

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# CHAMBER CHATTER

WISCONSIN'S  
CRANBERRY COUNTRY  
**Tomah.**  
*June 2018*

## TOMAH RECEIVES \$250,000 GRANT FROM WEDC

In early May, Tomah was again positively featured in the media. The City of Tomah applied for and was awarded a grant for \$250,000 to use towards the formerly blighted property across the street from City Hall. This grant money will go towards the loan that the City provided to 3rd Gen, LLC from the TID. In attendance were the Lieutenant Governor, Rebecca Kleefisch, Representative Nancy Vandermeer and Senator Patrick Testin as well as city officials and representatives from the WEDC. Tomah was one of three communities that received grants from the WEDC. The total amount awarded was \$625,000. Congratulations, Tomah, on this achievement!



Photo courtesy of WXOW La Crosse

## GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Tickets are now available for Music on Milwaukee! We are closing down East Milwaukee Street on August 11th and bringing in three musical artists. Duncan Peterson will open up the afternoon at 3:30 PM, followed by Greg Hall and the Wrecking Ball and the Tim Sigler Band (AKA The Mud Dogs). Tickets available on our main page [tomahwisconsin.com](http://tomahwisconsin.com).

## HEALTHCARE HEROES

On May 23rd, the Chamber and Visitors Center invited the public to Winnebago Park to celebrate the amazing healthcare providers that serve our area. We provided Arby's Roast Beef sandwiches, free caricatures, games, ambulances, and booths. Thanks to all who were able to join us in honoring those who care for our health!



## LET'S GO FLY A KITE!

Kite Fest is this Saturday, June 2nd, from 10 AM until 4 PM. Meet at Recreation Park for a free shuttle to this free, family friendly event. We will have 50 to 100 feet show kites flying in the air as well as a personal flying area for amateur kilters to enjoy. There will be a free kite to the first 200 youths in attendance. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. This will truly be a spectacle in the sky!



# MEMBERSHIP & BOARD

Number of Current Members: 345

## *May Renewals*

A&W Restaurant/Long John Silvers: 7 years  
Becky's Tax Service, LLC: 1 year  
BeMobile: 15 years  
Carmichael & Quartemont, S.C.: 26 years  
Culver's Frozen Custard: 24 years  
Dean's Refrigeration & Heating: 39 years  
Dean's Satellite & Security: 11 years  
F&M Bank: 39 years  
Gerke Excavating Inc.: 29 years  
Humbird Cheese: 39 years  
Jonson & Faulkner Properties, LLC: 1 year  
Keene's Transfer: 39 years  
La Crosse Sign Co., Inc.: 6 years

RIA Federal Credit Union: 25 years  
S&S Distributing: 35 years  
Shooting Star Fireworks: 13 years  
Sparta-Tomah Broadcasting Co.: 39 years  
TACU Credit Union: 39 years  
The Market Place: 22 years  
Thunderwash Car Wash: 5 years  
Tomah Area Historical Society & Museum: 19 years  
Tomah Concert Association: 5 years  
Tomah Public Housing Authority: 12 years  
Tomah VA Medical Center: 38 years  
Tomah Youth Soccer Association: 8 years  
Write Like That, Inc.: 4 years

## *New Members*

King's Creatures Animal Training, LLC  
Monroe, Juneau, Jackson Genealogical Workshop  
Sparrows Nest at The Abbey

## *Current Chamber Board*

### **BOARD OFFICERS:**

President- Robin Pierce  
Past-President- Donna Evans  
Treasurer-Michelle Hagman  
Derek Burnstad  
Jeff Cram  
Jeff Gray

### **BOARD DIRECTORS:**

Matt Buswell  
Christian Dawley  
Kyle Evans  
Paul Harms  
Connie Hurd  
Mitch Koel  
Griffin Moe  
Kevin Ravenscroft  
Kim Voigt

### **EX OFFICIO:**

City of Tomah- Roger Gorius  
VA Medical Center- Matthew Gowan  
WTC: Tomah- John Zimprich  
Fort McCoy- Tonya Townsell  
Tomah School Dist.- Cindy Zahrte



# Kite

FESTIVAL TOMAH

Saturday, June 2nd | 10 AM- 4 PM  
Shuttle bus from 1625 Butts Ave  
Parking Lot to Kite Fest | Tomah, WI

