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HARVEST HOEDOWN EVENT TO RAISE MONEY FOR FOOD PANTRY	News	10/3/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Harvest Hoedown started Saturday at noon at the Woodpecker Bar and Grill in Rhinelander. The event featured a hay maze, horse-drawn carriage rides, food, and live music all afternoon. "I think it's going great," said Rhinelander Area Food Pantry Executive Director Guy Hanson. "We got a little sunshine right now. We got probably a couple hundred people here. People are buying food, spending money. It's what we're after." The groups also raffled off prizes, including Packers tickets, to help raise money. This is the first time NATH and the food pantry have worked together for an event. Organizers said the different strengths of the two organizations complement each other, and they're both working toward a similar goal. "The best part is just seeing the people and taking care of all the loose ends," Hanson said. "And there's enough people so it all fits together. That's the nice part. It's nice to see all the volunteers getting along fine." NATH and the Food Pantry hope the Harvest Hoedown becomes a staple of fall fests in Rhinelander.
EDUCATION - RHINELANDER BUDGET FUNDING	News	10/5/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	As many local school districts lose students and state funding year to year, some of those districts have begun to rely on referendums to keep funding their current programs. The School District of Rhinelander is one of those districts. The referendum voters passed in 2013 will end next school year. The district could go to referendum again this spring to continue paying for the programs it has now. "I don't see how we can do it without going to a referendum because the budget is already set in Madison," says School District of Rhinelander Superintendent Kelli Jacobi. "We're not going to be seeing any more money from the state." The referendum will most likely last three years. It could cost property owners \$5 million each year. "Get us through for three years as we continue working with the state to try and come up with some resolutions that will help school districts in our situation," Jacobi says. Rhinelander's superintendent is optimistic the state will eventually change the way it funds schools. But for now, the district needs taxpayers to support the schools. "We need our taxpayers to step up to support us, to continue supporting the School District of Rhinelander, because the state of Wisconsi and state aid is not going to do it," Jacobi says. The school board will learn more about the proposed referendum at its meeting later this month. The board needs to approve the question before it can appear on the ballot.
RHINELANDER LOOKING TO ADD DOG PARK	News	10/5/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Dog owners in Rhinelander could get more outdoor options soon. A group of people in the city want a dog park near the city's airport. The group was looking at a different location near the airport, but that piece of property could've been used for business. The new piece of land is different. "It is actually in a piece of property that has restrictions on how the land can be used," says City Administrator Kristina Aschenbrenner. "So it can't be used for industrial or commercial property, so it makes it a better option for a dog park." This property presents a new opportunity. But the DNR would need to approve the project. "They don't want concrete to be poured into the ground so large fence posts, things like that," Aschenbrenner siad. "Fencing that they would use would just be driven into the ground and wouldn't obstruct the natural grasses or trees that are currently there." The land is owned by the city and located near Hanson Lake.

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HOME FIRE PREVENTION - GET YOU CHIMNEYS CHECKED FOR WINTER	News	10/7/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Some people like to cozy up next to a fireplace on fall nights, but some cost-effective ways of staying warm bring some health and safety risks with them. That's why the Rhinelander Fire Department wants everyone to stay safe. "Everyone gets cold at this time of year and starts putting the space heaters on," said Rhinelander Fire Department Lt. Aaron Swaney. "We don't recommend them, but if you are going to use them, make sure they're Underwriters Laboratories listed—so if they tip over, they shut off right away." It's also important to get your fireplace inspected before you start using it this fall. "It's always good to have your chimneys cleaned right away before you start using them," said Swaney. "That eliminates chimney fires. Also, your gas stoves, they should be serviced before you start running them." You can borrow a chimney cleaner from the Rhinelander Fire Department for free.
ANTIGO HIGH SCHOOL HOLDS ONTO THE BELL TROPHY	News	10/9/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Antigo will hold on to the coveted Bell Trophy after defeating Rhinelander Friday night. The two teams were tied at seven in the third when Brandon Reinthaler was able to convert the 4th down with a sneak. It set up a touchdown pass to Luke Roberts to give the Hodags a seven point lead. But Antigo's Backup Quarterback Wade Farmer answers. He dropped back and used his time in the pocket to connect with Tackle Hunter Kirsch. The big man was able to shed the tackle and take it in. Rhinelander wasn't able to come back, Antigo won 20 to 14.
SHOP WITH A COP	News	10/19/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Every December, Rhinelander police and firefighters help make Christmastime special for a handful of children. But to do that, those police and firefighters need your help. The Rhinelander Police Department is asking for "Shop With a Cop" donations. The program pairs emergency responders with less fortunate third graders. Officer Chad Brown brought the program to Rhinelander in 2010. The officers treat the children to breakfast, then take them shopping for personal and family-related Christmas gifts at Walmart. In 2014, each child got \$100 to spend. Most of the funding comes from community donations. If you'd like to help, you can mail donations to the police station. Send them to the Rhinelander Police Department C/O: Officer Chad Brown at 201 N. Brown Street, Rhinelander, WII, 54501. Checks should be made payable to the Rhinelander Professional Police Association. All donations must be in by December 1st.

