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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.

Spongy Moths in Northern Wisconsin During Summer Months

The Spongy Moths are here! I've had several reports from residents around the County. From the reports and inspections I've done, I've concluded that they like apple trees.

Spongy moths, formerly known as Gypsy moths, are an invasive species that pose a significant threat to the forests of Northern Wisconsin. Their larvae, commonly referred to as caterpillars, are voracious feeders, capable of defoliating vast swathes of trees, which can lead to weakened trees, increased susceptibility to diseases, and, ultimately, tree mortality. Effective management and treatment strategies are crucial during the summer months of June, July, and August to mitigate the impact of these pests.



Spongy moths go through a complete metamorphosis: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. In Northern Wisconsin, the lifecycle is synchronized with the climatic conditions, making summer a critical period for intervention.

By June, spongy moth larvae are in their most destructive phase, feeding aggressively on the foliage of hardwood trees such as oak, birch, and aspen. In July, the larvae enter the pupal stage, during which they metamorphose into adults. In August, the adult moths emerge, mate, and lay eggs, setting the stage for the next generation.

Biological control involves the use of natural predators and pathogens to manage spongy moth populations. This method is environmentally friendly and sustainable in the long term. There is a naturally occurring bacterium, bacillus thuringiensis (Btk), that is a biological insecticide. When ingested by the larvae, it produces toxins that disrupt the caterpillars' digestive system, leading to their death. Btk is most effective when applied in June when larvae are actively feeding. You can buy a Btk spray on Amazon.



Another biological treatment is the Nucleopolyhedrosis Virus (NPV). This virus specifically targets spongy moth caterpillars. Infected larvae become lethargic and eventually die, releasing more viral particles into the environment to infect other larvae. You can purchase this virus/treatment at a few places in Wisconsin. I found Microbial Products in Hortonville, <https://microbialwi.com>.

Encouraging the presence of natural predators like birds, small mammals, and parasitoid wasps can help reduce spongy moth populations. Trichogramma wasps, for instance, lay their eggs inside spongy moth eggs, preventing them from hatching. I don't know where you can get these wasps; probably just have to hope they show up.

Chemical insecticides can be effective but should be used judiciously to minimize environmental impact. Products containing diflubenzuron disrupt the molting process of caterpillars, preventing them from developing into adults. These should be applied in late June or early July before the larvae pupate.

Broad-Spectrum Insecticides are also effective. These insecticides can harm non-target species, though. They are usually reserved for severe infestations. Applications should be timed carefully, ideally in June when larvae are most vulnerable.

Continued on page 06

This weekend's Crandon Brush Run Races Feature 2024's largest pro entry list



Fans attending the Forest County Potawatomi Brush Run can expect the largest Pro 2 and Pro 4 fields of the 2024 AMSOIL Champ Off-Road season. This includes the return of popular California racers RJ and Ronnie Anderson. RJ's #37 unlimited truck (above) took him to the 2023 Crandon Pro 4 World Championship. (Photos: Champ Off-Road)

-- Multiple Crandon World Champions Returning For Season Debuts --

For the past 55 years, Crandon International Raceway has built a reputation for attracting the best off-road racers in the world. As fans and teams prepare for this weekend's 31st annual Forest County Potawatomi Brush Run races, one look at the AMSOIL Champ Off-Road series Pro category entry list proves that reputation is very well earned. Competition in short-course off-road racing's Pro classes has seen a resurgence at Crandon in recent seasons, as top-tier competitors from around the country have at least one trip to the legendary track on their yearly calendar. This week's Crandon Brush Run event has attracted 2024's largest Pro field of racers, including the return of several 2023 Crandon World Champions and the debut of another entry into the sport's top-tier unlimited Pro 4 category.

Crandon International Raceway will open its legendary 400-acre facility from Friday, June 21 through Sunday, June 23, 2024 for three days of action-packed practice, qualifying and racing as part of the 2024 AMSOIL Champ Off-Road Series.

Round three of a seven race 2024 Champ Off-Road series, the Forest County Potawatomi Crandon Brush Run is expected to host more than 250 racers competing in 36 rounds of competition for all Pro and Sportsman categories. A combination of the track's prestige and the largest season cash purse in Crandon Brush Run history will provide race fans with large fields in all truck, buggy and UTV classes -- especially the premiere Pro 4 and Pro 2 unlimited trucks. While racing in the top Pro categories has been spectacular in 2024, that intensity will ratchet up thanks to the addition of many top racers choosing to make their season debut at Crandon this weekend.

The sport's top tier unlimited Pro 4 class will be the largest of the season, with RJ Anderson and Cole Mamer returning to Champ Off-Road competition. They will take on an intense 2024 season points battle current led by last year's Forest County Potawatomi Community Cup champion CJ Greaves of Suamico, WI. Greaves holds a slim points margin over second place Adrian Cenni and his father Johnny Greaves in third.

2023 World Champion Cory Winner and perennial fan favorite Ronnie Anderson are making their season debuts at Crandon, both competing in the intense Pro 2 unlimited category for two-wheel drive trucks. Coming into this weekend the Pro 2 season points championship is led by Mickey Thomas of Dawsonville, GA, followed by Ryan Beat and class rookie Kyle Greaves in third. Crandon local and 2023 Crandon Red Bull Cup champion Keegan Kincaid is also set for his second appearance in 2024.

Anderson will be doing double duty at the Brush Run, also driving a factory supported Polaris in the Pro SxS division.

Making his Pro 4 category debut at Crandon this weekend will be veteran sports car and off-road racer Robert Stout. Running as part of the Cenni Motorsports team, Stout's sparkling resume includes being named 2018 "Rookie of the Year" in the Lucas Oil short-course series, as well as earning the Production 1000 SxS season championship the following year. Stout has also been a front running racer in the Robby Gordon Stadium

Continued on page 02

It must be Summer!



Enjoy the Crandon Water Shows every Wednesday in June at 6:30 p.m. at Waters Edge. Waters Edge is located on County W, on Lake Lucerne. Just watch for the sign, and you can bring an appetite and a thirst too!

