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Community Education Program offering variety of classes for winter/spring 2025 season

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – The School District of Tomahawk's Community Education Program is offering a variety of individual and recurring classes for the winter/spring 2025 season.

According to the Community Education Program webpage on the district's website, the goal of the program is to "(empower) community members to embrace skills and passions through lifelong learning opportunities to cultivate a sense of belonging."

"In the heart of our town lies a spirit of community resilience and a

shared passion for learning," the website states. "Here in Tomahawk, we believe in the power of collective engagement and the strength found in unity. Our community stands as a testament to perseverance, overcoming challenges and coming together to achieve common aspirations. At the intersection of dedication and collaboration, the Community Education Program will foster an environment where every voice matters. Whether it's through interactive workshops or engaging classes, we embrace the diverse skills within our community. Tomahawk isn't just a place on the

map; it's a tightly-knit tapestry woven by the unique knowledge and talents shared by our people. We want to invite the community to join our journey of exploration and celebrate shared growth through lifelong learning opportunities. Together, we shape a brighter future for Tomahawk. Let's learn, grow and thrive together."

Registration is now open for the classes listed in the following categories:

Arts, Crafts and Hobbies: Basics of Photography; Acrylic Painting; Crocheting.

Cooking and Baking: Traditional Hmong Egg Rolls; We Go Together

Cookie Decorating Class.

Aquatics: Water Exercise (winter and spring sessions); Deep Water Exercise (winter and spring sessions); High-Intensity Swim Training with CrossFit Principles (advanced).

Fitness and Personal Growth: Total Dance Blast Cardio (winter and spring sessions); PowerFlow Intervals Fitness (winter and spring sessions); Pound Fitness (winter and spring sessions); Calm Within: Practical Strategies to Understand and Manage Your Stress; Girls on the Run.

Educational: Exposing Scams/Fraud in Our Community; Small Business Owners 101; Retirement Decoded: Understanding Your Savings Options; Non-Profit Organizations 101.

Outdoor Recreation and Hobbies: Cross Country Ski Clinic; Introduction to Gardening Organically; Introduction to Making Maple Syrup.

Parenting and Babysitting: Power of Positive Parenting; Raising Confident, Competent Children; Raising Resilient Children; Babysitting Clinic.

Community Activities: Open Gym Basketball; Open Play Pickleball; Open Fitness Center, Walking Track and Fieldhouse; Open/Lap Swim;

School Forest Trail.

To learn more about winter/spring 2025 Community Education Program classes, including class dates, registration information and more, check out the Community Education Program insert in this edition of the *Leader*.

For more information about the Community Education Program, contact Program Coordinator Taylor Remington at remingtont@myhatchets.org or 715-224-7138; or visit the Community Education Program webpage on the district website at www.tinyurl.com/2fxd8ur2.



Theiler receives Lions Club award

During the Tomahawk Lions Club's Christmas party at Silver Birch Supper Club on Tuesday, Dec. 10, Club President Scott Martin presented Jeff "Scuf" Theiler with the Heart of the Lions award. "(Theiler) has never been a Lions member, but he volunteers every year and does so many things with the Lions to help our community," the Lions Club said. "Thank you for all you do for the Tomahawk Lions Club."

Photo courtesy of the Tomahawk Lions Club

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LP highlights \$1.3 million in corporate giving initiatives

NATH in Rhinelander among organizations supported in 2024

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

NASHVILLE, TENN. – LP Building Solutions (LP) last week announced that it made contributions exceeding \$1.3 million in 2024 through the LP Foundation and other corporate giving initiatives.

LP, a leader in high-performance building solutions that manufactures engineered wood products for builders, remodelers and homeowners around the world, has a plant in Tomahawk. Founded in 1972, LP is headquartered in Nashville, Tenn., and operates 22 plants across the U.S., Canada, Chile and Brazil.

A release from LP said this marks the fifth-consecutive year of increased contributions and the fourth-straight year surpassing \$500,000.00 in annual donations, with funding supporting over 100 nonprofits and public schools.

The LP Foundation operates five philanthropic programs: Community Grants, Disaster Relief, Team Member Giving Matches, Team Member Nonprofit Board Service



Grants and a partnership with the Gary Sinise Foundation.

“Our mission is to strengthen communities, protect our environment and foster the next generation of talent,” said LP Foundation President Breeanna Straessle. “We’re proud to see how our contributions continue to create a lasting impact across the U.S. and Canada.”

Locally, LP Tomahawk donated \$15,000.00 to the Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing (NATH) in Rhinelander, an organization that aims to “provide safe housing and basic needs to families and individuals who are homeless (unhoused), in an atmosphere of encouragement, respect, dignity and hope, while nurturing and promoting self-sufficiency and independence,” according to the organization’s website.

NATH serves Forest,

Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida and Vilas counties.

The funding came from the LP Foundation’s Community Grants program.

“One of our most popular programs, LP Foundation Community Grants are awarded to nonprofits and public schools where our team members live and work,” LP stated. “Each North American LP facility decides where to direct its annual grants based on community needs and team member requests. Grants range from \$10,000.00 to \$20,000.00, depending on the size of our workforce at the local LP facility. With over 20 North American facilities, community grants account for most of the LP Foundation’s annual giving.”

LP grant funding also supported a variety of initiatives in other parts of North America, including Michigan, North Carolina, Tennessee and British Columbia.

Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office introduces two new deputies

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

LINCOLN COUNTY – The Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office recently welcomed two new deputies.

Deputies Jevin Budzynski and Damian Hardt were introduced by the Sheriff’s Office last week.

The Sheriff’s Office said Budzynski was hired as a Corrections Officer at the Lincoln County Jail in May 2023. He attended the law enforcement academy at Nicolet College in Rhinelander and graduated in September of this year.

“While in the academy, he received an award for being his class’s Top Gun,” the Sheriff’s Office stated. “This award recognized his performance and leadership during the firearms portion of his training.”

The Sheriff’s Office noted that Budzynski has been working hard with his field trainers and is now nearing the end of his training, after which, he will be assigned to the day shift.

Hardt was hired for the Lincoln County Jail in June. He attended the law enforcement academy at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau, graduating this month, and will soon begin the Sheriff’s Office’s field training program.

“We are fortunate to have



Photos courtesy of the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office



such dedicated individuals willing to serve our community, and we are proud to call them Lincoln County

Deputies,” the Sheriff’s Office said. “If you see them out and about, be sure to say hello.”

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

Local news online
www.TomahawkLeader.com



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B’s Landing donates to Nokomis Food Pantry

B’s Landing Bar, 10440 Camp Rice Point Rd., Tomahawk, donated funds collected through a holiday wreath fundraiser to the Nokomis Food Pantry. Pictured are Troy, Heather and Keith of B’s Landing presenting Bette Stillman of the pantry with a contribution of \$300.00.

