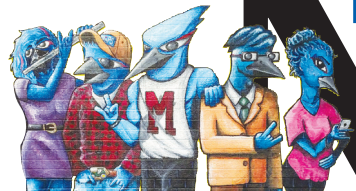


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**ARTSHARE EXHIBIT**  
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## Retired Merrill Police Captain is laid to rest

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

Retired Captain Richard Dabbert, who spent his 32-year career protecting the Merrill community as a well-respected and beloved member of the Merrill Police Department until his retirement in 2006, was laid to rest Monday, Feb. 28, 2022, at Merrill's Memorial Park Cemetery after a service of thanksgiving for his life at St. Stephens United Church of Christ. Family, friends, and officers gathered to say their good-byes, with uniformed Merrill Police officers standing watch beside the casket during visitation and escorting their brother in blue from



Richard Dabbert.  
Photo courtesy of Merrill Police Department.

See **DABBERT** page 9

## Merrill and northern Wisconsin residents head out to join The People's Convoy



Merrill and northern Wisconsin residents gathered on Merrill's east side Tuesday morning, March 1, to join The People's Convoy and to show their support for those making the trip.  
**Tina L. Scott photo.**

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

On Tuesday morning, March 1, 2022, at 7:00 a.m., a small but dedicated group of northern Wisconsin residents gathered together in the parking lot of the old Walmart building to begin their journey in support of what is being called "The People's Convoy," also sometimes referred to as the "Truckers Convoy" or the "Freedom Convoy."

What started with Canadian truckers protesting vaccine mandates has spawned a movement in the United States, made up of American truckers and allies, who say, "It's time to end the declaration of National Emergency concerning

the COVID-19 pandemic and restore our nation's Constitution," according to their website. ([www.thepeoplesconvoy.org](http://www.thepeoplesconvoy.org))

Their official declaration reads, in part, "We the People of the United States, in Order to restore our once perfect Union, re-establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense of all, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty, do ordain and establish the restoration movement of The People's Convoy for the United States of America."

"WHO WE ARE: We are truckers, moms, students, nurses, doctors, investors, county workers, teachers, cowboys, loggers, engineers, sanitation workers, professors, cashiers,

flight attendants, pilots, sales reps, physical therapists. WE ARE, fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, married, single, divorced, separated, gay, straight. WE ARE Black, White, Asian, Native American. WE ARE immigrants, natives: WE ARE citizens of the free world."

"To our elected officials that believe they rule us: YOU work for US. Our constitution was written to provide enough power to act on a national level, but not enough to deprive the people of fundamental rights. The people are prepared to see this challenge through — as we have seen through all challenges to our Freedom in the past. And we will prevail and prosper."

See **CONVOY** page 2

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## Local couple married at the AmericInn on 2-22-2022 at 2:22 p.m.

The Pankows love the quirkiness and won't likely forget their wedding anniversary

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

Dave Pankow took Cammie Sukow-Schielke to be his wife in front of the fireplace at the AmericInn in Merrill on Feb. 22, 2022, at 2:22 p.m., a date and time they aren't likely to ever forget. Cammie made her entrance, escorted by her sons, walking down the open staircase, and came to stand beside the groom. Family and close friends surrounded them as they took vows to become Mr. and Mrs. Dave and Cammie Pankow.

The couple met through mutual friends and had their first date Jan. 27, 2017, after they had been talking for about a week. "We went to the Pine Tree Supper Club in Tomahawk," Cammie recalls.

"The first thing that caught my eye was his smile and how his face lights up when he does it," she said, describing Dave. "He has a great sense of humor and always makes me laugh. Dave is very caring, puts other people first, and would help anyone out, even strangers."

See **PANKOWS** page 2



Dave and Cammie Pankow were wed in front of the fireplace at the AmericInn in Merrill on 2-22-22 as noted in the balloons on the mantle.  
**Megan M. Sczygelski, MVP Studio photo.**

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**PANKOWS** from page 1

For Dave, "It was her smile and her personality," he said.

The two got engaged on Jan. 1, 2019, at 12:01 a.m. Once they decided on a winter wedding, they knew they wanted the wedding to be in front of a fireplace, so the AmericInn was a natural choice for the ceremony, the Pankows said.

And about 10 months ago, they set the unique date they would always remember at a time they would always remember: 2-22-2022 at 2:22 p.m.

"I'm sort of a geek when it comes to stuff like that," Cammie said. "I thought it was really unique, especially when it was on a Twosday."

"Yes, we also had tacos and it was on National Margarita Day! ... Yes, we for sure had margaritas from Los Mezcales, who also catered our tacos for our meal," she added.

But it wasn't all about twos and tacos and margaritas. It was really the family that made their day special. "All our kids and grandkids stood up," Cammie said. Her two sons walked her down, her daughter was her maid of honor, and her friend, Heather, was the officiant. Dave's daughters, granddaughter, and grandson were also attendants.

The couple will reside in Irma/Rock Falls.



Mr. and Mrs. Dave and Cammie Pankow surrounded by family on their wedding day.  
Megan M. Sczygelski, MVP Studio photo.

**CONVOY** from page 1

"To our brave and courageous neighbors to the North — our Canadian brothers and sisters who led the charge — we join your call to Freedom with THE PEOPLE'S CONVOY."

As a part of the movement, truckers and supporters officially began traveling to the Washington DC area on Feb. 23 from various parts of the country.

**Locals join in and show support**

Locally, William C. Fisher, organized the Tuesday-morning meet-up for those who wanted to join up with larger convoys further south, and for community members to simply show their support or ride along for a bit in support of their efforts. He and some of the others will convoy down and join up with larger convoys on their way to Le Roy, Ill., where a large gathering is planned, on to Indianapolis, and ultimately to the Washington DC area.

"I plan on going all the way to DC if its safe," Fisher said.

Jason and Kerri Jameson from Rhinelander came to Merrill to join the convoy in their bus-turned-camper. Likewise, "We're gonna plan to go as far as we can," Kerri said.

The northern Wisconsin residents aren't planning to go entirely into Washington DC though. They will gather with others who convoy to the area outside the city, Fisher said. Safety is paramount. "We're not going to repeat Jan. 6th," he said.

**Standing up for change**

Fisher said he got involved "Because of how much it was affecting our families and our communities," he said.

Two years ago when jobs and schools and day cares shut down, "we did it because we were told to do it," Fisher said. "We show respect to our government by doing as they ask, but the thing is, two years is pushing it. People are out doing things, and they're being scolded for it. Or if you go into a store, you get chased out for not wearing a mask. ... The Emergency Powers Act has gotta stop. Right now the Emergency Powers Act trumps the constitution." And that's just not right, he said.

For his family, the disruption of school and personal freedoms was just too much. He and his wife have two children whose lives were being disrupted. The kids were exhibiting anxiety and it was affecting their ability to learn, he said. "So we started home schooling, and they started thriving again."

"My wife has underlying conditions," Fisher said. "She's had COVID, now we're past that. We're cautious, we still use hand sanitizer, sometimes she wears a mask. But it should be her choice if she wants to. That's the whole point about this ... This should be our medical freedoms, it should be our medical choices in order to do these things. So that's the only thing we really want the government to understand. The 14th amendment straight up is the medical freedom amendment, so the freedom to choose."

His wife's employment is also at risk. She's a caregiver. "They want to make her get the shot, and if she doesn't, she gets fired," he said. "And she said straight up, 'Well, then OK, fire me.'" The only reason they haven't fired her yet is because they don't have enough people, he said.

**It's not about taking sides; it's about the freedom to choose**

It's not a matter of taking sides, Fisher said. "It's about everyone having the right to choose for themselves and other people respecting that choice."

"I've had people coming up and saying, 'I'm so glad you're doing this, because I don't know if I'm gonna have the booster-4,000 coming up,' he said. "They're tired of it, too."

The Jamesons said they, too, now home school their children as a result of COVID, and the restrictions have impacted their family. "We pulled them out of school," Kerri Jameson said. She explained that one of their daughters "had a MRSA infection from wearing masks at school, so we didn't want to risk that anymore. She had it in her nose, and it was pretty bad. She was six. Now they're home schooled; I'm home schooling them."

Their children, now ages five and seven, are doing much better, the Jamesons said. They are traveling to the DC area as a family and hope they are setting a positive example for their children.

"I want them to know freedom. I don't want them to live in fear," Kerri said when asked what she hopes the



The Jameson family prepares to head out as part of "The People's Convoy" in their bus-turned-camper. They are bound for the Washington DC area.  
Tina L. Scott photos.



Becky Scheif waves her flag in support of those heading to Washington DC to join The People's Convoy.

children will learn from the trip.

"How to stick up for yourself and do what's right," Jason added.

**Showing support**

Howard and Laurie Hottenstein of Antigo came to the Merrill send-off and will drive with the convoy for a bit. "Just showing support here," Howard said when asked why they came. They will travel "Just a little ways down the road," he said. "I've got to be at work at noon. Just figured we'd give a show of support. We believe in what they stand for."

"Let people live the way they want to live and stop all these mandates," Howard said. "All these rights that are being taken away. You know, enough is enough. You know, we did it for two years now. Let's go on with life, open our businesses back up, and build our country back up basically."

A Merrill woman there with her husband who wished only to be identified as "Sara" shared her thoughts: "Hold the line," she said. They, too, set out with the group as a show of support.

Horns honked as the group set out, both the horns of those driving and those of others in support of them, and even at the last minute, some pickup trucks and pickups with campers were catching up to drive along for a time and show support.

On overpasses as the group traveled south toward Wausau, groups of supporters were gathered waving flags to show their support for those traveling in the convoy.

Becky Schleif from the Town of Pine River came to the Merrill send-off in the parking lot to wave her American flag and show her support for those able to join the convoy.

"I was watching all the stuff going on in Canada, and I thought, 'How cool would it be if we did something here, you know?'" Schleif said. When she learned of the send-off in Merrill on Facebook, she knew she wanted to be a part of it. She said she tried getting some of her friends and co-workers to join her, but most of them start work at 7:00 a.m. Fortunately, Schleif said, she starts work at 7:30. "It worked out perfect."


"We're a part of something bigger," she said. "Something needs to change. Fast."

Fisher said a team of lawyers, frontline doctors, a group of pilots, a group of motorcyclists, and then the truckers plan to gather in the DC area as a culmination of The People's Convoy movement. Representatives from those groups will travel into DC for talks to try to end the mandates.

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# Gleason man charged with attempted first degree intentional homicide of Marathon County Deputy Sheriff, among other charges

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) released an update on Feb. 23, 2022, pertaining to a Marathon County officer-involved critical incident in the Village of Maine in Aug. 2021 that has resulted in the arrest of 25-year-old Zackery D. Schwartz of Gleason.



Zackery D. Schwartz.  
Photo courtesy of Lincoln County Jail.

