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Recreating history with a new photograph

Local veterans, auxiliary, and Scouts invited to participate in re-creation of historical photograph

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

As part of the 9/11 20-year anniversary commemoration and the Grand Opening of the new Northwoods Veterans Post on Saturday, September 11, area veterans, auxiliary members, Scouts, and their families are being asked to come and to help recreate a piece of his-

tory, in the form of taking a new photograph, that will resemble an old photograph, and make some history for future generations.

Did you follow that? Let me try that again. "We will line up our local Veterans, auxiliary members, families, and Scouts in front of the new Northwoods Veterans Post at 601 Johnson Street, just as our ancestors did in 1913, to take a [professional] photograph," organizers say.

The photograph will be taken immediately following the "We Remember 9/11" Ceremony, remembering the 20-year anniversary of that fateful day on September 11, 2001, when our nation was attacked on American soil, and the Grand Opening of the Northwoods Veterans Post. Those ceremonies will begin at 1:00 p.m. that day

and should last about 30 minutes. Organizers want to include absolutely as many veterans, auxiliary members, Scouts, and their family members as possible in the photograph.

Inspired by history

The inspiration for this photo is an historical photo taken in front of the old VFW Post more than 100 years ago.

On the wall of the new Northwoods Veterans Post, high on the wall overlooking the dining area, hangs a reproduction and enlargement of a 108-year-old panoramic photograph, painstakingly restored and reproduced on canvas and mounted on a solid backing.

See **HISTORY** page 9

Celebrating 25 years serving our community!

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Smoke from Minnesota wildfires carries across Wisconsin



Forest fires in one area of the country can create a hazy smoke-filled atmosphere hundreds of miles away and impact air quality. **Stock photo.**

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Merrill residents weren't the only ones to go outdoors on Thursday, Aug. 26, and question what was on fire. Hazy smoke filled the air, and the odor of something burning led residents to question if their neighbors' homes were on fire or if there was a nearby fire out of their line of vision. Some even went

See **WILDFIRES** page 2



Pat Gierl (left) and Andy Rudolph prepare to ascend to the clock tower with the new hands and gear box. **Michael J. Caylor, Jr. photo.**

Restoring the hands of time

Lincoln County Courthouse clock is getting a facelift

BY MICHAEL J. CAYLOR, JR.
CONTRIBUTOR

It stands above us as we go about our daily lives. It watched many of us come over the bridge from the hospital that first time as our lives began. It saw millions of tourists pass through town as they sought solace in the northwoods and then returned to reality when the vacation was over.

It also saw many people leave town, some of whom never returned. And it looked down upon many a funeral procession pass by, as we took our loved ones to their final rest.

See **RESTORING** page 15

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U.S. Senate candidate and Outagamie County executive, Tom Nelson, visited five Counties, including a stop at the Polka-Dotted Pie in Lincoln County, on the second day of his "Full Nelson 72 Counties Tour" on July 31. Here he visits with locals. "I am so happy to have been able to visit Merrill and learn about what issues are most important to the community," Nelson said. The tour will continue through Sept. 8, with Nelson driving all night long to make sure he hits each community and is open and accessible to all. While many candidates do tours that only involve elected officials and select invited guests, Nelson has chosen to open his tour up to anyone who wants to see him at the local pub, McDonalds, and coffee shops. He is open to speaking to everyone, regardless of political party. **Submitted photo.**

"11th Annual Christmas Card" art contest

For the past 10 years, Ted Nicholson created the art for the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce "Annual Christmas Card."

This year, the Chamber is sponsoring an art contest to select the artwork to be used on the "11th Annual Christmas Card."

"Christmas is such a wonderful time in Merrill, and it is your chance to show your Christmas in Merrill memory or vision," said Cheryl Skoug, Programs Manager at the Chamber. "Merrill is lucky to have many talented artists."

"The image of Merrill brings back many memories for people," Skoug adds. "They mail the cards out to people around the world." This is a wonderful way for an area artist to get exposure for their artwork in many communities.



This is a copy of the artwork created by Ted Nicholson depicting a Merrill Christmas and honoring all those who keep our community safe. Ted's custom artwork was created for the 10th anniversary, 2020 Merrill Christmas card. Your artwork could become this year's annual Merrill Christmas card for 2021. The Chamber is holding an art contest!
Artwork created by Ted Nicholson.

See **CHRISTMAS CARD** page 5

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Mayor issues order requiring masks in City facilities

On Monday, Aug. 30, Merrill Mayor Derek Woellner issued an order requiring masks be worn in all City of Merrill facilities for four weeks, until Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021. This order applies to both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

Woellner cited "the most recent Lincoln County Health Department Weekly COVID-19 update" which reported: "In the last month, Lincoln County has seen:

- Very high disease activity level

- Steady increase of positive cases
- 34% of COVID-19 tests were positive this week
- Viral load is higher, resulting in more symptoms and faster

spread throughout the home, gatherings, and worksites

- 18.5% (27/146) of cases have been vaccine breakthrough cases

See **MASKS** page 3

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CLOSED LABOR DAY SEPT. 6TH	Organic Dried Cranberries ONLY \$1.99 a lb.	Dried Cherries ONLY \$3.49 a lb.
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NOW OPEN UNTIL 6:30 PM MONDAY - FRIDAY!		
Salted Butter Quarters ONLY \$1.69 a lb.	Soda - Assorted Kinds & Flavors ONLY \$1.69 12/12 oz.	Bacon Frozen Low Sodium - Sliced ONLY \$1.69 16 oz.
Unsalted Butter Quarters ONLY \$1.49 a lb.	BBQ Potato Chips ONLY 99¢ 7.75 oz.	Loaded Sausage Bites ONLY 39¢ 3.75 oz.
Yogurt Assorted Flavors ONLY \$3.49 a case	Orange Juice ONLY \$2.99 a case	Pork Sausage Links Uncooked-Frozen ONLY \$5.88 a case
Diet Coke ONLY \$2.29 12/12 oz.	Cranberry Juice ONLY \$1.99 a case	Cocktail Smokies Frozen ONLY \$1.99 28 oz.
Creamy Peanut Butter ONLY \$2.99 40 oz.	Dark Chocolate Hot Cocoa Mix ONLY \$1.49 35 oz.	Beef Hot Dogs Uncured-Frozen ONLY 99¢ 10 oz.
Strawberry Fruit Spread ONLY \$1.69 30 oz.	Grated Parmesan ONLY \$1.89 8 oz.	Tator Tots Crispy ONLY \$6.89 5 lbs.
Concord Grape Jelly ONLY \$1.69 32 oz.	Vanilla Sandwich Cookies ONLY 99¢ 25 oz.	Sliced Bacon Frozen ONLY \$2.39 a lb.
Miracle Whip ONLY 49¢ 19 oz.	Dark Chocolate Eggs w/Maple Cream ONLY \$2.99 36 oz.	4 Meat Pizza w/Red Pepper Sauce ONLY \$1.99 16 oz.
Yellow Popcorn ONLY \$2.89 5 lbs.	Salad Olives ONLY 49¢ 10 oz.	
	Cheddar Brats Frozen ONLY \$1.89 14 oz.	

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

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Wednesday, September 15, 2021 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

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WILDFIRES from page 1

for a drive to try to figure out what was burning. Others called news outlets or local authorities. Nothing in our area was burning. The smoke and smell in our area was wildfire smoke in the atmosphere coming from the Greenwood fire in Northeastern Minnesota and fires in Ontario's Quetico Provincial Park, according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The DNR issued an Air Quality Advisory for much of northern Wisconsin, including Lincoln, Marathon, Langlade, and Wood Counties, from early Thursday morning until 12:00 a.m. on Friday, August 27, advising air was expected to be in the UNHEALTHY category from Thursday morning until early afternoon. Children, the elderly, and those with respiratory problems are the most susceptible to breathing problems and should avoid strenuous activities outside when air quality is unhealthy, according to the DNR.

Air quality improved in our area as winds blew the smoke out of the area, and rain on Thursday helped clear the air.

WE WILL BE CLOSED ON LABOR DAY

Fresh Pennsylvania Peaches and Honey Crisp & Gala Apples arriving Thurs.	Ball wide Mouth Canning Lids \$3.99 a dz. limit 4 dz.
Paula Red & Ginger Gold Apples 99¢ lb. \$3.95 1/2 peck	Wide Mouth Rings \$5.89 for 24
Mums Lg. Single Color \$14.95 Lg. Tri color \$19.95	Regular Mouth Rings \$4.99 for 24
Canning Tomatoes \$25 for 25 lbs.	Regular Mouth Lids \$12 for 4 dz.
Green Bell Peppers 3/\$1	End of the Season Blueberry Sale! \$20 for 10 lbs.

SUMMER HOURS: M, T, TH & F 8AM-6PM • W & SA 8AM-5PM

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Ad & News Deadlines: Display Advertising: 12:30 p.m. Monday Classified Advertising: 11:30 a.m. Monday

News or press release submissions must be one week prior to pub date.

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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, 921 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452.

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

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MASKS
from page 2

- 10 hospitalizations; those individuals were in their 30s, 40s, 50s, 70s, and 90s; 1 individual has been vaccinated
- 3 new deaths; those individuals were in their 60s and 70s; all unvaccinated.

“According to the County Health Department, we can reduce the spread of COVID-19 by wearing a mask,” Woellner’s written declaration said. “Reversing their initial policy, the CDC now recommends that even fully vaccinated people should wear masks indoors.”

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2 DAYS!
Thursday, September 2nd
1PM - 6PM
Friday, September 3rd
1PM - 6PM

Welcome September

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NORTHWOODS VETERANS POST

Saturday Sept 11th from 9:28am-10:30am.
We remember the 20th Anniversary of September 11
Join us outside the NVP, Bring a chair

FRI SEPT 10
Food & Drink Specials
8-10:00pm: Live Music by Bryce Tomaschewski

SAT SEPT 11

7:30am: Flag Retirement Ceremony
9:28am: We Remember 9-11-2001, 20th Anniversary
10:30am: MACR Ride Leaves Post
11:00am: Inflatable Obstacle Course Military Vehicle Display
11:30am-1:00pm: Burgers, Brats & Hot Dogs by JB, Proceeds will be a Free Will Donation
1:00pm: Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
2:00pm NVP Commemorative Photo
3:00-8:00pm: Food Trucks
6:00pm: MACR Ride Returns & Live Music

SAT LIVE MUSIC

4-6:00pm - CARL JACKSON
6-8:00pm - JUAN
8-10:00pm - NORTHWOODS SKITCHERS

SUN SEPT 12
Food & Drink Specials / Brunch 11am-3pm
Followed by our PACKER PARTY!

