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# Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo draws attendees and contestants from throughout the U.S.

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
 EDITOR

This year's Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo, held at the Merrill Festival Grounds on June 10, 11, and 12, 2022, was a success, drawing both attendees and contestants from throughout the U.S. "We had spectators from Illinois, Iowa, California, North Carolina, Maryland, Arizona, and over two thirds of Wisconsin – this was amazing," said Theresa Grund, Marketing Director for the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo. "As we continue to evolve each year, our attendance, too, will continue to evolve, and the visiting spectator states will continue to grow."

Contestants also came from more than a fifth of the U.S. to rodeo in Merrill, with contestants from Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, South Dakota, Arizona, Kansas, and Texas, as well as Wisconsin, including a few local contestants.

"Our 33rd year of professional rodeo was another successful year," she said. "Despite the rain concerns of Saturday's performance, we still had a full stand. The weather cleared, and the evening was perfect for performance time."

"The weekend overall was picture perfect," Grund said. "The professional performances from all of our contestants were once again amazing. It's amazing to watch their dedication to their profession of rodeo."

The kids got in on the action with ac-



Two cowboys race to secure their time in the team roping event. Tina L. Scott photos.



Tie-down roping involves a series of well-coordinated and speedy efforts to lasso the calf, stop the horse quickly, dismount, grab the calf and flip it onto its side from a standing position, tie three legs, and stand up within just seconds.

tivities designed just for them, the tractor pulls brought in attendees, the Rodeo City Riders Drill Team performed their routines on horseback in the arena as a part of each rodeo performance, and activities outside the arena included vendors, food, and entertainment. The organizers really tried to have something for everyone at this year's event.

Tiffany Smail was crowned 2023 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo Queen on Sunday, and Emma Moodie was crowned Princess for another year for 2023. Tiffany is a Junior at Wausau East High School and plans to become a veterinarian after she graduates. She is the daughter of Karrie and Jeff Smail of Wausau. Emma is the 18-year-old daughter of

Karri and Bryan Moodie of Athens, and is currently a high school Senior being home schooled.

One of the highlights of this year's rodeo: "We had a four-time World Champion, Sherry Cervi, who competed on Sunday and won the Championship Saddle for Women's Barrels," Grund said. Cervi's cash payout was \$1,256.

Cervi also won the WPRA World Barrel Racing Championships at the National Finals Rodeo in 1995, 1999, 2010, and 2013. "This is the Super Bowl of Rodeo," Grund added. "It was amazing to have her in the arena for our rodeo!"

"Our All Around Champion was Clay Clayman," Grund said. "He was the high winner in earnings for the tie-

down roping, steer wrestling, and team roping events, which earned him the Championship Saddle for All Around Cowboy." Clayman's total cash payout was \$2,095. The winner competes in two or more events, and their total cash winnings determines the winner of the All Around Cowboy title, Grund explained. Not their placement for the events they are in.

A huge amenity new to the WRPR this year was the jumbotron that provided close up views of the action for everyone

See **RODEO** page 7

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# 175th Anniversary of the Founding of Merrill

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
 EDITOR

Before Merrill was settled, it was forest. Virgin timber, ripe for the logging industry, covered the countryside, and Chippewa tribes traveled through the area. Fur traders and lumber scouts also came to and through the area.

Most Merrill residents know that prior to being Merrill, our community was known as the town or village of Jenny, and some even know it was referred to as Jenny Bull Falls, but did you know that even prior to that, the area was known as Beaulieux Rapids, named after an early French trader, whose last name was known by various spellings [depending on the source] including the Americanized spelling of Bollier.

Various historical accounts dispute the date of that French trader's arrival, with one source citing 1831 or 1832, while another claims he arrived in 1818 and built a log cabin about a mile below what became the site of Jenny.

The area was also settled by John Hogan, who filed under a squatter's claim in 1843. Logging scouts came to the area and established a logging camp near what is now the foot of Center Ave.

Articles in various newspapers indicate Hogan's claim was sold to Andrew Warren in 1846, who constructed a 500-foot-long and 9-foot-high dam across the Wisconsin River in 1947, and then constructed the area's first sawmill at what is now the foot of Mill Street, establishing a permanent community

here. Thus, 1947 is heralded as the beginning of what is now Merrill.

## A Mayoral Proclamation celebrates 175 years

This year, 2022, is the 175th Anniversary of the founding of Merrill, and Mayor Steve Hass signed a Proclamation to celebrate that 175th Anniversary on June 6, 2022. The Proclamation detailed much of the history of our Merrill community and how it came to be and also encourages the community, local businesses, and organizations to join in observing this occasion and incorporating it into their own programs and activities.

## From Jenny to Merrill

The small fledgling community was initially called Jenny Bull, or

See **MERRILL** page 14

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# Clowning for the Rodeo: It's more than just putting on a happy face

**TINA L. SCOTT,**  
EDITOR  
[WITH LILY SCHULTZ  
AND AVA STEINKE]

When most people think of clowns, children's birthday parties naturally come to mind.

But clowning for the rodeo is about more than just putting on a happy face.

Rodeo clowns entertain large crowds from a distance as a specialty act, from the center of a rodeo arena, and often also perform double duty, serving as a barrel man and working together with bull fighters to distract a bull after it has bucked off his rider. That's a little more dangerous than the average four-year-old child, even one that throws a fit and kicks a clown in the shins. And it takes a special skill that involves more than tying balloons into shapes.

## The life of a rodeo clown

Dustin Jenkins a/k/a The Jester Jenkins, which is his professional rodeo clown persona, has been a rodeo clown for the last 21 years. His signature look is one of his own making and is part of his trademark, with the specific recognizable way he makes up his face. "I've got the same mouth as a jester, a court jester that you'd use," Jenkins said, "But this is my face. This is what I came up with, and it is what it is." [And no clown hair; he doesn't do clown hair.]

Even his clowning attire, which almost always includes Converse



The Jester Jenkins is in his element performing for the rodeo crowd. **Tina L. Scott photos.**



Dustin Jenkins is The Jester Jenkins. Here he puts on makeup to create his signature face prior to a performance.

tennis shoes, knee socks, baggy athletic shorts, an oversized rodeo jersey [most rodeos provide him with a jersey specific to their rodeo to wear], and a straw Wrangler cowboy hat, is a part of his signature look.

A rodeo clown can make \$75,000-\$80,000 a year, Jenkins said when asked. "It's a comfortable gig ... I'm not broke, [but] I'm not a millionaire either."

There may also be per diem expenses, and there is endorsement money, he added.

"But being gone all the time is what it takes," Jenkins said. That part, he said, can take a big toll on you. It is a rodeo lifestyle, and that means traveling. And being away from home. A lot.

Following his performances at the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo on June 10, 11, and 12 in Merrill, he had a 16-hour drive to his next rodeo in Pennsylvania. Then it was on to Kentucky, Illinois, and then Utah after a brief stop home. "After I leave here, I'm gone for the next three weeks. I go home for two days, and then I'm gone for three-and-a-half weeks after that. Year round," he said.

Jenkins travels with an air conditioned trailer he uses as a dressing room with his props. "We haul a lot of stuff that we can use in acts," he said.

At home, which is in Marshfield, Missouri, in the southern part of the state not too far from Branson, he has a wife and two kids. "My

daughter's 13, and my boy is 5, so they gotta stay home with Mama," he said.

The actual gig of being a rodeo clown? "It's fun. It's a blast," Jenkins said.

His favorite part about clowning? "The people in the stands," he said. "That's about 90 percent of what I do. You know, you've gotta have fans to have me there."

## How dangerous is being a rodeo clown?

Jenkins tends to downplay the danger of being a rodeo clown, primarily because it's not as dangerous as what he did before.

"I fought bulls for years," Jenkins said. "I was a bull rider and bull fighter, I rode bareback horses, and that's where it kind of led into me being a clown because I

See **CLOWNING** page 7

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## Rodeo City Riders Drill Team: Making the team

**TINA L. SCOTT,**  
EDITOR  
[WITH LILY SCHULTZ  
AND AVA STEINKE]

Nineteen-year-old Ashley Johnson is a 2021 graduate of Weyauwega-Fremont High School, the 2022 Manawa Rodeo Queen, and a member of the Rodeo City Riders Drill Team out of Manawa, Wis. The Rodeo City Riders performed at each of the professional rodeo performances at the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo in Merrill on June 10, 11, and 12, and also travel to other Wisconsin and Michigan rodeos to perform, ride in parades, and make special appearances at other Manawa area events throughout the year.

### Becoming a member of the drill team

Ashley has literally been riding since before she was born. Her mom verified that fact saying, "I rode with her, pregnant."

"I started riding right away when I was born basically, before I could walk," Ashley said, "so I've been riding all my life."

As a member of the Rodeo City Riders Drill Team, Ashley and her horse perform synchronized and patterned riding with large American flags in a patriotic display of speed and beauty on horseback set to clips of country music.

But Ashley didn't start

out riding a pony like many young girls. "We started on mules actually," she said. Small donkeys immediately came to mind, but Ashley quickly clarified. "I feel like the stereotype of mules is just like a donkey that walks around, but we had the good ones. We had mammoth jack mules, so those are huge. They're almost like draft horses," she said. "So I started out just trail riding the mules, basically, and I did a couple of state mule shows ... horsemanship and showmanship."

Her family did a lot of trail riding on the mules and also went hunting on the mules. Her dad has gone raccoon hunting, the family went elk hunting in Colorado, and they've gone pig hunting, all riding the family's mules, she said.

The difference between riding horses and mules? "Mules are very hard to train," Ashley said. "They're very smart, but they're also very stubborn and they're very muscular."

In her Sophomore year of high school, at age 15 or 16, Ashley said she made the switch to riding horses. "After the mule show, then I got a horse ... and then I did the fair for a couple years, and then I started doing like fun shows and the speed stuff; I was really interested in the speed stuff."

She started riding a



The Rodeo City Riders Drill Team performs at the Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo in Merrill. Ashley Johnson is wearing the red shirt. **Tina L. Scott photo.**

bit competitively. "I did a couple fun shows and a couple jackpots," she said, competing on her previous horse, Razor.

### A rodeo changed her life

"And then at the rodeo one day, this sweet, sweet soul of a man - we were talking, and I was like, 'It would be my dream to be on that team,'" Ashley said, recalling how she was watching the drill team at her local rodeo. "I had a horse but I was like, I could never do that, you know, ... I could never be up there, and then about halfway through the rodeo, he brings me a drill member, and he said, 'This is how you join.'"

"So I owe everything to that man," she said. "His name is Joe. That's all I know. From the Manawa Lions Club. He's actually tied to the Manawa Rodeo, which is really cool, so it means a lot to me to represent the Manawa Rodeo, because it changed my en-

tire life."

Ashley said she started out on the Pink Ribbon Rebels Team, a youth drill riding team that started out in Manawa with riders focusing on cancer awareness as well as riding, before landing a spot on the Rodeo City Riders.

"This is my first year

See **DRILL TEAM** page 9

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OBITUARIES

LEGALS



Kristine Terese (Heise) Nutter - faithful Christian, loving wife and mother, life-long caretaker - died peacefully at her home in rural Merrill on June 16, 2022, following an extended battle with cancer and dementia.

Kristine was born June 14, 1949, to Dr. Lawrence Heise and Frances (Grosskopf) Heise, the oldest of five girls. She was proud of her parents and followed their footsteps into health care, serving most of her career as a social

worker.

Kristine attended Valparaiso University, where she met her first husband, William Singleton. They were united in marriage on August 16, 1969, and although they later divorced, they always shared love for their children: Heidi Petersen of Schofield, Gretchen (Eric) Lorge of Kronenwetter; Kirsten (Adrian) Adshel of Madison; and Justin (Jason Erickson) Singleton of Milwaukee.

She graduated with an MSW from Saint Louis University and spent decades counseling people through tough times and mental health challenges. During her final professional years, she focused on helping children recovering from severe trauma.

