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LP Tomahawk celebrates 30th anniversary

Event honoring nine longtime employees in planning stages

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – Louisiana Pacific (LP) in Tomahawk recently hit a significant milestone.

On Wednesday, March 15, LP Tomahawk celebrated its 30th anniversary.

To commemorate the achievement, LP made sweatshirts for all employees and provided lunch and cake for the mill's four crews.

Colby Wilson, LP Corporate Communications Senior Specialist, said that in addition to the recent site-wide festivities, LP Tomahawk is also planning a celebration for nine employees who have been with the mill since the first board was pressed on March 15, 1993.

Details surrounding the event honoring Warehouse Lead Patrick Collins, Mobile Equipment Operator Charles Hedges, Environmental Technician Bryan Herman, Mobile Equipment Technician Casey Jones, Electrical Lead Edward Marshall, Log Yard Lead Jason Scholz, Green End Lead John Teal, Licensed Electrical Lead Kevin Woebeking and Press Operator Keith Zvolena will be announced soon, Wilson said, adding that the celebration will

be geared towards both LP Tomahawk families and the community. A tenth member of the 30-year group, Brian Ahrens, had also been working at the facility since 1993 until he passed away in February, Wilson noted.



To celebrate 30 years in the Tomahawk community, LP provided lunch for all employees. Commemorative sweatshirts were also made.

the facility since 1993 until he passed away in February, Wilson noted.

LP Tomahawk Plant Manager Dave Thomas said reaching the 30-year mark is a "testament to all the people, past and present, who have made this a special place to work."

"I'm grateful to come in and work with such dedicated, passionate professionals each day, and I'm incredibly proud of the work we do here and the impact we have on the Tomahawk community," Thomas stated.

ed, passionate professionals each day, and I'm incredibly proud of the work we do here and the impact we have on the Tomahawk community," Thomas stated.



Photos courtesy of LP



Cake was also provided for all four crews at the mill.

With ad hoc committee report complete, Supervisors to mull future of Pine Crest

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

MERRILL – The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors is expected to weigh numerous options regarding the future of Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill.

Pine Crest, which has operated in Merrill for about 70 years and is owned by Lincoln County, has experienced financial losses in recent years, prompting the board to form a committee to explore the nursing home's viability and the county's options moving forward.

During its meeting at the Lincoln County Service Center in Merrill on Tuesday, March 21, the board heard a summary of a report developed by the Pine Crest Ad Hoc Committee.

Formed in June 2022, the committee was tasked with reviewing the nursing home's current and potential future financial obligations, the use of the building and grounds and the

agreement between Lincoln County and North Central Health Care (NCHC). Lincoln County transferred management responsibilities to NCHC in 2019.

The committee was also directed to prepare a report on its findings and provide the board with recommendations on areas for improvement regarding the county's overall position concerning Pine Crest.

The committee is made up of District 1 Supervisor William Bialecki, District 15 Supervisor Marty Lemke, District 18 Supervisor Ken Wickham, District 20 Supervisor Angela Cummings and District 22 Supervisor Greg Hartwig.

Wickham, who serves as chair of the committee, walked the board through a summary of the nearly 170-page report, released on Tuesday, March 21.

The first topic Wickham discussed was the past and present use of the Pine Crest building and grounds.

The original Pine Crest facility was constructed in



Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill

Photo by Tina L. Scott

the mid-1950s. In several phases over the following decades, the nursing home gradually moved to its current location on E. 6th St. in Merrill.

Wickham said that according to records, Pine Crest originally had 180 bed licenses. The Pine Crest Board of Trustees scaled that number down to 160 in 2019. Two years later, another reduction brought the number of bed licenses down to 120, where it stands today.

The nursing home is currently occupied by an

average of 85 residents. Wickham said Pine Crest's occupancy has decreased in recent years, noting that the facility had as many as 150 to 160 residents prior to about six years ago.

Wickham also highlighted the county's financial obligations regarding Pine Crest.

Lincoln County is responsible for about \$1.5 million in recurring expenses that the county can plan and budget for each year. Among these costs are the roughly \$440,000.00 provid-

ed from the tax levy and the approximately \$300,000.00 in salaries and fringe benefits for maintenance staff assigned to Pine Crest.

Each year through 2038, Lincoln County is also responsible for \$630,000.00 for debt service owed for existing bonding on loans on Pine Crest, Wickham said, adding that the current principal on Pine Crest is just over \$8 million, with about \$2 million interest.

When discussing non-recurring expenses, Wickham said Pine Crest is in need of "significant maintenance."

In 2019, Lincoln County contracted with a private consultant to conduct an assessment of the nursing home, which found that between \$8 million and \$11 million in maintenance will be necessary over the next ten years. The facility's windows, HVAC systems and parking lot are among the areas in need of work.

Another non-recurring expense Wickham made note of is the roughly \$1.2 million that NCHC request-

ed from Lincoln County in February to cover losses at Pine Crest.

A Wednesday, March 22 release from NCHC said the losses were due to "the State of Wisconsin's changes in how Supplemental Payments are distributed, additional reductions in the Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) payments, as well as a substantial reduction in Medicaid Supplemental Payment Program (SP)."

NCHC Executive Director Gary Olsen said in the release that Pine Crest would have ended 2022 with a gain had those revenue payments from the State not been altered or reduced.

In a letter to Governor Tony Evers dated Friday, March 17, Board Chair Don Friske asked the governor to "direct the Department of Health Services to reallocate the Supplemental Payment or in some other way make (Lincoln County) whole for the 2022 and 2023 annual county budget cycles."



Deputies with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office captured a stunning view of the aurora borealis on the evening of Thursday, March 23. Photos courtesy of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office



MMC purchases Kewaunee County Star News

BY MULTI MEDIA CHANNELS

GREEN BAY – Multi Media Channels (MMC), the publisher of the Tomahawk Leader, has purchased the Kewaunee County Star-News from Gannett Co., Inc.

Kewaunee is roughly 30 miles east of Green Bay.

MMC CEO Patrick Wood said that the company plans to invest heavily in local news there, covering school and municipal events.

“Local is the most important part of what we do,” he said. “We believe strongly that consistent, honest reporting of everything local

in Kewaunee, Luxemburg, Casco and Algoma will enrich the vibrancy of our region, as well as making our governments even stronger through open and honest accountability.”

The publication will also be transitioned to U.S. Mail delivery, with a 10,000-copy circulation.

MMC began its work in community newspaper publishing in Denmark, Wis., in 1953. Under the leadership of its founder, Frank Wood, the business expanded into other markets.

Today, the company remains in the Wood family, owned and operated by both family members and employees, publishing more than 30 print publications, including 22 weeklies and 17 digital channels that serve the central, northern and eastern regions of Wisconsin.

The sale closed on Monday, March 27.

THS alum Kristin Ramassini recognized as Coast Guard Base National Capital Region Spouse of the Year

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A Tomahawk High School alumnus was recently recognized for her work with mental health awareness and connecting military families to the resources they need to achieve their best selves.

A release from Armed Forces Insurance (AFI) said that, following hundreds of nominations nationwide and a national vote yielding more than 30,000 votes, Kristin Ramassini had been named its 2023 Coast Guard Base National Capital Region Spouse of the Year.

“Now in its 13th year honoring the unwavering dedication of our nation’s more than 1.1 million military spouses, AFI is proud to recognize and reward the sacrifice of military spouses from all six branches of the Armed Forces who are advocating for others and having a tangible, measurable effect on their communities,” the release stated.

Nominations from community members nationwide were accepted from Dec. 5, 2022, through Jan. 27, 2023. The program is organized by base-level winners, then branch level winners, and, finally, the overall 2023 AFI Military Spouse of the Year® (AFI MSOY), who are selected by popular vote and judging panels, the release said.

As a base winner, Ramassini was judged on five core criteria: overall involvement in the military community, leadership skills, community building capability, communication skills and overall personal story.

Ramassini is now in consideration of being named the overall winner. After a final vote conducted on Thursday, March 9 and Friday, March 10, the overall winner will be unveiled at an awards luncheon on Thursday, May 11 at the Hilton Arlington National Landing in Arlington, Va., in conjunction with National Military Spouse Appreciation Day, which occurs on Friday, May 12.

“Over the past decade, we have seen the program grow and amplify the voice



Kristin and Steven Ramassini Photo courtesy of Kristin Ramassini

es of military spouses on a national stage,” said Lori Simmons, Chief Growth and Marketing Officer at Armed Forces Insurance. “These spouses have pioneered initiatives, founded organizations, started businesses and advocated for issues impacting the quality-of-life for military families in the best ways imaginable. We are thrilled to welcome the 2023 base winners to the AFI MSOY family and work alongside them to make an even bigger impact.”

Ramassini, who graduated from Tomahawk High School in 1995, is currently stationed with her husband, Steven Ramassini, Captain, USCG, at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Ramassini said her military spouse journey was a “storyline line told many times in movies and books, and my relationship happened to kindle in a single-screen theater of a quaint storybook town.”

“Fast forward through four years of pre-FaceTime long-distance relationship management using public pay phones and old-school letter writing, and there I was, standing at the altar, a military man and me, a cosmetologist, naïve to the journey ahead,” Ramassini stated. “One year into our marriage, with a newborn, we got our first exposure to the demands of a command cadre position and the start of my advocacy for the military family. Like many military spouses, the outreach was focused on our small unit families and ensuring that while the ship was away, those left behind knew they had a network of people to lean on.”

Over the years, Ramassini said she took on roles like leading various spouse associations, co-organizing a military ball and providing direct support to individual military spouses experiencing the spectrum of life’s events.

“I worked hard to be present, involved, and supportive, connecting people to resources and ensuring that, to the best of my ability, military spouses never felt alone,” she noted.

Ramassini said she is “honored and humbled to be named the Coast Guard Base NCR Military Spouse of the Year.”

“My goal has always been to connect military families to the resources they need to reach their fullest potential,” she stated. “Doing so without fan-

fare, and then being recognized by others for simply taking care of people, gives me hope that others will take these simple, yet impactful actions to support those who are coming into the service life today.”

To learn more about Ramassini and the other base winners, visit www.msoy.af.org.

About Armed Forces Insurance

The release said Armed Forces Insurance was founded in 1887 by military leaders “with a single mission: to protect the property of those who protect our nation.”

“The company provides premium quality, competitively priced property, and casualty insurance to military professionals throughout the United States and overseas,” the release stated. “AFI understands that its members have unique circumstances and insurance needs, enabling the company to offer a level of personalized service that’s unequaled in the industry.”

For more information, visit www.af.org, call 1-800-495-8234 or follow AFI on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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Tomahawk's Lena Symonds named Nicolet College 2023-2024 Student Ambassador

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

RHINELANDER – Nicolet College in Rhinelander announced on Wednesday, March 22 that Lena Symonds of Tomahawk had been named a Student Ambassador for the 2023-24 academic year.

Kimberlee Soldier also received the honor.

“As usual, we were incredibly fortunate to have such a strong group of candidates nominated to represent Nicolet College as a Student Ambassador,” said Angelo Guercio, Nicolet Enrollment Services Specialist, who coordinated the Student Ambassador selection process. “It was a difficult decision, but in the end, Kimberlee and Lena rose to the top, and I’m sure both of them will do a great job representing Nicolet College.”

