



Tri County Canary

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

Bagley Livestock Exchange Hosts Auctioneer Championship

By Bonnie Kirchman
“Lots of good quality cattle here today,” auctioneer Zach Ballard told the crowd at the Bagley Livestock Exchange on Saturday, January 18th. He added, “Won’t find ‘em any better.”

Ballard, of Mitchell, South Dakota was not only working to sell cattle at the exchange. He was also one of around 20 contestants who had travelled to Bagley to compete in the 2020 Greater Midwest Livestock Auctioneer Championship. The contestants came not only from the Midwest, but also from far away (and warmer) states like Florida and Idaho. Blizzard-like conditions did not keep them away from the opportunity to show their skills and compete with their peers.

Cattle are big business in this area. This is evident at the Bagley Livestock exchange, owned by Joe Varner and Billy Bushelle. Here, west of Bagley, cattle are bought and sold at auctions held every Thursday as well as special sales events like the one held Saturday.

It takes many people to make the livestock auctions happen. Buyers come looking for cattle to purchase. Sellers come hoping for good prices on their cattle. Trucking firms are involved in hauling the livestock from the seller’s place to the auction barn and on the buyer’s land.

There is also paperwork to



This lot of cattle, covered with a dusting of snow, are ready to be auctioned off by Scott Twardowski of Swanville, Minnesota, one of the contestants at the Auctioneer Championship.

be dealt with for each sale. Edie Kilen and Diane Sherer work full-time Monday through Friday in the office at the Bagley Livestock Exchange.

And all of these people need to be fed. Linda Klinkhammer manages the busy kitchen at the Exchange. She offers a wide range of food, from roast beef dinners and hot beef sandwiches to chili and wild rice soup.

The auctioneer plays an important role in this whole business. The sellers rely on the auctioneer to bring the best possible price for the cattle they brought that day. Buyers also want to be treated fairly. Both are relying on the auctioneer’s knowledge and ability to share important information about the cattle. The auctioneers’ skills at getting the crowd interested and involved in the sale are essential for bringing the best possible price. The auctioneer must also be able to scan the sales arena, looking for interested buyers as the price quickly increases. The auctioneers must do this all while calling out the bids and maintaining their individual version of the auctioneer’s high-speed chant.

The contest held at Bagley gave the auctioneers the opportunity to put their skills to the test. Janet Flatland Mueller coordinated the event. This is the third time she has organized a contest like this. In her role as coordinator, Janet had many responsibilities, including the purchase of jackets and other clothing for the contest. She also organized the catalog that listed this year’s contestants as well as past winners. On the day of the championship, she supervised the entire process of obtaining scores from the judges and recording these.

“One point can make a big difference,” Janet said, emphasizing the need for accuracy in totaling and recording the scores of each contestant. Mary Bjerga was the ticket collector, serving for the first time in this role. One of her duties was to collect the official judge’s score sheets from each judge when the contestant completed a round. Sisters Abigail Walton and Kiersten Walton were also first-time workers at this contest. Abigail tallied the



Snow and wind did not stop a big crowd from coming out to watch the 2020 Greater Midwest Livestock Auctioneer Championship held at the Bagley Livestock Exchange, Inc. on Saturday, January 18th. -Photos by Richards

score sheets and Kjersten entered the scores on the computer.

Tim Enderson, Jerry Reisch, Gordon Reisinger, Harold Stewart and Wayne Wilde were the judges for the auctioneer contest. Each judge has many years of experience in the various aspects of the cattle business. Tim Enderson, for example, lives near Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He runs a feed business that caters to cattle producers and also buys and sells cattle. Enderson “has been around cattle and sale barns since he could walk.” Judge Wayne Wilde of Shevlin has been in the cattle business since 1975 and currently has over 500 head of Black Angus. Wilde was wearing “two hats” in Saturday’s event. Not only did he judge the auctioneers, he also brought cattle from his own herd to sell.

The auctioneers were judged across five categories, each having a maximum score of twenty points, for a total of 100 potential points. The qualities of the performances that were rated

included skills such as proper use of the microphone, voice quality, clarity, and auctioneer chant, and bid catching. The contestants’ appearance, poise, and salesmanship were also evaluated. The auctioneers also needed to demonstrate their knowledge of livestock marketing.

The field of 19 who started in the auctioneer contest was narrowed down to ten finalists. These ten received belt buckles and went on to another round, working the crowd and selling more cattle.

Wade Leist of Boyne City, Michigan was named the 2020 Greater Midwest Livestock Auctioneer Champion. His contest sponsors were Northern Michigan Livestock and Frank Leist. As winner, Leist took away \$1,500 and another belt buckle.

First runner-up of contest was Quest Flesner of Hannibal, Missouri. Flesner was sponsored by F+T Livestock Market and Al Dames. He received \$1,000 in prize money along with an additional belt buckle.

Ed Leist, Wade’s brother, took the second runner-up prizes of \$500 and a belt buckle. Ed Leist was sponsored by Northern Michigan Livestock, Rovenna Auction, Frank and Jan Leist, Randy Lettinga, and Vern Lettinga.

As to future competition opportunities, Janet Flatland Mueller said this: “All but the champion can enter the 2021 GMLAC which will be held in Belle Fourche, South Dakota. The champion will be invited to be the emcee for that event if he is able to make it.”

As the auctioneers took their turns selling, they expressed appreciation to both the buyers and the sellers. One auctioneer thanked the consignors for “putting good cattle in front of us”. Another added, “If it wasn’t for the buyers, we’d all be fruit salesmen.” They emphasized the good reputation of the cattle from this area. And in the end, these auctioneers sold over 3,000 head of cattle as they demonstrated their skills and helped promote a profession that is essential to the cattle business.



Above left is Champion, Wade Leist from Boyne City, MI. Above right is Ed Leist from Petoskey, MI, 2nd runner up at the Bagley Livestock Exchange, Inc. on Saturday, January 18th. Photo by RM Photography



1st runner up Quest Flesner from Hannibal MO. Photo by RM Photography.



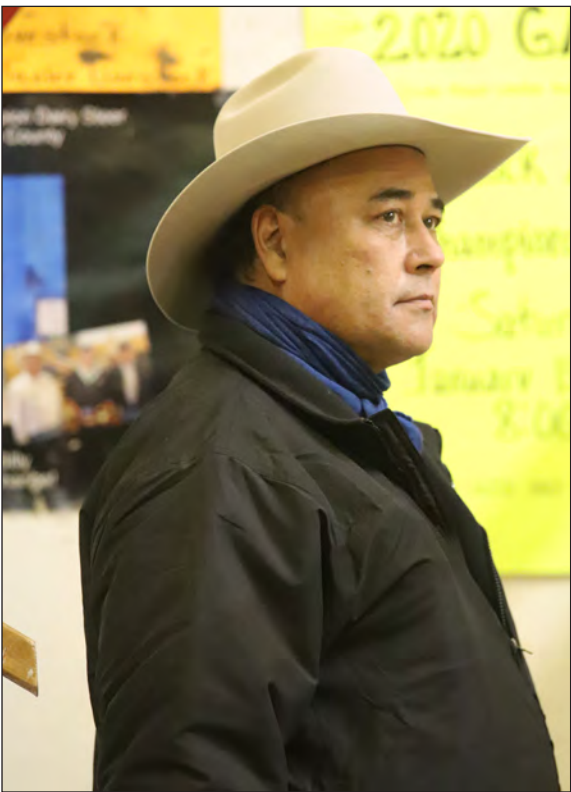
Hot coffee and delicious food are especially appreciated on a stormy winter day. Linda Klinkhammer offers both as the kitchen manager at the Bagley Livestock Exchange Inc. Linda and her staff provide a wide range of menu options to those who work at the sale barn, buy or sell cattle, or watch events like the Auctioneer Championship.



Janet Flatland Mueller served as coordinator for the Auctioneer Championship, her third time in this role. She was assisted by Mary Bjerga, Kjersten Walton, and Abigail Walton. These women collected and tabulated the judges’ score sheets during the contest. - Photos by Richards



Wes Simonson of Leonard watched closely as cattle were bought and sold during the Auctioneer Championship. Simonson brought a herd of 39 cattle to sell at the event held at the Bagley Livestock Exchange.



