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FREE | Wednesday, December 18, 2024 | Volume 137, Issue 42



Hometown Christmas

Hometown Christmas was held in downtown Tomahawk on Friday, Dec. 13. The event kicked off with a parade on W. Wisconsin Ave., followed by live window displays, sponsored by Tomahawk Main Street Inc. Those who braved the chilly temps could huddle around a warming fire offered by the Tomahawk Fire Department and grab a snack at a Park City Credit Union-sponsored s'mores pit. View more photos on Pages 2 and 3, as well as at www.tomahawkleader.com.

Photo by Jalen Maki

fill a new Chevrolet Silverado for the benefit of the Tomahawk and Nokomis Food Pantries.



A memorial to Corey Proulx, a Lincoln Hills School counselor who died in June 2024 following an assault by a 16-year-old prisoner, is shown on Nov. 1, 2024, in Irma, Wis. Proulx's death prompted calls from Republican lawmakers to lift restrictions on pepper spray use at the youth prison.

Drake White-Bergey for Wisconsin Watch

One child, \$463,000 per year: Ballooning costs of troubled Lincoln Hills youth prison

BY MARIO KORAN WISCONSIN WATCH

DEVIN BLAKE
MILWAUKEE
NEIGHBORHOOD
NEWS SERVICE

This story was produced by Wisconsin Watch and Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service. It was made possible by donors like you (www.wisconsinwatch.org/donate/).

Wisconsin budgets nearly \$463,000 a year to incarcerate each child at the state's beleaguered juvenile prison complex in the North Woods, a figure that has ballooned over a decade as enrollment has plummeted.

A new Department of Corrections budget request would nearly double that figure to about \$862,000 a year — 58 times what taxpayers spend on the average K-12 public school student.

It comes as efforts to close the Lincoln County complex—home to Lincoln Hills School for boys and Copper Lake School for girls—and build a new youth prison in Milwaukee (www.tinyurl.com/rddevd-wt) have slowed to a crawl.

Six years after the Legislature approved the closure plan, Republican lawmakers and Democratic Gov. Tony Evers are blaming each other during funding and policy disagreements that have delayed the closure.

A 2018 legal settlement restricted how guards could discipline youth. That followed a series of scandals involving allegations of inhumane conditions, such

> Lincoln Hills CONTINUES ON PAGE 10

MMC announces holiday break for printed editions

MMC will not publish a printed edition of this paper between Dec. 26 through Jan. 1. This will allow our employees to enjoy quality time with their families during the holiday season.

This publication will resume publishing on its regular day after the new year begins.

Thank you for your understanding, and we wish you a joyous holiday season!

Patrick Wood Publisher

2024 "Fill The Need" Food Drive For the last 27 years Heritage Chevrolet has asked you to

Go to www.heritagechev.com and click on the FILL THE NEED link.

Make a monetary donation to the food pantry of your choice. You will then be entered in the drawing for one of the prizes contributed by our local merchants.

Alternatively, you can drop off your check payable to either food pantry at Heritage Chevrolet.

This year's drawing will be held live on WJJQ on Thursday, December 19th at 2:15pm

Merchant		2024 Prize	Value	Merchant		2024 Prize	Value
Lincoln County Cycles		Troy Built Sidewalk Edger	\$500	CIS Insurance Group		\$50 Gift Card to Scarlet Garden	\$50
Ingman's Service		Oregon Pressure Washer	\$400	Coasters		\$50 Gift Certificate	\$50
		Toro Battery Operated Trimmer	\$70	Billy Bob's		\$50.00 Gift Certificate for Billy Bob's	\$50
Bethel Excavating &		10 Yards Road Gravel Delivered in Tomahawk Area	\$300	Chuck's Sports Shop	2	\$25 Gift Certificates for Chucks	\$50
Northern Wisconsin Land Services		10 Yards Top Soil Delivered in Tomahawk Area	\$300	HMM Boutique		\$50 Gift Card for HMM Boutique	\$50
Tomahawk Sports Center		Skidoo Snowmobile Jacket	\$350	Cheese Shoppe		Holiday Basket	\$50
Heritage Chevrolet		\$500 Heritage Chevrolet Gift Card	\$500	Erv's Sales & Service		\$50.00 Gift Certificate for Erv's	\$50
Just 4 U Fitness		Single Person 3mo. Special w/ Access Card	\$100	Hewitt Meat		\$50.00 Gift Certificate	\$50
		Joint (couple) 3mo. Special w/access Card	\$145	Holly's Bar	2	\$25.00 Gift Certificates for Holly's	\$50
Sideways Wine & Craft Beer	2	\$100 Gift Certificates	\$200	Hometown Feed Mill & General Store	2	\$25 Gift Certificate	\$50
Bootleggers Lodge		Tomahawk Experience Dinner for Two	\$150	Kracker Barrel	2	\$25 Gift Certificate	\$50
Woodland Lakes Realty		Hampton Bay Fire Pit	\$125	NAPA	2	\$25 Gift Cards to NAPA of Tomahawk	\$50
Loop Hole	2	\$50.00 Gift Cards	\$100	O'Reilly's Auto Parts	2	\$25 Gift Cards	\$50
Northwoods Community Realty		Adirondack Chair	\$100	Scentability	2	\$25 Gift Certificate	\$50
Kevin Urmann State Farm Insurance	2	\$50.00 Chamber Bucks	\$100	Roots Hair Salon		\$60 Gift Certificate to Roots Salon	\$60
Tomahawk Pharmacy		Gift Basket	\$100	Tilted Loon		\$50 Gift Certificate for the Loon	\$50
Hackel Plumbing	2	\$50 Chamber Bucks	\$100			Routine Eve Exam	\$50 \$50
Absolute Electric		\$100 Chamber Bucks	\$100	Tomahawk Eye Care			***
Honeycomb L.O.F.T	4	\$25 Gift Cards to Honeycomb LOFT	\$100	Tomahawk Family Restaurant		\$50 Gift Certificate	\$50
Knot Haus	2	\$50.00 Main Street Bucks	\$100	Tomahawk Touch of Gold		\$50 Gift Card to Touch of Gold	\$50
Rita's Scarlet Garden	4	\$25 Gift Certificates	\$100	Tomahawk Warehouse Liquor	2	\$25 Gift Certificate	\$50
WT Silverado	4	\$25 Gift Cards to Silverado	\$100	Viegut's Do It Express	2	\$25.00 Gift Certificates	\$50
Subway	3	5-\$5.00 off Coupons	\$75	Windmill Ice Cream Shop	2	\$25 Gift Certificates	\$50
Cerny's Greenhouse		\$50.00 Gift Certificate	\$50	MJJQ	2	\$25 Chamber Bucks	\$50



IMPORTANT NOTICE:
FOOD DONATIONS WILL NOT BE RECEIVED
AT HERITAGE CHEVROLET. If you wish
to donate food, take it directly to the food
pantry of your choice. You will not be
entered in the drawing.

Fill the Need is co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Chevy Dealers, WJJQ, Creative on Nokomis and Heritage Chevrolet.

FIND NEW ROADS

Entry deadline is December 18th, and this year's drawing will be held live on WJJQ on Thursday, **December 19th** at 2:15pm
Together, let's make sure no one goes hungry this Christmas.



1227 N. Fourth St., Tomahawk, WI 715-453-2119 www.heritagechev.com

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HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS 2024











Photos by Jalen Maki



























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OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at www.tomahawkleader.com



Grace Barbara Keip, age 90 passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at Renaissance Assisted Living with her family by her side. She was born on December 21, 1933, in Wood County Wis., the daughter of Frank and Erna (Molle) Cline. She married George Keip Jr. on September 6, 1952, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vesper. George and Grace and their family lived in Wisconsin Rapids for 44 years until mov-

ing to Tomahawk in 2003. They moved back to Wisconsin Rapids in 2017. Grace was a graduate of Pittsville High School and Midstate College with a degree in accounting and office management. She was employed by various businesses and was the Wood County Board Chairman's executive secretary for 22 years, retiring in 1997. She also served as secretary on the Wood County Ethics Committee, Unified Services Board and the Edgewater Haven Board of Trustees.

Grace enjoyed spending time with her husband and children at their cottage in Tomahawk on Somo Lake. Her love for family was never ending. Family gatherings were special to her. She also enjoyed crafts and sewing, planting flowers and she was fond of interior decorating ideas. Spending time with her grandchildren was her most treasured time, telling scary bedtime stories, playing games, shopping, among many other fond times.

Grace is survived by her daughter, Sandra (Mike) Williams; son, Greg (Jean) Keip; daughter-in-law Jean Keip-Wurster; grandchildren, Brian (Dee) Keip, Jason Keip, Kimberly (Je remiah) Kuske, Shelley (Calvin) Turner, Katie (Travis) Glaser; great grandchildren, Hailey Schober, Kristina Keip, Mackenzie Keip, Tanner Keip, Tennlee, Owen, Navvy Glaser and Cash Turner. She is further survived by her sister, Alice (Charles) Pyke and very special nieces Diane (Bruce) Rosenfelder and Carol Keip. Also special friend, Ken Islo and many other nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband George; son Garry Keip, her parents, her sisters, Marion (Gene) Czudec, and JoAnn (Roger) Keip; brothers, Frank and Roger Cline; mother and father-in-law George and Hazel

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at the Herman-Taylor Funeral Home with visitation from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home. Inurnment at Port Edwards Municipal Cemetery will be at a later date.

Herman-Taylor Funeral Home is honored to be assisting the

Howard Burke, 88, of Tomahawk, passed away Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024 at his home surrounded by family. Services are pending.

You can view the full obituary and leave condolences for the family at www.nimsgernfuneral.com.



Francis Thomas Lamer, 86, a resident of Wausau, passed away on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, in hospice care at Aspirus Hospital, in Wausau.

Fran was born on July 22, 1938 to the late Joseph and Estelle (Bauer) Lamer in Toma-hawk, the 5th son in a family of eight children. He was ex-tremely grateful for the bless-ing of his wonderful upbringing and family.

Fran's father passed away in a car crash when he was 11. Afterword, he and his siblings ran

the family mink farm to provide for their family. Fran attended and graduated from Stout State University (now U.W. Stout), with a degree in Manufacturing Engineering. He held senior management positions in several manufacturing companies, before founding a HVAC fabrication services company, Mechanical Incorporated, in Tomahawk.

He married Mary Jane Cull on June 25, 1960, at Saint Mary's Catholic Church, in Tomahawk. She died in a car crash on Dec. 8, 1972, along with their daughter. Michelle

crash on Dec. 8, 1972, along with their daughter, Michelle. Fran had a deep appreciation for nature and spent a lot of time hunting and fishing. He also had a deep love of his family; immediate and extended. Fran enjoyed spending time with his sons and brothers, and their sons, on his hunting land in Tomahawk. His love of God, family, and all of God's creation was central to who he was and was reflected in his decisions throughout his lifetime.