A release from Nicolet said students are nominated for the honor by a Nicolet staff member and then selected for the position after going through an interview process.



Symonds



Soldier

Photos courtesy of Nicolet College

Symonds will serve as the Nicolet College Foundation Student Ambassador, representing the Foundation at a variety of events throughout the year.

Symonds is in the Associate’s Degree Nursing program at Nicolet. She was nominated by Nicolet Nursing Instructor Erica Neillitz.

“Lena demonstrates the characteristics of a quality leader and will be an excellent ambassador for Nicolet – she is thoughtful, compassionate, responsible, energetic and committed,” Neillitz wrote in her nomination. “She’s been

an integral part of reviving the Nicolet College Nurse Club. While her official role is secretary, her natural leadership skills have her playing an integral role in all aspects of reviving the club.”

Soldier, a Sokaogan Chippewa Community resident studying Business Management at Nicolet, will serve as the Nicolet District Student Ambassador and will represent the college at Wisconsin Technical College System statewide events.

“This includes representing Nicolet at the Wisconsin

Technical College Ambassador Leadership Development Conference and Banquet in April in the Wisconsin Dells,” Nicolet stated.

Soldier was nominated for the ambassador position by Nicolet English Instructor Elizabeth DeVore.

“Kim has been a leader and recruiter to bring Nicolet classes to the Mole Lake community,” DeVore wrote in her nomination. “She does so much to help others pursue educational goals that benefit individuals, local businesses and the community as a whole. She’s an experienced speaker and presenter, and advocates for the personhood, recovery and future of those in recovery from addiction. She is also a professional in her field, and an overall cool and inspiring human being. We would be lucky to have Kim performing ambassador duties for the college.”

For more information about Nicolet, visit www.nicoletcollege.edu or call the college at 715-365-4493.

News Briefs

Milestone, Aspirus blood drives

A blood drive will be held at Milestone Senior Living, 314 E. Lincoln Ave., Tomahawk, on Wednesday, April 5 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Appointments are requested. To schedule an appointment, call Julie at 715-224-3747. A blood drive will be held in the Spruce Room at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital, 401 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk, on Friday, April 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments are requested. To schedule an appointment, call The Community Blood Center at 800-280-4102.

not be hosting its free Community Easter Dinner this year. “We are working with other interested parties to try to bring it back for next year,” the church said. “We are sorry for any inconvenience and wish you all the Blessed Easter.”

LCHD to offer monthly COVID-19 booster clinics

Beginning in April, the Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) will offer the COVID-19 Pfizer bivalent booster vaccine to individuals 12 years and older at monthly immunization clinics, held at LCHD, 607 N. Sales St., Merrill, on the second Wednesday of each month, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.; and the third Wednesday of each month, from 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Appointments are required. To schedule an appointment, call 715-536-0307 or email LCHHealth@co.lincoln.wi.us.

LCVSO holding office hours in Tomahawk this spring

The Lincoln County Veterans Service Office (LCVSO) will hold office hours at Tomahawk City Hall, 23 N. 2nd St., this spring. Office hours will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11; Thursday, April 20; Tuesday, May 9; and Thursday, May 18. Walk-ins will be accepted, but appointments are encouraged. To make an appointment, call 715-539-1083 or email veterans@co.lincoln.wi.us.

Open Arms Community Meal served Tuesdays

Open Arms Community Meal is served each Tuesday at St. Mary’s Corpus Christi Center, 320 E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk. The Corpus Christi Center opens at 4 p.m., and the meal begins at 5 p.m. All are welcome to come and share fellowship with old and new friends. To volunteer at the Open Arms Community Meal, call 715-224-3306 and leave a message.

St. Paul Lutheran Church not hosting free Community Easter Dinner

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 12 E. Wisconsin Ave. Tomahawk, will

PINE CREST

FROM PAGE 1

Challenges, alternative solutions

Wickham also pointed to several “challenges” Lincoln County faces regarding Pine Crest, as well as alternative solutions for the nursing home’s future.

Among the challenges Wickham noted were costs for ongoing and needed maintenance at the 30-year old facility, a declining population at the nursing home and staffing shortages within the healthcare industry.

Wickham also walked the board through several potential actions the county could take moving forward.

Wickham noted that the committee does not endorse or recommend any of the

alternatives, and “none of them are mutually exclusive to themselves.”

“It really boils down to two alternatives – either Lincoln County continues to operate Pine Crest as a county-owned nursing home, or we don’t,” he stated.

Wickham touched on an array of options that could be on the table if Lincoln County chooses to continue its ownership of the facility, including exploring ways to cut costs and generate additional revenues, pursuing a management arrangement with an entity other than NCHC and downsizing the facility.

In the event that Lincoln County were to cease its operation of Pine Crest, Wickham said the county could

consider finding alternative uses for the facility or selling the property.

Wickham also suggested the option of holding a referendum to allow Lincoln County voters to decide whether or not the county should continue to operate Pine Crest. A potential referendum could ask taxpayers for \$3 million to \$4 million per year to allow the county to continue its operation of the nursing home, Wickham estimated.

Next county board meeting

Friske said with the committee’s findings now provid-

ed to the board and several options proposed, Supervisors can take time prior to the board’s next meeting to review the report and formulate ideas regarding Pine Crest’s future.

“I don’t have any preconceived ideas on where this board will go, but I am looking forward to a very lively discussion at our next county board meeting,” Friske stated.

The next meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors will be held at the Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N. Sales St., Merrill, on Tuesday, April 18 at 9 a.m.

FISHING & HUNTING TIMES

Date (CDT)	Morning		Evening	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Mar. 29	1:47AM	5:16AM	9:48AM	5:42PM
Mar. 30	2:29AM	6:07AM	10:49AM	6:32PM
Mar. 31	3:04AM	6:56AM	11:54AM	7:19PM
Apr. 1	3:31AM	7:42AM	1:00PM	8:04PM
Apr. 2	3:53AM	8:25AM	2:07PM	8:46PM
Apr. 3	4:12AM	9:07AM	3:13PM	9:28PM
Apr. 4	4:30AM	9:49AM	4:20PM	---
Apr. 5	4:46AM	10:30AM	5:28PM	---

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Letters: The Leader welcomes letters to the editor, a chance for members of the public to comment on issues and concerns to them. All letters must be original, not duplications of letters addressed to public officials or others. They must be signed and the name will be printed. The writer should include a home/work phone number where he/she can be reached for verification. Letters must be limited to 500 words or less. Letters may be edited for style, grammar and length. Form letters and those considered libelous and/or slanderous will not be accepted. Extremely long letters may not get printed. The Leader reserves the right to reject any material submitted for publication. Letters, columns and other features do not necessarily represent the views of The Leader.

Political letters of endorsement and other political letters will carry a charge of \$40 to be paid before publication and must not exceed 300 words. Author's full name, address and phone number must be provided. Address and phone number will not be published, but may be used for verification purposes if necessary.

Expressions of gratitude and thanks will be published in the Card of Thanks section, for which there is a fee.

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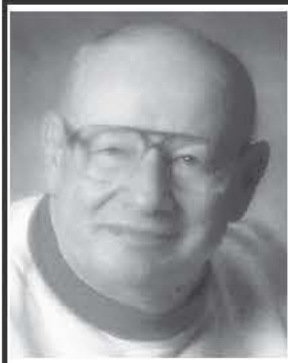
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OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at www.tomahawkleader.com



K Arthur Lorenzen, 90 of Tomahawk, passed away on March 22, 2023, in Fond du Lac. He was born in Tripoli, WI, the third child of Arthur and Elsie Lorenzen. As a child he enjoyed anything outdoors whether it was hunting, fishing, or any type of sports. K graduated from Tomahawk High School in 1949 where he was a multi-letter athlete. After serving in the army during the 1950s, he moved to Milwaukee where he met his wife, Carolyn. Injuring his finger while working at a box factory, he sought a doctor's care, and the "prettiest nurse he ever saw" took care of him. They were married May 23, 1959, in Milwaukee.

A few years and three children later, the family moved to Fond du Lac where they had one more child and where K opened an American Family Insurance office serving as an agent for 31 years. He was a proud member of Ducks Unlimited, Whitetails Unlimited, Ruffed Grouse Society (to name a few), and collected wildlife prints for many years. K played and served as both sponsor and manager on multiple softball teams in St. Cloud and Fond du Lac which helped keep him young. So young that he even played on a senior team in Mesa, Arizona during snowbird visits when he was in his seventies.

After retiring, K and Carolyn moved to a home on Lake Nokomis in Tomahawk. Both considered these the happiest years of their lives. They enjoyed hosting children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren along with numerous friends and family members whenever they could. They were proud members of Tomahawk's Redeemer Lutheran Church and rarely missed a service. They were so happy to have found such a welcoming church family.

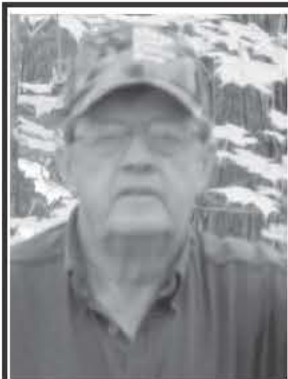
K is survived by: daughter Lisa (Christos) Theo – their children Antony (Hailey) Theo, Christos (Gina) Theo, Joseph Theo (Elizabeth); son Kurt Lorenzen; son Brian Lorenzen – his children Kyle Lorenzen, Brianna (Ryan) King and their children Easton and Bryson King, Aaron Lorenzen; Lynda (Corey) Parman – their children Payton (Austin) Meulemans and Rylie Parman (Parker).

K was preceded in death by: spouse Carolyn, sister Riesa von Gnechten, and brother William Lorenzen.

Visitation will take place from 3:30-6:00 PM on Thursday, March 30, 2023, at Uecker-Witt Funeral Home 524 N. Park Avenue, Fond du Lac, WI, 54935, with a celebration of his life starting at 6:00 p.m. at Joe's Fox Hut, 41 N. Main Street, Fond du Lac.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 31 at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 16 Theiler Drive, Tomahawk.

Services are in the care of Uecker-Witt Funeral Home, 524 North Park Avenue, Fond du Lac, WI, 54935. Additional information and guestbook can be found at ueckerwitt.com



Richard "Bud" Erling Hanson, age 90, of Gleason, Wis., passed away on Monday, March 20, 2023 at Tomahawk Health Services in Tomahawk. He was born on June 15, 1932 to the late Oscar and Isabelle (Lemmer) Hanson in Merrill, Wis. Bud was married to Catherine Johnson, the mother of his children, who survives, on May 28, 1955. And later married Loretta Pommerening on Sept. 7, 1995 in Rhinelander, Wis.

From Jan. 14, 1953 to Nov. 24, 1954, Bud served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War as a gunner and truck driver. During his time in the service, Bud was awarded the Korean Service Ribbon, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

Bud was a farmer, carpenter and a logger using a team of Belgian horses. He was a great storyteller, who loved hunting, picking berries, and old tractors. He enjoyed going to horse pulls, auctions and steam shows. A favorite pastime of his was driving his Jeep in the woods. He also enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren taking them on adventures and telling stories.

Throughout his life, Bud helped many friends and family with horses, tree removals, fixing things, making firewood and roads. He was a friend and Uncle Buddy to many and will be missed dearly.

