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Wisconsin Dept. of Health says get a booster

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) supports CDC's recommendation that everyone ages 18 and older should get a booster shot either when they are 6 months after their initial Pfizer or Moderna series or 2 months after their initial J&J vaccine.

Early data from South Africa suggests that the Omicron variant (B.1.1.529) which has been identified in 19 countries, has demonstrated increased transmissibility. The best protection against this new variant, or any variant of COVID-19, is to get fully vaccinated and get a booster shot if you're eligible.

When more people are vaccinated, we reduce disease transmission and help protect children under 5 who are not yet able to be vaccinated. To find a COVID-19 vaccine provider in your community, visit [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), or call 211 or 877-947-2211.

As we continue to monitor the situation and learn more about the Omicron variant, we urge all Wisconsinites to take a layered approach to help slow the spread of COVID-19. People should continue to wear masks, get vaccinated, stay home if you're sick, maintain good hand hygiene, and get tested if you're experiencing symptoms. Increased testing will help us identify any cases of Omicron quickly so that we can learn more about this latest variant."

For information on where to find a place to get tested in Forest County or the surrounding communities or for information on getting a COVID-19 vaccine or a booster, please call The Forest County Health Department at 715-478-3371.

Conservation Corner

Conservation Corner is a weekly article produced by the Forest County Land & Water Conservation Department. For more information contact Steve Kircher, County Conservationist-Land Information/GIS Director at 715-478-1387 or by e-mail at lcc@co.forest.wi.us.

As many of us in the United States are working on the final leftovers from our turkey dinner, let's take a look at what wild turkeys eat. The list might surprise you, and their dietary choices may help us figure out what the future holds for wild turkeys.

Wild turkeys will eat just about anything that fits into their mouths. They are the quintessential omnivores. Acorns and azalea galls, bluegills and blueberries, crabgrass and caterpillars ... they all go right in. Prickly pear and panic grass, toothwort and tadpoles, grasshoppers and grapes, pecans and paw paws, sedges and snakes ... and the list goes on.

Depending on the plants species and time of year, turkeys will eat roots, bulbs, stems, buds, leaves, flowers, fruits and seeds. In search of protein, they move about the woods like a pack of velociraptors, thrashing up the leaf litter and eating anything that moves. Their quarry includes all manner of insects as well as salamanders, lizards and frogs.

From the treetops, to the ground and across forests, fields and suburban yards, turkeys make use of every inch of habitat available to them. They are even known to venture into the water to eat aquatic plants, fish and crayfish.

The return of the wild turkey is a success story in wildlife management. Careful regulation of hunting combined with reintroductions has produced a thriving turkey flock that nearly matches the population that existed before North America was colonized. But credit must also be given to the turkey itself.

Thanks to their dietary versatility, turkeys can thrive almost anywhere. Wet or dry, high or low, hot or cold, turkeys can make any habitat work. They only require some trees for roosting at night.

All animal populations have limits to growth. Food, disease, predation and environmental conditions each play a role. But for turkeys, we can rule out food as a limiting factor.

Given this bird's extreme omnivory, other factors would likely come into to play before turkeys begin starving to death. For example, even in the depths of winter when snow cover blocks access to the ground, turkeys can make do. Until thaw comes, they subsist on white pine and hemlock needles, mosses, lichen and the buds and stems of beech, sugar maple and hop hornbeam trees.

Predation, on the other hand, may play a central role in turkey population regulation. As most of us know, turkey is delicious! Surprisingly, the usual suspects –

Continued on page 15

Who said the water is cold?



On a drive around Metonga's east shore, you will encounter ducks, like these mallards, who don't seem to mind the cold water. Other ducks have fled south, but not these guys. Icy water seems to make them happy. Tipping for food is no problem, as can be seen in the photo. Metonga always is the last lake in the area to freeze over, and these feathered fellows evidently are staying until the water turns hard.

Night of Lights Trolley Ride to be held Friday December 17

The Night of Lights Trolley Ride will be held on Friday, December 17. Please get your lights up and ready for this fun event. More details will be published next week in the Pioneer Express.

CHS Hall of Fame inductees to be presented at CHS girls basketball game Friday

This Friday, December 10, at the Crandon Girls Basketball game vs. Menominee, MI will be the presentation of the very first inductees into the Crandon Cardinal Athletic Hall of Fame in between the JV and Varsity games.

The 2021 Inductees are: Bob Case (Class of 1950), Ed Chartraw (Class of 1964), Phil Resch (Class of 1966), Harold Resch (Coach), Faye Thielke (Coach), Jim Vanzile (Coach), Paula Norieka Johnson (Class of 1979), and Marty Roberts (Class of 1982).

Following the game there will be a gathering at Water's Edge on Lake Lucerne. On Saturday, December 11 at 1:00 pm, the Hall of Fame Banquet will be held at Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort. There will be a dinner followed by a program honoring our 2021 inductees.

Football Fields

By Wyn Abney

We always had football, ever since I can remember. We played football long before we had a field at the Crandon High School.

We had a hay field to play on after the hay had been harvested out west of town. I don't remember which field, but it was out there, where the present-day community building is. After the crop was off, they'd put their markers down, put up a temporary goal post, and play in that vicinity for years.

I remember, before that, they had a field out where the Co Vantage Credit Union is. Unoccupied by houses, they improvised a field there, too. A hundred yards of space. Finally, in order to be near locker rooms at old Crandon High, people wanted a field close to the school. I don't know how it was financed. Maybe it was partially a WPA project, or maybe something else.

There was a swamp right across the street from the high school. They hauled in a bunch of gravel, sand, and fill of all sorts and filled up that swamp. They got it high enough so that, normally, there wasn't any water in it. They tried to get grass, but it didn't do too good. Of course, the ground was not fertile and they didn't have sod in those days. As a result, the grass wore out and we were right down to grit, gravel, sand, and hard pan. That's what it turned out to be.

Sometimes, when we'd play a game, why, if it had rained, there was water on the field. I don't know who the team was that came down one time, but I remember we had mud puddles all over the place.

Continued on page 11

Events this weekend

Winterfest in Wabeno-This is a craft and vendor fair held at the Wabeno High School on Saturday, December 4th, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. There will be food, raffles, a bake sale and Santa is likely to be there at Noon!

St. Luke's Christmas Fair-in Crandon-On Saturday, December 4th, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. They are featuring a \$2 Shop for Gifts and yourself. Check out the Christmas breads, homemade candy, Rada Cutlery and ornaments and decorations.

Riverview Christmas Party with Santa-Riverview invites you to welcome Santa to the party. Win prizes at games, take a hay ride, enjoy the snacks, try the hot chocolate and cookies. This begins at 4:30 p.m. and Santa will be coming shortly after!

Bazar & Bake Sale St. John Lutheran in Laona-This even is on Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Check out the crafts, white elephant items, gift baskets, baked goods and more. A light lunch will be available.

Christmas on Mainstreet in Crandon-Kids activities begining at 5 p.m. The community tree will be lit, enjoy some chili, free hot chocolate at the library, and Mickey and Minnie Mouse will be down the street at Jameson's Whiskey Darlin'. Rudolph's Reindeer Run Scavenger Hunt will be held, and the tree lighting is at 6:45 p.m.

Family Christmas Open House at Lakes Country Library

The Lakes Country Public Library in Lakewood is having a Family Christmas Open House on Wednesday, Dec 8 from 4-7 p.m. The library will have children's books to give away, refreshments, and ornaments for children to make. Call the library at 715-276-9020 with questions.

The Lakes Country Public Library is at 15235 Hwy 32 in Lakewood. Hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9-5; Wednesday 9-8 and Saturday 9-2.

Post 44 Gunless Poultry Shoot Christmas Special at the Old Town Hall, Townsend

Don't miss the next American Legion Christmas Special Gunless Poultry Shoot on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at the Old Town Hall, Townsend, starting at 1 p.m.

Bring along your friends, they will be raffling off Extra Special items and Surprises along with packages of meat, poultry, sausages, bacon, beverages, gifts and gift certificates donated by local businesses. There will also be 50/50 raffles. Come on in, win a prize and help a veteran during the Holiday Season. Everyone is welcome.

The American Legion Sylvan Post 44 of Wabeno is composed of veterans who are committed to helping veterans, their families and the community.

Nicolet College to continue two popular financial assistance programs for students

With Spring Term classes at Nicolet starting Jan. 5, the college is again offering two popular tuition assistance programs designed to help students cover the cost of earning a college education.

The Three for Free program will be available for qualifying students attending Nicolet during Spring Term 2022 with the Nicolet Promise program being available in Fall Term 2022, said Katie Ourada, Nicolet admissions manager.

