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Tomahawk businesses, volunteer recognized at Wisconsin Main Street Awards

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK - Two downtown Tomahawk businesses and one volunteer were recognized during the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)'s 32nd annual Wisconsin Main Street Awards ceremony, held in La Crosse on Friday, April 21.

A release from WEDC said 2022's best downtown revitalization projects were in the spotlight, including business and community development initiatives, historic preservation, community celebration and revitalization success stories from communities across Wisconsin.

Tomahawk's winners were nominated by Tomahawk Main Street Inc. Executive Director Jennifer Turkiewicz and Main Street Treasurer and board member Paula Blom.

Steve and Donna Ahlgrim, owners of Sideways Wine and Craft Beer, 124 W. Wisconsin Ave., received an award for the Best Façade Rehabilitation Under \$20,000.00.

Turkiewicz explained that nominated façades enhanced their respective commercial districts in appearance or function and encouraged further design improvements, which could include storefront renovation, upper floor renovation or both.

"When we lost our surplus store, we weren't sure what was going to happen," Sideways' nomination entry stated. "What would become of the beloved store? A fantastic new business that revamped the old and



Sideways Wine and Craft Beer received an award for the Best Façade Rehabilitation Under \$20,000.00.
Photo courtesy of Sideways Wine and Craft Beer

created a new, gorgeous, family-like friendly atmosphere in a redesigned world of handcrafted cocktails and craft beers and wines, as well as tasty dishes from around the world!"

"As visitors can attest, Steve and Donna nailed it," Turkiewicz said.

Michelle Arnott, owner of Diamond Rock Glass Studio, 12 W. Wisconsin Ave., took home the Best Storefront Display award, which recognizes an outstanding business, vacant space or other storefront display.

Turkiewicz said nominated displays promoted the business's offerings, attracted attention and were seasonal or changeable in nature.

"Diamond Rock Glass Studio offers in-studio classes, virtual learning and take-home kits so you can do this very rewarding and fun hobby anywhere,

as well as an assortment of stained glass and supplies," Diamond Rock's nomination entry stated. "Topped off with ever-changing displays highlighting the owner and students' creativity, talent and creativity are always noticed, and there is always something new to see. Why, you can even purchase many of the works of art to take home to decorate and create a colorful world!"

"Hands down, Michelle's studio is a work of art for all to enjoy," Turkiewicz said. "As anyone who comes to town can attest, Michelle's storybook scenes definitely attract attention."

Pat McLain of Tomahawk and ten other individuals were named 2022 Wisconsin Main Street Volunteers of the Year.

The award honors volunteers who contributed the most to their respec-



Diamond Rock Glass Studio took home the Best Storefront Display award.
Photo courtesy of Jennifer Turkiewicz



Pictured, from left: Paula Blom, Jennifer Turkiewicz, Steve Ahlgrim, Donna Ahlgrim, Rick Alger, Pat McLain, Michelle Arnott and Brian Arnott.
Photo by Dylan Overhouse

tive Main Street programs throughout the year.

"Pat McLain is a true inspiration, volunteering with Tomahawk Main

Street since 2012, and she is always willing to lend a helping hand with whatever we ask of her," Turkiewicz stated. "Deco-

rating, handing out candy, bag stuffing, visiting and welcoming folks at events,

Awards
CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

Following potential threat in email to student, TPD determines no danger, regular school day held

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK - Following a potential threat sent via email to a School District of Tomahawk student last week, the Tomahawk Police Department (TPD) determined that students and staff were not in danger, and regular classes were held the next day.

According to an update sent to district families and staff on the evening of Monday, April 24, the district that afternoon had been made aware of an email sent to a student that contained a "potential threat of violence to

be carried out on school grounds."

The district did not disclose who sent the email, but said TPD made contact with the sender on Monday April 24, shortly after being notified of the email by the district. After TPD determined that students and staff were not in danger, a regularly-scheduled school day remained on the calendar for Tuesday, April 25.

"We wanted to take this opportunity to inform you of the situation and assure you that there is no higher priority than the safety of our students and staff," the district stated in the update, noting that

it was "satisfied" with TPD's conclusions that students and staff were not endangered.

Counselors were made available to students on Tuesday, April 25.

District Administrator Wendell Quesinberry said the district requested an additional police presence to cover drop-off and pick-up times on Tuesday, April 25, "but that was strictly precautionary."

"Anytime our students, staff, families and/or community members hear something, they should report it immediately to either authorities or school officials," Quesinberry stated. "This is an

incredibly vital step in keeping our schools safe."

Quesinberry added that the district also utilizes Speak Up, Speak Out Wisconsin, a resource created by the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of School Safety (OSS) that offers a Threat Reporting System, Threat Assessment Consultation, Critical Incident Response and General School Safety Guidance.

The district's website features a link to Speak Up, Speak Out Wisconsin for those who would like to anonymously report a tip, Quesinberry noted.

"At the end of the day, maintaining strong rela-

tionships with our community, and especially local law enforcement agencies, is crucial to our ability to maintain a safe environment at school," Quesinberry stated.

To learn more about Speak Up, Speak Out Wis-

consin, visit www.speak-up.widog.gov/.

To access the Speak Up, Speak Out Wisconsin link on the district's website, visit www.tomahawk.k12.wi.us/ and select the "Families" dropdown tab.

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NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
May 4th @ 10:30am
Toddler/Washington Park

New Location!
All Welcome!

THE COMMUNITY PROJECT

Tomahawk nonprofit works to lend a hand to businesses, individuals in need

BY SARAH GREIL

TOMAHAWK – Non-profit organizations can be great support systems for communities. However, so many nonprofits are limited to their specialty in what they can do to help.

A fairly new nonprofit in Tomahawk prides itself in finding solutions for individuals and small businesses in need.

Jennifer Van Rixel and Julie Thompson are the cofounders of The Community Project (TCP). TCP's sole purpose is "giving back to the community and assisting those who are in need, or just need the assurance that dreams can come true."

Thompson says they both have a true passion for helping others and making the community of Tomahawk a really great place to live.

The Community Project consists of two main programs: "Making Dreams a Reality" and "Future Entrepreneurs."

TCP said the Making Dreams a Reality Program has been created to "aid the underprivileged/struggling members of our commu-



nity."

"This will consist of giving children without opportunities the 'extras' in life and helping families with necessities," TCP's website states. "Youth from low-income homes will have the opportunity to experience extracurricular activities such as dance classes, music lessons, and sports."

"We are a hand-up, not a hand-out, nonprofit," Van Rixel said. "Everybody can

be down on their luck at any given point, but to just take that and sit there is not what we want. We want you to strive to get back on your feet."

Van Rixel further explained that they will work with individuals or programs to help where the need is, but in return they would want to see them sign up to volunteer with some of their events to assist others. They don't just



TCP organized a Community Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 22. Thompson and Van Rixel plan to make this a yearly event on Earth Day.

give hand-outs, they help people figure out how to be able to afford things on their own next year.

If an individual needs work, they will refer them to Allegiance Employment, owned by Thompson, and provide job opportunities.

"We purposely left TCP big because we don't ever want to say no," Thompson stated, adding that if someone comes in with a problem that TCP can't fix, they will refer them to another nonprofit organization which they know can help.

TCP works closely with the Tomahawk School District nurse and counselors, as well as Kinship and others to identify families who may need help.

Nonprofit
CONTINUES ON PAGE 3

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
TCB Mutual Holding Company

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of members of TCB Mutual Holding Company (the "Company") will be held in the Crossbridge Community Bank Professional Center Community Room located at 15 East Wisconsin Avenue, Tomahawk, Wisconsin, 54487, Entrance #1, at 5:45 P.M. on Monday, May 15, 2023. The matters to be considered at the meeting include election of directors and an amendment to the Company's corporate documents to change the Company's name.

AWARDS
FROM PAGE 1

Pat does it all, and with a huge smile on her face and friendly attitude of can-do!" Turkiewicz added that McLain also helped organize many inaugural events and was an initial founder of the basket donors and memorial benches displayed downtown. "Her creativity helps set our downtown apart as a beautiful destination to enjoy," Turkiewicz said.

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LINCOLN COUNTY SPORTS CLUB

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May 20, 2023 from 11:00am – 4:00pm
(Raffle Drawings start at 2:30pm)
Located at the Club – W5071 SCHULZ SPUR DR
EVERYONE IS WELCOME – NO CHARGE TO ATTEND
FOOD, BEVERAGES & MUSIC ALL DAY

Over 50 general raffle packages totaling over \$15,000 in prizes to be won!
General Raffle packages include \$5000 in Cimino's Gift Cards, \$500 in Fleet Farm Gift Cards, 3 Meat Raffles, \$200 Dining Packages, Booze Raffle, \$250 Kwik Trip Package and much more!
Special DAY OF THE EVENT Raffles, which will be available only at the Fundraiser/Open House on May 20, include a Gun Safe, Recliner (Courtside), Entertainment Center (Miller's), \$500 package from Foleys Tree Service, 12ga Shotgun + Ammo, 50/50 Cash raffles, Power House Choice of One and more.

Kids Events with Door Prizes & Kids Raffles
(Crosman Air Power Rifle + Ammo, Crosman Dual Ammo Revolver BB's & Pellets and more).

GENERAL RAFFLE TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT SEVERAL LOCAL BUSINESSES IN TOMAHAWK
(Tomahawk Furniture, Twin Bay Resort & Pizza, Road Lake Pub, NAPA), **MERRILL** (PowerHouse Lawn & Leisure, Cimino's Gun & Archery, Jokin Joes, NAPA, Leroy's Barber Shop), **IRMA** (JEBs Bar & Grill) & **GLEASON** (Gleason Bowling Center, Z's Fork Homers). Tickets will also be on sale at the Fundraiser/Open House on May 20. Don't miss your opportunity for a chance to win one of these wonderful prize packages!

12 Non-Profit organizations will be at the Fundraiser/Open House to discuss their organizations, answer questions along with special giveaways.
AAW will be demonstrating their All-Terrain Wheelchairs – take one for a spin!
Erv's Sales & Service will be demonstrating their ATV/UTV's
Blades & Boards will have an Axe Throwing area – come give it a try!
Adult Shooting Contest on the new ranges (guns & ammo provided)
Kids will have an opportunity to try archery with 3-D targets, fish and shoot balloons for door prizes.

For details on prize packages, ticket prices, where to purchase tickets and general information about the club and the fundraiser/open house, visit the LCSC website at lcscsportsclub.com
We hope everyone will join us in supporting the club and our community.

About Wisconsin Main Street

Wisconsin Main Street is a community development program administered by WEDC that targets Wisconsin's historic commercial districts. WEDC said it provides technical support and training to the 34 Main Street communities to assist in reinvigorating their business districts based on guidelines developed by the National Main Street Center. Since the program's inception in 1987, Wisconsin Main Street community projects have resulted in the creation of more than 3,200 new businesses and nearly 16,500 net new jobs. In addition, over \$2.1 billion in private investment has occurred in Wisconsin Main Street communities, according to WEDC. During fiscal year 2022, Wisconsin Main Street communities added 215 new businesses and 647 net new jobs. "None of this activity would be possible without the nearly 33,000 volunteer hours that were dedicated to the Main Street effort by passionate individuals from around the state," WEDC stated.

ROUTE INFO

LOCATION	CITY	PICKUP	RETURN
BP/McDonalds	Tomahawk	11:30am	5:30pm

HO-CHUNK GAMING
WITTENBERG

NONPROFIT
FROM PAGE 2

The Future Entrepreneurs Program has been created to "help people of all ages learn the ins and outs of running a business; and then helping them launch their business and become their own boss," according to TCP.