Billy Bushelle is the manager of the Bagley Livestock Exchange, host of the 2020 Greater Midwest Livestock Auctioneer Championship. Bushelle is a co-owner of the sale barn, along with Joe Varner. - Photos by Richards



Wayne Wilde from the Shevlin area was especially busy at the Bagley Livestock Exchange on January 18th. Wilde brought cattle to be sold. He also served as judge to the 19 contestants who came to Bagley to compete in the Auctioneer Championship.



“Lots of good quality cattle here today,” according to one of the auctioneers. Over 3,000 head of cattle were sold at the Bagley Livestock Exchange on Saturday, January 18th.



L-R: Mike Curfman-Northland TRF Campus Dean, Joe Griffin-Northland Auto Service Technology Instructor, Dennis Bona-Northland President, Nathan Wozniak-Warren Alvarado Oslo Industrial Technology Instructor, Mark Johnson Northland-Auto Service Technology Instructor.

Warren-Alvarado-Oslo High School recipient of rare donation to help expand their Industrial Technology program

January 24, 2020 — Northland Community and Technical College cleared the way to donate a wheel alignment machine to Warren-Alvarado-Oslo (WAO) High School to enable instructors to bolster their current automotive maintenance instruction to include a hands-on element in wheel alignment systems.

"It's uncommon these days to have these programs available to high school students," affirms Mark Johnson, Northland Automotive Service Technology instructor, "which is why it's so important to support the ones that do." Johnson further

pointed out that programs such as this are a way to put the rules of geometry and physics into practice in real-world situations.

Industrial Technology courses expose students to a wide variety of skill sets from engineering to carpentry and automotive technology. WAO Industrial Technology instructor Nathan Wozniak asserts, "It's rare to have an Industrial Technology program integrated into the high school curriculum—and it's extremely rare for students to have access to this caliber of equipment. It's a huge opportunity to expand this unit

beyond theory to a hands-on experience."

"As we know the Automotive Industry is in need of additional qualified workers and through a donation like this, maybe it will spark the interest of a student to pursue a career in this area," Mike Curfman, Northland's Thief River Falls Campus dean discloses, "Northland's graduates in our Automotive programs have been in demand by employers and a lot of these students come from local high schools, such as Warren-Alvarado-Oslo. We are glad that we're able to make this donation to WAO."

Country Music Jam this Sunday

Join us for the Country Music Jam Sunday, Feb. 2nd, from 1:00-5:00 at the Embassy Community Center, 603 3rd St. NE, Fosston.

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Polk County Sheriff

Seabee

Apartment Fire

On 01/20/2020 at approximately 4:08am, the Polk County Sheriff's Office, McIntosh Fire Department, Erskine Fire Department, and Essentia Ambulance responded to the Seabee Apartment building in the City of McIntosh for a report of a possible fire in one of the apartments. Upon arrival, all residents were already evacuated from the building. It was discovered that an oven was left on in a basement apartment and appears to be the cause of the fire. There were no reported injuries and nothing appeared suspicious about the fire. The Minnesota State Fire Marshal's Office assisted with the investigation. No further information, this case will be closed.

Chimney Fire

On 1/26/2020 at approximately 7:20pm, The Polk County Sheriff's Office responded to 37853 200th AVE SE in rural Erskine for a report of a possible chimney fire. Upon arrival Deputies saw smoke coming from the chimney and roof of the house. The owner of the house was home and was not injured during this incident. Erskine Fire Department responded and extinguished the fire. There was minor damage to the home and no one was injured as a result of the chimney fire. No other information will be released at this time.

Also responding to this incident were the Erskine Fire Department and Essentia Ambulance service.

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Congratulations to Travis Ness (right) who received his 25-year pin on December 5th from Local 49 business agent Chris Chantry (left). Travis is currently an operator with Anoka County and a Steward. Thank you for your 25 years of service! IUOE Local 49.



Congratulations to Roby Severson who received his 30-year service pin by Jason George, Local 49 Business Manager (right), and Todd Djonne, Local 49 area business agent (left). Thank you for your service!

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*Consult your financial advisor for eligibility and tax advice.

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Garden Valley Technologies is Coming to Thief River Falls

The Garden Valley Technologies Board of Directors voted to extend its fiber optic networks and offer products and services to residential and business customers located in the city of Thief River Falls. GVT Board President Byron Ness stated "GVT is looking forward to expanding and offering services in the city of Thief River Falls. Our planned expansion will complement recent expansion into rural East Thief River Falls, Bejou and Mahanomen territories".

Garden Valley Technologies is a progressive telecommunications and technology company offering products and services on a reliable fiber optic network. Customers can enjoy Internet speeds up to 1 Gigabit, GVT Video with over 200 channels, Cellular on the most reliable wireless network, Security and Smart Home technology, as well as local Telephone service. In 2018, GVT opened a retail store in Thief River Falls, in the strip mall located at 1517 US Hwy 59 South, providing technology products such as; smart TVs, computers, iPads, headphones, cellular devices, accessories and much more. We encourage you to stop by the store and check out the interactive security and smart wall.

We recommend signing up now to have your home prewired and ready for installation. Once the network construction is complete, we will begin contacting prewired customers to make an appointment for installation. GVT plans to begin our fiber network construction in the spring to all homes and businesses within the city limits. Interested in signing up for services? Simply, go to join.gvtnet.com, stop by our retail store, or call Garden Valley Technologies at 800-448-8260. The knowledgeable and friendly employees at GVT are ready to answer any questions you may have and are looking forward to providing TRF customers with the same quality products and services we provide all of our current customers.

Garden Valley is a progressive telecommunications and

technology company serving 26 exchanges and surrounding communities in northwest Minnesota since 1906. Garden Valley is a member-owned cooperative providing business and residential consumers with advanced integrated communications and technological solutions including, high-speed Internet, Digital HD TV, 4G LTE Cellular, Security and Smart Home technology, and Voice services. Innovate > Advance > Connect.

Garden Valley Technologies begins search for scholarship applicants

Garden Valley Technologies has begun a search for scholarship candidates. If selected, candidates will receive a one-time \$1,000 or \$2,000 scholarship from the Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) Foundation. Garden Valley Technologies participates in MTA's scholarship program and is approaching high schools in their serving area looking for potential scholarship winners.

To be eligible, applicants must be attending post-secondary education at either a university, college, or technical college; be a Minnesota resident, and the General Scholarship applicant's family must subscribe to at least one service from Garden Valley Technologies. A telecom alliance panel reviews each application and selects the finalists based on the applicant's grades, academic achievements and extra-curricular activities.

Preference to receive the scholarships is given to students who have an interest in telecommunications technology and rural communities. Students should contact their school counselor to receive an application or go to: <https://www.mnta.org/resource/resmgr/forms/MTA-Scholarship-Form-2020.pdf> Once a student has completed the application online, they need to print a copy and attach the required documentation.

Applications must be submitted to: CEO/General Manager, Garden Valley Technologies, P.O. Box 259, Erskine, MN 56535 by February 21, 2020. "We're happy to have this chance to make an investment in our community by helping young people get a technical or college education" says Tim Brinkman, CEO/General Manager at Garden Valley Technologies. "It makes us all proud when one of the statewide winners is selected from our area." The Foundation is part of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance, a trade association representing 44 telecommunications providers in the state.

College News

University of North Dakota posts Fall 2019 Lists

The University of North Dakota's Office of the Registrar today issued its Fall 2019 Deans List and President's Roll of Honor.

What it takes to make each list: The Dean's List comprises students whose grade point average are in the top 15 percent of the enrollment in each of the University's degree granting colleges and schools. A student must have completed no fewer than 12 semester hours of academic work for the semester, of which eight or more hours must be graded work rather than "satisfactory/unsatisfactory."

Dean's List

Bailey Engesether, Mckinzie Halverson, **Bagley**; Elizabeth Bodensteiner, **Gonvick**; Madison Bakken, **Grygla**; Charlie Bergerson, **Gully**; Joshua Bodensteiner, **Lengby**; Siri Bardwell, **Leonard**; Levi Roggenbuck, **Mentor**; Ashley Longtin, **Plummer**; Megan Lacrosse, **Red Lake Falls**.

