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# Pioneer Express

Serving the Headwaters Region of Northeast Wisconsin

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Volume 35, No. 45, February 15, 2021 (715) 478-3640 or 1-800-234-2152 Fax: (715) 478-3540 email: pionexp@newnorth.net

#### Forest County snowmobile trails and ski trails all open

Snowmobile Report:

All Forest County State Funded Snowmobile Trails will be fully open at 8am Saturday, February 6, 2021. The trails are groomed and in good condition with a 5 inch

Cross Country Ski Trails:

All Forest County Cross Country Ski Trails are open and will be groomed early next week.

Please go to http://forestcountywi.com to view maps and locations of the trails

#### Blast From the Past Vintage Snowmobile Weekend in Mountain

Chute Pond Snowmobile Club will be hosting the Blast From the Past Vintage Snowmobile Weekend on Friday and Saturday, March 5 & 6, 2021, Friday March 5,

Vintage ride (non-vintage also welcome) leaves from Waters Edge on Anderson Lake, 12058 Hwy 32, Suring WI at 11:00 am Friday, March 5th. Return later for a perch/walleye/ shrimp/chicken plate/buffet dinner- \$15. Bucket raffles and more. Advanced reservations are required, public is welcome. Call Deb @ 920-373-8578 to reserve your spot.

Saturday March 6, 2021 Blast From the Past Vintage Show and Swap Meet at Skinny Dave's 12848 Hwy 32/64 Mountain from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. No cost to enter sled(s) or for spectators. Registration 9:00 a.m.noon. Vintage sled raffle drawing at noon. Trophy presentations follow the judging. Food and beverages available at Skinny Dave's. Outdoor ALL MEAT NO FILLERS raffle, bucket raffles, kids prizes, and more. Call Kevin for more details 920-373-8579.

#### 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.

#### **Poster Contest**

The Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association's annual Conservation Poster and Speech Contest has concluded at the local and Regional level. This year's poster theme was Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities. Each student that entered the poster contest or speech contest had a chance to advance to the regional and then onto state contest representing Forest County.

All of our entries came from the Crandon School District. The posters were judged by Forest County Courthouse employees. Cassidy Neilitz was able to meet the winners and present trophies to the winners. Our appreciation to Nicole Hansen and her art class from Crandon, who brought in some great posters.

#### Rep. Mursau and others on the Governor's mask mandate

Earlier today, (Feb. 4) the Wisconsin State Assembly passed SJR 3, a resolution that formally repeals the governor's COVID-19 public health emergency order, and in turn, the extension of his statewide mask mandate.

We are a group of legislators from Northeast Wisconsin and we are writing this letter to explain why we joined a handful of our colleagues in voting against the resolution.

We, the undersigned, believe that Gov. Evers' continued issuance of emergency order extensions, including his mask mandate, is likely illegal. However, it is the responsibility of the judicial branch - not the legislative branch - to make that determination. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has had this case for more than two months and we implore them to make a ruling as to whether or not the governor had the authority to issue his most recent order without legislative approval.

We need that legal clarity, because without it, the governor could continue to implement additional emergency orders every time the full Legislature passes a resolution, including SJR 3. This potential never-ending cycle of orders and resolutions would certainly be detrimental to the spirit of compromise, especially now when we are trying to focus our energies on agreeing to a comprehensive COVID-19 relief package that everyone can get behind.

Regardless of the Supreme Court's decision on this case, we are asking the governor to issue his mask quidance through the normal, legal administrative rule process, thus allowing the Legislature to appropriately and constitutionally provide input on this important matter. Mask-wearing has become entirely too political and working with the Legislature in a bipartisan manner would certainly contribute to public acceptance and compliance. Until we are able to reach an agreement, we do not believe it is prudent to remove the emergency order and mask mandate. More than 50 organizations representing the healthcare industry, businesses and churches have asked that we not remove the mandate at this time. We find it impossible to ignore the overwhelming concerns of these

Furthermore, our research has shown that Wisconsin may potentially lose \$49 million per month in enhanced FoodShare benefits for low-income families and seniors if we do not have an emergency plan in place. While a proposal has been brought forward to work around this predicament, it is shaky at best. As a final and future concern shared by the undersigned, we fully expect the Biden administration to require a statewide mask mandate as a condition of receiving future federal CARES Act funding.

While no one enjoys wearing a mask, it is a very temporary and relatively minor inconvenience. To the best of our knowledge, there has not been a single resident who has been cited for not wearing a mask under Evers' order. With so much at stake, from both a healthcare and financial standpoint, and so much that is unknown at this time, we believe that it would be irresponsible to repeal the mandate now without a proper alternative.

The end of the COVID-19 pandemic is well within sight. If we can be smart and behave responsibly, we will return to a life that is close to normal by summer. Now is not the time to further politicize this issue. We encourage Gov. Evers to work with the Legislature so we can come up with a strategy that we can all support and see across the finish

Sincerely, Rep. Joel Kitchens, 1st Assembly District; Rep. Jeffrey Mursau, 36th Assembly District; Rep. David Steffen, 4th Assembly District, Rep. Ron Tusler, 3rd Assembly District

#### 916 cases of covid-19 (4 active) confirmed in Forest County

Forest County Public Health officials have confirmed additional persons have been diagnosed with novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19) for a total of 916 cases in Forest County. County health officials and local partners are contacting others with whom the individuals who tested positive had close contact with. As of today, Forest County has 4,240 negative test results. There are currently 4 active cases in isolation, 890 released from isolation, 0 hospitalized, and 25 deaths related to COVID-

The Forest County Health Department encourages community members to minimize their contact with others by staying home when possible, practice physical distancing and good personal hygiene, wear a mask or cloth face covering, and stay alert for symptoms of COVID-19. If you are experiencing any symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, please contact your health care provider and ask to be

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

#### Forest County COVID vaccine update

The Forest County Health Department continues to help provide COVID-19 vaccine to frontline healthcare personnel, EMS, those who provide direct patient service or other healthcare services, law enforcement, fire personnel, and anyone 65 and older.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has announced the following groups to be eligible tentatively starting March 1st, 2021:

- Educators and child care
- Individuals enrolled in Medicaid long-term care programs
- Some public facing essential workers including 911 operators, utility and communications infrastructure, public transit, and food supply chain
  - Non-frontline essential health care personnel
- Congregate living facility staff and residents

FCHD receives weekly vaccine allocations from the state. Individuals will then be scheduled based on our allocation and eligibility. We will continue to share more information about vaccine availability for other individuals and as it becomes available from DHS.