"While we are hopeful we are beginning to turn the corner on the pandemic, we're finding that many students are still struggling to pay for college," Ourada said.

"These programs have helped many students in the past and we are delighted to still have funds available to help more students moving forward."

The Three for Free program, expanded in 2020 in response to pandemic-induced financial challenges students faced, covers tuition costs for up to three credits for new students who can explain how they've been negatively impacted by the pandemic and for continuing students who have experienced unemployment any time after March 13, 2020.

New students are defined as anyone who has not taken a credit class at Nicolet in the past year.

Students who have received Three for Free funds in the past are not eligible.

Continued on page 15

Laona-Wabeno Fall Sports Co-Op Meeting
Laona/Wabeno Boards of Education
Wednesday December 8, 2021
6:00 P.M.
High School Library - Wabeno Junior High /
High School
AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call.
 - II. Pledge of Allegiance.
 - III. Approval of amended agenda.
 - IV. Items for discussion and/or possible action:
 - A. Fall sports updates – Michelle Boor.
 - B. Spring coaches report – Michelle Boor.
 - C. 6th grade coaching position for MSVB/MSGBB.
 - D. Transportation discussion.
 - E. Laona Representation as Athletic Director.
 - F. Discuss and take possible action on \$1,000 check from WIAA.
 - V. Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c), the Board will enter into closed session to discuss employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.
 - a. Coaches evaluations.
 - VI. Motion and roll call vote to return to open session.
 - VII. Return to open session to take possible action on items discussed in closed session.
 - VIII. Adjourn.
- NOTE: THE AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS ALLOWED BY LAW



Wabeno School Breakfast Menu
Dec. 6-10

Monday - Assorted cereal, yogurt, orange slices, fruit juice, milk
Tuesday - Scrambled eggs, country fried steak, pineapple, yogurt, orange wedges, fruit juice, milk
Wednesday - Cereal bar, muffins, yogurt, apple sauce cup, fruit juice, milk
Thursday - Scrambled eggs, sausage patty, biscuits & gravy, yogurt, banana, fruit juice, milk
Friday - Breakfast pizza, yogurt, tropical fruit, fruit juice, milk

Wabeno School Lunch Menu
Dec. 6 - 10

Monday - Taco bar, Spanish rice, corn, peaches, Scooby snacks, garden bar, milk
Tuesday - Chicken nuggets, mac & cheese, roasted vegetable, Mandarin oranges, garden bar, milk
Wednesday - Pizza bake, California blend, garlic bread stick, mixed fruit, garden bar, milk
Thursday - Baked chicken, mashed potatoes w/ gravy, baby carrots apple slices, garden bar, milk
Friday - Hot ham & cheese, curly fries, peas & Pearl onions, strawberries, ice cream sandwiches, garden bar, milk

Laona Sports Awards



Sitting: Cross Country - Kaylyn LaRock and Natalie Newton
 Center: Volleyball - Lavara Gilpin, Grace Krawze, Braylee Chrisman, Malerie Krawze, and Elizabeth Krawze
 Back: Football - Hunter Cronauer, Brady Shepard, and Frank Shepard. Not pictured - Kevin Sheldon

To be eligible for academic all-conference, a student needs to maintain at least a 3.5 grade point average, have lettered for the second time in the sport, and have no code violations.

- Elizabeth Krawze** - Senior: Northern Lakes Conference Player of the Year, 1st Team All-Conference, Academic All-Conference Volleyball
- Grace Krawze** - Junior: 1st Team All-Conference Volleyball
- Allison Albrecht** - Freshman: 2nd Team All-Conference
- Michelle Boor** - Northern Lakes Conference Volleyball Coach of the Year
- Natalie Newton** - Senior: Cross Country 1st-Team All-Conference
- Hunter Cronauer** - Junior: Football All-State Defensive Player, All-Conference Defensive Player of the Year, Defensive Lineman 1st Team All-Conference, Offensive Lineman 1st Team All-Conference,
- Frank Shepard** - Senior: Football 2nd Team All-Conference Defensive Lineman, 2nd Team All-Conference Placekicker



Natalie Newton - Senior: Cross Country 1st-Team All-Conference
 Grace Krawze - Junior: 1st Team All-Conference Volleyball



Frank Shepard - Senior: Football 2nd Team All-Conference Defensive Lineman, 2nd Team All-Conference Placekicker



Hunter Cronauer - Junior: Football All-State Defensive Player, All-Conference Defensive Player of the Year, Defensive Lineman 1st Team All-Conference, Offensive



Allison Albrecht - Freshman: 2nd Team All-Conference



Elizabeth Krawze - Senior: Northern Lakes Conference Player of the Year, 1st Team All-Conference, Academic All-Conference Volleyball

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Laona Sports Awards

WORD PILE By Mark Szorady

COMBINE THE LETTERS TO MAKE SIX WORDS. EACH WORD CONTAINS AT LEAST SIX LETTERS.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____



ANSWERS: CARVES, CARESS, CRAVES, SAVERS, SCARES, SCARVES

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AREA EVENTS



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Winterfest

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Wabeno High School
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Food, Refreshments
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Crafter & Vendors wanted.
 Call Dawn at 715-473-2311 for vendor/crafter application or email dawnj@laonastatebank.com

SANTA ARRIVES AT NOON!

Sen. Felzkowski December listening session

Madison, WI – Senator Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) will be completing her series of listening sessions around the 12th Senate District to discuss the current legislative session. The four sessions next week will be held in the 36th Assembly District on Tuesday, December 7th and Wednesday, December 8th.

The Senator, a member of the Joint Finance Committee, is eager to hear feedback from constituents pertaining to the outcome of the biennial state budget that was signed into law in July, as well as listen to any concerns and suggestions regarding the remaining legislative session.


Senator Felzkowski will be joined by Assembly Representative Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz) on Tuesday, December 7th at Lakewood Community Center 1:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.

FOUND
 Arm rest for a pulp loader on County P near Argonne.
 Check with Schultz Shooting Supply!



Bell Ringing Time is Here Again!

The Forest County Salvation Army needs your help to raise funds to meet the needs of our neighbors. Call Jackie at 715-478-2683 to schedule a time to ring or sign up at the Laona State Bank-Schaefer's. Donations may also be sent to:
 Salvation Army, PO Box 251, Crandon, WI 54520



Associated Bank
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Associated Bank will be collecting Christmas gifts for local children. Donations accepted through Dec. 10. Distribution will be held at Associated Bank on Saturday, Dec. 11th from 1 to 3 p.m.

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

Betc32

Wabeno- 3 bedroom apartment available (Orchard Ridge Apartments). Rent is based on 30% of your gross adjusted income. Rent includes water, sewer, garbage and heat. Major appliances, off street parking and laundry facilities. No lawn work to do. To receive an application, please call 1-800-938-5648. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

CRANDON: It's getting cooler out! Bring one pet for an additional deposit! 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 \$545.00 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.

Betc24

FREE: Hide-a-bed, located in Newald area. Call 715-674-7010 B36



**The Deadline For ads
in the Pioneer Express
is 4:00 pm on
Tuesday**

Aspirus seeing increase in COVID-19 Positivity Rates

WAUSAU, Wis. – National COVID-19 cases are trending upward as outbreaks in the Midwest and Northeast are contributing to the rising numbers.

This correlates with what Aspirus Health is seeing in its testing numbers. The positivity rate of COVID-19 tests processed at the Aspirus Reference Lab increased for the third straight week. Last week's 17.6% is the highest since January 2021.

"Typically, the higher the case number, the higher that prevalence or positivity rate translates to more patients requiring hospitalization," said Susan Schneider, MD, Aspirus System Senior System Physician Executive of Primary Care. "And we really are seeing those numbers especially with this latest Delta variant. There seems to be a higher transmission rate, younger, healthier people are requiring hospitalization because they are developing sever COVID."

Aspirus had 106 patients hospitalized for COVID-19 throughout its system on November 17. Of these, 76% are not fully vaccinated and 29 require ICU-level care.

"I really think there's a disconnect with what's happening in the perception out in the community versus what's happening within our health system as well as actually the rest of the health systems across the state," Dr. Schneider said. "This pandemic has been going on for a long time and people are tired of it and really want to get back to normal life, but that's not really what we're seeing in the health care system."

The colder weather is here, and people soon will head out for the holiday travel season. But there are protective measures available.

The Delta variant also causes more infections and spreads faster than earlier forms of the virus that cause COVID-19. It is also suspected to cause more severe illness than previous strains in unvaccinated people according to the CDC.

