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Proposed adolescent recovery center awaits permit Town of Cassian opposes facility; GLITC says it's necessary

BY EILEEN PERSIKE
MMC STAFF

TOWN OF CASSIAN – The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) held a ground blessing ceremony in late July on property it purchased in the Town of Cassian, north of Tomahawk, where it plans to build an adolescent recovery and wellness center.

The event brought together representatives from tribal nations in the region and local and state governments.

The location, off of Swamp Lake Rd., was selected to house a 36-bed residential facility that will treat 13- to 17-year-old Native American youth who are struggling with substance use disorder and other mental health conditions.

Six weeks after the ceremony, the Town of Cassian authored a resolution opposing the project and has recently retained an attorney.

Though Town Chair Patty Francoeur told the Northwoods Star Journal that “no one would disagree that these types of facilities are needed,” the resolution outlines

several concerns the town has, including lack of infrastructure, reduced property values, negative impact on the “welfare, public health, and safety of the citizens of the Town of Cassian due to increased public safety demands for a remote location.”

The first point in the resolution speaks to a lack of communication, stating the town board was “never consulted about the construction” of the rehab facility in their community.

In response to the resolution, last week Bainbridge sent a four-page letter to the Cassian supervisors refuting a lack of consultation with the town. He said it was important to write the letter as the project is moving through the permitting process and to “lay out the facts.”

“We don’t want people to think there was no communication, that everyone was blindsided,” Bainbridge said. “When I first made contact with the town board chair, I initiated that. I want to make sure I’m being a good neighbor and that the township knows exactly what’s being proposed and what’s going on.”



GLITC Chief Executive Officer Bryan Bainbridge speaks during the ground blessing ceremony at the site of the proposed adolescent recovery center in the Town of Cassian. **MMC photo**

In the letter, Bainbridge wrote, “Over the course of many months dating back to at least June 15, 2023, which is documented in emails, visitor sign-in sheets and my participation in a Town Hall meeting, where I shared project plans and answered questions ... I believe we can demonstrate ongoing dialogue and engagement with town leaders and residents.”

“I think when he says he was very open to the town, I think that’s an outright lie,” Francoeur told the Star Journal. “I had an email from them on June 15 asking to attend our next town board meeting. We decided that we thought that because of the situation that we should have a separate meeting, which we did.”

At the board meeting, Francoeur said, Bainbridge gave “very unspecific answers,” which upset some of the town residents. “I will say he has been nothing but very nice; but since then, the communication, what they are doing out there, the town has no

Recovery Center
CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

School District of Tomahawk launches ‘Hatchet App’

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – The School District of Tomahawk is now offering a new smartphone app designed to help families stay connected with district news, events and more.

The district announced the launch of the “Hatchet App” on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

“We know our families are busy,” the district stated. “That’s why we are introducing this parent communication app to make it easier for parents, students and staff to quickly get the information they need regarding academics and extracurricular activities. From urgent communication to the day-to-day news, documents and forms, this app will save time and improve communication for families, students and administrative staff.”

When opening the “Hatchet App,” users are offered an optional walkthrough of its features.

Among these features is the “News” tab, which offers all relevant information from the district.

The “Events” tab shows scheduled extracurricular activities, such as sports, plays and concerts, as well as guest speakers, blood drives and more.

Under the “Directory” tab, users can find contact information for district staff and board of education members.

Through the “Quick Links” tab, users can access Skyward and district newsletters.

Middle and high school bell schedules, breakfast and lunch menus and school supply lists are also available on the Hatchet App.

The app also features a link to Speak Up Speak Out, a 24/7 statewide confidential reporting system administered by the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of School Safety (OSS).

To download the app on iOS or Google, visit the app store and search “Hatchet App.”

The district recommends allowing notifications from the app.

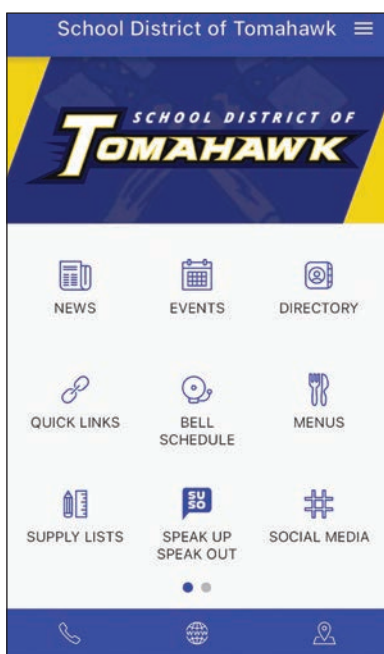


Photo courtesy of the School District of Tomahawk

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BLACK FRIDAY

DPI: School District of Tomahawk 'exceeds expectations' on 2022-23 report card

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – The School District of Tomahawk earned a grade of “exceeds expectations” on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI)’s report card for the 2022-23 school year.

DPI published school and district accountability report cards for the 2022-23 school year on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

DPI releases school and district report cards annually, as required by state statute.

Report cards include data for multiple school years across four priority areas: Achievement, Growth, Target Group Outcomes and On-Track to Graduation. The Achievement and Growth priority areas are weighted based on a district or school percentage of economically disadvantaged pupils, as required by state law.

A district or school’s over-



all accountability score places it into one of five overall accountability ratings: Significantly Exceeds Expectations (five stars), Exceeds Expectations (four stars), Meets Expectations (three stars), Meets Few Expectations (two stars) and Fails to Meet Expectations (one star).

Report cards use up to three years of data, including achievement data from 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23.

“Statewide, achievement improved from 2021-22 to 2022-23, though for many schools and districts, 2022-23 achievement performance is lower than pre-pandemic levels; thus, report card achievement scores, overall scores and ratings may have

decreased despite upward trending achievement performance,” DPI stated. “This is the first report card that does not include achievement data from assessments occurring prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

DPI said it urges caution when interpreting scores and ratings due to impacts resulting from the pandemic.

Of 378 public school districts receiving report card ratings for 2022-23, 357 met, exceeded or significantly exceeded expectations (94% of districts). Among districts receiving report card scores for both 2022-23 and 2021-22, 19 increased by one rating category compared to the prior year, 52 decreased by one rating category and 306 had no change in rating, according to DPI.

Report cards are not produced for districts that represent a single school. In these cases, school report cards are produced.

DPI said there were 2,098 report cards produced for public schools for 2022-23. Among public schools, 158 (8%) were unable to be scored due to insufficient data. Of the scored public school report cards, 1,601 met, exceeded or significantly exceeded expectations (83%). Among public schools receiving scored report cards for both 2022-23 and 2021-22, 255 increased in rating at least one category compared to the prior year, 394 decreased in rating at least one category and 1,254 had no change in rating.

There were 405 private schools participating in a Private School Choice Program

for 2022-23. Of scored private choice school report cards, 136 met, exceeded or significantly exceeded expectations (80%). Among private choice schools receiving a score for both 2022-23 and 2021-22, 26 increased in rating at least one category compared to the prior year, 48 decreased in rating at least one category and 80 had no change in rating.

A total of 235 private choice schools (58%) were unable to be scored due to insufficient data. DPI said this is in part due to the tested choice student population being too small to meet the conditions required to produce report cards, either because of low test participation rates or total choice student population size.

“In addition to achievement, growth and graduation rates, another component of the report cards is chronic absenteeism, which is the percentage of students (enrolled for at least 90 days) who missed more than 10% of school days,” DPI stated.

Wisconsin students (public and choice) had a 23% chronic absenteeism rate for 2021-22, the most recent year of data for absenteeism.

In line with national trends, this represents an increase from 2017-18 through 2019-20 (13%), and 2020-21 (16%), DPI said, noting that it “continues to work with schools, districts and CESAs to support strategies to decrease chronic absenteeism rates.”

“In addition to providing school leaders with an awareness of effective strategies to improve positive conditions for engagement within the school, the DPI emphasizes the importance of collaboration between students, families, school leaders and human services agencies,” DPI stated. “Each community has differing challenges with school attendance, and regular meetings between local partners promote local solutions.”

DPI said it has used federal

AREA OVERALL SCORES AND RATINGS

District	Overall score	Rating
Tomahawk	71.8	Exceeds Expectations
Abbotsford	63.8	Meets Expectations
Antigo	59.7	Meets Expectations
Athens	64.8	Meets Expectations
Chequamegon	73.3	Exceeds Expectations
Crandon	54.7	Meets Expectations
D.C. Everest	72.8	Exceeds Expectations
Edgar	68.1	Meets Expectations
Flambeau	64.4	Meets Expectations
Hurley	68.1	Meets Expectations
Ladysmith	57.4	Meets Few Expectations
Lakeland UHS	48.6	Meets Few Expectations
Marshfield	66	Meets Expectations
Medford	68.7	Meets Expectations
Mellen	55.7	Meets Few Expectations
Merrill	63.5	Meets Expectations
Minocqua J1	69.3	Meets Expectations
Mosinee	66.7	Meets Expectations
N. Pines	68.8	Meets Expectations
Phillips	65.4	Meets Expectations
Prentice	64	Meets Expectations
Rhineland	65.9	Meets Expectations
Rib Lake	69.6	Meets Expectations
Stratford	77.6	Exceeds Expectations
Three Lakes	76	Exceeds Expectations
Wausau	65.7	Meets Expectations

Data courtesy of DPI.

pandemic relief funding to launch a program, ENGAGE Wisconsin, which “aims to re-engage chronically absent students through individual assessment and personalized coaching at no cost (in participating districts).” DPI continues to provide training and consultation to school leaders.

School District of Tomahawk data

The School District of Tomahawk received an overall score of 71.8 on its 2022-23 report card, earning a four-star “exceeds expectations” rating.

In the Achievement category, which summarizes how a district’s students performed on state assessments using a points-based proficiency system that gives partial credit for Basic test performance and extra credit for Advanced performance, Tomahawk scored 60.8, higher than 49.5% of districts in the state.

The Growth category measures year-to-year student progress on statewide tests. Tomahawk earned a Growth score of 70.8, the same as or higher than 78.2% of Wisconsin districts.

Tomahawk scored 65.1 in Target Group Outcomes, which examines outcomes for students with the lowest test scores, known as the Target Group. Tomahawk’s score was the same as or higher than 75.5% of districts in the state.

The On-Track to Graduation category indicates how successfully students are progressing toward completing their K-12 education. Tomahawk’s score of 88.5 was the same as or higher than 77.9% of districts in Wisconsin.

Full data available online

For detailed district and school report cards, visit www.apps2.dpi.wi.gov/reportcards/.

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RECOVERY CENTER

FROM PAGE 1

idea what is going on.”

Regarding the concern of property value decline and negative economic impact to the area, Bainbridge noted in his letter that in addition to being a needed service, he believes the center will be a net benefit. He cites an estimated 50 new jobs, exploration of workforce housing plans and GLITC’s intention to fund infrastructure improvements, such as road paving,

utilities, broadband connectivity, and potential investment in things like snow removal equipment.

“What I really want to do with the township and the county and whomever else is to create partnerships,” Bainbridge said. “I want people who really understand and want to be involved in something good.”

Francoeur reiterated the town is not against the facility, but the location.

“The location is just a little scary,” Francoeur said. “It’s way out there. If you’re on Hwy. 51, obviously that’s

very easy, but now you’re way out there.”

