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Gathering to celebrate the life of "one of the good ones"

Officers, family, friends, and community gather to honor MPD Officer Riley Kurtz

TINA L. SCOTT
 EDITOR

When Officer Riley Kurtz died from medical complications associated with pulmonary blastomycosis on Jan. 3, 2022, at the age of 24, his family, fellow officers at the Merrill Police Department and Kronenwetter Police Department, friends, and the community were in shock. In the words of Officer Joshua McCaskill to those gathered in attendance outside the funeral home that evening, after a multi-jurisdictional procession had escorted Officer Kurtz's body from Aspirus Wausau to Merrill, "He was one of the good ones. You all know what I mean."

The Merrill Police Department Officers began watch over Riley when he was brought back to Merrill and continued until Thursday, Jan. 5, "when we knew cremation rites would be accorded the following week," Merrill Police Chief Corey Bennett said. "At that point it became too much to ask our people to staff the continuous watch until the following Tuesday (Jan. 11) when he was transported to Wausau. For a number of reasons,

See **KURTZ** page 2



Tim and Danielle Kurtz, the parents of Officer Riley Kurtz, after accepting the flag from Merrill Police Chief Corey Bennett. **Tina L. Scott photo.**

Fire at Blue Haven Stables property destroys single rental unit

TINA L. SCOTT
 EDITOR

On Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, at around 9:20 p.m., Lincoln County Dispatch received a report of a fire at N437 Blue Haven Lane in the Town of Scott, on the Blue Haven Stables property. The farm there consists of a barn/stables, a number of outbuildings, and a tack shop, along with six rental units, and an apartment where owners, Wayne and Sharon Jahnke, reside, set on about 60 acres on the south side of the road plus another 50-60 acres on the north side of the road.

The Merrill Fire Department (MFD) responded. "Upon arrival, crews had fire coming out of windows on one of the outbuildings which was an apartment," a press release from MFD Chief Josh Klug said. This particular building was central to many of the other

buildings, so ensuring the fire didn't spread, in addition to putting it out, was critical.

There are two apartments in the building that caught fire, an upper unit and a lower unit. The MFD reports the fire was confined to the one structure, and a family member confirmed the fire was contained to the lower unit. "The downstairs is totally burnt out. It's awful," Sharon Jahnke said. And, significant smoke damage to the upper unit displaced all the building's occupants.

"I'm just glad Chris got out. He just barely got out," Sharon said. Chris Jahnke, Sharon and Wayne's son, was occupying the unit where the fire started. Sharon, Wayne, and Chris had all come home early from playing cards, around 8:30 p.m. "If we had come home any later than that ..." Sharon feared the outcome could have

See **FIRE** page 15



The interior of the lower apartment in one of the rental units at the Blue Haven Stables property is completely destroyed in a Jan. 13, 2022, fire. **Submitted photo.**

2022 Snowmobile Torch Ride brings Badger State Winter Games torch through Merrill

TINA L. SCOTT
 EDITOR

The Annual Badger State Winter Games (BSWG) kicked off their 33rd year with the 2022 Snowmobile Torch Ride that started on Thursday, Jan. 13, at the Trailmates Snowmobile Club in Wausau. The Torch Ride passed through Merrill and made a stop at about 10:00 a.m. that day at DuWayne Kreager Insurance Center, one of the sponsors of the Ride. Continuing on, it made stops at checkpoints in Tomahawk,

See **TOUR** page 10



The Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce came out to greet the Badger State Games Torch Tour on its stop at DuWayne Kreager Insurance in Merrill on Jan. 13, 2022.

Photo courtesy of Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce.

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KURTZ
from page 1

we still gave Officers the option to continue the watch, when and if they could fill it. Between our Officers and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Deputies, they refused to allow it to go unfilled. They continued the watch until Tuesday morning, Jan. 11, when Riley was transported to Wausau. Several agencies assisted with that escort, as well." The stand-by watch shifts varied from two to four hours per person or sometimes more.

A celebration of life was held for Riley Kurtz on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022, at the Merrill High School Field House with a visitation beforehand.

The Wisconsin Honor Guard Association played a huge role in planning the services. Law enforcement agencies provided an Officer stationed on urn watch during the visitation, comprised of multiple agencies including the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, Merrill Police Department, Kronenwetter Police Department, and others. Officers rotated the watch every 15 minutes until just before the service.

The Rev. Mike Southcombe from St. Stephens UCC officiated at the celebration of life. "... Our meager tongues cannot even begin to give



Wisconsin Honor Guard members conclude the final watch over Officer Riley Kurtz's urn just prior to the service.
Tina L. Scott photos.

voice to the pain that we feel," he said. "Riley's life was real. The joy he lived and the joy he shared were real. And the despair and grief at his death makes all of us realize what a gift he was to all of us and what a gift every moment of life is for all of us."

"It will take a mighty God to carry us through what we do today. ... so we turn to hear God's word of hope ... it is this hope alone that can drive away our despair and even move us to offer God praise."

Sharing scripture and Christian song to offer comfort, Riley's service honored his life, but more than that, it offered encouragement to all those he loved and who loved him, and to all those honoring him with their presence. In the words of a song played at his service, "Til You Can't" by Cody Johnson: "Don't wait on tomorrow, cause tomorrow may not show ... If you've got a chance, take it, take it while you got the chance. If you got a dream, chase it, cause a dream won't chase you back. If you're gonna love somebody, hold 'em as long and as close as you can, til you can't."

Smiley Riley lived his life to the fullest in the short time that he had, and he would be the first to encourage others to live their life to the fullest and not waste a minute.

From the eulogies given by Riley's Chief, Corey Bennett, and his partner, Officer Joshua McCaskill, to the words spoken by Pastor Southcombe, this was a common theme throughout the service.

Chief Bennett said Riley's professional future "was just beginning, and it was certainly bright."



A Merrill Police Officer stands watch beside the urn of fellow Officer Riley Kurtz as hundreds of mourners file through to share condolences with Riley's parents, sister, and girlfriend.



Merrill Police Chief Corey Bennett presents the flag to Riley's family.

He spoke of a young man with an amazing personality, a love for everything outdoors, a man of integrity and conviction, calling, all at the same time," he said. "We were quickly reminded to live and find happiness in living, something Riley was able to do flawlessly in his 24 years. Although he was only given those 24 years to live, people would argue it would take most of us two lifetimes to accomplish half of what he did. There was no need for a bucket

Officer Joshua McCaskill eulogized an amazing young man whose life was cut too short. "We are all sad, hurt, angry, and healing, all at the same time," he said. "We were quickly reminded to live and find happiness in living, something Riley was able to do flawlessly in his 24 years. Although he was only given those 24 years to live, people would argue it would take most of us two lifetimes to accomplish half of what he did. There was no need for a bucket



An Officer from the Merrill Police Department and a Deputy from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department in the final procession. Officer Joshua McCaskill holds the urn holding the remains of his partner, Officer Riley Kurtz.

Pet of the Week

Torres is a handsome guy looking for a home. He is about 4 years old and very cuddly with people. **Torres** likes some other dogs but he does not like cats. **Torres'** adoption includes his neuter, rabies vaccine, distemper combo & bordetella vaccines, and the microchip with registration.

Visit all the adoptable animals at Lincoln County Humane Society, 310 N. Memorial Dr., in Merrill. Hours: Mon-Sat 12-4PM; Sun 12-2PM. Call the shelter at 715-536-3459, or visit us on the web at www.furrypets.com.

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WHO'S THIS ADORABLE LITTLE GIRL?
IT'S
"SHANNAH RENEE MOOTZ"

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Happy Birthday Honey.
We love you,
Love Mommy and James.

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Pork & Bacon Breakfast Sausage Links Frozen 8 oz. ONLY 79¢	Sliced Ham Frozen 24 oz. ONLY \$2.39	Smoked Provolone Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.69 a lb.
Pork Loin Fillets Lemon Garlic or Mesquite BBQ Frozen ONLY 99¢ a lb.	Assorted Deli Style Hams 6 lbs. ONLY 99¢ a lb.	Take 5 Mini Candy Bars ONLY \$1.49 a lb.
Chicken Breast Fillets Breaded-Uncooked-Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$3.99 each	Hashbrown Sticks Frozen 35 oz. ONLY 49¢ each	Mini Crunch Candy Bars ONLY \$1.49 a lb.
Mac & Cheese w/Beef Brisket Meal Frozen 10.5 oz. ONLY 89¢	Sliced Chicken Rotisserie Style Frozen 7 oz. ONLY 25¢ each	Frosted Flakes Sprouted Cereal 12 oz. ONLY 79¢
Sliced Bacon - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY \$1.99 (LIMIT 5 PER CUSTOMER)	Rib Strip Shaped Pork Patties Fully Cooked - Frozen ONLY 69¢ a lb.	Mac & Cheese Cups 10/2.05 oz. ONLY \$2.99 a case
Pork Chops - Ends & Pieces - Seasoned-Frozen 10 lb. bulk box ONLY \$7.90 a case	Cornish Hens Assorted Parts 30 lbs. ONLY \$9.75 a case	Mountain Dew Voodoo Soda 12/12 oz. ONLY \$1.99

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Kurt Haebig Circulation Manager	Jennifer Gartmann Sales Consultant jgartmann@mmlocal.com	
Sue Schroeder Graphic Designer		

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list for him. He just knew how to live. ... People just loved being around him. ... you knew he was special. ... Riley truly had a servant's heart."

He concluded: "To my good friend and partner, rest assured you will live on forever in all of us as we honor you by becoming a little more like you. Love you, kid. God bless."

"We honor Riley and we worship Christ simply by living gratefully for every second of our lives ..." Rev. Southcombe said. "God calls each one of us to serve, to point to God's love and glory through what we do. ... If you truly want to fill the void left by his passing, find your vocation, and you will find the joy that he brought into life. ... Learn that much from Riley. ... The death of one so young reminds us that life is short and every moment counts. With Riley, we do not need to dwell on his death for that, because his life was an example of joyful living. Let his life be what inspires us, as our faith can be what comforts us."

"For whatever work God has called and equipped you, find your joy in it ..." he said.

The Wisconsin Honor Guard Association provided full Law Enforcement Honors and ceremonies outdoors to conclude the service. Jon Shea was the piper for the recessional, law enforcement and emergency services personnel from throughout the Merrill and central Wisconsin community stood at attention, Chief Corey Bennett presented Riley's parents with the flag, a lone helicopter fly-



Uniformed Merrill Police Officers process in, two-by-two, to pay their last respects to their brother in blue.



Honor Guard and officers stand ready to honor Officer Riley Kurtz during closing ceremonies at his celebration of life on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022.

over by Life Link III helicopter was conducted [an honor previously only part of a line-of-duty death ceremony but now included for active duty deaths], and Officer Riley Kurtz's end of watch was called.

"Merrill Police Officer Riley B. Kurtz, Badge number 162, has answered his final call. His end of watch was Monday, January 3rd, 2022. ... Rest in peace, brother."

NOTICE OF MEETING

The **Annual Meeting** of the Owners of Lots, Niches or Crypts at **Merrill Memorial Park Inc.**, will be held at the **cemetery office** at **6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 24th, 2022** for the transaction of any and all business that may properly come before the meeting.

Merrill Memorial Park, Inc
Robert Schneider (Secretary)

Merrill Area United Way

United Way



GIVE • ADVOCATE • VOLUNTEER

January 2022
Merrill Area United Way
Dee Olsen, Executive Director

One Hundred years from now, Merrill will look quite different. It will not matter what kind of house you lived in, how much money you had, what clothes you wore, how you styled your hair, pierced your body, or tattooed yourself. But what will matter is the role of how human dignity and kindness to mankind is perpetuated. The world, and Merrill, may be a little better because you made a difference in the lives of other people. Whether you are a child, a member of the armed services, a parent, a grandparent, a civil worker, a politician, or a pastor; what you do toward and for people will make all the difference in the world to that person. That, in part, is why United Way exists. To help our agencies help people. To provide an avenue for the public to get involved and voluntarily help others, whether through services or financial support. Isn't it exciting to know you, yes you, can make a huge difference in another person's life? Just make sure it is a positive difference, NOT negative.

