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## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS Republicans Tiffany, Felzkowski, Callahan to face Democratic challengers in November U.S. Senate, House races set; State referendums rejected

BY JALEN MAKI  
TOMAHAWK LEADER  
EDITOR

WISCONSIN – Wisconsin voters decided federal, state and local primary races, as well as the fates of two referendum questions, in the Tuesday, Aug. 13 Fall Primary Election.

Voters cast ballots by party preference.

According to preliminary results from the Lincoln County Clerk's Office, 3,855 Lincoln County voters participated in the Republican primary, while 2,207 voters cast ballots for the Democratic ticket. The Libertarian Party had nine voters, while the Wisconsin Green and Constitution parties had two voters and one voter, respectively.

### U.S. Senate

On the Republican ticket for United States Senate, Eric Hovde emerged victorious with roughly 86% of the vote, soundly defeating Charles Barman and Rejani Raveendran.

Incumbent Democratic Senator Tammy Baldwin was not challenged in last week's election. She will defend her seat against Hovde in November.

Hovde easily won Lincoln County with 3,162 votes, according to preliminary results. Charles Barman tallied 404 votes in the county, while 222 votes went to Raveendran.

### U.S. House of Representatives

Republican U.S. Representative Tom Tiffany, who currently represents the Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, did not face a primary opponent and will look to defend his seat this fall.

In the primary to represent the Democratic Party against Tiffany in November, Kyle Kilbourn came out on top with about 58% of the vote, defeating Elsa Rae Duranceau, who garnered about 42%.

Duranceau, with 1,038 votes, carried Lincoln County. Kilbourn tallied 947 votes in the county.

### Wisconsin State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Mary Felzkowski, who represents Wisconsin's 12th Senate District, ran for the Republican nomination unchallenged.

Felzkowski will take on Democrat Andi Rich in November. Rich did not face an opponent on the Democratic ticket.

### Wisconsin State Assembly

In the Republican primary race for the Wisconsin State Assembly, incumbent District 35 Representative Calvin Callahan defeated challenger Todd Mayr by a roughly 85% to 15% margin.

After running unopposed for the Democratic nomination, Elizabeth McCrank will go head-to-head with Callahan this fall. McCrank and Callahan previously served on the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors together, until Callahan's resignation last September.

### Referendum questions

Wisconsin voters rejected a pair of referendum questions that sought to amend the state Constitution to allow the State Legislature to have more authority over how federal money allocated to Wisconsin is spent.

Under current law, which has stood since the 1930s, that power is vested in the governor.

The two referendums failed by roughly 57% to 43% and 58% to 42% margins, respectively, according to preliminary results.

The statewide results were not reflected in Lincoln County, where question one was supported by a 3,164-vote to 2,851-vote margin, and question two received 3,215 votes in support and 2,844 votes against.

### Lincoln County District Attorney

Current Lincoln County District Attorney Kristopher Ellis did not face a challenger in the Democratic primary race.

No Republicans entered the race for District Attorney. Ellis will be unopposed on November ballots.

### Lincoln County Clerk

Two candidates vied for the Republican nomination in the race for Lincoln County Clerk.

Current clerk Christopher Marlowe defeated challenger Steve Osness by a 2,273-vote to 1,665-vote split, according to preliminary results.

With no Democrats seeking the clerk post, Marlowe will be the lone candidate on November ballots.

### Lincoln County Treasurer

Robbin Gigl, who currently serves as Lincoln County Treasurer, was not

**Election**  
CONTINUES ON PAGE 8

## Senate Committee convenes hearing in response to Proulx's death at Lincoln Hills

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
MMC STAFF

MERRILL – The Wisconsin Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety convened an Informational Hearing on Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Merrill High School, which ran an uninterrupted seven and one-half hours long before all testimony was heard.

The Senate Committee focused on a single topic: Lincoln Hills School and the recent death of Corey Proulx, who died on June 24, when he was attacked by a youth inmate at the facility.

Lincoln Hills School and Copper Lake School in Irma is currently Wisconsin's only Type 1 secure juvenile correctional facility



The Wisconsin Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety listens to testimony at Merrill High School.  
Photo by Tina L. Scott

for male and female youth in Department of Corrections (DOC) custody.

The Senate Committee, comprised of Senators Van H. Wanggaard (Chair, from Senate District 21, R-Racine), André Jacque (Vice Chair, from District 1, R-De Pere, appearing remotely), Eric Wimberger (District 30, R-Green Bay), Jesse L. James (District

23, R-Altoona), Mary Felzkowski (District 12, R-Tomahawk), Kelda Roys (District 26, D-Madison), and LaTonya Johnson (District 6, D-Milwaukee), asked to hear from Wisconsin DOC Secretary Jared Hoy, DOC administration officials, current and former DOC staff who work at or had worked at Lincoln Hills School and/or Copper

Lake School, and Proulx's affected family members.

For those interested, the entire hearing was videotaped and can be viewed at [wiseye.org/2024/08/06/senate-committee-on-judiciary-and-public-safety-60/](http://wiseye.org/2024/08/06/senate-committee-on-judiciary-and-public-safety-60/). You will need to set up a free user account to access the video.

**Proulx**

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

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# Pine Crest referendum language sent to Lincoln County board for consideration

BY TINA L. SCOTT  
MMC STAFF

MERRILL – At a joint meeting of the Lincoln County Administrative and Legislative (A&L) Committee and the Finance and Insurance Committee held Friday, Aug. 9, the committees passed a resolution authorizing a binding referendum on the issue of exceeding the tax levy to finance the continued operation of Pine Crest Nursing Home for the next five years and approved the referendum question language.

The matter went before the entire Lincoln County Board of Supervisors for consideration at their Tuesday, Aug. 20 regular meeting.

At the joint committee

meeting, after discussion regarding the Pine Crest financials and what number would be most accurate to include in the proposed referendum language, to reflect the county's actual needs to cover both nursing home operating expenses and debt service, as well as the maintenance needs of the buildings, the committees settled on a figure of \$5 million per year for the next five years, 2025-2029, for a total of \$25 million.

Most of the maintenance on the buildings has been long deferred, and the committees, with input from the maintenance staff, said the maintenance cannot continue to be deferred and the issues must be addressed.



Pine Crest Nursing Home in Merrill.

MMC photo

This referendum would not necessarily address the facility's long-term needs, but would cover only the next five years.

Pine Crest Nursing Home was set to be sold to Merrill Campus LLC and Senior Management Inc. this year, but the buyer terminated the Asset Purchase Agree-

ment with Lincoln County in response to a lawsuit filed by Donald J. Dunphy in May. Dunphy represents District 7 on the Lincoln County Board and is a member of People for Pine Crest, a group that has advocated against the sale of the Merrill facility.

Dunphy ran for office saying that, if elected, he would stop the sale of Pine Crest, and his lawsuit had the desired result, as a clause in the agreement stated the buyers could terminate the agreement in the event of legal action, and they exercised that option on June 28. Dunphy then dismissed the lawsuit; however, the Lincoln County board, anticipating that Pine Crest Nursing Home would no longer be county-owned in 2025, had not planned to cover the costs of operating and maintaining the nursing home for 2025 and beyond.

As a result, the A&L and Finance and Insurance Committees are recommended the Lincoln County board put the matter of financing the county-run nursing home on the November ballot to let voters decide if they are willing to finance the maintenance and operation of Pine Crest with an increase in their taxes.

The People for Pine Crest group has long advocated for sending the matter to a referendum.

"Some people in the public are arguing that taxpayers are willing to fund it, and they want to," said District 12 Supervisor Julie DePasse.

"I think this would finally answer that question, at least for the next five years. It would answer the question. If taxpayers do want to keep the service and increase their taxes, they can vote Yes, and if they don't, they can vote No. And if it's No, then we have to look at sale again."

### Debating the referendum and the language

"We also need to understand that in the last few years, people have had to pay so much extra," said District 2 Supervisor Lori Anderson-Malm. "We only have 28,000 people in Lincoln County ... We have not increased our population. So we're asking all these people ... living paycheck to paycheck, paying more for gas, paying more for food ... [to pay more]."

"The surrounding areas, we're all going or going to be going through reevaluations for property. The City of Merrill is going through that right now. The City of Merrill will probably – there's a good chance that some residential properties could go up 10%," she said.

Anderson-Malm shared her frustration about the termination of the sale of Pine Crest.

"We had a really good deal – we had a fantastic deal – that would have not only benefited the residents, the employees, it would have benefited the city, the county, the school, and NTC," she said. "Because right now as a public building, we get no taxes from that. If it would have been a private entity, we would have gotten property taxes. And again, that would have helped all four entities ... It's so frustrating that there was a good solution and these people [the buyers] were willing to take on that debt. But it's gone now. So if we have to have a referendum, great. Let's have a referendum. Let's get it on the ballot in No-

member. If it fails, I don't want to hear one more thing about it. I don't want to hear one more thing – that we didn't talk to anybody, that there was no transparency – which is false. I don't want to hear anything. If this fails, I don't want to hear any complaining. None."

District 20 Supervisor Angela Cummings said Lincoln County already has one of the highest tax rates in the area and she is concerned that putting Pine Crest out there as a referendum isn't giving taxpayers the complete picture, as there are other big financial issues Lincoln County is also facing.

"I feel like we're doing a disservice if we do just one referendum without encapsulating all of the financial problems," Cummings said.

In order for the referendum to be on Tuesday, Nov. 5 ballots, the board was required to approve the referendum question language at last night's meeting.

Prior to Tuesday's board meeting, the referendum language wasn't final, as the board had the option to change the dollar amount requested.

The board also had the option to vote to reject the referendum.

But if the joint committee meeting was any indication, putting the matter to a referendum vote may be the county board's only viable option at this point.

The final resolution coming out of the meeting included language that stipulated the A&L Committee would also provide residents of Lincoln County with more complete information regarding Pine Crest Nursing Home to include past and anticipated finances, budget deficits, bed-licenses, residency census, and facility maintenance needs; obligations, liabilities, support, and services funded from the County tax-levy and State supplemental payments; current debt; and other material the committee determines applicable to provide voters with complete information. The committee shall also include information about the existing and anticipated county operating budget and capital improvement program needs, obligations, liabilities, and short-falls for purposes other than for Pine Crest Nursing Home for which debt service and/or tax levy increase referenda may be necessary during the next 10 years.

