 1 in preparation for rising temperatures later this week. —Staff Photo By TIM SCHRIEBER

Gov. Evers’ prison reform plan aims to close North Woods youth facility in Irma by 2029

BY MICHELLE DREW CORRESPONDENT

Gov. Tony Evers has announced sweeping reforms to Wisconsin’s corrections system that would include the closure of Lincoln Hills School for boys and Copper Lake School for girls, located in Lincoln County, by 2029.

These reforms, announced over the weekend as part of his 2025-27 Executive Budget, aim to improve public safety across the state, reduce short and long-term costs to taxpayers, lower rates of recidivism, support corrections staff, and stabilize the state’s skyrocketing prison populations, according to a press release from Evers’ office.

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) operates Lincoln Hills School and Copper Lake School, which is the state’s Type 1 secure juvenile correctional facility for male and female youth in DOC custody.

Controversy has long surrounded Lincoln Hills, with investigations into allegations of abuse of youth and youth assaults on staff — one of which

resulted in the death of a 49-year-old counselor last summer after he was assaulted by a 16-year-old student at the facility.

Plans to close the school go back to former Gov. Scott Walker’s administration, when investigations into serious abuse allegations began as early as 2015. According to an Associated Press article from December 2015, “Court records show state authorities are investigating a range of potential crimes at a Wisconsin juvenile prison, including sexual assault, physical abuse and child neglect.” The DOC ordered the use of body cameras following the probe.

In addition to these allegations, dwindling population in the youth facility has led to skyrocketing costs, according to an article released last December by Wisconsin Watch.

“A campus built for more than 500 is mostly underused as enrollment declines, but taxpayers must still pay to maintain the same large space. It affects county budgets since they pay for youth they send to state juvenile correctional facilities,” the report by Wisconsin

Watch says. “But taxpayers haven’t seen overall savings from the steep drop in enrollment either. The state in 2015 budgeted about \$25.9 million for the Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake complex. That number climbed to about \$31.3 million by 2023 with the addition of staff — a cost increase nearly in line with inflation during that period.”

The first step of Evers’ plan would be building a facility for youth offenders in Dane County, allowing the state to close the Lincoln Hills complex in Irma, at a cost of \$130.7 million.

Completing the juvenile Dane County facility would be the latest step in a years-long effort to shutter Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake. Using the proposed Dane County facility — along with a new facility that opened in Racine County earlier this month, and another in Milwaukee that is set to open next year — the state would be able to move youth offenders out of Lincoln Hills in early 2029, according to the Evers Administration.

The Lincoln County complex would then undergo \$9 million in renovations to be converted into a 500-bed, medium-

security institution for men.

Evers’ comprehensive corrections plan proposes a “domino” series of facility changes, improvements, and modernization efforts across Wisconsin’s correctional institutions, including ultimately closing Green Bay Correctional Institution (GBCI) in 2029 and wholly rehabilitating and transforming Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI), facilities that were both built in the 1800s.

**About Lincoln Hills/ Copper Lake**

Lincoln Hills School opened in the summer of 1970. From 1972 to 1994, both male and female youth were placed there. Lincoln Hills also serves as a secure detention resource for male youth from nearby counties.

In 2011, Copper Lake School for Girls opened at the Lincoln Hills site. In June 2011, Southern Oaks Girls School closed and female youth in DOC custody were moved to Copper Lake School.

Copper Lake operates as a separate facility, with sight and sound separation from Lincoln Hills, and serves as a secure detention resource for female youth from nearby counties.

Aspirus Health promotes early heart disease detection, coronary calcium score scans

In recognition of Heart Month, Aspirus Health is

raising awareness about an advanced, noninvasive test, the coronary calcium score scan, which helps identify heart disease before symptoms arise.

This quick and painless CT scan measures calcium buildup in the coronary arteries, providing a clearer picture of a person’s heart health. The scan results in a numerical calcium score that helps doctors assess a patient’s risk for heart disease.

“The results do matter,” says Dr. Daniel Krause, a cardiologist at Aspirus Heart Care. “A score of zero is ideal, meaning no calcification. Most people have a score under 100, but if it’s over 100, we take a closer look at risk factors. A score above 400 is

concerning and may lead to further evaluation, such as stress testing.”

With this information, doctors can create personalized prevention plans, including lifestyle modifications, medication, or additional screenings if necessary.

The scan is particularly beneficial for individuals between the ages of 40 and 70 who have risk factors for heart disease, such as:

- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Diabetes
- A family history of heart disease
- Smoking history
- Obesity
- A sedentary lifestyle
- Chronic stress

Even those without symptoms could benefit if

they have one or more of these risk factors.

“This is a great screening tool,” says Dr. Krause. “It’s quick, affordable, and highly effective at helping us determine heart disease risk in patients who may not have symptoms.”

Coverage for a coronary calcium score scan varies by insurance provider. Many insurance plans do not cover the test, meaning patients may need to pay out-of-pocket. At Aspirus, the average cost of the test is \$99. Patients should check with their insurance provider or health care facility for specific cost details.

For more information, or to connect with an Aspirus cardiologist, visit Aspirus.org.

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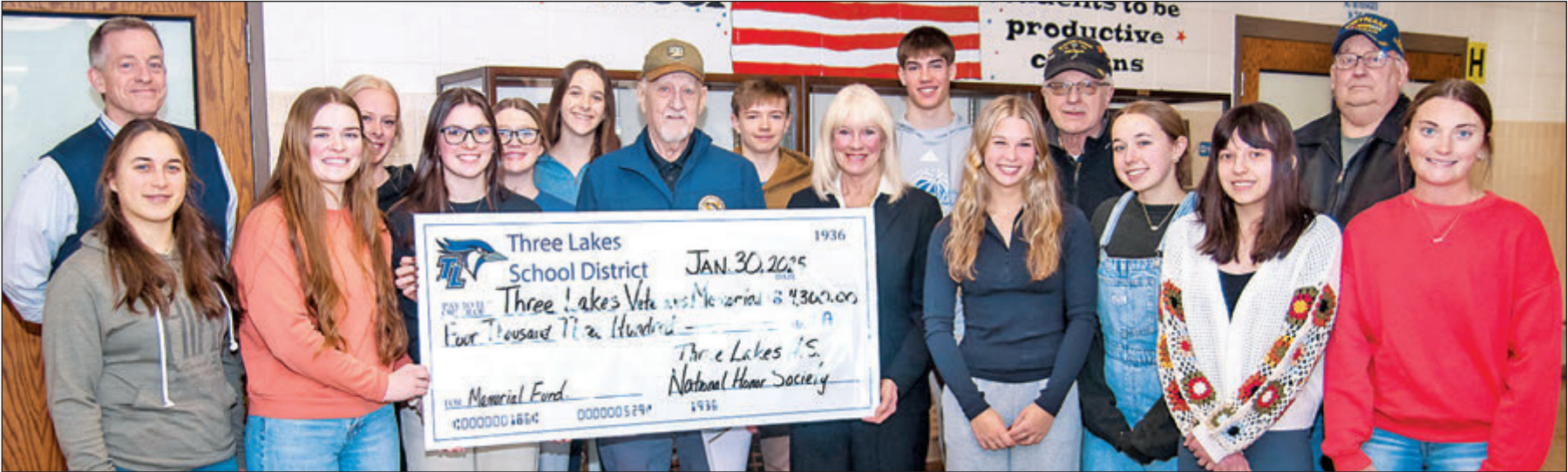
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NEWS



**BIG DONATION** — The Three Lakes National Honor Society held a community garage sale on Jan. 25 that raised \$4,500. The funds have been donated to the Three Lakes Veterans Memorial Fund. The NHS presented a check to several members from the fund. —Photo By Jen West

Nicolet College, FORK say “Stick it to Hunger”

BY NEWS-REVIEW STAFF

Nicolet College has partnered with Feed Our Rural Kids (FORK) to take part in their Stick It to Hunger program by displaying food helpline stickers in bathrooms all across the college's campus. Stick It to Hunger is a collaboration between Feed Our Rural Kids and the Vilas and Oneida County Departments of Human Services to promote FORK's Family Food Helpline — a toll-free, confidential source of information related to free and reduced-cost food support programming. Spreading awareness of the helpline number (888-479- FORK) is a broad educational challenge, according to FORK President Perry Pokrandt, which has been an expensive and time-consuming endeavor for the all-volunteer organization. “Our goal is to place Family Food Helpline stickers on every bathroom mirror across both Oneida and Vilas counties’ private



businesses, schools, government buildings, churches and all other public buildings,” explained FORK Pokrandt. “We are now excited to announce that these Family Food Helpline Stickers will be displayed in bathrooms across the Nicolet College Campus.” Nicolet College President Kate Ferrel, a member of the FORK Board of Directors, shares these projects’ long-term objectives: “For about a dime a sticker, we can be ‘need-facing’ for up to five years,” she said. “It’s

a big deal, as last year food insecurity affected 13.5% of U.S. households.” According to Ferrel, the average food-insecure household struggles with food insecurity for 7 months during the year, making food insecurity an issue that can be unpredictable and hiding in plain sight at any given moment in time. “That’s why Nicolet College will ‘Stick it to Hunger!’” Ferrel concluded. “Cost-effective communication is essential, as the greatest challenge for the helpline will always

be finding creative and cost-effective ways to keep 888-479-FORK (3675) ‘top-of-mind’ with area residents,” explained Oneida County Human Services Director Mary Rideout. “Our hope is that we can enlist the support of local partners across both counties, who will help us to place Family Food Helpline stickers on bathroom mirrors in area businesses, schools, churches, government and other public buildings.” FORK is inviting local businesses in the area to be part of the Stick It to Hunger initiative. Any interested businesses located in Vilas or Oneida County can email [info@FeedOurRuralKids.org](mailto:info@FeedOurRuralKids.org) to arrange for stickers to be delivered. For those representing an organization in Vilas or Oneida County, and are interested in learning more about how their group might help with this project, reach out to Stick It to Hunger project Chairperson Lynn Kenning at [info@feedourruralkids.org](mailto:info@feedourruralkids.org), or call her at 312-543-1801.

Voters

FROM PAGE 1

in the classroom, and extra-curricular activities for students, maintain district buildings, retain and attract staff, open district buildings to the community, and maintain a focus on safety. “We have been a district that is constantly trying to improve and this allows us to continue down that path,” he concluded. “(This vote) is also about how the community views that we are meeting their expectations and their investment of having a high quality school for current and future students.” In a newsletter released following Tuesday’s primary, Foster emphasized the sense of community among staff, students, coaches and local businesses, saying, “The strength of the district is our people and our continuous improvement mindset... Thank you again for the

opportunity to serve the students, parents and community of the Northland Pines School District. We look forward to working together to make this an even better district and community.” More information about the referendum can be found on the district website at <https://www.npsd.k12.wi.us/district/referendum-2025.cfm>. **Other votes** Also on the Spring Primary ballot was voting for Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Education, with incumbent Dr. Jill Underly being challenged by Jeff Wright and Brittany Kinser. While Underly won the popular vote in statewide polls with 177,397 votes, or about 38% majority, Vilas County results saw challenger Kinser coming out on top with 943 votes to Underly’s 830 and Wright’s 905. Both Underly and Kinser will now be advancing to be put on election ballots for the April 1 general election.

Bank

FROM PAGE 1

to bring a full-service bank to the Three Lakes community, has pleaded with Laona State Bank to change its mind. In a letter to Ison, Brisk challenged whether the bank could “honestly say that you or any member of Laona State Bank management or lending team worked hard to promote lending in our community?” Brisk pointed out that there has been no signage of significance in the branch to promote lending, no direct mail campaign to the community as a whole, or even solicitations to just its current customer base here. “There isn’t a solicitation or even a mention of loan products available on your monthly account statement,” Brisk noted to Ison. “Our small businesses and churches that rushed to open accounts with you will be impacted the most,” Brisk wrote. He noted that there are six banks and a credit union a short 10 miles from Three Lakes, in Eagle River, that would prevent Laona State Bank from serving its current

accounts in Three Lakes from a Crandon office that is 30 miles away. Brisk said Laona’s decision to come to Three Lakes some three years ago was met with cheers from the business community and many residents. The bank came to Three Lakes after Nicolet National Bank and BMO Bank had closed their branches here, leaving the town without what Brisk calls a “full service bank.” “We do have Forward Bank in town, but they do not offer safe deposit boxes and they don’t offer change for tills that business owners need,” Brisk said in a telephone interview. “The Three Lakes community needs a lender and it needs a full-service bank or credit union. Laona State Bank has the only 24 hour ATM in town connected directly to a financial institution.” Brisk said other negatives from the announcement include the loss of three full-time jobs in Three Lakes and the creation of another vacant building on Superior Street. “If a full-service bank or credit union wants to come to Three Lakes, this community will find a place for them,” said Brisk.

DNR now accepting ARPA Well Abandonment Grant programs

Governor Evers recently announced an additional round of federal grant funding of up to \$5 million to support the replacement, reconstruction, treatment, or abandonment of contaminated private wells. The expanded grant programs provide more support to private well owners and increase access to clean drinking water, including expanding eligibility to those facing PFAS contamination in their wells. Many previously ineligible individuals will now be eligible to apply, including some small Wisconsin businesses with a noncommunity well, such as day care centers, rural restaurants and churches, among others. The DNR began accepting applications for grants under the reinstated program on Feb. 3, 2025. The expanded eligibility criteria include these changes to the contamination requirements:

- Any well contaminated with nitrate at concentrations at or above the state’s public health standard of 10 parts per million (ppm) is now eligible. Previously, only

nitrate- contaminated wells with concentrations above 40 ppm, that were used as a water supply for livestock, were eligible.

- Any well contaminated with arsenic at concentrations at or above the federal drinking water standard of 10 parts per billion (ppb) is now eligible. Previously, only arsenic-contaminated wells above the threshold of 50 ppb were eligible. The arsenic threshold for arsenic-contaminated wells has been lowered from 50 ppb to 10 ppb to comply with federal drinking water standards.
- Any well with a source of bacterial contamination that presents a human health risk is now eligible for the program. Previously, only wells contaminated with fecal bacteria caused by livestock were eligible.
- A well with PFAS exceeding the drinking water standard in Ch. NR 809 (70 parts per trillion for PFOA+PFOS), or subject to an advisory from the Department of Health Services due to the levels of PFAS in the well, is eligible for well compensation.

In this second round of

funding, applicants must provide laboratory results from one water sample that confirms the contamination in their well. For bacteria contamination, two water samples are still required. Samples must be tested at a certified laboratory, and testing needs to have been done within the last two years of the application date to be eligible. The following is a list of award amounts:

- The maximum award amount under the program will be \$16,000.
- The cost share requirement under the program will be \$0.

Well owners interested in applying should first determine if they are eligible by completing the Well Compensation Grant Preliminary Eligibility questionnaire at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BVN8KPQ>. Well owners who are eligible for a Well Compensation Grant can follow the steps to apply on the Well Compensation Grant Program webpage at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/WellCompensationARPA.html>.

is also available from the American Rescue Plan Act Well Abandonment Grant Program to properly fill and seal abandoned or unused private or noncommunity wells. Applicants must meet the income limit of \$100,000 to apply. Eligibility can be determined by completing the Well Abandonment Grant Preliminary Eligibility questionnaire at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QBPCNSX>. Well owners who are eligible for a Well Abandonment Grant can follow the steps to apply on the Well Abandonment Grant Program webpage at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/WellAbandonmentARPA.html>. The DNR will accept applications and issue awards on a continuous basis until all funding is expended. Application materials will be updated and posted to the Well Compensation Grant Program webpage and the Well Abandonment Grant Program webpage. Questions about the program can be sent to [DNRARPAWellGrants@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRARPAWellGrants@wisconsin.gov).

VILAS COUNTY

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26/2/25



OBITUARIES

Diane “Tiny” Ryan



Diane “Tiny” Mae Ryan, age 83, of Land O’Lakes passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025.

Diane was born on Dec. 17, 1941, to Frank and Lempi Sulstrom in Phelps, Wis. She was the youngest of 12 siblings and very close with her family. She was given the nickname of “Tiny” from her brother, Donald, when she was born, and it stuck with her all of her life. Tiny graduated from Phelps High School in May of 1959.

She decided to join the Army after high school with her sister, Joyce, and they went to Alabama for basic training in March of 1960. She enjoyed her time in the WACS and was stationed in Maryland, Hawaii and Colorado. They were discharged in Aug. of 1965 and moved back to the Northwoods.

Once back home, Tiny went to work with her sisters, Ruth, Joyce and Kaye at a restaurant in Land O’Lakes called the Hi-Hat Club. She reminisced often about the good times spent there with her siblings. It was there, in the summer of 1968, that she met William “Bill” Ryan and they were married in April of 1969. They had three daughters whom they raised in Phelps.

Diane worked hard all of her life. She was employed for over 10 years at Phelps Hospital as a cook. She also worked as a housekeeper for many years at various resorts in the area, including Big Sand Lake Club.

Tiny was an avid Wisconsin sports fan and tried to watch most games. She also liked to watch “Jeopardy” and work on her crossword puzzles. A favorite past-time was reading one of her murder-mystery novels with her kitty, Luki, by her side. Since her husband, Bill’s passing in Oct., she had been doing so well and was flourishing with her newfound independence.

Diane was very proud of her Finnish heritage and also proud to call Phelps her hometown. She always loved a good laugh, and enjoyed music and playing her records, especially Elvis, Waylon Jennings and Patsy Cline. Her family was her greatest joy, and she talked of them often. She loved spending time with her daughters, grandkids, and great-grandkids.

Diane is survived by her three daughters, Diana (Mark) Killian of Minocqua, Billie Jo (Leonard) Cirese of Phelps, and Marie (Tim Brod) Ryan of Eagle River; seven grandchildren, Ryan, Nicholas, Nathan, Samuel, Olivia, Isabel and Hunter; and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill; her parents; and all of her brothers and sisters.

Per Tiny’s wishes, no funeral service will be held. Her family will be having a private gathering later this spring to celebrate her life.

Diane will be missed more than words can say. Everyone who knew her, loved her and her kind-heartedness. She was so strong and resilient, despite her small stature, and always a thoughtful, caring and loving soul.

Arrangements by Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home, Eagle River. Online condolences may be expressed at [gaffney-busha.com](http://gaffney-busha.com) PAID OBITUARY

Judith Esther Rozell

May 25, 1945 - February 17, 2025



We are saddened to share that Judy Rozell (née Spiess) took that great trip to heaven on Feb. 17, 2025. Judy left us due to natural causes with her children and husband by her side.

Daughter of Charlie and Ruth Spiess, Judy was raised in Eagle River and spent most of her life in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. She graduated from Eagle River Union High School in 1963 and then attended Spencerian College in Milwaukee WI.

In March of 1966 Judy married Ward Polzin. Judy and Ward had two children, Barry William and Marianne Kay during their marriage.

Judy then married Mike Campbell in June of 1978.

The happiest time of Judy’s life, however, was when she reconnected with her high school sweetheart, Glen Rozell, at their 50th class reunion. Judy and Glen picked up where they left off and married in 2017. They took up residency in Arizona where they were at the time of her passing.

Judy’s smiling face could be seen often in downtown Eagle River at Spiess Sporting Goods, Judy’s Closet or Speakeasy Tavern, all of which she owned/managed. Over the years Judy made many friends, both local and out of towners, while she was a hostess or waitressing at many of the area establishments.

Anyone who knew Judy knew she loved to laugh, loved to be surrounded by people, loved to have a good time and would give the shirt off her back if a friend was in need. Our earthly home will be a much quieter, and likely duller, place without her here. But let’s imagine the shindig going on in heaven as we speak. Not to mention some pretty intense cribbage games.

Judy was preceded in death by her brother, Gary Spiess; parents, Charlie and Ruth; several aunts and uncles. Friends, Billy Mintner, Nancy Fessenbecker, Dorelle DeGoes and Ron Hollenagel.

She is survived by her children, Barry and Marianne (Joe); sister, Barb (Mike) Waldera; love of her life, Glen Rozell and so many cousins and friends.

We would like to extend a thank you to lifelong friends Karen Maxson, Lorretta Coulter, Sandy Weber, Kay Westling, Jim (Pat) Livermore, and Ginny Campbell. Also, to newfound friends, Peggy and Ralph, Joanne and Joe, Sheryl and Bill, and Onalie. You all made her life wonderful and full of love.

Celebrations of Life are currently being planned for both Arizona and Wisconsin and will be announced at a later date. Likely late spring and early summer.