Photo courtesy of Heather Felser

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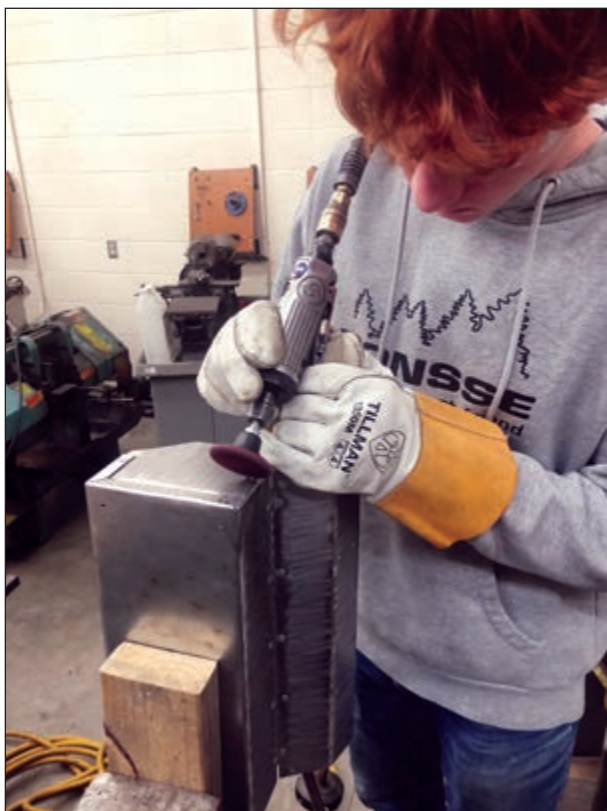
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Tomahawk High School (THS) General Metals students recently put a patterned surface finish on their toolboxes before they applied a protective clear coat finish. Fletcher decided to use a "zebra stripe" pattern, while Jax tested different circular patterns on a piece of scrap sheet metal.



Mrs. Renn is all smiles after Ken and Sam finished working on her lawnmower, just in time to put it away for winter.



Concept of Design students worked on their communication and sketching skills in a class favorite activity, in which a student is asked to describe an unidentified object to the rest of their classmates while the other students attempt to sketch the object.

Photos courtesy of Brian Schiltz

Weight restrictions placed on two southern Lincoln County structures

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

LINCOLN COUNTY – The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) last week announced that it has load posted two structures in southern Lincoln County.

A culvert over Barnes Creek on State Hwy. 17 in the Town of Merrill northeast of the City of Merrill and the westernmost State Hwy. 64 bridge over the Wisconsin River in the City of Merrill have each been posted to a gross vehicle weight of 40 tons.

A release from WisDOT said the postings mean vehicles over 80,000 pounds will need to find alternate routes around the culvert

and the bridge.

"Both structures are nearing the end of their service lives, and the weight restrictions are being placed based on engineering judgment as precautionary measures until they can be replaced," WisDOT stated.

Placed in 1973, the culvert carrying Barnes Creek under State Hwy. 17 is scheduled to be replaced in 2026, WisDOT said.

The westernmost bridge carrying State Hwy. 64 over the Wisconsin River, built in 1927, is scheduled for replacement in 2028, but that work could be advanced to 2027 if funding becomes available, according to WisDOT.



News Briefs

Tomahawk Area Interfaith Volunteers Annual Meeting

The Tomahawk Area Interfaith Volunteers Annual Meeting will be held at the Tomahawk Senior Community Center, 113A S. Tomahawk Ave., Tomahawk, on Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 2 p.m. To RSVP, call 715-453-8200 or email taivdirector@gmail.com.

City of Tomahawk winter parking ban

The City of Tomahawk's winter parking ban is in effect through March 15, 2025. Parking on city streets is prohibited between 2:30 a.m. and 5 a.m.

News Briefs CONTINUES ON PAGE 6

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

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

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

We will not print letters that:

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

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

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

OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at www.tomahawkleader.com



Howard George Burke

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Howard George Burke, age 88, at home under the care of Aspirus Hospice on Dec. 15, 2024.

Born in Chicago, Ill., on July 27, 1936, Howard was the beloved son of Harriet and Arthur Burke. He grew up on the northwest side of Chicago, attending Our Lady of Mercy Parish, DePaul Academy, and the University of Illinois Navy Pier.

On Oct. 12, 1985, Howard married the love of his life, Margaret Ford Burke, and together they built a life filled with love, joy, and family. Howard was a loving husband, and his devotion to Maggie was evident in everything they shared.

Howard was a skilled and dedicated craftsman, known for his work as an interior painter and renowned wallpaper installer. His craftsmanship was admired by many, and he took great pride in the precision and quality of his work. His commitment to his craft was only matched by his deep love and devotion to his family.

After spending many years visiting Marshfield, Wis., to spend time with his good friend George Loesch, Howard fell in love with Wisconsin. In 1973, Howard and George purchased the Tomahawk Lodge in Tomahawk, which they operated until 1978. Afterward, Howard returned to his passion for interior painting and continued his work with pride until his retirement.

Howard was an avid golfer, who enjoyed many rounds on the course, often with his long-time golf partner and friend, Jack Woodall. Known for his fun-loving spirit, Howard was also affectionately known as Howdog, a nickname he wore with pride among his family and friends.

Howard was the proud father of four children from his first marriage: Patti Hilgendorf, Mary (Mark) Herman, Jennie (Ed) Malis, and Mike (Christy) Burke. He is also survived by eight grandchildren: Mindy (Rich) Gabrich, Katie (Ivy) Hilgendorf, Jeff (Ashley) Hilgendorf, Elizabeth (Kyle) Lynch, Kallissa Malis, Eddie (Kali) Malis, Megan (Ryan) Harris, and Chris Burke; as well as 12 great-grandchildren: Adison, Kami, Cylus, McKenzie, Myla, Barrett, Kenew, Winnie, Graham, Berkley, Bryce, and Ruby Margaret. He is further survived by many nieces and nephews, including his niece Kelly, who helped bring him comfort until the end.

Howard's warmth, humor, and unwavering dedication to his family and friends will be deeply missed. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend. The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to Aspirus Hospice, Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital and Howard's caregivers, Gloria and Nette, for their compassionate and loving care during his final days.

A Memorial Service was held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024, at Grace Lutheran Church, Tomahawk with Pastor Julie Sinkula officiating. Visitation was held from 9 a.m. to time of service.

Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral and Cremation Service assisted the family. Online condolences for the family may be directed to www.nimsgernfuneral.com.



James Andrew Marheine, 87, of Brantwood, Wis., passed away Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024 surrounded by his family in his childhood home.

