

# Letter from the Editor: Please allow me to introduce myself

Dear readers,

As I sit down to write this letter, I reflect on my entry into the Multi Media Channels (MMC) family.

On my way home from work at a central Wisconsin publication and in a hurry, I turned into a grocery store to pick up a few items. As I walked into the entrance of the store, something caught my eye.

I love history – trains, public schools, and the pioneering of the Midwest and the West are at the top of my list when it comes to historical subjects.

When I walked through the entrance that day, a picture of a Canadian National locomotive jumped right off the front page of a newspaper that had been placed by the front door. Seeing “Free Weekly” above the picture, I grabbed the newspaper and went about my errands.

Later that evening, I sat down with the very first edition of MMC’s Hub City Times and read it in its entirety.

Within a week I was speaking with the editor and wrote my first history column for the publication. My only plans at that time were to share my love of history and supplement the income from my staff job.

Since that day, I have embraced MMC’s desire to serve the community and become a major source of local news. My passion for the printed word and the importance of local media aligns with the company’s goals, and I have developed a great appreciation for MMC’s dedication to the industry.

Now, as I am brought in to augment the staff at the Portage County Gazette, I join an already dedicated staff.

Editor Joe Bachman covers Stevens Point, Portage County, crime, and some arts/entertainment. He is active with the Central Wisconsin Area Community Theater and on their board of directors. Joe will be getting married in December of this year. An interesting fact about Joe – he is related to historical figure Anne Boelyn.

Reporter Taylor Hale covers arts and entertainment, school board, and Plover/Whiting news. He is a graduate of Northcentral Technical College, with a standing membership in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He is nearing the end of his bachelor’s degree and has worked in the journalism field since 2014.

Sports editor John Kemmeter is a familiar face to many. A Stevens Point native and UWSP graduate, his love of sports shows in everything he does. John has a stepson, Reece, and a 19-month-old daughter, Maya, with wife, Kim.

What I bring to the table – 20 years of freelance/newspaper/magazine staff experience. I am a central Wisconsin native who studied business and communications.

My goal is to introduce more feature stories – more articles about the unique individuals, buildings, and happenings that make the Stevens Point area special. If you have story ideas, please don’t ever hesitate to reach out.



Leonhardt



Bachman



Kemmeter



Hale

## LETTER

*from page 1*

In our effort to become your prime source for local news, events, and sports, we will look toward providing shorter stories and more of them, to deliver as much information as we are able. You will begin to see more features, more history, a weekly police blotter, an enhanced community calendar, and more of what you want.

But, we need to hear from you. What would you like to see? What would you like to see less of? What story ideas do you have?

On April 17, we will release a print and online survey to obtain your feedback. Our goal is ultimately to serve you – the local community. Please watch for details on April 17.

In the meantime, please submit your story ideas to Joe Bachman at [jbachman@mmclocal.com](mailto:jbachman@mmclocal.com) or Taylor Hale at [thale@mmclocal.com](mailto:thale@mmclocal.com), or call 715-343-8045.

I may be reached at 715-316-4617 or [kleonhardt@mmclocal.com](mailto:kleonhardt@mmclocal.com).

We look forward to moving ahead as a team to bring you more. Our responsibility is to you, and we want more for you, as we continue to bring you hyper-local coverage on high school sports, city council, and school board.

Kris Leonhardt  
Senior Editor