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Merry Christmas!

The Big Christmas Present



The early homesteads wouldn't be featured in *Good Housekeeping* magazine, but they kept most of the rain and snow off, and many of these early homesteads grew into prosperous farms as the decades passed.

By Mike Monte

Work was about 100 miles away from his home in Bear Creek, but the money was good, and that money was surely needed to be sure that he and his wife could keep their subsistence farm operating. If it took following the big sawmill 100 miles north to skid logs for the winter, he couldn't turn it down. He knew they paid their help and didn't miss paydays. He worked in the woods for the company when they operated the mill in nearby New London. So, when winter started its approach in mid-November, he bundled up his work clothes, kissed the wife and two kids goodbye and boarded the train headed north.

He left with some trepidation, but he was reasonably sure that his wife, son and daughter would be able to feed and milk the six cows that were the start of what he hoped would be a large dairy herd someday. Of course, there were the two pigs and chickens to look after as well, but he had plenty of hay and grain put up, and if they were going to be successful, there had to be some sacrifices. One of those sacrifices was his winter away in the Northwoods, living in a camp that smelled like wet wool and sweat, little opportunity for bathing, and eating pancakes every morning and evening even if you were sure you couldn't choke down another one.

He stepped off the C&NW train in Pelican Lake and had to wait for the train that would take him to Crandon, where he would step out of the railcar a short walk to the new Page & Landeck sawmill. Once at the mill, he was loaded in a buckboard and taken to a new logging camp about five miles from the sawmill.

The first order of business after leaving the sack of oats that had served as his chair on a rough ride over frozen ruts, was to be assigned a bed in the bunkhouse. He had to wait until the crews came in for the evening meal before he met his foreman for the winter. He was happy to find out that Big George, the foreman, was somebody he had worked for around New London. When he visited the camp office, he was also happy to see that he too was somebody who had made the move north with the sawmill. He was greeted with a big smile, and a "Hello Frenchie, glad to have you back!"

That evening, in the bunkhouse, he found out he was bunking next to Otto, a friend from Bear Creek. Otto was equally pleased to see another friendly face. He hadn't seen Otto for quite some time. Otto had bought cutover land from the company and has been busy for the last year or so digging stumps and trying to make a farm on the rough glacial till that was common in the area. He was happy with his venture, however, as the price of this future farmland was a fraction of what it was in the New London/Bear Creek area.

The next day, work was started. Frenchie found himself on a road crew, cutting tote roads that led to the main landing near the almost completed narrow gauge line that would ultimately haul the hardwood logs to the sawmill on the edge of a small lake in Crandon. It was work with axe, grubhoe, one-man and crosscut saws, with teams of horses skidding off the merchantable timber along with the pole wood and brush. The roads were

Continued on page 35

Crystal Lake is pumped to get the water level back to normal



By Mike Monte

Earlier in the year we reported on the abnormally high water in Crystal Lake near Pickerel. This is an unusual year for water levels. Swamps are full of water and have been all through the warm months. It looks like the water levels in spring breakup.

With some cottages flooded and many others with water close to the door, The Crystal Lake Association took on the big job of pumping the lake to get the water levels down. The water is being pumped over a mile to Pickerel Lake according to Bob Schuster, a Crystal Lake resident, who was manning the pump when I stopped. Pickerel Lake is drained by Pickerel Creek, but Crystal Lake has no outlet.

About five Lake Association members provide the volunteer help to keep the pump running. The Association has taken on the cost of the job with DNR approval. Donations to the Association keep the rent paid on the pump, but the hose was purchased and will be sold later, according to Schuster.

We live in an area where the weather can be extreme. All remember the drought years, when lake levels dropped many feet in some locations. Maybe a drought will replace the wet season we are now in. We will just have to wait and see.



The pump is under this temporary shelter, and the hose can be seen to the left of the truck. The hose then goes under the road and on to Pickerel Lake.



Wabeno Lions donate to local food pantries



Wabeno Lions recently donated to two area food pantries. Checks of \$500 were delivered to Christian Food Pantry in Lakewood and the NewCap Food Pantry in Crandon. Pictured presenting a check to Scott Wycherly, Director of CFP, is Wabeno Lions President, Alan Harrison.

City of Crandon constructs ice rink near City Hall



Dust off your ice skates, strap a pillow to your butt, a skating rink has been assembled just to the south of the City Hall Building. It was constructed by the city work crew and water was supplied by the Crandon Fire Department. Solar lights were assembled last Friday for skating after the sun sets. City Hall is located at 601 West Washington Street.

This is good exercise and a way to stay active during the current covid mess and is outside and easy to keep social distancing.

806 cases of covid-19 (19 active) confirmed in Forest County

Forest County Public Health officials have confirmed additional persons have been diagnosed with novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19) for a total of 806 cases in Forest County. County health officials and local partners are contacting others with whom the individuals who tested positive had close contact with. As of today, Forest County has 3,775 negative test results. There are currently 18 active cases in isolation, 761 released from isolation, 4 hospitalized, and 23 deaths.

The Forest County Health Department encourages community members keep your friends and family safe this holiday season by only sharing a meal with the people that live in your household or having a virtual dinner with family and friends. Try preparing meals and treats for delivery. If you deliver them in a way that doesn't involve contact, it can be a great way to safely share the holidays with family, friends and neighbors without risking their health. Shop online rather than in person, and watch sports events, parades, and movies from home. For more information or tips on how to keep your community safe