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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	News	10/20/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Habitat for Humanity Northwoods works to provide affordable housing for low-income families. On Tuesday, the organization opened a Restore on Stevens Street in Rhinelander to help fund their next project. "It is not a thrift shop," said Restore Manager George Allen. "What we are is, we're trying to focus on a higher-end store so that hen you come in here, you're going to be excited about buying. Although it's used items, it's going to be upgraded used items," For Allen, Tuesday meant the beginning of an exciting new business. "So far, we've had great sales, beginning with people coming in and buying furniture, buying hardware and stuff, so it's been fantastic so far." October 20th marked the first day of the Habitat for Humanity Northwoods Restore. People can donate their gently used items to the store for a great cause. "We accept donations from the general public, use them to sell them at a reduced price, but all the funds are used to build our next house," said Habitat for Humanity Northwoods President Ray Burgan. "So all the donations go to building a house for low-income families." Habitat for Humanity Northwoods serves families in Oneida and Vilas counties. From couches to shelves, lamps to pictures, you can pretty much find anything to make a new addition to your home. Volunteers say they have storage sheds filled with so many different pieces they've collected that they're not exactly sure how many pieces they have. "We've got a lot of big pieces like for kitchens and doors and stuff like that, but we've got a lot of small stuff like screws and brackets and lamps and ceiling fans and things like that, so we've probably got thousands [of pieces]," said Burgan. The Restore is the first of its kind in northern Wisconsin, with 20 other locations spread out across the state. Volunteers say they're not trying to compete with local thrift stores. "We don't want to compete with the Goodwills and thrift shops of the world," said Burgan. "We don't do clothes, things like that. We really take building materials, w
CITY OF RHINELANDER WORKING ON IMPROVING RENTERS RIGHTS	News	10/21/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	If you rent in Rhinelander, you don't get many protections. Currently, the city code doesn't require landlords to keep your water running, your roof from leaking, or your home free from rodents. Those omissions can lead to properties that are unsafe and unwanted. But the city hopes to make some big changes that could help renters and everyone around town. The Rhinelander Planning Commission, the Protection of Persons and Property Committee, and a citizens group, "Forward Rhinelander," met at city hall Monday night to discuss possible changes. The group told city leaders that people are worried about "problem properties" (some rented, some not) around Rhinelander. Based on discussion from that meeting, the city decided to create a rental code and update ordinances that haven't been touched since the early 1990s. "[Make sure] the doors are functioning, the siding is keeping the elements away, the roof is good," City Administrator Kristina Aschenbrenner said, outlining the goals of a potential rental code. "I mean, these are basic, safe, healthy living conditions for people, and those are the type of things we're going to be focusing on." Aschenbrenner says rental properties aren't the only ones with problems. Many homes are breaking rules, like having unsafe walkways or parking cars on lawns where people shouldn't. "The city, I believe, isn't looking at the color of a house or what it looks like in particular," Aschenbrenner said. "What the city is focused on is, Are these safe places to live? Are they a hazard to other people that are walking by? We want ordinances that are easy to understand so people can comply, but then also be able to enforce these ordinances and be able to enforce them consistently." Aschenbrenner admits some people will take offense to the changes, but she says they're not meant to offend, but rather make rules easy to understand and enforce. "A complaint is brought to the city and the city looks into and, yes, they might be going against one of the ordinances, but so is a lot of other pos

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EDUCATION - 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS RESEARCH INVASIVE SPECIES	News	10/22/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Rhinelander seventh and eighth graders got to learn what it's like to research aquatic invasive species. Instead of science class, the students at James Williams Middle School heard about working on the Oneida County AIS team. About 300 seventh and eighth graders participated. The presentation was part of a program Rhinelander middle school teachers started a few years ago to help students learn about different scientific careers. Every month the students hear from a different person who has a job related to science. This month's guest was Oneida County AIS. The AIS speakers presented a fictional invasive species problem to students. The students had to figure out what factors may have brought that species to the lake. "The lesson plan, what we wanted to do was really kind of give the kids an exercise in critical thinking," said Oneida County AIS Coordinator Michele Sadauskas. "So just give them a little background on AIS, but let them kind of come up with some judgments and to look at a management map and kind of look at what invasive species are on that map and come up with some ideas on how they can battle those AIS." Students said they like hearing from real people in science. "Because it teaches you what's in the real world and how you can deal with things if you have problems like what we're learning today about species in the river," said seventh grader Sabrina Fus.
HAUNTED HODAG HOWL - DOWNTOWN EVENT	News	10/25/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Scarecrows, ghouls, and many other creepy creatures came out to support Downtown Rhinelander Saturday night. Downtown Rhinelander, Inc. held their annual Haunted Hodag Howl. People came out in costumes to help improve the Rhinelander area. "It's our time to both celebrate for the hodags, and you see our hodag, and it's to have fun, and it's really a fundraiser, "said Downtown Rhinelander, Inc. member Sally Latimer. There was a silent auction where people could bid on baskets of prizes donated by Rhinelander businesses. They also auctioned off hand-painted hodag statues. "All the money that we have will go to the downtown," Latimer said. "We support parking lots, we have low-interest loans, and we are also now working on the streetscape," The city of Rhinelander has to tear up and repair the infrastructure under the streets and sidewalks. Downtown Rhinelander wants it to look its best when finished with projects like new lighting and wider sidewalks.
LINCOLN COUNTY LOOKING FOR 2 MEN BELIEVED TO HAVE HUNTED DEER ILLEGALLY	News	10/26/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5₽M	1 minute	Lincoln County Deputies think two Rhinelander men illegally hunted deer last Monday morning in the Town of Harrison. A witness saw a truck slow down and shine a light into a field, then heard a shot. Another witness took down the truck's license plate number. The next day, a warden found the two men in Rhinelander, and they admitted to being involved. A 23-year-old will face a number of poaching-related charges. A 22-year-old who was with him will be charged with trespassing.