"We have an obligation, as a county board, to provide information to the electorate so that they can make a well-informed decision," District 18 Supervisor Ken Wickham said. "And knowing what other we may come asking for over the next 10 years ... we have all these other needs out there, and I would hate to have our residents vote on this and approve something, and then county board turns around and takes out debt service without a referendum ... and there's nothing they can do about it except pay the taxes on it ... so I think we have an obligation to inform."

The final amended motion passed 7-2 on a roll call vote, with supervisors Wickham and Cummings voting against the resolution for a referendum.

## PROULX FROM PAGE 1

DOC Secretary Hoy and the DOC/Lincoln Hills administration prepared presentation/testimony, and subsequent questions from the Senate Committee lasted more than three and a half hours. Members of the Senate Committee were pointed in questioning the DOC team. At times, the DOC team declined to answer some specific questions, citing the active and ongoing investigation into Proulx's death and their own internal investigation.

Hoy's team credited changes in how the Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake facilities have operated since the implementation of various aspects of a court-ordered consent decree that resulted from a 2017 lawsuit and investigation for creating a facility that has "maintained the safety of the youth detained as well as staff and administrators" and said,



The Wisconsin Department of Corrections team gives testimony before the Senate Committee. Photo by Tina L. Scott

"We measure the effectiveness of what we are doing ... by looking at things such as workplace injuries, restraint use, both physical and mechanical, and the overall safety of both staff and youth in which we provide services. From fiscal year '22 to fiscal year '23, we have seen a reduction of 1.4 million in worker compensation claims."

Another nearly four hours of testimony followed from Proulx's family, co-workers, and past and current employees at

Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake.

Some of the testimony given by current and past employees working on the front lines at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake differed from the information provided by the DOC team. Current employees who work at Lincoln Hills School openly shared that they were coming forward to talk about the real conditions at the juvenile correctional facility, even though they feared possible retaliation.

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### Lemonade stand raises funds for Tomahawk Community Theater

Last month, Noah Bixby and his brother Landon had a lemonade stand in front of Tomahawk Pharmacy on W. Wisconsin Ave. The lemonade stand raised a total of \$542.00, with all proceeds going to the Tomahawk Community Theater. Noah was recently seen on stage at the Tomahawk High School auditorium with the Youth Summer Theater's production of "Internet Disconnect" on Friday, July 19. This was his second performance with the summer program. The Tomahawk Community Theater thanked Noah for his hard work and generous contribution. Pictured, back row, from left: Pam Theiler-Wise, Terry Bucaro, Kathy Rechsteiner; front: Landon Bixby, Noah Bixby. Photo courtesy of Terry Bucaro

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### LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

As reported by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Monday, Aug. 12:

On 08/06/2024 deputies were dispatched to an address on Herb Mitchell Rd. in the Town of Bradley for a domestic-related incident. The victim, an Oshkosh woman, 69, was reporting to be the victim of a domestic disturbance that occurred between her and her fiancé, an Irma man, 64. During the call with dispatch, the victim reported that the male subject had armed himself with a shotgun. As deputies arrived on scene, the victim was able to leave the house, and she was evacuated by deputies. The male remained barricaded in the house armed with the shotgun. As a result of this, the Lincoln County Special Response Team was activated and responded to the scene. Team negotiators were able to make contact with the male suspect via telephone, and in talking with him for several hours, were able to convince him to surrender to SRT members without incident. The victim was

transported to a safe location for the night. She was not injured. The suspect was transported to the Lincoln County Jail, where he was booked in for domestic disorderly conduct and battery, with additional charges pending. The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Merrill Police Department.

On 08/06/2024 deputies were sent to an address on Joe Snow Rd. in the Town of Scott for a report of a juvenile being out of control, causing damage to his house. It was reported by the parent that the juvenile was punching holes in the wall and trying to get the keys to the car to leave. The first deputy arrived on scene and made contact with the juvenile, and after a few short minutes, the deputy reported that they had deployed the use of their Taser to get the juvenile under control. The juvenile was then taken into custody and transported to Aspirus Merrill Hospital for medical clearance. Once done, the juvenile met with Lincoln County Social Services before being transported to

the Washington County Juvenile Detention Center. The juvenile was taken into custody for criminal damage to property and resisting arrest.

On 08/07/2024 deputies were dispatched to the area of the area of W7000 block of CTH Z in the Town of Scott for a suspicious persons report. It was reported that it appeared as though a male subject was scoping out residences in the area. At the time, the male was driving a black Dodge Charger. It was later learned that the vehicle was stolen out of another jurisdiction. About 45 minutes later, the MPD was assigned to a suspicious person complaint with a subject

who matched the description of the suspect from out on CTH Z. The suspect, a Wausau man, 20, was taken into custody by MPD for unrelated charges. Following the arrest, a deputy from the Sheriff's Office located the stolen black Charger on Hilly Rd. in the Town of Scott. Immediately after finding the stolen car, the Sheriff's Office received a call from another citizen who resides on Hilly Rd. reporting that their pickup truck had been stolen. That vehicle was then located on CTH Z. It was later determined that the suspect stole another vehicle from CTH Z and

**Sheriff's Report**  
CONTINUES ON PAGE 5



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Entry Deadline is Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>

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Parade line-up will be published in the August 29<sup>th</sup> issue of the Foto News. We will be lining up in the Merrill Manufacturing Parking Lot on State Street.

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# OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at [www.tomahawkleader.com](http://www.tomahawkleader.com)



**Peggy Ann Kromm, 74,** of Tomahawk, WI passed away on Thursday August 8, 2024 at home with her family by her side. She was born August 27, 1949 to Thomas and Marvel (Johnson) Hein.

Following graduation from Rice Lake High School in 1967, she attended UW Madison and earned a BS degree in Physical Education. On June 17, 1972, she married John Kromm in her home town of Rice Lake. In April of 1977 Peg and John moved to Tomahawk to own and operate the newly remodeled and expanded Tomahawk Ben Franklin. While there she was the moving force behind the establishment of the Country Cellar, a consignment gift shop located in the basement of the Tomahawk Ben Franklin. Because of a continuing interest in geriatric health Peg knew she needed to return to the classroom. She chose the Nursing Program at Nicolet Area Community College, Rhinelander, from which she graduated in December of 1995. After receiving her RN certification she became employed as an RN at Taylor Park Nursing Home and Rehab Center in Rhinelander for the next 20 years. She spent the last 2 years of her working career serving as a part time Lunch Lady in the Tomahawk School System.

She is survived by John, her husband of 52 years; two sons, J. T. Kromm (Rachel Johnson) Pensacola, FL; Christopher "Pher" (Kristy) Kromm, and granddaughter, Kinslee, of Tomahawk; sister, Clara (Bruce) Kuhne and nephews Thomas and Jordan of Adelaide, Australia; sister Rose (Dave) Hobson of Dayton, MN; niece Jessica (Hobson) Sorenson of Des Moines, IA; and nephew Jason (Brihan) Leslie of Knoxville, TN.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sister, Merikay Leslie, and brother-in-law, Don.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral Home from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and again on Thursday, August 15th from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Tomahawk. Funeral service will follow with Pastor Julie Sinkula officiating. Interment will be held on Friday, August 16th at Nora Cemetery in Rice Lake, WI at 11:00 a.m.

The Family would like to thank the staff at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital along with Aspirus Hospice for the compassionate care given right up to her passing.

Donations in Peggy's honor can be made to a charity of your choice. Online condolences for the family may be directed to [www.nimsgernfuneral.com](http://www.nimsgernfuneral.com)

# More than \$170 million in quarterly aid payments allocated to local roads, communities

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – Governor Tony Evers and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) earlier this month announced that municipalities across the state received more than \$170 million in the third quarter of 2024 for General Transportation, Connecting Highway and Expressway Policing Aids.

A release from Evers' office said the governor has "made fixing Wisconsin's roads a top priority, and the Evers Administration has improved more than 7,400 miles of road and 1,780 bridges since 2019, including over 900 miles of road and over 200 bridges in 2023 alone."

According to the release, for calendar year 2024, local governments will receive more than \$536 million in General Transportation Aids financial assistance to support transportation-related projects, a 2% increase over calendar year 2023 allocations provided by the 2023-25 biennial budget signed by Evers.

"The investments in the 2023-25 state budget resulted in the largest amount of funding for the program in the state's history, and total funding for all local

Municipality	GTA	CHA
Lincoln County	\$624,667.34	
Oneida County	\$557,195.14	
Price County	\$387,743.54	
City of Tomahawk	\$75,663.76	\$10,372.59
City of Merrill	\$220,056.48	\$37,524.02
City of Rhinelander	\$195,157.79	
Town of Birch	\$18,618.94	
Town of Bradley	\$18,618.94	
Town of Cassian	\$61,836.24	
Town of Corning	\$66,320.00	
Town of Harding	\$23,122.80	
Town of Harrison	\$39,848.05	
Town of Hazelhurst	\$34,386.88	
Town of Hill	\$21,557.59	
Town of King	\$23,642.26	
Town of Knox	\$25,517.48	
Town of Little Rice	\$31,502.51	
Town of Lynne	\$55,199.46	
Town of Merrill	\$45,616.79	
Town of Nokomis	\$36,287.01	
Town of Ogema	\$40,032.59	
Town of Pine River	\$44,304.47	
Town of Rock Falls	\$25,617.58	
Town of Russell	\$28,085.01	
Town of Schley	\$36,751.79	
Town of Scott	\$25,874.56	
Town of Skanawan	\$16,246.79	
Town of Somo	\$14,264.64	
Town of Spirit	\$20,805.74	
Town of Tomahawk	\$24,216.40	
Town of Wilson	\$17,115.81	

Data courtesy of WisDOT.

programs makes up almost one-third of the state transportation budget," the release stated.

General Transportation Aids help cover the costs of constructing, maintaining and operating roads and

streets under local jurisdiction.

Connecting Highway Aids reimburse municipalities for maintenance and traffic control of certain state highways within municipalities.

Expressway Policing Aids help the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department with the costs of patrolling expressways within the county.

