"Good news since 1895"

Vol. 128, Number 1 Ladysmith, Wisconsin 54848 Thursday, April 14, 2022

Race for White House

Ostenso receives invitation

Page A2

Mural winner

Art installation at Farm Supply

Page All

Easter week

Lady Smith

Church service times listing

Inside

Grandson among those charged

# Pair pleads guilty in shooting deaths of Conrath couple

By Jerilea Hendrick

Two area men pleaded guilty, Tuesday, in Rusk County Circuit Court to charges of first-degree intentional homicide in the 2020 double shooting deaths of a Conrath area couple, and the grandparents of one of the suspects.

Adam R. Rosolowski, 21, Sheldon, has been charged with two counts of first degree intentional homicide as a party to a crime, one count of armed carjacking as a party to a crime, armed burglary as a party to a crime, one count of theft of movable property (\$5,000-\$10,000) as a party to a crime, one count of theft of movable property (special facts) as a party to a crime, one count of felony criminal damage to property as a party to a crime and one count of misdemeanor bail jumping. Each of his charges also have a repeater modifier.

Joseph W. Falk, 19, Catawba, and Tristan G. Shober, 18, Phillips, involved with this incident, were charged with two felony counts of first degree intentional, one count

of operating without consent while possessing a weapon, theft of movable property >\$5,000 - \$10,000, one count of theft of movable property of special facts and one felony count of criminal damage to property (over \$2,500). All of the charges for both men also have a party to a crime

In a plea agreement on May 27, 2021, Shober was sentenced to seven years and six years extended supervision imposed and stayed and 20 years probation two counts of felony murder.

In Rusk County Circuit Court on April 11, Rosolowski and Falk entered into plea agreements. Falk appeared in court with his attorneys and Rosolowski appeared, by his choice, from the Rusk County Jail with his

Both men pleaded guilty to two felony counts of first-degree intentional homicide as a party to a crime. Each of the other charges, for both

Please turn to Page A10

# Governor signs bill funding 5R cleanup

By Luke Klink

The governor signed Wisconsin Act 234 last week, providing \$2.5 million for cleanup of electronic waste generated from activities undertaken by 5R Processors located in Rusk, Price and Washington coun-

As a result, the Wisconsin DNR will contract with third parties to perform any necessary assessment, collection, transportation and disposal of cathode ray tube glass and related waste generated from activities undertaken by 5R Processors and located at properties in Rusk, Price or Washington counties that are not owned by 5R Processors or its successors.

Former owners have faced federal lawsuits involving illegally mishandling the CRT glass and hiding it from environmental inspectors.

The bill, Senate Bill 890/Assembly Bill 943, had strong bipartisan support in the state legislature, passing both the Senate and the Assembly on unanimous votes earlier this

"I want to thank the governor and my legislative colleagues for their support of this important bill," said Senator Jerry Petrowski. "This was truly a collaborative effort of state and local officials working together to tackle the problems that 5R Processors irresponsibly left behind." 5R Processors was an electronics recycling company formerly based

in Ladysmith. Before the advent of flat screen TVs and monitors that do not contain lead, crushed CRT glass had value as a recyclable item and could be sold to vendors. However, once the newer screen technology came online, CRTs lost all value and 5R had to pay money to downstream vendors to dispose of the leaded

5R's customers included large public and private entities. These customers paid 5R, through the manufacturer-take-back program, over \$9.6 million to recycle e-waste, including CRTs containing leaded

According to court documents, 5R used a de-manufacturing technique whereby electronic equipment was taken apart manually and the parts sorted into commodities which then could be resold. 5R took in computer monitors and televisions that contained CRTs, which were broken down and the glass separated between "clean glass" that was sold as a commodity and "funnel glass" that had lead in it. Until 2011, 5R shipped the leaded CRT glass to vendors that

Please turn to Page A12





AIRLIFTED AFTER INJURY — A medical helicopter takes off with a patient Sunday morning, after a call for a teen that had fallen about 8 feet at a residence between Elm and Town Line roads, about 6 miles north of Ladysmith. The Rusk County Ambulance Service was dispatched shortly after 8 a.m., April 10, to N7219 Wis. 27, in the town of Flambeau. EMTs immediately asked for a helicopter autolaunch. The Ladysmith Fire Department was called to help set up a landing pad and provide traffic control on the highway. The Wisconsin State Patrol and Rusk County Sheriff's Department also responded.

News photo by Luke Klink

Nearly 200 turn out to greet Ron Johnson

# U.S. Senator makes stop in Ladysmith

By Luke Klink

U.S. Senator Ron Johnson (R-Wisconsin) made a stop in Ladysmith, last Friday, speaking to an audience of about 180 people at Colonial Nursery and Heart of the North Brewery.

A take-away message from Johnson was continuing a political reformer President Donald Trump when he took office in 2016. Johnson added Trump assembled a coalition that had one attribute in com-

"The attribute is people who fervently love this country. I mean fervently love it," Johnson said. "It is now the Democrats that are the party of the elite. We are the party of the common person, the person that gets up and works, takes care of the family and wants government off their backs. I think that is a pretty attractive group of people I want to be part of. That is a group of people we need to expand," Johnson said.

Johnson started, comparing 9-11 to the coronavirus pandemic.

"What happened after 9-11? This



RUSK COUNTY VISIT - U.S. Senator Ron Johnson (left) speaks with Rusk County residents Ruth and Bill Ewer after a speaking engagement in the area on Friday, April 8.

country came together, and we united. What happened after the pandemic? There were elements in the administration, in the media and the political realm that politicized it," Johnson said, "It was something that

- News photo by Luke Klink should have brought us together. It was something that was scary. We didn't know what was going to happen. It should have brought America together, but instead there were elements and people that exacerbated

"I don't remember America being more divided than today," Johnson told the audience.