This program helps individuals where they are in their business venture. For instance, if they are up and running, but need help with marketing, they'll be given help in that respect. For those who get help for their business, once it is up and running and turns a profit, they are asked to return a small percentage of their profits to TCP as well as to another nonprofit organization of their choice.

Even while TCP itself is in the young stages of operation, Thompson and Van Rixel have dreams to make it even bigger. They will soon be opening up as Essentials Pantry, providing non-food items for families who cannot afford them at this time. For a list of items needed for the Essentials Pantry, visit The Community Project on Facebook at www.bit.ly/445KDLN.

As one of their efforts to give back to the community of Tomahawk, TCP organized a Community Clean Up Day. Sponsored by Republic Services (formerly Eagle Waste), Woodland Lakes Realty and Allegiance Employment, on Saturday, April 22, around 25 volunteers chose a designated zone around Tomahawk and spent a couple hours picking up trash. Thompson and Van Rixel plan to make this a yearly event on Earth Day.

Other planned events include a cornhole tournament in August and a bowling tournament in October. Half of the proceeds from the cornhole tournament will benefit the Tomahawk High School Athletics Department. The beneficiary of the bowling tournament has not yet been specified.

There are also plans for an art event in November to



Photos courtesy of TCP

benefit the Essentials Pantry. They would like to make these events yearly, benefiting various areas of need in the community.

To find out more about

these future events or to discover ways you can volunteer or donate, visit The Community Project on Facebook or www.thecommunityproject.community.

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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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LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

As reported by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Wednesday, April 26:

A Merrill man, 64, was injured during a one-vehicle crash in the Town of King on the evening of Wednesday, April 19. A preliminary investigation indicated the vehicle the man was driving was eastbound on County Rd. D when it lost control, crossed the centerline, entered the ditch and struck a tree. The man was later transported by Tomahawk Ambulance to Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital.

A Merrill woman, 28, and her two passengers avoided injury following a one-vehicle crash Wednesday morning in the Town of Scott. A preliminary investigation indicated the vehicle the woman was operating was southbound on County Rd. Q when the vehicle met some slush, which was in the roadway. This caused the vehicle to cross the lane of oncoming traffic, enter the ditch and strike a tree head-on.

A Merrill woman, 81, sustained minor injury following a two-vehicle crash earlier Wednesday morning in the Town of Pine River. A preliminary investigation indicated the vehicle the woman was operating was northbound on County Rd. W when it collided with southbound vehicle driven by a Wausau man, 27. The woman was later transported by Merrill Fire Department Ambulance to Aspirus Merrill Hospital.

A Tomahawk woman, 34, was taken into custody in the early morning hours of Monday, April 17. A deputy on patrol discovered the woman's vehicle in a ditch on US Hwy. 51 near mile marker 207. During a preliminary investigation, the deputy noted signs indicative of impairment about the woman's person. As a result, the woman was taken into custody and transported to the Lincoln County Jail on charges of 2nd offense operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, operating after revocation and bail jumping.

Three motorists reported striking deer last week, down from 11 the week before.

Monthly COVID-19 Booster Vaccine Clinics

Pfizer bivalent booster vaccine available at no cost for individuals 12 years and older.

2nd Wednesday of the month, 12 - 1 pm
3rd Wednesday of the month, 2:45 - 3:45 pm

Lincoln County Health Dept.
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Board of Public Works mulls solutions for deteriorating Lincoln Ave. culvert

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – The City of Tomahawk Board of Public Works recently discussed several solutions regarding a deteriorating culvert on Lincoln Ave., behind Pride Park.

In a handout provided during the board's meeting at City Hall on Tuesday, April 25, Street Department Leadperson Nick Rosenmeier said he discovered several new holes in the asphalt above the culvert on Friday, April 14.

Rosenmeier explained

that upon further inspection, city employees found hollow areas under the pavement and decided to close that lane of traffic.

After peeling off the top layer of asphalt on Monday, April 24, it was determined that the washout was happening along the side of the culvert, rather than due to holes on the top of the culvert.

"Basically, the bottom of the culvert is rotted out and is eroding the gravel under the road from the bottom up," Rosenmeier stated. "This has been an ongoing issue for the last several years, and the road has been slowly sink-



The location of the deteriorating culvert on Lincoln Ave., behind Pride Park. Photo by Jalen Maki

ing around the culvert, making the road rough." For the time being, Rosenmeier said, city employees compacted gravel around the culvert and opened the road back up. "The question now is

what to do about it going forward," he stated.

Rosenmeier suggested two options the city could potentially proceed with.

The first option involves repaving the area and "(hoping) it lasts sev-

eral more years."

"This would be the least expensive fix and can be done in the next month or so, depending on when (Lincoln County) can get here with their paver," Rosenmeier said, explaining that the project would entail a 90-foot patch starting at the new pavement from 9th St. and extending east toward Tomahawk Child Care.

Rosenmeier estimated that the project would cost roughly \$7,000.00.

"The downside to this repair is that it is temporary," he noted. "There is no guarantee how long it will last because the water flowing through the culvert is constant, and

the erosion will continue." The second option would see the culvert replaced and the road repaved.

Rosenmeier said a plastic culvert could be utilized, but he cautioned that it could heave over time and become a problem again "in the not-so-distant future."

He called the use of a plastic culvert a "temporary fix with no guarantee."

A plastic culvert would carry a \$5,500.00 price tag, along with additional costs associated with end walls, anchoring materials, delivery, riprap, erosion control, pipe bedding and permitting with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), according to Rosenmeier.

Rosenmeier opined that the "best, long-term solution to the problem" would be to have a contractor install a concrete pipe, which would cost a total of roughly \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00.

After discussion, the board ultimately agreed with Rosenmeier, determining that the ideal option would be to move forward with the installation of a concrete pipe.

The city is expected to explore including the Lincoln Ave. work in a bid for a planned 6th St. project.

OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at www.tomahawkleader.com



Rebecca A. Gall, 79, Tomahawk, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, April 28, and now joins her husband Don, her parents, brother Allan, three stepchildren; Sue, Kevin and Liz with son-in-law Bob, along with other loved ones, leaving her family with a lifetime of joyful memories. Becky was born in Dawson, Minn., and grew up in Benson, Minn., (Class of '61) with loving parents Oscar and Alyce (Lee) Helgeson. Becky spent her early career in Minneapolis, Minn., and met Don there when he was traveling for business. At the age of 23 she became stepmother to a family of nine children and moved to Cedarburg, Wis. Don and Becky wanted to leave the "fast paced" life in Cedarburg and found Tomahawk as their forever home. Having 23 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, Becky was counted on to remind you just how old you are each year and did not let you miss anniversary dates. She was an avid GB Packer fan, (naming her beloved canine companion "Packer") and watched the draft in the hours preceding her passing. Becky loved animals and had volunteered at the Tomahawk dog park.

Becky is survived by stepchildren: Kathy (Paul) Wanat, Tim (Jackie) Gall, Rick Gall, Cindy (Art) Taylor, Lori (Rich) Scheuermann and Don (Rada) Gall. Becky is further survived by two bonded sisters, Sharyl Helgeson and Laur'ae (Jerry) Butler, and their families. She will also be missed by extended family and friends, including Curt, Jason, Ruby and Mark.

The family will greet relatives and friends on Saturday May 6 at 12 noon for a graveside burial at Greenwood Cemetery on Hagar Rd. in Tomahawk. Please join us for lunch immediately following at 607 N. 4th St., Tomahawk.

Krueger Family Funeral Home, Tomahawk, is assisting the family with arrangements. You may view the obituary and share online condolences at www.kruegerfamilyfuneral.com. In lieu of flowers, memorials to your favorite animal charity would be a great remembrance of Becky.



Jerry P. Flynn, 87, Belliveau Road, Tomahawk, passed away Saturday, April 29, 2023 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Jerry was born Oct. 26, 1935 in Eau Claire, Wis., to Leon and Gladys (Olinger) Flynn. Jerry fell in love with Mitzi Kopelke and they were married on May 7, 1960. He served his country in the U.S. Army and Army National Guard. He was employed at the Tomahawk paper mill for over 30 years. Being a jack of all trades he was always willing to help others with projects. He was a devout Christian and member of St. Mary Catholic Church. He was an avid sportsman and especially loved hunting and fishing. He was an accomplished athlete in his younger years and truly enjoyed watching his family in all their sporting events. He also enjoyed watching the Packers, Badgers, and Brewers. Jerry was a humble family man and a very devoted spouse to Mitzi.

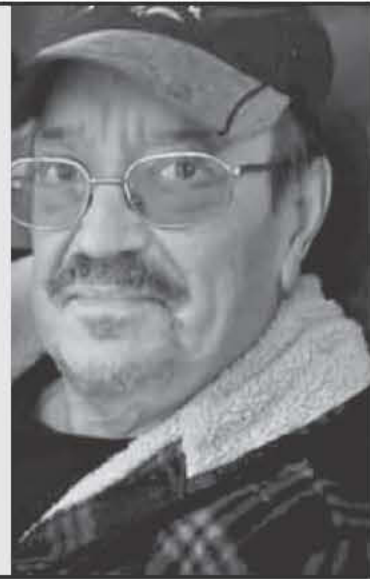
Surviving Jerry Flynn are his children, Pat (Paula) Flynn, Mary (Dave) Miller, and Brian (Wendy) Flynn, all of Tomahawk; brother, Ron (Carol) Flynn, Chetek; sister-in-law, Audrey Flynn, Eau Claire. He is further survived by seven grandchildren, Ryan (Jenna) Flynn, Andrew (Stephanie) Flynn, Kellan (Brenden Kotyk) Flynn, Nikolene (Brandon) Johnson, Thomas Miller, Jerett Flynn, and Cullen Flynn, and four great-grandchildren. Jerry was preceded in death by his wife, Mitzi, sister, Bev Brainard, and a brother, John Flynn. A Memorial Mass for Jerry Flynn will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2023, 11 a.m. from St. Mary Catholic Church. The family will receive friends at St. Mary Church from 9 a.m. until the time of mass at 11 a.m.

The Krueger Family Funeral Home, Tomahawk, is assisting the family with arrangements. You may view the obituary and share online condolences at www.kruegerfamilyfuneral.com.

The Flynn family wishes to extend their most sincere appreciation to Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice for their help in caring for Jerry.

THIS IS THE PARTY HE WOULD HAVE PLANNED. LET'S CELEBRATE JEFF'S LIFE THE WAY HE WOULD HAVE WANTED.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JEFF STRASSMAN
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023 • 1-4PM
BRADLEY PARK
TOMAHAWK, WI 54487



Julie Montabon, 76, died April 15, 2023. Julie was born February 15, 1947 in Tomahawk, WI, to Ruth (Kuntz) and Lloyd Bishop. She graduated from Tomahawk High School in 1965 and later attended the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. At a summer party in her hometown, she caught the eye of Dennis Montabon. They fell in love, married in 1967, and spent the rest of their lives together. Dennis and Julie were married for over 54 years and had three children: Frank (Sheryl Montabon), Tony (Jani Jensen), and Sara (Rudi Rughoonundon).

Julie loved and cherished many things. She had a sense of adventure and saw the world through her work at Goli's Avenues of Travel. She led countless group trips to destinations around the globe, including a visit to the Vatican to meet Pope Saint John Paul II. Julie and Dennis loved travelling together including an unforgettable trip on the Windstar cruise ship from the French to the Italian Riviera. When not traveling she loved working in her immaculate gardens that surrounded the house at 15th & State.