"I think the simplest, the safest and the most effective thing to do is get vaccinated," Dr. Schneider said. "The vaccines are safe. They're very effective. They prevent you from getting sick and for those people who still do get sick after vaccination, they're less likely to develop severe COVID symptoms which could require hospitalization or even end up in death."

Data from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) show significantly higher rates of infection, hospitalization and death among individuals who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19. These rates in September 2021 were five times higher for infection, nine times higher for hospitalization and 19 times higher for death.

Aspirus antibody treatment highly effective, but not a perfect alternative to COVID-19 vaccination

WAUSAU, Wis. – COVID-19 cases continue to surge throughout the Midwest according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

This will increase the need to treat those who become severely ill from the virus.

Studies on antiviral pills from Pfizer and Merck have yielded promising results combating the worst outcomes of COVID-19. Those treatments still need approval by federal regulators before being available to the public.

Throughout the pandemic, Aspirus Health has worked to offer local access to advanced treatments. For example, Aspirus began using monoclonal antibody treatments for patients infected with COVID-19 about a year ago.

"These are antibodies that are made in a lab by drug companies that mimic some of the antibodies our immune system produces when we have the COVID-19 infection," said Michelle Brenner, Aspirus Pharmacist and Aspirus Wausau Hospital Inpatient Pharmacy Manager. "These antibodies are designed to grab onto that spike protein on the outside of the COVID virus and to help prevent it from getting into our cells, keeping it in the circulation more available for the rest of the immune system to find and destroy."

This treatment has been extremely effective at preventing hospitalization in patients diagnosed with COVID-19. As of November 22, 2021, Aspirus Health has administered 1,570 antibody treatments which resulted in 269 admissions avoided and 54 deaths prevented based on the admission and fatality rates expected for this high-risk population without treatment.

"We currently have over ten sites providing this treatment option," Brenner said. "So, it is in every region of our Aspirus system."

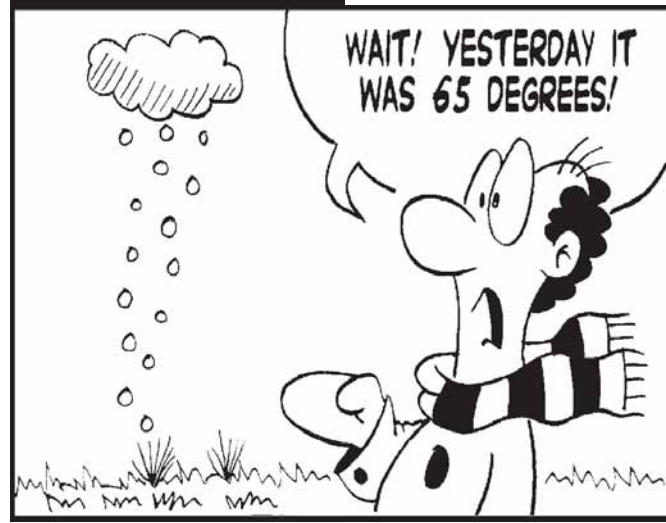
It is important to note, though, that antibody treatment is not a substitute for getting vaccinated.

"The antibodies are a great option for patients that meet certain criteria, but access is limited," Brenner said. "The vaccine is highly effective and is available almost anywhere and are going to help us long-term in decreasing or COVID numbers."

People who have tested positive for COVID-19 must meet specific criteria to be eligible for antibody therapy.

For more local information on COVID-19 vaccines, booster shots and COVID-19 information, please visit the Aspirus Health COVID-19 Resource Center.

DOUBLE TAKE By Mark Szorady



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CARTOONS!

ANSWERS: 1. SCARF DIFFERENT 2. MITTEN MISSING 3. MOUTH DIFFERENT 4. GRASS TUFT DIFFERENT 5. HAIR SHORTER 6. WORD BALLOON

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Death Notices

Terry G. Rausch, age 65, of Crandon, passed away at his home on Saturday, November 27, 2021. No services will be held at this time. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.weberhillfuneralhome.com.

Sharon Jean Moericke, 80, of Crandon, passed away Saturday, November 27, 2021 at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. Sharon was born July 26, 1941, the daughter of Edward and Alvina (Friedl) Burk.



She was united in marriage to Robert Moericke and he preceded her in death on November 25, 2010.

Sharon loved to go to the Log Cabin every day and chat with her friends and harass the staff. She was like family there... She loved her sports, watching the Brewers and Packers whenever they were on T.V.

Surviving are her daughter, Jill (Jason) Childers of Crandon; sons, Lee (Anne) Moericke of Lomira and Jay (Brenda) Moericke of Suring; seven grandchildren, Ben, Ashland, Michael, Katelynn, Nicholas, Mathew and Abbey; brother, Roger (Lucile) Burk; and numerous nieces, nephews, great- and great-great-nieces and nephews whom she loved very much.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Robert; brothers, Edward and Jon; and sister, Dorothy.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 2-6 p.m. at the Log Cabin.

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

Jacob Stephen Ostenson, age 35, of Crandon, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, November 21, 2021. Jacob was born March 8, 1986 in Beloit, WI to Steve Ostenson and Toni White.



Jacob loved being in nature and doing just about anything that brought him outdoors. But there was nothing he loved more, than a day on the lake fishing especially, if his boys, (Elijah, Brayden, Domyunik, and Jarik) were with him. Jacob took a great interest in knives, and acid etching them. He often talked about wanting to invest and make a business out of it.

Jacob graduated from Parkview High School, Orfordville, WI in 2004. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Air Force. Jacob met his wife, Savannah in 2010 when he moved to Crandon, and they were married May 9, 2014.

He was a loving father, husband, and son. Nothing meant more to him than his family. He will be missed by everyone who knew and loved him.

Surviving him are his wife, Savannah; his children, Nevaeh, Brayden, Domyunik, and Jarik; father, Steve (Judy); mother, Toni (Frank); sister, Stacy; nieces, Sierra and Praijha; nephew, Silas; and those he loved like nieces and nephews, Aiden, Gabe, Aubree, Paytyn and Levi. He is further survived by his in-laws, Carrie (Greg) VanPrice, William Bocek and Holly Kroll; brothers-in-law, Jacob (Tayelor) VanPrice, Elijah VanPrice, and Blake Bocek; and sister-in-law, Hailee Kroll; along with his grandparents and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Jacob is preceded in death by his brother, John Ostrum.

Jacob will especially be remembered for his hard work and amazing heart and love for all those around him.

Visitation was on Tuesday, November 30, 2021 from 12 to 2 p.m. at the Weber-Hill Funeral Home in Crandon. Memorial services will follow at 2 p.m. with Pastor Don Dewing officiating. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.weberhillfuneralhome.com.

1 Corinthians 16: 13-14
By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.



As every good builder knows, a house is built with a solid foundation, sturdy walls and a strong roof, just like a family is formed in love, determination and a good dose of humor. Born into a family of thirteen children, **Gary Vander Loop's** foundation was a result of his strong-willed Irish mother and his determined Dutch father. This laid the groundwork for his own family, fiercely loyal and dedicated to one another. He enlisted in the United States Army and served his country in Vietnam and Korea earning a purple heart.

Gary married Mary Van Den Heuvel, and together they built the strong walls of their family. An active and involved father, Gary enjoyed coaching basketball and supporting his four children, Todd, Timm, Trisha and Troy in their many activities. While he did this, he founded Vander Loop Masonry and constructed many beautiful homes in the area, including his own. He established lifelong friendships on Lake Lucerne and a lake home that would be enjoyed by his family to this day.

Gary's legacy will live on through his stories, the knowledge he shared, and the values and beliefs he instilled in his children and grandchildren. His children carry on his strong conviction, unshakeable work ethic, and devotion to family. His grandchildren will remember his willingness to tie a shoe, dig for worms, fish for hours and take as many four-wheeler rides as possible (stopping for a chat along the way of course)!

He was happiest cheering on his grandchildren from the sidelines at everything from singing the National Anthem, coaching the next wrestling move to his grandsons on the mat, celebrating as a touchdown or goal was scored or a basket was made. He was in awe of their grace and agility on the dance floor, in the water, or tumbling through the air. And when those same kids had their hardest moments, there was Grandpa. He was always there.

