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*Thank You, Thank You, Thank You...*

The start of a new year is often a time for reflection on the prior year's successes, failures, laughs and memories. As we at the Chamber reflect on 2016, we want to thank our members for supporting us. We currently have 363 members, 2,442 followers on Facebook with posts reaching over 9,000 viewers per week, weekly community updates that go out to 892 people, a growing staff and an active board of directors.

While we certainly have room to grow and are always looking to improve, we are very awed and thankful for the support from the community that we have. To each and every one of you, know that your membership means the world to us. We look forward to serving you in 2017 and for many years to come!

*New Hire Coming Soon!*

2017 will bring about many changes for our Chamber and our community. One way that we will be contributing to that change is by hiring a person for a position that we will be creating. The position is a "Special Events Coordinator." We are looking for someone who will help us create new events that will generate people visiting Tomah and spending money in our stores and hotels. We created this position based upon the requests we get from the community and business members to help create for festivities in the city of Tomah. Your requests have been heard and now we are searching for the right individual to help us move forward with this mission. You can find the job description on our website or Indeed.com.

*Ranger Station Progress*

The holidays didn't slow down the crews working on the Ranger Station! In fact, on Thursday, the 22nd of December, we were able to take board members of the CVB, Chamber and members of City Council on a tour of the progress. We also met with the Tomah Museum to talk about items that we can utilize in the building. One of our main goals is to show off Tomah's history and entice visitors into learning more about Tomah. In the months to come, work will be nearing completion on the building. We look forward to sharing this beautiful building with you.

*Save the Date!*

Our 2017 Annual Banquet and Awards Presentation will be on February 27th, 2017. This year we will feature the musical talent of Blend, an acapella group that has performed in Tomah on several occasions, as our entertainment. Also, please note that included in this newsletter is our nomination form for the awards portion of the evening. Please send us your nominations by January 20th so that we can start building a spectacular evening!



# current membership

## CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

### BOARD OFFICERS

*president*  
Dennis Coffey  
*executive board*

Donna Evans  
Terrie Gaarder  
Jeff Gray  
Diane Pergande  
Robin Pierce

### BOARD DIRECTORS

Curt DeBoer  
Jeff Grey  
Kyle Von Haden  
Lynn Martalock  
Kevin Ravenscroft  
Christine Storkel  
Colleen Woggon  
Jeff Zelley  
Joe Zeps

### EX OFFICIO

Roger Gorius  
*City of Tomah*  
Matthew Gowan  
*VA Medical Center*  
Kim Granum  
*WJC-Tomah*  
Tanya Townsell  
*Fort McCoy*  
Cindy Zahrte  
*Tomah School District*

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 342

## chamber membership renewals

*1st Community Credit Union*- 1 year  
*Active Health Chiropractic*- 23 years  
*Alley Cat Yoga*- 2 years  
*Cardinal TG*- 25 years  
*Chitwood, Nicol & Matthews, LLC*- 22 years  
*Close to Home, Inc.*- 19 years  
*CJ's Transmission & Auto Repair*- 3 years  
*DBS Group, LLC*- 1 year  
*Designfocus, LLC*- 1 year  
*First Choice Realty, Inc.*- 16 years  
*Flying Wheels Roller Rink, Inc.*- 10 years  
*Fran Pollard*- 18 years

*Hawkins Ash CPAs*- 1 year  
*Joe & Carrie Martinez*- 26 years  
*Kids Kountry Learning Center*- 28 years  
*Lyden Auto Body*- 21 years  
*Morgan Stanley*- 19 years  
*Pioneer Pawn Shop*- 19 years  
*Pizones*- 9 years  
*Ryan Pierce Construction*- 1 year  
*SERVPRO of La Crosse County*- 4 years  
*Tomah Softball Association*- 8 years  
*VanderMeer Motor Co.*- 26 years  
*Zingler Marketing, LLC*- 3 years

## 2017 newsletter spotlights

### NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHTS

Do you know of or belong to a non-profit organization who would like to raise awareness about their organization? If so, please submit a 100-200 word synopsis about the non-profit (the who, what, where, when, and why) to [agrossell@tomahwisconsin.com](mailto:agrossell@tomahwisconsin.com).

Along with the synopsis be sure to include the month that you would like for it to run in the Tomah Chamber Chatter Newsletter! We currently have every month of 2017 open, besides April. Also, if you'd like to include a photo or logo please submit that as well.

### BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

Do you see your business logo on the back cover of this newsletter? That means that your business has decided to go with a higher membership tier and is eligible for a membership spotlight within the Tomah Chamber Chatter Newsletter.

If you'd like to take advantage of this, please submit a 100-200 word (based on your membership level) synopsis on your business to [agrossell@tomahwisconsin.com](mailto:agrossell@tomahwisconsin.com). Along with the synopsis be sure to include the month that you would like for it to run in 2017, as well as your business logo!

