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Tomahawk man dies, wife charged with first degree reckless homicide

BY TINA L. SCOTT
MMC STAFF

TOMAHAWK – Richard “Ricky” Sanderson, 50, of Tomahawk, died on Thursday, Jan. 9, at Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital from an apparent stab wound to the upper center of his chest/lower throat area, and his wife, Michelle Marie Sanderson, 43, has been arrested and charged with first degree reckless homicide.



Sanderson
Photo courtesy of the Lincoln County Jail

The Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office advised that at 9:55 p.m. on Jan. 9, the 911 Dispatch Center received a report of a male subject arriving at the hospital with a visible and bleeding chest wound, and he was having trouble breathing.

“Life-saving measures were attempted by medical staff but were unsuccessful due to the extent of Victim’s injury,” said a Criminal Complaint filed on Monday, Jan. 13, in Lincoln County Court.

Richard Sanderson was pronounced dead at 10:25 p.m.

“The Lincoln County Coroner advised that a prelimi-

nary examination of Victim’s body revealed a single area of penetrating trauma at the carina. No other injuries were observed,” the Complaint said.

The stab wound has been listed as the preliminary cause of death.

Lincoln County Coroner Valerie Caylor said the carina is just above the center of the upper chest.

“[The carina] means bottom of the throat, beginning of the chest, center of that,” she said.

Michelle Sanderson was initially taken into custody in connection with the incident

on a probation violation and was then charged with one felony count of first degree reckless homicide with a domestic abuse modifier, one misdemeanor count of resisting or obstructing an officer with a domestic abuse modifier, and one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct with a domestic abuse modifier.

Sanderson appeared in Lincoln County Court Branch 2 early Monday afternoon, Jan. 13, by video, in custody from the Lincoln County Jail. Attorney Jessica Fehrenbach appeared specially by video for on her behalf.

According to the Complaint, Michelle Sanderson told a Lincoln County deputy she found the victim outside already injured, but a witness told deputies he had seen Michelle stab the victim with a steak knife in the kitchen of the couple’s home.

“Michelle stated Victim went outside to work on something by the truck,” the Complaint said. “Michelle stated she went out to look

for him after some time and heard him say come here. Michelle said she saw Victim was bleeding. Michelle stated several times throughout their conversation that Victim had a stab wound.”

The Lincoln County deputy who responded to Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital then spoke with the witness.

“Witness stated he was visiting with Michelle and Victim,” the Complaint said. “Witness stated Michelle and Victim had been arguing all night. Witness further stated, while inside their residence ... at some point during the argument, Michelle produced a knife. Witness did not know where she got it from ... Witness said that Michelle began waving the knife around and at one point swung at him. Witness stated he then saw Michelle move her arm toward Victim. Witness then heard Michelle tell Victim that he had blood on his shirt.”

Later, a Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office investigator also spoke with the witness.

“Witness told the investi-

gator that he witnessed Michelle stab Victim in the chest with a steak knife,” the Complaint said. “Witness stated Michelle then dropped the knife in the kitchen and they loaded him up and brought him to the hospital.”

“The evidence observed at the residence supported Witness’s version of the incident and did not support Michelle’s version,” the Complaint said. “Law Enforcement observed a blood trail from in the kitchen/dining area, through the residence, and outside to where the truck was parked. The blood trail appeared to start with a pool of blood in the kitchen/dining area, indicating that Victim stood there bleeding before moving to the vehicle. Law Enforcement also observed a steak knife located on the kitchen floor near the start of the blood trail.”

“Two Lincoln County Investigators conducted a second interview with Michelle giving her an opportunity to explain her version provided earlier. Michelle maintained her original story,” the Com-

plaint said.

Michelle Sanderson has a long history of both misdemeanor and felony convictions throughout the state, including under her maiden name, Michelle Twilley, dating back to 2005. Convictions in Marathon, Chippewa, Eau Claire, Dunn, St. Croix, Milwaukee, Walworth and Racine Counties include misdemeanor convictions for possession of drug paraphernalia, prostitution, retail theft, theft of movable property, misdemeanor theft, bail jumping, OWI and disorderly conduct – among others and some having more than one count – and felony convictions for both possession and delivery of methamphetamine as a repeater, operating a motor vehicle without consent as repeater and felony bail jumping as a repeater.

At the time of her arrest, Michelle Sanderson was out on a \$1,000.00 signature bond dated Nov. 6, 2024, for a Lincoln County traffic charge of operating after revocation, a case which has not yet concluded.

School District of Tomahawk to hold public informational meetings on referendum

BY JALEN MAKI
TOMAHAWK LEADER
EDITOR

TOMAHAWK – The School District of Tomahawk will hold three public meetings to provide information about its upcoming referendum.

The meetings will be held in the district auditorium on Monday, Jan. 27 at 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 29 at 6 p.m.; and Thursday, Feb. 13 at 5:30 p.m.

The referendum will appear on Tuesday, Feb. 18 ballots.

Last November, the district’s Board of Education voted to place the spending request on next month’s ballots. The referendum will ask voters to authorize the district to continue to exceed its revenue limit by \$3.25 million each year for four years, starting with the 2025-2026 school year

and ending in 2028-2029.

