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FARMERS MARKET
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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1956 ■ MERRILLFOTONEWS.COM ■ THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022 ■ VOLUME 68, ISSUE 24

Graap now charged with first degree murder in the January death of Kayla Frank

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Tanner Graap. Photo courtesy of Lincoln County Sheriff's Office.

As of June 6, 2022, Tanner H. Graap, now age 28, of Merrill, the man arrested and charged in connection with the Jan. 18, 2022, shooting death of Kayla M. Frank, is now charged with first degree intentional homicide for her death. New charges filed by the Lincoln County District Attorney on that date state that Graap "did cause the death of Kayla M. Frank, with intent to kill."

Five new and much more serious charges now replace the former charges of homicide by negligent handling of a dangerous weapon and possessing a firearm as a convicted felon that were filed against Graap in January.

Graap is now charged with: 1) First degree intentional homicide, use of a dangerous weapon, with two modifiers as a repeater; 2) First degree reckless homicide, use of a dangerous weapon, with two modifiers as a repeater; 3) Possess firearm-convicted of a felony, with two modifiers as a repeater; 4) Second degree recklessly endangering safety, use of a dangerous weapon, with two modifiers as a repeater; and 5) A

See **GRAAP** *page* 7

Mud 'N Jams fundraiser to benefit four-year old Merrill cancer patient

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill Area Community Rides Charity (MACR) will host their 6th Annual Mud 'N Jams ATV and Motorcycle Ride and Poker Run on Saturday, June 18, 2022, at Z's Fork Horners Bar and Grill, N4291 County Hwy. X, in Gleason. Proceeds from this year's event will be donated to the family of Brandtly Clark.

Brandtly's story

Brandtly Clark is the four-and-a-half-year-old son of Matthew and Hailey Clark of Merrill. The Clarks also have a two-year-old daughter, Rhea.

One evening last Nov. [2021], Brandtly's mother, Hailey, noticed a lump in Brandtly's stomach, so she took him to the ER the next day. After many tests, Brandtly was diagnosed with a Wilm's Tumor – pediatric kidney cancer – in his left kidney. It was Nov. 9, just six days after Brandtly's fourth birthday.

"As a parent, you pray that you never have to hear those words," Hailey said. "But when you do, your world crashes into a million pieces."

"As you quickly have to pick up the pieces and put them back together, a million other questions arise," she said.

Mother and son were ambulanced to Children's Hospital in Marshfield,

See **BENEFIT** *page* 16

Brandtly Clark, age 4, has been battling cancer since last November. This year's Mud 'N Jams event will benefit the Clark family to help with expenses associated with Brandtly's illness and treatments. **Photo courtesy of the Clark family.**

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Third Annual Overcoming Addiction and Bad Habits Ribbon Event this Saturday in Merrill

After his recovery ribbon went viral, Merrill's Boettcher of Inked Horizons was inspired to create an annual event to promote recovery and healing

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

This Saturday, June 18, 2022, from 12:00 noon until 3:00 p.m., Deamon Boettcher and Inked Horizons will host the Third Annual Overcoming Addiction and Bad Habits Ribbon Event (O.A.O.B. Ribbon Event) at 1319 E. Main St. in Merrill.

The event is free to attend and is designed to be unlike any other area events. It's not a performance or a convention. It's not a trade show. It's about support. And being with others who understand. It is a place for community.

That is the focus of this year's event: Community.

Overcoming addiction or a bad habit is absolutely connected with community, Boettcher said. Whether it is coming out of a traumatic life event or surviving something such as an addiction, abuse, neglect, alcoholism, self-harm, or many other negative situations, community can help with the healing.

Bring a chair and "Come out for an afternoon of support and be with others who truly understand the struggle," Boettcher invites.

See **EVENT** *page* 13

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Last year's theatre performance in Banker's Square. **Submitted photo.**

Free musical theater performance in downtown Merrill

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Koinonia Singers, a talented group of more than 40 students, will perform "The End of the Road," a musical theater experience, in downtown Merrill in the Banker's Square pocket park in the 900 block of E. Main St. [across from Ace Hardware] on Wednesday, June 22, at 6:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. A free will offering will be taken at the end of the evening to help support the tour.

The group is touring and performing throughout Wisconsin this summer and invites attendees to "hop on the bus" as the show follows characters on the different roads of their lives. Along the way, they discover that – although there is much in this life they can acquire ... fame, love, wealth, or any worldly desire – there is something better for each of them, and ultimately, they discover a life that is true and abundant.

Bring a lawn chair, snacks, and the family for an evening of entertainment. In the event of rain, the performance will move to Downtown Mission Church next to the Cosmo Theatre.

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Merrill Community Theater to present "Escanaba in da Moonlight"

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Auditions announced to cast five men and one woman in key roles

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill Community Theater is gearing up for a humorous production of "Escanaba in da Moonlight" with performances tentatively scheduled for October 2022. Area actors and actresses are encouraged to audition for the cast of this fun and funny comedy by Jeff Daniels.

Five men and one woman will be selected to fill key roles, and auditions will be held on Saturday, June 25, and Saturday, July 9, 2022, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church, 300 N. Mill St. in Merrill [on the corner of Third and Mill Streets].

Audition material is available at: www.merrill-communitytheater.com

Rehearsals will start in July.

"Escanaba in da Moonlight" is a humorous story of a man dealing with the frustration of being a "buckless yooper" at deer camp.

This zany comedy is about the Soady clan, who meet at their family's camp in the UP [Upper Peninsula of Michigan] for the opening of deer hunting season. Thirty-five-year-old Reuben Soady is trying desperately to change his reputation as being the oldest Soady never to bag a buck. In a hunting story to beat all hunting stories, "Escanaba in da Moonlight" spins a hilarious tale of humor, horror, and heart as Reuben goes to any and all lengths to remove himself from the wrong end of the family record book.

If you've got some acting in your blood, or just a fun and zany sense of humor, consider trying out

See **THEATER** *page* 3

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

Merrill Area Farmers Market returns to Normal Park

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

The Merrill Area Farmers Market is set to begin again this year and will be returning to Normal Park on Wednesdays and Saturdays from mid-June through October, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Located at the corner of N. Center Ave. and E. 7th St., the Farmers Market is easy to find and has parking available.

The Farmers Market features locally grown and handcrafted wares – from locally grown fruits, vegetables, plants, and flowers – to home-baked breads and bakery; locally canned jellies and jams, pickles and relishes, salsa and spaghetti sauce, and more – as well as locally produced honey and maple syrup, handmade soaps and lotions, and handcrafted items of all varieties such as birdhouses and gift items.

New this year to expand the offerings to our local Merrill community, the Farmers Market is open to vendors beyond Lincoln County. Vendors from Marathon County, as well as other counties surrounding Lincoln County, will be accepted. The only rule is this: All items must be produced by the actual vendor.

The cost of becoming a vendor at the Merrill Area Farmers Market is $100 per year and includes a full voting membership. Or, vendors can sell at the Farmers Market for a one-time daily fee of $25 which does not include voting membership, if space is available.

Member fees help cover the cost of advertising, insurance, and other incidental costs, and a membership or vendor application can be obtained by contacting Susan Hass, Market Manager, at 715.536.7364. [Or stop at her booth once the market opens.] Management reserves the right to reject applications according to market guidelines. Additional information is also available on the group's Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/MerrillAreaFarmersMarket.

History of the Merrill Area Farmers Market

What is now the Merrill Area Farmers Market originally began as Merrill Market Day on July 14, 1990. It was organized through the Merrill Chamber of Commerce [Dee Olson was President then] and Pat Cadwallader and Helene Pagoria were Market Managers. It was held on Tuesdays in the Pamida store [now County Market] parking lot and on Saturdays in the Lincoln County Jail parking lot, and the vendor fee for setting up was just $2 per time.

"In 1992, the association had a meeting to get more organized, and Bernice Sauer was elected Market Manager," said current Market Manager Sue Hass.

She remained in that position "until she and her husband Lavern stopped going to the Farmers Market," Hass said.

In addition to Bernice and Lavern Sauer, Pat Cadwallader, and Helene Pagoria, other early vendors included Carl and Elaine Mittelsteadt, Elgart and Miriam Salefsky, Roland and Marge Williams, Sue Williams, David and JoAnn Sauer, Ed and Betty Johns, Ted and Lila Schleif, and Roger Trumbly, she said.

In earlier days, "The group entered many parades in Merrill and Tomahawk and won prizes several times," Hass added. "Bernice always used the prize money to plan a party with food and games."

Sponsors sought to cover increasing expenses

With costs on the rise, Hass said the Merrill Area Farmers Market is currently searching for weekly sponsors. Sponsorships will help cover the increasing costs of advertising and other expenses, she said, in exchange for being featured in the Farmer's Market advertising and having their name and business information displayed at the weekly markets.

For more information, contact Hass at 715.536.7364.

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Celebrate the summer solstice on the River Bend Trail

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

On Tuesday, June 21, 2022, from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Friends of the River Bend Trail will host a free family fun night to celebrate the summer solstice [the official start of summer] on the River Bend Trail. Most activities will take place at or near the Agra Pavilion at the head of the trail, 100 S. Park St. in Merrill.

The public is invited to participate, rain or shine. Snacks provided by local businesses, live music by Paul and Susanna Gilk, and activities including chalk drawing, plant identification, a scavenger hunt, creating a community sun dial, yoga by Gigi, a craft table provided by the Merrill Enrichment Center, a live mic with T.B. Scott Library staff and guests reciting summer poetry, a table with writing supplies for participants to write their own inspired poetry, and more will round out the evening. There is no charge to participate but donations will be accepted.

Community sponsors and partnerships helping make this event possible including the Merrill Enrichment Center, Lincoln County Health Department, Polka Dotted Pie, T.B. Scott Library, Golden Harvest Market, Be Well Yoga, Helene's Apple Orchard, Gress Chiropractic, Thrivent (Kelly O'Day), Auntie Rays Coffee House, and Main Street Apothecary.

THEATER
from page 2

for one of the parts in this upcoming production.

Merrill Community Theater is a non-profit organization. For more information, contact Ed Kemery at 443.871.3593 or email: Merrill.Community.Theater@gmail.com.

Merrill Area United Way

75 years United Way Merrill Area United Way

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June 2022
Merrill Area United Way
Dee Olsen, Executive Director

Summer is always fun in Merrill with lots of things to do through the MARC Center, the Aquatic Center, the TB Scott Free Library children's programs, sometimes the schools, the concerts at Normal Park, the Lincoln County Fair and much, much more.

