



Cumberland teen charged with drug distribution

Aaron J. Gunderson, 17, of Cumberland, has been charged with distribution of amphetamine, possession with intent to deliver/distribute a controlled substance on or near a school, distribution of amphetamine, possession of a controlled substance, possession of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of an illegally obtained prescription.

The criminal complaint states that among the duties of Cumberland Police Officer Damrell's duties as a law enforcement officer for the City of Cumberland, she is the School Resource Officer for the Cumberland School District. On October 12, 2018, a student at Cumberland High School informed Officer Damrell that he was concerned about Gunderson's use and distribution of drugs. The student said Gunderson had been into drugs for a while and was storing drugs in their home, and had heard that he was using and selling acid and "pills" at the school to other students.

After speaking with the subject another student came into Officer Damrell's office later in the day on October 12th, also wanting to speak to her about Gunderson. Officer Damrell said the student said he and Gunderson were good friends, but he was concerned about Gunderson using and selling drugs. He stated he knew Gunderson used marijuana, acid and more recently, cocaine. He stated that Gunderson had recently started to sell acid to other kids in school. He said he had smoked marijuana with Gunderson, but he really didn't like it. He said he and Gunderson worked together and he knew Gunderson had several hiding spots where he hid his drugs. He said Gunderson hid his bong outside the fence box at his home,

he also said Gunderson had brought drugs to school.

On October 16, 2018, Officer Damrell was approached by Gunderson's sister, who is also a student at Cumberland High School, asking if she could talk to Officer Damrell about Gunderson.

She told Officer Damrell that her sister was living at home with the whole family and was expecting to deliver her child any day. She said her sister was very upset, as she had been arguing with Gunderson about his drug use and not wanting her baby to be around drugs. She said that her sister found pills hidden in the doorway to his room on the night of October 13th. She said Gunderson had talked about "sniffing lines." She said she knew he hid drugs at the end of a guard rail in the fallen trees near their house. She also knew he had hidden items in containers, in something he hides under his keyboard and in a part of his old box-type computer that pulls out and is hollow on the inside.

Officer Damrell met with other subjects at their home on October 16th. They said they knew that he had drugs in the house but did not know where they were hidden. She believed he hid drugs in his old box style computer and in a jerky chew tin. She also said she believed he stored drugs in the culvert near their family home. She stated she found a pill in the doorway of his room, and stated he is not prescribed any current medications. Officer Damrell was shown screen shots of his Snapchat story that had a picture of a marijuana bong he had purchased. She stated he has his own bedroom that he did not share with anyone.

On October 19th, a student came to Officer Damrell's office and advised she had seen Gunderson give another student a baggie of

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Fatal Crash on Highway 8 in Polk County

On Thursday, November 29th 2018 at 5:22 pm the Polk County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center began receiving calls that were reporting a motor vehicle crash on US Highway 8 at the intersection of County Road H/110th Street in Apple River Township.

Upon arrival, Deputies

learned that Tori A. Isler, a 38 yoa female from rural Amery, was driving a 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier on County Road H and was initially stopped at the stop sign, facing North, at the intersection of US Highway 8.

At that time Kevin H. Bunker, a 54 male from St

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2018 Shop with a Cop



The annual Shop with A Cop event was held this year on Monday, December 3rd. Thirty-eight kids got to go shopping for Christmas from Cumberland! Each kid gets to spend a 150 dollars. The excitement that they had and thankfulness they expressed was heart warming! Big thanks to all Cumberland Police department employees. Thanks to the Hammer Bar, Hog Jam, and all the other businesses and community members who hosted fundraising events and donated so generously in order to make this event possible. Photo by Bob Nugent

Cumberland Chamber of Commerce News from Main Street by Jon Hile, Chamber President

The Cumberland Chamber of Commerce had a busy October and November and certainly isn't slowing down! The scarecrows once again made it to town for our 3rd Annual Scarecrow Contest. Many local businesses and organizations once again out did themselves in creativity bringing lots of visitors to Cumberland. We saw many people walking up and down the streets, snapping selfies with their favorites. Congratulations to our winners US Bank (1st), Ficocello's Salon and Spa (2nd) and Thomas St. Angelo Public Library (3rd).

Next came our annual Pumpkin Give-a-Way (thank you again to Bob's Produce for donating the pumpkins this year) and Safe Trick-or-

Treat and what a turn out we had for both! I know Miss Cumberland and her Court gave away over 1500 pieces of candy! Love getting to see all the families come out and enjoy this event. Thank you again to the Cumberland Fire Department for helping us make this a safe event.

Finally, we had our own "Hallmark Movie" experience in downtown Cumberland for our 3rd Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. This has easily become one of my favorite events, watching as multi-generations come together to start the holiday season with us. Thank you again to the Cumberland Utilities, Cumberland Police Department, Mrs. Holdt and Cumberland High School Choir Students

Cont'd on page 4

Coaching changes fill the agenda for the November School Board meeting

The Cumberland School Board met for November on Tuesday the 27th. After dispensing with the business items, the Board moved on to action items consisting entirely of coaching or employment changes.

First, the Board approved Holly Schramski and Police Liaison Officer Melissa Damrell as Wrestling Cheerleader Co-Advisors.

Next, the Board approved the hiring of Tanner Grant, Chad Olson and Joe Rademacher as Co-Assistant High School Wrestling Coaches.

In both of the above situations, the salaries available for each position will be combined and then split evenly between the coaches for that position.

The Board then went on to approve the hiring of

Patrick Schmitz for the available Maintenance/Custodial position. Partrick will train on days, with the thought of eventually transitioning to the night shift.

It was with great sadness that the Board then accepted the resignations of two long time coaches. John Peterson will be leaving his position as Head Boys' Baseball Coach and Jessica Olson's is resigning as Head Volleyball Coach.

Superintendent Rose announced that he is working closely with local law enforcement, first responders and other community members to plan a community-wide active shooter drill at the High School sometime this Spring.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office.

Santa Came to Town!



Santa made his annual visit to the Isle Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 1st to watch "The Incredibles 2," pass out treats and listen to the kids tell what they want for Christmas. The movie and Santa visit are sponsored by the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Bob Nugent



We need your deer camp stories, hunting tales, ice shack whoppers, Cross Country skiing adventures and snowmobile shenanigans! We need photos of the big ones, the snowmen, the scenery. Do you have a favorite wild game recipe? Is there a dish that it just wouldn't be deer camp without? Send us that too!

If we use your story, recipe or photo you will earn a year's subscription to the *Advocate*. Mail or bring them to: 1375 2nd Ave., PO Box 637, Cumberland, WI 54829 or email them to news@cumberland-advocate.com

Thank you for your help!

**It's time for
The Winter Laker!**

Library Happenings

by Rob Ankarlo, Director,
Thomas St. Angelo Public Library

Season's greetings! It's the season of lights as patrons celebrate their family holidays and help offset the darkest days of the year. Please take time for yourself during this hectic time of the year and take in some of the events and opportunities that the library has to offer.

Dave Evenson will be conducting his first author visit as he presents his *Right Off the Reel* - Gordon MacQuarrie Book on Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 PM. Gordon MacQuarrie, outdoor reporter for the *The Milwaukee Journal* from 1936-1956, is best known for his tales of The Old Duck Hunters. This evening will be entertaining as Dave shares his sense of humor along with his insights of Mr. MacQuarrie.

Do you have tech questions about a device or software? Register for Tech Time on Monday, December 17 for one of the two openings. There are two 30 minute 1 to 1 Tech Time sessions starting at 9:30 AM and 10:00 AM. (First come first serve.)

Check out some new DVDs and some of our many classics. The holiday DVDs and music have been pulled and placed on the first floor for easy selection. Many new Lucky Day movies and books have been added to the library's collection for everyone's enjoyment.

Santa is planning to visit the preschool youth at Story Hour on Tuesday (6:30 PM)

and Wednesday (10:30 AM) on December 18 and 19. He is planning to pass out a sweet treat, hold his traditional chat with each child, read *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* and then pass out a free book to every child. Story Hour is a wonderful opportunity for the youth to listen to stories, sing, make crafts and socialize with other children their age. There is no registration required for this program.

Family Fun Day is planning a fun service project on Friday, December 21 from 3:30 – 5:30 PM. The youth will create a fleece no-sew blanket for the first baby born in 2019 at the Cumberland Healthcare Hospital. The youth will be predicting dates of this birth, gender of the baby (or babies?) and give their advice to living the good life in the community. Holiday snacks and games will also be enjoyed.

Thank you to Rynne Eagleman, Jeanette Rydberg, Karen Couch and the Pioneer Museum for loaning items to the library and displaying the many authentic Native American photos, art and artifacts. These items were placed on display to pay tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans during November's National Native American Month.

Thank you for your library patronage and support. The TSAP Library Staff would like to wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy holiday season.



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Sons of Norway host annual Christmas Lutefisk dinner

Sons of Norway Dove Lodge #353 will have their annual Christmas Lutefisk dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 at 6:00 PM at The Rolling Oaks Restaurant in Barron.

Tickets for Lodge members are \$15.00 and Non-members tickets cost \$18.00.

For reservations call Carol Anderson at 715-568-0044.

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'Tis the Season of Giving



The Heart of the North Builders Association held their annual Installation Banquet and each year they take donations from their members and guests of food and toys. This year the donation of food went to the Cumberland Food Pantry, where 240 Lbs of food were donated. Pictured is Darryl Buse, President (left) and Mike Crotteau, past President.

Barron County Youth Talent Show

The 2nd Annual Barron County Youth Talent Show is coming soon! On January 19, 2019, the Barron High School Music Department will be hosting a talent competition open to all area performers ages five to eighteen years old.

The overall goal of the event is to promote the development of local Barron County students and bring our communities together while raising money for the Barron High School Band and Choir future performance trip.

This is an excellent opportunity for all Barron County area students to come together while providing participants with

performance and adjudication opportunities and prizes. Prizes will be awarded to the top-scorer and runner-up act in each age group. A grand prize will be awarded to the highest scoring act over all.

The three age groups are: Ages 5-9; Ages 10-13; and Ages 14-18. Acts in these categories can consist of any talent from singing to playing an instrument to dance, comedy, juggling gymnastics, poets and any other talent you may have!

Audition sign-ups are now through January 4th and all information can be found online at www.barron.k12.wi.us. Click on the link "Barron County Talent Show."

HELP CUMBERLAND BOY SCOUTS

Deposit Aluminum Cans in the Scout Bin

Behind the City Shop.

