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Tomahawk man recreates 'Uncle Pancake' Leader photo 30-plus years later

Mike Massa first attended TES event with children in '93, then with grandchildren last month

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – While taking part in an event at Tomahawk Elementary School (TES), an area man recreated a one-of-a-kind photo published in the *Tomahawk Leader* more than 30 years ago.

Kari Massa said her father, Mike Massa, a lifetime Tomahawk resident, recently attended Family Night at TES for the “Uncle Pancake” event, which includes all-you-can-eat pancakes with a twist: those in line for flapjacks have the option to have them tossed into the air to be caught on their plate.

The accompanying black-and-white photo, showing Mike trying to reel in airborne pancakes, was taken in May 1993 and published in the *Tomahawk Leader*. On that day, Mike had taken his wife and Kari and her sisters to the event.

The color photo, captured on Tuesday, Feb. 20, depicts Mike once again attempting to catch aerial pancakes – but this time, his grandchildren, who are students at TES, were on hand.

“When I saw that TES was providing an opportunity to relive this experience, I knew that my family had to attend,” Kari stated. “It wasn’t until we were standing in line for pancakes that I told my dad that I was going to try and recreate the picture of him in the Leader files from ‘93.”

Kari noted that Mike was successful in catching his pancakes...in 2024.



Tomahawk Leader photo



Photo courtesy of Kari Massa



Christina Powers (right), an employee at Trig's Tomahawk, took first place in the Great Wisconsin Bag-Off in Oct. 2023. Powers will travel to Las Vegas to take part in next week's national-level competition. **Contributed photo**

Trig's Tomahawk employee Christina Powers to compete for National Best Bagger title

Store to host send-off rally tomorrow ahead of Las Vegas trip

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – After winning the Great Wisconsin Bag-Off last year, Trig's Tomahawk employee Christina Powers is preparing to compete for the National Best Bagger title.

Powers took the top spot in the state-level competition, hosted by the Wisconsin Grocers Association (WGA), in Oct. 2023. The Wisconsin title earned Powers an invitation to compete at the national level, an all-expense paid trip for two to Las Vegas, Nev., \$500.00 cash and a trophy.

The national competition will be held at the National

Grocer's Association (NGA) Convention in Las Vegas, Nev., slated for Sunday, March 10 through Tuesday, March 12.

Powers will work her last shift tomorrow (Thursday, March 7) before going “wheels up” to Las Vegas with the Trig's team. Trig's Tomahawk store is inviting the community to join them in a rally to wish Powers luck and send her off in style.

At 11 a.m., an internal bag-off contest will be held near the back of the produce department to get

Powers
CONTINUES ON PAGE 3

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After four decades of federal service, Tomahawk resident Mark Martello retires

COURTESY OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

IRON MOUNTAIN, MICH. – After 40 years of federal service, Mark Martello, of Tomahawk, retired from the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Mich.

Martello's retirement took effect on Saturday, Feb. 24.

Martello was born in Chicago, but he got to Wisconsin as soon as he could. He was raised in Tomahawk and is the son of Angelo and Beverly Martello. He graduated from Tomahawk High School, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

and the University of Minnesota-Duluth with a Master's degree in social work.

Martello started his long career in federal service with an enlistment in the U.S. Navy Submarine Service, where he served for six years. Upon discharge from the Navy, he returned to Wisconsin to attend college. He continued to serve in the Wisconsin Army National Guard in Merrill and Antigo during college and graduate school.

After completing his Master's degree in social work, he returned to active duty, this time with the U.S. Air Force, serving as an Air Force clinical so-

cial worker for almost 15 years, retiring at the rank of Major. While in the Air Force, he deployed to Iraq.

After his distinguished military career, Martello continued in federal service with the Veterans Administration. He started at the Tomah VA Medical Center in the Wausau Clinic, working for a year, before transferring to the Oscar G. Johnson VA Health Care System Rhinelander Clinic in 2011. Martello returned to the Department of Defense for a year, working for the Army in Hawaii in 2015-16. He also spent a year working for North Central Healthcare Center in the Merrill and

Tomahawk offices in 2018-19 before again returning to the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center Rhinelander Clinic.

Martello ended his service to our nation as the leader of the OGJVAMC Homeless Program, where his team excelled in assisting homeless veterans find and keep stable housing. One hundred percent of the veterans housed by the OGJVAMC Homeless Program in 2023 were housed at the end of the year.

Martello holds independent level licenses in clinical social work in the states of Idaho and Wisconsin. He is a Board-Certified Diplomate in Clinical Social Work by the American Board of Clinical Social Work. He has completed specialized training in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, Cognitive Processing Therapy, Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Virtual Reality Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Depression, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Chronic Pain, Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for PTSD and Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Depression.



Tomahawk resident Mark Martello retired from the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Mich., last month, capping 40 years of federal service. Contributed photo

Martello has been the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal, Certificate of Recognition-VA National Director of Social Work and the Directors Team Excellence Award-OGJVAMC.

Martello is a lifetime member of VFW Post 2687 in Tomahawk.

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Lincoln County voters to cast ballots on new equipment utilizing modernized system

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

LINCOLN COUNTY – Lincoln County voters will soon cast ballots on new equipment utilizing a modernized voting system.

A release from the Lincoln County Clerk's Office said the Lincoln County Election Equipment Evaluation Team, consisting of county and municipal election officials, chose to remain with the county's current election equipment vendor, Election Systems & Software (ES&S) after a comprehensive review of available systems certified by the State of Wisconsin's Election Commission.

"The Evaluation Team determined that the ES&S system provides a fully-auditable voting solution that is accurate, secure and accessible to all voters," the release stated. "Just as importantly, the equipment is easy for both poll workers and election officials to navigate and manage."

Lincoln County Clerk Chris Marlowe said he led the process to determine the best possible scenario for replacing the county's aging AutoMark machines, which served

the county's accessible voting equipment needs since 2008.

"I provided the resources the Evaluation Team needed to make an educated decision on what best fits our local election needs and budgets here in Lincoln County," Marlowe stated. "I, in fact, left the final decision to our town officials. They unanimously decided to stick with our current vendor, whom they felt provided the top product."

Marlowe noted that the decision to remain with ES&S will "simplify the transition for our voters and election officials."

The release said the new system "uses a variety of functions to ensure election information and cast vote records are secure."

According to the release, the new system includes ExpressVote, a universal voting system uses touch-screen technology to produce a paper ballot, allowing voters to review their selections and verify that their vote was recorded accurately before submitting for tabulation.

"The fully auditable ExpressVote eliminates marginal marks and the

need for interpretation of the voter's intent," the release stated. "Votes can be cast using the touch screen, a detachable VVC keyboard or with ADA support peripherals, such as a sip and puff device."

Also featured in the new system is DS200, a poll place scanner and tabulator that includes physical security features to secure sensitive components and election files.

The release said the DS200 operating system controls, limits and detects unauthorized access to all critical data and includes safeguards that help protect sensitive data and verify authenticity.

Lincoln County's DS200s have been in service since 2010.

"The DS200 did need an upgrade to its operating system to allow the machine to be compatible with the ExpressVote," the release said, noting that the DS200 machines "will be very familiar to our voters, but the screen itself will appear different and perhaps more modern."

The release said the new system replaces the outdated AutoMark, which used Windows 7

for its operating system. Microsoft announced last year that it would no longer support the outdated Windows 7 platform.

"Microsoft ultimately doomed the AutoMark's fate, deeming its operating system obsolete," Marlowe stated. "This forced the county to replace the equipment. We went in open-minded, viewing this as an opportunity to do a deep dive into all the voting systems available to our voters here in Wisconsin. After reviewing the other vendors and the systems they sell, we determined we already had the best available tabulator and would not have to replace them at this time. This also made the addition of the ExpressVote the most cost effective solution. We feel good about our decision and are looking forward to the public's response after the April 2 Election."

POWERS FROM PAGE 1

Powers warmed up. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Trig's will provide a free Smokehouse World's Best Brat or Hot Dog lunch from their Community Brat Hut, and cake will be provided in the store.

"The Great Wisconsin Bag-Off is Wisconsin's version of the National Best Bagger Competition and determines who represents our home state in Vegas," a release from Trig's said. "According to the WGA, the purpose of the bagging competition is to encourage teaching and development of skills to successful bagging, promoting fair and friendly competition among retailers and incorporating guest service knowledge and skills into a learning experience."

The release said baggers are judged on five criteria: speed, proper bag building technique, style,

attitude and appearance, number of bags used and uniform bag weight. The competition includes both a live interview and the timed bag-off.

NGA, a trade association focused on representing the independent sector of the food industry, has been hosting the Best Bagger Competition for over 30 years and has participation from more than 25 states.

"We are incredibly proud of Christina's accomplishment," said Bob Jaskolski, President and CEO of T.A. Solberg Company. "This is an outstanding achievement and a credit to the great job she does for us every day. Her hard work and commitment to excellence have not only contributed to her success, but have also set a remarkable example for our newer baggers. We are excited to celebrate with Christina and congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition."

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The Tomahawk Leader will only print letters that address a specific issue or article that may be of interest to the bulk of our readers.

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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Navigating the Terrain of Relationships: Lover versus Companion

Dear Reader,

In the intricate tapestry of human connections, the distinction between having a lover and having a companion carries profound implications. A lover embodies the ardor of fleeting moments, characterized by fervent passion and exhilarating unpredictability. Conversely, a companion epitomizes a steadfast presence, offering solace, stability, and a sense of home.



