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THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 VOLUME 70, ISSUE 13

## Human remains found after Town of Bradley fire

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

Human remains were discovered inside a home that burned early Thursday morning in the Town of Bradley.

According to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, the Lincoln County Dispatch Center received a call shortly after 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 20, 2025, reporting a residential fire with flames visible from the home. The Tomahawk, Nokomis, and Cassian Fire Departments responded to extinguish the fire."

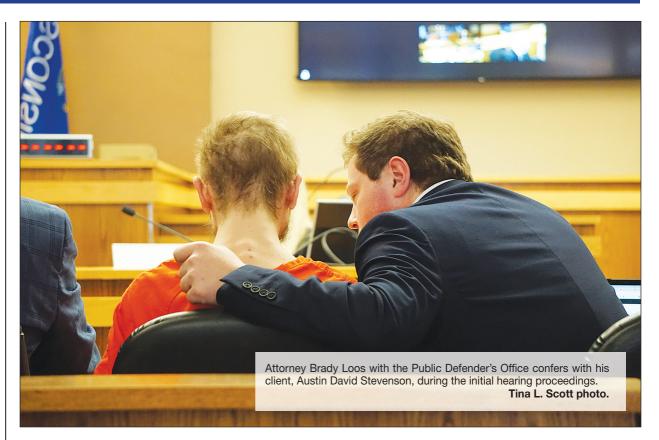
When firefighters arrived on scene, they found the residence fully engulfed in flames. The

human remains were located while firefighters were still actively working to extinguish the blaze.

Multiple agencies are now investigating the incident, including State Fire Marshalls, the Wisconsin Department of Justice Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office.

The identity of the victim has not been released at this time. Authorities have not yet determined the cause of the fire or the cause of death.

"As the investigation is ongoing, no additional details can be released at this time," the Sheriff's Office said.



# Merrill man discovered deceased, son Austin Stevenson charged with first degree murder

Stevenson charged with first degree intentional homicide, bail set at \$250,000

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

According to a press release from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office (LISO), on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at approximately 6:06 p.m., the Lincoln County 911 Dispatch Center received a call requesting a welfare check for a missing 48-year-old Merrill man who had not shown up for work or been heard from.

Deputies responded to the call in the Township of Corning, where they located the missing man, who was found deceased. Authorities confirmed the decedent was 48-year-old John Stevenson.

Following an investigation, law

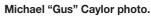
See MURDER page 2







St. John Lutheran Church has an ethereal appearance during Merrill's late March snowstorm.









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or stop by our office at 2011 E. Main Street

#### **PUBLISHER'S LETTER**

#### **Protected Moments in Time:** A Reflection on Love and Change

Dear Reader.

In life, we all experience what I'd directions. It's about asking ourselves

"protected moments in time"—those rare and powerful instances where everything feels eternal. Perhaps it was the day you fell in love and promised a "forever" to someone, or a lifechanging experience where a vow to stay true felt as solid as the stars. In these moments, we see our highest ideals, our

best selves, and we genuinely believe that nothing will shake that promise.

Yet life has a way of unfolding unpredictably. Years pass, circumstances change, and sometimes, so do we. We might find ourselves looking back at those onceimmovable promises, wondering if they are still meant to shape our lives now. It's a complex question: Do we remain loyal to the person we once were, honoring that promise? Or do we let that moment live as a cherished memory, appreciating it for what it was, even if we have outgrown it?

As we grow, perhaps part of honoring these protected moments is acknowledging that they held real meaning and value, even if time has carried us in different

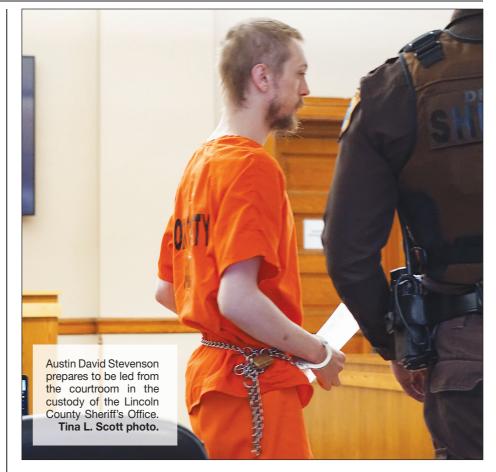
how these moments can be preserved—not necessarily as obligations but as threads in the fabric of our lives. In this way, those precious promises don't have to be lost or broken instead, they become a part of who we are today, even as we embrace the person we've become.

Opening this dialogue invites us to look at our lives with compassion, respect and honesty. It allows us to honor our past without being held captive by it, and perhaps to understand that some promises were meant to live beautifully in memory influencing us, but not confining us. In these reflections, we might find peace and maybe even inspiration, to continue building moments worth protecting in the time we have.

PATRICK J. WOOD

Publisher

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



#### **MURDER**

from page 1

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT 7:30 p.m. on March 18.

FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES Join us for this important summit designed to empower and

improve rural businesses and communities. Get powered up by engaging in either a full day or half day of economic energy. Learn about the issues that can help drive your business and community to the next level of success.

Event open to anyone looking to power up their business, their community, and their local economy!

**Online Registration Deadline** is April 6.

To register and for more information, visit tinyurl.com/2025EconomicSummit Keynote: Mike Ward, WEDC



Tickets: - \$40 full-day:

Includes lunch

by local food trucks.

- \$25 half-day (includes lunch).

- \$20 half-day (no lunch).

- \$200 reserved table:

Include 6 seats and lunch.



#### **2025** Economic Summit Tuesday, April 8, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Registration Opens: 8:15 a.m.

Inshalla Country Club, N11060 Clear Lake Rd, Tomahawk, WI 54487

enforcement took 25-yearold Austin David Stevenson also of Merrill and the son of the deceased, into custody at approximately

Austin Stevenson made his initial appearance in person in Lincoln County Circuit Court on March 21, 2025, facing charges of first degree intentional homicide and burglary, with special attorneys Bayley Waller and Brady Loos.

During the hearing, District Attorney Kristopher Ellis requested a \$1 million cash bond, citing the violent and premeditated nature of the alleged crime. According to the criminal complaint, Stevenson allegedly traveled to the victim's residence with the intention to kill the victim, initially planning to use rocks he had gathered in his pockets.

Ellis said that after gaining entry to the residence through unlocked window. an Stevenson found a firearm inside the home and "decided the firearm would be less messy than the rocks." The complaint alleges that Stevenson

waited for the victim to return home, then shot the victim in the face immediately upon entry.

Ellis further detailed that Stevenson then left the residence, only to return approximately 30 minutes later to fire a second shot. Ellis said that, according to autopsy findings, the victim's heart was still beating after the first shot, with the second shot being the fatal one.

Defense attorneys Waller and Loos requested a lesser amount of cash bond, noting that Stevenson is indigent, qualifies for public defender services, and has significant connections to the community, having been raised and educated locally.

Galen Bayne-Judge acknowledged Allison that while Stevenson does not have a meaningful history of missing court appearances, the severity of the charges and the particular circumstances warranted significant cash bail.

While LISO indicated there was no threat to the public in their initial release, Judge Bayne-"These said, facts warrant a finding that bail, in other words, cash bail is necessary to protect members of this community from further

serious harm."

"Mr. Stevenson traveled to the residence of the victim with allegedly a plan to kill the victim," he said. "Mr. Stevenson found a firearm. He continued to carry through his plan to kill the victim, laid wait for the victim, and shot the victim immediately upon victim's entry to the residence and before the victim knew that he was there. Mr. Stevenson subsequently left the victim's residence only to return and shoot the victim again."

Regarding monitoring requirements, Judge Bayne-Allison said, "The court agrees that GPS monitoring is an appropriate condition... that further condition is necessary to protect the community. In other words, law enforcement should know at all times where Mr. Stevenson is."

The judge set cash bail at \$250,000 with additional conditions including GPS monitoring should Stevenson be released. The release conditions would restrict Stevenson to a place of residence except for medical appointments, attorney meetings, and court appearances. is also prohibited from contacting any member of the victim's family and may not possess dangerous weapons or operate instruments dangerous including motor vehicles or heavy equipment.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for April 24 at 2:30 p.m.

If convicted, the first degree intentional homicide charge carries a term of life imprisonment, and the burglary charge carries a fine of up to \$25,000 and/ or a prison term of up to 12 vears and 6 months or both.

As of this writing, Austin David Stevenson remains in custody at the Lincoln County Jail.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office is being assisted by the Lincoln County Coroner's Office in this ongoing investigation.

This case has not been concluded. Unless judgment of conviction is entered, the defendant is presumed innocent of all

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All Natural - Frozen Turkey Sliced **Bratwurst** ONLY **Hot Dogs** 

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**Chicken Breast** Sausage Crumbles

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Quality and Value

## **April 1 Spring Election - MAPS Board of Education race**

**TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR** 

On Tuesday, April 1, 2025, residents in the Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) District will go to the polls to elect three individuals to the MAPS Board of Education. Four candidates are in the running for those three spots. Candidate profiles for each of those four candidates follow. Reminder: Voters will be asked to VOTE FOR UP TO THREE candidates.

Brady Loos is challenging incumbents Paul Proulx, Jacqueline Gremler, and Jon Smith for three open positions on the MAPS Board of Education.

#### Name: Brady Loos

Age: 27

Family: Parents Steve and Marta Loos, grandparents Bill and Laurie Johnston

Employment/position: Attorney with the Wisconsin State Public Defender Agency

Past or present elected offices held, dates served: None

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: Member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church and Lincoln County Bar Association, Volunteer for Merrill Golf Booster Club

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: Having been born and raised in Merrill, I attended Merrill Area Public Schools from kindergarten through high school. After graduating from Merrill High School, I attended UW-Madison and received my Bachelor's Degree in Economics. I then received my Master's Degree in Public Policy and Administration from Northwestern University and a Juris Doctorate from Mitchell Hamline School of Law. After law school, I moved back to Merrill, the community that I love, to begin my career as a criminal defense attorney. I decided to run for MAPS School Board because I believe we need a younger perspective. My education through Merrill schools gave me many opportunities and laid the foundation necessary to become a productive member of our community. I

believe that every Merrill student should have access to the same opportunities that I was presented. Whether students decide to pursue post-secondary education in the form of college or trade school, or enter the workforce, I believe we should be doing everything we can to set them up for success. Beyond supporting students, I believe we need to emphasize support for our educators and other district employees, along with students' families. If I am elected, I intend to prioritize student success, employee support, school safety, and fiscal responsibility. I humbly ask for your vote during the April 1st election.

#### Name: Paul C. Proulx (incumbent) Age: 77

Family: Wife Cheryl Proulx, three daughters, four granddaughters (including a set of triplets), and two grandsons

Employment/position: Retired employed

Past/present elected offices:

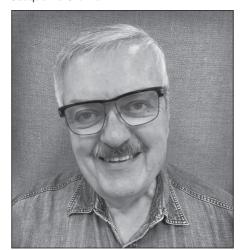
- Held four years as Sheriff of Lincoln County 1997-2001
- Six years as a member of the Merrill City Council 2002-2008
  - Lincoln County Coroner 2005-2023
- Merrill Area Board of Education two terms with second term 2018-Present
- Northcentral Technical College Board of Trustees 2005-Present (Current Board

Other memberships/offices: Member of Saint Francis Catholic Church, member of Father Rene Menard Council Knights of Columbus, member of Merrill Lions Club, and member of Lincoln County Sports

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: I have spent a majority of my life believing in the need for education. With my experiences, I feel I can offer knowledge learned from my time working for the public in all the areas I have been involved in. Education is not just one time in your life but is a life-long learning process. I will continue to work for the people of the Merrill Area Public Schools to reach



Jacqueline Gremler.



Paul Proulx

Age: 52

the goals that will make our children productive members of society. Thank you for your support.

Name: Jon Smith (incumbent)

Family: Wife Michelle Smith, two adult children Mason (25) and Allison (23)

Employment/position: Chemistry/Physics Teacher, Newman Catholic



Brady Loos.

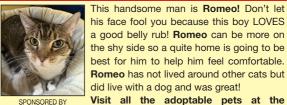


Jon Smith.

High School - Wausau. Administrative Pharmacist, Young's Drug Stores - Wausau Past or present elected offices held,

See MAPS page 10

#### Pet of the Week



his face fool you because this boy LOVES a good belly rub! Romeo can be more on the shy side so a quite home is going to be best for him to help him feel comfortable. Romeo has not lived around other cats but • did live with a dog and was great! Visit all the adoptable pets at the Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours: MON.-SAT. 12-4 PM & SUN. 12-2 PM.

Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, or visit lerrill • 715-536-2491 us at www.furrypets.com.



Areianna Beyer



**Scott and Dona Beyer** Areianna is in the 12th grade at New Testament Church Christian Academy, She

What is your favorite subject in school? Why? Social Studies. Because I love History and to learn about it.



What would you like to do/become someday? Why?

Actress. I've always just took an interest in Acting.

Areianna is a very creative student. She loves helping younger students and tutors them in their school work. She is a very respectful student to have in class.

~ Mrs. Malinowski



The Merrill Foto **News website** contains even more stories and photos that don't fit into our print edition.



merrillfotonews.com

#### **MOVING SALE**

Thursday, March 27. Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29, 8am-4pm.

Household items, bedroom other furniture. and seasonal décor, men's and garden tools and décor lawn furniture, old fishing wicker furniture. gear. books, Hoosier, old stove canning supplies.

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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

#### |OBITUARIES|

#### Dorothy H. Krause



Dorothy H. Krause, 100, of Merrill, formerly of the Town of Pine River, passed away Monday, March 17, 2025, at her home under the care of her family and Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services.

Dorothy was born December 12, 1924, in Lincoln County, daughter of Edward and Olga (Kanitz) Scheu. During high school, Dorothy met Walter 'Poker' Krause. In her senior year of high school, Dorothy moved out to Seattle and worked for Boeing Aircraft.

She spent a year out east before she and Walter moved to Austin, Texas due to his service in the military. They later relocated to Trenton, New Jersey, and eventually Poker was sent overseas. It was during his furlough, on December 12, 1943, that Dorothy and Poker were married. After his discharge, Dorothy and Porker moved back to Wisconsin and bought a dairy farm in the Town of Pine River.

They farmed for over 45 years, until their son and his wife took over. After this, Dorothy and Poker took to traveling. They drove to Alaska, enjoyed trips to Las Vegas, fished at Whitefish Lake in Canada, and visited her brother Ervin's cabin on Crown Land in Canada.

Although, Dorothy 'retired' from farming, she never truly gave up farm chores and was actively involved in chores until she was 93. She loved taking care of the calves, even shoveling a path to them in the winter. She enjoyed gardening and feeding the birds. She push-mowed her lawn into her

She was a Chicago Cubs fan and had a great rivalry with her brother, Arnold, who was an Atlanta Braves fan. She loved the fact that she was able to watch the Cubs win the World Series in 2016.

Dorothy loved listening to Molly B Polka Party, and several times, she was able to go to the Molly B Christmas Show She enjoyed the trip she made to Missouri at age 99. They took a Mississippi River Boat Cruise, saw the bridges in Madison County, and visited Dogwood Canyon in Branson.

Dorothy enjoyed going to the casino, playing Bingo, dominos, Cribbage, and other card games. She loved spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. In younger years, she enjoyed snowmobiling. Dorothy was a longtime member of St. Stephens United Church of Christ Merrill. In later years, she enjoyed listening to the church services on the radio.