Johnson said he doesn't agree with President Joe Biden on much, but at the time of the presidential inauguration he was in support of Biden saying his main goal would be to unify the country

"How's he done?" Johnson said. "Every action he has taken has exacerbated the divide."

Johnson cited how Democrat policies have resulted in out of control borders, excessive spending, soaring inflation and spiking energy prices, right now seen at the gasoline pumps. He added surrendering Afghanistan has emboldened the nation's enemies like Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Johnson told the audience there is one key ingredient that makes economic strength and national unity.

"It's freedom. Why is this such a great country? It's because we have freedom," Johnson said.

Please turn to Page A7

Multiple criminal charges dropped in plea deal

## Last of 5R Processors leaders to plead guilty

By Luke Klink

The former CEO of a defunct electronics recycling company once headquartered in Ladysmith agreed in federal court last week to plead guilty to a new court filing listing a single charge of failing to account for and pay to the IRS the company's employee federal income and payroll taxes.

Under the plea agreement, Kevin Shibilski, 60, of Merrill, agrees plead guilty to Count 1 of the information filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office, charging a violation of Title 26, U.S. Code, Section 7202, relating to Pure Extraction and Wisconsin Logistical Solutions companies of which he was a principle. In exchange, prosecutors will move to dismiss all the counts in a much broader federal indictment filed against Shibilski two years ago.

Pure Extraction and Wisconsin Logistics Solutions are offshoots of 5R Processors, a former Ladysmith company registered as a collector and recycler under E-cycle Wisconsin from 2010 until 2014, when questions began to arise about its handling of Cathode Ray Tube glass.

Section 7202 is used to prosecute persons who willfully fail to comply with their statutory obligations to collect, account for, and pay over taxes

imposed on another person. At sentencing, Shibilski faces maximum penalties of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, a 3-year period of

supervised release and a \$100 special assessment.

In 2020, a 19-page federal court indictment returned against Shibilski by a grand jury alleged illegal storage and disposal of hazardous waste, multiple counts of wire fraud and a conspiracy to evade paying employment taxes. In it, Shibilski was charged with storing and disposing of hazardous waste without a permit, in his capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of 5R Processors, Ltd., a Wisconsin company involved in the recycling of electronic waste from corporate and institutional clients and from manufacturers that participate in a Manufacture-Take-Back program. The document alleged Shibilski illegally stored and disposed of broken and crushed glass from cathode ray tubes that was hazardous due to lead-toxicity at facilities in Wisconsin and Tennes-

The indictment also charged Shibilski with eight counts of wire fraud by taking in over \$5.76 million from clients but failing to recycle more than 8.3 million pounds of their crushed glass from cathode ray tubes that had lead in them and instead stockpiling it at 5R Processors' warehouses in Wisconsin and Tennessee. The final count in the indictment alleged Shibilski conspired to defraud the United States by the nonpayment and evasion of more than \$850,000 in employment and income taxes for 5R Processors and its nominee

The indictment stated Shibilski between about March 2013 and September 2020, "Knowingly stored and disposed of hazardous waste, and aided and abetted the storage and disposal of hazardous waste, to wit: broken and crushed CRT glass that was hazardous due to lead-toxicity, at unpermitted facilities in West Bend, Wisconsin, Glen Flora, Wisconsin, and Morristown,

Tennessee.' The indictment stated Shibilski between about March 2013 and June 2016, "Knowingly, and with the intent to defraud, devised and participated in a scheme to defraud institutional recycling customers and Manufacturer Take Back (MTB) clients, and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, promises, and by con-

cealment of material facts.' The new 3-page felony information document filed last week in federal court replaces the original indictment, now charging Shibilski with a single count relating to failing to account for and pay \$197,458 in federal income and FICA taxes to the Internal Revenue Service on behalf of Pure Extraction and Wisconsin Logistics Solutions employees during quarters in 2015 and

Shibilski is a businessman and former politician who served as a Democratic State Senator from Wisconsin's 24th District from 1995 to 2002. He previously served as the Register of Deeds,

representing Portage County. "The United States agrees that this guilty plea will completely resolve all possible federal criminal violations that have occurred," states the 6-page plea agreement filed last Thursday in the U.S.District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin.

5R Processors, Ltd. (5R), was formed in 1988 and operated as a corporation involved in recycling, including the reconditioning, refurbishing, remarketing, de-manufacturing, and end-of-life processing of electronic equipment, appliances and other assets. 5R accepted used electronics such as computers and televisions from commercial and public entities in exchange for a fee, and represented to customers that those materials would be recycled or disposed of in accordance with state and federal laws. 5R's customers included large corporate and institutional clients who sent their electronic waste to 5R for proper recycling and manufacturers of electronics that participated in the manufacture-take-back program and paid to have e-waste properly recycled.

Shibilski became involved as a minority stock owner in 5R in 2013.

Pure Extractions Inc. was created by Shibilski in June 2014 to handle 5R's recycling operations. It took on all of

Please turn to Page A9

## 5R Processors: Former CEO to plead guilty

**Continued from Page A1** 

5R's recycling customers, most of 5R's recycling employees, all of 5R's warehouses and equipment, and all of 5R's income flows from recycling, but none of 5R's debts.

Wisconsin Logistics Solutions was created by Shibilski in February 2015 to handle 5R's trucking and logistics operations. It took on most of 5R's trucks and equipment drivers, dispatchers, pick up routes, licenses, and all of 5R's income flows from trucking and logistics, but none of 5R's debts. It also leased new trucks and trailers, which were guaranteed by its ownership group.