Aurora man's huge collection honors Veterans

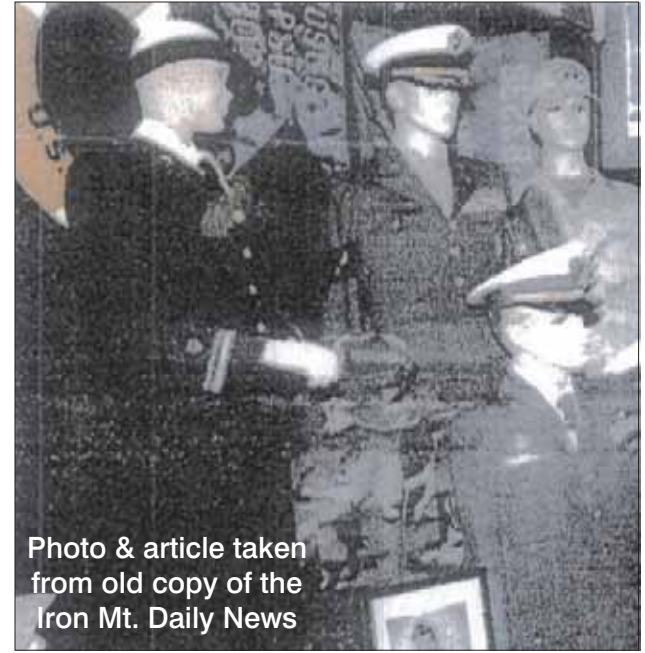


Photo & article taken from old copy of the Iron Mt. Daily News

John Pearson lives in Aurora, Wisconsin, a small town that is snuggled up to the border with the U.P. and Kingsford, Michigan. Pearson has been collecting any and all things military since 1953. He owns the Aurora Military Museum.

His collection includes thousands of pieces of military history, from printed articles, photographs, pins, military uniforms, hats, models, weapons flags, an Army jeep, and even a saddle from the Spanish American War. He has a medal collection, including a set of every medal WWII hero Audie Murphy was awarded.

Pearson has every patch from all divisions of the military, in ranks from private to general from World War II.

He has also collected a copy of every medal given out during the Viet Nam War. He has uniforms dating from the Civil War on up to now..

There are 100 mannequins dressed in various military uniforms are placed throughout the museum that occupies two buildings. He has stacks of LIFE magazines from the 1940's, trench art, and a German soldier's scrap book filled with photos from the Holocaust.

He also has a note and a patch he received from then General Dwight Eisenhower when he was a patient at Walter Reed Hospital. Pearson wrote to Eisenhower, and his return letter is on display at the museum.

He hosts a party for the veterans from the nursing home every year, and hundreds of vets have toured his museum and been treated to a lunch.

Pearson gives tours of his museum by appointment only, to those interested in his collection. You have to call him at 715-589-4425 to arrange a visit.

The Crandon Library Book Sale this weekend

The sale is Friday, June 21st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, June 22nd, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The sale is in the lower level. Our shelves are overflowing with novels of all kinds, lots of DVD movies for our many rainy days, kid's books galore, and lots of young adult books. Nothing is priced. It's all by donation. Come check us out.

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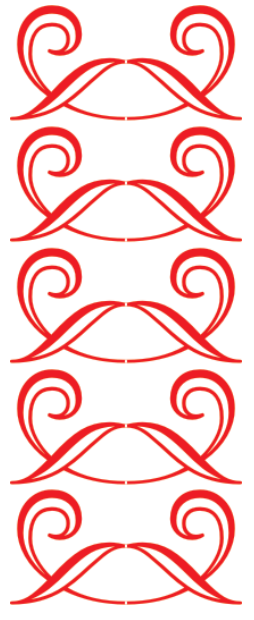
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BRUSH RUN CONT. Friday, June 21 enthusiasts young and old are encouraged to help kick-off the season with "Free Friday." Beginning at 9:00am parking and admission gates will be open for the entire day at no cost, courtesy of the Forest County Potawatomi community. The entrance gates for Camp Crandon for attendees and racers opens on Thursday, June 20 at 12:00pm noon (CST). In addition to racing, the weekend schedule includes a free concert Saturday night, June 22, for racers, campers and fans with music courtesy of Whiskey Ditch, one of Wisconsin's favorite party bands. The party starts promptly at 8:30pm at the Crandon Clubhouse pavilion and bar, located adjacent to Crandon's historic Lucas Oil Barn.

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Brush Run Cont. from pg. 1

Super Truck (SST) series, with two wins and seven podium performances. A lead instructor in at the BMW Performance Center in California, Stout has also posted 40 victories in Grand-Am, SRO World Challenge and Mazda MX-5 Cup races, along with two National Championships.

"This weekend at the Crandon Brush Run is a dream come true for me," explained Stout. "I have been watching short course off-road racing my entire life and have always wanted to compete against the best in Pro 4."

Pro and Sportsman racers will be competing for a FCP Crandon Brush Run weekend record cash purse of \$95,000, including \$30,000 for the weekend's big Forest County Potawatomi Community Cup finale.

Now in its 31st year, this prestigious tradition is an all-out battle pitting Pro 2 and Pro 4 racers on the track at the same time with a staggered start. First pioneered by Crandon International Raceway, these special races offers fans a heart-stopping spectacle. Last June Pro 4 racer CJ Greaves took home his second consecutive Forest County Potawatomi Community Cup driving his #33 Monster Energy Toyota.

The Crandon International Raceway and Forest County Potawatomi Community partnership is wholly unique. Both entities work to serve the local population and economy of Wisconsin's picturesque Forest County. Located in the state's popular Northwoods region, the area is a growing tourist destination for outdoor recreation. In 2023 that relationship was extended to include the rapidly expanding Potawatomi Casino Hotel located in Milwaukee. In addition to its relationship with the Forest County Potawatomi community, Crandon International Raceway also enjoys long-term partnerships with a distinguished list of top-tier brands including Red Bull, Polaris, Lucas Oil, MAVTV, Yokohama Tire, Fox Shox, Eibach Springs, Vision Wheel, Steel-It, Ponsse, Rugged Radio, Boxo Tools, McCoy and others.

The 2023 FCP Crandon Brush Run attracted the largest crowd in event history, and track officials expect to host even more spectators, campers and race teams this weekend. Grass sites in Camp Crandon are still available, as are a limited number of grandstands seats. All ticket information and reservations can be made directly by visiting crandonoffroad.com.

In keeping with a long-held Crandon tradition, on



RETURNING WORLD CHAMPIONS: Fans coming to this weekend's 31st FCP Brush Run races will enjoy the return of 2023 Crandon Pro Buggy World Champion Michael Meister to the highly competitive category (top). The Pro 2 unlimited truck races will include the season debut of last year's Crandon World Champion Cory Winner in his #67 Ford. (Photos: Champ Off-Road, Jason Zindroski)



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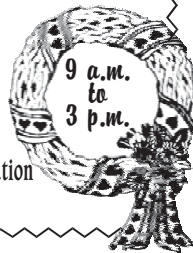
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Saturday, July 6th

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- 1st: 75 Qt. Yeti Cooler W/ Meat
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- 5th & 6th: \$100 Cash • 7th: \$50 Cash
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Tickets \$1 each or 6/\$5 • Need not be present to win. • Proceeds go towards fireworks.

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Come Join the Fun, All Invited! 4th of July Weekend on Lake Metonga

Lake Metonga Boat Parade & Picnic Friday, July 5th at Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort. Parade starts at 1PM, Registration starts at 12:15 in front of Charlie's dock, no early registration. Parade will go **CLOCKWISE** around the lake. Picnic to follow at 2 p.m.