The allure of a lover lies in the intoxicating dance of emotions, the fiery intensity that ignites the soul. Yet, it is often accompanied by the looming shadows of uncertainty, leaving one teetering on the edge of elation and apprehension. In contrast, a companion exudes the warmth of familiarity, a sanctuary where vulnerability is embraced and fears are assuaged.

However, the demarcation between these roles is not rigid; rather, it is fluid, subject to the whims of individual preferences and evolving circumstances. What one seeks in a lover during the throes of passion may differ from the companionship yearned for in moments of solitude.

Ultimately, the essence of fulfillment in relationships lies in striking a harmonious balance between the ardor of a lover and the solace of a companion. It is in this equilibrium that one discovers the true essence of companionship – a union where passion intertwines with security, and love blossoms in its myriad forms.

PATRICK J. WOOD
 Publisher
 Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

People still want the facts

The job of the news media is to cover the facts, regardless the level of controversy on any given topic. When that scrutiny is absent, the public still has a right to know and often follows through on its own.

Take the issue of the sale of Pine Crest Nursing Home. The purchase agreement between the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors and the ultimate buyer was not available to the public until Thursday before the board's vote on the sale the following Monday. The name of the buyer, exactly what was being included in the sale, (specifically the inclusion of the Social Services building), the dollar amount of the sale, how that dollar amount was arrived at, and the details of continuing Pine Crest Nursing Home as a skilled nursing facility were not known until just before the actual sale.

Some questions still remain unanswered even though the facilities are now sold. One of the glaring concerns within the agreement under Section 9, Purchaser's Representations and Warranties, item D. "...it is Purchaser's intent to continue the Nursing Home Facility as a skilled nursing facility." But also under Section 9, item F, "The representations and warranties of Purchaser in this Section 9 shall survive the Closing for a period of two (2) years after the Closing Date whereupon they shall automatically expire."

So, even though the County Board extended the buyer a five-year loan for \$2 million of the \$8.5 million sale's price, they were perfectly willing to provide a two-year escape clause on the skilled nursing facility requirement. Supervisor McCrank offered a compromise amendment to extend that escape clause to five years to match the five-year loan, but that was defeated.

No appraisals of the properties were ever made public. One can only guess that the final price of \$8.5 million for the nursing home and the social services building plus, might be the balance of the debt on the last two additions to Pine Crest. Also of note, Pine Crest apparently closed their books in the black for 2023.

People still want the facts.

Diana C. Smith
 Tomahawk

PAID LETTER TO THE EDITOR

NOTE: The following is a paid letter, per policy.

SB265 needs to be taken up by the Senate

Dear Editor:

In January the Wisconsin Assembly unanimously passed AB270, a bill that would require youth age 17 and under to take an in-person, hands-on DNR Hunter Safety course and exam, in order to receive certification to hunt. Led by Treig Pronchinske, Chairman of the Assembly Sporting Heritage Committee, this was overwhelmingly supported by both sides of the aisle.

Meanwhile, the five-member, Senate Sporting Heritage Committee has received AB270 in order to take action on it. AB 270 is the same bill as SB265 which is lying dormant and needs to be taken up by the Senate.

Citizens, including hunters and non-hunters alike, have voiced their opinion to this committee that this type of training should be made mandatory. In 2022, 93% of residents supported this at the annual Conservation Congress Spring Hearings.

"Wisconsin residents have expectations that those carrying firearms, while hunting have been properly trained by certified DNR Hunter Safety Instructors," said Rick Heisler of the Wisconsin Hunter Education Coalition. He goes on to say that, "the work done by the Assembly, and Representative Ty Bodden, in listening to the public and placing a priority on safety, should be commended."

Further endorsement by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, and Executive Director Cody Kamrowski who said, "This legislation is a "no-brainer" as youth need this type of training to safely and responsibly carry firearms."

Wisconsin has an exceptional track record of safety as it relates to hunting related injuries and deaths; largely due to the efforts of the volunteer DNR Hunter Safety instructors. Making this mandatory will cement the rich hunting heritage that Wisconsin has enjoyed since the inception of the Hunter Safety program in 1967.

Families have spoken and want their loved ones to be trained in person and not by a video. It is time that elected officials listen to their concerns. If you believe as we do, please contact members of the Senate Sporting Heritage Committee and ask them to move this bill forward. It is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

John Plenke
 Wisconsin Hunter Education Coalition
 Germantown, Wis.

Pastor's Corner
 Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Have you ever wondered why things are happening in your life the way they are? Have you ever asked God why is this happening or asked is this your plan Lord? I know I have.

I had felt called to the Northwood's of Tomahawk for a very long time. My family vacationed here every summer when I was a child. And I attended St. Barnabas Church on vacation. I loved this small community.

When I was called to seminary and ministry, I wanted to come here. St. Barnabas had lost their pastor and it seemed logical. But God sent me everywhere but here.

In 2007, I was being called to Marion, Illinois to St. James Church in the Hale Deanery. It was exactly 5 hours south of where I thought I'd be. I was very confused, but I trusted God. I worked hard and fit right in. I found out when I was due to collect my social security that I was 17 hours short of being able to collect health insurance in Illinois from my teachers retirement plan. The only thing I could do was to substitute teach for several years to earn back those hours. I really needed that health insurance and my social security.

Later I received a call to St. Ambrose, Antigo in 2010, I was stunned to realize that God, in his wisdom, had made me serve in Illinois because he knew about my insurance situation. I had no clue. God wanted me to do ministry and serve him, but he cared about my finances too!

When we choose to serve our Lord Jesus Christ, God enters into the plan he has had for us all along. Our only job is to obey and trust him, even if it seems crazy. Serving the Lord can be a sacrifice.

God has a plan for you too. It may be very different from what you expect. You may have spiritual gifts that are still uncovered. Maybe you are called to teach Sunday school or go back to school or to move to another state. Maybe you are to stay in Tomahawk and volunteer somewhere. You have to ask him.

Esther was asked to join other women as a companion for the King (Esther: 2-17). She ended up being Queen and saved the Jewish people from being annihilated. Esther is a short book in the Old Testament. Pick up your Bible and read about her. She was a heroine in a very unlikely scenario. In fact, if you read your Bible regularly, you'll discover that God uses women heroines often. It is evident that God providentially placed Esther in a strange place as part of his perfect plan.

What strange place has he led you? St. Paul writes in his letter to the Romans (Romans 11: 33-36), "Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and inscrutable are his ways!"

He's not going to tell you ahead of time. He's going to see if you will trust and obey him. We only can look back and see that it was the right thing to do.

If you are questioning an important decision, ask him to enter into it. Pray about it. Give it a little time to formulate. Ask your pastor or a trusted Christian friend to guide you. "Who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14)

Pastor Carolyn Rauschert, Associated Clergy of Tomahawk.



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

Ask the PASTOR

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

Last week I had closed with the remark that God wants us, not religious activities. Today, we shall continue looking at that topic with the understanding that if God *has* us, then we will do His will.

In Matthew 7:21, Jesus said, *Not every one that says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven;* but he that does will of my Father who is in heaven. Jesus said that only those who do His Father's will, will enter Heaven. To be sure we do not mistake being *religious* with *doing His Father's will*, Jesus went on to say in verses 22 and 23, *Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out demons? and in your name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me. So we might ask, What is doing the will of God?*

In John 6:28, some people asked Jesus, *What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?* Jesus' answer in verse 29 was, *that you believe on him whom he has sent.* God's will is that we would believe on Jesus Christ, the One whom God sent to us and describes for us in the Bible. In 1 John 2:22,23 we are clearly told that if we do not believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, then we do not know God.

In Micah 6 we find another time when people asked what God wanted them to do. The response of God's prophet (Micah) was that *God has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God* (Micah 6:8). To put it in a more modern paraphrase: *God told you long ago that He wants you to recognize the difference between right and wrong (do justly), to love showing mercy to others (love mercy), and for you to do these things as He has defined them for you in His Word* (walk humbly with your God).

It is so easy to equate the *will of God* with being religious and doing religious things, even charity work, but is doing those things doing the will of God? When *we do the will of God*, to other people it may appear that we are being religious and that we are doing charity work, but the emphasis of *doing the will of God* is on two things: to believe on the Son of God and to deal with situations and others *the way God tells us in His Word that we should.*

In 1 John 3:21-24, we are reminded that when we are obeying God, then we can be confident in our relationship with God. In verse 23 we are instructed; *This is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.* Verse 24 goes on to state that if we are obeying God's commandments (from verse 23) that we will be living in God and He in us. This is the will of God.

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

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Tomahawk Ambassadors hold ribbon cutting ceremony at The Harris Inn

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – The Tomahawk Ambassadors recently welcomed The Harris Inn to the area's suite of premier property rentals.

The property is located at N1001 County Rd. B, Tomahawk, in the heart of Harrison Hills.

"Brian and Kate Bouma are the proud owners of The Harris Inn," a release from the Ambassadors said. "Together, they personally designed and renovated this entire rental property. Both their love for the Harrison Hills in the Northwoods and their creative thinking made this the perfect opportunity to create this beautiful space, and they are so happy to share it with you."

"This building was originally a gas station/convenience store, which had been abandoned for almost 12 years when we bought it in early 2022," the Boumas explained. "Over the course of a year and a half, Brian, a carpenter by trade, poured his heart and soul into this incredible transformation, and, as a result, what was once



Tomahawk Ambassadors Bunny Kluka, Deb Tomaszewski, Jennifer Turkiewicz, Dawn Nelson, Diane Timm and Kathy Rankin were joined by Jeffrey Johnson from the Tomahawk Regional Chamber of Commerce to greet the Bouma family and tour their transformed rental facility, The Harris Inn. Photo courtesy of Andy Tomaszewski

a forgotten gas station now stands as a one-of-a-kind rental experience."

