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Memorial Day in Merrill

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

On Monday, May 30, 2022, a crowd of Merrill residents gathered in the Veterans Section of St. Francis Cemetery off of Theilman St. in Merrill to pay tribute to those American soldiers who lost their lives in war fighting for our country – men and women, young and old. Merrill VFW Post 1638, along with the VFW Post 1638 Auxiliary, the Honor Guard, and area Scout Troops participated.

Post Commander Arnold “Vic” Viljevac commented that he was happy to see the turnout and the support from the Merrill community, especially in light of the recent news that some communities in our country and in Wisconsin had canceled their Memorial Day ceremonies, including in Milwaukee, where officials permanently canceled the Memorial Day Parade, citing lack of support and enthusiasm, lack of volunteers, and rising costs.

“Memorial Day is a special holiday to solemnly remember and pay tribute to the brave fallen who have secured the prosperity and liberty that we enjoy today,” Viljevac said. “That is why we are gathered here on Memorial Day, to honor the memory of fallen military warriors who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in the war of our nation, a day to honor the hundreds from Lincoln County, tens of thousands from Wisconsin, in addition to well over a million men and women from across America who have given their life for this country.”

Jeremy Scott gave the opening prayer: “Father of us all, in the depth of our silent reverence, we realize the truth of the inspired words: I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. As comrade after comrade departs, we march on with our ranks grown thinner. Help us to be faithful onto thee and to one another. Look in mercy on the surviving spouses and children of our departed comrades, we beseech thee, and with thine own tenderness, console and comfort those who are bereaved. Heavenly Father, bless our country with freedom, peace, and right-

See **MEMORIAL** page 7



Area Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts escorted members of the VFW Post 1638 Auxiliary for the laying of the wreaths. **Tina L. Scott photos.**



Crosses and flags in honor of American war heroes who sacrificed their lives for our nation.

What is Memorial Day?

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Imagine if you will ... if you have not already actually lived this ... that you have a child, or a spouse, or a parent, or a sibling, who is serving in the military. You are proud of your soldier. Very proud. Your soldier has gone through training to become strong, is patriotic and loves this country, and will do whatever it takes to protect our freedoms, and even the freedoms of people in other countries that are being trampled upon.

You've seen your soldier off ...

quite some time ago now. You worry all the time; you just can't help it, but you keep up a brave face. You smile. You talk about your soldier with others who ask. You speak with pride about your soldier's accomplishments, strength, heart, and bravery. You hope and pray for your soldier's safe return.

Yet intermingled with the pride and patriotism and love for your soldier is always that niggling fear: is your soldier all right? What is happening? When will your soldier come back to you, and will they be the same person they were when they

left, before they saw all the horrors of war? How will this war, or this deployment, change your soldier?

You live for the letters. They are your link to your soldier now. And if your soldier has been deployed in recent years, you sometimes get phone calls and even video chats. They are your assurance. Your lifeline to your soldier. The proof that your soldier is OK. You cling to them and they are your hope.

And then one day, as you are just going about your life, an official-

See **WHAT IS** page 13

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MHS Graduation: Class of 2022

A graduate accepts her diploma from Merrill High School Principal Shannon Murray at the May 27 graduation ceremony in the Merrill High School Fieldhouse. **Tina L. Scott photo.**

See **GRADUATION** page 5

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\$12,750 Tourism Grant awarded for Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo

Lincoln County Rodeo Association increases marketing to draw more people to Merrill

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

In mid-May, the Wisconsin Department of Tourism presented a \$12,750 Joint Effort Marketing (JEM) grant to the Lincoln County Rodeo Association (LCRA) for the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo, enabling the LCRA to expand their marketing radius to attract more spectators to Merrill for this year's Rodeo.

"The Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo has drawn travelers to central Wisconsin for more than 30 years," said Secretary-designee, Anne Sayers. "This grant will help even more families discover this fun opportunity to enjoy Wisconsin's spirited nature and make lasting memories."

The Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo will take place June 10, 11, and 12, 2022, at the Merrill Festival Grounds. The weekend-long event features one daily professional

rodeo show, live music, a tractor-pull, food and shopping vendors, and other family-friendly activities. Historically, this volunteer-run event brings more than 10,000 people to Merrill and the surrounding communities, and this year, the Rodeo is hoping for even more

"Our grant that we applied for and were awarded has enabled our organization to expand our advertising for the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo," said Theresa Grund, Marketing Director for the LCRA. "This was used towards digital billboards in Appleton, Green Bay, and west of Wausau. These digital boards also are working through Geo Fencing. This is an additional feature that when traffic goes through the perimeters around our location of billboards, they will receive another ad for our event on their phones or electronic devices - another beneficial tool to bring more spectators to the area through the advertising of our event."

"Additional news coverage and radio coverage was also added to the Appleton and Green Bay area, as well," she said. The sign company anticipates 172,000 cars will pass by the signs. The campaign launched on May 16 for a full four weeks of advertising to the expanded demographic.

Rodeo growth equals success for Merrill

"The continuous growth of our event contributes to added growth of the Merrill community and businesses," said Grund.

As a \$17.3 billion industry in Wisconsin that supports more than 157,000 jobs, tourism is crucial to the state's economic recovery and success, a press release from the Department of Tourism said. JEM grants are just one of the tools in the toolbox for the Department of



From L to R: 2022 Rodeo Princess Emma Moodie; Ken Neff, Merrill Chamber of Commerce; Jeff Anderson, Regional Tourism Specialist, Travel Wisconsin; Theresa Grund, Marketing Director, and Bryan Moodie, Vice President, Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo; Steve Hass, Merrill Mayor; and 2022 Rodeo Queen Katy Koeppel. Submitted photo.



Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo Vice President, Bryan Moodie, and Marketing Director, Theresa Grund, accept a \$12,750 grant from the Wisconsin Department of Tourism to be used to increase marketing efforts for the Rodeo. Submitted photo.

Tourism to partner with organizations and nonprofits around the state who are using innovation and creativity to bring visitors and dollars to their community.

In fiscal year 2021, the Department funded 45 JEM projects, awarding \$1,100,000 million statewide. JEM grant funds are available to nonprofit organizations

See RODEO page 9

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MHS Seniors awarded nearly \$1.3 million in scholarships

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Merrill High School (MHS) held their Class of 2022 Senior Awards Ceremony on May 25, 2022, in the MHS Auditorium. Students were recognized for their academic and other accomplishments, and presented with a combined total of \$673,070 in local scholarships.

Kasie Holt, Scholarship Coordinator and Counselor at MHS, said MHS Seniors also reported receiving \$605,245 in outside scholarships.

All told, that totals nearly \$1.3 million in scholarships awarded to the MHS Class of 2022 to be applied toward their post-secondary education.

MHS Principal Shannon Murray (who will be the District's new Superintendent of Schools effective in July); current Superintendent Dr. John Sample; and Board of

Education President Kevin Blake were all on hand to share in the success of this year's graduating Seniors.

Top Academic Seniors were recognized: Decilyn Clark, Molly Dallman, Lydia McIntyre, Bailey Orzech, Elizabeth Schmidt, Tessa Wheat, Laney Zuelsdorff, Jackson DeJong, Grace Koehler, Felicia Mayfield, Amelia Skoviera, McKenna Smith, and Olivia Stevenson.

International students were introduced: Telina Marmorat (from France), Emily Schilken (from Germany), and Greta Scomazzoni (from Italy).

Gold tassels

The following students received gold tassels: Brenna Allen, Anika Bartz, Annie Becker, Samuel Bennett, Damien Benzinger, Emma Boquist, Kierra Boyd, Danielle Broesch, Ayden Brown, Cali Brown, Kayla Burrow, Madalia Burrows, Jordan Bush, Decilyn

Clark, Sarah Crockford, Molly Dallman, Jackson DeJong, Nicole Doering, Lauren Duginski, Fletcher Ellenbecker, Brandon Ellerman, Brindelyn Eternicka, Jackson Fink, Riley Fritcher, Caitlyn Geiss, Hailey Gerbig, Cory Gigl, Andrew Gille, Hannah Glaza, David Golisch, Angela Hinner, Callen Hoepfner, Isabella Hoff, Marissa Hoffman, Jack Hooch, Evan Jaeger, Carter Jensen, Samuel Johns, Grace Koehler, Lydia Koehler, Danielle Kornman, Danyelle Kottke, Alissa Kracht, Monica Lane, Elizabeth Leander, Jordyn Leopold, Olivia Losee, Madison Malm, Evelyn Marcott, Emma Marlowe, Maria Marvin, Felicia Mayfield, Lydia McIntyre, Michael McRae, Andrew Moyer, Bailey Orzech, Emma Pajdash, Zoey Parrett, Alexander Peacock, Aiden Pehlke, Jonnie Pierschalla-Zastrow, Tanaya Pillai,

Adam Polak, Megan Proulx, Ariana Raddatz, Kayoda Raddatz, Melony Rampart, Henry Reimann, Gaven Reindl, Alynn Renzelmann, Daniel Ricci, Matthew Rydeski, Dru Sabatke, Abigail Schmidt, Elizabeth Schmidt, Brennan Schneider, Courtney Schneider, Claire Schultz, Grace Schultz, Isaiah Scott, Amelia Skoviera, Draven Slewitzke, McKenna Smith, Jordan Smukowski, Steven Spoehr, Brenna Steinagel, Olivia Stevenson, Eric Stoltz, Bailey Turenne, Levon Van Der Geest, Abrehm Van Wie, Ashton Voermans, Anthony Vogel, Haven Wakefield, Tessa Wheat, Darrin Wiederhoeft, Tyler Wieloch, Mackenna Wimmer, Taylor Zastrow, and Laney Zuelsdorff.

Scholarships and awards

Students were recognized for the following achievements and scholar-

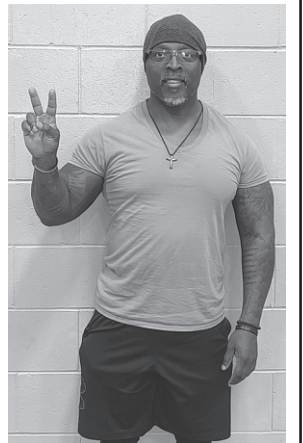
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See **SCHOLARSHIPS** page 6

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Rodeo Queen contestants

Three area ladies are competing to become the 2023 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo Queen. Those ladies are posing with this year's 2022 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo Queen. From L to R: Contestant Shyana Zettler-Finck, daughter of Shelly Zettler and Eugene Finck, of Edgar; contestant and this year's Rodeo Princess Emma Moodie, daughter of Karri and Bryan Moodie, of Athens; the reigning 2022 Rodeo Queen Katelyn Koeppel, daughter of Jamie and Lori Koeppel, of Wausau; and contestant Tiffany Smail, daughter of Karrie and Jeff Smail, of Wausau. The contestants are selling tickets to the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo which will be held on June 10, 11, and 12, 2022, at the Merrill Festival Grounds. Ticket sales are one component in the competition to become the 2023 Queen. Complete details about the competition are available at: wrpr.org. The new 2023 Queen will be crowned on Sunday, June 12, at approximately 12:00 p.m. just prior to the 1:00 p.m. Rodeo performance. The reigning 2022 Rodeo royalty will preside over this year's event. The 2022 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo Queen is Katelyn Koeppel and the 2022 Princess is Emma Moodie.