Survivors include two daughters-in-law, Cindy Krause and Cathy Krause both of Merrill; four grandchildren, Amy Krause of Merrill, Shawn (Kristie) Krause of Wausau, Lori (Kurt) Wendt of Merrill, and Jason Krause of Merrill; and five great-grandchildren, Mitchell (Danielle), Kaitlyn, Elizabeth, Emily, and Elise. Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Walter 'Poker' Krause; father, Edward Scheu; mother, Olga Scheu; sons, Larry Krause and Duane Krause; granddaughter-in-law, Leah Krause; and siblings, Walter Scheu, Elsie (Carl) Yorde, Arnold (Esther) Scheu, and Ervin (Annie) Scheu.

The memorial service for Dorothy will be held at 2:00 P.M. Sunday March 30, 2025, at Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation – 903 E. Third St., Merrill. Rev. Michael Southcombe will officiate. The family will receive friends beginning at 1:00 P.M. Sunday at the funeral home.

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation of Merrill is assist ing the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstinewaid.com



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#### Celina J. Schmidt



Celina J. Schmidt, 77, of Merrill, passed away Saturday, March 15, 2025, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Celina was born December 3, 1947, in Dowagiac, Michigan daughter of Charles E. and Coral Jean (Grace) Burkett She married Mayward Schmidt on September 3, 1966, at St. Stephens United Church of Christ, Merrill. Celina loved raising their five children and was always there to lend a helping hand with her grandchildren.

Celina worked at several places in the Merrill area including: Hanson Glove, Oconomowoc Canning, and Fox Point No job was more rewarding for Celina than working at Lincoln Industries. She provided training to adults who had developmental and physical disabilities. She truly loved going to work and treated each individual with care and compassion.

Celina is survived by her husband, Mayward Schmidt of Merrill; children, Brian (Mandi) Schmidt of Merrill, Duane Schmidt (Jennifer Busche) of Marathon, Denise (Terry) Witter of Merrill, Matthew Schmidt of Edgar, and Chris Schmidt (Tiffany Krenz) of Merrill; grandchildren, Katelyn Schmidt (Austin Vanish) of Athens, Logan Schmidt of Marathon, Devin (Samantha) Thomas of Duluth, Minnesota, Dylin Thomas of Wausau, Dalie Thomas (Luke Baehr) of Poynette, Morgan Schmidt of Merrill, and Lucas Schmidt of Merrill; step grandchildren, Travis (Emily) Witter of Green Bay, Dustin (Joelle) Witter of Wausau, and Terri (Dylan) Walkush of Birnamwood; great grandchildren, Oliver, Levi, Caiden, and Mason; and brother, Jim (Kathy) Dodson of Stevens Point.

Celina was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Jean Burkett; granddaughter, Amber Schmidt; and brother Edward Burkett.

A private memorial service will take place.

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation of Merrill is assist ing the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstinewaid.com

#### Guy Pawlicki



Guy Pawlicki, age 56, of Merrill, passed Tuesday, March away or 18, 2025 Froedtert Hospital Milwaukee, after a short illness. He was born on September 18, 1968 to the late Neil and Diana (DeVries) Pawlicki in Wakefield, MI Guy attended and graduated from A.D. Johnston High School in Bessemer, Michigan and went on to further his education at UW-Superior.

Guy was a very kind and likeable teacher and coach at Merrill High School. He retired in June of 2024 after 30 years. He loved his job, teach ing and guiding his English students and Bluejay athletes

students and Bluejay athletes as only he knew how. Guy coached football, track and basketball, as well as the very prestigious pond hockey! Family was first and foremost in Guy's life, his kids were his world, and he would attend every event of theirs that he could. He was a patriotic man that was active in his community. Guy was a very social person, kind, generous and self-less. He was always baptry to halp or would find and self-less. He was always happy to help or would find someone that could. When Guy wasn't teaching or coaching, he would look forward to camping trips with the family. He was a previous member of the WI Football Coaches Association and a current member of St. Francis Catholic Church in Merrill. Guy enjoyed reading and was even writing his own youth novel. He will be missed dearly by his family and community, but his love for life will live on in those he loved and those he mentored.

Guy is survived by his loving wife: Trina Pawlicki, son: James Pawlicki, daughter: Mary Pawlicki, sister: Darcy Pawlicki, sister: Kristin (Jerry) Svoke, brother: Jeff (Krista) Pawlicki, his cats: Patches and Mikko, dog: Annie, 2 10 nieces, and many fellow teach

athletes, as well as many good friends. He was preceded in death by his parents,

A visitation will be held on Monday, April 7, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the fieldhouse at Merrill High School, please proudly wear your Bluejay apparel. The Mass of Christian Burial for Guy will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Francis Catholic Church in Merrill. Father Bob Thorn will officiate. Burial in Ironwood, MI will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Guy's name should be directed to the Jimmy V Foundation, Victory over Cancer,

https://www.v.org.
The family wishes to thank the wonderful, caring and professional staff at Aspirus Merrill Hospital, Aspirus Wausau Hospital and the Milwaukee Froedtert Hospital. It was very much appreciated by Guy and his family.

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation Services of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstine

www.merrillfotonews.com

John 'Johnny' N. Stevenson



Our beloved son John N. Stevenson was 'Johnny' January 12, 1977, in born Merrill, on his Great-Grandfather Baumann's birthday to Alfred 'Fritz' and Lorraine 'Rainey' Stevenson. He was baptized on February 27, 1977 and confirmed on May 10 1992 all at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

He started his working days while in high school at Drew's Piggly Wiggly as a carryout/stocker and moved to the meat room

After he graduated in 1995, he started at Hurd Millwork and ended up at Agra Industries. He worked there for almost 18 years. He was most recently the foreman of the paint room but had also worked other jobs at the company. He was more than just an employee to them.

He enjoyed turkey and deer hunting and had a number of his trophy mounts throughout his home. He really enjoyed riding his HARLEY and driving his 2017 Dodge Charger (his two loves!). He also liked to go up to Michigan and collect and tumble "Yooper" rocks, which his best friend Bill and Bill's family (John's second family) got him interested

He was someone you could always count on to help you with anything, no questions asked, he always just made time to be there when needed. Whether it was with repairs, help moving things, cutting and splitting wood, helping at the church ball diamond, or just being a friend. He never expected anything in return.

His friendship, laughs, smiles, love and kindness will be missed by all, but he has left us all with wonderful cherished memories that will hopefully last us for our lifetime seeing

that his was cut too short.

John is survived by his parents; brother and sister-in-law. Brian and Angie Stevenson; sister and brother-in-law Michele and Nick Nystul; two adoring nephews that he loved and they loved him dearly, Liam Stevenson and Bently Nystul; and son, Austin Stevenson. He is further survived by uncles and aunts, Earl & Linda Schmidt, Ruth Young, Steve & Laura Ament, Faye Stevenson, and Robert Stevenson; a number of cousins; best friends, Bill Anthoney and Jamie Ohlmann; many friends that he worked with including Greg and Roy; and Simon the Cat.

John was preceded in death by his grandparents, Alfred & Evelyn Stevenson and Norman & Leona Schmidt; uncles and aunts, Ray Stevenson, Ron Stevenson, Ron Young LuAnn Stevenson, William 'Peanuts' & Elvera Neumann and Rod & Diane Pichelman; nephew, Johnathan Stevenson cousin, Darrin Neumann; and his dog and sidekick, Gerttie. The memorial service for John will be held at 11:00 A.M.

Thursday April 3, 2025, at Immanuel Lutheran Church Town of Corning, Lincoln County. Rev. Joel Danner wil officiate. The family will receive friends from 4:00 P.M until 7:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation – 903 E. Third St., Merrill and after 10:00 A.M., Thursday at the church.

The family requests no flowers or plants be sent. Please make donations to North Central Health Care for Mental Health and/or Drug Abuse, Immanuel Lutheran Church, or to a charity of your choice in John's name. Thank you!

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation, Merrill, is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstinewaid.com.

#### Anna Emma Krueger



Anna Emma Krueger left peacefully on the first day of spring, March 20, 2025, at Bell Tower Residence in Merrill under the care of Interim Healthcare & Hospice. She was born in Merrill, Wisconsin on July 9, 1930.

She was one of three children born to Anna Khail and Fred Friman Sr. She had two older brothers, Frank Friman, who was born in 1922, and passed away shortly after birth and Fred Friman Jr., with wife Edna, who was born in March of 1924, and passed away in

March of 2005.

She married Ernest Krueger Jr. at the Lincoln County Courthouse on May 7, 1959, and he preceded her in death on June 14, 2011. Anna worked at a variety of places, including Merrill Candy and Weinbrenner Shoe Company. Anna and Ernie made it a point to enjoy traveling in their camper, which they shared with their family as well. Anna had a passion for gardening, canning, and baking. However, it was clear Anna's favorite activity was having her friends and family gathered around her kitchen table. She loved her family and the Lord dearly, and will hold a special place in

their hearts forevermore.

Anna and Ernie had 3 sons in their lifetime. Fred Krueger Jr., who passed away in 2007, Michael (Karen), who passed away on May 31, 2020 and Jeffrey (Sandra), who passed

away on April 11, 2020.

Anna is survived by her daughter-in-law: Sandra Krueger, grandchildren: Eric (Jenny) Krueger, Jennifer A. (Grant) Nelson, Claire A. Krueger and 2 great grandchildren: Gabrielle and Joseph. Anna is also survived by several cousins, Jeanette Van Dyke and Emil Havlicek.

The funeral service for Anna will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, April 4, 2025, at Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral Home at 903 East 3rd Street, Merrill. Rev. Michael Southcombe will officiate. The family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 a.m., Friday, at the funeral home.

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation Services of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstine

In Momorams We can assist you in finding a heartfelt way to honor and remember your loved one.

Stop in our office or give us a call. 2011 E. Main St. | Merrill | 715-536-7121

#### | OBITUARIES |

#### **Cindy Lou Kimmons**



Cindy Lou Kimmons, 67, of Merrill passed away unexpectedly Wednesday March 19, 2025 at Aspirus Merrill Hospital, surrounded by her loving husband and family. Cindy was born on March 6, 1958, to David Olivotti and the late Sharon "Tootie" Olivotti. She married her high school sweetheart Willie Kimmons on September 23, 1978. They were blessed with 46 years of loving marriage and one son Shaun, one granddaughter McKenzie and one great

granddaughter Reagan.

Cindy graduated from Northcentral Technical College with an Accounting Degree. Cindy was employed at M&I Bank, owned and operated M&M Strawberry Farm, and was elected Lincoln County Clerk of Courts, as well as being a loving wife, mom, grandma, homemaker, and the rock of the family. Cindy cherished her family and made a profound impact on everyone she encountered in love.

For many years Cindy enjoyed playing softball and pool, where her smile and outgoing personality made that environment more fun. Cindy had many outings to the casino with several friends and family, she had a special place in her heart for her close friends and their company Fran and Eileen. Recently, she enjoyed being a snowbird in Florida with her sisters. Cindy enjoyed the countless trips to Missouri and their shack in Irma with her family and fur babies watching smiles and memories being made.

Cindy's legacy of family love will remain a cherished part of her loved ones' lives. She is survived by her loving husband: Willie Kimmons, Son: Shaun (Becky) Kimmons, Granddaughter: McKenzie Meyer (Aaron), Great Granddaughter: Reagan Meyer, Father: David (Ann) Olivotti, Sisters: Tammy Monti (Kirby), Nancy Olivotti, Sister-in-law: Tracey Polak (Delmer), Brothers-in-law: Scott Kimmons, Todd Kimmons, aunts and uncles, many nieces and nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, other family members and friends.

Cindy loved her fur babies, Levi and Lily over the moon. Cindy is preceded in death by her, Mother: Sharon "Tootie" Olivotti, Grandparents: Carl and Genevieve Rampart, Inlaws: Dale and Judy Kimmons, Nieces: Melissa Zimmerman and Stephanie Bryan, Nephew: Justin Kimmons.

Cindy and her beautiful smile were always the reason someone smiled, felt loved, and believed in the goodness of people.

The memorial service for Cindy will be held at 11:00 A.M. Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Gleason. Rev. Greg Laska will officiate. The visitation will be held from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Monday, March 31, 2025, at Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation – 903 E. Third St., Merrill, and after 9:00 A.M. Tuesday at the church.

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation, Merrill, is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstinewaid.com

#### Andy Thomas MacMorran



Andy Thomas MacMorran 78, passed away March 20, 2025 at the Seasons for Life Hospice House in Woodruff, Wisconsin. He was born February 17, 1947 in Evanston, Illinois the son of Andrew Donald (Don) MacMorran and Jane (Torkilson) MacMorran. He was united in marriage on May 9, 1987 to Nancy J. Schoone. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife

and a granddaughter.

He is survived by his sons
Anthony (Vilia) Turgeon

Kenosha, Wisconsin, Mark (Amy) Turgeon, Buckley, Washington, Jeffrey (Diana) Turgeon, North Pole, Alaska and a daughter Kimberley Hoholek, Janesville, Wisconsin. Additionally, he is survived by a brother James (Mary) MacMorran, Buffalo Grove, Illinois, 7 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Andy was a 1965 graduate of University High School,

Andy was a 1965 graduate of University High School, Bloomington, Indiana and the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. Upon graduation, he worked for the federal government in the Rhinelander area before working as the Lincoln County Zoning Administrator. After retiring from the county, he worked for Lamar Sign Company, Marshfield, Wisconsin. Upon his official retirement he and Nancy enjoyed traveling around the country, visiting all 50 states and many providences of Canada. They also enjoyed visiting the National Parks across the country.

At his request there will be no funeral services.

In lieu of flowers donations in his name can be made to the Seasons of Life (Hospice House), Aspirus Health, Woodruff, Wisconsin.

Online condolences for the family may be directed to www.nimsgernfuneral.com

Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral & Cremation Services is assisting the family





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#### **Gerald Willis Kriehn**



Gerald Willis Kriehn, age 89, of Merrill, passed away on Wednesday, March 19,

2025, while at The Bay at Eastview Health and Rehabilitation in Antigo, and while under the care of Compassus Hospice. He was the son of the late Erwin and Olga (Gruling) Kriehn. Gerry was born on June 17, 1935 in Hamburg, WI, baptized on July 14, 1935 and confirmed on April 10, 1949. He went to a one room

school for all 8 years, and then graduated from Merrill High School with the class of 1954. When he was younger, Gerry worked at Fromm Bros. and Carl's Food Lane. He joined the National Guard in October 1956, and was honorably discharged on October 25, 1960. Gerry then enlisted in the United States Air Forceand bravely served his country until his honorable discharge on January 17, 1962. He then went to work for Northern Door Company. Gerry met the love of his life, Judy Woller, in 1966, and got married May 11, 1968 at Immanuel Lutheran Church. He went to NTC and earned a degree in marketing. Gerry worked for Kirby and Lemke Office Supplies and the desk clerk at the Best Western. He retired from Mitchell Metals in 2002. Gerry did volunteer work delivering meals, and transported people to medical appointments. He also helped out with voting polls Gerry was a foster parent to one special boy! He enjoyed reading, working on puzzles, feeding the birds, fishing and going camping up north. Gerry also looked forward to working in the garden. He enjoyed his time with his nieces and nephews and took walks with Gus! Gerry was a kind and helpful person and helped anyone that needed a helping hand. He was a social person and loved to talk to people Gerry was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, served on the church council and helped with numerous office jobs He was also a member of the Men's Club, looked forward to going to Bible study and being a greeter and usher. Gerry traveled to over 20 states, including Mexico, Bahamas, Jamaica, Caribbean, Alaska, Hawaii and the Dominican Republic, as well as a Mediterranean cruise.

