



Local artist crafts fanciful hats in honor of late mom

Art for Adrienne owner to donate 10 percent of May sales to mental health agency

By Cynthia Wolf
CONTRIBUTOR

Editor's note: The content of this article references suicide. It is intended to be informative, but please be aware that it may be emotionally difficult to read.

Mere minutes after Lauren Sharp placed several of the wide-brimmed fedoras she hand-etches on a back table at a McHenry coffee shop, curious onlookers couldn't help themselves.

"I love these!" exclaimed McHenry resident Dana Ferguson, who had stopped by Toast & Roast with her friend David Arroyo of Grayslake.

"I could tell when I saw her face she's an artist," added Arroyo. "I had to come ask about these hats."

Over the next hour, between visits with others drawn to gaining a more up-close glimpse of her intricately crafted headgear, Sharp, of Johnsburg, explained the motivation behind the name of her home-based business, Art for Adrienne.

It is an homage to Sharp's mother, a talented artist herself, who committed suicide in 2009 at age 47. Sharp was just 19. The death followed years of tumult, as Adrienne Paradise battled mental health and substance abuse struggles, said Sharp. This May, during National Mental Health Awareness Month, Sharp will dedicate 10 percent of all of her sales to the National Alliance on Mental Illness of McHenry County. She also is donating one of her fanciful chapeau to NAMI for its May gala.

"Lauren's hats are gorgeous and her talent and passion for her craft is evident in every single piece," said Abbey Nicholas, executive director of NAMI McHenry County. "NAMI is so honored to feature a one-of-a-kind donated hat in our Sunset Gala auction

... Lauren's personal story reminds us that we are all touched by mental health, and her generosity will help ensure that everyone in our community has access to free mental health services."

Sharp said she is grateful to have formed a connection with Nicholas and NAMI.

"This is an opportunity to spread some positivity, turn some bad things that have happened in my life into good," Sharp said. "I love seeing people wear my art, and I love helping women feel beautiful. I'm hoping that, in working with Abbey, it will also help to bring healing to others."

Sharp, who turned 36 on May 7, takes blank, wide-brimmed, "vegan" fedoras of various hues and, using a wood-burning technique known as pyrography, engraves them with a range of free-handed, imaginative, feminine or fierce designs. A gallery may be viewed and orders placed at artforadrienne.com.

Ranging in price from about \$75 to \$110, some of her designs are subtle, featuring rose petals and vines, while on others, alligators lurk or a moon casts its shadow across a desolate landscape. Acrylic paints provide an extra pop of color to some. Others bear beading and lacy ribbon, while still others show off feathers, leather braids or ropes of rough-cut stone. Even the undersides of Sharp's brims delight.

Between the visits from curious passers-by, Sharp spoke openly about both her own mental health challenges and the one that ultimately took her mother's life.

As Sharp and her three siblings were growing up in McHenry and Wonder Lake, she said their mother struggled off and on with alcohol abuse. "At times, I was mad at her,"

Sharp said. "But when she was well, she had such a shining personality. She truly lit up a room. She was amazingly talented artistically. She'd take an old, dilapidated antique and give it a new life. Whether it was a rock or a piece of wood, she could paint it and make something truly beautiful out of it."

"She was also a muralist," Sharp continued, adding that her mother served in the U.S. Army from 1984 to 1986, meeting her husband, John Paradise, while both were stationed in Germany. "She painted my whole bedroom wall this beautiful ocean theme with dolphins and fish and coral. My friends would come over and they were so jealous."

About a year before Adrienne Paradise died, she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. She began treatment, and for the next 12 months, doctors tried to dial in an effective regimen, her daughter shared.

However, one early morning in March 2009, John Paradise ran screaming into Lauren's room. Adrienne Paradise had swallowed a bottle of Tylenol after a day-long bender. She was alive, but unconscious. A day later, her organs failing, Adrienne was removed from life support, and died.

The experience left Lauren Sharp — who fought mental health demons of her own — fearful. "I always struggled so bad," said Sharp, "but I was scared to get help."

Years later, after the birth of her second child in 2022, Lauren Sharp suffered severe postpartum depression. Her husband, Landon Sharp, and his mother persuaded Lauren to see a mental health professional. And she is so grateful they did.

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CYNTHIA WOLF PHOTO Hi-Liter/MCN

Lauren Sharp founded Art for Adrienne in honor of her late mother, Adrienne Paradise. Throughout the month of May, National Mental Health Awareness Month, Sharp will dedicate 10% of the sales of her hand-etched hats to the National Alliance on Mental Illness of McHenry County, Illinois.

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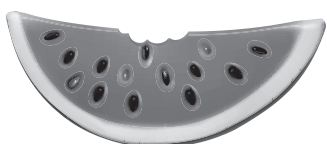
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Conservation District earns award at International Trails Summit for Find Your Wild Summer Challenge

American Trails honored McHenry County Conservation District with the 2025 Advancing Trails Award for Trail Promotion and Education for the Find Your Wild Summer Challenge at the International Trails Summit held in Madison, Wisconsin on April 15, 2025.

