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**INSIDE**  
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Volume 37, No. 44 February 6, 2023 (715) 478-3640 or 1-800-234-2152 Fax: (715) 478-3540 email: [pionexp@newnorth.net](mailto:pionexp@newnorth.net)

## Wabeno Post 44 donates to Wabeno High Skills USA



Commander George Richards of the American Legion Post 44 in Wabeno presented a \$1,000 check to Brad Champine who is the advisor at Wabeno H.S. Skills U.S.A.

This chapter is a 9-12 grade student organization that is interested in careers in the technical areas. Nine of their members are going to Madison to compete in the Wisconsin Skills Expo. There are a variety of fields, including Masonry, Woodworking, Small Engines, Welding, Baking, Community Service, and Cosmetology. Good Luck to the Wabeno students!

## LMT Poker Run Saturday



The Lumberjack Memorial Trails Poker Run if this weekend, Saturday, February 4th. There are numerous stops on the run all over the area, with the final stop at Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort.

All the proceeds will benefit the local trails. And it will be fun! With 100% payback, and raffles for meat, booze and much more. **See the ad on the Area Events page for more details on this great event!**

Get your sled warmed up and hit the trail!

## 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](mailto:lcc@co.forest.wi.us).

World Wetlands Day is celebrated each year on February 2nd to raise awareness about wetlands. Why do we have a World Wetlands Day? We do to establish awareness that nearly 90% of the world's wetlands have been degraded since the 1700s, and we're losing wetlands three times faster than forests.

**Freshwater is rare. Wetlands provide most of it.**

- Only 2.5% of water on earth is freshwater, mostly stored in glaciers and aquifers.
- Less than 1% is usable, 0.3% is found in wetlands such as rivers and lakes.

Wetlands store more carbon than forests.

- Peatlands cover 3% of our planet yet store around 30% of all land-based carbon.
- Coastal wetlands like mangroves sequester and store carbon up to 55 times faster than tropical rain forests.

**Wetlands help us cope with storms and flooding.**

- 60% of humanity lives and works in coastal areas.
- Saltmarshes, mangroves, seagrass beds and coral reefs shield coastal communities in extreme weather.
- Inland, a single acre of wetland can absorb up to 1.5 million gallons of floodwater.

**Wetlands are a source of livelihoods and food.**

- More than a billion people live from fishing, aquaculture and tourism Wetland paddies provide rice for 3.5 billion people.

**Wetlands are being lost three times faster than forests.**

- They're the Earth's most threatened ecosystem.
- More than 80% of all wetlands have disappeared since the 1700s.
- The trend is accelerating. Since 1970, at least 35% of the world's wetlands have been lost.

Continued on page 14

## Chippewa donate to counties, community organizations and lake associations



Last Friday, the Mole Lake Tribal Council welcomed officials from the Town of Nashville and nine area organizations to present donations totaling \$92,523.30.

Under the terms of the Class III 2003 Amended Gaming Compact between the Tribe and the State of Wisconsin, the Tribe may direct a portion of its annual payments to the State or to any local government(s) with whom the Tribe has entered into a written agreement regarding the use of said funds.

Chairman Robert VanZile, Jr. welcomed the attendees and spoke wholeheartedly of partnerships and cooperative efforts.

"It's important that all of us work together with one another. We all have the same reasons and concerns about the water, the fish, the plants, the animals. We all share that. Look outside and see the snow - we have snowmobilers coming. They come to your lakes. They come to your towns and cities. Tourism dollars. We need to expound on that. ... We need to be able to work with one another," said Chairman VanZile.

Presenting the donations were the newly elected and incumbent members of the Tribal Council, including: Robert VanZile, Jr., Chairman; Robert J. Smith, Jr., Vice Chairman; Sonya Knueppel, Treasurer; Rachel DeCorah Toyebo, Secretary; Leelyn VanZile, Councilman I; and Caleb McGeshick, Councilman II.

"We don't need colors to distinguish us; we have the same goals," Chairman VanZile said. "We want to make the fish bigger and better. We want to work with one another. We want to have this relationship with you. We choose to work with you if you choose to work with us. If we work together, the three counties, the towns and the lakes associations, we will be the beneficiaries."

Chairman VanZile ended his remarks by saying, "I wanted to be able to say this in a kind and respectful way, and I thank you all for coming today."

Various people representing the organizations who received donations spoke to the Council Members and others in attendance, thanking the Sokaogon Chippewa Community for their generosity.

- This year, the Tribe donated to the following organizations:
- Town of Nashville:**
- Town of Nashville - \$23,523.30
  - Sierra Club - Four Lakes Group - \$5,000.00
  - River Alliance of Wisconsin - \$5,000.00
- Forest County:**
- Forest County Humane Society - \$15,000.00
  - Forest County Association of Lakes - \$2,000.00
  - Pickerel/Crane Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District - \$3,000.00
  - Roberts Lake Association - \$5,000.00
  - Trump Lake Association - \$2,000.00
- Oneida County:**
- Three Lakes Fish & Wildlife Improvement Association - \$4,000.00
  - Clean Boats/Clean Waters AIS Education/Inspection Programs:
  - Pelican Lake Property Owners Association - \$6,000.00
  - Lake Metonga Association - \$5,000.00
  - Lake Lucerne Advancement Association - \$4,000.00
  - Three Lakes Waterfront Association - \$5,000.00
  - Butternut-Franklin Lakes Association - \$4,000.00
  - Big Sand Lake Property Owners Association - \$4,000.00

Five lake associations received donations through grants that Michael Preul, Director of Mole Lake Fisheries, secured for boat landing clean boats/clean water AIS education/inspection programs.

Continued on page 15

See us online at: [pioneerexpresscrandon.com](http://pioneerexpresscrandon.com)

## Lakewood Library announces third Matching Funds Challenge

After completing a match for \$10,000 and \$20,000 anonymous donations last year, Lakes Country Public Library received a new one in the new year; this time for \$15,000.

"Support for the Building/Expansion Project in 2022 was absolutely amazing," says Library Director Katie Essermann. "We had nearly 200 individual contributors last year, with amounts ranging from \$5 to \$20,000. January 2023 continued the pace with donations coming in both by check and online. We want everyone to know that we appreciate every single one."

Building committee co-chair Tom Thielke also expressed his gratitude for the overwhelming financial support for the project and challenged the community to push the effort over the finish line. "Coupled with federal grants intended as much-needed investments in Northern Oconto County, we are at 80% of our \$1.5 million dollar goal. However, fundraisers have told us that the last 20% will be the hardest to raise," he said. "In that regard, we are still applying for grants and requesting support from those who have not yet taken the opportunity to donate. We especially urge local businesses with a state/national presence to help us make this happen."

Want to be a part of this legacy endeavor? Send a check to LCPL Building Fund; 15325 Highway 32; Box 220, Lakewood, WI 54138 or use the donation button on the website: [lakescountrypubliclibrary.org](http://lakescountrypubliclibrary.org).

## Hiles Fire Department Annual Fishoree



If you want to enjoy a Fishoree this weekend, head to Hiles. The Hiles Volunteer Fire Department is holding their Annual Fishoree. The event headquarters at the Hiles Town Hall on the main street of Hiles.

There are prizes for the heaviest walleye, northern, bass, bluegill, crappie and perch. In addition, there will be drawings and raffles at the town hall, along with plenty of good food and drinks.

Even if you don't want to watch a hole in the ice, it is a great social event, and you can catch up on some of the BS you missed lately!

## Trump Lake Fish-O-Ree 2023



The Wabeno American Legion Sylvan Post 44 and Friends of Veterans will host the 59th Fish-O-Ree at the Trump Lake Pavilion on February 11, 2023.

