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HAPPY NEW YEAR! FROM PADUS!



We didn't think that the former residents of Padus would mind if we used them to wish all of you a Happy New Year. If they were still alive and if Padus was too, we are sure they would be glad to do it. For those who don't know, Padus was a little sawdust town between Laona and Wabeno that is now part of Wabeno. There is a good trap range there now!

The Hammes family built the place to make a home for their sawmill, and it lasted until the timber ran out. A collection of Padus pictures is in the Wabeno Logging Museum.

Crandon International Raceway opens 2018 camping & grandstand reservations New Year's Day



With two huge off-road race weekends coming to Wisconsin's scenic Northwoods next year, Crandon International Raceway is getting set to kick off the 2018 season for its 400-acre facility this New Year's day with the opening of camping and event reservations. On Monday, January 1st at precisely noon Central Standard Time (CST) race fans can begin their preparations for two traditional Crandon event weekends -- the Forest County Potawatomi Brush Run on June 22nd - 24th and the Crandon World Championship Off-Road Races ® held over Labor Day weekend August 30th - September 2nd.

For the first time in Crandon history full season camping reservations will open up in January instead of the traditional March kick-off to the season. The reservation system found at www.crandonoffroad.com that was first instituted in the fall of this year has undergone yet another upgrade designed to enhance both the ease of purchasing reservations packages and also improve the overall customer experience.

In September all 2,100-plus camping sites were reserved before the record-breaking Labor Day Crandon World Championship/World Cup weekend even began.

Throughout the month of January, Crandon race fans can purchase 2018 race season packages for camping, wristbands and grandstand seating. The "Gold" package costs \$350.00 and includes an electric camping site and two wristbands for both the Brush Run and World Championship weekends, while the "\$270.00 "Silver" package includes non-electric sites and two wristbands for both events. The packages represent a \$20.00 savings over individual race weekend packages, which go on sale to the public on Monday, February 5th at precisely noon CST at www.crandonoffroad.com.

Grandstand seats in the newly renovated Vision Wheel Hospitality Complex were also at a premium in 2017, but fans purchasing season packages also have the option

Continued on page 06

County Executive Committee meets-courthouse reno discussed

By Mike Monte

There was a lively exchange at the Executive Committee meeting of the Forest County Board last Thursday evening. The committee was upset over media coverage of the board, and they wanted to discuss a rebuttal. The meeting was precipitated by the recent letters to the *Pioneer* and the *Forest Republican* by Jim Odekirk on actions of the board both past and present, and, in particular, the upcoming courthouse project.

Mr. Odekirk was there to defend himself and argue the points of his letters.

The latest issue is the courthouse renovation, along with fixing the problems of the current jail. The executive committee is composed of Paul Millan, Bill Chaney, Cheri Collins, Terry Lukas and Supervisor Bill Connors.

Jill Zagar was there from the *Forest Republican*, and also in attendance was Jim Odekirk, Dave Tupper, Dan Bobbe and myself, representing the *Pioneer Express*. The discussion was spirited at times.

While we can commend the committee on thinking about better communications with the voting public, this follows a number of issues where the powers-that-be on the board didn't communicate with the public. The proposed off-road vehicle park and the recent issue over the fair grounds come to mind.

Their argument is that there is info on the website and that people don't attend meetings. Both papers were cited by the board for not attending a meeting on the courthouse project, but Zagar countered that the notices are not necessarily clear on the published agendas, making it difficult to determine what the meeting is actually about.

I did have the thought that if a large number of citizens attended committee meetings or board meetings, they would have to be held in a gymnasium and not much could be accomplished. That being said, there doubtless should be more citizens who attend meetings, and agendas should be more complete. There should also be citizens who run for county supervisor offices instead of complaining in bars and restaurants. A democracy requires citizen involvement.

The upcoming courthouse project is certain to be contentious. There will be a brochure distributed to the public. On that brochure, there are two options put in front of the public.

One option is for a cost of \$25.8 million. This involves saving and repairing the old landmark courthouse along with new offices for social services and the judicial branch, along with other building and renovations.

The other option, for \$22.8 million, will do all of the above, but will remove the old courthouse.

My question at the meeting was if there were other options. I was told there was. The next question was why those options weren't on the brochure, just the two most expensive. I didn't receive an answer. Others will be asking these questions in the months ahead.



Roger Spaude sent in this lovely winter scene that he shot on County W, just south of Crandon. While it didn't feel very good outside this past week, it is still pretty.

Don't worry about winter. It will be over before you know it! By the end of April, things will start to warm up, and by June, there will be little memory of these frigid days, but you can remember how pretty it can be.

Forest County Snowmobile Trails opened December 26



Forest County Snowmobile Trails will officially open at noon on Tuesday, December 26, 2017 for the snowmobiling season. Forest County has 405.79 miles of state funded trails maintained by five snowmobile clubs including the 100 Mile Snow Safari, Lumberjack Memorial Trails, Black Bear Sportsmen's Club Trails, Three Lakes Trails and the Tombstone-Pickerel Trails.

Snowmobile clubs have been panning the trails and have all trails cleared and signed.

New snowmobile maps are also available for the New Year thanks to sizeable donations by the Sugarbush Snowmowheelers and the Northwoods Snow Chasers. These donations have resulted in an awesome snowmobile trail map to guide snowmobilers throughout Forest County.

Please remember that the Nicolet State Trail and the Wolf River State Trail are the ONLY snowmobile trails in Forest County that are currently open for ATV and UTV use. The Forest County Snowmobile Trail Ordinance currently prohibits ATV, UTV use and motor vehicle use on all other snowmobile trails in Forest County. Snowmobile trails are "NOT" open for motor vehicle use or hunting. THOSE DRIVING TRUCKS ON TRAILS ARE SUBJECT TO FINES THROUGH THE COUNTY SNOWMOBILE TRAIL ORDINANCE.

Updated trail condition reports can be found daily by calling the Forest County Snowline at 715-478-2024 or logging onto the Forest County website at www.forestcountywi.com. This website also provides links to local snowmobile clubs which provide daily grooming reports and maps of the Forest County trail system. You may choose to log on to a specific snowmobile club for trail information including the 100 Mile Snow Safari at www.100milesnowsafari.com or Lumberjack Memorial Trails at www.lmtnsnowmobiletrails.com or Tombstone-Pickerel Trails at www.tombstonepickerel.com or Three Lakes Trails at www.threelakestrails.com.

