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Outdoor Living Nativity brings Christmas story to life at Trinity

Free soup and cider to go, bake sale, and gifts for the children add to the holiday spirit



Trinity's Outdoor Living Nativity story culminates in the birth of Jesus, the reason for the season. **Submitted photo.**

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

What brings the Christmas story to life better than a live nativity with human characters and live animals? Trinity Lutheran Church, on the corner of W. Main and State Streets in Merrill, invites everyone to contemplate the true meaning of Christmas, as they either drive through or walk through their Outdoor Living Nativity on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Hear the angels proclaim the Good News, and witness and follow the shepherds rushing to see the Newborn King, organizers say. Look upon the baby Jesus, born in the stable, surrounded by animals and Mary and Joseph. Enjoy the hauntingly beautiful sounds of Silent Night being sung, each note hanging in the night air. And sing along if you wish.

Trinity's first Outdoor Living Nativity was held
See TRINITY page 7



Small Business Saturday is Saturday, Nov. 27

Shop local small businesses to support the Merrill community

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Twelve years ago American Express started a campaign designating Small Business Saturday in the United States on the last Saturday of November. The idea gained national and presidential

support in 2011, and it has continued to grow ever since. Designed to encourage shoppers to support their small local and independently-owned businesses, especially retailers, this year's Small Business Saturday is Saturday, Nov. 27.

Shopping local, and especially small businesses, supports local Merrill business owners, creates jobs, enhances our community, and grows our regional economy.

While many shoppers are familiar with Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, and Cyber Monday shopping, the following Monday,

shopping local small businesses the Saturday in between is a great opportunity to find locally-sourced and more unique gifts than the items you'll find at the big box and online stores.

Consider some of these local businesses.

Clothing and accessories

Local boutiques offer clothing and accessories in limited quantities, so you'll find more unique offerings and special gift ideas. In Merrill, consider shopping at P's

See SHOP LOCAL page 8



Friday night crash results in arrest

Left: This vehicle, reported to be a white Chevrolet Trailblazer driven by William Haight of Merrill, struck a parked vehicle late Friday night at approximately 11:45 p.m. in the 600 block of Prospect St. in Merrill. Witnesses say speed and alcohol were both factors in the crash, and Haight was taken into custody by Merrill Police Officers after he failed on-site sobriety tests. The Merrill Police Department confirmed he was arrested for operating while intoxicated (third offense) and cited for operating with a suspended driver's license and lack of motor vehicle insurance. Dawn Ziegel, property owner where the vehicle came to rest, said she and her adult son were home watching a movie when the crash occurred. "Our house shook when he hit," she said. Eight months ago Ziegel was also startled by a vehicle in her yard in the middle of the night. On that occasion, the incident involved a driver running from the police and abandoning his vehicle in front of her home and taking off on foot and a police officer giving chase through her backyard. **Right:** A truck parked on the street in front of the home of its owners on Prospect St. in Merrill was the vehicle Haight struck.

Dawn Ziegel photos.

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<p>Egg Sale! Local Farm Fresh Brown Eggs \$2 a dz.</p>	<p>Deli Specials Smoked Cheese - 6 Varieties \$5.49 lb. Honey Ham \$5.49 lb.</p>
<p>Stash Tea Double Spiced Chai and Ginger Fire Chai \$3.89 18 tea bags More Varieties Available</p>	<p>Deer Squash \$5 a bushel</p>
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Pine River Fire Department and Santa provide Merrill area businesses a free marketing opportunity

The Pine River Fire Department (PRFD) announced a completely free marketing campaign for Merrill area businesses as they once again present "Santa in the Fire House" 2021. This will take place at the Pine River Fire Department on Dec. 11, 2021.

In 2019, the PRFD held their very first Santa in the Fire House and saw around 65 children come through and get their pictures taken with Santa in front of their fire engine. "At the time we solicited some area businesses and sought out just a couple of sponsors to help us pay for Santa, the two bikes we gave away, and the candy content of our 'swag bags' which each child received," said PRFD Captain Mike Caylor.

"For their small donation, participating businesses put in those bags things like notepads with their logo or coupons to be used during the holiday season. Each of the businesses reported they saw numerous coupons come back over the course of the next few weeks and each asked to be considered for future sponsors."

Then came COVID. "After an extremely successful open house this past September, our best ever - we have decided to cover the entire cost of Santa in the Fire House," Caylor said. "However, we still want our friends in the business community to be able to be involved." "Our open house and pig roast is our only fundraiser the entire year," he continued. "We realize that, in part because of the strong support



Pine River Fire Department's "Santa in the Fire House 2021" will include opportunities for kids to tell Santa their Christmas wishes, and for area businesses to market their businesses in the swag bags to be handed out. Parents are free to take photos.

Tina L. Scott photo.

of the Merrill business community, we are able to produce an event such as that very successfully. We hope by providing this opportunity to promote your business right before the holiday season, we can help pay back the support you have shown to us."

Anticipating business owners' next question, Caylor continued: "So what can you throw in? As I said, some just did a handy item with their logo, some stores had 10% off coupons, and the Northwood's Maple and More store gave us over 100 maple syrup suckers (which we may have sampled ourselves)."

Businesses interested in participating or with additional questions can contact the "Santa in the Fire House 2021" organizer, PRFD Captain Mike Caylor, at 715.297.4309 or via email at mjcaylor@aol.com.

"The absolute deadline for getting material in for distribution is Dec. 9," Caylor added. "This will be advertised locally, and we will create a FaceBook event that we will update with local participants as it draws near. We look forward to continuing our community partnership this Holiday Season!"

MARY

Mother - Spouse - Servant
A novel by Christopher Graham

There is not much written about Mary, Jesus' mother, and her story. The book "MARY" is an attempt to piece together a story describing how the conception of Jesus was part of the trail that ultimately led to his crucifixion.

Mary's role in guiding Jesus helped form his personality. He learned and experienced human qualities because of the example set by his mother. Mary's "yes" to being the mother of Jesus is a major part in the Jesus story; it is not emphasized because Mary is not the story.

Here is a novel that places Mary in the story as a mother, spouse and servant. Jesus becomes the Son of Man because of Mary, his faithful mother.

How did the choices Mary make and her commitment to the truth aid the Jews and Romans in convicting Jesus to die? And how does Lucifer try to convince Mary to abandon Jesus after his death and before his return?

Her faith is tested, but her love for her son wins out.

It is a story about a woman's acceptance of her role as God's chosen vessel to bring his Son into the world, her commitment to the truth and mankind's rejection of the truth. Mary brings the Word of God into the world. Her life's choices are put to a test!

Christopher Graham is a member of St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church and a retired executive of Church Mutual Insurance Company. He lives in Merrill, Wisconsin.

MARY can be purchased on Amazon, tinyurl.com/24snxmh, and on Xulon Press, tinyurl.com/kkewnrp8

Comments and Reviews of "Mary"

"The book was very inspirational and brought me closer to Mary. She is our greatest intercessor." - Eve K.

"An amazing read. Your heart will never be the same." - Linda L.

"Creative story about the time between the crucifixion and resurrection through the eyes of Mary. Faith-filled, with themes that speak to today's world as well as the time of Christ. The features of the Evil One were timeless!" - Katherine KrGl.

"As a new mother, I found this book to be very touching. While I knew the story as it was presented, it was an interesting perspective on how Mary impacted the life of Jesus as his mother and follower. The book was easy to read and relatable even in today's modern world." - A. Wray

O'Tannenbaum Tour helps usher in the Christmas season

Magical Christmas trees and wreaths set the scene

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

St. Stephens Church, 903 E. 2nd St., Merrill, will again host the annual O'Tannenbaum Tour. This magical wonderland filled with decorated trees, wreaths, and gift baskets will set the scene for attendees to get in the mood for Christmas. And all of the decorated trees, wreaths, and gift baskets will be raffled off, with the money raised benefiting Lincoln County 4H projects and community programs.

Attendees who win a raffle will be notified late Sunday afternoon, so they can come to pick up their Christmas trees or prizes Sunday evening.

Admission for adults/age 12 and up is \$3 per person, \$1 per child ages 6-12, and free for kids 5 and under.

Holiday musical talents will add to the Christmas mood, and attendees will enjoy laughter and joy as they tour the trees and enjoy the lights, many themed trees, and other festivities.

CLOVERDALE COUNTRY STORE

STORE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 6:30 pm Sat. 8:30 am - 4 pm Closed Sunday
2 miles South of Curtiss on Hwy. E 715-223-4797
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CLOSING AT 1PM ON THANKSGIVING EVE
CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY

Salted Butter 1/2 Sticks 16 oz. ONLY \$1.89	Pecan Halves ONLY \$4.99 a lb.	Dried Cherries ONLY \$3.49 a lb.
	Roasted & Salted Cashew Pieces ONLY \$2.99 a lb.	Diced Dry Roasted Almonds ONLY \$2.49 a lb.

NOW OPEN UNTIL 6:30 PM MONDAY - FRIDAY!

Deli Style Ham Refrigerated ONLY \$1.69 a lb.	Cedar Crest Ice Cream Assorted Flavors 1.5 quart ONLY \$4.99	Organic Chicken Noodle Soup 14.5 oz. ONLY 89¢
Honey Ham Sliced-Frozen-Small Packs ONLY \$1.39 a lb.	Corn Chex Cereal 12 oz. ONLY \$1.49	Pumpkin Solids 15 oz. ONLY 39¢
Spinach & Mushroom Frozen Pizza 22.5 oz. ONLY \$1.69	S'moreMallows 22 oz. ONLY 79¢	Yuban Medium Ground Coffee 36.2 oz. ONLY \$5.99
Hard Salami Frozen 7 oz. ONLY 69¢	Mini Marshmallows 2 lbs. ONLY \$1.29	Colombian Medium Ground Coffee 24.5 oz. ONLY \$3.99
Cream Cheese 35 oz. ONLY 99¢	Chocolate Samplers Candy Heart Shaped Box 10.3 oz. ONLY \$1.59	Milk Chocolate Stars 12 oz. ONLY \$1.49
Shredded Pizza Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.99 a lb.	Sugar & Spice Roasted Whole Cashews 7 oz. ONLY \$1.39	Roasted Garlic & Parmesan Pringles 5.5 oz. ONLY 69¢
Swiss Cheese Sliced ONLY \$2.25 a lb.	Smoke Flavored Provolone Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.69 a lb.	Millionares Pecan & Caramel Candy 16.75 oz. ONLY \$2.89
White Cheddar Cheese 15 lbs. ONLY \$1.99 a lb.	Colby Jack Cheese Horns 13 lbs. ONLY \$1.99 a lb.	Bullet Proof Coffee 12/8 oz. ONLY \$4.89 a case
Mozzarella Whole Milk Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.69 a lb.	Mozzarella String Cheese 10.5 lb. case ONLY \$6.89 a case	Organic Salad Beans No Salt 15 oz. ONLY 69¢

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

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Merrill City Hall Thanksgiving Closing

Merrill City Hall will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 25, and Friday, Nov. 26, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

Thanksgiving hours:
Fri, Nov 26 - 9 AM to 2 PM | Sat, Nov 27 - 9 AM to 2 PM

December hours:
Dec 2 thru Dec 18th
Thursdays - 9 AM to 2 PM
Fridays - 9 AM to 2 PM
Saturdays - 9 AM to 2 PM
Thursday, Dec 23 - 9 AM to 2 PM
Friday, Dec 24 - 9 AM to 12 PM
Closed from Dec 25th thru January 5, 2022.

"HAPPY THANKSGIVING!"

1004 E. 1st Street, Merrill, WI
Donations by Appointment only
Call 715-539-1131

Christmas Spirit children's tags are on Giving Trees

Can you help bring joy to a child this Christmas?

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Christmas Spirit Lincoln County United Giving Tree Program is once again working in conjunction with the Merrill Fire Fighters Charities/Tree of Hope with the goal to provide a joyful Christmas for area children. But, they need help from the Merrill and Lincoln County communities to do that.

Families facing great financial hardship this holiday season submitted confidential applications, Christmas Spirit screened those applications, and confidential children's tags are now hanging on "Giving Trees" within our community, in the hope that individuals or groups will select one or more tags and grant a child's wish for a Christmas gift this season. Tags include suggestions for fun items, the child's likes

and dislikes, sizes, and also include a list of items the child needs, such as snow pants or winter boots. Participants aren't expected to meet all of the needs on the tag, but Christmas Spirit is hoping community members will use the tags to help provide some of the gifts for area children.

