



Tri County Canary

A supplement of the:
Leader-Record * Oklee Herald * McIntosh Times * Grygla Eagle



Bonnie Eck's family (from left) Heidi Earl, Stacy Sanders, husband Brad Eck, Bonnie, and Melissa Graftaas.

Retirement party honors Bonnie Eck of Sanford Bagley Clinic

By Darlene Sawyer - article courtesy of the Farmers Independent

After 41 years in the medical profession, Bonnie Eck of Clearbrook will be officially retired at the end of 2017. She was honored for her service at a retirement party hosted by Rob Belanger, administrator of Sanford, at the Fireside Grill & Patio on Saturday, Dec. 16.

After Bonnie Mattson graduated from Gonvick High School, she attended college to earn a degree as an R.N. She began her nursing career at the Clearwater County Hospital in 1976.

Through the years, she received further college training and received her A.P.P. (advanced practice provider) credentials in 1996. With these advanced credentials, she became an APP practitioner for the Bagley Clinic, later to be known as Sanford Clinic.

She married her high school sweetheart, Bradley Eck, of Clearbrook, and they raised three daughters -- Heidi, Stacy, and Melissa., who all came to help celebrate her retirement party. There were many of her former patients who also came to honor her.

Since her career has spanned 41 years, she has seen many changes in the medical profession and has been witness to many changes in the health care system of Clearwater County.

Bonnie and her husband (who has not yet retired from his job at the First State Bank of Clearbrook) are making plans for their retired lives, such as travel and pursuing other dreams.

We thank Bonnie for her medical service to Clearwater County and we hope to see her around at various events.



Sanford Administrator Rob Belanger congratulated Bonnie Eck on 41 years of service to the health profession.

School raises \$1,536.65 for Christmas project

Bagley High School held an assembly on Thursday, December 21 to celebrate the success of BHS Student Council community service project - collecting

toys and raising money for the Clearwater Christmas Project!

A check for \$1536.65 was presented along with 17 toys that were collected. The Clear-

water Christmas Project is a non-profit organization committed to bringing Christmas to those in need in Clearwater County.

Through the efforts of volunteers and donation from residents, businesses and organizations - the Clearwater Christmas Project provides a memorable holiday experience to children in need and their families; thus ensuring the true spirit of Christmas remains alive and well for everyone involved. What a great gift the students of Bagley High School provided to their community!



As an incentive for the students raising money for the Clearwater Christmas Project, Bagley High School Principal David Gooch allowed the winning classroom to shave his head during the December 21 assembly. Mrs. O'Beirne's eighth grade class earned the honor and gathered around to watch their classmate Kyle Baumann trim the first locks of hair from their principal.



Every end is just a new beginning.
Keep your spirits and determination
unshaken and you shall always
walk the glory road. With courage,
faith and efforts you shall conquer
everything you desire.

We wish
you a very 

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Cobenais holds the Certificate of Appointment signed by Governor Dayton and Lt. Governor Tina Smith

Cobenais Appointed to Governor's Council

RL Delegate to Minnesota

Tribal Youth Gathering Steering Team

Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton appointed Jerald Cobenais of Red Lake as the "Red Lake Band of Ojibwe Delegate to the Minnesota Tribal Youth Gathering Steering Team" on December 1, 2017.

The team will meet monthly, beginning with a meeting on January 22, 2018, in St. Paul, to begin planning a Tribal Youth Gathering Conference for July 2018. The conference will consist of many subjects of concern to Native youth from all over the state, with an emphasis on education. Athena Cloud, a Red Lake member from the Twin Cities, was also picked for the Steering Team.

In an interview, Cobenais said that Red Lake Tribal Secretary and Hereditary Chief Darwin Sumner suggested the opportunity to Cobenais. He applied and was selected.

Cobenais, age 23, has a

strong background in this type of thing having been a member of the Red Lake Youth Council since he was a sophomore in High School, now approaching eight years. He currently serves as the Youth Council Coordinator.

The Red Lake Youth Council gives a monthly report at each meeting of the Red Lake Tribal Council. The Youth Council has been a major part of organizing the annual Youth Leadership Conference held at Red Lake High School. Plans are now in progress for the 13th Annual Youth Leadership Conference, which will be held in late April or early, May.

Cobenais promises to keep the tribal council, interested Native Youth, and others updated as plans begin on the Tribal Youth Gathering Conference in July.



Bagley High School Student Council members Gavin Halverson and Alec Norum present the donation to Tuesday Study Club President and Clearwater County Christmas Project board member Jane Merschman.

Christmas fun in Grygla!



Grygla students had fun showing off their “ugly Christmas sweaters” on the last day of school before being dismissed for the holiday! Pictured is Avery Moe and Maci Bakken with Daria Waletzki.



Mr. Smith, Riker and Mason (Grygla Preschool students) got cozy while listening to the Christmas story.



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Avoiding eye strain by remembering the 20-20-20 rule

Whether you're posting on social media or searching the computer for cyber deals this holiday season, remember to give your eye muscles a break. Eye strain is a common problem, according to Essentia Health Optometrist Erin Barrett. "I often recommend my patients follow the '20-20-20 rule', which is to take a 20 second break looking 20 feet away after focusing on the computer or after 20 minutes focusing up close," she says.

The focusing muscle inside the eye is just like any other muscle of the body, so it can get tired with extended use. "If this is the case things far away may be blurry when first looking up and away from the computer," says Barrett. "The muscles need to stretch and relax after working so hard."

New studies are showing that computer screens, as well as phones and other electronic devices, emit harmful wavelengths of blue light that may be



Optometrist Erin Barrett, Essentia Health-Fargo.

damaging the retina inside the eyes. Essentia Health's optical shops offer blue blocking lenses and/or coatings that can reduce your exposure to these harmful wavelengths of light.



Credit Score

- ✓ Excellent
- ✓ Good
- ✓ Fair
- ✓ Uncertain
- ✓ Poor

Simple ways to quickly boost credit scores

The road to great credit begins with consumers. Consumers who demonstrate an ability to pay bills on time and stay out of debt can make themselves more attractive to prospective creditors, which can ultimately save them thousands of dollars when they purchase homes and/or vehicles.

While strong credit scores take years to build, men and women looking to improve their scores can begin doing so rather quickly. Scores will not skyrocket overnight, but they will begin to improve if consumers begin taking the following steps.

