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Ptacek's is headed to River Falls after the purchase of Dick's Fresh Market and Dick's Hometown

Ptacek's brings community-driven approach to incoming RF location

By Andrew Harrington

Online rumors that swirled about what was happening at the Dick's Fresh Market and Dick's Hometown Liquor location in River Falls can be put to rest as Ptacek's is coming to the city.

Patrick Ptacek and his brother Raphael Ptacek are purchasing both Dick's Fresh Market and Dick's Hometown Liquor with the plan to open July 9.

The stores will be called Ptacek's Family Market and Ptacek's Family Liquor.

Pat Ptacek said there is a lot of work to do on the paperwork, licensing and permit side of the business, but they are excited to make their mark on the community.

"It's a great location, it's an amazing community, we have some ties out there already," Ptacek said. "Everything fit right on this one."

The gas and liquor will remain at the site, but due to permit reasons, the liquor will need to be sold strictly in the liquor store, with the

potential to enter the grocery store sometime down the

For the fans of Prescott's Ptacek's IGA, Ptacek said there is no need to worry about changes, as the two will be separate corporations. As for the River Falls location, there will be differences from the store in Prescott, but the "characteristics" will be similar.

"Starting up, I won't be able to have a Caribou

See PTACEK'S, Page A-10

Former Pierce Co. Sheriff dies at age 87

Colleagues remember him as kind, professional

By Sarah Nigbor

Former Pierce County Sheriff James "Jim" Hines died Monday, June 12 with his family by his side. He was 87 and had been living at Prescott Nursing & Rehabilitation.

According to his obituary, Hines worked as a milk hauler with his dad Walter and served in the Army Reserves. For 15 years, he built friendships with area farmers who appreciated his strong work ethic.

In 1970, he became a patrol deputy with the Pierce County Sheriff's Office. In 1984, constituents elected him as sheriff, a role he held until his retirement in 2001.

Hines hired former Sheriff Nancy Hove, first as a part-timer, then as a full-time jailer/dispatcher in 1997. She remembers him fondly.

"He was a great sheriff. We both served 16 years as sheriff for Pierce County," she said. "He was always calm about things and his door was always open."

Retired Pierce County



Jim Hines

Chief Deputy Neil Gulbranson worked with Hines as a traffic officer and during his tenure as sheriff.

'What I remember most about Jim was his kindness, his open-door philosophy, his willingness to always listen to his deputies and the public and give advice, Gulbranson said. "There wasn't a day we didn't hear his deep belly laugh throughout the office. He was truly a professional law enforcement officer with a caring heart for all.'

Former chief depuand current County

See HINES, Page A-10

Court Clash: Pickleball courts gain ground over tennis courts in recent recreation trends

By Danielle Boos

The Prescott City Council heard a brief recap of the May 20 Parks and Public Works Committee meeting concerning the concept plan for Public Square Park tennis/pickleball courts at the council meeting on June 10.

The Prescott Pickleball Group, consisting of 120 members, collaborated with the City of Prescott in 2022 to contribute funds for the construction of two new pickleball courts at Public Square Park that were completed in fall of 2023 with a price tag of \$23,357. Currently the group reserves the courts for their reserved playing times of Monday (6-8 p.m.), Wednesday (6-8 p.m.), and Saturday (8-11 a.m.) For the summer season they charge \$25 for residents and \$40 for non-residents and guests are charged \$5 each. To reserve time, people are using a third-party app and telling people to leave the courts through PlayTime Scheduler, which is causing frustration with community members who feel that since their tax dollars contributed to the court construction, they should have unrestricted access as over 90% of fundraised dollars were donated by founda-

tions and businesses for the benefit of the broader public. Community members argue that there is currently an impression of ownership of the courts by the group which has been unsettling for newcomers and those who prefer more informal, casual play. While scheduling and payments are not affiliated with or sanctioned by the city, the city "aims to strike a balance between acknowledging Prescott Pickleball's significant contribution and ensuring the courts remain a public amenity."

The current tennis courts are once again experiencing major cracking after being completely resurfaced in 2021 at a cost of \$18,740 and were not professionally designed so they were built to a width of 90 feet instead of the standard width of 102 feet. The present proposal for the 2025 Capital Improvement Plan is considering adding the reconstruction of the tennis courts, along with an expansion of 12 feet to their width. The Prescott Pickleball Group is asking the city to consider changing one tennis court into pickleball courts while community members involved in tennis clinics and community education are adamant that both tennis courts are needed.

Three options have been presented to the city for possible choices for the upcoming reconstruction:

Option A would keep the original plan by adding two pickleball courts adjacent to existing courts, alongside two tennis courts. In total, the estimated work is expected to cost between \$90,000 to \$120,000 for the tennis courts, plus the additional cost of two more pickleball courts at \$45,000 to \$52,000, which brings the total to between \$135,000 and \$172,000.

Option B would convert one tennis court into four pickleball courts, leaving only one dedicated tennis court at an expected cost of between \$90,000 to \$120,000.

Option C merges both cost savings and recreation enjoyment by adding four striped pickleball courts while keeping two tennis courts with dual striped surfaces at a potential cost of between \$90,000 to \$120,000. This option comes with drawbacks of crowded surfaces from intersecting lines, moving of pickleball nets and limits freedom to play either sport as one pleases due to conflicting net and post arrangements.

The Parks and Public

Works Committee is recommending that the council approve Option B to be included in the 2025-2032 Capital Improvement Plan for future construction and recommend that no signs or equipment can be put in any parks unless specifically approved and hung or installed by the

City Administrator Matt Wolf stated, "After discussion the committee is recommending that we take one of the tennis courts and we convert it into four pickleball courts."

He said it would still leave the one court dedicated to tennis but would add four pickleball courts.

"In total the estimated work is expected to cost \$90,000 to \$120,000," Wolf

The Parks and Public Works committee also recommended that the Prescott Pickleball Group that helped raise the money for the first two courts have the courts reserved for their use on Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays 8-10 a.m. Mondays will be open community sessions for pickleball, and a sign will be posted stating the above information and will also state that there will be no reservations of courts beyond those times See PICKLEBALL, Page A-10

that are listed.

"Who's taking care of reservations?" asked Alderperson Mike Gerke.

Wolf said the club would be taking care of reservations on Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays 8-10 a.m.

Alderperson Maureen Otwell asked how having only one tennis court will work for the tennis clinics. She expressed concern that limiting tennis to only one court would make it difficult for the future.

Alderperson Dar Hintz explained the commission's decision.

"I feel like we just chose Option B because really the need for pickle ball courts were so much greater than tennis courts. And that the trend is not going away. So that was the reason why we wanted to leave at least one tennis court," Hintz said.

Prescott resident Kathy Hovel approached the council to share information that she received regarding tennis camps. She wondered if two tennis courts were needed as there are 25 children in the summer tennis camps.

"Tennis doesn't go anywhere for the kids. It's not like we have a high school team," she said.

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Traynor inducted into Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame

MADISON — Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development is excited to announce the 2023 & 2024 Hall of Fame Laureates including 10 volunteers, supporters and staff who have impacted Wisconsin 4-H. The newest classes of laureates were inducted in a ceremony at the Wintergreen Resort in Wisconsin Dells on April 28, 2024.

Among the 10 Hall of Fame Laureates is Bob Traynor, longtime Pierce County 4-H Volunteer.

"We are incredibly grateful to this year's laureates and the countless hours of service they have provided to the youth of Wisconsin," says Jessica Jens, Positive Youth Development Institute Director and Wisconsin 4-H Program Associate Director, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension. "They have supported and inspired a generation of 4-H members to challenge themselves to learn, lead, and contribute to their communities. Their selfless contributions of time, energy, and talent have created ripples of impact which will continue to positively impact the world around us for years to come."

Traynor has been a Pierce County 4-H dairy project leader for 39 years. His impact is most evident through his years as the Pierce County 4-H Dairy Judging Coach. He has helped to mold the lives of over 350 young people through judging experiences. Eighteen of these years produced state contest qualifying teams and three District Champion Teams. In 2007, Pierce County won the state contest. They represented Wisconsin at the National 4-H Dairy Judging contest placing eighth in the nation. In 2012, Pierce County won the right to represent Wisconsin at the Harrisburg, Penn. national judging contest, placing third. Four of Pierce County's dairy judging alumni have placed in the top 4 individuals at the National Collegiate Dairy Judging Contest.

Traynor's enthusiasm for 4-H is contagious and his coaching skills are matched by



Pierce County's Bob Traynor was inducted into the Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame in April at a ceremony in Wisconsin Dells. Photo courtesy of University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension

few. He lives the 4-H motto of "Making the Best Better." Several 4-H alumni who worked with Coach Bob through the judging team describe their highlighted skills in presenting and public speaking. One dairy judging alumnus uses those skills in mentoring and educating new hires for her nurses unit at Mayo Clinic, while another says that he has greater confidence in front of groups and knows for a fact that this is due to his work with Traynor. He is very effective at working with youth – both the very young and teenagers. His enthusiasm for 4-H is contagious and his coaching skills are matched by few.

Traynor served on the Pierce County Board of Supervisors and has been active with the County Fair. He is currently the Chairman of the Pierce County Fair Committee, having served on it since 1998. He was also a First Responder with Spring Valley Area Ambulance from 1997

Traynor, a life-long Registered Holstein breeder, served on the Wisconsin Holstein Association board from 2005-2011. He has shared his love for dairy cattle and a dedication to agriculture through his work with the 4-H youth while developing an appreciation and future for the dairy

The Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame was established to recognize 4-H volunteers, financial supporters, staff and pioneers who made major contributions to the 4-H movement at the local, state and national levels. The candidates represent 4-H in the broadest sense — people who had an impact on the lives of children, their community or state through significant contributions of time, energy or financial resources to 4-H and its members.

Other 2023 & 2024 Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame Laureates are:

2023 Gwen Dado, Polk County 4-H Volunteer

Lynn Feldman, Oneida County 4-H Volunteer & Retired 4-H Youth Development Educator

Walter (Wally) Hitt, Retired Marinette County 4-H & Youth Agent

Jane Marquardt, Retired Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Office Manager

Mike Perkl, Retired Clark County 4-H Agent & UW-Extension Western District Director

2024

John & Jean Gurtner (In memoriam of John), Barron County 4-H Volunteers

Fred Washa (in memoriam), Waukesha County 4-H

Michele Zimmerman, Jefferson County 4-H Volunteer

Submitted by University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension

Vino in the Valley, on the edge of the Rush River southeast of Ellsworth, attracts over 30,000 people to their outdoor dining pavilion each season. Photo courtesy of Limelight Social Media

Pierce County tourism grows economic impact 7.8% in 2023

Tourism generated \$63 million economic impact in 2023 in Pierce County, contributing to Wisconsin tourism's historic year

ELLSWORTH - The Wisconsin Department of Tourism released 2023 economic impact data, showing Pierce County tourism grew its total economic impact in 2023, generating \$63 million and contributing to Wisconsin tourism's historic \$25 billion economic impact.

The statewide results mark back-to-back record years for the Wisconsin tourism industry. The 2023 economic impact surpassed the previous statewide record of \$23.7 billion set in 2022, with Pierce County's impact increasing by 7.8%. Statewide, tourism's historic year was fueled by economic impact growth in all 72 counties, a record number of overnight visitors for a second consecutive year, and investments tourism businesses made in goods and services.

Pierce County offers a diverse array of attractions that cater to tourism visitors. From the picturesque drives along the Great River Road to visiting the Cheese Curd Capital of Wisconsin, visitors can enjoy a mix of natural beauty and cultural experiences. The area is known for its outdoor recreational opportunities, including world-class trout streams and ATV routes.

In Ellsworth, events like the Cheese Curd Festival, Showdown in Curdtown, the Pierce County Fair, and businesses like Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery and Vino in the Valley contribute to the tourism economy.

"We are thrilled to see the

significant growth in tourism's economic impact in Pierce County. Our geographic location, just an hour's drive from the Twin Cities metropolitan area, makes Pierce County a convenient destination for those looking to escape the city," says Kim Beebe, Executive Director of the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce. "This success underscores the hard work of our local tourism groups and businesses and the unique amenities that draw visitors to our area."

Last year, Pierce County tourism supported 428 partand full-time jobs across various sectors of the industry, part of the more than 178,000 jobs sustained by tourism across the state.

Tourism in Pierce County also generated \$3.6 million in local and state tax revenue. Statewide, tourism generated \$1.6 billion in local and state tax revenue in 2023. Without this revenue, each Wisconsin household would pay an additional \$660 to maintain the current level of government services.

"Wisconsin tourism powers the economy and strengthens the fabric of communities of all sizes," said Wisconsin Department of Tourism Secretary Anne Sayers. "The historic impact of tourism reached every corner of Wisconsin and, in doing so, sustained livelihoods for thousands of our friends and neighbors."

In 2023, Wisconsin welcomed 113 million visits, nearly 2 million more than the

previous year. This number includes 45.9 million overnight visits last year — the second consecutive year of record-breaking overnight visitation. Overnight visitors, on average, spend almost three times as much as a day-trip visitor. View the 2023 economic impact data here, including a county-by-county breakdown.

The increase in tourism not only boosts local businesses but also enhances the quality of life for residents by supporting community events and fostering a vibrant local culture. With the continued collaboration of local businesses and organizations, Ellsworth and Pierce County are poised to build on this success, attracting more visitors and further increasing tourism's impact in the region. The mission of the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce is to support and promote the local business community. We work to foster a vibrant economic environment by providing resources, advocacy, and networking opportunities for our members. Through collaborative partnerships and innovative initiatives, the Chamber plays a vital role in driving economic growth, supporting community initiatives, and making Ellsworth a great place to live and work. Learn more at www.ellsworthcham-

Submitted by Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce

EHS Class of 1974 hosting 50th reunion

School Class of 1974 will host its 50th reunion from 3-7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8 at Ridgetop Banquet Facility (W10156 Highway 10, Prescott).

Attendees can expect a by July 15 to:

music by Bill Denzer, good conversation, laughter, reminiscing and surprises.

The cost to attend is \$30 per person. Please RSVP with the number of attendees erty Road, River Falls, WI 54022.

Enjoy this milestone of 50

Submitted by EHS Class of 1974 Reunion Committee

Staying Put is looking for volunteers

SPRING VALLEY/EL-MWOOD - Staying Put is a local nonprofit organization that coordinates volunteers to help seniors and adults with disabilities maintain their independence.

include: Providing transportation (driving)

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715-778-5800 or spring.valley.ssp@gmail.com or stop by the office at S312 McKay Ave., Spring Valley, WI

Submitted by Staying Put

Meals on Wheels If you're interested in Volunteer opportunities volunteering, contact us at Pierce County Fair deadlines

By entering an exhibit in the Pierce County Fair, you can not only show your talent and get recognition, you can also learn. When exhibits are entered and feedback is received, it allows you the opportunity for growth and education. Maybe you've had a technique wrong for years or maybe you just need a little nudge in the right direction. Either way, entering an exhibit in the Pierce County Fair can open up a new world of fun at the fair for you. In addition to showcasing your individual talent, exhibits and entries at the Pierce County Fair also show the talent and creativity of our community as a whole, emphasizing the diverse skills and passions all

around us! You might be wondering who can exhibit at the Pierce County Fair. The Pierce County Fair is open to all residents of Pierce, St. Croix, Dunn, and Pepin counties in Open Class, with members of Pierce County Youth Organizations eligible for Junior Class.

To register online, follow these steps:

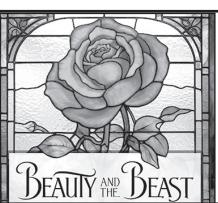
- Go to https://www.blueribbonfair.com/BRFairProd/ BlueRibbonStart.aspx-?ID=1225
- Create an account • Log in
- Select the Entries option on the toolbar across the top of the page
- Choose a department from the list
- Select the plus symbol (+) to the left of the class you are interested in to see a list of lots
- Choose the lot that you want to enter
- Continue to add departments, classes, and lots until you have all of the entries you are interested
- Select Items/Checkout to confirm your enrollment in the Pierce County Fair To make your payment for

online enrollment, call the Pierce County Fair Office at 715-273-6874 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday to make the payment with credit card. All online enrollment must be paid by credit card over phone.

If you are enrolling in Open Class, you can enroll in person or through mail with a check. You can get a Pierce County Fair Premium Book with all the information from the Pierce County Fair Office in the Seyforth building and complete the entry form located in the back of the book. It can be returned either in person or via mail to the fair

Worried you missed the deadline to enter? No worries! The deadline for entry into the Pierce County Fair has been extended to June 25 until 4 p.m. with credit card payments being accepted until June 28 at 4 p.m.

Submitted by Sara Karras



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VIEWPOINTS

Spring 2025 State Supreme Court race gets early kickoff



Let the spring 2025 state Supreme Court race begin!

You may be a bit confused, given that we're still in the midst of the big 2024 election season that will decide the races for president, the U.S. Senate, the House, and more than 100 seats in the state Legislature.

But the spring race next year will again decide the philosophical balance of the high court, which switched to liberals for the first time in more than a decade via the high-spending April 2023 victory by Janet Protasiewicz.

Now enter Dane County Judge Susan Crawford. Crawford in early June formally launched her campaign for the state Supreme Court next year, looking to protect liberals' 4-3 majority.

Crawford is seeking to succeed fellow progressive Justice Ann Walsh Bradley,

year she had decided against seeking a fourth 10-year term on the court.

"For the first time in years, we have a majority on the court focused on getting the facts right, following the law, and protecting our constitutional rights," Crawford said. "We can't risk having that progress reversed."

So far, Waukesha County Circuit Court Judge Brad Schimel, a former GOP attorney general, is the only candidate to have formally entered the spring race. Fellow conservative Maria Lazar, a judge on the 2nd District Court of Appeals who worked under Schimel at the state Department of Justice, has been considering a run.

Crawford is a former assistant attorney general who also worked at the departments of Corrections and Natural Resources before serving as chief legal counsel to then-Democrat Gov. Jim Doyle. She won a race for an open seat on the Dane County Circuit Court in 2018. She was unopposed this spring for another six-year term.

Her campaign quickly who announced earlier this took a shot at Schimel, saying



he has "proven to be a rightwing extremist," who advocated for enforcing an 1849 law that some interpreted as banning abortion, fought to restrict access to contraceptives and "failed rape victims by ignoring a backlog of thousands of untested rape kits – making it harder to hold violent criminals accountable

and take them off the streets." Schimel fired back the differences between the two of them couldn't be any more dramatic, saying he's backed by a bipartisan group of law enforcement officials and groups, while Crawford was "was handpicked by the left-

ist majority on the Supreme

Court to cement their stran-

glehold for another three years.'

"While I was a frontline prosecutor in the courtroom defending crime victims and putting criminals behind bars, she was working for radical left-wing special interest groups that don't share our values," Schimel said.

The Capitol Report is written by editorial staff at Wis-Politics.com, a nonpartisan, Madison-based news service that specializes in coverage of government and politics and is distributed for publication by members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Quick pivot back to partisan talking points

By Bill Barth

I joined millions in watching televised coverage of D-Day's 80th anniversary ceremonies last week.

And I wept. Who didn't?

The dwindling number of centenarian heroes on stage. The historic footage of that landing, a daring dash that literally saved the world. Rows of silent white crosses. The artillery salute. The fly-over. The soaring words of inspiration, and not just – or even foremost – by the political leaders. I was most touched when the young uniformed woman read the adapted version of "The Watch."

"Eighty years ago, these sailors stood the watch. While some of us were in our bunks at night, these soldiers stood the watch. While some of us were in school learning our trade, marines, airmen and coasties stood the watch. Yes, even before some of us were born into this world, the men behind me stood the watch. ...

And, perhaps most importantly, this: "You stand relieved. We have the watch." But do we?

I decided to spend a few hours paying attention to how various media covered the



day, mostly switching back and forth from CNN and Fox and MSNBC, but also occasionally monitoring the Associated Press, the Washington Post and other papers. Call it my bias, if you will, but as I fully expected the men and women of the printed word did the best job sticking to the story of the day as it unfolded.

television talking The heads, not so much. In the blink of an eye the anchors and guests pivoted to their usual talking points.

For liberals – MSNBC is the place to be – the message of the day seemed to be that the democracy the heroes of June 6, 1944 fought and died for is being tested again by Donald Trump and his autocratic allies.

For conservatives – Fox is their den - it was Joe Biden's weak America on display, and the nation is not respected by allies or feared by foes.

Conversations – for that's what television is, talking and more talking – centered around how it all relates to the election this November.

In no time at all, way too much focus was on Biden and Trump. Not on the old men on stage. Not on the young men whose remains lie beneath those white crosses.

These so-called television news channels have been weaponized. All politics, all the time. They do not have audiences. They have converts.

By the way, CNN played it straighter than either of the two primary partisan channels. That's not to say CNN is centrist; it leans left. But a viewer can still see the center from there, which is more than can be said of Fox or

Here's a thought, from an old gray-headed journalist. In today's fragmented media world these channels are riding the crest of a wave they created. In the age of information by avalanche, it's all but impossible to put out a profitable product that tries to be what newspapers once were – a product intended for broad appeal. That's one big reason print media, which still largely embraces facts and not spin, faces so many challenges. Cable, talk radio, online sites, podcasts and so forth picked sides, narrowed their focus, and carved out niche audiences that are told what they want to hear. Social media throws gas on the

I call it outrage as a business plan. If a viewer or listener is not fuming with anger by the end of a program, the host has failed.

And with whom are they angry? People who used to be

their friends and neighbors. American against American.

We were led here by profit-seeking ideologues who realized hate and anger can be monetized.

After the D-Day coverage, that almost immediate pivot back to politics-as-war was impossible to miss. It is disgusting. And I hope that offends the left and the right. You do not have a monopoly on good ideas. Or morality. Or patriotism. In what is clearly a 50-50 country, you do not have a right to impose your way.

The old men on stage, the boys in those graves, did not fight for that.

I'm old enough, at the 80th anniversary of D-Day, to remember the 40th. In 1984 it was President Ronald Reagan delivering the message. I am still inspired by Reagan, and by his successor George H.W. Bush, both of whom led with strength and compassion for all, punctuated with a sunny outlook and faith in the future guided by past and principle.

Here's what Reagan said: "We are bound today by what bound us 40 years ago, the same loyalties, traditions and beliefs. We're bound by reality. Here in this place where the West held together, let us make a vow to our dead. Let us show them by our actions that we understand what they died for. ... "Strengthened by their courage, heartened by their valor, and borne by their memory, let us continue to stand for the ideals for which they lived and died."

Today's partisan bickering and hatefulness is unworthy of their sacrifice.

Bill Barth is the former Editor of the Beloit Daily News, and a member of the Wisconsin Newspaper Hall of Fame. Write to him at bbarth@beloitdailynews.

MY View BY JOHN MCLOONE

Some real excitement

As I turned the page on my 50s this week, I came to the conclusion that I'm dull.

I got some help in the process of making that decision. There was a letter in the morning mail informing me of that. I don't think the writer was referring to me as a person, but what I put in this space. It's not edgy enough.

Apparently, what is edgy is writing a letter to someone you don't know and signing a fake name, obviously with the hand you don't normally write with. Then, this letter was so important that you addressed it to the newspaper and put as the return address the newspaper's post office box, so it was going to get to its destination one way or another.

That's living life to the fullest. I'm glad that the "author" took the time out of his or her day to drop me a note. This is the same kind of person who makes up fake online social media profiles and leaves bad reviews.

Well, Charles, I'm challenging you to a duel. Let's see who can write something more exciting. You can even write yours left-handed, like you did on the envelope, and I'll type it for you. I want to hear about all your adventures. I bet you have some good ones. I bet you could tell of all the meals you send back at restaurants and about the times you've given \$1

Bring it on, Charles! I'm ready for you. I have adventures galore! In fact, just this weekend, I had a surprise party for my 60th birthday. Here's the surprise: I had it, and I didn't invite anyone. Surprise!

Then, the next morning, the actual day of my birthday, it was raining in the morning, and I didn't go to work until 9 a.m. because I didn't want to get rained on. Charles, I'm actually a rebel.

I've been doing this for over four decades. I perhaps was more exuberant in my youthful writing. I grew up in the age where journalists were neutral. I have opinions, sure, but they don't need to be voiced here. This isn't Fox News, CNN or MSNBC, or even many daily papers that have an agenda. My story may be dull, but the stories of the community are what matter. They're exciting. Kids are excelling in sports. Big things are happening. Fun stuff!

To me, that's what matters. So, Charles, you have been challenged. You've got 500 words in this very space next week to not be dull. You can set up a fake email account if you wish for your identity to remain hidden. That way, you won't have to write left-handed.

Now this is getting excit-

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A GREAT LOCAL **NEWSPAPER!**

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children's resource guide

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FROM THE Editor's Desk

BY SARAH NIGBOR

Donna did it

I admire many character traits in people, especially ambition, perseverance and tenacity. I myself have always enjoyed doing things that people said I couldn't. I've come across a few of those people too in Pierce County. Maybe they weren't necessarily told no, you can't do this, but obstacles were sometimes in their way. It's always a joy for me to be able to highlight their accomplishments.

For example, take Donna Constant of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Beldenville. As you'll read in Sports, she and members of the church celebrated the completion of their long-awaited ballpark concession stand/pavilion. The project has taken years of fundraising, has overcome a setback or two, and came to fruition because of the vision of a woman who refused to give up. At the celebration, attendees were joking that she should sell bumper stickers that say, "Donna did it, so you can too."

Another person in the Ellsworth community who has seen big dreams come true through hard work and more than a little tenacity is Angie Whelan. If you haven't already, please check out her shop YB Urban? on Ellsworth's Broadway Street. When other people saw East End as a depressed relic of years gone by, Whelan saw the potential for a bustling, thriving arts district. All it takes is one business to believe, she said, something she heard from the Ellsworth Chamber. And believe she did. She took a flying leap and never looked back, which has resulted in a successful small business which has become an inspiration for others in reviving the East End. This weekend during Cheese Curd Festival when the area is packed with visitors, it's awesome to see others enjoy this unique community space.

Another person struck a chord with me this spring was River Falls High School graduating senior Claire John. When she learned that her beloved safe place, Lost Creek Ranch, was losing much of its funding, she took it upon herself to reach out to local media outlets and share a deeply personal story on why this place is worth saving. She told of her struggles with mental health and how LCR helped her through those tough times. Not many people would have the courage to share their story the way Claire did, which helped bring awareness to not only teen mental health issues, but LCR's funding plight. What

a brave young woman she is. Another person I admire

is Samantha Fisher, who lives on a farm in the town of Union. She and other members of the People Protecting Pierce group kept fighting and continue to fight to keep Pierce County's groundwater safe from contaminants. Fisher's family suffered nitrate poisoning thanks to a contaminated well. Through her efforts and the determination of others such as Doug and Nancy Weiss and many others, Pierce County now has a Groundwater Advisory Committee, which is dedicated to a common goal of protecting groundwater resources. Look at what can happen when people work together!

There are many other people with inspiring stories in our county. I certainly don't mean to overlook anyone but this column can only be so long. I love that we have been focusing on telling the stories of these inspiring individuals who do great things, even when circumstances are tough. Just think of what we could accomplish if people spent less time complaining on the community social media pages and put their ideas to work. After all, Donna did it.



WOODWORKING

Again

BY DAVE WOOD

Wedding: Cheap or not cheap?

Many years ago when I was a traveling reporter for the Minneapolis Star Tribune, I had the great pleasure of spending a day with two seniors at Aitkin High School in northern Minnesota. I went to class with them, ate hot lunch with them, chatted with their friends. These kids were wholesome, wellscrubbed kids who didn't say "you know" three times per sentence. They participated in all manner of sports, worked part-time, sang in the school choir, wanted to attend college when they graduated from high school. I sincerely hope they made it because with kids like these our country is more secure than some naysayers would have it.

The boy was Chris Midthun, the girl Roxie Mc-Gillis. The last class we attended was called "Marriage and Parenthood." Roxie explained that the purpose of the course was to prepare students for the realities of marriage and the arrival of children. Not a bad idea, I figured, because when I graduated from high school I envisioned my marriage would resemble a scene from TV's "Life with Father."

Roxie and Chris were excited about the class because on this day they would get "married" to each other, then eat cake and drink punch that the teacher supplied. When the mock nuptials were over, they turned in their written assignments. And what might that be?