Hustad's Sugar Bush



*** Holiday Open House ***

Saturday, Dec. 1
Sunday, Dec. 2

* Samples & refreshments will be served *
10% discount on gift boxes during the open house
Maple Cream will be available!

Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Sat. • 12 Noon - 5 p.m. Sun.
10 miles west of Rice Lake on Hwy. 48, or 5 miles east of Cumberland on Hwy 48, then 1 mile south of 11 1/2 St.

Phone: (715) 822-4608
www.hustadssugarbush.com

ALL NIGHT PARKING PROHIBITED
November 1 through April 1

There will be no parking on any city street between the hours of 2:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any day between November 1 through April 1. Violators may be ticketed or towed.

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CUMBERLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Upcoming Events
Thursday, December 6th
7 pm • CHS Wrestling vs. Chetek/Wyhsr • HS Gym
7 pm • CHS Boys Hockey vs. Somerset • Cumb. Ice Arena
Friday, December 7th
7:30 pm • Middle School Holiday Concert • MS Gym
Monday, December 10th
7:30 pm • HS Band Holiday Concert • HS Gym
Tuesday, December 11th
5 pm • CHS Girls Basketball vs. Chetek/Wyhsr • HS Gym

Community Ed Offerings

Cumberland Community Ed along with Peter & Annes Present:
Make Your Own Christmas Centerpiece
Tuesday, December 11 • 5:30 pm
Peter & Annie's World Market • Cost \$25
Space is limited to 12 participants

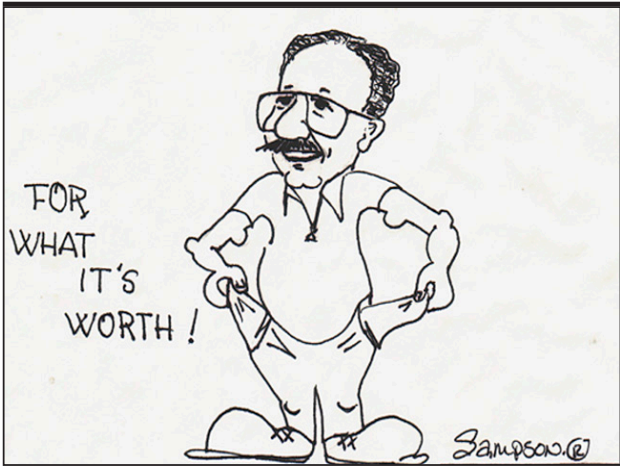
All supplies including greenery, flowers, and basket will be provided. Snacks & Beverages will be provided. To register, please contact: Susan Bridger, CCE Director, 715-822-5121 ext. 403 or emailing sbrid@csdmail.com.

DANCE WORKOUT
Instructor: Rebecca Walsh
Certified UW Extension Master Garden Volunteer
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 5:15-6:00 PM
NORTHERN LAKES COMMUNITY CHURCH
EXERCISE-MOVE-DANCE!!
COST \$7 and the 6th class is always FREE!
Registration is required, please contact Susan Bridger, CCE Director, 715-822-5121 ext. 403 or emailing sbrid@csdmail.com.
Rebecca has been a dancer since she was young. She has taught dance styles such as tap, jazz, lyrical, ballet and belly dance. Her love for dance spills over into her workouts, and for many years she ran successful Zumba classes at a studio in Minnesota. Come join her in this Dance Workout class where you will enjoy many styles of dance from around the world while getting in a full-body cardio workout. No matter your fitness level, come and dance with us!

New Year—New You!
Come & Check out the
Cumberland Fitness Center!
Located in Cumberland High School
Monday-Friday 5:00-8:00 AM • 4-8:30 PM
Saturday 7:00-10:00 AM • Sundays 1-4 pm
Never visited the CFC? No problem! Come and let our "very" qualified and friendly staff demonstrate for you our "state-of-the-art" cardio and weight equipment!

Two New Year Options:
Jan.-Feb.-March: \$60/Individual \$90/Family
12 months for the cost of "10" months
\$250/ Individual \$400/Family
Former CSD students under 21: FREE
Questions or concerns?: Susan Bridger, CCE Director at 715-822-5121 ext. 403 or sbrid@csdmail.com

Opinion



By Craig Bucher

I just finished watching the U.S. Capital Memorial Service for President George Herbert Walker Bush and I am struck by the wealth of experience the man had before he became President. All the way from a naval combat pilot in WWII, a member of Congress, ambassador to the United Nations, ambassador to China, head of the CIA, Vice-President, and finally President of the United States. One of the television commentators suggested that he was the most experienced man to ever hold the office of the presidency. President Bush, if you agree or disagree with his policies you have to recognize his kindness, steadfastness, courage and grace. He was a gentleman and a man who dedicated his life to service of this country. He will be missed.

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Last week, long time resident James Coil, wrote an excellent letter concerning the Christmas season and giving to those less fortunate. He stressed the importance of careful consideration of the charities that we support. I agree. Every Christmas season countless people are “conned” by fake charities or by so-called charities that use 90-95% of money collected for “administrative” purposes. One question you can ask, when you are called to give a donation to a charity, is “are you a professional fund raiser?” If the answer is “yes” - you can bet that little money collected actually goes to the cause supposedly supported. Give what you can and be as generous as you are able but, give wisely.

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!

News from Main St....

and Chamber Members for making this such a festive event.

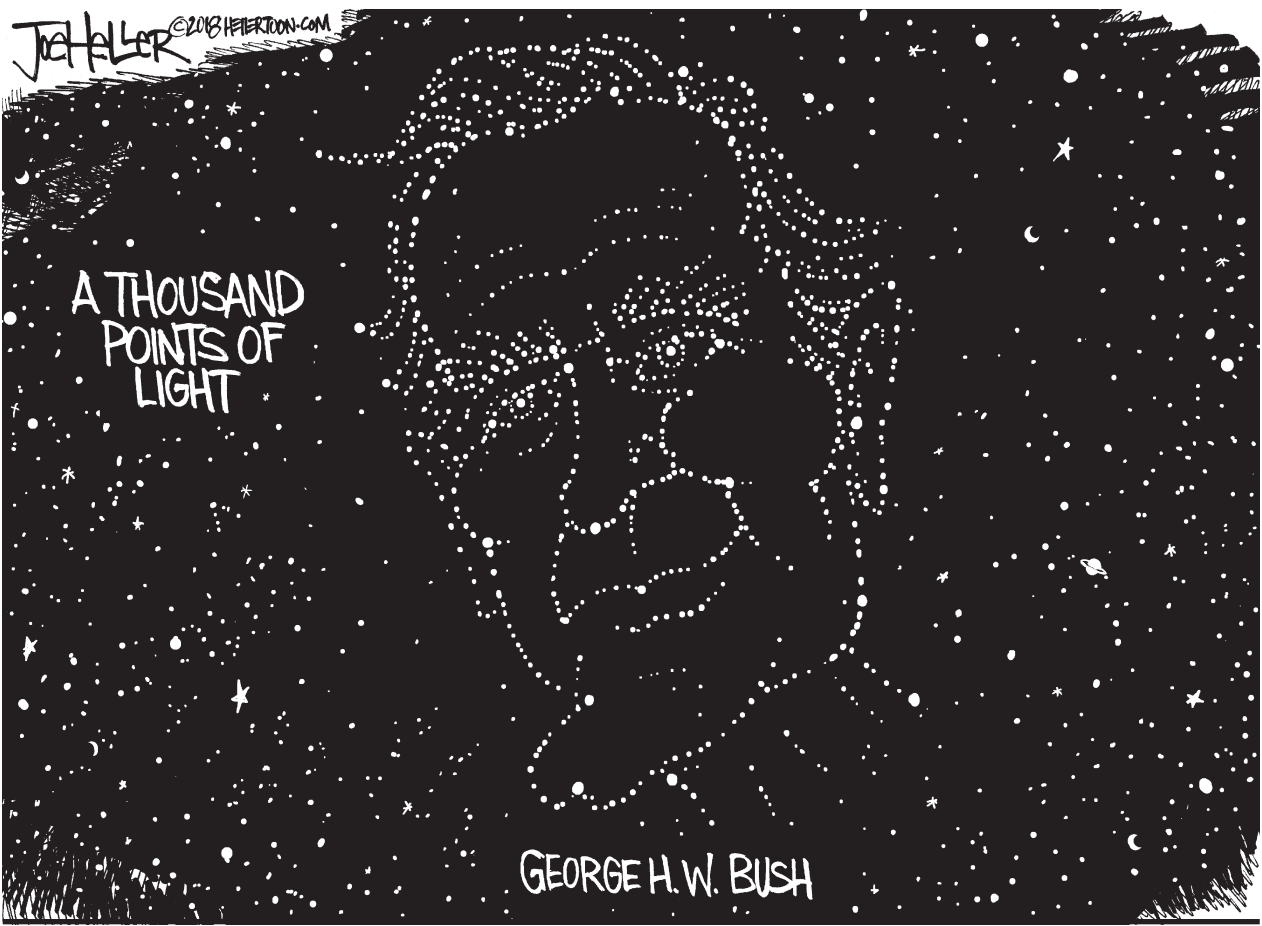
Our 1st Annual Island City Lights has started with local businesses and organizations creating winter scenes to keep Cumberland looking festive during the winter season. Once again they are looking for your votes so make sure to stop in and cast your vote for your favorite. Voting will continue through January.

Jumping into 2019 we want to make sure everyone has Saturday, February 9th marked on their calendars for the 36th Annual Wis-

consin State Ice Fishing Contest.

Make sure you have liked the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce Facebook page for current events and contests/give-a-ways. We will also be starting to send out monthly emails with event information, if you would like to be included in that please send an email to info@cumberlandchamberwi.com to get on the email list.

I am so excited about all the things going on with the Cumberland Chamber right now and look forward to continuing the trend as we start 2019!



Inside Wisconsin

by Tom Still

Gene-modified babies violate scientific ethics and process

MADISON, Wis. – Sadly, it was only a matter of time before a scientist somewhere outside the United States claimed to have created the world’s first genetically altered human babies.

That’s not because scientists in the United States lack the know-how to tweak the genes of babies in the womb. It’s because those same scientists are governed by laws, regulations and ethical standards that would prevent them from doing so.

That distinction is important to understand as advancements in genomics, some of which are taking place in Wisconsin, lead to more personalized therapies for treating and curing killer diseases.

He Jiankui of China’s Southern University of Science and Technology shocked the scientific world in late November when word got out he had edited the genes of twin girls while they were embryos, explaining it was done to protect them from contracting the HIV virus. Researcher He basically bypassed scientific norms that call for subjecting his experiment to review by peers.