Employers are required to collect four types of taxes with respect to wages paid to employees including income tax, Social security tax, Medicare tax and federal unemployment tax.

"From in or about June 2014 to about June 2016, in the Western District of Wisconsin and elsewhere, the defendant, Kevin Shibilski, willfully failed to truthfully account for and pay over to the Internal Revenue Service all of the federal income taxes withheld and FICA taxes due and owing to the United States on behalf of Pure Extraction and Wisconsin Logistics Solutions and its employees," the new information charging document states.

In the plea agreement, Shibilski admits to entering into a purchase agreement in March 2013 to purchase 5R Processors, Ltd. (5R) from Tom and Jo Ann Drake for \$1 million payable in increments of \$100,000 a year for 10 years from 2015 to 2025, to include efforts to refinance and personal assumption of debt.

Shibilski also admits he became Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of 5R Processors in March 2013 with Jim Moss continuing as Chief Operating Officer.

Shibilski also admits he created entities called Pure Extractions in June 2014, and Wisconsin Logistics Solutions LLC in February 2015.

Shibilski also admits he periodically received some financial updates from the accounting staff showing which vendor bills were due for payment and the amounts due. These lists included the withheld employment taxes due for Pure Extractions.

Shibilski also admits to failing to ensure the accounting staff, either directly or indirectly through Moss, timely paid bills, which included the weekly employment taxes due to the IRS for Pure Extractions and Wisconsin Logistics

Shibilski also admits he received his pay via payable checks, and continued to receive his rent checks during periods when the accounting staff failed to pay the employment taxes to the IRS.

Shibilski also admits during the quarters 2015-09 to 2016-06 Pure Extraction did not pay over to the IRS withheld employment taxes of \$68,732. During the quarters of 2015-03 to 2016-06 Wisconsin Logistics Solutions did not pay over to the IRS withheld employment tax of \$128,726. The total is \$197,458

Shibilski also admits to meeting with IRS Revenue officer Tim Smith to discuss unpaid employment taxes, at which time Shibilski took responsibility as the person paying the employment taxes and he was endeavoring to receive bank financing to settle claims with the IRS. Shibilski told Smith the employment taxes were not paid because the company was not making a profit. Shibilski told Smith he would be getting a refinancing loan to pay the taxes.

Federal prosecutors agree to move to dismiss all the counts in the superseding indictment at sentencing.

Shibilski also agrees to pay restitution for all losses of the employment taxes for Pure Extraction and Wisconsin Logistics Solutions. The parties will agree upon the exact restitution figure before sentencing, and if they cannot agree the court will determine.

Under the agreement, Shibilski agrees to pay money toward remediation of CRT glass storage sites for 5R Processors in Wisconsin and Tennessee before the plea hearing and disbursed upon sentencing.

5R's owners and operators have been the subject of federal criminal prosecution for federal and state hazardous waste violations and other crimes.

Thomas Drake founded 5R in Wisconsin in 1988 and served as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors. Drake was responsible for overseeing all aspects of 5R's operations, including compliance with OSHA and federal and state environmental laws.

Bonnie Dennee started with 5R in 1997. She worked in various positions at 5R, including director of environmental, health, safety & certifications, and executive vice-president.

Jim Moss joined 5R in 2007, and became its president in 2010. As President of 5R, Moss was responsible for managing all plant operations.

Court documents allege that from 2011 to 2016, the defendants and others conspired to knowingly store hazardous waste such as broken and crushed CRT glass that contained lead at unpermitted facilities in Catawba and Glen Flora and Morristown, Tenn.; knowingly transport the hazardous waste without a required manifest and conceal the violations from state regulators in Wisconsin and Tennessee as well as auditors with a nationwide recycling certification program known as R2.

"It was further part of the conspiracy that as of November 2016, Moss, and other members of the conspiracy, caused 5R to accumulate and store over 1.3 million pounds of hazardous waste in the form of funnel glass and dirty glass at 5R's unpermitted facilities in Wisconsin, and over 7 million pounds of hazardous waste in the form of funnel glass and dirty glass at its unpermitted facility in Tennessee," a

federal court document states.

Moss, a Ladysmith resident, now 62, was sentenced in November 2020 by U.S. District Judge William M. Conley to 18 months in federal prison for conspiring to store and transport hazardous waste without required permits and manifests, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and with conspiring to evade the payment of employment taxes and income taxes to the IRS. Moss pleaded guilty to these charges. Moss started at 5R in January 2007 and became its President in 2010. As President of 5R, Moss was responsible for managing all plant operations, including shipping, receiving, trucking, sales, demanufacturing, warehousing, accounting, and payroll.

At his plea hearing, Moss admitted to attempting to conceal the illegal storage and transport of the crushed leaded glass by various means, including: (1) changing the date labels on the containers; (2) hiding the containers by putting them inside semi-trailers and locking the trailer doors; (3) moving the containers to the back of the warehouse and stacking other pallets in front of them, making it impossible for regulators to see the boxes or inspect them; (4) storing the containers at a warehouse on Artisan Drive in Glen Flora, Wisconsin (known as the "Sunshine Building"), and not disclosing the existence of this warehouse, or its contents, to state regulators or R2 auditors; (5) storing the containers at 5R's plant in Morristown, Tennessee in two warehouse spaces that did not have electricity or power, and which were referred to by 5R employees as the "dark side" and the "dark-dark side;" and (6) providing the state regulators with inaccurate inventory and shipping records for the leaded glass.