## STAFF

tina thompson

PRESIDENT/CEO

[tthompson@tomahwisconsin.com](mailto:tthompson@tomahwisconsin.com)

amanda grossell

TOURISM & MARKETING

[agrossell@tomahwisconsin.com](mailto:agrossell@tomahwisconsin.com)

angie hemmersbach

MEMBERSHIP & EVENTS

[ahemmersbach@tomahwisconsin.com](mailto:ahemmersbach@tomahwisconsin.com)



# CRAFT BEER TASTING & CHILI COOK-OFF

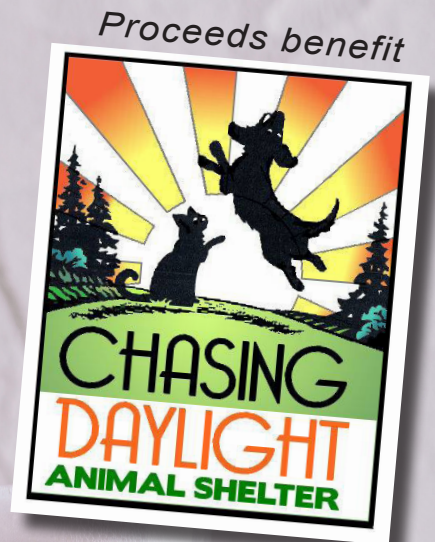
**SAT, JANUARY 28TH**

**5-8 PM**

**VFW, TOMAH**

- 🌶️ **\$10** per person. Includes sampling of chilis and craft beers. Must be 21+ to attend.
- 🌶️ 10 craft beer varieties available!
- 🌶️ **First 70 people in attendance receive a souvenir beer tasting glass.**
- 🌶️ 50/50 raffle & custom bench raffle, built by Leroy Paulson.
- 🌶️ Pre-registration required for chili cook-off participation. Limited to 20 entries. Contact CDAS to register. Prizes awarded.

**PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:**



Contact Chasing Daylight Animal Shelter at  
608-374-2112 or [info@chasingdaylight.org](mailto:info@chasingdaylight.org).

# What is a Roth IRA?

The Roth IRA is designed to help you save for retirement. It allows after-tax contributions in exchange for the potential of tax-free income in retirement.

## What are my investment choices in a Roth IRA?

With an Edward Jones Roth IRA, you can choose from a wide variety of investments, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit (CDs) and money market funds. This variety gives you the opportunity to diversify your savings with an appropriate mix to help meet your retirement objectives.

## Am I eligible to contribute to a Roth IRA?

If you have earned income, or your spouse has earned income and you file your taxes as Married Filing Jointly, you can contribute at any age as long as your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) falls below or within the limits below:

Filing Status	2016	Contribution
Single Individual	Less than \$117,000	Full contribution
	\$117,000-\$131,999	Partial contribution
	\$132,000 or more	No contribution
Married Filing Jointly	Less than \$184,000	Full contribution
	\$184,000-\$193,999	Partial contribution
	\$194,000 or more	No contribution
Married Filing Separately	\$1-\$9,999	Partial contribution
	\$10,000 or more	No contribution

## How much can I contribute to my Roth IRA?

You can contribute 100% of your earned income – up to the annual contribution limit. Those age 50 and older can make additional catch-up contributions. These limits, however, are reduced by any amount contributed to a traditional IRA.

You can contribute to a Roth IRA anytime during the year and up to your tax-filing deadline (generally April 15). Keep in mind that you must make contributions to your Roth IRA in cash, not with investments.

## Contribution Limits for 2016

Under Age 50	\$5,500
Age 50+	\$6,500 (\$5,500 + \$1,000 catch-up contribution)

## How are Roth IRA funds taxed?\*

With a Roth IRA, you make after-tax contributions in exchange for the potential of future tax-free withdrawals. You can withdraw those contribution dollars at any time tax and penalty free. You can also withdraw earnings tax and penalty free, as long as you have owned a Roth IRA for at least five years and have reached age 59½. The five-year clock starts with the first contribution.

Tax-free income means you don't have to worry as much about future income tax rates. This gives you greater flexibility to meet your income needs in retirement.

You can extend those tax-free benefits by leaving your Roth IRA to your heirs, who can enjoy tax-free benefits over their lifetimes as well.

## Do I have to take required minimum distributions?

Unlike a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA has no required minimum distributions (RMDs) for the original account holder when you reach age 70½. You control when you want to withdraw money. If you don't need the money in your Roth IRA for living expenses, you can leave it so that it can continue to potentially grow tax free.

\*If you fund your Roth IRA through a rollover or conversion, the tax consequences may be different.

Diversification does not guarantee a profit or protect against loss.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.



**Jeremy Haun, CFP®**

Financial Advisor

1115 N Superior Ave Suite 3  
Tomah, WI 54660  
608-372-6300

[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

Member SIPC

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING





# CardValet to Launch in January

We are pleased to announce that we are adding a new mobile app for debit card users. Benefits include the ability to help you control spending and ways to monitor your card activity to help prevent fraud. CardValet® is expected to be available January 15 for all Timberwood Bank debit card customers.\* Learn more about this new app:

## Fraud Protection

A lost or stolen card is just one area of concern in today's world where identity theft, skimming and other attacks are an unfortunate reality. Turning your debit card off when you're not using it helps safeguard against fraud. When your card is "off," no withdrawals or purchases will be approved. Transaction controls that allow your debit card to work only in specific locations or geographic areas, add another layer of protection. And real-time alerts keep you informed when your card is used or declined.

