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## Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepting applications for Supervisor vacancy in District 5

Applications are currently being accepted to fill a vacancy on the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors for District 5 (City of Merrill Wards 9 and 10). Interested applicants who live in Wards 9 and 10 of the City of Merrill are eligible to apply. (Call the Lincoln County Clerk's office at 715.539.1019 or go to this link to see the boundaries: [https://co.lincoln.wi.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/county\\_board/page/42836/district\\_5\\_map\\_2021.pdf](https://co.lincoln.wi.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/county_board/page/42836/district_5_map_2021.pdf).)

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest and personal qualifications to Chairman Don Friske, c/o Lincoln County Clerk's Office, 801 N. Sales St, Suite 201, Merrill, WI 54452. Letters of interest may also be emailed to: [chris.marlowe@co.lincoln.wi.us](mailto:chris.marlowe@co.lincoln.wi.us)

Preference will be given to those applications received by 4:00 p.m. on Dec. 12, 2022.

See **VACANCY** page 6

## Merrill Fire Department hires first full-time female firefighter/paramedic

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

The Merrill Fire Department (MFD) hired its first full-time female firefighter/paramedic in the Department's 125-year history in October 2022. Kendall Nelson was sworn in as a MFD Firefighter/Paramedic (FF/P) on her first day of work, Oct. 31, 2022, by Merrill City Clerk Lori Anderson-Malm, officially became the 189th member of the MFD, and made Merrill Fire Department history.

"I am honored to have earned this position as the first female Firefighter/Paramedic in the Department's history," Nelson said. "Whether I knew it or not, my journey through life has prepared me in many aspects for the job I was hired



Kendall Nelson. Photo courtesy of Merrill Fire Department.

to do. I am proud of this historical moment and am even more proud of being the 189th member of the Merrill Fire Department."

"I am passionate about helping people and to work in a career doing that is incredibly rewarding. Being the first female Firefighter/Paramedic at MFD is a privilege and humbling for many of reasons, but most importantly, I serve as a role model for young people to look up to. I am proof that you can do anything or be anything you want, but you have to work hard for it no matter your gender," she said. "If my role on the Department influences one person during my career to pursue their dreams or achieve the unachievable, then it was a success."

See **NELSON** page 2

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## School House Unique ... the name says it all

Our changing world created an opportunity for a Colorado couple to relocate, pursue their dreams, and make Wisconsin their home

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

Very literally set in a former school house now located at N721 Range Line Rd., Merrill, in the

Town of Pine River, School House Unique is the name of a unique gift shop that offers handcrafted items from area artisans, antiques, and unique finds you're not likely to find anywhere else.

The school house building itself was most recently used for a Sunday School before being moved to its current location years ago and was likely moved more than once over the years based on the history the owners have learned of the building.

The owners of the property and the entrepreneurs behind the gift shop and some other unique uses for the property are Kristin and Adam Kittel, who live in the home on the property and purchased the 20-acre parcel in May of 2020.

### From Colorado to Wisconsin

The Kittels came to Wisconsin by way of Colorado after Kristin decided Wisconsin was where she wanted to put down roots, and then fiance Adam was set to do whatever would make his future bride happy.

Originally from far north New Jersey up in the mountains, Adam lived in the Appalachians and loved the mountains. "My first experience with a suburb was Colorado," he said. He wasn't impressed. "I thought I would be moving from the Appalachians in New Jersey, to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado."

But it didn't work that way if you wanted a job in IT back then, he said.

See **UNIQUE** page 8

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# Kraegenbrink Promoted to Battalion Chief at MFD

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

John Kraegenbrink was promoted to Battalion Chief - Operations at the Merrill Fire Department (MFD) during a badge-pinning ceremony on Friday, Oct. 28, 2022, at the Merrill Fire Station. His wife, Kelly, did the honors of pinning his new badge to his uniform as daughters, Brooklyn and Korina, looked on. He also received his new helmet.



John Kraegenbrink  
Stacy Literski photo.



John Kraegenbrink's wife, Kelly, pins him during the badge-pinning ceremony celebrating his promotion to Battalion Chief.  
Tina L. Scott photo.

Oct. 30 was his first day serving in the new role. "As the Battalion Chief in charge of B Crew, he will supervise six Firefighter/Paramedics and be responsible for the overall, daily operations of the Merrill Fire Department when on duty," Fire Chief Josh Klug said in a prepared statement. "Additionally, John will handle lead coordination of the MFD's public education/relations division and station facilities division."

Kraegenbrink, a 1995 graduate of Merrill High School, and joined the MFD in 2002. Prior to that, he was a member of the Town of Russell Fire Department.

"In the fall of 2020, Kraegenbrink competed with four other internal candidates of the Department for top spot on the eligibility list for Battalion Chief," Klug said. "The promotional process was very extensive, including a written test, peer review, two separate interview panels, writing assignment, and assessment center. The process was one of the most comprehensive processes in department history."

"While all four candidates performed well in the process, Kraegenbrink topped the list," he said. "The Merrill Police and Fire

Commission officially approved Chief Klug's recommendation to approve Kraegenbrink at their October meeting of this year."

Kraegenbrink has been with the MFD for 19 years. During that time, he completed many training courses including ice and swiftwater rescue, confined space rescue, hazardous materials, incident command courses, fire investigations, and ICS 100 - 800. He holds state certifications/license of Firefighter I & II, EMT-Paramedic, Driver/Operator - Pumper & Aerial, Fire Inspector, Emergency Services Instructor, and Fire Officer I & II. He also recently attended fire and arson investigation training in Stevens Point.

Kraegenbrink has also been organizing and improving the MFD's fire prevention program for the last several years and was instrumental in changing the program last year "to meet students' needs during the COVID pandemic by moving all classes to virtual classrooms." He has also been President of the Merrill Firefighters Local 847 union for many years.

"Kraegenbrink's personnel folder is full of his various accomplishments and commendations," Klug said. "Many have shared their appreciation and thankfulness of John's dedicated service to the

See CHIEF page 9

## NELSON from page 1

Nelson's first week was orientation, and then she joined her shift, B-Crew, on Nov. 5. "She will complete 10 work shifts before being considered part of the daily minimum staffing. These shifts give her time to learn the basics of the job for our department," MFD Chief Josh Klug said in a prepared statement.

Nelson isn't a stranger to the MFD. "Nelson was actually hired as a Limited Term Employee (LTE) by our department in December 2020 to serve as a Community Paramedic during the COVID pandemic," Klug said. "All of her previous emergency services experience has prepared her for the start of her career with the MFD."

Nelson graduated from Tomahawk High School in 2012, then attended UW - Stevens Point, Northcentral Technical College (NTC), and Mid-State Technical College (MSTC). She has a Paramedic Associate Degree and also achieved Wisconsin state Firefighter I & II certifications. In addition, she is currently pursuing a Bachelor Degree in Emergency Medical Services from the University of South Alabama.

Prior to joining MFD, Nelson worked as a hospital-based paramedic for Tomahawk EMS since 2015. Then in 2016, she started



Kendall Nelson is sworn in by City Clerk Lori Anderson-Malm to become Merrill Fire Department's first full-time female Firefighter/Paramedic and to become the 189th member of the MFD.  
Photo courtesy of Merrill Fire Department.

working for both Tomahawk Fire Department and Mosinee Fire District and at Mosinee FD, advanced to the rank of Lieutenant.

Outside of work, Nelson plays sports and also coaches youth sports including hockey and softball, and is an avid Wisconsin Badger fan, especially for Badger hockey, and attends as many games as she can.

She also belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles #584 Women's Auxiliary.

The MFD is confident Nelson will be a great addition to the staff.

"When we looked at her resume and interviewed her, we knew we had a special candidate. We hired the best person for the job. It didn't matter if it was a male or female," Klug said.

The MFD will host a badge pinning ceremony for Firefighter/Paramedic Nelson in December. The exact date and time will be announced later, and the public will be invited. "In the meantime, we encourage the public to welcome her to our community," Klug said. "The MFD is excited to have Kendall as our 189th member."



L to R: Logan Lange, representing the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office; Don Seubert, representing the Merrill Police Department; Kyle Banaszak, representing the Merrill Fire Department; Jeni Hinz, representing Crime Stoppers of Lincoln County; and Phil Skoug, of the Merrill Fire Department. Each of the first responders holds one of the care kit bags from Operation Gratitude.

Submitted photo.

# Crime Stoppers, Operation Gratitude combine to help thank local first responders

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Early in November, local first responders at the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, the Merrill Police Department, and the Merrill Fire Department all received care packages from Operation Gratitude, at the request of the Lincoln County Crime Stoppers organization.

Especially this month, "With Thanksgiving coming up, this is a perfect time to show our gratitude, how thankful we are," said Jeni Hinz, representative for Lincoln

County Crime Stoppers, "for our local first responders and law enforcement and everyone who is working on the front lines, including here at home."

Operation Gratitude, a nationwide non-profit, provides people across the U.S. with opportunities to say "thank you" to current military, veterans, and first responders.

Hinz first learned of the organization as a volunteer with the Never Forgotten Honor Flight when the veterans on the flights received care packages from Operation Gratitude. "All of our veterans get a box for

Honor Flight," Hinz said.

Then someone who was part of the Never Forgotten Honor Flight program told her that Operation Gratitude also offered care packages for local law enforcement and fire department first responders, and she set out to learn more about it.

When Operation Gratitude came into existence, it sent its very first four care packages out to deployed U.S. military in March 2003. Since then, thousands of Americans

See **CRIME STOPPERS**  
page 11

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- Free Family Christmas Movie at 6:30 PM (inside church)
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*All are welcome!*

**22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL "SHOP TIL YOU DROP" POKER RUN**

**Thank You**

*Westside Market, Victoria's Floral, 710 Smoke Shop, Miller's Home Furnishings, Ballyhoos Eatery, Merrill Historical Society, Auntie Ray's Coffee House, Polka Dotted Pie, Hargrave's Appliance Center, Merrill Ace Hardware, VIP Office Products, Klug's Country Gold, Courtside Furniture, Merrill Sheet Metal, St Francis Xavier Church & the Merrill Chamber:*

Would like to thank everyone for participating in our 22<sup>nd</sup> annual event. We greatly appreciate the support we receive from the Merrill and surrounding communities. We are always looking for easier ways to conduct the poker run to continue a joyous and successful event. Next year we are planning additional updates e.g. add additional prizes, specials, perks, & simplify our collection process. We look forward seeing you for our 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Poker Run. Courtside Furniture would personally like to thank the two young men for the great job they did for the Poker Run Participants: Andrew Proulx & Kaiden Ratzlaff. Way to go guys!

**2022 POKER RUN WINNERS**

Grand Prize:	<b>Mitzi Flegner</b>	[Royal Flush]
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place tie:	<b>Shirley Borchardt &amp; Melissa Hill</b>	[king high straight flush]
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: TBD	4 (four) way tie:	a) <b>Todd Wipperfurth</b> [9 high straight flush] b) <b>Eldon Kloth</b> [9 high straight flush] c) <b>Penny Pehlke</b> [9 high straight flush] d) <b>Joe Abt</b> [9 high straight flush]
Worst Hand: TBD	5 (five) way tie:	a) <b>Barb Krueger</b> [not suited 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7] b) <b>Larry Woller</b> [not suited 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7] c) <b>Denise Latzig</b> [not suited 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7] d) <b>Ann Ruder</b> [not suited 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7] e) <b>Nancy Smith</b> [not suited 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7]

Thank you very much for your participation,  
**The Poker Committee**

**Merrill Area United Way** **75 years** **United Way** **Merrill Area United Way**

**GIVE • ADVOCATE • VOLUNTEER**

November 2022 -- Foto News Article  
Merrill Area United Way  
Dee Olsen, Executive Director

Every day at United Way has something interesting in it. This past week we were challenged with loss of power, followed by the loss of internet service for a full week, and then a water pipe burst at the office building, shutting down the water (plus restrooms). Yet, our optimism prevails, and we reflect on all the positives. United Way has just wrapped up our fall campaign which supports the agencies in 2023. With 2021 being our best campaign year ever, we cannot be disappointed with an eleven percent decline in our campaign total for 2022-23. Our Board Allocation Teams meet this month to determine what the funding level recommendations will be.

During this special time of Thanksgiving, the Merrill Area United Way is so very grateful and blessed to have such caring people in our community. MAUW is also thankful for the wonderful companies that engage in an employee giving campaign, and of course, the many individuals, retirees and small businesses that have donated to United Way. We also have churches and organizations that support our ongoing efforts. Not just at Thanksgiving time, but all year long, one of the very important things we are thankful for are the wonderful agencies who carry out the many tasks that make a real difference in the lives of many people through these great works.