The Merrill Area United Way is preparing for yet another wonderful year, and so we announce that we are celebrating our 75TH ANNIVERSARY in 2022. This United Way was officially established on October 27th of 1947. I was not even born yet, and that is probably true of most people reading this article. Even back then people had a vision that Merrill could and would be a better place by pooling dollars and supporting groups servicing those people in need. Trust me, the needs were greater back then as people struggled coming out of the economic woes of post-World War II. United Way has come a long way since those early days. At that time it was run solely by a Board of Directors and it stayed that way into the mid 1960's. Then they hired a person for only a small number of hours a month to take care of the book work. Eventually they hired a part-time Executive Director to facilitate organization operation. At current times, we still operate with only the part-time Executive Director. Through all that, the Merrill Area United Way has gotten stronger each year, both in services and financially.

As 2022 gets underway, watch for our 75th Anniversary messages brought to you by our local media partners. We hope to highlight many of the agencies we have supported through the years. We will provide messages from our former and current Executive Directors. We will have a heightened presence in the community in 2022. Plus, we will have a United Way Day as a community celebration in October of 2022; so please watch for details on this.

We invite the public to attend our Annual Meeting which is open to the public. The Annual Meeting is on Monday, February 7, 2022, and will start at 5:15 p.m. It is being held in the lower level at Incredible Bank, 3210 East Main Street, Merrill. The entry for the meeting is through the door on the East side of the building. At that meeting will be the election of the new members and officers for the year 2022. The old Board and new Board leadership will transition. The MAUW Annual Report will be presented with a brief overview of 2021. Please contact United Way if you have any questions.

Although our 2021-2022 annual campaign has concluded, we would remind everyone that we accept donations all-year round. These funds cover many services to people throughout the year. It is never too late to give. Mail donations to our P O Box 813, Merrill, WI 54452. **All donated dollars stay local.** United Way cares and is driven to make a positive difference in the Merrill area. Our website is www.merrillareaunderway.org where Pay Pal donations can also be made. For further information email us at Delores.Olsen@merrillareaunderway.org; or call our part-time office at 715-536-2016.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Meaning of a life

DEAR READER,

What does one life mean? At the end of the day, does meaning come from worldly accomplishments? Amassing power? Attaining a position? Achieving glory? Piling up money? Collecting medals and honors? What does one life mean?

I would say no to all of the above. Meaning comes from bonds with family, from healthy friendships, from love.

We walk through our time on earth and possibly achieve some of the more worldly accomplishments... or possibly not. That doesn't matter. What matters is the greatest accomplishment of all: Peace with all around us, and ultimately peace of mind.

These thoughts are only to start the dialogue.

PATRICK J. WOOD
PUBLISHER

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



Prayer to St. Jude:
May the Sacred heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude helper of the helpless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day on the 8th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude.

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ZACH KLIMEK
BRICKNER'S PARK CITY, INC

Zach is a YA student working at **Brickner's Park City, Inc.**

"I always liked working on engines. Since I like that type of work, Mrs. Murray suggested I apply for a position at Brickner's. My favorite part of the job is when I get pulled out of the oil change lane and am asked to help out in the shop and use my skills doing other things."

Zach plans on attending NTC and get his degree as an automotive technician.

Bryce is a YA student working at **Geiss Meat Service, Inc.**

"I enjoy having various responsibilities and working with different supervisors. That allows me to use all of my talents. It will help me in my future endeavors."

Bryce plans on pursuing an apprenticeship as a heavy equipment operator.



BRYCE BROWN
GEISS MEAT SERVICE, INC.

Gaven is a YA student working at **Agra Industries, Inc.**

"YA has helped me acquire good work experiences. I really enjoy putting things together so when I got hired at Agra, I was able to use my skills welding and fabricating."

Gaven plans on attending UW-Stout and majoring in mechanical engineering.



GAVEN REINDL
AGRA INDUSTRIES, INC.



To find out how your business can get involved in the YA program contact Merrill High School YA Coordinator. Linda.murray@mapsedu.org

Support for this project was provided through the Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Grant.

OBITUARIES



Salma Cloella Baumann, age 93, passed away peacefully at Rennes Health & Rehab on Sunday, January 9, 2022. Salma, the daughter of Otto and Bertha (Plank) Pfantz, was born on July 3, 1928, at home in the town of Merrill, Wisconsin. She was baptized September 16, 1928, by the pastor serving Trinity Lutheran Church Dutch Corners. She was confirmed in the Christian Faith in April of 1943 at Trinity Lutheran Church Dutch Corners.

Salma married Lawrence Baumann on June 9, 1956. The Lord blessed them with 7 children. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church Dutch Corners and Lutheran Memorial Church, Gleason WI. Salma farmed her entire life, raising her children on a dairy farm. Salma's greatest blessings were her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and her many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She enjoyed cutting boughs, berry picking, embroidery, and baking. Every summer, Salma made 100+ apple pies that she gave away to family, friends, and church bake sales.

Salma is preceded in death by her Parents: Otto and Bertha Pfantz; Husband: Lawrence Baumann; son: Ricky John; Six brothers: Paul, Erich, Carl, Roscoe, Ernest, and Floyd Pfantz; and three sisters: Sophie Henderson, Alvira Younker and Amelia Lutzke.

Survivors include: Her children: Paulette (Loren) Stepan of Kansas; Anthony (Roxanne) Baumann; Terry (Debbie) Baumann; Kelvin (Tammy) Baumann; Beverly (Scott) Ashby; Jesse (Jessica) Baumann, all of Merrill. Eleven Grandchildren: Aaron, Christopher, Dustin, Casey, Katelyn, Geoffrey, Garrett, Rochelle, Caleb, Eric, and Gideon; Twelve Great-Grandchildren: Aurora; Carter; Cordon, Reece, Cora, Ashtynn, Peyton, Jordan, Naomi, Colton, Brennan and Adalee; and sister-in-law: Lucille Pfantz of Wausau.

The funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM, Saturday, January 22, 2022, at Lutheran Memorial Church, Gleason WI. A visitation will be held from 10:00 AM until the time of service also at the church. Pastor Greg Laska will preside. Visitation will be from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM Friday, January 21, 2022, at Waid Funeral & Cremation Service of Merrill. Internment to take place at Trinity Lutheran Dutch Corners Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Lutheran Memorial Church, Gleason, WI.

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



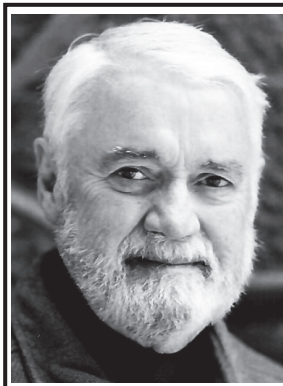
Joyce Eleanor (Anderson) Procknow, age 91, of Tomahawk, WI, passed away peacefully, with a smile on her face, on January 11, 2022. Joyce was cared for by her surviving children, grandchildren, and the wonderful staff at Compassus Hospice and Home Health; along with Sammie, her personal caregiver, friend, and treat-getter, among the many other "hats" that she wore. Joyce was born in Madison, WI, to the late Adolph and Amelia (Johnson)

Bangs. She married Arlan Orville Anderson in 1951 after which they raised their four children together. Arlan preceded her in death in April 1979 along with two of her daughters, Sharon Rae Westra (Duan) in March of 2008, and Laurel Jean Daigle (Jack) in January of 2008. Joyce's second husband, Joseph Procknow, also preceded her in death in November of 2006.

Joyce grew up her daddy's little "tomboy" and loved to deer hunt and shoot rats with her Luger at the dump with him. She was also a "Flag Day baby" and very proud of Our Flag and country. She was also a strong supporter of the American Legion. There are so many things that Joyce "loved" to do but we would say that her greatest love and commitment was to her family. She was a strong advocate for them all and God help you should you mess with any of them. She followed them to their sporting events and cheered the loudest, kept abreast of all achievements and momentous life events, worried about them in sickness and health, and most of all, fed them whether they were hungry or not. Bottom line, you were going to eat while in her home and in her presence. Her cards, letters, and stories told, always made us laugh and go "oh grandma" upon which she would crack up laughing. Best part is that she also could laugh at herself. Her greatest joy was when she could shock us all and make us blush. Her presence is so greatly missed but we will continue to tell her stories and reminisce about the moments that made us wonder "what the hell???" and laugh so hard we cried. We love you so much mom, Grandma Joyce! We will miss you dearly.

Survivors include Joyce's son, Gary (fiancé Connie) Anderson, of Tomahawk, WI; her daughter, Karin (Dan) Lemke, of Statham GA; Joyce's grandchildren, Bill (Kristie) Anderson, Michelle (Ryan) Gerard, Jaime (Clint) Neff, Christi (Jeff) Alvord, Tanya Daigle, Dustin Daigle, Meghan (Jory) Puyear, and Cody (Lisa) Lemke. She is further survived by 10 great-grandchildren (with one more on the way), and one great-grandson, along with many extended family members, and Joseph Procknow's daughter, Linda Olson, and grandson, Christopher.

A celebration of life gathering will be held for Joyce early this summer. Generations Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family. You may view Joyce's obituary and leave online condolences at generationsfuneral.com.



Michael 'Mike' L. Perry, a.k.a. 'Griz', age 75, passed away on Monday, January 10, 2022, at his home in Merrill, surrounded by his loving family and under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services. He was born on October 14, 1946, to Wilburn and Bernice Perry. Mike graduated from Merrill High School in 1965 and looked forward to keeping in touch with his classmates. He met Jan Kelly, and the two were married on December 26,

1985. She survives.

In 1985, Mike joined the Labor Union Local 1359 out of Wausau. He joined the Insulators Asbestos Workers Local 127 out of Green Bay and worked at various job sites throughout the Midwest. Mike retired in 2008, then went to work in the service department for Stark Automotive until they closed. He also worked occasionally for Waid Funeral Home as a driver. Mike was an avid sports fan, and liked all the Wisconsin teams, along with the Merrill High School sports. Mike loved to volunteer and often worked many tournaments and ball games that his children participated in. He enjoyed volunteering at St. Francis Catholic Church delivering fish fries. He also liked to volunteer at Wausau Manor, being Santa during the holidays, helping with activities, and caring for their garden. Mike was a member of the evening Lions Club of Merrill. You may have seen him frying shrimp and french fries at the fair stand.

In later years, Mike went to Arizona to follow the Brewer's spring training, also attending many Brewers games in Milwaukee with friends Mike and Pat and staying at the Jon and Michelle Bed & Breakfast. He was a shareholder with the Appleton Timber Rattlers.

Mike was a likeable and funny person that could be found watching his favorite western, Gunsmoke. He also enjoyed canning pickles, salsa, and sauerkraut. Mike was dependable and would always follow through with whatever he set out to do.

He will be missed deeply by many friends and family, near and far. Mike had a huge heart and was always willing to help anyone who needed it. His personality and smart wit will live on through everyone who was lucky enough to meet him.

Mike is survived by his wife, Jan Perry of Merrill, daughters: Shelly Perry of Monroe, WI, with son Jackson and Mollie (Jon) Stencil of Merrill, son: Christopher 'Bubba' (Briah) Perry of Hamburg with their kids: Jace and Sylvia, mother: Bernice Perry of Wausau, brother: Randy Perry of Wausau, sister: Toni Hoffman of Merrill, aunt: Mary Kelly of Tinley Park, IL, along with sister-in-law: Lynn Kelly (Don Genrich) of Hatley, WI, brother-in-laws: Bruce (Mary Ann) Kelly of West Bend, WI and Jim (Amy) Kelly of Green Bay and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his father: Wilburn Perry, sister: Shari Guenther, father and mother-in-law: John and Dolores Kelly, sister-in-law: Linda Perry, brother-in-law: Alan Kelly and niece Missy Guenther.

The memorial liturgy for Mike will be held on Sunday, January 23, 2022, at 4pm at Waid Funeral Home in Merrill. Deacon Jim Arndt will officiate. Visitation will take place on Sunday, January 23, 2022, from 12pm until the time of the liturgy, also at the funeral home. A private inurnment will take place at Merrill Memorial Park at a later date.

Mike's family wishes to extend their thanks and appreciation to the Aspirus Cancer Center in Wausau, along with Dr. Peterson and Dr. Platta, for their support and care shown to Mike and his family.

In memory of Mike, please wear Wisconsin sports team apparel; we all know Mike would love that! The family would also appreciate if you wore a mask while attending the event.

The liturgy will be live streamed and available for viewing on January 23, 2022, at 4pm and will be under his obituary on the funeral home website. It will then be posted for future viewing.

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

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In Memoriams

In Loving Memory of
JOHN DOE
Apr. 9, 1954-Aug. 6, 2014

It's hard to believe it's been 2 years already since you left us. We think of you every day.