Fran married Kathleen Mary Carey on Aug. 1, 1975, with

whom he had two daughters.
Fran was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; his daughter, Michelle; his parents, Joseph and Estelle; two sisters, Rita Kuehling and Margaret Oelhofen; three brothers, Eugene, Vernon and Allan Lamer; and many other much loved family

Fran is survived by his wife, Kathy; his sons, Stephen (Sabine) and Jeffry (Jill) Lamer; his daughters, Lynn Lamer and Nancy (Patrick) Bougie; his brother Gerald (Pat) Lamer, and his sister Donna Magnuson, and many other much loved family members.

The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday, December 13, 2024, at St. Anne Parish, Wausau. Rev. Tom Lindner will preside. Visitation will be on Friday from 9 a.m. until the time of services, all at the church. The burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Tomahawk on Saturday.

A special thank you to Dr. Christopher Peterson and the On-cology staff at Aspirus Wausau Hospital for their care and

Online condolences may be expressed at www.petersonkra



Linda Louise Wyland, 59 joined with God on Friday Dec. 6, 2024, at her home in McCormick, S.C., surrounded by her loved ones, after courageously fighting against adenocarcinoma.

Linda was born on Sept. 19, 1965, in Tomahawk, to Kenneth Charles Wyland and the late Kathleen Rosemary Raleigh.

After leaving Tomahawk, she went on to become a dental assistant and later received a degree as a dental hygienist. It

was a 35-year adventure that she genuinely loved. She continued working until she retired from Walsh Dental in Mc-Cormick in 2021.

Linda married James "Jimmy" Schumpert on Sept. 27, 2004 In their 20 years of marriage, Linda cherished any time spent with her family, cherishing particularly their time spent fresh or salt-water fishing on the boat or hunting shark teeth on their beach trips. Linda was passionate about cooking and gardening, which she loved sharing with her family. She looked forward to the daily walk around town with her 110pound lapdog, Cairo. And even though she had 10 dogs, her daughter still convinced her to go out and volunteer with the humane society. Linda was also an avid wildlife enthusiast and had a special affinity for bluebirds. She loved feeding any birds and deer that visited her yard. Her collection of over 200 flamingos reflected her love and admiration for these beautiful creatures.

Linda said she especially enjoyed every single moment that she got to spend in Wisconsin with her dad. She enjoyed being there visiting her father, watching the bears and the wildlife, working with him in the yard, and spending time with family up there. Her time in Wisconsin was very precious to her because she lives so far away.

Surviving in addition to her husband Jimmy and her father are her children: Stephen Nimmons of Fayetteville, N.C. Hannah Canejo (Michael) of Aiken, Cody Schumpert (Brenda Cabello) of McCormick, and Tabatha Singletary (William) of Plum Branch. In addition, her grandchildrer Adarius, Karina, Elijah, Luna, and Ava survive her; also survived by a stepsister Tara Campbell (Kerry) of Green Bay Wis., and her beloved companion Cairo, and a host of other family and friends. She is presumably survived by her 5-ft. 300-pound concrete flamingo that flew away several years back.

Linda was preceded in death by her mother and her brother James Wyland, both of whom she loved very dearly.

The family received friends at the home from 12 p.m. to 2

p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024.

In lieu of flowers or donations, Linda would like to encour age everyone to please consider routine cancer screenings starting at an earlier age.



Rosemary Theresa (Krause) **Brandner**, 83, of Tomahawk, formerly of Medford, went home to be with her heavenly father on Monday Dec. 2, 2024 surrounded by her loving family under the care of Compas

sus Home Hospice.
A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 12 at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Medford, with Fr. Patrick McConnell officiating, followed by a meal in the church fellowship hall. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until

the time of service at 11 a.m., Thursday at the church. Rosie was born Aug. 2, 1941, in Westboro to Merwin and Nellie (Poncek) Krause. She grew up in Westboro and graduated from the state of the life of the life of the life of the life of the life.

In 1959, she married the love of her life, Edward Brandner Jr. Together they shared 65 wonderful years and had six chil-

The newly married couple moved to Milwaukee where she worked at Dutch & Dairy and had their first child. They later moved to Westboro in 1962 where they started raising and growing their family. In 1971, they made the move to Medford purchasing their hobby farm. Rosie did daycare while being a stay-at-home mom to her six children. Once her chil dren were grown, she worked at Marathon Cheese until retirement and moved to Tomahawk in 1997.

She continued her love for childcare by providing daycare for some of her grand and great-grandchildren in Tomahawk Rosie loved spending time with her family and camping. She also had many hobbies including gardening, crafts, painting polka dancing and snuggling with her sweet dog Koda Rosie will be dearly missed by so many. She was known for being one of the most hard-working women, afraid of no task and her love for children.

She is survived by her husband Ed of Tomahawk; her children: Mark (Kathy) Brandner, Wayne (Sue) Brandner, Lynn (David) Connelly, Lori (Scott) Waldhart, Scott (Heidi) Brandner, Lisa (Chris) Bembinster. She was blessed with 16 grandchildren, Jessica, Stephanie, Joshua, Brock, Cheyanna Amanda, Jason, Aaron, Shannon, Noah, Kenzie, Steven Elizabeth, Kristen, Alyssa, Lauren, Max and 12 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings, Shirley (Emery) Klemm, Betty (Ron) Brandner, Dwaine (Arla Jean) Krause, Midge Krause and DeNise Jung, numerous nieces and nephews; and her dog, Koda.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Hank Krause; and a daughter-in-law, Sheila Brandner.

Hemer-Pickerign Funeral & Cremation Services of Medford

is serving the family.

Please visit www.hemerfuneralservice.com to share condolences online.



In Loving Memory of Christopher Lee Miller

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Christopher Lee Miller, a beloved husband, father, brother, grandfather, and friend. Chris passed away on Sept. 26, 2024, at age 58.

Born on April 2, 1966, Chris lived a life full of passion,

love, and dedication to those around him. He was a man of great character - always ready to lend a hand and fix anything that needed fixing. His incredi-

ble knack for making things work and his boundless energy were a testament to his hard-working nature and loving

A lover of the outdoors, Chris found peace and joy in nature whether he was hunting, fishing, motorcycling, or simply enjoying the quiet beauty of the world around him. He had a special place in his heart for Mexico, where he found many cherished memories and a deep sense of belonging.

Above all, Chris treasured his family. He was a devoted husband to Nicole Miller, a proud father to Jordan, Larissa, Skyler, and Austin, and a doting grandfather to nine grand-children. His love for his family, especially his grandbabies, knew no bounds. They were the light of his life, and he will forever be remembered as the loving, caring, and ever-pre

sent grandfather who made every moment special. He is survived by his wife, Nikki Miller; his daughter, Larissa Chagoya; his son, Jordan Miller; two stepchildren, Skyler Champine and Austin Champine; and his nine grandchildren, Alexandria, Ellesia, Evelynn, Roman, Xavier, Saylor, Eric, Izabella, and Raiden. He will also be deeply missed by many extended family members, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

A memorial gathering to celebrate his life will be held on Dec. 28, 2024, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., at Sconni's Alehouse & Eatery, located at 1239 Schofield Avenue in Schofield. View Chris' obituary and leave online condolences at www generationsfuneral.com.

Christopher Lee Miller may no longer walk among us, but his love, wisdom, and unwavering spirit will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. Rest in peace, Dad. You will forever be loved and missed.



Timothy James Albrecht, 65, of Tomahawk, WI passed away Monday, Dec. 9, 2024 at the Country Terrace Assisted Living Facility from Kidney failure. Timothy was born May 27, 1959, the son of Vernon and Barbara (Robinson) Albrecht. Tim worked for Lincoln Industries in Tomahawk until 2019 when his health deteriorated. He made a lot of friends through work and missed them when he couldn't return. Tim had a great sense of humor and loved teasing his

siblings. He loved his nieces and nephews and liked to reminisce of their antics growing up. He enjoyed having them come visit as they grew older. Throughout his life Tim had a keen interest in mechanical engines such as cars, trucks, snowmobiles, ATVs, tractors. He could quote the make model and year of most of the older vehicles on the road just by the shape of the headlights, bumper or grill. He also liked to tinker with snowmobile motors and would confer with Bob and his nephews about how to get them running. Tim enjoyed hunting with his dad, Vernon, brother, Bob and nephews, Mike and Travis. They hunted locally for whitetail deer and made trips to Colorado to hunt for elk/mule deer.

Surviving Tim arê his sisters, Margie Albrecht, Wausau; Lori (Jeff) Janusz, Woodruff; brother, Robert Albrecht, Tomahawk; nieces and nephews, Mirayra Rau, Weston; Kenneth Ackley, Jackson; Michael (Pamuela) Albrecht, Tomahawk; Travis (Amanda Firkus) Albrecht, Tomahawk; Christopher (Leah) Albrecht, Gleason; six great-nephews and three great

He is preceded in death by his parents, Veron Edwin Albrecht (2012) and Barbara Ann Albrecht (1988); infant sister Linda Albrecht (1956); and sister, Debra Lee Albrecht

The family would like to thank Compassus Hospice for the compassionate care of Tim.

Memorial Services were held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 16, 2024 at Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral and Cremation Service with Pastor Larry Mathein officiating. Visitation was held from 10 a.m. to time of service.

Online condolences for the family may be directed to www nimsgernfuneral.com.

Richard E. Collins Sr., "Dick," 96, of Tomahawk, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024 at the Tomahawk Health Services. Richard was born Nov. 29, 1928 in Tomahawk, the son of Richard and Rowena (Adams) Collins. He was united in marriage on Oct. 9, 1956 to Doris Menebroeker in Illinois and she preceded him in death on June 23, 2013. Dick served in the U.S. Army in Japan. He was a member of the American Legion Post-93, VFW, DAV, 40 and 8, and a member of Grace Lutheran Church.

Surviving are his daughter, Leah Shomada, Cheba, Japan; step-daughter-in-law, Sheri Luse, Rhinelander; step-son, John (Diane) Luse, Merrill; Duane Luse, Merrill; Dick was further survived by nine grandchildren and ten great-grand-

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Doris; stepson, Jim Luse; brothers, Robert, Neal, Butch, David and Thomas; sisters, Nancy Collins and Leah Schreiner.

Memorial Services for Dick will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024 at Grace Lutheran Church, Tomahawk, with Pastor Julie Sinkula officiating. Visitation will be held from 11:30 a.m. to time of service at church.

Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral and Cremation Services is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences for the family may be directed to www.nimsgernfuneral.com.

and was 19.5 inches long.

P.O. Box 708 • Tomahawk • WI 54487

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

and Isaiah Scheffler, Merrill, on Nov. 22, 2024. He was

born at 11:57 p.m., weighed seven pounds, five ounces

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A son, Braxton Keizer, was born to Jessalyn Holub

DATCP: How to avoid holiday shopping scams

FOR THE TOMAHAWK **LEADER**

WISCONSIN - The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is reminding consumers to be on alert for common holiday shopping scams.

"During the winter holidays, many Wisconsinites exchange gifts to bring joy and show their appreciation for others," DATCP stated. "Unfortunately, scammers also know that gift buying and giving is a holiday tradition and will try to take advantage of consumers' good intentions.'

Package delivery scams

"Have you received a text message about a failed or delayed package delivery? Knowing that many consumers make their holiday purchases online, scammers send these texts and emails hoping you will click on the link they send," DATCP said. "But opening that link will direct you to a convincing copy of a real delivery company's website that asks for your personal information or an additional 'shipping fee."