GRAND OPENING & RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
Saturday September 11th from 1:00-3:00pm
Ribbon Cutting, Appetizers, Drink Specials and Tours! Bring a Chair

Post 1638 Post 46 Post 2000 Disabled American Veterans Chapter 29 Post 1638 Troop 503 Pack 503 Girl Scouts Merrill

August Garden of the Month

Final 2021 Garden of the Month announced from among Merrill's many beautiful gardens

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The garden of Pam and Al Fox, 2601 W. Main Street in Merrill, has been named the Garden of the Month for August 2021, the final Garden of the Month for 2021. Each summer, the volunteers of Park City Gardens consider many beautiful properties in the city of Merrill for the Garden of the Month honor which is bestowed on three gardeners during the season, one each month for June, July, and August.



The garden of Pam and Al Fox, 2601 W. Main Street in Merrill, has been selected as the August Garden of the Month by Park City Gardens. **Submitted photos.**

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PET OF THE WEEK

My name is **Kevin!** I am a very sweet boy who came to the shelter as a stray but no one ever came for me. Now I am on the hunt for a family that's willing to welcome a large, talkative, loving boy into their home! I do well with other cats. I did OK meeting a dog since I have been here. I would love a home where I have a real tall cat tree to hang out in. I also love belly rubs and naps.

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Visit the Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours by appointment only. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, visit us on the web at www.furrypets.com.

PAMIDA 25 YEAR REUNION

Inviting All former PAMIDA employees (and guest) to join your fellow co-workers for drinks, food and fun on

Saturday, September 11th 3 - 8 PM

Party will be held at:
Schult's Country Inn
W5931 Church Ave, Merrill, WI 54452

Merrill Eagles Aerie 584 & Northwoods VFW Post 1638
(In our Beer Garden between the stands)

Would like to thank all the sponsors listed below for their generous donations to make the four nights of entertainment possible at our beer garden at the 2021 Lincoln County Free Fair.

- Sponsors for 2021 Fair Entertainment.**
- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Merrill Eagles Club | KB Body Shop |
| Northwoods VFW | Blue Jay Disposal |
| Pine Ridge Mobil - Arby's - Merrill Americinn | In & Out Liquor |
| Burgener Contract Carriers | Westside Market |
| Trophy Bar | 365 Powersports |
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| Kathy & Cal's Club 64 | SGS Environmental |
| Kelly O'Day : | Mar-Lees Bar |
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| MLD Auto Repair | The Dugout |
| Erv's sport center Tomahawk | Wausau Sales and Auction |
| Hometown Feed Mill Tomahawk | Brickners Park City |
| Overboard Bar and Grill | Merrill NAPA |

Pam and Al have a beautifully designed yard and flower gardens, said Linda Huss, one of the volunteers on the Garden of the Month selection committee.

"The lush lawn in front is embellished with beautiful flower gardens, accented in outdoor art representing days gone by," Huss said. "As you exit your vehicle, you are welcomed by two beautiful flower gardens leading you to the beautiful back yard."

"What you can't see from the street," she added, "is a beautiful back yard with a large shade tree that protects the gardens on the west side of the garage and shades a relaxing hammock hanging chair. The lush green of the corn stalks bordering the back yard highlights each of the gardens' vibrant colors. The perfect place to enjoy a beautiful day."

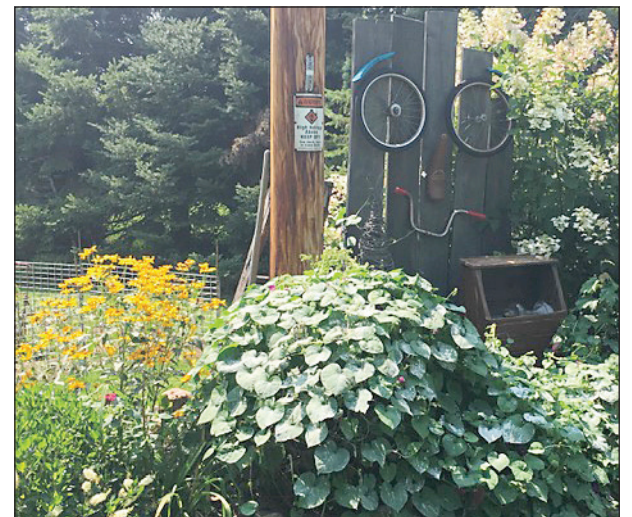
Huss shared a funny story the Fox's shared with her when she visited with them to view their blooming beds. Many years ago when Pam wanted to start her beautiful gardens, Al had commented: "Don't make the flowers suffer." Apparently, he didn't have much faith in her gardening skills.

"Well, she proved him wrong," Huss said. "Congratulations to Pam and Al!"

Additional photos of the property can be seen on the Positively Merrill Facebook Page.

More beautiful gardens to tour

"Selecting the Garden of the Month this year was a very difficult and enjoyable experience," Huss said. "There are so many beautiful gardens throughout the community of Merrill. We encourage everyone to take a drive and visit some of the beautiful ones we found along the way."



She included a partial list of properties to consider viewing, both inside and outside of Merrill's city limits. "Here is our list of some," she said, "but not

See GARDEN page 5

Storage container article clarification

City of Merrill building inspector sets the record straight

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

In the August 26 edition of the Foto News, the article entitled "Merrill City Plan Public Hearing considers ban on storage containers" wasn't researched thoroughly enough. Merrill's City Building Inspector, Darin Pagel, called to set the record straight.

He referred to Sec. 113-38. - Residential district regulations—R-I through R-V, subsection (l) Single-family detached- and two-family attached dwelling—Minimum standards, of the existing City of Merrill Zoning Ordinance, which already sets standards for residential home building. Such minimum standards already would prohibit building a home within the City limits from

storage containers, he said.

Temporary use for residential storage further clarified

The proposed ordinance, which is the subject of the Sept. 7 public hearing before Merrill's City Plan Commission "is an attempt to clarify" permitted usage of storage containers, Pagel said.

He emphasized the following particular language within the proposed ordinance change, saying the ordinance is not banning the use of storage containers altogether:

"Shipping Containers, semi trailers, or similar structures are prohibited in Residential Districts or residential use properties. A special exception may be given by the Zoning Administrator for storage purposes for moving or per-

mitted property renovation for a maximum of 30 days. The Zoning Administrator may extend the timeframe upon request of the property owner for special circumstances."

Accordingly, "Any person or business that intends to place a shipping container, semi trailer, or similar structure on a property must register it with the zoning department prior to such placement and pay the applicable fees."

A public hearing to consider the proposed zoning ordinance amendment will be held at Merrill City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 6:00 p.m. Remote attendance is also permitted. To attend remotely, call 413.357.2122 and use meeting PIN 316 153 509 #.

CHRISTMAS CARD

from page 2

Entries must designate a Merrill Christmas scene – past or present. Contest entry dates are August 1 to September 3, 2021. Each contestant may submit one entry using any of the following two-dimensional mediums: acrylic, pen and ink, watercolor, or oil. Each entry must be 12”x 18”, mounted on tag board or foam core. Judges will select one image which captures the essence and spirit of the Christmas season in Merrill. The winner will receive a \$250 Merrill Chamber gift certificate and have their artwork featured on the 11th Annual Merrill Chamber Christmas card, which will be available for sale during the 2021 Christmas season, and used in future promotions.

Submitted artwork becomes the property of the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce and may be used in various promotional displays. All submissions must be an original work of art.

For contest rules and guidelines or for an application, contact the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce at 715.536.9474 or stop by their office located at 705 N. Center Avenue. Information is also available on their website: www.merrill-chamber.org. Deadline for entry is September 3, 2021.

GARDEN
from page 4

limited to just these. You will see many more along the way.”

- 811 Lake St.
- 1605 E. 9th St.
- 200 Cotter Avenue
- Glen Drive (almost to the end of the street)
- 408 E. 2nd Street
- 107 1/2 Polk Street
- 109 Polk Street
- 1805 W. Second Street
- 409 Schulz Street
- 1609 E. 1st Street
- N2609 East Shore Drive (Outside City Limits)
- N2715 East Shore Drive (Outside City Limits)
- N2659 East Shore Drive (Outside City Limits)

Now is the perfect time for a tour, Huss said. But “Don’t wait too long ... fall is fast approaching.”

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MERRILL LABOR DAY

Parade Line-Up



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

Parade Line-up 9:00am • Parade Begins 10:00am

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. VFW Color Guard & Rifle Squad Post 1638 | 24. Corning Volunteer Fire Department | 46. Weinbrenner Shoe Company |
| 2. Boy Scout Color Guard | 25. Pine River Volunteer Fire Department | 47. Operating Engineers #139 |
| 3. American Legion Color Guard | 26. Hamburg Fire And EMS Department | 48. Merrill Busy Bees 4-H |
| 4. VFW Post 1638 Ladies Auxiliary | 27. DNR Fire Trucks And Equipment | 49. St Stephens United Church Of Christ |
| 5. Jopek's Pick-Up | 28. Harrison Hills ATV Club | 50. Merrill Aqua Jays Swim Team* |
| 6. Mar-Lin Post #10203 | 29. Lions Car Show (Nicklaus Cars: 22) | 51. Grandpa's Farm |
| 7. DAV Chapter 29 | 30. Rod's Towing Service | 52. Bluejay 96.3 |
| 8. AMVETS Pres | 31. Bell Tower Residents | 53. Haven |
| 9. Lincoln County Veterans Council | 32. Aqua Craft | 54. MHS Cheer Team |
| 10. Merrill Mayor Derek Woellner | 33. Berlin-Hamburg Lions | 55. Merrill High School Band |
| 11. City Council Officials | 34. Nicklaus Tractors (Car Show: 9) | 56. Marching Jays Semi |
| 12. Merrill City Band | 35. Church Mutuals Insurance Company | 57. MAPS |
| 13. Lincoln County Board Members | 36. St. John' Lutheran Church-Hamburg | 58. Little Lakes Memories |
| 14. Lincoln County Sheriff Ken Schneider | 37. Gary Skrzypchak 1968 Plymouth | 59. Merrill Racers |
| 15. Lincoln County District Attorney | 38. Merrill Soccer Association | 60. Our Way Inc |
| 16. Lincoln County Clerk | 39. Allan's Barber Chair | 61. North Country Riders |
| 17. Lincoln County Treasurer Diana Petruzates | 40. Kevin Eckert 1962 Ford F-100 | 62. Agra Industries |
| 18. Lincoln County Clerk Of Court | 41. Friends Of Vincent/Haunted Sawmill | 63. Lincoln Gun Club/Trap Team |
| 19. Lincoln County Democrats | 42. 107 Bait Shop | 64. Snowmo-Boyle |
| 20. U.S. Political Officials | 43. Merrill Youth Hockey | 65. Christ Evangelical Church |
| 21. Lincoln County Republicans | 44. Square 'Em' Up | 66. WI River Pro Rodeo Queen & Princess |
| 22. Merrill Fire Department | 45. Brooke's School Of Dance | 67. 5 Country Girls |
| 23. Town Of Russell Fire Department | | 68. Underdown Horse Club |

It Would Be Greatly Appreciated If All Units Would Enter The Parade Line-Up By Going South On State Street, Toward The Merrill Manufacturing Company Parking Lot, Entering The Lot From The West Side And Going To The East Side (Genesee Street) And Instructions From A Uniformed Parade Official.

