



# TOMAHAWK LEADER

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Totally Tomahawk \$ales & Lake Series, Nokomis Tales Inside!

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## Paper Clips

### New pharmacy opens this week

Tomahawk Pharmacy is opening its doors this week at 1208 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St., with a grand opening planned in a few weeks.

Pharmacy Manager Tyler Stevenson, PharmD, asks for the public's patience in the process, inviting those who would like to transfer prescriptions to stop by and fill out a patient intake form and submit an insurance card. "We encourage you to do this in advance of needing your prescriptions filled," Stevenson said.

Look for an ad in the Second Section.

### Free 4K, Kindergarten health exams

Lincoln County Health Department is offering free health exams to any child in Lincoln County who is enrolling in 4K or Kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year.

"Preventing and identifying health concerns early is very important for a child's health not only now but even into adulthood," shares Sue Kubler, Lincoln County Health Department public health nurse. "Healthy children do better in school so now is a perfect time to set your child up for success by completing a health exam," added Kubler.

The health exam includes a free head-to-toe physical exam, immunizations (per eligibility), vision and hearing screening, height and weight measurement, and health and safety information.

These free exams will be held at the Lincoln County Health Department, 607 N. Sales St., Suite 101, Merrill. Exams are scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 7 from 1 to 5:30 p.m. Appointments are necessary at 715-536-0307 and space is limited. Allow one hour for the visit.

### THS sports meeting July 31

There will be a fall sports informational meeting for Tomahawk High School athletes and parents Thursday, July 31, starting at 6 p.m. in the district auditorium.

Following a brief session by Shane Saari, THS athletic director, parents will then disperse to different areas to meet with their son or daughter's perspective coach in regards to paperwork, expectations and schedule/dates.

The sports fee for the 2014-15 school year is \$25 and it must be paid before participation takes place. All pertinent paperwork and a sports physical or alternate year card (physicals are good for two years) must be turned in prior to any participation as well, Saari noted.

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Look for many of the pictures from this week's newspaper and other unpublished ones in cyberspace:  
www.tomahawkleader.com

Single copy price: \$1  
Subscription rates inside



# The story of an American hero

## Ralph Ruplinger at Battle of the Bulge

By Jed Buelow

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Ralph Ruplinger of Tomahawk survived the deadliest conflict the United States military was involved in during World War II.

And to this day, at the age of 94, he remembers the horror and threat of imminent death. He remembers the fear and pain and can recall in graphic detail the unforgettable images stamped in his memory decades ago while serving as a young man in the European Theatre and at the Battle of the Bulge.

But more importantly these days, he remembers the incredible acts of kindness, of humanity, that also accompanied the brutality of war. The many unforgettable moments shared with brothers in arms. He remembers the compassion shown to frightened German children, as well as the faith and many prayers that were answered along the way that brought him back home to his new wife and a newborn son he had yet to meet.

In 1942, Ruplinger was drafted into the United States Army at the age of 21. Stationed out of Fort Benning, Ga., he became a member of the 10<sup>th</sup> Armored "Tiger" Division where he served as a radio operator on a short track as well as a German interpreter. Ruplinger returned to Tomahawk in October of that year to attend his sister's wedding. It was on the return train ride back to Georgia where fate would intervene.

While on a stopover in Chicago, Ruplinger was approached by a young woman who asked if the seat next to him was taken. The only one available on the train, he was happy to oblige and soon took to getting to know the pretty, young woman sitting next to him. It turned out Ina Martin had never taken the train on her prior visits to Chicago, but this time decided to give it a try instead of taking the bus home to Tennessee.

Following the otherwise brief encounter, Ruplinger and Martin kept in touch, until while on a visit that would follow, she found a job and moved to Georgia to be closer to him. Five months later they were married at Fort Benning on March 14, 1943.

The honeymoon wouldn't last long, however, as just as quickly as fate had brought the young couple together events outside their control were pulling them apart. In September of 1944, just three months after the invasion that would come to be known as D-Day, Ruplinger and the rest of the Tiger Division were deployed to France.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Division's involvement in the European Theatre would eventually lead to the frontlines at the Battle of the Bulge, the largest and bloodiest battle fought by the United States military during the war. The Division alone suffered 710 casualties, 3,400 were injured and 586 soldiers were reported missing. The percentage of 10<sup>th</sup> Division soldiers wounded or killed in action during the war totaled more than 78 percent.

At the Bulge, Dec. 24, 1944

In what would become one of Adolf Hitler's last major offenses of the war that was aimed at splitting the Allied Forces

See **RUPLINGER: BATTLE OF THE BULGE**, Page 2



-Tomahawk Leader File Photo of boat/motor show

## Tomahawk National Antique Outboard Show opens tomorrow

By Jed Buelow

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The public is invited to stop down at SARA Park this week to view some of the most classic and vintage antique outboard boats and motors in existence today as the Northwoods Chapter of the Antique & Classic Outboard Motor Club hosts the Tomahawk Nationals starting tomorrow (Wednesday).