Arrangements by Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home, Eagle River. Online condolences may be expressed at [gaffney-busha.com](http://gaffney-busha.com) PAID OBITUARY

Beverly Hyslop



Beverly Mae Hyslop of Eagle River died Feb. 15, 2025, at her home with her children by her side, at age 93. Mrs. Hyslop was born Sep. 21, 1931, in Chicago, Ill. to Clemens and Elizabeth Johnson. Mrs. Hyslop was the wife of the late Harvey L. Hyslop.

She is survived by five children, Christine (John), Debra (Reggie), Harvey (Sara), Brian (Sheri) and Jeffrey (Donna); nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Memorials or donations may be made to the American Heart Association. Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home in Eagle River is serving the family.

Robert "Bob" Moser

May 10, 1944 ~ January 3, 2025



Robert Walter Moser, 80, of St. Germain, passed away peacefully on Friday morning, Jan. 3, 2025, at Friendly Village, with his family at his side and under the care of Compassus Hospice of the Northwoods.

Robert was born on May 10, 1944, in Milwaukee, to Walter and Rose (Chopp) Moser. He was raised in Milwaukee, graduating from Messemer High School in 1962. He attended MATC for a time before beginning his employment which would last for thirty years at Briggs and Stratton.

Bob met his future wife Nancy Mehnert while to-bogganing with a group of friends. The couple dated for a while and were married on Nov. 14, 1964, in Wauwatosa, Wis., at St. Joseph Catholic Church. The couple lived on the south side of Milwaukee where they began their family.

After retiring at the age of forty-nine, the family moved to the St. Germain area in 1993. Even though Bob retired from his primary job he continued to stay active for many years with driving school bus for Schilleman Bus Service for Northland Pines School District, delivering meals to senior citizens, he also began Bob’s Small Engine Repair. For many years Bob managed the Citgo gas station in St. Germain, and he and Nancy managed the Gresham and Razorback Campgrounds.

Bob enjoyed participating in bowling leagues in Milwaukee, Ixonia, Oconomowoc, Watertown, and Eagle River, trapshooting in Watertown, Wis., getting together with friends to play cards, hunting, fishing, the outdoors, camping, the Green Bay Packers, and visiting with anyone.

He will be dearly missed by his wife, Nancy; children, Jeanne (Russ) Krueger of St. Germain, and David Moser of St. Germain; two grandchildren, Jessica (Justin) Luther of White Bear Lake, Minn., and Scott (Kyley) Krueger of Phillips, Wis.; and four great-grandchildren, Isayah, Michael, Emery, and Adella. Also surviving are nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents, two sons, Scott Moser at birth, Bobby Moser; and one sister, Carole (Don) Wick.

The visitation for Bob will take place on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at St. Mary Catholic Church, located at 8705 County Hwy. N, Sayner, Wis., from 10:30 -11:00 a.m. Memorial Mass. Fr. Joseph Pasala will officiate.

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

Micheal A. Zebrowski



Micheal A. Zebrowski, age 72, known to friends and family as “Zeke” passed away peacefully on the morning of Feb. 17, 2025.

Born on Dec. 16, 1952, Mike was a proud husband of his wife, Nancy. Together they raised two daughters, Debbie (Jason) and Kristina (Haskel Jr.).

Mike was also the loving grandfather to his grandchildren, Austin, Zachery, Jade, Cynthia Ann (Austin), Haskel III (Lakken), Aniah and two great grandchildren.

Mike was a hard worker and spent most of his life as a Mechanic working for Goodyear in Eagle River.

After retirement, Mike loved circling the neighborhood and checking in on everyone. Mike was a simple man but loved his friends and family.

Mike is further survived by four siblings, Edna (Steven) Rhode, David (Bonnie) Paznonski, John Paznonski and Margaret (James) Greenman; several nieces; nephews; family; and friends.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Louise Margaret Zebrowski and Joseph Paznonski; as well as his brothers, James Dobbs, Darrell Dobbs, Patrick Paznonski and Ronald Paznonski.

Mike will be sorely missed, and the family asks that you cherish the good memories in this time of sorrow.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. on Friday March 28, 2025, at the Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home in Eagle River, WI. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service.

The family kindly requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the family to help with expenses.

Arrangements by Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home, Eagle River. Online condolences may be expressed at [gaffney-busha.com](http://gaffney-busha.com) PAID OBITUARY

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Lewis Holmes Raker



Lewis Holmes Raker, of Iron River, Mich., died Feb. 7, 2025, at his home following illness. He was 78.

He was born in Philadelphia, PA in 1946, to Frederick L. Raker and Helen Holmes Hallock.

Mr. Raker graduated from The Lawrenceville School in 1964 and from Washington and Lee University in 1968 where he was a member of Delta Tau Delta. That same year, Lewis finished U.S. Naval Officers' Candidate School.

Mr. Raker then served in the U.S. Navy from 1968- 1971 including the Vietnam War, Honorably Discharged a lieutenant, and awarded two medals.

Mr. Raker married Mary Lou Raker, and their daughter Katharine was born in 1974.

In 1975, he earned a master's degree in Hospital Administration from The George Washington University.

Mr. Raker was involved in social service organizations, a foster parent, volunteer tutor, supporter of the Eisenhower Foundation and other groups working to preserve history and historical monuments. He also was a volunteer officer of his lake association. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, traveling and spending time with his grandchildren, family and friends.

Mr. Raker is survived by his wife, daughter and four grandchildren.

A funeral service will be Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at the Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home in Eagle River, WI. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Reception immediately following at the Chanticleer Inn.

Gaffney-Busha Funeral Home in Eagle River is serving the family.

252102



NEWS



BUSY WEEKEND — Area snowmobile trails were busy last weekend, but a thaw hit the area Monday and Tuesday. These snowmobilers were riding a week groomed trail near Presque Isle Sunday morning before the warmer temperatures hit the North Woods. —Photo By Gary Ridderbusch

Vilas County court report

Eagle River man sentenced on seventh OWI charge

Rodney Osbern, 66, of Eagle River, pleaded guilty and was found guilty at a plea/sentencing hearing on one felony charge of seventh offense OWI. Branch 2 Judge Daniel Overbey sentenced Osbern to three years of confinement and another three of extended supervision. Three years of revocation of his driver's license and three of an IID were included in the sentence. Osbern will pay \$3,693 in court costs and was remanded to the Vilas County Jail.

David McCluskey, 29, of Three Lakes, was sentenced at a sentencing on revocation hearing after probation was revoked on two felony charges of manufacturing/ delivering of amphetamine and possession of methamphetamine precursors. McCluskey will serve three years of confinement and three of extended supervision on the first count, and one year of

confinement and one of extended supervision for the second. Both will run concurrent to each other, but consecutively to another sentence he is already serving. There were 126 days of presentence credit.

Joseph Ganzer, 40, of Eagle River, had a jury trial scheduled in a case involving one felony for fifth or sixth offense OWI, and a felony charge of operating with a PAC. The jury trial was scheduled to start on June 17, at 8:15 a.m. A status hearing was also scheduled for April 15, at 11:15 a.m.

Alexis Engler, 28, of Mercer, had a jury trial scheduled at a judicial pretrial on one felony charge of neglecting a child. The defense also gave the court an update on the case. The jury trial is set to begin Sept. 25, starting at 8:15 a.m. A status hearing is scheduled on May 13, with a final pretrial scheduled for Aug. 5, at 9 a.m.

POLICE REPORT

**Vilas County Sheriff**  
The Vilas County Sheriff's Office reported a total of 197 incidents last week, which included 12 911 hang-ups, two car versus deer accidents, two hit-and-run accidents, two personal injury accidents, six nonreportable traffic accidents, five property damage accidents, three agency assists, six burglary alarms, five ambulance requests, two animal neglect incidents, one animal noise report, two animal problems, one all points broadcast, four attempts to locate, two violations of bond conditions, nine conditions of bond reports, 11 citizen assists, one communications problem, two death investigations, two message deliveries, two disturbances, one domestic violence complaint, two drug problems, one emergency detention, seven sick leaves, two vehicle fires, one found property, one fraud, three harassments, six warrant confirmations, 17 information reports, one jail problem, one jail medical incident, five juvenile problems, one lockout, three lost properties, three DOC offender releases, three OWIs, one parking problem, one parole violation, one vacation check, one repossession, one officer request, two search warrants, six snowmobile accidents, one snowmobile violation, one fatal snowmobile accident, two suicide attempts, seven suspicious circumstances, one threat, four hazards, three traffic violations, one prisoner transport, one juvenile transport, four warrant transports, three utility problems, one wanted person and 15 welfare checks.

A total of 39 people were taken into custody and booked into the Vilas County Jail.

**Eagle River Police**  
The Eagle River Police Department reported a

To POLICE Pg. 7

Aircraft makes emergency landing in Eagle River

A small plane suffering mid-flight damages was forced to make an emergency landing at Eagle River Union Airport Monday morning. Vilas Communications received a call from the Minneapolis Flight Center after 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 24 of a small plane that was damaged midflight and needed to make an emergency landing. Emergency services were dispatched out and on scene awaiting its arrival. Despite the loss of part of

the landing gear in flight, the plane landed safely without further incident. No injuries were reported. Crews that were assisting in this incident include the Eagle River Union Airport, Eagle River Ambulance, Vilas County Sheriff's Department, Vilas County Emergency Management, Eagle River Fire Department, Eagle River Rescue, Eagle River Police Department, Conover Ambulance and Plum Lake Rescue.

Oneida County snowmobile trails to temporarily close Wednesday

Due to warm temperatures, Oneida County snowmobile trails will close at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 26. At this time, the closure is expected to be temporary and may reopen when/if weather and trail conditions improve.

The Oneida County Snowmobile Ordinance prohibits snowmobiles from operating on the trails when closed. For further updates, follow the local snowmobile clubs on their social media accounts for updates.

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:  
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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

**Restaurant and Hotel** 7150

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**Miscellaneous Services** 7374

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

**Homes for Rent** 7409

**Tyson Road House:** Newly renovated three bedroom two bath home, new appliances full basement, two car attached garage, spacious yard with out building close to town , private setting. \$1775.00 plus utilities. 715-891-7007

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THREE LAKES FULL TIME CUSTODIAL/MAINTENANCE**

The School District of Three Lakes is seeking to fill a Full Time Custodial and Maintenance Position. The daily schedule will require PM shifts. Maintenance skills and experience in HVAC, electrical, plumbing and routine building maintenance are required. In addition, outdoor and groundskeeping tasks are part of the required duties. Occasional weekend event coverage is required for special events and shared by the full custodial crew. Summer schedule may be flexible to consider four days per week, 10 hours per day.

This is a 12-month, full-time position.  
Hire rate is \$21.47/hour and includes a generous benefits package.  
Start date is TBD.

Full description and application instructions can be found on the WECAN website at <https://wecan.waspa.org/>

The Three Lakes School Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes") in any of its student programs or activities or employment considerations. The following staff are designated to receive inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Justin Szews, HS Principal/Title IX Coordinator, 6930 W. School Street, Three Lakes, WI 54562, (715) 546-3321, jszews@threelakessd.k12.wi.us or Kari Volk, Special Education Director/ Section 504 Coordinator, 6930 W. School Street, Three Lakes, WI 54562, (715) 546-3323, kvolk@threelakessd.k12.wi.us.

[www.threelakessd.k12.wi.us](http://www.threelakessd.k12.wi.us)

**VILAS COUNTY SPRING ELECTION**  
**APRIL 1, 2025**  
**VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT**

Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may submit a request to vote an absentee ballot to their municipal clerk. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen, who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, who has resided in the ward or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for at least 28 consecutive days before the election. The elector must also be registered in order to receive an absentee ballot. Proof of identification must be provided before an absentee ballot may be issued.

**You must make a request for an absentee ballot in writing or online at MyVote.wi.gov.**

Contact your municipal clerk and request that an application for an absentee ballot be sent to you for the primary or election or both. You may also submit a written request in the form of a letter or you may apply for an absentee ballot online at MyVote.wi.gov. Your written request must include your voting address within the municipality where you wish to vote, the address where the absentee ballot should be sent, if different, your signature and a copy of your photo identification\*. You may make application to your municipal clerk for an absentee ballot in person, by mail, by fax, by email or at MyVote.wi.gov.

**Making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail**

**The deadline for making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail is: 5 pm on Thursday, MARCH 27, 2025\*\***

\*Voters who are indefinitely confined due to age, illness, infirmity, or disability may not be required to provide photo ID. If this applies to you, contact the municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

\*\*Special absentee voting application provisions apply to electors who are indefinitely confined, in the military, hospitalized, or serving as a sequestered juror. If this applies to you, contact the municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

**Note:** Special absentee voting application provisions apply to electors who are indefinitely confined to home or a care facility, in the military, hospitalized, or serving as a sequestered juror. If this applies to you, contact the municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

**Voting an absentee ballot in person**

You may also request and vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office or other specified location during the days and hours specified for casting an absentee ballot in person.

**PLEASE CONTACT YOUR MUNICIPAL CLERK FOR HOURS OR APPOINTMENT**

**The first day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office: Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

**The last day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office: Friday, March 28, 2025**

**TOWN/CITY CLERKS**

<b>Town of Arbor Vitae</b> Emily Bliertzer 10675 Big Arbor Vitae Drive Arbor Vitae, WI 54568 715-356-3120 Monday-Friday 9am-3pm 03/28/2025 9am-5pm	<b>Town of Land O'Lakes</b> Lynn Jolin PO Box 660 4331 HWY B Land O'Lakes, WI 54540 715-547-3255 Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm 03/28/2025 9am-5pm	<b>Town of Presque Isle</b> Kim Prott 8306 School Loop Road Presque Isle, WI 54557 715-586-2473 Tues-Thursday 10am-noon 03/28/2025 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
<b>Town of Boulder Junction</b> Daniel Driscoll PO Box 616 5392 Park Street Boulder Junction, WI 54512 715-385-2220 Monday-Thursday 9:30am-3:30pm 03/28/2025 9:30am-5pm	<b>Town of Lincoln</b> Shelly Sauvola PO Box 9 1205 Sundstein Road Eagle River, WI 54521 715-479-7000 Monday - Friday 9am-3pm 03/28/2025 9am-5pm	<b>Town of St. Germain</b> June Vogel PO Box 7 St Germain Community Center 545 Hwy 155 Room 5 St. Germain, WI 54558 715-542-8024 Ext 1 BY APPOINTMENT
<b>Town of Cloverland</b> Tracy Schilling PO Box 1565 5860 Perch Lake Road Eagle River, WI 54521 715-479-3434 Monday-Thursday 8:30am-11:30am 03/28/2025 BY APPT ONLY	<b>Town of Manitowish Waters</b> Dana Hilbert PO Box 267, 5733 Airport Road Manitowish Waters, WI 54545 715-543-0400 Monday-Friday 10am-1pm 03/28/2025 1-5pm BY APPT ONLY	<b>Town of Washington</b> Nancy Sobralski 2301 Town Hall Road Eagle River, WI 54521 715-479-8886 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
<b>Town of Conover</b> Kendra Lederer PO Box 115 4665 County Rd K East Conover, WI 54519 715-479-8688 Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm 03/28/2025 BY APPOINTMENT	<b>Town of Phelps</b> Sheryl Ward PO Box 157 4495 Town Hall Road Phelps, WI 54554 715-545-2270 Tuesday & Thursday noon-5pm 03/28/2025 9am-5pm	<b>Town of Winchester</b> Joan Wainio 7228 CTH W Winchester, WI 54557 715-686-2123 OR 715-543-2110 Monday-Friday BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
<b>Town of Lac du Flambeau</b> Sue Schoonover PO Box 68 109 Old Abe Road Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538 715-588-3358 Monday & Wednesday 9am-noon Tuesday & Thursday noon-3pm 03/28/2025 9am-5pm	<b>Town of Plum Lake</b> Jane Rosewicz PO Box 280 8755 Lake Street Sayner, WI 54560 715-542-4531 Monday-Thursday 10am-2pm 03/28/2025 BY APPOINTMENT	<b>City of Eagle River</b> Becky Bolte PO Box 1269 525 East Maple Street Eagle River, WI 54521 715-479-8682 Monday - Friday 8am-4:30pm 03/28/2025 8:30am - 5pm

No in-person absentee voting may occur on the day before the election. The municipal clerk will deliver voted ballots returned on or before Election Day to the proper polling place or counting location before the polls close on April 1, 2025. Any ballots received after the polls close will NOT be counted.

**KIMBERLY OLKOWSKI – VILAS COUNTY CLERK**



# PUBLIC NOTICES

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR ELECTRONIC BIDS

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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: 1LJW7

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: <https://wisconsin.dot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/aeronautics/airports/airp-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/51>

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:

Legals7700

IMPORTANT: A paper hard copy pre-qualification 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's 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/doing-bus/contractors/hcc/prequal.aspx>

Bid proposals will be opened only from those firms that have established their qualifications for the 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: bQ3ZIE9o Dial in by phone +1 262-774-1345, 193515047# United States, Kanosha 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](mailto:jroberts@msa-ps.com) Eagle River, Wisconsin Represented by Kristina Boardman, Secretary Department of Transportation Sponsor's Authorized Agent

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WNAXLP

VILAS COUNTY

(Three weeks 2/12-2/26/25)

NOTICE OF CLAIMS DEADLINE

IN THE MATTER OF THE MOONEY SURVIVOR'S TRUST CREATED 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

Legals7700

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

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WNAXLP

Meetings and Public Hearings7720

CITY OF EAGLE RIVER

(One week 2/26/25)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF EAGLE RIVER PLANNING COMMISSION

Tammy Rabenberg and Kyle Schriener are requesting annexation of property, consisting of 1.46 acres located at 4412 East Wall Street, from the Town of Lincoln into the City of Eagle River, Vilas County, Wisconsin. The parcel number is 14-1804. Legal Description: All that part of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 34, Township 40 North, Range 10 East, Town of Lincoln, Vilas County, Wisconsin, lying North of the centerline of Highway; which Highway is a continuation of Wall Street East, the Town of Lincoln, Vilas County, Wisconsin; EXCEPTING THEREFROM those parcels of land conveyed in the following: Volume 73 Deeds, page 520; Volume 78 Deeds, page 483; Volume 64 Deeds, page 574; Volume 115 Records, page 278; Volume 372 Micro Records, page 584; Volume 372 Micro Records, page 585; Volume 421 Micro Records, page 295 and Volume 433 Micro Records, page 678. COMPLETE LEGAL IN TAX ROLL.

The City of Eagle River Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the proposal on March 6, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. located at the Eagle River City Hall 525 E. Maple Street Eagle River WI 54521. Comments can be made at the public hearing or by mail to City Administrator PO Box 1269 Eagle River WI 54521; by phone (715) 479-8682 x227 or email [rcginner@eagleriverwi.gov](mailto:rcginner@eagleriverwi.gov). Documents are available for review at City Hall.

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WNAXLP

Minutes7725

NPSD CHARTER GOVERNANCE

(One week 2/26/25)

Regular Board Meeting Minutes January 16, 2025

The regular meeting of the NPSD Charter Governance Board, Ltd. was called to order by Emilie Braunel at seven thirty-four a.m. (7:34 a.m.) on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at Northland Pines Community meeting room. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present were Board members: Emilie Braunel, Kari Kirschbaum, Sara Owens-Keenan and Phillip Epping. Quorum was established. Also present were Tony Duffek, St. Germain Elementary and NPMCLC Principal, Carie Nodine, Land O' Lakes Elementary and SOAR MS Principal, Harlan Leusink, Director of Technology and SOAR HS Principal (left @ 7:50), Scott Foster, District Administrator, and Michele Hotmar, recording secretary.

Open Meeting Verification – Emilie Braunel stated that the meeting had been duly called with meeting notices posted at the following locations:

1. The Northland Pines High School and Middle School in Eagle River

2. The Northland Pines Elementary Schools in Eagle River, Land O' Lakes and St. Germain

3. The Vilas County Courthouse in Eagle River

4. The Eagle River City Hall

5. The Vilas County News Review in Eagle River

Approval of Agenda – MOTION by Sara Owens-Keenan that the Board approves the agenda as presented and leaves the order to the discretion of the Chair. Second by Kari Kirschbaum.

Voice vote 4-0. Motion carried.

Public Participation – There were no citizen comments.

Minutes of Past Meetings – MOTION by Kari Kirschbaum that the Board dispenses with the reading of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2024 and the Board approves the minutes with the correction to remove a duplicate on 11b. Second by Sara Owens-Keenan. Voice vote 4-0. Motion carried.

Board Communication – None.