If you are interested in receiving the vaccine, please call our office at 715-478-3371. You can also contact your healthcare provider to ask about vaccine availability.

To help keep our community members safe, please continue to practice every day preventative measures including:

- Practice physical distancing
- Wear a mask in public
- Wash your hands frequently
- Avoid large gatherings
- Stay home if you are sick and contact your healthcare provider to be tested.

You can learn more about Wisconsin's vaccination planning https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccineabout.htm

Happy Valentine's Day from all of us at the Pioneer Express! May Valentine's Day 2022 be healthier and happier!



# Bids & Notices

School District of Wabeno Area Regular School Board Meeting Wednesday, January 6, 2021 High School Library - Wabeno Jr./Sr. High School

School Board President, Dave Seeber, called the meeting to order at 6:14 P.M. Board members present: Dave Seeber, Katryna Van Eperen (virtually), Trinity Shepard, Dawn Jakubiec, Janet Opiela, Lori Mattern, and Dan Christianson. Administration: Jeffrev Walsh. District Administrator, William Taylor, Jr./Sr. High School Principal. Tim Brauer, Elementary Principal, and Robert Tucker, Director of Pupil Services. Others Present: Diane Ashbeck, Joe Westimayer, Myra Van Zile

Verification of Meeting Notice (Compliance with Open Meeting Law Notification (Wis.Stats. 19.84(2)).

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Dan Christianson seconded by Lori Mattern to approve the Amended Agenda. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion made by Lori Mattern seconded by Trinity Shepard to approve the Regular School Board Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2020. Carried 6 to 0. Janet Opiela abstained.

Motion made by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Dan Christianson to approve the Special School Board Meeting minutes of December 16, 2020. Carried 6 to 0. Dave Seeber abstained.

Motion by Dave Seeber seconded by Katryna VanEperen to approve the payment of vouchers by general checks 81624 to 81748 for \$231,455.23 and payroll checks 900041937 to 900042252 for \$315,247.73, and a state tax, 941 tax, and employee trust fund electronic transfer for \$158,058.96. Carried 7 to 0.

Jeffrey Walsh, District Administrator, William Taylor, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Tim Brauer, Elementary Principal, and Robert Tucker, Director of Pupil Services, shared updates and upcoming events with the Board.

Dave Seeber extended his condolences to Deb Kruger, Title VI Coordinator, on the passing of her husband, Martin Kruger.

NEOLA Policy 2112.02 (Tribal and Parent Involvement) - no action required.

Motion by Trinity Shepard seconded by Dan Christianson to accept the annual audit report as presented by Jackie Nielson of Kerber-Rose (via phone). Carried 7 to 0. Motion by Lori Mattern seconded by Katryna VanEperen to approve the Open Enrollment spaces presented for the 2021-2022 school year. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Katryna VanEperen seconded by Dan Christianson to approve administrative contract rollovers for all four administrators effective January 31, 2021. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Dan Christianson to approve hiring Stephanie Schoettler as a part-time daycare employee. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Dan Christianson seconded by Dave Seeber to approve a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$2,500,000 per Year for Five Years for NonRecurring Purposes beginning in the 2022-2023 School Year. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Trinity Shepard seconded by Dan Christianson to Approve a Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$2,500,000 per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes beginning in the 2022-2023 School Year. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Dan Christianson to go into closed session at 6:49 P.M. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) (e). Roll call vote: Dave Seeber, yes; Katryna VanEperen, yes; Janet Opiela, yes; Lori Mattern, yes; Dawn Jakubiec, yes; Trinity Shepard, yes; and Dan Christianson, yes. Carried 7 to 0.

The board may convene in closed session for the purpose of:

- a. Discuss and take possible action regarding a daycare employee who has not met requirements for licensure and Administration's recommendation of termination.
- b. District Administrator Evaluation and possible contract rollover.

Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Trinity Shepard to return to open session at 8:50 P.M. to announce or take action, if any, and if appropriate on items discussed in closed session. Roll call vote: Dave Seeber, yes; Katryna VanEperen, yes; Janet Opiela, yes; Lori Mattern, yes; Dawn Jakubiec, yes; Trinity Shepard, yes; and Dan Christianson, yes. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Dan Christianson to adjourn at 8:50 P.M. Carried 7 to 0.

Lenora Mattern, District Clerk

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF LAONA**

**Notice is hereby given that on March** 2nd, 2021 at 6:30pm at the Laona Community Building, 5233 Beech Street, there will be a public hearing on a proposed Resolution No. 2021 1 to place the Town of Laona under the jurisdiction of the Forest County Comprehensive Zoning Code of Ordinances, A copy of the proposed resolution can be viewed at the Laona Town Hall 5146 Linden Street. Laona.

