



Merrill Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

Member Spotlight

LIVE UNITED



Merrill Area United Way has been servicing the Merrill community and surrounding area for over 75 years. We provide a one-stop giving opportunity for the community. All dollars stay local and support 20 agencies that serve the Merrill and surrounding area. Each fall we have our annual fund development campaign to determine what can be given out to the agencies. They submit their allocation requests, and the United Way Board determines the actual allocation. Every agency is accountable with their reporting of how the dollars are spent and the impact they make.

It is important that dollars provide an impact on people's lives in meeting basic needs financially (food, shelter, heat, etc.); health; and education. United way is responsive to helping our agencies and addressing certain community needs. United Way has been the impetus behind the development of MAC Home, provided additional support during COVID 19, and ran a Children's Christmas Project that first COVID Christmas. We have aided fire victims, and so much more.

As the 2023-24 campaign was down this year, we expect to reach out to our business community to engage additional businesses in having a workplace campaign. It is not difficult, and United Way will collaborate with the companies. Allowing for payroll deduction makes the choice to give much easier. Please consider this, and if you are interested contact Dee Olsen at the Merrill Area United Way office. Also, watch for the launch of our new website at the end of the first quarter of 2024. As always, United Way encourages you and your family to "LIVE UNITED" and get involved in a way that will bring heartfelt meaning and self-satisfaction to you and your family. Instill the importance of helping others in your own children. Do something for someone else that would make things just a little bit better. Local initiatives can help families through this season with food, clothing, housing and gifts for children and elderly. Contact us at delores.olsen@merrillareaunitedway.org, or call 715-536-2016.

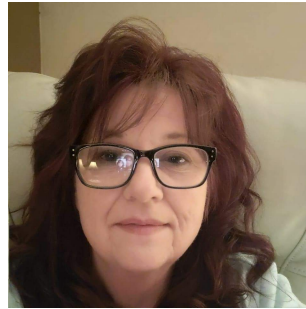
[Visit their website](#)

A Word from our Marketing Team



Welcome Theresa!

Give a warm welcome to our newest member of our team, Theresa Grund. She has a marketing background, including grant writing where she was awarded several grant awards for local organizations. She's looking forward to helping market Merrill! We're excited to have her a part of our team!



Ribbon Cuttings



Walgreens of Merrill

Walgreens held a ribbon cutting as they had recently done some remodeling and they rejoined their membership. The Pharmacy also welcomed Charise back as Manager. Be sure to stop and check out the newly updated store and say hi to the team! Welcome back Walgreens!!



Thrivent of Merrill

Before we took a break for the holidays, we held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the newest licensed advisor, Rob. The team at Thrivent specialize in financial planning for your goals and needs, like education funding, retirement, investments, insurance and annuities. Schedule your appointment today by visiting connect.thrivent.com/robert-oemig

Recent News and Events

New 2024 Chamber Members



[Inspiring Creativity Supplies & More](#)
[The Grand Stand](#)
[Northside Computers & Cellular](#)
[Lincoln County Humane Society](#)
[Huhta Homestead](#)
[ABR Employment Services](#)

2024 Business After Hours

Come Network with fellow Chamber Members!

Upcoming Business After Hours

- **February 8th:** Sponsored by Hugo's Pizza. At Sawmill Brewing Company: 1110 E 10th Street, Merrill, WI 54452



Please reach out if you are interested in hosting a Business After Hours. Business After Hours begin at 5pm and last about an hour or two. They are a great way to network with area businesses.

Let us know if you have any questions about hosting!



See Where GG Has Been

Gregory Gnome

Meet our new mascot, Gregory Gnome (that's pronounced Reg-o-ree No-mm, the "G's" are silent.) You've heard of Flat Stanley right? Well this is our version. His goal is to bring our members closer together by getting to understand what a day in the life is at their business. The person receiving Gregory Gnome will be asked to take a picture with Gregory Gnome and share the photo as well as a recount of his adventures with all of us. They will then pass Gregory Gnome on to the next business. We hope you enjoy this fun way to get to know each other better!

Check out our NEW 2024 Visitor Guide

Stop in and pick up some copies! We will be dispersing these all over the state and into neighboring states. Last year we distributed 10,000 copies of our Visitor Guide. This year we ordered 13,000!



We're excited to showcase all Merrill has to offer!