The district is currently operating under a three-year, \$3.25 million referendum that was approved by voters in April 2022 and will expire at the end of the school year.

Since the board’s approval of the proposed spending request, the district has shifted its focus to community outreach. The trio of meetings will give the public the opportunity to learn more about why the district is requesting the funds.

The district in Nov. 2024 said the proposed referendum would replace the 2022 spending request and “enable the district to maintain its current programming levels through 2029 while making strategic investments to bolster learning and student opportunities.”

With the same yearly funding amount being sought, the district said it

doesn’t anticipate its portion of the property tax rate to increase.

According to the district, an average of a \$5.59 levy rate per \$1,000.00 of estimated fair market value is anticipated if the referendum were to pass.

The district pointed to financial challenges it is facing, noting that state aid to public schools has failed to keep up with inflation in recent years and adding that it does not qualify for poverty aid, which aids districts where at least half of its students are economically disadvantaged; or sparsity aid, which is allocated to rural school districts with relatively small economies of scale.

To learn more about the School District of Tomahawk’s proposed referendum, visit www.tomahawkreferendum2025.org.



Morrison recognized in Eagle Award ceremony

American Legion Post 93 in Tomahawk held an Eagle Award ceremony for Trey Morrison, member of the Post-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 548, on Sunday, Jan. 12. Morrison conducted the renovation of the Post’s Howitzer and surrounding site for his community project. Morrison is the son of Jay and Rachel Morrison of Tomahawk.

Photo courtesy of Tom Garrigan

Four Rivers Quilt Guild donates to Salvation Army of Tomahawk

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOMAHAWK – Last month, the Four Rivers Quilt Guild made a contribution to the Salvation Army of Tomahawk.

On Dec. 11, 2024, Tom Kelley and Pat Pietila of the Salvation Army of Tomahawk attended the Four Rivers Quilt Guild’s bi-weekly meeting at Grace Lutheran Church. At that meeting, the Guild presented Kelley

with a monetary donation.

Pietila noted that the Guild regularly donates a number of their quilts to the Salvation Army to aid those in need in the Tomahawk community.

“The Salvation Army extends a heartfelt thank you to the Guild for their generous donations that touch

Quilt Guild
CONTINUES ON PAGE 5



Pictured are Tom Kelley of the Salvation Army of Tomahawk and members of the Four Rivers Quilt Guild.

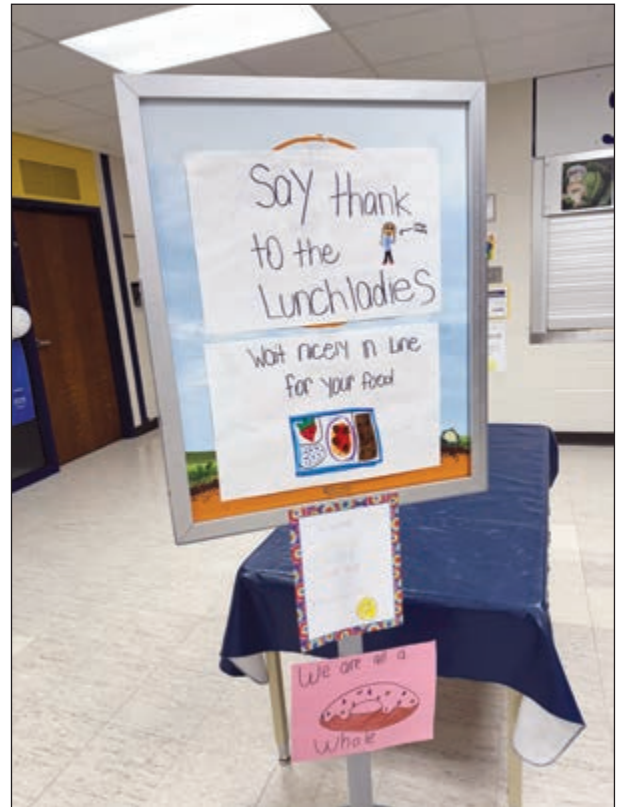
Photo courtesy of Pat Pietila

HALLWAY DECORATING CONTEST



Tomahawk Elementary School recently held a hallway decorating contest aimed at demonstrating school expectations. Each grade level had a specific theme from a different part of the school to focus on, showing the expectations of "Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe."

