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Maple Grove School, including the building and acreage, has now completely transferred to the School District of Athens. Submitted photo.

## MAPS completes sale of Maple Grove School to School District of Athens

On March 9, 2022, the School District of Athens (SDA) and Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) announced that as of March 1, 2022, they had closed on the acquisition and sale of Maple Grove School and attached parcels, located in Marathon County on County Highway L in the Township of Hamburg. The iconic Maple Grove School (affectionately known as the "Little Red School") is home to Maple Grove Charter School, a public charter school authorized by the SDA serving students in grades K-5, formerly with the MAPS District.

The acquisition and sale of Maple Grove School was the culmination of efforts by both school districts to ensure Maple Grove Charter School remained a

See **SCHOOL** page 4

## Mayoral/City Clerk Forum gives candidates opportunity to share their platforms

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

A moderated Mayoral/City Clerk Forum was held on Monday evening, March 14, 2022, at the Merrill Enrichment Center to enable candidates for Merrill Mayor and Merrill City Clerk to share their platform and answer previously submitted questions for interested citizens. Roughly 80-100 people were in attendance in person at the event, a second audience was watching the event at home via a LiveStream broadcast on the City of Merrill's website, and a third audience was listening via the broadcast on Merrill's Bluejay Radio.

The LiveStream broadcast was also recorded and is now available to watch or re-watch in its entirety on the website. Go to: ci.merrill.wi.us and click on "Mayoral/City Clerk Forum" on the left side (the sixth button from the top as of



Bill Bialecki and Steve Hass shake hands at the Mayoral/City Clerk Forum at the Merrill Enrichment Center Monday evening, March 14, 2022. Both are on the ballot running for election on April 5, and one of them will be Merrill's next Mayor. Don't forget to vote!

Joseph Frederick photos.



John Guenther and Lori Anderson-Malm will compete to be the next Merrill City Clerk in the April 5, 2022, election.

this writing). The program begins just after the 27:00 minute mark, so skip ahead over the 27 minutes of silence that precede the actual forum.

Each candidate was given 90 seconds to introduce themselves, then

questions developed by the T.B. Scott Free Library and the League of Women Voters were posed to candidates and candidates were each given 60 seconds to respond,

See **FORUM** page 2

## Duke Strong: Local benefit to help toddler with cancer

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Duke James Lucia was born June 23, 2019, to Damian and Jeanna Lucia who now live in Glenwood City, Wis.

Duke's father, Damian, is the oldest child of Renea Sukow of Merrill and Mike Lucia of Westboro, Wis. Damian grew up living part-time in the Merrill area as a teenager and then following graduation lived in Merrill for a time. He met his wife, Jeanna, in the Medford area. They married and then moved to Glenwood City in 2017, and after many attempts to conceive and carry a baby to full-term, Duke was born.

Damian and Jeanna's life with their baby boy was pretty typical. Duke was a spunky, outgoing, happy child who loved dinosaurs, tractors, and horses, his grandma, Renea Sukow, said. That is, until last fall when his parents noticed Duke was limping. After taking him to the doctor, x-rays from the waist down revealed nothing unusual, and Duke was diagnosed with a sprained ankle, Renea said.

But Duke didn't improve. In fact, he declined, and by

See **BENEFIT** page 9



Duke Lucia before he lost his ability to walk and his cancer diagnosis.

Submitted photo.

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# Harvest History Workshop explores oral history techniques



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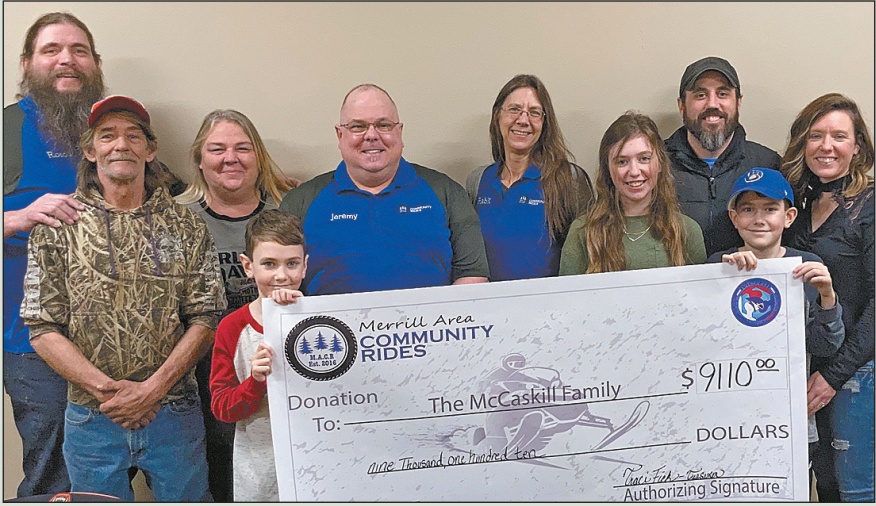
A History Harvest Workshop will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the T.B. Scott Free Library in the Community Room and also via Zoom.

The workshop will introduce participants to oral history, the art of oral history collection, and a History Harvest oral history interviewing technique designed to elicit stories from interview subjects. Such stories may include personal life challenges, family histories, business successes, local neighborhoods, and other topics. The program will be conducted by Dr. Arijit Sen, Associate Professor of Architecture at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, and Dr. Chrissy

Widmayer, Co-Director of the Wisconsin Humanities Community Powered Program.

Participants will learn how to use these techniques to facilitate History Harvest interviews with subjects of their choice, including family, friends, community residents, and even organizational staff.

RSVP's are required. To attend, RSVP to John Greenwood at jgreenwood@uwsa.edu or 715.218.0284 to indicate whether you wish to participate in-person or via the zoom meeting, and he will then share additional workshop materials with registered participants.



## The Merrill Area Community Ride's (MACR) 6th Annual Sleds 'N Jams Snowmobile Ride and Poker Run

Hosted by Kathy and Cal's Club 64 on Saturday Feb. 19, 2022, MACR's 6th Annual Sleds 'N Jams raised nearly \$10K for the McCaskill family. On Feb. 25, the MACR Board of Directors presented a donation in the amount of \$9,110 to the McCaskills of Merrill to use for expenses associated with their sons' rare medical condition. "We are so very grateful for the amazing, generous support, courtesy of nearly 60 businesses, families and individuals, both local and abroad," MACR Chair Jeremy Ratliff said. "We would like to send a special thank you to Merrill High School FAB Lab Director Mr. Josh Zalewski," he added. "For the third consecutive year, the young craftsmen and women of the FAB Lab have collaborated, designed, and manufactured customized donation check templates for us, to present to our recipients. Our partnership with the MHS Fab Lab is an example of the many community partnerships we are so grateful to have established over the years. Without these partnerships and the ongoing support from our community, we could not fulfill our mission of supporting those in need in our community. On behalf of the MACR Board of Directors and our support recipients over the years, thank you so very much, Mr. Zalewski and your amazing, talented students!"

L to R, back row: MACR Vice-Chair Dennis Fick, MACR Board Member Richard Slozes, MACR Secretary Mary Wenzel, MACR Board Chair Jeremy Ratliff, MACR Treasurer Traci Fick, Josh McCaskill and Kimberly McCaskill. Front row: Cameron, Brynlyn, and Denver McCaskill.

Submitted photo.

### FORUM from page 1

in alternating order; then questions from the public were presented; and then the candidates each closed with a 2-minute statement. The first half of the program was dedicated to the City Clerk candidates, and the second half focused on Merrill's Mayoral candidates.

Elizabeth McCrank and Art Lertsch of the UW Extension moderated the program, read the questions, and held the candidates accountable to the time limits.

Questions posed to City Clerk candidates Lori Anderson-Malm and John

Guenther focused on what the candidates saw as the primary role of the City Clerk, how they thought the job had changed over the last two decades, the job qualifications they thought were needed for the position, and how they thought their experiences related to the City Clerk job. Other topics included technology and systems, TIFs and TIDs, election security and integrity, budgeting processes as they address the needs and desires of the citizens, current City government structure and whether changes should be required, recent City government tension, communication with city residents, and why they spe-

cifically decided to run for office.

Questions posed to Mayoral candidates Bill Bialecki and Steve Hass focused on their opinions about the top priority of the new Mayor in 2022, strategies for growth in Merrill, priorities for utilizing federal funding available to Merrill, helping local employers find employees, current City government structure and whether changes should be required, retention of City of Merrill employees, whether there is a housing crisis in Merrill and – if so – how the City can address it, growing tension in local government and how the Mayor can restore trust in local government, how to balance the rights of property owners with the interest local residents have in local properties such as parks and historic structures, the effect of COVID and social practices should another wave or situation arise, climate change, a healthy General Fund balance for the City and how to replenish it, TIFs and TIDs, whether the candidates would step down from their current positions if they win the Mayor's race, why property taxes are so high, whether they would consider eliminating the City Administrator position and rely on Department Heads instead, whether they would support a reduction of administrative personnel across the board, the role tourism plays in Merrill's economy and how to support that, and what they want Merrill to be "on the map" for.

Interested citizens should definitely watch or listen to the entire recorded forum to help inform their vote. To quote one or even a few questions or responses from the forum might imply an endorsement of one or more candidates

or issues the candidates addressed, and the Merrill Foto News does not endorse any candidates for office.

Rather, it is important for citizens to listen to all of the candidates' comments, responses to questions, and prepared statements in their entirety and for citizens to form their own opinions of the candidates to inform their voting decisions. Many of the candidates spoke of restoring civility to Merrill's government and appointed and elected officials, transparency in government, and communication with citizens, and this forum was an excellent example of positive communication and civility between all the candidates.

The forum was made possible by the T.B. Scott Free Library, the UW Madison Extension, and to the League of Women Voters. It was also made possible by the MP3 Productions from MAPS.

In the coming weeks, the Merrill Foto News will run brief bios completed by the candidates in our print edition and on our website. Due to the many candidates running for many different offices in the City, County, and School District, in addition to the MAPS referendum, the election will dominate the news; however, those short bios cannot encompass the amount of information gleaned from watching forums such as this.

Candidates for Merrill Alderman on the April 5 ballot are also showcased in videos on the City of Merrill website [ci.merrill.wi.us], and the link to those videos is located on the main page of the City website by scrolling down, under the heading "News and Announcements."

### Engagement:

#### Tlusty-Lunda

Jay and Maxine Tlusty of Merrill, WI are excited to announce the engagement of their daughter, Melanie Lynn Tlusty, to Mark Daniel Lunda. He is the son of John and Diane Lunda of North St. Paul, MN.

