

Lincoln County businesses benefit from Main Street Bounceback Grants

BY TINA L. SCOTT
MMC STAFF

LINCOLN COUNTY – In the last two years, business has been booming in Lincoln County.

New businesses have emerged to fill vacant retail and commercial spaces, providing for new places to shop, new services, more jobs, and a greater variety of options for area residents and businesses to enjoy. This benefits local residents and could also help to attract others to the area to fill jobs, purchase property and pay taxes that provide for necessary services, and help increase declining student enrollment for the school district.

It also means more visitors to the community, which benefits the area in many ways when money is spent locally. Sales tax revenue increases for Lincoln County and, when someone travels to the community to visit one business, they are more likely to frequent other area businesses on that trip, as well.



Main Street Bounceback Grants

This booming business growth has been bolstered by free money designed to reignite Wisconsin's downtown business shopping districts and local economies after the pandemic.

In April 2021, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) announced the introduction of Main Street Bounceback Grants, with \$50 million from the American Rescue Plan Act put into the program, and in May 2022, an injection of additional federal funding added another \$25 million to the program. The program was originally set to end in June 2022, but as a result of the additional funds, the program was extended to the end of Dec. 2022.

Grants
CONTINUES ON PAGE 5

DPI: Tomahawk estimated to see \$700,000.00 increase in general school aids

District's projected 78% funding boost one of largest in state

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – The School District of Tomahawk is estimated to receive more than \$1.6 million in general school aids for the 2023-24 school year, an increase of about \$700,000.00 (roughly 78%) from the previous school year.

The district's projected boost in funding for next year is one of the largest in the state, according to data from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

DPI, on Friday, June 30, released an estimate of the general school aids each public school district will receive.

A release from DPI said general school aids are the largest form of state support for Wisconsin public schools, offsetting local property taxes under state-imposed revenue limits.

Wisconsin statutes require DPI to publish estimated aid amounts by July 1 each year.

The current estimate is based on the biennial budget as passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature and pupil count data reported by school districts to the DPI.

DPI noted that at the time the estimated amounts were released, the state's 2023-25 biennial budget had not yet

been finalized, meaning the estimated amounts are subject to change by the time DPI certifies general school aids for 2023-24 based on audited data by Sunday, Oct. 15.

Estimated general school aids for 2023-24 total \$5.36 billion, representing an increase of 3% from last year, according to DPI.

"Payments to districts will increase an estimated \$160.5 million because of two factors: 1) an increase of \$154.7 million per the state budget as passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature; and 2) the decrease in the required Milwaukee Public Schools funding for the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program," DPI stated.

According to DPI, of the state's 421 school districts, 251 districts (59.6%) are estimated to receive more general aids than in 2022-23, while 164 districts (39%) are estimated to receive less. Six districts are estimated to have no change in aid between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 fiscal years, and 61 districts are estimated to receive the maximum 15% decrease under the state's hold harmless aid provision.

"A district's general aids can increase or decrease

School Aid
CONTINUES ON PAGE 7

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Tomahawk's annual Pow Wow Days parade was held on Tuesday, July 4. View more photos on Pages 2 and 3 and online at www.tomahawkleader.com. Photo by Jalen Maki



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| <p>18 CHEVY MALIBU LT - 66K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$18,491</p> | <p>18 CHEVY EQUINOX LT, AWD - 62K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$20,490</p> | <p>19 BUICK ENCORE PREFERRED - 15K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$21,990</p> | <p>18 NISSAN MAXIMA PLATINUM - 55K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$23,491</p> |
| <p>16 MERCEDES-BENZ GLE 350, AWD - 77K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$23,994</p> | <p>20 GMC TERRAIN SLT - 63K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$25,990</p> | <p>19 DODGE RAM 1500 IC SLT, 4WD - 65K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$26,990</p> | <p>17 LINCOLN MKX RESERVE, AWD - 46K MILES</p> <p>REDUCED PRICE \$27,490</p> |
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2023 Pow Wow Days Parade



View more photos online at www.tomahawkleader.com.

Photos by Jalen Maki



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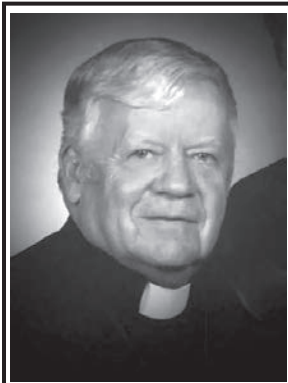
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OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at www.tomahawkleader.com

Gerald Hulce, age 90, died June 26, 2023 in Wausau, WI. He was born on May 18, 1933 in Tomahawk, WI to Wilma and Lawrence Hulce. Graduate of Tomahawk High Class of 1952, he served in the United States Navy 1952 thru 1956. Graduate of Wausau Area Technical School in 1958. He was a long time employee of Fort Howard Paper of Green Bay, WI. Survivors include spouse, Faith S. Hulce; ex-spouse, Pat Hulce; two children and two grandchildren. Preceded in death by brothers Darwin and Lauren; sister, Janet. No services will be held. Cremation has taken place.



Donald D. Cannady, aged 88, of Tomahawk, passed away peacefully on April 5, 2023 under the exceptional care of the dedicated team at Compassus Hospice, his daughter Kelly and nephew Andy. A celebration of Don's life will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, Tomahawk, on Saturday, July 15, 2023 at 11 a.m. The family will receive friends from 9 a.m. until the time of services at the church Saturday morning. A luncheon will follow where Don hopes you'll share your most treasured memories of him with each other. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Compassus Hospice, 111 E. Davenport St., Suite #101, Rhinelander, Wis., 54501.

Krueger Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Tomahawk, is assisting the family with arrangements. You may view the full obituary and leave online condolences at www.kruegerfamilyfuneral.com

Bernadine A. Ehrhardt, age 90, of Harshaw, passed away on June 26, 2023 at Howard Young Medical Center in Woodruff.

Bernadine was born on October 26, 1932 in Green Bay to Bernard and Verna (Warden) Rutten. She was married to Robert Ehrhardt on March 5, 1960 in Milwaukee. Bernadine and Robert have had a cabin on Little Bearskin since 1970. Together they retired in 1999 to Harshaw from the Milwaukee area. Bernadine loved fishing, casino trips, crossword puzzles and was an avid reader. Bernadine is survived by her husband – Robert Ehrhardt of Harshaw; son – Robert (Ann) Ehrhardt of Oconomowoc; daughter – Mary Dollak of Oconomowoc; sister – Mary Jane of Nevada; and brother – David (Shirley) Reoh of Little Chute. She is further survived by five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Bernadine is preceded in death by her son, William.

The family of Bernadine Ehrhardt will celebrate her life privately. Krueger Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Tomahawk, is assisting the family with arrangements. You may view the full obituary and leave online condolences at www.kruegerfamilyfuneral.com



Kathleen J. Conlan was born on Dec. 27, 1944 to Ben and Lillian Marheine of Brantwood. She was raised in the home that her father and his siblings grew up in, under the care of her parents and her grandmother, Louisa Marheine. Kathleen had six siblings: Ben, Tuffy, Jim, Nancy, Judy and Dennis. She graduated from Tripoli High School, class of 1963, and studied Cosmetology at the Accredited School of Beauty Culture in Milwaukee. She married Joseph Conlan at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Tomahawk in 1966, and within a few years they settled in Brantwood, just down the road from her childhood home. Kathleen devoted herself to homemaking with precision and care – tending flowers and vegetables, sewing clothing and curtains, cooking from scratch, baking bread, preserving and freezing goods. Chores were a given, and she grounded her faith in the natural beauty surrounding her. Her heritage was only half Finnish, but she had SISU in abundance. Kathleen and Joe faced challenges together for 52 years, and were blessed with three children of their own: Joleen (Paul) Sterk, Joseph Jr. and Jerry (Stephanie) Conlan. They also adopted Joe's niece Jody. Kathleen especially enjoyed watching her grandchildren, Erin and Ben Sterk and Jessica and Julie Conlan grow.

Kathleen was preceded in death by her husband and parents. The Funeral Service for Kathleen Conlan will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, July 13, 2023 at Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church. Rev. Mark Gass will officiate. The family will receive friends at Krueger Family Funeral Home, Tomahawk, Wednesday evening from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. and again on Thursday morning from 10 a.m. until the time of services at Redeemer. Krueger Family Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. You may view the obituary and share online condolences at www.kruegerfamilyfuneral.com. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Autoimmune Association, an organization that supports awareness, research, education and advocacy for those affected by autoimmune diseases, or to the Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation.

The family especially wishes to thank the entire staff for the care that she received at Rennes Health and Rehab Center in Rhinelander, and for support from Compassus Hospice Care.