“There is no place where we asked for money,” she continued. “We’re going to take care of our town, no matter who our residents are, no matter what happens, we’re going to take care of everything.”

Bainbridge said the Oneida County Planning and Zoning Department has their application for a conditional use permit. He said hopes it will go before the board yet this month so work can begin this fall.

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Tomahawk among nine Aspirus hospitals recognized by Chartis Center for Rural Health

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital was among nine Aspirus locations to be recognized with the Chartis Center for Rural Health's 2023 Performance Leadership Awards.

A release from Aspirus Health said the Performance Leadership Awards are compiled by the Chartis Center for Rural Health to determine top quartile performance (i.e., 75th percentile or above) among rural hospitals.

"The Performance Leadership Awards are based on the results of the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®, the industry's most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance," Aspirus stated. "INDEX data is relied upon by rural hospitals, health systems with rural footprints, hospital associations and state offices of rural health around the country to measure and monitor performance across several areas impacting hospital op-



Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital was recognized in the Performance category of the the Chartis Center for Rural Health's 2023 Performance Leadership Awards. Photos courtesy of Aspirus



erations and finance."

Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital was recognized in the Performance category, joining Aspirus' Iron River, On-

tonagon and Stanley hospitals.

Aspirus' Eagle River, Langlade and Merrill hospitals, as well as the Howard Young

Medical Center in Woodruff, were honored in the Outcomes category.

In the Patient Perspective category, Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital and the Howard Young Medical Center were awarded.

"These recognitions demonstrate the commitment of our exceptional health care teams," said Jesse Tischer, Aspirus SVP and President of Regional Markets. "Providing rural health care is a growing challenge and we are committed to making sure our communities have high-quality options."

"Wherever we go in rural America, we witness firsthand the commitment, determination and compassion with which rural hospitals serve their communities," said Michael Topchik, national leader, Chartis Center for Rural Health. "Rural health-care truly is mission-driven."

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News Briefs

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Warm for Winter distributing clothing in Rhinelander
Warm for Winter, a mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Rhinelander, collects new and gently used clothing, shoes, boots, coats, hats, mittens, toys and bedding. Everyone is welcome, no questions asked. No income requirements. Distributions will take place at Friendly Village, 900 Boyce Dr., Rhinelander, on Saturday, Nov. 25, 9 a.m. to noon; Monday, Dec. 11, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.;

News Briefs
CONTINUES ON PAGE 9

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Deadline for ads & copy is 5PM THURSDAY.

Published weekly by Multi Media Channels LLC., N2919 County Road QQ, Waupaca, WI 54981; Phone: 715-258-3207

The Tomahawk Leader was established in 1897 and is an official newspaper representing Lincoln County, City of Tomahawk, Tomahawk School District. The publication is an active member of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association and the National Newspaper Association.

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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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OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at www.tomahawkleader.com



Michael E. Waters, Sr., age 82, of Tomahawk, WI, passed away on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, under the care of his family and Compassus Hospice. Mike was born in Milwaukee, WI, to the late Ellery and Mildred (Bothum) Waters. He proudly served as a military police officer in the United States Army's 385th Military Police Battalion in Kornwestheim, Germany. Mike was married to Darlene Diek on December 16, 1961.

Mike was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Technical College Criminal Justice Programs. He was employed as a police officer with the Milwaukee Police Department and later was the chief criminal investigator with the State of Wisconsin's Public Defender's Office where he created the State of Wisconsin Civil Service Examination for investigators. He shared his knowledge as a guest lecturer for Marquette University, the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, and the Milwaukee Police Academy. In his younger years, he enjoyed mentoring children and coaching football and basketball. Mike was a member of the Eagles Club in Milwaukee.

Survivors include his wife of nearly 62 years, Darlene Waters; his sons, Michael E. (Gina) Waters, Jr., Mark P. (Sherry) Waters, and Matthew J. Waters; and his brothers, Tom Waters and John Waters. He is further survived by his grandchildren, Jake, Jessica, Brittany, Brooke, and Mikayla. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ellery and Mildred; and his brother, Daniel Waters.

In accordance with Michael's wishes, private family services will be held. Generations Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family. You may view Michael's obituary and leave online condolences at generationsfuneral.com.



Loren B. Holdorf, of Stevens Point, affectionately known as "Dorf," passed away Nov. 10, 2023, at the Marshfield Hospital Palliative Care Unit, at the age of 76, supported by a terrific medical team, and holding hands with his wife of 40 years, Lynne Kagelmann.

Loren, along with his twin brother, Lowell, were born in Denver, Colo., to Verdell "Duke" and Ruth (Rewinkle) Holdorf on March 11, 1947. The twins joined the family with one older sister, Cheryl, followed by Grant and Gail. As a "Navy Family," a variety of locations were part of Loren's early years.

Following high school, Loren attended Pacific Lutheran University and graduated with a BA in Elementary Education; all while also serving in the U.S. Navy. His love of teaching led him from Kansas to Colorado and finally to Tomahawk. In that time, he also earned a Master's Degree and obtained his Reading Certification. Loren was the quintessential Middle School teacher; relishing in the opportunity to awaken curiosity, introduce new authors, and help students appreciate diversity. He was sure to give students time to explore their personal interests and creatively did this with his "Sit down - shut up - and READ" events. He was Mr. Obstreperous to some, but an award winning teacher of the year to all! Loren and Lynne, lovingly known as The Kageldorfs, shared a life of love, laughter, and adventures, along with a host of amazing friends and family. These cherished memories and beautiful friendships that were made together, will be a source of great comfort to Lynne, until the two are together once again.

For those wishing to express their sympathies, the family kindly requests in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to Think World Central Kitchen or a charity of your choice.

A Celebration of Life will be held in honor of Loren on Sunday, Nov. 26, 2023 at Point After Pub & Grill from 12 p.m. to approximately 4 p.m. All who knew and loved Loren are invited to join us. Come raise a pint in farewell to our Loren! Shuda Funeral Home is honored to be assisting the family. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.shudafuneral.com.

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

As reported by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Monday, Nov. 13:

Over the week our Lincoln County 911 Center received seven 911 nuisance calls/hang ups. The Lincoln County Deputies conducted 41 traffic stops with three resulting in OWI arrests. Within the county this week, there were 16 car vs. animal collisions.

On 11/06/2023 at approximately 19:00, Lincoln County 911 Center received a call stating there was a vehicle on fire in the area of U.S. Hwy. 51 and U.S. Hwy. 8 in the Township of Bradley. Lincoln County Sheriff's Deputies and Tomahawk Fire Department responded to the scene. Once deputies arrived on scene they made contact with the driver, an Eau Claire man, 50. The driver was not injured, the fire was extinguished and the vehicle was removed from the scene. Nothing further at this time.

On 11/11/2023 at approximately 02:00, in the area of County Rd. S and Herb Mitchell Rd. in the Township of Bradley, a Lincoln County Sheriff's Deputy conducted a routine traffic stop of a vehicle for speeding. The deputy made contact with the driver, a Wausau man, 33, who displayed signs of alcohol impairment. The driver was placed through a series of field sobriety tests, and as a result of those tests, he was arrested for OWI 1st offense. The driver was released to a responsible party and the vehicle was tagged for 24 hours. Nothing further at this time.

On 11/11/2023 at approximately 23:00, in the area of French Ridge Rd. and State Rd. 64 in the Township of Pine River, a Lincoln County Sheriff's Deputy conducted a routine traffic stop of a vehicle for no lights on a trailer. The deputy made contact with the driver, a Merrill man, 25, and the passenger, a Merrill man, 24. Upon further investigation it was determined that the passenger had bond restrictions stating he could not consume any alcoholic beverages. Passenger provided a PBT and was arrested for bail jumping and cited for having an open intoxicant in the vehicle. The passenger of the vehicle was transported to the Lincoln County Jail. Nothing further at this time.

On 11/12/2023 at approximately 02:50, in the area of County Rd. S and U.S. Hwy. 51 in the Township of Skanawan, a Lincoln County Sheriff's Deputy conducted a routine traffic stop of a vehicle for speeding. The deputy made contact with the driver, a Merrill man, 19, who displayed signs of alcohol impairment. The driver was placed through a series of field sobriety tests, and as a result of those tests, he was arrested for OWI 1st offense, possession of THC, and cited for speed. Deputies also made contact with the passenger, a Harshaw man, 18, was cited for UAL (underage alcohol violation). He was released to a parent while the driver was transported to Merrill Aspirus Hospital for medical clearance, then transported to the Lincoln County Jail. Nothing further at this time.

George Brixius appointed as District 13 Supervisor

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER EDITOR

LINCOLN COUNTY – The new District 13 Supervisor in Lincoln County has been appointed.

George Brixius will replace former District 13 Supervisor Calvin Callahan, who stepped down from the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors in September due to his relocation out of the district.

District 13 covers Ward 4 in the Town of Bradley, Ward 1 in the Town of Somo and Ward 1 in the Town Wilson.

Brixius was appointed to the position during the board's meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

Brixius was previously elected to serve as District 17 Supervisor in April 2022, but stepped down later that year due to a move out of the district.

Brixius will serve the remainder of Callahan's term, which ends on April 15, 2024.

Janiece M. Fischer, age 93, Stevens Point, died November 13, 2023. Funeral service details pending.

Local news online – www.TomahawkLeader.com

Associated Clergy of Tomahawk "Pastor's Corner"

The Heidelberg Catechism of 1619 makes some basic Christian principles clear at the beginning. In question-and-answer form. It declares:

- Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?
- A. That I am not my own, but belong-body and soul, in life and in death - to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has paid for my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in Heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.
- Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?
- A. Three things:
First, how great my sin and misery are.
Second: How am I set free from all my sins and misery.
Third: What gratitude I owe to God for such deliverance.
- Another great statement of faith, The Westminster confession of faith declares:
- Q. What is the chief and highest end of man?
- A. Man's chief and highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever.
- Christians are called to live with gratitude of life, love and faithful living. Gratitude for family brings more happiness and fulfillment than almost any other relationship.
- An attitude of gratitude makes life a joy to live.
- In Jesus Christ, we know the joy and happiness of fulfillment that can transform bad times to good times. People have purpose in life. May all of us discover an attitude of gratitude in our living today through Jesus Christ.



Submitted by
Dr. Patrick Shelley,
Retired Minister
First Congregational Church,
Tomahawk, WI

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 looked at Romans 2:12-16 and its description of the fact that God does not judge us all by the same standard (Bible or conscience), but He does judge us all by the same principle (what did we do with what we knew). Today, we shall look at Romans 2:17-29 as it focuses on God holding religious people responsible for not obeying what God says. The example used is the religious Jew of the first century AD.

The Jews had the Word of God (Old Testament) and claimed to speak for God in the world in which the book of Romans was written. What is said to the religious Jew of the first century can also be said to Christians today.

There were many Jews who were faithful to God as they understood God to have said (verses 17,18), and there were Jews who were religious and outspoken in their religion (verses 19,20), but they were not obeying God in what He said (verses 21,22); the result was that their religion without their obedience was a bad testimony for God and worked against anyone believing God (verses 23,24). God's judgment is that being religious only counts if we actually obey what God says, our disobedience earning God's judgment (verse 25). For the Jew, *circumcision* was the physical symbol of their faith (verse 25); somewhat like a professing Christian today wearing a cross, it only has meaning if we are actually obeying God.