Love & Miss You
Jane, Sue & Bob

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

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WAID FUNERAL HOME
301 Eagle Drive • Merrill, WI 54452-3714
Phone: (715) 536-4646 • Website: www.WaidFuneral.com



Kristine A. Anderson, age 67, of Irma passed away, Tuesday January 11, 2022, at her home under the care of her family and Compassus Hospice Services.

Kristine was born on February 22, 1954, in Merrill, to the late Adolph and Ann (Robl) Johnson. She graduated from Merrill Senior High School in 1972. Kristine married Gilbert Anderson on June 17, 1972, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Irma. He survives.

Kristine worked at Wire Products, Allen Wood Products, Helping Hands, Avon, and her Craft shop. She enjoyed spending time with her husband, children, grandchildren, family and friends and her dogs. Her hobbies were art, history, horses, gardening, singing, camping, fishing, canning, and collecting angels and solar figures.

Kristine is survived by her husband, Gilbert Anderson of Irma; her children, Jessica Buchanan of Tomahawk, John Anderson of North Carolina, James Anderson of Tomahawk, and Jennifer Anderson of Tomahawk; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and sister, Teresa Moore of Florida. Kristine was preceded in death by her parents, Adolph and Ann Johnson; sisters, Yvonne Treptow and Dawn Hahn; and brother, Stephen Johnson.

The funeral service will be held at 11:00 A.M. Friday, January 21, 2022, at Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill. Pastor Steve Tiffany will officiate. Burial will follow in Bethany Cemetery, Town of Birch, Lincoln County. Visitation will begin at 9:00 A.M. on Friday at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

MERRILL Foto News

921 E. Main St., Merrill
715-536-7121

OBITUARIES



Max Bächli, age 85, passed away on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at the Marshfield Medical Center, Marshfield, WI. He was born on October 3, 1936 to the late Robert and Martha (Meier) Bächli in Rafz, Switzerland.

Max grew up on a small farm with his brothers and sisters and had his first job operating heavy equipment at 15 years old. He also had earned a two-year degree in agriculture and was in the Swiss Army Infantry.



In 1964, Max responded to an ad in his local Swiss paper for farm hands wanted in Merrill, WI and made his journey to the United States, not knowing a word of English, teaching himself with a translating dictionary.

In mid-1965, Max began working for Wilbert Storm Gravel Crushing, working for two years when he broke his knee. Max had bartended for money and was working at Green's Hotel - Larry's Bar, when he met the love of his life, Sally Paul. He told her that night "I'm going to marry you." Three weeks later they were engaged and three months later were married on January 11, 1969, and in April 1969 he became a United States Citizen.

Max got his pilots license in 1967 and bought an Ercoupe 415-C plane, always saying one of the biggest regrets was selling it. He loved to fly.

Max was a heavy equipment operator working for Bassuener and Michels Pipeline, retiring at 62 and a member of Operating Engineers Local 139 for 55 years. Later he worked for Kodak, shutting down finishing labs, going to Hawaii twice.

Max loved traveling, making several trips to Laughlin, Nevada and up until the pandemic he would travel home to see his family twice a year.

He looked forward to the annual air and car shows and could always be found in his reserved seat at Arnie Lange's Auctions.

Max also enjoyed gardening, priding himself on his 14-foot-tall tomato plants, saying his secret is using the b.s. from boys at the coffee shop for fertilizer.

Max loved hunting season and spending good times and lots of laughs with his nephew Greg Duginski and family at the shack. Paul Harvey even had a segment about Max after shooting his four-wheeler during hunting season. Mr. Harvey didn't mention that he did shoot the deer, and that was the rest of the story.

He was musically inclined and could yodel, sing, play the piano, and harmonica, and loved playing his German polka music.

Max was always tinkering on something and was skilled at fixing mostly anything. He was always there to extend a helping hand and had a generous soul. You could always count on him to make a funny joke or two and had an amazing sense of humor.

Special thanks to Marshfield Hospital in Marshfield, Woodland Court in Merrill, Bedrock Nursing Home in Abbotsford and MLD Auto Repair in Merrill.

Max was preceded in death by his parents, brother Robert, sister Alice, Wife Sally Bächli and dear friend Roy Schulz. He is survived by his daughter Sabrina Bächli of Merrill, WI; grandchildren Christian and Colton Bächli of Merrill, WI; great grandchildren Sebastian Hendrix and Oaklyn Rain; sisters Margaret, Matilda, and Heidi of Switzerland; brother Arthur of Switzerland; dear friend Fritz Hilfiker of Merrill, WI and many nieces and nephews here and abroad.

The funeral service for Max was held on Friday, January 14, 2022 at 11:00 am at Waid Funeral Home. A visitation was held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Waid Funeral Home and on Friday, January 14, 2022 from 10:00 am until the time of service also at the funeral home. Interment at Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery.

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.



Alan Charles Johnson age 67, of Merrill, passed away on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. Alan was born on December 9th 1954 to Joyce and the late Alvin Johnson.

Al was a helicopter mechanic in the army during the Vietnam era. He used the hands God gave him to fix and build things, which brought him to making a career as a hardwood flooring specialist. Alan had a true love for nature, spending most of his time outdoors hunting, fishing and camping. He had a compassionate heart and was always willing to help someone in need. Al was an early riser with great work ethics, a true motivation to all.

Alan is survived by his mother Joyce Johnson (Ken Sturm), his love, friend and companion Sherry Matsche. His daughter Jennifer Johnson (Tiger) and his grandchildren, Devoun, Breanna, Dezmon, Shyla and Evette. Great grandchildren Dezireah and Lukah. His one sis Alice, brothers, Tom (Sue), Tim, Stan (Pat), Dan (Tammy), several beloved nieces, nephews, uncles, aunts, and cousins. His fur companions are cat Dexter, and dog Smokey.

John J. Buettgen Funeral Home assisted with cremation. A celebration of life for Alan will be held at a later date



Keith Leslie Cottrell, 87, of Merrill, WI and Aurora, IL died on January 4, 2022, at Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill.

Keith was born in Irma, Wisconsin, on Dec. 3rd, 1934, the son of Florence and Arba (Barney) Cottrell. He graduated from Merrill High School, and later earned degrees from Aurora University and Governors State University. He served in the Wisconsin

National Guard and Army Reserves as a Specialist, 4th Class 1960 - 1962. He was married several times, notably to Joan Ruth Hotchkiss-Cottrell (married 1966 - 1972) and Claudia Cottrell (1991 until her death January 2nd, 2018). He lived for many years in northern Illinois, including several homes in Aurora, most recently from 1989 until 2021. He worked as a social worker and as an alcoholism and addiction counselor. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, gardening, baking, and watching old Westerns. He held a small plane pilot license, and loved to fly, often accompanied by his best friend, Aubrey Pratt.

He is survived by his children and their partners: Linda Cottrell and Roy Grutchfield of Norway, and Keith David and Nicole Cottrell of West Bend, WI; his stepchildren and their partners: Heidi and Michael Buckley of North Aurora, Eric and Mary Hendershott of Downers Grove, and Jason and Amy Hendershott of Yorkville; ten grandchildren: Kiara Cottrell and Blake Grutchfield, Payton Wentworth and Lily Belle Cottrell, Benjamin and Paige Buckley, Ryan and Tyler Hendershott, and Ava and Luke Hendershott; his siblings: Dorothy Frohn and Alson Cottrell; and numerous nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, cousins, and other family who loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, his sister, Fern Likhite, his brother-in-law, Vinay Likhite, his sister-in-law, Joy Cottrell, his nephew, Keith Vinay Likhite, his niece, Tanya Smyth, and his best friend, Aubrey Pratt.

A memorial service will be held later in the year. In lieu of flowers, his family requests that donations be made in his memory to a charity of your choice.

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

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com



Greyson James Lawrie was born to Cheyenne Wiesman and Keegan Lawrie on January 7, 2022 at 1:45am.

Although Greyson's life was short, he was greatly loved by many and will be forever missed.

He is survived by his parents Cheyenne Wiesman and Keegan Lawrie, his grandparents Jamie Haring (Dennis Curtis), Kenny (Chrissie) Wiesman, Missy (Kevin) Zajackowski, Mike (Heather) Schultz as well as many aunts,

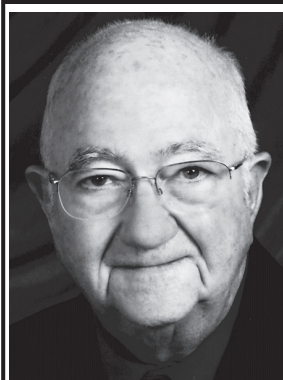
uncles, cousins, and great grandparents. Greyson is preceded in death by his uncle Keaton Wiesman, aunt Kendel Wiesman as well as many cousins and grandparents.

Private services to be held. 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



Blanche Pawelka, Milwaukee, age 96 died peacefully at Pine Crest Nursing Home on Saturday, Jan 8, 2022. Born on January 19, 1925 in Hurley, WI to the late Alex and Caterina Brignoli of Bergamo, Italy. Beloved wife of the late Peter Pawelka. Loving mother of the late Richard Pawelka, Marsha (late Charles) Phelps and Mark Pawelka. Dear grandmother of Kristin (Grant) McLean and Nicholas (Heather) Phelps. Great-grand-mother of Elizabeth and James McLean and Aurelia and Reegan Phelps. Sister of the late Josephine Brignoli, late Amandeo Brignoli, late Amelia Reinerio and Marion (Diane) Brignoli. Further survived by nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, January 13, 2022 at St. John The Evangelist Catholic Church, Greenfield, WI. Interment Highland Memorial Park. Special thank you to Pine Crest for the many years of loving care.



Donald E. Howard, age 92, of Wausau passed away on Thursday, January 6, 2022 with his family by his side. He will be deeply missed.

Donald was born on August 28, 1929 in the Town of Maine to the late Harry and Lillian (Lemke) Howard. He graduated from Wausau East High School in 1947 and went on to earn his BA from Valparaiso University in 1951. He then enlisted in the United States

Marines and served his country during the Korean War. Upon his return from Korea he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Beilke on October 2, 1954 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Wausau. Don worked as a CPA until his retirement at age 87. He began his career as member of general accounting firm and he later become partner and owner of Krause, Howard, & Company. Don and Mary Ann enjoyed traveling together and with their children. They visited all 50 States, Canada, and Mexico, during summer "car trips." They were also able to visit Australia and extensively toured Europe. Don had a number of hobbies, including woodworking, square dancing, puzzles and playing cards. He enjoyed the outdoors and could often be found fishing or boating. He was an active member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, American Legion Post 10, VFW, Town of Texas Lions Club, Wausau Elks Club, and the Wisconsin Society of CPAs. His pride and joy were his grandkids and he loved being a part of their lives however he could.

Don is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Mary Ann Howard of Wausau; daughter Sheila Misso (Gary Robertson) of Rochester, MN and two granddaughters Christina and Angela; son Daniel (Karen) Howard of Charlotte, NC and two grandsons Matthew and Jonathan; brother Dale Howard of Illinois; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Besides his parents, Donald is preceded in death by his brother Harry Howard Jr and sisters-in-law Martha Howard and Mary Ann Howard.

Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 pm on Friday, January 21, 2022 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 930 Edgewood Rd, Wausau. The Rev. Kemp Jones will officiate. Burial will be at Pine Grove Cemetery. Visitation will take place from 11:00 am until the time of service at the church on Friday. Masks will be required.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

The family would like to thank Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice for their care and compassion.

Helke Funeral Home is assisting the family. Online condolences may be given at www.helke.com



Alan "Al" C. Johnson, Age 67 of Merrill passed away on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Al, you are with Dad and our guardian angels. We love and miss you. Johnson Family

VISIT US ONLINE

WEBSITE:
merrillfotonews.com

FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/merrill.fotonews

MERRILL Foto News

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO THE EDITOR:

Most Americans want to get politicians out of the business of drawing partisan electoral maps. The Freedom to Vote Act (FTVA), which is pending in Congress, outlaws partisan gerrymandering in congressional elections. Because, state legislatures that draw congressional districts, including ours, don't care about fair maps, a federal law forbidding gerrymandering is necessary.

The FTVA also eliminates other election abuses that have been in the news. If enacted the FTVA would limit voter roll purging and require purged voters to be notified within 48 hours; makes Election Day a holiday; shortens wait times at polling places; requires that, post-election audits have clear rules; and institutes other voting protections nationally that are already the law in Wisconsin.