The Advancing Trails Awards “recognize the tremendous contributions of volunteers, professionals, and other leaders who are working to create an effective system of trails across the globe” according to a press release issued by AmericanTrails.org. The award for Trail Promotion and Education “recognizes innovative and successful strategies for promoting and increasing trail use and understanding” the release continues.

Find Your Wild Summer Challenge is a county-wide scavenger hunt through McHenry County Conservation District’s conservation areas. It combines both technology and the natural world, drives participants outdoors, and helps promote recreation and environmental education

while fostering appreciation of our local natural resources. Participants complete missions through an app while visiting different conservation areas. Points are earned and redeemed for sticker sets featuring Conservation District site and species themed stickers. Participants are also entered into random drawings for prize baskets from local businesses and partner organizations.

The program kicked off its first year in 2023 where it engaged with over 1,100 participants who tracked over 5,400 visits to Conservation Areas. The challenge returned in 2024 and reached over 1,400 participants who logged over 5,800 visits.

“We are extremely grateful to American Trails for honoring Find Your Wild with this award, and for creating a space to recognize the importance of promoting trail use and outdoor education,” said Caitlynn Martinez-McWhorter, Director of Marketing and Education. “We also want to thank the many participants who made this program so successful. It is a great feeling

knowing that this challenge is motivating over one thousand outdoors-enthusiasts, annually, to get out and explore. We often hear participants say this program has renewed their love of nature and recreation while creating lasting memories with friends and family at our Conservation Areas.”

Find Your Wild will return this summer, running from May 24 to Sept. 1. It will feature new challenges and old favorites, as well as a brand new sticker series and prize baskets. For more information on the program visit MCCD.me/FindYourWild

American Trails is a nationwide coalition of all types of trails organizations, agencies, and individuals. Their mission is to connect and transform communities through the power of trails. AmericanTrails.org

McHenry County Conservation District currently owns and protects over 25,800 acres of open space which provides wildlife habitat preservation, educational opportunities and recreational amenities for the citizens of McHenry County to enjoy. MCCDistrict.org



SUBMITTED PHOTO Hi-Liter/MCN

From left: McHenry County Conservation District Marketing Manager Maddy Neubauer, Director of Marketing & Education Caitlynn Martinez-McWhorter, Marketing and Design Coordinator Juan Escutia-Arreola and a staff member of American Trails Candace Gallagher are pictured at the International Trails Summit after winning the award for the Find Your Wild Summer Challenge.

State’s Attorney’s Office unveils Lake County Firearm Fatality Dashboard

In a significant step toward understanding and preventing gun violence, Lake County has unveiled the Firearm Fatality Dashboard. The Dashboard is a tool designed to provide residents, government partners, and organizations with the most recent data on firearm fatalities across the county. This data collection and public education program is part of the broader Gun Violence Prevention Initiative (GVPI)’s work to identify trends, to effectively allocate resources, and to broaden the community conversation

about ending gun violence.

Lake County State’s Attorney Eric Rinehart stated, “Everyone deserves to be safe in their community. Gun violence is measurable and preventable. As a community and as a democracy, we should have accurate, up-to-date gun violence information available at our fingertips. This dashboard is a vital tool to give us that information quickly so that we help others and have meaningful community conversations about how to save lives.”

Between 2022 and 2024,

there was a 73% decrease in firearm homicides, a 55% decrease from 2022-2023 and an additional 18% in 2023-2024. In the most impacted communities in Lake County; Waukegan, Zion, and North Chicago there was a 31% decrease in firearm homicides from 2023 to 2024.

The Firearm Fatality Dashboard uniquely focuses on all deaths involving firearms, including homicides, suicides, unintentional deaths, and undetermined fatalities. This comprehensive approach allows for a more accurate

and holistic understanding of gun violence trends in Lake County. The dashboard will allow police, healthcare officials, elected leaders, and community organizations to determine which programs are working and which communities need increased interventions.

Key features of the dashboard include:

- **Demographic Filters:** Users can examine data based on gender, race, ethnicity, age range, firearm fatality type, and municipality, providing a deeper understanding of how gun violence impacts various communities.

- **Time-based Filters:** Data can be filtered by month and day, offering both macro and micro-level insights into when firearm fatalities are occurring.

- **Real-time, Accurate Data:** The dashboard is updated weekly by the Lake County Coroner’s Office to ensure the most current data is available to the public.

The creation of the dashboard was a collaborative effort between the Lake County Gun Violence Prevention Initiative, the Lake County GIS team, and the Lake County Coroner’s Office. The data

was built using the industry-standard GIS technology from the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI).

Prior to this initiative, data on firearm fatalities in Lake County was not readily accessible to the public, leading to confusion and a lack of understanding about the scope of gun violence. This new dashboard is an innovative approach to ensure transparency and empower residents to understand how firearm violence may impact their community. Residents can now access reliable and timely information to better grasp the impact of gun violence in their communities.