Pay bills on time. Paying bills on time is one of the most effective and simplest ways for consumers to improve their credit scores. One of the credit scores lenders use to determine if they will extend credit to a given applicant is the FICO® score, which is generated by the Fair Isaac Corporation. According to the Fair Isaac Corp., a FICO score is broken down into five categories, some of which factor more heavily than others. An individual's payment history accounts for 35 percent of his or her FICO score, making it the most influential of the five factors for people who have been using credit for a long time. (Note: People with a nonexistent or greatly limited credit history may have their FICO scores more influenced by other factors.) If necessary, set up automatic payments so all bills, but especially bills owed to creditors, such as credit card companies and student loan lenders, are paid on time.

Pay down balances and keep them low. Paying bills on time might not be enough to dramatically improve credit scores if consumers are still only paying the minimum amount each month while maintaining high balances. After payment history, amounts owed is the second biggest influence of most consumers' FICO scores, accounting for 30 percent of an

individual's score. So in addition to paying on time, consumers should try to pay more than the minimum amount due each month, ideally paying balances in full each month.

Study your credit report. Credit scores can sometimes fall victim to errors on a person's credit report. A 2012 Federal Trade Commission Study found that roughly 25 percent of all consumers had errors on their credit reports that adversely affected their credit scores. Consumers who suspect their credit score does not reflect their credit worthiness should examine their reports, which are available to all consumers once a year for free, for mistakes. Report any mistakes to Equifax, Experian and/or TransUnion.

Wait to apply for new lines of credit or mortgages. Consumers' credit scores take a small hit each time they apply for new lines of credit, whether it's a credit card or mortgage. Consumers who want to quickly improve their scores should refrain from applying for new lines of credit until they have increased their scores to a point where they won't mind seeing those scores take a small dip.

Consumers' credit scores can affect their lives in various ways. While it takes time to build strong credit histories, consumers can take small steps to begin improving their credit scores right away.

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It's been 14 years now that "The Grinch" (Bryan Grove from American State Bank) has read "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" to the Preschoolers and Kindergartners at the Grygla Elementary School.

Polk County Sheriff

Scam in the area

On 12-19-17 a citizen of Polk County was contacted on their cell phone from a restricted number. Upon answering the call, the person told them they were chosen as a winner from Publishers Clearing House and the prize patrol is on their way to their residence and to have their verification number that was previously mailed to them ready to accept the check. When told that they didn't have their verification code the citizen was told to call 87 6-404-3233 Ext 5 and ask for Albert Johnson to get their code right away.

Upon calling the number, after a short conversation they were told about a tax rule where they were responsible to pay the taxes prior to receiving the check. The citizen was told to go get a money gram at Walmart and send it in prior to receiving the check. At this point the citizen realized it was a scam and the conversation ended, however they then received a notification from their phone provider that they do not have international calling and were charged by the minute. Upon discussion with the phone company, the number of 87 6-404-3233 was a phone number originating from Jamaica and they were charged for international calling.

The Polk County Sheriffs Office wants to remind citizens who receive a call claiming they won money to be cautious and look into the phone numbers either given to you or the number that called. Many times an internet search of the phone number brings up posts from other people who have received the same type of calls which were scams.

Domestic Incident

On 12-22-17 at 2135 hrs the Polk County Sheriff's Office re-

sponded to a report of a domestic assault in rural Crookston. Upon arrival, as the deputy attempted to make contact a single gunshot was heard inside the home. The deputy located and removed the reporting party and her daughter from the residence. They were medically checked and released.

A male subject was located in a bedroom with a single gunshot wound. He was pronounced dead on the scene.

No names will be released at this time as this is an active investigation and pending family notification of the deceased.

Update
The deceased male was identified as Roy Bester age 60 of rural Crookston.

The cause of death appears to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The case is still under investigation.

House Fire in McIntosh

On 12-25-2017 at approx. 4:09 PM, the Polk County Sheriffs Office responded to the report of a residential fire at 120 1st Street NE in McIntosh. The fire appeared to originate in a bedroom of the residence. McIntosh Fire Department arrived on scene and were able to extinguish the fire before it spread past the bedroom. Initial investigation by the Minnesota State Fire Marshall's Office revealed that a lit candle may have been the cause of the fire.

The McIntosh Fire Department, Erskine Fire Department, Essentia Ambulance, and MN State Fire Marshall were assisting agencies.

No injuries were reported. This case is active and no further information will be released at this time.

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SOUP & OYSTER

CRACKERS
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WATER
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28 PK - 1/2 LITER BOTTLES



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(3.5 - 9.1 OZ)
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WHOLE CHICKENS..... LB **\$1.19**

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HALF**
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S&W BEANS..... 15 - 15.25 OZ **5/\$3**

ESSENTIAL EVERYDAY ORANGE
PARTY CUPS..... 20 CT - 18 OZ **99¢**

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MILD CHEDDAR, MOZZARELLA,
PIZZA OR SHARP CHEDDAR
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RIPE
AVOCADOS..... EACH **99¢**
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PEPPERS..... 2/\$3
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Clearwater County Nursing Service is accepting applications for the part/full time position of Registered Nurse and/or Public Health Nurse. The applicant should have a minimum of 1 to 3 years experience in the areas of homecare/hospice and or medical-surgical nursing.

Applications are available at the Clearwater County Nursing Service office in Bagley 212 Main Ave. N., Bagley or online at <http://co.clearwater.mn.us/> Call 694-6581 for more information. We are an equal opportunity employer.

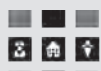
R40-41C

Loader Operator I – Polk County Incinerator

The Polk County Incinerator in Fosston, MN has an opening for a full-time **Loader Operator I position**. This position operates heavy equipment to stock and feed municipal solid waste to the Materials Recovery Facility and the Incinerators; rotating shifts. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Knowledge of and experience operating heavy equipment and high pressure steam systems is preferred. A valid MN driver's license is required. A pre-employment physical exam is required. Wage range is \$17.09-21.73/hour, DOE and qualifications. A full job description and application can be obtained online at <http://www.co.polk.mn.us> 'Job Opportunities' or by contacting the Polk County Administrator's Office at 218-281-5408. Open until filled. EEO

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R39-41C

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Please send letter of application and resume to:

Randy Pederson, Principal
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O38-40C

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R40-41C



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R40-41C

Poplar Meadows Senior Living in McIntosh

is looking to fill their housing manager position. Candidate should have medical experience, but it is not necessary for the right candidate.

If interested submit resume and cover letter to: Poplar Meadows, Attn: MEDA Board, 325 Scots Ave. SE, McIntosh, MN 56556.