The Department of Tourism also provides statewide snowmobile travel conditions at www.travelwisconsin.com/snow-conditions-report/snowmobile.

See us online at:
pioneerexpresscrandon.com

Engagement Announcement



Jim and Brenda Spreeman of Wabeno, Wisconsin are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Spreeman, to Chris Rosenthal, son of John and Lauri Rosenthal of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

The bride-to-be graduated from Wabeno High in 2012 and from UW-Green Bay in 2016 with a B.S. in Psychology and Human Development. Kimberly is currently employed with Fox Valley Autism.

The groom-to-be graduated from Sturgeon Bay High in 2009 and from UW-Stevens Point in 2014 with a B.S. in Fisheries Management. Chris is currently employed with Cason & Associates, LLC in Berlin, Wisconsin.

An October 20, 2018 wedding is planned for the couple in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Nicolet AARP 1191



Greg Tallier entertains AARP members.

The AARP Christmas Party held at the Waters Edge Restaurant at Anderson Lake was well attended by 49 members who enjoyed the companionship and a very good meal of chicken and ribs. The music was provided by Greg Tallier who entertained the group with requested songs and Christmas carols which encouraged members to join in song. Several attendees were motivated to dance a few numbers. Everyone went home with a fruit basket or other prize.

The next meeting will be Tuesday January 23, 2018. This will be a pot luck dinner to kick off the new year with the meal served at noon. Annual membership dues of \$4.00 are due for 2018.

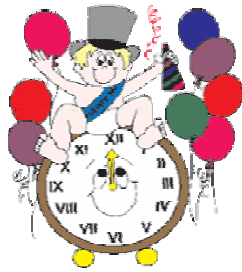
All persons 50 and over are invited to join the local AARP Chapter. AARP meetings are social, entertaining, and informative. Meetings are held at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church on the fourth Tuesday of the month starting at 1:30 PM. Contact Joyce West, Membership Chairman, at 715-850-0336.

Submitted by Dick Culver, Public Relations Chairman.

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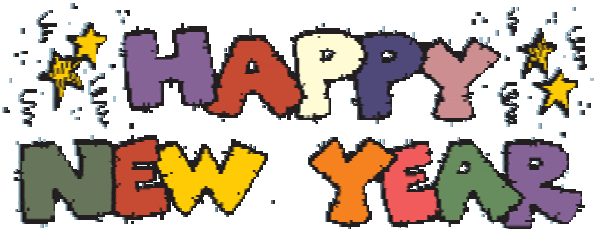
Merry Christmas!

May your holiday season be blessed with the true meaning of Christmas!

Thank you to all of you who have helped me this year and all the years I have worked in the Wabeno and outlying school districts.

Terry Beining

We are running Terry Beining's greeting ad again this week, since his name was not on the ad last week. We are sorry it was not caught at last week's printing.



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as narrated to Gloria J. Duffin

A new book by Crandon writer Nga Walker tells the story of her many trips back to Vietnam as a missionary.

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Any profit from the sale of this book will be used to support future missionary work

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go to colrene.net for online bidding information
Jan. 8th-12th -(Ending 6PM)
(5258) US HWY 8, Laona, WI) (Forest Co.)



Downtown Laona's hardware and lumber features a retail store, large storage building, new feed building & fenced in yard. This is all located on busy U.S. HWY. 8 and is perfect for many business ventures. **Don't miss this opportunity.**

Terms: 10% non-refundable buyer's fee as downpayment in a cashier's check paid Jan. 13, 2018. Closing 45-60 days or upon paper completion. (10% buyer's fee added to winning bid). Real Estate price is subject to owner's confirmation. Bidders must request bid form by calling St. Louis Auctions LLC. 715-367-1668. (6728 Whitefish Lk. Rd., Three Lakes, WI 54562). **R.W.A.'s:** Col. Rene' Brass #424, Col. Robert St. Louis #450.

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 (Pick up date Jan.13 8AM- 4PM)

Laona, WI (#5258 Linden St.) (Hwy 8 is also Lindin St.)
Yale Fork Lift: 4000lb **Case Skidsteer:** 1845C, bucket, pallet forks
Trucks: Ford L9000 w loader, Ford flatbed w/Allison **Dump Trailer:** 7x14
Load-Trail 2016 Enclosed Trailer: Legend Aluminum 6x12 **New Tools, Etc.:** Porta Cable drills, sanders, Dewalt wrenches & sockets, Rockwell tools, Milw. & Makita tools, clamps, grinding wheels, gloves, Irwin bits, hitches, ratchet straps, batteries, fence posts, tow straps, jacks, testers, HD cords, miter saw blades & others, torches, tarps, rope, oils, fogger, grease guns, Redy heaters, ladders & more! **20 Guns:** (see website) **New Home:** Pellet stove insert, garage door openers, Lg. amount of cleaning items, pest control, air conditioners, Crock pot, coffee maker, light bulbs & More! **New Sporting, Outdoors:** coolers, hand warmers, ammo, knives, flash lights, many Mr. Heaters, grills, wheel-barrow, lawn chairs, deck heater, bird seed, yard tools, weed wackers, seed, garden supplies & more! **New Building Supplies:** lg amount of nuts and bolts cabinets, bunk of T1-11, plywood, lg amount of treated lumber and others, trim, paint shaker & Hero 2000 mixer, lg. amount of paint & access., electrical, plumbing, Pex fittings & tubing, 80' display of hardware, landscaping stone, timbers, door lockset hardware, pallet racking, plastic, soffit, pavers, blocks, screws, nails, faucets & more! **Terms:** 10% buyers fee. Cash or good check, credit cards. Sales tax charged. Not responsible for loss or accidents. Settlement made before removing items. Conditions: Sold as is, where is. Announcements made on auction day take precedence over printed material. **R.W.A.** Col. Rene' Brass #424, Col. Robert St. Louis #450, 6728 Whitefish Lk. Rd., Three Lakes, WI 54562. PH: 715-367-1668

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 Sunday Service - 10 am
 Wed. Kids Club 3:15 pm
 Bible Study Wed. 6:30 pm
Everybody Welcome
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Father and daughter make the military a career



