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Paul Bunyan Riders Annual Snow Fun Day!



Paul Bunyan Riders Snowmobile Club will hold its annual Snow Fun Day on Saturday, January 27, 2024, inside Waubee Lake Lodge in Lakewood (lower level). The club will have meat and prize raffles from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., 50-50 raffles throughout the day. Food & beverages will be available. The \$10 and \$100 raffle ticket winners will be announced during the event (need not be present to win).

For more information, send an email to paulbunyanriders@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page "Paul Bunyan Riders." Everyone is welcome; come by car, truck or snowmobile (if trails are open) to help support the Paul Bunyan Riders Snowmobile Club, local businesses and the community overall!

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 Icc@co.forest.wi.us.

New PFAs Grant Program for Small Public Water Systems Opens in 2024

https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/newsroom/release/86001

The WDNR has announced the opening of a new grant program in 2024 that will help Other-Than-Municipal Community and nonprofit, Non-Transient Non-Community public water systems address PFAS and manganese contamination. The Emerging Contaminants for Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant Program for these public water systems will begin accepting applications on Jan. 16, 2024.

PFAS are known to bioaccumulate in fish and wildlife tissues and accumulate in the human body, posing several risks to human health. Manganese is a naturally occurring metal that can cause significant health impacts if consumed in high concentrations.

Other-Than-Municipal Community public water systems are not owned by a government or municipality and serve groups of 25 or more year-round residents. Common examples include mobile home parks, apartment buildings and condominium associations. Non-Transient Non-Community public water systems are non-residential and regularly serve groups of at least 25 of the same people over six months of the year. Common examples include schools and daycare centers.

This grant funding comes at an opportune time, as Other-Than-Municipal Community and nonprofit, Non-Transient Non-Community public water systems around Wisconsin are actively finishing initial PFAS testing required under Wis. Admin. Code § NR 809. "This new grant program offers a unique opportunity for the DNR to fund small or disadvantaged public water systems to reduce emerging contaminants in drinking water," said Adam DeWeese, DNR Public Water Supply Section Manager.

Wisconsin is one of few states regulating two PFAS chemicals in drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced the proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, which, when finalized, would regulate six PFAS chemicals and include lower maximum contaminant levels than Wisconsin currently enforces.

The new grant program, funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will allow Other-Than-Municipal Community and nonprofit, Non-Transient Non-Community public water systems to address and decrease their PFAS levels to meet the proposed EPA levels. The DNR recommends that interested applicants review the Emerging Contaminants for Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant announcement for detailed information on eligibility and how to prepare an application.

Questions may be emailed to DNRECSDCGrants@wisconsin.gov, and for more information visit the grant website at https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/EC-SDC.html.

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.

See us online at pioneerexpresscrandon.com

Wabeno Lions continue Nu-Roc Christmas tradition



The Wabeno Lions Club continued their annual tradition of passing on the Christmas spirit by gathering at Nu-Roc Health and Rehab Center on December 22. Santa made his way in to share the gift giving spirit with a jolly HO, HO, HO! A traditional Christmas song was also sung by Santa and his helpers. It was evident by the expressions on the residents faces that the childhood joy of Christmas remains in our hearts forever.

The Christmas Party, hosted by the Wabeno Lions Club, has been in existence for over 30 years. The club donates \$1,500.00 for the purchase of Christmas gifts for this wonderful activity.







School District of Wabeno Area Board Election

Primary 2/20/24 & Election 4/2/24

*Candidate Dawn Jakubiec filed a Declaration of Candidacy prior to the 5:00 p.m., January 2, 2024 deadline for two positions representing the Forest County area, which includes parts of Forest, Langlade, and Marinette Counties.

*Candidate Andrea Brugger filed a Declaration of Candidacy prior to the 5:00 p.m., January 2, 2024 deadline for two positions representing the Forest County area, which includes parts of Forest, Langlade, and Marinette Counties.

*Candidate Benjamin Larson filed a Declaration of Candidacy prior to the 5:00 p.m., January 2, 2024 deadline for two positions representing the Forest County area, which includes parts of Forest, Langlade, and Marinette Counties.

*Candidate Penny McLaughlin filed a Declaration of Candidacy prior to the 5:00 p.m., January 2, 2024 deadline for two positions representing the Forest County area, which includes parts of Forest, Langlade, and Marinette Counties.

*Candidate Raletta Shampo-Ashbeck filed a Declaration of Candidacy prior to the 5:00 p.m., January 2, 2024

Continued on page 2

Our first earthquake!

By Mike Monte

My wife, Linda, was complaining about the cloudy and rainy days we have had and lack of snow for Christmas. I explained to her that we live in a place that has far fewer natural disasters than other so called "nice" places. I pointed out that we might have a big thunder and lightning storm on occasion, and we might have winters where we were really sick of shoveling snow, but we didn't have earthquakes and volcanoes like some of the "beautiful" places in the world.

I must apologize for saying this. A few days later, we had our first earthquake. Some people felt the shaking and I think we heard a boom that actually could have been something other than an earthquake.

Our quake was centered at a depth of 10 kilometers (about 6.2 miles). The USGS said it received 145 reports of citizens claiming to have felt the earthquake as of Monday (January 8). It was 2.5 on the Richter scale.

So now we are like other places in the world that have earthquakes. We might end up like California or Japan, with earthquakes making our houses odd shaped or just a pile of boards. I doubt it, and I probably shouldn't have brought it up, but who can tell now?