The United Way organization is adding one additional summer event, a fund raiser, for our exciting 75th anniversary year. MAUW has secured an exceptionally talented singer/performer out of South Padre Island, LESLIE BLASING. She has an incredible following in the Texas area, and many Wisconsin and Midwest "snowbird" followers. She will put on a show you will remember, and dancing will certainly be available for all those who care to dance. In addition to Blasing, we have secured Bryce Thomaschefsky, an area favorite, to open the stage for her. The event will be at the Northwoods Veteran's Post on Sunday, AUGUST 7, 2022. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Thomaschefsky will perform from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and LESLIE BLASING will perform from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Advance ticket sales will be handled on Eventbrite website at $10.00 in advance and, then if available, $15 at the door. We can handle 400 people and expect a sell-out crowd. Leslie Blasing's followers will come from anywhere within a 4-hour radius or do any overnight stay. Food and beverage will be available.

In addition, United Way will have a float in the Labor Day Parade this year. Then the next celebratory event will be the fun-filled, family-oriented, "United Way Day" on October 15th at the AGRA Pavilion. United Way partner agencies will be asked to have displays and they may even have donation drives. There will be a fun walk, and walkers will be joined by John Kilgust on his unicycle. He might even juggle a little. Kilgust will do a short performance for children, plus there will be other entertainment for the children like, face painting, storytelling, sing-a-longs, and a puppet show. Concession stands, cookies and beverages will be available. Watch for further details.

We know Merrill has incredible people, doing remarkable things, and helping people every day in hundreds and hundreds of ways. So, we have identified "75 Ways to Live United". We encourage you to catch yourself, and others, being great citizens, volunteering, helping people as you Live United, but then post the photos of how Merrill people collectively "live united."

While we are putting time into our 75th Anniversary celebration, we cannot forget about our core work of running a fall campaign, servicing people and our funded agencies. That work is strongly continuing in our everyday work. We have met compliance with United Way Worldwide and are currently amid our annual Certified CPA audit. The Board is actively making their summer Agency Visits and the mid-year reports are out and due before the end of July. These efforts are followed by the Agency Application process for funding in 2023.

As we move forward, 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 or email Delores.Olsen@merrillareaunitedway.org .

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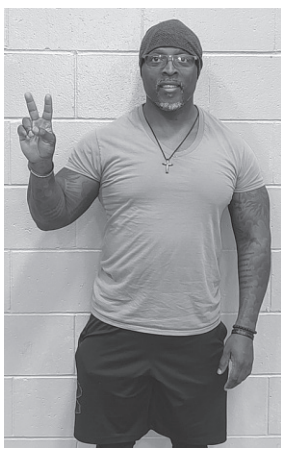

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Saturday, July 9, 2022
10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

PURPOSE: To support community service projects of the Merrill Lions Club
FORMAT: 4-person Scramble. Men's, Ladies & Mixed Divisions
LOCATION: Merrill Public Golf Club 1604 O'Day Street Merrill, WI 54452
SCHEDULE: 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Registration
10:00 a.m. Sharp-Shotgun Start
Lunch and dinner included in price
ENTRY FEE: $80 per person, $55 for course members
$40 for course & cart members
$15 Dinner only (for non-golfers)
REGISTRATION: Call the Merrill Public Golf Course at 715-536-2529

Flag events, prizes, 50/50 raffle and baskets, chance for $10,000 Hole-in-One Contest!

For more information:
Email: Merrilllionsgolf@gmail.com
Visit our Facebook page @MerrillLions
Call David at 715-347-6243
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OBITUARIES

In the early morning hours on Saturday, June 4, 2022, **Jarred G. Fuchs** passed away at the Aspirus Wausau Hospital, at the age of 36 years old.

Jarred was born on June 24, 1985, to Gary and Janine (Heup) Fuchs, in Wausau, WI.

Jarred grew up in the Merrill / Irma area, and he attended and graduated from Merrill High School with the class of 2003.

Jarred was currently employed at Merrill Manufacturing as a laborer. He was a great dad to his girls and looked forward to family walks through the Council Grounds, which always included their dog, LeRoy, teaching the girls to ice skate, ride bikes and fly kites, just to name a few. Jarred loved being on the water, boating and swimming with his family and friends. He enjoyed watching and cheering for the Green Bay Packers. Jarred had a special bond with his brother, Kyle, and he remembers Jarred as being the best man that he ever knew, he had a big heart and loved to have fun. Janine and Gary will remember Jarred's great smile (his whole face lit up!), always being quick with a joke and a great sense of humor. He enjoyed working with his hands and was a great help with family projects like building a shed and deck along with his dad, grandpa, brother, and uncle. Jarred was a quiet and reserved person but loved his family and friends with all his heart. He will be sadly missed, but always remembered.

Jarred leaves behind his daughters: Kyleigh Chartier and Reagan Fuchs, Jarred's long-time friend and mother to the girls: Emma Chartier, parents: Gary and Janine Fuchs brother: Kyle (Heather) Fuchs, grandmothers: Terry E. Fuchs and Jane J. Heup, nieces: Rose Hake, Brentley Jordon, Hazel Schafer and Alice Fuchs, nephews: Kane Fuchs and Mike Fuchs, aunts and uncles: Mark Fuchs, Tom (Mary) Fuchs, Jon (Carol) Heup and Brenda Siren, cousins: Matthew (Amy) Fuchs, Amelia (Matt)Woelky, Catherine Heup, Melissa (Corey)Andes, Tyler (Olivia)Summ, Tanner Fuchs and Melina Fuchs, along with numerous friends. He was preceded in death by his grandfathers: Dick Fuchs and Robert Heup.

Jarred had fought his demons for many years, and now his family believes that the Lord Jesus Christ is holding Jarred in His arms and will provide strength to his family and friends.

As per family request, no services will be held for Jarred. A Celebration of Jarred's life will be planned at a later date.

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

Betty Jane Gilroy August 24, 1956 - May 9, 2022. We are devastated to announce that Betty Jane Gilroy, age 65, of Vista, California passed away on Monday, May 9, 2022, at her home in Vista. Betty left us and joined her creator after a valiant battle with cancer. She leaves a huge hole in the hearts of her family and friends who were blessed by her strong faith, empathy, and generosity.

Betty was born on August 24, 1956 to Marie and Royal Henson in Merrill, Wisconsin alongside her twin brother Robert (Bob) Henson; she was the youngest of 8 children. Betty graduated Merrill High School with the Class of 1975 and soon after moved to Madison, Wisconsin where she attended the graphic arts program at Madison Area Technical College. In the years following her education she lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota where she sought artistic and musical inspiration. Eventually the call of the West led her to Carson City, Nevada where she united with her best friend and loyal companion, a german shepard she named Dobie. Betty and Dobie would live together in Nevada for several years while Betty played guitar with local rock bands. She was nearing her 30's when she moved with Dobie to Los Osos, California and met her future husband Harris Gilroy; they married in 1985 in Oceanside, California. It was also in 1985 that Betty was saved and began building a relationship with Jesus Christ.

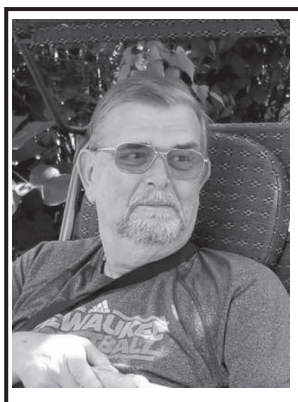
In 1990 Betty and Harris moved into the house that would be their home for the next 30 years in Vista, California and in 1991 Betty and Harris had their only daughter, Genesis. Betty chose to forego a career in lieu of being an exceptional stay-at-home mom. Even so, Betty managed to produce an abundance of art in the years that she stayed home with her daughter. She became well known throughout Southern California as a muralist and photorealistic artist. Betty would spend the next several decades commissioned to paint cultural and creative murals, glaze custom ceramic tiles, and paint windows on private and public properties across the county. Betty received many first place awards at the Exhibition of Fine Art at the Del Mar Fair and much of her work was displayed and sold in local art galleries. Betty also played an active role in purging her community of crime. She led her local neighborhood watch organization and volunteered years and many hours of work organizing the patrol and reporting of local crimes which greatly impacted the health and safety of surrounding neighborhoods. Betty was musically talented and loved playing guitar and singing. She led worship groups at numerous Church venues and also led the children's choir at Calvary Chapel. At her core, Betty was an outdoors woman and lover of nature. She enjoyed yearly camping trips with her family and she spent much of her free time gardening and bird watching.

Betty's foremost goal in life was to inspire faith in her family and to equip them with the knowledge of the Holy Spirit. Betty's faith shown like a beacon and her fruit of the spirit nourished not only her family, but all those she came in contact with. Betty's generosity especially extended to those she crossed paths with that were in need. She would regularly identify elderly and homeless individuals in need of clothing, supplies, or companionship, and she would meet those needs without hesitation.

The 38 years Betty spent living in San Diego County were filled with family, faith, music, art and camping. The final years she lived leading up to her diagnosis were the best, most enriched of her life. She is forever loved and cherished by those she left behind.

Betty was preceded in death by her father Royal Henson, her mother Marie (Schmidt) Henson, her twin brother Robert Henson, and sisters Kathleen Henson and Carol (Smith) Hintz. She is survived by her husband Harris Gilroy, her daughter Genesis (Gilroy) Gordon, son-in-law Bryan Gordon, sister Linda (Smith) Forney, sister Christine (Henson) Knauer (Fred), brother John Henson (Brenda), brother Richard Henson (Judy), and a host of cousins, nieces, and nephews.

No immediate funeral is planned. A memorial service will be held in the near future and Betty's family will notify loved ones when a date is scheduled. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be gifted in Betty's name to Haven, a Merrill women's shelter or to MAC Home, a local warming shelter for the homeless.



Gary Norman Adkison, 68, passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by family on June 3rd, 2022, following his courageous battle with cancer. Despite the bad days, Gary continued to smile and kept everyone laughing until the end.

Gary was born in Madison, Wisconsin but his heart belonged 'up north' in the Merrill area. He enjoyed fishing, camping, traveling, doing DYI projects and spending time with family and cats Gizmo and Riley.