Melanie is a 2008 graduate of Merrill High School and a 2012 graduate of UW-River Falls where she earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree. She is employed with the St. Paul Public School District as a high school choir teacher.

Mark is a 2004 graduate of Hill-Murray High School and a 2010 graduate of UW-River Falls where he earned a Bachelor of Environmental Science degree. He is employed with the Minnesota Department of Health as a research scientist.

Melanie and Mark were engaged last summer while vacationing in Door County, WI. They will be married in Stillwater, MN in August of 2022. The couple resides in St. Paul, MN.

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Merrill, WI 54452  
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**Ad & News Deadlines:**  
Display Advertising:  
12:30 p.m. Monday  
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News or press release submissions must be one week prior to pub date.

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THE FOTO NEWS (ISSN 0191-8958) is published weekly by Multi Media Channels LLC, N2919 County Road QD, Waupaca WI 54981. Subscription price by mail: \$100 per year; domestic U.S. Mail only, nonrefundable but transferable. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE FOTO NEWS, 921 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452.

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Members of the Bares family bundle up to enjoy some time at the skating rink at Normal Park and hit a few pucks. **Tina L. Scott photos.**

## Outdoor ice skating rinks in Merrill provide fresh air fun

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

The Merrill Area Park and Recreation Department maintains five outdoor ice skating rinks in Merrill. The rinks, at Memorial, Normal, Stange Park, the MARC, and Ott's Park, provide good coverage of the entire city and good recreational opportunities, Dan Wendorf, Merrill Parks and Recreation Director said.

While the Department has not opened the warming shelters at the outdoor rinks the last couple of years, he is hopeful they will again in the future. More area residents utilizing the outdoor skating rinks could help make that happen.

Laura Bares said she and her family really enjoy the outdoor skating rink near their home at Normal Park near

See **SKATING** page 9



Ryan Bares, age 11, practices on the ice at the Normal Park ice skating rink in Merrill.

## Help "Alleviate the Pain in Ukraine" by giving to CARE International

**MMC STAFF**

Since Russia first invaded Ukraine Feb. 24, 2022, more than two million refugees have fled the war-torn country in search of safety.

The United Nations warn that that number could rise to as many as five million, making it one of the largest refugee crises since World War II.

Thousands of newly displaced Ukrainians are without shelter, food, water, or safety.

And as the conflict continues with no clear end in sight, the humanitarian need

of the Ukrainian people grows daily.

Humanitarian organizations, like CARE International, are stepping up to help those caught in the crossfire.

MMC Local, the parent company of the Merrill Foto News, looks to its readers to join in the efforts of CARE by making a donation. Your donation of any amount can help get urgently-needed supplies and support to those families in crisis as they attempt to rebuild their lives.

Donations to the Ukraine Crisis Fund can be made quickly and easily through the CARE website at [my.care.org](http://my.care.org).

## Spring weight limits for State and County highways

### WisDOT announced weight limits for North Central Region state highways

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) North Central Region announced the seasonal posting of weight limits on area state highways. The weight restrictions are six tons gross load for single axle vehicles and 10 tons gross load for tandem axle vehicles (any two axles under eight feet apart). The maximum gross weight is 24 tons.

Weight restrictions for our immediate area, effective at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, include:

- WIS 52, Marathon County, from Little Elm Road to Shawano County line
- WIS 107, Marathon County, from Marathon County A to the Lincoln County line
- WIS 107, Lincoln County, from Marathon County line to WIS 64
- WIS 107, Lincoln County, from Matthew's Road to Lincoln County S
- WIS 153, Marathon County, from Marathon County J to Shawano County line

Seasonal weight restrictions (springtime posted roads) are placed on specific highways during the spring thaw period. The restrictions are added to prevent damage to the pavement structure. In the event of unpredicted cold weather, the postings in each county may be delayed as conditions require and will become effective at the discretion of the State Highway Engineer.

For more information regarding traffic impacts in Wisconsin's North Central Region, go to: <https://projects.511wi.gov/>. You can also check the Wisconsin Department of Transportation 511 website: <https://511wi.gov/>.

### The Lincoln County Highway Department announced weight limits for local highways

Likewise, the Lincoln County Highway Department (LCHD) announced weight restrictions for Lincoln County Highways, also effective at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

First, the LCHD announced the following roads are NOT posted: CTH K, W, U, Q, R, L, CTH A from the north City limits of Tomahawk to US Hwy. 8, CTH A east to US Hwy. 51, CTH S from US Hwy. 51 north to State Hwy. 86, CTH N from CTH L north to the railroad tracks, CTH Y from US Hwy. 8 north to the railroad tracks, CTH G west of State Hwy. 17, CTH E from State Hwy. 86 to CTH O, and CTH H from CTH K to Copper Lake Road.

ALL other County roads will be posted a maximum weight of 6 tons each axle, maximum gross weight limit 18 tons, except for CTH E from the intersections of Burn Rd. through the gravel portion will be posted at 6 tons per axle, 8 tons maximum gross weight.

Under Section 349.16(3) exemptions may be made to allow for vehicles carrying those commodities of which are used to perform necessary and vital services for the public health, safety, and welfare. In accordance with this section, school buses, vehicles transporting non-divisible perishable goods, emergency vehicles, and County maintenance vehicles are exempt from these temporary weight restrictions. Special concessions on overweight loads may be made in emergency situations on a case-by-case basis through the issuing of single-trip permits during the period of imposed restrictions.

The LCHD, in cooperation with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, will allow these authorized single trips on a restricted basis over specifically-designated routes.

Additional information on these single trip permits is available at the LCHD, 100 Cooper St. in Merrill. Or call 715.539.2500.

**Merrill Area Public Schools Head Start**

MAPS Head Start has openings for the 2022-2023 school year.

This program is for children of low income families who will be three or four on or before September 1, 2022. In addition, if your child turns three during the school year, your child can be enrolled after their third birthday.

For more information and/or an application, please call Pine River School for Young Learners at (715) 536-2392. You can also find the application on the MAPS website.

Once your application is completed, please call to set up an appointment to drop the paperwork off.

**Do you have a Child who will be Four Years Old on or before September 1, 2022?**

**Would you like to enroll them in the MAPS Pre-Kindergarten program?**

For more information on the Merrill Area Public Schools Pre-Kindergarten program, you can call Pine River School for Young Learners at 715-536-2392. This is a free half day program. We can send you enrollment forms or you can find them on the MAPS website.

Once your enrollment forms are completed, please call to set up an appointment to drop the paperwork off.

**Merrill Area United Way**

**GIVE • ADVOCATE • VOLUNTEER**

March 2022  
Merrill Area United Way  
Dee Olsen, Executive Director

March is here, and as this Foto News issue is released it is Saint Patrick's Day. We have set our clock's forward already and are officially marching into spring in three days. As our nation and our small community has worked through the pandemic and its impacts are lessening, all of us now turn our concerns to the Russian attack in Ukraine. The ripple impact is already being felt throughout our country at the gas pumps, but that will affect all aspects of our economy because all products and people must be transported. At United Way, I remain hopeful that our community organizations that provide vital services to people in need will not be hindered too much, but donations and financial support are subject to the impacts of our oil and gas supplies. Please be strong and supportive with United Way.

Spring is a time when United Way focuses on several reporting aspects of our organization. We start to prepare our reports for the United Way Worldwide Membership Certification and another named Data Base II. These are incredibly detailed reports and a requirement for us to be a United Way. This is our accountability back to United Way Worldwide showing we take our fiduciary responsibility seriously in how we operate. We meet the standard, plus comply with United Way Worldwide directives, to drive impact in our three major areas of: Health, Education, Basic Needs/Income.

The Merrill United Way Board will hold its annual Board Planning and Goal Setting session in late April to assess progress, look at changing trends, and set a plan to continue to grow and develop as an organization. They ensure we try to meet the ongoing, changing needs of the community. So, we enter late spring and early summer, our Board of Director members visit the funded agencies to increase their understanding of the agency programs and ongoing needs. This relationship is beneficial to both the Board and our agency representatives. In some ways, Spring is a time of reflection, but also the time we mow a clear-cut path to our future development. This being our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, we are excited to have additional activities and community awareness effort underway. We hope the community will join us in celebrating this milestone.

Finally, remember March is National Fatherhood Initiative Month. While we believe both parents are equally important in a child's life, we also recognize that statistics show more fathers are not as present or active in their child's life. A father does not have to be a superhero. Just be a super dad – and most of all be present and supportive. Let us all work together to support our children. United Way makes a difference in with the financial support needed to sustain programs through the Family Resource Center, Parkside Preschool Center, Healthy Minds for Lincoln County, Boy Scouts & Girls Scouts, Big Brother-Big Sisters and several more.

Your support of the Merrill Area United Way makes a difference in our local community. Want to donate? Donations stay local and are always appreciated. Send your check to Merrill Area United Way, P O Box 813, Merrill, WI 54452. For more information about Merrill Area United Way visit our website at [merrillareaunitedway.org](http://merrillareaunitedway.org) or email [Delores.Olsen@merrillareaunitedway.org](mailto:Delores.Olsen@merrillareaunitedway.org).

# OBITUARIES



**Ann Elsen Ravn**, age 92, of Merrill, died March 14, 2022, at Bell Tower Residence surrounded by her family.

Ann was born January 28, 1930, to the late Albert and Hazel (Willett) Elsen in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Her family later moved to Merrill, where she grew up. She attended St. Francis Xavier Catholic School and graduated from Our Lady of the Holy Cross High School in Merrill. Ann later attended the College of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois.

On June 15, 1950, she married Erling O. Ravn Jr. (Ole) at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in a ceremony officiated by her brother, Father Vincent Elsen. Their marriage lasted 68 wonderful years, ending with Ole's death on September 12, 2018.

Ann devoted her life to raising her five children and supporting Ole's commitment to medicine and the Merrill community.

Ann will always be remembered for her fun-loving approach to life and the many valuable lessons she imparted on her family. She enjoyed hosting social gatherings, cooking holiday dinners, traveling with family and friends and watching the Badgers and Packers. A special place in her heart was the Ravn Cottage on the Prairie River, where so many lasting memories were created.

Ann actively volunteered in the community, serving as a charter member of the Holy Cross-Good Samaritan Hospital Auxiliary and the United Way Board of Directors. She volunteered for the Merrill Community Food Pantry and St. Robert's Church Council and Altar Society. Ann enjoyed many years of involvement with Merrill's Study Class and the Beta Sigma Phi-Laureate Kappa Chapter.