The dashboard, which covers data from 2020 to the present, will continue to be updated weekly by the Coroner’s Office to maintain accuracy and timeliness. Eventually, non-fatal shootings and other major gun crimes will be added to the dashboard. Data provided by law enforcement agencies show that between 2022 and 2024, Waukegan, Zion, and North Chicago saw a 63% decrease in non-fatal shootings.

In 2024, State’s Attorney Rinehart worked with Illinois

Senator Mary Edly-Allen and Illinois Representative Daniel Didech to enact Public Act 103-0798. This law creates the Illinois Uniform State-wide Crime Statistics Task Force which begins the work of collecting and publicizing crime statistics from all Illinois police agencies without regard to the lengthy U.S. Department of Justice process which takes up to 18 months.

The Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office acknowledges the invaluable collaboration of Lake County Coroner Banek, Chief Deputy Steve Newton, and their team for their dedication to this project.

About the Lake County Gun Violence Prevention Initiative

The Lake County Gun Violence Prevention Initiative is committed to reducing gun violence across the county through strategic data collection, resource allocation, and community engagement. The initiative works in close partnership with residents, law enforcement agencies, and community organizations to develop innovative and urgent strategies to end gun violence in Lake County.

MCCD events

Craft Brew Crawl

Friday, May 9, 7-9 p.m., Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park, Ringwood.

Prepare to embark on a beer-tasting hike through Glacial Park! Make several stops to taste different micro-brews from local breweries and learn some educational snippets to keep your brain and taste buds invigorated. You must be 21 and present a valid ID to attend this program. Ages 21+.

Sprouts: Nature Bonding for Infants and Toddlers

Monday, May 12, 10-11 a.m., Fel-Pro RRR West Shelter, Cary.

Enjoy an immersive (and stroller-friendly!) nature experience designed to strengthen adult-child bonds through guided outdoor exploration and discovery. This session combines structured activities with free exploration time, helping families develop a deeper connection to nature and each other. Ages 3 and under.

Intro to Birdwatching

Friday, May 16, 10 a.m. to noon, Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake.

Begin to learn how to spot and identify different birds using binoculars and field guides. Participants explore nature to discover bird calls, watch bird behaviors, and find exciting, feathered friends. Ages 14+.

Basecamp Basics: Bringing it all Together

Friday, May 16, 6:30-8 p.m., Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake.

Is your family interested in trying overnight camping, but you don’t really know where to start planning? This program is part of a series that focuses on teaching adults camping skills, with activities and hands-on practice designed to get you comfortable with the camping basics. Ages 14+.

Hike with Mike: Buehler’s Day Outside

Saturday, May 17, 10-11:30 a.m., Rush Creek Shelter, Harvard.

Discover what makes McHenry County a healthy and thriving place to work, live, and play while conversing with McHenry County Board Chairman Mike Buehler. Lace up your sneakers and explore the trails at different conservation areas throughout the summer and fall. All ages.

World Migratory Bird Day

Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park, Ringwood.

Come enjoy a variety of bird-themed activities and crafts, including guided hikes, meeting a live bird and a scavenger hunt! All ages.

For more information or to sign up for programs please visit the McHenry County Conservation District website at MCCDistrict.org.

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SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Southern Lakes Newspapers

The Verlo shop where mattresses are built is at 3710 W. Elm, McHenry, which also has a showroom. Other showrooms are at 2462 Highway 120, Lake Geneva and at 5150 Northwest Highway, Unit 1, Crystal Lake.

Is it time for a new mattress? Check out Verlo

By Sandra Landen Machaj
CORRESPONDENT

How old is your mattress? Is it still a comfortable place to relax? When you wake up in the morning, do you feel well rested, and did you sleep comfortably through the night?

If your answer to any of these questions is no, it may be time to look for a new mattress.

“Verlo Mattress is a unique mattress company,” said Ray Westman, owner of Verlo in Lake Geneva, McHenry and Crystal Lake. “We do not carry a number of mattress brands but only our own and each of these mattresses, sold in our stores, is built on site in our McHenry store.”

People spend about one third of their lives in a bed. When it is no longer giving a comfortable night’s rest, though, people don’t immediately go to a store for a replacement; instead, complaining about poor sleep and a backache.

Even when people finally think of the mattress, they may often discard the idea of it being a mattress problem because the mattress is often considered a staple, something that lasts forever. In reality, no mattress will last forever. It is recommended that the mattress be replaced about every 12 years, maybe sooner if it is not cared for properly.

“The number of years before a mattress needs to be replaced is dependent on a number of things,” Westman said. “First of all, our mattress needs change over the years as our bodies change. And the care that is given to the mattress also determines how long it will last.”