Natalie Ollhoff photo.



Emily - Cassie - Mariah - Debbi - Leah - Kelly - Sandy, Owner - Sue - Mary - Jancy

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Merrill High School Class of 1992
or pass along the invite!



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OBITUARIES



Gloria Jean Gammey, age 66, of Appleton, passed away on Friday, May 20, 2022 at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born on December 22, 1955 to Ellsworth and Joyce (Berndt) Kufahl in Merrill. Gloria graduated from Merrill Senior High School in 1974. On April 28, 1979 she married the love of her life Timothy Gammey. Gloria worked at Weinbrenner Shoe Factory and Essity for 37 years as a machine operator where she was also a Union Member.

She enjoyed gardening, reading, trails of any kind, renting cottages around Wisconsin, and most of all spending time with her grandchildren.

Gloria is survived by her children Jessica (Nick) Gardner and their children Andrew and Jacob and David (Carly) Gammey and their daughter Emily; her mother Joyce Kufahl; siblings: Sandi (Tim) Schmeltzer, Robert (Debbie) Kufahl and Tom (Linda Fitzkufahl) Kufahl; brothers-in-law Bill Gammey and Tom Giganti; best friends: Sue Schreiber, Jane Kufahl, Linda Cartwright, Gale Spliski, and Rene Zuiches; and other relatives and friends. She is preceded in death by her husband Timothy; her father Ellsworth; twin infant sisters Kathryn and Kathleen; sister Rita Giganti; and parents-in-law Louis and Emily Gammey.

A Funeral Service for Gloria was held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 40 Oak Street, Neenah with Pastor Tony McKenzie officiating. Friends visited from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service. Interment took place at St. Paul's Church Cemetery in the town of Pine River, Lincoln County.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Sally Andersen, APNP, from Ascension Medical Group of Greenville, Darci Nelson and the staff at St. Elizabeth Hospital Cancer Center, and the staff at Compassus Hospice for the care and compassion they showed Gloria and her family.



Tracy M. Kendall, age 62 of Merrill, WI passed away on Monday, May 23 rd at Howard Young Medical Center in Woodruff, WI. Tracy was born on November 8, 1959 in Milwaukee, WI the daughter of Charles and Evelyn Healy. She married Jim Kendall on June 15, 1990. Tracy shared the gift of cooking for her loved ones and was a devoted foster mother.

She is survived by her husband Jim and by her children Jill (Marco) Ibarra, Ryan (Vanessa) Dierker, Tyler (Brittany) Kendall and Gage (Taleah) Kendall and by her grandchildren Lola, Sofia, Lucia, Brayden, Layla and Maddie. Further survived by her siblings Tim Healy, Tammy (John) Chastain and Troy (Sue) Healy and her Uncle Mike (Kim) Healy and her Bestie Elizabeth DeKarske and by numerous family members and friends.

Tracy was preceded in death by her parents Charles and Evelyn and her nana Lorraine Haberer.

Celebration of Life Services will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations in memory of Tracy to charity of choice in her name.

Online condolences may be shared at nimgernfuneral.com NIMSGERN FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES OF WOODRUFF, WI IS SERVING THE FAMILY.

Electronics Recycling Event on June 4

TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

The Merrill Optimist Club and the Good News Project of Wausau will join forces to hold an Electronics Recycling Event on Saturday, June 4, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Merrill Festival Grounds in the Sell Building. Please use the Sales Street entrance.

Computers, monitors, speakers, computer mice, keyboards, laptops, printers, scanners, computer parts, fax machines, televisions (all sizes/types), VCRs, DVD players, stereos, gaming systems, cell phones, cords and wires, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, microwaves, vacuums, and other electronics will be accepted. The recycling is data secure, so your personal information on any/all devices will be secure. Cost to recycle these

See RECYCLING page 14

BVA graduates 51 students from throughout the state, celebrates 10-year anniversary

MAPS and BVA sign new 5-year contract

TINA L. SCOTT EDITOR

On Friday, May 20, 2022, Bridges Virtual Academy (BVA) in Merrill held their 2022 Graduation Ceremony in the Merrill High School (MHS) Auditorium.

In total, 51 students graduated from BVA this year from around the state, and 33 of those graduates participated in the Graduation Ceremony in person in Merrill with their family and friends. "This was our largest graduating class to date," said Mary Ball, Student Services Manager at BVA.

Graduates from our immediate vicinity included the following students from Merrill: Benjamin

Freyer, Abigail Hagemeister, Connor Haynes, Aubree Mootz, Caden Schulz, ToriLynn Strand, and Cole West-Hanson.

From other northwoods communities, Brianna Soderlund of Gleason, Lee Erath of Wausau, Ethan Jorgensen and Madison Landowski of Schofield, Hannah Mueller of Minocqua, Hunter Nitsch of Tomahawk, and Natalie Shrock and Callie Threlkeld of Rhinelander also graduated from BVA's Class of 2022.

Other graduates of the BVA Class of 2022 included students from all around the state of Wisconsin: Joseph Aberg (Waupaca), Juliana Babich (Franksville), Annalise Benjamin (Sun Prairie), Brielle

Bitting (Hales Corners), Kirstin Christensen (Union Grove), Noelle Clauser (Milwaukee), Gabriel Cox (Milwaukee), Luke DeYoung (Verona), Anastasia Ellis (Denmark), Jonathan Endris (Green Bay), Bryant Farrell (Greendale), Asher Frank (Waterloo), Cailey Gunderson (Wautoma), Naomi Jiles (Oconomowoc), Preston Johnson (Green Bay), Rylan Kelley (Monroe), Zachary Kolodzinski (North Prairie), Hannah Kozlowski (Mukwonago), Joseph Leroux (Richfield), Alec Morrison (Waukesha), Kiana Morter (McFarland), Faith Nosek (Oconomowoc), Mackenzie

See BVA page 14



On Friday, May 20, 2022, Bridges Virtual Academy (BVA) in Merrill held their 2022 Graduation Ceremony in the Merrill High School (MHS) Auditorium, with 33 of the year's 51 graduates able to attend the ceremony in person. Submitted photo.

Advertisement for Tomahawk Monument Co. featuring a granite memorial and services in pre-needs planning.

Advertisement for Merrill Monument featuring 3-4 month turnaround on all in stock monuments and various services.

Advertisement for Mid-Wisconsin Cremation Society offering direct cremation for \$980.00.

Advertisement for Taylor & Stine Funeral Home and Cremation Services, serving the community since 1934.

Advertisement for Waid Funeral Home and Cremation Service, featuring Anna Winningham as the licensed funeral director.

Advertisement for Thank You, featuring a portrait of a man and a message of gratitude to friends and staff.

GRADUATION from page 1



Merrill High School (MHS) Social Studies teacher Adam Yirkovsky was the keynote presenter at this year's graduation. He shared his joy at teaching in Merrill where he had grown up and his pride in being involved as an advisor with the Raise Your Voice Club at MHS. He issued a challenge: "to all of you to take your own mental health seriously in your life." He said he wished someone had told him earlier in his life that, "It's OK not to be OK." Instead, he said, the advice for success he had heard was, "Fake it 'til you make it." And that, Yirkovsky said, was bad advice. Instead, he said, consider this: "If you take your mental health seriously, you'll make it one step at a time." He also told the graduates: "You need to unapologetically follow your passions." And "You have to bet on yourself in whatever you choose to do." Most importantly, he said, "I don't want anyone else to feel alone. We love you kids." "It's been my honor to be a part of your journey. Thank you for being a part of mine," Yirkovsky said. Yirkovsky is leaving MHS to go to Black River Falls High School to pursue his dream of being a Head Football Coach there for 2022-2023.

Tina L. Scott photos.



A peek at some of the graduates of the Merrill High School Class of 2022 during Friday's graduation ceremony.



Senior Jackson DeJong gave the Senior Address to fellow classmates, making multiple references to cole slaw, clearly an inside joke among this year's Class of 2022, possibly dating back to their Freshman year.



A graduate accepts a carnation after receiving his diploma.

The History: Originally Decoration Day, now Memorial Day

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

According to History.com, Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day which began on May 5, 1868, when General John A. Logan, the commander-in-chief of the Union veterans' group known as the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed. It was a nationwide day of commemoration for the more than 620,000 soldiers killed in the recently ended Civil War. It is said the confederate women of the south, who decorated the graves of their fallen soldiers, may have inspired the idea.

Other Northern states embraced the idea and by 1890, Decoration Day was an official state holiday observed annually on May 30 in northern states, while Southern states honored the dead on

separate days. Until after World War I, that is. Then the day expanded to commemorating the lives of those American military personnel who had died in any war. Subsequently, personnel who died in World War II, the Vietnam War, the Korean War, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are now also honored on Memorial Day.

In 1968, U.S. Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, establishing Memorial Day as the last Monday in May, effective in 1971, and declaring it a federal holiday. It is just happenstance that this year, in 2022, Memorial Day actually falls on May 30.

There were many who

objected to the change, as one of the reasons for its creation was to make a three-day weekend for federal employees, and those objectors worried that the holiday would become more about a three-day weekend and the beginning of summer than

about honoring the courageous men and women who had died serving their country in war. Some veterans groups continue to lobby for a return to the May 30 observance. It is true there are many Americans who do not know or understand

See **HISTORY** page 13

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For further information please contact Chairman Robert Kressel at 715-873-4041.

Bids will be opened at 6:00 p.m. in the Russell Town Hall on June 14, 2022.

Sealed bids can be submitted to: Town Clerk, N5410 State Highway 17, Gleason, Wis 54435.

The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Contractor to provide certificate of insurance showing liability and workers compensation coverage.