Gary is survived by his wife Jean, son Rob (Denise) Hoffman, daughter Tracy (Travis) Thompson, grandchildren Colton, Mikhail, Robert John, Mackenzee, Gary, Kurtis, Jordan, Alyssa and their families. Gary is also survived by his mother Alyce Adkison, sister Linda (Hal) Netzloff, nephews Tim (Stacy) and Andy (Martha) and their families, mother-in-law Margaret Sense, brothers-in-law Michael and Scott Sense and family friend Cindy Sense.

Gary was proceeded in death by his father Clifford and his grandparents.

In accordance with Gary's wishes, a private family service will be held at Snow Hill Cemetery in the Town of Scott.

John J. Buettgen Funeral Home is assisting the family. You may view Gary's obituary and leave online condolences at mwcs.ws.

Marilyn J. Katke, age 82, of Merrill, passed away at UW Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin, on Thursday, June 9, 2022, surrounded by her family.

Marilyn was born on June 17, 1939, in Marathon County, Wisconsin, daughter of the late Herman and Ruth (Jaeger) Lemke. She married Ewald Katke on March 21, 1959. He preceded her in death on December 23, 2021. She graduated from Merrill High School in 1957, and worked at Weinbrenner Shoe Company following graduation. After she was married, she worked with her husband on their dairy farm in Pine River. Marilyn also worked in the office for Peterson Sand & Gravel and Peterson & Latzig Evergreens. She truly loved her job and made many friends throughout her 47 years there.

She was a faithful member of St. Stephen's United Church of Christ. Marilyn served as a Sunday School Teacher, was a member of the church council, and served on other church committees. She enjoyed baking and making sure she made everyone's favorites when they came to visit. Marilyn enjoyed doing jigsaw puzzles and playing dominoes. She loved Christmas, including decorating her Christmas tree differently every year and making a variety of Christmas cookies. Most of all, she loved spending time with her family.

Marilyn is survived by her children, Steven (Christine) Katke of Clear Lake, MN, Terry (Kevin) Krueger of Merrill, Kaye (Anthony Munz) Katke of Two Rivers, and Mary Walsh of Merrill; grandchildren, Matthew (Katrina Depies) Krueger, Daniel (Emily) Krueger, Benjamin Katke, Samuel (Grace) Katke, Julia Joerger, Sarah Joerger, and Jacob Walsh; great-grandchildren, Henry, Josie, Zeppelin, and June; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of sixty-two years, her parents, her son-in-law, Michael Walsh; her siblings, Lois (Donald) Severt, Elmer (Judy) Lemke, and Dale Lemke; and sister-in-law, Carol Jean (Myron) Marquardt.

The funeral service for Marilyn was held at 11:00 A.M. Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at St. Stephens United Church of Christ, Merrill. The Rev. Michael Southcombe officiated. Entombment will followed at the Merrill Memorial Park Mausoleum. Visitation will be from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Tuesday at Taylor-Stine Funeral Home, Merrill, and after 9:00 A.M. Wednesday at the church. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

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In Memoriams

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

It's hard to believe it's been 2 years already since you left us. We think of you every day.
Love & Miss You
Jane, Sue & Bob

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603

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301 Eagle Drive, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452
Phone (715) 536-4646 • www.WaidFuneral.com

City of Merrill Construction

The M2021-01 Utility and Road Reconstruction Project will begin Monday, June 20, 2022, on Parkway Dr. (from Grand Ave. to E. Third St.) and E. Third Street (from Parkway Dr. to Blaine St.). Traffic will be limited to local traffic only, and there will be days when access will be limited. Access to Lions Park will be from the west (Parkway Drive) to begin the project.

This Project is scheduled to be completed by the middle of August.

Garbage, will be picked up on the regular schedule.

3-4 Month Turnaround On All In Stock Monuments
(100 plus monuments in stock)

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Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-6654
EMAIL US: merrillmonument@gmail.com
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131183

OBITUARIES

Marlene M. Zuelsdorff, 84, of Merrill, passed away on Friday, June 10, 2022, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Marlene was born on January 18, 1938, in Merrill, daughter of the late Marvin and Marie (Kleinschmidt) Hackbart. She married Ron Zuelsdorff on May 31, 1958, in Merrill. He preceded her in death on December 8, 2008. Marlene was very personable and enjoyed working with people. She worked for Church Mutual and Marathon Cheese. She was a CNA at the Memorial Nursing Home in Medford. She worked at several restaurants and was an owner of the Chaparral Supper Club in Whittlesey.

Marlene was an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Tomahawk. Upon moving to Merrill, she became a steadfast member of Faith Lutheran Church. Marlene enjoyed camping, boating, vacationing in Florida, and a good dry Manhattan. She was very social, loved her dog, and most importantly, loved spending time with her family.

Marlene is survived by her children, Rick Zuelsdorff of Medford, Jan Brahmer of Medford, and Tim (Deb) Zuelsdorff of Merrill; grandchildren, Rachel Bleile, Andrea (Jeff) Graumann, Mallory (Jared) Anderson, Chelsey (Adam) Krug, Adam Zuelsdorff (Joelle), Nathan Brahmer, Erin (Vince) Wojcik, Jason (Amanda) Brahmer, Megan Zuelsdorff, and Katelyn Zuelsdorff (Chris); great-grandchildren, Isaac, Taylor, Piper, Phoebe, Ella, Reid, Hazel, Kailey, Charley, Eve, Addison, Taytem, and Beau; brother, Geno (Marion) Hackbart of Merrill and many nieces and nephews. Marlene was preceded in death by her husband, Ron Zuelsdorff; parents, Marvin and Marie Hackbart; and brothers, Lloyd (Mary Anne) Hackbart and Warren (Arlene) Hackbart.

The funeral service for Marlene was held at 11:00 A.M., Thursday, June 16, 2022, at Faith Lutheran Church, Village of Maine, Marathon County. Rev. Donald Love officiated. The family received friends beginning at 9:00 A.M. Thursday at the church. Burial 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

Arlene Muriel Bagley, age 81 of Merrill, Wisconsin, passed away on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. She was born on April 18, 1941, to the late Clifford and Mildred (Munroe) Hoffman in Irma, Wisconsin.

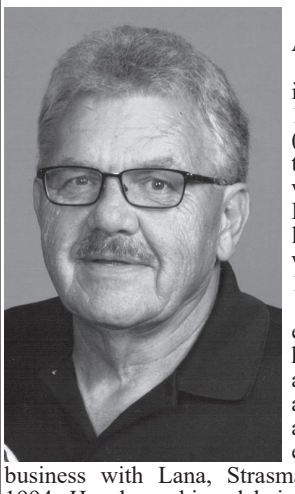
Arlene was a gracious volunteer for the Merrill Relay for Life, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, and the Merrill Area Community Enrichment Center. She also enjoyed quilting, coaching baseball, sewing, baking specialty Christmas cookies, gardening, especially her flowers, and helping her children in any way she could.

She is survived by her son: Randy Hoffman of Merrill, WI, daughter: Shelly (Rick) Storm of Merrill, WI, grandchildren: Jason, Ethan, and Nathanial, step grandchildren: Alexandra and Jason, step great grandchildren: Lilian, Brayden, Bentley, and Emeric, fur grandchildren: Charger, Scooby Doo, Thor, and Bentley, siblings: Alice Braithwaite of Poynette, WI, Arleigh Linder (twin sister) of Merrill, WI, Roy Hoffman of Merrill, WI, Jean Ellen (Roger) Alms of Redwing, MN, and Harriet Rehwinkle of Merrill, WI, sister-in-law: Janet Hoffman, special friend: Judy Woller, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Arlene was preceded in death by her parents, siblings: Harry (Sally) Hoffman, Harold Hoffman, Phyllis (Leroy) Rice, and Donald Hoffman, and sister-in-law Sandy Hoffman.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at 12:00 pm at Waid Funeral Home. Pastor Pat Schutz will officiate. A visitation will be held on Saturday, June 25, 2022, from 9:00 am until the time of service also at the funeral home. Inurnment will take place at Woodlawn Cemetery in the Town of Rock Falls.

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



Steven Charles Strasman April 18, 1948, to June 7, 2022

Steven C. Strasman was born in Merrill, WI, on April 18, 1948, to Bert and Ruth (Ament) Strasman. Steve attended Merrill High School, where he met his future wife, Lana Chilsen, in the school lunch line. Steve and Lana were married on October 28, 1967.

Steve worked multiple jobs early in their marriage. The job he excelled at most was being an electrician. He started as an apprentice at Electrical Wiring and Supplies in Merrill and eventually started his own business with Lana, Strasman Electrical Wiring, Inc. in 1994. He also achieved being a Master Electrician at this time. Steve believed in great service for our community doing both big and small electrical jobs and taking care of his faithful client base in Merrill. One of his gifts to the community later in his career was helping light up the River Bend Trail in Merrill.

Steve was also well known for being a rock and roll musician. He and his brother, Jim, started the band "Jimmy and the Javelins" when he was in high school, where Steve played the drums and sang. They traveled all over the Midwest playing gigs and participating in the Battle of the Bands. Steve always talked about the joy of opening for the Guess Who in Merrill at the fairgrounds. Steve loved it when he could make music with his sons, grandkids, and friends throughout his life. His "goto" song, which Lana loved, was "Mack the Knife".

Steve also was an excellent artist, a little league baseball coach for his boys, a lover of tools, and a problem solver. Steve was always looking for a way to find a mechanical advantage with his tools and loved checking out new tools. Steve and Lana also loved camping and golfing and they liked going to different state parks in Wisconsin where they could do both together. Steve enjoyed woodworking, gardening, and keeping up his beautiful yard and lawn. Many of his woodwork projects, such as coffee tables, end tables, and picture frames are still used in their home and their kids' homes.

Steve and Lana Strasman were married for 54 years but have been together 60 years since being high school sweethearts. They were partners in everything they did, including their love of dancing together. One of Steve and Lana's favorite family outings with the kids was to go cross country skiing at the Underdown and then have Kids Korner pizzas at home afterward. The family also loved waterskiing, family cookouts, and hanging out on Lake Pesobic at Grandma Flory's home. Steve and Lana were extremely proud of and enjoyed their grandchildren, always.

After a valiant battle with cancer, Steve passed away in the promises of his faith in Jesus Christ while in comfort care at Aspirus Hospital in Merrill on June 7, 2022, surrounded by his family. Steve now rests with all those who have gone before him in the faith.