In the late 1990s, Kristine met Bill Nutter, the man who made her final years so joyous. They married on October 5, 2001, and spent many happy years hunting and fishing, enjoying a good beer, and cheering on the Green Bay Packers.

In addition to her husband, children and their spouses, Kristine is survived by two sisters, Jeanne (Bruce) Foster of Valparaiso, IN, and Claire (Stan) Stanek of La Crescent, MN; 10 grandchildren: Elizabeth (Tom), Sarah, Jacob, Brian, Sophie, William, Oliver, Teddy, Charlie and Susannah; and one great-grandchild, Henry.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister Gretchen in infancy; sister Carolyn Farrell and brother-in-law Timothy Farrell.

The funeral service for Kristine will be held on Monday, June 27th, 2022, at 11:30am at St. John Lutheran Church in Merrill. Pastor David Sutton will officiate. Visitation will be held on Monday, June 27th, 2022, from 9:00am until the time of the service, also at the church. Burial at the Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery will immediately follow the service.

The family would like to thank Aspirus Hospice Care for their extended care; and for the many friends and family members who gave us love, support and prayers over the past several months. Kristine appreciated you so much, and we do, too.

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.

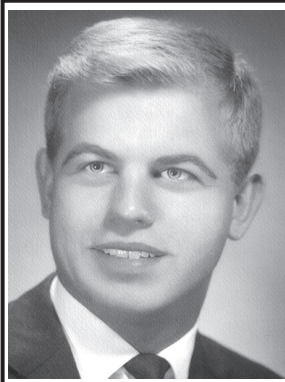


Mary C Gehring, 57, of Wausau, passed away Thursday June 9 at Aspirus Wausau Hospital after a brief but courageous battle with cancer. Mary was born on November 3, 1964, to Milton Teige and Beverly Jensen. She was known for her spunky attitude and kind heart. Mary had many hobbies over the years. Some of her favorites were fishing, camping with friends and family, riding horses, bowling league, Nascar, watching the Packers, socializing with

friends, and spoiling her grandchildren. She was a very hard worker. Despite not needing to, she continued to work as much as she could while undergoing her treatment. She enjoyed what she did and loved the people she worked with. She most recently did book-keeping for Jerry's Music in Wausau. She spent many years living in Merrill and met many friends there. She worked for several years at Weinbrenner Shoe Company in Merrill.

Mary is survived by her Parents Beverly (Robert) Jensen of Aniwa, WI and Milton (Debbie) Teige of Ironwood, MI; her siblings, Mike Teige, Chris Teige, Lisa (Nathan) Westeen, Scott Teige, and Shawn Teige; her daughters, Alison Quinn, Rachel (Paul) Peterson, and Melissa (Jordyn) Dietzler all of Merrill; her grandchildren Henry, Howard, and Elaine, and her dear friends Robin Ehlert and Patrick Breihan.

As per her wishes there will be no formal public service. Her daughters would like to send a special thank you to Robin and Pat for helping to care for Mary and for being such great friends. John J. Buettgen Funeral Home is assisting the family. Online condolences can be made at https://www.midwisconsincremationsociety.com



Wayne Willis Hansen passed away early Sunday morning, June 12, at the age of 80. Wayne was born on June 7, 1942, in Clintonville, WI. His parents, William and Berniece Hansen, were dairy farmers in Wisconsin. William developed an assessing business. Rural counties hired him to reassess their land and then he attended Board of Reviews where he explained how he arrived at the assessment value of the properties he measured.

Both William and Berniece were 4-H leaders and involved in the Lutheran Church. Berniece was a teacher in Merrill, Wisconsin for 18 years. Wayne was the oldest child in the family and had two younger sisters, Dianne and Eileen. He graduated from Clintonville High School in 1960. Wayne went to college at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, majoring in business, and then attended law school at the University of Wisconsin, graduating in 1967.

Wayne worked for the National Labor Relations Board in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He then practiced general law in Merrill, Wisconsin. He later specialized in labor and employment law: he was a longtime partner at Lane Powell in Seattle before opening the Seattle office of Jackson Lewis, where he practiced until his retirement.

Wayne met his wife, Carolyn Lemke, while in law school in Madison. They were married in 1969 in Bellevue, Washington, and celebrated their 50th year of marriage in 2019 with their family. Their son, Drew, was born in 1972 and their daughter, Janna, was born in 1974. The whole family moved to Seattle in 1979 and lived on Mercer Island since 1979. Wayne was an active member of Evergreen Covenant Church on Mercer Island and also served on the board of the Mercer Island Schools Foundation.

Wayne was preceded in death by his father, William, of a heart attack in May, 1967. His mother Berniece (April 10, 2007) and younger sister Dianne (January 17, 2019) also preceded him in death. Wayne and Carolyn moved to Covenant Living at the Shores on Mercer Island in 2019.

A memorial service will be held at on Sunday, June 26, at 2pm, at Evergreen Covenant Church on Mercer Island (3800 78th Avenue SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040). Condolences may be sent to Carolyn Hansen at Covenant Living at the Shores on Mercer Island. Gifts in Wayne's memory may be sent to the Shores Benevolent Care Fund (Attn: Philanthropy Department, 9150 Fortuna Drive, Mercer Island, WA 98040), noting that it is for the "Wayne Hansen Memorial Gift."

Legals 7700

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

AN ORDINANCE: City Plan Commission

Re: Amending the District Zoning Map of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin for a parcel of land located on the east side of Johnson Street.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-08 Introduced: June 14, 2022 1st Reading: June 14, 2022 2nd Reading: June 14, 2022 3rd Reading: June 14, 2022 Committee/Commission Action: Recommended for Passage

AN ORDINANCE The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. The District Zoning Map of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin is hereby amended by changing the zoning of the following described parcel of land on the east side of Johnson Street in the City of Merrill from Rural Development to R-1, said parcel more particularly described as follows: Lots 1, 2 and 3 per attached map (description will be updated after recording completed).

A part of Lot 1 of Certified Survey Map Number 1755, recorded in Volume 9, on Page 10, as document number 430764, filed in the Lincoln County Register of Deeds office, located in the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 of section 7, Township 31 north, Range 7 east, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

Section 2. Severability. In the event any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. It is the legislative intent of the Common Council that this ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal provision had not been included or any illegal application had not been made.

Section 3. Repeal and Effective Date. All ordinances or parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication.

Moved by: (Caylor/Lupton) Adopted: June 14, 2022 - Roll Call 8-0 Approved: Steve J. Hass, Mayor Attest: Lori Anderson-Malm, City Clerk Published June 23, 2022 WNAXLP

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

AN ORDINANCE:

Re: Amending Chapter 36, Article II, Division 1, Section 36-23 School bus warning lights

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-07 Introduced: June 14, 2022 1st Reading: June 14, 2022 2nd Reading: June 14, 2022 3rd Reading: June 14, 2022 Committee/Commission Action: Recommended for Passage

AN ORDINANCE The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 36, Article II, Division 1, Section 36-23 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Merrill is amended to read as follows:

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Wis. Stats. § 346.48(2)(b)2, adopted by reference in section 36-19 to the contrary, and except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, school bus operators shall use flashing red warning lights in residential and business districts when pupils or other authorized passengers are to be loaded or unloaded at locations at which there are no crosswalk or traffic signals so that pupils must cross the street or highway before being loaded or after being unloaded.

(b) Pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 349.21(2), the use of flashing red warning lights by school bus operators is prohibited when pupils or other authorized passengers are loaded or unloaded directly from or onto the school grounds or that portion of the right-of-way between the roadway and the school grounds in a zone designated by "school" warning signs as provided in Wis. Stats. § 118.08(1), in which a street or highway borders the grounds of a school.

Section 2. Severability. In the event any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. It is the legislative intent of the Common Council that this ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal provision had not been included or any illegal application had not been made.

Section 3. Repeal and Effective Date. All ordinances or parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication.

Moved by: (Blake/Weix) Adopted: June 14, 2022 - Roll Call 8-0 Approved: Steve J. Hass, Mayor Attest: Lori Anderson-Malm, City Clerk Published June 23, 2022 WNAXLP

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

AN ORDINANCE: Re: Amending Chapter 8, Article V, Section 8-113 Insurance Required

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-05 Introduced: June 14, 2022 1st Reading: June 14, 2022 2nd Reading: June 14, 2022 3rd Reading: June 14, 2022 Committee/Commission Action: Recommended for Passage

AN ORDINANCE The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Legals 7700

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

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ORDINANCE NO. 2022-08 Introduced: June 14, 2022 1st Reading: June 14, 2022 2nd Reading: June 14, 2022 3rd Reading: June 14, 2022 Committee/Commission Action: Recommended for Passage

AN ORDINANCE The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 8, Article V, Section 8-113 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Merrill is amended to read as follows: (a) Certificate of liability insurance. It shall be unlawful to operate a vehicle for the conveyance of passengers for hire, or permit the same to be operated, nor shall any license be issued hereunder, until and unless the applicant for a license deposited with the city clerk a certificate of liability insurance for the vehicles for which licenses are sought, said certificate of liability insurance to be acceptable and approved by the city clerk and issued by a company authorized to do business in the state, indemnifying the applicant: (1) In the amount of \$500,000.00 for damage to property; (2) In the amount of \$500,000.00 for injury to one person; and (3) In the amount of \$1,000,000.00 for injury to more than one person; (4) City of Merrill shall be listed as additional insured on all liability policies; caused by the operation of said vehicles in the city.

(b) Cancellation; violation. Each taxicab insurance policy shall contain a provision that the same may not be cancelled before the expiration of its term, except upon 30 days' written notice to the city. Every day upon which any vehicle is operated for the conveyance of passengers for hire or when taxicab or similar transportation is offered to the public without an insurance policy as required herein being in effect and on file with the city clerk shall be deemed a separate violation. The cancellation or other termination of any insurance policy issued in compliance with this section shall automatically revoke and terminate all licenses issued for the taxicab covered by such insurance policy, unless another policy shall be provided and in effect at the time of such cancellation or termination.

Section 2. Severability. In the event any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. It is the legislative intent of the Common Council that this ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal provision had not been included or any illegal application had not been made.

Section 3. Repeal and Effective Date. All ordinances or parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication.