"You never know what other families are going through, and as the holidays approach, the stress of trying to make things 'nice' for their family's holiday can be a real issue," Christmas Spirit organizers say. "Please consider helping these families bring smiles to the faces of their children."

"You might participate individually or join together with others to share the spirit of the season," they suggest. "Whatever it may be, we thank you for giving from the heart and changing



Stock photo.

the experience of the holidays for these children."

Children's tags are available for selecting on Giving Trees located throughout the community (see list below). Tags should be signed out at the location and returned by the date indicated there, to the location where the

tag was selected. Gifts should be bagged but not wrapped, and the original tag should be affixed to the bag when it is returned.

Those who are unable to shop for a child are invited to participate by making a monetary donation that will be used to purchase gifts. Monetary donations can be mailed to: Christmas Spirit, PO Box 912, Merrill WI 54452.

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Annual Merrill Lighted Parade

Saturday, December 4th at 5 pm
Line-up begins at 4 pm

Line-up starts on South Genesee Street and is first come, first serve. No prearranged order.

Parade stops at Bankers Square to light the Christmas tree.

Please call the Chamber office with questions or to register your float 715-536-9474.

2021 GIVING TREES ARE HOSTED AT:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Johnson Gifts, Merrill ■ Merrill Enrichment Center, Merrill ■ Park City Credit Union, Merrill, Pine Ridge Ave. ■ Park City Credit Union, Tomahawk ■ Parks & Rec Department - Smith Center, Merrill ■ Clark's Cup N' Cone & Cheese Shop, Merrill ■ Aspirus Good Samaritan Hospital, Merrill | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Our Savior's Church, Merrill ■ Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Merrill ■ St. John Lutheran Church, Merrill ■ St. Stephens UCC, Merrill ■ Faith Lutheran Church, Merrill ■ Standard Merchantile, Tomahawk ■ Community Thrift Shop, Tomahawk ■ Honeycomb LOFT, Tomahawk |
|--|--|

AUTOGEAR 2021 BLACK FRIDAY

FRIDAY 26TH SATURDAY 27TH **2 DAYS ONLY!**

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THESE DEALS MUST BE PURCHASED DURING THE 2021 BLACK FRIDAY EVENT IN A GIFT CERTIFICATE FORM. INSTALLATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO MARCH 2022

<h3 style="margin: 0;">\$49</h3> <p style="font-size: small;">WINDSHIELD BROW TINT INSTALLED!</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*MUST PURCHASE DURING 2021 BLACK FRIDAY EVENT (FRI. 26TH 8-6, SAT. 27TH 8-5) *INSTALLATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO 3/01/22 *NOT AVAILABLE FOR ALL MODELS *NO REFUNDS</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">\$99</h3> <p style="font-size: small;">WINDOW TINT INSTALLED! CHOOSE FRONT OR SECOND ROW</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*MUST PURCHASE DURING 2021 BLACK FRIDAY EVENT (FRI. 26TH 8-6, SAT. 27TH 8-5) *INSTALLATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO 3/01/22 *NOT AVAILABLE FOR ALL MODELS *NO REFUNDS</p>
<h3 style="margin: 0;">\$199</h3> <p style="font-size: small;">HEATED SEAT INSTALLED! DRIVER OR PASSENGER SEAT</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*MUST PURCHASE DURING 2021 BLACK FRIDAY EVENT (FRI. 26TH 8-6, SAT. 27TH 8-5) *INSTALLATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO 3/01/22 *NOT AVAILABLE FOR ALL MODELS *NO REFUNDS</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">\$299</h3> <p style="font-size: small;">REMOTE START INSTALLED! 800' RANGE</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*MUST PURCHASE DURING 2021 BLACK FRIDAY EVENT (FRI. 26TH 8-6, SAT. 27TH 8-5) *INSTALLATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO 3/01/22 *NOT AVAILABLE FOR ALL MODELS *NO REFUNDS</p>
<h3 style="margin: 0;">\$499</h3> <p style="font-size: small;">SPRAY IN BEDLINER ALL TRUCK BED SIZES</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*MUST PURCHASE DURING 2021 BLACK FRIDAY EVENT (FRI. 26TH 8-6, SAT. 27TH 8-5) *INSTALLATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO 3/01/22 *NOT AVAILABLE FOR ALL MODELS *NO REFUNDS</p>	

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Black Friday Sale ends Nov. 29th

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SHOP NOW! PUT IT ON LAYAWAY FOR CHRISTMAS

25% OFF

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- Diamond Pendants & Earrings • 14K Gemstone Pendant & Earrings

Black Friday (Nov. 26th) thru Cyber Monday (Nov. 29th)

Come in to draw for an extra 5%, 10% or 15% OFF

20% OFF

On all Sterling Silver Jewelry

- Rings • Necklaces • Earrings • Bracelets • Charms

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1018 E. Main St., Downtown Merrill

MERRILL Foto News

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY
CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

OBITUARIES



Amy Jo Schwartz David, age 49, of Merrill, died peacefully at Aspirus Wausau Hospital on Monday, November 1, 2021, due to complications from COVID-19, pneumonia, and other pre-existing conditions. Amy was born on March 4, 1972, to Duane Schwartz and Barbara (Allen) (Schwartz) Schuster in Merrill.

Amy graduated from Merrill High School with the class of 1991. Following graduation, she became a homemaker and a mom, as well as a daycare provider. She eventually went back to school to become a medical assistant, but never got the chance to finish. Amy married Charles C. David in 1998, and later divorced in 2008.

She prided herself on being a Pisces and loved Jack Skellington, all things glittery, Harry Potter, Peter Dinklage and rhinos. Amy loved her children fiercely and unconditionally. She was a great person and a one-of-a-kind, irreplaceable mom.

Amy is survived by her loving children: Morgan David of Merrill, Chazz David (Marieh Mueller) of Merrill and Lauren David (David Melomet) of Baltimore, MD, grandchild: Charlie, father: Duane (Sherry) Schwartz, mother: Barbara Schuster, along with many nieces and nephews: including Jennifer Podeweltz and her children, Ian Fisher (Marley Cotey) of Merrill, WI and Jordan Schwartz. She is further survived by her siblings: Jamie Schwartz, Brian Schwartz and Lauren Podeweltz (Jim Streeter) and countless friends including Noah Riddle and Laskia Hanson and her children (Wausau, WI). She was loved by all, including her children's friends, who viewed her as a second mom. She was preceded in death by her paternal grandfather Lawrence 'Dodo' Schwartz, paternal grandmother Anna Cayar, uncle: Walter, aunt: Mavis, stepfather: Don Schuster, and maternal grandmother: Margaret Taylor (Joe Taylor).

A Celebration of Life for Amy will be held on Monday, November 29, 2021, at Waid Funeral Home in Merrill from 5pm-8pm.

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.



Helen Grace (Eikelmann) Meyer, age 94, of Merrill, went home to her Heavenly Father on Friday, November 12, 2021, at the cottage while under the care of family and Compassus Hospice Care.

Born on July 22, 1927, to the late Harry and Margaret (Henrich) Eikelmann, she was a life-long resident of the Merrill area. She married Gilbert J. Meyer on September 16, 1948, at St. Stephens United Church of Christ. Helen loved her Lord and was devoted to and proud of her husband and family. She always put others' needs ahead of her own; there wasn't anyone she wouldn't help and genuinely cared about their well-being. She gave of her time freely, always cooking and baking for others. Helen became a life-long member of St. John Lutheran Church. She felt called to serve others and spent many years as a member of Mother's Club and Ladies Aide, volunteered at Bethesda and Lutherans for Life, and in later years, managed the Church Memorial Fund. Helen is a wonderful example of how to lead a loving, caring, and giving life.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband Gilbert, her parents Harry and Margaret Eikelmann, her sister Dorothy Kayhart, brother-in-law Edward Kayhart, and brother-in-law Waldemar A. Meyer.

Helen will be greatly missed and is survived by: Her son, John (Debra) Meyer of Merrill, WI and their children, Christopher (Sarah) Meyer of St. Cloud, WI, Amanda (Nate) Klockow of Merrill, WI, Kimberly (Justin) Nass of Chippewa Falls, WI, and Corey (Jannsy) Meyer of Wausau, WI. Her son James (Camille) Meyer of Merrill, WI and their children, Heidi (Serge) Musombwa of Middleton, WI, Derek (Marylynn) Meyer of Minneapolis, MN, and Leah (Kody) Gipple, of Merrill, WI. Her son Mark Meyer of Merrill, WI. Her daughter Barbara Meyer of Merrill, WI and her children, Isaac (Mandy) Mattson of Merrill, WI and Rachel (Jamie) Lane of Merrill, WI. Her niece, Kathy (Jon) Kumbera of Wausau, WI and nephew Tom Kayhart of Merrill, WI. She also has twenty-three great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be directed to St. John Lutheran Church & School or Lutherans for Life.

The family would like to express their deep gratitude to Compassus Hospice Care for the wonderful and compassionate care given during the last days of her life.

A Memorial Service for Helen will be held at 11:00 AM Friday, December 3, 2021, at St. John Lutheran Church, Merrill. The Rev. David Szeto will officiate. Burial of her cremated remains will take place at a later date in Merrill Memorial Park. Visitation for family and friends will begin at 9:00 AM Friday, December 3rd at the church. The Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com.

Geraldine T. Weisenberger, 88, of Stevens Point, formerly of Merrill, passed away on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at Willowbrooke Senior Living in Stevens Point.

Geraldine was born on July 14, 1933, in Colby, daughter of the late Andrew and Francis (Gribowski) Schilling. She married Thomas 'Tom' Weisenberger on August 8, 1951, in Wausau, Wisconsin. He preceded her in death on December 1, 2011. Geraldine was a seamstress for many years, she worked at Thelma's in alterations and had her own business, 'Gerri's Alterations'. In addition to this, she also made clothing for her children and grandchildren.

Survivors include her daughter, Pamela Sillars of Connecticut; her son, Jeff (Brenda) Weisenberger of Brokaw; four grandchildren, Eric Sillars of Eau Claire, Dawn Sillars of Connecticut, Troy (Stephanie) Weisenberger of Wausau, and Jody (Julie Christiansen) Weisenberger of Mosinee; two great-grandchildren, Breana Weisenberger and Ryan Weisenberger both of Wausau; and brother, Chester (Paulette) Schilling.

Geraldine was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas 'Tom' Weisenberger; parents, Andrew and Francis Schilling; and siblings, Carol (Maurice) Normand, Beverly (Joseph) Biard, Jane Rodemeier, Rita Weaver, Mae Zastrow, Opal Schilling, Ruth Ann Schilling, Lanora Schilling, Hazel Schilling, Stan Schilling, Robert Schilling, and Terry Schilling.

A graveside service for Geraldine will be held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery.

Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals 7700

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: November 18, 2021
 Electronically signed by
 Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
 Case No. 2021 IN 47
 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
 JAMES MYRON HARTSON
 d/o/d 10/01/2021
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
 1. An application for informal administration was filed.
 2. The decedent, with date of birth 05/12/1937 and date of death 10/01/2021, was domiciled in LINCOLN County, State of WISCONSIN, with a mailing address of W694 County J Gleason, WI 54435.
 3. All interested persons waived notice.
 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is March 4, 2022.
 5. A claim may be filed at the LINCOLN County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
 Steven P Hartson
 622 W Lowel Dr
 San Tan Valley, AZ 85140
 602-515-5257
 Published Nov. 25, Dec. 2 & 9, 2021
 WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL
1004 EAST FIRST STREET
MERRILL, WI 54452-2586

AN ORDINANCE: By The Committee of the Whole
 Re: Amending Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 80 to increase salary - President of the Council
ORDINANCE NO. 2021-17
 Introduced: November 9, 2021
 1st Reading: November 9, 2021
 2nd Reading: November 9, 2021
 3rd Reading: November 9, 2021
 Committee/Commission Action:

AN ORDINANCE
 The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 80 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Merrill is amended to add the following:

Sec. 2-80. - President of the council.

The common council at its organizational meeting shall, after organization, annually choose from its members a president who, in the absence of the mayor, shall preside at meetings of the council and, during the absence or inability of the mayor, shall have the powers and duties of the mayor, except that he shall not have the power to approve an act of the council, which the mayor has disapproved, by filing objections with the city clerk. He shall, when so officiating, be styled acting mayor. The president of the council shall be elected for a two-year term of office. The acting mayor may, by announcement at the beginning of the meeting, vote in his capacity as alderperson.

The Common Council President shall receive an additional Two Hundred Sixty Dollars \$260.00 per year for his duties, effective April 19, 2022.

Section 2. Severability. In the event any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. It is the legislative intent of the Common Council that this ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal provision had not been included or any illegal application had not been made.