Pine Crest Nursing Home receives five-star rating from CMS for 'outstanding' care, service

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

MERRILL – North Central Health Care (NCHC), on Thursday, June 29, announced that Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill had been awarded a five-star rating by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

In a release, NCHC said the “remarkable achievement reflects the nursing home’s unwavering commitment to delivering top-quality care, ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents and maintaining the highest standards of service excellence.”



Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill. Photo courtesy of NCHC

“The five-star rating is a testament to the tireless efforts of our dedicated team at Pine Crest, who work diligently day in and day out to provide compassionate and person-centered service to each resident,” said Gary Ol-

sen, NCHC Executive Director. “Achieving a five-star rating is a significant accomplishment, as it signifies that Pine Crest consistently meets or exceeds the highest standards in every aspect of care provision.”

NCHS said CMS created the Five-Star Quality Rating System to help consumers, their families and caregivers compare nursing homes more easily and to help identify areas about which they may want to ask questions.

The Nursing Home Care Compare website features a quality rating system that gives each nursing home a rating of between one and five stars.

“Nursing homes with five stars are considered to have much above average quality and nursing homes with one star are considered to have quality much below average,” NCHC stated. “There is one Overall five-star rating for each nursing home, and separate ratings for health inspections, staff-

ing and quality measures including overall resident satisfaction.”

“We are thrilled to have received a five-star rating, which reflects our team’s commitment to delivering exceptional care and service to our residents and community,” said Ryan Hanson, Pine Crest Nursing Home Administrator. “Our dedicated team of healthcare professionals, including our compassionate nurses, skilled caregivers and support staff, are the backbone of our success. Their expertise and commitment to our residents’ well-being are truly commendable.”

NCHD said Pine Crest “takes immense pride in fostering a warm and nurturing environment that promotes physical, emotional, and social well-being for its residents.”

“The facility offers a comprehensive range of services, including skilled nursing care, memory care for individuals with dementia or Alzheimer’s disease, rehabilitation therapy and engaging social activities designed to enhance residents’ quality of life,” NCHC stated.

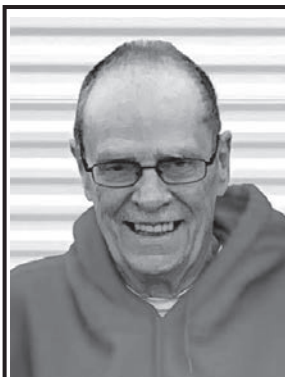
For more information about Pine Crest and its five-star rating, visit www.norcen.org/PineCrest or visit the Nursing Home Compare website at www.medicare.gov/nursing-homecompare.



Donna Q. Duranceau, age 74, of Tomahawk, passed away on Friday, June 30, 2023, at her home. Donna was born on May 29, 1949, in Shawano, Wis., to the late Frederick and Dimple (Nichols) Theilman. She was married to the love of her life, “her Elvis,” Dale Duranceau, on Nov. 2, 1968; he passed away on Feb. 26, 2008.

Donna was a 1967 graduate of the Antigo High School and was married shortly after. She was a wonderful homemaker and talented cook and baker. Donna was proud of her home on Lake Alice where she lovingly raised her children. She enjoyed the lake life watching the wildlife and tending to her flower gardens and yard which was always decorated with her favorite ornaments. Donna was a life member of the DAV Auxiliary and dedicated her time to several veterans organizations. She enjoyed visits to the casino and was truly infatuated with everything Elvis. Her family meant the world to her and she cherished cookouts, playing cards, and family game nights with her children and grandchildren. Donna loved living in the Alice Hanke apartments where she found a wonderful social circle and met her dear friend, Cheryl Schmitter. Survivors include her son, Troy (Glenda) Duranceau, of Tishomingo, Miss.; her daughters, Tina (Art) Moritz, of Tomahawk, Tammy Duranceau (Randal Anderson Sr.), of Tomahawk, and Tara (Mike) Mayle, also of Tomahawk; her grandchildren, Adam, Corrine, and Blake Teske, Marissa and Makenzy Moritz, Bailey Mayle, and Morgan Benefield and Samantha Carithers; and her great-grandson, Colt Teske, with her great-granddaughter arriving in November. She was preceded in death by her parents, Frederick and Dimple; her husband, Dale; her granddaughter, Morgan; and her siblings, Richard, Shirley, and Patricia.

Funeral services for Donna Duranceau were held on Friday, July 7, 2023, at 11 a.m., at Generations Funeral Home, Tomahawk. Rev. Ross Nelson officiated. The family received friends for visitation from 9 a.m. until the time of services at 11 a.m. Burial was held at Restlawn Memorial Park in Wausau, Wis. Generations Funeral Home & Crematory assisted the family. You may view Donna's obituary and leave online condolences at www.generationsfuneral.com



On May 13, 1946, **Arne Harry Andersen Jr.** was born to the late Arne Harry Andersen Sr. and Klaryne Andersen. Arne departed life on Saturday, July 1 at his home in Tomahawk.

He is survived by his sister Rita Penkwitz, sons; Scott, Troy, and Nick Andersen, grandsons; Ryan, Zackery, Lucas, and Matthew Andersen, and daughter-in-law Darci Jeffrey-Andersen. Preceded in death by his parents Arne Harry Andersen Sr. and Klaryne Andersen and his sister Joan Schmidt.

Arne was born and raised in Westmont, Ill. In 1966 he joined the U.S. Armed Forces and served in the U.S. Army. After completion of his active duties, Arne moved to Merrill, Wis., where he met and married Linda Bowen in 1969. They moved to Tomahawk. Arne became the owner and manager of the Clark Gas Station for 30-plus years. During this time he enjoyed playing softball, bowling, shooting pool, golfing, going to Brewer games and watching Scott and Troy play hockey. In 1992 Arne married Debra Straveler. He taught their son Nick the skills of playing pool. Nick and Scott have many memories of time spent together with Arne in pool leagues and tournaments over the years.

In 1996 A&J Sports Bar was established, Arne hosted numerous events cheering on the Bears, and Brewers, and supporting Packer Fans. He also enjoyed spending time with the regulars, friends, and out-of-town travelers as they stopped by to enjoy a beverage or two. Jackie Ryan was a dear friend to Arne over the years, supporting him at the bar and raising her son Jeremy Pufahl together.

For those that knew Arne, a visitation was held on Monday, July 10 at Krueger Funeral Home, Tomahawk, from the hours of 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The memorial service for Arne followed at 11 a.m. Memorials are asked to be directed to the family of Arne Andersen.

Krueger Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services assisted the family with arrangements. You may view the full obituary and leave online condolences at www.kruegerfamilyfuneral.com

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GRANTS
FROM PAGE 1

The program ultimately offered new or existing businesses the chance to qualify for a \$10,000.00 one-time grant if they purchased a vacant commercial space at least 400 square feet in size or started a new lease for such a space between Jan. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2022.

Franchises and certain other business classifications were not eligible, helping to focus the grant monies on small independent businesses.

At the conclusion of the program, according to the WEDC, 9,429 businesses in Wisconsin had received one of the \$10,000.00 grants.

Locally, 36 businesses in Lincoln County benefited from Main Street Bounceback Grants, adding \$360,000.00 to the county's business community.

Of those 36 businesses, 11 Tomahawk businesses received a grant, infusing \$110,000.00 into its business district, and 25 of those businesses were in Merrill, infusing \$250,000.00 into its business community.

Tomahawk business offerings expand

The following Tomahawk businesses received Badger Main Street Bounceback Grants:

- WAQ, LLC
- HMM Boutique
- Tomahawk Tattoo & Tan
- CrestPointe Properties LLC
- The Knot Haus Gift Gallery & Craft Supplies
- Frokjer Law, LLC
- Big Bear Mini Golf & Ice Cream
- Allegiance Employment
- Tomahawk Community Thrift Shop
- The Community Project
- Powersports Repair and More

The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission assisted with evaluating grant applications and disbursing the funds to qualifying businesses.

New and expanding Merrill businesses

The following Merrill businesses received Badger Main Street Bounceback Grants:

- Priority Medical Partners Direct
- Auntie Ray's Coffee House LLC
- Merrill Chiropractic
- Northside Auto
- Raymer's Westside Laundry
- Rubies & Diamonds Boutique LLC
- Henna North LLC
- FunTime Action Center LLC
- Dragons, Daggers 'n Games
- Tranquil Times Wellness LLC
- Strive 4 Life LLC
- Fick Bricks
- Systemic Solutions dba D's Dogs

- Ballyhoos Restaurant and Tavern
- Victoria's Floral
- The 710 Smoke Shop
- Greek Stop
- Wisco Upgrades LLC
- Klug Financial Solutions
- The Gathering Table
- The Pet Spa LLC
- Muddy Paws Dog Wash LLC
- B's Nest
- The Cosmo Theatre Inc.
- Ziebell Door Company

the time of their applications, and the \$10,000.00 grants helped them open their businesses and/or made moving to a retail location possible.