\*Registration starts at 7am, Fishing begins at 8am for cash prizes.

\*Raffles, food, and drinks from 11 am til 4:30pm

Join us for a day of fun while supporting our veterans and the community.

## Mole Lake sailor builds snowmen in Japan



Eight sailors assigned to U.S. Naval Air Facility (NAF) Misawa, Japan, and its tenant commands will arrive in Sapporo, Japan, on Jan. 28 to begin work on a Navy-themed snow statue for the 73rd Annual Sapporo Snow Festival, marking the Navy's 38th year of participation.

Continued on page 06




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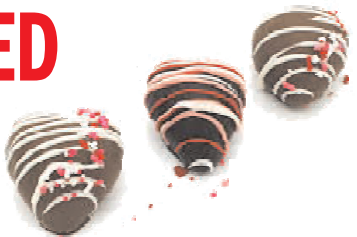
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### Crandon Wrestling



Congratulations to junior, Elias Glinski, on his 100th win!

It was another busy day of wrestling this past weekend at the Wisconsin Dells Invitational held on Saturday, January 28th. The wrestlers that represented Crandon on the podium included 3rd place finishers Silas and Ty Dennee, 2nd place finishers Cole Shepherd and Brexden Kane, and 1st place finisher Elias Glinski. Upon capturing his first place finish, Elias obtained his 100th career high school win. Congratulations to Elias on this awesome achievement!

Calling all Crandon Cardinal wrestling alumni! Come on up to the Crandon High School this Friday, February 3rd, to be honored at the Northern Lakes Conference wrestling meet. Wrestling is scheduled to begin at 6 P.M. Let's pack the gym to cheer on the Cardinal grapplers!

*Random Act of Kindness week is February 13th. A simple action by a stranger can leave a lasting impact. Brighten someone's day by doing an unexpected act of kindness for them. It's free and feels good.*

*Jan Leschke*

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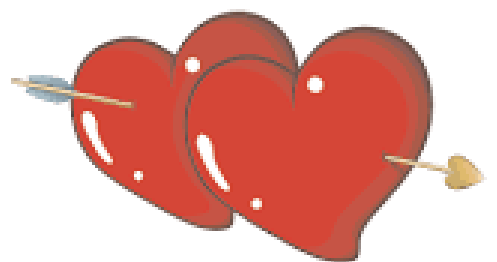
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# AREA EVENTS

Post Lake Improvement Association's 25th Annual  
**Ice Fishing Jamboree**  
 On Upper & Lower Post Lake  
**Saturday, February 18, 2023**  
 Fishing from Dawn to 4pm

**Come Join the Fun, Food, & Games!**

**Fish Registration Ends at 4pm**  
 Prizes given for Largest Fish by Length

**Raffle Drawing & Awards at 4:30pm**

**Raffle Ticket Cash Prizes**  
 Tickets \$5 or 3 for \$10

**Bonus Raffle**  
 Tickets \$5 Each  
**1st Prize: Ion Ice Auger**

**All registered children ages 15 & under will receive a prize.**

All Activities & Fish Registration will take place at the PLIA Building  
 W8684 County Rd K, Post Lake  
 (Corner of Post Lake Dr & County Rd K)

For more information call  
 715-777-5470



## Crandon Public Library Storytime

The Crandon Public Library Storytime. Storytime is for ages 0 to pre-school, and is held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the lower level of the library.

## Fun things happening in Pickerel February 11th

The Tombstone-Pickerel Sno Club will host its annual Chili Ride-In on Saturday, February 11 from 3-6 p.m. at the Sno Club facility on DD in Pickerel. Along with complimentary chili, hot dogs, and desserts. There will be basket raffles, meat raffles, and refreshments. Tombstone-Pickerel Sno Club is an all volunteer club dedicated to maintaining more than 140 miles of trails in the greater Pickerel area.

This event raises funds to keep the equipment and trails in great shape. Everyone is welcome, by car or snowmobile.

Start your day February 11th at the annual Pancake Breakfast at Pickerel Rescue's station on Highway 55 from 8-11 a.m., then visit the Jump-In on Pickerel Lake, and finish up at the Chili Ride-In at the Sno Club facility on DD.

## 38th ANNUAL LumberJack Memorial Trails POKER RUN

GAMES • FOOD • BEVERAGES

100% PAYBACK! FUN STARTS AT 12 P.M.

**Saturday, February 4th, 2023**

Tickets \$1.00 each - Avail. 2 weeks prior  
 Tickets Available at ALL PIT STOPS

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| • Duck's Bar               | • Johnnie's Resort     | • Rockin' Robin's     |
| • Pack Em Inn              | • Laona Bar & Grill    | • Wild Rose           |
| • Beach's Steaks & Spirits | <b>ARMSTRONG CREEK</b> | • Rusty's Wabeno Bowl |
| • Water's Edge Lodge       | • Green Shack          | • Shelly's Windfall   |
| • Charlie's Lake           | • Blue Roof Saloon     |                       |
| • Metonga Resort           | <b>ARGONNE</b>         | <b>PICKEREL</b>       |
| • Jameson's 1930 Inn       | • Kathy's Inn          | • Burgt's Last Resort |
|                            | • Main Street Ed's     | • Walleye Lodge       |

**POKER RUN ENDS AT Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort TONS OF RAFFLES FOR MEAT, BOOZE, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!**

**RULES:** Draw your own hand at Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort Best 5 out of 7 cards make a hand • All hands must be turned in by 6 p.m.  
**ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT TRAIL MAINTENANCE**

## Crandon Cardinals Trap Team 2023 Predator Hunt Saturday, February 11th at the Crandon Community Hall

**Cash Prizes!** All proceeds go to support the Crandon High Trap Team

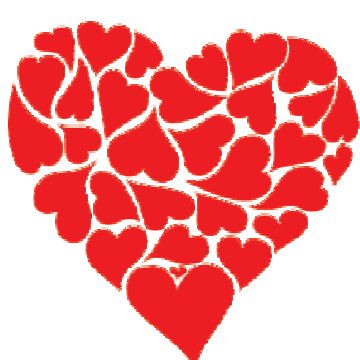
**\$20 Entry Fee that includes the Meal Rules Meeting & Sign Up Friday, Feb. 10th, 4-7 p.m. At May's Bar, 6 miles west of Crandon on Hwy 8.**

**Contacts: Tom May: 715-478-2425 or 715-889-2568 & Fay Statezny at 715-889-1588**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