Survivors include her children Michael (Jean), Merrill; Kristin (Dave) Preboske, DeForest, Wisconsin; Mary (Dave) Brand, Brookfield, Wisconsin; Timothy (Tracy), Merrill and Thomas, Chicago, Illinois. She is further survived by 14 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and her sister Helen Reinhart, Hendersonville, North Carolina. In addition to her husband, Ole, she was preceded in death by an infant son, Daniel, an infant granddaughter, her brothers, Al, Les and Fr. Vince and two sisters, Margaret and Mary.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, the Holy Cross Sisters or the Bell Tower Residence, all of Merrill, Wisconsin.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 12:00 p.m., noon, on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Merrill. Father Maria will preside. Burial will take place at St. Francis Xavier Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home.

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



**Elroy L. 'Heinie' Lemke**, age 98, of Merrill, WI, passed away on Saturday, March 12, 2022, at his home under the care of his family, friends, and Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services.

Heinie married Jane Kollmer on January 11, 1947, and she preceded him in death on November 4, 1987.

Heinie was a World War II veteran and served with the 32 Division of the United States Army and served from October 1940 until June 1945 as a radio operator and lineman. Heinie kept communications open between the frontlines and artillery in the rear. He spent 29 months in the South Pacific with 12 months in New Guinea. Heinie received an Honorable Discharge along with the Bronze Star, Good Conduct Ribbon, Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with 1 Battle Star, American Defense Service Ribbon, and 5 Overseas Bars.

After military service, Heinie went to work for AA Electric for a year and then worked for Wisconsin Public Service from May 1946 as a lineman. He retired as a line foreman in 1985.

Heinie was a lifetime member of V.F.W. Post 1638, Merrill. He was a continuous member of the Lincoln County Sports Club from 1946 until his passing. Although he never went hunting or fishing, he maintained the windmill at the clubhouse and was 92 when he climbed it for the last time. Heinie also helped with the Boy Scouts by teaching them basic electricity.

He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Merrill, and was a past-member of the church building committee.

He was a past-member of the Wisconsin Valley Woodturners. He did a lot of woodturning and has made a lot of furniture and picture frames. He was very proud of the 1300 oak crosses he made and were donated to St. Stephens United Church of Christ in Merrill. Heinie was a past board member of Crime Stoppers in Lincoln County and was a past-member of the Merrill Evening Lion's Club. He was also a member of the Old Timers at Chilsen's shack group.

Heinie always took pride in his home and yard. His lawn had to be just perfect. He always enjoyed meeting and talking to people. In his own words, "everyone was good to me," and "I have had a wonderful life."

Heinie is survived by his daughter, Kathy 'Poots' (Terrence) Timmerman of Green Bay; friend and companion, Doris 'Dody' Neubauer of Merrill; two grandchildren, Tim (Melissa) Timmerman of Hermantown, Minnesota and Tammy (Jim) Heun of Madison; two great-grandchildren, Trinity Jane Timmerman and Annika Morgan Anderson; three step great-grandchildren, Thomas, Matthew, and Katelyn Heun.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jane Lemke; parents, Frank A. and Anna Lemke; two sisters, Ruth (Leslie) Pankow and Eleanore (Ewald F.) Katke; brother, Lester (Delores) Lemke; and nieces and nephews.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to Heinie's friend and companion, Doris 'Dody', for providing around the clock care and comfort to him for the last six months and in his final days.

In lieu of flowers, Heinie requests any memorial gifts be given to Crime Stoppers of Lincoln County, Lincoln County Sports Club, or V.F.W. Post 1638, Merrill.

The funeral service for Heinie will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, March 18, 2022, at the Taylor-Stine Funeral Home in Merrill. Pastor Natalie Basset will officiate. Burial will take place in St. Francis Xavier Cemetery with graveside military rites conducted by V.F.W. Post 1638, Merrill. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:00 A.M. Friday at the funeral home. A lunch will be served at the Northwoods Veterans Post following the burial.

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



**Stanley Allen Wiederhoeft**, age 84, of the town of Hamburg, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Thursday, March 10, 2022. He was born on February 26, 1938, to the late Martin and Edna (Schoenherr) Wiederhoeft at the Memorial Hospital in Wausau. He attended and graduated from Merrill Senior High School with the class of 1956 and went on to attend NTC in the Farm Training Program on

April 20, 1978. Stanley joined the US Army National Guard - Red Arrow Division - and proudly served from 1959-1964. He was stationed in Fort Louis, Yakima, Washington from 1961-1962. Stanley married the love of his life and best friend, Lorraine Kopplin, on March 21, 1970, at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rib Falls, a marriage lasting nearly 52 years. Together they raised 4 children on their farm in the town of Hamburg.

Stanley was a hard-working man who was a self-employed dairy farmer for 51 years, until the age of 79 years old. He farmed alongside his wife for 47 of those years. In his younger years, he worked for Woller Brothers, and he also worked for Heiser Ready-Mix as a cement truck driver while farming. He was always willing to help a neighbor whenever they needed. He was proud of owning a century old farm - an award given to them in 1973. The family farm has been in the Wiederhoeft family for 149 years with Stanley being the 4th generation to farm alongside his family. His family always came first. Stanley was very proud of his children and grandchildren. He always looked forward to watching his grandsons little league games and their concerts throughout the years.

Stanley loved being outside working in the field with his wife, working in the woods, and cutting firewood with his family. He liked watching sports - especially the Brewers, Cubs and Packers. Stanley liked bird and rabbit hunting with his hunting dogs in his younger years and deer hunting with his sons and grandsons. He loved telling deer hunting stories from years ago about hunting in Newwood. No matter what time of year it was, if there were deer out in his fields, he had the binoculars out to watch them. Stanley also loved listening to polka music and watching westerns on TV. During the summer months for the last few years, he would take rides with the UTV around the farm checking out the crops, checking for deer or looking for trees in the woods that needed to be cut for firewood. Stanley will be sadly missed but never forgotten.

Stanley leaves behind his wife: Lorraine Wiederhoeft of Hamburg, 2 daughters: Lori Wiederhoeft and Dixie Wiederhoeft, both of Hamburg, 2 sons: Chris (Jennifer) Wiederhoeft and Michael (Rebecca) Wiederhoeft, both of Merrill, 5 grandsons: Austin, Darrin, Matthew, Brayden and Mason, 1 granddaughter: Kaitlyn, sister and brother-in-law: JoAnn (Lyle) Mathwich, sister-in-law and brother-in-law: Joanne (Charles) Zahn and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister and brother-in-law: Jenine (Robert) Bonke, father and mother in-law: Franklin and Irma (Hanke) Kopplin, sister-in-law and brother-in-law: Mary Ellen (Orville) Krueger and many cousins and friends.

The funeral service for Stanley was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 11am at St. John's Lutheran Church in Hamburg. Rev. Donald Love officiated. Visitation was held on Monday, March 14, 2022, from 4pm-7pm at Waid Funeral Home in Merrill, and again at the church on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, from 10am until the time of the service. Burial and military honors at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery immediately followed the service.

Waid Funeral Home and 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).

"Be Thou Faithful Until Death, And I Will Give Thee The Crown Of Life." ~ Rev. 2:10

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FEBRUARY 24, 2022**

Boy, Ezra David, born to Lesa Vogel and Trevor Vogel of Wausau.

Remember, and be remembered with a granite memorial from



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Funeral Home and Cremation Services

**Leah D. Reist, Director**  
**McKenna K. Meunier, Director**

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715-536-6244  
[www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)

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## SCHOOL from page 1

viable option for students in the SDA and MAPS. The SDA will now be solely responsible for Maple Grove School and the costs associated with the maintenance and upkeep associated with the building and property.

The SDA acquired Maple Grove School and attached parcels from MAPS for \$64,000 and paid MAPS an additional \$21,600 to acquire personal property associated with the school.

SDA District Administrator, Andrea Sheridan,

is excited about the District's acquisition of Maple Grove School, noting that Maple Grove School's history is filled with rich tradition, dedication, and educational excellence: "The acquisition of Maple Grove School will allow the District to continue to operate Maple Grove Charter School in Hamburg, but do so in the 'Little Red School' - the building with bright red paint, school-bell steeple, and wooded surroundings, that brings smiles and joyful memories to days gone by."

"The acquisition of Maple Grove School is due

to the collaborative efforts of MAPS," she said. "The [Athens] District thanks MAPS for doing so and looks forward to cooperating with MAPS on other opportunities moving forward. In the end, the cooperative effort between Athens and Merrill is a win/win for both school districts and a positive for the students and their families who want to attend Maple Grove Charter School."

MAPS District Administrator, Dr. John Sample, agreed the acquisition was a win for both districts and said he is proud of the work put

in by administration and by the MAPS Board of Education, during the long detachment process, to understand the position of the petitioners and the effect of detachment on the District. "A great deal of work went into evaluating the detachment petitions from both an educational and financial perspective," Sample said. "I'm proud of that work and believe the result of relocating the Maple Grove School to the SDA is a positive one. This closure is the result of thoughtful deliberations and forward thinking - both parties to this transaction maintained a shared vision and a common interest which benefited both school districts. We appreciate the willingness of the SDA to work jointly with the District on this sale. And now that we have completed all steps of the process, we hope only that the Maple Grove School will be used in a way that meets the needs of the communities for years to come."