Steve is survived by his loving wife, Lana; two sons, Steve and Jon (Jeranna) Strasman; 6 grandchildren, Annika, Nathan, Elias, Lauren, Ezra, and Marcella. Steve's death was proceeded by his parents, Bert and Ruth Strasman and his brother James Strasman. His wife and family have been blessed to have him in their lives and he will be missed greatly by all!

A memorial service for Steve will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, June 20, 2022, at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Merrill, with Rev. Patricia Schutz officiating. The family will receive friends beginning at 9:00 A.M. at the church. Taylor-Stine Funeral Home & Cremation Services is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

Library Critic's Choice Movie Event

The T.B. Scott Library will present their free June Critic's Choice Movie Event on Wednesday, June 22, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. This month's feature film is for dog and animal lovers. The loyalty of a good dog is proven in this PG-rated film as the canine hero, Bailey, travels through many lives to keep a promise to his owner, Ethan (Dennis Quaid). Described as a heartwarming movie of love, loss, and doggie escapades, both laughter and tears may be anticipated. The Library will provide popcorn and soda. The Merrill Transit System can also provide a free bus ride to and from the movie. Just call the Transit System in advance to reserve transportation.

Don't be late with your Classified Deadline
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www.taylorstinefuneralhome.com

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Liquor and Beer License Application, Town of Russell, Lincoln County July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 License Period
Ma's Place, owners Barb Nickels and Cindy Schielke, for a Combination Class B Liquor and Beer license.
Published June 16, 2022
WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
LINCOLN COUNTY
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Case No. 22-CV-55
Code: 30301 (Money Judgment)
30404 (Foreclosure)
INCREDIBLEBANK
Plaintiff,
v.
ESTATE OF MARY LOU PETERSON
c/o Attorney Mark N. Mathias,
Special Administrator, and
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF WISCONSIN – DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
Defendants.
By virtue of and pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above-entitled action on May 24, 2022, in the amount of $75,303.51, I will sell at public auction at the main entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 East Main Street, Merrill, Wisconsin in said county on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., all of the following described mortgaged premises, to wit:

Lot Three (3) of Lincoln County Certified Survey Map No. 1884 recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Lincoln County, Wisconsin, on June 10, 2005 in Volume 9 of Certified Survey Maps on Page 217, as Document No. 442309; being a part of the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 and the SE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section Six (6) and the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 and the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section Five (5), Township Thirty-one (31) North, Range Seven (7) East, in the Town of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

Tax Parcel No.: 014-3107-064-9948
Property Address: W4550 County Rd. G,
(the "Property")
TERMS OF SALE:
1. This is a cash sale. A certified check or bank draft in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the amount bid must accompany the bid, with the balance due upon confirmation of sale by the Court.
2. Sale is subject to all unpaid real estate taxes and special assessments.
3. Purchaser shall pay any Wisconsin real estate transfer fee.
4. The Property is being sold on an "as is" basis without warranties or representations of any kind.
5. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the Property.
You are notified that we are attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Dated _____, 2022.
Ken Schneider, Sheriff
Lincoln County Sheriff
John D. Leary
Attorneys for Plaintiff,
Royal Credit Union
RUDER WARE, L.L.S.C.
402 Graham Avenue
Post Office Box 187
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54702
Telephone: 715.834.3425
Facsimile: 715.834.9240
Published June 16, 23 & 30, 2022
WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY
PUBLICATION SUMMONS
CASE NO.22-CV-59
HON. ROBERT R. RUSSELL
Money Judgment: 30301 The amount claimed exceeds $10,000.00 AND
Other Contracts: 30303 Wis. Stat. § 810 Replevin
COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION
PO BOX 107
ANTIGO, WI 54409
Plaintiff,
v.
MAXIMILIAN GILLHOUSE
612 LIBERTY ST.
MERRILL, WI 54452
Defendant.
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN,
To each person named above as a defendant:
You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.
Within **40 days** after the date of first publication, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452, **and** to Galanis, Pollack, Jacobs & Johnson, S.C., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 839 North Jefferson Street, Suite 200, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.
If you do not provide a proper answer within **40 days,** the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.
DATED at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on June 6, 2022.
GALANIS, POLLACK, JACOBS & JOHNSON, SC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Joshua J. Brady
WI State Bar No. 1041428
P. O. Address:
839 N. Jefferson Street, Suite 200
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Telephone: (414) 271-5400
Published Jun. 9, 16 & 23, 2022
WNAXLP

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

NOTICE

City of Merrill residents interested in public works improvements of water main, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, bituminous paving, curb, gutter and sidewalk, for construction in 2023, shall file a petition in the City Clerk/Treasurer's Office at Merrill City Hall, by August 1, 2022. Petition forms are available in the City Clerk/Treasurer's Office. Project information is available by contacting Rod Akey, Public Works Director/City Engineer, (715) 536-5594.

By Order of Board of Public Works
Published June 16 & 23, 2022 WNAXLP
167789

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

What Would God Think?

DEAR READER,

Let's assume for a moment that we know with certainty that there is a God. (I'm saying it this way to invite agnostics and atheists to join in this train of thought.) Let's pretend that at times He looks in on His creations and hears all human thoughts, catches all human words, and sees all human interactions.

He witnesses the suffering we inflict on one another:

~ World Wars I and II, as nations invaded other nations.

~ The persecution of Jews, Roma and Sinti (sometimes referred to as "Gypsies"), blacks, gays, Poles and other Slavs, and Catholics.

~ The Armenian genocide at the hands of Turkey.

~ The starvation of millions of Russians after WWII.

~ The Rwandan genocide against Tutsis.

~ The murder of tens of thousands of Ukrainian civilians, including children.

~ The Chinese genocide against the Uighers.

~ The Taliban's ubiquitous oppression of women.

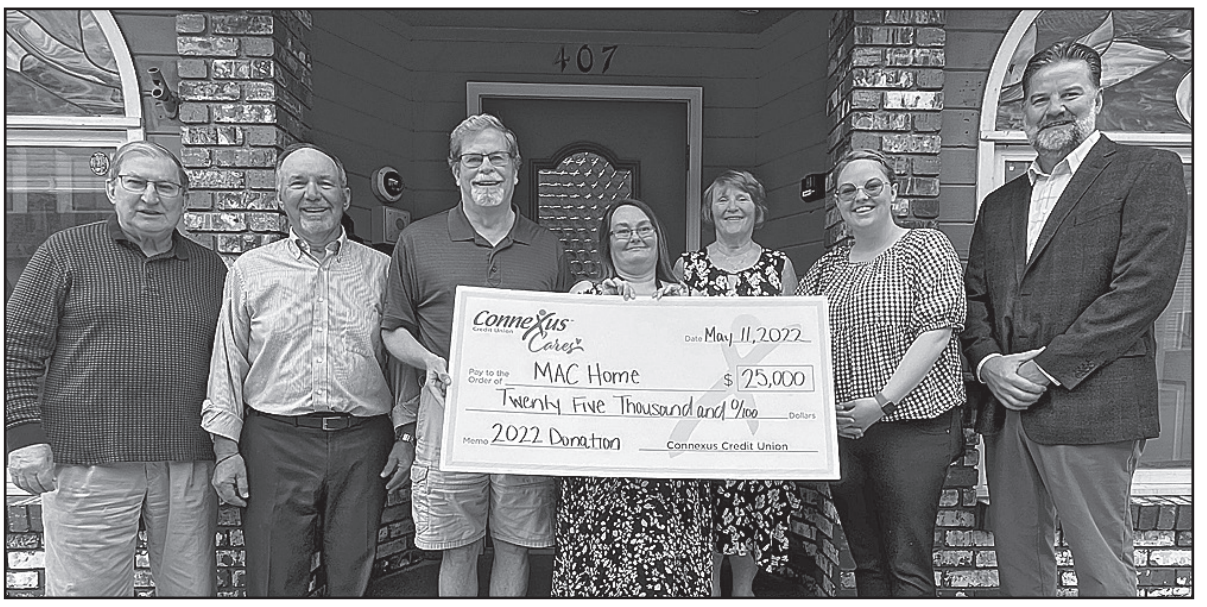
~ The starvation of millions of North Koreans.

~ The wanton massacre of innocent American school children, as well as many others who have the misfortune of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Is it just me, or do you also wonder whether He is bowing His head in sorrow? Perhaps He is saying, "I gave them gifts beyond measure, all they could possibly need or even imagine, and yet they can't find the compassion to share with one another. They hurt each other for land, power, and wealth, causing millions of pointless deaths."

Or is that just me thinking out loud…

PATRICK J. WOOD
PUBLISHER
Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"



Connexus Cares recently made a $25,000 donation to Merrill's MAC Home on W. Main St. L to R: Yurgen Markewycz and Tom Zentner (MAC Home Board Members, Mike Ravn (MAC Home Board President), Theresa Anthoney (MAC Home Executive Director), Dee Olsen (MAC Home Secretary/Treasurer), Bailey Sleeper (Connexus Cares Organizational Giving Specialist), and Boyd Gustke (Connexus Credit Union President & Chief Executive Officer). Connexus Cares began donating to MAC Home in December 2019 and has continued to help serve this community through their financial support. "We are very blessed to have loyal supporters who believe in our mission just as much as we do, and it is an honor to work with them," Anthoney said. **Submitted photo.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We welcome letters to the Editor, a chance for members of the community to comment on issues of concern to them. All letters must be original, not duplications of letters addressed to public officials or written by others. The views and opinions expressed are those of the letter writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication, its publishers, Editor, or staff.

TO THE EDITOR:

The Merrill VFW Post 1638 and Auxiliary recently conducted its Annual Buddy Poppy Drive. We distributed Buddy Poppies near Park City Credit Union/First Street Coffee sign and County Market entrances throughout the week preceding Memorial Day. In this time of ever rising expenses, we were awestruck by the generosity of the people that live in the Merrill and surrounding areas. Please know that every dollar or handful of change goes toward supporting Veterans in need. We, as members of the VFW or Auxiliary, donate our time for this fund drive.

Everyone that donated, thanked us – they said it to us, but the meaning was – Thank you, Veteran, for your service and sacrifice on our behalf – please know that respect and love came along with every dollar. It was heartwarming to see everyone wearing their poppies throughout the week.

Please know that the services made possible through these donations are available to ALL needy veterans, active service members, and their families – not just those who are members of the VFW. A big thank you goes out to the Merrill and surrounding communities for your generosity.