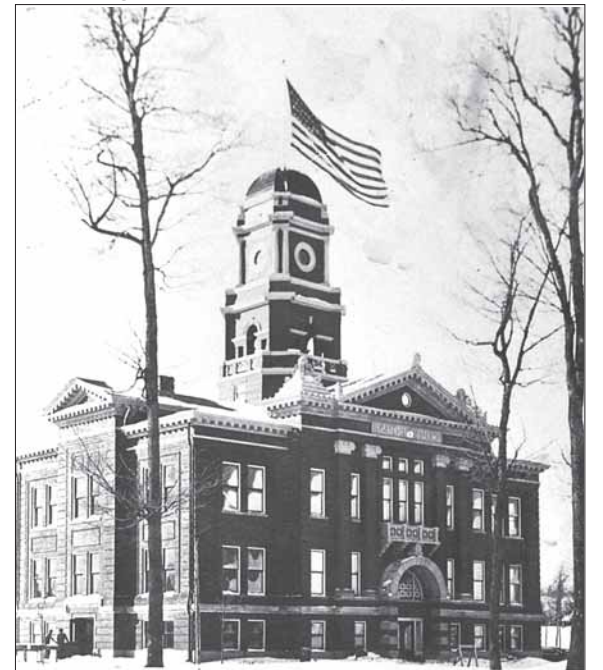
Willie Schultz, formerly of Argonne, sent us this photo of himself and his daughter Hollie. Father and daughter have distinguished themselves by serving their country in the military.

We are grateful and proud of your service!

For Old Time's Sake



From the date on the photo, this forest fire took place on May 17th of 1914. The fire is on the outskirts of Laona, and fortunately, it did not get into town. Fires were common back then because of the cutting techniques that left miles of slash that could get dry and really make a fire! Select cutting took care of much of this problem.



This is a great winter shot of the 1909 courthouse still in use today. Since then, there has been some building on and around the historic old building, and more is on the way in current times.

Will the pretty old building be torn down or used for another 100 years? Time and politics will decide.

Senior Chatter

A New Shingles Vaccine

is On Its Way

Submitted by Kathy O'Melia

Shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus, which almost all older Americans harbor from getting childhood chickenpox. If you're over age 80, you stand a one-in-three to one-in-two chance of getting shingles. Shingles symptoms include a painful, itchy rash that developed on one side of the body, lasting for two to four weeks. The pain associated with shingles is often described as burning, shooting or stabbing. Lingering and debilitating nerve pain may occur after contracting shingles, which is why preventing it is so important.

The currently available shingles vaccine, called Zostavax, prevents roughly half of shingles cases in people over age 60. The new vaccine, Shingrix – expected to be available by early 2018 – has been shown to prevent more than 90 percent of shingles cases, even at older ages. The new vaccine may also protect people with compromised immune systems, which is helpful for older individuals who may be undergoing chemotherapy or transplants, have HIV or take steroids. This is because the new shingles vaccine is a non-live vaccine; the old vaccine was made with a weakened live virus.

The old vaccine will remain on the market, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will be making Shingrix its preferred vaccine and will recommend it for all adults over age 50 and younger individuals with compromised immune systems. Medicare and Medicaid will update its coverage of Shingrix as soon as the CDC publishes its recommendations.

Even if you've already received the old vaccine, it is recommended to also get the Shingrix vaccine because of how much more effective it is. Of course, as with any vaccine, talk with your healthcare provider about the pros and cons for your individuals health needs.

The Elder Benefits Specialist in Forest County has a new telephone number. You can reach Kathy O'Melia, the Elder Benefit Specialist, at 1-800-699-6704.

Bus Schedule

Monday - January 8 - Alvin, Nelma, Laona and Crandon to Rhinelander - Bus driver: Fred Draves IV

Wednesday - January 10 - City route to Schaefer's/downtown/Clinic/Crandon Public Library (8 a.m.-noon); Wabeno, Laona and Crandon to Crandon (1-4:30 p.m.) - Bus driver: Fred Draves IV

SHORT ROUTE - Wabeno, Laona and Crandon to Rhinelander by 9 a.m. Walmart complex and Aldi's only. No lunch. Depart Rhinelander at 11:45 a.m. - Bus driver: Dan Pedersen

For reservations please call the bus driver for that day.

Dan Pedersen: 715-478-4254
Fred Draves IV: 262-633-8968



TOPIC OF THE MONTH

"Staying Well"

MEAL SCHEDULE

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA

Monday - January 1 - No Meal - New Year's Day

Monday - January 8 - Bean soup with bacon, salad bar with egg, raisins, corn muffin, molasses cookie

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK

Tuesday - January 2 - Beef pot roast, mashed potato, Harvard beets, sunflower flax bread, apple pie square - MUSIC: Armstrong Creek

Tuesday - January 9 - Chicken Diane, roasted potato, asparagus, fruit, Italian bread, marble cake - BINGO: Armstrong Creek

CRANDON

Wednesday - January 3 - Turkey sandwich on whole wheat, potato salad, baked beans, fruit, Oh Henry bar

Wednesday - January 10 - Beef tips with onions and mushrooms, mashed potatoes, carrots, dinner roll, rice pudding with raisins

LAONA, WABENO CONGREGATE

Thursday - January 4 - Pork paprikash, egg noodles, green beans, fruit, dinner roll, ice cream

Thursday - January 11 - Baked cod with sauce, baked potato with sour cream, broccoli, bread stick, raspberry lemon bar

ALVIN

Thursday - January 4 - Beef stew, potatoes, carrots, peaches, dinner rolls, bars

Thursday - January 11 - Lasagna, salad, pears, garlic bread, cookies

*** Effective Dec. 7, the Alvin Meal Site will be serving meals at 1 p.m. Instead of 4 p.m. ***

The local number for the ADRC: 478-2162 is no longer in service. The only number for the ADRC is the 800-699-6704.

The Forest County Elderly Benefits Specialist, Kathy O'Melia, has a new local telephone number. Kathy can be reached at 715-478-3067.

Please register with Commission on Aging - 800-699-6704.

Crandon site manager Pat Raml is at 715-478-0742 (home) or 715-478-3040 (site). Serving at 12:00 p.m. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Alvin site manager Florence Kostka at 715-545-4063 (home) or 715-545-3323 (site). Meal served at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Laona site manager Peggy Alderton at 715-889-3116 (cell). Meal served at 12:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Wabeno site manager Linda McEwan at 715-889-0123 (cell). Meal served at 11:30 a.m. on Monday and Tuesday. Home delivered on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Armstrong Creek site manager Sharon Giles at 715-674-3532 (home) or 715-336-2218 (site). Meal served at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday.