Thanksgiving is a unique time to reflect and truly focus our attention on the most meaningful things in our lives. Of course, a loving and caring family; close friends; good health; having a job; having a place to call home; and having enough money to cover the things that make life comfortable are some of the many things we are grateful for. Not everyone is privileged to have these valuable things in their lives. But by "LIVING UNITED" we can take steps to elevate people's lifestyles, little by little.

Every time someone is helped with the very basic of needs such as food, shelter, having a safe and secure place to stay, we are thankful. Our agencies help direct people to the resources to make certain no one goes hungry; they stay warm and have a roof over their head. They guide them into areas of financial management to help sustain self-sufficiency. Developing leadership, good values, responsibility, skills, and character in our children and teens through the educational programs we assist with funding is beneficial.

The staff at our funded agencies and the hundreds of volunteers that participate in the work of these agencies are giving all the time. They work with a passion for others. For these wonderful people we are most grateful. Merrill is a "Giving Community." Those that "pay it forward" are sure to find their rewards along the way too. Yes, Thanksgiving is a time to acknowledge what is important in life and how grateful we are for our blessings. Of course, there is always more to be done. Make HOLIDAY GIVING a family event. People can find ways to help others by volunteering, i.e., ringing bells with the Salvation Army, giving to Food For Kids, donating food to the Merrill Food Pantry or your church food pantry, providing children Christmas gifts through the Christmas Spirit Appeal program, or area Churches to ensure a Christmas gift for all children that would not otherwise have a Christmas.

**MAUW wishes all donors and partners a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!**

Remember United Way accepts donations year-round and is determined to make a positive difference in the Merrill area. To support our cause, send checks to Merrill Area United Way, at P. O. Box 813, Merrill 54452. Our website is [www.merrillareaunderway.org](http://www.merrillareaunderway.org) where Pay Pal donations can now be made. For further information email us at [delores.olsen@merrillareaunderway.org](mailto:delores.olsen@merrillareaunderway.org) ; or call our part-time office at 715-536-2016.

OBITUARIES



LaVila Jane (Buch) Krueger, age 86, of Merrill, passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at Applegate Terrace in Wausau.

LaVila was born on July 20, 1936, to Rheinard and Bertha (Hahn) Buch. LaVila graduated from Merrill High School. On May 11, 1957, LaVila was united in marriage to the love of her life, Eugene "Fuzzy" Krueger at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Town of Corning. They made their home together at the former Leafy Grove School that they remodeled which was built in 1926, and this was where they raised their three children, Cindy, Steve, and Terry. Eugene passed away on November 4, 2008.

LaVila was a loving, easygoing, and patient woman. She had a very sharp mind and gentle persistence in how she would interact with her family - even down to the details about her favorite family tradition of decorating her Christmas tree. If she needed to, she wasn't afraid to give a gentle finger wag of disapproval accompanied by a gentle, "I don't think so." She was a brilliant cook and never needed a recipe. She made the best cheesecake, soups, potato salad, and Packer Jello. LaVila and Eugene enjoyed polka and line dancing and visiting Door County. Her most treasured moments were the ones she spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

LaVila was active with Immanuel's Ladies League and Choir, regularly cooking and baking for church functions as well as for the VFW and Venison Feed.

LaVila will forever be remembered by her children, Cindy (Brian) Lezotte, Steven (Karen) Krueger, and Terry (Beth) Krueger; grandchildren, Christy (Jason) Haller, Matthew (Erin) Koehler, Stacy (Brian) Literski, Brindy (Matt) Literski, Bryce (Cassie) Lezotte, Brian (Cassey) Krueger, Sarah (Nathan) Rahe, Joshua Krueger, Camilla Krueger, and Allie Schwarzhuber; 17 great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; many other friends and relatives; and her beloved cat, Cutie Marie.

LaVila was preceded in death by her loving husband, Eugene "Fuzzy"; grandson, Jacob Lezotte; parents, Rheinard and Bertha; brother, Earl (Arlene) Buch; and nephew, Darrel Buch.

A Funeral Service was held for LaVila at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at Immanuel Lutheran Church (N1660 Leafy Grove Rd, Merrill, WI 54452) with Pastor Joel Danner officiating. A public visitation was held from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM prior to the service at the church.

LaVila will be interred next to her husband, Eugene, at Immanuel Lutheran Church Cemetery.

LaVila's family would like to thank the staff at Applegate Terrace in Wausau for their wonderful care and support while making her feel at home over the last year.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in LaVila's name to Immanuel Lutheran Church.

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.

Christian Kausalik, Age 75, Died on September 28, 2022. She was born on June 28, 1947. Parents: Carl "Duke" Kausalik and Florence Johnson Kausalik. Graveside services were held on November 10, 2022 at St. Mary's Cemetery in Albia, Iowa.



Shane Michael Dickman, of Antigo, died Sunday, November 13, 2022, at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. He was 41 years old. Shane was born April 11, 1981, in Antigo, a son of the late Wallace Dickman and Sally Hull. Shane attended Antigo High School. He worked for High Ground Tree Farm in Merrill for many years and most recently, Antigo Block Company.

Shane loved fishing and had many photos of the muskies he caught. He loved the outdoors and was an extremely hard worker. He spent his life helping others and was always there for anyone who needed something.

Survivors include his mother, Sally Hull; fiancé Carol Burns of Rhinelander; daughter Kaitlyn; sons Zachary and Michael; sisters Marie (Ron) Kwick of Pearson, Heather (Jason) Wagner of Gleason, Rebecca (Joe) Schedlbauer of Edgar, Susan (Frank) Dart of Suring, Laura Slaker of Wausau; brothers Bradley Dickman (Susan McKenna) of Phlox; Kerry Mosher (Tricia Gilbert) of Rhinelander; and Robert Dickman of Sturgeon Bay; many nieces and nephews; and his special friend, his dog Leelee.

He was preceded in death by his father, Wallace Dickman. Bradley Funeral Home in Antigo is assisting the family with arrangements. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

On People With Meaning

DEAR READER,

Here's a question to consider: Are you a meaningful person? A person of good character and integrity?

Ask yourself, am I going to do something good and noble today? Do I serve others, or do I just serve myself?

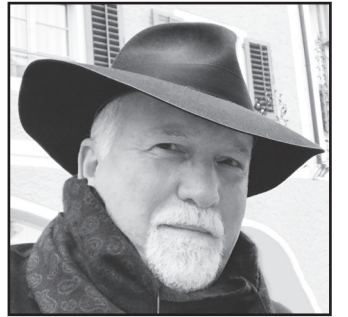
Am I a liar? A cheat? Do I want to shuck everyone for maybe having been shucked somewhere sometime ago?

We live in a topsy-turvy world, yet there is a certain spirituality inherent in each day. We need to focus on the good, the positive, the blessings of sharing an infectious compassion among our people.

Dig deep inside yourself and do something worthy for those you interact with today. Do it for the meaning of mankind. "Spreading bread across the waters" will, when you least expect it, come back to you and those in your circle of love.

PATRICK J. WOOD PUBLISHER

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

TO THE EDITOR:

I unapologetically admit that I spent my early years in Chicago, where traversing the city often meant traveling on the infamous CTA (i.e., Chicago Transit Authority). Anyone who has had that dubious experience can attest to its somewhat sketchy reputation. Some of the bus drivers were the incarnate of Ralph Kramden! So, imagine my surprise when I moved to

Merrill a few years ago and discovered that not all transit systems are the same.

The Merrill Transit Authority, best known as the Merrill Go Round, is a wonderful way to traverse the city. The office staff is top notch, and the drivers are caring and efficient. What prompted me to write this came from a discussion with a new resident who was misinformed about this service.

No, there are not conventional "bus stops." Just call and they will pick you up where you want. Tell them when you want to return, and they will take you back. All for an incredibly low price! They can accommodate anyone despite your mobility [issues]. Every bus is equipped with a ramp and even wheelchair seating.

See LETTERS page 7

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



# LEGAL NOTICES

**Legals 7700**

DATE SIGNED: November 11, 2022  
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer  
Probate Registrar

**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
KENNETH M. ELLENBECKER**  
DOD: 01/25/2020  
**Notice to Creditors  
(Informal Administration)**  
Case No. 2022 IN 58

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 12/25/1982, and date of death 01/25/2020, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 1502 River Street, Merrill, WI 54452.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is March 17, 2023.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.

Andrew W. Schmidt  
SCHMIDT & SCHMIDT, S.C.  
PO BOX 146  
Wausau, WI 54402-0146  
715-845-9621 /Bar #1030985  
Published 11/24/22, 12/1/22 & 12/8/22  
WNAXLP

**Merrill Area Public Schools  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
October 19, 2022 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Blake at 5:31 PM in the Board Room. Board members present: Gremler, Krueger, Liberty, Osness, Volpe, and Blake. Board members absent: Proulx, Woller and Yingling. Others Present: Superintendent Murray, MAPS Administrators, Rell and Rudie, four people from the staff and public and Recorder Woller.

MOTION by Osness, second by Volpe to approve the Head Start Annual Report as presented to the Board. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Volpe to approve the FY24 budget calendar as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Liberty to approve the Grades 9-12 New York City theater tour trip for June of 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Liberty to approve the purchase of SPIRE for grades K-4 as a Title III reading intervention paid from the FY22 Title IV funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Brett Woller arrived at 6:12 p.m.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the donation of a Can Am UTV from the Friends of the Forest valued at \$30,895 for use at the Nels P. Evjue School Forest. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the attached personnel report, contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Volpe to approve consent agenda items a through d, which includes minutes of the September 29, 2022, meetings; second readings of Policy 2370 Educational Options Provided by the District; and, Policy 8146 Notification of Educational Options; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,450,757.79; and, donations totaling \$2,585. Motion carried unanimously.

Blake called for a motion to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section 19.85(1)(c); (e) d; (f) except where par. (b) applies; (g); and, 118.125. The purpose of the closed session is for the consideration of (and possible action regarding) applications for participation in the Early College Credit and Start College Now programs; and, to discuss the Superintendent's regularly scheduled formative evaluation.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Volpe left the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

MOTION by Woller, second by Liberty to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Krueger to approve the 11 Early College Credit courses and the 19 Start College Now courses as presented in closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Gremler to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kendra Osness  
Board Clerk  
KO/tlw  
(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting [www.mapsedu.org](http://www.mapsedu.org), or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)  
Published November 24, 2022  
WNAXLP

**Legals 7700**

**Merrill Area Public Schools  
Special Board of Education Meeting  
October 24, 2022 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by PBlake at 6:04 p.m. in the MHS Auditorium.

Board members present: Gremler, Krueger, Liberty, Proulx, Osness, Volpe, Woller and Blake. Board members absent: Linda Yingling. Others present: Superintendent Murray, MAPS administrators, 8 people from the public and staff and Recorder Woller.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the 2022-2023 budget as presented and to set the property tax levy at \$7,490,777 for Fund 10 and \$225,000 for Fund 80 for a total levy of \$7,715,777. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Krueger, second by Liberty to adjourn at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kendra Osness  
Board Clerk  
KO/tlw  
(The official minutes in their entirety are available by calling (715) 536-4581, by visiting [www.mapsedu.org](http://www.mapsedu.org), or by visiting the MAPS District Office at 1111 N. Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin.)  
Published November 24, 2022  
WNAXLP

**Legals 7700**

DATE SIGNED: November 18, 2022  
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer  
Probate Registrar

**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
PATRICIA GARNETT**  
**Notice to Creditors  
(Informal Administration)**  
Case No. 2022 IN 59

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth January 28, 1936, and date of death February 11, 2022, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 2100 E. 6th St., Merrill, WI 54452.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 03-24-2023.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.