Of course, I am also worried about mentioning our lack of volcanic activity now that I ruled out earthquakes and then had one hit. I sincerely hope that Sugar Bush Hill doesn't suddenly become volcanic or one of the nice big ridges on either side of Crandon. I don't think anybody would like to see Lake Metonga or Lucerne turn into a big pool of cooling lava, and I probably shouldn't mention it, but what the hell, like earthquakes, volcanoes don't happen here. I hope!

For more details on the earthquake, please go to the continued.

Continued on page 10

Laona Lions Annual Predator Hunt



Lion Bub Belland, Team Townsend Hound Hunters winner of the Hound hunting coyote, and President Lion Gary Aschenbrenner.

The Laona Lions had a beautiful snowy day for the Annual Predator Hunt held at Senolihn's Bar in Laona on Saturday, January 6. Throughout the day the club had meat, gun, bucket and 50/50 raffles. Congratulations on all raffle winners.

All animals were weighed in between 5-7 p.m. Prizes were given largest, smallest, most weigh in coyote, and largest fox. The winner for heaviest coyote for calling was Team Crivitz. The winner for the smallest and most coyotes for calling was Team Pasture Poodle. The winner for fox calling was Team Sheepdogs. The winner for coyote hound hunting was Team Townsend Hound Hunters.

Appreciation to the following for there support; Senolihn's Bar, LMS/Yaeger Oil, Magilla's Bar, Jameson Inn, 3 Sheets Bar, Cary Collins, B&B Guiding, Northern Power Sports, Chitko Logging, Little Tipsy, Crandon International Raceway, Old Town Hall, Wendt's Sandbar Resort, Olive Pit, Laona Police Dept., Johnnie's Resort, Popple River Pub, KK Repair, Wagner's, Tic's Harbor Lights, Roadhouse 139, Flannery Contracting, Long Branch Salon, Rusty's Bowl, CJ's Bar, Water's Edge Lodge, Carla Connor- in memory of Brian Connor, Northwoods Firearms, Rick & Shelly Mihalko, Laona State Bank, Richard(Dickens) Connor and Tom Durant.

The Laona Lions Club appreciate all the community support. We look forward in seeing you at the Trap Shoot and Community Soup.

Continued on page 3

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL TRAP TEAM



Predator Hunt

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

Crandon Community Hall 601 W. Washington

WEIGH IN 4:30 - 6:30

CASH - PRIZES

EVERYONE WELCOME - SUPPORT THE TEAM PROCEEDS GO TO SCHOOL TRAP TEAM

\$20 ENTRY FEE - INCLUDES MEAL **RULES MEETING AND SIGN UP** FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH 5-8 PM AT WOLF RIVER RENDEZOUS BAR, 6 MILES WEST OF CRANDON ON HWY 8

CONTACTS - TOM MAY - 715-478-2425/715-889-2568 FAY STATEZNY - 715-889-1588, NORM BRAUN - 715-889-1135

AREA EVENTS

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Making Disciples for Life

Grace Alone, Faith Alone, and Scripture Alone

1507 N Lake Ave, Worship Service Crandon, WI 54520 Sundays at 10:30 am Phone (715)478-3555 or (715)889-4610

Post 44 Gunless Poultry Shoot Kelly's Thirsty Buck Saloon, Mountain

All are welcome

Don't miss the next American Legion Gunless Poultry Shoot on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at Kelly's Thirsty Buck Saloon, Mountain, starting at 1 p.m.

Bring along your friends, they will be raffling off packages of meat, poultry, sausages, bacon, beverages and items donated by local businesses. There will also be 50/50 raffles. Come on in, win a prize and help a veteran. Everyone is welcome.

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

REAL ESTATE

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Laona -2 parcels totaling 3.12 acres \$18,500 each or \$36,000 for both



Pickerel -Popular bar/restaurant on busy highway \$289,000



On Pelican Lake -2 bed 2 bath 100' frontage \$600,000

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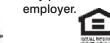
Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who donated, organized, attended and sent cards and prayers for my benefit on December 9, 2023. It was greatly appreciated. God bless you all.

(a)Doris Campbell

Wabeno- Orchard Ridge Apartments. 2 & 3 bedroom apartments available. Rent is based on 30% of your gross adjusted income. If rental assistance is not available, rent for a two bedroom starts at \$620.00 per month and a three bedroom starts at \$650.00 per month. Rent includes water, sewer, garbage and heat. Major appliances, off street parking and laundry facilities If you would like an application, please call 1-800-938-5648. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and





FOR RENT: 2 bedroom side by side apartment located at 11707 US Hwy. 8 (Apt. 2) and Cole Rd. in Crandon. Stove and refrigerator included. Washer and dryer hookups. \$800 a month plus security deposit required. Sorry, no pets. Please call 262-470-4484 or 262-470-4494. P41Betc

CRANDON: No snow to shovel! 1 bedroom apartment available at the Glenview Senior Apartments. Specifically built for persons 62 years of age or older, handicapped/disabled individuals regardless of age. Rent starts at \$620.00 per month until rental assistance is 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.





SPECIALTY



Locally roasted & fresh coffee. Experience a great coffee taste! Call Dave at 715-649-3414



Wabeno School Board Cont. from pg. 1

deadline for two positions representing the Forest County area, which includes parts of Forest, Langlade, and Marinette Counties.

*Candidate Jason Boor filed a Declaration of Candidacy prior to the 5:00 p.m., January 2, 2024 deadline for one position representing the Oconto County area.

All positions are for three-year terms and will be on the ballot for the April 2, 2024 election. Residents of the School District of Wabeno Area are reminded that they can vote for all of the above candidates, regardless of the township or county they live in. Residents are able to vote for any candidates that are on the ballot that is provided at their polling place.