## Laona School District 2nd quarter honor roll

- Top Honor Roll 4.00**  
**Seniors**  
 Hunter Cronauer, Abbey Gryboski, Molly Gryboski, Grace Krawze, Kaylyn LaRock
- Freshmen**  
 Ian Niggeling
- 8th Grade**  
 Reese Connor, Faith Novak
- 7th Grade**  
 Stella Albrecht, Bobbie Janczewski, Addison Seiler
- 6th Grade**  
 Arianna Belland
- High Honor Roll 3.5-3.99**  
**Seniors**  
 Zoie Cayan, Mya Chrisman, Danny Harris
- Juniors**  
 Gavin Connor, Abigail Peterson, Brady Shepard, Cameron Sorenson
- Sophomores**  
 Ave Cleereman, Colten Cooper, Timber Cronauer, Holly Gilligan, Nathaniel Gilpin, Aiden McLain, Dylan Wirth
- Freshmen**  
 Maddie Foltz, Lily Kulpa, Autumn Lane, Nathan Mihalko, Lily Terry, Boone VanOoyen, Lovey VanZile, Precious VanZile, Zoey Weso
- 8th Grade**  
 Cooper Albrecht, Canton Chrisman, Hailey Connor, Ryder Cronauer, Evangeline Garrett, Brody Hoffman, Isabelle Johnson, Nevaeh Kaquatosh, Braelyn Matuszewski, Madelyne Tilton, Aubrey Tinsman, Brooke Vander Velde, Brynn Yaeger
- 7th Grade**  
 Kayla Bocek, Maya Cleereman, Lucia Keepers, Braiden Kelley, Ali Niggeling, Victoria Winkelman, Michael Yaeger
- 6th Grade**  
 Florence Albrecht, Mary Ehlinger, Nora Tinsman
- Honor Roll 3.0-3.49**  
**Seniors**  
 Aryanna Keepers, Kara Lane, Eyan Skorczewski
- Juniors**  
 Alexander Jenkins, Malerie Krawze, Galen Schumacher, Evan Vander Velde, Rylee Yaeger
- Sophomores**  
 Allison Albrecht, Michael Collins, Nora May Kamke
- Freshmen**  
 Brooke Blankenhorn, Greyson McClain, Marshal Smith, Walker Winkelman
- 8th Grade**  
 Brody Brockway, Jaxson Cleereman, Precious DeVerney, Amaris Gilligan, Makhia Marvin, Wynter Montgomery, Tyberius Smith, Christopher Spink
- 7th Grade**  
 Jessony Cook, Alyssa DeMore, Linkin Grant, Carson Lemerande, Gavin Peterson, Levi Shepard, Mathias Smith
- 6th Grade**  
 Brooklyn Labarge, Colton Nowicki, Emma Perry



## Be an Informed Voter - Use Vote411.org

Information you need to be an informed voter can be found in The Voter's Guide at [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org). All candidates on your ballot are invited by the League of Women Voters to enter their information directly into the Voter's Guide. The Voter's Guide allows voters to compare, side by side, candidate responses to questions of interest to the voters. The Voters' Guide for the Primary Election on February 21st, will be available online February 1st. The Spring Election will follow on April 4th. The League will contact all local candidates to invite them to participate in the Voter's Guide for the Spring Election, which will be available March 1st. Candidates may also contact the League at [information@lwnnow.org](mailto:information@lwnnow.org) before February 15, 2023, to participate.

- Make a plan now to vote on February 21st and April 4th by going to [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org) to:
- Check your voter registration status or register to vote.
  - Know what and who is on your ballot, including any referenda.
  - Get candidate information and learn how they will serve the community if elected.
  - Look up your polling place.
  - Check dates for absentee in-person voting with your local clerk.
  - Or request an absentee ballot, and follow the return status of your ballot.
  - Or Vote in person on election day from 7a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Make your voice heard, Vote on February 21 and April 4th**  
 The LWNOW encompasses Florence, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas counties, however, the Voters' Guide will include only Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas. The local league is affiliated with the state and national League of Women Voters, a non-partisan organization devoted to helping members and fellow citizens develop educated political opinions and act upon them through the democratic process. LWNOW's monthly meetings and sponsored events are open to all. You can contact them at [information@lwnnow.org](mailto:information@lwnnow.org). Answers to questions about voter registration and voting can be found at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) or [vote411.org](http://vote411.org) and from your local clerk or your local library.  
 League of Women Voters of the Northwoods  
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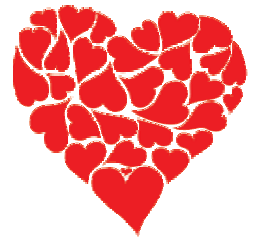
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### Republican Party of Oconto County is holding a Caucus Meeting

The Republican Party of Oconto County is holding a Caucus Meeting on February 11 at:  
Ray's Boneyard Saloon  
9089 D&B Frontage Rd  
Lena, WI 54139  
At 9:45 a.m.

This is for all current members in good standing to vote for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members at Large.

Questions or additional information, please call Kris at 920-599-0169.

**Promote your business with us and see results!**



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**125 N. Lake Ave., Crandon**

### DMV offers info on obtaining an ID to vote in the Spring primary

**Start the process now for a free ID to vote**  
Ahead of the Wisconsin Spring primary on February 21, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) reminds voters how to obtain identification, free of charge, that is valid for voting.

Valid identification for voting purposes includes a driver license, identification card, military or student ID card, etc. There is no separate "voter ID." A federally compliant REAL ID card is not required for voting purposes. Anyone unsure if their identification meets the requirements should visit the Wisconsin Elections Commission website to check.

To obtain identification to show at the polls for voting, begin online. A list of the required documents to bring to a DMV Customer Service Center is available at [wisconsinidmv.gov](http://wisconsinidmv.gov). If the required documents needed for an ID are not readily available, DMV has a process, called the Voter ID Petition Process (IDPP), to obtain the necessary information. This process, available free of charge, may be used to quickly obtain a receipt valid to take to the polls for voting while the remaining documents or verifications are obtained.

Anyone with questions related to obtaining an ID to vote should call DMV's toll-free Voter ID hotline at (844) 588-1069. Questions regarding voter eligibility, poll locations, voter registration information or other election information can be directed to the Wisconsin Elections Commission at [elections.wi.gov](http://elections.wi.gov).

Start the application now at [wisconsinidmv.gov](http://wisconsinidmv.gov) or at a local DMV Customer Service Center. To find a DMV, check hours, services and wait times, visit [wisconsinidmv.gov/centers](http://wisconsinidmv.gov/centers).

# DEATH NOTICES

**Vicki (Jagla) Feige**, of Townsend, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully on January 29th at Aurora Health Center after a long battle with Lupus and other related health conditions.



Vicki was the first born daughter to Daniel and Betty (Humbolt) Jagla in Shawano on June 17, 1952. She graduated from Wabeno High School and went on to marry her high school sweetheart Gary Feige, March 30, 1973. They would have been married 50 years this year. She worked for the State of Wisconsin as a pest and plant inspector for many years and enjoyed seeing the state of Wisconsin while she worked. Vicki loved raising her kids, spending time with her grandkids, being outdoors, and spending time with friends and family sitting around the campfire. Vicki was a lover of nature, and was content to spend her days in the dirt planting and tending to her flowers. She was one heck of a gardener! She was loved by many, and revered as a strong, capable woman who worked hard, and loved even harder. She is forever in our hearts and will live in our memories.

She is survived by her children, Astin (Brian) Krueger, Kyle (Nicky) Feige and Gary Feige Jr.; her grandchildren, Hailey, Lucas, Percy, Alyssa and Lydia; and her siblings, Tony, Lori, Toby, Tammy and Darci. She was preceded in death by her brother, Danny; and her parents, Daniel and Betty Jagla.

Vicki requested there be no services for her but instead that her friends and family would go to their favorite spots in nature and think about her. She asked her loved ones and friends to plant a plant or garden in remembrance of her because that was her favorite thing to do. If anyone would like to send cards, please send them to 16742 Terrace Lane, Townsend WI 54175.

**William (Bill) LeRoy Johnson, Jr.**



Passed away January 26, 2023 at the age of 81. He was born in Elmhurst, Illinois on May 11, 1941, to William L. and Violet P. (Lavett) Johnson Sr. His family moved to Monico when he was seven years old and moved into a home that his grandfather was building. Bill attended Monico Grade School. After school his spirit of adventure led him to enlist in the United States Army, where he was stationed in Germany. He was discharged from the Army on September 22, 1961.

Bill met and married Karen Tyrell on November 4, 1961. They were married for over fifty-seven years when Karen passed away. The couple lived in Rhinelander for a short time before making their way back to Monico. Bill worked at the Rhinelander Papermill for over thirty years before retiring.