Photos courtesy of the School District of Tomahawk



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Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
School Auditorium

Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
School Auditorium

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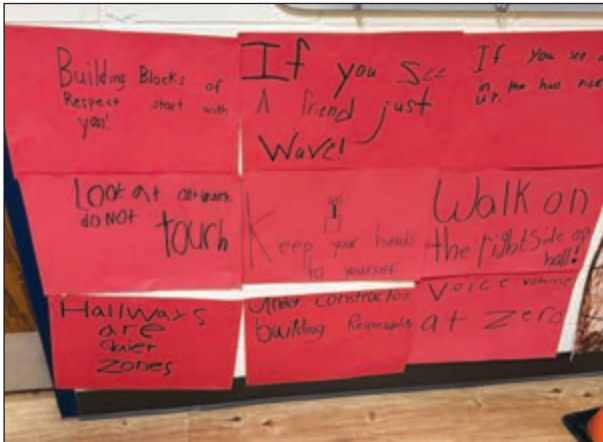
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Card of Thanks
The family of Carol J. Ruplinger would like to extend our thanks to the families, friends, neighbors and caregivers who from far and near said a prayer, a kind word, a hug, a visit, and a memory with us and our mother. The sincere gestures of a phone call, or words of encouragement gave comfort to us all.
The help and support from Karri and Kevin at Generations Funeral Home made a difficult time so much easier.
A persons strength comes from the support of others and we thank you.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tell Tiffany to withdraw his bill

Are you a senior citizen on Medicare? Will you be? Did you know Representative Tom Tiffany is working to make it harder for you to afford medicine?

Since 2022, federal law has allowed Medicare, working on your behalf, to negotiate prescription prices with drug companies. This resulted in lower prices for medicines like insulin. The law also caps the amount people on Medicare spend on prescription drugs at \$2,000.00 per person annually. Additionally, the law requires drug companies to pay rebates to Medicare if their drug prices rise faster than the rate of inflation. All these things help keep medicine affordable for Americans.

Mr. Tiffany wants to do away with these protections. He is co-sponsoring a bill to repeal the Inflation Reduction Act, which contains all these provisions. Why would he do such a thing?

Maybe Mr. Tiffany doesn't like other parts of the law? Perhaps he doesn't like the idea of a minimum tax on companies that earn over one billion dollars per year? Maybe he doesn't like the increased funding for the IRS to go after tax cheats? Perhaps he prefers coal and oil and dislikes the investment in nuclear and solar power?

If any of those things were the case, he could simply have sponsored a bill to do away with those things, while leaving the prescription cost protections alone. Instead, he chose to sponsor a bill

that favors drug companies while financially penalizing the very citizens he was elected to represent.

Do you remember Martin Shkreli? He was the big pharma bigwig who increased the price of one medicine from \$13.50 to \$750.00. Why is Mr. Tiffany looking out for the Shkreli's of the world instead of you? Has he been a politician so long that he doesn't care about the people he is supposed to represent?

If medicine is too expensive, some people are forced to do without, too often with tragic consequences. Most people are familiar with the stories of people who couldn't afford insulin, tried doing without, and died horrible deaths. Why does Mr. Tiffany want to help the drug companies

to again begin charging ridiculous prices for insulin and other drugs?

Could it be that Mr. Tiffany has gotten tangled up in the idea that he must work to undermine anything done by the other party no matter whether it is good or bad? That sort of "party before country" thinking is what has caused our system of government to fail us, and it's certainly no excuse for a politician to engage in the despicable sort of law making that will put people's lives at risk.

Write to Mr. Tiffany and tell him that you expect him to represent you, and not the drug companies. Tell him to withdraw his bill and get to work helping ordinary citizens.

Tom Wiensch
Rhinelanders

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 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., Rhinelanders, 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.

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OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at www.tomahawkleader.com



Cornelia Stacia Sandberg, affectionately known as Connie or Corie, passed away on January 15, 2025 at Marshfield Medical Center - Weston. Connie was born on August 17, 1934 to the late Peter and Stella (Janikowski) Schoone. She proudly served her community as a poll worker for 54 years, demonstrating her commitment to civic duty and engagement. She also contributed to the healthcare field as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Sacred Heart Hospital.

In her early years, Connie took on various roles in the restaurant industry. She retired in 1995, leaving a legacy of care and compassion. Farming was in Connie's blood. She grew up on a farm and also spent 10 years working on a chicken farm. Her love for the land continued to thrive as she baked fresh bread, made homemade sauerkraut, and crafted delicious apple pies that her grandson couldn't get enough of. Connie also cherished quiet moments fishing with her family on their private lake and exploring her creative side through knitting.

Connie is survived by her children, Cindy (Clarence) Daniels, Sherree (Charlie) Taves, Michael Sandberg, and Jeffrey Sandberg (Lori Wendorf Mason); siblings, Mary Croker, Dennis (Gail) Schoone, Carol (Robert) Rucinski; her grandchildren, Meghan (Lee) Daniels Schultz, Derek Daniels, Tyler (Stephanie) Taves, Jamie Sandberg, Jessica (Pete) Nelson, Laryssa (Dave) Hagenbucher; six great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by husband, Gustaf (Vern) Sandberg; her parents; and siblings, Matthew Schoone, Andrew Schoone, Grace Ollhoff, Teresa Burnett, Jack Schoone, Patsy Springer, and David Schoone. In accordance with Connie's wishes, no funeral services will take place. The families will honor Connie's life with private celebrations to remember her in their own way. Private interment will take place at Oak Hill Cemetery in Skanawan, WI. Ascend Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Weston is assisting the Sandberg family. Condolences may be shared at www.ascendweston.org



Michelle "Shelly" Durkee, age 56, of Tomahawk, unexpectedly passed away on Jan. 14, 2025. Shelly was born on Oct. 7, 1968, in Wausau, Wis., and spent much of her life in the Tomahawk area where she found joy in nature and time spent with family. Shelly had a deep love for the outdoors, particularly fishing, four-wheeling, hunting, gardening and camping, which brought her great peace and happiness. Shelly's sense of adventure, kindness, and infectious smile will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Shelly is survived by her mother, Darlene Durkee-Laabs; her sister, Brenda (Jeff) Wozniak; her nephews, Nathan (Abby) Kuehl and Hunter Kuehl; her great-niece, Madalyn Kuehl; her foster sister, Kathy Straub; and many other aunts, uncles and cousins.