Julie loved all holidays, especially Christmas. She had decorations for every season. She spent days perfecting the setup of her miniature Christmas village and every ornament on her tree held a memory. Long after her children were adults, she continued to fill their Christmas stockings with a fresh pair of pajamas and chocolates from Santa. She never missed midnight mass on Christmas Eve, and although she was not known for being an early riser, she made an exception for opening presents on Christmas Day.

Julie loved her community. La Crosse became her home in 1976 and she built a rich life there. People she met in the Newcomer's Club became lifelong friends and chosen family for almost five decades. She was an active member of the Cathedral and Newman Center parishes. She volunteered with many organizations, including Causeway Caregivers. She loved to entertain and the yearly Montabon Oktoberfest parties were the stuff of legend.

Julie loved her family more than anything else. She loved being a Wife, Mom and then Grandmother to Vincent, Lillian, Maxwell and Beatrix. She would host tea parties for toddler grandchildren and politely sip juice from a tiny cup, wearing a feather boa or fancy hat. She plastered her refrigerator with their artwork and cards, shared photos or anecdotes about her grandchildren with friends and strangers, and generally reveled in the role of Grandma Julie. Julie is survived by her children and grandchildren, as well as her much, much older brother, Lloyd (Carolyn) Bishop. (Nota bene: Julie would be furious if the sibling age discrepancy was not mentioned). She is preceded in death by her loving husband, Dennis, and her parents.

The family would like to thank all of the dedicated people at Mayo Hospice and Good People who helped with her wish to live out her life at home.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that memorials be sent to Causeway Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers and Roncalli Newman Catholic Church of La Crosse.



Joseph J. Slaga Jr., age 82, of Tomahawk, passed away on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, under the care of his family and Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice. Joe was born in Chicago, Ill., on Jan. 28, 1941, to the late Joseph and Harriet (Townsend) Slaga. Joe's parents moved to Tomahawk shortly after his birth. He grew up in the rough-and-rowdy neighborhood of Frenchtown where he enjoyed shooting his slingshot and running amok with his siblings, Franny, Patty, and Putzer.

In 1960, while driving around Lincoln County in his friend's car (probably out cruising for chicks), Joe caught the attention of a pretty girl from Merrill named Harriet Hanson. Before she could catch on to his wily ways, Joe quickly "put a ring on it" which, confusingly, made them the second couple by the name of Joe and Harriet Slaga in Tomahawk. That was not the only way that Joe followed in his parent's footsteps: He and Harriet, much like their namesakes, had four children (Lorrie, Lynn, Lisa, and Joseph "Pete") and happily made a loving home in the beautiful Northwoods.

Joe was a great friend to his coworkers at the respective paper mills of PCA, Owens-Illinois, and Georgia-Pacific where he worked for a combined 48 years. He was quick with a joke and often brought his work home—in the form of overbuilt gun cabinets, toy boxes, and pilfered tools. And, no, his family will not be returning any of these Joe-crafted "heirlooms" to either of the local mills—mostly, because they are too heavy to move.

Outside of his career, Joe enjoyed his time in the outdoors, both fishing and hunting. He was a very proud winner of many Musky fishing tournaments and was well-renowned as the camp cook, cribbage champion, and loudest snorer at his favorite deer camp in Minong, Wis. He also was a big fan of sports: the Brewers, Badgers, Colts, and whomever his grandkids were playing for at the time.

"Grandpa Joe" was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather who will always be remembered for his nicknames, silly sayings, "Polish" choices in color (he had a neon green mailbox), open-mouthed naps in his chair, and the world's best hugs. Everyone who had the honor of loving him knows that he was "finer than frog's hair" and that he will be greatly missed.

Joseph Slaga was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph F. and Harriet J. Slaga; lifelong sweetheart, Harriet S. Slaga, and siblings, Francis Slaga and Patricia (Slaga) Stubb.

Joe leaves behind his brother, Eugene "Putzer" Slaga; his children, Lorrie (Chris) Schlender, Lynn Slaga, Lisa (Mark) Walder, and Peter (Patty) Slaga; his grandchildren, Emily "Chum" (Dustin) Bonack, Heinrich "pal" (Kayla) Walder, Anna Lukyanova, and Audrey, Sarah, and Xavier Slaga; along with great-grandchildren, Henry and Scarlett Bonack and Maverick Walder. Joe also leaves behind a million happy memories and a permanent butt-print in a large, brown Lazy Boy chair.

Visitation for Joseph Slaga was held on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at Generations Funeral Home, Tomahawk, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. A Catholic Mass was held on Friday, April 28, at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Galloway, Wis. Fr. Gus Bentil will officiate. A reception will follow after Mass service. Private inurnment will take place at Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery at a later date.

Generations Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family. You may view Joe's obituary and leave online condolences at www.generationsfuneral.com.

Five special event permits get OK from Health and Safety Committee

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – Following the approval of six special event permit applications in early April, the City of Tomahawk Health and Safety Committee gave the thumbs-up to five more permits last week.

During its meeting on Wednesday, April 26, the committee approved permit applications for the Tomahawk Main Street Farmers Market, Music on the River, Tomahawk Main Street's downtown Fall Ride events and Thunder Parade, and Octoberfest.

The permit applications will be sent to the City of Tomahawk Common Council for final approval.

Tomahawk Main Street Farmers Market

The Tomahawk Main Street Farmers Market, sponsored by Tomahawk Main Street Inc., is slated to be held each Tuesday from June through October.

The market will set up north of W. Wisconsin Ave. on N. 3rd St. at 10:30 a.m. and will end at 3:30 p.m., with 200

people estimated to attend each event, according to the permit application.

Music on the River

Tomahawk's weekly summer concert series, Music on the River, is scheduled for each Wednesday from June 21 through July 26.

According to the permit application, the concerts will set up at 4 p.m. and will end at 8 p.m. Roughly 800 to 1,000 people are anticipated to attend each performance. No food or alcohol sales will be available.

Tomahawk Main Street Fall Ride

Tomahawk Main Street Inc. will hold Fall Ride events downtown from Thursday, Sept. 14 through Sunday, Sept. 17, with 30,000 to 40,000 people expected to attend.

The permit application said events will include merchandise sales, food and beverage vendors, live music, four beer tents and a portable beer stand.

Main Street requested that the city's open intoxicants ordinance be waived from 1 p.m. until midnight on Friday, Sept. 15; and from

11 a.m. until midnight on Saturday, Sept. 15, with beer sales ending at 11:30 p.m. each night.

Under the permit application, on Sunday, Sept. 17, beer and wine will be allowed in public streets and public areas from 12 p.m. to midnight.

Thunder Parade

The Thunder Parade, sponsored by Main Street, is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 15 during Fall Ride.

Lineup for the parade will begin at 5 p.m. along Kings Road, and the 18-mile parade will end at the 100 block of S. Tomahawk Ave.

Octoberfest

A new event is slated to take place downtown this fall.

Octoberfest, sponsored by Main Street, is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 7 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event will feature beer and food tasting, along with an afterglow event at participating businesses.

Main Street estimated that roughly 250 people will take part in the event, according to the permit application.



Richard McCarthy recently presented a \$200.00 donation from the American Legion Riders to Terri Derleth of the Happy Kids Backpack Program. The Backpack Program fills backpacks with food each week and gives them to local children in need. The program is sponsored by the Salvation Army of Tomahawk and is supported by donations.

Photo courtesy of Pat Johnson

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

A son, Kowyn Scott Rigney, was born to Kelsie Rigney and Liam Sandberg, Tomahawk, on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 1:06 p.m. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 22 inches long.

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Expo brings resources to veterans

BY EILEEN PERSIKE
MMC STAFF

RHINELANDER – For Northwoods veterans, the Hodag Dome in Rhinelander was a one-stop shop on Friday, April 28.

A Veterans Benefits Expo featured more than 70 vendors, including Veterans Service Officers from seven counties and one tribal VSO, the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and several veterans' organizations.

It has been four years since this event was held, and the first year at the Hodag Dome.

Oneida County VSO Tammy Javenkoski said with the extra space, organizers made the event as big as they could to attract vets.



Hundreds of veterans and their families attended a Veterans Benefit Expo at the Hodag Dome in Rhinelander on Friday, April 28.
Photo by Eileen Persike

“So many veterans didn't do things when they were young – you know, they're young, invincible, they have jobs, and now that they're getting older and they need more help, maybe financially, maybe

physically, it's just really beneficial for them,” Javenkoski said. “We've really tried to think about all our veterans, young and old, native and non-native, LGBTQ, suicide awareness, help for homeless and

those in danger of being homeless. I think we really hit it all here.”

Lincoln County Veterans Service Officer John Olson said his goals for the expo were twofold.

“To provide the resources

to veterans and to bring representatives of the different agencies that they work with so they can ask questions and get answers face to face,” Olson said. “Second, to show the support we have for the veterans, but more importantly, for us is to get a touch point with a lot of veterans we haven't met with or seen before and let them know the resources available to them.”

Every county in Wisconsin has a Veterans Service Office but, Javenkoski added, with a staff of one or two, it is difficult to reach as many vets as they would like.

“Budgets are limited, so we can't advertise as much as we'd like to,” Javenkoski said. “So this way we can have a ton of vendors in one place, and it gives people the opportunity to learn a lot.”



Verhasselt
Contributed photo

Verhasselt named Lincoln County Director of Emergency Management

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

LINCOLN COUNTY – Tyler Verhasselt has been appointed to the position of Lincoln County Director of Emergency Management.

Verhasselt previously served in the United States Air Force for 15 years and made six combat deployments overseas. He also served as a police officer in southwest Wisconsin.

Most recently, he served as Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the Joint Security Operations Center in the Middle East, where he spearheaded a joint task force with special operations from U.S. Air Force Central Command (AF-CENT) to provide a quick reaction force and air-to-ground support during the 2020 Iranian Crisis.

His actions received recognition from U.S. Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC).

Verhasselt
CONTINUES ON PAGE 7



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pelican River Forest
On April 18, 2023, Republicans on the Joint Finance Committee voted to kill funding for the largest land conservation project in Wisconsin history. This is heartbreaking, especially since it was done during the week of Earth Day.

In spite of this vote, hope is not lost. There are many people working earnestly to keep this purchase alive.

The vote was not surprising. Mary Felzkowski stated during a "listening session" in Rhinelander that she was not changing her mind about the acquisition of conservation easements in the Pelican River Forest. These easements will protect nearly 70,000 acres of working forest in Oneida, Forest, and Langlade Counties. It is at the headwaters of the Wolf and Pelican Rivers, and straddles the mid continental divide between the Great Lakes

and the Mississippi River Watersheds. This acquisition conserves our forest habitat and drinking water, maintains our robust forestry and tourism industries, and preserves this land for recreation, with ATV/UTV trails, snowmobile trails, hiking, biking, and snowshoeing trails as well as hunting opportunities.

It will preserve this forest and these waterways for our children and grandchildren for perpetuity with money from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Federal Forest Legacy Program, and the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Senator Felzkowski incorrectly asserted that this purchase would take land off of the tax rolls. The land is privately owned, and taxed. She also used fear tactics to convince the public that this is a bad idea, stating that vital emergency services would

be curtailed because of a false loss of local tax money. The truth is that local governments are tax starved because the state has lowered the amount of funding it provides for municipalities during Ms. Felzkowski's tenure in the legislature.

Green Light Metals, a Canadian mining company, has applied for permits to do core sampling on the land adjacent to the Pelican River Forest. On their website, Green Light Metals expresses their desire to make northern Wisconsin into a metallic sulfide strip mining district.

The acquisition of the Pelican River Forest will reflect the results of the 2018 referendum, in which sulfide mining was defeated in Oneida County by 62%. Mary Felzkowski has been vocal about her support for sulfide strip mining in northern Wisconsin, in direct opposition of her constituents.