The concept of producing all of a company’s mattresses in one factory, though, soon was to change. In 1958, Guy Day and Dale Williams – two entrepreneurs from Wisconsin who together owned a furniture store in Wheeling, Illinois – decided to add a new item to their business. They would create mattresses that were custom built at the store. Their mattresses would be created to order and because they were self-manufactured, eliminated the middleman.

When entering a Verlo store today, a clean, open environment greets customers. Mattress styles are arranged in pods to allow customers to peruse various styles, firmness and price points. Sales staff will



The large showroom in Lake Geneva offers an opportunity to try a variety of mattresses made by Verlo.

greet customers and not only answer questions, but share knowledge about mattresses that customers may not know.

“One of the advantages of purchasing your mattress from Verlo is that we eliminate the middleman, making a high-quality mattress for a lower price,” Westman shared. “Our sales people actually are very knowledgeable about our mattresses because they are involved in building them here on site. We can also build the mattress specifically for your needs in about a week from the time it is purchased.”

Mattresses can be made either one-sided or two-sided, with the latter being turned over at regular intervals to allow for even wear. One-sided mattresses do not need to be turned over, but do need to be rotated at regular intervals – again to promote even wear. Verlo produces both kinds.

The custom-made mattresses are produced at the McHenry location for the Lake Geneva, Crystal Lake and McHenry stores. Customer’s needs, which can include making a mattress softer or firmer, are taken into consideration when the mattress is built.

“Once the mattress is built and delivered to the customer, we aren’t through with the mattress or the customer,” said Westman. “We offer a one-year comfort promise on most of our mattresses. If after sleeping on the mattress they find it needs more or less firmness, it can be returned

to have additional firmness added or to be softened once during that period. After the one-year time, the mattress can still be picked up and rebuilt as needed for a nominal fee.”

Because the company creates the mattress on site, Verlo also is able to custom design the mattress for whatever shape, size or firmness is needed.

“We are able to create a special size mattress to fit in your camper or boat and even special shapes such as round mattresses or one to fit a special-sized, built-in bunk bed,” added Westman. “Such custom sizes are often needed here in the lakes area, where boats and recreational vehicles are prevalent, and may need to have their mattresses replaced. We also create mattresses for antique beds, which may also require special sizing.”

Adjustable bed frames are very popular and, according to Westman, provide a healthier way to sleep. By raising the legs, it helps reduce swelling in the lower limbs, and when the head is raised, it allows one to breathe better and snore less. An adjustable bed is a favorite even for those who just enjoy reading or watching television from their bed.

Adjustable bed frames are available in the stores.

“Sleeping on your back is the best way to sleep,” added Westman. Using an adjustable base means that the mattress does not require a box spring. What it does require, however – at least on some models – is a change in the construction of the mattress. A mattress that has a steel border rod must remove a portion of the rod and replace it with a cord to make the mattress more flexible. This way, the mattress will bend when the head or feet are raised.

Prices at Verlo are less than what most other mattress companies have to offer for the same quality, because there is no middleman markup. Local Verlo dealers are at 3710 W. Elm, McHenry (phone: 815-578-8275); 2462 Highway 120, Lake Geneva (phone 262-249-0420); and in Crystal Lake, Illinois at 5150 Northwest Hwy, Unit 1 (phone 815-455-2570).

All locations are open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

McHenry County Conservation District and partners celebrate World Migratory Bird Days May 17

McHenry County Conservation District and partners Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Friends of Volo Bog and McHenry County Audubon Society to host World Migratory Bird Days.

The Main event is Saturday, May 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lost Valley Visitor Center, located in Glacial Park Conservation Area, Route 31 and Harts Road, Ringwood, Ill.

There is and off-site activity also on Saturday, May 17 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Turner Tract, Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge, N541 County Highway H, Genoa City, Wis. (Bird Banding partner event).

Migratory birds and their stopover locations, migratory flyways, breeding grounds and feeding spaces shared with people in both rural and urban settings are the focus of this year’s World Migratory Bird Days. Visitors can enjoy a variety of bird-themed activities and crafts including guided hikes, meeting a live bird, a scavenger hunt and more.

Off-site activities include passports stamped at bird activity stations while participating in games and more. More stamps equal more prizes.

World Migratory Bird Days events are free and for all ages, no registration required. Learn more at mccd.org/MigratoryBirdDays.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Hi-Liter/MCN

Lauren Sharp and her mother, Adrienne Paradise, are shown during happier times. Adrienne Paradise committed suicide in 2009, when Sharp was 19. Sharp, who turned 36 on May 7, is dedicating 10% of all of her Art for Adrienne sales throughout May to a mental health agency.

•Artist (Continued from front page)

“For the past year, I have felt like a whole new person” she said. “I’m mad that I waited this long.”

Sharp said the grief that follows the suicide of a close family member is pitted with guilt. At the time of her mother’s death, Sharp and her sister were “just getting into trouble,” she said, tearing up as she wondered aloud whether she’d done anything by then to make her mother proud. Sharp also often wonders how her mother’s life might have progressed had the artist survived.