[Take a look!](#)

From Our Members & Partners

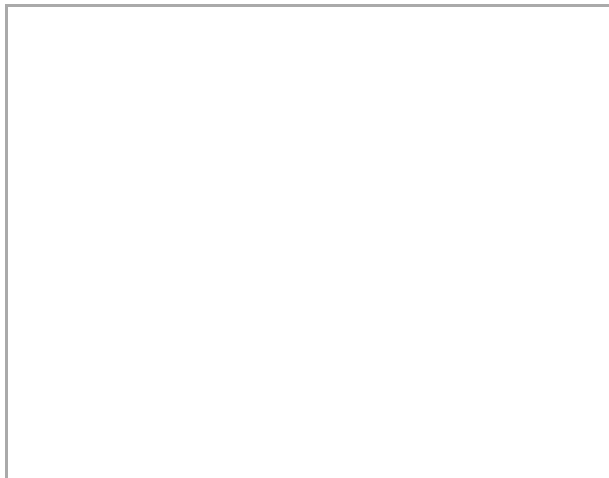
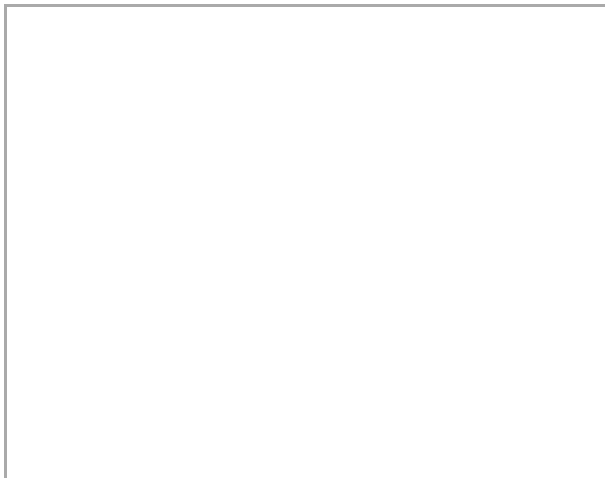


Sponsor Event

Food Truck-a-Palooza Event

The City of Merrill is putting together an exciting new event! May 18th, 2024 they will be having a Food Truck-a-Palooza Event at the Merrill Festival Grounds. They believe this will be a yearly event that will bring in people from all over the area to Experience More to Life here in Merrill. There will be multiple food trucks, musical entertainment, a craft and vendor show, along with a Cornhole tournament.

They are looking for sponsors to help get this event off the ground. If you and your business would be willing to donate to this event please reach out to Hallie Savall at Savall.Hallie@gmail.com for more information. They are expecting a great turnout and hope your business will be a part of building this event.



PRESENTING SPONSOR




JOIN US FOR
2024 CENTRAL WISCONSIN DAYS
FEBRUARY 13TH, 2024
 Premier Park Hotel, Madison
 Register now to take advantage of the reduced rate!



WORKFORCE
WHY YOUR VOICE NEEDS TO BE HEARD!

Central Wisconsin Days is an opportunity for business and community leaders to bring the voice of our region to Madison. Meet with policymakers from across the state and discuss how the legislature can help move Central Wisconsin forward.

CURRENT SPONSORS










The Boldt Company, Miron Construction, Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce, Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce, Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce, and Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry



210 McClellan St Ste 210, Wausau WI centergy.net 715-849-5510 ext. 307

Central Wisconsin Days

Central Wisconsin Days is not just an event; it's a platform for business and community leaders to bring the voice of our region to Madison. It's a chance to engage with policymakers from across the state, fostering crucial discussions on how the legislature can actively contribute to the progress of Central Wisconsin.

Register for the Event

Midwest Communications
 Cordially Invites You to Attend

BrandsFormation®



BrandKamp
 FOR BUSINESS™

May 2nd | 8:30 - Noon
Cedar Creek Grill House
 Rothschild, WI
Kamp Kounselor: Chuck Mefford

The Deliverables:

- The 3 M's of Business - Marketing System
- The Message - What to Say & How to Say it with Story
- Telling The Media - Where to Tell your Story & Why
- The Measures - How to Measure & When

For more information contact Midwest Communications

Powered by BrandsFormation®

BrandKamp and BrandsFormation

Midwest Communications is partnering with author, agency, and small business marketing expert Chuck Mefford, whose BrandsFormation system has been used by hundreds of local businesses, transforming them into household names in their local communities.

BrandsFormation is a 4-Step system created to get measurable advertising results for local businesses.

Sign up below to attend our **free** BrandKamp for Business Seminar on Thursday, May 2nd, 2024 from 8:30am to Noon at the Holiday Inn & Suites in Rothschild.

Register Now



Merrill Fire Dept. 5-Year Strategic



BABYSITTING CERTIFICATION

For Ages 11 - 15

This American Red Cross Babysitting Certification course will prepare youth to be safe, effective, and responsible babysitters. The training is designed to provide universal skills in areas that every babysitter should know, including basic care for infants and children, basic First Aid, child behavior and appropriate activities, emergency protocols, and more.



NEW 2024 CLASSES!