James was born Oct. 9, 1937 in his grandparents' home east of Tripoli, Wis. His father and mother, Mr. Benjamin and Lillian (Hendrickson) Marheine took over the family farm from his father's parents Fred and Louisa Marheine. He was raised with his three brothers and three sisters. Jim worked on the farm and logged for his father along with his brothers Ben and Clarence. The three brothers all joined the National Guard and served four years at Fort Lewis, Wash. Upon returning, Jim worked in Illinois operating loader trucks to remove the elm trees that died from Dutch elm disease. Afterwards, he entered a partnership with his friend, Jim Mueller, running Jim & Jim's Bar. Jim married his wife, Ann Willfahrt on Aug. 15, 1970 and raised two sons and two daughters. They lived together in Brantwood, Wis. Jim raised Hereford cattle with his brother Ben and his father. Later he took over the operation on his own. He enjoyed gardening and took pride in growing tomatoes that he shared with family and friends. Jim drove logging trucks for many years, known to his fellow truckers as the Square Deal. He then took a job with the Town of Knox maintaining the roads for 20 plus years until he retired. Jim took his family on numerous camping trips to the Willow Flowage throughout his lifetime. He taught his kids to fish, hunt, and respect the land. He always put family first and he will be dearly missed.

Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Ann Marheine; daughters, Jennifer (Craig) Cummings and Salina Marheine; son, James (Emily) Marheine; five grandchildren, Andrew, Kimberly, Jesse, Henry, and Lillianna; one great-grandchild, Maddie; sisters, Nancy (Otto) Vyskocil and Judy (Donald) Morin; brothers, Clarence "Tuffy" Marheine and Dennis (Sue) Marheine.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Jesse Marheine; sister, Kathleen (Joseph) Conlan; brother, Benjamin Marheine.

A Memorial Service will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2025 at Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral and Cremation Service, Tomahawk, with Pastor Mark Gass officiating and Military Honors. Visitation will be held from 1 p.m. to time of service.

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

Aspirus provides information on antibiotic resistance

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – Aspirus Health recently provided information on antibiotic resistance.

"Every year, over 2.8 million people in the U.S. contract infections due to antibiotic resistance, resulting in more than 35,000 deaths," Aspirus stated in a release, noting that the health system is "drawing attention to the escalating crisis of antibiotic

resistance – a global public health threat that is putting the effectiveness of antibiotics at risk and making infections harder to treat."

"Antibiotic resistance is considered an urgent global public health threat that is consistently getting worse by the day," said Kelly Zander, System Antimicrobial Stewardship Coordinator at Aspirus Health. "We're constantly learning about new infections that are becoming



Zander

Photo courtesy of Aspirus

harder and harder to treat, and the drugs that we do have aren't working anymore."

Aspirus said this growing issue is felt across communities nationwide, and Zander noted that even in the Aspirus Health service area, "We do see these patterns emerging."

According to Aspirus, a major cause of antibiotic resistance is the misuse of antibiotics, including taking them for illnesses like the common cold or flu, where they are ineffective.

"Additionally, failing to complete prescribed antibiotic courses contributes to the survival of resistant bacteria," Aspirus stated. "The overuse of antibiotics in agriculture also compounds the problem."

To protect the power of an-

tibiotics, Zander urges people to adopt simple yet effective preventive measures.

"Good hand hygiene, staying healthy through diet and exercise and allowing your body time to heal naturally when you're sick can all help minimize unnecessary exposure to antibiotics," she stated. "The antibiotics that we do have are powerful drugs that we need to use responsibly. We all need to be aware and know that we can play a part in this."

Aspirus said it encourages the public to learn more about antibiotic resistance and how we can all help preserve the effectiveness of these life-saving medications.

For more information on antibiotic awareness, visit www.cdc.gov.

Remembering Krista Caley Hinsa

November 10, 1990 – December 31, 2022

1st Corinthians 16:30

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Krista's chosen confirmation scripture. We are trying to remain strong. We believe Krista is in Paradise, Riding her first horse "Chessie" followed by our black, chocolate and yellow Labradors we've had over the years.

We ask for you to remember Krista, especially this day, to pray for us and for those struggling with addiction. We miss Krista, we love her beyond words and we will be together again.

The Hinsa family-
Russ and Wendy,
Lacey and Matt
Emilia, Eliza, Ella

Associated Clergy of Tomahawk "Pastor's Corner"

The Power of Forgiveness

This is the time of year when we get to hear from John the Baptist. John was a prophet, the forerunner of Jesus Christ. The Gospel of Luke tells us he preached repentance and forgiveness. We don't hear a lot about repentance these days, so it is a good time to review how repentance and forgiveness go hand-in-hand.

Because God forgave us on the cross, we repent (confess our sins) and are forgiven. It is difficult to be a joyful person without forgiveness. Forgiveness leads to gratitude. Even though we miss the mark, God forgives us. We can't be totally happy until we are forgiven.

The first point I want to make in this article is that the burden of unconfessed sin can enslave us, but confession and pardon lead to freedom. As a result of this freedom, we want to witness our faith to others. To be forgiven doesn't mean we are sinless, but that God frees us from the shackles of sin.

It's probably more difficult to forgive as we have been forgiven. Forgiveness is hard when we have been betrayed by a spouse or family member, when a member of our family has been deliberately injured, when someone we love has been raped, when an army invades our land and kills members of our family, yet we know that forgiveness is the key to new life. To forgive those who have done harm, doesn't mean THEY are sinless, but it frees us from the shackles of grief and anger.

Some years ago, as I was flying to do a presentation, I had a wonderful conversation with a member of the Mayo Clinic staff. He shared with me that the ability to forgive others is a key characteristic of a healthy life. Soon after that, I came across a beautiful quote that said, "Forgiveness is the odor flowers breath when they are trampled." Imagine what could happen in this country if we begin to practice forgiveness. What if, instead of blaming one another, we began to forgive one another?

If repentance and forgiveness go together as John the Baptist suggests, imagine what would happen if we began to confess OUR sins as a country, as a church, and as individuals. Jesus is waiting with open arms to forgive.

Confession is good for the soul. Like the Prodigal Son, we need to return to Christ as a nation, as a church, and individually. Jesus is waiting to forgive us. He is saying, "Come home."



Submitted by
Dennis Mannering,
Volunteer Outreach Pastor
First Congregation Church

Ask the PASTOR

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

Over the last couple of weeks, we have looked at God's love for us displayed in the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, who came so we might know God. With Christmas upon us, I would like to look at the message God sent through His angels, to shepherds, the night Christ was born.

In Luke 2 we read about the angels' announcement to the shepherds of Jesus's birth, that this child is the Savior of mankind (verses 10,11). I would like to focus on the conclusion of their announcement in verse 14 – *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

There are two themes that run throughout the Bible connected to this announcement: 1) do not put all your hope in people because they may fail you, but 2) put your hope in God for He alone *will always* do what He has said. Luke 2:14 is an affirmation and not a statement of wishful thinking. We desire peace and the goodwill of God and others. The birth of Jesus Christ brings both glory to God, and peace and goodwill toward us.