“She died before social media took off and before Etsy was a thing,” Sharp said. “I can just imagine what she could be doing today in a world where it is so much easier to have your art seen.”

Of at least one thing, Sharp

has grown supremely assured.

“Getting help is the best thing I’ve ever done,” she said. “I don’t know if this feeling will ever go away that there’s a big piece of my heart missing. But now that I’m doing things to benefit my mental health, and making art that I know would make my mom proud, I feel like that hole is filling.”

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 49,000 Americans committed suicide in 2023, the last year for which statistics are noted on the website. If you or someone you know is in crisis, call the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988. The lifeline offers judgment-free support for mental health crises, substance use and more. Text, call or chat 988.

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An adjustable frame can add comfort and may also help prevent snoring.

Annual pie and flower sale Saturday

The members of the Altar & Rosary Society-CCW of St. Joseph's Church in Richmond, Ill., will be holding their 17th Annual Day Before Mother's Day Pie & Flower Sale fundraiser on Saturday, May 10, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The homemade pies are baked by parishioners of St. Joseph's, and choices can range from rhubarb to blueberry to apple. There will be a spring flower sale with hanging baskets and mixed planters. The sale runs until everything is sold. Stop in early for the widest selection.

St. Joseph's Church is located at 10519 Main Street, Richmond, one-half block south of the intersection of Highways 12 and 173.

Lake County offers no cost digital skills software to community organizations

Lake County is distributing 29 licenses for digital skills software at no cost through Northstar Digital Literacy, a Literacy Minnesota program, to nonprofit, educational and government organizations that engage in skill-building programs with residents who meet specific criteria.

Northstar Digital Literacy provides organizations with a curriculum to teach residents how to improve their basic digital skills in everything from

sending emails to accessing telehealth and using Microsoft tools. Organizations awarded a software license will have access to Northstar's curriculum, online lesson plans and digital skills assessments.

Interested organizations should have experience serving Lake County populations disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the operational capacity to offer trainings, and experience with administering skill-build-

ing programs. Organizations should also be prepared to share a plan for promoting and delivering the curriculum to the community.

Residents are eligible for these trainings based on meeting one of the following criteria as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Low/moderate income household
- Unemployment
- Increased food insecurity
- Increased housing insecurity

ity

- Qualified for the Children's Health Insurance Program, childcare subsidies through the Child Care Development Fund program and/or Medicaid

Awarded organizations will be responsible for determining residents' eligibility and providing learning guidance on the Northstar platform.

"Lake County is committed to closing the digital skills

See SOFTWARE, Page 7



These Deals Are OUT OF THE PARK!



 <p>P16654</p> <p>2022 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE*</p> <p>\$11,990</p>	 <p>250484A1</p> <p>2016 FORD EXPLORER INTERCEPTOR*</p> <p>\$15,490</p>	 <p>250045A</p> <p>2022 KIA SPORTAGE LX*</p> <p>\$15,690</p>	 <p>P16690</p> <p>2022 CHEVY MALIBU LT*</p> <p>\$15,990</p>	 <p>P16512A</p> <p>2020 CHEVY EQUINOX PREMIER*</p> <p>\$17,790</p>
 <p>16728A</p> <p>2019 GMC TERRAIN DENALI*</p> <p>\$19,940</p>	 <p>P16659</p> <p>2022 CHRYSLER VOYAGER LX*</p> <p>\$20,490</p>	 <p>P16796</p> <p>2024 CHEVY TRAX LT*</p> <p>\$22,990</p>	 <p>P16697</p> <p>2024 CHEVY EQUINOX LS*</p> <p>\$23,430</p>	 <p>P16680</p> <p>2024 BUICK ENVISTA AVENIR*</p> <p>\$27,430</p>
 <p>P16834</p> <p>2021 CHEVY BLAZER 2LT*</p> <p>\$27,490</p>	 <p>P16786</p> <p>2022 GMC CANYON ELEVATION*</p> <p>\$29,740</p>	 <p>250487A</p> <p>2019 GMC SIERRA SLT*</p> <p>\$30,490</p>	 <p>P16791</p> <p>2023 GMC TERRAIN DENALI*</p> <p>\$31,990</p>	 <p>P16725</p> <p>2021 CHEVY TRAVERSE HIGH COUNTRY*</p> <p>\$32,740</p>
 <p>P16825</p> <p>2018 GMC YUKON DENALI*</p> <p>\$38,990</p>	 <p>P16785</p> <p>2019 CHEVY CAMARO 2SS*</p> <p>\$39,750</p>	 <p>P16619</p> <p>2022 RAM 3500 BIG HORN*</p> <p>\$40,740</p>	 <p>P16651A</p> <p>2021 FORD F-150 LIMITED*</p> <p>\$42,990</p>	 <p>250381A</p> <p>2022 CHEVY SILVERADO HIGH COUNTRY*</p> <p>\$43,740</p>

								
Patrick Lynch	Jim Olsson	Geoff Eckhardt	Chris Kahlmorgan	Craig Roffers	Pete Manos	Thomas Gier	Alec Thatcher	Isaac Thiel
								
Graham Robson	Bryan Wangnoss	Bob Christensen	Nick Kramer	Bob Labadie	Jeff Mucks	Tyler Swanson	Khara Kosinski	Alfredo Morales
								
Donna Janz								

*Prices do not include tax, title, license and service fee. Dealership is not responsible for printing errors. Please see dealership for details. Sale ends 5/13/2025.