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Forest County Tavern League donates to Ties That Bind Us




Denise Lornson of the Forest County Tavern League presents a \$250 check to Jodi Stamper, who accepts on behalf of the SMH Foundation for the Forest County Ties That Bind Us. The Wisconsin Tavern League will match their donation.

REAL ESTATE

CRANDON: 1 bedroom apartments at the Glenview Senior Apartments. Specifically built for persons 62 years of age or older handicapped/disabled individuals. Rent starts at \$510 per month until rental assistance and includes water, sewer, garbage pickup, HEAT, major appliances, off street parking and laundry facilities. We accept vouchers. Call 1-800-938-3229 for an application or more information. *This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

Betc27 

WABENO - Spacious 3 bedroom apartments available (Orchard Ridge Apartments). There is rental assistance available which means the rent is based on 30% of your gross adjusted income and includes water, sewer, garbage and heat. Major appliances, off street parking and laundry facilities. To receive an application, please call 1-800-938-5648. *This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

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FOR RENT: Large one bedroom apartment in downtown Crandon. Partially furnished, includes heat, water, garbage and A.C. Available December 15. For more information please call 715-902-0308.

Betc33

FOR RENT: 3 Bdrm house in Hiles. Heat and electric Washer, dryer and appliances included. Call Dean at 715-649-3120.

Betc25

FOR RENT: Langlade lower level duplex. 1 bedroom. Appliances, laundry facilities, water and heat included. Ideal for 1-2 people. No smoking or pets. \$425/month. Call 715-842-7607 or 715-470-7195.

Betc31

FOR RENT: Nicely updated in downtown Crandon. 1 bedroom apt. \$400/month. Includes heat, water, sewer and garbage. Available Dec. 1. Call 715-889-1289. Betc34



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FOR SALE: Ash paneling, \$1.75 sq. ft. and cherry paneling, \$2 sq. ft. Call for information at 715-889-1503. Betc38

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Death Notices

Ida May Quade, 98, of Crandon, WI passed away Thursday, December 21, 2017 at Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill, WI. Ida was born January 25, 1919 in Jennings, the daughter of Charles and Anna (Foelker) Ory.



She was united in marriage to Edward Fredrick Quade on July 2, 1934 in Nashville and he preceded her in death. Ida was a member of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, volunteered for the ladies aid at church and the Seniors Snoop-Shop, Homemakers, Argonne, Rhinelander, Crandon Sr. Citizens/youth Organization, Also, worked for the Forest County Fair. Ida worked for Bemis Manufacturing for 7 1/2 years and for Dr. Rathert as an assistant for 25 years.

Surviving Ida are her daughter, Anna Collins; 10 grandchildren, Connie (Jim) Sosnovske, Deanna Prince (Scott), Brenda (Al) Brunner, Ronald (Patty) Collins Jr., Vivian Kegley, Jacki (Norm) Braun, Ed (Trisha) Quade Jr, Marni (Keith) Pease, Joe (Kim) Steagall and Michelle (Chad) Henry; daughter-in-law, Sue Quade; son-in-law, Randolph Maxon; 25 great-grandchildren and numerous great-great-grandchildren and great-great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Edward; 3 daughters, Marion, Bonita and Carol; son, Edward; 2 sisters; 5 brothers; 2 sons-in-law; one granddaughter; and one great-granddaughter.

Services for Ida will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, December 27, 2017 at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Crandon with Pastor Neil Varnum. Burial to follow at Crandon Lakeside Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to time of service at church.

Weber-Hill Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements. Online condolences for the family may be directed to www.weberhillfuneralhome.com.

Lorette Grace (Sahpenais) Snow "Shenok", 87, of Crandon, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 18, 2017 surrounded by family and devoted caregiver.



Loretta was born on May 25, 1930 in Carter, WI. Loretta was the daughter of Peter and Charlotte (George) Sahpenais.

Loretta enjoyed shopping, traveling, writing poems, dancing, loved gardening, cruises, and making people laugh. Loretta put a smile on people's faces; always helping others, she loved animals and took in strays; she had a green thumb nursing plants back to health. She enjoyed spending social events with family.

Loretta was an accomplished wood crafter, in her younger years. She built fine cabinets and wooden boats. During her married life in Milwaukee, Loretta and her husband Phil Snow ran a successful Tree Service business and employed many family members.

She was survived by her sister, Arlene Alloway; and numerous nieces and nephews. Loretta was preceded in death by her parents, sisters, and brothers.

Funeral services for Loretta will be held on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at Lake Lucerne Gospel Chapel with Pastor Don Dewing officiating. Visitation will start at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at Lake Lucerne Gospel Chapel. Weber-Hill Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements. Online condolences for the family may be directed to www.weberhillfuneralhome.com.

Zora F. Cracraft, age 105, passed away peacefully at her home in Crandon on Sunday, December 24, 2017. The daughter of Floyd and Maude (Mcquire) Spencer was born March 31, 1912 at Key, Kentucky.



She married Mason Cracraft on October 19, 1938 at Crystal Falls, Michigan. They moved from Choate, WI to Crandon in 1939 where they became lifelong residents. He preceded her in death in 1997 after 59 years of marriage.

She ran a Post Office at High Falls, KY in 1933, and when 4th class post offices were closed in 1934 she moved to Wisconsin.

She worked at various jobs but her passion was the outdoors, farming, working with soil, gardening, her flower beds and family. Church was always a major part of her life. She was a charter member of the Church of God the name was later changed to Praise Chapel Community Church. She loved working with the Sunday school children, adults in Ladies Aid, or any other area that needed help, touching many lives. Many times she would take her children along with neighborhood children to church, school and fishing.

She is survived by her children, Ronald (Pat) Cracraft of Argonne, Phyllis Jones of Crandon, Wendall (Shirley) Cracraft of Two Rivers, Betty Edmondson of Neenah and Karen (Allan) Jarvenpaa of Oshkosh. She is further survived by twenty-two grandchildren, forty great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Mason; parents, Floyd and Maude Spencer; three sisters, Grace (Bert) Haney, Emma (Coursie) Fultz and Ethel (Harold) Rhoads; brother, Joseph (Fannie) Spencer; and sons-in-law, Garland Wagoner and Robert "Bob" Jones.