All Horses Are To Unload On The Street South Of The Merrill Manufacturing Company Parking Lot And Have Copies Of Their Coggins Report For The OFFICIAL There. Those Without Their Coggins Report Will Not Be Allowed To Participate In The Parade.

All Motorized Units Shall Line Up In The Merrill Manufacturing Company Parking Lot And Beyond. The Parade Starting Point Is At The Intersection Of Genesee Street And Main Street. The Parade Shall Go East On Main Street North On Polk Street, Easton Second Street, Continuing East To Court Street. All Motorized Units Are Asked To Proceed East To Sales Street, Turn North To The Festival Grounds, Or May Drop Out Of The Parade At Center Avenue (The Courthouse).

All Floats With Riders Shall Go North On Court Street To 3rd Street, And Proceed East On 3rd To The Festival Grounds.

All Marching Units May Enter The Parade From Main Street, By Unloading At The Family Dollar Parking Lot And Proceeding East At The Starting Point As Directed.

All Units Not Registered May Still Enter The Parade, But Should Have Signs With Their Name Clearly Identifiable For The Judges On Their Units.

Thank You For Your Cooperation.

The Judges Are Scattered Throughout The Parade For The Purpose Of Judging All Of The Categories.

Any Questions, Please Contact Merrill Park and Recreation At 715-536-7313.

OBITUARIES



Robert Charles Martin
9-14-1978 to 7-14-2021

Hey all, many called me Rob but my family still like to call me Bobby. I died unexpectedly at the age of 42 while living in National City, San Diego. I was born in Chicago, Ill., but grew up in Hamburg, WI. I graduated from Merrill High School in 1996. I was an awesome wrestler taking home many trophies. I earned a wrestling scholarship, which I took to St. Cloud University in Minnesota. I was a big sports fan. I enjoyed watching football growing up, but I really liked baseball. Ken Griffey Jr. was my favorite player. I was an avid collector of those Topps baseball cards and had boxes to prove it. I liked the Minnesota Twins. I worked odd jobs in construction mainly as a roofer. I worked in restaurants as a cook or "chef" as I liked to call myself. Life was an adventure for me. I struggled. I loved. I lost. It was always my goal to make a million dollars in my lifetime. I wrote once that was my plan and I believed I could do it and stated that if you didn't believe you wouldn't win. Well somewhere along the line, I stopped believing in my dreams. So a word of advice to those who read this, don't give up whatever you are going through believe in yourself. Never stop dreaming or believing.

I leave behind my son, Jordon, a daughter, Bree. All my love to both of you. My father Bob Martin, step-mother Deb, Martinsville Indiana. My sister, Cheryl Martin, Merrill WI, step-sister Emily (Kate) Ohlrich Junction City, WI, a step-brother Trevor (Lynn) Ohlrich Alsip Illinois. My niece Samantha Butalla, My nephews, Mitchell, Richard, Dillon, Nicholas, and Victor Butalla. I was preceded in death by my mother, Lois Martin (1990).

There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday September 11, 2021 at the Corning Town Hall N1569 State RD 64 & 107 Merrill WI 54452 from 1-5:00 P.M. Prayer Service at 2:00 P.M. All are welcome to come share and celebrate all the million little things that were good about me.



Dorothy M. Gibson, age 94, of Merrill, died on Thursday, August 26, 2021, at the Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill, while under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services. Dorothy was born on July 30, 1927, to the late Robert and Elizabeth (Beaudoin) Gibson, in Trout Lake, MI and was the youngest of her siblings. She attended Rudyard High School in Rudyard, Michigan.

Dorothy retired as the Assistant Hospital Administrator at the Holy Cross Hospital in Merrill. Dorothy ("Gib" as Ruth Jane called her) and Ruth Jane were the best of friends and enjoyed going to their cottage on Long Lake in Harrison Hills where they would relax, swim, read books, watch birds, play Farkle and feed the chipmunks peanuts by hand. Dorothy played the ukulele and harmonica by the campfire. She also enjoyed downhill skiing, snowmobiling, and snowshoeing. Dorothy traveled to many other European countries with Ruth Jane. They traveled often to Arizona visiting their snowbird friends. Dorothy enjoyed dressing up in her clown costume and clowning around! Last but not least, she looked forward to her next trip to the casino. She was a member of the Sweet Adelines and St. Francis Xavier Church.

Dorothy is preceded in death by her parents, life-long friend: Ruth Jane Teske, brothers: Russell, Robert and Eugene and sisters: Luella, Gladys, and Elizabeth (Bette).

A funeral liturgy will be held on Friday, September 3, 2021, at 4pm at Waid Funeral Home. Father Maria Vallabhaneni will officiate. Visitation will be held on Friday, September 3, 2021, from 3 pm until the time of the liturgy, also at the funeral home. Burial of Dorothy's cremated remains will take place at a later date at the Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to either Pine Crest Nursing Home or Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services in Dorothy's name are encouraged. Thank you to Pine Crest Nursing Home for taking care of Dorothy for all these years.

Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com.



Phyllis J. Meyer, age 78, of Merrill, unexpectedly went to be with her Lord on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at Good Samaritan Health Center in Merrill. She was born March 9, 1943, in Merrill to the late Emery and Phyllis (Schuman) Morrison. On November 18, 1961, Phyllis and Herman Meyer were united in marriage at Trinity Lutheran Church, a union that would last nearly 60 years.

After the boys were raised, Phyllis went on to receive her Associates Degree from NTC in Computer Electronics. She worked at Greenheck as a computer programmer. Phyllis also set up computers at a dental office and Hargrave Appliance in town. She used her computer skills to design brochures for AHACK and various other government programs.

Phyllis was a wonderful cook and made delicious meals for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter, attracting all the family her home would accommodate. She was a very loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, and spent as much time with her family as she could. Phyllis made birthday cakes for all her children and grandchildren. She especially enjoyed reading to her great grandchildren. She also read to the 1st graders at Trinity School, something she cherished always. Phyllis was a member of the Trinity Ladies Aid for many years and enjoyed serving and setting up meals. In her spare time, she enjoyed knitting. Phyllis loved to travel and enjoyed trips to Branson, a cruise to Alaska, and a special Country Music Cruise from Galveston, Texas to a few local islands. Phyllis will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Survivors include her husband: Herman Meyer, of Merrill; children: Robert (Carla) Meyer and Jody (Elizabeth) Meyer; two sisters: Mary (Tom) Jodarski, Julie (Steve) Vigue; five grandchildren: Amanda (Joseph) Heisinger, Adam (Christina) Meyer, Kimberly (Kyle) Young, Timothy Meyer & Jesse Meyer; five great grandchildren: Kylie Meyer, Kinsley Young, Kovyn Young, Killian Meyer and Konrad Young.

She was preceded in death by her father, Emery Morrison, her mother, Phyllis Morrison, brother Mike Morrison, sister Patricia (Harold) Schultz and brother Peter Morrison.

Funeral services for Phyllis will be held on Tuesday, August 31, 2021, at 11:00 AM at Trinity Lutheran Church. Rev. Scott Gustafson will officiate. Visitation will be held Monday, August 30 from 4-8 PM at Waid Funeral Home, and again from 10 AM until the time of service, Tuesday at the church. Burial will follow in Snow Hill Cemetery. Waid Funeral Home and Cremation Service is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com.



Jeanette Kathryn Fondow, age 100, of Antigo died Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at The Bay at Eastview.

Jeanette was born on January 19, 1921 in Bavaria, WI to the late John and Eva (Kluball) Simon.

Jeanette was united in marriage to Richard E. Fondow on August 25, 1946 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in the Town of Summit. Richard preceded her in death on March 3, 1992.

Jeanette attended Sunnyslope School in her grade school

years. She was a graduate of Antigo High School class of 1938 and then went on to attend Wausau Business Institute until 1940. She ventured off to Milwaukee from 1942-1946 doing clerical work for Wrought Manufacturing and book-keeping at Spic & Span Dry Cleaners. In returning to Antigo, she waitressed at Tesch's Supper Club and in 1964 began working for the Antigo Vocational School, later known as Northcentral Technical College. She ended her career in clerical work with the Langlade County Department of Social Services and the Langlade County Veteran's Service Office in 1987.

Jeanette was a member of Peace Lutheran Church where she was also a member of Dorcas Society, Lutheran Womens Missionary League, Altar Guild, the choir, and Parent Teacher League.

She was a longtime member of 4-H, Antigo Music Association, and a volunteer at Langlade Memorial Hospital.

Survivors include 3 sons: Richard E. (Jackie) Fondow, II of Antigo, Reverend Donald J. (Connie) Fondow of Park Rapids, MN, Gerald W. (Lisa) Fondow of Sun Prairie, WI, 8 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, a sister Darlene (Don) Granger of New Auburn, WI, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, Jeanette was preceded in death by 2 brothers and their wives: John (Vivian) Simon and Eugene (Geraldine) Simon and a sister and her husband Adeline (Howard) Boyle.