Continued on page 06




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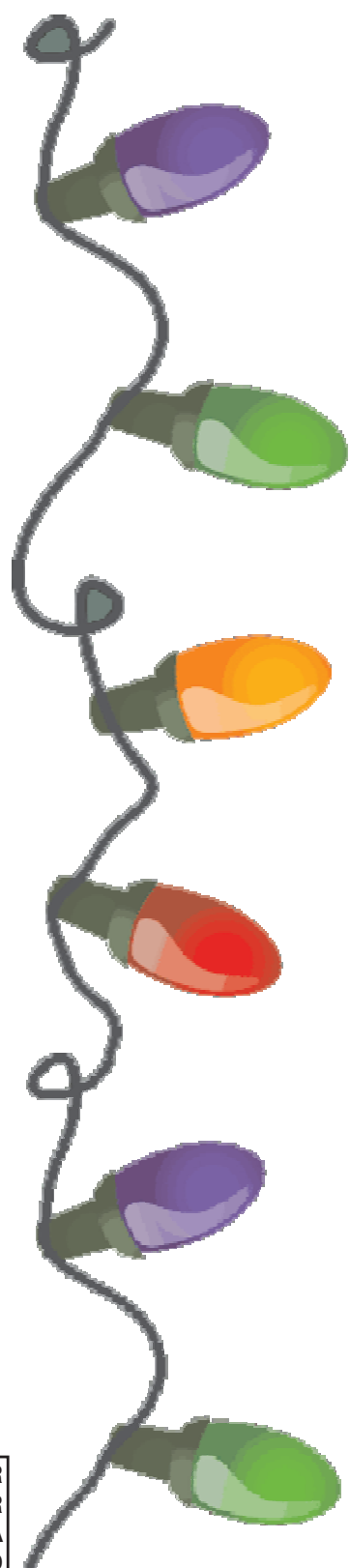


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Position: Dentist
Salary: Commensurate with Education/Experience
Hours: Full-time
Reports to: Clinic Director



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- Administering local anesthesia.
- Performing routine and moderately complicated tooth extractions, including surgical procedures.
- Studying results of examinations to determine the type of treatment and developing an acceptable treatment plan.
- Performing endodontic, prosthodontics, periodontics, surgical, and routine restorative procedures.
- Recognizing symptoms of an assortment of systemic diseases and referring cases for medical diagnosis.

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A background check will be required

Qualified applicants please submit resumes to:
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Email: donna.vodar@scc-nsn.gov
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Salary: Commensurate with Education/Experience
Hours: Full-time
Reports to: Medical Director/Health Clinic Director



Job Summary:
This position is responsible for the overall ambulatory services of the health clinic. The Nurse Practitioner will provide direct and comprehensive advanced practice-nursing services including: diagnostic, preventive and therapeutic health services to individuals; care management for patients; and treatment, health, education, counseling and guidance to individuals and families.

Qualifications:

- Master's Degree required.
- Active, current and unrestricted license to practice as an FNP in the state of Wisconsin.
- State certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner.
- Minimum of two years' experience preferred.
- Knowledge of Native American communities/culture or willingness to learn.
- Excellent verbal, written and presentation skills.
- Ability to work independently.

Native American preference is granted according to PL 93-638

Submit completed applications/resumes to:
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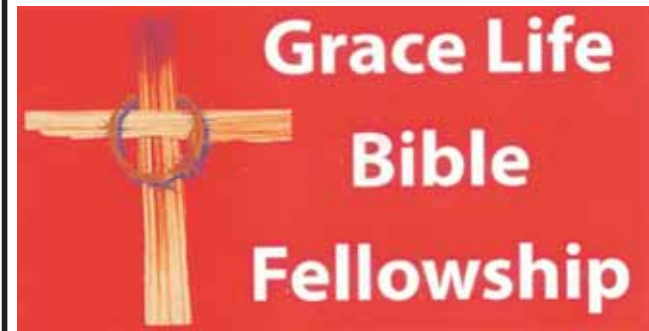
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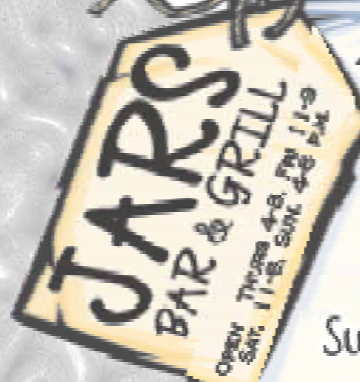
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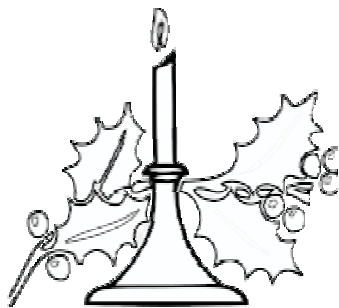
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What does the Senior Nutrition Program meal cost?

By: Tammy Queen, Director
Starting January 1, 2021, Forest County Nutrition Program "suggested donation" for carry out and home delivered meal programs will increase. The Carryout/congregate will increase to \$3.50 and home delivered meal will increase to \$4.25. I would like to share with you how the cost of a meal is determined.

Let's start with some important numbers. In the past 12 months, October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020 we served 19,728 meals to seniors. I often hear the meal program described as a "free" meal program, when nothing could be further from the truth. The cost to prepare, deliver and serve a home delivered meal is \$10.04 and a congregate or "carry out" meal cost \$9.50 per meal. The cost to prepare all 19,728 meals was approximately \$170,000.00. In 2020, we have served 18,238 meals as of the end of November. We estimate spending \$160,000.00. However, you need to take into consideration we had one site closed due to COVID and we served carry out meals for the last ten months. If we had not endured this pandemic, our cost would have been much more.

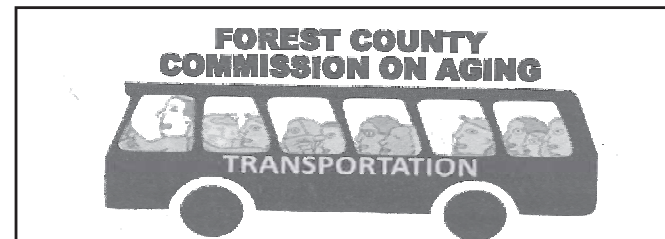
Actually, the expenses this year are extremely high considering congregate dining has been closed since the middle of March and we have been bulk delivering Meals on Wheels since then as well. We have all seen rising costs in groceries and everyday supplies for our family budgets. This program is no different. Our cost includes, raw food and materials, preparation, and delivery of the meal to the meal sites by the caterer. It further includes the staffing and other costs incurred by the site to serve the meal at dining site.

For home delivered meals it includes the additional packaging, supplies and delivery equipment needed to safely provide home delivered meals to the homebound. Our staff try very hard to keep our cost down by making sure there is minimum of wasted food and creating efficiencies whenever possible. Please take time to congratulate them on a job well done! We have a group of amazing dining site managers!