Oh, it's a detailed budget of our wedding and honeymoon expenses," said Roxie brightly. And what might that add up to?

"It adds up to \$19,850," said Roxie without a flutter from her beautiful long lash-

"Isn't that a bit steep? Couldn't you have eloped and taken the money you saved and put a down payment on a condo?"

"Well," said Roxie. "It's not cheap to get married. My dress costs \$900 and we're honeymooning in the Bahamas. But I did try to economize. Chris's tux only costs \$40 to rent, and our dance will be at the Legion Hall, which is much cheaper than The Armory."

Later that week I interviewed Roxie's mother, Linda, who thought back 20 years and said her wedding to Roxie's father cost "about \$300."

Linda is my kind of woman. And so is my wife, Ruth. We were married in 1970, soon after grad school and we had landed our first teaching jobs, I at Augsburg College, and Ruth at Robbinsdale Senior High. Money was tight. So was my employer, and so was I. Ruth, God bless her, went along with my suggestions, and we came in with The World's Cheapest Wedding Outside Scotland's Bor-

Ruth purchased her wedding dress off the rack at a Penney's store; I decided my decades old suit would do. Then we decided on a wedding site. Augsburg's smallest chapel was free, so we occupied it. Preacher? Religion prof Dr. Doug Ollilla who professed down the hall from me. Music? Our friend, philosophy prof Sherman Johnsrud, operated a portable phonograph and played 17th century music.

The service finished, friends and family convened in Ruth's commodious apartment and dined on homemade hors d'oeuvres (heavy on the cream cheese) washed down with \$2 per bottle champagne (purchased in Hudson, of course). When that ran out as it was bound to, my father kicked in and bought a case of beer from the store across the road. We spent \$17 per night for two nights on a room in the soon to be remodeled (hence the budget price!) St. Paul Hotel.

Total expenses came in a few bucks more than Roxie's parents had spent, but about \$18,000 less than Chris and Roxie. The happy ending is that we're still together, and Ruth has taught me a little bit about letting the moths out of my wallet. And though we'll never afford an urban condo, we're really happy in the home we own in River Falls.

Have a wedding story? Call it in to Dave at 715-426-9554.

LETTERS to the Editor

Closing the divide seems remote

To the editor,

More than a few conservative and centrist Americans now report depression over the gap between their beliefs and values and those of progressives, socialists, and human secularists. Anxiety and hopelessness in children are increasing. Narrowing or closing the divides seems remote.

Public policies and laws must support one or the other of opposing beliefs for social stability when there can't be compromise. Otherwise, confusion reigns and "justice" becomes oppressive.

Which beliefs have caused federal law enforcement to investigate traditional Catholics and pro-lifers as threats to the country? Or persuaded librarians to label peaceful parents questioning the appropriateness of school library materials as terrorists? Or excuse violence and destruction because of unproven discrim-

Progressives applaud the new book White Rural Rage. Authors Tom Schaller and Paul Waldman think non-urban white voters are threats to democracy. By implication, most rural Wisconsin residents are racist, xenophobic, homophobic, anti-immigrant, anti-democratic, conspiracy believing, white Christian nationalists who justify violence as an acceptable alternative to peaceful public discourse.

What Brave New World do we live in? Are these horrible people our neighbors, hiding in the shadows of conservatism? Do you, rural citizens, look in the mirror and see all these attitudes in yourselves?

Wisconsinites need to seriously consider what path we take into America's future because the one we're on, the one that produced authors Shaller and Waldman, is frightening. Which philosophy and ethics should we support?

Which produces the best justice for all? Using science and faith to resolve disagreements or unfounded accusations requiring surveillance and imprisonment without guaranteed due process? Universal application of laws and individual freedoms hang in the balance.

Either we acknowledge that a Divine Creator of life and unquestioned morality exists, or we don't. We either agree that the U.S. Declaration of Independence and Constitution honor and protect God-given rights or we ignore them. We interpret the intent of our Founding Fathers to make speech, worship, peaceful assembly, and protection of self and private property irrevocable rights, or we don't.

There should be no confusion over our choices. Either we educate ourselves and unite over basic values and truths or we live in constant chaos and arbitrary social change dictated by individuals who would be gods.

Election results have brought us to where we are. Is it what we want for future generations?

> Donna O'Keefe River Falls Township

Reproductive healthcare

To the editor, No matter our place, faith or race, most of us want reproductive healthcare for ourselves, our sisters, girlfriends, wives, and daughters. We want access to the resources that are necessary for our optimal health. But MAGA Republicans are turning us against each other while they take away the healthcare that

our families need. They're trying to scare us by attacking doctors' best practices. They're distracting us by talking about states rights while they control us

and decide our futures for us. We know that the majority of us want the same thing. We know that women's health and well-being are central and integrally connected to a better future for all of our families and communities. We know that a reproductive healthcare model needs to be built on care and compassion to bring forward the best outcome for women, babies and families. I can understand opposing abortion, but we can all recognize that women need care and compassion as they make difficult real-life decisions about their bodies. Every woman knows, many of them to their own sorrow, that not every pregnancy ends with a healthy baby. In my own family, six of us had 21 pregnancies and five ended in miscarriage. The grief and dashed hopes were bad enough. I am so grateful that my family members got the care they needed and were able to grieve their losses without the trauma of being turned away, or accused, in

their time of need. Think about a woman you love as she makes a difficult decision about her body and her life. I hope you will be there for her with care and compassion.

Linda Vivoda-Sadée River Falls

Take a place at the table!

To the editor,

During the May 28, 2024 River Falls City Council Meeting, an elected Alderperson commented, regarding financial issues under discussion, "if you are not at the table, you are probably on the menu!" The 6,000 River Falls electric rate payers would do well to heed this warning.

Electric rate payers have never had a representative, identifiable presence at the Kinni Corridor table or with the city council, and yet money from your electric utility budget has been used to pay at least 50% of the Kinni Corridor/dam removal-related expenses. Costs have included things like the corridor planning "charade" and presentations where trout fishing hobbyists and dam removal consultants were paid with electric utility funds to publicly voice their opinions that our dams and hydros should

be removed. October 2020, your city decided to drain Lake Louise, shutting down the Powell Falls Hydro. At this time the hydro was generating 50,000 kWh of electricity each month. In the 44 months since this city hydro shut down, your electric utility has lost over 2.2 million kWh of electricity generating capacity. At 11.1 cents per kWh, this represents a cumulative loss of electric utility revenue of over \$240,000. This loss will continue to increase monthly as there has been no effort to replace our lost local renewable energy or your lost electric

utility revenue. The 6,000 River Falls electric utility customers do not seem to be represented at the Kinni Corridor/city table. You are the ones paying the monthly bills. If you don't want to continue as a silent "menu" item, let your thoughts on using the electric utility budget to remove the (renewable energy producing!) dam and hydro be known to your elected representatives! Organize! Let your 6,000 collective voices be heard! Take a place at the table!

> William Hansen Town of River Falls

Who is Eric Hovde?

To the editor,

Who is Eric Hovde? He's been referred to by the Los Angeles Times in a recent article as an "Orange County Banker," yet he wants to convince Wisconsin voters he is one of us.

When Tommy Thompson beat Hovde in the 2012 Senate primary, Thompson pointed out that "Eric Hovde hasn't lived here for 24 years and hasn't voted here in 24 years, and now he wants to be in the U.S. Senate." Thompson defeated Hovde in the Republican primary, only to be defeated, himself, by Tammy Baldwin in November of

Where's Eric Hovde been since then? Not with us here in

Wisconsin. If you want to see how Hovde is currently dealing with his reputation as a carpetbagger, Google "Eric Hovde lake." You'll find a video of him breaking through the ice and standing in freezing cold water. What does this have to do with his ability to make sound decisions? Eric Hovde thinks Wisconsin voters will trust a guy standing in freezing water, on purpose, to deal with issues like immigration, health care, national security, and so

many other critical matters. Another Hovde ad shows three men in a bar, looking and talking like "regular guys." They don't offer a single reason to elect him; instead, they discuss a series of Senate votes (with no context) intended to smear Tammy Baldwin. "Who are these undisclosed regular guys," you may ask. They're Chris Shumway, Eric Burns, and Douglas Geurts -- all senior executives at the commercial real estate development firm Hovde Properties.

When we have an experienced Senator in Tammy Baldwin who has the judgment, experience and solid legislative record already representing us, why choose a candidate who stands in a frozen lake, and passes off senior corporate executives as regular guys?

Tammy Tollefson Town of Clifton

Disconnect of realily

To the editor,

As reported in the Pioneer Press, according to a Harris Poll 49 percent of Americans believe that the stock market is down for the year when in actuality the DOW, the S&P 500, and the Nasdaq have all been reaching record highs

all year long.

Another 56 percent of Americans believe we're in a recession even though our GDP has been rising for the last three years and is at an all-time high, and we have outperformed all the other advanced industrial economies. When it comes to unemployment, 49 percent of Americans believe it is at a 50-year high when it actually is at a 50-year low.

Inflation is a worldwide phenomenon, but our rate of inflation is the lowest in all of the industrialized nations.

There is a complete disconnect in people's minds about the reality of the America we live in. Americans have never had it so good.

So how do you explain the disconnect? The pandemic, inflation, the wars in Ukraine and Gaza have dominated the news, which seems to report mostly dramatic and visual events rather than everyday facts. Biden's four years have been a quiet success in contrast to all the misleading rhetoric that dominates the media. Joe is a decent person who should be reelected with a Democratic majority in the

Louis Drecktrah River Falls

Why distaste for Van Orden?

To the editor, In the June 12 letters, Mr. Evenson showed quite a distaste for Mr. Van Örden. Has he ever met the guy? Why is Mr. Evenson showing Van Orden's shortcomings? And a true patriot never questions another's loyalty! Right?

What has Mr. Evenson did for our country in the past? To speak for myself, I pay the fees, taxes that support our grand institution. Maybe the letter before Mr. Evenson's shows a different light or should I say darkness. Like maybe we should all do the "queer crawl" as Ms. Faricy promotes. Is that patriotism or perversion? God help us, pray Trump wins and the spirit of chaos will leave our beloved republic.

> Steve Gullixson Baldwin



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WEATHER Forecast

Thu 20	74° /64°	Showers	/ 54%
Fri 21	79° /69°	Thunderstorms	/ 85%
Sat 22	80° /61°	Thunderstorms	/ 89%
Sun 23	78° /57°	Partly Cloudy	/ 15%
Mon 24	80° /63°	Mostly Sunny	/ 11%
Tue 25	82° /64°	Scattered Thunderstorms	/ 50%
Wed 26	79° /60°	Scattered Thunderstorms	/ 35%

ST. CROIX COUNTY Fail Log

Monday, June 10 Kyle Robert Nygren, 32, Roberts, by SCSO, OWIfirst, operating with PAC .15 or more (first).

Kurt Russell Lasee, 34, Boyceville, by NR police, retail theft - intentionally take > \$500 to \$5,000, operating while revoked, ignition interlock device tampering/failure to install/violate court order, misdemeanor bail jumping.

Eduardo I. Rodriguez, 24, Somerset, by SCSO, probation sanction, serving 30

Tuesday, June 11 Zachary Hans Hove, 40,

Roseville, Minn., by SCSO. resisting or obstructing an officer, misdemeanor bail jumping, domestic disorderly conduct, making terrorist threats.

Randi Mae Piper, 24, Somerset, by Probation & Parole, probation hold.

Kaytlyn Jean Hastreiter, 24, Webster, by SCSO, sen-

tenced, serving 32 days. **Tyrone Thigpen,** 45, Houston, Texas, by Hudson police, Dane County war-

Anthony Lee Lingen **Jr.,** 42, New Richmond, by SCCC sentenced, serving 43

Arthur Glen Voigt, 21, River Falls, by Probation &

Parole, probation hold. Brock William Fredin, 40, Saint Croix Falls, by

SCSO. warrant. Jeremy Jon Meyer, 44, Hudson, by Hudson police, OWI-fourth, deviation from

designated lane. Jorge Sarango Gonzalez, 25, Hudson, by Hudson police, operate without val-

id license (third).

Wednesday, June 12 Alex James Ward. 26.

River Falls, by Hammond police, misappropriate ID info - obtain money, possess drug paraphernalia, resist/obstruct officer with intent/mislead, probation hold. Randi Lynn Songetay,

41. Turtle Lake, by NR police. misdemeanor bail jumping (four counts), felony bail jumping, probation hold. Tommy Mason Stuart,

32, Somerset, by Hudson police, county/municipal retail theft - alter price. Tianna Arnetta Rockett,

27, Glenwood, III., by SCCC, sentenced, serving six days. Sarah T. Rymarkiewicz,

42, Richfield, Minn., by Hudson police, county retail theft - intentionally take, possess drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphet-

Nacole Nadine Salinas, 41, Eau Claire, by NR police,

Brandy Jean Canada, 45,

Prescott, by Prescott police,

theft - business setting, re-

leased on \$10,000 signature

Kyle Ruben Erickson, 39,

Marco Alonso Japon

Jeramy Michael Vadner,

Kasson, Minn., by Prescott

Saca, 30, Ellsworth, by

PCSO, operate without a

valid license, released on

31. New Richmond, by River

Falls police, ignition inter-

lock device tampering/fail-

ure to install, OWI, operating

while revoked (two counts),

misdemeanor bail jumping,

St. Paul, by PCSO, failure to

Chor Tongsoua Yang, 47,

police, OWI, released.

\$500 signature bond.

probation violation.

Monday, June 10

bond.

warrant.

Trov Michaellovd Buff**ington,** 45, Amery, by SCSO, operating while revoked, possession of THC, felony bail jumping.

Jermiah Paul Potter. 38, Somerset, by Hudson police, operating while revoked.

Cecelia D. Kronschnable, 26, Roberts, by Wisconsin State Patrol, operate without valid license (second).

Jeferson Cango Zapata, 26, Baldwin, by Baldwin police, operate without valid license (second).

Ernest V. Davis Jr., 65, River Falls, by SCSO, sentenced, serving 30 days. Scott William Simon-

son, 44, New Richmond, by SCSO, warrant. **Matthew Ryan Norcross,**

bation & Parole, probation Muhammad M. Khan. 41, New Richmond, by NR

Coon Rapids, Minn., by Pro-

police, disorderly conduct, misdemeanor bail jumping. Michael James West, 42, Emerald, by Probation & Parole, probation hold.

Thursday, June 13 David Joseph Peloquin,

43, Fountain City, by Baldwin police, probation hold, Eau Claire County warrant. Skyler Brittan Ross, 22,

Minneapolis, by SCSO, posamphetamine/LSD/ psilocin, possession of THC, operating after revocation.

David Navarro Saucedo, 37, New Richmond, by NR police, warrant, misdemeanor bail jumping (two counts), operating while revoked, ignition interlock device tampering.

Carlos Gomez Gomez, 20, Hudson, by Hudson police, operate without valid

license (third). **Taylor Timothy Grunow,** 32, Osceola, by SCCC, criminal damage to property,

disorderly conduct. Alexander Joseph Dubak, 26, Somerset, by SCSO, disorderly conduct.

Jacqueline Anne Jones, 39, Roberts, by Roberts police, mistreatment of animals (two counts), improper animal shelter - sanitation.

Michael Darrin Mackey, 24, Duluth, Minn., by Wisconsin State Patrol, possession of THC.

Alicia Marie Rodriguez, 33, Landfall Village, Minn., by SCSO, warrant.

Friday, June 14 Todd Andrew Johnson,

45, River Falls, by RF police, misdemeanor bail jumping, OWI-first.

Micheal David Kalinowski, 35, New Richmond, by NR police, misdemeanor

Tuesday, June 11

PIERCE COUNTY Jail Log

bail jumping, warrant.

Tyler Dean Peterson, 32, Coon Rapids, Minn., by SCSO, sentenced, serving four days.

June 19, 2024

Angela Marie Urbano, 44, New Richmond, by SCSO, warrant.

Amanda Lyn Merriman, 48, Clayton, by NR police, possess drug paraphernalia, retail theft - intentionally take > \$500 to \$5,000, felony bail jumping, possession of methamphetamine, possession of THC.

Ryan G. Tulgren, 44, New Richmond, by NR police, warrant, battery, second-degree recklessly endangering safety, Burnett County warrant, probation hold.

Kelly Jean Till, 47, New Richmond, by SCSO, sentenced, serving 32 days.

Shelby Rose Davis, 27, Stillwater, Minn., by SCSO, possession of methamphetamine, possess drug paraphernalia.

Brian D. Johnson, 53, Deer Park, by SCSO, sentencing for SCSO.

Saturday, June 15 Jessica Rae Giroux, 37, Hudson, by Hudson police, domestic disorderly con-

duct. **Javier** Guzman Gastelum, 35, address not listed, by Hudson police, retail theft - failure to pay for service, purchase pseudoephedrine for another with intent/facilitate another person's manufacture on

meth. Lisa Elaine Howe Olson, 48, Star Prairie, by SCSO, OWI-fifth/sixth.

Keyan Allen Davis, 29, Eden Prairie, Minn., by NR police, felony bail jumping, misappropriate ID info avoid penalty.

Sunday, June 16 Russell David Jensen, 37, St. Croix Falls, by Somerset police, OWI-third.

Jaden Reese Perkins, 25, New Richmond, by NR police, operating while revoked, OWI-second.

Renee L. Schroeder, 48, River Falls, by Roberts police, felony bail jumping (four counts), vehicle operator flee/elude officer, reckless driving - endanger safety, misdemeanor bail jumping (two counts), possession of THC.

Jacob Andrew Paulson, 34, Lindstrom, Minn., by SCSO, OWI-first (with passenger under 16).

Monday, June 17 Ronald Jeffery Siebe-naler, 56, Hudson, by SCSO,

warrant, municipal writ.

Wednesday, June 12 Zachary Lee Weiss, 22, River Falls, by Wisconsin State Patrol, operating while revoked, released.

Robert Charles Boles,

48, Roberts, by PCSO, pro-

bation violation, released.

Thursday, June 13 Cody Michael Bui, 37, Maiden Rock, by PCSO, felony bail jumping, possess drug paraphernalia, released on \$5,000 signature bond.

Leah Marie Lee, 41, Red Wing, Minn., by Ellsworth police, disorderly conduct, possess drug paraphernalia, released.

Friday, June 14 Isaac Lee Jolly, 26, Blaine. Minn., by Prescott police,

manufacture/deliver THC, possess drug paraphernalia, released on \$2,500 signature bond.

Erik Edvin Temmers, 53, Prescott, by PCSO, OWI, operating with PAC, released.

Saturday, June 15 Charles Darwin Lundeen, 54, Prescott, by Prescott

police, felony bail jumping, possession of THC, possess drug paraphernalia, misdemeanor bail jumping.

Sunday, June 16 Melva Esperanza Gualan Andrade, 36, Spring Valley, by PCSO, failure to appear warrant. Shelly Kay Marklevitz,

57, Hager City, by PCSO, ex-

tradition.

ELLSWORTH Police Department Reports

The following incidents were reported to Ellsworth Police Department June 10-

Monday, June 10

At 9:18 a.m., the village deputy treasurer received a fraudulent email from someone requesting that an employee's paycheck be deposited to a new direct deposit account.

At 9:35 a.m., a Railroad Avenue resident reported being threatened by a woman he had been chatting with over Messenger and Signal apps. They had exchanged nude photos. The suspect told him to get gift cards or pay money or the photos would be posted on social media. He was advised to change his passwords, block the user on all platforms and check his security settings.

At 11:06 a.m., police assisted EMS with a man who fell on the roof at 762 W. Dale St. He was assisted onto his feet and off the roof.

Police assisted EMS at 1:05 p.m. at Pierce County Courthouse (414 W. Main St.) They also assisted with a vehicle search.

A resident at 122 S. Grant St. reported a vehicle being parked out front for a few days. The owner said the vehicle's engine went out and she was getting it fixed at a nearby shop. She was given until June 13 to remove the vehicle.

Officers assisted deputies with a traffic stop at 3:21 p.m. at Highway 65 and County Road J, Beldenville. The vehicle was left at the stop site.

Police were dispatched at 6:59 p.m. to 634 W. Main St. for a domestic not in progress. The incident reported took place in Oklahoma sometime in April. The complainant was advised to report it to Oklahoma authori-

At 7:52 p.m., a resident at 230 N. Vine St. reported possible theft of cash, clothing and toilet paper by a prior roommate. The suspect moved out when no one was home. She admitted to taking a hat and said she'd check for other items.

Tuesday, June 11 Randi Mae Piper, 34,

Somerset, was arrested for a probation warrant at 2:31 p.m. at 137 N. Maple St.

A caller reported a reckless driver at 4:27 p.m. at Beulah Street and Summit Avenue. The suspect was located and given his final warning.

A woman found a phone at 5:07 p.m. at Ellsworth Elementary School (445 S. Piety St.) It was returned to its owner.

Joann Felice Larson, 66, Farmington, Minn., was cited for speeding after a traffic stop at 5:12 p.m. at Industrial Road and Maple Street.

Wednesday, June 12

At 11:56 a.m., a mail carrier reported seeing a suspicious man leave a garage at 439 W. Church St. and get into a vehicle and leave. The mail carrier thought it was suspicious because the mail was on hold at that residence. Police attempted to contact the family without success.

At 6:34 p.m., police attempted to contact people about a cat at 320 E. Wall St. The caller advised someone had been coming by to feed it but they were unsure if it was being cared for properly. Police left the owners a message.

A juvenile was found in the road at 10:12 p.m. in the 1200 block of Mikel Street. The complainant brought the child safely home. The complainant couldn't provide details about the child.

Thursday, June 13

Police responded to an alarm at 2:48 a.m. at 463 E. Wall St. All doors were se-

A woman threw a coaster

at some children at 3:35 p.m. at 956 Anika Court. Leah Marie Lee, 41, Red Wing, Minn., was arrested for disorderly conduct and possess drug paraphernalia and taken to

Pierce County Jail. Police and fire personnel responded to a report of smoke and alarms going off at 244 W. Main St. The cause

At 11:16 p.m., police located a vehicle improperly parked on Grove Street near Summit Park. The vehicle was parked sideways and slightly blocking the traffic lane. Gildardo Fuentes Manzanarez, 24, Ellsworth, was cited for improper angled parking.

Friday, June 14

was burnt food.

Officers assisted police with a domestic at 12:01 a.m. at W8111 County Road K, Ells-

Police were dispatched to a business alarm at 10:41 a.m. at 463 E. Wall St. All was

Át 3:03 p.m., a resident at 801 E. Main St. reported a family of woodchucks on his property. He was granted permission to live trap the animals and remove them from the property.

At 4:08 p.m., police were dispatched to 530 W. Cairns St. where a woman had been leaving letters requesting security for herself. The case is open.

At 9:59 p.m., police received a complaint of fireworks in Evergreen Estates. No one was located lighting off fireworks.

Saturday, June 15

A resident reported a dog at large at 11:52 a.m. at 198 S. Dar. St. Police said they'd keep an eye out for the dog.

Police conducted a welfare check at 9:14 p.m. on a resident in the 400 block of West Cairns Street who was hearing voices.

Sunday, June 16 None

PIERCE COUNTY Traffic and Forfeitures

Daniel Salvador Barreto Pacho. 36. Minneapolis. fish trout without state trout stamp, \$192.70.

Sarah Ann Beck, 21, River Falls, operating with PAC, dismissed; OWI-first, license revoked six months, alcohol assessment ordered, \$911.50.

Sierra Michelle Davidson, 25, River Falls, non-registration of vehicle/auto, \$175.30. Megan Charee Davis, 28,

Elmwood, non-registration of vehicle/auto, \$175.30. Todd Lincoln Deutsch, 55,

Prescott, fish trout without state trout stamp, \$182.70. Marc Anthony Duran, 25, Spring Valley, local forfeiture,

\$200.50. Sixto Roberto Guaman, 47, Columbia Heights, Minn., trout fishing – fish with non-artificial bait/hook/lure, \$192.75.

Alex James Gulbranson, 21, Emerald, speeding, \$175.30. Jorge Alexander Guzhnay **Quiroga,** 22, Minneapolis, trout fishing - fish with non-artificial bait/hook/lure, \$192.75.

Jack Robert Hannack, 26, Spring Valley, improper passing of stopped bus, \$200.50. Robert Martin Hanson, 74,

Ellsworth, failure to keep vehicle under control, \$221.10.

Alex James Hoffman, 27, Ellsworth, operate without valid license, dismissed. Jorden Marshall Mark

Holt, 18, Hager City, passing in

Michael William Kemp, 51, Woodbury, Minn., operate boat at excess speed, \$232. Michael Richard Lemanski,

56, Eau Claire, possess any fish

no-passing zone, dismissed.

in excess of total daily bag limit (51-75% over), \$369.75. Oscar Aroldo Lemus Per**aita,** 26, Red Wing, Minn., fish

without license, \$232.90. Yoselin Yuliza Lemus Peralta, 23, Red Wing, Minn., fish without license, \$232.90. Jessica Rose Marlowe,

36, Oakdale, Minn., speeding, \$225.70. **Matthew Quinn Martichus**ki, 32, South St. Paul, Minn.,

stamp, \$182.70. Aliasghar Mohebbi, 61, Wayzata, Minn., possess any fish in excess of total daily bag limit (76% or more over limit), \$544.50; possession of illegal

fish trout without state trout

size fish, \$301.65. Juan David Morales Perez, 21, St. Paul, fish without license, \$222.90.

Richard Lee Morgan, 44, Red Wing, Minn., refuse to take test for intoxication after arrest, other. Juan Gabriel Niola Barre-

to, 31, St. Paul, fish trout with-

out state trout stamp, \$192.70. Victor Reyesalvarado, 32, Ellsworth, fish trout without state trout stamp, \$192.70; trout fishing – fish with non-artificial bait/hook/lure,

\$192.75; fish by means other than hook/line, \$423.90. Erick Ismael Rivera Me-

jia, 32, Coon Rapids, Minn., possession of illegal size fish, Rachel May Schillinger, 43,

Spring Valley, fail/stop at stop sign, \$175.30. Abigail May Sickler, 21, Roseville, Minn., fish trout with-

out state trout stamp, \$192.70.

Nicholas Charles Skinner, 29, River Falls, speeding, \$200.50 Dashielle Denise Smith, 31,

Eagan, Minn., failure of occupant to notify police of accident, \$389.50. Roger Randall Stoeck-

man, 58, Houlton, speeding,

\$175.30. Eliot Michael Sund. 25. Prescott, operate > 16 foot boat without required person-

al floatation device, \$162.70. **Brooke Elizabeth Vollmer,** 31, Hammond, fish without license, \$222,90.

Darwin Benito Yamasca Montero, 27, Baldwin, trout fishing - fish with non-artificial bait/hook/lure, \$192.75; fish without license, \$222.90; possess trout - catch/release season, \$243; fish trout without state trout stamp, \$192.70.

Margaret Ann Zander, 60, Ellsworth, operate ATV or UTV without required headgear, \$162.70.

PIERCE COUNTY Land Transfers

The following property transfers were recorded by the Pierce County Register of Deeds June 10-14.

Monday, June 10 None

Tuesday, June 11 Dallas Taylor Nicolai to Myles J. Matz, Lot 6, Block 4, Kinnickinnic Park First Addition, City of River Falls.

John R. Schade Estate to **Jesse Riegelman,** Lot 3, Govt. Lot 3, Sec. 2, town of Trenton. Brendan J. Tape to Benjamin Panek, part of SW-SE,

Sec. 23, town of Trimbelle. Richard D. & Marcelle M. Westphal to Kurt & Lori Hovland, Lot 6, located in NE-SE and in NW-SE, Sec. 24; and in NW-SW, Sec. 19, town of Clif-

Northwesterly ½ of Lot 2, Southeasterly ½ of Lot 3, SE ½ of Lot 4, Block D, Original Plat, City of Prescott.

MATO LLC to Louie's LLC,

Kenneth L. & Anne E. Haus

Trust to Aaron L. & Molly A. Gorres, Lot 18, located in NE-NE, Sec. 3, and in NW-NW, Sec. 21, town of Clifton.

Wednesday, June 12 Jonah D. VanderVorst to Tyler E. & Hannah P.V. Slowiak, Lot 1, Block 97, NN & OS Powell's Addition, City of River Falls.