Bud is survived by his wife, Loretta Hanson, children: Richard "Mike" (Beth Ann) Hanson, Timothy (Cindy) Hanson, Daniel (Diane) Hanson, Jeffrey (Jill) Hanson, Julie (Scott) Olund, and Theresa (Scott) Swiechowski, stepson: Paul (Kim) Everson, grandchildren: Dustin (Kenneth), Chase (Elise), Matthew, Sarah, Carly (Josh), Michaela (Ethan), Nathan (Jeanne), Janelle (Curtis), Weston, Treed, Shelby (Keith), Tristan, Bryce, Faith, Troy (Elly), Jenah, and Aimee (Jon), step-grandchild: Ryan (Sarah), 13 great-grandchildren with one on the way, sister: Patricia Hopper, sisters-in-law: Barbara Hanson (Ole) and Patricia Hanson (Oscar "Pinky") and former wife Catherine Ladwig.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers: Ole and Oscar "Pinky" Hanson, and sisters: Grace Barney, Betty Lemke, and Isabelle Chamberlain.

The family wishes to thank the VA home based primary care team, Aspirus Hospice and Tomahawk Health Services for all their care and compassion they showed Bud and his family.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 1 p.m. at Waid Funeral Home. A visitation was held on Sunday, March 26, 2023 from 11 a.m. until the time of service also at the funeral home. Chaplain Michele Rein officiated. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in memory of Bud to the Honor Flight, Veterans Administration and/or the Merrill Historical Society.

Waid Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Merrill assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences are encouraged and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com.

Merrill resident, Wausau police officer Josiah Kaetterhenry receives State Assembly Hometown Hero Award

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

MADISON – Last week, a Merrill resident and Wausau police officer was recognized for his community impact.

To begin the Wisconsin State Assembly's Wednesday, March 22 floor session, Representative Calvin Callahan (R-Tomahawk) presented Josiah Kaetterhenry with the Assembly's Hometown Hero Award.

A release from Callahan's office said the Hometown Hero Award program "provides the opportunity for state representatives to identify and recognize individuals from their assembly districts who make a difference in their communities and in the lives of the people around them."

"I am proud to have constituents in the 35th Assembly District like Officer Kaetterhenry," Callahan stated. "Thanks to his quick thinking and bravery, two teens were saved during active suicide attempts within the course of three months."

The release said that in April 2022, Kaetterhenry



Last week, Rep. Calvin Callahan (R-Tomahawk) presented Merrill resident and Wausau police officer Josiah Kaetterhenry with the Assembly's Hometown Hero Award.

Photo courtesy of Callahan's office

pulled a male, 15, to safety after he had been reported to be actively suicidal and was walking along the top ledge of the Jefferson Street Ramp in Wausau. Kaetterhenry restrained the teen until other officers arrived to assist, according to the release.

"Three months later, in

July, an 18-year-old male was sitting on the railing of the Bridge Street Bridge in Wausau, 100 feet above the Wisconsin River, preparing to jump and end his life," the release stated. "Officer Kaetterhenry snuck up behind him, grabbed him around the waist and pulled him

off the guardrail." "On behalf of the Wisconsin State Assembly, I am pleased to congratulate Officer Kaetterhenry on receiving the Assembly's Hometown Hero Award and thank him for his service to the residents in our local communities and our state," Callahan said.

Associated Clergy of Tomahawk
"Pastor's Corner"

Return to God

"Return to your God, O Israel..." (Hosea 14:2)

Worldly happiness is momentary and it inevitably leads to disillusionment. It will never give fulfillment or satisfaction in life and you will see yourself lacking something always. True satisfaction will come only from God. Only God can fill us fully with happiness and joy. Jesus came to give us life in abundance. Hence, it is better to make a conscientious effort to hasten our attainment to God. The saints and holy people never cared about the hardships and difficulties in their lives because they found inspiration of joy only in God.

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and everything will be provided to you" (Mt 6:33). What we want is God – first and last. Seek God as a loving child and He will respond to you because you are His. If you lift one hand for help, He would drop two hands to lift you up. God won't tell us until the last minute that He is coming to our aid, but He does come without fail. He might delay, but He would never deny us because we are His. That is the trust we need to put in God and we need to love Him more in order to feel His love.

Humans are attracted to the pull of good or evil. The saints and holy people are attracted to good by God. God is constantly pulling us towards Himself. When our desire for evil ceases, then we are attracted by God. So, our constant efforts should be to decrease our desire for worldly pleasures in order to be attracted towards God. God blesses us with reason and intelligence in order to know the purpose of our existence and live in accordance with the will of Him. We need to read the Word of God and apply it to our lives to realize the presence of God within ourselves. One who realizes the presence of God believes matter is external and possession of its objects, short-lived. Why should I concentrate on temporal things and exclude eternity?

When you have God in mind and heart, love your family and expand that love to humankind, then you are really marching toward God. If you work for your own self, you are pulled towards matter. But if you work with the thought of doing everything for God, you are pulled toward God. Remember the Kingdom of God is within you. If you pray and meditate and seek Him with wisdom, devotion and good actions, you will surely find Him and you are a saint.

Prayer: Lord, You are the head of this family. We are your children, gathered together to sing the glory of your name. Banish the darkness of ignorance with your light; drive away all gloom from our minds and expand the light of your presence. Whatever our status, we are your children. Reveal yourself unto us. Bless us with your grace. Destroy our desire for anything but thee. Be our king sitting on the throne of all our ambitions. Let the light of Thy glory spread over the whole world. Help us to return to You.

Rev. Dr. Louis Maram Reddy
Pastor, St. Mary's Church, Tomahawk, WI



This week's article is submitted by Rev. Dr. Louis Maram Reddy, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Tomahawk. Church times are Saturday evening at 4 p.m. in Pier-Willow, and 6 p.m. at St. Mary's; and Sunday mornings at 8 and 11 a.m. at St. Mary's, and 9:30 a.m. at St. Augustine, Harrison.

Ask the PASTOR

Readers are invited to submit questions about God, the Bible, and religion. I shall try to answer them for you, using the Bible as the authority for my answers.

Over the last few weeks I have suggested that we should read the Bible with the intent of learning who God is and what He says. A few weeks back we looked at the meaning of the words *faith* and *believe*. Today we shall continue looking at why people may not *believe* or *have faith* in God. We have looked at why religious and nonreligious people do not believe, this week we shall look at why people *continue* to not *believe* or *have faith* in God unless the Holy Spirit convicts them of their need for God. We shall look at Psalm 10.

The first verses begin with a question: *Why do you stand afar off, O LORD? why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? The wicked in his pride persecutes the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.* The Psalmist asks God why He doesn't do something about those who treat others badly; he suggests that God should make sure they get caught in the traps they have set for others. He calls the people doing wrong, *the wicked*.

In the Bible, the idea of being *wicked* does not mean you are always doing bad things; it simply means that you don't care what God says about what you do. We can be *wicked* and still do good things; it is just that we do good things for our own personal reasons and not because God says it is right. But if we are *wicked*, it is more likely that we will do wrong. Psalm 10 focuses on why the *wicked* continue to behave *wickedly*.

In verses 4 and 5 we read, *The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts. ...your judgments are far above out of his sight.* In other words, they are not thinking about God to begin with, and when they are confronted about what God says about their activities, they cannot understand.

In verse 11 we read, He has said in his heart, God has forgotten: *he hides his face; he will never see it. The thought is, God has not judged me yet, it is probable that He isn't even looking.*

In verse 13 we read, *Why does the wicked contemn God? he has said in his heart, You will not require it. Why does the wicked despise or mock God (contemn)?* He does not think God will ever hold him accountable for his actions. This goes back to the question in verse 1 where God is asked why He seem to be hiding from all the bad things going on? In other places the Bible tells us God does not judge us in this life, but after we die (Hebrews 9:27). Instead, this life is our opportunity to repent and find forgiveness so we will not have to face God's judgment (Romans 2:3-6). But the wicked, they will only see the absence of God's judgment upon them as proof that they can do whatever they want without being judged, because they do not want to think God will ever judge them (Psalm 92:6,7).

Pastor Charles Scheele
Berean Baptist Church, Tomahawk
bereanbaptisttomahawk@gmail.com

Two facing drug-related charges following execution of search warrant at City of Tomahawk residence

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – Two people are facing drug-related charges following the execution of a search warrant at a residence in the City of Tomahawk.

In a Thursday, March 23 post on the Tomahawk Police Department's Facebook page, Chief Al Elvins said a search warrant was executed at a residence on the 200 block of Hillcrest Dr. in Tomahawk as part of an investigation into the sale, distribution and possession of controlled substances.

As a result of the execution of the search warrant, David W. Fish, 41, and Crystal L. Dean, 34, were taken into custody and transported to the Lincoln County Jail. Each is charged with felony counts of maintaining a drug dwelling, possession of methamphetamine and manufacturing and/or delivery of tetrahydrocannabinols, according to the post.

Fish and Dean were also each charged with a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia, and Fish was also wanted on a probation warrant, the post said.

"In addition to the marijuana and methamphet-



Fish



Dean

Photos courtesy of the Lincoln County Jail

amine, officers located items used to inject, smoke and consume the illegal drugs," the post stated. "Multiple other items of evidentiary value were removed from the home."

More charges may be filed in the future, according to the post.

Individuals with additional information regarding the arrests are asked to contact Detective Matt Gorell at 715-453-2121.

PAID LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The following is a paid Letter to the Editor, per Tomahawk Leader policy.

Referendum is confusing, deliberately misleading

Referendums are important, but only if they clearly represent their objective. The three-question referendum on this April 4th's ballot is misleading, confusing and partisan politics at its worst.

In Question 1, Republicans want to remove the current state standard that allows courts to impose reasonable conditions in order to release defendants, pre-trial, to protect the community from "serious bodily harm", to replace it with the language of "serious harm" to be later defined by the legislature. Open-ended definitions are questionable and could result in unintended consequences.

In Question 2, according to the state Constitution, cash bail exists only to assure that a person will re-appear in court. The current system guarantees that the wealthy can buy their way out, until trial, while the indigent cannot. The poor often land up waiting behind bars, some times for extended periods, before any trial or conviction. Remember, the accused have not yet been convicted of a crime. Risk assessment is a much better mechanism to determine pre-trial detention.

Even the Wisconsin Council of Churches labels Question 3 as misleading. Welfare programs (Wisconsin Works, Food Share and Medicaid) exist to help people in poverty. Wisconsin Works and Food Share already have work requirements. Federal regulation prohibits work requirements as a condition of receiving Medicaid.

This referendum is confusing, deliberately misleading and deserves a "no" vote on all three questions.

Diana C. Smith
Tomahawk

The Pastor's Corner

Lost and Found

Have you ever lost anything valuable to you? I, myself, often lose things because I am an amazing multitasker! I go from one project or task to another and lose items along the way. Some things I often lose are my favorite tools, remote controls and my cell phone! It's bad enough to lose a possession, but have you ever lost a person? I am sorry to admit that one time I misplaced my youngest child! We frantically gathered the neighborhood to search for him – totally freaking out! Finally, we found him inside the truck, and he said that he was playing hide-and-seek with us! Needless to say, we did not enjoy that game of hide-and-seek!

