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PUBLISHER’S LETTER

Mother’s Day!

Dear Reader,

Mother’s Day is upon us—a moment to pause and honor the women who gave us life, love, and guidance. Each of us owes our existence to a mother, through whom, by the grace of God, we came into this world. In that miraculous birth was a sacred gift: a bond of love that begins even before we take our first breath.

The umbilical cord may be cut at birth, freeing us to pursue our own paths, yet the connection to our mothers never truly ends. It lives on in her care, her wisdom, her sacrifices, and in the quiet ways she has helped shape our lives.

To have a mother—or to have had one—is an infinite blessing. From the moment of our conception, her presence, seen or unseen, known or unknown, is a source of strength and grace that remains with us forever.

So this Mother’s Day, take a moment to celebrate your mother—whether with a gift, a word of thanks, a loving gesture, or a prayer whispered in her memory. Whether she is near or far, here or gone, let your heart speak.

And to all the mothers out there—please take a bow. You are the quiet heroines of the human story. Have a joyful and well-deserved Mother’s Day.

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



Students speak with the warden at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources booth.
Tna L Scott photos.



Students check out the inside of a Lincoln County Sheriff’s Department squad car.

LAW
from page 1

federal legal systems.

These individuals interact with the eighth graders to focus on the Optimist Club purpose: “To promote an active interest in good government; to inspire respect for the law...” Such interaction enables and encourages the students to ask questions and to learn more about careers in law-related fields.

This year’s keynote speaker was Wisconsin’s Secretary of State Sarah Godlewski, who has served since March 2023, who explained the different functions of government and her office in particular.

Special guest Ann Walsh Bradley, formerly a Marathon County judge and now Supreme Court Justice, and newly-named Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court after being elected to the role by her peers, also came to PRMS for the event and spoke personally with many students. It was her first day as Chief Justice.

Approximately 150 students in the eighth grade from PRMS and other Merrill schools were in attendance.

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Pet of the Week

This fuzzy boy is **Bear**! He was brought in with his brother George. They would love to find a home that would keep them together if possible. **Bear** is a shy guy but loves to talk when he is comfortable. **Bear** has never been around dogs. **Bear** would be great in a quite home.

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MERRILL FOTO NEWS

Student of the Week

This Week's Featured Student is
Clyde Forster
Son of
Vicki and Ron Forster

Clyde is in the 2nd grade at Kate Goodrich Elementary School. He was nominated by Mrs. Keller and Mr. K.

What is your favorite subject in school?
Why?
Gym. It is really fun and you get to learn new games.

What is your favorite part of school?
Why?
All of it! You get to learn a lot of new things like in math we are learning about shapes. We also get to be with friends!

What would you like to do/become someday?
Why?
A Police Officer. It looks fun and they have really cool dogs. I like that they keep people safe too!

Clyde always puts effort into whatever he does. He shows perseverance when things are hard. He is kind to his fellow students and treats others with respect. I am so proud of Clyde and am thankful we have him at Kate!
~ Mrs. Keller and Mr. K

Student of the Week Sponsored by:
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Tina L. Scott photos



More photos on page 15.

DANCE
from page 1

missing drop.” Burton said.

When thanking everyone involved in the show and giving her staff extra credit for everything they did this year due to the extra hurdles she faced this year due to her pregnancy, Burton added on social media, “My staff just wowed me with their ability to guide us through another successful year. My family carried us and stepped up whenever we needed them. My dancers and my dance families are the heartbeat of the entire week, and the happiness and pride they all feel about the work they all put in is *truly* the reason I do this.”

“... In full transparency, this was the hardest dance term for me since COVID years,” she said.

Citing months of nausea and exhaustion, Burton

added to her social media post: “I think it’s important to acknowledge that although these pictures are so fun and amazing and it was a great weekend, in real life this year was really *hard* and I struggled a *lot* and social media is a highlight reel ... and that’s

just the truth.”

But, she added, “What you do is important and matters, no matter how difficult or insignificant or how many steps you take forward and how many falls backwards.”

“... You *can* do hard things,” Burton said. “Dig

deep and keep moving no matter how much it seems like you’re treading water.”

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John has to say
about our club:
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motivated me to start
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about the interior
arteries of the heart).
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wake up early, keep
a rigid schedule at
Riverside maintaining
my big pipes.”



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THE FOTO NEWS (ISSN 0191-8958) is published weekly by Multi Media Channels LLC, N2919 County Road QQ, Waupaca WI 54981. Subscription price by mail: \$100 per year; domestic U.S. Mail only, nonrefundable but transferable. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE FOTO NEWS, 2011 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452.

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY
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OBITUARIES

Alice M. Walters



Alice M. Walters was called to the Lord on April 29, 2025 at the age of 90, at Our House Senior Living while under the care of Heartland Hospice. She was in the presence of family when she passed to the Lord.

Alice was born in 1934 in Eagle River WI, the 4th daughter to John and Lucey Greek. She grew up as a farm kid during the Great Depression and learned to be a hard worker and appreciate the good things when they came. After graduating High School, she worked at Rhinelander Hospital as a nurse's aide where she met and then married James Walters, her husband of 40 years.

During her entire life, Alice has given of herself to serve her family and community. Over the years, she volunteered to Eagle River 4-H Fair program, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts in Eagle River and Rhinelander, Merrill FFA and Merrill Fair and 4-H program. Later in life, Alice helped with Merrill Meals on Wheels and as a driver for Merrill ADRC for many years.

Alice is preceded in death by her parents John and Lucey Greek; sisters, Clara, Nellie, Catherine, and Elizabeth; son, William; and husband, James.

Alice is survived by sons, John (Lorinda) Walters and Henry (Maria) Walters; daughter, Bonnie Walters (Tim Buttles); grandchildren, Wesley (Erin) Walters, Meghan Walters, Robert (Brittany) Walters, James Buttles, and Mae Buttles; and great grandchildren, Julia, Rhys, and Brooke Walters.

The funeral service for Alice will be held at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation – 301 Eagle Dr., Merrill. Rev. Michael Zahn will officiate. Burial will take place at a later date at Forest Home Cemetery in Rhinelander. The visitation will be held from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Monday, May 12, 2025 and after 10:00 A.M. Tuesday, May 13, 2025 all at Taylor-Stine-Waid Funeral & Cremation – 301 Eagle Dr., Merrill.

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

William “Bill” Stanley Meier



William “Bill” Stanley Meier passed away peacefully with his family at his side on April 26, 2025, at the age of 78, following a long battle with complications from Lyme Disease and, most recently, a brain tumor.

Bill was born in Madison, Wisconsin, October 21, 1946, to parents Stanley and Marguerite "Marge" (Spahr) Meier. He was the eldest of three children. Bill graduated from Madison East High School in 1965 and went on to attend the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Biology and a Master of Science degree in Resource Management - Wildlife Management.

In 1970, Bill married Marlene Herzberg, with whom he had three children: Christopher, Christine, and Andy. Bill's dedication to his family and his passion for wildlife management were evident throughout his life.