Section 3. Repeal and Effective Date. All ordinances or parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication.

Moved by: Alderman Hass
 Adopted: November 9, 2021 7-1
 Approved:
 Derek Woellner, Mayor
 Attest:
 William N. Heideman, City Clerk
 Published Nov. 25, 2021
 WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL
1004 EAST FIRST STREET
MERRILL, WI 54452-2586

AN ORDINANCE: Committee of the Whole
 Re: Amending Chapter 2, Article V, Section 2-109(b) Salaries for Elected Officials
ORDINANCE NO. 2021-16
 Introduced: November 9, 2021
 1st Reading: November 9, 2021
 2nd Reading: November 9, 2021
 3rd Reading: November 9, 2021
 Committee/Commission Action:

AN ORDINANCE
 The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 2, Article V, Section 2-109(b)(2) of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Merrill is amended to read as follows:

(a) **Elected officials.** The elected officials of the city shall consist of:
 (1) **Mayor.** The mayor shall have a four-year term, elected in even-numbered years.
 (2) **Aldersperson.** There shall be eight alderspersons, one elected from each aldermanic district, all elected in even-numbered years.
 (3) **City clerk.** The term of office for the city clerk shall be four years. The person so elected to perform the duties of the city clerk shall perform all duties as provided by law and such other duties as are requested to be performed by such person by the common council.
 (4) **Street and weed commissioner.** The term of office for the street and weed commissioner shall be four years.
 (5) **Municipal court judge.** The judge of the municipal court shall have a four-year term. The judge shall be subject to the qualifications and requirements of chapter 10, article II and Wis. Stats. ch. 755.

(b) **Salaries for elected officials.**
 (1) **City clerk.** Pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 62.09(6)(b), the annual salary for the elected city clerk shall be

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~~\$50,844.00~~ \$63,717.53, effective May 1, 2018. Thereafter, the annual salary for the city clerk shall be increased by the same percentage amount afforded all non-union city employees. The elected city clerk shall be entitled to all fringe benefits afforded all non-union city employees as permitted by law.
 (2) **Street commissioner.** Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 62.09(6)(b), the annual salary for the elected street commissioner shall be ~~\$2,500.00~~ \$4,000.00 effective May 1, 2018. No other city benefits will be paid.
 (3) **Alderspersons.** Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 62.09(6) the annual salary for elected alderspersons shall be \$3,459.90 effective April 19, 2022.
 (4) **Mayor.** Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 62.09(6) the annual salary for the Mayor shall be \$25,000.00 effective April 19, 2022.

(c) **Wisconsin Retirement System Pension Contribution.** The city shall continue to pay, on behalf of the elected city clerk, an amount equal to that amount paid on behalf of general employees.

Section 2. Severability. In the event any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. It is the legislative intent of the Common Council that this ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal provision had not been included or any illegal application had not been made.

Section 3. Repeal and Effective Date. All ordinances or parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication.

Moved by: Alderman Hass
 Adopted: November 9, 2021 8-0
 Approved:
 Derek Woellner, Mayor
 Attest:
 William N. Heideman, City Clerk
 Published Nov. 25, 2021
 WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL
1004 EAST FIRST STREET
MERRILL, WI 54452

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 All persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard at a public hearing to be held by and before the City Plan Commission of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, commencing at **6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, December 7, 2021**, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1004 East First Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the following proposed matter, to wit:
To attend remotely, Phone: 530-500-4157, PIN 272 015 442 #

1.) Public hearing on an amendment to a Conditional Use for placement of a Doublewide Housing Unit in Whispering Pines, 2801 Thielman Street per M.M.C. Sec. 113-100, in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. Legally described in tax# 251-3106-182-0112. Anyone having any questions regarding the hearing should contact Zoning Administrator, Darin Pagel at 536-4880. Dated: November 16, 2021
 CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN
 By: William N. Heideman
 City Clerk
 Published Nov. 25 & Dec. 2, 2021
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CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021
Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers 6:00 PM
 1. Call to Order
 Mayor Woellner called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
Attendee Name, Title, Status, Arrived
 Paul Russell, Aldersperson - First District, Present
 Steve Hass, Aldersperson - Second District, Present
 Rick Blake, Aldersperson - Third District, Present
 Steve Osnes, Aldersperson - Fourth District, Present
 John M. Van Lieshout, Aldersperson - Fifth District, Present 6:07 PM
 Mike Rick, Aldersperson - Sixth District, Present
 Mark Weix, Aldersperson - Seventh District, Present
 Steve Sabatke, Aldersperson - Eighth District, Remote
 Derek Woellner, Mayor, Present
 2. Silent Prayer
 3. Pledge of Allegiance
 4. Roll Call
 5. Public Comment Period
 None.
 6. Minutes of previous Common Council meeting(s):
 1. Minutes of October 12, 2021 meeting Motion (Rick/Russell) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 7. Revenue & Expense Reports(s):
 1. Revenue & Expense Report for the period ending October 31, 2021 Motion (Hass/Russell) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 8. Public Hearing:
 1. Public Hearing on proposed 2022 Budget
 City Attorney Hayden read the public hearing notice.
 Motion (Hass/Russell) to open the public hearing. Carried.
 Nobody spoke for or against the proposed 2022 City Budget.
 Motion (Hass/Russell) to close the public hearing. Carried.
 9. General agenda items:
 1. Employee Years of Service Recognition:
 Kody E. Gipple (Street Department), 10 years
 City Clerk Heideman read a certificate of recognition for Kody Gipple.
 Matthew D. Kucirek (Street Department), 10 years
 City Clerk Heideman read a certificate of recognition for Matthew Kucirek.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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10. Board of Public Works:
 1. Request from Trinity Lutheran Church for "drop-off" zone on Blaine Street, to accommodate the daycare center in the former Park City Credit Union. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.
 Motion (Van Lieshout/Weix) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 2. Request for the installation of a street light at the intersection of Harrison Street and Champagne Street. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.
RESULT: APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [6 TO 2]
MOVER: John M. Van Lieshout, Alderperson - Fifth District
SECONDER: Mike Rick, Alderperson - Sixth District
AYES: Russell, Hass, Blake, Van Lieshout, Rick, Weix
NAYS: Osness, Sabatke
 11. Committee of the Whole:
 1. Consider new employee policy related to vacation. The following vacation schedule will be adopted: Accrued during 1 year of continuous service: 80 hours. Accrued during 5 years of continuous service: 120 hours. Accrued during 10 years of continuous service: 160 hours. Accrued during 15 years of continuous service: 208 hours. Newly hired employees would be credited with one week of vacation upon hire and any time used would be deducted from the first six months of accrual. The Committee of the Whole recommends approval.
 Motion (Hass/Blake) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 2. Consider new employee policy related to sick leave. Newly hired employees would be eligible to use sick leave upon accrual. The Committee of the Whole recommends approval.
 Motion (Hass/Blake) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 3. Consider new employee policy related to longevity pay. After five years of continuous employment, all non-union, non-elected employees would receive an annual longevity payment of \$2.50 for each month worked from their employment start date. The Committee of the Whole recommends approval.
 Motion (Hass/Blake) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 12. Personnel and Finance Committee:
 1. Consider lifting the hiring freeze to fill one full-time and three part-time driver positions in the Transit Department. The Personnel and Finance Committee recommends approval.
 Motion (Rick/Hass) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 13. Placing Committee Reports on File:
 1. Consider placing the following committee reports on file: Airport Commission, Board of Public Works, City Plan Commission, Health & Safety Committee, Library Board, Parks & Recreation Commission, Personnel & Finance Committee and Transit Commission.
 Motion (Russell/Van Lieshout) to place on file.
RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
 14. Ordinances:
 1. An Ordinance amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article V, Section 2-109(b), related to salaries for elected officials. The Committee of the Whole recommends approval.
 City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading.
 Motion (Osness/Van Lieshout) to deny all increases for the elected officials. Alderman Osness then requested that his motion be withdrawn. Without objection, it was so ordered.
 Motion (Russell/Blake) to suspend the rules and give the ordinance and second reading and a third reading by title only. Carried.
 City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only.
 Motion (Osness) to deny the increase for the Common Council and the Mayor. Motion failed due to lack of a second.
 Motion (Russell) to increase the salary for the Street and Weed Commissioner to be the same as the Festival Grounds Manager. Motion failed due to lack of a second.
 Motion (Van Lieshout/Rick) to increase the annual salary for the Street and Weed Commissioner to \$4,000. On roll call vote, motion carried 7-1. Voting No - Alderman Sabatke.
 Motion (Sabatke/Blake) to increase the annual salary for the Mayor to \$25,000. On roll call vote, motion carried 6-2. Voting No - Alderman Osness and Alderman Van Lieshout.
 Motion (Van Lieshout/Sabatke) to increase the annual salary for the Alderpersons to \$4,000. Motion failed 2-6 on roll call vote. Voting Yes - Alderman Russell and Alderman Van Lieshout.
 Motion (Hass/Russell) to approve the ordinance, as amended at the meeting. On roll call vote, motion carried 8-0.
 2. An Ordinance amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 80, to increase the salary for the Common Council President. The Com-

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mittee of the Whole recommends approval.
 City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading.
 Motion (Hass/Blake) to suspend the rules and give the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only. Carried.
 City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only.
 Motion (Hass/Osness) to amend the ordinance by reducing the additional amount that the Council President would receive from \$500 annually to \$260 annually. Motion to amend carried 7-1 on roll call vote. Voting No - Alderman Russell.
 Motion (Hass/Rick) to approve the ordinance, as amended. Motion carried 7-1 on roll call vote. Voting No - Alderman Russell.
 3. An Ordinance Adopting the 2022 City of Merrill Budget and Establishing the Tax Levy for the Year 2021. The Committee of the Whole recommends approval.
 City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading.
 Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to suspend the rules and give the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only. Carried.
 City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only.
 Motion (Van Lieshout/Blake) to approve the ordinance.
 Prior to the vote on the ordinance, the following "budget adjustment" motions were made:
 Motion (Russell/Blake) to reduce the Airport T-Hangar funding from \$400,000 to \$300,000 and approve the purchase of 70 acres of land adjacent to the City Forest (\$140,000).
 Alderman Russell then requested that his motion be withdrawn. Without objection, it was so ordered.
 Motion (Russell/Blake) to reduce the Airport T-Hangar funding from \$400,000 to \$300,000. Motion carried 6-2 on roll call vote. Voting No - Alderman Van Lieshout and Alderman Weix.
 Motion (Russell/Van Lieshout) to approve the purchase of 70 acres of land adjacent to the City Forest (\$140,000). The purchase would be funded by grant(s). If adequate grant funding is not received, the purchase would be funded using American Rescue Plan funds. A roll call vote resulted in a 4-4 tie. Voting Yes - Alderman Russell, Alderman Blake, Alderman Van Lieshout and Alderman Weix. Mayor Woellner broke the tie by voting Yes. Therefore, the motion was approved.
 Motion (Sabatke) to defund the City Administrator position in the 2022 budget. Motion failed due to lack of a second.
 Roll call vote on the motion to approve the ordinance resulted in a 4-4 tie. Voting Yes - Alderman Russell, Alderman Blake, Alderman Van Lieshout and Alderman Weix. Mayor Woellner broke the tie by voting Yes. Therefore, the ordinance was adopted.
 15. Resolutions:
 1. A Resolution approving a Conditional Use Permit for placement of shipping containers at 505 S. Pine Ridge Avenue. The City Plan Commission recommends approval.
 WHEREAS, Wal-Mart has requested a conditional use permit pursuant to the Merrill Zoning Code Chapter 113, Article IV, Section 113-317(n) for the purpose of the placement of shipping containers on the following described property: Lt 3 CSM 2366 V13 P127 D0496457, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin
 Commonly known as 505 S Pine Ridge Ave. herein referred to as the "Premises"; and,
 WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission scheduled a hearing on the application on November 2, 2021, due public notice having been given and opportunity given to those interested to speak on the application; and,
 WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission has reviewed the Application, found that it does meet the requirements of Merrill Zoning Code, Section 113-317(n) and has recommended approval of said application;
 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of November, 2021, that a conditional use permit shall be issued to Wal-Mart for the purpose of the placement of shipping containers.
 Motion (Hass/Russell) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 2. A Resolution ratifying the January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023 contract between the City and the Merrill Professional Police Association. The Personnel and Finance Committee recommends approval.
 WHEREAS, negotiations between the City of Merrill and the Merrill Professional Police Association have culminated a tentative contract agreement;