Moss also pleaded guilty to a conspiracy with others to defraud the IRS in the collection of employment taxes and income taxes for 5R and two other related companies, Wisconsin Logistic Solutions (WLS) and Pure Extractions. Moss and others failed to truthfully account for and pay over to the IRS all of the federal income taxes withheld from employees and FICA taxes due and owing to the United States for 5R, WLS and Pure Extractions, totaling \$858,101.29.

Bonnie Dennee, 66, a Phillips resident, was sentenced in January 2021 by U.S. District Judge William M. Conley to five months in federal prison, followed by a three-year term of supervised release, for conspiracy to store and transport hazardous waste without required permits and manifests, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Dennee pleaded guilty to this charge in October 2020.

Co-defendant Thomas Drake, then 81, signed a plea agreement to this charge in December 2019, with counsel providing medical records his client suffers from dementia. A competency exam was scheduled. Drake died in April 2021.

A plea hearing for Shibilski is set for p.m., Monday, May 16, in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin.



HUMANITARIAN EFFORT — The Ladysmith Lions were recently challenged by the Cadott Lions to a \$1,000 challenge to go to the Ukrainian Humanitarian Effort. At a recent meeting, the challenge was put to the members with a \$250 starting donation. Other members jumped in and came up with a total donation of \$1,500 which was then matched with club funds for a \$3,000 total donation to the effort. Pictured are all who personally donated to the

## Tree seedling orders still being taken

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is still accepting orders for the remaining tree seedlings to be planted this

Planting seedlings from state nurseries is a great way to celebrate Arbor Day (April 29, 2022) which is dedicated to increasing the number of trees across the country to help improve the environment.

In 2021, Gov. Tony Evers signed an Executive Order pledging to protect and restore Wisconsin's forestland by planting 75 million trees by 2030 as part of the U.S. Chapter of the Global Trillion Trees Initiative. By ordering seedlings, you can

Trees provide a variety of benefits to both people and the planet. They give off oxygen, trap carbon dioxide, feed and provide shelter for furry forest creatures and provide materials to build a variety of essential household items," said Heather Berklund, DNR Chief State Forester.

Wisconsin state nurseries have 1 and 2-year-old Red Oak, 1-year-old jack pine, 1-year-old black walnut, 2-year-old Red Pine, and 2-yearold Black Spruce available for pur-

All seedlings are grown at the Wilson State Nursery in Boscobel

and are well suited to their native Wisconsin soil. The minimum seedling order includes a packet of 300 seedlings in 100 count increments of selected species, 500 shrubs or 1,000 tree seedlings.

These seedlings must be planted in Wisconsin and are to be used in reforestation efforts, creating wildlife habitat, controlling erosion or constructing natural windbreaks.

For information on seedling availability or place an order, contact our nursery hotline at 715-424-3700.

You can find answers to common questions about tree planting on the DNR's website at https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/treeplanting/faq.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

#### **RUSK COUNTY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH located at 721N 2nd Street Bruce, WI Mass times; 5:15 PM Saturdays. Fr. Papi Reddy Yeruva Parochial Administrator. Office located at 611 First Street South, Ladysmith, WI Phone: 715-532-3051 website www.ruskcountycatholiccommunity.org secretary@ ruskcountycatholiccommunity.org.

SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH located at N3739 First Street Weyerhaeuser, WI Mass times; 5:15 PM Saturdays. Fr. Papi Reddy Yeruva Parochial Administrator. Office located at 611 First Street South, Ladysmith, WI Phone: 715-532-3051website: www.ruskcountycatholiccommunity. org secretary@ruskcountycatholiccommunity.org.

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC CHURCH** located at 120 E. Corbett Ave. Ladysmith, WI. Mass times; 10:45 AM Sundays. Fr. Papi Reddy Yeruva Parochial Administrator. Office located at 611 First Street South, Ladysmith, WI Phone: 715-532-3051 website: www.ruskcountycatholiccommunity.org secretary@ ruskcountvcatholiccommunitv.org.

OUR LADY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL 4K-8TH **GRADE** located at 105 East Washington Ave. Ladysmith WI Principal Mark Gobler Phone: 715-532-3232 olsschool@

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH located at W10183 Lehman Road, Holcombe, WI. Mass times; 3:30 PM Saturdays. Fr. Papi Reddy Yeruva Parochial Administrator. Office located at 611 First Street South, Ladysmith, WI Phone: 715-532-3051 website: www.ruskcountycatholiccommunity. org secretary@ruskcountycatholiccommunity.org.

ST. ANTHONY DE PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH located at N5333 Maple Street Tony, WI Mass times; 9:15s AM Sundays. Fr. Papi Reddy Yeruva Parochial Administrator. Office located at 611 First Street South, Ladysmith, WI Phone: 715-532-3051website: www.ruskcountYcatholkcommunity. org secretary@ruskcountycatholiccommunity.org.

ST. MARY OF CZESTOCHOWA CATHOLIC CHURCH located at N7386 CTH M, Hawkins, WI. Mass times; 8:00 AM Sundays. Fr. Papi Reddy Yeruva Parochial Administrator. Office located at 611 First Street South, Ladysmith, WI Phone: 715-532-3051 website: www.ruskcountycatholiccommunity org secretary@ruskcountycatholiccommunity.org.

**BRUCE - WEYERHAEUSER - EXELAND** - RICE LAKE - BARRON - RADISSON

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH, . Church building is located 1/4 mile west of Bruce on Hwy. 8. Ph. 8683300. Pastor William Barnett, Ph. (715) 415-2625. Sunday School & Bible Study 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. www. gracebiblechurchonline.com

NATHANIEL LUTHERAN, Pastor Kathy Ulrich, Bruce. Nathaniel Lutheran in Bruce; Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Letting Jesus lead us.