Bill worked as a Senior Wildlife Biologist for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources at the Merrill office from 1975 to 1996. He was instrumental in leading efforts in wildlife management and the protection of endangered species. He is also remembered by co-workers as always seeing the individual's strong qualities and talents and encouraging them to be confident in using these skills on the job. His work had a lasting impact on the conservation of natural habitats and the preservation of wildlife in the Central Wisconsin area. He also had a close working relationship with Wisconsin Public Service and the management of their corporate ownership of land along the Wisconsin River. This relationship resulted in them honoring him by naming two islands on the Wisconsin River, off Highway 51 south of Merrill, as the “The Bill Meier Islands” in recognition of his character and integrity.

Outside of his professional life, Bill loved the outdoors and cherished spending time at his family's cottage on Diamond Lake in the Northwoods, as well as at his brother's property on Lake Superior. Bill resided in Merrill, WI until 2013, when he moved to Pulaski, WI to be closer to family and participate more actively in their lives. He enjoyed making homemade cards for family and friends, each one uniquely special and loved by its recipient. Bill also had a passion for playing cards and board games, creating many joyful memories with his loved ones.

Bill's pastimes included hiking and cross-country skiing at Council Grounds State Park with his children, biking, fishing, hunting, and being a member of the Lincoln County Sportsman's Club. Additionally, he was a devoted member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Merrill, WI.

Bill's family fondly remembers him as always upbeat and positive, even during the most challenging and difficult times. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends and had a special place in his heart for the family dogs, classical music, and classic movies.

Bill was preceded in death by his son Christopher; parents Stanley and Marge Meier; grandparents William "Pops" and Tilla Meier, with whom he was especially close; his sister Sally Jones, and his nephew Kevin Richardson.

He is survived by his daughter Christine (Meier), son-in-law Travis Hanke, and grandsons Nic and Isaac; his granddaughter Tracie Miller; his son Andy Meier and grandchildren Alexia and Levi; his brother Tom Meier, nephew Justin (and Celie) and niece Megan; and his nieces Margie Richardson and Lisa Hiner. And, by all the people that knew him as their Papa Meier or Papa Bill.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate staff at Country Villa in Pulaski, WI and St Croix Hospice for the wonderful care they gave to Bill.

Bill's legacy will live on through his contributions to wildlife management and the cherished memories shared with his family and friends. He will be deeply missed by his loved ones and all who knew him. A Celebration of Life is planned for June 29th, in Pulaski.

Simply Cremation, Green Bay, is assisting the family.

Bernadine R. ‘Berdie’ Baguhn Raasch



Bernadine R. ‘Berdie’ Baguhn Raasch, 93, of Merrill, passed away on Friday, May 2, 2025, at Milestone Senior Living under the care of Compassus Hospice.

Berdie was born June 11, 1931, in Sheboygan, daughter of Frank and Emilie (Ruppell) Wiroll. She married Franklin Baguhn on August 26, 1950, in Merrill. He preceded her in death on September 22, 1984. She then married Gerald ‘Jerry’ Raasch on November 18, 1992, in Madison, and he preceded her in death in 2000. Berdie was also preceded in death by her longtime friend Kenneth Marth.

Berdie volunteered as a “Gray Lady” at Pine Crest Nursing Home for several years. She also worked at Weinbrenner Shoe Company and Walmart.

Berdie was a longtime member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Merrill. She enjoyed traveling and was a member of the German club and had taken several trips to Europe. Berdie wintered in Palmetto, Florida for 32 years. She enjoyed polka dancing and her visits to the beauty shop on Fridays.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Patsy Baguhn of Tomahawk. Grandchildren, Troy Baguhn (Keith Balaski) of Tomahawk and Tricia (Russell) Maas of Gleason; Great-grandchildren, Chaz Baguhn, Emilee (Luke) Woltz, and Taylor Maas. Stepchildren, Greg (Julie) Raasch, Deb (David) Taylor, and Cheryl (Terry) Selover. Step grandchildren, Steve (Hannah) Raasch, Ashley (Ben) Squires, Alicia (Matthew) and David Taylor, Jr.; and many nieces and nephews.

Berdie was also preceded in death by her parents Frank and Emilie Wiroll; and siblings, LaVerne (Joe) Van Tatenhove, JoAnn (John) Halambeck, Andrew (Alice) Wiroll, and Rodney (Shirley) Wiroll.

The family would like to thank Compassus Hospice and Milestone Senior Living for the wonderful care they provided Berdie for the last few years.

The funeral service For Bernadine will be held at 11:00 A.M. Friday, May 9, 2025, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Merrill. Rev. Scott Gustafson will preside. The burial will take place in Snow Hill Cemetery, Town of Scott, Lincoln County. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:00 A.M. Friday at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to Trinity Lutheran Church or School in Merrill.

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

William (Billy) Gene Mahn



William (Billy) Gene Mahn, 80, of Crandon, WI, formerly of Merrill, WI, passed away peacefully at Aspirus Rhinelander Hospital. He had Chronic Heart Failure, among other health issues.

Billy was born in Sturgeon Bay, WI, son of the late Augie and Emma(Hulke) Mahn.

On September 19, 1964, he married the only true love of his life, Donna (Seis) Mahn. She preceded him in death on December 11, 2024. They had a union that lasted 60 years.

Billy was a great guy with a good sense of humor. He worked at Weinbrenner Shoe Company for years, and the Mitchell Metal Products until his retirement.

He loved riding his motorcycle, working on cars and traveling. He was known for his love of fun, and making people laugh.

Billy was preceded in death by his wife, Donna, his parents, his son, Shannon, and his sister, Shirley (Mike) Ziert of CA.

He is survived by one daughter, Larana (Mike) Broeren, one granddaughter, Sarah Broeren (Roy), and two great grandsons, Aiden and Bellamy.

Per Billy's request, there will be no services. Mid-Wisconsin Cremation Services is assisting the family at this difficult time.

The family wishes to thank his neighbor, Becca, for all her help, and the outstanding staff at Aspirus Rhinelander Hospital, for the excellent care they gave him in his last days.

Ronald W. Duranceau



Ronald W. Duranceau of Merrill passed away Friday April 25, 2025 at his home after a long illness. Ron was born Aug. 16, 1962 in Wausau to Roger and Judy (Schultz) Duranceau. He graduated from Merrill High School in 1980 then proudly joined the Army.

He loved spending time with his family and friends. He was always available for kind words of advice. His interests included hunting, fishing, being outdoors, working on cars, and the farm. He also enjoyed watching the Green Bay Packers.

Ronald is survived by his daughters Kali Wolf of Milwaukee, Danielle Duranceau of Wausau. Step sons Charles Berghahn and Richardson Berghahn of Wausau, siblings; Debra Wickersham of Washington, Robert (Michele) Duranceau of Merrill, Randy (Becky) Duranceau of Baraboo, Rick Duranceau of Washington and seven grandkids.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

A Celebration of Life/Luncheon will be held May 17, 2025 at 1:00 PM at his brother's home 1407 E. 7th St. in Merrill.

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NOTICE

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Vibrant Spaces Grants offer opportunity for communities to transform underused spaces

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Wisconsin communities are getting brighter, more vibrant, and more connected, thanks to a grant program that’s transforming underused spaces into community gathering places. While Merrill hasn’t yet tapped into this opportunity, the door remains open for our city and area communities to join the dozens of communities across the state that are creating new downtown plazas, bandshells, and trailheads.