M39-41C

AD DEADLINE NOON FRIDAYS



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Auto Value Parts Stores is now hiring in Fosston, MN. View various position details & apply at www.autopartshq.com/careers – select a Fosston position. Applications also accepted at Fosston Auto Value, 102 Kaiser Ave. S., Fosston, MN.

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M48-41C

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R40-43C

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R40-43C

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Theology in the Trenches
By Kathleen Kjolhaug

When It Dawns on You

So...you have a youngin... and it suddenly dawns on you how much your parents loved you. Who could have fathomed the depths of love of every mama in this world...every single one...

Your mama dies...and it dawns on you that the umbilical cord truly never had been severed...nor had you known there was a depth of grief that went that deep...until now...

You are pouring hours upon hours of long lost energy...into the grandkids...when it dawns on you how much love your mother-in-law had for her son, his children, and his wife...as she did the same years back... and you just never knew...

When it dawns on you that the illusion of control you thought you had in this world truly never was...even though you didn't think it was control you were after...and it dawns on you that you need not under-

stand...you need merely trust... each and every messy miracle... every single one...

When you discover that indeed you truly have no problems...and it dawns on you that perhaps it's time to put a little joy in the enjoyment process of discovering how to solve the problems as they arise...having been given gifts to solve that which comes your way...

When it dawns on you that indeed men have distinctive thoughts and thought patterns...and you realize there never was any intentional slight intended...it just didn't dawn on them...

When it dawns on you, once again, that in this world you will have troubles and Camelot does not exist this side of heaven... lest we forget...and that "all things work together for the good for those who are in Christ Jesus"...

When it dawns on you that

He died for every one...every sin...and we are not on that throne but He is...in the seat of judgment...and we are simply here to love...and extend it from what He has already completed...and what a positively beautiful gift that is which carries...

When it dawns on you that putting that love into practice creates a new depth of love you knew nothing of...far freer and deeper than anything else... and now...you truly do get to go, therefore, and live the gospel...

When it dawns on you that by looking back you remain as paralyzed as Lot's wife, and the very gifts God has given are being thwarted for purposes that are not of Him...and so... you grind your salt caked stiff neck towards His face and soon that which is being ground away is used to add savor to the miracles and it suddenly dawns on you that every single thing is a sacred miracle...every single thing. Amen.



Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol

Ques- tion: What is the correct following distance? Everyone seems to be way too close behind each other. What can I do as a driver having someone too close behind me?

Answer: The only law regarding following distance pertains to vehicles pulling trailers. This includes trucks as well as semi-truck tractors with trailers. They must maintain a minimum distance of 500 feet.

While state law does not require a specific distance for vehicles not pulling trailers, it does say that you shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and the traffic upon and the conditions of the

highway.

We recommend what's called the 3-second-plus following distance rule. Watch the vehicle in front of you. When that vehicle gets past an object such as a sign, pole, bridge, etc., then count off three seconds. You should not arrive at that spot sooner than your count to three. If you do, then you are following too close! Also, you must add one second for every hazard that exists. Hazards include but are not limited to heavy traffic, rain, snow, fog, driving into the sun, etc. In some cases you might have to allow six, seven seconds (or even more) to be safe because of existing hazards.

Crash facts show a much larger number of cars and pickup trucks being involved in fatal rear end crashes than semi-truck tractors pulling

trailers.

If someone is following you too close, pull over and let them pass. Tapping your brake lights may not always be a safe option, but in certain cases might help temporarily. Check your mirrors every 3 to 5 seconds so you know what is going around you. While we cannot control the vehicles around us, we can control our own driving habits.

A portion of state statutes were used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes. If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

Sanford Bemidji earns American Diabetes Association reaccreditation

Diabetes Center education program recognized

BEMIDJI, Minn. – The Sanford Bemidji Diabetes Center was recently awarded the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Education Recognition Certificate for a quality diabetes self-management education program. This certificate assures that educational programs meet the national standards for diabetes self-management education, an essential component of effective diabetes treatment.

According to the ADA, there are 29.1 million Americans who have diabetes. Many people are not even aware they have this disease, and many learn they have it only when they are treated for one of its life-threatening complications: heart disease, stroke, kidney

disease, blindness, nerve disease or amputation. Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S. Treatment and self-management of diabetes are crucial in improving health outcomes and preventing complications.

Programs such as Sanford Bemidji's have a staff of knowledgeable health professionals who provide patients with comprehensive information about diabetes management. Sanford Bemidji Diabetes Center's team includes a nurse practitioner, certified diabetes educators and registered dietitians. Participants in the program are educated on topics including understanding diabetes; healthy eating; being

active; medications; monitoring glucose; and preventing, detecting and treating chronic and acute complications. With the support of the health care team and through increased knowledge and awareness of diabetes, patients can assume a major part of the responsibility for their own self-care and disease management.

The Diabetes Center now also has a new family medicine nurse practitioner serving patients with diabetes management needs. Kim Osmundson, FNP-BC, is available for appointments at the center at 1705 Anne St. Call (218) 333-4760 for further information or talk with your primary care provider about a referral.

Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants Awarded in FY2018

The Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded \$4,728 through the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative (AAI) Program. Monies awarded are for arts activities related to its mission of supporting, maintaining, and promoting traditional and contemporary Native American arts in North Central Minnesota. The Anishinaabe Arts Initiative grants program is supported by a grant from the McKnight Foundation.

Gordeaux Lafleur, Red Lake, was awarded \$999 to purchase an air compressor to facilitate creation of his original airbrush designs.

Paula Littlewolf, Mahn-omen, received \$1,000 to create fine arts prints of her paintings as well as matting and display materials for exhibition of her work.

Frederick Fisher, Bemidji, was awarded \$1,000 to purchase a printer to print his original works of art directly on t-shirts.

Judy Toppings, Waubun, received \$829 to purchase equipment, materials, and supplies for her project Ogitchidaa/Ogitchidaakwe to make Warrior Quilts telling the stories of veterans.

Bryan Belgarde, Deer River,

received \$900 to purchase an airbrush, compressor, paints, and t-shirts to create original wearable art.

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Dylan Manderud, Goodridge Senior, had 6 points in the game against the Roseau Rams on Thursday, December 21. The Chargers lost 43-74.



7th grade Grygla/Goodridge Chargers and Roseau Rams keep an eye on the ball! Grygla got the victory in this game on Thursday, December 21.



Dane Arveson at the free throw line in the 7th grade game in Roseau last Thursday, December 21.



Jordan Skibicki in the Chargers vs. Roseau JV game last Thursday, December 21.