Amy Brown, Town Clerk
Published May 26 & June, 2nd, 2022. WNAXLP

MERRILL AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICT OFFICE
SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Mondays – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Tuesdays – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Wednesdays – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Thursdays – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Fridays – CLOSED

These hours are effective June 6, 2022.
Regular office hours are planned to resume on
Monday, August 15, 2022.

| LEGAL NOTICES |

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Legals | 7700 | Legals | 7700 |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: 5-27-22
/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-79
IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF
Seth James Look
By Seth James Look
NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:
From: Seth James Look
To: Emily Muhlaysia Johnson-Look
Birth Certificate: Seth James Look
IT IS ORDERED:
This Petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Judge Robert R. Russell
Place: Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452
Date: June 30, 2022
Time: 11:30 AM
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-536-0303 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:
Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Foto News, a newspaper published in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.
Published June 2, 9, 16, 2022
WNAXLP

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: May 4, 2022
Electronically signed by Bonnie Wachsmuth, Court Commissioner
STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Order To Appear
Case No. 21FA121
IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF
Petitioner: RICARDA PETERSEN
and
Respondent: DAVID LAWRENCE PETERSEN
IT IS ORDERED:
David Lawrence Petersen appear as follows:
1. Before Hon. Bonnie Wachsmuth, Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner
2. Location: Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452
3. Date: June 29, 2022, Time: 10:00 a.m. or as soon as the matter may be heard.
Failure by the party named above to appear may result in the court entering a judgment of divorce or legal separation on all issues in their absence.
A copy of this order shall be personally served upon the above named party.
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.
Published: May 12, 19, 26, 2022
WNXLP

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: May 19, 2022
Electronically signed by Hon. Jay R. Tlusty
Circuit Court Judge
STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY
Order Setting Time to Hear Petition for Administration and Deadline for Filing Claims (Formal Administration)
Case No. 2022 PR 15
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PAUL ANDREW TUDOR
A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.
THE COURT FINDS:
The decedent, with date of birth May 7, 1959 and date of death December 21, 2021 was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N936 Raspberry Lane, Merrill, WI 54452.
THE COURT ORDERS:
1. The Petition be heard at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Branch I Courtroom, before Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner Honorable Jay R. Tlusty, on June 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
You do not need to appear unless you object. The petition may be granted if there is no objection.
2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is August 19, 2022.
3. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room Probate Office.
4. Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgment.
5. Publication of this notice is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown.
The names or addresses of the following interested persons (if any) are not known or reasonably ascertainable: Deceased brother Frederick Tudor had a child. None of the family has ever had contact, and does not even know the child's name.
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-536-0342 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
Please check with person named below for exact time and date.
ATTORNEY MIRANDA N. LAMB
NOLAN & DEFFNER LEGACY LAW
1803 Stewart Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401
715-842-0888 Bar Number 1112872
Published May 26, June 2 & 9, 2022
WNAXLP

www.merrillfotonews.com

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

TOWN OF PINE RIVER RESIDENTS
Clean Sweep Day: June 11, 2022 8:00 AM to Noon

Drop off items that are no longer useful at the Town of Pine River Hall/Shop. Examples of items accepted with no charge: refrigerators, stoves, lawn mowers, items with metal, tires on rims, and batteries. TVs, monitors, etc., will have fee. To view complete listing, visit www.townofpineriver.com; see postings at Town Hall, Pine River Fire Dept., or Bill's Bar. Contact Jason with questions 715-351-0661.

Please Recycle. Amanda Herdt, Clerk
Published June 2, 2022 WNAXLP

SCHOLARSHIPS *from page 3*

** Senior Athletic Award
 ** WI Valley Conference
 Scholar Athlete
WYATT BATHKE
 ** Senior Athletic Award
ANNIE BECKER
 Carl & Wella Orin
 Memorial Scholarship
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** WI Valley Conference
 Scholar Athlete
SAMUEL BENNETT
 Carl & Wella Orin
 Memorial Scholarship
 ** President's Education
 Award
COLTON BETRO
 Merrill Firefighters
 Scholarship
 Merrill Varsity Blueline
 Club & Youth Hockey
 Association Scholarship
 * Bierman Family
 Foundation Scholarship
KIERRA BOYD
 Al & Elayne Saeger
 Memorial Scholarship
 * Ana Blair's Boutique
 Future Female Leaders
 Award
 * Sonnentag Foundation
 Scholarship
 * Titans Promise
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
AYDEN BROWN
 David H. Eckerle
 Memorial Scholarship
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
BRYCE BROWN
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
CALI BROWN
 Eagles Auxiliary #584
 Scholarship
 FFA - Casey Klimek
 Scholarship
 Gleason Community
 Club Scholarship
 Lincoln County Farm
 Bureau
 Lincoln County Sports
 Club Scholarship
 Lucas Anderson
 Memorial Scholarship
 * River Country Co-Op
 Scholarship
KAYLA BURROW
 WA Marquardt
 Scholarship
 * Ana Blair's Boutique
 Future Female Leaders
 Award
 * Mechanical
 Contractors Association of
 Northwest Wisconsin, Inc.
 * Small Business
 Scholarship
JORDAN BUSH
 Alan C. Vecchio
 Memorial Scholarship
 Sgt. Ryan Jopek
 Memorial Scholarship
DECILYN CLARK
 Lee J. & Lillian Leidiger
 O'Reilly UW-Madison
 Scholarship
 Lincoln County Tavern
 League Scholarship
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** President's Education
 Award
SARAH CROCKFORD
 WA Marquardt
 Scholarship
MOLLY DALLMAN
 Al & Elayne Saeger
 Memorial Scholarship
 Gleason Area Lions Club
 Scholarship
 Sally Pfund Memorial
 Scholarship
 Steger Family
 Scholarship
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** Wisconsin Valley
 Conference Scholar
 Athlete
 ** President's Education
 Award

JACKSON DEJONG
 Martin & Marcella Lahni
 Scholarship
 Rich & Jane Poirier
 Scholarship
 William T. Evjue
 Scholarship
 Merrill Administration
 Association Education
 Scholarship
 * Academic Excellence
 Scholarship
 * United Steelworkers
 Local 2-319 Scholarship
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** President's Education
 Award
CAYDEN DIELS
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** Mickelson Athletic
 Award
EMILY DINGES
 Walter & Mabel Fromm
 Technical Scholarship
 Lincoln County Tavern
 League Scholarship
NICOLE DOERING
 Carl & Wella Orin
 Memorial Scholarship
 * Church Mutual
 Insurance Company
 Scholarship
 * Merrill High School
 Softball Class of 2022
 Scholarship
 * Merrill Ice Reflections
 Figure Skating Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
LAUREN DUGINSKI
 Al & Elayne Saeger
 Memorial Scholarship
 * Merrill High School
 Softball Class of 2022
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
FLETCHER
ELLENBECKER
 Walter & Mabel Fromm
 University Scholarship
 Silver M Club
 Scholarship in Memory of
 Gordon Dotter
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
BRANDON
ELLERMAN
 Agra Industries -
 Designing Scholarship
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
 Rotary Club Technical
 Scholarship in Memory of
 Roger Nelson
 * Bierman Family
 Foundation Scholarship
 ** Louis Armstrong Jazz
 Award
CAITLYN GEISS
 Stephanie "Stevie" Smith
 Memorial Scholarship
 ** President's Education
 Award
CORY GIGL
 Kiwanis Club
 Scholarship
ANDREW GILLE
 ** President's Education
 Award
HANNAH GLAZA
 Park City Credit Union
 Scholarship
 * Liberty Champion
 Award
 * Middle America
 Scholarship
DAVID GOLISCH
 Kiwanis Club
 Scholarship
 * Edward H. Staats &
 Mary Staats Memorial
 Scholarship
 * Senior Athletic Award
 ** President's Education
 Award

XAVIER GRONHOLM
 Paul Simon Memorial
 Scholarship
ANGELA HINNER
 Jessica & David Alft
 Memorial Scholarship
 Sherry Simon Success
 Scholarship
 * Edward H. Staats &
 Mary Staats Memorial
 Scholarship
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
EMILY HINTZ
 Matthew Zocher
 Memorial Scholarship
 WA Marquardt
 Scholarship
 ** Bierman Family
 Foundation Scholarship
CALLEN HOEPPNER
 Boyd & Dorinda Gustke
 Family Scholarship
 Jered Severt Memorial
 Scholarship
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** Wisconsin Valley
 Conference Scholar
 Athlete
ISABELLA HOFF
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
 * Incredible Bank
 Scholarship
 * Steelworkers Union
 Local 319
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
JACK HOOCK
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
 Merrill Baseball
 Association Scholarship
 ** President's Education
 Award
EVAN JAEGER
 Pine River Elementary
 School Scholarship
 X to C Golf Scholarship
 Merrill Golf Booster
 Club Scholarship
 ** John Philip Sousa
 Band Award
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** President's Education
 Award
SAMUEL JOHNS
 Gerald & Charmaine
 Whitburn Scholarship
 ** President's Education
 Award
ZACH KLIMEK
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
GRACE KOEHLER
 Agra Industries -
 Welding Scholarship
 Pine River Elementary
 School Scholarship
 Mitchell Metal Products
 Scholarship
 Lincoln County Beef
 Producers Scholarship
 Rotary Club - Technical
 College Scholarship
 * Technical Excellence
 Scholarship
 * Charmaine Whiteburn
 Women's Leadership
 Scholarship
 ** President's Education
 Award
LYDIA KOEHLER
 Shirlaine Drew
 Memorial Scholarship
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** Wisconsin Valley
 Conference Scholar
 Athlete
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
DANIELLE KORMAN
 Merrill Police
 Department Scholarship
 * Merrill High School
 Softball Class of 2022
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords

DANYELLE KOTTKE
 FFA Alumni Scholarship
 Rotary Club University
 Scholarship
 Eagles Auxiliary #584
 Merrill Lions Club
 Scholarship
 * Medford Coop
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
ALISSA KRACHT
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
MONICA LANE
 Al & Elayne Saeger
 Memorial Scholarship
 * Academic Presidential
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** Wisconsin Valley
 Scholar Athlete
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
JORDYN LEOPOLD
 Eagles Aerie #584
 Scholarship
 Eagles Auxiliary #584
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
 * Ana Blair's Boutique
 Future Female Leaders
 Award
OLIVIA LOSEE
 Carl & Wella Orin
 Memorial Scholarship
 * Merrill High School
 Softball Class of 2022
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** Wisconsin Valley
 Conference Scholar
 Athlete
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
JACOB LUECK
 Haunted Sawmill
 Scholarship
 ** Bierman Family
 Foundation Scholarship
MADISON MALM
 Carl & Wella Orin
 Memorial Scholarship
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
EMMA MARLOWE
 Beta Sigma Phi
 Scholarship
 Merrill Optimist "Youth
 of the Month" Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
MARIA MARVIN
 Tim Volz "79" Memorial
 Scholarship
ALLIE MASCHKE
 X to C Golf Scholarship
 Merrill Golf Booster
 Club Scholarship
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
FELICIA MAYFIELD
 Lee J. & Lillian Leidiger
 O'Reilly UW-Madison
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
LYDIA MCINTYRE
 Gerald & Charmaine
 Whitburn Scholarship
 Kate Goodrich
 Elementary School PTO
 Scholarship
 * Elks Most Valuable
 Student State Scholarship
 * Sholund Estate
 Scholarship
 * Edward H. Staats &
 Mary Staats Memorial
 Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** President's Education
 Award
MICHAEL MCRAE
 Merrill Baseball
 Association Scholarship

** Wisconsin Valley
 Conference Scholar
 Athlete
BAILEY ORZECH
 Al & Elayne Saeger
 Memorial Scholarship
 Aspirus Merrill Hospital
 Scholarship
 * Ana Blair's Boutique
 Future Female Leaders
 Award
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
EMMA PAJTASH
 Lincoln County Medical
 Society Scholarship
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
 * Civic Leaders
 Scholarship
 * St. Bernard Scholarship
 * St. Catherine Award
 * St. Cecilia Music
 Scholarship
 ** Wisconsin Valley
 Conference Scholar
 Athlete
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** President's Education
 Award
ZOEY PARRETT
 Park City Credit Union
 * Ana Blair's Boutique
 Future Female Leaders
 Award
 * Weinbrenner Shoe Co.
 Scholarship
ALEXANDER
PEACOCK
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
 Stephany "Stevie" Smith
 Memorial Scholarship
AIDEN PEHLKE
 Silver M Club
 Scholarship in Memory of
 Arnold Krombholz
 William Hinke & Jeanne
 Kroepflin Scholarship
JONNIE
PIERSCHALLA-
ZASTROW
 Aspirus Merrill Hospital
 Scholarship
 David & Emily Streich
 Scholarship
 Elsie H. Heckman
 Memorial Scholarship
 ** Technical Excellence
 Scholarship
 ** Bierman Family
 Foundation Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
TANAYA PILLAI
 Jefferson School PTO
 Scholarship
 ** Outstanding Vocal
 Performance Award
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** President's Education
 Award
PAIGE PLAUTZ
 Blanche Krueger Youth
 Bowling Scholarship
 * Calumet College
 Athletic Scholarship
 * Edward H. Staats &
 Mary Staats Memorial
 Scholarship
ADAM POLAK
 Paul Simon Memorial
 Business Scholarship
 Incredible Bank Finance
 Scholarship
ARIANA RADDATZ
 Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl
 Scholarship
 * STEAM Scholarship
 * UW-Stevens Point at
 Wausau Merit Scholarship
 Henry Reimann
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** WIAA Scholar Athlete
 Award
GAVEN REINDL
 Agra Industries -
 Engineering Scholarship
 Knights of Columbus
 Scholarship
 ** New Blue Devil First

Year Student Scholarship
 ** Youth Apprenticeship
 Star of the Quarter
ALYNN
RENZELMANN
 Merrill Lions Club
 Scholarship
 Kate Goodrich
 Elementary PTO
 Scholarship
 Sherry Simon Success
 Education Scholarship
 * Church Mutual
 Family Scholars Program
 Scholarship
 * Church Mutual
 Women's Leadership
 Initiative Scholarship
 * Concordia of Wisconsin
 Music Scholarship
 * Concordia of Wisconsin
 Presidential Scholarship
 * Mutual of Wausau
 Insurance Co. Scholarship
 * Northern Wisconsin
 Chapter CPCU Society
 Scholarship
 * Wausau Lyric Choir
 Scholarship
 ** Outstanding Vocal
 Performance Award
 ** President's Education
 Award
DANIEL RICCI
 ** President's Education
 Award
MATTHEW RYDESKI
 Betty Latzig Making a
 Difference Scholarship
ANNA SCHLEGEL
 FFA Alumni Scholarship
 Gleason Area Lions
 Scholarship
ABIGAIL SCHMIDT
 Washington Elementary
 PTO Scholarship
ELIZABETH
SCHMIDT
 Leonard Niles Anson
 Memorial University of
 Notre Dame Scholarship
 ** Junior Optimist Cord
 ** Klug Athletic Award
 ** President's Education
 Award
 ** Senior Athletic Award
 ** Wisconsin Valley
 Conference Scholar
 Athlete
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
BRENNAN
SCHNEIDER
 Carl & Wella Orin
 Memorial Scholarship
COURTNEY
SCHNEIDER
 Lawrence & John
 Frederick Agriculture
 Scholarship
 Lincoln County Beef
 Producers Scholarship
 Lincoln County Farm
 Bureau Scholarship
 Nicklaus Agriculture
 Scholarship
 * Merrill Ice Reflections
 Figure Skating Club
 Scholarship
CLAIRE SCHULTZ
 Lee Wardall Memorial
 MTA Scholarship
 Washington Elementary
 School Scholarship
 * Southern Illinois
 University Division 1
 Athletic Scholarship
 * University Excellence
 Scholarship
GRACE SCHULTZ
 * University of South
 Dakota University Division
 1 Athletic Scholarship
 ** National Honor
 Society Cords
 ** President's Education
 Award
AMELIA SKOVIERA
 Leone Torzewski
 Memorial Scholarship
 Rich & Jane Poirier
 Scholarship
 Optimist Club

See **SCHOLARSHIPS** page 8

MEMORIAL from page 1

teousness. Through thy favor, may we meet at last before thy throne in heaven. We praise thy great name, forever and ever. Amen.”

A representative of the Post 1638 Auxiliary rang a bell 11 times, commemorating the end of the Great War, World War I, at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. Sadly, it was not to be the last world war.

Amy Peterson sang the National Anthem and invited those gathered to join her.

“Let us remember and honor all the veterans that have gone before us,” Viljevac said. Members of the Post 1638 Auxiliary provided the wreaths and, escorted by members of Cub Scout Pack 503, Boy Scout Troop 503, and Girl Scout Troop 7118, processed for the ceremonial laying of the Memorial wreaths.

Paul Russell, retired Colonel with 31 years in the military and a member of the VFW Post 1638 was the keynote speaker.

“It is especially humbling to stand here to remember the many American heroes we honor this special day,” Russell said. “To stand before you on this day of remembrance, this day of honor and gratitude and to try to say something worthy of Memorial Day’s solemn occasion is truly humbling. For this is a day that we remember, honor, and give thanks to all those who answered their nation’s call and fell in battle. Their numbers are staggering. More than a million Americans in uniform have died for our nation and for generations of people they would never know. Let this day serve as proof that we have not forgotten that promise that we will never forget.”

Russell shared the stories of two veterans from our area who gave their lives in service to our country. One was Robert “Jug” Russell, his own uncle, who died November 11, 1944, when his plane was shot down. He was never heard from again.

“Let us honor the memory of our sons and daughters, husbands and fathers, and brothers and sisters who lost their lives in service to America,” Russell said. “As we remember the sacrifice of those who have given their lives, let us never forget the meaning of Memorial Day. We must ensure the memories of all our fallen comrades live on. Thank you for remembering these sons and daughters of America, those who made the ultimate sacrifice in a world where freedom is not, and never has been, free.”

“I’d like to close by taking a moment to honor the thousands of Americans serving overseas that are in harms way as we speak, and I’d like to pay tribute to the thousands more who gave their lives in defense of this great nation and cannot be here today to share this day with us.”

Following a period of silence by all in attendance, Russell spoke again: “God bless America and all those who defend her, and God bless our fallen heroes.”

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, closing prayers led by the President of the Post 1638 Auxiliary and Auxiliary Chaplain, the Honor Guard presented a gun salute, and a lone bugler played taps.

“Today is one of those special days where your heart is full of thanks, sorrow, and patriotism, and all the other range of emotions we feel as Americans,” Russell said. “Thomas Jefferson famously said, ‘The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.’ And his words could not ring more true than today. Generation after generation of Americans have had to continuously refresh the tree of liberty with their own blood and that of tyrants, because that is the price of freedom. We must never forget their legacy, and we owe it to our war dead to live lives every day that are worthy of their sacrifices. Cherish the gift you’ve been given, and take advantage of the freedom they have won for you, to live the life that they could only



Paul Russell gave the keynote at the Memorial Day Ceremony.



The Honor Guard fires during their Memorial Day salute to our fallen soldiers.



Jeremy Scott and Paul Russell salute.



Memorial wreaths are laid at the foot of the Veteran’s Memorial.



A member of the Honor Guard plays Taps amid a silent crowd at the cemetery.

dream about. Thank you to all for giving up a part of your day to help us remember the fallen heroes of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, and the United States of America.”

Attendees were invited to a luncheon at the Northwoods Veterans Post following the ceremony.

Editor’s Postscript: In addition to the families of fallen soldiers, Memorial Day can be heartwrenching for other soldiers. Many/most of those who served in wartime, though they may have returned home alive, saw their fellow soldiers and comrades die, often right before their eyes. The horror, trauma, sorrow, and sometimes survivor guilt they endure is also something they relive, often every day. It may be brought to the forefront even more on Memorial Day.



VFW Post 1638 Commander Arnold “Vic” Viljevac welcomes all who came to the Memorial Day 2022 Ceremony.



A bench in the veteran’s section of the St. Francis Cemetery is a constant reminder of what Memorial Day is all about.

Lest we forget, those who served to protect our Freedom.
DONATED BY MERRILL MONUMENT CO

Celebration of Life for Dan “Dan-O” Mecikalski.
Saturday June 4th starting at Noon at Overboards, N4090 Hwy K Merrill.
Bring your fun stories and appetite.
We hope to have a great party in his honor.

Congratulations Class of 2022!