As a result, He was called on the carpet at the second annual International Summit

on Human Genome Editing in Hong Kong, most vociferously by a UW-Madison bioethicist who was around for the dawn of human embryonic stem-cell research 20 years ago and who helped to organize the summit.

Alta Charo, who holds appointments in both Wisconsin’s law school and medical school, is a leading American authority on bioethics. She called He’s experiment “misguided, premature, unnecessary and largely useless” – and that was just for starters.

“The children were already at virtually no risk of contracting HIV, because it was the father and not the mother who was infected,” Charo noted.

“The patients were given a consent form that falsely stated this was an AIDS vaccine trial and which conflated research with therapy by claiming they were ‘likely’ to benefit,” Charo said. “In fact, there is not only very little chance these babies would be in need of a benefit, given their low risk, but there is no way to evaluate if this indeed conferred any benefit.”

Other scientists have chimed in along the same lines in hopes of policing their own. When a scientist like

China’s He goes rogue, it poisons the well for legitimate, peer-reviewed researchers everywhere, which is why most of the world’s scientists abide by rules and processes that value ethics as much as efficacy.

Science is generally governed by the notion that just because something can be done, it doesn’t mean it should be done. When those norms are violated, most scientists understand, it invites more regulation from the outside that can slow or halt useful research.

That’s true even in China, where a group of 122 Chinese scientists issued a statement calling He’s actions “crazy” and his claims of having altered the embryos’ genes “a huge blow to the global reputation and development of Chinese science.”

In fact, researcher He is facing investigation by a medical ethics board in Shenzhen to see if he broke the law. The Chinese university has placed He on unpaid leave.

How was the gene editing done? By using a gene-editing technique called CRISPR, which enables scientists to make precise changes in DNA. The technique is changing how re-

search is done at institutions such as the UW-Madison and could lead to significant breakthroughs.

In fact, the UW-Madison’s program for advanced cell therapy aims to develop personalized cell therapies for immune and malignant disorders. It will follow protocols set by the university and the federal government in finding ways to test cell therapies that work in adults and children, using the patient’s own cells and tissues.

Until now, however, scientists have refused to open the Pandora’s Box of cell manipulation in embryos. The reasons are practical as well as ethical. For example, such changes could be passed down from one generation to the next or open the door to “designer babies” that are modified for non-medical reasons, such as being taller or stronger.

The scientific world hasn’t reached consensus on how to safely and ethically edit embryos, nor is it sure it should be done at all. This is one Pandora’s Box that should remain shut for now.

Still is president of the Wisconsin Technology Council. He is the former associate editor of the Wisconsin State Journal.

A Look Back

December 7, 1978....

ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS
Is it time to go south for the winter?
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Letters to the Editor: The Cumberland Advocate welcomes letters to the editor, 500 words or less on subjects of interest to our readers, however, the choice of any material is at the discretion of the editor. Letters are limited to one per month per person. Letters endorsing or criticizing candidates for elected office will not be published two weeks prior to the election.
The editor also reserves the right to edit letters to meet space requirements, clarify, or to avoid obscenity, libel, or invasion of privacy. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include the address and phone number(s) for verification purposes.
Poetry and thank you letters are not appropriate. There will be a charge for letters of thank you from individuals and they will be included with the paid notices, not with Letters to the Editor.
Weekly deadline is 2:00 p.m. on Friday

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CHRISTMAS COMES ONCE A YEAR AND BEFORE WE KNOW IT ...
IT WILL BE HERE —
Here's Some Great Holiday Values To Make Gift Selections Easier ...
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MON. THRU THURS., 8:30 TO 5 — FRI., OPEN UNTIL 8 P.M.
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Barron County Circuit Court

Jerry L. Stoeklen, 26, Rice Lake, operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, 1st, \$811.50 + driver's license revoked for six months, and must undergo alcohol assessment; Robert A. Truitt, 48, Webster, fail to signal turn, \$175.30; Kelly L. Korthof, 50, Barron, passing in a no passing zone, \$213.10, and operating a motor vehicle without insurance, \$200.50; Isaac A. Mason, 17, Rice Lake, speeding, 25-29 mph over the speed limit, \$250.90+ driver's license suspended for 15 days; Wayne E. Muhonen, 70, Chetek, operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, 1st, \$874.50 + driver's license revoked for seven months, and must undergo alcohol assessment; Tanner W. Newville, 20, Cumberland, operating a motor vehicle after suspension of his driver's license, \$200.50; Mark A. Frisinger, 48, Cameron, operating a motor vehicle without proof of insurance, \$10.00; Aucencio Jacinto, 59, Rice Lake, passing in a no passing zone, \$213.10; Mark P. Johnson, 38, Barronett, failure to stop at a stop sign, \$175.30; Kelly L. Korthof, 50, Barron, driver drink open intoxicants in a motor vehicle, \$263.50; Dustin D. Clemmens, 37, Chetek, non-registration of vehicle, \$175.30, operating a motor vehicle without carrying a driver's license, \$150.10, and operating a motor vehicle without insurance, \$200.50; and Kyle A. Craine, 29, Comstock, operating a motor vehicle after suspension of his driver's license, \$200.50..

The court found Joshua J. Sprenger, 36, of Rice Lake, guilty of obstructing an officer. He was fined \$200.50.

The court found Richelle L. Bleifus, 22, of Cumberland, guilty of retail theft. She was fined \$200.50.

Complaints

Malichi J. Hill, 17, of Rice Lake, has been charged with underage drinking. He is scheduled to appear January 2, 2019.

Aaron V. Wyatt, 30, of Barron, has been charged with disorderly conduct. His court date has been set for December 19, 2018.

Connor L. Williams, 17, of Dallas, has been charged with underage drinking. He is scheduled to appear January 2, 2019.

Mason O. Glaser, 19, of Cameron, has been charged with underage drinking. His court date has been set for January 2, 2019.

Hailee A. Harnack, 19, of Chetek, has been charged with three counts of being an adult permitting underage drinking. She is scheduled to appear January 2, 2019.

uled to appear January 2, 2019.

Lexi J. Benjamin, 21, of Luck, has been charged with disorderly conduct. Her court date has been set for December 19, 2018.

Gabrielle M. Fuller, 28, of Chetek, has been charged with retail theft. She is scheduled to appear December 12, 2018.

Leif F. Arnes, 48, of Barronett, has been charged with place/transport a loaded firearm in a vehicle. He is scheduled to appear January 16, 2019.

Scott D. Bernstein, 59, of Cameron, and Craig P. Just, 55 of Cumberland, have each been charged with unlicensed/unregistered drilling, installation, sealing, or inspecting, and failure to submit sample results. They are scheduled to appear January 16, 2019.

Criminal Complaints

John R. Youngbear, 31, of Cumberland, has been charged with misdemeanor bail jumping. (Failure to comply with the terms of his bond by coming within 300' of a residence on 2 1/2 Street). His initial appearance will be held December 12, 2018.

Erica C. Holmstrom, 27, of Rice Lake, has been charged with disorderly conduct, domestic abuse. Her adjourned initial appearance was scheduled for December 5, 2018.

Chong Moua, 38, of Barron, has been charged with disorderly conduct, domestic abuse. His adjourned initial appearance was scheduled for December 5, 2018.

Ahmed A. Khalaf, 22, of Barron, has been charged with third degree sexual assault. His adjourned initial appearance was scheduled for December 5, 2018.

Sarah R. Dahl, 45, of Cameron, has been charged with possession with intent to deliver Schedule IV drugs. Her initial appearance will be held December 12, 2018.

Abraham M. Mott, 35, of Barron, has been charged with attempting to flee or elude an officer, operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, 2nd, obstructing an officer and failure to install an ignition interlock device.

The criminal complaint states that on Saturday, November 24, 2018, at approximately 3:15 a.m. Barron County Deputy Fick was traveling eastbound on 9th Avenue approaching County Highway P, south of Almena. As Deputy Fick was traveling eastbound, he observed a vehicle in front of him that appeared to be swerving all over the roadway as both vehicles were traveling eastbound on 9th Avenue. As Deputy Fick got closer to the vehicle he ran

the registration and learned the vehicle was registered to a female subject.

Deputy Fick continued to follow the vehicle and observed that it was crossing the center line. As he followed the vehicle for a short distance and approached it, he observed the vehicle begin to slow down and pull over to the side of the road. The vehicle came to a stop on the side of the road on 9th Avenue, just west of County Highway P. Deputy Fick activated his emergency lights and attempted to stop the vehicle for operating left of center. As he activated his emergency lights, the vehicle accelerated eastbound on 9th Avenue.

As the vehicles were travelling east on 9th Avenue, they approached the stop sign on County Highway P and Deputy Fick observed the vehicle go through the stop sign without stopping and begin to travel northbound on County Highway P. Deputy Fick also observed the vehicle pull over and stop on County Highway P, just north of the intersection of 9th Avenue. Deputy Fick also pulled over and began to order the driver to turn off the vehicle through his PA system in his squad car. As he was attempting to do so, the vehicle accelerated and again began to travel northbound on County Highway P. At this point Deputy Fick activated his emergency sirens in addition to the emergency lights that were already activated and attempted to stop the vehicle.

The vehicle continued to go northbound on County Highway P, at which point the vehicle ultimately slowed down and stopped again and a passenger exited the vehicle. The vehicle then continued northbound on County Highway P. The speeds that Deputy Fick was traveling were anywhere from 50 miles an hour to 35 miles an hour. The vehicle then turned and went westbound on 9 1/2 Avenue and ultimately turned northbound into a field. Deputy Fick was able to follow the vehicle and observed that the vehicle ended up turning eastbound into a different field and ultimately turned southbound toward 9 1/2 Avenue again. Deputy Fick also learned that Sgt. Hulback had contact with the person that had gotten out of the vehicle and was advised that the driver was named Abraham Mott. He was also advised that Mott had a felony warrant that had been issued by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.

As the vehicle came back to 9 1/2 Avenue, he began traveling eastbound on 9 1/2 Avenue toward county Highway P. The vehicle ultimately traveled through stop spikes that had been deployed by Sgt. Hulback on 9 1/2 Avenue at the intersection of County Highway P. The vehicle drove over the spike strips and began to travel southbound on Highway P.

Deputy Fick was authorized by Sgt. Hulback to conduct a stop maneuver in attempt to get the vehicle to stop. As Deputy Fick was attempting to position his squad car to execute the stop maneuver, the vehicle turned into his squad car coming into contact with the front passenger side bumper of the squad car. Deputy Fick was ultimately able to execute a stop maneuver causing the vehicle to spin and become disabled.