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) recently announced that 27 Wisconsin communities will share more than \$1.1 million in Vibrant Spaces Grants. These grants are specifically designed to help create attractive new public spaces that bring residents together and boost downtown vitality.

“People want to live and work in thriving communities and offerings like parks, trailheads, and town squares create places for people to gather and hold events as well as boost nearby businesses and improve quality of life,” said Missy Hughes, secretary and CEO of WEDC in the recent announcement.

The grants allow communities to apply for up to \$50,000 to transform vacant or underused spaces into multipurpose community gathering places. When WEDC launched the program in 2023, it was designed to “provide matching funds to communities looking to implement placemaking projects” that would “enhance the community as an attractive place to live, increase foot traffic to nearby businesses, and promote community gatherings.” The program proved immensely popular, with nearly 90 applications submitted.

While Merrill isn’t among this year’s recipients, many nearby communities are benefiting. Rib Lake, about an hour east of us, received \$50,000 to construct a bandshell and outdoor performance stage that will offer regular programming along with walking paths, benches, lighting, and a park entrance sign.

In Wausau, previous WEDC grants have helped strengthen the downtown River District, which achieved Gold Tier Main Street status in 2024 “based on the organization’s strong leadership, effective organization, and community engagement.” The Hmong American Center in Wausau also previously received a \$50,000 grant for its Npau Suav (Dream) program to support new business ventures.

So what would it take for Merrill to secure one of these transformative grants in the future?

Based on previous application cycles, communities interested in applying for the next round of Vibrant Spaces Grants should check the WEDC website at wedc.org/programs/vibrant-spaces-grant later this year for updated information. The program typically requires municipalities to be the applicants, with only one application per municipality allowed.

A review of the recently awarded projects shows they demonstrate strong community partnerships and support. The grants have funded a wide variety of spaces including underutilized parks (35%), vacant lots (27%), parking lots or underutilized plazas (24%), and alleys (14%).

Most projects include elements like additional seating and tables, landscaping, increased accessibility, and expanded electrical infrastructure. Some feature more creative installations like fire pits, market villages with vendor booths, and public art.

For Merrill to take advantage of this opportunity in the future,

community organizations, businesses, and city leaders would need to collaborate on identifying potential sites and securing matching funds. As recently as last week, WEDC Secretary Missy Hughes highlighted the impact of these grants during a visit to Ripon, where the city’s Village Green Park can now host larger events after using Vibrant Spaces Grant funds for “new lighting, seating, landscaping, and electrical upgrades.”

The program generally requires a 1:1 funding match, with grant dollars provided on a reimbursement basis. Projects should create visible and pedestrian-oriented public spaces that attract and accommodate groups and activities while benefiting nearby businesses and the community.

Many Wisconsin communities have found these grants to be valuable tools for downtown revitalization, creating spaces that serve residents while attracting visitors to their downtown areas.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH 26, 2025
Boy, Henry Joshua,
born to Lizzie Grenwalt
and Jordan Grenwalt of
Marathon.

APRIL 10, 2025
Girl, Madelyn Grace, born
to Melissa Dahm and
Brad Dahm of Wausau.

APRIL 15, 2025
Girl, Millie Ann, born to
Madalia Benzinger and
Damien Benzinger of
Merrill.

APRIL 18, 2025
Boy, Brooks Joseph, born
to Tara Arendt and Joseph
Arendt of Wausau.



The Lincoln County Humane Society (LCHS) would like recognize their receipt of a legacy donation from Mary E. Cota and honor her memory, with thanks. They were touched by her kindness and Mary’s dedication to animals which led her to create this legacy donation to care for shelter pets in need. “Her donation keeps her memory alive, as her love of animals continues to shine through,” LCHS staff said. “We would like to take a moment to remember Mary E. Cota and her generosity that lives on through her support of LCHS.” **Submitted photo.**

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Turkey Breast Fully Cooked Smokehouse, Frozen 17 lbs..... only 89¢ a lb	Colby Jack Cheese 6 lbs..... only \$2.99 a lb	Peanut Butter Creamy 64 oz..... only \$4.89
Bacon Original Thick Cut - Frozen 40 oz..... only \$7.99	Pepper Jack Cheese Cubes 5 lbs..... only \$8.99	Mayo Squeeze Bottle 22 oz..... only \$1.29
Sausage Patties Original, Fully Cooked Frozen 6 lbs..... only \$5.99	Muenster Cheese Shredded 5 lbs..... only \$8.99	Pizza Buffalo Chicken, Frozen 34 oz..... only \$2.99
Hot Dogs Bun Length - Frozen 28 oz..... only \$1.99	Bratwurst Original, Fully Cooked Frozen 19 oz..... only \$1.99	Turkey Breast Oven Roasted Sliced, Frozen 16 oz..... only \$1.59
Chicken Breast Buffalo, Sliced, Frozen 14 oz..... only 99¢	Ham Steak Thick Cut - Frozen only \$1.19 a lb	Ham Bone In - Frozen 8 lbs..... only 89¢ a lb
Hatfield Boneless, Frozen 8 lbs..... only \$1.49 a lb	Sausage Sage Uncooked - Frozen 16 oz..... only \$1.99	Bologna Un sliced - Garlic Frozen 9 lbs..... only 99¢ a lb

In-store ONLY. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

YOU’VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY!

Congratulate your graduates as they look towards their future.

- Cost: \$15.00 per picture.
- The hat will be added to each picture (as shown).*
- Publication Date: Thursday, May 22, 2025
- **Deadline Date: Friday, May 16, 2025**
- Any 2025 grad eligible. (High school, college, whatever!)



Kim Anderson
Merrill High School
We are so proud of our honor student.
Love, Your Family



Katie Hammond
Merrill High School
We are so proud of you!
Love, hug & kisses,
Mom & Dad

*Some names and pictures on this ad are fictitious and are for example purposes only.

Submit baby photo of your 2025 graduate with his/her name on back, along w/payment & completed form to:
Foto News, 2011 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452
Or submit picture along with completed form to
fotonewsads@mmclocal.com

Graduate’s Name: _____
School: _____
Message (approx. 20-25 characters per line. **4 lines max.**)

From: _____

Please supply the following information for office use only.
I GIVE MY PERMISSION TO PUBLISH THE ENCLOSED PICTURE AND INFORMATION.
Name of person submitting info: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone #: _____ Signature: _____
Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope if you want your picture returned or you may pick up picture at the Foto News office after publication. If you come into the office we can scan the photo and give it back to you.
Do Not Email Credit Card Information
Circle one: MC VISA DIS # _____ Exp. Date: _____ Sec. Code: _____
Cash & Checks Accepted Also **Call for more information 715-536-7121**

LINCOLN COUNTY

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue received reports from various banks, insurance companies, utilities, and other holders of unclaimed property indicating the following persons or businesses may be owners of unclaimed money, stocks, bonds or contents of abandoned safe deposit boxes. (See Unclaimed Property Act, Chapter 177, Wis. Stats.) All names printed below are from the 2024 reporting year as being owed \$50 or more (Exception: Values of securities or safe deposit boxes may be less than \$50). If you possess legal interest in a name printed below, you are entitled to submit a claim. Complete a claim through www.revenue.wi.gov/ucp or call 1-855-375-2274. Identify the name and property identification number published in this notice. Search for unclaimed property less than \$50 or from an earlier year at www.revenue.wi.gov/ucp. Published this 8th day of May, 2025.