DATCP's tips: To check the status of a delivery, go directly to the delivery company's or retailer's website. Don't click the links in a text or email.

Online marketplace scams

Online marketplace like Craigslist, eBay, or Facebook Marketplace allows users to buy and sell products directly with each other.

"Whether you are selling or buying, be wary if a user asks you to pay upfront, requests you move your conversation to text messages or another platform or says they need you to send them a security code - which could give them access to your private accounts," DATCP stated.

DATCP's tips: Keep conversations on the platform they started on. Never send anyone a security code sent to you, for any reason.

Fake website scams

DATCP said scammers create fake versions of common retailers' websites, then try to trick consumers into making "purchases" on the fraudulent platform.

"They may use ads, social media posts, or emails and text messages to draw users in," DATCP explained. "By making a 'purchase' on a fake website, you are sending money to a scammer and giving them your payment information, which could lead to further fraudulent charges or even identity theft."

DATCP's tips: Never open a link you are sent, even for a familiar site. In-

stead type the address directly into your browser. Before entering any information, closely examine a website's address for unusual phrasing or incorrect spelling, and confirm that "HTTPS" (not "HTTP") is at the beginning of the address before entering personal information like your password or credit card number. The "S" stands for "secure."

Safe online shopping tips

"No matter how you make your purchases this holiday season, there are precautions any consumer can take to keep their money and identity safe," DATCP said. "Avoid making purchases over a public Wi-Fi network, since you never know who could be monitoring that data. Use a credit card, since this payment method has built-in fraud protection. Ask your credit card company if they offer additional protections, like 'virtual card numbers.''

For more information and consumer protection resources or to file a complaint, visit DATCP's Consumer Protection webpage at www.ConsumerProtection.wi.gov or contact the Consumer Protection Hotline at 800-422-7128 or DATCPHotline@wisconsin.

News Briefs Donations to cover student lunch debts

being accepted A Park City Credit Union account established to cover student lunch debts at the School District of Tomahawk is continuing to accept donations. To contribute to the account, visit Park

Open Arms Community Meal served Tuesdays

City Credit Union.

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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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 Letters can be submitted to leader ews@mmclocal.com or Tomahawk Leader, 24 W. Rives St., Rhinelander, Wis., 54501

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 contents or recognition.
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 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

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8:30am Bible Study • 9:30am Worship Pastor John Miskimen

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Sunday Service & Facebook Live Stream: 9:30am

Prayer Meetings: Wednesday 6pm
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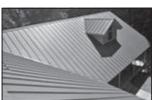
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LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

As reported by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Monday, Dec. 9:

On 12/3/2024 a deputy on patrol conducted a traffic stop on CTH Q and Lake Rd. in the Town of Scott for a vehicle with expired registration. The deputy made contact with the driver, a Wausau 40. At the time of the initial contact, the driver told the deputy that he had been stopped earlier in the night by a deputy from Marathon County. The LISO deputy, in checking the man's driver's license, learned that his driving status was cancelled. The deputy then made contact with the Marathon County deputy and learned that they had cited the man for the expired registration and gave him a written warning for the cancelled license violation. As a result of the Marathon County contact, the LISO deputy took the man into custody for a criminal charge of driving without a valid license, second offense within three years.

On 12/6/2024 the 911 Center took a call of an ATV being stolen from an address in the N1500 block of Range Line Rd. in the Town of Pine River.

Sometime between 7:20 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Dec 4, unknown subjects stole a 2001 Honda 400EX ATV. A neighbor had reported that the day prior to the theft, they had seen an older model white/silver Dodge pickup truck with rust on it drive slowly past the address where the ATV was stolen from. During the investigation, the deputy learned that there was also security footage from two different locations showing the suspect vehicle. It is described as a white Chevy truck pulling a red horse trailer. If anyone is familiar with this vehicle or remembers seeing anything suspicious in the area, they are asked to contact the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office at 715-536-6272. This remains under investigation. Deputies conducted 43 traffic stops and 32 security

Deputies responded to five car vs. deer crashes and one car vs. bear.

Driving complaints: Three.

The 911 Center took six hang-up calls and six nuisance calls.





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2025 Monthly Rates

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TES student donates birthday money to NFHF
Caleb Fedrowicz, a seven-year-old first grader at Tomahawk Elementary School (TES), recently donated \$100.00, received as a birthday gift, to the Never Forgotten Honor Flight (NFHF). Pictured are Caleb and his mom, Candace, with Tom Garrigan, American Legion Post 93 Commander; Bruce Pfingsten, Post Vice-Commander; and Terry Baldowsky, Honor Guard Captain and Post **Photo courtesy of Tom Garrigan**

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

A New Year with **New Beginnings**

Dear Reader,

As the calendar turns to another New Year, we find ourselves at a familiar crossroads, a time for renewal and reflection. It's a time when we take stock of our lives, weighing the good against the bad, and consider the impact we've had on the world around us. The New



Year offers a chance to set new goals and make resolutions in the hopes of becoming the best versions of our-

Yet, as many of us know, the resolve we feel on January 1st can be fleeting. How often do we revisit our resolutions a year later, only to find they've been forgotten, buried under the weight of daily routines and unexpected challenges? Despite our best intentions, life has a way of diverting our focus, and those grand plans can slip away unnoticed.

But perhaps that's okay. The beauty of the New Year lies not just in our ambitions but in the grace we grant ourselves when we fall short. It's a time to acknowledge our humanity, to understand that growth is not always linear, and that the journey itself—full of missteps and lessons—is what truly matters.

So as we step into this New Year, let's embrace the opportunity to dream, to set intentions, and to strive for better. But let's also be kind to ourselves when we stumble, and remember that each new day brings with it the possibility of renewal.

Wishing you a joyous New Year, full of hope, reflection, and the endless potential of new beginnings.

> PATRICK J. WOOD Publisher

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

Improving Education

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CESA 9 is an equal opportunity employer.

Tripoli man killed while performing maintenance on skid steer

FOR THE TOMAHAWK **LEADER**

TRIPOLI – A Tripoli man was killed while performing maintenance on a skid steer earlier this month.

According to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, on Thursday, Dec. 5, the Lincoln County 911 Center received a call reporting that a man had been crushed by a skid steer at an address on County Rd. T in the Town of Somo.

The Sheriff's Office said the reporting party, the victim's son-in-law, went to the property and found the victim, identified by the Sheriff's Office as Mark Krueger, 67, of Tripoli, pinned between the boom and the frame of the skid steer.

The reporting party advised dispatch that Krueger was unresponsive and he was unable to find a pulse.

According to the reporting party, Krueger had been working on the machine by himself at the time of the incident, using a front end loader and a chain to lift the skid steer bucket to perform maintenance. During the process, the chain failed and the arms fell on Krueger, pinning him between the boom and the frame of the skid steer.

The reporting party used the front end loader to lift the skid steer bucket off of Krueger to allow fire and medical personnel to extract him, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Krueger was ultimately pronounced dead at the scene.

Tomahawk EMS and the Tomahawk Fire Department, as well as Sheriff's Office deputies, responded to

advertise

GO HATCHETS



Girls' Varsity and JV Basketball

Back row, from left: Čoach Jon Long, Reagan Gorell, Autumn Merrigan, Lily Krueger, Freya Alberg, Madeline Long, Elizabeth Arnott, Aubrey Seubert, Manager Novalyne Jashinsky, Coach Tim Albert; front: Aliyah Nelson, Lizzy Long, Gracie Long, Claire Albert, Lydia Ziert, Anita Ziert, Ellie Micke.

Photo by Stacie Petta Photography



Girls' Wrestling

Back row, from left: Leni Lang, Matilde Milanetto, Gracie Long, Kinsley Lange, Payton Haring, Reese Molitor, Alli Palmer, Kylie Peissig, Elise Gibeault, Alicia Voermans, Faith Derleth; middle: Cedar Hoffman, Molly Jablonski, Mykala Schiltz, Abbie Rosenmeier, Nora Mann, Lydia Shaney, Aubrey Tollefson, Cadence Thompson, Cambree Bouton, Camryn Kracklow, Lillian Taves; front: Julia McGovern, Kaylee Roberts, Abigail Schertz, Kami Gabrich, Abbey Carr. Not pictured: Grace Waring, Alena Cerkas.









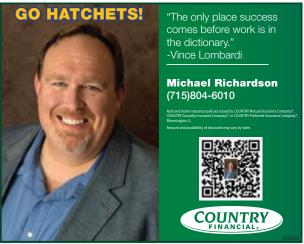
Boys' Varsity Basketball

Back row, from left: Coach Breitenfeld, Niklas Nelson, Nathan Riemer, Jeremiah Johnson, Coach Neve, Jason Watkins, Logan Norman, Edwin Riese, Coach Zimmerman; front: Colton Seslar, Malachi Scheffler, Matthew Walbeck, Brody Rigney, Tyler Sundquist, Dominic Boos.



Boys' JV Basketball

Back row, from left: Coach Breitenfeld, Gavin Maule, Ryan Montag, Niklas Nelson, Nick Esselman, Jason Watkins, Tanner Cruz, Ryan Sundquist, Coach Zimmerman; front: Stephen Bezka, Victor Riese, Isaac Urmann, Nathan Riemer, Jules Barthelemy, Landon Sonnenberg, Edwin Riese.

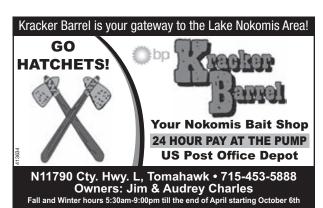








GO HATCHETS





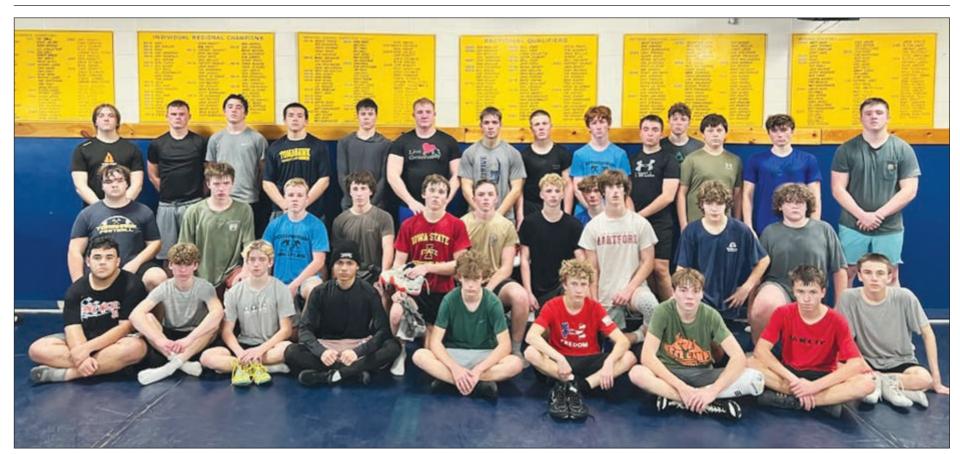
GO HATCHETS



Hockey

Back row, from left: Coach Kole Woodall, Coach Andrew Flynn, Rocco Carew, Jordyn Carew, Colin Black, Trevor Schumann, Michael Samundsen, Corbin Brennan, Braxton Stromberg, Mason Jaecks, Beau Stromberg, Cole Peterson, Jake Albert, Brody Hilgendorf, Karson Hanse, Teddy Frederickson, Max Larson, Coach Dewey Reilly, Coach Jason Stromberg; front: Hudson Seymour, Oliver Childers, Jett Reilly, Jonah Dickens, Brayden Lamer, Rex Reilly, Austin Lamer, Carson Childers, Caiden Reichelt, Landyn Seymour, Sawyer Hanna, Amirah Dickens, Manager Joa Reilly, Manager Kailynn Hanse.