Deputy Fick made contact with Mott. During the course of Deputy Fick's contact with Mott he indicated several times to Deputy Fick that he knew he should have stopped and pulled over. He also indicated to Deputy Fick that he intended to check himself into rehab and that he would have pulled over. He indicated that he knew he had warrants for his arrest and that he again should have stopped for Deputy Fick and not fled from him.

During the course of Deputy Fick's contact with Mott, he detected the odor of raw marijuana coming from his jacket. He also observed that Mott has very slow, had delayed speech and appeared to be very exhausted and that he had a difficult time standing and staying awake during Deputy Fick's interaction with him. Based on his training and experience, Deputy Fick believed that Mott was under the influence of some type of substance given the initial driving that he had observed and his contact with him.

Based on the odor of suspected marijuana coming from Mott, Deputy Fick conducted a search of the vehicle. In the trunk of the vehicle, he located a black bag which contained two glass jars that contained a green leafy substance, that based upon his training and experience, Deputy Fick believed to be marijuana. He also located a large vacuum sealed bag that had the label "Lady Dragh 1/2." Deputy Fick also located a digital scale, individual packaging and a black plastic tray. He estimated that the quantity of suspected marijuana found to be roughly a half a pound and that there were several individually packed bags.

His report indicated that he subsequently determined there were seven bags of suspected marijuana. The first bag weighted 8 g, a second

bag weighted 4 g, the third bag weighed 10 g, the fourth bag weighed 14 g, the fifth bag weighed 14 g, the sixth bag weighed 28 g. and the seventh bag weighed 222 g. The subsequent field test resulted in a positive result for the presence of tetrahydrocannabinol.

Mott was transported to the Barron Hospital for medical clearance. Based on his initial observation of Mott, combined with the driving Deputy Fick observed, he administered several field sobriety tests to Mott, that Mott was not able

to successfully perform. Deputy Fick also learned from the medical staff at the hospital that Mott had admitted to smoking methamphetamine on Friday the 23rd and that he was tired from being awake for a long period of time.

If convicted Mott may be fined not more than \$21,700 or imprisoned for not more than two years. His driver's license may also be revoked for not more than six months. His preliminary hearing will be held December 6, 2018.

Cumberland Police Dept. Call Log

Monday, Nov. 19

Subject slid off the intersection of Robinson Street and Hines Lakeview Drive. There were no injuries, the vehicle was towed.

Officer received a complaint of a vehicle that had been parked in front of a residence on 1st Avenue that they felt was potentially abandoned. The vehicle owner was notified and the vehicle was removed later in the day.

Tuesday, Nov. 20

Officer responded to a fight behind a bar. No one wanted to do anything.

Officer stopped subject for failure to stop at a stop sign. Subject said he was late for watching *The Voice*.

Two citations were issued for operating a motor vehicle after suspension of their driver's license and no insurance.

Officer responded to a car versus deer accident at Highways 63 and 48.

Wednesday, Nov. 21

The Library called and advised their were two subjects fighting. Officer arrived and both subjects will be cited. They were advised they can no longer come to the library.

Subject called 911 and advised she cut herself. She was transported to the hospital, was chaptered and transported to Luther in Eau Claire.

Officer assisted with a vehicle that caller reported has been parked along 2 1/2 Street for two days. The subject was out hunting.

Thursday, Nov. 22

Subject reported someone shot two deer from the road by his house. Reporting party found the vehicle and stood by until a DNR Warden arrived at the scene.

Friday, Nov. 23

Three subjects were cited for speeding.

Saturday, Nov. 24

Officer found an injured cat on the road and took it to Cumberland Vet Clinic.

Officer received a report of a male loitering at a convenience store. The subject had been dropped off the night before and got a ride to Hammond later in the day.

Warning was given for a subject who was speeding.

Sunday, Nov. 25

Officer found a dog, tried to contact the owner, but the phone went to voice mail. Dog was taken to Happy Tails.

Warning given for a subject who was speeding.

Monday, November 26

Officer assisted Marathon County with locating a subject.

agency Medical Services, they found Isler had succumbed to her injuries and passed away. The driver of the GMC suffered minor injuries.

Assisting with this crash were the Apple River Fire and First Responders, the Amery Area Ambulance Service, the Lakes Area Ambulance Service, and the Polk County Medical Examiner's Office.

This matter will be further investigated by the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Barron County
Tipster Line

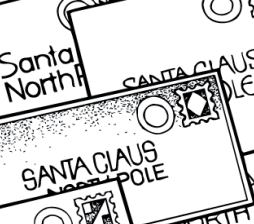


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2018
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Date	Hi	Lo	Snow
11/28	20	8	Trace
11/29	24	8	.5"
11/30	27	22	-
12/1	28	23	-
12/2	30	23	1.0"
12/3	30	23	-
12/4	24	18	-

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Sports

Northwest Icemen Have Busy Week

The Northwest Icemen Co-Op Boys Hockey Team is having a successful start to the season under new Coach Curtis Cutsforth and has a 2 and 1 record heading into action this week. The team played WSLG on Tuesday and this Thursday, will host Somerset, at the Cumberland rink, beginning at 7:00 pm.

The teams lone loss was a 3-1 decision to Amery, while the team has victories over New Richmond and Rice Lake.

The loss against Amery came in the teams opener last Tuesday. Cumberlands RJ Gunderson had the teams lone goal, which was

in the first period. Cumberlands Jonah Becker was in the nets, stopping 20 of 22 Amery shots.

Last Thursday, the Icemen evened their seasons record with a 5-3 win over New Richmond at the Cumberland rink. In the victory, Gunderson had his second goal of the season, while Cumberlands Carter Bickle added an assist.

The week ended on Saturday, when the Icemen defeated Rice Lake 3-2. Becker continued his strong play in the net with another victory, while his teammates played a solid game around him.

Boys Basketball Splits Opening Two Games

The Cumberland Boys Basketball Team opened up their season last week, by defeating Bruce and losing to Webster in non-conference action.

The Beavers opened things up last Tuesday with a 74-51 loss to Webster. "We just couldn't keep up with them. They are big and athletic and were a Sectional qualifier last year. Our youthfulness showed at times in the contest," said Coach Corey Berghammer.

Noah Schradle led the Beavers with 14 points, while Riley Bodsberg added nine and Dashawn Ames eight. Webster led 40-22 at half and put four players in double figures in the contest.

Thursday, the team traveled to Bruce, where they picked up their first win with a 62-36 victory. "We did a better job running our offense and our defensive effort improved," said Coach Berghammer.

The team had balanced scoring with Ethan Sandman scoring a team-high 12 points and grabbing six rebounds. Andrew Barnes added 11 points, Jack Martens had eight, and Noah Schradle scored seven, while adding a team-high five assists.

The team hosted Grantsburg on Tuesday and this Thursday opens up HON play when they travel to Bloomer for a 7:15 pm start.

Girls Basketball Team Loses Two; At Ladysmith on Friday Night

The Cumberland Girls Basketball Team saw their record fall to 0 and 3 on the year with a pair of losses last week. The Team lost to Webster 51-35 and Bloomer 74-19. The Team was back in action on Tuesday against Hayward and then travel to Ladysmith this Friday for a 7:15 pm battle against the Lumberjills.

Against Webster, Izzy West had a nice game with 13 points, five rebounds, and three steals. Kaia Johnson scored seven points, while Freshman Maisen Gores had eight rebounds and seven blocks in the

contest. "We struggled to capitalize on numerous shots around the rim," said Coach Corey Chilson.

Last Thursday, the team played a good Bloomer team who proved to be too seasoned for the youthful Beavers squad. Maisen Gores led the way for Cumberland with seven points, while Autumn Donatell added six and Izzy West four.

"We're eager to keep improving and continue to bring determination and enthusiasm to practice each night," said Chilson.



Cumberland's RJ Gunderson #5 looks for a rebound during the Ice Men's win over New Richmond at the Cumberland Ice Arena. # 26 Jared Burch mans the point. Photo by Bob Nugent

Wrestling Season Begins

The Cumberland Wrestling Team got off to a rousing start last Friday night, when they hosted their own Island City Duals competition in the Cumberland gym. As part of the competition, the teams combined on a successful fundraiser as part of the "Randy Shaver Take Down Cancer Night," as well as showing support in the continued look for Jayme Closs.

It turned out to be a very successful night for Coach Isaac Lundquist and the Beavers as they put together a 3 and 1 overall team record. Their wins included an impressive 49-30 win over Boyceville and a 43-33 victory over River Falls. Their lone loss was a 51-28 defeat by Baldwin-Woodville.

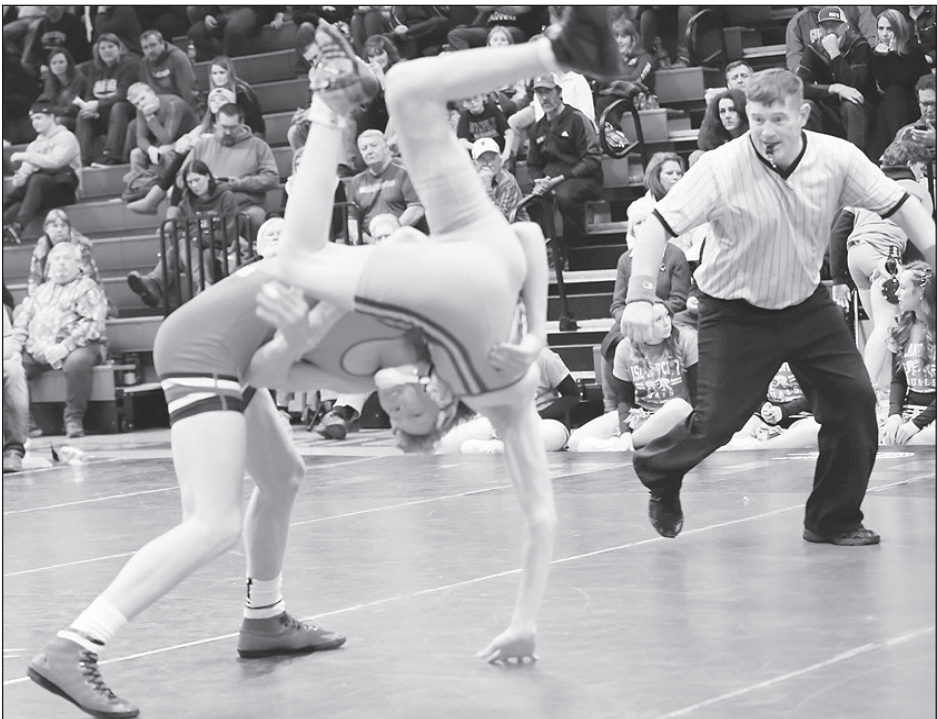
This Thursday, the Beavers open up HON competition with a big road match against Chetek/Weyerhaeuser, while this weekend the Beavers head to Wisconsin Dells for their Duals. On Tuesday, December 11, Cumberland continues HON competition, by traveling to Spooner for a 7:00 pm start.