## Review Balances and Transactions

Monitor your finances from anywhere. Use the CardValet app to check your account balances.

- Turn your debit card on and off
- Establish transaction controls for dollar amount limits, merchant categories and geographic locations
- Receive alerts when your debit card is used, approved or exceeds the transaction controls set by you
- Stay informed of potential fraud with alerts on attempted, declined transactions
- Get real-time balances for your accounts

## Control Spending

If you're trying to establish or stick to a budget, CardValet can help. Set spending limits for general use or specify thresholds by merchant types, such as gas, groceries or retail stores. You can also establish these controls by location. The flexible app lets you change these parameters anytime with ease via your mobile device. Going on vacation? Holiday shopping? Simply update your transaction controls to fit your spending needs.

Get the mobile app that lets you control debit card usage and spending on the go! Sign up today and download the CardValet mobile app from the Apple® App Store or Google Play™. Make sure you have your debit card available and then follow the steps to complete your registration.

A Quick Reference Guide is available online: [timberwoodbanks.com/personal/cardvalet](http://timberwoodbanks.com/personal/cardvalet). If you have any questions at all during the process, please don't hesitate to contact us at (608) 372-2265.

*\*CardValet is available for Apple iOS and Google Android devices.*

## Club Timberwood's Merchant of the Quarter

### R. Moake Excavating

23221 St Hwy 16, Tomah | (608) 343-5599

**Club Timberwood Members:** Receive \$50 off any service over \$500.00.



We are thrilled to feature R. Moake Excavating as our winter Merchant of the Quarter! We asked Rick to share a little about his business, how it all started and how he can help you...

I started in excavating as a laborer and worked my way through the ranks, but it was always hard to keep me out of equipment. I have been working in this type of business now for 26 years. With the help of friends, family and satisfied customers, I decided to do it my way. Timberwood Bank agreed to become my financial advisors when I started my own business 11 years ago. Customers now see what kind of work I can perform and I take pride in the projects I can point to as examples of my work.

My business involves pretty much anything to do with moving dirt. I dig basements, install septic systems, water lines, landscaping, driveways and plow snow. My business is to keep the builders, plumbers and

home owners on schedule with the peace of mind that their job is being done efficiently with the right materials and done to the customer's satisfaction.

My wife Tori and I and our four daughters are actively involved in many youth programs such as 4-H, basketball, figure skating and softball. The greater Tomah area is a great place for business opportunities and for raising a family.

Can Rick help you or your business with an upcoming project? Be sure to give him a call at (608) 343-5599!

***Is your business a Club Timberwood Merchant? Call us today and find out how you can sign up!***

## Timberwood Staff Spotlight

**Sara Gigous**

VP/Senior Operations Officer



*We welcomed Sara to Timberwood Bank in November. She has over 16 years of banking experience and we are so happy to have her on our team!*

**Hobbies/Interests:** Reading, Gardening, Decorating Cakes, and most of all being with my family.

**What do you like most about your job?** I love bringing in new technology or finding ways to utilize our current programs to make our work more efficient. As a back office person I want to make sure our front line staff has all the tools they need to help our customers. If I can make our employee's work easier, I know they can make our customer experience better.

**Tell us about your family:** My husband and I are high school sweethearts and have been married for 10 years. Adam works in IT at Organic Valley. We have two kids: 8 year old daughter, Kaitlynn, and 5 year old son, Ethan. We are a busy soccer family most of the year between Adam coaching and the kids both playing. My daughter also dances so there are many times I am running around dropping kids off and picking kids up from soccer and/or dance.

**What is the most important thing you have learned in the last five years?** Nothing ever goes the way you think it will, and that is ok. Change is good and just because it's not what you thought it would be doesn't mean it is wrong.

**Tell us something about yourself that would surprise us?** I come from a very large family and am the youngest of 12 kids. I have 28 nieces and nephews and 17 great nieces and nephews.

**How do you balance your career at Timberwood Bank and family?** Having an employer that is family oriented is how I am able to balance both my career and family.



## BREAK ROOM FAVORITES!

Courtesy David Taylor

### White Chicken Chili



#### Ingredients:

1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breast, cut into ½ inch cubes  
 1 medium onion  
 1 ½ teaspoons garlic powder  
 1 tablespoon vegetable oil  
 2 (15.5 ounce) cans great northern beans, rinsed and drained  
 1 (14.5 ounce) can chicken broth  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 1 teaspoon oregano  
 ½ teaspoon pepper  
 ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper  
 1 cup sour cream  
 ½ cup whipping cream  
 2 (4 ounce) cans diced green chilies

#### Directions:

In large saucepan, sauté chicken, onion and garlic powder in oil until chicken is no longer pink. Add beans, chilies and seasonings and chicken broth. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 30 minutes. Remove from heat, stir in sour cream and whipping cream, then serve.