Photo by Catherine List Photography



Boys' Wrestling

Back row, from left: Skylar Harper-Dalvig, Caeron Dahmn, Tanner Wanta, Nathan Norman, Zander Zehner, Ethan Eibeault, Kaiden Kapellusch, Hudson Evans, Fletcher Baumann, Drew Tollefson, Noah Williamson, Aiden Cruz, Connor Jones, Blake Younker; middle: Kenny Turner, Caden Gustafson, Colton Mckmeekin, Miles McGowan, Jack Derleth, Masen Towle, Dane Islo, Keegan Jones, Walter Horabik, Bradyn Ristau, Liam Murphy; front: Tristan Bridges, Nathanial Litzau, Owen Oates, Keneth Aleman, Zack Larson, Tyler Waller, Harman Hoffman, Dawson Jones, Aaden Collins.

Photos courtesy of John Repinski



Boys' Swimming

Back row, from left: Brock Fischer, Max Amelse, Aidan Sigl; middle: Michael Lucas, Dane DeKiep, Bruce Peetz, Connor Germano, Toby Scott; front: Sam Zastrow, Jack Amelse, Nathan Rosenmeier, Zach Germano, Manager Lauren Hansmann.

Photo courtesy of Theresa L'Esperance



OF THE HATCHETS!

LINCOLN HILLS

FROM PAGE 1

as frequent use of pepper spray, strip searches and mechanical restraints and solitary confinement.

Republicans earlier this year pushed to lift pepper spray restrictions after a 16-year-old incarcerated at Lincoln Hills struck a counselor in the face, resulting in his death (www.tinyurl.com/ yyxhyebx). A judge denied requests to alter the settlement in a dispute that has added to closure delays, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported.

Meanwhile, the facility's population is dwindling. As of late November, it served just 41 boys and 18 girls on a campus designed for more than 500 youth.

Wisconsin Watch and Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service spoke to judges, lawmakers, former prison staff and researchers about the eye-popping price tag to incarcerate fewer young people. They attributed the trends to demographic changes, a paradigm shift from large youth prisons to smaller regional facilities and scandals on the campus that made judges hesitant to send teens to Lincoln Hills.

"No judge wants to send a kid to Lincoln Hills," said Milwaukee County Circuit Court Judge Laura Crivello, who has presided over juvenile cases. "You feel like you're damning the kid. And if you look at the recidivism rates that come out of Lincoln Hills, you pretty much are damning a kid."

Here's a closer look at the numbers.

Who sets budgets for youth prisons?

Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake schools are the state's only youth prisons, but they are among four main state facilities for young people convicted of serious juvenile offenses. The others are Mendota Mental Health Institute, a psychiatric hospital in



The main entrance of Lincoln Hills School and Copper Lake School is shown on Nov. 1, 2024, in Irma, Wis. Six years after the Wisconsin Legislature approved a plan to close the embattled youth prison, Republicans and Democrats are blaming each other for delays that have kept the complex open.

Drake White-Bergey for Wisconsin Watch

Madison that treats youth involved in the juvenile justice system, and Grow Academy, a residential incarcerationalternative program outside of Madison.

The Legislature sets uniform daily rates that counties pay to send youth to any of the locations — spreading costs across all facilities.

In 2015, lawmakers approved a daily rate of \$284 per juvenile across all four facilities, or nearly \$104,000 a year. This year's rate is \$1,268 a day, or nearly \$463,000 an-

The annual per-student rate would jump to about \$841,000 in 2025 and nearly \$862,000 in 2026 if the Legislature approves the latest Department of Corrections funding request.

By contrast, Wisconsin spent an annual average of \$14,882 per student in K-12 public schools in 2023, according to the Wisconsin Policy Forum.

Why have costs ballooned?

A campus built for more than 500 is mostly underused as enrollment declines, but taxpayers must still pay to maintain the same large space. It affects county budgets since they pay for youth they send to state juvenile correctional facilities.

Fixed infrastructure and staffing costs account for the largest share of expenses,



This aerial view shows the Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake schools, the state's youth prison in Irma in northern Wisconsin. **Google Earth**

said department spokesperson Beth Hardtke. Spreading the costs among fewer juveniles inflates the per capita price tag.

But taxpayers haven't seen overall savings from the steep drop in enrollment either. The state in 2015 budgeted about \$25.9 million for the Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake complex. That number climbed to about \$31.3 million by 2023 with the addition of staff — a cost increase nearly in line with inflation during that period.

Driving requests to further hike rates: The Department of Corrections seeks \$19.4 million in 2026 and \$19.8 million in 2027 to expand Mendota Mental Health Institute's capacity from 29 beds for boys to 93 beds serving girls or boys - an expansion required by state law.

The expansion requires adding 123 positions at the facility. Such additions affect calculations for the rates of all state facilities for incarcerated juveniles, including Lincoln Hills.

Why are there fewer incarcerated students?

The trends driving high costs at Lincoln Hills started more than 20 years ago, said Jason Stein, president of the Wisconsin Policy Forum.

First, Wisconsin is home to increasingly fewer young people.

The state's population of youth under 18 has been shrinking. The state saw a 3.2% dip between 2012 and 2021 — from 1,317,004 juveniles to 1,274,605 juveniles, according to a Legislative Fiscal Bureau report (www. tinyurl.com/32xrybr5).

Juvenile arrests in Wisconsin dropped by 66% during the same period.

Meanwhile, judges became reluctant to sentence juveniles to Lincoln Hills — even before abuse allegations escalated and prompted authorities to raid the campus in 2015.

"I was the presiding judge at Children's Court, when we blew open the fact that kids weren't getting an education and they were having their arms broken," said Mary Triggiano, an adjunct professor at Marquette University Law School and former District 1 Circuit Court chief

"But we knew before that there were problems with Lincoln Hills because we watched the recidivism rates. We would bring in DOC and say: 'Tell me what kind of services you're going to give. Tell me why they're not in school. Tell me why you're keeping them in segregation for hours and hours and hours' — when we know that's awful for kids who experience trauma."

Enrollment dropped and costs increased, but outcomes didn't improve.

More than 61% of the 131 hovs who left Lincoln Hills in 2018 committed a new offense within three years, while about 47% of the 15 girls who left Copper Lake reoffended. The recidivism rate for boys during that period was roughly the same as it was for

those released in 2014. The rate for girls was worse than the nearly 42% it was four years earlier.

"The cost of sending one young person to Lincoln Hills would

Stein compared Lincoln Hills to a restaurant that tries to compensate for lost customers by raising meal prices. If prices keep rising, customers will look for a different restaurant, he said.

"That, in a nutshell, is how you get into this spiral where you're seeing fewer residents, higher rates, and greater costs for counties," Stein said. "Then it's just rinse and repeat."

How much do other states spend to incarcerate youth?

Wisconsin is not the only state spending hundreds of thousands of dollars per juvenile it incarcerates.

A 2020 Justice Policy Institute report (www.tinyurl. com/3wve6n8m)showed Wisconsin spent less than the national average in 2020. But Wisconsin's per-juvenile costs have since more than tripled as Lincoln Hills remains open and incarcerates fewer young people.

Incarcerating juveniles is generally more expensive than it is for adults, said Ryan King, director of research and policy at Justice Policy Institute. Rehabilitation plays a bigger role in juvenile corrections, and those programs cost more. Incarcerated children typically access more counseling, education and case management programs.

States nationwide are rethinking their approach to youth incarceration as crime rates fall and more research shows how prison damages children. King said.

"There was an acknowledgement that locking kids up was not only failing to make communities safer, but it was making kids worse, and really just putting them in a position where they were more likely to end up in the adult system," he said.

How is Wisconsin trying to reshape juvenile justice?

In 2018, then-Gov. Scott Walker signed Act 185, designed to restructure the state's juvenile justice system. The law kicked off plans for a new state youth prison in Milwaukee and authorized counties to build their own secure, residential care centers (www.tinyurl. com/477b6mac).

Milwaukee and Racine counties are moving forward on such plans to build these centers. The centers function similarly to county jails: County officials operate them under Department of Corrections oversight. Officials hope keeping youth closer to home will help them maintain family connections.

"We have always pushed smaller is better. You can't warehouse young people like you do adults," said Sharlen Moore, a Milwaukee alderwoman and co-founder of Youth Justice Milwaukee. "Their brain just doesn't comprehend things in that way."

The law aimed to close troubled Lincoln Hills and give judges more options at sentencing while balancing the needs of juvenile offenders and the public. But those options have yet to fully de-

Today's alternative programs typically have limited space and extensive waitlists. That won't be fixed until more regional facilities go online.

How else could Wisconsin spend on troubled youth?

Triggiano, now director of the Marquette Law School's Andrew Center for Restorative Justice, was astounded to learn youth incarceration costs could nearly double next year.

"You just want to drop to your knees because if I had that money, we had that money, what could we do differently?" she said.

She quickly offered ideas: programs that recognize how traumatic experiences shape behavior (www.tinyurl.com/4m5hm6v3), violence prevention outreach in schools, community mentorship programs — evidencebased practices shown to help children and teens. Milwaukee County had worked to create some of those programs before funding was pulled, Triggiano said.

"It all got blown up in a variety of ways at every juncture," she said. "Now there's going to be an attachment to the secure detention facility because that's all people could muster up after being slammed down every time we tried to do something that we thought was going to work."

State Rep. Darrin Madison, D-Milwaukee, echoed Triggiano and offered additional spending suggestions, such as housing resources, mental health support and summer jobs programs.

"The cost of sending one young person to Lincoln Hills would be enough to pay several young people working jobs over summer or the span of the school year," Madison said.

Wisconsin's disproportion ate spending on incarcerating its young people runs counter to the Wisconsin Idea, its historical commitment to education, he added.

"We're so committed to incarcerating people that we're willing to eat the cost of doing so, as opposed to making investments in deterrence and getting at the root cause of the problems."

Share your Lincoln Hills story

If you or someone you know has spent time in Lincoln Hills or Copper Lake schools — whether as an incarcerated juvenile or a staff member — we want to hear from you. Your perspectives could inform our follow-up coverage of these issues. Email reporter Mario Koran at mkoran@wisconsinwatch. org to get in touch.



PUSHING ON

Rhinelander skaters, community work together for skate park

MMC STAFF

RHINELANDER - The creation of a Rhinelander skate park is another step closer to reality. Design plans for the project were unveiled Thursday, Dec. 5 during a presentation at ArtStart.