Visitation will be held on Friday, December 29, 2017 from 9-11 a.m. at Praise Chapel Community Church in Crandon. Funeral service will follow at 11 a.m. with her grandson, Pastor Chad Cracraft, and Pastor Bill Farr officiating. Interment will follow at Crandon Lakeside Cemetery. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.weberhillfuneralhome.com.

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letter to the Editor; however the letters should be legible, in good taste, not libelous and pertinent to current issues. Names will not be withheld upon request, except for very special circumstances. NAME AND PHONE NUMBER SHOULD BE INCLUDED FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES. We reserve the right to reject any and all letters.

Letter to the Editor:

To the residents of the Town of Crandon. On January 17th, at the Crandon High School, there will be a meeting to discuss the possibility of building a new courthouse and keeping the old courthouse or removing it.

I hope you can please, please come and ask your questions. I really would like to know what you think.

If you can't make it, call my house phone at 715-478-3517.

William Chaney,
County Board Supervisor
District 15

To the Editor:

As a member of the Executive Committee I would like to clarify comments made in Mr. Odekirk's recent article in the *Pioneer Express*, volume 32, number 37, December 25, 2017.

Mr. Odekirk has asked a lot of questions about the Executive Committee in the fifth paragraph of his article in Letters to the Editor. His questions are answered on the Forest County website. This website has a complete description of all committees listed under Rules and Regulations.

Presently, the Executive Committee consists of the following members: County Board Chair, Paul Millan; 1st Vice-Chair, Terry Lukas; 2nd Vice-Chair, Bill Chaney. two elected board supervisors; Bill Connors and Cheri Collins.

As you can see from the handbook, the members are elected. Mr. Odekirk was mistaken in his article. He stated in parenthesis that the members were appointed. Insinuating some sort of devious intentions. Wrong!

Mr. Odekirk stated at the Executive Committee meeting that his articles are opinion pieces and he can say whatever he wants to. When questioned whether his statement have to be true, he said "no."

Readers please beware of the information you are receiving from opinion pieces. As stated by Mr. Odekirk, they do not have to be true.

Please call your supervisors, ask questions and tell them your thoughts. All supervisor phone numbers are listed on the Forest County website. After the first of the year, I will be available to voters in Wabeno one day per week to discuss any topics you bring to me. More information will follow on times and places.

I personally invite all residents to attend informational sessions in January on the courthouse

project. Time and places are listed in the brochure you should all be receiving.

Cheri Collins
District 8 Supervisor

P.S. I'm going fishing, but I will have my phone available. The number is 715-473-2092.

Dear Editor,

One of the most warranted topics of consideration before Forest County taxpayers surely is our aging courthouse. The most valid of concerns, specifically the safety and security of the public's interest and our judicial system, are irrefutable. It is evident to any who have visited the courthouse through the decades that it has remained pretty much unchanged since its last major revision in 1978.

Last week's ad attempted to inform citizens of two proposed options, and to direct inquires to individual county board supervisors. We read that the county board desires public input, but two options for consideration have already been decided upon. Will public input, after options have already been decided, be effective? I openly ask the county board to consider the following:

Will the county board form a facility task force with representatives from various townships, in addition to those employed in the county offices, to provide channels for ideas and constructive criticism to then build consensus for proposed solutions?

A project of this magnitude and undertaking, one that will not be revisited for generations, should have ample time invested by county stakeholders to best address the needs of the county while balancing what's within the means of Forest County taxpayers. Although I did not see or hear of the process the county board took in putting out requests for proposals of construction and architectural services, the decision to utilize The Samuels Group has been made. The Samuels Group is a reputable company, yet they do not represent Forest County and shouldn't be expected to. Construction managers, such as The Samuels Group, are quite accustomed to facilitating a task force through such a process. If asked, The Samuels Group likely would be willing and able to provide their services to facilitate task force meetings as part of their pre-construction service agreement.

The utilization of a facility task force will likely take nearly a year's time to assess all the challenges, needs, desired "like to have's" and cost implications. A facility task force opens lines of communication for taxpayers

Continued on Page 15

PIONEER EXPRESS

Published Weekly

125 N. Lake Ave., P.O. Box 333
Crandon, WI 54520

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Brush Run reservations Cont. from pg. 1 of adding their choice of grandstand seats that range from \$45.00 per seat in the "Blue" sections for both races to just \$25.00 for those located in the "Red" section.

With roots that stretch back to its inaugural running in 1970, Crandon's Forest County Potawatomi "Brush Run 101" is scheduled for June 22nd - 24th. The first of two visits by The Off-Road Racing Championship (TORC) presented by AMSOIL series racing to the "Big House," the Brush Run 101 welcomes summer to the American heartland with the sounds of high-horsepower unlimited TORC PRO 2 and PRO-4 trucks. The weekend will also feature the highly competitive TORC PRO LIGHT trucks and PRO UTVs, as well as a jam-packed race schedule filled with all of the TORC Sportsman categories and several live concerts.

Unlike nearly every other location in off-road racing, Crandon International Raceway is a permanent facility found on 400-plus acres of woodlands in Northern Wisconsin. The former farm includes rich green grass that frames the track's challenging 1.75-mile undulating dirt circuit. ore than 54,400 fans from all over the America and Canada filled every corner of Crandon International. Many of the Crandon faithful have made this annual pilgrimage an annual family tradition with camping, fireworks and tons of bratwurst creating an unforgettable weekend better known as "the Crandon Experience."

For the third consecutive year, the weekend will feature the sport's most important race - the annual Crandon World Cup. Hosted and sanctioned by Crandon International Raceway on Sunday, September 2nd, the special day has been created to attract the world's best off-road racers and teams to compete for Crandon World Championships® in a variety of PRO-level classes. For just the third time in the sport's nearly 50-year history, short course competitors from all sanctioning bodies around the country can race on a completely level playing field with the biggest single day payout in the sport.

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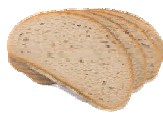
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Human Resources Department
P.O. Box 340
Crandon, WI 54520
www.fcpotawatomi.com



As authorized by federal law, Forest County Potawatomi reserves the right to exercise preference in hiring for qualified Tribal members/Indians in connection with all positions.

NOTICE: Positions open in Forest County Sheriff's Department

Forest County Sheriff's Department is now accepting applications for Full Time and Part Time Correctional Officer/Dispatcher positions and to establish an eligibility list for future positions.