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams, Live the life you have imagined.
Henry David Thoreau

Best Wishes Danyelle Kottke
Merrill Community Bank
Youth Apprentice

FDIC 15 East Wisconsin Ave., Tomahawk, WI 54487
Phone: 715-453-2144
www.tomahawkcommunitybank.com

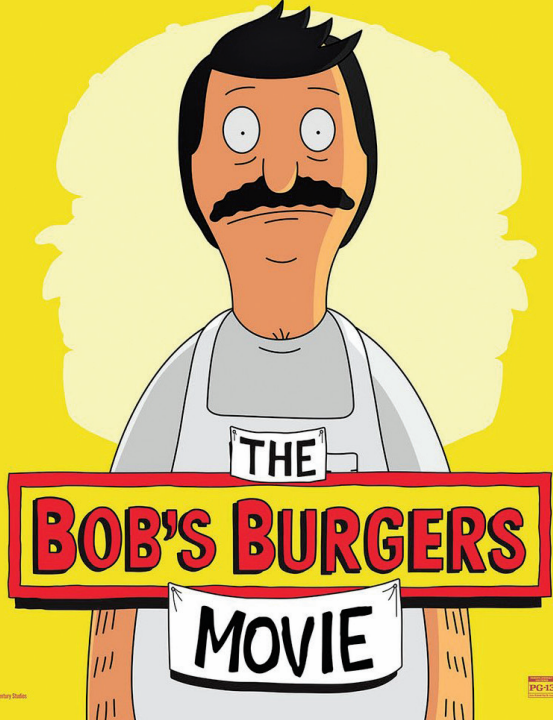
CLOVERDALE COUNTRY STORE

STORE HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 6:30 pm • Sat. 8:30 am - 4 pm • Closed Sunday
2 miles South of Curtiss on Hwy. E • 715-223-4797
We accept: SNAP/EBT Cards

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Summer Sausage Original 20 oz ONLY \$2.99 | Bread Flour Unbleached 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.39 | Pretzel Snaps 9 oz ONLY 49¢ |
| Southwest Tortilla Dry Soup Mix Case 6/6.5 oz ONLY \$1.29 | Mayo Light 15 oz 29¢ | Graham Crackers Honey or Cinnamon 14.4 oz ONLY 99¢ |
| NOW OPEN UNTIL 6:30 PM MONDAY - FRIDAY! | | |
| Pork Shoulder Butts - Fresh 16 oz ONLY \$1.69 a lb. | Butter - Quarters Unsalted 16 oz ONLY \$2.89 | Extra Long Grain White Rice 10 lbs. ONLY 39¢ a lb. |
| Breaded Chicken Patties Uncooked, Frozen 79 oz ONLY \$7.49 | Process Yellow American Extra Melt Cheese 5 lbs. ONLY \$8.29 | Lucky Charms Cereal 3 lbs. ONLY \$1.39 a lb. |
| Ground Beef 85 Lean 15 Fat - Frozen 48 oz ONLY \$3.49 a lb. | Yellow American Cheese Horizontal Sliced 5 lbs. ONLY \$8.99 | Macaroni Spaghetti 17.6 oz ONLY 79¢ |
| Bacon Hardwood, Smoked - Frozen 16 oz ONLY \$2.89 | Pepper Jack Cheese 16 oz ONLY \$1.29 a lb. | Chocolate Chip Granola Bars (Chocolate Dipped) 6.5 oz ONLY 39¢ |
| Cocktail Smokies w/Cheedar - Frozen 13 oz ONLY \$1.89 | Baby Swiss Cheese 8 oz ONLY \$1.99 a lb. | Animal Crackers 6.75 oz ONLY 59¢ |
| Chicken Breast Stuffed w/Cordon Bleu, Breaded - Fully Cooked - Frozen 10 oz ONLY \$2.29 | Pork Sausage Roll All Natural Frozen 48 oz ONLY \$4.29 | Cream of Mushroom Soup Condensed 10.3 oz ONLY 89¢ |
| Chorizo Sausage w/Eggs & Cheese - Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$6.49 | Beef Patties Uncooked - Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$1.49 a lb. | Sweet Iced Tea Drink Mix Powder 18 oz ONLY 59¢ |
| Meatballs Three Meat Italian or Homestyle Three Meat - Frozen 14 oz ONLY \$1.99 | Sausage Patties Chicken, Pork Fully Cooked Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY 89¢ a lb. | Flexitarian Dog Food 4 lbs. ONLY \$1.85 |
| Hot Dogs Turkey-Pork-Beef / Frozen 5 lbs. ONLY \$6.99 | Duck 'n Turkey Cat Food - Canned 3 oz can ONLY 39¢ | Whole Grain Salmon Recipe Dog Food 21 lbs. ONLY \$9.75 |

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

**GET YOUR BUNS IN THEATERS
MAY 27**



THE BOB'S BURGERS MOVIE

STEPPIN OUT

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

**SHOW TIMES EFFECTIVE
6/3/22 TO 6/9/22**

Mondays All Seats \$5.00

TOP GUN: MAVERICK
"PG13" (2HR 11MIN)
FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:20PM
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:20PM
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM
MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA
"PG" (2HR 5MIN)
FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM
MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

DR STRANGE IN THE MULTIVERSE OF MADNESS
"PG13" (2HR 6MIN)
FRIDAY: 7:00 & 9:15PM
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:15PM
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:30 & 7:00PM
MONDAY THRU THURSDAY: 7:00PM

www.cosmomovies.com
715-536-4473

NIENOW LAW OFFICE CLOSING

The law office of Atty. Craig J. Nienow is closed. If you need to contact him, you can e-mail him at: nienowlawfirm@frontier.com or call **715-536-7185**.

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, June 6th Menu:
Baked Chicken Thighs, Veggie, and a Salad.
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Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

The Bob's Burgers Movie

(Now showing in theatres) ★★☆☆☆
This film is rated PG-13 – for language and off-color humor

Hi everyone. This week I fully intended to review *Top Gun: Maverick*, but let's be real: You are going to see it, I went to see it. Everyone is going to go see it. So why bother reviewing that one, right?

So instead I wandered off into the theatre to see something different. Hence this review of *The Bob's Burgers Movie*.

Honestly, I would have never gone to see this if my dear wife, Mary, was not off in the Upper Peninsula doing her best to find every winery located in that region and taste everything. So being home alone and tired of looking at my cats, I decided to play movie roulette. The rules are simple: go to the cinema, and whatever is playing closest to your arrival time, that is what you buy a ticket and go see.

I have played this game off and on for years. I have seen some real stinkers and have seen some great films I otherwise would not have seen. It's all about luck.

This week was a lucky one. *The Bob's Burgers Movie* is funny – very funny.

Based on the Fox television show of which I can say I have never seen a single episode, *The Bob's Burgers Movie* is very accessible to those of us that have never watched the TV show.

Basic plot is this: Middle class family of five owns a burger joint, said joint is barely making it, giant sinkhole opens up in front of shop and nobody can access the restaurant. Bob has bank loans due, and to make matters worse, a skeleton is found in the sinkhole, all but guaranteeing that it will be weeks before the sinkhole is fixed and people can get into the burger joint.

Bob's three kids decide to solve the mystery, to save the shop, while Mom and Dad and supporting patrons try to come up with a plan to sell the burgers from a cart, and hijinks ensue.

And did I mention it's a musical? No? Well, it is, and even though the songs are not slick polished auto tuned pictures of perfection (some of the people singing may

very well be tone-deaf), the songs are actually pretty good and act as a driver for the story.

The Bob's Burgers Movie is a great way to kill 1 hour and 42 minutes, and some of the jokes are aimed at the adults in the room and land perfectly. I laughed out loud along with the other patrons in the theatre multiple times.

Now playing in theatres, *The Bob's Burgers Movie* gets a solid three out of five stars because it's just simple as this: it's funny.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

On Being Apolitical

Dear Reader,

Have we ever published in this newspaper anything about Donald Trump or Joe Biden? The answer is no. Have we ever said anything about any of the politicians on the national scene or in the world or even on the local scene for that matter? No.



Perhaps you wonder why. The answer is that we are not in the business of persuasion. We are in the business of gathering news - local news that matters to people in this community. That's our stewardship: Hyper-local news that is reported truthfully.

How many people are there out there who are persuadable on controversial issues? Our answer is, not many. People think and feel the way they do, and there isn't much anyone can do to sway anyone. So, we stay away from that, and instead focus on telling the truth about our local community.

We will make one exception to this policy by calling out the horrors we are all witnessing in Ukraine at the hands of Vladimir Putin, a desperate man who will do anything to increase his power. His unprovoked and brutal attack on Ukraine has inflicted pain and evil on millions of people who just wanted to live their lives. We have compassion for the suffering of a people that is striving for freedom and the right to pursue happiness.

PATRICK J. WOOD
PUBLISHER

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

SCHOLARSHIPS

from page 6

- Scholarship
- * Academic Excellence Scholarship
 - * AG Country Farm Credit Services Scholarship
 - * State Farm Companies Foundation Scholarship
 - * Honors First Year Scholarship
 - ** Outstanding Vocal Performance Award
 - ** Senior Athletic Award
 - ** Wisconsin Valley Conference Scholar Athlete
 - ** Junior Optimist Cord
 - ** National Honor Society Cords
 - ** President's Education Award
- MCKENNA SMITH**
Herbert F. & Elizabeth S. Guenzl UW-Madison Scholarship
- ** Junior Optimist Cord
 - ** Senior Athletic Award
 - ** Wisconsin Valley Conference Scholar Athlete
 - ** National Honor Society Cords
 - ** President's Education Award
- BRENNA STEINAGEL**
Aspirus Merrill Hospital Scholarship
- * Merrill High School Softball Class of 2022 Scholarship
 - ** Junior Optimist Cord
 - ** Wisconsin Valley Conference Scholar Athlete
 - ** National Honor Society Cords
- OLIVIA STEVENSON**
Ron & Ellen Nicklaus Scholarship
- ** Wisconsin Valley Conference

- Scholar Athlete
- ** National Honor Society Cords
- BAILEY TURENNE**
Silver M Club Scholarship in Memory of Mike Zuelsdorff
- * Trustee Distinguished Scholarship
 - ** Youth Apprenticeship Star of the Quarter
 - ** Senior Athletic Award
 - ** Klug Athletic Award
- LEVON VAN DER GEEST**
Robert & Jo Ann Opsahl Scholarship
- WA Marquardt Scholarship
- ABREHM VAN WIE**
Walter & Mabel Fromm University Scholarship
- Silver M Club Scholarship in Memory of Jim Langenkamp
- ASHTON VOERMANS**
Genevieve Bowell Scholarship
- ANTHONY VOGEL**
Walter & Mabel Fromm Technical Scholarship
- RILEY WARREN**
Walter & Mabel Fromm Technical Scholarship
- TESSA WHEAT**
Evelyn Broecker Memorial Scholarship
- Marshfield Clinic Health Scholarship
- Martin & Marcella Lahni Scholarship
- * Pointer Promise Scholarship
 - * Presidential Gold Scholarship
 - * Community Blood Center High School Scholarship