The third quarter payments, made on July 1, totaled \$171,100,518.52 and included:

- General Transportation Aids – \$166,585,719.03 to local units of government.

- Connecting Highway Aids – \$4,258,824.49 to 116 eligible municipalities.

- Expressway Policing Aids – \$255,975.00 to Milwaukee County.

Quarterly payments for cities, villages, and towns are sent the first Monday in January, April, July and October. County payments are made in three installments, with 25% of the total annual payment on the first Monday in January; 50% on the first Monday in July; and 25% on the first Monday in October.

"I am proud that these investments we made in the state budget are reaching our communities where they will make a real difference in people's lives and livelihoods," Evers stated. "These funds ensure that

Aid

CONTINUES ON PAGE 5

**EARLY DEADLINE**  
**will be 10 a.m.**  
**Thurs., Aug. 29**  
 for the Sept. 4th issue of the  
**Tomahawk Leader**  
 due to the Labor Day holiday

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**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 my final authority.

We have been looking at Hosea 4:1, the LORD had a controversy with the people, because they no longer knew God, nor cared about truth or mercy. The result was that violence and crime increased. In verses 6 through 9, we are told that this situation arose because the priests were not teaching the people the truth about God from the Word of God, anymore.

Last week we looked at Acts 20:20,21 and Paul's summary of his message to those he desired to convert to Christ. Paul's message had two parts: repentance toward God and faith toward Jesus Christ. This was his message to both the religious Jew and unbelieving Greeks. Today I want to focus on the first part – repentance toward God. In our sinful condition, we do not see our self and our relationship with God, as it really is (Revelation 3:14-20).

The Bible teaches that we tend to judge our self better than others, because we have an innate self love (Romans 2:1,2). It is this self love that results in the sins we do (James 1:14,15), for it focuses on getting what we want (Ephesians 2:1-3) That is why the Bible commands us to love our neighbor like we already love our self; for if we did that, we would treat one another with respect and honesty (Romans 3:8-10). This faulty evaluation of self in our relationships is especially true when it comes to our relationship with God.

When Paul said his message to the people began with repentance toward God, he was dealing with this issue. If you want to see what preaching *repentance toward God* looks like, as the Apostle Paul speaks of it, read his sermon in Acts 17:22-32. But as individuals, this repentance toward God must start with our understanding of our sins and our sinfulness – to judge those things as God does. In 1 John 1:5-10 is a good description of God's requirement concerning this.

In verses 5 and 6, we are reminded that God is truth (light), and that there is no selfishness or lies (darkness) in Him. So, if we say we have a relationship with God (fellowship), but live by selfish choices (darkness), we are not being honest about our relationship with God.

In verse 7, we are told that if we live according to what God says about us, then we have God's forgiveness and a relationship with Him. This means we accept that we are sinners who are guilty before God (verse 8), and we accept God's definitions about our sins (verse 10). In verse 9 we are told that if we say the same things about our sinfulness and sins, as God does (confess our sins), then God will forgive us and help us to change.

Repentance toward God is to confess that God is right, and where I have disagreed with what He says, that I have been wrong and need to change. When we come to God on His terms, He freely forgives us and welcomes us into His family (1 John 3:1-3).

**Pastor Charles Scheele**  
**Berean Baptist Church, Tomahawk**  
**[bereanbaptisttomahawk@gmail.com](mailto:bereanbaptisttomahawk@gmail.com)**

**Church DIRECTORY**

**First Congregational**  
 N. Fifth & E. Washington Ave.,  
 Tomahawk 715-453-2217  
 8:30am Bible Study • 9:30am Worship  
 Pastor John Miskimen

**ReviveNow Church**  
 1328 County Rd. A,  
 Tomahawk  
 715-453-8783  
 Sunday Service & Facebook  
 Live Stream: 9:30am  
 Prayer Meetings:  
 Wednesday 6pm  
 Pastors Jaco & Leslie Theron

**Community Seventh Day Adventist**  
 Hwy. 86/D, Tomahawk • 715-453-5809  
 Pastor Eric Anderson  
 Church: 9am, Sabbath School: 10:15am  
 Radio WLBI-LP 107.1 FM

**Northland Bible Church**  
 2810 Olson Road, Tomahawk  
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 Pastor Alex Lindsay  
 715-612-1841  
[northlandbiblechurch.com](http://northlandbiblechurch.com)

**The Rock Church of Tomahawk**  
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**Redeemer Ev. Lutheran WELS • 715-453-4814**  
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 Pastor Stephen P. Gillet

**St. Mary's Catholic**  
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 Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor  
 Mass times: Saturday 6 p.m.  
 Sunday 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
 Confessions: Saturdays, 9 a.m.; Anytime by Appointment

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic**  
 Pier-Willow  
 12 Miles North of Tripoli at 5209 Willow Road  
 Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor  
 Saturday 4 p.m. Mass

**St. Augustine Catholic**  
 Intersection of D & B, Harrison • 715-453-2561  
 Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor  
 Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass

**Grace Lutheran ELCA**  
 108 W. Somo Ave.  
 715-453-4066  
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**Berean Baptist Church**  
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 11am Bible Study

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**AID**  
FROM PAGE 4

our cities, counties, towns and villages can make needed improvements to local roads to build a reliable and efficient transportation system that meets the needs of a 21st-century workforce and economy.”

“We remain committed to making critical transportation investments in every corner of the state,” said

WisDOT Secretary Craig Thompson. “Together with local leaders across Wisconsin, we are working to improve the first and last mile and deliver infrastructure improvements that enhance safety, strengthen our state’s economy and enrich our quality of life.”

A complete list of the third quarter aid payments is available at [www.tinyurl.com/2s9k28kv](http://www.tinyurl.com/2s9k28kv).

**SHERIFF'S REPORT**  
FROM PAGE 3

left it in the City of Merrill, where MPD officers had contact with the suspect. It is believed that the suspect was involved in stealing vehicles in other counties as well. He was transported to the Lincoln County Jail, where he was booked in for felony bail jumping and operating a motor vehicle without owner's consent.

On 08/8/2024 a deputy was dispatched to the USH 51 Truck Stop on Brandenburg Ave. in the Town of Scott for a theft complaint. The truck stop was reporting that they had a male subject detained for stealing a pack of cigars. When the deputy arrived on scene, he made contact with the suspect, a Fort Gay, W.V. man, 18. The male subject advised that he stole the cigars because nobody would buy them for him and that he was out of substance for his vapor smoking device. The suspect had been traveling with his family at the time. The subject was taken into custody and transported to the Lincoln County Jail.

On 08/08/2024 deputies and a MFD ambulance were sent to an address on Grundy Rd. in the Town of Birch for a report of a juvenile being out of control, causing damage to the R/P's house. It was reported by the juvenile's grandfather that the juvenile was damaging his home

and was not acting right. When deputies arrived on scene, they located and made contact with the Merrill juvenile, 17. The juvenile was transported to Aspirus Merrill Hospital for medical clearance and then taken into custody for domestic disorderly conduct. The juvenile, being 17 years old, was transported and booked into the Lincoln County Jail.

On 08/11/2024 a deputy was dispatched to the boat landing on Dean Rd. in the Town of Bradley for a complaint of criminal damage to property. The R/P reported that while he was at the boat landing, a vehicle came into the parking lot area driving at reckless speeds and spinning doughnuts. While doing so, the suspect vehicle kicked up several rocks that struck the R/P's vehicle, causing damage to the paint. The suspect and vehicle are described as a blue Ford Ranger with a topper and something white on the back end, like a sticker. The driver is described as an older white male with gray hair and beard. Contact was made with neighbors in the area who reported having problems with this vehicle for a period of time now. As of this date, the case is still under investigation.

Deputies conducted 31 traffic stops and 15 security checks. Deputies responded to 11 car vs. deer crashes and one car vs. bear. Driving complaints: 11

The 911 Center took three hang-up calls and nine nuisance calls.

**LCHD provides information on changes to school immunizations**

**FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER**

LINCOLN COUNTY – As part of National Immunization Awareness Month, the Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) recently provided information on updates to school immunizations in Wisconsin, as well as a vaccine clinic being offered this fall.

A release from LCHD said new changes to school immunization requirements now include one dose of meningococcal vaccine for students entering 7th grade and a booster dose for eligible students entering 12th grade.

LCHD said a parent report of chickenpox disease



is no longer acceptable for exemption from the varicella (chickenpox) vaccine requirement.

“Children must have a diagnosis of chickenpox from a qualified health care provider (M.D., D.O., N.P., or P.A.) to be exempt from this requirement,” LCHD stated. “However existing exemption options still apply.”

LCHD noted that the changes will go into effect for the 2024-2025 school year unless further legal change occurs prior to the

start of the school year.

For full guidance on Wisconsin's school law requirements, go to [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/reqs.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/reqs.htm).

“Vaccines help to support a healthy and balanced lifestyle, keep your immune system strong and prepare children's immune systems to keep them growing, learning and thriving,” said Kristi Kromholz, Public Health Nurse.

Children needing vaccines should schedule an appointment with their provider, pharmacist or health department, LCHD said.

Children who have no health insurance, children

with health insurance but no vaccine coverage, children on Medicaid/Badgercare or children who are Native American/Alaskan Native can receive all routine immunizations, including the flu vaccine, through LCHD.

Students that meet the provided guidelines may attend LCHD's youth vaccine clinic on Wednesday, Oct. 23, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Pre-registration is required and can be completed by calling LCHD at 715-536-0307 or by visiting [www.bit.ly/4aBiluA](http://www.bit.ly/4aBiluA).

For more information about vaccine-preventable diseases, visit [www.lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com](http://www.lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com).

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

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**Letters to the Editor Policy**  
Letters to the Editor must include the writer's full name, address and other contact information (only your name and town of residence will appear in print and online). We will not accept a letter from an unidentified source. Letters should be no more than 500 words and may appear in our weekly print issue. Letters may be edited by our staff for length, clarity and facts.

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.