Administrative Report: Tony Duffek - NPMCLC: Written report Carie Brock - SOAR MS: Written report Harlan Leusink - SOAR HS: Written report

Finance Update: Each Charter School presented current budget and expenditures.

Discussion/Action Items:

11a) Charter school contracts: Tony Duffek is working on the contracts for NPMCLC and SOAR HS to present to the Northland Pines Policy committee.

11b) Act 20 update: Scott Foster updated the Board on how the implementation of Act 20 is going in the district.

11c) Charter school application window and lottery update: Tony Duffek and Carie Nodine updated the Board on the number of applications and how the lottery process will proceed.

11d) Referendum update: Scott Foster has been having meetings in the community to explain why the district is going to referendum and to answer any questions the public may have regarding the referendum.

11e) Subcommittee updates: The subcommittees gave an update on the things they have been working on.

12) Adjournment: MOTION by Kari Kirschbaum that the Board adjourn. Second by Sara Owens-Keenan. Voice vote 4-0. Motion carried.

Minutes7725

Motion by Ellis/Klein to approve Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Questions of the Approval of Initial Resolutions Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$21,600,000. Voice vote all ayes. 5:0

Motion carried and the resolution was declared adopted.

Consider Approval for 7-12 Students to Participate in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey Teri Maney informed the board that the Oneida Co. Health Department worker that was scheduled to discuss the topic of the survey was not able to attend, so she recommended that the discussion for approval of the survey be moved to February's board meeting.

Motion by Klein/Kral to move the approval of the 7th-12th grade students to participate in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey to the February board meeting. Motion carried. 5:0

Consider Approval to Update Honors Study Hall Requirements Justin Szews provided background that the original requirements for Honors Study Hall came from a Board approved item in 2015. He asked to change the academic criteria from a C grade in classes to a B. The rationale being that to be on the honor roll, a student must have a B average, and the Honors Study Hall should be consistent with what the terms of honor roll means.

Motion by Kral/Ellis to approve the update of the Honors Study Hall requirement. Motion carried. 5:0

Consider Approval of the New 2025-2026 Course Bluejay Manufacturing Nate Koch presented the new Bluejay Manufacturing course that is being proposed for the 2025-2026 school year. The class would take skills learned in the Fab Lab and accounting and the students would essentially learn to run a business. The students would take requests from local businesses for projects and also learn to produce their own designs to market and sell.

Motion by Klein/Muetlein to approve the Bluejay Manufacturing course for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried. 5:0

Consider Designating the Number of Regular Education and Special Education Spaces Available for Open Enrollment Applications for the 2025-2026 School Year. Teri Maney spoke to the board about the number of spaces available in regular education and special education for open enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year. There will be spaces available in regular education, but due to having a higher than average (17%) special education population, we will not have special education space available in the district. Kari Volk noted that we are trying to meet the needs of the students we have now, and if we accepted students from outside that were in special education, it would take away from the current special ed. population and possibly would require the district to hire additional staff.

Motion by Klein/Muetlein to accept non-resident open enrolled regular education student applications for the 2025-2026 school year, provided they meet the established district criteria, as there is adequate space in the current program. Motion carried. 5:0.

Motion by Ellis/Muetlein to not accept non-resident open enrolled special education student applications for the 2025-2026 school year as there is not adequate space available in the current program. Motion carried. 5:0.

Consider Approval of the Wrestling Cooperative Renewal with Laona/Wabeno Phil Updike presented the Board with a renewal to co-op for wrestling with Laona/Wabeno for the 2025-2026 school year. Three Lakes High School currently has one wrestler and is not able to support its own program, but Updike noted there is good participation in the Junior High and elementary wrestling programs.

Motion by Klein/Ellis to approve wrestling cooperative renewal with Laona/Wabeno for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried. 5:0

Nexus Facilities Study Update Teri Maney updated the Board that there have been continued meetings with Nexus and Quarles and Brady to discuss the timeline and next steps for the capital referendum.

School Forest - Camp 3 Update/Report Teri Maney reported no updates on the Camp 3 property at this time.

Review and Discuss WASB Resolutions for the 2025 Delegate Assembly. The Board reviewed the WASB resolutions which will be acted upon at the Delegates Assembly during the WASB State Education Conference January 22-24, 2025.

WASB Correspondence/Updates Teri Maney shared a flyer regarding the "2025 WASB Day at the Capitol" coming up in March.

District Related Positive Happenings. Staff shared district related positive happenings.

Adjournment Motion by Kral/Klein to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Motion carried. 5:0

Respectfully submitted, Josh Kral School Board Clerk

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WNAXLP

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

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) 561-4600 Bar Number 1077239

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WNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF EAGLE RIVER PLANNING COMMISSION

The City of Eagle River Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to seek input on a proposal by the Eagle River Pickleball Club to develop a 12 court pickleball complex, with permanent off street parking to the North in the old ice rink site. The proposed location for the project is the field behind City Hall at 525 E. Maple Street, Eagle River, identified as Parcel Number 221-463, legally described as: Sect. 28, T40N, R10E, LOTS 1-13 BLK 1 OF MCINTYRE ADDN & VAC PORTION OF SHERIDAN ST ADJ AT NORTH DESC 88-584A.

Additional infrastructure plans may be added to include future basketball and volleyball courts, corn hole lanes, pavilion, and designated parking areas within the field.

The public hearing will be held March 6, 2025, at 5 pm at City Hall, 525 E. Maple Street, Eagle River. Residents, business owners, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend and provide feedback on the proposal.

Pros and Cons of the Proposed Pickleball Complex:

The proposed pickleball complex offers several potential benefits to the community, including increased recreational opportunities for residents of all ages, potential economic benefits through increased tourism and local business activity, and the promotion of an active lifestyle. The courts could serve as a gathering space for community members and provide opportunities for tournaments and events.

However, the location in a single-family residential neighborhood raises concerns. Potential drawbacks include increased traffic and parking congestion, noise from frequent gameplay, and potential disruption to the quiet character of the neighborhood. Additionally, increased foot traffic and extended hours of use could impact nearby residents' privacy and quality of life. The field currently houses an existing playground that may be impacted, and it is also the location of snow storage for winter snow removal. The loss of this snow storage site may increase the response time for public works to clear the City after snowfall, effectively increasing the cost to taxpayers for winter snow removal. Furthermore, the development may limit access to City Hall parking, creating potential inconvenience for visitors and staff.

Proposed plans are available on the City website at <https://eagleriverwi.gov/city-government/current-year-meeting-agendas-minutes/> under the heading "2025 Public Hearing Notices", or can be viewed at City Hall during regular business hours.

The Planning Commission invites public comments to weigh these factors and determine the best course of action for the community. Comments can be made during the public hearing, or by mail to the City Administrator, P.O. Box 1269, Eagle River, WI 54521; by phone (715) 479-8682 x227 or email [rcginner@eagleriverwi.gov](mailto:rcginner@eagleriverwi.gov).

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WNAXLP

TYPE A NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ELECTION

April 1, 2025

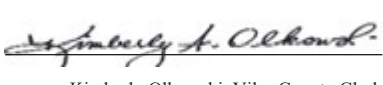
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the several towns, villages, cities, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, the following questions will be submitted to a vote of the people pursuant to law:

QUESTION 1: "Photographic identification for voting." Shall section 1m of article III of the constitution be created to require that voters present valid photographic identification verifying their identity in order to vote in any election, subject to exceptions which may be established by law?"

This referendum ballot is a result of 2025 Senate Joint Resolution 2, a copy of which can be viewed or downloaded on the Legislature's website at <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/reg/sen/joint-resolution/sjr2>.

A copy also can be obtained from the office of the county clerk, or the Legislative Documents Room at 1 East Main Street, Madison, Wisconsin.

DONE in the City of Eagle River, Vilas County, this 21st day of February, 2025



Kimberly Olkowski, Vilas County Clerk

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Search our classifieds for anything you need

Automotive • Real Estate Employment • Merchandise Services • Recreation Business Directory & Much More!

SHOP LOCAL

Now that's a Bright idea!

Notice To Creditors7735

VILAS COUNTY

(Three weeks 2/12-2/26/25)

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY -PROBATE-

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 assignee(s) after the property is assigned. 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 heirship be determined at the VILAS County Courthouse, EAGLE RIVER, Wisconsin, Room Branch II, before Hon. Daniel L. Overbey, Court Official, on March 20, 2025, at 8:30 A.M.

2. Publication of this notice is notice 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

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WNAXLP

VILAS COUNTY

(Three weeks 2/26-3/12/25)

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, VILAS COUNTY -PROBATE-

Order Setting Time to Hear Petition for Administration and Deadline for Filing Claims (Formal Administration) Case No. 25PR6

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FREDERICK C. SCHULTZ DOD: 1/29/2025

A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.

THE COURT FINDS:

The decedent, with date of birth 10/19/1953 and date of death 1/29/2025 was domiciled in Vilas County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of PO Box 195, Boulder Junction, WI 54512.

THE COURT ORDERS:

1. The Petition be heard at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court Street, Eagle River, Wisconsin, Room /Branch 2, before Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner Honorable Daniel L. Overbey, on 4/3/2025 at 10:30 AM.

You do not need to appear unless you object. The petition may be granted if there is no objection.

2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is May 30, 2025.

3. A claim may be filed at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court Street, Eagle River, Wisconsin, Room - Office of Register in Probate.

4. Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgment.

5. Publication of this notice is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-479-3632 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

/s/ Daniel L. Overbey Circuit Court Judge, Branch 2 February 20, 2025

Please check with person named below for exact time and date. Attorney Steven C. Garbowicz 221 S First St, PO Box 639 Eagle River, WI 54521 715.479.6444 Bar Number 1018485

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WNAXLP





NEWS



DOLLARS FOR DOERS — After putting 24 hours toward Incredible Bank's Dollars for Doers program, David Eaglesham from Incredible Bank donated \$250 to Northwoods Share. "I thought it was a great example of Giving back in two ways: First he gave his time and then he turned around and gave the monetary gift!" said Pam Zaugg, with NWS. Pictured, from left to right, are Kelly Lacko, Betsy Rappa, David Eaglesham and Pam Zaugg. —Contributed Photo

Habitat for Humanity receives \$10k donation

Habitat for Humanity Northwoods Wisconsin in Rhinelander announced that they will be matching a \$10,000 donation from longtime resident, Marlette Larsen.

Larsen will match up to \$10,000 for donations received through June 1.

She is extending this challenge for community support in honor of her family which developed Larsen Drive, just outside of Rhinelander, in the 1960s.

"Habitat for Humanity is doing great work in our community, especially with the collaboration of the high school trades class students. I hope this donation motivates other community members to donate now, while the matching funds are available," said Larsen.

Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Dave Havel explained that to take advantage of the matching funds, donations should be made to Habitat for Humanity Northwoods WI and sent to 908 Lincoln St. in Rhinelander. Donations can also be made over the phone at 715-420-0412.



Marlette Larsen posed beside a marker for Larsen Drive, a street developed by her family in the 1960s. —Contributed Photo

Sno-Eagles now accepting Miss Sno-Eagle applications

The Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club of Eagle River is accepting applications for Miss Sno-Eagle for 2025-2026.

Being Miss Sno-Eagle provides an opportunity to become involved in the community, and to represent the Sno-Eagles and snowmobiling at area events throughout the year, including the 2026 World Championship Snowmobile Derby.

Benefits of being Miss Sno-Eagle include receiving a \$1,000 scholarship upon completion of Miss Sno-Eagle responsibilities, being the representative of a well-known community organization, being featured on the Sno-Eagles 2026 trail map cover, receiving a custom embroidered snowmobile suit, accompanying the Derby Royalty at the World Championship Snowmobile Derby, and the opportunity to participate in the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs (AWSC) Miss Snowflake Pageant representing the Sno-Eagles.

Miss Sno-Eagle must be able to attend at least two

Sno-Eagles club meetings and one Sno-Eagles board of directors meeting, participate in at least one Sno-Eagles fundraising event, participate in the Fourth of July parade, and participate in all World Championship Snowmobile Derby events including Ride with the Cup in January, 2026.

"Being Miss Sno-Eagle is an experience of a lifetime – meeting people, making new friends, and developing new skills to be used throughout life. It opens up new opportunities and is a great addition to a resumé," according to a Sno-Eagles spokesperson.

Applications must be received by Tuesday, April 1. Interviews will be conducted. Applicants must be female, 16-21 years of age. Club membership is not required. A photo and a letter of recommendation from a teacher, employer, church or community leader is required.

For more information, contact Carole at [carole@snoeagles.org](mailto:carole@snoeagles.org). Applications are also available online at [snoeagles.org](http://snoeagles.org).

Police

FROM PAGE 5

total of 18 incidents last week, which included two animal problems, one citizen assist, one criminal mischief, one disorderly conduct, one false alarm, one information report, two juvenile problems, one parking problem, one probation violation, one hit and run traffic accident, two accidents, one utility problem and three welfare checks.

A total of one person was taken into custody and booked into the Vilas County Jail.

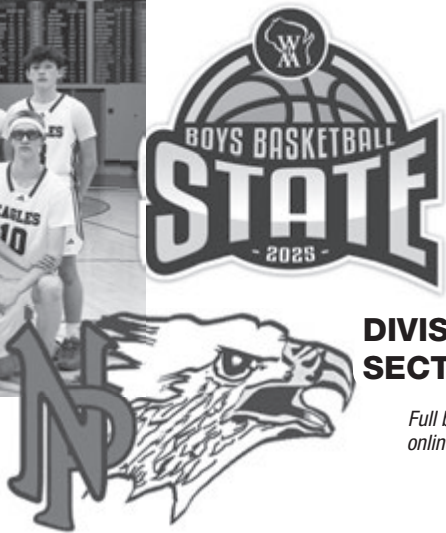
Three Lakes Police

The Three Lakes Police Department reported a total of 102 incidents last week which included one abandoned vehicle report, one accident, one ambulance request, one citizen assist, two motorist assists, one agency assist, 63 business checks, one civil matter, two disturbances, four extra patrols, one fire report, two fire alarms, two welfare checks, one juvenile problem, one OWI, two parking violations, three warrant pickups, four recreational incidents, one shoplifting incident, three suspicious circumstances, four traffic stops and one vehicle in ditch.

NEED TO ADVERTISE? CALL 715-479-4421



**NORTHLAND PINES EAGLES** - Members of the Northland Pines boys basketball team include, front row from left, Ethan Miller, Cody Vojta, assistant coach Gary Muench, head coach Terry Klemett, Mylo Albrecht and Jonathan Miller; and back row, Isiah Kroepflin, Griffin Beyer, Anthony Halada, Jack Albrecht, manager Alex Leusink, Aiden Minx, A.J. Muench, Jacob Beer and Nolan Huelskam.



DIVISION 3 SECTIONAL 2

Full brackets available online at [wiaawi.org](http://wiaawi.org).



**THREE LAKES BLUEJAYS** - Members of the Three Lakes boys basketball team are, back row from left: Grayson Polcaster, Christian Jolin, Eli Erickson, Payton Pittlik, Zack Weavers, Caleb Zastrow (he has quit), Luke Norship. Front row from left: Owen Liebscher, Easton Lurvey, Charlie Liebscher, Levi Lurvey. Not pictured: Cohen Welsh, Masen Schoeneck, Sam Koshuta.



DIVISION 5 SECTIONAL 2

Full brackets available online at [wiaawi.org](http://wiaawi.org).

TBD	#1 Freedom	
	@Freedom	#9 Sturgeon Bay
		@Peshtigo
		#8 Peshtigo
TBD		#5 Oconto Falls
	@Northland Pines	@Oconto Falls
		#12 Clintonville
TBD		#3 Tigerton
		@Tigerton
		#14 Wild Rose
		#11 Gresham
TBD		@Northland Lutheran
		#6 Northland Lutheran
		#7 Three Lakes
		@Three Lakes
TBD		#10 Tri-County
		#15 Marion
		@Pacelli
		#2 Pacelli

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(715) 272-1192

401857

**PLUMBING**

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Eagle River, WI 54521  
715-479-7012

392731

**EAGLE RIVER CABINETS, INC.**

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5234 Hwy. 70 West, Eagle River, WI 54521  
Phone: (715) 479-7479  
1419 Lincoln St., Rhinelander, WI 54501  
Phone: (715) 362-3400

392387

**KWATERSKI BROS.**  
WOOD PRODUCTS, INC.

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Eagle River, WI  
715-479-5559  
[kwaterskibros.com](http://kwaterskibros.com)

385681

**Ellason Realty**  
OF THE NORTH LLC

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Land O' Lakes  
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# Sports

## Rhineland/Pines ski team fares well at state

Boys take 3rd, girls sixth in D2

BY JACOB HEID  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Rhineland/Northland Pines alpine ski team wrapped up its season by finishing well at the WIARA State Alpine Ski Meet at Mt. La Crosse. The boys placed third in Division 2, and the girls placed sixth.

On the boys side (612 points), they finished behind the D2 champion AOWS and runner-up La Crosse Logan/Central/Providence who had 394 and 567 points, respectively. They took 11th place overall out of 21 teams.

The girls took sixth overall in D2 and 19th overall with 914 points.

Eli Repenshek, Jason Linn, Wyler Koput, Jessica Linn, and Eliana Conrad were among the Northland Pines athletes who attended the meet.

Repenshek took 38th overall in the meet, with his best finish coming in the giant slalom. He took 28th place with a time of 28.91, which was about two seconds behind the leader.

Repenshek also took 74th place in the slalom race and 50th in the super giant slalom. Linn finished his



The Rhineland/Northland Pines alpine ski team competed in the state tournament last week at Mt. La Crosse. The boys took third place in D2 while the girls took sixth. Boys athletes include, from left to right, Back: Holden Schmitz, Henry Schmitz, Wyler Koput, Ben Olson, Jason Linn, Eli Repenshek and Micheal Burnett. Front: head coach Rod Olson and Greg McGuire.

—Contributed Photo

state meet in 43rd place, while Koput took 45th. Linn's best run came in the giant slalom where he finished the course in 29.55 seconds, good for 44th place out of 200 racers.

Other finishes included 61st place (50.96) in the slalom and 64th in the super giant (36.70).

Koput finished the meet with 173 points, taking his best run of the day in the super giant slalom. A time of 35.95 put him in 42nd place, while he worked his

way to 61st and 70th in the giant slalom and slalom races, respectively.

On the girls side, Linn finished her freshman season with a 68th overall placement at the state meet. Her best run came in the slalom race where she finished in 47th place with a time of 56.22, 10 seconds behind the leader.

Linn finished in the top half of the 128 finishers in the giant slalom, while taking 120th in the giant slalom.

Conrad, Linn's senior teammate, took 95th overall with 287 points. She was consistent in all three races by taking 95th in the slalom and 96th in the giant slalom and super giant slalom.

In snowboarding action, Sydney Sarkauskas took 11th overall out of 43 boarders. She took 12th place in the slalom and giant slalom, and took 15th in the boardercross with a time of 42.62.

## Windigo sweep Jr. Blues on Stick it to Cancer weekend

BY JACOB HEID  
SPORTS EDITOR

On a special Stick it To Cancer fundraiser weekend, the Wisconsin Windigo swept the Springfield Jr. Blues 4-0 and 4-1 on Feb. 21-22, with a weekend filled with live and online auctions that benefited Angie Anderson, an Eagle River cancer survivor.

The Windigo got early leads in both games and never looked back with the play from the back line, with goaltenders Lucas Szyszka and Beau Altman both getting wins on the weekend.

Wisconsin stays in first place in the NAHL Midwest Division with a 32-10 record with one overtime loss and two shootout losses. The Windigo head into

the next weekend of play seven points ahead of the Fairbanks Ice Dogs, 67 points to 60.

On Friday, Wisconsin claimed a 3-0 lead after the first period and limited Springfield to just 16 shots in the game. Windigo newcomer Hunter Hayes scored the first two Windigo goals at 7:10 and 14:10 to put them up 2-0 just over halfway through the first.

Wisconsin had a scoring chance with less than a minute left in the first; Mario DiMaggio made it a 3-0 game at 19:12.

The Windigo fired 13 shots on target compared to just six for the Jr. Blues. A nearly even middle period saw no scoring and both teams fired seven shots on net, as the game remained 3-0 heading into the third.

Zachary Cline put Wisconsin ahead by four nearly midway through the third as the Windigo kept the clamps on defensively. Wisconsin had four powerplay chances and killed off three penalties in the win.

Szyszk finished with 16 saves as he picked up his 22nd win of the year.