WNAXLF

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

1-855-375-2274

LINCOLN COUNTY

LEGAL NOTICE: NAMES AND BUSINESSES APPEARING TO BE OWNERS OF ABANDONED PROPERTY

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue received reports from various banks, insurance companies, utilities, and other holders of unclaimed property indicating the following persons or businesses may be owners of unclaimed money, stocks, bonds or contents of abandoned safe deposit boxes. (See Unclaimed Property Act, Chapter 177, Wis. Stats.) All names printed below are from the 2024 reporting year as being owed \$50 or more (Exception: Values of securities or safe deposit boxes may be less than \$50). If you possess legal interest in a name printed below, you are entitled to submit a claim. Complete a claim through www.revenue.wi.gov/ucp or call 1-855-375-2274. Identify the name and property identification number published in this notice. Search for unclaimed property less than \$50 or from an earlier year at www.revenue.wi.gov/ucp. Published this 8th day of May, 2025.

9126541	1219 E MOHAWK DR LEES PIGGLY WIGGLY 3404 E MAIN ST	8755242	CLINIC LLC 318 N 6TH ST	8829769	NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8989278	318 N 6TH ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8752003	PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE INC N7455 STATE ROAD 107	9259095	STARK CHEV POINT BUICK CA N259 BRANDENBURG AVE
8936622	LINCOLN COUNTY 2100 E 6TH ST		CLINIC LLC 318 N 6TH ST	8829781	NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8989289	318 N 6TH ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	9033937	REMEMBER KYLE MEMO- RIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND	9259096	STARK CHEV POINT BUICK CA N259 BRANDENBURG AVE
8893898	LIZCO MOTEL INC 108 W MOHAWK DR	8829701	NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8989208	NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	9411117	318 N 6TH ST OEM METAL PRODUCTS	9158437	1201 N SALES ST ROD'S TOWING	8897030	TOMAHAWK COM BANK PO BOX 159
8893897	LIZCO MOTEL INC 108 W MOHAWK DR	8829734	NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8989212	NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC		9196478	200 S STATE ST ORGANIQUE LLC	8732787	W4066 COUNTY ROAD G SALOON WILD NORTH	8721907
8770321	MERRILL AR PSD W563857 1111 SALES ST	8829736	318 N 6TH ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8989256	318 N 6TH ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8737484	W4771 GATEWOOD HEIGHTS RD	8835258	N12002 COUNTY ROAD CC	9017677	522 MARTIN LN TRIGS
8770322	MERRILL AR PSD W157426 1111 SALES ST		318 N 6TH ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8989262	318 N 6TH ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC	8523979	OUR WAY INC PO BOX 76	9259094	SEMCO TRANSPORT LLC 605 N OHIO ST	9028455	PO BOX 256 WILD ROSE SAWMILL INC
9171022	MERRILL TRACTOR PULL INC	8829750	318 N 6TH ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION CLINIC LLC				PARK CITY CREDIT UNION		STARK CHEV POINT BUICK CA		2285 CTH L
8755220	3210 E MAIN ST NORTHERN SIGHT VISION		318 N 6TH ST				300 E 2ND ST		N259 BRANDENBURG AVE		

TO COMPLETE A CLAIM FORM 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK
Visit www.revenue.wi.gov/ucp

WNAXLP

SOCIAL

from page 1

Department and Lead for the Healthy Minds Coalition. “We hope this challenge provides a fun way for families, friends, and our community to become more connected

and take part in activities that make us feel good and bring us together.”

Community members, organizations, and workplaces are encouraged to embrace this challenge by hosting activities and finding ways to make it their own.

If you are looking for

other opportunities to connect, check out these websites as a starting point:

- Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce - merrillchamber.org
- Tomahawk Regional Chamber of Commerce - tomahawkchamber.com
- Tomahawk Mainstreet - tomahawkmainstreet.org

- T.B. Scott Free Library - tbsscottlibrary.org
- Tomahawk Public Library - tomahawk.lib.wi.us/

To learn more about the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County Coalition, go to co.lincoln.wi.us/health/page/healthy-minds-coalition.

| LEGALS |

STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Ryan P. Burns

Please Take Notice:

1. Non-probate of Filed Will Affidavit
2. The decedent, with date of birth July 02, 1961 and date of death March 11, 2025 was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W10236 County Road M, Merrill, WI 54452

The name or address of the following interested person is not known or reasonably ascertainable:

Scott Burns

Prepared by:

Ruffi Law Offices, S.C.

627 Jackson Street

Wausau, WI 54403

(715) 843-0800

Bar Number: 1024317

Published 4/24/25, 5/1/25 & 5/8/25

WNAXLP

DATE SIGNED: May 1, 2025

Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer

Probate Registrar

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Paul D. Kudick

Notice to Creditors

(Informal Administration)

Case No. 25-IN-21

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth May 20, 1966 and date of death October 28, 2024, was domiciled in Merrill, Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N1068 Coming Road.

3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is August 15, 2025.

5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 East Main Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office

James C. Koppelman of Schmitt & Koppelman, S.C.

1029 East Main St., P.O. Box 176

Merrill, WI 54452

715-536-8371

Bar No. 01001643

Published May 8, 15, 22, 2025

WNAXLP

| LEGALS |

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Field Lighting Improvements Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC)

The City of Merrill Parks Department, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, will receive sealed bids for Field Lighting Improvements for Diamonds 1-4 at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC). **Bids will be accepted until 2 pm, May 29th, 2025**, at which time they will be opened, read aloud and placed on file for further action. Bids shall be returned to the City Clerk's office located at 1004 E First Street, Merrill, WI 54452. Plan documents will be available May 8th, 2025, from the City of Merrill Clerks Office.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the owner and to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Published May 8 & 15, 2025

WNAXLP

TOWN OF MERRILL

MERRILL, WISCONSIN

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review for the Town of Merrill will meet at the Town of Merrill Community Center, W4594 Progress Avenue,

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M.

Property owners wishing to make a formal objection to an assessed valuation must obtain an objection form from the Town Clerk and schedule an appointment 48 hrs. in advance of hearing. 715-536-4383.

The extensive Board of Review notice can be found on Town of Merrill website and Town Hall door.

Mitzi Flegner, Clerk

RECYCLE

www.townofmerrill.net

RECYCLE

Published May 8 & 15, 2025

WNAXLP

TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

TOWN OF MERRILL BID NOTICE

The Town of Merrill is seeking bids for the mowing and trimming of the Town Hall lawn. Bids will be accepted until **May 12, 2025. 5:00 pm.**

Please send bids to:

Town of Merrill

W4594 Progress Ave., Merrill, WI 54452

RECYCLE

www.townofmerrill.wi.gov

RECYCLE

April 24, May 1 & 8, 2025

WNAXLP

ATTENTION TOWN OF CORNING RESIDENCE AND LAND OWNERS:

Clean up day will be held on May 10, 2025 at the Town Garage from 8 am to 11 am.