So where does the money come from?
Congregate meal program allocation from federal/state funding is \$61,588. Home delivered meal program allocation is \$9,831 from federal/state. We receive Nutrition Supplemental Income Program funding for every meal we serve. It is about \$11,782 per fiscal year which is federal funding. County levy contributes about \$30,000 annually. The rest of our funding comes from the donations from all of you. In 2019, our donations and revenue from Family Care was \$64,989.15, which was 15% of our budget. Without the donations and revenue, we would be over-budget and we would have to implement waitlist for home delivered meal program and possibly make other cuts.

So why set a suggested minimum contribution amount?

First and foremost, this is what it says: a suggestion. We understand that individual finances will determine the amount, if any, a person can contribute. We set this for those that would simply like a guide. If half of the persons served a meal contribute this amount, while others contribute a little more, a little less, or none at all based upon what their finances will allow, we could continue the program at the current level of service. While you are asked to anonymously contribute what you can to the program for your meal, if your circumstances do not allow for this, a contribution is not required. Regardless of your contribution, you are always welcome at our table or to receive a home-delivered meal.



Due to COVID 19
We will only have bus transportation on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The bus is only transporting within Forest County. Thank You and sorry of any inconvenience.

1vision



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Notice-Town of Laona Informational Meeting on Zoning

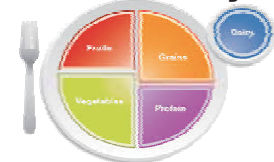
Notice is hereby given that; there will be another Informational Meeting on the possibility of the Town of Laona going under the Forest County Comprehensive Zoning Plan.

There will be a Public Hearing in the future to possibly move the Town of Laona under Forest County Comprehensive Zoning and this meeting is to allow residents an opportunity to gather information and get any questions answered before the public hearing.

The informational meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 5th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Laona Community Building, 5233 Beech Street, Laona WI, 54541.

Erin Lane, Clerk/Treasurer

Forest County Commission on Aging Nutrition Program



SENIOR MEALS

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA
Monday - Dec. 28 - CLOSED
CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK
Tuesday - Dec. 29 - CLOSED
CRANDON, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK
Wednesday - Dec. 30 - CLOSED
WABENO CONGREGATE & HOME DELIVERED
Thursday - Dec. 31 - CLOSED
ALVIN - No Meals in the Month of December
The local number for the ADCRC: 478-2162 is no longer in service. The only number for the ADCRC is the 800-699-6704.

Please register with Commission on Aging - 478-3256.

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). Meals canceled until further notice.

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

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

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Bids & Notices

Notice of Timber Sale Town of Laona

The Town of Laona is accepting bids for Timber Sale located off Klasna Ln. in Laona.

For more information and a full bid packet please contact:

Erin Lane 715-674-4071

Or

Paul Mueller 715-632-1170

Bids will be accepted until January 11th at 6:00pm, Bids will be opened on January 11th at 6:00pm at the Laona Community Building, 5233 Beech Street, Laona WI 54541.

Erin Lane, Clerk/Treasurer

Town of Laona Notice of Noncandidacy

The following incumbents will not be candidates seeking reelection at the next election on April 6th, 2021

Erin Lane - Clerk/Treasurer

Jane Albrecht Town Supervisor

Nomination papers and Candidacy forms for these positions can be picked up at the Laona Town Hall during office hours.

Erin Lane,
Clerk/Treasurer

Wabeno School Breakfast Menu DEC. 28-31

Monday - No School
Tuesday - No School
Wednesday - No School
Thursday - No School

Wabeno School Lunch Menu DEC. 28-31

Monday - No School
Tuesday - No School,
Wednesday - No School
Thursday - No School

REAL ESTATE



Kathy Flannery
Broker-Owner
715-889-0330
kathyflannery@gmail.com



Hunter Flannery
Realtor
715-889-0323
hunterflannery16@gmail.com



Josh Vollmar
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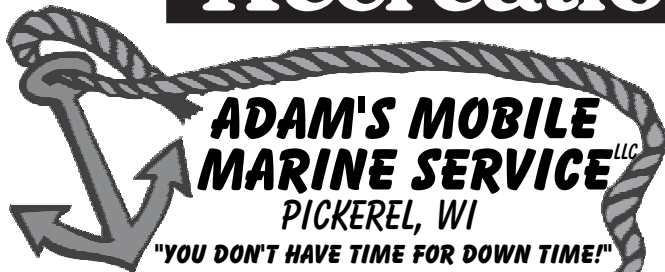
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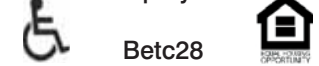
Ken Schiefelbein
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(772) 559-8053

Wabeno- Beat the cold! 2 and 3 bedroom apartments available (Orchard Ridge Apartments). Rent is based on 30% of your gross adjusted income or \$545.00 for a 2 bedroom and \$575.00 for a 3 bedroom. Rent 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.

FOR RENT: Available January 1st. Large one bedroom apartment in downtown Crandon. Partially furnished, includes heat, water, and garbage. For more information please call 715-902-0308. **Bet38**

FOR RENT: Office space /classroom/conference space available for rent. Located in downtown Crandon. Includes heat and electric. \$375/mo. Contact Amanda Packard 715-891-4519. **B 39**

CRANDON: Settle in before the cold settles in. 1 bedroom apartments available at the Glenview Senior Apartments. Specifically built for persons 62 years of age or older, handicapped/disabled individuals regardless of age. Rent is based on 30% of your gross adjusted income or \$520.00 if rental assistance is not available 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.



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Approved for \$90,000
Prefer ranch style with laundry on 1st floor. Would consider 2 story with at least 1 bedroom, bathroom and laundry on 1st floor. Would need garage or basement for storage. Willing to rent as an option. Call 715-889-0152 P37

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Dan 715-889-1068 **Bob- 715-484-2277**
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- ★ Boat Floater Lifts ★ LSP Lifts
- ★ Lakeview Docks ★ Lift Tech
- ★ Shore Station ★ EZ Dock ★ Titan Deck

Covid cases Cont. from pg. 1

and healthy during the holidays, visit www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community.

Please continue to practice physical distancing and good personal hygiene, wear a mask or cloth face covering, and stay alert for symptoms of COVID-19. If you are experiencing any symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, please contact your health care provider and ask to be tested.