J&M Property Holdings

LLC to Nice Properties LLC, Lots 7-9, Block B; Lot 9, Block E, Enoch Quimby's Addition; land being part of First Street, Hoyt's Diamond Bluff, NW-SE, Sec. 13; Lot 6, Enoch Quimby's Addition; E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 7, Lot 8, Block E, Enoch Quimby's Addition, town of Diamond Bluff.

Thursday, June 13 Kristian L. & Andrew L. Se**bion** to **Sebastian Larson**, Lot 1 and south 16 1/4 feet of Lot 2, Block 9, Hilton Doe's Second Addition, City of Prescott.

Scott C. Hunter to Aaron Hinzman, Lot 1, town of Spring Lake.

Stephen B. & Patricia M. **Woodford** to **Eric Michael** Weir, Lot 47, St. Croix Bluffs, City of Prescott.

Sandra L. Balcerek to Ross & Katherine Kent, Unit 6, Unit Garage 6, Greenbriar Condominium, part of Lots 1-4, Block 102, NN & OS Powell's Addition, City of River Falls.

Mattison Family Living Trust to Adam M. Mattison, SE-SW, SW-SW, except Lot 1 of CSM, W 1/2 of SW-SE, Sec. 16, Spring Valley.

Nicholas Schweich to Jeremy Devries, part of SE-SE, Sec. 12, town of Oak Grove. Jessica Chamblin to Han-

nah M. Lindquist-Peck, Lot 6, Isabelle Prairie Homes, town of Isabelle. Friday, June 14

Todd Newton to Dustin Childs, Lot 8, Block 6, Borner's Addition, City of Prescott. Chastity A. Liddle to Ally-

son & Gerald Walz, Lot 1, located in NW-SW. Sec. 4. town of Martell.

appear warrant.

PIERCE COUNTY Sheriff's Office Reports

The following incidents were reported to Pierce County Sheriff's Office June 10-17

Monday, June 10

At 7:52 a.m., police checked on vehicle pulled over with its hazards flashing at 450th Street and Highway 72, Ellsworth. The occupant informed police they were spraying fields in the area.

At 12:43 p.m., police spoke with parties about a civil matter at N683 County Road S, Maiden Rock.

While at the Pierce County Courthouse (414 W. Main St., Ellsworth), a deputy smelled marijuana coming from a vehicle at 12:57 p.m. A roach and bag of marijuana were located inside. The occupant was cited for possession of THC.

A caller found a license plate in her ditch at 2:52 p.m. at N4175 610th St., Ellsworth. It was returned to its owner.

At 4:14 p.m., a caller reported an abandoned camper left near 747th Street and 135th Avenue, Hager City. The camper was gone when police arrived.

Suspicious items were reportedly found at 5:04 p.m. at N4102 1080th St., Prescott. They appeared to have been there for a long time.

Deputies assisted with a K9 sniff at 8:04 p.m. at 408 Lake St., Prescott.

At 8:10 p.m., police stopped to check a group of men fishing to see if they had fishing licenses near Highway 63 and 825th Street, Hager City. One man was arrested for a failure to appear warrant.

An unwanted subject was reported at 10:42 p.m. at W2689 County Road G, Elmwood. The person left before police arrived.

Tuesday, June 11 At 12:33 a.m., a wom-

At 12:33 a.m., a woman called wanting to file charges against the sheriff's office on a man's behalf. She hung up and refused to provide more information.

At 9:08 a.m., police learned the FBI had flagged threats made about a juvenile online at a home in the 400 block of Pump Street in Spring Valley. The suspect was interviewed and admitted to making the statements. The case was referred to juvenile court.

Deputies arrested a person at 9:53 a.m. at the courthouse for a Department of Corrections warrant and transported them to the jail.

At 2:03 p.m., a woman reported being locked out of the marital home at N5658 County Road BB, Ellsworth. She was advised to contact her attorney.

At 5:59 p.m., a roof salesman reported being shoved

by a homeowner at W12904 680th Ave., Prescott. He said the homeowner also dented his work vehicle door. He was advised about the civil process for vehicle damages

At 6:47 p.m., police were notified of missing items from W9852 290th Ave., Hager City.

Deputies conducted a welfare check at 7:47 p.m. at N5981 745th St., Beldenville. The person watching the house said everything was fine.

Police responded to a motorcycle vs. deer crash at 8:59 p.m. at Highway 35 and 770th Street, Hager City. Red Wing EMS transported the rider to the hospital.

At 9:38 p.m., a woman called the sheriff's office wanting to report several abuse incidents. She refused to speak to officers and sent a statement via email.

Police responded to a one-vehicle crash at 10:10 p.m. at N5801 County Road J, Ellsworth. The occupant fled before police arrived. The vehicle was towed and the highway department informed of the damage. The driver called 911 at 12:40 a.m. and was interviewed. Police gave him a ride home.

Officers were dispatched to an alarm at 11:51 p.m. at 1211 W. Winter Ave., Elmwood. The building appeared to be secure.

Wednesday, June 12

Deputies assisted River Falls police at 2:11 a.m. at Short and Kennedy streets.

A loose calf was reported at 7:33 a.m. near County Road CC and 490th Avenue, Elmwood. The calf was placed back in its pasture.

At 12:15 p.m., police spoke with a man regarding sleep issues at N5183 860th St., Ellsworth. His brother was advised of the issues.

Police responded to a parking lot crash at 1:46 p.m. at \$303 McKay Ave., Spring Valley.

Officers received a fraud complaint at 2:13 p.m. at W10558 Highway 29, River Falls.

At 3:03 p.m., a man reported a man lying in a driveway on the side of the road near N8346 County Road I, Spring Valley. The man was identified and his employer gave him a ride back to his residence.

Criminal damage to property was reported at 4:10 p.m. at N2074 150th St., Plum City. Statements and photos were collected.

At 4:23 p.m., a motorist complained of a grader taking up the whole road while grading gravel at 290th Street and County Road G, Elmwood.

An animal bite was re-

650th Ave., Spring Valley.

At 6:55 p.m., a caller reported a civil dispute about canine custody at W6483 Cemetery Road, Bay City.

At 9:57 p.m., a woman reported locking herself out of her residence at W5184 250th Ave., Bay City. She was advised to contact a locksmith during business hours.

Officers checked on a suspicious vehicle at 10:58 p.m. at W4857 Highway 35, Bay City. No assistance was needed.

Thursday, June 13

An officer found a tree in the road at 2:34 a.m. at County Road N and 690th Avenue, Beldenville. The highway department removed it.

Deputies assisted Ellsworth police with a business alarm at 2:50 a.m. at 463 E. Wall St. All was in order.

At 2:57 a.m., an employee at N1620 County Road VV, Hager City, reported being stalked by a former coworker. They were advised of their options.

Deputies assisted Spring Valley EMS with a medical call at 4:53 a.m. at E121 E. Second St.

Police notified Pierce Pepin of an arching power line at 5:16 a.m. at Highway 72 and 330th Street, Elmwood.

At 6:37 a.m., police made contact with a woman at N617 Foote Ave., Spring Valley, at the request of the hospital. She said she would call them.

A caller reported receiving threats at 8:18 a.m. at 134 S. Martin St., Elmwood.

Police stood by while a stuck semi was towed out of the ditch at 8:40 a.m. at 50th Street and 270th Avenue, Plum Citv.

At 11:07 a.m., police investigated a mailbox at N6896 County Road F, Prescott, that appeared to have been struck by a trailer. The caller wanted it documented.

At 3:26 p.m., a caller reported seeing a bear at W7244 Highway 65, Beldenville. She was advised to bring in her trash and feeders at night.

At 3:30 p.m., a caller reported an "odd female" for parking in his driveway and walking around his yard and woods at W7448 170th Ave., Hager City. She later drove to N2001 690th St. and stopped there. The man requested extra patrol.

Deputies assisted Ellsworth police with a disorderly woman at 3:49 p.m. at 956 Anika Court, Ellsworth.

Deputies assisted Ellsworth EMS at 3:56 p.m. at W7786 Highway 10, Ellsworth.

At 4:04 p.m., a caller at N2322 Highway 10, Ells-s re-worth, reported a woman was jumping the fence at

night, leaving notes, being disruptive and talking about things that don't make sense. She was advised she is no longer welcome there. The complainant was advised to call if she shows up again.

At 4:40 p.m., a caller reported a woman yelling at the park attendant at W6490 Lake Pepin Blvd., Bay City. The woman screamed at the deputy and made a scene. She was escorted out of the campground and a disorderly conduct charge was forwarded to the district attorney.

Officers removed a tree from the roadway at 5:02 p.m. at W3826 450th Ave., Maiden Rock.

At 11 p.m., a caller reported a juvenile female being at W5374 799th Ave., Spring Valley, without permission. The juvenile's guardian picked her up.

At 11:26 p.m., a caller reported several cows near the road at Highway 63 and 570th Street, Beldenville. They were not found.

Friday, June 14

A disorderly person was reported at midnight at W8111 County Road K, Ellsworth. Police removed the subject and gave them a courtesy ride to a convenience store in River Falls.

Deputies assisted Prescott police with a traffic stop at 3:47 a.m. at 302 Lake

Police responded to a business alarm at 3:52 a.m. at 1211 W. Winter Ave., Elmwood. All doors were secure with no signs of entry.

A caller reported a vehicle theft at 9:41 a.m. at W9852 290th Ave., Hager City. The truck was not stolen; it was picked up by River City Metals.

A man requested a welfare check on his mother at 9:56 a.m. at N4758 350th St., Elmwood. The person she was staying with had moved and she was no longer there.

At 10:53 a.m. an altercation occurred at W9600 770th Ave., River Falls, while a person was moving out. One woman left to cool off. Neither party wanted to pursue charges.

At 4:05 p.m., a caller reported an incident she had learned of Tuesday at W5967 610th Ave., Beldenville.

At 5:48 p.m., a caller reported he would be lighting off fireworks that night at N4700 710th St., Ellsworth.

Officers assisted Prescott police with a bond violation at 11:42 p.m. 232 N. Court St., Prescott. A man was arrested.

Saturday, June 15 At 1:37 a.m., police saw

a highly intoxicated woman

struggling to walk on Highway 63 near 825th Street, Hager City. She was given a courtesy ride to the Harbor Bar where her boyfriend picked her up.

At 3:29 a.m., police checked on a man sleeping in his truck at 610 E. Main St., Ellsworth. He denied needing assistance.

At 7:01 a.m., police spoke with a person laying on the side of the road at Highway 63 and 180th Avenue, Hager City. He stated he was on a journey and walking with no end destination. He did not need any help.

Police stood by at 10 a.m. while tenants moved out of W9600 770th Ave., River Falls.

Officers assisted EMS at 10:13 a.m. at W6355 Elsa Ave., Bay City.

A dog was found at 11:34 a.m. at W3301 600th Ave., Elmwood. At 12:28 p.m., police as-

sisted in getting a turtle off

the road at County Road O and 710th Avenue, River Falls. Deputies assisted RF police at 1:12 p.m. in checking

the area around 110 N. Third St.

A possible stolen vehicle was reported at 7:40 p.m. at N6461 County Road N,

was reported at 7:40 p.m. at N6461 County Road N, Beldenville. Police didn't locate the vehicle in the area. The caller was unhelpful in determining where the vehicle might be.

At 8:36 p.m., a caller re-

ported fireworks show information at N6433 County Road 72, Elmwood.

An officer provided care until EMS arrived at 9:43 p.m. at Highway 35 and County Road S, Maiden Rock.

A suspicious person was reported at 10:02 p.m. at N1298 530th St., Bay City. The person left in a vehicle before police arrived and drove around a church's grassy area. Police located unplanted plants near the roadway.

Sunday, June 16

A missing person was reported at 12:04 a.m. at W12152 757th Ave., River Falls. The woman came back to the residence while police were searching.

At 3 a.m., a caller reported a tree in the roadway at Highway 65 and 800th Ave., River Falls. The tree was not located.

Deputies removed a tree from the road at 3:13 a.m. at 1070th Street and 690th Avenue, River Falls.

A local farmer removed a tree from the roadway at 6:53 a.m. at 490th Street and County Road N, Beldenville.

Police assisted EMS at 8:57 a.m. at N8604 Highway 63, Spring Valley. Deputies were dispatched

to a marital verbal argument at 9:05 a.m. at W12136 508th

Ave., Prescott. Both parties admitted to their faults and discussed how to better cope in the future.

cope in the future.
Police and fire responded at 10:39 a.m. to an alarm at 306 E. Race Ave., Elmwood.

It was a false alarm.

A caller reported someone knocking in her door the night before at 1:16 p.m. at N7641 County Road F, River Falls.

A restraining order violation was reported at 2:22 p.m. at N735 825th St., Hager City. The caller decided she didn't want to answer any questions related to the incident.

A tree was found on a power line at 2:29 p.m. at Highway 65 and 820th Street, Beldenville. The town chair said they would take care of the matter.

At 2:43 p.m., a caller reported that a tenant at her father's rental house at N8890 200th St., Spring Valley, had abandoned her two dogs there a month ago and hasn't been back since. The resident had been evicted. The dogs were inside the residence and in good health. Their owner was at work and said she didn't abandon the dogs. She said her landlord's daughter is harassing her to move out so she can move into the residence.

Deputies responded at 4:03 p.m. to N8323 650th St., River Falls, for a possible unwanted subject. The subject was not there when police arrived.

At 6:42 p.m., a caller reported juveniles playing in the river at 444 Park Road, Plum City. The caller was worried because of the water level and fast-flowing current. The kids had life jackets on; they left before police arrived.

Officers were notified of a car crash by an alarm at 8:02 p.m. at Highway 10 and 490th Street, Ellsworth. The driver told the alarm company she had hit a deer. She wouldn't answer police calls to verify location.

A person was arrested for a Goodhue County warrant at 9:30 p.m. at N729 825th St., Hager City. She was transported to Pierce County Jail.

Monday, June 17

A flash flood watch was issued at 2:59 a.m. through 1 p.m. in Pierce County.

Police removed a tree from the road at 4:18 a.m. at Highway 29 and 170th Street, Spring Valley.

A downed tree was reported at 7:11 a.m. at county roads J and N in Beldenville. Police directed traffic until the highway department removed the tree.

PIERCE CO UNTY Court Reports

Initial appearances

Shawn Phillip Arvin, 47, Farmington, Minn., posted a \$5,000 signature bond June 10 on felony retail theft – intentionally transfer (\$500-\$5,000) and felony retail theft – failure to pay for service (\$500-\$5,000) charges. A status conference is slated for 1:30 p.m. July 29.

39, River Falls, missed a June 10 initial appearance on an operating while revoked (alcohol related) charge. A bench warrant was issued for his arrest.

Brandy Jean Canada, 45, Prescott, pleaded not guilty and posted a \$10,000 signa-

Joshua Allen Calverley,

Brandy Jean Canada, 45, Prescott, pleaded not guilty and posted a \$10,000 signature bond June 10 on a theft – business setting charge. She was also ordered to have no contact with Holiday gas station. A status conference is scheduled for 2:45 p.m. July 15.

she was also ordered to have no contact with Holiday gas station. A status conference is scheduled for 2:45 p.m. July 15. **Dorian M. Cross,** 50, River Falls, pleaded not guilty and posted a \$1,000 signature bond June 5 on a disorderly conduct charge. A status

conference is slated for 1:30

p.m. July 8.

Craig David Kruse, 61, Menomonie, posted a \$1,000 signature bond June 5 on felony bail jumping and operating while revoked (alcohol related) charges. A status conference is set for 1:15 p.m. July 9.

Dylan Cole Peppard, 29, St. Paul Park, Minn., pleaded not guilty and was ordered to pay \$200 cash bond June 10 on possession of THC and possess drug paraphernalia charges. A status conference is set for 2:15 p.m. July 8.

Raymond M. Rasberry, 39, River Falls, pleaded not guilty and posted a \$2,500 signature bond June 10 on an operate firearm while intoxicated charge. A status conference is scheduled for 2:45 p.m. July 16.

Joshua Richard Thompson, 21, Hastings, Minn., missed a June 10 initial appearance on a violate foreign protection order charge. A bench warrant was issued for his arrest.

Jacinta Jace Urbano, 30, Prescott, pleaded not guilty and posted a \$1,000 signature bond June 7 on a disorderly conduct (domestic abuse) charge. A status conference is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. July 23.

Jeramy Michael Vadner, 31, New Richmond, pleaded not guilty and posted a \$500 signature bond June 12 on an operating while revoked (alcohol related) charge. A status conference is slated for 1:15 p.m. July 30.

Catherine Joy Wertman, 27, Minneapolis, was ordered to pay \$500 cash bond on felony misappropriate ID info – obtain money, felony theft – false representation (\$2,500-\$5,000) and felony forgery – uttering charges. A status conference is set for 1:45 p.m. July 2.

Closed cases Adam Blaine Anderson,

41, Ellsworth, was convicted of two disorderly conduct (domestic abuse, repeater) charges June 10, sentenced to one year's probation and fined \$1,086. A felony strangulation and suffocation (domestic abuse, repeater) charge was dismissed. The charges stemmed from a

July 18, 2020 incident.

Naihla Laguann Buckley. 39, New Richmond, was convicted of felony possession of methamphetamine June 5, sentenced to three years of probation, ordered to complete treatment court and fiend \$518. Criminal trespass to dwelling, disorderly conduct, resisting or obstructing an officer, possession of THC (two counts), misdemeanor bail jumping and possess drug paraphernalia charges were dismissed. The charges stemmed from incidents July

11, Sept. 5 and Sept. 24.

Orrin James Horning, 39,
River Falls, was convicted of
disorderly conduct April 18
and sentenced to one year's
probation and fined \$443
June 5. The charge resulted
from an Aug. 4 incident.

Vallard Michael Logan, 44, River Falls, was convicted of felony battery or threat to judge, prosecutor or law enforcement officer June 5, sentenced to nine months in jail (126 days credit) and fined \$518. A resisting or obstructing an officer charge was dismissed. Two

felony bail jumping charges were read in for sentencing but dismissed. The charges stemmed from incidents May 29, 2023 and April 23.

Robert E. Lopez, 55, Baldwin, was convicted of possess drug paraphernalia (county forfeiture) and fined \$210.80 June 5. The charge resulted from a Jan. 12 incident.

A felony bail jumping (domestic abuse) charge against **Michael Scott Nelson,** 35, Prescott, was dismissed June 5. The charge stemmed from a Feb. 16 incident.

Eric Carson Schultz, 32, Apple Valley, Minn., was convicted of possession of THC and fined \$443 June 5. Operate without valid license (third within three years) and three felony bail jumping charges were dismissed. The charges resulted from a

Feb. 7 incident. **Catherine Joy Wertman,**26, Minneapolis, waived extradition June 5 to Minnesota, where she is charged with a felony.

Erik B. Whiterabbit, 33,

New Richmond, was convicted of operating while revoked (alcohol related) and fined \$443 June 10. The charge stemmed from an April 30 incident.

Deferred cases

Orrin James Horning, 39, River Falls, pleaded guilty to and entered into a deferred judgment of conviction agreement on a felony possession of methamphetamine (repeater) charge June 5. The charge stemmed from an Aug. 23 incident.

Michael Scott Nelson, 35, Prescott, was convicted of disorderly conduct (domestic abuse) June 5, sentenced to two years of probation and fined \$543. He pleaded guilty to and entered into a deferred judgment of conviction agreement on a felony strangulation and suffocation (domestic abuse) charge. Felony substantial battery - intend bodily harm (domestic abuse) and felony false imprisonment (domestic abuse) charges were dismissed. The charges resulted from a Feb. 15 incident.

PIERCE COUNTY Accident Reports

Deputies responded to a one-vehicle crash with injury at 3:31 p.m. Monday, June 10 on County Road G near County Road BB in the town of El Paso. A 1996 Nissan Largo, driven by **Sean Hall,** 52, Ellsworth, was traveling eastbound on County Road G when it lost control and struck a guardrail. Elmwood

Area Ambulance transported Hall to River Falls Area Hospital with undisclosed injuries.

Officers were dispatched to a motorcycle crash with injury at 9 p.m. Tuesday, June 11 on Highway 35 near 770th Street in the town of Trenton. A 2019 Harley Davidson, operated by **Mi-**

chael Sandager, 53, Bay City, was heading south-bound on Highway 35 when it struck a deer. Red Wing Ambulance transported Sandager to Mayo Hospital in Red Wing, Minn. with undisclosed injuries. Red Wing Fire Department also assisted at the scene.



Sean Hall, 52, Ellsworth, struck a guardrail in El Paso Township on Monday, June 10. Photo courtesy of PCSO

Prescott City Council sets sights on future development and growth

By Danielle Boos

At the Prescott City Council meeting on June 10, City Administrator Matt Wolf described the past repairs for Cherry and Kinnickinnic streets. In March 2024 the council approved the mill and overlay of those streets, which included the Public Works Department doing spot curb and gutter replacement, sidewalk widening and replacement, and storm sewer repairs.

Wolf said the Public Works Department can spot repair curb and gutter sections but "to protect the street and curb integrity with the new asphalt they would like to hire a contractor to replace 672 feet of curb on Cherry Street and Kinnickinnic Street" as it needs to be replaced.

The Prescott City Council approved an agreement with Harmon Concrete and Construction, Inc. for the replacement of curb and gutter on Cherry and Kinnickinnic streets for \$16,176 to be paid out of the Tax Increment District #4.

"It looks terrific. It's wider and it's smooth," remarked Alderperson Maureen Otwell about the repaired sidewalk on Kinnickinnic Street.

The council also approved a new Wastewater Plant Operator Certification Incentive Program to

encourage other employees to become certified.

"Currently we have one certified operator in charge for our wastewater treatment plant," began Wolf.

The city cannot only operate with one operator in charge, Wolf said; it would be a good idea to have more individuals trained and able to step in in case of an emer-

gency, retirement or other life-altering events. Wolf said that many communities offer incentive programs to pay for individuals to test, receive, and maintain their subclass certifications.

"I kind of think it would be good to at least get somebody that's interested 'cause it's going to take time to do it," said Alderperson Mike Gerke.

Otwell asked if the city would pay for the training classes as well. Wolf said individuals use study guides to prepare for the exams.

"What about this 18 hours of continuing ed? Is the city paying for that?" asked Alderperson John Peterson.

Wolf confirmed that the city does pay for people to attend the conferences; every three years 18 hours of continuing education need to be completed.

The council moved on to Resolution 28-24 to inform the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on the Prescott Wastewater Treatment Plant. Every year the Wisconsin DNR requires the City of Prescott to submit a resolution for the compliance maintenance annual report (CMAR)

"This is basically our way of saying that we've put together an overall review of our wastewater treatment plant and that you've had a chance to review it and that you're certifying that you have reviewed it." Wolf added that once it is approved then it is submitted to the Wisconsin DNR.

"We are currently graded out as an 'A', so I just wanted to give a big thank you and support for our current Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Matt Olmen who does a good job of keeping things up and running and maintained



Concerns over structural curb issues on Cherry Street and Kinnickinnic Street caused the Prescott City Council to hire Harmon Concrete and Construction, Inc for replacement. Photo courtesy of the City of Prescott

down there."

"He does such an excellent job," agreed Otwell.

"Just an overall good job by our public works department," Wolf said.

The council authorized the city to enter into an agreement with Cedar Corporation to update and complete a Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan for \$40,000. Greg Adams, Cedar Corporations engineer, gave an overview.

"It's kind of a timely milestone here to kind of reevaluate this," Adams began. "The proposal before you is a pretty in depth look at going through the entire process of what it would take to do both a facil-

ity plan amendment and then apply for funding through the

The city's current facilities plan is from 2010.

"A lot has changed probably in 15 years as the group will find," said Adams. "What is the city's view of growth and desire for how potentially large this plant could be?"

Adams mentioned that it is getting near the end of the bipartisan infrastructure fund-

"There's about twice of the funding that it has had in the past because of the influx of some of that infrastructure money," stated Adams, adding that in his opinion, it is a good

time to start this process.

According to Adams, the schedule moving forward would include completing the Facilities Plan and submitting it to the WDNR in September or October 2024. It would then move to submitting the intent to apply for the CWF program in October 2024 where WDNR Facility Plan Approval would hopefully happen in December 2024.

"At a 20-year design life though, this plant has to at least have the capacity to treat what the city's growth will be for 20 years and the DNR will be evaluating that too." He added that a lot of the previous scenarios would be looked at with new data.

"It would be a pretty much a fresh look at this quite a bit,"

This plan would look at the goals of the community in terms of what its growth would be and the plant that could accommodate that.

"This will just give us a good starting point and an idea of generally what we need to do with everything based on the last plan and what growth needs to be, what the requirements for that will be and aging and everything," said Alderperson Adam Granquist.

Wolf began the discussion on authorizing the city to enter into an agreement with CBS Squared to complete a water engineering study not to exceed \$18,638. On April 10, the EPA released new standards on PFAS within drinking water. According to the DNR, the new drinking standards will take up to three years to implement and it is estimated that by 2029 the city will need to be in compliance. Wolf added that through the testing that has been recently done, city wells

#2 and #4 would not meet the standards of those tests.

CBS Squared put together a proposal to complete an engineering report that would give the city three options. The study would give a breakdown of cost and logistics. Option 1 includes treatment at both Well #4 and Well #2 and includes increasing the capacity of Well #2 from 500 gpm to 1,000 gpm. Option 2 would see Well #4 treated, Well #2 abandoned, and construction of Well #5 near Well #4 for treatment at Well #4 water treatment plant. Option 3 includes treatment at existing Well #4, abandonment of existing Well #2, and construction of Well #5 in the Great Rivers subdivision, in the southeast portion of the city. The water quality at future Well #5 will need to be analyzed and if needed, a water treatment plant will be constructed at Well #5.

Gerke asked how long the study is expected to take.

"About 90 days," answered

The payment for this study will come from the city's water utility fund.

In other business, Wolf said the Department of Transportation planning grant through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) was approved for up to \$194,000. This planning study will look at finding a safe pedestrian crossing over Highway 10. Wolf expressed his thanks to Adams and the Cedar Corp team for their work in applying for the grant.

Upcoming meetings

The Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, July 1 while the Health and Safety Committee meeting is sched-uled for 5 p.m. July 8.

Senior Gathering Place activities

Gathering Place members and friends, PLEASE NOTE: Due to no electricity in the building, the Gathering Place at the Prescott Middle School will be closed June 17-July 1. All activities normally meeting at the Gathering Place will move to the First National Bank- Lower Level Community Room

during this time.

Wednesday, June 19: Cards will be played, with Euchre at 12:30 p.m. and Bridge at 1 p.m. Thursday, June 20: Pick-

leball meets at 9 a.m. at Lions Park (Elm Street).

Friday, June 21: Memory Café will meet 10-11:30 a.m. at Freedom Park (200

Tuesday, June 25: Walking Group meets at 9 a.m. at the Middle School parking lot. Pickleball meets at 9 a.m. at the courts at Lions Park (Elm Street). Mahjongg meets at 9 a.m.: remember to go to First National Bank Community Room. All skill levels are welcome. Book Club

meets at 1 p.m. for discussion of the June book, "The Forest of Vanishing Stars" by Kristin Harmel. Meet at First National Bank Community

Wednesday, June 26: Meet your friends for cards, Euchre at 12:30 p.m. and Bridge at 1 p.m.

Coming events:

Pontoon Boat ride on the Mississippi River from 1-3 p.m. Thursday July 18 OR 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, July 23. Cost is \$10 per person, limited to 10 people each trip. Must register at the Gathering Place by July 9.

July Book Club selection is "Lightening Strike" by William Kent Krueger.

Minn., was arrested of posses-

sion of THC - intent and pos-

traffic stop at 2:43 a.m. at 302

Lake St. He was also cited for

operate without valid license

and operating motor vehicle

Maplewood, Minn., was cit-

ed for speeding after a traf-

fic stop at 6:46 a.m. at Eagle

County DARE Officer taught at

class at 11:12 a.m. at 1010 Dexter

St. on common sense criminal

justice, including judicial sys-

tems and law enforcement

St. Paul, was cited for a boat

launch fee/permit violation at

dale, Minn., was cited for a fire-

works violation after police re-

ceived a complaint at 9:12 p.m.

at 319 Lake St. At 11:39 p.m. he

Charles Darwin Lundeen,

was warned for misusing 911.