This isn't about Republicans versus Democrats, it isn't about liberals versus conservatives, it isn't about tree hugging hippies versus hunters and outdoorsmen. It is about life – our lives, the lives of our neighbors, the wildlife, and the life of our beautiful forests. It is about the gift of our naturally clean air and water. It is about protection – protecting the forests, and in turn, protecting ourselves, our children, and grandchildren.

Please let the legacy we leave behind be that of life and not destruction, nature instead of devastation, health instead of disease.

For more information, please contact www.pelicanriver.org.

In addition, it is not too late to call or write to your state legislators regarding preservation of the Pelican River Forest.

Kathleen Cooper
Pelican Township

Administrator Quesinberry submits testimony to Joint Finance Committee

BY WENDELL QUESINBERRY
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF TOMAHAWK ADMINISTRATOR

EDITOR'S NOTE: Wisconsin's Joint Finance Committee, made up of 16 members of the State Legislature, held a series of public listening sessions throughout the state in April to allow constituents to voice their opinions regarding the 2023-2025 state budget. On Monday, April 24, ahead of the committee's listening session at Lakeland Union High School in Minocqua on Wednesday, April 26,

School District of Tomahawk Administrator Wendell Quesinberry submitted the following testimony to the committee for consideration.

Dear Members of the Joint Finance Committee,

Thank you for your commitment and willingness to take the time to listen to the people of Wisconsin while in consideration of a new biennial budget proposal. My name is Wendell Quesin-



Quesinberry

berry and I have the privilege of serving as District Administrator for the School District of Tomahawk.

Our District covers nearly 425 square miles stretching across the counties of Lincoln and Oneida. We serve just under 1,200 students and have been impacted significantly by declining enrollment since the early 2000s.

Tomahawk is considered a "property-rich" district

which limits some of our state funding and forces us into being one of the 249 Wisconsin schools that are currently operating under a referendum. While we are fortunate to live in a community that actively supports education, and we truly understand the need to listen to our stakeholders, there are still numerous drawbacks to this type of school funding.

Our referendum is non-recurring, so every four years we're forced to plan for the possibility of losing 17.7%

TESTIMONY
CONTINUES ON PAGE 11

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

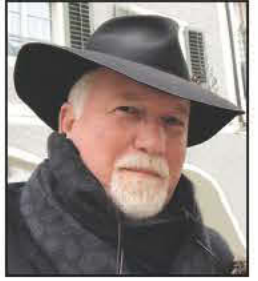
Watching Familiar Memory Ghosts

Dear Reader,

Recently I found myself in a rocking chair looking out over a merrily blazing fire pit. In the distance, a river flowed languidly toward its far-off destination. The sun drifted across the sky as a once-vigorous wind mellowed into a gentle breeze.

As I delved into a bag overflowing with recollections, familiar memory ghosts materialized to guide my visit to times gone by. How well I knew those days, and the conversations that shaped my life to become what it now is. Under the gentle supervision of the memory ghosts, the past came alive into the present moment.

They quietly left after the reverie ended. I made a note to myself, "Live in the present so fully so that the memory ghosts of the future will spark an even richer dialogue."



PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

Author of "Dear Reader" and "Tapestry of Love and Loss"

VERHASSELT

FROM PAGE 6

which awarded him the SSgt. Todd "TJ" Lobraccio Award for Excellence and his second U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal.

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self's military and law enforcement experience, he brings to the role Associate's and Bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and a Master's degree in management – public administration.

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Regular scheduled work week is Monday through Thursday 6:30 am to 4:30 pm with overtime opportunities. Job description, duties, responsibilities, and applications are listed on the Lincoln County web page at www.co.lincoln.wi.us (career opportunities) or applications can be picked up at the Lincoln County Service Center at 801 N. Sales Street (upper level) Merrill, WI. John Hanz, Highway Commissioner, may be reached at 715-539-2554 if you need additional information or have questions.

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A full description of minimum requirements and application instructions can be found on the Price County website's employment opportunities page at www.co.price.wi.us, by emailing a request to hroffice@co.price.wi.us or by calling 715-339-5131.

Completed application and resume must be received by the Price County Office of Administration to be considered for this position. Recruitment is ongoing until filled.

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GO HATCHETS



Back row, from left: Brayden Larson, Ethan Breitenfeld, Tyler Jablonski, Zack Friske; middle: Cooper Hetzel, Ethan Ihn, Grant Albrecht, Landon Hoff, Brody Rigney; front: Monty Framke, Noah Pearson, Andrew Tollefson, Brody Hilgendorf. Not pictured: Addison Peissig.



Back row, from left: Tyler Cole, Tyler Sundquist, Brody Hilgendorf; middle: Logan Norman, Nathan Norman, Walter Horabik, Kaiden Kapellusch; front: Colton Seslar, Nick Arndt, Eddie Riese, Mathian Wojcik, Zach Ruffin. Photos by Catherine List Photography



eSports – Back row, from left: Sam Kurth, Jax Loka, Michael Walbeck, John Groat, advisor Levi Ott; front: Advisor Paula Norman, Payton Loka, Elias Repinski. Not pictured: Mathew Walbeck. Photo courtesy of Paula Norman



Back row, from left: Coach Sean Toch, Quentin Susa, Drew Albert, Sean Towne, Coach Garth Gerstenberger; middle: Riley Massa, Owen Dickrell, Sawyer Hanna, Cheyenne Schade, Austin Lamer, Carson Childers; front: Lydia Ziert, Caiden Reichelt, Trevor Schumann, Sophia Kiser. Photo by Catherine List Photography

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Girls Middle School Track – Back row, from left: Peyton Rigney, Elise Gibeault, Elizabeth Amott, Norah Mann, Kaylee Murphy, Hailey Cole, Daniella Amente, Jordyn Lundquist, Averi Petta, Abigail Rosenmeier, Sophie Maki, Aubrianna Seubert, Shelby Borowski; middle: Carmynn Collins, Autumn Tromp, Kenadie Gilbert, Lillian Taves, Autumn Merrigan, Madilynn Tobias, Amirah Dickens, Joa Reilly, Sophia Lacina, Savannah Lear, Aliyah Nelson, Anita Ziert, Regan Gorell; front: Matilda Vanasten, Ruby Foster, Harper Clendening, Lillian Rigby, Savannah Reinke, Victoria Towle, Charlee Lund, Ella Pierce. Photos by Stacie Petta Photography



Boys Middle School Track – Back row, from left: Braden Lamer, Oliver Childers, Zander Zehner, Mason Riebe, Mason Jaecks, Caden Gustafson, Ryan Montag; middle: Logan Gilbert, Karson Hanse, Dane Islo, Dawson Jones, Jordyn Carew, Connor Zorn, Levi Cerkas; front: Jack Reilly, Cooper Dick, Michael Vojcik, Kaj Maki.



TOMAHAWK HIGH SCHOOL
HATCHET VARSITY SOFTBALL 2023

Back row, from left: Bryn Baalke, Scout Stromberg, Sammy Gebauer, Macy Jankiewicz; middle: Khianna Vacho, Bella Marino, Kayleigh Haring; front: Siannah Calkins, Sara Gebauer, Sophie Olsen, Emerson Lange.



Track and Field – Back row, from left: Kinsley Lange, Dominic Boos, Jeremiah Johnson, Dane Schonenberger, Nik Stefanich, Nathan Rosenmeier, Joey Reiter, Elliot O'Connor, Zach Hanse, Taje Casey, Ethan Gibeault, Beau Stromberg, Jerome Morrison III; middle: Alicia Voermans, Kailynn Hanse, Faith Derleth, Ayla McCormick, Mariah Sparbel, Alli Palmer, Presley Gutbrod, Jack Derleth, Patrick Samundsen, Ryan Larson, Sam Zastrow, Morgan Hansmann, Izzy Lee, Arawen Alberg; front: Jennie Frederickson, Nadia Schoone, Kambyl Mattke, Zack Larson, Marie Gorell, Halle Derleth, Lydia Shaney, Paige Dekiep, Robin Schmidt, Joanna Phillips, Rachael Reilly. Not pictured: Ty Anthes, Bruce Peetz, Bradyn Ristau, Ciera Heil. Photo by Catherine List Photography



TOMAHAWK HIGH SCHOOL
HATCHET JV SOFTBALL 2023

Back row, from left: Maddy Baumann, Abigail Kallerud; middle: Ella Peissig, Freya Alberg, Kylie Peissig; front: Emma Hoff, Molly Jablonski, Abi Micke, Payton Haring. Photos by Catherine List Photography

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Lincoln County adopts vision statement, branding

BY TINA L. SCOTT
MMC STAFF

LINCOLN COUNTY – At the Tuesday, April 18 Lincoln County Board of Supervisors meeting, the board unanimously approved the adoption of a vision statement and branding.

The vision statement reads as follows:

“Lincoln County will preserve the unique characteristics and resources that make it an exceptional place to live, work, and play; we will work together, holding ourselves and each other accountable, to weave the fabric of community and provide opportunity to our citizens.”

The board also adopted the following branding:

“Lincoln County – Where the Northwoods Start and the Adventure Begins.”

This marks the first time Lincoln County has had a developed and articulated vision statement

and branding.

On Jan. 31, the board and other community members participated in a facilitated process during which they developed the Lincoln County vision statement to help them “develop a future desired state.”

The Administrative and Legislative Committee then met on March 21 to discuss the recommended statement and made a few minor changes to develop the final wording.

Articulating a vision statement for Lincoln County definitively will help the Board “guide the decision making process to best allocate resources in a manner that aligns with operations of the County with that vision” the resolution said.

The branding statement, or tagline, for Lincoln County helps direct future strategic planning and marketing of Lincoln County, according to the resolution.



Tomahawk High School Metals Fabrication student Gavin prepares a piece of metal to be used for the CWIMA welding competition, in which juniors and seniors test their technical skills in welding while competing for the top prizes of scholarships to a local technical college.



After cleaning and preparing her metal, Mariah begins to tack weld pieces of her infinity table project to ensure proper fit up. She is using the gas tungsten arc welding (GTAW or TIG) welding process in her Metals Fabrication class.



Photos courtesy of Brian Schiltz



In Metals Fabrication, Brett and Hudson make relief cuts in their wood-fired sauna heater for easier manipulation of the metal. Here they are using pieces of metal as a straight edge while the oxyacetylene torch cuts through the metal.

Welcome To Our Newest Team Member
Kristi Davis

Kristi is a small-town girl who grew up in central Wisconsin and moved to Tomahawk with her family in 2016. They found their slice of heaven on Lake Alice. After some updates, they opened Tomahawk Resort on Lake Alice in 2017.

“We quickly fell in love with this amazing community and genuine people in the north woods. It is a beautiful melting pot of natives born in the area and new residents, but all are made to feel like a special part of the community.”

Kristi’s outgoing personality, positive mindset, and strong work ethic make her an excellent addition to our team. Welcome to Northwoods Community Realty, Kristi! We’re lucky to have you on board!



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The Pastor’s Corner

Holy Week • May 3, 2023

Well warmer weather is finally here! And we have all been waiting to get outside and get to our gardens.

Did you know that Jesus liked to teach about plants too? He used the analogy of a vine to its branch.

Jesus said, I am the true vine, and My Father is the vine-grower. He removes all the branches who bear no fruit. But those branches that are bearing fruit, He prunes so it bears more fruit. The branch cannot bear fruit by itself. It must abide in the vine. “Apart from me, you can do nothing.” A branch that does not abide in the vine withers.