Moved by: (Lupton/Weix) Adopted: June 14, 2022 - Roll Call 8-0 Approved: Steve J. Hass, Mayor Attest: Lori Anderson-Malm, City Clerk Published June 23, 2022 WNAXLP

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

AN ORDINANCE:

Re: Amending Chapter 14, Article II, Section 14-39 Smoking prohibited in certain areas

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-06 Introduced: June 14, 2022 1st Reading: June 14, 2022 2nd Reading: June 14, 2022 3rd Reading: June 14, 2022 Committee/Commission Action: Recommended for Passage

AN ORDINANCE The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 14, Article II, Section 14-39 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Merrill is amended to read as follows:

(a) Purpose. The purposes of this section are: (1) To protect the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking in public places and places of employment; and (2) To guarantee the right of nonsmokers to breathe smoke-free air. (b) Definitions. Bar means an establishment that is devoted to the serving of alcoholic beverages for consumption by guests on the premises and in which the serving of food is only incidental to the consumption of those beverages, including but not limited to, taverns, nightclubs, cocktail lounges, and cabarets. Childcare facility means any state licensed or county certified child care facility including, but not limited to licensed family day care or licensed group day care centers, licensed day camps, certified school-age programs and Head Start programs. Educational facility means any building used principally for educational purposes in which a school is located or a course of instruction or training program is offered that has been approved or licensed by a state agency or board. Electronic Smoking Device means any device that may be used to deliver any aerosolized or vaporized substance to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to, an e-cigarette, e-cigar, vape pen, or e-hooka. Employee means any person who is employed by any employer for direct or indirect monetary wages or profit, including those full time, part-time, temporary or contracted for from a third party; employee also means any person who serves as a volunteer for a business or nonprofit entity. Employer means any person, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, or other entity, including a public or nonprofit entity who employs the services of one or more individual persons. Enclosed area means all space between a floor and a ceiling that is closed in on all sides by doors, walls, or windows, whether open or closed, the combination of which extend from the floor to the ceiling. A wall includes any

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CITY OF MERRILL 1004 EAST FIRST STREET MERRILL, WI 54452-2586 AN ORDINANCE: Re: Amending Chapter 8, Article V, Section 8-113 Insurance Required ORDINANCE NO. 2022-05 Introduced: June 14, 2022 1st Reading: June 14, 2022 2nd Reading: June 14, 2022 3rd Reading: June 14, 2022 Committee/Commission Action: Recommended for Passage AN ORDINANCE The Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:



# LEGAL NOTICES

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physical barrier, whether temporary or permanent.  
**Health care facility** means an office or institution providing care or treatment of diseases, whether physical, mental, or emotional, or other medical, physiological, or psychological conditions, including but not limited to, hospitals, rehabilitation hospitals or other clinics, including weight control clinics, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, homes for the aging or chronically ill, laboratories, and offices of surgeons, chiropractors, physical therapists, physicians, psychiatrists, dentists, and all specialists within these professions. This definition shall include all waiting rooms, hallways, private rooms, semiprivate rooms, and wards within health care facilities.  
**Person in charge** means the person who ultimately controls, governs or directs the activities aboard a public conveyance or within or at a place where smoking is regulated under this section, regardless of the person's status as owner or lessee.  
**Place of employment** means any indoor area at which two or more individuals perform any type of a service for consideration of payment under any type of contractual relationship, including, but not limited to, an employment relationship with or for a private corporation, partnership, individual or government agency. Place of employment includes any indoor area where two or more individuals gratuitously perform services for which individuals are ordinarily paid. A place of employment includes, but is not limited to, public conveyances, factories, warehouses, offices, retail stores, restaurants, bars, banquet facilities, theaters, food stores, banks, financial institutions, employee cafeterias, lounges, auditoriums, gymnasiums, restrooms, elevators, hallways, museums, libraries, bowling establishments, health care facilities, and rooms or areas containing office equipment used in common. Vehicles used in whole or in part for work purposes are places of employment during hours of operation if more than one person is present. An area in which work is performed in a private residence is a place of employment during hours of operation if:  
 (1) The homeowner uses the area exclusively and regularly as a principal place of business and has one or more on-site employees; or  
 (2) The homeowner uses the area exclusively and regularly as a place to meet or deal with patients, clients, or customers in the normal course of the homeowner's trade or business.  
**Private residence** means premises owned, rented or leased for temporary or permanent habitation.  
**Public place** means any enclosed, indoor areas used by the general public, including, but not limited to, restaurants, bars, and other food or liquor establishments; retail stores and other commercial establishments; educational facilities, both public and private; hospitals; nursing homes; auditoriums; sports arenas, including enclosed areas in outdoor arenas; public transportation vehicles, including buses and taxicabs, and ticket, boarding and waiting areas of public transportation facilities; meeting rooms; elevators; polling places; restrooms, lobbies, reception areas, hallways and other common-use areas; and common areas of apartment buildings and other multiple-unit residential facilities.  
**Room** means a space within a building completely enclosed with walls, partitions, floor and ceiling, except for openings for light, ventilation, ingress and egress.

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**Smoking** means inhaling, or exhaling, burning, or carrying ~~smoke from any~~ lighted or heated, cigarette, cigar, pipe, or any other lighted or heated or similar tobacco nicotine or ~~product or other~~ lighted plant product intended for inhalation, including hookah and marijuana, whether natural or synthetic. "Smoking" also includes the use of an electronic smoking device. ~~A person having in their possession or control a lighted tobacco product or lighted plant product is also considered smoking.~~  
**Sports arena** means sports pavilions, bleachers, stadiums, gymnasiums, health spas, boxing arenas, swimming pools, roller and indoor ice rinks, and bowling centers.  
**Tobacco bar** means a bar that generates 50 percent or more of its total annual gross income from the on-site sale of tobacco products, not including any sales from vending machines.  
**Retail tobacco store** means a retail establishment that derives more than 80 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of cigars, cigarettes, pipes, or other smoking devices for burning tobacco and related smoking accessories and in which the sale of other products is merely incidental. "Retail tobacco store" does not include a tobacco department or section of a larger commercial establishment or any establishment with a Class 'B' fermented malted beverages license or 'Class B' intoxicating liquor license or any restaurant in existence on May 1, 2008.  
 (c) **Prohibition of smoking in enclosed public places.** Except as otherwise provided, it shall be unlawful for any person to smoke in public places, including but not limited to the following:  
 (1) Public forms of transportation, including but not limited to motor buses, taxicabs, or other public passenger vehicles.  
 (2) Theatres, libraries, museums, auditoriums, and convention halls that are used by or open to the public.  
 (3) Any childcare facility.  
 Incorporated herein by reference are the following Wisconsin statutory and administrative code sections and any amendments or renumbering thereof: Sec. 101.123(l)(ad) and (2)(bm), Wis. Stats.; See s. HFS 45.02(4), 45.06(8)(g), 46.03(13), 46.06(2)(h), and 46.08(2)(c), Wis. Admin. Code.  
 (4) Retail stores.  
 (5) Health care facilities.  
 (6) Meeting and conference rooms in which people gather for educational, business, professional, union, governmental, recreational, political or social purposes.  
 (7) Polling places.  
 (8) Service lobbies, waiting areas, and the common areas open to the public of financial institutions, business and professional offices, and multi-unit commercial facilities.  
 (9) Self-service laundry facilities.  
 (10) Enclosed, indoor areas of restaurants.  
 (11) Common areas of malls.  
 (12) City buildings.  
 (13) City-owned or leased motor vehicles.  
 (14) Sports arenas, including enclosed places in outdoor arenas.  
 (15) Enclosed, indoor areas of bars.  
 (16) Bed and breakfast establishments, hotels and motels, except as provided in subsection (f).  
 (17) Educational facilities, both public and private.  
 (d) Prohibition of smoking in places of employment.  
 (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to smoke cigarettes or tobacco products in places of employment.  
 (2) Every building that is a place of employment shall have at least one entrance that is smoke-free. For

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buildings with fewer than four entrances, no more than one entrance may be designated as a smoking entrance. For buildings with four or more entrances, no more than 25 percent of all entrances may be designated as a smoking entrance.  
 (e) Prohibition of smoking in outdoor areas. Smoking shall be prohibited in the following outdoor places:  
 (1) Within a reasonable distance outside any entrances designated smoke free pursuant to subsection (d)(2) above, open windows, and intake of ventilation systems of enclosed areas where smoking is prohibited, so as to insure that tobacco smoke does not enter those areas.  
 (2) In all outdoor arenas, stadiums, and amphitheaters, except in designated smoking areas, which may be established only in perimeter areas at least 15 feet from any seating areas or concession stands. Smoking shall also be prohibited in, and within 15 feet of, bleachers and grandstands for use by spectators at sporting and other public events.  
 (3) In outdoor common areas of nursing homes, except in designated smoking areas, which must be located at least 15 feet outside entrances, operable windows, and ventilation systems of enclosed areas where smoking is prohibited.  
 (f) Where smoking is not regulated. The following areas shall not be subject to the smoking restrictions of this section:  
 (1) Private residences, except when used as a childcare, adult day care, or healthcare facility.  
 (2) Outdoor areas of places of employment except those covered by the provisions of subsection (e)(2).  
 (g) **Signage.**  
 (1) "Smoke-free Establishment" or "No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol (consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it) shall be clearly and conspicuously posted in every public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited by this section, by the owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of that place. Signs shall reference "Merrill Ordinance 2010-02."  
 (2) "Smoking Allowed" signs shall be clearly and conspicuously posted in every public place and place of employment where smoking is not prohibited by this section, by the owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of that place. Signs shall reference "Merrill Ordinance 2010-02."  
 (3) Every public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited by this section shall have posted at every entrance a sign not smaller than 11 by eight and one-half inches clearly stating that smoking is prohibited. Each sign and the language contained therein shall be clearly visible from a distance of at least ten feet. Every vehicle that constitutes a place of employment under this section shall have at least one conspicuous sign, visible from the exterior of the vehicle, clearly stating that smoking is prohibited.  
 (4) All ashtrays shall be removed from any area where smoking is prohibited by this section by the owner, operator, manager, or other person having control of the area.  
 (5) It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, deface, or destroy any sign required by this section, or to smoke in any place where any such sign is posted.  
 (h) **Nonretaliation; nonwaiver of rights.**  
 (1) No person or employer shall discharge, refuse to hire, or in any

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manner retaliate against an employee, applicant for employment, or customer because that employee, applicant, or customer exercises any rights afforded by this section or reports or attempts to prosecute a violation of this section. Notwithstanding subsection (j), violation of this subsection shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 for each violation.  
 (2) An employee who works in a setting where an employer allows smoking does not waive or otherwise surrender any legal rights the employee may have against the employer or any other party.  
 (i) **Enforcement.**  
 (1) This section shall be enforced by the police chief, building inspector, or an authorized designee.  
 (2) Notice of the provisions of this section shall be given in writing to all applicants for a business license in the City of Merrill.  
 (3) Any citizen who desires to register a complaint under this section may initiate enforcement with the chief of police.  
 (4) The police department, fire department, building inspector, or their designees shall, while an establishment is undergoing otherwise mandated inspections, inspect for compliance with this section.  
 (5) If an owner, manager, operator, or employee of an establishment subject to this section observes a person violating the section, he or she shall immediately direct the person in violation to stop smoking. If the person violating the section does not stop smoking, the owner, manager, operator, or employee shall make reasonable efforts to prevent smoking in prohibited areas by:  
 a. Approaching smokers who fail to voluntarily comply with this section and requesting that they extinguish their cigarette or tobacco product and refrain from smoking, or  
 b. Refusing service to anyone smoking in a prohibited area.  
 (6) In addition to the remedies provided by the provisions of this section, the chief of police or any person aggrieved by the failure of the owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of a public place or a place of employment to comply with the provisions of this section may apply for injunctive relief to enforce those provisions in any court of competent jurisdiction.  
 (j) **Violations and penalties.**  
 (1) A person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited by the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an infraction, punishable by:  
 a. A forfeiture not exceeding \$100.00 for a first violation.  
 b. A forfeiture not exceeding \$200.00 for a second violation within one year.  
 c. A forfeiture not exceeding \$500.00 for each additional violation within one year.  
 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (h)(1), a person who owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls a public place or place of employment and who fails to comply with the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an infraction, punishable by:  
 a. A forfeiture not exceeding \$100.00 for a first violation.  
 b. A forfeiture not exceeding \$200.00 for a second violation within one year.  
 c. A forfeiture not exceeding \$500.00 for each additional violation within one year.  
 (3) In addition to the forfeitures established by this section, violation of this section by a person who owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls a public place or place of employment may result in the suspension or revocation of any permit or license issued to the person for the premises on which the violation occurred.  
 (4) Violation of this section is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, which