Items to be taken include:	Resident pays
Rim and Tire (Steel or Aluminum)	\$6.00 each
Junk Tires	\$8.00 each
TVs, Computers, Monitors	\$30.00 each

Air conditioners, Dehumidifiers,	\$20.00 each
Freezers (chest or upright)	\$20.00 each
Refrigerators (electric or gas)	\$20.00 each

Free items:

Batteries	Charcoal or Gas Grills
Dish Washers (with steel tub)	Electric or Gas Stoves
Fuel Oil Tanks	Humidifiers
Lawn Mowers	Microwaves
Farm Equipment	Old metal Bed Frames
Metal Patio sets	Hot Water Heaters
Washer & dryers	Laptop computers

No Garbage will be accepted.

No Drain oil, fuel oil, hydraulic oil, paint, tractor tires or large truck tires.

For vehicle pick up call Jason 715-351-0661
Rick Hass, Town Clerk.

Please Recycle

Published May 1 & 8, 2025

WNAXLP

NOTICE

MERRILL WATER UTILITY SYSTEM FLUSHING

In an effort to check and improve water quality, the Merrill Water Utility will be **flushing hydrants and the water system**, on a citywide basis, the week of **May 19, 2025 through May 22, 2025** in the following areas:

1. East of Center Avenue on Monday, **May 19, 2025.**
2. Center Avenue, West to Prairie River on Tuesday, **May 20, 2025.**
3. Prairie River, West to Wisconsin River on Wednesday, **May 21, 2025.**
4. West of the Wisconsin River (6th Ward) & South of Wisconsin River on Thursday, **May 22, 2025.**

You may notice discoloration during or following flushing. This should be eliminated shortly after you run water through your own service line. If problems persist, please call the Merrill Water Utility at 715-536-6561.

Gabe Steinagel
Utilities Manager

Published May 8 & 15, 2025

WNAXLP

ATTENTION: TOWN OF SCHLEY

The Town is sponsoring a “**CLEAN-UP DAY**”
Saturday, May 10, 2025 - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bring your old appliances and recyclables as listed below to the Schley Town Hall. You must be a Town of Schley resident. The Town will pay half of the regular fee for you.

Items taken for free:

Grills (charcoal or gas)
Humidifiers
Lawn mowers
Microwaves
Patio furniture (metal)
Dryers
Stoves (electric or gas)
Washers
Monitors

Items with charges:

Junk tires \$6.00 each
TVs \$10.00
Tires on aluminum/steel rims \$6.00 each
Air conditioners \$20.00
Dehumidifiers \$20.00
Freezers (chest or upright) \$30.00
Refrigerators (electric or gas) \$30.00

Computers
Batteries
Bed frames (metal)
Hot water heaters
Dish washers (steel tub)
Farm Equipment
Fuel oil tanks

Items not taken:

Tractor/large truck tires
Drain, fuel, & hydraulic oils
Paint

Remember to Recycle

Becky Dallman, Clerk

Published May 1 & 8, 2025

WNAXLP

NEWS SHORTS

C.J. Robinson’s Branch Team receives Edward Jones Award for Exceptional Achievement

C.J. Robinson’s Branch Team of the financial services firm Edward Jones on E. Main St. in Merrill recently earned the firm’s Frank Finnegan Achievement Award for their exceptional achievement in building client relationships.

The award is named after Frank Finnegan, who joined Edward Jones in 1953 in St. Louis after playing professional baseball. He served as a financial advisor for 65 years, contributing to the well-being of his clients, colleagues, and community. “Receiving this award is a real honor for our team. As we partner with our clients to make a meaningful difference in their lives, our relationships with them

continue to grow,” said Robinson. “It’s a personally and professionally rewarding experience, and we are grateful to those who put their trust in us.” “The fact that the award was named after a firm legend, known for his longevity, makes this all the more meaningful as we seek to continue serving multi-generational clients for decades,” he said.

Achieving this level of client service success is a team effort. Client support team partners in Robinson’s office received accompanying awards. They are Connie Baumann, Senior Branch Office Administrator, and Rene’ Daley, Client Support Team Specialist. Robinson and Baumann were presented with the award at the Edward Jones regional meeting in Harris, Mich. on April 26, 2025.

STEPPIN’ OUT

DO YOU HAVE UPCOMING EVENTS OR ENTERTAINMENT TO SHARE?

Submit listings to Tina: tscott@mmclocal.com

MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH BUFFET

10am-2pm • \$20 (12 & under \$13) (3 & under free) \$2 OFF with Reservation

Mimosas \$4

- Broasted Chicken • Pork Loin
- French Toast • Sausage Links
- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • Mac & Cheese
- Veggies & Corn • Rolls • Salad

Reserve Today!

PUB 1638

601 Johnson St., Merrill • 715-536-5708

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Open at 4pm Mon., Thurs. & Fri. • Closed Tues. & Wed. • Open at 11am Sat. & Sun.

CELEBRATE YOUR MOM WITH BRUNCH!

Area Events & Entertainment Community Calendar

- May 8 - Veterans Coffee & Conversation at Pine Ridge Restaurant
- May 10 - MACA Concert: The BriTins
- May 10 - T.B. Scott Free Library - Friends of the Library Book Sale
- May 10 - Flea Market at Merrill Fairgrounds
- May 10 - Lulu’s Food Truck at The Creative Spirit
- May 15 - Veterans Coffee & Conversation at Pine Ridge Restaurant
- May 17 - Merrill Professional Police Association Annual Benefit Concert featuring “The Petty Kings” (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers tribute)
- May 17 - Bounce Houses and Food Truck-a-Palooza at Merrill Fairgrounds
- May 17 - Community Wide Garage Sales
- May 17 - Spring Wildflower Hike beginning at Camp Newwood County Park
- May 18 - Girls on the Run North Central Wisconsin Celebratory 5K
- May 18 - Bingo at VFW
- May 21 - St. Stephens Brewers Bus Trip
- May 22 - Veterans Coffee & Conversation at Pine Ridge Restaurant
- May 23 - Merrill High School Graduation
- May 24 - A Taste of Jamaica Food Truck at The Creative Spirit

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

The Eagles Club

1205 N Lake St. • Merrill, WI 54452

Open to the Public • (715) 536-7471

NO FOOD SERVED: Sat. & Sun. - Special Events Only

DINNER SPECIALS FOR MAY

TUESDAY NIGHTS
MAY 13TH -
RIBS
MAY 20TH - CHIMI’S

FRIDAY NIGHTS
MAY 9TH -
COCONUT SHRIMP
MAY 16TH - CATFISH

DINNER SERVED FROM 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Visit our Website! 584.localfoewi.com



RED GRANITE

BAR AND GRILL

EST. 1933

FOR A GOOD OLD TIME

11420 S. County Rd. K, Merrill WI • 715-536-9391

Sun. 7am-2am, Mon.-Thurs. 11:30am-2am, Fri. 11:30am-2:30am, Sat. 7am-2:30am, Dine-in • Takeout • NO Delivery

Saturday & Sunday

Breakfast 7am-11am

Mimosas & Bloody Mary’s

Mondays

\$5 Burger & Home Fries

Dine-in only & additional toppings are extra.

Sunday & Tuesday

Broasted Chicken

12 Noon-8pm

Friday

Fish Fry 12 Noon-8:45pm

Red Granite Bar & Grill

Order Online - Check wait times or just stop in!

Find us on [f](#)

375083

Plautz's Pub LLC.