Bill had a passion for collecting coins and stamps. He started collecting at a young age and continued collecting them up until his death. He was quite talented and could create and build projects based on an idea that was presented to him. We will all miss his whistling while he worked. He loved four-wheeling, hunting, fishing, and working on construction projects. He especially enjoyed the trips he made to Canada with various family members. Bill had a kind soul and would help anyone who was in need.

He will be dearly missed by his children, Tammy (Kim) Pederson of Clam Lake, Todd Johnson of Pelican Lake, Teresa (Dan) Bruso of Rhinelander, Trent (Mitzi) Johnson of Rhinelander, and Tracy Johnson of Menomonie; twelve grandchildren, Nathan, Joshua, Nick, Connor, Jaime, Benjamin, Hunter, Vance, Katie, Lacie, Allie, and Zoie; and fifteen great-grandchildren, Mackenzie, Max, Bennett, Athena, Cecilia, Riley, Gabe, Jace, Shelby, Gracie, Oliver, Lydia, Vada, Grady, Royce, plus two more on the way. Also surviving are nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends. His dog, Spanky, will miss him dearly as well.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Karen Johnson on July 11, 2019; grandson, Jake; sister, Doris (Sonny) Huven; and his four-legged companion, Chester.

The visitation for Bill will take place on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at the Hildebrand Funeral Home from 10 a.m. until the 12 p.m. Memorial Service. Immediately following the service, Military Honors will be performed by the Northwood's Honor Guard and by two representatives from the United States Army.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Hildebrand Funeral Home, 24 E. Davenport Street, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, 54501, 715-365-4343. Everyone is invited to sign the guestbook or leave an online condolence at [www.hildebrandrussfh.com](http://www.hildebrandrussfh.com).

**Carol Joan (Feller) Wienser, 85**, passed away Saturday January 28, 2023. She was born May 23, 1937 in Milwaukee, WI. Daughter of the late Henry and Molly (Balistreri) Feller. Carol met Neil during her time working as a secretary at Marquette University ROTC from 1955 to 1961. They were married August 26, 1961. As an Army wife, Carol spent the first 2 years of marriage living at Fort Benning, GA and worked as secretary in the Ranger Department before moving to Brown Deer, WI in 1963.



Carol thoroughly enjoyed being a mother to her 3 sons and daughter. She supported her children as they grew serving as a Cub Scout Den Mother, Den Mother coach, Girl Scout co-leader, grade school cafeteria helper and library volunteer. Later she volunteered at Dominican High School as the Development Assistant. Her volunteerism spanning over 10 years. While doing all the above she began work at Data Retrieval Corporation as a data entry operator. She was promoted to Supervisor a short time later then moved up to Production Manager, eventually becoming a Partner/Co-Owner in its successor company Data Exchange Center. She retired from DXC in 2005.

The family began summer vacations in 1970 on Lake Lucerne in Forest County and purchased a cottage on the lake in 1986. Carol eagerly looked forward to any time spent at the lake (2 days, 2 weeks, and eventually all year)!

Carol will forever be remembered as a devoted, hardworking, loving wife and mother, who will be greatly missed by all that knew her.

Survived by Neil, her husband of 61 years, her children Andy (Meg), James (Kyle), and Jennifer (Jeff) Criel; grandchildren Victoria (Josh) Voigt, Madaline (Taylor) Schallock, Scott Criel and Sean Criel; great grandchildren Skyler, Thomas, and Elijah. She is further survived by sister Shirley Neuman and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives. She was preceded in death by her parents, son Edward, sisters Sally and Rose, brothers-in-law Bob and Ron.

Visitation will be from 9:00 AM until 10:45 AM on Saturday February 11, 2023 at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, 7152 N. 41<sup>st</sup> St, Milwaukee, followed by a mass of Christian burial at 11:00 AM.

Carol's family would like to thank Dr Christopher Peterson and the staff of Aspirus Cancer Care – Volm Cancer Center in Antigo for the compassionate care given to Carol. In lieu of flowers, donations to Crandon Area Rescue (PO Box 302 Crandon WI 54520) or Aspirus Cancer Care – Volm Cancer Center (501 Aurora St. Antigo WI 54409) would be greatly appreciated.

# 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.*

To the Editor:

Let's talk about our GOVERNMENT! In two days our government will reach the DEBT LIMIT again! This means that they will probably raise the limit again and again and again! Washington doesn't know how to "STOP SPENDING" ! Just in last week's paper, Senator Baldwin was rooting about the things Wisconsin was going to get from the passage of the GIGANTIC OMNIBUS BILL, that she voted for! At what expense? We're these things WANTS or NEEDS? They probably weren't absolute NEEDS! I'm wondering if she runs her household budget the same way she runs the FEDERAL G'S BUDGET? I'm thinking not! The OMNIBUS BILL was 4155 pages, dropped off days before the Senate voted on it! DID she read it, or was it a NANCY PELOSI 'S, "we have to vote for it, to see what's in it", philosophy? Not the way to run a government!

The president says that last year he "reduced the deficit" by 300 BILLION DOLLARS, what he doesn't tell us is that if he hadn't foolishly spent TRILLIONS OF DOLLARS, he would have reduced the deficit by 800 BILLION DOLLARS! And yes, Senator Baldwin voted for every GIGANTIC SPENDING BILL, increasing our debt to 31 TRILLION DOLLARS! \$70,400 for each and every citizen in America! That's every member of your family! By the time this goes to press, that dollar amount will probably be higher! The newly elected Republican minority in the house is trying to curb government spending and the president says they DON'T know to run a budget! Yes, there is someone who doesn't know how to budget, but at this time, it's not the house!

Don't get me wrong, there is enough BLAME TO GO AROUND, it's not just the Democrats, it's the whole "kit n kaboodle"! I think one way to solve this problem, is to take away congress's ability to keep voting themselves pay raises and bonuses! Put their pay raises on the ballot every two years! I'm on Social Security, some years ago inflation was low and Social Security Recipients got a ZERO cost of living increase. At the same time congressional raises were 6%, and I questioned, why was this? I was told that the reason was, "the cost of living in Washington D.C. was greater than the rest of the country! One way or another, we have to rein in our elected officials to be more "FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE" , in future votes! They must ask themselves "IS THIS A WANT OR A NEED"?

James Kobylarz  
Armstrong Creek

# MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ON PG. 6

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**Our Great North Woods**

Everyone has a story or memory about a favorite tree or forest. Whether climbing trees, jumping in leaf piles, touring fall colors, visiting forested campgrounds, or making maple syrup, trees are a big part of our northern way of life. It turns out that trees are also a nature-based solution to help address climate change. Trees absorb carbon, an important greenhouse gas, and currently, U.S. forests take up 12% of our carbon pollution. We could increase that amount to 22% by 2030 by carefully managing existing forests, and planting more trees.

These are great ideas, but one important issue needs consideration. Non-native forest pests and diseases interfere with the ability of forests to absorb carbon. Insects like emerald ash borer beetles, spongy moths, and oak wilt are already in Wisconsin and worsening. Researchers have found that trees impacted by insect pests sequester or trap 69% less carbon than healthy ones, while trees suffering from disease sequester 28% less carbon. The combined impacts of current insects and diseases in the U.S. reduce carbon capture potential by 50 million tons annually - the same as the emissions produced by an astonishing 10 million cars!

So, what can you do as an individual? Take care of the trees and forests on your property to prevent spread. Learn how to identify and prevent forest health issues, and what to do with any problems found. Support local, state, and national efforts to maintain forest health with carbon sequestration as a goal. You can also support the Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL; citizensclimatelobby.org) and the new Healthy Forests policy initiative. CCL is a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization promoting action to reduce greenhouse gases.