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of November, 2021, that the City of Merrill accept the terms and conditions for the January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023 employment years according to the terms of the contract between the City of Merrill and the Merrill Professional Police Association on file in the City Clerk's office. Said changes and amendments in the terms and conditions to the January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023 contract shall be effective January 1, 2022. The existing agreement shall be modified accordingly.
 Motion (Hass/Russell) to approve the resolution, but to incorporate into the contract the three employee policies approved earlier in the meeting (vacation, sick, longevity). Motion carried.
 3. A Resolution pertaining to redistricting of Aldermanic Districts as a result of the 2020 Census and adopting Ward Map.
 WHEREAS, the City of Merrill received proposed redistricting maps and information from Lincoln County prepared pursuant to the 2020 Census; and,
 WHEREAS, the Merrill Ward Map is composed of eight (8) districts divided into a total of sixteen (16) wards; and,
 WHEREAS, a copy of the Merrill Ward Map, dated 11-4-2021 and prepared by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, is attached to this resolution as Exhibit A (the "Ward Map") with populations per district as shown on Exhibit B;
 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 9th day of November, 2021, that the proposed Ward Map dated 11-4-2021 and attached as Exhibit A is hereby adopted.
 Motion (Van Lieshout/Blake) to approve.
RESULT: APPROVED
 16. Mayor's Communications
 Mayor Woellner thanked everyone who attended budget meetings and all who worked to achieve an adopted 2022 budget.
 November 17th has been proclaimed City of Merrill Transit Day.
 17. Adjournment
 Motion (Rick/Russell) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:19 P.M.
 Published Nov. 25, 2021
 WNAXLP
DATE SIGNED: November 11, 2021
 Electronically signed by
 Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar
**STATE OF WISCONSIN,
 CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
 Notice to Creditors
 (Informal Administration)**
 Case No. 2021 IN 48
 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
 CHERYL ANN WEEGE
 DOD 10/16/2021
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
 1. An application for informal administration was filed.
 2. The decedent, with date of birth 08/06/1966 and date of death 10/16/2021, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of WI, with a mailing address of 309 E. Riverside Ave., Merrill, WI 54452.
 3. All interested persons waived notice.
 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 03-11-2022.
 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
 James Wedemeyer
 204 N. Van Rensselaer St.
 Merrill, Wis. 54452
 (715) 536-8135 Bar Number 1004552.
 Published 18, 25 & Dec. 2, 2021
 WNAXLP
**Merrill Area Public Schools
 Regular Board of Education Meeting
 October 27, 2021 - Minutes**
 The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:32 PM in the MHS Auditorium.
 Board members present: Ashbeck, Krueger, Liberty, Osness, Volpe, Woller, Yingling and Blake. Board members absent: Smith. Others Present: Dr. Sample, MAPS Administrators; Student Representatives, approximately 19 people from the staff and public and Recorder Woller.
 Smith arrived at 5:38 p.m.
 MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the revised tax levy of \$9,960,417 for Fund 10, \$546,603 for Fund 38, and \$166,000 for Fund 80 for a grand total of \$10,673,020; revised 2021-22 fiscal year budget and the corresponding 6590 Budget Adoption Form for publication in the Foto News; and, revised Treasurer's report from FY21. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Osness to approve the Head Start Annual Report as presented to the Board. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Krueger to approve the purchase of the fencing project upon receipt of funds from the Booster Club. Motion carried

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unanimously.
 MOTION by Krueger, second by Ashbeck to approve the purchase of a backup generator at the School Forest. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Smith, second by Ashbeck to approve the select updates to both the Teacher and Support Staff Handbooks as presented for the 2021-2022 school year. MOTION by Smith to rescind his motion and move item f to a discussion following the consent agenda, second by Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve the permanent creation of an additional full-time teacher at PRSYL beginning December 2021 as well as the configuration presented in options #3 or #4 depending on the directive from the Office of Head Start. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Smith, second by Liberty to approve hiring five additional aide positions at Kate Goodrich Elementary School. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve the donation of funds from the anonymous donor valued at \$6,019.00 for a baseball scoreboard at the Merrill High School. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to remove this topic (Facility and Transportation Updates) as a standing agenda item for all meetings and return related topics to the Facilities Committee on an as-needed basis. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Volpe, second by Yingling to eliminate the use of district resources to contact trace individuals potentially exposed to positive Covid cases in the MAPS district. MOTION by Volpe, second by Yingling to rescind her motion. MOTION by Volpe, second by Yingling to have administrative reach out to Lincoln County Health Department to set up a meeting to discuss the Covid situation, protocols and responsibilities of each entity in an open session Special Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
 7:33-7:37 p.m. Ashbeck left the meeting.
 MOTION by Krueger, second by Yingling to have Policy 3112/4112 be returned to Committee for further review. MOTION by Krueger, second by Yingling to rescind his motion. MOTION by Krueger, second by Yingling to not adopt Policy 3112/4112 Board-Staff Communications. Motion carried 8-1-0 on a roll call vote (Ayes - Ashbeck, Krueger, Osness, Smith, Volpe, Woller, Yingling and Blake. Nay - Liberty).
 MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve consent agenda items a through e, which includes minutes of the September 15, 2021 and September 28, 2021 meetings; receipt of the September 20, 2021 Annual Meeting & Budget Hearing minutes; second readings of Bylaw 0100 Definitions; Bylaw 0143 Authority of Individual Boards Members; Bylaw 0144.3 Conflict of Interest; Bylaw 0144.5 Board Member Behavior and Code of Conduct; Bylaw 0145 Board Member Anti-Harassment; Bylaw 0167.3 Public Comment at Board Meetings; Bylaw 0171.1 President; Policies 1130/3230/4230 Ethics and Conflict of Interest; Policy 1210 Board-District Administrator Relationship; Policy 2240 Controversial Issues in the Classroom; Policy 2266 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities; Policy 2431 Interscholastic Athletics; Policy 3120 Employment of Professional Staff; Policies 3215/4215/5512/7434 Use of Tobacco and Nicotine; Policies 3216/4216 Staff Dress and Grooming; Policy 4120 Employment of Support Staff; Policy 5112 Entrance Age; Policy 5500.01 Conduct in Virtual Classroom; Policy 5520 Disorderly Conduct; Policy 6152.01 Waiver of School Fees or Fines; Policy 6152 Student Fees, Fines and Charges; Policy 7440.01 Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring; Policy 7450 Property Inventory; Policy 8500 Food Services; Policy 9270 Home-Based, Private, or Tribal Schooling; Policy 9700 Relations with Non-School Affiliated Groups; Policy 1422 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity; Policy 1422.02 Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee; Policy 1623 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment; Policy 1662 Employee Anti-Harassment; Policies 3122/4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity; Policies 3122.02/4122.02 Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee; Policies 3123/4123 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination; Policies 3362/4362/5517 Employee Anti-Harassment; Policy 2260 Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity; Policy 2260.01 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability; and,

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Policy 9130 Public Requests, Suggestions, or Complaints; deletion of Bylaw 0144.2 Board Member Ethics; and, Bylaw 0174.2 School Performance Report; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$4,404,924.06; the personnel report as presented, contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable; and, donations totaling \$690.00. Motion carried with Yingling abstaining from the September 20, 2021 and September 28, 2021 meeting minutes; and, Smith abstaining from the September 20, 2021 meeting minutes.
 MOTION by Smith, second by Woller to approve the select updates to both the Teacher and Support Staff Handbooks, with the exclusion of Policies 3122/4122, for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried unanimously.
 Blake called for a MOTION to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section 19.85(1)(c); (e); (f) except where par. (b) applies; (g); and, 118.125. The purpose of the closed session is to discuss and consider (and possible action regarding) a remote work arrangement for an employee; for the consideration of (and possible action regarding) applications for participation in the Early College Credit and Start College Now programs; and, to conduct specified public business which for competitive or bargaining reasons requires a closed session, to wit, the consideration and discussion of the sale of personal and real property associated with Maple Grove School, and the division of assets and liabilities between Merrill Area Common Public School District and Athens School District, which may occur as a result of granting petitions for detachment of property in the Town of Hamburg, and to take action regarding the same. The Board may reconvene to open session and may take action upon the matters discussed during the closed session portion of the meeting. MOTION by Yingling, second by Ashbeck to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried on a roll call vote.
 Volpe left the meeting at 8:49 p.m.
 8:49 p.m. - 5 minute break to get organized.
 MOTION by Smith, second by Osness to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Liberty, second by Ashbeck to approve the 18 Early College Credit courses as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve the remote work for Adam Smith in a full-time status or part-time status down to 50% through the end of the 1st semester. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Osness, second by Yingling to adjourn at 9:39 p.m.
 Respectfully submitted,
 Ronald Liberty
 Board Clerk
 RL/tw
 (The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)
 Published Nov. 25, 2021
 WNAXLP
**Merrill Area Public Schools
 Special Board of Education Meeting
 November 10, 2021 - Minutes**
 The meeting was called to order by Blake at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room and virtually.
 Board members present: All. Board members absent: None. Others present: Baker, Then, Bergman and Recorder Woller. Others present virtually: Dr. Sample and Oginski.
 MOTION by Woller, second by Volpe to table this item (revision of Bylaw 0142.5 Vacancies). Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Woller, second by Volpe effective Monday, November 15th, no Merrill Area Public Schools personnel perform any close contact tracing for any identified COVID-19 positive students, and all close contact tracing is to be performed by the Lincoln County Health Department with no assistance from Merrill Area Public Schools personnel. COVID-19 positive individuals are encouraged to self identify to the Lincoln Health Department those in close contact to them. Motion carried on a roll call vote (Ayes - Osness, Volpe, Woller, Yingling, Ashbeck and Krueger. Nays - Liberty and Blake.).
 MOTION by Yingling, second by Krueger to adjourn at 7:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.
 Respectfully submitted,
 Ronald Liberty
 Board Clerk
 RL/tw
 (The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N.

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Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)
 Published Nov. 25, 2021
 WNAXLP
**Merrill Area Public Schools
 Special Board of Education Meeting
 November 2, 2021 - Minutes**
 The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom. Board members present: All. Board member absent: None. Others present: Then.
 MOTION by Volpe, second by Woller to direct MAPS Administration to follow the motion approved on September 28, 2021, which reads:
 "MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness that as a result of symptomatic or a close contact quarantine, I move to allow re-entry into school the day following proof of a negative Covid test, effective Monday, October 4, 2021. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote."
 Then move to eliminate MAPS district resources to make contact trace calls about individuals potentially exposed to positive COVID cases in the District, effective November 3, 2021. Motion carried.
 MOTION by Yingling, second by Volpe to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.
 Respectfully submitted,
 Ronald Liberty
 Board Clerk
 RL/tw
 (The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)
 Published Nov. 25, 2021
 WNAXLP
**Merrill Area Public Schools
 Special Board of Education Meeting
 October 26, 2021 - Minutes**
 The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:38 p.m. in the Board room. Board members present: Blake, Ashbeck, Liberty, Osness, Volpe, Krueger, Yingling and Woller. Board members absent: Smith. Others present: Dr. Sample, MAPS Administrators, 3 people from the public, and Recorder Ugolini.
 President Blake announced an executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Sections 19.85(1)(a); (f) except where par. (b) applies; (g); and, 118.125. The purpose of the closed session is the following: To conduct one (1) student expulsion hearing, deliberate, and act regarding the same. MOTION by Liberty, second by Volpe to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried on a roll call vote.
 5:49 p.m. - Ashbeck recused himself from the expulsion hearing.
 Krueger left the expulsion hearing at 7:10 p.m.
 Volpe left the expulsion hearing at 7:29 p.m.
 MOTION by Woller second by Osness to reconvene into open session at 7:52 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.
 MOTION by Yingling second by Osness to adjourn meeting at 7:53 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.
 Respectfully submitted,
 Ronald Liberty
 Board Clerk
 RL/iau
 (The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting www.mapsedu.org, or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)
 Published Nov. 25, 2021
 WNAXLP
 Notice is hereby given that the following application has been filed with the City Clerk, Merrill, Wisconsin:
Class B Beer & Class B Liquor
 B's Nest, LLC
 1404 W Main St
 Merrill, WI 54452
 License Period: 12/17/2021-6/30/2022
 William N. Heideman, CMC, WCWC
 City Clerk
 Published November 25, 2021
 WNAXLP

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tscott@mmclocal.com

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Merrill Area Public Schools
 2022-2023 Kindergarten
Parents/Guardians:
 Merrill Area Public Schools recently mailed a letter and postcard to the parents and/or guardians of kindergartners for the 2022-2023 school year asking if their child will be attending public, private or another school setting. To be eligible for kindergarten, your child must be 5 on or before September 1, 2022.
 If you did not receive a mailing from Merrill Area Public Schools, please contact Lori Ugolini at 536-4581, Ext. 10007 and she will include your child in the census and put on our kindergarten roster. Thank you.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Thank Who?