Existing businesses that qualified for grants used the funds to physically expand their business interests/locations in Merrill.

The Merrill Area Chamber of Commerce assisted some applicants with the process.

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Youngsters learn about 'Magnificent Monarchs' at Tomahawk Public Library

BY SARAH GREIL

TOMAHAWK – Because of the poor air quality, on Thursday, June 29, the Tomahawk Public Library moved their special event indoors for the health of those participating.

Licia Johnson, a naturalist from the North Lakeland Discovery Center in Manitowish Waters, brought her knowledge of monarch butterflies to young library goers with "Magnificent Monarchs."

Licia used her hands-on models and invited volunteers to role-play about the life cycle of monarch butterflies. Spectators were able to meet live monarch caterpillars up close and marvel at the beauty of the monarch chrysalis. Those who stayed after the program made a monarch craft and played a game where they tried to survive monarch migration.

Some local and visiting elementary students later shared what they had learned.

"I think it's cool that they only migrate to only one place in the whole world," said Missy, age 10. "I'd like to see that."

"I didn't know that monarchs only laid their eggs on milkweed," said Josiah, age 8. "And I didn't know that they went through four stages in their life."

From Guided Nature Tours and Lakeside Yoga to Dillinger Pontoon Tours and Story Walks, North Lakeland Discovery Center offers almost daily activities for all ages and interests.

Discovery Hall, their new nature center, is open Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., where you can "visit the live animals, climb up to the eagle nest, dive under the beaver lodge, and put your naturalist skills to the test at the discovery table."

Visit www.discoverycenter.net to see how you can explore nature at North Lakeland Discovery Center.



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Graphic 3: 10 Most Populous Municipalities in County

| | 2020 Census | 2022 Final Estimate | Numeric Change | Percent Change |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Merrill, City | 9,347 | 9,312 | -35 | -0.4% |
| Tomahawk, City | 3,441 | 3,436 | -5 | -0.2% |
| Merrill, Town | 2,881 | 2,882 | 1 | 0.0% |
| Bradley, Town | 2,382 | 2,417 | 35 | 1.5% |
| Pine River, Town | 1,874 | 1,886 | 12 | 0.6% |
| Scott, Town | 1,377 | 1,374 | -3 | -0.2% |
| King, Town | 964 | 984 | 20 | 2.1% |
| Schley, Town | 950 | 969 | 19 | 2.0% |
| Corning, Town | 825 | 830 | 5 | 0.6% |
| Harrison, Town | 828 | 830 | 2 | 0.2% |
| Lincoln County | 28,415 | 28,431 | 16 | 0.1% |
| Wisconsin | 5,893,718 | 5,949,155 | 55,437 | 0.9% |

Source: WI Dept. of Administration, Demographic Services Center

Graphic 5: Employment Change by Industry

| | 2021 Average Monthly Employment | 1-year Numeric Change | 1-year Percent Change | 2-year Numeric Change | 2-year Percent Change | Percent of Total Employment |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Construction | 410 | -26 | -6.0% | -69 | -14.4% | 4.0% |
| Education & Health Services | 1,718 | -67 | -3.8% | 32 | 1.9% | 16.9% |
| Financial Activities | 1,053 | -39 | -3.6% | -37 | -3.4% | 10.4% |
| Information | 64 | -3 | -4.5% | -18 | -22.0% | 0.6% |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 938 | 41 | 4.6% | -100 | -9.6% | 9.2% |
| Manufacturing | 2,294 | 107 | 4.9% | -224 | -8.9% | 22.6% |
| Natural Resources & Mining | 190 | 7 | 3.8% | 0 | 0.0% | 1.9% |
| Other Services | 236 | 19 | 8.8% | 10 | 4.4% | 2.3% |
| Professional & Business Services | 426 | 29 | 7.3% | -40 | -8.6% | 4.2% |
| Public Administration | 799 | -27 | -3.3% | -227 | -22.1% | 7.9% |
| Trade, Transportation, Utilities | 2,030 | 26 | 1.3% | -75 | -3.6% | 20.0% |
| All Industries | 10,158 | 68 | 0.7% | -747 | -6.9% | 100.0% |

Source: WI DWD, Labor Market Information, QCEW 2021

DWD publishes workforce profiles for Wisconsin counties

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), on Friday, June 30, published updated workforce profiles for Wisconsin’s 72 counties.

A release from DWD said each profile provides county-level information,

analysis and data to help employers, job seekers, economic developers and other workforce partners make decisions related to the labor market economy.

Every two years, DWD’s Office of Economic Advisors compiles and distills local data on all 72 counties into individual county workforce profiles.

DWD said the 2023 profiles “cover Wisconsin’s historic bounce-back from the COVID-19 pandemic” and feature:

- Updated U.S. Census data and changing demographics, including figures for major municipalities
- Employment by 11 industry sectors, with payroll totals and percentages

• Occupational patterns within industries

• Unemployment and labor force participation rates

• Barriers to employment

• Average wages

“Wisconsin’s labor market economy has been on a record-breaking roll, and yet employers are feeling anxious about their

ability to fill jobs due to a labor quantity challenge that’s been driven by demographic trends decades in the making,” said DWD Secretary-designee Amy Pechacek.

“What sets Wisconsin apart from other states facing this challenge are our innovative approaches, including Governor Evers’ \$158 million

Workforce Solutions Initiative, to invest in our home-grown talent and connect career seekers with good-paying opportunities.

To this end, the county workforce profiles provide an important resource for employers, community leaders, education providers, and other workforce partners in making decisions to stay competitive with local and regional talent attraction, retention and training efforts.”

Pechacek said the county workforce profiles “profiles reflect the expertise that our regional economists can offer employers, community leaders, education providers, and many other workforce partners to meet current and future workforce needs.”

“We stand ready to support and advance local and regional efforts to grow the economy and support the workforce today and in years to come,” Pechacek stated.

Lincoln County data

According to DWD, Lincoln County is the 28th least-populous county in Wisconsin with 28,431 residents. It’s also the 16th slowest-growing county in Wisconsin.

“From 2020 to 2022, the county gained 16 residents, proportionally increasing its population at a rate of 0.1%,” DWD stated. “This population change was unlike the declining trend exhibited over the course of the 2010s, where the county’s population declined by 328 residents, decreasing at a rate of 1.1%.”

DWD said the 10 most populous municipalities in Lincoln County accounted for 87.7% of the county’s overall population, and the City of Merrill was the largest contributor with a 32.8% share. From 2020 to 2022, these municipalities together added 51 residents.

From 2020 to 2021, employment Lincoln County increased by 68 jobs (0.7%) across all industries.

“This fell short of the state’s job growth of 2.5%, marking the county’s initial employment recovery from COVID-19 as comparatively sluggish,” DWD stated. “As of 2021, the county was down 6.9% to its 2019 employment level, while the state was down 3.1%.”

According to DWD, in comparison to the Great Recession, job loss and recovery was more prominent post-COVID-19.

“The unemployment rate takes the number of residents that did not have a job yet were actively seeking

Profiles

CONTINUES ON PAGE 12

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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Abbot Pennings Forever

Dear Reader,
In the quiet suburb of De Pere, Wisconsin, Abbot Pennings High School stood as a beacon of education and community spirit for over 90 years. The physical building will be removed this fall, but its foundation, rich history, and deep impact on the local community make it a cherished institution that will be fondly remembered for many years.



The school was established as a college preparatory school in 1898 along with St. Norbert College. Originally known as St. Norbert High School, it was housed in Boyle Hall on the St. Norbert College campus until 1959, when it was renamed to honor Abbot Pennings, the founder of the Norbertine Order's Wisconsin chapter. The school relocated to the former Nicolet High School building at the corner of Third and Reid Streets in De Pere, giving it a prominent location and proximity to the Fox River.

Under the guidance of the Norbertine Fathers, Abbot Pennings High School became a nurturing environment that promoted academic excellence and personal growth. The dedicated faculty and staff fostered a supportive atmosphere that encouraged students to pursue their passions and develop their talents fully.

The school's athletic programs, including basketball, football, and soccer, not only fostered physical fitness and teamwork but also united the community in support of their beloved Abbot Pennings Squires. The school's spirited sporting events were a source of pride and camaraderie, with families, alumni, and residents coming together to cheer on their teams. Pennings teams punched far above their weight, often participating in the playoffs of various sports.

The dedication to faith was an integral part of the school's spirit, with regular Masses, retreats, and religious activities bringing students closer to their spiritual roots. These experiences instilled in them a sense of moral purpose and taught them the value of compassion, empathy, and service to others.