It was Dec. 2021 when a group of young skateboard enthusiasts asked the city of Rhinelander to create more inclusive spaces – especially for at-risk youth. Many of the youth who spoke at the city council meeting back then and were at the design presentation last week, belong to OverIt, an organization for Rhinelander area teens. Their interest in a meeting space for kids who maybe don't fit a particular mold was renewed then following the death of a friend and fellow member of the group.

"I don't think any of us knew what this would look like, but we were kind of just coming face to face with a disconnect in our community and facing problems that affected all of us and clearly people beyond just us in our group, and I think we just reached a limit where we didn't have any other choice but to speak up, and we knew we needed to reach out," Anthony Gaudioso, OverIt President said.

"This whole project would never have happened without the idea that came from the original group, Stephen Moren, Ava Kurilla and Jaden Roberts, and unfortunately, the project gained attention and became a serious thing when we lost our friend Stephen," Gaudioso added.

Hunger Skateparks in Indiana was awarded the engineering and design

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Anthony Gaudioso, President of Overlt, tells the story of how a group of young skateboarders approached the city of Rhinelander to ask for help in the form of a skate park.

Photos by Eileen Persike



After a presentation from Hunger Skate Parks, discussion was opened up to those in attendance to talk about what they want

bid. funded by a \$75,000.00 earmark by the city council. Co-owners Bart Smith and Christy Wiesenhahn have worked with OverIt, ArtStart, area artists and a steering committee to create a skate park that would be a place for youth to gather and hang out, but also be of interest to the general public.

They presented their initial plans to a group of more than 40 skaters, city council members and interested community mem-

"Thanks for having us, what a cool community,' Smith said. "We love your enthusiasm and think it's amazing.'

The preliminary plans offered a couple of theme options, a mythical forest or a lighthouse beacon. The forest option with elements that include subtle nods to the Hodag, forests and green space, had overwhelming support among the group.

"The Hodag is everywhere," Wiesenhahn said. "It really came through as important, so we dug a little deeper and thought about vour woods and what kind of woods do these creatures come from. We're from a wooded area in Indiana, so I get it; the idea of the cabin and the movements you can't account for. So we thought that the mythical forest idea was a good place to start."

designs were

9:49AM

for kids with

special needs

Dec. 18

opened up to discussion, I think when you don't keep pushing on." with suggestions from attendees. City alder Carrie Mikalauski said as a non-skater, she wanted the park to be representative of the community as a

"Something that everyone can be a part of, so the very beginning, intermediate and some more difficult things - what those are, I have no idea, but that's the idea we were hoping for," Mikalauski said. "But I think it's beautiful the way that it is."

The plight of OverIt to help fight mental illness. loneliness and social isolation was taken up as a community development project that incorporated art as a way of coping.

In furthering the cause, Rhinelander was one of 18 cities nationwide chosen to participate in the One Nation One Project arts and health initiative in 2023: the skate park was selected as the city's big project.

Though the ONOP project unveiling was July 27 – before any structural work for a skate park was done, the steering committee invited the community to participate in "A Push Against Loneliness" event that included a March Against Social Isolation, a skate jam, music and other events.

Gaudioso agreed that isolation is a concern among all age groups and said he thinks the skate park is a good thing, not just for skaters, but for the entire community.

"There's a lot of isolation that happens in rural towns just like Rhinelander, and there's a very tight knit community here, but [other towns] don't always have these safe spaces and these mediums to connect with each other, and

1:54PM

have those, you see a lot of people face mental health issues, communication issues. We don't always get the connection in our community that we want to see," he said. "But we just

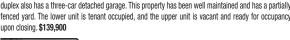
After input from the community, a design will be finalized, and then fundraising will begin. It's anticipated the cost for the skate park will be upwards of \$1 million dollars.





NEW: 8603 Hower Rd Lot #25 Minocqua: Affordable 2-bedroom 1 bath mobile home, located in the Patricia Lake Manufactured Community. Live here year-round or make this your 4 season get away. Great location minutes from downtown Minocqua. Convenient to shopping, health care, dining and all the recreation our area has to offer. Monthly lot rent \$475

NEW: 1701 E 3rd St Merrill: Location, location, location! This duplex is located on the Eastside of Merrill in a desirable area. The home features two bedrooms and one bathroom in each unit. There are two furnaces, two water heaters, separate meters, and a shared laundry room in the basement that includes a washer and dryer for each unit. There is an unheated storage space in the main entry way and to top it all off this





W8844 State Hwy 47, Antigo: Look at this totally updated country home in Antigo, WI. The main level features a large living room with plenty of natural light, perfect for entertaining and an open concept kitchen and dining room Enjoy your primary suite with an updated bathroom including a tile shower and a walk-in closet. The main bathroom has a tile floor and shower. This home also offers a spacious 2-car garage on a 2-acre lot. A brand-new roof

was also just installed. This property will have a new survey, it's part of a new split. \$189,900

W6044 Northern Lights Circle: CLEAR LAKE: This home is centrally located inside the Clear Waters Condo Association on the top of the hill with full view of the lake. Each unit has a space on the beachfront to place your own private pier. You also have full use of the private sandy beach and private boat launch. This is one of the original homes on Clear Lake and has tons of character but will need quite a bit of updating. \$250,000



County Rd A: Check out this commercial lot right in a prime location. There is almost an Acre of land and ready for that business to be built. If you are looking for high visibility that has lots of traffic this is a perfect property. \$60,000



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.

Last week we looked at God's gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, who gives to us the opportunity to know and fellowship with God. Our choice to believe is more than a choice that concerns the destiny of our eternal soul, it is much more than that.

In John 10:10, Jesus said He came that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

In the Bible, the word life can be about physical life, or it can be about a relationship with the Creator. According to the Bible, God is the source of life (Genesis 2:7, John 1:1-4), and it is this relationship with God that gives abundant life. People without God may be alive, but there is no future for them, they are dead while they are alive. Jesus came to give them

In the New Testament, this relationship with the Creator is also called eternal/everlasting life. In John 17:3, Jesus defines eternal life as knowing God the Father and God the Son; it is to have a relationship with the Creator who is eternal. In 1 John 5:9-12 we are told that this life (with the Creator) begins when we first believe on Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

In John 11:25,26 Jesus said He is the resurrection and the life: he that believes in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever lives and believes in me shall never die. The idea is that Jesus is the source of life; as the Creator He has power to give life (John 1:1-4), and will restore life to all for the judgment (John 5:26-29). Jesus also makes the promise that all who believed in Him and are dead will live again (resurrection), and those who are alive and believe on Him will never die - their relationship to the Creator (eternal life) will continue throughout eternity.

In John 5:24, Jesus said that those who accept what He said and believed God, have eternal life and shall not face God's judgment - they are passed from death unto life. This life is the life Jesus said He would give more abundantly (John 10:10). Let me compare this more abundant life to another picture Jesus gives of our relationship to Him.

In John 15:10, Jesus told His disciples, If you keep my commandments, you shall live in my love. The idea is that we will be experiencing God's love as we obey Christ; the love of God we will experience is the guidance of God's wisdom embodied in His commandments. By the same token, the more abundant life is the life guided by the wisdom of God embodied in His commands, which are the laws God established for us to live by when He created. Abundant life is a life that satisfies

Pastor Charles Scheele Berean Baptist Church, Tomahawk





FISHING & HUNTING TIMES

7:07PM

1:28AM

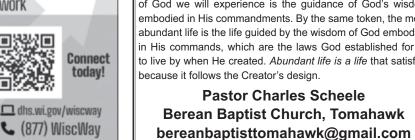


"WHERE AUCTIONS

COME TO LIFE"

Office: (608) 439-5761

e Powers: (608) 214-5761



Minutes

Dogs

LEGALS

Legals

STATE OF WISCONSIN ASSOCIATED BANK, N.A. 1305 Main Street Stevens Point, WI 54481 Plaintiff,

DANIEL J. CATLIN 306 N Prospect St. Merrill, WI 54452 JOHN/JANE DOE CATLIN (an Unknown Spouse of Daniel J. Catlin) 306 N Prospect St. Merrill, WI 54452 MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC c/o Corporation Service Registered Agent Service Company, 33 East Main St, Ste 610 Madison, WI 53703 GOOD SAMARITAN HEALTH CENTER OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN, INC 601 S Center Ave Merrill. WI 54452

Defendants. Case No. 24-CV-153 Foreclosure of Mortgage: 30404 Hon. Robert R. Russell Br. 2 SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO: DANIEL J. CATLIN JOHN/JANE DOE CATLIN (an Unknown Spouse of Daniel J. Catlin)

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

legal action against you.

Within forty (40) days after December
11, 2024, you must respond with a
written demand for a copy of the
Complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to:

Lincoln County Clerk of Circuit Court Lincoln County Courthouse
1110 E. Main Street, Suite 200 Merrill, WI 54452

and to Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is: Weld Riley, S.C. 500 Third Street, Suite 800

P.O. Box 479 Wausau, Wisconsin 54402-0479.

You may have an attorney help or represent you.

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

by garnishment or seizure of property.
Dated: 12/3/2024 .
WELD RILEY, S.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff BY: //s// JOHN A. CRAVENS State Bar #1001261 DIRECT PLEASE CORRESPONDENCE, INQUIRIES AND

PLEADINGS TO: Amy L. Unertl, Paralegal Weld Riley, S.C. 500 Third Street, Suite 800 P. O. Box 479 Wausau, WI 54402-0479

(715) 845-8234 Published December 11, 18, 25, 2024

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY BMO Bank N.A.

Daniel A. Woodard, et al. Defendants. Case No. 2024CV000075

Plaintiff.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a judgment of foreclosure
made in the above-entitled action on made in the above-entitied action on August 15, 2024 in the amount of \$120,807.45, I will sell at public auction, located at the main entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main Street, Merrill, WI 54452, on

January 15, 2025
At 10:00 AM, all of the following described premises, to wit:

FEET OF LOT TWO (2), BLOCK
THREE (3) OF THE PLAT OF J.M.
SMITH'S FOURTH ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MERRILL, LINCOLN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Street Address: 700 Douglas Street, Merrill, WI 54452 Tax Key No. 25131061110019

THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD AS IS AND SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL REAL ESTATE TAXES, SUPERIOR LIENS OR OTHER LEGAL ENCLIMBRANCES

TERMS OF SALE: CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK or CERTIFIED FUNDS, payable to the Clerk of the Courts (10% down payment at sale, balance due within ten (10) days of Court approval; down payment to be forfeited if payment not received timely). Buyer must comply with minimum bidder qualifications as set forth in Wis. Stat. § 846.155. Buyer to pay applicable Wisconsin Real Estate Transfer Tax in addition to the purchase

Sheriff of Lincoln County. Wisconsin Codilis Moody & Circelli P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff (414) 775-7700

50-24-00732 NOTE: This law firm is a debt

collector.
Published December 18, 25, 2024, January 8, 2025 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COLINTY

COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,

ADAM DOTTER AND UNKNOWN SPOUSE, Defendants.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Case No. 20-CV-44
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on June 3, 2020 in the amount of \$51,000.98 the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as

TIME: January 9, 2025 at 10:00 am TERMS: Pursuant to said judgment 10% of the successful bid must be paid to the sheriff at the sale in cash, cashier's check or certified funds, payable to the Lincoln County Clerk of Courts. (Personal checks cannot and will not be accepted). The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the clerk of courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds no later than ten days after the court's confirmation for the sale or else the 10% down payment is forfeited to the plaintiff. The property is sold 'as is' and subject to all liens and

encumbrances.