In an effort to keep our community members up to date on COVID-19, the Forest County Health Department will continue to update our Facebook page daily and local newspapers weekly with current COVID-19 case counts. This will include the number of negative and positive cases in Forest County. Please call our office at 715-478-3371 with any questions or concerns.

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FOR SALE: 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe LTZ, loaded with all options, heated cooler leather, moonroof, dvd, etc, super clean 4x4 suv, VERY well taken care of, 98xxx miles, priced way under n.a.d.a. retail. \$33500.00 715-484-4131 or can be seen at Schroeder's Auto Sales in Pearson. **BETC25**

FOR SALE: 2008 Chevy Impala, 185,700 miles, runs great, silver color. Asking \$3,000. Call 715-623-3537 P38



2020 Nissan Rogue SV- 29K, 2.5L 4 cylinder, heated seats, backup camera, remote start, power lift gate, alloy wheels, VERY good MPG! - \$20,900
2020 Dodge Ram - 23K Miles, 5.7 L Hemi, power heated & cooled seats, backup camera, remote start, Laramie Package Great for winter travel!.....\$38,900
2020 Chevy Equinox - 31K Miles, power driver seat, backup camera\$21,995
2020 Ford F150 - Crew Cab, 5.0L, V8, heated seats, navigation, tow pkg, Chrome wheels \$39,900
2019 Nissan Pathfinder - 22K Miles, Gray Exterior, AWD, Price Reduced \$23,995
2019 Jeep Laredo -3.6 L 6 cylinder, power driver seat, backup camera, Nicely equipped! - \$27,995
2018 Subaru Outback - 28K Miles, AWD.....\$22,999
2016 Chevy Traverse 2LT - 80K Miles, AWD, \$18,995

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\$7.99 Lb.

Premium Angus Choice Beef

CHUCK ARM ROAST



\$3.99 Lb.

Pork **BABY BACK RIBS**



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Boneless **PORK SIRLOIN CHOPS**



\$1.99 Lb.

Boneless Pork

SIRLOIN ROAST



\$1.79 Lb.

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CHICKEN BREAST



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Hillshire Farm **LIL SMOKIES**
13-14 Oz.



2/\$5.00

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Beef or Original 20 Oz.



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In Wine or Cream Sauce 16 Oz.



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SNOW CRAB LEGS



\$13.99 Lb.

Armour **MEATBALLS**
14 Oz.



2/\$5.00

LOBSTER TAILS

8 Oz. Avg.



\$12.99

SeaMazz **SHRIMP RING**
16 Oz.



\$8.99

Sea Mazz **SHRIMP**

Cooked, Peeled Deveined 31-40 Ct. 2 lb. Bag



\$14.99

PRODUCE

Ripe **ROMA TOMATOES**



89¢ Lb.

Large **LIMES**



3/99¢

AVOCADOS



49¢ Ea.

Marzetti's Assorted **VEGGIE DIPS**

14 Oz. Tub



\$3.49

Baby Cut Peeled **CARROTS**

2 Lb. Bag



2/\$4.00

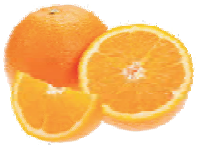
Texas (5 Lb. Bag) **RED GRAPEFRUIT**



\$3.99

Seedless (4 Lb. Bag)

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Michigan (3 Lb. Bag)

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Ripe (6 Oz. Pkg.)

RASPBERRIES & BLACKBERRIES



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Fresh (1 Pint)

BLUEBERRIES



2/\$5.00

Ripe

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ASPARAGUS



\$2.49 Lb.

Russet

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We reserve the right to limit quantities

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SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION

Best Choice

SELECT TOMATOES

14.5 Oz.
6 Best Sellers



2/\$1.00

Best Choice

BEANS

15-15.5 Oz
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2/\$1.00

Always Save

POTATO CHIPS

8-10 Oz.
8 Kinds



99¢

Best Choice

SQUEEZE KETCHUP

20 Oz.



99¢

Always Save TOMATO SAUCE

7.5 Oz.



4/\$1.00

Always Save GRAPE JUICE



\$1.99

Always Save OYSTER CRACKERS

9 Oz.



79¢

Best Choice PARTY CUPS

18 Oz./ 40 Ct.



\$1.99

Best Choice APPLE JUICE

96 Oz.



\$1.59

Best Choice OILS

128 Oz.
Vegetable
Corn
Canola



\$5.99

Best Choice GRANULATED SUGAR

10 Lb.



\$4.99

Best Choice MUSTARD

14 Oz.



79¢

PARTY SIZE PARTY SIZE LAYS

Reg. \$5.29
Reg. \$4.79



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Original BISQUICK

40 Oz.



\$2.99

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18 Oz.
Quick or
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\$2.79

GM Select CEREAL

9-10.8 Oz.
4 Kinds



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Betty Crocker HAMBURGER HELPER

5.5-6.9 Oz.
6 Best Sellers



99¢

General Mills SNACKS

7.5-8.75 Oz.
4 Kinds



99¢

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2 Liters



\$1.19

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4 Roll
Limit 1



50¢

50¢ with a Separate \$10 Purchase

COKE BRAND

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COKE BRAND

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3/\$9.00

PEPSI BRAND

24 Pack/ 12 Oz. Cans



\$7.99

PEPSI BRAND

2 Liter Bottles



4/\$5.00

PEPSI BRAND

5 Liters/6 Pack Bottles



4/\$11.00

VITAMIN WATER

20 Oz.

POWERADE WATER

20 Oz.

BODY ARMOR

16 Oz.



5/\$5.00

VITAMIN WATER

16.9 Oz./ 6 Pk.

DASANI

.5 Ltr./24 Pack



\$4.99

BUBLY

12 Oz. / 8 Pack Cans



3/\$9.99

LIPTON TEA OR LIPTON PURE LEAF

.5 Ltr./12 Pk. Bottles



\$5.49

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12 Oz./ 8 Pk. Cans



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**Flat Out Light Original
FLATBREAD**

90 Calories



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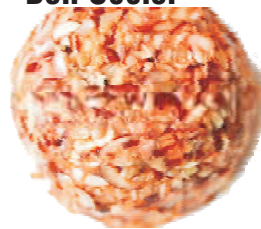
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COCKTAIL RYE**

16 Oz.



**Portwine
CHEESE BALL**

10 Oz. Located in
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\$3.99 Ea.

**WHITE
BREAD**

1 Lb.



\$2.19

**CHOCOLATE CHIP
COOKIES**

12 Ct.



\$3.99

**FLAVORED CAKE
DONUT**

5 Ct.



\$2.30

CUPCAKES

4 Ct.



\$2.89

**Thin Crust
JACKS
PIZZA**

12"

5/\$10.00



FROZEN

**Yoplait
GOGURT**

16 Oz.
8 Pack

2/\$4.00



DAIRY

**Smart Ones
ENTREES**

6.5-10.25 Oz.