Gerry is survived by his wife: Judy, sisters-in-law: Mary Lou Kriehn, Karen Samuelson and Judy Woller, foster son: Neil (Becky) Hockett, two bonus grandchildren: Alvia and Alesia and nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, sister: Dawn (Jack) Kleinschmidt, brothers: Eugene (Barb), Ronald and Victor, sister-in-law: Caroline Kriehn, nephew: Brian Kriehn, niece: Julie, brothers-in-law: Glenn Samuelson and Jeffrey Woller and nephews: Stephan Samuelson.

The funeral service for Gerry will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in the town of Corning. Pastor Joel Danner will officiate. Visitation will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the service, also at the church. Entombment and military honors at Merrill Memorial Park will immediately follow the service.

The service will be recorded for future viewing for those unable to attend. It can be found under his obituary or the funeral home website.

In lieu of flowers, family requests that donations in Gerry's name be directed to the Men's Club at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstine waid.com.

"But he who stands firm to the end will be saved."

Matthew 24:13

#### Charlene D. Trantow

Charlene D. Trantow, 84, passed away at her home on February 20, 2025 (estimated) in St. Francis, Wisconsin. She was born February 7, 1941 to Harold and Lorraine (Secard) Trantow and grew up in Merrill, WI. Upon graduating from Our Lady of the Holy Cross High School in 1959, she relocated to Milwaukee where she was employed at American Appraisal until her retirement.

Charlene liked gardening and caring for her collection of container plants. She volunteered at the Milwaukee Zoo and enjoyed going to music productions at the Bradley Center.

Charlene discovered her strong sense of independence at an early age, despite the challenges of cerebral palsy. She was a courageous soul who took on the world far from home and succeeded admirably. She will be fondly remembered by all who knew her for her kind and caring spirit.

Charlene is survived by many cousins and close friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Gravesite rites and burial will take place in the spring of 2025 at St. Francis Xavier Cemetery in Merrill. Internment details will be announced pearer to that time.

Special thanks to Jeff Kleczka, of Prasser-Kleczka Funeral Home in Milwaukee, for his invaluable assistance and for ensuring that Charlene's remains were treated with the utmost respect and dignity.

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#### Vera Ann Leitzke



Vera Ann Leitzke, 101, was to eternal life Thursday, March 20, 2025. She born in Wausau on March 7, 1924 to Max and Emily (Fraedrich) Pagel. Vera attended Trinity Lutheran School and graduated from Wausau Senior High School in 1941. She attended Miss Brown's School of Business in Milwaukee and worked as a secretary/bookkeeper and proofreader for Marathon Press and Connor Lumber and Land Company in Wausau. On January 1, 1951, she married Donald Leitzke. The couple lived in Chicago for a year and Vera worked at the YWCA. When they returned to Wausau Vera became a full-time homemaker and mom while her children were young. Vera later worked for the Marathon County Clerk's office and the Marathon County Health Department. A skilled stenographer, Vera often used her shorthand skills at home. No

one can forget the time she labeled all her Christmas gifts in shorthand and made a few errors in transcription. It was a hoot!

Vera began playing the piano at age 10 and entertained her children with "pajama parties" around the piano singing all the greatest hits of Rogers and Hammerstein. Although shy about playing in public, she played the piano for church services at area nursing homes in her retirement years. Vera was a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Wausau, where she served as a Sunday School teacher and member of the altar guild. Other volunteer activities included "adopting" students at Trinity school for grandparent's day, participating in the DC Everest oral history project describing life in the Depression Era, and assisting seniors with their Homestead tax credit forms.

An avid reader, she loved perusing newspapers from around the country and was always clipping articles to share stories of interest with her family. Her varied interests included music of all types – especially classical and opera, day trips around the state, family camp-outs, and attending local dog shows. She loved animals and cared for her family's many exotic pets, including dogs, a raccoon, guinea pigs, a white rat, and assorted fish and turtles. For her 100th birthday, the Merrill area community came together to bring their dogs to meet and greet Vera, which brought many smiles. Vera loved her Lord and was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She enjoyed attending all her grandchildren's events. Vera always saw the best in people, refused to complain or criticize, and had a ready smile for everyone she met. For the last 11 years, Vera has made her home at Bell Tower Residence in Merrill.

Vera is survived by her daughters Maxine (Jay) Tlusty and Dona Leitzke of Merrill; grandchildren Melanie (Mark) Lunda, White Bear Lake, MN, Michelle Tlusty, Oak Creek, WI, and Amanda (Matthew) Ladewig of Merrill; great-grandsons Reid Lunda and Afton Ladewig. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Don Leitzke, and her son, Mark Leitzke.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 29 at 11:00 AM at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 300 Logan St., Merrill with Rev. Phyllis Smoot, Bell Tower Chaplain, officiating. Visitation will take place at the church from 9:30 AM until the time of services.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Lincoln County Humane Society, 301 N Memorial Dr, Merrill, Trinity Lutheran Church, 501 Stewart Avenue, Wausau, or the charity of your choice.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful staff at Bell Tower Residence for their kind and compassionate care for Vera these past 11 years.

Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation Services of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstine waid.com.

#### Duane Gabl



Duane Gable, of Merrill, passed away on March 8th, 2025. Duane was born May 18th, 1950, to Alec and Ella Gable. Duane enjoyed fishing, hunting, and farming.

He is survived by his son Donn Gable, daughter Karen Gable, stepsons Kevin and Keith Lallemont, and grand-children. Sisters: Sharon (Lyle) Heisler, Christine Kutz, Shelly (Andy Meyer) Reilly. Brothers: David, Curt, Mark (Micky), Kenny (Rhonda), and sister-inlaw Jamie Gable.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother Jim. A celebration of life will be at a later date.

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#### | OBITUARIES |

#### **Dennis Leroy Parshall**



Dennis Leroy Parshall, born March 17, 1930 Otis and Gertrude (Lange) in Tomahawk, passed peacefully at home on March 16, 2025, in Irma, WI surrounded by his loving family. Dennis is survived by his wife Darlene (West), whom he married on December 4, 1955 Together, they built a life centered on faith, family, and service.

Dennis is survived by his six children: Sheri McCutcheon (Kevin) of Port Washington, WI; Don Parshall, Germantown WI, Tom Parshall of Mequon WI, Kevin Parshall (Robin) of Rhinelander WI, Jeff Parshall (Amanda) of Jupiter FL and Jon Parshall of Irma WI. He is also the grandfather of fourteen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

Dennis honorably served his country as a US Army medic during the Korean War. After his military service, he pursued a teaching career and retired from the Mequon-Thiensville School District after 40 years of service. In retirement he served a term as a Lincoln County Supervisor and was active in the Irma Lions Club.

Dennis was an active member of the Seventh-Day Adventist

The funeral service for Dennis will be held on Friday, March 28, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. Visitation will be held on Friday, March 28, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the service at Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral and Cremation Services at 301 Eagle Drive, Merrill. Military honors will be performed at the cemetery following the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Dennis's memory to the Merrill Lions Club. Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation Services of Merrill

is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.taylorstine

#### |LEGALS|

#### **TOWN OF SCOTT NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Scott will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, commencing at 6:00 p.m. at the Scott Town Hall, located at N563 Lake Road, Merrill, WI. The Annual Town Meeting may transact any business over which it has statutory

Bonny Graap, Clerk Town of Scott, Lincoln County, WI Published March 27, 2025

**WNAXLP** 

#### **LOCATION AND HOURS OF** LINCOLN COUNTY POLLING PLACES

At the Spring Primary to be held on April 1, 2025, in Lincoln County, the following are the designated polling places:

Town of Birch Town of Bradley Town of Corning Town of Harding Town of Harrison Town of King Town of Merril Town of Pine River Town of Rock Falls Town of Russell Town of Schley Town of Scott Town of Skanawan Town of Somo Town of Tomahawk

**PRECINCT** 

POLLING LOCATION Birch Town Hall, W4762 County Rd H Bradley Town Hall, 1518 West Mohawk Dr Corning Town Hall, N1569 State Rd 64 Harding Town Hall, N3246 County Road E Harrison Town Hall, N10095 County Road B King Town Hall, W4450 County Road A Merrill Town Hall, W4594 Progress Ave Pine River Town Hall, N1647 Deer Run Ave Rock Falls Town Hall, W5895 Rock Falls Dr Russell Town Hall, N5369 State Road 17 Schley Town Hall, W1696 County Rd C Scott Town Hall. N563 Lake Rd Skanawan Town Hall, N8506 County Road H Somo Town Hall, N12070 Fire Station Rd Tomahawk Town Hall, Inter. Hwy 86 & Hwy. O Wilson Town Hall, N10802 County Ro

Town of Wilson **CITY OF TOMAHAWK** District 1. Wards 1-2 District 2. Wards 3-4 District 3, Wards 4-5

POLLING LOCATION SARA Park Activities Center, 900 West Somo Ave SARA Park Activities Center, 900 West Somo Ave SARA Park Activities Center, 900 West

CITY OF MERRILL POLLING LOCATION Bierman Building, 303 N Sales Street District 1, Ward 1 District 2, Ward 4 City Hall, 1004 E. First St District 3, Wards 5, 14 Bierman Building, 303 N Sales Street District 4, Wards 7, 9 Smith Center, 1100 Marc Drive District 5, Wards 8, 10 Smith Center, 1100 Marc Drive District 6, Ward 11 Bierman Building, 303 N Sales Street District 7, Wards 6, 12, 13, 16 City Hall, 1004 E. First St Bierman Building, 303 N Sales St District 8, Wards 2, 3, 15

- Contact your municipal clerk if you have any questions concerning your polling place.
- All polling places will open 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m.
- · All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.

Christopher J Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk

Published March 27, 2025 WNAXLP

#### |LEGALS|

#### **NOTICE OF ELECTION APRIL 1, 2025**

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

#### 2025 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

To create section 1m of article III of the constitution; relating to: requiring photographic identification to vote in any election (second consideration).

Whereas, the 2023 legislature in regular session considered a proposed amendment to the constitution in 2023 Senate Joint Resolution 73, which became 2023 Enrolled Joint Resolution 9, and agreed to it by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, which proposed amendment reads as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1m of article III of the constitution is created to read:

[Article III] Section 1m (1) No qualified elector may cast a ballot in any election unless the elector presents valid photographic identification that verifies the elector's identity and that is issued by this state, the federal government, a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state, or a college or university in this state. The legislature shall by law establish acceptable forms of photographic identification, and the legislature may by law establish exceptions to the requirement under this subsection.

(2) A qualified elector who is unable to present valid photographic identification on election day shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot may not be counted unless the elector presents valid photographic identification at a later time and place as provided by the legislature by law.

SECTION 2. Numbering of new provision. If another constitutional amendment ratified by the people creates the number of any provision created in this joint resolution, the chief of the legislative reference bureau shall determine the sequencing and the numbering of the provisions whose numbers conflict.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution is agreed to by the 2025 legislature; and, be it further

Resolved, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be submitted to a vote of the people at the election to be held on the first Tuesday of April 2025; and, be it further

Resolved, That the questions concerning ratification of the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be stated on the ballot as follows:

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?"

#### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT AS TO THE** QUESTION

The Wisconsin Constitution provides that "[o]nly a United States citizen age 18 or older who is a resident of an election district in this state is a qualified elector of that district who may vote in an election for national, state, or local office or at a statewide or local referendum." Wis. Const. art. III, § 2. The referendum question would add a new provision to Wis. Const. art. III to require that voters present valid photographic identification to exercise their rights as electors.

The proposed constitutional text would provide that acceptable photographic identification must be "issued by this state, the federal government, a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state, or a college or university in this state." The proposal therefore would exclude identification such as out-of-state driver's licenses and tribal identification issued by non-Wisconsin

The proposal would allow, but not require, the legislature to create exceptions to the identification requirement. Courts have held that some exceptions are required by the U.S. Constitution. The proposal would also prevent future legislatures from repealing statutory photographic identification requirements

A "yes" vote would vote to create a new article III, section 1m of the Wisconsin Constitution to require voters to present "valid photographic identification" in

A "no" vote would vote not to create the new constitutional provision.

DONE in the County of Lincoln, WI, This 10th day of March, 2025.

Christopher J. Marlowe

**WNAXLP** 

(Christopher J. Marlowe - County Clerk)



Published March 27, 2025

Please send announcements, news briefs, photo submissions and letters to the editor to: tscott@mmclocal.com

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY AMENDED SUMMONS

(FOR PUBLICATION)
Case No. 25-CV-13
Code: 30404 (Foreclosure) NICOLET NATIONAL BANK 111 N. Washington Street Green Bay, WI 54301

JOSHUA J. DUELLMAN 711 E. 1st St., Apt. 605 Merrill, WI 54452

TO: Joshua J. Duellman 711 E. 1st St., Apt. 605

Merrill, WI 54452
You are hereby notified that Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. Within forty (40) days after March 13, 2025, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main Street, Suite 205, Merrill, WI 54452, and to Christopher M. Seelen, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Ruder Ware, L.L.S.C., 402 Graham Avenue, P.O. Box 187, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0187. You may have an attorney help or represent

may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not demand a copy of the complaint within forty (40) days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

You are notified that we are

attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for

that purpose.

Dated this 7th day of March, 2025.

RUDER WARE

Attorneys for National Bank Plaintiff, Nicolet By: Electronically
Christopher M. Seelen
Christopher M. Seelen
State Bar No.1029724 signed by

P.O. ADDRESS: RUDER WARE 402 Graham Avenue

P.O. Box 187 Eau Claire, WI 54702-0187 Telephone: 715-834-3425 Fax: 715-834-9240

Fax: 715-834-9240 Published March 13, 20 & 27, 2025 WNAXLP

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: DATE SIGNED: March 19, 2025 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
LOREN B. DURANCEAU

Notice Setting Time to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration) Case No. 25-IN-24

An application for informal An application for informal administration was filed.
 The decedent, with date of birth November 7, 1940, and date of death June 8, 2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W3478 County Line Road, Merrill, WI 54452.
 The amplication will be heard at the

 The application will be heard at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office, before Becky Byer, Probate Registrar, on April 24, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

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

 The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is July 11, 2025.
 A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office

6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown. If you require reasonable accommoda-

tions due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
Atty. Craig Nienow

N5041 County Road JJ Irma, WI 54442

715-536-7185 /Bar Number 0.55... Published 3/27/25, 4/3/25, 4/10/25 WNAXLP

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

OF TRUST ADMINISTRATION
STATE OF WISCONSIN, County of
Lincoln, in the matter of the Delbert D. Lange Trust dated January 30, 2024 (the "Trust"):

1. Delbert D. Lange, with the date of birth May 5, 1933 and the date of death March 6, 2025 was domiciled

in the Lincoln County, Wisconsin;
2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent, Delbert D.

Lange, is July 27th, 2025

3. All claims must include detailed documentation and must be submitted to the Trustee of the Trust at the following address: N8013 Wright Avenue, Gleason, WI 54435. Date: March 19th, 2025 Delbert D. Lange Trust dated January

By:/s/Nancy L. Leder Nancy L. Leder, Trustee Craig J. Nienow, Attorney Published 3/27/25, 4/3/25 & 4/10/25

Merrill, Wisconsin
Liquor & Beer License Applications Town of Merrill, Lincoln County Class B Combination
Formerly: Al & Kim's Northway Club

Published March 27, 2025 WNAXLP

Town of Merrill

New: A-J's Break-A-Way LLC -April Vander Velde - N2198 Cty Rd K -

## Wisconsin DOJ offers resources for teens, parents amid rise in sextortion cases

MADISON, Wis. - The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force is providing resources for online safety with tips for talking to kids about safe online practices as sextortion cases increase throughout the country, including in Wisconsin.