- KITE MAKING • GIANT SHOW KITES • RUNNING OF THE BOLS
- CANDY DROP • AND NUMEROUS CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

*sponsored by:*



*A special thanks to the Wisconsin Kites Club*  
MORE INFORMATION AT [TOMAHWISCONSIN.COM](http://TOMAHWISCONSIN.COM)



Chamber &  
Visitors Center  
**Tomah**

2ND ANNUAL

*Brat Sale*



THURSDAY,  
*June 7th*

10AM-4PM

AT THE CHAMBER &  
VISITORS CENTER

PRE-ORDER  
OR STOP BY!  
\$5 Brat Meal  
\$3 Single Brat

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO:

*The Tomah  
Public Works Dept.*







2ND ANNUAL

*Brat Sale*

JUNE 7TH | 10AM-4PM

## PRE-ORDER FORM

*Brat Meal*

BRAT, CHIPS, DRINK, & DESSERT  
(for pre-ordered meals only)

**\$5/each**

*Drink Choices:*

Please, indicate quantity of each:

- ☐ Diet Pepsi
- ☐ Pepsi
- ☐ Mountain Dew
- ☐ Sierra Mist
- ☐ Water

*Chip Choices:*

Please, indicate quantity of each:

- ☐ Cheetos
- ☐ Lays
- ☐ Doritos

*Total # of Meals:* \_\_\_\_\_

All brat toppings will be on the side. Please, indicate how many servings of each topping you'd like:

☐ Ketchup ☐ Onions ☐ Sauerkraut

*A la cart*

Please, indicate quantity of each:

*Single Brat:*

**\$3/each**

\_\_\_\_ Quantity

*Single Drink Choices:*

**\$1/each**

- ☐ Diet Pepsi
- ☐ Pepsi
- ☐ Mountain Dew
- ☐ Sierra Mist
- ☐ Water

*Single Chip Choices:*

**\$1/each**

- ☐ Cheetos
- ☐ Lays
- ☐ Doritos

Time for pick-up: \_\_\_\_\_

*Your Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Business Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

Please, return this form by June 5th. Return to:

FAX: 608.372.2167 | DROP-OFF: 310 N. Superior Ave | MAIL: P.O. Box 625

# Networking Before 9

Friday, June 8, 2018

8:00am - 9:00am

20319 State HWY 21; Tomah, WI

Coffee & breakfast items provided! Swing in on your way to the office and start the day right with some networking and new connections! Unimin will also be providing a brief presentation on their facility and operations.

Let us know you'll be joining us! RSVP here <https://bit.ly/2jFcu07>



**unimin**  
Tunnel City

**Like to be in the  
know?**

**Never want to  
miss another  
Tomah  
Chamber event?**

**2 simple ways  
to sign up for  
our text  
messages today!**

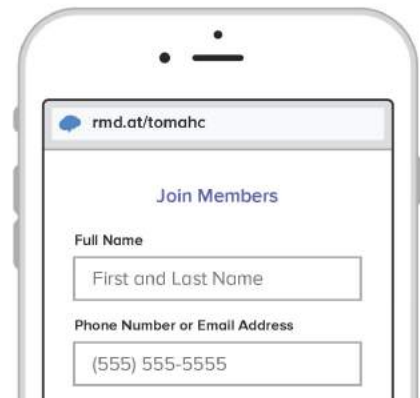
A

If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/tomahc](http://rmd.at/tomahc)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



B

If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @tomahc to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @tomahc to (520) 369-4388.

\* Standard text message rates apply.