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**Mr. Dells
HASH BROWNS**

24-32 Oz.

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**Blue Bonnet
MARGARINE**

16 Oz.
Quarters

89¢



**Best Choice
ICE CREAM**

48 Oz.

2/\$5.00



**Brew Pub
LOTZZA MOTZZA PIZZA**

12"

\$5.99



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PIE CRUST**

14.1 Oz.

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**Best Choice
ENGLISH MUFFINS**

6 Ct.

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**Care Free Thin
PANTY LINERS**

Reg. \$4.99

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24 Liq. Caplets
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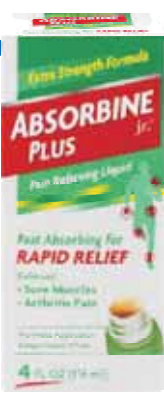
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FOR 10**

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**New Year
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FOOD **2** FUEL
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Zest BAR SOAP
Aqua, 3 Pk.
Reg. \$3.07



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PEPSI BRAND
1.25 Liter



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FOOD **2** FUEL
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200 Ct.
Reg. \$1.77



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FOOD **2** FUEL
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Bellatoria ULTRA THIN PIZZA



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FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

Best Choice SQUEEZE KETCHUP
64 Oz.



\$3.69

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

Best Choice PEANUT BUTTER
40 Oz. Creamy or Crunchy



\$4.99

FOOD **2** FUEL
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LIPTON PURE LEAF TEA
64 Oz, Bottles



\$2.69

FOOD **2** FUEL
4¢ off /gal

ADVIL
200 mg Coated Ibuprofen Caplet, 24 Ct.
Reg. \$4.93



\$3.99

FOOD **2** FUEL
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IGA SOUP
26 Oz. Tomato or Chicken Noodle



\$2.39

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Best Choice BATTERIES
8 Pk AA
Reg. \$4.43



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FOOD **2** FUEL
3¢ off /gal

POWERADE
16.9 Oz./6 Pack



2/\$7.00

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

BODY ARMOR WATER
20 Oz./6 Pack



\$4.99

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5¢ off /gal

Q-Tips COTTON SWABS
375 Ct.
Reg. \$3.05



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FOOD **2** FUEL
4¢ off /gal

MONSTER
4 Pack



\$5.99

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

Best Choice UTILITY LIGHTER



2 Pk, Reg. \$3.73
\$2.99

FOOD **2** FUEL
3¢ off /gal



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IGA HOMETOWN PROUD

Death Notices

Alan L. Petonquot, 66, of Crandon, WI passed away Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at Aspirus Langlade Hospital, Antigo. Alan was born October 25, 1954 in Wabeno the son of Elijah Petonquot and Armina "Shirley" Williams.

Surviving are his daughter, Regina (Quincy) Jones, LaVergne, TN; step-daughter, Shannon (Jake) Nowak, Wausau; sons, Robert (Amy) Petonquot, Weston; Derwin Petonquot, Wausau; step-sons, Mike (Stacy) Notinokey, Wausau; Marlin (Jenny) Notinokey, Wausau; sisters, Judy Ross, Arizona; Lisa (Steve) Miltag, Green Bay; Annie Olson, Argonne; brothers, Anthony (Sue) Petonquot, Antigo; Jerry Petonquot, Crandon; Robert (Becky) Petonquot, Rhinelander; 24 grandchildren; one great-grandchild and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Jenni; brothers, Paul and Lavern.

Visitation to start at 3:00 p.m. Friday, December 11, 2020 at the Potawatomi Cultural Center, Crandon. Services to start at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 12, 2020 with Mr. Joe Daniels Sr. officiating. Burial to follow at Potawatomi Tribal Cemetery, Crandon.

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



Marjorie P. Durant "Marge" of Laona, WI passed away Saturday, December 19, 2020 at St. Mary's Hospital, Rhinelander. Marge was born May 31, 1942 in Bessemer, Michigan the daughter of John and Margaret (Milan) Wilson.

She moved to Laona WI as a baby and lived there most of her life. On June 23, 1962 she married

Thomas "Tom" Durant at St. Leonard Catholic Church in Laona. Marge was employed at the Forest County Courthouse almost 30 years. She loved to travel and dine out, especially after retirement.

Marge is survived by her husband of 58 years, Tom Durant, Laona; daughters, Patricia "Patty" (Scott) Robinson, Phoenix, AZ; Kathryn "Kat" (David) Torres; San Diego, CA; son, Robert "Bob" (Kathy) Durant, Goodyear, AZ; grandchildren, Alison Robinson, Phoenix, AZ, Matthew Robinson, Overgaard, AZ, Bradley (Erika) Fox, Goodyear, AZ, Courtney Fox, Nashville, TN, Kelley Fox, Studio City, CA; sisters, Patricia Wilson, Denver, CO; Jane (Rus) Yaeger, Roberts Lake, Wabeno, Further survived by nieces and nephews and grand-nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, John Wilson, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there will be no visitation or funeral services. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Burial will be held on at 11:00 a.m. Monday, December 28, 2020 at the Laona Cemetery.

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



Mathew Ryan Ritchie, 27, of Crandon, WI passed away Thursday, December 17, 2020 at St. Mary's Hospital, Rhinelander. Mathew was born January 3, 1993 in Rhinelander the son of Charles C. Ritchie Jr. and Holly Jeanne (Poplett) Ritchie.

Surviving are his children, Amelia, Marcus & Cohen; parents, Charles and Holly; sisters, Cheryl and Caitlin Ritchie and brothers, Charles, Tim, and Curtis Ritchie; nieces and nephews, Gracie, Ebony, Unique, Eliana, Josiah, J.J., Sophia, Armani, Jax and Talia.