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DOWNTOWN RHINELANDER INCORPORATED TO LOSE ITS DIRECTOR.	News	10/26/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	A downtown business group in Rhinelander will run differently starting in 2016. Downtown Rhinelander, Incorporated will move forward without a day-to-day director. DRI President Dan Kuzlik blames funding issues for the change. In April, property owners representing more than half of DRI's funding. Despite the funding cuts, DRI will keep its board of directors and its building on Brown Street in Rhinelander, according to a press release from the group. Popular downtown events like PotatoFest may continue as long as local business owners continue to run them. Fundraising will also get turned over to other community groups in the area, such as the Oneida County Fair and Tri-County Council. According to Kuzlik, "The next phase will include working closely with a new group 'Forward Rhinelander,' which was developed following the community forum held at the city in 2014." That informal group of community-minded people is looking to develop a number of projects, including a community investment program that will directly impact blighted buildings downtown, according to the release. DRI will hold its annual meeting on November 5 at 5:30 p.m. at the DRI office, 30 West Davenport Street. All of the changes will take effect in January 2016.
MICROBEADS BANNED IN WI	News	10/28/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Earlier this year, Wisconsin banned businesses from making and selling microbeads. The ban won't go into effect until 2019. Scientists are concerned about what the tiny pieces of plastic do the environment. Dr. Lorena Rios-Mendoza is an associate professor at UW-Superior. She spoke in Rhinelander Wednesday about how microbeads affect lakes and fish. She said fish eat the microbeads. "[Mircobeads are] so easily confused by the fish for food, because everything that is floating in the ocean and the lake is food, and then now we have a new source of toxic compounds to the fish," Rios-Mendoza says. Rios-Mendoza has done research on plastics pollution since 2003. She hopes people use alternatives like paper and glass instead of plastic. "These people know living before the plastic age, you know, and they understand that there are so many things that we are doing before, like the paper-we used a lot of paper, and glass and then we need to go back to the glass," Rios-Mendoza said. Wednesday's lecture was part of Nicolet College's Learning in Retirement program.
EDUCATION - 100 STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MINI- BUSINESS WORLD	News	10/28/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	More than 100 Rhinelander High School students got a taste of real-world business experience. Students taking business classes participated in a one-day Mini Business World workshop. Students had to come up with their own business idea and describe it. They then had to use financial information to sell the business to a hypothetical investor. "This is a small snapshot of what the kids get at the full business world, and it's really an educational day, where business class students and the varying business classes at Rhinelander High School are here to learn about entrepreneurship, teamwork," said Wisconsin Public Service Community Relations leader Leah Van Zile. The students got to learn about Wisconsin's economy and business opportunities as well. Other topics included interview skills as well as how to behave professionally on social media. "The best part, I would say, was having the opportunity to collaborate with my peers and work together on a project, and it was fun," said Rhinelander High School student Matthew O'Melia. Organizers say the program challenges students in an interdisciplinary way as well. Wisconsin Business World is organized by the educational division of Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce. They also collaborated with Rhinelander Partner's in Education and Wisconsin Public Service.

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WINTER WEATHER SAFETY PREP	News	10/28/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The Northwoods could see some snow early Thursday morning. Oneida County Emergency Management wants to prepare people for that winter weather. That's why it's holding a Winter Weather Spotter Class next week. People can learn how to be a Snow Spotter for the National Weather Service. "Help educate people to see if they want to become weather storm spotters and to learn the specifics on how the National [Weather] Service would like different details to be reported to them and how to report it correctly," says Emergency Management Program Assistant Dawn Robinson. People in the class will learn about last winter's weather, and this year's weather. They will also find out about the responsibilities of being a Snow Spotter. "Some of the responsibilities may be simply reporting this is what we're receiving right now for weather, this is how much snow we received. Any type of information that the National Weather Service may need is going to be talked about and discussed at this training class," Robinson said. The class is free. It takes place next Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. If you're interested in taking the course, register with Oneida County Emergency Management at 715-361-5167.
DOWNTOWN RHINELANDER LOSES ANOTHER STORE	News	11/3/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5₽M	1 minute	Mary Wilke's "Sew Smart" store on Brown Street has stood open for the last seven years, but it won't stay there much longer. "This is a beautiful location-we love being downtown," Wilke said Tuesday morning. "It kind of hurts a little bit to move out of downtown." On November 15, Wilke and her staff will pack everything up and move to a new location in Rhinelander's Walmart plaza. Sew Smart will replace the old Verizon Wireless store near Goodwill. Heating and cooling costs and a lack of parking all took their toll on Wilke's business. But a major construction project lowning next year made Wilke realize the time to leave is now. "I know the Streetscape has to get done," Wilke said. "I think that it's going to be a great result; I think the downtown's going to thrive once it's finished. It is hard to leave." Rhinelander's construction project will dig up parts of Davenport, Brown, and Stevens Streets starting in Spring 2016 and lasting into 2017. The \$6 million base project will replace utility lines that are more than 75 years old. Then, the city's "Streetscape Project" will update the downtown design with plants, parks, and better walkways. "It's like, holy man, that's a lot of time you're going to be inconvenienced," downtown store owner Tricis Novak said. Novak moved into her Brown Street store-which is her second location-a few weeks ago. She didn't hear about the project until after she signed the lease. Novak says she helped Crandon work on a similar project several years ago. "It is scary; I'm not going to say it's not," Novak said. "I did get a little pit in my stomach when I heard about it, but I've been through it before and I know we can get through it." Business owners aren't so much worried about losing customers-they think shoppers will still come downtown-but they are concerned about finding places for those customers to park during the construction. "Quite honestly, I don't think some of the businesses are concerned enough," Downtown Rhinelander, Inc. President Dan Kuzlik said. Kuzlik knows the