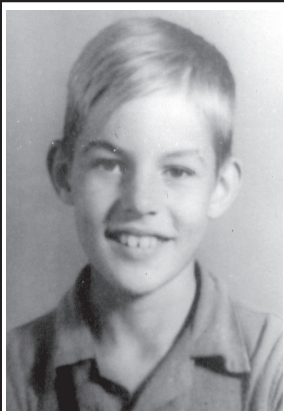
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Anna Winingham - Licensed Funeral Director / Funeral Home Manager  
Samantha Finucan - Funeral Director Apprentice  
Megan Klug - Office Manager  
Cindy Latzig - After Care Coordinator

**WAID FUNERAL HOME and CREMATION SERVICES**  
301 Eagle Drive • Merrill, WI 54452-3714 • Phone: (715) 536-4646  
Website: [www.WaidFuneral.com](http://www.WaidFuneral.com)

**| OBITUARIES |**



**Ralph Duwayne Voigt, 84,** of Merrill, Wisconsin was welcomed into heaven on Saturday, March 5. Ralph was born on November 12, 1937, to Ralph Otto Voigt and Ernestine Kleinschmidt. Ralph spent a lot of time with his dad helping with logging and making maple syrup. Ralph married Arlene Uekert on September 11, 1965, and they were married for 56 years. Ralph and Arlene eventually added a daughter and a son: Carmen and Ralph Leo. Ralph was a farmer in the Town of Pine

River until his marriage. He then moved to Merrill and built bridges for many years, working most of his career for Edward Kraemer and Sons. Ralph was a proud member of the Carpenter's Union and worked on bridges throughout Wisconsin, including Jim Falls, LaCrosse, Merrill, Milwaukee, and Rhinelander. Ralph received an award for the Rhinelander bridge. He also worked on a few projects in Duluth, Minnesota and Menominee, Michigan. After he retired, Ralph helped many people by mowing lawns and shoveling snow. Ralph was always willing to lend a hand and was the person neighbors asked to watch their house if they were going on a trip. Ralph spent many hours checking on his mother-in-law Gladys, so she could stay in her own home. He also developed a close relationship with Ben, Samantha, Tim, Melanie, Michelle, Dominic, and Miles who were his babysitting family. Ralph was a fan of the Green Bay Packers, Milwaukee Bucks, Milwaukee Brewers, and the Badger basketball and football teams. Many winter nights were spent at his brother Wayne's and sister-in-law Virginia's house watching the Bucks. Ralph enjoyed listening to country music and the Sunday morning polkas. He liked Chevrolet trucks and Ski-Doo snowmobiles and took his son for many rides. In his younger days, Ralph had fun fishing, gardening, and shooting pool. Ralph especially loved visiting with friends and family. Ralph was fond of his home at 1103 North State and lived there his entire married life, a rarity in today's world. Nothing was more important to Ralph than his family. Whether he was building snow/wood forts, cheering for the Trinity Hawks basketball teams, making ice skating rinks, teaching his kids how to drive, going on rides at Great America, traveling to Crandon for family vacations, or going to Milwaukee to see the Bucks, Ralph loved spending time with his family and having fun. Ralph was always available to help out with house projects and did lots of pet sitting for his kids. Brutus, Cinder, and Ranger are probably getting walked again while Baxter keeps his lap warm. Ralph was a kind, honest, hard working man who always saw his glass half full. Ralph was a genuine person; he was the same person regardless of the situation. Ralph spoke of his dad often, even more in later years. In his final days, Ralph mentioned he would be seeing his father in heaven. After nearly 65 years, they are together again. Ralph was a wonderful father, husband, brother, and friend; life will not be the same without him.

Love your son and daughter,  
Ralph Leo and Carmen



**Mark Anthony Linsdau,** of Antigo, died Saturday, March 5, 2022 at the age of 42. He was born on September 21, 1979 in Antigo.

He was a graduate of Hartford High School. Mark worked in construction and enjoyed doing concrete work. He was currently employed as a welder at Merrill Manufacturing. He was also a tattoo artist.

Mark enjoyed fishing and being with family and friends. He will be remembered for his sense of humor.

Survivors including his father, David Linsdau of Antigo; mother, Linda (Messer) Kemmerling and her friend Gary Etherington of Deerbrook; two sons, Lucas Linsdau of Deerbrook and Logan Linsdau serving in the military; grandchildren, Macari and Marina Linsdau; two sisters, Christina (Jeremy) Staudt of Hartford and Kayla (Eric) Holveatz of Antigo; paternal grandmother, Julia Linsdau of Antigo; maternal grandmother, Geneva Messer of Deerbrook. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

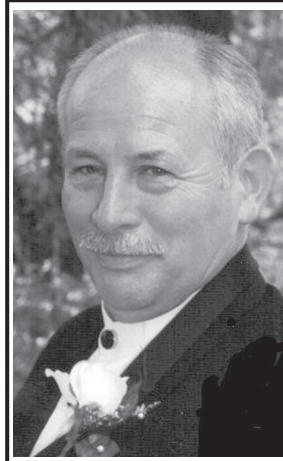
He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Henry Linsdau and maternal grandfather, Carl Messer.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, March 18, 2022, at 1 p.m. at the Bradley Funeral Home with Pastor Danny Pyeatt officiating.

Burial will take place in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Phlox.

Visitation will be Friday from 12 p.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

Online condolences at [www.bradleyfh.com](http://www.bradleyfh.com)



**Roger G. Meunier, 78,** of Merrill, passed away Sunday, March 6, 2022, at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital.

Roger was born December 4, 1943, in Escanaba, Michigan, son of the late Kenneth and Lillian (Homan) Meunier. He married Kathleen Cole on August 14, 1965, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Merrill. She survives. For 43 years, Roger had worked at Merrill Manufacturing. During this time, he had also owned and operated 'Meunier's Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning' for 26 years.

In the early 1980's, Roger belonged to the car club, "Street Machines Unlimited" and enjoyed riding around in his 1940's Plymouth 'Clyde'. Roger enjoyed attending various car shows. He also enjoyed camping, line dancing, and traveling. He was one of the original founders of the Merrill Ice Drags. Roger will be remembered as a very hard working, honest man.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Kathleen Meunier of Merrill; sons, Scott (Michelle) Meunier of Weyerhaeuser, Wisconsin, and Dustin (Sara) Meunier of Merrill; grandchildren, Cole (Kelly) Meunier, McKenna Meunier, and Reese Meunier; sisters, Judy (Dick) Bruemmer of Peshtigo, Carol (Don) Heyel of Merrill, and Donna Thielman of Rhinelander; brother, James Meunier of Tomahawk; sister-in-law, Sandra Rhyner (Joe Jilk) of Fountain City, WI; several nieces and nephews; and his dog, Daisy. Roger was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth and Lillian Meunier; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Richard and Phyllis Cole; sister-in-law, Barbara Meunier; and brothers-in-law, Dave Berth, Bruce Boettcher, and Gary Thielman.

Per Roger's wishes, a private memorial service will take place at a later date. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Merrill, is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com](http://www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com)

The family would like to thank Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital for the wonderful care they gave Roger the past few weeks.

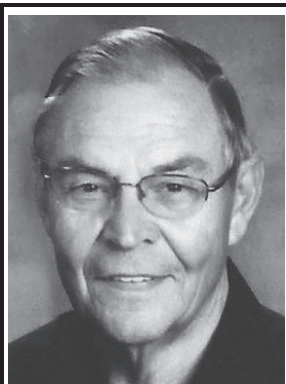
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Lincoln County Humane Society or Alzheimer's Association.

**LCHS December Honorariums**

The Lincoln County Humane Society would like to thank everyone who donated in honor of a loved one in December:

Johanna Hoerstmann by Norman & Jan Deffner; Tyler Holbach by Tammy Duwe; Carol Availis by Kelleen Wistein; Ken Tupa Jr.'s Birthday by Friends & Family; Bill Sandquist by Mary Sharkey; Jo Lee Wendt by Kelly & Kurt Keding, Paul & Melissa Waid, Friends, Sarah Williams, Marvin & Betty Kamke, Arnold & Lee Ann Lindquist, Janet & David Black, Richard & Julie Fries, Michael & Jill Labarbera, Carl & Mary Moscherosch, Andrew & Renee Semling; Julie Iwen by Chris Stamm; Chad Barton by J.J. & M.J. Downing; Al & Cathy Czek by Judith Bellin; Jim Daenicke by Robin Comeau; Barb Klade by Friends; Barb Spoehr by Peggy & Bob Bauman, Betty Wardall; Phyllis Berthiaume by Mark & Sharon Rogholt; Helen Meyer by Kathy Beer; Arnine Seis by Kathy Searl; Mandy & Rueben by Kris Weisenfeld; Kathy Klemm by Kimberly Jenkins; Deb Leiskau by Janet Beyer; Ruger Lange by Mariann & Steve Hanig; Merrilee DuPlayee by Lou Ann DuPlayee; Callie Moore by Peggy & Bob Bauman; Cook Family by Peggy & Bob Bauman; Carol Osness by Gary & Bonnie Osness; Edwin Johnson by M & B Ziemke; Robert & Signa Lambrecht by Dawn & Eugene Dunk; Smokey the dog by Lauren & Ryan Bula; Kristin Seis Koehnke by Sandra Roeder; and Patricia J. Woller by Shelly Bruno.

Your support is greatly appreciated!



**Jerome E. "Jerry" Brickner,** 83, Marathon, died Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital surrounded by his family on his journey home.

He was born June 24, 1938, in Milwaukee, to Jerome and Pearl (Church) Brickner. On April 11, 1959, he married the love of his life, Grace Wagner at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Marathon. She survives.

Jerry was a member of the Army Reserves. He was owner of Brickner Motors, Brickner's of Wausau and Brickner's of Antigo prior to his retirement. Going to the cottage, annual trips to Canada fishing with family, and hunting trips out West and in Canada were among his favorite things to do. He loved animals and kids, and dearly loved his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Grace, their children and grandchildren; Jerry M. III (Jane) Brickner, Wausau and their children, Janessa Grace (Tom) Ress and Jerry IV; Michael (Cheryl) Brickner, Tomahawk, and daughter, Michaella; Steve (Linda) Brickner, Tomahawk and their children, Steven (Katie) Brickner, and children, Paityn and Abigail, Melissa (Kurt) Seubert, and children, Madalynn, Quinlynn and Conrad, Shawn (Joey) Brickner, Melanie (Scott) Heinz and son, A.J.; Maria (Tom) Olson, Wausau, and their children, Thomas Olson, Michael (Kaylee) Olson and children, Alyssa and Braylee, and Grace Olson; his siblings, Romaine (Joe) Breaman, Irma, Carol (Jim) Studzinski, Wisconsin Rapids, Lorraine Wilichowski, Minnesota, Ginger Weiks, Marathon, Gail (Steve) Studzinski, Marathon, Vicky Ramsey, Marathon; sister-in-law, Linda Brickner, Marathon.

Besides his parents, Jerry was preceded in death by an infant son, Bryan, two granddaughters, Tara and Kendra Brickner, two brothers, Raymond and Wayne, brothers-in-law, Gerald Wilichowski and Bob Weiks.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 14, 2022 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Marathon. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Diermeier presided. Burial took place in the parish cemetery where full military honors were conducted by American Legion Alois Dreikosen Post #469, Marathon. Visitation took place on Sunday from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Marathon. Visitation continued on Monday from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Gifts from Heaven or St. Mary School.

Many thanks to the exceptional and caring staff at Aspirus Palliative Care.

Peterson/Kraemer Funeral Home, Marathon is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.petersonkraemer.com](http://www.petersonkraemer.com)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MHS YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP STUDENT STARS**



Angela is a YA student working at Walmart.

*"I have enjoyed learning to do new things at my job. I like being able to do whatever needs to be done. YA has given me the opportunity to work more during the school year. This helps me because I need to save money for college."*

Angela plans on attending UW-LaCrosse. She will be majoring in molecular genetics with a cell biology concentration. Long-term goals are to be a physician's assistant.