Wisconsin got out to another 2-0 lead relatively quickly in the first on Saturday as Springfield had no answers early on.

Theodore Richardson scored just 2:06 into the contest with Hayes netting his third of the weekend at 9:14.

Springfield cut the lead back down to one with 13 seconds left before the first intermission, as the Windigo were outshot 11-10.

Wisconsin turned up the

pressure defensively and only allowed eight shots on net in the final two periods.

John Halverson scored the lone goal of the second period to make it a 3-1 game before Logan Nickolaus made it a three-goal game midway through the third period. The Jr. Blues only had two opportunities on the net in the final period.

Altman picked up the win Saturday, stopping 18 shots of the 19 he faced.

The Windigo head on a quick road trip this weekend to Minnesota to face the Minnesota Wilderness Friday and Saturday, Feb. 28 and March 1, before returning to Eagle River the next two weekends for the final four home games of the regular season.

## Lady Eagles fall short with 4-2 loss in regionals

BY JACOB HEID  
SPORTS EDITOR

The No. 5-seeded Northland Pines girls hockey co-op traveled down to Stevens Point for the opening round of the WIAA girls hockey playoffs and fell 4-2 to the Wisconsin Valley Union last Thursday.

In a clean playoff matchup that only had four minutes of penalty time, Pines trailed 2-0 after the first period and battled back to within a goal twice during the loss. The Union outshot the Eagles 45-5, but Pines made every shot count to keep itself in the game.

"It was a well-played

game to finish the season on. They battled hard all game, and kept the game close, to give us a chance in the end to pull off a victory," said head coach Jeff Stebbeds.

Wisconsin Valley Union got the home crowd going with the game's first goal at 7:40 of the first period. The Union tacked on another goal at the 9:17 mark to take the 2-0 advantage into the second period. Wisconsin Valley outshot Pines 19-2 in the period.

Northland Pines cut the lead in half during the second period with a tally by Bella Nowak at 4:02, assisted by Ruby Kasper and Ava Carillo.

The Union put the lead back up to two, 3-1, with a goal a handful of minutes later. Pines' only shot on net was Nowak's early goal.

Lilly Beitler scored next for the Eagles, closing the gap to 3-2 against Union with less than half of the third period remaining.

The Union put the game away with a late empty-net goal with 1:06 left to go, ahead 4-2.

Freshman Lucy Nowak made 41 saves throughout the night between the pipes for Pines.

"Lucy Nowak faced a ton of shots in net once again," said Stebbeds. "She did a great job getting

us a stoppage of play at important times in the game. In the end, we just ran out of time and came up a little short."

The Eagles finished the 2024-25 season with a 4-19 record, with two wins against Medford, one against Houghton-Hancock, Mich., and one against Viroqua.

"We have a strong group coming back next year, only losing two seniors. We also have a large group of incoming freshmen coming in," noted Stebbeds. "The future is very bright with this program, and I am very excited to be a part of it."



## Sideline Scoop

BY JACOB HEID

## Four Nations hockey tournament was a blast

The 4 Nations final that ended in a 3-2 win in overtime for Canada over the United States Thursday night was the ending of an incredible round-robin tournament the National Hockey League and National Hockey League Player Association put together to replace the traditional all-star game.

The replacement was the best thing the league could have done to boost its ratings and hockey buzz in general.

The United States kicked off the tournament Feb. 13 with a dominant 6-1 win over Finland before playing in Canada's backyard in Montreal on Feb. 15. After boos rang through the stadium by Canadians when our national anthem was played, the boys in blue laid down the boom throughout the night. USA's Brady Tkachuk was highlighted throughout the night for his monstrous hits along the boards and the game ended in a 3-1 win for the good guys.

Canada's win over Finland on Feb. 17 carved the path for the two rivals to hit the ice once again in the 4 Nations Championship. USA went into Thursday's final looking to win its first best-on-best tournament since the World Cup of Hockey in 1996.

It was all hockey and non-hockey fans alike could've asked for and more, as the two teams skated hard for more than 60 minutes in a game that needed overtime to declare a winner. Would it be Sydney Crosby again, just like in 2010? No matter the finish, the game was epic nonetheless.

The Canadians wasted no time getting on the board first and silencing USA fans inside TD Garden in Boston. They made it a 1-0 game at 4:48 of the first from a goal by Nathan MacKinnon of the Colorado Avalanche. The USA responded back late in the first with a tally by (Brady) Tkachuk to go into the first intermission knotted at 1-1.

USA's Jake Sanderson came up in a big spot for the Americans as the youngster found open space in front of the net and buried a rebound to make it a 2-1 game at 7:32 of the second.

Canada silenced the crowd again to tie things up at 2-2 as Sam Bennett got a puck dumped to him on the left wing and the Canadian put one top shelf on the short side. The second period ended with a 2-2 tie and the third period was scoreless despite plenty of chances on both sides.

Heading into overtime, the USA had early chances in the sudden-death period, but Canada's goalie Jordan Binnington made a few spectacular saves to keep Canada alive.

Connor McDavid, one of the NHL's best goal-scorers, played hero for Canada as he found a puck on his stick right in front of the net and put it past Connor Hellebuyck on the glove side to win.

Now, I would like to think this format would continue to take over NHL's all-star weekend, but I was reading something last week that would maybe say otherwise.

NHL players are returning to next year's Winter Olympics in Italy for the first time since 2014, and the World Cup of Hockey will return in 2028 for the first time in nine years. It was said that a larger international competition would occur every two years, with the Olympics and WCH competing against each other. It's still up in the air whether the NHL will continue this format in the off-years rather than go back to the traditional All-Star break.

No matter what happens, fans can look forward to more best-on-best international hockey competitions again soon after almost a decade of waiting.

## Jays lose lead late to Phillips; bounce back with win over Elcho

BY JACOB HEID  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Three Lakes boys basketball team lost a crucial second-half lead in a nonconference matchup 67-58 against Phillips on Feb. 17, but they then dominated a Northern Lakes game 77-19 against Elcho a day later on Feb. 18.

Three Lakes ended the week with a road win at Lena, 69-45, on Feb. 21. The Jays end the regular season this week.

It was a chance for the Bluejays to strengthen their regular season résumé in a home noncon game against the Loggers Feb. 17, and they battled into the second half with the lead before Phillips closed the game.

"The score in this game isn't indicative of how we played," said head coach George Lurvey. "On paper, they are one of the better teams we have played all year and we hung with them the entire game until the very end, when they made free throws to pull a nine-point lead. I

was very happy with our performance in this game, as we finally started to score a little more."

Three Lakes started out slow and trailed 10-4 with about 12 minutes left in the first half. As the half went on, Charlie Liebscher hit a 3-point shot to get within four, 22-18, with eight minutes left. It was a tight game at halftime as the Loggers extended their lead early in the second half, 47-41, before freshman Easton Lurvey hit a corner triple that got Three Lakes back within three and ultimately took the lead before Phillips stormed back.

"We had a lead in the second half, with seven minutes left, when a call fouled out Peyton Pitlik," stated Lurvey. "I think had we not lost Peyton, we could have come right down to the wire with Phillips and possibly gotten a W. Phillips is a top-tier team in the Marawood Conference with wins over extremely good teams."

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SPORTS

Four third-period goals lift Pines hockey in playoff opener

BY JACOB HEID  
SPORTS EDITOR

The No. 4-seeded Northland Pines boys hockey team netted four goals in the final 17 minutes to take down Antigo 6-5 in the opening round of the WIAA D2 hockey playoffs Thursday night in Eagle River.

Pines hung on to its final life as it trailed 4-2 heading into the third period, but with the help of the power play unit, the Eagles survived and advanced.

“As much as we would like a decisive win, I’m very proud of how the boys responded in adversity,” said Pines head coach Zach Otto. “We hadn’t come back from a two-goal deficit yet this season.”

The visiting Red Robins and the Eagles skated hard and fast to open the win-or-go-home matchup.

In what was a rubber match between the two squads, Pines junior Josh Graves got the first laugh



Northland Pines junior Josh Graves heads to the bench to celebrate after scoring the game’s first goal in the opening period of the WIAA Division 2 regional playoffs against No. 5-seeded Antigo –Staff Photo By JACOB HEID

as he put the Eagles on the board first at 5:53 of the first, before Antigo responded quickly with a tally at 8:35 to make it a 1-1 game, which was the score after one period.

It was an evenly matched

first half of the second period before Antigo grabbed ahold of the momentum. Eli Kassler and Ethan Novy scored twice within two minutes of each other, one short-handed and another on an odd-man

rush, where both skaters sliced through the defense for easy goals.

Graves did stop the bleeding for a moment after scoring his second of the night at 12:21 to pull back within one, 3-2.

Antigo took advantage of a favorable bounce in front of Pines goalie Evrett Leslie to make it a 4-2 game after two periods.

“Going in, we knew the biggest challenge would be to limit Antigo’s Dickman and Kassler’s opportunities. They are great players and can put the puck away,” said Otto. “We had some errors and bad bounces in the first and second that led to us being down after the second period.”

The Pines power play came to life in the final period, where it scored both times when it had the man advantage in the third.

Cooper Saari started the four-goal period with a power play tally in the slot at 4:47 as Antigo was serving a 2-minute tripping penalty.

Nicholas Hahn evened the game at 4-4 with a goal less than a minute later, while Julian Merschdorf put Pines ahead 5-4 at 8:47 of the third.

Pines found another power play chance and

capitalized as Saari found the puck on his stick and netted his second of the night to grab the lead for good, 6-4, at 11:21 of the third.

“The realization that this was the last high school game the seniors would play in the dome, and also the season would be over for everyone, set in,” explained Otto. “It was gut check time and the team decided they weren’t going to go out that way. They came together, trusted, and believed in each other to get it done and they did it.”

Antigo would tack on a goal later on, but Pines’ defense held strong in the final 4:30 of the game.

Leslie finished the game with 20 saves on 25 shots faced.

The Eagles advanced to play the top-seeded Tomahawk, the top-ranked team in all of D2 hockey, this past Tuesday at Sara Park. The game was played after the deadline of this publication.

Off to Madison for Roy and Schingeck

BY WILLIAM ZUELKE  
CORRESPONDENT

Two members of the Wabeno-Laona-Three Lakes varsity wrestling team, Reegan Roy and Ryker Schingeck, are off to Madison to compete in the WIAA 2025 State Individual Wrestling Tournament scheduled for three days beginning this Thursday, February 27, at the Kohl Center in Madison.

Their invitation follows success at the Division 3 Sectional held last week at Valders High School where each placed second in their weight classes in a field of more than 200 wrestlers from 22 high schools.

Roy (106 lbs.) was 4-1 during the sectional and carries a 53-3 season match record to his second consecutive trip to Madison, while Schingeck (120 lbs.) was 3-1 and will bring his 46-6 record to the state tournament following a successful freshman year for the Rebel Jays.

While both wrestlers placed second, the path for Schingeck was settled early as he won his first two matches, earning a major decision win in the quarterfinal round, followed by a pin victory over Ethan Hoyer of Brillion High School in the semifinal round. The win against Hoyer, one of the top wrestlers in the region, guaranteed a second-place finish and a trip to the state meet.

Roy started the competition with a convincing 17-0 technical fall victory over Sam Kraynik, but followed up with a close, low-scoring decision loss to Jaydon Le Noble of Weyauwega-Fremont. This left Roy in a position where he had to string a couple of matches together to punch his ticket to Madison. He easily won his next three matches, two by pin, to secure his second-place finish. Wrestlers had to place within the top three

in each weight bracket to advance.

“I love this time of year,” head coach Seth Senter commented after the tournament. “It is hard to beat the energy and excitement seen everywhere, from the wrestlers to the spectators. This is the time of year where champions are born and you can feel it here today. I am especially happy for Reegan and Ryker as they worked so hard this season to reach this level.”

When asked whether he was worried after Roy lost a close match in the semifinal round, Senter calmly responded by stating that it would take a lot more than a single loss to shake him or the Rebel Jays star wrestler.

“Reegan has been in pressure situations before,” he said, “and while anything can happen, this kid has poise beyond his years and carries a high confidence level simply through the body of work he has already



Rebel Jays wrestler Reegan Roy, right, faces Jaydon Le Noble of Weyauwega-Fremont in a sectional match last week in Valders. Roy took second place by finishing 4-1 on the day to qualify as a back-to-back state participant . –Photos By William Zuelke

produced. The best is yet to come for Reegan.”

Roy’s win in his third match was the 100th of his high school career.

“Ryker also has an impressive talent and is very mature for a freshman wrestler. He already has a long history of success in junior high school and youth programs and is very coachable. In fact, coach (Colin) Schubert worked with him last week on some zone tactics and hand fighting and it showed on the mat today. He has a great future ahead and making it

to the state meet in his first year is a nice start.”

Roy and Schingeck were joined at the sectional meet by fellow Rebel Jays teammates Hayden Demerath (150 lbs.), Jayse Demerath (126 lbs.), Max Clark (113 lbs.), and Brody Hoffman (175 lbs.). Each had strong moments on the mat and, according to Senter, each has the talent to be a state qualifier.

“They are all solid wrestlers and Coach Schubert and I are proud of their efforts this season.”

For (Hayden) Demerath,

this was his last high school tournament as he will graduate this June from Wabeno High School, and according to Senter, he will be missed.

“Hayden is a leader on this team and his accomplishments and skill are respected by his teammates. His qualities will be difficult to replace.”

The state tournament begins this Thursday, February 27, and extends through Saturday evening when championship bouts are scheduled at the Kohl Center in Madison.



Rebel Jays freshman Ryker Schingeck, top, gains position on Omro's Mason Malnory in an eventual win during each other's opening match during sectionals.

# STANDINGS

## EAGLE RIVER DARTBALL

Results of 2/19/25

Team results: Sweetwater I 3, Mud Creek I 0; Swwetwater II 3, Mud Creek II 0; Club Denoyer 2, Veterans Center 1; Eagle Lanes 2, Thunderbird 1; Shotskis 2, Club 45 1

Top women shooters: Bonnie Omerick 5/20, Tina Sickle 5/20, Jenni Hansen 5/24, Jane Klug 4/15, Billie Jo Ernst 4/16, Donna Dams 4/25

Top men shooters: Pete Aiello 10/23, John Ariola 8/17, Tim Winter 7/21, Bill Lutzke 7/24, Keith Popp 5/28, Tom kortendick 4/15, James Schmidt 3/13

Home runs: Bonnie Omerick

Standings	W	L
Eagle Lanes	31	14
Shotskis	29	16
Sweetwater II	29	16
Club 45	26	18
	(one tie)	
Sweetwater I	25	20
Thunderbird	25	20
Club Denoyer	18	27
Veterans Center	16	28
	(one tie)	
Mud Creek II	14	31
Mud Creek I	11	34

## EAGLE RIVER POOL LEAGUE

Results of 2/20/25

Results: Lumpy's 11, Club 45 I 5; Uncle Kent's II 10, Club 45 II 6; Uncle Kent's I 10, Brew's Pub 6; Eagle Lanes 9, Denoyer's II 7; Northern Exposure 9, Log Cabin 7; Denoyer's I 12, Club 45 III 4

Eight Ball Runs: Andy Spalding, Jerry Johnson, Richard Wilson, Don Kleinelder

STANDINGS	W	L
Eagle Lanes	203	101
Brew's Pub	186	118
Club 45 III	175	129
Northern Exposure	175	129
Denoyer's I	169	135
Uncle Kent's I	163	141
Lumpy's	151	153
Club 45 I	134	170
Denoyer's II	129	175
Uncle Kent's II	125	179
Log Cabin	109	195
Club 45 II	105	199

## GNC girls basketball

Final 2024-25 standings

Standings	W	L
Lakeland	12	0
Mosinee	10	2
Medford	7	5
Rhineland	7	5
Tomahawk	4	8
Northland Pines	2	10
Antigo	0	12

## NLC girls basketball

Final 2024-25 standings

Standings	W	L
Crandon	8	0
Wabeno/Laona	6	2
Florence	4	4
TL/P	2	6
Elcho	0	8

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SPORTS

Eagles beat Crandon, Antigo to finish 13-10; receive fourth seed in WIAA D-3 playoffs

**BY GARY RIDDERBUSCH**  
CORRESPONDENT

The Northland Pines boys basketball team defeated Crandon and Antigo last week to finish the regular season with a 13-10 overall record and will now prepare for the WIAA Division 3 playoffs.

The Eagles received a fourth seed in their 12-team Sectional bracket and will play a home game in the Regional semifinal Friday, March 7, after receiving a first-round bye. Pines will play the winner of fifth-seeded Oconto Falls and 12th-seeded Clintonville. Those two teams will play Tuesday, March 4.

“We are happy with the fourth seed and it shows how good this team is,” said Pines coach Terry Klemett. “We play in a very strong Regional and it’s very hard to win a playoff game. For

us to have a home semifinal is huge and it’s going to be a fun tournament.”

If the Eagles win the Regional semifinal, Pines will likely play top-seeded Freedom Saturday, March 8, in the Regional final. Freedom must beat either eighth-seeded Peshtigo and ninth-seeded Sturgeon Bay in the semifinal.

“We feel we can defend anyone and play with anyone,” said Klemett. “We’re hoping to be playing in our fifth Regional championship in six years, and these guys are hungry and will be prepared. I am very proud of where we are at this point of the season.”

**Two big wins**

The Eagles sealed the fourth seed with two solid victories to end the regular season.

Pines beat Crandon 58-34 in a nonconference



Junior Jacob Beer, left, battles for a loose ball against Crandon.

game last Tuesday in the fieldhouse, dominating the offensive rebounds against the Cardinals as the Eagles got 16 offensive boards and limited Crandon to just three offensive rebounds.

Pines led 26-20 with 5 minutes remaining in the first half and went on a 10-0 run to lead 36-20 at the intermission. The big play came as time ran out and sophomore Jack Albrecht launched a half-court shot that went in for three points at the buzzer.

The Eagles maintained a 10- to 20-point lead the rest of the game and went on to win by 24 points. Mylo Albrecht led Pines with 14 points, followed by Jonathan Miller with 13 points and 10 rebounds, including five on the offensive end. A.J. Muench contributed eight points, followed by Jacob Beer with seven, Jack Albrecht with six, and Ethan Miller with five. Muench also had eight rebounds and three assists.

“We did a great job starting the game out with a lead,” said Klemett. “We made some nice plays offensively and rebounded well.”

Pines made 11 of 29 3-point shots in the game for 38%, while Crandon shot just 31% from both two and three ranges.

“Defensively, we made them work hard in that first half,” said Klemett. “The second half we defended like a playoff team — high intensity, keeping them out of the paint. The team was very focused.”

The Eagles finished the regular season with a 42-30 victory over Antigo in a Great Northern Conference (GNC) game at the fieldhouse on Senior Night last Friday night. Seniors honored included Jonathan Miller,



Pines junior Mylo Albrecht goes up for a shot during the Eagles’ 58-34 noncon win versus Crandon Feb. 18.

Cody Vojta, A.J. Muench, Anthony Halada and Isaiah Kroeplin.

Antigo took an early 7-3 lead and still led 11-8 with 5 minutes to go in the half when Pines went on a 9-0 run to take a 17-11 lead with 2:30 to play. Antigo scored the next six points to tie the game 17-17 at the half.

“We struggled to find the bottom of the net in this one, but our defense was amazing,” said Klemett.

Pines outscored Antigo 10-2 to open the second half and led 34-21 with 7 minutes to play in the game. The Eagles led 40-25 with 2:41 to play and cruised to the victory.

“We made that run in the second half to get some separation and our defense was spectacular again,” said Klemett. “It felt good to get this win. It guaranteed us a winning season and gave us a 6-6 record in the GNC, which is always good.”

The Eagles were led by Mylo Albrecht with 16 points, while Vojta and Muench had seven apiece. The Eagles shot 44% from the field, but just 23% from 3-point range, hitting five of 22. Antigo was 29% from the field and just 18% from 3-point range.

Pines finished in fourth in the GNC at 6-6. Rhinelander and Medford tied for first at 9-2, followed by Mosinee at 7-3. Lakeland was fifth at 4-7, followed by Antigo at 3-7 and Tomahawk at 0-11.

Pines finishes regular season with gritty 51-46 win at Antigo

**BY JACOB HEID**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northland Pines girls basketball team headed into the WIAA girls basketball playoffs with some confidence as it finished the regular season with a 51-46 road win at Antigo last Friday.

In a tight game throughout the night, the Lady Eagles scrapped and clawed to get the victory.