In 1990 Abbot Pennings was merged with St. Joseph's Academy and Our Lady of Premonstré High School to form Notre Dame de la Baie Academy. The new school embodies the foundational principles of the three predecessor institutions. The recent news of the demolition of the Pennings building was met with great sadness and nostalgia within the community. The physical structure that housed countless memories, laughter, and learning experiences will soon be gone, but the impact it had on generations of students and the community will never fade.

As the wrecking ball swings, the spirit of Abbot Pennings High School will live on in the hearts and minds of those who passed through its doors. Best of all, we who went there will always remember, "It's great to be a Squire!"

PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

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

Pam Steffenhagen retires from Lincoln County Sheriff's Office after three-plus decades

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

LINCOLN COUNTY – The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office recently announced the retirement of a longtime employee.

Pam Steffenhagen had served with the Sheriff's Office for 31 years before her retirement, a Friday, July 7 post on the Sheriff's Office's Facebook page said.

Steffenhagen was hired by then-Sheriff Ron Krueger on Nov. 11, 1991. She was later transferred into the Corrections Division on Nov. 1, 1994.

Steffenhagen was promoted to Sergeant on Nov. 13, 2002, and remained a Sergeant until Jan. 1, 2005, when she stepped down "to enjoy the day shift life," the Sheriff's Office said.

On Jan. 6, 2023, Steffenhagen was assigned to work as a Telecommunications Officer and also assisted with clerical duties.

"Retirement is a time of reflection and the pursuit of new passions," the Sheriff's Office stated. "It is a time for Pam to enjoy her



Steffenhagen
Photo courtesy of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

well-deserved relaxation, spend precious moments with loved ones and embark on exciting adventures."

The Sheriff's Office expressed its "deepest gratitude" for Steffenhagen's "invaluable contributions and dedication to our citizens and this office."

"Please remember that although you may be retiring from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, you will always remain a member of our family," the Sheriff's Office said.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The continued deceit by the Lincoln County Board on Pine Crest

North Central Health Care announced that Pine Crest Nursing Home, a leading provider of skilled nursing care services, has been awarded a Five-Star Rating by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services – and yet our elected Lincoln County Board has spent many years threatening to sell and now has gotten to the stage of the actual selling to a privately held company while disgracefully turning deaf ears to the residents of Lincoln County who resoundingly do not wish the sale of Pine Crest.

Petitions have been and still are being circulated letting the County Board know that we are in direct opposition to any potential Sale. We are an aging society (as are the County Board) and have the definite need of the outstanding care standards offered by Pine Crest to continue doing the good work they have always done in the past.

My own mother spent almost 6 years at Pine Crest (she died in 2013 at 103 years old) and the care she received was superior to any other! Out-of-State relatives who came for her 100th Birthday was amazed at the bright, cheerful, well maintained interior and jealously wished for a nursing home like that for their mom back home. The Staff were caring of all the residents – I'd even told my kids that was the place I wished to go when it was "my time" to be placed in a home! After mom passed I called to those who were

in charge of nursing (Park Falls I think at that time) as well as Pine Crest – I wanted to let them know that I and my family really appreciated the care they took of my mother all thru the years of her stay!

Granted the Petitions are already making a statement of what we want but more importantly I, and possibly everyone else, are requesting as residents and taxpayers of Lincoln County (need I remind you – we pay the salary for all you "elected" County Board/Supervisors seated to represent their people) should be held accountable for your poor, and I feel dishonest, decision on this issue.

The only way to do that is by demanding a binding county-wide referendum on this issue! No more of the biased Board always shooting the referendum idea down!

We are now at the point where Lincoln County's future for all the aging residents being denied the future outstanding care, already in place, by the officials who continue to resist and ignore the will of the people and prefer taking the easy route, shortcut if you will. Now we must get our point across that that is no longer an allowable option! We want and expect to be heard and that time is now before any signatures are written on dotted lines!

A binding referendum and no excuses!

Darlene Raunio
Tomahawk

Speak up now to save our valuable asset
As you read this, Lincoln

County is at imminent risk of losing one of its most precious assets – Pine Crest Nursing Home. Yes, that publicly-owned nursing home is a valuable, rare jewel.

Too often vital services such as Pine Crest are sold out for short-term gain only to produce long term problems and ever-increasing costs not only for former/potential facility residents and their families, but for the entire community and its economy.

Not only does Pine Crest provide jobs for many in our community, it has demonstrated a higher standard of care for its residents. That higher standard of care enables family members to maintain their jobs and contribute to the economic health of the community while knowing that a resident family member is being cared for in a respectful and dignified manner. Too many family members have had to give up their own employment to care for the ever-growing needs of a family member who could not afford for-profit care or whose assets ran out before their needs were met.

Pine Crest belongs to the residents of Lincoln County, not the Lincoln County Board. According to the Board's mission statement, that 22-member body exists "...to maintain and improve the quality of life by providing fiscally responsible services in a respectful and dignified manner for those we serve."

Pine Crest belongs to we the people, for the people, by the people, and should not

be sold out to some distant, for-profit, multi-million or billion dollar hedge fund operation. Lincoln County can lead the way and demonstrate to the rest of the state, that long term care is achievable for those who need it.

Speak up now to save our valuable asset!
Diana C. Smith
Tomahawk

Nursing homes – public or private?

I have visited several close friends, relatives, my grandmother and mother, over the past many years at Pinecrest Nursing Home. I have spent a considerable amount of time there and never observed mistreatment or lack of care, consideration or impatience toward residents by staff. Nor have I heard a single complaint by patients.

A psychiatrist from Wausau made a visit to my mother to see if he could prescribe medication that would help her, suffering from alzheimers, to make a better adjustment there. When I shared my opinion regarding service provided by staff, his fitting response was, "they are angels here."

So, take your pick for your own future nursing home care: Pinecrest or a private for profit nursing home that could possibly provide substandard if not abominable care.

To keep Pinecrest a county institution sign the petition at Westside Grocery, Johnsons Office, Cenex near Post Office or St Vincent's de Paul.

Bill Ritter
Merrill

SCHOOL AID

FROM PAGE 1

due to changes in any of the three local factors comprising Wisconsin's general equalization aid formula – property valuation, enrollment and shared costs – as well as a difference in funds available from the state," DPI said. "General school aids are distinct from the recent investment from various federal stimulus efforts intended to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. These federal funds have a spending deadline and will not renew after 2024."

District aid estimates can be found on DPI's School Financial Services website in the general aids section (www.dpi.wi.gov/sfs/aid/general/summary). Estimates are available as "Summary by Alphabet" and "Summary by Percent."

| District | 2023-24 | | 2022-2023 | |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|
| | July 1 General Aid | Oct. 15 General Aid | \$ Change | % Change |
| Tomahawk | \$1,601,952.00 | \$898,371.00 | \$703,581.00 | 78.32% |
| Abbotsford | \$7,892,080.00 | \$7,725,024.00 | \$167,056.00 | 2.16% |
| Antigo | \$16,027,480.00 | \$16,136,113.00 | -\$108,633.00 | -0.67% |
| Athens | \$3,436,817.00 | \$3,344,627.00 | \$92,190.00 | 2.76% |
| Butternut | \$785,219.00 | \$ 813,244.00 | -\$28,025.00 | -3.45% |
| Chequamegon | \$2,451,776.00 | \$2,605,431.00 | -\$153,655.00 | -5.90% |
| Crandon | \$4,007,790.00 | \$4,379,252.00 | -\$371,462.00 | -8.48% |
| Edgar | \$6,048,928.00 | \$5,395,464.00 | \$653,464.00 | 12.11% |
| Flambeau | \$4,076,395.00 | \$4,287,384.00 | -\$210,989.00 | -4.92% |
| Ladysmith | \$7,582,767.00 | \$7,005,154.00 | \$577,613.00 | 8.25% |
| Lakeland UHS | \$13,465.00 | \$15,842.00 | -\$2,377.00 | -15.00% |
| Medford Area | \$15,949,535.00 | \$15,443,854.00 | \$505,681.00 | 3.27% |
| Merrill Area | \$17,642,664.00 | \$18,253,545.00 | -\$610,881.00 | -3.35% |
| Mosinee | \$14,851,387.00 | \$14,176,526.00 | \$674,861.00 | 4.76% |
| N. Pines | \$15,578.00 | \$18,326.00 | -\$2,748.00 | -15.00% |
| Phillips | \$3,498,352.00 | \$3,878,229.00 | -\$379,877.00 | -9.80% |
| Prentice | \$2,570,277.00 | \$2,084,467.00 | \$485,810.00 | 23.31% |
| Rhineland | \$9,437,497.00 | \$8,939,934.00 | \$497,563.00 | 5.57% |
| Rib Lake | \$3,816,949.00 | \$3,674,500.00 | \$142,449.00 | 3.88% |
| Stratford | \$6,952,830.00 | \$6,764,019.00 | \$188,811.00 | 2.79% |
| Wausau | \$69,712,475.00 | \$63,469,157.00 | \$6,243,318.00 | 9.84% |

"The department's July 1 aid estimate does not include per pupil categorical aid, which will be based on

student membership from the 2023-24, 2022-23 and 2021-22 school years (third Friday in September count),"

DPI stated. "Per pupil aid will be paid in March 2024. Under current law, it will be paid at \$742.00 per pupil."