# June

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

**THE TOMAH AQUATIC CENTER  
AND THEIR NEW SPLASH PAD  
OPEN ON JUNE 9TH**

					<b>1</b> <b>Pork Lunch for FFA</b> at Timberwood Bank 11am-2pm <b>Music on Milwaukee</b> Tickets on Sale Today!   9am	<b>2</b> <b>Tomah Kite Fest</b> at Tomah Soccer Fields   10am-4pm Free Shuttle to Fest from Rec Park
<b>3</b> <b>Mutt Strut &amp; Fun Fest</b> at Tomah Dog Park   12-3pm <b>Spanish-Amer. War Program</b> at Tomah History Mus.   2pm	<b>4</b> <b>Family Support Group</b> at TMH: Classroom B   6-7pm	<b>5</b> <b>Mobile Food Pantry</b> at Rec Park   4-6pm	<b>6</b> <b>Music in the Park</b> at Gillett Park 6-8:30pm <b>Young Actors Studio</b> at Tomah ACT June 6-23	<b>7</b> <b>Mental Health Support</b> at TMH: Classroom B   6:30-7:30pm <b>Brat Sale</b> at Tomah Chamber & Visitors Center   10am-4pm <b>Pop Up Happy Hour</b> at Ground Round   5pm	<b>8</b> <b>Sparta Butterfest</b> at Sparta Memorial Park <b>Networking Before 9</b> at Unimin   8am	<b>9</b> <b>Aquatic Center Sock Hop</b> at Tomah Aquatic Center   6:30-8:30pm <b>Dinner with Packers Marv</b> at Hiawatha Gold Club   6pm
<b>10</b> <b>Sparta Butterfest</b> at Sparta Memorial Park	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Ambassadors</b> at Noon <b>Volunteer Luncheon for Faith in Action</b> at Tomah Chamber & Visitors Center 12pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Ribbon Cutting</b> at BeMobile (222 Baun St.)   Noon	<b>16</b> <b>Jesse Parker Races</b> at Tomah High School   8am
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Music in the Park</b> at Gillett Park 6-8:30pm	<b>21</b> <b>Tomah Tractor Pull</b> at the Tomah Police Dept.   Noon <b>Open House</b> at The Sparrows Nest-Sparta 10am-2pm	<b>22</b> <b>Tomah Tractor Pull</b> at Rec Park   Times Vary by Day	<b>23</b> <b>Open House</b> at The Sparrows Nest-Sparta 10am-2pm
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Long Range Planning</b> at the City of Tomah 5:15 p.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Cranberry Blossom Day</b> at Wetherby Cran. Co., WI Cran. Disco. Center, & Warrens Mall   9am-4pm



# 4<sup>th</sup> OF July Parade

July 4th @10 AM  
Register at <https://bit.ly/2GNFpJF>  
or 608-377-7901

Tomah

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

King's Creatures Animal Training (KCAT) is a full-service animal training company offering behavior modification, group classes, pet sitting, and more to provide all that you need to live happily with your animals!

Laura King, KCAT's owner, is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer, Certified Canine Good Citizen Evaluator, and member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers. Laura began to train animals professionally in 2012 and has worked with a large variety of animals -- from lizards and lemurs to camels and cats! She uses her variety of animal training experience to improve the lives of people and animals throughout Tomah.



Tomah, WI 54660  
608.855.0185 | [kingscreatures.com](http://kingscreatures.com)



## Get the *RIGHT* mortgage for you!

At Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, we have a wide range of home financing products to ensure you get the best option for your situation. Plus, we'll personally guide you through the entire loan process to help you make informed decisions based on your needs.

### *Our home financing options include:*

- Fixed- and adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs)
- FHA, VA, conventional and USDA loans
- First-time homebuyer financing
- Jumbo mortgages
- Zero down payment options
- Down payment assistance grants available
- Refinancing



*Contact me to learn more about our home financing options!*

**Todd  
Schultz**  
Mortgage Planner  
NMLS# 642092

Direct: 715-389-6409  
Office: 715-384-7878  
Mobile: 715-207-2729

[todds@fairwaymc.com](mailto:todds@fairwaymc.com)  
[www.fairwaytodd.com](http://www.fairwaytodd.com)  
211 S. Central Avenue Marshfield, WI 54449



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MONROE COUNTY'S

# Business After 5

## AT THE FAIR

JOIN THE TOMAH & SPARTA CHAMBERS FOR

FUN, FOOD, AND NETWORKING

# Wednesday, July 25th

5pm at the Fair Grounds in Tomah

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS









# 33RD ANNUAL TOMAH CHAMBER GOLF OUTING

JULY 20TH | HIAWATHA GOLF CLUB | 10AM  
THIS YEAR'S THEME: SUPERHEROES  
REGISTER BELOW OR AT <https://bit.ly/2qNg9xb>



Business Name (\$300 team):

Contact Name:

Contact E-Mail:

Names of 4 Players:

Would you like to be a  
hole sponsor for an  
additional \$100?

☐ YES ☐ NO

How many Super Tickets  
would your team  
like to purchase?  
(+\$20 Each, good for 2 Mulligans &  
to play all hole games).