RJ Gunderson #5 and Wyatt Boe #6 crash the net in the Icemen's 5-3 win over New Richmond. Photo by Bob Nugent



Adam Nyhus puts a Hayward wrestler on his back Friday night in Cumberland. Photo by Bob Nugent



Gavin Jarcow takes a Boyceville wrestler to the mat at the Island City Duals Friday night in Cumberland. Photo by Bob Nugent

Sports Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 6

Boys Hockey vs Somerset @ Cumb. 7:00

Wrestling @ Chetek/Wey. 7:00

Boys BB @ Bloomer 7:15

Friday, Dec. 7

Wrestling JV @ Wi. Dells 5:00

Saturday, Dec. 8

Wrestling @ Wi. Dells 8:00 am

Girls Hockey vs Eau Claire N. @ Hayward 1:00

Tuesday, Dec. 11

Boys Hockey @ Chequamegon 6:00

Girls Hockey vs Chippewa Falls @ Hayward 6:00

Wrestling @ Spooner 7:00

Boys BB @ St. Croix Falls 7:15

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Open Skate will start on Friday November 16th
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NEWS


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Cumberland Area Fishing & Hunting Table

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• Longitude 91.45

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**LUNAR TIMES**

	AM		PM		MOON						
DATE	Minor	Major	Minor	Major	Sunrise	Sunset	Rise	Up	Sets	Down	DST
12/05 Wed	2:50	9:02	3:14	9:27	07:29	04:20	5:28a	3:45p	10:40a	11:05p	
12/06 Thu >	3:36	9:48	4:01	10:13	07:30	04:20	6:33a	4:20p	11:29a	11:54p	
12/07 Fri N	4:25	10:37	4:50	11:03	07:31	04:20	7:36a	5:00p	12:19p	No Moon	
12/08 Sat >	5:17	11:00	5:42	-----	07:32	04:20	8:33a	5:45p	1:10p	12:45a	
12/09 Sun >	6:10	11:54	6:35	12:23	07:33	04:20	9:25a	6:36p	2:00p	1:35a	
12/10 Mon >	7:05	12:52	7:29	1:17	07:34	04:20	10:11a	7:31p	2:49p	2:28a	
12/11 Tue	7:59	1:47	8:22	2:10	07:35	04:20	10:50a	8:28p	3:37p	3:13a	


Major = 2 hours/Minor = 1 hour • Times are centered on the major/minor window
F=Full Moon N=New Moon Q=Quarter Moon > = Peak Activity
DST will have * in it if it is in effect that day Calibrated for Time Zone: 6W



Attention Sports Fans!

All Cumberland athletic events are free this year!

Come out and support the Beavers!





An Outdoorsman's Journal

by Mark Walters

Deer Camp, as Good as it Gets!

Hello friends,

This weeks column is about the first weekend of deer camp for the Red Brush Gang as we hunted public land in northern Juneau County under very difficult conditions. There is much to say and because of that I will have to be short on each subject.

Friday, November 16th
High 34, low 25

Last night 18 members of the Red Brush Gang came to camp and had a "hooray its deer camp get together." This morning I took my 17-year-old daughter Selina to school at Necedah High School and then headed to the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge where I did a 2.2 mile hike to where Selina and I would be hunting the next morning.

Last Sunday, Selina and I put out two trail cameras and today both had multiple buck pictures on them, and one had a great picture of what appeared to be a ten pointer.

Saturday, November 17th
High 31, low 17

Before I go any further I want to mention what was probably the most important subject for this group of up to 25 hip boot hunters, and it was the dreaded, half ice. Half ice does not support your body weight but is tough to break through and can be dangerous and a real pain in the behind to negotiate

Anyways, today I watched night become day for the 48th gun deer opener in a row in this neck of the woods, and though I did not see a deer it was epic as I spent 11-hours in a tree going down memory lane.

My brother Mike was about 2-miles away and taught everyone the fact that when you think you hit a buck you keep looking. Mike shot at what would be a 7-pointer, was certain that he hit it and after two hours of looking found his buck.

Meanwhile about 4-miles away and one long trek

into half ice country my life long buddy Doug Cibulka was hunting with his 20-year-old son Derek. Both the Cibulkas filled their tags by 8:00 with a fork for Derek, and an 8-pointer for Doug.

Out of 18 of us that is all that we harvested, but that is our average for day one.

Tonight at camp I was exhausted and knew that I had to move my stand after the early morning hunt as the half ice was keeping the deer out of my area. I only slept for about 90-minutes and came up with my plan.

Sunday, November 18th
High 21, low 9

It was very cold when I said goodbye and good luck to Selina at the base of her tree at 5:30 this morning. I hiked another half mile to my tree and sat in it until 9:00 pm and did not see a deer and was confident that I needed to move to drier land and had picked out my tree the day before.

Hauling a pack, stand, climbing sticks and a rifle all in one trip in half ice is crazy frustrating. When I got to the tree I planned on hunting I saw two men walking and talked to one of them. The guys that I talked to are good guys as is the rest of their gang.

They were setting up a drive and in a way I was in the middle of it. On public land this is a touchy subject but what was I to do? I was only 400-yards from where I had been all weekend and was going to sit until dark. Selina was also only 400-yards away and they had to walk by her.

Things get a little crazy now but they kicked up three deer and the first was shot by another hunter. The second was one of the biggest bucks that I have ever seen in the woods. I did not even aim at this deer and let it pass. This deer was also shot.

The third deer that came by was a ten-pointer that was smaller than the first deer but a dandy.



This ten point buck was harvested 4 days after this picture was taken.



The bucks just kept adding up for the Red Brush Gang.

I sent it to heaven in half ice hell and it was probably the most unique situation that I have ever killed a buck in.

When Selina and I got back to camp two hours after dark we had the buck that would win this years Red Brush Gang buck contest and one heck of a "Sunday Night Party" took place.

P.S. To add to this experience, the buck I harvested was the one in the trail camera pic.

Sunset

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Emily Schmitz pulls up for a jump shot Tuesday night at Webster. Photo by Raven Broker



Reyna Bertelson brings the ball up-court vs Bloomer Thursday night in Cumberland. Photo by Raven Broker

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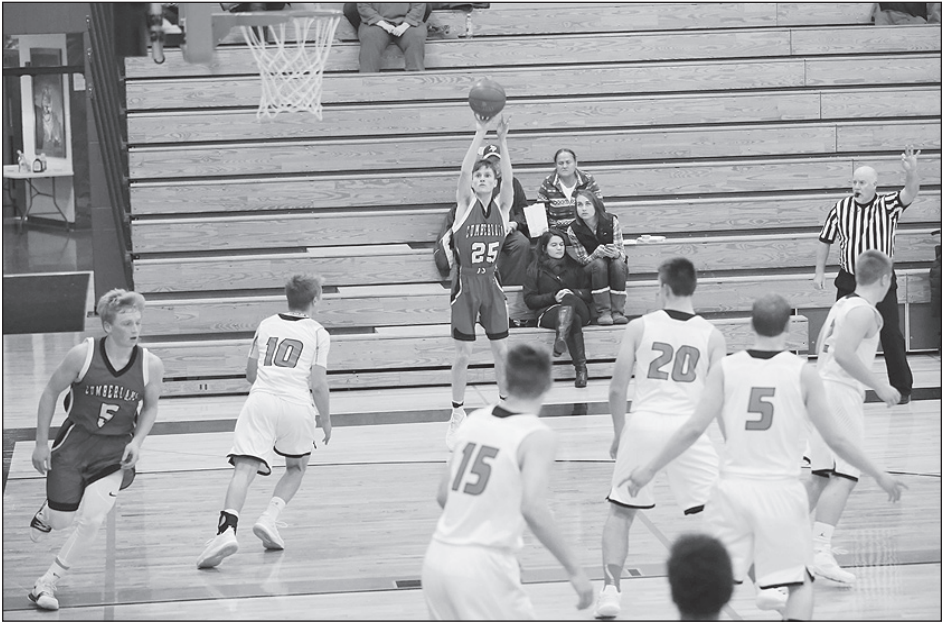
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Greg Tetner puts up a jump shot against a tough Tiger squad last Thursday night at Webster. Photo by Bob Nugent



Noah Schrader put in two of this team high 14 points in the boys loss at Webster. Photo by Bob Nugent

Cumberland Advocate Football Contest

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Oakland vs. Pittsburgh

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Gary Kallsen 12

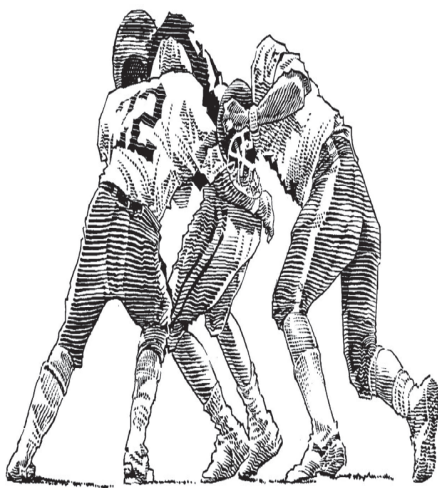
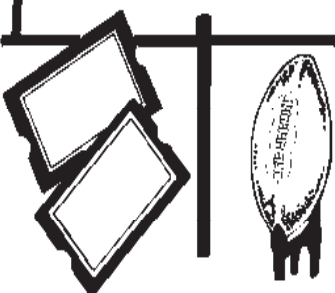
2nd Place

Kelsey Shick 12

3rd Place

Lisa DaBruzzi 12

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1st Prize \$20.00

2nd Prize \$15.00

3rd Prize \$10.00

Super Prize \$35.00 *

*Awarded to anyone who selects all correct winners in a week. Prizes awarded are "Football Bucks" and can be used the same as cash at participating businesses.