**Erin Lane, Clerk/Treasurer** 

#### Wabeno School **Breakfast Menu** Feb. 15-19

Monday - Scrambled eggs, bacon, tator tots, cantaloupe wedges, strawberry bagels, fruit juice, milk

Tuesday - Breakfast pizza, pineapple chunks, fruit juice, milk

Wednesday - Delivered meals

Thursday - Breakfast quesadilla, hash brown patties, strawberries, fruit juice, milk

Friday - No School

#### Wabeno School **Lunch Menu** Feb. 15 - 19

Monday - Crispitos, Spanish rice, corn, Scooby snacks. fruit cup, garden bar, milk

Tuesday - Corn dogs, tator tots, baked beans, Mandarin oranges, garden bar, milk

Wednesday -Delivered meals

Thursday - Lasagna, bread stick, cheesy broccoli, tropical fruit, garden bar, milk Friday - NO School

#### HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT ESSENTIAL

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#### Wabeno Men's **Bowling League**

Week 16 2/1& 2/2 Rapids Resort 54.5 Tony's Redi Mix 53 Laona State Bank 2 45 Big T 44 Hillcrest Lodge 44 Wildcat 42 Wabeno Bowl 2 39 Cassidys Café 365.5 High Game: Justin Bartlein 233 High Series: Justin Bartlein 654 HDCP Game: Ken Huettl 284 **HDCP Series: Justin Bartlein** Pizza Winner: Hillcrest Lodge

2733

High Average: Kevin Mueller 195

Justin Bartlein 195 Mike Exferd 193





#### **Invitation for Quotes**

The School District of Wabeno Area is requesting sealed quotes for lawn care. Quotes will be accepted either in person at the District Office, located in the Elementary Building, 4346 Mill Lane, Wabeno, WI 54566 or by mail no later than 3:00 P.M. on Friday, February 19, 2021 to: Jeffrey Walsh, District Administrator, P.O. Box 460, Wabeno, WI 54566. Please mark envelope "Lawn Care Quote".

The lawn care provider must provide proof of liability insurance with the quote. Lawn care quotes should be written to reflect monthly charges. Lawn care is required for a period of six months and the District will make payments for the service once a month for the months of May through October.

Lawn is to be mowed and trimmed around the elementary and high school buildings, elementary playground, the lot next to the bus garage, and the area around the parking lots. Lawn is also to be mowed and trimmed at the football and baseball fields (behind the elementary school) and at the softball field (located downtown).

The lawn care provider is expected to check on the lawn and mow

regularly, keeping the grounds looking neat and well kept.

For further questions about this quote, contact Lee Mattern, Transportation/Maintenance Director, at 715.889.0607.

The School Board reserves the right to reject any and all quotes.

#### Laona Board of Education Regular School Board Meeting Monday, February 15, 2021 at 5:30 pm C.L. Robinson Elementary School

Virtual Meeting for the public.

If you would like to join the virtual meeting please contact Mr. Bradley before 4:00 PM on Monday, February 15, 2021 at jbradley@laona.k12.wi.us. He will send you the link and information to join the meeting.

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance Jim Aschinger
- 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. Senior Class Trip Update
- B. Junior Class Prom Update
- C. Class of 2021 Valedictorian and Salutatorian
- D. Commencement Speaker for the Class of 2021 Graduation
- E. Second Friday Count in January
- F. AGR Fall Semester Report G. Building Usage
- H. Approval of 2021-2022 School Calendar I. Transportation Bids
- J. New Garage/Concrete Bids K. New Garage/Building Bids
- L. New Garage/Electrical Bids
- M. New Garage/Garage Door Bids
- N. JH Boys Basketball
- O. New Coaching Contract Approvals
- P. Personnel
- Q. Negotiations 7. Informational Items:
- A. Business Manager's Report
- B. Elementary Principal's Report
- C. Administrator/HS 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.

- 4. Personnei
- 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. This will be a virtual meeting for the public due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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

## Steps to obtain an ID to vote

Most Wisconsin voters already have some form of ID needed to vote, including a Wisconsin driver license or ID. There is no separate "voter ID" and a federally compliant REAL ID card is not required for voting purposes. The Wisconsin Elections Commission explains the acceptable options to bring to the polls on its website.

The first stop for voters looking to get their first Wisconsin ID should be the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) website at wisconsindmv.gov/idcards.

Next, bring the required documents to apply. Certain documents, such as a birth certificate, proof of identity and Wisconsin residency, are necessary to obtain an official Wisconsin ID card. If all documentation is not readily available, the ID Petition Process (IDPP) can be used to obtain a receipt valid for voting while the remaining documents or verifications are obtained. The voter should bring any documentation available to the DMV and complete the required application.

Finally, a receipt valid for voting purposes will be provided and can be used to show at the polls.

DMV offers this IDPP service and ID card for voting purposes free of charge. Anyone who doesn't have an ID to vote in the spring election should start the process now. DMV's toll-free voter ID hotline at (844) 588-1069 is available for questions on obtaining an ID to vote. Questions regarding voter eligibility, poll locations, voter registration information or other election information can be directed to the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

DMV's website has a locator to find the nearest DMV and check wait times.

## **Crandon Elementary** 4K Enrollment Day

This is a day to enroll your child in the School District of Crandon's 4K program.

- Only the child to be screened and one adult should attend •All children 4 years of age by September 1, 2020 who have not already participated in a 4K open house
- · Bring child's birth certificate and immunization record
- Monday, February 22nd, 2021
- 10:00am 3:00pm
- Crandon Elementary School (Use District Office entry
- District office will buzz you into the building
- Please sit in one of the available chairs strategically placed
- COVID precautions will be implemented

## **Developmental Screening**

The School District of Crandon is required to locate, identify, and evaluate all children, with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools in the school district, and homeless children. The process of locating, identifying, and evaluating children with disabilities is known as child find. This agency conducts the following child find activities each year, developmental screenings of preschool children.

- Only the child to be screened and one adult should attend
- All children ages 3-5 who are not currently enrolled in 4K or KG
- · Monday, February 22nd, 2021
- 10:00am 3:00pm
- Crandon Elementary School (Use District Office entry doors) District office will buzz you into the building.
- No additional paperwork is needed
- COVID precautions will be implemented

## **FOREST COUNTY, WISCONSIN INVITATION TO BID** C.H.I.-D. PROJECT

The Forest County Highway Department will be accepting sealed bids for pulverization, prepping/final grading & Asphaltic Concrete mixture, paver laid asphalt 3" depth after compaction on 13,875'x 20' wide of County Road P. This project will start 400 ' West of Hagerman Lane heading towards Highway 32/55N. All materials must meet State of Wisconsin Specifications. Asphalt mixture should be E-0.3, 12.5 mm or E-1.0 12.5

Verification sheets will be required - please include all costs associated with testing in your proposal. All asphalt driveways are to be saw cut& butt joints. This project must be complete by June 24, 2021.