Funeral services were held on Friday, August 27, 2021 at 11:00 am at Peace Lutheran Church. Reverend David Karolus officiated. Visitation took place Thursday, August 26, 2021 from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm at Strasser-Roller Funeral Home and on Friday from 10:00 am until the service at the church. Interment will be in Elmwood Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Jeanette's name may be directed to Peace Lutheran Church and School and The Lutheran Hour.

Friends may visit online at strasserrollerfuneralhome.com.



Linda Lou Wiederhoeft

began her heavenly journey on Sunday, August 22, 2021. She was born December 10, 1956, the youngest daughter of Raymond and Myrna (Zocher) Wiederhoeft and sister to Barb (Dale) Dahlke and Debra Wiederhoeft. Thus, she became an "Irish twin" to sister, Deb. Linda attended Trinity Lutheran School in Athens, Wisconsin and confirming her faith in May 1971. Following her graduation from Athens High School, she attended NTC and achieved degrees in parts inventory and finance. Later, Linda achieved a BS in business from Upper Iowa University. Linda retired from Church Mutual Insurance Company in June, 2021 due to her health.

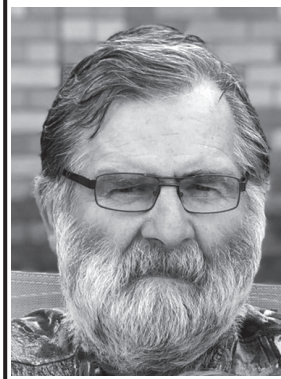
She loved being in service to the Lord as the Church Council Secretary for many years as well as various committees and boards within St. John's. Linda was a charter member of the Pommerscher Verein Central Wisconsin. Some of her hobbies were: genealogy, singing with the Church Mutual Choir; computer technology, driving, reading, knitting, sewing, embroidery, watching old TV shows, remodeling, cooking, and hobby farming. Her fur babies, Lady, Buddy and KC, along with her moo-beaus (too numerous to name) were very important to her.

Linda was preceded in death by her parents, Raymond and Myrna Wiederhoeft. She is survived by her sisters, Barb (Dale) Dahlke and Debra Wiederhoeft; niece, Michelle (Jay) Mertes, Tyler and Collin; and nephew, Matthew (Jill) Dahlke, Brayden, Andrew and Sawyer; two sponsors, Violet Schmidt and Stanley Wiederhoeft, and many cousins.

A Celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at St. John's Lutheran Church (of Hamburg). Visitation will start at 9:30 am - 11:00 am with the service to follow. Committal will be at St. Peter's Cemetery in Hamburg. Masking and social distancing is appreciated.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church in memory of Linda Wiederhoeft, c/o St. John's Lutheran Church, 134058 County Road L, Athens, WI 54411 or any charity of your choice.

Mid Wisconsin Cremation Society is assisting the family. Online condolences may be expressed at HonorOne.com.



Dennis Rothmeyer, 73, of Merrill, Wisconsin passed away on August 21, 2021, in Wausau, Wisconsin. He was born on July 9, 1948, in Wausau, WI to Derold and Delores (Kolter) Rothmeyer. Dennis married Paulette (Grefe) Rothmeyer on July 25, 1970, in Merrill. She passed away on January 26, 2020.

Dennis was the first employee hired at GPI back in 1967 and worked there until his retirement over 40 years later. He loved spending time with his family at the cottage in Tomahawk, where he hunted since he was young. He was a Christmas cookie master, always achieving the perfect cutouts no matter how long it would take. His lasagna was a dish he took great pride in as well. Paulette and Dennis enjoyed taking trips to the casinos throughout Wisconsin.

He was a funny, sweet, down to earth big old' teddy bear. Dennis would do anything for anybody. He was silly, always joking around and had a great sense of humor. He enjoyed the simple pleasures in life like taking a drive every evening with his dog, Sasha.

Dennis is survived by his daughters; Danielle (Tim) and Melissa (Brian), grandchildren; Riley (Hope) and Madelyn (Max), great-grandchild, Beau, siblings; Sandy (Vern), Rhonda (George), Sherry (Clint), and Kevin (Jessica), sisters and brothers-in-law and his dog, Sasha.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Delores, father, Derold, his wife, Paulette, and his son, Tony.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, September 3, 2021, at 11:00 AM at Waid Funeral Home. Pastor Mike Southcombe will officiate. A visitation will take place on Thursday, September 2, 2021, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Waid Funeral Home and again on Friday at 10:00 AM until the time of service. Inurnment to take place at a later date at Merrill Memorial Park.

Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com.

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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Labor Day

DEAR READER,

Labor Day weekend is a busy time for a lot of businesses. Stores, hopefully our local stores that give back to our community, are brimming with shoppers. Entertainment venues are bursting, and everyone is up and out for that final summer celebration.

But what does Labor Day really mean? It is not just a long weekend with the family, or a simple day off before school begins and work resumes. It is a celebration of the accomplishments of the American labor movement – the men and women who struggled so that we can have a 40-hour work week, paid overtime, protections against child labor, benefits, and more. It is an acknowledgment of those who came before us and gave their time and energy – and sometimes their lives – for a fairer and more just return on effort, so that in this great nation, anyone who is willing to work hard has the chance to get ahead.

As we go about the business of enjoying a final summer's celebration, let's remember those men and women with gratitude and respect.



PATRICK J. WOOD
PUBLISHER

Author of "Dear Reader," available at Bosses (Green Bay) and the Bookcellar (Waupaca) and on Amazon. All profits go toward eradicating homelessness in Wisconsin.



The Lincoln County Humane Society (LCHS) would like to thank the Summer Knights Car Club for choosing LCHS to receive the proceeds of the 2021 Car Show held on June 26 in Tomahawk. Their support resulted in a \$500 donation for the animals of the shelter. Shown, L to R: Makenzy Moritz (Summer Knights Net Design), Art Moritz (President of Summer Knights), Fran Radtke (Vice-President of Summer Knights), and Liz Friedenfels of LCHS. **Submitted photo.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Merrill Foto News, its publishers, Editor, or staff.

TO THE EDITOR:

Recently I asked a rather simple question in a Merrill community group on Facebook about something within the city, and it immediately became an attack on me. The comments made me out to be hateful, anti-American, and completely against this whole city. None of that is even remotely true. I know my standing in the city, and I know how many of you feel about me, but what happened was completely uncalled for. You keep villainizing me in Merrill because of my political beliefs and opinions. And it's not just me, but rather anyone who is a like-minded individual such as myself. It's even happening within the schools. It needs to stop. Many citizens in this community need to be more accepting, especially towards the "minority." Merrill is not becoming a better city despite what you think. The belittling and attacks towards anyone with a slightly negative view of the city is both disgusting and disheartening. I know most of you reading this are probably laughing at me and that's fine. We will not stop trying to make Merrill better. We are not going away. We will not just leave. Stop the hate and learn to live as an actual community. This must start with the leaders of the city and even some of those at the county level. We have to live together to be successful, and we are becoming divided more each and every day. It's time to think about others. It's time to actually start making Merrill better. Thank you.

- Dallas Seiwert
Merrill, Wis.

TO THE EDITOR:

Maya Angelou once said: "I did then what I knew how to do, now that I know better, I do better." A few things we did before we "knew better" include, asbestos in building materials, lead in paint and gasoline, sprayed DDT, and refrigerating with ozone depleting Freon. As we continue to "know better," I believe we are "doing better." Our exposure to asbestos, lead, and many other toxic substances has been greatly reduced, saving lives. What about the existential threats of global climate change?

The heat trapping effect of CO2 was observed in the 1800's, but not well understood until the 1970's. By then, burning fossil fuels was driving the industrial revolution. For 40 cents a gallon I drove my \$300 '63 Chevy all over the country without a thought of my CO2 emissions. We didn't know better. Now we do. We have all benefited from burning fossil fuels. But we must "do better."

There are promising signs. Electric vehicle use is becoming more common. Solar and wind are increasing in the power sector. Agriculture continues developing methods to reduce and sequester CO2. We have the technology to do better. Yet, every day the climate challenge grows. There will be climate legislation in this year's Budget Reconciliation Bill, and we have an obligation

to let our representatives know we want action. If they don't hear from us, they think we don't care. Let's tell our representatives to "know better" and "do better" on addressing climate change.

- Bruce Keyzer,
Sarona, Wis.

TO THE EDITOR:

Carbon Fuels and Forest Fire

We've come to understand that more heat in the atmosphere can lead to extreme weather including drought. It will be periods of heat and dryness that will suck the moisture out of our fields and forests. Our forests are increasingly vulnerable to loss of moisture as climate change progresses. Today in Northern Wisconsin [August 26], our air is thick with the smoke from forest fires in Northern Minnesota.

Before it's too late, we should all realize that fossil fuels should only be used where absolutely necessary.

Everyone will win if we install solar panels, switch to e-cars (by the way, really fun to drive), and/or install electric heat pumps. All of these actions will help reduce overall demand for carbon-based fuels. That is a big win for those businesses and people who may still need gasoline or fuel oil. This is because reduced overall demand will drive down prices for those fuels. And we win personally through reduced electric, gas, and/or fuel oil bills. Or we can simply sign up for wind, solar, or other green electricity sources from the power company. Let's all pitch in to reduce demand for carbon-based fuels. It's a win-win for everyone. What's the downside?

Yes, we'll need to train for new and better jobs, hopefully not as forest-fire fighters.

- George Einar Busséy
Town of White River, Ashland County, Wis.

TO THE EDITOR:

U.S. Involvement in Afghanistan, from the Carter administration's funding of Osama bin Ladin against the Soviets to the Bush II administration's invasion after 9/11 to the Biden administration's bungled withdrawal, seems to have been a disaster from beginning to end. No clear purpose, contractor greed, Afghan corruption.

The Afghans are a tough bunch, fierce tribesmen who kept women sequestered for time out of mind. The men are probably the toughest fighters in the modern world, macho and puritanical.

But the sequestration of women may have been cracked open. The clear, honest voice of exiled Afghan women may well contain an examination of the male penchant for violence that the world absolutely needs to hear. And I don't only mean Taliban violence. I mean the extent to which recourse to violence is so reflexively high on the list of governmental—and male—prerogatives around the world.

Afghan women just might deliver an analysis of male violence that, if we are capable of actually hearing it, could begin (with enough public support) to transform governmental behavior.

If there is a silver lining in this dark and disastrous cloud, Afghan women will rub our faces in it. And it could be a painful but cleansing rub, even a spiritual healing—unless macho pride refuses to lay down its righteous wrath and delusions of superiority.