Makes 5 servings.

To submit your own recipe, email Jenny Kochie:  
[jkochie@timberwoodbanks.com](mailto:jkochie@timberwoodbanks.com)



Showing our support and gratitude for our law enforcement during National Police Week and Paint the Town Blue.

Another year has quickly come to a close. While we look forward to a wonderful 2017, we want to share a few Timberwood Bank highlights from 2016.



Touched Twice Clinic was 1 of 24 charitable organizations that received a donation from our Employee Jeans Day fund.

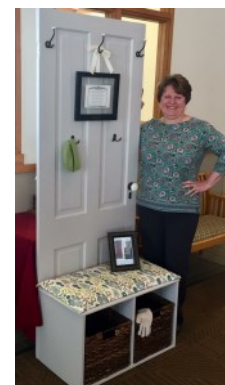


St. Paul's teacher Susan Hoffmann accepting school supplies from Jill following our Tools 4 School supply drive.

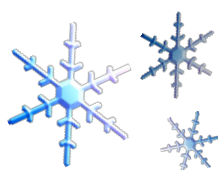


Girl Scout Troop 4202 selling cookies & braving the cold in February!

We were excited to participate again last year in the Tomah Chamber's Elf on a Shelf. Miss Cocoa Glittersleigh was found in our food pantry donation cart by Jessie & Cadence Thompson.



Sally did an excellent job creating this entryway hutch out of an antique door for the Chair Affair IV: Doors, a fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Club.



Another record year for our spring Shred Event! \$1,026 in cash donations and 745 pounds of donated items for Neighbor for Neighbor Food Pantry.

## Timberwood Scholarship

Timberwood Bank offers a higher education scholarship to Tomah High School graduating seniors. One applicant will be selected to receive the \$1,000 scholarship which must be applied to the academic year following their high school graduation. The student or parent(s) of the student must be customers of Timberwood Bank in order to qualify.

The application will be available on the THS website starting in January and must be received by March 15, 2016. Go to [www.Tomah.k12.wi.us](http://www.Tomah.k12.wi.us) to download the application.

Rules apply - see application for details.



Find announcements, pictures and more on our Facebook page.

## Employee Anniversaries

Andy Doyle - 4 years  
 Robert Holmes - 13 years  
 John Kenworthy - 13 years  
 Brenda Meyer - 13 years  
 Lori Miller - 13 years  
 Andrea Peterson - 6 years  
 Kevin Ravenscroft - 7 years  
 Annette Smith - 4 years  
 Brooke Oliver - 4 years



# Happy New Year!



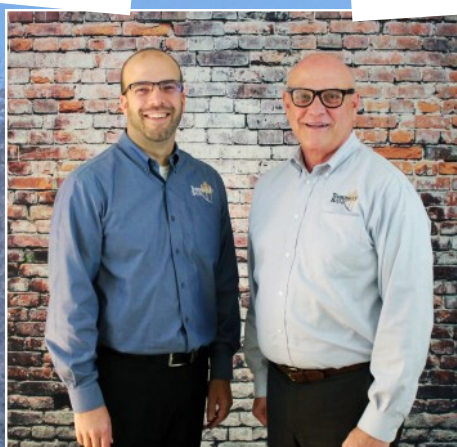
**Loan Officers**  
Tom Trautsch, Andy Doyle, David Taylor,  
Brent Olsen, Kristi Arzt



**Customer Service Representatives**  
Trysta Johnson, Jill Dahlke, Chelsea Hericks,  
Melissa Santell; *Front:* Melissa Troutt, Kim Pfaff  
*Not Pictured:* Courtney Pearsall



**Receptionists**  
Linda Erbs and Jenny Kochie



**President & CEO Kevin Ravenscroft**  
**Executive Chairman Robert Holmes**



**Personal Bankers**  
Kristi Betthausen, Brooke Oliver,  
Alicia Weinschrott



**Loan Support**  
Jan Rewey, Stephanie Woods, Tanya Scott, Sarah Gilles  
*Front:* Colleen Bolchen, Cody Mlsna, Annette Smith



**Operations**  
Rachel Oakes, Lori Miller, Andrea Peterson,  
Matt Fries, Sara Gigous, John Kenworthy  
*Front:* Elizabeth Zweifel, Sally Spangler,  
Brenda Meyer



# January

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

NAMI's  
**Family Support  
Group** 6 p.m.  
TMH Classroom B



2

Tomah Mem. Hosp.'s  
**Parkinson's Support  
Group** 2 p.m. at  
Tomah Mem. Hosp.



3

4

American Red Cross's  
**Blood Drive** 10:45  
a.m.- 5 p.m. at **First  
United Methodist**  
NAMI's  
**Mental Health Sup-  
port Group** 6:30 p.m.  
TMH Classroom B

5

6



American Legion's  
**Fish Fry** at 5 p.m.