Prizes

- 1st Place: Pizza & Drinks for 10 at Charlie's Tiki Bar
- 2nd Place: \$100 Gift Certificate to Schaefer's IGA
- 3rd Place: Gravity Chair w/ hat & T-shirt
- 4 & 5th Place: \$25 Gift Certificate from Charlies & 5 certificates to Best Wash of Crandon



Sponsored by: Lake Metonga Association

Lake Metonga Association • Crandon, WI • www.kaemetongawi.org • See us on Visit Forest County

LMA Annual Meeting will be held at the Crandon High School Auditorium on Saturday, June 29th. Doors open at 8 a.m. Meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. Sharp

Music In The Park - Elcho

- June 19-Lovin' Country
- July 3-Carl Jackson Barn Dance Band
- July 17-The Drovers
- July 31-Max Koepke Band
- August 14-Bear Creek Band
- August 28-Bobby Vintage

Bring a chair, an appetite and some thirst and enjoy the music in Elcho on the nights listed!

Townsend Watermelon Eating Contest

Nothing says summer in Wisconsin like a watermelon eating contest. Townsend will be holding a watermelon eating contest on Saturday June 29, 2024 at Oughton Park. The park is located on the shores of Pickerel Lake east of Townsend.

The event will begin at 11AM (with registration beginning at 10:30) and will conclude around 12:30. There will be 5 age groups this year to compete in. They are 1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-10, and 11-12, with participation prizes for all who compete. There will also be a fun prize for the winner of each age group competing.

Mark your calendar for June 29th. Be sure to check out Oughton Park if you need a place for a picnic, to swim, kayak and just enjoy the lake. Check it out, you will be pleasantly surprised.

If you have any questions about this event or would like to volunteer you can call Carla Van Camp at 715-850-2496.

Wolf River Rendezvous

July 20 Comedy Show New Comedians

Doors open at 5 p.m. - Show at 7:30
\$5 for Any Pizza - \$3 for Garlic Bread and sauce

\$25 in advance - \$30 at the door.

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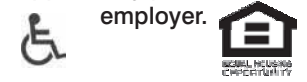
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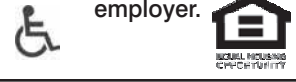


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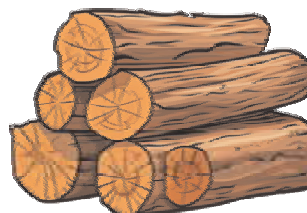
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Help protect turtles during nesting season

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages the public to help nesting turtles by following a few easy actions throughout the nesting season.

This time of year, turtles emerge from rivers, lakes and wetlands to find a spot for their nests. Wisconsin's 11 turtle species lay eggs in shallow, buried nests from late May through June, where they are often along roads and in residential yards. Drivers can help reduce turtle road mortality — a leading cause of turtle decline throughout Wisconsin — by being mindful when driving near swamps, lakes and rivers.

"When turtles are more active during nesting season, they face added risks. Some are run over by vehicles, while others face predation from raccoons, skunks and coyotes. Some protected species are also taken illegally from the wild and sold in the illegal pet trade," said Andrew Badje, DNR conservation biologist. "Protecting adult females and turtle nests in the wild is essential for conserving Wisconsin turtle populations."

Here are some ways Wisconsinites can help turtles from now through July:

- Protect nests: Follow instructions and a step-by-step video on how to build a nest cage that keeps predators out and allows hatchlings to exit on their own.
- Drive cautiously: Slow down, be alert and reduce distractions, especially on roads near wet areas, lakes and rivers.
- Share your sightings: Report turtle observations, road crossings and nest sites using the DNR's Reporting Form to help us manage and conserve turtles more effectively. You can also report suspicious illegal activity associated with turtles to the DNR's Violation Hotline online or by calling or texting 800-847-9367.
- Keep Wildlife Wild: Help protect Wisconsin's native turtles by keeping wild turtles in the wild and not releasing pet turtles.
- Donate: DNR conservation efforts for endangered and threatened species wouldn't be possible without support from the Endangered Resources Fund.

Learn more about turtles in Wisconsin on the Turtle Conservation Program webpage.

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News of Area College Students

Kassidy Ashbeck graduates from Marquette University
This past spring, Kassidy Ashbeck of Wabeno graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ashbeck earned a Master of Science degree in Psychology.

UW-Eau Claire spring dean's list announced
Laona- Elizabeth Krawze, College of Business

UW-La Crosse announces spring 2024 Dean's List
Laona- Halia Babich, Psychology Major

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More Than 700 High School Students Earn College Credit at Nicolet College

Nicolet College is proud to announce a successful 2023-24 year for its dual credit program, with 708 high school students enrolled in 3,210 credits.

Of those 708 high school students, 55 students earned technical certificates and diplomas, in nine different academic program areas, including welding, nursing assistant, and EMT. These achievements showcase the diverse and comprehensive nature of the dual credit offerings at Nicolet College.

The Start College Now program is a key part of this success because it allows high school juniors and seniors to take post-secondary courses at Nicolet College. Those students earn both high school and college credits, with tuition and materials costs covered by the school districts.

Kelsi Beran is a junior at Rhinelander High School and has already earned 12 credits at Nicolet College.

"I am currently pursuing a degree as a registered nurse, and I have just completed my first two semesters of prerequisite nursing classes," Beran said. Thanks to Start College Now, when Beran graduates from high school next year, she will be on track to begin the core Nursing program.

The Transcribed Credit program also provides a pathway for high school students to access college level courses. High school teachers, equipped with college resources and mentorship, deliver full college courses to students. Students earn college credits, while also receiving high school credits, at no cost. This cost-neutral option benefits both students and schools.

"I offer transcribed credit courses because it gives students an opportunity to see what college courses are like and to earn college credit for the work they are doing in high school," said Mischell Fryar, a business education teacher at Rhinelander High School. "For many students, taking a college course from their high school classroom seems less scary and allows them to build some academic confidence for their next level of education."

Nicolet College also offers contracted courses, allowing students to receive college-level instruction from college instructors. High school and technical colleges partner in these contracts.

"These programs are designed to save students time and money while jumpstarting their post-secondary goals," said Nicolet College Dual Credit Coordinator Sarah Gruber. "We are incredibly proud of the dedication and hard work of our students, and we look forward to continuing to provide these valuable opportunities."

For more information about dual credit opportunities during the 2024-2025 school year, please contact Sarah Gruber at sgruber@nicoletcollege.edu or 715-365-4565.

Death Notices

Sarah Lynn Bryner of Argonne passed away at home on June 12, 2024, following a courageous battle with cancer. She was 61 years old.