In verses 26 through 29, God confronts the religious, but disobeyed Jew, and compares them to the pagan Gentile who obeyed the moral principles taught in God's law; God having placed within each of us the basics of His moral law – our conscience (Romans 2:14,15). In verses 26-29, God makes three points about this.

First, the righteous conduct of the pagan would be counted as equal to the circumcision of the Jew (verse 26). Second, the righteous conduct of the pagan stands in the position of condemning the religious but disobedient Jew (verse 27). And third, being a Jew, as God defines a real Jew, has more to do with obedience to God in the character of the individual than in following a religious rite like circumcision (verses 28,29). The issue is not *what people think about us* as they measure us with a religious standard, but *what God knows about us* as He examines our character and the motivations of our heart (verse 29). The implication is that God looks more favorably upon the pagan (*uncircumcision*) who does what is right, than upon the religious (*circumcision*) who is not doing what is right.

These verses are a continuing discussion on the statement of Romans 1:18, that God is angry with the sins of those who know what is right but do not obey what is right, which is also the message of Jesus (John 3:19). It is *not the hearers of the law who are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified* (Romans 2:13). These verses are a warning that being religious will not buy God's acceptance, nor a home in His Heaven.

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

Church DIRECTORY

<p>First Congregational N. Fifth & E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk 715-453-2217 8:30am Bible Study • 9:30am Worship Pastor John Miskimen</p>	<p>Grace Lutheran ELCA 108 W. Somo Ave. 715-453-4066 Worship Times: Sat., 5 pm • Sun., 9 am Pastor Julie Sinkula Streaming Worship on our website: www.gracelutherantomahawk.org</p>
<p>ReviveNow Church 1328 County Rd. A, Tomahawk 715-453-8783 Sunday Service & Facebook Live Stream: 9:30am Prayer Meetings: Tuesdays 6pm Pastors Jaco & Leslie Theron</p>	<p>Spirit Baptist Hwy. 86, 1/4 Mile West of Hwy. 102, Spirit 715-657-0304 • 715-657-0764 Duane Harper Pastor Affiliated w/Baptist General Conference</p>
<p>Community Seventh Day Adventist Hwy. 86/D, Tomahawk • 715-453-5809 Pastor Eric Anderson Church: 9am, Sabbath School: 10:15am Radio WLBI-LP 107.1 FM</p>	<p>Berean Baptist Church 19 N. Third St., Tomahawk Pastor Charles Scheele 715-453-3407 Sunday School - 9:30 am Sunday Morning Service - 10:45 am Sunday Mid-week Bible study - 7:00 pm Wednesday</p>
<p>Northland Bible Church 2810 Olson Road, Tomahawk Join Us Sunday 10 a.m. Pastor Alex Lindsay 715-612-1841 northlandbiblechurch.com</p>	<p>St. Mary's Catholic Seventh and Washington Ave., Tomahawk • 715-453-2878 Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor Mass times: Saturday 6 p.m. Sunday 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Confessions: Saturdays, 9 a.m.; Anytime by Appointment</p>
<p>The Rock Church of Tomahawk 201 West Merrill Ave., Tomahawk 9am Sunday Service & live-streamed on our Facebook page. Pastors - Janel and Mike Voelker Assoc. Pastor - Jessica Mueller</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Pier-Willow 12 Miles North of Tripoli at 5209 Willow Road Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor Saturday 4 p.m. Mass</p>
<p>Redeemer Ev. Lutheran WELS • 715-453-4814 16 Theiler Drive, Tomahawk Rev. Mark Gass, Pastor For Mass Times Check www.redeemertomahawk.org</p>	<p>St. Augustine Catholic Intersection of D & B, Harrison • 715-453-2561 Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass</p>
<p>St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Missouri Synod 715-453-5391 12 E. Wisconsin Ave., Tomahawk Pastor Stephen P. Gillet</p>	<p>Northwoods Vineyard 418 Kaphaem Road Tomahawk • 715-453-6700 Pastor Nate & Shelley Nelson Reg. Serv. 9:30 Facebook Live Stream 9:30</p>
<p>Directory made possible by these churches and...</p> <p>PCA PACKAGING CORPORATION OF AMERICA N9090 Hwy. E, Tomahawk TOMAHAWK LEADER 24 W. Rives St., Rhinelander</p>	<p>United Methodist Church Tomahawk & Spirit Rev. Lisa Weaver 715-453-4378 Join Us Sunday: 8:30 in Spirit, 10:30 in Tomahawk in person & 10:30 Online Via Zoom</p>

Supervisors approve 2024 Lincoln County budget

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

LINCOLN COUNTY – The 2024 Lincoln County budget is officially set.

During its meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 14, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to approve next year's spending plan.

Supervisors had the opportunity to propose amendments to the budget during last week's meeting, as long as the budget remained bal-

anced once amended. No amendments were proposed.

The 2024 tax levy came in at \$15,658,766.00, a 3.61% increase from this year's \$15,113,054.00 levy.

The county's equalized valuation increased from \$3,093,555,100.00 this year to \$3,523,732,700.00 in 2024, a 13.91% jump.

A balanced proposed budget was presented to the board in October. During the board's meeting last month, Finance Director Samantha Fenske said the county's net new construction had in-

creased to 1.06% for 2024, the "highest it's been in a very, very long time." Last year, net new construction was 1.02%.

Fenske last month also noted the roughly \$630,000.00 supplemental payment the county received as part of the state's updated shared revenue formula, which Fenske said helped the budgeting process.

The 2024 Lincoln County Budget Report is available online at www.tinyurl.com/4xpuzspk.

Happy Thanksgiving

Check out our New Men's Line



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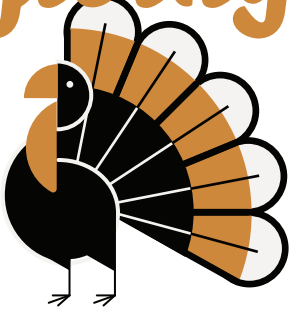
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Advent Services: November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 3 pm – inside worship
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(Dec. 13th, 6 pm service – Learning Center Program will be held indoors)

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Kinship OF TOMAHAWK

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Wishing the Tomahawk Community a Very Happy Thanksgiving!

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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Finding Gratitude in the Present and History of Thanksgiving

Dear Reader,

As we approach Thanksgiving, it's a perfect time to reflect on the history of this beloved holiday and remind ourselves of the importance of gratitude in our lives. Thanksgiving Day in America has a rich and meaningful past, steeped in tradition and a spirit of coming together.

The origins of Thanksgiving can be traced back to 1621 when the Pilgrims, who had recently arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts, celebrated a bountiful harvest with the Wampanoag people. This gathering marked the first Thanksgiving feast, a symbol of unity and gratitude for the blessings of the land. Over the years, the observance of Thanksgiving evolved, becoming a national holiday in 1863 when President Abra-



ham Lincoln proclaimed a day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens."

Today, Thanksgiving is a time when families and friends gather around tables filled with a cornucopia of dishes. But it's not just about the delicious food. It's about acknowledging the "little things" that make our lives rich and meaningful.

In our fast-paced world, it's easy to overlook the ev-

eryday blessings. Thanksgiving serves as a reminder to pause and reflect on the small joys that often go unnoticed. Whether it's a warm smile from a stranger, a beautiful sunset, or a heartfelt conversation, there is much to be thankful for if we open our hearts and minds to it.

Gratitude has the power to transform our lives. It shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have, promoting positivity and resilience. So this Thanksgiving, I encourage you to harken back to the spirit of that first celebration and find gratitude in your own life. Share your blessings with others, embrace the little moments, and let the warmth of thankfulness fill your heart.

As a publisher, I'm grateful for the opportunity to share stories, thoughts, and reflections with all of you. Thank you for being a part of our community. We wish you a wonderful and gratitude-filled Thanksgiving.

With warm regards,
PATRICK J. WOOD
Publisher

BUSINESS DIRECTORY I

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I chose to base my support on facts rather than fear

My name is Angie Koch, I am a resident of the Town of Cassian. I am writing regarding the proposal which will be going to the Oneida County Planning and Zoning committee for approval for the Adolescent Wellness and Rehab Center (AWRC).

My home is directly across the road from the proposed facility site. I am for this project.

I have a Master's Degree with 25-plus years of professional work in long term care, healthcare management, parent advocate for youth with special needs and trained as a mental health crisis screener. My experience and information from primary sources are what made my decision to support the AWRC.

Initially I was against the project. I didn't know the details and had many questions. I even created a flier and provided them to as many individuals in my neighborhood. I was concerned about the lack of transparency, the safety of the residents, my family and home.

I had the opportunity to meet with Brian Bainbridge by walking over to the property site and shared all my concerns. My concerns included: my home being broken into, trespassing, youth wandering out in the woods becoming lost and traffic patterns. Mr. Bainbridge gave me time I needed to ask and have questions answered. He provided me with his contact information for any future questions or concerns I may have.

A voluntary, youth facility will be subject to many licensing regulations which makes it easier for me to realize there is no increase of danger to my family or property than there would be if 10 homes were built on said property. I feel there will be less of a safety concern with the AWRC being built, due to the stringent regulation and licensing that will be required. Governmental policies and licensing are very complicated, this would be why Mr. Bainbridge did not have all the answers to questions that were asked at the initial meeting.

Another misconception relates to the following statement: "There would be violent offenders in there,"

Tom Tiffany (July 24, 2023). This statement has created unnecessary fear in the community. Individuals who have substance abuse and mental health needs should not be equated to being "violent offenders." I am ashamed to live in the district of a representative that would publically make that statement.

These are children who have families that want recovery. They need help because of a medical condition. The closest option for an adolescent inpatient mental health facility is Green Bay.

Yes, our family routine will have to change. We will have to share and be aware of more traffic, people and potentially a black-topped road (which I did ask Mr. Bainbridge not to do if at all possible). Benefits are experiencing diversity, high speed internet and stable power systems.

Change is hard, especially when you have owned a home on a less-traveled road for 15 years. I chose to base my support on facts rather than fear.

Angie Koch
Town of Cassian

GLITC proposed Adolescent Recovery and Rehab Center

Addressing continuous concerns regarding the GLITC's proposed Recovery/Rehab Center on North Pine Square Road. Bryan Bainbridge, CEO of GLITC had written a letter, dated Oct. 31, to the township board stating how much GLITC has communicated and been forthcoming on the intentions of this proposed center.

Below are the facts:

The board members of Cassian Township were not consulted nor approached about this facility nor land (156 acres) purchase. A second property (134 acres) adjacent to the first has been purchased as well. That is a total of 290 acres, for what purposes? Concerns include if this land were to be put into a land trust.

Bryan stated that on July 24 he shared plans and answered questions from the townspeople. He did talk to us, however, did not have answers to our questions at this meeting.

Still in question are funding, infrastructure, and safety:

In that letter, Bryan stated that zero financial support will be asked for from Cassian Township, however, the only way

they are able to even build the facility was a grant from the state of Wisconsin for over \$15 million dollars. Will it be taxpayers that will truly pay for infrastructure improvements?

Bryan stated that "partnering with tribal entities is a benefit, they have the ability to access additional funding sources." I only assume a great portion of those additional grants from the state of Wisconsin or the federal government, again taxpayer dollars. How will the facility sustain itself?

