

# NEWS

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## Old body shop hits the road Business sold to son as Conrad Durski retires

By ERIC JOHNSON  
NEWS-REVIEW ASST. EDITOR

Early bird risers on Highway 70 West in Eagle River were treated to a rare sight recently as they passed a two-bay commercial garage slowly making its way down the road.

The structure, owned by 70 West Auto Body, was sold to friends of the Durski family and relocated to make way for 70 West's planned new office, spray booth and drive-up estimating facility, slated for a Dec. 9 completion.

The expansion at 70 West Body Shop comes at a historic turning point for the growing family-run enterprise, as Sayer resident Conrad Durski prepares to sell the business to his son, Chris, and daughter-in-law, Melissa, as he eases into a well-deserved retirement.

A North Woods resident since 1979 and a 55-year veteran of the auto body business, Conrad got his professional start as an 18-year-old working at General Motors' Fisher Body plant in Milwaukee for four years before transitioning to body shop work at a variety of car dealerships and, eventually, taking the entrepreneurial plunge with his March 1999 purchase of 70 West Auto Body established in 1981.

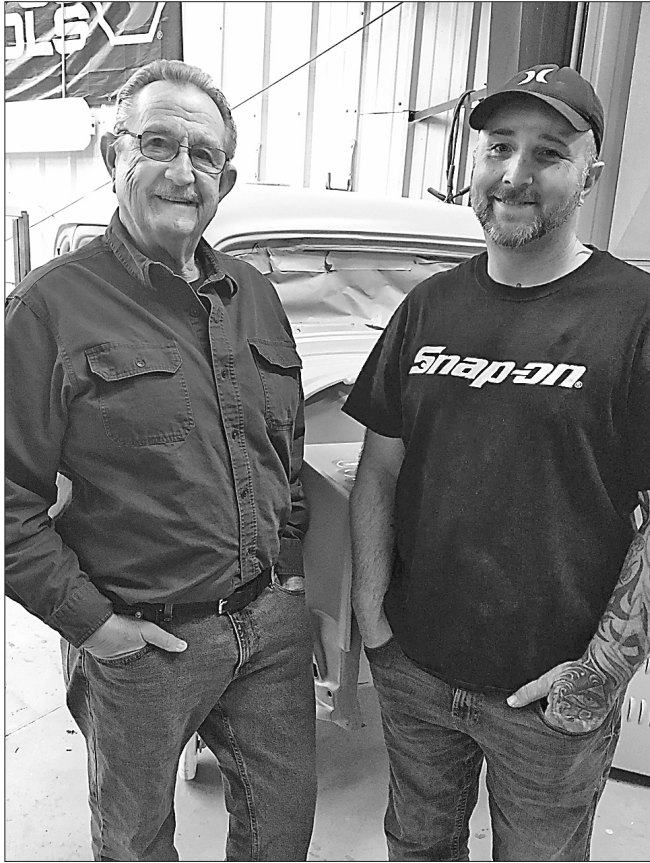
"Every day is different," Conrad said of his enduring passion for the auto body business.

A few years after purchasing 70 West Auto Body, Conrad was joined by Chris. The father-and-son duo have worked side-by-side for the past 22 years.

But those days are drawing to a close for Conrad as his retirement nears with the impending sale of the business to a second Durski generation.

"Chris has been with me since a couple of years after I got the place and we've been working together and expanding the business ever since," Conrad said. "It's a good change and good move for him."

For his part, Chris is looking to build upon the foundation built by his father.



Sayer resident Conrad Durski, left, will soon be selling 70 West Body Shop in Eagle River to his son, Chris Durski. Conrad Durski bought the business in 1999 and they have been working together at the shop for 20 years.

—Staff Photo By ERIC JOHNSON

"This is his legacy," he said.

### New facility

Building on that legacy is 70 West Auto Body's planned new facility, which necessitated removal of the firm's original shop building at 822 W. Pine St., Eagle River.

Chris is excited about the new, expanded 3,456-square-foot office and shop facility that will soon begin rising on the old shop's site, saying the new building will offer the firm much needed additional office space, aesthetic "curb appeal" along namesake Highway 70, an additional paint booth, and a first-ever drive-up estimating facility.

But for Chris, there's also a bit of nostalgia for the original shop, recalling fond memories of working alongside his dad, sharing a passion for all things auto body.

"It's kind of an emotional thing," Chris said. "We used to work out of there. That's how we started. It's kind of hard to see it go."

### On the move

Faced with the need to remove 70 West Auto

Body's old shop facility, Chris decided to sell and relocate the building, rather than raze it.