310 E. 2nd St., Merrill

715-536-4611

SERVING FOOD DAILY TILL 8PM

HOURS

MONDAY • Noon - 6pm

TUE. - FRI. • Noon - Close

SATURDAY • 11am - Close

SUNDAY • Noon - 6pm

MAY BOOZE OF THE MONTH

CAPTAIN

\$5.00 - 16 oz. Pint

SAT. MAY 17TH

BINGO

Open 11am • Starts 1pm

CASH PRIZES

TALEGATE - BRATS & HOT DOGS

461700

Scan Me

For Details

THURSDAY’S

LADIES NIGHT

\$2 off Take Out orders

\$1 off Wine Flights

Buy 1 get 1 ½ off Cocktails

FRIDAY’S

WHISKY NIGHT

Old Fashion Flights - \$10.00

Special Dish starting @ 4pm

Happy Hour from 4pm-7pm (\$1 off Cocktails)

SATURDAY’S

SAMPLE NIGHT

\$1 off Flatbreads

Buy 1 get 1 Free

Old Fashions

Samples of our Wine of the Month

Sunset Hollow

811 E 1st St. • 715-722-0471

461350

tow&go

giveaway

MAY 31

WIN A 2025 GMC SIERRA OR A SPORTSMEN CAMPER

HO-CHUNK GAMING

WITTENBERG

2025

FOOD TRUCK a-palooza!

Merrill, WI Food | Music | Fun

Mark your calendar

Craft & Vendor Show

25 Food Trucks

Live Music

Children’s Old Fashioned Carnival

Bounce Houses • Raffles & More!

May 17th, 2025 • 11a.m.-7p.m.

MERRILL FAIRGROUNDS

2001 E. 2nd St.

Merrill Chamber of Commerce

For visitor information, please call the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce at 715-536-9474 or visit www.merrillchamber.org.

459478

COSMO Theatre

Main St. • Merrill

KIDS • \$5.00

SENIORS • \$5.00

ADULTS • \$8.00

MOVIES AND SHOWTIMES

5/9/25 TO 5/15/25

Mondays All Seats \$5.00

THUNDERBOLTS

“PG13” (2HR 6MIN)

FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM

SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM

SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM

MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

THE ACCOUNTANT 2

“R” (2HR 9MIN)

FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM

SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM

SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM

MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

SINNERS

“R” (2HR 16MIN)

FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:20PM

SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:20PM

SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM

MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

www.cosmomovies.com

715-536-4473

459478

Head out for a Spring Wildflower Hike

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Northwoods Chapter of the Ice Age Trail Alliance will lead a guided Wildflower Hike on the Ice Age Trail in the Merrill School Forest on Saturday, May 17, 2025. Beginning at 10 a.m., the hike will begin at Camp Newwood County Park northwest of Merrill on Hwy. 107 and will take

hikers along the “beautiful banks of Ripley Creek and across the 266 feet of boardwalk” and hikers will “see the unique Evjue Cordwood Education Center located along the trail in the Merrill School Forest,” organizers said. The length of the trail hike will be approximately 2.5 to 3 miles. For more information, contact Ruby Jaecks at brjaecks@outlook.com.

Another
Birthday
Without You

**Dan
Bushar**
5/7/66 – 1/9/09

Son - Eric & Family
Mom - Karen Bushar,
David & Jackie
Bushar,
Terry & Amy
Baumann and
All The Rest

Celebration of Life
For Family & Friends of

Jim Bloechl

Saturday – May 24
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Merrill Eagles Club.



Visit Us Online @ www.MerrillFotoNews.com

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION



SPIN-TO-WIN!
2 PM TO 5 PM

5 LUCKY GUESTS WILL WIN
A FREE FLOAT A WEEK
FOR A YEAR!

*1 SPIN PER PERSON. MUST BE
18 YEARS OR OLDER

MAY 7TH - 12TH

207 N. CENTER AVE
MERRILL, WI 54452

OPEN 10 AM to 10 PM

FREE GIFTS FOR KIDS
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

FREE MUG
TO THE FIRST 50 CUSTOMERS!
(1 PER ORDER)

REGISTER TO WIN MANY PRIZES
GRAND PRIZE
50" TV!



MAY 11th
MOTHERS
GET FREE SUNDAE
WITH ANY COMBO

ENJOY THESE SPECIALS ALL WEEK!

- \$3 CONEY DOGS
- \$2 HOTDOGS
- \$.99 KID'S CONES
- \$2 SUNDAES
- \$3 CHEESEBURGERS
- \$1.99 MEDIUM ROOTBEER FLOATS
- \$3 CHEESE CURDS

NO COUPONS NECESSARY!

facebook MERRILL A&W

LIMIT 5 SPECIALS PER CUSTOMER
Limit 5 specials per customer. Valid only at Merrill A&W.
Prices and offers subject to change. Tax extra.

| CLASSIFIEDS |

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

1810 East 1st Street May 7-11 8AM-5PM. Multi Family Sale. Women's and men's clothing, household stuff, electronics, tools, lawn furniture, dog stuff, something for everyone.

Garage Sale: N2317 Robl Ave., Merrill. May 8,9,10. 9AM - 6PM. Tools, Drill Press, Table Saws, Canning Jars and Much More.

Garage Sale: W7446 Mathews Rd., Merrill, Thur. 5/8 - Sat. 5/10, 8:00am - 5:00pm. Treadmill, snowblower, complete scuba gear, lots more.

Merrill Multi-Family Garage Sales 504 E. Riverside & 703 Charles St. Thurs 8A-5P; Fri 8A-5P; Sat 8A-2P. Furniture, Clothing, Glassware, Bedding, Razor Scooter, Recumbent exercise bike, Toys, Antiques, Small appliances, Snowblower cab cover. Too much to list!

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

Moving Sale - Great Stuff. Futon mattress, Queen box spring, TV's, 7' sofa, area rugs, patio furniture, Bar bells & Weights, chair masager, lawn decor, shovels, planters, coolers, home decor, light fixtures, foot stools, Men's golf bag, women's med life vest, volley ball 4 square game, Hot Wheels track, Paint Ball guns & face shields, couch covers, bedding, curtains, new born baby clothes & accessories, jewelry, Movies, dog and cat accessories, dog ramp, new electric griddle, new George Forman, storage bins, tables, bikes, Ski-doo OEM Carbides. May 8-10, 8-5 N1311 Golf Drive.

Multiple Garage Sales Mathews Rd. North on HWY 107, May 8th & 9th, 9-5, May 10th, 9-1. Kayak, 2005 Honda Rancher, puzzles, books, girl's clothes size 4-12, adult clothes, teddy bears and crafts, table saw, baskets, Insta pots, wedding decor, Traeger grill, much more.

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

Rummage Sale: Thur. 5/8 - Sat 5/10 8AM-5PM. NEVER used, gently used. MEN & Womens. Childrens items. Chainsaw, Hand auger, Yard & Garden. Lots more. 1502 Nicklaus Dr. Two party.

Sale Sale Sale! Hoffman Sheds 1/2 mile Hwy K North, Merrill. Friday May 9, 10-5. Saturday May 10, 10-4.

W4441 Cty Q, Merrill. 3 Family Garage Sale May 9-11, 8-5. Vintage linens, jars, wall hangings, like new infant-24 mo clothes, car seat, walker, swing, Barbies, Frozen & lots more!