– Denni Radloff, Jill Schmunk, and Kathy Palazzo,
Buddy Poppy Drive
Co-Chairpersons
Merrill, Wis.

TO THE EDITOR:

It is with a heavy heart that I read in your paper about the two Merrill pastors arrested for sexual assault of minors. Sadly, such news stories have become all too common. They don't tend to impact us quite so much when they're about Catholic priests in Boston or Baptist pastors in the deep South. But such crimes committed in our own community hit close to home. Two thoughts come to mind:

1) Those of us called to shepherd God's people as pastors carry a sacred trust. Authority and influence can easily be abused. No wonder the Apostle Paul said to Timothy, his pastoral apprentice, "Keep a close watch on yourself and on your teaching." (2 Tim. 4:16) Though others should be able to trust us, we should never completely trust ourselves. We need to guard ourselves vigilantly and surround ourselves with godly leaders who keep us accountable.

2) The ultimate good news of the Christian message is not our perfect performance, but Jesus' perfect performance in our place, inviting us to repent of our sins and be forgiven. Sin is so heinous that only the Son of God's death could atone for it. When the sexual assault of minors takes place – especially by church leaders – it needs to be called out and condemned. But that doesn't negate Jesus' invitation of grace to sinners like us, "Come unto me, you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Mt. 11:28) Hope remains in the gospel.

– Pastor Andy Perry
Bible Presbyterian Church
Merrill, Wis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

*Letters must be 250 words or less. (There will be no exceptions to this. Any letter longer than 250 words will not be printed.)
*The writer must include their full name, complete address, and a phone number where he/she can be easily reached for verification. Phone numbers and street addresses will not be published, but will be used for verification purposes, if necessary. Letters must be signed and the name, city, and state will be printed.
*Letters may be edited for style, grammar, and length. Form letters or those we determine to be libelous or slanderous will not be accepted. Any letter deemed derogatory, inflammatory, or involving vulgar language will not be published. We reserve all rights to reject material submitted to this publication.
*Letters will be published on a "first come, first served" basis. Any letters which we are unable to publish in the printed newspaper may be run online at www.merrillfotonews.com and/or may be printed in the paper at a later date.

POLITICAL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

All letters submitted as an endorsement for a political candidate, referendum, or political agenda will carry the same guidelines as above; however, they will be charged $40.00 per letter of up to 250 words in length. Longer political letters will be accepted but will be charged $10.00 per additional 50 words. All political letters must be prepaid prior to printing. Letters to the Editor will not be accepted from candidates running for election or representatives of an organization endorsing their own referendum, as these are clearly advertisements and not opinion letters; those submissions will be referred to our Advertising Department to be run as paid ads.

From the family of **Lloyd (Boo) Bagley**
we would like to extend a sincere
THANK YOU
to the many who helped us through this sad time.

The Pine Crest Nursing Home was for sure a five star group of workers that not only helped Boo but also his family. The nursing staff was Awesome during the time Boo was there, right to the end. Also, the Waid funeral home was very selfless and sympathetic through it all.
THANK YOU

The Hospice staff that helped us through those final few days. You were great.
THANK YOU!
Floyd Bagley and Family

166814

THANK YOU

Corning Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank the following businesses for their donation for the

Annual Raffle

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168278

Road construction update

Highway: US 51, from Marathon County line to Lincoln County K (Exit 211) in Merrill
Schedule: Completion by Nov. 15
Project ID: 1176-22-72/73
Project description: Crews will remove the existing asphalt surface and crushed concrete and then replace them with base materials and asphalt pavement; complete minor grading at median crossovers for traffic control; repave maintenance crossovers and interchange ramps; and add additional guardrail on northbound US 51 at WIS 64.
Anticipated work scheduled: Crews will complete gravel shoulders along US 51 and on all the ramps, install permanent pavement markings along the new northbound US 51 lanes and the northbound ramps at County Q, WIS 64, and County K and begin adjusting and repairing guardrail along the northbound US 51 lanes.
Traffic impacts: Motorists can expect lane closures in each direction from the Marathon County line to County K. Traffic is counter directional in the southbound lanes.
Website: https://projects.511wi.gov/us51nbsb/

Highway: WIS 107, bridge over Little Pine Creek between Hillcrest and Dotter Roads
Schedule: June 15 to Aug. 17
Project ID: 9305-09-73
Project description: Crews will replace the existing structure with a bridge that will provide proper clear width and upgrade the existing guardrail to meet current standards.
Anticipated work scheduled: Crews will be setting up traffic control and starting erosion control, removing guardrail and signs and excavation.
Traffic impacts: Starting at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 15, WIS 107 will be closed to through traffic at Little Pine Creek, and traffic will be detoured via County J, US 51, and County S.
Website: https://projects.511wi.gov/wis107littlepinecreek/

Recently the Fraternal Order of Eagles - Ladies Auxiliary #584 donated $1,000 to the Lincoln County Humane Society to help the animals calling the shelter their temporary home. Pictured: Barbara Middlestead, Ladies Auxiliary President with Tiffany of LCHS. **Submitted photo.**

The Merrill Lion's Club recently made a donation to the Lincoln County Humane Society to help provide for the animals of the shelter. Lions Jack Kasper and Jill Kasper Krueger presented Tiffany from LCHS with a check for $500. **Submitted photo.**

GRAAP *from page 1*

second charge of second degree recklessly endangering safety, use of a dangerous weapon, with two modifiers as a repeater. The two recklessly endangering safety charges relate to the two witnesses who were also in the home on E. Fifth St. at the time of the shooting.

If convicted of first degree intentional homicide, Graap faces life in prison, and if convicted of first degree reckless homicide, he faces up to 60 years in prison. With the addition of all of the other charges and the repeater modifications, if convicted, Graap would be prohibited from being placed on probation and would face many additional years in prison to be tacked onto any initial sentence, along with periods of extended supervision to be applied should Graap ever be released from prison. He also faces financial penalties of up to $50,000 if convicted of counts four and five.

A preliminary hearing was held on June 6 during which the Court ruled that there was probable cause to bind the Graap over for trial on the new charges. Attorney Preston Smead of Madison is now representing Graap. As of May 16, 2022, Graap was incarcerated in the Dodge Correctional Institution in Waupun. He is still being held on the original $25,000 cash bond set by the Court on Jan. 18, 2022.

In the Affidavit of Search Warrant filed with the Court, firsthand witness accounts now suggest that Graap "raised the gun and pointed it into the kitchen and pulled the trigger," which contradicts Graap's statement that he was running toward the kitchen of the home while attempting to put the gun into his left inside chest coat pocket when he "ran into the door frame between an empty room and the kitchen and the handgun came forward with his finger on the trigger and went off." Graap had admitted to using heroin the morning before the shooting in an interview with law enforcement.

A Status Conference on the charges brought on June 6 has been set for 2:00 p.m. on June 16, 2022, in Lincoln County Court.

The employees of Nicolet Bank in Merrill stopped in at the Lincoln County Humane Society (LCHS) to volunteer and make a donation for the pets. They brought in all of the pictured goodies for the pets plus a financial donation. All of the items and money was raised by staff and customers at Nicolet Bank in Merrill. The LCHS wants to thank everyone who donated and thank the staff who took time out of their day to hang out with the pets and give them some love!

Submitted photo.

Herb Fest

Co-sponsored By Nicolet College

Saturday,
June 18th
10 am - 1 pm

Rain or shine

- Talks & Demos
- Food Samples

Featuring:
Jane Hawley Stevens
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As Heard On WPR

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164690

REUSE
REDUCE
RECYCLE

"Thank you to Addison B. from Merrill for donating so many supplies and goodies for the cats and dogs at Lincoln County Humane Society for her 10th birthday. Thank you so much and happy birthday!!" said the employees and volunteers at the Lincoln County Humane Society.

Submitted photo.

Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

The Thing

(Now showing in select theatres)

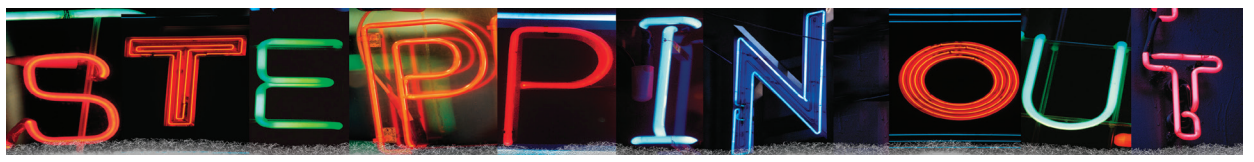
★★★★★

This film is rated R – for language, violence, and scenes of horror and gore

I usually try to avoid doing two older films in a row, but this week I made an exception. John Carpenter's *The Thing* is celebrating its 40th anniversary this week with a limited re-release into cinemas, with a single showing on June 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Marcus Cinema Cedar Creek in Rothschild.

Released in 1982, *The Thing* underperformed at the box office, mainly because *E.T. The Extraterrestrial*, another film about an alien visiting earth, came out and was family friendly, whereas *The Thing* is decid-

See **REVIEW** *page* 9



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Monday, June 20th Menu:
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MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM
TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM
JURASSIC WORLD: DOMINION
"PG13" (2HR 26MIN)
FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:15PM
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:15, 7:00 & 9:15PM
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:15 & 7:00PM
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM
TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM
TOP GUN: MAVERICK
"PG13" (2HR 11MIN)
FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:30PM
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:30, 7:00 & 9:30PM
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168100
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REVIEW *from page 8*

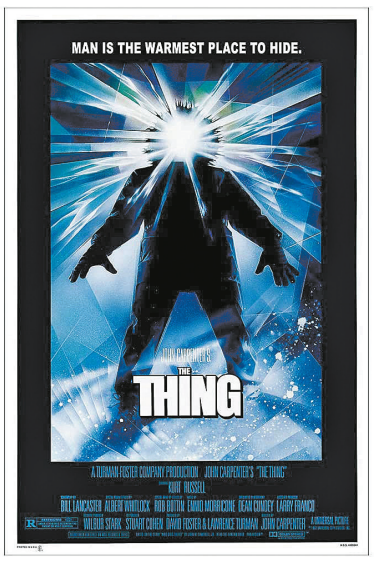
edly NOT family friendly and the alien in question is not warm and fuzzy, and rather than having a penchant for eating Reese's Pieces, it has designs on all of humanity.