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**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Wausau, Wisconsin
PUBLIC NOTICE
Invitation for Timber Sale Bids on
Various tracts in Lincoln and
Marathon Counties**

Sealed bids will be received at the Wausau Service Center 225051 Rib Mountain Dr. Wausau, WI 54401-3336, Wisconsin up to 1:00 pm on **Thursday, July 20, 2023**. Bids will be opened at that time at the Wausau Service Center. A timber sale prospectus and detailed information including a map of each tract (sold separately), as well as required bid forms and copies of sample contract forms, can be obtained by contacting the Forester at the Wausau Service Center at the above address or calling (715) 965-9228 or by going to the following web site and looking up specific counties: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/timbersale>
A total of 4 tracts encompassing 239 acres with the following estimated volumes:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Aspen | 3,340 tons |
| Mixed Hardwood | 1,715 tons |
| Tamarack | 450 tons |
| Red Oak | 350 tons |
| Red maple | 260 tons |
| Spruce | 240 tons |
| Balsam Fir | 150 tons |
| Red Pine | 95 tons |
| White Pine | 50 tons |
| Red maple Logs | 80 MBF |
| Ash Logs | 75 MBF |
| Red Oak Logs | 75 MBF |
| MX Logs | 26 MBF |
| Sugar Maple Logs | 20 MBF |
| Basswood Logs | 10 MBF |

Published July 12, 19, 2023 WNAXLP

**STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT,
LINCOLN COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROSE LEE LYND, deceased.

Notice Setting Time to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration)
Case No. 2023IN30

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 9/3/1952 and date of death 3/14/2023 was domiciled in LINCOLN County, State of WI, with a mailing address of N10196 ECHO VALLEY RD, TOMAHAWK, WI 54487.
3. The application will be heard at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office, before Becky Byer, Probate Registrar, on August 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is October 27, 2023.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or address are unknown.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-536-0342 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: June 29, 2023
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar
Form completed by:
ERVIN V. WALKOWSKI
N10196 ECHO VALLEY RD,
TOMAHAWK, WI 54487
1-715-297-1867
Published July 12, 19, 26, 2023
WNAXLP

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
LINCOLN COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF James A Daley

Notice Setting Time to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration)
Case No. 2023 IN 29

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 9-1-1942 and date of death 6-3-2023 was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N5785 State Highway 107, Tomahawk, WI.
3. The application will be heard at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office before

Legals 7700

Becky Byer, Probate Registrar, on 7-31-2023 at 10:00 a.m.
You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 10-20-2023.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.
6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or address are unknown.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-536-0342 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.
BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: June 20, 2023
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar
Form completed by:
Esther Rene Daley
W2281 CTH C
Merrill, WI 54452.
Published June 28, July 5, 12, 2023
WNAXLP

CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements 7005

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

RHINELANDER H.S. CLASS of Years 1958-65

Class Reunion

Fri., Aug. 11, 2023, 4-11 p.m.
Cabaret Cove
1540 Pueblo Dr., Rhinelander \$12.00 each incl. pizza, salad and bread, w/cash bar and payment at door.
Carol Henrichs: 715-499-0365
Contact information:
Jan Johnson 715-490-6765

WCAN (Wisconsin Community Ad Network) and/or the member publications

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

Activities and Meetings 7020

Lakeland Stamp and Coin Show: Saturday July 22, 9:00AM -2:00PM. Woodruff Town Hall Highway 47 East of Highway 51. Nine dealers, Free admission. Chuck 1-414-218-6696

Rummage Sales This Week 7200

Fund Raiser Garage Sale Trinity Lutheran Church, Merrill 107 N State St. Fri. July 14, 8AM-6PM, Sat. July 15 8AM-1PM.

Large 9 Family Sale: N1305 Deer Run Ave, Merrill. Everything you can imagine and more to furnish office or household, display stands, Large items, solid furniture, Sunday - Saturday 9am-5pm, weather permitting.

Tomahawk: Friday, 7/14, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Saturday, 7/15, 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. Household goods, baby items, young women's clothing and more! 14 Pine Ridge Lane

NOTICE OF VACANCY LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS District 16 (City of Tomahawk – Wards 5-6, Town of Bradley – Ward 3)

Applications for District 16 representation on the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors are now being accepted. Interested persons residing in this district should submit a letter of interest directed to the Lincoln County Clerk, Chris Marlowe. Letters are due by 12:00 PM, Monday, July 31, 2023. Interviews will be given to selected candidates on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at the Lincoln County Service Center.

District 16 represents Wards 5 and 6 in the City of Tomahawk, and Ward 3 in the Town of Bradley. For inquiries regarding your address, call or email the Lincoln County Clerk's office at 715-539-1019 / chris.marlowe@co.lincoln.wi.us.

The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors will approve the appointment to fill this vacancy at its' August 15, 2023 meeting. The successful candidate will serve the unexpired term of Mike Loka ending April 15th, 2024.

Letters of interest and personal qualifications can be sent or delivered to the following address: Lincoln County Clerk's Office, 801 N. Sales St, Suite 201, Merrill, WI 54452
chris.marlowe@co.lincoln.wi.us

Published July 12 & 19, 2023

WNAXLP

Miscellaneous Sales 7212

VENDORS WANTED: Craft Antique Direct resale ect.If you want it sold bring it. Oct 7 at the Marc center Merrill sale is 9-3. Spots are \$45.00 for a 10x10. Contact: littlefarmgirlgifts1@gmail.com or 7159080780 for application. littlefarmgirlgifts1@gmail.com

Antiques and Collectibles 7214

Antiques on Spirit
3 E. Spirit Ave (corner of S. 4th St & Spirit) 715-453-4085
Open Wednesday thru Monday, 11-1; Tuesdays by appt. only
Complete China sets at 50% Off

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



Hardwood Maple Dining Table: Beautiful, handcrafted table made from reclaimed bowling alley maple. Natural, golden finish. Heavy pedestal base and 48" table-top are separated for easy transport. Hardware included. Comfortably seats 5. Some minor flaws but in excellent condition. \$350. Rhinelander. Leave message (715) 499-1072

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.

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266

DONATE YOUR CAR, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at **1-844-406-2647 today! (WCAN)**

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**

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)**

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-855-659-0649

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

WANTED TO BUY: 1979 or 1980 GMC truck parts. 715-525-1884.

Dogs 7272

ACA MINI POODLE PUPPIES Shots/wormed/vet, \$750 No Sun calls (495932) **715-409-3321**

AKC CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL PUPS dewts/shots/vet/worm ready to go \$1000 **715-536-0697** or **715-316-2522 (WCAN)**

AKC REG. COCKER SPANIEL PUPS 8-F, 6-M summer special! 1/2 PRICE 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

Cavapoo Puppies, 1st Shots & dewormed, non-shedding, cuddly, cute & friendly. \$350 CASH. Call or Text 715-223-5078

CAVAPOO PUPS shots/wormed/dews/vet check very cute \$500 715-470-0458 #509642-DS

COCKAPOO PUPPIES: Born May 14, ready for loving homes! Mix of 25lb Cocker Spaniel mom and 20lb Poodle dad. Well-socialized, vet checked, and full of playfulness. Call or text to meet your new furry friend. 715-965-2283

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS AKC Excel Temp Genetic Guarantee Parents OFA'd **715-537-5413** www.jerland.com #268001-DS (WCAN)

POMERANIAN PUPPIES- CKC registered, 12 wks. Tiny adorable smart playful people lovers. Home raised. Shots, dewormed. \$650. 715-627-7679, Antigo, WI.

SHEBA INU PUPS BORN 5-18-23 dewormed, had first shots family raised, \$500 Call Amy **715-669-3847**

SHELTIE PUPS ICA REG 5M 2F B&W Sable/White shots/dewormed call for info No Sunday Calls! **715-644-5200**

Shihpoo and Cavapoo puppies ready now, 1 year health guarantee, \$675-\$975, 715-892-5250.