Did you know that God himself searches for every person on the face of the earth and keeps searching for us? Jesus tells a story to illustrate this point to the religious leaders who were upset that he was hanging out with the broken, hurting, left-out people who needed him. He tells a story about a shepherd who has 100 sheep and notices that one is missing. The shepherd doesn't say, "Oh well! At least I still have 99 sheep left." Instead, he leaves the 99 and goes off looking for the one lost sheep. He searches until he finds it and carries it home on his shoulders. Then he gathers his friends and neighbors together to celebrate!

In this story we see that God will always be a friend of sinners! He has a heart for those who are far from Him, the wanderers, the outcasts, the broken, the hurting, and He is searching for them. He is pursuing all of humanity and won't give up on anyone! We don't have to get our act together to come to God, He comes to us as we acknowledge our need for His help. Just like the shepherd left the 99 sheep to search for the one, so God loves and values each one of us! If you were the only person He had to die for, He would have died just for you! Do you know that God loves you that much?

Each of us, in our sinfulness, get off track and wander from God. We are like the lost sheep, all alone without protection and guidance, full of fear, hurt, wounded and needy. A lost sheep is dead meat, prone to be killed by predators because it is separated from the shepherd. Jesus is "The Good Shepherd" who lovingly cares for his flock and lays down his life for the sheep. He came to earth, died on the cross and rose again to make a relationship with God possible for each of us. And it doesn't end there... Jesus is committed to being our "Good Shepherd" forever. We simply need to turn to him in faith and surrender our broken lives to him, letting him lead us from this day forward. Do you feel lost? Are you wandering? Come home to "The Good Shepherd" today!

Submitted by Shelley Nelson
Co-Senior Pastor of
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Tuesday, March 21	35	27
Wednesday, March 22	40	27
Thursday, March 23	44	9
Friday, March 24	46	23
Saturday, March 25	44	19

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The entire Tomahawk High School Forensics team recently qualified for the Wisconsin Interscholastic Speech and Dramatic Arts Association (WISDAA) State competition to be held at DeForest High School on Saturday, April 22. WISDAA was previously known as the Wisconsin High School Forensics Association (WHSFA). Pictured, back row, from left: Kael Oates, Damian Ramirez-Gonzales, Landon Plantenberg, Sarah Kallerud, Caisson McPherson, Clyde Kangas, Joe Reiter, Payton Loka, Nik Stefanich, Trey Morrison, Izzy Lee, Xan Sutton, Kennedy Kromm, Murphy Koth; front: Delilah Sutton, Cedar Hoffman, Lydia Shaney, Brynne Stefan, Sadie Ruder, Jayden Dellinger, Aubrey Graeber, Maggie Lashua. Not pictured: Christian Lashua.



Pictured, from left: Greyson Marta, AJ Schertz, Jenny Meza, Arawen Alberg. Photos courtesy of Nancy Herbison



The Tomahawk Elementary School library was turned into the "Hatchet Bookstro" last week, where students "sampled" different books on the menu. Library Media and Instructional Technology Coordinator Paula Norman noted that some students might have even found some new favorites during the "book tasting." "The best comment was, 'I give this restaurant five stars!'" Norman said. Photos courtesy of Paula Norman



College News

Matthew Bartz, Lizabeth Edwardsen, Madeline O'Hara and Marci Trapp, all of Tomahawk, earned Highest Honors during the fall semester of the 2022-2023 academic year at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Luke Olson, Tomahawk, earned High Honors. Brynn Beaumier, Serena Hanke, Jakob Kahle and Marisa Oestreich, all of Tomahawk; and Jeffery Wegener and Teegan

Wenzel, Irma, earned Honors.

Alex Bishop, Tomahawk, was named to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville Dean's List for the fall 2022 semester.

Nataya Calhoun, Tiana Gerstenberger, Katrina Kapellusch, Molly Mott and Will Reiche, all of Tomahawk, were named to the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Dean's List for the fall semester of the

2022-23 academic year.

Kylee S. Theiler, Tomahawk, was named to the University of Wyoming Dean's Honor Roll for the 2022 fall semester.

Michaela Hess and Whitney Osero, Tomahawk, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in Dec. 2022.

Demitri Shotwell, Tomahawk, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Dec. 2022.

Lauren Kloss, Tomahawk, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in Dec. 2022.

Zachary Suchomel, Tomahawk, was named to the Milwaukee School of Engineering's Honors List for the 2023 Winter Quarter.

John McGovern, Tomahawk, was named to the Milwaukee School of Engineering's Dean's List for the 2023 Winter Quarter.

Tomahawk Emergency

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REDUCED: W947 3rd Ave Gleason: Welcome to the country. This 3-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom home is located minutes North of Gleason. Conveniently located off Hwy 17, this home sits on 1 acre and is accompanied by a 24'x36' outbuilding. The outbuilding is equipped with a paved floor and electricity. The home has new flooring and has a newer roof, gutters, and furnace. Located conveniently between Rhinelander, Merrill, and Tomahawk. **\$114,900**

paint throughout. The home also has a newer roof, gutters, and furnace. Located conveniently between Rhinelander, Merrill, and Tomahawk. **\$114,900**

MABLE LAKE W4653 Cty Rd A, Tomahawk: Over 9 acres with this 3 bedroom, 2 bath charmer. Huge main bedroom, fireplace in living room and family rooms, plus main floor laundry make living here a joy. 2 car attached garage, plus a 2-car detached garage. Gentle slope to enjoyable, quiet Mable Lake, where kayaking and relaxing is expected. 1541 Square feet of living space on the main floor plus 1541 square feet finished basement. **\$649,900**

Lake Nokomis N11765 Ella Rd: One of the most premier houses on the Lake Nokomis Chain being offered for the first time. This 4-bedroom home has 4.5 bathrooms and boasts 5,500 square feet. The home was built in 2002 and has been updated and very well cared for. The home feels like a new build. Let's not forget to mention that the home is perfectly positioned facing West to enjoy all the beautiful sunsets Lake Nokomis has to offer and the million-dollar views over the Northwoods. There is also a priceless, two stall, immaculate concrete boat house with a flat top. This property is extensively landscaped and established. Call today for more details. **\$2,100,000**

REDUCED 4916 Hilltop Rd What a pretty spot to build, on this country subdivision. Wooded building lot located in a great location just minutes south of the town of Rhinelander. This 1.41-acre parcel is a corner lot and is situated in a nice, quiet country setting on a dead-end road. Electric, gas, telephone and cable are already present. **\$23,900**

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Knox Creek Heritage Center holds annual St. Urho, St. Patrick's Day celebration

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

BRANTWOOD – The Knox Creek Heritage Center recently held its annual St. Urho and St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

The celebration was held at the Brantwood Community Center, located at County Rd. D and Stadium Rd. in Brantwood, on Saturday, March 18.

The Knox Creek Heritage Center, N4517 W. Knox Rd., Brantwood, was founded in 1995 and is "dedicated to preserving the heritage of the pioneers that settled these great Northwoods," said Kevin Wollemann, Heritage Center President.

The Heritage Center site features nine buildings and artifacts representing several ethnic groups in southeastern Price County. Antique logging, farming and blacksmith equipment, school and church memo-



abilia, photos, documents and more pieces of history dating back as far as the late 1800s are displayed at the Heritage Center.

Wollemann said the St. Urho and St. Patrick's Day Celebration – one of the Heritage Center's four annual fundraising events – saw a good turnout despite cold and windy weather.

"Folks came from as far away as Hazelhurst and Merrill," Wollemann noted.

Those in attendance enjoyed a buffet of eight soups, homemade Finnish bread,



Photos courtesy of Kevin Wollemann

mint ice cream and cookies.

Wollemann said the event started with the Heritage Center's annual meeting, during which two current board members were unanimously reelected. Four new members were also welcomed to the board.

Wollemann said the Heritage Center is always looking for individuals and families to join.

"By becoming a member, you can help maintain our unique historical site and preserve the community's

heritage," Wollemann stated.

The Heritage Center has a slate of projects lined up this year, including finishing the kitchen in the pavilion at the Heritage Center, adding hot and cold water to the area and reorganizing a steel building on the site.

Wollemann noted that several of the Heritage Center's buildings are more than a century old and "need a little TLC," and funds and donations of time and efforts are sought to "help make these dreams come true."

"Any help will be greatly appreciated," Wollemann stated.

The Heritage Center's next fundraising event is the Midsummer Celebration on Saturday, June 24 at the Heritage Center.

To learn more about the Knox Creek Heritage Center, visit www.facebook.com/knoxcreekheritage-center.

WPS Foundation offering technical college scholarships

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) Foundation is accepting applications from area high school seniors for its technical college scholarships.

In a release, WPS said the scholarships are the continuation of a "nearly 60-year commitment" to "help area students take the next step

toward career success."

The WPS Foundation partners with the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) on its technical college scholarship program.

Eligible students can receive a scholarship to work toward completing a one-year technical diploma or two-year associate degree program.

High school seniors living in the WPS service area can

receive a scholarship to attend one of the following six select WTCS schools full-time next fall: Nicolet Technical College, Northcentral Technical College, Fox Valley Technical College, Lakeshore Technical College, Mid-State Technical College and Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

Each scholarship awarded is for \$750.00. WPS said recipients are selected based on ac-

ademic achievement, school and community leadership activities and financial need.

"The WPS Foundation's technical college scholarships have helped northeast and northcentral Wisconsin students develop important career skills since 1964," WPS stated. "They're part of more than \$5.6 million in total scholarships the WPS Foundation has awarded during

that time to students in Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan."

WPS said the technical college scholarship program is part of the Foundation's focus on "improving educational opportunities for area students."

"Last year, these scholarships helped students pursue degrees in fields such as business management, electric

power distribution, information technology and natural gas utility construction," WPS stated.

Applications are being accepted through Sunday, April 30.

To apply for a WPS Foundation technical college scholarship, visit the Foundation's website at www.bit.ly/3FsaPW9.

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Leader Sports & Nature

Hatchets to face familiar GNC opponents next year following football conference realignments

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – The Tomahawk High School football team will face familiar Great Northern Conference (GNC) opponents next fall following the realignment of the state's football conferences.

On Tuesday, March 7, the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) Board of Control approved most of the Conference Realignment Task Force recommendations for football and advanced five Constitutional amendments to the WIAA Annual Meeting, slated for Wednesday, April 26 in Stevens Point.

The portions of the plan approved by the board will be implemented in the fall of 2024.

In a release, WIAA said that after receiving and reviewing 10 appeals – representing 18 schools – on the football-only conference realignment plan recommended by the Conference Realignment Task Force, the Board approved the plan for all eight-player conferences and all but eight 11-player conference-

es, which were remanded back to the Task Force for further evaluation and consideration.

The conferences – and schools associated with those remanded – that will be re-evaluated by the Task Force include the Capitol, Dunn-St. Croix, Eastern Suburban, Heart O' North, Lakeland, Southwest, Southwest Athletic League and Trailways, according to WIAA.

The Task Force will review the remanded conference plan at its Tuesday, April 11 meeting with a final proposal for those conferences impacted to be presented to the Board for final consideration at its Tuesday, April 25 meeting.

As part of the realignment, Tomahawk and Wausau East will move to the Great Northern Conference (GNC), joining Antigo, Lakeland, Medford, Merrill, Mosinee and Rhinelander.