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The tradition of the Epiphany



While some may think the holiday season ends once New Year's Day comes and goes, for Christians, the season continues into January with the feast of the Epiphany.

The Epiphany occurs 12 days after Christmas, which falls on January 6 (or January 19 for some Orthodox churches that celebrate Christmas on January 7). The Epiphany celebrates the Three Kings, also known as the Three Wise Men, who visited Jesus shortly after his birth.

The Epiphany is celebrated by Catholics and Orthodox Christians. Among Hispanics, the day is known as El Día de los Reyes.

Many traditions are included in Epiphany celebrations. According to the Center for Christian Ethics at Baylor University, three historical traditions of the Epiphany include baking a "Kings' Cake," marking a door lintel with the Magi's blessing, and participating in worship with lighted candles. Some families also exchange gifts on the Epiphany to commemorate the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh that the Three Wise Men presented to Jesus upon arriving at the manger.

Chalking doors

Celebrants of the Epiphany can mark their own doors, also called "chalking the doors." This tradition is a centuries-old practice that serves as a

request of Christ to bless the homes marked so that all those who dwell inside remain blessed throughout the year. The marking includes the first digits of the year, followed by the initials of the Magi - Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar - followed by the last digits of the year. For 2018 the formula should read: 20+C+M+B+18. Others believe the letters represent the abbreviation of the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat," or "May Christ bless the house."

King cakes

King cakes vary by region. In Spain, local bakers make a special ring-shaped roll. In France, it is a flat almond cake with a toy crown cooked inside. In Mexico, bakers put a figure of Baby Jesus inside a cake. The person who finds the figure is awarded the honor of baking or providing the cake for the following year and hosting the Epiphany celebration.

Lighting candles

Individuals are urged to keep candles lit on the Epiphany. This is to symbolize how Jesus' presence on Earth was comparable to light entering a darkened world.

The arrival of the New Year beckons an important religious celebration that extends the magic of the Christmas season.

By Deane Morrison

January starts and ends with full "supermoons"—one on New Year's Day and one on the 31st.

On New Year's Day we get the closest full moon of the year—a mere 221,700 miles away. Perfect fullness comes at 8:24 p.m.—less than five hours after both moonrise and perigee, the moon's closest approach to Earth in a lunar cycle. In other words, 2018 starts with a rising moon that scores way up on the size, brightness and roundness scales. During the night of the 1st-2nd it travels the sky in Gemini.

On the 31st, the moon reaches fullness at 7:27 a.m. It also undergoes a total lunar eclipse. Totality begins at 6:52 a.m., followed by the moment of deepest eclipse at 7:30 a.m. and the end of totality at 8:08 a.m. Unfortunately, over the eastern part of the state this supermoon sets before or very shortly after the deepest eclipse. Still, the eclipse will deliver more than enough for a great early-morning show. This full moon also meets one definition of a "blue moon": the second full moon in a calendar month.

The morning sky continues to outdo its evening counterpart in terms of planet watching. Early in the month, Saturn slips over the southeastern horizon and climbs higher every day. Jupiter begins the month high in the southeastern predawn sky, just to the lower left of Mars. But the king of planets is about to overtake the god of war. On the 6th and 7th, watch brighter Jupiter climb past Mars, coming barely half a moon width from the red planet. On the 11th, a waning crescent moon visits the planets, which will then be about two degrees apart. Southeast of both planets, Scorpius and its gigantic red heart, Antares, are rising.

Another bright red star shines in the east after nightfall. That is Betelgeuse, at Orion's northeast shoulder. Grab your binoculars and find the sword hanging from the three stars of Orion's belt. The sword's middle "star" is the Orion Nebula, an immense region of multicolored gas and dust clouds where young stars are

Looking southeast, 90 minutes before sunrise January 11

Waning Moon
Jupiter
Mars

Minnesota Starwatch

forming at a breakneck pace.

Also turn those binocs on the V-shaped Hyades star cluster, which forms the face of Taurus, the bull. It's just northeast of Orion and marked by orangeish

Aldebaran, the eye of the bull. Aldebaran isn't part of the Hyades cluster, however. The Hyades are about 150 light-years away, while Aldebaran is a foreground star some 65

light-years from Earth.

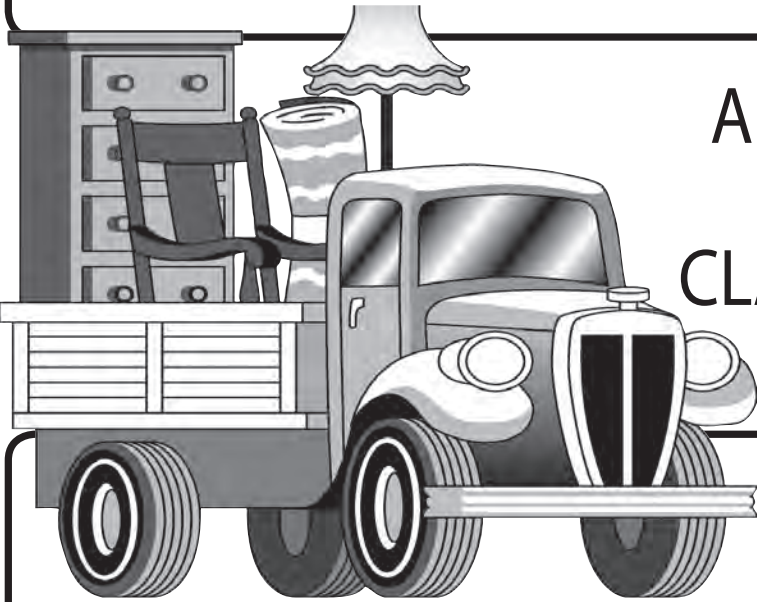
Moving northeast again, the lovely Pleiades star cluster—also known as the Seven Sisters—is another delight for the eye. Like the Hyades, the Pleiades are an open star cluster. In open clusters, the stars were all born around the same time and are traveling through space together.

The University of Minnesota offers public viewings of the night sky at its Duluth and Twin Cities campuses. For more information and viewing schedules, see: Duluth, Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium: www.d.umn.edu/planet Twin Cities, Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics: www.astro.umn.edu/outreach/pubnight

Check out the astronomy programs at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum ExploraDome: <http://www.bell-museum.umn.edu/exploradome>

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OBITUARIES



Services held for Gordy Haats

Gordy Haats, 83, of Thief River Falls, MN, formerly of St. Hilaire, MN, died peacefully with family members by his side on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at Sanford Hospital in Fargo, ND.