This particular race will have a Primary Election on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 with the top four ballot candidates advancing to the April 2, 2024









715-889-0323

100W Washington, PO Box 82, Crandon, WI 54520. Office: 715449-5022.

Fax: 715-449-4422



FOR SALE: Hardwood firewood. \$85. Face cord. Call or text 715-902-9361. P46

January is National Radon Action Month CDC Excerpts Submitted by: Michelle Palubicki, RN Forest County Health Department

Radon is an odorless and invisible naturally occurring radioactive gas found in rocks & soil.

There's always some radon in the air around us. It can become a problem when radon gas from beneath your home leaks in through cracks or gaps in the foundation and builds up in your home. Breathing in high levels of radon can raise your risk of lung cancer. In the United States, radon is the #2 cause of lung cancer after smoking and it is estimated to cause over 21.000 deaths each year.

Smoking makes radon even more dangerous. Radon and tobacco smoke from cigarettes can damage your lungs. When they are combined, smoking and radon are more dangerous than either one on their own. Smokers who live in homes with high radon levels have a risk of lung cancer that is 10 x higher than nonsmokers who live in homes with high radon levels.

Testing your home for radon is easy. A simple test will tell you if your home has a high radon level. Most tests last between 2-7 days. It's as easy as opening a package, and putting the test kit in the right place. After sending the kit back to the address in the package, the company will send your test results in about 2 weeks.

If your house has a radon problem, it can be fixed. Fixing a radon problem reduces the risk of lung cancer for you and your family.

During the month of January, Radon Test Kits can be purchased at the Forest County Health Department for \$8.00 per kit. Take action today! Encourage your friends and family members to do the same.

Please call the Forest County Health Department at 715-478-3371 or visit our website www.forestcountypublichealth.org with any questions.



President Lion Gary Aschenbrenner and Team Sheepdogs winner of calling fox.



Lion Bub Belland with Team Crivitz winner of the heaviest called coyote.



Lion Bub Belland, President Lion Gary Aschenbrenner and Team Pasture Poodle winner of smallest and most called coyotes.

Crandon Wrestling Holiday Tournament Recap



Left to Right: Lawrence, Dennee, Glinski and Dewing at Oshkosh On the Water.

The Crandon wrestling team had a very busy holiday season participating in not one, but two holiday tournaments. The first tournament took place on December 21 at the Hodag Dome. The team ended up in 4th place out of 26 schools. Taking first place individually was Mason Dewing (120) and Conner Lawrence (285). Also making the podium for the Cardinals was Ty Dennee (2nd Place), Brayden Madl (4th Place) and Reid Votis, Nolan Bradley and Cruz Palubicki (5th Place).

On December 29 and 30, the team travelled to the On the Water tournament in Oshkosh. Of the 70 schools represented at this tournament, Crandon placed 16th. Conner Lawrence was the only wrestler to make it to the finals and fell to a future Penn State wrestler and ended up in 2nd place. Also landing on the podium was Elias Glinski (5th Place), Mason Dewing (7th Place) and Ty Dennee (7th Place).

Bids & Notices

School District of Wabeno Area FINANCIAL AID NIGHT JANUARY 23, 2024

Laona High School will host a free College Goal Wisconsin financial aid event forall area high school seniors at Laona High School on January 23, 2024 beginning at 6:00 P.M. in the Laona High School Library.

Any senior planning to enroll in a post-secondary education program in 2024-2025 is encouraged to complete a free, on-line financial aid form. Completion of a financial aid form is the first step in accessing money for higher education.

Information will be provided on the financial aid process, scholarships, and additional resources. Wabeno, Crandon, and Laona High School seniors and their parents/guardians are especially encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Michele Rocole at 715.473.5122 ext. 1210, Jessica Keao at 715.478.6125, or Taylor Novak at 715.674.3801.

INVITATION FOR QUOTES

PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 3, JANUARY 15, 2024

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 Tuesday, February 20, 2024 to: William Taylor, 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 and commercial pesticide application business license with the quote. Lawn care quotes shouldbe 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 moved and trimmed around the elementary and high school buildings, elementary playground, the lot next to the bus garage, the area around the parking lots, and the football and baseball fields (behind the elementary school).

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

WHAT'S TO EAT

Wabeno School **Breakfast Menu** Jan. 15-19

Monday - Early risers, apple sauce cups, fruit juice, milk

Tuesday - Scrambled eggs, sausage links, tator tots, kiwi, fruit juice, milk Wednesday - Muffins,

oranges, fruit juice, milk Thursday - Belgium waffles, sausage patty, strawberries, fruit juice,

Friday - Cereal bar, yogurt, pears, fruit juice, milk

Wabeno School **Lunch Menu** Jan. 15-19

Monday Mini corn dogs, mac & cheese, carrots, pears, garden bar, milk

Tuesday - Chicken patties, garden vegetable pasta, mixed vegetables, apple sauce, garden bar, milk

Wednesday -Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, dinner roll, broccoli, apple crisp, garden bar, milk

Thursday - Hot ham and cheese, chips, green beans, berry cup, garden bar, milk

Friday - Turkey and gravy, mashed potatoes, California blend, peaches, dinner roll, garden bar,

School Board President, Dave Seeber, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Board members present: Dave Seeber, Katryna VanEperen, Trinity Shepard (virtually), Dawn Jakubiec, Dan Christianson, Emy Belland, and Carlton Stealer. Administration: William Taylor, District Administrator, Robert Tucker, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Tim Brauer, Elementary Principal, and Shelly Dotson, Director of Pupil Services. Others Present: Katie Pintsch, Stacey White Verification of Meeting Notice (Compliance with Open Meeting Law Notification (Wis.Stats.