Pines had three scorers in double figures starting with Ryley Darr finishing with 14 points, Kaydence Brost having 13, and Vienna Klemett with 11.

Rebounding was a plus for Pines, as the team cleaned the glass 46 boards, including 15 from

Brost and 11 for Rryn Darr. Natalie Kohn also finished with nine rebounds.

The Eagles also held senior night back on Feb. 17 and invited the Wittenberg- Birnamwood Chargers to town. Pines fell 58-17 in the contest after trailing big at halftime.

Natalie Kohn led the team with 9 points after shooting three-for-eight from the field.

The Eagles finished the regular season 6-18 overall and played in a regional playoff game at Amherst this past Tuesday. The winner of that game will go on to face No. 2-seeded Freedom this week Friday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m.

Koritzinsky nets four in Falcons’ road win

It was a rather slow weekend for the Eagle River Falcons this last week with just one road game, where Eagle River was lifted to a 7-2 win over the M&M Shamrocks after four goals by Todd Koritzinsky.

The Falcons were also assisted in scoring by Bryan Kronberger, Evan Janssen and Cody Everson, who each had a goal a piece.

Jacob Robinson had a hat trick off assists with three in the win.

Mike Otto and Alex Hauswirth each tallied two assists and Kronberger had one.

The Falcons sit at 10-2

0-1 on the year, which is good for third place behind the Portage Lake Pioneers and the Papermakers of Mosinee.

Eagle River has a big rivalry game this weekend with a home-and-home series with the Mosinee Papermakers for the River Cup. The first game is set Friday, Feb. 28, at 7:30 p.m. in Eagle River, with the two teams meeting again Saturday, March 1, in Mosinee.

Eagle River won the rights to the River Cup last season with the series needing an overtime and shootout to determine the winner of the cup.

Lady Jays win two of three to end regular season play

**BY JACOB HEID**  
SPORTS EDITOR

It was the final stretch of the regular season for the Three Lakes/Phelps girls basketball team, as it cruised to two wins against Elcho before falling 44-34 to Niagara in the home regular-season finale Feb. 21.

The Lady Jays opened the week at home Feb. 18 against Elcho and came away with a 67-18 win, before playing Elcho again Feb. 20 and winning 60-18.

TLP held commanding halftime leads in both contests against the Hornets, including a 26-9 lead Thursday night. The Jays poured in another 34 points in the second half of Thursday’s game.

“It was a game where we could work on more execution and offense during both of those games,” said TLP head coach Rich Javenkoski.

With momentum on their side heading into the regular season finale at home Friday, the Lady Jays got out to a fast offensive start before Niagara finally settled in.

“We started out fast, looked brilliant, and we

couldn’t get anything to fall in the second half. In the first half, we hit the fast break and defended. They play pretty good defense, but things didn’t go our way.”

Niagara’s Bristol Sanicki finished with 23 points and did most of her

damage in the second half, where TLP couldn’t find any momentum.

Haylee Barnekow led the team in scoring with 11 points. Paige Brafford finished with five points, but Javenkoski said that she did a good job of cleaning up the glass despite the loss.

TLP advances to the regional semifinal game this Friday, Feb. 28, against either No. 2-seeded Pacelli or No.15-seeded Port Edwards after Rosholt forfeited this past Tuesday’s playoff game due to low numbers.

“We’ve got to be able to beat the press and shut down their star sophomore guard who beat us last year as a freshman.”

That would be Pacelli’s Jaedyn Zdroik, who leads the Cardinals in scoring at nearly 15 points with nine rebounds and eight assists. Pacelli coach Allison Smaglik is a defensive-minded coach, which is a crucial part of the game according to Javenkoski. He said the Jays need to control the tempo of the game and take care of the ball against a team like that.



Three Lakes/Phelps junior Haylee Barnekow avoids contact and goes up strong for a basket during a 44-34 loss to Niagara last Friday night in Three Lakes.

–Staff Photo By JACOB HEID

Jays

FROM PAGE 8

Pitlik led the Jays with 15 points before fouling out of the game, while Lurvey had 12 points and Liebscher finished with 10.

Three Lakes shot 48% from the floor and 24% from deep in the loss.

In the second game of a back-to-back, Three Lakes improved its NLC record to 5-4 after a dominant win at home against Elcho.

The offense got off to a great start and held an early lead. At halftime, the Jays led 39-7 and outscored Elcho 38-12 in the second half.

“We were able to play everyone on the team in

this game and had balanced scoring throughout the team. It was nice to be able to play some of the kids who don’t normally get a ton of playing time,” stated coach Lurvey.

The Jays faced Elcho again on the road this past Monday before they end the regular season at Northland Pines this Thursday, Feb. 27, at 6 p.m.

Three Lakes received the No. 7 seed during the WIAA boys basketball playoff seeding reveal this past Sunday. It will face No. 10-seeded Tri-County on Tuesday, March 4, at 7 p.m. in the opening round, while the winner will face either No. 2-seeded Pacelli or No. 15-seeded Marion on Friday, March 7, in the regional semifinal.





# Lifestyle

Section B

715-479-4421

EAGLE RIVER, WI 54521

vcnewsreview.com

Wednesday, February 26, 2025



**JUNKER SLEDDING** — Last Saturday, snowmobile racers and enthusiasts gathered at Don Burnside Park in Three Lakes for the annual Junker Sled Weekend, a tradition since 2015. Despite another year of minimal snowfall, a snow gun—made possible by generous sponsors—ensured the track was ready for action.

—Staff Photos By AUDREY LEHMAN



## Not that you asked, but ...

BY ERIC JOHNSON

### Bread and circuses

*“Two things only the people anxiously desire — bread and circuses.”*  
— From “Satire X,” around 100 A.D., by Roman poet and satirist Decimus Junius Juvenalis (55-128 A.D.)

Back in the ancient of days, the Roman government kept the populace happy — and expediently from fomenting rebellion — by distributing free food and staging huge entertainment spectacles, the grander the better.

Bread and circuses they called it. Or perhaps more accurately in the vernacular of the day, panem et circenses.

As a fan of the national pastime, the mantra of the season-ending disappointments at falling short of the coveted World Series crown, is the well-worn chestnut that “there’s always next year.”

For those of us living in Brewer nation, it’s been 55 seasons of next year since the team’s 1970 establishment. And it’s been 43 years since Milwaukee made its historic first — and still only — World Series appearance. Now 60, I was a 17-year-old high school senior when skipper Harvey Kuenn led the local boys of summer to the beery Milwaukee-St. Louis “Suds Series,” the 95-67 Brewers falling short 6-3 to the 92-70 Cardinals on the road in the seventh and deciding game on Oct. 20, 1982. Not that I’ve been counting the 15,468 days, man you.

They say time heals all wounds, but truth be told the World Series loss to the Cards still stings, at least in memory. If only for a healthy Rollie Fingers, who earned both the 1981 American League Most Valuable Player and Cy Young awards, the Suds Series parlor game in my head always turns up a storybook ending for The Crew.

As the Milwaukee Brewers took to the spring training field of green in Arizona last week in the post-Bob Uecker era, there was a bit of a kerfuffle — firestorm?

To JOHNSON, Pg. 9

## Northwoods Share dinner set March 4

Northwoods Share will host its next free community dinner on Tuesday, March 4, at the Rock Mission Center in Eagle River.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for appetizers and dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.

Parsons of Eagle River is sponsoring the meal, which includes a lasagna dinner

catered by LP’s Pizza and Pasta from downtown Eagle River.

The same evening, Northwoods Share will also be celebrating March

birthdays.

Rock Mission Center is located at 1019 E. Wall St. next to Trig’s.

To DINNER, Pg. 10

## Discovery center to offer educational outings this spring

BY MICHELLE DREW  
CORRESPONDENT

North Lakeland Discovery Center (NLDC) in Manitowish Waters has released a comprehensive list of upcoming spring programs, nature outings and

activities for people of all ages.

Nestled within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest, the nonprofit organization helps share the beauty of the North Woods and the creatures that

reside here with self-guided exploration activities and recreation opportunities, live animal ambassador experiences at its Nature Center, 12 miles of multi-use trails, and a StoryWalk trail featuring a new book each month.

In the warmer months, the center has interpretive gardens for patrons to discover, as well as fishing, swimming and paddling opportunities on Statehouse Lake.

To OUTINGS, Pg. 5

## Eagle River bird rescue seeks homes for neglected parrots

BY AUDREY LEHMAN  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

For over a decade, dedicated bird lover Sara Harvey of Eagle River has been quietly rescuing parrots and other birds from neglectful situations found on platforms like Craigslist and Facebook. Now, she’s searching for adoptive homes to give these rehabilitated birds a second chance through her nonprofit Avian Oasis Rescue.

“I had been casually

rescuing parrots and other birds on my own a few times every year,” she shared. “I worked to get the birds healthier and then find them a better home.”

But in September of last year, a chance encounter with a veterinarian changed everything.

While bringing an abandoned domestic turkey to a clinic in Minocqua, she was offered the support needed to establish Avian Oasis Rescue and

To PARROTS, Pg. 3



Avian Oasis Rescue and Rehabilitation have helped over 32 birds, like this one, find homes since October.

—Contributed Photo



# LIFESTYLE

## Lia Montgomery to lead Guided meditation

The Boulder Junction Public Library will be offering bi-monthly HeArt Centered Meditation Sessions with Lia Montgomery on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month starting at 10:30 a.m. from February 26 – April 23. Lia Montgomery will host a guided meditation that meets the Middle Way, placing the participant at the center of spiritual life, surrounded by a physical existence that requires engagement in both big and small ways. Meditation practice will be introduced with a focus on how breath, mantra and quiet posture work together to create stillness of the mind. Bringing 45 years of meditation experience and devout Buddhist practice in Japanese, Zen and Tibetan traditions, Lia offers teaching and guidance rooted in deep spiritual study. Holding a Master of Social Work degree, Lia is also the author of Wandering: Lessons from the Heron and the Haul Road. Based in Presque Isle, she provides individual spiritual guidance and training at Unwind Spa in Woodruff. For questions and additional information, visit [www.sacred-earthsangha.com](http://www.sacred-earthsangha.com). Registration is not required, but appreciated. For more details, call the library at 715-385-2050.



LITTLE BLUE — A little blue jay sits perched amongst pine needles. While other songbirds will migrate during the winter, blue jays are a year-round resident in Wisconsin. —STAFF PHOTO

## Manitowish Waters Community Presbyterian Church to host youth group bingo fundraiser March 9

The Manitowish Waters Community Presbyterian Church youth group is hosting a Bingo fundraiser on Sunday, March 9, from 12 - 3 p.m. at the church located at 13883 Marathon Road, Manitowish Waters. Everyone is invited to join in on multiple rounds of bingo with prizes for the winners. Doors open at 12 p.m. and attendees can enjoy pizza, beverages, and sweet treats. Bingo will start at 1 p.m. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. All proceeds from the event will support the Youth Group's activities and outreach programs. For more information, contact Stephanie McClellan, Youth Education Director, at [stephanietralongo@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanietralongo@yahoo.com) or 715-904-0052.

## Sharyn Umana-Angers awarded degree from Miami University

Sharyn Umana-Angers of Woodruff was among students from Miami University who received degrees during the fall commencement Dec 13, 2024. Umana-Angers graduated with a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Biology degree, majoring in Biology.

## Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest celebrates centennial

In addition to the 125th anniversary of the Wisconsin State Park System, the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest (NHAL) is celebrating 100 years of forest stewardship. With over 236,000 acres and more than 900 lakes within its boundaries, NHAL provides wonderfully scenic opportunities for many types of outdoor recreation. From remote campsites accessible only by boat, to developed family and group campgrounds, beaches, boat launches and trails, there's something for everyone to enjoy. The forest is spread across three counties near the towns of Woodruff, Minocqua and Boulder Junction. NHAL even provided the 2024 Governor's Executive Residence Holiday Tree. The following are a few ways to get in on the fun:

- Play Centennial Bingo! Complete five in a row, straight or diagonal, or complete four corners and the center. The first 100 participants to turn in completed bingo cards win a first-aid kit and a sticker (one kit per family or group). All participants will get a free centennial water bottle sticker while supplies last. View and print the bingo card at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/StateForests/nhal/centennial>. To claim a prize, turn in the completed bingo card at Clear Lake Entrance Station, Crystal Lake Entrance Station, or the Woodruff DNR Service Center.
- For those who enjoy wildlife viewing and birding they can view and print the 100 bird species checklist on the centennial website.
- People can also explore the NHAL's top 100 activities divided by season on the NHAL centennial webpage. This list caters to a wide range of interests and activity styles.
- Lastly, stop by for the public event on June 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Crystal Lake Campground's beach and Nature Center areas. Check back this spring at the NHAL centennial page for more information.

For those looking to work in the Wisconsin State Park System and its properties like NHAL State Forest, visit [Wisc.Jobs](http://Wisc.Jobs) and search "Parks."



Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest is breathtaking this centennial winter. —Contributed Photo

## Growing Together support group to meet March 13

The Growing Together family support group, provided by the Vilas County Public Health Department, will be hosting its next meeting on Thursday, March 13, from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. at the Olson Memorial Library. The activity will be about snack-making and meal-prepping. There is no fee to participate. This support group encourages participants to learn about area resources, connect with children, and to connect with other families. They meet on the second Thursday of each month. For more information on the class or to RSVP, contact Dominica Hedberg, public health nurse with the health department at 715-479-3659, or [dohedb@vilascountywi.gov](mailto:dohedb@vilascountywi.gov).

## Oneida County DAV van drivers needed

The Oneida County DAV van, a free service that takes veterans who live in any county to the VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Mich., is seeking van drivers. The route originates in Rhinelander and travels the "northern route" via Lake Tomahawk, Woodruff, Arbor Vitae, St. Germain, and Eagle River on Monday and Tuesday, and the "eastern route" via Monico, Crandon, Laona, Cavour, and Armstrong Creek on Wednesday and Thursday. The van is coordinated out of the Oneida County Veterans Service Office and the drivers are unpaid volunteers. On average, a driver will drive one day per month and the average day is about seven hours. Those interested in being a volunteer driver should contact the Veterans Service Office at (715) 369-6127.

## REAL ESTATE

<b>Feb. 6, 2025</b> Lake Forest Resort and Club Condominium Association INC and Trustee Lake Forest Resort and Club Condominium Association INC to Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC, units 101-104 in building A and units 105-107 in building B of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, and gov lots 3-4 in 25-40-10, \$13,500.  Juan E. Torres and Laura Costello-Torres to Robert A. Govek, unit 7 of plat 788 in McPartlin's Resort Condominium, \$480.  <b>Feb. 7, 2025</b> Cathy L. Ahlborn to Kelly A. Rems, gov lot 3 in 28-40-7, \$54.  Jeffrey W. Hiller to Paul B. Jackson, SE NE, SW NE, NE SE, NW SE, NE NE, NW NE and gov lot 4 in 27-43-7, \$585.  Jonathan J. Horan to Boue Terre LLC, NW SE in 31-42-12, \$585.  Douglas Henkel, Leanna Henkel and Leanna Burress to James C. Kopecky and Stacy L. Kopecky, lots 1-2 of plat 155 in Indian Woods, \$144.90.  Paul Habram, Paul Habram LLC and Michelle Bricco to Clausen 4 LLC, lot 199 and lot G of plat 263 in Rest Lake, \$1,650.  <b>Feb. 10, 2025</b> Corbin D. Johnson and Samantha Johnson to Michael L. Johnson and Kathleen S. Johnson, gov lot 5 in 17-43-5, \$2,385.  Arlene D. Gumm to James W. Gumm, gov lot 2 in 23-40-11, \$138.30.  MJC Ventures LLC to John R. Sarber and Sarah L. Sarber, gov lot 3 in 35-40-9, \$138.  <b>Feb. 11, 2025</b> Thomas J. Musial to Stephen M. Musial, SW SW in 25-43-7, \$240.  Daniel J. Egnarski, Susan K. Egnarski and Thomas L. Kulke to Thomas L. Kulke and Teresa Kulke, gov lot 7 and gov lot 5 in 17-42-7, \$489.  Debra L. Althoff to Gary Powell, Paula Powell and Scott Althoff, NW SE in 36-42-5, \$90.  Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Finish Line Rentals LLC, unit 114 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$867.  Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to James D. Peterson and Susan Peterson, unit 119 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$513.  Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Northwoods Voyageur, unit 102 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$572.70.  Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to GLPC Acquisition LLC, unit 101 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$482.40.  Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Leigh Hartjes and Suzanne Duginski-Hartjes, unit 113 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$512.40.  Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to TM Northwoods LLC, unit 118 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$452.70.  Lake Forest Resort and	<b>To REAL ESTATE, Pg. 4</b>
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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!

For the full exhibitor list or to become an exhibitor visit <https://www.rhinelandechamber.com/upnorthcommunityexpo/>

RHINELANDER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ASPIRUS HEALTH

CNG CHARTER NEXT GENERATION

ADVANTAGE HOME PROS

RIPCO CREDIT UNION

Ripco Credit Union – 93rd Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 5:00 PM

Ripco Credit Union members are invited to attend this year's Annual Meeting. This meeting will be available virtually online or in person, at our main office – 121 Sutliff Avenue, Rhinelander.

At this meeting, Ripco's Chairman of the Board and Board of Directors, will report on the financial state of the Credit Union and share information on other topics of interest to the Credit Union's member-owners.

Two Director's – Alyssa Borski and Rick Zoerb - will be reappointed to the Board by acclamation, as no nominees were presented to challenge the incumbent. The meeting will be held via video conference, dial in by phone or in person at our main offices in Rhinelander.

A registration link will be available online at [ripco.org](http://ripco.org) at least two weeks prior to the virtual event.

RIPCO CREDIT UNION

For more information, please Call Ripco at: 715-365-4800 (toll free at 1-877-365-4800)

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LIFESTYLE

Beef Council announces 2025 ‘Wisconsin’s Best Burger Contest’

The Wisconsin Beef Council (WBC) announced the kickoff of the 2nd Annual Wisconsin’s Best Burger Contest.

The Council is on a mission to find and celebrate the most mouthwatering 100% beef burgers crafted by Wisconsin’s restaurants, bars and grills.

Starting Friday, Feb. 21, through midnight on Friday, March 21, people can nominate their favorite beef burger from any Wisconsin restaurant (one nomination per person) on the Wisconsin Beef Council website at [www.beeftips.com/bestburger](http://www.beeftips.com/bestburger).

Restaurants can also find marketing resources on the website to help promote the contest to their patrons. As a customer, notify the restaurant owners/managers about the contest so they can promote it in-house.

In early April, Wisconsin Beef Council will reveal the Elite Eight restaurants with the most nominations. A secret panel of judges will then embark on a delicious journey to taste and evaluate these top contenders. Burgers will be judged on taste (50 points), appearance (30 points), proper doneness

To BURGER, Pg. 10



LIONS DONATION — On Tuesday, Feb. 18, members from the Eagle River Lions Club presented a check for \$500 to Sara Klemann, Director of the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library. The Club supports the library’s ongoing work, providing numerous programs and resources to the community. Pictured, from left to right, are Library Director Sara Klemann and members of the Eagle River Lions Club Board of Directors Karla Zyhowski, Vickie Penkert and Heidi Reiter Kramsvogel. —Contributed Photo

Library Corner

WALTER E. OLSON

MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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](http://olsonlibrary.org), contact the Library at 715-479-8070 or [olsonlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:olsonlibrary@gmail.com).

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

- 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.
- Monday, March 3, 4:30 p.m.: Eagle River Genealogical Society. Connect with others doing

family history work to build skills, find new resources, and tackle tricky questions. Don’t forget you can access local history materials - including microfilm of the VCNR going back to the 1890s and Family Search Affiliate Library records — at OML.

- Thursday, March 6, 1 p.m.: Compassus Grief Support Group. Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Compassus offers a monthly support group that can help. Call 715-301-7210 to learn more.
- 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.

Easy Eagles meeting scheduled March 5

The Easy Eagles men’s luncheon group will meet at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5, at Chef Rene’s, located in the Eagle River Inn.

This week’s speaker will be Dennis Geiseman,

President of the local Veterans Resource Center.

The Easy Eagles is a group of predominantly retired men who meet twice a month, on Wednesdays, to socialize and share lunch. The group has a speaker

at each luncheon to share timely and interesting (non-controversial) subjects.

The group welcomes new members so, if interested, attend a meeting or contact Mike at 262-287-2654 for more information.