Funeral Services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, December 22, 2017 at Calvary Lutheran Church in St. Hilaire, MN with Rev. Frank Ehling officiating. Burial at the St. Hilaire Community Cemetery in St. Hilaire, MN. Visitation was held from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM with a 7:00 PM prayer service on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at Johnson Funeral Service in Thief River Falls, MN. Visitation was also held one hour prior to the funeral service.

Gordon Harold Haats was born on October 15, 1934 at home in Bejou, MN, the son of Etteus and Kathrene (Kramer) Haats. He attended school in Bejou. While still at home Gordy helped on the family farm.

On June 23, 1956, Gordy was united in marriage to Carol Mather in Gilby, ND. The couple lived in Gilby until 1963, when they moved to Grafton, ND. In 1965, they moved to Spokane, WA for a short period of time and then moved to St. Hilaire, MN in 1966.

Gordy worked for Holsum Bread as a delivery driver until he retired in 1993. Then he worked part-time at Hanson Boarding Home. He also worked for Earl Hoefer planting and harvesting in his farming operation.

Gordy loved to play cards, dance, and go camping. He enjoyed watching ballgames – especially his kids and the St. Hilaire Bears. Gordy also enjoyed races at Grand Forks and Greenbush, feeding the wildlife in his front yard, taking care of his yard, and visiting with his neighbors, Bob and Deb and Kevin. Gordy most especially loved being with friends and family. He will be deeply missed by many.

Gordy is survived by his children, Mark (Deb) Haats of Thief River Falls, MN, Steve (Brenda) Haats of Warroad, MN, and Eileen Kelley of McCallsburg, IA; grandchildren, Jennifer (Jeff) Curtis of Cranston, RI, Jason (Jana) Haats of Grafton, ND, Jessica (Duane) Johnson of Grafton, ND, Kory (Kali) Haats of Roseau, MN, Stephanie Haats of Warroad, MN, Cara Key of McCallsburg, IA; step-grandchildren, Derek Brummund of Thief River Falls, MN, Wade (April) Brummund of Red Lake Falls, MN, and Ryan Brummund of Perham, MN; 7 great-grandchildren; 3 step great-grandchildren; brothers and sister, Ted (Clarice) Haats of Green Bay, WI, Elroy (Sylvia) Haats of Wadena, MN, Kenny (Carla) Haats of Sioux Falls, SD, and Shirley Crane of Blaine, MN; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, and friends.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Carol; his parents, Etteus and Kathrene; brother, George; step-father, John Leland; brother-in-law, Gene Crane; father-in-law, Fred Mather and mother-in-law, Alice Mather; and brother-in-law, Ken Mather.



Services held for Muriel Skalet

Muriel Skalet, Thief River Falls, MN age 87, passed away on Tuesday December 19, 2017 at Karlstad Nursing Center, Karlstad, MN.

Funeral Service was held at 10:30 AM on Thursday, December 28, 2017 at Johnson Funeral Service in Thief River Falls, MN. Burial at Salem Lutheran Church Cemetery rural Oklee, MN.

Muriel Skalet was born April 8, 1930 in Mayfield

Township, Pennington County, MN the daughter of Arthur and Oline "Lena" (Warstad) Skalet and identical twin to Myrtle. She grew up on the family farm in Mayfield Township and has lived in Plummer, MN, Red Lake Falls, MN, Argyle, MN, Faribault, MN, Fergus Falls, MN, Thief River Falls, MN and most recently Karlstad, MN.

She had a spunky personality, loved lefse, donuts, chocolate, stuffed animals, listening to music and celebrating her birthday!

Survivors include her twin sister, Myrtle Skalet; and many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her siblings, Thilda (2016) (Olaf) Haugen and Alton (1979) (Evelyn) Skallet, Selma (1989) (Carl) Peterson, Gladys (2001) (Harold) Walseth, Stella (2015) (Edwin) Halvorson and Helen (2016) (John Cardella & Ed Sample) Sampley.

Family condolences may be sent to www.johnsonfuneralservice.com



Services held for Gerald E. Hoeft

Gerald E. Hoeft, age 71, of Erskine, MN, passed away on Friday, December 15th, at Pioneer Memorial Care Center in Erskine. A celebration of his life was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 23rd, at Grace Lutheran Church in Erskine with the Rev. Timothy Lundeen officiating. Interment in Fairview Cemetery, rural Erskine. Visitation was held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with a 7:00 p.m. prayer service on Friday, December 22nd, at the Carlin Funeral Home in Erskine. Family greeted friends for one hour prior to the service on Saturday morning at the church. Arrangements were with the Carlin Funeral Home of Erskine and messages of condolence may be sent at www.carlinfuneral.com.

Gerald Everett Hoeft (Jerry) was born on September 20, 1946 to parents Charlie and Muriel (Hallas) Hoeft in Crookston, MN. He grew up in Erskine, MN where he graduated from Erskine High School in 1964. Following graduation, Jerry worked in the Twin Cities at the White Bear Yacht Club.

Jerry was united in marriage to Judi Lesetmoe on September 24, 1966, at St. Lawrence Catholic in Mentor, MN. They moved to Minneapolis where Jerry worked construction. They moved back to Erskine in 1967 and Jerry purchased the Ness Café with his brother Mike from Bob and Aimee Ness. After a few months at the café, Jerry realized Mike was a better cook and the restaurant business wasn't for him so they moved to Shakopee where Jerry started working for Rauenhorst Construction, now Opus.

In May of 1971, to be closer to family and friends, they moved back to Erskine where Jerry purchased the caulking and weather stripping business from Chester Hjelmsaug, hence, the start of Jerry's Construction Specialties. Jerry successfully operated the business for 37 years working on numerous jobs throughout North Dakota

and Minnesota, including the Chester Fritz Auditorium, the Aero Space Center, the Grand Forks and Minot Air Force Bases, and several buildings on the University of North Dakota campus, as well as a Post Office in San Francisco. Throughout those years, Jerry played an active roll on the Erskine school board where he served as Chairman for 15 years and was instrumental in the formation of Win-E-Mac. He was so proud of the fact that he was able to hand each of his kids their high school diploma. He was also President of the Erskine golf club where he facilitated the transition and formation of the greens, doing away with having to try and sink a putt on sand. After retiring from the construction business, Jerry took a job with Gittleman Management Corporation in Minneapolis where he managed a condominium complex off of Dean Parkway and Lake Calhoun until 2011, when he contracted the infection that nearly took his life. After that he moved to an apartment in Annandale, MN where he resided until moving to Country Place Apartments in Erskine in January of 2015.