School District of Wabeno Area

Regular School Board Meeting Wednesday, December 6, 2023

High School Library - Wabeno Jr./Sr. High School

Pledge of Allegiance. Motion made by Dan Christianson seconded by Katryna VanEperen to approve Amended

Agenda III.

Carried 7 to 0.

19.84(2)).

Motion made by Carlton Stealer seconded by Emy Belland to approve the Regular School Board Meeting Minutes of November 1, 2023. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion made by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Katryna VanEperen to approve the Laona/Wabeno Coop Meeting minutes of November 13, 2023. Carried 7 to 0. Motion by Carlton Stealer seconded by Dan Christianson to approve the payment of vouchers by general checks 85559 to 85681 for \$387,193.55 and payroll checks 900049845 to 900050074 for \$259,628.36, and a state tax, 941 tax, and employee trust fund electronic transfer for \$190,373.04. Carried 7 to 0.

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

The Board commended/thanked the following:

-The Fall Play "Snow White: The Melodrama!" was very cute, costumes were awesome. Great job toeveryone involved!

-CESA 8 Tech Ed teachers were here Monday. They were very impressed with all the equipment our Tech Ed and Fab Lab have to offer our students. Kudos to our program! -Congratulations to all the students recently inducted into the National Honor Society. Thank you, Mrs. Byers, for organizing.

-Elementary Jingle Shopping was another success. Thank you to the Christian Thrift Store Volunteers, Wabeno Home and School Organization, and to Kim Stealer, Sara Cleereman, and Emy Belland for volunteering to help the students wrap presents.

Discuss and take possible action on Annual Audit information from Kerber-Rose via phone. Not completed yet; tabled until January. Discuss and take possible action on Class of 2024 Senior Class Trip. Need to look at

policy closer; tabled until January.

Motion by Katryna VanEperen seconded by Carlton Stealer to approve the Building Act 143 reports. Carried 7 to 0.

Discuss and take possible action on resignation(s). None.

Discuss and take possible action on hiring(s). None.

Discuss and take possible action on School Report Cards. Discussion only; no action. Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Trinity Shepard to approve the wrestling overnight trip to Oshkosh December 28-30, 2023. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Carlton Stealer seconded by Katryna VanEperen to approve the AGR plan. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Katryna VanEperen seconded by Dan Christianson to approve the changes to the 2023-2024 Staff Handbook. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Dan Christianson seconded by Carlton Stealer to approve the Daycare Staff Handbook for 2023-2024. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Carlton Stealer to approve the boys and girls basketball overnight trip to WI Dells January 6-7, 2024. Carried 7 to 0.

Motion by Dan Christianson seconded by Katryna VanEperen to go into closed session at 6:26 P.M. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) (e) and (f). Roll call vote: Dave Seeber, yes; Katryna VanEperen, yes; Dawn Jakubiec, yes; Trinity Shepard, yes; Dan Christianson, ves: Emv Belland, ves: Carlton Stealer, ves. Carried 7 to 0.

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

- a. District Administrator Evaluation compiling of information.
- b. Discuss NEOLA policy po 0142.5 Vacancies and policy po 9130 Public Requests, Suggestions, or Complaints, 0144.5 - Board Member Behavior, Communications, and Code of Conduct, and 0167.2 - Closed Session.

c. Discuss coaching evaluations.

Motion by Dan Christianson seconded by Katryna VanEperen to return to open session at 7:07 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; Dawn Jakubiec, yes; Trinity Shepard, yes; Dan Christianson, yes; Emy Belland, yes; Carlton Stealer, yes.

Motion by Dawn Jakubiec seconded by Carlton Stealer to adjourn at 7:08. Carried 7:08

Trinity Shepard, District Clerk





A note from the four busmen (Mike, Christ

Happy New Year! Another year has passed and another year has come. We wish you courage, hope and faith to overcome all the hurdles you may face. May your New Year be filled with peace, love and happiness!

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 will 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, January 11: Antigo Tuesday, January 16: Iron Mountain Thursday, January 18: Rhinelander Tuesday, January 23: Antigo Thursday, January 25: Iron Mountain Tuesday, January 30: Rhinelander

Forest County Commission on Aging



Nutrition Program

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA

Monday - Jan. 15 - Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, 3bean salad, rye bread, ambrosia fruit salad

Monday - Jan. 22 - Chicken broccoli casserole, Pacific veggie blend, whole wheat bread, grape juice, strawberries and yogurt

CRANDON, WABENO, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK

Tuesday - Jan. 16 - Chicken florentine, chicken penne pasta, cauliflower, mandarin oranges, bananas and

Tuesday - Jan. 23 - Ham and marble rye with romaine leaf and tomato slice, mayo, minestrone soup, crackers peach slices

<u>CRANDON, LAONA, ARMSTRONG CREEK, WABENO</u>

Wednesday - Jan. 17 - Hamburger on a bun, steamed onions, country trio veggies, baked beans, potato salad, brownie (Cabin fever picnic meal)

Wednesday - Jan. 24 - Seasoned baked fish, parsley buttered potatoes, tartar sauce, carrots, rye bread, beetnik cake

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

Thursday - Jan. 18 - Hamburger on a bun, winter squash,

applesauce, baked beans, cupcake

Thursday - Jan. 25 - Lasagna, green beans, salad with tomatoes and carrots, breadstick, banana pudding 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

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.