Atty. Miranda M. Lamb  
Nolan & Defner Legacy Law  
1803 Stewart Ave.  
Wausau, WI 54401  
715-842-0888 /Bar # 1112872  
Published 11/24/22, 12/1/22 & 12/8/22  
WNAXLP

**NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION  
TOWN OF RUSSELL • LINCOLN COUNTY  
GLEASON WI 54435 • 715-873-4141  
TUESDAY – APRIL 4, 2023**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an election is to be held in the TOWN OF RUSSELL, on TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023. The following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The term for all offices is for two years beginning on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>INCUMBENT</u>
Town Board Chairperson	Robert Kressel
Town Board Supervisor	David Heller
Town Board Supervisor	Marty Sosnovske
Town Clerk	Amy Brown
Town Treasurer	Susan Fisher

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2022 and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 in the office of the Town Clerk, N5369 Hwy 17, Gleason WI 54435, 715-873-4141.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Done in the Town of Russell  
On November 23, 2022  
Amy Brown, Town Clerk  
Published November 24, 2022  
WNAXLP

**NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION  
TOWN OF BIRCH,  
Spring Election April 2023**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held in the Town of Birch on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, to fill the following offices to succeed the incumbents listed. The term for all town offices is for two years beginning on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

Chairperson	--- David Fox, incumbent
Supervisor	--- Debra Gano, incumbent
Supervisor	--- Terry Lokemoen, incumbent
Clerk	--- Megan Webb incumbent
Treasurer	--- Marlene Fox, incumbent

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2022, and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00pm on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 in the office of the Town Clerk, PO BOX 71, Irma, WI 54442, 920-723-0673.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Megan Webb, Town Clerk  
Published November 24, 2022  
WNAXLP

**NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION  
TOWN OF SCOTT  
April 4, 2023**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the Town of Scott on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. All terms are for two years beginning on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>
Town Board Chairperson	Michael Woller
Town Board Supervisors (2)	Gerald Engel Peter Rajek Jr.
Town Clerk	VACANT
Town Treasurer	Ann Krueger

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that a town caucus for the purpose of nominating candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the above listed offices will be January 10th, 2023. Notice of the scheduled date of the caucus will be given at least five days before the caucus.

Please recycle. Ann Krueger, Treasurer  
Published November 24, 2022  
WNAXLP

# Public Notice

**United States of America Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission ANR Pipeline Company Docket No. CP23-15-000**

TC Energy's ANR Pipeline Company ("ANR") has filed an application before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in Docket No. CP23-15-000. ANR's application proposes the Wisconsin Reliability Project (WRP), a reliability and expansion Project, located in Manitowoc, Marathon, Merril, Oconto, Outagamie, Portage, Sheboygan, Washington, Waupaca, and Winnebago Counties, Wisconsin, and McHenry County, Illinois.

**Description of Company:**

ANR is a company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business located at 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 1300, Houston, Texas 77002-2700, and is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of TC Energy Corporation. ANR is authorized to do business in the states of Arkansas, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin. ANR is a "natural-gas company" as defined under the NGA, engaged primarily in the business of transporting natural gas and operating underground storage fields in interstate commerce under authorizations granted by and subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

**Project's Purpose and Scope:**

The proposed Project consists of the replacement of approximately 48 miles of ANR's existing pipeline, with approximately 51 miles of new larger diameter pipeline, located mostly within ANR's existing right-of-way, modifications and replacement of two existing compressor facilities, modifications to six-meter stations and the installation and removal of auxiliary facilities. Upon completion, the Project will upgrade existing pipeline facilities with new, more modern pipeline and compression facilities to provide continued safe and reliable natural gas transportation service to existing customers on ANR's pipeline system. The Project will also provide 144,000 dekatherms per day ("Dth/d") of mainline capacity on ANR's pipeline system that will provide much needed natural gas supply to residential, commercial, and industrial consumers in the states of Wisconsin and Illinois. ANR anticipates commencing construction in 2024 after receipt of all necessary approvals with a target in-service date of November 2025.

**Description:**

A map indicating the general location of construction associated with the Project is shown. More information on WRP can be found on its Project specific website: [www.tcenergy.com/wrp](http://www.tcenergy.com/wrp).

**For More Information:**

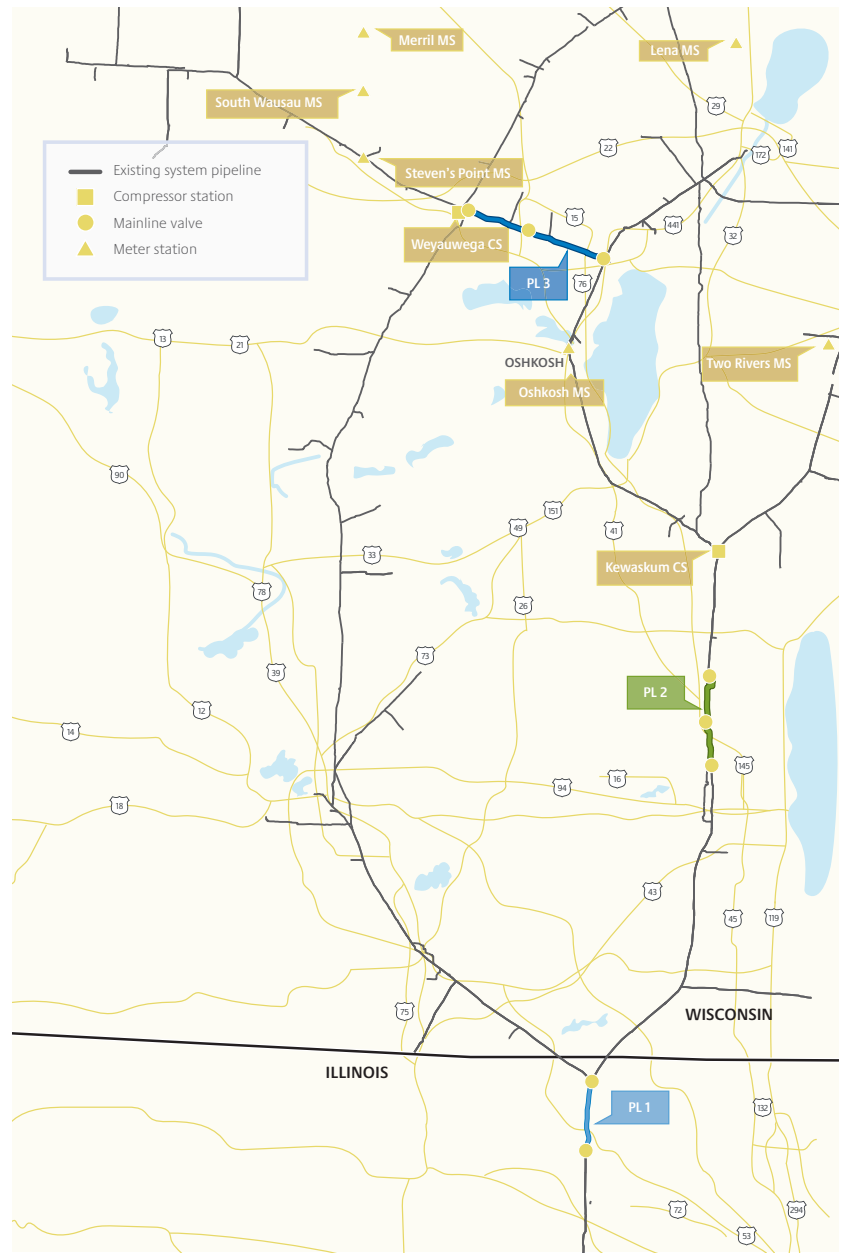
A copy of the application ANR filed with FERC is available at: T B Scott Free Library, Marathon County Public Library, Lena Public Library, Portage County Public Library, Manitowoc Public Library, Oshkosh Public Library, Kewaskum Public Library, Menomonee Falls Public Library, Germantown Community Library, Weyauwega Public Library, Appleton Public Library, and Woodstock Public Library.

The application is also accessible via FERC's website. Go to [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov), click on eLibrary (upper right-hand corner of screen) and perform a search using Docket No. CP23-15-000.

A separate copy of FERC's notice of the application specifically stating the date by which timely motions to intervene are due, together with FERC's information sheet about how to intervene in FERC proceedings, will be mailed to affected landowners and government entities shortly after FERC issues a formal notice of ANR's application.

Information about citizen rights under FERC regulations can be found by visiting the FERC website, [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). FERC's information pamphlet, "An Interstate Natural Gas Pipeline on My Land?" is available at <https://www.ferc.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AnInterstateNaturalGasFacility.WhatYouNeedToKnow.pdf>. The information can also be obtained by calling FERC's office of External Affairs at 866-208-3372.

For more information, interested persons can contact Brittany Brockway, Community Relations and Stakeholder Outreach, Senior Advisor, at [Brittany\\_Brockway@tcenergy.com](mailto:Brittany_Brockway@tcenergy.com) or call ANR's toll-free number at 877-287-1782.



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# Merrill Foto News and MMC focused on community

TINA L. SCOTT  
EDITOR

Multi Media Channels (MMC), which is the parent company of the Merrill Foto News and many other publications in Wisconsin, has a mission to help the homeless and to try to end homelessness in our local communities.

We also recognize it's not just the homeless that need help. There are many others who find it difficult to make ends meet and to put food on the table amid rising prices. As the holidays approach, this can be a particularly stressful time for many. And even those who thought they would never need a food pantry may find themselves in need of a helping hand.

We want to help by collecting non-perishable food items here at the Merrill Foto News office, 921 E. Main St., in Merrill, during our normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. We recognize the Community Food Pantry has limited hours, so we are hopeful that this additional donation location will make it easier for community members to donate non-perishable food to help others within our Lincoln County community. All donations collected will go directly to the Community Food Pantry of Lincoln County.

And MMC and the Foto News hope that by providing an additional drop-off location for non-perishable items, the Merrill community can provide even more help to those in need in our own area.

While you are doing your normal shopping, if you are able, pick up a few extra non-perishable grocery items and drop them off at the Foto News office when you're downtown.

This will be an ongoing effort to help the Community Food Pantry.

### Need help?

In June 2022, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) set up a new program of eligibility for clients. This reflects new income limits, so families that may not have been eligible to receive help in the past may now qualify to receive the help they need from the Community Food Pantry. If your family is in need, call the Community Food Pantry at 715.536.4505 to see if you are eligible and/or to set up an appoint-

ment. The Community Food Pantry of Lincoln County is located at 503 S. Center Ave. in Merrill, just north of the hospital in the Menard Center, Door M-8. Hours are: Monday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and Thursday 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Appointments are preferred.

### Thank you to the community

The co-managers of the Community Food Pantry, Al Crevier and Sister Celine Goessl, said the people of the Merrill area have been most generous in providing food and funds to carry on the work of the pantry, whose mission is: "to provide supplemental food on a monthly basis to those in need in Lincoln County, particularly those who are below the Federal Poverty Guidelines. We also provide food to anyone in an emergency situation."

Particularly during the summer months, the pantry is blessed to receive donations from the Community Gardens and individuals who shared fresh fruits and vegetables from their gardens.

Local churches and local businesses, such as Nickolas Farms, Golden Harvest, Walmart, Kwik Trip, Pine Ridge Gas Station, the Aspirus Cafeteria, County Market, Tri-Hi Trucking, and Merrill Distributing also make periodic donations to the food pantry. Individuals and companies have also given generous monetary donations.

"For these and for any individuals who have donated food, money, and time, we wish you God's blessing and a sincere thank you," Crevier and Goessl said.

"Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks for many things and we, especially want to ask God to bless all of you who help to make this large food pantry in the midst of the city of Merrill, available to those who are in need," said Sister Celine. "Thank you also to our Board, which is made up of someone from each church in Merrill, for Dick Duginski, Lila Duginski, and Debbie Page who are at the pantry every morning to keep shelves stocked, donations accepted, and phones answered."

The Community Food Pantry is run by volunteers and can always use more volunteers to help, so if you have a few hours of time each week or just a free morning, call to see how you can help.

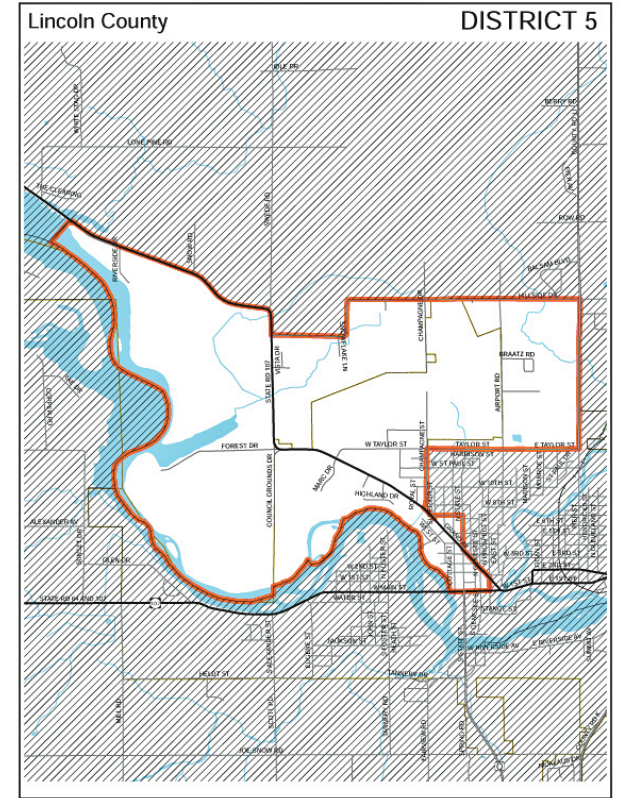
# Merrill Foundation, Inc. launches website

Merrill Foundation, Inc. now has a website: [www.merrillfoundationwi.org](http://www.merrillfoundationwi.org). The Foundation was created in 2021 to provide funding support to benefit programs in the greater Merrill area.