Sextortion is a form of sexual exploitation where the offender receives sexually explicit material from the victim and then threatens to release the compromising material unless the victim sends money, gift cards, and/ or additional sexual content, or engages in sexual activity. Children are particularly vulnerable to this type of crime. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) has seen a dramatic increase in online enticement, which is a broad category that includes sextortion cases, being reported to the CyberTipline. Financial sextortion, where the offender demands money from the person, is becoming more prevalent, and teenage boys have been the most common targets in these recent cases. Sextortion can have tragic consequences for victims including mental health crisis and suicide, although the data is not tracked nationally.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, the National Suicide Hotline is 988. You can call or text to reach a mental health professional. In 2025 so far, the Wisconsin ICAC Task Force has received 103 cybertips related to sextortion. In 2024, the task force received 237 cybertips related to sextortion, up from 176 in 2023. These numbers do not include cases reported directly to local law enforcement agencies.

"Sextortion is a heinous crime targeting teens around the country," said Attorney General Josh Kaul. "By learning how to help prevent this crime and how to respond effectively when it occurs, members of the public can help keep kids safe."

#### Tips for teens who may be victims of sextortion

- · Remember, it's not your fault!
- · Even if you made a choice you regret, it's never too late to get help.
- Tell a parent or trusted adult right away. • Do not pay money or comply with the
- blackmailer's requests.
- · Report the account through the platform's safety feature. • Block the suspect, but DO NOT DELETE
- the messages or your profile. • Report the crime to law enforcement or at Report.CyberTip.org.

#### What Can Parents/Guardians Do **To Protect Their Kids?**

following tips are informed by

NetSmartz and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

#### **Get involved**

- · Actively participate in your children's digital lives.
- Regular check-ins about online interactions should be the norm.
- · Set online and offline behavioral expectations.
- · Remind your child that if they are a victim of sextortion, that you are a trusted adult and it is never too late to get help.

#### Talk about relationships

· Have regular discussions about vour family's expectations and values regarding relationships. Discuss the characteristics of healthy relationships, such as having and respecting boundaries and practicing consent. Explain that both pressuring someone and being pressured into uncomfortable or unsafe sexual behaviors is not okay. Help children understand that they should never forward sexts they may receive from others, as limiting the image's spread reduces the risk of it falling into dangerous hands.

#### **Empower your child**

· Provide resources that your child can

reach out to, such as NCMEC.org and CyberTipline.org.

#### **Teach your child how to report** someone.

Remind them that sextortion is a crime, it is not their fault and you are here to help them.

If you or someone you know has information on potential child exploitation, you can report it to NCMEC online at report. cybertip.org/ or by calling 1.800.843.5678. Reports can also be made through Speak Up, Speak Out (SUSO), a 24/7 statewide confidential reporting system run by DOJ's Office of School Safety. Reports can be made online at speakup.widoj.gov/, by calling 1.800. MY.SUSO.1, or by texting "SUSO" to 738477.

The Wisconsin ICAC Task Force offers a variety of services including, investigation and prosecution of offenders of internet crime, investigative and prosecutorial assistance for police agencies and prosecutors, victim services, training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors, and coordination of internet safety education for parents, teachers and community members. Visit the ICAC Task Force page for internet safety tips for parents and caregivers at wisdoj.gov/Pages/home.aspx.



## All Aboard Soup Fundraiser

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR** 

The "All Aboard" Bar recently held a Soup Cook Off fundraiser to benefit Kate Goodrich Elementary School. "We had 12 different soups provided by 11 people," said owner Seth Clark. "Customers donated \$5 and were able to taste

all soups and vote on their favorite. Soups were served in disposable muffin tins to assist in the convenience of having so many options."

Clark doesn't take credit the event though. "One of our bartenders had a great idea for a fun event that raised money for a good cause," Clark said. "We raised \$200 that will be donated to a local elementary school to assist overdrawn lunch accounts."

"This was a good result for a first event," he said, "And I would love to see the organizer and participants receive some recognition and drum up some additional support for future events.'

"Thank you to everyone who brought soups and a special thank you to everyone who donated and tasted the great variety of soups," Clark said.

## NOTICE OF OPEN BOOK NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW TOWN OF SCOTT, LINCOLN COUNTY, WI

Notice that the Assessment Roll is Open for Examination and Open Book STATE OF WISCONSIN TOWN OF SCOTT, LINCOLN COUNTY

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 70.45, the assessment roll for the Year 2025 assessment will be open for examination starting on the 23 day of April, 2025 at 3 pm, until 5 pm

Additionally, the assessor shall be available at the Town Hall from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Notice is given that the Board of Review for the Town of Scott, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, shall hold its first meeting on May 8, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Scott Town Hall, N563 Lake Road, Merrill, WI.

Please be advised of the following requirements to appear before the board of review and procedural requirements if appearing before the board: 1. No person will be allowed to appear before the board of review, to testify to the board by telephone, or to contest the amount of any assessment

- of real or personal property if the person has refused a reasonable written request by certified mail of the assessor to view the property
- 2. After the first meeting of the board of review and before the board's final adjournment, no person who is scheduled to appear before the board of review may contact or provide information to a member of the board about the person's objection, except at a session of the board.
- 3. The board of review may not hear an objection to the amount or valuation of property unless, at least 48 hours before the board's first scheduled meeting, the objector provides to the board's clerk written or oral notice of an intent to file an objection, except that upon a showing of good cause and the submission of a written objection, the board shall waive that requirement during the first 2 hours of the board's first scheduled meeting, and the board may waive that requirement up to the end of the 5th day of the session or up to the end of the final day of the session if the session is less than 5 days with proof of extraordinary circumstances for failure to meet the 48-hour notice requirement and failure to appear before the board of review during the first 2 hours of the first scheduled meeting.
- 4. Objections to the amount or valuation of property shall first be made in writing and filed with the clerk of the board of review within the first 2 hours of the board's first scheduled meeting, except that, upon evidence of extraordinary circumstances, the board may waive that requirement up to the end of the 5th day of the session or up to the end of the final day of the session is less than 5 days. The board may require objections to the amount or valuation of property to be submitted on forms approved by the Department of Revenue, and the board shall require that any forms include stated valuations of the property in question. Persons who own land and improvements to that land may object to the aggregate valuation of that land and improvements to that land, but no person who owns land and improvements to that land may object only to the valuation of that land or only to the valuation of improvements to that land. No person may be allowed in any action or proceedings to question the amount or valuation of property unless the written objection has been filed and that person in good faith presented evidence to the board in support of the objections and made full disclosure before the board, under oath, of all of that person's property liable to assessment in the district and the value of that property. The requirement that objections be in writing may be waived by express action of the board.
- 5. When appearing before the board of review, the objecting person shall specify in writing the person's estimate of the value of the land and of the improvements that are the subject of the person's objection and specify the information that the person used to arrive at that estimate.
- 6. No person may appear before the board of review, testify to the board by telephone, or object to a valuation if that valuation was made by the assessor or the objector using the income method of valuation, unless the person supplies the assessor with all the information about income and expenses, as specified in the assessor's manual under s. 73.03 (2a), Wis. stats., that the assessor requests. The Town of Scott has an ordinance for the confidentiality of information about income and expenses that is provided to the assessor under this paragraph that provides exceptions for persons using information in the discharge of duties imposed by law or the duties of their officer or by order of a court.\* The information that is provided under this paragraph, unless a court determined that it is inaccurate, is not subject to the right of inspection and copying under s. 19.35 (1), Wis. stats.
- 7. The board shall hear upon oath, by telephone, all ill or disabled persons who present to the board a letter from a physician, surgeon, or osteopath that confirms their illness or disability. No other persons may testify by telephone
- 8. No person may appear before the board of review, testify to the board by telephone, or contest the amount of any assessment unless, at least 48 hours before the first meeting of the board, or at least 48 hours before the objection is heard if the objection is allowed under s.70.47 (3) (a), Wis. stats., that person provides to the clerk of the board of review notice as to whether the person will ask for the removal of a member of the board of review and, if so, which member, and provides a reasonable estimate of the length of time the hearing will take.

Notice is hereby given this 24th day of March, 2025. By: Bonny Graap, Town of Scott Clerk Published March 27, 2025

WNAXLP

|LEGALS|

DATE SIGNED: March 24, 2025 Electronically signed by Galen Bayne-Allison Circuit Court Judge

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Order and Notice for Hearing on Petition for Summary Settlement
(Formal Administration)
Case No. 25PR06
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Verl D. Gibbs A Petition for Summary Settlement was

THE COURT FINDS:

The decedent, with date of birth 7/2/1962 and date of death 9/23/2024, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N6538 Railway Street, Irma, WI 54442. THE COURT ORDERS:

The Petition be heard at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Branch 2 Courtroom, before Honorable Robert R. Russell, Court Official, on 04-29-2025, at 9:00 a.m.. If you require reasonable accommodae to a disability to part the court process, please call 715-536-0342 prior to the scheduled court date.

Please note that the court does not provide transportation. Dan C. Koblitz, Attorne 2320 Parallel Lane, Silver Spring, MD

301-960-5857 Bar Number: 1102710 Published 3/27/25, 4/3/25 & 4/10/25

DATE SIGNED: March 20, 2025 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SHIRLEY A. OLKVIES (Informal Administration) Case No. 2025 IN 25

PI FASE TAKE NOTICE: An application for infortration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth March 24, 1937 and date of death January 24, 2025, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1500 O'Day St., Merrill, WI 54452.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is July 11, 2025. 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln Attorney Jason Krautkramer

Eckert & Krautkramer, LLC

P.O. Box 1185 Wausau WI 54402-1185 Bar No. 1092990 715-842-0907 Published 3/27/25, 4/3/25 & 4/10/25

Merrill Area Public Schools Special Board of Education Meeting

March 3, 2025 – Minutes
The meeting was called to order
Blake at 5:31 p.m. in the Board room. Blake, Gremler, Hornischer, Liberty, Proulx, Smith, and Woller. Board members absent: De Rizzo. Others

present: Superintendent Murray, MAPS

administrators, and Recorder Fuchs.
Blake announced an executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Sections 19.85(1) (a); (f) except where par. (b) applies; and, 118.125. The purpose of the closed session is the following: conduct two (2) student expulsion hearings, deliberate, and act regarding the same. Blake asked for a contemplated motion to go into closed session. MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty. Motion carried on a roll call vote Woller, Smith, Proulx, Liberty, scher, Gremler, Blake, and (Aye: Woller, Smith, Proulx, Liberty, Hornischer, Gremler, Blake, and Ashbeck) (Nay: None). MOTION by Woller, second by Smith to

Respectfully submitted,

**Board Clerk** RL/saf

(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org. or by visiting the MAPS District Office at Published March 27, 2025

DATE SIGNED: January 20, 2025 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Danny Woller
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2025 IN 20

PI FASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informa tion was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth 10/30/1944 and date of death 01/28/2025, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, mailing address of 700 Grand Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452.

3. All interested per 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is June 27, 2025. 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.

Thomas Lee Woller 145822 Flint Creek Circle

715-409-6701 Published 3/20/25, 3/27/25 & 4/3/25

#### Notice of Spring Primary and Sample Ballots (April 1, 2025)

#### OFFICE OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY CLERK TO THE VOTERS OF LINCOLN COUNTY:

Notice is hereby given of a spring primary election to be held in Lincoln County on April 1, 2025, at which the officers named below shall be chosen. The names of the candidates for each office, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office, each in its proper column, together with the questions submitted to a vote, for a referendum, if any, in the sample ballot below.

#### Information to Voters

Upon entering the polling place and before being permitted to vote, a voter shall:

• state their name and address

show an acceptable form of photo identification\*

sign the poll book\*\*

\*If a voter does not have acceptable photo identification, the voter may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles

\*\*If the voter is unable to sign the poll book due to disability, a poll worker may write the word "exempt."

If a voter is not registered to vote, they may register to vote at the polling place serving their residence if the voter provides proof of residence.

Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot.

Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall enter a voting booth or go to a machine and cast their ballot. The vote should not be cast in any manner other than specified here. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the voter in marking their ballot may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

A voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward.

An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote but the official may not advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

#### Assistance for Voting

A voter may select an individual to assist in casting their vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that they are unable to read, have difficulty reading, writing, or understanding English, or that due to disability are unable to cast their ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the voter.

#### Using the DS200 Optical Scan Voting Machine

The voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for

A Lincoln County B State of Wisconsin C April 1, 2025

which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using the *electronic ballot marking device "ExpressVote"*, to mark an *optical scan ballot*, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "no" if opposed to the question.

#### Spoiled Ballots

If a voter spoils an **optical scan** ballot, they shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official, who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

#### After Voting the Ballot

After an official **paper ballot** is marked, it shall be folded so the inside marks do not show, but so the printed endorsements and inspectors' initials on the outside do show. The voter shall deposit the voted ballot in the ballot box or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit and shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official **optical scan ballot** is marked, it may be inserted in the security sleeve, so the marks do not show. The voter shall insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the voter shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

The following is a sample of the official ballot:

Christopher J. Marlowe Christopher J. Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk

## Official Ballot Nonpartisan Office and Referendum April 1, 2025

The ballot below is for Publication purposes only. This ballot includes all of Lincoln County's April 5th Political Races. All Lincoln County Ballots may be viewed on the county website at: <a href="https://co.lincoln.wi.us/county-clerk/page/absentee-and-sample-ballots.">https://co.lincoln.wi.us/county-clerk/page/absentee-and-sample-ballots.</a> Your ballot specific to your address may be found at: <a href="https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot.">https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot.</a>