News of area College Students **UW-Stevens Point Fall Honors List**

Argonne:

Chevy Gretzinger, Honors

Crandon:

Halle Reeder, Highest Honors Hiles:

Isabella Bukovic, Honors Laona:

Braylee Chrisman, Highest Honors

Lyric LaRock, Honors Pickerel:

Greta Parsons, High Honors

Wabeno:

Morgan Mattern, Highest Honors

Dining & Entertainment



BAR & GRILL OPEN THURS 4-8, FRI 4-9 SAT. 4-9, SUN. 4-8 P.M.

Thirsty Thursday

NEW FOOD & DRINK SPECIAL EACH WEEK!

Friday Fish Fry

Grandma Jane's Sunday (hicken Dinner 4863 ELM STREET, LAONA 715-674-6200



Vew American Food Scratch Made Pizza 3 Dining / Banquet Rooms - Seats 250 715-478-1010 www.LakeAvenueUSA.com 200 S. Lake Ave. Crandon, WI 54520

. Crandon, Wi

January Specials!

Broccoli Cheddar Bites- Mini Broccoli Florets, Bacon and Onions & Cheddar Cheese. A great-tasting appetizer with a tangy dipping sauce.

Candied Bacon BLT-Candied Sweet Crispy Bacon, Lettuce, Tomatoes, with Honey Mayo, on Garlic Infused Bread. Served with Chips & Pickle. Upgrade with 3 kinds of Fries

BBQ Chicken Flat Bread-Rays BBQ base with Seasoned Chicken with Onions, Mozzarella & Cheddar Cheese, Green Peppers with light Garlic Aioli Drizzle on

Beef Stew in Warm Bread Bowl-Hearty Slow Cooked Beef Prime Rib Roast, Vegetables, Potatoes Stewed, Served in a Homemade Bread Bowl

Sliced Roast Beef Cheddar Croissant-Thin Sliced Roast Beef with Melted Cheddar Cheese with Italian Au Jus Dipping, on warm Garlic Butter Square Croissant, with Chips & Pickle

Southwest Chicken Wrap- Pico de Gallo Seasoned Chicken with Taco Spread, Lettuce, Cheddar Cheese and a Corn Jalapeno Blend with a Lime Sour Cream on a Tomato Basil Wrap

Cake Lemon Berry Cream Mascarpone-Lemon Berry Cream Mascarpone Vanilla Crumb Cake with Cream Filling to bring a Gourmet Touch!

Vehicles & Heavy Equipment

Make Tracks To These Super Deals!



2018 Ford F150 Lariat -V8, Remote Start, Heated Seats, 6.5' Box.\$18,900 2016 Ford Explorer XLT - 152K Miles, 3rd Row Seating AWD.. **2014 Chevy 4x4-** 5.3 Ltr., Reg. Cab 8' Box . 2014 Chevy Silverado - High Country, Crew Cab, 4x4, 161K.......\$19,995
2014 Dodge Grand Caravan SE - 120k Miles, Sto & Go Seating.....\$8,495
2013 Ford F150 XLT - Crew, Nice 4x4 Truck Electric Blue Ext.......\$13,999
2011 Honda Odyssey EXL - 153K Miles, Rear Entertainment Sys....\$6,995 2011 Subaru Forester - 5 Speed. .\$3,995 2010 Toyota Tundra - Reg Cab, 4x4, 76K Miles, Very Nice!.. 2005 Toyota 4 Runner SR5 - Very Nice, Sharp Car...

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SCHAEFER'S FOOD MART PULL-OUT SECTION

Death Notices

Rita Marie Tauer, of Hiles, passed away at Care Partners Assisted Living in Antigo on December 29, 2023, while under the care of Le Royer Hospice. She was 102 years old.

Rita was born in Milwaukee on September 12, 1921 to Aloysius and Viola (Steidl) Winkels. Sadly, she lost her mother at an early age. A neighbor (who only spoke German)



took care of her so German was her first language. Eventually her father remarried. Her stepmother, Mathilda Lessl, was kind and considered her as her own daughter. Rita loved and respected her. Aloysius and Mathilda had two sons, Aloysius Jr. and Elroy. Rita was very active in different organizations in her youth and continued to do so as an adult. She graduated in 1939 from Messmer High School and began working there in the fall of the same year as secretary to Msgr. Voelker.

Mom's best friend was Dolores Aders who had a cousin named Francis. Francis was home on leave from the military, and the rest as they say was history. They were married on May 17, 1947, at Saint Boniface Catholic Church in Milwaukee. They have four children, Jean, James (Sue), John (Jan) and Robert. She was blessed with six grandchildren, Jennifer, Rebecca, Jamison (Sarah), Timothy, Stephanie, and Kevin. There are two great-grandchildren, Joseph and Hailey.

In 1965 Rita decided she wanted to go back to work. She answered a blind ad in the Milwaukee Journal. It was for her old job at Messmer High School. Except this time her title was Head Secretary. All four of her children also attended Messmer.

Rita and Francis retired in the fall of 1981 and moved to Hiles. Francis, with some help from his brothers built a home for them. Francis died on May 2, 1986. Rita continued to be active in several groups: St. Ann Altar Society, Red Hat Club, The Three Lakes Womens' Club, the Hiles Service Club, and the Saint Joseph Bible Group. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to St. Joseph Parish.