Alissa is a YA student working at Arby's.



*"My job has taught me to be more independent and to be more social with people. YA has helped me understand the importance of a job and how to improve at whatever job you do."*

Alissa plans on pursuing an electrician apprenticeship after high school.



Allie is a YA student working at Weinbrenner Shoe Company.

*"All of my coworkers are so nice. Working there has taught me that being kind will get you many things in life. YA has helped me develop skills like responsibility, organization and leadership."*

Allie plans on attending UW-Superior.



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

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

# LEGAL NOTICES

**Legals** 7700

**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

**Legals** 7700

**BY THE COURT:**  
**DATE SIGNED:** 3/9/22  
*/s/ HONORABLE ROBERT R. RUSSELL*  
**CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BR II**  
**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY**  
**Notice and Order for**  
**Name Change Hearing**  
 Case No. 22 CV 34

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF Kelsi Morgan Chaney

**NOTICE IS GIVEN:**  
 A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:  
 From: Kelsi Morgan Chaney  
 To: Kelsi Morgan Faust  
 Birth Certificate: Kelsi Morgan Chaney

**IT IS ORDERED:**  
 This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin:  
 Judge's Name: Robert R. Russell  
 Place: 1110 East Main Street, Br. 2, Merrill, WI 54452  
 Date: 4/11/22  
 Time: 2:00 pm

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

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:**  
 Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the \_\_\_\_\_, a newspaper published in \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of Wisconsin.  
 Published Mar. 17, 24 & 31, 2022  
 WNAXLP

**Legals** 7700

**BY THE COURT:**  
**DATE SIGNED:** March 7, 2022  
 Electronically signed by  
 Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar

**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY**  
**Notice to Creditors**  
**(Informal Administration)**  
 Case No. 2022 IN 12

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Rose Bolling

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**  
 1. An application for informal administration was filed.  
 2. The decedent, with date of birth 1/3/1953 and date of death 1/27/2022, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1803 East Ninth St., Merrill, WI 54452.  
 3. All interested persons waived notice.  
 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is June 24, 2022.  
 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.  
 Kevin Bolling  
 N1176 State Hwy 64, Merrill, WI 54452  
 715-432-9844  
 Published Mar. 17, 24 & 31, 2022  
 WNAXLP

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Absentee Voting to be**  
**Administered at Bell Tower**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**March 22, 2022**  
**1500 O'Day St.**  
**Merrill, WI 54452**

Special Voting Deputies appointed by the City of Merrill will be administering absentee voting for the residents of this facility for the April 5, 2022 election at the above time and place. Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may request to vote an absentee ballot. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen, who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, who has resided in the ward or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for at least 28 consecutive days before the election. The elector must also be registered in order to receive an absentee ballot. Only observers from each of the two recognized political parties whose candidates for governor or president received the greatest number of votes in the municipality at the most recent general election may accompany the deputies to each facility where absentee voting will take place. The observers may observe the process of absentee ballot distribution in the common areas of the home, facility, or complex. Each party wishing to have an observer present shall submit the name of the observer to the clerk or board of election commissioners no later than the close of business on the last business day prior to the visit. Family members of residents may be present at the time of voting. If you have further questions, please contact: Katherine G. Unertl-Deputy Clerk 1004 E 1st St, Merrill, WI 54452 (715) 536-5594 kathy.unertl@ci.merrill.wi.us Published Mar. 17, 2022 WNAXLP

**BY THE COURT:**  
**DATE SIGNED:** 3/3/22  
*/s/ HONORABLE ROBERT R. RUSSELL*  
**CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, BR II**  
**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY**  
**Amended Notice and Order for Name**  
**Change Hearing**  
 Case No. 22-CV-26

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF Christopher John Olson

By (Petitioner): Christopher John Olson

**NOTICE IS GIVEN:**  
 A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:  
 From: Christopher John Olson  
 To: Christopher John-Sean Taylor  
 Birth Certificate: Christopher John Olson

**IT IS ORDERED:**  
 This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin:  
 Judge's Name: Robert R. Russell  
 Place: 1110 East Main Street, Br. 2, Merrill, WI 54452  
 Date: April 4, 2022  
 Time: 1:15 pm

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

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:**  
 Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the \_\_\_\_\_, a newspaper published in \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of Wisconsin.  
 Published: Mar. 10, 17 & 24, 2022  
 WNAXLP

**BY THE COURT:**  
**DATE SIGNED:** March 7, 2022  
 Electronically signed by  
 Becky S. Byer, Probate Registrar

**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY**  
**Notice to Creditors**  
**(Informal Administration)**  
 Case No. 2022 IN 12

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Rose Bolling

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**  
 1. An application for informal administration was filed.  
 2. The decedent, with date of birth 1/3/1953 and date of death 1/27/2022, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1803 East Ninth St., Merrill, WI 54452.  
 3. All interested persons waived notice.  
 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is June 24, 2022.  
 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.  
 Kevin Bolling  
 N1176 State Hwy 64, Merrill, WI 54452  
 715-432-9844  
 Published Mar. 17, 24 & 31, 2022  
 WNAXLP

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Absentee Voting to be**  
**Administered at Bell Tower**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**March 22, 2022**  
**1500 O'Day St.**  
**Merrill, WI 54452**

Special Voting Deputies appointed by the City of Merrill will be administering absentee voting for the residents of this facility for the April 5, 2022 election at the above time and place. Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may request to vote an absentee

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Absentee Voting to be**  
**Administered at Pine Crest**  
**1:00 pm.**  
**March 22, 2022**  
**2100 E 6th St**  
**Merrill, WI 54452**

Special Voting Deputies appointed by the City of Merrill will be administering absentee voting for the residents of this facility for the April 5, 2022 election at the above time and place. Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may request to vote an absentee ballot. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen, who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, who has resided in the ward or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for at least 28 consecutive days before the election. The elector must also be registered in order to receive an absentee ballot. Only observers from each of the two recognized political parties whose candidates for governor or president received the greatest number of votes in the municipality at the most recent general election may accompany the deputies to each facility where absentee voting will take place. The observers may observe the process of absentee ballot distribution in the common areas of the home, facility, or complex. Each party wishing to have an observer present shall submit the name of the observer to the clerk or board of election commissioners no later than the close of business on the last business day prior to the visit. Family members of residents may be present at the time of voting. If you have further questions, please contact: Katherine G. Unertl-Deputy Clerk 1004 E 1st St, Merrill, WI 54452 (715) 536-5594 kathy.unertl@ci.merrill.wi.us Published Mar. 17, 2022 WNAXLP

## PUBLISHER'S LETTER

### On the price of loyalty



Dear Reader,

I thank you for supporting the advertisers who buy display ads and run their inserts with us. Many big and small retailers have featured their wares within this publication, sometimes for decades. Local “mom and pop” establishments are the backbone of our community. Your support of them in turn supports us in our stewardship of hyper-local news and advertising for our community.

All advertisers should be recognized for their commitment to supporting original news reporting and advertising content in our cities, towns, and villages. There are too many to mention in this space, so I will single out just one long-standing customer, Menards. Their display ads and inserts have run in our publications for decades. They are family owned and based out of Wisconsin, which is tremendously important to our state's economy – the lion's share of the monies are spent in-state.

Meanwhile, some retailers are shifting their ad dollars to digital. That money is going out of state, since to our knowledge Google and Facebook, the two biggest providers of digital advertising, do not have significant physical business presence – and employees – in our state.

When you have a few moments, we hope you'll do some research on the places where you spend your hard earned dollars and buy Wisconsin- and US-based products as much as you can. If one tag says “Made in China” and the other says “Made in the USA”, the choice is easy. Family ownership is another important consideration – owners who live here tend to reinvest in our shared neighborhood. In this way you can support those who support you and your family in our community.

**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:

I am writing this letter in support of Steve Hass for Mayor. As a former Alderman for the Sixth District, I have worked with Steve on the City Council for many years. Steve has served as Council President and on many other Committees. He has served as Alderman for the Second District for 13 years. Needless to say, he has a lot of experience working with City administration and the various Department Heads, as well as the employees of the City.

Steve doesn't have any hidden agenda or axes to grind. He wants more citizen involvement and

will work to develop more transparency with the citizens of Merrill.

Steve will work to keep spending of tax payer dollars within a set budget. The COVID pandemic and rising inflation has caused all of us to watch what we spend our money on. The City must do the same. Steve will be a great Mayor for Merrill. Please remember to vote in the April 5 election.

Sincerely,

– David Sukow  
 Merrill, Wis.

### TO THE EDITOR:

This letter is addressed to readers who live in Lincoln County District 12, which covers the Towns of Harding and Tomahawk and much of the Town of Corning. On the April 5 ballot, I ask that you write in Paul Gilk, your Supervisor, who has worked diligently in the past 10 years for the good of all Lincoln County residents. Paul was born and raised on a small farm in the Town of Harding and thus he knows and understands the needs of his neighbors. For eight years, he served as Pine Crest Trustee from the County Board and he helped support and facili-

tate the additions of the rehabilitation and memory care units. He is now on the committee that oversees North Central Health Care Nursing Home. Our County Board has been squeezed into a box, due to the cap that was put on raising taxes and difficult decisions regarding finances have been necessary. Paul has always been a voice of reason on our County Board. He realizes the importance of having a forward looking agenda, and an approach that not only deals with current issues but that prepares us for the future, and this includes encouraging and facilitating a transition in our local governments to alternative energy sources in buildings and vehicles. Paul Gilk is prepared to do this. Please write in Paul Gilk for Lincoln County Supervisor, District 12, on April 5.

– Richard L. Brown  
 Merrill, Wis.

### TO THE EDITOR:

I was the City Council representative in District 8 before leaving Merrill. In that office, I worked with both candidates for Mayor of Merrill. I saw how both worked with the public, with employees, and with

[www.merrillfotonews.com](http://www.merrillfotonews.com)

## EARLY IN PERSON VOTING NOTICE

Early voting for City of Merrill Residents for the April 5th 2022 Spring Election will begin at City Hall (1004 East First Street) on Tuesday, March 22nd.

Voting hours are:

03/22 – 03/25	8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
03/28 – 03/31	8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
04/01	8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

There is no early voting permitted on Monday, April 4th.

Katherine G. Unertl  
 Deputy City Clerk

Published March 17, 2022

WNAXLP

## CITY OF MERRILL

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

#### REQUEST FOR BIDS

The City of Merrill Public Works Department will accept bids for the following work at the Merrill City Clerk's Office, 1004 East First Street, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452, until 3:00 p.m. on Thursday March 31st, 2022. Project details may be obtained from the Street Superintendent at (715) 536-4222 or dustin.bonack@ci.merrill.wi.us.