The FTVA reduces the influence of money in politics. It requires organizations that spend over \$10,000 in elections to disclose their donors; increases transparency so voters know who is paying for political advertisement; and strengthens oversight rules to ensure those who break the law are held accountable.

These are things we all agree are necessary for a healthy democracy. But a handful of powerful politicians are blocking this bill so they can maintain their power. That's unfair and unAmerican. We can fix this. Please contact Senators Baldwin and Johnson and tell them to pass the Freedom to Vote Act.

- Donald Dunphy
Merrill, Wis.

Taylor & Stine

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www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

MERRILL AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR CHILDREN WHO RESIDE IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Merrill Area Public School District offers students a variety of educational options to children who reside in the District. We are focused on student achievement, community partnership and future success for all students. Merrill Area Public Schools is focused on meeting the individual needs of students and preparing them for life after graduation.

The District's primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade, leading to a high school diploma.

The District's schools, and each school's most recent state-assigned performance category (if available), are listed below:

Elementary Schools (grades Headstart, 4K* - 4):	Middle Schools (grades 5 - 8):	High Schools (grades 9 - 12):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pine River School for Young Learners* Kate Goodrich Elementary School Washington Elementary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prairie River Middle School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merrill High School
District-affiliated (instrumentality) charter schools:	District-affiliated (instrumentality) virtual charter schools:	District Alternative Schools:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridges Virtual Academy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridges Virtual Academy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merrill Adult Diploma Academy GEDO2 Northern Achievement Center

* Note: The District offers its 4K program at one or more community-based locations other than the elementary school(s) that are listed above.

Some of the specific education programs offered to eligible students who are enrolled in and attending the District's schools include the following:

- Early childhood special education (for students who are at least 3 years old but not yet school-age), ie Headstart.
- Special education for students with disabilities (ages 3-21)
- English language learner/bilingual-bi-cultural education
- Gifted and talented education
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs
- Work Based Learning Options - Certified Co-ops, Employability Skills, and Youth Apprenticeship
- Individualized program and curriculum modifications
- Alternative education program(s)
- At-risk education (e.g., for students identified as being at-risk of not graduating from high school)
- Summer school programming

The full version of the District's most recent school and school district accountability report, as issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction under section 115.385 of the state statutes, can be accessed at: <https://apps2.dpi.wi.gov/reportcards/>.

Educational options for students who are enrolled in the Merrill Area Public School District that involve part-time attendance at an educational institution other than a school of the Merrill Area Public School District include the following:

1. The **Start College Now** and **Early College Credit Programs**, which:
 - a. provide opportunities to apply for approval to take courses at certain institutions of higher education; and,
 - b. is available only to students who are enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade.

Additional educational options for children who reside in the District that involve full-time enrollment/attendance at a school, program, or other educational institution that is not a school or instrumentality of the Merrill Area Public School District include the following:

1. High school students meeting certain age and other eligibility requirements may be permitted to attend a technical college or certain other programs for the purpose of completing a program leading to the student's high school graduation or to a high school equivalency diploma.
2. Full-time Open Enrollment involving physical attendance in a public school of a nonresident school district or attendance through a virtual charter school that is associated with a nonresident school district.
3. Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, a child with a disability who meets the program's specific eligibility requirements may apply to attend an eligible, participating private school under a scholarship awarded through the state's "Special Needs Scholarship Program," as established under section 115.7915 of the state statutes.
4. Enrollment in a non-instrumentality public charter school that was authorized by the School Board of the Merrill Area Public School District. The following charter schools are located within the District's boundaries and each school's most recent state-assigned performance category is provided, if available:
 - o No non-instrumentality public charter schools have been approved by the School Board of the Merrill Area Public School District as of the 2021-22 school year.
5. Enrollment in an independent public charter school (i.e., a school with no District authorization or affiliation) that is open to students who are District residents. The following independent charter schools are located within the District's boundaries and each school's most recent state-assigned performance category is provided, if available:
 - o No independent public charter schools are operating within the Merrill Area Public School District's boundaries as of the 2021-22 school year.
6. Enrollment in a private school participating in the Wisconsin parental choice program. The following participating private schools are located within the District's boundaries and each school's most recent state-assigned performance category is provided, if available:
 - o Trinity Lutheran School
7. Enrollment in a private school of the family's choosing (at the family's own cost, as applicable).
8. Enrollment in a home-based private educational program as provided under state law.

Educational options for children who reside in the Merrill Area Public School District but who are enrolled in and attending a private school or home-based private educational program include the following:

1. Such students have the opportunity to attend summer school classes/programs offered in the District.
2. Private school students in the high school grades have the opportunity to apply for approval to take up two courses per semester in a District school, pursuant to section 118.145(4) of the state statutes.
3. Students who are enrolled in a home-based private educational program have the opportunity to:
 - o Apply for approval to take up two courses per semester in public schools as provided under section 118.53.
 - o Participate in District interscholastic athletics and other District extracurricular activities as provided under section 118.133.

For more information about any of the educational options listed in this notice, please contact the District's main administrative office at 715-536-4581 or the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Published January 20, 2022

WNAXLP

116422

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals 7700

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: 01-06-22
/s/ Robert Russell, Circuit Judge
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Notice and Order for
Name Change Hearing
Case No. 22-CV-3

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME
CHANGE OF
Elizabeth Jane Wiesneski

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Elizabeth Jane Wiesneski
To: Elizabeth Meier Peterson
Birth Certificate: Elizabeth Jane Meier

IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.
Judge's Name: Honorable Robert Russell
Place: Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452
Date: 2-22-22
Time: 3:45 PM

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Foto News, a newspaper published in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.
Published Jan. 13, 20 & 27, 2022
WNAXLP

Legals 7700

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: December 23, 2021
Electronically signed by
Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Amended Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 2021 IN 53

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Rose Marie Plautz
Deceased

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth March 15, 1936 and date of death December 4, 2021, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1500 O'Day St. Merrill, WI 54452.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 4-22-2022.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
Bryan A. Plautz
W4962 Hillside Drive, Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-8717
Published Jan. 6, 13 & 20, 2022
WNAXLP

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: January 14, 2022
Electronically signed by
Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No 2022IN00002
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Legals 7700

John Herman Renken Jr.
D.O.D. 12/08/2021
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. The application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth May 12, 1934 and date of death December 8, 2021, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of WI, with a mailing address of 714 S State St #2, Merrill, WI 54452.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 04-29-2022.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main Street, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
Published: Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 2022
WNAXLP

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

AN ORDINANCE: City Plan Commission
Re: Amending the District Zoning Map of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin for property located at 105 N Ohio Street.
ORDINANCE NO. 2022-01
Introduced: January 11, 2022
1st Reading: January 11, 2022
2nd Reading: January 11, 2022
3rd Reading: January 11, 2022
Committee/Commission Action:

AN ORDINANCE

The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:
Section 1. The District Zoning Map of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin is hereby amended by changing the zoning of the following described property at 105 N Ohio Street in the City of Merrill from Residential to Thoroughfare Commercial, said parcels more particularly described as follows:
Lots 3 & 4 Blk 11 JM Smith & Co Third Add'n, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

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: January 11, 2022
Approved: Derek Woelner, Mayor
Attest: Katherine Unertl, Deputy City Clerk
Published Jan. 20, 2022
WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022
Regular Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers 6:00 P.M.
1. Call to Order - Mayor Woelner called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

CITY OF MERRILL

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, February 1, 2022**, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1004 East First Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the following proposed matter, to wit;

- 1.) Albert Reinke, AFR Holdings, requesting a Conditional Use per M.M.C. Sec. 113-97 through 113-106 for the development of storage buildings at 705 S Center Avenue (formerly Stark Automotive) within the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. Pin# 251-3106-132-0056, 251-3106-132-0057.

Anyone having any questions regarding the hearing should contact Zoning Administrator, Darin Pagel at 715-536-4880.

Dated: January 17, 2022

CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN
By: _____
Katherine Unertl,
Deputy City Clerk

Published January 20 & 27, 2022

WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL

1004 EAST FIRST STREET, MERRILL, WI 54452

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 2022 SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

All persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard at a public hearing to be held by and before the Board of Public Works of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, commencing at 6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, February 23rd, 2022, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the following proposed matter, to wit:

1. Sidewalk inspection pursuant to sidewalk inspection program. Sidewalk maintenance area is generally city wide as needed:
 - a) Isolated sidewalk repairs requested or needed
 - b) Driveway approaches requested or needed
 - c) Curb and gutter requested or needed
 - d) New sidewalk extensions as requested and/or approved by Board of Public Works
2. Reconstruction of Michler Crest involving:
 - a) Replacement and upgrade of existing sanitary sewer and water main
 - b) Curb and gutter and pavement replacement
3. Reconstruction of a portion of Smith Street involving:
 - a) Curb and gutter and pavement placement
4. Paving of Alley, the 200 block of N Center Ave, East of Center Ave between E Second Street and E Third Street involving:
 - a) Grading existing alley
 - b) Asphalt paving
- B. Said public improvements shall include, where appropriate:
 1. The grading of said street
 2. The surfacing of said street with asphalt
 3. The installation of curb and gutter on said street
 4. The installation, removal or replacement of driveway and curb and gutter on said street
 5. The installation of water main and water laterals on said street
 6. The installation of sanitary sewer and sewer laterals on said street
 7. The necessary landscaping on said street
 8. All improvements shall be completed to plans and specifications prepared or approved by the Public Works Director and recorded in the office of the Public Works Director/City Engineer

Any person desiring a transcript of the proceedings must obtain at their expense.

If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Director/City Engineer, Rod Akey at 715-536-5594.

Dated: January 14th, 2022

CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN

BY: _____
Katherine Unertl
Deputy Clerk

Published January 20, 2022

WNAXLP

110993

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals 7700

Paul Russell – First District, Present - Remote
 Steve Hass – Second District, Present
 Rick Blake – Third District, Present
 Steve Osness – Fourth District, Present
 John M. VanLieshout – Fifth District, Present
 Mike Rick – Sixth District, Present
 Mark Weix – Seventh District, Present
 Steve Sabatke – Eighth District, Present
 Derek Woellner – Mayor, Present
 2. Innovation was provided by Pastor William Hohman, New Testament Church
 3. Pledge of Allegiance
 4. Roll Call
 5. Public Comment Period - None
 6. Minutes of previous Common Council meeting – December 14, 2021
 Motion (Hass/Russell) to approve. Carried.
 7. Revenue & Expense Reports for period ending December 31, 2021 will be provided with the February Council agenda packet
 8. Employee Years of Service Recognition – Sarah Maerz (T.B. Scott Free Library) – 10 Years
 City Attorney Hayden read a certificate of recognition for Sarah Maerz.
 9. Placing Committee Reports on File: Consider placing the following committee reports on file: Airport Commission, Board of Public Works, City Plan Commission, Marketing & Communications Committee, Redevelopment Authority, Transit Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals.
 Motion (VanLieshout/Hass) to place on file. Carried. Russell requested minutes from Merrill Area Housing Authority (MAHA) be provided for future Council agenda packets.
 10. Ordinances:
 1. An Ordinance amending the District Zoning Map of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin for property located at 105 N. Ohio Street (Ordinance #2022-01)
 City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading by title only, followed by a synopsis.
 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 third reading by title only.
 Motion (Sabatke/Hass) to adopt the ordinance. Carried on 8-0 roll call vote.
 11. Resolutions:
 1. A Resolution approving a Conditional Use Permit for temporary housing at 1303 W. Main St. (former Fire Station) – (Resolution #2715).
 WHEREAS, Agra Industries has requested a conditional use permit pursuant to the Merrill Zoning Code Chapter 113, Article IV, Section 113-100 for sleeping facilities on the following described property: Riverview Add'n lots 3-4-5-6 Blk 2 Ex S 100' of Lts 5 & 6 Thereof, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, Commonly known as 1303 W Main Street herein referred to as the "Premises"; and,
 WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission scheduled a hearing on the application on January 4, 2022, 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, Chapter 113, Article IV, Section 113-100 and has recommended approval of said application;
 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 11th day of January, 2022, that a conditional use permit shall be issued to Agra Industries for the purpose of temporary housing on the aforesaid described premises. This Conditional Use Permit shall allow the new and existing buildings to be accessed from the existing Right of Way.
 Motion (Sabatke/Hass) to approve. Carried.
 12. Mayor's Communications – None.
 13. Adjournment – Motion (Sabatke/Rick) to adjourn. Carried at 6:15 P.M.
 Published Jan. 20, 2022
 WNAXLP

1. A Resolution approving a Conditional Use Permit for temporary housing at 1303 W. Main St. (former Fire Station) – (Resolution #2715).
 WHEREAS, Agra Industries has requested a conditional use permit pursuant to the Merrill Zoning Code Chapter 113, Article IV, Section 113-100 for sleeping facilities on the following described property: Riverview Add'n lots 3-4-5-6 Blk 2 Ex S 100' of Lts 5 & 6 Thereof, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, Commonly known as 1303 W Main Street herein referred to as the "Premises"; and,
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 Motion (Sabatke/Hass) to approve. Carried.
 12. Mayor's Communications – None.
 13. Adjournment – Motion (Sabatke/Rick) to adjourn. Carried at 6:15 P.M.
 Published Jan. 20, 2022
 WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT NOTICE OF BID

The City of Merrill Maintenance Department will accept bids for the following equipment at the Merrill City Clerk's Office, 1004 East First Street, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452, until 3:00 p.m. on Thursday January 27th, 2022. Bid specifications may be obtained from the Maintenance Director at (715)-722-1127 or can be found on the City of Merrill website <http://www.ci.merrill.wi.us>.
 One (1) 3/4 Ton Regular Cab Truck
 The City of Merrill reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept any bid they deem advantageous to the City of Merrill.
 Nick Wszalek
 City of Merrill Maintenance Director
 Published Jan. 13 & 20, 2022
 WNAXLP

DATE SIGNED: January 11, 2022
 Electronically signed by
 Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
 Case No. 2022 IN 01

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GENE LARRY VOIGT
 DOD 10/29/2021
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
 1. An application for informal administration was filed.
 2. The decedent, with date of birth 08/24/1940 and date of death 10/29/2021, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 905 Madison St., Merrill, WI 54452.
 3. All interested persons waived notice.
 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is April 22, 2022.
 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
 James Wedemeyer
 204 N. Van Rensselaer St.