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202

9th Annual TOWN OF WAUSAU Rummage Sale Weekend (east of Wausau) **Fri. 5/16 thru Sun. 5/18** WATCH FOR THE BIG AD!

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202



GARAGE SALE KITS

NOW AVAILABLE
Let Garage Sale Gale help you with your sale!

Kit Includes:

- 2 garage sale signs
- 140 pricing stickers
- 3 balloons
- 1 pen
- How to have a successful garage sale pamphlet
- 1 coupon for \$5 off your NEXT classified ad!

ONLY \$5.00 PER KIT!*
** With the purchase of a classified ad.*

Available at:
Merrill Foto News
2011 E. Main St., Merrill

Firewood 7244

DRY OAK & Hard Maple, \$250/cord. Over 15 mi is extra. Have hard wood in wood shed over a year old. Clean & no bark. 715-351-1888 or 715-873-4196.

Lawn and Garden 7250

A+ Dirtwork
Call for landscaping, retaining walls, concrete removal, land clearing. Call or text Lynn @ 715-977-2733

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

Guns 7264

DIANA MODEL 350 MAGNUM PELLET GUN: Spring-piston .22 cal. Beech stock. 11mm scope rail Made in Germany. Excellent Condition. \$300. 715 252 7149

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Kell takes second place in Wood Olympics at NTC

BY TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Aiden Kell of Merrill High School took second place in the Wood Olympics held at Northcentral Technical College's (NTC) Antigo Campus.

The competition, which included a variety of challenges designed to showcase students'

knowledge of wood working, wood products, and wood manufacturing, included 60 high school students and 15 teams from 10 area high schools including Merrill. Kell finished second in the Woodworking \$100 and Over category.

In addition to the challenge competition, students toured NTC's Wood Technology of Excellence, including a new sawmill training facility at the location, and they also participated in a career fair with local employers from the lumber industry.

MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT

Applications are now being accepted to fill a Public Works 2 position within the Street Department.

Applications can be found at the City Clerk's office or online at <http://www.ci.merrill.wi.us/employment>.

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Dana and Gavin Gruling, of Muddy Paws Dog Wash, donated an Easter basket with toys for the shelter pups at the Lincoln County Humane Society just before Easter.

Submitted photo.

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Lincoln County tackles shoreline erosion with stabilization projects

Shoreline stabilization projects were recently completed on Lake Nokomis, Lake Mohawksin, and Lake Alice to combat erosion and improve water quality. The efforts were funded through the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) Program and coordinated by the Lincoln County Land Services Department.

Erosion is a growing concern for local lakes, contributing to water pollution and loss of valuable shoreline. One landowner, Troy Christensen of Lake Nokomis, experienced significant erosion on his property. "Our shoreline and the hill leading down to it were showing major signs of erosion," Christensen said. "A neighbor mentioned

a potential cost-share program through the Lincoln County Land Services Department that we could take advantage of."

During a site visit, Lincoln County Land Services staff confirmed that Christensen had lost about eight feet of shoreline over recent years. The adjacent hillside was also near vertical, with little vegetation to hold the soil in place.

To stabilize the area, Lincoln County staff worked with DATCP to design a construction plan using rock riprap, geotextile bag walls, and native plantings. "The staff at the Lincoln County Land Services Department put together a detailed report and managed the bidding process," Christensen said. "Once the bids came in, we chose Marquardt Excavating and Construction, and we couldn't be happier with

the outcome."

Christensen credited the SWRM Program for making the project possible. "We wouldn't have been able to complete this project without the support of the Lincoln County Land Services Department and the cost-share assistance available," he said. "The service they provide through this program is invaluable."

In addition to shoreline stabilization, the SWRM Program funds conservation projects such as erosion control for farmers, managed grazing systems, and well decommissioning. Depending on the project, landowners may be eligible for financial assistance covering 50% to 90% of the costs.

For more information on the program, contact Tom Boisvert, conservation program manager, at 715.539.1054 or thomas.boisvert@co.lincoln.wi.us.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

UW-Madison chapter of Phi Beta Kappa inducts 245 new members

On Saturday, April 5, 245 University of Wisconsin-Madison Letters & Science undergraduates were inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa academic society,

in a ceremony at the Monona Terrace. The new inductees included Jordan Stoecker of Merrill. Inductees excel in all areas of study, from anthropology to zoology, and must have a cumulative GPA of 3.80 or above and meet strenuous math, language, and breadth requirements.

A committee of faculty and staff review the student record for nomination into the chapter. Inductees have a love for learning in multiple areas of study at the intermediate and advanced levels, exploring far beyond their major area of study at UW-Madison.



Maya Paulus

At school, Maya is actively involved in Golf, Junior Optimist (Vice President, President), DECA (Secretary, Vice President, President), FRIENDS, National Honor Society, Co-Op, YA, Volleyball, and Link Crew. Outside of school, she volunteers with Food For Kids, Warm Hearts Warm Hands, Love Begins Here, Trunk or Treat, Highway clean-up, and Homecoming concessions.

The daughter of Adam and Juri Paulus, Maya plans to work at her family's businesses following graduation this spring.

April Youth Optimist

Maya Paulus, a Senior at Merrill High School, is the April Youth Optimist of the Month. Maya is a student in my AP-Language and Composition course and a member of the MHS Link Crew program that I advise, said Mrs. Emily Bonack in her nomination. Maya is rarely found without a smile on her face! Her positivity and willingness to strike up a conversation with anyone about anything have made her a favorite student among her teachers.

Her ability to showcase her outgoing and friendly personality also made her a top-tier Link Leader, she said. Her Freshmen knew that when she was leading their session, she would find a way to make the lesson fun and to make them feel valued and important, along with bringing treats. Maya is a wonderful example of positivity and care, and Merrill High School is going to miss her 'impeccable vibes' next year.

Payge Osness, an eighth grader at Prairie River Middle School (PRMS), is the April Youth Optimist of the Month. Payge actively participates in various extracurricular activities, said Mrs. Marcie Hanson in her nomination. Her commitment reflects both athletic abilities and capacity to work collaboratively. She consistently encourages teammates, demonstrating commendable leadership qualities.

Payge is an active member of the school Yearbook Club and Student Council, showcasing strong communication skills, Mrs. Hanson said. Her positive attitude creates an encouraging environment for collaboration.

At school, Payge has received the Citizenship Award each year since 2022. She participates in debate, basketball, volleyball, and track. Outside school, she volunteers as a Salvation Army bell ringer and helps with softball programs.

I love to help people and coach younger athletes, Payge said. I make sure everyone feels included and always try to be kind.

Payge is the daughter of Steve and Kendra Osness of Merrill.



Payge Osness

MEETINGS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **Alanon Meetings**
- Mondays at 7 p.m. at Ascension Episcopal Church, 218 Pier St.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Open meeting)** - Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephens UCC, 903 E. 2nd St.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Open meeting)** - Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 1708 E 10th St.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Closed meeting)** - Fridays at 11:30

- a.m. at St. Stephens UCC, 903 E. 2nd St.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Open meeting)** - Saturdays at 9 a.m. at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 300 Logan St.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Closed meeting)** - Sundays at 9 a.m. at Park City Credit Union, 501 S. Pine Ridge Ave.
- **Dinner@Five** at St. Stephens UCC - Mondays at 5 p.m.