President's Roll of Honor

To qualify for the UND President's Roll of Honor, a student must have an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.80 or higher. The student must also have earned a minimum of 30 semester hours and have completed a minimum of 12 hours at the close of the semester, eight of which must be for traditional letter grades.

Elizabeth Bodensteiner, **Gonvick**; Madison Bakken, **Grygla**; Charlie Bergerson, **Gully**; Tyra Wilson, **Mentor**; Megan Lacrosse, **Red Lake Falls**.

Minnesota students named to NDSU dean's list

Fargo, N.D., Jan. 22 — Area Minnesota students were among the 4,069 North Dakota State University students to be placed on the fall 2019 dean's list.

A student must earn a 3.50 grade point average or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 class credits to qualify for the dean's list.

Students are listed by hometown. Students' majors also are listed. Please include all area students in your news publication.

Bagley, Jessica Benson, Animal Science. **Clearbrook**, Alexander S. Knutson, Electrical Engineering; Taylor F. Volker, Criminal Justice. **Erskine**, Hunter J. Chaput, Architecture. **Fosston**, Katlyn A. Balstad, Management Communication; Sydney F. Balsstad, Management Information Systems. **Goodridge**, Abby M. Kiesow, Accounting. **Plummer**, Cristian G. Dahl, Mechanical Engineering; Andrew J. Fish, Geology. **Red Lake Falls**, Wyatt A. Schirrick, Civil Engineering. **Shevlin**, Shannon L. McBride, Animal Science. **Winger**, Noah E. Klinkhammer, Agricultural Economics; Olivia K. Simonson, Dietetics.

Lake Agassiz Regional Library to Close February 17 for Presidents' Day

All Lake Agassiz Regional Library (LRL) branches and LINK sites will be closed on Monday, February 17 in observance of Presidents' Day, with regular hours of operation resuming Tuesday, February 18.

LRL's branch libraries are located in Ada, Bagley, Barnesville, Breckenridge, Climax, Crookston, Detroit Lakes, Fertile, Fosston, Hawley, Mahanomen, McIntosh and Moorhead. LRL's LINK sites are found in Cormorant, Frazee, Gonvick, Halstad, Hendrum, Lake Park, Rothsay, Twin Valley and Ulen.

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GENERAL MILLS RICE CHEX
\$2.39 12 OZ
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FROSTED FLAKES.....13.5-13.7 OZ **\$1.99**

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DORITOS
3/\$7 9.50-11.25 OZ
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COOKIE DOUGH
\$8.99 48 OZ FROZEN
SLICED STRAWBERRIES
DOLE48 OZ FROZEN **\$5.99**

STONERIDGE ASSORTED
ICE CREAM
\$2.99 48 OZ
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DINING & entertainment

Clearbrook Community Club's Valentine's Day DINNER

Friday Feb. 14th \$22 Per Person
At the Clearbrook Liquor Store
Serving from 5:00pm-9:00pm
Happy Valentines Day!

MENU: NY Strip Steak, Baby Baker Potatoes, Salad Bar, Garlic Bread, Dessert & One Drink of Choice
RESERVATIONS: Must Pre-register and Pre-Pay by Monday, February 10th. Contact the Clearbrook Liquor Store for more info or to reserve your space 218-776-9984

No Other Food Will Be Served That Night
*** Sorry No Refunds***
Funds raised will be used towards Fireworks for the 2020 All School Celebration in June

BAR BINGO & PADDLE WHEEL MEAT RAFFLE

PROGRESSIVE - BLACKOUT 56 #'s for \$1,000
WEDNESDAY WING NIGHT
THURSDAY TACO BAR
SATURDAY, Feb. 1st
SMEAR TOURNAY every TUESDAY at 7 pm
FRI. & SAT. SPECIAL MEATBALLS 5:00-10:00 pm
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Friday 1/31 @ 6:30pm
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Weekend Specials
FRIDAY NIGHT Walleye Dinner
SATURDAY NIGHT Shrimp, Ribs, Chicken, or Steak Dinners
SUPER FOOTBALL SUNDAY FEB 2ND
HAPPY HOUR 4-9PM
FREE CHILI & CHIPS AT HALFTIME
HOURS: M-SAT: 8 A.M. - 1 A.M. SUNDAY: 11:00 A.M. - MIDNIGHT
KITCHEN HOURS ... closes 9:00 p.m.

Governor Walz Announces 30 New Border-to-Border Broadband Grants

[ST. PAUL, MN] – Governor Tim Walz announced the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) is awarding \$23,270,933 in Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program funds to 30 broadband projects across the state. The projects will bring high-quality broadband access to underserved and unserved areas of Minnesota, providing fast, reliable internet access for more than 10,900 businesses, homes, and community anchor institutions.

"Fast, reliable broadband access is a critical economic development tool that improves quality of life and makes businesses in Greater Minnesota more competitive," said Governor Walz. "These grants help us get closer to our goal to ensure that every Minnesotan has high-speed internet access by 2022."

"You simply can't participate in the innovation sector — or almost any sector of the economy today, for that matter — without high speed access to the internet," said DEED Commissioner Steve Grove. "These grants help us reach that last mile of service in Minnesota and our goal to be a model state where you don't have to move to a metro area to participate in the 21st century economy."

During the 2019 legislative session, the Governor signed into law a total of \$40 million in one-time funds for the Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant program in 2020 and 2021. Altogether, DEED received requests for \$70 million in funding for 80 different applications during the latest grant application round.

The Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program is primarily targeted towards communities in Greater Minnesota, where broadband infrastructure is not as likely to be at a level that is needed to support economic equity. A map of projects awarded grants in 2020 is posted on DEED's website.

Details about some projects awarded grants this year are listed below.

Halstad Telephone Company – Rural East Grand Forks Expansion Project – GRANT \$440,000

This last mile project will upgrade approximately 79 unserved and 22 underserved locations in areas of Rinehart, Huntville, Sullivan, and Grand Forks Townships in Polk County. In a funding partnership with the State of Minnesota, Halstad Telephone Company will improve broadband service levels up to 1 Gbps download and 1 Gbps upload, exceeding the 2022 and 2026 state speed goals. Families living in the project area will improve their education and health with access to e-learning, e-medicine and other quality-of-life opportunities provided through a robust broadband connection. Farms will be more efficient and reduce their impacts on the environment by utilizing precision farming techniques due to the increased ability to transfer large amounts of agricultural data to consultants in shorter periods of time. Businesses can increase productivity, allow remote working, and better compete on a worldwide scale as they use the improved broadband for operations, marketing, data analytics, and expanded e-commerce opportunities. Total eligible cost is \$1,067,362. Local match is \$627,362.

Paul Bunyan Communications – North Central Minnesota Fiber Project– GRANT \$2,562,916

This last mile project will upgrade approximately 914 unserved and 439 underserved locations in parts of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation and rural portions of Cass, Itasca, Koochiching, and St. Louis counties. In a funding partnership with the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Iron Range Resource & Rehabilitation Board, Koochiching County, and Morcom Township, Paul Bunyan Communications will improve broadband service levels up to 1 Gbps download and 1 Gbps upload, exceeding the 2022 and 2026 state speed goals. A fiber-to-the-premise project, the proposed project areas are a response to consumer demand and will provide relief in economically distressed communities that need new alternatives to diversify and strengthen. Total eligible cost is \$6,268,400. Local match is \$3,705,484.

Wikstrom Telephone – Wiktel NW MN Broadband Project – GRANT \$1,151,526

This last mile project will upgrade approximately 316 unserved locations in areas of Kittson, Marshall, Lake of the Woods, Pennington, and Roseau Counties. In a funding partnership with the State of Minnesota, Wikstrom Telephone will improve broadband service levels up to 1 Gbps download and 1 Gbps upload, exceeding the 2022 and 2026 state speed goals. This project will provide service to an area with 1.6 subscribers per route mile of cable, in some cases extending from routes placed under the 2016 and 2017 Border to Border State Grant program. Broadband service is the key to economic development, successful education services for children, and allows at-home health care monitoring in this remote area. Total eligible cost is \$2,558,946. Local match is \$1,407,420.