"Our user-friendly website will help people learn about unique funding opportunities, how to apply for grants, and ways to contribute to the community," said Merrill Foundation President Jeremy Cordova.

At its inception, the Foundation kicked off with a first donation of \$25,000 from Church Mutual Insurance

See **WEBSITE** page 17



### VACANCY from page 1

The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors is expected to approve the appointment to fill this vacancy at its Dec. 18, 2022, meeting. The successful candidate will serve the unexpired term of Nathan Peterson ending April 15, 2024.

# MMC CARES!

Multi Media Channels, the parent company of this publication, has a mission to help the homeless and others in need of assistance during their time of need. As we approach the holidays, this can be a taxing time for many, not just the homeless. We invite you to help us help those that need assistance. All donations go directly to the Community Food Pantry of Merrill.

**The Foto News office is an additional drop-off location for all non-perishable items. Please drop between 8am & 5pm, Monday - Friday at 921 E. Main Street, Merrill**



**We also encourage you to join the movement to eradicate homelessness in our community.**

SCAN THE CODE OR SEARCH GoFundMe.com to donate: "Wisconsin Newspapers Supporting an End to Homelessness"



**Any donation - small or large - will be appreciated and used responsibly to benefit the homeless in our community.**



# Krueger appointed to act as interim Lincoln County Administrative Coordinator

**TINA L. SCOTT**  
EDITOR

On Nov. 16, 2022, the Lincoln County Administrative and Legislative Committee announced the appointment of Renee Krueger as the Interim Administrative Coordinator for Lincoln County. Krueger will temporarily fill the role that was previously filled by Catherine (Cate) Wylie who had served as the Lincoln County Administrative Coordinator since Dec. 2020.

Wylie left Lincoln County to take a position as Administrator for the County of Green Lake.

Krueger is currently the Director of Social Services for Lincoln County and has agreed to fill the role of Administrative Coordinator in addition to continuing in her role as Director of Social Services while the Administrative and Legislative Committee executes the search and hiring process for Lincoln County's next Administrative Coordinator.

At their Nov. 15 meeting, the Committee members voted unanimously to appoint Renee and wish to express their thanks to her for accepting the position and the additional workload.

"We are confident in her ability to assist the Board in moving Lincoln County forward," Lincoln County Board of Supervisors Chair Donald R. Friske said.



Renee Krueger

## LETTERS from page 4

It is that time of year when snow makes getting around the city challenging. Even if you have a vehicle, why not take the bus, and how about going to work?

The Merrill Go Round is a valuable resource for anyone of any age. Just in case you don't know how to get ahold of them, the number is 715.536.7112.

– Char Seetan  
Merrill, Wis.

### TO THE EDITOR:

October 24, 2022, marked the beginning of the 100th year that the Holy Cross Sisters have resided in Merrill. Over those years, the Sisters have partnered with the city and been instrumental in addressing the needs of this community and the surrounding area. From construction and staffing of Holy Cross Hospital to tackling the rising need for elder care by turning Holy Cross Convent into Bell Tower Residence, they have committed themselves to pasto-

ral care, healthcare, elder care, and education. The Sisters have served on numerous community boards and have volunteered through many programs to minister to those in need. Beyond that, they have promoted social consciousness of environmental protection, domestic violence, and anti-human trafficking.

My guess is that each of us has in some way been touched by the kindness, consideration, and support of the Holy Cross Sisters. Perhaps you or a family member has needed care at the local hospital, elder care (lifeline, visiting nurse, or assisted living), the food pantry, or the free clinic, to name a few. Maybe a Sister was your elementary school teacher or you attended Holy Cross High School or Junior College. In so many ways, the Holy Cross Sisters have lived the words of their founder, Father Theodosius: "The need of the time is the will of God."

As we gather at Thanksgiving and pause to consider all that we are thankful for, please keep the Holy Cross Sisters in mind. They are God's gift to this community. Happy Thanksgiving!

– Sharon Dimmer  
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](http://www.merrillfotonews.com) and/or may be printed in the paper at a later date.
- \*In fairness to all, and due to space constraints, there is a limit of two letters per year from an individual writer. Additional letters may be submitted to our Paid Letters to the Editor column and will require payment in full prior to publication at the same rate as Political Letters to the Editor (see policy below).

### 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.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!**

At this time of Thanksgiving we pause to count our blessings. The friendship and confidence you have shown in us. Our best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving

**CLOSED NOVEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> FOR THANKSGIVING**

705 N Center Ave.,  
Merrill, WI 54452-1275  
(715) 536-9474

[www.merrillchamber.org](http://www.merrillchamber.org)

**Happy Thanksgiving**

**Merrill Distributing, Inc.**  
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**Happy Thanksgiving**

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Hoping your Thanksgiving is filled with love and cheer

**Happy Thanksgiving**

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**Happy Thanksgiving**

from the Officers, Members and Staff of the Merrill Eagles Club

**The Eagles Club**

1205 N Lake St. • Merrill, WI 54452  
**(715) 536-7471**

**HAPPY Thanksgiving**

Wishing everyone a Warm and Blessed

**Thanksgiving Holiday!**

**SMITH CENTER**  
1100 Marc Drive, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452

Monday-Friday 7:30am Until 4:00pm • Phone 715-536-7313  
[www.merrillparkandrec.com](http://www.merrillparkandrec.com)

We will be closed for Thanksgiving Thurs. & Fri., November 24th & 25th.

**ONE WAY Collision Center**

There's Only ONE WAY for Collision Repair

Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving!!

2602 E. Main St.  
Merrill, WI 54452  
715-536-6511

**CLOSED**  
**NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
**FOR THANKSGIVING**

**YEAR END SALES EVENT**

**Stop in to order your NEW 2023!**

A special greeting of Thanksgiving to express our sincere appreciation.

**Happy Thanksgiving**

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**UNIQUE** from page 1

Kristin was born in Portland, Oregon, and raised in a tiny town in extreme northern California. As an adult, she spent time there and really “all over the country.” But the two found each other in Colorado and then they decided it was time to move on.

“I think both of us wanted to move off of the Colorado front range,” Adam said. “It’s getting very crowded and not a real desirable place to live.” They were living north of Denver between Boulder and Denver.

Adam spoke about the forests being cleared and the area being built up, and Kristin spoke about her job working as the manager at a big-box store in a high-crime area of Denver, her stress and fear just going to work each day, and the long 45 to 90-minute commute. “I was dealing a lot with drug addicts, I was dealing with homeless, I was dealing with thieves that came into the store... and it got to the point where I was afraid. I was afraid to go to work. I was afraid to leave work to go to my car. I was afraid to go anywhere by myself. I was done. It was too much. It was time to get away from the big city and everything that was going on,” she said.

Adam was working in IT (computer software and storage, he said) in Boulder and had a 30-minute commute in the morning and a 45-minute commute coming home, but then COVID hit and his company had him working from home.

And ironically, COVID is what changed the game for them and made it truly possible to make the move they had been wanting to make. Adam’s company realized he could work from anywhere with an internet connection.

Now the hunt for the perfect property for them could begin. Adam had horses, so he was looking for a property that would be good for them, as well as the humans. Originally they were looking out west in Colorado, Adam said.

But “Kristin was always talking about Wisconsin because she had lived here before ... She was talking up Wisconsin like a storm,” Adam said. “She kept talking about it and talking about it.”

Once they looked at real estate listings, “it was a game changer,” Adam said. The difference in price for the amount of land available and the kind of properties they



were looking at—comparing Colorado and Wisconsin was huge. So they expanded their search and enlisted a realtor to hunt down properties in the Dairy State for them to view.

They came out to look at properties in May 2020. Most of the properties were in the Eau Claire area because Kristin had a friend there, so this property was the last one they had on their list and the last one they looked at. It wasn’t at the top of their list because it was so far from Eau Claire. But once they got to the property and saw it, they were done.

“There’s just no way I’m passing this up,” Adam said of his thoughts that day.

“We were done,” Kristin said. “This was it.”

They put in an immediate offer, “in the driveway,” for the exact listing price they said, on May 14, 2020. It was



accepted immediately.

The couple had been talking about getting married but hadn’t finalized a wedding date, and something about this did it for them. Kristin signed her name on the contract Kristin Kittel and then, “We flew home and got married,” Kristin said, to make it all legal.

When asked how they pulled that off so quickly, Kristin explained that in Colorado, due to COVID at that time, you requested a marriage license and then received it in the mail. They had the license at home. All you had to do then was fill it out with the marriage date you want it and send it back, and it was official. “And we were married,” Kristin said. No actual ceremony in front of a judge or a priest or anyone. When pressed further, they said they hadn’t even said any “I Do’s” ... except “I guess she did when I asked her to marry me,” Adam said.

[Anyone who know me knows I couldn’t just let that stand. I immediately asked the pertinent questions of

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MERRILL FOTO NEWS

**Student of the Week**

This Week’s Featured Student is **Breland Vasa**  
Daughter of **Kati Vasa & Dakota Vasa**  
Sierra is in 3rd Grade at Washington Elementary. She was nominated by Mrs. Yang.

**What is your favorite subject in school? Why?**  
My favorite subject is math, because I’m really good at math and it is super fun for me. I like that it makes me smarter.

**What is your favorite part of school? Why?**  
Art is my favorite part of school because it lets me be super creative. I can draw, color and be me.

**What would you like to do/become someday? Why?**  
I would love to have my own maple syrup business when I’m older, just like my aunt. She has the best maple syrup ever!

Breland Vasa is a great student leader. She knows to do the right thing even when no one is looking. She is patient, works hard in school and is always ready to learn. She is also a great friend and includes others at recess. —Mrs. Yang

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**Pet of the Week**

Hello! My name is **Spring**. I’m a very sweet girl who was brought to LCHS as a stray. They don’t have any information about my past but don’t let that sway your decision! I’m a very talkative, funny cat who loves to take naps. Eating catnip takes a lot out of a girl! I would really love a home with other cats, and maybe a dog. As long as you let me get used to the home first, I think I could get used to a dog. My adoption fee will be \$50. This includes my spay, blood work, shots, and microchip. Come meet me today!

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each, and they both officially said, "I do," to the other while I was conducting this interview. So I'm not sure, but I may just have become an unordained officiant. Perhaps legal only in Colorado, though. But I digress.)

"We're waiting on the ceremony until we can get her whole family up here," Adam said. Kristin's three daughters and eight grandchildren and their families live in California, Kansas, and Alabama, and Adam's one son is married and living in California.

The Kittels immediately sold the house in Colorado, made three trips back and forth between Wisconsin and Colorado, and were officially moved in as of June 22, 2020.

### The School House Unique gift shop

As soon as they got settled, Kristin set out to turn that cute old school house into her business. It was previously used just for storage, so they cleaned it extensively, added a wheelchair ramp, filled holes to make it airtight, and opened for business. Since then, they've added a nice-sized parking lot and a new sign, upgraded the electrical in the building, added better lighting and a new counter, and done a few other things to the place to make it more comfortable and workable, as well.

Kristin said Adam knew since they met what her goal was: "That someday I wanted to have my own little antique store," she said, "But I didn't want it to be just an antique store. I wanted it to be ... a place where artists can bring in their work, and they can have it shown and possibly sell it or whatever they wanted to do. I wanted to do what I loved, and I wanted to have a place where somebody else could do what they loved."

"And that's what the goal is with this," Kristin said. "It is to make connections, give people an opportunity to show their work—people who might not be able to have that opportunity normally—no matter what they do. I don't care what it is. I don't care what they do. I'll bring it in, we'll try it, if my customers like it, if it's something unique, if it's something

individual, if it's something handmade, let's try it. Let's see what the customers are looking for." And if her place is full? "Then I have a waiting list," she said.

That's exactly what she's done. "I've got some interesting stuff in here," Kristin said. And the inventory is constantly changing, so you never know what you will find.