- Attempt First Degree Intentional Homicide, Repeater
- First Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety, Repeater
- Two counts of Possession of a Firearm by a Felon, Repeater
- Intentionally Point Firearm-Law Enforcement Officer, Repeater
- Possession with Intent to Deliver Methamphetamine, Second or Subsequent Offense, Repeater
- Possession of Narcotic Drugs, Repeater
- Possession of Cocaine - Second and Subsequent Offense, Repeater

According to the DOJ press release, on Friday, Aug. 13, 2021, "At approximately 10:30 p.m., a Marathon County Deputy Sheriff observed a vehicle parked at a car dealership near County Rd. WW that had eluded a Lincoln County Deputy Sheriff attempting to stop the driver for a speed violation. The Marathon County Deputy Sheriff gave verbal commands to the driver, who did not comply with the verbal commands. A male subject got out of the driver's side of the vehicle and shot at the Deputy Sheriff who then returned fire. A female subject remained in the vehicle, unknown to the Deputy Sheriff until right before the male subject opened fire. Both the male and female subjects were injured by gunfire. Law enforcement immediately rendered aid to both the male and female subject."

While the Deputy Sheriff was not injured, both the male and female subjects were transported to area hospitals and have since been released. However, the male subject, 25-year-old Zackery D. Schwartz of Gleason, has since been charged with a list felony of charges as a result of the incident, most notably attempted first degree intentional homicide. Schwartz is being charged as a repeat offender, which carries with it additional penalties and possible jail time.

The list of charges filed by the Marathon District Attorney's Office include:

- Possession of THC - Second and Subsequent Offense, Repeater
- Possession of a Controlled Substance - Second and Subsequent Offense, Repeater
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Repeater

See **CHARGES**  
page 9

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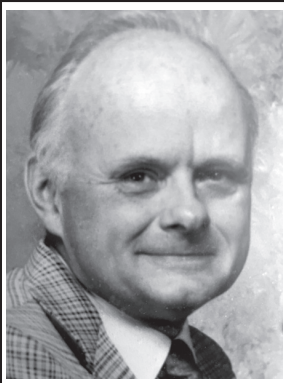
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**OBITUARIES**



**Clark Bublitz**, PhD, was born in Merrill, Wisconsin, the son of Clark and Florence Bublitz. He graduated from Pillsbury Military Academy in Owatonna, Minnesota. He entered the U.S. Army at the end of World War II, and was stationed in Rome, Italy.

He returned to the country after the war and entered the University of Chicago where he earned a PhD in biochemistry. From there, he spent a year as a post-doctoral fellow at the Max Plank Institute in Germany under a future Nobel Prize recipient, Feodor Lynen, PhD.

Clark then became an assistant professor at the Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore, Maryland, where he met his wife, Deborah Bublitz, MD, who was a third-year medical student at the time. They were married June 1, 1958. After a year at St. Louis University in Missouri, he accepted a position at the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver, Colorado, where he remained until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Deborah Bublitz; five children—Nancy Dyer, PhD (Michael), Susan Schooleman (Bill), Philip Bublitz (Rebecca Lowery, MD), Caroline Emsermann, PhD (Markus Emsermann, PhD), and Elizabeth Bublitz; eight grandchildren—James, Stephen and Richard Dyer; William, Gretchen and Miles “Milo” Schooleman; Max and Adam Bublitz.

In addition to his research, Clark was an avid hiker, tennis player and Green Bay Packers Football fan.

Burial will be at Ft. Logan Cemetery, 1 p.m., Monday, March 14.



**Donald W. Hoff**, 85, of Tomahawk, passed away February 24, 2022, at Mt. View Care Center with his wife and brother-in-law by his side. He was under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services.

Donald was born August 5, 1936, in Lincoln County, son of the late Walter and Agnes (Woller) Hoff. Donald was baptized and confirmed by Pastor Piehler at the former Zion Lutheran Church, Town of Maine, Marathon County. Donald attended Byron Valley Elementary School and graduated from Wausau East High School with the class of 1954. Donald married Elaine L. (Schulz) July 11, 1959. She survives.

Don enlisted in the United States Army in 1955. After basic training, he was stationed in Berlin, Germany for 18 months. He was honorably discharged in 1957. After the Army, he worked at the Anderson Bros. & Johnson Quarry with his father. He worked at the quarry for 46 years and was also part owner for five years. Don retired in 2001.

Don and Elaine moved to their retirement home on Lake Alice in 2000. Don enjoyed fishing on Lake Alice and was a member of the Lake Alice Association.

Don and Elaine enjoyed traveling, whether it was traveling in the United States or foreign countries. They enjoyed exploring Germany and other parts of Europe, Australia, and Hawaii.

Don also enjoyed bowling. He bowled some 700 series and bowled three 300 games. Don was a member of the USBC Bowling Association, Merrill Men’s Bowling Association, and Merrill’s 700 Bowling Club. Don was inducted into the Merrill Bowling Hall of Fame in 1998.

Don enjoyed woodworking and designed many woodworking projects. He loved to make many woodworking projects for his church. He also like working on projects for his wife’s school students and her bowling friends.

Don liked attending Milwaukee Brewer games and watching the games on T.V. He also enjoyed watching and attending Green Bay Packer games and Wisconsin Badger games. He and his wife would attend one away Packer game with a tour group each year. Don also enjoyed gardening, and listening to and dancing to polka music.

Don was a longtime member of Faith Lutheran Church – Village of Maine and served as an Elder and was on the Board of Properties. He was also a member of the Church Council. Don was a member of The Lutheran Laymen’s League and The Lutheran Hour Ministries. He received the Lutheran Hour Ambassador of the Year Award. After moving to Tomahawk, Don attended St. Paul Lutheran Church and was an Elder and on the Board of Properties.

Don was a loving husband and had a very pleasant personality. Although Don was interested in bowling and traveling, his personal interest was being a good Christian, attending church, and Bible classes to learn more about his Savior Jesus Christ.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Elaine Hoff of Tomahawk; sisters-in-law, Dorothy Hagedorn of Merrill, Ruth Buck of Merrill, and Barbara Turner of Florida; and brothers-in-law, Ralph (Bernice) Schulz of Merrill, and Jerome (Carol) Schulz of Waupaca. Don is also survived by many cherished nieces and nephews. Don was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Agnes Hoff.

The funeral service for Don will be held at 11:00 A.M., Saturday, March 5, 2022, at Faith Lutheran Church, Village of Maine, Marathon County. Rev. Stephen Gillet will officiate. Burial will take place in Maple Grove Cemetery, Village of Maine. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:00 A.M. Saturday at the church. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family.

The family would like to thank Mt. View Care Center and Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services for the loving care they gave Don.

Memorials may be directed to: Lutheran Hour Ministries, Orphan Grain Train, or St. Paul Lutheran Church – Tomahawk.

Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)



**Marcia Gayle (Hirnschall) Dalke** went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at Marshfield Medical Center - Weston.

Marcia was born October 5, 1940, in the Town of Rock Falls, Lincoln County, daughter of the late Frank and Alice (Kufahl) Hirnschall. She graduated from Merrill High School and moved to Appleton where she went to beauty culture school. Through this beautician experience, she met her husband, John Dalke. They were married on June 18, 1960. They celebrated more than 61 years of marriage. Together, they raised two sons, Daniel and Keith.

Marcia worked at Fox Valley Technical Institute for many years until her retirement. Marcia was known as the hugger. She hugged every person that came through those doors every day. Marcia’s favorite saying was “I will have fun until the day I die.” She fulfilled her word. Marcia loved to cook and bake and fed many with her labor of love. She loved everyone and her cat.

She loved Christian Gospel Music and on Friday, February 18th, she sang very loud, ‘Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling.’ She said, “I feel His presence.” She often said, “I’m so glad we had a Christian mother.”

Marcia is survived by her husband, John Dalke; sons, Daniel (Sherri) Dalke and Keith (Gigi) Dalke; grandchildren, Jenifer Dalke, Luis (Hannah) Valenzuela, Gabriel Valenzuela, and Noemi Valenzuela; sister, Diane (John) Rell; niece, Jacki Standley; and several great nieces and great-nephews. Marcia was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Alice Hirnschall; and siblings, Robert Hirnschall, Marge Kapitze, Elliot Hirnschall, and Sharon Skeens.

To all whom loved and cared for her, and those who visited, Thank You.

The funeral service for Marcia will be held at 11:00 A.M. Thursday, March 3, 2022, at Hillside Church, Merrill. Rev. Brandon Wade will officiate. Visitation was held from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 2nd at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill, and again after 9:30 A.M. Thursday, March 3rd at the church.

A committal service will be held at 11:00 A.M. Friday, March 4, 2022, at Highland Memorial Park-Chapel, Appleton. The family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 A.M. Friday at the chapel.

Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)



**Debra Krahn**, age 64, of Merrill WI passed away on Wednesday February 16th at Aspirus Rhinelander hospital. Debbie loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed spending time in the summer at parks with her family as well as having campfires with Terry. She loved her cat Dora.

Debra is survived by her children Timothy (Khloe) Prentice and Travis (Amanda) Prentice. Grandchildren Skyler of Green

Bay, Tapanga, Madison, Jordan, Jayden and Aubrey all of Merrill, Sisters Kathy Hanrahan of Merrill, Sharon (Jerry) Degner of Merrill, Joann (Larry) Benzinger of Rothschild, Delta (Gene) Kleinschmidt of Merrill, Brother Gary (Laurie) Krahn of Merrill..

Debra was preceded in death by the love of her life, Terry Prentice, Parents Leslie and Loretta Krahn, Brothers Larry Krahn and Terry Krahn, Niece Tara Hanrahan. Celebration of Life was held February 19, 2022.

Memorials can be sent to 820 N Prospect Street Merrill, WI 54452

Mid Wisconsin Cremation Society is assisting family with cremation.



**Richard Dabbert**, age 69, of Merrill, Wisconsin, passed away on February 22, 2022, in Weston, Wisconsin. He was born on June 20, 1952, to the late Albion and Evelyn (Edwards) Dabbert in Merrill, Wisconsin.

He was an avid sports fan – enjoying playing, watching and coaching a variety of sports. He coached Little League and youth basketball for many years. He loved volunteering for a variety of charities, including the Food Pantry, Free Clinic, and serving on the Hospital Board. He also taught Sunday school at St. Stephen’s for many years.

After 32 years in law enforcement, Rich retired as Captain of the Merrill Police Department. While working with the police department, he oversaw the safety patrol program and accomplished getting defibrillators placed in each police vehicle.

Rich was a quiet, determined, funny man, who loved to cook. He leaves behind his wife of almost 44 years, Nancy Dabbert; children, Kristen (Jose Stambuk) Spindler and Kari (Jason) Kruchko; grandchildren, Genevieve and Vivian Kruchko; and siblings, Sharon (Harrell) Cantrell and Milton (Karen) Dabbert.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Karon Ross and nephew Scott Cantrell.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, February 27, 2022, from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Waid Funeral Home and on Monday, February 28, 2022, from 10:00 am until the time of service at the church. A funeral service will be held on Monday, February 28, 2022, at 11:00 am at St. Stephen’s United Church of Christ. 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](http://www.waidfuneral.com).