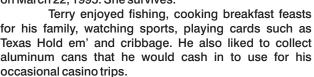
In addition to her parents and husband, Rita was preceded in death by her brothers, Aloysius Jr. (Margaret) Winkels and Elroy (Arlene) Winkels.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Crandon on Monday, January 8, 2023. Father Kennedy Gaspar will preside over Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. Father David Schmidt will be concelebrating. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Argonne.

Terry P. VanBoxtel of Townsend, passed away January 5, 2024, at Aspirus Langlade Hospital. He was 76 years old.

He was born July 3, 1947, to the late Peter and Wilma (Vosters) VanBoxtel in Appleton. Following his education, Terry began his career as a mill worker in the papermill

industry. He married Carol Verhoeven on March 22, 1995. She survives.



In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Lona Vanboxtel, Tara (Quentin) Kasuboski and Todd VanBoxtel; sisters, Janice Dunham and Vicki Zobel; brother, Ricky (Kathy) VanBoxtel; brother-in-law, Erv Arnoldussen; and grandchildren, Travis, Brittany (Matt), Kayla, Crystal, Emma, Nathan, Maya, Lucas and Parker as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Donna Arnoldussen; and brothers-in-law; Jerry Zobel, Jerry Dunham, Vernon Verhoeven, Richard Verhoeven, Matt (Maryann) Daul, and Vince (Margaret) Verhoeven.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to Weber-Hill & Packard Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be directed to www.weberhillfuneralhome.com.



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Emmett James "Bucky" Bucholtz, age 84, of Crandon passed away January 3, at home following a courageous battle with various ailments with family by his

Emmett was born September 10, 1939, in Milwaukee to the late Edward and Mae (Zuercher) Bucholtz. He attended school in the Milwaukee area from middle school through college. He was a 1957

graduate of Rufus King High School. Bucky then attended Marquette University before transferring to Wisconsin Milwaukee to obtain a bachelor's degree in journalism.

Bucky tried to use his journalism degree, but without success, decided to apply for an opening at Outboard Marine Corp (Evinrude). He quickly worked his way from managing the Shipping Department advancing to other areas within the company. As he became increasingly integral to the manufacturing facility, he was promoted to upper management due to his finance and accounting knowledge. Emmett ended up retiring from OMC after spending thirty-two rewarding years, in various locations of the organization, but all in Milwaukee. Bucky would often find himself after work or on weekends helping the company by donating time to local marine shows within the Milwaukee area. He was utilized to provide his service and motor knowledge for Duchow's Marine in Pewaukee. Emmett was credited as a team member in the creation of the SST Prop.

Emmett met his wife, Mary (Call), in 1961, and was married in September of 1962. They moved to Fox Point so he and Mary, a nurse, could be closer to work (St. Michael's Hospital) and start a family. On their first wedding anniversary their eldest son Emmett Jr. was born. Bucky and Mary have spent the last 32 years of their 61 years of marriage enjoying retirement in Crandon. They enjoyed frequenting the local casinos, taking bus tours, attending greyhound racing, horse racing, hunting, fishing, and spending time with their sons and grandchildren. While family was of utmost importance, helping others and being involved in the community was also a passion. His proudest activities were time spent within the Crandon Lions, being a poll worker for elections, and his membership, responsibilities, and affiliation with churches.

Bucky was a wonderful husband, brother, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Emmett and Jason; daughter-in-law, Karen (McGlade) Bucholtz; brother, David; and three precious grandchildren, Keely, Cassidy, and Kaitlyn.

Upon Bucky's wishes, a small graveside service will be held for family members to pay their respects. Online condolences can be placed by visiting www.weberhillfuneralhome.com. As well, in lieu of flowers Bucky has requested any donations be made to the Hemlock Lake Association for fish stocking. He cherished his time with his wife fishing on their dock or out on the water.



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PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 9, JANUARY 15, 2024

Gary George Kochenderfer passed away on Friday, January 4, 2024, at his home in Laona, WI. Gary was born in Cochrane, WI on May 9, 1935, to Ottmar and Florence (Salwey) Kochenderfer.

He graduated from Cochrane high School in 1953, the University of Wisconsin River Falls in 1961, and earned his Master's degree in Secondary Education from Winona State University, Winona, MN in 1969.



He honorably served in the U.S. Army (1956-1958) Medics, spending two years in Tokyo where he played football with the Tokyo Bulldogs Army team.

Gary began his career teaching health, physical education, and drivers education at Laona High School. He met his partner, (Jeanne Deaton) while she was doing her practice teaching in Laona Elementary. They were married in Laona, WI at Saint Leonard Catholic Church on August 3, 1963. They celebrated 60 years of marriage on August 3, 2023.

After retiring from teaching in 1990, Gary continued selling and servicing snowmobiles. He started as a Scorpion snowmobile dealer from 1965 to 1981. He then became an Arctic Cat dealer from 1984-2020, when he officially retired. Later in life, Gary's hobby was collecting antique John Deere tractor, until he ran out of space in his pole building!

He always enjoyed time spent with his sons in Kansas each fall on their hobby farm deer hunting near Severy, KS. He loved his grandchildren and always looked forward to them spending time on Silver Lake water skiing and tubing.

Gary is survived by his wife, Jeanne; sister, Marilyn George; two sons, Kevin (Becky) and Craig (Adrienne Aromi); three grandchildren, Sydney (Aaron) Moses, Kate, and Hank Kochenderfer; two greatgrandchildren, Ronen and Remi (Moses); Adrienne's two daughters, Hailey and Sydney (Connor); and sister-in-law, Mary White.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Ottmar and Florence; and brother, Bob Kochenderfer.