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may be abated by the city by restraining order, preliminary and permanent injunction, or other means provided for by law, and the city may take action to recover the costs of the nuisance abatement.  
 (5) Each day on which a violation of this section occurs shall be considered a separate and distinct violation.  
 (k) **Clean indoor air.**  
 (1) **Intent and construction.** The City of Merrill finds that it is in the interests of the health, safety and welfare of the community to adopt by reference Sec. 101.123, Wis. Stats., and subsequent amendments, additions and redefinitions thereto. It is the intent of this section that where there may be conflict between Sec. 101.123, Wis. Stats., or any subsequent amendments, additions and redefinitions thereto, and this section, that the provisions of the applicable state statute shall apply. This section shall not be construed to mean that progressive discipline of city employees for violations of laws, rules, and regulations is only authorized where explicitly provided by ordinance.  
 (2) In the event that Sec. 101.123, Wis. Stats., as effective July 5, 2010, is repealed by an act of the Wisconsin Legislature, this section shall be null and void.  
 (3) **Penalty.** The penalties provided by Sec. 101.123, Wis. Stats., shall be in addition to the penalties provided for violation of this section when a person has violated both laws. In addition to the penalties provided by this section and Sec. 101.123, Wis. Stats., any city employee who violates any provision of this section or Sec. 101.123, Wis. Stats., may also be subject to progressive discipline by his or her employer.  
**Section 2. Severability.** In the event any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. It is the legislative intent of the Common Council that this ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal provision had not been included or any illegal application had not been made.  
**Section 3. Repeal and Effective Date.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication.  
 Moved by: (Russell/Blake)  
 Adopted: June 14, 2022 – Roll Call 8-0  
 Approved: Steve J. Hass, Mayor  
 Attest: Lori Anderson-Malm, City Clerk  
 Published June 23, 2022  
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Inspector/Zoning Administrator – Darin Pagel, Utility Operations Manager – Gabe Steinagel and Nathan from Merrill Productions.  
 Residents in attendance: Renae Fredrick, Mr. & Mrs. Martin, Bill Bialecki and Al Wix  
 2. Invocation by Sister Pam Hodgson – Holy Cross Sisters  
 3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.  
 4. Roll Call was taken and the following alderperson's were in attendance: Paul Russell – First District Attended Remotely  
 Michael "Gus" Caylor – Second District Present  
 Rick Blake – Third District Present  
 LaDonna Fermanich – Fourth District Present  
 Dick Lupton – Fifth District Present  
 Mike Rick - Sixth District Present  
 Mark Weix – Seventh District Present  
 Steve Sabatke – Eighth District Present  
 5. Public Comment–Mayor Hass asked Library Director Zellers to inform the council and those in attendance the hours of the library,  
 6. Minutes of previous Common Council meeting –May 10, 2022  
 Alderperson Rick made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2022 Common Council meeting. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion passed.  
 7. Revenue & Expense Reports:  
 Alderperson Russell made a motion to approve the revenue and expense reports ending May 31, 2022. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion passed.  
 8. Board of Public Works:  
 1. Consider increasing the minimum bid to \$500 for vacant city lots. If the minimum bid would need to be adjusted, the bid would go back to the Board of Public Works.  
 Alderperson Sabatke explained the reasoning behind increasing the minimum bid. Alderperson Rick mentioned he would like to see earnest money toward the purchase of a vacant city lot.  
 A motion was made by Alderperson Blake to approve. Alderperson Sabatke seconded and the motion passed.  
 2. Approve Certified Survey Map and Right-of-Way Dedication for Johnson Street lots.  
 A motion was made by Alderperson Russell to approve. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion passed.  
 9. Health & Safety Committee:  
 1. Consider approving the 2020/2023 liquor license applications (per list) with the exception of Erickson's Westside Tap for non-compliance with the city ordinance.  
 Mayor Hass explained the first vote would be to vote for all licensees except for Caylor's Trophy Bar. Alderperson Caylor motioned to approve the list with the exception of Caylor's Trophy Bar. Alderperson Sabatke seconded and the motion passed.  
 Alderperson Lupton made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 liquor license for Caylor's Trophy Bar. Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed with Alderperson Caylor abstaining from the vote.  
 2. Street Use Permit application from Ballyhoo's to close Prospect Street (from Grand Avenue to West Main Street) from 12:00 PM to 10:00 PM on Saturday, June 20, 2022 for the Lobster Fest event.  
 Alderperson Rick motioned to approve the street use permit for Ballyhoo's. Alderperson Sabatke seconded and the motion passed.

See LEGALS page 6

## 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

## TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

### BID NOTICE

The Town of Merrill, Lincoln County Wisconsin will be accepting sealed bids for 172' of road repair 2.5 tenths of a mile north of State Hwy 107 North on South End Rd. Area to be repaired is marked w/ orange paint & arrows on pavement. The work shall consist of furnishing all proper materials, equipment & labor to Dig out road boil areas & Pavement, re-gravel, compact & pave within 60 days.

All work will consist of Class B Highway requirements. Contractor to provided certificate of insurance showing liability & workers comp. coverage. Sealed bids can be submitted to the Town of Merrill W4594 Progress Ave, Merrill, WI 54452

Bids will be opened on July 11, 2022 at town board meeting. The Town of Merrill reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the town.

TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD  
 Published June 23 & 30, 2022 WNAXLP

## TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

### BID NOTICE

The Town of Merrill, Lincoln County Wisconsin Will be accepting sealed bids for ditch mowing all town roads (Approx 81 miles) & Approx 25 miles of brush cutting & tree side trimming within road right of way. Brush cutting & tree side trimming area is Cty Hwy K East to Town of Merrill line North of Cty Rd. G to Town of Merrill line.

Contractor to provided certificate of insurance showing liability & workers comp. coverage.

Sealed bids can be submitted to the Town of Merrill W4594 Progress Ave, Merrill, WI 54452

Bids will be opened on July 11, 2022 at town board meeting. The Town of Merrill reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the town.

TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD  
 Published June 23 & 30, 2022 WNAXLP

## TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

### BID NOTICE

The Town of Merrill, Lincoln County Wisconsin Will be accepting sealed bids for sealing of cracks on individual listed roads: Lone Pine, North Star, Schiller & Norwegian The work shall consist of furnishing all proper materials, equipment, labor for routing, cleaning, sealing & covering of all cracks & joints in asphalt pavement. Contractor to provided certificate of insurance showing liability & workers comp. coverage. Sealed bids can be submitted to the Town of Merrill W4594 Progress Ave, Merrill, WI 54452

Bids will be opened on July 11, 2022 at town board meeting. The Town of Merrill reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the town.

TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD  
 Published June 23 & 30, 2022 WNAXLP

## TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

### BID NOTICE

The Town of Merrill, Lincoln County Wisconsin will be accepting sealed bids for removal of logs, slash & grubbed materials from D.N.R. designated wetlands within Black Alder Road right of way. The work shall consist of furnishing all equipment & labor. Removal operation shall meet D.N.R. standards.

Contractor to provided certificate of insurance showing liability & workers comp. coverage.

Sealed bids can be submitted to the Town of Merrill W4594 Progress Ave, Merrill, WI 54452

Bids will be opened on July 11, 2022 at town board meeting. The Town of Merrill reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the town.

TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD  
 Published June 23 & 30, 2022 WNAXLP

## TOWN OF MERRILL MERRILL, WISCONSIN

### REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town of Merrill, Lincoln County Wisconsin Will be accepting sealed bids for Approx. 1500 cubic yard 1 ¼" road base w/ binder & Approx. 500 cubic yard ¾" road base w/ binder

To be placed on various town roads provide a minimum of 3 truck hauling & spreading. Contractor to provided certificate of insurance showing liability & workers comp. coverage.

Sealed bids can be submitted to the Town of Merrill, W4594 Progress Ave., Merrill, WI 54452  
 Bids will be open

TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD  
 Published June 23 & 30, 2022 WNAXLP



# LEGAL NOTICES

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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3. Application from Athletic Park Baseball Boosters for 30 temporary Class "B" picnic licenses to sell fermented malt beverages inside Athletic Park during baseball games on the following dates in 2022: May 29, June 4, 8, 9, 13, 14, 19, 20, 22, 26, 28, 29, July 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29. Alderperson Weix motioned to approve. Alderperson Caylor seconded and the motion carried.

10. Placing Committee Reports on File: Alderperson Russell motioned to place the committee reports on file. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion passed.

11. Proclamation: 175th Anniversary of the Founding of Merrill. City Attorney Hayden read the Proclamation declaring the 175th Anniversary of the Founding of Merrill.

12. Ordinances:  
1. Consider amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 8, Article V, Section 8-113, to revise language regarding the certificate of liability insurance.

2. Consider amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 14, Article 11, Section 14-39 regarding Electronic smoking device(s). City Attorney Hayden read the first reading of the Ordinance. Alderperson Russell motioned to give the ordinance the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Blake seconded and the motion passed.

3. Consider amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 36, Article II, Division 1, Section 36-23 regarding School bus warning lights. City Attorney Hayden read the first reading of the Ordinance. Alderperson Russell motioned to give the ordinance the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Blake seconded and the motion passed.

4. Consider amending the District Zoning Map of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin for a parcel of land located on the east side of Johnson St from Rural to R1. City Attorney Hayden read the first reading of the Ordinance. Alderperson Blake motioned to give the ordinance the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.

13. Public Hearing on Alley Vacation. City Attorney Hayden read the language regarding the public hearing on the alley vacation. Alderperson Sabatke made a motion to open the public hearing for the alley vacation. Alderperson Caylor seconded and the motion passed.

14. Resolutions:  
1. A Resolution honoring Merilee J DuPlaye, a/k/a Toby, for her long-time service to the City of Merrill. Alderperson Russell made a motion to approve the resolution. Alderperson Blake seconded and the motion passed.

2. A Resolution authorizing the vacation of an alley located in part of H.W. Wright Lumber Company's addition. Alderperson Lupton made a motion to approve the resolution. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion passed.

3. A Resolution approving the 2021 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) for the City of Merrill wastewater treatment plant. Alderperson Rick made a motion to

Legals 7700

approve the resolution. Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.

4. A Resolution authorizing a development agreement by and between the City of Merrill, Wisconsin and Ott Development & Construction, LLC (for Johnson St. homes). Alderperson Russell made a motion to approve the resolution. Alderperson Blake seconded and the motion passed.

5. A resolution approving a preliminary plat for residential development between Eugene, Alexander, and Heldt Streets aka Alexander Estates in the City of Merrill. Alderperson Russell made a motion to approve the resolution. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion passed.

6. A resolution approving a conditional use permit for a daycare facility at 201 Stange Street, Merrill. Alderperson Sabatke made a motion to approve the resolution. Alderperson Caylor seconded and the motion passed.

7. A resolution in support of Construction and Promotion of "Affordable Housing" within the City of Merrill. Alderperson Sabatke made a motion to approve the resolution. Alderperson Blake seconded. Mayor Hass asked if there was any discussion. Alderperson Feranich asked to amend the wording on the last sentence of the resolution. She amended to strike "and participate in the construction of such housing" and revise to "participate in pursuit of such housing opportunities". Alderperson Rick seconded to revise the wording. The revised wording was approved.

8. Mayor's Appointments:  
1. Alderperson Rick Blaketo the Library Board, replacing Tim Meehan, term to expire 04/16/24.  
2. Reappoint Mike Giesler to the Library Board, term to expire 04/16/24.  
Alderperson Russell made a motion to approve both of the Mayor's appointments. Alderperson Feranich seconded and the motion passed.

16. Mayor's Communications:  
Mayor Hass reminded everyone that Flag Day is June 14th and it is a very important day for all citizens to remember. Construction will begin on June 27th for areas in the city. The City Band will begin their summer concerts on June 29. Gazebo Nights start on July 7th.