Visitation will start at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 20, 2020 at Lake Lucerne Chapel, Crandon. Services will be start at noon on Monday, December 21, 2020 at Lake Lucerne Chapel with Don Dewing officiating. Burial to follow at Potawatomi Tribal Cemetery, Crandon

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

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters 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.



William ("Bill") W. Bohlmann, passed away peacefully on December 12, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family, after a valiant battle with esophageal cancer. Bill was born March 16, 1951 in Milwaukee and lived in the Brookfield area until retiring to Lakewood, WI in 2017 with his beloved wife and soulmate of 46 years, Kathleen

Bohlmann. Bill was the loving and cherished father of his children: Joey (Carrie) Bohlmann, Sara (Andrew) Schoon and Kristine (Robin) Gohsman and "Pop Pop" to his three adoring grandchildren: Mallory, Alex and John; brother to sisters Judy (Jim) Gehl, Bonny (John) Hauser and Jill (Steve) Bye. Bill was preceded in death by his parents Donald and Audrey Bohlmann. He is further survived by his cherished dogs, Josie and Blaze, many cousins, nieces, nephews and countless friends.

Bill was dedicated to his 46-year career at Keiding, Inc. and later Storage Battery Systems. He was passionate about spending time with his family, especially at his home on Wheeler Lake where way too much fun was had but treasured times, nonetheless. He loved the outdoors, spending time in nature, riding his Harley, spending quality time with his grandchildren, admiring classic cars, snowmobiling Up North, listening to and seeing live music, spending hours relaxing on his boat with Kathy and the dogs on the lake and engaging in conversation with anyone he met. He will be greatly missed for his kind heart, his abundance of wisdom and knowledge on most any subject and his ability to remember so much. He had a one-of-a-kind wit and humor along with a smile that could brighten anyone's day. Bill listened open heartedly with patience and always left people feeling heard; he always took the time. He inspired kindness and appreciation for the present moment; Bill loved the sweetness of life. Gone too soon; we love and miss you so much!

Family and friends are invited to celebrate his life in the Spring or Summer of 2021 (details to come at a later date). A private service will be held for the immediate family at St. Mary's of the Lake in Lakewood, WI.

The family would like to thank Dr. Volk and his cancer team at Green Bay Oncology for supporting his desire to never quit and be the warrior he was during the fight of his life. We would also like to thank Unity Hospice for their care and compassion offered to Bill and his family during their time of need.

In lieu of flowers, donations to The Wheeler Lake Association Post Office Box 337 Lakewood, WI 54138 are appreciated. Donations are also accepted via their website. <http://wheelerlakeassociation.com>

"Going home, going home by the waterside I will rest my bones. Listen to the river sing sweet songs to rock my soul" - Jerry Garcia and Robert Hunter/Grateful Dead

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.weberhillfuneralhome.com



Eugene C. "Gene" FencI, 89, of Lakewood, WI, passed away peacefully, Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at the VA Hospital in Iron Mountain, MI. He was born February 13, 1931 in Two Rivers, WI, son of the late Dan and Esther (Kronforst) FencI and was a graduate of Two Rivers High School, Class of 1949.

Gene enlisted in the US Army and proudly served his country until his honorable discharge in Feb of 1954. He married his loving wife of 64 years, Donna Andrus, and they eventually settled in Green Bay to raise their four children before heading up north to Silver Cliff and Lakewood to enjoy hunting, fishing and outdoor life. His last eight years, he has resided independently with his son, Michael and his wife, with his other children nearby, enjoying many happy hours at his home and sharing good times and memories.

Gene's last employment was as a supervisor of the Green Bay office of the DMV and surrounding areas, and mediator for claim adjustments. He celebrated when he realized he had more retirement years with his pension than years of employment! Gene will be remembered and cherished for his kind, compassionate heart, great sense of humor, shooting expertise and card-playing finesse, among his many attributes.

Eugene is survived by 3 sons: Michael (Sue), Steven (Beth), Jim (Laura); a daughter, Kathleen (Greg) Jensen; 6 grandchildren: Jason (Julie) FencI, Tara (Chris Kimmel) Jensen, Nicole (Craig) Zwiers, Ryan (Kristin) FencI, Rebecca (Jeremy) Riedel and Andrea FencI; and 16 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Donna and 2 brothers.

Private services will be held by Eugene's family. A celebration of Gene's life will be planned in August. Entombment will be in Allouez Catholic Chapel Mausoleum. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit www.NewcomerGreenBay.com.

If you would like to make a charitable donation in Eugene's memory, memorials may be directed to St. Mary's Catholic Church, Lakewood, WI or Oscar G. Johnson VAMC (attn: Voluntary Services).

Gene's family would like to extend their gratitude to the compassionate staff who provided his care during his brief hospitalization on the COVID unit at the VA Hospital.

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*What the caterpillar thinks is the end of the world,
the butterfly knows is only the beginning.*

www.weberhillfuneralhome.com
info@weberhillfuneralhome.com



Christmas Greetings



The end of the year brings no greater joy than the opportunity to express to you season's greetings and good wishes. May your holidays and New Year be filled with joy.

**Dennis Rosa,
Cindy Bradley,
Jodi Albrecht,**



*During this Holiday season
our thoughts turn gratefully
to those who have made
our progress possible.
We wish only the best for you.*

Four Seasons Motel

304 W. Glen
Crandon
715-478-3377



Ring Those Christmas Bells

To the earth, peace,
to the season, joy
and to our friends,
old and new,
many thanks and
may all the joys
of the season
be yours!

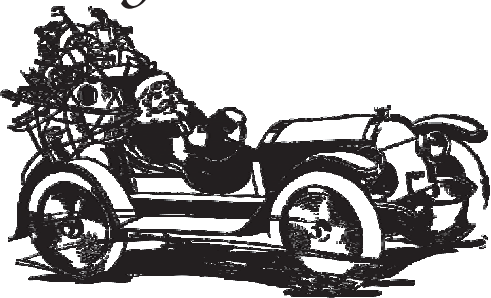
Flowers from the Heart

Hours: Mon - Fri. 8:30-5, Sat. 9-4
117 N. Lake Ave., Crandon
715-478-3710

Flowers from the Heart on 5th
Antigo WI

**BOTH STORES WILL CLOSE AT 2:00 PM
ON CHRISTMAS EVE
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY!**

Merry Christmas



For all the world to share,
simple joys of a country Christmas.
Thanks, friends, for your kind support.