She was born in Rhinelander on August 15, 1962, to the late Leo and Mary (Halase) Feucht. She attended grade school in Argonne and was a 1980 graduate of Crandon High School. Following high school, she attended Nicolet Area Technical College in Rhinelander obtaining her associate's degree. As a child, she enjoyed growing up on the family dairy farm in Argonne and had a special bond with her horses. Sarah was interested in almost anything outdoors.

While in high school, she began dating her future husband, Guy Bryner. The couple were married on July 31, 1982, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Argonne. They were blessed with nearly 42 years of marriage. Soon after marriage, they moved to Platteville where they resided for 2 years. Eventually, they lived in the Fox Valley area where they raised their family and spent their working careers. Sarah worked at Voith Manufacturing in Appleton for 31 years, retiring in 2019. While working in Appleton, she and Guy would frequent their hometown of Argonne where they purchased some property in 1999 and began building their eventual retirement home.

Sarah enjoyed flower gardening, baking sweet treats for her family, decorating for the holidays (especially Christmas), going on hunting trips to New Zealand, Mexico, Scotland and Africa. She also liked to cruise around in her Mustang convertible. She spent countless hours quilting, a hobby she dearly loved, sharing her creations with many family members and friends. In addition to her husband, she is survived by sons, Zeb (Emilie) Bryner, Zac (Christina) Bryner; grandchildren Aubrey, Leo, and Masyn Bryner. She is further survived by her sister Linda Rockwell; and mother-in-law Donna Giessel, as well as many dear family members and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents Leo and Mary Feucht; brothers Bob and Larry Feucht; 3 siblings in infancy (Gloria, Barbara, and Beverly Feucht), and brother-in-law Joe Rockwell.

Visitation was held Sunday evening from 5-8pm on June 16, 2024, at Weber-Hill & Packard Funeral home in Crandon. A Mass of Christian burial followed on Monday, June 17, 2024, at 11am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Crandon. Father Kennedy Gaspar presided over Mass. Sarah was laid to rest following Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Argonne.

Online condolences can be made at www.weberhillfuneralhome.com

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A note from the three busmen (Mike, Bob & Kevin)...

Hop aboard our elder-friendly bus route to explore nearby cities with ease and comfort. Designed for the unique needs of seniors, our route boasts accessible features and a convenient schedule, ensuring a stress-free travel experience. Whether you're off to Wal-Mart, grab a bite to eat, or simply enjoy a change of scenery. Mike, Bob, and Kevin are here to make your journey smooth and enjoyable. Embrace the freedom to explore and stay connected with our eldering bus route.

Please let us know if there are any special trips on your bucket list and we will see if we can make it happen! Please call 715-784-1497 if you would like to join us for these trips or for any other rides you'd like to attend.

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY TRIPS: Forest County to Rhinelander, Antigo and Iron Mountain.

We pick you up at your home sometime between 8 and 9 a.m. and typically arrive at the destination town around 9:45.

Walmart is a popular stop but we will attempt to take you wherever you wish. Then...LUNCH!!! (Optional) We talk about where to eat and all riders are encouraged to voice their opinion. Then return home, arriving between 1:00 and 2:00 most days.

Thursday, June 20: Iron Mountain
Tuesday, June 25: Rhinelander
Thursday, June 27: Antigo

Forest County Commission on Aging Nutrition Program

SENIOR MEALS

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA

Monday - June 24 - BBQ chicken, diced seasoned potatoes, Texas caviar, multi-grain bread, pineapple cake

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK

Tuesday - June 25 - Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, oat bread, fresh mixed fruit

CRANDON, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK, WABENO

Wednesday - June 26 - Swiss steak, parsley buttered potatoes, carrots, whole wheat ead, pineapple upside down cake

ALVIN (Alvin now serving at 12:00 p.m.)

Thursday - June 20 - Bacon cheeseburger sliders, potato salad, baked beans, cookie, milk

Thursday - June 27 - Roast pork loin, baked potato, green beans, watermelon, cupcake, milk

Please register with Commission on Aging - 478-3256.

Crandon site is at 715-478-3040. 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 Wednesday.

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

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Ad _____

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:

In a recent letter to the Editor (June 3), I cited a May 2024 Newsweek article about the falling tax rate for the 400 richest Americans. Last week it elicited a response from Mr. Kohl taking issue with the article.

First, he dismissed the Treasury chart revealing a rapidly increasing debt coinciding with tax cuts as irrelevant and that there cannot be any connection.

Then in his next paragraph citing data from an OMB table (Table 3 whitehouse.gov/omb/historical-tables/) for the years after the 2001 tax cut showing that the tax revenue lagged behind government spending. It also shows that the tax cuts from 2001, 2003, and 2017 did not pay for themselves as promised. Had this tax cut produced the promised economic growth the deficit would not have been as great.

On checking the same OMB table I found some other facts on how earlier deficits were handled. If you look at earlier years on this table, the 1940s during World War II you see that the cost of the war created the greatest deficits as a percentage of GDP in our history. The cost of the war had been tremendously high. Today our debt to GDP ratio is alarming because it is near that WW II level. How did the government manage that debt and still have funds for increased educational programs, the GI Bill, and major infrastructure projects, the interstate highway system?

The answer is in the next paragraph of his letter. They had higher tax rates for high incomes during that period to pay for the war debt and the other programs.

It is notable that the same OPM table also reveals that it is still possible to have a budget surplus. For the period from 1998 to 2001, we had budget surpluses. This was possible because bipartisan negotiations resulted in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. The total surplus for those four years reduced our national debt by over \$450 billion.

This was unfortunately followed by another administration and a vice-president famously declaring "Reagan proved deficits don't matter" (Chicago Times 1/2/2004) when promoting tax cuts despite the increased cost of wars in the Middle East and in Afghanistan. A period of continual budget deficits followed until the present.

It seems counterintuitive to decrease revenues in times of war, so why do it? George W Bush was a supporter of the "Starve the Beast" STB (the Federal government) strategy. Its goal was to cut popular federal programs not by campaigning against them, but by voting for tax cuts to deprive the government of the revenue to fund these programs (Forbes 6/19/2013). However, the unintended consequence of decreasing revenue by tax cuts was to increase the number of government programs since legislators no longer had to fund their pet projects with additional taxes. Even the conservative Cato Institute (Starve the Beast: A Further Examination Vol 29. No. 3, 2009) concluded that STB was a failure and did not limit the growth of the government. The evidence shows that lower levels of revenue can lead to greater increases in spending.

These tax cuts failed to deliver the economic growth or the smaller government their sponsors claimed. They did increase our national debt. Instead of increased prosperity for all workers Federal data now shows that the top 1% now control more wealth than our entire middle class (USA Today 12/6/2023).