Bidders shall separate all costs and specify the total tonnage amount with the cost of the price per ton laid on the road, (changes or additional charges will not be accepted unless a written change order is approved with the commissioner prior to the project) Send Bids to:

Forest County Highway Department 5350 County Road W Crandon, WI 54520

The sealed proposals will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on March 9, 2021, with the proposals being opened at the regularly scheduled Highway Committee meeting on March 10, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

The Forest County Highway Committee reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to accept any proposal, or portion thereof, which they deem to be most advantageous to Forest County

By order of the Forest County Highway Department Bill Anderson, Commissioner Forest County Highway Department

# THE SECRET IS OUT....



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#### **School District of Wabeno Area PL81-874 Impact Aid Meeting Minutes** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 High School Library - Wabeno Junior High / **High School**

Meeting was called to order by School Board President, Dave Seeber, at 6:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Dave Seeber, Trinity Shepard, Dawn Jakubiec, Lori Mattern, Janet Opiela, and Dan Christianson. Administration: Jeffrey Walsh, District Administrator, William Taylor, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Tim Brauer, Elementary Principal, and Robert Tucker, Director of Pupil Services.

Board Members Absent: Katryna Van Eperen

Others present: Myra Van Zile, Frankie Bath, Joe Westimayer, Diane Ashbeck

No corrections were made to the January 8, 2020 meeting minutes. Jeffrey Walsh explained the Impact Aid

Jeffrey Walsh was not contacted regarding any changes to School Board Policy 2112.01-Tribal and Parental Involvement.

**Building Updates:** 

Bids & Notices

Elementary School Principal, Tim Brauer, reported on American Indian participation, events, and goals at the Elementary School.

Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Bill Taylor, reported on American Indian participation, events, and goals at the Jr./Sr. High School.

Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Dan Christianson to adjourn at 6:08 p.m.

Lenora Mattern, District Clerk

# **Wolf River Pharmacy** now offers FREE COVID TESTING Call for an appointment 715-478-3369

#### Forest Service waives day-use fees on Presidents Day

Rhinelander, Wis., Feb. 10, 2021-The USDA Forest Service will waive fees at day-use recreation sites on Monday, Feb. 15, in recognition of Presidents Day. For the winter recreation season on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, this fee waiver applies to some trailheads, where visitors may normally pay a \$5 day-use fee.

"The national forest offers many opportunities to get outside for adventure, exercise or simply fresh air," said Acting Forest Supervisor Dawn Laybolt. "We hope this holiday waiver provides a bit of encouragement to get out and enjoy our national public lands."

Across the country, the fee waiver applies to many national forest picnic areas, boat launches, trailheads, and visitor centers. Fees for camping, cabin rentals, heritage expeditions or other permits still apply. Recreation sites operated by concessionaires will also continue to charge fees unless the individual manager chooses to participate in the holiday waiver.

Most days of the year, visitors to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest must pay a day-use fee of \$5 per vehicle at most developed beaches, boat launches, picnic areas and trailheads. The forest provides envelopes for making on-site payments, or visitors may purchase an annual vehicle pass for \$30 through ranger district offices and local pass sale vendors.

Fourth and fifth grade students can get a free pass through the Every Kid Outdoors program. Veterans, Gold Star Family members, and active military personnel and their dependents are also eligible for free access to national forests. More information about national passes is available online at https://go.usa.gov/xAz2m.

The Forest Service manages 193 million acres of public lands and more than 3,000 world-class outdoor recreation areas, facilities and programs. Visitors may enjoy year-round, fee-free access to 98 percent of national forests and grasslands as well as two-thirds of developed recreation sites.

More information about the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is available on the forest's website at https://www.fs.usda.gov/cnnf/ or social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter.

# **AREA EVENTS**

# **Gun & Knife Show**

**Sagola Township Sportsmen's** Club

Friday, Feb. 12th, 3 p.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13th, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 5 Miles North of Channing, MI on Sawyer Lake Road

\$5 Admission-12 & Under Free **Food Available** Tables \$25 Each with Setup Friday after 10 a.m. Saturday after 7 a.m.

For Questions, Call Paul at 906-542-3416

Email: protter@live.com



104 W. Madison St. Crandon Wed. 6:45 P.M. & Sunday 10 A.M.

715-784-6140 or gracelifecrandonwi@yahoo.com





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**PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 4, FEBRUARY 15, 2021** 

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#### Governor's Task Force unveils innovative proposals to strengthen retirement security for Wisconsin workers and families

MADISON, Wis. - State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski and the Governor's Task Force on Retirement Security released today five innovative, bipartisan, and cost-effective solutions to ensure Wisconsinites can retire with financial security and peace of mind -- including a brand-new program for Wisconsinites to save at birth and a state-facilitated retirement plan for nearly one million Wisconsinites without access to a plan through their employer.

The new policy proposals are the centerpiece of the final report of the Retirement Security Task Force report, which Governor Evers created in September 2019 with Executive Order #45, and appointed Treasurer Godlewski as chairwoman.

The Task Force solutions represent a holistic approach to retirement savings and financial security, and feature the following proposals:

WisconsinSaves is a simple, plug-and-play auto-IRA enrollment program for Wisconsin businesses of all sizes, which would utilize best practices to extend access to retirement savings to nearly 1 million Wisconsinites who do not currently have access.

401 (K) ids sets our future generations up for success by providing every child born in Wisconsin with a target-date investment account to build long-term wealth and provide meaningful financial education. Nearly 60,000 kids born each year would access the benefits of compound interest and a life-long savings tool they could use to build wealth, buy their first home, pay for education, and save for retirement.

Emergency Savings structure that ensures Wisconsin workers have rainy day funds

and don't need to tap into retirement savings when the unexpected happens.

Incentivize Participation in Workplace Plans to encourage Wisconsin employers who currently offer retirement plans for employees to utilize auto-enrollment to maximize participation.