Legals 7700

Merrill, WI 54452
 (715) 536-8135 Bar Number 1004552
 Published Jan. 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 2022
 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
 CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 Case No. 21-CV-41
 COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION,
 Plaintiff,
 v.
 JOHN J. BERGMAN
 A/K/A JOHN JAY BERGMAN,
 WEST BEND MUTUAL INSURANCE
 COMPANY,
 RICHARD ALBERT RAUCHLE,
 INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE,
 Defendants.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on August 13, 2021 in the amount of \$151,689.80 the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as follows:
TIME: February 21, 2022 at 10:00 am
TERMS: Pursuant to said judgment, 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the Lincoln County Clerk of Courts. (Personal checks cannot and will not be accepted). The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the clerk of courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation for the sale or else the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff. The property is sold 'as is' and subject to all liens and encumbrances.
PLACE: Lincoln County Courthouse, Main Entrance,
 1110 East Main Street, City of Merrill and Lincoln County
DESCRIPTION: Real property in the Town of Schley, County of Lincoln, State of Wisconsin, and is described as follows:

PARCEL 1
 Lot One (1) of Certified Survey Map No. 372, dated August 18, 1982, recorded August 19, 1982, in Volume 2 of Certified Surveys, Page 130, Document No. 269999 being a part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4 SW 1/4), Section Four (4), Township Thirty-two (32) North, Range Eight (8) East, Town of Schley, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.
 Property Address: N4514 Town Hall Rd, Gleason, WI 54435
PARCEL 2
 The West One-half (W 1/2) of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4 SW 1/4) of Section Four (4), Township Thirty-two (32) North, Range Eight (8) East, Town of Schley, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, EXCEPT Lot One (1) of Certified Survey Map No. 372, dated August 18, 1982, recorded August 19, 1982, in Volume 2 of Certified Surveys, Page 130, Document No. 269999.
 Property Address: 0 Heineman Rd, Gleason, WI 54435
PARCEL 3
 The East One-half (E 1/2) of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4 SW 1/4) of Section Four (4), Township Thirty-two (32) North, Range Eight (8) East, Town of Schley, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.
 Property Address: 0 Heineman Rd, Gleason, WI 54435
PARCEL 4
 The Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE 1/4 SW 1/4) of Section Four (4), Township Thirty-two (32) North, Range Eight (8) East, Town of Schley, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.
 EXCEPT that parcel of land described in Volume 616 of Records, page 752 as Document No. 368056.
 Property Address: 0 Heineman Rd, Gleason, WI 54435

Legals 7700

PARCEL 5
 That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE 1/4 SW 1/4) of Section Four (4), Township Thirty-two (32) North, Range Eight (8) East, Town of Schley, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, described as follows:
 Commencing at the intersection of the East boundary line of said quarter quarter section and the North boundary line of Heineman Road; thence West along the North boundary line of Heineman Road a distance of 488.4 feet to the point of beginning; thence East along the North boundary line of Heineman Road to the East boundary line of said quarter quarter section, a distance of 488.4 feet; thence North along the East boundary line of said quarter quarter section, a distance of 462 feet; thence West on a line parallel to the North boundary line of Heineman Road, a distance of 422.4 feet; thence Southwesterly a distance of 468.6 feet to the point of beginning on the North boundary line of Heineman Road.
 Property Address: W1498 Heineman Rd, Gleason, WI 54435
PROPERTY ADDRESS: N4514 Town Hall Rd, Gleason, WI 54435
 DATED: January 3, 2022
 Attorneys for Plaintiff
 839 N. Jefferson Street, Suite 200
 Milwaukee, WI 53202
 414-271-5400
 Galanis, Pollack, Jacobs & Johnson, S.C. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt. Published Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 and Feb. 3 & 10, 2022
 WNAXLP

TIME TO PLACE AN AD?

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715-536-7121
EMAIL:
fotonewsads@mmclocal.com
ADDRESS:
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Merrill, WI
WEBSITE:
merrillfotonews.com
FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/merrill.fotonews

MERRILL Foto News

MERRILL FOTO NEWS
Student of the Week

This Week's Featured Student is
Alayna Bartz
 Daughter of
Jacob & Amanda Bartz
 Alayna is in 1st Grade at New Testament Church Christian Academy. She was nominated by Mrs. Hohman.

What is your favorite subject in school? Why?
 Math is my favorite subject in school. I like to add and subtract.

What is your favorite part of school? Why?
 My favorite part of school is learning because we do fun things.

What would you like to do/become someday? Why?
 I want to be a ballerina when I grow up, because I love to dance.

Alayna always does her work with an excellence. She is always pleasant to be around. She is a very big helper in class. Alayna gets along with all her classmates. She enjoys learning new things.
 - Mrs. Hohman

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 750 ML Roscato Rosso Dolce..... **\$7.99**

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 Crystal Farms, 20 oz. String Cheese..... **\$6.99**
 Borden's, 64 oz. Lactose Free Milk..... **\$2.99**

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 Select Variety, 13-14 oz. Honey Bunches of Oats..... **\$2.99**

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Pep's, 12" Draffhaus Pizza..... **\$6.99**
 Blue Bunny, 46-48 oz. Ice Cream..... **2/\$7.00**

DELI

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Meet our Crime Stoppers Board Members

President: Ken Neff

Ken was born and raised in Minocqua into a law enforcement family. His father was the Police Chief in Minocqua and his brother served as an officer there as well. Ken and his wife Lori moved to Merrill in 1982 when he began his law enforcement career with the Merrill Police Department. Ken served in a variety of roles including: Patrol Officer, Patrol Lieutenant, Captain, and then retired in 2017 as the Chief. During his career with MPD Ken was involved in many crime prevention activities within the police department, and especially enjoyed serving the youth of the Merrill community as a DARE Officer and as the first School Resource Officer in the MAPS district. Ken was also involved in community organizations including the Merrill Optimist Club, and now serves on the board of directors in the Merrill Lions Club. The law enforcement family tradition has been passed on to Ken's son Ryan, currently serving as a Patrol Lieutenant with Appleton Police Department. Ken joined the Crime Stoppers board upon retirement from the police department and in his spare time, works at the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce. Ken's outside interests include deer hunting, turkey hunting, making maple syrup, and spending time with family and friends, especially grandkids, up in the north woods.

Board member: Jack Kasper

Born in New London, WI and raised in Bear Creek, WI. Graduate of Clintonville High School. Received Bachelors degree from UW Steven's Point and Master's degree from UW Oshkosh. Moved to Merrill in 1966 and enjoyed 30 years at Merrill High School as a teacher, school

counselor and coach. My wife, Joyce, and I have two daughters and two grandsons and they all reside in Merrill.

Board member: Nancy Stadler

Nancy was born & raised in Merrill. She is a graduate of Merrill High School. Since 1994 Nancy has worked for BMO Harris Bank, N.A., formerly M&I Bank. She enjoys being involved in non profit organizations like Lincoln County Crime Stoppers to help serve her community. She is also a board member for the Merrill Noon Optimist Club & an Ambassador for the Merrill Chamber of Commerce.

Board Member: Kathy Rankin

Kathy is a native of the Tomahawk Wisconsin area. She has been with Tomahawk Community Bank for the past 44 years, currently serving as its President. Her passion is community service and has been involved in many community organizations throughout the years.

Board Member: Don Dunphy

Don was born in Green Bay and is a lifelong Wisconsin resident. He was raised in the Fox Valley community of Wrightstown. Upon graduation from high school in 1969 Don enlisted in the Marine Corps and served 2 years including, a tour of duty in Vietnam. After military service Don enrolled at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and graduated with a B.S. in History. After working in construction for several years and 2 years as a Youth Counselor at Ethan Allen School Don enrolled at Marquette University Law School in 1983. Don graduated from Marquette in 1986 and began practicing law in the private sector. In 1991 Don joined the Lincoln County Corporation Counsel's Office in Merrill. Don became Lincoln County's District

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Attorney in January 2005 and retired from that position in January 2017. Don continues to live in Merrill and remains active in the community.

Board Member: Thomas Burg

Tom was born in Cincinnati and raised at nearby Greenhills, OH. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Wilmington College, Wilmington, OH and a Master of Science degree from the University of Idaho. He pursued a career as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, retiring in 1999 after almost 32 years of service, the last 22 as a Senior Resident Agent at the Wausau FBI office. In retirement he served for three years (2001-2004) as Security Advisor for the United States Figure Skating Association and has been author, editor and/or publisher of a number of books on railroad history. He and his wife Patricia have resided in Merrill since 1979 and have one daughter, a graduate of Merrill High School.

Board Member: Joseph E. Von Hirsch

Joe was born in Chicago; from age one to age six he and his brother lived with their grandparents in Europe. After returning to the US, they resided west of Chicago. Joe attended DeVry University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree. He worked for United Parcel Service for fourteen years, beginning loading trucks and ended as Lead Programmer/Analyst for the North Central Region (Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana). Joe moved to Merrill to join Mitchell Metal Products, where he is IT/IS Manager. Joe and his wife Brenda have four children and a grandchild.

Board member: Kevin J. Blake

Kevin was born and raised in Merrill. Graduated from Merrill High School in 1988, Graduated from Carthage College in 1992. Married to wife Christina in 1995 with 2 children Casandra and Kobe. After college worked in various roles in the Technology field throughout North Central Wisconsin. In 2012 became a Realtor and affiliated with First Weber, Inc. When he is not assisting people with buying or selling real estate,

Kevin enjoys spending time outdoors, fishing, hunting, and coaching youth sports. He is serving on various local boards and committees such as Crime Stoppers, Merrill Silver M, and Merrill Baseball Association. He was also elected in 2014 to the Merrill Area Public Schools Board of Education, which he currently serves as Board President.

Board member: Jeni Hinz

Jeni was raised in Tomahawk and is a graduate of Tomahawk High School. She holds an Associate Degree as a Legal Assistant and Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Cardinal Stritch College. Moving to Merrill in 1986, she worked as a Legal Assistant for 8 years. She has been employed for 18 years by Edward Jones. She is also a board member of Never Forgotten Honor Flight.

Board member: Jesse Bolder

Grew up in Gleason and Merrill, Graduated Merrill High School in 1995, Graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1999 and is currently owner of Wisconsin Paint Company Professionals. Resides in Tomahawk. Has served numerous local organizations primarily in Merrill and Tomahawk and currently is Board Member of Sacred Heart Hospital Foundation, STAR Foundation, Dream Flight USA, in addition to Crime Stoppers. Has coached sports teams in Merrill and Tomahawk for the better part of two decades.