Micro-surfacing of Various City Streets

The City of Merrill reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept any bid they deem advantageous to the City of Merrill.

Dustin Bonack  
 Street Superintendent

Published March 17 & 24, 2022

WNAXLP

MERRILL FOTO NEWS

# Student of the Week

**This Week's Featured Student is**  
**Kinsley Young**  
 Daughter of  
**Kyle & Kimberly Young**  
 Kinsley is in the 1st Grade at  
 Trinity Lutheran School.  
 She was nominated by Laura Marnholtz.

**What is your favorite subject in school? Why?**  
 I like three of them – reading, writing and math! Why? Like my mom says, “Reading is a window into another world.” I'm really good at it, too.

**What is your favorite part of school? Why?**  
 Like all of it, but mostly my teacher, my friends, and my brother. Mrs. Marnholtz is one of the nicest teachers I've had, and I've had two nice ones before.

**What would you like to do/become someday? Why?**  
 I like football. My dad would love to see me playing football on tv, because he used to play.

**What is your favorite part of school? Why?**  
 Like all of it, but mostly my teacher, my friends, and my brother. Mrs. Marnholtz is one of the nicest teachers I've had, and I've had two nice ones before.

Kinsley is consistently friendly to all her first grade classmates and shows an active willingness to help. She is also a very responsible student, who shows empathy towards others as well.  
 ~ Ms. Marnholtz

Student of the Week Sponsored by:

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**Merrill**  
**(715) 536-5400**

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## Pet of the Week

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**Dave's County Market**  
 300 E. First St.  
 Merrill, WI

Hi there! My name is **Radar**! Besides being very good looking (check out my immaculate white fur coat) I get along well with other cats and even dogs! I do get nervous around strangers but with my family I am a very loving cat. I enjoy spending a long winters day curled up snoozing away. My adoption fee includes my neuter, up to date vaccinations and microchip! I was surrendered to LCHS along with my housemates (Turbo, Remi and Simba). *Come check us all out soon!*  
**Visit all the adoptable pets at the 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 at [www.furrypets.com](http://www.furrypets.com).**

the other elected and appointed officials. With that experience, I can say that the best choice to lead Merrill going forward is Steve Hass.

Steve Hass is honest and fair. He listens to all sides and does his own research before making decisions. He asks questions and tries to see the long-term consequences of decisions made now rather than blindly accepting what is put before him with no thought as to who is going to "pay the bill" someday.

He's a representative who listens and tries to find answers and solutions for employees and citizens. He's the Alderperson who went to the City Garage at midnight during a blizzard to do a "ride along" on a snowplow so he could truthfully address the concerns of citizens and employees with firsthand knowledge of how things operate. He speaks thoughtfully, with no bluster, bullying, or bluffing.

Steve would not be satisfied paying lip service to concerns while allowing others to run the City in his place. He has integrity and makes decisions based on experience and his own research; Steve is no one's puppet but stands firm in his commitment to Merrill's future.

My experiences with both candidates makes me firm in the belief that Steve Hass is the best choice for Merrill's next Mayor.

- Anne Caylor  
Kaukauna, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

April 5th Lincoln County voters will be asked to elect Supervisors to the County Board. I served on the Board for a short time recently. I was shocked by the lack of transparency and accountability exhibited by Board members, many who have been on the Board for a number of terms. Many keeping quiet when they should have been questioning why, where, when, and how various Departments are spending Taxpayer funds.

On April 5 it is the RESPONSIBILITY of We Taxpayers to elect County Board Supervisors who will hold Departments responsible for spending our tax dollars wisely rather than rubber stamping budgets.

Almost EVERY district in the County has Fresh New Faces ready to serve the citizens of Lincoln County. Before you place your vote, make SURE to check who your candidates are and help ELECT Fiscally responsible representation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

- Chuck Bolder  
Merrill, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

"Giving the people a voice ... a voice for the people." It all sounds the same to me. Every election we have candidates who tout such a slogan. Personally, I have

never needed anyone to be my "voice" ... I have my own and use it and so do YOU. Your voice can be heard anytime at City and County meetings. It is heard every time you vote. So many complain about not being heard by government, but so few ever attend meetings. It is impossible to be heard if one neither attends meetings, nor votes. In a small city such as Merrill, one also has the opportunity to contact City Officials directly; I have done this many times quickly and easily. "We the people," have ample opportunity for our OWN voices to be heard — we do not need someone else acting as our "voice." All too often the person speaking for us is only voicing his or her own opinion. Perhaps at times, their voters are being represented, but from what I have observed with certain candidates is that they are using their elected position to push their political agenda, not yours. With so much voter apathy these days, it is easy to listen to someone who wants to be your "voice." God gave you a voice, so why not put it to good use and make the effort to be personally involved in our government — "by the people, for the people."

- Heather O'Neill  
Town of Harding, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

In April we will be casting our votes for our County, Towns, Cities, and School Boards in Lincoln county.

Many new candidates are running against the incumbents. With this many new candidates, it makes one think that perhaps outsiders may be attempting to influence our votes. These candidates are sharing very little about themselves. Their backgrounds, work experience, etc. are lacking. One other important detail is also missing as some of their campaign literature has no disclaimers.

Who is paying for these? Why are they running for these offices? What experience do they offer? What do they want to contribute to our communities?

Please take the time to ask some of these questions and research as much as possible.

SOME CHANGE IS GOOD BUT LET'S MAKE SURE IT'S FOR THE BETTER.

- Ginger and Bob Richards  
Tomahawk, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

The Spring Election in Merrill is of utmost importance to our future. In a previous election, I had contacts with numerous citizens at their homes. The main subject of those conversations was the high tax rate in Merrill. This tax rate has contributed to a feeling of anxiety for many taxpayers. In my opinion, there is a method to ease their anxiety and set the future of Merrill on a positive course.

As Mayor, Steve Hass would diligently manage the City financial future, while also exploring opportunities for growth

and development. During his time as an Alderperson, Steve has demonstrated that he will not "jump" at every chance to spend City (OUR) money. Instead, he has carefully researched the pros and cons of various proposals, while always putting the needs of the taxpayers first. We won't need to worry about "open government" if Steve is elected. Over the years, he has exhibited that he is in favor of keeping the citizens informed on City issues.

Lori Anderson-Malm shares Steve's concern for fiscal responsibility. She has demonstrated that while serving on the Redevelopment Authority. Over the last several years, she has attended numerous City meetings, made public comment, and asked critical questions.

We can all agree that we are hoping for a positive future for Merrill, and I believe that Steve Hass and Lori Anderson-Malm are the right choices as we face the future together.

- Debbie Alvin  
Merrill, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

For several years, I had the pleasure to work with Steve Hass in City government. During that time, Steve has ALWAYS served us with dignity and a passion for putting the needs of ALL people first. He has made financial decisions based on merit, and only after careful consideration. Steve has the knack for being a good listener, a trait that seems rare in today's political environment. Steve won't make false promises, but he will always do "all he can" to address concerns and answer questions. Steve has always exercised common sense and exhibited strong leadership, two essential traits in high-quality government. We would be fortunate to have Steve Hass serving us as our Mayor!

Prior to declaring her candidacy for City Clerk, Lori Anderson-Malm contacted me to gather more information related to the position. During subsequent discussions, she demonstrated a genuine interest in how, if elected, she could best serve the taxpayers of Merrill. Her enthusiasm was impressive! As a member of the Redevelopment Authority, Lori has not hesitated to ask the "tough" questions that needed asking. She has the qualifications and the eagerness to serve, and I have no doubt that she is ready, willing, and able to handle the City Clerk's duties.

In the April election, I urge you to elect Steve Hass as Merrill Mayor and Lori Anderson-Malm as Merrill City Clerk.

- Bill Heideman  
Merrill, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

I am writing to show my support for District 12 County Board Supervisor Candidate Jon Weiler. I have known Jon my entire life, as he is my father. We be-

came residents of Lincoln County in 2016 after Dad retired from the Army. It has always been his dream to live in the North Woods, and when my parents visited, they fell in love with the beauty and the people of Lincoln County. We immediately knew we found our "forever" home. My husband, daughter, and I live in Lincoln County, as well, and I work as a school social worker in Merrill.

The most important thing that I want to convey to the voters about Jon is that I can honestly and truly say that no one, and I do mean NO ONE, will work harder than him at ensuring that Lincoln County becomes the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

He has strong Christian and family values; a passion for the people of Lincoln County; and is committed to being fiscally responsible; devoted to serving veterans; and dedicated to ensuring we have jobs and quality housing to keep people here. His vision for Lincoln County is being a place where our children and grandchildren will be proud to call home.

He believes that elected and appointed officials must be accountable, be accessible, and be transparent with the voters, and I know that he will be the best choice for District 12 Supervisor. Please vote for Jon Weiler on April 5.

Respectfully,

- Alexis Medford  
Merrill, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

It is remarkable, that 37 candidates are running for the 22 seats on our Lincoln County Board of Supervisors, and I strongly support the majority of the incumbents. Most of the incumbents have been doing and will continue to do what is best for Lincoln County, its residents, and plan for our future. Among the incumbents are members who work diligently to oversee our County nursing home and help it meet the needs of our citizens. We have incumbents who are IT experts, the former director of HAVEN, social workers, and one who worked as a health expert for the Department of Corrections. Most incumbents are well versed in County government and bring with them vast expertise, experience, and compassion for their fellow citizens, and they are worthy of re-election. They work tirelessly on behalf of all of us and the work they do is non-partisan. They do what is best for the citizens of Lincoln County and they are accountable and accessible. If you doubt this, please contact the Supervisor who represents your District. If you do not know in which District you live, call Lincoln County Clerk (715-539-1019) for this information. Thus, for all of the above reasons, the following incumbents and also a former Supervisor deserve your vote on

See **LETTERS** page 15

**CLOVERDALE COUNTRY STORE**

STORE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 6:30 pm Sat. 8:30 am - 4 pm Closed Sunday  
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Beef Patties - Frozen 20 Quarter Pound Patties 80 oz. ONLY \$6.99	Salted Butter 1/4 Sticks 16 oz. ONLY \$2.29	Assorted Granola Bars 10 lbs. ONLY \$8.99
Bratwurst Cheddar - Frozen 19 oz. ONLY \$1.99	Pepper Jack Cheese 40 lb block ONLY \$1.29 a lb.	Oreo Cookies Mint 20 oz. ONLY \$1.29
Bacon - Frozen 16 oz. ONLY \$2.99	Provolone Cheese Shredded 5 lb. ONLY \$8.45	Mac 'n Cheese w/Bacon 4 oz. ONLY 79¢
Salami - Frozen 7 oz. ONLY 69¢	Brick Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.99 a lb.	Rice Crispies 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.79 a lb.
Pizza - Frozen 3 Pk. Pepperoni/Cheese 41 oz. ONLY \$4.99	Pretzel Snaps 9 oz. ONLY 89¢	Pancake-Waffle Mix 26 oz. ONLY \$1.19
Turkey Hot Dogs Natural Uncured - Frozen 10 oz. ONLY 99¢	Cookie Bites Dark Chocolate Toasted Coconut 5 oz. ONLY 89¢	Marshmallow Matey's Cereal 12 oz. ONLY 59¢

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

**Benefit for Duke James Lucia** \$8 Food Plate

Saturday March 19, 2022 • 1-9pm

Our grandson Duke is a spunky, outgoing, happy 2.5 year old who loves dinosaurs, tractors and horses. On February 21st he was diagnosed with stage 4 Medulloblastoma, which is a brain cancer. He also has many tumors on his spine. He has successfully made it through brain surgery and working on the first stage of recovery! Duke and his parents Damian and Jeanna are at the Mayo Clinic Children's Hospital in Rochester, MN starting treatments for this aggressive cancer. He is going to need stem cell surgery, chemo, radiation and other treatments. There is a chance that Duke may not walk again. Damian and Jeanna have had to stop working and going to school to be with Duke. We are not sure when our grandson will be able to go home.