Interactive E-Commerce Portal would serve as a centralized, trusted source of information for retirement savings and other financial needs.

"When we started this task force, Wisconsin was facing a retirement crisis, and the

impact of COVID-19 has only made things worse and exposed the financial fragility far too many Wisconsinites face," said Treasurer Godlewski. "The solutions laid out in our Retirement Security Task Force report will ensure Wisconsinites are more financially resilient and can retire with dignity as we rebuild our economy."

Current projections show if nothing is done Wisconsin will have over 400,000 seniors living in poverty by 2030, and the state will need to spend \$3.5 billion more on programs relating to senior care. The solutions outlined in the report are designed to be sustainable, with minimal or no cost to taxpayers. These solutions would improve the quality of life for Wisconsinites when they retire and save the state money.

We know that too many Wisconsinites not only are anxious about saving for retirement but might lack the tools or support they need to reach their financial goals. Folks deserve to retire with peace of mind," said. Gov. Evers. "I am appreciative of the task force's good work bringing people together to help find solutions to improve the financial health and wellness of hardworking Wisconsinites across our state so they can safeguard their futures."

"It is incredibly important that we ensure Wisconsinites have access to retirement savings options, but once you do that, the job is only half done. By incentivizing employers that already offer savings programs to move from an opt-in model to an opt-out model, expanding on existing tools and resources, and moving retirement savings information to a comprehensive online resource, we can make it simpler for Wisconsinites to be retirement ready," said Representative John Macco.

"Wisconsin has the opportunity to lead in addressing its retirement security crisis with the recommendations announced today," said AARP Wisconsin Advocacy Director Lisa Lamkins. "Many Wisconsinites are working as hard as ever, but have no way to save for retirement at work. AARP is excited for the WisconsinSaves proposal which would empower Wisconsinites to save their own money for retirement, and also save taxpayer dollars in the long run. We look forward to working with the Governor, State Treasurer, and Legislature to implement these recommendations and ensure every Wisconsinite has the chance at a financially secure retirement."

The proposals put forward by Governor Evers Retirement Security Task Force will change lives. Giving every Wisconsinites the tools to save money, whether for retirement or for an unforeseen emergency, makes our economy, our people, and our state stronger," said State Representative Evan Goyke. "These proposals will make Wisconsin an innovator and a magnet for opportunity, while also directly addressing disparities and immediate economic challenges. It has been an honor to serve on the Task Force and I look forward to legislative action to make these proposals become law."

Cooperative Network fully supports the recommendations of the Retirement Security Task Force," said Jennifer Wickman, Government Affairs Director for the Cooperative Network. "As a trade association representing cooperatives from twelve different business sectors, we know that cooperatives are a vital component of rural prosperity. Furthermore, fundamental to all agricultural cooperatives is the financial wellbeing of farmers. Retirement is a key component of that financial wellbeing."

The Retirement Security Task Force comprises a diverse coalition of small business owners, retirees, lawmakers, state officials, and workers. The group developed these groundbreaking proposals after hearing from Wisconsinites at listening sessions, conducting exhaustive research, completing a robust series of meetings, and consulting with experts to develop this menu of innovative solutions.

More information on the task force and full task force report can be found here.



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**CRANDON:** Leave the shoveling and snow plowing to us! 1 bedroom apartments available at the Glenview Senior Apartments. Specifically built for persons 62 years of age or older, handicapped/disabled individuals regardless of age. Rent is based on 30% of your gross adjusted income or \$545.00 if rental assistance is not available and includes water, sewer, garbage pickup, HEAT, major appliances, off street parking and laundry facilities. We accept vouchers. Call 1-800-938-3229 for an application or more information. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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FOR SALE: Very nice casual sofa and love seat. Excellent condition. \$150.00 Located on North

shore of Lake Metonga. Call

within 15 miles of Crandon.

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920-606-8863.

For Old Time's Sake



It is winter in the Northwoods. It was back in about 1915 when this photo was taken. The man's name is lost to time, but at a glance it is easy to see that the company store of the Page & Landeck Lumber Company has been turned to Page Mercantile. That means that the lumber company was now Keith & Hiles, with Mr. Page running the store as his business. This is now the Subway in Crandon on the left of the building and Group Therapy on the right.

The brick building on the right of Page Mercantile was the Shaw building, but that was lost to fire early in the 20th century. The long gone Park Hotel is to the far right.

If running a snow blower wears you out, thing back to this time, when a snow blower was actually a snow thrower. That is, a shovel with a human on the end of the

# PIONEER EXPRESS

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# 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.

#### **Randon Acts of Kindness**

Random Acts of Kindness week is February 14th to the 20th. Please be kind to the earth, keep your word, and be gentle and kind to one another. Kindness is a power we all have; we just need to decide to use it. Happy Valentine's Day and stay safe.

Jan Leschke

#### Felzkowski Votes in Favor of COVID-19 Relief

Madison, WI- On Friday, the State Senate convened in Extraordinary Session to pass the much needed COVID-19 relief bill that will help our communities safely re-open and protect those who choose to do so. Without AB 1, the state will revert back to the one-week waiting period for unemployment compensation and lose the federal funds that pay for half of that first week. It also contains the following crucial provisions:

- \* Ensuring SeniorCare covers the COVID-19 vaccine
- \* Forcing the Governor to take action on addressing the disaster at the Department of Workforce Development
- \* Prohibiting mandatory COVID-19 vaccines by
- employers or local health officers
- \*Allowing families to visit compassionate care patients in nursing homes
- \*Continue to receive COVID-19 testing resources from the federal government
- \*Creating civil liability so our schools and businesses can safely re-open
- \*Returning kids to school sports
- \*Allowing prescription order extensions
- \* Keeping our places of worship open
- \*Extending the property tax deadline

Senator Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) commented: "I'm looking forward to Governor Evers signing this bill into law and putting his money where his mouth is. We have the ability to safely re-open our communities and the provisions in AB1 will help us do just that. Those who are unemployed due to the pandemic need to be assured that they'll receive their UI funds on time. Our seniors need to know that their vaccines will be covered. Our schools, businesses, and places of worship need to know that they can open without the fear of frivolous litigation. And our constitutional rights need to be protected. The Governor needs to sign AB1 for all the people of Wisconsin."