Bryan stated that there will be 50 new jobs/employees to run this facility. That is 50 more cars on gravel roads, two times/day. Where will these people come from or live? Bryan had stated GLITC is thinking about building housing on the property. Adding more strain on the infrastructure issue(s), not to mention what the construction traffic will do.

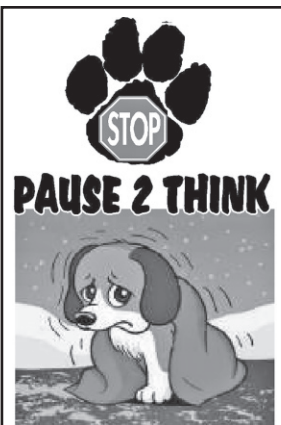
Bryan does not believe that this facility will impact the surrounding property values. The properties in this area are quiet and private (reasons people come to the Northwoods). The facility/potential housing removes this reason; hence property values would lower. Would someone purposely buy near a rehab facility?

This facility is for 13-17 years old, preference to native - urban youth, on a volunteer basis. Bryan believes that because it is a volunteer basis, there will not be issues, there will be monitoring 24/7. Addiction/mental health issues are challenging to say the least, as we can all agree, however, if it becomes too hard for a resident to stay at the facility and they choose to leave, then what? That resident or their outside contacts potentially pose a safety risk to the community.

Thank you to the Cassian Township Board, as they are listening to their residents and continually trying to fight this proposed facility. Respectfully looking for the Oneida Board to do the same.

Please check the Oneida County and Cassian Township websites for upcoming meetings, to lend your support.

Chris Turnbull
Town of Cassian



The outdoor dog

Outdoor living conditions are not the ideal home for your dog. But...IF you truly have to keep your dog outside, PLEASE INSULATE their dog house well. Use soft blankets or bedding that is kept DRY. Heated beds are the best. When choosing a dog house, make sure it is small enough to protect your dog adequately but yet large enough for them to turn around in comfortably. If your dog house is too large, too much cold air will circulate. SNOW IS NOT ENOUGH! Dogs need adequate water. Heated water bowls are best. If you don't have a heated bowl, check to make sure it is not frozen, and offer fresh water often. Dogs exposed to cold conditions require more calories to stay warm, so feed your dog generously. DO NOT USE CHOKE COLLARS on permanent outside dogs. They are a choking hazard and also the metal on the collar can become cold enough to cause injury to your dog's skin. When conditions are brutal, bring your dog in. Older dogs and dogs with medical conditions, like arthritis need to have extra precautions taken for them.

College News

Kaylie Svacina, Tomahawk, completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse this summer.

The following local students are among the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater scholarship recipients receiving finan-

cial awards for the 2023-24 academic year: Autumn Peissig, Tomahawk, Helen Wilsmann Scholarship; Richelle Swan, Tomahawk, Isabelle Mathews Scholarship and William L Carter Scholarship; and Haley Liebelt, Irma, Chancellor Scholars.

Jake Fleischman, of Gleason, graduated from Western Technical College from the Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement 720 Academy program. Fleischman was one of 242 graduates to receive an associate's degree or technical diploma in the 2023 Summer Term.

Frontier Communications seeking state grant funding for Lincoln County broadband project

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

LINCOLN COUNTY – Frontier Communications has applied for state grant funding for a broadband internet project in Lincoln County.

Governor Tony Evers and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), on Wednesday, Nov. 15, announced that the Wisconsin Broadband Office (WBO) received 124 applications requesting \$221.6 million for the Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program.

A release from Evers' office said PSC is expected to award up to \$42 million under the American Rescue Plan Act's Capital Projects Fund (CPF) to administer Broadband Infrastructure Grants and invest in broadband construction and deployment that will provide high-quality internet to locations that lack access to adequate, affordable service.

The ratio of requested



funding to available funding is the highest for any grant round since the first in 2014, according to the release.

The release said CPF is "designed to address the barriers to internet access that existed before but were made worse by the coronavirus pandemic."

"Broadband Infrastructure Grant funds will be used to make necessary investments in broadband infrastructure designed to provide consistent, reliable and high-performance broadband service to areas most impacted by the coronavirus pandemic in Wisconsin," the release stated.

The funding is available to construct broadband infrastructure projects to

deploy reliable internet service that will meet or exceed 100/100 Megabits per second (Mbps) symmetrical speed internet service and include at least one low-cost option for work, education and health monitoring.

Frontier Communications submitted applications for 12 projects, one of which is in Lincoln County. The project will utilize fiber to the premises (FTTP) service to reach 181 residential locations and four businesses in the City of Merrill and the Town of Pine River. Frontier requested \$499,446.00 and pledged \$404,908.00 for the project, which will utilize nine miles of fiber, according to data from WBO.

Frontier is also seeking grant dollars for several projects in Marathon County, while Cirrinity has applied for funding for a Langlade County project. Funds are being sought by Bug Tussel for work in Taylor County, according to WBO.

During the application review, PSC will evaluate each grant based on, among other factors, affordability of service, project design and technology, applicant capacity to complete the work and community engagement and support.

PSC is expected to announce grant recipients by spring 2024.

"The Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program will help build upon our progress to connect over 395,000 homes and businesses to new or improved high-speed internet by helping close the digital divide in communities that have long struggled with inadequate service," Evers stated. "That said, clearly,

the need far outweighs the resources available, and we must keep making meaningful state investments to prioritize and invest in the robust broadband infrastructure needed to meet our state's 21st-century needs."

"I want to thank Governor Evers for his ongoing commitment to addressing the internet access and affordability challenges in our state," said PSC Chairperson Rebecca Cameron

Valcq. "We know that continued investments are necessary to meet the clear, consistent demand for broadband infrastructure and help us connect more communities as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible."

A list of Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program applicants is available at www.tinyurl.com/esnj8faa.

A flag map of proposed project areas is available at www.tinyurl.com/bdc85wf5.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT

Applications are now being accepted to fill an Administrative Assistant position within the Street Department. Applications can be found at the City Clerk's office or online at <http://www.ci.merrill.wi.us/employment>. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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Tomahawk Area Historical Society looks back at 2023, ahead to future

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – The Tomahawk Area Historical Society (TAHS) held a special fall get-together last week, which provided the organization with the opportunity to thank its many volunteers and take a look back at the past year, as well as offer a glimpse into future plans.

Immediate, future needs

TAHS said continuing and new volunteers are needed to help keep its two historic museums open, noting that assistance is needed with cleaning, displays, summer staffing and events.

"Monetary support of \$10,000.00-plus is needed for Old Kindergarten Museum building foundation repairs in the next year or two," TAHS stated. "Additional repairs will be necessary soon to the ramp and deck at the entrance of the museum."

TAHS noted that its building committee conducted an in-depth review of the organization's numerous structures, which led to the installation of insulation in a needed area and repairs to siding.

Accomplishments in 2023

Nearly 1,000 people signed the guest books at TAHS' two museums this summer, the organization said.

"We experimented with opening the museums for two Wine and Cheese weeknights and held some Saturday hours," TAHS stated. "Both were well-received, especially by people who cannot attend during regular hours and those visiting the flea and farmers market on Saturdays."

TAHS noted that it will



Photo by Jalen Maki

try to do more Wine and Cheese weeknights and Saturday hours next year.

The organization converted information from its previous obsolete website to a new site, thanks to help from John Wurl. The site will receive continued updating, and new information will be added.

"The site has been maintained for years by Robin Comeau," TAHS stated. "With these changes, she will bow out of that long-time assistance and we will take over locally. A huge thanks go to both Robin and Jon."

TAHS received a \$690 matching grant from the Wisconsin Historical Society and Wisconsin Council of Local History. Only 18 of 53 applicants were accepted.

"The grant program provides monetary support to affiliate historical societies for projects related to collections care and access," THAS explained, adding that its accessioning committee applied for the funding to support the purchase of collections management software.

TAHS said it is "excited to implement this new system to build upon the countless hours already devoted to accessioning efforts."

"Two volunteers will be trained to use the newly

purchased CatalogIt program to record all museum collections in one, easily searchable location," TAHS stated.

A \$1,900.00 grant from the STAR (Support Tomahawk Area Resources) Foundation allowed TAHS to purchase a laptop computer and various programs, as well as a projector.

Another grant from the Tomahawk Community Thrift Shop helped TAHS with maintenance, including spray foam to close air leaks under the porch area.

More than 50 people attended a Speaker Luncheon hosted by TAHS. The event featured retired local printer Louie Heuser, who is one of only a few printers left with an active Linotype.

TAHS also held several fundraising brat sales in the new hut at Trig's.

Future plans

TAHS said it is planning a reunion for students who attended the "Old Kindergarten."

"The goal is to reunite as many 'graduates' as possible sometime around July 4, 2024," TAHS stated.

TAHS is asking those who attended the Old Kindergarten and those who have class pictures to pass information along to the organization to help get the word out about the reunion.

The organization said it is currently in early discussions and exploratory stages of "possibly enhancing the historical complex with some exciting additions," noting that more information will be shared as it develops.

"Our continuing goal is to preserve and share area history," TAHS stated. "The society is run by volunteers. Your help make it possible. Spread the news about our efforts and encourage others to join us."

To learn more about TAHS, visit www.tomahawkhistoricalsoc.org or www.facebook.com/TomahawkAreaHistoricalSociety; email tomahawkhistoricalsociety@gmail.com; or call 715-966-4801.



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NOTICE OF QUOTATIONS

The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department will accept quotations on the following equipment:

One (1) new, replacement dump box for a 1998 Mack DM690S quad axle dump truck.

Sealed quotations will be accepted until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, November 30, 2023. Quotations will be opened, and read at 3:15 p.m., Thursday, November 30, 2023. Quotes will be prepared for consideration by the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee at the December 11, 2023 Committee meeting.

For further information and specifications, contact the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 801 N.Sales Street, Suite 106, Merrill, Wisconsin. Phone (715) 539-1034.

The Committee reserves the right to reject any or all quotations and accept any quotation or portion thereof they deem most advantageous to Lincoln County.

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

Published November 22, 2023

WNAXLP

NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION

TOWN OF BRADLEY APRIL 2, 2024

STATE OF WISCONSIN TOWN OF BRADLEY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election to be held in the Town of Bradley on Tuesday, April 2nd, 2024 the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbent listed. The term for these offices is for two years beginning on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 unless otherwise indicated.

Table with 2 columns: Office, Incumbent. Rows include Town Board Supervisor John Crass and Jennifer Bishop.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2023, and the final day for filing nomination papers is 12:30 P.M. on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, in the office of the Town Clerk.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

DONE in the Town of Bradley, this 22nd day of November 2023 Kari Kiser, Clerk, Town of Bradley

Published November 22, 2023

WNAXLP

NOTICE OF PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE VOTE AND SPRING ELECTION

State of Wisconsin April 2, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE VOTE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election to be held in the several cities, villages, towns, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, there will be held a Presidential Preference Vote to express preference for a person to be the presidential candidate for the Democratic or Republican parties under Wis. Stat. § 8.12(1).

SPRING ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election is to be held in the towns, villages, cities, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. The following officers are to be elected:

Judicial Officers

Two Court of Appeals Judges, for the term of six (6) years, to succeed the present incumbents listed, whose terms of office will expire on July 31, 2024:

Table with 2 columns: District, Name. Rows include District I Pedro Colón and District IV JoAnne F. Kloppenburg.