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NORDIC SKI PROGRAM UNDERWAY	News	11/4/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	There's no snow on the ground yet, but that doesn't stop Nordic skiers from getting their season started. Rhinelander schools held a kickoff meeting on Wednesday night for the start of Nordic skiing this winter. The season officially starts on Monday. Coaches say they expect more than 100 skiers from all grades to join the teams. They say that number represents a big increase from last year. "What I've been hearing from the skiers-from the high school skiers and the middle school skiers-is that they are recruiting hardcore," said Rhinelander High School Nordic ski coach Charil Reis. "They've been bringing all their friends into the the program and telling them how much fun we've been having." Bryan Fish, a development coach for the U.S. Cross Country Ski Team and a Rhinelander native, came out to give a motivational presentation. He said the program has really grown since he started. "One of the things I've seen is just the growth in even the last three years," Fish said. "I mean, coming up through here, I had great opportunity with the coaches and with the athletes that I grew up with, and to see that come full circle, and to see this many people here tonight, is incredible to have." There's a high school and middle school Nordic ski team, and the Sno-Dags youth program is for kids in second through fifth grades. The Northwoods Nordic Ski Club helps support the program.
DOWNTOWN ECONOMIC ISSUES FOR RHINELANDER - GAINS A NEW STORE	News	11/5/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	One Northwoods woman always wanted to show her creative side. Tricia Novak did that by opening Tricia's Treasures in Crandon. Now, she's opened a second store, this one on Brown Street in Rhinelander. When you walk into Tricia's Treasures and Boutique, the smells of fresh food, coffee, and lots of Christmas decorations greet you. "I like to do displays and making homes pretty. That's just what I love. I love to do that kind of stuff," Novak said. The Crandon-based Tricia's Treasures is constantly changing décor based on the season. Store manager Wendy Matuszewski knows it takes a lot of work to put the store together. "I don't know. I love what I do, "said Matuszewski." "We have great girls that work for us and we all have a great time from here to the bistro. We go home tired and full of glitter! We're like the little girl ter fairies every night." All that work worth it to create a unique atmosphere in the Northwoods. "One little girl came in here one day," said Novak. "She looked down by assement stairs and said 'Nom yosh, Mom-I just found heaven.' I guess, just making people happy. I mean, this is what we do," . But Tricia's Treasures isn't all home décor. You can also stop by for a cup of coffee and a sandwich. "We have paninis, soups, and sandwiches," said Novak. "The paninis are made with all our special sauces homemade. I think that's our little secret." Tricia's Treasures started in 1998 as consignment and craft store. In 2008, Novak opened a bistro next door-and now she's proud to have opened the Rhinelander location last month. "It's just been a whirlwind," she said. "From 1998 to where I am today, I never in my wildest dreams would've thought I would be here opening up my second location. We've come a long way. Our store is full and it's changing with the times." Novak says she loves running such unique stores. "Our store and our town here in Crandon is a destination in intidest dreams would've thought I would be here opening up my second location. We 've come a long way. Our store is full and it's
CITY LOOKING AT RAISING SALES TAX TO HELP FUND ROAD REPAIRS	News	11/5/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Rhinelander could get a little help fixing its roads thanks to people who drive on them. But the city and its taxpayers need to decide first if raising the sales tax is the way to do it. The city council will decide Monday night if it wants residents to vote on a half-cent sales tax increase. The Premier Resort Area Tax, or PRAT, allows cities that have nearly half their property values used by tourism-related stores to boost sales taxes. The extra money must be used for infrastructure repairs. Rhinelander technically didn't qualify to levy the tax, but state lawmakers allowed an exemption and put it in budget work this year. "It's everyone paying their fair share," Rhinelander Alderman Steve Sauer said. "Everyone's paying for the roads that everyone's using. Everyone that comes to town and spends a dollar is going to pay a half cent toward making that road that they drive on a little bit nice." Rhinelander voters overwhelmingly approved the tax conceptually this spring. Now, pending the city council's approval, people could vote on approving the actual tax this coming April. "I am hoping that it will pass and I am hoping that it will pass with the same gusto," Sauer said. "I think the city residents realize that they're really bearing the brunt of the cost, and I think most of the city's residents realize that they will be getting relief from this." Sauer says the PRAT could generate around \$480,000 a year in new revenue for the area. The tax would not impact purchases made at grocery stores, but it would affect most bars, restaurants, and big box stores like Walmart. The city council takes up the issue Monday night. It passed out of committee unanimously.

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STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT WILDLIFE	News	11/6/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Some Rhinelander students got the chance Friday to get up close to some wild animals. They also got to learn about the importance of keeping the wild a safe place. Wild Instincts held a program at the Rhinelander Public Library. The local wildlife rehabilitation organization talked about different ways that humans can harm wildlife. Rehabilitation Director Mark Naniot says it's great to educate the young grade schoolers. Tit's a lot of fun, kind of give them passion for wild animals and kind of teach them at a young age to be responsible even in their backyard to keep wildlife safe," said Naniot. The students learned about a red tail hawk and a peregrine falcon that were hit by cars and were not able to get released back into the wild. "Therefore, they become good mentors to teach kids about wildlife," Naniot said. "Most kids don't get to see birds up close and personal like this. So they can come in a see what a beautiful animal they are. Maybe next time they're out they won't want to throw a rock at it or shoot it." The children also learned about the damage fireworks, lead, fishing wire, and lures can cause.
EDUCATION - RHINELANDER BUDGET FUNDING	News	11/6/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5₽M	1 minute	Rhinelander school leaders don't necessarily look forward to asking taxpayers for more money. In fact, District Superintendent Kelli Jacobi says she's downright tired of it. But Jacobi says a referendum is the only way to keep important programs running. In October, the School District of Rhinelander School Board decided to ask taxpayers for a new three-year referendum, for which the school board is currently drafting language before it appears on the ballot. The district would collect on average an extra \$5 million per year from property taxes through the 2018-2019 school year. That referendum would replace the current \$4 million a year referendum, which expires at the end of this school year. "It's important for [taxpayers] to understand it's not really going to be almost double or over double," Jacobi said. "It's in place of that \$4 million." Almost 60 percent of voters approved the 2013 referendum. The new proposed referendum would add an extra \$215 in annual property taxes for the owner of a \$100,000 home. Jacobi says bipartisan political pushes, like the Rural Schools Task Force meant well, but they weren't able to accomplish much to increase education funding from the state. Jacobi says she's continuing to ask lawmakers to change the public schools funding formula. "Definitely would like to continue working with them," Jacobi said. "Our job isn't done. All we can do is continue to shout. To make sure everyone is hearing our voices because we need our state's help." The school district plans to hold several public forums on the referendum in advance of the February 16 vote.
SALVATION ARMY GEARING UP FOR BELL RINGING SEASON	News	11/6/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The sound of bells ringing outside grocery stores will soon be back. Right now the Rhinelander Salvation Army is looking for bell ringers for the holidays. The Salvation Army will be kicking off its bell-ringing season at the Rhinelander Shopko and Trig's on November 20. They will also ring bells outside Walmart on November 27. The holidays are a critical time of the year for the group. They make 90 percent of their money through bell ringing. "The bell-ringing season is the time of the year that we raise our funds," said 2015 Red Kettle Bell Campaign Coordinator Kim Swisher. "For every dollar raised in our community, 86 cents stays right here. The remaining 14 cents go to state and national emergency efforts" The Rhinelander Salvation Army raised nearly \$26,000 during the 2014 bell-ringing season. This year the goal is \$30,000. "Salvation Army helps for emergency relief services," Swisher said. "So we provide emergency housing, and when someone is displaced from their home, we offer a hotel voucher for a night or two. It's not long-term financial support; it's emergency support." If you want to ring at Shopko call Jan Leschke at (715) 362-7157.