Over the winter, some trees, bushes and plants have died. They die for various reasons – too harsh a winter, a poor root system, excessive winds, lack of moisture or disease. A good wind is God’s way of pruning the dead limbs from the living trees and branches.

When we plant a rose bush or an orange tree, we get excited when we see the buds and blossoms because this will precede the orange – the fruit.

Jesus uses the analogy of the life of a plant to prepare His disciples for the time when He will no longer be with them.

For them to be effective witnesses, they must remember they are part of the true vine – Jesus! They can’t do things on their own. They can’t make up their own Gospel. They can’t stray from the truth. They must let Jesus bring the growth. And our witness bears the fruit. Fruit means new disciples.

Of course, there would be many who would fall away once Jesus was out of sight and out of mind. But the core 11 Apostles were given power, and they would ignite the Holy Spirit throughout the early church – creating other believers and other churches. The kingdom grew despite persecution.

Sadly, many succumbed to the persecutions, denied Christ, fell away by staying away from worship, failing to receive the Eucharist, and failing to be nourished by the faith of others. It is not true that you can be a strong and healthy branch away from the congregation, by staying home. God’s plan for the kingdom was not made that way.

We had a tree once that my husband nicknamed the “leper tree”. It was scraggly, ugly, and small – of the crab apple variety. It wasn’t healthy...never produced any fruit and few leaves. I used to hang plastic Easter eggs from it, but it wasn’t good for much else.

Some people are like that. They are malnourished, flakey, sparse, failing to grow or thrive. People who lack love are like that. People who have been severely hurt as children, have suffered traumas, are mentally ill or are sick or weak.

It takes more than an adequate diet to be healthy. We are not whole if we are without God. God is love. God completes us.

We cannot live a happy, healthy life apart from the vine. We need constant watering. We need fresh soil. We need ownership in the kingdom. We need to stay part of the family. Our identity is in the family. The family of God. And even though He may call us elsewhere, and replant us in another place for His purposes, we never leave the vine.

We are loved by God no matter where we are. He created us. He created love. As long as we remember we must remain and abide in Him, we will continue to receive that love and pass it on to others.

Notice the beautiful people he has planted for you. And be the beautiful branch of His vine for them. Be the beautiful plants He has created you to be. Live, and grow, and produce the fruit of His kingdom.

And as you remain in the vine, you remain in Him. You abide in Him. You remain alive in Him.

Amen.

Associated Clergy of Tomahawk

Pastor Carolyn Rauschert,
retired
Formerly of
St. Barnabas Church
Associated Clergy of
Tomahawk

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. We should read the Bible with the intent of learning who God is and what He says.

Last week we looked at John 17:14-19 and what should make a believer different from the world. There Jesus prayed that His people would be separate from the world, so they would be one in Him, and thereby a witness to the world that Jesus had come from God (John 17:20,21). For today I would like to continue this thought but from a different perspective.

Imagine, if you would, what would happen in the world if every Christian actually obeyed Christ as we should. I am not talking about being religious, but living like Jesus said we should. In Titus 2:14 we are told that Jesus died on the cross so that he might redeem us from all our sin, and purify unto himself a unique people who are zealous for doing what is good. Notice that we are to be a unique people who are zealous for doing what is good. We are to belong to Jesus and not the world.

In Matthew 5:13 Jesus said His people are the salt of the earth. In verse 14 He said His people are the light of the world. He does not say we should try to be, but that we are. Some would ask, *What is religion important for in society?* According to the Bible, Jesus’s people are salt and light in the world.

In 1 Peter 2:9 we are told that believers are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Believers are to be different than the world, the difference being that we are obedient to God, showing the world that God is worthy of praise and obedience. This is only done when we live out what God teaches in His Word, the Bible.

God, in the Bible, defines how we should work on our jobs, what kind of boss we should be to our employees, how a husband and wife should live toward each other, how parents should parent their children, how children should relate to their parents, how we should use our finances, how to dress and talk in a manner that shows respect toward those who see and hear us, etc., etc. Believers set a standard in society by their lives, when they live in obedience to the Creator, showing God’s design in creation for human relationships. But what happens when believers are not being obedient to God?

In Matthew 5:13, we read Jesus saying to those who claimed to believe on Him, *You are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.* The warning here is that if we are not being the salt God designed we should be, then even He must let us go so we are trodden under foot of men.

My concern is: have believers become so like the world that we no longer season our culture and have therefore fallen under the warning of Matthew 5:13? Could this be why modern Christianity has lost the culture?

Pastor Charles Scheele
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TESTIMONY
FROM PAGE 7

of our operational budget. The planning that goes into preparing for that unfortunate reality, coupled with the massive effort it takes to inform the public about the need for the referendum is a very daunting task for public schools. These efforts drain resources and detract schools from their mission of educating students.

This lack of consistency with regard to funding also negatively impacts students by complicating our efforts to recruit and retain high-quality staff and makes it nearly impossible to strategically plan long-term school improvement and safety initiatives.

While we may be considered property rich in the greater Tomahawk area, that doesn't necessarily mean we are income rich. In fact, districtwide, 43% of our families qualify for free and reduced lunch benefits. Every four years the hard-working people in our district are forced to answer the question of whether or not they can afford to support their schools. This is a difficult question to answer and oftentimes one that leads to resentment and ire among those that want the best for our students but cannot afford to support it.

I know we as a State can do a better job of funding our schools, and in this letter, I will speak to four priority areas that I believe, if funded appropriately will go a long way in helping School District of Tomahawk students as well

many of other students that attend schools with similar funding challenges.

Transportation aid increase

As previously mentioned, our district covers nearly 425 square miles. Transporting students to and from school costs nearly \$900,000.00 annually and that number continues to trend upward. That cost is offset by nearly one-third due to State aid. Nonetheless, the local taxpayers are left paying just over \$600,000.00 each year.

For many school districts in Wisconsin, transportation costs are not a significant challenge, but for schools in rural areas, transportation utilizes a significant portion of our budget that could otherwise be used to support student learning in a more significant way.

Increase in special education funding

An increase in special education funding would greatly benefit the School District of Tomahawk.

Federal and state mandates require schools to fully provide all necessary supports for students with special needs. I strongly believe this is a positive and necessary mandate, but from a funding standpoint, it becomes increasingly challenging to provide the necessary supports to appropriately address the needs of our students.

A commitment from the state to support our special needs students by funding 60% of the total costs would

drastically reduce the current gap we experience between state aid and our total expenditures.

Currently, Tomahawk is experiencing a nearly \$1.89 million deficit between state special education aid and our expenditures, which means we are required to draw that amount from our general fund. Per our revenue limit, we are allowed to levy just over \$10,000.00 per pupil which equates to funds equal to that of nearly 190 students.

To put this into perspective, if the School District of Tomahawk were funded at 60% for special education costs, it would free up an additional \$897.00/pupil to be spent supporting every individual student in our District.

Low revenue ceiling increase

For Tomahawk, one of the most impactful budget increases would be made to the low revenue ceiling.

Wisconsin requires that schools across the state be measured and compared using the same criteria, however, the state does not ensure that schools have equal per-pupil resources.

Raising the low revenue ceiling will decrease this gap in spending and help ensure that a student's zip code doesn't decide the quality of the education they receive. Schools such as Tomahawk desperately need these consistent resources in order to maintain a competitive edge with regard to recruitment/retention of high-quality staff and maintaining a safe facility for students to grow

and learn.

Restrictions on rehiring annuitants

Placing highly-qualified, talented, and dedicated educators in a classroom produces the highest returns on student learning. Unfortunately, this has become an extreme challenge for schools across our state.

This is especially true in our rural areas. Tomahawk is no exception and while we continue to explore initiatives designed to encourage students to pursue education as a career, we are still seeing enrollment declines in these college areas. We are nearing emergency conditions with regard to recruiting qualified applicants to fill our positions.

One solution aimed at temporarily fixing this situation is to loosen the restriction on a district's ability to rehire annuitants while allowing them to continue to collect their retirement benefits. This provides both, a cost savings to districts and as well as an incentive to a qualified and capable educator who still has much to offer our students and is willing to return to service.

Our schools are only as good as the educators we have working in them, and this provides an emergency avenue to help schools ensure students' needs are met until a permanent hire can be made.

Thanks again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Wendell Quesinberry
District Administrator

Weston man receives 137-month prison sentence for trafficking methamphetamine

Charge resulted from Lincoln County Sheriff's Office investigation

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

MADISON – A Weston man last week received a 137-month federal prison sentence for trafficking methamphetamine.

A release from the office of Timothy M. O'Shea, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, said Chief U.S. District Judge James D. Peterson sentenced Ryan P. Murray, 45, to the roughly 11-year prison term on Wednesday, April 26.

The prison term will be followed by eight years of supervised release.

Murray pleaded guilty to a charge of possessing with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

According to the release, on Jan. 10, 2022, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a one-



Murray

vehicle crash. "The driver, Murray, had left the scene of the crash and was found some distance away," the release stated. "Next to Murray, deputies located a bag that contained 291 grams of methamphetamine."

Deputies located a loaded Glock 9mm handgun along the path Murray had travelled leaving the crash scene, and within Mur-

Murray
CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

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May 4	4:27AM	10:52 AM	6:32PM	---
May 5	4:48AM	11:15PM	7:48PM	11:40AM
May 6	5:14AM	12:06 AM	9:07PM	12:33PM
May 7	5:47AM	1:01AM	10:24PM	1:30PM
May 8	6:33AM	2:00AM	---	2:31PM
May 9	11:33PM	3:02AM	7:31AM	3:34PM
May 10	12:32AM	4:05AM	8:42AM	4:35PM

Solunar fishing and hunting chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon is May 19th.

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Legals 7700

Tomahawk, Wisconsin at 11:30 a.m. Published May 3, 2023 WNAXLP HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN 402 South Park Drive-PO Box 213 Tomahawk WI 54487 715-453-4233 NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023, 10:00 A.M. HOUSING AUTHORITY OFFICE, 402 SOUTH PARK DRIVE, TOMAHAWK, WISCONSIN Published May 3, 2023 WNAXLP

Legals 7700

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION PO BOX 107 ANTIGO, WI 54409 Plaintiff, v. DANNIELLE E. STREETER 801 N. MEMORIAL DR. MERRILL, WI 54452 Defendant. AMENDED PUBLICATION SUMMONS CASE NO. 23-CV-18 HON. ROBERT R. RUSSELL Money Judgment: 30301 The amount claimed exceeds \$10,000.00 AND Other Contracts Case Code 30303 WIS. STAT. §810 REPLEVIN

Legals 7700

January 22, 2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of W4594 County Road A, Tomahawk, WI 54487. 3. All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is August 18, 2023. 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452, Probate Office. DATE SIGNED: April 25, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar Form completed by: Attorney Matthew D. Brehmer Brehmer Law LLC 117 W Wisconsin Ave Neenah, WI 54956 920-502-7100 Bar No. 1091091 Published May 3, 10, 17, 2023 WNAXLP

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Estate Sale: 1006 Cotey Dr., Merrill May 4-7. TH & FRI 12-5; SAT 10-3; SUN 10-2. Power tools, lift chair, lawn mowers, bikes, sporting goods, insulation, patio furniture, dressers, TV, snow blower, chain saws, collectibles, housewares, clothing

JANE'S Estate Sales & Services LLC

Wausau: Friday, 5/5, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, 5/6, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sunday, 5/7, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 1108 McIntosh St. Full house! This sale includes a 1998 Buick Century with very low miles. - NO EARLY SALES. WE DO NOT give out prices or information prior to the sale. Please do not text, call or email requests. -First come, first served. Deli style numbers will be given out starting at 11:00am on Friday. - Go to JANE'S Estate Sales on Facebook or estatesales.org for photos. 1108 McIntosh St

Auctions 7282

BUSINESS REDUCTION AUCTION Forklift, Enclosed Trailer Paint Booth & More Online Bidding End 5/8 Appleton, WI Office: 715-539-6295 View Catalog & Bid Now at HANSENAUCTIONGROUP.COM (WCAN)

Auctions 7282

ISA INTEGRITY SALES & AUCTION

Trust Built on Integrity Wednesday, May 3rd thru Wednesday, May 10th Live On-Site & Online Sale 8 AM Start

Heavy Equipment, Forestry Equipment, Dump Trucks, Semi's, Trailers & Much More!