The Boumas added that

countless hours of dedication, sweat equity, and sacrifices – like missing time with family – con-

tributed to breathing new life into the space, creating a haven for travelers seeking something truly

unique.

"We cherish this place and the memories it holds, and we are excited

to share this transformation with Tomahawk," the Boumas stated.

The Ambassadors said the peaceful and cozy getaway is perfect for solo travelers, families, couples, or friends.

"Three one-bathroom studio units were very tastefully renovated with travelers' needs in mind, so you'll have everything you need, including all the essentials like free WiFi, flat-screen Smart TVs and a well-stocked kitchenette," the Ambassadors stated. "You will find unique Northwoods touches in each unit. Plus, there's a restaurant and an ATV/ UTV/snowmobile trail right across the street, so you never have to go far for something to do. If you want to explore, take the 12-mile drive into town for a day of shopping, dining, fishing or boating. The Harris Inn guests love how simple it is to stay there – it is very easy to find, and the location is unbeatable.

To learn more about The Harris Inn or to book a stay, visit www.theharrisinn.com.

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Pictured, from left to right: THS Principal Ryan Huseby, Instructor Logan Rudis, Jeff Jablonski of CASE and Instructor Andy Peissig. Photo courtesy of Andy Peissig

New laser engraver, 3D printer added to Hatched Innovation Lab

Equipment funded by grant from CNH Industrial

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – Tomahawk High School (THS) recently received a \$25,000.00 grant from CNH Industrial (CASE) to add a state-of-the art laser engraver and an additional 3D printer to the Hatched Innovation Lab.

Instructor Andy Peissig said that with the new equipment, the Innovation Lab will continue to provide students

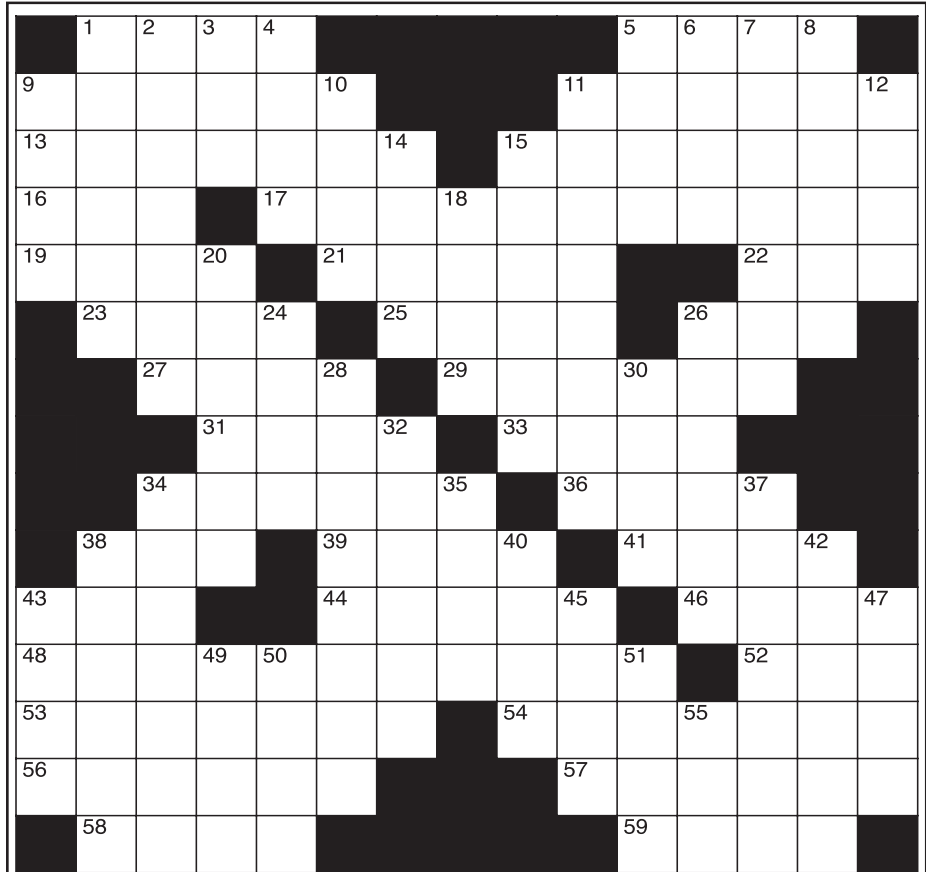
with cutting-edge technology and tools to foster creativity and innovation in their learning experiences.

“The machines will allow students to bring their ideas to life by creating intricate designs on various materials such as wood, metal and plastic,” Peissig stated. “The possibilities are endless with this new addition to the school’s resources.”

Peissig added that the Inno-

vation Lab at THS will serve as a hub for collaboration, experimentation and hands-on learning where students will have the opportunity to explore their interests and develop valuable skills that will prepare them for success in the 21st century workforce.

“Thanks to CNH Industrial’s (CASE) generosity, THS is poised to become a leader in innovative education,” Peissig said.



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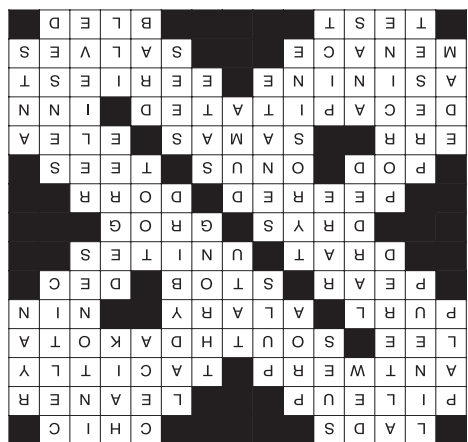
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Chaps
- 5. Currently fashionable
- 9. Collision
- 11. More slim
- 13. European city
- 15. Implicitly
- 16. The side of something that is sheltered from the wind
- 17. The Mount Rushmore State
- 19. Gold or silver wire cord
- 21. Muscles along insects' diaphragm
- 22. Trent Reznor's band
- 23. Sweet juicy gritty-textured fruit
- 25. Broken branch
- 26. Indicates ten
- 27. Expression of annoyance
- 29. Brings together
- 31. Ancient city in Thrace
- 33. Sailors' spirit
- 34. Looked into
- 36. Muckraking woman journalist Rheta
- 38. A type of cast
- 39. One's responsibility
- 41. Where golfers begin
- 43. Make a mistake
- 44. Semitic Sun god
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 48. Beheaded
- 52. A place to stay
- 53. Unwise
- 54. Most supernatural

- 56. "Dennis" is a famous one
- 57. Ointments
- 58. Exam
- 59. Leaked blood

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Baseball managers assemble it
- 2. Revised
- 3. Mountain is a popular kind
- 4. Takes to civil court
- 5. Pouches
- 6. A type of veil
- 7. Chants
- 8. Boston hoopster
- 9. Elongated appendage
- 10. Sailboat
- 11. 2017 Oscar-winning film
- 12. Actor Gosling
- 14. Monetary units
- 15. Assembly
- 18. Russian pop duo
- 20. Embellished with expressions
- 24. Infrequent
- 26. Temperature unit
- 28. Hydrophilic amino acid
- 30. Honk
- 32. Legislative body
- 34. Swinish
- 35. Russian assembly
- 37. Take over for
- 38. Put in advance
- 40. Satisfy
- 42. Felt
- 43. Dutch cheese
- 45. Witnesses
- 47. Strong insects
- 49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- 50. Ancient people of Scotland
- 51. Cheerless
- 55. Sick



357510

Richard Tegge of Wealth Strategy Group recognized as one of LPL Financial's top advisors

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – Richard Tegge, a financial advisor at Wealth Strategy Group, recently announced his recognition in the LPL Financial Masters Club for 2024.

A release from Wealth Strategy Group said the esteemed honor is awarded to a select group of advisors who demonstrate exceptional growth and excellence in financial guidance amidst the challenging landscape of macroeconomic uncertainty and market volatility.

“Operating from his offices in Marquette, Mich., and Tomahawk, Wis., Rich provides comprehensive wealth management services, including investment management, financial planning and wealth management,” the release stated. “This recognition underscores the dedication and success of Wealth Strategy Group and its exceptional team in serving clients across the Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin.”

Tegge expressed his gratitude, stating, “This recognition is a testament to our team’s hard work and the trust our clients place in us. We are honored to serve our clients, who are the foundation of our success.”

Julian Lopez, LPL’s Executive Vice President of Independent Advisor



Tegge Photo courtesy of Wealth Strategy Group

Services Relationship Management, commended Tegge’s accomplishments.

“On behalf of LPL, I am thrilled to congratulate Rich on his outstanding achievements in 2023,” Lopez said. “By leveraging our cutting-edge technology and comprehensive services, Rich has elevated their business, focusing on fostering deep client relationships in Marquette and Tomahawk. Their guidance has been crucial in helping families achieve their financial dreams.”

Tegge has been affiliated with LPL Financial, a leading wealth management firm, for four years. Through LPL, financial advisors are empowered to focus on their unique skills in building client relationships and delivering personalized financial advice, while leaning on LPL to provide the services, support and tools to help increase operational efficiency and power business growth.