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/wicp (WCAN)

Livestock 7284

HOME GROWN BEEF No implants, 1/4s \$2.75/lb 1/2 \$2.70/lb July Process **715-470-0458**

Farm Equipment 7286

ROCK BUCKET- Quick Attach, 72", used twice. 715-487-5268 or leave message.

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)**

Miscellaneous Real Estate 7487

Oneida County owned Real Estate For Sale: A detailed list of the properties, bid form and other information can be obtained from the County website at <http://www.co.oneida.wi.us> under Announcements click 'Real Property Sale Offerings', or contact Land Information Office, email linfo@co.oneida.wi.us PH 715-369-6179. Bids due August 4th, 2023, 4PM. Parcel and minimum bid: Pelican PE-46-4 \$56,345.52.

Boats 7508

17 Foot Grumman Canoe and Trailer \$500 OBO. Call 715-536-1582 or 715-921-2535.

PARK CITY CREDIT UNION - MERRILL

2020 STARCRAFT SVX 191 OB ID# STR57945G920
2020 MERCURY MC150LPT4ST ID# 2B750133
2020 TRAILMASTER ST194OBR VIN# 45JA2DN13L1001926
MINIMUM BID \$25,000
OR BEST OFFER
Please contact Trish @ 715-536-8351 Ext. 4233

Campers and Motorhomes 7526

STARCRAFT POP-UP camper trailer for sale- w/dining slideout. New tires, battery, tire level jacks, Maxxair roof vent cover, portable screen porch & winter cover. A must see, very clean. 715-493-0565

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)**

General Employment 7110

AUTO PARTS counter/customer service writer & office help needed. \$17.00 - \$25.00 based on experience. We can train sharp candidates, but prior experience in an auto parts store or repair shop would be best. M&F are encouraged to apply. Paid holidays, health insurance payments, uniforms are available. A valid driver's license is required. 715-892-1971, Minocqua, WI.

Operators Wanted: Wisco Materials is in search of an operator to run excavators, loaders and crushing equipment. CDL not required. \$25-\$32 starting wage depending on experience. Must be able to work overtime in busy times. Call 715-905-0547 to schedule an interview or fill out an application at 670 McComb Ave Rib Lake. 715-905-0547

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

SECURITY OFFICER MINOCQUA \$15 PER HOUR: Per Mar Security Services is seeking Entry Level and Experienced Security Officers to join our expanding team! Are you looking to change careers? Need a foot in the door for a new start? Let us be your path to professional success! We are interested in you! We are looking for a Full Time 2nd shift Security Officer in Minocqua The set hours are: 10 AM to 6 PM Wednesday through Saturday 11 AM to 5 PM Sunday Must be responsible and reliable. See the job full description and APPLY ONLINE at Permarsecurity.com/careers. Any questions, please Email Jenni Williams at JWilliams@permarsecurity.com

Stone Shop Operators: Wisco Stone is looking for stone machinery operators for our stone shop in Rib Lake. 40-hour workweek. \$22-\$28 starting wage depending on experience. Send resume to steve@wiscostone.com or fill out an application at 670 McComb Ave in Rib Lake. 715-905-0547

Professional and Technical 7135

New Sounds New Sites & a New Career catch your eye? We can help! Train with SCDTI for your CDL. Call **715-942-2700 ext 102**

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 & 65+? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7 1-877-707-5707

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

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

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

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

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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

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

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

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

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 OVER INTERNET Get your favorite live TV, sports, & local channels. 99% signal reliability! CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max & Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/CHOICE Package or higher) No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. **Call IVS 1-833-574-1746 (WCAN)**

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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



In continuing a longstanding Pow Wow Days tradition, the Tomahawk Fire Department held its Water Fight on W. Wisconsin Ave. after the parade on Tuesday, July 4. **Photos courtesy of the Tomahawk Fire Department**



News Briefs

Friends of the Tomahawk Public Library book sale today
The Friends of the Tomahawk Public Library will hold a book sale in the basement of the library, 300 W. Lincoln Ave., today (Wednesday, July 12) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. No items are priced. Donations are appreciated, with all proceeds going to the library. Many books for all ages, as well as magazines, CDs and rummage sale items, will be available.

Historical Society brat fry at Trig's
The Tomahawk Area Historical Society will host a fundraising brat fry at the new food hut in Trig's parking lot, 662 N. 4th St., on Friday, July 14 and Saturday, July 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Brats, hotdogs, chips and soda will be available. Funds raised will be used at the society's two museums, including needed building repairs at the Old Kindergarten Museum. The group is an all-volunteer organization. For more information on how to support historical projects and displays, call 715-966-4801.

Aspirus blood drive
A blood drive will be held in the Spruce and Tamarack Rooms at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital, 410 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk, on Friday, July 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments are requested. To schedule an appointment, call the Community Blood Center at 800-280-4102.

CESA 9 offering Substitute Teacher Training
CESA 9 in Tomahawk will offer Substitute Teacher Training on Tuesday, **News Briefs**
CONTINUES ON PAGE 11

Excavating and Hauling 7352

BRIAN'S BOBCAT SERVICE. Driveways - new or repaired, grading, site preparation, soil spreading, light excavation 715-367-6260

Gutters and Gutter Cleaning 7356

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

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

Home Building Supply 7358

Knotty Pine for your walls and ceilings, Cabin Grade T&G 1X6, End Matched, Clear Coated in stock. \$1 lin. FT. Call Lawrence at Iron Bridge 715-257-1011 Athens, WI.

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off - limited time! Financing available. 1-855-417-1306

Heating and Cooling 7362

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Down + Low Monthly Pmt Request a free Quote. Call before the next power outage. 1-855-948-6176

Painting and Wallpaper 7364

Interior & exterior. Painting, staining, wall repair, power washing. Drywall, carpentry, tiling, plumbing & electrical. 33 yrs exp. Insured. Call Dave 715-966-6211

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Roofing and Siding 7370

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - \$500 Discount + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-619-2373

Miscellaneous Services 7374

DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-888-686-1458 (WCAN)

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-920-3533 (WCAN)

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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: 1-877-626-1009 (WCAN)

REPLACE YOUR ROOF w/the best looking & longest lasting material, steel from **Erie Metal Roofs!** 3 Styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - \$500 discount + Add'l 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders) Call Erie Metal Roofs 1-877-845-6606 (WCAN)

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/mo! **BCI Bath & Shower.** Many options avail. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now & SAVE 15%! Call today! 1-877-651-1850 (WCAN)

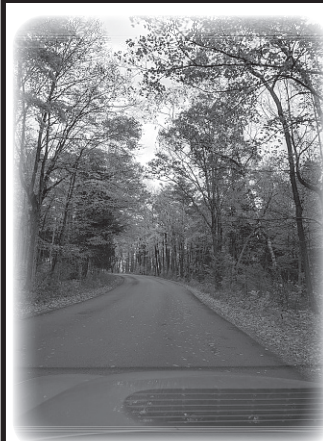
THINKING ABOUT INSTALLING A NEW SHOWER? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-844-479-1327 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/wcp (WCAN)

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971

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715-453-2151

The Pastor's Corner

July 12, 2023



"You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence." (Acts 2:28)

When you are traveling and are given different routes to take for your journey, how do you choose the one you will take? Many people choose the fastest way because they see the journey

as something they must get through to reach the place they want to be. Many of us feel like that if we've got a long way to go.

Recently, my husband and I were traveling the busy main roads to get to our destination. There was a lot of traffic, so we decided to take the back roads for a change of pace. It was much more relaxing to take a smaller road that meandered through the countryside. The scenery was much more interesting, and we saw things we wouldn't have seen on the busy main roads. We were going slower, but we experienced more of God's thriving creation around us. We noticed plants and animals and people along the way. The journey became part of the enjoyment of the trip, not just something to endure.

Jesus often took back roads in his ministry to encounter new people and places in his journeys. He stopped and interacted with people along the way instead of hurrying from one place to another. His journey was the ministry in sharing God's abundance with people off the beaten path as much as reaching his destination.

Often, we get impatient about getting somewhere in our lives, like having a fancy home, an important job or being able to retire. But if we are in such a hurry to get to what we want, we miss out on the present moments of life. Instead of rushing to get somewhere, Jesus reminds us to slow down and find gladness in God's presence. Take the back road and enjoy the ride of life. You never know when you'll get to pass by that time or place again.



Blessings,
Pastor Julie Sinkula
Grace Church

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.

Last week we celebrated our country's 247th birthday. I had mentioned that the type of government defined in our constitution was inspired by the Democratic Republic set up in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1541.