PLACE: Lincoln County Courthouse,
Main Entrance, 1110 East Main Street,

Main Entrance, 1110 East Main Street,
City of Merrill and Lincoln County
DESCRIPTION: SOUTHEAST
QUARTER (SE ½) OF LOT FOUR (4),
BLOCK THREE (3), LAWRENCE'S
ADDITION TO MERRILL, LINCOLN
COUNTY, WISCONSIN. THIS IS A
PURCHASE MONEY MORTGAGE.
THIS IS THE HOMESTEAD OF THE
MORTGAGOR MORTGAGOR.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 808 Chippewa Street in Merrill, WI 54452 DATED: November 19, 2024 Attorneys for Plaintiff 413 N. 2nd Street, Suite 150 Milwaukee, WI 53203

414-271-5400 Galanis, Pollack, Jacobs & Johnson, S.C. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt. Published November 27, December 4

STATE OF WISCONSIN STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
LINCOLN COUNTY
GITSIT Solutions, LLC, not in its
individual capacity but solely in its
capacity as Separate Trustee of GITSIT
Mortgage Loan Trust BBPLC1
Plaintiff

Plaintiff, The Estate of Richard P. Zerneke,

Defendant

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE Case No. 24-CV-000100
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of

a judgment of foreclosure entered on October 2 2024 in the amount of \$272,664.14 the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as TIME: January 9, 2025 at 10:00 am

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

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

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>: A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (SE 1/4) OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (NE 1/4) (13) SECTION THIRTEEN ISHIP THIRTY-THREE TOWNSHIP NORTH, RANGE SIX (6) EAST, IN THE TOWN OF ROCK FALLS, LINCOLN COUNTY, WISCONSIN, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID QUARTER SECTION, THENCE NORTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF NORTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION 660 FEET TO A POINT, THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE WEST PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION 400 FEET; THENCE NORTH PARALLEL WITH THE EAST LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION 666 FEET MORE OF THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 666 FEET MORE OF THE NORTH LINE OF OR LESS TO THE NORTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION; THENCE EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION 400 FEET
TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF
SAID QUARTER SECTION; THENCE
SOUTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION 666 FEET MORE OR LESS TO THE PLACE OF **PROPERTY**

Lincoln County Sheriff

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

Schooley Rd Irma, WI 54442-9654

Please go to www.gray-law.com to obtain the bid for this sale.
Gray & Associates, L.L.P. is attempting

to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a chapter 7 bankruptcy case this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt.
Published December 4, 11, 18, 2024

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROBIN RICHARDSON DOD: 11/4/2024

Order Setting Time to Hear Petition for Administration and Deadline for Filing Claims (Formal Administration)

Case No. 24PR29 A Petition for Formal Administration was

THE COURT FINDS:

The decedent, with date of birth 10/15/1954 and date of death 11/04/2024 was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 314 E. Lincoln Ave., Tomahawk, WI 54487.

THE COURT ORDERS: The Petition be heard at the Lincoln

County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, Wisconsin, Branch 2, before Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner Honorable Robert Russell, on January 8, 2025 at 10:00

You do not need to appear unless you object. The petition may be granted if there is no objection.

2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 03-14-2025 3. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 1110 E. Main St., Merrill, Wisconsin, Office of Register in

 Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgment. 5. Publication of this notice is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown.

If you require reasonable

accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-536-0342 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: December 5, 2024

Electronically signed by
Galen Bayne-Allison
Circuit Court Judge
Please check with person named below
for exact time and date. Attorney Steven C. Garbowicz 221 S. First St., PO Box 639 Eagle River, WI 54521 715-479-6444 Bar Number: 1018485 Published December 11, 18, 25, 2024

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT

MARATHON COUNTY

CREATIVE FINANCE, INC. 815 Business Park Road PO Box 454

consin Dells, WI 53965 **BRENT NORMAN THOMAS NEVER**

100 South Foster Street Apt 4 Merrill, WI 54452 Defendant.

Case No. 24CV642
SUMMONS
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN To each person named above as a

Defendant: You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above Creative Finance, Inc., by its attorney, Christopher M. Kern, filed a lawsuit or other legal action against

you. Within Forty (40) days the 3rd day of willin Folity (40) days tine 3rd day of becember, 2024, you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is: Clerk of Circuit Court, Marathon County Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403, and to Plaintiff's attorney, Christopher M. Kern, 815 Business Park Road, PO Box 454, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, 53965. You may have an attorney help or represent

you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within forty (40) days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property Dated this 3rd day of December, 2024.

General Coursel for Plaintiff

Signed By: Christopher M. Kern Christopher M. Kern State Bar Number: 1093883 Creative Finance, Inc. 815 Business Park Road P.O. Box 454 Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965 Phone: (608) 254-6855 Fax: (608) 253-5005 legal@creativefinanceinc.com Published December 11, 18, 25, 2024

WNAXLP

Minutes 7725

Regular Meeting Tuesday, November 12, 2024 5:30 PM District Meeting Room, 1048 E King Road, Tomahawk, WI 54487 Present: W. Quesinberry, R. Huseby, S. Bolder, S. Woodall, J. Lauber, R. Flynn,

M. Schommer. Cub Scouts + Leaders, (2) staff members and (2) community members Call to Order: R. Zimmerman called

the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 pm III. Pledge of Allegiance
III. Roll Call: Present: S. Kirsch, K. Kissinger Wolf, D. Long, A. Swenty, D.

Velleux, R. Zimmerman Absent Calhoun, D. Huseby, B. Skubal IV. Declaration of a Quorum: R. Zimmerman declared there was a

V. Adoption of Agenda: Motion by D. Long and seconded by D. Velleux to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion vI. District Administrator Report: W. Quesinberry presented to the Board. No

official action was taken. VII. Consent Agenda Items
A Approve the Minutes from the Regular
Meeting on October 8, 2024.

B Approve the Minutes from the Policy mmittee meetings on October 14th and 30th, 2024 C Approve the Minutes from the Special

meetings on October 16, 17 and 22, 2024 D Approve the Minutes from the Personnel Committee meeting on November 5, 2024

E Approve the Minutes from the Operations and Finance Committee meeting on November 5, 2024 F Approve the Minutes from the Closed

Sessions on October 8th, 17th and G Approve the Invoices from October 2024 H Employment/Contract Adjustments

 Resignations:
 Mike Reilly Middle School Football Coach Nichole Scholz Middle School Volleyball 7725

2. Above Pay Levi Ott Co-Head Coach, MS Forensics Marissa Schumacher Co-Head Coach, MS Forensics Katie Pritzl Drama - 3 Act/Musical

Technical Assistant Makayla Zipp Drama – 3 Act/Musical Assistant Director 3 Volunteers

Megan Boys Swimming Volunteer Coach Kurt DeKiep Boys Swimming Volunteer Coach John Arnott HS Wrestling Volunteer

Coach Alvssa Lampe HS Wrestling Volunteer Coach Jason Stromberg HS Hockey Volunteer

Coach **I Donations** Class of 1984 \$1,000 to Elem. Families in Need Account
PCA Charity Club \$500 to Special

Olympics Nokomis ATV Club Inc. \$250 to Tomahawk Veterans Wall of Honor Anonymous \$625 to School Lunch

Program Deficit Bette & Randy Theobald \$100 to School Lunch Program Deficit John A. Stahmer \$2,500 High School

Football Courtesy Corporations \$500 to High School FCCLA Marathon Cheese Corp. \$100 to High

School FCCLA IncredibleBank \$20,000 to the Hatchet

Motion by S. Kirsch and seconded by K. Kissinger Wolf to approve the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried

unanimously.
VIII. Staff Reports: B. Susa, Schoo Resource Officer, gave a report. C. Cerny presented to the Board on Raise Your Voice, and R. Flynn presented an Activities update to the Board. No official action was taken.

IX. TES Report Card Changes: M. Schommer and S. Woodall explained upcoming changes to the Elementary Report Cards. No official action was

1st Quarter Finance Report: W. Quesinberry presented the 1st Quarter Finance Report to the Board, Motion by K. Kissinger Wolf and seconded by D. Velleux to approve the 1st Quarter Finance Report with the noted change of date on the first page from September 2025 to September 2024. Motion carried unanimousİy.

XI. Approve Operational Referendum

A Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,250,000 Per Year for Four Years

for Non-Recurring Purposes Motion by A. Swenty and seconded by D. Long to approve the Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,250,000 Per Year for Four Years for Non-Recurring Purposes. All aye in a roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

B Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,250,000 Per Year for Four Years for Non-Recurring Purposes Motion by D. Long and seconded by A. Swenty to approve the Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,250,000 Per Year for Four Years for Non-Recurring Purposes. All aye in a roll call vote, motion carried

unanimously. XII. Approve the revisions to the following policies:
A po0142.1 Electoral Process
B po0164 Meetings

C po0174.1 Annual Report D po2131 Educational Outcome Goals and Expectations E po2340 Field and Other District-

Sponsored Trips F po3120.04 Employment of Substitutes G po3120.08 Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities

I po4120.04 Employee Leaves
I po4120.04 Employment of Substitutes
J po4162 Controlled Substance and Alcohol Policy for Employees that Transport Students - to be DELETED (renumbered to po8601) K po4431 Employee Leaves

L po5200 Attendance M po5330 Administration of Medication

Motion by A. Swenty and seconded by D. Velleux to approve the revisions to the aforementioned policies, with the exception of po 5430 which will go back to the Policy Committee, then to the full

to the Policy Committee, then to the full Board for approval on December 10, 2024. Motion carried unanimously. XIII. Approve new teacher mentor paystructure: W. Quesinberry and M. Schommer explained the new (attached) teacher mentor paystructure. Motion by S. Kirsch and seconded by K. Kissinger Wolf to approve the new teacher mentor paystructure. Motion carried unanimously.

XIV. Approve the addition of an English

Language Learner Instructor: W. Quesinberry presented the need for the addition of an English Language addition of an English Language Learner Instructor. Motion by A. Swenty and seconded by K. Kissinger Wolf to approve the addition of an English Language Learner Instructor. Motion carried unanimously.

XV. Approval of Memo of Understanding

Center for Development and School District of Tomahawk: Motion by D. Long and seconded by D. Velluex to approve the Memo of Understanding between Center for Human Development and the School District of Tomahawk. Motion carried unanimously.