Currently, the gift shop encompasses as wide variety of items. "My vendors are all unique," she said. "Several of them specialize in estate sales and auctions and are on the lookout for anything that is unique and in great condition. They look for crocks, primitives, or anything that they have not seen before. Some of them travel to other states and always find special items."

"Two of them bring us antique and vintage furniture, all in premium condition," Kristin said. "One of my vendors provides me with antique farm tools and anything that would come from the agricultural end of the business."

Seasonal items are also great for Christmas sales. "This is the second year in a row that one of my vendors has brought in antique sleigh bells. I have strands and singles for sale," she said. "She also makes beautiful Christmas swags with antique sleigh bells, and this year she is adding wreaths and kissing balls to the selection."

She also features the work of local artisans.

"I am so fortunate to have some very talented artists on board," Kristin said. "Ron Pankow is from Merrill and he hand carves the most beautiful birds. They are true-to-life size and color and the detail is outstanding."

"Susan Bolte is from Gleason, and her specialty is stained glass and fused glass jewelry. Very unique and beautifully created."

"JeAnne DuPuis is from Eau Claire. She and her sister create beautiful hand woven baskets that are unique and incredibly well done," Kristin said. "They travel to other countries a couple of times a year to learn native weaving. They also have to harvest their product and process

it before they can start to weave."

"Mari Knaege creates beautiful hand towels, gnomes, and lap rugs. Jacki Hansen from Natural TyDE Solutions in Osseo—she creates wellness and cleaning products that use all natural ingredients and essential oils."

"Cedar Creek Ranch in Bowler provides goat's milk soap and amazing soy candles."

"Kelly Collman is from Wausau and owns a small company called Platinum Candle Company. She creates the most unique scents in her soy candles," Kristin said. "She also has another line that I carry exclusively called her Northwoods Collection. All are soy and use essential oils in the candles."

"I also carry a line of handmade cards for all occasions created by the Crazy Card Ladies," and "Last but not least: I also carry products from Ski's Sugar Shack."

"The business is growing well," Kristin said.

Meanwhile, Adam continues to work remotely, and the couple has a couple of other business ventures in the works.

And she and Adam are happy.

### Wisconsin is home

"There's just something about this property," Adam said.

"We'd sit there," Kristin said, "And I couldn't even tell you the peace. I was not born here, I was not raised here, but to me, Wisconsin and where we are, is home, and I am finally, for the first time in my



life, able to put down roots permanently, and this is where I want to be. This is where we want to be."

Adam said it took him just a little longer, but now it's definitely home. "It took surviving the first winter and figuring out what life is gonna be here ... cause I judge it by everybody around me ... so yeah, I'm home," he said.

### CHIEF from page 2

Merrill community. This past August, John was noted for his thoughtful service following a car accident. The driver was on her way home from the grocery store when the accident occurred. When she was transported to the hospital by the ambulance crew, John finished taking the groceries to her home. This selfless act is a good example of John's character."

Community is important to Kraegenbrink. His active involvement with the former MDA softball tourna-

ment and Pine Crest New Year's party is evidence of that. He also helps his wife, Kelly, with Project Linus, an organization that collects and distributes blankets to people in need.

When he's not on duty at the MFD or focusing on community events, Kraegenbrink enjoys spending time with his family, going to his daughters' sporting events and figure skating shows, taking family trips, and camping at Fox Fire Campground in Arbor Vitae.

"We know that Battalion Chief Kraegenbrink will continue to work hard and give Merrill his very best," Klug said.



## Happy Thanksgiving

Best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving and wonderful holiday season.



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# Movie Reviews

BY CHRISTOPHER STAMM  
GUEST MOVIE REVIEWER

## A Boy Called Christmas

(Now streaming on Netflix)

★★★★☆

This film is rated PG – for action and peril

Having worked 12 days straight and then been dragged to craft fairs by my beloved wife, I was not in a position to head to the cinemas this weekend. Seriously, by Sunday I was a shell of myself and needed some serious couch time.

That being said, I still hunted out a film for all you fine folks out there, and this week I stumbled across a real treat: *A Boy Called Christmas*.

Yes, it is another Santa Claus origin story, but this one goes in different directions, and I am here to tell you, it was a delight.

Taking place a long time ago in a far away land, the story follows a boy named Christmas who was named this by his departed mother (yes, a parent is dead, which seems to be a pre-requisite for family films).

His mother used to tell him a story about a young girl that went on an adventure to the far North and found a town called Elfhelm, filled with elves living



Jacob Samuelson, age 10, shot his very first buck on Nov. 17, 2022, just before dusk in the Town of Pine River on his great grandparents' land. Jacob was sitting with his dad when this little unique buck walked up. He was steady, well collected, and took his time before taking the broadside shot, his dad reported. Jacob and his dad, along with his mom and little brother, came out to track it, and it didn't take too long to find him. It was fun for the whole family and the Samuelsons enjoy keeping the hunting tradition alive. Jacob is the son of Mike and Valarie Samuelson and is a fifth grader at Prairie River Middle School in Merrill.

Submitted photo.

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**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
NOV. 25<sup>TH</sup> - BLUEGILLS  
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their best lives.

The kingdom the boy now lives in has lost hope, and the King sets a prize for the person who can go out into the world to find hope and bring it back, and thus the adventure continues.

As always, I will not get too deep into the story, because it really needs to be seen and enjoyed without knowing what is going to happen, so no spoilers!

This one is perfect to watch with the whole family on a cold night with a big bag of popcorn. It's sweet, it's kind, and even though there are villains in the mix, redemption—not revenge—is the backbone of the story.

I really liked this one folks. Give it a shot!

Four out of five possible stars for *A Boy Called Christmas*, and it's streaming on Netflix right now.

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Front row sitting, L to R: Kelly Daniels, Mae Dombrowsky, Barb Webster, Maryellen Schmelzer, Barb Denfeld, and Kim Waltz. Back row, L to R: Irma Copenhaver, Karen Martinson, Teri Sethers, Wendy Christoferson, Sally Dahl, Nancy Borchardt, Beck Fraling, Marcy Jaeger, Linda Graykowski, and JoAnn Dombrowsky. Submitted photo.

## Area Homemakers Club celebrates 98 years

The 50-50 (HCE) Homemakers Club recently celebrated their 98th anniversary and invited former members to join the celebration.

Homemakers clubs were started about 100 years ago to bring “modern” homemaking information to women in rural Wisconsin.

The 50-50 Homemakers Club and for-

mer members celebrated at the Town of Texas Town Hall. They shared information about the history of their Homemakers Club and presented information about their current community activities and projects. Together, the attendees shared memories, photos, and a light supper.

## CRIME STOPPERS

from page 3

have participated in “hands-on volunteerism” packing the care packages. “In turn lifting the spirits of those who raise their hands to serve,” Operation Gratitude’s website said. “Volunteers of Operation Gratitude are a generous group of grateful Americans who want to say ‘Thank You’ to all who serve our great nation.”

And it turns out, Hinz’s own son had received such a care package from Operation Gratitude when he was in the service.

In early 2020, prior to the pandemic, Hinz ordered care packages for Merrill area first responders on behalf of the Crime Stoppers organization.

“But then the world shut down,” she said.

In 2022, Hinz was able to get back on track and the gift bags—small tokens of appreciation for our local heroes—arrived recently and were distributed to the local men and women who serve, protect, and care for our community.

Each Operation Gratitude bag packed by the organization contained coffee, 5-hour energy, lip balm, and snacks, and

perhaps a few other items. The items themselves are symbolic—just a way to let recipients know they are valued, honored, and appreciated for their service and sacrifice. Because every true act of service requires some kind of sacrifice.

The bags are packed with the items by volunteers and then shipped. In this case, Hinz ordered the care kits for the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office, the Merrill Police Department, and the Merrill Fire Department, and the kits were shipped directly to each organization, at no cost to Crime Stoppers or the recipients.

On behalf of Lincoln County Crime Stoppers, “This is a small token of gratitude for our law enforcement and fire department,” Hinz said.

We join Crime Stoppers in thanking everyone at the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office, Merrill Police Department, and Merrill Fire Department for all they do to keep our community safe and respond to our needs when emergencies arise.

Operation Gratitude runs on donations. If you would like to make a donation to the organization, go to <https://www.operationgratitude.com/> to learn more.

# Fall Tire Sale

*Best Prices of the Season!*

## \$1 TIRE!

WHEN YOU BUY 3  
October thru  
November

\*Some Brands Excluded

**Also, ask us how to save \$100<sup>00</sup> and get 6 months 0% financing on tires or service!**

\*\*Must be approved through FCA Financing, by 11/30/22

We perform no charge wheel alignment checks with every oil change!

## Brickners

### Park City, Inc.

3000 EAST MAIN STREET, MERRILL

PHONE: 715-536-2833 • TOLL FREE 800-499-JEEP (5337)

LOCATED 1/2 MILE WEST OF HWY. 51-64 INTERCHANGE

Visit our web site at [www.bricknerfamily.com](http://www.bricknerfamily.com) - Email: [Parkcityservice@bricknerfamily.com](mailto:Parkcityservice@bricknerfamily.com)

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SPECIAL OFFER

# FLASH SALE

NOV. 25<sup>TH</sup>  
NOV. 26<sup>TH</sup>

ENDS 5 PM 11/26/22

2 DAYS ONLY

BLACK FRIDAY FLASH SALE

STARTS FRI & SAT AT 8:00 AM

TAKE HOME A  
55" 4K ULTRA  
SMART TV!

\$250

OFF OUR BEST PRICE

YOU GET BOTH!

WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY NEW OR USED VEHICLE

FLASH SALE ENDS 5 PM 11/26/22

BLACK FRIDAY SERVICE BOGO

RHINELANDER

RESERVE AHEAD 715.365.8100

Get your oil changed During the FLASH SALE event Friday 25<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> & your next oil change is on us!

\*Must perform first oil change during the event on Nov. 25, or Nov. 26, 2022. Free oil change must be performed on the same vehicle, of equal value, by 10/2022.

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FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS...  
WISHING YOU A VERY

# Happy Thanksgiving!

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YEARS IN  
MERRILL

CHIPS

HAMBURGERS

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WE WILL BE CLOSED  
THANKSGIVING DAY.

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715-536-6532

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

We hope you have a wonderful day celebrating all there is to be thankful for.

Church Mutual

INSURANCE

125 YEARS

EST. 1897

DEEPLY ROOTED

We are proud to call Merrill home.

Learn about our commitment to the community at [churchmutual.com/hometown](http://churchmutual.com/hometown).

# EMPLOYMENT



**CARE PARTNERS**  
Country Terrace  
ASSISTED LIVING

**Country Terrace in Tomahawk is hiring for: Full Time ALL Shifts**

Caregiver responsibilities may include:

- Assist residents to reach and maintain the highest level of performance and independence while assisting them with personal care and daily living activities.
- Take and record temperature, blood pressure, weight, pulse and respiration as instructed.
- Observe and report any changes in physical and emotional condition of residents.
- Assist residents with personal care which may include the following: shampooing of hair, assist with showering/ bathing, incontinence management, transferring assistance and medication administration

**Up To \$18.00/hr. with all Certifications and Experience**

Benefits Provided: Health-Vision-Dental-401k-Free Life Ins. Policy  
Full Time Employees receive Pd. Vac.  
Background check required per DHS83. EOE.

**See our website for further information:**  
[www.carepartners-countryterrace.com](http://www.carepartners-countryterrace.com)

Please send applications to: Country Terrace of Wisconsin  
300 Theiler Dr., Tomahawk, WI 54487



**MITCHELL METAL PRODUCTS**  
EXCELLENCE FROM START TO FINISH

**LOOKING FOR PART TIME WORK?**

STUDENTS, PARENTS, RETIREES LOOKING TO EARN SOME EXTRA INCOME!

**FLEXIBLE HOURS DURING DAYS, EVENINGS AND WEEKENDS ARE AVAILABLE.**

<b>Full Time Opportunities:</b>	<b>Benefits Included:</b>
• Maintenance	• 8 Paid Holidays
• Material Handler	• 401K Opportunity
• Production	• Safety Program
	• Attendance Bonus

**Fill out an application online at:**  
[mitchellmetalproducts.com/about/career-opportunities](http://mitchellmetalproducts.com/about/career-opportunities)

**Mitchell Metal Products**  
905 South State Street, Merrill, WI 54452



North Central Health Care

Do YOU have what it takes to be a Pine Crest

**WEEKEND WARRIOR?**

CNA - \$25/HR | LPN - \$30/HR | RN - \$42/HR



**Join our team** as a CNA, LPN or RN Weekend Warrior for unrivaled wages ranging from \$25 - \$42/hour depending on position. Shifts are scheduled solely on weekends and holiday rotations and cannot exceed 30 hours per pay period on average, annually. Opportunities are available in both Merrill and Wausau. Learn more or **apply online today!**

[www.norcen.org/Careers](http://www.norcen.org/Careers)



**Come Join Our Team We're Hiring!**

- **Production**  
(FT Only, 1st Shift, \$19.06-\$20.14 per hour, 90 day probation, OT)
- **Maintenance Technicians**

"Seeking quality people to make a quality product."