Badger Bridge details results

1st place – Jerry Baerenwald and Bob Dow.  
2nd place – Bob Busakowski and Ed Stoever.  
3rd place – Mary Jo Berner and Marie Andersen  
Duplicate Bridge starts at 11:45 a.m. on Mondays at Kalmar in Eagle River.

Parrots

FROM PAGE 1

officially become a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Now, Avian Oasis Rescue is a haven for surrendered and neglected birds, offering them a second chance at life. The small, community-driven organization operates with the help of three directors and a handful of foster volunteers.

“We take our time with every bird that comes to us,” Harvey explained. “We assess any dietary changes they might need, veterinary care and testing they might need. We also learn each bird’s personality, because every one is different with different needs.”

Some birds require special diets or supplements, particularly if they have been exposed to cigarette smoke or poor nutrition in previous homes.

Despite their dedication, running a bird rescue comes with challenges. One of the biggest hurdles is raising awareness.

“We have struggled with gaining exposure and spreading the word that our rescue exists,” she admitted. “We really need more interested people in the area to get involved.”

The organization often faces unrealistic expectations from the public, with some individuals assuming they provide boarding services or expecting a wide variety of birds for adoption. Another significant issue is the high number of surrendered parakeets.

“They are an inexpensive species of parrot, and often people think it would be fun

to have an exotic pet,” she said. “But later, they get bored or don’t want to keep up with the high cost, and they discard them.”

In addition to parakeets, the rescue has taken in cockatiels, conures, a caique parrot and even domestic doves. Many people don’t realize the level of care exotic birds require.

“Parrots need a quality kind of food, a proper large cage, attention and several toys. A bird living in a tiny cage, which is inhumane, without toys, can result in the bird becoming bored and possibly plucking or destroying their own feathers.”

Unlike some countries where laws protect exotic pets from poor living conditions, the U.S. has few regulations in place. “This is very frustrating for us,” she said. “As animal rescuers, we have seen a lot of sad situations for birds.”

Despite the difficulties, there are many rewarding moments. One particularly heartwarming story involved a woman facing homelessness who had to surrender her cockatiel and two parakeets. “The parakeets went to a nice lady in the southern part of the state, and the cockatiel went to a wonderful family in St. Germain. They already had a parrot, and now the two birds like to be next to each other and chirp back and forth.” She still receives updates and photos, which she says “fill my heart with joy.”

Finding suitable adopters remains an ongoing challenge, especially due to the area’s small population.

“We have had to adopt out to people in other areas of the state,” she explained. “This is not ideal because if the bird ever needs to be returned to us, we have to spend time and funding to get them back in our care.”

To support their mission, Avian Oasis Rescue relies on adoption fees and donations to cover costs such as bird food, toys and veterinary care. The rescue’s long-term goals include helping more birds in need and educating potential owners on the intelligence and emotional depth of parrots.

“An African Grey parrot, for example, has been scientifically proven to have the intelligence of a six-year-old human,” she said. “An animal this complex deserves top-notch care. They do feel sadness, and they do get lonely if ignored.”

Avian Oasis Rescue is always looking for more community involvement, including businesses willing to put up flyers or donation boxes. Those interested in adopting, fostering, or donating can visit their website at [www.avianoasisrescue.com](http://www.avianoasisrescue.com) or find them on Facebook at Avian Oasis Rescue and Rehabilitation. Donations can also be made via PayPal at [avianoasisrescue@gmail.com](mailto:avianoasisrescue@gmail.com) or by visiting their wishlist on Chewy.com.

Senior Citizen Menus

March 2-7  
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, March 3  
Seasoned baked chicken, sweet potato, Pacific blend veggie, whole wheat bread, and yogurt with strawberries.

Tuesday, March 4  
Ham on marble rye with romaine leaf and tomato slice, mayo, navy bean soup, crackers, and peach slices.

Wednesday, March 5  
Seasoned baked fish, parsley buttered potatoes, tartar sauce, carrots, rye bread, and a banana.

Thursday, March 6  
Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, diced squash, multigrain bread, and pineapple.

Friday, March 7  
Hearty homemade mac and cheese, green beans, dark greens salad, dressing, grapes, and gingerbread cake.

St. Germain

St. Germain Community Center; Serving at 10:30 a.m. Home-delivered meals only. Home-delivered meals are available based on eligibility. For reservations or cancellations, please call Pam Cira at (715) 891-5453 (must call 24 hours in advance). Lighter substitute available in place of main entrée: Grilled chicken salad (or healthy salad).

Wednesday, March 5  
Seasoned baked fish, parsley buttered potatoes, carrots, rye bread, banana. Ash Wednesday.

Thursday, March 6  
Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, diced squash,

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, March 3  
Chili with cheese and onions, cornbread, sour cream, and pudding with berries.

Wednesday, March 5  
Grilled chicken breast sandwich on whole wheat bread with lettuce, tomato and onion, tater tots, and mandarin oranges.

Friday, March 7  
Fish tacos with pico de gallo, corn tortillas, lime, and fruit cocktail.

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, March 4  
Turkey tetrazzini, strawberry spinach salad with poppyseed dressing, broccoli, whole wheat bread, and fruit fluff.

Wednesday, March 5

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, March 4  
Sloppy joe on a whole grain bun, seasoned carrots, cucumbers, and applesauce.

Wednesday, March 5  
Whole grain macaroni and cheese, roasted zucchini and squash, spinach salad, and grapes.

Thursday, March 6  
Cheeseburger on a whole grain bun, lettuce and tomato slices, french fries, and oranges.

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, March 3  
Seasoned baked chicken, sweet potato, Pacific blend veggie, whole wheat bread, and yogurt with strawberries.

Tuesday, March 4  
Ham on marble rye with romaine leaf and tomato slice, mayo, navy bean soup, crackers, and peach slices.

Wednesday, March 5  
Seasoned baked fish, parsley buttered potatoes, tartar sauce, carrots, rye bread, and a banana. Ash Wednesday.

Thursday, March 6  
Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, diced squash, multigrain bread, and pineapple.

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AUDREY LEHMAN

THREE LAKES

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DONATION — The Three Lakes Fish & Wildlife Improvement Association recently donated \$1,190 to Mr. Waltz's 5th grade class at Three Lakes Elementary so students could have an outdoor educational experience at the Northern Lakes Impact Center in Rhinelander. Making the presentation to the class were Fish & Wildlife board members Charlie Volk (left) and Michele Brown (right). The association supports youth education and natural resources education. — Contributed Photo



The Demmer Memorial Library in Three Lakes has announced its programming for the upcoming week.

Scrabble drop-in play will take place Thursday, Feb. 27, at 1 p.m. in the Demmer Fireplace Area. Community members are invited to participate.

The Harry Potter Club will meet Monday, March 3, at 3:30 p.m. in the Demmer Tamarack Room. Activities will include crafts, trivia, and more.

An additional session of the Writer's Group is scheduled for Thursday, March 6, at 1 p.m. in the Demmer Maple Room. The session will focus on the publishing process. No previous writing experience is required.

**Weekly Offerings:**

Story Hour, a free program for young children and their caregivers, takes place Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Demmer Maple Room. Children can listen to stories, engage in music and movement, and explore different art mediums.

The Three Lakes Genealogical Society offers assistance to those researching their family history, from beginners to experienced researchers. Active office hours are held Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. in the library's local history room.

**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)

Real Estate

FROM PAGE 2

Condominium LLC to Gilbert Menez, unit 124 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$487.90.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Paul Meier and Cathy Meier, unit 117 of plat 167 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$482.40.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to H2K Real Estate LLC, unit 112 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$485.40.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to H2K Real Estate, unit 122 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$491.40.

Feb. 12, 2025

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Paul Meier and Cathy Meier, unit 120 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$497.70.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Eric Kuhne, Ann Kuhne and Nicholas G. Kuhne, unit 110 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$750.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Jay and Colleen Walt Revocable Living Trust, Trustee Jay Walt and Trustee Colleen Walt, unit 103 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$572.90.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Musky Waters Lodging LLC, unit 123 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$486.30.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Jhawn Newman and Kelsey Newman, unit 107 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$542.40.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Ken Imig and Cheryl Imig, unit 109 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$825.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to David R. and Amy J. Anderson Revocable Trust, Trustee David R. Anderson and Trustee Amy J. Anderson, unit 121 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$475.80.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Daryl Clokiewicz and Debra Clokiewicz, unit 116 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$587.70.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Ross Radandt and Dawn Radandt, unit 108 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$467.40.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Monroe McWard, Monroe Mc Ward, Laurie McWard and Laurie Mc Ward, unit 106 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$662.40.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Craig Dux and Britany Dux, unit 111 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$482.40.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Kelly Hoesly and Chris Hoesly, unit 104 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$572.70.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Chad and Jamie Olson Joint Revocable Living Trust, Trustee Chad Olson and Trustee Jamie Olson, unit 115 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$780.

Lake Forest Resort and Condominium LLC to Andrew Heidt and Lynne Heidt, unit 105 of plat 169 in Lake Forest Resort/Club Condo, \$542.40.

Condo, and gov lots 3-4 in 25-40-10, \$452.40.

Michael R. Lifschutz Revocable Trust and Trustee Lisa G. Sage to Lisa G. Sage and James R. Sage, gov lot 1 in 31-40-10, \$615.

Trustee Molly E. Frithiof to Lucas Leonhard and Nicholl Leonhard, SE NE in 18-40-8, \$465.

Trustee Lawrence Sodomire and LSP Trust to Scott H. Suhr and Susan M. Suhr, gov lot 2 in 9-41-11, \$630.

Feb. 13, 2025

Patsy A. Niemi Revocable Trust of 2024 and Trustee Patsy A. Niemi to Chad

Anderson and Rebecca Anderson, NE SE in 28-40-8, \$180.90.

Feb. 14, 2025

Terry A. and Bettye J. Anderson Family Trust and Trustee Bettye J. Anderson to Susan K. Egnarski and Daniel J. Egnarski, NE NW in 16-42-7, \$975.

Feb. 17, 2025

Midland General Contractors INC to Jeffery A. Auger, lot 7 of plat 80 in Eagle Heights, \$49.50.

Jeffery A. Auger to Jeffery A. Auger and Katherine Congdon, lot 7 of plat 80 in Eagle Heights, \$49.50.

Kallie R. Ecker to Jake A. Hodgson and Heather A. Hodgson, lot 19 of plat CSM5783, NW NW, SW NW and NE NW in 27-41-9, and NE NE, SE NE, NW NE and NE NW in 28-41-9, \$1,802.70.

Feb. 18, 2025

VIP 2641 HWY 47 LLC to Joseph F. Cobb, gov lot 2 in 2-40-5, \$138.

James P. Warner, Angela D. Warner, Donald R. Woods and Carmen A. Woods to Victory Investment Properties LLC, gov lot 5 in 18-41-5, \$1,024.50.

Feb. 19, 2025

Rene A. Grever to Todd

Brinkman and Ellen Brinkman, gov lot 4 in 16-40-9, \$2,661.

Mary B. Saggau and Mary Baumgartner to Lynne W. Shotwell and Trustee Lynne W. Shotwell, gov lot 1 in 35-42-12, \$375.

Gary Valkenaar to William Ott and Judith A. Ott, gov lot 3 in 10-39-10, \$330.

Gary Valkenaar to Kevin D. Garthe and Michelle B. Garthe, gov lot 3 in 10-39-10, \$330.

Robert A. Rynders Trust and Trustee Robert A. Rynders to Kevin J. Kohl and Cori K. Kohl, NE NW in 24-40-6, \$1,575.

LAND O' LAKES

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



Pictured, from left to right, are LOLA Executive Director Jennifer Anderson, Loreta and Richard "Rocky" Maciulis and LOLA Marketing and Communications Director Julia Cohen. — Photos By Bob Hughes

Land O' Lakes Arts hosts Winter Mini-Concert

Last Saturday afternoon, Land O' Lakes Arts (LOLA) invited Loreta Maciulis to perform in their second winter mini-concert series.

These mini-concerts are made possible by funding from the Green Bay Packers Foundation and LOLA's donors.

Maciulis is from Lithuania and, with her husband Richard (Rocky), has a summer cottage on Black Oak Lake. They are

winter residents of the Chicago suburbs.

After being introduced by LOLA Executive Director Jennifer Anderson, it was over to Richard to introduce Maciulis's songs.

Maciulis entertained her audience with several Lithuanian songs and finally two songs in English. Maciulis has performed in many locations across the world.



Loreta Maciulis performed songs in both Lithuanian and English.

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THREE LAKES**  
**APRIL 1, 2025**

**Referendum Details**

At an election in the School District of Three Lakes on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, the following questions will be submitted to a vote of the people:

**QUESTION NUMBER I**

"Shall the School District of Three Lakes, Oneida and Forest Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$18,900,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of: district-wide renovations, capital maintenance, building infrastructure, safety, security and site improvements; construction of additions at Sugar Camp Elementary School, including for classrooms and a cafeteria/multipurpose room; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment for both district sites?"

**QUESTION NUMBER II**

"Shall the School District of Three Lakes, Oneida and Forest Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$2,700,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school facility improvement project consisting of: athletic facility and site improvements, including for track replacement, a concessions/bathroom building, bleacher upgrades and parking lot expansion; related accessibility updates, safety and capital maintenance improvements; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment?"

A copy of the entire text of the resolution directing submission of the questions set forth above to the electorate and information concerning District boundaries can be obtained from the District Clerk at the School District offices located at 6930 West School Street, Three Lakes, Wisconsin.

**Additional Information**

Acceptable photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Persons with questions regarding the referendum election should contact Teri Maney, District Administrator.

Done in the School District of Three Lakes  
on February 26, 2025  
Josh Kral, District Clerk

**WNAXLP**

445310

**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](http://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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[www.cnaads.com](http://www.cnaads.com) \*Kantar Millward Brown, Feb. 2018





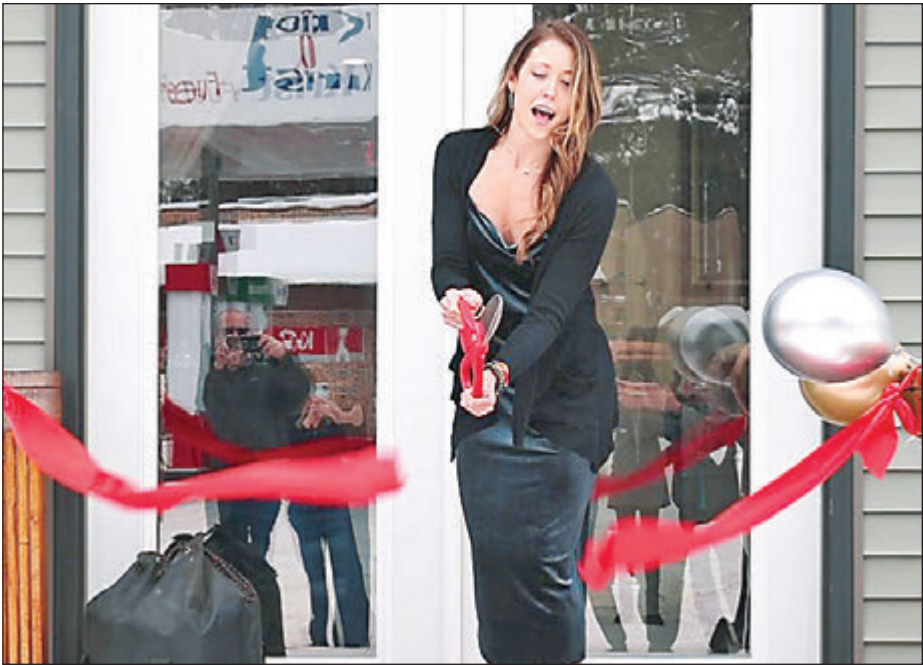
The Land O' Lakes Elementary School recently held a food drive to celebrate their 100th Day of School

—Photo By Bob Hughes

## Kindergarteners celebrate 100th day with food drive

Land O' Lakes Elementary kindergarteners upheld their tradition of collecting 100 food items for the Headwaters Food Pantry in honor of their 100th Day of School. Organized by 4K-kindergarten teacher Cathy Benecke, the students counted donations into groups of 10 before confirming they had met their goal. Additional contributions brought the final total to about 110 items. On Wednesday, the children, assisted by SOAR Charter School students Saoirse and

Hannah, delivered the donations by sled. Headwaters Food Pantry President Paul Sheffel welcomed them, noting how much the kids enjoy the event. As a thank-you, the pantry gifted the students small tokens of appreciation. This annual effort teaches both counting skills and the value of giving back to the community.



Alicia Petty cuts the ribbon to officially open her studio.

## Massage Therapy opens new location

Alicia Petty officially opened her Inspirational Touch Massage Studio last Saturday, cutting a ribbon in front of a crowd of family members and local well-wishers in downtown Land O' Lakes. After cutting the ribbon and offering warm thanks to those involved, Petty invited everyone inside to tour the studio. Upon entry to the studio, many remarked on the beautiful decor and ambiance. Everyone was invited for food and drinks with Petty and her three health and wellness vendors. The studio is located at 4199 County Road B, Suite 2. Petty is known by many in Land O' Lakes as her Inspirational Touch Massage business has been in the area for several years at Luoto's Fitness Center in Land O' Lakes.



Petty welcoming local residents and business owners.

—Photos By Bob Hughes

## LOLA Open Mic Night showcases local talent

Land O' Lakes Arts (LOLA) hosted a lively Open Mic Night last week, led by Bret Miller with performances by Ben Fronk, Frisk Miller, Brandon Konnow, and a guest singer from Houghton, Mich. Musicians of all levels took the stage, while attendees enjoyed food, desserts, and drinks. The event continues to provide a welcoming space for local talent and community fun. **RIGHT:** Bret Miller performing at LOLA Open Mic Night. **BELOW:** Left to right is Frisk Miller, Brandon Konnow and Bret Miller singing "Sound of Silence." —Photos By Bob Hughes



## LOLA Arts celebrates Youth Art Month with student exhibit

In celebration of Youth Art Month, LOLA Arts will showcase the creativity of local students through an exhibit that highlights the importance of art education. This annual event features artwork from students ranging from kindergarten to high school, offering a colorful display of imagination and talent. The Youth Art Month Exhibit will be on display in the LOLA Gallery from March 3-14, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Artwork will be curated, framed, and presented in a gallery setting. An Exhibit Reception Open House is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with free refreshments and snacks. A Drop-In Art session will take place during the Exhibit Reception on Saturday, March 8, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Led by Dr. Donna, the session will feature an activity where participants can decorate cookie canvases.

## Outings

FROM PAGE 1

### Trail explorations

In NLDC's trail explorations, patrons can learn about wildlife, plants, landscape and natural world relationships from expert naturalists, historians, geologists, and ecologists as they snowshoe or hike down the trail. All ability levels are welcome. As part of the upcoming Trails & Teacups Series, attendees are invited to hit the trails and enjoy a spot of tea with Naturalist Jenna Richardson as they explore the beautiful North Woods by ski, snowshoe, or boot. Following the excursion, participants are invited to socialize while enjoying tea in a warm and cozy space. The ski outing will take place Saturday, March 1, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at North Lakeland School Trails. Registration deadline is this Thursday, Feb. 27. NLDC will host a snowshoe adventure Tuesday, April 1, from 10 a.m. to noon, with registration due by March 30. Finally, a hike will take place at WinMan Trails Thursday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to noon. Registration is due by April 29. Cost for each of these outings is \$15 for the public or \$12 for members. More details about each trip can be found online. In April, NLDC will offer a Salamander Survey Hike April 15, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., where participants will look for salamanders and other amphibians. Cost is \$5 to the public or free for members, and registration is due by April 14. Patrons are invited to celebrate Earth Day at Catherine Wolter Wilderness Area Tuesday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Naturalist Jenna Richardson. Guests will join Richardson on a 5-mile hike while delving into some of the unique plant and animal species that call this property home. In May, attendees will be able to traverse the Ice Age Trail with Naturalist Jenna Richardson and Wisconsin Master Naturalist Volunteer Mike Schroeder on this special day-hike experience Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants will hike this out-and-back route, totaling approximately 4 miles, to Lookout Mountain which will offer scenic views of glaciated terrain. Those interested in joining must register by May 1. Cost is \$70 for the public or \$56 for members. A special field trip to explore Copper Falls State Park and Cable Natural History Museum is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. NLDC's Jenna Richardson and Don Anderson will lead attendees to explore the wonders of Mellen and Cable. The journey begins at the Cable Natural History Museum, where participants will enjoy an exclusive guided tour of the facility and its fascinating exhibits. After a short lunch break in their charming pavilion, the group will head to Copper Falls State Park. There will be a hike of the scenic 1.7-mile Doughboy's Trail, uncovering the breathtaking geology and stunning waterfalls along the way. Registration is due by May 26 at a cost of \$80 per person or \$65 for members. In addition to this variety of outdoor and educational programming, NLDC also provides creative outlets inspired by nature, seed sharing, mindful living in nature courses, adult evenings, and educational outings for the whole family. Full descriptions of each program, along with many additional experiences, can be found on the website at discoverycenter.net. Advanced registration is required for many offerings. Registration can be completed online, by phone at 715-543-2085, or in person at 14006 Discovery Lane, Manitowish Waters.