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Lake Villa woman charged in unprovoked attack of neighbor

A 53-year-old unincorporated Lake Villa woman is in custody following an unprovoked attack on her 72-year-old neighbor.

On May 1, at approximately 3:30 p.m., Lake County Sheriff’s Deputies responded to the 37700 block of North Delaby Road, Unincorporated Lake Villa, for a report of a battery in progress. As deputies were responding, Lake County Telecommunicators were continuing to obtain crucial information about the call. They learned that the offender, Kristi B. Tyler, 53, of the 37700 block of North Delaby Road, had beaten her neighbor and was running on the roadway with an American flag. Sheriff’s telecommunicators relayed this information and Tyler’s clothing description to responding deputies, who located her and quickly took her into custody in the neighborhood.

Sheriff’s deputies located the victim, who was seriously injured. The victim was transported to an area hospital for treatment for a serious knee injury and facial lacerations.

A preliminary investigation shows the victim was outside the front of her home. For no apparent reason, Tyler charged at the victim and attacked her. Tyler punched the victim’s face, knocked her to the ground, and continued punching and kicking her while she was on the ground. Tyler then took the victim’s American flag that was affixed to the victim’s home and ran down the street with it.

After being arrested, Tyler was transported to the Lake County Jail and the incident was reviewed with the Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office. After reviewing the facts and circumstances of the incident, the Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office approved the following charges: Aggravated Battery to a Victim over the Age of 60, Aggravated Battery – Causing Great Bodily Harm, and Aggravated Battery in a Public Place.

The state’s attorney’s office intends to file a petition to detain Tyler in custody while awaiting trial.



Kristi B. Tyler



SUBMITTED PHOTO Hi-Liter

The results of the April 1 Consolidated Election were officially certified by Lake County Clerk Anthony Vega.

Record-breaking turnout and cost savings mark April 2025 election

Lake County Clerk Anthony Vega officially certified the results of the April 1 Consolidated Election on Monday, April 21.

This historic election marked Lake County’s first county-wide implementation of vote centers, giving voters the freedom to cast their ballot at any site throughout the county on Election Day. Over 15% of Election Day voters took advantage of this flexibility, voting at a location other than their assigned polling place.

A total of 75,757 voters cast their ballots across early voting, vote by mail, and Election Day – delivering the highest turnout for a Consolidated Election in 16

years. Additionally, Vote by Mail participation reached an all-time high in a consolidated election, reinforcing a growing trend toward accessible and flexible voting options.

Since 2023, the Office of the Lake County Clerk has raised compensation for election judges and implemented the newest technology in electronic pollbooks and ballot on-demand printing capabilities. These modernization efforts allowed Lake County to move towards a vote center model which gives voters added choice in casting their ballot on election day while reducing the overall operational footprint.

“We are proud of the strides we’ve made to modernize and simplify the voting process in Lake County,” said Clerk Vega. “This election was a testament to the power of centering the voters’ convenience along with modernizing our election infrastructure. This could not be accomplished without our scores of dedicated election judges, staff and the voters who participate in every election.”

These efforts have resulted in cost savings of approximately \$42,282.54 in election worker compensation compared to the 2023 consolidated election under the previous election model. In 2023, total election worker compensation was

\$174,189.79 and this year, election worker compensation was \$131,907.25 – even with increased pay rates of \$45-\$85 per judge, depending on the position.

“Modernization leads to improvements which results in efficient use of resources. My office has worked extremely hard to implement these improvements to strengthen our ability to conduct elections and save taxpayer dollars,” said Clerk Anthony Vega.

Explore the full results

To view the certified election results, including turnout data and ballots cast by method, visit: bit.ly/LC-ERP.



Honoring Our Officers

National Police Week May 11-16

During National Police Week, we recognize the important service and selfless sacrifice of our nation’s dedicated law enforcement professionals. For their caring and protection, we thank the brave men and women who serve, and honor the memory of those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Thank you to the following businesses for their sponsorship of this page. Please patronize these local businesses who support our community’s law enforcement.

Ace Hardware

Route 59 & 173, Antioch
www.laskowskiacehardware.com
847-603-1844

Thanks for all you do to keep our community safe!

AMB Roofing & Sheet Metal

FREE ESTIMATES
815-385-2621
www.ambroofing.com

Animal Hospital of Lake Villa

101 S. Milwaukee Avenue, Lake Villa
847-356-8387

Thank you so much for all that you do!