NEW since 2022 Consign Now with BUY - IT - NOW!

Skid Steer Attachments, Shop Equipment, Tools, Unused Tool Boxes, Implements and Much More!

N295 Tree Lane, Merrill, WI 54452 Phone: 715-443-5000 www.integritysales.com Ross Landes RWA#3017 Integrity Sales & Auction LLC RWAC#517 Consign Now! Low Fees!

Computers and Electronics 7216

Switch & 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 service. Call 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

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)

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.

Sporting Goods 7260

GUN SHOW: May 5-7, 2023. Racine County Fairgrounds, 19805 Durand Ave, Union Grove, WI. Fri 3-8pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. \$8 (under 14 FREE) Buy/Sell, 608-752-6677 www.bobandrocco.com

Outdoors 7262

"GO FISH - CANADA!" KING-FISHER RESORT Cabin-Boast-Motor-Gas \$88 per person/day. JULY/AUG/SEPT SPECIAL \$83 per person/day, Easy Driving Access 800-452-8824 www.kingfisherlodge.com (WCAN)

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266

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

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options Request a FREE Quote - Call now before the next power outage: 1-888-355-6955

Town of Nokomis Accepting Bids

The Town of Nokomis, Oneida county, Wisconsin is now accepting bids for reconstruction and paving of approximately 1650 FT. on Prairie Rapids Rd.

Plans specifications/information can be obtained by contacting Dave Halfmann, Nokomis Service Department via e-mail nokomisshop@frontier.com or 715-351-9364 during office hours Monday through Friday 6:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

Published April 26 & May 3rd, 2023 WNAXLP

TOWN OF SOMO

NOTICE OF OPEN BOOK and BOARD OF REVIEW

Open Book for the Town of Somo will be held at the Tripoli Community Center on Monday, May 8th remotely by phone from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Please the Assessor: Zillmer Midstate Assessment, LLC at 715-754-2287.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review for the Town of Somo will meet at the Tripoli Community Center,

Monday, May 15th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Property owners wishing to make a formal objection to an assessed evaluation are by appointment only and must obtain an objection form from the Town Clerk and schedule an appointment. Objection forms must be filed 48 hours in advance of hearing.

Heather Marheine, Town Clerk

Published May 3, 2023 WNAXLP

TOWN OF SOMO NOTICE OF QUOTATIONS

LRIP/TRI PROJECT

The Town of Somo will accept sealed bid quotations by mail labeled as: GRAVEL BIDS **LRIP/TRI PROJECT** Town of Somo, PO Box 87, Tripoli, WI 54564

Until 5:00 p.m., Monday, May 15, 2023. Bids will be publicly opened on Monday, May 15th, 2023 at the Town of Somo regular board meeting, Town of Somo Community Center located at N12070 Fire Barn Road, Tripoli beginning at 5:00 p.m. at which time they will be read and taken action on by the Town of Somo Board.

Approximately 5000 cubic yards of crushed road gravel to meet State of Wisconsin DOT specified standards. The price shall include product and delivery.

Specifications to be obtained by contacting Chairman Scott Melquist at (715) 803-8397.

The project and all material need to be completed/delivered by August 30, 2023. There will be a 5% late penalty imposed per day for each day beyond the scheduled delivery date.

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

By order of the Town of Somo Board, Heather Marheine, Clerk

Published May 3 & 10, 2023 WNAXLP

The Town of Nokomis, Oneida county, Wisconsin is now accepting bids for double chip seal on the following roads.

Lylas Road, approximately 735 FT.

Lee Road, approximately 520 FT.

Jenny Lake Road, approximately 1700 FT.

Plans specifications/information can be obtained by contacting Dave Halfmann, Nokomis Service Department via e-mail nokomisshop@frontier.com or 715- 351-9364 during office hours Monday through Friday 6:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

Published April 26 and May 3, 2023 WNAXLP

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN. To each person named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 40 days after the date of first publication, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452, and to Galanis, Pollack, Jacobs & Johnson, S.C., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 413 N. 2nd Street, Suite 150, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

DATED at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on April 25, 2023. GALANIS, POLLACK, JACOBS & JOHNSON, SC Attorneys for Plaintiff

Joshua J. Brady WI State Bar No. 1041428 P. O. Address: 413 N. 2nd Street, Suite 150 Milwaukee, WI 53203 Telephone: (414)271-5400 Published May 3, 10, 17, 2023 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ERIC FROST d/o/b 03/10/2023

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 23-IN-15

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

- 1. An application for informal administration was filed. 2. The decedent, with date of birth 04/19/1970 and date of death 03/10/2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of WI, with a mailing address of N11622 Grand Ave., Tomahawk, WI 54487. 3. All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is August 4, 2023. 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office. DATE SIGNED: April 5, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar Form completed by: W. Erich Scherr of Schmitt & Koppelman, S.C. 1029 E. Main St., PO Box 176 Merrill, WI 54452 715-536-8371 Bar No. 1031423 Published April 19, 26, May 3, 2023 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE A. WYRICH Deceased

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No 2023 IN 20

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

- 1. An application for informal administration was filed. 2. The decedent, with date of birth 08/03/1929 and date of death 02/21/2022, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 720 E. King Road, Tomahawk, Wisconsin 54487. 3. All interested persons waived notice. 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 08/25/2023. 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 East Main Street, Merrill, Wisconsin, Room 2nd Floor. DATE SIGNED: April 26, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer Probate Registrar Form completed by: Atty. H. Ben Levy, Levy & Levy, SC PO Box 127 Cedarburg, WI 53012-0127 (262) 377-5555 Bar No. 1000521 Published May 3, 10, 17, 2023 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID A. BOOTZ

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023IN00021

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

- 1. An application for informal administration was filed. 2. The decedent, with date of birth May 1, 1952 and date of death

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC Plaintiff, vs. Allen H. Rank III Defendant.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE Case No. 22-CV-000121

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on September 20, 2022 in the amount of \$84,184.02 the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as follows:

TIME: June 1, 2023 at 10:00 am TERMS: Pursuant to said judgment, 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the clerk of courts (personal checks cannot and will not be accepted). The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the clerk of courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation of the sale or else the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff. The property is sold 'as is' and subject to all liens and encumbrances.

PLACE: Inside the main entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, City of Merrill.

DESCRIPTION: Lots Five (5) and Six (6), Block Five (5) of the Plat of J.M. Smith & Co.'s 3rd Addition to West Merrill (now in the City of Merrill), Lincoln County, Wisconsin. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 201 N Pine St Merrill, WI 54452-1754

Ken Schneider Lincoln County Sheriff

Gray & Associates, L.L.P. Attorneys for Plaintiff 16345 West Glendale Drive New Berlin, WI 53151-2841 (414) 224-8404

Please go to www.gray-law.com to obtain the bid for this sale. Gray & Associates, L.L.P. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt. Published April 26, May 3, 10, 2023 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MARATHON COUNTY PROGRESSIVE UNIVERSAL INSURANCE COMPANY AS SUBROGEE OF LORI A BROOKS Plaintiff,

vs. KRISTY M KEDROWICZ Defendant.

Case No. 23CV000048

AMENDED SUMMONS THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO: KRISTY M KEDROWICZ N2389 SNOWFLAKE LN MERRILL WI 54452

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within Forty (40) days after April 19, 2023, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is: CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, MARATHON COUNTY, 500 FOREST ST, WAUSAU WI 54403-5568 and the Kohn Law Firm, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 735 N. Water St., Suite 1300, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If no Complaint accompanies this Summons you must respond within the said 40 day period with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiff's attorneys at their respective addresses listed above.

If you do not provide a proper answer to the Complaint or provide a written demand for said complaint within the 40 day period, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin April 11, 2023.

KOHN LAW FIRM S.C. ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED BY: /S/ JENNIFER L. ANDERSON JENNIFER L. ANDERSON State Bar No. 1030556 Attorney for Plaintiff Published April 19, 26, May 3, 2023 WNAXLP

News Briefs

Harlem Wizards taking on Kinship Crew tonight
 The Harlem Wizards will take on the Kinship Crew at the Tomahawk School Field House tonight (Wednesday, May 3). Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the game will start at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at www.bit.ly/3miCGla, and prices are as follows: Students/seniors, \$9.00; adults, \$11.00; reserved tickets, \$20.00; court-side, \$35.00; bench-warmer, \$80.00; students and seniors at the door, \$11.00; adults at the door, \$13.00. All proceeds will benefit Kinship of Tomahawk. For more information, contact Patti Hilgen-dorf at 715-966-0996 or kinshiptomahawk@hotmail.com.

Yard Waste Clean-Up Week underway
 The City of Tomahawk's Yard Waste Clean-Up Week is currently underway. Until Friday, May 5, the city's Public Works Department will collect neatly-piled, non-bundled brush, with cut ends of limbs facing the curb, as well as leaves gathered in plastic bags. The bags must not contain any other types of rubbish or household waste. The items must be set out for collection no later than 7 a.m. each day.

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

Aspirus, PCA blood drives
 A blood drive will be held in the Spruce Room at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital, 401 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk, on Friday, May 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Appointments are requested. To schedule an appointment, call The Community Blood Center at 800-280-4102. A blood drive will be held at PCA Tomahawk, N9090 County Rd. E, Tomahawk, on Wednesday, May 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments are requested. To schedule an appointment, contact Sue Geraty at 715-453-2131, ext. 222, or visit www.communityblood.org/donor. Log in, click "Donate Now" and search for sponsor code L009.

Chamber accepting applications for Arts, Crafts and Vendor Fair
 The Tomahawk Regional Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for its annual Arts, Crafts and Vendor Fair, slated for Monday, July 3 at SARA Park, 900 W.

News Briefs CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

Are you living the outdoor life?

If your weekends are filled with outdoor gear and vehicles, you need a place to store it all!