For additional information visit [lincolnwindows.com/Careers](http://lincolnwindows.com/Careers)  
**Lincoln Wood Products-Employment Office**

Apply In-person at 1400 W Taylor Street or Email resume to [gebeyer@lincolnwindows.com](mailto:gebeyer@lincolnwindows.com)  
We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.



**WE'RE HIRING**



**CareersPF.com**

**APPLY TODAY**

400 North 72nd Ave, Wausau

Polywood Fabrication is the perfect job if you want great pay, promotion opportunities, job flexibility and more.

Check out our careers site for all current openings. **Apply online at CareersPF.com**

**STARTING PAY \$17**

**BENEFITS & PERKS**

- High Starting Pay
- Employee Bonuses
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**Attention Drivers!**

Company Drivers Earn .60 - .64/mile  
Conestoga Drivers Earn .65 - .69/mile

As Always Home Weekly \* Paid Weekly

*If you are looking for a change, check us out!*  
*If you've been here before and left, come on back!*

We have regional and OTR positions available. Full-time, part-time, and occasional.

Class A CDL and 2 years experience required.

Contact Jody (715) 536-9789 x 2  
[jlokemoen@pioneertrans.com](mailto:jlokemoen@pioneertrans.com)  
[www.pioneertrans.com](http://www.pioneertrans.com)

**PIONEER TRANSPORTATION LTD.**  
MERRILL, WI



**Graphic Packaging INTERNATIONAL**

**Are you looking for a manufacturing career?**

- Excellent Pay! Starting at **\$20.00/hour** + Shift Differential!
- High Earnings Potential. Up to \$70,000 in your first year!
- 401(k) Match up to 4%! Plus Annual Raises!
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- Take pride in making packaging for world reknown food brands!
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**\$2,000 Retention Bonus**

GPI is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Plant Location:  
200 Central Bridge St.  
Wausau, WI 54401

**Apply Online at**  
[GRAPHICPKG.COM/CAREERS/](http://GRAPHICPKG.COM/CAREERS/)

# CLASSIFIEDS

Deadline: Monday at 11:30 a.m.  
Phone: 715-536-7121  
Fax: 715-539-3686

General Employment 7110



**Wind Valley Transportation, LLC (WVT)**. Are you looking to drive with a new team that offers competitive pay for your experience? Do you want to be home daily or more often than your current carrier? WVT is seeking to add Class A CDL drivers! We are a bulk carrier operating hopper trailers. Daily and regional runs are available as full-time and part-time positions. Are you the next great patriot to work with us here at Wind Valley Transportation? Please call for additional information: (715)693-6564

Professional and Technical 7135

**OTR TRUCK DRIVERS FT/PT**  
Competitive wages & full benefits. Mileage, Drop pay, Paid weekly Home weekends, NO east/west coast, 28 central states. Van & Hopper Division. Agriculture experience a plus. Fox Valley company since 1958 Call Frank 920-788-6242 or 920-858-0238. Van Groll Trucking, Kaukauna

Announcements 7005

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit [dorranceinfo.com/ads](http://dorranceinfo.com/ads)

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

**Teaching Position Available**  
Part-time (8 hours per week)  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

**January 16 – May 26, 2023**

**Please call Kathy at 715-536-7501 to apply or for more information.**

Must be licensed to teach in the state of Wisconsin.

## THINKING ABOUT CHANGING JOBS?

**Great Northern Cabinetry is the place for you!**

We take your current service into account for vacation purposes!  
Friendly people, great benefits, and a place where you can build your career for your future!

### COME JOIN US!

**Great Northern Cabinetry**  
Distinctive Cabinetry Since 1972

Apply on our website at [www.greatnortherncabinetry.com/careers](http://www.greatnortherncabinetry.com/careers), by email at [HR@gnci.net](mailto:HR@gnci.net), or in person at 749 Kennedy Street, Rib Lake, WI

## EMPLOYMENT

**Parts Counterperson**

Truck Country, a Freightliner dealership with 25 locations across the Midwest, has an opening for a Parts Counter Salesperson in our Wausau location. Responsibilities include: retail sales of heavy-duty truck parts and accessories, providing outstanding customer service, supplying quality parts and accessories to our service department, and inventory control. Ideal candidates should have prior truck or auto parts experience. Truck Country offers ongoing training, a very competitive wage, and a very competitive benefits package. Apply at [www.truckcountry.com/careers](http://www.truckcountry.com/careers) today to join one of the largest Freightliner dealerships across the U.S.

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer – Qualified women, minorities and people with disabilities encouraged to apply.

Competitive starting pay. Weekly bonus. Great opportunity for growth. Must be reliable, dependable and possess a strong work ethic. Monday – Thursday 6:00 am – 4:30 pm. Health (Blue Cross Blue Shield), dental, vision, life insurance, STD, LTD, FSA and 401k with employer match. Paid holidays and vacation. Please apply in person Monday-Thursday between 6:00 am – 4:00 pm, call 715-623-6402 or apply using the QR code on the ad.

**48Forty Solutions is seeking Board Sorters \$15 and Machine Operators \$20 for an established sawmill in Bryant, WI.**

**IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE.**

North Central Health Care

## OPEN INTERVIEWS

**PINE CREST NURSING HOME**  
Tues. Nov. 29 | 10am – 5pm | 2100 E 6th Street, Merrill

No appointment required. Walk-ins welcome. Learn more about job opportunities, meet our team and walk away with a start to your new career!

**AVAILABLE POSITIONS INCLUDE:**  
Registered Nurses \$30-42/hour  
LPNs \$21-30/hour  
CNAs \$18-25/hour  
Dietary Aides \$14-18/hour  
Cooks \$16-18/hour

Learn how to kick-start your healthcare career in 6 weeks with a sponsored CNA class at no cost to you!

[www.norcen.org/Careers](http://www.norcen.org/Careers)

## LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FRESH? WE'RE HIRING!

### Department Managers

Water Street & Ohio Street

- We are looking for qualified Department Managers to work collaboratively with our windows division. Must have the ability to lead & motivate a crew.
- Excellent low-cost health benefits
  - Employee: \$80/Month
  - Child: +\$42/Month
  - Spouse: +\$128/Month
  - Deductible: \$250/Ind. \$500/Family

If you are qualified and would like to join our team please send a cover letter referencing the position and resume to:  
**SARAH EVANSON**  
1815 WATER STREET, MERRILL, WI 54452  
715-722-1884 OR VISIT: [SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS](http://SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS)

SIERRA PACIFIC IS AN (EOE) EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER, INCLUDING THOSE WITH A DISABILITY AND VETERANS

# We are Hiring!

**JOIN OUR TEAM**

## Entry Level Manufacturing Positions

- 1st shift starts at \$18.65
- 2nd shift starts at \$20.15
- Flexible Part-Time
- New Attendance Bonus Program Earn up to an additional \$1.50/hr
- Excellent Low-Cost Benefits:
  - Individual: \$80/Month
  - Spouse: +\$128/Month
  - Child: +\$42/Month

2022 Monthly Rates

**APPLY IN-PERSON**  
Two Merrill Locations:  
605 N. Ohio St. | 1815 Water St.  
Questions? Call: 715-722-1884

**SPI-IND.COM/CAREERS**

# EMPLOYMENT

# KOLBE

## WINDOWS & DOORS

We're for the visionaries.®

### Seeking Full Time 1st Shift Production Team Members

No Experience Required  
Now Offering a Three-Day Work Week!

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 5am-5pm  
\$20.55 per hour

OR

We Also Offer a Four-Day Work Week!  
Monday thru Thursday, 5am-3pm

\$18.50 per hour

Excellent benefits package, including an on-site clinic

Apply online at  
[www.kolbewindows.com/careers](http://www.kolbewindows.com/careers)

EOE

# KOLBE

## WINDOWS & DOORS

Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co., Inc. is recognized throughout the industry as a leader in the manufacturing of custom, superior quality windows and doors that can be found in some of the most visionary residences and commercial projects in North America. We are currently seeking a **Safety Compliance & Training Specialist** to assist in maintaining a culture of health and safety and ensure all compliance requirements are met. **The Safety Compliance and Training Specialist works Monday through Thursday, 5am-3pm.**

#### Essential Job Functions:

- Review and maintain OSHA required safety programs:
  - Research OSHA regulations for applicable safety requirements that apply to facility.
  - Develop/maintain written programs.
  - Develop/conduct training programs.
- Establish/maintain documentation of programs, including but not limited to: Lockout/Tagout, Hazardous Communication, Emergency Response, New Hire Orientation, Electrical Safety 70E.
- Assist with additional safety programs including: Powered Industrial Truck, Respiratory Protection, Fall Protection, Hearing Conservation, and PPE.

#### Additional Duties:

- Assist with and respond to injuries and illnesses and render first-aid as needed.
- Participate as a member of the Emergency Response Team.
- Assist with other duties as assigned by EHS Manager.

#### Minimum Work Experience Required:

- Three years' experience in an Occupational Safety related field.

#### Minimum Education and Knowledge Required:

- Undergraduate degree related to Occupational Safety.
- Emergency Medical Responder or EMT certification or willingness to obtain.
- Willingness to continue educational efforts to maintain certifications and advanced knowledge.
- Knowledge of tools and machinery in a manufacturing facility.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite and Teams.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Excellent public speaking/presentation skills.
- Ability to work flexible hours.

Kolbe and Kolbe can offer the successful candidate an excellent compensation and benefits package including an Aspirus on-site clinic which offers free or low-cost healthcare to Kolbe team members and their families.

Visit [Kolbewindows.com/careers](http://Kolbewindows.com/careers) to apply.

#### Announcements 7005

**FS HAY 750# ROUND BALES & Small Square Bales,** Bales without rain Very good grass mix, free delivery within 100 miles of Appleton WI 920-878-0005 or 920-878-0288 (WCAN)

Help save the Monarch Butterflies. Free Milkweed seeds. Send SASE to Bernie 4852 Cty K, Amherst, WI

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

#### Activities and Meetings 7020

**HORSE DRAWN SLEIGH RIDES** Rocking W Stable, Eagle River WI **DEC 10 thru JAN 1;** Beautiful Trails! Great Family Fun. Can Handle All Size Groups & Private Parties! Info **715-617-6779** northwoodsattractions.com

#### Craft Sales 7204

**HOLIDAY (Massive) MARKET Gifts \* Crafts \* Collectibles Sat. Nov. 26 (8am-5pm) 500+ Vendors FREE PARKING RESCH EXPO/Green Bay holidaygiftandcraftshow.com 715-526-9769 (WCAN)**

#### Computers and Electronics 7216

Put on your TV Ears & hear TV w/unmatched clarity. TV Ears Original - originally \$129.95 - now w/this special offer only \$59.95 w/code MCB59! 1-888-805-0840

Switch and save up to \$250/yr on talk, text & data. No contract or hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time get \$50 off any new account. Use code GIFT50. 1-855-903-3048

#### Musical Instruments 7220

**TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS!** 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg & Gibson Mandolins/Banjoes. **844-262-6174 (WCAN)**

#### Furniture and Home Decor 7236

**UPDATE YOUR HOME** with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. **FREE** in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional Installation. Top Quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: **877-544-2415** Ask about our specials! (WCAN)

#### Firewood 7244

**DRY OAK & Hard Maple,** \$250/cord. Over 15 mi is extra. Have hard wood in wood shed over a year old. Clean & no bark. 715-351-1888 or 715-873-4196.

**Mixed firewood:** oak and maple. \$60 face cord, seasoned 1 year. \$75 from woodshed, seasoned 2 years. Bone dry. 715-253-2060 No delivery.