Letters can be submitted to [leadernews@mmclocal.com](mailto:leadernews@mmclocal.com) or Tomahawk Leader, 24 W. Rives St., Rhinelander, Wis., 54501. We will not print letters that:

- Contain potentially libelous material. Libel is any malicious, unsubstantiated or untrue statement about someone that damages their reputation. Submissions must have facts to back up all claims.
- Support discrimination on any grounds. This includes, but is not limited to, discrimination based on age, ability, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion or culture.
- Are vulgar, profane, obscene or otherwise offensive.
- Make explicit or implied threats. This includes personal attacks, intimidation, bullying or threats of harm against a person or organization.
- Contain copyrighted material or that have been printed in another publication. All letters must be an original writing by the signer and exclusive to the Tomahawk Leader.
- Identify another person, unless that person has given their explicit consent. We assume that any person identified in a letter has consented to be mentioned in the letter.

**Copyright and reprint permission**  
The writer of a Letter to the Editor maintains copyright of their letter. Any other individual or organization must seek permission from the writer if they wish to reprint a Letter to the Editor.

**Political Letters to the Editor**  
All letters submitted as an endorsement for a political candidate, referendum or political agenda will carry the same guidelines as above; however, they will be charged \$40.00 per letter of up to 250 words in length. Longer political letters will be accepted, but will be charged \$10.00 per additional 50 words. All political letters must be prepaid prior to printing. Letters to the Editor will not be accepted from candidates running for election or representatives of an organization endorsing their own referendum; those submissions will be referred to our advertising department to be run as ads.

**Advertising Errors:** The Leader will not be responsible for errors in any advertisement beyond the first publication of that advertisement. In case of error, adjustment is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred.

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State Statute requires that notice be provided to parents annually on a number of issues of importance regarding your student(s). Please

## ACT 55 PUBLIC NOTICE

Act 55 requires:

1. Annually, School District of Tomahawk must provide to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in or attending the school the following:
  - a) A copy of the school's most recent accountability report.
  - b) A list of the educational options available to children who reside in the Tomahawk School District.
  - c) Notify all families of students with disabilities of the Special Needs Voucher Program which begins in the 2017-18 School Year.

All the above information and full accountability reports are available on the District website and can be accessed through the Wisconsin Department of publication website using the following links:

Accountability Reports:

<http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>

Educational Options: <http://dpi.wi.gov/ed-options>

Pupil Academic Standards: <http://dpi.wi.gov/standards>

### ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT NOTICE

As a result of recent federal legislation (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act – (AHERA), each primary and secondary school in the nation is required to complete a stringent inspection for asbestos and to develop a plan of management for all asbestos-containing building materials. The School District of Tomahawk has a goal to be in full compliance with this law and is following the spirit, as well as, the letter of the law. As a matter of policy, the district shall continue to maintain a safe and healthful environment for our community's youth and employees. In keeping with this legislation, all buildings (including portables and support buildings) owned or leased by the School District of Tomahawk were inspected by EPA accredited inspectors and samples were analyzed by an independent laboratory. Based on the inspection, the school prepared and the state approved a comprehensive management plan for handling the asbestos located within its buildings safely and responsibly.

Furthermore, the School District of Tomahawk has completed their 3-Year Re-inspection required by AHERA. Our district buildings, where asbestos containing materials were found, are under repair or removal.

Federal law requires a periodic walk-through (called "surveillance") every six months of each area containing asbestos. In addition, the law requires all buildings to be inspected three years after a management plan is in effect. MacNeil Environmental, Inc. will accomplish this under contract.

Short-term workers (outside contractors – i.e., telephone repair workers, electricians and exterminators) must be provided information regarding the location of asbestos in which they may come into contact. All short term workers shall contact the lead maintenance person before commencing work to be given this information.

The School District of Tomahawk has a list of the location(s), type(s) of asbestos containing materials found in the school building and a description and time-table for their proper management. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for review in the high school office. Copies are available at 25 cents per page. Questions related to the plan should be directed to MacNeil Environmental, Inc., Burnsville, Minnesota, at 800/232-5209, or by contacting Arland Wingate at the School District of Tomahawk at 715-453-2106.

### CHILD FIND

#### CONFIDENTIALITY OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION OBTAINED THROUGH CHILD FIND ACTIVITIES

The School District of Tomahawk is required to locate, identify, and evaluate all children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools in the school district, and homeless children. The process of locating, identifying, and evaluating children with disabilities is known as child find. Annually the School District of Tomahawk conducts developmental screening for preschool children. This notice informs parents of the records the school district will develop and maintain as part of its child find activities. This notice also informs parents of their rights regarding any records developed. The school district gathers personally identifiable information on any child who participates in child find activities. Parents, teachers, and other professionals provide information to the school related to the child's academic performance, behavior, and health. This information is used to determine whether the child needs special education services. Personally identifiable information directly related to a child and maintained by the school is a pupil record. Pupil records include records maintained in any way including, but not limited to, computer storage media, video and audiotape, film, microfilm, and microfiche. Records maintained for personal use by a teacher and not available to others and records available only to persons involved in the psychological treatment of a child are not pupil records. The school district maintains several classes of pupil records. • "Progress records" include grades, courses the child has taken, the child's attendance record, immunization records, required lead screening records, and records of school extra-curricular activities. Progress records must be maintained for at least five years after the child ceases to be enrolled.

• "Behavioral records" include such records as psychological tests, personality evaluations, records of conversations, written statements relating specifically to the pupil's behavior, tests relating specifically to achievement or measurement of ability, physical health records other than immunization and lead screening records, law enforcement officers' records, and other pupil records that are not "progress records." Law enforcement officers' records are maintained separately from other pupil records. Behavioral records may be maintained for no longer than one year after the child graduates or otherwise ceases to be enrolled, unless the parent specifies in writing that the records may be maintained for a longer period of time. The school district informs parents when pupil records are no longer needed to provide special education. At the request of the child's parents, the school district destroys the information that is no longer needed.

• "Directory data" includes the student's name, address, email address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, photographs, degrees and awards received, and the name of the school most recently previously attended by the student.

• "Pupil physical health records" include basic health information about a pupil, including the pupil's immunization records, an emergency medical card, a log of first aid and medicine administered to the pupil, an athletic permit card, a record concerning the pupil's ability to participate in an education program, any required lead screening records, the results of any routine screening test, such as for hearing, vision or scoliosis, and any follow-up to the test, and any other basic health information, as determined by the state superintendent. Any pupil record relating to a pupil's physical health that is not a pupil physical health record is treated as a patient health care record under sections 146.81 to 146.84, Wisconsin Statutes. Any pupil record concerning HIV testing is treated as provided under section 252.15, Wisconsin Statutes.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and section 118.125, Wisconsin Statutes, afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") rights with respect to education records.

### CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

The district is required to provide an annual notice to each household in the district informing parents/guardians of the child nutrition programs offered in the district and eligibility requirements for free or reduced price meals/milk. An application form must also be included with the notice. This information should be provided at the beginning of the school year.

If your child qualified for free or reduced-price meals this school year, they are also eligible to receive Summer EBT benefits for this upcoming summer. Summer EBT provides funds for each eligible child to help with the costs of food during the summer months. To learn more about this program, visit the Summer EBT page. To update your contact information or to opt out of receiving these benefits, visit the Summer EBT Benefit Management Page - <https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/programs/SummerEBT>.

### CIVIL & LEGAL RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

The School District is committed and dedicated to the task of providing the best education possible for every child in the District for as long as the student can benefit from attendance and the student's conduct is compatible with the welfare of the entire student body.

The right of the student to be admitted to school and to participate fully in curricular, extracurricular, student services, recreational, or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of a student's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap. Complaints regarding the interpretation or application of this policy shall be referred to the District Administrator and processed in accordance with established procedures. Notice of this policy and its accompanying complaint procedures shall be published at the beginning of each school year and posted in each school building in the District. In addition, a student nondiscrimination statement shall be included on student and staff handbooks, course selection handbooks, and other published materials distributed to the public describing school activities and opportunities.

#### Complaint Procedures

Any complaint regarding the interpretation or application of the District's student nondiscrimination policy shall be processed in accordance with the following grievance procedures:

- 1) Any student, parent, or resident of the District complaining of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability in school programs or activities shall report the complaint in writing to the District Administrator.
- 2) The District Administrator, upon receiving such a written complaint, shall immediately undertake an investigation of the alleged infraction. The District Administrator will review with the Building Principal, or other appropriate persons, the facts compromising the alleged discrimination. Within fifteen (15) days after receiving the complaint, the District Administrator shall decide the merits of the case, determine the action to be taken, if any, and report in writing the findings and the resolution of the case to the grievant.
- 3) If the grievant is dissatisfied with the decision of the District Administrator, he/she may appeal the decision in writing to the Board. The Board shall hear the appeal at its next regular meeting, or a special meeting may be called for the purpose of hearing the appeal. The Board shall make its decision in writing within fifteen (15) days after the hearing. Copies of the written decision shall be mailed or delivered to the grievant and the District Administrator.
- 4) If the grievant is dissatisfied with the Board's decision, he/she may within thirty (30) days appeal the decision in writing to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 5) Discrimination complaints relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or provision of free appropriate public education of a child with exceptional educational needs shall be processed in accordance with established appeal procedures outlined in the District's Special Education Handbook.
- 6) Discrimination complaints relating to programs specifically governed by federal law or regulation shall be referred directly to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

### EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR CHILDREN WHO RESIDE IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The School District of Tomahawk offers students a variety of educational options to children who reside in the District. The District's primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old Kindergarten through 12th grade, leading to a high school diploma.

Some of the specific education programs offered to eligible students who are enrolled in and attending the District's schools include the following:

- Early Childhood special education
- Special education for students with disabilities
- Alternative education program with an option for a GEDO2 program
- Summer school programming
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs
- Start College Now (SCN)
- The Early College Credit Program (ECCP)
- Enrollment in a private school of the family's choosing (at the family's own cost, as applicable).
- Enrollment in a home-based private educational program as provided under state law. Educational options for children who reside in the School District of Tomahawk but who are enrolled in and attending a private school or home-based private educational program include the following:
  - Such students have the opportunity to attend summer school classes/ programs offered.
  - Students who are enrolled in a home-based private educational program have the opportunity to apply for approval to take up two courses per semester in public schools as provided under section 118.53
  - The Youth Apprenticeship Program under section 106.13

The full school-by-school and school district accountability report is available on the school board's website.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

The School District of Tomahawk has established a Bilingual/English as a Second Language (ESL) program to assist children who are English language learners with learning English and succeeding academically within the school district. Children who are eligible typically come from families where a language other than English is spoken at home or from other countries via adoption or immigration. The Bilingual/ESL program provides:

- a. Instruction in reading, writing, and speaking the English Language.
- b. Through the use of the native language of the limited-English proficient pupil, instruction in the subjects necessary to permit the pupil to progress effectively through the educational system. Students are identified for participation in the ESL program through the student's registration card, a Home Language Survey that indicates a language other than English is spoken at home, or a referral to ESL by school staff, parent, or guardian. Students referred for ESL are assessed by ESL certified teachers to determine if the student needs entrance criteria for the program. Written parent permission is required for admission into the ESL program. Referrals for ESL services may be made by contacting the ESL Director at 715-453-2106.

### EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The school district's designated liaison for homeless children and youth is expected to ensure that public notice of educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated where such children and youths receive services such as the schools and family shelters. Basically, homeless children and youth must have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children residing in the district and be provided with comparable services. Homeless children and youth cannot be required to attend a separate school or program for homeless children and must not be stigmatized by school personnel.

### FOOD SERVICE FEES POLICY

#### Payment Policy

A. The Food Service Program is a prepayment program. Families are expected to have a positive balance in their food service lunch account at the beginning of the year and during the course of the school program year.

B. Families will be given a weekly automated call from the Food Service Department if their account reaches a balance of five dollars (\$5) or less. Negative Balance

A. Families who have negative balances in their accounts will receive weekly automated calls from the Food Service Department which will continue until there is a positive balance in the account of over \$5.00.

B. Families who have a negative balance of -\$30.00 or more will receive a personal phone call from the Food Service Department and/or Building Principal.

C. Families who have been notified of negative balances and who have not made payment arrangements or paid in full may be turned over to collection agencies designated by the District.

D. Students with negative balance over \$30.00 will be offered an alternate lunch, consisting of a peanut butter sandwich, fruit and milk. This alternative lunch will be charged at the cost value to the family account.

#### Account Balances

Family balances are available on the Skyward Family Access website. Statements may be requested from the Food Service Director via e-mail or telephone anytime. The e-mail address of the Director is posted on the District website.

#### Meal Options for Negative-Balance Families

A. Negative account balance families can only purchase a la carte items using cash-in-line.

B. Graduating seniors whose families have negative food service accounts will not be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies.

A second serving may be purchased at a price determined by the Food Service Department.

#### Staff Meals

A. Staff meals may be purchased at a price determined by the Food Service Department. To be eligible for the staff meal price, portions for individual items may not exceed those given to high-school aged students.

B. Concession and Bake Sales are not to compete with Food Service. As per Department of Public Instruction, no sales in commons during Food Service hours.

### HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The School District of Tomahawk provides instruction in human growth and development throughout the K12 curriculum. No student may be required to take any or all instruction in this area if the student's parent/guardian files with the teacher or school principal a written request that the student be exempted. The District shall provide parents annually with an outline of the human growth and development program used in their child's grade level as well as information regarding how the parent may inspect the complete program and instructional materials. Prior to use in the classroom, the program shall be made available to parents for inspection.

### INSPECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The following procedures should be used when a member of the public makes a request to Inspect Instructional Materials used as part of the educational curriculum of a student. Form 9130 F3 should be completed and submitted to the Building Principal. Upon receipt of Form 9130 F3, the Building Principal will contact the person making the request within ten (10) days to schedule an appointment for the person to come to the District to review and inspect the material indicated on Form 9130 F3. If, upon inspection and review, the person would like to file a complaint about the instructional materials, the person shall follow the complaint procedure outlined in Policy 9130. These forms may be accessed on the District's Teaching & Learning website page.

### JOB RECRUITMENT AND JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

The School District of Tomahawk Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of the Protected Classes of race, color, national origin, age, sex (including gender status, change of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity), pregnancy, creed or religion, genetic information, handicap or disability, marital status, citizenship status, veteran status, military service (as defined in 111.32, Wis. Stats.), ancestry, arrest record, conviction record, use or non-use of lawful products off the District's premises during non-working sponsored meeting or to participate in any communication with the employer about religious matters or political matters, or any other characteristic protected by law in its employment practices.

### RECRUITER INFORMATION ACCESS TO STUDENTS/RECORDS

A secondary school student or the parent of the student may request that the student's name, address, email address, and telephone listing not be released to military recruiters or institutions of higher education without prior written parental consent. Requests of this nature will be honored by our district.

### NOTICE OF RIGHTS : FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18. Students to whom the rights have been transferred are "eligible students." These rights are:

1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education record that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write to the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3) The right to consent to the disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records to the following parties or under the following conditions:

School officials with a legitimate educational interest;

Other schools to which a student is transferring upon request by the other school, and as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer;

Specified officials for audit or evaluation process;

Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;

Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;

review the enclosed information carefully. If you have any questions regarding the content, please contact your child's building principal.

#### Accrediting organizations;

To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena; Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to Wisconsin law.

School officials with legitimate educational interests are persons employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board, a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202- 4605.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

Free Developmental Screening for Children Who Reside Within the School District of Tomahawk: Parents who have concerns about their child's overall development and learning may request a free developmental screening. This is an attempt by the district to find children who may have physical, cognitive, emotional, or learning disabilities in conformance with state statute 115.771(1) (a). Requests for free developmental screenings shall be made by contacting the Special Education Office at 715-453-2126. Special Education Referral Procedures including At Risk/504 and Children with Suspect Disabilities: The local educational agency annually publicizes information about its special education procedures and services. The local education agency's special education plan is published annually on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website. The local educational agency identifies, locates, and evaluates all children with disabilities, regardless of severity of their disability, who are in need of special education and related services, including children attending private schools, children who are not yet three years of age, mobile children such as migrant and homeless, children who are suspect of being a child with a disability.

The local education agency locates, identifies, and evaluates all private school children with disabilities, including religious-school children who are residents of the local educational agency. The local educational agency consults with appropriate representatives of private school children with disabilities on how to locate, identify, and evaluate private school children with disabilities. The local educational agency ensures the confidentiality of data collected.

The local educational agency accepts and processes referrals of children suspected to have a disability. If the local educational agency to whom the referral is made is the local educational agency the child is attending under the Full-Time Open Enrollment law, the local educational agency provides the name of the child and related information to the local educational agency of residence. Whenever the local educational agency receives a referral for a resident child attending school in another local educational agency under the Full-Time Open Enrollment law, the local educational agency provides the name of the child and the related information to the local educational agency where the child attends school.

A referral may be made by anyone who suspects a child has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activity such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, and working; has a record of such impairment; and is regarded as having such an impairment. Any parent, physician, nurse, teacher, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency has a legal duty to make a referral. Before making the referral, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent of their intent to make the referral.

How and Where to Refer: All referrals shall be in writing and shall include the name of the child and the reasons why the person believes that the child is a child with a disability. All referrals shall be made to the Director of Pupil Services, School District of Tomahawk, 1048 E King Rd., Tomahawk, WI 54487.

#### SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

This notice serves to inform parents and guardians of students with disabilities that the State of Wisconsin has established the "Special Needs Scholarship Program." Under this scholarship program, a child with a disability may be eligible to receive a scholarship from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), which allows the child to attend a private school that is participating in the scholarship program. Students who apply for and receive a scholarship may first attend an eligible private school under the program beginning in the 2016-17 school year. A parent or guardian who is interested in the Special Needs Scholarship Program should independently verify the participating private schools and the specific terms, eligibility criteria, and application procedures of the scholarship program with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). However, the following are some of the initial eligibility requirements that a child must meet in order to receive a program scholarship that covers attendance at an eligible private school beginning in the 2016-17 school year: 1. The child, or the child's parent or guardian on behalf of a child, must have submitted the required application for a program scholarship to the eligible private school that the child will attend. 2. An individualized education program, or a services plan as defined under 34 C.F.R. §300.37 of the federal special education regulations, must have been completed for the child. 3. Additional information about the Special Needs Scholarship Program should be available on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's website at <http://dpi.wi.gov>

#### STUDENT NONDISCRIMINATION & COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

It is the policy of the School District of Tomahawk, pursuant to state and federal laws and regulations, that no person may be denied admission to any public school in this District or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular (which would include all Career and Technical Education opportunities), extra-curricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap as required by S. 118.13, Wis. Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The District encourages informal resolutions of complaints under this policy. A formal complaint resolution procedure is available, however, to address allegations of violations of the policy in the School District of Tomahawk. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to:

Director of Pupil Services, Title IX Coordinator, John Sample 1048 East King Road Tomahawk, WI 54487 715-453-2106 ext. 405	Building Principal, Ryan Huseby 1048 East King Road Tomahawk, WI 54487 715-453-2106
Building Principal, Sheri Woodall 1048 East King Road Tomahawk, WI 54487 715-453-2126	Building Principal, Stacy Bolder 1048 East King Road Tomahawk, WI 54487 715-453-5371

Title IX, 34 C.F.R. 106.9, Section 504, 34 C.F.R. 104.8, Title II, 28 C.F.R. 35.106

#### COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

A Complainant may file a complaint, either orally or in writing with a teacher, principal, or other District employee at the student's school, the CO, District Administrator, or other District official who works at another school or at the District level. Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of harassment, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available. If a Complainant informs a teacher, principal, or other District official at the student's school, the CO, District Administrator, or other District employee, either orally or in writing, about any complaint of harassment, that employee must report such information to the CO within two (2) days.

Throughout the course of the process, the CO should keep the parties reasonably informed of the status of the investigation and the decision-making process.

All complaints must include the following information to the extent known: the identity of the Respondent; a detailed description of the facts upon which the complaint is based (i.e., when, where, and what occurred); and a list of potential witnesses.

If the Complainant is unwilling or unable to provide a written statement including the information set forth above, the Compliance Officer shall ask for such details in an oral interview. Thereafter the CO will prepare a written summary of the oral interview, and the Complainant will be asked to verify the accuracy of the reported charge by signing the document.