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# **Death Notices**



Bradey Lee Burnett-Weber, age 26, passed away on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Wausau, Wl. due to complications from Covid-19. Bradey was born on July 5, 1994, in Rhinelander, Wl. and was adopted at birth by Christina Weber and Donald Burnett.

Bradey attended Crandon School District and graduated in 2012. Bradey's dream was to become a Rap Artist. He wrote numerous songs. The love he had for his family shows in the name he chose for his rap name, 715 Family RWF.

Bradey left a lasting impact on everyone he crossed paths with.

If you were in need of anything, from a hug to a simple smile, Bradey's generosity and loving heart was sure to uplift your mood, whatever that may have been.

Bradey is survived by his parents, Christina Weber and Donald Burnett. His birth parents Tanya Burnett and Wendell Beson. Brothers, Jedidiah Burnett-Kegley, Eliith Stager, Christopher Stager, and Gerald McGeshick-Kegley. He is further survived by Grandparents, Richard and Peggy Weber, Jodie Burnett, and Dorothy Beson. Numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Bradey will be greatly missed by the numerous people that he has touched in his twenty six beautiful years of life.

Private family services will be held.

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

## Senior Chatter

#### Wisconsin Unemployment Tax Information

If you received any unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in 2020, including any type of pandemic unemployment, you will need to pay federal and state taxes on that income. When you filed your initial UI claim, you would have been asked whether or not you wanted state and/or federal taxes withheld from your UI benefit. This option could also be updated later online but cannot be updated retroactively for benefits already paid.

Also make note, if you filed for UI in 2020 but did not receive a payment until 2021, that income will need to be reported on 2021 taxes not 2020.

The income tax statement for UI benefits is called a 1099-G and is now available online in your UI web portal. Note that if you logged into your online portal at any point, you will not receive a 1099-G in the mail. Therefore, almost all claimants will need to access their 1099-G online.

To access your 1099-G, log into your online portal and click "Unemployment Services" at the top. Then, select "1099-G Tax Information," click next, and then click "Get 1099." For more information visit https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/uiben/1099.htm or call (608) 266-2999.



#### FEBRUARY BUS SCHEDULE

February 2nd - "Short Route"

Hiles, Argonne, Crandon, Laona and Wabeno to Rhinelander by 10:00 A.M. Walmart complex and Aldi's only. No Lunch Depart Rhinelander at 1:00 P.M. **Bus Driver Pam Blank** 

February 4th - Thurday - Crandon shopping only.

Hiles, Argonne, Crandon, Laona and Wabeno to Crandon by 9:00 A.M. Depart Crandon by 12:00 P.M.

Bus Driver Pam Blank

February 9th - "Short Route"

Hiles, Argonne, Crandon, Laona and Wabeno to Rhinelander by 10:00 A.M. Walmart complex and Aldi's only. No Lunch Depart Rhinelander at 1:00 P.M. **Bus Driver Pam Blank** 

February 16th - "Short Route"

Hiles, Argonne, Crandon, Laona and Wabeno to Rhinelander by 10:00 A.M. Walmart complex and Aldi's only. No Lunch Depart Rhinelander at 1:00 P.M. Bus Driver Pam Blank

February 23rd - "Short Route"

Hiles, Argonne, Crandon, Laona and Wabeno to Rhinelander by 10:00 A.M. Walmart complex and Aldi's only. No Lunch Depart Rhinelander at 1:00 P.M. Bus Driver Pam Blank



June D. Houle, 87, of Crandon, WI passed away Friday, February 5, 2021 at her home surrounded by her loved ones. June was born June 1, 1933 in Crandon the daughter of Alois and Mary (Pilarski) Bocek.

June is survived by her daughter, Mare Houle, Crandon; sons, Norman (Tracy) Houle, Crandon; Wayne (Gaye) Houle, Merrill; Teddy (Karen) Houle; Crandon; six

grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; sisters Ann Letto, Crandon; Marcella Gretzinger, Mississippi. She was preceded in death by her parents, Alois and Mary; sisters, Frances and Marie; brothers, Frank, George, Robert, Alois, Ed, Joe, Jerry and Steve. Services will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday,

February 13, 2021 at Weber-Hill Funeral Home with Pastor Bill Farr officiating. Burial to follow at Crandon Lakeside Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. to time of service.

Pallbearers are June's grandchildren; Michael, Kristopher, Kevin, Sarah, Kyle, Clifford; honorary pallbearer, nephew, Bobby Bocek Weber-Hill Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements. Online condolences for the family may be directed to www.weberhillfuneralhome.com

## Forest County Commission on Aging



the 800-699-6704.

# Nutrition Program SENIOR MEALS

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA

Monday - Feb. 15 - Chicken Marsala, baked potato w/ sour cream, broccoli, biscuit, peach cobbler. CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK

**Tuesday - Feb. 16** - Beef stew w/ potatoes, carrots, onion & celery, fruit, wheat bread, pumpkin pie.

CRANDON, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK
Wednesday - Feb. 17 - Pork chop, sweet potatoes,

cauliflower, dinner roll, applesauce.

WABENO CONGREGATE & HOME DELIVERED

**Thursday - Feb. 18 -** Pork chop, sweet potatoes, cauliflower, dinner roll, applesauce.

ALVIN - No Meals in the Month of February

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

Please register with Commission on Aging - 478-3256.

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

Alvin site manager Florence Kostka at 715-545-4063 (home) or 715-545-3323 (site). Meals canceled until further notice.

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

0123 (cell). Meal served at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Home delivered on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

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



#### **Ask Your Insurance Professional**



#### **Ed Smith INSURANCE TIP FLOOD INSURANCE WEEK**

Governor Evers proclaimed February 7 -13th Flood insurance week in Wisconsin. This is to underscore the importance of obtaining flood insurance early. Some flood insurance policies have a 30 day waiting period before they take effect. It is very important to secure coverage before the snow starts melting and the rain starts to fall. You no longer need to live in a floodplain to purchase this coverage.