Please join us in supporting and raising the much needed funds to help Duke and his parents during this very difficult time.

**Corning Town Hall**  
N1563 State Rd 64  
Merrill, WI 54452

**Raffles**

If you would like to donate to the raffles contact **Derrick Sukow** at 715.218.4152 or **Renea Sukow** at 715.218.0327 or **Mike Lucida** at 715-965-7082

Monetary donations can be sent to:  
Renea Sukow or WESTconsin Credit Union  
2005 Webster St. 860 Cedar St.  
Merrill, WI 54452 Baldwin, WI 54002  
Duke Lucia Benefit (1001)

DJ at 6 pm Drawings



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**LIVE MUSIC MARCH 18TH**  
**GEOFF LANDON**  
8 PM - 12 Midnite

**MARCH 19TH**  
**BINGO**  
1 PM  
Bar Opens at 11 AM

**CASH PRIZES & SNACKS KARAOKE**  
8 PM

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MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY: 1:00PM  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 1:00PM

**HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 4: TRANSFORMANIA**  
"PG" (1HR 27MIN)  
EVERYDAY: 7:00PM  
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY: 1:00PM  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 1:00PM & 3:00PM

**DEATH ON THE NILE**  
"PG 13" (2HR 7MIN)  
EVERYDAY: 7:00PM  
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY: 1:00PM  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 1:00PM & 3:15PM

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# Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM  
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

## The Adam Project

(Now streaming on Netflix)

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Rated PG-13 – for mild language, action, and peril involving a child

Hi, everyone. Today we are going to talk about *The Adam Project*, the newest film from the streaming giant, Netflix.

Starring Ryan Reynolds as adult Adam and newcomer Walker Scobell as 12-year-old Adam, this young actor is one to watch. We will be seeing much more of him. He nailed, just nailed, Ryan Reynolds's mannerisms and speech patterns.

As you may have guessed, *The Adam Project* deals with time travel and the ramifications of messing with time.

In supporting roles, we have Mark Ruffalo and Zoe Saldana who do good work in their limited screentime.

Netflix has been churning out lots of original content lately to mixed success, but *The Adam Project* is a fun film with action, comedy, and a solid story.

Will it win awards? No. Will it be talked about and examined at length by cine-



philes again? No. But the question really is, will this film entertain me as I destroy a bowl of popcorn on the couch? And to that, a resounding yes.

With good performances, decent script, and great special effects, this one hits the notes it was aiming for. So microwave the popcorn, slide into the groove in your couch, and just sit back and enjoy this one, folks.

Three out of five stars for this one, and only the very little ones should take a pass.

541 Days until *Dune Part 2*. Just sayin'.

## Gressre-brands business to: The Chiropractic Wellness Center

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

"In 2021 we decided to do a re-branding of our practice," said Dr. Kate Gress, owner of what used to be called The Wellness Center at Gress Chiropractic on the northeast corner of Center Ave. and E. Main St. in Merrill. The business recently underwent a "refresh" including their signage and is one of a number of businesses in our community making upgrades



The staff at the newly re-branded and re-named "The Chiropractic Wellness Center" on the northeast corner of Center Ave. and E. Main St. in Merrill gathered with Chamber of Commerce staff and Chamber ambassadors for a ribbon cutting on Sept. 30, 2021, in front of their new sign to celebrate.

Tina L. Scott photo.

or improvements to their business in a wide variety of ways. For Gress, the changes were more of an overall nature and included renaming the business, now known simply as The Chiropractic Wellness Center.

"The impetus behind this re-branding started with wanting to re-do our logo, which we felt was outdated," she said.

"As we started think-

ing about that process, we decided to shorten up our name from the Wellness Center at Gress Chiropractic to The Chiropractic Wellness Center. I felt that even though I am the sole owner and CEO of the business, the business isn't about me, and I don't need my name on the door," Gress said.

"We are a group practice and have three doctors and an intern in our practice, and it's all about each of us giving the best care to our community," she said.

"We feel that the name fits, as we focus on overall wellness of our patients," Gress said. "We are a family practice and see people of all ages, from birth to our oldest patient being 97. We see people with a variety of ailments, such as headaches, digestive issues, sinus problems, issues with the jaw, shoulders, knees, feet, back and neck pain, kids and babies with colic, ear infections, bed wetting, asthma, allergies, and ADHD."

"However, we always strive to educate our patients that chiropractic isn't just about fixing problems," she said. "It's

See GRESS page 14

**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 21st Menu:**  
Spaghetti & meatballs with salad, garlic bread & dessert.

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MARCH 22ND - CHICKEN CORDON ROUGE  
MARCH 29TH - BOURBON CHICKEN  
Dinner served: Tuesday 4:00-8:00 PM

**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
MARCH 18TH - CATFISH  
MARCH 25TH - BLUEGILLS  
Dinner served: Friday 4:00-8:00 PM

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

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Beginning at 1pm, one Hot Seat winner will be drawn hourly until 11pm for a chance to win up to \$1,000 Cash every Friday and Saturday. Guests who earn 25 points will be eligible to receive \$15 Rewards Play and entries up to 10x per promotional day to be entered into the Saturday \$5,000 Cash drawing at 9pm! Earn up to 3 entries and \$45 Rewards Play Sunday – Wednesday.

**HO-CHUNK GAMING WITTENBERG**  
N7198 US HWY 45 | WITTENBERG, WI



**BENEFIT** from page 1

January 2022, he had stopped walking altogether and began vomiting and not eating. After their toddler had lost about seven pounds, Duke's parents packed him up and took him to the Mayo Clinic Children's Hospital in Rochester, Minn., to find out what was going on, Renea said.

On Feb. 21, 2022, Duke had an MRI and that evening doctors discovered a tumor on Duke's brain. The very next day they did surgery to remove the tumor, and the day after that, it was confirmed that Duke had cancer, Renea said.

Duke was diagnosed with stage 4 medulloblastoma, a cancerous tumor that starts in the lower back part of the brain called the cerebellum, which is involved in muscle coordination, balance, and movement.

This type of cancer can spread rapidly via the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), which surrounds and protects the brain and spinal cord, to other areas of the brain and spinal cord. This rare cancer most frequently effects young children. Some sources suggest it begins in the fetal embryonic cells in the brain; other sources say the cause is not known.

Duke's cancer is aggressive and his parents soon learned it had spread to other areas of his brain and spine. "He has 24 spinal tumors bigger than the one in his brain that they removed, and 11 tumors in his brain that are still growing," Renea said on Monday, March 14. Day by day Duke's condition is developing, she said. "Things are changing rapidly with the treatment of what's going on and what's popping up."

Duke was scheduled to begin chemotherapy last Thursday, March 10, "but they found leakage out of his spine, so they had to do surgery to put a shunt in instead," delaying the start of the chemo by several days, she said.

In addition to chemo, Duke will undergo additional treatments to try to slow the growth of all the tumors, which are still growing, and to try to shrink them and prevent additional tumors from forming, but risks are high with this aggressive cancer, and there is a chance that Duke may not walk again. Numerous surgeries, radiation, and stem cell surgery are also likely in his future. Renea said she's getting a lot of information, yet, "I'm still only getting bits and pieces, because Damian doesn't have time to explain it all to me." Things are changing quickly, there is so much information coming at them from the doctors, and things are sometimes "one step forward, two steps back or two steps forward, one step back," she said. "And even after they get it all under control, there is a 35% chance it could come back within five years."

Prayers for Duke and his family are welcomed and appreciated, Renea said. Damian and Jeanna are trying to be posi-



A recent photo of Duke Lucia at Mayo Clinic Children's Hospital in Rochester, Minn. Submitted photo.

tive and "have faith in what the doctors are offering for treatment options" for their only child at Mayo Clinic, trying to focus on hope rather than despair.

Family, friends, and co-workers are rallying around the couple and their son. Renea explained that both Damian and Jeanna were working full-time and going to school full-time. Jeanna was a counselor for rehab and continuing her education to attain a higher degree in that field. Damian is a welder at Emperial Bucket and was working full-time while also going to school to become a counselor. Both Damian and Jeanna have now put college on hold, and Jeanna had to quit her job to be with Duke at the hospital. Damian is working a couple days a week to keep some money coming in, Renea said, but sometimes has to leave work to support Jeanna. "His co-workers are giving him their PTO (Paid Time Off) so he can get paid for a 40-hour week. They've been just wonderful," Renea said.

Here in Merrill, Renea Sukow and her husband, Derrick, and Mike Lucia have organized a fundraiser to benefit Duke and his family. "We are not sure when our grandson will be able to go home. Please join us in supporting and raising the much-needed funds to help Duke and his parents during this very difficult time," they ask.

"Duke Strong," a benefit for Duke James Lucia, will be held this Saturday, March 19, from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Corning Town Hall, N1563 State Rd 64, west of Merrill. Donations of raffle items are still being accepted for the benefit. [Call Renea at 715.218.0327 or Mike at 715.965.7082.] There will be \$8 food plates, raffles and drawings throughout the event, and a DJ at 6:00 p.m.