54, Prescott, was arrested af-

ter police were called at 11:40

a.m. to 232 N. Court St. for an

Lana Lee Rousseau, 38,

River Falls, was cited for

non-registration of vehicle/

auto and warned for speeding

after a traffic stop at 7:36 a.m.

at Cherry Street and Highway

parked on railroad property at

8:50 a.m. at Kinnickinnic and

Second streets. The registra-

Neil Benjamin Semmel,

32, River Falls, was cited for

speeding after a traffic stop at

10:23 a.m. at Cherry Street and

notified the city's courtesy

dock was underwater with

At 11:49 a.m., police were

tion was expired.

Highway 10.

Police found a golf cart

unwanted subject.

Saturday, June 15

1:22 p.m. at 451 Second ST.

Michael Van Harwood, 80,

Dao Vong Yang, 55, Oak-

Officers and the Pierce

Ridge Drive and Highway 10.

Gina Marie Bergman, 37,

without insurance.

structures.

Senior Gathering Place is located at 1220 St. Croix St., Prescott. We will be resuming all functions back at that location after Monday July 1. All seniors 55 years and older are welcome at the Gathering Place.

Submitted by Janet Cleary

PRESCOTT Police Department Reports

The following incidents were reported to Prescott Police Department June 3-16.

Monday, June 3

Kaleb Lee Hines, 21, Hudson, was cited for operate without valid license after a traffic stop at 2:04 a.m. at Kinnickinnic and Broad streets.

Jerimiah Justin Mooney, 27, River Falls, was cited for non-registration of vehicle and warned for speeding after a traffic stop at 7:51 a.m. in the 200 block of Broad Street. James Leroy Flora, 62, St.

Paul Park, Minn., was cited for speeding after a traffic stop at 8:25 a.m. at Hilton Street and Highway 10.

At 1:58 p.m., a resident at 907 Pearl St. reported a gift card scam.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at 2:43 p.m. at 1759 Pleasant Court. A juvenile indicated he wanted to dunk a basketball. He was advised of his conduct and a voicemail was left for his parent.

Alan Wayne Martin, 66, Prescott, was cited for a parking violation at 7:54 p.m. at

Hope and Hilton streets. **Viktor** Petrovich Vavrinyuk, 55, Folsom, Calif.. was cited for operating left of center line and failure to obey traffic officer/signal after police stopped his semi at 9:38 p.m. at Eagle Ridge Drive and Highway 10.

At 11:50 p.m., a semi made an illegal turn, which resulted in a semi getting stuck in the ditch at Eagle Ridge Drive and Highway 10. Jerry's Towing came to retrieve the vehicle. Amal Mohamadomar, 46, Irving, Calif., was cited for failure to obey traffic officer/signal and improper left turn.

Tuesday, June 4 At 2:21 p.m., a caller report-

ed dogs left in a vehicle at 1445 N. Acres Road. The vehicle was gone when police arrived.

At 7:15 p.m., police responded to a noise complaint that had happened hours prior at 1000 Canton St. The suspects were advised to stop playing their music so loud. Officers also spoke with people involved who were yelling

at each other across the park. The matter calmed down.

Wednesday, June 5

The school resource officer spoke to a driver' ed class at 9:47 a.m. at 1010 Dexter St.

Meng Yang Wang, 39, Redmond, Wash., was cited for speeding after a traffic stop at 10:48 a.m. at Jefferson and Monroe streets.

At 3:15 p.m., police were informed by a resident that someone had taken checks out of his mailbox in the 500 block of Pearl Street and 'washed" them.

Hillary Mae Duvall, 58, Prescott, was cited for expired registration after a traffic stop at 8:40 p.m. at Pearl Street and Highway 10.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at 9:57 p.m. at 1445 N. Acres Road. They were gone when police arrived.

Police found an open door at 10:33 p.m. at a business at Kasson Drive and North Acres Road. The building was cleared and secured.

Officers were dispatched at 10:47 p.m. to a physical domestic at 803 Kinnickinnic St. Police were unable to locate the suspect.

Thursday, June 6 Claudia Beren Lopez Maldonado, 37, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., was cited for operate without valid license and warned for speeding after a traffic stop at 7:46 a.m. at

highways 10 and 29. Michel Javier Rueda Mejia, 31, Minneapolis, was cited for operate without valid license after a traffic stop for speeding at 3:10 p.m. at Highway 10 and Lake Street.

A theft was reported at 9:02 p.m. at 660 S. Dexter St. The item was found; the person was advised not to drive due to no valid license.

Police responded to a noise complaint at 9:23 p.m. at 907 Pearl St. The suspect said he was done for the night.

Friday, June 7 Lukas Gordon Benson, 21, Ellsworth, was cited for speeding after a traffic stop at 5:28 a.m. at Oak and Lake streets.

At 7:58 a.m., police located several suspects involved in a gift card scam at Holiday (236 Broad St.) Shawn Phil**lip Arvin,** 47, Shakopee, Minn., was arrested and taken to

Pierce County Jail. Officers responded to a hit and run crash at 1 p.m. at 1200 Henry St. The vehicle that fled

was identified. **Andres Castro Nunez,** 48, Minneapolis, was cited for operate without valid license after a traffic stop at 9 p.m. at Highway 10 and Lake Street.

Saturday, June 8

Police checked on a suspicious person at 2:53 a.m. at 307 Lake St.

Officers responded to a vehicle vs. utility pole crash at 8:36 a.m. at 290 Wacota St. The vehicle was unoccupied; police located the vehicle's owner and completed an accident report.

At 10:11 a.m., police spoke with a citizen at 651 Dexter St. S. about harassing/threatening text messages.

Thomas Robert Cody **O'Shea,** 35, Prescott, was arrested for a warrant at 10:55 a.m. at 961 Jefferson St.

A stolen vehicle was reported at 11:04 a.m. at 469 Gibbs

At 2:33 p.m., police spoke with a resident about how to handle disorderly/disturbing neighbors at 1028 Borner St.

An abandoned golf cart was reported at 7:07 p.m. at 235 N. Flora St. The homeowner pushed it out into the roadway. Yingya Kristi Vang, 30,

North St. Paul, Minn. was cited for a traffic violation at 8:48 p.m. at Kinnickinnic and Broad streets.

Sunday, June 9 Police assisted with the

Prescott Softball State Championship parade at 11:54 a.m. at 1220 St. Croix St.

24, St. Paul, was arrested for OWI and cited for possession

of THC and speeding after a

traffic stop at 1:54 a.m. at high-

ways 10 and 29. He was also

Monday, June 10 Anthony Michael Myers, warned for expired vehicle

registration. Melissa Ann Blackstone. 40, River Falls, was cited for non-registration of vehicle after a traffic stop at 3:57 p.m. at highways 10 and 29.

Police conducted a welfare check at 6:23 p.m. at 408 Lake St. A person was found in a vehicle asleep. He admitted to drinking and driving. Kyle **Ruben Erickson,** 39, Kasson, Minn., was arrested for OWI.

Tuesday, June 11

Officers checked on a suspicious vehicle at 1:52 a.m. at Ash and Front streets. The vehicle was unoccupied.

Rebekah Anne Seleski, 41 Prescott, was cited for retail theft at 8:13 a.m. at Holiday (236 Broad St.) Officers gathered video footage of the suspect's vehicle.

Heidi Anne Rightman, 39, Prescott, was cited for operating while suspended after a traffic stop at 8:05 p.m. at Jefferson and Dexter streets.

An officer saw a suspicious vehicle at 11:36 p.m. at Ptacek's Old Event Center (1449 Orrin Road). Everything was okay.

Wednesday, June 12 Ka-Turcotte Sean **zmierczak,** 53, Prescott, was arrested for disorderly conduct after police responded at 11:18 a.m. to 911 Pearl St. for an agitated man. Officers gave advice on maintaining calm and keeping the peace.

John William Moeller, 33, Lake St. Croix Beach, Minn., was cited for operate without valid license after a traffic stop at 9:39 p.m. at Orange and Dakota streets.

Thursday, June 13 Officers spoke with a person at 11:37 a.m. about a possible computer hacking at 1028 Borner St.

some boards missing. They ed at 1:15 p.m. at Holiday (236 blocked it off with police tape Broad St.) Attempts were until public works could shut it made to identify the vehicle down. and driver. A gas drive-off was report-

ed at 4:51 p.m. at Holiday. Friday, June 14

Isaac Lee Jolly, 26, Blaine,

A gas drive-off was report-

A resident complained of fireworks at 1:45 p.m. near Laura and Warren streets. No one was found lighting off fireworks.

Sunday, June 16 Officers conducted a welsess drug paraphernalia after a fare check at 2:47 a.m. at 665 Flora Square. No distress was noted.

Two gas drive-offs were reported at 6:46 a.m. at Holiday. Officers gathered camera footage and left messages for the vehicles' registered own-

At 7:19 a.m., a resident at 587 Locust St. S. called police because a man was walking around on the back porch of his apartment. Police viewed camera footage from the Ring doorbell camera. They walked around back and located the man and his mother on the water treatment facility road. The man said he was downtown Friday night where he became intoxicated. He lost tried to walk to a friends' house by the cemetery before passing out in someone's yard near Jefferson and Walter streets. He lost his phone, wallet and glasses. The complainant did not want to file a report once he heard

the suspect's story Ole Kristian Aarness, 44, Hastings, Minn., was cited for parking in a no parking area at 1:27 p.m. at 137 Front St.

Shawn William Albee, 56, Lakeville, Minn., was cited for failure to display launch permit/fee at 1:41 p.m. at 451 Sec-

Jacob Steven Schiller, 31, Hastings, Minn., was cited for failure to display launch permit/fee at 2:08 p.m. at 451 Second St.

Jason Michael Lynum, 47, Woodville, was cited for parking in a no parking area and trespassing on railroad property at 2:21 p.m. at Kinnickinnic and Second streets

Shannon Marie O'Hare, 53, Hudson, was cited for parking in a no parking area at 3:09 p.m. at 137 Front St. Carsten Leandra Boren,

23, River Falls, was cited for expired vehicle registration after a traffic stop at 8:01 p.m. at highways 10 and 29. **Enock Amos Ombengi,** 25,

Otsego, Minn., was cited for speeding after a traffic stop at 10:08 p.m. at Kinnickinnic and Broad streets.

2024 Cheese Curd Festival takes place this weekend

Ellsworth's annual festival returns with cheese curds and more

annual Cheese Curd Festival, celebrating the town's designation as the "Cheese Curd Capital of Wisconsin," kicks off this Friday, June 21, from 4-10 p.m., and continues through Saturday, June 22, 10 a.m to 10 p.m. This year's festival promises food and fun for all ages, offering a variety of tasting events, live entertainment, and a celebration of all things cheese curds in Ellsworth's East End Park and business district.

The Cheese Curd Festival, recently recognized by USA Today as the #3 Specialty Food Festival in the nation, is gaining a reputation as a paradise for food lovers.

"The festival's growth and recognition on a national level is a testament to our community's dedication and passion for showcasing our locally produced cheese curds from Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery," says Kim Beebe, Executive Director of the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce. "We're hoping for big crowds again this year and always look forward to welcoming visitors from locations near and far to Ellsworth to experience what makes our cheese curds—and community—so

Of course, the festival's

ELLSWORTH – The namesake will be the event's starring food. Attendees will find a variety of unique cheese curd items, from the classic hand-battered deepfried curds to innovative offerings from professional food trucks and vendors. Each year, the festival offers a never-before-beenfried cheese curd flavor, in addition to Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery's natural white cheddar cheese curds and deep-fried cinnamon sugar dessert curds. This year's specialty flavor will be Garlic Dill Cheese Curds—Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery's famous natural cheese curds with a light and bright dill seasoning and a touch of garlic. They will be fried up golden brown and served with ranch dipping sauce.

"The committee and the creamery team really hit a home run with this year's special flavor," says Beebe.

"They are delicious!" Sixteen food vendors will be at this year's event, lined up along Food Truck Alley on Wall Street. Popular favorites Smokey Treats BBQ, Kannel's In-Hog-Nito!, Richie's Cheese Curd Tacos, The Hungry Badger, and several others will be back again. New food vendors include Lil Ferrucci's Kitchen and Smack Daddy Gourmet Grub, among oth-



The many tasting opportunities, including Craft & Curd: Paired are a popular part of Ellsworth's Cheese Curd Festival. Photo courtesy of Cheese Curd Festival

ers. Each vendor will offer creative cheese curd dishes on their menus.

Once again, unique tasting events can be found under the Taste of Wisconsin tent where festival attendees will have the opportunity to experience food and drink in a whole new way. Highlights include the popular Corks & Kegs event. This adult happy hour-style tasting experience features local and regional craft beer, wine, and hard cider, with unlimited sampling, light appetizers, and a souvenir tasting glass. Also returning this year is Craft & Curd: Paired. Part tasting and part competition, six local breweries will vie for the best brew and cheese curd pairing. The winner of the competition will be determined by festival attendees. The Cheese Block Party will take guests on a journey through Wisconsin's finest cheeses, with over 30 varieties available for tasting, complemented by insights from guest cheese experts. Family-friendly tastings like the Ice Cream Tasting and Milk and Cookie Pairing mean there's something for guests of all ages. Tickets for some tasting events are available in advance online.

"The tasting events are a fantastic way for visitors to immerse themselves in the rich flavors of our state and

region," Beebe noted. "We love offering these unique experiences that highlight the creativity and craftsmanship of our local producers. It's one of the things that makes our festival so spe-

Great music is the perfect pairing to all that delicious food, and this year's festival entertainment lineup will feature an array of regional acts performing continuously on multiple stages. From rock to country to blues, the live music offerings cater to diverse tastes, ensuring a lively atmosphere throughout the weekend. Them Pesky Kids will perform on Friday evening. Saturday's entertainment lineup includes The Hot Mess, Vivian Hayes & the Hi-Praise, Debbie Briggs, Jim Stairs & Squishy Mud, and more. The entire entertainment schedule can be found at CheeseCurdFestival.com.

In addition to the food and music, festival favorites like the Classic Car Show, attracting car enthusiasts of all ages, and the Artisan Market, which showcases unique handmade and handcrafted items, will provide visitors with even more to see and do. Don't miss the Cheese Curd Eating Contest, a crowd favorite that promises excitement and fun for participants and spectators

alike.

The Cheese Curd Festival is not just about indulging in delicious cheese curds; it's a celebration of Ellsworth's rich cheesemaking heritage and spirit of community col-

"This festival is a true reflection of Ellsworth's community spirit and our collective effort to honor our cheesemaking heritage and make an impact in the community," Beebe added. "It's heartening to see how the festival brings together residents and visitors alike to celebrate our town."

Admission is free, with food, beverages, and tickets to tasting experiences available for purchase. Parking and shuttle service for festival attendees is also free. Watch for signs to guide you to the official Cheese Curd Festival parking lots. A continuous stream of shuttle buses will have guests from their vehicles to the festival grounds within minutes. For more information, tasting event tickets, and a complete schedule of events, CheeseCurdFestival. com. For breaking festival news and announcements, follow along on Facebook at fb.com/CheeseCurdFestival.

Submitted by Cheese Curd Festival Committee

Proposed athletic code tabled for revisions by Ellsworth School Board

By Andrew Harrington

The Ellsworth Community School District tabled the proposed athletic code revisions for tweaks and heard a presentation on the Ellsworth Hall of Fame that is in the works during the June 10 school board meeting.

The Hall of Fame is meant to honor a handful of people each year for their achievements and impact on the school district and community as a whole. Selection for the Hall of Fame includes a public nomination process that will go live in the fall and a committee to review the nominations.

The committee is made up of a student co-chair, adult co-chair, athletic director, Ellsworth Community School District counselor, principal, two rotating booster reps, one to two rotating service organizations, a ministerial, a school foundation, a retired Ellsworth Community School District staff member, an art/public education representative and two to three at-large members.

To qualify, one must be out of Ellsworth High School for 10 or more years. Nominees will be kept for consideration for five years.

Maggie Pechacek is the high school student that is leading the project, and said the Hall of Fame is for both people who attended Ellsworth and have gone on to do big things and community members who have had a major impact in Ellsworth.

"These are the categories: Alumni, distinguished staff and then community members," Pechacek said. "There's a lot of different categories that other [districts] did... but we thought this was broader.'

New Athletic Code

While many pieces of a new version of the district's Athletic Code saw agreement from the board, members agreed to table it for revisions they wanted to see. Athletic Director Kevin Haglund presented on the topic, saying the Athletic Code had not been revised for five years and was in need of an update.

The proposed code includes changes such as the combination of the middle school and high school codes into one code, adding guilt by association, adding mid-quarter grades to the academic eligibility process,

adding the superintendent to the appeals process, adding that parent permission does not supercede the code, removing the student representative from the appeals process, adding some activities in addition to sports on the code, adding nicotine products in addition to tobacco products as unacceptable use and removing return to play information after a concus-

Board member Mark Stoesz said as a former athletic director and principal in Ellsworth he had concerns about the inclusion of some of the activities listed in the code as well as the logistics of the academic ineligibility process starting at mid-quar-

FFA, Student Council, National Honor Society, Forensics, Drama Club, International Club and Jazz Band/ Vocal Jazz are the activities added that would be linked to the code. Stoesz's primary concern with the activities list is that with athletic code penalties often causing suspensions for a fraction of the scheduled events, some of the activities would not fit the suspension system. An example given was the International Club, which offers trips that do not occur multiple times a year, making a fraction of the trip difficult to determine.

"That means they would have to sit out 10% of the trip, according to your policy because that's the only event," Stoesz said. "To me that would probably be problematic."

Stoesz also had concerns about the mid-quarter academic eligibility system, saying it could use a second look and potentially some tweaks. The proposed system adds that at mid-quarter, students failing classes are ineligible for their sport or activity until they are passing. Failing one or more classes at the end of the quarter would result in a suspension for 10% of scheduled events.

Haglund said there can be exceptions made depending on situations including if teachers did not catch up on grading missing work, which Stoesz said may bring too much judgment into the decision.

While Stoesz "conceptually" agreed with the idea of the mid-quarter academic eligibility check, he showed support for a two-week probation period at mid-quarter

that would allow students a brief period of time to boost their grades before ineligibility, a process Prescott uses. Stoesz emphasized students making the transition to high school, saying the first few weeks can often bring academic difficulty.

"I just worry about the application and what it could do to kids as they're transitioning, if they have a life event or if they have anything happen," Stoesz said.

Stoesz also had worries about the workload the proposal would put on administration to track down all of the ineligible student-athletes.

Superintendent Cain said if the mid-quarter policy is going to go into effect, the level of communication with parents will need to be strong.

"That parent needs to be contacted by that teacher," Cain said. "The earlier you communicate with the parents the better. It shouldn't take athletics to make that happen, but it is going to need to be a true team effort across the board."

According to board documents, the concussion return to play information was removed because the WIAA has return to play guidelines that will be included in the code presentation, but does not need to be in the code of conduct.

code, students that attend a assistant. gathering with alcohol receive a penalty even if they leave immediately. Haglund said the change comes because it becomes difficult to prove when someone arrived and if they actually planned to immediately leave or not. There are exceptions including a wedding or graduation party with parents or guard-

"Proof of immediacy is

very difficult," Haglund said. "How do you prove that you were leaving immediately and how do you prove that you were only there for a short time? If you were there and it got busted, were you actually leaving immediately or were you there?"

Personnel

The board approved the following personnel chang-

Hires: Katie Childers, A shift from the previous elementary speech language

Retirement: Baker, bus driver; Dan Unser, bus driver.

Extra/Co-Curricular Hires: Katie Bennett Deiss, mentor; Lexi Daute, JV volleyball coach; Kristen Elbe, mentor; Carson Huppert, high school varsity head wrestling coach; Michelle Jansen, Guiding Coalition-math specialist; Hilary Thom, team leader of pupil services 4K-5; Tennessee Wacek, C team volleyball coach.

Extra/Co-Curricular Resignations: Lexi Daute, C team volleyball coach; Carson Huppert, middle school wrestling coach; Roarke Langer, assistant varsity wrestling coach; Owen Matzek, middle school football coach; Owen Matzek, second assistant varsity (JV) wrestling coach; Brooke Minder, JV volleyball coach; Tennessee Wacek, eighth grade assistant volleyball coach; Haley Yaeger, girls tennis coach.

Other Business

Authorized the American Deposit Management Company as an authorized agent for district funds.

Acknowledged the Middle School Honors Choir students and the student-athletes that placed at the State track competition.

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST	
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Lions Fishing Derby at Nugget Lake



PIERCE COUNTY JOURNAL



The Ellsworth Lions Club annual family fishing derby was held Sunday, June 2 at beautiful Nugget Lake County Park. With no charge to contestants, families flocked to the scenic park and soaked up some rays while youngsters cast their bobbers into the competition. Pictured (from left): Walker Loberg, Cooper Hove and Hunter Bench earned trophies for their catches, while Elizabeth Larson, Blakely Lucente and Ira Friske showed off their door prize wins. Evryn Sotona was the grand prize winner in her new kayak pictured in front. Photos by Jack McLoone

Pickleball

from Page 1

She asked if the children were "doing tennis" just for recreation or "for something for parents to put their kids into," or "are they really doing it to play tennis?'

Alderperson John Peterson wondered if two tennis courts are just preferred or truly needed. "These tennis courts are not getting used nearly as much as pickle ball courts." He added, "I think money is better spent converting one, in my opinion."

He further explained that after future construction, the one tennis court will be regulation sized.

After Otwell motioned to approve Option B for the Tennis/Pickle Ball Court Renovation for 2025, the Council unanimously approved the motion and approved the use of reserved times for the Pickle Ball Group for the 2024 season.



The current tennis courts at Public Square Park show large cracks that reappeared after being resurfaced in 2021. Photo courtesy of the City of Prescott

The plan for the Public Square Tennis Courts/Pickleball Courts would be to be reconstructed in St. Croix EDC welcomes new board members, officers

ST. CROIX COUNTY -St. Croix Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) held its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 14. The 2024-2025 officers were elected, as well as welcoming four new board members and three new

Public Square Courts

Reconstruction Concept

St. Croix County Appointees. Susan Lockwood, Vice President of Northwood Technical College, was elected President. She has served on the board since 2019 and replaces Krista Paulus who completed her term as President. Paulus will continue to serve on the Executive Committee as the Past President.

Tom Loonen, Attorney at Eckberg Lammers, was elected First Vice President. Loonen practices civil municipal law and business law at the

Ann Searles is the CEO of the St. Croix Valley Food Bank and was elected Second Vice President.

Marina Onken was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. She retired as Dean of the College of Business and Economics at UW-River Falls in late 2021 and is now Professor Emeritus of Strategy and Innovation at

PLUM CITY – Plum City

Middle/High School is proud

to announce the fourth quar-

ter honor roll for the 2023-24

school year. Congratulations

A honor roll

McKenzie Bauer, Elizabeth

Carter McGovern, Oliv-

ia Pullen, Sean Sagini, Jacob

Willow Cripe, Benjamin Hassing, Lisbeth Henn, Add-

asin Ingli, Michael Jablonsky,

Abigail Kannel, Owen Ko-

ber, Madelyn Kopp, Estella

Malles, Ellison Maxwell, Lil-

lian Pullen, Ellyana Shingle-

Maggie Bechel, Maka-

Sanchez

la Breunig, Kirsten Hassing,

Kaden McMurray, Timothy

students!

Bylander

decker

Freshmen

Peterson, Ariana

Seniors

Juniors

Sophomores

CBE. She also started a consulting business specializing in leadership development, innovation, and strategy, called Innovative Clarity Group.

Scott Morrissette from First National Bank of River Falls was re-elected to the board. He will serve his final three-year term, ending in May 2027.

The SCEDC also welcomed four new Directors. Sheri Marnell is the Director of the St. Croix Valley Innovation Center in River Falls; Megan Boldig is the Manager of Community Service at Xcel Energy servicing the St. Croix Valley; Matt Diethert is Market President at Bremer Bank in New Richmond; and Steve Massey is the President at Westfields Hospital & Clinic in New Richmond.

There were also three new county board supervisors appointed to the SCEDC Board of Directors: Bob Feidler, Mike Barcalow and Ryan Sherley.

Additionally, the board said goodbye to three long-standing SCEDC Directors, including April Nelson of WBD (May 2018-May 2024), Rob Kreibich of the New Richmond Chamber of Commerce (October 2017-May 2024) and Tom Borowski of the Hudson Hospital (May 2018-May 2024). They also thanked the previous county appointees Carah Koch, Paul Berning and Mark Carlson (May 2022-May 2024).

Fence Height

The Board of Directors also accepted the 2023 financial review from Jason Zahradka, CPA with Guinn, Vinopal & Zahradka, LLP.

St. Croix EDC was established in 1994 as a public-private business league that operates as the independent economic development arm of St. Croix County. Reflective activities include marketing and communication, business retention, business expansion, business recruitment, new business incorporations, workforce development, and advocacy on behalf of business and industry. Initiatives taken by St. Croix EDC help improve the business climate of St. Croix County, allowing businesses, large and small, to grow and prosper.

Submitted by St. Croix

Hines

from Page 1

Administrator Jason Matthys was the last deputy to be hired

ne sheriff's office in December 2000 and Jim retired weeks later in January 2001," Matthys said. "He was extremely welcoming and a true professional."

Hines' kindness and caring also extended into the community. He volunteered for the Ellsworth Fire Department from 1962-1988. He also served on the Ellsworth "I started my career with for several years. He was a member of English Lutheran Church, Hancock Masonic Lodge, the Ellsworth Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, St. Croix Valley Shrine Club and

the Kinne-Engelhart American Legion Post 204.

He and his wife Elaine had three children: Todd, Sara and

Hines' memorial service will take place at noon on Fri-Village Board as a trustee day, June 28, 2024 at English Lutheran Church (229 W. Main St., Ellsworth). A visita tion will be held 9 a.m. until noon preceding the service.

> For more, see Hines' obituary on Page B-4.

Ptacek's

from Page 1

Coffee in there, the liquor will not be in the grocery store initially, it might be something down the line depending what the city allows," Ptacek said.

River Falls was the best option to open a new location, Ptacek said, because of the ties his family already has to the community. Ptacek said he, his wife, his father and more of his family all went to River Falls for school. Ptacek's wife grew up a block from the location and they both played collegiate athletics at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls which is close by. The connections don't stop there as they have sponsored many of the city's organizations and events.

"We're excited as hell to be out in that community,"

Ptacek said. "There's a lot of community support out there, and we're excited to get in that building, crank the energy up and really show the customers how much we appreciate them."

The location is also about 10-12 miles from the Prescott location, so Ptacek said the proximity allows the store to be closely managed.

"We are very hands-on owners, so you want to make sure that you're present there, and you can get there every single day and make sure it's got your vision going forward."

Ptacek said the location will bring over the quality meats and deli that community members have grown to love in Prescott. He has plans to improve a few departments to boost the overall quality of

"Kick the bakery up a whole bunch, kick the pro-

duce up a bunch and bring a little more energy into that building," Ptacek said.

Ptacek felt ready to open another store thanks to finding a perfect location and the knowledge gained from a long history of being involved in the grocery business.

"We're a 112-year-old company, and I kind of joke a little bit, that if I haven't figured out how to do this after 112 years, I'm in big trouble," Ptacek said. "The opportunity was right."

Ptacek assured River Falls residents that the store is not just one that is run behind closed doors without community input.

"I might be liable to the bank for some money, but we don't own the store, the community owns the store," Ptacek said. "We can do whatever we want out there and the community is going to help us drive that decision.'

By Andrew Harrington

As the warm weather returns to the state of Wisconsin, so does the time for residents to find detours as road construction season returns.

At the June 12 Pierce County Traffic Safety Commission meeting, attendees heard brief updates about the state and county road construction projects in the area.

Rick Tumaniec of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation updated the commission on State Highway projects in the county.