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FREE CONCERT MILITARY TRIBUTE	News	11/6/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The Rhinelander Area Community Band invites you to a free concert on Saturday at 2 p.m. The concert will be in the auditorium of James Williams Middle School in Rhinelander. This is an annual tribute to all branches of the military. The Rhinelander Area Community Band features musicians from across the Northwoods, and is directed by Jim Pekol.
VOTERS TO DECIDE ON RAISING SALES TAX TO HELP FUND ROAD REPAIRS	News	11/9/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Voters in Rhinelander will again decide if the city should, in effect, raise its sales tax by enacting a Premier Resort Area Tax (PRAT). City leaders say the tax will help improve local roads. The city hopes taxpayers approve a half-cent sales tax this spring. The PRAT in effect lets tourist towns boost their sales taxes at tourism-related businesses, including bars, restaurants, shops, and other locations. On Monday, the council made the language more detailed. "It's more than just goods and services; it's more than just property," Rhinelander City Attorney Carrie Miljevich said. "That's the actual language, which is much broader than just tourism-related items." The extra money from the tax must be used for infrastructure repairs. According to the law, Rhinelander technically didn't qualify to levy the PRAT, but state lawmakers allowed an exemption and put it in budget work this year. The tax won't impact every business in Rhinelander. Miljevich says the final decision of which businesses will be allowed to charge the tax will be up to the Department of Revenue. "I believe the city had a list that was done earlier this spring of businesses that we think should be included based on the regulations and based on the statutes, but the Department of Revenue gets that final decision," Miljevich said. That binding referendum will come in April 2016. Rhinelander voters approved the concept of a PRAT by a 2-1 margin in April 2015.
FOOD PANTRY HELP	News	11/9/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Many people will start shopping for Thanksgiving food soon, but some can't afford everything for a holiday meal. That's why a local food pantry is helping people have a Thanksgiving meal. The Rhinelander Area Food Pantry started giving out turkeys Monday. The pantry got about 6,000 pounds of turkeys, but it still might run out. "Me'll do it for a two-week period. Hopefully we have enough to go two weeks," says Rhinelander Area Food Pantry General Manager Jane Motowski. "If we don't, we won't run out of food—they may not get a turkey or a ham though if we run out," The pantry sees more people during the holidays. It's expecting about 400 people to come in over the next two weeks. It usually gets around 600 visitors a month. "These holidays all end at the end of the month," Motowski said. "A lot of the people going through are getting FoodShare and unfortunately—it's just human nature—usually by the end of the month, they're running short. The pantry used to give out voucheys, but this year it will give the turkeys out at the pantry because there's more room at the new location. The pantry is accepting donated turkeys and hams for the holidays.

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POLICE INVESTIGATING NEEDLES FOUND IN CANDY BAR	News	11/12/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The Rhinelander Police Department will try to learn more about needles found in a candy bar. According to the department's Facebook page, someone reported that they found two needles in a Three Musketeers candy bar. The bar had been given out during trick-ortreating in the city. The family had trick-or-treated in the Pioneer Park area. The department wants to remind everyone to always inspect the candy given to children during trick-or-treating. If you have any information relating to this incident or any other crime, please contact the department at (715) 365-5300
SWIM TEAM HEADS FOR STATE TOURNAMENT	News	11/13/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The Rhinelander girls swimming team sent a relay team to state for the first time in 12 years this season. The team also sent an individual swimmer for the first time since 2007. They'll compete in Friday's state swimming meet. Head coach Lindsay Byrka won six state championships as a Hodag in the '90s. She wanted to bring that success back to Rhinelander. "Coming in day one, we had the splits," Byrka said. "We knew that these girls were capable of swimming that fast. We didn't know if they were going to make it down to crunch time." The girls got it done during crunch time. Kiah Francis will swim in the 100-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard individual medley. The team will also have Francis on the 200 medley relay team. "I'm really excited," Francis said. "I'm just trying to put it in perspective and swim fast tonight. I'm super excited, I know. It is a big deal. We're definitely making the most of it, so I'm really looking forward to tonight." Francis could become the second individual state champion in Rhinelander school history. The only individual state champion is Byrka, her coach. Francis will be the No. 1 seed Friday night in both of her events. "That doesn't change anything," Francis said. The psych sheets mean absolutely nothing. I mean, they can give you an idea of how it's going to go, but once everyone is in the water it's fair game. We're going to go for the title. We'll see how it goes." Regardless, it will be a big night for the Hodags. "We're bringing Hodag girls swimming back onto the map," said Byrka. The team will be on the map Friday in Madison.
CHAMBER HIRES NEW DIRECTOR	News	11/17/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	A northern Illinois man with marketing and community outreach experience will become the new chamber of commerce director in Rhinelander. Bill Clow will take over the position on December 1. Clow takes over for Dana DeMet, who left to become a branch manager at a local bank after about 18 months on the job. Most recently, Clow worked in community outreach at the Harvard School District in Harvard, Illinois. He also helped start and run a community radio station in Harvard.