If you check the article from Newsweek, which was from an earlier column in The New York Times, the comparison of tax rates was made for total taxes paid not just federal income tax and it was the 400 richest Americans, not the top 1%. While some low-income individuals do not owe federal income tax there are still other taxes to pay. These can include Social Security, Medicare, sales taxes, state, property, and other local taxes. The exemption for any income over \$168,000 from the 6.2% social security tax does not benefit the low-income taxpayer as it does the rich. The Newsweek article shows because of their low income these other taxes account for a sizable percentage of their wages.

Census data reports that 24% of Forest County is 65 or older and eligible for Social Security. At the end of 2023, there were a total of 2,995 OASDI (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance) beneficiaries in our County. These payments provide funds for the recipients to live and help fuel our local economy. Any drastic cut to these payments coming into our community will negatively impact the economy as well as the individuals.

If these social programs are to survive, we need an advocate who knows and whose actions show they care about the folks in our community. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 shows that it is still possible to balance the federal budget without returning to the high-income tax rates of the WWII era. It does, however, as it did then, require tough negotiating to achieve this goal. We need someone willing to do the hard work and not just fold and foreclose on our community.

/s/ Ed Mullaney

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THANKS

To Our Dear Family and Friends,

We want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you who took the time to attend Cliff Engels' funeral and offer your condolences. Your presence meant the world to us during this difficult time and we are so grateful for the love and support you showed.

We also want to extend our sincerest thanks to those who generously gave gifts of money or flowers, or those that reached out to us through social media or Weber-Hill & Packard's website. Your kindness and thoughtfulness have brought us comfort and will always be remembered.

As we didn't have the opportunity to personally thank you each of you because we didn't have your addresses, we wanted to express our appreciation in a way that would reach all of you. Please know that your thoughtfulness has not gone unnoticed and we will always cherish the memories we shared with Cliff.

With love and appreciation,
The Family of Cliff Engels

Rummage Sales



FOR SALE: Friday & Sunday 10am-4pm Saturday 9a-11am & 1-5 pm

Marble Top Table Kitchen Table w 4 chairs. 8 ft long "Let the Good Times Roll" neon sign w/ 10 inch letters, stars & music notes, needs work! THE FOLLOWING, ALL VINTAGE! L.P.s 45 RPMs. Baseball cards, non sports cards sets, unopened packs, Pokemon cards, comic books, 50s, 60s, 70s. Horror magazines, MAD Magazines, Sci Fi magazines, DVDs, Cds, Lionels, Coins, Toys, Match Books, tools, saw blades shotgun shells, O-K fuses, flack jacket, silverware, glassware, clothing, new and vintage, purses, jewelry blanket (new)

8183 W. Pine Lake Rd. Hiles

Huge Garage Sale: Mary Jensen Residence 112 W. Lakeview St. Crandon, WI. 8A.M. Clothes - Womens Small to XL, Mens Large to XXL. House, Halloween, Christmas Decor, Lots of Lights, So Much Misc. Vacuum Cleaner & Curio Cabinet. Wednesday, June 26 - Saturday June 29. We will re-open Wednesday July 3rd and Thursday, July 4th P13

SALE:
Saturday June 22, 10am - 2 pm (Formerly On Deck Platter)
Tables, Chairs, Misc. Items.
Cash Only



Northern Lakes Conference Baseball 2024

Conference Champions: Crandon Cardinals
Player of the Year: Trent McLain - Florence Bobcats
Co-Coaches of the Year: Scott Farmer - Crandon, Frank Shepard - Laona/Wabeno

ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS

FIRST TEAM		
PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR
Caden Palubicki	Crandon	12
Mason Mullins	Crandon	12
Ryan Schunk	Crandon	12
Trent McLain	Florence	11
William Kelley	Florence	12
Ryan Ehler	Goodman/Pembin	12
Brady Shepard	Laona/Wabeno	12
Cooper Albrecht	Laona/Wabeno	09
Cruz Melton	Three Lakes / Phelps	10
*bold denotes unanimous vote		
SECOND TEAM		
PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR
Cruz Palubicki	Crandon	10
Elias Gliński	Crandon	12
Kruz Kulinski	Crandon	12
Trent Palubicki	Crandon	10
Boone VanOoyen	Laona/Wabeno	10
Walker Winkelman	Laona/Wabeno	10
Carter Flannery	Three Lakes/ Phelps	11
Josh Cogar	Three Lakes/ Phelps	12
LJ Terlizzi	Three Lakes/ Phelps	12
HONORABLE MENTION		
PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR
Mavrik Mayer	Crandon	11
Hoyt Malitz	Elcho	12
Josh Eighmy	Elcho	10
Max Lazars	Elcho	11
Brad Steber	Florence	09
Brody Hoffman	Laona/Wabeno	09

From the Forest County Health Dept. "Creative Sessions" Open Art, "Bridges" & "Journeys" June Schedule

Creative Sessions
Creative Sessions is a fun and free experience for all Forest County residents using various art forms.
June 17th - Crandon Community Building (Meal Site) 12:30 2:00 p.m.
June 18th Laona Senior Center (Meal Site) 12:30 2:00 p.m.
June 27th "Bridges" (Memory Café) 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. @ Tamarack Moon Farm 5847 Old 8 Road, Crandon

"Journeys"
"Journeys" is a creative arts program that strives to assist individuals in their healing journey after any loss.
June 17th Crandon Library (Lower Level, Room B) 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
"Creative Sessions", "Bridges", and "Journeys" require no specific artistic talent just individual self-expression no judgment involved. For more information call Lenore Blemke at 715-478-3371 or email Lenore.Blemke@co.forest.wi.us

Dining & Entertainment

SMOKING THURSDAY'S BBQ BUFFET

Starting June 20, 2024-August 29
Chef carved smoked Brisket, smoked Ribs, Pulled Pork and Smoked Sausage. Along with Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Red Potatoes, Sweet Corn, BBQ Baked Beans, Broasted Chicken, White Mac and Cheese, and Seasoned Rice. Plus Salad Bar, corn Muffins, Potato Salad, Coleslaw and Dessert all for \$24.95
\$15.95 Kid 12 & under
Serving 4:30 to 8:00 Every Thursday on the Patio Please call 715-649-3810 for reservations.

Main Street Ed's Sunday Brunch On the Patio
Starting Sunday June 23
9:00 am-1:00 pm
Broasted Chicken, BBQ Ribs, Sausage Links, Sliced Pit Ham, biscuits and Sausage Gravy, Hashbrowns, Cornbeef Hash, Scrambled Eggs, French Toast, and Syrup, Cubed Fruit, Yogurt, Salad Bar, Cinnamon Rolls, and Danish and other Desserts. \$13.95

Main Street Ed's
7909 Main St. in Argonne
715-649-3810
www.mainstreeteds.com

Conservation Corner Cont. from pg. 1

Physical methods of control include manual removal and destruction of egg masses and larvae. In August, after adult moths lay eggs, property owners can scrape off egg masses from tree trunks and branches and soak them in soapy water to kill the eggs.