Peggy Burkman  
Washburn, WI

**Baldwin, Sullivan Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Help Veterans Access Earned Benefits**

**Of the 19 million veterans, less than half are enrolled in VA Health Care System and only five million were receiving disability compensation**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Dan Sullivan (R-AK) introduced the Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act to expand a community-based outreach program that helps veterans learn about and access their earned benefits. The legislation would expand and support County Veterans Service Officers (CVSO), the community-based employees who work directly with veterans to inform them of eligibility for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) programs and services, file pension and compensation claims, and help them enroll in job, housing, disability, and education benefits. CVSOs play an outsized role in helping veterans in rural, native, and other hard-to-reach communities connect with VA services.

Out of the estimated 19 million veterans in the United States, only a small fraction utilize the care and benefits they are entitled to. As of 2020, nine million veterans were enrolled in the VA Health Care System, five million were receiving disability compensation, and three million were active VA home loan participants.

"We have a commitment to do right by the troops who defended our country, and that includes helping them get the benefits and support that they have earned," said Senator Baldwin. "Unfortunately, too many veterans do not, or are not able, to access the health care and support services they have worked for, particularly those in our rural and Native communities. This bipartisan legislation will help reach our veterans where they are and connect them with local advocates to get the benefits and support that they are owed."

"Less than half of Alaska's more than 75,000 veterans are currently enrolled in the VA system, meaning a majority are not accessing the benefits and health care services that they have earned, including those struggling with mental illness. That is unacceptable," said Senator Sullivan. "Alaska's vast size and sparse population certainly contribute to this challenge, but local partners and veteran service officers present an opportunity to reach these off-the-grid veterans. Senator Baldwin and I are introducing legislation that will reinforce the VA's mission to expand its reach and ensure veterans who live in rural, frontier states—like Alaska—do not get left behind."

Specifically, the legislation would authorize \$50 million annually for five years to hire more CVSOs and support current officers or similar local entities through a competitive grant program. By increasing the number of CVSOs, states will also be better able to leverage their local and federal resources to serve our veterans.

"This act would benefit CVSOs as most offices are working on a shoestring budget," said Ali Nelson, President of the County Veterans Service Officers of Wisconsin. "Additional funding would help us to do more outreach to Veterans, especially regarding the new benefits and eligibility resulting from the PACT Act."

The legislation is supported by the National Association of Counties, the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers, the Wisconsin and Alaska Departments of Veterans Affairs, the Wisconsin State Association of County Veterans Service Commissions and Committees, the Wisconsin Association of Counties, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs.

**Mole Lake Sailor Cont. from pg. 1**

More than two million visitors attend the Sapporo Snow Festival annually to marvel at the large snow statues built by teams from all over Japan and dozens of countries.

The sailors selected for the team were chosen because of their superior work performance and dedication to the U.S. Navy both on and off-duty. Many were also selected for awards such as "Sailor of the Year" at their respective commands.

The team is scheduled to complete the snow sculpture by Feb. 4, spending the remainder of their time in Sapporo participating in community relations projects and meeting and interacting with the visitors at Snow Festival this year.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Chase Vanzile, a native of Mole Lake, Wisconsin, is one of the sailors selected to participate in the festival.

Vanzile, a 2012 Crandon High School graduate, joined the Navy eight years ago.

"I joined the Navy for a lot of reasons, but mostly because my life was going nowhere at the time and I needed a change," said Vanzile.

Skills and values learned in the Navy are similar to those found in Roanoke.

"I learned from my dad that no matter what always pay your bills first before you spend any money on other things so that I always have a roof over my and food in my stomach," said Vanzile.

Today, Vanzile serves at Commander, Task Force (CTF) 72 as an operations specialist responsible for operating radar, navigation, and communications equipment on board Navy ships.

"The best thing about my job is fact that I get to work with my hands," said Vanzile.

CTF 72 leads patrol, reconnaissance and surveillance forces in support of U.S. Seventh Fleet. They promote regional security and enhancement of theater security operations through multilateral engagements to build, reconnaissance and surveillance capability within Seventh Fleet and partner forces.

NAF Misawa is tasked with providing aviation and ground logistic support and services to all permanent and transient USN and USMC forces in Northern Japan.

With 90 percent of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to trained sailors and a strong Navy.

As a member of the Navy, Vanzile is part of a world-class organization focused on maintaining maritime dominance, strengthening partnerships, increasing competitive warfighting capabilities and sustaining combat-ready forces in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"The Navy contributes to national defense by providing humanitarian missions for those countries in need," said Vanzile.

"So far my greatest accomplishment in the Navy has been making the friends and lifelong connections I've never had before," said Vanzile.

"I'm very thankful for my service in the Navy," added Vanzile. "It has been rough at times, but all of the opportunities and success I have would not be here without the Navy."

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This old photo that was taken from the Lloyd Listle collection is of Casterton's General Store in Laona. According to the inscription, the year is 1908 and Bert, Ellen, and Irene are in the photo. Presumably, the father and two daughters. Where was the store? Not known, but presumably along the current Hwy 8.

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DRAWING  
PHOTOGRAPH

**CAKE DONUTS**

12 Ct.



**\$4.99**

**BAGELS**

3 Ct.



**\$2.19**

**DUTCH APPLE PIE**



**\$4.99**

**SUB BUNS**

4 Ct.



**\$3.39**

Best Choice  
**TEXAS TOAST & BREADSTICKS**

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**FROZEN**

Digiorno  
**PIZZA**

12"



**2/\$12.00**

Mr. Dell  
**POTATOES**

24-32 Oz.



**\$2.99**

P.F. Changs  
**FROZEN MEALS**

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**\$7.49**

Bertolli  
**FROZEN MEALS**

20-22 Oz.



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Totino's  
**PIZZA ROLLS**

50 Ct.



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Bellatoria  
**ULTRA THIN OR RISING CRUST**

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Dial  
**BAR SOAP**

8 Ct./4 Oz. Bars -  
Gold, Spring Waters,  
or White  
Reg. \$8.45



**\$6.99**

Softsoap  
**HAND SOAP**

7.5 Oz./3 Kinds -  
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or Original  
Reg. \$2.15



**\$1.49**

Suave 2-in-1  
**SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER**

28 Oz./1 Kind -  
Ocean Charge  
Reg. \$6.39



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**CHEESECAKE**  
Strawberry, Variety,  
or Plain



**\$9.99** Ea.

**DEVILED EGGS**



**\$7.99** Lb.

**PRETZEL CRISP**

7.2 Oz.  
Reg. \$3.69 Ea.



**\$2.89** Ea.

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Crystal Farms  
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7-8 Oz.



**2/\$4.00**

Kraft Philadelphia  
**CREAM CHEESE BLOCKS**

8 Oz.



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Kraft  
**AMERICAN CHEESE SLICES**

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Simply  
**ORANGE JUICE**

52 Oz.



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**SOUR CREAM**

16 Oz.



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**HEALTH & BEAUTY**

Valentine's  
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Kid's  
**VALENTINE CARDS**

32 Ct.



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SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION

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## CHICKEN BROTH

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4 Lb. Bag



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75 W, 75W or

100 W



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**99¢**

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200 Ct.

Value Pack

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Women's or Men's

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600 Points  
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Best Choice

## 2 Bars/2 Kinds -

Sensitive or

Moisturizing

Reg. \$3.73



200 Points  
**\$2.29**

# Dining & Entertainment



## GUN RAFFLE

**SATURDAY**  
**February 18th**  
**2-6 pm**

Benefitting the Scholastic Clay Target Program. 10-12 Firearms will be raffled off.