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'09 Honda Civic LX B2042 4 Door, 4 Cyl., 145k48m/\$135..... \$6,399	'17 Ford Escape Titanium 4WD B2057 2.0L, Navigation, Leather, 44k72m/\$328..... \$21,999
'11 Mercury Mariner FWD S2062A 4 Cyl., Cloth, 135k48m/\$148..... \$6,999	'18 Ford Escape Titanium 4WD T19146A Leather, 2.0L, Nav., 4k72m/\$376..... \$24,999
'11 Chevrolet Equinox LT AWD B2064A Cloth, 4 Cyl., 176k48m/\$149..... \$6,999	'18 Jeep Cherokee Limited 4WD T19092B Leather, 28k72m/\$428..... \$27,999
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'08 Ford F-150 SuperCab XLT 4x4 T19100B V8, Cloth, 175k48m/\$209..... \$9,899	'17 Ford Explorer XLT 4WD B2070 3.5L V6, Leather, 32k72m/\$449..... \$30,999
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W D O L D O W A R V Z P R B R M C F R U
H V V M B L I O B L E M A O I R H H E T
A H G E C N O T N R O G S L Y A Y A C F
A I A W H N B C A S K T C S D P S G I G
I U R N W P N T M S B O T K O Z R V K E
V S Y M U A U V R I N A M T O R H H C D
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D G S K E S C E A I T E D I O N E R L T
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N B D D B T L A P M C N I V O F M T T T
W Y K F Z I T W I L I T A W R C E E Y L
K A O O Z I L A Z Z I T I O U E F M B A
O E U Z O C U I E D V R N C R G V O M C
V I A N A G K E T L I T W G Y P S R D P
N R D P O I R P B Y S A E Z B L H A V R
D E L A G F D O U T S D C G Y Y G B G T
P S M W I F R O Z E N K I S N A B Z C V

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

CHILLY WEATHER WORD SEARCH

AIR MASS CLIMATE FREEZING MERCURY
ALTITUDE COLD FRONT SNOW
ARCTIC CONDENSATION TEMPERATURE
BAROMETER CRYSTALLIZATION VISIBILITY
BLACK ICE DEGREE WINDCHILL
BLIZZARD FOG HYPOTHERMIA WINTER

Take and Seal It

The young man made his way through the market in Jerusalem. It was a fun area to be passing through. His senses were on overload. You see, he was not quite a teen as of yet...twelve years old to be exact...and this was his first rendezvous alone of sorts. Nobody had given him permission to be where he was this particular day...or did they? According to his parents, they had not, and sooner than later he would be called home. But until then, he was enjoying himself immensely.

The smell of chicken on the open fire came alive as the vendors nearby motioned for him to partake. Cage free they were as those not chosen as of yet still ran helter-skelter round the market. That's exactly how he feeling this particular morning...alive and free. Digging deeply into his pockets he noted he had coins enough to buy a small portion of that which they offered and for this he was grateful.

Even more grateful he was that the pocket in which he'd kept his coins was still intact...unlike the other. He'd learned his lesson the hard way when at the end of the day...one day...his money was gone. It had been hard earned as with his father he did carpentry. When he was entrusted with payment for that labor, he'd been so eager to show his mama that he forgot which was which. Upon instinct, he placed it in the pocket nearest the fist which held the coins. When he went to dig it out, it was nowhere to be found. Compassion was shown, but to his rescue they did not come. They knew their

role well, and rescuer was not one that would develop who he needed to become.

He made his way through the crowd at the market this day. With many distractions, he managed to stay focused. That was a miracle in itself. You see, his friends were given freedom a bit more often than he so out and about they were on a regular basis. Once they caught sight of him, eager they were to get him to have him follow their folly. He, however, merely made mention that he need be about his Father's business and that was that.

As his footsteps were ordered long ago, he soon made his way to the temple. His heart leapt with joy...just like his mama's did years back when someone...who was that? He couldn't recall exactly...Simon? Simeon? He wasn't sure, but this place felt like home...and thus he stayed.

The pre-teen listened alright. For three days he listened and learned with the wisest of the wise as they shared well into the night. They cared for the young boy as their own...as his eyes...windows to the soul...were lit

with each word spoken. Partake he did of the wisdom being bestowed upon him. Partake they did as well of the words spoken by the young boy who was wise beyond his years. It was like bread being broken at the table of grace as they partook.

Jesus was the young man's name and soon, Mary and Joseph would be on the lookout for that which had been missing from their side. At first sight, they were relieved when they saw him as he didn't appear to be running wild. That was not a surprise, of course, because true to his character, he did not look to the right, nor to the left. No...he managed to look straight into the eyes of where His Father led...leaving a rich inheritance for all to followed.

Lord, we make our plans. Yet, you order our footsteps (Psalm 37:23).

Like Jesus, equip us with the ability to listen to Your voice when You call. Help us not to look to the right nor to the left, but straight into the eyes of Christ...so that we may be made worthy of the promises of Your promises. Amen.

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Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol



Question:
I was driving on I-94 on a winter night

when I saw emergency lights flashing ahead. I moved over and slowed down but when I approached the accident scene I found I was in the lane of the accident. From a distance I could not decipher what side of the road the lights were flashing. There was too much traffic to quickly move over to the other lane safely. Do Minnesota patrol vehicles have the ability to flash directional lights to indicate what lane we should move over to? This sure would have been a help. Thank You

Answer: Our patrol units are equipped with a directional amber arrow or directional lights that are either located near the rear window or on the light bar on top of the roof.

We are trained to make a crash scene as safe as possible. We will place our patrol vehicles behind the scene to protect everyone involved.

Our goal is to be highly visible with the use of our emergency lights and bright colored vests or jackets.

If we have time and it is safe to do so, we also may set



up traffic cones or flares. We also may have other emergency vehicles place their vehicles at a safe distance behind the scene. They can help warn approaching drivers to slow down and be prepared to merge lanes or stop if needed.

When you see flashing emergency lights, please reduce your speed, be prepared to merge lanes and possibly stop. Look for the directional amber lights and safely move over. Watch out for other vehicles that might be slowing down quickly in front of

you, especially when the road conditions are poor.

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).

H Farmall

By Auctioneer Eric W. Mickelson

I had some time this weekend to read one of my favorite magazines, Farm and Ranch Living. There was an insert in the magazine of a Farmall H decoration with the "A Farmer's Prayer" printed on it. It caught my eye and I began to think of Farmalls!!

As you may recall the Farmall tractors first model was the Regular, followed by the F- series. Then came the "letter series". This is where my memories take hold. When I was young we had an H Farmall. That H mowed and raked many acres of hay. It hauled manure and hay and took care of most of the chores that needed to be done on our dairy farm. I liked the cool seat that flipped up revealing a tool box underneath. It also had a holder on the side that carried a greased gun during haying season. Though I will tell you John Deere is my favorite, I have many fond memories of that H!

Another story I love to hear is my dad talking about living on the Sheep Ranch south of Clearbrook. He tells of a neighbor Bill Johnson buying an H Farmall. He and his son-in-law, Johnny Djersnes kept that H busy during the busy seasons of farming one would use it during the day and the other at night keeping that H going around the clock.

In the later 1930's tractor companies began streamlining their tractors, trying to create a more aesthetic appearance like the automobile companies. Open steering posts and gears were now being hidden behind sheet metal hoods and grills. Now the Farmall letter series

came into production in 1939. The A, B, H, M, and later the C sported this new sleek look. The H was the second largest of the series. It was considered a two-plow tractor.

I've read many books and magazines about these bright red machines. Nearly every book or piece of literature out there featuring an H shows one of these tractors cultivating in a sea of corn with a two-row cultivator on the front. I LOVE these pictures, whether it is in color or black and white the site of the H going across the corn field makes me want to jump on and take over for the farmer in the picture. I have cultivated corn with a B John Deere and a two row front mount cultivator and a G John Deere with a four-row front mount cultivator, but that red H looks awfully inviting in



H Farmall cultivating corn in a sales brochure!

that corn field! I do have a two-row cultivator out in the trees that will fit an H, now if I just get an H Farmall maybe I can cultivate some corn!!!

Tractor Trivia

1. The model H was in production from 1939-_____.
2. When the H was new it was advertised to be perfect for a _____ acre farm.
3. T or F The H was the greatest produced Farmall tractor. (Number of tractors produced)
4. Over _____ H's were produced.
5. What model was the "Big Brother" of the H.

Answers: 1. 1953 2. 160 acre 3. True 4. C. 391,000 5. Model M



Pictured from left to right: Scott Peters, LeRoy Vonasek and Cindy Anderson.