Shelly's memory will be cherished by her family and friends. Shelly is preceded in death by her father. Her memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

A visitation was held on Tuesday, Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Northwoods Vineyard in Tomahawk with a service following from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The burial took place at Greenwood Cemetery following the service. A luncheon was held at Northwood Vineyard after the burial.

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



Raymond "Ray" J. Winker, age 84, of Tomahawk, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025, at Aspirus Howard Young Medical Center in Woodruff, Wis. Ray was born in Tomahawk on Nov. 15, 1940, to the late Arthur and Juttietta (July) Winker. He was married to Nina Tanski and together, they had three children; they later divorced. Ray met his significant other, Peggy Sue Woller, and remained with her for 28 years.

Ray held various jobs over the years including working at Kramer Construction, American Motors, driving pulp trucks, and was employed at the Tomahawk Bakery. In his later years, he used his innovative thinking skills by moving and dismantling mobile homes. He took them apart piece by piece to salvage materials for reuse or resale. Ray was a baseball fan, a Packer fan, and enjoyed playing cribbage. He loved taking car rides, and enjoyed phone calls and chats with his close friend, Ozzie. He also loved visiting with his family and friends.

Ray is survived by his children, Lynn Voigt, of Tigerton, Wis., Leanne Winker, of Tripoli, Wis., and Jeff Winker, of Tripoli, Wis.; his grandchildren, Brittne (Jacob), Kyle, Andromedia, and Devin; his great-grandchildren, Liam, Lainey, Octavian, and Alexander; and his siblings, Pat Mallek, of Englewood, Fla., Elaine Devine, of Pickerel, Wis., Mac Winker, of Tomahawk, Sharon Garver, of Englewood, Fla., Francis Winker, of Merrill, Wis., and Tom Goetsch, of Hazelhurst, Wis.; as well as his significant other's children, Shawn and Eric, and grandchildren, Cadyn, Celia, and Abi-anna.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents, Juttietta and Arthur; his brother, Ernie; his niece, Tiffany; and his ex-wife, Nina.

A celebration of life gathering will be held at a later date. Generations Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family.

FISHING TIMES

Date (CDT)	Morning		Evening	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Jan 22	12:35AM	5:01AM	10:17AM	5:23PM
Jan 23	1:43AM	5:46AM	10:42AM	6:10PM
Jan 24	2:52AM	6:35AM	11:13AM	7:01PM
Jan 25	3:58AM	7:28AM	11:54AM	7:56PM
Jan 26	5:00AM	8:24AM	12:48PM	8:53PM
Jan 27	5:53AM	9:22AM	1:54PM	9:50PM
Jan 28	6:35AM	10:19AM	3:10PM	---
Jan 29	7:08AM	10:47PM	4:30PM	11:14AM

Solunar fishing chart for Tomahawk. Major feeding periods last two hours and minors run one hour. New Moon - Jan. 11.

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 years I have had many people ask me, *How did we get the Bible?* I would like to begin looking at this question today. We shall start with some general information about the Bible.

The Bible is a library, a collection of 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Some books of the Bible were written as books: recording history, explaining worship practices, poetic literature, discussion on philosophy, and records of God's prophecies to His people. In the New Testament a lot of the books are actually letters that were written to churches and individuals.

The earliest books of the Bible to be written are the first five books of the Old Testament (*Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy*), written around 1,400 BC by Moses. The book of *Genesis* may be a collection of at least eleven older books, which we will look at in another article. The last book of the Bible (*Revelation*) was written around 90 AD by the Apostle John. In all, it appears that God may have used 40 different men to write the Bible over a time span of 1,500 years. God used men from all walks of life in writing the Bible: kings, prophets, shepherds, farmers, fishermen, herdsman, scholars, government officials, a doctor, and a slave. The Bible makes the point that truth must be established by *more* than one witness.

In 2 Peter 1:16-21 we are reminded of a religious experience and vision that Peter had just a few weeks before Jesus was taken and crucified. There, Peter recounts this experience and tells his readers that we have a witness to the will of God that is more trustworthy than any vision or religious experience. It is like a light that shines through the confusion that fills our world, that *trustworthy witness* is the *Bible*.

Peter points out that the evidence the *Bible* is *God's Word* is that it was not written by just one man; there are religions today based upon the writings of only one man. Instead, Peter says, God used many men to write the Bible as the Holy Spirit of God directed them (verses 20,21).