Besides his family, Jerry's greatest joy in life was to socialize with family and friends, tell stories and make people laugh. He was a big part of his grandkids lives and enjoyed attending their sporting events and teaching them life lessons. Jerry enjoyed the outdoors hunting, fishing, golfing and life at the lake, but golf was Jerry's passion. One of the highlights of his love for golf was a trip with his son Chad to Pebble Beach in December of 2012.

He is survived by Judi Hoeft of Erskine, MN; three children, Sheila (Darryn) Hanson of St. Michael, MN; Chad Hoeft (Karrie) of Westfield, NJ; and Krissy Strom of McIntosh, MN. Seven Grandkids: Spencer, Rylee, Lauren, Jady, Bryer, Avery and Addison. Three brothers and four sisters; Pat Anenson and her husband Vern of Thief River Falls, MN, Kathy Midbo and her husband Dallas of Thief River Falls, MN, Marilyn Novak and her husband Leonard of Warren, MN, Dorothy Seidel and her husband Mike from Roseau, MN, Twin Brothers Paul and John Hoeft of Minneapolis, MN and Thomas (Tucker) Hoeft and his wife Jan of Big Sandy, TX as well as many other nieces, nephews and relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles (Charlie) and Muriel Hoeft, brothers Russ, Doug, Mike and Charles (Chuck) Hoeft as well as many dear friends.

BLESSED BE HIS MEMORY!

Services for Glenn Solberg

Glenn Solberg, age 84, of Gully, MN, passed away on Monday, December 25th, at Essentia First Care Living Center in Fosston. Funeral services will be at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 29th, at Hope Lutheran Church in Fosston with the Rev. Gordon Syverson officiating. Interment will be in Zion Lutheran Cemetery, rural Gully. Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with a

7:00 p.m. prayer service on Thursday, December 28th, at the Carlin Funeral Home in Fosston. There will also be reviewal for one hour prior to the service on Friday at the church. Military honors will be provided by the National Guard Honors Team and arrangements are with the Carlin Funeral Home of Fosston. Messages of condolence may be sent at www.carlinfuneral.com.



Services held for Anola Finseth

Anola Finseth, age 90, of McIntosh, MN, passed away on Friday, December 22nd, at Essentia Health Hospital in Fosston. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 27th, at Vernes Lutheran Church, rural McIntosh, with the Rev. Jill Torgerson officiating. Interment will be in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held for one hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church. Arrangements are with the Carlin Funeral Home of Fosston and messages of condolence may be sent at www.carlinfuneral.com.

Anola Joy Syverson was born on October 6, 1927 at home in Hill River Township, Minnesota to parents Rudolph and Clara Martinson Syverson. She grew up in Hill River Township and attended the Lindsay School through the eighth grade. She graduated from McIntosh High School in 1945.

Anola was united in marriage to Lourie Joseph Finseth on November 14, 1945. After their marriage, they farmed and raised their family in Chester Township and Hill River Township. Anola and Lourie were truly partners in the farming operation. She helped with the cattle, driving trucks and tractors and took care of the home. She was a wonderful cook, providing meals for her family and for the guys in the field. Anola also worked at the Fosston Hospital, Oklee Manufacturing, and 25 years for Polk County Nursing.

She was a life long active member of Vernes Lutheran Church. She was a wonderful quilter and enjoyed gardening and being outdoors. At the

Finseth house, the door was always open and the coffee pot was always on for visitors. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

Survivors include seven children, Carolyn (Jerry) Nelson of Crookston, MN, Leslie (Mavis) Finseth of McIntosh, Sidney (Lynae) Finseth of Trail, MN, Marlys (Barry) Brovold of St. Paul, MN, Rudy (Kathy) Finseth of McIntosh, Gladys (Keith) Bakken of Crookston, MN, and Tim (Ruth) Finseth of Warren, MN; 17 grandchildren, Steven Nelson, Karen (Shawn) Hyde, Pamela (Brett) Rossell, Annette (Mark) Sannes, Larry (Melissa) Finseth, Jennifer (Ron) Olson-Burkman, Travis (Janelle) Finseth, Shawn (Don) Hagen, Jeremy (Danielle) Finseth, Jarrod (Shelley) Finseth, Samuel (Amber) Finseth, Cindy (Jon) Lecy, Matthew (Rachell) Finseth, Katie (Matt) Norby, Amanda Bakken (fiancé, Jasui), Cameron Finseth, and Sarah Finseth; 24 great grandchildren, Jennifer (Bob) Manias, Andrew Nelson, Brock Rossell, Cassey Hyde, Kelsey (Peter) Lofgren, Austin Sannes, Caitlin Sannes, Brady Finseth, Gretchen Finseth, Jordan Finseth, Brianna Finseth, Brittney Finseth, Katherine Finseth, Joshua Finseth, Zackary Olson-Burkman, Trinity Olson-Burkman, Maxwell Olson-Burkman, Isabella Soler, Ethan Finseth, Ella Finseth, Preston Lecy, Courtney Lecy, Trevor Lecy, and Cecil Finseth; four great great grandchildren, Mckenzie Lofgren, Megan Lofgren, Mason Lofgren, and Kamron Agnes.

Also surviving are two brothers, Gordon Syverson of Fosston, MN, and Norris Syverson of McIntosh; two sisters, Mary Loing of Reynolds, ND, and Faith Hanson of McIntosh; brother-in-law, Darrel Finseth of McIntosh; two sisters-in-law, Eleanor Syverson of Barnum, MN and Mavis Syverson of McIntosh. Nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lourie on June 7, 1999; her parents; siblings, Alkira, Clara, Ardith, Francis, Alan, Edwin, Rupert; and infants, Elaine, Walter, and Doris; and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Archie, Richard, Bruce, Roy, Clarence & Lillian, Hilda & Lloyd, and Elvie & Gerald.



Services held for Aurel Parenteau

Aurel Parenteau, 89, of Brooks, MN died peacefully with family members by his side on Saturday, December 16, 2017 at Essentia Health Care Living Center in Fosston, MN.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11:00 AM on Friday, December 22, 2017 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Brooks, MN with Father Chuck Hub presiding and Father Bob Schreiner concelebrating. Burial at St. Joseph Cemetery in Brooks, MN.

Visitation held from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM with a 7:00 PM prayer service on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Brooks, MN. Visitation was also held one hour prior to the funeral mass.

Aurel Joseph Parenteau was born on July 3, 1928 in the back of the cheese factory in Brooks, MN, the son of Aurelius and Della (Perusse) Parenteau. Aurel spent most of his 89 years in Brooks, until, due to health reasons, he moved to Poplar Meadows Assisted Living in McIntosh, MN, and finally Essentia Living Care in Fosston, MN.