Gary is survived by his loving wife, Mary. They are very proud of their children and grandchildren: son Todd, his wife Linda and their children Kennedy, Carter and Parker; son Timm, his wife Abby and their children Kate, Charlie and Sam; daughter Trisha, her husband Tim and their children Logan, Autumn, Addison and Dawson; and son Troy, his wife Jenny and their children Calvin, William and Julia. He is further survived by brothers, Joe (Rose), Dick (special friend Jan), Mike (Janet), Tim (Bonnie), Tom (Angie), Jim (Sherry); sisters, Anne Swanningson, Betty Natrop, Judy Schley (Norman) and Lynn Popp (Nick); and sister-in-law, Angela Vander Loop, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Dorothy Vander Loop; sister, Patricia Hartl, brother, Jack Vander Loop; brothers-in-law, Russ Natrop, Bob Swanningson and Ruben Schley; sister-in-law: Nan Vander Loop; and parents-in-law, Elmer and Marie Van Den Heuvel.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 4, 2021, at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 600 E. Kimberly Ave. in Kimberly. Visitation will be on Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Fargo Funeral Home, 400 W. Wisconsin Ave. in Kaukauna, with a prayer service at 7 p.m. and full military honors. In addition, visitation will continue on Saturday at the church from 9 a.m. until the time of the Mass. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are appreciated to CP Fox Cities.

Thank you to our friends and family that have shared a mumbler, stopped to chat with Gary on his daily four-wheeler rides, listened to his tall tales, or stories about his beloved grandchildren. Those moments meant the world to him.

Garth Huettl, a longtime Elton resident, died Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at Rosalia Gardens in Antigo. He was 78 years old. He was born on September 19, 1943, in Laona, WI, a son of Aaron and Dorothy (Weiland) Huettl. He married Donna Ramer on February 13, 1965, in Crandon. She preceded him in death on November 19, 2018.



He was a graduate of Wabeno High School in 1961 and attended River Falls State College.

Garth was a Certified Advertising Specialist and Master Advertising Specialist, a designation reached by 5% of individuals in the industry. During his 34 year career with promotional products he and Donna lived and worked in Oshkosh; Winona, Minnesota; Orange City, Iowa; Mount Forest, Canada; Louisville, Kentucky; Memphis, Tennessee; and Grafton, Wisconsin. They retired to Elton in 2008.

He was a board member of the Promotional Product Association - Mid South and Promotional Product Association of Wisconsin where he also served as vice-president and president.

Garth enjoyed time spent with his daughter, grandchildren and family, traveling and a good card game.

For the past three years Garth has enjoyed the community at Rosalia Gardens. Under their loving care they became his second family.

Survivors include a daughter, Kimberly Huettl of Cedarburg; two grandchildren, Madeline Folstein and Jackson Folstein; two sisters, Marybeth (Gary) Schuster of Eau Claire and Dawn (Tony) Jakubiec of Wabeno; and two brothers, Darwin (Helen) Huettl of Wabeno and Michael (Glenda) Huettl of Elcho.

In addition to his wife and parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Aaron Huettl; a sister-in-law, Regina Huettl; and nephew, Tom Huettl.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, December 4, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Bradley Funeral Home with Rev. Marvin Kindle officiating. Burial of his urn will be held at St. Joseph Elton Cemetery.

Visitation will be Saturday from 12:30 p.m. until the time of services at the funeral home.

Online condolences at www.bradleyfh.com.

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RUMMAGE SALE AT DOUBLE BUCK CAFÉ Laona, Antiques, toys, clothes, household goods, & decorations. December 11-12, 10-3, Dec. 18 - 10-3. January 8,9,15 & 16, February 12,13,19 & 20. P35

George's Word Ladder By Mark Szorady

TAKE

CHANGE THE FIRST WORD INTO THE LAST WORD BY CHANGING JUST ONE LETTER AT A TIME. WRITE YOUR ANSWERS ON EACH RUNG OF THE LADDER. EACH WORD CONTAINS FOUR LETTERS.

MARK SZORADY

PICS PHOTO HILL

12/6

SOLUTION: TAKE EAKE FACE PACE PICS

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GEORGE by Mark Szorady



CHRISTMAS TREES

Canaan & Fraser Christmas Trees, Wreaths, Crosses & Candy Canes,

Packard's Farm
 5838 Haney Hill Road
 3/4 mile north of the Crandon School

Open Daily 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Our tree & wreath sale will be SELF SERVE and precut in the yard

Trees & Wreaths are priced in increments of Five Dollars

Please try to bring the correct change or write checks payable to Barb Packard. There will be a drop box by the house.

Plan to load and secure your own tree!

Contact us for special orders at 715-478-2341 or call/text 715-889-4032

THANK YOU & MERRY CHRISTMAS!

ART & BARB

Balsam & Fraser Christmas Trees For Sale at Flannery Trees

Greg & Linda Flannery

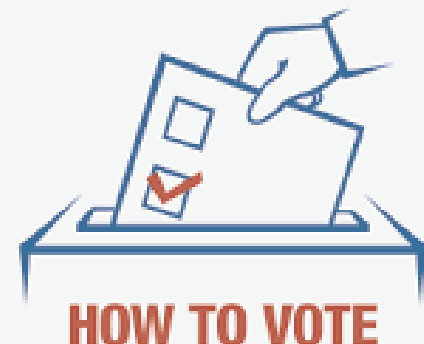
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7560 State Hwy 32 & 55 Argonne
 6 miles north of Crandon on the right across from Argonne Lumber
 (Formerly at Schaefer's Greenhouse)

Open Daily 10-6, by Cash or Check

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Home: 715-649-3558



Election Forest County Chamber of Commerce

Elections for officers and directors of Forest County Chamber of Commerce take place each year. If you are interested in representing your business on the board, you can forward your name to be placed on the ballot!

General Powers

The Board of Directors shall manage the business and affairs of the Corporation

Composition

The Board of Directors shall consist of the duly elected officers, the appointed Executive Director of the Corporation, and the Directors of each of the Councils of membership

1. Retail Council
2. Tourism Council
3. Business Professional Industrial Council

Elections

The officers of this Corporation shall be a President, a Vice-President, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected for a 2-year term, annually by the membership before the Annual Meeting of the Members. Each officer shall hold office until his successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified, or until his death, resignation, or removal. Three (3) Directors for each of the three (3) Councils of membership shall also be elected before the annual meeting. Each Director of the three councils shall hold office as set forth above.

For continuity, the two-year terms are staggered. The following positions are open for this year's election. Incumbents are also listed below with the business they represent:

- President - 1 position VACANT
- Vice President - 1 position VACANT
- Treasurer - 0 position
- Retail Council - 2 position(s) VACANT
- VACANT
- Tourism Council - 1 position VACANT
- BPI Council - 2 position(s) VACANT
- VACANT

Those who have another year remaining of their two-year term include:

- Treasurer: Leslie Meyer, Conway True Value
- Retail Council: Allan Smith, Forest TV & Appliance
- Tourism Council: Tina Kulaf, Crandon International Off-road Raceway
- Kellee Galion, Charlies Lake Metonga
- BPI (Business, Professional, Industrial Council): Jake Godin, Sokaogon Chippewa Community

If you, or a member of your organization, are interested in being a part of this dynamic, hard-working organization and would like to have your name placed on the ballot for any of these positions just contact the Executive Director at the Chamber by Wednesday, December 15 at (715) 478-3450 or email director@visitforestcounty.com Nominees must be a full member in good standing (does not include Associate or Non-Profit members).

The Forest County Chamber Board of Directors meets monthly the last Tuesday of the month. The meetings average approximately 1.5 hours. Official ballots will be forwarded to all full members in good standing.



SCHAEFER'S MEAT DEPT. SELLS USDA ANGUS CHOICE BEEF & USDA INSPECTED PORK

MEAT

THESE AD PAGES NOW ON-LINE AT pioneerexpresscrandon.com

Premium Angus Choice Beef
TOP SIRLOIN STEAKS



\$5.99 Lb.

Premium Angus Choice
TOP ROUND ROAST



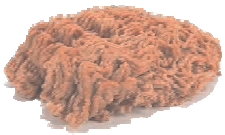
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Premium Angus Choice
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PORK SPARE RIBS



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Sugardale
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Farmland Boneless
HAM



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Sea Mazz
SHRIMP RING



\$9.99

Sea Mazz
COOKED SHRIMP

Peeled & Deveined
31-40 Ct.
1 Lb. Bag



\$7.99

Noon Hour
HERRING IN WINE OR CREAM SAUCE



\$4.99

LOBSTER TAILS

8 Oz. Avg.



\$18.99

Frozen
WHOLE CHICKEN



\$1.29 Lb.

Armour
MEATBALLS

Original or Italian
14 Oz.