County Supervisor

A County Supervisor for each county supervisory district (if required), for a term of two (2) years, to succeed the present incumbent listed, whose term will expire on April 15, 2024:

Table with 2 columns: District, Name. Lists names for districts 1 through 22.

Information concerning county supervisory district boundaries may be obtained from Christopher J. Marlowe, Lincoln County Clerk, 801 N. Sales Street, Merrill, WI 54452.

For Candidates

The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2023, and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Candidates for (list statewide and judicial titles) file with the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

Primary Election

If a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

Additional Information

Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID, you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

DONE in the City of Merrill on November 14, 2023.

Christopher J. Marlowe

Christopher J. Marlowe, County Clerk

Published November 22, 2023

WNAXLP

LEGALS

Legals 7700

CLAIMS DEADLINE NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF CHERYL L. FRIEL AND THE CLF INCOME TRUST DATED JULY 27, 2023

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute § 701.0508, Wisconsin Statutes, James P. Friel, as Trustee of the CLF Income Trust dated July 27, 2023 with the power to pay the debts of Cheryl L. Friel (deceased 9/24/2023) hereby provides notice that the deadline for filing for payment of debts of Cheryl L. Friel and/or the CLF Income Trust dated July 27, 2023 is four (4) months after the date of first insertion of this notice.

James P. Friel Trustee Address: c/o Hougum Law Firm, LLC 305 South 18th Ave., Suite 200 Wausau, WI 54401 Published November 15, 22, 29, 2023 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY

Plaintiff(s): Duke Capital, LLC 225 S. Executive Dr. Brookfield, WI 53005

-vs- Defendant(s): Jeremiah Fryar 9 S. 3rd St. Tomahawk WI 54487

Publication Summons and Notice (Small Claims) Case No. 2023SC000398

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-536-0319 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

Publication Summons and Notice of Filing TO THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE AS DEFENDANT(S):

You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following small claims court:

Lincoln County Courthouse Phone Clerk of Court: 715-536-0319 Address: 1110 East Main Street, Suite 200 City: Merrill, WI 54452

on the following date and time: Date: 12/7/2023 Time: 2:30 p.m.

If you do not attend the hearing, the court may enter a judgment against you in favor of the person(s) suing you. A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate (property) you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.

Electronically Signed by Jacob L. Hams 11/15/2023

Dobberstein Law Firm, LLC 225 S. Executive Dr. Suite 201 Brookfield, WI 53005 Telephone: 262-641-3715 Attorney's State Bar No. 1118647 Published November 22, 2023 WNAXLP

Notice To Creditors 7735

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, LINCOLN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LAWRENCE J. TARVAS

DOD: July 8, 2023

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2023IN47

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: 1. An application for informal administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth April 12, 1942 and date of death July 8, 2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N7725 Highway 107, Tomahawk, WI 54487.

3. All interested persons waived notice.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is March 15, 2024.

5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St. Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate.

DATE SIGNED: November 15, 2023 Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer

Probate Registrar Form completed by: Attorney Bridget M. Erwin Hager, Dewick & Zuengler, S.C. 200 S. Washington St., Ste 200 Green Bay, WI 54301 Phone: (920) 430-1900 Bar Number: 1055528 Published November 22, 29, December 6, 2023 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Robert Scott Parker DOD: 08-02-2023

Notice to Creditors for Summary Assignment (Formal Administration)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: 1. A Petition for Summary Assignment was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth 08-30-1961 and date of death 08-02-2023, with a mailing address of 208 E. Wisconsin Ave., Tomahawk, WI 54487, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin.

3. The right of a creditor to bring an action terminates three months after the date of publication of this order.

Creditors may bring an action by A. filing a claim in the Lincoln County Circuit Court before the property is assigned.

B. bringing a suit against the assignee(s) after the property is assigned.

4. The property may be assigned to the creditors and interested persons after 30 days have elapsed following the publication of this notice.

DATE SIGNED: November 13, 2023 Electronically signed by Galen Bayne Allison

Circuit Court Judge Form completed by: Nick G. Cirilli 116 East Davenport Street Rhinelander, WI 54501 Email address: nick@cirillilaw.com Telephone: 715-369-3443 Bar Number 1101541 Published November 22, 29, December 6, 2023 WNAXLP

Announcements 7005

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

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

Activities and Meetings 7020

HORSE DRAWN SLEIGH RIDES Rocking W Stable, Eagle River WI DEC 9 thru JAN 1; Beautiful Trails! Great Family Fun. Can Handle All Size Groups & Private Parties! Info 715-617-6779 northwoodsattractions.com

Craft Sales 7204

WAUSAU Massive HOLIDAY GIFT ARTIST & CRAFT SHOW Sat. Dec. 2ND 8-4pm/\$5 CENTRAL WI EXPO CTR, 10101 Market St Rothschild FREE PARKING 715-526-9769 holidaygiftandcraftshow.com

Computers and Electronics 7216

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

Heating and Cooling 7246

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)

Sporting Goods 7260

GUN SHOW: November 3-5, 2023 Central WI Conference & Expo Center, 10101 Market St., Rothschild, WI. Fri 3-8pm, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 9am-3pm. \$8 (Under 14 FREE) 608-752-6677 www.bobandrocco.com

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

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

Dogs 7272

AKC REG KING CHARLES CAVALIER PUPS 2M 3F Vet/shts 1 Mo old \$800 OBO 715-701-2066

AKC REG. YELLOW LAB PUPS & GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS shots/worm/vet, M & F \$500 715-671-3092 (267331)

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)

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

BOSTON TERRIER PUPPIES Males/Females Health Guard Ready 12/1 \$650 715-937-0916

Dogs 7272

Cavapoo Pups Shots/Wormed/dews/Vet-chkd Can Dlvr \$500-\$600 715-255-2661 (#269146)

Cockapoo pups DOB 10/26/23 shots/dewormed \$500 Bonduel 715-758-2318

FOR SALE: Beautiful, AKC-registered Golden Retriever puppies. First shots & dewormed. Friendly & playful! Please call or text 715-219-1806

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

GOLDEDDOODLE PUPS Shots/Wormed/Vet-chkd Can Dlvr \$400-\$600 715-255-2661 (#269146)

GOLDEN IRISH PUPPIES Born 8-4, 1st shots/worm parents on site \$300 715-644-2219

Labradoodle Pups Yellow or Black \$350 OBO Shots/dewormed Loves Kids! 715-229-4936

PUREBRED BOXER PUPS Brindle & Fawn colored Shots-UTD Ready Now! \$650 715-701-1473



Purebred Jack Russell Terrier puppies. First shots and dewormed. \$700 each, OBO. Call or text 715-921-2930

REG SAMOYED PUPS Shots/VetChkd. Health Guaranty \$950-\$1200 OBO Cutel! 715-773-8471

Toy Poodle pups 2-M 1-Tan 1-Cream shots/vet ckd \$750 obo Call 715-758-2718

TOY POODLE PUPS dewts/shots/vet-chk'd/wormed Non-Shed Tri-Colored \$800 READY to go 715-536-0697 715-316-2522 (WCAN)

Miscellaneous Pet 7278

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

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

Apartments for Rent 7400

TOMAHAWK- Basement 1 bdrm apt. for rent. Available Dec. 1st. \$700/mo. includes utilities. No pets. 715-580-1818.

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)

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

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 lio@oneidacountywi.gov PH 715-369-6179. Bids due December 8th, 2023, 4PM. Parcel and minimum bid: Pelican PE-46-4 \$19,900.00; Rhinelander RH-783 \$69,900.00, RH-906 \$52,200.00, RH-2834 \$1,300.00; Schoepke SC-150-11 \$3,300.00; Stella ST-208-2 \$73,100.00, ST-385-1 \$6,000.00; Woodruff WR-996 \$900.00.

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

School District of Tomahawk April 2, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the School District of Tomahawk on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The term of office for school board member is three years beginning on Monday, April 22, 2024.

Office Incumbent(s) One member from the apportioned areas of Bradley, Birch, Skanawan, Tomahawk, and Rock Falls for a 3-year term. Cherie Hafeman

Two members from the City of Tomahawk Shar Kirsch for a 3-year term. Deb Velleux

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that a Campaign Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy, must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024, in the office of the school district clerk located at 1048 E. King Road, Tomahawk, WI 54487, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

A description of the school district boundaries can be obtained from the school district office.

Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Done in the City of Tomahawk on November 6, 2023.

School District Clerk Deb Velleux

Published November 22, 2023

WNAXLP

Vehicles Wanted 7554
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)**

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

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!**

General Employment 7110

OPTICIAN/WOODRUFF: Come join our team. Ideally you will enjoy giving excellent customer service, pay close attention to detail, enjoy working with people, have basic computer skills, enjoy sales, and learn quickly. You will primarily order glasses and contact lenses, repair glasses, and maintain the optical. As we are a small office, you will also help with answering the phones, scheduling patients, and explaining fees. We will train you! Experience in optical very helpful, but not required. Ave. 20-24 hrs/wk primarily Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Optical and 401K benefits after 90 days. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume to Buffington Optometry, LLC PO Box 740 Woodruff, WI 54568

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. 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/wi-community #6258 (WCAN)**

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

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

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

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

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 Maxisp Telecom today! **1-855-454-6827 (WCAN)**

Internet 7318

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 Maxisp 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 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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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 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**

Switch to DISH Get up to a \$300 gift card! Plus get the Multisport pack included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: **1-844-897-8523 (WCAN)**

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

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)

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

Home Building Supply 7358

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-761-1725

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)**

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. Limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 **Call 1-844-501-3208**

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL Can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 **1-833-224-4977 (WCAN)**

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

Home Building Supply 7358

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments & No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. **BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. 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)**

Water damage cleanup & restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: **1-888-872-2809**

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

Roofing and Siding 7370

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OCHD shares information about RSV

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

ONEIDA COUNTY - The Oneida County Health Department (OCHD) recently shared information about respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

"With respiratory illness season underway, it is important to understand illnesses that will be circulating in our community," OCHD said, noting that RSV is one such illness.

OCHD said RSV is a common, contagious virus that usually causes mild symptoms. In older adults and adults with certain underlying conditions, RSV can cause severe infections.

Symptoms of RSV include fever, cough, sore



throat, runny nose, congestion, headache, tiredness and shortness of breath or trouble breathing.

RSV can have an impact on individuals with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma or congestive heart failure (CHF), OCHD noted.

OCHD offered following tips to prevent RSV:

- Washing your hands.
- Keeping your hands off your face.
- Avoiding close contact with sick people.

- Covering your coughs and sneezes.
- Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces around you.
- Staying home when you're feeling sick.

"Vaccination is available to help protect older adults against RSV," OCHD stated. "Speak with your doctor or pharmacist to learn if RSV vaccination is right for you."

For more information on RSV, visit www.rsvandme.com/; www.cdc.gov/rsv/; or www.oneidacountypublichealth.org.

NEWS BRIEFS FROM PAGE 3

and Saturday, Dec. 30, 9 a.m. to noon. Additional dates are scheduled for this year and next year. Donations can be placed in the bin outside of First Congregational, 135 E. Larch St., Rhinelander, or the Oneida County Health Department, 100 W. Keenan St., Rhinelander. For more information, refer to the Warm for Winter Facebook page (www.tinyurl.com/2w2ccd7s) or call 608-345-7305.