#### Snow Equipment 7252

**New & Used Snow Blowers** Large selection serviced and ready for snow! Full service small engine repair. North Central Power Equipment 2803 Emery Dr, Wausau 1 mile north of Fleet Farm 715-370-3002

#### Tools and Equipment 7254

**GOING OUT** Of Business- Concrete equipment, tools, etc. Call anytime 715-351-0906 or 715-551-7456.

#### Guns 7264

**CASH FOR GUNS**  
Antique or Modern  
Rifles • Pistols • Shotguns  
**HIGHEST PRICES PAID**  
Also Buying:  
Scopes • Ammo • Knives  
Shooting & Hunting  
Accessories  
**715-614-3560**  
Federally Licensed

#### Guns 7264

**FOR SALE:** Browning Belgium BAR 7mm mag: \$1000 firm. Browning A-bolt Medallion 30-06: \$900 firm. Both guns in excellent condition. WANTED TO BUY: Remington 760 guns & mags. GUN PARTS WANTED. Call Ron at 715-298-0760.

#### Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266

**DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? ... GET RESULTS!** Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 **Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-800-236-0737 www.pdsadnet.com**



**High School Peppermint Dance Tuxedos:** Get your Bang for your buck Peppermint Tuxedo at Thelma's Bridal. Any style Tuxedo for only \$129. That includes everything including Shoes!

Thelma's Bridal will Pick up Tuxedo's Sunday, December 11th at Merrill High School Near Gym doors from 10:30-11:30am

Please call to schedule your appointment 715-359-2221. Thelma's Bridal 10101 Market Street Rothschild WI, 54474 Located In the Cedar Creek Mall

**LONG DISTANCE MOVING** Call today for a **FREE QUOTE** from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Call now to speak to one of our Quality Relocation Specialists: **888-660-6593 (WCAN)**

**PROTECT YOUR HOME** from pests safely & affordably. Pest, rodent, termite & mosquito control. Call for a quote or inspection today **844-651-1726 (WCAN)**

**SWITCH & SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR** on your talk, text & data. No contract & no hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer get \$50 off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more info, call **1-844-883-1477 (WCAN)**

**UP TO \$15,000 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE!** No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral & other final expenses. Call **Physicians Life Insurance Company 844-433-5898** or visit [www.Life55plus.info/wcp](http://www.Life55plus.info/wcp) (WCAN)

**VIVINT. SMART SECURITY, PROFESSIONALLY INSTALLED** One connected system for total peace of mind. **FREE** professional installation! Four **FREE** months of monitoring! Call now to customize your system. **1-855-756-2112 (WCAN)**

#### Wanted to Buy 7268

**Country Coin Need Money?**  
Buying Gold, Silver, Coins, Jewelry, Etc.  
**715-848-5140 or 715-216-2032**

**WANTED: Will buy any 1965-1969 Vintage Ski-Doo snowmobile. Must be in good restorable condition. Runs or not - O.K. Must have no main parts missing & be mostly original. Will pay top dollar. Ask for J.R. 1-920-982-1637**

#### Dogs 7272

**AKC FOX RED & YELLOW LAB PUPS** shots/worm/vet, F-\$850 **M-\$800 715-257-1330 (267331)**

**BERNEODOODLE & POODLE PUPS** vet chk'd/wormed/ dewes removed **\$500-\$1000 715-218-9247, 715-721-5375** No Sun Calls (WCAN)

**BICHON AND BICH-POO PUPPIES** 5-10 Weeks, \$700-\$900 **715-703-8981**

**Blue Heeler/ Australian Shepherd puppies.** Children friendly and ready to go. \$150. Call or text. 715-316-2885. Loyal, WI

**CHOCOLATE LAB PUPS** 4-F \$650 & 7-M \$600 Ready Dec. 1, 1st shots & vet **715-305-5209**

**CUTE COLORFUL REGIS. COCKER SPANIEL PUPS** dewes/shots/vet \$500 **715-536-0697**



**Mini Aussiedoodle Puppies :** F1 Mini Aussiedoodle puppies. Family raised, well socialized, velcro dogs, low-to-no shed. Very smart, easy to train. Up to date on vaccines and deworming. Vet checked. Visit online at [www.towerviewkennels.com](http://www.towerviewkennels.com) or on Facebook. WI State Licensed and Inspected #DS402426. \$1250. Text or Call for more info 715-360-5848

**MINI DOODLES** 1st Shots AND Male **GOLDENDOODLE** \$350 ready now! **715-921-9708**

**MINI GOLDEN DOODLE PUPS** shots/worm/dewes Can Deliver **\$750 715-255-2661 (269146)**

**MINI GOLDENDOODLES** \$695; **RED POODLES** 25lbs \$995; 1 yr health GT **715-409-0533**

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**Purebred Jack Russel Terrier Female** Puppy. 1st Shots, Wormed. \$500. 715-218-7150

**REGIS CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL PUPS** wormed/shots/dewes/vet \$500 **715-536-0697**

#### Farm Equipment 7286

**BATTERY MART**  
3607 Schofield Ave.  
Schofield  
715-359-9019

**Free Testing & Installation! LOWEST PRICES**  
Paying Cash for Old Batteries!!

#### Miscellaneous Agriculture 7290

**GRASS FED BEEF** 1/4, 1/2 & whole, \$4.50/lb incl processing mid Dec. **715-250-2793**

#### Agriculture Services 7292

**Hand Crafted Garden & Storage Sheds, Garages & Cabins.** Many Styles and Options. Sizes from 8' x 8' up to 15' x 40' are available. **Call BAKER BARN, LLC 715-873-33381** mile North of Gleason, Hwy 17

#### Apartments for Rent 7400

**THE MEADOWS APARTMENTS**  
1, 2, & 3 bedroom units in Merrill, WI For low & moderate income individuals & families. Handicapped accessible. Units Available. Appliances, hot water, water/sewer, garbage service provided. Coin-op laundry facility.  
**CALL NOW!** 712-580-5360 or Toll Free 855-441-8688  
Certain income restrictions apply  
  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

**Vacation For Rent 7421**  
**WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts** Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get FREE informational package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! FREE consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. CALL 844-374-2565 (WCAN)

**ATV and UTV 7500**  
**2021 POLARIS RAZOR PRO XP 4 SPORT**  
 COLOR: GRAY  
 MILEAGE: 2,134  
 VIN# 3NSR4E923MG622380  
 MINIMUM BID \$19,000  
 OR BEST OFFER  
 Please contact Trish @ 715-536-8351 Ext. 4233

**2022 KAWASAKI TERYX4 LE**  
 COLOR: BLACK / CAMO  
 MILEAGE: 2  
 VIN# JKBRTJC16NB50393  
 MINIMUM BID \$19,000  
 OR BEST OFFER  
 Please contact Trish @ 715-536-8351 Ext. 4233

**Snowmobiles 7504**  
**WANTED: SCORPION SNOWMOBILES:** Looking for Scorpion snowmobiles or parts 1969-1975. Please call or text 715-921-6908

**Recreational Trailers 7514**  
**ALUMINUM SNOWMOBILE**  
 Trailer, 2 place, tilt bed, \$975 OBO. Call anytime, 715-351-0906 or 715-551-7456.

**Vans 7542**  
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# Felzkowski, Callahan receive WMC's Working for Wisconsin Award

BY JALEN MAKI  
 MMC STAFF

Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) announced on Friday, Sept. 16, 2022, that State Senator Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) and State Representative Calvin Callahan (R-Tomahawk) had received its Working for Wisconsin Award.

WMC is a Madison-headquartered association of manufacturers, service businesses, and chambers of commerce.

The Working for Wisconsin Award "recognizes legislators who supported specific pro-growth policies and earned a high rating on WMC's biennial legislative scorecard," WMC said.

"The Working for Wisconsin Award is based on individual voting records, regardless of a legislator's partisan affiliation," WMC stated. "Legislators who earn the



Felzkowski and Callahan were presented with the Working for Wisconsin Award at Merrill Manufacturing in Merrill on Sept. 15, 2022. In photo, L to R: Wendy McLaughlin and Pat Taylor of Merrill Manufacturing; Mary Felzkowski, Wisconsin State Senator; Calvin Callahan, Wisconsin State Assembly Representative; and Craig Summerfield, Director of Environmental & Energy Policy, with WMC, Wisconsin's Chamber.

Tina L. Scott photo.

award each session supported pro-growth policies and reforms aimed at improving the state's business climate. All Wisconsin legislators are considered for the award, but it is only earned by those who consistently vote to make Wisconsin a better place to do business."

The WMC Legislative Scorecard shows how many WMC-backed bills each lawmaker voted for and against during the most recent legislative session. To be eligible for the Working for Wisconsin Award, a legislator is required to have voted for at least 70% of the legislation supported by WMC.

More than 80 GOP lawmakers were described as being "pro-business" in the scorecard, voting in favor of between 85% and 100% of WMC-backed bills.

No Democratic legislators met the 70% threshold to be eligible for the award for the 2021-2022 legislative session, according to the scorecard. State Senator Don Vruwink (D-Milton)'s 35% was the highest among Democratic lawmakers.

In a pair of releases, WMC said Felzkowski and Callahan were honored for their work during the most recent legislative session.

Scott Manley, WMC Executive Vice President of Government Relations, said Felzkowski and Callahan have "shown a continuous commitment to growing our economy and attracting and retaining a talented workforce," adding that WMC looks forward to working with the Tomahawk legislators to "make Wisconsin the best state to live, work, and play."

"Wisconsin is fortunate to have so many legislative leaders who consistently vote to improve our state's business climate," said WMC President and CEO Kurt R. Bauer. "When legislators actively work to improve our state's tax, regulatory, and legal climate, it fosters an environment where Wisconsin's economy can flourish."

### WMC Legislative Scorecard

The WMC Legislative Scorecard lays out legislation the association supported and opposed during the 2021-2022 legislative session.

According to the scorecard, WMC backed Assembly bills that sought to provide immunity for businesses from civil liability for death, injury, or damages arising from COVID-19 in the course of business; restrict the governor from declaring additional public health emergencies related to COVID-19, except if the receipt of federal COVID-19 pandemic aid required an active state-declared emergency or disaster; prohibit most able-bodied adults without dependents from knowingly failing to accept an employment offer or an increase in work hours or wages in order to retain Medicaid benefits; and eliminate personal property tax. These bills were ultimately vetoed by Governor Tony Evers.

Assembly bills regarding the termination of enhanced

See **AWARD** page 17

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**AWARD** from page 16

federal unemployment insurance benefits, PFAS cleanup grants, FoodShare work requirements, and consumer data privacy regulations were also supported by WMC.

WMC opposed Assembly legislation seeking to accept Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act; double the state's energy tax from 1.2% to 2.4%; repeal the state's "right-to-work" law, which prohibits an employer and labor organization from entering into an agreement that requires membership in a labor organization as a condition of employment; and partially repeal Act 10, a 2011 law affecting collective bargaining, compensation, retirement, health insurance, and sick leave of the state's public sector employees.

Senate bills receiving backing from WMC sought to provide a deduction for tuition expenses for an apprenticeship program; require that schools administer reading assessments in 4K through second grade in order to identify "at risk" students and require a school to prepare a personal reading plan for each "at risk" student; and provide a permitting exemption for herbicide treatments for small, private ponds. These bills were ultimately vetoed by Evers.

To view all Working for Wisconsin Award winners and the full WMC Legislative Scorecard, visit [www.bit.ly/3f4nkwX](http://www.bit.ly/3f4nkwX).

**WEBSITE** from page 6

Company. It is open for funding from individuals and businesses wishing to see their donations benefit Merrill area programs.

"People can donate to the Merrill Foundation and know the funds will be kept in the Merrill community to support local needs and enrichment opportunities," said Merrill Foundation Treasurer Renea Frederick.

The Merrill Foundation, Inc., is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, philanthropic organization created to support programs in the greater Merrill area. The Foundation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including making distributions to local non-profit organizations.

Current board officers are President Jeremy Cordova, Vice President Laura Huggins, Secretary Linda Semling Peterson, and Treasurer Renea Fredrick. Board members include Angela Bailey, Gregory Gill, Christopher Grunenwald, Michael Grunenwald, Elizabeth McCrank, Julie Bushor, and Susan Ryman.

Visit the new website for more information.



Merrill Girl Scouts Troop 7074 hosted a Halloween dance where participants could donate food instead of paying an admission fee. Here the girls are dropping off their donations at the Community Food Bank and getting a tour. The troop collected 128 pounds of food from the event. **Submitted photo.**

**May your Thanksgiving be filled with peace, love and great joy.**

Our offices and drive-ups will be closed Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th so our employees can be with their families.

Happy Thanksgiving!