\$2.99

Bar S
JUMBO DOGS

16 Oz.



3/\$4.00

Oscar Mayer
BOLOGNA OR COTTO SALAMI

16 Oz.
Excludes Beef



2/\$4.00

Supreme
LOBSTER OR CRAB RANGOON

7 Oz.

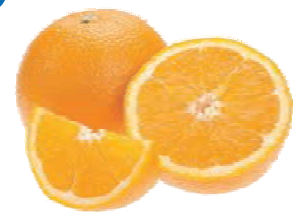


\$4.49

Seedless
NAVEL ORANGES

4 Lb. Bag

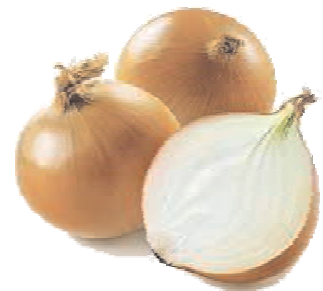
\$3.49



Medium
YELLOW ONIONS

3 Lb. Bag

2/\$3.00



Easy Peel Halos
MANDARINS

3 Lb. Bag

\$4.99

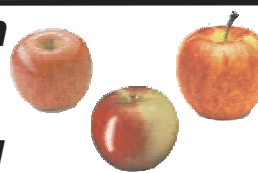


Michigan
APPLES

3 Lb. Bag

Red Delicious, Gala,
McIntosh, Fuji

2/\$6.00



Dole
CLASSIC ROMAINE OR GREENER SELECTION

9-11 Oz.

2/\$3.00



Sweet
GRAPE TOMATOES

10 Oz. Pkg.

\$2.49



Fresh
BROCCOLI

1 Bunch

\$2.99 Ea.



Crisp
GREEN BELL PEPPERS

79¢ Ea.



Washington
APPLES

Cosmic Crisp
or Honeycrisp

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12						

We reserve the right to correct any printing errors in the ad
We reserve the right to limit quantities



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Color a picture, earn an entry. 1 entry per child. Pick up a coloring page at the service desk and get an entry when dropped off. Drawing is Dec. 20, 2021 at noon. Children 12 and under please.

SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION

SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION

Campbell's Assorted
CHUNKY OR HOMESTYLE SOUPS
18.6-19 Oz.
2/\$3.00



Fiora
KITCHEN TOWEL
6 Roll Mega Roll
\$5.99



Fiora
BATH TISSUE
12 Ultimate Mega Roll
\$6.99



Best Choice
GRANULATED SUGAR
4 Lb.
\$1.79



Pillsbury
ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR
5 Lb.
\$2.49



Best Choice
PIECES & STEMS MUSHROOMS
8 Oz.
\$1.19



Best Choice
CHILI OR COCKTAIL SAUCE
12 Oz.
\$1.19



Best Choice
INSTANT MASHED POTATOES
13.3 Oz.
\$1.19



Best Choice
APPLE PIE FILLING
20 Oz.
2/\$3.00



Act II
MICROWAVE POPCORN
Butter or Butter Lovers
3 Ct., Limit 1
50¢
50¢ with a Separate \$10 Purchase



Best Choice
PUMPKIN
15 Oz.
\$1.19



Pillsbury
SOFT COOKIES
4 Kinds 18 Ct.
\$2.79



Best Choice
BAG STUFFING
12 Oz. 2 Kinds
\$1.49



Best Choice
GRAVY
12 Oz. 3 Kinds
99¢



Best Choice
BOX BROTH
Chicken or Beef
99¢



Pillsbury
BROWNIE MIX
18.4 Oz. 3 Kinds
\$1.19



Crystal
SUGAR
2 Lb. 3 Kinds
\$1.49



Gold Medal
ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR
5 Lb.
\$2.49



PINESOL
40 Oz. Original or 48 Oz. Lemon
\$2.99



Maxwell House
ORIGINAL ROAST
30.6 Oz.
\$5.99



Kellogg's
POPTARTS
8 Ct. 4 Kinds
\$2.49



Hormel
CHUNK CHICKEN BREAST
10 Oz.
\$1.69



General Mills
Select CEREALS
7 Kinds 8.9-12 Oz.
\$2.49



Ragu
SPAGHETTI SAUCE
5 Best Sellers 23.9-24 Oz.
\$1.49



Best Choice
ONION SOUP MIX
2 Oz.
69¢



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Reg. \$5.79 / Reg. \$5.09
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7-UP BRAND
12 Oz./12 Pack Cans
3/\$14.00



COKE BRAND
.5 Liter/6 Pack
3/\$10.00



COKE BRAND
2 Liter
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PEPSI BRAND
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PEPSI BRAND
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PEPSI BRAND
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GOLD PEAK TEA OR SMART WATER OR VITAMIN WATER
18.5 Oz. / 23.7 Oz. / 20 Oz.
2/\$3.00



POWERADE ULTRAS OR PEACE TEA OR POWERADE WATER
20 Oz. / 23 Oz. / 20 Oz.
79¢



KLARBRUNN SPARKLING WATER
12 Oz./12 Pack Cans
2/\$8.00



LIPTON TEA
64 Oz. Bottles
\$1.99



KLARBRUNN BUBBLR
12 Oz./6 Pack Cans
\$5.49



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PICTURE CAKES
at Schaefer's
Bakery



Bring in any
photograph, picture, or drawing
and we will put it on your next party cake

All cake orders **MUST** be placed with a 24 hour notice!
All weekend orders must be placed by 10:00 a.m. Thursday!

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BIRTHDAY
ANNIVERSARY
TEAM PARTY
HOLIDAYS
FAVORITE PETS
RETIREMENT
GRADUATION
DRAWING
PHOTOGRAPH

CROISSANTS
2 Ct.



\$1.40

CAKE DONUT
12 Ct.



\$4.99

**PEANUT BUTTER
COOKIES**
12 Ct.



\$4.99

WHITE BREAD
1 Lb.



\$2.19

THURINGER

Reg. \$7.29



\$6.49

**GERMAN
POTATO SALAD**

Reg. \$4.29 Lb.



\$3.89 Lb.

**MUENSTER
CHEESE**

Reg. \$6.99 Lb.



\$6.09 Lb.

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BREADS
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6-8 Ct.

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SHREDDED OR CHUNK CHEESE
8 Oz.

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Eggo
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AMERICAN CHEESE
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**LOAD'D CONES
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4 Ct.



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Orv's
**RIZER OR
ULTRA THIN
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**GARLIC CHEESE
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GRANDS BISCUITS
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32 Chewable Tablets
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Head & Shoulders **HEALTH & BEAUTY**
2-IN-1

Classic Clean,
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20 mg Acid Reducer
14 Tablets
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\$2.29

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LIGHTED TREE**



\$11.99

RED VELVET BOW



\$1.29

SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION

SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION



FOOD **2** FUEL

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Since 1935



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Good 11/29/21- 12/26/21

Bellatoria
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\$6.99

Bellatoria
ARTISAN VEGETABLE CRUST PIZZA, GLUTEN FREE PIZZA OR URBAN FARMER



\$6.99

Klarbrunn
VITA ICE VARIETY PACK
17 Oz./12 Pack Bottles



\$9.79

Klarbrunn
BUBBLR VARIETY PACK
12 Oz./12 Pack Cans



\$9.99

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

LIPTON TEA
.5 Liter/12 Pack Bottles



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AHA
12 Oz./8 Pack



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MONSTER
16 Oz./12 Pack



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5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
8¢ off /gal

POWERADE
12 Oz./6 Pack



\$2.99

BISQUICK
40 Oz.



\$4.99

Purex
LIQUID DETERGENT
150 Oz.
3 Kinds



\$9.99

Best Choice
ULTRA BATTERIES
8 Pack
AAA & AA
Reg. \$4.43



\$2.99

MaxLite
LED LIGHT BULB
60W Daylight &
100W Day & 100W Soft



99¢

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
8¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
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UTILITY LIGHTER
2 Pack
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Cortizone 10
HYDROCORTISONE
ANTI-ITCH CREAM
1 Oz.
4 Kinds
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Best Choice
HOT COCOA
CANISTER
22.23 Oz.



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Dove
BAR SOAP
6 Ct./3 Kinds -
White, Sensitive
or Cucumber
Reg. \$8.25



\$6.99

NEXIUM 24 HR
14 Capsules
Reg. \$12.47



\$9.99

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

FOOD **2** FUEL
5¢ off /gal

SCHAEFER'S IGA PULL - OUT SECTION

SCHAEFER'S IGA PULL - OUT SECTION

SCHAEFER'S IGA PULL - OUT SECTION

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SCHAEFER'S IGA PULL - OUT SECTION

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M-F from 8 TO 5
OR BY APPOINTMENT

Football Fields Cont. from pg. 1

If they weren't too conspicuous, the lines would run right through them. There was not the critical audience to annoy the referees as we have today. They did their best and managed to keep the game under control.