Dear Reader,

Each November we gather with our closest friends and family to celebrate all the gifts bestowed upon us.

After working hard all year to achieve our goals, it is time to lightheartedly celebrate all of the goodness in our lives. We can be thankful we live in America, the wealthiest country in the world, where unimaginable opportunity and rewards are ours for the earning every single day.



And there's more. For those spiritually oriented, God plays the ultimate role in our successes, working quietly in the background to support our every effort. That's where the credit really belongs.

Happy Thanksgiving.

PATRICK J. WOOD PUBLISHER

Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"

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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This Week's Featured Student is Makenzie Hill Daughter of Michael & Michelle Hill Makenzie is in the 3rd Grade at Washington Elementary School. She was nominated by Ms. Zimmerman.

What is your favorite subject in school? Why? My favorite subject in school is math. I enjoy math because I love numbers. I find math a lot of fun because I am good at it.

What is your favorite part of school? Why? My favorite part of school is spending time with my friends and teacher. I enjoy all parts of the day.

What would you like to do/become someday? Why? I would like to work in medicine because I know a lot about medicine because of my mom. I really like the thought of taking care of people to make them healthy.

Makenzie was chosen as this week's student of the week because of the integrity, positivity, leadership skills and drive for excellence she shows upon walking into her third grade classroom on a daily basis. After completing her work she is quick to ask her teacher if she can help other students with their learning. She has even gone as far as to volunteer some of her recess time to help a student finish their task. - Ms. Zimmerman

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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.

Editor's note: We were unable to fit this first letter in the edition prior to Veteran's Day; however, we decided to run it after the date, because it is never too late to remember the experiences veterans have endured, to support a veterans' organization, or to appreciate a veteran or thank a veteran for their service.

To the Editor:

I want everyone to understand ... [and] ... think about all the sacrifices made by all veterans, of all wars.

I take this opportunity now, to remind everyone what Veterans Day means to veterans and to many other Americans: Veterans Day is a day to remember and honor all veterans, especially all those in service who gave up their lives in battle in order to secure or preserve the freedoms of other Americans. Veterans Day is a day to remember and honor all those Americans in service who, after prolonged inhumane and agonizingly painful mistreatment, died in prisoner of war camps, or those who miraculously survived those camps. Veterans Day is a day to remember and honor all veterans who spent months or years in hospitals recovering from the wounds of war, both physical and emotional. Veterans Day is a day to remember and honor all those veterans who cannot shake the agony of war, and who suffer from soul-seared mental scars, indelibly mind-etched by the ravaging experiences of combat. Veterans Day is a day to remember and honor those veterans who got behind in their schooling or employment because of time spent in military conflicts. Veterans Day is a day to remember and honor all those Americans who lost a grandfather or a grandmother, father or mother, husband or wife, son or daughter, son-in-law or daughter-in-law, grandson or granddaughter, brother or sister, aunt or uncle, cousin, niece or nephew, betrothed one, friend, fellow veteran or SANITY ... to war!

- Joseph R. Plummer, Merrill, Wis. United States Air Force, Vietnam 1967-1968

To the Editor:

Again we read yet another news article of give and take between the City Administrator and an official. It occurs me to me that these continued scurrilous, (just so my meaning is clear: humorously insulting and negative), interchanges would not be tolerated in the private sector. Rather it would be given serious scrutiny as to whether it is the fault of the process or the people involved. If there is found to be no resolution to the continuing conflicts, then the source is changed or removed. I realize political entities operate on a different plane than the business world operates. Maybe it should just so we don't have to read about professional people acting like middle-schoolers. Just saying!

- Charlene Seetan, Merrill, Wis.

To the Editor:

It's been over a year since the elections and I believe there is one thing we can finally all agree on; Elections DO have consequences! That holds true for national, state and local elections. And all I can say is if you don't like what you see, you'd better be willing to step up and take action now, before we no longer have that liberty.

We are witnessing excessive borrowing and spending, government overreach, the indoctrination of our children and the deliberate destruction of our families. We have had our constitutional rights infringed upon at every level through unlawful mandates all in the name of "safety."

Most people say "I don't like politics; it's too nasty for me." Well, it's time to wake up people. If you don't like politics, I can guarantee you will not like what those who do choose to impose upon you. Like it or not, politics impacts every aspect of our lives and without good, honest, God-fearing people willing to step in and hold politicians accountable, things will only get worse.

2022 elections are right around the corner for city council, mayor, school board, and county board, not to mention national, state, and regional positions. To sit by and hope that someone else will do the dirty work for us would be a shameful, ignominious decision in every sense of the word. We must get actively involved. We must do better than we have with previous choices before it's too late!

- LaDonna Fermanich, Merrill, Wis.

Advertisement for Jordan Buehler. 3/15/91 - 11/25/09. We miss you a little too much, a little too often, and a little bit more every day. Love, Mom and Dad Chad and Samantha and families

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Advertisement for Park City Credit Union. May your Thanksgiving be filled with peace, love and great joy. Our offices and drive-ups will be closed Thursday, November 25th. We will be open Friday, November 26th. Happy Thanksgiving!

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Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross made a \$10,000 donation to St. Vincent de Paul. The funds will be part of St. Vincent's Matching Fund Campaign that started mid-November. The money donated from the community will be matched with the campaign. The donations will assist the St. Vincent de Paul's Outreach Office to help those in our community in need. Donations may be sent to: SVDP, 503 S. Center Ave., Suite 2, Merrill, WI 54452. Thank you for helping us help others! (L to R) Freida Swanson, Sr. Linda Songy, Lisa Carlson, Sr. Zita Klimek, Sr. Carol Crosby, Sr. John Marie Simien, Sue Norenberg, Judy Warren, Jim Rell, Sr. Mary Thomas and Sr. Dorothy Niemann. **Submitted photo.**

TRINITY from page 1

in 1998 and was a walk-up event, accompanied by other attractions in the church and in the church parking lot near the nativity. Over the years, the characters in the Outdoor Living Nativity have ranged in age to include children, youth, and adults. This year's cast will be mostly adults, organizers say.

"Last year, because of COVID, we offered both a drive-through and walk-through option," said Karen Krombholz, one of the event's organizers. "We've decided that works best and gives us more room to expand upon the scene." As such, they will continue with both options again for 2021.

The characters at each stage of the Christmas story will have an area for their scene, and luminarias will separate the walking areas from the lane of traffic for those driving through. Characters and narrators will tell the Christmas story through scripture, from the Gospel story according to Luke, Chapter 2.

Walkers will hear everything via outdoor speakers, and those driving through will be able to tune in to listen to the story and music unfold on their car radios. The electronic sign will tell drivers what channel they should tune their radios to.

Drivers should enter using the W. Main St. driveway and exit onto State St., organizers say. If they wish to park and walk through, they can park near the laundromat.

The story will be repeated in rotation, so attendees can come anytime and not miss out on the richness and fullness of the Christmas story.

Prior to 2020, Trinity also held a free soup meal in the church basement. This year they are setting up a tent outside, offering chili and chicken wild rice soup in individual takeout containers, as well as hot apple cider for attendees, Krombholz said. She invites drive-through visitors to stop as they exit onto State St. to pick up some free soup and/or cider.

In addition, Trinity's Dorcas Group will hold a bake sale downstairs in the church, along with a few crafts, beginning at 3:00 p.m. until items are gone.



The shepherds journey to find the newborn King and pay homage to Him on bended knee, as part of Trinity's Living Nativity experience. **Submitted photo.**

Nativity scenes with removable stickers will be available for the children.

The miniature cow, sheep, and goat that will be a part of this year's Outdoor Living Nativity are being provided by Kraft's Kuddly Kritters Petting Zoo of Athens. "They are tame and people can pet them," Krombholz said. That's just one more opportunity for an interactive Christmas nativity experience, a part of the experience children are sure to love.

"With all of the preparations of Christmas – the food prep, the shopping, the baking – we all need to be reminded that the birth of Christ is why we are celebrating," Krombholz said. "God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16"

"... Now there were in the country, shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, the angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring great tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!'" Luke 2

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9/27/1933 - 11/22/2020

We little knew that morning, that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly; in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you. You did not go alone, for parts of us went with you, the day God called you home. We know your still with us by the whispers in the winds or the light brush on an arm when thinking of you dearly. You left us peaceful memories; your love is still our guide. Though we can not see you your always by our side. Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same, but God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

Sadly missed
Patti, Bobbi, Tom, Jean, Jim & Carrie and our families, Grand children and Great Grand children

Wishing you and those dear to you a wonderful Thanksgiving Day!

Happy Thanksgiving!

May your heart be filled with gladness and your home be filled with joy!

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SHOP LOCAL from page 1

Boutique, 110 N. Prospect St.; Ana Blair's Boutique, 820 E. First St.; and Johnson's of Merrill, 1021 E. Main St. All offer women's clothing and accessories, and some also sell children's clothing.

Toys and games

What would Christmas be without toys for the kids? It's easy to forget some of our local small businesses stock toys. Consider Johnson's of Merrill, 1021 E. Main St., that carries high quality Melissa & Doug brand toys; River Country Co-op, 1300 N. Center Ave., carries several lines of kids toys; Die-Cast Game and Hobby, 416 W. Main St.; and the new Dragons, Daggers 'n Games, 718 E. 2nd St., for card and board games.

Jewelry

Looking for fine jewelry for a gift, a mother's ring, or a diamond to pop the question? Klug's Country Gold, 1018 E. Main St. in Merrill, is a locally-owned small business featuring fine jewelry selections, including rings, earrings, pendants, and more.

Furniture

Whether it's a gift for the holidays, a gift for yourself, or to set the scene for the holidays, if you're looking for high quality furniture and accessories, two local small businesses carry a huge selection: Courtside Furniture, 1022 E. Main St., and Miller's Furniture, 120 N. Prospect St., both in Merrill. From beds to dining room sets, coffee tables to couches, recliners and rockers, and decor to make it all feel like home, it's here and available locally.



One view of the interior of School House Unique, all decked out for the holidays, showcases a few of the unique items for sale in the shop, from antique and vintage pieces to rustic items and handcrafted decor, plus much more.

Photos courtesy of School House Unique.

Tasty and locally-produced treats (perfect for gift boxes or baskets)

Putting together a gift basket? As a hostess gift, a gift of delights from Wisconsin to send to out-of-town

or -state friends or family, or for any occasion, shop local. You'll find maple syrup, candies, handcrafted items, and treats at Northwoods Maple and More, 811 E. 1st St.; cheeses, spreads, sausage and more are readily available at Clark's Cup and Cone, 2802 E. Main St. (and you can grab lunch, too); and Geiss Meat Service, W4490 Pope Rd., Merrill, has a wide array of meats and processed meats in their retail store.

Automotive ideas

Whether you need a part for a repair or are shopping for an auto lover or the kid who just got his first car, Merrill has three stores to get you everything you need: NAPA Auto Parts, 1010 E. Main St.; Carquest, 1209 E. Main St.; and O'Reilly Auto Parts, 2414 E. Main St.

Don't forget the pets

River Country Co-op, 1300 N. Center Ave., has pet food and a lot more to outfit family pets in style, or in case Santa wants to shop ahead for pet presents.

Other gift ideas and decor

Looking for a little gift, decor, or something unusual for yourself? Locally, Rivers Edge, 1505 Champagne St.; Johnson's of Merrill, 1021 E. Main St.; and the Crooked Queen, N1764 High Ridge Rd. (seasonal hours and available by appointment 715.574.2061) offer a huge variety of options. Two shops in town also feature a combination of antiques and candy. There's a winning combination for a unique gift idea or a special treat when out shopping for others. Consider Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe, 923 E. Main St., and Aunt Lu's Antiques, 923 E. Main St. (Call 715.539.3337

See SHOP LOCAL page 9

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SHOP LOCAL
from page 8

for hours or appointment.)

School House Unique, N721 Range Line Rd., Merrill, is a new business featuring antiques, vintage treasures, and unique gift ideas you won't find anywhere else. It's worth a short drive and is decked out for the holidays.