Joy

*to the world and
peace on earth!*



MERRY CHRISTMAS



The stockings were
hung by the chimney
with care.....

Merry
Christmas and
Happy
New Year
to all our
friends and
customers



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Automotive
& Repair
Subaru
and A/V

Universal
Automotive & Welding
207 Railway Lane, Crandon, WI 54520

(715)889-2323 or (715)478-2741

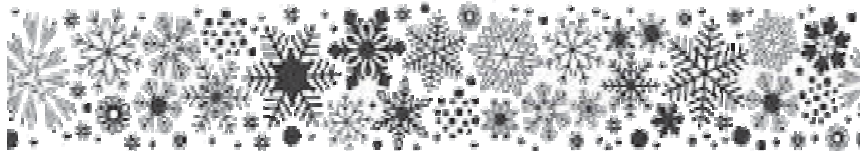


DECK THE HALLS!

Our best wishes to you
for a fun-filled Christmas.

**Denny Abney
Auto Body**

*Denny &
Betty* Hwy 8 West of Crandon
478-2610



Warmest
thoughts
and best
wishes for a
wonderful
Holiday
Season and
a very
Happy New
Year!

Our sincere thanks for your loyalty
and good will throughout the year.

Tri-County Heating & Cooling Inc.

910 W. Pioneer Ave., Crandon 715-478-3273



*Makin' a PATH
right to your door*



To wish you a
Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!

Thank you for
your patronage
this past year.

Nancy, Jamie & the
Crew at

Conway True Value and Crandon NAPA

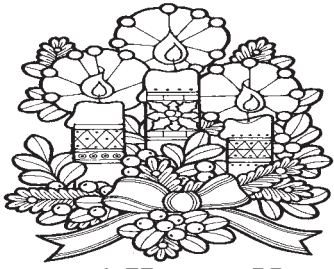
Hwy 8 East, Pioneer Plaza
Crandon

715-478-3617

BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A
True Value.

Christmas Greetings

Wishing all my customers and friends a joyous holiday season.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for your patronage

The Style Shoppe

Kerrie Groat & Angi Burow
100 West Glen * 478-3314

Happy Holidays



Wishing all the joys of the Christmas Season!

Seils Auto Body

9375 Seils Lane, Argonne 478-3482
Ron, Mary, Marc, Holly & Allison

Hair by Sue

May the blessings of Christmas fill your heart & home with love!



Thank you to all my customers!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

715-889-0015 Argonne



Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year!

Our sincere thanks for your loyalty and good will throughout the year.

Tri-County Heating & Cooling Inc.

910 W. Pioneer Ave., Crandon 715-478-3273



Through these doors pass the finest people, our Customers and Friends



Merry Christmas from Crandon & Laona Pharmacy

PAUL & MARY, JESSICA, LEIS, AGGIE, BETTY B, SALLY, TANYA, DEB, BRIAN, KATHY, PATTY, BETTY S., KAREN, SHERON AND KIM



Wishing you all the old-fashioned pleasures of the season!

Dick Wilson Septic

Argonne
Ph. 715-649-3533



There is no better time than the Holidays to express our appreciation for your business and friendship. May all the joys of the season be yours!

Happy Holidays

Hwy. 8 E., Located in Schaefer's Food Mart Pioneer Plaza, Crandon



(715) 478-3369

Holiday hours

Christmas eve 8:30AM - 12:30PM - Christmas - closed

Dec. 26 9-12

New Year's eve- 8:30AM - 5:30PM

New Year's day closed

Jan 2, 9AM - 12PM

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From Parsons of Crandon



Christmas Greetings



May the beauty of the season renew each heart with hope

Weber Hill Funeral Home

Crandon & Wabeno
Greg, Susan, Tammy & Shane

Group Therapy

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To All Our Customers Best Wishes for Christmas & Happy New Year



May you and yours share all the joys of the holiday season and may you have a new year filled with blessings and happiness. From all of us at

Hotel Crandon

North Lake Avenue Downtown Crandon

715-478-2414

Wishing you
the Merriest
Holiday
Season
Ever!



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**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year From
Laona Machine Supply**



**With shops in
Laona & Crandon
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715-478-3528**

A World of Thanks



to all our friends & customers.
May your new year be happy!

Merry Christmas
from Motor Sport Marine, Pearson

*Merry Christmas,
Friends*

It's the perfect opportunity
for us to send you
all our holiday best...
along with our thanks.



**Karla's
Kountry
Kitchen**

Townsend, WI



*Merry
Christmas*

MERRY CHRISTMAS



There is no time more fitting to say
"Thank You"
and to wish you a Merry Christmas.

THE LAONA STATE BANK

**We Will be Closing at noon on THUR. Dec. 24
Fri. Dec. 25 - Closed
Fri. Jan. 1 - Closed**

Happy Holidays
May your heart be filled with
warmth and happiness
during the Holiday Season.



**Roll Rite Overhead Doors
Pickerel, WI
(715)216-0100**

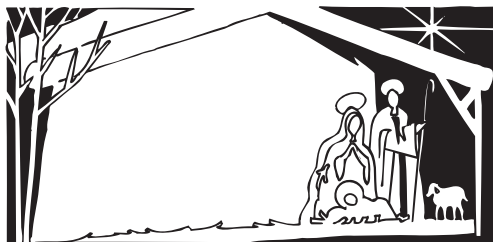


**May God
Bless You &
Your Family
On This
Holiday
Season.
Merry
Christmas &
Happy New Year!**

Nature's Heat Source
Warming the heart & the home
Antigo - 627-0081

Thanks Don & Sue

**May the spirit of Christmas bring joy to
your heart and happiness to your home**



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**Have a Safe &
Wonderful Holiday!.**
Thank you so much for your business.

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The magic of
Christmas never
ends, and its
greatest of gifts
are family and friends.



Wishing you a Very
Merry Christmas and a
New Year of peace and happiness

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Wishing you a Fabulous Holiday Season!