About LPL Financial

LPL Financial Holdings Inc. (Nasdaq: LPLA) was founded on the principle that LPL should work for advisors and enterprises, and not the other way around. Today, LPL is a leader in the markets we serve, serving more than 22,000 financial advisors, including advisors at approximately 1,100 enterprises and at approximately 570 registered investment advisor (RIA) firms nationwide. We are steadfast in our commitment to the advisor-mediated model and the belief that Americans deserve access to personalized guidance from a financial professional.

At LPL, independence means that advisors and enterprise leaders have the freedom they deserve to choose the business model, services, and technology resources that allow them to run a thriving business. They have the flexibility to do business their way. And they have the freedom to manage their client relationships because they know their clients best. Simply put, we take care of our advisors and enterprises, so they can take care of their clients.

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Tegge

CONTINUES ON PAGE 13

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2024 Forestry & Wood Products



Tomahawk invests in city trees, combats emerald ash borer

BY PATRICIA LINDQUIST
DNR URBAN FORESTRY
COORDINATOR

NICK ROSENMEIER
CITY OF TOMAHAWK
STREET LEADPERSON

A tiny but highly destructive pest was first detected in Tomahawk two years ago.

Nicknamed “the green menace,” the emerald ash borer (EAB) is a wood-boring beetle that attacks ash trees. It’s currently the most damaging threat to trees in Wisconsin, killing more than 99% of the ash trees it infests.

Native to northeast Asia, EAB arrived in the U.S. more than two decades ago, likely in wood from shipping crates, and has been making its way across the country ever since. Although it moves slowly, infestations appear in new locations when people unintentionally carry it in on firewood.

EAB was identified in Tomahawk for the first time in March 2022. Now that EAB has been confirmed, city staff have begun to implement a plan that has been in place since 2014.

Ash tree removal is being done on both a proactive and reactive basis.

“We have started to remove trees showing significant amounts of decline and will continue to do so,” said Nick Rosenmeier, Tomahawk’s Street Leadperson. “In the



This EAB-impacted ash tree was removed from W. Wisconsin Ave. in Tomahawk last summer. City employees are continuing to identify and take down ash trees affected by the invasive beetle before replacing them new trees of different species.

Photo by Jalen Maki

future, we will remove trees that may not look infested to keep ahead of the curve. Doing this will allow us to keep as much of the work in-house as possible, saving taxpayers money in the long run.”

Infested ash trees dry out and are prone to breaking. Removing living trees is safer and typically less expensive than waiting until they are dead.

Approximately 300 of

Tomahawk’s street trees and a small number of park trees are ash. City staff removed about 30 ash trees in 2023 and aim to remove another 60 in 2024.

To help with this expensive and time-consuming process, the city applied for a DNR Urban Forestry Grant last fall. They were awarded the maximum amount of \$25,000.00. The grant is a 1:1 match, with the city contributing more

than \$30,000.00 in staff time and funding. The total project cost is over \$55,000.00.

The grant will allow the city to hire professionals to remove 40 ash trees over 20 inches in diameter. These trees are too large for city staff to remove on their own. The funding will also be used to plant 60 new trees. Each tree will be eight to 16 feet tall at the time of planting and come with a five-year guar-

antee.

Although replacing removed trees is the primary goal, some locations may not be suitable for replanting. Tree planting will be a multi-year process to improve the tree canopy throughout the city.

Trees are an important part of any community. Trees provide shade, absorb storm water runoff, give animals shelter and food and even increase property values. For these reasons and more,

Rosenmeier felt that it was essential to include replanting in the grant proposal.

“We owe it to the next generation to leave things better than we found them,” Rosenmeier said. “Past generations knew the importance of planting trees that grew fast and provided shade, but did not consider species diversity. Although it is sad to lose our ash trees, we will be able to plant a variety of trees so the next pest has less impact on our overall tree population.”

To increase species diversity, the city will be looking to plant many different trees: honeylocusts, Triumph elms (disease resistant), hackberries, Kentucky coffeetrees and oaks, to name a few. Planting smaller quantities of many species makes the urban forest more resilient and less affected by any single threat.

In 2023, Tomahawk celebrated 37 years as a Tree City USA. Combating and recovering from EAB is perhaps the biggest challenge to Tomahawk’s urban forest since Dutch elm disease. With maples accounting for 26% of Tomahawk’s tree population, an infestation of these trees would be even worse. Hopefully, learning from past mistakes, the city can prepare to lessen that blow by diversifying now with the help of forestry grants, Arbor Day resources and implementing practices that will benefit the city for years to come.

Tree planting In Lincoln County

BY JEREMIAH AUER
DNR REGENERATION
SPECIALIST

Lincoln County has a rich forest history, from the early settlers harvesting in the vast forests of a new state to the present management and utilization of forest resources.

This was only possible because of the forest’s resili-

ence and the citizens’ determination to manage and maintain this resource. Every year, landowners across the county plant, thin and harvest trees on their property.

The Wisconsin DNR nurseries have been supplying seedlings to tree planters in Lincoln County since the Trout Lake Nurs-

ery opened in 1911. In 2023, the private landowners and public land managers of Lincoln County were responsible for planting more than 75,000 conifers, 10,000 hardwoods and 1,700 shrubs on their property. This only counts seedlings from a DNR nursery; it doesn’t include the many seedlings purchased from

private nurseries, garden centers or other vendors.

For those interested in planting this spring, get in touch with your local DNR forester for more information or the DNR reforestation program: 473 Griffith Ave., Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., 54494; 715-424-3700; <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/TreePlanting>.

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80 years of commitment: PCA's ongoing support for environmental education

COURTESY OF TREES FOR TOMORROW

For eight decades, the commitment of Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) to environmental education has been unwavering.

PCA currently operates the Tomahawk Containerboard Mill in Tomahawk. Since 1944, the organization, formerly Tomahawk Pulp and Paper, has been a beacon of support for Trees For Tomorrow (TFT), an Environmental Education Center located in Eagle River. In fact, Tomahawk Pulp and Paper was one of the nine original founders of TFT, a non-profit that has been at the forefront of environmental stewardship and education.

One of the most remarkable aspects of this partnership is PCA's dedication to Tomahawk elementary schools. Recognizing the transformative power of hands-on outdoor learning experiences, PCA has been generously sponsoring field trips to TFT for Tomahawk 5th graders for decades, ensuring that thousands of students have the opportunity to connect with, and learn the science of, our natural world.

For many children, these field trips represent their first encounter with the nature beyond the confines of textbooks and traditional classrooms.

Guided by professional educators at TFT, students embark on immersive explorations through forests and waterways, exploring topics such as forestry, wildlife and winter ecology and forging lifelong connections with the environment that transcend the traditional classroom.

Many alumni credit their experiences at TFT with sparking a lifelong passion for natural resource sustainability, inspiring them to become industry professionals and future stewards of the planet.

Jim Hoppe, Timber and Forestry Manager at PCA's Tomahawk mill, has been the leader of this school



Exploring the Wild

Tomahawk fifth graders dive into outdoor survival skills and unravel the science of snow during an unforgettable field trip to TFT. Hands-on learning meets adventure as students connect with nature and discover the wonders of environmental science firsthand. **Photos courtesy of TFT**

sponsorship initiative. Jim brings a rich history in the forest industry, representing the interests of the Pulp and Paper stakeholder group on the Council on Forestry and continuing to serve as a member (and past president) of TFT's Board of Directors for close to 20 years.

"It is always hard for me to imagine that someone may need to be influenced, as I have been sold on TFT for more than a quarter of a century," Hoppe reflected. "PCA provides scholarships for students to attend TFT as it is an accredited, dynamic natural resource school with an up-to-date curriculum, and professional, knowledgeable and dedicated staff that inspire students to think responsibly about the future of our natural resources. These field trips provide an opportunity for students to learn science-based facts about our natural resources, which is important as they become the future stewards of our environment."

Sponsoring local school districts for field trips to learn about environmental

education can offer numerous benefits to industry businesses, aligning with both corporate goals and community engagement objectives. There are several compelling reasons why an organization should consider sponsoring such initiatives:

Community investment: Supporting local schools demonstrates a genuine commitment to investing in the community where the organization operates. By funding educational opportunities, the business contributes to the well-being and development of future generations, fostering goodwill and strengthening ties with local residents.

Educational impact: Field trips provide students with hands-on learning experiences that are often more impactful than traditional classroom instruction. By sponsoring these trips, businesses can help enhance students' understanding of environmental issues, ecosystems and sustainability practices, thereby promoting responsible stewardship.

Workforce development: Engaging with local schools fosters a pipeline of skilled talent for the future workforce. By exposing students to real-world applications of environmental science and related fields, businesses can inspire interest and passion in subjects like science, forestry, wildlife habitat, etc., potentially cultivating a pool of future employees with relevant skills and knowledge.

Public relations and brand image: Sponsoring educational initiatives, particularly those focused on environmental education, can enhance a company's reputation and brand image. It showcases the business as a socially responsible, which can positively influence consumer perceptions and loyalty.

Environmental sustainability and multi-use management: Businesses have a vested interest in promoting environmental sustainability, as it can directly impact their operations, supply chains, and long-term viability. By supporting initiatives that



educate students about environmental issues and solutions, businesses contribute to building a more environmentally conscious society, potentially mitigating environmental risks and fostering a supportive regulatory environment.

Corporate partnerships: Collaborating with local schools and educational institutions can open doors for valuable partnerships and networking opportunities. Businesses can forge relationships with educators, administrators and other stakeholders, creating avenues for future collaborations, such as internships, mentorship programs or joint research initiatives.