When we read the Bible, we read the different literary styles of different people from different backgrounds, who give the same message. This is because when God directed these men from different backgrounds in writing His Word, He did not violate their personality or life experience; so the fisherman uses the language of a fisherman and a scholar uses the language of a scholar when they wrote God's message. One person put it this way; the *Bible* has many *human writers* but only one *Divine Author*. The question we must answer is, will we read the *Bible* the *Divine Author* has given us to read?

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

Church DIRECTORY

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

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Community Seventh Day Adventist
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Pastor Eric Anderson
Church: 9am, Sabbath School: 10:15am
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Pastor Charles Scheele
715-453-3407
Sunday School - 9:30 am Sunday
Morning Service - 10:45 am Sunday
Mid-week Bible study - 7:00 pm Wednesday

Northland Bible Church
2810 Olson Road, Tomahawk
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Pastor Alex Lindsay
715-612-1841
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Tomahawk • 715-453-2878
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Mass times: Saturday 6 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 9 a.m.;
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The Rock Church of Tomahawk
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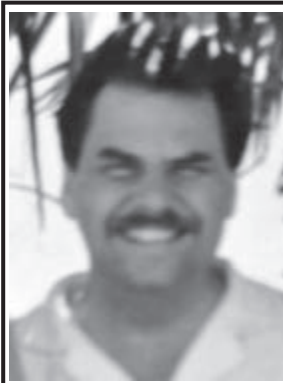
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Terry Winchell, 70, of Tomahawk, passed away Friday, Jan. 3, 2025 at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. Terry was born Sept. 18, 1954, the son of John and Violet (Czerwinski) Winchell, who adopted him after he had lived for six months in an orphanage in La Crosse.

Terry's 40-year career in finance included being an instructor for the Wisconsin Banking Association. He moved to Tomahawk in 2001, where he became very active at St. Mary's Church. Terry generously volunteered as a lector, helping at the annual festival, serving on committees, and even joining the choir on their trip to perform at Carnegie Hall. He enjoyed music of all types, Bombay gin, and trips to Las Vegas. Terry will be remembered for his sense of humor and loving spirit. A Mass of Christian Burial for Terry will take place at St. Mary's Church today (Wednesday, Jan. 22) at 11 a.m., followed by a luncheon. Krueger-Nimsgern Funeral & Cremation Services is assisting the family.

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www.TomahawkLeader.com

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Tomahawk School District

2024-2025

CHILD Find

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

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

Two receive minor injuries in bus vs. SUV crash in Town of Merrill

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

TOWN OF MERRILL – Two people, including a student, received minor injuries in a school bus vs. SUV crash last week.

According to a release from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 7:27 a.m., the Lincoln County 911 Center

received a report of the collision, which occurred on State Hwy. 17 near County Rd. G in the Town of Merrill.

The release said a school bus carrying children to school was northbound on State Hwy. 17 when the driver attempted to turn westbound onto County Rd. G. The bus was then struck

by an SUV traveling southbound on State Hwy. 17.

One passenger from the SUV and one student from the bus were transported by Merrill ambulance with what appeared to be minor injuries, according to the release.

The bus driver told authorities he thought he had time to make the turn.

Both vehicles were rendered inoperable and removed from the scene by a Merrill-area wrecker service.

State Hwy. 17 was closed for a period of time to allow time for investigation and clean up.

No citations related to the incident had been issued as of last Tuesday.

News Briefs

Tiffany to hold listening session in Tomahawk

Rep. Tom Tiffany (R-Wis.) will hold a listening session at AmericInn by Wyndham Tomahawk, 108 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk, on Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. The session is open to all constituents in Wisconsin's Seventh Congressional District. Seventh District residents may also call Tiffany's Office at 715-298-9344 for additional information.

TCT antique appraisal event

Tomahawk Community

Theater (TCT) will present its first major fundraising event next month. A program featuring Mark Moran of Antique Appraisals will be held at the Tomahawk High School auditorium, 1048 E. King Rd., Tomahawk, on Saturday, Feb. 15 at 11 a.m. Those interested are encouraged to register and provide a brief description of the item(s) they wish to have appraised by Moran. Participants can register up to two items at a cost of \$15.00 per item. To register items, contact Kathy Rechsteiner at 920-217-6643. TCT noted that although

many kinds of items can be appraised, prohibited items include weapons, coins, paper money, fine jewelry and Beanie Babies. Antique vendors will be present at the event. There will be a \$5.00 entry fee at the door. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/tomahawk.communitytheater/.

City of Tomahawk winter parking ban

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

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 Tuesday, April 1.

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.

QUILT GUILD

FROM PAGE 1

the lives of so many in our community," the organization stated.

The Four Rivers Quilt Guild was formed in 1995 to bring a group of women together to share their love of quilting, educate others and donate a variety of sewn items to community agencies.

Today, the 29 members of the Guild meet twice a month for a business meeting and a workday meeting.

The Guild makes quilts, stuffed animals, tote bags, pillowcases, fidget mats, walker bags, and catheter bags for donation throughout the commu-

nity. In 2023, the Guild presented 462 items to the Salvation Army of Tomahawk, Aspirus Tomahawk Hospital, Country Terrace of Wisconsin, Riverview Health Services, Tomahawk Health Services, Milestone Senior Living Center, Haven House.