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**Gladys B. Holz (neeZastrow)** Age 87 years, of Hubertus, WI. Sunday, February 27, 2022. Beloved wife of the late LeRoy “Happy” for 65 years. Loving mother of Steven (Kathy) Holz. Proud grandma of Jennifer (Jason) Wymore. Very proud great-grandma of Elliot and Henry. Dear sister of the late Arlene (John) Radke and Ellsworth (Susanne) Zastrow. Sister-in-law of Jr. (Janice) Holz and Lorene Hass. Further survived by her aunt Helen Wendt, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Visitation Saturday, March 5 at Crown of Life Lutheran Church, 1292 Tally Ho Trail, Hubertus, WI., from 10 AM until time of funeral service at 11 AM. Private entombment at Washington County Memorial Park, West Bend, WI.

*Taylor & Stine*

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LEGAL NOTICES

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS RECYCLED MATERIAL CRUSHING The City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, will receive sealed bids for crushing approximately 10,000 cubic yards of recycled material. Bids will be accepted until 2 pm, March 23rd, 2022, at the City of Merrill City Hall, at which time they will be opened, read aloud and placed on file for further action.

Advertisement for Electronic Bids For Construction at Merrill Municipal Airport, Merrill, Wisconsin. Project no. RRL1002 (AIP-12). THIS PROJECT WILL BE ELECTRONICALLY BID. Paper bids will NOT be accepted or allowed. Sealed ELECTRONIC proposals for the work described herein will be received until 2:00 p.m., local time, Thursday, March 17, 2022, by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, on behalf of the Secretary, authorized agent for The City of Merrill, in accordance with Wis. Stat. §114.32(3). Bids will be unsealed (electronically opened) as provided above and will be publicly read. The bid opening will be broadcast live via Teams. The correct meeting and call-in information for the bid opening is: Microsoft Teams meeting. Join on your computer or mobile app. Click here to join the meeting Or call in (audio only) +1 608-571-2209, 926244708#United States, Madison. Phone Conference ID: 926 244 708#.

Legals 7700

charge and at the following site:https://bidexpress.com/businesses/5 Proposal ELECTRONIC Submittal: This contract is being electronically bid. The bid template within BidExpress.complatform established for the project includes all elements required to be submitted with the contract. Required fields are established within the template. Automatic checking of the bid proposal will identify if any required fields are missing and alert the bidder to complete the missing information prior to final submission. Submission of an incomplete bid will result in the bid not being opened, and/or rejected as non-responsive. Plan holder registration required: Plans and specifications are available to anyone after completing a simple registration. There is NO cost to obtain a registration. Registration is required to be recorded as a plan holder. Registered plan holders will be notified of important project information such as issuance of addendums or other critical information. Only the prime or general contractor selecting to submit a bid is required to obtain additional Digital ID credentials. Please see the BOA website notice 2 for information on how to register. https://wisconsinindot.gov/Documents/doing-bus/aeronautics/airports/aerobidmem2.pdf. Bidder Digital ID Required: Firms who select to submit a bid MUST also obtain a free digital ID in addition to registering. Obtaining a digital ID is relatively quick, however it may take a couple of days to complete the process. Please request and obtain registration and digital ID's as early as possible to not jeopardize your ability to submit a bid. There is NO cost to obtain a digital ID. Please see the BOA website Notice 2 for information on how to obtain a digital ID. https://wisconsinindot.gov/Documents/doing-bus/aeronautics/airports/aerobidmem2.pdf. Cost to bid: There are two options for bidders to submit bids: A cost of \$35 per project, or a monthly subscription wherein the bidder is able to submit bids for all projects in bidexpress.com system for \$50 per month. Subscriptions can be turned on and off at any time by the registered user. Only the prime or general contractor submitting a bid are responsible for payment. Proposal guaranty: A bid security in the amount of 5% of the total amount of the bid is required for the contract. Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid bond, certificate of annual bid bond, a certified check, bank's draft, bank's check, or postal money order made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary for 5% of the total amount bid. Proposal guaranty: A bid security in the amount of 5% of the total amount of the bid is required for the contract. Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid bond, certificate of annual bid bond, a certified check, bank's draft, bank's check, or postal money order made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary for 5% of the total amount bid. The electronic template will allow the following options for meeting the proposal guaranty. E-Verify bid bond (Surety2000 & SurePath), uploading a copy of the bid bond or certificate of annual bid bond, certified check, bank draft, or money order. Any bid security, other than a E-verified bond or certificate of annual bid bond is provided, the department will require that the apparent two lowest bidders to mail or hand-deliver the original bond, certified check, bank draft, or money order to the Bureau of Aeronautics by close of business two business days following the close of bids and must be received by the Bureau of Aeronautics no later than 5 days from the posting of the bid results. Qualification of bidders: IMPORTANT: A paperhard copy prequalification is required to be submitted PRIOR to

Legals 7700

the bid opening. The proper prequalification form must be sent to the DOT to establish prequalification and remain valid prior to the deadline for prequalification indicated below. Prequalification's submitted after the deadline will be processed but a bid from that firm will not be opened for any project where the deadline has been exceeded. The following prequalification is required for this contract: The Bureau of Project Development "Prequalification Statement" (AKA: "Highways") will apply. The proper forms can be found at: https://wisconsinindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/contractors/hcci/prequal.aspx. Bid proposals will be opened only from those firms that have established their qualifications for the work being bid upon. If a prospective bidder has previously submitted hold a current and valid (not expired or revoked), proper statement and received prior approval from the department, a re-submittal for this project is not required. Any prospective bidder who has not previously established their qualifications must file a pre-qualification statement on the proper forms and be received by the department no later than 12:00 noon, local time, Friday, March 4th, 2022. Only prime or general contractors submitting the bid need to be prequalified; subcontractors do not need to be prequalified. The qualification statement is a sworn statement and consist of information relating to financial ability, equipment, and experience in the work prescribed in this proposal. The statement shall be in writing on the proper standard form furnished by the department. The department will evaluate the statement and determine acceptability prior to bid acceptance. Failure to establish prequalification as stipulated will result in the bid not being opened and/or rejected. Federal Requirements: This project is federally funded and federal provisions and requirements apply. Federal provisions made part of, but not limited to this contract include: Buy American Preference, Federal Tax Certification, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Affirmative Action, Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension, Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Hours of labor and minimum wage rates: Pursuant to regulations provided by applicable federal and/or state laws, the hours of labor and minimum wage rates are set forth in the proposal. Affirmative action: The department hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award. Affidavit of non-collusion: A required affidavit of non-collusion will be incorporated as part of the proposal for each prospective bidder. Failure to complete and sign the sworn statement makes the bid non-responsive and ineligible for award consideration. By completing the electronic signature and submitting the proposal, each bidder by or on behalf of the person, firm, association, or corporation submitting the bid, certifies that such person, firm, association, or corporation has not, either directly or indirectly, entered into agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action, in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the submitted bid. This sworn statement shall be executed and sworn to by the bidder before a person who is authorized by the laws of the state to administer oaths. Pre-bid conference: A pre-bid conference will be held on Monday, February 28th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Airport Terminal, Merrill Municipal Airport. The purpose of the meeting will be to familiarize all concerned persons with the project and conditions at the airport. A teleconference line will also be available during the pre-bid conference. The call-in number is 888-204-5987, access code is 1548866. For further information, contact Karl Kemper at 715-551-5507, email kkemper@beche.roppe.com. City of Merrill, Wisconsin. Represented by Craig Thompson, Secretary. Department of

Legals 7700

Transportation. Sponsor's Authorized Agent Published Feb. 24 & Mar. 3, 2022 WNAXLP

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: 2/24/22 /s/ HONORABLE JAY R. TLUSTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BR I STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No. 22CV23 IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF Ann Marie Pankow NOTICE IS GIVEN: A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above: From: Ann Marie Pankow To: Ann Marie Rankin Birth Certificate: Ann Marie Rankin IT IS ORDERED: This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin: Judge's Name: Jay Tlusty Place: Branch I, Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, WI 54452 Date: 4-13-22 Time: 11:30 AM 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 \_\_\_\_\_, a newspaper published in \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of Wisconsin. Published Mar. 3, 10 & 17, 2022 WNAXLP

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: February 4, 2022 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2022IN000008 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Judine Schield PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: 1. An application for informal administration was filed. 2. The decedent, with date of birth 02-26-1939 and date of death 01-21-2022, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of WI, with a mailing address of W1771 County Road P, Merrill WI 54452. 3. All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 05-13-22. 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office. Kristen Scheldore 1708 River Street, Merrill, WI 54452 715-536-9464 Published Feb. 17, 24 & Mar. 3, 2022 WNAXLP

CITY OF MERRILL COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022 Regular Meeting City Hall Council Chambers 6:00 p.m. 1. Mayor Woellner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with following members: Paul Russell – First District, Present Steve Hass – Second District, Present Rick Blake – Third District, Present-Remote Steve Osnesn – Fourth District, Present John M. VanLieshout – Fifth District, Present Mike Rick - Sixth District, Present Mark Weix – Seventh District, Present Steve Sabatke – Eight District, Present Derek Woellner – Mayor, Present 2. Invocation was provided by Reverend Paul Hohman, New Testament Church 3. Pledge of Allegiance 4. Public Comment Period: Christine Vorpagel expressed appreciation for City of Merrill continuing remote access to public meetings. However, she questioned the disappearance of "Live Meeting" link on City website when meeting ended. Mayor Woellner reported that the video link moves to the Past Meetings section of the Public Meeting Portal.

Legals 7700

LaDonna Fermanich commented on concerns for 1) Affirmative Action Plan as to leaving policy oversight with the City Administrator, as well as need for additional checks and balances related to no retaliation; and 2) election integrity for upcoming City of Merrill elections. 5. Minutes of previous Common Council meeting – January 11, 2022 - Motion (Hass/VanLieshout) to approve. Carried. 6. Revenue & Expense Reports for period ending December 31, 2021 and January 31, 2022 -Motion (Hass/VanLieshout) to approve. Carried. 7. Communications and Petitions 1. Insurance claim from Susan Woller for sustaining bodily injury as a result of trip and fall located on curb/apron area of driveway located at 1705 E. 10th St. on October 16, 2021. The insurance company asserts that the City has no liability in this instance and recommends that this claim be denied. Motion (VanLieshout/Rick) to deny the claim. Carried. 8. Health & Safety Committee 1. Consider request from Walgreen's #10574 for Change of Agent - Motion (Hass/Weix) to approve the Change of Agent. Carried. 2. Consider application from 1-900, Jesse Quade, Agent, for a Class "B" (beer) and a Class "B" (liquor) license for 1-900 (2501 W. Main St.) - Motion (Hass/Weix) to approve the liquor licenses for 1-900. Carried. 3. Consider Temporary Class "B" Licenses for St. Francis Xavier (1708 E. 10th St.) for February, March, and April, 2022 for St. Francis Fish Fries - Motion (Hass/Weix) to approve the Temporary Licenses for St. Francis Xavier Fish Fries for seven dates. Carried. 9. Personnel & Finance Committee 1. Consider adoption of Pool Operator Certification Pay - Motion (Hass/Sabatke) to approve Pool Operator Certification Pay. Carried. 2. Consider Affirmative Action Plan (Being brought direct by Alderperson Hass since required for Wisconsin ARPA Tourism Grant for land purchase adjacent to City Forest Motion (Hass/Russell) to refer the Affirmative Action Plan to next Personnel & Finance Committee meeting for further review. Carried. 10. Placing Committee Reports on File: Consider placing the following committee reports on file: Transit Commission, T.B. Scott Free Library Board, Enrichment Center Committee, Marketing & Communications Committee, Health & Safety Committee, Personnel & Finance Committee, Board of Public Works, City Plan Commission, Redevelopment Authority, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Merrill Area Housing Authority Board Motion (Russell/VanLieshout) to place committee reports on file. Carried. 11. Mayor's Appointments Mayor Woellner clarified that the Jeff Schneider term to the Merrill Area Housing Authority ends on 11/10/2024 (i.e. filling remainder of Kent Johnson's term) and that Nicole Johnson's term ends on 11/10/2026. Motion (Russell/VanLieshout) to confirm Mayor's Appointments of Chad Krueger to the Parks & Recreation Commission with term ending on 5/1/2022 and Jeff Schneider to the Merrill Area Housing Authority with term ending on 11/10/2024. Carried. Ordinances: 1. An Ordinance amending Chapter 16, Section 16-1, 38-40 through 38-152, Utilities (Ordinance #2022-02) City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading by title only, followed by a synopsis. Finance Director Unertl reported that these are the water rates ordered by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and would be effective March 1, 2022. Motion (Hass/Sabatke) 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/VanLieshout) to adopt the ordinance. Carried on 8-0 roll call vote. 12. Resolutions:

Legals 7700

1. A Preliminary Resolution of intent to exercise Special Assessment Powers by Police Power under Section 66.0703 of the Wisconsin Statutes (Resolution #2716) RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin: A. The Common Council hereby declares its intention to exercise its power under Section 66.0703 Wisconsin Statutes, to levy special assessments under the police power upon all properties abutting the following improvements in the City of Merrill, Wisconsin: 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, between N. Center Ave. and N. Park 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. C. The Common Council determines that the above improvements constitute an exercise of the police power and the amount assessed each parcel abutting on the street shall be on a reasonable basis as approved by the Common Council and which rates are in effect at the time of installation in accordance with special assessment procedures set forth in provisions of Chapter 18, Article III, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Merrill, Wisconsin. D. The assessments against any parcels of land may be paid in cash not later than November 1 of the year such improvements are made, or in installments as provided by Chapter 18, Article III, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Merrill, Wisconsin. Rate of interest on installment payments shall be as set by Common Council action. E. The City Engineering/Zoning Department shall, with respect to the items mentioned at paragraph A above, prepare a report consisting of: 1. Preliminary or final plans and specifications with maps of the improvements. 2. An estimate of the entire cost of the proposed work or improvements. 3. A schedule of the proposed assessments as to each parcel of property affected. 4. A statement that the properties against which the assessments are proposed are benefited and that the improvements constitute an exercise of the police power. F. The City Engineering/Zoning

See LEGALS page 5

OBITUARIES

Violet C. 'Vi' Krueger, 98, of Merrill, passed away Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at Pine Crest Nursing Home, Merrill. Violet was born May 6, 1923, daughter of the late Martin and Lula (Hurd) Hall. She worked at the former Holy Cross Hospital, Merrill, as a nursing assistant. Vi also worked as a public health nursing assistant and was a long-time piano teacher. Vi was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Violet is survived by her daughters-in-law, Ruth Krueger of Arizona and Renee Krueger Hess (Jeff Hess) of Phillips; grandchildren, Lori Schlais, of Rockford, Illinois, Todd Seiler of Merrill, Lisa Anderson of Merrill, Jason Krueger (Sally Corrigan) of Crivitz, Jennifer (Roland) Kauffman of Stratford, and Michael (Rhina) Krueger of Rhinelander; great-grandchildren, Michelle (Kyle Lauer) St. Clair, Sara (Timothy) Clampain, Nickolas (Joleen) Anderson, Zackary (Chantelle Diels) Anderson, Autumn Schlais, Tricia (Bruce) Berg, Hannah Krueger, Mason Kauffman, Max Krueger, Josh Krueger, and Wyatt Krueger; great-great-grandchildren, CJ, Zendaya, and Sheamus St. Clair, Everly Lauer, Farrah and Anthony Clampain, Nolan and Jourdan Berg, and Julian and Amara Krueger; brother, Roland Hall of Merrill; and sister-in-law, Kay Hall of Merrill. Violet was preceded in death by her parents, Martin and Lula Hall; daughter, Diane Seiler; son, Jack W. Krueger; son-in-law, Ralph Seiler; and siblings, Richard Hall, Martin 'Bud' (Jean) Hall, Everett (Margaret) Hall, Janet (Doug) Cole, Donald (Marion) Hall, and infant Brian Hall; and sister-in-law, Melita Hall. The family wishes to thank Pine Crest Nursing Home staff and Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services for the wonderful care they provided Violet. The funeral service will be held at 11:00 A.M., Friday, March 4, 2022, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill. Pastor Justin Spady will officiate. Burial will take place in Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 10:00 A.M. Friday at the funeral home. The family suggests memorials be made directly to Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services, 520 N. 32nd Ave., Wausau, WI 54401. Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

NOTICE OF ELECTION MERRILL AREA COMMON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

APRIL 5, 2022 Referendum Details At an election in the Merrill Area Common Public School District on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, the following question will be submitted to a vote of the people: "Shall the Merrill Area Common Public School District, Lincoln and Langlade Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,500,000 per year beginning with the 2022-2023 school year and ending with the 2025-2026 school year, for non-recurring purposes to fund District operational and maintenance expenses?" A copy of the entire text of the resolution directing submission of the question set forth above to the electorate and information concerning District boundaries can be obtained from the District Clerk at the School District offices located at 1111 North Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin. Additional Information Acceptable photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles. Persons with questions regarding the referendum election should contact Dr. John Sample, District Administrator. Done in the Merrill Area Common Public School District on March 3, 2022 Ron Liberty, District Clerk WNAXLP Published March 3, 2022

Automotive Dealerships, You are invited to participate in a bidding process for replacement patrol vehicles. I have attached/enclosed a copy of our vehicle specifications and a copy of our newspaper ad that will be shared with the public. Thank you in advance for your participation. Quotes Wanted The Law Enforcement Committee of the Lincoln County Board seeks sealed quotes from licensed automobile dealers for new vehicles; two (2) new four-door sedans and two (2) new four-door SUVs. Dealers are asked to contact Chief Deputy Nathan Walrath by mail, phone (715-536-6272), or e-mail (nathan.walrath@co.lincoln.wi.us) for specifications. Send sealed quotes clearly identified on the outside of the envelope to 1104 East First Street, Merrill WI 54452. Only quotes received by 4:30 p.m. on March 7th, 2022 will be considered. The committee will act on quotes at the regularly scheduled March 2022 Law Enforcement Committee meeting. Lincoln County reserves the right to reject any and all quotes and to accept the quote most advantageous to the county. Nathan Walrath Chief Deputy Sheriff Published March 3, 2022 WNAXLP



LEGALS from page 6

Legals 7700

Department shall complete and file such reports in the City Clerk's office for public inspection no later than February 8th, 2022.

The Board of Public Works of the City of Merrill shall hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 23rd, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The hearing shall be held in the Council Chambers in the City Hall, Merrill, Wisconsin, on the improvements mentioned in paragraph A above.

2. A Resolution approving a Conditional Use Permit to remodel existing building and construct two new storage unit buildings at 705 S. Center Ave. (Resolution #2717)

WHEREAS, Albert Reinke, d/b/a AFR Holdings has requested a conditional use permit pursuant to the Merrill Zoning Code Chapter 113, Article IV, Section 113 for the purpose of remodeling existing building and constructing two new storage unit buildings on the following described property:

N 250' Of AP 220, and Prt of AP 220 - CM at NE CR SE 1/4 NW 1/4 - S 487' POB - W to Hwy 51 - SWLY ALG SD Hwy 50' - SELY to E LN SD 1/4 1/4 to PT 100' S of POB -N to POB, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

Commonly known as 705 S Center Avenue herein referred to as the "Premises"; and,

WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission scheduled a hearing on the application on February 1, 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 and has recommended approval of said application, subject to the following conditions:

-Exterior building colors to be earth tones, and aesthetically pleasing and consistent with neighboring property building colors;

-Final building plans for colors and landscaping to be brought back for Plan Commission review;

-A chain link fence no higher than 8 feet shall be constructed along the entire property;

-Landscaping acceptable to the Zoning Inspector shall be planted along the Center Avenue boundary;

Legals 7700

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 8th day of February, 2022, that a conditional use permit shall be issued to Albert Reinke, d/b/a AFR Holdings for the purpose of remodeling existing building and constructing two new storage unit buildings on the aforesaid described premises.

3. A Resolution authorizing a Development Agreement by and between the City of Merrill, Wisconsin and Tranquil Times Wellness, LLC (Resolution #2718)

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Merrill created Tax Increment District (TID) No. 6 on May 12, 2009 and the redevelopment site is within TID No. 6; and,

WHEREAS, Tranquil Times Wellness, LLC has proposed purchase and improvements to the vacant commercial building at 807 E. 1st Street; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill finds that the proposed development and the fulfillment of the items and conditions of the attached Development Agreement are in the vital and best interest of the City of Merrill, the Merrill Redevelopment Authority and City residents and serves a public purpose in accordance with State law; and,

WHEREAS, new jobs will be result from this redevelopment project; and,

WHEREAS, Tranquil Times Wellness, LLC has negotiated the development agreement to provide for an incentive payment not to exceed \$15,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 8th day of February, 2022, that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the development agreement by and between the City of Merrill and Tranquil Times Wellness, LLC and to facilitate the implementation thereof.

Motion (Hass/VanLieshout) to approve. Carried.

13. Mayor's Communications - Mayor Woellner advised that he will be talking to City Administration and Police Chief regarding "no knock warrants".

Motion (Rick/VanLieshout) to adjourn at 6:32 p.m. Carried.

Published Mar. 3, 2022

WNAXLP

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Lent, a special time

DEAR READER,

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, which many Christians observe in preparation for Easter. The Tuesday before, known variously as Fat Tuesday, Shrove Tuesday, or Mardi Gras, is a final bash before settling down for a time of contemplation.



We can trace the name for this season back through the centuries, from "lencten" in Old English, "lente" in Dutch, and Lenz in Old High German. All of these words refer to an ageless season of Christian

prayer, meditation, fasting, and good works, in preparation for the celebration of Easter and the Resurrection.

How a Christian observes Lent is a personal choice. Some may completely ignore it, others may fully embrace it, and many will choose something in between. Wherever you land on this continuum, there's something worthwhile in taking time to step back and consider one's choices and alignment with a higher purpose. This can lead to a new path forward that brings inner peace.

PATRICK J. WOOD PUBLISHER

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

TO THE EDITOR:

The Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Clyde Nelson, is running as a write-in candidate for the 4th District City Council seat. I am not a business owner or chamber member, but it would seem to me that the Chamber Board is OK with being viewed as a political organization or lobbyist of sorts since it is rumored they had to approve his request to run.