If you could see the water in time, if you were running down to catch a pass or carrying the ball and you could find a way to step around those damn mud holes, you did. A couple of times, in one of those games, the coach got after us because we weren't blocking or doing something else.

There was a kid named Bill Gamble, son of Black Gamble. Bill was a big, hulky fella, personable as all get out. I think he was playing end. Once in awhile, I'd be lined up to run from the back field and help Bill Gamble move a man out of the way, a defensive end or something, so someone could come through and carry the ball.

Well, Lambe, the coach, had gotten after us for something that we weren't doing right. It came time for the play where I was to join Bill Gamble and block this guy. Get him out of the picture.

I said to Gamble, "Let's get that son-of-a-gun out of here."

"Okay", he said, "we'll take him over and shove him into the coach's lap."

We did. I got a shoulder on one side of him and Gamble got a shoulder on the other side. We didn't just push him out of the way, we kept right on shoving him over to the side lines and shoved him into Lambe.

Lambe came to see me years later when I was in Minong. He was still chuckling about that. He knew what we were doing.

Sometimes it was my time to take the ball in the back field and throw a pass. We had a pretty good play worked out. Big Bill Gamble was tall and he could jump. He had good hands. We had a play where he would run down maybe six, seven, eight yards, whatever he decided, and cut sharp right over the middle. I would just throw the ball up high and he'd jump and get it. We made good yardage that way.

Other times, we'd be playing somebody when there was water on the field. When the guys would run down, you knew where they should be running. But if there was water, they would go away from it so as to not have to run through it.

Continued in next Column ➔

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You'd look to see, to throw to them, and, hell, they wouldn't be there. They were outside of the water. You'd have to hunt around to find somebody. You didn't always have a lot of time before somebody got through and hit you.

Maybe I was looking for Gamble or Steve Conway. I don't know. But at that time, Elmer Sparks was on the team, and he was a good friend of mine. Elmer was in the back field with me. In addition to having the ends run out, Elmer was to go out and be an alternate.

I was looking around to find Gamble, but I couldn't find him. All of a sudden, Elmer was over off to one side, nobody was on him, and he hollered, "Hey, over here!"

I just pitched the ball over to him and away he went. The opposition was guarding the other guys, and they weren't where they belonged.

Elmer had gone around the puddle and was on high ground, high ground. He took it and beat the rest of them down. I think we won that game.

Another time, another place, I think it was over at Goodman, they dug a hill off and put in a field. A sand pit is what it was. It wasn't any better than our place. We could go over there and play them.

If you ran too far, if you couldn't stop, the field ended and you would run out into the road. If you went the other way, it was almost like a cliff where they'd cut the hill down to level it out. And if you didn't look, you could run past your boundary line and run right into that damn hill. I remember that.

Another one was over at Wabeno. Almost up to the field, they had a swamp. If you got too far out of bounds, you were in the swamp. Another couple yards, you were in the river. But nobody thought anything of it. That's just what you had.

This story is a chapter from Win Abney's book, "Win Abney Tells a Good Story." This book is available at the Forest County Historical Society in the museum and on their website.



Nicolet AARP Chapter 1191

The November meeting of the Nicolet AARP Chapter 1191 was for the purpose of election of officers for the coming year. Officers continue in their current positions except for Pat Bath who was elected to the position of Secretary. The group also decided to make charitable contributions of \$100 to each of the following charitable organizations: Lakewood Townsend Ambulance, Mountain Ambulance, Food Pantry Lakewood Library, Lakewood Presbyterian Church and Avail Inc.

There will be no AARP meeting in December. The Christmas party will be held at the Anderson Supper Club in Lakewood on December 20 starting at 4:30 p.m. at a cost of \$20.00 per person. Monetary donations to the Food Pantry will be appreciated. Contact Carol Butrymowicz at 715-276-3468 for reservations by 12/6/21. The January meeting will be a potluck and ticket raffle with dinner starting at noon.

All persons fifty 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 (winter hours). Contact Joyce West, Membership Chairman, at 715-850-0336.

Submitted by Dick Culver, Public Relations Chairman. 715-276-2618



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FOREST COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING



Bus Schedule

Pam Blank has decided to resign from her bus driver position and we are in the process of hiring a new bus driver. Until we can fill the position, individuals may use the New Freedom Transportation service to go shopping in Crandon and/or Rhinelander. The cost to use the service for shopping will be \$4 per day. The phone number to call is 715-233-1070. Participants will need to call at least 48 hours ahead of when they want to go shopping. If you have any problems using the service, please call our office at 715-478-3256 to let us know and we can assist with setting up transportation. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. We will let everyone know when we resume the bus routes. Please be patient during this time. Thank you.

Forest County Commission on Aging Nutrition Program

SENIOR MEALS



CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA

Monday - December 6 - Pork boiled dinner with potato, carrots, rutabaga and cabbage, corn muffin, apple crisp

Monday - December 13 - Salisbury steak with gravy, mashed potato, broccoli, whole grain dinner roll, fruit cup

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK

Tuesday - December 7 - Fish with tartar sauce, baked potato with sour cream, peas and carrots, sourdough bread, raspberry lemon bar

Tuesday - December 14 - Pork chop, roasted potato, carrots, Italian bread, applesauce

CRANDON, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK

Wednesday - December 8 - Chicken thigh, Spanish rice, corn O'Brien, fruit, mandarin orange jello

Wednesday - December 15 - Bean soup with bacon, tossed salad with ham, fruit, corn muffin, snickerdoodle cookie

WABENO CONGREGATE & HOME DELIVERED

Thursday - December 9 - Chicken thigh, Spanish rice, corn O'Brien, fruit, mandarin orange jello

Thursday - December 16 - Bean soup with bacon, tossed salad with ham, fruit, corn muffin, snickerdoodle cookie

ALVIN

Thursday - December 9 - Chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese sandwich, bean salad, blueberry muffin

Thursday - December 16 - Ham, tossed salad, baked beans, dinner roll, mac and cheese, baked cranberry salad

Please register with Commission on Aging - 478-3256.

Crandon site manager Debbie Brock is at 920-946-3020. Serving at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Alvin nutrition site manager Tammy Wolfe is at 715-545-3323.

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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Wisconsin supports expansion of affordable and reliable broadband

Washington, D.C. – Wisconsin business, education and local leaders are praising U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin's support for bipartisan infrastructure legislation, which was signed into law by President Joe Biden yesterday and will help connect every Wisconsinite to reliable high-speed internet.

More than 13.9% of Wisconsin residents currently live in areas where, by one definition, there is no broadband infrastructure that provides minimally acceptable speeds, and 69% of Wisconsin residents live in areas where there is only one such provider. With the bipartisan legislation supported by Senator Baldwin and signed into law by President Biden, Wisconsin will receive a minimum allocation of \$100 million to help provide broadband coverage across the state, including providing access to the at least 318,000 Wisconsin residents who currently lack it. And, under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, 1,246,000 or 22% of people in Wisconsin will be eligible for the Affordability Connectivity Benefit, which will help low-income families afford internet access.

"This bipartisan legislation signed by President Biden will help build a stronger economy and make a real difference in the lives of Wisconsin working families," said Senator Baldwin. "This investment will expand access to affordable and reliable high speed broadband for Wisconsin families, students, small businesses, and farmers. I am proud to stand on the side of delivering results for Wisconsin."

This major federal investment in Wisconsin's broadband infrastructure was endorsed by business, education, and local leaders from across the state.

"We realize the necessity to make sure all areas in our region have affordable broadband access," said Barb Lamue, president and CEO of New North, Inc. "Increased investment in broadband in our communities will help the New North region attract and retain businesses and jobs, spurring private investment and advancing economic resiliency."


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No slow down of youth e-cigarette use over pandemic

Flavored and disposable e-cigarettes most used products

A new report from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirms what many in public health have long feared, that despite the COVID pandemic, youth continue to use e-cigarettes in record numbers. The CDC study, which used data from the 2021 National Youth Tobacco Survey, found that 2 million U.S. middle and high school students reported currently using e-cigarettes in 2021. Additionally, 85% of those youth reported using flavored e-cigarettes, and disposable e-cigarettes were reported as the most popular e-cigarette device. "It may not have been reported on as much over the last year and a half, but the epidemic of youth e-cigarette use did not go away over the course of quarantine," said Maria Otterholt of the Northwoods Tobacco-Free Coalition. "There's so many ways these products appeal to youth, whether it's flavors like cotton candy, banana split, root beer float, shiny packaging, or even the fact that they can be disguised as hoodies or backpacks. We've got a lot of work to do to turn these numbers around."