7

CDAS's  
**Pins for Pets** 1-3:30  
p.m. at **Colonial  
Bowling Center**  
Tomah Hist. Museum's  
**AYCE Chili Supper**  
4:30-6:30 p.m. at  
K of C Hall

8

9

The Parenting Place's  
**Positive Parent  
Discussion Group**  
5:30-7:30 p.m. at the  
Parenting Place



10

11

12

13

14

15

Tomah Chambers's  
**Annual Banquet  
Award Nominations**  
Due today!  
(See Page 16)



16

UW Extension's  
**Strong Bodies  
Classes Begins** 5:30  
p.m. at **Rec Park**



17

UW Extension's  
**Strong Women  
Classes Begins** 5:30  
p.m. at **Rec Park**



18

Tomah Chambers's  
**Business After 5**  
5 p.m. at TBD



19

20

21

Tomah ACT's  
**Bingo Palooza** 7-10  
p.m. at the ACT



22

23



24

25

Tomah Memorial  
Hospital's **Blood  
Drive** 12-5 p.m. at  
Tomah Mem. Hosp.



26

27

28

CDAS's **Craft Beer  
Tasting & Chili  
Cook-Off** 5-8 p.m. at  
the VFW



29

30

31

What good is the warmth of summer,  
without the cold of winter to give it  
sweetness? -John Steinbeck

## Monthly Events & Meetings

**Ambassadors /  
Membership Meeting**  
2nd Wednesday  
at Noon

**City of Tomah  
Long Range Planning**  
Last Tuesday, 5:15 pm  
at City Hall

**Our Town Tomah**  
3rd Thursday at Noon  
Community Room at  
Tomah Police Dept.



# Fort McCoy

UPDATE BY  
Theresa Fitzgerald

## Armed Forces Day Open House

Mark your calendars to attend Fort McCoy's Armed Forces Day Open House Saturday, May 20, 2017. Plans are underway for the annual event which is free and open to the public. All activities will take place in the historic Commemorative Area.

## Winter Activities

The Whitetail Ridge Ski Area has many activities open to the public during the winter season. New this year

is Bubble Sports: Contestants get inside a large blowup bubble and compete in various activities.

New to the Action Cam Contest is the availability of GoPro cameras for rent at the chalet. The contest runs through Jan. 27. Snowboarders, skiers and tubing enthusiast can post Facebook videos of their experiences at the ski hill and win prizes. Call the chalet at **608-388-4498** for more details. To see more events available and to register visit the MWR website or Facebook page at [mccoy.armymwr.com](http://mccoy.armymwr.com) / [facebook.com/WhitetailRidge](https://www.facebook.com/WhitetailRidge).

# Tomah Historical Society & Museum

UPDATE BY  
Jim Weinzatl

The Tomah Area Historical Society & Museum was established in Tomah in 1997 when Joyce and Frosty Mades donated their building (Formerly Joyce's Clothes Post) for a free museum.

From its humble beginnings, the museum has grown and prospered as a 501 3 (c) Non-profit organization with a board of directors, a curator, and executive director.

The purpose of the organization is to collect and preserve the records and artifacts of the Tomah area's history. The collection is identified, recorded, compiled and preserved for display and educational purposes for future generations. With an active membership and staff of dedicated volunteers, they are happy to welcome visitors and give tours of the Museum and Little Red School House in Gillett Park.

The Society sponsors fundraisers and historical educational opportunities throughout the year. They also assist with local genealogy research.

You, your family, or business are invited to become members of the society. Memberships are just \$10.00 a year for individuals, \$15.00 for families, and \$30.00 for organizations or businesses.

For more information contact: Jim Weinzatl, Executive Director (608) 372-1880, email: [tomahmuseum@charter.net](mailto:tomahmuseum@charter.net) or visit our new website at: [tomahmuseum.com](http://tomahmuseum.com)

Hours of Operation: **Museum** (located at 1112 Superior Avenue): open to the public May to Oct. Tuesday thru Saturday 1-4 P.M. **Little Red School House**: open Memorial Day to Labor Day Wed. 1-4 P.M. Sat. 9-Noon





# Preschool Enrollment Opens February 1st!

## 2017 Summer Program

(June 5—August 18)

- \* Open to children ages 3-5
- \* Offers fun, age-appropriate activities for preschool children throughout the summer
- \* Five, Four, Three, or Two Day Program Options
  - \* Mornings: 8:00—11:00 AM
  - \* Full Days: 8:00—3:00 PM
  - \* Full Days with After Care: 8:00—5:30 PM
- \* FREE Early Drop Off from 7:00 —8:00 AM
- \* FREE Registration if enrolled before March 1st

## 2017-2018 School Year

(August– May)

- \* Combined 3K and 4K classes
- \* Developmentally appropriate education planned around each child's interests and learning styles
- \* Five, Four, Three, or Two Day Program Options
  - \* Mornings: 8:00—12:00 Noon
  - \* Full Days: 8:00—3:05 PM
- \* FREE Early Drop Off from 7:10 —8:00 AM
- \* After Care available from 3:05—5:30 PM
- \* Bussing available at 8:00 AM and 3:05 PM