XVI. Public Comment: A community member commeded the school on the Veterans Day ceremony and congratulated the band and choir for their all-conference performance. A. Swenty thanked the community for their generous donations. D. Long spoke to the change in the Election Policy. No official action was taken. XVII. Board Referrals: There were no

Board referrals. XVIII. Motion by A. Swenty and seconded by D. Long to adjourn to Minutes 7725

closed/executive session pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85 (1)(d)considering specific applications of probation, extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention and (g)Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

Review Written Evaluation Lockdown Drill on September 25, 2024

B Adjourn to closed/executive session pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel who will be rendering oral or written advice properties to be considered. written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the School District with respect to litigation in which it is or likely to be involved, relating to lawsuit filed against District and District employees. XIX. Return to Open Session A Take Action on Closed Session Items

XX. Adjourn: R. Zimmerman adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:15 pm Board Clerk

Published December 18, 2024 WNAXLP

Notice To Creditors 7735

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Albert D. Musch

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2024IN50 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

 An application for informal administration was filed.
 The decimal administration and the second se 2. The decedent, with date of birth 5/19/35 and date of death 5/1/19, was domiciled in Lincoln County, State of WI. with a mailing address of 415 S. Tomahawk Ave

 All interested persons waived notice 4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent' estate is 03-14-25. 5. A claim may be filed at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Merrill, Wisconsin,

Probate office BY THE COURT: DATE SIGNED: November 26, 2024
Electronically signed by Becky S. Byer
Probate Registrar Form completed by:

Julie Smith 409 S. Tomaha Tomahawk, WI 54487 715-966-5035 Published December 11, 18, 25, 2024

CLASSIFIEDS

7244 Firewood

OAK & Hard Maple, \$250/cord. Over 15 mi is extra. Have hard wood in wood shed over a year old. Clean & no bark. 715-351-1888 or 715-873-4196.

7264

WANTED: Remington 141 or 14 rifles, or carbines, fancy, clean or any condition, any caliber. Call or text 262-930-9109

Miscellaneous Merchandise

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-425-2108 today!

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

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-888-355-6955 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move

7272 Dogs

ACA BLENHEIM KING CHARLES CAVALIER PUP. Cute cuddly Vet ck'd Shots \$500. 715-613-4663

GOLDEN RETREIVER PUPS. Ready to go 12/26. In Greenwood \$595 call 715-267-3271 (12/23)

REG. CAVALIER KING

CHARLES SPANIAL PUPS. DOB 10/24 Shots, DEW, Vet Ck'd \$800. Call 715-644-5726 (1/6)

AKC REG. CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIAL PUPS. DOB 10/24 Shots, DEW, Vet Ck'd Call 715-644-5726 (1/6)

DOODLE Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver \$500 715-255-2661 (#269146)12/16)nw

AUSTRAILIAN SHEPARD PUPS Red & Blue Merles & Tri 8 weeks Nov. 20th F-\$400. M-\$375 920-905-4665 (12/16)

7272

BOSTON TERRIER PUPPIES Males/Females Health Guaranteed Ready Now! \$600 Call 715-937-0916 No Text (12/23)

CAVAPOO PUPPIES 3-M 2-F Non-Shedding vet ck'd DEW Shots \$600. 715-701-2066 (12/16)

Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver 715-255-2661 (#269146)12/16)m

CUTE & CUDDLIE PURE-BRED BOARDER COLLIE PUPS. Shots/Wormed Great Pets/Working Dog Parents /Site \$250 call 715-667-3342 (12/16)

FEMALE COCKOPOO PUPPY! Fluffy Christmas Present! \$275 OMO 715-669-3512 (12/16) 715-669-3847 (12/16)

For Sale BORDER COLLIE MIXED PUPS. People orientated Farm Raised. \$120. 715-223-1119

For Sale GOLDEN RETREIVER PUPPIES. Registered, Shots, Dewormed \$450 OBO 715-773-1867 Greenwood WI. (12/23)

For Salle CAVALIER SHITZU CROSS PUPS. Friendly 4 POODLE BICHON PUPS Friendly, Shots, DEW, Vet ck'd 1 Month Guaranteed, 60 satisfaction guaranteed \$300 715-669-3356 Leave Message (12/16)

HAVAPOO YORKI YORKIPOO PUPS!! Shots, DEW & Vet Ck'd. Very cute nice colors ASK ABOUT OUR X-MAS SPE-CIALS Ready To Go NOW! 715-937-4425 (12/16)

MILLERS PRECIOUS PUPS Has Absolutely Adorable Westies, Beautiful Petite Yorkies And Cross/Bred Black Scotties. All Are Smart, Gentle And Loving. Shots-Vet Exam-Manner Training Begun. \$995-\$1,500 Cash. 715-850-2535

POLMARANIAN PUP! Shots Vet Ck'd \$600 call 715-654-5149 (12/23)

POMPSKI PUPPIES \$600 Ready

12/30. Cute friendly Call After 3pm

715-773-1643 (12/23) PUGALIERS PUP CAVALIER KING CHARLES Mixed with PUG PUPS, DOB 10/24 Shots, DEW



Purebred Jack Russell Terrier puppies. First shots and dewormed. \$350 each 715-921-2989

REG. CAVALIER PUPS.. DOB 10/16 Ready 12/11 \$850. Vet ck'd, vaccinated, DEW. 715-669-7306 Ask for Karen (12/16)

REGISTERD CAVALIER KING

CHARLES PUPS. Shots, Dews, Vet Ready Dec. 16 Can deliver Call 715-470-0458 (#509642) 12/09

BICHON POODLE \$325 All Shots, DEW, Vet ck'd 715-669-3607 Lic.# 268475 (12/16) pm TEDDY BEAR PUPS! \$600., SHELTIE PUPS \$600., POODLE

TEDDY BEAR PUPS \$375 also

WHOODI F PUPS Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver 715-255-2661

(#269146)12/16)nw

PUPS \$250., C/T 715-316-2617

Miscellaneous Pet 7278

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For Sale 15.44 Acres, West of Appleton, WI On School Rd. Exc. Building site, priced to sell. Jeremy 920-878-0288 or Herb 920-878-0005 No Answer, try again later. (12/16)

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Proving our identity is a part of our lives these days. We have to show our Driver's License, give our birthdate or documents with our address to prove who we are. I had the unfortunate experience of not having my identification when traveling. How would I prove that I was who I said I was? All of the sudden I felt like nobody. It was a humbling experience.

Jesus was considered a nobody by the people who mattered in his day. People didn't think much of peasant from a small Galilean town who had neither money nor power. But it was being a nobody that gave Jesus the ability to connect with people that were labeled as nobodies too. They recognized that Jesus did have God's power to make their lives whole. They saw God's love and grace in Jesus' actions, and they felt like somebody in his presence.

There are many people who feel like a nobody in our world today. People who have been ignored, excluded, put down or pushed around. People who are struggling to find their purpose or their identity. Each of us can remember the gift of Jesus at Christmas that we are loved. We can notice people around us and help them to know that they have an identity in Jesus too- a beloved child of God. All of us are somebodies in Jesus' eyes!



Christmas Blessings, Pastor Julie Sinkula Grace Tomahawk



Kinship Christmas Party

Kinship of Tomahawk held its annual Christmas Party at Inshalla Country Club on Sunday, Dec. 8. More than 100 Kinskids, mentors, staff and others were in attendance. "Thanks to Inshalla Country Club for hosting the event, to all those who donated gifts, cut out cookies, wrapping paper and supplies, and items for the 'Kinshop,'" Kinship stated. "Great fun was had by all."

Photos courtesy of Kinship of Tomahawk













Lincoln County's Ben Sosnovske recognized by WFBF's 35 Under 35 award program

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – A Lincoln County resident was among 35 finalists for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation (WFBF)'s 35 Under 35 award program.

The award is presented by WFBF's Young Farmer and Agriculturist (WFBF YFA) program, in partnership with Insight FS, according to a release from WFBF.

"The 35 Under 35 program recognizes the creativity and innovation of young farmers and agriculturists who are preserving agriculture through leadership in environmental, social and economic activities," WFBF stated. "This is the third year of the program."

Applications were evaluated for their involvement in one of five categories: Sustainable Future, Sustainable Environment, Sustainable Service, Sustainable Storytelling and Sustainable Self.

WFBF said five individuals were ultimately selected to receive top



Photo courtesy of WFBF

honors in the program.

The 35 finalists were recognized at WFBF's Annual Meeting and YFA Conference in Wisconsin Dells on Saturday, Dec. 7. Each finalist received a \$100.00 cash prize and apparel item. The top individual in each category received a \$500.00 cash prize.

Sosnovske was recognized in the Sustainable Environment category, which recognizes individuals who are good stewards of the land and their resources. William Walleser of Vernon County was ultimately selected as the top individual in the category. Other category finalists included individuals from Door, She-

boygan and Trempealeau counties.

"This year's cohort exemplifies the diverse meanings of sustainability – encompassing personal growth, community service and environmental stewardship," said WFBF YFA Chair Kat Peper. "Their commitment to advancing agriculture while promoting sustainable practices is a testament to the bright future of our industry."

"The 35 Under 35 Program from WFBF continues to showcase the best and the brightest the agriculture industry has to offer," said Ben Huber, General Manager of Insight FS. "Now more than ever, the conversation around sustainability is at the forefront of farmers and the agriculture industry. Insight FS continues to be a proud sponsor of this program and offers sincere congratulations to all of the nominees and category winners. You are the best and brightest representing sustainability initiatives in Wisconsin Agriculture."

Leader Sports & Nature

Hatchet wrestling team previews 2024 season

COURTESY OF THE TOMAHAWK HATCHET WRESTLING TEAM

TOMAHAWK – This year is off to an exciting start for that Tomahawk Hatchet wrestling team. There is a large number of studentathletes signed up and ready to go this year.

On the boys' side, there is an amazing number of 36 signed up for the season. On the girls' side, there was a huge jump from last year with 30 signed up this year.

With numbers like that, it looks like Tomahawk wrestling has a bright future on its horizon.

This year, the boys are

led by three returning seniors. Jack Derleth, Blake Younker and Drew Tollefson will look to help bring the Hatchets back into the Great Northern Conference title contention this year. The team will be bolstered returning regional champion Brayden Ristau. The team is filled with a roughneck crew of boys that are hungry to remind people of the tradition that Tomahawk wrestling represents.

"We are bringing back a nice mix of experience and youth," said coach Bob Garrou. "The kids are as determined as I've seen over the last several years to make an impact in the sport and represent their community with pride."

On the girls' side, the team is led by four returning seniors. Grace Waring, Alli Palmer, Reese Molitor and Kaylynn Sandry have done an amazing job as ambassadors of the sport, helping to recruit an incredible number of girls to the team this year. The girls will be anchored by returning state qualifier Elise Gibeault. The girls are eager to show that they are ready to make a name for themselves in the world of Wisconsin girls' wrestling.

There is a lot of excitement about their future.

"We were shocked to see the numbers this year for the girls," Garrou stated. "That shows that the girls for last year had a great experience and want to share that with their friends. We are really excited to see their impact this year."

This year the team will be helmed by George Martin Hall of Fame head coach Bob Garrou. The staff will be returning Dane Borchart, Ted Towle, Nate Mickelson and John Repinski

This year's staff will have some exciting addi-

tions. Six=time national team member and two-time world medalist Alyssa Lampe will be home to help coach the team. Fargo national champion Sarah Kouba will be here to coach as well. Returning to Tomahawk wrestling this year is coach Jon Arnott. They will be getting coaching assistance from Bryce Bishop and Maddie List this year as well.