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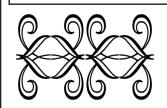
retail. \$33500.00 715-484-

4131 or can be seen at

Schroeder's Auto Sales in

Pearson.

For Sale: 2011 New Holland T1510 Tractor with loader,4 wheel drive \$9500 or best offer. 2 Heaters, both new. Portable kerosine heater, model 80EU, 360 square feet, 9800 BTU asking \$125.00. Electric Dura Heater, forced air, Model EUH 5000, heat 700 square feet asking \$1200.00 Call 715-



B42ETC

853-8649



#### CITY OF CRANDON POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF PACKARD January 2021 CPD Activity Report:

- 5 Accident(s)
- 3 Alarm Call(s)
- 4 Animal Incident(s)
- 1 Assault/Battery
- 10 Assists to Forest County Sheriff's Dept.
- 1 Assists to Forest County Sheriff's Dept. (Drug Related)
- 1 Assist Other Agency
- 1 Assist Other Agency (Drug Related)
- 1 Breaking & Entering/Burglary Incident(s)
- 2 Child Custody Matter/Dispute Incident(s)
- 2 Civil Matter/Dispute(s)
- 1 Criminal Damage to Property/Vandalism Incident(s)
- 2 Dangerous Drug/Drug Para and/or Poss.
- 1 Disorderly Conduct/Fight(s) (1 ARREST)
- 1 Domestic Dispute/Disturbance
- 3 Fraud/Scam Incident(s)
- 1 Garbage/Littering/Illegal Dumping Incident(s)
- 13 Health/Safety/Welfare Incident(s)/911 Calls
- 1 Identity/Possible Theft
- 1 Intoxicated Subject Incident(s)
- 1 Issue Worthless Checks Incident(s) 1 - Lost/Missing/Runaway Person(s)
- 2 Noise/Disturb Peace Incident(s)
- 1 O.W.I. (1 ARREST / 3 CITATIONS)
- 1 Property Dispute Incident(s)
- 6 Security Checks--Businesses/Residences
- 2 Sexual Abuse/Assault or Possible Sexual
- Abuse/Assault Incident(s)
- 1 Stalking Incident(s)
- 4 Suspicious Person/Activity/Package/Vehicle Incident(s) 1 - Theft/Possible Theft Incident(s)
- 2 Tobacco Law Violation(s)
- 5 Vehicle Lockout(s)
- 1 Vehicle Theft(s)
- 2 Warrant Arrest(s)/Apprehension Request(s)
- 1 Citations Issued re: Traffic-Related Matters
- 6 Warning(s) to Drivers (re: Vehicle or Traffic Safety)



Logan Bostron Promoted to Black Belt Submitted by Strong Fitness Center



Logan Bostron of Crandon was recently promoted to the rank of Cho Dan (1st Degree Black Belt) at Strong Soo Bahk Do. Logan, along with his sister Morgan, attended his first Soo Bahk Do class in December 2014 at 5 years of age in the Mighty Mites program. At age 7 he transitioned to the youth class and has trained continuously since. Bostron tested in front of a panel of master instructors from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

The test evaluates the student in all aspects of the art starting with basic motions and forms, advancing to sparring sequences, self-defense, and free sparring. There is also a board breaking requirement and an oral question portion of the test, which evaluates the student's understanding of history, tradition, and philosophy of Soo Bahk Do. There are also essay requirements and a written

"Logan has worked very hard preparing for his Cho Dan test. He has shown a dedication that is rare in someone so young. At just 12 years old he has taken on a greater leadership role in the studio and is assisting with the development and testing of more junior rank students of all ages. I couldn't be more proud of Logan," said Chief Instructor Ron Strong.

Soo Bahk Do is a traditional Korean martial art based on techniques that are centuries old, stressing the importance of history, tradition, discipline, respect, philosophy and technique while developing the mind, body and spirit.

Strong Soo Bahk Do is located in the Strong Fitness Center in Crandon. New students are being accepted, ages 5 to adult. For more information go to www.strongfitnesscenter.com or text 906-250-0191.

# Pets, Pet Care, Lawn & Farm

FOR SALE: Oat straw w/oats in it. Small squares. Also 2nd crop hay, small squares. Argonne. Call 715-902-0929 P.45



# By Mark Szorady

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RED UR GREEN

LEMONS

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APPLES \$1.99<sub>Lb.</sub> **COLE SLAW** 

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Washington

SWEET **POTATOES** 

79¢ Lb.

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**\$2.65** Healthy Choice

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128 Oz.



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SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION

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ST. PATRICK WINDOW



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**GENERAL** 

SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT

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fOOD / fUEL

5¢ off /gal

fOOD TUEL

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DENTAL 100 Yards 2 Kinds Reg. \$1.87

99¢

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**Best Choice** 

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CHAEFER'S IGA PULL-OUT SECTION

SCHAEFER'S IGA PULL-OUT SECTION

SCHAEFER'S IGA PULL-OUT

# Dining & Entertainment



Serving Lunch & Dinner 11a.m. - 8 p.m. Serving Breakfast Friday - Sunday 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.

213 N Lake Ave (715) 478-2317 Crandon, WI 54520



Wednesday Nights Specials 4pm to 8pm

NEW SPECIAL - WEDNESDAY BURGER FEST!