2019 Fair Person of the Year for District 9

LeRoy Vonasek was recently awarded the 2019 Fair Person of the Year for District 9 at the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs Convention held in Bloomington, MN on January 16-19, 2020

This is what the they had to say:

Leroy is without question the most caring, compassionate and enduring volunteer of our community and county. After 'serving' the public for decades as county highway mechanic and McCrea Township Supervisor, he never had enough and 'served' for another 16 years as county commissioner with

unmatched integrity. His volunteerism with the ambulance last decades as well, only ending when he no longer could physically meet the demands. His commitment to the American Legion in which he is on the Executive Board, is unwavering and his commitment to his church is strong. LeRoy's legacy to the time he spends on fair activities, also for decades, is unmeasurable and continues to this day. Not only was the free stage named in his honor, as he built it from scratch with his own two hands, but the new horse barn was also named in his honor because of all his time

and talents in designing and crafting the stalls. You will find LeRoy working the payloader at the Marshall County Fair during the Demo or the Baja, he spends countless hours prepping the track for these events.

LeRoy continues to do all he can for our fair and still serves with city maintenance despite any limitations that age brings. He promotes volunteerism not only through his actions but with his challenges to all younger individuals, by stressing the need and importance of being a volunteer and giving back to the community.



Luke Jeska Selected for Statewide Robens & Dembiczak Scholarship

January 23, 2020 — Northland Community and Technical College student Luke Jeska has been awarded the Warren H. Robens & Henry P. Dembiczak Scholarship. The Robens & Dembiczak Scholarship is a state-wise Lead MN award given to only six Minnesota students annually.

Mr. Warren H. Robens and Mr. Henry P. Dembiczak shared a commitment to the communities where they were raised and where they lived. They also shared a strong commitment to higher education with a passion for technical education. This scholarship was created to provide support for students enrolled in a technical course of study within Minnesota State.

Jeska, a graduate of North High School in North St. Paul, is a sophomore at Northland pursuing a degree in Aviation Maintenance Technology. He is set to graduate in May 2020. After graduation, Jeska looks to land a career with a large airline as an avionics technician.

Jeska has been an integral part of Northland's student life by serving as the Thief River

Falls campus Student Senate President and member of the Professional Aviation Maintenance Association. "Luke Jeska is without question, one of the most discerning leaders that Northland has boasted for many years. Luke genuinely cares about his fellow students, his program, his career, and his campus," Jason Pangiarella, Northland Student Success

Coordinator and Advisor enthusiastically illustrates, "As a leader, Luke is considerate of everyone he works with. He thoughtfully approaches decisions and listens to other campus leaders at length. This scholarship is well-deserved, and Minnesota's future is in exemplary hands with Luke at the forefront of his community and profession."

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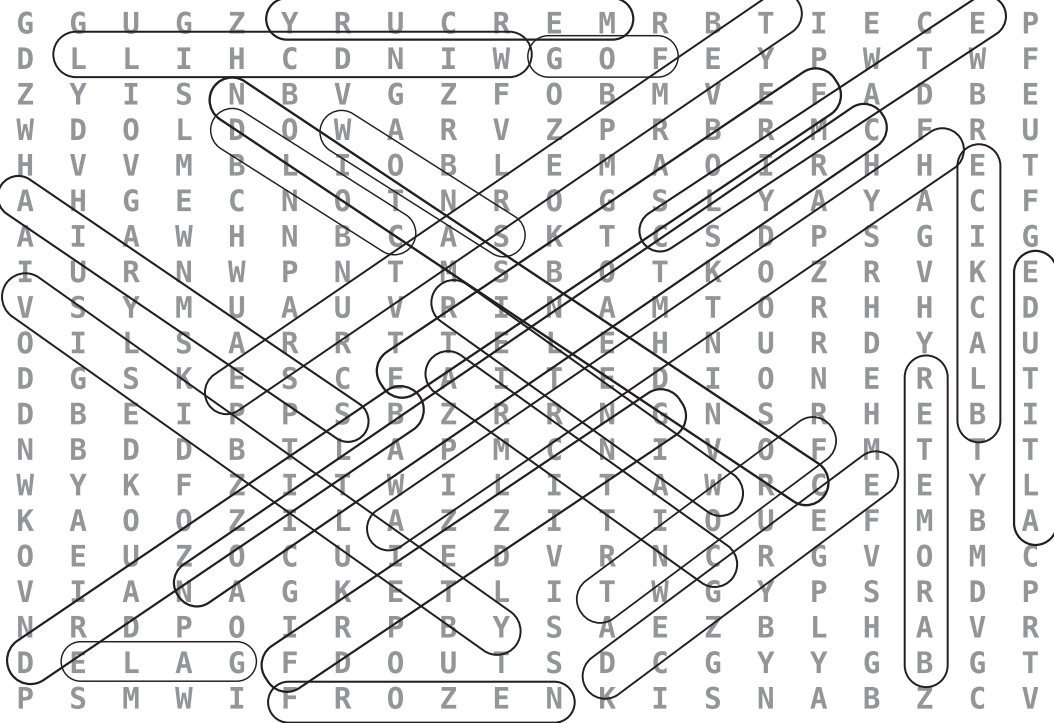
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OBITUARIES



Services held for Bruce Horn

Bruce Wendell Horn, 56 years, of Allen, Texas passed away on December 24, 2019.

He was the son of Mary Kathryn (Kay) Horn and the late Romaine Floyd (Bill) Horn of Matthews, NC. Bruce's father Romaine Horn was originally from the Gonvick, MN area.

He was born on November 27, 1961, in Tarzana, California in the San Fernando Valley. Bruce attended Fresno State University with inter-

ests in composing music.

Working as a long-haul truck driver provided opportunities to travel the U.S. from east coast into the west.

He is survived by his mother, his brother Kenneth and nephews Nickalaus and Clayton from Matthews, NC and other relatives throughout the USA who loved him.

A memorial service was held on January 29th, in the Chapel at Plantation Estates in Matthews, NC.



Services held for Delayne Ekeberg

Delayne Ekeberg, age 78, of Fosston, MN, passed away on Monday, January 20th, at Essentia Health Hospital in Fosston. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 25th, at the Carlin Funeral Home in Fosston with the Rev. John Ragan officiating. Interment in Kingo Lutheran Cemetery, Fosston, at a later date. Visitation was held for one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the funeral home. Arrangements are with Carlin Family Funeral Service of Fosston and messages of condolence may be sent at www.carlinfuneral.com.

Delayne Marilyn Harms was born on February 27, 1941, to Ervin and Ella (Bjorge) Harms, in Beaulieu, Minnesota. She grew up in a large, boisterous, loving family with seven brothers and sisters, in Mahanomen, Minnesota. Delayne loved to sew her own outfits and go dancing with her sisters and friends. She met Harlan Ekeberg at one of those dances, and they married on November 9, 1963 in Cape May, New Jersey. The couple moved to Menominee, Michigan, where Harlan was stationed in the Coast Guard.

Their first child, Kelly Rae, was born on April 13, 1964. They moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota where they lived for the next several years. Their son, Brian Gene, was born on January 27, 1968. Later they moved to Moorhead, Hawley, and then to Fosston in 1983.

Delayne worked at Carl's Lefse, Hawley, and then First Care Medical Services, Fosston, for 25 years, as a housekeeper. Delayne was well-regarded at First Care for her kind heart, hard work ethic, and infectious laugh that would echo through the hallways.

Delayne was a loving and doting grandmother to her two granddaughters, Corinne and Carly. She enjoyed month-long visits from the grandkids each summer, where they baked cookies, played outside, and created many special memories together.

She loved to spend a long afternoon playing Scrabble, where she usually, and good-naturedly, ended up the winner. Delayne was generous, funny, and loved to laugh. Her family was her number one priority, always.

Delayne leaves behind a daughter, Kelly (Scott) Shank of The Woodlands, TX, son, Brian (Tabitha) Ekeberg of Asheville, NC, granddaughters, Corinne Shank and Carly Shank, both of Houston, TX, sisters, Mavis Nystad and Marsha (Bill) Winter, both of Fargo, ND, brothers, Dick (Donna) Harms of Crystal River, FL, Jim (Sandy) Harms and Ken (Carol) Harms, both of Fargo, ND, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harlan, on June 16, 2012; her parents; sister, Beverly Rolland, brothers, Ronnie and Duane Harms, and brothers-in-law, Lonney Rolland and Rick Nystad.