With sharply-rising lumber costs this year, Chris said recycling and repurposing the company's original shop facility made good sense.

"You hate to see it just become a pile of rubble, especially with the way that prices are," he said. "People should start selling and moving their buildings rather than knocking them down. I think it's neat that we're not just going to wreck it all, that we're able to do this. Maybe it'll get people's minds twirling — 'Hey, maybe I can do that.'"

Tapped for the moving job was Merrill-based Schuette Movers, founded in 1946, which relocates some 30 to 40 structures a year as Wisconsin's oldest and largest structural moving company.

"You can move any structure as long as you can get it there and the roads are wide enough," said Lance Peterson, part-owner of Schuette Movers.

On Sept. 21-22, Schuette crews lifted 70

West Auto Body's original 32- by 44-foot shop building off its foundation and placed it on a 53-foot spread axle trailer for transport.

The move, a "typical job" according to Peterson, was made on Sept. 23 at 4 a.m.

"The state dictates when we can go and can't go," Peterson said. "They determine it because we're going on state highways."

Not surprisingly, there are a number of considerations to be made in transporting a building from one location to another.

"You've got to figure out your routes and your loaded heights and wires," Peterson said. "You've got to get around utility poles. Once you get on site, you've got to be wide enough to get in there and have enough room to maneuver around. There's a lot that goes into it."

Two Vilas County Sheriff's Office deputies provided escort for Schuette Movers on the 3-mile, 40-minute move west on Highway 70 and south on Highway 17 to the building's new home at the town of Lincoln residence of David and Shirin Eliason, 628 Highway 17 South.

"Everything went off without a hitch," said David Eliason, an Eagle River Realtor, of the early morning move.

### 'Win-win' deal

In need of a primary garage for their residence, the Eliasons paid Chris Duski \$10,000 for the old 70 West Auto Body facility and "just under \$10,000" to Schuette for the move.

After paying private contractors for a concrete foundation, new overhead garage doors and interior finishing work, David Eliason estimated the total cost will come in at around \$65,000 — a tidy sum but still a sizeable cost savings versus an estimated \$75,000 to \$80,000 for new construction in today's inflated market.

"I'm a real estate guy and Chris is a friend, and I've done business with him before," Eliason said. "He said he was moving the place and asked me if we were interested in buying it and moving it. We had a need for a garage and decided we could make sense of it."

"It was good for him obviously . . . and it was good for me, because at the end of the day I'll save a little bit of money relative to building a brand-new one. In the vein of being in the real estate business and doing deals, we figured it was a pretty good win-win for both Chris and for me, so that's why we did the deal. Win-win deals — that's the kind of deals we like to put together," Eliason said.



Merrill-based Schuette Movers ready 70 West Auto Body's original two-bay shop facility for its three-mile relocation to 628 Highway 17 South.

—Staff Photo By ERIC JOHNSON

## Festival Foods to purchase three southern Trig's stores

WAUSAU — Trig's recently announced that Skogen's Festival Foods plans to purchase its three southernmost stores in Stevens Point, Wausau and Weston.

Festival Foods is a Wisconsin family-owned retailer with 39 full-service supermarkets.

"Festival Foods is a natural fit for us," said Bob Jaskolski, president and CEO. "They share many of our core values and have a

strong commitment to their associates and the community. I know that our southern stores will be in the best hands, while we look forward to continued growth in Wisconsin's North Woods."

Trig's will continue to operate five grocery stores in Tomahawk, Rhinelander, Minocqua, Eagle River and Manitowish Waters as well as the award-winning Trig's Smokehouse and other T.A. Solberg entities.

Mark Skogen, president and CEO of Skogen's Festival Foods, said the company is eager to welcome the Trig's associates into the Skogen's family of stores.

"There are a lot of similarities in value and philosophy between the two companies," said Skogen. "We look forward to welcoming the Trig's associates and to becoming an active member of these great communities."

In addition to the Trig's grocery stores, T.A. Solberg Company operates Trig's Floral & Home, Cellar 70, Shell gas stations, Tula's Cafés, Trig's Ace Hardware, Twice as Nice Consignment and Signature Salon in Rhinelander, Postal Express stores, Northwoods Gourmet Snack Co., Caribou Coffee shops, the Minocqua Recycling Center and Tasmania Outback Resort.