Return form to: Tomah Chamber & Visitors Center | P.O. Box 625 | Tomah, WI 54660  
An invoice(s) will be sent to your billing representative via e-mail.

# NOW LEASING

608-343-9195



**LOTS OF  
ROOM!**

*Located at 600 Sime Avenue, Tomah, WI*

- ✓ 20' x 40' Storage Units
- ✓ 14' Doors with Openers
- ✓ Walk-In Doors
- ✓ Climate Controlled Units Available
- ✓ Electricity Available



***Store your Camper, RV, Boat,  
Large Automobile, Semi Truck and MORE!***

10' x 20' and 8' x 20' are also available at 1115 N. Superior Avenue!

*Locally Owned and Maintained*





Chamber &  
Visitors Center  
**Tomah**  
presents:

**MUSIC ON**  
*August 11th*  
**Milwaukee Street**

DOWNTOWN TOMAH ON MILWAUKEE ST. | 3:30PM

**\$10 PRE-SALE TICKETS | \$15 AT THE GATE | 21+ ONLY**

////////////////////// **FEATURING** ////////////////////////

*Greg Hall &  
the Wrecking Ball*

*Tim Sigler  
Band*

*Duncan  
Peterson*

**MUSIC STARTS  
@ 3:30PM**

**LIVE MUSIC and  
FOOD & DRINKS**

**TICKETS ON SALE JUNE 1ST AT: [TOMAHWISCONSIN.COM](http://TOMAHWISCONSIN.COM) | 800.94.TOMAH**

# SPOTLIGHTS

## *Maximize Your Membership*

BY SIRANDA SWIERGOSZ

Did you know that your Chamber Membership includes staff at all levels of your organization? We've heard that some of our members weren't aware they could send other employees to events. We would like to clear that up.

**We'd love to have a more inclusive representation of your staff attend events and utilize your membership! The more the merrier!**

Of course, this extends beyond attending events. You can have as many representatives associated with your Chamber Member Information Center online as you'd like. Your primary representative can add other people, or give us a call and we can help. Representatives with log in credentials for your Member Information Center are able to update company information in our online directory (including photos, videos, logos, directory category and more), post events on our community calendar, pay chamber invoices, register for events, connect with other chamber members, post job openings, and more! Plus, they'll start receiving our email communication, so you don't have to be responsible for disseminating all our information.

All chamber members can also sign-up for text messages from us so you never miss out on another Tomah Chamber event. Just visit [rmd.at/tomahc](http://rmd.at/tomahc) or text @tomahc to 81010. It's that easy!

We also have the Tomah Chamber Members Only Facebook Group that is open to all Chamber Members. If you're not already in the group, you can join [here](#)! This is a place where you can post information, news, photos, etc. about your business to reach other chamber members quickly. All we ask is that you keep posts relevant to your business, post no more than once per week, and keep it clean and non-political.

There are so many ways to stay involved and utilize your Chamber Membership! Please help us spread the word that Chamber Membership extends to all employees of a member business/organization!



## *On Base at Fort McCoy*

BY THERESA FITZGERALD

### **Changes, improvements coming in 2018 to Pine View Campground**

As the 2018 camping season gets into full swing at Fort McCoy's Pine View Campground, visitors will see noticeable changes as the season progresses.

Open year-round, Pine View Campground is part of Pine View Recreation Area. This area also includes Whitetail Ridge and Sportsman's Range.

The campground is nestled in a wooded area about a quarter mile west of Fort McCoy's cantonment area and is bounded by Suukjak Sep Lake on the east and the La Crosse River on the west and south.

Ten new cabins are being built this year – eight on the east side and two on the west side of the lake. The existing cabins see a lot of use, and the new ones will be a major addition to the campground's facilities.

The mini-golf course at the campground also in under renovation.

Along the La Crosse River on hiking trails next to the campground, a new pedestrian bridge is being finished to span the river to allow for better access to all the hiking trails. There are more than 5 miles of hiking and biking trails throughout the entire recreation area.

The bridge was built through a \$171,000 contract with NuGen Johnson LLC of Sussex, Wis. The bridge is expected to be fully completed and landscaped by this summer.

Additionally, the campground is plotting its hiking and biking trails in order to create a better map for its customers.

Suukjak Sep Lake, which is in the heart of the campground, provides opportunities for fishing, boating, and swimming or sunbathing on its sandy beach. On April 30, the lake was freshly stocked with more than 4,200 rainbow trout for anglers to try catching.