I am, however, a tax payer. And as such, certainly wonder how my interests will be weighed against those of a chamber business member whose fees pay the wages of my elected representative. Will Mr. Nelson's close-knit affiliation representing the business community within the city be equally weighed against those of his district when making council decisions?

In full disclosure, I am running for the 4th District Alderman seat. It's not a decision I came to lightly, which is why I went out in December and got the signatures of support required to run as a declared candidate, not a write-in. I believe the citizens of the 4th District deserve to know they are being represented by someone who has their best interests in mind at all times. And in fairness, shouldn't business members of the Chamber be able to expect the same from their paid director?

Respectfully,

- LaDonna Fermanich 4th District Candidate, Merrill, Wis.

sured in expressing his positions. Check out his resume and his expansive service to our community. He favors progress, but also financial restraint, working within our city's budget, not damaging our bond rating. Part of the mayor's job is to create an environment of cooperation and open dialog. Will that happen with a mayor and divisive administrator in lockstep? We can't move forward by stepping back. We need new ideas, and a respectful approach from someone with experience. My Vote is for Steve Hass!

- Cathy Robinson Merrill, Wis.

TO THE EDITOR:

In looking at the Merrill City website under News & Announcements, I recently read the list of city projects that have been finished or are currently in the works. This comprehensive list covers a 10-year time period; 2012-2021. We should all be impressed with how much our government has accomplished-222 projects total, not including those that have been recently approved to begin this year. On this list are projects of all sizes and types and when compared to decades past, our city is now in the midst of a revitalization that we should all be PROUD of. A revitalization that proves growth and development can happen, while retaining that which makes Merrill, Merrill. This list of 222 projects, addresses the main problems faced by City Officials in 2012. So over the past 10 years, the city has worked hard to REMEDY these problems, as one can clearly see by reading this list. Does the city have debt as a result of addressing these problems-of course! However, that debt is being paid off faster than it is accumulating. Through expansion of the property tax base and new economic development, the City can then begin to address additional community needs. Folks, a city that has NO debt, is a city that is dead. I ask you all to go online and to read this list for a better understanding of what our city has been doing!

- Heather O'Neill Town of Harding, Wis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

Pet of the Week. Nemo here! I am a big, scared, shy boy and came in as a surrender as I was living outside at someone's house along with Kelly and a few kittens. I am a bit shy and nervous but am doing my best to be brave as I wait to find my forever home. The shelter staff is doing their best to make me feel at home. My favorite thing right now is to sit on the window and watch the world go by or snuggle under a big soft blanket my staff has given me. So far I have enjoyed being warm, fed and safe at the shelter. My adoption fee will include my neuter, up to date vaccinations and microchip. Won't you stop down and meet me and my little surrendered family today? 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.

Student of the Week. This Week's Featured Student is Avery Dahlke Daughter of Makayla & Jake Dahlke Avery is in the 1st Grade at Kate Goodrich Elementary School. She was nominated by Amanda Jeffers.

What is your favorite subject in school? Why? My favorite subject in school is skills because I get to listen to a story and we get to do writing. I like that we get to change stories sometimes because it is a surprise. What is your favorite part of school? Why? My favorite part of school is everything because I think it is all a lot of fun! What would you like to do/become someday? Why? I would like to be a babysitter because I like seeing the cute babies and holding them.

Student of the Week Sponsored by: INTERFLEX GROUP 1401 W. Taylor St., Merrill (715) 536-5400

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- FEBRUARY 9, 2022 Girl, Willow Daniel, born to Crystal Grund and Dan Grund of Merrill. FEBRUARY 11, 2022 Girl, Remi May, born to Morgan Sutliff and Erik Sutliff of Merrill. Girl, Anastasia Lin, born to Tina Warren and Gregory Warren of Merrill. FEBRUARY 13, 2022 Girl, Evie McLean, born to Lindsay Ewoldt and Roy Ewoldt of Kronenwetter. FEBRUARY 15, 2022 Girl, Annabeth Marie Hall, born to Darian Batch and Nickolas Hall of Merrill.

FFA MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Bridget Steinagel, a Sophomore at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named FFA Member of the Month for February 2022. Bridget became involved in FFA this year because it seemed fun and she wanted to make more friends and get involved with FFA events. She enjoys participating in fundraisers and hopes to become an officer in the club in the future.

Bridget's love of agriculture is homegrown. "I show beef at the Lincoln County Fair, and I help my dad with the crop farming and the animals," she said. "I like to help my dad out on the farm and work on my steer for this year's Fair."

She also enjoys snowmobiling, wrestling, and dance. Bridget joined the Merrill High School Wrestling Team this year. "It was fun, because I went to the first Girls State," she said in reference to the first ever WIAA State Girls Wrestling Tournament. "I am also in dance at the studio in town, and I have been in dance since I was eight years old." She was on the Cheer Team this year, as well.

When not involved in athletics or agriculture, she also works part-time on the weekends at Ed & Sharon's Restaurant.

Bridget is the daughter of Jodi and Brian Steinagel of Merrill. "We live in the country west of town," she said. After high school graduation, "I plan on going to college and doing something to do with agriculture," she added.



Bridget Steinagel

Congratulations from this sponsor: COLDWELL BANKER ACTION Independently Owned and Operated 715-536-0550 2402 E. Main St., Merrill FFA Members highlighted in this feature are selected by the Executive Committee of the FFA, not by the sponsor.



# City of Merrill 2022 Election Forum

## Mayoral and City Clerk candidates on deck

- **DATE:** Monday, March 14, 2022
- **TIME:** 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
Doors open at 5:00 p.m.
- **LOCATION:** Merrill Expo Center, 303 N. Sales St., Merrill, WI 54452

The public is invited to attend an evening with Merrill Mayoral candidates Bill Bialecki, former Mayor of Merrill from 2010 to 2018, and Steve Hass, current Alderman of Merrill Common Council. City Clerk candidates, Lori L. Anderson-Malm and John Guenther, will also be featured.

The forum will include a moderated debate, an intermission, and will conclude with the candidates answering a selection of previously-submitted questions from the public. Art Lersch from the UW Madison-Lincoln Co Extension office will be the moderator.

The event will be livestreamed for remote viewing from the City of Merrill website. Visit the City of Merrill webpage at: <https://www.ci.merrill.wi.us/> on March 14 for viewing options.

Light refreshments will be provided. Masks and social distancing encouraged.

The event is made possible thanks to T.B. Scott Free Library, UW Madison-Extension Lincoln County, the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, and the

City of Merrill.

To submit a question for the Mayoral or City Clerk candidates, go to the City of Merrill website and select "Mayoral/City Clerk Forum" in the left-side menu column, or visit the T.B. Scott Free Library, 106 W. 1st St., Merrill. Questions must be submitted by Monday, March 14, at 5:00 p.m.

*As an EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and ADA/504 requirements. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service or activity. Requests may be made through the UW Office of Access, Inclusion, and Compliance (oaic.@extension.wisc.edu.)*

To familiarize area residents with Alderperson candidates, video interviews with the candidates will be made available on the City of Merrill website as well as social media platforms. This project is in collaboration with T.B. Scott Free Library, UW Madison-Extension Lincoln County, and Merrill Productions—Merrill Area Public Schools.

# Nelson registers as write-in candidate for District Four Alderman

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR



Clyde R. Nelson

On Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022, Clyde R. Nelson of Merrill declared his candidacy, as a write-in candidate, for the position of Alderman for District Four in the City of Merrill, by virtue of his letter to the Merrill City Clerk's office.

He is now officially registered as a write-in candidate and his name will be included on the appropriate list at the polling place.

Nelson is currently the Executive Director of the Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce and serves on the City of Merrill's Redevelopment Authority (RDA).

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Bacon - Thick Sliced Applewood Smoked-Frozen 18 lbs. .... ONLY \$2.99 a lb.	Sliced Swiss Cheese 2.5 lbs. .... ONLY \$2.29 a lb.	Yellow Sliced Cheese 5 lbs. .... ONLY \$9.99
Pork Franks - Frozen Hardwood Smoked 16 oz. .... ONLY \$1.19	Mozzarella Cheese Shredded 5 lbs. .... ONLY \$8.75	Plain Yogurt (Whole Milk) 32 oz. .... ONLY 89¢
Bratwurst (Beer) Uncooked 16 oz. .... ONLY \$1.39	Cheddar Cheese Shredded 5 lbs. .... ONLY \$1.79 a lb.	Peach Yogurt 12/6 oz. .... ONLY \$3.99
Bratwurst Fully Cooked - Frozen 14 oz. .... ONLY \$1.69	Provalone Cheese Shredded 5 lbs. .... ONLY \$8.45	Mixed Berry Yogurt 12/6 oz. .... ONLY \$3.99
Turkey Sausage Patties Fully Cooked Frozen 20 oz. .... ONLY \$2.39	String Cheese Low Moisture Mozzarella 16 oz. .... ONLY 59¢	French Vanilla Yogurt 12/6 oz. .... ONLY \$3.99
Rising Crust Pepperoni Pizza 27.5 oz. .... ONLY \$3.99	Chili Beans 15.5 oz. .... ONLY 79¢	Chicken and Rice Soup 10.5 oz. .... ONLY 69¢
Supreme Pizza (Thin Crust) 24.8 oz. .... ONLY \$3.99	Mushrooms Pieces & Stems 4 oz. .... ONLY 79¢	Baked Beans Honey Chipotle 21.5 oz. .... ONLY \$1.29
Chopped Ham Sliced - Frozen 16 oz. .... ONLY \$1.39	Colombian Medium Roast Coffee K-Cup 72 ct. .... ONLY \$13.99	Cranberry Juice Cocktail 64 oz. .... ONLY \$1.49
Potato Skins Bacon Ranch, Cheddar Bacon 18 oz. .... ONLY \$3.99	Strawberry Syrup 20 oz. .... ONLY 59¢	Ginger Snap Soda 20 oz. .... ONLY 39¢

In-store only, we reserve the right to limit quantities.

130778

# World Championship Merrill Ice Drags concludes their season; 2022 Season Champions announced

The 57th running of the World Championship Merrill Ice Dragger Inc. concluded in a Super Saturday fun day for the dedicated racers. This sport is like none other. Completely at nature's mercy, it's never guaranteed the races can take place. Mother nature smiled on the Ice Drags this year and held out for a full six-week run!

The hard core group of men and women setting things up, making these races possible, and the racers and spectators all battled below zero morning temps, gusting snow storms, and a new track layout to keep this Merrill tradition alive. The Merrill Ice Dragger thanks

the community for all their support and looks forward to the 2023 Season!

Congratulations to the 2022 Season Points Merrill Ice Drags Champions:

**2wd**

- #1 Linda Krebsbach
- #2 Keegan Lawrie

**4X4**

- #1 Scott Ullman
- #2 Matt Wendricks

**11.0 Sec.**

- #1 Scott Ostrowski
- #2 Harley Hixon

See ICE DRAGS page 9



## Congratulations Paige!!!

Ended the year ranked #1 in District 9.