Individuals will be required to work day and night shifts, weekends, and holidays as shift rotations dictate. Applicants will be responsible for operations of the telephone and radio systems, jail responsibilities, clerical duties and 911 operations

Salary & Benefits: The starting hourly rate for full time pay for this position is \$17.15 per hour, \$17.75 per hour after one year; and \$18.46 per hour after two years of service, based on 2018 wages. **Benefits include:** Wisconsin Retirement Fund, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Sick Leave, Vacation Time, 9 Paid Holidays, Uniform Allowance, Deferred Compensation and Education Incentive Pay, if applicable.

Qualifications: Must be 18 years of age; US citizen; high school graduate or equivalent; have a valid Wisconsin driver's license; good verbal and written communications skills; basic knowledge of computers; ability to handle stressful situations and the ability to work varied shifts. Applicants must be self-motivated and able to work independently of others.

Apply: Submit Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board Form, a current DJ-LE-330 Application, Cover Letter and Resume to:
Attention: Chief Deputy Alex Walrath
Forest County Sheriff's Department
100 South Park Avenue
Crandon WI 54520
 Applications must be received by Wednesday, January 31st, 2018 at 4:00 PM
 Forms are available at the Forest County Sheriff's Department or online at www.wilenet.org. All questions on the application MUST be completed, including Section 6 - Questions A, B & C and your social security number. Applications that are not accurately completed will be rejected.

NOTE: Successful applicants will be required to submit to a written examination, oral interviews, extensive background investigation, a physical fitness test, and a medical and drug examination.

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 Call Paul or Terri 715-649-3220

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 Call Dean at 715-649-3120 B27

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For Old Time's Sake



Some of our readers might be in this picture. Granted, their looks have probably changed. This is the Crandon Grade School Band in about 1940. The picture also gives a good look at what businesses were on the main street of Crandon back then. A lot of you ladies will recognize the buildings as now belonging to Tricia's Treasures.



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Main Street Ed's

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Main Street Ed's

Argonne, WI • 715-649-3810

New Year's Eve Special Menu



- 24 oz. Porterhouse.....\$29.95
- 16 oz. T-Bone Steak.....\$21.95
- Lobster Tails - (2) 8oz. Tails...\$39.95
- Lobster Tail - (1) 8oz. Tail.....\$21.95
- Steak & Lobster.....\$33.95
- Lobster Mac & Cheese.....\$17.95

Roast Duck served with Cranberry dressing.....\$18.95
Lamb Shank.....\$19.95

Prime Rib - 3 different cuts

BABYSITTER SPECIAL!

14" Pepperoni or Sausage Pizza TO GO for ONLY \$9.95!

Available on New Year's Eve only from 4 - 9 p.m.

Holiday Drink Special

- Ice Cream Candy Cane.....\$5.00
- Mimosa or Splits of Champagne..\$3.00

New Year's Day Menu

- Roast Turkey Dinner...\$10.95
- Plus full menu will be available.
- Special 24 Oz. Bloody Mary's.....\$6.50

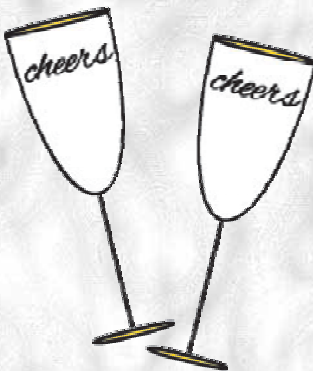


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Also includes our FRESH SALAD BAR with OVER 30 ITEMS and a FREE GLASS OF BUBBLY!

All for just \$29.95. Please call for reservations.

Sing in the New Year with karaoke starting at 9 p.m.

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Saturday 6 a.m. - 11 a.m. & 5-9 p.m., Sundays: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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Friday: Fish Fry - All You Care to Eat - Haddock, includes Soup and Salad Bar

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Saturday, January 6th

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1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.


Live Music Featuring
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Steak & Shrimp- \$16.95

Sirloin & Crab - \$21.95

Prime Rib

Serving begins at 4:00 p.m.

Limited Reservations Available

Karaoke



City of Crandon Police Department

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF PACKARD

November 2017 CPD Activity Report:

- 5 Accident(s)
- 2 Alarm Call(s)
- 5 Animal Incident(s) (2 CITATIONS ISSUED)
- 6 Assists to Citizens/Motorists
- 10 Assists to Forest County Sheriff's Dept.
- 1 Breaking & Entering/Burglary Incident(s)
- 3 Civil Matter/Dispute(s)
- 1 Criminal Damage to Property/Vandalism Incident(s)
- 1 Disorderly Conduct/Fight(s) (1 ARREST)
- 3 Domestic Dispute/Disturbance
- 1 Drug Abuse/Possible Drug Abuse Incident(s)
- 1 Fire Complaint(s)
- 2 Gas Drive-Off Incident(s)
- 3 Harassment/Threat Incident(s)
- 6 Health/Safety/Welfare Incident(s)/911 Calls
- 1 Identity Theft
- 1 Intoxicated Subject Incident(s)
- 1 Noise/Disturb Peace Incident(s)
- 1 Probation/Parole Violation(s)
- 1 Prowler/Possible Prowler Incident(s)
- 19 Security Checks--Businesses/Residences
- 4 Suspicious Person/Activity/Package/Vehicle Incident(s)
- 2 Theft/Possible Theft Incident(s)
- 1 Traffic/Driving/Parking Incident(s)
- 1 Unsecured Door/Window Incident(s)
- 7 Vehicle Lockout(s)
- 2 Weapons Complaint(s)
- 4 Warning(s) to Drivers (re: Vehicle or Traffic Safety)

January is National Radon Action Month

Radon comes from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water and gets into the air you breathe. It can get into any type of building and result in a high indoor radon level. You can't see, smell, or taste radon but it could be present at a dangerous level in your home.

Testing your house for radon is easy. A simple test will tell you if your home has a high radon level. Most tests last between 2 and 7 days. It's as easy as opening a package, and putting the test kit in the right place. After sending the kit back to the address in the package, the company will send your test results in about 2 weeks.

If your house has a radon problem, it can be fixed. Fixing a radon problem reduces the risk of lung cancer for you and your family. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths than radon.

Radon test kits can be purchased at the Forest County Health Department for \$8.00.

Take action today. Encourage your friends and family members to do the same.

Please call the Forest County Health Department at 715-478-3371 or visit our website www.forestcountypublichealth.org with any questions.

Senior Dining!