The Bible teaches that God is *glorious in holiness* (Exodus 15:11). It is the fact of His purity, love for truth, delight in what is right, and that He will bring justice and judgment, that makes Him glorious. Another part of His holiness is that He delights in forgiving the sinner who owns the truth of their guilt and looks to God for mercy and change (Ezekiel 18:20-23). So we ask, *How can a holy God forgive the sinner who repents?*

God cannot ignore our sin, for He loves truth and He is holy. There are only two ways by which we can be forgiven, either we pay for our sin in Hell, or a substitute takes our place. The sacrifices in the Old Testament (Leviticus 17:11) could not remove sin, but were a temporary covering for sin (Hebrews 10:1-4). Jesus Christ came to be our substitute and pay for our sin by being a sinless, voluntary sacrifice on our behalf (Hebrews 10:5-10).

In Romans 3:21-26 we are told that God is righteous when He forgives the sinner who believes, because Jesus Christ made the full payment for our sin. In this way God can be just when He justifies the sinner who believes (Romans 3:26). And in this, God is glorified.

The part about peace and goodwill to men is that Jesus Christ came for the sake of providing our forgiveness, the greatest expression of God's intentions of peace and goodwill toward us. When we find peace with God through forgiveness and change in Christ, then we also bring peace and goodwill among ourselves (Isaiah 32:17, Proverbs 16:7). There is a very real connection between glorifying our Creator and having peace and goodwill among ourselves (1 John 4:20,21). May we give glory to God so that we may know His peace and goodwill in our lives.

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

A classic country New Year's Eve in Merrill

BY TINA L. SCOTT
MMC STAFF

MERRILL – Merrill VFW Post 1638 invites local residents to ring in the New Year with a classic country music concert.

The post will host the Bobby Darren & Sheila Marie Country Music Show on New Year's Eve – Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 7 p.m. until midnight.

Both performers are highly-acclaimed performers with decades of country music industry experience and accolades.

Darren received a Lifetime Achievement Award in Country Music and is in the National Traditional Country Music Hall of Fame. He is considered by many to be one of the best left-handed guitar players in country music and also plays backwards and upside-down. Originally, he performed with his band as Bobby Darren & the Drifters.

After several years, Darren's niece, Sheila Marie, joined the group, and they changed the name of the act to the Bobby Darren & Sheila Marie Country Music Show.

Darren is known for maintaining his commitment to the sound and im-

age of traditional classic country music, citing the greats like Hank Williams Sr. and George Jones as his inspiration. Marie, herself a GMC Country Showdown Finalist, also stays loyal to her traditional country music and bluegrass roots, citing Loretta Lynn and Merle Haggard as her inspiration.

Other country music greats have sung the praises of the two throughout the years, including Marty Stuart, Conway Twitty, Faron Young and Darryl Worley, and country music star Marty Stuart has even called Darren "Wisconsin's very own Ambassador for Country Music."

Over the years, their act – with its fun banter and close familial harmonies – has opened for many artists, including George Jones, Connie Smith, Moe Bandy, Bobby Bare, Little Jimmy Dickens and more, and entertained thousands upon thousands of classic country music fans. The pair has also received awards, including UK Classic Country CD of the Year.

Tickets for the Bobby Darren & Sheila Marie Country Music Show are available by phone at 715-536-5708 or email at starzz-productions@yahoo.com.



Photo courtesy of STARZZ Productions

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DFI: State-chartered banks, credit unions report 'sound' third-quarter financial performance

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) last week announced that Wisconsin's 119 state-chartered banks and 107 state-chartered credit unions "continue to exhibit sound financial performance as of Sept. 30, 2024."

Banks

At the end of the third quarter, total assets for Wisconsin's state-chartered banks stood at \$69.58 billion, up from \$67.03 billion reported Sept. 30, 2023, according to DFI.

The net interest margin declined slightly at 3.18% compared to 3.20% in Sept.



2023. Net loans increased by 4.15% to \$50.4 billion, up by \$2.0 billion over the same time.

According to DFI, in the 12 months ending on Sept. 30, 2024:

- The capital ratio rose significantly to 10.28%, an increase from 9.44% in Sept. 2023.

- The past due ratio increased to 0.88% from 0.62%

in Sept. 2023.

- Net operating income increased to \$497.9 million compared to \$460.5 million in Sept. 2023.

- The return on average assets ratio rose slightly to 0.97% from 0.92% in Sept. 2023.

- Bank liquidity remained stable, with only a slight increase in the loans to assets ratio at 72.46% compared to 72.21% in Sept. 2023.

"Through the third quarter, Wisconsin's state-chartered banks continue to persevere with sound financial performance through changing economic and global conditions," said DFI Secretary Cheryl Olson-Collins. "Although monitoring of asset quality met-

rics will continue, the earnings and capital positions reflect some improvement. The continued stability of Wisconsin's state-chartered banks provides strength and reliability to the state's consumers, businesses and communities."

To learn more, read DFI's Bank Performance Indicator Report as of Sept. 30, 2024 at www.tinyurl.com/3haaep5y.

Credit unions

At the end of the third quarter, total assets for Wisconsin's state-chartered credit unions rose to \$66.2 billion, according to DFI.

DFI said this is an increase of \$2.1 billion since year-end 2023. Over the

same time period, loans outstanding grew by \$841 million, and shares and deposits rose \$1.62 billion. This resulted in a decrease to the loan-to-share ratio from 92.40% at year-end 2023 to 91.23%.

According to DFI, in the nine months ending on Sept. 30, 2024:

- Net worth to assets increased to 10.63%.

- Delinquent loan to total loan ratio was 0.87%, an increase from the year-end ratio of 0.79%.

- Net income was strong at over \$319.2 million, 0.65% return on average assets.

- Growth ratios were all positive.

"The financial performance indicators for Wis-

consin's state-chartered credit unions through the third quarter of this year are strong with solid net worth, strong growth in assets and recovering loan growth. Delinquency has increased, but remains at very manageable levels," Olson-Collins stated. "Overall, Wisconsin's state-chartered credit unions continue to be financially stable with a positive outlook, and they continue to provide the financial services needed by their members."

To learn more, read the DFI's Office of Credit Unions' 2024 Third Quarter Financial Bulletin at www.tinyurl.com/dztwzdvj.

Lemay Forestry Center project approved by Wisconsin State Building Commission

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

MADISON – Governor Tony Evers last week announced that the Wisconsin State Building Commission approved a total of \$81.5 million in projects across the state, including one in Tomahawk.

A release from Evers' office said the Commission voted to approve the release of Building Trust Funds to prepare the preliminary

design for the new Fire Response Equipment Facility and Fire Equipment Fabrication Storage Facility at the Lemay Forestry Center for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), located at 518 W. Somo Ave. in Tomahawk.

"These two new facilities will help preserve new and existing vehicles and equipment, as well as provide a centralized wildland fire response station for programs in the

area," the release stated.