Services for Gloria Beckstrand

It is with heavy hearts that the family of Gloria Pauline Beckstrand announce her passing on January 22, 2020 at Cornerstone Residences, Bagley, Minnesota. Born September 1, 1927, she grew up on a farm in Kensington, MN, the daughter of Paul and Anna Gustafson, graduating from Kensington High School in 1943.

Proud of her Swedish roots, she married Roger Beckstrand on June 10, 1953 in Bagley, Minnesota. They were married 62 years before he passed in 2015.

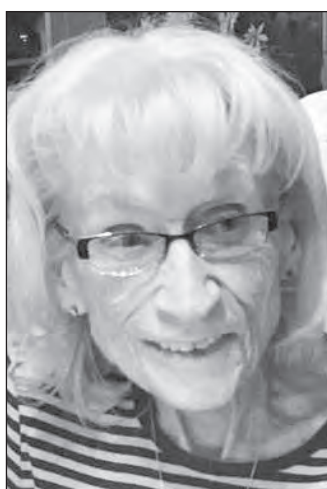
They had lived in Bagley, Hallock, Clearbrook and Bemidji before moving back to Bagley in 1999. While Roger worked for Otter Tail Power, Gloria enjoyed her work at the Bagley Hospital and later as a Title I Reading Specialist at Lincoln and Horace May Schools in Bemidji.

She is survived by her sister, Helen Fredrickson, sons Butch (Kathy) and Bruce (Phyllis) Lanske and by her grandchildren Daniel (Erika), Michael (Megan), Matthew (Amanda) and Jamie (Marco Morales). Great Grandchildren are Ava Marie, Lukas, and Olivija. She is also survived by brothers and sisters in law, Mary Gustafson, Carole Beckstrand, Melva Patton, Shirley Falardeau, Phyllis Engen, Calvin Pederson, Sheldon and Judy Beckstrand, as well as many well-loved nieces and nephews.

Gloria was predeceased by her parents, Paul and Anna Gustafson, her husband, Roger and his parents, Iver and Lil Beckstrand, her sister Lila and her husband, Bob Hanse, brother-in-law, Peter Fredrickson, brother Jim Gustafson, brothers-in-law Duane, Carroll and Van Beckstrand, brother-in-law, George Patton, sister-in-law Audrey Pederson and sister and brother-in-law, Fern and Harvey Churness.

Services to honor her memory, officiated by Pastor Mark Olson, are scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on February 1st at Faith Lutheran Church in Bagley with Visitation one hour prior. The family is hosting lunch following the service. Inurnment will be private at the Alida Cemetery, where she will join her husband and other loved ones. Cease Funeral Home in Bagley is assisting the family with all of the arrangements.

Messages of condolence may be sent to ceasefuneralhome.com



Services for Mary Lou R. Cyr

Mary Lou R. Cyr, age 85 of Grafton, ND passed away on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at the Unity Medical Center of Grafton, ND.

Mary Lou R. Gagner was born August 30, 1934 in Brooks, MN the daughter of the late Robert and Rose Anna (Mercil) Gagner. She attended elementary school in Brooks and graduated from Plummer High School. Following her education she moved to Minneapolis and worked for New York Life Insurance Company. Mary Lou was united in marriage to Vern Cyr on April 14, 1956 in Brooks. The couple made their home in Oklee where they owned and operated Cyr's Café. In January of 1969 the couple moved to Grafton, ND. Mary Lou worked at Wally's Grocery Store, Carnegie Regional Library and Unity Hospital. Mary Lou became the Coordinator of the Foster Grand Parent Program at the Life Skills and Transition Center and retired from there after 19 years. She then did some part-time work for NDPERS, the Census Bureau and Grafton Elementary School as a part-time para and in the ESP program. Vern passed away

on June 30, 1993.

Mary Lou was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Altar Society of Oakwood, ND. She held offices in the Grafton American Legion Auxiliary and served as a Girl Scout and Cub Scout leader. She enjoyed spending time at Lake of the Woods with her family.

She is survived by her children: Joni Cyr, Eugene, OR; Carol (Dan) LaHaise, Grafton, ND; Helen Lee, Grafton, ND; Lou Cyr, Eugene, OR; Robert Cyr, Oakwood, ND; David (Lori) Cyr, Oakwood, ND; seven grandchildren: Zyrta (Michael) Beevers, Tara LaHaise (Chris Otto), Elizabeth (Matt) Riccio, Leilani Lee (George Flores), Jacques (Mellysa Toscano) LaHaise, Allison (Zach) Smith, Jacob (Kate) Cyr, nine great grandchildren and one more expected soon, two great great grandchildren and siblings: Mae Wichterman, Monticello; Angela Stone, Champlin; Rolland (Nancy) Gagner, Erskine; Barbara (Vernon) LaCoursiere, Tucson, AZ; Clarence (Dianne) Gagner and Poncho (Char) Gagner both of Brooks. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and five brothers.

Mass of Christian Burial was Monday, January 27, 2020 at 10:30 AM at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Grafton, ND. Visitation on Sunday from 3-5 PM with a prayer service at 5:00 PM at the Tollefson Funeral Home of Grafton. Friends called at the church on Monday for one hour prior to the service. Interment at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery, Oakwood, ND in the spring.

An online guest book is available at: www.tollefson-funeralhome.com

The Tollefson Funeral Home of Grafton was in charge of the arrangements.



Services for Rudolph Hoffman

Rudolph Hoffman, age 88, resident of Riverside Board and Lodge of McIntosh, MN, passed away on Sunday, January 19th, at McIntosh Senior Living. Memorial services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 29th, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in McIntosh with the Rev. Gordon Syverson officiating. A time of visiting will be held for one hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church. Arrangements are with Carlin Family Funeral Service, serving McIntosh

Rudolph was born on March 4, 1931 in St. Walburg, Saskatchewan, Canada

to parents Joseph and Helen (Boehm) Hoffman. He was baptized and confirmed at Assumption Catholic Church in Walburg and attended rural school.

He moved to the U.S. and lived in Crookston. He worked at Simplot and then American Crystal Sugar for 25 years until his retirement. Rudy also worked for several area farmers before and after his retirement, which he much enjoyed. He moved to McIntosh in 1996 and lived at Riverside Board and Lodge. Since November of 2019, Rudy has resided at McIntosh Senior Living where he touched the hearts of many during his short stay.

He was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in McIntosh. Rudy held dual U.S. and Canada citizenship.

Rudy liked polka music, eating crab apples, and watching hockey and bull riding on TV. Rudy was a very kind man and never complained about anything. He was known for his laugh and his smile. He will be dearly missed.

Survivors include one brother, Joe; three sisters, Martha, Sophie and Louise; and his Riverside family.

He was preceded in death by his parents and five other siblings.



Services held for Michael Harstad

Michael Daniel Harstad, age 58, of Bagley, MN, died peacefully on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 after many years of physical and medical struggles.

Memorial services were held on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at Grace Free Lutheran Church in Bagley, with a visitation one hour prior. The Cease Family Funeral Home of Bagley assisted the family with arrangements.

He was born to Clinton and Ardyce (Sorenson) Harstad in Alexandria, MN on May 2, 1961. Mike was baptized and confirmed at Grace Lutheran Church of Bagley. He graduated from Bagley High School

in 1979.

On September 29, 1984 Mike and Nancy Kaml were united in marriage. During this union they were blessed with a daughter Trista Mae.

He enjoyed deer hunting and fishing. Mike was an avid sports enthusiast he especially enjoyed the Vikings and Twins teams. He also enjoyed all types of woodworking; from cutting baseboards for the house to building deer stands to making flower boxes. He worked a variety of jobs from farm hand to factory worker. He enjoyed and looked forward to spending time with his grandsons and family that he loved so very much.