Regulatory compliance and social expecta-

tions: Many industries face increasing scrutiny regarding their environmental practices and social impact. Sponsoring environmental education initiatives can help businesses demonstrate compliance with environmental regulations, meet stakeholder expectations for corporate citizenship and proactively address concerns related to environmental sustainability.

As TFT celebrates its 80th anniversary, the enduring partnership with PCA serves as a testament to the power of collaboration in creating positive change. Together, we can continue to empower communities, educate future generations and sustain our natural resources for years to come.

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2024 Forestry & Wood Products



Area landowners model good forest stewardship

BY ART KABELOWSKY
DNR FOREST HEALTH
COMMUNICATIONS
SPECIALIST

What's one of the most underrated factors behind successful forest stewardship?

Good old-fashioned elbow grease.

"There used to be a time we'd both get up in the morning and work until it got dark," Lori Livingston said with a laugh. "We don't do that anymore."

Still, elbow grease remains the not-so-secret ingredient behind the vast and diverse beauty of Jim and Lori Livingston's 401-acre property, located adjacent to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in the Town of Hammel, near Medford in Taylor County.

"The north end is hilly, with a lot of rocks," Jim Livingston said. "The south end levels out, but it gets wet. For this part of Wisconsin, we have a lot of diversity."

"When we first saw this (property), it was just a rock pile," Lori Livingston said. "Lots and lots of rocks. But we have so many resources here, we've been able to make it work."

One of the important resources behind the Livingstons' success has been the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Managed Forest Law (MFL) program, along with its Deer Management Assistance program.

About 60% of the forest land in Wisconsin is owned by individuals and families like the Livingstons. But if there were rankings on which families put in the most work on their land, the Livingstons would likely rank near the top.

"They've done a great job here," said Scott Mueller, a Medford-based DNR



Lori and Jim Livingston manage a species-diverse, 401-acre property outside Medford and adjacent to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. Photo courtesy of Wisconsin DNR

tax law forestry specialist. "They've made a lot of terrific improvements."

In all, 236 of the Livingstons' original purchase of almost 276 acres has been enrolled in the tax law program since 2005. The couple also purchased an adjacent 126-acre Christmas tree farm in 2020; that land is not enrolled in the MFL program.

The Livingstons' land that does fall under MFL guidelines is a study in forest diversity. Since 2005, the species taken from their property include aspen, basswood, fir, red pine, spruce and mixed hardwoods. They have taken over 8,000 cords and 11,000 board feet from the MFL-covered property.

"The tree species here are the ones that grow best and match what the area supports," Jim said.

Jim and Lori earned Bachelor of Science degrees in vocational agricultural education from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Throughout their agriculture education careers, they pursued other

paths in agriculture and counseling.

The Livingstons decided to leave Owen (in Clark County) and teaching when they had their first of three children in 1989. They settled on the 276-acre fixer-upper plot located 11 miles northwest of Medford. In the fall of 1993, they built a home on the property.

In the early years, they focused primarily on the intense labor and planning required to achieve the stewardship they envisioned for their property. At times, it seemed like they were cleaning up one mess after another. Rocks and invasive plants were so pervasive that there were spots where they couldn't see the creek that ran through the property.

At that time, Jim said he knew about the MFL program, but stayed away because he was under the impression that "there were so many restrictions."

After their tireless efforts began to show results, with the help of private loggers and foresters, the Livingstons decided to share the

beauty of their land with the public.

In 2000, they opened a 10-mile trail system for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing that winds through the heavily wooded areas, with loops set up for various skill levels.

"It's one of only three groomed trails in Taylor County," Jim said. "We're getting more and more people who travel quite a bit to visit us."

Following MFL guidelines, the Livingstons don't charge people using their trails, but they say visitors "have been very generous" with donations to cover the costs of grooming, upkeep and expansion.

In 2003, Mueller took over as the Taylor County DNR private lands forester. In a discussion with the Livingstons, he dispelled some misconceptions about the MFL program.

"The MFL program is flexible and accommodating," said Jake Walcisak, former Taylor County Forest Administrator. "You have some things that are hard sideboards, but then

you have landowner objectives. Once you have a plan, it doesn't have to be set in stone."

"If the landowner is reasonable, we can figure out a way to make it work," Mueller said. "If you have a problem that comes up, we can put you in touch with people who can help."

"(The MFL program) has helped us improve this property and also to get some income from it," Lori said.

Since 2015, the Livingstons have worked hard to eliminate the invasive exotic honeysuckle that had taken hold near their creek. Between that work and rock removal, the Livingstons were able to host their youngest son's wedding – the family's second on the property – with seating for 400 set up on an island guarded by a sprawling oak tree.

The Livingstons have a mandatory practice harvest project next year to include 20 acres of balsam and red pine and 65 acres of mixed hardwood, white pine and some red pine with forest

health concerns.

It will be the fourth mandatory practice harvest on the property in 10 years. The Livingstons built pinpoint plans for each harvest while maximizing market prices with the help of the MFL staff and many others.

The timber harvests allow the Livingstons to continue with their labor of love.

"It's good exercise and fresh air, and you get to see the results of your work," Lori said.

"All these programs – working with the foresters, learning about timber, cooperating with educational programs – it's all been such a worthwhile thing," Jim said. "We've made our needs work together with MFL program needs. There are way more resources out there than people realize."

"Some landowners aren't very active in managing their land," Mueller said, "but that has never been the case with the Livingstons."

"The underlying value," Lori said, "is to take care of what you've got."

Tomahawk Fire Department awarded grant

BY RON SCHNEIDER
DNR COOPERATIVE
FIRE SPECIALIST, FIRE
DEPARTMENT LIAISON



Pictured is an aerial view of a Tomahawk Fire Department crew at an area structure fire. The department was recently awarded a DNR grant to aid in combating forest fires.

Photo courtesy of Wisconsin DNR

The Tomahawk Fire Department was awarded a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for \$5,013.00 to purchase supplies to help them combat forest fires.

The forest fire protection grant will provide a 50% match.

The fire department was funded to purchase fire-resistant lightweight jackets and pants for forest firefighting. They also plan to buy backpack pumps and

paggers with the funds.

Chief Paul Winter leads the department that responds to all fires, includ-

ing working with the DNR on forest fires in the DNR's intensive forest fire protection area.

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2024 Forestry & Wood Products



Be on the lookout for forest tent caterpillars

BY PAUL CIGAN
DNR FOREST HEALTH
SPECIALIST

Forest tent caterpillar has returned to the radar of northern Wisconsin property owners in the last few years, with multiple confirmed reports of defoliation in northern counties.

Numbers could be high this year.

A native defoliator with a preference for aspen and oak, forest tent caterpillars undergo periodic population outbreaks every six to 16 years. Widespread outbreaks can last several years, causing heavy defoliation, reduced growth and temporary stress on affected trees.

"I had more reports of forest tent caterpillars than spongy moths (in 2023) from Lincoln County," said Alex Feltmeyer, DNR Forest Health Specialist for central Wisconsin. "Landowners and foresters reported congregations of the caterpillars, but not noticeable defoliation."

The last widespread outbreak ended in 2002.

An outbreak has been overdue in Wisconsin. Recent

numbers have increased after 2021 defoliation reports signaled that an outbreak could begin in the next several years. Weather conditions play a significant role in triggering population outbreaks, with warm and dry spring weather promoting caterpillar survival and population growth.

Once an outbreak begins, it usually continues for two to five years before the population collapses. High populations can fall victim to natural enemies and disease.

Some call forest tent caterpillars "army worms" because they look like marching soldiers as they travel across the ground.

The caterpillars are about two inches long, with colorful bodies covered in hairs. The sides of their bodies are blue, with narrow orange stripes. Their backs are black with white markings that resemble keyholes, penguins or footprints. Newly hatched caterpillars are black and only about one-eighth of an inch long.

A parasitic fly (*Sarcophaga aldrichi*), called the "friendly fly" because it often lands on



Forest tent caterpillars show unique white markings on their backs with yellow or orange stripes and blue markings on their sides.
Photo courtesy of Wisconsin DNR

humans without biting, is a great help in lowering forest tent caterpillar populations. The adult fly lays an egg on the caterpillar's cocoon, and when the maggot hatches from the egg, it eats the pupating caterpillar. During the final years of an outbreak,

the friendly fly can kill more than 95% of pupae. The abundant presence of "friendly flies" is usually a sign that the forest tent caterpillar outbreak is nearing its end.

Forest tent caterpillar egg masses are laid in summer on twigs of the trees and

shrubs and hatch the following spring. Each egg mass has up to several hundred caterpillars, so you can reduce the number of caterpillars that may hatch the following spring by removing egg masses within reach. This works exceptionally well to protect smaller trees and shrubs.

When caterpillars are young, a stiff spray of water or soapy water that completely soaks them can kill them. Insecticidal soap is available, but must be sprayed on the caterpillars and not just on tree leaves. Regular chemical pesticides, such as Btk, also help to control forest tent caterpillars.

You can put a sticky or slippery band around tree trunks to prevent caterpillars from crawling up to the leaves. Sticky bands can be purchased at garden centers or made at home using duct tape and waterproof materials such as Tanglefoot or petroleum jelly. Wrap the duct tape tightly around the trunk at chest height – make sure it is at least a few inches wide. Then, paint the sticky material onto the duct tape. En-

sure that the sticky material does not directly contact the tree's bark because it could harm or kill it.