The Commission also approved projects in the Town of Greenbush and at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, as well as 22 facility maintenance and repair projects across various state agencies, including the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, DNR, the Wisconsin Historical Society and the UW System.

Projects at several UW campuses were also given the thumbs up, while funding for

other UW projects were delayed.

"Whether preserving our state's historic sites or investing in the latest equipment for our emergency responders, it is crucial that we invest in projects across our state that will not only modernize facilities to meet the needs of the 21st century but advance our state agencies, universities, and technical colleges and grow both our local and state economies," Evers stated. "Every project approved today is critical to our communities. But our UW System is one of our state's

greatest assets in competing for, retaining and retaining talented workers to build a workforce for the future, and it's a shame that support for UW continues to face partisan obstruction. I am deeply disappointed that Republican lawmakers are once again pulling the rug out from under UW in the eleventh hour and putting politics ahead of doing what's best for our kids, our workforce and economy and our state. We have to make sure our UW System remains the gem of our state and has the means and resources they need to compete

our students, workforce and employers and the future of our communities and state depend upon it. We will, again, bring these projects to the State Building Commission in the New Year, and I urge Republican lawmakers to approve them."

The Building Commission is chaired by Evers and made up of one citizen member and several members of the State Legislature, including State Senator Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) and State Representative Rob Swearingen (R-Rhineland).

**Merrill Fire Department
Firefighter Paramedic Recruitment**

Minimum Qualifications (at time of hire)

- 18 years old.
- Certification as Firefighter I by the State of Wisconsin or an IFSAC accredited agency.
- State of Wisconsin Licensed EMT-Paramedic. (although EMT-Basics may still apply).
- Current Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certification.
- Valid driver's license with acceptable driving record.

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- Liberal work trade policy (get off of work when you need to).
- Family style work environment (work where you feel appreciated).
- Lateral transfer accepted.

Application Process

- City of Merrill Employment Application
- Comprehensive letter of introduction
- Current Resume

Applications Due

Applications are available online at the City of Merrill website (<http://www.ci.merrill.wi.us>). Applications Due **4:00 P.M. Thursday, January 9, 2025** to the Merrill Fire Station at 110 Pier Street, Merrill, WI 54452. Any questions contact the Fire Chief Phone: 715-536-2233 Email: fdadministrative@ci.merrill.wi.us **AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

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NEWS BRIEFS
FROM PAGE 3

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 City Credit Union.

Open Arms Community Meal closed until April

Open Arms Community Meal, served each Tuesday at St. Mary's Corpus Christi Center, 320 E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk, will be closed until April 1, 2025.

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For complete job description and application information, go to: <https://www.cesa9.org/about/employment.cfm>

Online applications are due by January 3, 2025.

CESA 9 is an equal opportunity employer.

DOR reminding Wisconsinites to check current property tax bills for lottery, gaming credit

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) is reminding Wisconsin residents to check their current property tax bill for the lottery and gaming credit.

A release from DOR said the credit provides direct property tax relief to qualifying taxpayers on their property tax bills displayed as a reduction of property taxes due. Lottery proceeds are paid into a separate segregated state fund.

This year's estimated average lottery and gaming credit on property tax bills is \$213.00.

"To qualify for the lottery and gaming credit, you must be a Wisconsin resident, own a dwelling

and use it as your primary residence as of the Jan. 1 certification date of the year the property taxes are levied – in this case, Jan. 1, 2024," DOR stated. "If an owner is temporarily absent, typically for a period no longer than six months (ex: hospital, vacation), the primary residence is the home where the owner returns. Principal dwelling means any dwelling the owner uses as their primary residence. You cannot claim the lottery and gaming credit on business property, rental units, vacant land, garages or other property that is not the owner's primary residence."

DOR said if a property owner is eligible for the credit as of Jan. 1, 2024, they should use the online portal

to apply for the lottery and gaming credit. DOR will send the information to the county treasurer, where the property is located or to the city treasurer, if the property is located in a city that collects taxes under state law.

"A property owner only needs to apply for the credit one time," DOR stated. "Once applied, the credit will continue annually for that residence."

Lottery and gaming credit information, including the online application portal, walkthrough videos and common questions are located on the Lottery and Gaming Credit Forms page on DOR's website at www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/Form/lottery-home.aspx.

Evers, WisDOT, WCHA urging motorists to help keep snowplow drivers safe

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – Governor Tony Evers, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the Wisconsin County Highway Association (WCHA) are reminding motorists to slow down and give space to snowplow drivers to safely do their jobs while urging drivers to pay attention on Wisconsin roads this winter.

"For more than 100 years, Wisconsin has maintained a unique partnership with the state's 72 county highway departments," WisDOT stated. "During the winter, county highway workers keep interstate, U.S. and state highways safe by snow plowing, salting and applying liquid brine. WisDOT works closely with Wisconsin counties year-round to establish best practices and test new tools for safety and efficiency."

"Every winter, Wisconsin's snowplow drivers show up no matter the conditions to make sure the roads are safe for you," said WisDOT Secretary Kristina Boardman. "We are grateful for their commitment to keeping our roads clear, but we need to do our part to keep them safe. Please, focus on the road ahead at all times; be pa-

tient and give extra space to snowplows; and, when possible, avoid traveling during major winter storms."

"With great gratitude, we appreciate the dedication of our snowplow drivers," said WCHA Executive Director Patrick Vander Sanden. "They work overnight, weekends and holidays so that we can get to where we need to be. WCHA stands with WisDOT in urging patience and vigilance for all motorists traveling during storms. Please be aware, and give the snowplows the room to work."

WisDOT said Wisconsin allows flashing green warning lights on county or municipal maintenance vehicles – in addition to red or amber lights. The green warning lights are meant to increase safety, enhance driver awareness and improve visibility of maintenance vehicles.

"Motorists can thank Wisconsin snowplow drivers by staying safe on the roads this winter," WisDOT stated, offering the following winter driving tips:

- Buckle up, phone down. Every trip, every time.
- Watch the road ahead and leave room to brake, especially in slick conditions.

• Most traffic crashes in winter are caused by drivers going too fast for conditions. Posted speed limits apply when travel conditions are ideal. Slow down when roads are slick or visibility is reduced.

• Stay at least 200 feet behind a working snowplow. Make sure that you can see the plow's mirrors to ensure the driver can see you.

• If you must pass a snowplow, be careful. Snowplows often create a cloud of snow that can obscure vision. Remember that road conditions in front of the plow are likely worse.

• Don't be over-confident if you operate a four-wheel or all-wheel-drive vehicle. They still require a considerable distance to stop on slick roads.

• During major winter storms, postpone or cancel your trip. Stranded motorists and vehicles become hazards that interfere with snow removal efforts.

"Before traveling, visit www.511wi.gov to check road conditions, live video from traffic cameras and possible incidents," WisDOT said. "Download the 511 Wisconsin mobile app to 'know before you go.'"