Whether near or far remember loved ones this time of year! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all of us at **Tricia's Treasures & Bistro**
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A World of Good Wishes

In warm appreciation of your business with us, we extend our Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with Peace & Joy!

E. J.



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Wishing you Endless blessings during the Holiday Season

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MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Thank you for your patronage!



FROM ALL OF US AT **FLANNERY CONTRACTING**

Crandon, WI
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CONT. FROM PG 1



Frenchie and Otto rode the C&NW Railroad on the spur to Pelican Lake. They waited in the depot until the southbound train could take them the rest of the way home.

leveled enough so that the coming snows would make a hard and level sleigh-road to the landing. It was hard work, but Frenchie told himself that he was increasing the family income, and making sure that future mortgage payments on the farm could be met. He realized that he had likely bit off more than he could chew on that mortgage, but with hard work he hoped to make it.

The work went on. The skid trails were done and the heavy logging had started. Otto was working a crosscut saw with Frenchie, and their old friendship grew stronger. Otto, however, probably wasn't cut out to be a lumberjack. When a tree was going over, he never got far enough away. Frenchie suggested he be more careful, but Otto just shrugged. Then it happened.

A hard maple with a seam up the trunk and good lean exploded. The tree barberchained and split about 12 feet up, then rolled off to the ground. Frenchie had given the tree lots of room when it started its split, but Otto didn't. His lower leg had a fracture with a piece of bone breaking the skin. An artery was also broken, and the blood was gushing. Frenchie quickly removed his belt and made a tourniquet, slowing the blood loss to a trickle, then he went for help. Otto was carried from the woods, put on a bobsled and hauled to Doc Diamond. The doctor did his best setting the bones and stitching up the torn flesh. He said that if wasn't for the tourniquet, he probably would have lost his leg. He also said his days of lumberjacking were likely at an end, because he thought he would have a limp the rest of his life.

Frenchie hated to admit it, but he was homesick. Christmas was just a few days away, and he was told to take a few days off and visit home. Many of the jacks did the same. He also had to pick Otto up at the little hospital and help him get home to Bear Creek.

The time arrived. Catching a ride to town on the caboose of the narrow gauge, he headed for the company store to buy a few Christmas gifts for his family. He was frugal, and only purchased things that would fit in his backpack. Then he stopped for Otto so he could help him to the depot. It was a chore. Otto only had a boot on his good leg. He didn't know what happened to the other boot, but it wouldn't fit on his swollen foot anyway. Two wool socks took the place of a boot. Eventually, they made it to the depot, the train arrived, Frenchie helped Otto up the steps of the passenger car which amounted to lifting him from step to step, with the crutches rattling and a few swear words. They settled in for the crooked ride between the hills to Pelican Lake, where they would switch trains and head to Bear Creek. There was a wait in a warm depot with Otto using up a whole bench stretching out his leg with the heavy cast rattling on the wooden boards. It was the same struggle to get him back on the train that was south bound, but eventually they were watching the scenery go by the windows, with the pot-bellied coal stove warming up the car.

Otto said, "I have a Christmas present for you. It will be the biggest Christmas present you will ever get! I am going to give you my homestead. Don't argue! I know I can't work it with this leg. The Doc said my days of logging and stump pulling are over. And, don't worry. It is all paid for. My uncle in Milwaukee paid it off for me. He said if I was dumb enough to do that kind of work instead of learning to be a machinist in his shop in Milwaukee, the least he could do was pay off the mortgage. We will do the paper work when we get home. My uncle thinks it is a good idea too."

Frenchie was flabbergasted. He said, "Otto, I already have a farm started in Bear Creek."

Otto replied, "I know that. I listened to you fret about the mortgage since you came north. Land back home is expensive compared to land up here in the woods. This will be paid for. Of course, there are some stumps to pull. There is a cabin I built over the last two years, and I did pull enough stumps for a garden. Don't worry about me. When I heal up, I will have a limp, but Uncle is going to put me to work in his shop and teach me to be a machinist. I will spend most of my day sitting on a stool."

Frenchie explained that he had to discuss it with his wife, but being without a mortgage sounded good to him, even if it was rough ground with stones to pick. Otto spent Christmas with Frenchie and his family, and when the holiday was over, Frenchie's wife was sold on the idea of starting over up north.

Otto was right when he said it was the biggest Christmas present he ever gave. He also laughed when he apologized for not wrapping it up with a bright red bow.

This joke was often repeated through the years, when Frenchie and his family celebrated Christmas.

When the winter's logging was done, Frenchie headed back to Bear Creek. He found a buyer for his beginners farm, and put some money in his pocket. He sold all but two cows, that he brought north, along with the team of horses he used in Bear Creek. He had the money to rent space in a boxcar to haul their animals and personal possessions north. When he arrived, he started to work on improving his "Christmas present."

Frenchie and Otto kept in touch, sending post cards back and forth. There were usually letters exchanged at Christmas, with Frenchie updating Otto on the progress of the Christmas homestead and Otto telling about what he was learning in his new trade.

Life wasn't easy on the new homestead. He learned to use dynamite on the stumps, added new acreage every year, and supplemented his income in the winter months with the same logging and sawmill company that lured him to the Northwoods. A decent house was built eventually, along with a barn, chicken coop and other needed outbuildings. The farm flourished the best when it was inherited by the son. The acreage doubled, the size of the dairy herd increased as the farm increased. The third generation wasn't interested, but another enterprising young wannabe farmer was.

Frenchie often told his family that the farm was the best Christmas present he ever got. He made a sign by the entrance to the farm. He called it Christmas Farm. The name stuck, even though hardly anybody alive today knows why it has that name.

If you are wondering what happened to Otto, he caught on quickly to the machinist trade. His uncle made him the heir to the business when he passed away. Otto had married, had a son with an interest in the business as well. Otto limped around the shop and helped out even after his son had taken over the business. The employees called him "Old Gimpy." He didn't care. He knew he had found his niche in life, and it wasn't pulling stumps!

The ride from the camp into town was on a logging train like the one pictured. This small engine took the logs to the sawmill from the landings in the logging area.



New Year's Week BALLOON SALE

15%

30%

20%

40%

60%

50%

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3

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