Upon receiving a complaint, the CO will consider whether any action should be taken in the investigatory phase to protect the Complainant from further harassment or retaliation including but not limited to a change of class schedule for the Complainant or the Respondent, or possibly a change of school for either or both of the parties. In making such a determination, the Compliance Officer should consult the Principal prior to any action being taken. The Complainant should be notified of any proposed action prior to such action being taken.

As soon as appropriate in the investigation process, the CO will inform the Respondent that a complaint has been received. The Respondent will be informed about the nature of the allegations and a copy of any relevant policies and/or administrative procedures and the Board's anti-harassment policy shall be provided to the Respondent at that time. The Respondent must also be provided an opportunity to respond to the complaint.

Within five (5) days of receiving the complaint, the CO will initiate an investigation by at a minimum confirming receipt of the complaint with the complainant and informing the complainant of the investigation process.

Investigations shall be completed promptly. What constitutes promptness will depend on the complexity of the issues, the number of incidents or factual elements, the number of witnesses and documents to be consulted, and the availability of witnesses and other evidence. The CO shall keep the complainant reasonably informed of the investigation's progress.

The investigation will include:

- A. interview(s) with the Complainant;
- B. interview(s) with the Respondent;
- C. interviews with any other witnesses who reasonably may be expected to have any information relevant to the allegations, as determined by the CO;
- D. consideration of any documentation or other evidence presented by the Complainant, Respondent, or any other witness which is reasonably believed to be relevant to the allegations, as determined by the CO.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the CO shall prepare and deliver a written report to the District Administrator which summarizes the evidence gathered during the investigation and provides recommendations based on the evidence and the definition of harassment as provided in Board policy and State and Federal law as to whether the Respondent engaged in harassment/retaliation of the Complainant. In determining if harassment occurred, a preponderance of evidence standard will be used. The CO's recommendations must be based upon the totality of the circumstances, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved.

The CO may consult with the Board's attorney during the course of the investigatory process and/or before finalizing the report to the District Administrator.

In cases where no District CO is able to investigate a complaint due to concerns regarding conflicts, bias or partiality, or for other reasons that impair the CO's ability to conduct an investigation the CO may in consultation with the District Administrator or Board President, if the matter involves the District Administrator, engage outside legal counsel to conduct the investigation consistent with this policy.

Absent extenuating circumstances, within ten (10) days of receiving the report of the CO, the District Administrator either must issue a final decision regarding whether or not the complaint of harassment has been substantiated or request further investigation. A copy of the District Administrator's written decision will be delivered to both the Complainant and the Respondent.

If the District Administrator requests additional investigation, the District Administrator must specify the additional information that is to be gathered, and such additional investigation must be completed within ten (10) days. At the conclusion of the additional investigation, the District Administrator must issue a final written decision as described above.

The decision of the District Administrator shall be final. If the Complainant feels that the decision does not adequately address the complaint s/he may appeal the decision to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction by submitting a written request to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction ("DPI"), Pupil Nondiscrimination Program, or by contacting the DPI Pupil Nondiscrimination Program at (608) 267-9157.

If the decision of the District Administrator is that there is no finding of harassment pursuant to this policy, the student/parent will be informed of the provisions of Policy 5517.01 - Bullying.

The Board reserves the right to investigate and resolve a complaint or report of harassment regardless of whether the member of the School District community or Third Party alleging the harassment pursues the complaint. The Board also reserves the right to have the complaint investigation conducted by an external person in accordance with this policy or in such other manner as deemed appropriate by the Board.

The parties may be represented, at their own cost, at any of the above-described meetings/hearings.

The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, the filing of charges with local law enforcement, or the filing of a civil action in court. Use of this internal complaint process is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

#### STUDENT RECORDS

Parents/guardians and students shall be notified annually of the following:

- a) Their rights to inspect, review, and obtain copies of student records;
- b) Their rights to request the amendment of the student's school records if they believe the records are inaccurate or misleading;
- c) Their rights to consent to the disclosure of the student's school records, except to the extent state and federal law authorizes disclosure without consent.
- d) The categories of student record information which have been designated as directory data and their right to deny the release of such information;
- e) Their right to file a complaint with the Family Policy and Regulations office of the U.S. Department of Education.

Administration of Student Records

Student Records includes all records relating to individual students, regardless of format, other than notes or records maintained for personal use by teachers or other certified personnel which are not available to others, and records necessary for an available person involved in the psychological treatment of a student.

Progress Records include a statement of courses taken, grades awarded therein, the student's extracurricular activities, the student's immunization records, the student's attendance records, and lead screening records required under Wisconsin Statute.

Behavioral Records include psychological tests, personality evaluations, records of conversations, written statements relating specifically to an individual student's behavior, tests relating specifically to achievement or measurement of ability, student physical health records other than immunization records, law enforcement agency records that are not progress records.

Law Enforcement Records include those records obtained from a law enforcement agency relating to (a) the use, possession, or distribution of alcohol or a controlled substance by a student enrolled in the district, (b) the illegal possession of a dangerous weapon by a child, (c) an act for which a district student was taken into custody based on the law enforcement officer's belief that he/she violated or was violating certain specific laws, and (d) the act for which a juvenile enrolled in the district was adjudged delinquent. The law enforcement agency may provide such record information to the district on its own initiative or upon request of the superintendent or designee, subject to the agency's official policy. Upon receipt of the records, the superintendent shall inform the student named in the records and the parent/guardian of a minor student named in the records of the information. Court Records include those records received from a court clerk concerning a juvenile enrolled in the District who: (a) has had a petition filed with a court alleging that he/she has committed a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, (b) has been adjudged delinquent, (c) has school attendance as a condition of his/her court dispositional order, or (d) has been found to have committed a delinquent act at the request of or for the benefit of a criminal gang that would be a felony if committed by an adult, and has been adjudged delinquent on that basis.

Student Physical Health Records include basic health information about a student, including the student's immunization records, an emergency medical card, a log of first-aid and medicines administered to the student, an athletic permit card, a record concerning the student's ability to participate in an education program, the results of any routine screening test such as for hearing, vision, or scoliosis, and any follow-up to such test, and any other basic health information as determined by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Directory Data: The following information is designated in the District as directory data and may be released upon request in accordance with law and District procedures: student's name, address, email address, telephone number, date and place of birth; photograph; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight & height, if a member of an athletic team, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, name of school most recently previously attended. Parents or legal guardians have 14 days to inform the school that all or any part of the directory data may not be released without the prior consent of the parent/legal guardian. The district must allow the parent/legal guardian 14 days to provide this response before any student directory data is released. This notice is required by section 118.125(2)(j) of the state statutes.

#### STUDENT SURVEYS

The Board respects the privacy rights of parents and their children. No student shall be required to participate in any survey associated with a school program or the district's curriculum, or which is administered by a third party in the school, if the survey includes one or more of the following items: political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent; mental and psychological problems of the student or the student's family; sex behavior or attitudes; illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behaviors; critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers; religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student's parents; or income other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program.

The building principal shall notify parents/guardians at the beginning of each year of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when such survey activities are scheduled involving their children. Parents/guardians shall be given the opportunity to request that their child not participate in a survey containing the above information. If a survey containing the above information is funded in whole or in part by a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education, written consent shall be obtained from the student or, in the case of a minor student, the student's parent/guardian before the student participates in the survey. Parents/guardians may, upon request, inspect a survey containing any of the above information and any survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to a student. They may also request to inspect any instructional materials used in connection with the survey or any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student. Requests to inspect a survey or instructional materials should be made to the building principal or his/her designee.

Survey inspection requests should be made prior to the date in which the survey is scheduled to be administered to students. The principal or designee shall respond to such requests without delay.







**Tomahawk Farm and Flea Market donation**

Members of the Tomahawk Farm and Flea Market recently presented a donation of \$538.00 to the Surewood Forest Wishes for Kids group. The funds came from the market's July vendor fees and donations from market visitors. The market is held at Qualheim's True Value, 79 Hometown Dr., Tomahawk, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday from May through October.

Photo courtesy of Susan Stefanich

**PUBLISHER'S LETTER**

**The Transitory Tapestry of Life**

Dear Reader,

In the grand tapestry of existence, where threads of time and space weave the intricate patterns of our lives, we find ourselves often pondering the nature of our transient state. Life, as Seneca observed, is on loan to us—a fleeting gift with an inevitable expiration date. Every breath we take, every moment we cherish, is a testament to the temporality that characterizes our existence.



though intangible, shape our perceptions and give color to our existence, yet they too are subject to the flow of time.

As we continue our sojourn, we must acknowledge that we are but one chapter in the ever-evolving story of humanity. Each day, new seeds of time are sown, bringing forth fresh faces, ideas, and dreams.

We are continually supplanted by the next generation, each bringing their own unique contributions to the collective narrative. This cycle of renewal is a reminder of our place in the grand scheme—a single link in an endless chain of life.

The beauty of recognizing our temporal state lies in the clarity it brings. It encourages us to live with intention, to savor the fleeting moments, and to find meaning in the transient. It urges us to invest in what truly matters—our connections, our passions, and our personal growth. By embracing the impermanence of life, we can foster a deeper appreciation for the present and cultivate a legacy that, while finite, resonates beyond our own existence.

In this ephemeral dance, let us find solace and inspiration. For it is within the fleeting nature of life that we discover its true value. We are all on loan here, but in our brief tenure, we have the power to leave an indelible mark on the ever-turning pages of time.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
Publisher

Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

**PAID LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

The following is a Paid Letter to the Editor, per policy.

**Dear Voters:**

You are being deceived by the County Board. A binding referendum will appear on the November ballot asking you to vote to increase taxes \$5,000,000.00 a year to fund Pine Crest. The tax increase is twice the amount needed.

The County Board padded its referendum by including annual operating expenses of \$800,000.00 that have been paid out of your taxes for many years without exceeding the property tax cap. Adding this expense to the referendum has you paying these expenses twice.

Also included in the referendum is \$630,000.00 to pay the debt for the 2017 addition to Pine Crest. This annual debt payment has always been covered by Pine Crest's revenues. The Board is asking you to pay taxes for a debt even though it's covered by other revenue.

Pine Crest requires significant maintenance funds over the next 10 years. The County Board estimates that the cost can be met with an annual tax increase of \$2,386,400.00. Therefore, the referendum should have been limited to \$2,400,000.00.