General Instructions	Town of Bradley Wards 1-5 Municipal	Town of Harrison Wards 1-3 Municipal	Municipal Cont.	Municipal Cont.	Municipal Cont.
you make a mistake on your ballot r have a question, ask an election aspector for help (absentee voters:	Town Board Chairperson	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1	Town Board Supervisor Vote for not more than 2	Town Treasurer Vote for 1	Town Board Supervisor Vote for not more than 2
ontact your municipal clerk). o vote for a name on the ballot, fill in		○ Brian Hanson	O Brian Opper	O Susan Fisher	○ Joseph Dorava
ne oval next to the name like this:	Kevin Koth	o write-in:	Raymond Zastrow	o write-in:	Walter Horabik
o vote for a name that is not on the allot, write the name on the line	o write-in:		o write-in:	Town of Schley Wards 1 & 2 Municipal	o write-in:
marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this:		Town Board Supervisor Vote for not more than 2	o write-in:		o write-in:
State Superintendent of Public Instruction	Town Board Supervisor Vote for 1	○ Tom Daigle	Town Clerk Vote for 1	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1	Town Clerk Vote for 1
ate Superintendent	○ Joan Hilgendorf	○ Gary Goes	Amanda Herdt	○ Timothy Klimek	Loyetta K. Gitter
ote for 1	o write-in:	o write-in:	o write-in:	Kelly Collins	o write-in:
Brittany Kinser	Town of Corning Wards 1 & 2	o write-in:	Town Treasurer	O write-in:	Town Treasurer
Jill Underly	Municipal	Town Treasurer	Vote for 1	Town Board Supervisor	Vote for 1
write-in:	Town Board Chairperson	Vote for 1	O Donna Opper	Vote for not more than 2	O Jean M. Zoellner
Judicial	Vote for 1	Matt Boyle	o write-in:	Mark Leopold	○ write-in:  Town of Somo Ward 1
estica of the Surrema Court	○ Chad Kottke	o write-in:	Town Constable	Craig Brown	Municipal
stice of the Supreme Court te for 1	o write-in:	Town of King Wards 1 & 2	Vote for 1	o write-in:	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1
Brad Schimel	Town Board Supervisor	Municipal	Marilyn F. Zastrow	o write-in:	
Susan Crawford	Vote for not more than 2	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1	o write-in:	Town Clerk	Corey Marheine
write-in:	○ Greg Kleinschmidt	C Tarme Weiss	Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2 Municipal	Vote for 1	o write-in:
	Brian Literski	Terry Weise	Town Board Chairperson	Becky Dallman	Town Board Supervisor Vote for not more than 2
ourt of Appeals Judge strict 3		o write-in:	Vote for 1	o write-in:	Cody Hawkins
ote for 1	o write-in:	Town Board Supervisor Vote for not more than 2	Mike VanDeWeerd		Steven Isaacson
Lisa K. Stark	O write-in:	Vote for not more than 2	o write-in:	Town Treasurer Vote for 1	o write-in:
write-in:	Town Clerk	O David Dyer	Town Board Supervisor	O Owen Dedenustr	o write-in:
ncoln County Circuit Court	Vote for 1	Andrew Tomaszewski	Vote for not more than 2	Susan Podeweltz	
dge anch 2	Rickey Hass	o write-in:	Kurt Niersel	<ul><li>write-in:</li><li>Town of Scott Wards 1 &amp; 2</li></ul>	Town Clerk Vote for 1
ote for 1	○ write-in:	o write-in:	Randal Swan	Municipal	Heather Marheine
Jessica Fehrenbach	Town Treasurer	Town Clerk	o write-in:	Town Board Chairperson	o write-in:
write-in:	Vote for 1	Vote for 1	o write-in:	Vote for 1	Town Treasurer
Town of Birch Ward 1 Municipal	Katie Giese	○ Lori Weber	Town Clerk Vote for 1	Randy Detert	Vote for 1
Mullicipal	○ write-in:	o write-in:		o write-in:	O Jody Isaacson
own Board Chairperson ote for 1	Town of Harding Ward 1	Town Treasurer	Diane Chambers     write-in:	Town Board Supervisor	o write-in:
ne ioi i	Municipal	Vote for 1		Vote for not more than 2	Town of Tomahawk Ward Municipal
Debra Gano	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1	○ Julie Allen	Town Treasurer Vote for 1	○ Gerald Engel	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1
write-in:		o write-in:	Cindy Frisch	○ Jeff Krall	
own Board Supervisor	Kurt Blanchette	Town of Merrill Wards 1-5 Municipal	o write-in:	Ron Lemmer	Gary Jaecks
ote for not more than 2	o write-in:	Town Board Chairperson	Town of Russell Ward 1 Municipal	o write-in:	o write-in:
Terry Lokemoen	Town Board Supervisor	Vote for 1	Town Board Chairperson	O write-in:	Town Board Supervisor Vote for not more than 2
Ross Karaba	Vote for not more than 2	Anthony Baumann	Vote for 1	Town Clerk	Walter Bandura
write-in:	Jason Ament	o write-in:	Robert Kressel	Vote for 1	Shelley Wolf
write-in:	Darrell Oestreich	Town Board Supervisor	o write-in:	O Bonny Graap	o write-in:
Fown Clerk	o write-in:	Vote for not more than 2	Town Board Supervisor	o write-in:	o write-in:
ote for 1	o write-in:	Darrel Dengel	Vote for not more than 2	Town Treasurer	Town Clerk
Megan Webb	Town Clerk	Matthew Leder	Marty Sosnovske	Vote for 1	Vote for 1
write-in:	Vote for 1	o write-in:	O Ivan Dorgan	O Ann Krueger	○ Jesse Hoffman
	○ Kristy Ament	o write-in:	○ Lori Studinski	o write-in:	o write-in:
Town Treasurer Vote for 1	o write-in:	Town of Pine River Wards 1-4	o write-in:	Town of Skanawan Ward 1	Town Treasurer
Lynn Poes		Municipal	o write-in:	Municipal	Vote for 1
> Lynn Ross > write-in:	Town Treasurer Vote for 1	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1	Town Clerk Vote for 1	Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1	○ LuAnn Jahn ○ write-in:
	○ Carrie Hintz	○ Steve Uttech	O Amy Brown	Benjamin Mehring	
Outsiantian hallet agetimuse	<b>-</b>		-		Publication ballot continu
Publication ballot continues on next column.	o write-in:	o write-in:	o write-in:	○ write-in:	on the next page.

Municipal	Rhinelander School District	Prentice School District
Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1	Town of Harrison Ward 3	"Shall the School District of Prentice, Price, Oneida and Linco
O Fran Pflum	School District of Rhinelander School Board Member At Large	Counties, Wisconsin be authorize to exceed the revenue limit
o write-in:	Vote for not more than 4	specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$950,000
Town Board Supervisor	<ul><li>Robert Shelly</li><li>Judy Conlin</li></ul>	per year for 4 years, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and
Vote for not more than 2	Mary Peterson	ending with the 2028-2029 school year, for non-recurring purposes
Allen Russ     Fred Steinbach	Bill Freudenberg	consisting of operational and maintenance expenses, including
• write-in:	Jacqueline Zivko	student programming, facility maintenance and staff salaries an benefits?"
o write-in:	Ronald Lueneburg	benefits?
Town Clerk	O Kurt A. Helke	○ Yes
Vote for 1	O Doug Artus	○ No
O Jane Kaczmarek	o write-in:	Official Ballot
o write-in:	o write-in:	Nonpartisan Office
Town Treasurer Vote for 1	o write-in:	and Referendum April 1, 2025
Laurie Peterson	o write-in:	for
o write-in:	Prentice School District	Lincoln County
City of Tomahawk District 1 Municipal	Town of Somo Ward 1	Lincoln County Publication Ballot
City of Tomahawk Alderperson District 1	Prentice School District	Ballot issued by
Vote for 1	School Board Member At Large Town of Ogema	
Mickey Loka     write-in:	Vote for 1	
City of Tomahawk District 2	Danielle Gruber	Initials of election inspectors
Municipal	o write-in:	Absentee ballot issued by
City of Tomahawk Alderperson District 2 Vote for 1	Prentice School District	
○ Jeff Kahle	School Board Member At Large Town of Prentice	Initials of Municipal Clerk or Deputy Cler
o write-in:	Vote for 1	
City of Tomahawk District 3 Municipal	Eric Gladson	If issued by SVDs, both must initial  Certification of Voter Assistanc
City of Tomahawk	o write-in:	I certify that I marked or read aloud this
Alderperson District 3 Vote for 1	Prentice School District School Board Member At Large	ballot at the request and direction of a vol who is authorized under Wis. Stat. §6.82 receive assistance.
○ Tadd Wegener	Town of Lynne and Somo  Vote for 1	
o write-in:		Signature of assistor
Merrill School District	O Jody Isaacson	For Official Use Only
Town of Birch Ward 1	o write-in:	Inspectors: Identify ballots required
Town of Corning Wards 1 & 2  Town of Harding Ward 1		be remade:  Overvoted
Town of Harrison Ward 2	To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "Yes," like this: ●	☐ Damaged
Town of Merrill Wards 1-7 Town of Pine River Wards 1-3	To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to "No," like this: ●	Other
Town of Rock Falls Ward 1	State	If this is the Original If this is the Duplica
Town of Russell Ward 1 Town of Schley Wards 1 & 2	Question 1: "Photographic	Ballot, write the serial number here:  Ballot, write the serial number here:
Town of Scott Wards 1 & 2	identification for voting. Shall section 1m of article III of the	
City of Merrill District 1-8	constitution be created to require that voters@resent valid	
Merrill Area Public Schools	photographic identification verifying their identity in order to vote in any	
School Board Member At Large Vote for not more than 3	election, subject to exceptions which may be established by law?"	Initials of inspectors who remade ball
Vote for not more than 3	willon may be established by law:	l .
O Paul C Prouly	1	
<ul><li>Paul C. Proulx</li><li>Jon Smith</li></ul>	○ Yes	-
	○ Yes	
O Jon Smith		
<ul><li>Jon Smith</li><li>Brady Loos</li></ul>	○ No	
<ul><li>Jon Smith</li><li>Brady Loos</li><li>Jacqueline Gremler</li></ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>Tomahawk School District</li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>Tomahawk School District</li> <li>Town of Birch Ward 1</li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>Tomahawk School District</li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town board?"	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>Tomahawk School District         <ul> <li>Town of Birch Ward 1</li> <li>Town of Bradley Wards 1-5</li> <li>Town of King Wards 1 &amp; 2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town board?"  Yes	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>Tomahawk School District         <ul> <li>Town of Birch Ward 1</li> <li>Town of Bradley Wards 1-5</li> <li>Town of Harrison Ward 1</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town board?"  Yes  No  "Shall the person holding the office	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>Tomahawk School District         <ul> <li>Town of Birch Ward 1</li> <li>Town of Bradley Wards 1-5</li> <li>Town of King Wards 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>Town of Rock Falls Ward 2</li> <li>Town of Skanawan Ward 1</li> <li>Town of Tomahawk Ward 1</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town board?"  Yes  No  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Treasurer in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town board?"	
<ul> <li>Jon Smith</li> <li>Brady Loos</li> <li>Jacqueline Gremler</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>write-in:</li> <li>Tomahawk School District         <ul> <li>Town of Birch Ward 1</li> <li>Town of Harrison Ward 1</li> <li>Town of King Wards 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>Town of Rock Falls Ward 2</li> <li>Town of Skanawan Ward 1</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Municipal Referendum Town of Rock Falls Ward 1 & 2  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town board?"  Yes  No  "Shall the person holding the office of Town Treasurer in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the town board?"  Yes  Yes	
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Published March 27, 2025

NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION AND SAMPLE BALLOT

(April 1, 2025)

TO: Electors of the Merrill Area Common Public School District

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the Merrill Area Common Public School District that a spring election will be held on Tuesday, the 1st day of April, 2025, at which the offices named below shall be nominated. The names of the candidates for each office, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office, each in its proper column, in the sample ballot below.

#### INFORMATION TO ELECTORS

(a) Upon entering the polling place, a voter shall state his or her name and address, show an acceptable form of photo identification and sign the poll book before being permitted to vote. If a voter does not have acceptable photo identification the voter may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles. If a voter is not registered to vote, a voter may register to vote at the polling place serving his or her residence, if the voter presents proof of residence in a form specified by law. Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot. Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall retire alone to a voting booth and cast his or her ballot except that a voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward. An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote, but the official may not in any manner advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

(b)(i) At the spring election, where paper ballots or lever machines are used, the voter shall make a mark (X) in the square next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote.

When using a tactile ballot marking device (Vote-PAD) to mark a paper ballot, the voter shall obtain from the inspectors, the assistive device and any audio or dexterity aids if required. The voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of a person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in line.

- (ii) Where optical scan voting is used, the elector shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in
- (c) The vote should not be cast in any other manner. If the elector spoils a paper or optical scan ballot, he or she shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official, who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.
- (d)(i) After an official paper ballot is marked, it shall be folded so the inside marks do not show, but so the printed endorsements and inspectors' initials on the outside do show. The voter shall leave the booth, deposit the ballot in the ballot box, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit, and shall leave the polling place promptly.
- (ii) After an official optical scan ballot is marked, it shall be inserted in the security sleeve, so the marks do not show. After casting his or her vote, the voter shall leave the booth, insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the voter shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.
- (e) A voter may select an individual to assist in casting his or her vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that he or she is unable to read, has difficulty reading, writing or understanding English or that due to disability is unable to cast his or her ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents
  - (f) The following is a facsimile of the official ballot:

#### OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR NONPARTISAN OFFICE

NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY 2 ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT. THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR **DEPUTY CLERK.** 

To vote for a candidate whose name is printed on the ballot, mark a cross (X) in the square at the RIGHT of the name of the candidate for whom you desire to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, write the name in the blank space provided for that purpose.

#### School Board Members at Large Vote For Not More Than Three (3)

Paul C. Proulx	⊔
Jon Smith	
Brady Loos	
Jacqueline Gremler	
	(Write In) 🗆
	(Write In) $\square$
	(Write In) $\square$

MERRILL AREA COMMON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ron Liberty School Board Clerk March 27, 2025

Published March 27, 2025

WNAXI P

#### |LEGALS|

Merrill Area Public Schools Regular Board of Education Meeting February 19, 2025 – Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:30 PM in the Board Room. Board members present: Ashbeck, De Rizzo, Gremler, Hornischer, Liberty, and Blake . Board members absent: Proulx Smith, and Woller. Others present: Superintendent Murray, MAPS Administrators, Student Reps Black and Wagenaar, approximately 20 people from the staff and public; and, Recorder

MOTION by Liberty, second by Hornischer to approve the 2023-2024 audit as presented. Motion carried

unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by
DeRizzo to approve the Head Start
2024-2025 Community Assessment. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Ashbeck

to approve the 2025 MAPS Head Start Self-Assessment. Motion

unanimously.
MOTION by Gremler, second by Liberty to approve the addition of an Educators Rising Club Advisor position and authorize hiring the advisor this spring to ensure a successful launch of the club Fall 2025. Motion carried

unanimously.
MOTION by Gremler, second by De Rizzo to approve the SEL coach positions as presented to be funded from DPI Mental Health Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Hornischer to approve the purchase of a CNC Plasma Cutter for the FAB Lab from ArcLight Dynamics using grant funds. Motion carried unanimously

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Hornischer to approve the contract with Kobussen Buses. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Gremler to approve the transfer and use of up to \$800,000 of Fund Balance, if needed, to address the potential budget deficits presented in the 2025-26 budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by De Rizzo to approve the discontinuation of our 4K-12 contract with Lincoln County Health Department beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and moving forward with the hiring of a 1.0 FTE district nurse and two 0.625 FTE health aides. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Hornischer, second by De

Rizzo to approve the donation of a 2024 Ski-Doo snowmobile and accessories from the Friends of the Merrill School Forest valued at \$9,462.78 for maintaining the School Forest property and providing an emergency vehicle during snow conditions to transport individuals as needed at the Merrill School Forest. Motion unanimously.

MOTION by Hornischer, second by Ashbeck to approve the donation of three animal mounts from Travis C. Watruba valued at \$6,950,00 for educational enrichment pertaining to wildlife education lessons and activities at the Merrill School Forest. Motion carried unanimously.

carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by
Hornischer to approve consent agenda
items a through d, which includes
minutes of the January 15, 2025,
meeting; claims, vouchers and receipts
totaling \$4,104,236.71; donations
totaling \$917.50; and, the attached
personnel report, contingent upon
release of contract for hirings and upon
the satisfaction of the appropriate
liquidated damages for resignations, if
applicable. Motion carried unanimously. applicable. Motion carried unanimously MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Hornischer to adjourn at 6:41 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. Respectfully submitted.

Ron Liberty RL/tlw

(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin. Published March 27, 2025 WNAXLP

DATE SIGNED: March 10, 2025 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY JANE OPPER

Notice Setting Time to Hear
Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration) Case No. 25-IN-18
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.

The decedent with date of birth February 25, 1947, and date of death June 15, 2024, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address Merrill, WI 54452. address of 509 E. 1st Street.