A retaining wall project in Maiden Rock is ongoing, with plans to replace some of the walls and completion planned for November. "[Traffic] is being directed with temporary signals past the area where they're work-

A bridge rehab on Big River Bridge at WIS 35 is expected to be completed in August with traffic also being directed with temporary signals. According to 511 WI, the project involves replacing the bridge deck, repairing the abutments

Highway 10 is undergoing a pavement rehabilitation project from WIS 29/35 to South Junction of US 63. According to 511 WI, the project includes 14 miles of new asphalt, replacing culverts, widening shoulders, replacing guardrails and replacing pavement markings. Tumaniec said traffic is being detoured

Highway 10 east of 1040th Street and west of 730th Street for culvert replacements to be

A cleaning and painting project on a Rush River bridge on WIS 29 is also in progress. There is no schedule for com-

Highway Commissioner Chad Johnson said the primary project for the county is County Road CC. Johnson said pavement is starting the week of June 17 and will span from WIS 29 to about 570th

The week of June 24, the county will sealcoat some local and county roads including portions of County Road Plum City MS/HS applauds 4th quarter honor roll Vazquez

> Eighth grade Reese DeLong

Seventh grade Augustus Elbe, Colton Mann, Evan Mann

Sixth grade

Nolan Bartsh, Austin Bechel, Heather Benitz, Janessa Hemphill, Mikayla Nelson, Tenli Ottman, Zoey Stork

B honor roll **Seniors**

Logan Annis, Kali Brunner, Mason Clare, Reese Duden, Anastasia Edwards, Mikayla Hines, Cameron Krogstad, TriChelle Smaller

Juniors

Jack Bechel, Yoselin Gea, Daisy Gonzalez, Alliyah Hansey, MaKya Kannel, Juan Sanchez Vazquez, Ryan Schultz, Dylan Zeilinger

Sophomores Tobey Anderson, Alex Batho, Katelyn Bauer, Nick De-Long, Olivia Gransee, Brett Kopp, Alexis Snapp

> Freshmen Riley Bechel, Samantha

Bechel, Jackson Drexler, Mick Hince, Caleb Keith, Brock Kober, Landen McDonough

Eighth grade

Brooke Biederman, Alexia Edwards, Nova Erwin, Landyn Gilles, Axel Hince, Alexis Kannel, Caleb Kopp, David Kopp, Danielle Smith, Laila Smith, Adison Zeilinger

Seventh grade Hannah Bechel, Brody

Bignell, Kaison Hewitt, Gabriel Karshbaum, Leslie Widman, Benjamin Wulff, Hannah

Sixth grade

Cameron Bechel, Gage Hince, Axel Infante, Aubree

Submitted by Plum City School District

Road construction season in full swing in Pierce County

ing," Tumaniec said.

and widening the bridge.

via WIS 29/35 to WIS 65.

There are hard closures on completed in October.

pletion at this time.

B and County Road OO.



OIRNAL SPORIS

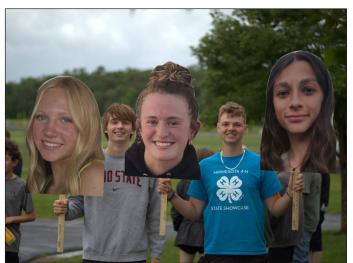
Section B • June 19, 2024

and OUTDOORS

Off they go! Rainy weather doesn't dampen the mood as RF soccer heads to State



The River Falls girls soccer team reached the State Tournament after taking down Onalaska 1-0 June 8. Photo by Andrew Harrington



send-off to State on June 12. Photo by Andrew Harrington



Community members gathered to celebrate during the team's Fans, family members and friends wave as the bus departs for River Falls players had their names called individually to loud the State Tournament. Photo by Andrew Harrington



Signs, the mascot, rally towels and more were a part of the celebration. Photo by Andrew Harrington



cheers as they entered the bus. Photo by Andrew Harrington

River Falls soccer falls at state but continues to build foundation

Staff report

The River Falls girls' soccer team truly was one of the best in the state.

The Wildcats gave it their all at the WIAA State Tournament at Uihlein Park in gon all it can handle in a 3-0 semifinal loss.

It was a bittersweet loss for the eight seniors who represented the Wildcats for the final time, but they've done a lot to build River Falls into a regional powerhouse. Seniors were Lillia Gray, Aili Lassi, Emily Van Ausdal, Milwaukee Friday, giving Bell Skow, Kraly Walker, eventual state champ Ore- Maggie Johnson, Mya Ross

and Emma Cernohous. It was River Falls' first

since 2018 and third overall. Next year's team will build on this year's foundation that's already solid, considering the Wildcats have won 10 straight WIAA regional championships and have been in four consecutive sectional final games.

trip to the state tournament championship game. River Falls finished the

season 13-4-7 and took second in the Big Rivers Conference to New Richmond. The Wildcats, however, topped the Tigers by a 3-2 score in the opening game of sectional play.

Oregon has a potent of-Oregon went on to beat fense, and River Falls kept it created more attacks. Whitefish Bay, 1-0, in the at bay for most of the game.

Goalie Neva Espanet and the off the left post at the 75:50 to thwart several attacks. Oregon got on the scoreboard at the 17:46 mark on a shot to the left post.

For about the next 60 minutes, River Falls tried to break through on offense, but one by Elliott Bell. Oregon's defense held and

Oregon scored on a header

Wildcat backfield were able mark and got their final goal about two minutes later a deflection off the post.

Espanet finished with nine saves in the net. River Falls tallied three shots on goal, two from Olivia Doerre and

Oregon had a total of 12 shots on goal.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church Pastor Lucas Ladnier led attendees of the ballpark ribbon cutting in prayer to kick off festivities Tuesday, June 14. Donna Constant (left) spear-headed the project. Photo by Sarah Nigbor



The first pitch was thrown Tuesday, June 14 celebrating the completion of the Our Savior's Ball Field pavilion project, which has been many years in the making. Photo by Sarah Nigbor



June 14 for an Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting. Photo by Sarah Nigbo



Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce and Our Savior's Lutheran Church members cheer as Donna Constant cuts the ribbon during the Our Savior's Ballpark Pavilion celebration Tuesday, June 14. Photos by Sarah Nigbor

'Build it and they will come'

Determination makes ballpark pavilion a reality

By Sarah Nigbor

Our Savior's Lutheran Church celebrated the completion of its ballpark concession stand/pavilion last week with an Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting.

Festivities began Tuesday, June 14 with a ceremonial first pitch thrown and a prayer

Ladnier. Donna Constant, the driving force behind the ballpark renovations, cut the rib-

bon and told attendees about the project. She lives across the road (County Road N) from the ballpark and recalled hearing

the "ting, ting, ting" of balls

being hit as her children grew

by Our Savior's pastor Lucas up. In 2010, she approached the church council about sprucing up the ballpark.

"When it was down to two teams and the park was folding, I said no, uh uh, not going

to happen," Constant said. Over the years, funds have been raised for a playground, bleachers, lights and finally, a brand new concession stand complete with handicapped accessible restrooms, covered pavilion and electricity.

"Now we have a park and facility we can rent out to the community," Constant said.

She takes pride in helping the church provide a place for families to play ball, regardless of age. It's an avenue to keep kids off phones and video

chance at fellowship.

Constant had the idea to build the concession stand shortly before COVID hit in 2020. Her plans were put on hold for a while, but she never lost sight of completing the church's own "Field of

Dreams." Eight teams from area

games and provide a real-life churches compete at the ballpark with games going on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. People come from miles around to sample 12-15 flavors of homemade pie, burgers, chicken salad and hotdogs.

> Visit oursaviorschurch.info to learn more.



SHOTS from the Hip

BY CRIPE OLSON

Congratulations to pitcher Ella Stewart and catcher Leah French on being named Division 3 First Team All State by the Wisconsin Softball Coaches Associations. The senior/junior battery led the Cardinals to their first softball championship in program history. Also, congratulations to Cullen Huppert on being named Honorable Mention All State by the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association.

Speaking of the All State Baseball Team, there were 14 players nominated for All State that have committed to NCAA Division 1 programs. Being selected First Team is extremely difficult. Just ask University of Tennessee recruit Sawyer Deerling of Kimberly who was named Third Team All State. The WBCA does not select All State teams for each division, meaning players from Drummond High School with an enrollment of 113 compete with players from Middleton, with an enrollment of 2,388, for spots on the All State team. Area players receiving All State recognition are Wichita State bound Hudson catcher Hunter Carlson who was named First Team All State. Altoona shortstop Trent Cornell, who will be playing at San Francisco next spring, was named to the Second Team, and freshman Hudson outfielder Logan Hagman was

named to the Third Team. The momentum is building among Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association member coaches to move to five divisions for tournament play. For years, coaches within the organization have resisted adding another division believing it

would "water down" competition and lead to subpar play in the tournament series. With so much turnover among baseball head coaches over the last five years, the opinions of the membership may be changing. Stay tuned.

St. Čroix Falls Head Baseball Coach Matt Vold has resigned and will be relocating to the Phoenix, Ariz. area. Vold was named the 2023 WBCA Coach of the Year after the Saints won the WIAA Division 3 State Championship a year ago. In 2022, St. Croix Falls finished as the state runner up. St. Croix Falls and Prescott have played each other eight times over the last 10 years with the Cardinals holding a 5-3 edge in the series.

From the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources: The DNR announced that the summer issue of Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine is now available in print and online. Learn about great things happening around the state and get ready for summer with the latest issue. The cover story focuses on an important but underappreciated resource, Wisconsin's grasslands – essential areas for habitat, clean water, recreation and more. Often yielding to development and row-crop agriculture, their footprint keeps shrinking in the state, but efforts such as conservation grazing are helping to change that.

Fargo-Moorhead second baseman Peter Brookshaw returned to late last week action after a short stint on the disabled list. The North Dakota State and Prescott High School alumnus is hitting .310 on the season for the Redhawks and is among the team leaders in

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home runs, runs batted in, and batting average.

Congratulations to Molly Janke on being selected to play in the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Games next week at JustAGame Fieldhouse in Wisconsin Dells. Other Middle Border Conference selections include Julia Rybacki of Somerset and Alyssa Wirth of Altoona. For the boys, Somerset forward Dylan Leccia and Altoona guard Keaton Camastral will represent the Middle Border Conference during next week's games.

Soon to be Michigan Tech guard Isabella Lenz is poised to return to Houghton, Mich. to begin preparations for her final season as a member of the Huskies. A two-time All Conference Selection. Lenz is on track to become a member of the 1,000 points club at the NCAA Division 2 School. Lenz is a 2021 Prescott alumnus and the all-time leading scorer in the history of Prescott girls' basketball.

Headshaker of the week. At last week's state tournament there were dozens of hitters who wore almost as much protective gear at the plate as their team's starting catcher. Additionally, countless players had sliding "oven mitts" jammed into the back pockets of their game pants each plate appearance. One player last week, as they reached first base, gave all his protective body gear to the first base coach who affixed the assorted attachments to his upper torso, making him look like he was wearing one of those dog bite sleeves used to train police canines. But, that is not the headshaker. That happened when the kid wearing the Arby's restaurant logo on his hand stole second base. As the young man slid head-first into second base, he led with the hand that was mittless, rendering the supposed required protective equipment, completely useless. Wearing a sliding mitt, but sliding into the base with your "naked" hand, now that's a headshaker.





OUTDOOR Tales and Trails BY DAVE BECK

Officially a trapper

I know that we are in the heart of the fishing season and I should be telling you all about the fish that I have been catching, or at least trying to catch, but I am interrupting it to make a MAJOR announcement. Never mind the drum roll, I am just going to blurt it out: I GRAD-UATED! Yup, last weekend I received my diploma. I am officially a Wisconsin Certified Trapper.

Previous to my certification I was limited to trapping fishers and otters. Now I can expand my pursuits to other critters including beaver, muskrats, coyotes and hopefully bobcats, if I draw a tag. Trapping a bobcat is a huge feather in a trapper's hat and it is the main reason that I went "back to school."

A long time ago I chased muskrats on the Mississippi River and that's where I cut my trapping teeth. I trapped just enough 'rats to say that I was a trapper and just enough to make a few bucks. Even though the entire river was my playground, my trapping range was limited to the stretch that I could cover on foot. Trapping for me was an adventure but carrying traps and gear up and down the river was a chore. Even though it seemed like I spent more time walking than I did actually trapping, I enjoyed it. Fast forward and here I am getting my feet wet once again, literally and figuratively with trapping. I couldn't be more excited for the season to get here.

So how can you get certified to trap in Wisconsin? There a couple options. The online course is focused mainly around the "trapping online textbook." The in-person class is an eight-hour course that is more hands on and less book centered. In addition to completing the eight-hour instruction you must also attend a four-hour demonstration portion which takes place at the district trapstate. For more information and red fingers. go to the Wisconsin DNR



Upon graduating from a trapping program, one can get amazing gifts such as these. Photo by Dave Beck



I am an official Wisconsin Certified Trapper and I couldn't be prouder. Photo by Dave Beck

Go Wild website or the Wisconsin Trappers Association website.

I looked into the online portion but eventually decided that I would learn more about actual trapping techniques if I took the "hands on" class. I set myself apart from the other 12 students in my class while taking part in the trap identification portion. Somehow I got both hands caught in a 330 Conibear Trap. I had to interrupt the class and ask the predicament.

"Is this an automatic

"Nope," the instructor countyjournal

said smiling, "but welcome to the 330 Club." Then he laughed in a way that I knew he was a member of the 330 Club as well.

In a related matter, where else but in Wisconsin can you graduate and receive awesome gifts like these?

Didn't get enough Dave this week? Visit "Outdoor Trails and Tales with Dave Beck" on Facebook for photos and video of Dave's adventures. You can share instructor for help in freeing your own photos and video me from an embarrassing with him there as well, or by emailing him at dave@ piercecountyjournal.news ping rendezvous around the fail?" I asked with a red face Also, check out OTT content on Instagram @thepierce-

Community

Every Tuesday

Among Friends, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 110 S. Third St., River Falls. A social respite program serving seniors residing in Pierce and St. Croix counties who are facing memory changes or physical limitations. Trained staff supervise socializing and fun, engaging activities in a safe environment. Learn more at amongfriendsrf. com or 715-293-2561.

Thursday, June 20 Open Stage, 6 p.m., Wandering Ewe (S119 McKay Ave., Spring Valley). All are welcome to play, listen and join in. Just bring yourself and your instrument and voices. We have the mics, speakers, mixer and amp.

Thursday, June 20 & Friday, June 21

Ellsworth American Legion Auxiliary Fundraiser, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nilssen's Foods (157 E. Main St., Ellsworth). Serving lunch from the wagon with proceeds benefiting the American Legion Auxiliary.

Thursday, June 20-Saturday, June 22

St. Bridget Garage Sale, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. June 20-21, 8 a.m. to noon June 22, St. Bridget Church (211 E. Divi-

sion St., River Falls) Friday, June 21 & Satur-

Cheese Curd Festival.

day, June 22

East Ellsworth. the town's designation as Cheese Curd Capital of Wisconsin 4-10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday with a wide variety of creative cheese curd dishes, tasting experiences, live music. cheese curd eating contest, vendor marketplace and more. Free parking, free admission, free shuttles. For a full list of events, visit www.cheesecurdfestival.

Friday, June 21 June Dairy Day, 2-6 p.m., Cady Cheese (126 Highway 128, Wilson). Raffles, games, wine and cheese tasting, garden tractor show, face painting, food stands and more.

Tuesday, June 25 Stories Under the Stars, 7:30-8 p.m., River Falls Public Library (140 Union St.) Depending on the weather, we'll be outside or inside. Bring your pillow and blanket and gather under the stars for longer stories,

Wednesday, June 26 Cartoon Snack-a-long,

geared towards ages 3-8.

4 p.m., Prescott Public Library (800 Borner St. N.. Prescott). Bring the whole family to enjoy themed treats and activities while watching the antics of the world's favorite blue heelThursday, June 27

Summer Fun Series, 5-7 p.m., East End Park, Ellsworth. Join the Ellsworth Chamber and several generous community organizations and businesses for a fun evening of entertainment and activities! From live music to family friendly activities to art-in-the-park and themed events, watch for details weekly. Visit the Ellsworth Farmers Market for locally grown produce, baked goods and crafts.

Music in the Park, 6:30-8 p.m., Freedom Park (200 Monroe St., Prescott). Featuring Pat Wagner and the Sweet Peas (classics). Rain or shine! Pack a blanket or a lawn chair. Food trucks and a Freedom Park bar 6-8 p.m.

Friday, June 28 Books & Benches, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Great River Road Visitor & Learning Center (200 Monroe St., Prescott). Join Prescott Public Library and National Park Services for a day of stories and education by our Butterfly Bench. Family friendly and free.

Saturday, June 29

Party in the Park, 2-10 p.m., Maiden Rock Village Park. 4-H food, games and crafts; kids train rides, music, face painting, caricatures, magician, Plum City Library, Pierce County Historical Association, s'mores, fireworks and much more.



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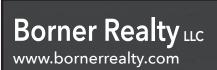
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OBITUARIES

James Everts 1941-2024

"Jim" James Everts (N9JME), 83 of Hager City, Wis., died Saturday, June 8. 2024 at his home. He was born May 21, 1941 in Red Wing, Minn., to Len and Verona (Feindt) Everts. His family moved to Texas and he graduated from high school in McAllen, Texas. He then attended Pan-American College and began working as a draftsman. He

Smith on April 6, 1963. They made their home in Houston where they raised their family and in 1989, Jim and Gina moved to Hager City, Wis. He worked at Ashland in St. Paul and then continued to work as an individual consultant, as a draftsman, for various industries. He enjoyed ham radio (call sign N9JME) and was a member of Hiawatha Valley Radio Club. He was also a skilled woodworker and made several pieces of furniture. Jim and Gina loved traveling, especially to Colorado. Jim was a likeable guy who had a way with sarcasm and hu-

married Virginia "Gina"

He is survived by his son,

Jim (Kathy) Everts of Hager City; grandson, Thomas Everts of Houston, Texas; step-granddaughters, Ashley Hill of Florida and Tristen Hill of Arizona and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Gina in 2022 and a son, Greg.

Memorial service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, July 13, 2024 at Mahn Family Funeral Home, Bodelson-Mahn Chapel, Red Wing, with a visitation one hour prior.

Ardell **Flynn** 1927-2024

Ardell Flynn, 97, of Red Wing, died Thursday, June 13, 2024 at Valentines Assisted Living in Red Wing. She was born Jan. 12, 1927 in Goodhue Township to John and Rosalie (Puppe) Buck. She grew up in the Goodhue area and attended Goodhue High School. Following graduation she worked at the Red Wing Pottery. In 1953 she married Roy Flynn and the couple made their home on his family farm which Roy and Ardell eventually took over. Together she and Roy raised three children.

Despite her small stature, Ardell was critical to managing the farm. She wasn't afraid to get her hands dirty and somehow found a way to lift 5-gallon milk pails into the tank. She bailed hay,

looked after the cows, and worked side by side with Roy. And while she never drove a car, she did drive a tractor

She was a member of Svea Lutheran Church where she was a part of the quilting club. In her later years, after she and Roy moved to Red Wing, she enjoyed playing cards and meeting with her sister for Bingo. Roy passed away in 2015.

She is survived by her children Glen (Julie) Flynn of Hugo, and Sandy Mallan of Richfield; four grandsons, Ryan Flynn, Adam (Katie) Flynn, Chad (Talana) Mallan, and Jesse Mallan; and three great-grandchildren, Dominic, Travis and Jaxon; siblings, Berdell Gadient, Joan Moldenhauer, and John

She is preceded in death by one son, Dean Flynn; husband, Roy; son-in-law, Steve Mallan; brothers, Cyrus, Darold, and LuVern; and her parents.



Funeral service will be 11 a.m., Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at Svea Lutheran Church with visitation one hour prior to the service. Burial will be at the church cemetery. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.mahnfamilyfuneral-





home.com



Kenneth Roen 1932-2024

Kenneth Melvin Roen, age 92, of Prescott, passed away on Friday, June 14, 2024, at United Hospital in St. Paul, Minn. He was born on Feb. 22, 1932, in River Falls, Wis., the son of Melvin and Helga (Borgerson) Roen. Kenneth attended River Falls High School, graduating with the class of 1950, and furthered his education at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, earning a master's degree in education. On Aug. 12, 1961, he married Deanna Blunt at Trinity Lutheran

Church in Mason City, Iowa. Kenneth's life in Prescott was a testament to his enduring love for the community, where he lived and thrived for an impressive 65 years. His journey was deeply intertwined with Prescott, highlighted by his dedicated 37-year career as a respected teacher at Prescott Schools. Bevond the classroom, Kenneth's true passions came to life.

He possessed a remarkable skill in woodworking, finding solace and fulfillment in refinishing furniture and meticulously caning chairs. His hands were happiest when immersed in the earth, tending to his beloved gardens and feeling the soil between his toes as he moved barefoot through his yard. An avid collector, Kenneth's fascination with antiques reflected his appreciation for craftsmanship and

history, each piece cherished and proudly displayed in his home.

Yet, perhaps his greatest source of joy was the family cabin nestled by a serene northern lake. Here, amidst tranguil waters and the embrace of nature, Kenneth found sanctuary and created enduring memories with those he held dear. His legacy resonates not only through his professional contributions and hobbies but also in the warmth and generosity he shared with all who knew him

Ken and Deanna were charter and active members of Joy Lutheran Church in Prescott for almost 50 years. Ken and Deanna also owned and operated the K-D-Did Gift Shop, becoming an integral part of the Prescott community. Ken worked at the Afton Apple Orchard for 32 years. He enjoyed being part of the team and was awarded for his work there.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Deanna Roen, his parents Melvin and Helga Roen, and his siblings Marlys (Lloyd) Torkleson, Doris (Glen) Knutson, Lyle (Bev) Roen, Harley (Doris) Roen, and Arnold (Evie) Roen. He is survived by his children Randall (Sharon) Roen, Greta (Dennis) Fliegal, Elsa (Radley) Seuferer, and Eric (LaShelli) Roen, along with eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 20, 2024, at Joy Lutheran Church, 1435 St. Croix St., Prescott, WI 54021.



Grandchildren: Curtis Fliegal, Marissa Roen-Boettcher, Dayton Seuferer, Jacob Roen, Bjorn Roen, Emily Armstong, and Thor Roen will serve as active casket bearers. The honorary casket bearer will be his granddaughter, Sadie Goodrum. Burial will follow at Pine Glen Cemetery in Prescott.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the family. Please send to O'Connell Family Funeral Home: 225 S. Orrin Road, Prescott, WI 54021.

Services are entrusted to O'Connell Family Funeral Homes of Prescott, www. oconnellfuneralhomes.com, 715-262-5404





Ellsworth Chapel

Construction is Complete!

We're here to help with all your cremation, funeral and preplanning needs.

715-941-5021

587 Lucas Ln., Ellsworth, WI • www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com

James Hines 1936-2024

James Walter Hines, age 87, of Ellsworth, Wis., retired Pierce County Sheriff, passed away peacefully at Prescott Nursing & Rehab on June 12, 2024, with his family by his side. Jim was born on May 10, 1937, in Ellsworth, Wis., the son of Walter and Avis (Smith) Hines. He attended Lost Creek School before graduating from Ellsworth High School in the class of 1955. Following high school, he enlisted in the Army Reserves. He married his best friend and soulmate, Elaine Krause on April 9, 1960, at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Pepin, Wis. This bond was further blessed with three children, Todd, Sara, and Mark.

Early on, he worked with his dad hauling milk before taking over the business himself. Over 15 years, he created long-lasting friendships with the area farmers who appreciated his strong work ethic and commitment to helping them in any way. As it was common to use milk trucks as tankers for fires, he was approached to join the Ellsworth Volunteer Fire Department in 1962. He faithfully served the department until 1988.

In 1970, Jim went on to become a Traffic Patrol Officer for the Pierce County Sheriff's Department and was elected Pierce County Sheriff in 1984 and proudly served as Sheriff from 1985 until his retirement in 2001.

Jim enjoyed fishing at his parents' cabin on Casey Lake in Spooner, Wis. and always

looked forward to deer hunting with family in the fall.

Jim served as a Village of Ellsworth Trustee for several years, was a member of English Lutheran Church, Hancock Masonic Lodge, Ellsworth Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, St. Croix Valley Shrine Club, and the Kinne-Englehart American Legion Post 204 in Ellsworth. He enjoyed golfing, playing Euchre, meeting friends and family for coffee hour, traveling with Elaine and his greatest joy was his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He will forever live on in the hearts of his wife and best friend, Elaine, children Todd Hines, Sara (Greg) Place, and daughter-in-law Diane Hines; grandchildren Rob (Tara) Hines, Dan (Nadalie) Place, Jonah Place, Morgan (Dustin) Kowalik, Heather (Mike) Kersten, step-grandchildren Amanda (Jeremy) Kaiser, Eric (Tracie) Albrightson, Kailie Kersten, Levi Kersten and great-grandchildren Wyatt Place, Sophie Kowalik, Nora Kowalik, Abby Hines, Blake Hines and step great-grand-children Colt Albrightson, Nash Albrightson, and Wilsey Albrightson; siblings Mike (Mary) Hines, Dixie Raehsler, Patrick Hines, Tony (Kathy) Hines, Trudy (Gary) Young, Mary (Mike) Metcalf, Steve (Elise) Hines, Scott (Joanne) Hines, sisters-in-law Carol Hines, Mary Hines, and Janet (Ron) Werhnyak, as well as numerous nieces and nephews; and countless friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Walter and Avis Hines, in-laws Kenneth and Charlotte Krause, son Mark Hines, brothers Tom Hines, Wilbur "Bill" Hines, Rick Hines, and Duncan Hines;



sister-in-law Nancy Hines and brother-in-law Doug

A Memorial Service will be held at noon on Friday, June 28, 2024 at English Lutheran Church located at 229 W. Main, Ellsworth, WI 54011. A Gathering of Friends and Family will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until the noon service. Burial will be in the Maple Grove Cemetery at a later date. A private Masonic Service will be held with his family. Memorials are preferred at the discretion of the family.

Services are entrusted to O'Connell Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Ellsworth. For more information, please visit www.oconnellfuneralhomes. com or call 715-273-4421.



Eugene Oberg 1939-2024

Eugene Herbert Oberg, age 85, of Ellsworth, passed away peacefully on Friday, June 14, 2024, at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minn. Born to Russell and Margaret (Conroy) Oberg on Feb. 19, 1939, in Bay City, Wis., Gene lived a full and vibrant life. After high school, he briefly served in the United States Army National Guard.

On May 12, 1962, Gene married the love of his life, Marlys Deiss, at St. Bridget's Catholic Church in River Falls, Wis. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Mike and Lisa.

Gene started working early in life with his father at their junkyard which helped him develop his skills as a used car salesman. He had a knack for storytelling, sharing many tales from the good old days, and possessed a unique and engaging personality. Despite facing challenges like going blind in

one eye, Gene approached life with a resilient spirit. He found it hard to say no to his family and always put their needs first. Gene was a dependable

and steadfast individual, always there when friends and family needed him. He found joy in various hobbies, including fishing, hunting, and playing poker. However, what he treasured most was the quality time he spent with his family and his beloved dog, Chloe. This close-knit bond and his genuine love for his family were the cornerstones of his life, making every moment spent together truly special.

Gene will be greatly missed by many, including his wife Marlys of Ellsworth; his children, Mike Oberg (Gloria) of Hager City, and Lisa (Doug) Toenjes of Ellsworth; his grandchildren, Abby (Tyler) Regnier of Ellsworth, Cole Toenjes, and Jared Toenjes; and his great-grandchildren, Vaya, Vinny, and the soon-to-beborn Baby Regnier. He is also survived by his brother, Russell (Bev) Oberg of St. Paul, as well as other fami-



ly members and numerous friends. Gene was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Margaret Oberg.

A Private Family Mass and interment will be held in his honor.

Services are entrusted to O'Connell Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Ellsworth. For more information, please visit www.oconnellfuneralhomes. com or call 715-273-4421.



Sue Hiniker 1936-2024

Sue Hiniker, age 88 of Prescott, died Saturday, June 15, 2024 at Regions Hospital following an unexpected medical emergency.

Sue was born on May 26, 1936 in Red Wing, Minn., the daughter of Irwin and Helen (Čremer) Magee. Sue attended elementary school in Prescott before graduating from Derham Hall High School in St. Paul in 1954. She would further her schooling at Barry College in Miami, Fla. where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Home Economics in 1958.