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CHAMBER HIRES NEW DIRECTOR	News	11/18/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5₽M	1 minute	The Rhinelander Area Chamber of Commerce will soon get a new leader. The Chamber's board recently hired a new executive director. Bill Clow will start on December 1. Clow comes to Rhinelander from northern Illinois, where he had a career in marketing and community outreach. Chamber board members think his experience will help Rhinelander businesses. "He has a communications and marketing background," says Chamber board president Brett Aylesworth. "He has an MBA degree and is very experienced in communications, marketing-things that we need." Clow will oversee some of Rhinelander's big events, including Hodag Hops and Vines, Log Jam, and HoDrags on Ice. The board wants him to build on the improvements previous Chamber directors made. They also think he'll bring more stability to the Chamber. "We've had, you know, quite the quick transition," says Aylesworth. "[Former director] Dana [DeMet] was only here for a year and a half. We're looking for some stability. [Clow] can provide that. Overall, the Chamber is heading in a great direction and we want that to continue." DeMet left the Chamber earlier this fall.
POLICE INVESTIGATING MAN FOR ATTEMPTED SEXUAL ASSUALT OF CHILD	News	11/24/2015	6,7,8AM Noon 6 5PM	1 minute	Police think a Rhinelander man asked a 10-year-old girl for nude pictures. Eighteen-year-old Mark Moore is charged with five felonies for attempted sexual assault, exposing himself to a child, and using a computer for a child sex crime. According to court documents, Moore was staying at the same place as the girl in late October. Moore and the girl were watching movies alone together. He allegedly set up a Facebook account for the girl. Moore then sent her messages asking her to get naked. He admitted to police he asked for the pictures and told police he "was only attracted to young girls." The girl told police he exposed himself to her. She also said he tried to touch her, but she pushed Moore away. Moore is in jail on a \$25,000 cash bond. He'll be back in court November 30.
RECREATION - UPDATING BIKING AND WALKING TRAILS	News	11/25/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The last time Rhinelander updated its biking and pedestrian plan, Bill Clinton was in office and Lincoln Street didn't have sidewalks. Now, the city is making a push to create better trails and connect them around town. And it's using grant money to make that plan a reality. City Council member Alex Young showed Newswatch 12 around the layout of a new pedestrian trail on the city's south side Wednesday. The 10-foot-wide paved trail will run along the Pelican River where the old waste water treatment plant stood on Boyce Drive. It will connect to the new boat landing and run up Boyce Drive to Kemp, eventually connecting to the Chamber Riverwalk and hotels along Kemp Street. "We've got a beautiful location here at the junction of the Pelican and Wisconsin Rivers. Take advantage of that," Young said. "I think there's a push now to improve the bicycle and pedestrian connectivity in the city." A \$135,000 DNR grant made the trail possible. That grant matches money the city will also spend without having to raise taxes, according to Young. It's an investment the alderman thinks will benefit everyone in the city. "They bring people to some of the communities," Young said of the trails. "They bring people to shops and things like that. I think that making the community attractive in that regardit does have economic impact." The parks committee chose an engineer to design the project Monday. The project will go out for bids next spring, and construction could begin summer of 2016.

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VOTERS TO DECIDE ON FUNDING SCHOOL BUDGET	News	11/30/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Rhinelander voters will decide in February whether to give the school more money. The School District of Rhinelander will try to pass a referendum. It would cost about \$5 million each year for the next three years. Voters passed a \$4 million referendum in 2013. That referendum will expire at the end of this school year. District administrators will hold meetings throughout the community to inform voters about the new referendum. "Getting the information out to the public is just essential," says School District of Rhinelander Superintendent Kelli Jacobi. "We need people-our community members, our taxpayers, our parents, all our stakeholders-to understand the importance, the significance of this referendum," If it passes, the new referendum will replace the one passed in 2013. Administrators hope community members understand why they're asking ovters to approve another one. "All of the information that we're putting out is to explain that, that it's a continuation of the \$4 million with one additional million," Jacobi said. "Our state aid continues to decline and that's why it continues—the amount we need from our taxpayers continues to rise."
LIBRARY FUNDRAISING	News	12/2/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Many libraries rely on fundraising to help replenish their collections. The Rhinelander District Library Foundation gets a lot of its money through annual Ced Vig Holiday Book Fund. This is the 31st year for the fundraiser, which has raised more than \$250,000 through the years. "We hope that people will be as generous this year as they have in the past," says Rhinelander District Library Foundation President Susan Anderson. "There are many new books that come out at the end of the year, and so it's a perfect time to fund the library to purchase new acquisitions," Last year, people donated more than \$13,000. The library was able to buy more than 1,000 books with that money. The foundation thinks it's important to support the library. "When you come to the library, it's not only a collection of books," Anderson said. "You're creating a life for yourself, your family, and your community." The fundraiser started Tuesday. If you would like to donate, you can send a check to or drop off cash at the library.
RHINELANDER HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR TO PERFORM AT CAPITAL TREE LIGHTING	News	12/3/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Wisconsin's State Christmas tree won't be the only representative from Rhinelander in Madison Friday. Rhinelander High School's band and choir will perform at the tree-lighting ceremony Friday afternoon. Thursday, students and teachers prepared for the trip. The students can't wait to show off their hard work at the Capitol on Friday. "I'm looking forward to seeing the Capitol, like, it's such a big venue and, like, to know that, you know, a little small town Rhinelander gets to perform in such a big place is really cool," says band and choir student Faith Bartelt. The groups have been practicing a variety of Christmas songs for weeks. "It's fun to put the two ensembles together. Our choir and our band, we don't always do that," says band director Connie Piasecki. The Capitol Christmas tree was donated by a Rhinelander family in November. The family wanted Rhinelander students to perform at the ceremony. "She of course wanted the local Rhinelander High School groups to be able to come down, and then shortly after that I received a call from the governor's office and then officially invited us," Piasecki says. The students look forward to the excitement of performing in front of a large audience. "The rush of it, like, it's so exciting to be, like, watched by other people, and then it's just such a thrill to be able to learn an instrument and then have this opportunity, "says band student Katic Olkowski. "That's where you get the true reward, is when you can convey what you've worked on and your musicality to an audience," Piasecki says. The Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association and the band parent organization helped fund the students' trip.

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MAN CHARGED WITH 20 DAYS FOR MISTREATMENT OF ANIMAL	News	12/4/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	A Rhinelander man will spend 20 days in jail for battery and mistreating an animal. 22-year-old Christopher Cousins plead no contest to both charges in Oneida County Court on Friday. According to a criminal complaint, Cousins was charged with battery for choking an underage girl in his apartment in September. According to another criminal complaint and case, Cousins said he hit a dog with his fists in October. In a police interview, a veterinarian who examined the dog said it had a ruptured ear drum and possibly a cracked skull. The dog is now at the Oneida County Humane Society. Cousins will serve 2 years probation. He must not live in a house with pets as a condition of that probation.
RHINELANDER ATTORNEY WILL SEE HIS LAW LICENSE SUSPENDED FOR MORE TIME	News	12/8/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	A Rhinelander attorney will see his law license suspended for some additional time. Richard Voss' law license was suspended in 2014 after he was accused of misusing nearly \$50,000 in funds from a mentally ill client for whom he served as legal guardian. Now, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has added another 60 days to that suspension. Court documents show that the new misconduct charges stem from Voss' alleged mishandling of trust accounts and the fees in bankruptcy cases. Voss will also have to pay costs of the disciplinary proceedings.
DOWNTOWN RHINELANDER STREETSCAPE PROJECT	News	12/10/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The planning part of the downtown Rhinelander sewer and streetscape upgrades will soon wrap up. In a meeting Thursday night, project leaders said the bidding process will likely end in January or February. That's when they will know exact costs and scheduling dates for the construction. But leaders have been trying to keep business owners informed in the meantime. On Thursday the leaders went over which downtown streets would be closed and when they would be closed for construction. "We have a very complicated project where it's about nine city blocks or more in a downtown area," said Rhinelander Public Works Director Tim Kingman. "It's very complicated work. It takes time, so it's going to be an inconvenience to business owners. And we're just trying to step our way through it so that we can get the best finished project that we can get." Leaders also went over how downtown sewer system will be upgraded. The new sewer system will separate waste water and storm water. Right now, both kinds of water flow into the same system, and treating that water is costly for the city. "There's basically four stages where the work is basically being performed and you sequence it all off," Kingman said. "Again, we're trying to minimize the inconvenience and maximize the access to all these businesses while this work is going on." Leaders estimate the whole project could cost as much as \$9 million. So far the city has received several millions in grants and loans.