Tomahawk competed in the Northwoods Conference last year, along with Clintonville, Coleman, Crandon, Crivitz, Menominee Indian, Northland Pines and Oconto Falls.

School District of Tomahawk Athletic, Recreation

and Pool Director Scott Parsons said the district feels the move to the GNC is “good for many reasons.”

“Geographically, it is much more favorable than the Northwoods Conference setup, where two or three trips per year could be two and a half hours away,” he stated. “In that configuration, we were an outlier as the farthest western school in the grouping.”

Parsons noted that playing in the GNC “makes each conference game more meaningful, as most of these are schools we compete against in every other sport.”

“This isn't a slight on any of the Northwoods schools, as we've enjoyed our relationships with them, but a Friday game against someone in the GNC would have a little more excitement, as they are more traditional opponents,” he said.

Parsons added that he anticipates the Hatchets' home games will have higher attendance due to fans from GNC schools having shorter distances to travel than those of Tomahawk's opponents in the

Northwoods Conference. “We feel the trajectory we're on puts us in a spot where we can compete very favorably,” Parsons stated, adding that Tomahawk will be able to face all of its conference opponents in JV games, and JV2 opportunities may also be in the cards.

Other area schools impacted

The conference realignments will also impact other schools throughout the area.

Among the impending changes is the dissolution of the Marawood Conference. Abbotsford, Auburndale, Edgar and Pittsville are slated to move into the Central Wisconsin Conference-Small Division, joining Assumption, Iola-Scandinavia, Pacelli and Rosholt. Colby and Marathon will join Amherst, Loyal/Greenwood, Spencer/Columbus Catholic, Stratford, Weyauwega-Fremont and Wittenberg-Birnamwood in the Central Wisconsin Conference-Large Division.

Numerous area schools will compete in eight-player football next fall. Athens, Chequamegon Co-op, Hurley, Flambeau, Phillips,

Prentice and Rib Lake will make up the Northwoods-East Conference, while the Northwoods West Conference will be comprised of Bruce, Mellen, Northwood/Solon Springs, Shell Lake, South Shore, Washburn, and Winter/Birchwood. A mandatory crossover for seventh conference game will be held, according to WIAA.

Full details available online

View the full details of the remanded and approved conference configurations for 11-player football at www.bit.ly/3K5WSjy and eight-player football at www.bit.ly/3TGd6CW.

Information on the conference realignment process is available at www.bit.ly/3TVSOFX.

Sports Briefs

Indoor track

The indoor track above the fieldhouse at the Tomahawk complex will be open Monday through Friday from 6:15 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. Entry is through at Door #6 (auditorium, fieldhouse and pool).

Water aerobics

Water aerobics will be held at the pool at the Tomahawk school complex on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Entry is through Door 18 (back pool door).

Open gym

Open gym for basketball will be held at Hatchet Fieldhouse on Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Students and parents are welcome. Entry is through Door #6 (auditorium, fieldhouse and pool). Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact Jon Long at 715-966-2231 or Bill Sparr at 715-453-1954.

Morning lap swim

Morning lap swim will be held at the pool at the Tomahawk school complex on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 6 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. Entry is through at Door #6 (auditorium, fieldhouse and pool).



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2022 Monthly Rates



The Tomahawk Equal Opportunity (EO) Pool League recently wrapped up its 2022-2023 season. Pictured, from left, are members of the first-place Happy Snapper team: Derek Bartz, Paul Lyskawa, Augie Augustine and Russ Wadzinski.



Holly's finished the season in second place. Back, from left: Ken DeHart and Mark Bauman; front: Ted Heitschmidt and Shawn Halverson.



Floyd's Timber Tavern took third place. From left: Bill Gauthier, Joe Trapp, Jim Verbist and Bob Donath. Not pictured: Arne Andersen and Mike Frank. Photos courtesy of Joe Trapp

Natural Connections: More Bear Babies

BY EMILY M. STONE
NATURALIST/
EDUCATION
DIRECTOR, CABLE
NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM

My feet were just starting to get numb from standing on the snow-packed trail when the activity over by the den changed. Students with University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's (UWSP) Wisconsin Black Bear Project, led by Dr. Cady Sartini, plus several other wildlife professionals, were working together around the mouth of the den.

A student broke away from the group and headed to where we non-researchers were stationed out of the way. Abby was cradling something small against her chest, and the adorable smile that lit up her face gave it away: she was carrying a bear cub.

Eager hands reached out to take the cub and nestle him into a puffy winter coat. Soon more students with more cubs headed our way. Four tiny cubs were distributed among the willing volunteers. Mama bear lay anesthetized in the den, and the cubs needed our warmth.

Back in January, Dr. Sartini allowed a group of Wisconsin Master Naturalists to join her team on a reconnaissance mission to find out if this den had cubs,



Abby, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Wisconsin Black Bear Project student researcher, snuggles a tiny black bear cub to help keep him warm while his mother is anesthetized and other researchers collect data on her.

Photo by Emily Stone

yearlings, or just the colored adult. As I wrote, we saw the mom's sleepy face, and heard the grunts of two cubs. Two cubs were all I'd been expecting when I lucked into joining Dr. Sartini and her students on this data collection visit to the same den.

One of the students held a cub out toward me, and I cradled him against my chest, trying to tuck him inside my puffy coat while his long claws tangled in nylon and wool. I'd forgotten to take my hood down, and soon the anxious cub

was climbing up my neck, needle-sharp claws poking and wet nose nuzzling. It was adorable, funny, and painful all at once. Climbing trees to safety is a life-saving instinct in bear cubs, and although this was the first time outside their den, their long, sharp claws were ready to go!

Startled by the cub's climbing, and unable to untangle him alone, I enlisted Laura Schulte, a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reporter also covering the

Bears

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

Local news online
www.TomahawkLeader.com

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Maintenance Position

The School District of Tomahawk has an opening for a full-time 12-month Maintenance position with a competitive wage and benefit package. Duties include the repair and maintenance of equipment and buildings and grounds.

Applicants must have a High School Diploma or equivalent, a clean driving record and job-related training and skills are preferred. Experience in HVAC systems and building automation, electrical, chillers, boilers, carpentry, welding, snow removal, and grounds upkeep is a plus. The candidate must have a strong mechanical aptitude, a great work ethic, excellent problem-solving skills, and a teamwork approach along with great communication skills. You must be able to lift 40-70 lbs., work from lifts, and able to spend a considerable amount of time on your feet (facility certifications preferred).

To be given full consideration, upload the requested application material through the Wisconsin Education Career Access Network (WECAN) at <https://wecan.waspa.org/> or an application can be printed from the District website at www.tomahawk.k12.wi.us and available from the District Office entrance #6 between the hours of 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Inquiries can be directed to Arland Wingate, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds at 715-453-2106 ext. 207. Application materials will be accepted in the District Office until the position is filled.

The School District of Tomahawk is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Baumgart Waste Removal is looking for Drivers with A Class B CDL License for Full time & Part time Monday thru Friday Please APPLY in person at 1304 Cotter Ave., Merrill, WI or Call 715-536-4692

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LEGALS

Town of Nokomis Accepting Bids

Town of Nokomis now accepting bids for the install of new siding on the Nokomis Food Pantry. Also need 3 new windows installed. For further information contact Dave Halfmann 715-351-9364. Published March 22, 29, 2023 WNAXLP

REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS TOWN OF CORNING – Lincoln County

The Town of Corning is accepting bids for delivery of approximately 9,760 tons of crushed decomposed granite, at the rate of 1,600 tons per mile. The price shall include product and delivery to 1.6 miles of Cedar Road from Hwy MM west to Forks Road. Half mile of Langhoff Road from Leafy Grove Road to the end. .9 of a mile of Mink Road from Highway 64 to Joe Snow Road. .5 miles of Joe Snow Road from Mink Road to South Branch Road. .7 miles of Elm Grove Road from Highway M to the dead end. 1.9 miles of Hilly Road from Hwy Z to Hwy FF For a total of 6.1 miles. All at 1200 tons per mile. Loads to be weighed before delivery. Vendor to supply scale tickets to Town of Corning.

For detailed map of roads to be done, contact Rick Hass, (715) 536-3432.

Completion date no later than August 31, 2023

Sealed bids are due by April 10th, 2023 7:00 pm, to be opened April 10th, 2023 at 7:30 pm at the Town Board meeting.

Questions: Contact John Kudick (715) 539-2993

The Town Board of Corning reserves the right to accept and/or reject any and/or all bids. Contractors will give Town of Corning a Certificate of Insurance & accept all responsibility according to State Statutes that apply to Workmen's Comp, Liability Insurance, Commercial Auto Insurance, Social Security and Withholding taxes.

Please send your sealed bids to Rick Hass, Clerk, Town of Corning, N1428 Strawberry Lane, Merrill, WI 54452.

Rick Hass, Clerk

Recycle Published March 22 & 29, 2023

Recycle WNAXLP

LOCATION AND HOURS OF POLLING PLACES LINCOLN COUNTY

At the Spring General Election to be held on April 4, 2023, in Lincoln County, the following are the designated polling places:

Table with 2 columns: PRECINCT and POLLING LOCATION. Lists various towns and their respective polling locations.

CITY OF TOMAHAWK Wards 1 - 6 SARA Park Activities Center, 900 West Somo Ave

Table with 2 columns: CITY OF MERRILL and District. Lists districts and their respective polling locations.

Contact your municipal clerk if you have any questions concerning your polling place.

All polling places will open 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m.

All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.

Christopher J Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk

Published March 29, 2023

WNAXLP

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ELECTION

APRIL 4, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an election to be held in the several towns, villages, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, the following questions will be submitted to a vote of the people pursuant to law:

2023 ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION 2

To amend section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution; relating to: conditions for release prior to conviction, including the imposition of bail (second consideration).

Whereas, the 2021 legislature in regular session considered a proposed amendment to the constitution in 2021 Assembly Joint Resolution 107, which became 2021 Enrolled Joint Resolution 6, and agreed to it by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, which proposed amendment reads as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution is amended to read:

[Article I] Section 8 (2) All persons, before conviction, shall be eligible for release under reasonable conditions designed to assure their appearance in court, protect members of the community from serious bodily harm as defined by the legislature by law, or prevent the intimidation of witnesses. Monetary conditions of release may be imposed at or after the initial appearance only upon a finding that there is a reasonable basis to believe that the conditions are necessary to assure appearance in court, or if the person is accused of a violent crime as defined by the legislature by law, only upon a finding that there is a reasonable basis to believe that the conditions are necessary based on the totality of the circumstances, taking into account whether the accused has a previous conviction for a violent crime as defined by the legislature by law, the probability that the accused will fail to appear in court, the need to protect members of the community from serious harm as defined by the legislature by law, the need to prevent the intimidation of witnesses, and the potential affirmative defenses of the accused. The legislature may authorize, by law, courts to revoke a person's release for a violation of a condition of release.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution is agreed to by the 2023 legislature; and, be it further

Resolved, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be submitted to a vote of the people at the election to be held on the first Tuesday of April, 2023; and, be it further

Resolved, That the question concerning ratification of the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be stated on the ballot as follows:

QUESTION 1: "Conditions of release before conviction. Shall section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution be amended to allow a court to impose on an accused person being released before conviction conditions that are designed to protect the community from serious harm?"