While their fruit and candy flavors may lull teens into thinking they're safe, e-cigarettes carry real health risks for young people. For instance, the nicotine in e-cigarettes damages adolescent brains, specifically the parts of the brain that control learning and memory. Youth who use e-cigarettes are also more likely than their peers who don't use e-cigarettes to eventually become regular cigarette smokers. "The Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition, NWTCF, (serving Florence, Forest, Lincoln, Oneida, Marinette, Price, and Vilas County) continues to educate young people about the harms of e-cigarette use, but we also want them to know that quitting is possible," continued Maria. "One new resource is the Live Vape Free text line, where teens can access free help by texting VAPEFREE to 873373."

In addition to the teen text line, parents and guardians can also learn more about e-cigarettes and other commercial tobacco products targeted towards youth at tobaccochanging.com. The site features information on different tobacco product types, tactics used to attract youth like flavors and packaging, and policies that can help prevent youth from using e-cigarettes and commercial tobacco products. Adults looking to quit commercial tobacco can also call the Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line at 1-800-QUIT





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A description of the duties and an application are also available at www.townsendwisconsin.org
The Town board will contact applicants for interviews proceeding this date.

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Determining the individual was suicidal and highly intoxicated on alcohol and prescription drugs, the EMS students decided he needed a higher level of care. After stabilizing the now patient, they transported him by ambulance to "Nicolet Hospital," otherwise known as the Nursing Lab.

Once there, Nicolet Nursing students took over providing care. The simulation ended after substance abuse crisis professionals did their evaluation and determined a long-term care plan.

"At each stage of care the students from one academic program had to coordinate and communicate with students from a different program each time the patient went to the next stage of the scenario," St. Louis said.

"Over the years we've noticed that while the students have solid technical skills, there can be a skills gap in effective communication with others. We wanted to put them in a situation where they had to communicate with people outside of their profession, and I have to say they all did great. It got them out of their comfort zone and they learned new skills."

The drill also gave students the opportunity to gain experience treating a suicidal individual.

"Dealing with people with mental illness is very challenging and students commonly receive little if any training in this area," said St. Louis, who previously worked as an emergency room nurse in Rhinelander.

"Almost daily we had someone who was suicidal in the emergency room. It's much more common than many people think. It's a real problem and something that these students are going to have to respond to and deal with."

Law Enforcement student Irish said the multi-disciplinary aspect of the simulation was a "great" learning experience.

"It was the first time that I've had a scenario that we were able to bring in all the different parties here at Nicolet College," said Irish. "They really made it seem like we were all responding to a real emergency, which was invaluable."

According to Gail Kell, the executive director of Wisconsin Northern Highland Area Health Education Center, the organization is working on plans to fund another simulation in the spring of 2021.

For more information about career training opportunities at Nicolet College, visit nicoletcollege.edu or call the college at (715) 365-4493.

Winter emergency preparedness

Winter weather can bring extreme cold, ice, snow, and/or high winds. If bad weather hits, is your home ready? Take time before winter weather arrives to winterize your home.

- Make sure your walls and attic have enough insulation. This preparation will help keep you warm in extreme cold. As a bonus, you can reduce your energy waste and save on your electricity bills!
 - Caulk and weather strip your doors and windows.
 - Keep indoor space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn.
 - Never heat your home with a stove.
 - Severe winter weather may also cause power outages. Prepare now to make sure you stay safe if you lose power.
 - Make a list of anything you need that uses electricity; plan for batteries and other alternatives to meet your needs when the power goes out.
 - Plan if you have medication that needs to be refrigerated. Talk to your doctor about what to do with medicine if you lose power.
 - Make sure to have a flashlight and extra batteries at home.
 - Have enough non-perishable food and water for your family.
 - Keep mobile phones charged and gas tanks full.
- During extreme cold weather you could be at risk for developing frostbite when you spend time outdoors. It's important you know the signs if you or someone you know develops frostbite, these signs include:
- Redness or pain in any skin area may be the first sign of frostbite.
 - Other signs of frostbite include numbness, white or gray skin, and firm or waxy skin.
 - The body parts most affected by frostbite are your nose, ears, toes, cheeks, chin, and fingers.
 - If you or someone you know has frostbite, go to a warm room. Soak in warm water or use body heat to warm. Don't massage or put a heating pad on frostbitten skin.
- For more information to help you be prepared this winter visit www.ready.gov
- If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 715-478-3371.



Large-scale emergency training exercise at Nicolet College

In an emergency, several professions often must work together quickly and efficiently in order to provide the services necessary to ensure the safety and positive outcome for all involved.

That was the goal of a recent real-world simulation exercise at Nicolet College and funded by the Wisconsin Northern Highland Area Health Education Center that brought together students from the Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Services, and Nursing programs along with representatives from the Human Services field.

"These students don't really get to interact that much when they are on campus, so we wanted to create an exercise where they all had to work together in a professional capacity," said Nicolet Nursing Instructor Dilya St. Louis, who led the coordination of the simulation.

"After these students graduate and start their careers, it will be common for them to work with others from different professions. We wanted to give them that experience, to interact with each other and for all of them to practice the specialized skills they've learned in Nicolet labs and classrooms."

The first-of-its-kind training scenario for the college started with a staged 911 call to alert authorities of a man acting strangely out in the Field on campus.

Law Enforcement students responded to the scene to assess the situation, make initial contact with the individual in distress, and to ensure conditions were safe and secure for EMS students to arrive on-scene.

But there was a twist. Nicolet Law Enforcement student Jeremy Irish was first to arrive.

"When I got on there and walked up to him, I could see the individual had a knife, which really surprised me," Irish said. "I wasn't prepared for that."

But then his Nicolet training kicked in and he was able to deescalate the situation and make it safe for EMS students to practice their skills.

Continued in next column

Nicolet Financial Help Cont. from pg. 1

More information, including a link to apply, is available at nicoletcollege.edu/admissions/three-free.

The Nicolet Promise program covers all remaining tuition costs for recent high school graduates once federal financial aid funds have been applied.

"The Promise program puts college within reach for many students who otherwise may not have been able to attend college," Ourada explained.

"This program creates the opportunity for eligible students to learn the skills they need for successful careers."

To be eligible for Promise, students must have graduated with a high school diploma or earned a GED/HSED within two years prior to enrollment at Nicolet College either in 2021 or 2022; reside in the Nicolet College District; be eligible for Federal Pell Grants as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); and enroll in a financial aid eligible academic program, taking a minimum of 9 credits per term.

The deadline to apply for Nicolet Promise funds for next fall is March 1.

For more information, and to apply, visit nicoletcollege.edu/promise.

Information is also available by calling the college at (715) 365-4493.

Conservation Corner Cont. from pg. 1

coyote, bobcat and raccoon – do not commonly prey on adult turkeys. These carnivores instead focus on less formidable and wary prey such as rabbits and rodents.

Hunters kill turkeys, but regulations are set to manage for population growth. They allow hunters to take a limited number of mostly male birds.

It is nesting time that brings the most risk to a turkey. The above predators and many more seek out turkey eggs and chicks. And a hen turkey's risk of being killed by a predator is also highest when she is sitting on the ground incubating her eggs.

A recent analysis of data from 15 Southern and Midwestern states shows that continued growth of turkey populations is limited by nest predation, combined with the limited availability of high-quality nesting habitat. In parts of this study area, peak turkey has arrived: the turkey population has begun to level off. The research reveals that in places with the largest turkey populations, hen turkeys are less likely to have a successful brood of turkey poults.

According to the authors, this may be because all the best nesting sites tend to be occupied when populations are high. Many turkeys are then forced to choose nest sites that expose them to a higher chance of predation. Another factor to consider as we approach peak turkey is how higher turkey populations affect the ecosystems around them.

Consider white-tailed deer. This is a classic example of a wildlife management success gone wild. Deer populations in the absence of large predators such as wolves can easily exceed the ecological carrying capacity of their habitat. When this happens, understory plants disappear and tree seedlings are eaten before they can grow. Such dramatic changes to the understory begin to affect other animals that depend on these habitats.

Few researchers have given attention to any potential effects of expanding turkey populations on the abundance and distribution of the things they eat.

Diet is a product of preference and availability. We know that turkeys eat almost anything, but we know little about what they prefer. Their preferences are important to know because preferred items will be the first thing to disappear from the pantry as turkeys become more abundant. If these preferred items are plants or animals of conservation concern that aren't able to thrive while being hunted by packs of modern-day velociraptors, then we might have a problem. To put it another way, are turkeys themselves a limiting factor for other organisms? For example, turkeys like to scratch up spring ephemeral wildflowers and eat their roots. Although deer eat such plants too, how culpable are turkeys in the decline of these flowers that crop up in early spring woodlands before trees leaf out?