Among the other features of the campground are picnic and playground areas (one handicapped accessible), a camp store, and the Recreational Equipment Checkout Center. Members of the Fort McCoy community and the public may use the campground.

The campground features 160-plus campsites, both nonelectric tent sites and recreational vehicle/trailer pads with electrical hookups. Of these, 121 sites have full hookups for water, sewer, electricity, and cable TV.

Each site is equipped with a fire pit and a picnic table; each camping circle features a shower/restroom complex.

For complete details, including hours, costs, and restrictions, visit [mccoy.armymwr.com/us/mccoy/programs/pine-view-campground/](http://mccoy.armymwr.com/us/mccoy/programs/pine-view-campground/), or call 608-388-3517/2619 or 800-531-4703.

# FROM THE CEO

## *Just Another Day in the World of the Chamber*

I want to start off by saying “Thank You!” In June of this year, I will have completed my 4th year at the Chamber and Visitors Center. I can’t thank you enough for the support, collaboration and trust in my work and in our organization. Your contribution to making Tomah the best it can be is truly a great blessing that I am able to witness.

In the past, I have occasionally shared anecdotes as it relates to the Chamber. This month, I wanted to share a little with you about the phone calls we receive:

While the majority of the calls into the office are calls that we can make direct business referrals to, we also get calls that are so completely off the wall, we sometimes find ourselves dumbstruck. There was a call from someone who was upset that the arms on the train crossings were down and firmly requested that we go to the train tracks and lift them up. We got a call from a woman who wanted us to help us fix her Teddy Ruxpin toy, so she could take it to various hospitals and show it to sick children. There was a person who called because they were unhappy with their prescription from their doctor. There

was a person who was charged 25¢ too much for their food. We’ve had calls regarding how to buy Amtrak tickets. We’ve had a few calls from people that have invented the next big thing and want to get it patented. We had someone call to figure out where to park their elderly parent for the day to keep him out of the heat at Cranfest.

Most of the aforementioned calls are absolutely hilarious, and sometimes, we can grab a beer and share funny customer service stories, but as I reflect on them I am struck with a couple thoughts. People are calling us because we’re the company that “knows things”, can find things, can make referrals in our sleep, and is the most relevant go-to for information. The number of calls and questions we get also indicates that we are the trusted source of information.



While we do get the occasional funny call, most of the calls we receive are from people looking for products and services and conclude with a direct referral to a member business. Your membership matters not only to our organization, but to those in the public that call us for information. Without you

and your support, we couldn’t do our work! Really though, we love getting calls of every kind here. It keeps us on our toes and reminds us of how great the businesses in Tomah and our surrounding area are. Thank you for your support and all you do!

Now about the mail...



# AROUND TOWN

## *Tomah Memorial Hospital*

Tomah Memorial Hospital along with the Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative (RWHC) honored Dr. Michael Saunders, M.D. for his dedication to rural health care last month. "Since 2004, the Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative has made available a special award that recognizes those working in health care at RWHC hospitals- like Tomah Memorial that have gone above the call of duty while making significant contributions to rural health," Tomah Memorial CEO Phil Stuart said during the award presentation. Congratulations Dr. Saunders!



## *Tomah VA/Fort McCoy*

Tomah VAMC and Fort McCoy partnered for their 5K Memorial Day Run/Walk event on the medical center campus at the end of May. This even was open to the community, there was a 5K formation/release run and 1 mile 5K. It was a beautiful day with many participants.



## *Partnership Bank*

Partnership Bank received a Torch Award for Ethics from the Better Business Bureau of Wisconsin. Encouraging and supporting ethical business practices is a key purpose of the Better Business Bureau. The Torch Award for Ethics is the most prestigious honor the BBB presents to a business. Partnership Bank is humbled by this recognition.

Wisconsin is home to over 440,000 businesses. Over the last 13 years, the Wisconsin Better Business Bureau awarded Torch Awards to just over 100 businesses. Partnership Bank has now joined the elite ranks of this small number of Wisconsin businesses recognized for meeting the highest standards of integrity, ethics, and an unwavering commitment to their clients and community. Congratulations Partnership Bank!



Trust  
Performance  
Integrity



# MEMBERSHIP TIERS

Lead

Influence

Accelerated

Growth