Donald Dunphy  
Merrill

County Board Supervisor, District 7

**News Briefs**

**Old Kindergarten Museum open through Thursday**

The Tomahawk Area Historical Society's Old Kindergarten Museum, located at 18 E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk, will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. today (Wednesday, Aug. 21) and Thursday, Aug. 22. The Log Museum will not be open due to construction in Washington Square Park.

**Tiffany holding mobile office hours**

A member of Congressman Tom Tiffany's staff will be at several locations in Lincoln County on Thursday, Aug. 22 to assist residents who may need help with a federal agency. Appointments are not necessary, and staff will be able to aid in federal matters concerning Veterans Affairs, Social Security, the Internal Revenue Service, Medicare, passports and more. Mobile office hours will be held at T.B. Scott Library, 106 1st St., Merrill, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.; and Harrison Town Hall, N10095 County Rd. B, Tomahawk, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**God is Calling get-together**

God is Calling will host a get-together at

Northwoods Vineyard, 418 Kaphaem Rd., Tomahawk, on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. All are welcome.

**Grace Lutheran blood drive**

A blood drive will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 108 W. Somo Ave., Tomahawk, on Tuesday, Sept. 10 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](http://www.redcrossblood.org). A photo ID or a Red Cross ID is required.

**'Our Dream Park' remains closed**

Tomahawk Together is reminding the community that "Our Dream Park" on N. 4th St. is still under construction and remains closed to the public.

**Open Arms Community Meal served Tuesdays**

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

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# Leader Sports & Nature

## Packers week-by-week 2024 season preview, part one

BY JALEN MAKI

Well folks, we're almost there. In a few short weeks, it'll be the start of the NFL season, which means now is the perfect time to make outlandish claims and bold predictions about how the Green Bay Packers will fare. But first, let's take a quick look back at last year.

The Packers started out the 2023 season a little shaky. They went 2-5 in their first seven games, and first-year starting quarterback Jordan Love struggled at times. But something clicked around early November, and the Packers went on a tear, winning seven of their final ten matchups. They walked the Dallas Cowboys in the Wild Card Round of the playoffs before losing to the San Francisco 49ers by three points in the Divisional Round, capping a season in which, despite the slow start, the team exceeded expectations while setting higher ones going forward.

The Packers' offense, with the one of the youngest pass catching groups the league has ever seen, looked absolutely fantastic in the back half of the season, and Love was among the best quarterbacks in the league over the final 10 games. Love's exceptional performance was certainly a contributing factor in the Packers signing him to a four-year, \$220 million deal in July. With the contract averaging \$55 million per year, Love joins the Jacksonville Jaguars' Trevor Lawrence and the Cincinnati Bengals' Joe Burrow as one of the three highest-paid NFL QBs annually in NFL history.

Jeff Hafley replaced the mildly beleaguered Joe Barry at defensive coordinator this offseason, the offense is looking to take another step forward as one of the NFL's premier units, and numerous 2024 draft picks appear poised to be big-time contributors in their rookie seasons, if they're healthy - offensive lineman Jordan Morgan, running back Mar-Shawn Lloyd and linebackers Edgerrin Cooper and

Ty'Ron Hopper have each been injured recently.

A massive and unsettling question mark remains at the kicker position. Anders Carlson, who floundered as a rookie last season, and veteran Greg Joseph have been battling it out in training camp, but there's talk that Green Bay's starting kicker might not even be on the roster at the moment, due to the uninspiring performances turned in by the current duo. This could cause some issues down the road, but hey, we'll cross that bridge when we get there. All-in-all, things are looking up at 1265 Lombardi, folks.

Before we get to the week-by-week breakdown of the Packers' 2024 schedule, I feel it is important for you, the reader, to understand that I am simply Just Some Guy, and in no way should I be considered as being anything even in the general vicinity of an expert. So, if my predictions are horrifically incorrect, it's actually against the law for you to yell at me. Unless I'm right, in which case, you're legally required to say I did a good job and give me a high-five. I know a guy who knows a guy who says he knows a lawyer; I've received word that this is iron-clad.

Alright, now that I've insulated myself from all consequences related to the things I say, let's dive into part one of the preview.

### Vs. the Philadelphia Eagles (in Brazil)

Green Bay will kick off the 2024 season in unique fashion: they're taking on the Philadelphia Eagles in São Paulo, Brazil, on Friday, Sept. 6.

Philadelphia's coming off a season in which they started out as one of the hottest teams in the league. This wasn't surprising, seeing as the Birds went 14-3 in 2022 on their way to a Super Bowl loss to Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs. But last year, after going 11-1 through week 12, Philadelphia dropped five of their final six games in one of the weirdest, most



shocking collapses in recent memory. The Eagles limped their way to a playoff berth and were subsequently sent packing by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the Wild Card Round. The humiliating 32-9 loss marked the end of a strange season for a team that, just two months prior, looked like they had what it took to make another Super Bowl run.

There's been quite a bit of change in Philly this off-season, but whether or not it's for the better remains to be seen. Yes, numerous key players are still in the building, including quarterback Jalen Hurts and receivers A.J. Brown and DeVonta Smith. But head coach Nick Sirianni swapped out Brian Johnson for Kellen Moore at offensive coordinator, and Hurts indicated this summer that the Eagles will have a largely new-look offense this season. Combine this with the retirement of longtime center Jason Kelce and the addition of veteran running back Saquon Barkley, and it begs the question: Will the Eagles still use the famous (or infamous) "Tush Push" that has been so successful in recent years?

The short answer is "Who the heck knows?" But regardless, the Eagles are still undeniably one of the NFC's top teams. Philadelphia might still be finding their footing offensively early on in the season, but even so, the Packers will likely have a tough test in Week 1. *MY PREDICTION: Eagles 34, Packers 27.*

### Vs. the Indianapolis Colts

The Packers will face the Indianapolis Colts in their Sunday, Sept. 15 home opener.

I am a big Anthony Richardson guy. In fact, I enthusiastically drafted the second-year QB in my fantasy

football league. Richardson looked phenomenal in the first four games of his 2023 rookie campaign before a shoulder injury sidelined him for the remainder of the season. He's reminiscent of the Buffalo Bills' Josh Allen: He's big (6'4", 244 lbs.), he's got a strong arm, and he's a dangerous runner with the ball in his hands. There's still a lot to learn about Richardson due to his inexperience, and there are questions about his accuracy, but he has so much upside athletically that I find it hard to bet against his success.

If the Packers want their first Lambeau win of the year to be over the Colts in Week 2, they're going to have to contain Richardson - which, if last season's small sample size is any indication, could be a tall order. But, up and down the roster, Green Bay's got more talent, and they'll be at home. *MY PREDICTION: Packers 31, Colts 20.*

### @ the Tennessee Titans

The Tennessee Titans might be the worst team in an ascending division. With the Colts (hopefully) about to have a full season with a healthy Anthony Richardson, the Houston Texans looking like they could make a jump into legitimate long-term playoff contention, and the Jacksonville Jaguars still with Trevor Lawrence under center, it could be difficult for Tennessee to make any real noise this year.

But, they've made improvements to their offensive line in recent drafts, and they have a good receiving duo in DeAndre Hopkins and Calvin Ridley. Second-year quarterback Will Levis has the arm power to chuck the ball downfield, but statistically, he ranked towards the bottom in the league in attempts,

passing yards, and passing touchdowns last year. The defense doesn't appear to have much to write home about, which leads me to believe that the Packers will leave Nashville with a Week 3 win. *MY PREDICTION: Packers 35, Titans 17.*

### Vs. the Minnesota Vikings; @ Minnesota Week 16

Green Bay will get their first shot at a divisional opponent in Week 4, when they travel to Minnesota to take on the Vikings.

Similar to Tennessee, Minnesota is probably the bottom team in their division. This isn't necessarily to say it's the Vikings organization's fault; the NFC North is simply one of the league's best divisions from a talent standpoint. Minnesota has several Dudes on their roster, namely star wide receiver Justin Jefferson. And, longtime Packers running back Aaron Jones joined the team earlier this year. The Vikes also have another talented wideout in Jordan Addison, who's currently looking to bounce back from an ankle injury. Tight end T.J. Hockenson could be out for up to half the season while recovering from tearing his ACL and MCL in late December last year, but he'll likely have an immediate impact when he comes back.

The Vikings' current quarterback situation is quite suboptimal. This year, Minnesota moved on from longtime QB Kirk Cousins, signed veteran Sam Darnold, and selected Michigan's J.J. McCarthy in the first round of the NFL Draft in hopes that he'll be their quarterback of the future. Early on, it looked like Darnold was going to get the starting job while McCarthy continued to get acquiesced to the offense, but the job is now officially Darnold's - earlier this month, McCarthy underwent season-ending surgery to repair a torn meniscus.

Both offensively and defensively, the Packers should have the edge in both matchups with their division rivals to the west. *MY PREDICTIONS: Week 4 - Packers 31, Vikings 17; Week 16 - Packers 24, Vikings 21.*

### @ the Los Angeles Rams

In Week 5, the Los Angeles Rams will likely present the Packers with their toughest test of the season up to this point.

Quarterback Matthew Stafford has been one of the most consistent quarterbacks of his time. Last year's emergence of rookie wide receiver Puka Nacua, coupled with the return of veteran pass catcher Cooper Kupp - not to mention having a backfield featuring Kyren Williams and rookie Blake Corum - should put head coach Sean McVay in a position to win some games, even though the NFC West will probably pretty dang good this year.

I do think the Packers will be coming into the matchup on a three-game winning streak, but considering they'll be on the road and going up against one of the best coaches in the league, they could face an uphill battle. *MY PREDICTION: Rams 38, Packers 24.*

### Vs. the Arizona Cardinals

After taking on Los Angeles on the road, Green Bay will face another NFC West opponent at Lambeau in Week 6.

The Cardinals are in a spot to make a jump forward this season, even if it's a small one. They rattled off a few unexpected wins last year, and that momentum might carry into this season. Kyler Murray will ideally be consistently healthy, they drafted the dynamic receiver Marvin Harrison Jr. in April, and Trey McBride is a great tight end. However, their defense was Bad and Also Not Good last year, and they're bringing largely the same group back. The Packers should be able to get a home win over Arizona. *MY PREDICTION: Packers 42, Cardinals 17.*

### Part two next week

Next week, we'll pick up with what is one of my most anticipated NFL games of the season and take a look at the Packers' key divisional matchups in the back half of the 2024 season.