Monetary donations for the family can also be sent c/o Renea Sukow, 2005 Webster St., Merrill, or to WESTconsin Credit Union, 860 Cedar St., Baldwin, WI 54402 and designated "For Duke Lucia Benefit (1001)."

**SKATING** from page 3

the gazebo in Merrill. "I love having it," Bares said. "This is so nice."

Bares didn't grow up in Merrill, so she's really appreciative of the opportunities for nearby outdoor recreation for her family.

"Our goal this year was to spend as many days as we can coming here, because it's just such a fun thing to do," she said. "It's free. It's close by."

"We've invested in skates for all the kids," Bares added. From her youngest son, Louis, who is just four years old and in Pre-K, on up to the her older children, they all enjoy coming out on the ice to play.

"We've never played traditional hockey," she said. "We just kinda hit the puck." But they have fun doing it.

"And we're just kind of learning how to skate and it helps kind of hold you up," she added, referring to using the hockey stick as a third touchpoint on the ice, kind of like a tripod.

The kids also enjoy making snow angels in new fallen snow on the ice and playing on the high snowbanks that surround

the ice rink.

On a nice winter day, it's just a great way to get outside and enjoy some fresh air.

"It is such a short window," Bares said, of the opportunities to really use the outdoor ice rink. "Usually it's open around Christmas, but this year it was too warm so they didn't quite get it up yet then. But it's usually from Christmas until late February or early March. Then you're already getting warm days where it's slushy." Once it gets slushy, the re-freezing can make really rough ice. But they've had days of skating recently where it's as smooth as glass, she said. And some days the temperatures are too frigid to enjoy getting out on the rink.

"It goes really fast, so any opportunity, we're just gonna take," Bares said.



Benjamin Bares, age 6, makes a snow angel on the ice at Normal Park after a recent light snowfall.

Tina L. Scott photo.

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### Announcements 7005

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**WANTED** the Frontier Merrill phone book - issued 2015 and Frontier phone book - issued April 2016. Call 715-536-8474.

### Announcements 7005

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### Activities and Meetings 7020

**FONDY VINTAGE AUTO CLUB ANNUAL SWAP MEET!** Sun MAR 20 8am-2:00pm FOND DU LAC CO FAIRGROUNDS EXPO Adm \$5 Tony 920-922-4881 or Steve 920-924-9000 (WCAN)

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GRESS from page 8 just as much about preventing problems and keeping the body healthy and well, so it doesn't break down. Hence, we are now The Chiropractic Wellness Center."

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## Schmidt is February Youth Optimist at PRMS

Eighth grader Norah Schmidt has been named February Youth Optimist at Prairie River Middle School. Mr. Hahn nominated her saying, "Norah is the epitome of an optimist. She constantly shows initiative and self-direction in everything she does while at the same time seeks to be an amazing friend."



Schmidt

"I have had the privilege of teaching and coaching Norah in math and basketball and, during that time, I have witnessed her constantly strive to improve her abilities both academically and athletically," Mr. Hahn said. "She is always asking questions and willing to put in the extra effort to improve herself. Norah actively seeks feedback and utilizes that feedback to improve. Norah brightens every room she enters and hands down deserves to be Youth Optimist of the Month."

"Norah partakes in Cross Country and Girls Basketball," he said. "She has received the Prairie River Middle School Safety Award and is a part of the L&L Tree Dodgers Snowmobile Club. Norah is described as caring, helpful, ambitious, enthusiastic, and is known to be a problem solver."

She is the daughter of Danelle Schmidt of Merrill.

## Allen is March Youth Optimist at PRMS

Eighth grader Kaylynn Allen has been named March Youth Optimist at Prairie River Middle School. Mr. Kautzer nominated her, saying, "Kaylynn has demonstrated many of the Optimist Creed values but one really pops: To think only for the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best." he said. "This mindset is what makes her a winner and why I recommend Kaylynn for Youth Optimist. She works hard, treats others with respect, and finds the good in every situation."



Allen

"Kaylynn is involved in many school and community activities. She participates in the Junior Jays volleyball, Mathcounts, teaches dance classes two nights each week, and serves as Secretary at Pine River Pioneer Sunrise 4-h Club," he continued. "She has also earned several awards including: Student of the Quarter twice, Lincoln County M.A.S.S. Integrity Award, and Intermediate Showmanship at the Lincoln County Fair this past year."

"Kaylynn doesn't expect rewards for doing the right thing," Mr. Kautzer said. "Character drives her to expect only the best in herself and others. She is described as hardworking, honest, and funny."

She is the daughter of Joseph Allen and Samantha Allen of Merrill.

## St. Francis Xavier Catholic School announces 2021-2022 second quarter Honor Roll

### HIGHEST HONORS 3.75 – 4.00

Theo Johnson (4.0)  
Bobby Hoffman (4.0)  
Raphael Gerbig  
Kaylana Vickery  
Jacob Shimel  
Emily Raymer  
Lilly Hoffman  
Hannah Rell

### HIGH HONORS 3.50 – 3.749

Joseph Ruffi  
Owen Meehean  
Slater Kalenske  
Samantha Homan  
Lauren Hoffman  
Cecilia Gerbig

### HONORS 3.25 – 3.499

Matthew Burkhardt  
Louisa Fleischman

### HONOR ROLL 3.00 – 3.249

Max Kuhn  
Michael Creel

## LETTERS

from page 7

Feb. 15: Judy Allen, Nubs Ashbeck, Bill Bialecki, Hans Breitenmoser, Paul Gilk, Dora Gorski, Brian Hafeman, Kevin Koth, Elizabeth McCrank, Greta Rusch, Pat Voermans, Derek Woellner, and Judy Woller. Please vote.

Respectfully,

– Catherine G. LeMay-Brown  
Merrill, Wis.

### TO THE EDITOR:

I want to support and urge you to vote for Clyde Nelson, who is running as a Write-in candidate for the 4th Aldermanic District in Merrill. I have known Clyde for 48 years and have found him to be very responsible, honest and a man of integrity. I have had the privilege as a volunteer to work beside him at the Lincoln County Fair and a long time ago as a professional financial consultant. I have found Clyde to be a good listener, negotiator, and problem solver. Clyde looks at many different alternatives before offering a solution. Clyde was involved in some situations that could have become quite disruptive and by meeting people face to face and asking good constructive questions and then offering some alternative solutions, the situations ended up in a satisfactory and ongoing relationship. Clyde's biggest asset is the willingness to go to people who have an issue and discussing viable solutions with them. I am sure Clyde would use this same type

of situational management as an Alderperson.

Merrill is a very nice place to live and work. Every community in America will have challenges as it addresses budgets and planning for the future. Clyde possesses the personality and the background to continue the things we have come to enjoy. He has the insight to pose Merrill for the future to maintain the attributes of this City we have come to value and cherish.

– Tom Mueller  
Merrill, Wis.

### TO THE EDITOR:

To the citizens of the 12th District in the Towns of Tomahawk, Harding, and Corning:

I'm writing to inform you that I've registered as a write-in candidate for the April 5th election.

On Feb. 15, I lost in the primary. I can take getting beat fair and square, but I can't quite stomach getting hammered by misrepresentation and half-truths. Jon Weiler alleges that I have been unaccountable and inaccessible. That simply isn't true. I listen to constituents and always have.

Jon hasn't put forward a single concrete proposal. His campaign (complete with glossy oversized postcards mailed from Reno, Nev.) is devoid of content.

Julie complains about County debt, but it's an illusion to think that counties don't borrow when the need arises. The Lincoln County Jail was funded by borrowing. Same with the Service Center and

the two additions to Pine Crest Nursing Home. Businesses, families, individuals, and county governments borrow money. That's just a fact of life.

As to cutting out the fat, there are employees of Lincoln County who make good middle-class incomes because they're qualified professionals who know their jobs. Probably every one of them could make a lot more money in the private sector or with a larger county. They stay in Lincoln County because they're committed to the place. To our place.

Since I'm thoroughly aggravated by all the hollow posturing and misrepresentation, I'm asking you to write in Paul Gilk for County Supervisor on April 5.

– Paul Gilk  
Merrill, Wis.

### TO THE EDITOR:

I'm surprised that the Foto News headline last week warned of scams

one week after front page endorsement of a scam. This "people's convoy" is a group of fringe, white wing extremists who believe their rights, choice, and freedoms in any way affect disease. If you catch cold, it is not because your rights were violated. If you get the flu, it is not a matter of choice or freedom. It is disease, and those things are irrelevant. As irrelevant as the eventual "convoy."

Endorsement of extremists is something one would expect from OAN, News Max, or Fox. Publishing their manifesto, including a bastardized version of the Preamble to the Constitution is an endorsement of their biased and ignorant rational (sic). Are we to expect more endorsements of fringe extremists? Will the Foto News endorse the violent insurrectionists who stormed the capitol? The Klan? How far will it go?

A letter to the editor ex-

presses an opinion. Front page publishing of an extremist manifesto is endorsing that group and advocating their viewpoint. Unless the Foto News is planning on becoming a

conservative propaganda forum, they will need to be more aware of their choices in this highly charged environment.

– Doug Curtis  
Gleason, Wis.

## 2022 Merrill High School Spring Sports Schedule

### Baseball-Boys (Varsity, JV & JV2)

Practice Begins Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Softball-Girls (Varsity & JV)

Practice Began Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Soccer-Girls (Varsity & JV)

Practice Begins Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

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

Practice Began Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

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

Practice Began Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Golf-Boys (Varsity & JV)

Practice Begins Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

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## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

**Mia Ott**, a Sophomore at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Mia is a guard on the Merrill Girls Varsity Basketball Team, and this is her first year playing Varsity. She started playing basketball on the traveling girls basketball team in the fifth grade, played on the PRMS Girls Basketball Team from sixth through eighth grades, and played JV Girls Basketball last year at MHS. During the summer, Mia said she plays on the AAU Girls Basketball Team. Mia also plays softball and has been playing since elementary school for fun and on the traveling girls softball team. Last year she started playing at MHS on the JV Girls Softball Team and she plans to play again this spring.

At MHS, Mia enjoys history classes, and outside of school, she enjoys art and acrylic painting. She also has a part-time job working with plants at JW Perry. In her free time, Mia enjoys lifting weights at Riverside Athletic, playing basketball for fun and with friends, and watching movies, especially comedies. During the summer, she enjoys swimming, going boating, and trying to get better at water skiing with her family. They live near the Wisconsin River.

The daughter of Bob Ott and Rebecca Ott of the Town of Rock Falls, Mia has a 4.0 GPA and is currently investigating the education and training required to pursue a career as an FBI agent to see if that is what she will pursue after high school.



Mia Ott

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