- Paul Gilk
Merrill, Wis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

* Letters must be 250 words or less (There will be no exceptions to this. Any letter longer than 250 words will not be printed.)
* All letters must include full name, address and phone number of the composer. Phone numbers and addresses will not be published, but will be used for verification purposes if necessary.
* Letters will be published at the discretion of the Editor. While letters on most any topic will be published, any letters deemed derogatory, inflammatory, slanderous, or involving vulgar language, will not be published.
* Letters will be published on a "first come, first served" basis. Any letters which we are unable to publish in the printed newspaper will be run online at www.merrillfotonews.com and may be printed in the paper at a later date if possible.

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Among 28 participants, Maria Volpe's photo – taken on a kayak trip near the converge of the Wisconsin and Pine Rivers – was voted as the best photo depicting "Summer in Merrill," as part of a recent social media photo contest. "I took the photo while kayaking the Wisconsin River with great friends, something I very much enjoy," Volpe said, "and feel so lucky to have such beautiful natural resources in and around Merrill to enjoy. The photo was taken where the Pine River converges with the Wisconsin River off of Hwy. W south of Merrill."

Maria Volpe photo.

T.B. Scott Library leadership changes

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Stevens retires as Director

After 21 years of service for the City of Merrill, working to develop Merrill's T.B. Scott Library as a community destination, as well as a place to check out books and do research, combining the library's rich history with modern technology and programming, Stacy Stevens, retired on June 1, 2021.

Stevens started working at the T.B. Scott Library in Jan. 2000 as Assistant Director and was appointed the 13th Director of the Library in Jan. 2009. "It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the Merrill community over these years at our wonderful library," Stevens said.



Jessica Zellers combines many of her loves ... reading, working in the library as the T.B. Scott Library's newest Director, and time with her service dog, Revvie. **Tina L. Scott photo.**

Zellers is appointed as new Director

In anticipation of Stevens' retirement, Jessica Zellers was hired on April 19, 2021, to become the 14th Director of the T.B. Scott Library.

Zellers moved to Merrill from North

Carolina. "I specifically wanted to move to Wisconsin because I love cold winters," Zellers said. "No one ever believes me when I say that."

"I'm thrilled to be here. T.B. Scott Free Library is a beautiful building, and I am impressed by the staff and their dedication to serving the community," she said.

"I have to admit, it's a little intimidating, trying to fill the shoes of Director Stacy Stevens," Zellers said. "Under her direction, the library installed solar panels, adopted more efficient technologies, increased the number of programs for the public, and expanded the library's digital collections. I'm grateful to come into a library that's already in such great shape."

Zellers has a Master of Library Science from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. She has worked in a number of public libraries and one academic library and has also written books and articles about library service and helping people find books to read.

"That is my very favorite part of being a librarian," Zellers said, "connecting readers with books."

Looking to the present and the future, "This is such a challenging time," Zellers said. "For a while during the summer, it looked like we were coming out of the pandemic, but the delta variant has changed all that."

"My challenge is to provide exceptional library service while being mindful of public health. We want people to gather here for events and programs. We want people coming in to browse for books or to use our computers, or coming in for no reason at all. But we can only invite people within our walls if we're respecting the health needs of the community. I'm following the guidance of the CDC, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and the Lincoln County Health Department," she said.

"This building has a gorgeous view and free wifi, but I know sometimes people

can't make it in, or they feel nervous going out in public. We're here for you, even if you never set foot in the door," Zellers said.

"We've got curbside delivery for physical items, and we've got a great collection of e-books and downloadable audiobooks. You get to them using a free app called Libby. And you can always call or email us with reference questions or to get some reading suggestions."

Zellers said the T.B. Scott Library has a "fantastic group of employees, and we are supported by a community of Library Board trustees, Friends of the Library, volunteers, and patrons."

"No matter what comes next, we'll work together to help people find answers to their questions, and offer programs for all ages, and grow our print and digital collections," Zellers added.

Head Youth Services Librarian exits

Carolyn Forde, Youth Services Librarian at the T.B. Scott Library, is also leaving the library, effective Aug. 31., after four years leading the Children's Department. Forde was hired in 2017.

"Carolyn Forde made a lasting impact on the community," said Library Director Jessica Zellers. "She was responsible for traditional library services, like buying books and leading story time, as well as innovative programs like Summer Food, Summer Fun, which provided free meals to kids."

"During my time at the T. B. Scott Library, I worked to support area families and promote early literacy," Forde said.

Examples of this were: "Enhancing the second floor space to create new service points and better support learning and access to frequently used collections," and "I also initiated our successful program collaboration with the Woodson Art Museum," she said.

"I am grateful to the Library Board and community for this opportunity to serve," Forde said.

Bennett is promoted to Youth Services [Head] Librarian

"It is my pleasure to let you know that Andrea Bennett will be serving as the new Youth Services Head effective Sept. 1," Forde said in an August email to library patrons.



"After 14 years as Youth Services Assistant, Andrea Bennett begins her new role as Head Youth Services Librarian on Sept. 1. **Submitted photo.**

Andrea Bennett is being promoted to Head of Youth Services on Sept. 1," Zellers said. "She's been with the Library for 14 years. We had a competitive search process with several experienced candidates in the region, but Andrea impressed the Search Committee with her background, knowledge, and passion for children's librarianship. I am delighted to see her step into this leadership role."

Bennett has a Bachelor's Degree in Library Services with an emphasis in elementary education.

"I enjoy working with youth of all ages, promoting literacy through various programs, and working with our community partners. My favorite part of being a librarian is connecting with children and helping to build a love of the library," Bennett said. "I am looking forward to my new role as Head of Youth Services and am excited to announce the opening of our new Literacy Adventure Park later this Fall." [She promised more information to come on that.]

HISTORY from page 1

The original photograph, taken in 1913, included more than 55 people, many of whom were members of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) [a fraternal organization made up of those who served in the Union Army] and the Women's Relief Corps (W.R.C.) [which originally served as the auxiliary of the G.A.R.], dressed in their finery and standing in front of the 1904 G.A.R. building on Cleveland Street in Merrill, better known to most residents as the "old VFW Post 1638," which was then a pretty new building.

Many, but not all, of the people in the photograph have been identified through historical research. "All of them with interesting lives. All of them helping to build our community, supporting their nation, and uplifting each other," said Polly LaMontagne, retired US Air Force Master Sergeant and VFW member. "These actions are quite similar to what is still occurring today at the Northwoods Veterans Post."

Restoring a picture of Merrill's past

From the moment she saw a small newspaper clipping of that photo, Tracy Jopek, local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Auxiliary Junior Vice President, had her heart set on getting that image enlarged and on the wall for people to see.

LaMontagne knew it couldn't be done from a scrap of newspaper. Nevertheless, as Chairperson for the Interior Design Committee of the new Northwoods Veterans Post, she wanted to create a space where people were honored and uplifted as they continued serving their community, she said. "It was also a goal of the Northwoods Veterans Post organizations to create connections with community members, providing educational materials and events to share knowledge and understanding about veterans and

their experiences." This project was one way to help integrate all of that.

Many individuals contributed and volunteered to help restore and enlarge the historic photograph that now hangs in the new Northwoods Veterans Post. It truly was a collaborative effort with local historians at the Merrill Historical Society; the North Pines Genealogy Group; the T.B. Scott Library; Anna Kordick [who had a version of the photograph with many of the individuals identified]; professional photographer, Phil Ziesemer, and his wife, Mary; and Eric Geiss, who was a designer and creator with Premier: Precision Laser and Powder Coating Company at the time. All contributed their own volunteer hours and expertise to recreating, enlarging, digitally restoring, printing, and mounting the photograph and finding out as much as possible about the people in the photo.

"Unfortunately, the photo, more than a hundred years old, had sustained a bit of water damage on the right side, and as can be expected, was soiled and had some fly poo issues," LaMontagne said. The volunteers were undaunted in their efforts. With time, patience, and their collective expertise, the results of their work now hangs on the wall of the new Northwoods Veterans Post.

Let's recreate a moment in history

Once that was accomplished, Jopek had another monumental idea: to create a 2021 version of the photograph in front of the new Northwoods Veterans Post with current veterans, auxiliary, Scouts, and family members, using that panoramic photograph as inspiration to create a 2021 version of the panoramic photograph.

The 2021 panoramic photograph will be printed large, on canvas, and mounted just like the historic reproduction. It will then be hung on the wall alongside the historic photo, where it will make history for future generations.

Perhaps, more than a century from now, Merrill residents and veterans will


look up at that photograph and wonder about the people in the photo and their lives, much the same as we research and imagine the lives of those people in the 1913 photo. [And hopefully, we'll have a better record of who all the people are in the 2021 photograph for future generations to refer to.]

"Come and help us make history," Jopek invites. "I really hope a lot of veterans, auxiliary members, and Scouts will

come out and be in the new photo."

"I like how they look over us and how we are encouraged to move forward for a new generation," Jopek says of the historic photo now hanging in the new Northwoods Veterans Post. "Never forget where we came from."


She is hopeful our generation, in this new photograph, can look over future generations, and remind them of the importance of remembering, as well.