All proceeds go to the High School Scholarships in Wisconsin

**County W, Wabeno 715-889-3876**



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 Serving Daily: 4-8, Fridays & Saturdays: 4- 10

**VALENTINES DAY!!**

**Saturday February 11th**  
**Featuring**  
**Prime Rib, Breaded Tenderloin**  
**Seafood Alfredo**

We Will Be Closed  
 on Saturday, February 18th.  
 Sorry for any inconvenience



## WINTER BREAKFAST BUFFET

SERVING SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
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Sausage, Ham, Biscuits, and Gravy,  
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 breakfast items, Cinnamon Rolls, and Donuts.

All for \$10.95

**FRIDAY FISH FRY AND SATURDAY PRIME RIB**

Please call for reservations at **715-649-3810**

Open Wednesday and Thursday from 11 am to 8 pm  
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## FEBRUARY SPECIALS!

**Honey BLT Flatbread**-Crispy bacon, fresh spinach, tomatoes, mozzarella cheese drizzled with more honey mayo sauce

**3 Steak Street Tacos**-Three corn tortillas, Mexican style with sliced steak, onions and fresh cilantro

**Spring rolls with Sweet & Sour Sauce** - Four appetizer spring rolls, vegetable with sweet & sour sauce

**Chicken Pot Pie** - Creamy chicken pot pie with roasted chicken, carrots, English peas, red potatoes with a flakey puff pastry buttery crust served in a cast iron skillet

**7" Dessert Strawberry Studel**- 7" Strawberry filling with homemade strudel with a sweet glaze on our homemade crust

**Come join us on Tuesday the 14th**  
**for our Valentine's Day Specials!**



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 OPEN THURS 4-8, FRI 4-9  
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**Thirsty Thursday**  
 NEW FOOD & DRINK SPECIAL  
 EACH WEEK!

**Friday Fish Fry**  
**Steak Available**  
**Everyday**

**Grandma Jane's**  
**Sunday Chicken Dinner**

YOUR HOSTS  
 RICK & JANE

4863 Elm Street, Laona



For Old Times Sake

Did you ever wonder what Laona's main street looked like in 1908. Okay, even if you haven't, this is a look at what a growing town looked like in 1908. The big white structure on the left is the Hotel Zahring, and a restaurant is next in line. After that it is hard to tell, but it would appear that off in the distance is the Connor General Store, and it appears that there are railroad cars on the track to the right. The business district was booming back then, but the roads, including the future U.S. Hwy 8, weren't in great shape.

## CoVantage Credit Union's 70th annual meeting slated for Feb. 15

Members of CoVantage Credit Union are invited to attend the organization's 70th Annual Membership Meeting on Wednesday, February 15. The annual meeting will be held in person this year with a virtual option for those who want to attend from the convenience of their home.

The meeting will be held at the Volm Theatre inside the Antigo High School, 1900 West 10th Ave., Antigo at 7 p.m., with pre-registration beginning at 6 p.m. in the Commons. Pre-register by February 10 to participate in the virtual annual meeting by visiting: [covantagecu.org/annualmeeting](http://covantagecu.org/annualmeeting) and completing the registration form. Whether you are attending in-person or virtually, you will hear progress reports and exciting plans for 2023. In addition, we will have our traditional cash drawing for all participants.

Candidates for the CoVantage Credit Union Board of Directors are: Angie Close, Executive Director, Langlade County Economic Development Corporation; Matt Kolling, Owner, Genesis Farms, LLC; and Willis Qualheim, Owner, Qualheim's True Value.

Current Board members of CoVantage Credit Union are: Susan Gitzlaff, Wausau; Dennis Haltinner, Appleton; Matt Kolling, Stevens Point; Julie Berndt, Antigo; Paul Payant, Antigo; Willis Qualheim, Shawano; Eugene Shawano, Argonne; Lee Siler, Crystal Falls (MI); and Mike Windberg, Menominee (MI).

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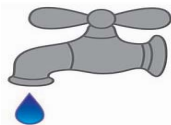
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GARAGE DOORS • OPENERS

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION  
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Ron Seils

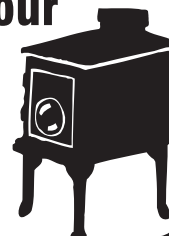
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- Insurance Claims
- Custom Paint & Body
- Auto Collision Repair

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Seasoned hardwood firewood  
for sale. Pick up at our  
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Call for prices

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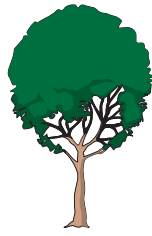


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**Randy McKee**  
715-902-0092



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LIGHTWEIGHT BLOCKS  
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CUSTOM KITCHEN AND  
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Jeffrey VanCleve and  
Jamie Nixon  
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Betc42

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**Dr. Peterson & Dr. Beyersdorf, Optometrists**  
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# Yaeger Oil



SAVE \$\$ ON ALL YOUR FUEL NEEDS.

- ON AND OFF ROAD FUEL
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Home & Cabin Repair,  
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Garages, Siding, Metal  
Buildings, Windows,  
Doors and More • Fully  
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• 17 years experience  
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We Fix  
Storm Windows  
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KITCHEN & BATH  
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Fully Insured.**  
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- LG Sales & Service
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**NOW HIRING**  
**RNs, LPNs & CNAs**  
Sign on bonus of **\$1,000**  
(Full Time Only)

**HOUSEKEEPING DIRECTOR**  
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(Full Time Only)

**AM COOK - (Full Time)/PM COOK - (Full Time)**  
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**\$2,000 Sign on Bonus**

For more information, contact HR at 715-674-4477  
or e-mail: [hr@bay-nuroc.com](mailto:hr@bay-nuroc.com)

[www.bay-nuroc.com](http://www.bay-nuroc.com)  
[info@bay-nuroc.com](mailto:info@bay-nuroc.com)

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Equal Opportunity Employer

# HELP WANTED



## WE ARE HIRING

DUTCH TOUCH ELECTRIC

### ELECTRICAL ASSISTANT

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

- \$20 - \$30 per hour starting
- Apprenticeship Available
- Flexible Hours

Contact Steven @ (920) 202 - 4373  
SDB40@AOL.COM

# HELP WANTED

**Administrative Assistant**  
Part-Time & Full Time positions for Tax Season.

Responsibilities: Manage accounts receivables and customer accounts, answer phone calls, schedules meetings and assist visitors.  
Clerical duties including filing, typing, copying, collating, scanning, etc.  
Maintain both electronic and physical documents and filing systems.  
Send resumes to [kme.jelam@gmail.com](mailto:kme.jelam@gmail.com)



# KITCHEN HELP WANTED

**Full or Part-time**  
**\$12 - \$15 Per Hour depending on skill level**

# Main Street Ed's

7909 Main St. in Argonne  
[www.mainstreeteds.com](http://www.mainstreeteds.com)  
715-649-3810



# HELP WANTED

**ADRC Specialist & Dementia Care Specialist**

Aging & Disability Resource Center of the Northwoods is seeking a part time (20 hrs./Wk.) ADRC Specialist and a part time (20 hrs./Wk.) Dementia Care Specialist which can be 2 part time positions or a full time position. The **ADRC Specialist** provides the general public, but particularly adults who are older or have a disability, with information & assistance on a wide range of community services, options and assisting in connecting them to programs and services.

The **Dementia Care Specialist** role is to support people with dementia and their caregivers, in order to ensure the highest quality of life while living at home. Both positions will cover Forest County.

For a position description, please contact John Brensinger, Interim Regional Manager, at [jbrensinger@adrcofthenorthwoods.org](mailto:jbrensinger@adrcofthenorthwoods.org) or 1-800-699-6704. A resume and letter of interest must be received by 4:30 p.m. on February 13, 2023 by email listed above or sent to: John Brensinger, 300A S Lake Avenue, Crandon, WI 54520.