A sticky band only protects trees from caterpillars moving up and down the trunk. It will not work for caterpillars that hatch from egg masses already high in the tree.

Forest tent caterpillar can be misidentified as another caterpillar, such as a fall webworm or a spongy moth, so correctly identifying the insect of interest is important. Localized outbreaks of spongy moth may be present in northern Wisconsin in early July. Spongy moth's preferred hosts include many of the same species as the forest tent caterpillar.

Forest managers and landowners are advised to watch for and report any defoliation this summer and in the coming years. Please report any suspected forest tent caterpillar defoliation to your local DNR forester or regional forest health specialist, and learn more about forest tent caterpillar identification and biology on the DNR website.

Young forest habitat: What it is and why it is important

BY RANDEE SMITH
WISCONSIN YOUNG
FOREST PARTNERSHIP
COORDINATOR

Early successional forest, or young forest, is basically a habitat that follows a

disturbance of some kind. Natural disturbances are tornados, windstorms and wildfires. There are also management techniques that mimic these natural processes, but give us a measure of control, such



An alder shearing operation. Photo courtesy of WYFP

as timber harvest, prescribed burns and brush cutting or mowing. There are commercial operations that offer these services to landowners who wish to manage their lands to en-

courage growth of early succession plants.

Early succession plants are highly reproductive, grow rapidly and generally intolerant of shade. In northcentral Wisconsin,



Woodcock Photo courtesy of Marie Read

aspen and alder are two common examples of such species.

Tag alder is a lower-growing shrub that lives to an age of about 20 years. This species is common

in open areas near some kind of watercourse or an area with at least seasonal standing water.

Habitat
CONTINUES ON PAGE 12

TIMBER PROFESSIONALS



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VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may request to vote an absentee ballot. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen, who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, who has resided in the ward or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for at least 28 consecutive days before the election. The elector must also be registered in order to receive an absentee ballot. Proof of identification must be provided before an absentee ballot may be issued.

You must make a request for an absentee ballot in writing.

Contact your municipal clerk and request that an application for an absentee ballot be sent to you for the election. You may also submit a written request in the form of a letter. Your written request must list your voting address within the municipality where you wish to vote, the address where the absentee ballot should be sent, if different, and your signature. You may make application for an absentee ballot by mail, email or in person.

Making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail

The deadline for making application to receive an absentee by mail is: 5:00pm, Friday, March 29, 2024.

Note: Special absentee voting application provisions apply to electors who are indefinitely confined to home or a care facility, in the military, hospitalized, or serving as a sequestered juror. If this applies to you, contact your municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

Voting an absentee ballot in person

You may also request and vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office or other specified location during the days and hours specified for casting an absentee ballot in person.

Town of Birch, Megan Webb, PO Box 71, Irma, WI 54442, 920-723-0673, Hours: Monday-Friday 1:00-7:00p.m.

Town of Bradley, Kari Kiser, 1518 W. Mohawk Dr., P.O. Box 325, Tomahawk, WI 54487, 715-453-3326, Hours: Monday 8 am.- 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Town of Corning, Rick Hass, N1428 Strawberry Road, Merrill, WI 54452, 715-536-3432, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Town of Harding, Kristy Ament, N2567 County RD E, Merrill, WI 54452, 715-218-6094, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Town of Harrison, Kathy Voermans, N10455 County Rd D, Tomahawk, WI 54487, 715-453-3395, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Town of King, Georgene Linden, W4450 County Road A, Tomahawk, WI 54487, 715-908-0001, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment Monday - Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Town of Pine River, Amanda Herdt, N1901 High Ridge Rd, Merrill, WI 54452, 715-536-7687, Hours: Contact clerk between the hours of 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. to set up an appointment.

Town of Rock Falls, Diane Chambers, N6306 Rock Falls Dr, Tomahawk, WI 54487, 715-536-5039, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 7a.m. and 7 p.m.

Town of Russell, Amy Brown, N5410 State Highway 17, Gleason, WI 54435, 715-873-4141, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Town of Schley, Becky Dallman, W1981 Heineman Road, Merrill, WI 54452, 715-571-1262, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Town of Scott, Bonny Graap, W6692 Sunset Drive. Merrill, WI54452, 715-218-5633, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Town of Skanawan, Loyetta Dennis, W3294 Stevenson Road, Irma, WI 54442, 715-966-2605, Hours: Contact clerk for appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Town of Somo, Heather Marheine, W10655 Carpenter Rd., Tripoli, WI 54564, 715-453-4662, Hours: Friday - Saturday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Sunday 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Town Of Tomahawk, Jesse Hoffman, N9048 Fox Farm Rd, Tripoli, WI 54564, 715-254-4651, Hours: Monday - Thursday 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Town of Wilson, Teresa Lepkowski, PO Box 566, N10802 County Road CC, Tomahawk, WI 54487, 715-453-6090, Hours: Tuesday 8 a.m. - noon.

City of Tomahawk, Amanda L. Bartz, 23 N 2nd Street, P.O. Box 469, Tomahawk, WI 54487, 715-453-4040, Hours: Monday -Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The first day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office is: Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

The last day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office is subject to your clerk's availability: Contact your municipal clerk.

No in-person absentee voting may occur on the day before the election.

The municipal clerk will deliver voted ballots returned on or before Election Day to the proper polling place or counting location before the polls close on April 2, 2024. Any ballots received after the polls close will not be counted.

Published March 6, 2024

WNAXLP

LEGALS

Legals

7700

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
LINCOLN COUNTY
Wisconsin Housing and Economic
Development Authority
PO Box 1728
Madison, WI 53701

Plaintiff,
vs.
Anna Van Strydonk
1904 W Main St
Merrill, WI 54452-2140
Park City Credit Union
501 S Pine Ridge Ave

Legals

7700

Merrill, WI 54452-8812
Defendants,
CAP Services, Inc. a Wisconsin non-
profit Corporation
c/o Anderson O'Brien, LLP,
Registered Agent
1257 Main St
Stevens Point, WI 54481-2864
Added Defendant.
PUBLICATION AMENDED SUMMONS
Case No. 23-CV-000159
The Honorable
Robert R. Russell
Case Code 30404
(Foreclosure of Mortgage)
The amount claimed exceeds
\$10,000.00

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

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff
named above has filed a lawsuit or other
legal action against you.

Within 40 days after March 6, 2024 you
must respond with a written demand for
a copy of the amended complaint. The
demand must be sent or delivered to the
court, whose address is 1110 E Main St,
Merrill, WI 54452-2554 and to Gray &
Associates, L.L.P., plaintiff's attorney,
whose address is 16345 West Glendale
Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151-2841. You
may have an attorney help or represent
you.

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

Date this 29th day of February, 2024.

Gray & Associates, L.L.P.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
By:

Michael M. Riley
State Bar No. 1033997
Case No. 23-CV-000159
16345 West Glendale Drive
New Berlin, WI 53151-2841
(414) 224-1987

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Published March 6, 13, 20, 2024
WNAXLP

REQUEST FOR BIDS TOWN OF SCHLEY - LINCOLN COUNTY

The TOWN OF SCHLEY, LINCOLN COUNTY, will be accepting sealed bids for the demolition of the existing Town Hall building and site prep for a new Town Hall at W1696 Cty Rd C, Merrill, WI 54452. Interested parties may obtain bid information by contacting Tim Klimek, Town chairman, at 715-921-2543.

Bids will be opened Monday, April 8, 2024 at the Schley Town Hall during the Town Board meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Sealed bids to be submitted to: Town of Schley Clerk, W1981 Heineman Road, Merrill, WI 54452 or delivered to the Schley Town Hall prior to bid opening. Bids received after 6:00 p.m. on April 8, 2024 will not be accepted or considered.

The Town of Schley reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or any part(s) thereof which may be deemed most advantageous to the Town. Contractor to provide certificate of insurance showing liability and workers compensation coverage.

Remember to Recycle Becky Dallman, Clerk

Published February 28 & March 6, 2024 WNAXLP

REQUEST FOR BIDS TOWN OF SCHLEY - LINCOLN COUNTY

The TOWN OF SCHLEY, LINCOLN COUNTY, will be accepting sealed bids for the construction of a new Town Hall building and septic located at W1696 Cty Rd C, Merrill, WI 54452. Interested parties may obtain bid information by contacting Tim Klimek, Town chairman, at 715-921-2543.

Bids will be opened Monday, April 8, 2024 at the Schley Town Hall during the Town Board meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Sealed bids to be submitted to: Town of Schley Clerk, W1981 Heineman Road, Merrill, WI 54452 or delivered to the Schley Town Hall prior to bid opening. Bids received after 6:00 p.m. on April 8, 2024 will not be accepted or considered.

The Town of Schley reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or any part(s) thereof which may be deemed most advantageous to the Town. Contractor to provide certificate of insurance showing liability and workers compensation coverage.