Another method, is Burlap Banding. Wrapping tree trunks with burlap can trap caterpillars. Once trapped, the caterpillars can be collected and destroyed. This method is particularly useful in June and early July when larvae are actively moving. If they're in the leaves, however, it's too late.

Continuous monitoring of spongy moth populations is essential for timely and effective intervention.

Pheromone traps can attract and capture male moths, helping to monitor population levels and effectiveness of treatments. These traps are typically set up in late July and August. They can also be purchased on Amazon.

Engaging the public through education and participation in monitoring and control efforts can enhance the effectiveness of management programs. Residents can be trained to identify and report spongy moth infestations and participate in egg mass scraping and burlap banding. If you think you have an infestation, contact me and I'll come out to check and offer ideas for management/treatment.

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.

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BEEF FRANKS
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BABY CARROTS
 1 Lb. Bag

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MUSHROOMS
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COTTO SALAMI
 16 Oz. Excludes Beef

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Oscar Mayer
DELI FRESH LUNCHMEATS
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Oscar Mayer
DELI FRESH GRILLED CHICKEN STRIPS
 6 Oz.

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30						

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OR
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Reg. \$4.99
Reg. \$4.99



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Hershey
CHOCOLATE BARS
6 Ct.



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GRAHAMS
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Cans



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50¢

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A-1
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CAKE CONES
12 Ct.



99¢

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\$4.99
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\$6.99

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STEAK SAUCE
12 Oz.
2 Kinds



\$2.99

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SAUCE
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4 Kinds



\$2.99

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SAUCE
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3 Kinds



\$2.99

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JUMBO MARSHMALLOWS
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16 Oz.

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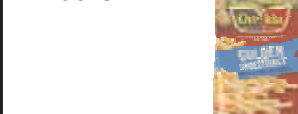
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22 - 38 Oz.



\$3.99

BOMB POPS

12 Ct.



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YOGURT CUPS**

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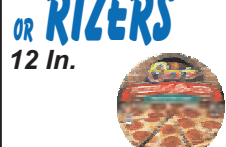
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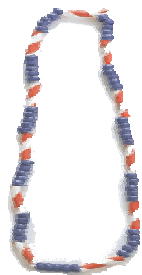
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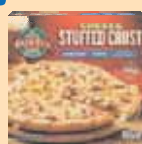
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SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR PART TIME POSITION OF OFFICE MANAGER/CLERK

JOB DESCRIPTION: The Wabeno Sanitary District is accepting applications for the part-time position of Office Manager/Clerk

NATURE OF JOB: Be able to function as an office manager assuming responsibly of the district office. Be responsible for performing clerical duties for the Board of Commissioners and administrative duties for the District office.

QUALIFICATION: Proficient computer skills in Office Product software. The District uses the Caselle Accounting System, which includes Utility Billing, Fund Accounting and Payroll. Applicant must have a good accounting background with the ability to learn this System. Clerical experience will be helpful in filling this position.

Must be able to be bonded. Have strong written and verbal communication skills and have the ability to work well with customers, contractors, Board Members and other employees. Be accountable to the Board of Commissioners for timely and accurate processing of all assigned District functions. Attend monthly meetings.

A complete job description is available at the District Office.

HOW TO APPLY: Interested candidates can pick up an application from the District office located at 1735 3rd St., Wabeno, WI. Office hours are 7:00am to Noon Monday thru Friday, Phone 715-473-2905. **A resume and the application must be submitted to the District Office by July 5, 2024; no later than 12:00 noon to be considered.**

The Wabeno Sanitary District is an Equal Opportunity employer

HELP WANTED

Powers Service Center Inc.

is now taking applications for dependable, hard working mechanics for outboard engines. If interested, Contact Vickie at

Powers Service Center Inc
 17795 Hwy 32, Townsend, WI 54175
 715-276-7170

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOREST COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY CHILD SUPPORT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION

The Forest County Child Support Agency is currently accepting immediate applications for a full-time (35 hours per week) Administrative Assistant position. Application materials, including a complete job description and summary of benefits may be obtained at www.co.forest.wi.gov, or in the County Clerk's office, Forest County Courthouse, 200 E. Madison St., Crandon, WI 54520, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For further information please call: (715) 478-2422.

Applications will be accepted and returned to the County Clerk's Office until June 21, 2024.
 Forest County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

TOWN OF WABENO HIRING for the following positions

Road Crew Worker : Part Time/Fill In

This position it is to serve as a working crew person for the Town of Wabeno Road Department when needed.

Candidate will need to carry out a variety of highway and town maintenance related tasks that include, but are not limited to:

- *Construction and Maintenance of Roadways and Parks
- *Pothole Patching
- *Culvert Installs
- *Ability to Lift and Climb
- *Ability to Operate Equipment (skidsteer, forklift, mowers, etc)

Experience preferred but not necessary . Mechanical abilities are preferred.

This position may require a flexible schedule to include evenings & some weekends.

Recycling Center & Museum: Part Time/ Fill In Employees for:

Applicants could have the opportunity to rotate between departments.

To apply for any of the above positions, contact the Town Clerk for an employment application. 715-850-1127

Applications must be submitted to the Town Clerk by June 24th at Noon.

HELP WANTED

The City of Crandon is accepting applications for one full-time position for Public Works Maintenance position, including but not limited to: streets, parks, buildings and airport. Mechanical ability and equipment experience is a plus. A Wisconsin CDL is required. Applications and job description can be picked up at City Hall at 601 W Washington St, Crandon, WI, phone 715-478-2400. Application deadline is July 31, 2024 at 4:00 pm. City of Crandon Public Works Committee



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Forest County Sheriff's Office Job Notice

Forest County Sheriff's Office is now accepting applications for Full-Time 911 Dispatcher positions

***No experience needed, we offer on the job training* \$20.41/hr and 80 hours of vacation after 1 year of employment**

QUALIFICATIONS: Must be age 18 or older, no felony convictions, have a high school diploma or GED, and have a valid Wisconsin driver's license.

SALARY & BENEFITS: 40 Hours of Vacation after 90 days, Pay Wage and Vacation time increases with longevity. Benefits include: Wisconsin Retirement Fund, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Sick Leave, Vacation Time, 9 Paid Holidays, Uniform Allowance, and Deferred Compensation.