Jalen's columns, "The Free Play" and "Movies You Gotta See," can be found online at [www.medium.com/@jalenmaki](http://www.medium.com/@jalenmaki).

## Sports Briefs

### Annual cross country alumni scrimmage

The annual Tomahawk Cross Country Alumni Scrimmage will be held on Saturday, Aug. 24. The 5K race will start at Bradley Park at 9 a.m. Participants are encouraged to arrive before 8:30 a.m.

## WEATHER

DATE	HIGH (°F)	LOW (°F)
Sunday, Aug. 11	77	48
Monday, Aug. 12	81	49
Tuesday, Aug. 13	85	51
Wednesday, Aug. 14	84	60
Thursday, Aug. 15	68	64
Friday, Aug. 16	78	60
Saturday, Aug. 17	73	59

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All proceeds to be used for community outreach.  
For more information call: 715-612-1728 or  
715-453-5809 on days of sale. No text.

# Fishing Report: Fall fishing set to follow active summer

BY GEORGE LANGLEY

NORTHERN WISCONSIN – Now that fall is on the near horizon, we’re looking forward to some great fall fishing following a really active summer. Water temps have been in the mid 70s – great swimming on a hot day! The traffic on the lakes is slowing a bit now, which bodes well for daytime fishing, and the mosquitoes and flies seem to have backed off a bit. All in all, this is a great time of the summer.

Walleye fishing has stayed consistently good for numbers on all lakes. It seems harder to find some big fish at this time of year, but you can always catch some fish at the weed edges or off gravel points in 15 to 20 feet of water on the Chain. All bait types have been working very well,

so minnows or leeches or half crawlers are all even in production. Evenings are best on the Chain, especially. Fish deeper during the daytime on the bigger lakes – weed edges at about 20 to 25 feet, at the dropoffs on the outside of the weeds. Leeches are definitely better on these bigger lakes.

Bass are hitting and hitting well in the area. Smallies are on the rocks, with the majority of them from 6 to 15 feet. While leeches are working, we are finding any weedless frog imitation plastics to be working best for these fish. Hard bottom is the key for these fish. Rocks in the boulder size seem to be the best holding areas, but gravel bottoms will also hold fish. Largemouth are hitting very well on plastics, with worms in darker colors the best pro-

ducers. Try any shallow holding areas like piers or weeds. The great thing about bass is that they are hitting all day long, so you can go out whenever you feel like. Try some surface baits for the largemouth.

Panfish action is good, with bluegills leading the way. Good action has been reported daily in the deep weeds on all lakes, but you can try shallow cover, too. Crappie action has held up very well this year. Look for deeper weeds and brush piles for these guys, and use crappie minnows. Perch are in the deeper weeds also.

Northerns are hitting well in the weeds now, with good action reported throughout the area. Not a lot of real big ones, but good numbers of these fish are reported, especially in the mid to deeper weeds. Noisy,

flashy baits work best. If you have some kids, try some northern suckers or chubs over weeds with slip bobbers for best action.

Musky action has been good in the area, with some nice fish being caught. They seem to be moving around with the weather, with some of the fish deeper, so you can fish both weeds with spinners and surface baits or deeper with plastics for the bigger fish. Night action has also been good, so if you are not getting fish at all on your lake you might think of night or evening fishing. The sunlight penetration and the heavy water traffic often cause these fish to change their feeding patterns at this time of year.

Good luck and good fishing!

## TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 196

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 195 question:** What was the record of the 1979-80 boys’ basketball team: 15-5, 16-5, or 17-5?

**Week 195 answer:** The 1979-80 boys’ basketball team had a 16-5 record. Paul DeNoble was selected as Lumberjack Conference Coach of the Year, and the Hatchets were conference and regional champions.

Congrats to Ann Zacharias for being the first to correctly answer last week’s question!

**Week 196 question:** After high school, Lisa Teal continued playing volleyball at what college: Mount Senario College in Ladysmith; Itasca Community College in Grand Rapids, Minn.; or UW-Marathon Center in Wausau?

## UNPACKING History



### Signed 1940 mini-football

The Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame generously opened their vault to share pieces of Packers history with The Press Times, published by Multi Media Channels (MMC). Pictured is a 1940 Packers team mini-football with player signatures and a doodle by “Charley Schultz.” Charles Schultz was a right tackle for the 1940 Packers and played for the University of Minnesota before getting drafted by the Packers in the 1939 NFL Draft. For more information on the Hall of Fame, visit [www.packershofandtours.com](http://www.packershofandtours.com). MMC also publishes the Tomahawk Leader.

Photos by Kris Leonhardt

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# Sharp-tailed grouse hunting season remains closed for 2024

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) last week announced that although the spring population survey results indicate a slight increase, the sharp-tailed grouse hunting season remains closed for 2024, and permits and applications will not be available or accepted this year.

A release from DNR said each year, the sharp-tailed grouse advisory committee, consisting of interested conservation groups and DNR wildlife biologists, uses spring dancing ground surveys to evaluate the population’s size and recommend a hunting season. Based on the review of spring population data, lek distribution and scientific studies from around the country, concerns remain about the long-term viability of the sharp-tailed grouse population.

The recommendation to keep the sharp-tailed grouse hunting season closed follows the spring 2024 survey data review, historical data trends and scientific models, accord-

ing to DNR. 2024 will be the sixth year the season has been closed. Although fall permits will not be issued this year, sharp-tailed grouse will retain their status as a game species, per state law.

DNR said that due to the significant habitat restoration practices occurring in the core habitat areas of northwest Wisconsin, grouse populations have grown in recent years, recovering from an all-time low in 2021.

“The DNR and a wide array of partners continue to focus on habitat management efforts that will increase population levels across their primary range,” DNR stated. “Those passionate about Wisconsin’s historical tradition of sharp-tailed grouse hunting should be encouraged by the significant partnerships in the northwestern part of the state and the positive impact those partnerships have on the barrens habitat critical to sharp-tailed grouse populations.”

Grouse enthusiasts can learn more by reading the Sharp-tailed Grouse Management Plan approved in April by the Natural

Resources Board, DNR noted.

“DNR staff and partners hope the population will continue to respond positively to ongoing, focused habitat management efforts,” DNR stated. “These efforts help restore the pine barrens and young forest habitats that

sharp-tailed grouse depend upon for survival.”

More information on sharp-tailed grouse hunting and management in Wisconsin is available on the DNR’s Sharp-tailed Grouse Hunting and Management webpage at [www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/sharptailgrouse](http://www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/sharptailgrouse).

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## FISHING & HUNTING TIMES

Date (CDT)	Morning		Evening	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Aug. 21	7:37AM	1:10AM	8:17PM	1:35PM
Aug. 22	9:00AM	2:00AM	8:38PM	2:26PM
Aug. 23	10:21AM	2:51AM	8:59PM	3:16PM
Aug. 24	11:43AM	3:42AM	9:24PM	4:09PM
Aug. 25	1:04PM	4:36AM	9:55PM	5:03PM
Aug. 26	2:22PM	5:32AM	10:34PM	6:00PM
Aug. 27	---	6:29AM	3:31PM	6:58PM
Aug. 28	11:24PM	7:27AM	4:29PM	7:55PM

Solunar fishing and hunting chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon is September 3rd.

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# 'TomaWalk' on W. Wisconsin Ave. offers opportunity to celebrate downtown's past

BY TOMAHAWK MAIN STREET INC.

TOMAHAWK – Who doesn't love a celebration? In 2011, the Tomahawk Area Historical Society held their second "TomaWalk" in honor of the city's 125th birthday.

"What a wonderful time to search memories and exchange recollections of all that has happened on our Wisconsin Ave.," the Historical Society said. "Time too, to find the stories telling about the committed and resourceful merchants who over the years opened stores on the Avenue. The prospects of a successful and thriving city were right here from the very beginning, and you will be astonished at the number of merchants and their many endeavors."

Wow, that is definitely a great hook that would have reeled me in! Many came, and all enjoyed.

However, as many of us know, it isn't as easy as it looks to keep a good thing going. Friends move, some take up other interests or folks are simply much too busy to be able to do one more thing. Sadly, this is what happened to the TomaWalk, and it became one of those beautiful recollections.

Then one day, Pat and Jennifer were introduced, and the President of the Tomahawk Area Historical Society and the Main Street Director had a chance meeting that would become a friend-



ship; you put two gals with brains that never sleep in the same room, and guess what happens? Well, a lot of great thoughts, but also...TomaWalk is re-born!

What fun we had going through old stories and pictures, articles and notes, and putting together a stroll down our historic streets. We were pleased with the turnout, as around 25 folks enjoyed presentations on the founding of Tomahawk (from Mr. Bradley, portrayed by George Nelson), as well as several of our businesses and buildings.

Bill Sparr was our speaker at Associated Bank, telling the tale of the great Bradley Bank robbery of 1932.

Terry Bucaro spoke of the array of businesses that have come and gone at The Clothes Hamper, and a sneak peek of what's to come was also included. Did you know that only three businesses have been on the Dunn Financial lot? Jennifer Turkiewicz did, and she also spoke of the criminal record that goes along with store number two.

The original work inside of Coasters Cycle Works was a treasure to see, and Bill McDowell was a great presenter of their history. We couldn't miss stopping at Postl's Popcorn Stand, and Mary Smith and her family gave us a sample of their story, popcorn and cotton candy!

Who needs a new fur coat? Well, if you did, then Standard Mercantile was the place to go; while you were there, you could make a stop at the soda fountain too! Cindy Morris was our presenter, and her window displays were amazing.

Andy Goretski shared the story of the Bradley Mural, as well as his hands-on dealings with the restoration of our founding father. The Mitchell Motel was our final stop, and Pat Pietila had a whole book on the back story! Mind you, she only shared parts, but I know who to call when I have a question.

A fun day was had by all, and we hope you can join us for TomwWalk 2025 as we celebrate our amazing stories of days gone by!



Photos courtesy of Tomahawk Main Street Inc.



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