On June 28, 1958, she walked down the aisle at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Prescott and said, "I Do" to a young man from Hastings. H. Peter Hiniker and Sue Magee were married and embarked on 66 years of marriage, which included the addition of six children. Sue was through and through a homemaker who cherished her family. She was a true matriarch who took the greatest pride in

tending to her family. She loved hosting family dinner events and enjoyed planning parties with fun hors d'oeuvres, even teaching a class at the local high school. Sue thoroughly enjoyed traveling and had wonderful family filled memories whether to Florida, Mexico or Europe. If you knew Sue, you came to appreciate her devotion to her faith. Her Catholic faith was evident in her daily routine and the care in which she raised her children. Her rosary was worn out as she recited it daily, praying for her family and friends well-being. Sue also enjoyed working with young girls as the first woman Field Director for the Miss Wisconsin pageant, as well as the Girl Scouts for numerous years.

Sue will remain in the hearts of her husband H. Peter; children Michael Hiniker, Peter (Melody Dikkers) Hiniker, Mary (Larry) Johnson, Mark (Tina) Hiniker, Craig Hiniker and Nancy (Ramon) Perez; grandchildren Tori, Tyler, Tara Johnson, Sophia, Michael Perez; brother-in-law Edward Hiniker, sisters-in-law Allene Hiniker and Mary Magee. Preceded in death by her parents Irwin (Helen) Magee, brothers John Magee and



Robert (Gayle) Magee, sister-in-law Joan Hiniker and brother-in-law John Hiniker.

Mass of Christian Burial for Sue Hiniker will be 11am, Wednesday, June 19 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Prescott. Burial will be in the parish cemetery. Visitation will be two hours prior, from 9-11 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church. Funeral services have been entrusted to the O'Connell Family Funeral Home of Prescott.



reviewing since the beginning

of April. Council discussed po-

PUBLIC Notice

CITY OF RIVER FALLS COMMON COUNCIL **AGENDA** June 25, 2024

The public may view/listen to

- the meeting by: Calling Toll Free 1-844-
- 992-4726, access code: 263 230 09171 V isiting the web link: https://tinyurl.com/ rfcc62524
- Viewing the City's You-Tube Channel: https:// www.youtube.com/user/ cityofriverfalls

Call Meeting to Order - 6:30

p.m. Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2024, meeting minutes Approval of Bills \$

*** NOTE: OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY AGENDA ITEM ***

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETI-TIONS, REQUESTS AND TIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

 Public Comment If you are unable to attend the meeting in person but would like to submit a public comment, please e-mail to the City Clerk's office (awhite@rfcity.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2. Annual Liquor License and Beer License Renewals Hearing and Disposition by Motion for each License Class 3. Request for a Combination 'Class A" Liquor and Class "A' Beer License – Ptaceks Family Market, Inc.

4. Ordinance 2024-02 - An Ordinance Rezoning Certain City-owned lands in the Mann Valley Corporate Park to Corporate Park District - Second Reading and Disposition

a. Resolution Approving the Final Plat for Mann Valley Corporate Park (needs to be approved before rezoning) 5. Ordinance 2024-03 Amend-

ing the Membership of the Plan Commission in Section 2.56.010 - Administration and Personnel of the Municipal Code - First Reading

CONSENT AGENDA:

6. Acknowledgement of the following minutes: a. Library Board - 5/6/24 b. Plan Commission - 5/7/24 c. Historic Preservation Commission - 6/12/24Utility Advisory Board -5/20/24

West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission - 5/16/24

f. BID Board - 5/15/24 g. Board of Review - 5/28/24

7. Resolution Approving 2023 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR)

8. Resolution Appointing an Interim City Forester tion Annro 2025 Merchant McIntyre Associates Agreement

10. Resolution Approving the General Development Plan for Sisu River Falls

Resolution Amending Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau Request for Noise Control Exemption and Open Container for River Falls Days

12. Resolution Approving Tattersall's Service Retail Outlet

ORDINANCES AND RESO-**LUTIONS**:

13. Resolution Approving a One-Year Affordable Housing Extension for TID 5 14. Resolution Approving Submission of Electric Rate Case to the Public Service Commis-

15. Resolution Approving Submission of Water Rate Case to the Public Service Commis-

REPORTS:

16. Administrator's Report 17. Comptroller's Report 18. Consumer Confidence Re-

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Parks and Recreation Proclamation 20. Proclamation Recognizing ARC's Service to the Commu-

21. Mayor's Appointment

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials to be in an accessible location or format. may contact City Clerk Amy White at (715) 426-3408 or in person at 222 Lewis Street, for accommodations. Requests for accommodations should be made at least three (3) business days in advance of the meeting. Every effort will be made to arrange accommodations.

Posted at City Hall on 6/14/24; Publish: The Pierce County Journal: 6/19/24

WNAXLP 6 19

School District of River Falls **Regular Board Meeting** Monday, June 24, 2024 6:00 PM District Office. 852 E Division Street,

River Falls, Wisconsin 54022 Official agenda notices will be posted at Dick's Fresh Market, the Public Library, and the 1 st Nat'l Bank.

The complete agenda and approved minutes will be posted under "School Board" at www. rfsd.k12.wi.us .

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 PM IN THE DISTRICT AD-MINISTRATIVE O
CONFERENCE ROOM **OFFICE** 2. MANNER OF PUBLIC NO-TIFICATION OF MEETING
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. HEARING OF VISITORS
OR DELEGATIONS
5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
A Wildcat Pride Awards Wildcat Pride Awards

 Lee Johnston B. Acknowledgment / Rec-<u>ognition</u>

1. Retirement - Jamie Benson C. Superintendent, Administrative, and Student Repre-

sentative Reports 1. School Resource Officer Annual Report

a. Officer Chris Gottfredsen b. Officer Bryan Jensen 2. Administrative Reports a. General Education Diploma

Option 2 Update Superintendent Report a. School Forest Update b. Referendum Update 6. ACTION ITEMS A. Approval of Minutes, bills,

and recommended employment Consideration and/or Action to approve June 10, 2024, Educational Program

Committee

tions Consideration and/or Action to approve June 17, 2024, Finance & Facilities Committee recommendations

recommenda-

Consideration and/or Action to approve June 17, 2024 Personnel Committee recommendations

E. Consideration and/or Action to approve the second readings of revised School Board Policy 110 District Mission and Vision State-ments, Policy 111 District Statements, Policy Value 130 School Board Responsibilities and Legal Status, Policy 152 Goal Setting, Policy 152-Rule Goal Setting Procedure, Policy 345.11 Class Rank for WI Act 95 Guaranteed UW System Admission Law, and Policy 372 Student Publications and Productions.

Proposed/suggested for the next regular items and future Board meeting agenda(s)

Schedule next Board/ Committee meetings
H. Consideration of adjourning to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 19.85(1) (e), which permits convening in closed session for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, for a debt issue

7. CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION 8. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND AFFIRM AC-TION TAKEN IN CLOSED

discussion. Roll call vote

required.

WNAXLP 6 19

SESSION IF NECESSARY 9 ADJOURN

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, PIERCE COUNTY

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 24 PR 40

IN THE MATTER OF THE ES-TATE OF PHYLLIS R. DENEUI DOD: 05/10/2024

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed. 2. The decedent, with date of birth February 20, 1930 and date of death May 10, 2024 was domiciled in Pierce County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 2328 Aurora Circle, River Falls, WI 54022

 All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a

claim against the decedent's estate is September 12, 2024 5. A claim may be filed at the Pierce County Courthouse, 414 W Main St., Ellsworth Wisconsin, Room 201

Ryan C. Cari, Heywood, Cari & Anderson, S.C. 816 Dominion Drive, Suite 100. Hudson, WI 54016 715-386-5551 Bar Number 1052279

WNAXLP 6 12 19 26

CITY OF PRESCOTT June 5, 2024, Board of **Review Minutes**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Board of Review Meeting of the Prescott City Council was held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, in the Prescott Municipal Building, 800 Borner St. Prescott, WI 54021.

1. CALL TO ORDER Mayor Daugherty called the

Board of Review meeting to order, June 5, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present for the roll were Rob Daugherty, Matt Wolf, Dar Hintz, John Peterson and Lindsey Soral son. Also present was Clerk, Rashel Temmers.

APPROVAL TO RECON-VENE MEETING TO AUGUST 15. 2024. AT 4:00 P.M. Hintz/Wolf motioned to reconvene this meeting to August 15, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. There was no further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

4. ADJOURNMENT Hintz/Peterson motioned to adjourn the Board of Review meeting at 5:07 p.m. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted, Rashel Temmers Clerk

WNAXLP 6 19

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, PIERCE COUNTY

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 24PR42

IN THE MATTER OF THE **ESTATE OF** Margaret Anna Vera Haugen Deceased

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: 1. An application for informal administration was filed. 2. The decedent, with date of birth 07/09/1951 and date of death 05/18/2024 was domiciled in Pierce County, State

of W5468 450th Ave Ellsworth, WI 54011 All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a

of WI with a mailing address

claim against the decedent's estate is Sept. 18.2024 5. A claim may be filed at the Pierce County Courthouse, Ellsworth Wisconsin, Room

Form completed by: (Name) James Schmidt Address W7680 163rd Ave Hager City, WI 54014 Telephone 715-792-2849 Bar Number (if any)

WNAXLP 6 19 26, 7 3

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT PIERCE COUNTY

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No 24CV94

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF Nancy I ee Oberlander

By (Petitioner) Nancy Lee Oberlander

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From: [First] Nancy [Middle] Lee [Last] Oberlander

To: [First] Nancy [Middle] Lee [Last] Gwilt-Hildebrandt

Birth Certificate: [First] Nancy [Middle] Lee [Last] Rustad

IT IS ORDERED:

Time: 11:15 pm

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of PIERCE County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Judge Elizabeth Rohl Place: Pierce County Court-house, WEST Courtroom 414 W Main Street. Ellsworth, WI 54011 Date: July 24, 2024

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Pierce County Journal, a newspaper pub- lished in PIERCE County, State of Wisconsin.

WNAXLP 6 19 26, 7 3

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT,
PIERCE COUNTY

Order Setting Time to Hear Petition for Administration and Deadline for Filing Claims (Formal Administration)

Case No. 2024PR000025 IN THE MATTER OF THE **ESTATE OF**

Danny Joe Weinzirl, a/k/a Danny J. Weinzirl Decedent

A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.

THE COURT FINDS: The decedent, with date of

birth January 10, 1964 and date of death March 16, 2024. was domiciled in Pierce County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W6364 State Road 35, Bay City, WI 54723.

THE COURT ORDERS:

1. The Petition be heard at the Pierce County Court-house,414 W Main St., Ellswoth Wis- consin, before Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commis- sioner Rohl, on July 10, 2024 at 9:00 am

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

2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is August 8, 2024. 3. A claim may be filed at the Pierce County Courthouse, Ellsworth, Wisconsin, Room 201

4. Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgment. 5. Públication of this notice is to any persons whose names

or addresses are unknown.

FORM COMPLETED: Richard D. Gorman, Attorney at Law ADDRESS: GORMAN & LODERMEIR. PLC 454 West Fourth Street

Red Wing, MN 55066 TELEPHONE: (651) 388-2833 BAR NUMBER: 1035396 WNAXLP 6 19 26, 73

CITY OF PRESCOTT, **WISCONSIN** JUNE 5, 2024, CITY COUN-SIL WORKSHOP MEETING

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a workshop of City Council was held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, in the Prescott Municipal Build-ing, 800 Borner St. Prescott, WI 54021

Call to order/Roll Call: Mayor Daugherty called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present were Lindsey Sorenson, John Peterson, Dar Hintz, Adam Granquist, Maureen Otwell and Michael Gerke. Representing staff were City Administrator, Matt Wolf, Clerk, Rashel Temmers and Treasurer, Beth Lansing. Appearing by Zoom was the City's financial advisors, Peter Curtin and Bri-

1. Water Rate Study And Up-

Public Utility is not allowed

to charge for second meters

and second meters need to be

billed as an Additional Meter

Rental Charge per billing cycle. Due to the length of time

that both errors have been oc-

curring the PSC is reviewing

the next steps for determining

a solution. As of May 29 th

the city still has not heard from the PSC on next steps after

an Roemer from Ehlers. dated PFAS Regulations: City Administrator, Matt Wolf, reviewed the new WI DNR PFAS Regulations and the EPA National Drinking Water Standards. Brian Roemer and Peter Curtin appeared by leams to review and discuss the city's future needs regarding a full water rate study. In February of 2023 the Council approved the proposal for Ehlers, the City's financial advisor, to complete phase 2 through 4 of a full water rate study for the City of Prescott to be submitted to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC), which was last done in 1997. At the Finance Committee meeting on March 20, 2024 Ehlers reviewed the study. At that time the proposal was to submit to the PSC a 5.0% rate of return even though the PSC has a benchmark rate of return of 6.2%. The 5.0% rate of return would have resulted in an estimated \$51.80 annual increase in 2025 and \$100.20 annual increase in 2026 for the average water user. On April 10, 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released updated national drinking water standards for PFAS and \$1 billion in funding to help public water systems to test and treat. Based on these new regulations the Wisconsin DNR has informed us it will take three years for them to update the Wisconsin Drinking Water Standards. Once imple mented each water system will then have a certain timeframe to come into compliance which is expected to be 2-3 years. Next year the City will be required to send a tier 3 notice to all our customers. This is done by mail or hand delivery to each customer receiving a bill and to other service connections notifying them of the violation of the new standards. Based on testing from 2023, wells #2 and #4 would not meet the new standards Finally, since 2002 the City of Prescott has been charging for second meters generally used for irrigations through a second meter contract. Additionally, per our PSC utility tariff these second meters have been billed using our general service charges. The PSC has notified us that both have been done incorrectly. A Wisconsin discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a

tential financial ramifications of second meter refunds pending a final determination by the PŠC. Based on the new PFAS regulations staff would like to discuss with Council looking at submitting our full water rate study at the full 6.2% rate of return based on future needs for funding remediation of well #2 and #4. Although Wisconsin DNR Emerging Contaminants Program does provide grant funding for up to 50% of projects. The city would still need to pay for the remaining 50%. Staff will be meeting with Ehlers next week to discuss how the increase in rate of return would affect the proposed water rates for 2025 and 2026 for Council to review. Although the DNR is requiring us to send out a tier 3 public notice by April of 2025. Staff would like to discuss with Council sending an update on the water in Prescott and updating everyone on the new PFAS regulations. A public notifi-cation will be put together for review by Council at the meeting and if agreed upon would be sent out with utility bills at the end of June. Review the current situation with second meters and discuss the continuance of second meters. If the City hears from the PSC in advance of the meeting that information will be shared with the Council as well. The Council put a hold on 2 nd meters until the city hears back from the PSC and staff gets the previous sales figured out. Otwell/Hintz motioned to move forward with the Water Rate Study based on the Updated PFAS Regulations at 6.2% rate of return. No further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a negative voice vote. Hintz/ Granquist motioned to approve public notification via letter to residents to go out with the 2 nd quarter utility bills. There was no further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

2. Water Engineering Report

City Administrator, Matt Wolf, reviewed the CBS Squared Water Engineering Report showing the options for remediation to wells #2 and #4. With the new regulations that were released by the EPA on April 10, 2024, the City will need treat, or find, a solution to PFAS in well #2 and #4. The DNR will take up to three years to implement the new standards and then the city will have a certain amount of time to come into compliance, which is currently estimated to be by 2029. Once the treatment addition is complete. which is scheduled to be done by July 1, 2025, the expected PFAs levels will be .55-.76 ppt for PFOS and 1.53-1.85 ppt for PFOA. Both of these levels will meet the new PFAS standards for well #3. As a result of the new regulations the City would like to begin the first steps to address PFAS in well #2 and well #4. This will be to complete an engineering report to look at options for the supply and treatment of water within the city. The city worked with CBS Squared for the well #3 remediation project and asked them to put together a proposal to complete an engineering report. This report would look at three different options. The options are below, and a map is attached for review: Option 1 includes treatment at existing Well #4 and treatment at existing Well #2. It also includes increasing the capacity of Well #2 from 500 gpm to 1,000 gpm. Option 2 includes treatment at existing Well #4, abandonment of existing Well #2, and construction of Well #5 near Well #4 for treatment at Well #4 water treatment plant. Option 3 includes treatment at existing Well #4 abandonment of existing Well #2, and construction of Well #5 in the Great Rivers subdivision, in the southeast portion of the city. The water quality at future Well #5 will need to be analyzed and if needed, a water treatment plant will be constructed at Well #5. Since well #3 initially began as a nitrate exceedance issue, the water engineering study will also evaluate nitrate trends at well #2 and well #4 to evaluate if nitrate treatment will be needed within the next 20 years. Water treatment equipment analysis and cost estimations will also be included for each option. The overall cost for the report is \$18,638. If approved the funds would come out of the water fund. Otwell/Hintz motioned to move the CBS Squared Water Engineering Report with a maximum cost of \$18,638.00 to Council. There was no further

3. Sewer Treatment Plant Facility Plan

negative voice vote.

City Administrator, Matt Wolf, gave a background and up-date on the Prescott Wastewater Treatment Plan Facility Plan. The City of Prescott Wastewater Treatment Plant

was built in 1970 and further expanded in 1994. The current capacity of the treatment plant is 500,000 gallons per day, but current estimates are that it can safely treat another 14,000 gallons per day.
According to the National Environmental Education Foundation the average household in Wisconsin uses about 51 gallons per day. This would allow the city to add about 275 new residential units, however this does not take into account the potential for new commercial or potential industrial users. In 2010 the city completed a Wastewater Facility Plan by MSA. The recommended plan at that time was the addition of a new aerobic digester and expanding the aeration basin capacity. The expected cost at that time was \$7,983,000 and it was recommended to move forward with construction of the expansion of the plant within five years of completion of the Waste-water Facility Plan. However, since that time phosphorus has also become a concern that needs more review. The city also recently worked to purchase 150 acres to expand the Prescott Business Park. The city approved getting the site certified through the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation. The initial report back from Site Selection Group, which was the company that reviewed the site for the WEDC, indicated that our biggest weakness or challenge was a limited wastewater capacity for serving a new user. City staff have met with Cedar Corporation, and they have put together a proposal for updating the City of Prescott Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan for \$40,000. Alderperson Gerke, inquired if building a second plant just for the business park was an option. Hintz/Gerke motioned to move forward to work with Cedar Corporation in the amount of, and not to exceed, \$40,000.00 to come up with plans for wastewater treatment plant options. No further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

4. Space Needs Study & Building Repair Needs Discussion:

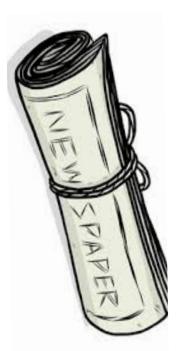
City Administrator, Matt Wolf, reviewed the need for a Space Needs Study and Building Repairs. The city has been working on completing longterm planning for capital improvements. As part of that discussion there was debate on future building costs related to the City Hall, Police, Fire, and Library. The main discussion is how the city wants to handle a number of improvements such as carpet replacement, repaving of the City Hall parking lot, and the Fire Hall and Police buildings general maintenance and repairs. Additionally, as the city continues to grow in the future there will be a need for more space. Cedar Corporation completed a space needs assessment, which is attached. At the January 22, 2024, meeting the Council approved moving forward with exploring site options and costs for a shared public safety building. The current plan for any potential building would not see construction occur until 2029 with anticipated completion in 2030. Council reviewed potential options for a future public safety building and discussed including a future option of adding City Hall to the Public Safety building versus remodeling and adding on to the current City Hall building. Staff will investigate potential options with property owners. No

Granquist/Hintz motioned to adjourn the workshop meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted, Rashel Temmers City Clerk

formal action was taken.

WNAXLP 6 19



PUBLIC Notice

CITY OF PRESCOTT

June 10, 2024, City Council **Meeting Minutes**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, City Council Meeting of the Prescott City Council was held on Monday, June 10, 2024, in the Prescott Municipal Building, 800 Borner St. Prescott, WI 54021.

1. CALL TO ORDER Mayor Daugherty called the regular City Council meeting to order, June 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL Members present for the roll call were Michael Gerke, Maureen Otwell, Adam Granquist, John Peterson, Dar Hintz and Lindsey Sorenson. Also present were City Administrator, Matt Wolf, Clerk, Rashel Temmers and Greg Adams from Cedar Corporation. Also present were city residents and members of the Pickleball Association.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS There were no public com-

4. CONSENT AGENDA 1. Library Board Meeting Minutes - April 18, 2024 2. City Council Meeting Min-

utes – May 13, 2024

Committee Meeting Minutes -March 20, 2024 4. Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – March

3. Parks and Public Works

5. General Fund Balances -May 2024 6. Cash Balances - May 2024

7. Paid Invoices Report - May

8. Special Event Permit Approval – August 11, 2024, Bridge the Valley - Bicycle Rally

at Freedom Park Hintz/Otwell motioned to approve the consent agenda. Alderperson Granquist stated that he was not listed as being present for the Library Board Meeting on April 18, 2024, and he did attend. There was no further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

5. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND COM-**MISSIONS**

5.B PLANNING COMMIS-SION – Next Meeting – Monday, July 1, 2024, at 6:00 PM

5.A FINANCE COMMITTEE

WORKS – Next Meeting – Monday, June 17, 2024, at 5:00 PM

Alderperson, John Peterson reported on the minutes from the Monday, May 20, 2024, meeting. Under Parks, there was discussion on the Public Square Court Reconstruction and Court Reservations. City Administrator, Matt Wolf, brought attention to the fact that the only time the pickleball courts are to be "reserved" is during the Pickleball Association's times of Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 8-10 am. Other than that, the courts are to be used on a first come, first served basis for now, with the committee's right to review this again at a later date. There was also discussion on an anticipated tennis court reconstruction to one tennis court and the other tennis court will be reconstructed into more pickleball courts. Public Works discussion took place regarding the Kinnikinnic and Cherry Street curb and gutter, Canton Street off-street parking, downtown lights and alley and an update on the Freedom Park Foundation.

5.G HEALTH & SAFETY -Next Meeting – Monday, July 8, 2024, at 5:00 PM

Alderperson, Dar Hintz reported on the minutes from the Wednesday, May 29, 2024, meeting. There was discussion on the following topics: 1.) A stop sign on Orange Street. There was traffic testing done on Orange Street and it was noted that there was not enough traffic on Orange Street to warrant a stop sign. Also, since there will not be in town bussing for next school year, the committee will ask the Police Department to do another traffic test to see if there would be a need for a stop sign and the committee would also like to see revised signage in that area. 2.) The public safety issues downtown regarding complaints on party buses and motorcycles. The committee has asked the police chief to keep them updated on any issues going on downtown and any recommendations. 3.) Consideration of emergency management equipment, specifically, a portable electronic message

board and a portable diesel LED light tower and 4.) There was preliminary discussion on a Flock Camera System, where it would be installed and the cost.

5.H PERSONNEL - Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at 5:00 PM

6. COMMUNICATIONS AND **NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 PUBLIC COMMENTS -The City Council will receive public comments on any issue(s) not related to agenda item's. Limited discussion by the City Council may take place; however, no action will be taken on any items. This includes receiving written requests or documentation and possible action at a future meeting.

There were no public com-

6.2. Approval of Concept Plan for Public Square Park Tennis/ Pickleball Courts and use of Courts by the Prescott Pickleball Group

City Administrator, Matt Wolf,

reviewed the Parks and Public Works committee meeting minutes stating the plan to convert one of the tennis courts into 4 more pickleball courts and leave the one tennis court designated just for tennis. The estimated cost is expected to be between \$90,000.00 to \$120,000.00. Staff will be working with the Council in 2024 to update the Capital Improvement Plan for 2025-2032. As part of that plan the reconstruction is recommended to be included. Due to the current state of interest rates the city received interest on investments of \$137,570 pending the final audit by Market & Johnson for 2023. Staff will be recommending those funds be used to cover the tennis court reconstruction. Additionally, if the pickleball courts were requested to be added, the city could request the remaining \$13,000 raised by Prescott Pickleball Courts to be put towards their construction. The City also currently has \$61,700 in Parks Impact Fees that can go towards "capital costs to construct, expand or improve public facilities" specifically regarding parks per Wisconsin State Statute 66.0617. Furthermore, discussion was had regarding no signs or equipment can be put in any parks unless specifically approved and hung by the city and the Prescott Pickleball group can have reserved use of the current courts at their times stated above as well as Mondays from 6-8 pm listed as opén community session. Alderperson Gerke asked who was going to monitor the assigned Administrator, Matt times. Wolf, stated that there will be signage for the assigned times and there will not be any other reserved times. Alderperson Otwell questioned whether or not the courts were open to the public all the time and that per the minutes, Penny Peterson, from PCR, stated that she needed two tennis courts for lessons. Alderperson Peterson stated that yes, the courts are open, except for the assigned times that will be noted on the signage. Alderperson Hintz stated she would speak with Penny regarding the second court if needed. Resident, Kathy Hovel, stated that she has already spoke with Penny. Penny stated that the tennis instructor holds 4 camps starting at age 3 and 4 and goes up to 8 th grade. The younger kids only use a half a tennis court so could use the pickleball court in lieu of a second tennis court. In the total tennis camp, there are 25 kids. Alderperson Peterson stated that there is far more use of the pickleballs courts than the tennis courts and money would be better spent converting one of the tennis courts to pickleball and then the remaining tennis court would become regulation size during the reconstruction. Otwell/Gerke motioned to approve the Approval of Concept Plan B for Public Square Park Tennis/Pickleball Courts . City Administrator, Matt Wolf stated that there also needs to be a motion for the use of the courts by the pickleball group. Alderperson Peterson suggested that the assigned hours be revisited again in 2025 to see how 2024 goes. Motion passed without a negative voice vote for the Approval of the Concept Plan B for Public Square Park. Otwell/Peterson motioned to approve the Reserved Times for the Pickleball Group. No further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

6.3. Resolution 27-24 Approval of Agreement with Harmon Concrete and Construction, Inc. for the Replacement of Curb and Gutter on Cherry and Kinnickinnic Street for

City Administrator, Matt Wolf, discussed Resolution 27-24. City Council approved the mill and overlay of both Cherry Street and Kinnickinnic Street at their March 11, 2024, meeting. As part of the work Public Works will be doing spot curb and gutter replacement, sidewalk widening and replacement, and storm sewer repairs. Public Works has begun pulling sidewalks and reviewing the curb and gutter for the project. Although small areas of the curb can be replaced by Public Works staff. To protect the street and curb

they would like to replace 672' of curb on Cherry Street and Kinnickinnic Street. As a result, due to the amount of work it is being requested this be hired out to a contractor. A quote from Harmon Concrete and Construction (who will be on site doing work for the Elm/ Washington Street project this summer) was received for the work in the amount of \$16,176 . The financing for repairs for Cherry and Kinnickinnic is coming out of TID #4 financing. Currently there is \$165,800 budgeted for the Cherry Street project. The funds for the curb and gutter replacement work would come out of those set aside revenues. Including the bid approval for mill and overlay of Cherry Street so far \$90,593 has been spent. Alderperson Gerke asked if the total cost would be \$90,593 plus the \$16,176. City Administrator, Matt Wolf, stated that yes, the total would be \$106,769. Alderperson Otwell stated that she drove down Kinnickinnic Street and the new sidewalk looks great and complimented the public works crew. Otwell/ Hintz motioned to approve Resolution 27-24 Approval of Agreement with Harmon Concrete and Construction, Inc. for the Replacement of Curb and Gutter on Cherry and Kinnickinnic Street for \$16,176. No further discussion on the motion. Mayor Daugherty called for a rollcall vote; Owens - yes, Peterson - yes, Hintz - yes, Granquist - yes - Otwell yes and Gerke – yes. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

integrity with the new asphalt

6.4. Approval of Wastewater Plant Operator Certification Incentive Program

City Administrator, Matt Wolf, stated that the city only has one certified operator-in-charge for the wastewater treatment plant and although the city can only have one operator-in-charge, staff believes it is best to have at least one other individual trained at that level in case of a resignation, retirement or life-altering event. Many communities offer incentives to pay for individuals to test, receive and maintain their subclass certifications. Staff would like to discuss offering a \$.25 wage bonus per hour for each subclass certificate held plus a \$1 wage bonus per hour if an individual receives and maintains all 6 subclass certificates. This would result in a total potential incentive of \$2.50 per hour. To maintain their certification, it requires 18 hours of continuing education over a three-year period from initial certification to renew. Currently staff would like the Personnel Committee's opinion on this proposal. If it is favorable staff will discuss how we would like to proceed with implementation and gauge feedback or interest from current personnel. Alderperson Gerke stated that this type of certification can possibly take a few years to obtain so if anyone is interested, we should get them started now. **Hintz/Pe**terson motioned to approve the Approval of Wastewater Plant Operator Certification Incentive Program. No further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without

6.5. Resolution 28-24 Informing the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on the Prescott Wastewater Treat-

a negative voice vote.