MUST BE USED BY MARCH 1, 2018

OBITUARIES



George W. Sellent

On November 29th, 2018 our heavenly Father took George to his eternal glory at the age of 93 years. George Walter Sellent was born on October 5th, 1925 in Almena to Albert and Ida (Erb) Sellent. He was confirmed on July 14th, 1940 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church. George attended school in Barron until 1942. He was drafted into the military January 23rd, 1945 and was honorably discharged on November 26th, 1946. George was assigned to the 311th Engineer Construction Battalion in Luzon Philip-pines. He received an Asiatic Pacific Campaign medal, WWII Victory medal, Good Conduct Medal, Philippine Independence ribbon, and

a Philippine Liberation ribbon.

George met the love of his life, Deloris, while he was in South Dakota on a pheasant hunting trip. He was married to Deloris in Iroquois, South Dakota on June 4th, 1947. That year they returned to the Almena area where they began their life dairy farming. George farmed in the Almena community near his brothers, son and grandson for over 50 years.

In addition to a life dedicated to farming, George enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing on the church dartball team and most importantly spending time with his family. George was an active and faithful member of St. Matthew Lutheran Church for nearly 80 years. For many years George has been the bell toller for those who have passed before him. He took great pride in cheering on his grandchildren and great grandchildren at athletic events throughout the years where he still managed to find his seat at the top row of the bleachers into his 90's. George was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and friend

to many. Faith, family and friends were notably a priority in every day of George's life. His infectious smile will not soon be forgotten.

He is survived by his children Dianne Wagner of Clear Lake, Dale Sellent of Almena, Allen Sellent of Almena and his daughter Lucille (Jeff) Lewis of Clayton, 11 grandchildren, Val Fagerlin, Karie Sickich, Ryan Wagner, Julie McKenzie, Michelle Benoy, Michael Wagner, Brent Sellent, Jeremy Lewis, Aaron Wagner, Justin Lewis, Karissa Loney, 27 great grandchildren, two brothers Clarence (Bernice) Sellent, Henry (Nila) Sellent, and sister-in-law Leona Peskey, special Godchildren Bob Sellent, Judy Scherff, and Bruce Sellent along with many more nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives. George was preceded in death by his loving wife, brothers Bernard and Walter, sisters Dorothy and Margaret, and granddaughter Miranda.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 3rd, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church with the Pastor Paul and Pastor Becker officiating. Burial

will be in St. Matthew Cemetery. Full military honors were accorded by Almena VFW Post #8512.

Pallbearers were his grandsons Ryan Wagner, Mike Wagner, Brent Sellent, Jeremy Lewis, Aaron Wagner and Justin Lewis.

Skinner Funeral Home of Cumberland is serving the family.



Illa Mae Theese

Illa Mae Theese, 80, of Barronett, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at Shell Lake Health Care Center. She was born January 4, 1938 in Bruce to Harold and Elsie (Becker) Coleman. Illa graduated from Amery High School in May of 1956.

She was married in Pine

City, MN on June 30, 1956 to Kenneth Theese. Together they lived in their Barronett home for over 60 years. Illa stayed busy with their three children. She also worked at 3-M, Stella Cheese, and cleaned homes. Illa enjoyed being outside, working in her yard and flower beds. Illa loved to go out polka dancing with friends, crocheting and spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is survived by two sons: Scott (Lisa) Theese of Cumberland, Rick (Robyn) Theese of Barronett; son-in-law, Todd Graunke of Clayton; nine grandchildren: Heather Carlson, Derek Theese, David (Rebecca) Pederson, Emily Pederson, Jennifer Pederson, Tyson (Melody) Theese, David (Melissa) Rye, Christopher Theese and Austin Theese; seven great grandchildren: Arianna Carlson, Jon Carlson, Jasmine Pederson, Parker Pederson, Destiney Osumi, Terrianah LaPage and Collin Rye, two brothers: Allen Coleman, Larry Coleman; half brother, Jim Coleman and many other relatives and

friends.

Illa was preceded in death by her husband, Kenny, on March 28, 1996; daughter, Cathy Graunke, brother, Arnold Coleman, two sisters: Jean Hunt and Carol Clark.

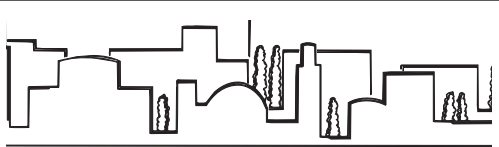
Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM Saturday, December 1, 2018 at Skinner Funeral Home in Cumberland with Pastor Todd Ahneman officiating. Burial will be in Lake Side Cemetery in Barronett.

Pallbearers were Justin Theese, David Pederson, Jeff Theese, Tyson Theese, Christopher Theese, and Jim Milton. Honorary pallbearers were Heather Carlson, Derek Theese, Emily Pederson, Jennifer Pederson, David Rye and Austin Theese.

Skinner Funeral Home of Cumberland is serving the family.



Church Directory



He was born for you! By Pastor Tim Schmidt

First Lutheran Church, Cumberland

The way that Christ came among us is not at all what the world would expect for a king. A stable, not a palace was here He was born. Poor, young peasants and not a king and queen gave birth to Him and raised Him. And lowly, probably dirty shepherds, came to pay Him homage instead of a royal delegation. But that is how God chose to come into the world in His Son, Jesus Christ.

And He came in this way because God chose to come for us-for all of us-wherever we are in life. In the dirt of that stable, in the fear of those outcast shepherds at seeing the angels in the sky, and even in the pain of that young mother giving birth in that comfortless place-God showed that He could reach us no matter where He has to come to find us. God came in lowliness to reach us even in our lowliness. For God entered this world, not in the splendor of a palace or even the cleanliness of a hospital, but in the dirt and grime of everyday life.

He came among ordinary people and things to bring that marvelous news to us that God has come near. God is not far removed in the heavens, shrouded and hidden from us in His majesty and awe-but God is here in Christ Jesus-among us, one of us, a human just like us.

The glorious and mighty creator of heaven and earth-He who formed the mountains-the sea and the dry land-has taken on human flesh for our sake in a defenceless baby.

In one of his Christmas sermons, Martin Luther captures so well what this unbelievable reality meant for him-and what it also means for us. He says: "To me there is no greater consolation given to mankind than this, that Christ became a man, a child, a babe, playing in the lap and at the breasts of His most gracious mother. Who is there whom this sight would not comfort? If you come to see this gurgling babe and believe that He is come, not to judge you, but to save, then the power of sin, death, hell and conscience, and guilt is overcome."

In this season of Christmas may you each be filled with the knowledge that Christ was born for you. And may you know His love and peace abundantly in your lives.

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
1025 Second Avenue
Phone: 715-822-2890
Interim Pastor: Mark Bents,
Worship Service: Sunday: 9:00am.; Holy Communion at all services.

BARRONETT LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
776 Prospect Ave.,
Phone: 715-822-5511,
cell: 715-671-3197
Minister: Todd Ahneman
Sunday: Worship service 9:00 a.m.; Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS, Pipe Lake
See us on Facebook
Polk County Hwys. "G" and "T"
christlutheranpipelake.com
Steve Miller, Pastor
Phone: 715-822-3096
Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.
All Year; Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:00 am. September-May.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS (Mormons)
644 South 6th St., Barron
Bishop Kenneth Konesky
Chapel: (715) 537-3679
Home: (715) 719-0283
Sunday Sacrament: 10 a.m.; Sunday School/Primary: 11:20 a.m.; Priesthood/Relief Society, 12:10 p.m.

CUMBERLAND BAPTIST
Gary Dorn, Pastor
1225 Hwy. 48
Phone: 715-822-3520
Sunday: Bible Study: 8:30 a.m.;
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.
www.cumberlandbaptistchurch.com

FIRST LUTHERAN (ELCA)
Elm and Eighth Avenue
Timothy Schmidt, Pastor
Phone: 715-822-4416
Worship Service: Sunday: 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Mike Brubaker
Phone: 715-822-4293
Worship Service 9:00 a.m.,
Worshipping, witnessing, sharing community, Cry room available.
Sunday Fellowship following each service. Holy Communion 1st Sunday each month.
GOSPEL MENNONITE
Almena, WI.
Sunday: Sunday School, all ages 10:00 a.m. Worship Services: 10:45 a.m. Evening services: 7:45 p.m.

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
Clayton, WI.
Father Christopher Wojcik,
Saturday Vespers, 5 p.m.
Sunday Divine Liturgy: 9:30 a.
HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
662 20th Ave., Cumberland
Paul Greeno, Pastor
Phone: 715-822-3586
Sunday: Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
LAKE PARK ALLIANCE CHURCH
Shell Lake, WI.
John Sahlstrom and
John Henry Pastors
Phone: 715-468-2734
Prayer and Sunday School 9:00a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

NORTHERN LAKES COMMUNITY CHURCH
825 8th Ave., Cumberland
Dennis Wright, Pastor
Phone: 715-822-5502
Services: Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Contemporary worship with nursery for 0-3 years, Sunday study classes: 9:00 a.m. (children, youth and adults: 0 years - adults). Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Awana Children's program (2 years-Grade 8) and Adults: 7:30 p.m. High School .

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
Soo Ave., Almena,
Father Tommy Thompson
Weekend Mass: Sun., 8:30 am

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH
300 Pine St., Turtle Lake,
Father Tommy Thompson
Phone: 715-822-2948
Mass: Saturday: 4:00 p.m

ST. ANTHONY ABBOT CATHOLIC PARISH
900 St. Anthony Street
Father Tommy Thompson
Phone: 715-822-2948
Weekend Masses: Saturday: 6:00p.m.; Sunday: 10:30a.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
502 Second St., Shell Lake
Father Edwin Anderson
Phone: 715-635-3105
Saturday Mass; 4:30 p.m.

ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod (LCMS)
Almena, WI.
Pastor: Preston Paul
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.; Ladies Aid: 1st Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
Missouri Synod
1 mile East on Hwy. 48
John Miels, Pastor
Phone: 715-822-8690
Wednesday: Children's School: 4:30 p.m.; Contemporary worship service: 6:30 p.m.; Sunday: Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Traditional worship service: 9:00 a.m.