**ST. PAUL**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL  
KNOW CHRIST. GROW IN CHRIST. SHOW CHRIST TO THE WORLD

505 Superior Ave  
Tomah, WI 54660

Phone: 608-372-4542

Fax: 608-372-2335

E-mail: [stpaulpreschooltomah@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulpreschooltomah@gmail.com)

The

# North American Squirrel Association

Presents the

## 2017 PHEASANT BLITZ

March 25<sup>th</sup>

All events begin at 8 a.m. at  
Woods & Meadow Hunting Preserve, Warrens Wisconsin.  
\$750 entry fee per 5-person team

Fees and rules include:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) 30 birds for your party to hunt          | 5) No alcohol before shooting events               |
| 2) Hunt time and location by pre-event draw | 6) Lunch provided                                  |
| 3) Trap and skeet shoot included            | 7) Team with greatest combined score wins \$1,000! |
| 4) Must wear a blaze orange hat and vest    | 8) 2 ¾" shells, #4 shot or smaller required        |

To Register, call:

Woods & Meadow Hunting Preserve at (608) 378-4223

**Registration fee due by: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

Fee Payable To: Woods & Meadow, LLC., N4335 Potter Rd, Warrens, Wi. 54666

Or Visit

[www.woodsandmeadow.com](http://www.woodsandmeadow.com)



**All Proceeds will be used  
locally to construct a  
handicapped accessible park,  
peer and picnic area at our  
local Lake Tomah Park!**





# North American Squirrel Association

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Banquet

### Tomah, Wisconsin

**N.A.S.A is a volunteer, non-profit organization which helps elderly and physically challenged individuals in to the outdoors free of charge. All monies raised by this fundraising event will stay local and be used to construct a handicapped accessible park, peer and picnic area at our local Lake Tomah Park.**

1. The Mail-in Application is on the second page. Retain the first page for your records.  
Individual tickets cost \$60 to cover the cost of prizes and dinner.  
Sponsor tables can be reserved for \$800. The sponsor table includes the following:
  - Banquet tickets for eight people, a reserved table for your party, dinner, and entry of your table into the drawing for another fine firearm.
  - **Sponsor tables will each have their own gun to raffle this year.**
2. **Support the food pantry:** Bring **as many canned** goods as you wish to the banquet to support the food pantry and receive one ticket for each item for entry into a drawing that night for a gun.
3. Squirrel bucks will be sold at the banquet where \$100 will get you a \$125 card of squirrel bucks.
4. **Squirrel bucks special:** Spend \$200 and receive **\$375** worth of squirrel bucks!
5. Squirrel Bucks can be used on any raffle **except** the Plinko game and cash walk-arounds.
6. Visa and Master Card will be accepted for payments at the banquet. An ATM is also available.
7. Fill out and return the application on the next page. Banquet tickets will be mailed back to you.
8. For more ticket information you can call **Bertie Dietzman** at 608-343-4676.

Please remember that each activity offered by N.A.S.A. for physically challenged and elderly members of our community is provided free of charge. These opportunities are made possible by your financial support and the efforts of volunteers. We hope that you can make it to the banquet and that you invite others to join you in helping our cause and enjoying the fun. See you there!



# **YOU MUST HAVE YOUR BANQUET TICKET FILLED OUT AND IN-HAND FOR ADMISSION TO THE BANQUET**

## **Mail-In Ticket Application**

### **A) Individual Ticket Purchase**

Please provide the following information so we can mail your tickets to you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

A. \$60 per ticket (x) \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
# of tickets purchasing

### **B) Sponsor Table Ticket Purchase (Sponsor table seats eight) \_\_\_\_\_.**

**You must include following information when purchasing a sponsor table. PRINT LEGIBLY!!!**

Ticket purchaser Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor Table Name \_\_\_\_\_

Will there be a handicapped person at your table? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ How many spaces? \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

B. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ sponsor table(s) @ \$800 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to the North American Squirrel Association or N.A.S.A. and send to:  
N.A.S.A.**

**C/O Bertie Dietzman  
29295 Grosbeak Ave  
Tomah, WI. 54660**

**Your tickets will be promptly mailed to you. In the event you don't receive them, please call Bertie at 608-343-4676 to verify that we have received your information. Thank you!**



# WHY NOT TO JOIN THE CHAMBER AND A QUICK GAME OF MYTHBUSTERS!

January marks a new year for all of us. This month we decided to have a little fun and write about common myths and objections to joining the Chamber. Maybe you know a business who wants to know more about the Chamber? Send them our way! We love business and our members!

## ***Ten Reasons for NOT Belonging to the Chamber***

1. My business does not need a voice to keep our elected officials aware of my needs.
2. There is no need for trying to support new and diversified business since I don't want my community to grow.
3. I don't care if out-of-town visitors and business prospects can't get information about my business; the less people know about my business the better.
4. I don't want new customers referred to my business... I already have too many.
5. The chamber's promotion of our community's businesses and services is unimportant.
6. I am not interested in advertising opportunities or staying "in the know."
7. Who needs to "network" and get to know other business people in our community? I really don't need more business.
8. Improving our community and its quality of life? I can't see how that would help my business.
9. Why should I invest in the chamber and my community? I don't need the benefits the chamber can provide me & my business.
10. MY BUSINESS IS ALREADY TOO SUCCESSFUL!