Something for the guys

Whether the guys are shopping for themselves or the women are shopping for them, locally-owned Merrill Ace Hardware, 920 E. Main St., sells tools, hardware, power equipment, grills, and lots of stuff they'll love. Power House Lawn & Leisure, 2500 E. Main St. in Merrill, also sells power equipment (think lawn mowers, snow blowers, and chainsaws) and a huge line of grills and grilling accessories. And don't forget Radio Shack in VIP Office Products, 1013 E. Main St., Merrill.

Home improvement projects

Nothing says home for the holidays or ready for guests like a home spruce-up. Get started with paint from 920 E. Main St. and do any needed repairs or get new fixtures. While shopping, check out their display of Christmas decor.

New flooring makes a huge impact. Central Carpet & Flooring, 1320 E. Main St., has a huge selection and offers installation.

Outfit the home office with the latest in office technology and equipment from VIP Office Products, 1013 E. Main St., locally owned and operated.

Appliances showcase holiday cooking, and you can buy local at Hargrave Appliance Center, 916 E. Main St., or Greg's Gruett's Appliance, 414 W. Main St., both in Merrill, for stoves, freezers, wash-

ers, dryers, refrigerators, microwaves, and more.

Need a new TV or other electronics? Merrill House of Music & Home Entertainment, 912 E. Main St., offers personalized sales, service, and installation.

Really want to splurge, or how about a Christmas gift the whole family can enjoy? How about a hot tub from Power House Lawn & Leisure, 2500 E. Main St.? That will definitely warm everyone up during the cold winter to come.

Say it with flowers ... and evergreens

Within Merrill, two florists offer custom arrangements year round and to decorate your home for the holidays. Victoria's Floral, 110 N. Prospect St., and Broses Flower Center, 807 S. Center Ave., are just a phone call away, or visit their store locations to browse their selections.

Numerous tree farms in the area also offer Christmas trees, kissing balls, wreaths, and porch pots for decorating this holiday season, and many area churches and businesses have Christmas tree lots, as well.

For convenience, you can find a tree right here in Merrill, but if you're looking for a cut-your-own experience with the family, Fritz's Mountain, W3035 State Rd. 64, offers all that and handcrafted gifts for sale; Northwoods Evergreen will have their little red shed adorned with holiday decorations and Christmas trees on the corner of Hwy. W and Center Rd.; Snowhill Tree Farm, N1586 Snowhill Rd., is open for business; and Smiling John's Christmas Trees, W3750 Center Rd., is also ready for customers.

Shop local

Regardless of what you're shopping for, great small businesses



School House Unique is a quaint, one-of-a-kind shop housed in a former schoolhouse, located at N721 Range Line Rd., Merrill.

abound in Merrill, and most are conveniently located downtown or on Merrill's West side. Go for a walk and take a closer look at the shop windows. You might discover some newer (or older) businesses you didn't know existed and many that aren't mentioned in this article, because there are just too many great Merrill businesses to list!

Most small businesses offer the kind of personal attention big businesses can only dream of. The prices won't always be the cheapest, but the quality of their products isn't either. And you can't always put a price on supporting the community you call home.

Help keep your friends and neighbors employed and in business, and support the local economy, not just on Small Business Saturday, but throughout the year. Local small businesses give back when they support non-profits in the area with donations, fundraisers, and sponsorships. Giving them our business is one way we can thank them.

Money spent at local small businesses circulates again and again throughout the Merrill community, and that's a win-win for everyone.

Merrill Common Council Nov. 9 meeting highlights

BY DAVID JOHNSON
CITY OF MERRILL,
CITY ADMINISTRATOR



Dave Johnson.

The Merrill Common Council met on Nov. 9 in the Council Chamber in City Hall.

Among the items on the agenda was a request from Trinity Lutheran Church for a "drop-off" zone on Blaine St. to accommodate their new daycare center in the former Park City Credit Union Building that was recommended by the Board of Public Works. This item was approved.

In an effort to enhance recruiting and retention of city employees, the following vacation schedule was adopted: Accrued during 1 year of continuous service: 80 hours annually. Accrued during 5 years of continuous service: 120 hours annually. Accrued during 10 years of continuous service: 160 hours annually. Accrued during 15 years of continuous service: 208 hours annually. Newly hired employees will be credited with one week of vacation upon hire and any time used will be deducted from the first six months of accrual. The existing Sick Leave Policy was changed from not being able to utilize sick leave until after six months of continuous employment to Sick Leave may be utilized upon accrual. Leave time is a major factor today in recruiting and retaining employees, especially among younger employees.

A Longevity Pay Policy was approved that states: After five years of continuous employment each non-union employees shall receive an annual longevity payment of \$2.50 for each month worked back to their date of employment, to be paid out annually. Thus, for years 1-5 no longevity would be paid. Starting in year six employees would begin receiving \$150 for the 60

See COUNCIL page 11

Happy Thanksgiving

Whatever is beautiful,
Whatever is meaningful,
Whatever brings you happiness...
May it be yours this
Holiday Season
May you have a bountiful
Thanksgiving!

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NOVEMBER 25TH & 26TH
FOR THANKSGIVING

PET OF THE WEEK

Hi there! My name is Wasabi! I'm a very playful and friendly young man, and quite handsome if I do say so myself! I get along great with other cats, I love everybody I meet, I'll play with you for hours and nap for awhile too! I would love to be the newest addition to your family! I was brought to the shelter along with 6 other cats after our barn was destroyed by a tornado and we needed shelter for the upcoming winter. I love to hang out with my kitty friends and I would love to go to a home with friends! Come and meet us soon! Wasabi's Adoption fee will include his neuter, vaccinations and microchip.

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

At this time of Thanksgiving we pause to count our blessings.

The friendship and confidence you have shown in us.

Our best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving

Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce

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FOR THANKSGIVING
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Happy Thanksgiving

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Merrill Country Store

CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY

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M, Tu, W, & F: 7AM - 6PM • Sa: 8AM - 1PM

Aspirus provides details on COVID-19 vaccine requirements for employees

The Biden Administration on Nov. 4 announced the details of two policies to help fight COVID-19 by expanding vaccination requirements.

First, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is requiring employers with 100 or more employees to ensure that each of their workers is fully vaccinated or undergoes testing for COVID-19 on at least a weekly basis. This policy does not apply to Aspirus.

However, the second policy issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) does apply to Aspirus. It requires COVID-19 vaccinations for workers in most healthcare settings, including hospitals and health systems, that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Aspirus Health has been preparing for months for the CMS mandate and will comply, a press release from Aspirus said. Healthcare organizations that do not comply risk losing Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement from the

government.

“CMS is our licensing organization and we are obligated under this mandate to make sure that we continue with our conditions of participation,” said Aspirus SVP and Aspirus Wausau Hospital President Jeff Wicklander. “Also, to make sure that we create the safest environment for the patients in the communities that we serve.”

This means that Aspirus employees and medical staff members are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 by specific dates or receive a valid medical or religious exemption.

“Within the mandate, there are exemptions for religious as well as medical reasons. Those individuals will have required testing after an approved exemption,” Wicklander said.

Businesses impacted by the new OSHA rules will be required to ensure each of their workers is fully vaccinated or begins testing on a weekly basis by

See VACCINE page 17

Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

Ghostbusters: Afterlife

(now playing in theatres)

★★★★★

Rated PG-13 – for language and a jump scare or two

Growing up in the 80’s, I was lucky enough to see many classic films come to the screen, many of which Hollywood has tried to reboot for a new generation (and let’s be honest, a fat payday since they seem to be out of ideas over there on the west coast). That includes *Ghostbusters*. After the disaster that was the 2016 attempted reboot of that iconic film, I was sure we would never see the Ghostbusters back in action.

So when I found out they were going to take another stab at it, let’s say I was less than enthused. Delayed for almost 18 months, *Ghostbusters: Afterlife* hit cinema screens on Friday Nov. 19, and I am here to tell you they got it right.

Picking up 32 years af-



ter *Ghostbusters 2*, this third part ... yes, third part, continues the story following Dr. Egon Spengler’s grandchildren, specifically his granddaughter, Phoebe. Phoebe is a science prodigy, played perfectly by a real up-and-coming actress, McKenna Grace (*Young Sheldon*). Along for the ride with her, as she investigates strange goings on at her grandfather’s farm which her mother inherited, is her new friend, Podcast; her teacher, Mr. Grooberson, played by the always good Paul Rudd; and her older brother.

Ghostbusters: Afterlife does what the 2016 attempted reboot failed to do. It captures the magic of the first film. Borrowing heavily from that film’s writer and star, Harold Ramis, Jason Reitman (son of Ivan Reitman, the first film’s director) pulls off the impossible. He made a part three to the *Ghostbusters* franchise that did not make me want to gouge out my own eyes as the 2016 abomination did.

This is one the entire family can go see. The kids and teens will enjoy the comedy, action, and story, and we adults will view this film with a sense of nostalgia that few films manage to capture anymore. And I am here to tell you that when the *Ghostbusters* theme song started to play, every adult in the Cosmo Theatre smiled and bobbed their head along with that song we all remember and still love to sing along with. So the question is, when you head out to see this film, who you gonna call?

Ghostbusters!
Five out of five stars for this one, folks – for its ability to capture the magic we survivors of the 80’s remember all so well.



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Supervisors approve 2022 County budget, tax levy, district maps

BY JALEN MAKI
MMC STAFF

Lincoln County's 2022 budget and tax levy were approved by the County's Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Nov. 9.

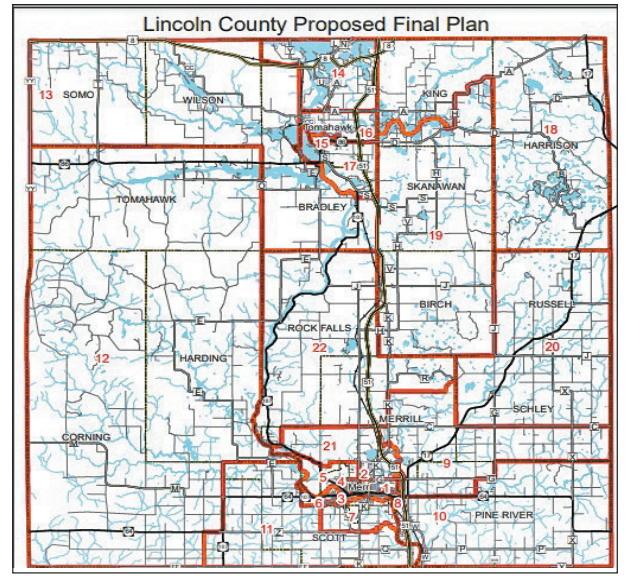
During its meeting in Merrill, the board also gave the green light to Lincoln County's redrawn Supervisory district maps. The redistricting process takes place every ten years, following the completion of the U.S. Census.

Budget, tax levy

County Finance Director Dan Leydet presented

Supervisors with a balanced 2022 budget proposal at the board's meeting last month. The finalized report was crafted by the County's Finance and Insurance Committee.

The committee was tasked with trimming roughly \$800,000.00 from the budget, a process that began this summer. By October, the budget shortfall was about \$190,000.00. After accounting for a projected increase in sales tax revenue, a change in a software package in the Informational Technology (IT) department, and a 1.5% cost of living increase for County employees, that



See **BUDGET** page 16

COUNCIL from page 9

months they have already worked and this would increase by \$2.50 for each subsequent month of employment on an annual basis. There had previously been a longevity pay policy that was rescinded years ago. These changes should make employment with the City more attractive to potential employees and assist in retaining existing employees.

A Public Hearing was held on the proposed 2022 budget for the City of Merrill. There were no questions or statements from the public during the public hearing.

Three ordinances were considered, the first being an ordinance amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-109(b) setting the Street & Weed Commissioner's annual salary at \$4,000, the Aldermanic salary at \$4,000 annually, and the Mayor's salary at \$25,000 annually. The Street & Weed Commissioner salary was approved at \$4,000 annually, as was the increase in the Mayor's salary to \$25,000. The increase in the Aldermanic salary to \$4,000 was voted down. The Second was an ordinance amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 80 to raise the additional compensation for the

Council President to \$500, this ordinance amendment was voted down. The third was an ordinance adopting the 2022 City of Merrill Budget and Establishing the Tax Levy for the Year 2021 with the Property Tax Levy set at \$5,831,281 and a total budget of \$14,109,866, excluding the Landfill, Water Utility, Sewer Utility and TIDs, this ordinance passed by a 5/4 vote with the Mayor breaking a tie vote. As part of the budget discussion a motion was made to remove \$100,000 from the Merrill Airport T-Hanger Project and passed. A motion was also made to utilize ARPA funds to purchase 70 acres of land adjacent to the City Forest and was passed.