3. The application will be heard at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 East Main Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office, before Becky Byer, Probate Registrar, on April 10, 2025 at 10:00 am.

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

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is June 27, 2025. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 East Main Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Street. Probate Office

This publication is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown.

names or addresses of the following interested persons (if any) are not known or reasonably ascertainable: David Tuttle Janesville Wisconsin

If you require reasonable accommoda-tions due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-536-0342 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation. Attorney Corinna T. Fischer Govke, Tillisch & Fischer, LLP

2100 Stewart Avenue, Ste, 140 715-849-8100 / Bar Number: 1115525 Published 3/20/25, 3/27/25 & 4/3/25 WNAXLP

WNAXLP

7400

#### |CLASSIFIEDS|

#### **Rummage Sales Upcoming** 7202

Kronenwetter: Huge Multi Family Sale April 3-5, Thurs-Fri. 8-6 Sat. 8-4 at 2080 Old Hwy 51, (1-1/2 miles south of Cedar Creek Mall) Items too numerous to list here. See pictures on Craigslist/Facebook 715-359-4184

LARGE PRE-OWNED SALE United Methodist Church, 903 N. 3rd St., Wausau,

TH 4/3, 9a-4p; FRI 4/4, 9a-1p. Use Fulton St. parking lot entrance

#### **Consignment and Resale**

ABC Kids Spring & Summer Sale April 3-5th, 2025. Central WI Convention and Expo Center Rothschild WI 54474. Thursday, 7am-8pm. Friday, 9am-8pm. Sat. 8a-2p. (most items 1/2 off)

#### Estate Sales

Estate Sale: March 28 & 29, 8:00-4:00, W6595 State Hwy 64, Merrill, WI. Cash only. Antiques, Furniture, China sets, Colored glass, Figurines and more

#### Lawn and Garden 7250

Now & Head Lawn & Garden Equipment Servicing all brands.

Full service small engine repair. Snowblowers, tillers, mowers, chainsaws, log splitters & more North Central Power Equipment 4001 Dixie Ave, Wausau 1 mile north of Fleet Farm off Hwy K, east on Emery Dr. to South on Dixie 715-370-3002

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Join us at the WPS Farm Show outdoor booth 3250, for deep discounts on all in stock equip ment. Hud-son Forestry of Wis consin. Call 608-572-7659

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#### 7264

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#### **Homes for Rent** 7409

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#### **Buying or selling - the Classifieds** can work for you. **Call 715-536-7121**

#### **General Employment**

IN-HOME CAREGIVER (PCW): Afternoons, 3 hrs/day. Help w/meds, meals, health & house-Afternoons, keeping. No experience needed, strict background check required. \$16/hour. Pine River area. Call or text: 715-966-1935

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Merrill, WI. Seeking Director of Youth & Family Ministry, Part-Time Position(20 Hours Per Week). The position strives to Christian community through building relationship with young people and thei families and pursuing ways to bring all generations together to participate in God's mission fo this church. Call 715-536-5813.

#### **General Labor**

CREW/LABORER BOAT Water crew laborer position available for immediate hiring \$17-\$30/ hour. We here at north ern dock and lift of Minocqua are looking to add to our water team Add to your resume, make money for college or join the team long term! Install existing and new shoreline equipment learn to build/fabricate docks and lifts, and train into our sys tem of operation. Boat skills and mechanical knowledge a plus Competitive wages. sian or bonuses, industry perks, and family run atmosphere. Call text, email or stop in today iamie@northerndockandlift.com 715-891-6322

7110

7180

**MAPS** from page 3

dates served: MAPS school Board 2016-2021 serving as Treasurer and Vice President. Resigned in Oct, 2021 to focus on obtaining teaching license. Reappointed May 2024 due to a vacancy.

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: Current member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Wausau. Past President, St. John Lutheran Church Merrill, 2021-2023. Central Education Wisconsin Theater Alliance musical set designer and carpenter, 2018-2024. DC Everest set designer and carpenter fall

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: When a vacancy occurred April, 2024, I applied to be reappointed as to offer the Board an experienced replacement as I always enjoyed serving on the Board. It is my hope that my new role in teaching and my past experience in business provides a worthy, balanced contribution to Board discussions and decisions. Merrill is blessed to have

a very well-functioning Board which demonstrates the utmost professionalism to each other and to those it serves. I wish to continue to foster those ideals. I would describe myself as a fiscal conservative and believe the district has made considerable efficiencies without sacrificing the student experience. I am a proponent of balanced budgets, operating within the monies granted, and designing the district to reflect the priorities of the Merrill community. I value technical education and preparedness to enter the workforce or trades at the same level as pursuing a college degree. Merrill has always held their schools in high regard with an expectation that students might achieve lofty goals. would welcome the opportunity to ensure that continues.

#### Name: Jacqueline **Gremler** (incumbent)

Age: 41

Family: Spouse Bob Gremler, children Abner (11) and Milo (8)

Employment/position: Children's WI, Child Advocacy Center of NCW, Forensic Interviewer and WI Department of Justice (DOJ) Training/ Curriculum faculty member

I hold a Bachelor of Science in Human Services from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and a Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, with a focus on Children, Youth, and Families, from Southern New Hampshire University. Additionally, I am a Certified Social Worker in the State of Wisconsin. For the past 12 years, I have worked at Children's Wisconsin, Child Advocacy Center of North Central Wisconsin, as a Forensic Interviewer. In this role, I conduct developmentally sensitive, legally sound, trauma-focused interviews of children, adolescents, and delayed adults who are alleged victims of abuse or witnesses to criminal activity. These interviews are recorded with both video and audio.

Beyond interviewing, my responsibilities include facilitating and coordinating best practice responses in criminal and child abuse investigations, providing training and education on abuse and maltreatment professionals community members, and organizing case reviews and multidisciplinary team meetings. I also provide fact and expert testimony during court proceedings.

Past or present elected offices held, dates served: MAPS School Board Member December 2021-Present, serving on the MAPS Policy and CTP Committees

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: Currently serving as a member of St. John's Eagle's N.E.S.T., American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Lincoln County Multidisciplinary Team, Marathon County

#### | AUCTIONS |

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## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

## **Looking for a new career?**Your local community newspaper is the best place to look.

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**APPLY IN** 

PERSON

#### PRICE COUNTY Veterans Service Officer

Price County is accepting applications for the position of County Veterans Service Officer in the Price County Veterans Service Department. This position plans, directs, and organizes efforts to assist Veterans, their families, and survivors regarding benefits available to them through the Federal Veterans Administration, the Wisconsin State Department of Veterans Affairs, and county and local resources.

This is a management position in which the employee plans for the daily operations of the office, supervises the support staff in implementation, applicable benefit preparation, and maintains a flow of information and services to the Veteran community of Price County. This includes coordinating benefits with other departments, local, state and federal. The County Veterans Service Officer serves as the Veterans and their dependents advocate to local, state, and federal programs and benefits. This position takes direction from the County Administrator and the Executive Committee.

This is a full-time, exempt position with a starting annual salary of \$64,209.60 (Grade 9) and full benefits package. Benefits include Wisconsin Retirement System with 6.95% employer match, income continuation insurance, choice of multiple health insurance plans including a zero deductible plan, 22 days of paid leave within the first year, 10 paid holidays per year, paid maternity, paternity leave, and quarterly employee lifestyle enhancement reimbursement perk. Dental/vision, flex spending, WI Deferred Comp, life, short-term disability, accident, and cancer/critical illness coverages are available.

A full description of minimum requirements and application instructions can be found on the Price County website's employment opportunities page at www. pricecounty.wi.gov, by emailing a request to <a href="https://hroffice@pricecounty.wi.gov">hroffice@pricecounty.wi.gov</a> or by calling 715-339-5131.

Completed applications must be received by the Price County Office of Administration by April 9, 2025, to be considered for this position.

Price County is an equal opportunity employer.

#### **MAPS**

from page 10

Sexual Assault Intervention Team, Marathon County Sexual Assault Response Team, Marathon County Multidisciplinary Team, Marathon County Anti-Human Trafficking/At-Risk Youth Task Force, Marathon County and Drug Endangered Children Team.

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: "There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul

than the way in which it the success of our youth. treats its children." -Nelson Mandela

This powerful quote reminds us of our collective responsibility to humanity to create a better future for our children. As our world and community evolve, we need leaders who are collaborative, innovative. and firmly rooted in strong values to continue building a brighter tomorrow.

As a parent of two currently navigating their educational journeys in this district, I am deeply invested in I am passionate about supporting public service workers and the broader community. As both a parent and an advocate for children, my priority is to ensure that every student receives the support they need to thrive. I recognize that empowering our school employees is essential to student success and that meeting the individual of needs students strengthens the fabric of our entire community.

With my background as a social worker, I understand the importance of addressing these needs in a thoughtful, strategic way. I believe I bring a unique perspective to the Board, helping to guide both shortterm decisions and longterm growth for our district and students.

For the past three years, I have had the privilege of serving on the School Board, and I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue this important and meaningful work. I would greatly appreciate your ongoing support in this next chapter.



## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**



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The ideal candidate will have supervisory experience, preferably in the underground utilities, gravel and excavation sectors. With a 90-mile work radius, this position offers a significant perk — the chance to be home almost every night.

Melvin Companies offers a competitive salary and benefit package including 401K plan.

Please send resume to the address below or submit it through our website melvincompanies.com



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nts will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin

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Flexible Schedule: 4 or 5 Day Shifts

\$19.50-\$22.50/per hour **PLUS Overtime!** 

#### **OPEN INTERVIEWS**

#### Friday, March 28th

1301 N. Memorial Dr., Merrill from 9AM - 3PM

#### Saturday, March 29th

AmericInn

3300 E Main St., Merrill from 9AM - Noon

**No Appointment Necessary WALK-INS WELCOME!** 

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tbrown@charlesrivergroup.com

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#### **Documentary on** Wisconsin Vietnam War hero to show in Merrill

In honor of National Vietnam Veterans Day, the documentary Honor in the Air: The Story of Captain Scott Alwin and the 68th AHC will be shown at the T.B. Scott Free Library on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

Alwin was Captain born and raised in rural Wisconsin and served tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot, flying predominantly gunships. He earned a record 136 Air Medals, Vietnam Republic Medal, Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Silver Star, and Distinguished Flying Cross, all with oak leaf clusters. but even more important, he earned the respect and

admiration of his fellow soldiers and family. He is buried in Marathon County.

Award winning documentary producer/ director/writer Susan Reetz. of Weston. Wisconsin-based Clear Focus Media, LLC, worked closely with Captain Alwin's family, members of the 68th Assault Helicopter Company with whom he served, and other friends to tell his story. Filming for the project began in summer of 2020.

The film contains neverbefore-seen footage filmed during the Vietnam War by Alwin's Crew Chief, Frans VandenBroek, as well as other archival footage and photos, and interviews

siblings, his widow and children, a close friend, director of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, and several members of the 68th Assault Helicopter Company. What emerges is a moving portrait of a humble man dedicated to his family and his country and doing his best to make the world a better place. This is more than a story of war; it is a story of love.

A question-and-answer session with Reetz and Alwin's family will follow the screening, and the nose cone of his last helicopter will be on display. Admission is free.

For more information, visit HonorInTheAir.com.

## **Little Dresses for Africa** Mission invitation

Christ United Methodist Church. 300 N. Mill St. in Merrill is looking for help during a work day making "Little Dresses for Africa." The work day will be Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the church Gathering Room.

For those not familiar with the program, little dresses are made simply by reconstructing pillowcases and adding embellishments. Once completed, the dresses are sent to orphanages, churches. and schools in Africa to be distributed to young girls. The intent of the mission project is not only to supply these girls with articles of clothing, but also to plant

the message in the hearts of these young girls that they are worthy!

If you can help sew, bring your own sewing machine. Help with cutting, pinning, ironing, and hand-stitching is also needed. All skill levels are needed and welcome, organizers said. The dresses are simple, yet time consuming to put together.

For more information, call the church office at 715.536.4676. "Join us as we do mission work through fellowship with laughter and love," organizers said. "We're not only sending dresses ... we're sending HOPE."

#### MERRILL AREA BIRTH **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **DECEMBER 6, 2024**

Boy, Crew Daniel Krause, born to Charlotte Krause and Tyson Krause of Merrill.



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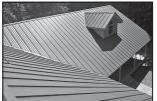
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#### **Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar**

Mar. 27 - Food Truck Stevies at the Creative Spirit

Mar. 27 - Brewers Baseball Opener and Tailgate Party at Plautz's Pub

Mar. 27 - Veterans Coffee & **Conversation at Pine Ridge** Restaurant

Mar. 28 - Library Social Hour at T.B. Scott Free Library

Mar. 28 - St. Francis Fish Fry

Mar. 28 - Live music at Sawmill **Brewing Company** 

Mar. 29 - Art & Craft DeStash at **Merrill Enrichment Center** 

Mar. 29 - Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser at The Eagles Club (in honor of Brandi Dufour for her children)

Mar. 29 - Mixed Couples Pool Tourney at Plautz's Pub

Apr. 2 - Honor in the Air Film Screening at T.B. Scott Free

Apr. 3 - Bingo at St. Francis Apr. 3 - Veterans Coffee & Conversation at Pine Ridge Restaurant

Apr. 3-6 - Merrill High School Musical: Catch Me If You Can, the Musical

Apr. 4 - St. Francis Fish Fry Apr. 5 - Spring Craft & Vendor

Apr. 5 - Glow in the Dark Easter **Egg Hunt at Trinity Merrill** Apr. 5 - Scotch Doubles Pool

Tournament at Hy-Da Way

Apr. 5 - Rhett Walker Concert at **Hillside Church** 

Apr. 5 - Therapy Dogs at the Children's Festival at the MARC

Apr. 5 - Bar Bingo at Bubba's Pub

Apr. 5 - Sip Into Spring at Sunset

**Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts** Apr. 6 - Dream DisABILITY

Resource Event at Les & Jim's Lincoln Lanes

Apr. 8 - Bizarre History of Wisconsin with Chad Lewis at T.B. **Scott Free Library** 

Apr. 10 - Veterans Coffee & Conversation at Pine Ridge



#### For more information, go to: merrillchamber.org/events or contact the event sponsor.





715-536-4611 **SERVING FOOD DAILY TILL 8PM** 

#### **HOURS**

**MONDAY** • Noon - 6pm TUE. - FRI. • Noon - Close SATURDAY • 11am - Close **SUNDAY** • Noon - 6pm

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**WINDSOR** \$5.00 - 16 oz. Pint

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#### Mondays

\$5 Burger & Home Fries Dine-in only & additional toppings are extra.

Sunday & Tuesday **Broasted Chicken** 12 Noon-8pm

#### Friday

Fish Fry 12 Noon-8:45pm

Red Granite Bar & Grill Order Online - Check wait times or just stop in! Find us on ¶

# Music by Jeni Smith/Mark Robl from 1:30-3:30 pm

Food provided at 3:00 pm

for all who attend the raffle

Raffle Basket drawing starting at 3:30 pm

Money ticket drawing at 4:00 pm

Come out and help support our High School Seniors

All proceeds go towards the Auxiliary Scholarship Program

Co-Chairs: Betty Smith and Linda Blake

#### **DisABILITY Resource Event**

Creating awareness and opportunity!

**JOIN US** for a fun-filled informational afternoon

dedicated to all children and their families with all types of disabilities.

April 6th 2025 from 1p-4p at Les & Jim's Lincoln Lanes 1208 N Center Avenue Merrill, WI

**Sunday** 

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Call or text Julie 715-218-5613 or email: arclincolncounty.com with questions

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## **Spring 2025 Election in Lincoln County**

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

The Spring Election is this coming Tuesday, April 1, 2025. If you haven't already voted early, mark your calendar to head to the polls.