There will be a private funeral service for Gary on Friday, January 12, 2024, at 11 a.m. at St. Leonard Catholic Church in Laona, WI, with Father Anil Polumari celebrating Mass. Graveside services will be at the Laona Town Cemetery.

Online condolences may be directed to

Byron Edward "Mike" Erdman passed away January 8, 2024 after a brief illness. Byron was born September 12, 1934 in Green Bay, Wisconsin to Ellis and Mabel Erdman. Byron graduated from Green Bay West High School. As youngsters, he and Bernie and family ran the largest paper route distribution system for



the Green Bay Press Gazette hand rolling papers the oldfashioned way. After high school, he was employed by Larsen Canning, Fort Howard Paper, then the Green Bay Fire Department. Byron served in the United States Army Reserve, activated for the Berlin Crisis. Thereafter starting his trucking career culminating in many years with Schneider Trucking as a semi-driver.

Byron married Alice Bloomer of Chilton WI in 1974. Byron spent over 40 years living on Maiden Lake with Alice near Mountain Wisconsin. Byron enjoyed boating, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, "modern-style" camping in his travel trailer. Byron also greatly enjoyed a long-time love with automobiles from high school throughout his life. He enjoyed the 1939 2 door Sedan and 1932 Pontiac coupe modified and completely restored and all the work he put into them.

Byron also loved traveling to Lake Havasu on vacation with Alice. Byron relished his time being an active member of the American Legion Sullivan Post Wabeno, completing many projects especially the Legion Memorial Park in Wabeno and the camaraderie fellow veterans. Byron enjoyed spending time with his parents, brothers and their families making many treasured memories.

Later as in life Byron enjoyed spending time with his son Barry (Marcia) and their family. They enjoyed many military experiences, events, and stories together and of course, Byron was an avid fan of the beloved Green Bay

Byron was preceded in death by his parents Ellis and Mabel Erdman, his twin brother Bernie, his nephew Bart, his brother-in-law Ed and several aunts and uncles.

Byron is survived by his wife, Alice his brother Bob his son Dr Barry Erdman, his daughter Edyie, sister-in-law Molly, brother-in-law Jim

Byron's funeral will be Saturday January 13 with visitation at 12:30 pm at Tabor Lutheran Church 14153 Church Road, Mountain WI with service to follow at 2:00 pm and celebration of Life to follow at the American Legion Sullivan Post in Wabeno.

Strasser-Roller Funeral Home is assisting the family with services.

PIONEER EXPRESS PAGE 10, JANUARY 15, 2024

.P WAN FOREST TOOL

Forest Tool in Crandon is accepting applications for several positions:

General Machinist CNC 3 Axis Mill Operator/ Programmer CNC Lathe Operator

Applicants with machining and CNC experience are welcome to apply. Full time hours with Benefits and Competitive pay based on experience. Will to learn and have ability to plan and complete projects on time for customer schedules is required.

Forest - Tool builds Injection Molds, Stamping Dies and also provides production machining. Manual and CNC machines are commonly utilized.

Please call 715-478-5870 for more information.

Help Wanted Literacy Coach/Interventionist

Job Description: One Interventionist Position for the Jr/Sr High School for the 2023-2024 school year and beyond. This position is a full time position. This candidate will be running Jr/Sr High School interventions for reading. We are looking for an energetic individual with a passion for teaching to join our team. Candidates should be familiar with a variety of teaching strategies and a willingness to work with many grade levels. There are also coaching and extracurricular opportunity available for additional experience and compensation.

Qualifications: Candidates must have appropriate DPI Licenses. Wisconsin DPI certification in regular education (1777) and (316) Reading Specialist are required.

How to Apply: Interested and licensed candidates may apply through WECAN or may submit a letter of interest, resume, transcripts, copy of license(s), three (3) current letters of reference to: William Taylor, District Administrator, PO Box 460 Wabeno, WI 54566.

This position will remain open until filled.

The School District of Wabeno Area is an Equal Opportunity employer. The School District does not discriminate against applicants or employees based on race; age; sex or sexual orientation; creed or religion; color; handicap or disability; marital, citizenship, or veteran status; membership in the National Guard, state defense force, or reserves; national origin or ancestry; arrest or conviction record; use or non-use of lawful products off the District's premises during nonworking hours; or any other characteristic protected by law.

Earthquake Cont. from pg. 1

A magnitude 2.5 earthquake was detected in the Crandon area in northern Wisconsin Sunday morning, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The earthquake hit 4 kilometers, or about two and

a half miles, northeast of Mole Lake.

Earthquakes with a magnitude of about 2.5 or less are usually not felt, but can be recorded by a seismograph. Earthquakes between about 2.5 to 5.4 magnitude are often felt, but cause minimal damage.

The Forest County Sheriff's Office shared on Facebook that it received "multiple calls regarding an abnormally excessive shaking/vibration coming from the ground."

Some commenters said their houses shook or rumbled, while others said they heard loud noise similar to thunder or a large plow truck going by.

As of around noon on Sunday, 66 citizens reported to the USGS that they felt the earthquake. Most put it in the lowest categories of intensity, from about a one to a four on a ten-point scale.

Those low categories indicate weak or light shaking, with no damage to report.

More: Earthquakes can happen in Wisconsin. Here are the notable ones from the state's past.

Wisconsin does experience earthquakes, including a mini-guake below Waupaca County in 2012. More often, Wisconsin feels the effects of earthquakes originating in Illinois, other states, or Lake Michigan.

According to the USGS, the largest historical earthquake in Wisconsin happened in 1947, but was not recorded by seismographs.