APPLY: Application and background packet available at the Forest County Sheriff's Department or Submit Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board Form DJ-LE-330 Application. Email applications to: jmarvin@forestcountysheriff.org or awalrath@forestcountysheriff.org.
Or Mail applications to: Chief Deputy Alex Walrath
 Forest County Sheriff's Office
 100 South Park Avenue
 Crandon, WI 54520

Applications are available at the Forest County Sheriff's Office or online at <https://wilenet.widj.gov/employment/employment-opportunities/780> or at <https://wilenet.widj.gov/training-standards/officer-training-employment-and-reciprocity>

All questions on the application must be completed, including Section 6 - Questions A, B & C. Please supply your social security number on the application.
 Please supply a valid phone number & email address on your application.

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

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Forest County Sheriff's Office Job Notice

Forest County Sheriff's Office is now accepting applications for Full-Time Correctional Officers

No experience needed

\$20.41/hr and 80 hours of vacation after 1 year of employment

QUALIFICATIONS: Must be age 18 or older, no felony convictions, have a high school diploma or GED, and have a valid Wisconsin driver's license.

SALARY & BENEFITS: 40 Hours of Vacation after 90 days, Pay Wage and Vacation time increases with longevity. Benefits include: Wisconsin Retirement Fund, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Sick Leave, Vacation Time, 9 Paid Holidays, Uniform Allowance, and Deferred Compensation.

APPLY: Application and background packet available at the Forest County Sheriff's Department or Submit Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board Form DJ-LE-330 Application. Email applications to: jmarvin@forestcountysheriff.org or awalrath@forestcountysheriff.org.
Mail applications to: Chief Deputy Alex Walrath
 Forest County Sheriff's Office
 100 South Park Avenue
 Crandon, WI 54520

Applications also available at the Forest County Sheriff's Office or online at <https://wilenet.widj.gov/employment/employment-opportunities/780> or at <https://wilenet.widj.gov/training-standards/officer-training-employment-and-reciprocity>

All questions on the application must be completed, including Section 6 - Questions A, B & C. Please supply your social security number on the application.
 Please supply a valid phone number & email address on your application.

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

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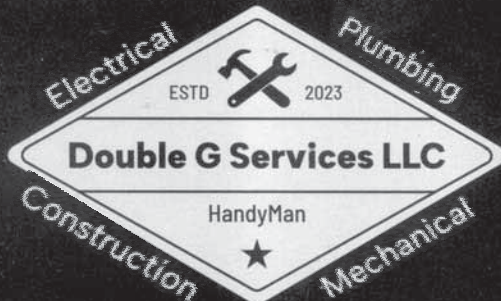
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Tobacco compliance inspections stopping underage Access to tobacco products

Nearly all commercial tobacco use begins during a person's teens and young adulthood. While the legal purchasing age for tobacco products is 21 years old, many middle school and high school youth report nicotine use.

"Preventing youth access to tobacco is crucial for the health and well-being of our communities," said Moriah Gross, WI Wins Coordinator for the Northwoods Tobacco-Free Coalition (NWTFC).

Wisconsin Wins is a statewide initiative that focuses on preventing youth access to tobacco products through retailer education, training, and inspections. NWTFC coordinates the Wisconsin Wins program in six counties Florence, Forest, Lincoln, Oneida, Price and Vilas Counties.

Year-round inspections, also known as compliance checks, help ensure underage individuals cannot purchase commercial tobacco products from local retailers. Tobacco retailers are subject to unannounced inspections from both the state's WI Wins program and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a condition of holding a tobacco license.

Retailers are a valuable line of defense in preventing youth access to commercial tobacco. Free online training is available to educate retailers and their employees about tobacco laws. The training can assist retailers in further understanding their responsibilities and how to properly comply with the law. Find the free online training and tools at WITobaccoCheck.org.

To learn more about WI Wins, visit the website wiwins.org or contact Moriah at mgross@oneidacountywi.gov.

We are thankful for the support from our valuable retailers. Together, we can help ensure tobacco remains out of the hands of our youth.

Illnesses Spread by Ticks

Forest County Public Health officials would like to remind everyone that Lyme disease is not the only tick-borne illness you are susceptible to in Wisconsin. There are eight tick-borne illnesses: Anaplasmosis being the second most common illness spread by ticks in Wisconsin. Forest County Health Officials have confirmed 3 cases of Anaplasmosis in Forest County since 05/25/2024.

Anaplasmosis, caused by a strain of bacteria and transmitted primarily by the black-legged tick (deer tick), is a prevalent tick-borne illness in Wisconsin. It is the second most commonly reported tick-borne illness in the state after Lyme disease. In 2024, Wisconsin has seen a notable increase in Anaplasmosis cases, attributed to favorable conditions for tick populations, such as milder winters and earlier springs. Symptoms of Anaplasmosis typically emerge one to two weeks after a tick bite and can include fever, chills, severe headache, muscle aches, and sometimes gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea and diarrhea. If left untreated, the illness can lead to severe complications, including respiratory failure, bleeding problems, and organ failure.

Treatment for Anaplasmosis generally involves antibiotics, with doxycycline being the most commonly prescribed. Early detection and treatment are crucial for preventing severe illness. Preventative measures include using tick repellents, wearing protective clothing, performing regular tick checks after spending time outdoors, and promptly removing any attached ticks with fine-tipped tweezers. Awareness and education on tick bite prevention are essential, particularly during peak tick activity from spring through fall. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services emphasizes the importance of prompt medical attention if symptoms develop after a tick bite, as early treatment is highly effective in managing the illness. More information on tick-borne illnesses can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tick/index.htm>

Please call 715-478-3371 with any questions or concerns.

Woods In Bloom garden club invites you to a day trip to Manitowoc's gardens

Woods In Bloom gardeners along with Westlund's Bus Lines invites you to a day trip to the Manitowoc area! We will visit West of the Lake Gardens, a public garden full of colorful annuals on the shore of Lake Michigan and then three fabulous private gardens!

We are able to tour these three beautiful private gardens that were selected by the Master Gardeners for this year's 2024 Summer Garden Walk!

On Tuesday August 6th the bus will leave Lakewood parking lot at 7:00 a.m. and return around 6:00 p.m. This one-day trip includes four garden tours, coach transportation with lunch and shopping! Your reservation may be made by sending your \$75.00 check to: Joan Sackett, 15812 Maiden Lake Rd, Mountain, WI 54149 Or by calling 715-850-0808. Join us for this colorful garden day!



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Bids & Notices

Vehicles & Heavy Equipment

Invitation for Quotes

The School Board of the School District of Wabeno Area will receive sealed quotes for the supply items listed below. All quotes must be received in the District Office located at 4346 Mill Lane, Wabeno, no later than 3:00 P.M., Thursday, July 18, 2024, either in person or by mail to: William Taylor, District Administrator, School District of Wabeno Area, Please label the quote envelopes accordingly.