Taco Burger • French Burger • Mozzarella Burger
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& Queso Burger

All burgers are 10 oz. burgers with French Fries for \$6.95 Carry Outs - \$8.95

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On Sundays Kids eat free (kids menu only),
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Kris Anderson, 503 Lisa Mermuys, 500

Jenny Johnson, 491 **Individual HDCP Series** Jenny Johnson, 629 Lisa Mermuys, 608

Jessica Mann, 595 **Team Scratch Game** Bruce's Misteaks, 629

Whitetail Logging, 615 Rusty's, 590 **Team HDCP Game** Bruce's Misteaks, 777 Cassidy's Café, 771

Whitetail Logging, 744 Team Scratch Series Bruce's Misteaks, 1750 Whitetail Logging, 1707 Rusty's, 1675

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Misteaks, 2194 **High Averages** Penny Carter, 156 Chris Geske, 152 Kris Anderson, 150

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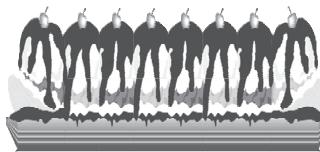


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PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 14, FEBRUARY 15, 2021

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Governor's Task Force unveils innovative proposals to strengthen retirement security for Wisconsin workers and families

MADISON, Wis. - State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski and the Governor's Task Force on Retirement Security released today five innovative, bipartisan, and cost-effective solutions to ensure Wisconsinites can retire with financial security and peace of mind -- including a brandnew program for Wisconsinites to save at birth and a state-facilitated retirement plan for nearly one million Wisconsinites without access to a plan through their employer.

The new policy proposals are the centerpiece of the final report of the Retirement Security Task Force report, which Governor Evers created in September 2019 with Executive Order #45, and appointed Treasurer Godlewski as chairwoman.

The Task Force solutions represent a holistic approach to retirement savings and financial security, and feature the following proposals:

WisconsinSaves is a simple, plug-and-play auto-IRA enrollment program for Wisconsin businesses of all sizes, which would utilize best practices to extend access to retirement savings to nearly 1 million Wisconsinites who do not currently have access.

401(K)ids sets our future generations up for success by providing every child born in Wisconsin with a target-date investment account to build long-term wealth and provide meaningful financial education. Nearly 60,000 kids born each year would access the benefits of compound interest and a life-long savings tool they could use to build wealth, buy their first home, pay for education, and save for retirement.

Emergency Savings structure that ensures Wisconsin workers have rainy day funds

and don't need to tap into retirement savings when the unexpected happens.

Incentivize Participation in Workplace Plans to encourage Wisconsin employers who currently offer retirement plans for employees to utilize auto-enrollment to maximize participation.

Interactive E-Commerce Portal would serve as a centralized, trusted source of

information for retirement savings and other financial needs.

"When we started this task force, Wisconsin was facing a retirement crisis, and the impact of COVID-19 has only made things worse and exposed the financial fragility far too many Wisconsinites face," said Treasurer Godlewski. "The solutions laid out in our Retirement Security Task Force report will ensure Wisconsinites are more financially resilient and can retire with dignity as we rebuild our economy."

Current projections show if nothing is done Wisconsin will have over 400,000 seniors living in poverty by 2030, and the state will need to spend \$3.5 billion more on programs relating to senior care. The solutions outlined in the report are designed to be sustainable, with minimal or no cost to taxpayers. These solutions would improve the quality of life for Wisconsinites when they retire and save the state money.

We know that too many Wisconsinites not only are anxious about saving for retirement but might lack the tools or support they need to reach their financial goals. Folks deserve to retire with peace of mind," said. Gov. Evers. "I am appreciative of the task force's good work bringing people together to help find solutions to improve the financial health and wellness of hardworking Wisconsinites across our state so they can safeguard their futures."

"It is incredibly important that we ensure Wisconsinites have access to retirement savings options, but once you do that, the job is only half done. By incentivizing employers that already offer savings programs to move from an opt-in model to an opt-out model, expanding on existing tools and resources, and moving retirement savings information to a comprehensive online resource, we can make it simpler for Wisconsinites to be retirement ready," said

"Wisconsin has the opportunity to lead in addressing its retirement security crisis with the recommendations announced today," said AARP Wisconsin Advocacy Director Lisa Lamkins. "Many Wisconsinites are working as hard as ever, but have no way to save for retirement at work. AARP is excited for the WisconsinSaves proposal which would empower Wisconsinites to save their own money for retirement, and also save taxpayer dollars in the long run. We look forward to working with the Governor, State Treasurer, and Legislature to implement these recommendations and ensure every Wisconsinite has the chance at a financially secure retirement."

The proposals put forward by Governor Evers Retirement Security Task Force will change lives. Giving every Wisconsinites the tools to save money, whether for retirement or for an unforeseen emergency, makes our economy, our people, and our state stronger," said State Representative Evan Goyke. "These proposals will make Wisconsin an innovator and a magnet for opportunity, while also directly addressing disparities and immediate economic challenges. It has been an honor to serve on the Task Force and I look forward to legislative action to make these proposals become law."

"Cooperative Network fully supports the recommendations of the Retirement Security Task Force," said Jennifer Wickman, Government Affairs Director for the Cooperative Network. "As a trade association representing cooperatives from twelve different business sectors, we know that cooperatives are a vital component of rural prosperity. Furthermore, fundamental to all agricultural cooperatives is the financial wellbeing of farmers. Retirement is a key component of that financial wellbeing."

The Retirement Security Task Force comprises a diverse coalition of small business owners, retirees, lawmakers, state officials, and workers. The group developed these groundbreaking proposals after hearing from Wisconsinites at listening sessions, conducting exhaustive research, completing a robust series of meetings, and consulting with experts to develop this menu of innovative solutions.

More information on the task force and full task force report can be found here.

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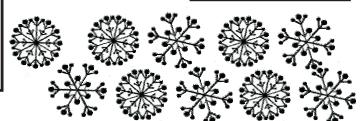
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**PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 15, FEBRUARY 15, 2021** 

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Application materials, including the position 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 Street, Crandon, Wisconsin 54520 or by calling (715) 478-2422. The deadline for applications and resumes returned to the County Clerk is Friday, February 19, by 4:30 p.m.

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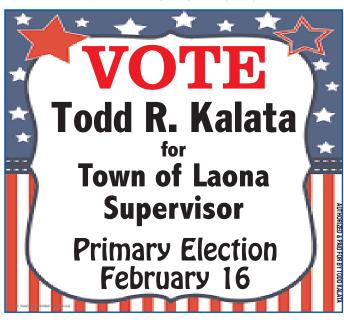
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