Hundreds of antique boat motors will be on display at the SARA Park Activity Center with some dating back to when outboards were first designed. Additional antique wooden and fiberglass boats like the old Tomahawk Boats will also be on display. The event is open to the public free of charge starting at 8 a.m. each day until 9 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, except Saturday when things close at 5 p.m.

Event organizer Bob Dalle Ave said the Tomahawk Nationals have seen an increase in attendance over recent years as more and more visitors use the event as their summer vacation getaway. He said many people are coming to Tomahawk a week earlier or staying a week longer to spend time fishing or siteseeing.

"For many the boat show is a reunion, where they look forward to getting together and seeing friends once a year in Tomahawk," Dalle Ave said. "We hear from a lot of people this is one of the biggest antique boat motor shows to take place all

See **TOMAHAWK NATIONAL**, Page 2



**POW WOW PARADE GRAND MARSHAL:** Ralph Ruplinger, 94, proudly served as the Grand Marshal of this year's Pow Wow Days Fourth of July Parade in Tomahawk.

- Leader Photo by Sunnie Mercier



**GERMAN JET PLANE:** The German Army unveiled one of its newest military weapons during the Battle of the Bulge, this Me-262 Jet Bomber. The military plane could travel 600 mph, far superior to the planes making up the Allied Forces fleet during World War II.

- Photo by Ralph Ruplinger

## Public tours at Our Sisters' House: future homeless shelter

By Kathy Tobin

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Homelessness occurs every day. Unfortunately, for some families and individuals in Lincoln County, being without a place to call home is a reality.

In the last three years, 29 people from Lincoln County have sought refuge at Frederick Place, the homeless shelter in Rhinelander, because they had nowhere else to go. Seventeen of those individuals were from Tomahawk.

A group from Tomahawk has been meeting since last summer to address homelessness in Lincoln County. They have formed TRUTH (Three Rivers United Temporary Housing), a corporation that will open Our Sisters' House sometime next year.

The temporary homeless shelter will be located in the former nuns' home at 328 E. Washington Ave. The property is being leased by St. Mary's Church.

The public is invited to tour the house, ask questions and find out about the renovation plans during an open house Saturday, Aug. 2 between 4 and 6 p.m.

Our Sisters' House will be able to accommodate up to 14 people at one time. Individuals or families can stay at the shelter for up to three months while they work to improve their situations, notes Lori Winch, TRUTH treasurer.

"Rules must be adhered to while at the shelter. There will be zero tolerance for drugs or alcohol, no convicted felons or sex offenders will be allowed to reside at the shelter. Minors will have to be accompanied by an adult," Winch said.

"The residents will set goals for themselves that we

will help them achieve," she added. "These goals could be finding permanent housing, securing employment, continuing their education, seeking medical and/or counseling services."

"Currently, we are in need of monetary donations. Those funds will be used to renovate the home," Winch continued.

"We need to convert the current

porch to the office, create a bedroom on the main level, repair the upstairs shower, reconfigure the kitchen and repair the laundry area to name a few of the projects we will undertake. During the open house people will be able to see lists of what needs to be done in each room and have the opportunity to

See **HOMELESS**, Page 6

## Ingman honored with Korea's highest military honor

By Jed Buelow

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**LEADER EXCLUSIVE**

Family members from Medal of Honor recipient Einar Ingman were in South Korea Sunday to receive the Order of Military Merit on behalf of their father and to take part in events recognizing the signing of the Armistice decades ago that brought an end to the Korean War.

Ingman, Tomahawk/Irma, was one of just five Korean War veterans to receive the Order of Military Merit, which is the equivalent to the United States Medal of Honor that he was awarded for acts of valor during combat in the Korean War. Additional members receiving the honor included General Edward Rowley, Ronald E. Rosser, Hiroshi H. Miyamura and Mehmet Gonenc.

"The expressions of gratitude by this country for the sacrifices these men and all veterans of the Korean War made to help free their country has been truly remarkable," said daughter Mary Ingman, who was in South Korea with her brother, Jim, to accept the Order of Military Merit on their father's behalf. Mary added she would have much more to share on the visit and accepting the honor upon her return home.

Additional family members took part in events held in Washington, D.C., over the weekend to commemorate and honor all those who fought and paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Korean War. Also coinciding with the Korean War Armistice, July 27, 1953, the United States Postal Service unveiled a prestige folio Saturday honoring Medal of Honor recipients from the Korean War.

The folio includes a photo of Einar Ingman and seven additional Medal of Honor recipients on the front as well as the names of all Korean War Medal of Honor recipients listed inside. Bill Burcalow from the Wurl-Feind-Ingman Post 2687 VFW was at the Tomahawk Post Office Saturday to purchase copies of the folio that will be put on display at the VFW hall along with a World War II folio the Postal Service released last year recognizing all Medal of Honor recipients from that war.

The VFW was also proud to announce last week Einar Ingman has been added to the post's name, which now is Wurl-Feind-Ingman Post 2687. (See Page 2)

A much larger community celebration, including a special postal cancellation and stamp in his honor, is being planned to recognize Einar Ingman on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday Oct. 6.