"So far this year, we have completed and donated 487 items," the Guild added, noting that new members are always welcome.

The Guild meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 9 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 108 W. Somo Ave., Tomahawk.

For more information about the group, contact Guild President Faye LeMere at 715-493-4756.



Photo courtesy of Pat Pietila

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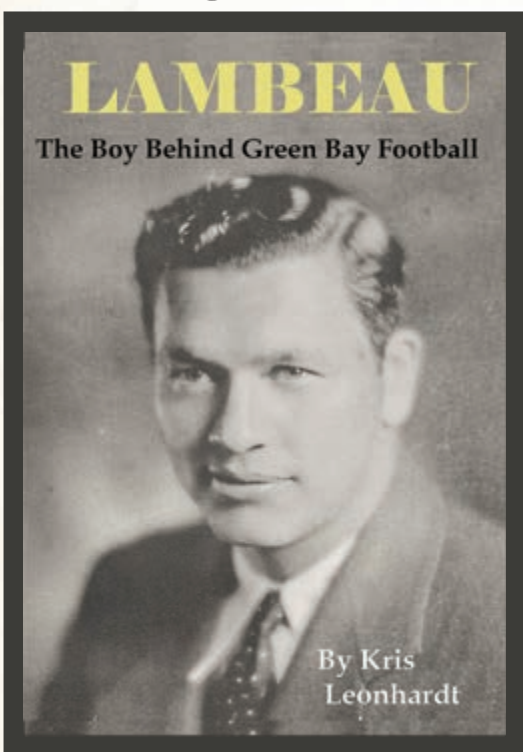
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"A fascinating TALE



of dedication that will inspire fans and readers alike. If you love football, community and tales of grit, this book is a must-read. "

The story of the beginning of the Green Bay Packers and the life of Earl Louis "Curly" Lambeau are so intertwined that it is hard to imagine one without the other.

From the streets of Green Bay, Lambeau developed a passion for football and grew that yearning into a football team that would exist long past his lifetime.

Like the Packers, Lambeau's story is a tale of adversity and challenge, but also a story of triumph and perseverance. While his personal life and professional career were wrought with challenge, his legacy continues to resonate in the Green Bay community, including a massive structure along Lombardi Avenue that shines a light on his contribution to the professional team.

BOOK SIGNING

Saturday, Jan. 25 • 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Bosse's News Depot
107 S Broadway, De Pere

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

As reported by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Monday, Jan. 13: On 1/11/2025 deputies were sent to the intersection of CTH JJ and Hillside Dr. in the Township of Merrill for a two-car crash with injuries. An E/B vehicle traveling on Hillside Dr. failed to yield the

right of way to a vehicle traveling S/B on CTH JJ, resulting in a crash. Injuries were reported by passengers in the S/B vehicle. During the investigation, the driver of the E/B vehicle, a Merrill man, 84, was showing signs of impairment. Subsequently, he was arrested for OWI causing

injury, first offense. Deputies conducted 35 traffic stops and 59 security checks. Deputies responded to eight car vs. deer crashes. Driving complaints: Two. The 911 Center took two hang-up calls and five nuisance calls.

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Looking Past; Looking Forward

Dear Reader,

When the love of your life dies, the impact is profound and life-altering. The grief can feel as though it will never subside, and the absence of that person—your partner in all things—casts a shadow over even the smallest moments of your day. The process of losing them, from illness or sudden tragedy to the final goodbye, is one of life's greatest challenges.

After the funeral is over, the loneliness often sets in deeply. Friends and family may surround you for a time, offering kindness and support, but eventually, their lives pull them back to their routines. And there you are, left to grapple with the silence.

Many who experience such a loss have shared how the grief feels inescapable. The memories you shared with your spouse linger everywhere—in your home, your daily habits, and even in the way you think about the world. The ache is particularly acute when something good or bad happens, and you instinctively want to share it with them.

There is no one-size-fits-all answer to coping with such loss. Each person's grief is



unique, shaped by the depth of the relationship and the individual personality of the one left behind. However, here are some thoughts that may offer comfort and guidance as you navigate this painful journey.

First, take it one day at a time. It's simple advice, but it holds profound wisdom. In the early days, just getting out of bed and facing the world can feel like a monumental task. Allow yourself to move at your own pace. Don't rush the grieving process or feel pressured to "move on" too quickly. Healing is not linear, and it's okay to have days when the sorrow feels overwhelming.

It's important to lean on others—but also seek to rebuild. Family and friends can provide crucial support, but their lives will naturally con-

tinue, and you may find yourself needing to rebuild parts of your own. Consider joining a grief support group where others who've experienced similar losses can share their insights and struggles. Knowing you're not alone in your feelings can be deeply reassuring.

Over time you can find new meaning and purpose. Though it feels impossible at first, try to slowly re-engage with the world. Take up an activity or explore something you've always been curious about. Join a class in art, writing, or history. Volunteer with an organization that aligns with your values. If you're physically able, activities like yoga, gardening, or walking in nature can offer both physical and emotional relief.