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SHOP WITH A COP	News	12/13/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & SPM	1 minute	Police officers and firefighters don't always meet children under the best circumstances. That's one of the reasons the Rhinelander Police Department organizes "Shop with a Cop" every year around Christmas. With donations from the community, the kids at the "Shop with a Cop" program got \$100 to spend on themselves and family members. "All the schools in the Rhinelander school district that has third grade students, they pick kids that are, some could be a little less fortunate this year, some are just very well deserving. They've had excellent behavior. Some may have had some have had some negative police or firefighter contacts in the past," said Rhinelander Police Officer Chad Brown. The outing isn't just about getting that perfect gift. "Most of the time when we're called it's not for good things. So if they feel more comfortable with us or if they might need help, they'll feel more comfortable coming to a police officer because they've spent the day with one, or multiple officers, and firefighters," said Officer Brown. For many of the officers, that's the best feeling. "You see them out in the public after the program and they'll sit and talk to you. They know who are. They feel comfortable with you and that's my favorite part," said Officer Brown.
LOCAL MAN HELPING VETERANS	News	12/14/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	A Rhinelander high school graduate credits a conversation with ultimately convincing him to help veterans when they come home from the service. David Chrisinger was up late one night in 2010 when he decided to reconnect with Brett Foley, who had come home from Afghanistan. Foley opened up about his struggles. That conversation led Chrisinger to start a website and organize fundraisers designed to help veterans. He also began writing a blog called Stronger at the Broken Places. "[The blog's title] comes from a Hemingway quote: 'The world breaks everyone, and some are stronger at the broken places,' so that was the whole focus of the class," Chrisinger said. That class is called Back from the Front. Chrisinger is in his second year of teaching veterans at UW- Stevens Point. He helps them transition from the military to society and into college life. "The important thing is validating those experiences and listening and giving them an outlet to vent if they need to, to build relationships, to create friendships," he said. Tyler Pozolinski and Chase Vuchetic are two students who have grown during their time in the class. When Pozolinski came to school at UWSP after his time in the service, he wouldn't tell people that he was a 23-year-old freshman. Now he's proud to say he's a veteran. "I have no problem telling people, 'This is who I am; this is what I've done," said Pozolinski. Vuchetic was hesitant to open up to other veterans on campus. Now, thanks to Back from the Front, that isn't the case anymore. "You kind of start talking," Vuchetic said. "'Hey, you want to go have a beer after class?' 'Yeah, sure,'-and then, before you know it, you've got a really good group of guys and we hang out all the time now." Pozolinski and Vuchetic will be published in Chrisinger's new book, titled See Me for Who I Am. The book collects 20 essays written by soldiers. The essays detail their experiences both on and off the battlefield. Pozolinki tells the readers about the dream meant was that nobody could help me fight my battles
ICONIC HODAG VANDALIZED	News	12/16/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	The iconic Rhinelander Hodag that greets people entering town along Kemp Street stands without some of its fearsome claws. Police think vandals hit the statue sometime late Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning. Chamber of Commerce staff noticed four claws missing when they arrived at work. "It looks like they were ripped off, not sawed off," chamber director Bill Clow said. "It looks like someone or some group of people yanked at them hard enough to pull them off." The fiberglass statue has been vandalized before. In 2012, someone stole a claw and wrote graffiti on the mythical beast. Clow is disappointed someone would repeat the crime. "It's a senseless type of thing and it kind of makes us all a little bit sad that our Hodag is going to be damaged, especially for the holiday season," Clow said. The Chamber doesn't have any video cameras, but Clow says his staff plans to get some following the vandalism. If you know anything about this incident, contact Rhinelander police at 715-365-5300 or the Chamber of Commerce at 715-365-7464.

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ROTARY CLUB HELPING GET KIDS GIFTS UNDER THE TREE	News	12/16/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Several dozen children across Oneida County will find some presents under the tree this Christmas thanks to the generosity of the Rhinelander Rotary Club. Members spent the afternoon wrapping more than 130 presents for newborn children all the way up to age 16. The club got names of 28 children from Oneida County social services and wish lists from those children's parents. Rotary members then either donated toys or money to buy the gifts. "This is pretty much where I get my warm fuzzies for the Christmas time," club treasurer Kathy Shaltis said. "My husband and I are blessed. We have what we need and what we want and so do our kids and grandkids. This is just such a nice way to be able to give back to the community." The Rotary Club has run its Christmas Giving program since 2007. Staff estimates the club collected at least \$2,200 in donations and toys this year. Parents will receive the gifts early next week.
STUDENT GROUPS RAISING MONEY FOR NEEDED KIDS	News	12/22/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	About 17 percent of children in the Northwoods live below the poverty level. Those kids sometimes struggle to get basic necessities like food and clothes. That's why some Rhinelander High School students want to help. The school's FBLA-DECA group is collecting jeans for its Jeans for Teens fundraiser. The jeans collected will go to Federick Place and other community organizations that need them. Last year, the group helped a lot of people with its fundraiser. "We had 262 pairs of jeans collected over the three-week span and this year the community is really excited," says Faith Bartelt, one of the fundraiser's coordinators. "The committee decided they had a goal of 300 jeans and over the past five days, we've already collected [more than] 80." The group is looking for jeans of all sizes. Even old, used jeans can help. "If they're work jeans, they'll be cut up and used for rags rather than be sent to people to be used," says Bartelt. "So any kinds of jeans, any size-it'll work for the fundraiser." Jeans will be collected until January 6. The collection sites to drop off your jean donations are located at Rhinelander High School, James Williams Middle School, Rhinelander District Library, and Coffee Beans. Look for the big box wrapped in colorful paper and bows. FBLA-DECA is also hosting a basketball game on January 5. People who bring a pair of jeans to the game get free admission.
PACKERS DONATE \$3500 TO FOOD PANTRY	News	12/23/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	LeRoy Eades and Frank Loreti traveled to Green Bay recently to accept a \$3,500 donation from the Packer Foundation. During the luncheon event, the Packers distributed donations to a number of nonprofit organizations throughout the State, but Rhinelander Area Food Pantry was the only Food Pantry fortunate enough to be included.