Good Luck at the State  
Singles Bowling Tournament  
**March 4-6**

Love Dad, Mom, & Piper



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Fax: (715) 539-3686

**Ad & News Deadlines:**  
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12:30 p.m. Monday

Classified Advertising:  
11:30 a.m. Monday

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

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY





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area students through April 29, 2022



# Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM  
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

## Seeking a Friend for the End of the World

(Available on most streaming apps)

★★★★☆

Rated R – for language and adult themes



away when the radio announces that the last chance to stop the meteor has failed, and Kiera Knightly as Penny, his flaky neighbor who has missed the last flight to England to see her family.

The unlikely duo team up to go find Dodge's first and true love and find Penny a way home to England.

Along the way, they end up with a dog named Sorry, encounter a man that hired an assassin to kill him, survivalists, and in one straight-up funny sequence, come across a chain restaurant in the middle of nowhere whose staff has decided to embrace the end and party till the meteor hits, as well as a mass wedding on the beach. And along the way, they also come to understand that love can be found anywhere, at any time, with anyone; you just have to be open to it and embrace it when it comes; and the realization that sometimes the timing is not the greatest.

You would think that this one would be played straight to drama fans or straight to comedy, but instead, it's more of a study on how people would be when faced with a scheduled end to their lives. And honestly, in this film, most people are pretty much ok with it.

Funny, sad, and possessing a lot of insight into the human condition, *Seeking a Friend for the End of the World* balances multiple themes and does so with style.

Available on most streaming apps, and it pops up on the pay channels once in a while, this one gets four out of five stars from me (it's actually in my Blu-Ray collection), and is worth checking out.

Hi everyone! Well, once again that little thing called adulthood got in the way of me seeing a new release for you fine folks, so we are going to dip back into the way-back vault for one you may have missed.

*Seeking a Friend for the End of the World* came out back in 2012, but it never really got the recognition it deserves, due to the fact that it's a romantic dramedy revolving around the end of the world.

You see, the premise is that there is a meteor on the way to earth, and everyone is going to die when it hits. It stars Steve Carell as Dodge, a middle class office drone in a loveless marriage whose wife literally jumps from their car and runs

## Beyond Books: Community ArtShare exhibits are back

T. B. Scott Library presents "Baskets Galore and More" by Cindy Leskey

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR



A collection of Leskey's baskets on display at the T.B. Scott Library.

Submitted photos.

Cindy Leskey, a long-time resident of Merrill, says she has always been interested in creative and artistic endeavors, including (but not limited to) painting, sewing, and miscellaneous craft projects, said a recent press release from the T.B. Scott Library announcing the return of ArtShare exhibits to the facility.

Now Leskey's passion is creating stunning handmade pine needle baskets. Though fairly new to the world of pine needle basketry, her creative designs make a statement and intrigue crafters, artists, and viewers alike.

"A friend, Carol Schlintz, introduced me to this craft five years ago," Leskey said when asked how she got started. "She winters in Florida and would harvest the needles, bringing several totes back to Wisconsin."

Leskey uses loblolly and long leaf pine needles that are 12-15" in length to create her pine needle baskets. Some are woven using the natural color of the needles, but in most



Another of Leskey's one-of-a-kind pine needle baskets incorporates jewelry pieces and beads, natural needles, and hand-dyed needles in its artistry. Her baskets are now on display at the T.B. Scott Library until March 31, 2022.

cases, she and her friend would hand dye the needles to create brilliant colors.

Originally, Leskey and Schlintz "Camped at the same campground and would spend several weekends dyeing the needles and pouring the resin bases," Leskey said, "then splitting our work."

"Since then, Carol now resides in Florida full-time," Leskey said. Now ... "My neighbors visit Florida every year and harvest needles for me to dye myself."

Leskey said she never knows what the finished product will look like until she completes the last stitch.

Each of her baskets are unique and designed using organic materials and reclaimed jewelry, beads, buttons, and keepsakes, mostly found at second-hand stores and garage sales. The bases are sealed with polyurethane or set in resin.

Leskey has also ex-  
See LIBRARY  
page 9

**DINNER@FIVE**  
A COMMUNITY TABLE AT SAINT STEPHENS

Join us every Monday at 5:00PM for a community meal open to all.

**Saint Stephens United Church of Christ**  
903 E 2nd Street, Merrill.  
Free will donations accepted.

**Monday, March 7th Menu:**  
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Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

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MARCH 11TH - WALLEYE  
Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM  
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Book and Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

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Fri., March 11 at 7:30pm  
Sat., March 12 at 2:00pm  
Sat., March 12 at 7:30pm

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Fri.: 1:00 p.m.  
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**DABBERT**  
from page 1

the church to the cemetery, as pallbearers and in squads that accompanied the procession to the cemetery. Dabbert died on Feb. 22, 2022, at the age of 69.

Dabbert became a Police Officer for the Merrill Police Department on May 13, 1974, at age 21. Promoted to Sergeant on Jan. 1, 1982 and then to Lieutenant on Jan. 1, 1986; appointed Safety Director on Apr. 1, 1990; and then promoted to Captain on Apr. 17, 1998, Dabbert devoted 32 years to law enforcement and retired on Dec. 31, 2006. While working with the Police Department, he oversaw the Safety Patrol Program and accomplished getting defibrillators placed in each police vehicle.

As Merrill Police Chief Corey Bennett said in a tribute to Dabbert on the Department's Facebook page following the funeral, it is impossible to sum up one's life or their contributions in such a post and, likewise, in a short article. "As the pastor summarily stated at the service, words are incredibly insufficient at times," Bennett wrote.

"That being said, as we remembered Rich this past week, there was a theme that remained for those of us still here that had the pleasure of working with him," he wrote. "It's also something you will not likely read in a conventional leadership book, training seminar, etc."

"That was his never-ending quiet, calm, and capable personality," Bennett wrote. "In this



Merrill Police Department officers act as pallbearers, escorting the flag-draped coffin of their brother in blue, Retired Captain Richard Dabbert, from St. Stephens United Church of Christ in Merrill.  
**Tina L. Scott photo.**

profession it's hard to imagine never having to raise your voice in some situation. Yet, nobody can recall Rich ever having done that. Now, I'm sure it happened, but clearly it happened so infrequently that literally nobody can remember it."

"That alone speaks to a level of professionalism, confidence, and competence that we all aspire to," Bennett said. "He led by being the best example to everyone (citizen or coworker) that he could be. Those values and that demeanor will echo forward."

Described as a "quiet, determined, funny man," Dabbert spent his retirement years enjoying the things he loved most: family, cooking, community, volunteering, and sports, just to name a few. He volunteered for a variety of charities, including the Food Pantry, Free Clinic, serving on the Hospital Board, and at his church, St. Stephens, where he headed up the Scrip program most recently and had taught Sunday School for many years prior.

He was also an avid sports fan who enjoying playing, watching, and coaching a variety of sports, and he had coached Little League and youth basketball for many years.

Rich Dabbert loved and leaves behind his wife, Nancy, whom he married nearly 44 years ago; two daughters, Kristen and Kari; two granddaughters, Genevieve and Vivian; and siblings, Sharon and Milton, as well as a community of friends and his brothers in blue.

In the words of Police Chief Corey Bennett: "Rich, we thank you for your honorable service to this City during your professional career and, of course, well after through your volunteerism. It required a level of sacrifice not easily found in modern times. Sacrifices which always come with a personal cost."

"Thank you to the Dabbert family for sharing in those sacrifices and generously sharing Rich with us. He will be missed."

**CHARGES** from page 3

- lia, Repeater
- Operating with Restricted Controlled Substance in Blood - Second Offense, Repeater
  - Operate Motor Vehicle While Revoked, Repeater

Schwartz is currently incarcerated in the Wisconsin State Prison System, according to the release.

As in any criminal proceeding, Schwartz is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

According to the release, DCI led the investigation, assisted by the Wausau Police Department, Wausau Fire & EMS, and Wisconsin State Patrol, and all involved law enforcement fully cooperated with DCI during this investigation.

**ICE DRAGS**  
from page 7

**10.0 Sec.**

- #1 Adalyn Blake
- #2 Harley Hixon

**9.0 Sec.**

- #1 Travis Arndt
- #2 Duston Koenig

**8.5 Sec.**

- #1 Zach Degner
- #2 Jacob Bloechl

**Easy Street II**

- #1 Kevin Pophal
- #2 Ryan Degner

**8.0 Sec.**

- #1 Jacob Bloechl
- #2 Zach Runge

**Ultimate Street**

- #1 Dusty Neilsen
- #2 Austin Willis

**7.0 Sec.**

- #1 Stephan Pophal
- #2 Mike Bohman

**Modified**

- #1 Ryan Blake
- #2 Ryan Podeweltz

**Altered**

- #1 Ryan Podeweltz
- #2 Ryan Blake

**Open Door Slammer**

- #1 Ryan Blake
- #2 Ryan Podeweltz

**Outlaw**

- #1 Ryan Blake
- #2 Keith Krueger

**LIBRARY** from page 8

panded to rope baskets made with clothesline, fabric, and trinkets. Each basket is one-of-a-kind.

Leskey's baskets are now on exhibit, entitled "Baskets Galore and More," at the T.B. Scott Library until March 31, 2022.

Local artists and collectors are encouraged to contact Donna at the T.B. Scott Library to learn more about future displays and opportunities.



Cindy Leskey's unique pine needle basket designs incorporate many organic and found items, such as this one that uses an antler as an integral part of the design.

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- Loin End Pork Roast **\$1.39** lb.
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- 85% Lean Family Pack Ground Beef **\$3.69** lb.
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- Snow White Cauliflower ..... **\$1.49** lb.
- 1 lb. Sweet Mini Peppers ..... **\$2.99**

**BAKERY**

4 ct. Turnovers ..... **\$3.99**

**FROZEN**

- Pep's, 12" Pizza & Pizza Fries ..... **2/\$10.00**
- Stone Ridge, 12 ct. Ice Cream Bars ..... **2/\$5.00**
- 2 pk., Assorted Varieties Hot Pockets ..... **\$2.99**

**LIQUOR**

- Captain Morgan, 1.75 Liters Rum ..... **\$24.99**
- Dripping Springs, 1.75 Liters Vodka ..... **\$18.99**
- Canadian Mist, 1.75 Liters Whisky ..... **\$14.99**

**GROCERY**

- Super Chill, 2 Liter Soda ..... **\$1.00**
- Essential Everyday, 12 = 24 Soft & Strong Toilet Paper ..... **\$5.99**
- Essential Everyday, 8 Rolls Awesome Strength Paper Towels ..... **\$5.99**

**DELI**

- Ham Off-The-Bone ..... **\$6.49** lb.
- Deli Made Tuna Pasta Salad ..... **\$4.99** lb.

**DAIRY**

- Dean's, Gallons Chocolate Milk ..... **\$3.99**
- 52 oz. Tropicana ..... **2/\$7.00**
- Essential Everyday, 24 oz. Cottage Cheese .. **2/\$5.00**
- Farm Fresh, 16 oz. Sour Cream or Dip ..... **\$1.29**
- Kraft, 8 oz. Shredded or Chunk Cheese... **2/\$5.00**

**Dave's County Market**

All Sales Good Through Sunday, March 6, 2022! We have the right to limit quantities and correct printing errors. No sales to dealers. Sorry, no rain checks. While supplies last.