You may find some healing in honoring your loved one's memory. Create a ritual or space where you can remember and celebrate your spouse. It might be a small garden, a photo album, or even a weekly moment of reflection. This helps keep them present in your life in a way that feels healthy and comforting, rather than overwhelming.

But don't remain in a constant state of sorrow. Your loved one wouldn't want that. While they may no longer be physically by your side, their love and influence live on in you. Embracing life doesn't mean forgetting them; it means carrying their memory with you as you find joy again.

Take heart, dear reader. Though the journey of loss is painful, it's also a testament to the love you shared. Grief is a long and winding road, but it does not mean your own story is over. It's a new chapter—one you didn't ask for, but one in which you can still find meaning, connection, and even hope.

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



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A public notice:

The Tomahawk Board of Education is seeking to fill a vacancy, on a temporary basis, through April 28, 2025.

Candidates must reside in the City of Tomahawk and submit a notice of interest in writing to Wendell Quesinberry, District Administrator, 1048 E King Road, Tomahawk WI 54487. For more information please call the District Office at 715-453-5555.

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Multi Media Channels editor launches Curly Lambeau book

BY MMC

GREEN BAY – Multi Media Channels (MMC) Senior Editor Kris Leonhardt has authored a book on Green Bay Packers first head coach and general manager, Curly Lambeau.

Lambeau – The Boy Behind Green Bay Football chronicles Lambeau's life from birth through death and includes photos supplied by Green Bay area archives, including the Neville Public Museum, UW-Green Bay Archives and Packers Hall of Fame, Inc.

The book also features a foreword written by current Packers Hall of Fame, Inc. President Don Sipes and is tailored toward both the casual football fan and the die-hard fanatic.

This book captures the heart and history of the Green Bay Packers as not just a sports team, but a symbol of resilience and unwavering belief. At its core is the story of Curly Lambeau, a man who refused to let challenges stop him from building a legacy. Against all odds, he kept the Packers alive through sheer determination, transforming them into one of the most revered teams in NFL history. Lambeau Field stands as a fitting tribute to his passion and



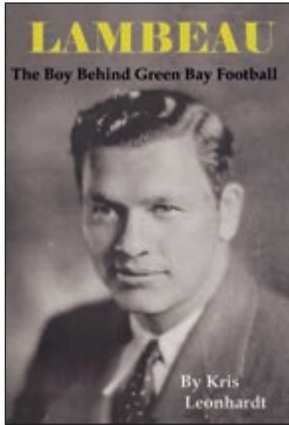
Leonhardt

persistence, but this book tells the full story of his journey – a fascinating tale of dedication that will inspire fans and readers alike. If you love football, community and tales of grit, this book is a must-read, said MMC Publisher Patrick Wood.

Signed copies are available through MMC at www.shopmmclocal.com/product/lambeau and also available on Amazon at www.a.co/d/3IK2Arc.

The book will also be accessible in the coming months in the Waupaca, Wausau and Stevens Point communities, as well as other local book providers throughout the state.

A book signing event will be held on Saturday, Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at at Bosse's News Depot in De Pere.



Photos courtesy of MMC

Watch www.facebook.com/MMCLOCAL for future book signing events near you.

Kris Leonhardt honed her literary skills at Marquette University and the University of Wisconsin while obtaining her communications degree. She also served in the United States Army, receiving an honorable discharge in 1997. She began a part-time journalism career in 2001, while working in a family business, and joined MMC full-time in 2016.

As a part of MMC, Leonhardt has been recognized in the communities she serves for her work in historic preservation. Leonhardt is also a coordinator for the "Pass it Forward" community journalism internship initiative developed through a partnership with the Green Bay Packers Give Back, Nicolet Bank, UW-Green Bay, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, St. Norbert College, UW-Stevens Point and Notre Dame de la Baie Academy.

She has authored two other historical non-fiction titles.

MMC is the owner of more than 30 print publications, including 22 weeklies and 17 digital channels that serve the central, northern and eastern regions of Wisconsin.

MMC is the publisher of the *Tomahawk Leader*.

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Hatchet swimmers travel to Ashwaubenon, host double dual

FOR THE TOMAHAWK LEADER

ASHWAUBENON – The Tomahawk Hatchet boys' swim team recently competed in an invite and hosted a double dual.

Jaguar Invite

On Saturday Dec. 11, Tomahawk traveled to the large Jaguar Invite in Ashwaubenon, with multiple Division I teams.

The 200 free relay team (Sam Z., Jack A., Bruce P. and Zach G.) placed sixth and six seconds faster than last year's team.