City Administrator, Matt Wolf, reviewed Resolution 28-24. The City of Prescott every year is required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to complete a Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR). This report is for Prescott Wastewater Treatment Facility under WPDES NO: 0022403 for the year 2023. The purpose of the CMAR is to do a self-audit on how each system is working. It essentially is a scoring report card for the City of Prescott's Wastewater. This report includes every month's flows, sampling numbers for both influent and effluent qualities. Every month is broken down into monthly averages and results found by operators and lab testing numbers. All these results are to show how well the treatment facility is operating and if attention is needed in a certain way or specific area. Many of the treated discharges such as Phosphorus and BOD are broken down with how much energy is consumed to run the plant to achieve the percentage of efficiency. Treatment was great all year for 2023. There was a slight hiccup with a lightning strike that caused some equipment to malfunction and further led to non-compliance in the month of October. The problem was solved, and best management practices were implemented to gain compliance as soon as possible. Prescott's Wastewater Treatment Facility scored a 3.91 GPA out of 4.00. Otwell/Gran-

quist motioned to approve

Resolution 28-24 Informing

the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on the Prescott Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations for 2023. Wolf, let the Council know that we received an grade and commended Plant Operator, Matt Holman, for doing a great job along with the rest of the Public Works Department. There was no further discussion on the motion. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

6.6. Resolution 29-24 Authorizing the City of Prescott to Enter into an Agreement with Cedar Corporation to Update and Complete a Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan for \$40,000

City Administrator, Matt Wolf,

turned over the discussion to

give a overview and break-

down on the Prescott Waste-

water Treatment Plan Facility

Plan brought forth from the

June 5, 2024, Council Work-

shop Meeting. The City of Prescott Wastewater Treat-ment Plant was built in 1970 and further expanded in 1994. The current capacity of the treatment plant is 500,000 gallons per day, but current estimates are that it can safely treat another 14,000 gallons per day. According to the National Environmental Education Foundation the average household in Wisconsin uses about 51 gallons per day. This would allow the city to add about 275 new residential units, however this does not take into account the potential for new commercial or potential industrial users. In 2010 the city completed a Waste-water Facility Plan by MSA. The recommended plan at that time was the addition of a new aerobic digester and expanding the aeration basin capacity. The expected cost at that time was \$7,983,000 and it was recommended to move forward with construction of the expansion of the plant within five years of completion of the Wastewater Facility Plan. However, since that time phosphorus has also become a concern that needs more review. The city also recently worked to purchase 150 acres to expand the Prescott Business Park. The city approved getting the site certified through the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation. The initial report back from Site Selection Group, which was the company that reviewed the site for the WEDC, indicated that our biggest weakness or challenge was a limited wastewater capacity for serving a new user. City staff have met with Cedar Corporation, and they have put together a proposal for updating the City of Prescott Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan for \$40,000. This will be paid for out of the sewer utility fund. Mayor Daugherty asked Greg if the best plan would be to expand the current site. Greg stated that he and the engineers have reviewed the current site's building plans and they are unsure if the current site could be expanded without a complete rebuild. It could be possible that a whole new site may need to be evaluated. Mayor Daugherty asked if a second site could be built and transferred to the current site. Greg stated that could be an option, but not the best option due to extra costs. Alderperson Otwell asked if all of the old plan recommendations of the aeration basin and aerobic digester would be thrown out. Greg stated that these scenarios would be looked at with new data. Granquist/Gerke motioned to approve Resolution 29-24 Authorizing the City of Prescott to Enter into an Agreement with Cedar Corporation to Update and Complete a Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan for \$40,000. Hintz asked if the funds for this would come out of the Sewer Utility Fund. Wolf stated that yes, the funds would come out of the Sewer Utility Fund. There was no further discussion on the Motion. Mayor Daugherty called for a roll-call vote; Owens - yes, Peterson – yes, Hintz – yes, Granquist – yes, Otwell – yes and Gerke - yes. Motion passed without a negative

6.7. Resolution 30-24 Authorizing the City of Prescott to Enter into an Agreement with CBS Squared to Complete a Water Engineering Study for \$18,638

City Administrator, Matt Wolf, reviewed the CBS Squared Water Engineering Report showing the options for remediation to wells #2 and #4 as discussed at the June 5, 2024, Council Workshop. With the new regulations that were released by the EPA on April 10, 2024, the City will need treat, or find, a solution to PFAS in well #2 and #4. The DNR will take up to three years to implement the new standards and then the city will have a certain amount of time to come into compliance, which is currently estimated to be by 2029. Once the treatment addition is

complete, which is scheduled to be done by July 1, 2025, the expected PFAs levels will be .55-.76 ppt for PFOS and 1.53-1.85 ppt for PFOA. Both of these levels will meet the new PFAS standards for well #3. As a result of the new regulations the City would like to begin the first steps to address PFAS in well #2 and well #4. This will be to complete an engineering report to look at options for the supply and treatment of water within the city. The city worked with CBS Squared for the well #3 remediation project and asked them to put together a proposal to complete an engineering report. This report will look at three different options. The options are below, and a map is attached for review: Option 1 includes treatment at existing Well #4 and treatment at existing Well #2. It also includes increasing the capacity of Well #2 from 500 gpm to 1,000 gpm. Option 2 includes treatment at existing Well #4, abandonment of existing Well #2, and construction of Well #5 near Well #4 for treatment at Well #4 water treatment plant. Option 3 includes treatment at existing Well #4, abandonment of existing Well #2, and construction of Well #5 in the Great Rivers subdivision, in the southeast portion of the city. The water quality at future Well #5 will need to be analyzed and if needed, a water treatment plant will be constructed at Well #5. Since well #3 initially began as a nitrate exceedance issue, the water engineering study will also evaluate nitrate trends at well #2 and well #4 to evaluate if nitrate treatment will be needed within the next 20 years. Water treatment equipment analysis and cost estimations will also be included for each option. The overall cost for the report is \$18,638. If approved the funds would come out of the water fund. Hintz/Otwell motioned to approve Resolution 30-24 Authorizing the City of Prescott to Enter into an Agreement with CBS Squared to Complete a Water Engineering Study not to exceed \$18,638 and will come out of the Water Utility Fund . Otwell asked if the Clean Water Act money would still be around when we get around to choosing one of the options. Wolf stated that the Clean Water Act Fund was specifically for sewer treatment but the Safe Drinking Water Loan Funds should still be around as they just released the new regulations that there was \$1 billion in additional funding to help with remediations. There was no further discussion on the motion. Mayor Daugherty called for

7. OTHER BUSINESS

voice vote.

a roll-call vote; Owens - yes, Peterson – yes, Hintz – yes, Granquist – yes, Otwell – yes and Gerke – yes. Motion

passed without a negative

City Administrator, Matt Wolf, made an announcement that the Planning Grant that was applied for through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) was approved for up to \$194,000.00. Cedar Corporation submitted a grant application to TAP on the cities behalf for a planning study for implementing a safe pedestrian crossing on Hwy 10.

2. Matt Wolf also gave an update on the compost site. The upgrades are done we are now just waiting for the internet to get hooked up to get the QR reader and gate arm

8. CLOSED SESSION No closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT Hintz/Granquist motioned to adjourn the Council meeting at 6:58 p.m. Motion passed without a negative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted, Rashel Temmers

WNAXLP 6 19

TOWN OF OAK GROVE June 24: Town Board Meeting

The Oak Grove town board will hold a special meeting regarding 570th Ave. roadwork beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 24, at the Oak Grove town hall, located at N4939 1100 th St., 54021. AGENDA: 1) Call to order. 2) Roll call. 3) Review bid submissions and engineering recommendations for 2024 project to install precast box culvert at stream crossing located on 570th Ave. between 1220th and 1242nd Streets. Discuss/take action to award project. 4) Public Comments (brief; no áction). 5) Adjourn.

Note: This summary agenda is provided as a courtesy to supplement the Town's official notices. Information was current when submitted but may be subject to change. Official notices & agendas are posted at the town hall and online at www.co.pierce.wi.us (click Government > Municipal > Town > Oak Grove). --Andria Hayday, Town Clerk

Ellsworth Community School District Ellsworth, Wisconsin May 13, 2024, special school board meeting minutes The Ellsworth Community School District Board of Education met on Monday, May 13, 2024, for a special school board meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by current Vice President

Susan Beck. Members pres-

ent as identified by a roll call: Susan Beck, Kurt Buckner, Gary Kressin, Steve Mark, Michael Petersen, Mark Stoesz, and Julie Lundstrom. Nominations were opened for the office of school board President. Motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Michael Petersen to nominate Julie Lundstrom for the office of President. After calling for additional nominations twice without any additional nominations presented, a roll call vote was taken. Susan Beckyes, Kurt Buckner- yes, Gary Kressin- yes, Steve Mark- yes, Michael Petersen- yes, Mark Stoesz- yes, Julie Lundstrom-yes. Motion passed 7-0.

Nominations were opened for the office of school board Vice President. Motion was made by Julie Lundstrom, seconded by Mark Stoesz to nominate Susan Beck for the office of Vice President. After calling for additional nominations twice without any additional nominations presented, a roll call vote was taken. Susan Beckyes, Kurt Buckner- yes, Gary Kressin- yes, Steve Mark- yes, Michael Petersen- yes, Mark Stoesz- yes, Julie Lundstrom- yes. Motion passed 7-0.

Nominations were opened for the office of school board Clerk. Motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Julie Lundstrom to nominate Kurt Buckner for the office of Clerk. After calling for additional nominations twice without any additional nominations presented, a roll call vote was taken. Susan Beck- yes, Kurt Buckner- yes, Gary Kressin-yes, Steve Mark- yes, Michael Petersen- yes, Mark Stoesz-yes, Julie Lundstrom- yes. Motion passed 7-0.

Nominations were opened for the office of school board Treasurer. Motion was made by Kurt Buckner, seconded by Julie Lundstrom to nominate Michael Petersen for the office of Treasurer. After calling for additional nominations twice without any additional nominations presented, a roll call vote was taken. Susan Beckyes, Kurt Buckner- yes, Gary Kressin- yes, Steve Mark- yes, Michael Petersen- yes, Mark Stoesz- yes, Julie Lundstrom- yes. Motion passed 7-0.

Julie Lundstrom assumed the role of President of the Board.

The following school board committees were appointed:

- Budget and Finance-Chair Julie Lundstrom, Steve Mark, Michael
- Petersen Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation- Chair Kurt Buckner, Susan Beck, Julie Lundstrom
- Communications- Chair Susan Beck, Kurt Buckner, Mark Stoesz Curriculum- Chair Steve
- Mark, Gary Kressin, Michael Petersen
- Personnel/Negotiations-Chair Mark Stoesz, Julie Lundstrom, Gary Kressin

The following school board liaisons were appointed:

- Ellsworth Elementary School- Susan Beck and Michael Petersen Ellsworth Middle School-
- Julie Lundstrom and Mark Stoesz Ellsworth High School-Gary Kressin and Steve
- Bus Garage- Kurt Buckner and Michael Petersen

Mark

A motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Mark Stoesz to appoint Kurt Buckner as the delegate to the CESA Annual Delegate Convention which will be held on June 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in Turtle Lake. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Gary Kressin to appoint Kurt Buckner as delegate and Michael Petersen as the alternate to the WASB Convention held in Milwaukee on January 22-24, 2025. Motion carried unani-

Superintendent Cain presented the proposed 2024-2025 school year meeting dates. Motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Kurt Buckner to approve the proposed school board meeting dates as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Michael Petersen. Motion carried unanimous-

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

WNAXLP 6 19

PUBLIC Notice

Ellsworth Community **School District** Ellsworth, Wisconsin May 13, 2024, school board meeting minutes

Ellsworth Community School District Board of Education met on Monday, May 13, 2024, for a regular school board meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by President Julie Lundstrom. Members present as identified by a roll call: Susan Beck, Kurt Buckner, Gary Kressin, Julie Lundstrom, Steven Mark, Michael Petersen, and Mark

The school board made the following acknowledgements: Jocelyn Boyle, Class of 2024 Valedictorian and winner of the Herb Kohl scholarship

 Kayla Kressin, Class of 2024 Salutatorian

Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Kurt Buckner to approve the April 1, 2024, school board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Mark Stoesz to approve the April 2, 2024, special school board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Kurt Buckner to approve the April 8, 2024, special school board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Gary Kressin, seconded by Michael Petersen to approve the April 16, 2024, special school board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Gary Kressin to approve the April 25, 2024, special school board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Julie Lundstrom presented the March 2024 financial report for school board approval. Motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Michael Petersen to approve the March 2024 financial report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The April 2024 financial report will be presented at the June 10, 2024, school board meet-

Superintendent Cain presented the proposed maintenance, technology, transportation, and athletic projects for the 2024-2025 school year. School board members proceeded to the second floor of EES to view the library space for additional needs. Discussion was neid regarding Motion projects. proposed was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Gary Kressin to approve the projects as listed in their entirety with the library space project to be funded through Fund 46 pending receiving the project bid. Roll call vote: Susan Beck- yes, Kurt Buckner- yes, Gary Kressin- yes, Julie Lundstrom- no, Steve Mark- no, Michael Petersen- yes, Mark Stoesz- yes. Motion carried 5-2.

School Board Committee reports:

The Curriculum Committee did not meet.

• The Negotiations and Personnel Committee did not

• The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee did not meet. The Budget and Finance

Committee met regarding the 2024-2025 budget model updates and reviewed the projects presented earlier in the meeting. The Communications Com-

mittee did not meet. Clerk Buckner updated

school board members on events happening at CESA.

There were no registrants for public comment.

Superintendent Cain presented the personnel report for school board approval. Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Susan Beck to approve the personnel report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Elijah Dorsey, High School Science Teacher Alexandria Dvorak, Elementary 3rd Grade Teacher Megan Feist, School Psychologist

Grace Groh, Elementary Special Education Teacher Riley Jahnke, Elementary 4th Grade Teacher Michelle Jansen, Math Spe-

Stephen Kennedy, High School English Teacher Olivia Lynner, Elementary Kindergarten Teacher

Myah Olson, Elementary 4th Grade Teacher Allison Wendt, High School Math Teacher

Kelly Carlin, Special Education Administrative Assistant

Josh Erlandson, Middle School

Ralph Gilbertson, Bus Garage Assistant Mechanic Kissinger, Amanda School Phy Ed Teacher Mark Matzek, High School Wrestling Coach Brooke Minder, High School JV Volleyball Coach James Neu, Middle School 7th Grade Football Coach Ruby Straub, Elementary School Teaching Assistant Julie Winger, High School Food Service Staff

Vicki Boyd, Elementary Special Education Teaching Assis-

Laura Hodges, transfer from Elementary Teaching Assistant to Special Education Administrative Assistant

Extra/Co-Curricular: Lisa Bench, 5th Grade Team Karine Coulson, 4YK Team

Leader Mandy Heitman, Guiding Coalition Kindergarten represen-

Kendyl Horn, 3rd Grade Team Leader Becky Hoyt, 4th Grade Team Leader

Stephanie Jensen, Middle School Assistant Track Coach Katerina Musgrave, Guiding Coalition EES Specialist representative Lindsey Paul, 2nd Grade

Team Leader Ashley Pritchard, EES Specialist Team Leader Tyler Sampson, High School Boys Assistant Tennis Coach (Booster paid) Emily Stiemann, 1st Grade

Team Leader Hilary Thom, Guiding Coalition EES Pupil Services represen-

Motion was made by Kurt Buckner, seconded by Michael Petersen to approve the Pierce County Journal as the school district newspaper. Motion carried unani-

Motion was made by Mark Stoesz, seconded by Michael Petersen to designate CCF Bank as the official school district bank. Motion carried unanimously

Motion was made by Kurt Buckner, seconded by Michael Petersen to designate the following as approved investment agencies for the school district: Wisconsin Local Government Investment Pool, Associated Bank, Hiawatha National Bank, BMO, WESTconsin Credit Union, MidWestOne Bank, Citizens Community Federal Bank), American Deposit Management Company (ADM), and Bank of America. Motion amed unanimously

Motion was made by Kurt Buckner, seconded by Michael Petersen to set the date of May 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. for a special school board meeting to discuss open enrollment applications and employee wage considerations. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Michael Petersen to approve the updates for the Special Education Administrative Assistant job description as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Building administrators Travis Logslett, Olin Morrison, and Jason Janke presented the drill report from the May 6, 2024, district wide AL-ICE drill. Motion was made by Michael Peterson, seconded by Mark Stoesz to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the first sale of bonds from the 2024 facilities referendum. Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Susan Beck to approve the resolution establishing parameters for the sale of not to exceed \$14,400,000 general obligation promissory notes. Roll vote: Susan Beck- yes, Kurt Buckner- yes, Gary Kressin- yes, Julie Lundstrom- yes, Steve Mark- yes, Michael Petersen- yes, Mark Stoesz- yes. Motion carried 7-0.

The Wellness Committee report was presented to the school board. There were not any substantive changes made, just changes technical

Superintendent Cain reported on the weekly construction meetings occurring regarding upcoming referendum proj ects along with upcoming end of the school year dates.

Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Gary Kressin to move to closed session as authorized by State Statute 19.85 (1)(c) to consider the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility and (f) to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific

persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems with the agenda topics of public complaint, March 18, 2024, special meeting closed session minutes, April 1, 2024, special meeting closed session minutes, April 2, 2024, special meeting closed session minutes. April 16, 2024, special meeting closed session minutes, April 25, 2024, special meeting closed session minutes. Roll call vote: Susan Beck- yes, Kurt Buckner- yes, Gary Kressin- yes, Julie Lundstrom- yes, Steve Mark- yes, Michael Petersen- yes, Mark Stoesz- yes. Motion carried 7-0.

The meeting moved into closed session at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened in open session at 8:22 pm.

No action was taken after the board reconvened into open

Motion was made by Susan Beck, seconded by Steve Mark to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

WNAXLP 6 19

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, PIERCE COUNTY

Notice Setting Time to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration) Case No. 24PR39

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROGER DUANE CHRISTIANdeceased

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: 1. An application for informal

administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth January 22, 1953 and date of death April 1, 2024, was domiciled in Pierce County, State of WI, with a mailing address of 423 W Highland

Drive Ellsworth, WI 54011.

3. The application will be heard at the Pierce County Courthouse, Ellsworth, Wisconsin, Room, before, Probate registrar, on July 19,24 at 2:00pm

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 9-12.24.

5. A claim may be filed at the Pierce County Courthouse, Ellsworth, Wisconsin, Room

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

If you require reasonable accommodations 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 transporta-

Form completed by: Reginald Christiansen 582 W Dale Street, PO Box 561 Ellsworth, WI 54011 Telephone Number 715-307-8170

WNAXLP 6 12 19 26

Ellsworth Community School District Ellsworth, Wisconsin May 29, 2024, special school board meeting minutes

Ellsworth School District Board of Education met on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, for a special school board meeting. The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by President Julie Lundstrom. Members present as identified by a roll call: Susan Beck, Kurt Buckner, Gary Kressin, Michael Petersen, Mark Stoesz and Julie Lundstrom. Steven Mark was absent and arrived at 4:53 p.m.

Superintendent Cain presented the open enrollment applications for the 2024-2025 school year. He recommended approving all of the open enrollment application quests to transfer in and all of the open enrollment requests to transfer out as presented. Motion was made by Gary Kressin, seconded by Michael Petersen to approve the open enrollment application quests as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Cain presented considerations for staff wages for the 2024-2025 school year as recommended by the Personnel Committee. The committee's recommendations include a 2% wage increase for extra/co-curricular contracts and a 3.5% wage increase for all staff. Based on the alternative compensation model, this would amount

PIERCE COUNTY JOURNAL to a \$1,188.73 increase per education coordinator position.

> Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Gary Kressin to add an additional \$2,000 base wage increase to Andrew Borner's, Ashley Halverson's, and Deb Ristow's 3.5 % wage increase. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding compensation for Superintendent Barry Cain during the transition time allowing up to five additional contract days to work with new incoming superintendent Brian Nadeau. Compensation would be at his per diem rate for up to five days unless receiving approval for additional days by Julie

before July 12, 2024, with the extension of his health insurance benefit through the month of July. Motion was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Gary Kressin to approve the contract extension as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Lundstrom, Board President,

Page B-7

The meeting did not move into closed session.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michael Petersen, seconded by Susan Beck. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at

WNAXLP 6 19

CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN NOTICE OF RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing on the following Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage License Applications will be held at 6:31 pm, Tuesday, June 25, 2024, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 222 Lewis St. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

COMBINATION "CLASS A" LICENSES - Renewals

4201 Bagley Ave., Fairbault, MN Dolgencorp LLC 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, TN Erickson's Diversified Corp. 850 76th St. SW, Byron Center, MI Indianhead Oil Co., LLC PO Box 347, Columbus, IN

Āldi #49 1567 Sullivan Ct. Dollar General 320 N Main St. Family Fresh #322 303 S. Main St. Holiday #8 302 S. Main St. **COMBINATION "CLASS B" LICENSES - Renewals**

Castro Corporation 4312 Crest Ct, Eau Claire, WI JKLM Enterprises LLC

366 Cemetery Rd. Tarnation Tavern 128 N Main St.

June 19, 2024

each full time teaching staff

depending on their eligibility

along with any other alterna-

tive compensation that they

are qualified for. Motion was

made by Gary Kressin, seconded by Mark Stoesz to ap-

prove a 3.5% wage increase

for all staff, excluding adminis-

trators pending the completion

of administrative reviews. Mo-

Discussion was held in re-

gards to individual staff com-

pensation. Motion was made

by Michael Petersen to add

an additional \$3,000 to Ath-

letic Director Kevin Haglund's

3.5% base wage increase for

the added duty of community

Gary Kressin, seconded

tion carried unanimously.

106 N Main St. Paddy's Pub & Boxty House 212 S. Main St. Tarnation Tavern 128 N. Main St.

BEER LICENSES - CLASS "B" - Renewals

Burrito X.Com

River Falls Baseball Council, Inc. River Falls Baseball Council 600 Hanson Dr. PO Box 661 600 Hanson Dr.

WINE LICENSES - "CLASS C" - Renewals

River Falls Baseball Council, Inc. River Falls Baseball Council 600 Hanson Dr. PO Box 661 600 Hanson Dr.

Persons having any objections to the granting of such licenses may file their objections with the City Clerk, 222 Lewis Street, River Falls, WI, 54022, on or before the 23rd day of June 2024.

Dated this 12th day of June, 2024

Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk Posted: June 12, 2024 Published: June 19, 2024

WNAXLP 6 19

PUBLIC NOTICE: CITY OF RIVER FALLS OPEN BOOK SCHEDULE

According to Wis. Stats. 70.45, the City of River Falls assessment roll for the year 2024 assessment will be open for examination on July 8, 1 - 3 p.m. Accurate Appraisal, LLC, the city's assessment contractor, will conduct Open Book discussions to assist taxpayers in understanding their

Open Book appointments can be made online at https://accurateassessor.com/ or by calling Accurate Appraisal at 920-749-8098.

All inquiries regarding 2024 assessments should be made during this public inspection period, which precedes the closing and certification of the assessment roll.

Notice hereby give the 4th day of June, 2024

Amy L. White, City Clerk Publish: June 19, 2024 Posted: June 4, 2024

WNAXLP 6 19

CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Common Council of the City of River Falls will conduct a public hearing Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at City Hall, 222 Lewis Street, on the following:

Ordinance 2024-03 Amending the Membership of the Plan Commission in Section 2.56.010 - Administration and Personnel of the Municipal Code – First Reading

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. Proposed ordinances are available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall at 222 Lewis Street, or on the City's website (www.rfcity.org) under the "agenda center" corresponding to the date listed above.

Dated this 13th day of June 2024.

Kristi McKahan, Deputy City Clerk

Publish: The Pierce County Journal June 19, 2024

City Hall June 13, 2024

WNAXLP 6 19

CITY OF RIVER FALLS NOTICE OF LIQUOR LICENSE HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held at 6:33 pm, Tuesday, June 25, 2024, in the Council Chambers at City Hall for the license listed below.

Combination "Class A" Liquor and Class "A" Beer License

Ptaceks Family Ptaceks Family Market Inc Liquor 1141 S Main Street 1141 S Main Street River Falls, WI

Persons having any objections to the granting of such license may file their objections with the City Clerk, 222 Lewis Street, River Falls, WI 54022, on or before the 25 th day of June, 2024.

Dated this 12th day of June, 2024

Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk Publish: The Pierce County Journal: 6/19/24

Posted at City Hall: 6/12/24

WNAXLP 6 19

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT PIERCE COUNTY

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No 24CV94

IN THE MATTER OF THE **NAME CHANGE OF Nancy** Lee Oberlander

By (Petitioner) Nancy Lee Oberlander

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From: [First] Nancy [Middle] Lee [Last] Oberlander

To: [First] Nancy [Middle] Lee [Last] Gwilt-Hildebrandt

Birth Certificate: [First] Nancy

[Middle] Lee [Last] Rustad

IT IS ORDERED:

This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of PIERCE County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Judge Elizabeth Rohl Place: Pierce County Court-

house, WEST Courtroom 414 W Main Street, Ellsworth, WI 54011 Date: July 24, 2024 Time: 11:15 pm

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Pierce County Journal, a newspaper published in PIERCE County, State of Wisconsin.

WNAXLP 6 19 26, 7 3

PUBLIC Notice

CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Common Council of the City of River Falls will conduct a public hearing Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at City Hall, 222 Lewis Street, on the following:

Ordinance 2024-02 - An Ordinance Rezoning Certain Cityowned lands in the Mann Valley Corporate Park to Corporate Park District – Second Reading and Disposition

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. Proposed ordinances are available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall at 222 Lewis Street, or on the City's website (www.rfcity.org) under the "agenda center" corresponding to the date listed above.

Dated this 3rd day of June 2024.

Kristi McKahan, Deputy City Clerk

Publish: The Pierce County Journal

2024

June 12 and 19.

Post: City Hall

June 3, 2024

WNAXLP 6 12 19

CITY OF PRESCOTT PUBLIC NOTICE

The following have applied for intoxicating beverage licenses in the City of Prescott for the period beginning July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Notice is hereby given that the following have applied for a Class "B" Combination License:

Prescott Grill LLC dba Two Rivers Lodge Bar & Grill, Matthew D. Hoerning, Agent 117 Broad St. N, **Muddy Waters Investment LLC dba Muddy Waters.**, 231 Broad St. N., Eric Christenson, Agent, Melons Joints Inc., dba No Name Saloon 114 Broad St. N., Tera Robertson, Agent, Pierce Grill LLC. dba Prescott Tap, 138 Broad St., Matthew Hoerning, Agent, Castelloe Madsen Post 61 American Legion, 701 Pearl St. N, Neil J. Riley, Agent, Schickling LLC dba Scab's Place ,145 Broad St. N. Allan Schickling, Agent Restaurant Managers of Prescott Inc. dba Philander's Grill & Bar, 1000 US Hwy 10, James Kariesch, Agent, Café 214 L.L.C. dba Kitchen Table Grill and Bar , 211 Broad St., Aaron Wolf, Agent, Louies LLC dba Lucille's, 216 Broad St., Kimberly A. Braun, Agent, Ptacek's IGA Inc dba The Old Ptacek's Even Center, 1449 Orrin Rd, Patrick M. Ptacek, Agent.

The following have applied for a Class "A" Combination License:

Triple J Liquor, LLC, 302 N. Lake Street, Jeremy Boles, Agent, St. Croix Liquor LLC, 20 Orange Street, Larry Johnson, Agent, Leo's Landing, Inc., 137 Front Street, Colton Anderson, Agent, Kwik Trip Inc, 1200 Henry St., Eli J. Spielman, Agent, Ptacek's IGA Inc. dba Ptacek's Food, 1005 Eagle Ridge Dr., Patrick M. Ptacek's Agent Patrick M. Ptacek, Agent.