"This feels like a dream team for coaching wrestling," Garrou said. "I am so excited to be able to have this kind of experience come back to help, and work with these kids this

year. With these kids and these coaches, it's hard not to be excited not only for this year, but the future of the program. I also want to thank everyone for all the support for the team. Our Alumni Club has been valuable in helping us get things that we need. School budgets are insanely tight these days, and the club has really stepped up. The community has been amazing supporters of the program since its start. Also, thanks to the school for the support in everything, especially Activities Director Ryan Flynn."

Tomahawk swimmers gearing up for sectional tournament

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – The Tomahawk Hatchet boys' swimmers began the season with their coach traveling to Europe, but the team had the great advantage of having two great volunteer coaches in Megan Backes and Kurt DeKiep to keep practices going. In addition, manager Lauren Hansmann knows the ropes when it comes to setting up all the databases.

The team started off the first week of eligibility with three meets in one week.

"We have four brand new swimmers to the sport," said coach Theresa L'Esperance. "Normally newbies don't start swimming right away, but these four guys challenged themselves to swim at the first meet. We started off with two wins over Antigo and Medford. We saw great swims by the captains, Jack

Amelse, Sam Zastrow and Zach Germano. All three of these swimmers are at near personal bests. This shouldn't happen this early in the season, except for when a team comes into the season ready to swim."

L'Esperance noted that Dane KeKiep has also added some nice pre-tournament times for the year, junior Bruce Peetz is showing some nice sprinting times, considering he has focused most of his swimming career on distance events, and Toby Scott has also improved greatly.

On Saturday, Dec. 7, the team traveled to the Wisconsin Rapids Invite. Germano and DeKip placed first in the breaststroke and backstroke, a first for the team. In addition, all six relays scored points, another first.

"Newcomers Max Amelse and Connor Germano are the leaders for our B Relays," L'Esperance stated. "This is highly unusual from the past 15 years. Adding in new freshmen Brock Fischer, Aidan Sigl and Michael Lucas to the team allows the team to have two relays for all our meets. We have one new swimmer, senior Nathan Rosenmeier, (AKA Rosey), who leaped into swimming. He has expressed how hard swimming is compared to

other sports, something only past and active swimmers know."

L'Esperance explained that with the Holidays coming, we will be short some athletes to vacation.

"We will do our best to keep up the winning pace," she said. "But once the holiday season is over, we will focus on the sectional tournament, the most important meet of all."

Fishing Report: Hoping for colder temps before snow

BY GEORGE LANGLEY

NORTHERN WISCON-SIN – Our ice conditions are getting better with cold weather, but we could still do without any more snow for a bit. We need to grow some ice and freeze up those swamps for snowmobiles before we get a big snowfall.

What we had as of last week was anywhere from zero to six inches of ice on area lakes. Some of the big lakes were still basically wide open, but there's plenty of ice to be had elsewhere. Wouldn't it be fantastic if the cold days and nights would stick around for more than a few days at a time, and get us all prepped for a real winter? Despite some recent warmer temps, we're still on track for a nice season up here for all who enjoy being out in it. Let's all keep our collective fingers crossed!

Walleye fishing is decent now, with the usual pattern of good evening tip-up fishing near the drop-off edges and the weed edges, where the fish are moving to in those evenings to feed. We're still not seeing anglers able to move around the way they would like to on many bodies of water because the ice conditions are still iffy, but it's been a good start. Medium shiners or medium sucker minnows are

the preferred bait under those tip-ups. This action can last for several hours after dark for those brave enough to stay out there.

Northerns are hitting in the weeds and can be a good addition to an afternoon of pan fishing, but we're still not able to get as deep as we'd like on many bodies of water. They are hitting larger shiners under tip-ups in the weed areas. If you know how to fillet those "Y bones" out of them, they are delicious. The fish in the size of 24 to 28 inches are very tasty! Put out several tip-ups, and then do some bluegill fishing or perch fishing in those weeds with your jigging rod.

Crappies are just a little time away, as they are in deeper holes for the winter. As the ice gets thicker, we'll see a lot of anglers out over those holes.

Be safe out there. It is best to take a spud (and a buddy) along and check thickness as you go, especially if you are going to new spots. While it keeps the off-road recovery folks busy, it's not time for machines on the ice up here yet, so enjoy the quiet while you can. Hopefully we'll be able to report on crappie in the deep holes

Good luck and good fishin'!

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 213

The Tomahawk Leader will feature one local sports trivia question per week, provided by Bob Skubal, retired coach, historian, and author of "History of Tomahawk Sports." Email leadernews@mmclocal.com if you know the answer!

The first person to tell us the correct answer each week will have their name published in the paper if they wish, along with their

correct answer to the question.

Week 212 question: Bruce Nelson was an assistant wrestling and track coach at THS. Where was he from: Maple Northwestern, Ashland or Superior?

Week 212 answer: Bruce Nelson was from Maple Northwestern. In 1982, he won state title in the pole vault with a height of 14 feet.

Congrats to Patricia Feind for being the first to correctly answer last week's question!

Week 213 question: Even though Robbie Lee broke his leg in football and missed his entire senior year of wrestling because of the injury, he did go on to wrestle in college. Where did he go: UW-Stevens Point, UW-Whitewater or UW-Oshkosh?



The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council is accepting nominations for the 21st annual Invasive Species Action Awards.

Photo courtesy of Wisconsin DNR

Nominations for 21st annual Invasive Species Action Awards now open

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced that the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council is accepting nominations for the 21st annual Invasive Species Action Awards.

Nominations will be open through Sunday, Feb.

"Invasive species are nonnative plants and animals that cause ecological or economic harm, and some can affect human health," DNR stated in a release. "Once an invasive species is established in an area, it can be challenging to control."

Award recipients are Wisconsin residents and organizations that have made significant contributions to preventing, controlling or eradicating invasive species that harm Wisconsin's native wildlife,

wetlands, forests, prairies, lakes and rivers.

DNR said nominees can be individuals, groups or organizations that have "demonstrated exemplary efforts to address issues surrounding terrestrial and aquatic invasive species."

The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council, an advisory council to the DNR, presents Invasive Species Action Awards for both volunteer and professional categories. A panel of judges selected by the council will review the nomination materials and select the award winners.

All nominators and winners will be notified in April, followed by an award recognition ceremony in June to celebrate Invasive Species Action Month.

To submit a nomination, download and fill out the form available on the

Awards CONTINUES ON PAGE 15

New DNR initiative seeks to conserve Wisconsin's brook trout populations

FOR THE TOMAHAWK **LEADER**

WISCONSIN - The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) last week announced the implementation of the Brook Trout Reserves program, a new initiative to protect Wisconsin's native brook trout populations from changing environmental conditions.

In a release, DNR said cold water streams provide the ideal habitat for native brook trout.

"Wisconsin has an estimated 22,000 miles of cold water stream habitat suitable for brook trout to call home," DNR stated. "However, with warming stream temperatures, it's projected that in 30 years, two out of every three miles of this habitat will become too warm to support brook trout."

To help combat this problem, DNR fisheries biologists have used survey and environmental data to identify cold water streams in 205 subwatersheds that are the most likely to persist in the face of climate change.

DNR said each subwatershed within the Brook Trout Reserves contains:

Self-sustaining brook trout populations.



The Brook Trout Reserves program aims to help protect Wisconsin's native brook trout populations from changing conditions.

- · Above-average brook trout abundance, exceeding that of nonnative trout and salmon.
- · Limited or no brown trout stocking.
- · More than two stream miles of brook trout habitat are projected to remain by

To learn more about the Brook Trout Reserves, visit the DNR's StoryMap (www. tinyurl.com/28c8rxxe) and the Brook Trout Reserves (www.tinyurl. webpage com/29k45dc7).

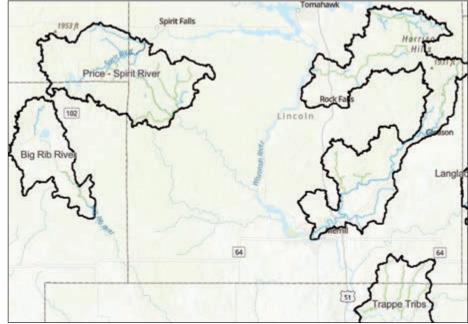
How to get involved

There are many ways to get involved in this program, whether you're a landowner, angler or outdoor enthusiast, according to DNR.

Members of the public can help protect brook trout populations by:

- · Enrolling your property in the DNR's Streambank Easement Program.
- · Volunteering to help resource managers with forest and fish habitat management projects.
- · Planting trees along stream corridors to restore shade and keep streams cold.
- · Implementing healthy land use practices in these watersheds.
- · Identifying and fixing steam crossing impairassociated ments with
- · Joining local conservation or watershed groups.

To become involved in brook trout habitat projects in your area, contact your local fisheries biologist www.tinyurl.com/bdhkscm6.



Numerous Tomahawk-area subwatersheds are included in the Brook Trout Reserves.



Photos courtesy of Wisconsin DNR

Applications sought for grant program aiming to grow number of anglers in Wisconsin

FOR THE TOMAHAWK **LEADER**

WISCONSIN - The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is now accepting applications for the Angler Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (Angler R3) grant program.

Funding from the grant program is used to help grow the number of anglers in Wisconsin and expand angling activities, according to a release from DNR.

Past recipients have used this grant to support in-depth angler education programs at schools, fly fishing classes for women and veterans, training for people promoting accessible fishing and to expand fishing programs at camps for children.

"Community and recre-

AWARDS

Wisconsin Invasive Species Council's webpage at www. dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/ invasives/InvasiveSpecies-Council.

DNR said isconsinites are encouraged to protect native plants and wildlife from invasive species by avoiding moving them or the materials that might harbor them to new places.

To learn more about preventing the spread, visit the DNR's Invasive Species Prevention webpage at www. dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/prevention.

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ation centers also are good fits for these programs," DNR said. "Programs for adults who never learned how to fish as well as youth programs that go beyond one-day events will also be considered."

Grant cycles are for two years, and funding will become available to the recipient once a grant agreement is signed by all parties, approximately one year after the application is submit-

ted. a reimbursement grant, only expenses incurred after the grant agreement is signed will be covered. A total of \$30,000.00 is available for projects, with individual grant awards up to \$5,000.00.

This grant is supported by the federal Sport Fish Restoration fund, which is generated by an excise tax on fishing equipment and motorboat fuel.

Application materials are available for download through the DNR's Angler R3 Grant Program webpage at www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/ aid/angler.html.

The deadline to submit grant applications is 11:59 p.m. CST on Tuesday, Feb.

Applicants are encouraged to carefully review the guidance document (www. tinyurl.com/2vz2h958) submit a successful grant application.



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Contest Rules:

- 1. One of the baby's parents must be a resident of Lincoln County.
- 2. The winner will be the first baby born in the new year.
- 3. Parents may enter by informing the Foto News within 72 hours of the baby's birth, (715) 536-7121.
- 4. In case of a tie, a drawing will be held to determine the winner.
- 5. By entering this contest, the winner grants permission for their and their baby's names and likenesses to appear in the Foto News & Tomahawk Leader.

The Foto Merill News and Townhawk Leader, along with the following Lincoln

County merchants, will present the following prizes to the first baby born in the year 2025.











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