Based on the novella, *Who Goes There*, by John W. Campbell Jr., the story revolves around 12 men at a remote Antarctic research station who find themselves under a quiet siege from an alien presence that can imitate anything it comes into contact with perfectly, and the question becomes, who is who.

With a slow build that truly captures the isolation and fear these men are faced with, not knowing who is alien or who is human, we viewers can feel the tension build and the fear start to take control of those men's actions.

Who Goes There was previously adapted in the 1950's with *The Thing From Another World* which, for its day, was pretty good. But hey, it was the 50's where film budgets were often what was found under the couch cushions.

Directed by John Carpenter and starring Kurt Russel and Keith David, as well as Wilford Brimley, *The Thing* is a masterpiece and has earned its place in horror history for letting us know that man



is the warmest place to hide.

So this Sunday you will find me at the cinema, popcorn in hand, waiting for the lights to dim so I can go back to that remote research station and watch 12 ordinary men face the extraordinary, and I will be loving every minute of it again as I did when I was 14 years old in a dark theatre in New York.

The Thing gets five out of five stars and should be seen on the big Screen this Sunday so you can ask that all important question, *Who Goes There?*

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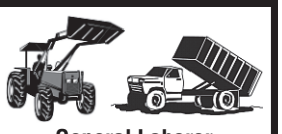

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Office 7155

Office Assistant/Bookkeeper: Non-profit in Stevens Point seeking an in office, permanent part-time assistant with 2-3 years of experience with Quickbooks and Microsoft Office Suite. Looking for a self-starting, motivated person with good organizational skills, accurate bookkeeping, and great customer service skills. An interest in sustainable natural resources is a plus. Position is approximately 24 hours a week. Learn more at https://wisconsinwoodlands.org/positions-available/. Send a cover letter and resume to wwoa@uwsp.edu or WWOA, PO Box 285, Stevens Point, WI 54481. Salary based on experience. Ongoing application review until position is filled.

Skilled Trades 7175

Energy Auditor: We are seeking an individual that has a passion for saving energy while helping the low income population in our service area. The ideal candidate will have home construction/design experience. Home inspection/auditing experience is a plus. This position is based out of our WI Rapids location. This position requires traveling throughout several Counties conducting on site energy audits. Send resume' to: tfrancis@nccapinc.com

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

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

DON'T MISS THIS SALE! Debbie's Unique Boutique & garage sale. Very reasonably priced clothes, shoes, purses, jewelry, furniture, household items, antique glassware. Thur. 6/16 thru Sat. 6/18, 8a-5p. 2023 Greenbud Rd., Kronenwetter

Garage Sale June 17 & 18 Fri 9a-3p, Sat 9a-2p. Variety of household, garden, vintage, furniture & electronics. 804 McIndoe St., Wausau

Garage Sale: Many household items, silk flowers, dishes, plants, toys, 2 bikes, dresser, Legos. 312 N. 32nd Ave., Wausau. Thurs 6/16, Fri. 6/17, Sat. 6/18 8am-4pm

Classifieds Rock
Merrill Foto News
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Rummage Sales This Week 7200

GARAGE SALE KITS NOW AVAILABLE!

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Kit includes:
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- 1 pen
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Irma, Another Big Garage Sale Rain or Shine June 15th 3PM-6PM, June 16th,17th,18th, 8AM-6PM Each Day. 7 miles North on Pier St. (JJ) from Merrill Post Office, Turn left on Olivotti Lake Road Go 1/2 mile to W5496. First house on right. Once again Brand Name, Nice as New Clothing, Girls size 10 thru preteen, Missy's 6 thru 12 Tons of Blue Jeans which includes Levis, Old Navy, Am. Eagle and others priced to sell. Lots of other gently worn clothing as well. Shoes, Xmas purses, Winter Gear, Home Decor, Planters, Household Tools, Bikes, Grills, Gas Dryer and much more. Follow the signs and check it out. Very Affordable!

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

JANE'S Estate Sales
6/16-6/19/22
Thursday 12-5
Friday 9-4
Saturday 9-4
Sunday 10-1
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NOTICE EXTRA HOURS FOR THIS SALE

- NO EARLY SALES. We DO NOT give out prices or information prior to the sale. Please do not text, call or email requests.

- First come, first served. Deli style numbers will be given out starting at 11:00am on Thursday.

MASSIVE SALE!! You have to see this one to believe it! Three tents, yard & house full to capacity. Loads & loads of hand & powers tools, loads of antique tools, hundreds of fishing rods & reels, bows & arrows, hunting, many pellet / BB guns, military, books, vintage yearbooks, many smalls, vintage cameras, binoculars, vintage typewriters, vintage pottery (including McCoy, Weller & Roseville), MCM glass vases, art, many small furniture pieces, vintage lamps and lighting, crocks, a tent full of vintage toys, knick-knacks, vintage glassware, vintage kitchenware, Carnival Glass, antique clocks, antique radios, many antique lumber saws, lawn & garden, jewelry, religious art, large cast iron pan collection (including Griswold), vintage Playboy magazines, sporting goods, musical instruments including many accordions, vintage beer signs & hundreds of steins, primitive cabinet, vintage Yamaha Towny mini bike, rubbermaid cabinets, storage bins, mass quantities of chemicals & cleaners, and so, so much more!!! DO NOT MISS THIS SALE!! Go to JANE'S Estate Sales on Facebook or estatesales.org for photos.

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

Large Rummage Sale. June 16-18. Thurs & Fri 8-5, Sat 8-1. W5242 Hillside Dr., Merrill

Multi Family Sale June 17 & 18, 8-5, June 19, 9-2. Tools, furniture, household items, vases, cookie jars, collector dolls, some toys, some clothes, lots of miscellaneous. Priced to sell! N925 County Hwy W, (Former Antique Store) Merrill.

N669 Hilly Rd, Merrill. Fri. 6/17, 1-5 • Sat & Sun 6/18 & 19, 8-5. In the Town of Scott, off Hwy Z. Hand & Power tools, Camp lanterns & heaters. X-Mas Village, Many Misc. Items.

Rummage Sales Upcoming 7202

Huge Garage Sale. Grand Antiques 423 Grand Ave., Merrill. June 23rd, 24th, 25th. 9AM to 5PM. Mixed Items, Glass Wear, Toys, Primatives, Furniture, Men's Bike, many box lots, much much more.

Merrill Multi Family Sale: Thursday, 6/16, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. 6/17 8am-5pm 6/18 8am-1pm Furniture, Kitchen Appliances, Patio Furniture, Grill, Dog Crates, Kitchen Table/Chairs, Sporting Goods, Clothing, Lots of Misc Items. 506 E Riverside Ave

MOVING SALE: Everything Must Go! June 23, 3-7pm. June 24, 8-4 & June 25, 8-Noon. N2561 French Ridge Rd. 5 miles E of Merrill on Hwy G to French Ridge Rd., Then 1.5 miles N. Furniture, Christmas decorations, men's & women's clothes, dishes, household items, lots of tools, Budweiser Pool light, Beer signs & Lights, Priced to sell.

Estate Sales 7208

Above & Beyond Estate Sales and more…
Living Estate Sale on Friday, 06/24/22 from 9-5:30 and Saturday, 06/25/22 from 9-3. Saturday's sales are 50% off remaining items. 3910 Airport Ave, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

Auctions 7282

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION at https://proxibid.com/nolansales on **DRIVE-IN RESTAURANT** at 150 Dorothy Dr. Manawa, WI **JUNE 21-28** Exc. business property. See www.nolansales.com for details

Antiques and Collectibles 7214

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We provide: On-going training, uniforms, meals/discounts, competitive wages, bonus program, a clean, hard-working & fun atmosphere with advancement for right person.
Please Apply In Person at 210 S. Pine Ridge Ave., Merrill
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Looking for a motivated candidate for a diesel mechanic. Duties would include performing routine maintenance, diagnostics and repair on both tractors and trailers. Would prefer a current CDL, but willing to train. It would be 40-50 hours a week, no weekends. We are a family-orientated, growing company looking for an addition to our team. Pay will be based on experience; benefits available.
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Required: High school diploma. Preferred: Additional education beyond high school; some experience working in libraries.
Hours
20 hours, generally 9AM-5PM with some Saturdays and evenings until 7 on a rotational schedule.
Compensation
Starts at $13.50/hour. Pro-rated benefits include paid vacation/sick leave/holiday/library floating holiday/personal holiday pay.
To apply
Go to the library website: tbscottfreelibrary.org/jobs.
Open until filled.
Preferred deadline is June 24th.
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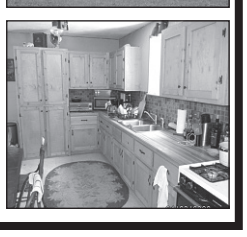

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Livestock 7284

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Trailers 7552

TRAILERS Chaparral 7x16 GooseNeck Horse $3850; 6x12 Tag Horse $2150; Coachman 23' Camper $2450; 6.5x8 Utility $950 **920-878-0005 No voicemail/text Please keep trying (WCAN)**

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2022 PEO flower basket fundraiser replaced annual auction

In May 2022, Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Chapter AA of Merrill hosted a flower basket fundraiser. P.E.O. is all about women celebrating the advancement of women and educating women through scholarships, grants, loans, awards for continuing education, and stewardship of Cottey College. Founded in 1869 as a seven-member sorority at Iowa Wesleyan College in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, P.E.O. strives to motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations. The organization was originally rooted in the philosophy and institutions of the Methodist Church, actively promoting women's rights and education in America during the 19th century.

Today P.E.O. is a diverse, community-based organization with nearly 6,000 chapters and more than 230,000 members in each of the 50 United States, District of Columbia and in six Canadian provinces, welcoming women of all races, religions, and backgrounds.

Members of the Merrill P.E.O. Chapter AA visit the Christ United Methodist Church parking lot while distributing flower baskets sold in their 2022 fundraiser. **Submitted photo.**

P.E.O. traditionally held an annual fundraising auction to financially support their projects but was unable to do so in 2020 or 2021 due to the pandemic. This year they decided to hold a flower basket fundraiser, the same thing they did in 2021, and they found sales increased substantially from last year. On the day people came to pick up their flower baskets, they made the day fun while sharing the beauty of the flowers and P.E.O. in Merrill.