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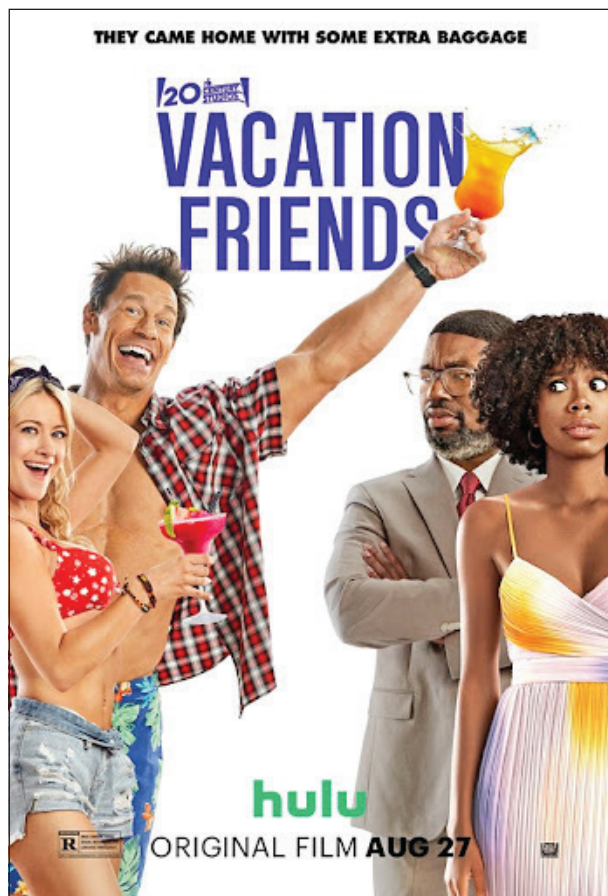
BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

Vacation Friends

(Streaming on Hulu)
★★★★☆
Rated a Hard R - For language, pervasive drug



use, and adult themes. Every once in a while, a film comes along that speaks to social issues and raises our consciousness and makes us re-think our place in this world. *Vacation Friends* is not that film. This film is a rip-roaring laugh-out-loud comedy with no message at all. Well, maybe a small one, and that being that we all have that



one friend. You know the one. Before you introduce them to others, you take them aside and say, "Be cool," and they never are, but we love them anyway or in spite of this fact. Marcus (Lil Rel Howey from *Free Guy*) is a massively uptight control freak. He and his girlfriend, Emily (Yvonne Orji from *Night School*), are heading out on vacation. After a minor res-

ervation disaster at their hotel, they end up sharing a suite with Ron (Jon Cena, *Suicide Squad*) and his girlfriend, Kyla (Meredith Hagner from *Bob's Burgers*), and from there, Marcus's world goes wonky. After a wild vacation, Marcus and Emily head home, leaving their wild and crazy vacation friends behind, or so they thought.

Seven months later, Marcus and Emily are getting married, and Emily's father hates Marcus. Then the unthinkable happens. Ron and Kyla show up and crash the wedding party with predictable results. Folks, this film is funny. It's raunchy. It is filled with massively inappropriate jokes and situations and, in case I have not been clear, it is NOT for the kiddies. I laughed hard at this movie. Very hard. Everyone in this film fills their roles perfectly, and this is a movie that is worth searching out if you are looking for a hearty laugh or three. And that's why I give it three out of five stars. *Vacation Friends* is now streaming on Hulu for an evening of comedic relief for the grown-ups who just need a really good laugh.

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Current Wisconsin State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski (front) and U.S. Senate hopeful (she plans to run against current U.S. Senator Ron Johnson in the 2022 election) visited Merrill's FreMarq Innovations on Mill Street on July 21. Co-owners Renea Frederick and Todd Frederick (back), who co-founded FreMarq innovations with Renea's brother, Dale Marquart, gave a tour of their manufacturing facility. To learn more about FreMarq, go to their website at: fremarqinnovations.com/about. **Submitted photo.**



Andy Rudolph tightens down the hands of the clock.

Michael J. Caylor, Jr. photos.

RESTORING from page 1

Now, slowly but surely, the County is restoring portions of the Courthouse clock. Much of the work is being done for the first time since the clock started telling time back in 1903.

This past Friday, I was honored to once again climb the many sets of steps to the roof of the Courthouse to observe Lincoln County Maintenance Director Pat Gierl and Andy Rudolph replace the hands of the north face of the clock with new aluminum hands, taking the place of the wooden ones.

Gierl does not believe the hands have ever been replaced, and he found the project was not as easy as first thought. Merrill Tool and Water Jet did a majority of the work on the hands, donating some of their time as an effort to advance the project. However, the gear box that actually moves the hands also had to be rebuilt, adding more time to the project.

An electric motor that turns the 1903 Seth Thomas timepiece was also rebuilt by Lindner Electric in Wausau. The motor, which likely dated back to 1943, was a unique project for Lindner and their workers as, according to Gierl, it was something they had never seen before. Originally, the clock operated with large weights, which suspended a story beneath the tower. Gierl estimated that someone would have to climb up to the third floor and wind the clock every few days, much like one would wind the weights of a grandfather clock.

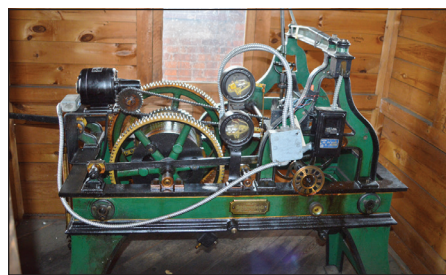
The space behind the clock face originally had one single timber that workers had to balance upon to do repairs or to adjust the hands. However, a few years ago, Gierl and his crew constructed a wooden platform in the space. It took an entire day to carry the lumber up to the area by hand.

Now, Andy Rudolph installed the gear box, before attaching the hands and the weights that keep them balanced. Gierl then emerged from the clock, as he and Rudolph used their cell phones to synchronize the hands with the clock itself, as the bells chimed 12 times to mark the noon hour.

Other projects for the Courthouse in-



Above: On the left of the photo, the clock face awaits the installation of new hands on its north facing side. **Below:** The Seth Thomas clock mechanism, original to the Lincoln County Courthouse and installed in 1903.



clude a new flat roof for the north side of the building. The current roof is leaking and showing signs of damage from ice jams over the years. The estimated cost of the roof is \$75,000. However, Gierl plans to send out requests for proposals for the project within the next year and hopes contractors will be eager to be competitive for the chance to place their mark on the historic structure.

One of the more visible needs is to have the face of the clock itself repainted. Gierl told of how the project itself will likely take less than a gallon of paint, but the mechanics of the project will be tremendous, as a crane and large scaffolding will likely be needed to reach the clock face. With the roof being the priority, Gierl is not sure when the painting will take place. "It is a beautiful building, but the mechanics can be very costly," he noted.

The Courthouse and its clock tower have stood as the gateway to Merrill for 118 years. Hopefully, no matter the timeline of the next projects needed to maintain its beauty, the hands of time will continue to turn long after we have passed below it for our final time.

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<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;">PRODUCE</p> <p>3 lb, "New Crop" Paula Red Apples 2/\$6.00</p> <p>Tender Green Asparagus \$2.99 lb.</p> <p>Crisp Head Lettuce 2/\$3.00</p> <p>8 oz. Whole White Mushrooms 2/\$4.00</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;">GROCERY</p> <p>12 Pack, Assorted Ball Canning Jars \$10.99</p> <p>2 Liter Bottles, Assorted Super Chill 5/\$4.00</p> <p>5-7.5 oz. Bags, Assorted Varieties Frito Lays Potato Chips 2/\$4.00</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;">DELI</p> <p>Kretschmer Ham Off-The-Bone \$6.49 lb.</p> <p>Cowboy Caviar \$3.99 lb.</p> <p>Sabara, 10 oz. Hummus \$2.99</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;">BAKERY</p> <p>6 Ct. Brat Buns 2/\$4.00</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;">DAIRY</p> <p>Crystal Farms, 8 oz. Deli Slices 2/\$5.00</p> <p>Gallons Fruit Rush \$1.89</p> <p>Dean's, Pints ESL Half & Half \$1.29</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;">FROZEN</p> <p>Draft Haus, 12" Pizza \$6.99</p> <p>Blue Ribbon, 36 ct. Variety Pack Bars, Cones & Sandwiches \$13.99</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e91e63; color: white; padding: 5px;">LIQUOR</p> <p>12 pk., Cans Vizzy Hard Seltzer \$12.99</p> <p>24 pk., Cans or Bottles, Assorted Varieties Leinenkugel \$12.49</p> <p>750 ML Bottle Cabernet Sauvignon, Pino Noir, Red Blend Bogle Wine \$9.99</p>
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All Sales Good Through Sunday, September 5, 2021! Sale Prices with Perks Card. Limits are in place on some items. Items based on availability. Sorry, no rainchecks.

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TALENT TUESDAYS • 3PM - 5PM
(1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month)
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Marshfield Clinic Health System is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, age, or any other characteristic protected by law.



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(Maintenance Techs)

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\$24.92 to \$26.89 per hour based on experience.

We provide an excellent benefit package including a full Health Benefits Plan with low cost premiums, a 401(K) with Company Match, Retirement Contributions, and company paid life insurance.

If you are qualified and would like to join our team please send a cover letter referencing this position and resume to:

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Attn: Sarah Evanson
605. N. Ohio Street
Merrill, WI 54452
(715)722-1884



Explore more at SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS

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MERRILL Foto News **CLASSIFIEDS** **Deadline: Monday at 11:30 a.m.**
Phone: 715-536-7121
Fax: 715-539-3686

Schools and Instruction 7100
ATTENTION ACTIVE DUTY & MILITARY VETERANS! Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer IT & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 608-999-3925 (WCAN)

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Train online to do medical billing! Become a Medical Office Professional at CTI! Get trained & certified to work in months! 888-572-6790. (M-F 8-6 ET)

General Employment 7110
CONSTRUCTION LABORER / ROOFER- Immediate openings, pay based on experience. Must have valid driver's license & transportation. Must be able to lift 80 pounds. Call 715-612-3781.

WE ARE looking for a Sales Associate with experience in the sewing field. A big plus if you have done machine embroidery & long arm, but not a must. Responsibilities include: Sales, Computer, GOOD People Skills. Approx. 15-20 hours per week. Hourly plus Commission. Will train right candidate. Apply in person at Tomahawk Sew N Vac, 214 W. Wisconsin Ave., Tomahawk, WI 54487.

General Employment 7110
Now Hiring Log Truck Driver Local driving, home every night. Send in your resume or apply in person at Flannery Bros. Trucking, Inc. N4002 Hwy 45 Antigo, WI.

Professional and Technical 7135
3 WEEKS NEW JOB! NEW CAREER - NEW YOU! Train with us for your CDL at SCDTI 715-942-2700 ext 102

Medical - R.N.s \$55.78/hr and L.P.N.s \$40.78/hr!
 Nurses needed for psych in Oshkosh. All shifts available working FT and PT. Prior psych experience NOT required. All nursing backgrounds will be seriously considered. Paid training offered! Call Carolyn at Worldwide at 866-633-3700 ext. 154.