Board Member: Sally Woller

Sally was born and raised in Merrill. After graduating from Merrill HS in 1976, she started working at Church Mutual Insurance Company and has worked there her entire career. She went back to college as a part time student and received her undergraduate degree in business in 2002. She is currently President of the Mid-Wisconsin Insurance Association. Sally volunteers for the St. Vincent de Paul Free Clinic, has served on the Church Council for St Stephens UCC for 8 years and serves on several committees at church. She is married to Mark, has two daughters and four grandchildren.

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JAN. BOOZE OF THE MONTH
JACK DANIELS
 \$5.50 - 16 oz. Pint

EVERY FRIDAY (ALL DAY)
\$2.00 OLD FASHIONS

BINGO JAN. 22ND
CASH PRIZES & SNACKS
 1 PM • Bar Open 11 AM

GREEN BAY VS. SAN FRANCISCO
 7:15 PM
 During the Game \$2.50
 Bottles & \$5.00 Tall Mixers
KARAOKE
 Halftime & After the Game

COSMO Theatre KIDS • \$5.00
 SENIORS • \$5.00
 Main St. • Merrill ADULTS • \$8.00

SHOW TIMES EFFECTIVE 1/21/22 TO 1/27/22
Mondays All Seats \$5.00

THE 355
 "PG13" 2 Hour 2 Min.
 Everyday: 7:00 p.m.
 Friday: 1:00 p.m.
 Fri. & Sat.: 7:00 p.m. & 9:15 p.m.
 Sat. & Sun.: 1:00 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.

A JOURNAL FOR JORDAN
 "PG13" 2 Hour 11 Min.
 Everyday: 7:00 p.m.
 Friday: 1:00 p.m.
 Fri. & Sat.: 7:00 p.m. & 9:15 p.m.
 Sat. & Sun.: 1:00 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.

THE KING'S MAN
 "R" 2 Hour 11 Min.
 Everyday: 7:00 p.m.
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The Eagles Club
 1205 N Lake St. • Merrill, WI 54452
 Open to the Public • (715) 536-7471

DINNER SPECIALS JAN./FEB.
TUESDAY NIGHTS
 JAN. 25TH - MEATLOAF
 FEB. 1ST - LIVER-N-ONIONS
 Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

FRIDAY NIGHTS
 JAN. 21ST - CATFISH
 JAN. 28TH - BLUEGILLS
 Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM
CLIP-N-SAVE

CARRYOUT AVAILABLE
 • **MONDAY:** Bar Open at 3pm
 • **LUNCH AVAILABLE:**
 TUES. & FRI. 11am-2pm
 WED. & THURS. 11am-8pm
 Specials • Fish Fries • Homemade Soup
 • **DINNER MENU:** TUES. 4-8pm & FRI. 4-8pm
 • **SATURDAY:** Bar Open at 3pm
 • **SUNDAY:** Bar Open From 11am-7pm

Visit our Website! 584.localfoewi.com
HAPPY HOUR: TUESDAY-THURSDAY • 3-6PM

S&S BAR Open Daily 9 am - Close
 418 Grand Ave., Merrill

THIS WEEK'S DRINK SPECIAL:
MOUNT ROYAL LIGHT
 \$4 PINT MIXERS; \$2 TUB MIXERS; \$2 SHOTS

Low carry out prices on Booze, Beer & Ice

Hall Rental Available • 715-536-4664

B'S NEST

Come watch Green Bay vs San Francisco Saturday 7:15 pm Snacks at Halftime

Bar hours:
 Tuesday-Thursday 11-9
 Friday and Saturday 11-11
 Sunday 11-7

Kitchen hours:
 Tuesday-Thursday 11-8
 Friday and Saturday 11-9
 Sunday 11-7

Come join us for lunch!
 We start serving at 11:00 am

1404 West Main Street • 715-722-1211

BAGS TOURNAMENT
 January 22nd, Registration at 10am/ Start at 11am
 Double Elimination - \$40 per Team

MUSIC BY OUTER LIMITS DJ PRODUCTIONS
 4 pm to Midnight

\$800 in Prizes Raffle Prizes
 (Fishing Trip, Casino Hotel, & Rifle)

1 FREE PITCHER PER TEAM SPONSORED BY DAV Disabled American Veterans

Sign Up At The Bar or Register With Joshua at 715-321-6401

BRATS & DOGS FOR ALL PARTICIPATES

NEW! TRIVIA NIGHT
Thursday Nights 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
 Jan. 20th • Food
 Jan. 27th • General
 Feb. 3rd • Snow & Winter

Chicken Available on Wed., Thurs., Sat. & Sun.

Buckets for \$1.35/pc Available in 8, 12, 16 or 20pc

All You Can Eat BBQ Ribs & Chicken Every Wednesday

MONDAY Chicken or Shrimp, Fettuccine, Spaghetti & Meatballs
FRI FISH FRY 2 & 3 Piece Cod, Jumbo Shrimp, Walleye
SUN BRUNCH BUFFET 11am-3pm AYCE Adults \$12.99
BROASTED CHICKEN 4 Piece with Potato for \$11.99 Available Sun./Thurs./Sat.

THURSDAY Wing Night
SATURDAY NIGHT Steak Night

GREEN BAY GAME TAILGATE SPECIALS
 Watch all the games in January on our HUGE 14ft TV Screen • Touchdown Shots

NORTHWOODS VETERANS POST
 601 Johnson St., Merrill • 715-536-5708
 Check out our Facebook for most current menu, and More Info. for Trivia Nights!

NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS

Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM
 GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

Hotel Transylvania: Transformania
 (Available on Amazon Prime)

★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

Rated PG - for a bit of off-color humor

It's official: Hollywood has run out of ideas.

Originally slated for theatrical release, "Hotel Transylvania:

Transformania" was relegated to Amazon Prime after what I can only guess were terrible test screenings.

Taking a pass this time around, Adam Sandler is not involved in this travesty, and neither is Kevin James.

The jokes are forced, the premise is weak, and only the little ones will enjoy this outing.

Two out of five stars, just by the skin of its teeth, for this one, folks, and it gets the second star only because it will keep the little ones occupied for a while so parents can have a break.

I've got nothing else to say about this one.



TOUR from page 1

Hazelhurst, the Minocqua/Woodruff area, Lake Tomahawk, Sayner, and St. Germain over the course of the two-day, 200-mile Ride. The Torch Ride involved 15 snowmobile clubs and traveled through Marathon, Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas Counties.

The ultimate destination? The center of the

oval race track in time for the Opening Ceremonies of the BSWG in Eagle River on Friday evening, Jan. 14, at 6:00 p.m., in time for the National Anthem, and then the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Queen, AJ Kraeger, lighting the caldron with the torch that traveled those 200 miles.

That lighting also signaled the start of the 59th Annual World Championship

Snowmobile Derby.

Many businesses and snowmobile clubs make the Annual Torch Ride possible, including DuWayne Kreager Insurance Center of Merrill and three Lincoln County snowmobile clubs: L&L Tree Dodgers, Northwoods Passage, and Knight Owls Snowmobile Club.

Historically, in 1989 when the Badger State Winter Games first be-

gan, then Governor Tommy Thompson drove the torch via snowmobile from the steps of the Capital in Madison to Wausau's Marathon Park for the Opening Ceremonies.

Wausau is the home of the Badger State Winter and Summer Games, Wisconsin's largest annual sporting competition modeled after the Olympic Games. But the Badger State Games (BSG) aren't just for Olympic-caliber athletes. Amateur athletes of any age and ability can compete for the challenge and fun of it. Some of the 23 different BSWG events also take place in other communities throughout the state of Wisconsin. All of the events, and the fun of the competition, are designed to promote active, healthy lifestyles; give athletes an opportunity to enjoy and compete in sports they love; and foster a little good-natured fun and excitement. While the first BSWG in 1989 offered only five events - Alpine Skiing, Curling, Nordic Skiing, Figure Skating, and Hockey, the 2022 BSWG will offer 23 sporting events with athletes vying to win Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals in: Alpine Skiing and Youth Hockey (which actually began Jan. 8); Archery and NASP [National Archery in the Schools Program]; Figure Skating; Curling; Nordic Skiing; Handball; Bench Press/Dead Lift; Billiards; Cornhole; Fat Tire Bike; Pickleball; Bowling; Gymnastics; Table Tennis; Martial Arts; and Trap Shooting. The events begin in January and go into April.

Complete information, events, schedules, registration information, locations, and more are available at www.badgerstategames.org. Call 715.355.8788 with questions or to volunteer or become a sponsor.

Our family's decision? Stepping up their safety.



→ Because COVID-19 can be serious for kids, too.

Getting COVID-19 can have real consequences for a child's health, from a hospital stay to living with "long COVID" symptoms. Taking simple steps as a family—like wearing a mask in class or getting kids the free COVID-19 vaccine for ages 5 and up—can help kids stay safe and in school.



Get started today at dhs.wi.gov/covid19/parents

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

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

Schools and Instruction 7100
COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants & Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. **Call CTI for details! 855-402-7515** (M-F 8am-6pm ET) (WCAN)

Train online to do medical billing! Become a Medical Office Professional at CTI! Get trained & certified to work in months! 888-572-6790. The Mission, Program Information and Tuition is located at CareerTechnical.edu/consumer-information. (M-F 8-6 ET)

TRAIN ONLINE TO DO MEDICAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call **920-600-8950** (M-F 8am-6pm ET) (WCAN)

General Employment 7110
Looking For Part-time in home caregiver for elderly gentleman in wheelchair. Located in Merrill. \$16/hr CASH. Willing to train if you have no prior experience. **SERIOUS INQUIREIES ONLY.** Please call Michele at 715-921-0790.

Professional and Technical 7135
Town of Minocqua - Full-Time Electrician/Public Works: The Town of Minocqua will be accepting applications for a full-time position on the Town of Minocqua public works department. Qualifications include a valid Wisconsin Commercial Drivers License (CDL), a vast knowledge of driving trucks with plows & sanders with a GVW of 30,000 pounds or larger, ability to operate heavy equipment. Candidates with a Journeyman's or Master's electrical license are encouraged to apply. A complete job description and application is available on the town's website, www.townofminocqua.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.
 Roben Haggart, Town Clerk
 715-356-5296

Skilled Trades 7175
HELP WANTED: Full time local Class A CDL semi driver. Call Jeff at 715-551-0048

Announcements 7005
Become a Published Author! Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. CALL Christian Faith Publishing for your FREE author submission kits. **1-844-268-6554 (WCAN)**

Announcements 7005
 Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 833-719-3029 or visit dorranceinfo.com/acp

Announcements 7005
 Long distance moving: Call for a free quote from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a relocation specialist 888-721-2194

Announcements 7005
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- High Starting Pay
- Employee Bonuses
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- Family Scholarship Program
- Flexible 4-Day Work Week
- Medical Benefits
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Technology For Agriculture LLC

Tool Room Machinist

We are seeking a full-time Tool Room Machinist to set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and finished products for the dairy industry. Responsibilities include: Machining, fabricating, modifying, or repairing mechanical instruments to make or repair tools or maintain industrial machines; aligning and securing holding fixtures, cutting tools, attachments, accessories, and materials onto machines; calculating dimensions and tolerances using knowledge of mathematics and instruments.

Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent is required. A minimum of two to four years of work related skill, knowledge, and experience in on-the-job training and/or vocational training is needed for this job. Knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principals involved in production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models.

Apply In-person at
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 We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.



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 Now Offering a Three-Day Work Week!
 Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 5am-5pm
 \$20.55 per hour

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Excellent benefits package, including an on-site clinic

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- 1st shift starts at \$18.11
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Spouse: +110/Month
Child: +33/Month



Apply in Person or Online
Merrill Locations
 • 605 N. Ohio St. • 1815 Water St.
Questions Call 715-722-1884

SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS

We are an (EOE) Equal Opportunity Employer, including those with a disability and veterans.

SUBWAY **Now Accepting Applications**
Full and Part Time Food Service Workers
 210 S PINE RIDGE AVE., MERRILL
Year 'Round Positions. 20-40+ hrs/wk.
Requirements: Neat appearance, positive attitude, professional behavior, fast, hard working, prompt and accountable, caring personality, enjoy solving problems and working with customers and their food. Flexible scheduling (nights, weekends, days a must).
We provide: On-going training, uniforms, meals/discounts, competitive wages, bonus program, a clean, hard-working & fun atmosphere with advancement for right person.
 Please Apply In Person at 210 S. Pine Ridge Ave., Merrill

Your local McDonald's is
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Full-time and Part-time hours are available on Day, Closing, and Evening/Weekend Shifts. Hours are extremely flexible!