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FIRE DEPARTMETN GETS NEW TRUCK	News	12/26/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Guessing the age of a fire truck can be pretty tough just by looking at it. That's because firefighters take good care of the expensive equipment they have. But with time comes deterioration, and high maintenance costs. The Rhinelander Fire Department won't need its 10-year-old heavy rescue truck or a 23-year-old fire engine come fall. That's because they'll have a new rescue pumper that can do the job of the previous two. The new truck will make rescues easier thanks to battery-operated tools instead of hydraulic equipment. "What that does for us is significantly reduces the weight of the tools, so it makes it a lot easier on the firefighters preforming the rescue, and, second, it doesn't limit the distance you can be from the truck or from the powerhead of the hydraulics," said Rhinelander Fire Chief Terry Williams. "You're not limited by hoses or wires." The new truck will also be bigger than either of the two the station will sell, which means firefighters will have more storage space and the ability to pump more water when needed. Williams thinks the new truck could help crews run more efficiently in the future. "This way we're only going to have to take one truck to a scene and our crews will actually be able to stay together more while they're responding, so it will enhance communication amongst the crews en route to a scene, and it'll enhance safety because we have fewer vehicles on the road running emergent," said Williams. With maintenance and fuel costs so high, using one truck instead of two will also help cut operating costs. Both of the trucks being sold will offset the \$550,000 purchase price of the new truck. The city won't be losing money from this particular truck being sold the city never put up up front, so this was strictly off of grant money, so it's definitely some bonus money for the city toward the new truck," said Williams. The new rescue pumper truck will be arriving in September or October of 2016.
WINTER SNOWSHOE TRAIL SYSTEM	News	12/30/2015	6,7,8AM Noon & 5PM	1 minute	Snowshoeing in the Northwoods seems to get more and more popular every winter. A trail system near Rhinelander will be even more attractive to users after an upgrade this year. The Washburn Silent Sports Area has brand-new signage and some new trails for this winter. Grants from the Natural Resources Foundation and the Rhinelander Woman's Club helped make the upgrades possible. "We used that money to create these signs that are very clear marked signs," said Rhinelander Area Silent Trails Association President Guy Hansen. "We've also marked the trail with flagging to match the colors on the signs so people can find their way around the trails and hopefully not get lost." Besides snowshoe trails, the Washburn Silent Sports Area features cross country ski trails and trails for fat-tire bikes. Organizers hope to appeal to all outdoor users. "There are a lot of people that like to snowshoe," Hansen said. "It's a very nice trail. It's scenic, and there's really good topography if you come out and hike the trail or snowshoe the trail." Ski trails are open at Washburn after the snow on Monday night. We'll need more snow to keep improving the trail conditions.
BLOOD DRIVE	Community Calendar	10-5-15 thru 10-21- 15	Various Times	1 minute	Nicolet Area Technical College Community Blood Drive. Wednesday, October 21, 2015, from 9:00 a.m 2:00 p.m. The blood drive will be held in the Nicolet College Theatre of the Learning Resources. Center located at 5364 College Drive in Rhinelander. To schedule a donation appointment, please call Student Engagement department at 715-365-4907, the Community Blood Center at 800-280-4102, or visit www.communityblood.org. We provide 100% of the blood products used by Ministry St. Mary's Hospital and couldn't do it without volunteers like you!

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BLOOD DRIVE	Community Calendar	11-2-15 thru 11-25- 15	Various Times	1 minute	Blood donations over holidays are typically low and the Community Blood Center would like to increase awareness and encourage blood donations over the Thanksgiving Holiday. Present to give blood on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 and receive one free pie (while supplies last). Schedule your blood donation appointment today! To find a donor center or blood drive near you, please call the Community Blood Center at 800-280-4102 or visit www.communityblood.org. Appointments preferred! Donors, remember your photo ID. Eat a regular, full meal and drink plenty of water prior to donating.
BLOOD DRIVE	Community Calendar	11-10-15 thru 11-30- 15	Various Times	1 minute	The Community Blood Center is partnering with St. Joseph's Food Program in the Fox Valley and Lakeland Pantry in the Northwoods this Thanksgiving. Beginning November 14, 2015, running through November 30, for every pint of blood collected, the equivalent of one (1) pound of food will be donated to St. Joseph's Food Program in the Fox Valley. For blood donors from the Northwoods area, the equivalent of one (1) pound of food will be donated to the Lakeland "Thanksgiving is a time to acknowledge our gratitude for blood donors who support local patients in need. By partnering with St. Joseph's Food Program and Lakeland Pantry, blood donors can help twice this Thanksgiving by making sure patients have the lifesaving blood they need and families have food on the table. The Community Blood Center is grateful to be able to provide this opportunity in the Fox Valley and the Northwoods." said Kris Belanger, Vice President, Donor Services. Blood donations during holidays like Thanksgiving help The Community Blood Center maintain an adequate supply of blood for hospitals to treat patients needing the gift of life. Donating blood is a great way to connect lives and share life by giving twice this Thanksgiving. To schedule your blood donation for Give a Pint, Give a Pound beginning November 14 - November 30, 2015, please call (920) 738-3131 or visit www.communityblood.org.