Milk supplies for the 2024-2025 school year

Milk is to be delivered (1% & Fat Free Chocolate) in one-half pint cartons (approximately 110,000) per year for student use, in one-half gallon cartons (approximately 200 per year) for kitchen use, and chocolate 1% milk in one-half pint cartons (approximately 20,000 per year) for student use. If a price adjustment is expected, please include an adjustment clause in the quote. Any questions, please feel free to contact Tom Swearingen at 715.473.2592, ext. 1211. Please mark envelope **"Milk Quote"**.

Fuel for buses for 2024-2025 school year

Gasoline – Approximately 7,500 gallons conventional no-lead w/o Ethanol
 Diesel fuel – Approximately 8,000 gallons #2 w/winter blend as needed

The above must be delivered in bulk, on a keep full basis, to the School District's tanks in Wabeno. If a price adjustment is expected, the vendor should include an adjustment clause in the quote. Please submit the quote on a per gallon basis, less federal tax, based on prices on July 15, 2024, and include your price sheets for that date. Any questions, please feel free to contact Lee Mattern 715.889.0607. Please mark envelope **"Gas & Diesel Quote"**.

Propane for 2024-2025 school year

Approximately 6,500 gallons needed per year to be delivered between September 1, 2024 and August 30, 2025.
 The above must be delivered on a keep full basis (approx. every 3 weeks) to the School District's 1,000 gallon propane tank in Wabeno. If a price adjustment is expected, the vendor should include an adjustment clause in the quote. Please submit the quote on a per gallon basis, less federal tax, based on prices on July 15, 2024, and include your price sheets for that date. Any questions, please feel free to contact Lee Mattern 715.889.0607. Please mark envelope **"Propane Quote"**.

The School Board reserves the right to reject any and all quotes. The quotes will be presented at the regular school board meeting on August 7, 2024.

NOTICE TO BID

Town of Crandon
 L.R.I.P JOB

The Town of Crandon is requesting bids for Old Highway 8. Pul and Relay (20' x 3,930') Starting from Tietz Lane to Flowage Lane.
 Pulverize existing pavement
 Fine grade, water and compact pulverized material
 Pave 2.25 inches single lift asphalt pavement (1,140 Tn)
 Furnish and install 3' gravel shoulders (Aprox. 450 Ton)
 Bids to be in by July 5th, 2024
 Mail sealed bids to
 Town of Crandon
 5161 Cole Road
 Crandon, WI 54520

Norta Christmas In July Meeting (Nicolet-Oconto Retired Teachers' Association)

Save the date!!! NORTA's "Christmas in July Meeting" will be held Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at Waubee Lake Lodge in Lakewood. This is the basket raffle fundraiser for the Richard T. Lowery Educator of Excellence Awards. Help raise the money to continue this great program honoring "great" teachers. One teacher, in each of the 7 districts NORTA represents, receives recognition with a certificate and a stipend.

Come early to enjoy the company (cash bar), and buy your raffle tickets for the many donated baskets. The meal will be served promptly at noon. Cost of the meal is \$20 and this is a prepay event. Checks, made out to NORTA, can be sent to: Rita Blazewicz, 14245 Glenwood Lane, Lakewood, WI 54138. All reservations must be made by July 3rd.

Anyone is welcome to join the party. Please feel free to bring a guest/spouse/significant other. If you have questions call/text Rita at 715-850-0097. Hope to see you July 17th at Waubee Lake Lodge in Lakewood.

News of Area College Students

Kassidy Ashbeck graduates from Marquette University

This past spring, Kassidy Ashbeck of Wabeno graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ashbeck earned a Master of Science degree in Psychology.

UW-Eau Claire spring dean's list announced

Laona- Elizabeth Krawze, College of Business

UW-La Crosse announces spring 2024 Dean's List

Laona- Halia Babich, Psychology Major

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2007 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4	\$6,550
2007 Jeep Liberty Sport 4x4	\$4,995
2006 Ford F150 XL 4X4	\$6,995

Seeing Double: understanding and addressing Double Vision

Eyesight is a precious gift we rely on every day for tasks big and small. From pouring morning coffee to driving to work, our eyes play a crucial role in navigating the world around us. However, for some, our eyes struggle to keep up with the demand, resulting in blurred or double vision by the end of the day.

In recognition of Low Vision Awareness Month in February, Amanda Whipple, an occupational therapist specializing in low vision rehabilitation at Aspirus Plover Clinic, and Kaylin Kostuchowski, an occupational therapy graduate student at Carroll University completing her internship with Aspirus, emphasize the importance of acknowledging visual impairments that extend beyond traditional corrective measures like glasses, contacts, medicine, or surgery.

"These impairments can significantly impact our ability to perform everyday tasks," notes Whipple. "For some, reading or performing close work can cause headaches, blurred, or even double vision. There are many causes for these symptoms; but sometimes, it is a matter of the eye muscles not being strong enough to perform these tasks for as long as needed."

Double vision, or diplopia, can present in different forms, including side-by-side, overlapping, or diagonal images. Whipple and Kostuchowski identify common causes:

Muscle Weakness: Fatigued eye muscles struggle to coordinate, resulting in blurred or doubled vision. This fatigue may also trigger headaches when the eyes exert themselves excessively.

Convergence Insufficiency: Impaired nerve or muscle function can lead to the splitting of images. This condition, common in individuals with Parkinson's disease or children with coordination difficulties, hampers the eyes' ability to focus together, particularly on nearby objects.

"Convergence insufficiency is common in individuals with Parkinson's disease or children facing coordination challenges," explains Kostuchowski. "After trauma, like neurosurgery or concussion, one eye may tire and drift outward when trying to focus on an object, leading to blurred or double vision."

Digital Eye Strain: Prolonged screen exposure can strain the eyes, resulting in blurred vision, diplopia, or headaches. This has contributed to a rise in diagnoses of convergence insufficiency and diplopia in recent years.

"When children struggle with close tasks like reading or homework, it can interfere with their learning process," adds Whipple. "Similarly, adults may encounter difficulties reading labels at the grocery store, managing their medications, or paying their bills, affecting their daily routines."

To combat these challenges, low vision rehabilitation offers promising solutions. It can help retrain the eyes and brain to work together more efficiently, strengthening visual pathways and enhancing daily tasks like reading, writing, and driving.

Whipple emphasizes the importance of consulting an eye doctor before participating in low vision therapy, ensuring the eyes are healthy and ready for rehabilitation.

If you feel that your visual impairments have been keeping you from living life to its fullest, reach out to a specially trained occupational therapist today to see the difference it can make. To schedule an appointment with Whipple, call Aspirus Plover Clinic-Plover Road at 715.295.3800.

Old Times Sake



These are the businesses that built towns back in the early lumbering era. This is a picture of the Jones Lbr. Company sawmill. It employed people and helped build Wabeno, even though there were a lot less trees when they were done. The Wabeno Grade School sets in this spot today. This picture was on the wall in the Grand Plank Hotel in Wabeno, and Ceil Gayheart was nice enough to let us copy it.

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