Benefits include medical, dental, vision, life insurance, \$22,000 tuition reimbursement programs, paid time off, and that's just a start!

Apply TODAY at McCourtesy.com |  **Courtesy Corporation**

 **Come Join Our Team We're Hiring!**

OTR Truck Driver

Lincoln Wood Products is currently seeking an OTR Truck Driver. Drivers are home weekly! Hub mileage pay and drop/pick-up pay. Candidates need to be 21 years of age or older. Possess a class A CDL. Have a minimum of 1 year Interstate commerce driving experience with 100,000 verifiable miles. Good driving record. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer offering a competitive salary and benefits package. To apply for this position, send your resume to Lincoln Wood Products, Attn: Human Resources, 1400 W Taylor Street, Merrill, WI 54452 or email Amanda at alreidinger@lincolnwindows.com.

Lincoln Wood Products-Employment Office

Apply IN PERSON Today!
 1400 W Taylor Street, Merrill, WI 54452
 Mon-Fri, 7:00AM - 3:30PM or by appointment
 We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

L & M FLEET SUPPLY

WE ARE OPENING A NEW STORE IN RHINELANDER, WI

JOIN OUR TEAM WE'RE HIRING ALL POSITIONS

SIGN ON BONUS UP TO \$1,500

APPLY ONLINE TODAY
www.landmsupply.com/employment

EMPLOYMENT

2022 JOB FAIR

Over 14 Participating Businesses!

Bring your resumes, and be prepared to be interviewed.
DREAM JOBS AVAILABLE!

Friday, Jan. 28th • 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Merrill Enrichment Center
 303 N. Sales St. Merrill, WI

DOOR PRIZES!

Media Sponsor:  Sunrise Broadcasting, LLC

 **SUPERIOR DIESEL**

Temporary Accounts Payable Specialist

Superior Diesel located in Rhinelander, a well-established value added distributor of diesel engines, is excited to announce an opening for a **Temporary Accounts Payable Specialist**. Responsibilities include timely and accurate disbursement of vendor payments, vouchering A/P invoices, and reconciliation of vendor statements. Also performs a variety of clerical support duties, as needed. Experience working in a paperless environment is a plus. Potential for this position to become permanent.

Send work history to:
emma.stroede@sdiesel.com

We offer competitive wages and benefits. Superior Diesel provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or veterans status.

 **Come Join Our Team We're Hiring!**

Production (Full or Part-Time) Maintenance Technicians

Day Shift Only. Start time at 6:00am. For additional information visit lincolnwindows.com/Careers

Lincoln Wood Products-Employment Office

Apply In-person at 1400 W Taylor Street or Email resume to Amanda at alreidinger@lincolnwindows.com
 We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

BUS OPERATOR CITY OF MERRILL

The City of Merrill is now accepting applications for a permanent part-time Bus Driver. Qualified candidates shall operate a Merrill-Go-Round bus. This position starts at \$17.51 per hour. Applicant must possess or be able to obtain valid Wisconsin Commercial Driver License; Class BCD, endorsement P.

For the required City Application form and Job Description, Please visit the City of Merrill's Web page or contact the Clerk/Treasurer's Office at 1004 E. First Street Merrill, Wisconsin 54452. Telephone (715) 536-5594. Completed applications, along with required resume, will be accepted at the City Clerk's office.

Announcements 7005

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! **PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!** For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact **The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)**

Estate Sales 7208

JANE'S Estate Sales
 1/21-1/23/22
 2259 Marbella Dr - Kronenwetter
 Fri 12-5, Sat 9-3, Sun 10-1

Notice #1: We DO NOT give out prices or information prior to the sale. Please do not text, call or email requests.

Notice #2: First come, first served. Deli style numbers will be given out starting at 11:00am on Friday. Limited to 30-40 persons in the house at one time.

Estate Sales 7208

CW ESTATE SALE
 ATTN: different hours for this sale!
 Thurs. 1/20/22 12-5pm
 Fri. 1/21/22 12-5pm
 Sat. 1/22/22 10-3pm
 Sun. 1/23/22 10-2pm (1/2 off)
 3109 Springdale Ave
 Wausau WI 54401

Holy moly do we have the tools!!!! Hundreds and hundreds!! You gotta check this out! Stanley, Craftsman, Riobi, Dremel, Milwaukee, Snap-on...literally multiple of everything you can even think of!! Several larger pieces like a drill press, band saw etc. In addition, there's vintage tin toys, Matchbox, Hotwheels, Tonka, Tycos trains and accessories, a few LEGO pieces, John Deer items, and Honda racing items. Lots of office wares and kitchen wares, as well as Christmas including Hallmark car ornaments. Men's and women's clothing, tons of gloves and boots and asst. baseball hats. Linens, large collection of beer glassware, couple of end tables, couple dressers, Couple of dining tables with chairs, several office chairs and stools, queen size 4 post bed and even Avon collectibles. Also, lots and lots of Eagle items everywhere!! There will only be a certain amount of people allowed in due to the large quantities of items and the small space. There WILL be wait times, please come prepared. For more pictures, follow CW Estate Sales and Services on Facebook!

Time to place an ad?
 Call today to place your ad and make a sale quickly.
 715-536-7121



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Advertise your goods and services in the classifieds and reach hundreds of potential buyers.

Call today to place your ad and make a sale quickly.
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Full time & Part time
Monday thru Friday
 Please APPLY in person at 1304 Cotter Ave., Merrill, WI or Call 715-536-4692





Now Hiring!

- Field Service Representative
- Software Developer
- Product Development Engineer

To view the job duties please visit our website at lincolnwindows.com.

Apply In-person at 1400 W Taylor Street or Email resume to Amanda at alreidinger@lincolnwindows.com
 We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Auctions 7282

Pientka Auction

Saturday, January 22 - 9:00AM Inspection Fri, 3:00 to 6:00pm and 8:00am day of auction Peddler's Collective, 1901 Post Rd Plover WI, 54467

AMAZING Collection of Steiff Bears & Fenton Animals /glass-ware Steiff Animals: Many very collectable Bears, Fox & more. **Pottery & Glass:** Many Fenton items bears, fox, vases, pitcher vases, etc, carnival, milk glass, moonstone, Vaseline, Oriental tea pot, Noritake plate setting, vtg sundae glasses, set of 6 vtg McDonald glasses & more. **Items of Interest:** Vtg Knights Templar coat, pants, hat, cap, sword belt, buckle & sash in orig. suitcase, vtg quilt, quilt pieces, Corgi dog cast iron door stop, vtg brass fire extinguishers, Pabst mirrors, Planter peanut jar, Hurricane lamp, 1950s hanging swag lights, Duracell battery display, 1950s pull down hanging lights, Humpty Dumpty egg crate, vtg duck decoys, large folk art dinner bell, large bird cage, Pah-Low's basket purse (signed) large amount of jewelry, most new never used (still with orig tags, Tachometer NOS, many new w/tags ladies clothing, scarves, belts, shoes, many sewing & craft items, cosmetics, many new purses & cosmetic cases, house-ware items, antique sewing machine, sewing table, many different sizes of plastic totes, under the counter cash register, many hard cover reference books, dog crate/cage, 6- Bahama Island coins, 4-Norfolk & Western Railroad pamphlets, 4-Worlds Fair car giveaway/Mobil tickets, 11-Antique tin type pictures, 3 bags of 8 Nixon political buttons, 5-Indianapolis midjet speedway photos, Barbie & Ken dolls, Boy scout books, 15 gallon Red Wing crock has crack, double oak shelf unit, scythe/sickle, cone shaped fire-place, high end Christmas tree (8ft), aqua canning jars, 88-VHS movie tapes, small flat screen TV, Old crow decanter & more. **Vintage toys:** Jarts missile game, many vtg. Madame Alexander dolls, Madeline doll furniture, Fisher price play family (Sesame St) vtg model plane & ship kits. **Furniture:** Curio cabinet, sofa, wood file cabinet, wainscot cabinet, dressers, beds twin & regular, desk, wood shop cabinet, many more great items. **TERMS:** cash, check & now taking credit cards (with 4% fee) valid driver's license required to register for bidder number. Announcement's day of sale take precedence over printed materials. Auctioneer and staff are not responsible for accidents or loss. Everything is sold "as is" condition. No warranties. Lunch provided. *Seafood truck in parking lot day of auction (great shrimp, fish, etc.)*

Col. George Pientka, RWA#2068-52, geoanddoe@charter.net, 715-341-8076 or 715-570-0806, www.pientkaauction.com

Classifieds GET THE JOB DONE! Buy • Sell • Trade • Rent • Find

Antiques and Collectibles 7214

FLEA MARKET SATURDAYS

9-3pm INDOOR Shawano 115 E Division Zurko.com 715-526-9769

Jewelry 7218

Paying top cash for men's sport-watches! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. Call 833-603-3236

Musical Instruments 7220

!!OLD GUITARS WANTED!! GIBSON, FENDER, MARTIN, Etc. 1930's to 1980's. TOP DOLLAR PAID. CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-433-8277

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg & Gibson Mandolins/Banjoes. 844-262-6174 (WCAN)

Furniture and Home Decor 7236

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. **FREE** in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional Installation. Top Quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: **877-544-2415** Ask about our specials! (WCAN)

Firewood 7244

Firewood DRY OAK & Hard Maple- \$240/cord. Over 15 miles, extra. Have hard wood in wood shed over year old. Clean and no bark. 715-351-1888 or 715-873-4196.

Snow Equipment 7252

NEW & USED SNOWBLOWERS 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

Guns 7264

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

GUN SHOW TOMAH, WI Fairgrounds Jan. 28, 29 & 30th Fri 3-8pm, Sat 9-5pm, Sun 9-3pm Info 563-608-4401 Marv Kraus

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266

DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? ... GET RESULTS! Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 **Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-800-236-0737 www.pdsadnet.com**

Wanted to Buy 7268

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. 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

Dogs 7272

AKC CHOC LAB PUPPIES, Born 12/ 4 & 12/12, shots/wormed, \$850 Call/Reserve 715-797-6861

AKC REG ENGLISH CREAM MALE 5 yrs. old. Ex. Family Pet. \$800 715-680-8149 (468314)

AUSSIE-BORDER COLLIE PUPS Dewormed & 1st shots Farm Raised parents on site 715-352-2358 Mon-Sat

Chesadoodle pups black or choc very cute w/curly hair Shots dewormed Born 11/27/21 715-257-7077 or 715-257-7950

FLUFFY AKC COCKER SPANIEL PUPS Super Cute, shots/vet 920-563-3410 pennylanecocker spaniel.com Lic#268588-DS (WCAN)

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

Golden Retriever Pups ACA Reg. 2-F \$1000 2-M \$850 obo Shots dewormed vet chkd Bonduel, WI 715-745-4546

REG PUG PUPPIES Shots, Dews, Vet Checked, Wormed, \$1200. No Sunday Calls. 715-409-3321 Lic# 495932 (WCAN)

SHEBA INU PUPPIES shots/wormed, 10 wks 1-F \$650, 1-M \$550 both \$1000 715-383-5700

Dogs 7272

SIBERIAN HUSKEY'S 2 males \$500; Purebred, no papers, 4 mo. old 715-250-2793

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 BARNs, LLC** 715-873-3381 mile North of Gleason, Hwy 17

Apartments for Rent 7400

THE MEADOWS APARTMENTS 1, 2, & 3 bedroom units in Merrill, WI For low & moderate income individuals & families. Handicap accessible. Units Available. Appliances, hot water, water/sewer, garbage service provided. Coin-op laundry facility. **CALL NOW!** 712-580-5360 or Toll Free 855-441-8688 Certain income restrictions apply

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SOLICITATION OF BIDS

Jay Millenbah, Trustee of the Bonelle Millenbah Trust herewith solicits bids for the purchase of the Millenbah residence located at 1711 East Third Street in the City of Merrill, Wisconsin. The three bedroom home located on a large corner lot, has a 2 car garage connected to a large breeze-way leading to the house. The kitchen and large dining room have custom built-in cabinets. The living room features an open concept to the dining room. The office has custom shelving and built-in custom cabinets with a built-in safe. Other improvements include a new roof in 2014, leaf shield gutters, new furnace in 2021, garage door and carpeting in the office and den.

The premises may be inspected on Saturday, January 22, 2022 from 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. The premises and improvements are being sold in an **AS IS** condition without any warranties or representations of any nature whatsoever. Title to the premises shall be conveyed by Trustee's Deed.

The Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Terms of sale: \$2,500 within five (5) days of notification of acceptance of bid and balance of bid price in cash at time of closing, with closing to be within thirty (30) days of notification of acceptance of bid. All bids shall be sealed in an envelope marked "Millenbah Trust Bid" and sent by first class mail c/o Jay Millenbah, W4503 Sunset Lane, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452.

Bids will be examined on the 28th day of January, 2022. The successful bidder, if any, will be notified on or before the 31 st day of January, 2022.

Published January 13th & 20th, 2022 WNXALP

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Gustum is November Youth Optimist at PRMS

Eighth grader Joshua Gustum has been named Prairie River Middle School (PRMS) Youth Optimist for November 2021. He was nominated by Mrs. Nelessen who said, "Joshua works hard and goes beyond expectations. Joshua is a positive role model, willing to help other students, and is a great team player. His introspective and respectful manner is a welcome addition to the classroom. I am glad to recommend Joshua for Youth Optimist."



"He has taken part in multiple school activities. This year in eighth grade he has been a part of Football and Wrestling," she said. "In sixth grade, he also took part in the Student Council."

"Joshua has also been on the Honor Roll," Mrs. Nelessen said. "Out in the community, he is a part of the Boy Scouts."

"Joshua has been described as kind, thoughtful, smart, and easy going," she added.

FIRE from page 1

been worse for the upstairs occupants. The three renters who lived in the upper apartment were all home, she said.

Chris was in his apartment, just sitting on the couch, when he smelled smoke, his mother said. He went to investigate. "Chris got up, saw flames in the bathroom, and tried to put it out with a fire extinguisher," Sharon said.

The flames were originating from a heating fan in the bathroom, she said. "Chris got a small burn on his hand trying to put the fire out, but then it went so fast that the smoke took over. He couldn't even see."

He ran outside barefoot in just pants and a jacket and ran upstairs to get the upstairs tenants out, she said.

"Then Chris came running over and said, 'Call 911 - the place is on fire!'" Sharon said.

"It didn't take long and the apartment was all flames. From our porch, which is 60 feet, you couldn't see anything but smoke. Then all of a sudden the windows busted out and then the flames started in," she said.

Functional fire extinguishers can make the difference

Melissa Jahnke, Wayne and Sharon's daughter-in-law, said the fire extinguisher her brother-in-law, Chris, attempted to use was faulty. "By the time he found the other one, it [the fire] was too big," she said. "One thing that is HUGE to convey to everyone ... Fire extinguishers," Melissa said. A functional, working fire extinguisher might have saved the loss of the building and four tenants might still be in their homes. As it stands, Chris lost everything in the fire and is now staying with his son nearby. And the three occupants who rented the upper unit are staying in a local motel.

While Sharon and Wayne have insurance on the building itself, none of the occupants had renter's insurance to help them replace all the belongings they lost in the fire.

Fast response from many helped limit the damage

The fire is still under investigation, but not suspicious in nature, according to the MFD. The Jahnkes are waiting for their insurance adjuster to inspect the building but anticipate that the building will be a total loss. However, due to the fast response from many units, only the one apartment building was damaged.

Pine River, Corning, and Russell Fire Departments all helped at the scene, MFD said in their release, and Wisconsin Public Service, Tomahawk EMS, and Lincoln County Sheriff's Department also assisted.

"There were so many fire trucks because they didn't know if it [the fire] could extend to the barn, or other buildings. This apartment was centered right in the middle of the other buildings," Sharon said.

Tack shop still open for business

Wayne Jahnke is thankful and grateful no one was seriously injured and that the fire was limited to the one building. "There are two other apartment buildings that were never touched, the barn was never touched, the horses were never in jeopardy, no animals were injured, and everybody got out of the apartment ok, with the exception of the minor burn on Chris's hand," he said.

The lower apartment "was completely demolished, totally damaged" and "the other all smoke damaged," but the tack shop and he and Sharon's home also escaped damage. There is much to be thankful for.

As for Blue Haven Stables' business, "We're open for business," Wayne said. "The tack shop is open and full of inventory."

We have a good supply boots, hats, jeans, shirts and blouses, jewelry, and tack and saddles, he said.

While Blue Haven doesn't offer trail rides in the winter, they will be open for rides again in May just like always, he added.

CHRISTMAS

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Kaitlyn Leischer - Age 9

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Merrill Varsity Wrestlers: Two Duals and a Tournament

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Three Lakes dual and Hall of Fame Night

On Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, the Merrill Varsity Wrestlers grappled with the Three Lakes team and also held their Merrill Wrestling Hall of Fame night. In the wrestling ... "We had some good performances out of Wyatt Bathke and Callum Wheeler," Merrill Head Varsity Wrestling Coach Brian Suchocki said. "They both earned pins and led the team. Joey Jensen, Ryder Depies, and Allison Hunter all received forfeits."

The Merrill Wrestling Program also held their Hall of Fame Night (to be covered in an upcoming edition). Andy Lehman and Jered Severt were both inducted into the Merrill Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Bluejay Challenge

Merrill drew 20 teams to Merrill High School for the Bluejay Challenge Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022. Wyatt Bathke led the way for the Bluejays, taking third "in a tough 195-pound weight class," Suchocki said. "Wyatt continues to wrestle well. It is good to see his years of wrestling paying off on the mat."

Brian Ball and Austin Depies both finished in sixth place, and Joey Jensen placed eighth, each in their re-



Merrill wrestling photo.

Submitted photo.

spective weight classes.

"In a tournament this size, it was good to see them competing well," Suchocki said. "As a team, all wrestlers were able to compete against similar competition and get some valuable mat time."

Individual Bluejay Challenge results for Merrill:

- 106: Joey Jensen (14-9) placed eighth and scored 22.0 team points.
- 126: Brady Norton (9-12) placed 10th and scored 18.0 team points. Jon Hart (14-15) placed 11th.
- 145: Callum Wheeler (5-5) placed 11th and scored 16.0 team points.
- 160: Austin Depies (13-7) placed sixth and scored 28.0 team points.
- 170: Brian Ball (18-11) placed sixth and scored 27.0 team points.
- 182: Dominic Roper (3-9) placed 13th and scored 10.0 team points.
- 195: Wyatt Bathke (17-6) placed 3rd and scored 36.0 team points.
- Jordan Smukowski (1-9) placed 14th.

- 220: Carson Brooks (2-4) placed 10th and scored 16.0 team points.
- 220: Mikal Plautz (5-14) placed 12th.
- 285: Ian Dreikosen (4-9) placed 10th and scored 16.0 team points.

Overall, Merrill finished in 12th place out of the 20 teams, with 189 points. Wausau West Varsity Wrestlers took first place in the tournament with 505 points.

Merrill Wrestlers dual against Wisconsin Rapids

On Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022, the Merrill Varsity Wrestling Team traveled to Wisconsin Rapids where the Bluejays took on the Red Raiders in a dual, one-on-one on the mat. Coach Suchocki said the Red Raiders are the number one ranked team, so this was a challenge going into the match, but Merrill did take home a couple of wins.

Wyatt Bathke won his match with a pin over Tanner Gormanson, and Brian Ball won his match 6-4 over Kailar Tritz.

"Both wins were good wins for us," Suchocki said. "Wyatt continued his solid wrestling. He gave up the first takedown but battled back and eventually ended the match with the pin."

"Brian had a tough opponent and gave himself a chance to win at the end when he reversed Tritz and put him to his back," he said.

"Both of them are wrestling really well now. They need to keep building off of each competition. They are doing a nice job leading our young wrestlers."

2022 Merrill High School Winter Sports Schedule

Basketball Girls (Varsity, JV, & JV2)

Fri. Jan. 21	Wausau West (JV & JV2)	Home	5:45 pm
Fri. Jan. 21	Wausau West (Varsity)	Home	7:15 pm
Tues. Jan. 25	Marshfield (JV & JV2)	Away	5:45 pm
Tues. Jan. 25	Marshfield (Varsity)	Away	7:15 pm
Thurs. Jan. 27	Stevens Point (JV & JV2)	Home	5:45 pm
Thurs. Jan. 27	Stevens Point (Varsity)	Home	7:15 pm

Basketball Boys (Varsity, JV, & JV2)

Fri. Jan. 21	Wausau West (JV & JV2)	Away	5:45 pm
Fri. Jan. 21	Wausau West (Varsity)	Away	7:15 pm
Tues. Jan. 25	Marshfield (JV & JV2)	Home	5:45 pm
Tues. Jan. 25	Marshfield (Varsity)	Home	7:15 pm

Ice Hockey Boys (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. Jan. 20	Marshfield (JV)	Marathon	5:00 pm
Thurs. Jan. 20	Marshfield (Varsity)	Marathon	7:00 pm
Sat. Jan. 22	La Crosse (JV)	MARC	2:00 pm
Sat. Jan. 22	La Crosse (Varsity)	MARC	4:00 pm
Tues. Jan. 25	Pacelli (Varsity)	Marathon	7:00 pm
Thurs. Jan. 27	Stevens Point (JV)	Willett	5:00 pm
Thurs. Jan. 27	Stevens Point (Varsity)	Willett	7:00 pm

Ice Hockey Girls (Varsity & JV)

Fri. Jan. 21	Medford (Varsity)	Simek	6:00 pm
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Wrestling Boys (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. Jan. 20	D. C. Everest (Varsity & JV)	Home	6:00 pm
Thurs. Jan. 27	Wausau East (Varsity)	Away	6:00 pm

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



PROTECTING THE GREATER GOOD



Strand takes First Place World Championship in multiple races in Eagle River

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Merrill's nine-year-old Tavyn Strand, a fourth grader at Washington School in Merrill, made an impressive showing at the 59th Annual World Championship Snowmobile Derby in Eagle River this past weekend, Jan. 14-16, 2022.

After the lighting of the Badger State Games torch that set everything in motion, Tavyn competed Friday night in the Thunder under the lights on the big track, his first time racing on the big track, racing on the Polaris 120 sled with a Briggs' 206 motor that was handed down to him from his big brother, Trentyn. The race itself was an exciting competition. Four times the race was restarted due to issues with other competitors' sleds - including mechanical



Tavyn Strand poses with his 2022 World Champion Eagle River Derby tool chest, cup, and trophies from his snowmobile racing success over the weekend.

Submitted photo.

issues, a sled's hood falling off, and even one sled on fire. On the fourth restart, Tavyn gave it his all and held off his competitors to cross the finish line with a victory, landing a First Place World Championship. He took home a cup trophy and a 4 Cycle Central tool chest for the win.

On Saturday, Tavyn raced on the Wisconsin Kids Snowmobile Racing Association (WKSRA) small track and finished with two more First Place World Championship victories, one in the Super Stock class and the other in the Leman's class, landing him two more trophies.

As a result of his initial

wins, he scored another trophy for his collection: The High Points Trophy for the weekend.

The Strand Race Team was there to cheer Tavyn on, including parents Leah and Nathan Strand, brother Trentyn, aunt Lisa Folta, and grandpa Mark Kanitz with the self-proclaimed "deep pockets" to help support his grandson's passion for racing. Other race team sponsors include Z's Fork Horners, Scott at Rock Island, Geiss Meat Service, SGS Environmental Contracting, Central Wisconsin Construction, 365 Powersports, Premier Companies, Carquest of Merrill, Pinno Buildings, and Stud Boy Studs.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Austin Depies, a Freshman at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Austin started wrestling in Pre-K as a K-Jay and has been wrestling ever since - next as a Junior Jay, then at Prairie River Middle School, and this year he started on the JV team for the first tournament and then went up to become a member of the Merrill Varsity Wrestling Team. During the off-season, he plans to wrestle greco and freestyle through the Northern Exposure wrestling club. Austin also played on the JV2 MHS Football Team this year.

In the mornings, Austin can often be found lifting weights and working out at Serce-2-Sisu Fitness & Movement in Merrill. He enjoys hunting, fishing, snowmobiling occasionally, hanging out with friends, going to the aquatic center in the summer, or just "chilling at home."

In school, Austin belongs to FFA and LEAD and enjoys science and the tech ed classes. "Pretty much anything hands on" appeals to him, he said. He enrolled in metals, woods, and graphics classes for Freshman year and looks forward to FAB Lab, construction courses, and advanced tech ed classes in the future.

"I'm thinking about going into the trades as either a welder or an electrician," Austin said of his plans after high school. Austin is the son of Katrina and Geoff Depies of Merrill.



Austin Depies

Athletes highlighted in this feature are selected by the Foto News editorial staff, not by the sponsors.

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