A resolution was unanimously passed ratifying a labor contract between the City of Merrill and the Merrill Professional Police Association for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

A resolution was passed pertaining to the redistricting of Aldermanic Districts as a result of the 2020 Census and adopting the Ward Map. Although minimal, Merrill residents will find some changes in the boundaries and should check the map on the City website in order to determine if they will see a change in their Ward and where they vote.

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- 6 months prior customer service preferred
- Working knowledge of e-Bid and AS400 order systems a plus
- Window product knowledge required

Design Engineer - Medford or Merrill

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 \$18/Hour starting
 Excellent full benefits package
 Sign-on bonus

Scan to apply today!!

Great Northern Cabinetry
 Distinctive Cabinetry Since 1972

Or apply in person - 749 Kennedy St., Rib Lake
<https://greatnortherncabinetry.com/connect/careers>

Heating and Cooling 7246
 GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during power outages, so your home & family stay safe & comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-yr extended warranty \$695 value! Request a free quote today! Call for terms & conditions. 1-844-334-8353

The Generac PWRcell solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce reliance on grid, prepare for outages & power your home. Full installation services. \$0 down financing option. Request free no obligation quote. 1-855-270-3785

Snow Equipment 7252
NEW & USED SNOWBLOWERS STARTING AT \$150
 Large selection serviced by us and ready to blow!
North Central Power Equipment
 2803 Emery Dr., Wausau, just 1 mile north of Fleet Farm 715-370-3002

Tools and Equipment 7254
HUGE STOREWIDE LIQUIDATION SALE! We're retiring! Thriving business for sale. **WoodworkersDepot.com** M-Sat 8-4, Oneida St., off 41, right at Subway, 2965 Ramada Way, Green Bay 800-891-9003 (WCAN)

Guns 7264
CASH FOR GUNS
 Antique or Modern Rifles • Pistols • Shotguns
HIGHEST PRICES PAID
Also Buying:
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 Shooting & Hunting Accessories
715-614-3560
 Federally Licensed

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266
DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL?
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Classifieds Rock

715-536-7121

Wanted to Buy 7268
BUYING ANYTHING RARE AND UNUSUAL
 Soda and beer signs(Hamm's, Pabst, Blatz, Chief Oshkosh, Point, Marshfield, Rahr's, Kingsbury, Knapstein). Tap knobs, gas & oil signs, gas pumps & globes, Winchester guns, musical instruments, railroad lanterns & cast iron cookware.
 Call Dave 715-412-4944

WANTED! Old drum sets, snare drums, cymbals from the 1920s through 1970s. Also interested in pro level drum equipment and electronic drums from 1980s to present. Call 615-485-8611 or email me at: yourolddrumz@gmail.com

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, CO 80201

Cats 7270
Beautiful snowshoe Siamese kittens Beautiful snowshoe Siamese kittens, also Siamese/Manx cross kittens Ages and prices vary. call 715-421-3667,leave message OR email lehljgs@gmail for pix.

Dogs 7272
Australian Shepherd 3-F \$400 DOB 3/12. **Blue Heeler Cross Beagle** 1-F 3-M \$200 DOB 7/1 Call Benjamin Miller 715-754-2970

Blue Heeler/Australian Shepherd puppies. Shots, vet checked. Friendly and ready to go. \$150 715-316-2885, Loyal, WI

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS AKC Excel Temp Genetic Guarantee Parents OFA'd **715-537-5413 www.jerland.com #268001-DS (WCAN)**

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MINI GOLDEN DOODLE PUPS shots/wormed/dewes/vet ckd \$1000-\$1200 **715-223-6970 (269146)**

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Farm Equipment 7286
FARMI Logging Winch's, Valby PTO Chippers, Skidsteer wood splitters, Log Loader, Trailers, Grapple Rotators, rototillers **866-638-7885 threerivers-forestry.com (WCAN)**

Miscellaneous Agriculture 7290
2022 SPRING BEE PRE-ORDER www.bradsbeesandhoney.com 5 Frame NUC \$185 Single, Double & Pallets Available **Brad 262-749-0716 (WCAN)**

Hand Crafted Garden & Storage Sheds, Garages & Cabins. Many Styles and Options. Sizes from 8' x 8' up to 15' x 40' are available. **Call BAKER BARN, LLC 715-873-3338** 1 mile North of Gleason, Hwy 17

Apartments for Rent 7400
 2-bedroom upper apt. for rent. Quiet building w/heat & water incl. Coin-operated laundry machines. Pets considered. One carport included. 1-year lease, \$610/month. References required. Nice area, close to shopping. 715-551-1907

Vacation For Rent 7421
WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get FREE informational package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! FREE consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. **CALL 844-374-2565 (WCAN)**

Homes For Sale 7454
SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurance companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! **Call 877-694-9013! (M-F 8am-8pm CST) (WCAN)**

Motorcycles 7502
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Boats 7508
BATTERY MART
 3607 Schofield Ave. Schofield 715-359-9019
Free Testing & Installation! LOWEST PRICES
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Vehicles Wanted 7554
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Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. **Call 1-800-245-0398**

YOUR CAR, BOAT OR MOTORCYCLE helps Rawhide provide mental health services that redirect local Wisconsin youth & adults from harmful decisions. Donate Today! **888-653-2729 (WCAN)**

Auto Insurance 7558
FREE AUTO INSURANCE QUOTES See how much you can save! High risk SR22 driver policies available! **Call 844-841-5198 (WCAN)**

Parts and Accessories 7562
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THEME: LANGUAGES

ACROSS

1. Lacking imagination
6. Afflict
9. Bob of boxing world
13. From then on
14. Ornamental pond dweller
15. Not asleep
16. Cuzco valley people
17. Overnight lodging
18. 5th of 7 canonical hours
19. *Brothers Grimm language
21. *Language considered to have most words
23. Man's tasseled hat
24. Cross to bear
25. Retriever's word, for short
28. Person, place or thing
30. Like a bow or a racket
35. Pale beverage, pl.
37. It has multiple limbs
39. Mister in Madrid
40. Spare in a trunk
41. Manuscript changes
43. Romantic occurrence
44. Letter-shaped girder
46. Russian mountain range
47. Curved molding
48. HNO3 acid
50. Egyptian goddess of fertility
52. Rub the wrong way
53. CISC alternative
55. Cry of horror, in comics
57. *First language spoken in outer space
61. *Once considered the language of diplomacy
64. Like old cracker and acrobat have in common
67. Get ready to drive, on a golf course
69. It's often rewarded with a medal in military
70. Sturgeon yield
71. Backyards separator?
72. "That was close!"
73. "C'____ la vie!"
74. "Silas Marner" novelist

CROSSWORD

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DOWN

1. Pressure unit
2. A year in a trunk
3. It's sometimes enough
4. Cozy accessory
5. Unquestioning ones
6. Similar
7. H+, e.g.
8. Flax-derived fabric
9. Deserter's acronym
10. Indian princess
11. Luau instrument, pl.
12. Mosquito net, e.g.
15. Teenagers' emotions
20. Nitrogen, in the olden days
22. *Greek N, pl.
24. Relating to dreams
25. *"Veni, vidi, vici" language
26. "My wife can vouch for me", e.g.
27. Prince's "Raspberry"
29. *Pakistani language
31. Make over
32. Eel in a sushi restaurant
33. Annotator
34. *Hellenic language
36. Popular way to cook tuna
38. *Greek H, pl.
42. More like a fox
45. Quaggier
49. Langley, VA org.
51. Be full of anger
54. Rabbit trap
56. Land on patellas
57. Invitation acronym
58. One of Four Corners states
59. Price reduction
60. Snail-like
61. Guitar part
62. Ghana monetary unit
63. Designer Boss
66. Trigonometry abbr.
68. Favorite one

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- Carbon arc gouging, plasma cutting, and oxy-acetylene cutting
- Experience with MIG welding aluminum is a plus
- Experience repairing construction, farm, or similar equipment
- Read and follow mechanical drawings
- Ability to develop, layout, and plan sequence of operations
- Experience fabricating steel parts for manufacturing and repairs
- Other common tools: grinder, needle scaler, band saw, drill press, pressure washer
- Work safely by being alert and cautious at all times and being aware of surroundings
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively

Wage & Benefits:

- Competitive wage commensurate with experience
- Annual performance bonus
- Health, vision and disability insurance
- 3 weeks paid time off, 9 paid holidays
- Pensions: profit-sharing/401(k) plan with generous company contribution & defined benefit plan

Apply in-person at **Badger State Highway Equipment, Inc.**, 2520 Clermont St, Antigo, WI 54409, or call 715-627-2222 or email apply@antigoconstruction.com to request an Employment Application.

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Insurance 7308
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Health Care Services 7310
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BUDGET
from page 11
 number was whittled down to about \$130,000.00. The committee originally planned to utilize funds from the County's general fund to offset the remaining hole in the budget. However, due to several new County employees either not using the County's health insurance or utilizing single plans rather than family plans, only \$14,479.00 from the general fund was needed to account for the deficit. The decrease in project-

ed health insurance costs was "just luck," Leydet noted last month. In October, Leydet told the board that the County's increase in sales tax revenue and equalized valuation, combined with an increasing tax base, make for a good economic sign for Lincoln County. The County's mill rate will decrease 5% to an average of \$5.47 for towns and \$5.22 for cities due to the increase in equalized valuation, and the total tax levy will increase by \$119,653.00 (0.8%). The board voted unanimously, with abstentions

from District 1 Supervisor Bill Bialecki and District 3 Supervisor Elizabeth McCrank, to approve the 2022 County budget and tax levy. Bialecki said he abstained due to his position as director of the Lincoln County Economic Corporation, a private 301(c)(6) nonprofit organization that is partially funded by the County. Bialecki noted he has abstained from voting on the County's budgets "for the last several sessions at the recommendation of (former Corporation Counsel Nancy Bergstrom)."

McCrank said she abstained due to her salary being paid by through the budget as an employee of the T.B. Scott Library. **Supervisory district maps**
 The board approved the Lincoln County's tentative supervisory district plan on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Following the adoption of the tentative plan, each municipality in the County provided feedback regarding the boundaries and drew the wards that will be used for election purposes over the course of the next decade. During a public meeting regarding the maps, Board Chair Kevin Koth noted a few adjustments to the tentative plan that were made to account for changes in population. Koth said the tentative maps were at 10.35% deviation, which is the difference in population between the highest-populated district and the lowest-populated district relative to the ideal population in each district. In Lincoln County's case, the ideal population is 1,292 residents per district. With the adjustments, the maps have a deviation of 10.6%. Andrew Faust, Senior GIS Analyst with the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, told the board in September that courts have previously ruled that deviations of roughly 10% are constitutional. Later in the meeting, following the end of the public hearing and minimal discussion, the board voted to approve the maps. The maps can be viewed at www.bit.ly/3HqWed4. The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors' next meeting will be held in-person at the Lincoln County Service Center and virtually via Google Meets on Dec. 21, 2021. Links to virtual meetings can be found on the County's website at www.co.lincoln.wi.us/meetings.

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Ascension Episcopal Church welcomes Rev. Amy Heimerl as Vicar

The Rev. Amy Heimerl has accepted a call and started service as Vicar of Ascension Episcopal Church in Merrill on a part-time basis. Rev. Amy Heimerl is a 1990 graduate from Merrill High School. She earned a B.A. in Education from St. Norbert College, a special education degree from UW-Stevens Point, a health education degree from UW-LaCrosse, and a M.A. in Education from Viterbo University. She was an educator for 27 years and focused on working with students with emotional and behavioral struggles and who learn differently. She was instrumental in developing the Link Crew Program at MHS.



HEIMERL

Bishop Matt Gunter in 2021.

As a lay person, Amy served the church at the local, diocesan, and national levels. She has been senior warden, treasurer, worship leader, camp session director, and deputy to the Episcopal Church General Convention. She was one of the founders of a weekly youth ministry program at Ascension. Following many years of supply priests serving the congregation, Rev. Amy Heimerl becomes the first resident Vicar in Merrill in many decades. She also works as Chaplain at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake School. Amy is married to Eric and the mother of three children: McKenzie, Madeline, and Elijah.

Ascension Episcopal Church is a mission church of the Diocese of Fond du Lac in Merrill. First services were held in 1877, with a mission organized in 1882. It is a worship community of 54 baptized members with an average Sunday attendance of 20. Located in the heart of Merrill on the corner of 3rd and Pier Street, it has a deep-rooted history in giving thanks for serving the poor and needy in the community. The congregation worships at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. All are welcome.