DSPS launches interface to help streamline Medicaid enrollment for new clinicians

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) earlier this month announced a collaboration to streamline data sharing and help more medical professionals get to work more quickly.

A release from DSPS said it has worked to create an interface that shares information gathered during the state license application process, allowing for the automation of the Medicaid Provider Registration/Validation process for new clinicians.

"Previously, that Medicaid registration process required clinicians to manually enter required information, much of it the same information they enter during the state licensing process," DSPS stated. "Now, data provided at the time of licensing will be automatically and securely transferred

to the Medicaid enrollment system, kickstarting that validation process."

"What we have done is remove a step to create an easier experience for the clinicians," said DSPS Secretary Dan Hereth. "They don't have to re-enter all the same information in another platform. It's the latest way we are expanding on Governor Tony Evers' workforce development efforts, improving processes to move trained professionals into the workforce as quickly and safely as possible."

Hereth explained that this idea came out of one of his many conversations with stakeholders since becoming DSPS Secretary two years ago.

"In this case, it was a conversation with officials at UW Health about ways to streamline the path from student to health provider," DSPS said.

"For a clinician to begin seeing patients, many pro-

cesses must be completed," said Leigh Larson, UW Health Director of Graduate Medical Education and Medical Staff Administration. "Collaborations such as this to reduce the time required to apply for and receive approval for Medicaid enrollment are a great help."

"We already gather much of the required data during the application process," Hereth stated. "It was just a matter of connecting the dots and making state government work better for Wisconsinites."

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Tomahawk School District
2024-2025
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The Tomahawk School District will offer free Child Find screening for children three through five years of age whose parent or guardian has questions or concerns about developmental milestones. The screening will consider the areas of cognition, social/emotional, communication and adaptive skills.

The screenings will be at the Tomahawk Elementary School in the Early Childhood Room.

Screening Dates
 Jan. 3 • Feb. 7 • Mar. 7
 Apr. 4 • May 2

For more information and to schedule a screening call Traci Swan, Special Education Administrative Assistant 715-453-5555 ext. 5

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Eligibility: Age 60+
Suggested contribution is \$6.00 a meal

Reservations Required
call by noon the business day before
888-486-9545

Your contribution makes a significant difference to our program!

No eligible person is denied meals due to ability to contribute. Full meal cost \$14.86 per meal (for someone who is not eligible on a contribution basis). Senior Nutrition Program is funded by Federal, State, local funds and contributions.

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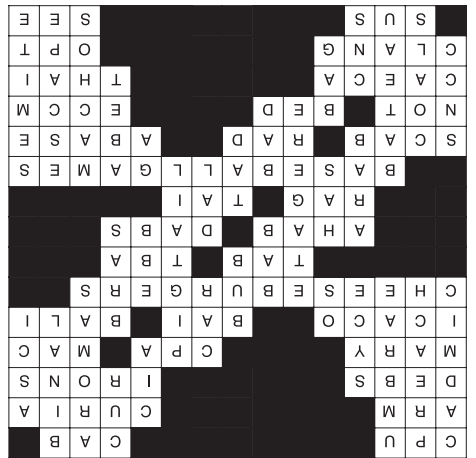
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Central processing unit
4. Taxi
7. Body part
8. Papal court
10. Young women making their public debuts
12. Metal shackles
13. Joseph's wife
14. Licensed professional
16. Partner to cheese
17. Mild fruits
19. File format
20. Province of Indonesia
21. Beloved grilled foods
25. Bar bill
26. Don't know when yet
27. Whale ship captain
29. Touches softly
30. Mock
31. Red-brown Pacific sea bream
32. Summer entertainment options
39. Protective crust
41. Cool!
42. Behave in a way that belittles
43. Denial
44. A place to sleep
45. Electronic counter-countermeasures
46. Intestinal pouches
48. SE Asia family of languages

CLUES DOWN

1. Of cadmium
2. Deliver a sermon
3. Inner regions of a shadow
4. Aggressive dog
5. Smells
6. Twofold
8. Former OSS
9. Computer language
11. Indian groom
14. Automobile
15. Hairstyle
18. Atomic #76
19. Guy (slang)
20. Ladies' undergarments
22. Furniture with open shelves
23. Back-arc basin
24. Partner to flow
27. A type of horse
28. Possesses
29. Split pulses
31. Small amount
32. Flat-bottomed riverboat
33. Not good
34. Atomic #31
35. Assist in committing a crime
36. Chauvinists
37. Get away
38. One of a people who speaks a Semitic language
39. Civil rights college organization
40. Combustible dark rocks
44. Grocery container
47. Central nervous system



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LEGALS

Legals 7700

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

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

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE By virtue of a judgment of foreclosure made in the above-entitled 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:

LOT ONE (1) AND THE EAST 40 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 ENCUMBRANCES.

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 price.

Ken Schneider Sheriff of Lincoln County, Wisconsin Codilis, Moody & Cirelli, 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 COUNTY 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 follows:

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, City of Merrill and Lincoln County

DESCRIPTION: SOUTHEAST QUARTER (SE 1/4) 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.

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

Legals 7700

to hold you personally liable for the debt. Published November 27, December 4, 11, 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 filed.

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: 1. 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 AM.

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 Probate.

4. 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: November 26, 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 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MARATHON COUNTY

CREATIVE FINANCE, INC. 815 Business Park Road PO Box 454 Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965, Plaintiff,

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 December, 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.

Legals 7700

General Counsel 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

Notice To Creditors 7735

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Albert D. Musch Deceased

Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 2024IN50

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

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.

3. All interested persons waived notice.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's 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. Tomahawk Ave. Tomahawk, WI 54487 715-966-5035

Published December 11, 18, 25, 2024 WNAXLP

Do You Have A Legal Notice That Must Be Published? Publish it in the Tomahawk Leader! We're locally owned and operated, and we appreciate your support. 24 W. Rives Street, Rhinelander, WI 54501 Phone: 715-453-2151 Fax: 866-369-3331

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NicoletCoffee.com You'll Love Our Fresh as the Northwoods Tastes. Roasted and Shipped the Same Day!