All classes held on Saturdays

8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Registration: \$71

Feb. 3, 2024 - Wausau Campus

Feb. 17, 2024 - Antigo Campus

Feb. 24, 2024 - Medford Campus

Mar. 2, 2024 - Wausau Campus

Mar. 9, 2024 - Spencer Campus

Apr. 6, 2024 - Wausau Campus

Apr. 13, 2024 - Merrill Campus

Apr. 27, 2024 - Phillips Campus

May 4, 2024 - Wausau Campus

May 11, 2024 - Phillips Campus

May 18, 2024 - Wausau Campus



LEARN MORE AND REGISTER BY VISITING

www.ntc.edu/academics-training/courses/emergency-medical-services/babysitting-certification

Northcentral Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in employment, admissions or its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's nondiscrimination policies: Equal Opportunity Officer, Northcentral Technical College, 1000 W. Campus Drive, Wausau, WI 54481, Phone: 715.883.3957

Have a child interested in Babysitting? Get them Certified!

Northcentral Technical College has partnered with the American Red Cross to bring a babysitting certification class for ages 11 to 15. It will prepare youth to be safe, effective, and responsible babysitters. The training is designed to provide universal skills in areas that every babysitter should know, including basic care for infants and children, basic First Aid, child behavior and appropriate activities, emergency protocols, and more.

[Visit website](#)

Plan Community Meeting

You're invited! The Merrill Fire Dept. is updating it's current department vision and goals. They are asking the community members for your help in shaping the future of the fire department.
(refreshments and snacks will be provided)

6PM-9PM at the Merrill Fire Dept.
110 Pier Street on the following dates:

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024

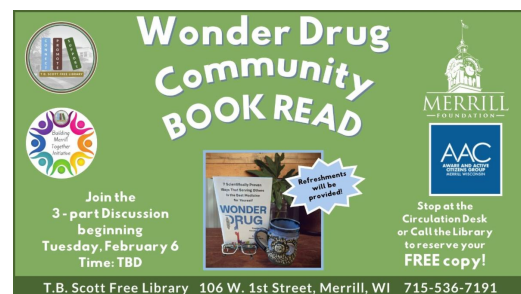
Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024

RSVP to Jana Johnson
jana.johnson@ci.merrill.wi.us

RSVP



Chiropractic Society of Wisconsin has designated to bring forth awareness of the importance of chiropractic for kids. The Chiropractic Wellness Center will have



The T.B. Scott Free Library and the AAC are facilitating a 3-part Community Book Read beginning February 6th.

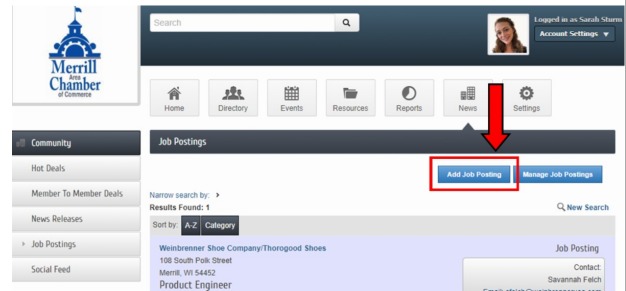
[Learn More](#)

- kids photo booth (when parents share and tag us they get entered for a drawing to win tickets to the new children's museum in Wausau)

- a treat for all kids
- stickers
- coloring books
- education on kids and chiropractic,
- free exam and nervous system scan for all kids that are new patients

Now Hiring?

We're partnering with The City of Merrill to drive more traffic to our [Job Postings](#) page on our website. Did you know you have access to post your job listings/links to our website? Login to your Member Portal and get started!



Login

View Job Postings

Email Us for
Access

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Holidays

- January 24 – Trivia at Sawmill Brewing Company
- January 25 – Trinity Merrill's Open House
- January 25 – Open Mic at Sawmill Brewing Company
- January 25 – MACA Empire Trio Concert
- January 25-29 – Tradeshow in Iowa
- January 27 – Trade Show in Green Bay
- January 27 – Merrill School Forest Family Fun Day
- January 31 – Trivia at Sawmill Brewing Company
- February 1 – Open Mic at Sawmill Brewing Company
- February 3 – Merrill Ice Drags ???
- February 3 – Rotary Uncorked
- February 7 – Trivia at Sawmill Brewing Company
- February 8-11 – La Crosse Trade show
- February 8 – Business After Hours at Sawmill Brewing Company*
- February 8 – Open Mic at Sawmill Brewing Company
- February 10 – Merrill Ice Drags ???
- February 10 – Craft Show at Les & Jim's
- February 10-11 – Merrill Figure Skating Show
- February 10-11 – Sled Dog Races



[Submit an Event](#)

*Denotes Chamber function

Event Details

Chamber Ambassadors:

- Allyson English
- Bill Weston
- Carri Kennedy-Harris
- Danielle Wilcenski
- Dawn Dunbar
- Dawn Smith
- Diane Goetsch
- Emily Gibson
- Jennifer Porath
- Jessica Gipp

- Konner Beyer
- Korey Bloch
- Kevin Hill
- Len Kats
- Molly Lyon
- Sasha Everett
- Shelly Storm
- Sue Kunkel
- Tim Dunbar

Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce
Sarah Sturm, Marketing Director
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