SHARON GIFFORD

PHELPS

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

Matilda musical  
set Saturday,  
March 8

Phelps School District students, under the direction of Lisa Duquaine, are presenting the musical Matilda on Saturday, March 8 at 7 p.m. in the small gym.

The production is open to the public at no charge. Concessions will be available throughout the performance.

“The students have worked very hard to put on a stunning performance for the community,” said Duquaine. The school is located at 4451 Old School Road.



**SPOTLIGHT KNIGHTS** — Phelps spotlight knights of February are, on left Faryn Marchant, 7th grade, and on right Kami Robbins, 10th grade. Mrs. Kuckkahn said, “Faryn is a great student in class. She is always ready to learn and help another student. She works hard and is always willing to fix her work when needed.” Mrs. Barron said, “ Kami has shown a lot of growth this year putting her full attention into her schoolwork. She has consistently motivated herself to push forward and excel. This semester, Kami has taken on additional classes and has handled the increased workload with great success, continuing to stay driven to keep improving herself.” —Photo By Sharon Gifford

Phelps High School students  
construct storage shed

Phelps High School shop class, under the direction of Dustin Spink, recently designed and constructed a much-needed storage shed for the Phelps Fire Department.

The students put their skills to work, providing all of the labor to build the shed from start to finish.

“Their dedication and craftsmanship are truly commendable,” said fire chief Jeremy Ryan.

The fire department purchased the materials from money raised at their annual fundraisers, and the students took on the challenge of bringing the project to life — demonstrating not only their technical skills, but also the power of community collaboration. Their hard work has provided the department with a valuable structure that will serve the department for years to come.

Ryan said, “This project is a shining example of what can be achieved



Phelps High School shop class students helped build a storage shed for the Phelps Fire Department.

when our local organizations work together. It is inspiring to see young people stepping up, learning valuable trades, and giving back to their community. On behalf of the Phelps Fire Department, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Spink and his students for a job well done. Your work has made a lasting impact, and we are grateful for your support.”



The shed was started last year by, pictured from left to right, William Doppke, Mason Andersen, Hunter Barnekow, Kaiden Johnson and Ethan Doppke. Not pictured was Drexton Wittchow. — Contributed Photos

CONOVER

JACKI HILDEBRANDT | conoverjacki@gmail.com

Club 45 to host  
31st annual  
Turkey Shoot

Club 45 in Conover will host the 31st annual Turkey Shoot and fundraising raffle on March 1, to benefit VFW Post 8400 in Land O’ Lakes. Shooting starts at 11 a.m. and ends at dusk.

Participants will compete using a long rifle 22 and open sights only. There will be prizes, raffles, and food.

Club 45 is located at 4800 Old 45 Road in Conover. For more information, call 715-547-3571.

vcnewsreview.com

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](mailto: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



The shed was finished this year by, pictured from left to right, Dustin Spink, Eragon Wenberg, Ethan Doppke, Mason Andersen and Bodde Regenfuss.

winter

spring

summer

autumn

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# Outdoors

## Much-awaited retirement revives the fishing duo

**THERE** we were, set up with six tip-ups spread across a frozen bay, waiting patiently for that first northern pike to show up and grab a large shiner.

It was a Monday, historically a stressful deadline day for old newspaper guys, but retirement paved the way for reviving a fishing and hunting duo who've been enjoying the great outdoors together for more than 40 years.

Having finally joined former editor Gary Ridderbusch in this retirement thing, the scribbler starts a new chapter in being able to schedule outdoor adventures without fear of deadlines and last minute surprises getting in the way.

We come from similar backgrounds in central Wisconsin farm country, where we played high school sports and got outdoors to fish and hunt with family and friends whenever possible. Somehow we both ended up in the Eagle River/Three Lakes area to raise families and work for one of the state's top weekly newspapers, and well, the rest is history.

On this particular day, with high temperatures in the teens and a wind blowing out of the northwest, we tucked into a protected bay on a clear lake that offered vehicle access on 18 inches of ice.

The tip-ups were placed in 10 to 14 feet where cabbage and grass weeds were scattered throughout, hoping to find some pattern

that told us where the bulk of the northern pike were hanging.

We waited a good 45 minutes before the white landscape gave way to the glorious sight of that first tip-up waving in the wind, and it was game on.

Upon arrival, we saw a spindle spinning like a helicopter and it was all Ridderbusch could do to dive in, pull the tip-up and set the hook — which you must

do because there's no telling whether arched line or weeds in the way might give a fish the slack it needs to spit the bait. **This fish had weight and it took three or four solid runs away from the hole when it saw daylight. But a minute later, there was a fat 30-inch pike flopping in the snow.** Northerns don't get much respect in Minnesota, where they allow winter spearing, but there are a lot of anglers in Wisconsin's North Woods who appreciate the aggressive fight and superior taste of the mighty pike.

Of course you have to deal with some extra slime on the cleaning table and the removal of that set of Y bones to truly enjoy this fish, but the extra couple of minutes per fish is well worth it. Just let me say that if you are still using the five-part filet method the Department of Natural Resources has promoted for years, you need to get on YouTube and watch some videos that explain the Canadian filet method.

This method will produce just two skinless, boneless filets,

the way it should be, and you'll be amazed, with some practice, how easily the Y bones can be removed.

We waited probably another 45 minutes for our second tip-up to go, but it was worth the wait when a 27-inch pike came thrashing out of the eight-inch hole.

Things got really interesting around 2 o'clock. I had a bite where the spindle was moving steadily and slowly, like a big walleye, but a clasp broke on the leader holding the treble hook and we'll never know what that fish was.

In the next 20 minutes, like somebody had flipped a switch, three other flags went up. The result was a couple more pike in the 25-inch range headed for the cleaning table. The game fish bite can slow a little in February with the extra ice depth and colder temperatures. Some lakes get low on oxygen because of snow cover and dying weeds, and that makes the fish somewhat lethargic.

But anglers only have until this Sunday, March 2, to fish for northerns, walleyes and bass before the game fishing season closes for the winter.

After that they will have to target panfish such as perch, bluegills and crappies, the seasons for which never close. That's when we put away the tip-ups and get out the tip-downs. I'm sure the Krueger/Ridderbusch team will get in a lot more fishing in the months and years ahead, for there are dozens of lakes and streams we've wanted to fish but never had time to explore.

The targets might include brown trout on Lake Superior, whitefish on Trout Lake, big crappies on all the wooded flowages,



Gary Ridderbusch poses with a dandy northern pike taken on an outing with the scribbler, as the longtime fishing duo reunites in retirement.

—Photo By The Author

walleyes on Green Bay and steelhead in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The list is long.

**There's no chance I'm getting bored in retirement, so no worries on that one.**

## Wisconsinites invited to shape conservation policies

Wisconsin residents still have time to shape conservation policies as the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) encourages public participation in its annual spring hearing process by submitting local resolutions by Feb. 24.

The WCC is an independent organization of residents that advises the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on how to responsibly manage Wisconsin's natural resources.

Each year, residents have an opportunity to submit ideas as resolutions to the WCC.

Wisconsinites can submit proposed resolutions via the online process now through Feb. 24, 2025. Resolutions must meet the following criteria:

The concern must be of statewide impact.

The concern must be practical, achievable and reasonable.

The concern must be within the mission and

vision of the WCC.

An individual may submit no more than two resolutions per year. Those interested in submitting a resolution are encouraged to reach out to the resolution review committee or their WCC County Chair for guidance in drafting a resolution.

Additional tips on preparing a resolution are available on the WCC and DNR's Spring Hearings webpage.

Resolutions will be accepted until Feb. 24, 2025. At the close of the submission process, the resolutions will be reviewed by a committee of WCC delegates to ensure they meet the criteria for inclusion, and will be prepared for the spring hearing agenda and online input, which kicks off on April 14 and will close on April 16.

For further information or questions, contact Terri Roehrig, Executive Committee Member of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, at 920-540-2775.

## Hunters, anglers and trappers support Knowles-Nelson renewal

Wisconsin's outdoor enthusiasts are rallying to protect a key conservation program that has shaped the state's sporting heritage for decades. With the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program set to expire in June 2026, a coalition of major conservation groups is working to secure its renewal, ensuring continued public access to lands for hunting, fishing, and trapping.

Wisconsin is fortunate to have a rich sporting heritage, with hundreds of thousands of sportsmen and women taking advantage of our public lands each year.

That tradition continues to thrive thanks, in part, to the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Since 1989, the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program has provided more access and opportunities for outdoor pursuits like hunting, fishing, and trapping. But the program is set to expire in June 2026.

Now, a coalition of a dozen major conservation organizations representing hunters, anglers and trappers from across the state are working to

ensure that Wisconsin's premier land conservation program will continue.

"Sportsmen and women in the Badger State have better access and opportunities to hunt, fish and trap because of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program," said Kyle Rorah, Regional Director of Public Policy for Ducks Unlimited. "If you've spent time chasing bucks or wading through marshes for waterfowl on public lands in Wisconsin, you've probably benefitted from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program." Lands acquired using Knowles-Nelson Stewardship funds are required to remain open to hunting and trapping, making it one of the most sportsmen and women-friendly land conservation programs in the country. But if the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program expires, Wisconsin will lose its best program to acquire land for hunting, fishing and trapping.

"One of the most common complaints we hear is that public areas open to hunting are overcrowded," said Dan Trawicki, Past President – Safari Club

International, Wisconsin Chapter. "We need to be providing more opportunities and access for the state's hunters, anglers and trappers."

The hundreds of **To PROGRAM, Pg. 10**

thousands of Wisconsinites who purchase hunting, fishing and trapping licenses each year also provide significant economic



### Fishing with the guides

BY GEORGE LANGLEY

## Reflecting on a great winter season

As we enter the last week of game fishing season, which ends March 2nd, we've got to take a moment to reflect on what a great winter it's been on the ice this year! The fishing was fantastic in general, with some ebbs and flows along with the weather. We can also be grateful that with the superb ice conditions we've got, there should be no problem chasing those panfish through the rest of the cold weather. This week looks like it might put an end to snow-sports, with some temps in the upper 30's and low 40's. We didn't have much of a base this year, so it won't take much to knock down what we've got. Despite that, with the ice we've built, we can be hopeful it'll carry us over until spring. Currently, we're seeing from 22" to 28" throughout the area.

Walleye fishing has been better than average all season. We saw a ton of people out last weekend — after those cold temps we had early in the week, 30 degrees feels like summer!

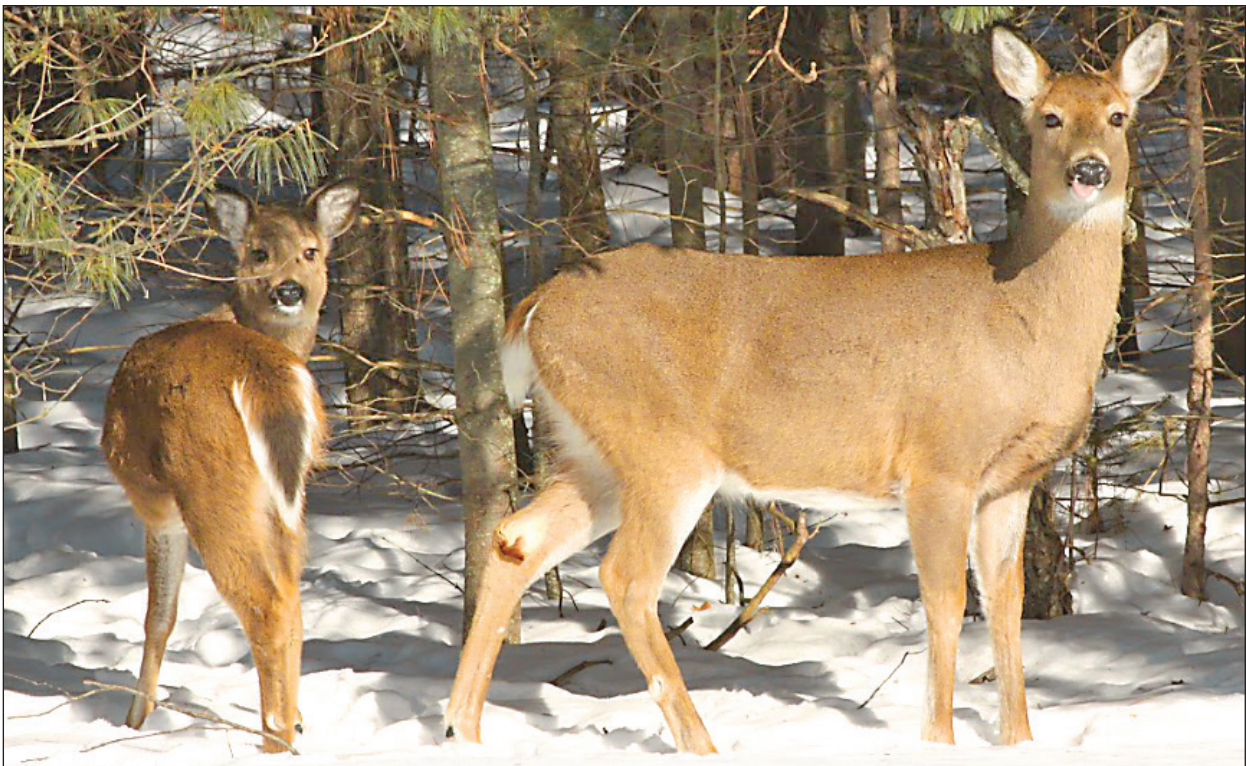
Tip-up action is still dominating the walleye fishing. Most anglers are still setting deep; however we are starting to see some fish moving into the shallower weed beds. The best time for these fish is still late afternoon and into the dark. Suckers or shiners are working great.

The northern catch has also been very good. Tip-ups with large shiners set up right over the weeds have been working best all winter. As we've been saying all winter, look for the deeper weeds for this type of fishing and set up right over the top of them. Afternoon action has been fantastic, but these fish will eat all day long.

Panfish action has been good to great throughout the area. Crappies have been hitting vertical jigs with waxies or crappie minnows, on weed edges at 6-9' on the Chain. Bluegills are in the weeds at about 10' and have been providing pretty good numbers. Waxies or spikes have been best for the 'gills. The perch bite has improved and, after the cold, it really picked up. If you're looking for decent size in these guys, fish deep. Crappie minnows and rosies are working well.

Despite the end of the game fishing this coming weekend, there is still plenty of great fishing to be had yet this winter! The end of game fishing always means it's a little quieter out there, too. There's lots of fun yet to be had on the ice this season, before we all start thinking about boats and warm weather.

Good luck and good fishin'!



**SUNNY PAIR** — A pair of white-tailed deer, fluffy with their winter coats, enjoy some winter sunshine. Deer will typically lose their dense winter coat around April or May with seasonal temperature increases.

—STAFF PHOTO



Our View

Congrats to Northland Pines

Congratulations to the Northland Pines School District, and the hard work of District Administrator Scott Foster and others working behind the scenes, in the recent approval of the district’s operational referendum on the Spring Primary ballots last Tuesday, which will allow the district to exceed the revenue limit with \$5.6 million per year for the next three years.

After weeks of preparation and educating the public on what this referendum would mean for the district, the referendum was approved with about 67% of the vote in Vilas County. With this approval, the district will be able to maintain buildings and curriculums that can help bolster students as they prepare for life after graduation, keep — and attract — passionate staff, coaches and bus drivers, and maintain relationships with local businesses and community groups that help support district students.

To see such support for the referendum highlights the trust and love taxpayers within the district have for not only the district, but the students, staff and community as well, a point that was emphasized in a newsletter released by Foster following the referendum’s approval.

We congratulate the Northland Pines District for this new opportunity to continue its momentum of success, and we look forward to seeing the schools, businesses, students, coaches, teachers, families, taxpayers and the community at large work together to make this the best district — and community — it could possibly be. Go Eagles!

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

EDITORIAL

OPINION/COMMENTARY



JUDGED WISCONSIN’S  
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
OF THE YEAR



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

I’ll be the last guy out of bed

One recent morning while I was frying up some eggs for an egg and bacon sandwich it came to me that for the most part, I have come to like my life much as I like my eggs — over easy.

Back in the day you might have seen me as more a hard-boiled eggs guy, especially when looking at how I approached my outdoor adventures.

Hiking up a mountain measuring over 10,000 feet in altitude to reach an elk meadow would have been just another day at the office. Walking with a double-barrel shotgun cradled in the crook of my arm for six or more miles, hoping to flush a partridge or two, would have been a nice little interlude type of hunt.

When the opening day of fishing season came around you could count on me to be on the water from can-see to can’t-see, hoping to bring home a mess of trout or a stringer of walleyes — or both — come dark.

The Wisconsin duck season used to always open on the first Saturday in October with legal shooting time not beginning until noon, but until I got old and got a lick of good sense in my head you would have found me in my canoe by 7 a.m., paddling up and down whatever lake I was hunting at, checking for where the ducks were and making

sure my much earlier prepared blind wouldn’t be stolen by some other early bird.

On and on my outdoor expeditions went, but no more. Instead of going hard core I now much prefer going easy-peasy.

Sure, I still love hunting, fishing and everything else I still do in the outdoors, but now I prefer doing it at a much more relaxed pace.

Let’s take a look at my duck hunting expeditions. Instead of being the first guy out there, I’m usually the last guy out of bed at duck camp, still fixing eggs and toast for myself well after the rest of the gang have headed out the door on their way to a blind in the cattails.

In North Dakota, especially, I know that I am going to get to shoot my shotgun many, many times during a weeklong hunt, and I know I’m going to kill all the ducks I and my camp mates can eat.

When I first started hunting the prairie country, a day’s hunt would have meant being in a field or along the edge of a prairie pothole from dawn to dusk

with maybe just a short lunch break at midday.

I still love hunting ducks. I still like to hit some of the ducks I shoot at. I still love eating ducks, but my greatest joy in duck hunting is simply being somewhere where ducks will be, sometimes in range, sometimes not.

A midday snooze is always in order no matter where I’m hunting ducks, in a place where I can come awake just enough to hear a flock of Canada geese flying overhead, the melodic tones of their honking drifting down to my appreciative ears.

Watching the sunrise, whether in a northern Wisconsin blind or in a nest of cattails at the edge of a prairie slough, means as much to me as pulling the trigger at decoying ducks.

Feeling the wind whipping through vast fields of wheat, listening to the guttural squawks of sandhill cranes, or watching muskrats making a gentle V in placid water as they swim past, makes an easy day in a blind the best of all times.

When it comes to fishing, things have changed much the same for me as they have

for hunting. Sure, I still like to catch a 30-inch pike or a two-foot walleye now and then, but I have immensely much more fun catching bluegills, perch and bass by the score, throwing almost all of them back save for half a dozen or so ‘gills for supper.

The quiet, small backwoods lakes I tend to fish more than any other, mostly because except for rare occasions I have those waters entirely to myself, is the easy, laid-back type of fishing I now do on an almost exclusive basis.

Painted turtles sunning themselves on half-sunken logs, a mallard hen with her brood puddling past, robins singing from every which way; all of those things I find easy to take whenever and wherever I am fishing.

At this stage of my life I have caught enough fish and killed enough ducks, partridges, deer and other wild game to keep me happy. I hunt and fish all casually on an Easy Street level.

I find no need to fish or hunt all hours of a day, preferring instead to fish a little, hunt a little, nap a lot and simply drink in the beauty of being able to still do all those things when and where I like.

More than ever, I like my outdoors life this way, the over-easy way.



Savvy Senior

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

Service dogs can help seniors with disabilities

DEAR SAVVY SENIOR,

What can you tell me about service dogs for seniors with disabilities? My 67-year-old father has chronic arthritis and Parkinson’s disease, and I’m wondering if an assistance dog could help make his life a little easier.

Dog Loving Leah

DEAR LEAH,

For people with disabilities and even medical conditions, service dogs can be fantastic help, not to mention they provide great companionship and an invaluable sense of security. But be aware that service dogs can be very expensive to purchase and the waiting list to get one can be long. Here’s what you should know.