## ***MYTH #1- The Chamber is a branch of the City of Tomah.***

Nope! We are a membership-based, non-profit organization. While we do work with the City of Tomah on a variety of events and projects, we are not a branch or subsection of our local government. The Chamber of Commerce serves as the principal voice of business within our community, whose mission is to promote, develop and support its membership. This is important

because our organization focuses on fostering a sustainable, prosperous business environment and a high quality, livable community for residents and visitors alike.

## **MYTH #2- Only business owners can join.**

We have many members that are farmers, non-profit groups or other organizations, and people that join as individuals. They join for various reasons such as networking opportunities, to get information, to attend events, or some just to support the business community. So, basically, if you are a human being who is interested in business or the economic and social welfare of the Greater Tomah area, you would make a great Chamber member!

## **MYTH #3: You have to attend a bunch of meetings and committees.**

You don't have to attend anything at all if you don't want to! All members are welcome and encouraged to attend our events as it's a great way to network, and we like to think they are a lot of fun, but they are definitely optional. Events, meetings and committees are just one of the many ways that you can make the most of your Chamber membership on top of the other marketing and resources available.

## **MYTH #4: It's too costly for small businesses.**

Our membership fees are tiered so you pick the investment level you want to join at. For many businesses, membership is less than a dollar a day! Also, many members find that the amount value they receive is more than they pay for the membership.





# news around town

CONGRATS  
& MUCH  
THANKS



CONGRATULATIONS TO:  
MBE CPAs and  
Tomah Memorial Hospital



MUCH THANKS TO:  
Tomah Memorial Hospital  
and F & M Bank

## Congratulations!

### MBE CPAS- FASTEST GROWING FIRM

INSIDE Public Accounting (IPA) recently recognized **MBE CPAs** as a 2016 Fastest Growing Firm by Region. IPA ranks fastest-growing firms by organic growth, defined as growth in net revenues over the previous year excluding mergers and acquisitions.

INSIDE Public Accounting (IPA), founded in 1987, is published by The Platt Group. The Platt Group publishes both the award-winning INSIDE Public Accounting newsletter and the award-winning National Benchmarking Report. For copies of the 2016 IPA Fastest- Growing Firms, please contact Chelsea Page at (317) 733-1920 OR [cpage@plattgroupllc.com](mailto:cpage@plattgroupllc.com).

MBE is a diversified accounting firm providing a variety of customer needs. They have a staff of over 80 tax and accounting professionals that is continually growing. Their 7 branch offices in Wisconsin include: Baraboo, Dells-Delton, Mauston, Reedsburg, Sun Prairie, Tomah, and Wausau. For further information, contact Melanie at 608-402-6072.

## TOMAH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL- COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Tomah Memorial Hospital was among Wisconsin hospitals that provided a combined \$1.7 billion in 2015 to support programs and services that impacted the communities they serve.

The Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) surveys its 133 member hospitals and health systems annually and asks them to describe and quantify the programs, services and activities they provide at or below cost, solely because those programs meet an identified health need in the community. These activities ranged from providing free care to those unable to pay their bills, to sponsoring health improvement activities, health education, free screenings and working with partners on complex socioeconomic issues in the community.

Tomah Memorial Hospital chief financial officer Joe Zeps said the local health care facility provided \$5 million in benefits to Tomah and the surrounding communities. "The figures contained in the WHA's annual report demonstrate the commitment that all Wisconsin hospitals have toward the communities they serve, and we were once again proud to participate in the survey process," Zeps said. The dollar figure is up from nearly \$4 million recorded in 2014 according to Zeps.

The 2016 WHA Community Benefits Report is available at [wiServePoint.org](http://wiServePoint.org).

## Thank You!

### TOMAH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Tomah Neighbor for Neighbor Food Pantry executive director Geena Skowronski, left, accepted a \$2,400 check from Tomah Memorial Hospital nurse tech Anne Peterson, center



and registered nurse Kayla Gilman recently. Hospital employees, providers and board members had the opportunity to accept a turkey or ham from the hospital as a holiday gift or donate the value of the item to the food pantry. Hospital marketing & public relations director Eric Prise said staff has been given the opportunity to make the donation the last six years donating more than \$14,000 during that time. Skowronski said the donation will help to purchase food for the just under 500 families that the facility serves each month. "The check from the hospital will go a long way in helping us provide service for people who need it most," said Skowronski. The local food pantry is located at 1118 West Veterans St., Tomah.

### F & M BANK

They've had a wonderful year supporting our community! They wrapped up 2016 with 2 last donations! They happily supported the Tomah High School Show Choir and the Boys & Girls Club!