NOTICE OF CAUCUS FOR THE TOWN OF ROCK FALLS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a caucus for the Town of Rock Falls will be held at the Rock Falls Town Hall on Tuesday January 7, 2024 at 6:30pm. The purpose of the meeting is to place in nomination candidates for the following town offices to be voted on for the Spring Election which will be held April 1, 2025

CLASSIFIEDS

Firewood 7244

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

Snow Equipment 7252

Two 10" Snow pushers: Skid Steer mount rubber cutting edge or Bucket mount spring cutting edge \$1450 each. Air compressor Leroy "100" on trailer \$1850. 920-878-0005 (12/23)

Miscellaneous Merchandise 7266

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

Dogs 7272

ACA BLENHEIM KING CHARLES CAVALIER PUP. Cute cuddly Vet ck'd Shots \$500. 715-613-4663 (12/23)

AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES! 2-M \$400 Serious inquiries only! DOB 11/13 Very nice pup. Shots DEW 715-304-1097 (12/30)

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

Dogs 7272

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

AUSSIE DOODLE PUPS Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver \$400-\$500 715-255-2661 (#269146)12/23)nw

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)

CAVAPOO PUPS \$700 Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver 715-255-2661 (#269146)12/16)nw

For sale COLLIE PUPPIES! Shots DEW Marion area \$120 715-754-5214 (12/30)

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

For Sale GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES! Vet checked Shots Ready To Go Now! Can Send Pictures. Caddot WI. 715-289-3165. (12/23)

MINI GOLDENDOODLE PUPS! \$700 Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver 715-255-2661 (#269146)12/23)nw

POMERANIAN PUP! Parents weigh 15 and 11lbs 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, Vet Ck'd \$600. Call 715-644-5726 (1/6)

Dogs 7272

REGISTERD CAVALIER KING CHARLES PUPS. Shots, Dew, Vet Ready NOW Can deliver 700 Call 715-470-0458 (#509642) 12/23 am

WHOODLE PUPS Shots/Worm/Vet ck'd, can deliver \$700 715-255-2661 (#269146)12/16)nw

Miscellaneous Pet 7278

PAWS 2 THINK helps feed local pets in need for those having financial difficulties. Donations are needed: Monetary or dry dog & cat food, medium to good quality please. Drop off Tomahawk Warehouse Liquor, Auntie Em's Resale. For info, contact 715-612-5866

Livestock 7284

ALL NAT. GRASS FED BEEF. Butchered Jan 14th Vac. Pak. Incl. Processing \$6.50lb. 715-250-2793

Agriculture Services 7292

Hand Crafted Garden & Storage Sheds, Garages & Cabins. Many Styles and Options. Sizes from 8' x 8' up to 15' x 40' are available. Call BAKER BARNS, LLC 715-873-3338 mile North of Gleason, Hwy 17

Motorcycles 7502

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Painting and Wallpaper 7364

FRITZ BARN PAINTING rusty Roofs, Metal Buildings Free Est. 608-221-3510 920-821-6311

Miscellaneous Services 7374

MEUNIER'S CARPET & Upholstery Cleaning. Professional cleaning at affordable rates. Residential & commercial. Tomahawk, 262-208-6384.

TOMAHAWK LEADER Classified Ads \$10.00 5 Lines One Paper (Private Party Only) Additional Lines \$1.00 (Partial or Full) OR Add-A-City for \$6 (5 Line ad) (Plus \$1 per additional line) Rhinelander, Eagle River, Antigo, Merrill, Wausau plus additional papers available, ask for details.

One word per box. Payment must accompany ad. All ads are pre-paid, non-refundable (cash, check, credit card).

Name _____ Phone _____ Address _____

AD COPY table with 5 columns and 10 rows for ad text.

Deadline Friday at 10:00 a.m. Call for list of markets and other options. Help Your Ad Stand Out With Add-ons: • Border \$3.00 • Blind Box \$6.00 • Bold Lettering \$3.00 • Photo/Logo \$7.00 Drop off or mail to: Tomahawk Leader, 24 W. Rives St. Rhinelander, WI 54501

Leader Sports & Nature



Hatchet skaters receive Sportsmanship Award

The Tomahawk Hatchet hockey team was recently presented with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA)/Rural Mutual Sportsmanship Award. Mutual Insurance Representative and WIAA Licensed Official Michael Biever and WIAA Communications Director Todd Clark presented the award to the Hatchets during their home game against the Marshfield Tigers earlier this month. The Tomahawk skaters earned the award at the 2024 state hockey tournament. Both the WIAA and the School District of Tomahawk congratulated the Hatchets on receiving the award.

Photo courtesy of WIAA



Photo courtesy of the School District of Tomahawk

THS students attend first GNC Leadership Summit

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

EAGLE RIVER – Six Tomahawk High School (THS) students recently represented Tomahawk at the first Great Northern Conference (GNC) Leadership Summit.

Siannah, Claire, Elise, Ethan, Jack and Tiegan attended the summit, held

at Northland Pines High School on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Student-athletes and Athletic Directors from each GNC school attended.

The School District of Tomahawk said the day's goal was to "collaborate and create a conference vision regarding sportsmanship."

GNC Commissioner Scott Winch, local official

Jeff Weik and each conference Athletic Director worked together to facilitate discussions, lead activities and provide opportunities for each student-athlete to make a difference as a leader at their school.

"It was a great day to be a part of the Great Northern Conference," the district stated.

Fishing Report: Ice conditions have improved, but remain cautious

BY GEORGE LANGLEY

NORTHERN WISCONSIN – Ice conditions have continued to improve, despite the bit of warm weather we've had. We're hearing reports of up to nine inches on some lakes, with others still sporting very thin spots, so caution is in order.

It'd still be great to get some really cold days and nights before a big dump of snow, but regardless, we're all ready for it now. Heck, if it's going to be winter we might as well be a couple feet deep!

Walleye fishing has been good. We're hearing about good numbers but not great size – and actually this is true across all species. The evening bite has been pretty consistent throughout the area.

Plan on getting out and being set up by 3:00 or so. Medium shiners or sucker minnows under tip-ups are best for walleye. Best setups are in about 10 to 15 feet of water right off any structure. These fish are coming out of deeper water to feed in the evenings, and you will intercept the fish as they come in.

Northern action continues to be good, with fish being caught all day long in the weeds, using large shiners. If you're fishing on weed edges for walleye, you may find that the northern are interested in your offerings, too!

Panfish action is also good, and perch are being caught on most lakes on the deeper edge of weeds, using crappie minnows and tip-ups. We are still

seeing some panfish in water of 10 feet or less, but if you're not finding them in the shallows, move deeper where you can, and check the 12 to 25 foot range at the edges of weed beds or structure. Jigging is often a great way to rattle some of these fish into hitting and is an easy way to search horizontally through the water column. Try tipping a 1/16 oz. jig or spoon with a minnow head and jigging high in the column for crappie or dead sticking about six inches from the bottom for bluegill and perch.

Get out there and enjoy some time on the ice – it's still quiet out there, and we can all use a bit of that sometimes.

Good luck and good fishin'!

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 214

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 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?

Week 213 answer: Robbie Lee would go on to wrestle at UW-Stevens Point.

Congrats to Patricia Feind for being the first to correctly answer last

week's question!

Week 214 question: During the 1982 THS girls' softball season, Tomahawk defeated Three Lakes 16-0, and their pitcher threw a no hitter. Who was that pitcher: Nancy VanStrydonk, Carmen Schoone or Sue Hanson?