While most people are familiar with guide dogs that help people who are blind or visually impaired, there are also a variety of assistance dogs trained to help people with physical disabilities, hearing loss and various medical conditions.

Unlike most pets, assistance dogs are highly trained canine specialists — often Golden and Labrador Retrievers, and German Shepherds — that know approximately 40 to 50 commands, are amazingly well-behaved and calm, and are permitted to go anywhere the public is allowed. Here’s a breakdown of the different types of assistance dogs and what they can help with.

Service dogs: These dogs are specially trained to help people with physical disabilities due to multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injuries, Parkinson’s disease, chronic arthritis and many other disabling conditions. They help by performing tasks their owner cannot do or has trouble doing, like carrying or retrieving items, picking up dropped items, opening and closing doors, turning light switches on and off, helping with balance, assisting with household chores, barking to indicate that help is needed, and more.

Service dogs can also be trained to help people with medical conditions like epilepsy or other seizure disorders, autism, diabetes, PTSD and other psychiatric disabilities.

Guide dogs: For the blind and visually impaired, guide dogs help their owner get around safely by avoiding obstacles, stopping at curbs and steps, navigate shopping centers and buildings, find doors, seats, pedestrian crossing buttons and more.

Hearing dogs: For those who are deaf or hearing impaired, hearing dogs can alert their owner to specific sounds such as ringing phones, doorbells, alarm clocks, microwave or oven timers, smoke alarms, approaching sirens, crying babies, or when someone calls out their name.

To SAVVY, Pg. 9



Letters policy to change

TO OUR VALUED READERS;

We want to take a moment to explain an important update to our editorial policy regarding political letters and opinion pieces.

While many media companies are eliminating political content altogether, we remain committed to providing a forum for meaningful discussions that contribute to the education and awareness of our communities.

To continue offering this service in a sustainable way, we have made two key changes:

1. A 250-word limit on political letters and opinion pieces to encourage clear, concise and impactful discourse. We ask that you also provide supporting documentation on the facts included.
2. A required submission fee for publishing political opinions, reflecting the significant investment required to maintain this platform.

Our newspapers and digital media provide a powerful and far-reaching outlet for those who wish to share their views.

With that opportunity comes responsibility.

We must ensure that all contributions meet our standards for civility and relevance.

We reserve the right to edit submissions that are derogatory, inflammatory, or counterproductive to constructive community dialogue.

The reality is that providing a platform for public opinions — one that reaches thousands of readers — requires time, effort, and editorial oversight.

This is a service we are proud to offer, but it must be managed responsibly.

The alternative would be for individuals to purchase

their own media outlets, which is impractical for most.

Instead, we are maintaining an accessible, fair, and carefully moderated forum for public discussion.

We appreciate your understanding and continued trust as we work to provide a space for informed and respectful dialogue.

MMC Editorial Board

People as Beneficiaries

What Others Say

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

and clear-cut, because the IRA and Roth IRA listed each child of the mother, who was the original

account owner, as equal beneficiaries. There is also a non-retirement account owned by the siblings’

mother, but it is not so easy to transfer, because the beneficiary designation was not to each named child. In fact, the beneficiary was not left to a person at all; it was left to “the estate.”

Naming the estate opened up the probate process. Now, a court must verify the funds and assets of the estate and validate the distribution to the correct



OPINION/COMMENTARY



GASSING UP — With trails open, the sun shining, and events taking place at the Derby Track, Circle K North in Eagle River was a busy spot for sleds to gas up for their weekend outings last Saturday morning. Local snowmobile groups advise to not ride trails, due to their poor conditions, until colder temps and snow returns. Trails in Oneida County are already set to close this Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 8 a.m.  
— Photo By Michelle Drew

Savvy

FROM PAGE 8

Finding a Dog

If your dad is interested in getting a service dog, contact some credible assistance dog training programs. To find them, use the Assistance Dogs International website which provides a listing of around 80 accredited members and 25 candidate programs in North America. (AssistanceDogs

International.org)

After you locate a few, you'll need to either visit their website or call them to find out the types of training dogs they offer, the areas they serve, how long their waiting list is, and what they charge. Most dog training programs charge anywhere from \$10,000 to \$40,000 or more for a fully trained service dog. However, most programs can assist with fundraising or grant applications for those in need.

None of that cost is covered by health insurance or Medicare.

To get an assistance dog, your dad will need to show proof of his disability, which his physician can provide, and he'll have to complete an application and go through an interview process. He will also need to go and stay at the training facility for a week or two so he can get familiar with his dog and get training on how to handle it.

It's also important to understand that assistance dogs are not for everybody. They require time, money, and care that your dad, or some other friend or family member, must be able and willing to provide.

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.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

The Gift of Life And The Inevitable Abyss

Dear Reader,

One of God's greatest gifts is the gift of life. But that gift comes with an expiration date. In the grand scheme of eternity, our time on this earth is just a speck—here today, gone tomorrow. No matter who we are, where we come from, or what we accomplish, the end awaits us all. And when our time runs out, we disappear into the abyss of humanity, fading away into the vast ocean of those who have come before us.



We all leave our mark—some big, some small. Some build empires that echo through the ages, while others quietly tend to their families, neighborhoods, or communities. No matter the scale, each mark has value. But eventually, every empire crumbles, every accomplishment is forgotten, and every individual falls into the same great oblivion. It's a humbling reality and a universal truth.

So, knowing this, the question remains: What do you want to do with your life?

Will you spend your days chasing material things that rust and decay, or will you invest in moments that last beyond your time here—moments of kindness, love, and connection that ripple through the lives of others? Will you lift up those around you, plant seeds of goodness, and be an instrument of peace, or will you let your days slip away, consumed by the trivial?

Life is fleeting, and none of us know how much time we have. But within this brief window, we all have a choice. What legacy will you leave? What will you do with your gift of life? Will you simply exist, or will you dare to make your mark?

Our moments are few, and our time is short. But even a small spark can light up the darkness. So let's make it count. Before we vanish into the abyss, let us live with purpose, gratitude, and a commitment to make the world just a little bit better for those who will follow.

PATRICK J. WOOD

Publisher

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

Johnson

FROM PAGE 1

— in Brewer Nation after millionaire Brewers owner Mark Attanasio, who purchased the team in 2005, mused to USA Today's Bob Nightengale, "Is my job to win a World Series, or is my job to provide a summer of entertainment and passion and a way for families to come together?"

Definitely not the Vince Lombardi attitude — "Winning is not a sometime thing; it's an all the time thing ... Success demands singleness of purpose ... We run to win, not just be in the race ... Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing."

Attanasio's controversial comment came around the same time that the New York Times reported that, "The Brewers, led by owner Mark Attanasio, clamp down on spending..."

Right now, he's about as popular as Cleveland Indians owner Rachel Phelps in the Milwaukee County Stadium-filmed 1989 sports comedy motion picture "Major League." Next thing you know,

Brewers players nursing sore post-game bodies will be using a horse watering trough and outboard motor for a makeshift "jacuzzi."

Attanasio said the quiet part out loud, forgetting to keep that first part quiet in the thought bubble over his head. Wow! Not in it to win the World Series? We will never win the World Series, much less get to one, with that mindset. Maybe deep down in our gut, we knew it all along, just now it's public knowledge.

Like it's a mutually exclusive either-or proposition instead of maybe, just maybe, uhh, both-and? What kind of thinking is that? How do you not win a World Series without passion and entertainment? Riddle me that!

Isn't winning the goal of any team? Even my kids back in their summer t-ball days wanted to win in this modern era of participation trophy sports. They instinctively knew the it-doesn't-matter-who-wins talk from the adults was a bunch of claptrap.

Don't mince words, Eric. What do you really think? Being World Serious

about a Brewers World Series would accomplish both aims for the Brewers. If you focus on winning the World Series, the summer of passion and entertainment will follow — and families will come together at the ol' ballpark.

You play to win each game. Imagine thinking that making the World Series, much less winning one, wouldn't provide Brewers fans with the ultimate in entertainment, passion and family togetherness.

We've had, thankfully, a lot of entertaining summers in Milwaukee. How about an entertaining Fall Classic this October at the AmFam Flam?

Call me crazy, but going to the World Series sounds fun and entertaining to me. As I recall, the Brewers going to the World Series back in '82 was pretty entertaining and a passionately wild ride — and it brought my family together — but maybe after 43 years my memory isn't what it used to be.

If he were still around, I don't even think folksy everyman Uecker could

put a positive spin on Attanasio's comments. As Uecker closed out his final career broadcast last fall, a season-ending Brewers late inning crash-and-burn playoff loss to the Mets, "That one stings a little."

Keep the fans in baseball bread and circuses to keep them coming back through the turnstiles. Not being committed enough, financially and otherwise, to actually compete for and in the World Series? Oy!

Taking a page from Juvenalis, I guess the ownership strategy is participation trophy bread and circuses baseball at its finest — perennial early playoff exits after winning the also-ran National League Central, racing

anthropomorphic sausages around the warning track, Bernie Brewer going down the giant chalet slide, and cool shiny graphics on the ginormous scoreboard.

You've had your fun summer. What more do you want?

At the very least, if Attanasio was really interested in providing a summer of entertainment in 2025, keeping Willy Adames with the Brewers would have made this season more entertaining.

I'll be dead before the Brewers return to the World Series. I've accepted this fact.

Small wonder, in retrospect, that former longtime Brewers skipper Craig Counsell, who led

Milwaukee to five of its ten franchise postseason appearances during his 2015-2023 tenure, jumped from the first place Brewers following the 2023 season to the rebuilding Cubs, a looming major divisional threat in 2025.

While I'm sure the extra greenbacks is a nice bonus, maybe Counsell had the baseball version of being tired of being "always the bridesmaid and never the bride" when the Fall Classic came rolling around.

At least the Cubs have been in — and won — the World Series this century.

News-Review columnist Eric Johnson can be reached at [eric@fyinorthwoods.com](mailto:eric@fyinorthwoods.com).

Others

FROM PAGE 8

beneficiaries. Creditors may come forward with a claim to the money as part of the probate process. Probate is lengthier than directly naming beneficiaries and involves attorney and probate fees that would not have been necessary if the account had people named as beneficiaries instead. We also looked at the taxation that will be levied on the account, which will now be due at the estate level before the money is distributed to the children. Estate level taxes are higher than the tax rates my clients pay individually, so ultimately with taxes and fees, less money from the account is inherited by the children than

would have been had the beneficiaries been listed in their names.

Naming an estate as beneficiary can be part of a logical plan in some cases. For example, if one intended and planned complex distribution arrangements as part of their will or trust, where the account owner did not want the beneficiaries to have full and immediate access to the money, naming the estate could be part of that plan. Unfortunately, this did not seem to be the intention. Rather, it appears that in this case the implications of naming the estate as beneficiary were not thoroughly examined, and the inconsistencies of the beneficiary designations across accounts indicate that there had not been an account review process for quite

some time by the mother's advisor or herself.

Investments are just one element of an account. Understanding account titling, transferring and beneficiary designations are obviously important, but often misunderstood or overlooked. Mistakes can be costly and cumbersome. Unique circumstances may apply to your situation: consult the trusted, professional advisor who understands your circumstances for specific advice. The simplest, most direct way to transfer your accounts upon your death is to name people as your beneficiaries.

LouAnn Schulfer can be reached at (715) 343-9600 or [louann.schulfer@lpl.com](mailto:louann.schulfer@lpl.com), [TheWealthInformationLady.com](http://TheWealthInformationLady.com), or [louann.biz](http://louann.biz).

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ST. GERMAIN/SAYNER

JACKI GOEBEL | 715-891-8028 | jackigoebel@gmail.com



The St. Germain Community Church of Christ Thrift Store granted Northwoods Veterans Homestead with a check for \$1,755. Present for the donation were Carla Ruuskanen, Homestead vice-president; and Judy Manski and Lynn Uphagrove, store volunteers. —Photo By Jacki Goebel

Thrift Store donates to Northwoods Veterans Homestead

The St. Germain Community Church of Christ Thrift Store granted Northwoods Veterans Homestead with a check for \$1,755. Present for the donation were Carla Ruuskanen, Homestead vice-president, Judy Manski and Lynn Uphagrove, store volunteers. Northwoods Veterans Homestead is set to pioneer the first veteran-specific homeless operation in northern Wisconsin, catering to all homeless veterans in the state. The project will be located east of Highway 8 in Rhinelander.

Following the successful plan that was used in a Racine project, the neighborhood intention includes a community center, sixteen tiny homes, a veterans’ market/shop, and a community garden.

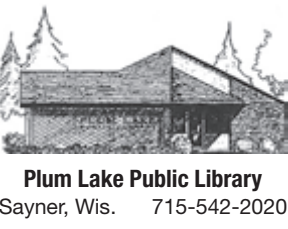
The Homestead’s priority is to provide person-centered programming covering a wide range of essential life skills, including cooking, financial management, job searching, resumé writing, and personal hygiene.

Additionally, Northwoods Veterans Homestead collaborates with community partners to facilitate access to professional services in areas such as health care, legal aid and counseling.

To learn more about the project, visit northwoods-veteranshomestead.org.

The thrift store chooses a local program each month to sponsor with customer donations received from a jar they place on the counter. Store hours are Monday and Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Plum Lake Library provides program updates



Plum Lake Public Library  
Sayner, Wis. 715-542-2020

The Friends of the Plum Lake Library is hosting the annual trivia contest fundraiser for the library on Saturday evening, March 8. Stop by the library, visit their website at <https://plumlakelibrary.org/> or

call 715-542-2020 for more information. Get a team of up to six signed up and be ready for a fun evening in Sayner on March 8. \$20 per person, six people to a team.

**Story Hour**  
Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. is something fun for preschoolers at the library. Story Hour will have stories, fingerplays, songs, crafts and snacks. It is held every other week. On the off weeks, there are Storyhour

**Tech Help**  
The Plum Lake Public Library offers tech help on basic PC skills, iPad, Kindle, ebooks, email, Facebook and other topics. For assistance, contact the library at 715-542-2020 to make an appointment.

Enrichment Days (SED) where kiddos can stop by the library to engage in fun, self-paced activities. Stop by the library or check out the library website for a schedule.

Dinner

FROM PAGE 1

There will be a chance to leave a goodwill offering for those interested.

Northwoods Share Inc. is a nonprofit organization with a Needs Ministry that provides a pantry with free paper products and

soaps, along with personal care items and clothing to assist families in the community. This is open every Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. located just behind the Rock Mission Center.

They also have a program called ICHELP that helps financially assist families in budgeting with

spending journals. There is a 24-hour phone line available for emergencies at (715) 891-8966.

NWS has also opened its first Esther’s House, a transitional home for moms and their children.

For more information, visit [www. NorthwoodsShare.org](http://www.NorthwoodsShare.org)

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](mailto: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.

DEADLINES FOR SECTIONS

TOWN PAGES

THURSDAY 4 PM

LIFESTYLE

FRIDAY 10 AM

OBITUARIES

MONDAY 10 AM

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Burger

FROM PAGE 3

(10 points), overall enjoyment (10 points), with bonus points for the eating environment, atmosphere, and experience (up to 5 points). The grand winner will be announced on May 1 to kick off May Beef Month.

To be eligible for the contest, the hamburger must meet the following guidelines:

- The burger must be 100% beef (other ingredients may be added to the patty such as spices, vegetables, etc.).
- All burgers must be composed of a formed ground beef patty/patties served on a bun or other bread product (such as biscuits, focaccia or tortillas). Burgers may include any combination of condiments (such as ketchup, mayonnaise and mustard), sauces (such as barbeque or hot sauce), cheeses and toppings (such as bacon, onions, tomatoes and lettuce). Every component of the burger must be placed between the bun or bread pieces, or served open-faced on a bread product.
- Burgers must be available on the nominated restaurant’s regular menu, and the restaurant must be open

year-round.

A restaurant may only win Wisconsin’s Best Burger Contest one time. Wisconsin Beef Council retains the discretion to make all decisions regarding the interpretation of the Official Rules, which can be found on their website. All decisions of the WBC are final and discretionary.

Stay updated on the contest by liking the Wisconsin Beef Council on Facebook or following them on Instagram. Share your burger love by posting a photo of your favorite burger on social media using #WiscoBestBurger.

Program

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contributions to the state. In 2022, hunters in Wisconsin spent more than \$1.3 billion on hunting-related purchases, supported nearly twelve thousand jobs, and contributed almost \$830 million to Wisconsin GDP. Boating and fishing contributed more than \$928 million to Wisconsin’s GDP.

“Sportsmen and women play a significant role in Wisconsin’s culture and economy,” said Mike Kuhr, Advocacy Chair for Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

“We look forward to working with Governor Evers and the members of the legislature to ensure that Wisconsin can continue to provide better access and opportunities for our state’s hunters, anglers and trappers through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.”

Backward Glances

Compiled by Josephine Hindermann

**One Year Ago - 2024**  
Information is being sought on damage that was done to property by the entrance to one of St. Germain’s local ATV trails last week...“Whoever did this came from the Gravel Pit Trail from Birchwood, clearly marked with a no ATVs sign,” stated Gary Penner, St. Germain ATV Club president. “They rode north to where the ATV trail/snowmobile trail splits, where there’s a ‘no ATVs’ sign, a ‘no snowmobiles’ sign, and a bright yellow steel gate.”... Penner said the driver of the machine then proceeded to smash the trees with their machine and go around the gate.



SKI LIFT, 1955 — Center of attraction at the Sheltered Valley ski area is the Alpine Poma-lift with its huge steel towers shown here. —Photo by Northernaire Photographer

**10 Years Ago - 2015**  
While the winter of 2014-’15 hasn’t been as harsh as the winter of 2013-’14, frigid cold temperatures have been the norm this February. Weather stations in the North Woods reported low temperatures of minus 35 degrees in Land O’ Lakes, minus 22 in Eagle River, and minus 20 in Three Lakes...The forecast is calling for higher temperatures the rest of the month, ranging from 3 degrees Wednesday to 20 degrees Saturday, the last day of February.

**60 Years Ago - 1965**  
The 18,000 acres of virgin timber with 36 named lakes and 65 miles of shoreline, locked up for a half century in the fabulous Sylvania Tract abutting Vilas county’s northern border, moved a giant step closer to being opened to development by either the U.S. government or private developers... The United States Forest Service announced that it will make a bid for the purchase of this fabulous hunting and fishing paradise in Gogebic county — and Phil Christiansen of Phelps said if the government makes an offer, “we fully intend to exercise our option to buy.”

**20 Years Ago - 2005**  
Vilas County public health officials are once again hearing complaints about the animal shelter...Committee member and 30-year county board Supervisor Charlie Marquardt responded by saying that the animal shelter has been in existence for his entire tenure on the board and there is always someone complaining about either the care the animals receive or the management of the shelter...(Cheryl Eskridge, a member of Pet Care Alliance, which formed in 2003) said the biggest complaints that she and others have about the shelter is cleanliness and hours of operation. She said her group will be presenting their proposal in writing at the next meeting, to at least bid on the shelter operations the next time it comes up, which is Dec. 31 of this year.

**70 Years Ago - 1955**  
The Vilas county polio fund drive zoomed over the top last week with \$3,361.17 collected — and the goal was \$3,000...The total was reported by Mrs. N.J. Gary, county director, and Mrs. E.W. Krack, chairman for the city of Eagle River. Both chairmen said they want to thank those who donated time and money. They also singled out those responsible for fund drives...

**50 Years Ago - 1975**  
A mop-wielding grandmother is serving a seven-day term in the Vilas county jail for attacking a Lac du Flambeau policeman with a jagged mop handle, and the assistant district attorney is hoping the jail sentence will “set an example for others who might obstruct law enforcement officers”...A fight began when the police arrived and Laura Meshigaud, 59, hit one of the policemen over the head with a jagged mop handle...Other persons involved in the skirmish were charged with various minor offenses, but Mrs. Meshigaud was charged with obstructing an officer, committing battery on a police officer, and disorderly conduct. The police report described her as “belligerent and abusive.”

**80 Years Ago - 1945**  
The marvels of modern telephony, its rapid growth and development, and the important part it plays in our mode of living, were interestingly demonstrated to Eagle River Rotarians...(O.P.T. Daenitz, an engineer of the Commonwealth Telephone company) stated that while the United States had only six percent of the world’s population, it had 24,000,000 of the world’s 46,000,000 telephones, which were handling 92,000,000 calls a day. He said it was a little known fact that Wisconsin had over 700 telephone companies.

*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.*