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Earn 1 Easter Bunny Buck for every \$50 transaction. Collect 6 Easter Bunny Bucks and receive a \$10 store gift card. (Offer Valid 3/06/22 - 4/17/22) See store for details. Bunny Bucks must be redeemed by May 1, 2022.

Check Out Our Website at: [www.DavesCountyMarketMerrill.com](http://www.DavesCountyMarketMerrill.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)

**Professional and Technical 7135**

**New Sounds New Sites & a New Career catch your eye?** We can help! Train with SCDTI for your CDL. NO wait list! Call **715-942-2700 ext 102**

**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)**

**Announcements 7005**



**NEW BUSINESS NOW OPEN:** Strive 4 Life, LLC., Offers many different types of testing, such as Urine Drug Testing, DOT & Non-DOT Panels, Hair Follicle Drug Testing, Breath Alcohol, DOT Consortium, Health Assessment (Bio-metric), Respirator/Mask FIT testing, Audiogram, DNA, and much more. Our operation accommodates our clients 24/7 (after hours by appointment) Office hours Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm. Mobile/onsite services available. Call today for new client incentives. 730 East 2nd St. Merrill WI 54452 [www.strive-4-life.com](http://www.strive-4-life.com) (715)201-9600 Tammy Strehlow or Kathy Olson

**Estate Sales 7208**

**Above & Beyond Estate Sales and More**  
 Estate of James Haney  
 1941 Ashford Dr, Plover  
 Friday March 4th 9-4  
 Saturday March 5th 9-4  
 Sunday March 6th 9-3  
 Many new or like-new items!  
 Men's clothing XL-4XL, Shoes, collectibles, Books, Furniture, Toro Push Mower, 55" Smart TV, Speed Queen Washer & Dryer, Pottery, Pictures, Housewares, Patio Table & Chairs, Lamps, Bicycles, Christmas Collections, and so much more!  
 No Early Sales, Cash Only

**CW ESTATE SALE**  
 Fri. 3/4/22 2-6pm  
 Sat. 3/5/22 10-2pm  
 Sun. 3/6/22 (1/2 off) 10-2pm  
 805 Humboldt Ave  
 Wausau WI 54403

Eclectic sale packed with sports memorabilia and other house hold items! This sale has a couple of Ethan Allen solid wood dressers, Ethan Allen grandfather clock, several eagle decor pieces, a couple large ceramic owl statues, small rooster collection, and even a large collection of tea pots. We have plenty of holiday items including several blow molds. There's some carnival glass and depression glass, a large swung vase, MCM black panther light, lots of baseball cards, signed baseballs, 80s and 90s sports figurines in original packaging. A small selection of hand tools and power tools and yard decor pieces. For more information and pictures, like CW Estate Sales and Services on Facebook.

**JANE'S Estate Sales 3/4-3/6/22**  
 1219 S 6th Ave - Wausau  
 Fri 12-5, Sat 9-3, Sun 10-1  
 Lovely small sale. Loads of craft, sewing and fabric. Kenmore mini Ultra sewing machine, small furniture pieces, twin beds, linens, hand-made quilts, corner curio cabinet, kitchenware, cookware, hutch, Clark Jewel antique stove, rocking chairs, holiday, glassware & china.  
 Go to JANE'S Estate Sales or estatesales.org for photos. SEE YOU THERE!

**Antiques and Collectibles 7214**

**FLEA MARKET SATURDAYS**  
 9-3pm INDOORS 115 E Division  
 Downtown Shawano  
**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**

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**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)

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**KNOTTY PINE** for your walls & ceiling. T&G end matched, pre-finished, starting at \$2.95 square ft. Many options to choose from. 25'000 sq ft in stock. Call Lawrence @ Iron Bridge Industries 715-257-1011 Athens, WI

**Firewood 7244**

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

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**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  
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**Guns 7264**



**54 ANNUAL NCWGA Spring Gun Show Merrill Expo Building** (Lincoln Co. Fairgrounds) 303 N Sales St. Merrill, WI **Mar. 4th & 5th, 2022**  
 Hours Open to the Public:  
 Friday 3pm-8pm  
 Saturday 9am-4pm  
 Admission \$5. Youth under 14 Free (with paid adult)  
 Sponsored by:  
 North Central WI Gun Collectors Assoc, Inc.  
 For information only call Fred 715-443-2825

**Gun Show- Stevens Point** March 19th, 2022, 8am-3pm. Izaak Walton Lodge, 5297 HWY 66 NE, Exit 159, 1/3 mile past airport on right. Food available. \$5.00 admission. Bring your guns or sporting collectables to sell or trade. Information 715-343-2625

**Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266**

**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)**

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**Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266**

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**Accepting applications for Limited Term Employment - Summer Help and Full Time Highway Workers**

Regular scheduled work week is Monday through Thursday 6:30 am to 4:30 pm with on call and overtime opportunities.

Starting wage for the Limited Term Employment - Summer Help is \$14.00 per hour and performs duties as assigned.

Starting Wage for the Highway worker is \$18.22 per hour. Positions are eligible for the Lincoln County benefit package including health, dental, vision, life, LTD, vacation, sick leave, holiday pay and Wisconsin Retirement System. CDL required within 6 months of hire date for the Highway worker.

Job description, duties, responsibilities, and application are listed on the Lincoln County web page at [www.co.lincoln.wi.us](http://www.co.lincoln.wi.us) (career opportunities) or applications can be picked up at the Lincoln County Service Center at 801 N. Sales Street (upper level) Merrill, WI. John Hanz, Highway Commissioner, may be reached at 715-539-2554 if you need additional information or have questions.

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**Dogs 7272**

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**Hay and Straw 7288**

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LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK • MARCH ??, 2018 - MARCH ??, 2022

Christ centered education celebrated at Trinity during Lutheran Schools Week

BY JOY MARQUARDT

The theme "In All Things," based on Colossians 1:15-20, is explored at Trinity Lutheran School in Merrill March 6-11 with projects and activities commemorating Lutheran Schools Week.

"Jesus is in all things," said Principal Kathy Yahr. "We are going out and doing what Jesus commanded us to do and what he modeled for us when He washed people's feet and when He healed people. Everything Jesus did was for someone else."

The theme "In All Things" has been celebrated at Trinity throughout the school year with service projects for the church, school, and community. Each class in grades K-8 made monetary donations or collected items at Christmas for a charity of their choice and donated chapel offerings during the year to a variety of missions. The Junior National Honors Society held a Candy-gram sale in fall to raise funds for the Merrill Area Community (MAC) Home in Merrill among other projects.

"Our focus is always on thinking about others and bringing the love of Christ into everything we do," said second grade teacher Rebekah Johnson. "We are always asking how we can serve and be kind to others. We focus on others all year long."

To emphasize Lutheran Schools Week, each class will be designing a special project to share what they love about Trinity. Students can create posters, songs, art projects, or use whatever medium they choose. Pictures of the projects will be put on display in the church.



Trinity's National Junior Honor Society students ring bells during the Christmas months to raise money for the Salvation Army.

Students in Johnson's second grade class are each writing a passage about why they love Trinity and placing them on paper hearts to make a collage.

"I think the purpose of Lutheran Schools Week is to celebrate that we get to be a Christ-centered community and we get to share the love of Jesus every single day at our school," Johnson said.

During the week, Trinity students will be participating in special dress-up days, traveling to the Cosmo Theatre for a movie, and learning the sport of archery through the National Archery in the Schools Program. A special mid-week chapel service is planned by Devan Arnston, Director of Christian Education.

"We have several staff people and community volunteers coming in to help with the archery program," Yahr



First graders sing praises to God during Chapel.

said. "It will be good community involvement. We haven't been able to do it for two years because of COVID."

Throughout the school year, all students at Trinity will be going on field trips to places such as the Grand Theatre in Wausau. The middle school students recently completed Winter Outdoor Education classes at Camp Forest Springs.

"It's great to have our students back and going on field trips again," Yahr said. "It's much more back to normal this year and that's a good thing. Our volunteers are coming back into school. We have grandparents coming in and reading with the children and we didn't do that for two years."

Laura Bahlow, in her first year as head cook at Trinity, has two children attending the school.

"I really enjoy getting to work with the kids and serving them," she said. "I felt called to do it."

Bahlow likes the small class sizes at Trinity, the camaraderie she shares with the other parents, and the family atmosphere of the church and school.

"We became members of Trinity a year ago and we really like the atmosphere; it's very welcoming, like a family," Bahlow said. "We wanted to broaden that and wanted our children to have a Christian background as part of the school."

Trinity alumna, Beth Weinkauf, has a son enrolled in the school and has been an active member of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) for more than four years,

See TRINITY page 15

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# In All Things is theme of Lutheran Schools Week at St. John

BY JOY MARQUARDT

Sharing the all encompassing love of Christ with their community and beyond, students at St. John Lutheran School of Merrill celebrate Lutheran Schools Week March 6-11 with fellowship and fun.

The theme of the week "In All Things," based on Colossians 1:15-20, has been emphasized throughout the year with a variety of projects and activities at the church and school.

"The theme 'In All Things' is also the theme of the National Youth Gathering which will be held in Texas this summer," said first grade teacher Burgandy Krusensterna. "It relates to how God is in all things. He is in our school and He is in our community and He is with us each day."

Worship services kick off the week on Sunday, March 6, at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. at the church with students participating in Bible readings and songs.

"The services will be student led," Krusensterna said. "The students will be doing things like Bible readings, singing songs, and collecting the offering."

During the year, students attend a weekly chapel service which reflects the theme of the school year. The services are led by students in each grade level on a rotating basis.

"All of our chapel talks have followed the theme of the year," Krusensterna said. "My first graders recently led a chapel on how God has all authority and how that is displayed throughout our lives."

Daily devotions throughout Lutheran Schools Week will focus on a variety of topics such as Christ, creation, children, and community.

As a community service project for the week, students will be conducting a Penny War to raise funds for Mighty Maddy's Mission, a local charity dedicated to assisting families who have hospitalized children. During the school year,

students have held several food drives for the Merrill Food Pantry and donated chapel offerings to Camp Luther and other missions.

"Because God lives in us, we can share His light with others and help out our neighbors," Krusensterna said. "We are always looking at ways we can help out others."

A highlight of Lutheran Schools Week at St. John will be the Thomas Edison Historical Assembly, an historical reenactment and educational display presented by Mobile Ed Productions. The program features replicas of Edison's first inventions, an original working phonograph, and discussion of the invention process.

"It will be a presentation in the first person with someone dressed up as Thomas Edison who will talk about the invention process," said science teacher and Co-Interim Principal John Breitwisch. "They will bring in replicas of his earlier inventions like the telegraph, and there will be some demonstrations, as well."

Other activities during Lutheran Schools Week will include dress-up days, neon bowling, board games, a cinema day complete with popcorn, and a special hot breakfast served in the school cafeteria.