The initial plan presented for our constitution in 1787 was known as the *Virginia Plan*, originally drawn up by James Madison and the delegates from Virginia. This plan divided the government up into three separate branches, which was modified by dividing the legislative branch up into two houses: the *House of Representatives* and the *Senate*. James Madison's plan followed the pattern set up by the Christian Reformer, John Calvin, for the government of Geneva, Switzerland, in 1541. This form of government was thought to be the best way to deal with the fact that all people are sinners, even those who rule. I mention this because there was another philosophy about government and human nature that had become popular by James Madison's time that was the opposite of what the Bible taught. This philosophy was centered in the country of France and was known as the *enlightenment*. It was rejected by the writers of our constitution.

The *enlightenment* assumes that people are basically good and not the sinners the Bible says (Romans 3:9,10). The *enlightenment* teaches that if we do wrong, it is not our fault but that of our *environment* - the *environment* being culture, religion, nationalism, economic status, or anything that encourages a sense of competition with a neighboring individual or group. The *enlightenment* teaches that if we remove the elements that make for competition and make everyone equal socially and economically that we would become better people and naturally look out for one another, and then, even government itself may disappear because it would no longer be needed.

The genius of the writers of our constitution in choosing a form of government that followed the Bible's definition of human nature over the teachings of the *enlightenment* was seen early in the history of our country. Where the founders of our country had accepted the Bible's teaching that we are sinners, the leaders in the French revolution applied the teachings of the *enlightenment* to their revolution. After our revolution, by 1787, we had established our country under a constitution that for 247 years has given us freedoms that many people can only dream about. At the same time, by 1793, the French Revolution had descended into the Reign of Terror with its execution of thousands of men, women, and children. And while we have had one form of government in the last 247 years, France has gone through nine different changes of government. Our founding fathers knew we could not ignore the words of the Creator and still expect to succeed, where the French thought they could ignore God and still succeed. May we be at least as wise as our founders.

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

Leader Sports & Nature



Members of the Tomahawk Hatchet golf team attended the 43rd U.S. Senior Open Golf Championship in Stevens Point on Sunday, July 2. The U.S. Senior Open Golf Championship was held at Sentry World Golf Course from Tuesday, June 27 through Sunday, July 2. Pictured, from left to right: Carson Childers, coach Garth Gerstenberger, Drew Albert, Caiden Reichelt and Sawyer Hanna. Photo courtesy of Garth Gerstenberger

Friends of Council Grounds State Park hosting ninth annual photography contest

BY TINA L. SCOTT
MMC STAFF

MERRILL – The Friends of Council Grounds State Park are again holding their ninth annual amateur photography contest in 2023, and they want to encourage visitors to Council Grounds State Park, located just north of Merrill, to “come and enjoy the park and remember to bring a camera along and take photos for the contest.”

Park visitors in previous years have captured some wonderfully unexpected and candid images of animals in the park and people enjoying Council Grounds, as well as great images of plants and landscapes, to enter into the contest.

Rules

There is no cost to enter and the rules are few and easy to follow.

All photos entered into this year’s contest must have been taken within the boundaries of Council Grounds State Park between Aug. 1, 2021, and July 31, 2023, (a two-year period), and each person can enter only one photograph, so pick your best image to enter.

Professional photographers and anyone who sells their photos are not eligible.



This photo of a developing tadpole was entered into the Wildlife category in a previous year’s Friends of Council Grounds photography contest. Photo by Gregg Warning



This photo, though not a contest entry, is a colorful example of the kind of image that would make a great entry in the Plant category. Photo by Laurie Nikolai-Svetlik

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 138

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 137 question: In what year did THS win its first conference dual meet and conference tournament title in wrestling: 1968, 1969 or 1970?

Week 137 answer: THS won its first conference dual meet and conference tournament title in 1970, under Bob Meyer and Dan Johnson. Tomahawk

was 17-1 that year in duals and were ranked honorable mention on the State level.

Congrats to Heather Matti for being the first to correctly answer last week’s question!

Week 138 question: In 1970, Don Petta led the THS track team by placing in what position at the State tournament: Fourth, fifth or sixth?

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| Date (CDT) | Morning | | Evening | |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Minor | Major | Minor | Major |
| July 12 | 12:32AM | 7:34AM | 3:50PM | 7:59PM |
| July 13 | 12:59AM | 8:24AM | 5:01PM | 8:50PM |
| July 14 | 1:32AM | 9:16AM | 6:07PM | 9:42PM |
| July 15 | 2:14AM | 10:09AM | 7:06PM | 10:35PM |
| July 16 | 3:05AM | 11:02AM | 7:55PM | --- |
| July 17 | 4:04AM | 11:28PM | 8:34PM | 11:53AM |
| July 18 | 5:08AM | 12:18AM | 9:04PM | 12:42PM |
| July 19 | 6:14AM | 1:05AM | 9:28PM | 1:28PM |

Solunar fishing and hunting chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon is July 17th.

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PHOTOGRAPHY
FROM PAGE 10

sunrises, rivers, etc., but remember, no panoramic images. This is the most popular category.)

Each photo submitted must include Contest category, date taken and photographer's name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number

By entering the contest, photographers verify the image is their own and agree to have their submitted photos used/copied/displayed/published (without fee or compensation) in conjunction with the contest, including in local publications, in articles relating to this or future contests; online at the Wisconsin Parks Website, on the Friends Facebook page, etc., and displayed in the Park contact station; on cards or postcards for sale by the Friends Group; and/or saved or re-used for any future purpose by the Friends of Council Grounds State Park group.

Any photo that does not comply with the contest rules, is not properly labeled, or is deemed inappropriate in any way by the Friends of Council Grounds State Park Board will be rejected.

Contest judges, DNR employees and Friends Group members and their families are not eligible to enter.

Complete rules are available online at www.tinyurl.com/2pywccdr or on the Friends of Council Grounds State Park Facebook page.

Copies of complete rules are also available at the Park office and in the entryway at the Merrill Chamber of Commerce office.

Judging

After Monday, July 31, a panel of judges from the Friends Group will narrow the entries down to

the top three in each category. Photographer names will not be revealed to the judges. Any category with fewer than eight entries may be canceled.

The three finalist photos in each category will then go to public voting to determine the final first-and second-place winners in each category. Public voting will take place from Tuesday, Aug. 15 through Thursday, Aug. 31.

Finalist images may be viewed on the Friends of Council Grounds State Park Facebook page, at the Park contact station, and at the T.B. Scott Free Library in Merrill.

The public will vote on their favorite single image on the Friends of Council Grounds State Park Facebook page or by emailing their vote for their favorite image to cgphotos@hotmail.com. Only one vote per person. Duplicate votes will be eliminated.

Winners will be notified and announced in September.

First-place winners in each category will receive a 2024 Wisconsin State Park vehicle sticker. Second-place winners in each category will receive Council Grounds merchandise or a gift certificate valued up to \$15.00.

Sports Briefs

Tomahawk Community Fun Runs

The Tomahawk Community Fun Runs are now underway. Runners of all ages are invited, though runners under the age of 14 should be accompanied by an adult, as runners are not supervised. Runners meet at Veterans Memorial Park, where a description of the running route will be communicated. Runs typically occur Sundays, Mondays, and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m., with occasional 7:30 a.m. Tuesday runs from Sunset Point. View the Fun

Run schedules at www.tinyurl.com/ybwkwdjz. For more information about the Tomahawk Community Fun Runs group, visit www.strava.com/clubs/1066717.

Summer morning lap swim

Summer morning lap swim will be held at the pool at the Tomahawk school complex Mondays through Thursdays from 6 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. Entry is through at Door #6 (auditorium, fieldhouse and pool). Walking on the indoor track and water aerobics will return in the fall.

NEWS BRIEFS
FROM PAGE 9

Aug. 8. Individuals with an Associate or Bachelor's degree and who successfully complete the training are eligible to apply for a Substitute Teacher permit. For additional information, visit the CESA 9 website at www.cesa9.org or call 715-453-2141.

Lincoln County Retired Educators announce scholarship

The Lincoln County Retired Educators will award two scholarships this year. One will go to a Merrill High School graduate and the other to a Tomahawk High School graduate. Applicants must be in the School of Education, be a Junior or Senior, and intend to teach in Wisconsin. To request an application, Tomahawk graduates should email glderleth@gmail.com and Merrill graduates should email jbekp4@gmail.com. Merrill applications are due back via email by Thursday, Aug. 18, and the award recipient will be notified by Friday, Aug. 25. Tomahawk applications are due back via email by Tuesday, Aug. 29, and the award recipient will be notified by Friday, Aug. 31.

Construction on Lincoln County roads
Road construction will run through Thursday, Aug.

31 on the following Lincoln County roads: County Rd. L; County Rd. S east of U.S. Hwy. 51; Prairie Rd. in the Town of Merrill; and Meyers Rd. in the Town of King. Lincoln County Highway Commissioner John Hanz recommends using alternate routes, if possible.

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.