- ** Junior Optimist Cord
 - ** Senior Athletic Award
 - ** Wisconsin Valley Conference Scholar Athlete
 - ** National Honor Society Cords
- TYLER WIELOCH**
- ** Youth Apprenticeship Star of the Quarter
- TAYLOR ZASTROW**
Leota Davis Memorial Scholarship
PRMS Student Council Scholarship
- ** Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co. Inc. Scholarship
 - ** Merrill Ice Reflections Figure Skating Club Scholarship
 - ** Pointer Promise Scholarship
 - ** Presidential Gold Scholarship
 - ** Junior Optimist Cord
 - ** Outstanding Vocal Performance Award
 - ** National Honor Society Cords
- LANEY ZUELSORFF**
Herbert F. & Elizabeth S. Guenzl UW-Madison Scholarship
- * Star Scholars Scholarship
 - * Merrill High School Softball Class of 2022 Scholarship
 - ** MHS Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee
 - ** Mickelson Athletic Award
 - ** Senior Athletic Award
 - ** WIAA Scholar Athlete
 - ** Wisconsin Valley Conference Scholar Athlete
 - ** Junior Optimist Cord
 - ** National Honor Society Cords
 - ** President's Education Award
 - *Outside Scholarship
 - **High School Award/Recognition

Pet of the Week

This handsome guy is **Brey**. He was surrendered because his family had to move and no pets were allowed. He is a Lab/Shepherd mix that is just about 2 years old. **Brey** has lots of energy so an active home would be ideal for him. He has been around children and does well. He seems to do well with most other dogs. He hasn't been around cats. He is fearful of gun shots, heavy storms, and other really loud noises. **Brey** is potty trained and knows a few commands. His adoption fee will be \$165.00 with approved application. This includes his neuter, rabies, vaccinations, and microchip. Stop down soon and see this sweetheart.

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

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

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RODEO from page 2

for the promotion of Wisconsin tourism events and destinations. The state can fund up to 75 percent of a project's first-year advertising and marketing costs and provide support for second- and third-year projects with decreasing amounts for funding until projects become self-sustaining.

"This is our 33rd year of bringing professional Rodeo to the Merrill and Central Wisconsin area," Grund said. "We are evolving bigger each year. Our gates have offered 10,000 spectators to enjoy the rodeo and the Merrill community over the three-day weekend each June. Our event is traditionally the second weekend of June and people already start knowing how to plan the kick off to their summer activities. It is always a pleasure to see returning faces and rewarding to meet the many new ones. We have had spectators from outside the state of Wisconsin to watch our professional rodeo, as well as many throughout the state. The Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo has become a household name when summer plans are being made."

"We look forward to further expanding our advertising direction in the following years to come," she added.

Rodeo excitement

The LCRA is excited to be bringing back the tried-and-true and also adding new things. "We will have a Jumbotron in our arena this year - this is a big screen that lets you watch the events closer and replays also," Grund said. "We are very excited with the addition to our arena."

The Rodeo City Riders Drill Team will perform over the weekend, as well.

Friday will be Military Appreciation Night, with live music after the performance with The Jerry Schmidt Band in the beer tent, food and merchandise vendors, and face painting for the kids.

Saturday features an all day antique tractor pull, and the performance for Tough Enough to Wear Pink, "So wear your pink attire," Grund said. "Let's see the stand aglow of pink. We also have Tough Enough to Wear Pink attire for sale in the office tent if needed." The Jerry Schmidt Band will be in the beer tent again, and there will be food and merchandise vendors and face painting again for the kids.

Sunday is billed as Family Day. The first 100 children through the gates will get a free cowboy hat and there will be free face painting for the kids again. Queen coronation at noon, watch the performance, and food and merchandise vendors.



One of the digital billboards advertising the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo in Merrill to those miles away, intended to draw additional visitors and attendees to Merrill. **Submitted photo.**



Another digital billboard advertising the rodeo in Merrill at another location. **Submitted photo.**

There is "Something for everyone!" at the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo, Grund said.

Get rodeo tickets early

Friday and Saturday gates open at 5:00 p.m. with performances at 7:00 p.m.

On Sunday gates open at 11:00, the coronation of the Rodeo Queen will be at 12:00 noon, and the rodeo performance will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Tickets are currently on sale online at: wrpr.org and advance tickets are \$14.00 and children under 5 are free. Advance ticket pricing is ONLY available online.

Weekend passes also offer cost savings, so attendees can enjoy a full three days of professional rodeo.

And Sunday Family Day offers: "Buy 5 or more tickets and receive 20% off" but that is available ONLINE ONLY, not at the gate for the Sunday performance.

Online ticket sales close on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at midnight, so be sure to buy tickets in advance online. Seats are filling up!

Locally, tickets are also available at the Merrill Chamber and Tomahawk Chamber Offices as well as Brickner's Park City of Merrill.

The mission of the Wisconsin Department of Tourism is to inspire travelers to visit Wisconsin. Because we believe in the power of exploration and travel, we work to market the state as a premier travel destination. By executing industry-leading marketing programs and establishing strategic partnerships, the Department plays a significant role in generating greater economic impact for Wisconsin through tourism. Learn more at industry.travelwisconsin.com.



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|  T-Bone Steak \$9.99 lb. |  Ocean Beauty Cedar Wrapped Salmon \$6.99 10 oz pkg. |  Natural Casing Wieners, Brats, Cheddar Links, Polish \$5.99 18-24 oz. bag |
|  Klondike Half Hams \$2.59 lb. |  Whole Pork Back Ribs \$4.99 lb. |  85% Lean Family Pack Ground Beef \$3.99 lb. |

JUNE DAIRY SPECIALS

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|  Kemps, Half Gallon Chocolate Milk 2/\$4.00 |  Kemps, 16 oz. Cottage Cheese 2/\$4.00 |  Kemps Select, Half Pint Heavy Whipping Cream |  Wisconsin Farms, Gallon White Milk |
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| Whole, Seedless Watermelon \$5.99 | 1.75 Liters Woodford Reserve Whiskey \$59.99 |
| Red Ripe, 1 lb. Strawberries..... \$3.99 | 12 pk., Cans or Bottles Variety Packs Seagram's Escape .. \$8.99 |
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| DELI | Assorted Flavors Crumb Cakes \$4.49 ea. |
| Cady Creek Colby, Colby Jack or Pepper Jack Cheese... \$6.99 lb. | GROCERY |
| Mrs. Gerry's, Selected Varieties Coleslaw, Potato or Macaroni Salad..... \$3.99 lb. | Ice Mountain, 24 pk. Water..... 2/\$8.00 |
| Now Serving Fresh Sushi Daily | Hellmann's, 30 oz. Mayo \$3.99 |
| FROZEN | Essential Everyday, 14 oz. Mustard..... 79¢ |
| Pep's Drafthaus, 12" Pizza..... \$7.99 | Heinz, 38 oz. Ketchup..... 2/\$7.00 |
| All Sales Good Through Tuesday, June 7th, 2022! Limits are in place on some items. Items based on availability. Sorry, no rainchecks. | |
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• 1815 Water St.

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Estate Sales 7208

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Announcements 7005

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

Lost and Found 7010

LOST PHOTO ALBUM In the Merrill area, my cousin, Virginia Mussell Oestreich, made a photographic record of the years that she designed & created hand crafted bridal & bridesmaid gowns. They were carefully compiled into a large photographic album. However, when she passed away in 2016, we could not locate this important record of her life's accomplishment. May 21st is her birthday. We would be grateful to anyone who is able to locate or has seen this precious collection. If you have seen or may know of this album, please contact me. It means so very much to our family, especially her Grandchildren. Contact Glenn: gbusiness001@gmail.com

Activities and Meetings 7020

Snow Hill Cemetery Annual meeting will be on Tuesday June 14, 2022 at 7:00pm at the Corning Town Hall N1569 HWY 107 and 64 Merrill. Members are encouraged to attend.

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

GARAGE SALE KITS NOW AVAILABLE!
 Let Garage Sale Gail help you with your next sale!

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Rummage Sale in the Barn!
 N2950 Hwy 107, Merrill. TH 6/2 & FR 6/3 8a-4p; SA 6/4 9a-3p. Jewelry, collectibles, furniture, home decor, pictures, garden, toys, dolls, antiques, unique misc.

Yard Sale W4743 Pine Ave. Merrill, June 2-4, 8-5pm. Misc garage items for men, books, glassware, gun case, pillows, counter top appliances and so much more!

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202

Rib Mtn. south side rummage sales! 6/9-6/11 8a-5p, 224265 Rose Ave; boys newborn-4T, womens sm-XL, household; 224234 Rose; crafts & collectibles; 224301 Rose; misc; 105813 Lavender Ln; misc. / 30+ add'l garages!

Estate Sales 7208

Waupaca 1010 Berlin St
 Friday, 6/3, 9a.m.-4p.m.
 Sat 6/4 & Sun 6/5 (10am-3pm)
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 Full to the brim with modern, vintage, antique: Tools, Art, Cartoon cells, Blenko Glass, Toys, Games, Gardening Supplies, Furniture, Linens, Sleeper Sofas, Exercise Equipment, Christmas & Holiday Decor, Architectural Remnants, MCM China, Large Carved Armoire & Mirror, Pool/Ping Pong Table



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Please respond:
BCC, 810 Martin Street, Merrill, WI 54452 or on our website:
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HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
Price County Highway Department

Price County is accepting applications for the position of **Highway Commissioner** within the Highway Department. This is an exempt, top management position that is responsible for the planning and directing of all work performed by the Highway Department, including Dams and Airport. This position involves responsibility for the construction and maintenance of all highways, roads, and bridges. The work is performed under the policy and direction of the Highway Committee and Price County Board of Supervisors as set forth by State Statutes and County ordinances. This position is expected to be part of the summer on-call schedule and should expect to be available nights, weekends, and holidays especially during the Winter Maintenance season.

Salary is \$85,500+ and will be commensurate with successful candidate's education and experience. Benefits include Wisconsin Retirement System with employer match, health insurance (up to 90% of the premium paid by employer) with employer HRA reimbursement, vacation, 10 paid holidays, paid sick leave, employee lifestyle enhancement perk, and paid maternity/paternity leave. Dental/vision, flex spending, WI Deferred Comp, life, short-term disability, accident, and cancer/critical illness coverages are available.