STANFOLD LUTHERAN
Hwy 48, 9 mi. E. of Cumberland
Pastor: Rev. John A. Bergson
Phone: 715-234-8812
Emergency: 715-296-0797
Sunday Worship: 9:30a.m. Fellowship 10:30a.m.; Sunday School, Adult Bible Study 11:00; Bible Study: 5:30 p.m. Wednesday: Worship Service: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Rice Lake, WI.
Hwy. SS 1/2 mi. S. of Cedar Mall
Pastor: John Redlich
Phone: 715-434-7798
Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service:
SHELL LAKE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
Shell Lake, WI.
Virgil Amundson, Pastor
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:00 a.m.; K. F. C. 10:00 a.m.; U-Turn Student Ministries: Sunday evening 6p.m.
SILVER CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod (LCMS)
483 7th Avenue, Clayton
Pastor: Preston Paul
Divine Service: Sunday: 7:30 a.m.; Holy Communion: 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month
TIMBERLAND RINGEBU FREE LUTHERAN
20805 County Highway H, Barronett, WI.
12 miles north on "H"
Jerome Nikunen, Interim Pastor
Phone: 715-468-4403
Sunday School, all ages: 8:15a.m. Family Worship: 9:30 a.m., Fellowship follows worship. Holy Communion 2nd Sunday each month.
TRINITY LUTHERAN
10 mi. W on Hwy. 48, McKinley
Pastor Diane House
Phone: 715-822-3001
Sunday Worship service: 9:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. Holy Communion first and third Sunday of each month.
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
Blue Hills Fellowship
230 W. Messenger St.
Rice Lake, WI.
April Nielsen, Lay Leader
Adult discussion forum: 9:15 a.m.; Worship services 10:30 a.m.; Coffee hour: 11:30 a.m.
ZION LUTHERAN
Wi. Ev. Lutheran Synod
3 miles NW of Almena
Ellery Groth, Pastor
Worship Service: 10:15 a.m. Holy communion first and third Sundays.

THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE

CUMBERLAND FEDERAL BANK Your Hometown Bank 715-822-2249 www.cumberlandfederal.com Member FDIC	RE/MAX NORTHSTAR See us for all your real estate needs 800-511-2615 www.remaxnorthstarwi.com	CUMBERLAND KWIK TRIP OPEN 24 HOURS Hot Food 24 hrs/day NEW LOCATION! in Cumberland, WI 54829	CUMBERLAND ACE HARDWARE & LUMBER Home of the <i>Helpful Hardware Man!</i> 715-822-8459	White Electric, Inc. Wiring, Trenching, Commercial, Industrial Residential, Farm 715-822-2147	NORTH COUNTRY PACKAGING Home of <i>North Country Gourmet Cheese Spread</i> 1623 6th St. • Almena 715-357-3080 Retail Store Hours: M-F 8 am - 4:30 pm
Odden's Flowers Open Mon-Fri: 8 AM - 5 PM Saturdays 8 AM-4 PM Phone: 715-822-4835 Cumberland, Wisconsin Cut Flower Arrangements • Perennials Shrubbery & Bedding Plants Big Geranium Pots • Hanging Baskets	5 O'CLOCK CLUB "Your Cumberland Caribbean" Phone 715-822-2924 Hwy. 63 North Cumberland	CUMBERLAND HEALTHCARE Hospital <i>Medical Clinic</i> 715-822-7500	KINDLED HEARTH FIREPLACE STORE WOOD • GAS • PELLET • ELECTRIC Sales • Service • Complete Installation Downtown Cumberland 715-822-5355 www.kindledhearthfireplacestore.	DAIRY STATE BANK 1405 2nd Ave., Cumberland Phone: 715-822-8316 Member FDIC	Edina Realty Cumberland & Turtle Lake 715-822-3595 1420 2nd Ave. • Cumberland
LAKESIDE RESTAURANT Closed Mondays 715-822-4533	SENECA FOODS CORPORATION "Compliments of Management and Employees" Cumberland, Wisconsin	CUMBERLAND TIRE 1060 Elm St • Cumberland, WI MOST TIRE SIZES, BRANDS & SERVICES OIL CHANGES • BRAKES • EXHAUST 715-822-4344	NILSSON'S FOODS Groceries • Deli • ATM • Lottery Open 7:00 am - 10:00 p.m. 7 days/week 1170 2nd Avenue • Cumberland 715-822-4541	FARR INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC Farm - Homeowners - Fire & EC Liability - Auto - Commercial Recreation Vehicles Office: 715-822-8151 • Cell: 715-671-8411 Cumberland, Wisconsin	LOUIE'S FINER MEATS "Home of Award-Winning Sausage" Phone: 715-822-4728 Hwy. 63 North, Cumberland
NELSON'S FLOOR COVERINGS DOWNTOWN CUMBERLAND 715-822-2477	BOB & STEVE'S BP AMOCO SHOP BP FUELS • Pizza & Deli Phone 715-822-4202 1633 Superior Ave. Cumberland, Wisconsin	THRIVENT FINANCIAL Chris Janssen Financial Associate 1335 Elm St., Cumberland, WI. 715-822-4388	LAKELAND CO., INC Steel Fabricators Factory Direct Trailers Hwy. 63 North • Cumberland Phone 715-822-8748	CUMBERLAND BUS SERVICE John & Sandy Peichel Locally owned and operated 715-822-2348 1750 Industrial Blvd., Cumberland	HAACK ORTHODONTICS Working with you and your general dentist to create healthy, happy smiles. 715-234-9071
	NORDQUIST TRUCKING LONNIE FOREHAND, OWNER 110 Prospect Ave. • PO Box 117 Almena, WI 54805 715-357-3286 or 715-357-3716 nordquisttruck@chibardun.net	MIDWEST MOTOR GROUP Quality Cars & Trucks 715-419-1772 or 715-803-4889 Kevin Monson Matt Torgerson Corner of CTH P & US HWY 8 • Almena	AutoValue Parts Store 1305 Elm St. (Hwy. 63) Cumberland, WI 715-671-0195	ASPEN ACUPUNCTURE Stacy Rischette, L.A.c, MT Chinese Master www.aspenacupuncture.com mail@ aspenacupuncture.com 715-822-4418 1268 2nd Ave. • Cumberland	

Gunderson arrest...

pills, that she believed were Adderall, in a classroom at school. The student was uncertain of the exact date, but indicated she believed this occurred on October 17th at approximately 8:15 a.m. The student provided Officer Damrell with a photograph of pills, that she believed were the pills she observed Gunderson give to another student. The student said she had obtained the photograph of the pills from a picture Gunderson had on his Snapchat story. At the bottom of the picture is a message that reads, “29 pills \$1 a pill. Someone buys all of ‘em they can have em for \$25.” Officer Damrell identified the pills posted by Gunderson on Drugs.com as Dextroamphetamine, which is a generic version of Adderall.

On October 19th, a second student came to Officer Damrell’s office and described an incident that occurred the previous day, between Gunderson and another student. She stated that on October 18th, she followed Gunderson’s sister to a convenience store in Cumberland, as she was going to the Gunderson home after school. She stated she had another student in her vehicle to give him a ride home. When her vehicle and another vehicle stopped at the convenience store, he got out and jumped in the back seat of her vehicle. She observed Gunderson with Adderall pills and he asked the passenger if he wanted to buy one for \$5.00. He said he did, but he only had \$1.00. Gunderson said he would take the \$1.00 and he could pay him the rest later. She then observed Gunderson give him one Adderall pill.

Officer Damrell showed the subject two evidence bags one containing five capsules, half clear and half orange/brown in color, that were located in Gunderson’s bedroom, and the other evidence bag contained two capsules, orange/brown in color that had been recovered from another subject. Prior to showing the two evidence bags to the subject she had taken them to a pharmacy for identification. She learned that the five half clear and half orange/brown capsules that read Adderall XR 30mg as 30mg Adderall capsules. The two orange brown capsules that read Adderall SR 20 were 20 mg Adderall capsules. She was told that amphetamines are an active ingredient in the prescription medication Adderall.

On October 22, 2018, another subject came to Officer Damrell’s office and advised she had taken photographs of items she found in Gunderson’s bedroom while he was not at home.

Officer Damrell and Cumberland Police Officer Chafer conducted a consent search of the Gunderson home on October 26th. Officer Damrell searched and located in Gunderson’s bedroom a clear and green baggie with a small amount of a green leafy type substance residue

inside, a Pokemon trading card case; a purple canister matching the purple tin that was photographed; a toilet paper roll filled with tissue and what appeared to be a dryer sheet inside which had a strong odor of marijuana; a can of air duster that, based on Officer Damrell’s training and experience, is consistent with huffing; five 30mg Adderall pills, which were the pills that had been identified as the same pill that was observed Gunderson selling to another subject, which were the same in appearance and color as the 15 pills had been photographed, a blue grinder with greenish brown leafy substance residue, and a clear smoking pipe. Officer Chafer field tested the green leafy type substance and obtained a positive result for the presence of THC.

Officer Damrell returned to Cumberland High School after locating a controlled substance in Gunderson’s bedroom and interviewed nine students on October 26th, eight of whom reported drug transactions involving Gunderson during the 2018-19 school year. A male subject said Gunderson was selling his prescription Adderall medication at school to other students. The student said the exchange of Adderall began at the beginning of the school year. He stated he left his Adderall prescription in his car so he would remember to take it on his way to school. He said at first, Gunderson would just take pills out of his vehicle. However, after a while Gunderson would give him some of the profit. He further stated some of the transactions happened inside the school, and twice there was an exchange in the male locker room and one in the gym.

Officer Damrell interviewed four students who had purchased Adderall from Gunderson.

Gunderson denied selling Adderall on school property. He said he sold her four to five pills at her house three weeks earlier.

Gunderson said he obtained Acid from another subject. He said the Acid had the “Kool-Aid Man” emblem on them and there were eight tabs. He said he gave one “tab” to a student who no longer attends Cumberland High School and kept one for himself. He stated he exchanged the rest of the Acid tablets for Adderall, 1/6 gram of Cocaine and \$80.00. He stated he was the only one who used the Cocaine and sold Acid to others for \$20.00 a tab, and the “high” lasted for about eight hours. He estimated he purchased approximately nine tabs of Acid.

If convicted Gunderson may be fined not more than \$32,000, or imprisoned for not more than 31 years and seven months. His driver’s license may also be suspended for not more than 10 years. His preliminary hearing will be held January 4, 2019.