**Above:** Some members of the Tomah High School Show Choir

**Left:** Pete Reichardt (President / CEO of F&M Bank) and friends from the Boys & Girls Club including Program Director, Maretta Budde!



# 2016 Chamber Annual Awards Banquet

*The Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce  
is accepting nominations for our Annual Awards Banquet.*

Each year, we strive to acknowledge some of the businesses and  
people who contribute to the quality of life we all enjoy.

Help us select this year's award winners by giving us their names and the reason you are nominating  
them on the form below. All nominations will be considered by a committee with the actual awards  
presented at the 54th Annual Banquet on Monday, February 27, 2017.

## Member of the Year

Presented to an outstanding Chamber member (business) for exemplary commitment and service to the organization in  
2016.

I nominate: \_\_\_\_\_ For these reasons: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Community Service of the Year

Presented to an individual person as recognition for contributions and service to the Chamber and the community in  
2016.

I nominate: \_\_\_\_\_ For these reasons: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Military Service of the Year

Presented to an individual/group as recognition for contributions and service to the community in 2016.

I nominate: \_\_\_\_\_ For these reasons: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Chamber Ambassador of the Year

Presented to an individual Ambassador in recognition of their ability to establish new contacts, strengthen  
relationships, and access information and resources on behalf of Chamber Members.

I nominate: \_\_\_\_\_ For these reasons: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Nominations are due by Friday, January 15th, 2017.**

info@tomahwisconsin.com | fax: 608-372-2167 | P. O. Box 625, Tomah, WI 54660



# chamber membership tiers

AS OF  
JANUARY  
2017

**Lead** \$4,000  
Membership  
Investment

**Influence** - \$2,000 Membership Investment  
**Accelerated** - \$1,000 Membership Investment  
**Growth** - \$500 Membership Investment

## LEAD

**COVERIS**<sup>TM</sup>  
HIGH PERFORMANCE PACKAGING

**F&M  
BANK**

**TIMBERWOOD  
BANK**

Taking care of you.  
**Tomah**  
Memorial Hospital

**TORO**<sup>®</sup>

**Count on it.**

## INFLUENCE

**Brenengen Auto**  
*Customer for Life*

EST. 1969  
**Ground Pound**  
GRILL & BAR

**MAYO CLINIC**  
HEALTH SYSTEM

**Oakdale Credit Union**  
We Treat You Like a Member of the Family

**Partnership Bank**

**FEDERAL  
R.I.A.  
CREDIT UNION**

**TACU  
Credit Union**

**THREE BEARS  
RESORT**

**VA** U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

## ACCELERATED

**All American  
Do it center**

**CARDINAL IG**

**CARLSON  
ADVISORS**  
PARTNERS IN YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

THE CITY OF  
**Tomah**

**CliftonLarsonAllen**

**General Stamping  
& Metalworks**

**GERKE  
EXCAVATING**  
TOMAH, WI

**Gordy's**  
MARKET

**HO-CHUNK GAMING**  
TOMAH

**Kwik Trip**

**LYNX**  
Lemonweir Valley Telcom

**Meca**  
SPORTSWEAR

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
**TOMAH**  
HOME OF THE TIMBERWOLVES

**TRICOR**  
INSURANCE

**VanderMeer  
Motor Co.**

**Walmart**  
Distribution Center

## GROWTH

**ALLIED**  
CO-OPERATIVE

**Cardinal**  
Glass Industries Inc.

**Chitwood Nicol  
& Matthews**  
Excellence in Dentistry

**DEER CREEK  
DENTAL CLINIC**

**EVANS**  
PRINT & MEDIA  
GROUP

**goodwill**

**Handishop Industries, Inc.**  
Rehabilitation Center and Adult Day Center in Wisconsin

**Thornbird Cheese**  
1220 MARK AVENUE  
TOMAH, WI 54661

**Johnson  
of WISCONSIN**  
Transportation  
TOMAH, WI

**Keene's Transfer**  
Tomah, WI

**McNally  
Special Care, LLC**

**MWR**

**Schreier's  
Deeres**  
Quality Used  
Tractors

**Western  
Technical College**  
THE ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCE

**WISCONSIN  
WTC  
TRANSIT Co.**

**AmeriInn**  
LODGE & SUITES

Carmichael &  
Quartemont, S.C.

**Culver's**  
FRESH CUSTARD  
BUTTERBURGERS

**Denny's**

**FIRSTWEBER**  
SOLUTIONS

**HABELMAN**  
REAL ESTATE

1220 MARK AVENUE  
**Houston  
Dental Clinic**  
Oyde P. Houston DDS - Elizabeth C. Houston DDS

1220 MARK AVENUE  
**Yogi's**  
CAMP - TOMAH

**JRMCPAS**

**Koel's  
LAWN CARE**  
LANDSCAPING - SNOW REMOVAL  
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE  
800.374-LAWN

**MUBARAK,  
RADCLIFFE &  
BERRY, S.C.**

**Oakdale Electric  
Cooperative**  
Your Endocrine Energy Partner

**smartsand**

**Torkelson Funeral Home**  
We're Here When You Need Us

**Woodridge**