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOREST COUNTY

**Social Services/Commission on Aging Fiscal Agent**

Forest County is currently accepting applications for the position of Fiscal Agent. This position is full-time, thirty-five (35) hours per week. The Fiscal Agent will work under the direction of the Department of Social Services Director and Commission on Aging Director.

Applicants must have experience in excel, preparing payroll, maintaining ledgers, general clerical duties, tracking and preparing reports to assist the Social Services and Commission on Aging offices, as well as paying bills and maintaining all ledger journals for auditing purposes, and budgetary needs.

Application materials, including the position description and summary of benefits may be obtained at [www.co.forest.wi.gov](http://www.co.forest.wi.gov) or in the County Clerk's Office, Forest County Courthouse, 200 E Madison Street, Crandon, Wisconsin 54520 or by calling (715) 478-2422.  
Forest County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

# Seasonal Employment Opportunity

**Nicolet Country Club is seeking applicants for a Head Grounds Keeper.**

Responsibilities include day to day golf course operations, mowing/fertilizing, equipment maintenance.

Supervision of a six-person grounds crew, good communication skills, basic computer skills, and attend monthly meeting. On the job training as well as additional training seminars will be available. Must be able to work with others and supervise.

Starting pay \$17+, depending upon work experience.

If interested, send letter of application before March 1st to:

**Nicolet Country Club**  
P.O. Box 56  
Laona, WI 54541

# HELP WANTED

Grill Cook, Evening bartender, Servers  
**TOP PAY!**  
Apply at Ducks Bar & Grill  
In Person or online on Facebook

478-3640



**Pioneer Express**

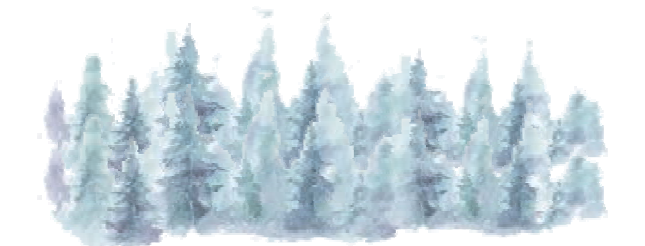
## Employment Opportunity

**Forest County Director of Social Services**

The Forest County Social Services Department is currently accepting applications for a full-time (40 hours per week) Director position. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree in a field related to the provision of human services.

Applicants must have experience in the provision of services for all Children and Family Services, Economic support, and Fiscal.

Application and position description may be obtained at [www.co.forest.wi.gov](http://www.co.forest.wi.gov) or in the County Clerk's Office, Forest County Courthouse, 200 E. Main Street, Crandon, Wisconsin 54520.  
Forest County is an Equal Opportunity Employer



# LAONA STATE BANK

5308 Beech St. • PO Box 128 • Laona, WI 54541

## BID NOTICE

The Laona State Bank will be accepting sealed bids January 30, 2023-February 21, 2023 on the following item:

### 2006 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX

Sealed bids must include: Name, Address, Phone Number & Bid Amount

**BID DEADLINE: 4 P.M. FEB. 21, 2023**  
**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: JULIE ISON AT (715) 674-2911 OR JULIEI@LAONASTATEBANK.COM**

## School District of Laona Referendum Informational Meetings

The School District of Laona will be proposing a nonrecurring referendum at the Spring 2023 election. The current referendum is set to expire at the end of this school year. Administration and district school board members will be hosting informational meetings at various locations throughout the community. If you have questions in regards to the referendum, attend one of the following meetings:

- February 22, 2023 - Ross Town Hall - 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- March 1, 2023 - Caswell Town Hall (Cavour) - 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- March 8, 2023 - Laona School District (Community Room) - 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Further referendum information will be published in the Pioneer Express. There is also a link on the school district's website to access referendum information. Community members will also be able to ask questions via a Google form link on the website as well.

## Laona Board of Education Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 • 5:30 p.m. Room 24, C.L. Robinson Elementary School

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance - Chad Albrecht
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Public Forum (10 Minutes)
5. Consent Agenda
  - A. Bills and Claims
  - B. Meeting Minutes
6. Items for Discussion and/or Action
  - A. Mental Health Site Update
  - B. Commencement Speaker Update
  - C. January Pupil Count
  - D. AGR data
  - E. 2023-2024 School Calendar
  - F. High School Office Renovation
  - G. High School Gym Floor Refinishing
7. Informational Items:
  - A. Business Manager's Report
  - B. Middle/High School Principal's Report
  - C. District Administrator/Elementary Principal's Report
  - D. Board Member Reports
8. Enter Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee.
  - A. Personnel
9. Return to Open Session to possibly take action on items discussed in closed session.
10. Adjourn:
 

Notes: This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting.

The agenda could be subject to last minute change(s).

## Wabeno School Breakfast Menu Feb. 6-10

- Monday** - Pancakes, sausage links, kiwi, fruit juice, milk
- Tuesday** - Breakfast bites, hashbrown patty, tropical fruit, fruit juice, milk
- Wednesday** - Scrambled eggs, sausage links, tator tots, peaches, fruit juice, milk
- Thursday** - Assorted cereal, yogurt, banana, fruit juice, milk
- Friday** - Breakfast pizza, pears, fruit juice, milk

# BIDS AND NOTICES

## Request for Bids Sokaogon Chippewa Housing Authority

- Replacement of 20 furnaces
  - Install 20 central air conditioners.
- Specifications as follows: Comfortmaker 2 stage variable speed furnace with 13 seer Comfortmaker air conditioner. Furnace and AC size determined on the heat calculation of each home.

If interested, please contact the Sokaogon Chippewa Housing Office 715-478-2001 to make arrangements to view the homes. **Deadline to bid on the project will be February 6th.**

## Crandon Public Library news

### Free In-Person Tax Preparation Service

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide offers free tax preparation to anyone of any age, especially if you are 50 or older, or can't afford paid tax preparation

Crandon Public Library  
 110 West Polk St  
 Tuesdays, February 21st through March 21st, 2023, 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 By Appointment Only: Call (715) 478-3784



## NOTICE PUBLIC TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, according to Wis. Stats. 5.84(1) Testing of Equipment, the following municipalities will conduct the required public test of the Imagecast X (ICX) and/or tabulating equipment to be used at the Spring Primary Election on February 21, 2023. This test, which is open to the public, will be conducted at the following location, date, and time:

**Wednesday, February 15, 10:00am**  
**Town of Wabeno Town Hall**  
 4473 North Branch Street  
 By: Wabeno Town Clerk  
 Raletta Shampo-Ashbeck

## 2023-2024 PUBLIC SCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATION PERIOD SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WABENO

The School District of Wabeno Area will be accepting Open Enrollment applications for the 2023-2024 school year from **February 6 to April 28, 2023**. Applications must be received in the District Office no later than **4:00 P.M., April 28, 2023**. Parents may also fill out and submit the application on-line. The on-line application will be available from midnight **February 6 until 4:00 P.M. on April 28, 2023**. You may submit an on-line application at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/oe>. Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program, often referred to as "school choice", allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live. Parents must apply to the non-resident school district they would like to have their child/children attend. This program is open to Wisconsin residents who have students in grades Kindergarten to 12. There are no tuition costs to parents for their children's participation in Open Enrollment. However, in most cases, parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from the non-resident school.

Additional information may be obtained from the School District Office.