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companies and maintain accurate payroll records; record accurate bookkeeping information and reconcile accounts; answer phone calls and assist clients; clerical duties including, filing, typing, copying, collating, scanning, etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- Experience in customer service
- Excellent written and verbal communication

skills

• Highly detail oriented and organized

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Applications & resumes can be sent to James Elam II at kme.jelam@gmail.com For any questions, call 715-478-3250 or visit us at 605 S Lake Ave. Crandon, WI

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LAONA **VACANCY** READING SPECIALIST

Due to an upcoming retirement, the School District of Laona is seeking a K-12 Reading Specialist. The position will begin in the 2024-2025 school year. The reading specialist works collaboratively with teachers and administrators assisting in implementing and monitoring the reading curriculum. This position focuses on elementary students and will be responsible for coaching teachers in the latest strategies, offer teacher classroom support and perform student assessments, evaluations and interventions.

Applicants must have or be eligible to obtain a Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Reading Specialist License (17/5017). Please submit a letter of interest, resume, transcripts, copy of license and 3 current letters of reference or you may apply on WECAN. This position will remain open

School District of Laona Attn: Larry Palubicki - District Administrator 5216 Forest Ave Suite A

Laona, WI 54541 This institution is an equal opportunity employer.

Help Wanted - Laona School District

The School District of Laona is looking to update their substitute teacher list for the 2023-2024 school year. Any person holding an Associate's Degree or a 4 year Bachelor's Degree is eligible for a substitute teacher license through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The current pay is \$120 per day, which also includes free lunch. We are also updating our teacher aide, kitchen aide and daycare substitute lists. There are no degree requirements for these substitute position.

If you are interested in being added to any of our substitute lists, please call Larry Palubicki/District Administrator at 715-674-2143 ext. 202.

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Help Wanted Public Health Staff Nurse

Forest County Health Department is accepting applications for a full-time (40 hours per week, 4-10 hour days) Public Health Staff Nurse. Qualified candidates must have an Associate's Degree in Nursing. **Preferred** applicants will have experience in community health and public health competencies.

This position has a starting wage of \$27.29 based on experience.

Application and position description may be obtained at www.co.forest.wi.gov or in the County Clerk's Office, Forest County Courthouse, 200 East Madison Street, Crandon, WI 54520. Applications will be accepted until the position is

Forest County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted Public Health Nurse

Forest County Health Department is accepting applications for a full-time (40 hours per week, 4-10 hour days) Public Health Nurse. There will be an occasional need to work evening and/or weekend hours. Qualified candidates must have a Bachelor's Degree in Preferred applicants will have experience in community health and public health competencies.

The wage for this position is \$29.29 per hour.

Application and position description may be obtained at www.co.forest.wi.gov or in the County Clerk's Office, Forest County Courthouse, 200 East Madison Street, Crandon, WI 54520. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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Oconto County Public Health offering discounted radon tests

Public Health partners with local municipalities to offer \$5 radon tests to help prevent lung cancer

Oconto County Public Health is lowering the price of radon tests to encourage Oconto County residents to test for radon gas in their homes. The easy to use tests will be for sale at the discounted price of \$5 per test. This sale will run through the entire month of January, which is National Radon Action Month. To make it even easier to get a radon test, several Oconto County municipalities have partnered with Public Health and will sell the test kits at their locations though January. You can get a test kit at the following locations:

Mountain

- Mountain Town Hall: 715-276-6474
- Riverview Town Hall: 715-276-6914 Townsend

Townsend Town Hall: 715-276-6856

more information and addresses for these locations, visit https://www.co.oconto.wi.us/474/Municipalities

Public Health is sharing these additional reminders about the discounted radon test kits:

- For an extra fee, test kits can be mailed from the Oconto County Courthouse only. Please call 920-834-7000 for more information.
- Anyone with a home in Oconto County (cabins too!) can buy a test kit from any of these locations.
 - You are welcome to buy a test kit at your nearest location; you do not have to live in that municipality. You can even buy a test kit for a friend or family
 - Hours vary by location. Please verify that the location will be open before traveling to it.

Radon is a radioactive gas from the ground that can enter your home through tiny cracks in the foundation. Radon causes 21,000 lung cancer deaths nationwide each year and approximately 962 of these deaths are in Wisconsin. Fortunately, this cause of lung cancer is largely preventable. The first step is to test. Pick up a radon test kit at one of the locations listed above to learn about the radon level in your home! For more information please visit https://www.ocph.info/radon/





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Fay Statezny recognized for years of service



Fay Statezny receives a plaque for his years of service from Office Manager Danielle McLaughlin

On October 25, after 42 years and 145 days, Fay Statezny retired from the Forest County Highway Department. Fay was number 35on the seniority list. The department had their own gravel crusher, road building crew and road maintenance crew. Blacktop roads were made by dumping gravel on the road, spraying it with oil and then mixing it with the graders. It took days to complete a road! Fay worked with 8 commissioners through his career.





Townsend Decorating Contest Winners Announced

Town of Townsend residents and businesses went all out this holiday season with decorating their properties. You didn't need to look far to see absolutely beautiful decorations, complete with moving lights, music and all the magic of the season. It was truly magical to drive around after dark and enjoy all the effort that went into these displays.

Twelve business and seven residences were entered in the contest this year. The public was then invited to vote on their choice of the best from each category. After counting 119 ballots, we are pleased to announce that the Olive Pit won the business category and Steve and Pam Kuczynski won the residential category. Congratulations to them. Well done everyone!

Townsend truly showed off their festive spirit this holiday season. Start planning now, because Townsend will repeat this contest again next year.







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