PUBLIC NOTICES

CUMBERLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
 Tuesday, October 30, 2018
 Regular Board Meeting
 Middle School Commons, 6:48 p.m
 Open Session

Present: Board – Gideo, Hyatt, Rieper, Skinner & Stone
 Administration - Rose, Richie, Green & Narges
 President Stone announced that this was a legally and properly noticed meeting.
 1. Motion was made by Gideo, seconded by Skinner, to approve items a-e on the Consent Agenda as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.
 2. Mersada Nosbush gave student update.
 3. Motion was made by Skinner, seconded by Gideo to approve the 2018 - 19 budget. All voting aye, motion carried.
 4 Motion was made by Hyatt, seconded by Rieper to approve the 2018 – 19 school levy. All voting aye, motion carried.
 5. Motion was made by Skinner, seconded by Gideo to approve Early College Credit Programs for second semester 2018 – 2019 school year for Students A, B, C, D F, H, I, J, K, L and M. Student E has been denied and Student G approve up to 6 credits and Student H approve at the expense of family (Max credits earned). Hyatt abstained, all others voting aye, motion carried.
 6. Motion was made by Gideo, seconded by Skinner to approve William McCreary as Assistant Middle School Wrestling Coach. All voting aye, motion carried.
 7. Motion was made by Hyatt, seconded by Gideo to approve Taylor Marschall as Assistant Middle School Cross Country Coach. All voting aye, motion carried.
 8. Motion was made by Gideo, seconded by Skinner to approve Megan Bassett’s resignation as Wrestling Cheerleader Advisor. All voting aye, motion carried.
 9. Heard various discussion items, administrative reports and noted meetings and events.
 Having no further business to conduct, motion was made to adjourn by Gideo, seconded by Hyatt. All voting aye, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Adam Skinner, District Clerk

Published in the Cumberland Advocate December 5., 2018 WNAXLP

NOTICE
 TOWN OF CUMBERLAND
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the regular monthly Board Meeting for the Town of Cumberland will be held Monday, December 10, 2018 at 12:00 Noon at the Town Hall (902 20th Avenue). The Hall is accessible to all persons. The agenda will be posted 24 hours before the meeting.

Holly Nyhus, Clerk
 Town of Cumberland
 Published in the Cumberland Advocate on December 5, 2018 WNAXLP

Spring Turkey & Bear permit deadline nears

Just a reminder the December 10th deadline to submit your 2019 spring turkey and 2019 bear permit application is this coming Monday! If you intend to put in an application, you can do so now online through Go Wild or visit any one of our 1000 license agents. Applications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. on Monday, December 10.

You must apply at least once every three years to retain your preference points. If you don’t submit an application at least once every three years, any points you have accumulated will be reset to zero.

For more information regarding bear and turkey hunting in Wisconsin, visit dnr.wi.gov and search keywords “bear” or “turkey.”



Sudoku Puzzle #4148-D

		1	2			3	
		3			4	2	5
	6				7		8
	2		3			4	
	5					6	
	9				8	7	
6			9			8	
4	8		1			2	
	1				5	3	

CITY OF CUMBERLAND
 CUMBERLAND MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
 101 AIRPORT AVE. • CUMBERLAND, WI 54829
 715-822-4554 • FAX 715-822-2151
 REQUEST PROPOSAL
 FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND USE
 The City of Cumberland, Barron County, is seeking proposals from qualified individuals to farm 40 acres of land for a (5) year period starting in 2019. The land consists of parcels that are located on the airport and are identified using the Barron County GIS system. Crop limitations are in place for some of these parcels.
 For additional information call Richard Brekke at 715-205-4474 for an appointment whereby you may see each site and any concerns and/or questions can be addressed.
 Your proposal must be received at the City of Cumberland/Municipal Airport not later than **4:00 p.m.** on **December 20, 2018.** Send proposals to:
LAND PROPOSAL
CUMBERLAND MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
101 AIRPORT AVE.
CUMBERLAND, WI 54829
 All proposals will be opened and reviewed on December 21, 2018 at City Hall, by the City Clerk, and a decision is anticipated on that date. The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.
Richard Brekke, Manager
Cumberland Municipal Airport
 Published in the *Cumberland Advocate* on November 28 & December 5, 2018 WNAXLP

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND
 NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an election to be held in the Town of Cumberland on Tuesday, April 2, 2019, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. All terms are for two years beginning on Tuesday, April 18, 2019.

Office	Incumbent
Town Board Chairman	Donald Horstman
Town Board Supervisor 1	Tom Brown
Town Board Supervisor 2	Steven Butzler
Town Treasurer	Frances Braun
Town Clerk	Holly Nyhus

 NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that a town caucus for that purpose of nominating candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the above listed offices will be scheduled between December 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019. The caucus will be held on a date not sooner than January 2nd - January 21st. Notice of the scheduled date of the caucus will be given at least five days before the caucus.
 Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.
Town of Cumberland
Holly Nyhus, Clerk
 Published in the Cumberland Advocate December 5, 2018 WNAXLP

NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION
 BARRON COUNTY • TOWN OF CRYSTAL LAKE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the Town of Crystal Lake, on Tuesday, April 2, 2019, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. All terms are for two years beginning on Tuesday, April 16, 2019:

Office	Incumbent
Town Board Chairperson	Craig Nelson
Town Board Supervisor 1	Dean Williams
Town Board Supervisor 2	Michael Frisinger

 NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that a town caucus for the purpose of nominating candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the above listed offices will be scheduled between December 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019. The caucus will be held on a date not sooner than January 2, 2019 and not later than January 21, 2019. Notice of the scheduled date of the caucus will be given at least five days before the caucus.
Done in the Town of Crystal Lake
Arlene Frisinger, Clerk
 Published in the Cumberland Advocate December 5, 2018 WNAXLP

“LADY AND GENTLEMEN”

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ACROSS				DOWN			
1	Pseudonym of H. H. Munro	46	Poem by Virgil	1	Coal stratum	33	Literary alias
5	Work ____	47	Spoonbill, for one	2	Diva's solo	34	Uses Western Union
10	Sobriquet for Haydn	50	Little food measuring tool	3	Where firing takes place	36	Aspen action
14	Actress, Gray	52	Important symbols	4	Badge	38	Parrot
15	Primed	53	Boardroom votes	5	The muse of love poetry	41	Wall cover
16	Sponsorship	55	Fury	6	Dance music style	42	Scale's job
17	Troubles	57	1970 movie starring Richard Harris, with "A"	7	Relative of a rabbit	43	Quick check
18	Lot measurement	64	Wise one	8	The ____ of March	48	Boredoms
19	Of that kind	65	Bat poop	9	Dermatologist's concerns	49	Jay-Z's record label, ____-A-Fella
20	Joe Blow	66	Perspective	10	Old Spanish currency	51	"Intolerable Cruelty" topic
23	Thug	67	Fungal spore sacs	11	Fever	54	Pudding starches
24	Lush	68	Come about	12	Early Brit	56	Revere
25	Won't	69	Type of sword	13	Baseball bat wood	57	Deliberate
28	Timeworn	70	Mare's nest	21	Observant one	58	Segments of a circle
31	Con ____	71	Internet phone company	22	Go bad	59	Fortune
35	Eagle houses (var.)	72	Sells (for)	25	Asian mountain animal	60	Frilly
37	Symbol of strength			26	Doglike carnivore	61	Mature
39	Leave wide-mouthed			27	Packing	62	Percolate
40	Margaret Thatcher			29	Lung divisions	63	Lady sheep
44	Undivided			30	Indian cuisine	64	A herd of whales
45	Hot temper			32	Brooch inlay		

Tis The Season For Singing!



Singers rehearse for the upcoming Cumberland Community Christmas Concert at St. Anthony Abbot Catholic Church Monday night. The concert will take place at 2 and 4 pm this Sunday December 9th, at the church. A free will donation will help provide scholarships for music club students. Come and enjoy a fun performance.



The annual Holiday Concert was held Monday night at Cumberland High School. The kids put on a fantastic show. Photo by Bob Nugent

Northwoods Notebook: Christmas is better in a small town

By Larry Werner

One afternoon last week, we put up the tree to the sounds of Christmas carols and a view of a lake frozen over but not yet snow-covered. As is my custom, I snapped a photo of the decorated Christmas tree, then posted it on Facebook with this caption: “Another Christmas in Cumberland — our fifth.”

As I write this, more than 30 people have “liked” or commented on that photo of a tree in our living room. Sometimes I post a photo and no one likes or comments, but there’s something pleasing about a photo that says we’re embarking on the holiday so filled with joy and memories that it hurts. And it’s better to celebrate this blessed time in a town rather than a city.

I grew up in a town small by Michigan standards, bigger than Cumberland, but small enough you couldn’t walk through downtown without bumping into people you know. During almost 50 years between when I left Bay City and when I bought a home on Beaver Dam, my Christmases were in the big cities where I worked for newspapers. In those cities, you can walk all day through downtown and never see anyone you know, even though you lived there for 25 years, as I did in Minneapolis.

Yes, there are holiday decorations in big-city downtowns, but the traffic and the crowds make a walk on a winter afternoon less than pleasant. On Cumberland’s Second Avenue, you can hear the recorded carols from speakers on the street lights. And I ask you, is there a prettier sight than our Main Street decked out for the season?

There are Christmas-tree lightings in big cities, but when I attended my first tree lighting in Cumberland last year, I knew many of the people braving the cold and holding candles as we counted down to the big moment in front of the Cumberland Municipal Utilities building. I stood with John and Linda Bavier, and Twin Cities transplants, and talked about how nice it was to be there as the downtown went dark, then exploded with lights.

And I guess that’s what makes small-town Christmases special: knowing the person standing next to you at the tree lighting, waiting on you in the store or at the bank or pouring you a drink at the bar. I’m an extrovert, and that might be why I like it here. Small towns, I’ve told city friends, are for extroverts — people who enjoy being hailed on the street or in the store.

Cities are for introverts. If you want to be left alone, move to the Cities, not Cumberland.

Over my 71 years, in cities from Dallas to Detroit, Buffalo to Louisville, I’ve attended many Christmas concerts. Good ones. Big ones. Some with live animals standing around while singers wished us a Merry Christmas accompanied by a full orchestra. But unless it was a school concert for one of my kids or grandkids, the songs were sung by talented strangers.

Last December, we attended our first Cumberland Community Choir Christmas Concert at St. Paul Lutheran Church. It was the 50th annual, and it was spectacular. Under the direction of John Westin, 70 people praised the holy holiday in front of sellout audiences at both performances.

Not only did I know many of those in the audience, but many of those in the choir. This Sunday, Dec. 9, at St. Anthony Abbot Catholic Church, the 51st annual Christmas concert will happen at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

As it happens, we’ll miss it because we’re paying a visit to my family in Bay City, Mich. We’ll stroll through my hometown’s downtown, recalling those magical days, so many years ago, shopping with Mom in stores filled with music, lights and a Santa or two.

And if I’m lucky, we’ll run into someone I know.

Larry Werner’s email is lhwner47@gmail.com.

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Polk County Sheriff 485-8300

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