## Wabeno School Lunch Menu Feb. 6-10

- Monday** - Crispito, Spanish rice, mixed vegetables, peaches, garden bar, milk
- Tuesday** - Assorted pizza, garlic breadstick, carrots, applesauce, garden bar, milk
- Wednesday** - Smoked pork loin, mac and cheese, baked beans, mandarin oranges, garden bar, milk
- Thursday** - Cheese burger, potato wedges, coleslaw, pears, garden bar, milk
- Friday** - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, grapes, garden bar, milk

## School District of Crandon Board of Education Vacancy

The School District of Crandon currently has two (2) Board positions vacant for three (3) year terms. One incumbent filed candidacy, but the District is seeking any individuals interested in being a write in candidate.

To be an official write in candidate the following forms will need to be completed:

### Campaign Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy, and must be filed in the District by Friday, March 31, 2023.

The School District of Crandon Board of Education Election will held on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 and will be at your regular polling location.

If you are interested in running as a write in candidate for the Crandon Board of Education, please contact Melanie Flannery for candidacy forms at [flannmel@sdoocrandon.com](mailto:flannmel@sdoocrandon.com) or 715-478-6200.

## 2023-2024 OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATION PERIOD SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LAONA

The School District of Laona will be accepting Open Enrollment applications for the 2023-2024 school year from February 6, 2023-April 28, 2023. Applications must be received no later than 4:00 pm on April 28, 2023. **Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.** Parents may apply on-line at <https://dpi.wi.gov/oe>.

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live. Additional information from an open enrollment consultant is available toll-free by calling (888) 245-2732, option 2, or by emailing [openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov).

\*Please note: If your child is already attending the School District of Laona through Open Enrollment, you do not need to reapply.

## Conservation Corner Cont. from pg. 1

### Human activities are driving wetland degradation.

- Wetlands are being drained and filled in for agriculture and urban construction.
- Water pollution and over-shing are harming wetland ecosystems, along with invasive species.

### Wetland species are facing extinction.

- One in three freshwater species and 25% of all wetland species face actual extinction from wetland decline.
- 81% of inland wetland species and 36% of coastal and marine species have declined in the last 50 years.

A well restored wetland can provide many of the services performed by the original natural wetland. Here are seven ways restored wetlands can benefit us directly:

1. Improve livelihoods Wetlands create livelihoods in fishing and aquaculture, and also provide goods like reeds and grasses. These opportunities often benefit indigenous populations.
2. Revive biodiversity 40% of the world's species live or breed in wetlands. Restoring wetlands powers the local food chain and attracts wildlife.
3. Blunt the impact of floods and storms Restored wetlands can act as sponges against excess rainfall and flooding, buffer coastal storm surges, and can shield communities in extreme weather.
4. Store carbon Specific types of wetlands, especially peatlands, mangroves, intertidal marshes and seagrass beds are exceptionally efficient carbon sinks.
5. Replenish and filter water supply Wetlands naturally filter water, remove pollutants and boost the local water supply.
6. Boost eco-tourism A restored wetland can be a sustainable magnet for visitors; a natural attraction that draws tourists along with opportunities to serve them.
7. Enhance well-being Revitalized wetlands provide a place to relax, experience nature – and enjoy sense of satisfaction at their resurgence.



**Mole Lake donations** Cont. from pg. 1



Town of Nashville receives their check



Forest County Humane Society receives their check



**Wabeno Elementary Mid-Year Celebration!**



The students at Wabeno Elementary have been working hard all year to follow expectations and be kind to others. The students' hard work was rewarded with a school-wide trip to the Forest County Potawatomi Community Center. The students were able to do rotations during their visit, which included working on Valentines for Vets, playing basketball or pickleball in the gym, playing soccer or football in the field house, and going through the bounce house obstacle course. The students and staff at Wabeno Elementary had a great time and appreciate the Forest County Potawatomi Community Center for hosting us.



**Hunter Cronauer signs to Ripon College**



The Laona/Wabeno Rebels are proud to announce that Hunter Cronauer (#50) has signed to Ripon College and will continue his football career on the field with the Redhawks.

Hunter has been an integral part of the Rebel football team for all four years of High School and has pushed himself and his team to be better each and every day. Hunter was named Defensive Player of the Year by WisSports this season. This award was well-deserved as Hunter holds 11 of the Defensive State Records in Wisconsin, is #7 in the Nation for sacks in a season, and he, along with his teammate Ryan Roy, are #1 in the Nation for tackles in a season for 6/8/9-Man football. Hunter ends his High School football career with 462 tackles, 107 tackles for loss, and 53 sacks.

Hunter always carries himself with Integrity and Determination and the Rebel football team is proud to have him represent them as he continues his football career at Ripon College. Hunter will further his educational career as he pursues a degree in Psychology as he looks to become a Criminal Psychologist.

**Wabeno Post 44 had a good 2022**



Jon Marsh with Larry DeMoulin, ALA member Kathleen Marsh visits a veteran residing at Lakewood Assisted Living. with veteran Richard Franke at NuRoc Community Care Center.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #44 Wabeno President Karen Pruetter reports that the Unit had a very busy 2022. The Unit assisted Post #44 Legionnaires at many events, including Socials, Gunless Poultry Shoots, Ribs Cookoff, and Valentine Cookie Day at Wabeno Elementary School. Pruetter also recognized Karen Czysweski's many years as treasurer. Karen retired and was succeeded by Lorry Runge. She also complimented Poppy Chair Mary Ellen Krizek and her volunteers who raised over \$2600 in the annual Poppy Fund Drive. Their success enabled the Unit to support the needs of local veterans, Wisconsin VA hospitals, Camp American Legion, female veteran homeless shelters, just to name a few.

One of the most rewarding Auxiliary endeavors that has been carried out annually for almost two decades is using poppy funds for its Christmas Cash Contribution. This program gives a \$50 cash stipend to veterans living at Lakewood Assisted Living and The Bay at NuRoc Center in Blackwell. Kathleen Marsh and her husband Jon continue the tradition of visiting these veterans in person sometime between Veterans Day and Christmas. "What a wonderful gesture," Social Activities Director Cindy Behling said. "The Auxiliary's donations and these visits really brighten the holiday season for our heroes."

Overcoming complications due to the Covid Pandemic, Unit #44 also continued another of its key missions: sponsorship of Wabeno High School and Laona High School junior girls as delegates to Badger Girls State held each summer at University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. According to Badger Girls State Coordinator Kathleen Marsh, Unit #44 sponsored three girls in 2022: Kelsey Beaber and Kierra O'Keefe (WHS) and Zoie Cayan (LHS).

In follow-up essays sent to the Auxiliary, all three said it was a life-changing experience. They encouraged 2023 delegates: Marissa McLaughlin (LHS), Ozari Ventura and Sarah Gouge (WHS); to expect a full schedule during the June 18-23 BGS Assembly. As always, the week will focus on local and state government, everything from organizing a campaign to running for office to making good decisions that improve and strengthen communities. BGS also offers girls an opportunity to meet and make friends from all over Wisconsin as they get a sneak preview of dorm life on a college campus.

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Earn & Redeem 40 same day points 10am-10pm  
to receive a box of chocolates.

Receive a voucher at the kiosk. One per customer. While supplies last.



## Valentine's Day Dinner

Feb. 14, 4pm - 7pm

### SURF & TURF

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includes soup and salad bar.

**\$29.99**



February 9

### National Pizza Day

Earn & Redeem 25 same day  
points to receive a Luigi's Pizza.

Receive a voucher at the kiosk. One per customer.  
While supplies last.



February 18

### National Drink Wine Day

Earn & Redeem 30 same day  
points 10am-10pm to receive a  
full size bottle of wine.

Receive a voucher at the kiosk. One per customer.  
While supplies last. Must be 21+ to qualify.



**BET.  
WIN.  
GET PAID.**

## GAMETIME SPORTSBOOK

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