#### Statewide ballot items

The big statewide items on the ballot include the hotly-contested race for Justice of the Supreme Court between candidates Brad Shimel and Susan Crawford and the race for State Superintendent where Brittany Kinser is vying for the position currently held by incumbent Jill Underly. Both moved forward after receiving the highest number of votes in the February primary.

One referendum question will also be on ballots statewide: "Photographic identification for voting. Shall section Im 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?"

Voters will weigh in with a Yes or No vote.

#### School Board and Lincoln County Judge

Locally four candidates are competing for three open positions on the Merrill Area Public Schools Board: Paul Proulx, Jon Smith, Brady Loos, and Jacqueline Gremler [see separate article].

Lincoln County Circuit Court Branch 2 incumbent Judge Robert Russell filed a Notification of Non-Candidacy and is not seeking re-election. While only one name will be on the ballot, Jessica Fehrenbach's candidate profile is included here so readers can get to know her.



Jessica Fehrenbach.

#### Name: Jessica (Schuster) Fehrenbach

Ago: 42

Family: My husband, Travis Fehrenbach, is a teaching assistant at the Nels P. Evjue Merrill School Forest. We have three children together. My parents are Linda and the late Gary Schuster, and my brother is Matt Schuster.

Employment/position: I became an attorney in 2008, and my current employment is as the Local Attorney Manager at the State Public Defender's Office in Merrill.

Past or present elected offices held, dates served: None.

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: I am currently on the MAC Homes Board of Directors, the Trinity Early Learning Center Advisory Team, and I am Vice President of the Trinity School PTO. In addition, I volunteer

for Backpacks for Kids and Food for Kids.

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: The retirement of the Honorable Judge Rob Russell created an opportunity for me to continue my commitment to public service and to the fair administration of justice.

#### **Municipal races**

Due to the large number of municipal elections taking place in area townships, most of which are uncontested with incumbents running for another term in office, only candidates who are running in a contested race were sent questionnaires, and **those who responded** have their responses included in their profiles below.

#### **Town of Russell**

In the Town of Russell, three candidates are vying for two open positions on the Town Board of Supervisors. Ivan Dorgan is challenging Marty Sosnovske and Lori Studinski. Voters will vote for two of the three candidates.

Name: Marty B. Sosnovske (no photo)

Age: 57

Family: Wife Mary, son Ben, deceased daughter Aly

Employment/position: Self-employed dairy farmer and logger

Past or present elected offices held

Past or present elected offices held, dates served: 3+terms as Town of Russell Supervisor

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: Foremost Farms Milk Coop District Delegate 25+ years; Customer 1 Coop Board of Directors 12 years; and Merrill FFA alumni 1986-current.

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: I think it's very important to keep a voice for agriculture on the Town Board.

#### **Town of Scott**

Likewise, in the Town of Scott, three candidates are vying for two open positions on the Town Board of Supervisors. Jeff Krall is new on the ballot, competing against incumbents Gerald Engel and Ron Lemmer. Voters will vote for two of the three candidates.

Name: Jeffrey Krall (no photo)

Age: 63

Family: Wife Priscilla, dog Andy, cat Imelda; no children

Employment: Disabled/Retired

Past or present elected offices held, dates served: None

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: Town of Scott Cemetery Committee volunteer, current President of Devil's Creek Stump Jumpers Snowmobile Club; conservative Christian, follow/attend Mountain Faith Bible Church

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: This will be a very unconventional introduction, but I want to be completely honest. My name is Jeff Krall, and I'm on the ballot for a position of Town Supervisor.

I did not actively seek this position ... I was nominated by one of the current Town officers. I am a concerned citizen who has recently been attending Town of Scott meetings. I sit right up front, take notes and participate when appropriate.

I have been a very involved long-time member of the Devil's Creek Stump Jumpers Snowmobile Club. If you've ever attended one of our Club fundraisers over the years, you have probably met me. I'm very proud of the many things I helped to accomplish in the roughly 20 years of my involvement ... all volunteer. During my time as a Club officer, we purchased and paid for upgraded grooming equipment, acquired land, and built a new heated and insulated groomer shed ... all paid for without borrowing a single dime. I will soon be finishing what I expect may be my final term as President for that wonderful organization. For the last 16 years of my working life, I drove a Redi-mix concrete truck for County Materials. During that time, I sustained a severe back injury that eventually required extensive surgery. That, along with a heart attack and a hip replacement, forced my early retirement a couple years ago. Despite all of that, I try to remain active as possible.

I admire the efforts of our current Town officers and personnel. Much like those good people, I am a person who realizes if somebody doesn't step up, nothing will get done. That said, I feel there are more capable persons in our Township for this position than myself ... but good help is hard to get. My physical abilities, along with my computer skills, are somewhat limited. My strengths are honesty, integrity, the ability to communicate, and a strong sense of duty. If selected, I'll strive to quickly find the best way I can serve. If that appeals to you, I may be your man. Regardless, please vote conservative on Tuesday, April 1st.

#### **Town of Schley**

In the Town of Schley, two candidates are vying for the position of Town Chairman. Kelly Collins is challenging incumbent Timothy Klimek for the position.



Kelly Collins.

Name: Kelly Collins

Age: 68

Family: Married with two adult children and two grandchildren

Employment/position:

Past or present elected offices held, dates served:

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served:

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: I've lived in the Town of Schley for almost 40 years. The Township had been debt free. Today our monthly payments on a new Town Hall are going to total over \$400,000 for a building used approximately 15 times a year for meetings that barely last a half hour, and two to four elections a year. Our Board Chairman gets paid \$740 a month with a few months over \$1,000. There are numerous expenses that could be reduced, and the Township has many expenses to be addressed. I will volunteer my time as a member of the Board if elected and work to pay down this debt.

We need a one-year and five-year plan for the Township to grow effectively. I hope to get more people involved in the management of the Township in the future on a volunteer basis. Public service should mean serving the public rather than benefitting from it. Thanks.

#### Name: Timothy Klimek

Age: 43

Family: Wife Heather and our five children, Zachary, Katelyn, Trenton, Kayla, and Kimberly.

Employment/position: I am currently employed at the Lincoln County Highway Department and also manage our family farm, where we raise cattle and grow crops.

Past or present elected offices held, dates served: I previously held the position of Supervisor of the Town of Schley from



Timothy Klimek.

2021 to 2023. I am currently serving as the Chairman of the Town of Schley for the term 2023-2025.

Membership in religious, service, fraternal, etc., clubs or organizations, and offices held, dates served: I am a member of the Gleason Area Lions Club for four years and currently serve as the Vice President, a position I have held since 2023.

Why have you chosen to run for the office you seek: I participate in all required training programs, as well as additional training opportunities to enhance my skills. I also attend quarterly unit meetings to gain insights into the initiatives of other townships and to expand my professional network across the state. Having resided in the Town of Schley for the past 25 years, I am motivated to run for the position of Town Chairman because of my commitment to the community and my desire to serve the Township to the best of my ability

#### **Town of Rock Falls**

In the Town of Rock Falls, voters will weigh in on two referendum questions specific to their municipality:

"Shall the person holding the office of Town Treasurer in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the Town Board?" and "Shall the person holding the office of Town Clerk in the Town of Rock Falls be appointed by the Town Board?" This is a simple Yes or No vote.

#### **City of Tomahawk**

Tomahawk residents will also vote on a referendum: "Shall the City of Tomahawk fluoridate the municipal water supply?" And in the City of Tomahawk, Alderpersons for Districts 1, 2, and 3 are on the ballot, all running unopposed.

#### Additional referendum questions on some Lincoln County ballots

Some Lincoln County voters who live within other school districts will find additional items on their ballots. The School District of Tomahawk and the Prentice School District both have Board elections on the ballot, but all candidates are running unopposed in those races.

Additionally, the School Districts of Rhinelander and Prentice will have referendum questions on their ballots:

• "Shall the School District of Rhinelander, Oneida, Lincoln and Langlade Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$3,000,000 per year for the 2025-2026 school year and the 2026-2027 school year and by \$7,000,000 per year for the 2027-2028 school year and the 2028-2029 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of ongoing operational expenses?"

• "Shall the School District of Prentice, Price, Oneida and Lincoln Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$950,000 per year for 4 years, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and ending with the 2028-2029 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of operational and maintenance expenses, including student programming, facility maintenance and staff salaries and benefits?"



## Tips to pick the right plants for your landscape

Each year, gardening enthusiasts anxiously await the arrival of spring. Spring is a great season to plant new flowers, plants, grasses, and trees, making it a popular time of year to spend sunny days out in the yard.

Veteran gardeners may know their landscapes well and be able to pick the right plants on their own. Novices may need a little help as they look to give their landscapes a whole new look. The following are some helpful tips to help homeowners pick the right plants for their landscapes.

#### **Conduct a site** evaluation.

colorful landscape featuring an array of plants and flowers can be eyecatching and add curb appeal to a property. However, where plants will be planted is a significant variable



that must be considered before homeowners choose what to plant. The Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment at the University of Massachusetts Amherst notes that site evaluation is the first step when picking plants. A number of factors must be evaluated, including light availability; water availability; exposure to the elements, including wind and extreme temperatures; and competition from existing vegetation, among other things. Document these variables prior to picking plants. For example, take note of the area you plan to plant to see if it is full sun or partial shade, and then pick plants whose growing conditions align with those you observe.

#### Look at more than looks.

Aesthetic appeal might what homeowners most desire from their landscapes, but that appeal is only achieved when the right plants are chosen for a space. If the wrong plants are chosen, they're unlikely to thrive or they could threaten existing vegetation, thus compromising the overall appeal of the property. Native plants can often handle local weather conditions, so prioritize natives over more exotic plants whose key attribute is aesthetic appeal. If jawdropping aesthetic appeal is your top priority, speak with a local landscaping professional about which natives can provide that

compromising surrounding vegetation.

#### **Consider maintenance** prior to planting.

Maintenance is another variable gardeners must consider. Newly planted trees may require substantial watering until they've fully established their roots, and some homeowners may not have time for that. In addition, certain plants may require a considerable amount of pruning in order to create and maintain the look homeowners desire. Individuals must be willing to invest the time and effort necessary to maintain new plantings that require such diligence. If not, look for plants that don't require much maintenance while keeping in mind that even low-maintenance plants still require some effort and attention.

#### **Consider local** wildlife.

If your lawn is routinely visited by local wildlife, then look for plants that won't look like a meal to these welcome, if uninvited, guests. For example, if you routinely see deer lounging around in your backyard, look for deer-resistant plants. This is a good way to protect your investment, of both time and money, and ensure minimal wildlife traffic through your newly landscaped yard.

Spring gardens are aweinspiring, especially when homeowners embrace various strategies successful planting.





## Didyou know?

like the first thing individuals think of when they ponder longterm investments, perennials can be just that. The home and garden experts at HGTV note that some perennials can live for a very long time. For example, according to HGTV, the colorful flowering plant peony, despite a blooming season that usually lasts just seven to 10 days, has been known to survive for 70 to

Though plants might not seem 100 years. Hostas are another popular perennial because they require little maintenance, and that extra free time can add up over the course of the hosta's life, which can exceed 15 years. Long-living perennials are not necessarily unusual, but gardeners should know that many perennials, and particularly those characterized as "short-lived," tend to live around three years.





## 6 signs you may need a new HVAC system



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There's no place like home, especially when that home is a comfortable and safe haven. One of the ways residents find comfort in their homes is by maintaining the right indoor temperatures, which fluctuate along with the seasons. While there is much to be said about opening windows and doors to let Mother Nature do her thing, indoor comfort is often maintained with an HVAC system.

HVAC stands heating, ventilation and air conditioning. It can include heat pumps, furnaces and air conditioning units. It is an automated system that works by adjusting a thermostat to regulate temperature, and sometimes humidity, in the home. According to Enviguard, a commercial contracting provider, HVAC systems also may be used to

improve indoor air quality through filtration oxygen replacement.

As with any mechanical device, an HVAC system has a life span that must be considered. Should any of the following conditions be present, it is likely time to consult with an HVAC technician to see if repairs or replacement of the entire system is warranted.

#### 1. Age

If the HVAC system is more than 10 years old, it could be time to begin budgeting for a new unit. Many modern, efficient systems may last 12 to 14 years with routine maintenance. But it's good to keep an HVAC system's age in mind so you can readily recognize when it might start to fail.

#### 2. Longer or constant running times

An efficient, properly

working system will quickly heat or cool the home and then turn off. A system that is turning on repeatedly or having to run for awhile before the set temperature is reached could be nearing the end of its utility.

#### 3. Strange noises

Groaning, banging or loud humming noises should be addressed. While these noises may indicate that certain components need maintenance replacement, they also could be symptoms of age and a system nearing failure.

#### 4. Frequent repair visits

Knowing the HVAC company's repair person by name is a sign that the system has required too much work in recent months. Repeated issues and repairs are probably signs that it's time to consider a system replacement.

#### 5. Higher bills

Sticker shock when receiving electricity or gas bills likely mean the HVAC system isn't working efficiently and might need to be replaced.

#### 6. Poor indoor air quality

If the home is dusty or humid or even if allergies seem to have cropped up out of nowhere, this could indicate a poorly functioning HVAC system.

HVAC systems vital to keeping indoor environments comfortable and safe. Such systems may exhibit certain signs that indicate they need to be replaced.









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## A spring lawn revitalization strategy

New growth is a hallmark of spring, whether it plays out in the birth of birds and bunnies or with the returned buds on trees and plant stalks. While most greenery rebounds naturally, lawns may need a little extra TLC in order to return to their once lush, green glory.

Revitalizing a lawn in spring is a multifaceted process but can be well worth the reward when green grass adds to a beautiful landscape and functional yard. Here is how to get started when the weather warms, courtesy of The Farmer's Almanac and The Home Depot.

#### Clean up debris.

Spend a few hours raking up leaves from the lawn and removing any other winter debris like twigs so that air can reach the



#### Test the soil.

Take a sample of the soil to determine its pH level and nutrient needs. Then you can make adjustments to set a strong foundation for the lawn to grow.

#### Do some weeding.

Pull out any weeds that have poked through early on and apply a preemergent herbicide to prevent additional weeds from taking over.

#### Start the aeration process.

A core aerator punches holes into the soil. This enables air and water to penetrate through to the

#### Overseed the lawn.

Apply grass seeds over the lawn, - paying special attention to any bare or thin areas so that the

#### Water consistently.

It is important to water the lawn deeply and consistently, especially when the weather is dry, to help promote strong root development.

#### **Time fertilizer** correctly.

Apply a spring fertilizer around three weeks after the lawn starts to turn green or after the first two or three mowings. If fertilizer is applied too early it can feed weeds instead of the grass and result in fertilizer runoff.

#### Mow to an appropriate height.

Begin to mow when the ground is dry enough and the grass is long enough to need cutting. Leave some length to the lawn; otherwise, sunlight will reach the soil and encourage weed seeds to germinate.

With a little elbow grease at the start of spring, homeowners can establish strong and healthy lawns.









## Didyou know?

homeowners typically consider a host of variables, including how significant a return they're likely to get on their investment. Though potential ROI is not the determining factor for most homeowners, the cost of home renovation projects is so significant that ROI certainly

Prior to financing home improvement merits consideration. According to Remodeling magazine's "2022 Cost vs. Value Report," a garage door replacement recouped the highest percentage of homeowners' initial investment in 2022. The average cost of such a project was \$4,041 in 2022, and homeowners recouped roughly 93 percent of that investment at resale.