Local Sales Rep
Gary Sterr, Tomahawk

50 Year Snowload Warranty!

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northlandbuildings.com



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Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266
SWITCH & SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text & data. No contract & no hidden fees. Unlimited talk & text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more info, call 1-844-883-1477 (WCAN)

UP TO \$15,000 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral & other final expenses. Call **Physicians Life Insurance Company 844-433-5898** or visit www.Life55plus.info/wcp (WCAN)

Wanted to Buy 7268
STONEWARE WANTED
 Collector paying \$1000+/- for Red Wing salt glazed or advertising crocks, jugs, churns & water coolers. (612)685-6762

Dogs 7272
ACA BICHON FRISE PUPPIES Shots/Vet \$600 No Sunday Calls 715-409-3321 (495932)

ACA COCKER SPANIEL PUPPIES Shots/Vet \$500 No Sunday Calls 715-409-3321 (495932)

AKC REG. COCKER SPANIEL PUPS NEW Big Litters! 50% OFF!!! shots & wormed 920-563-3410 mornings(268588) (WCAN)

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! Call 1-844-774-0206 to get a free quote or visit insurebarkmeow.com/ads

AUSSIE PUPPIES Shots, Vet ch'd/worm Merles \$500, Tr's \$400 715-754-2682 (513867)

BOSTON-PUPPIES.COM has Mini Goldendoodles, Cavapoos & more 715-921-9708 (516695)

CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPPIES Vet chk/wormed/vac \$400; **AMERICAN ESKIMO RAC TERRIER SHIBA MIX PUPPIES:** M & F \$50 715-223-0782

GOLDENDOODLE PUPPIES 7 weeks old, shots/wormed, \$650 Family Raised 715-255-2418

GOLDENDOODLE PUPS, Health Cert & vet chkd \$895 715-409-0533

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS ACA Reg., F-\$300, M-\$300, great w/kids! **Bonduel 715-745-4546**



Mini Aussiedoodle Puppies: F1 Mini Aussiedoodle puppies. Family raised, well socialized, velcro dogs, low-to-no shed. Very smart, easy to train. Up to date on vaccines and deworming, Vet checked. Visit online at www.towerviewkennels.com or on Facebook. WI State Licensed and Inspected #DS402426. \$1250 Text/call: 715-360-5848 Towerview Kennels

MINI COCK-A-POOS Hypo-allergenic, Non-shed, shots/vet F-\$600, M-\$500 715-758-2433

MINI GOLDENDOODLE PUPS 2-M \$200 each, Shots/Dewormed 715-754-5699

PUREBRED GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES Shots/Wormed, Super Friendly F-\$600, M-\$550 cash only 715-267-6370

PUREBRED YELLOW LAB PUPPIES Vet checked 1st shots \$400 715-384-2421

REG. CAVALIER PUP Ready Now, shots/wormed/dews \$400 715-470-0458 #509642-DS

REG MINIATURE POODLE PUPPIES dew, shots, vet checked, wormed Non-Shedding \$850 **READY to go!** 715-536-0697 (WCAN)

Rottweiler Puppies AKC Shots, wormed, tails done, dew claws done, vet checked \$1000 715-498-6408

TEDDY BEAR & BICHPOO PUPPIES vet checked UTD shots \$600-\$1000 715-703-8981

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

Pet Services 7280
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! Call 1-844-244-7146 to get a free quote or visit insurebarkmeow.com/wcp (WCAN)

Hay and Straw 7288
FOR SALE: Excellent 1st, 2nd & 3rd crop mixed grass & legume hay. Small squares. Located in Mosinee. Ask for Lee. 715-693-2187

FS HAY 50# Bales Green no Rain Grass 1st crop \$4 per bale second \$5 FREE DEL in full loads within 100 miles of DALE WI 920-878-0005 920-878-0288 no mess no text (WCAN)

Agriculture Services 7292
Hand Crafted Garden & Storage Sheds, Garages & Cabins. Many Styles and Options. Sizes from 8' x 8' up to 15' x 40' are available. Call **BAKER BARN, LLC** 715-873-3338 mile North of Gleason, Hwy 17

Vacation For Rent 7421
WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get FREE informational package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! FREE consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. **CALL 844-374-2565 (WCAN)**

Farms For Sale 7457
RURAL LANDOWNERS! Earn \$5,000+ Every Year From Hunting Leases. Upfront payments from our hunters. Reduce risk with FREE \$5M liability insurance. Call for a free quote (888) 871-1982

Boats 7508



WATER READY! 16' Starcraft, 70 hp Evinrude VRO outboard motor, new propeller, pump, battery, gas line, 4 seats, livewell, rod holders, lockable storage. Full maintenance completed. \$5,900. Call 715-360-3324.

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)**

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

Attorney and Legal 7306
 Diagnosed with lung cancer? You may qualify for a substantial cash award - even with smoking history. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7, 1-877-648-2503

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 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/ads)

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

Caring for an aging loved one? Wondering about options like senior-living communities & in-home care? **Caring.com's** Family Advisors are here to help take the guesswork out of senior care for you & your family. Call for your FREE, no-obligation consultation: **1-844-296-6477 (WCAN)**

Health Care Services 7310
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** [#6258 \(WCAN\)](http://www.dental50plus.com/wcommunity)

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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)**

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 EarthLink. 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)**

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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

HughesNet Satellite Internet: 25 mbps starting at \$49.99/mo! Get More Data, FREE Off-Peak Data. FAST download speeds. Wifi built in! FREE Standard Installation for lease customers! Limited Time **Call 1-844-829-5070 (WCAN)**

Satellites and Antennas 7324
DIRECTV New 2-year Price Guarantee. The most live MLB games this season, 200+ channels & over 45,000 on-demand titles. \$84.99/mo for 24 months with CHOICE Package. Some restrictions apply **Call DIRECTV 1-888-925-9452 (WCAN)**

DIRECTV STREAM Carries the Most Local MLB Games! CHOICE Package, \$89.99/mo for 12 months. Stream on 20 devices in your home at once. HBO Max included for 3 mo. (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. **Call IVS 1-833-574-1746 (WCAN)**

DIRECTV Stream - Carries the most local MLB Games! Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/Choice Package or higher.) No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-866-859-0405

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

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DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/31/24. 1-866-479-1516

Gutters and Gutter Cleaning 7356
 Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936

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Leader Sports & Nature

Baseball: After ending April with series of losses, Tomahawk left searching for first win

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – The Tomahawk Hatchet baseball team was left searching for its first win of the season after dropping several games in late April.

Medford

The Tomahawk baseball team hit the road once again to continue the Great Northern Conference (GNC) season in Wisconsin Rapids taking on Medford in a Friday, April 21 doubleheader.

The Hatchets dropped both ends of the twin bill by scores of 9-1 and 12-0 (in five innings).

Medford played game one as the home team, and jumped out to a five-nothing lead after two complete innings. A defensive error by Tomahawk in each inning paved the way for the Raiders in taking the lead.

Tomahawk tallied their run in the third – catcher Drew Tollefson led off with a hit, then after a strikeout, left fielder Addison Peissig

drew a one-out walk. Shortstop Tyler Jablonski plated Tollefson's courtesy runner Landon Hoff with a double to deep center, but Peissig was tagged out at the plate on the same play to end the inning.

The Raiders pushed three more runs across in the fourth and a single tally in the sixth to close the scoring for game one. Brayden Larson started the game on the mound for the Hatchets, pitching into the fourth and allowing only one earned run. Ethan Ihn finished up, allowing only the sixth inning run (unearned).

Game two had Tomahawk as the home team with Jablonski starting the game on the mound. He would navigate through four innings, giving up seven runs. Once again, fielding miscues allowed scoring innings to continue and for only one of those runs to be earned.

Logan Baumgartner held the Hatchet offense in check, allowing only one hit – a Cooper Hetzel single

to right – with no walks and eight strikeouts. Medford set up the run-rule, five-inning finish with a five-spot in the top of the fifth off of Hetzel, who came on in relief to start the inning.

Mosinee

The Hatchet baseball team used dry ground in Mosinee again on Tuesday, April 25 to play their home-scheduled GNC game against Lakeland, falling 14-2 in six innings.

The T-Birds plated a single, first-inning run, then broke things open with a five-run second, fueled by five walks, two balks and a double and a passed ball.

Tomahawk got on the board in the third, pushing two runs across with two outs. Addison Peissig singled to lead off but was thrown out trying to steal second. Drew Tollefson then followed with a hit and was put out at second on a fielder's choice. Zack Friske then clubbed a double to deep right-center scoring Tyle Jablonski. Friske

would score one batter later on a Brody Rigney base hit paired with a throwing error.

Lakeland would add three more in the top of the fourth, and a five-spot in the sixth without a Hatchet answer in the bottom of the inning ended the game by run rule.

Lakeland

Thursday, April 27 was a much different game than Tuesday's run-rule win by Lakeland, but in the end Tomahawk came up just short of their first win of the season by a 6-5 final at Lakeland Union High School.

The T-Birds tallied a first-inning run, similar to Tuesday's game, and it remained 1-0 Lakeland until the third. Brayden Larson, who started the game on the hill for Tomahawk, drove a one-out double to deep left-center, and following a groundout and a walk to Drew Tollefson, Larson tied the game on a T-Bird error.

Unlike Tuesday, though,

Tomahawk would take the lead in the fourth. Consecutive singles by Cooper Hetzel, Monty Framke and Brody Rigney loaded the bases. Ethan Ihn then drew a bases-loaded walk followed by a T-Bird error left the Hatchets up two and threatening for more.

A double-play lineout and a popout quickly ended the threat; however, and the Hatchets led 3-1 going into the fifth.

Tyler Jablonski would greet Lakeland reliever Will Fortier with a line-drive home run to left-center to extend the Tomahawk lead to 4-1. The T-Birds would eventually tie the game through six, with a single tally in the bottom of the fifth and two more in the sixth, where Larson's night came to an end on the mound after five and one-third innings, having given up three hits and only one earned run.

Jablonski struck again to lead off the seventh, with a booming home run to deep left-center to reclaim the

lead for the Hatchets at 5-4. A passed ball and error opened the door in the bottom of the seventh for Lakeland, however, and both those runners would score, the second with one out to finish off the win for the T-Birds.

Upcoming action

Tomahawk was scheduled for games against Mosinee on the road on Monday, May 1 (weather pending), followed by home games – the first of the season – on Thursday, May 4 against Mosinee and Friday, May 5 against Wautoma. On Friday, the team will be unveiling a banner honoring the 1959 team that qualified for the spring State tournament.

Opening pitch on Thursday is at 5 p.m. Friday's game starts at 4:30 p.m., with both matchups at Tyler Kahle Memorial Park.

A doubleheader at Johnson Creek originally slated for Saturday, April 29 has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 13.

Hatchet golfers brave low temps to start season

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

MOSINEE – Following several cancellations due to weather, and despite some chilly temperatures, the Tomahawk Hatchet golf team participated in three meets last week.

Mosinee

The Tomahawk golfers traveled to Mosinee on Tuesday, April 25 to participate in a Great Northern Conference (GNC) meet.

Tomahawk ultimately finished in seventh place out of seven teams.

Coach Garth Gerstenberger noted that Owen Dickrell finished in sixth place individually, turning in a "solid" performance that included a 30-foot breaking putt for birdie on hole three.

"As a team, we were 59 shots better than last year at the same meet," Gerstenberger stated. "We are showing great improvement, but still need a lot of work on our short game."

Final individual scores for Tomahawk were Dickrell, 86; Austin Lamer, 100; Sawyer Hanna, 102; Carson Childers, 106; and Drew Albert, 115.

Team scores: Lakeland Union, 331; Medford, 338; Mosinee, 363; Northland Pines, 375; Rhineland, 377; Antigo, 388; Tomahawk, 394.

Barron

On Wednesday, April 26, the Hatchets took part in the Barron Invitational and came away with a fourth-place finish.

Gerstenberger called Tomahawk's showing in Barron the team's "best match in the last four years."

"I was really happy with the way we hit the ball today," Gerstenberger said after the meet. "The temperament of our guys was outstanding today. They all bounce back from poor shots really well."

Gerstenberger noted that Lamer had his first competitive score in the 80s. Dickrell led the team with eight pars, and Sawyer Hanna knocked in a birdie.

Individual Tomahawk scores: Dickrell, 83; Hannah, 85; Lamer, 87; Childers, 102; Caiden Reichelt, 105.

Top team scores: Bloomer, 317; Ladysmith, 327; Chetek-Weyerhaeuser, 332; Tomahawk, 357; Saint Croix Falls, 359.

Medford

The Hatchets were in Medford for a GNC meet on Friday, April 28, where Tomahawk took seventh place.