A full description of minimum requirements and application instructions can be found on the Price County website's employment opportunities page at www.co.price.wi.us, by emailing a request to hroffice@co.price.wi.us, or by calling 715-339-5131.

A completed application must be received by the Price County Office of Administration no later than 4:30 pm on Wednesday, June 15, 2022.

Price County is an equal opportunity employer.

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Auctions 7282

Vic Richardson Blacksmith & Ornamental Ironwork Auction: Auction Preview: Saturday, June 4th 9 'til 11 a.m. @ N1359 Fairview Rd., Merrill. First Lots Close: Sunday, June 5th @ 7 p.m. Items include Blacksmith forge, tongs, hammers, anvils, leg vises; air power hammer, large air compressor, drill press, lathes, saw sharpening equipment, chain hoist. Lincoln welder; portable foundry; work benches; Tons of antique & newer tools incl. Craftsman, Stanley, Winchester & others. Antique scale collection incl. store, platform, beam, etc.; View website, register & bid at www.bennetauctionservice.com

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WHAT IS from page 1

looking vehicle pulls up in front of your house. You see it. And you know.

Your world crashes down around you before the uniformed officer and the chaplain even get out of the car to make their way to the door. Somehow you, or someone else in your family, makes their way to the front door to open it, to stand before the officer who says the words you have feared ever since your soldier left for basic training: "I have been asked to inform you that your ... has been reported dead in ... on ..." The words fade in and out. That officer can't have said the name of YOUR soldier. It's not possible. Never coming home? Dead? NO! It can't be. NOOOO! Whether the scream is aloud or only in your mind and heart, it is there. Gut wrenching. Ripping your heart loose from the rest of your body.

"On behalf of the Secretary of Defense, I extend to you and your family my deepest sympathy in your great loss."

The words ring hollow. They cannot know. It feels like someone has kicked you in the stomach as hard as they can. At first you cannot even breath. You are in shock.

Disbelief. Numb. And then the sobs come. Deep, deep wracking sobs - some silent and then some loud. You crumple ... onto the floor, into a chair, to your knees ... somehow.

Your world, the world as you have known it, has been destroyed. You will never see your soldier again. Never hear that voice, that laughter. Never

feel that hug, that touch. Never again see the twinkle in those eyes.

Your soldier has died in the line of duty. Your soldier has given everything. Your soldier's life ... is gone.

It is a scene that has been replayed in one version or another, even coming in the form of a telegram years before in-person notifications became the norm, in more than 1.3 million homes, sometimes more than once in the same home as some families lost more than one soldier, even more than two, families that were decimated by the price of war.

Dating back to the American Revolutionary War of 1775 to 1783, more than 1.3 million American soldiers have died in combat.

In the last 21 years alone, in the War on Terror (which began in 2001), 7,075 American soldiers have died and as a result, 7,075 American families have endured something very similar to the scenario above. In these recent 21 years, those soldiers lost their lives in: Operation Iraqi Freedom: 4,431 (2003-2010, primarily in Iraq); Operation Enduring Freedom: 2,352 (2001-2014, primarily in Afghanistan); Operation Inherent Resolve: 109 (2014-present, primarily in Iraq, Syria, and Libya); Operation Freedom's Sentinel: 109 (2014-2021, Afghanistan only); and Operation New Dawn: 74 (2010-2011, primarily in Iraq). [War on Terror data available from the U.S. Department of Defense.]

In our own small Merrill community, in Lincoln County, hundreds of families have lived through the

heartbreak of such a loss.

Most recently, Merrill suffered through this grief when two Merrill soldiers died in the line of duty in 2006.

Spc. Grant Allen Dampier, age 25, of Merrill, died on Monday, May 15, 2006, in Balad, Iraq. He had lived in Merrill with his wife, Heidi, and three young daughters and also left behind parents, siblings, cousins, nieces, nephews, in-laws, grandparents, extended family members, and friends. The entire community mourned his loss. His daughters are now all grown, having grown up without him in their lives.

Then Sgt. Ryan David Jopek, age 20, of Merrill, died on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2006, in Tikrit, Iraq, from a roadside bomb. He left behind his parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends and impacted the lives of people in this community who had never even met him. He never had the chance to marry or start a family.

The Merrill community

was in shock when we lost two brave, young, selfless men in the space of less than three months. And the community mourned.

Mourning these losses ... all of them collectively, and those individually that impacted each of us ... is what Memorial Day is all about. Remembering the fallen. Supporting and caring for the families of fallen soldiers left behind. Being thankful for the ones who gave the ultimate sacrifice. All gave some. But some gave all.

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FFA MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Gretchen Such, a Sophomore at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Future Farmers of America (FFA) Member of the Month for May 2022. Gretchen joined FFA this year and has participated in many events including monthly meetings, Vet Science CDE, Midwest Horse Fair, and the Banquet. She was recently elected the FFA Reporter for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year.

"I joined the FFA because I am passionate about agriculture and enjoy being involved with the ag community," Gretchen said. She has been raising cattle for three years and also works part-time on a farm milking cows a few times a week.

In her free time, Gretchen enjoys hunting and fishing. She is also a member of the Merrill Bluejay JV Trap Team. "I have been shooting for three years now," Gretchen said.

The daughter of Joni and Alex Such of Merrill, Gretchen has a 2.8 GPA and plans to go to college to study Vet Science after high school graduation.

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FFA Members highlighted in this feature are selected by the Executive Committee of the FFA, not by the sponsor.

Gretchen Such





Merrill held a Youth Soccer Camp for area kids on Saturday, May 21, before the Merrill Girls Varsity Soccer game against Portage/Poynette. More than 80 kids showed up to work on their skills with the Merrill High School players and coaches. **Submitted photo.**



2022 Dairy Breakfasts

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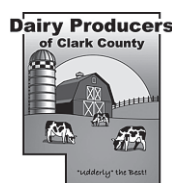


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|---|-----------------|---|---|
| Saturday, June 4 th 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Athens | Veteran Memorial Park | Adults \$5 12 and under \$2 Preschool and Under FREE |
| Saturday June 4 th 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Portage County | Edgewood Dairy 7741 Dairy Ln, Custer, WI 54423 | |
| Sunday, June 5 th 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Abbotsford | Ensign Rolling Acres 107645 County Line Rd Dorchester, WI 54425 | 5 and older – \$5.00 5 and under – free |
| Sunday, June 5 th 7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Granton | J.C. Walters Farm N5136 Pray Ave. Granton, WI 54436 | 11 and over – \$7.00 6 to 10 – \$4.00 5 and under – free |
| Sunday, June 5 th 7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Stratford | Country Aire 118600 Cty. P Stratford, WI | |
| Saturday June 11 th 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Pittsville | Sunnett Dairy 6743 State Highway 80 Pittsville, WI 54466 | \$7/person 13 years and older \$3 for 5 to 12 year old 4K and under free. |
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| Saturday, June 18 th 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Owen Withee | Withee Lions Pavilion | |
| Saturday, June 18 th 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm | Langlade County | Schuessler Dairy W7243 Mayking Rd, Antigo, WI | |
| Sunday, June 19 th 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Loyal | Roehl Acres W4015 26 th Rd Loyal, WI 54446 | 13 and over – \$7.00 6 to 12 – \$3.00 5 and under – free |
| Sunday June 19 th 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Marshfield | Bangart Farms, LLC 204586 Bangart Rd Stratford, WI 54484 | \$10-ages 12 & up \$5-ages 5-11 Free-ages 4 & down |
| Saturday June 25 th 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Auburndale | Auburndale Fire and Rescue Corner of CTY Rd P & K | Drive Thru \$8 per plate |
| Sunday, June 26 th 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Colby | Gumz Farm 227715 County Rd F Colby, WI 54421 | \$6.00 per plate |
| Sunday, June 26 th 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Greenwood | Jeremy and Hannah Olsons N10338 Owen Ave Greenwood, WI | 13 and over – \$7.00 5 to 12 – \$4.00 4 and under free |
| Sunday, June 26 th 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Marathon County | Philip Walters Farm 162987 Camp Creek Rd Wausau, WI, 54403 | \$9.00 per plate |

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!



William J. Litzer



BVA from page 4

Nosek (Oconomowoc), Jonatan Pasillas-Velazquez (Milwaukee), Philip Saberin (Waukesha), Ty Potter (Oconto), Carter Roehl (Watertown), Maria Sawyer (Milwaukee), Mackenzie Schubert (Viroqua), Violet Schultz (Madison), Sarah Stege (Hartford), Hayley Strey (Madison), Madeleine Taylor (Appleton), Rachel Wallace (Kenosha), Eliana Worley (Waukesha), and Tabitha Zuelke (Green Bay).

The history of BVA

BVA is a grade K4 through grade 12 virtual charter school of Merrill Area Public Schools and celebrates its 10-year anniversary this year. According to a press release from BVA and MAPS, it was initially chartered in 2012 as an extension of a local school program called "Bridges to Learn" that operated during the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years. The original goal of Bridges to Learn was to provide programming that would appeal to home-schooling parents in the Merrill area through a partnership with services provided through MAPS.

The idea of expanding the services to parents and students outside of the MAPS district led to the development of BVA, a virtual charter school, which expanded to include students throughout the entire state of Wisconsin. As a charter school, BVA is also able to offer flexible options and innovative opportunities to students. In its first year as BVA (2012-2013), enrollment grew to 499 students, and it continued to grow from there.

The development of BVA has been instrumental on a local and state level, as virtual learning was relatively new in Wisconsin. In addition to working with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to ensure the school's programming met state standards and statutory requirements, BVA has provided valuable direction and feedback to the DPI as they developed guidelines for how virtual schools in the state should operate and also provides assistance and support to other schools and districts in the areas of virtual learning.

Since the 2016-2017 school year, BVA has ranked as the highest scoring virtual charter school in the state, according to the press release.

During the COVID pandemic, BVA's enrollment spiked at 1,040 students. Enrollment has now returned to pre-pandemic levels and remains strong at 802 students, the release said.

When BVA started, there were fewer than 10 virtual charter schools in the state. Today there are more than 60.

In Jan. 2022, BVA and MAPS signed a new five-year contract to keep BVA operating through the 2027-2028 school year. MAPS provides the human resources and special services support, accounting, and other centralized services for BVA. In turn, BVA provides MAPS with financial support for these services by virtue of the revenue generated with the addition of their student enrollment, currently approximately 800 students, to the district.

RECYCLING from page 4

items is 45 cents per pound. Smoke detectors may also be recycled; the cost is \$15.00 each.

Recycling electronics keeps toxic materials out of our landfills and drinking water and promotes the reuse of valuable, limited resources, organizers say.