St. Mary's and Friends holiday concert

St. Mary's and Friends will present their annual free holiday concert at St. Mary's Church, 320 E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk, on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. 70-plus musicians will perform "Festival of Christmas," followed by a reception featuring hors d'oeuvres and desserts. A free will offering will benefit the Tomahawk Area Interfaith Volunteers. For more information, call Jan at 715-453-2878.

CESA 9 offering Substitute Teacher Training

CESA 9 in Tomahawk will offer Substitute Teacher Training on Tuesday, Dec. 12. Individuals with an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree and who successfully complete the training are eligible to apply for a Substitute Teacher permit. For more information, visit www.cesa9.org or call 715-453-2141.

National Wreaths Across America Day

A National Wreaths Across America Day ceremony will be held at Northwoods National Cemetery, 4520 Lakewood Rd., Harshaw, on Saturday, Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. The program will include the Ceremonial Wreath laying (branch of service, POW/MIA, organization) and grave-specific wreath placements by family and friends, followed by a complimentary hot sandwich and desert social at Rondele Ranch. Group sponsors for the event are American Legion Riders District 11 and Veterans Ceremony U.G.C. Inc. For information on group sponsorship, sponsoring a wreath for a veterans grave and/or volunteering to place a wreath, visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/WINWNC or contact Mary, Location Coordinator, at 715-612-2196.

PCA offering scholarship

PCA Tomahawk Mill is offering a scholarship to a senior who is planning to major in engineering. Complete information, including how to apply, was emailed to seniors at Tomahawk High School. Contact the Guidance Office at 715-453-2106, ext. 214, with any questions.

Bridge players wanted

Those who would like to join a bridge club or play as a substitute may contact Jane at 715-966-2945.

Chamber seeking photos for 2024 Visitor Guide

The Tomahawk Regional

Chamber of Commerce is seeking photo submissions for the 2024 Visitor Guide. When submitting a photo, please name the picture as the location that it was taken. All submissions have a chance to be featured on the front of the guide. For more information or to submit a photo, visit www.gototomahawk.com/guidephotos or call 715-453-5334.

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 p.m. 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.



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Leader Sports & Nature

2023 fall sports, activities summary: Part one

BY BOB SKUBAL
RETIRED COACH,
HISTORIAN, AUTHOR
OF 'HISTORY OF
TOMAHAWK SPORTS'

TOMAHAWK – The hot, smoky, dry summer had no impact on the Tomahawk High School (THS) fall sporting season, and schedules went off without any major issues.

Before we take a look back on the events of the fall co-curricular season, there are a few noteworthy items that this writer would like to mention.

First, it is noted that Tyler Jablonski signed a letter of intent to play baseball at UW-Stout, and that Paige DeKiep signed a letter of intent to swim for UW-Green Bay. It is also noted that Madilyn Hanse is playing volleyball at UW-Stevens Point.

Bob Garrou was inducted into the Wisconsin Wrestling Coaches Association George Martin Wrestling Hall of Fame. He is the third member of the Tomahawk wrestling program to be inducted, joining Alyssa Lampe and this writer. Garrou has just completed his 34th year of coaching wrestling in Tomahawk.

The Golf Coaches Association of Wisconsin announced that Sawyer Hanna, Drew Albert, Austin Lamer and Carson Childers were 2023 Academic-All State honorees.

Bonnie Kahn was selected to coach Special Olympics track and field athletes in Berlin, Germany. She has coached Special Olympic athletes in Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Los Angeles in recent years.

The WIAA approved new weight classes for wrestling starting in the 2023-24 season. The new weight classes will be 106,

113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 144, 150, 157, 160, 175, 190, 215 and 285.

The WIAA changed the state hockey tournament overtime procedure. Games tied at the end of regulation will proceed with an eight-minute sudden victory overtime period. If the score remains tied following the first overtime, there will be a three-minute rest period before teams play a second eight-minute, sudden-victory overtime period. If the game is still tied, the remainder of the existing overtime procedure will be implemented.

Starting in the 2024 football season, Tomahawk will go into the Great Northern Conference (GNC), along with Wausau East. Hayward and Ashland will go from the GNC to the Heart of the North Conference.

Special thanks to Connor Ahrens and Scot Neu on their excellent reporting of the cross country and football competitions, respectively. Their hard work makes it easier for me to keep up the history of Tomahawk sports.

Football

Let's start the fall review with the football program, headed by first-year varsity coach Dewey Reilly.

Reilly was assisted by Jason Olsen, Tony Derleth, Cooper Kelley, Aaron Evans, Jeremy Zimmerman, Dave Long and John DuPlayee.

Team members were Ty Eckstein, Rex Reilly, Ryan Larson, Landyn Seymour, Tiegen Sarazin, Brayden Lamer, Caleb Dickens, Blake Younker, Jack Amelse, Tyler Sundquist, Jack Derleth, Waler Horabik, Zach Germano, Jonah Dickens, Beau Stromberg, Brayden Larson, Mason Riebe, Nathan

Reimer, Connor Jones, Harmon Hoffman, Jason Watkins, Maron Hensel, Logan Norman, Landon Hoff, Matt Walbeck, Marcus Patterson, Brett Marheine, Ethan Gibeault, Kaiden Kapellusch, Fletcher Baumann, Ashton Greil, Ryan Sundquist, Andrew Samundsen, Nathan Norman, Michael Samundsen, Tanner Wanta and Patrick Samundsen.

The team went 6-6, and it was the first time since 2015 Tomahawk did not have a losing record, when, under the direction of John Larson, the Hatchets went 7-4. The 2023 Hatchets also managed to make it into the playoffs for the 13th time in school history, where they lost to Southern Door in the first round by a score of 48-7.

The season started with Tomahawk losing to Rhinelander 22-21 (Rhinelander kicked a field goal with three seconds left in the game), defeating Lakeland 7-0, defeating Wauwatosa Kingdom 35-14 (Kingdom Prep was penalized 23 times for 165 yards; Brayden Larson scored three TDs and had a 59-yard interception out of the end zone, while Marheine had three sacks) before receiving a forfeit from Eagle River.

Tomahawk then lost four in a row with a score of 28-20 to Crandon in overtime, 48-14 to Oconto Falls (Reilly rushed 17 times for 124 yards, while Ryan Larson and Brayden Larson scored TDs), 38-30 to Crivitz in a double overtime game (Reilly rushed for 117 yards on 20 carries and scored two TDs) and Coleman 42-14 (Dickens had 104 yards on 12 carries and one TD).

The last three regular season games saw Tomahawk defeat Westfield 7-0 (Tomahawk held Westfield to 66 total yards, and

Brayden Larson had five interceptions for a new school record), receive a forfeit from Menominee Indian and defeat Clintonville 29-20.

Final conference standings were Oconto Falls 7-0, Crivitz 5-2, Coleman 5-2, Crivitz 4-3, Tomahawk 3-4, Clintonville 3-4, Eagle River 0-6 and Menominee Indian 0-6.

All-Conference honors went to Jonah Dickens and Walter Horabik, first team offense; Ethan Gibeault, second team offense; Brayden Larson, Caleb Dickens, Ethan Gibeault and Brett Marheine, second team defense; Brayden Larson and Andrew Samundsen, honorable mention offense; and Jonah Dickens and Rex Reilly, honorable mention defense.

Volleyball

Next let's take a look at the volleyball program, coached by first-year varsity coach Katie Denton, assisted by Katie Pintens, Aubrey Fryar, Lauren Schauer and Jess Denton.

Team members were Sara Gebauer, Cadee Benaszkeski, Cayley Scholz, Emerson Lange, Samantha Gebauer, Chloe Buckwalter, Sadie Liebelt, Siannah Calkins, Claire Albert, Sophie Olsen, Ashley Beck and Macy Jankiewicz.

Their season started at UW-Whitewater, where Tomahawk won the silver bracket with wins over Clinton, Kenosha Tremper, Jefferson and White-water while losing to New Berlin Eisenhower, New Berlin Heritage Christian, Milton and Lakeside Lutheran. Next came a dual meet against Ashland, which Tomahawk lost 3-1. At the DCE Invite, they went 2-2 with wins over Wausau East and Wausau West and had losses to

DCE and Merrill.

The next two duals saw THS defeat Antigo 3-1 and lose to Marathon 3-1. The third tournament of the season was the Merrill Invite where THS went 1-4. They defeated Medford 2-1 and lost to Chippewa Falls, Athens and Wittenberg-Birnamwood twice. An exciting dual meet was seen against Lakeland, where Tomahawk won a hard-fought battle 3-2 with scores of 23-25, 25-22, 17-25 28-26 and 15-9 (Buckwalter had 29 assists and 16 digs, while Jankiewicz had 13 kills, five blocks and two aces).

At the first conference tourney at Antigo, Tomahawk lost 3-1 to Medford and defeated Eagle River 3-0 and Rhinelander 3-0. Conference champion Mosinee then defeated THS 3-0. At the Hatchet Quad, Tomahawk defeated Antigo 2-1 and lost to Wausau Newman 2-1 and Prentice 2-0. THS then won three of four duals, when they defeated Eagle River,

Medford and Rhinelander while losing to Wittenberg-Birnamwood. At the second conference tourney, Tomahawk defeated Antigo and Lakeland and lost to Mosinee.

Final conference standings were Mosinee 12-0, Tomahawk 9-3, Lakeland 8-4, Medford 6-6, Antigo 5-7, Rhinelander 1-11 and Eagle River 1-11.

All-Conference honors went to Macy Jankiewicz, first team; Siannah Calkins, second team; and Chloe Buckwalter, Claire Albert and Sammy Gebauer, honorable mention.

In the first round of the playoffs, THS defeated Rhinelander 25-13, 25-20 and 28-26 before losing to Mosinee 3-0, giving Tomahawk a season record of 18-19.

Next week

Next week, we'll take a look at girls' swimming and girls' and boys' cross country, as well as the one-act play and the GNC Choir and Band Festival.

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 157

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 156 question: During the 1974 golf season, THS shot a new school record in the Phillips Invitational. What did they shoot: 152, 153 or 154?

Week 156 answer: During the 1974 golf season, THS shot a new school record of 153 at the Phillips Invitational.

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

Week 157 question: During the 1974 girls' track season, Ann Pintens, Bonnie Draeger, Keri Buedingen and Carol Salacinski qualified for State in what relay: The mile, 880 or 440?

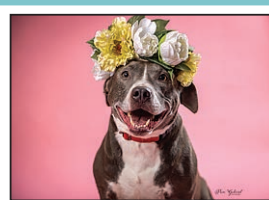
FISHING & HUNTING TIMES

Date (CDD)	Morning		Evening	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Nov 22	1:32AM	7:35AM	2:22PM	7:58PM
Nov 23	2:49AM	8:22AM	2:41PM	8:46PM
Nov 24	4:07AM	9:11AM	3:02PM	9:35PM
Nov 25	5:25AM	10:01AM	3:25PM	10:27PM
Nov 26	6:44AM	---	3:54PM	10:53AM
Nov 27	8:01AM	11:48AM	4:29PM	---
Nov 28	9:13AM	12:17AM	5:15PM	12:45PM

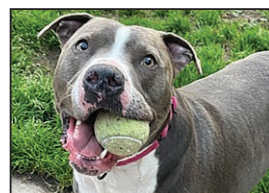
Solunar fishing and hunting chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon is December 12th.