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 www.cnaads.com *Kantar Millward Brown, Feb. 2018

FISHING & HUNTING TIMES

Date (CDT)	Morning		Evening	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Dec. 25	1:44AM	6:24AM	11:55AM	6:46PM
Dec. 26	2:51AM	7:08AM	12:16PM	7:31PM
Dec. 27	3:59AM	7:55AM	12:44PM	8:20PM
Dec. 28	5:09AM	8:46AM	1:19PM	9:13PM
Dec. 29	6:14AM	9:41AM	2:06PM	10:09PM
Dec. 30	7:13AM	10:38AM	3:05PM	---
Dec. 31	8:01AM	11:07PM	4:15PM	11:35AM
Jan. 01	8:39AM	12:03AM	5:32PM	12:31PM

Solunar fishing and hunting chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon is December 30.



Both the markings and the songs of white-throated sparrows are easy to identify. Photo by Larry Stone

Natural Connections: Winter songs of white-throated sparrows

BY EMILY STONE
NATURALIST, CABLE
NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM

During a recent week-long visit to the Washington D.C. area, finding pockets of nature with plenty of birds was a boon to our sanity. Early in the week, my partner and I drove west to the little town of Linden, Virginia, which provided the nearest access to the Appalachian Trail. Even as we crossed the gravel parking lot toward the oak-filled forest and uphill climb, a wistful-sounding white-throated sparrow sang from the brush. We looked at each other and grinned.

The rhythmic whistle of white-throated sparrows is part of the spring and summer soundtrack of the Northwoods. No hike or paddle is complete without their song. Two decades ago, while my parents helped me pack for a May trip to the Boundary Waters, this was the one song they'd insisted I learn to recognize. Luckily, it wasn't hard. The white-throat's pattern of two long starter notes followed by three sets of triplets is often described with the mnemonic "Oh, sweet Canada, Canada, Canada" and is quite distinctive.

But it's been a month or more since we heard the last sparrow sing goodbye

to the Northwoods as they headed south. I felt a little sheepish, realizing I'd never paid much attention to where they were going. Virginia, as it turns out, is in the core of their winter range. As we hiked, it seemed like almost every scritch sound in the underbrush turned out to be a foraging sparrow using their two-footed hops to unearth seeds in the duff. Getting a glimpse of snazzy black-and-white head stripes, yellow near the eyes, and the signature white throat patch confirmed their identity.

Higher up in the trees, cardinals whistled, tufted titmice peter-peter-petered, Carolina wrens chattered energetically, and Carolina chickadees scolded each other. These are common winter companions of the white-throated sparrows.

A few days later, we crossed over a babbling brook on a wide wooden bridge and into the "R. Randolph Buckley '8-Acre' Park" in Clifton, Virginia. Large beech trees, sycamores, oaks, maples, and pines, plus muscledwood and a blooming witch hazel, welcomed us into this little neighborhood woodland. As we followed our ears to a white-breasted nuthatch high in a pine tree, a song burst out of a bush beside us. The white-throated sparrow riffed on the usu-

al song, experimenting with a gravely "sweet can-a-NA-da can-a!" "Jazzy!" We laughed to each other.

I don't usually expect birds to sing in their winter habitat. Birds' songs are typically used to attract mates and defend territories, and therefore are most useful in spring and summer. Many birds get by using simple call notes to communicate within a flock over the winter. So, we figured we were hearing young males practicing for the coming year. That would also explain why the amateurs' "sub-songs" were tending shorter and with more variations in rhythm and tone. As it turns out, that was only part of the story.

Singing on their wintering grounds is more than just training for the youngsters. It's an important avenue for learning new songs! In 1999, two ornithologists in western Canada heard white-throated sparrows singing a shorter song. Instead of the triplet "can-a-da," they heard a doublet, "can-a." Over the next few years, scientists studied older recordings of the white-throat's songs, and made new observations, too. In ten years, by 2019, the new song had been adopted as far east as Ontario. Currently, you can only hear the original song in the farthest east populations.



A visitor to Tomahawk

A pileated woodpecker was spotted in the City of Tomahawk earlier this month. Pictured is the bird perched on a telephone pole. Photo courtesy of Michelle Niedziela

DNR seeking nominations for 2024 Ethical Hunter Award

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

WISCONSIN – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is accepting award nominations for the 2024 Wisconsin Ethical Hunter Award.

A release from DNR said nominees are selected based on exceptional moral actions and character while out in the field.

"Established in 1997, the award recognizes a hunter whose action is symbolic of Wisconsin's hunting heritage," DNR stated. "This honor represents an outdoor tradition enjoyed responsibly, respectfully and safely."

DNR said examples of award nominations can include helping other hunters find lost game, assisting novice hunters or protecting natural resources.

Any hunter or non-

hunter can nominate a licensed Wisconsin hunter for the Wisconsin Ethical Hunter Award for their actions during the 2024 calendar year. Although many nominations result from gun deer season, ethical actions can occur for any hunting season throughout the state.

A five-person committee reviews the nominations and selects the person deemed most deserving of this award. The annual honor's creators are Bob Lamb, retired outdoors editor of the La Crosse Tribune; Steve Dewald, retired DNR conservation warden supervisor; and Jerry Davis, a retired University of Wisconsin-La Crosse biology professor and outdoors writer.

"The nomination committee focuses on singular actions or events rather

than individuals who have long-term conservation-related programs," DNR noted.

Written nominations must contain the name, address and telephone number of the witness or witnesses, or the person must be aware of the behavior which led to the nomination. The public is encouraged to submit nominations for consideration for the award.

Nominations must be submitted by Jan. 31, 2025 via mail to April Dombrowski, Bureau Director, Recreational Safety Outdoor Skills (RSOS)/Public Safety Resource Protection, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 2421 Darwin Rd., Madison, Wis., 53704-3109; or via email to April.Dombrowski@wisconsin.gov.

How did the new song spread so quickly when these sparrows breed clear across Canada? They learned from each other on their wintering grounds and then took the new "slang" back home in spring. This goes against traditional wisdom, that young birds learn to sing from their fathers before they leave home. Song spread is facilitated because male sparrows from all over are extra concentrated. They tend to stick to the north end of their winter range—poised for a rapid return to claim a breeding territory in spring—while females go farther south to avoid competition with the males.

Just singing a new song isn't enough to make birds successful, though. If it's not recognizable to your own species, or sounds weird, a new song might

hurt your breeding success. In this case, females prefer the novelty of the males' new song, and this reinforces the change.

I'd heard about the white-throated sparrow's changing songs before, but it wasn't until I investigated the young birds' jazzy riff that I realized it had taken over so completely. I've been trying to shoe-horn their summer songs into the familiar "Oh, sweet Canada" mnemonic, and attributing variation to lazy birds. Now I know that something much more interesting is going on. Just like the sparrows, I learned something new in their winter habitat.

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

For more than 50 years, the Cable Natural History Museum has served to connect you to the Northwoods. The Museum is open with our brand-new exhibit: "Anaamaagon: Under the Snow." Our Winter Calendar is open for registration! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and www.cablemuseum.org to see what we are up to.

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