Electronics is the fastest growing component of waste materials, they add.

Businesses may call in advance to reserve early Friday morning appointments (Friday, June 3) if needed.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Merrill Optimist Club and the Good News Project of Wausau.

Call 715.843.5985 for more information.

Lady Jays take 2 wins out of 5 games in the last 2 weeks in Varsity Soccer matches

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

On Tuesday, May 17, 2022, the Merrill Girls Varsity Soccer Team traveled to the DC Everest Middle School for a match against the DC Everest Girls.

“DC Everest proved once again why they’re top of conference with a solid win,” said Kyle Hahn, Merrill Girls Varsity Soccer Head Coach.

Everest landed a goal at 2:00 in the first half and then got three more before halftime. The landed their fifth and final goal at 41:00 in the second half of the game.

“We got off to a slow start and gave up four in the first half, but our girls played gutsy defense in the second half and only allowed one more to get past,” Hahn said. “Four less goals given up this time around, which shows clear improvement from our first meeting [against Everest] earlier in the season.

Everest took 16 shots on goal but Merrill’s defense limited their scores to 5, with Anna Bowe saving 11. Merrill took one shot on goal but it was blocked.

Box Score: Merrill 0 @ DC Everest 5

On Thursday, May 19, the Lady Jays headed to Amherst High School for a Varsity match against the Amherst High Girls. The Merrill Girls worked on defense, but Amherst got their first goal at 19:10 and picked up a sec-

ond just a couple of minutes later in the first half. In the second, they scored another two goals at 50:49 and 56:39. In the end, Amherst took the win with four goals and Merrill couldn’t get anything on the scoreboard. Merrill took two shots on goal but came up short. Amherst was more aggressive, taking 15 shots on goal. Merrill’s Anna Bowe made 11 saves with the help of the Jays’ defense.

“While Amherst is a good team in their own right, we certainly didn’t help our cause with a variety of defensive mistakes and lethargic play throughout,” Hahn said. “Sometimes the wind just doesn’t blow your way, and this was one of those days. Games like this one are a great lesson in the importance of taking all opponents seriously and coming out of the gate ready to go. All in all, I’ll take the blame for not having the team prepared well enough physically, tactically, and mentally.”

Box Score: Merrill 0 @ Amherst 4

See **SOCCER** page 16



In the Merrill Girls Varsity Soccer home finale against Wausau West on May 26, Amelia Skoviera (center) clears a ball with Gracie Wyma (left) and Reggie Lahti (right) looking on.

Submitted photo.



WE DO STUMP GRINDING opens in Merrill

The Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting for a new business in Merrill. WE DO STUMP GRINDING opened for business in mid-April and is owned and operated by Mark and Tina Scott of Merrill. They offer stump grinding services for large and small stumps, and shrubby stumps/root clusters. “We are able to get into yards without causing mayhem to client’s lawns, because our grinding machine is on tracks,” co-owner Tina Scott said, “so we don’t leave big ruts in the grass.” “And we can get our machine through a standard-sized garden gate, so we’re able to get into areas where bigger grinding machines can’t,” co-owner Mark Scott said. The business is licensed and fully insured and offers free estimates, providing service in the Merrill area as well as surrounding counties. For more information, call 715.302.3151 or visit: www.wedostumpgrinding.com. From L to R: Sue Kunkel, Ken Neff, and Chamber Director Clyde Nelson, all representing the Merrill Chamber; co-owners Mark and Tina Scott; Mayor Steve Hass; and Sarah Sturm, also representing the Merrill Chamber.

Photo courtesy of Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce.



Some of the Merrill Bluejay Trap Team Varsity and JV shooters pose with a donation certificate from Whitetails Unlimited. On May 17, 2022, the Bluejay Trap Team received a donation of \$1,500 from the Whitetails Unlimited Merrill Chapter. The Team will use the donation for training materials, safety equipment, and updating Entry Level through Intermediate level shirts for the athletes.

Submitted photo.

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Bluejay Trap wraps up regular season; three Varsity shooters place in Conference Top 5

Beyond Varsity, six Merrill shooters place in Conference Top 5 (including several first place finishes), two score 25's in May 24 match

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill Bluejay Trap Team wrapped up their regular season matches last Tuesday, May 24, with a win against the Wausau Skeet & Trap Team at all levels. At the Varsity level, the score was Merrill 117 - Wausau 106.

"Merrill represented well this season, although our season started slow and

took our athletes a bit to get back in the groove," Bluejay Trap Coaches said. "We also had very poor weather conditions the first couple of weeks."

After Week 9 scores were totaled, three Varsity shooters had shot their way into the Conference Top 5: "Bobby Hoff tied again and ultimately lost the first place spot to a reverse run," Coaches said. "Tough way to lose." Hoff had battled for the last three weeks against a shooter



Bluejay Trap Team athletes wrapped up their regular shooting season on May 24. They now go on to Conference and State competition. **Submitted photo.**



Entry level trap shooter, Mason Meyer shot his first 25 [perfect score] on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. **Submitted photo.**



At the Intermediate Advanced level, Merrill Bluejay Trap Team shooter Christopher Holz ended the season in first place in the Conference, and he shot yet another perfect score of 25 at the Week 9 meet against Wausau. **Submitted photo.**

from Lakeland, with tied scores for each of those weeks. Bobby wraps up the regular season in second place in the Conference.

"Females Lydia Ashbrenner and Cali Brown took fourth and fifth places in the Conference for Varsity Females, only one bird separating the two," Coaches said.

Beyond Varsity

Beyond Varsity, all three of Merrill's other divisions [JV, Intermediate Advanced (IA), and Intermediate Entry (IE)] also earned wins in Week 9 of scoring and ended the regular season with Merrill shooters on the leader boards at the Conference level.

In JV, Merrill's Lacey Frisch ended the regular season in first place for female shooters in the Conference, and Gracie Such took third place for JV female shooters.

In IA, Christopher Holz held his own and wrapped up the regular season in first place in the Conference for IA (both male and female), and he again shot a

perfect score of 25 in Week 9 competition for the Bluejays. Merrill's Alex Petrowski maintained his spot and took fifth place in the Conference for IA. Maria Ashbrenner is the high Merrill scorer for the ladies in the IA division, upping her game to take first place for female shooters in the Conference in the division.

At the IE level, Merrill's Hunter Renken moved up in Week 9 to take third place for the Conference, and Mason Meyer shot his first 25, making it a great way to end the regular season.

Bluejay Trap Team 2022 season results

During the 2022 regular season, the Bluejay Varsity Trap Team scored 6 wins - 3 losses.

JV: 7 wins - 2 losses, 4 way tie. IA: 8 wins - 1 loss; IE: 8 wins - 1 loss.

Shooters will now compete at the Conference Shoot on June 3 in Mosinee, and at the State level on June 24 before calling it a wrap for 2022.

SOCCER from page 15

On Saturday, May 21, Portage/Poynette Ladies were in Merrill for a match against the Bluejays. This time the teams and efforts were more equally matched. Portage/Poynette Girls landed a goal at 13:18 in the first half, but that's all the Lady Jays let them have, despite Portage/Poynette taking eight shots on goal. Anna Bowe blocked the other seven. Merrill's Alayna Boyd got more aggressive in the second half and scored two goals for Merrill, one at 47:30 and the other at 63:56 to take the win. Merrill did take six shots on goal, but Portage/Poynette blocked the other four.

"A great bounce back game and a gritty second-half performance that showed our girls were hungry for a 'W,'" Hahn said. "We gave up a goal early in the first half off a defensive miscue that allowed Portage/Poynette an open look at goal."

"At halftime, we talked about the importance of digging in, playing aggressive, and leaving everything out on the field," he said. "Alayna Boyd scored her first Varsity goal of the season about seven and a half minutes into the half after she blazed past the Portage/Poynette defense and placed the ball just out of reach of their goalkeeper. Fast forward to the 64th minute and Alayna followed the same pattern to get past the defense to coolly finish for her second goal of the game (and season). It definitely wasn't easy, and we probably made things harder than we needed to at times, but it was a great win against a solid non-conference opponent."

Box Score: Portage/Poynette 1 @ Merrill 2

Tuesday, May 24, found the Merrill Varsity Girls Soccer team battling it out at Wausau East High School against the Lady Lumberjacks. "From the get-go in this game, it felt like we were going to win," Hahn said. "Our girls played with confidence and a toughness that East couldn't match."

"We were after goals and adjusted our formation accordingly to put pressure up front. It paid off mid-way through the first half as Alissa Kracht got on the end of a through ball Amelia Skoviera threaded through East's defense and placed a beautiful shot up and over their goalkeeper," Score one for Merrill!

"At halftime, we discussed keeping our foot on the gas and working hard to kill the game off with another goal. We had plenty of opportunities going forward in the second half and Gracie Wyma got herself on the scoresheet with a well-taken goal in the 68th minute." Score two for Merrill at 67:19, and that pretty much wrapped it up. Wausau East took five shots on goal, but Merrill's defense blocked them all.

"Defensively, our girls limited East's attacking opportunities and stifled their play all over the field throughout the game," Hahn said. "All in all, a well deserved win heading into the end of the season and conference play."

Box Score: Merrill 2, Wausau East 0

Thursday, May 26, brought the Wausau West Warriors to Merrill for a Varsity battle against the Merrill Girls Soccer Team. "West is a solid team and definitely had their share of the ball in this game," Hahn said. Wausau West landed goals at 18:27, 27:55, and 34:40 in the first half, then picked up another at 62:05 in the second. Considering they took 18 shots on goal and Merrill's Anne Bowe and the defense saved 14 of those shots from going in, that's not half bad. Merrill got off one shot on goal but the Warriors' defense intercepted the attempt.

"We gave up three in the first half, but locked things down a bit in the second half, only allowing one more goal over the course of 40 minutes," he said.

"More importantly, this game gave us an opportunity to recognize and thank our program's Seniors who certainly made a difference," Hahn said. "Olivia Stevenson, Lizz Leander, Tessa Wheat, McKenna Smith, Evalina Zavala, Amelia Skoviera, Alissa Kracht, Telina Marmorat, and Monica Lane are all fantastic human beings and I, along with Willie and Erich, can't thank them enough for their time, effort, and commitment to the girls soccer program."

"It's easy to be part of a winning/successful team, but these girls stuck in there through the losses and all played their part to help us secure three wins this season," he said. "We're extremely proud of them all and wish them nothing but the very best as they embark on a new chapter of life."

Box Score: Merrill 0, Wausau West 4

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