In past years, Merrill Chapter AA has provided assistance to local women including Brooke Bushor, Bailey Iwen, Katie Purmal, and Jourdyn Mootz Koebe, and they recognize that was made possible by community support of their auctions, flower sales, and donations, for which they are thankful. For more information, go to: www.peointernational.org or contact local Chapter officers/members: Kathy Spencer, President, or Dawn Schroder-Silvela, Cheryl Schulz, Kay Smith, Carolyn Saunders, Polly Koebe, or Kelly Purmal.

EVENT *from page 1*

The event was created to help people in our community avoid feelings of isolation, promote healthy activities, and build positive growth. No one should feel alone in their struggle, organizers say.

"Every year we hold an event at Inked Horizons in Merrill to show people and the communities they live in that there are positive contributions that can be made by people who have overcome such things. This year ... [we] will include some of Wisconsin's leading organizations that are working on bridging the gap between the recovery world and services these organizations can offer to help save lives while building a bond of unity," said Tina Beranek, Boettcher's mother, who helps organize the event.

"No one recovers or suffers alone. It takes a community to heal, and that is what our message is this year," she said.

"This event builds connections among individuals whose strength and determination provided them a path to recovery, offers LIFE SAVING information (Narcan training), and educational building stones from agencies throughout Wisconsin on how others can reach and maintain a healthy, positive, lifelong recovery. The event can and will provide attendees with the tools to connect within local support agencies to receive the help and services needed in their own journeys. Well-known recovery personalities will be there to share their personal stories on maintaining recovery and how they are reaching millions of others who feel alone, lost, or helpless," organizers say.

Wisconsin Voices for Recovery; Matt Jablonsky of The Point of Change, a comedian/motivational speaker/live-streamer for addiction prevention and recovery, from Whitewater, Wis.; Kathleen Werner, a recovery coach at Lighthouse Recovery Community Center in Sheboygan; and David Stanley. community coordinator at Wima, the Wisconsin Milkweed Alliance Peer Run Respite Center; are expected to be in attendance.

Local organizations such as the Lincoln County Health Department, HAVEN, the MAC Home, and others, and local vendors will be there, as well.

In addition, there will be locally-made bakery for sale, food trucks, raffles, and a pinata for the kids.

Narcan training and supplies will be offered following the event. Benjamin Bruso, a Supervisor in prevention services at Vivent Health, will share life-saving information and supplies.

And, of course, Boettcher will be offering recovery ribbon tattoos ... the tattoo that started it all. He will offer recovery ribbon tattoos the day before, and during and after the event on Saturday. Cost of the tattoo is $50, and appointments are highly recommended, as there will be limited availability. For this event, clients can pick from a standard recovery ribbon design; customization will not be available that day.

The recovery ribbon that started it all

Boettcher, a Merrill native, designed a recovery ribbon symbolizing breaking free and healing and tattooed himself with the image in early July 2019. The image, of a ribbon separated by a chain that illustrates breaking the chains that bind, was inspired by all of the colored ribbons that people wear or use to symbolize something important in their lives, such as breast cancer awareness. But Boettcher wanted something more. He really wanted to represent that breaking free concept. And he didn't want it to be about awareness, but about recovery.

"It's not an awareness ribbon, it is an achievement ribbon," he said. "This is about self responsibility and acknowledgment. This is about willpower."

"There have been ribbons formed for all kinds of awareness, yet there was never a ribbon formed for someone that has already achieved recovery from a life traumatic event," Boettcher said.

The birth of the symbol gave people courage, recognition, support, and most of all, a connection, that they did not have before.

"When I created the ribbon, I tattooed it on myself. I didn't create it for a mass amount of people. I created it for one person. Then I tattooed it and said what it meant, [on his social media page]," Boettcher said. "I'm used to 10 likes on my posts, 11 likes, and I woke up to like 17,000, and that was just day one."

"There was another recovery advocate that shared my post, and he got 178,000 shares," he said. "And it repeats every year. Every time I think it's dying down ... the recovery month is huge, so people Google recovery stuff and recovery tattoos, and then the post goes viral again and it gets even more publicity." Boettcher said it has crashed his phone and sometimes disrupted his day because he can't even get to tattoos, he's been so buried in recovery stories. And that's a good problem to have.

Since Boettcher's ribbon design went viral, it has been and continues to be tattooed on people all over the world, with his blessing. It has also been customized and adapted, with personalized renditions being tattooed on many of his personal clients.

While the art is his, the symbol is his, and it will be trademarked, he gives his blessing to other tattoo artists to tattoo it on their clients as a symbol of their personal achievement and overcoming. [It, or any customized version of the original, cannot be put on merchandise or used in any other way or to generate a profit without his express permission.]

The meaning behind the tattoo, and the reason for getting this tattoo, is personal to each individual who gets it tattooed on their body, Boettcher said. And he wants it to be.

For some, it represents breaking free from a destructive habit or situation such as alcohol or drug addiction, self-harming, or an eating disorder. For others, it represents surviving a traumatic event, overcoming suicidal thoughts, or removing themselves from a toxic or violent environment or relationship.

Whatever it represents breaking free from, it is a symbol of achievement, a symbol of freedom and life, a symbol of survival, and a symbol of hope, both for the survivor/overcomer and for others who see it.

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CAMPUS BRIEFS

Aspinwall named to Winter 2022 President's List

Tayler Aspinwall of Merrill was named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Winter 2022 President's List. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in the fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits over two consecutive terms (EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6).

Smith named to Northland College winter Dean's List

Allison Smith of Merrill, a Sophomore at Northland College, has been named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic performance at Northland College in Ashland during the winter 2022 term. To qualify for the dean's list, full-time students must have a grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale with no grade less than a "C." Northland College is a private environmental liberal arts college located in northern Wisconsin.

Schreiner named to Dean's List at UW-Superior

The University of Wisconsin-Superior has named Abigail Schreiner of Athens to the Dean's List for academic achievement during the Spring 2022 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, students must have completed 12 degree-seeking semester credits and achieved at least a 3.50 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale).

Area students named to UW-Stout Dean's List for Spring 2022

The following area students have been named to the Dean's List for Spring 2022 at the University of Wisconsin-Stout:

- Carley Lipinski, Athens, Senior, BFA interior design
- Nancy Schreiner, Athens, Sophomore, BFA graphic design and interactive media
- Brady Wagner, Athens, Senior, BS engineering technology
- Calista Berger, Merrill, Senior, BS human development and family studies
- Jordan Kunze, Merrill, Senior, BS applied science
- Michelle Lahr, Merrill, Senior, BS digital marketing technology
- Isaac Meyer, Merrill, Senior, BS manufacturing engineering; BS mechanical engineering
- Kaylen Nance, Merrill, Junior, BS criminal justice and rehab
- Izabella Prebeg, Merrill, Senior, BS hotel, restaurant and tourism
- Anna Skoviera, Merrill, Senior, BS apparel design and development
- Ian Springborn, Merrill, Senior, BS applied mathematics and computer science; BS computer science
- Caleb Timm, Merrill, Junior, BS graphic communications
- Ananda Van Wie, Merrill, Junior, BFA industrial design

MAPS accepts May donations

The following donations were approved and/or accepted at the May 18 Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) Board of Directors meeting:

Donation of funds from an anonymous donor valued at $4,000 to sponsor a Merrill High School student for the Columbia University Summer Program; donation of funds from Jon and Michelle Smith valued at $4,000 for the Merrill High School Bluejay Nest; four gift cards from Auto Jockeys valued at $100 for teacher appreciation at Prairie River Middle School; a check from Patricia Bevier valued at $230 for the MHS Counselors Fund in memory of Judi Bevier-North; shoes and backpacks from St. Vincent De Paul valued at $130 for extra clothing needs at Prairie River Middle School; a book from Marie Rein valued at $20 for Washington Elementary School in memory of Susan J. Hinz; 36 children's books from Rhonda Bengtson valued at $100 for giving to students at Kate Goodrich Elementary School; and checks from the Family and Friends of Steve Blake valued at a total of $475 for the Letterman's Club in memory of Steve Blake.

Dallman is May Youth Optimist at MHS

Molly Dallman.

Molly Dallman has been named May Youth Optimist at Merrill High School. Mrs. Polly Koebe nominated her and said: "Molly is a student in my precalculus class. She always has a positive attitude during class. Whatever the topic, she approaches it with an open mind and eagerness to learn. She is very helpful to those around her and is always trying to help others see the positive in the situation."

"She expresses her optimism with a smile and attitude that is contagious to those around her," Mrs. Koebe continued. "Molly's character is respectful, as she shows nothing but respect for those with whom she encounters. She is hard-working as she does what is necessary to succeed and to help those around her be successful, as well. She is an exceptional young lady whose smile and optimism are infectious and can brighten anyone's day. I think anyone who crosses paths with Molly would agree that she enriches their life by being a wonderful example of kindness, positivity, and encouragement."

During her high school years, Molly participated in Volleyball (Team Captain, MVP, Second Team All-Conference, Varsity Letter, Athlete of the Week), Junior Optimist, National Honors Society, Raise Your Voice, LEAD, Student Council, Link Crew, FRIENDS, and Student Senate.

Outside of school, Molly is involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, and is a Junior Jays Volleyball Coach, a member of Lutheran Memorial Church, and a St. John's Lutheran School volunteer.

After graduation, Molly plans to earn her Bachelors in social work and then proceed to earn her Master's in school social work in hopes of becoming an elementary school social worker. She is the daughter of Tony and Becky Dallman.

Renzelmann awarded Church Mutual WLI scholarship

Representatives of Church Mutual's WLI organization presented the 2022 WLI Scholarship to Allie Renzelmann. From L to R: Laura Huggins, WLI President; Molly Lyon, WLI Scholarship Committee Co-Chair; Heather Renzelmann, Allie's mother and Church Mutual employee; Allie Renzelmann; Carlie Kleinhans, WLI Scholarship Committee Co-Chair; and Melissa Fitzgerald, WLI Board member and President-elect. **Submitted photo.**

The Women's Leadership Initiative® (WLI) at Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. (a stock insurer) awarded a $1,000 scholarship to Allie Renzelmann, a 2022 graduate of Merrill High School. Renzelmann plans to attend Concordia University Wisconsin in Mequon, majoring in secondary education – broad-field science. She would like to return to the Merrill community and work as a science teacher.

"Church Mutual places great value on education," said Molly Lyon, WLI Board member and Co-Chair of the Scholarship Program. "WLI is pleased to offer this scholarship and help talented young people like Allie become the future leaders in the communities where we live and work. We are honored to be part of her journey and look forward to her future success."