LIVING WATERS AIG, Rev. Truman Stricklen, N7347 Hwy. 40, 8 mi. N. of Bruce. Ph. 868-2987. Morn. Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wed. night Bible Study 5:00 p.n

CHURCH OF CHRIST, Island Lake - 11 mi. S. of Bruce

on Hwy. 40. David Willingham, Pastor. Sunday morning Service at 10:30 a.m. BRUCE FEDERATED CHURCH (UMC & UCC), N. 2nd St.; Pastor Mark A. Bartlett, cell: 715-415-3724 or home: 715-943-2178 or church 715-868-3565; Worship Service 10

**EXELAND FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, 986 N. Lincoln Ave.; Pastor Mark A. Bartlett, cell: 715-415-3724 or home: 715-943-2178: Worship Service 10:30 a.m.: Sunday School 9:30. Visit us on Facebook. Fellowship last Sunday

a.m. Fellowship last Sunday of the month following Worship

BIRCHWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 103 E.

or home: 715-943-2178; Worship Service 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School 8:00 a.m. Fellowship last Sunday of month

WEYERHAEUSER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, W14419 Church St. - Pastor Mark A. Bartlett, cell: 715-415-3724 or home:715-943-2178; Worship Service 8:30 a.m. A PLACE FOR YOU. Visit us on Facebook. Fellowship last

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH, Radisson, WI, Pastor Tim Stilwell. 715-945-2600; Prayer at 9:00 am. Sunday School at 9:30 am. and Worship Service at 10:30 am; Family Church Night, Wednesday 6 p.m.

RED CEDAR CHURCH. 1701 W. Allen St., Rice Lake, WI 54868, 715-234-3381, Adam Waite, Lead Pastor - Worship Services: Saturday 6:30 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A., Exeland, W I - Rev. Tiffany Chipman. Ph. 715-558-8364. Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Come

WORLD HARVEST CHURCH, 1 North Main Street Rice Lake, 715-234-6179, Pastors Bob and Char Pittman Worship Services Saturdays at 6:30p.m. & Sundays at 10:00a.m. www.worldharvestusa.com

Exeland. Sunday School 9 a.m.: Worship Service 10 a.m. Call 715-943-2285 for more information LIVING FAITH CHURCH, Exeland, Pastor Timothy Jerry. "An Oasis for the thirsty soul." Sunday mornings 10 a.m.;

**EXELAND MENNONITE CHURCH, 4 miles SE of** 

Children's Church 10 a.m., nursery provided. Ph.: (715) 943-2349. Web: livingfaithchurchwi.org SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH, Hwy 27/70 Radisson Wl. Rev. FR. Sunil Kumar Thumma 715-415-

9052 Church 715-266-3441 northcentralcluster@hotmail.

com. Mass - Saturday 3:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:.00 a.m. METEOR HILLS BIBLE CHURCH, Hwy 48, Exeland, WI. Pastor Al Miller, 715-919-0103. Sunday School and Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. meteorhillsbiblechurch.com

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, Hwv. SS 1/2 mi south of Cedar Mall, Rice Lake, WI 54868, Pastor John M. Redlich, 715-458-2951 or 715-434-7798. Services: Sat., Sabbath School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m., Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST BLUE HILLS FELLOWSHIP, 230 West Messenger Street, Rice Lake, W1 54868 April Nielsen, Lay Leader - Adult Discussion Forum, 9:15 a.m.; Worship Service 10:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour 11:30 a.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS, 644 S. 6th St., Barron, WI. Chapel 715-537-3679 Kenneth Konesky, Bishop, Ph. 715-719-0283, Sunday: 10-11 AM: Sacrament Meeting; 11:10-Noon: Priesthood, Relief Society, Primary, Sunday School

#### **LADYSMITH**

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Taegyu Shin, Pastor. W8125 Shady Lane, Ladysmith, WI Ph. 532-3990. Adult Sunday School 9 a.m. (Sunday Morning); Sunday Youth Sunday School resumes Sept 13th at 9 a.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH, Rev. Bryan Johnson, M.A., Lead Pastor. W88547 Photio Rd (Hwy. 8 W), Ladysmith, WI 54848. Ph. 532-3813. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. and Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m Wednesday night activities for Kids, Youth and Adults 6:30

RUSK COUNTY MEMORIAL NURSING HOME CHAPEL,

SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH OF LADYSMITH, N3824 Grant Drive - 2 miles south of Ladysmith on Hwy. 27 (in the Shops of Grant-Town). www.sovereigngracebaptistchurch.net Sunday Services: Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday evening Bible Study and Prayer Time 7 p.m. Afternoon Service 2:00 p.m. No Sunday School in the Summer. Nursing Home Service 2:00 p.m. Alternate Sundays 715-532-7223.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE OF LADYSMITH, OJ Falge Park-Rusk County Community Library -418 W. Corbett Ave. in the West Room (lakeside entrance at lower level. Intern Pastor Duane Pelsh, 537-9334; Services start at 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Kid's club at 1010:45 a.m. Adult Bible study 10-10,45 a.m.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, N.A.L.C. Pastor Ave., Ladysmith. Ph. 532-7739 Sunday worship at 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m. www.hlcladysmith.org

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, Pastor David Bowles, worship at 10:30 a.m. at 109 E. Lake Ave.; nursery and child care provided; Ph. 532-3252.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN LCMS,** Ladysmith, WI, Hwy. 27 & College Ave., Ph 715-532-5780. Pastor Craig S. Zandi; Worship - Sunday morning 9AM; Fellowship 10:00AM; Bible Study 10:30AM; Sunday School 10:30AM; Website: http://www.stjohnsladysmith.org

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, 701 Menasha Ave. Ladysmith, Wi 54848 Ph 715-532-7093 www.ladysmithfcc. com Sunday services with Brian Chitwood at 8:30 am and 10 am with Classes for the whole family. Kid Zone at 10 am for kids age 3 thru 5th grade. For more information call the church office at 715-532-7093.