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# Simple landscaping strategies that can transform a home's exterior



The interior of a home may be where homeowners and their families spend the majority of their time, and there's no denying that a well-planned interior goes a long way toward making a house a home. However, the exterior of a home, including its landscaping, can serve as a source of pride and catch the eye of prospective buyers when the home hits the market.

It's easy to walk past a home with an eye-catching exterior and assume the homeowner has a green thumb or has spent lots of time and money working on the landscaping. Though that may be true, oftentimes it's the simplest strategies that make all the difference. Homeowners can keep these strategies in mind as they look to transform the exterior of their homes.

#### Dress up the walkway.

A longer walkway can give guests a strong first impression of a home and won't break the bank. Create new planting beds and flowers along each side of the walkway. If it's necessary and within budget, lengthen the walkway to create the feel of a more grandiose entryway.

Make things more

and plant bright plants

#### Make things more symmetrical.

A messy landscape can give a poor first impression, even if the area features some beautiful plants. In such instances, a little effort to make things more symmetrical, with equal parts grass and vegetation, can create a cleaner, more inviting look.

#### Mulch your flower and tree beds.

Mulch is a relatively inexpensive but effective way to add aesthetic appeal to a landscape. Freshly mulched beds beneath trees and flowers creates a clean and organized look, and the mulch also serves a practical purpose, as it reduces weed growth and helps the soil retain moisture so plants stay healthy and look better throughout the warmer months when rainfall may not be steady or significant.

#### Plant shade trees.

Shade trees can be especially useful when selling a home. The shade provided by trees can shield grass from blistering summer sun,

potentially helping it stay green. A lush green lawn appeals to buyers and gives the impression the home has been well maintained. In addition, shade trees can be used to create the look of a backyard oasis. A well-placed bench beneath a large shade tree can entice buyers who want a relaxing spot to enjoy warm summer days outdoors without getting a sunburn.

#### Consider maintenance.

The more exotic an exterior landscape is, the more maintenance it's likely to require. Lawn and garden enthusiasts may not be turned off by landscape that features require maintenance, but homeowners who don't have much time for such work should keep things simple. A poorly maintained landscape, even if it includes exotic plants and elaborate designs, will adversely affect curb appeal. Another feather in the cap of low-maintenance landscape features is they could prove more appealing to prospective buyers, who may view elaborate, exotic landscaping as a lot of extra work they won't want to do.

Some simple landscaping strategies can help homeowners transform their home exteriors without requiring a significant investment of time or money.

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## Highland Community Church purchases Jefferson School

BY TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

Highland Community Church in Merrill purchased the former Jefferson School property from Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) for \$750,000. The sale closed just days prior to Christmas in Dec. 2025. The church plans to use the property for their worship space and other ministries.

Highland has had an interest in purchasing the Jefferson School property for some time. "We've been pursuing this building for a couple of years," said Pastor Adam DeBroux. The church had written letters and spoken with the superintendent and the school district to inquire about the possibility of purchasing the building. The school district eventually asked the church to submit a bid, he said.

Highland Community Church was one of two bidders, and theirs was the higher bid which was accepted by MAPS. The church intends to keep the property largely as it is, allowing the community to continue using the playground and sledding hill. Pastor Dan Shields said, "We're going to keep it the same. And we know that the community likes to use the sledding hill that's over there and the playground. We love that. So we're not going to try to change that or anything."

The new worship space will be in the former school gymnasium, which is being renovated, as it is one of the largest open spaces in the building and it has a good location within the building. Volunteers from the church are painting over everything in that space to make it more suitable for worship. Then additional renovations will begin.

The ceiling in the sanctuary will be blacked out to create a cozier feel. According to Pastor Dan Shields, "They can black out the ceiling basically, to kind of hide what the ceilings there look like, kind of made the room feel a little bit more cozy and smaller in that way." And then, of course, the altar will be situated at one end of the space and seating added and other touches to make it feel like a church. They also plan to add air conditioning to the sanctuary, children's church, and nursery areas.

The pastors anticipate being able to hold one service at 10:30 a.m. in the new location, which will allow the congregation to be together. Currently, the church holds two services at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school and Bible classes take place before the 10:30 service.



Photography by Tina L. Scott

During the 10:30 service, there is also a nursery and children's church available. Then afterward, Pastor Dan Shields notes that there is "nothing formal" regarding fellowship time after church, but "people are just connecting as they desire."

The new worship space will have a maximum capacity of around 400 people. Highland's current building at the Merrill location has a capacity of about 220. The church's average Sunday attendance is around 220 people, including children and adults, the pastors said. They don't focus a lot on membership, per se.

Highland Community Church is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. According to Pastor Adam DeBroux, Highland Community Church considers itself "one church in four locations." The Merrill location emerged when they were contacted by what was formerly Merrill Bible Church.

"It was an adoption of sorts, as far as I understand the history," Pastor DeBroux said. "The Merrill Bible Church had been having a conversation with Highland to consider that as an option, and so Highland adopted that church family and it's continued to grow."

That was in 2019 and the two pastors have been here since, co-pastoring at the Merrill location. Pastor DeBroux is a Merrill native, having grown up in the community, so he welcomed the opportunity to pursue ministry here. He is the pastor of adult and children's ministries, and he is currently single. Pastor Dan Shields is from Eagle River. He is the pastor of worship and student ministries. He is married and has two young daughters.

#### Plans for the future

The church gave away filing cabinets and other school supplies that were left in the Jefferson School building to other local schools. According to Pastor Dan Shields, "We've been able to connect with a couple of local schools in Merrill, and a school in Wausau—Faith Christian Academy, and so they've been able to come and grab [the things they can use]."

Once they move into the Jefferson School property, Highland intends to sell their existing church building on St. in Merrill. Their current building is approximately 5,000 square feet, while the new property is probably at least six times that area, they

Pastor DeBroux is excited about the opportunities the new property will provide for community engagement. "This property provides some interesting tools to be able to do that, with a football field and tons of picnic space, an awesome playground, a sledding hill," said Pastor DeBroux. "And so it's kind of exciting to think about all of those opportunities."

Pastor DeBroux said the new building will allow the church to have more of a family night where parents can bring all of their children and do everything at once as far as youth groups and weekly meetings because they will have the space to have multiple groups meeting at the same time.

One question that has come up from community members is whether the church plans to start a school. Pastor DeBroux addressed this: "We don't have any intentions of starting a school here at this point or the foreseeable future, but I've gotten texts and emails and people ask about that." He added that they've had good conversations with Trinity's leadership about that, to clarify their intentions.

"It's been really wonderful working with the MAPS administration," said Pastor Dan Shields. "They've been nothing but great the entire time as we've worked with them."

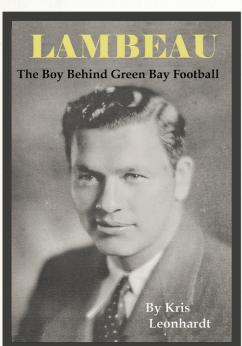
The pastors share duties at the church, with neither holding the title of senior pastor. "The best way that we function is Adam is the pastor of adult and children ministries and I'm the pastor of worship and student ministries," said Pastor Shields. They also share preaching responsibilities and together shepherd the congregation.

"We love our community. We want to love our community. We're all about Jesus. We're all about the Bible and we want to see people take another step towards Jesus as our ultimate goal," said Pastor Shields. "Hopefully this new facility can facilitate that goal. That's what we're excited for."

#### Sale proceeds go into MAPS Fund 10

Kevin Blake, current President of the MAPS Board of Education, said that since the sale of the Jefferson Elementary School property was not on the budget when it was created, "the proceeds were placed into Fund 10 (General Fund) to be allocated as needed and agreed upon going forward."





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## **Severt named Lutheran Junior Honor Association Student of the Year**

Jillian Severt, an eighthgrade student at Trinity Lutheran School, named Lutheran Junior Honor Association's (LJHA) 2025 Student of the Year. Trinity's LJHA Advisor is Georgia Gustafson, and her application was supported by letters from Rev. Scott Gustafson, her pastor, Kathy Yahr, the former administrator of Trinity, Britnee Hartwig, Middle School Language Arts teacher at Trinity.

"Years ago she joined our school's praise team," Rev. Gustafson said of Jillian. "As her voice has matured, she's becoming a regular member of our Sunday Contemporary morning Worship Band. For a 14-year-old who is active in dance, sports, and committed to academic excellence, weekly practices for Sunday Praise Services may seem to be just another 'thing to do' on a busy schedule. But Jillian loves singing. More than that, her attitude is contagious!"

"Jillian is always the first to encourage others when they are down and to celebrate their successes," Ms. Yahr said. "Even as a younger student, she would write encouraging, positive notes to teachers and staff just to brighten their



Jillian Severt. **Lifetouch National School** Studio photo.

days. She demonstrates kindness and support toward younger students... Now in eighth grade, her leadership qualities are evident in LJHA, organizing participating in all activities, including assisting at First Grade Grandparent assembling and sending care packages for her school's alumni college freshmen, school-wide collection for Hurricane Relief (which resulted in sending \$735 to Orphan Grain Train), Caps for Kids Fundraiser, helping with 4K activities, bell ringing for Salvation Army, and shopping for the annual Rotary Club toy drive. Jillian can be found in many capacities as part of Trinity's Safety Patrol, whether as crossing guard,

opening gates, or flag duty. For three years she offered her time as the daily bus list coordinator."

Her journey of faith and discipleship has been equally strong," she said. "Jillian has been joyfully singing with the chapel praise team since fifth grade, and sharing her talents as part of the adult praise team at church since sixth grade. She actively serves as a greeter and usher at church, a large group leader, and crew assistant each year in VBS. She is active in Youth Group and was recently featured in a promotional video thanking the congregation for their support of the Youth Gathering to be held next July in New Orleans."

LJHA was designed by Lutheran Educators for Lutheran Schools recognize students who exercise leadership. servanthood, discipleship, while excelling at academics and who foster these qualities through service projects and other activities. The Student of the Year Award is based on demonstrated community involvement, involvement, and the LJHA standards of discipleship, service, leadership, and



Merrill Thursday Night B Division Pool concluded during the second week of March with team Northway 4 taking the Championship undefeated, beating Plautz's in the final match. L to R: Mike Gleason, Ida Knospe, Phil Knospe, Charlie Hoffman, Kim Peeters, and Gene Oleson.

Submitted photo.



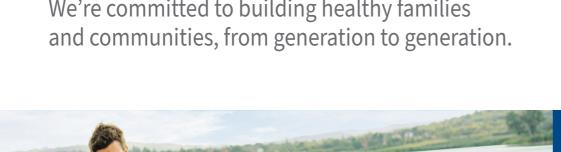
The Merrill Busy Bees 4-H club collected more than 65 lbs. of pop top tabs to be donated to the Ronald McDonald House. This is one of their community service projects

Submitted photo.

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## Merrill Theatre Jays present Catch Me If You Can

BY TINA L. SCOTT **EDITOR** 

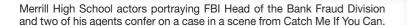
The Merrill Theatre Jays will showcase Catch Me If You Can, the Musical, as their spring high school musical production, with three shows this Friday and Saturday. Evening performances will begin at 7 p.m. both nights, and Saturday will also feature a matinee at 2 p.m.

The cast features Drake Hoffman starring as Frank Abagnale, Jr.; Nicholas Van De Weerd as Carl Hanratty; Devin Billington as Frank Abagnale, Sr.; Belicia Spahn as Paula Abagnale; Isabella Stutting as Brenda Strong; Myah Webb as Carol Strong; and Leo Lazare as Roger Strong. Agents Cod, Dollar, and Branton are played by Orion Pillai, Sebastian Doering, and

Jameson Morgan respectively, and Rory Gates plays Cheryl Ann.

The featured Choral Septet is comprised of Adalyn Blake, Autumn Genisot, Gracie Lessor, Maddie McCoy, Ley Staeven, Cadence Stutting, and Lauren Van Alstine. The Ensemble includes Alle Bergh, Ella Bergh, Lilly Bong, Austin Doering, Annabella Foust, Hazeley Gates, Rory Gates, Jacob Hanson, Mara Kautzer, Emma Meyers, Vincent Morgan, Emily Raymer, Isabella Scheffler, Jasper Staeven, and Benjamin Zastrow.

Tickets are available through Merrill High School, via the Merrill Theatre Jays Facebook page, and at the door. This production is rated PG-13 for language and blasphemy.





Tina L. Scott photos.



Taking a break while waiting for other cast members to change for the scene.



Frank Jr. works a swindle.

## 2025 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

Director and facuty advisor Kimberly Stutting (center) talks with actors during a dress rehearsal.

Boys Baseball (Varsity, JV, & JV2)							
Sat. March 29	Adams-Friendship (Varsity)	) Away	11:00 am				
Thurs. April 3	Northland Pines (Varsity &	JV) Home	5:00 pm				
Girls Softball (Varsity & JV)							
Thurs. April 3	Antigo (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:30 pm				
Boys Golf (Varsity & JV)							
Practice begins Monday, March 31st							
Girls Soccer (Varsity & JV)							
Tues. April 1	Portage (Varsity)	Away	5:00 pm				

Thurs. April 3 Medford (JV) Home 5:00 pm
Thurs. April 3 Medford (Varsity) Home 7:00 pm

Boys Track & Field (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. April 3 Multiple Schools (Varsity) Home

Girls Track & Field (Varsity & JV)

Multiple Schools (Varsity)

Trap Team (Varsity)

High School Season Ongoing • Weekly Rounds



Thurs. April 3

PROTECTING
THE GREATER
GOOD\*



Home

4:00 pm

4:00 pm



## Moon Lamps and More exhibit coming in April

During the month of April, the T. B. Scott Free Library will feature Moon Lamps and More for their Beyond Books: ArtShare Community Exhibition.

Youth Services Outreach collaborated with St. John Lutheran School's art teacher, Waldburger, Rachael to create the pieces on display. The library provided moon lamps, and Mrs. Walburger provided her

eighth grade art students with the prompt to paint a moon lamp to represent their favorite books. Students chose scenes and book covers to paint in order to portray those books and also created self-portraits to represent what they might look like if they were characters in those

Visit the Carnegie Wing of the library to enjoy the creativity of these budding artists.





#### More photos online merrillfotonews.com





#### TE OF THE WEEK

Brett Suchocki, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week for the week of March 27, 2025. Brett started wrestling before kindergarten and has been competing ever since, joining the MHS Varsity Wrestling Team as a Freshman and being named Most Improved Upperclassman this season. He also wrestles Greco and freestyle for Northern Exposure Wrestling Club; he started in the fifth grade.

Brett started playing T-ball as a child, graduated to baseball, and now continues at MHS, playing on the MHS JV Baseball Team last year. He also plays football, having started in kindergarten and continued playing JV2 as a Freshman, advancing to JV and Varsity as a Sophomore and Junior. At school, his favorite class is Meteorology. In summers, he works part-time for MAPS doing maintenance. In his free time, Brett enjoys fishing, gun deer hunting, video games, swimming, water skiing, and wakeboarding.

The son of Pam and Brian Suchocki of Merrill, Brett has a 2.9 GPA and plans to attend college after graduation but is undecided about his major.

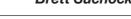
Congratulations from these sponsors:

**Brett Suchocki** 

Athletes highlighted in this feature are selected by the Foto News

> Please direct comments or suggestions to fotonews@mmclocal.com





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A student uses a tiny brush to

focus on the details.

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