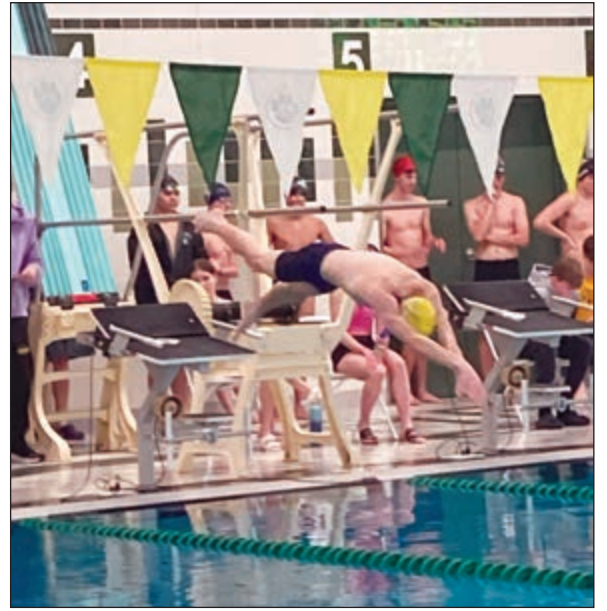
The 400 free relay of Sam Z., Bruce P., Zach G., and Dane D. swam in a time 10 seconds faster than last year and also at a time of a fully tapered sectional swim.

The boys had 21 personal records, including four new freshmen: Connor G., Max A., Brock F. and Michael L.

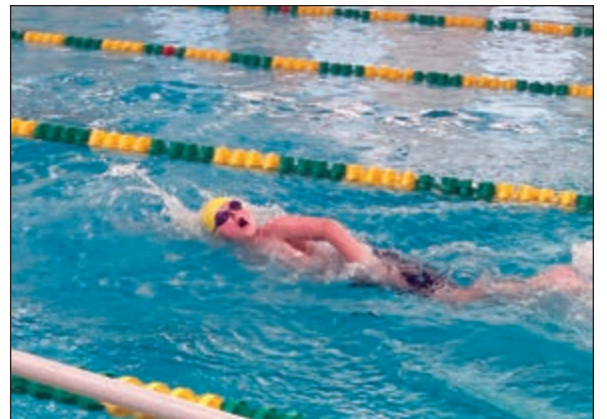
Double dual

The Hatchet swimmers got back into the swing of competition with a double dual against Medford and Antigo on Thursday, Jan. 9.

The Hatchets beat both respective teams,



Photos courtesy of Theresa L'Esperance



setting 13 new personal bests, as well as numerous season best times.

Dane D., Bruce P., and Nathan R. all set at least two personal records.

TOMAHAWK SPORTS TRIVIA: WEEK 217

The Tomahawk Leader will feature one local sports trivia question per week, provided by the late Bob Skubal, 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 216 question: During the 1982 THS girls' volleyball season, Tomahawk was Regional champion and lost at Sectionals. Who did they lose to at Sectionals: Barron, Unity, or Rice Lake?

Week 216 answer: The 1982 THS girls' volleyball team lost to Barron at Sectionals (6-15, 11-15). At Regionals, they defeated Maple Northwestern (15-0, 15-1), Phillips (15-4,

15-1) and Hayward (15-3, 15-6). Coaches for the team were Laurie Mitchell and Becky Frese.

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

Week 217 question: Jeff Zehner went on to play football in college. Where did he go: UW-Superior, Winona State or Itasca Community College?

Associated Clergy of Tomahawk "Pastor's Corner"

Fear: Rational or Irrational?

As we enter deeper into this new year of 2025, what is your belief about the coming next eleven months. Do you look forward with joyful anticipation to what the year may bring or are you waiting for the next awful, terrible, scary, very bad event to happen? The first belief might be described as hopeful faith; the second belief as fearful expectation. I had an acquaintance once whose motto was, "I don't expect anything good to happen, that way I'm never disappointed." Perhaps she had a fear of disappointment. In any event, her joy of life was dampened by her lack of hopefulness and avoidance of disappointment (not exactly fatal). Do you think her fear is rational?

Rational fear is defined as fear that occurs when there is a real and imminent threat. Irrational fear doesn't make logical sense and can vary from person to person. (fear of heights, flying, failure, tests, public speaking...fear of disappointment)

Rational fear can keep us safe as we refrain from traveling when a severe snowstorm is underway or respecting any legitimate warning that is meant to keep us from harm. Irrational fear can keep us from experiencing the wonders of life and experiencing the challenge of living life abundantly. Getting on a plane and joyfully reuniting with loved ones can be replaced with refusing to EVER get on a plane to go ANYWHERE. Planning a road trip to see the beauty of God's creation can be replaced with fear of getting outside our comfort zone and cocooning ourselves inside our home. Applying for a new job or volunteering for that organization who could use your help is replaced with the desire to avoid failure or refusing to go through the effort of building a relationship with a stranger.

Proverbs 9:10 tells us "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." This RATIONAL fear involves respecting His mighty power. It is understanding that God is the creator of life and gives insight into how we should live because he is the Creator of life. It is wisdom to cultivate a relationship with God as we know him more fully throughout our life. This wisdom removes irrational fear and allows us to live life abundantly (John 10:10) as we step out in faith. Jesus calls us to this abundant life as he teaches us to trust in him and to love one another as he has loved us.

God provides us with each day to start fresh, anticipating the experiences that teach us, enrich our lives and provide joy if we are willing to step out in faith and trust rather than fear.



Submitted by
Wendy Mannering,
Volunteer Outreach Pastor
First Congregational Church

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