OTR TRUCK DRIVERS FT/PT Competitive wages & full benefits. Mileage, Drop pay, Paid weekly Home weekends, NO east/west coast, 28 central states. Van & Hopper Division. Agriculture experience a plus. Fox Valley company since 1958 Call Frank 920-788-6242 or 920-858-0238. Van Groll Trucking, Kaukauna

Professional and Technical 7135
Title: CDL Class A Driver - No weekends and home every night!
Salary Range: \$19-\$22, based on experience
Job Type: Full-time
 Styrene Products Inc. is seeking an experienced Class A CDL driver with a great attitude and a desire for a unique driving position. Drivers typically start at 5/6 AM and return from routes by mid-afternoon/early evening that same day. No weekends, no overnights, with most routes local in Wisconsin. Our ideal candidate will have:
 · A minimum of 5 years of CDL Class A driving experience
 · Excellent attendance
 · Ability to be a problem solver
 · Self-motivated and can work under minimal supervision
 · Represents the company well while on the road and at customer locations
 Styrene Products, Inc. is a custom fabricator of expanded polystyrene products. Our products are used in a variety of applications with an emphasis on packaging solutions. We have been in business approximately 40 years and operate 2 facilities in the state of Wisconsin. We offer our employees the flexibility needed to maintain a healthy work/life balance.
Many ways to apply!
 1. Have an application emailed to you. Dana.kulas@styreneproducts.com
 2. Stop by 5320 Fuller Street in Schofield, WI to pick up an application. You can fill it out that day or take it home and return at your leisure!

Classifieds Rock

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Join the North Central Health Care team at Pine Crest in Merrill!
Now Hiring CNA's Starting at \$18-20/hr
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 Join an Amazing Team of Talented Professionals!
 Learn More & Apply Online www.norcen.org/Careers



EMPLOYMENT

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 • Tuition Reimbursement
 • WRS Pension Plan with Generous Employee match
 • Health, Dental, Short-Term Disability & Vision Coverage
 • Recruitment, Retention & Referral Incentives
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 Join an Amazing Team of Talented Professionals!
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DEPUTY SHERIFF-LINCOLN COUNTY, WI
 Applications are being accepted to fill a full-time opening with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office. **To be considered, applicants must complete the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board form DJ-LE-330 as well as the release of information form found on Lincoln County's website at www.co.lincoln.wi.us under Career Opportunities**
DUTIES:
 Preventive patrol, traffic enforcement, investigations, enforce local and state laws, court duties, civil process and any other duty assigned by the Sheriff.
QUALIFICATIONS:
 Eligibility for Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board certification; minimum 60 college credits; vision correctable to 20/20; no felony convictions; no domestic-related convictions, free from any condition which might limit ability to perform essential functions of a Deputy Sheriff; must possess a valid Wisconsin driver's license, ability to drive safely and to use all police-related equipment; strong written and oral communication and interpersonal skills; experience with and knowledge of computers. Must complete a one year probationary period.
SALARY & BENEFITS:
 \$22.78/hr. starting pay, \$29.10/hr. after 72 months (per 2018-2021 contract). Lateral transfers are accepted (up to five years credit; \$22.78 - \$27.93 per hour) if currently employed as a full-time law officer and have a minimum of three years continuous service in this capacity. Eligible for Lincoln County benefit package including; health, dental, vision, life, LTD, vacation, sick leave, holiday pay and Wisconsin Retirement System.
APPLY:
Applications must be made on Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board form DJ-LE-330, obtainable from the Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N. Sales Street, Ste. 205, Merrill, WI 54452, the County's website address at www.co.lincoln.wi.us, or by calling 715-539-1010 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. M-F. Complete applications must be returned to the Administration Department by **Friday, September 24, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.** A release of information form must be completed and returned with each application. All application materials noted above must be submitted to be considered for this position. Job description is available upon request.
NOTE: Candidates are required to successfully complete all of the following: oral interview, psychological testing, and physical examination including drug screen, background investigation, and pre-employment agreement.
 Completed applications may be mailed to: Lincoln County Administration Department
 801 N. Sales Street, Ste. 205, Merrill, WI 54452
 uploaded online at www.co.lincoln.wi.us
 faxed to (715) 539-8053 or emailed to sharon.prasnicki@co.lincoln.wi.us
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On-Site Offers
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12 HOURS (6:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.)
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EMPLOYMENT

Announcements 7005



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No Weekends, No Nights, No Holidays.
Only work when students are in School.

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• Driver - 5 Hours • Prep Cook - 4 Hours
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**Any Questions call Laura at
715.536.4594 Ext 18010"**



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(715) 453-2164

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Hours are extremely flexible!

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For more information please contact
Treehaven Director Scott Johnson at 715-346-2464 or sjohnson@uwsp.edu with questions or to apply.



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- Quality Technician
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MAPS accepts August donations
The following donation was approved and accepted at the August 18 Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) Board of Directors meeting:
Funds from Bob Grunenwald valued at \$500.00 for the Varsity Baseball Team as a matching donation to State Farm Insurance.

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WISDOT SEPTEMBER LAW OF THE MONTH: Drive with caution as school buses return this fall

After an unprecedented pandemic school year, students across Wisconsin are going back to the classroom, which will bring out more traffic near schools.

September's Law of the Month reminds drivers of the rules involving school buses and ways to protect young passengers.

"School bus law violations pose serious risks for children, but the threat can be prevented with careful driving. Watch closely for kids who may not be able to recognize dangers on the roads," said Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary-designee Craig Thompson.

In the past ten years, 33 people have died in crashes involving school buses. Despite fewer in-person classes during the pandemic, there were still 342 school bus-related crashes in Wisconsin in 2020. That's down from 835 in 2019.

Wisconsin State Patrol officers play a key role in working to prevent these tragedies.

"Getting children to school safely is very important to us. School buses are among the safest vehicles on the roads. Our work to inspect those vehicles and uphold laws makes sure buses stay a protected place for kids," said WSP Superintendent Anthony Burrell.

Wisconsin law requires drivers in both directions to stop at least 20 feet from a school bus with its red warning lights flashing. The only exception is for vehicles on the other side of a divided road that's separated by a median or other physical barrier.

648 drivers were convicted for failure to stop for a school bus in Wisconsin last year.

Most Wisconsin school buses also have amber lights. When the bus is about to stop, the flashing amber lights come on. That signals drivers to slow down before red lights are activated.



Flashing lights and an extending stop sign on a school bus mean "STOP". **Stock photo.**

WSP inspectors examine every school bus in the state, conducting about 12,000 inspections annually. The inspectors look at mechanical equipment like steering, brakes, and lights. They also check emergency equipment, including first aid kits and fire extinguishers.

As school begins, drivers are also reminded of state laws involving pedestrians and bicyclists:

- Always follow the directions of a school crossing guard. If instructed to stop, the driver must do so at least 10 feet away from the school crossing area and stay stopped until the guard directs the driver to proceed.

- Yield to pedestrians who have started crossing an intersection or crosswalk on a walk signal or green light. Drivers must also yield to pedestrians crossing the road in a marked or unmarked crosswalk at an intersection without signals.

- Leave three feet clearance when passing bicycles traveling in the same direction.

Officials also recommend parents talk with their children about safe travel before school starts. Encourage kids to look both ways before crossing the street, use crosswalks, and obey bus drivers and crossing guards.

MAPS to use Ticket Spicket for Bluejay sporting events

Order your tickets online or use the app on your phone

John Miller, Activities Director for Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS), said the school will use the Ticket Spicket platform for all Bluejay sporting events. The Wisconsin Valley Conference (WVC) selected this online ticketing service in an effort to reduce cash handling and ticket lines. The program also enables the schools to "restrict access when necessary and to trace events if the need were to arise," Miller said.

The WVC charges general admission and requires tickets for the following events: Varsity Football, Varsity & JV Soccer, as well as all levels of Volleyball, Basketball, Hockey, and Wrestling. Additionally, WVC schools charge admission for invitationals, all WVC Championships, and may include additional sports as directed by school administration or boards.

The change to Ticket Spicket provides the ability to sell a variety of passes each school offers, such as Family Passes, Season Passes, and the new On The Road Pass, which is good at all WVC away

events with the exception of Hockey.

To purchase tickets, go to www.ticketspicket.com or download Ticket Spicket from the app store on your phone and set up a FREE account. It takes about 20 seconds and requires an email, name, and password.

Go to spicket.events/wvc which is the WVC home online ticketing page, and select the event or click on the specific school's homepage icon at the top of the page to find the event, and then follow the prompts to purchase the tickets. Your personal account will store all purchased tickets and allow you to transfer tickets to other family members or friends attending events after they have been purchased.

On game day, please remember to have your tickets on your personal device or print them out for scanning.

Note: If you have a pass (purchased online or otherwise), present this pass at the applicable event for free admission per the parameters of the specific pass. There is no need to purchase individual event tickets online as a pass holder.

"We look forward to this athletic season and we thank our kids, coaches, and parents for helping make this happen," Miller said. "Go Bluejays!"

Superintendent's Corner

The first day of the 2021-2022 school year is right around the corner. This summer has been exceptionally busy as we prepare our buildings for the new configuration and many classrooms for their new teachers and support staff. I deeply appreciate the patience of our parents and students as we have worked tirelessly to open our buildings in the safest way possible.



these days if your schedule allows such flexibility.

Jefferson Elementary Building

You may have seen a number of vehicles at Jefferson Elementary during the past two weeks. The building has been used for classroom furniture and supplies storage as we transition to the current configuration. We have also utilized the space to provide professional development opportunities to our current teachers, new teachers and administrators. We are committed to maintaining the appearance and condition of this building until its purpose has been established on a more permanent basis.

Breakfast and Lunch Information

Taher Food Service will provide free breakfast and lunch to students physically attending classes at MAPS buildings from September 1, 2021 through May 25, 2022. This will be for complete meals only. If a student only wants milk they will be charged 40 cents per carton. Students will also be charged for additional ala carte food items. One complete meal per student would need to be selected for the free meal.

It is imperative that parents complete the highly confidential Free/Reduced Application forms for students as this directly impacts MAPS ability to qualify for grant opportunities for students.

Optional Face Coverings

Our Board of Education will maintain face coverings as optional for the 2021-2022 school year. This decision was made by the full Board in May and no opposing action has been taken since that time. We will continue to sanitize our classrooms and buildings. We will also social distance students to the greatest extent possible. Building visitors will be limited to essential and local visitors to begin the year. We will also continue to closely monitor the health status of our county and the state on a weekly basis and safety is our highest priority.

Face coverings on school busses and school sponsored vehicles remain federally required. CDC's order applies to all public transportation conveyances including school buses. Regardless of the mask policy at school, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems, subject to the exclusions and exemptions in CDC's Order. If a student attends a school where mask use is not required, the student is still required to wear a mask on the school bus.