WLI also presented a $1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior at Mechanicsburg High School in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, hometown to CM Regent Insurance Company®, a member of the Church Mutual family of companies.

WLI elevates and empowers women through professional networking, leadership development, and mentorships.

Trinity Lutheran School announces 2021-2022 fourth quarter Honor Roll

5TH GRADE: Willow Harmon, Kayla Klimek, Aubrey Krombholz, Jillian Severt, Emmie Steinagel

6TH GRADE: Conner Riste, Kendell Klug*, Kylie Lutzke*, Liam Huggins, Rachel Gustafson

7TH GRADE: Avery Brendemuehl, Grace Hoff, Lily Hoff, Abbie Krueger, Miley Krueger, Kinsey Literski, Isabella Scheffler, Alexis Schneider, Remington Skic *, Morgan Wienke

8TH GRADE: Olivia Barker, Devan Blennert, Hannah Bostrom, Noah Klug, Ava Scantlin, Jazlin Severt*, Dino Townsend, Cooper Wendorf*

*denotes 4.0

The Merrill Traveling Baseball Team hosted their 2022 tournament on June 10-12, 2022. The Merrill 10U captured the 10U championship by going 3-0. They defeated Medford, then Antigo, and topped Whitefish Bay 5-1 in the Championship game. Pictured from L to R. Front: Shaban Kiskoski, Colton VanLieshout, Ayden Adam's, Dame Kufahl, JackSeliger, and Oliver Kahr. Back: Cameron Thom, Moses Gates, Parker Simon, Charles Graap, Ben Schmeltzer, Taylor Timm, James Cordova, and Coaches Chris Simon, John VanLieshout, Tom Schmeltzer, and Paul Timm. **Submitted photo.**

The 2022 14U Wisconsin River Rats participated in the Cactus Classic this past Mother's Day Weekend in Mauston, Wis. First, they lost to MVP Blue 21-19, then beat the Warehouse Warriors 22-8 on Saturday. Sunday the team was again aligned with MVB Blue to get back into the Championship Bracket game and the River Rats edged them 7-6. In the Championship game they faced MVP White and won 12-4. The Rats knocked in 60 runs in 4 games to win the 14U Red Bracket. The Traveling Team members are local athletes from Merrill, Schofield, and Wausau. In photo, L to R, back row: Coach Gregory Glovinski, Zach Schmeltzer, Logan Glovinski, Robbie Angiulli, Noah Klug, Braxtin Borth, Manager Greg Glovinski, and Coach Evan Josiger. Front row L to R: Cam Wallin, Tyler Rothmeyer, Iain Stahel, Cooper Wendorf, and Kolby Pesanka. Not pictured: Manager Ron Carpenter and Alex Kapitz. **Submitted photo.**

Varsity wraps up Baseball season, recognizes outstanding players, two players All Conference

TINA L. SCOTT
EDITOR

Michael McRae (left), All Conference Honorable Mention, and Henry Reimann (right) selected as First team All Wisconsin Valley Conference. **Submitted photo.**

In their final game, the Merrill Bluejay Boys Baseball Team lost to Rhinelander 3-0 in their regional game, putting the Bluejays 4-8 in conference and 11-14 overall at the conclusion of the season.

"We struggled scoring runs down the stretch but had a successful season overall. We had quite a few guys step up over the course of the season, and they all worked hard from March to the end of May," said Shawn Schultz, Merrill Varsity Boys Baseball Head Coach.

The team finished up with an end of the year awards picnic. Team awards were given for the 2022 season, as follows:

- Outstanding Hitter: Sam Reimann
- Outstanding Pitcher: Henry Reimann
- Outstanding Defender: Zach Neumann
- Best Teammate: Fletcher Ellenbecker
- Most Valuable Player: Walsh Award - Henry Reimann

"We had five Seniors that all contributed and will be missed next season," Schultz said. "Fletcher Ellenbecker, Jack Hoock, Michael McRae, Zach Neumann, and Henry Reimann will be tough to replace. They were a great group of players that helped lead us this season."

Two players make All Conference

Michael McRae (l) was named Honorable Mention All Wisconsin Valley Conference as an outfielder for the 2022 season. "Michael had a strong season defensively as our centerfielder," Schultz said. "He batted .278 with 1HR and 5 RBI in conference."

Henry Reimann was selected as First team All Wisconsin Valley Conference as an outfielder. "Henry played all over the field for us and was the eighth leading hitter in conference with a .359 average," Coach Schultz said. "He did a great job for us all year long. Both guys were great leaders on our team and were certainly deserving of the recognition."

"Henry has also been selected to play for the West team in the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association All Star Classic on June 24-25 in Oshkosh," Schultz added. "Henry is among the top 72 seniors in the state. His play as a hitter and a pitcher helped earn him a spot on the team. It is exciting for him to get recognized for the great season he had for us."

2022 Merrill Summer Baseball Schedule

Merrill Rangers			
Sunday, June 19	Pittsville (DH)	Home	12:00 pm
Merrill Post 46			
Tuesday, June 21	Stevens Point	Away	8:00 pm
Wednesday, June 22	Wausau	Home	8:00 pm
Thursday, June 23	Marshfield	Away	8:00 pm
Junior Legion			
Monday, June 20	Plover (DH)	Home	5:30 pm
Tuesday, June 21	Stevens Point	Away	5:00 pm
Wednesday, June 22	Wausau	Home	5:00 pm
Thursday, June 23	Marshfield	Away	5:00 pm
Merrill 14U & 15U Jr. Babe Ruth-Blue			
Wednesday, June 22	D. C. Everest (White)	Home	6:00 pm
Merrill 14U & 15U Jr. Babe Ruth-White			
Wednesday, June 22	D. C. Everest (Blue)	Home	6:00 pm
Merrill 13U Jr. Babe Ruth-Blue			
Tuesday, June 21	D. C. Everest (Gold)	Away	6:00 pm
Merrill 13U Jr. Babe Ruth-White			
Tuesday, June 21	Mosinee (Purple)	Home	6:00 pm

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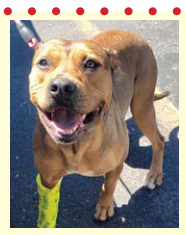

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BENEFIT *from page 1*

where more tests were done to determine if the cancer had spread beyond the kidneys. After another very long day of testing, the Clarks got the "Best news ever!" in Hailey's words. Doctors were pretty certain the cancer had not spread.

Surgery to remove Brandtly's left kidney was scheduled for Nov. 17 at Milwaukee Children's Hospital, but doctors wanted him close even beforehand in case problems should arise, so Brandtly, Hailey, and Hailey's Mom went to Milwaukee on Nov. 13. That was a good thing, because the days before the surgery were rough, with Brandtly in lots of pain and throwing up, and he needed to be hospitalized so he could get the medications he needed to control the pain even before the surgery. Matt and his Mom arrived in Milwaukee for the surgery, and on Nov. 17, Brandtly's left kidney was removed, along with the tumor. "It was approx 8" x 5" round," Hailey shared afterward on her Facebook page. "It was massive."

From the initial news on, the Clark family put their faith in God. They didn't have answers, but they held on to God's promises and their faith as their lifeline. The outpouring of support and prayers from people who know and love the Clark family, and even from strangers, helped hold the family up. "Prayers are still needed," Hailey posted in the hours following surgery. "The outpouring of kind words, love, and support has our hearts filled sooo much!"

Two days later, lab results were back confirming the Wilm's Tumor and the bad news that the cancer had spread to the first lymph node tested. Radiation and chemo would be needed to fight the cancer in Brandtly's small body. But on the positive side, Brandtly's healing from the surgery was progressing well. After nine days in the hospital, four of those post-surgery, he got to go home.

Once all the lab results were back, doctors determined Brandtly's cancer was stage four, considered so because four of the seven lymph nodes tested were positive, Hailey said. Yet, Brandtly was often happy and smiling!

And that Thanksgiving, Hailey posted about being thankful ... for those smiles and for the outpouring of support from the community. "I know we got a bumpy road ahead but the road doesn't end. The Lord will always provide a path," she wrote.

Brandtly had his first of seven monthly chemotherapy treatments the day after Thanksgiving. The following Monday he started the first of six radiation treatments.

On April 8, Brandtly also had a second surgery to remove a small nodule from his lung at Milwaukee Children's Hospital, and on April 13, the family got the news: "The biopsy results came back as a benign lymph node! No cancer in the lungs!"

As of June 1, Brandtly's treatment plan is complete. He will have scans taken on June 22, and if all looks good, then he should be able to get his port removed on July 6, and doctors will set up his check-up plan.

Through everything he endured, "Brandtly handled things well," Hailey said. "We were open and honest with him through every appointment and what had to be done. Some days were harder then others; he definitely was a superhero through it all. Tough is an under statement."

"Brandtly is beyond excited to get back to normal life and start school in fall," his mom said. "He is asking to go to the beach once his treatments are complete. We don't have a set place [in mind], but he loves being outdoors and looking for seashells and collecting rocks."

Even through the last seven+ months of diagnosis and cancer treatments, he's been as active and adventurous as his little body would let him be. Some of his favorite things to do are fishing, looking for worms, digging holes, and lifting rocks to find bugs, his parents said.

"People have said to me, 'I don't know how you guys do it,'" Hailey said. "Well ... we weren't given a choice. Matt and I did what we have to do."

Benefit event details

Mud 'N Jams '22 will kick off on Saturday morning, June 18, with guided ATV and Motorcycle rides departing Z's Fork Horners at 11:00 a.m. sharp, rain or shine. The ride and poker run will include stops through Lincoln, Langlade, and Oneida counties ($10 per card, with a 50/50 payback), before ending back at Z's Fork Horners by 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening. All vehicles are welcome to participate, and an entry fee of $30 is asked of all participants.

There will be live music by Bryce Thomaschefky from 6:00-10:00 p.m., and the evening will include the poker run drawing (50/50 payback) and cash and prize raffles throughout the evening.

For more information about this year's event, or MACR, visit the organization's Facebook page using key words: Ride Merrill. Or email: RideWithUs54452@gmail.com.

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-Any other duties assigned by supervision.

*This full-time position offers a competitive wage and comprehensive benefit package that includes medical, dental, life insurance, AD&D, pension and 401(k) plan.

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