17. Adjournment:  
Mayor Hass asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderperson Rick made a motion to adjourn. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM. Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori L Anderson-Malm - City Clerk. Published June 23, 2022

LEGAL NOTICE  
**TOWN OF SCOTT**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Town Board of the Town of Scott, Lincoln County, WI, has received Application for Alcohol Beverage License Renewal to sell fermented malt beverages and/or intoxicating liquor within the limits of the Town of Scott, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, for the period beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, from the following:  
Marlee's Bar, N1496 Tannery Road, Merrill, WI 54452  
Lincoln Gun Club, N1544 Corning Road, Merrill, WI 54452  
Schult's Country Inn, W5931 Church Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452  
Friendship House Family Restaurant, 357 Brandenburg Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452  
The Beacon, N1297 Fairview Road, Merrill, WI 54452  
RStore #27, N357 Brandenburg Avenue, Merrill, WI 54452  
Helene's Hilltop Orchard, N1189 Quarter Road, Merrill, WI 54452  
Applications will be reviewed by the Town Board at a Special Meeting on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Pending final review by the Clerk and barring any objection, said licenses will be issued accordingly.  
**Dated this 15th day of June, 2022.**  
**BY: Becky Byer, Clerk of the Town of Scott**  
Published June 23, 2022

Legals 7700

Sample, MAPS Administrators; Skoviera and Rell; approximately 12 people from public and Recorder Woller. MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the appointments made by the Superintendent for committee membership for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the PMA contract as presented; the Quarles & Brady scope of engagement as presented; and the Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds, the Establishment of an Escrow Account With Respect to and The Defeasance of the Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2019, Dated October 24, 2019. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Krueger to approve the 38 new students indicating open enrollment out of MAPS and also approve the 148 open enrolled students continuing to open enroll out of MAPS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the repairs to the 1st and 3rd floor boys bathroom at Prairie River Middle School. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the increase to the lifeguard wage structure, effective May 19, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve the summer maintenance projects for 2022-2023 as funding is available. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the 2022-2023 Teacher and Support Staff Handbooks as a second reading. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the purchase of both a Wazer desktop waterjet for \$11,500 and a X16 UV Flatbed Printer for \$31,500. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the updated 10-year capital improvement plan as funding allows. Motion carried unanimously.

Legals 7700

appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable. Motion carried with Krueger abstaining from the portion of Kendall Krueger's hire; and, Blake abstaining from the portion of Cassandra Blake's hire.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve consent agenda items a through c, which includes minutes of the April 19, 2022, April 25, 2022, April 27, 2022, and May 4, 2022, meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,990,036.52; and, donations totaling \$1,055. Motion carried with Proulx abstaining from the April 19, 2022 minutes; and, Volpe abstaining from a portion of the April 19, 2022 minutes.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the parental request for Student A to opt out of state assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Volpe to approve the parental request for Student A to opt out of state assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to reconvene into open session for the Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Volpe to approve the parental request for Student A to opt out of state assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to reconvene into open session for the Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Krueger to approve the purchase of both a Wazer desktop waterjet for \$11,500 and a X16 UV Flatbed Printer for \$31,500. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the updated 10-year capital improvement plan as funding allows. Motion carried unanimously.

Legals 7700

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., plaintiffs 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

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

WNAXLP

### REQUEST FOR BIDS

#### Town of Russell-Lincoln County

The TOWN OF RUSSELL, LINCOLN COUNTY will be accepting bids for crack filling the following town roads:  
Second Ave; Bradley St to 1st Ave; Prairie Pines Dr;  
Town Hall Rd; Bachelors Ave; 1st Avenue; Rice Lane

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

Bids will be opened at 6 p.m. in the Russell Town Hall on July 12, 2022.

Sealed bid can be submitted to: Town Clerk, N5410 State Hwy 17 Gleason WI 54435.

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

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

Amy Brown, Town Clerk  
Published June 23, 2022. WNAXLP

### NOTICE

#### City of Merrill Residents

#### Garbage and Recycling Collection

Garbage and Recycling for the week of **July 4th** through **July 7th** will be collected one day later than usual in observance of Independence Day. Please refer to the collection calendar that was included with you carts and is available on the city website at [www.ci.merrill.wi.us](http://www.ci.merrill.wi.us)

Please have your carts out by 6:00 a.m.

Please contact the City Garage at (715) 536-4222 or email us at [Streets@ci.merrill.wi.us](mailto:Streets@ci.merrill.wi.us) with any questions.

**Have a Safe and Happy July 4th Holiday!**

Dustin Bonack  
Street Superintendent  
170770



### MERRILL Foto News

**ADVERTISING WORKS!**

"We have worked with the Foto News for decades, and will continue to. They're very prompt and will work with you on the details of your advertisement."

**Brandon - Member Services**  
Riverside Athletic Club • 715-536-2481

**Make your advertising WORK**  
by calling 715-536-7121, or stop by our office at 921 E. Main St-downtown Merrill.

92074



**PUBLISHER'S LETTER**

**Birthdays**

**DEAR READER,**

Recently I celebrated a birthday. At my age, this has become a dubious honor, with a certain amount of playful teasing from family and friends. I am as young as I feel, which on most days means feeling bright and vital. And yet, while some of my friends are stubbornly continuing to ply their trade, others are slowly winding it down.



In a way I am living in two worlds. Those who see me without knowing me might believe me to be much more of a boy than I really am because I'm still in the thick of crusading on campaigns, some meaningful and others silly. Yet on my honest days, I feel like I'm cobbling my body together to do this work, realizing as I go that some things don't work as well as they used to.

In the end, I guess it doesn't matter much since we all end up on one side of the spectrum or the other depending on how nobly (or ignobly) we lived our lives. But every morning we wake up and try again...which is noble in and of itself.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
PUBLISHER

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

**LETTERS from page 6**

dren/great-grandchildren? I think we are. As Rosie the Riveter once said, "We can do it!"

- Bill Bussey  
Bayfield, Wis.

**TO THE EDITOR:**

I'm writing this letter today about complaining. Complaining and worrying are a waste of time, because neither one gets you anywhere other than ruining your day.

Think about what do you have to complain about today.

I've heard that some people have complained about the new garbage cans the City of Merrill distributed. They are big and ugly. Well, at least we are not living in a garbage can. I'm not anyway.

Got any flowers? Pick them and give them to someone before they leave this earth. If not, go to a store and buy some.

Some say the kids have nothing to do or places to go. What? Really? Go for a walk. We have the River Bend Trail and Council Grounds Park, and all the other parks in town, too.

Help a neighbor, visit a lonely neighbor, or go to the nursing home.

Think about being thankful.

I woke up this morning. That's pretty good, I think. Always be kind and smile.

- Sincerely, Darlene Weirick  
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.

**CLOWNING from page 3**

don't get hurt near as MUCH, but I CAN get hurt, you know, in that barrel and stuff."

"My job, it is dangerous, you know, being in a barrel during bull riding and stuff," he said. "I mean, I get close to the bulls."

"Is it scary? Yes, but I know what I'm doing at that point, and in my career of being a bull fighter, I need to know how close I need to be with that. But I mean, yeah, those bulls can get inside with me and you know, punch me around a little bit ..."

When asked if he's ever been injured? "Yes, with Spanish fighting bulls. We use Mexican fighting bulls," he said.

"America has the American free-style fighting," he said referring to our style of bull fighting. "I do a lot of the barrel work at those. You can get hurt at those, because whenever they hit you, it's kinda like a concrete slab, it's smokin', you know, so it can happen."

And he's had concussions, which can be very serious stuff. "I was in south Texas and did a freestyle match down there, and kinda shook my brain a little bit and went into seizures, and wound up in the hospital type deal," he said.

**From roping and riding to clowning and bull fighting.**

Jenkins started clowning in 2003 after "I became a Type I diabetic, so that's what kind of got me thrown into this ... I needed to figure out something else ... to do."

"Me and my brother, LJ Jenkins [who is well-known in rodeo circles], we started out riding sheep, calves, steers, you know. I did that my whole life," he said.

Raised in a rodeo family, Jenkins grew up learning the ropes of rodeo and sharing "the cowboy tradition." He competed in rough stock steer riding, junior bull riding, then bull riding, bareback, and saddle bronc for a

number of years. At age 13, he took an interest in bull-fighting "because you will always receive a paycheck every time you show up" unlike other competitions where only those with the fastest times get part of the purse [payout]. After trying bullfighting on his own and "taking some hard hits and getting ran over too many times," he went to bullfighting school to learn some skills he could use in the arena and fought bulls professionally until his diabetes diagnosis in 2002.

His connections in rodeo were helpful when he decided to make the switch. "Somebody at work I actually fought bulls for gave me the opportunity to try clowning, and I built myself onto that, and here I am," he said.

And he had to be patient, he said. "Patiently waiting in this business."

"To do what I do you kind of need to know all these little increments of the rodeo to play your cards right in it," Jenkins added.

He still rides for pleasure. "We have horses at home that every now and then I'll get on," Jenkins said. "But it's usually the kids that take care of that."

But ... "I'm scared of getting on a horse these days [for rodeo]," he said. "No more riding, no more competing."

These days he's out in the arena for his fans as "the only funny guy. There'll be [other] bull fighters," he said, and he still helps as a bull fighter and barrel man. "But I just take the comedy part of the show. I'm the entertainer."

"I've been clowning 21 years. I'm 41 years old now," he said. [Although he doesn't look it, even without the makeup.] "I think it's clown life, too. It's kept me young."

**Advice for kids, and kids at heart**

For kids who aspire to be a rodeo clown, or anything else in life, Jenkins offers this advice: "Always dream big," he said. "Dream big. It doesn't matter what you're gonna do. "Anybody and everybody can do what they wanna do in life. You just gotta have the want to and the drive."

**RODEO from page 1**

in the stands and instant replays of the events as they unfolded, as well.

In addition to the contestants and performers, it takes an entire team to orchestrate a rodeo event. From the stock contractor, Barnes PRCA Rodeo to officials and announcers [Rodeo secretary - Martha Martin; officials - Leo Cozzitorto and DeWitt Forrest Jr.; timers - Martha Martin and Paige Giske; announcer - Kelly Kenney; and music director - Mark Evans], to the bullfighters (those guys who are trying to distract the bull so the guy who was riding him can get to safety after he got tossed



This horse went down rounding the barrel during the barrel racing event, but horse and cowgirl got back up in a split second and continued full speed ahead.

Tina L. Scott photo.

off) Luke Moore and Miles Jones, the chute boss Marty Barnes, the pickup men Jeff Rector and Garrett

Underwood, and the specialty act/clown/barrel man, The Jester Jenkins.

Most, if not all, of these folks travel around with the rodeo. But locally, volunteers from the Lincoln County Rodeo Association also logged an incredible number of hours before, during, and after the events to bring these professional rodeo performances to Merrill.

**Event results, including times and payout**

**Bareback riding:** 1. Andy Gingerich, 82 points on Barnes PRCA Rodeo's Pull-ups, \$978; 2.

See **RODEO** page 16

**MAPS accepts June donations**

The following donations were approved and/or accepted at the June 15 Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS) Board of Directors meeting:

The donation of funds from the Merrill Lions Club valued at \$2,500 for the purchase of an ice machine at Jay Stadium; a check from Merrill United Way valued at \$100 for purchasing items for The Nest at PRMS; checks from the Merrill Foundation valued at \$1,000 for purchasing items for The Nest at PRMS; PVC tubing for adaptive learning from The Nelson Family valued at \$60 for allowing students with various exceptionalities to thrive in their educational experience; rental of the Sell Building from Lincoln County Fair Board valued at \$175 for the Kate Goodrich and Washington School Fundraiser product pick up; meal prep, equipment, and time from Arthur Merget valued at \$250 for the Kate Goodrich staff appreciation lunch from the PTO; band clothes from St. Vinny's valued at \$97 for PRMS band students to use for concerts; and, a check from the Eagles Auxiliary for \$1,000 for the Merrill High School Marching Jays.

**Wisconsin Seafood Company**  
**HOLIDAY SUPER SEAFOOD SALE! (WisCoCW)**

- ARGENTINE RED SHRIMP (TASTES SWEET LIKE LOBSTER)
- ROCK LOBSTER, SCALLOPS
- ALASKAN SOCKEYE AND SMOKED SALMON
- UNICORN FILLETS, RED SNAPPER, MAHI
- HALIBUT PORTIONS, GROUPER FILLETS
- GULF SHRIMP, BREADED & COCONUT BREADED SHRIMP
- TUNA, SWORDFISH STEAKS HADDOCK AND MORE!