And finally, I look forward to having our students in our buildings and for the school year to begin. We value the partnership we have with our parents and our community. Our children reap the rewards when common goals and priorities provide the foundation for relationships built on trust. Thank you in advance for your support!

Dr. John Sample
Proud Superintendent

Please see the important information below and contact your child's principal if you have any questions.

Starting/Ending Times

The times below represent the times our instruction will begin and end:

- PRSYL (Morning): 7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and (Afternoon): 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Kate Goodrich Elementary School (K-2): 7:55 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
- Washington Elementary School (3-4): 7:55 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
- Prairie River Middle School (5-8): 7:50 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Merrill High School: 7:55 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.

Bussing Schedules

Schedules are still being finalized as the online registration process is still happening. We will be sending letters out next week outlining the morning pickup and afternoon drop off schedules for families eligible for bussing. Elementary students living greater than one mile, middle school students living greater than one and a half miles and high school students living greater than two miles from their respective schools will be eligible for transportation. We are increasing services to families to provide a safer opportunity for our younger students even though state statutes indicate aidable allowances for students transported over a two mile distance. We are dedicated to making every effort to transport as many students as possible, given available seats.

Late Start Wednesdays

Late Start Wednesdays will begin in October for all buildings Kindergarten through twelfth grade. PRSYL will not participate in the Late Start Wednesdays. These days are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month and are designed to allow time for our teachers to maximize learning and achievement levels for their students.

Morning bus routes will maintain their regular schedule and breakfast will be served at the usual time. Students arriving at their buildings at normal times will be supervised until instruction begins exactly two hours later than normal times. It is certainly allowable for students to arrive just prior to the beginning of instruction on

CAMPUS BRIEFS

NTC Announces Summer 2021 President's List for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) announced area students who have been named to the President's List for outstanding academic achievement for the summer 2021 term. The following students enrolled in a post-secondary program, earned a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully completed a minimum of six credits during the summer term.

- From Athens, Wis.: Megan Frahm
- From Irma, Wis.: Kayli Petrowski
- From Merrill, Wis.: Stacey Adamski, Jennifer Berreth, Mackenah Krause, Abigail Krueger, Brandon Stolz, Sabrina Weiler

Bluejay Girls Softball celebrates a successful season



Girls Softball Awards were given to Nicole Zoellner - Gold Glove Award; Courtney Krueger - BlueJay Award and Teammate Award; Kendall Krueger - Silver Slugger Award; and Kennedy Berndt - Teammate Award. Missing: Dani Korman - Most Improved Award. Submitted photos.



All Conference Awards were given to: Olivia Losee - Honorable Mention; Kendall Krueger - 2nd Team; Hannah Losee - Honorable Mention; and Courtney Krueger - Honorable Mention.

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill High School (MHS) Bluejay Girls Softball Team celebrated a successful season with an awards ceremony on Monday, Aug. 16. The season culminated in a Regional Championship for the girls and a run to the Sectional Final game.

Hannah Losee and Courtney Krueger were selected as the Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association Senior All-Stars.

Other team members receiving awards are pictured in the photos.

What a great season for the entire team!



Courtney Krueger, and Hannah Losee were selected as Wisconsin Senior All-Star Softball players from Merrill and played in Wisconsin Dells on July 12 & 13, 2021.



Claire Schulz swimming the fly leg of the 200 Medley Relay at the Merrill Fun in The Sun meet on Aug. 19. Submitted photo.

Merrill Girls Swim Team dives into their season

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill High School Girls Swim Team dove into their season with three meets in just five days.

First, Merrill hosted the Annual "Fun in the Sun Outdoor Relay Meet" at the Bierman Family Aquatic Center at the Merrill Area Recreation Complex (MARC) on Thursday, Aug. 19. Nearly 200 swimmers competed, making up 11 teams from within Wisconsin's northwoods. This meet is "designed to be fun and get teams an opportunity to

get kids racing and see where they may fit on the team for the year," said Girls Swim Team Coach Kristie Winter

The Merrill Bluejay Girls 200-yard Medley Relay team of Grace Schultz, Amber Winter, Claire Schultz, and Laney Zuelsdorff started the meet off strong with a 1st place finish, Winter said.

"Then in event four, the 4 by 100-Yard IM, Bailey Orzech joined Winter and the Schultz sisters to dominate another first place finish," she said. "Finally,

See **SWIMMING** page 24

2021 Merrill High School Fall Sports Schedule

Football (Varsity, JV, & JV2)			
Thursday, Sept. 2 nd	Antigo (JV2)	Home	5:30 pm
Friday, Sept. 3 rd	Antigo (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 7 th	Antigo (JV)	Away	7:00 pm
Thursday, Sept. 9 th	Mosinee (JV2)	Away	5:30 pm
Volleyball (Varsity, JV, & JV2)			
Thursday, Sept. 2 nd	Wausau East (JV & JV2)	Home	5:30 pm
Thursday, Sept. 2 nd	Wausau East (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Saturday, Sept. 4 th	D. C. Everest (Varsity)	Away	9:00 am
Tuesday, Sept. 7 th	Marshfield (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thursday, Sept. 9 th	Stevens Point (JV & JV2)	Away	5:30 pm
Thursday, Sept. 9 th	Stevens Point (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Tennis (Varsity & JV)			
Thursday, Sept. 2 nd	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:00 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 7 th	Marshfield (Varsity & JV)	Away	4:00 pm
Thursday, Sept. 9 th	Stevens Point (Varsity & JV)	Home	4:00 pm
Boy Soccer (Varsity & JV)			
Thursday, Sept. 2 nd	Marshfield (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thursday, Sept. 2 nd	Marshfield (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 7 th	Stevens Point (JV)	Home	5:00 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 7 th	Stevens Point (Varsity)	Home	7:00 pm
Thursday, Sept. 9 th	WI Rapids Lincoln (JV)	Away	5:00 pm
Thursday, Sept. 9 th	WI Rapids Lincoln (Varsity)	Away	7:00 pm
Cross Country (Varsity & JV)			
Thursday, Sept. 2 nd	Nine Mile Park (Varsity)	Away	4:30 pm
Swimming (Varsity & JV)			
Thursday, Sept. 9 th	Wausau West (Varsity & JV)	Home	5:30 pm

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



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Courtney Krueger was also named a Wisconsin Basketball All-Star player. Submitted photo.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Lauren Cohrs, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Lauren is on the Merrill Girls Tennis team. She began as a Freshman and made Varsity as a Sophomore playing doubles, but this year will be playing singles. "She did a great job playing varsity #2 doubles last year," Coach Brad Barton said, [but] "since our doubles teams are a little stronger than our singles this year, Lauren has graciously accepted the role of singles." This is one example of how Lauren puts her team before herself," Coach said.

At school, Lauren is in Link Crew, the National Honors Society, The Nest, The Merrill Theater Jays (the MHS musical) Choir, Vocal Jays, Junior Optimists, and Tri-M [a music honor society service group]. She works part-time at The Grand Stand and volunteers at her church (St. Francis) and at St. Vincent dePaul. In her free time, she likes to read and hang out with friends. The daughter of Kevin and Tammy Cohrs of Merrill, Lauren has a 4.0 GPA and hopes to attend UW-Madison after high school, but is not yet certain of her major or future career goals.



Lauren Cohrs

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Schmidt finishes first at Cross Country opener

Teams finish fifth and seventh

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill Bluejays were off to a running start at the first Cross Country meet of the season on Aug. 26 at Rhinelander High School.

“The weather was beautiful and our athletes were nervous and excited,” said Alyssa Swan, Head MHS Cross Country Coach. “For a lot of our athletes, this was their first race in quite some time.”

Elizabeth Schmidt took first place overall for the ladies with a time of 20:15, helping lead the ladies to a seventh place finish out of nine teams. Times for the other Lady Jays were: Madi Crossman (26:11), Bre Herdt (30:45), Brooklyn Kragenbrink (32:35), Olivia Bares (32:36), Irene Blennert (33:43), and Sophia Schmidt (53:48).

Callen Hoepfner took 8th place overall for the Bluejay Boys with a time of 20:19, helping



Elizabeth Schmidt crosses the finish line to take first place overall for the Lady Jays at the first Cross Country meet of the season. **Submitted photo.**

lead the guys to a fifth place finish out of eight teams.

He was followed by David Golisch (20:50), Elliot Hanson (21:09), Ian Schuetze (21:13), Henry Reimann (22:27), Kayoda Raddatz (23:02), and Caleb Norton (23:23).

SWIMMING from page 23

in event eight, the 4 by 50-Yard Breast Stroke Relay, Winter and Orzech joined Emma Pajdash and Olivia Pajdash to bring home third place.”

As a team, Merrill finished in fourth place, after Rhinelander, SPASH, and Rice Lake.

“We had a lot of great swims, especially from our Freshmen during the meet,” Winter said. “I think the girls really enjoyed getting back to racing.”

Next the Lady Jays traveled to Marshfield to compete in the Annual Chase the Tiger Invite on Tuesday, Aug. 24.

“This time the team brought home a first place finish overall, with Medford and Marshfield battling behind them,” Winter said. Top finishers were Claire Schultz with a first place in both the 50 Free and 100 Free; Grace Schultz with the top spot in both the 50 Fly and 50 Back; and Winter taking the first place finish in the 50 Breast and second

place in the 100 IM.

The 200-Yard Medley Relay team of Grace Schultz, Amber Winter, Claire Schultz, and Bailee Sommer came in at second place, and then the same girls came back to win the 200 Free Relay. The group of Laney Zuelsdorff, Ahna Wilde, Bailey Orzech, and Olivia Pajdash also finished in the top spot in the 100 Free Relay, Winter said.

Most recently, the Merrill Girls attended a Grade Level Pentathlon in Colby on Wednesday, Aug. 25.

“Each swimmer completed the 50 Fly, 50 Back, 50 Breast, 50 Free, and 100 IM,” Coach said. Top finishers, by class, were: Seniors Grace Schultz in second place and Claire Schultz in fourth place; Juniors Amber Winter in first place and Megan Miles in fourth place; and Freshmen Olivia Pajdash in third place and Ahna Wilde in fourth place.

The team has their first dual meet on Tuesday, Aug. 31, at Medford.

REVISITING CREDENTIALS



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SEPT
11

9PM

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