QUESTION 2: "Cash bail before conviction. Shall section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution be amended to allow a court to impose cash bail on a person accused of a violent crime based on the totality of the circumstances, including the accused's previous convictions for a violent crime, the probability that the accused will fail to appear, the need to protect the community from serious harm and prevent witness intimidation, and potential affirmative defenses?"

EXPLANATION

1. Explanatory statement regarding Question 1:

Under the current Wisconsin Constitution, courts may impose reasonable conditions on the release of a criminal defendant before trial for three purposes: (1) to secure the defendant's appearance in court; (2) to protect the community from "serious bodily harm;" and (3) to prevent intimidation of witnesses. Wis. Const. art. I, § 8(2).

Question 1 would change the language of the second factor from "serious bodily harm" to "serious harm as defined by the legislature by law." The question would thus change the type of harm to the community that a court could seek to protect against. Because the term "serious harm" would be defined by the legislature by law, what it means could evolve over time depending on legislative enactments.

A "yes" vote on Question 1 would vote to amend Wis. Const. art. I, § 8(2) to allow a circuit court to impose release conditions based on the purpose of avoiding "serious harm as defined by the legislature" rather than "serious bodily harm."

A "no" vote on Question 1 would vote not to amend Wis. Const. art. I, § 8(2) to change the term "serious bodily harm" as a factor for determining the conditions of a defendant's pretrial release.

2. Explanatory statement regarding Question 2:

Question 2 would also change the language of Wis. Const. art. I, § 8(2), but in a different way from Question 1. Question 2 addresses the circuit court's ability to impose the specific condition of monetary bail.

Currently, the Wisconsin Constitution allows a court to impose a monetary bail requirement only if the court finds a reasonable basis to believe that bail is necessary in order to secure the defendant's appearance in court. Wis. Const. art. I, § 8(2).

Question 2 would expand the factors a circuit court may consider in imposing monetary bail. In cases where a defendant is accused of a "violent crime as defined by the legislature by law," Question 2 would allow a court to impose monetary bail based on circumstances in addition to securing the defendant's appearance in court, including accounting for a previous conviction for a violent crime, the need to protect the community from serious harm, preventing witness intimidation, and potential affirmative defenses the defendant might assert.

A "yes" vote on Question 2 would vote to amend Wis. Const. art. I, § 8(2) in cases where the defendant is accused of a violent crime to allow a court to utilize monetary bail for additional reasons in addition to securing the defendant's appearance in court, including accounting for a previous conviction for a violent crime, the need to protect the community from serious harm, preventing witness intimidation, and accounting for the defendant's affirmative defenses. Because the term "violent crime" would be defined by the legislature by law, what it means could evolve over time depending on legislative enactments.

A "no" vote on Question 2 would vote not to amend Wis. Const. art. I, § 8(2) to expand the factors a court considers in imposing monetary bail.

2023 ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: providing for an advisory referendum on the question of requiring able-bodied, childless adults to look for work in order to receive taxpayer-funded welfare benefits.

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the following question be submitted, for advisory purposes only, to the voters of this state at the spring election to be held in April 2023:

"Shall able-bodied, childless adults be required to look for work in order to receive taxpayer-funded welfare benefits?"

EXPLANATION

Explanatory statement regarding Question 3, the advisory question:

This is an advisory referendum and would not change Wisconsin law. Wisconsin and federal law currently define various programs available to those with financial need based on criteria such as age, familial status, and disability, among other criteria. Most of those programs are limited to children, families with children, pregnant women, disabled persons, or those 65 or older, who Wisconsin law does not consider "able-bodied" for public assistance purposes. See, e.g., Wis. Stat. § 49.79(1)(am) (defining age limits for "able-bodied" under food stamp program).

Two programs currently available to "able-bodied, childless adults" are Wisconsin's Badger Care Plus medical assistance program and the Food Share program, also known as SNAP or food stamps. However, those programs are subject to certain federal requirements and restrictions that either would be inconsistent with the requirement about which the referendum asks or, in some cases, already include such a requirement.

Badger Care Plus's medical assistance program is subject to federal Medicaid restrictions, and federal law does not allow for work-based requirements for such programs absent a federal waiver. See 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(A). Currently, there is no federal waiver in force that would allow Wisconsin to impose work requirements on this program. Wisconsin's Food Share statute contains requirements that able-bodied, childless adults be employed or participate in an employment and training program, see Wis. Stat. § 49.79(9), but that requirement has been suspended by the federal government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A "yes" vote on Question 3, the advisory referendum, would make no change to Wisconsin law.

A "no" vote on Question 3, the advisory referendum, also would make no change to Wisconsin law.

DONE in the City of Merrill, this 29th day of March, 2023.

Christopher J. Marlowe

Christopher J. Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk

Published March 29, 2023

WNAXLP

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION
School District of Tomahawk
April 4, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the School District of Tomahawk on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The term of office for a school board member is three years beginning on Monday, April 24, 2023.

Office: One member from the apportioned areas of King and Harrison for a 3-year term. Incumbent(s): David Long
Two members from the apportioned areas of Bradley, Birch, Skanawan, Tomahawk, and Rock Falls for a 3-year term. Incumbent(s): Ron Zimmerman, Kay Kissinger Wolf

Electors will vote in their polling places. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.
A description of the school district boundaries can be obtained from the school district office.
Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

March 29, 2023 School District Clerk Deb Velleux

LOCATION AND HOURS OF POLLING PLACES

At the General Election to be held on April 4, 2023, in Lincoln and Oneida County, the following are the designated polling places:

Table with 2 columns: PRECINCT and POLLING LOCATION. Lists various towns and their corresponding polling locations.

Contact your municipal clerk if you have any questions concerning your polling place. All polling places will open 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m. All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.

Notice of Spring Election and Sample Ballots
April 4, 2023

Notice is hereby given of a spring election to be held in Lincoln and Oneida counties on April 4, 2023, at which the officers named below shall be nominated. The names of the candidates for each office, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office, each in its proper column, together with the questions submitted to a vote, for a referendum, if any, in the sample ballot below.

Information to Voters

Upon entering the polling place and before being permitted to vote, a voter shall:

- state their name and address
show an acceptable form of photo identification*
sign the poll book**

*If a voter does not have acceptable photo identification, the voter may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

**If the voter is unable to sign the poll book due to disability, a poll worker may write the word "exempt."

If a voter is not registered to vote, they may register to vote at the polling place serving their residence if the voter provides proof of residence.

Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot.

Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall enter a voting booth or go to a machine and cast their ballot. The vote should not be cast in any manner other than specified here. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the voter in marking their ballot may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

A voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward.

An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote but the official may not advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

Assistance for Voting

A voter may select an individual to assist in casting their vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that they are unable to read, have difficulty reading, writing, or understanding English, or that due to disability are unable to cast their ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the voter.

Where Optical Scan Voting is Used

The voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of their choice for each office for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using an electronic ballot marking device ("Automark") to mark an optical scan ballot, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "no" if opposed to the question.

After Voting the Ballot

After an official optical scan ballot is marked, it shall be inserted in the security sleeve, so the marks do not show. The voter may insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the voter shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

Spoiling Ballots

If a voter spoils an optical scan ballot, they shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

The following is a sample of the official ballot:

Sample ballot form for Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, April 4, 2023. Includes sections for General Instructions, School District, Referendum, Judicial, Municipal, and Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Official Ballot Nonpartisan Office and Referendum April 4, 2023 for Town of Birch, CB 19/ TSD. Includes fields for ballot issued by, absentee ballot issued by, certification of voter assistance, and official use only section.

Notice of Spring Election and Sample Ballots
April 4, 2023

OFFICE OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY CLERK TO THE VOTERS OF LINCOLN COUNTY:

Notice is hereby given of a spring election to be held in Lincoln County on April 4, 2023, at which the officers named below shall be nominated. The names of the candidates for each office, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office, each in its proper column, together with the questions submitted to a vote, for a referendum, if any, in the sample ballot below.

Information to Voters

Upon entering the polling place and before being permitted to vote, a voter shall:

- state their name and address
show an acceptable form of photo identification*
sign the poll book**

If a voter does not have acceptable photo identification, the voter may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

If the voter is unable to sign the poll book due to disability, a poll worker may write the word "exempt."

If a voter is not registered to vote, they may register to vote at the polling place serving their residence if the voter provides proof of residence.

Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot.

Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall enter a voting booth or go to a machine and cast their ballot. The vote should not be cast in any manner other than specified here. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the voter in marking their ballot may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

A voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward.

An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote but the official may not advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

Assistance for Voting

A voter may select an individual to assist in casting their vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that they are unable to read, have difficulty reading, writing, or understanding English, or that due to disability are unable to cast their ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the voter.

Where Optical Scan Voting is Used

The voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of their choice for each office

for which they intend to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of their choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using an electronic ballot marking device ("Automark") to mark an optical scan ballot, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen or use the tactile pad to select "no" if opposed to the question.

After Voting the Ballot

After an official optical scan ballot is marked, it shall be inserted in the security sleeve, so the marks do not show. The voter may insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the voter shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

Spoiling Ballots

If a voter spoils an optical scan ballot, they shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initiated by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

The following is a sample of the official ballot: (Insert official Spring Election Ballot).

Christopher J. Marlowe

Christopher J Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk

Official Ballot
Nonpartisan Office and Referendum
April 4, 2023

Table with 3 columns: A Lincoln County, B State of Wisconsin, C April 4, 2023

The ballot below is for Publication purposes only. This ballot includes all of Lincoln County's April 5th Political Races. All Lincoln County Ballots may be viewed on the county website at: https://co.lincoln.wi.us/county-clerk/page/absentee-and-sample-ballots. Your ballot specific to your address may be found at: https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot.

Notice to voters: if you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (see end of ballot for initials).

Main ballot table with columns for various municipalities and offices including: Town of Coming Wards 1 & 2, Municipal, Muncipal Cont., Town of Pine River Wards 1-3, Town of Birch Ward 1, Town of King Wards 1 & 2, Town of Schley Ward 1 & 2, Town of Bradley Wards 1-5, Town of Merrill Wards 1-7, Town of Harrison Wards 1-3, Town of Russell Ward 1, Town of Somo Ward 1, Town of Tomahawk Ward 1. Includes 'General Instructions' and 'Publication ballot continues on next column'.

Legals 7700

Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 14, 2023 6:00 PM District Meeting Room, 1048 E King Road, Tomahawk, WI 54487

Legals 7700

Zimmerman Absent: C. Hafeman IV. Declaration of a Quorum: R. Zimmerman declared there was a quorum.

Legals 7700

A Approve the Minutes from the Operations and Finance Committee meeting on January 4, 2023. D. Long updated the Board on the Committee meeting.

Legals 7700

2023. F Approve the Invoices from January 7, 2023, to February 10, 2023. G Employment/Contract Adjustments

Legals 7700

compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility (f)

Legals 7700

DATE SIGNED: March 13, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar

Table with columns for Municipal Cont., Tomahawk School District, School District, and Statewide. It lists various officials and their names for different districts and wards, including Jesse Hoffman, Fran Pflum, Allen Russ, Fred Steinbach, Patricia E. Haskin, Dale Ernst, Steven Ding Bartz, Helen Palmquist, Darrel E. Pierson, Jesse Jonathan Rhody, Norbert Ashbeck, Ronald Liberty, and Kevin J. Blake.