Antioch Eye Associates

31 North Avenue, Antioch
847-395-4090

Thank you for protecting our community!

Gypsy Glen K9 Kastle

2412 S. Lily Lake Road, McHenry
815-385-8585

Thank you and your families for all that you do!

Illinois Hi-Liter

SOUTHERN LAKES NEWSPAPERS
1102 Ann Street, Delavan
Thank you for all you do!

Lake County Mechanical

328 North Avenue, Antioch
847-989-4649
lakecountymechanical.com
(follow us on Facebook)

HI-LITER / MCN • MAY 7-13, 2025 • 7

Hunter Road bridge project scheduled to start May 12

The McHenry County Division of Transportation announces the start of the Hunter Road Bridge Project. The project is scheduled to start May 12 and is expected to be completed by Oct. 31, weather permitting.

Hunter Road will be closed starting Monday, May 12, from White Oaks Road to Ryan Road. Local access to homes will be maintained at all times. Signage will be placed to notify road users of the upcoming road closure.

The detour redirects traffic from the intersection of Hunter Road and White Oaks Road to Hunter Road and Capron Road. The detour will use White Oaks Road, IL-173 and Capron Road to bridge the gap in Hunter Road. Signs will be posted along the designated route to help guide vehicle drivers while the detour is in place.

The project will replace the existing bridge on Hunter Road over Little Beaver Creek with a 3-sided precast concrete structure along with other roadway improvements.

Follow the Division of Transportation on Facebook, Instagram and Nextdoor to stay abreast of construction projects on county highways.

•Software

(Continued from page 5)

gaps for our residents,” said Sandy Hart, Lake County Board Chair. “This requires collaboration from everyone in Lake County – including government, residents and community organizations. Together, we can ensure all our residents have access to not only digital tools but also the skills to safely and efficiently use them to enhance their daily lives.”

According to Jennifer Clark, Technology Committee Chair and Lake County Board Member for District 15, “Northstar works with organizations across the country. This software paves the way for them to provide residents with skills that can change their personal and professional lives. Lake County is in an exciting position to broaden digital access and skills by offering this educational tool at no cost to our community organizations.”

Interested community organizations can reach out to broadband@lakecountyil.gov to ask questions or apply by Saturday, May 31.

This contract with Northstar Digital Literacy is supported by the Digital Growth Initiative. To learn more about the initiative, visit lakecountyil.gov/broadband. This project is being funded, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP0214 awarded to Lake County by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Hi-Liter/MCN

Riverwalk Shoppes open

The McHenry Riverwalk Shoppes opened for the season on Friday, May 2. This is the third season of the Riverwalk, an ingenious business incubator that the McHenry Chamber opened to give small entrepreneurs a taste of operating a brick-and-mortar location. This year’s shop tenants are: AteaCo Coffee and Tea, Big Bear Glasses, Curated by Laney, Hello Darling Books & Beyond, KEST Jewelry, Marvin’s Toy Store, Oh My Ganache, Patina Wine Shop McHenry, The Olive Tap Crystal Lake, and Windy City Wheelers. Hours for the Riverwalk, located at 1202 Riverside Drive in McHenry, are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 10 to 4 on Sundays - check with the businesses for extended hours.

Hi-LITER Classifieds

TRANSPORTATION

Automobiles

2007 BMW 328XI 4dr Auto Runs great. 169K. Everything works. 1 owner. \$4500. (262) 758-8789

Boats

14FT. ALUMACRAFT BOAT with trailer, 9.9 hp. Johnson motor, professionally maintained. (Receipts available.) Includes motor stand, trolling motor & more. Tom 262-498-2809.

1989 ARRIVA 21 ft 305 V8, good interior, runs good, needs starter. \$1,500. 708-431-4955 Browns Lake, WI

2003 ALUMACRAFT 175 TROPHY W/ Trailer. 90 HP, 9.9HP & equip. 815-389-2480.

25' MAGNUM MARINE 1974 With trailer. Twin 350 Chevys, restored and in great shape. \$25,000. Call 414-530-8300.

JON BOAT WITH TRAILER 18 foot, 25 hp Yamaha F/S. \$1,500. Call 262-206-1725.

Campers and RVs

1994 WINNEBAGO WARRIOR 22' REDUCED TO SELL \$8500.00! V8 454 engine, 97,200 miles. Newer tires, new battery, new sub floor and flooring. Generator, small drop-down bed above cab, couch becomes double bed, table drops to bed and extra double sleeping space in rear. Rooftop A/C works great. Dash A/C needs charge. Rust free, runs good and ready for travel! Located NW Rockford. Call 815-262-1479.