Pets of the Month

Sponsored by TOMAHAWK LEADER



Pearl came to OCHS as an owner surrender. This girl will make a great companion for someone, hopefully soon. Pearl would like to be the only spoiled fur kid in the home but does well with children. Pearl seems to have had a rough past and men can be very scary for her. Pearl is looking for a patient family that understands that she will need to be introduced slowly to the boys. Pearl's adoption fee has been sponsored.



Buddy, the delightful furry friend seeking a loving and forever home as the one and only spoiled pet. With his charming and playful personality, Buddy is sure to make a perfect addition to any family, especially one with older children who appreciate his fun-loving spirit. Buddy's adoption fee has been sponsored.

Oneida County Humane Society

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By appointment only please call to adopt, surrender or if you have questions.

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NEW LISTING: 208' Frontage MABLE LAKE: N10459 Pine Shore Ln: Welcome to relaxation in this peaceful Mable Lake home. with almost 5 acres, this property is wooded, set back in off the road for privacy, and level to water's edge. Enjoy great fishing, kayaking, and small boating along with tons of wildlife watching right here. Ranch style home, with three bedrooms, on the main floor along with mud room and large office of game room. Patio doors off dining, and large living room windows allow you to watch the deer and the critters play in the back yard. The basement has 2 bonus rooms, and a family room. Pool table and tanning bed stays. one car attached garage and a 3-car detached garage, with heated workshop, gives you room for all the toys. Garden area, shed at water's edge and plenty of dock to fish from. Come take a look and you will want to stay and relax. This one is only minutes east of the freeway, and Tomahawk City limits. **\$424,900**

NEW LISTING: 892' Frontage on GUDEGAST CREEK 4760 Spafford Rd: Nestled in a tranquil, picturesque setting, this property is a Northwoods dream! The living room features a stone surround fireplace. The kitchen boasts ample storage & counter space, w/ a tile backsplash that adds a touch of elegance. On the main level, you will find 2 spacious bedrooms adorned w/ double closets. The main bath features a large shower, & linen closet. Off the garage is a sunroom, flooded w/ natural light & overlooks the stream in the backyard. Walkout LL offers even more space for relaxation & entertainment. Family room provides an ideal gathering place. There is also an additional bedroom, den, & full bath. Outside you'll find a 28'x40' outbuilding, chicken coop, creek, & 14.62-acres that offers endless possibilities. **\$399,900**

NEW LISTING: 100' Frontage on RIB RIVER: 1507 Chellis St, Wausau: Oh so pretty! What a beautiful setting at the end of Chellis Street. A little over 100 feet of frontage on the peaceful Rib River. This 4-bedroom cape cod style home is super cool. With so many updates, this one still has the character of original. Such a modern kitchen with all the appliances included awesome cabinetry and beautiful counter tops. The living room is large, with great views and a pellet insert in the fireplace. Under the newer carpet, you will find original wood floors. The yard is gorgeous with a patio, pergola and firepit area. 2 garages, and of course one is insulated and heated for workshop. At water's edge there is a small storage shed for toys, dock, pontoon lift, 2nd firepit area, and a place for your kayaks. Low maintenance exterior, great yard, and playhouse included. **\$395,000**

Tomahawk Emergency

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Gainers of the Month



The Hatchet Weightlifting Club recently announced its October Gainers of the Month. Coach Andy Peissig said Nadia Schoone (Left) and Teigan Sarazin (Right) were recognized for their "relentless effort in the weight room." Photos courtesy of Andy Peissig

The NFL Draft: What's in store?

BY KRIS LEONHARDT
MMC SENIOR EDITOR

GREEN BAY – The 2025 NFL Draft will take place in Green Bay in the area around Lambeau Field and Titledown on April 24-26, 2025; but, what does the draft look like for attendees?

"The events start typically about noon. It's a ways out, so we don't know the exact times, but historically, the grounds have typically opened about noon," said Discover Green Bay President/CEO Brad Toll.

"And there are all different displays and things. People can look at Super Bowl rings and they have the Super Bowl trophy. I mean, we know what that looks like; we have four of those," Toll joked.

"There are samples of lockers from all the different teams and it's all the teams — all 32," he stated. "So, it's kind of like a fair almost, with all kinds of exhibits and fun activities, but for all of the teams in the NFL. So you know, a lot of times when we have a home game, the other team has a number of their fans visiting us, but in this case, they will all be visiting. So you see, we have some of our fan fanatics that are dressed up and every kind of green and gold whatever that you can come up with. Well, we'll see those from all the other teams that are here — Eagles and the crazy Raider fans with all their spikes and whatnot. You see them all here walking around, and the cool thing is there's no game; so you know, everybody gets along great and has a good time."

Toll said that during the Kansas City-hosted NFL Draft, they noticed that the environment was very family-friendly.

"There are a lot of families that are here; there's a lot of kids that are here as well. They do their 'Play 360' — the NFL's kind of youth program — youth sports and getting kids active. So, there'll be a whole area where they'll be practicing or showing off their skills with kick-



The 2025 NFL Draft will take place in Green Bay in the area around Lambeau Field and Titledown on April 24-26, 2025. The bid for the event was spearheaded by Discover Green Bay and the Green Bay Packers. Photo by Kris Leonhardt

ing and punting and passing. So, there's some of those activities that are taking place. It really is a great time and you know, it's not a game day, kind of atmosphere. It's almost more like going to the fair, only it's all football-related," he said.

Toll said that after attending the Kansas City event, they were told that not a single arrest was made.

"125,000 people, not one arrest," he added.

Toll said that he was excited to be a part of bringing the three-day event to Wisconsin for others to enjoy.

"I'm really excited for our community to be able to experience," Toll stated. "It's free, so anyone and everyone can go and what an awesome opportunity for the people in our community to be able to go and see it — the thing that we've watched on TV every year — it's cool that we're able to do that for the community."

Toll said that organizers are also working on developing a unique experience for the players coming into the area.

"One of the things that we will work on is developing experiences," he explained. "So as the players come in, and they have some free time here and there, what are some experiences unique to our community? So, sport fishing, perhaps, on Lake Michigan; curling is one of the things that we thought would be kind

of fun. You know a lot of them probably haven't curled before growing up in the southern part of the country."

A three-day commercial

"Then, from a tourism perspective, we're really excited that it's a three-day commercial," Toll added.

This also gives the city an opportunity to call itself a "Draft City."

"A lot of times when say a big sports tournament is thinking about coming to Green Bay, and we're being considered against other cities. It's like, 'Well, did you know we're hosting the draft in 2025?' 'You are?' You know, suddenly, 'Well, if you can host that. You probably do a great job with my tournament,'" he explained. "It really becomes a great sales tool and draws attention to your destination. There are some bragging rights that go with it that really helps you sell the community for other business, so we're excited about that."

In addition to those in attendance, organizers project that 70 million people will be viewing the draft on television that Thursday night.

"Even with a massive budget, you can't get that kind of exposure," Toll stated. "Certainly, with a community our size and the budget that we have for sales and marketing, I mean, there's just no possible way you'd get that kind of exposure."

DNR: 2023 bear season results show drop in total harvest, hunter success rates

COURTESY OF THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), on Tuesday, Nov. 14, announced preliminary results for the 2023 bear season.

The 2023 bear season harvest is well below the recent annual average of approximately 4,000 harvested bears, representing the lowest yearly bear harvest since 2008.

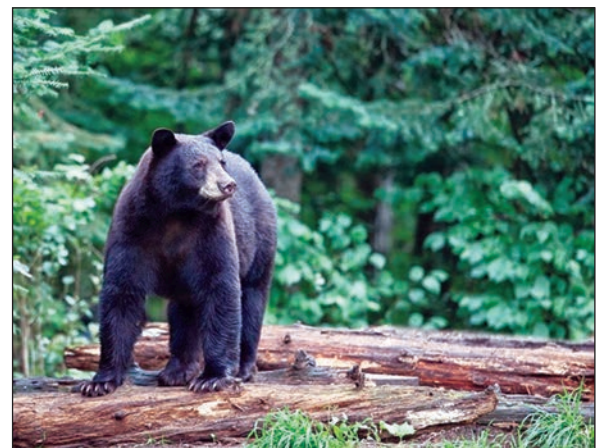
Wisconsin bear hunters harvested 2,922 bears during the 2023 black bear season, a marked decrease from the 4,009 bears taken by hunters last year. This decline was observed across the state, as the bear harvest fell short of respective targets in all management zones.

Similarly, statewide hunter success dropped to 23%, down from the recent five-year average statewide hunter success rate of 32%. Hunter success rates in individual zones varied from about 60% in Zone A to about 5% in Zones E and F.

"This fall saw a remarkably high acorn crop across much of the state, and this abundance of natural food typically results in reduced hunter success rates as hunters' baits are less effective," said Randy Johnson, DNR Large Carnivore Specialist. "Almost all of the anecdotal reports I heard from bear hunters this fall mentioned the incredible abundance of acorns and other natural foods in the woods. It is difficult to predict when these bumper acorn crops will occur, but when they do, the impact on bear hunting is unmistakable."

Harvest data indicates Zones A and B, in the northern and northeastern parts of the state, were less impacted than other areas, with hunter success rates closer to average at 59% and 50%, respectively.

Zone C, located in the



Wisconsin bear hunters harvested 2,922 bears during the 2023 black bear season, a marked decrease from the 4,009 bears taken by hunters last year. Photo courtesy of iStock/LynnBystrom

central part of the state, fell well short of its harvest target, with below-average hunter success rates as well. Similarly, in the northwestern area of the state, Zone D saw well below-average harvest and hunter-success rates. The drop in Zone D is likely due, at least in part, to recent management actions intended to reduce bear populations in this area, combined with the abundance of natural foods available this fall.

Finally, Zones E and F, encompassing most of the state's southern areas, saw declines in average hunter success rates and total harvest.

The 2023 bear season ran from Sept. 6 to Oct. 10. Hunters were awarded 12,760 bear hunting licenses through the license lottery system. Nearly 138,000 people applied for a bear hunting license or preference point for the 2023 season, setting a record for the number of applicants.

A full breakdown of the 2023 bear license drawing and license wait times is available on the DNR website at www.tinyurl.com/3acvs629.

"Interest in bear hunting continues to grow in Wisconsin and across the nation," Johnson stated. "We encourage hunters to review management zone boundaries, season frameworks and license wait times as they make their

hunting plans for the coming years."

Bear permit applicants must apply at least once during any period of three consecutive years to retain their accumulated preference points; otherwise, all accumulated preference points will be lost.

Hunters wishing to obtain a license or preference point for the 2024 season are encouraged to apply through Go Wild (www.gowild.wi.gov/) before the Sunday, Dec. 10 deadline.

Wisconsin has a thriving and expanding bear population, estimated at approximately 25,000 individuals. The resident bear population's range covers more than half the state, with concentrations in the forested regions of northern and central Wisconsin, with a continued trend of slow southward expansion.

Hunters play an important role in bear management by providing critical data from every harvested bear. This data informs the DNR's population models to track trends, achieve management objectives and ensure a healthy bear population.

Visit the DNR's Bear Hunting webpage (www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/bear) to learn more about black bear hunting, ecology and management in Wisconsin.