Aurel attended grade school in Brooks, and then prep school at St. John's University. He returned to Brooks to work at the Brooks Cheese Factory with his dad.

On September 24, 1948, Aurel was united in marriage

to Gloria Hanson. He managed the cheese factory from 1960-1980. He and Gloria went to Cochabamba, Bolivia, South America to teach cheese making 1983-1984. Aurel worked various jobs after that, including mowing for the city of Brooks until he had to retire due to health reasons. He took pride in making the city look great.

Aurel enjoyed golfing, ice fishing, dancing, politics, computers, NFL football and spreadsheets. He was Mayor of Brooks 1961-1968 and was active in politics, being a delegate to the National Republican Convention in 1960.

Those left to miss his quick wit and warm heart are his wife: Gloria, McIntosh, MN; children: Mike (Donna) Parenteau, Walla, Walla, WA, Patti (Clair) Thompson, Mentor, MN & Lake Havasu City, AZ, Tom (Diane) Parenteau, Maple Grove, MN, Steve (Vickey) Parenteau, Grand Forks, ND, Joe (Carol) Parenteau, Thornton, CO; grandchildren: Jason (Darbie), Eric (Lauren), Aaron (Nicole), Beau, Addison, Jay, and Alicia (Rob); great-grandchildren: Wyatt, Anders, Audrina, Talia, Harper and Brooks; brother: Marc (Yvonne) Parenteau; sisters: Ione (Jack) Brooks, MaryLou (Lamont) Deaver and Nancy (Chuck) Stridde; and many other relatives and friends.

Aurel is preceded in death by his parents; sisters: Jeanne & Betty; brothers-in-law: Earl Gramer & Pat Howe; and sister-in-law: Connie Parenteau.

Aurel touched the lives of many people with his love for golf scrambles and football pools. He will be greatly missed. Special thanks to caring staff at Poplar Meadows and Essentia. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Esentia Home Health & Hospice, Fosston, MN or St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Brooks, MN or a charity of your choice.

Condolences may be sent at www.johnsonfuneralservice.com

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Pine Lake Race this Saturday and Sunday

The traditional USXC Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial Pine Lake race will kick off the USXC's season December 30th & 31st on beautiful Pine Lake in Gonvick, MN. The weather is finally cooperating with back to normal temps and good ice.

The action will heat up Saturday morning with the top factory drivers seeing who can lay claim to the fastest ice racer in the country. Factory teams have been on the lake for 2 weeks testing.

The best terrain racers in the country will be competing for year end points and cash awards. The course is a 10 mile lemans style with long straights and many left and right corners. With speeds in excess of 100 mph with the addition of the Pro Open 600 class, it should be an event worth watching.

The weekend will also feature 120 cc class racing for the kids. This is the first race of a 7 race season, see WWW.USXCRACING.COM for a complete schedule and results.



Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears hosted the Badger-Greenbush-Middle River Gators on Thursday, December 21. (Above) Jonny Hamnes drives past a Gator defender while (below) Ethan Dorman goes up for two points. The Gators took home the victory.



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- **Racing Starts at 9am Each Day**
- **\$10 Admission (12 & Under Free)**
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- **On Site Registration at Spotsmans Bar, Friday, December 29, 4:30-7pm**
- **120 Class- Racing Sunday Only-1/2 mile course**

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Local Basketball Results

Results for Monday, December 18, 2017

BOYS
Fosston 71, Climax-Fisher 36

Fertile-Beltrami 60, Bagley 37
F-B 30 3—60
BAG 14 23—37

Fertile-Beltrami—Andrew Wadsworth 2, Addy McCollum 6, Vincent Benesh 6, Athan McCollum 12, Jordan Van Den Einde 4, Dylan Pearce 8, Dillon Sannes 12, Dylan Van Den Einde 4, Isaiah Horgeshimer 4
Bagley—Isaac Tierney 7, James Hvezda 6, Tannen Agnes 10, Jaiden Wangstad 2, Lamarco Pemberton 2, Lee Waughtal 4, Dawson Eck 4

GIRLS
Red Lake Co. Central 44, Fosston 37
FOS 17 20—37
RLC 24 20—44

Fosston—Jadyn Hubbard 8, Brianna Vig 2, Lillie Manecke 13, Kora Norland 2, Kendra Eckman 4, Jenna Manecke 8
Red Lake County Central—Kia Blanchard 7, Brandie DeHate 1, Hannah Kolstoe 2, Calyssa Eskeli 3, Julia Bernstein 8, Billie Jo Gryskiewicz 2, Jenna Pahlen 21

Clearbrook-Gonvick 73, Nevis 52
NEV 28 24—52
C-G 33 40—73

Nevis—Ava Isaacson 4, An-nalise Ahrendt 3, Kia Heide 11, Ashley Pyburn 3, Tori Carrier 6, Kali Oelschlager 2, Katie Kamphaus 23

Clearbrook-Gonvick—Morgan Cornell 3, Brynn Hetland 16, Emma Dorman 3, Jackie Lynn Taffin 10, Jennifer Lavin 5, Danae Stenzel 8, Tamara Skinaway 5, Madelynnne Faldet 10, Cassie Faldet 13

Results for Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Honor roll Basketball
Double doubles

Calyssa Eskeli, Red Lake Co. County, 11 points, 11 rebounds vs. Goodridge-Grygla

Cheyenne Irlbeck, Goodridge-Grygla, 12 points, 12 rebounds vs. Red Lake Co. Central

Isiah Olson, Red Lake County, 10 points, 10 rebounds vs. Clearbrook-Gonvick

Results for Thursday, December 21, 2017

BOYS
Roseau 74, Goodridge-Grygla 43
ROS 32 42—74
G-G 25 19—43

Roseau—Jack Hirst 13, Ryden Jacobson 2, Nels Braaten 28, Eric Hoffer 3, Nate Corbit 5, Gabe Gracia 2, Zach Fevold 2, Tyson Monsrud 4, Nathan O'Connor 4, Jacob Lindemann 9

Goodridge-Grygla—Dylan Wold 3, Jaden Kiesow 2, Jake Tharaldson 5, Brandon Stanley 6, Blake Nerhus 2, Hutson McMillin 5, Dylan Manderud 6, Kaleb Sjulstad 3, Ben Groven 11