Fellowship....Food.....Fun. That is what Senior Dining is all about. Enjoy a nutritious meal at a warm friendly Dining site, in the company of friends. Volunteer opportunities are available as well as other planned activities.

Anyone who is 60 years or better may participate in Senior Dining as well as his or her spouse regardless of his or her age. We have five local Senior Dining sites: Alvin, Armstrong Creek, Crandon, Laona and Wabeno. Weekly menus and schedules for each meal site can be found in the weekly Forest Republican, Pioneer Express, and the monthly aging newsletter or by calling the Forest County Dept. on Aging.

If you are unable to join us for lunch at a senior dining site because of health problems, you may be eligible for Meals on Wheels.

The Meals Aren't Free...But there is not a specific charge per meal. You are asked to donate as generously as you can afford. Any amount will be gratefully accepted. The suggested donation for Senior Dining Meals is \$3.00. The suggested donation for Meals on Wheels is \$ 3.75. Our full cost for anyone 60 and under is \$8.00. Our meals are very hearty and are prepared by the federal nutrition standards. Four of the dining sites are catered by Dewing's Catering.

Our site manager, Florence Kostka, prepares Alvin's dining site meals. The donations we receive are vital in helping us continue with the current level of service throughout Forest County. In 2016, we served 16,463 meals throughout the county. Our expenses totaled \$124,892.58 and 28% of our funding were from donations. The remaining funding came from our yearly allocation from the Older American Act and county tax dollars.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about the nutrition program, feel free to contact Tammy Queen, Aging Director at (715) 478-7712.

Nicolet College's Winter/Spring Learning in Retirement

classes keep retirees active, engaged

Nicolet College's Learning in Retirement (LIR) program will continue its long tradition of presenting a broad range of offerings during the upcoming Winter/Spring session. The 38 offerings include everything from rearing musky and walleye fingerlings to discovering new trends in kitchen design.

"Having so many different topics to pick from and learn about is really what's made LIR so successful over the years," said LIR coordinator Brenda Peltier. "It gives retirees the opportunity to expand their knowledge and meet others with similar interests."

Classes run January 18 through May 17. Membership is \$40 and individuals can attend as many or as few classes as they desire. Some meet only once while others meet weekly over a month or more.

"There are no grades or assignments, only learning and socializing simply for the fun of it," Peltier explained.

Many presentations are by LIR members themselves who have spent decades becoming well-versed or even experts on specific topics. Other classes are led by outside professionals.

Upcoming offerings include a look inside the Red Cross and how it responds to any number of different disasters, the law of war, the ins and outs of pharmaceutical clinical trials, the latest on Alzheimer's and Lyme disease and distinctive architectural designs in Rhinelander.

In addition, members can learn about sustainable farming, take in a travelogue of India, discuss current events, sing in the LIR choir, tour the Northwoods Petroleum Museum, and gather insights into the natural world in Ced's Nature Series.

For more information, to view the complete list of classes, and to register, visit nicoletcollege.edu/lir or call (715) 365-4491, 1-800-544-3039, ext. 4491; TTY 1-800-947-3529 or 711 relay.

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Wabeno School District

Breakfast Menu

Jan. 01 - 05, 2018

Mon.: No School - Happy New Year

Tues.: W.G. cereal, fruit cup, Fruit Juice, milk

Wed.: Breakfast fritter, assorted cereal bars, peaches, fruit juice, milk.

Thur.: Breakfast breads, assorted yogurt, mixed fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Fri.: Breakfast pizza, pears, fruit juice, milk

Still Smoking

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Letter to Editor

Continued from Page 15

throughout the townships of Forest County to express input, and will ultimately only help our county board make better decisions when necessary as our elected representatives.

Upon a final consensus from the task force, a professionally compiled survey should then be distributed to all county stakeholders. This survey is twofold in its purpose:

- 1) the survey educates why the proposed options best meet the county's needs
- 2) the survey provides an opportunity for taxpayer feedback to see what is likely to be supported, or not, via a county wide referendum

I would hope the county board would give consideration to the above, and that as a county, we would be understanding of our county representatives should they decide to take a step back in this process. The end goal should be to provide needed services to its residents via a safe and efficient facility, while also being as fiscally conscious as possible.

Sincerely,
 Ben Niehaus, Argonne

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Town Of Wabeno Request for Bid

- Ceiling at Trump Lake Pavillion
- Unfinished - End Matched T&G Pine.
- Approx. 3300 Sq Ft.
- Insulated with R-38 insulation
- Bid should include all Material and Labor
- Questions call: Jim Smith- 715-850-1602
- Job must be completed by Feb 1st, 2018
- Bids must be received by Jan 3rd, 2018 to be considered.

Send Bids to: Town of Wabeno
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COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

- **Cathedral Church of the Northwoods Arbutus/Lutheran Church**, ELCA, W6607 Church Ln., Pearson, invites any and all to worship with them Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School is at 11 a.m. Communion is open to all on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. For more information, call 715-484-5055 or 715-623-6850.
- **Forest Larger Parish Presbyterian Church** - Sunday Worship: Lakewood - 8:00 (15552 Hwy. 32), Wabeno - 10:00 (4347 North Branch St.), Laona - 11:30 (5265 Linden St.). Call 715-473-3603 for more information.
- **St. John's Lutheran Church** - N8934 st highway 55. Worship at 9:00 a.m. Sunday. Located at the corner of 55 and Cty A in Pickerel. Call 715-484-3382 for more information. After school programs at 3:30 on Wednesdays.
- **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church** - Hwy 55N, Crandon. All Services will be held at St. John Lutheran Church located at 5502 Beech St. in Laona, until further notice.
- **St John Lutheran Church** - 5502 Beech Street, Laona, Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m. Bible School Mondays at 3:30 p.m.
- **Trinity Evengelical Church (WELS)** - 1741 Forest Avenue, Wabeno. Sunday morning service at 9:30 a.m.; Youth Bible Study at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Bethel Baptist Church** - 1761 East Ave., Wabeno. Worship service Sunday at 9 a.m. Bible study Wed. at 2 p.m.
- **Lakeland Baptist Church** - Sunday Service at 10 a.m, Sunday School 9 a.m. Sunday night at 5 p.m. Prayer meeting Wednesday 6 p.m.
- **St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)** - 501 N. Park Avenue, Crandon. Sunday worship service at 9 a.m.; Youth Bible School (grades pre k - 8) on Wednesday at 3:45 - 5 p.m. 715-478-5620.
- **Overeaters Anonymous meeting** - Thursday at 4:30 p.m. in Associated Bank at 210 S Lake Ave., Crandon. Contact Debra at 715-784-0031 for more information.
- **Stitch'n Sisters Needlework Group** - We invite anyone interested in needle arts to join us Tuesdays from 9 a.m. - noon in the Associated Bank Community Room, located at 210 S. Lake Ave., Crandon.
- **Elcho Area Community Food Pantry** moved into a new location at 11224 Antigo St, Elcho, WI 54428. It will be open each week: Mon. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Wed. 4 - 6 p.m. and Thur. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. If any further information is needed please contact David A. Schindler at (715) 610-5886.
- **Forest County Humane Society** - Open to public Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call for more info. 715-478-2098.