QUESTION 2: "Cash bail before conviction. Shall section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution be amended to allow a court to impose cash bail on a person accused of a violent crime based on the totality of the circumstances, including the accused's previous convictions for a violent crime, the probability that the accused will fail to appear, the need to protect the community from serious harm and prevent witness intimidation, and potential affirmative defenses?"

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Leo P. Pintens Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023 IN 13 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: 1. An application for informal administration was filed.

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KEVIN P. PETERSON Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023IN16 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: 1. An application for informal administration was filed.

Legals 7700
 point of beginning.
 Tax Key No: 024-3106-164-9997
 Address: N1455 Scott Road
 LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF
 Drafted by:
ICE MILLER LLP
 Steven D. Mroczkowski
 200 West Madison, Suite 3500
 Chicago, IL 60606
 Telephone: (312)726-7154
 steve.mroczkowski@icemiller.com
 Published March 15, 22, 29, 2023
 WNAXLP

Do You Have A Legal Notice That Must Be Published?
 Publish it in the Tomahawk Leader!
 24 W. Rives Street,
 Rhinelander, WI 54501
 Phone: 715-453-2151
 Fax: 866-369-3331

CLASSIFIEDS

General Employment 7110
RHINELANDER FLYING Service is looking for a part time Line Crewman. Duties include fueling & towing aircraft, customer service and janitorial duties. Stop in & fill out an application. 715-365-3456

General Employment 7110
Wanted: 2 or 3 persons to move inventory. Sewing machines and vacuum cleaners to storage area. Call Doug at 715-224-3401 between 10-3 Monday - Saturday.

General Employment 7110
WANTED TRUCK DRIVERS Come work for Maki Trucking! Using your trailer @ 85% or our trailer @ 75%. Full or part time. We have trucks to use! Contact 1-715-453-8073 or email makitrucks@charter.net **MAKI TRUCKING & LOGGING** W5738 County Road A Tomahawk, WI 54487

Antiques and Collectibles 7214
 Coleman lanterns, stoves and/or heaters wanted, anything but green. Also looking for Zippo lighters, would consider a whole collection. 715-612-0357.

Selling Collection in Iola
 Beer signs (6 Hamm's and Pabst) Point and many others, vintage tap knobs, Texaco, Phillips 66 & Red Crown porcelain signs, 5 oil paintings, 8 musical instruments (Guitars, Chello, Ect.) Immigrant trunk, John Deere pedal tractor, kid's mustang carnival ride, 3 diamond rings, 6 guns (Winchesters, Remington, Stevens) Much more. See pictures on Facebook/Marketplace. Corner of Townline Rd & West State St. Iola. Follow signs. Fri. & Sat. Mar. 31st & Apr 1st. 8-5pm.

Employment Wanted 7120
SEEKING A part time companion job in Tomahawk. Someone to play cards and/or board games with, will do light housekeeping & meal prep. Pets ok. Have references. Call Dawn, 715-721-9271.

Agricultural Employment 7125

Extension
 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Assistant Agriculture Research Station Manager:
 Seasonal LTE position at the Langlade County Agriculture Research Station. Average 20-25 hours per week. \$15-19 per hour, dependent on qualifications. Assist with field operations, complete routine maintenance on farm equipment, assist researchers with potato plot establishment and operate various farm equipment. Knowledge of horticulture/agronomy, tractor operation, and some mechanical skills are preferred. Contact Station Manager, Niles Franc by email - nfranc@wisc.edu

Computers and Electronics 7216
 Switch and save up to \$250/yr on talk, text & data. No contract or hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time get \$50 off any new account. Use code GIFT50. 1-855-903-3048

Musical Instruments 7220
 !!OLD GUITARS WANTED!! GIBSON, FENDER, MARTIN, etc. 1930's to 1980's. TOP DOLLAR PAID. CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-433-8277

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg & Gibson Mandolins/Banjos. 844-262-6174 (WCAN)

Professional and Technical 7135
3 WEEKS NEW JOB! NEW CAREER - NEW YOU! Train with us for your CDL at **SCDTI 715-942-2700 ext 102**

Basic Lube/Tire/General Auto repair shop person needed. Experience preferred. Wages start at \$17.00 based on your level of ability/ attitude and desire to help us serve our customers. Uniforms, paid holidays, and use of shop tools. Is this more than you are making now? If you take pride in your work and have a valid current driver's license, please Call or Text me, and we can talk. 715-892-1971 Minocqua

OTR TRUCK DRIVERS FT/PT Fleet Dreams! Competitive wages & full benefits. Mileage, Drop pay, Paid weekly Home weekends, NO east/west coast, 28 central states. Van & Hopper Division. Agriculture experience a plus. Fox Valley company since 1958 Call Frank 920-788-6242 or 920-858-0238. Van Groll Trucking, Kaukauna

Skilled Trades 7175
Automotive Technician or General Mechanic. Are you making enough money now? How much more \$ do you want and what are the conditions you require to come and work for me repairing Automobiles and Light trucks? Stable work environment, no drama, normal benefits. I will pay extra for a sharp and solid work partner. Maybe flex hours for you? 4- 10 hr days? Call or Text me at 715-892-1971. Minocqua

Announcements 7005
 Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo.com/ads

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications review ads to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous people are ready to take your money! **PLEASE BE CAREFUL ANSWERING ANY AD THAT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!** For more information, or to file a complaint regarding an ad, please contact **The Department of Trade, Agriculture & Consumer Protection 1-800-422-7128 (WCAN)**

Miscellaneous Sales 7212
 Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-948-3442

Furniture and Home Decor 7236
PLYMOUTH FURNITURE: QUEEN MATTRESSES FROM \$199 40 Styles on Display! All Sizes Avail. PlymouthFurnitureWI.com 2133 Eastern Ave Plymouth WI 920-892-6006 Open Daily (WCAN)

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. **FREE** in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional Installation. Top Quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 877-544-2415 Ask about our specials! (WCAN)

Firewood 7244
DRY OAK & Hard Maple, \$250/cord. Over 15 mi is extra. Have hard wood in wood shed over a year old. Clean & no bark. 715-351-1888 or 715-873-4196.

Lawn and Garden 7250
2019 GRAVELY 460 ZERO-TURN MOWER W/BAGGER In Like New Condition. Reg. scheduled maintenance completed along with new oil filter, hydraulic fluid & filter change and new air filter. Ready to go for your mowing season! Located in FDL Co. \$9,500 **CALL TOM 920-979-3200 (WCAN)**

Sporting Goods 7260
 GUN SHOW: March 31, April 1 & 2, 2023, Antigo Ice Arena, 1633 Neva Road, Antigo, WI. Fri 3-8pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun 9am-3pm. \$8 (Under 14 FREE) Buy/Sell/Trade, 608-752-6677 www.bobandrocco.com

Guns 7264
 GUN SHOW MAR. 31, APR. 1 & 2 ANTIGO ICE ARENA FAIR-GROUNDS, Antigo, WI 608-752-6677, www.bobandrocco.com

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266
 DISH Network. \$59.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-866-290-9532

DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL? GET RESULTS! Affordable advertising that fits your budget! Reach OVER 300,000 homes! Place your ad in MANY weekly Wisconsin Shoppers & Buyers' Guide papers for as low as \$36.00 **Call today! Publishers Development Service, Inc. (PDS, Inc.) 1-800-236-0737 www.pdsadnet.com**

Notice of Spring Election and Sample Ballots (April 4, 2023)

OFFICE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RHINELANDER CLERK TO THE VOTERS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RHINELANDER

Notice is hereby given of a spring election to be held in the School District of Rhinelander on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at which the officers named below shall be chosen. The names of the candidates for each office to be voted for, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office, each in its proper column, together with the questions submitted to a vote, for a referendum, if any, in the sample ballot below.

Upon entering the polling place, a voter shall state his or her name and address, show an acceptable form of photo identification and sign the poll book before being permitted to vote. If a voter does not have acceptable photo identification the voter may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles. If a voter is not registered to vote, a voter may register to vote at the polling place serving his or her residence, if the voter presents proof of residence in a form specified by law. Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot. Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall retire alone to a voting booth and cast his or her ballot except that a voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward. An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote, but the official may not in any manner advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

Where Paper Ballots are Used

The voter shall make a mark (X) in the square next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall make a mark (X) in the square next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall make a mark (X) in the square next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using a *tactile ballot marking device (Vote-PAD)* to mark a paper ballot, the voter shall obtain from the inspectors, the assistive device and any audio or dexterity aids if required. The voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of a person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

Where Optical Scan Voting is Used

The voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using an *electronic ballot marking device ("Automark," "ExpressVote," "Clear Access" or "ImageCast Evolution-ICE")* to mark an **optical scan** ballot, the voter shall touch the screen at the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen at "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen at "no" if opposed to the question.

Where Touch Screen Voting is Used

The voter shall touch the screen at the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen at "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen at "no" if opposed to the question.

The vote should not be cast in any other manner. Not more than five minutes' time shall be allowed inside a voting booth. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the voter in casting his or her vote may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

Spoiled Ballot

If the voter spoils a paper or optical scan ballot, he or she shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official, who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

The voter may spoil a **touch screen** ballot at the voting station before the ballot is cast.

After Voting the Ballot

After an official paper ballot is marked, it shall be folded so the inside marks do not show, but so the printed endorsements and inspectors' initials on the outside do show. The voter shall leave the booth, deposit the ballot in the ballot box, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit, and shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official optical scan ballot is marked, it shall be inserted in the security sleeve, so the marks do not show. After casting his or her vote, the voter shall leave the booth, insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the voter shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official touch screen ballot is cast, the voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

A voter may select an individual to assist in casting his or her vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that he or she is unable to read, has difficulty reading, writing or understanding English or that due to disability is unable to cast his or her ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the voter.

Mary Peterson, Board of Education Clerk

The following is a facsimile of the official ballot:

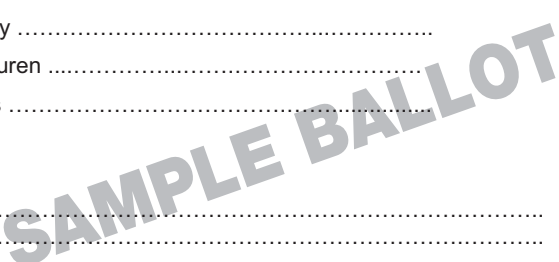
OFFICIAL SCHOOL BOARD BALLOT

NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY 2 ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR THE DEPUTY CLERK.

To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, make a cross (X) in the square at the RIGHT of the name of the person for whom you desire to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, write the name in the blank space provided for that purpose.

School Board Member	Vote For Not More Than Three
Duane J. Frey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Merlin Van Buren	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Roberts	<input type="checkbox"/>

Write-In:



Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266
LONG DISTANCE MOVING Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers.

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options

PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely & affordably. Pest, rodent, termite & mosquito control.

SWITCH & SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text & data. No contract & no hidden fees.

UP TO \$15,000 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions.

VIVINT. SMART SECURITY, PROFESSIONALLY INSTALLED One connected system for total peace of mind.