Mahnomen/Waubun 68, Red Lake County 23

Mahnomen/Waubun—Will Bly 11, Jameson Beckman 2, Dion Bower 10, Parker Syver-son 13, Treston Spalla 8, Jaycee Clark 2, Jon Starkey 9, Buster Walker 11, Dan Snetsinger 2

Red Lake County—Derek Peterson 2, Ben Cardinal 5, Matt Vettleson 5, Ethan Vettleson 1, Connor Lambert 2, Isiah Olson 8

GIRLS
Clearbrook-Gonvick 76, Bagley 37
C-G 51 25—76
BAG 18 19—37

Clearbrook-Gonvick—Brynn Hetland 22, Jennifer Lavin 15, Tamara Skinaway 16, Cassie Faldet 9, Danae Stenzel 7, McKayla Johnson 4, Madelynnne Faldet 3

Bagley—Alex Syverson 17, Cassidy Draeger 6, Carly Lewis 6, McKinzie Halverson 3, Kylli Anderson 2, Rylee Aufforth 2, Kara Bowman 1

Red Lake CC 61, Mahnomen-Waubun 59, M-W 24 35—59
RED 23 38—61

Mahnomen-Waubun—Sydney Clark 8, Makena Spaeth 10, Jessica Refshaw 6, Nicole Swedberg 11, Taylor Benson 12, Sydney Bly 12

Red Lake Co. Central—Kia Bachand 9, Sarah Christensen 3, Hannah Kolstoe 1, Calyssa Eskeli 16, Julia Bernstein 13, Billie Jo Gryskiewicz 4, Jenna Pahlen 15

Results for Friday, December 22, 2017

BOYS
Fosston 60, Stephen-Argyle 29

Joe Amundson of Leonard, shot this bobcat while he was deer hunting with a black powder rifle. The cats usually don't come out in the daylight but he was fortunate to see it while deer hunting and take it with a 160 yard shot.

Ada-Borup 50, Win-E-Mac 35

Stephen-Argyle 59, Red Lake County 57
S-A 32 27—59
RLC 28 29—57

Stephen-Argyle—Hunter Yutrzenka 7, Stoene Spilde 17, Nathan Kotts 11, Isaac Durand 4, Joston Hoeper 3, Kyler Szczepanski 3, Zac Fincher 14

Red Lake County—Derek Peterson 17, Ben Cardinal 3, Matt Vettleson 5, Ethan Vettleson 19, Connor Lambert 2, Isiah Olson 6

Win-E-Mac 74, Climax-Fisher 44

Win-E-Mac—Brekken Lindberg 18, Mikan Olson 17, Bryce Nevbert 9, Dustin Osland 6, Bryer Strom 5, Emelian Kaya 5, Blake Glass 4, Gavin Walker 4, Jay Parenteau 2, Mason Spry 2, Parker Gerber 2

Climax-Fisher—Gerardo Vasquez 10, Trea Byklum 9, Brady Klein 7, Matt Knutson 7, Dylan Evitts 6, Hayden Re-iteimer 3, Myles Smith 2

GIRLS
Win-E-Mac 54, Climax-Fisher 44
WEM 33 21-54
C-F 26 18-44

Win-E-Mac—Madysen Plan-te 2, Kylie Brekke 12, Rylee Haugen 4, Sydney Tadman 17, Lindsey Espeseth 2, Elliana Lindberg 3, Tyra Wilson 10, Carlie Sander 4

Climax-Fisher—Sophia Love 17, Ellie Schmitz 6, Beth McDonald 2, Katie Rarick 1, Rylie Magsam 5, Gracie Rouland 2, Lindsey Kurz 11

Fertile-Beltrami 51, Fosston 33
F-B 25 26—51
FOS 14 19—33

Fosston—Rebecca Olson 2, Jaclyn Hubbard 16, Brianna Vig 4, Lillie Manecke 2, Kora Norland 2, Jaime Carlin 2, Jenna Manecke 3, Callie Theis 2

Fertile-Beltrami—Olivia Ellington 2, Bailey Mulcahy 17, Tessa Motteberg 3, Marlee Steffes 8, Lauren Harstad 5, Anne Sykes 6, Emily Motteberg 4, Shelby Dunbar 6

Clearbrook-Gonvick 67, Blackduck 28
BLA 18 10—28
CLE 42 25—67

Blackduck—Kaitlyn McK-eeman 5, Haley Murray 11, Johanna Swedberg 5, Regan Franzel 5, Jada Landis 2

Clearbrook-Gonvick—Brynn Hetland 13, Kaylee Faldet 1, Jennifer Lavin 11, Denae Stenzel 5, Lauren Melby 2, Tamara Skinaway 8, Madelyne Faldet 5, Cassie Faldet 22

Lease buyouts smart for some

Leasing enables many people to drive brand new vehicles, and they can take advantage of the benefits such cars and trucks offer, such as low maintenance.

Leasing has been compared to renting a car for a specific period of time. A person is allowed to use the vehicle, but must return it after a few years in very good condition. Lease payments may be considerably lower than financing rates, and some people may be able to lease a particular make or model that would be out of reach otherwise.

According to the latest Lease Market Report from Edmunds.com, more new vehicles were leased during the first half of 2016 than during any other such period in history. Lease volume has doubled in the last five years, with millennials and seniors leasing more vehicles than any other demographics.

At the end of a lease, people have the option of turning it in and starting a new lease or buying out the lease. Lease buyouts might be the right fit for some drivers.

Types of buyouts

The Department of Motor Vehicles says there are two buyout options. These include a lease-end buyout and an early buyout.

With a lease-end buyout, the lessee pays the residual value of the vehicle at the end of the lease contract. It is the most common of the options. Drivers can look at their lease agreements to see what the residual amount was calculated to be. Then they can use an automotive price comparison tool, like those offered by Kelley Blue Book or Edmunds, to see if the amount is comparable to the private-party selling price, or the true market value of that vehicle. If the amount is less or very near to the value listed, it could be worth it to engage in a lease-end buyout.

The other buyout option is an early lease buyout. This gives lessees the option to purchase the leased car or truck before the end of the contract. Calculating if the value of the vehicle makes such a buyout financially feasible can be more challenging because one still has to factor in depreciation, the amount of money still owed on the lease and what the current market value of the vehicle would be.

Reasons for buyouts

There are many reasons to choose a lease-end or early buyout. If the vehicle is in poor shape or if drivers have exceeded the mileage limits on the lease, thereby incurring penalties, it may be smarter to buy out the lease.

Others may have maintained their leased vehicles and liked the cars so much so that they want to keep on driving them.

Buying out a lease can sometimes make the most financial sense for drivers.

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