"We are just like a family here," Breitwisch said. "The kids get to know their classmates and all of the teachers and other adults in the building. It's like you are part of a family."

A science teacher for grades 4 - 8, Breitwisch will host the 23rd annual Science Fair Thursday, April 28, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the school gym. The fourth grade class will participate in an egg drop contest, constructing a container and letting it fall from various heights. The fifth and sixth grade assignment is to invent a product and make a sales pitch in a Shark Tank type presentation, and seventh and eighth grade students will present traditional science fair



projects, learning how to write a hypothesis and analyze data. The event is open to the public.

"I like that science is a hands-on subject and not just a book-based subject," Breitwisch said. "The students can be very active in it."

Breitwisch incorporates faith-based learning into his curriculum on a daily basis, discussing elements of science from a Biblical perspective.

"I start teaching science at the fourth grade level, and we talk about God's design in creation," he said. "I stress how creation is scientifically supported. We talk about how our faith is incorporated in all aspects of science."

Parent Krissi Schultz chose to enroll her children at St. John because of the faith-based learning, smaller class sizes, and high level of parental involvement.

"We wanted a Christian-based school for our children to go to," Schultz said. "My husband went there, so our kids are like the third generation of our family to go to St. John. They go to chapel every week, and I think religion is taught throughout the day."

Schultz has been involved with the St. John Mother's Club for more than five years, planning fundraising events and fun activities for the school. The organization holds an annual Fall Bazaar,

Holiday Mall, and Cookie Walk, and hosts the Merrill High School Football Banquet and book fairs, among other events. Proceeds from the events are used to provide classroom supplies, fund fieldtrips, and other needs for the school.

The next fundraiser for the Mother's Club, the annual Spring Carnival, will be held Friday, April 8, in the school gym. The carnival, which had to be cancelled the past two years because of COVID, features concessions, games, and prizes.

"I just like to put the events together and be there to watch all of the kids come through," Schultz said. "Whether it's the Holiday Mall or the Spring Carnival, the kids enjoy the events; it's a big deal for them."

St. John is now accepting enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year in pre-school through grade 8 and is part of the Wisconsin Parental School Choice Program.

"Our small school environment allows us to get to know our students and helps them build confidence," said Co-Interim Principal Jen Heyel. "We all know each other, and getting to know our students really helps."

For more information about St. John School or to schedule a tour, phone 715.536.7264.

## TRINITY from page 14

currently serving as co-chair.

"I like being involved in my son's education and getting to know the other parents," she said. "The people I work with every month are just phenomenal. There's a sense of community; everyone is willing to help out and pitch in."

As a member of the PTO, Weinkauff assists with a fall and spring fundraiser and the annual Spring Auction. Proceeds from the events have been used to construct a nature-based playground and repave a portion of the grounds. Funds this year will be used to upgrade technology.

"We try to do a fall and spring fundraiser and an annual auction," Weinkauff said. "For something new this year, we tried selling Grandma Dotties Dips in the fall, and it turned out great. Our spring fundraiser is always the Spring Flower Sale."

The largest fundraiser of the year, the annual Spring Auction, will make a return Saturday, April 2, with a dinner, raffle, and live and silent auctions at the Merrill Town Hall.

"Our biggest fundraiser is the Spring Auction," Weinkauff said. "This will be our first one since 2020 when the school

shut down two weeks before the auction because of COVID. We haven't been able to do another in-person auction until now, so this will be our first one back. The live auction is always the star of the event."

Auction items donated by the community, which vary from year to year, will include a golden ticket for early shopping at the Crooked Queen of Merrill, escorted fire truck and police car rides to school, special women's and men's raffles, and a dessert auction.

"We have a lot of fun prizes," Weinkauff said. "We couldn't do it without the community. They are so willing to help out."

The PTO at Trinity also hosts teacher appreciation events, sponsors field trips and book fairs, and donates books to the individual classroom libraries.

"I believe in faith-based learning and the religious aspect of the school," Weinkauff said. "The kids are taught about God and are learning to be helpful to others. Trinity helped me grow in my faith and my understanding of what it is to have a relationship with God."

Trinity is part of the Wisconsin Parental School Choice Program and is currently taking enrollment for the 2022-2023 academic year. For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, phone 715.536.7501.

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# Depies advances to State Wrestling Tournament

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

On Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022, three Merrill High School (MHS) wrestlers competed in the Sectional meet trying to earn a trip to the State Tournament.

Ryder Depies, a Junior at MHS, won all three of his matches, advancing him to the State Wrestling Tournament.

"Ryder wrestled composed and solid all day long," said Head Varsity MHS Wrestling Coach Brian Suchocki. "The Sectional Tournament is a stressful competition. It is even more important to take it one match at a time."

"That's exactly what Ryder did," he said. "All his work and preparation paid off. I'm glad he accomplished one of his goals this weekend, and he will stay focused on achieving his next goals."

"We talk all the time about 'controlling what you can control.' That is the approach we take with Merrill Wrestling," Suchocki said. "Ryder has done a great job of that all year. At State, the competition will be tough, but our approach will stay the same. I'm very happy for Ryder. He does things the right way. No short cuts."

Depies placed first and scored 22.0 team points at the Sectional. He won by a fall over a River Falls wrestler at

2:24, won by a major decision over a Menominee wrestler, and took first place with a win by major decision against a DC Everest wrestler.

Two other MHS Varsity wrestlers competed at the Sectional: Wyatt Bathke, a Senior at MHS, and Callum Wheeler, a Freshman at MHS.

"Unfortunately Wyatt Bathke lost his first match which eliminated him from the Tournament," Suchocki said. "I know it left a bad feeling for Wyatt, but he had a great season and always competed hard for his teammates and community."

"Wyatt will be missed next season," he said. "His toughness and determination paved the way for his teammates."

"Callum Wheeler was also eliminated from the Sectional Tournament in the first round," Suchocki said. "Callum wrestled well even though he was disappointed with the results."

"We want our wrestlers to know it's not about the result," he said. "It's about did you give your best effort. I know Callum competed his hardest, and that's all we can ask."

"Callum really came on as a Freshman towards the end of season," Suchocki said. "I know he will continue to work hard, and he has all the tools to be very successful throughout his high school wrestling career. We enjoy working with

him and look forward to the next three years."

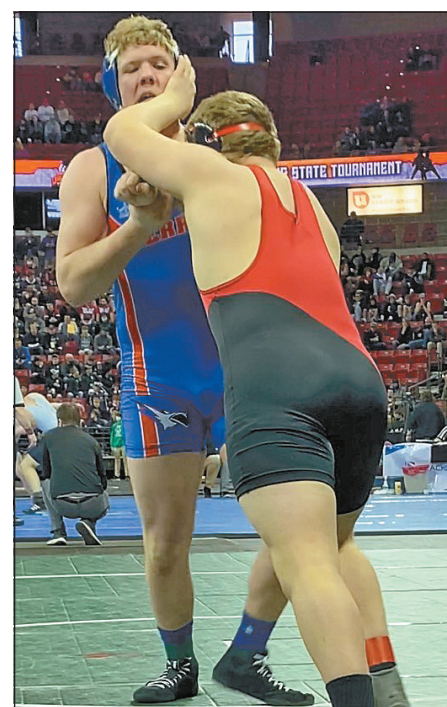
The State Individual Wrestling Tournament was held Feb. 24-26, 2022, at the Kohl Center in Madison.

Depies said he was really happy about the opportunity to go to State and has worked really hard. This was his first year making it to the State Tournament, and he was hoping to get his name up on the board at MHS.

While Depies lost by a fall to Pewaukee Senior John Mohr, ending his chance to place at the State Tournament, Depies put up a good match and went nearly five full minutes on the floor before Mohr prevailed.

Ryder Depies battled hard in his match against Pewaukee Senior John Mohr at the State Tournament on Feb. 24, but lost after a nearly five-minute grapple in the 220.

Jalen Maki photo.



Merrill Pee Wee Hockey Team.

Submitted photo.

## Merrill Pee Wee Hockey Team takes first place two weekends in a row

The Merrill Pee Wee Hockey Team took first place out of eight teams two consecutive weekends in a row and is now headed to Somerset, Wis., for the Pee Wee 12U 3A Tournament. They will compete against Tomahawk, Waupaca, Somerset, Waupun, Reedsburg/Wisconsin Dells, Amery, and Tomah/Sparta teams in the battle for first place.

The weekend of Feb. 5-6, 2022, the Merrill Pee Wees had "play-downs" locally to see who goes to State. In the Championship game, Merrill lost to Tomahawk 7-10 but then pulled a wild card spot to go with Tomahawk to State.

The weekend of Feb. 12-

13 the Merrill Pee Wees traveled to Amery, Wis., to battle in a eight-team tournament and ended up winning first place against Amery at their hometown rink. Connor Zdroik, Jackson Pierce, and Kanin Jahnke left the rink on Sunday happy with their Hat Trick patches (three goals within one game), and Aiden Hotchkiss as Goalie got his Zero Patch (shutout game with nobody scoring on him).

Then the weekend of Feb. 19-20, Merrill Pee Wees played three games and Merrill won all three! Eight teams battled for the Championship: Antigo, Lakeland, Waupaca, Washington County, Houghton,

Rhineland, D.C Everest, and Merrill. Connor Zdroik, Liam Zdroik, and Kanin Jahnke walked away with Hat Trick patches

## 2022 Merrill High School Winter Sports Schedule

### Ice Hockey Girls (Varsity & JV)

Thurs. March 3 STATE~Middleton Alliant Center 6:15 pm (Varsity)

### Basketball Boys (Varsity & JV)

Fri. March 4 Mosinee (Varsity) Away 7:00 pm  
Sat. March 5 (If they win Fri. They will play Saturday T. B. D. when and where)

Please go to [www.wiaawi.org](http://www.wiaawi.org) for the latest playoff schedules and brackets.

## 2022 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

### Track & Field-Boys (Varsity & JV)

Practice Starts Monday, March 7th.

### Track & Field-Girls (Varsity & JV)

Practice Starts Monday, March 7th.

The Sports Calendar of events is sponsored by:



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## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

**Maddie Drew**, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS) has been named Athlete of the Week. Maddie plays Point Guard on the Merrill Girls Varsity Basketball Team and has played Varsity Basketball since Sophomore year. She played basketball in the fourth and fifth grades on the Trinity Basketball Team; on the Prairie River Middle School (PRMS) Team for sixth, seventh, and eighth grades; and played JV at MHS as a Freshman. Maddie ran Cross Country at PRMS and as a Freshman at MHS and is considering running Track or playing Golf at MHS this spring. She also plays on the Merrill Fast Pitch Softball Team in the summer. At MHS, Maddie became actively involved in the FRIENDS program this year and recently went to the Merrill School Forest with the group. When she is not at school, Maddie enjoys snowmobiling, being on the water boating and tubing (she lives on a lake and spends a lot of time on the water), hanging out with friends and family, and cookouts and good times with her cousins. The daughter of Amy Drew and Steve Drew of Merrill, Maddie has a 3.0 GPA and is undecided what college she may attend after graduation, but is considering a career in the medical field, possibly as a paramedic.



**Maddie Drew**

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