Remember to Recycle Becky Dallman, Clerk

Published February 28 & March 6, 2024 WNAXLP

Public Notice

Friends of Clear Lake is applying for a permit to apply aquatic herbicide ProcellaCOR EC to approximately 70.6 acres on Clear Lake, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, for control of Eurasian Watermilfoil, an invasive aquatic plant. The treatment application will most likely occur in May/June 2024, or when the WI DNR deems it appropriate. Warning signs will be posted prior to treatment. There are no restrictions on swimming, eating fish from treated water bodies, or using water for drinking. There is no restriction for irrigation of turf (homeowner grass), however there are restrictions for all non-turf applications (gardens) for five days. Refer to the latest copy of the label for all irrigation requirements. Adjacent riparian property owners will receive a copy of the permit application. The applicant will hold a public informational meeting on the proposed treatment if five or more individuals, organizations, special units of government, or local units of government request one. The person or entity requesting the meeting shall state a specific agenda of topics including problems and alternatives to be discussed. The request for the public informational meeting must be sent in writing to: Friends of Clear Lake, Attention: Megan Pellett - Email address - mepellett@gmail.com and a copy to the [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources](http://www.wisconsin.gov) - Northern Region Headquarters 107 Sutliff Ave. Rhinelander, WI 54501-3349 within five days after the public notice is published.

Published March 6, 2024

WNAXLP

Meetings and Public Hearings 7720

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
402 South Park Drive-PO Box 213
Tomahawk WI 54487
715-453-4233

NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13th, 2024,
10:00 A.M.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OFFICE, 402
SOUTH PARK DRIVE, TOMAHAWK,
WISCONSIN
Published March 6, 2024 WNAXLP

Notice To Creditors 7735

STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT
LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
NELDA L. JANKOWSKI

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 2024 IN 08

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 7/24/1950 and date of death 1/18/2024, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 428 N. 6th Street, Tomahawk, WI 54487.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 05/31/2024.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.

Form completed by:
Isaiah M. Riche
143 S. Main St. 3rd FL
West Bend WI 53095
Telephone: 262-334-3471
Bar Number: 1106573
DATE SIGNED: February 15, 2024
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar
Published February 21, 28, March 7,
2024 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN,
CIRCUIT COURT,
LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Ricky Henrichs

Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 2024IN11

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 9/11/1955 and date of death 10/17/2023, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of WI, with a mailing address of N6759 Cty Rd. E, Tomahawk, WI 54487.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 06-07-2024.
5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin, Probate Office.

BY THE COURT:
DATE SIGNED: February 23, 2024
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar
Form completed by:
Christine M. Zuelsdorff
1406 Highland Drive
Merrill, WI 54452
Telephone: 715-218-5459
Published March 6, 13, 20, 2024
WNAXLP

St. Luke's completes affiliation with Aspirus Health

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

DULUTH, Minn. – St. Luke's, based in Duluth, Minn., officially completed its affiliation with Wausau-based Aspirus Health last week.

In a Friday, March 1 joint release, Aspirus and St. Luke's said the expanded health system now operates 19 hospitals and 130 outpatient locations with nearly 14,000 team members, including 1,300 employed physicians and advanced practice clinicians across northeastern Minnesota, northern and central Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

The system will operate headquarters in Wausau and maintain a corporate office in Duluth, according to the release.

"Both Aspirus and St. Luke's have worked diligently since announcing a letter of intent to affiliate last summer, including signing a definitive agreement, completing due diligence and participating in a public forum with the Minnesota Attorney General's office in Duluth last fall," the release stated. "The affiliation has satisfied all necessary governmental notices, waiting periods and approvals, and completed the Minnesota Attorney General's review process."

The release said the combined system will "collaborate in clinical care, sharing medical knowledge and resources to improve care coordination and increase patient access for a broad region."

"This will improve patient outcomes, provide more cost-effective services and advance the overall quality



of health care," the release stated.

As part of the affiliation, Aspirus said it has committed to honoring all physician, labor and union contracts; investing at least \$300 million over eight years to fund St. Luke's strategic projects; implementing the Epic electronic medical record platform and other standard systems to promote integration and efficiency within 24 months; and expanding Aspirus Health Plan into St. Luke's service area within two years, subject to regulatory constraints and timelines, to promote coordinated, cost-efficient and effective delivery of health care services to its members, according to the release.

"We are proud to welcome St. Luke's and Lake View to the Aspirus family," said Matt Heywood, Aspirus Health President and CEO. "Our collective strengths will improve health for our communities, and we look forward to what the future holds for our patients, staff and all who rely on our system for excellent care. Our combined team can now begin working together as champions for the future of health in our communities."

"Today is a historic day," said Nicholas Van Deelen, MD, St. Luke's Co-President. "From our founding in 1881, St. Luke's has built a legacy as a patient-focused organization above all else. We are

proud to join Aspirus Health to advance services and access in our region. Our like-minded cultures and values are rooted in serving people. The completion of our affiliation will benefit our employees, partners and the communities we serve for generations to come."

"We see our affiliation with Aspirus Health as a continuation of our mission and passion to care for our patients and communities," said Eric Lohn, St. Luke's Co-President. "Together, we are stronger, and we will grow and transform to meet the changing needs of our communities. We thank all those involved in making this affiliation a reality."

"We appreciate the support this affiliation received from all officials involved," Heywood said.

"Patient care and services will continue as usual," Van Deelen stated. "Patients can continue seeing their current providers to receive the high-quality, compassionate care they always have. The clinic locations, phone numbers and how you interact with us on a day-to-day basis will not change. As we make enhancements over the coming months, we will keep our patients and communities informed."

Heywood will continue to serve as President and CEO of Aspirus Health, and Van Deelen and Lohn will continue to serve as Co-Presidents of St. Luke's.

"Together, St. Luke's and Aspirus will be an innovative, forward-looking system that will transform to meet the health needs of the changing region," the release stated.

TEGGE

FROM PAGE 6

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Leader Sports & Nature



TMS wrestlers hold awards ceremony

The Tomahawk Middle School (TMS) wrestling team held its end-of-season awards ceremony and pizza party in the TMS cafeteria on Thursday, Feb. 29. Award winners are as follows: RJ Guzman (not pictured), MVP 6th Grade; Charlee Lund, MVP 7th Grade; Hudson Evans, MVP 8th Grade; Brayden Nowak, Most Takedowns, 6th Grade (28); Charlee Lund, Most Takedowns, 7th Grade (13); Colton McMeekin, Most Takedowns, 8th Grade (27); RJ Guzman, Most Pins Overall (10); Dawson Jones and Lillian Taves, Don Hendrick Award (both earned 4.0 GPAs); Colton McMeekin, Most Improved Wrestler. "Congratulations to the entire team for a successful year on the mat," coaches Bellile, Derleth and McMeekin said.

Photo courtesy of David Bellile

Tomahawk skaters fall to New Richmond in State tournament

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

MIDDLETON – The Tomahawk Hatchet hockey team took on New Richmond in the first round of the WIAA Division 2 State Tournament in Middleton, Wis., on Thursday, Feb. 29 and fell by a score of 8-4.

Tomahawk entered the tournament ranked #4, while New Richmond was the top seed.

The Hatchets struck first in the opening frame, with Jonah Dickens putting the puck in the net. New Richmond responded with three unanswered goals, but Tomahawk rallied before the end of the period with goals by Logan Seymour and Jonah Dickens, making the score 3-3 at the end of the first period.

The Tigers came out strong in the second period, scoring three straight goals. A goal by Caleb Dickens late in the period made the score 6-4 heading into the final frame.

New Richmond tacked on two more goals in the third period on their way to the 8-4 win, ending Tomahawk's historic season.

The Hatchets' matchup against the Tigers marked Tomahawk hockey's first trip to State since 1991.

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. All participants must sign a waiver form. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult age 21 or older.

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 172

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@mmlocal.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 171 question: Who was the head coach of the 1976 girls' volleyball team: Marilyn Grygo, Laurie Stensvold or Linda Mochalski?

Week 171 answer: The head coach of the 1976 girls' volleyball team was Linda Mochalski.

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

Week 172 question: Where did Bonnie Draeger run track after high school: UW-Stevens Point, UW-Superior or UW-La Crosse?

DNR announces fee increase for nonresident archer, crossbow hunting licenses

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), on Friday, March 1, announced a fee increase for nonresident archer and crossbow hunting licenses.

A release from DNR said this change is the result of Governor Tony Evers sign-

ing Senate Bill 780, now 2023 Wisconsin Act 99.

Nonresident archer and crossbow licenses fees increased \$35.00, from \$165.00 to \$200.00 per customer.

New buyers of nonresident archer licenses fees increased \$17.00, from \$82.75 to \$99.75 per customer.

"This change brings the cost of archer and cross-

bow licenses in alignment with the cost of a firearm license," DNR stated, adding that the additional revenue generated by this change will "support wildlife habitat and management activities."

License fees for many nonresident hunting and fishing licenses increased in July 2023 as part of the 2024-2025 state budget.

Licenses for the 2024 license year are available for purchase and are valid April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

Hunting and fishing licenses can be purchased online via Go Wild (www.govild.wi.gov/), any DNR Service Center or from an authorized sales agent location.

North Central Conservancy Trust earns national accreditation

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

STEVENS POINT – North Central Conservancy Trust (NCCT) recently announced that it has achieved national recognition.

A release from NCCT said the organization began 30 years ago, when conservation-minded central Wisconsinites from Wausau and Stevens Point worked



together to form a land trust, a "community-based, nonprofit organization ded-

icated to conserving land." NCCT said its mission is to "conserve the natural heritage of central Wisconsin through the protection of land."

"NCCT works with landowners to develop conservation easements that protect and preserve the ecological values of their properties," the release stated. "The organization also owns sev-

eral preserves that are open to the public, including the 160-acre Mumford Preserve in Marathon County."

NCCT is based in Stevens Point operates in an eight-county service area that includes Lincoln, Taylor, Clark, Marathon, Wood, Portage, Adams and Waushara counties.