LADYSMITH BAPTIST CHURCH, 218 Lake Ave. W. Ladysmith,. Ph. 715-532-5556. SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship Service

THE SPOKEN WORD CHURCH, 1202 W. 5th St. N., Ladysmith. Rev. William F. Novak, Pastor. Church ph. 532-5885. Home ph. 532-7015, www. thespokenwordchurch.org. Sunday Bible School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service & Nursery: 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening Service: 7 p.m.; Women of The Word Meetings: Dates as Announced

NORTHLAND BIBLE CHURCH (I.F.C.A.), 4 mi. West of Ladysmith on Hwy. 8. Ph. 715-532-0303. Pastor Joel DeFord. SUN. SERVICES: Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday evening: AWANA for 3yr. olds - Highschool at 6:30 p.m.; Sept. - April Wed. Prayer & Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. at 204 Maplewood Dr. Ladysmith. Website: www.northlandbible.com Email: 1Northlandbible@gmail.com

**NEW HOPE APOSTOLIC FELLOWSHIP UPCI - Pastor** Greg Welke, N6065 Hwy. 27, Ladysmith. 532-9745. Sun. School and Sun. worship 10 a.m.; Sun. evening 6 p.m.; Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

OUR REDEEMER EV. LUTH. CHURCH (WELS) - W4460 Hwy. 27 S., Ladysmith. inchristlove.net Worship Service, 8:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9;00 a.m. Holy Communion, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Bible Class Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Pastor Chris Christenson, (608) 797-9573. All are welcome to listen to Gods word!

#### TONY - GLEN FLORA - INGRAM - HAWKINS

GOOD SHEPHERD OF TONY, Independent Lutheran -The Reverend Jeffrey A. Ahonen, Pastor. North Avenue at Linden Street in Tony. Services on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. Bible Study on Thursdays at 6:45 p.m. For information, call 715-403-3272, e-mail Pastor.Ahonen@gmail.com, or see website at www. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Glen Flora, Wis., Ph. 920-

918-8629. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship 8

GLEN FLOR LUTHERAN CHURCH N.A.L.C., Glen Flora. Pastor Christopher Martin

Sunday Worship at 10:30 A.M. Holy Communion Celebrated Every Sunday

SOUTH LAWRENCE MENNONITE CHURCH - Pastor Matt Zacharias, 715-532-0164. Worship 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School 10:00 a.m.; Sunday evening 7:00 p.m.; Every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, N.A.L.C., Hawkins, WI.,

HOLCOMBE - CONRATH - SHELDON - JUMP RIVER - GILMAN - HANNIBAL - STANLEY - CORNELL

HOLCOMBE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Holcombe, Wis., Paul Messmer, Pastor. (715) 595-4967 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School 9:45 a.m. chippewacountychurches.

HOLY TRINITY (EPISCOPAL), Conrath. 715-828-4633. Fr.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, P.O. Box 86, W5570 Pierce St., Sheldon, Jeremy Allard, Pastor. Ph. 452-5354. Sunday school 9:00 am; Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM; Sunday jr/sr. High Youth

ST. JOHN'S Apostle CATHOLIC CHURCH, Sheldon, WI. Fr. Vijay Kumar Madani, Pastor. Mass at St. John's in Sheldon: 10:30 a.m. on Sundays - <u>St. Michael's in Jump River</u>: 4 p.m. on Saturdays; <u>St. Starislaus in Lublin</u>: 7:00 p.m. on Saturdays; <u>St's Peter & Paul in Gilman</u>: 8:30 a.m. on Sundays

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, W7038 Cty I, Conrath. Pastor Dave Bowles. Sunday service at 9:00 a.m. Visit on Facebook. Email conrathucc@ hotmail.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 211 S. Fourth St,

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, (LCMS), Sheldon, WI. Pastor Brian Beardsley Cell Ph. 715-452-9000, Sunday Services 10:15 a.m. Bible study and Sunday school following

**CHURCH WITH A VIEW**, 25773 272 Ave, Holcome, WI. 54745, Janice Craig, Pastor. Ph. 715-308-7921.

ONE HOPE (formerly Sheldon Full Gospel), P.O BOX 92, Sheldon, Wl. Ph. 715-452-5286. Pastor Micah Minton - Sunday 9 a.m. Sunday School - children (ages 4-12), teens and adults; 10 a.m. Service & Children's Church (ages 4-12)

**CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH,** Hwy. 73, Jump River, 715-668-5540. Sunday worship service 10:45 a.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, (LCMS), Gilman, WI. Pastor Revernd Brian Beardsley Cell: 715-452-9000. - Sunday

Services 8:30 a.m. NORTHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH Daniel Habegger

Pastor; Meet, Hannibal School. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Eve. Service: 7:30 p.m.; Wed. Midweek Bible Study 7:30 p.m. ST. JOHN'S ORTHODOX, Huron Stanley, WI. V. Rev. Thaddeus Wojcik, (715) 447-5706 or (715) 723-9420. Services at Huron on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10 a.m.

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, N5595 Ctv Hwv M

Hannibal, Pastor Beverly Thompson, Sunday services 8:45 a.m. 715-550-5720 (Pastor's cell)



For Only \$10<sup>00</sup>

You can advertise in this space.