His last residence was Cornerstone Residence Senior Care, Bagley. Mike is survived by his daughter Trista (Joshua) Flaten and grandchildren Hunter and Clayton of Pinecreek; mother Ardyce Harstad of Bagley; sisters Sandra (Michael) Wingie of Bagley, Diane Harstad of Goodhue, Karen (Todd) Johnson, of Leonard; nephews Jeremy (Koreen) Harstad and family of Goodhue, Lucas Johnson of Leonard; niece Lindsey Moore and family of Lakeville. He was preceded in death by his father Clinton Harstad, niece Kerisa (Fredrickson) Mondt.



Services for Mervin Wallingford

Mervin Wallingford, 92, of Bagley died peacefully surrounded by his family and his dog – Nellie, on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at his home in Bagley.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cease Family Funeral Home Chapel in Bagley, MN. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the funeral home.

Merv was born on October 11, 1927 the son of William James "Jim" and Augusta (Branstner) Wallingford. He grew up at Minerva attending Minerva Country School. In his early life, he worked in logging and saw milling with his family. Merv entered the United States Army on December 5, 1950. He served our country during the Korean War as a Combat Engineer. He was honorably discharged on September 6, 1952. Merv married Crystal Anderson on May 23, 1953 in Clearbrook and together they had four children; Steve, Lynn, Jack and Jill. They later went their separate ways. Merv started working for Lakehead Pipeline (now Enbridge Pipeline) on May 31, 1956. After



32 years of service, he retired from the pipeline on October 31, 1988. He was a member of the Irvin Blix American Legion Post #16 of Bagley and also the Bagley Lions Club. Merv was an avid hunter. He loved to hunt anything; big game, waterfowl or whatever was in season. He hunted many places, especially North Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana and home. Merv shot his last buck, which was his biggest, when he was 89 years old. He was also an avid fisherman, taking numerous fishing trips, particularly way up into Canada with many friends. Merv also enjoyed golfing and bowling. Merv's property was the first place Clearwater County released Turkey's into the wild, in which he was very proud. Merv had a love for animals; conservation and wildlife was a great passion of his.

He is survived by his son – Steve (Mary Beth) Wallingford of Littleton, CO

Daughter – Lynn (Michael Erkes) Peal of Ramsey, MN

Son – Jack (Lorena) Wallingford of Bemidji, MN

Daughter – Jill (Mark) Olson of Bagley, MN

7 grandchildren – Kotchi, Allen, James, Anna, Krystal, Josh and Justin

7 great grandchildren
He was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister – Jean Hallan.

Merv's family would like to thank Clearwater County Nursing Service and Clearwater County Hospice for the wonderful care and support they have given them through all of this.

The family would prefer Memorials to the Irvin Blix American Legion Post#16 of Bagley, Clearwater County Nursing Service and Clearwater County Hospice.

Messages of condolence may be sent to ceasefuneralhome.com



Services held for Bruce Atwater

Bruce Atwater, 98, of Bemidji, MN, died Friday, January 10, 2020 at the Minnesota Masonic Home in Bloomington.

Memorial services were 2:00 p.m., Friday, January 24, 2020 at Bethel Lutheran Church, Bemidji with Pastor Mark Kindem officiating. Inurnment will be in Pine Hill Cemetery in the spring.

Bruce Mason Atwater was born in Williams, on August 30, 1921 to Aubrey & Esther Atwater. The family moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba in 1923. Bruce received his education there taking one year of normal school before returning to Minnesota in 1940. He worked in Cass Lake until his enlistment in the United States Coast Guard on October 21, 1941. After only four weeks of boot camp, he was shipped out on the U.S.S. Castor to the Honolulu Coast Guard Station. He arrived in Pearl Harbor on December 4, 1941



just in time for the Japanese sneak attack. Returning to the mainland after serving in Maui, Honolulu, Hilo and on sea duty on the USCGC Reliance, he served at Ilwaco Coast Guard Station. Grays Harbor LB Station in Westport, Washington and the CC district office in Seattle. In May of 1946 he was transferred to Miami, Florida to the District Office and then Coral Gables Air Station before opting for discharge. He was discharged on December 10, 1946 in St. Louis, Missouri and returned to Minnesota. Bruce is a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivor Association. He enrolled at Bemidji State Teacher's College in March of 1947 and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in 1950, his Bachelor of Arts in 1952 and

his Master of Science in 1962. He married Ellen Premo on October 9, 1948. Bruce taught high school English, speech and journalism for 30 years in International Falls, Williams, Esko and Warroad. The latter for 22 years where the children went to school and grew up. After retirement in 1980, he and Ellen returned to Bemidji. He worked for H & R Block, Miller, McDonald and the Office of Personnel Management giving the ASVABS and civil service tests. He was selected to fill a vacancy on the Bemidji City Council on March 5, 1985 and was re-elected three times before retiring in December 2000. He was active in public affairs in other towns, too. He was city clerk in Williams, MN in 1955-56, elected to the Warroad, MN city council from 1965-78, and chaired the Warroad Hospital board 1978-80. He was also an active life member of the MEA and the NEA. He served as state chairman of the Professional Rights and Responsibilities Committees of the MEA form 1967-70 and was president of the local MEA affiliates at each in which he taught. Bruce was also active in church affairs serving on the church councils of the Congregational churches in Williams and Warroad and of Bethel Lutheran here in Bemidji. He was also active in Lodges serving as Noble Grand of the Clover Lodge #267 IOOF in Williams in 1963, as Worshipful Master of Warroad Masonic Lodge #267 in 1967-68 and was a past member of the Shriners Kem Temple in Grand Forks, ND. He was also Worthy Patron for the Warroad Eastern Star #194, Warroad, MN from 1966-1979. He was a member of the American Legion in Warroad and Bemidji and Bemidji Lodge #283 AF & AM and Chapter 171 Order of the Eastern Star in Bemidji. He was Past Associate Guardian for Jobs Daughters Bethel #5 of Bemidji. He also was a member of the Lions Club of Bemidji since 1980 as well as the local Elks Club, Eagles Aerie and Community Guard 2002-2010.

Bruce is survived by his children, Steve (Vicki) Atwater, Suzan Kaufmann, Jonel (Rodney) Axtell, Sarah (Bob) O'Dier and Bill (Krysti) Atwater; 14 grandchildren and 33 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ellen; parents; sisters, Alberta & Ella; two infant grandchildren and son-in-law, Randy Kaufmann.

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Second Race of the Season, USXC Park Rapids Heartland 200 held January 18 and 19

By: Emily Wicklund

The second stop of the 2019-2020 season was in Park Rapids, Minnesota for the Heartland 200. Park Rapids is a favorite for those racers that like wooded trail riding and fast ditches. The winner of the Pro Stock class also gets to take home the coveted Heartland 200 neon sign. On Friday blizzard conditions hit Minnesota which made for deep snow and a technical course. Crews were prepared to push back the start time on Saturday, but mother nature was on our side Saturday morning with the snow stopping around 5 A.M. Racing started at 10 A.M for day 1 with 98 sleds starting 1 at a time 30 seconds apart rather than 2 at a time. The overall winners for the weekend were determined by the two day total times not the first to cross the finish line.

Alex Hetteen was the first sled off the starting line for the weekend and had to blaze a trail for those behind him. Sleds headed North towards Emmaville and took a west loop on a groomed trail before headed back North. After the West loop Junior riders made a turn to the South and headed back toward the finish line. Their course was approximately 60 miles while the other classes kept running their 120 mile loop. Riders made their way in and out of the fuel stop and headed South towards Akeley. Hetteen on his Polaris was still the lead sled coming into town with Ryan Springer (Polaris) coming through 2nd and Christensen (Polaris) making it up to 3rd. Hetteen held on until the end crossing the finish line first with Christensen coming from 8th to 2nd and Justin Tate (Polaris) from 11th to 3rd in the running order. By time Wes Selby was the fastest of the day on his Arctic Cat with a time of 2 hours 10 minutes and 8 seconds. Christensen came in 2nd quick at 2 hours

11 minutes and 11 seconds and Tate in 3rd at 2 hours 11 minutes and 26 seconds. Marshall Busse was the fast time in the Semi Pro class for day 1 with a time of 2 hours 14 minutes and 53 seconds on his Polaris. Paul Brown timed in 2nd and Dustin Dohrn in 3rd.