Eagle Summit Community Healing Rooms

Eagle Summit Community Healing Rooms, W5676 Water View Ln., Tomahawk, are open every Thursday night from 6 p.m. to 7:30 for prayer support. Eagle Summit is part of the International Association of Healing Rooms and features trained volunteers who offer free, confidential prayer support. Eagle Summit is a faith-based center open to all. For more information, contact Paula at paulapmt25@gmail.com or call Eagle Summit Healing Center 715 224-3490.

WEATHER

| DATE | HIGH (°F) | LOW (°F) |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|
| Sunday, July 2 | 82 | 50 |
| Monday, July 3 | 89 | 60 |
| Tuesday, July 4 | 87 | 65 |
| Wednesday, July 5 | 77 | 48 |
| Thursday, July 6 | 73 | 48 |
| Friday, July 7 | 77 | 46 |
| Saturday, July 8 | 77 | 45 |

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Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake monitor identifies 'continued progress' at Irma facility

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

IRMA – The latest report from the court-appointed monitor for Lincoln Hills School/Copper Lake School (LHS/CLS) in Irma, filed on Wednesday, July 5, noted “continued progress” at the facility, a release from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) said.

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections is now in substantial compliance with 32 provisions identified in the consent decree, which stems from a 2017 lawsuit over conditions at the facility under the previous administration, according to the release.

“Leadership, staff and youth overall at LHS/CLS continue to have positive interactions with each other and the environment in general was very calm throughout LHS/CLS,” the monitor wrote in the report. “The overall opera-

tions of LHS/CLS continue to be moving in a positive direction and the (DOC) continue to make progress in areas of the provisions of this agreement.”

“This is the 17th report filed by the court-appointed monitor, and under Governor Tony Evers’ administration, the DOC has been in either partial or substantial compliance with all 50 provisions of the consent decree,” DOC stated. “Since the last report in March, the department gained substantial compliance in conditions of room confinement by making them cleaner and safer.”

Other improvements noted in the report include upgraded game room, lighting and exhaust fans in all living units, added new options in canteen/food service in response to youth feedback, updated water fountains throughout the school and administrative



areas and a decrease in staffing vacancies.

The release said that since the last report, the DOC has hired a special education teacher, two new psychological associates and 28 youth counselors. The department also filled all social worker vacancies.

“Staffing shortages increase the burden on those who work to maintain a safe and healthy environment for youth and staff,” the monitor wrote.

Since March, DOC held

new and existing employees in order to help with attracting new talent and retaining current staff,” the monitor wrote.

The monitor noted that after reviewing videos of use-of-force incidents, the utilization of Mandt techniques by staff are showing to be more effective in de-escalation and lowering the risk of injury to staff and youth when compared to Position of Subject Control techniques.

“The monitor encouraged the DOC to proceed with full implementation of Mandt,” the release stated. “The monitor also noted that there should be a continued focus on moving

away from administrative confinement.”

“The Division of Juvenile Corrections staff continues to make significant improvements at LHS/CLS, a trend that has continued under the Evers administration,” said DOC Secretary Kevin Carr. “We are proud of the strides that have been made, but we recognize the work is not finished and will continue to give considerable attention to ways we can improve and better serve the youth in our care.”

A listing of all monitor reports can be found on the DOC website at www.tinyurl.com/bdf558j8.

Alzheimer’s Association workshop to explore preparing finances for dementia diagnosis

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

RHINELANDER – The Alzheimer’s Association will offer an educational workshop covering tips for managing finances, how to prepare for future care costs and the benefits of early planning related to a dementia diagnosis.

The free Managing Money program will be held on Tuesday, July 18, at the ADRC of Oneida County, 100 Keenan St., Rhinelander, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

“If you or someone you know is facing Alzheimer’s disease, dementia or another chronic illness, it’s never too early to put financial plans in place,” a release from the Alzheimer’s As-

sociation said. “This workshop provides a general overview for people who are facing a diagnosis, as well as those who wish to be informed.”

The workshop will describe how caregiving affects finances, list the legal and financial documents caregivers should put in place, prepare for useful discussions about financial decisions and planning, identify steps to lower the chances of financial abuse and fraud, begin to create a backup plan in case a caregiver can no longer provide care and offer helpful Alzheimer’s Association resources.

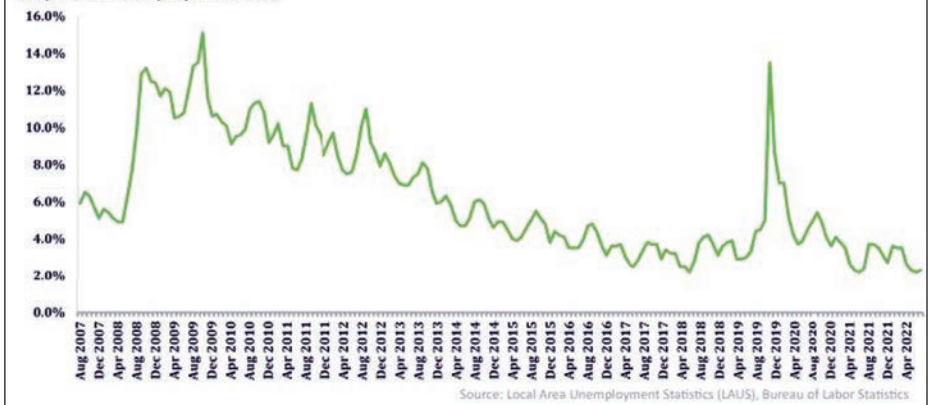
The Alzheimer’s Association said in the United

States alone, more than six million individuals are living with Alzheimer’s, and 16 million are serving as their unpaid caregivers.

“The disease is a global crisis that impacts numerous families right here in our community,” the Alzheimer’s Association stated. “However, no one has to face this disease alone or without information.”

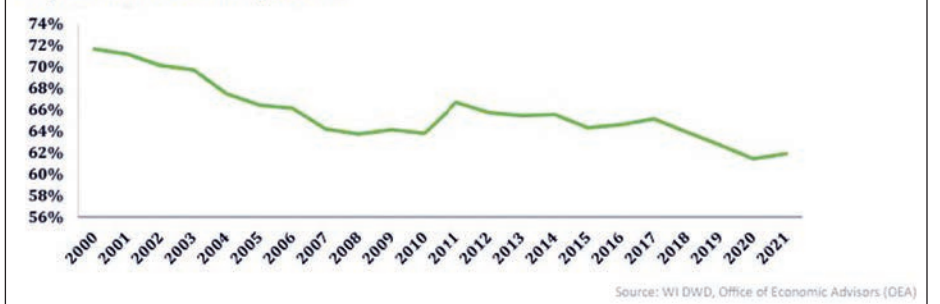
To learn more about the program or to register, contact Julie St. Pierre at 715-352-4091 or jstpierre@alz.org. Individuals can also register by reaching out to the Alzheimer’s Association 24/7 Helpline at 1-800-272-3900 or by visiting www.bit.ly/3JMAwTI.

Graphic 7: Unemployment Rate



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Bureau of Labor Statistics

Graphic 8: Labor Force Participation Rate



Source: WI DWD, Office of Economic Advisors (OEA)

PROFILES

FROM PAGE 6

work and presents them as a share of the total labor force,” DWD stated. “In April 2020, Lincoln County’s unemployment rate climbed 8.5 percentage points, resulting in a peak rate of 13.5%, nearly matching the highest rates experienced in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis. Eight months after this initial spike, the unemployment rate fell to 4.5%.”

DWD noted that while the initial recovery was quick, it has decelerated considerably.

“The unemployment rate improved to 3.5% in Aug. 2022, the latest month for which county-level data are available,” DWD said.

Employers found attracting and retaining employees challenging even before

COVID-19, according to DWD.

“Trends in labor force participation indicate that this challenge is likely to persist into the future,” DWD stated. “The labor force participation rate (LFPR) looks at the relative labor resources available and is expressed as the percentage of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and older that is working or actively looking for work. This rate faces downward pressure any time there is an aging population.”

DWD said Lincoln County’s LFPR has been trending steadily downward since 2000, when the oldest baby boomers were in the late stages of their prime working years. The local LFPR was 71.6% in 2000 and has diminished to 61.9% in 2021.

DWD identified transportation, housing, childcare and broadband internet access as “barriers to employment, which prevent people from entering or fully participating in the labor market.”

“As Wisconsin’s population continues to age and baby boomers exit the workforce, the long-term challenge of workforce quantity worsens,” DWD stated. “This increases the importance of labor market engagement.”

Full county profiles available online

To learn more, visit the DWD WisConomy page (www.tinyurl.com/ycyhmc9j), select a county from the dropdown list and click on “Go.”

Find a regional labor market economist from the online directory at www.tinyurl.com/2487mhfr.