Dogs 7272
AIREDALE TERRIER PUPPIES & SHEEPADOODLE PUPPIES Ready to Go \$500 715-921-9708

AKC BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG PUPPIES shots, dewormed, vet checked \$1200 715-383-9776

AKC GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS shots/dews/wormed/Vet \$500-\$700 715-255-2661 (269146)

AKC REG. COCKER SPANIEL PUPS Big Litters! 1/2 PRICE! 2-M, 5-F shots & wormed 920-563-3410 mornings#(268588) (WCAN)

AKC SHAR-PEI lifetime home F, must have dog door & fenced yard Free 715-610-3955

AMERICAN ESKIMO RAT TERRIER SHIBA MIX PUPPIES: M-\$250, F-\$300 715-223-0782

Are you a pet owner? Do you want to get up to 100% back on vet bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help!

ARE YOU A PET OWNER? Do you want to get up to 100% back on Vet Bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help!

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD & AUSSIEDOODLE PUPPIES 1 yr. Health guar shots/vet check \$100 715-754-2682 (513867)

BERNEODOODLE/AUSSIE MTN DOODLE/BERNESE MTN puppies: Ready to go Apr 13 & May 3 shots/worm/vet \$1,800-\$2,200.

BOSTON TERRIER PUPPIES shots & wormed, ready now! \$375 715-921-9708

English Springer Spaniel liver & white Female 11 months \$650 715-257-1360

GOLDENDOODLES & RED AUSSIE DOODLE, vac/worm/dews Family Raised \$400 715-721-0246

MINI BERNEODOODLES & GOLD-ENDOODLE PUPS, Health Cert & vet chkd \$895 715-409-0533

PUREBRED BOXER PUPS Fawn colored Shots UTD Ready Now! \$650 715-823-2147

PUREBRED GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS 2-M, 2-F \$600 15 wks old, shots/wormed 715-255-2536

Dogs 7272
PUREBRED GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES Shots wormed vet checked \$350 CASH ONLY Greenwood, WI 715-267-6306

Purebred Rottweiler Puppies, male & female. Ready April 18, dewes/1st shots/vet checked. \$900 920-960-2618

REG MINI POODLES shots/worm/vet apricot & red M-\$375 F-\$400 715-669-3607 (268475-DS)

TEDDY BEAR PUPPIES 6 wks old vet checked UTD shots \$1000-\$1200 715-703-8981

WHITE GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES Vac/dewormed \$550 W229 Granton Rd. Chili WI 54420

Miscellaneous Pet 7278
FREE PET FOOD- Having financial difficulty? Paws 2 Think can help. Call Sunnie 715-612-5866

Livestock 7284
GRASS FED BEEF 1/4, 1/2 & whole, \$4.95/lb incl processing November 715-250-2793

HOME RAISED BEEF No implants, Selling Quarters or Whole 715-470-0458 Abbottsford

Farm Equipment 7286
WANTED TO BUY: Small farm to start farming & the full line of farm Equipment 715-660-9068 (WCAN)

Agriculture Services 7292
Hand Crafted Garden & Storage Sheds, Garages & Cabins. Many Styles and Options.

Vacation For Rent 7421
WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019.

Campers and Motorhomes 7526
Dutchmen Travel Trl. 1994 34 Ft.: One slide out. Used as summer cottage. Turn key ready. \$1,000 must sell, lost site. 715-356-9215 or 715-614-0841.

SUVs 7544
PARK CITY CREDIT UNION - MERRILL FORD ESCAPE COLOR: GRAY MILEAGE: 169,000 VIN# 1FMCU9D77AKB94864 MINIMUM BID \$1,000 OR BEST OFFER DOES NOT RUN Please contact Trish @ 715-536-8351 Ext. 4233

Trucks 7546
2015 FORD F150 crew cab, 20,000 miles, \$28,000. Located in Wausau. Also listed on FB Marketplace w/photos. 715-298-3288

Vehicles Wanted 7554
Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

Miscellaneous Transportation 7574
DONATE YOUR CAR or TRUCK to HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3-Day Vacation. Tax Deductible. Free Towing. All paperwork taken care of! CALL 844-374-3067 (WCAN)

YOUR CAR, BOAT OR MOTOR-CYCLE helps Rawhide provide mental health services that redirect local Wisconsin youth & adults from harmful decisions. Donate Today! 888-653-2729 (WCAN)

Money to Lend 7300
Inflation is at 40 year highs. Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have \$10k or more in debt? Call National Debt Relief to find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! Free quote: 1-877-592-3616

Insurance 7308
Dental insurance - Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Covers 350 procedures. Real insurance - not a discount plan. Get your free dental info kit! 1-855-526-1060 www.dental50plus.com/ads #6258

Health Care Services 7310
Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

DENTAL INSURANCE. From Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for (350+) procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Don't Wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 855-807-9516 www.dental50plus.com/wicommunity #6258 (WCAN)

MobileHelp, America's Premier Mobile Medical Alert System. Whether you're home or away, for safety and peace of mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-855-491-0732 (WCAN)

MobileHelp, America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! 1-888-489-3936

CALL TODAY TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD! 715-453-2151

Health Care Services 7310
STROKE & CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death, according to the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION. Screening can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149! Call 1-888-675-5048 (WCAN)

Internet 7318
CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS home internet with Earth-Link. Enjoy speeds from 5G & 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, & data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-223-7265 (WCAN)

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & Handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-454-6827 (WCAN)

Free high speed internet if qualified. Govt. pgm for recipients of select pgms incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet. Android tablet free w/one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping. Call Maxsip Telecom! 1-833-758-3892

HughesNet - Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just \$59.99/mo! Unlimited Data is Here. Stream Video. Bundle TV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 866-499-0141

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TOWN OF ROCK FALLS NOTICE OF OPEN BOOK & MEETING OF BOARD REVIEW.

Open Book: pursuant to Sec. 70.45 Wis. Statutes the assessment role for 2021 will be open for examination. Open book will be held for interested property owners on Monday April 17, 2023 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Town Hall in Rock Falls W5895 Rock Falls Dr Irma, WI 54442

Official Ballot Nonpartisan Office and Referendum April 4, 2023. Notice to voters: If you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initiated by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initiated by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (see end of ballot for initials).

BEARS
FROM PAGE 9

event, to help. Together, we got the cub off my neck and swaddled against her chest so that he was comfortable enough to stay put—although the little guy whined the entire time. Later, we discovered he was the runt of the litter at only 3.4 pounds to his brothers' 4. They've likely quadrupled in size since birth just over a month ago.

A few minutes later, someone shared their cub with me. Paul Smith, a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel outdoor writer who has been covering this project for 30 years, helped me get the cub settled comfortably and remarked on just how perfect the little ones are. Paul will be writing about the 45-year history of this long-term research project.

Taking off a mitten, I reveled in the softness and warmth of this tiny wild creature, and soon he became so quiet that I'm pretty sure he was sleeping. I felt honored by his trust. Despite bears' excellent sense of smell, there's no evidence that a mama bear will abandon her cubs if she catches a whiff of human. And despite rumors of animal babies being scentless, this cub had plenty of his own odor.

Disrupting a den like this is undoubtedly stressful for both mother and cubs, which is why protocols and safety measures are in place. But in the 45 years that the Wisconsin Black Bear Project has been collecting data and handling cubs,



Abby weighs a black bear cub. The cub is placed in stocking hat to keep him warm during the process. Photo by Emily Stone

the impacts have been found to be minimal. And the data gathered has proven essential for learning about and managing black bears in Wisconsin, and training students in wildlife research.

After a few minutes, Abby and a volunteer weighed each of the cubs by placing them into a cozy stocking hat and attaching a spring scale through the knit. They were sexed (all boys) and students held a

ruler up to the hair between their ears—a proxy for age. Then a wildlife biologist collected nasal and blood samples to screen for wildlife diseases.

Meanwhile, back at the den, students and professionals struggled to get the limp, heavy female out of the ground. The entrance, tucked under the roots of a spruce tree, proved too narrow. She couldn't be weighed or fully measured. With just her head out, they checked her collar, took vitals, and collected a tooth. Bear teeth record growth rings just like a tree. A cross section can tell researchers her age, and even record the years she gave birth and had less calcium to spare.

At the end of the day, the cubs were safely returned to the den with a drowsy mother, and the den entrance covered with balsam boughs. Researchers packed up samples and data for analyzing in the lab.

"It didn't go the way we thought it would go," said Dr. Sartini as we stuffed gear into vehicles, "but it went just fine. So many of the skills the students gain here will be transferable. Risk management, teamwork, and planning are useful for studying other wildlife and doing

any kind of science." John Tracey, the wildlife vet in charge of anesthetizing the bear, agreed, "As much as you want an event you're running to go smoothly, it's also beneficial for the students to see curveballs and challenges come up and get dealt with calmly."

Researchers are always looking for new bears to add to the UWSP Wisconsin Black Bear Project, so if you know of a bear den in Ashland, Bayfield, Price, or Sawyer Counties, you can contact Dr. Sartini directly at csartini@uwsp.edu. Dens outside this area can be reported to your nearest DNR office for their statewide research project.

Emily's award-winning second book, *Natural Connections: Dreaming of an Elf in Skimmer*, is now available to purchase at www.cablemuseum.org/books and at your local independent bookstore, too.

For more than 50 years, the Cable Natural History Museum has served to connect you to the Northwoods. Our Growing Up WILD exhibit will close on March 15, and The Northwoods ROCKS will open on May 2, 2023. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and www.cablemuseum.org to see what we are up to.

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 123

The Tomahawk Leader will feature one local sports trivia question per week, provided by Bob Skubal, retired coach, historian, and author of "History of Tomahawk Sports." Email leadernews@mmclocal.com if you know the answer!

The first person to tell us the correct answer each week will have their name published in the paper if they wish, along with their correct answer to the question.

Week 122 question: Something was unusual about the 1965-1966 season basketball game with Mosinee. Was it

the number of fouls, players scoring in the opponent's basket or ending the game with only four players for each team?

Week 122 answer: In the 1965-1966 basketball season, THS defeated Mosinee 78-57. The game saw 60 team fouls called.

Congrats to Don Stelter for being the first to correctly answer last week's question!

Week 123 question: Who was the first State qualifier for Tomahawk in wrestling: Dick Thompson, Jeff Theiler or Don Mueller?

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

God: A Cautionary Tale

Dear Reader,

Pretend for a moment that you are God. You just created the universe. You finished the job by creating planet earth. You have a vision of how the universe and planet earth will develop. You know the universe will be fine because it runs on God-inspired engineering. But you also know things will get complicated because your plan includes the appearance, decisions, and actions of humans.

Fast forward – you're still God and now you're reviewing your handiwork. You're feeling... hmmm. The universe is running just as you planned, everything is revolving and turning the way as scheduled and designated. But when you check



the progress on earth, you start to wonder. What the heck is going on?

A few want to control the majority of their fellows. That's not right. A few have amassed wealth far beyond their needs while others are homeless and starving. That's not right either. And a few get upset to the point of violence and use machines and tools to kill

others who stand in their way. That really, really is not right.

You're still God, so what would you do? Maybe let it all alone, knowing that the universe will keep spinning? Maybe not even lift a finger to intervene on earth, thinking that your creations will figure out how to love one another? Maybe have faith in them, in their ultimate goodness, and believe that their true nature will overcome the propensity to evil?

I'd like to think that He thinks that way – and that He's right.

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher
Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"

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