Call Ladysmith News at (715) 532-5591 for more information $_{\scriptscriptstyle \perp}$ 

**WE NEED YOU!** 

MILAGE REIMBURSMENTS, AND MORE! CALL 715-532-1000



"Good news since 1895"

715-532-5591

120 W. 3rd St. So. P.O. Box 189 Ladysmith, WI 54848



## Waste cleanup: Work funding available after governor signs Petrowski, Edming legislation

**Continued from Page A1** 

were allowed to handle it, and 5R was charged for the disposal.

Investigations by the state DNR and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency led to the prosecution of the leadership of the company by the U.S. Attorney for the Western District. While most of the legal matters that arose from the situation have been resolved, millions of pounds of electronic waste were left behind without a responsible party to clean it up. The electronic waste is currently contained in several semitrailers and warehouse facilities located in Rusk, Price and Washington counties.

"The state simply couldn't just sit on our hands and allow this waste to further pollute the land or water or stick the local taxpayers with the bill for cleaning it up," Petrowski said. "This initiative will clean up the mess left behind by 5R and not at a cost to our local governments.'

The Senate's version of the bill was introduced by Sens. Petrowski, Robert Cowles (R-Green Bay), Janet Bewley (D-Mason) and Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville). The Assembly version of the bill was introduced by Reps. Jim Edming (R-Glen Flora), Rick Gundrum (R-Slinger) and Beth Meyers (D-Bayfield). Each branch unanimously passed their bills.

The new legislation directs the DNR to contract with a third party for the removal and proper disposal of this waste using \$2.5 million in segregated funds from the state's environmental management account. The balance in that account is projected to be \$33.8 million at the end of fiscal year 2022, and the expenditure of these funds will not impact the federal maintenance of effort requirements from the American Rescue Plan Act funds.

The environmental management account receives revenues primarily from several state solid waste tipping fees paid by Wisconsin landfills for each ton of solid waste disposed in the landfill.

Solid waste is subject to Wisconsin tipping fees for each ton of solid waste disposed of in landfills, except for certain materials used for lining, daily cover, capping or constructing berms, dikes or roads within the facility, or waste subject to certain other statutory fee exemptions. Landfill operators pay the fees to DNR, and recover the cost of the fees from generators

with the ability

to transfer



While we would all like to see those who are responsible for this hazardous waste pay for the cost of the cleanup, they are likely to never have the money to do so.

- Wisconsin State Assembly Rep. Jim Edming

who dispose of waste at the land-

State tipping fees total \$12.997 per ton, including \$9.64 deposited in the environmental management account, \$3.20 in the non-point account, and \$0.157 in other ac-

Several other environmental fees and revenues are also deposited in the environmental management ac-

In the 2017-19 biennium, approximately 90% of revenuesto the environmental management account (excluding certain site-specific revenue) are anticipated to be received from the recycling, environmental repair, groundwater, and well compensation solid waste tipping fees.

"I am incredibly pleased that Governor Evers has signed this critical bipartisan legislation into law," Edming said. "I was proud to work with Senator Petrowski, the bipartisan group of co-authors and local leaders to get this important legislation across the finish line.'

The DNR and EPA discovered a great deal of illegal activity on the part of the company, including the storing of hazardous waste at unpermitted facilities, transporting hazardous waste without the required manifest and concealing these violations from state regulators.

"I am incredibly pleased that Governor Evers has signed this critical bipartisan legislation into law,' Edming said. "I was proud to work with Senator Petrowski, the bipartisan group of co-authors and local leaders to get this important legislation across the finish line.'

Edming thanked Ladysmith City Administrator Alan Christianson and Rusk County Administrative Coordinator Andy Albarado for their assistance at the local level in getting the legislation enacted.

"While we would all like to see those who are responsible for this hazardous waste pay for the cost of the cleanup, they are likely to never have the money to do so," Edming said. "This new law is a big step forward in helping the communities impacted by 5R.

Thomas Drake founded 5R in Wisconsin in 1988 and served as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors. Drake was responsible for overseeing all aspects of 5R's operations, including compliance with OSHA and federal and state environmental laws.

Bonnie Dennee started with 5R in 1997. She worked in various positions at 5R, including director of environmental, health, safety & certifications, and executive vice-

Jim Moss joined 5R in 2007, and became its president in 2010. As President of 5R, Moss was responsible for managing all plant opera-

Court documents allege that from 2011 to 2016, the defendants and others conspired to knowingly store hazardous waste such as broken and crushed CRT glass that contained lead at unpermitted facilities in Catawba and Glen Flora and Morristown, Tenn.; knowingly transport the hazardous waste without a required manifest and conceal the violations from state regulators in Wisconsin and Tennessee as well as auditors with a nationwide recycling certification program known as R2.

Moss, a Ladysmith resident, now 62, was sentenced in November 2020 by U.S. District Judge William M. Conley to 18 months in federal prison for conspiring to store and transport hazardous waste without required permits and manifests, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and with conspiring to evade the payment of employment taxes and income taxes to the IRS.

Dennee, 66, a Phillips resident, was sentenced in January 2021 by U.S. District Judge William M. Con-



The state simply couldn't just sit on our hands and allow this waste to further pollute the land or water — or stick the local taxpayers with the bill for cleaning it up.

— Wisconsin State Senate

Sen. Jerry Petrowski

ley to five months in federal prison, followed by a three-year term of supervised release, for conspiracy to store and transport hazardous waste without required permits and manifests, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

(RCRA). Drake, then 81, signed a plea agreement to this charge in December 2019, with counsel providing medical records his client suffers from dementia. A competency exam was scheduled. Drake died in April

Last week, the former CEO of 5R Processors agreed in federal court to plead guilty to a new court filing listing a single charge of failing to account for and pay to the IRS the company's employee federal income and payroll taxes. Under the plea agreement, Kevin Shibilski, 60, of Merrill, agrees plead guilty to Count 1 of the information filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office, charging a violation of Title 26, U.S. Code, Section 7202, relating to Pure Extraction and Wisconsin Logistical Solutions companies of which he was a principle. In exchange, prosecutors will move to dismiss all the counts in a much broader federal indictment filed against Shibilski two years ago. A plea hearing for Shibilski is set for 1 p.m., Monday, May 16, in the U.S.District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin.