Check us out on Facebook for upcoming Sales at WisCoCW

Pine Ridge Mobil 3350 E. Main St. Merrill  
Friday June 24th 11:00am-5pm  
Saturday June 25th 10am-12 Noon

**Pet of the Week**

I am **Taffy**, a big Torti girl who enjoys cuddles. I have not been around other cats or dogs and tend to be more on the shy side around new people. I will need a nice, quiet home with someone patient who can understand me. My adoption fee includes my spay, up to date vaccinations and microchip.

**SPONSORED BY**  
Dr. Ronald J. Piffa  
Optometrist  
715-536-2020

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

**Celebration of Life:**

**Louis M. Paetsch**  
(B 6/9/41 D 1/7/22)  
Spouse: Mary  
Merrill High School: Class of 1959  
Celebration at the cottage: N10392 South Pine Rd., Tomahawk, WI  
Monday, July 18, 2022 • 5-7 p.m.  
Short program followed by casual dinner and Social time with family and friends  
Please bring a chair (similar to fish boil days)

**In Memory of...**  
**Ryan James Kohnhorst**  
June 15, 1981 - Aug. 14, 2020  
Beloved Son, You are so Missed

You Were Never To Busy To Talk or Listen Or Lend a Helping Hand,  
You Always Found Time To Share Your Gifts And Reach Out To Others,  
You Truly Cared And Found Ways To Show How Much,  
You're Someone Who Touched So Many Lives...  
Your Loving Smile, Your Gentle Face  
Looking Down From Heaven

Love You Mom & Dad, Family & Friends



"Thank you so much to Iva B. who, for her 10th birthday, asked for money donations so she could do some shopping for the shelter. She raised enough money to purchase basically everything off our donation needs list. We want to thank Iva for being so thoughtful and helping to support the Lincoln County Humane Society!" said Lincoln County Humane Society Management.  
Submitted photo.



# Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM  
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

## The Experience

(In theatres)

★★★★★

Rating depends on what you see

Hello all! This week, once again, "adulting" got in the way of seeing a new film to review for you, although I did go see *The Thing* which was fantastic!

That being said, I wanted to talk a little about the movie-going experience.

I was asked this week why I would pay money to go see a film that was 40 years old in the cinema when I can stream it online at home.

Whenever I am asked this question, which is more often than you might think, I always say the same thing: The Experience.

We have made huge strides in home entertainment and home theatres, from digital flat screen televisions the size of a smart car, to sound systems that would make theatres from our youth jealous. But it's still not the same and, frankly, never will be.

We are a communal species, for good or for bad depending on your perspective, and we enjoy shared experiences. For example, Mel Brookes, *Blazing Saddles* is one of the funniest films ever made (it would never get made in today's PC climate, that's for sure), and I laugh every time I see it. BUT, when I saw it on the big screen several years back, I howled with laughter, because the cinema was packed and we were all laughing.



When Norman Bates crept up on Janet Leigh in the shower, we collectively held our breath and suppressed the desire to yell: "Look out!"

We cheer when Luke destroys the Death Star, and we cry when Gena Rowlands dies in James Garner's arms in *The Notebook*.

No one can deny that feeling when you are in the crowded cinema, when the lights start to dim and the screen lights up. It's the moment when you can put aside your troubles, your stress, your fear and worries, and let the story take you away.

There is a film called *Sullivan's Travels* about a filmmaker who has lost his way and decides to go out into America and find out why people love the "picture shows," as he calls them, and he comes to the conclusion that movies are needed. Because, as one person he speaks with said, "All of life's riddles are answered in the movies."

Thanks for reading this little discourse, and thank you for the continued support of these weekly reviews.

**STEPPIN' OUT**

**DINNER @ FIVE**  
A COMMUNITY TABLE AT SAINT STEPHENS  
Join us every Monday at 5:00PM for a community meal open to all.  
Saint Stephens  
United Church of Christ  
903 E 2nd Street, Merrill.  
Free will donations accepted.  
Monday, June 27th Menu:  
Baked Penne Pasta, Salad, and Breadsticks  
Sponsored by Merrill Eagles Aerie 584

**Plautz's Pub LLC.**  
310 E. 2nd St., Merrill  
715-536-4611  
**HOURS**  
MON. - FRI. Noon - Close  
SAT. 4pm - Close  
SUN. Noon - Close  
**JUNE BOOZE OF THE MONTH**  
**SMIRNOFF**  
\$4.50 - 16 oz. Pint  
**LOOKING FOR BARTENDERS**  
**NIGHTS & WEEKEND'S FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE**

**COSMO Theatre** KIDS • \$5.00  
SENIORS • \$5.00  
ADULTS • \$8.00  
Main St. • Merrill  
**SHOW TIMES EFFECTIVE 6/24/22 TO 6/30/22**  
Mondays All Seats \$5.00  
**ELVIS**  
"PG13" (2HR 39MIN)  
FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM  
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 1:00 & 7:00PM  
TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7:00PM  
**LIGHTYEAR**  
"PG" (1HR 40MIN)  
FRIDAY: 1:00, 7:00 & 9:30PM  
SATURDAY: 1:00, 3:45, 7:00 & 9:30PM  
SUNDAY: 1:00, 3:45 & 7:00PM  
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  
www.cosmomovies.com  
715-536-4473

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Welcome to delicious.  
**ALL DAY FUNDRAISER**  
10AM - 10PM  
Thursday, June 30, 2022  
DONATING 10% OF SALES  
**LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH OF GLEASON**  
ALSO A Fresh Baked Goods Sale!  
**FLAVOR OF THE DAY CHOCOLATE ECLAIR**  
Culver's of Merrill  
3349 E. Main St.  
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Merrill's City Band performing in the Normal Park Gazebo.

Submitted photo.

## Merrill City Band Gazebo Nights begin June 29

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

The Merrill City Band will play their first concert of the 2022 summer season on Wednesday, June 29, at 7:00 p.m. at the Normal Park Gazebo. Directors Linda Becker and Michael Chula say they and the band members are "anxious to get together again and present an evening of toe-tapping music."

The June 29 concert is titled "Movies, Musicals, Medleys, Marches, and More" and will include:

"Best of the Beatles," "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," "Baby Elephant Walk," "Great Movie Marches," "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "The Great Race," and more!

On Wednesday, July 6, the Merrill City Band concert is titled "American Flourish," and will be an evening of patriotic selections. "All veterans, service, and auxiliary members are invited to attend," Becker said.

The July 13 concert is titled "Color My World" and will be held in conjunction with the "Chalk It Up" all day event and family fun night.

Concerts will continue every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Normal Park Gazebo through August 3. [However, in the event of rain, the band's final concert will be rescheduled for August 10.]

"Grab a lawn chair or blanket and come out for an evening of good old-fashioned concert band music in the park," Becker said. "The ever-popular 50/50 raffle will be in full swing and HAVEN will be providing a variety of concessions, so bring a few bucks to partake."

## T. B. Scott Free Library to add evening hours

BY JESSICA ZELLERS  
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Effective Tuesday, July 5, 2022, the T. B. Scott Free Library will expand its evening hours, staying open one hour later, from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. from Monday through Thursday.

Friday and Saturday hours will remain the same at this time: 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Library open hours have been reduced for the past two years. Originally this was due to COVID, but more recently, the biggest challenge has been staffing. Some people are dropping out of the workforce altogether. With inflation at record highs, it doesn't make financial sense to drive to work if the cost of gas or childcare consumes all your earnings. Other workers have been leaving their positions for jobs with better pay, better benefits, and bet-

ter conditions, such as opportunities to work from home.

This "Great Resignation" is a boon to the individual. We see evidence of this in Wisconsin's low unemployment rate of 2.8% in April (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics). But it means that employers must change their practices to attract and retain workers. That is why the City of Merrill revisited its personnel policy last year, implementing more generous vacation leave and flexible scheduling.

The best way to recruit and keep employees is with competitive wages. Ultimately, the library will need better funding from the City of Merrill and Lincoln County, if it is to maintain its professional workforce and increase the open hours. As the library's Director, I will advocate for increased resources.

But changes like that happen over the course of months and

years. For now, we will start with extending our evening hours after Independence Day. As our open positions get filled, new hires get trained, and staffing levels stabilize, we anticipate adding open hours on Friday and Saturday afternoons.

We also hope to find a good balance of library resources and community health practices. COVID levels are high again in Lincoln County. Following the guidance of the local, state, and federal health authorities, we are back to requiring masks for people who enter the building. But we have learned lessons from the first two years of the pandemic, so we will offer library programs outdoors if the weather permits, and indoors if we can do so safely.

I'd like to thank our patrons for their ongoing patience as we work toward more open hours and chart our way through COVID.

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**DRILL TEAM**  
from page 3

on the Rodeo City Riders Team, but I was on the Pink Ribbon Rebels Team, which is just like a younger team, for two years.”

“Honestly, I went to them [the Rodeo City Riders Team] after the Manawa Rodeo, and I was just like, ‘Hey, I’m interested in the team.’” She said she got a phone number, went to one of their practices and talked, and then went through a little try-out so they could see what her riding skills were like, what she was capable of, what her horse could do, and just who she was as a rider.

Once she landed a spot on the team, Ashley sold Razor [“he hated rodeo”] and got her current horse in February, a five-year-old palomino quarter horse named Squash. “She’s kinda young. She’s still a baby,” Ashley said. Then she started training with the Rodeo City Riders.

“We started walking when the snow was still going ... Just like walking indoors, walking the drill routines, so we memorized it,” Ashley said. And to clarify, “WE were walking. No horse.”

Ashley said the first step is for the riders to memorize the routine, and then they can teach it to their horses.

“It takes a while to practice the drill routine,” she said. “A lot of the girls are from past years, so the drill routine stays the same for most of it. We change a couple little things, but most of it stays the same, so it’s pretty easy for them to catch on. It’s just the new girls like me.”

When asked about training and working with horses, “I think slow work is really important,” she said. Work slow, lots of repetition, a little speed, and then more slow work. “Start slow and work your way in.”

**Manawa Rodeo Queen**

Ashley is also the 2022 Manawa Rodeo Queen, a topic of great interest to young girls who love to ride. In response to questions, she explained the process. “It’s a pageant,” Ashley said. “We did a horsemanship test, so kind of like a fair, we did a pattern basically, and then you run a couple flag laps and stuff like that, and



Sisters Ava Steinke and Lily Schultz pose with Ashley Johnson, member of the Rodeo City Riders Drill Team and the 2022 Manawa Rodeo Queen.

then we took a knowledge test of rodeo and horses. Then we did an interview kind of thing, and then we did a speech.”

Ashley was crowned Queen last year at the end of July.

In response to more questions, she explained the Manawa Rodeo Queen bling. “The buckle you get to keep, the chaps you have made and keep, the sash and the crown you give back to the next girl,” she said. “This sash is different than most sashes because it’s leather... it has all the initials of the people who have been Queen previously.” Some sashes, like the satin ones, Queens

can keep, she added. “If it says the year, those you can keep.”

**A bright future**

While she’s living one of her dreams related to horses and rural life, Ashley’s life and dreams are really just beginning. “I’m starting to learn to rope now with my sister, so we will eventually hopefully be team roping,” she said.

And, “I’m going to school to be an agriculture teacher.” Ashley said. She currently attends Fox Valley Tech in Appleton and will transfer to UW-River Falls to complete her education.