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**| HONOR ROLL |**

**Merrill High School 1st Quarter Honor Roll 2022-2023**

**GRADE 9**

Highest Honors (4.0): Keeley Benedict, Jackson Brown, Kaela Clerveaux, Olivia Collinsworth, Raphael Gerbig, Benjamin Gruett, Joshua Gustum, Chloe Hipke, Robert Hoffman, Mariah Hulce, FarijeKiskoski, Hannah Klinger, KorinaKraegenbrink, LilyannKufahl, Danica Lipke, Jenna Malluege, Kalyn Morris, Haakon Murphy, Landon Neumann, JazlinSevert, Colton Smith, Parker Wagenaar, Emily Winter.

High Honors (3.75-3.99): Kaylynn Allen, Adalyn Blake, Colton Burrows, Chase Charbarneau, Adison Clark, Noah Clifford, Caroline Durbin, Addelyn Elliott, Evan Elliott, Avery Frisch, Luke Gregor, RowynnGroth, Sarah Hagemeister, Sylvia Hanson, Brenna Jirovec, Theodore Johnson, Aiden Kell, Cayson Kendall, Noah Klug, Alex Koblitz, Maria Malinowski, Tia Morris, Orion Pillai, Violet Radtke, Ava Scantlin, Robin Schmidt, Natalie Schult, Jacob Schult, Jacob Stetz-Schleif, Ronan Van DeWeerd, Cooper Wendorf.

Honors (3.5-3.74): Cairo Amador-Gonzalez, Olivia Barker, Liberty Berndt, James Crockford, PrestinDashek, Liberty Fuchs, Keaton Gacke, Hazeley Gates, Ryleigh Golisch, Xander Hanke, Addison Jirovec, Claire Jirovec, Slater Kalenske, Samara Kleinschmidt, Aiden Koebe, Sophie Koehler, Alexis Kropf, Peyton Kucirek, Maxamillian Kuhn, Brynlynn McCaskill, Jacob Mueller, Patricia Priebe, Roman Rampart, Madison Robbins, Dustin Schmirler, Hazel Seliger, Konner Waid, Keegan Waliczek, Andrew Wilding.

**GRADE 10**

Highest Honors (4.0): Max Black, Johanna Dahlke, Austin Depies, Elizabeth Herdt, Caden Lemmer, Olivia Pajdash, Sarah Rell, Jake Schwandt, Mia Smith, Daniel Vaughn, Ahna Wilde.

High Honors (3.75-3.99): Margaret Cordova, Lily

Dallman, Parker Klebenow, Maddox Lammerding, Maya Paulus, Benjamin Thom, Amelia White, Merin Yates.

Honors (3.5-3.74): Irene Blennert, Jocelynn Broullire, Gus Chrudimsky, Ava Detert, HayleaDrabek, Derek Frahm, Joshua Henderson, Joseph Jensen, Chase Klebenow, Aiden Lonsdorf, Noah Moore, Micah Plautz, BreleighRaasch, Emma Rautiola, Haley Rindt, Danielle Schielke, Takiyah Sell, Bailee Sommer, Sebastian Trevino, Emil Weix, Brock Wilson.

**GRADE 11**

Highest Honors (4.0): Anna Bowe, Chase Brantner, MalaynieDengel, Anna Florez, Abigail Gutenberger, Anthony Hanse, Linzee Hixon, Avery Hoff, Emerson Iwen, Brooklyn Kraegenbrink, Bridger Lemmon, Chloe Malinowski, Erik Mann, McKenna Meyer, Sebastian Ollmann, CainaOrzech, Savannah Orzech, Madison Ott, Mia Ott, Michael Quong, Kaiden Ratzlaff, SageSchoerner, Katelyn Schult, Darko Todorov, Logan Vobornik, Sophie Wendorf, Macy Wesbrock, Kayli Wirtala, Gracie Wyma.

High Honors (3.75-3.99): Jaden Bush, Gabriel Durbin, Olivia Dzwonkowski, Elexa Emmer, Emma Frazier, Lacey Frisch, Bobbi Ann Gerbig, Bryan Hernandez, Austin Hotchkiss, Chloe McRae, Alexis Ollhoff, Mikal Plautz, Carson Schmitz, Dawson Schulz, Julia Shull, Phillip Vogel, Allison Wolff, Alayna Wyland.

Honors (3.5-3.74): Carter Baade, Ayden Cantrell, Isaak Clapper, Clayton Evans, Waylon Falk, Katy Glaze, Emma Hoff, Allison Hooch, Regena Lahti, Zachary Lusher, Zachary Morris, Nicholas Palecek, Olivia Pierce, Samuel Reimann, Alexis Rogers, Donald Salisbury, Dylan Smith, Ginni Townsend, Nora Trojanowski, Thomas Troyer, Adison Warren, Isabel Wendt, Anna Westfall, Macy Wienke, Brayden Woller, Audrey Yuds.

**GRADE 12**

Highest Honors (4.0): Jaxson Banser, Jolene Bentz, Lauren Cohrs, Ryder Depies, Madelyn Drew, Kyle Duley, Makalia Geiger, Tyson Glisch,

Johnathon Handlin, BreannonHerdt, Gage Lassa, Evan Marczak, Austin Mosher, Catherine Moyer, Montana Patterson, Jaiden Pillai, Kalynn Podgorski, Alayna Pozorski, Trenton Pozorski, Isaiah Rell, Luke Rice, Zoey Sabatke, Brooke Slagoski, Spencer Smith, Paige Spoehr, Ethan Stieber, Jasmine Toppi, Amber Winter, Dafney Yates.

High Honors (3.75-3.99): Cooper Apprill, Brian Ball, Nathan Brzoznowski, Olivia Cordova, Arin Dettmering, Tyler Fritcher, Summit Hoyt, Erin Kreamsreiter, Caitlynn Pehlke, Destinee Rice, Addison Schmeltzer, Drew Semling, Truman Shull, Olivia Troyer, Adrianna Watts.

Honors (3.5-3.74): Aaron Alloway, Jaylen Anderson, Erica Arneson, Aidan Blystone, Brendan Blystone, Mason Borchardt, Branden Brandenburg, Lydia Burrows, Alexandra Engel, Vincent Entenmann, Lily Grefe, Catherine Herdt, Carla Higgins, Harley Hixon, Samuel Holzinger, Cassandra Kasten, Jordan Klug, Cassy Kreamsreiter, Sawyer Marnholtz, Megan Miles, Andrew Moses, Caleb Norton, Bradyn Pieper, Morgan Polacek, Alana Polak, PraylaPyan, Ian Schuetze, Brendan Schultz, Alexandra Schulz, Ramsey Wendt, Mya Wilde, Maverick Wimmer.

**Trinity Lutheran School announces 2022-2023 first quarter Honor Roll**

**8TH GRADE**

Avery Brendemuehl, Grace Hoff, Lily Hoff, Abbie Krueger, Miley Krueger, Ivan Lee, Kinsey Literski, Isabella Scheffler, Remington Skic, Caleb Thompson

**7TH GRADE**

Rachel Gustafson, Liam Huggins, Kendell Klug, Kylie Lutzke (4.0), Connor Riste

**6TH GRADE**

Madee Barker, Willow Harmon, Kayla Klimek, Evelyn Reinhardt, Aubrey Renzelman, Jillian Severt (4.0), Emmie Steinagel (4.0)

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# Merrill Girls kill it on the court in season opener

PATIENCE PYAN AND TINA L. SCOTT

The Merrill Girls Varsity Basketball Team hosted Ashland for the season opener on Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2022. It didn't take long for the girls to take over on the court, after a couple rocky minutes to begin the game. Merrill's defense and press was too much for Ashland to handle, forcing them to turn the ball over 30 times throughout the game. The turnovers were huge for the Bluejays, as they scored 33 of their 80 points off mistakes by the Oredockers.

Merrill High School Junior Mia Ott (38pts, 7stl, 2reb) led the night with 38 points, while Senior Maddie Drew (12 pts, 3stl, 3reb) added 12 points, and Mia's twin, Maddy Ott (11pts, 6reb, 2stl), put up 11.

Prayla Pyan (6pts, 5reb, 2ast) made a



Mia Ott #14 shoots one of her five made three-pointers. **Patience Pyan photos.**



Maddy Ott #3 takes care of the ball at the top of the arc.

return to the court, having sat out all last season with a torn ACL.

The Bluejays won 80-34.

"I thought our ball movement was fantastic," said Merrill Girls Varsity Basketball Head Coach Mike Debuhr. "We shared the ball, which is seen by our 17 assists on 31 made field goals. We did a great job of playing for each other, caring for each other, and supporting each other. The other proud outcome was our ball pressure on defense. Turning defense into offense has been a big focal point for us during practice."

**Box Score**  
**Ashland 34 @ Merrill 80**



Merrill's Prayla Pyan #23 goes for the tip-off in her first game back after sitting out all last season due to injury.



On Nov. 16, 2022, Merrill High School (MHS) Senior Brian Ball signed a letter of intent to continue his academic and athletic career at the collegiate level and committed to playing football for UW-River Falls next fall. A signing ceremony was held at MHS and attended by teammates, coaches, family, and friends. Brian plans to attend UW-River Falls, major in Business, and play football. His dream is to continue his football career at the professional level one day. During the ceremony, Brian thanked those in attendance for supporting him throughout his career. He also thanked the Merrill community for their support of Merrill Athletics, especially the Merrill Football Booster Club and the Silver M Club for their support of Merrill Football. Brian is the son of Thomas and Mary Ball of Merrill. **Submitted photo.**

## 2022-2023 Merrill High School Winter Sports Schedules

### Boys Basketball (Varsity, JV, and JV2)

Tues. Nov. 29	Lakeland Union (JV & JV2)	Away	5:45 pm
Tues. Nov. 29	Lakeland Union (Varsity)	Away	7:15 pm
Thurs. Dec. 1	Mosinee (JV & JV2)	Away	5:45 pm
Thurs. Dec. 1	Mosinee (Varsity)	Away	7:15 pm

### Girls Basketball (Varsity & JV)

Fri. Nov. 25	Assumption (JV)	Away	T. B. D.
Fri. Nov. 25	Assumption (Varsity)	Away	9:00 am
Sat. Nov. 26	Assumption (JV)	Away	T. B. D.
Sat. Nov. 26	Assumption (Varsity)	Away	9:00 am

### Boys Hockey (Varsity and JV)

No Scheduled Events For This Week.

### Girls Hockey (Varsity and JV)

Fri. Nov. 25	Multiple Schools-Mosinee (JV)	Away	11:00 am
Fri. Nov. 25	Multiple Schools-Mosinee (JV)	Away	12:45 pm
Fri. Nov. 25	Multiple Schools-Mosinee (Varsity)	Away	2:30 pm
Fri. Nov. 25	Hayward Comm.-Mosinee (Varsity)	Away	4:30 pm
Sat. Nov. 26	Multiple Schools-Mosinee (JV)	Away	9:00 am
Sat. Nov. 26	Multiple Schools-Mosinee (JV)	Away	10:45 pm
Sat. Nov. 26	Multiple Schools-Mosinee (Varsity)	Away	12:30 pm
Sat. Nov. 26	Multiple Schools-Mosinee (Varsity)	Away	2:30 pm

### Boys Wrestling (Varsity and JV)

No Scheduled Events For This Week.

### Girls Wrestling (Varsity)

No Scheduled Events For This Week.

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## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

**Addison Jirovec**, a Freshman at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Addison learned to swim as a child and then began swimming competitively for Prairie River Middle School (PRMS) and the Aqua Jays in the sixth grade. She now swims for the MHS Girls Varsity Swim Team and just recently competed at State as part of the 200 Yard Medley Relay. Her team finished 13th at State. Addison also joined Track at PRMS doing long jump and high jump before switching to shot put and discus. She plans to continue with that in Track at MHS this spring. At school, Addison is involved with Student Council, DECA, and Junior Optimists. She coaches Junior Jays for swimming and works part-time at McDonald's. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, playing with her two dogs (Finley and Oliver), going bowling and to open swim, working out, going to the movies or an amusement park with family and friends, camping, and just being outdoors.

The daughter of Rory and Jenny Jirovec of Merrill, Addison hopes to attend either UW-Oshkosh, UW-Eau Claire, or UW-Madison. "I really want to be a veterinarian or some kind of doctor," she said.

Congratulations from these sponsors:



**Addison Jirovec**

Athletes highlighted in this feature are selected by the Foto News editorial staff, not by the sponsors.

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- Breakfast at your hotel
  - Day at leisure
  - Optional excursion to Monte Carlo, Villefrance and Eze

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  - City tour of Nice
  - Remainder of the day at leisure

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