The following have applied for a Class "B" Beer License: Marselena A. Hernandez dba Enriques, 310 Lake Street, Crazy about Baseball (CAB), 265 Flora St. S, Charles Block,

The following have applied for a Class "B" Beer License & Class "C" Wine License:
Point St. Croix Marina Inc., 101 Front Street, Troy Urman,

Agent, Prescott Roadhouse LLC, 127 Broad St., James Krubsack, Agent, Johnson Trio, LLC, dba Papa Tronnio's Pizza, 202 Broad St N, Mary Johnson, Agent.

The following have applied for a Class "A" Beer & Class A <u>Liquor (Cider Only) License:</u>

Indianhead Oil Co., LLC dba Holiday Stationstore #476., 236 Broad St N., Linda Prusha, Agent.

The applications for these licenses will be reviewed at the City Council meeting on June 24, 2024, at approximately 6:00 pm

Published: June 13, 2024

June 20.

WNAXLP 6 12 19

2024

PIERCE COUNTY WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF LAND MANAGEMENT & RECORDS **Notice of Public Hearing**

State of Wisconsin)) ss. County of Pierce)

Public notice is hereby given to all persons in Pierce County, Wisconsin, that a public hearing will be held on the 27 th day of June, 2024, at 7 pm, in the County Boardroom in the Courthouse Annex, Ellsworth, WI, before the Board of Adjustment to consider and take action on a request for a Conditional Use Permit for a Lift in the St. Croix Riverway District, in the Rural Residential-12 Zoning District pursuant to Pierce County Code § 239-8C(4) & § 239-10M for Garth D & Jennifer E Mueller, owners on property described as Lot 6, Cedar-St. Croix Government Lot 2 of Section 03, T26N, R20W, Town of Clifton, Pierce County, WI.

Public attendance is available in person or virtually with the link or phone number provided below:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83224359426?pwd=0M5V5aUqveo-LBDKEÍ3iE7qW8cUjt1W.1

Meeting ID Number: 832 2435 9426 United States: + 1 (312) 626-6799

Password: 103046 Access Code: 103046

All persons interested are invited to said hearing and to be

Adam Adank Zoning Administrator Pierce County, Wisconsin

CUP: Garth Mueller/BOA.PH.24.1

WNAXLP 6 12 19

VILLAGE OF ELLSWORTH **Public Notice**

Notice is hereby given that the following establishments have submitted an application for the sale of intoxicating liquor and/ or fermented malt beverages in the Village of Ellsworth for the period beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

"Class A" Beer: Northern Tier Retail, LLC, dba Speedway #4241, 176 W. Main St. Agent – Terri Ann Howe

"Class A" Liquor: Indianhead Oil Co., LLC, dba Holiday Stationstore #481, 456 W. Main St.

Agent - Dean Bernardin

"Class A" Beer and Liquor: Family Dollar Stores of Wisconsin LLC, dba Family Dollar Store #22637, 181 E. Main St., Agent – Steven Lowery

Submitted by:

Brad Roy, Village Administrator/Clerk-Tres.

WNAXLP 6 19

TOWN OF CLIFTON Request for Bids: Fire Protection Well

The Town of Clifton, Pierce County is seeking bids from qualified contractors for the construction and installation of fire protection well. This well will serve as a critical water source for fire and rescue operations. The project includes drilling, well casing, pump installation, and all associated works.

Interested bidders are invited to submit their proposals by July 20, 2024. All bids must include a detailed project plan, estimated costs, timeline for completion, and relevant experience in similar projects. For a copy of the request for proposal and bid documents, please contact Town of Clifton Chair, Joe Rohl at jsrohl@, outlook.com or Town of Clifton Clerk, Kris Johnson at townofcliftonclerk@gmail.com

WNAXLP 6 19

TOWN OF ELLSWORTH ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PROJECT: 490 th Avenue CTH C to USH 10 Pierce County Town of Ellsworth July 11, 2024 9:00 am, Local Time BID DEAD-

LINE: NOTICE

Sealed bid proposals for the above project will be received by Roger Billeter, Chairman, Town of Ellsworth, at the Ellsworth Town Hall, W6058 490th Avenue, Ellsworth, WI 54011 beginning 1/2 hour prior to the Bid Deadline. Immediately thereafter, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. (Note: The Ellsworth Town Hall does not receive mail and is not normally staffed. Bids delivered more than 1 hour prior to the Bid Deadline, or sent via U.S. Mail or a package carrier, can be sent to Roger Billeter, Chairman, Town of Ellsworth, N6207 490th Street, Beldenville, WI 54003).

In general, the project consists of reconstruction of approximately 1.111 miles of 490 th Avenue. The project includes removing the existing pavement, grading, breaker run, pipe replacement, base aggregate, and HMA paving.

A single prime bid will be received for the work.

BID SECURITY

Bids must be accompanied by bid security in the amount of 10% of the maximum bid amount. Bid and bid security may not be withdrawn for a period of time as specified in the Wis. Dept. of Transportation Standard Specifications

Bid security will be retained if the Bidder is awarded the Work and fails to execute the Contract and furnish 100% Performance and Payment Bonds.

PROJECT FUNDING

This project is receiving funding under the 2024-2025 Local Roads Improvement Project (LRIP).

Bidders shall be experienced in this type of work and be prequalified with the Wis. Dept. of Transportation for work in the class and amount of their bid or shall complete the Statement of Bidder's Qualifications bound with the proposal. The Statement of Bidder's Qualifications, if completed, shall be returned with the proposal.

RIGHTS RESERVED

Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities in any bid.

BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Bidding documents may be obtained in PDF electronic format by download from the Quest Construction Data Network website, accessible via www.AyresAssociates.com by clicking on the "Bidding" link, for a non-refundable fee of \$44.00.

For technical questions on the project, contact Mark Petersen, PE at 715.834.3161.

Published by authority of: Town of Ellsworth

WNAXLP 6 19 26

PIERCE COUNTY Classified Ads

Email your classified submission to jack@thepaperboy.news

Class A Drivers Needed Full/Part-time. Days or Nights Start Immediately Call Tasha @ 651.380.2892

American steel carports from \$1,995 garages from \$3,010 sizes from 12' x 20' to 30' x 50' many styles and colors built on your site included! Country barn yard quality wooden sheds

80 Sheds in stock or custom build from \$3,217 delivered! Wacouta Motors 28112 Red Wing, MN Tues-Sat 651-388-8138 Butch



Commercial

Agricultural

PURCHASE!





FREE \$50 WALMART GIFT CARD WITH FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE!

CAMPUS News

Iowa State University

AMES, Iowa - More than 4,450 graduates received degrees from Iowa State University this spring. Graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremonies were held May 9-11 at Hilton Coliseum.

Of the 4,455 students who graduated in May, a total of 4,591 degrees were awarded (3,884 undergraduate, 552 graduate and 155 professional) with some students earning multiple degrees.

Following are graduates from Pierce County:

Ellsworth: Andrew Harrington, Bachelor of Science, Journalism and Mass Communication, Cum Laude

Prescott: Lauran Korfhage, Bachelor of Science, Microbiology, Cum Laude

AMES, Iowa - More than 10.600 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the spring semester 2024 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must earn a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

The following students are from the area:

Ellsworth: Austin Richard **Brand,** junior, Agronomy; **Andrew William Harrington,** senior, Journalism and Mass Communication

Prescott: Ellen Claire Hira, junior, Aerospace Engineering; Ava Marie Stella, sophomore, Elementary Education

River Falls: Dylan Douglas Brathol, sophomore, Finance; Griffin Joseph Cegielski, sophomore, Electrical Engineering; Maura Christiansen. sophomore, Pre-Biomedical Engineering; Sophy Lenore Haydon, sophomore, Business Undeclared

Bemidji State University

BEMIDJI, Minn. - Students listed below have earned dean's list honors at Bemidji State University for the Spring 2024 semester.

To be eligible for BSU's dean's list, students must enroll in at least 12 credits and earn a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher for the semester. A total of 559 students earned Spring 2024 dean's list honors from BSU.

Bemidji State University Spring 2024 Dean's List Hon-

Prescott: Avery Amidon River Falls: Michael Schur-

UW-River Falls

RIVER FALLS - The spring semester Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls has been released by Registrar Kelly Browning. It honors 1,456 students.

To be named to the Dean's List, a full-time undergraduate must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 on a scale of 4.0, or midway between an "A" and "B" average. Area students are listed below by name, hometown and major.

Beldenville: Rheanna Oberg, Animal Science; Gen**evieve Peterson,** Business Administration; Ruby Straub,

Elementary Educaiton Ellsworth: Mason Anderson, Marketing; Jenna Bechel, Social Work; Kallie Beissel, Business Administration; **Logan Benson,** Health and Human Performance; Hunter **Davis, Physics, Mathematics;** Jamie Gonzalez Diaz, Modern Language; Danielle Gregorson, Social Work; Emily Groen, Animal Science; Rafael Mooney, English; Alex Pazdernik, Environmental Science; **Maddox Person**, Accounting; Benjamin Rayne, Administration; Business **Matthew Reese,** Computer Science and Information Systems; **Sethan Rohl,** Music; Ashlyn Sallander, Pscyhology Elmwood: Kendra Kern,

Social Work

Hager City: Marissa Early, Broad Field Social Studies; **Allison Jennings,** Health and Human Performance: MaKayla Mears, Biomedical and Health Science; Jo**seph Nauman,** Social Work Maiden Rock: **Payton Kopp,** Engineering Technology; Ambrose Malles, Accounting, Economics; Sophia Vogel, Broad Field Social Studies

Plum City: Grace Hinrichs, Psychology

Prescott: Payton Bartsch,

Health and Human Performance; Wyatt Bauch, Social Work; Roman Davenport, Business Administration; An-

drew Flatz, Data Science, Mathematics; Austin Fox, Mathematics; Graciela Franco, Communication Studies; John Gray, Engineering Technology; Kyle Holman, Business Administration; Mad**eleine Horn,** Conservation and Environmental Planning; Megan Johnson, Business Administration; Ryan Jorke, Social Work; Zoe Logan, Neuroscience, Criminology; Marguerite Pagnotta, Elementary Education; Samantha Rickers, Social Work; Caleb Royal, Health and Human Performance; Benjamin Strandmark, Computer Science and Information Systems; Rylee **Tieman-Hoyer,** Social Work River Falls: **Haley Adkins,** Animal Science; Jesse Ahlgren, Marketing Communications, Stage and Screen Arts; Bryce Anderson, Computer Science and Information Systems; Jayda Anderson, Accounting; Josh Anderson, Health and Human Performance; Courtney Barrois, Business Administration; Luthien Bloom. English: Natalie Bostrom, Agricultural Business, Animal Science; Hunter Damsgard, Business Administration; Meggan Daniels, Marketing Communications; Zachary Datt, Food Science and Technology; Hollis Davis, Psychology, Art; Carolyn Decheine, Management; Yihong Deng, Food Science and Technology; Kaitlyn Dicus, Criminology, Chemistry; Jacob Diel, Biomedical and Health Science; Barbara Dittrich, Animal Science; **Luke Dovenmuehler,** Psychology; **Tamara Dow**, Health and Human Performance; Taylor DuMond, Animal Science, Pre-Professional; Carter Ehlers, International Studies; Amelia Evanoff, Communication Studies, Marketing Communications; **Joseph Foss**, Business Administra-Joseph tion; Nyssa George, Art; Joshua Godden, Health and Human Performance; Ethan Greene, Accounting, Business Administration; Lily Grif**fin**, Business Administration; Jackson Hall, English; Michell Hall, Psychology; John Hansen, Psychology; Johan Harworth, Music, English; Sophia Heiberg, Marketing Communications, Communication Studies; Danell Horvath, Elementary Education: Annabelle Jensen, Horticulture, Modern Language; Talitha Jensen, Elementary Education; Jada Johnson, Animal Science, Pre-Professional; Zachary Johnson, Health and Human Performance; Michael **Kerr,** Elementary Education; Emma Knobloch, Elementary Education; Jaden Kolker, Psychology; Michael Krueger, Physics; Kathryn Kruse, An-Science, Pre-Professional; **Kyla Kubera**, Health and Human Performance; Jonathan Landsverk, Agricultural Education; Michael Langford. Physics: Melanie Lewis, Elementary Education; Alysa Malm, Fine Arts; Loni Marra, Animal Science; Dylan Martinez, Political Science; Lillian Mason, Social Work; Izzy Melgaard, Biology; Olivia Miller, Conservation and Environmental Planning; Angelo Mitrou, Physics; Rachel Monson Finstuen, Communication Sciences and Disorders; Madeline Nelson, Animal Science; Olivia Nelson, Neuroscience, Psychology; Owen Newton, Mathematics; Taylor Nielson, Food Science and Technology; Gabriel Olson-Jensen, Horticulture; Tiffinni Pawlak, Marketing Communications; Morgan Prigge, Communication Sciences and Disorders; Anthony Rivera Rivera, Computer Science and Information Systems; Benjamin Rohl, Data Science; Anabelle Roy, Political Science; Holly Saumer, Elementary Education; James Schertz, Mathematics; Madelyn Schmidt, Business Administration; Ryan Schneider, Physics; Alexa Schreten**thaler,** Psychology; **Oliver Sigwarth**, Computer Science and Information Systems;

Social Work; Christopher Szczech, Animal Science; Charles Varien, Geography Claire Vaught, Communica-

tion Sciences and Disorders, Music; Grace Wachtler, Business Administration; Lezlie Weyer, Mathematics; Mason Wilhelmy, Marketing; Erik Winberg, English; Maci Wruck, Psychology; Zabel, Marketing Communications.

Communication Studies.

Donovan Smith, English;

Meghan Starkey, Marketing,

Finance; Zachary Stefanich,

Computer Science and In-

formation Systems; Jasmine

Stein, Marketing Commu-

nications, Communication Studies; Liam Stein, Com-

puter Science and Informa-

tion Systems; Erin Syverson,

The Ellsworth Class of 2024 shared a night of accolades on Sunday, May 19 in the Ellsworth High School Cafetorium.

All photos by Jack McLoone



Ellsworth School Board member Gary Kressin congratulates Valedictorian Jocelyn Boyle at the May 19 Ellsworth High School awards ceremony.



Ellsworth School Board member Gary Kressin embraces his daughter Kayla Kressin, the Class of 2024 Salutatorian, at the EHS awards night event.



Ellsworth School Board member presented awards to EHS Class of 2024 Valedictorian Jocelyn Boyle (right) and Salutatorian Kayla Kressin at the Ellsworth High School awards night in May.



EHS seniors receiving Highest Honors included (not in order of pictured) Jocelyn Boyle, Kayla Kressin, Maria Harrington, Lander Levers, Rebecca Dendinger, Abigail Michels, Corynn Jahnke, Elizabeth Foster, Molly Janke, Addisyn Bordthauser, Stephanie Jennings, Adelaide Ries, Mya Hill and Dayah Halverson.



These EHS students received Honors medals at the May 19 ceremony: (not in order) Ava Brookshaw, Aubry Wittenberg, Joseph Gardner, Mary Prissel, Sadie Olson, Jorja Hince (not pictured), Trinity Sjoquist, Maya Bueso and Morgan Kolodzienski.



Lander Levers was the recipient of the American Legion Outstanding Senior Boy scholarship, presented by Donna Swenson.



Phyllis Beastrom presented the American Legion Auxiliary Outstanding Senior Girl scholarship to Elizabeth Foster.



Anthony Madsen was pleased to present the Amy Simon Tri-Sport Scholarship to Abigail Michels.



Mary Prissel was the recipient of the Arthur L. Fischer Memorial Patriotism Scholarship.



Luke Knight was selected as the winner of the Beldenville Old Car Club Scholarship.



Josephine Pechacek was this year's recipient of the Biederman/Pflueger Art Grant.



Kayla Kressin was chosen as the Caleb Gustafson Memorial Scholarship recipient for



Teammates Molly Janke (left) and Kayla Kressin were awarded the Brenda Niedfeldt Memorial Scholarship by the Ellsworth Basketball Association.



Alice Monett was in attendance to present the Don Monett Memorial Scholarship to Isaac Herbison.



Donna Swenson presented the Ellsworth American Legion Post 204 scholarship to Jillian Griggs.



Steven Kastberg presented the Ellsworth FFA Alumni Scholarship to Logan Brand.

The Ellsworth Class of 2024 shared a night of accolades on Sunday, May 19 in the Ellsworth High School Cafetorium.

All photos by Jack McLoone



These students received the Colonel Ellsworth medallions (not in order): Joseph Gardner (bronze), Jorja Hince (bronze, not pictured), Addisyn Bordthauser (gold), Joceyln Boyle (gold), Rebecca Dendinger (gold), Elizabeth Foster (gold), Maria Harrington (gold), Mya Hill (gold), Corynn Jahnke (gold), Stephanie Jennings (gold), Kayla Kressin (gold), Lander Levers (gold), Abigail Michels (gold) and Adelaide Ries (gold).



Ellsworth Lions Club scholarships, presented by Lion Kristi Miller, went to (from left) Logan Brand, Maya Bueso, Isaac Herbison, Kayla Kressin and Rebecca Dendinger.



The Hiawatha National Bank Scholarship recipient for 2024 was Maria Harrington.



The Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award went to Molly Janke, who will attend UW-La Crosse in the fall.



(From left): Ethan Van Horn, Abigail Michels and Adalyn Snyder earned Panther Den Scholarships.



Ellsworth Middle School scholarships went to Brett Unser (left) and Morgan Kolodzienski.



Head Wrestling Coach Mark Matzek presented the Frank Gross Memorial Wrestling Scholarship to William Penn (left) and the Lee Gross Wrestling Scholarship to Isaac Herbison.



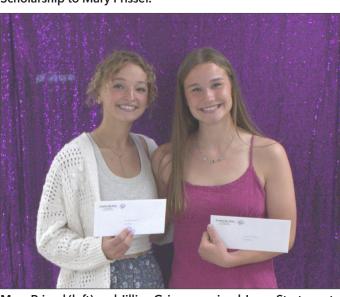
Michele Cox was pleased to bestow the Hillcrest Elementary Scholarship to Mary Prissel.



Morgan Kolodzienski is pictured with Dan Swanson, who presented her with the Jack & Janie Swanson Memorial Scholarship.



Morgan Kolodzienski (left) and Sadie Olson were the winners of the Jean Franklin Memorial Fund scholarships.



Mary Prissel (left) and Jillian Griggs received Jump Start grants.



Adelaide Ries was the recipient of the Laura Mihleis Memorial Scholarship.



America Chapter #331 Scholarship went to Josephine Pechacek.



Josie Erlandson and son Boone presented the Marlee May Memorial Scholarship to Morgan Kolodzienski (left) and Isaac Herbison.



Betsy Foster (left) and Lander Levers were the recipients of the Ellsworth High School Music Department Scholarship.



Daniel Florness is pictured with Peter K. Florness Scholarship



Jeanne Jahnke presented the Nick Jahnke Memorial Scholarship (in memory of her son) to Aubrey Wittenberg.



Ava Brookshaw was the recipient of the Order of the Eastern Star Chapter #116 Scholarship, presented by Ellen Sherry.



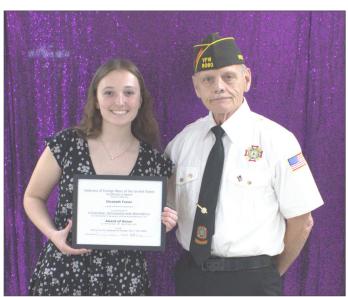
Donna Swenson, representing the Pierce County Voiture 904 40 et 8, presented Ava Brookshaw with the organization's scholarship.

The Ellsworth Class of 2024 shared a night of accolades on Sunday, May 19 in the Ellsworth High School Cafetorium.

All photos by Jack McLoone



Brian Hines presented the Pierce County 4-H Livestock Scholarship to recipient Abigail Michels.



Elizabeth Foster was the recipient of the Pierce County VFW Post 9060 Scholarship, presented by Randy Gunderson.



Salutatorian Kayla Kressin (left) and Valedictorian Jocelyn Boyle received River Falls Area Retired Educators Association Scholarships.



(From left): Rebecca Dendinger, Kayla Kressin, and Lander Levers received Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services Essay Scholarships, presented by Ginny Huber.



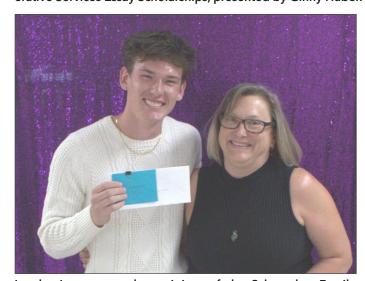
Abigail Michels was the winner of the Young Minds Change Lives Educational Scholarship.



Jocelyn Boyle was the recipient of the Wisconsin Association of Cheer/Pom Coaches Inc. Scholarship.



Morgan Kolodzienski was the recipient of the Thora Tofte/ Gustafson Memorial Scholar-



Scholarship, presented by Stacey Schoenke.



St. Francis Scholarship to alumna Sadie Olson.



worth High School Senior Athletes of the Year.



The Stoesz Family Scholarship, presented by Mark Stoesz, went to Andrew Lawrence.



Athletic Director Kevin Haglund is pictured with WIAA & Middle Border Conference Scholar Athletes Logan Brand and Molly Janke.



Matthew Matzek-Maher (left) and Kehan O'Neil received Tech-



Maria Dopp presented the Robbie Dopp Legacy Career Resources Grant to Betsy Foster (right) and Maria Harrington.



Tara Buechner presented the WESTconsin Credit Union Scholarship to Maya Bueso.



Brandon Voelker (left) presented the Steve Block Baseball



Youth Apprenticeship Scholarships were awarded to (from left): Nyla Wilford (YA Health Science level one certificate), Gabriel McChane (YA Health Science level one certificate), Stephanie Jennings (YA Health Science level one certificate), Matthew Matzek-Maher (YA Manufacturing level one certification), Luke Knight (YA Manufacturing level one certification) and Cole Mason (YA Hospitality, Tourism & Lodging level one certification).



Noa Lansing and Kirsten Bauer were on hand to award the Ag Partners Scholarship to EHS seniors Logan Brand and Maria Harrington.

RIVER FALLS Area News



River Falls Class of 2024 throws their caps in the air in celebration of their graduation June 2. Photo courtesy of the School District of River Falls



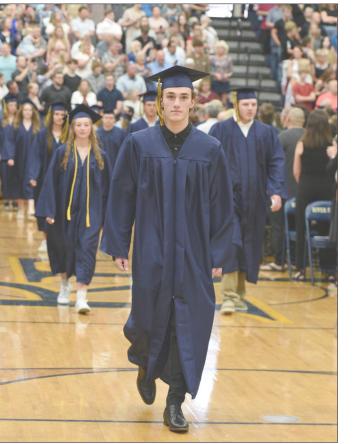
Music, cheers and thrown caps were abundant during the ceremony. Photo courtesy of the School District of River Falls



The district honored graduates who took to the stage to receive their diplomas. Photo courtesy of the School District of



Some students chose to celebrate the honor in style. Photo courtesy of the School District of River Falls



Graduates file in to begin the River Falls High School Class of 2024 graduation ceremony June 2. Photo courtesy of the



The common theme among the speeches was to surround yourself with the right people and thank them for being a part of your journey. Photo courtesy of the School District of River Falls

River Falls Class of 2024 turns the page at graduation ceremony

By Andrew Harrington

Another class of high school students saw their time at River Falls High School come to a close Sunday, June 2 with a pool of graduates celebrating their step into the next chapter of their lives.

Graduate Lilly Jensen began by sharing a speech to Florida and she graduated

"After spending the past four months away from the

town I call home, I realized the importance of having people that you can rely on, people you can relate to, people that have faced similar

challenges and helped you along the way," Jensen said.

Jensen said despite the challenges of life, "You are going to be okay." She mentioned adopting to the mentioned adopting to the mentioned. tioned adapting to the pandemic as a major challenge about how her family moved the class hurdled. Jensen said to thank the staff of the school, because they have taught life lessons in addition to the curriculum.

Graduating senior Emma Botello shared how the School District of River Falls has taught lessons of hard work and perseverance to the graduates during their years of learning.

"Success often comes to those who are willing to put

in the effort," Botello said. She said the empathy, collaboration and open-mindedness obtained from over the years will translate to their future journeys.

Superintendent Jamie Benson addressed a River

Falls graduating class for the final time as superintendent of the school district, as his retirement will be effective at the end of June. Benson has

held the position since 2013. Benson said graduation serves as both a celebration of accomplishments and a way to send students off into their next phases of life. Benson called for a round of applause for all school employtheir help along the way.

"There were people who walked with you and helped you to arrive at this point," Benson said. "Give a big shout out to your teachers, support staff, bus drivers, custodians, counselors, coaches, all those school employees that helped you

along this path." Benson shared a handful of rules for the students as they approach the next phase of their journey: be positive, ees and family members for round yourself with winners, son-to-person connection is relationships matter and lean unmatched. on others.

Principal Kit Luedtke

gave a final address to the graduates after receiving their diplomas, sharing the advice of fostering meaningful relationships.

"A wise person once said that the greatest gift you can give somebody is your time, attention, your love and your concern," Luedtke said.

He said it has become easy to interact with people take risks, fail forward, surthrough screens, but the per-



Lt. Gov. Sara Rodriguez and St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Kristie Smith share speeches on affordable housing at a build site in River Falls on June 11. Photo by Andrew Harrington



Lt. Gov. Sara Rodruguez talks to attendees at the site of a Habitat for Humanity modular home build in River Falls on June 11. Photo by Andrew Harrington

Lieutenant governor visits site of Habitat for Humanity build in RF

By Andrew Harrington

RIVER FALLS — St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity's modular home build site played host to Lt. Gov. Sara Rodriguez on June 11, as Rodriguez spoke on affordable housing at South Apollo Road in River Falls.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that works to help families have a place to call home and make home improvements. The home coming to the site in River Falls will be a modular home built for a veteran. A modular home is a home built in a factory before being attached to the foundation. Two sections of the home were brought in on two trucks before work started to connect them together June 17.

St. Croix Valley Habi-

tat for Humanity Executive Director Kristie Smith said building a modular home reduces costs, reduces construction waste and allows the project to be completed 40% faster.

"Safe and affordable housing changes lives, and this is the mission of Habitat for Humanity," Smith said. She said a common mis-

conception about Habitat for Humanity is that they give away homes for free, when in reality the homeowner buys the house at "fair market value" and Habitat for Humanity works to make the mortgage affordable to the owner. "The challenge all of us

face here in our communities in Pierce and St. Croix counties is the significant difference between median home sales price and area median income," Smith said.

The median home sales price is \$335,000 in Pierce

"We are able to build this home because cities and villages across our region are making sound investments in their communities to affordable housing," Smith said.
"The City of River Falls helped us rezone this former lot, which was an out lot, into a buildable residential spot."

Rodriguez said her uncle is a farmer in St. Croix Falls, so she loves the area. Rodriguez worked on a Habitat for Humanity house in Waukesha at one point in time.

Rodriguez called back on her time working as a nurse, discussing the "social determinants of health." Social determinants of health are non-medical factors that have an impact on health.

"I can give you medicine, I can do all these procedures, it's about the teeniest, tiniest percentage about how healthy you are," Rodriguez said. "It's about where you live, the air you breathe, the water you drink and whether you've got a good paying job to put a roof over your head and actually pay for those medications."

A similar viewpoint was shared by Smith, who said people often cannot afford a home that will allow them to live a healthy life.

"People with lower incomes often have to choose between a healthy home and one that they can afford," Smith said. "Substandard and deteriorating housing can contribute to a variety of ailments."

Rodriguez said people from all over Wisconsin bring up the topic of housing, and in order to attract people into the state, Wisconsin needs more affordable hous-

"Whether it's urban areas, whether it's rural areas, whether it's on tribal land, this is something that we need to make sure we're focusing on," Rodriguez said. 'We have one of the lowest unemployment rates we've

ever had since we started measuring it in the state of Wisconsin, most people working. Which means we've got to bring more people here, and if they don't have an affordable place to live, it's not going to be a place where we are able to attract people. We're still going to have business owners that are going to struggle with being able to hire folks."