One study did focus on turkey impacts by excluding them from patches of forest. The results showed that turkeys hindered the regeneration of oak trees by scratching up leaf litter in search of food. Deer cause the similar problems with reduced tree seedling regeneration.

It may be a while yet before researchers, wildlife managers and hunters come to terms with the success of wild turkey management and the possibility that we are at or near the ecological carrying capacity for wild turkey in many places. The focus of wildlife managers remains on propelling population growth.

We still have much to learn about how turkeys influence the ecosystems around them. Filling our knowledge gaps may be important as we make decisions about managing for wild turkey population stability or growth into the future. Only then can we be sure whether gaultheria and gartersnakes, spring beauty and skinks can still thrive in a post-peak turkey world.

**CITY OF CRANDON POLICE DEPARTMENT
FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF PACKARD
November 2021 CPD Activity Report:**

- 1 - Accident(s)
- 4 - Animal Incident(s)
- 1 - Assists to Citizens/Motorists
- 11 - Assists to Forest County Sheriff's Dept.
- 1 - Assist Rescue
- 1 - Assist Other Agency (K9 Deployment)
- 2 - Child Neglect/Abuse/Possible Child Abuse Complaint(s)
- 2 - Civil Matter/Dispute(s)
- 1 - Criminal Damage to Property/Vandalism Incident(s)
- 3 - Dangerous Drug/Drug Para and/or Poss. (3 ARRESTS / 1 CITATION)
- 1 - Death Notification
- 2 - Disorderly Conduct/Fight(s) (1 ARREST)
- 3 - Domestic Dispute/Disturbance (2 ARREST)
- 1 - Fire Complaint(s)
- 15 - Health/Safety/Welfare Incident(s)/911 Calls
- 3 - Intoxicated Subject Incident(s) (1 ARREST)
- 1 - Lost/Missing/Runaway Person(s)
- 1 - Parking Complaint
- 3 - Probation/Parole Violation(s)
- 1 - Property Dispute Incident(s)
- 28 - Security Checks--Businesses/Residences
- 3 - Sexual Abuse/Assault or Possible Sexual Abuse/Assault Incident(s)
- 1 - Storage of Junk, etc. Incident(s)
- 3 - Suspicious Person/Activity/Package/Vehicle Incident(s)
- 2 - Theft/Possible Theft Incident(s)
- 4 - Traffic/Driving/Parking Incident(s)
- 3 - Traffic Hazard/Obstruction Complaint(s)
- 1 - Unsecured Door/Window Incident(s)
- 2 - Vehicle Lockout(s)
- 2 - Warrant Arrest(s)/Apprehension Request(s)
- 1 - Weapons Complaint(s)
- 1 - Citations Issued re: Traffic-Related Matters
- 1 - Warning(s) to ATV/UTV Operator(s)/Passenger(s)
- 16 - Warning(s) to Drivers (re: Vehicle or Traffic Safety)



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For Old Time's Sake



The lovely farm fields in the area were once covered by trees. Logging the trees off was easy compared to digging the stumps and dragging rocks off to those stone fences and stone piles we see in and along fields.

We don't know who these Forest County pioneers were that are shown in the photos.

The farmer on the left has done a great deal of work to get this field ready for farming. The little girl probably grew up and told everybody about her tough childhood growing up on a northern homestead. Then again, she may have married someone who stayed on and worked the farm for another generation.

The oxen below were not as fast as horses, but they were steady at the job we have been told. It is likely that the oxen were used to farm in the summer and fall, and used to skid logs in the winter. For sure, the owner of this fine pair of oxen was proud of the work he did to train them to be part of the farm and logging camp.



Thank Yous and Personals



Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories!

*Missing my Forever Friend Penny, on her birthday, Dec. 2
Chrissy*

Thank You

On behalf of the Keith Skidmore Family

We would like to express our deepest appreciation for everyone's support, sympathy and shared memories at the visitation and funeral. We have been comforted by your many phone calls, flowers, cards and donations.

We would especially like to thank the Madison Veterans Hospital, LeRoy Hospice, Bradley Funeral Home, St. Mary Catholic Church and the Antigo American Legion for their service, guidance and caring arrangements. You all did a wonderful job nurturing and honoring Keith's life, his memory will never be forgotten and we are forever grateful.

Love, Nancy, Lynn, Kelly, Kitty

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Nicolet College named a finalist for distinguished Aspen Prize

Citing its strong and broad-based commitment to deliver quality college education, the Aspen Institute has named Nicolet College a national finalist for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

"It's truly an honor to be recognized for our work to advance higher education in the Northwoods by such an esteemed organization as the Aspen Institute," said Nicolet College President Kate Ferrel.

"Our dedication at Nicolet runs deep for creating opportunity for residents to earn a quality college education that will help them get ahead in life and build robust communities with the skills they bring to the workplace."

Out of the approximately 1,000 public two-year colleges the Aspen Institute evaluated across the country, 150 were selected as finalists.

Institute staff looked for achievement in five areas. These included teaching and learning, certificate and degree completion, transfer and bachelor's degree attainment, workforce success, and equity for students of color and those from low-income backgrounds.

The Aspen Prize spotlights exemplary community colleges in order to elevate the sector, drive attention to colleges doing the best work, and discover and share highly effective student success and equity strategies.

"In an era of persistent inequity and workforce talent gaps, our nation's best community colleges are stepping up to deliver more degrees to increasingly diverse students so they are prepared for the good jobs waiting to be filled," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program.

"Leaders of exceptional community colleges understand that achieving excellence requires expanding college access and increasing degree completion, but it doesn't stop there. They are committed to ensuring that all students—including students of color and those from low-income backgrounds—graduate with the skills needed to secure a job with family-sustaining wages or successfully transfer to and graduate from a university. That same commitment that stands at the center of the Aspen Prize: to advance the goals of social mobility and equitable talent development."

The Aspen Prize is generously funded by Ascendium and the Joyce Foundation, Wyner also noted.

In this first round, eligibility was based on publicly available data. Eligible colleges needed to show strong and improving student outcomes in key areas such as retention, completion, transfer, and equity. Nationwide, 15 percent of community colleges made the cut to advance to the next round.

Nicolet staff will now complete the Aspen Institute's application form for evaluation by a panel of experts in spring and summer of 2022. The panel will select 10 finalists for site visits in the fall of 2022, with prize winners announced in spring of 2023.

President Ferrel also noted that the naming of the finalists also reflected the high overall quality of education in the Wisconsin Technical College System, with Nicolet being one of nine Wisconsin public technical colleges advancing to the next round.

The other WTCS colleges honored as finalist include Chippewa Valley Technical College, Fox Valley Technical College, Lakeshore Technical College, Northcentral Technical College, Northwest Technical College, Northwood Technical College, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, and Western Technical College.

INSURANCE TIP

HOME FIRE SAFETY IN COOLER WEATHER

Devastating house fires can happen in an instant, and many begin due to human error. The U.S. Fire Administration reports that cooking tops the list of residential building fire causes (50%), followed by heating equipment (12.5%) and electrical malfunction (6.3%).

Make your fall and winter seasons merry, bright and fire-free with these essential fire safety tips.

1. Schedule a chimney inspection at least once a year. Creosote, or condensed smoke, builds up on the flue and can catch fire. An annual cleaning and inspection can prevent chimney.

2. Keep flammable items at least three feet from heat sources. According to the National Fire Prevention Association, 56% of fatal home heating fires ignite from items being used too close to heating equipment. Make sure everything is a safe distance from heat sources, including the furnace, space heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves.

3. Check smoke detectors frequently. Approximately 60% of house fire deaths happen in structures with no working smoke alarms. Test your home's smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries each year.

4. Have a family escape plan and practice it regularly. All household members need to know all exit strategies in case a fire breaks out, as well as where to meet once they're safely outside. Have a semiannual drill and practice at different times of day.

5. Cook safely. Never leave the room when boiling, frying or baking, keep pot holders and dish towels away from the flame and immediately turn off appliances when not in use.

6. Be mindful of holiday decorations. If you choose to decorate with strings of lights, always check their condition first. Throw out those with exposed electrical wiring and be sure to read over the manufacturer's instructions.

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Four generations of the Diny family



Four Generations: Left to Right, Grandfather Dennis Diny, Great Grandfather, Jerold Diny, holding baby Gideon Diny (born November 3, 2021), and Father Joel Diny, all of Wabeno.