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**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**

**CW ESTATE SALE**  
**FRI. 6/24/22 2-6pm**  
**SAT. 6/25/22 10-3pm**  
**SUN. 6/26/22 10-2pm (1/2 off)**  
**2014 County road U, Wausau**  
 Terrific finds tucked back into this crazy sale! From unique things like an Elk, Moose, Mountain goats and Black bear taxidermy (and many more animals), to massive amounts of arts, crafts and sewing! The kitchen features finds like a rare antique Hoosier sellers spice rack, antique bottle opener, antique butter churns, jadeite bowl, Pampered Chef items as well as plenty of primitives! There's a beautiful Tiger Oak antique desk (also listed online), a couple antique secretaries, vintage armoire, vintage buffet, vintage unpainted ceramics, vintage Christmas, Pair of antique concrete Lion statues, concrete pig, concrete chickens and chicks, concrete bull, concrete seven dwarfs and tons more concrete and outdoor items! Officewares, linens, toys and a few local business memorabilia round out this eclectic sale! More info and pictures will be on our Facebook page, CW Estate Sales and Services.

**Garage Sale:** Friday, June 24-Sunday, June 26, 9:00-5:00, with lots of beautiful children's toys & clothes: Boy's sizes 0-4T. Girl's sizes 0-6T. Many Household items. Many mechanic, yard & other tools. One mile West of Merrill on Highway 64, then left to N1569 Snow Hill Rd.

**Rummage Sales This Week 7200**



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**Garage Sale: Thursday 6/23, Friday 6/24 and Saturday 6/25 & Thursday 6/30, Friday 7/1 and Saturday 7/2. 8 - 4 pm.** Antiques, Furniture, Antique Full-size Bedroom set, Home and Kitchen goods, Home decor. 247351 City Rd W Merrill.

**Rummage Sales This Week 7200**

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

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**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.

**Rummage Sales This Week 7200**

**June 23, 24, & 25** From 8am to 5pm at 601 E. 7th St. Merrill. New things in Original boxes. Roller skates, Ice Skates, bedding, Inflatable swimming accessories, Household and Much More.

**MOVING SALE:** N5157 Hay Meadow Dr, Gleason June 25, 8-5pm. June 26, 8-5pm. Tools, clothing, furniture, household items, misc construction parts, fishing, queen beds Priced to sell

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**Furniture, Appliances, Tools,** Table Saws, Clothes, Craft Items, Lawn Mowers, Yard Tools, Baby Items, Household Items, Angels, Knick Knacks, Books, Misc. Items. N4875 Town Hall Rd. Gleason, July 23, 24, & 25. 9-5

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**Living Estate Sale** at 3910 Airport Ave, Wisconsin Rapids, WI on Friday, June 24 9-5:30 & Saturday June 25 9-4. Sign-up starts 8AM! One-of-a Kind, original paintings; Llardo statues; Wendell August Collection; Lamps; Trophy Display Cases; Purdue University Collection; Full size bed; Dresser w/ mirror; Chest of Drawers (3); small desk; medical assist shower/tub chairs; Walker with hand brakes and seat; Bibles and Religious items; Jewelry; Like new recliner; Antique wood rocking chairs; Clothes; Dishes; Linens; Weed trimmers; Kenmore gas grill w/cover; Misc Power Tools; Hand tools; Gardening supplies; LP Vinyls; CD's (some are autographed); DVD's; and so much more...

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**To apply**

Go to the library website: [tbscottfreelibrary.org/jobs](http://tbscottfreelibrary.org/jobs). Open until filled. Preferred deadline is June 24th.



**Lincoln County Highway Department Accepting applications for Full Time Highway Workers**

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

**HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER Price County Highway Department**

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

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

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

**A completed application must be received by the Price County Office of Administration no later than 4:30 pm on Wednesday, June 29, 2022.**

Price County is an equal opportunity employer.



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New signage being installed at Merrill Community Bank, now known [along with Tomahawk Community Bank] as Crossbridge Community Bank. **Tina L. Scott photo.**

# TCB and MCB now known as Crossbridge Community Bank

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

Tomahawk Community Bank (TCB) and Merrill Community Bank (MCB) have combined to form one new consistent brand and became known as Crossbridge Community Bank, effective Tuesday, June 21, 2022.

name and new look. We've updated our brand, but not the people," the bank said in a press release dated June 20, 2022.

"We have been operating under two brands since our merger five years ago. As we've fully integrated our teams and our cultures, we wanted a new name that would represent our coming together as

"We are the same bank with a new

See **BANK** page 14

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**CLUES ACROSS**

- Half-conscious states
- Unnatural
- Deep regret
- Rogue
- Took without permission
- An alternative
- After B
- Partner to "flowed"
- The best day of the week (abbr.)
- Helps you hear
- Egyptian river
- Lake \_\_, one of the Great
- Make free from bacteria
- Indigenous peoples of central Canada
- Sanctuaries in Greek temples
- Most unclothed
- NJ senator Booker
- Tibetan lake
- Desecrate something sacred
- John \_\_, English educator 1467-1519
- Obtains in return for labor
- Views
- Rugged cliff
- Not quiet
- Body part
- Newt
- German city
- A way to save money
- NBC's Roker
- Dire Straits frontman
- Actress Lathan
- Most meager

**CLUES DOWN**

- Draws over
- Recur
- Current unit
- Neither
- Certified Radio Operator (abbr.)
- Power of perception
- Peace
- Supplemented with difficulty
- The last section or part of anything
- Dorm worker
- Bones
- Most unnatural
- Spanish island
- The skill to do something
- Where golf games begin
- Untethered
- Print errors
- Poems
- Companions
- Ones to look up to
- Stringed instrument
- Gives whippings
- Type of tie
- Make more concentrated
- Die
- Part of a winter hat
- Young men's club
- Bathrooms need it
- U.S. president
- American novelist
- Take into custody
- Hurts
- Type of gibbon
- American actor Lukas
- Partner to cheese
- Some are covert
- Political action committee
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- Atomic #28

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Level: Intermediate

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# Merrill's Historic Preservation Committee looks to preserve historic homes and buildings

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

"Recent changes to the City of Merrill's Historic Preservation Ordinance allows the City to recognize the historic nature of its buildings without compromising the rights of property owners," the Merrill Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) said in a recent press release.

According to the HPC, the Committee has recognized 22 properties that are considered historic landmarks over the years, with the most recent being the former Livingston/Legion Building.

According to the Ordinance, buildings suitable for an historic structure designation include any buildings in the City of Merrill that have "particular historic, architectural, archeological or cultural significance to the city which:

"(1)Exemplify or reflect the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state or community;

"(2)Are identified with historic personages or with important events in national,

state, or local history;

"(3)Embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction, or of indigenous materials or craftsmanship;

"(4)Are representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect who influenced his age; or

"(5)Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history."

In the past, the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance was perceived by some homeowners to be overly restrictive, which discouraged some homeowners from seeking or accepting a historic designation for their property.

Now, the new changes to the Ordinance allow property owners to be more flexible when preserving the exterior of their buildings and to have much greater flexibility about making their own changes within the structure, HPC members say.

Elizabeth McCrank, one member of the HPC, said some other cities go so far as

dictating and requiring permits and inspections just for someone to paint their bathrooms.

The new City of Merrill Historic Preservation Ordinance is a way of preserving historic structures for future generations, particularly relating to the exterior appearance of structures, without requiring the strict adherence other communities might have with regard to the exact materials used to preserve that historical appearance.

For instance, the new language in the Ordinance states: "The historic preservation committee shall establish advisory historic preservation standards to be used to assist property owners on proposed alterations to a historic structure. The purpose of these advisory standards is to preserve a 'streetview perspective' of the original character and structure."

Anyone can nominate a structure in the city to the historic list of properties. Homeowners and City officials can do so at no cost. Other parties can nominate a structure to the list of historic properties

for a nomination fee of \$75, which is used to help offset expenses, such as the plaque that is affixed to any building so designated as an historic structure.

While anyone can nominate a structure, it is up to the property owner to accept the nomination.

After a property is on the list of historic landmarks, the City can provide guidance and a list of contractors who provide reputable work that will sustain the original appearance of the structure.

Being designated as an historic structure in accordance with the newly-revised Ordinance also prohibits demolition of the structure without the approval of the HPC, helping to preserve the community's architecture and history for future generations.

To learn more about how to nominate a building in the City, contact the Building Inspector's Office in City Hall or call 715.536.4880. Contractors who specialize in preservation can also contact the office to be added to the known contractor list.

## BANK from page 13

a unified bank with a single purpose" and "a name that would embody our mission and speak to our commitment to help friends, neighbors, and communities get where they want to go. We are still a true community bank and always will be," the release said.

"Since 1920, our bank has been a part of the fabric of our towns. We've helped customers overcome obstacles and forged deep and lasting connections." Kathy Rankin, President of Crossbridge Community Bank

stated. "Our new logo is a sign of that shared history, of optimism and hope, of unity and connection. It conveys the strength of our past - and the potential of our future." Rankin added.

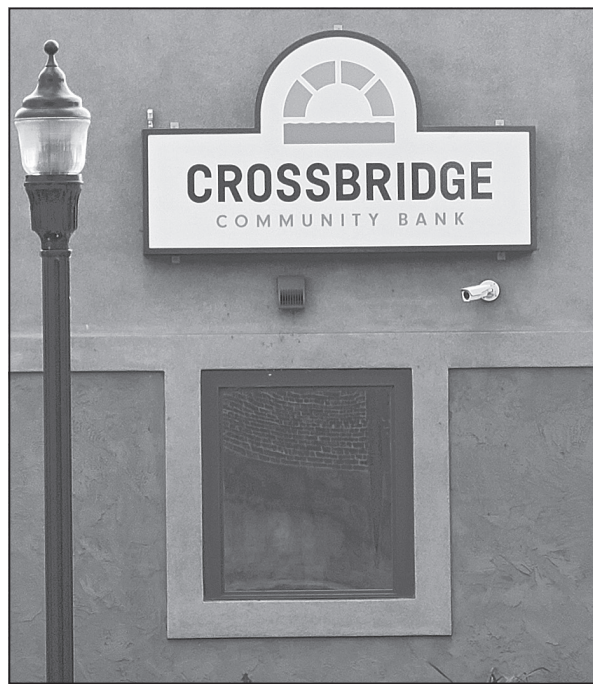
"Our customers will not see significant changes. Their account numbers and product offerings will all remain unchanged. The goal of a name change and look was to simply be able to tell our story more clearly and allow for growth that will carry us forward. It is truly as though we are crossing a bridge into our next 100

years," said Crossbridge Community Bank CEO Mark Zulliger.

Zulliger and Rankin invite customers to stop in and see what is new and, for those who aren't current customers, to see what they have to offer and learn what makes a mutual bank different from other financial institutions.

"As we move into our next 100 years, we will keep our customers and our communities as our primary purpose. We promise to keep our purpose first," the release said.

The bank's new website is: [www.crossbridge.bank](http://www.crossbridge.bank).



The new signage for Crossbridge Community Bank is now in place and the complete transition to the new name is in progress.

Tim Schreiber photo.



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## MERRILL from page 1

Jenny Bull Falls, consistent with the names of many communities along the Wisconsin River that ended with "Bull Falls." In 1851, the Town of Jenny was officially formed, but a state map of Wisconsin from 1853 shows the name as "Virginia," and not "Jenny." As such, there was speculation that the town was named after an actual person, however, there are no records to substantiate this. When formed, Jenny was a part of what was then Marathon County, a huge tract that includes all of what is now Lincoln County and the land north to Michigan [including most of Oneida and Vilas Counties and portions of present-day Langlade, Taylor, Price, Iron, and Ashland Counties], as well as the existing Marathon County.

Three Town Supervisors were selected to oversee the Town's business: W. Wilson, Chairman; John Cooper, Clerk; and Joe Snow, Side Supervisor. Andrew Warren was also chosen to be one of four Road District Superintendents for then Marathon County, with Warren representing the area of the County that included Jenny.

A story about an Indian princess named Jenny surfaced years later, suggesting that she was the origin of the town's name, but that story has been dismissed as quaint folklore and some accounts say a newspaper reporter from Milwaukee concocted the story in 1892. There is other speculation about the source of the name, but there are no facts to determine the true origin of the name Jenny for the town.