A civil federal lawsuit filed by Shibilski against his business partners was dismissed. He has filed a similar civil lawsuit in Rusk County Circuit Court, alleging he was duped into investing in the company in exchange for being named the com-

In the plea agreement, Shibilski admits to entering into a purchase agreement in March 2013 to purchase 5R Processors, Ltd. (5R) from Tom and Jo Ann Drake for \$1 million payable in increments of \$100,000 a year for 10 years from 2015 to 2025, to include efforts to refinance and personal assumption of debt.

The lead glass mostly from picture tubes is broken into pieces, stored in tote bags, in semi trailers and on warehouse floors, according to Petrowski. In some cases local governments have not received rent payments from 5R for years as the company went bankrupt about 5 years ago. 5R did not pay \$666,449 in rent and lease payments to Rusk County and Ladysmith, according to county officials. The county rented to 5R Processors starting in the late 1990s with payment issues beginning in 2009 and ending in 2014. In West Bend, no taxes or assessments have been paid for the 5R Processors property since 2015, and there is \$133,180 in outstanding back taxes and charges, according to city offi-

environmental management account provides funding for recycling financial assistance to local governments and DNR administration of contaminated land, brownfields cleanup, and recycling programs, including staff in remediation and redevelopment, solid waste management, air management, groundwater management,

and central administrative programs. It also helps fund brownfields grant programs and debt service costs for general obligation bonds issued for state-funded cleanup of contaminated land and sediment. It also helps fund statefunded cleanup of contaminated properties where there is no responsible party able or willing to pay for the cleanup and debt service costs for general obligation bonds issued under the former point source water pollution abatement grant program, which ended in 1990. It also helps fund certain environmental and recycling programs in DATCP, and the Departments of Health Services and Military Affairs; and remediation of specific sites using moneys received under court-approved settlement agreements or orders (primarily for Fox River cleanup).

The state DNR does not have an existing program that can pay for the removal of this material. The EPA has evaluated the sites and determined they are not eligible for EPAfunded cleanup programs. Responsibility for removing these materials and ensuring the sites are safe from hazardous substances now lies with the current owners of the properties, in most cases local governments and private citizens that leased space to 5R Processors.

The amount in the bill is based on third-party contractor estimates compiled by the department as a part of the federal criminal investigation. Money appropriated under this bill would go to private contractors performing the cleanup under DNR oversight.

Petrowski said his office worked with the DNR to make this proposal as simple as possible for them to administer. He added he has looked at this issue for a long time, trying to find the best way forward.

"This is the best available solution to a very unfortunate situation and I'm hopeful that this will solve the problem and allow us to move forward," Petrowski said.

The bidding process for the contract is expected to begin within the next few months.

## Fire danger across Wisconsin now 'very high'

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is asking the public to stay vigilant and avoid burning because of very high fire danger across Wisconsin, particularly in the western half of the state. The increased fire danger is due to a high pressure weather system, lack of significant rain and dry vegetation, primarily in the southern twothirds of Wisconsin.

Areas with very high danger include Adams, Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dunn, Eau Claire, Grant, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Lafayette, Marquette, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Richland, St. Croix, Sauk, Taylor, Trempealeau, Vernon and Waushara counties.

All DNR issued annual and special burning permits for debris piles,



FIRE DANGER — The fire danger much of the south and west "very

burn barrels and prescribed burns are suspended today in these counties where the DNR has burning per-

mit authority. The DNR has responded to 107

wildfires burning more than 276 acres so far this year. Nineteen of those were reported yesterday, burning 120 acres. Most of these were related to debris burning. Small fires for warming or cook-

ing are allowed but highly discouraged, especially during the daytime, as any spark can cause a wildfire under these conditions. Be extra careful with any outdoor flames, campfires, ash disposal or equipment use. Please check any recent debris burns for smoldering embers. as breezy conditions can cause fires to rekindle.

Be fire smart. Remember – fire danger and burning restrictions change every day.

Check before you burn at https:// dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/restrictions.asp; burn permits for debris burning will likely be suspended in several counties over the coming days until conditions improve.

Operate equipment (chainsaws, off-road vehicles, lawn mowers, etc.) early in the morning or late in the day to avoid sparks at peak burn

Secure dragging trailer chains.

Delay having campfires until the evening hours as fire conditions tend to improve; keep them small and

contained. Report fires early, dial 911.

Check daily fire danger, wildfire reports and burning restrictions on the DNR website at bit.ly/WiFire-Danger.

#### **Community Singers** to perform April 24

The Ladysmith Community Singers will present "An Afternoon On Broadway" spring concert, on Sunday, April 24, 2022, at 3 p.m., at the UCC church, across from Krist Oil.

The music will be from Broadway and movie musicals and the concert will be about an hour long.

This is a free concert and all donations go to support the group in purchasing new music as well as other

Come out and enjoy an afternoon



To view our openings & to apply online, go to:

## JENNIEOJOBSBARRON.COM

excellent benefits

(health, dental, vision, 401k,

paid time off & more)

**Questions? Call 715.537.3131** or stop by the plant in Barron (34 North 7th Street).



community/technical

college tuition for

children of employees

(hormelinspiredpathways.com)

