

# New faces, voices joining Daily Press

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Close readers of the Daily Press will have noticed a new byline appearing in the paper over the past two weeks.

Alison Tollas is an Ashland native who just completed her junior year at the University of Wisconsin-Superior, where she is studying English and writing.



Tollas

She's still not sure what she wants to do with her degree, but she's written for her school newspaper and now she'll spend the summer interning at the Daily Press.

She already has covered a handful of small stories, but expect to see her write more and deeper coverage as the summer progresses.

But Alison's addition is only one change you're likely to notice — or maybe already have noticed — in our pages.

Hilary Jewel, who had been writing about events in Bayfield — particularly at the Rec Center — and compiling calendars of outdoor events, has moved on from her Rec Center job.

And our beloved Alfresco Bum, Lucas Will, soon will depart to pursue a graduate degree at Southern Oregon University.

Lucas not only is a bright and colorful writer on our Outdoors pages, he's also a fascinating guy. He lives in a tiny home with his partner and their largish dog, and our

graphic artist here at the paper is among the many fans of his sumptuous beard.

Lucas is going to try writing occasionally from Oregon, where he also will be living in a city called Ashland. So you might see his name back in our pages after he settles in.

Finally, our home-brewing columnist Rick Ofel is turning his attention elsewhere, though he may too contribute occasional reviews of new brews in the area.

All this leaves us with some holes to fill, and we already are at work on that.

Starting soon, you will read weekly columns from faculty at Northland College — an area of coverage that our pages have lacked for some time.

Northland is a key part of our area, and reader should know more about what its staff members are doing — the research they're conducting or projects on which they're working — to connect in the Northwoods.

And Chris Prysok, who owns a kayaking and adventure sports service up in the Apostle Islands, will fill some of the paddle sports role that Lucas filled.

Finally, we're working to replace Ofel's column on the Food pages with other writers who enjoy local food and drink.

Folks at the White Winter Winery in Iron River already are on board, planning to write monthly about what

is going on there — what's in season, what new meads, ciders and other things they are working on and more.

One last new addition: Check out our Outdoors pages, where Beyond the Catch Guide Service now is posting weekly fishing reports for what's hot on the bay.

We're looking for writers to join them — home brewers, locavores, microbrewery brewmasters, distillers or just about anything food- and drink-related.

Finally, we're also looking for a free-lancer to help cover local sports of all sorts. We've long focused all our attention on prep sports, but we recognize that readers are interested in rec sports, too — volleyball and softball leagues, kids' baseball during the summer or hockey during the winter. Every night around here, readers are shooting pool or throwing darts or tossing horseshoes in competitive leagues, and all those sports should get some coverage, too.

We're looking for someone who wants to write creative and interesting stories about those, as well as traditional prep sports.

If you're interested — or if you want to discuss any other columns or local coverage — please drop me a line at [pwason@ashlanddailypress.net](mailto:pwason@ashlanddailypress.net).

*Peter J. Wasson is managing editor of the Ashland Daily Press.*