From just a few people and families in 1855, the community grew steadily and then drastically once the railroad

reached the area. "Jenny's growth was advanced by the building of a permanent bridge across the Wisconsin River in 1871, the growth of the original mill under the ownership of T.B. Scott, increased logging, and expansion of travel routes north of Jenny, and the arrival of the railroad in 1879," the Mayor's Proclamation reads.

The original paper mill built by Warren changed ownership a few times and by 1880 was owned entirely by T.B. Scott and became known as the T.B. Scott Lumber Co.

In 1881, the Village Board passed a Resolution to rename the town Merrill, after Sherburn Sanborn Merrill, who was the General Manager of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co. The original plat survey of the corresponding area took place.

In 1883, the City of Merrill was incorporated, and T.B. Scott was elected as the City's first Mayor.

### Celebrate 175 Years of Community Pride

The Merrill Historical Society History & Cultural Center, 100 E. Third St. in Merrill, will have a special exhibit commemorating the community's 175th Anniversary on display until Oct. 1, 2022, entitled "Celebrating 175 Years of Community Pride." The Merrill Historical Society History & Cultural Center is open to the public Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and visitors are also welcome to call in advance to set up a time to visit. They are happy to open if volunteers or staff are available, said Pat Burg, Merrill Historical Society Treasurer. Call 715.536.5652 or email: [merrillpast@gmail.com](mailto:merrillpast@gmail.com) for more information.



# Merrill legends: "The Voice of the Merrill Rangers" Chuck Summers and the day Hank Aaron played at Athletic Park

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Henry Louis Aaron [1934-2021], more commonly known as Hank Aaron, was a legendary American professional Major League Baseball right fielder who played in the pros from 1954-1976. He was named National League Most Valuable Player in 1957 and had a huge claim to fame because he surpassed Babe Ruth's career record of 714 home runs in 1974. Aaron retired in 1976 with 755 career home runs and held the new record for most home runs until Barry Bonds broke Aaron's record in Aug. 2007.

But did you know Hank Aaron played baseball here in Merrill's Athletic Park 70 years ago on June 28, 1952, before he went pro when he played for the Class C Northern League Eau Claire Bears against the Merrill Rangers? Many of Merrill's "old timers" were there to witness the game, and some, I've heard, were bat boys, water boys, and/or score keepers.

## The "Voice of the Merrill Rangers"

Merrill's own late Chuck Summers, known as the "Voice of the Merrill Rangers," was there to call the game play by play, for the local radio station, then WLIN.

Chuck's daughter, Missy Waid, said she and her sister discovered the score sheet from that infamous Merrill game when the Merrill Rangers played the Eau Claire Bears along with her dad's collection of score sheets, a book called "The Rangers' Reign," and other memorabilia her mother had kept over the years after her mother passed away in 2021. [Chuck passed away in 2007.]

Waid told her father's story in her own words: "In August of 1948, after stepping off the train, Chuck asked a Merrill resident where the radio station was in town. Seems he was one of the few people to know at the time that Merrill was going to have a radio station of their own."

Chuck Summers attended the Brown

The score sheet from the June 28, 1952, game between the Eau Claire Bears vs. the Merrill Rangers at Merrill's Athletic Park.

Institute in Minnesota to learn broadcasting. Former Congressman, Alvin O'Konski, owned the new radio station, WLIN, and O'Konski "needed an announcer who would be able to provide

play by play of local baseball," Waid said. At that time, the radio station was in a small white building that used to be where Bible Presbyterian Church is now located, and the building itself was moved



Chuck Summers (left) and Norm "Jiggs" Heideman in the 1951 National Tournament Broadcast Booth.

Submitted photo.

and is now located on the southwest corner of the Merrill Festival Grounds, according to Waid, and is used as the Fair Board office.

Waid said her dad "spent the night before the station began broadcasting in the studio studying all of the equipment" to learn how it all worked. Chuck and "his sidekick" [Waid's words] soon became the voices of WLIN in Merrill.

"In the beginning, Merrill Ranger Baseball games were big," Waid said, and her dad "recorded the games as they happened" and "then rushed back to the studio to play the tapes."

Chuck later broadcast for WSAU radio until 1960 when he returned to Merrill to work for the local radio station which is now WJMT.

Announcing those Rangers games was one of her dad's favorite things to do, Waid said. After he died, Chuck's family donated a bronze plaque commemorating his contribution and in his memory which hangs on the Athletic Park broadcast booth.

## The day Hank Aaron played at Athletic Park

Of course, no one knew June 28, 1952, would go down in Merrill history as the

See LEGENDS page 16

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<b>Pork Loins</b> Frozen ONLY \$1.99 a lb.	<b>Salted Butter Balls</b> 8 oz. <b>ONLY \$1.49</b>	<b>Cheddar Cheese</b> Sliced 5 lbs. <b>ONLY \$10.59</b>
<b>Cheese Hot Dogs</b> 20 Count - Frozen 32 oz. <b>ONLY \$4.29</b>	<b>Unsalted Butter</b> Half Sticks 8 oz. <b>ONLY \$1.59</b>	<b>Orange Juice</b> 100% Juice w/Calcium 59 oz. <b>ONLY \$1.79</b>
<b>Tomato Basil Stuffed Breadsticks</b> Frozen 14.5 oz. <b>ONLY \$2.99</b>	<b>Shredded Cheese</b> Fiesta Blend 5 lb. <b>ONLY \$11.49</b>	<b>Pineapple Chunks</b> IQF - Frozen 5 lbs. <b>ONLY \$1.59</b> a lb.
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<b>Cocktail Smokies Sausage</b> Frozen 14 oz. <b>ONLY \$1.69</b>	<b>Bacon Thick Cut</b> Applewood Smoked Frozen 16 oz. <b>ONLY \$3.29</b>	<b>Brown Sugar Spiral Sliced Ham</b> Frozen 8 lbs. <b>ONLY \$1.49</b> a lb.
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## 2022 Merrill Summer Baseball Schedule

<u>Merrill Rangers</u>			
Sunday, June 26	WI Rapids	Home	1:30 pm
Thursday, June 30	WI Rapids	Away	7:00 pm
<u>Merrill Post 46</u>			
Thursday, June 23	Marshfield	Away	8:00 pm
Tuesday, June 28	D. C. Everest	Home	7:00 pm
Wednesday, June 29	WI Rapids	Home	7:00 pm
<u>Junior Legion</u>			
Thursday, June 23	Marshfield	Away	5:00 pm
Monday, June 27	WI Rapids (DH)	Away	5:30 pm
Tuesday, June 28	D. C. Everest	Away	7:00 pm
Thursday, June 30	Medford (DH)	Away	6:00 pm
Wednesday, June 29	Wausau McLit	Home	6:00 pm
<u>Merrill 14U &amp; 15U Jr. Babe Ruth-Blue</u>			
Merrill White Team Has A Bye Week.			
<u>Merrill 13U Jr. Babe Ruth-Blue</u>			
Tuesday, June 28	Mosinee (Purple)	Home	6:00 pm
<u>Merrill 13U Jr. Babe Ruth-White</u>			
Tuesday, June 28	Mosinee (White)	Away	6:00 pm

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Merrill 13U went home Champions from their home tournament on June 10-12, 2022. On Friday night the Bluejays clinched the lead in the fourth inning to defeat DC Everest 8-4. The Merrill Bluejays had everything working on Sunday morning to win big over Crandon 14-1. The Bluejays faced Medford in the Championship game and walked away with another big victory winning 15-1. Front Row: Hunter Yingling, Erik Grunenwald, Jensen Olson, Ean Smith, Zach Bacon, and Cam Wallin. Back L to R: Tyler Spade, Jayden Graap, Cole Rudie, Tyson Ott, Brody Klebenow, and Jesse Morin. **Submitted photo.**

**RODEO**

from page 7

Tyler Berghuis, 75, \$733; 3. Briar Dittmer, 69, \$489; 4. Shannon Warren, 68, \$244.

**Steer wrestling:** 1. Chance Carlson, 6.0 seconds, \$1,104; 2. (tie) Clay Clayman and Cody Metsker, 6.2, \$819 each; 4. Peter Fager, 15.3, \$533; 5. Garrett Stevens, 15.6, \$343; 6. Nick Guy, 15.7, \$190.

**Team roping:** 1. Adam Rose/Cooper Freeman, 6.5 seconds, \$1,472 each; 2. Chance Oftedahl/Wyatt Kanan, 8.4, \$1,218; 3. Clint Wallace/J.W. Beck, 10.2, \$964; 4. Tyler Jackson/Josh Hamby, 12.3, \$711; 5. Chance Carlson/Steve Kuntz, 12.7, \$457; 6. Chance Locken/Dylan Campbell, 17.3, \$254.

**Saddle bronc riding:**



This cowboy is doing his best to hang on!

Tina L. Scott photo.



2023 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo Princess Emma Moodie (Left) and 2023 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo Queen Tiffany Smail (Right) were crowned at noon on Sunday, June 12, 2022, before Sunday's rodeo performance.

Photo courtesy of Lincoln County Rodeo Association.



Clay Clayman was named All Around Cowboy at the 2022 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo and won the 2022 WRPR Gary VanDerGeest Memorial Saddle. Clayman is shown with Bryan "Lurch" Bloch, President of the LCRA/WRPR. **Marty Welter**



Sherry Cervi receives the 2022 WRPR Gary VanDerGeest Memorial Saddle awarded to the winner of the Women's Barrel Racing. From L to R: Lincoln County Rodeo Association Rodeo Committee member Ashley Baeseman, Mary Kay VanDerGeest, and Sherry Cervi. **Marty Welter**

**LEGENDS** from page 15

day a shortstop from Mobile, Alabama, who would later become the American legend who broke Babe Ruth's home run record, played on our City's ball field. Or, for that matter, that two others on the team would go on to baseball fame of their own. [West Covington later became a left fielder for the Milwaukee Braves, and Bill Adair would later manage the

Chicago White Sox.]

On that day, the hometown crowd was stoked to see the Merrill Rangers end the game with a 4-1 win against the Eau Claire Bears after a six-inning game, cut short when the game was called due to fog that had rolled in from the Prairie River impairing visibility.

Incidentally, the one score for the Eau Claire Bears was not made by Hank Aaron. He was 0 for 3 against the Merrill Rangers.



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1. Dylan Hancock, 80 points on Barnes PRCA Rodeo's Moon Dance, \$1,090; 2. (tie) Byron Gilliland and Trey Watts, 77, \$682 each; 4. Jordan Corrigan, 71, \$273.

**Tie-down roping:** 1. Clay Clayman, 12.2 seconds, \$1,277; 2. Steve Kuntz, 12.9, \$1,057; 3. Coy Nelson, 17.9, \$836; 4. Josh Krueger, 18.7, \$616; 5. Nick Guy, 20.1, \$396; no other qualified runs.

**Barrel racing:** 1. Sherry Cervi, 16.50 seconds, \$1,256; 2. Katie Chism, 16.53, \$1,077; 3. Torey Foemmel, 16.73, \$897; 4. Morgan Anderson, 16.79, \$778;

5. Danyelle Hovland, 16.86, \$598; 6. Ronda Casey, 16.90, \$479; 7. Sara Winkelman, 16.96, \$359; 8. (tie) Cricket Gintner and Kristen Meyer, 16.98, \$209 each; 10. Jolene Hambley, 17.04, \$120.

**Bull riding:** 1. Jimy Marten, 86 points on Barnes PRCA Rodeo's Mr. Mack, \$996; 2. Mason Spain, 82, \$754; 3. Tristan McClelland, 80, \$543; 4. Riggen Hughes, 77, \$362; 5. Joe Phillips, 75, \$211; 6. Jake Weber, 72, \$151.

Total payout for all prize winners this year was \$33,989, up more than \$2,000 from last year.