Individual Tomahawk scores: Lamer, 90; Hanna, 92; Dickrell, 93; Albert, 100; Childers, 117.

JV

Tomahawk's JV squad also saw some action last month.

In a GNC meet in Medford on Thursday, April 27, Reichelt led the Hatchets with an individual seventh-place finish.

Individual Tomahawk scores: Reichelt, 45; Riley Massa, 51; Trevor Schumann, 51; Quentin Susa, 58; Nathan Reimer, 64.

Team scores: Lakeland Union, 168; Rhineland, 199; Tomahawk, 205; Mosinee, 207; Northland Pines, 223; Antigo, 249.

The following day, the JV Hatchet golfers hosted a GNC meet in Tomahawk, where Tomahawk ultimately finished in seventh place out of seven teams.

Individual Tomahawk scores: Susa, 56; Reichelt, Lydia Ziert, 61; Schumann, 64; Massa, 66; Sophie Kiser, 71; Nathan Reimer, 71.

This week's action

The Hatchet golfers had a trio of GNC meets on the schedule this week, beginning with a meet in Rhineland on Monday, May 1.

On Tuesday, May 2, Tomahawk was slated to travel to Bass Lake Country Club north of Antigo.

Tomahawk is scheduled to head to Lakeland on Friday, May 4, while the JV squad is slated to travel to Antigo that day.

Lake service providers reminded to take AIS prevention steps during dock, lift installations

BY TOM BOISVERT
LINCOLN COUNTY
CONSERVATION
PROGRAM MANAGER



LINCOLN COUNTY – The open water season is right around the corner. Docks, boat lifts, rafts and other water structures will soon be installed at a fast pace.

Although this is an extremely busy time, it is still important to take special care whenever possible to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).

Lake service providers throughout the Northwoods should remember to properly clean and dis-

infect equipment before moving to another waterbody; inspect equipment for aquatic vegetation, mud, sand, mussels and snails; remove anything that may have been found and discard on shore;

drain all excess water from equipment before transport; and dry the equipment when possible.

The Lincoln County Land Services Department also encourages a thorough inspection of the equipment being installed. It is important to note that some equipment, docks, boats, etc. are bought second hand. Therefore, these items may have been in a different waterbody recently and should be checked thoroughly.

For more information, contact Tom Boisvert, Lincoln County Conservation Program Manager, at 715-539-1054.

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 128

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 127 question: In what year did THS switch from spring baseball to summer baseball: 1966, 1967 or 1968?

Week 127 answer: THS switched from spring baseball to summer baseball in 1968.

Congrats to Paul Lemke for being the first to correctly answer last week's question!

Week 128 question: Where did Dick Huseby play college basketball: Ripon, UW-Whitewater or UW-Stevens Point?

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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).

WEATHER

DATE	HIGH (°F)	LOW (°F)
Sunday, April 23	42	25
Monday, April 24	44	23
Tuesday, April 25	43	20
Wednesday, April 26	53	37
Thursday, April 27	59	43
Friday, April 28	66	36
Saturday, April 29	39	31

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Natural Connections: Find a Puddle and Some Happiness

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

Author's Note: This article was originally published during the first week of April 2021. I think it's a testament to how late spring is coming this year that the mood feels the same one month later in 2023.

Inhaling deeply, I looked out across the sunny expanse of frozen lake. Squeezing my shoulder blades together, I corrected my computer-hunched posture and felt tension release from the muscles. A vigorous gale tossed through the treetops, but here, on the leeward shore, I felt only a hint of breeze on my cheek. With another deep breath, I began to turn to leave, but an oak leaf caught my eye.

With pointed tips curled up like a cupped hand, the tan-colored leaf had become a tiny boat on a clear puddle at the edge of the ice. As I watched, a sliver of wind snuck down and sent the leaf spinning gracefully to the left. A darker brown birch leaf, diamond-shaped with finely serrated edges, traced the same path across the puddle, and its tip slid in to catch a lobe of the oak leaf. Like a pair of dancers, the two leaves twirled and glided on the



Research also shows that people tend not to ruminate on the bad stuff that causes anxiety while in nature, especially when gazing softly at something like this beautiful moss.

Photo by Emily Stone

puddle, pushed by the chaotic wisps of breeze. Such playful movements made me smile.

When I'd stood up from my computer in a huff a few minutes earlier, vexed by the trickle of spam emails that kept interrupting my thoughts and cursing the people who sent them, I wasn't sure that a walk would help. Research shows that people tend to underestimate how good a simple walk outside will make them feel. But, as I climbed up from the shore, I caught myself smiling at the

sunny carpet of mosses who had wasted no time in waking up from winter.

That warm fuzzy feeling I was having toward the moss actually has a name: biophilia.

Edward O. Wilson, a revered ecologist and champion of biodiversity, made the term popular, and defined it as "the innately emotional affiliation of human beings to other living organisms." He hypothesized that our love of nature has helped humans survive, and helps us feel connected to all life.

As I sauntered down my long, winding, woody, driveway, even more benefits of this biophilia were at work on my brain. The way my eyes scanned the forest, noticing the red buds of a maple tree against the blue sky, the gentle curves of the forest floor that will soon be hidden by new growth, and the patterns of moss and lichens that carpet the side-hill, leads to something that scientists call "soft fascination."

Connections

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

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CONNECTIONS FROM PAGE 15

Soft fascination—as opposed to the “hard fascination” of something like a sports event or movie that demand full attention—requires no effort and leaves space for reflection without risking boredom. Soft fascination leads to clearer thinking, reduces anxiety, and restores our ability to focus on tasks later.

In addition to watching leaves dance on a breeze-tickled puddle, sunsets, rain showers, parks, and forest paths are all opportunities to experience the brain-resting effects of soft fascination. Just be sure to leave your phone

out of reach: talking while walking ruins the effect.

The benefits of time spent outside, especially in green nature, are especially noticeable for people who have attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). During an experiment at the University of Illinois, kids who took just a 20-minute walk in a park had their symptoms of ADHD reduced by threefold. That improvement was roughly equal to the difference in having ADHD or not having it, or of not being medicated vs. experiencing the peak effects of a common medication.

Not only do kids show improvement in focus and memory when they get to be outside, they may also show less anxiety, depression and aggression than when they are indoors in a restrictive environment. Erin Kenny, founder of a nature school, put it this way: “Children cannot

bounce off the walls if we take away the walls.”

Adults aren't much different. I'd been bouncing off my mental walls at the computer all afternoon, and now a short walk was completely changing my mood. The chickadees were helping. “Hey Sweetie!” came their cheerful whistles from the hemlock twigs above my head. I've been using the calls of chickadees to cheer me up ever since a particularly stressful week back in college.

I'm not the only one. Psychologists have found good evidence that bird songs improve mood and mental alertness—listening to recorded bird songs helped reduce that post-lunch slump in elementary students. And in a different study, scientists found that a 10 percent increase in neighborhood bird songs translated into an increase in life satisfaction usually equated

with a 10 percent increase in income.

It's not really breaking news anymore that relaxing in nature makes us happier, but it is worth repeating. Nature relieves mild depression, reduces stress, and increases happiness for both adults and children. And, without the icy winds of January or the mosquitoes-hordes of July, this is the per-

fect season to walk slowly through nature. Go find a puddle, a leaf, a breeze, and some birdsong, and you will also find an increase in well-being.

Emily's award-winning second book, Natural Connections: Dreaming of an Elfin Skimmer, is 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 new exhibit: “The Northwoods ROCKS!” is open now! Our Summer Calendar of Events is ready for registration! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and www.cablemuseum.org to see what we are up to.

NEWS BRIEFS FROM PAGE 13

Somo Ave. The outdoor fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will also feature food trucks, a kids' bouncy house, a shade tent and live music. For more information and/or an application, visit www.gototomahawk.com/fairapplication.

LCHD to offer monthly COVID-19 booster clinics The Lincoln County

Health Department (LCHD) is offering 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.

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.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-68 indicating starting points for clues.

- CLUES ACROSS
1. Dull and flat
6. Baking measurement (abbr.)
9. Education-based groups
13. Not behind
14. Runners run them
15. Japanese ankle sock
16. Grave
17. Japanese industrial city
18. People of southern Ghana
19. Particular designs
21. Device fitted to something
22. Infections
23. Pirates' preferred alcohol
24. Expression of sympathy
25. Rock guitarist's tool
28. Neither
29. Ancient city of Egypt
31. You ___ what you sow
33. Ruined
36. Narrations
38. Body art (slang)
39. Fencing sword
41. Apartment buildings
44. Type of missile
45. Fathers
46. Extremely high frequency
48. Type of school
49. Incorrect letters
51. Two-year-old sheep
52. Nasty manner
54. One who accepts a bet
56. Indian prince
60. Asian country
61. Rhythmic patterns in Indian music
62. “Uncle Buck” actress Hoffmann
63. Detailed criteria
64. Son of Shem
65. Talked wildly
66. Discount
67. Not good

- CLUES DOWN
1. Actor Damon
2. A call used to greet someone
3. Part-time employee
4. Emaciation
5. “Westworld” actor Harris
6. Gains possession of
7. Relaxing spaces
8. 23rd star in a constellation
9. Northern grouse
10. Monetary unit of Bangladesh
11. Manila hemp
12. Unites muscle to bone
14. Makes deep cuts in
17. 18-year period between eclipses
20. Member of a people inhabiting southern Benin
21. Synthetic rubbers
23. Unwelcome rodent
25. Expression of creative skill
26. Some is red

- 27. Seems less impressive
29. Harry Kane's team
30. Gland secretion
32. Action of feeling sorrow
34. Disallow
35. Deceptive movement
37. More dried-up
40. Crimson
42. Actress Ryan
43. Adherents of a main branch of Islam
47. Accomplished American president
49. Side of a landform facing an advancing glacier
50. Sheep breed
52. Appetizer
53. Broadway actress Daisy
55. Influential film critic
56. NY Giants ownership family
57. Type of script
58. Assist
59. London park
61. Bar bill
65. In reply indicator

Small crossword puzzle grid with letters filled in.

MURRAY FROM PAGE 11

ray's crashed vehicle, deputies found a Kel-Tec rifle, ten loaded extended magazines and a suppressor, according to the release.

At the time of the incident, Murray had five active arrest warrants and nine open state criminal cases, including four involving possessing a firearm as a felon and another involving substantial battery.

The release said Murray has since been convicted and sentenced in many of his state cases and is currently serving multiple state prison sentences, with an anti-

dated release date of Feb. 16, 2028.

“As it relates to the firearms involved in this case, Murray was convicted of possession of a firearm by a felon in Lincoln County Circuit Court Case No. 2022CF14 on April 11, 2022, and was sentenced to 180 days in county jail,” the release stated.

Peterson ordered that Murray's 137-month federal sentence run concurrently to the remainder of his state prison sentences and to any sentences imposed on his still-pending cases.

At sentencing, Judge Peterson noted that the protection of the public was the pri-

mary driver of the sentence in this case.

“He highlighted Murray's nearly unrelenting pattern of criminality for over 25 years and that Murray was a drug dealer who goes heavily armed,” the release stated. “Murray's history of guns, violence and drug trafficking represented a clear danger to the community.”

The charge against Murray was the result of an investigation conducted by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven P. Anderson prosecuted the case.

Large advertisement for Classified Ads in the Tomahawk Leader. Includes contact info: 24 W. Rives Street, Rhinelander, 866-369-3331, 715-453-2151. Price: \$10.00 for 5 lines, one paper. Ad deadline: Friday at 10:00 A.M. Includes a form for Name, Address, and Phone.