2002 WINNEBAGO 32' Motorhome, Class A. Cummins Turbo Diesel motor with Allison transmission. 2 slideouts, Onan generator. All appliances including microwave, 2 TV's. Everything works. \$27K 608-345-7806

2016 FLEETWOOD TERRA 34B MOTOR HOME 35' 27,000 Miles 3 Slideouts 2 New WI-FI TV's 5.5k Generator. \$79,000 262-206-4164.

2022 COACHMAN FREEDOM EXPRESS 24' Travel Trailer with Q bed. Very clean. \$19,000. OBO. 262-470-4083.

Motorcycles

2007 HONDA GOLD WING Perfect condition, black, new tires, 45K. \$8,600 OBO. 262-458-7026.

1949 CHEVY STYLELINE DELUXE 2 Door, New engine, New tires, Clean interior. Runs Great! \$6,995. Elkhorn Text only (708) 785-2440.

Trucks & Trailers

2004 GMC ENVOY XUV 5.3L engine, well cared for. \$2,000 OBO

Info: call or text 262-903-0129.

UTILITY TRAILER With tool box and ramps. High speed tires. \$1,500. OBO. Call 224-518-6491

GARAGE SALES

Estate Sales

N8633 STONE SCHOOL RD May 8, 9 & 10,9-4. Power tools, fishing/hunting/ Large & small pet transporter. 6 ft steel fence post. Milk crates/ cans. Pails. Desk, TV stand, night stand. Small refrigerator, speakers, baby stroller & bassinet. Patio table, umbrella & chairs. H/H etc.

Burlington Garage Sales

1442 FAIRLAWN BLVD Country Estates. May 8 - 10. 9 - 4. Men's & women's plus sz clothing, jewelry, lots of misc, HH & other accessories

724 CRESTWOOD DR. BURLINGTON Multi family Rummage, May 8th and 9th 8am to 5pm Rain or Shine Tons of household items, vintage card table, bar stools assorted furniture items. Household, holiday decorations, lawn decorations, Kids clothes boys to size 3, girls sizes 6, 7, 8, tons of toys newborn to toddler, women and men clothing. So much to list!

GLEN at STONEGATE by Walmart Multi Home May 15, 16, 17 8-4. IKEA Shelves, Inflatable Kayak, Bench, Table & Chairs, Wash/Dryer, Queen Bed, TV, Furniture, T Redlin Paintings, Wood Art/Lake Decor, Craft & Stampin' Up Supplies, Plants, HH Items, Toys, Bikes, Hamster Cage, Clothing - Toddler, Teen, Adult Male, Female, MORE!

FOR SALE

Announcements

CLASSIFIED IN-COLUMN ADS cannot be credited or refunded after the ad has been placed. Ads canceled before deadline will be removed from the paper as a service to our customers, but no credit or refund will be issued to your account.

DISCLAIMER NOTICE This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

Misc. For Sale

BLACK WALNUT PLANKS 2" x 2' x 10' \$300. ea. 2"x 2' x 8' \$250. ea. 8" x 10" x 12' \$500. Or make offer for all. 414-530-8300.

LeBlond LATHE 9" SWING 4' BED Plus attachments. \$1000. Call 414-530-8300.

Wanted to Buy

FIREARMS 1 piece or collection. Federally licensed dealer. Lake Geneva Antique Mall. 829 Williams St. Lake Geneva, WI 262-248-6345

OLD FISHING EQUIPMENT Collector will pay cash for old fishing equipment. (rods, reels, lures, etc.) Call Bill 262-448-1126. Please leave a number.

WANTED: OLDER / VINTAGE CAMPER Trailer/RV & Older Golf Cart. Call or Text 262-903-7522.

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted

CONTRACT ROUTE OPEN ONE DAY PER WEEK - WEDNESDAYS. YOUR VEHICLE. DELAVAN, BRODHEAD AND EVANSVILLE AREAS. WEEKLY CONTRACT PAY. CALL 262-725-7704 CALL TO INQUIRE.

MAIL	ROOM/WAREHOUSE
WORKERS 2-3 DAYS PER WEEK. MON.-WED. CASUAL ENVIRONMENT. PLEASE CALL 262-725-7704 TO INQUIRE.	

DATA ENTRY CLERK

This individual will be inputting information from a variety of sources into documents as well as performing other clerical functions in our Creative Department. The 20-25 hour/week flexible position is available now. The successful Data Entry Clerk applicant will possess the following:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Data entry experience
- Knowledge of correct spelling, grammar and punctuation
- Ability to be detail-oriented while working under a deadline
- Good communication skills

Knowledge of Adobe InDesign, Microsoft Word, Excel, and/or Filemaker Pro is a plus

Daytime hours (M,T,W,F) in our Delavan office

No nights or weekends

Please send a resume, questions or to request an interview time to Heidi Schulz at:

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REAL ESTATE

Other Real Estate

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TWIN \$1049 FULL \$1349 KING \$1999



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QUEEN SET STARTING @

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TWIN \$1399 FULL \$1949 KING \$2699

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\$200 OFF
v3 Set Purchase*

SAVE UP TO
\$250 OFF
v5 Set Purchase*

SAVE UP TO
\$350 OFF
v7 Set Purchase*

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\$450 OFF
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