NCCT

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

WEATHER

DATE	HIGH (°F)	LOW (°F)
Sunday, Feb. 25	50	15
Monday, Feb. 26	53	24
Tuesday, Feb. 27	66	6
Wednesday, Feb. 28	19	-4
Thursday, Feb. 29	35	24
Friday, March 1	53	29
Saturday, March 2	58	36

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Natural Connections: Pine Siskins

BY EMILY STONE
NATURALIST/EDUCATION
DIRECTOR, CABLE
NATURAL HISTORY
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I've been hearing a lot of complaints from people who are feeling lonely this winter. For once, they aren't feeling cooped up by icy roads and constant blizzards. Instead, we miss our feathered friends! A suite of factors, including the nice weather, means that birds are not as abundant as usual at our backyard feeders.

My guess is that with shallow snow many birds are able to find food in the woods. Plus, the mild temperatures reduce the number of calories they require to stay warm. In addition, the grosbeaks, redpolls, and crossbills we love to see are "irruptive species." To irrupt means to enter an area suddenly (in contrast to the lava erupting out of the volcano suddenly). We don't see these irruptive species every winter, at least not in any quantity. Most migrations are driven by food availability, and these are no different. This year, their favorite foods are more abundant elsewhere.

One exception, at least at my feeders, are pine siskins. These stripey little finches with yellow highlights breed in the remote forests of Canada, as well as northern Wisconsin and Minnesota. When their typical winter food supplies

in the north are low, pine siskins may flock into New England, the upper Midwest, or even the southeastern United States. They are looking for plentiful supplies of seeds from pines, cedars, larch, hemlock, spruce, alder, birch, and maple. I'm not sure what natural food is abundant this year, but my plentiful pine siskins seem to be enjoying a "sunflower chips" mix that has some hulled and some whole sunflower seeds.

In fact, I've been observing that pine siskins are the most dominant birds at my feeder. They will hiss and spread their wings aggressively to prevent goldfinches, chickadees, and nuthatches from swooping in to grab one of those tasty sunflower seeds.

By eating all those seeds, pine siskins put on 50 percent more winter fat than their cousins—common redpolls and American goldfinches. Little birds don't store fat in an insulating layer of blubber like penguins and whales; they accumulate stores of brown fat around their wishbone and abdomen as a ready source of fuel for their metabolisms. Siskins also store a bedtime snack right in their esophagus—in the expandable section called the "crop." But it isn't just a single cookie and glass of milk; their crop can store seeds equal to 10 percent of their body mass.



Pine siskins put on more fat than many other little birds. They also fluff out their feathers and tuck up their toes to stay warm on frigid days. Photo by Emily Stone

Those calories could get them through five or six hours of sub-zero temperatures. They can survive negative 94 degree Fahrenheit nights by revving up their metabolic rate to five times normal for several hours. That's 40% higher than other songbirds.

Why don't more little birds put on that much fat for winter? Getting too fat can make it harder and more energetically costly to fly, and reduce their ability

to escape predators. Chickadees may only achieve 10 percent body fat in the winter. Instead, chickadees store food. They cache up to 100,000 food items per year—most of them in the winter. In order to remember all of those caches, chickadees add new neurons for every hidden seed, berry, or insect. The result is a 30 percent increase in brain volume, which shrinks again during the easy-living days of summer.

Besides adding a little

fat and a lot of neurons, chickadees grow 12 percent more feathers for winter insulation. That's nothing compared to common redpolls, who add 31 percent more feathers! That's a big increase for a bird that only weighs half an ounce to begin with. Why don't more birds add that many feathers? During a Wild About Winter Ecology Workshop years ago, Prof. Sheldon Cooper from UW Oshkosh compared small birds add-

ing feathers to putting a toddler in a snowsuit. A big being, like a snowy owl or an adult human, can still move pretty well, even if you add some puffy layers. The smaller the being, though, the more those layers can impede movement.

From fat to feathers, all winter adaptations have their pros and cons, just like this weirdly warm winter we're having. If the birds have left you feeling lonely, take advantage of the clear roads and visit a human friend instead!

Author's Note: Portions of this article are reprinted from 2014 and 2019.

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

For more than 50 years, the Cable Natural History Museum has served to connect you to the Northwoods. Our exhibit: "The Northwoods ROCKS!" is open through March 9. Our Winter/Spring Calendar of Events is ready for registration! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and www.cablemuseum.org to see what we are up to.

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7	1	4	5	8	2	6	9	3
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6	7	8	4	2	1	3	5	9
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NCCT

FROM PAGE 14

With the completion of its most recent project in 2023, the organization now holds 60 conservation easements and has surpassed 5,000 total acres of land protected, including more than 10 miles of shoreline on central Wisconsin waterbodies.

In earning national recognition, NCCT joins a network of over 450 accredited land trusts across the nation and 16 in Wisconsin that have “demonstrated their commitment to professional excellence and to maintaining the public’s trust in their work,” according to the release.

“This is NCCT’s first attempt at becoming accredited, though it has been a goal for the organization for a long time,” NCCT stated.

“It is exciting to recognize NCCT with this national mark of distinction,” said Melissa Kalvestrand, Executive Director of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. “Donors and partners can trust the more than 450 accredited land trusts across the country are united behind strong standards and have demonstrated sound finances, ethical conduct, responsible governance and lasting stewardship.”

“We are thrilled that NCCT has been granted national accreditation status after completing a rigorous review process of our land trust activities and performance,” said Jill Falstad, President of NCCT’s Board of Directors. “We are grateful to our supporters over the past 30 years, including board and committee members, donors, landowners, staff, property monitors, volunteers and community partners, who have all contributed to building and advancing our land trust so we could meet the high standards for national accreditation and receive this designation. Our strength means more special places in central Wisconsin will be protected forever, making our communities an even greater place now and for future generations.”

Accredited land trusts steward almost 20 million acres of land across the United States, equivalent to the size of more than half of the state of Wisconsin, according to the release.

“NCCT provided extensive documentation to the National Land Trust Accreditation Commission during the years-long application process,” said NCCT Executive Director Chris Radford. “After a comprehensive third-party evaluation, the

commission awarded the distinction of accreditation, signifying its confidence that NCCT meets the highest standards in all categories. We thank all of those who worked so hard to help NCCT reach this milestone as this status could not have been achieved without the many contributions of the team members dedicated to this task.”

NCCT is one of 1,363 land trusts across the United States and more than 40 in Wisconsin, according to the Land Trust Alliance’s most recent National Land Trust Census. Of those, 16 are nationally accredited. A complete list of accredited land trusts and more information about the process and benefits can be found at www.landtrustaccreditation.org.

The organization said it is “thrilled about their recent designation and is encouraged about working with more landowners to permanently protect their wetlands, shoreline, prairies, forests, agricultural lands, and habitat that supports birds, wildlife and native plant communities.”

To learn more about land protection opportunities, conservation easements or supporting NCCT, visit www.ncctwi.org or call 715-344-1910.

LCHD partnering with local businesses, organizations to distribute gun lock kits

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

LINCOLN COUNTY – The Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD), with support from the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County Coalition, is working with local businesses and organizations to distribute gun lock kits.

A Friday, March 1 release from LCHD said the initiative “aims to increase awareness about safe storage of firearms in effort to prevent suicide and promote child safety.”

LCHD said the following locations will provide free gun locks and educational materials to the public: The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Central Wisconsin, Aspirus Health, Children’s Wisconsin,



the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office, Lincoln County Social Services, the Lincoln County Sports Club, Lincoln County Veterans Services, Marshfield Clinic Merrill, the Merrill Fire and Police Department, Pine River School for Young Learners, the Rock Falls Rod and Gun

Club, the Somo Fish and Game Club and Tomahawk Furniture and Guns.

Supplies are limited. “We are grateful to be partnering with organizations and businesses in Lincoln County to distribute gun lock kits,” said Kristin Bath, LCHD Public Health Educator and lead of Healthy Minds for Lincoln County. “Gun-related injuries and deaths are preventable. This initiative provides the community with a resource to help keep their families safe.”

To learn more about the initiative or to get involved with the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County Coalition, contact Bath at 715-539-1373 or kristin.bath@co.lincoln.wi.us or visit www.wellincoln.org.

News Briefs

City of Tomahawk winter parking ban

The City of Tomahawk’s winter parking ban will be in effect through Friday, March 15. Parking on city streets is prohibited between 2:30 a.m. and 5 a.m.

Grace Lutheran blood drive

A blood drive, sponsored by the American Red Cross, will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 108 W. Somo Ave., Tomahawk, on Tuesday, March 19, from 11:30 a.m. to

5:30 p.m. Appointments are recommended, but not necessary. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org. A Red Cross ID or photo ID is required.

Open Arms Community Meal closed until March 19

Open Arms Community Meal, served each Tuesday at St. Mary’s Corpus Christi Center, 320 E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk, will be closed until March 19.



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	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Mar 6	3:57AM	7:33AM	12:14PM	8:03PM
Mar 7	4:38AM	8:33AM	1:37PM	9:02PM
Mar 8	5:09AM	9:30AM	3:04PM	9:58PM
Mar 9	5:34AM	10:25AM	4:30PM	---
Mar 10	5:56AM	10:51PM	5:55PM	11:17AM
Mar 11	6:16AM	11:43PM	7:18PM	12:09PM
Mar 12	6:37AM	12:34AM	8:41PM	1:00PM
Mar 13	7:00AM	1:26AM	10:03PM	1:53PM

Solunar fishing and hunting chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon is March 10th.



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