(Three Weeks, 10/6-10/20/21)  
STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT VILAS COUNTY  
— PROBATE —  
Order Limiting Time for Filing Claims (Formal Administration)  
Case No. 21PR44  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LILLIAN CUTLER DOD: 06/12/2006  
A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.  
THE COURT FINDS:  
1. The decedent, with date of birth 02/05/1929 and date of death 06/12/2006, was domiciled in Cook County, State of Illinois, with a mailing address of 9001 Oketo Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053.  
2. All interested persons waived notice.  
THE COURT ORDERS:  
1. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 14, 2022.  
2. A claim must be filed at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St, Eagle River, Wisconsin, Office of Register in Probate.  
BY THE COURT:  
/s/ Dawn Halverson  
Circuit Court Commissioner  
September 30, 2021  
Attorney Steven C. Garbowicz  
O'Brien Anderson Burgy & Garbowicz LLP  
PO Box 639, Eagle River, WI 54521  
715.479.6444  
Bar Number 1018485  
5646

(Three Weeks, 10/6-10/20/21)  
STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT VILAS COUNTY  
— PROBATE —  
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)  
Case No. 20-PR-69  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL G. STOEGER DATE OF DEATH: 10-14-2020  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:  
1. An application for informal administration was filed.  
2. The decedent, with date of birth 12-18-1947 and date of death 10-14-2020, was domiciled in VILAS County, State of WISCONSIN, with a mailing address of 111575 HARVEST LANE ARBOR VITAE, WI 54568.  
3. All interested persons waived notice.  
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 14, 2022.  
5. A claim may be filed at the VILAS County Courthouse, EAGLE RIVER, Wisconsin, Probate Branch.  
/s/ Dawn Halverson  
Probate Registrar  
September 28, 2021  
JOHN C. HOULIHAN  
HOULIHAN LAW FIRM, S.C.  
P.O. BOX 630  
MINOCQUA, WI 54548  
715-356-1422  
Bar Number 1016296  
4694

(Three Weeks, 10/6-10/20/21)  
STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT VILAS COUNTY  
— PROBATE —  
Order Setting Time to Hear Petition for Administration and Deadline for Filing Claims (Formal Administration)  
Case No. 21PR41  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DIANE F. OFFENBERG DOD: 10/09/2019  
A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.  
THE COURT FINDS:  
The decedent, with date of birth 10/02/1951 and date of death 10/09/2019, was domiciled in Lake County, State of Illinois, with a mailing address of 140 Manchester Ave., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089.  
THE COURT ORDERS:  
1. The Petition be heard at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St, Eagle River, Wisconsin, Branch 1, before Circuit Court Judge Honorable Martha J. Milanowski, on November 9, 2021 at 9:45 AM. You do not need to appear unless you object. The petition will be granted if there is no objection.  
2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 14, 2022.  
3. A claim may be filed at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St, Eagle River, Wisconsin, Office of Register in Probate.  
4. Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgment.  
5. Publication of this notice is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown.  
If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-479-3622 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.  
BY THE COURT:  
/s/ Dawn Halverson  
Circuit Court Commissioner  
September 30, 2021  
Attorney Steven C. Garbowicz  
O'Brien Anderson Burgy & Garbowicz LLP  
PO Box 639, Eagle River, WI 54521  
715.479.6444  
Bar Number 1018485  
5647

(Three Weeks, 10/6-10/20/21)  
STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT VILAS COUNTY  
— PROBATE —  
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)  
Case No. 21 PR42  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Susan H. Eichendorf  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:  
1. An application for informal administration was filed.  
2. The decedent, with date of birth January 17, 1947 and date of death August 22, 2021, was domiciled in Vilas County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 2408 E. Plummer Lake Lane, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538.  
3. All interested persons waived notice.  
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 14, 2022.  
5. A claim may be filed at the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court Street, Eagle River, Wisconsin, 54521, Probate Office.  
/s/ Dawn Halverson  
Probate Registrar  
September 29, 2021  
Thomas E. Lawrence II  
Lawrence & Tyler, S.C.  
8617 Hwy. 51 North, Minocqua, WI 54548  
715-356-9403  
Bar Number 1002941  
5632  
WNAXLP

**HELP WANTED**  
**Delivery Person**  
**SUBSTITUTE PART-TIME DRIVER**

The Vilas County News-Review has an immediate opening for a substitute driver to deliver newsstand sale bundles and special publications to outlets in Eagle River and surrounding communities.

This job would be for approximately five hours Tuesday afternoons. There could be additional hours on a seasonal basis, especially in summer.

Driver must have a full-size pickup with a covered box, or a cargo van. Must be able to lift bundles up to 40 pounds.

If interested, contact:  
**VILAS COUNTY NEWS-REVIEW**  
425 W. Mill St., Eagle River (715) 479-4421

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Treasure hunters read the North Woods Trader classifieds. Call (715) 479-4421 with a classified ad for your hidden treasures.