On completing the diocesan Circles of Light discernment process in 2017, Amy started "reading for orders," the historic practice of a guided program of studies individualized to the needs and goals of a candidate for ordination. Despite a battle with breast cancer in 2019-2020, God made a way when there seemed to be no way. She was ordained deacon, then to the priesthood, by

Listen to your heart for a healthy, successful deer season

WAUSAU, Wis. – It's deer season once again, and the last thing you want to do is spend it in a doctor's office – or worse, the emergency department – because of heart problems.

The excitement of the hunt alone can increase your risk for heart attack, which is why Aspirus Heart Care Cardiologist Dr. John Yang, MD, recommends hunters consider the following precautions before

heading out into the woods:

Do not ignore the warning signs.

Whether you have pre-existing heart disease or not, it's important to know what your overall risk for heart attack is. Common warning signs – such as chest tightness, shortness of breath and lightheadedness – should never be ignored no matter how subtle. To be on the

safe side, consult your primary care physician.

"It's important to be cognizant of your risk factors and physical restrictions beforehand," Dr. Yang said. "We know how special this time of year is for the hunters in our community, so we want to make sure you head out with your best health in mind."

See SEASON page 19

VACCINE from page 10

Jan. 4, 2022. There are additional requirements in the rule related to reporting, record keeping and masking.

The CMS rule that applies to healthcare organizations across the country requires healthcare workers to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by Jan. 4, 2022, as well, with very limited exemptions.

As a part of those deadlines, the deadline to receive their first shot is Dec. 6, 2021, in order to facilitate full vaccination by the Jan. 4, 2022, date.

However, Aspirus has established an earlier deadline to allow time for the exemption process and ensure it can continue to serve the communities' healthcare needs with excellence and compassion, according to the Aspirus press release.

"Aspirus Health has had a robust COVID-19 vaccination, education and testing program in place for several months and has encouraged vaccination for its employees and community members since the vaccines became available. COVID-19 vaccinations and booster doses are widely available to Aspirus employees and community members," a Nov. 4 press release from Aspirus said.

"We are very much in support of the vaccination process regardless of what vaccine it is," Wicklander said. "We know that it has been very effective for preventing hospitalizations and even those who are hospitalized are less ill than those who are unvaccinated."

Vaccinations and booster doses are available through Aspirus. Appointments can be scheduled via the MyAspirus mobile app or the online patient portal at myaspirus.org. Appointments also can be made at Aspirus locations throughout Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula by calling 1.844.568.0707 or 715.843.1454.

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The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to thank the following donors for their support in October! Meghan Stevenson; Keith & Marni Harmon; Zachary

Wisniewski; Shan & Rebecca Breneman; Travis & Natalie Klug; Wilma Kidney; Working Dogs of North Central Wisconsin, Inc; Dwayne & Olivia Dachel; Nadine Appel; Cecil Ballou; Ruth James; Laurie Bergh; Tara Renteria; Anonymous; Robert & JoAnn Opsahl; Darlene Raunio; Scott & Kate Blaubach; Frontstream; Elaina Koschik; Pamela Welch; Janet Selnes; Dan Lara; The Benevity

Community Impact Fund; Network for Good (facebook); Ivy Catlin; Sharayah Lee; Tasha Wassink; Michelle Teeters; Amy Hameister; Peggy Bauman; Debra Seeger; Philip & Virginia Giese; Joy Anderson; Margo Pophal; Rick & Judith Lombard; and Jason Satterfield. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

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- 12 oz. hand wax sealed chunk of Colby Jack Cheese
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- 8 ounces of Pine River all natural cheese spread
- Top it all off with a mini Cow Pie Candy which consists of crunchy pecans and buttery caramel drenched in smooth milk chocolate.



Merrill's Wardall selected Academic All-District for UW-Whitewater Volleyball

WHITEWATER, Wis. – Morgan Wardall, a native of Merrill and member of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater volleyball team, was named first team Academic All-District by the College Sports Information Directors of America for the 2021 season.

Wardall, a middle hitter, is one of seven members of the District 6 first team, which includes student-athletes from schools in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. She carries a 3.90 grade point average and is majoring in communication with emphasis in public relations and a minor in general management.

Wardall helped the Warhawks finish the 2021 season with a 27-3 record, including a 6-1 mark in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, and reach the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Wardall garnered second team All-America and first team All-Region accolades from the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) and first team All-WIAC honors. She currently ranks among the top five in the WIAC in hitting percentage (.350) and blocks (82 / 0.85 per set). Wardall earned All-Tournament Team recognition at three different tournaments this season.

A recipient of numerous academic scholarships out of high school, Wardall is a three-year



Merrill's Morgan Wardall in action playing volleyball for UW-Whitewater.

Dane Sheehan, Michael McLoone photo.

member of the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll. She is a regular volunteer visitor at Fairhaven Senior Services.

Wardall is now eligible to be named to the Academic All-America team, which is scheduled to be announced in December.

To be eligible for the Academic All-District and All-America award, stu-

dent-athletes must carry a minimum 3.30 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale, must be starters or key reserves who have participated in at least 50 percent of the team's contests at the position listed on the nomination form, and must have completed one full calendar year at their current institution and been on a college roster in that sport for two years.



Left: Three Merrill Varsity Volleyball players made All Conference in the Wisconsin Valley Conference: (L to R) Senior Dani Korman - Honorable Mention; Senior Molly Dallman - Second Team All Conference; and Sophomore Avery Hoff - Second Team All Conference. Right: Molly Dallman was awarded the Most Valuable Player Award (left) and Chloe McRae received the Most Improved Player Award.

Submitted photos.



Merrill Varsity Volleyball Awards Night recognized many players who helped make the 2021 season so successful. L to R: Avery Hoff with Most Assists, Elexa Emmer with Best Blocker Award (51 blocks), Dani Korman was the Best Defensive Player and also had the Most Ace Serves, and Molly Dallman received the Best Hitter Award with 270 kills.

2021-2022 Merrill High School Winter Sports Schedule

Basketball Girls (Varsity, JV, & JV2)

Tues. Nov. 30 Waupaca (Varsity) Away 6:00 pm

Basketball Boys (Varsity, JV, & JV2)

Tues. Nov. 30 Lakeland Union (JV & JV2) Home 5:45 pm
 Tues. Nov. 30 Lakeland Union (Varsity) Home 7:15 pm
 Thurs. Dec. 2 Shawano (JV2) Away 5:40 pm
 Thurs. Dec. 2 Shawano (JV) Away 5:45 pm
 Thurs. Dec. 2 Shawano (Varsity) Away 7:00 pm

Ice Hockey Boys (Varsity & JV)

Tues. Nov. 30 Tomahawk (Varsity) Away 7:00 pm

Ice Hockey Girls (Varsity & JV)

Fri. Nov. 26 Multiple Schools (JV) Mosinee 11:00 am
 Fri. Nov. 26 Hayward Comm. (JV) Mosinee 12:45 pm
 Fri. Nov. 26 Multiple Schools (Varsity) Mosinee 2:30 am
 Fri. Nov. 26 Hayward Comm. (Varsity) Mosinee 4:30 pm
 Sat. Nov. 27 UW Milwaukee (JV) Mosinee 9:00 am
 Sat. Nov. 27 Multiple Schools (JV) Mosinee 10:45 am
 Sat. Nov. 27 Multiple Schools (Varsity) Mosinee 12:30 pm
 Sat. Nov. 27 UW Milwaukee (Varsity) Mosinee 2:30 pm

Wrestling Boys (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. Dec. 2 Wausau West (Varsity) Home 6:00 pm

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



PROTECTING THE GREATER GOOD



SEASON from page 17

Pack your medications and take them accordingly.

If you're heading to deer camp for an extended stay, pack enough medications and take them as prescribed. It's not advised to wash them down with anything other than what your health care provider recommends.

Seek help with hauling.

Hauling a deer is not easy. Combined with the excitement of your success, this can put you at even greater risk for heart attack. Have a buddy help you out or use an ATV to pull your prize back to camp.

Keep your emotions, and indulgences, in check.

For some, deer season brings on a rush of adrenaline, nervousness and certain

indulgences, and this can develop into atrial fibrillation (AFib). AFib is characterized by an unusually rapid and irregular heartbeat. This condition doesn't always have symptoms, but when it does, it can be serious and lead to heart failure.

"You might experience a racing, fluttering heart, anxiety, shortness of breath, lightheadedness or fainting," Dr. Yang said. "Each year we see at least two cases of heart attacks brought on by the excitement and physical exertion that goes along with deer season, so make sure you listen to what your heart and body are telling you."

Dr. Yang sees patients in Woodruff, Rhinelander, and Wausau. To make an appointment with Dr. Yang, call 800.441.4013 or request a referral from your primary care provider.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Molly Dallman, a Senior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Molly plays on the Merrill Girls Volleyball Team and was recently recognized as Best Hitter with 270 kills and Most Valuable Player. She was also Second Team All Conference in the Wisconsin Valley Conference. Molly started playing volleyball in fifth grade at St. John's Lutheran School, played in middle school, and beginning in eighth grade, played Sand Double Volleyball at Dale's Weston Lanes during the summer and played Club Volleyball through Medford Storm until this year and will now be a coach. She also played JV Basketball in her Freshman year.

At school, Molly belongs to Junior Optimists, Raise your Voice, Student Council, National Honor Society, LEAD, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Link Crew. She volunteers at her church, Luther Memorial, helping with the Harvest Dinner, Christmas decorating, and handing out bulletins at services. She also works at St. Johns Daycare and coaches Junior Jays Volleyball.

The daughter of Tony and Becky Dallman of Merrill, Molly has a 4.0 GPA and plans to attend college after graduation to pursue a career as an elementary school social worker.

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Athletes highlighted in this feature are selected by the Foto News editorial staff, not by the sponsors. Please direct comments or suggestions to fotonews@mmlocal.com

HONOR ROLLS

Trinity Lutheran School announces 2021-2022 first quarter Honor Roll

- 8TH GRADE**
 Olivia Barker (4.0)
 Hannah Bostrom
 Eli Burtman
 Noah Klug (4.0)
 Ava Scantlin
 Jazlin Severt (4.0)
 Dino Townsend
 Cooper Wendorf (4.0)

- 7TH GRADE**
 Abbie Krueger (4.0)
 Alexis Schneider
 Avery Brendemuehl
 Caleb Thompson
 Grace Hoff
 Ivan Lee
 Kinsey Literski
 Lily Hoff
 Miley Krueger (4.0)
 Morgan Weinke
 Remington Skic

- 6TH GRADE**
 Kendell Klug
 Kylie Lutzke (4.0)
 Rachel Gustafson

- 5TH GRADE**
 Madee Barker
 Willow Harmon
 Kayla Klimek (4.0)
 Aubrey Krombolz
 TyLynn Osness
 Evelyn Reinhardt
 Aubrey Renzelmann
 Jillian Severt
 Emmie Steinagel

St. John Lutheran School announces 2021-2022 first quarter Honor Roll

- HIGHEST HONORS - 4.0**
 Keeley Benedict - 8th Grade
 Elia Boehm-Wendt - 5th Grade
 Addelyn Ineichen - 6th Grade
 Lilyann Kufahl - 8th Grade
 Siobhan Schuetze - 6th Grade
 Evan Voigt - 6th Grade

- HIGH HONORS - 3.76 - 3.99**
 Izabella Erickson - 6th Grade
 Tavin Heidemann - 6th Grade
 Lola Klug - 5th Grade
 Alexis Kropp - 8th Grade

- HONORS 3.5 - 3.75**
 Samantha Catlin - 8th Grade
 Emilie English - 7th Grade
 Logan Klug - 5th Grade

- Tyler Scott - 6th Grade
 Joanna Szeto - 5th Grade
 Max Westover - 6th Grade
 Rye Wilson - 6th Grade

CAMPUS BRIEFS

UW-La Crosse announces summer 2021 graduates

The following area students earned degrees at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in August:

- Sarah Gessler of Merrill graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Therapeutic Recreation
- Mitchell Jaeger of Merrill graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health and Community Health Education, with Honors

UW-La Crosse, founded in 1909, is one of the 13 four-year institutions in the University of Wisconsin System. UWL has more than 10,400 full and part-time students enrolled in 101 undergraduate, 28 graduate, and two doctoral academic programs.



Kendra Petrowski was awarded a scholarship from the Gleason Area Lions Club. Here Kendra receives the scholarship from District Governor, Judy Hatz, and Club President, Chuck McCrory.

Submitted photo.



Mason Johnson was awarded a scholarship from the Gleason Area Lions Club. Here he receives the scholarship from past President, Ron Behm, and current President, Chuck McCrory.

Submitted photo.

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