Wabeno School District Lunch Menu
 Jan. 01 - 05, 2018

Mon.: No School - Happy New Year

Tue.: Mini corn dogs, carrots, peaches, Scooby Snacks, garden bar, milk

Wed.: Spaghetti meat sauce/marinara, California blend, bread stick, watermelon, garden bar, milk

Thurs.: Cheesy ham potato soup, crackers, fruit cup, slushi cup, garden bar, milk

Fri.: Chicken nuggets, buttered noodles, peaches, corn, garden bar, milk

Request for Bids Uniform Dwelling Code Inspector Forest County, WI.

Forest County is requesting bids for the contracted position of Uniform Dwelling Code Inspector. This contracted position will be for state required inspections of all new, one and two family dwellings in all townships. Bidders for this contractual position shall be certified by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce as specified by Wisconsin Statute, Section 101.654

Bid packages and specifications are available from the office of the County Clerk at 200 East Madison Street, Crandon, Wisconsin 54520 beginning January 2nd, 2018. All bids are due in the office of the clerk on or before 4:30 p.m. January 22nd, 2018. Call for bid packages can be made to 715-478-1387.

- **Forest County Humane Society Meeting** - Every fourth Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the lower level of the Crandon Public Library. The public is always welcome.
 - **Crandon Lions Board Meetings** - 1st Monday of the month at Ducks Bar at 6 p.m.
 - **Crandon Lions Membership Meeting** - 3rd Monday of month. Social hour 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. & meeting at 7 p.m. Meetings for November, December & January will be held at Duck's Bar.
 - **Bridge Community Dental Health Clinic** - This project serves people of all ages in Forest County for people who have Badger Care, medical Assistance & UNINSURED to schedule an appointment call (715) 848-4884.
 - **Senior Snoop Shop** - Closed for the season.
 - **Christian Motorcyclist Association** - Spirit Ryders Chapter of Langlade & Forest Co. invites you to attend our meetings on the last Saturday of each month. Call George 715-350-1679.
 - **Town of Lincoln Board Meetings** - 2nd Monday of each month, 6 p.m., Town of Lincoln Hall.
 - **Nashville Craft & Flea Market** - Closing Thursday, Dec. 21 due to weather. See you in the spring. Interested vendors or for more information, call Lindy at 715-484-3152.
 - **Tops** - will meet at Wabeno Town Hall on Mondays. Weigh in at 7:35 a.m. with meeting following at 7:45 a.m. For more info call 715-473-2613.
 - **Crandon PTO** - 1st Monday of month, 6-7 p.m., Crandon Elementary School Cafeteria.
 - **Support Group for Parent of Children with Disabilities** - Call Chris at 715-784-0058.
 - **Survivors of Suicide Support Group** - Support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide will gather the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. until noon at the Curran Building located at 315 South Oneida Avenue in Rhinelander. For info call Sue at 715-275-5399.
 - **Crandon Public Library Board Monthly meeting**. 6 p.m. Lower Level. 715.478.3784. www.crandonpl.org.
 - **Wellbriety 12 Step Meeting (AA/NA)** - Mondays at 6 p.m. - ? lower level of FCP Museum, Mish•Ko•Swin Lane, Crandon. Call Brooks Boyd for more information at 715-889-4902.
 - **AA Meetings** - Back Door Group - Open meetings Monday & Thurs. nights at 7 p.m., Lakewood Lakes Country Library. Call Mary at 715-276-2318 or Bill at 715-882-3512.
 - **AA Meeting** - Saturdays, 9 a.m., Wabeno Fire Station, side entrance.
 - **AA Meeting** - Antigo Hospital, Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.
 - **AA Meeting** - White Lake, Sundays at 10 a.m. at the White Lake Fire House. Mike at 715-882-8901 or Bill at 715-882-3512.
 - **AA Meeting** - Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Carter Springs. Contact Peggy at 715-889-3116 for more information.
- The Senior Snoop Shop** will be having a "special" meeting on Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. at Associated Bank.

15%

New Year's Week

30%

20%

BALLOON SALE

40%

60%

50%

DON'T MISS THIS SALES EVENT!

5 BIG DAYS

Thurs., Dec. 28 (9am-6pm) Fri., Dec. 29 (9am-6pm)

Sat., Dec. 30 (10am-5pm) Sun., Dec. 31 (11am-4pm)

Mon., Jan. 1 (9am-6pm)

15% 25% 40% UP TO 60%
20% 30% 50%

OFF YOUR PURCHASE

NO MONEY DOWN

Plus
NO INTEREST

FOR ONE FULL YEAR*

HOW IT WORKS:

1 Make Your Purchase

2 Pop A Balloon

3 Determine Your Savings

(Savings taken off our already low, low sale prices!)

FREE Refreshments

Balloons for the Kids

Balloons & Savings in EVERY DEPARTMENT

Start Off Your New Year in Comfort

Burst a Balloon (Not Your Budget) NEW YEAR'S WEEK SALE

This is the BIGGEST retail furniture event of the year!

*Does not apply to previous purchases. One year financing available to qualified buyers w/purchase of \$599 or more. Other financing plans available (see store for details.) *(Special orders require 30% down). Tax and delivery due at time of sale. Minimum monthly payment required. Sale excludes iComfort and iSeries Mattresses. 1 balloon popped, per day, per person, per purchase. Excludes clearance and blowout priced items.

Lakeland Furniture & Mattress

411 State Hwy 64, Antigo | (715) 623-2100
9796 Rylee Drive, Minocqua | (715) 356-3232
www.lakelandfurnitureandmattress.com



DELIVERY AND DISPOSAL OF OLD FURNITURE AND MATTRESSES AVAILABLE