- **GriefShare grief support group**- Mondays at 5 p.m. (Mar. 10-Jun. 9, 2025) at Trinity Lutheran Church, 107 N. State St.

For more information, contact the event sponsor or location.

AUCTION

Saturday, May 10, 2025 10:00 AM

AUCTION: N1255 WISCONSIN RIVER RD., MERRILL WI.
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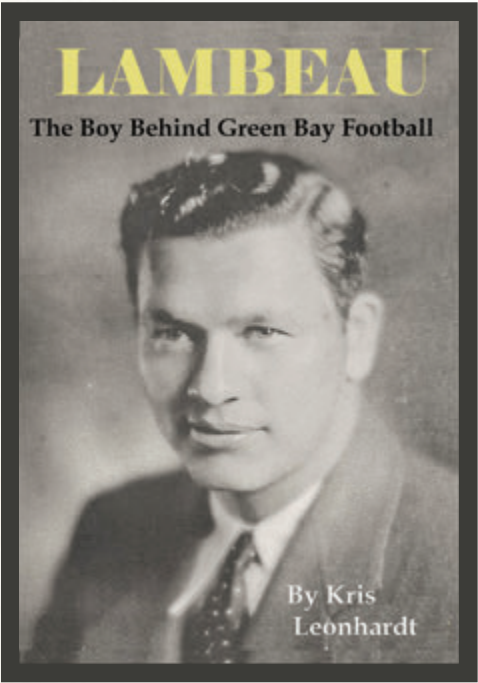
In Honor of Memorial Day, our office will be closed on Monday, May 26th.

Early Ad Deadlines for the May 29th Issue

Display & Classified Ads: Friday, May 23rd at Noon

A fascinating TALE

of dedication that will inspire fans and readers alike. If you love football, community and tales of grit, this book is a must-read.



The story of the beginning of the Green Bay Packers and the life of Earl Louis "Curly" Lambeau are so intertwined that it is hard to imagine one without the other.

From the streets of Green Bay, Lambeau developed a passion for football and grew that yearning into a football team that would exist long past his lifetime.

Like the Packers, Lambeau's story is a tale of adversity and challenge, but also a story of triumph and perseverance. While his personal life and professional career were wrought with challenge, his legacy continues to resonate in the Green Bay community, including a massive structure along Lombardi Avenue that shines a light on his contribution to the professional team.

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Shop MMC: <https://shopmmclocal.com/product/lambeau>

Potatoes and immune function

BY JENNY HEAP MS, RDN

As winter fades and spring blooms, so do seasonal allergies. With lingering challenges of COVID-19 and flu season, supporting a resilient immune system is more crucial than ever. While the peak of respiratory virus season varies, maintaining a strong immune system is crucial year-round. Despite fluctuations in COVID-19, flu, and RSV hospitalizations, the importance of immune health remains constant.

Registered dietitians understand that the interest in immune health has been significantly heightened since the COVID-19 pandemic, with many people turning to supplementation for enhanced immune function. While it is well documented that malnutrition and certain nutrient deficiencies impair immune function, whether immunity can be enhanced by consuming high levels of these nutrients via supplementation still lacks scientific consensus. Though nutrient supplementation might be necessary in some cases to ensure adequate intake, all of these immune-supporting nutrients can be found in common foods. No single whole food provides all, but some – like potatoes – can deliver a surprising dose in just one serving.

Nutrients that support immunity

Several nutrients including zinc, selenium, iron, copper, folic acid, and vitamins A, B6, C, D, and E, are required to support an immune system capable of mounting a healthy response to invading pathogens. Potatoes and potato dishes can help boost consumption of several of these immune-critical nutrients, along with others, essential for general health and wellness.

In addition to providing 620 mg of potassium (more than a banana), 2 grams of dietary fiber, and 3 grams of high-quality protein, one medium 5.3-ounce potato delivers:

✓ **Vitamin C: 20 mg, 30% DV**

While evidence supporting vitamin C as an immunity booster is inconsistent, this antioxidant certainly merits its fame as an immunity superhero. Vitamin C protects immune cells from the very reactive oxygen species they must release to kill pathogens and is used rapidly during active immune responses.

While likely best known for its critical role in immune function, vitamin C is also essential for the synthesis of collagen, which provides structure and elasticity to



connective tissues throughout the body, including the skin, which is a primary barrier that acts to keep foreign pathogens out of the body. Another important benefit of vitamin C is that it improves the bioavailability of iron found in plant foods. About 4.5 mg of vitamin C is lost when potato skin is removed.

✓ **Vitamin B6: 0.2 mg, 10% DV**

This B vitamin plays an important role in immune function, making it possible for immune cells to proliferate enough to effectively defend against foreign pathogens. While necessary for proper immune function, research indicates that consuming more than is recommended does not further enhance immunity.

✓ **Iron: 1.1 mg, 6% DV**

Iron is necessary for both the structure and function of several enzymes that must be present for the immune system to function. The immune system also relies on iron in the production of T lymphocytes. Too little iron certainly impairs immune function, however getting too much can have the same negative impact.

Though not a significant source of iron, potatoes’

impressive vitamin C content, and very low (to nonexistent) antinutrient levels make the bioavailability shine compared to that of many other plant foods rich in iron.

✓ **Polyphenols:** Beyond vitamin C, potatoes provide antioxidant polyphenols in varying amounts depending on the variety. Potatoes with colored flesh are rich in polyphenols, purple potatoes in particular. Research suggests that polyphenols may also improve immune function. Many potato types are grown locally in Wisconsin, including different varieties of red, blue and purple, white, yellow-gold, Russet, and Fingerling.

✓ **High-quality protein: 3 g**

The biological value (BV) of potato protein might surprise you. Depending on the variety, the BV comes in anywhere between 90 and 100 – approaching that of an egg – and is higher in biological value than protein from both soybeans and legumes. While not high in protein, potatoes offer more per serving than most other foods commonly consumed from the vegetables and legumes category.

✓ **Dietary fiber: 2 g, 7% DV**

The fiber in potatoes, composed mostly of cellulose, enhances satiety and may contribute to a healthier gut microbiome and help reduce inflammation. In addition, fiber promotes bowel regularity. Fiber is the only nutrient significantly reduced when a potato is peeled. A little less than 50% is found in the skin, so leave the peel on to optimize fiber.

✓ **Potassium: 620 mg, 15% DV**

Potassium is necessary for healthy heart and kidney function, muscle contraction, and nerve transmission. Inadequate intake can increase blood pressure and deplete the calcium in bones. Potassium is found primarily in the flesh of the potato. Removing the skin reduces potassium by ~150 mg.

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DEADLINES:

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Merrill Citywide Rummage Sale Map

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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3	2	9	7	6	1	5	4	8
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8	3	7	2	4	6	1	9	5
4	6	5	1	7	9	2	8	3
6	1	2	8	5	3	4	7	9
1	5	3	9	8	7	6	2	4
2	8	6	4	1	5	7	3	9
7	9	4	6	3	2	8	5	1

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A group of dancers in white dresses performing a choreography on a stage. One dancer is being lifted by the others, and another is sitting on the floor in the foreground. The backdrop features a large blue and white wave design.

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