Zone	Harvest Target	Preliminary Harvest	Percentage of Target Harvested	Licenses Issued	Hunter Success Rate
A	1,075	1,028	95.6%	1,730	59%
B	850	744	87.5%	1,495	50%
C	600	379	63.1%	3,000	13%
D	1,800	657	36.5%	4,035	16%
E	200	96	48.0%	2,000	5%
F	50	18	36.0%	500	4%
Statewide Total	4,575	2,922	63.8%	12,760	23%

*These preliminary data do not include bears taken via agriculture damage tags, the Learn to Hunt program or tribal harvest.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Open gym

Open gym, for basketball only, will be held in the Tomahawk school complex fieldhouse from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. each Wednesday through May, excluding days when school is not in session. Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult.



Support for ‘Our Dream Park’

The Louisiana-Pacific (LP) Foundation recently made a \$10,000.00 donation towards Tomahawk Together’s ongoing park revitalization project, which will see Washington Square Park on N. Fourth St. transformed to include into an all-inclusive playground, a splash pad and other amenities. Ground was broken on “Our Dream Park” last month, and Tomahawk Together and the City of Tomahawk are aiming for the park to be open by next summer. Pictured, from left: Mike Esselman of LP, Sue Hawkins of Tomahawk Together, Travis Guenther of LP, Dave Thomas of LP, Kay Kissinger Wolf of Tomahawk Together, Kathy Tobin of Tomahawk Together, Rachel Hand of LP, Chris Weber of LP and Ben Enz of LP. **Photo courtesy of Kay Kissinger Wolf**

MOVIES YOU GOTTA SEE

The Midwestern perfection of ‘Fargo’

BY JALEN MAKI

Fargo, the 1996 black comedy crime film directed by brothers Joel and Ethan Coen, takes place in the Upper Midwest – more specifically, Minnesota and North Dakota. The film focuses on several characters, one of them being Jerry Lundegaard (William H. Macy). Jerry makes a few key and ultimately not great choices that set in motion an increasingly chaotic and heinous chain of events, which eventually pull Brainerd Police Chief Marge Gunderson (Frances McDormand) and a pair of lowlife criminals, Carl Showalter (Steve Buscemi) and Gaear Grimsrud (Peter Stormare), into their orbit.

I won’t dive too deep into the plot, because I believe *Fargo*’s story should be experienced with knowing as little about it as possible going in. But there are a few smaller facets to the film that make it feel like it’s a key Midwestern text.

It might not seem like it, but the Midwest has had a pretty decent share of representation in film, relative to its counterparts from other corners of the country. This is owed in large part to legendary director, producer and screenwriter John Hughes, whose string of films from the mid-’80s into the early ’90s is maybe the most insane run anyone has gone on in the history of film. *Sixteen Candles*, *The Breakfast Club*, *Pretty in Pink*, *Weird Science*, *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off*, *Planes, Trains & Auto-*

mobiles, *The Great Outdoors*, *Uncle Buck*, and *Home Alone* all take place in the Midwest. However, most of these movies admittedly don’t “feel” particularly Midwestern, at least in comparison to *Fargo*; they just happen to be set somewhere like a Chicago suburb.

Meanwhile, watching *Fargo* feels like I am catching a glimpse into the lives of people who could reasonably be living down the street from me, and the chief contributing factor to this is the character’s accents.

The dead-on folksy-ness of its Midwest-speak stands out among myriad reasons why *Fargo* is excellent. I suspect the Coen brothers intentionally wrote the script in a way that would make the character’s pronunciations and intonations of words catch the viewer’s ear. They dial up all the hokey hits: Yah; oh yah; yah, no; ya know?; heck yah; I tell ya what; you betcha; oh for Pete’s sake. They’re all there. Also among the highlights are several instances in which a man is referred to as a “fella.” And, if he’s large in stature, you bet he’s a “big fella.”

The Coens’ injection of the characters’ down-home dialects into deeply distressing situations goes a long way in selling *Fargo*’s dark humor. Among my favorite scenes involves Marge and fellow cop Lou investigating the scene of a crime that had taken place along a wind-whipped and salt-stained stretch of highway the night before.

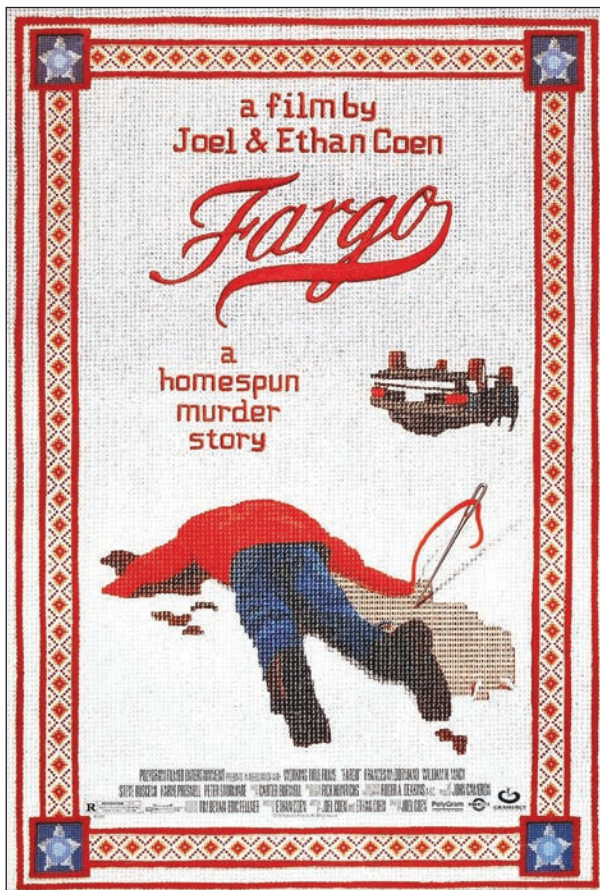


Photo courtesy of IMDb

Marge describes to Lou her interpretation of what she believes happened and wraps up her breakdown by describing a multiple-homicide as “this execution type-deal,” which sounds like something your middle school friend’s great-aunt would declare from behind a newspaper, shocked by a front-page horror story.

The accent is also, to me, what really drives home the idea of “Midwest nice,” and it’s displayed throughout

Fargo. Even with his life quite literally falling apart around him, Jerry tries his hardest to maintain his kind, “Average Joe” disposition. His half-baked, boneheaded scheme could catastrophically melt down at any moment, almost certainly destroying everything he holds dear, yet the last thing he wants to do is be rude. A true Midwesterner.

I would like to add a disclaimer here: I am aware that the Coens ratcheted up the accents a little, and not

all Midwesterners sound like the characters in *Fargo*. I think it’s safe to assume this is the case for films set in other parts of the United States. I mean, there’s no way every single *Bostonian* sounds like Matt Damon in *Good Will Hunting*, right? But hey, for what the filmmakers were going for in their respective movies – to immerse the audience in the setting – they were necessary exaggerations.

Also among the brilliant choices made by the Coens was to have the tale take place in the dead of winter. There have been many films in which Old Man Winter reigns supreme, but *Fargo* captures the season’s bleak dreariness which such detail and accuracy it could reasonably elicit a negative emotional response from those who’ve experienced Jack Frost’s worst. There’s a scene in which a beleaguered Jerry trudges across an empty, snow-covered parking lot to his car. The shot, taken from above, is absolutely tremendous, showing nothing but vast whiteness broken up by only a few trees, some light posts, Jerry’s footprints and his vehicle. Jerry, who is unequivocally “Going Through It” at this juncture in his life, arrives at his car to find the windshield iced over; his subsequent freakout while scraping away the ice is exceedingly relatable. In the face of the harsh and relentless awfulness of winter, even the smallest problems seem at least 30% more severe; go-

ing through a DEFCON 1-level event like Jerry’s while it’s also 15-below and windy would be all but unbearable.

The Coens and company paid special attention to other details peppered throughout the film. The interior design is impeccable; I think I’ve seen the Lundegaards’ kitchen cabinets in at least four different homes in my lifetime. Everyone is dressed like they’re straight out of a mid-’90s family photo album. The names in the movie sound like the Coens pulled them from a Northwoods phonebook – there’s a non-zero chance I’ve had a beer with a Wade Gustafson or a Norm Gunderson in a tavern once or twice.

Additional disclaimer: I do not want to misrepresent *Fargo* as simply a light-hearted, cozy tale. I cannot stress enough that this is not a movie where you gather the kids around the TV, pop in the DVD (do people still do this?), make some popcorn and share a collective laugh or two. The film features a pretty substantial amount of vulgarity, the culmination of its violence involves an unlucky fellow and a gas-powered yard cleanup tool. While most of *Fargo*’s characters are Midwest nice, the story itself, on the whole, is not. Despite this, does *Fargo* still feel like home? You betcha.

Follow Jalen on Letterboxd at www.letterboxd.com/jalenmaki182/ to see what he’s been watching, and read more at www.medium.com/@jalenmaki.

DHS: Underage tobacco, vape sales up from 2022

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – Underage tobacco and vape sales in the Badger State are up this year, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS).

On Thursday, Nov. 16, DHS said underage tobacco and vape sales increased from 11.9% in 2022 to 13.6% in 2023.

DHS said the data came from the Synar Survey, an annual statewide assessment of the retailer violation rate for underage sale of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes.

The rate was 5.5% in 2019 and reached its highest point in 2021, when it was 14.1%, according to DHS.

On average, underage tobacco and vape sales have increased 140% since 2019.

“Every year in Wisconsin, commercial and tobacco nicotine products cause 7,900 deaths, result in more than \$3 billion in health care expenses, and cause more than \$5.6 billion in lost productivity for our economy,” said DHS Secretary-designee Kirsten Johnson. “We know that nearly all people who use commercial tobacco and

nicotine start using in their teens and young adulthood. In fact, if a person doesn’t start by age 25, they almost never will. This data shows that we must continue the work to prevent young people from starting to use commercial tobacco and nicotine products.”

“Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Synar Survey monitored tobacco and vape sales to those under age 18,” DHS stated. “However, the three most recent surveys monitored sales to those under age 21. This follows a change in federal law that

raised the federal legal tobacco sales age from 18 to 21 at the end of 2019.”

DHS noted that Wisconsin remains one of only eight states that has not changed its state law to match the federal law, which has “caused confusion and enforcement challenges statewide.”

In Feb. 2023, DHS launched a public awareness campaign to reinforce the message that 21 is the minimum legal sales age for tobacco and vape products. The Tobacco 21 campaign (www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tobacco/tobacco21.htm) includes messages for

both the public and tobacco retailers.

“The campaign is part of the effort to save lives, but also to protect Wisconsin’s funding for prevention programs and services,” DHS said. “If underage tobacco sales exceed 20%, Wisconsin stands to lose millions in federal funding resources.”

“We continue to thank the majority of Wisconsin retailers who comply with federal law and do their part to protect youth by preventing underage tobacco and vape use, but we remain concerned with the high rate of noncom-

pliance,” said State Health Officer and Division of Public Health Administrator Paula Tran. “Not only is following federal law a requirement, it’s also the right thing to do. Preventing underage tobacco sales can prevent lifelong addiction and save lives.”

Free training to help retailers comply with the Tobacco 21 sales law is available at www.witobaccocheck.org.

Wisconsinites who want help to quit commercial tobacco can visit www.WIQuit.org to learn more or call 1-800-QUIT NOW or text “READY” to 200-400 for free assistance.