Junior and Vintage riders both only competed 1 day for the Heartland 200. Black Higgins (Skidoo) took the win in the Classic IFS 1980-1998 class and Doug Ruter (Arctic Cat) took 1st in the Classic IFS 50+ class. In the Junior 10-13 class, Aiden Johnson was the winner on his Arctic Cat with Darco (Arctic Cat) and Houser (Arctic Cat) close behind. In the Junior 14-17 Girls class, Danika Diesen and McKenna Cloose battled on the track but Diesen (Arctic Cat) came out with the win and Cloose (Arctic Cat) took 2nd.

Saturday evening brought in more snow to the area which continued on through Sunday morning. This made the ditches fresh and the lead sled once again would blaze the trail. On day 2, riders were sent off on an inverted start from where they started on day 1. Wes Selby was the first sled off the line on Sunday with Dan Revering (Polaris) and Matt Feil (Arctic Cat) behind. When sleds made their way out of the west loop, Selby was still out front with D. Revering in 2nd and Christensen finding his way into 3rd from 8th. Sleds made their way into the fuel stop in that order and started to head south. By the time sleds made their way into Akeley, defending Heartland 200 champ Zach Herfindahl (Arctic Cat), made his way into 4th. Polaris rider Aaron Christensen took the lead and the advantage of clean air to cross the line first. Herfindahl was clicking off time but came across the line in 2nd and didn't make up enough time for what he lost on day 1.

After times were merged together, Aaron Christensen (Polaris) came out on top and was named the winner of the Heartland 200 for the first time since 2014. Wes Selby (Arctic Cat) came in 2nd which is his 6th podium at Park Rapids in the past 7 years (2017 he did not race it). Alex Hetteen clinched the 3rd place spot on his Polaris. Marshall Busse (Polaris) was the overall winner in the Semi Pro and Semi Pro Improved classes for round 2. Local boy, Cody Wolter (Polaris) claimed 2nd in Semi Pro with Dustin Dohrn (Skidoo) in 3rd. Neil Jakubowski took the win in the Sport 600 class on his Polaris. Nick Roehl (Skidoo) claimed the Master 40 class. Cole Boyd was the winner in the Sport 600 Improved class on

his Arctic Cat. In the Womens division there were some close battles but Savannah Landrus claimed the win with Alicia Martin a few minutes back. In the Junior 14-17 class, 12-year-old Cooper Kangas (Arctic Cat) came out on top of the field with an impressive 20 minute lead of 2nd place Oliver Olson (Polaris). In the Expert 600 Limited class, Braden Sillerud edged out Kangas with the overall win in that class.

After 2 rounds of USXC racing action, Christensen and Selby are tied for the Pro Stock points with Herfindahl close behind in 3rd. In Pro Open, Selby is out front in points over Hetteen and Tate. In Semi Pro, Marshall Busse has a 1 point advantage over Dustin Dohrn with Andy Junglen in 3rd.

USXC TRF 250 IS NEXT!

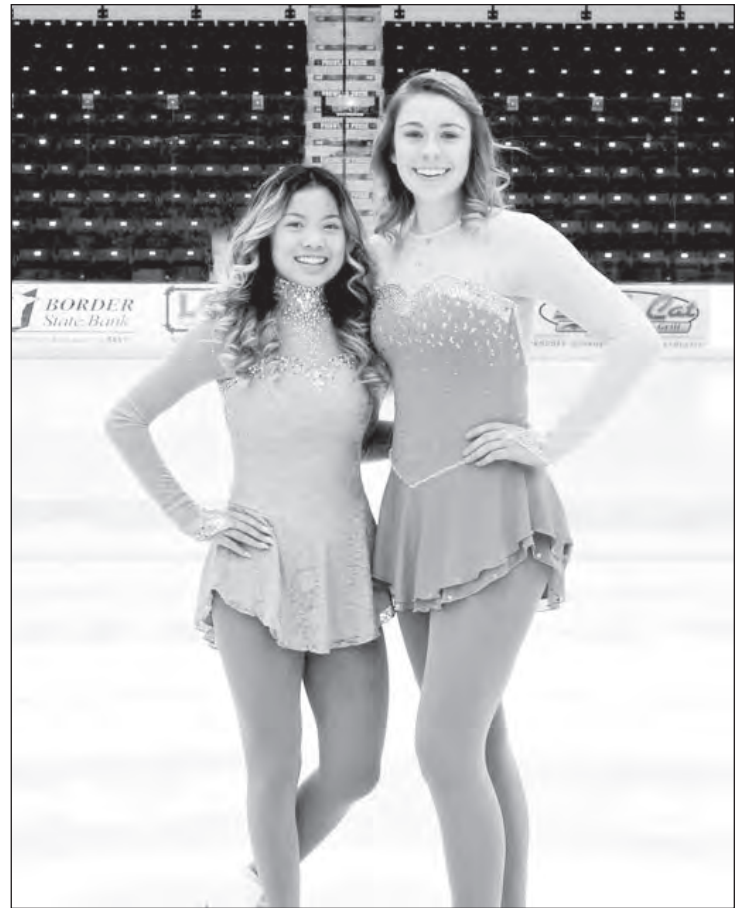
The 3rd stop on the 2019-2020 USXC tour is the Sevens Clans TRF 250 in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. This will be the 5th consecutive year that the 250 race has been a stop for the circuit. Prior to this, the I-500 was held at the Seven Clans casino but recently have added a shorter 250-mile race to the schedule.

The Thief River Falls course is a mix of ditch, river, and woods which brings terrain riders from across the state. This will be a two-day event with racers making two 60 mile loops on Saturday and two 65 mile loops on Sunday equaling 250 miles of action. Junior 10-13 and Vintage riders will be competing both days on the same course making only one lap each day. This will be a timed event with all racers riding in one heat. The start on Sunday will be inverted from the start on Saturday. There will be a mandatory fuel stop after the finish line of the first lap for all riders continuing

for lap 2.

In the past 5 years of running this race, defending TRF 250 champion, Zach Herfindahl (Arctic Cat), has won 3 of those years. Herfindahl is currently sitting 3rd in Pro Stock points for the season. Another rider who has shown success in his hometown is Arctic Cat's Wes Selby. In the past 5 years, Selby has landed himself on the podium 4 times. He won the event in 2015 and was the runner up in 2018 and 2016 and 3rd in 2019. Polaris rider Aaron Christensen has podiumed 3 times in the past 5 years winning in 2018 and being the runner up in 2019 and 2017. Selby and Christensen are currently tied for the lead in the season Pro Stock points running.

Racing starts up on Saturday, January 25th at 10 A.M. with the headquarters being at the Seven Clans Casino which is 10 miles southwest on highway 59.



Pictured left to right: Brookie Bakke and Emma Christianson.

Bakke and Christianson Pass USFS Gold Level Tests

Congratulations to Brooklyn Bakke and Emma Christianson who both passed their Senior Moves in the Field test on Saturday, January 11, 2020 in Thief River Falls to become USFS Gold Medalists!

Brooklyn Bakke, daughter of Dennis and Joanie Bakke, is Freshman at Lincoln High School and passed her Senior Moves in the Field to become a DOUBLE USFS Gold Medalist. She joins only three other TRF skaters who, over the club's 40+ year history, have achieved Double Gold Medalist status.

Emma Christianson is the daughter of Del and Sherri Christianson and a Sophomore at Lincoln High School. Emma

passed her Senior Moves in the Field to achieve this national recognition. Emma joins only seven other TRF skaters who, over the club's 40+ year history, have achieved Gold Medalist status.

Brookie and Emma are both members of the Thief River Falls and Lincoln High School Skating Clubs and coached by Lisa Semanko.

According to the United States Figure Skating Association, "In a typical year, approximately 30,000 U.S. Figure Skating test levels are completed by athletes; of those, about 1,350, or 4.5 percent, are at the gold or senior level."



Ice racers from 2019 race down the front straight and into turn one on Garfield Lake. On average 25-30 racers race each week.

Garfield Lake Ice Races Forced to be Canceled

By Dennis Peterson

On a typical Sunday in January racers, both men and women, fans and kids can be found on Garfield Lake in Laporte, Minnesota having fun and enjoying an afternoon of stock car racing action. But this year the racers were told by track safety personnel that the ice conditions would not allow for racing. The thin layer of ice was covered with snow and slush preventing the heavy loads of trucks and trailers carrying the race cars onto the lake.

This is the first year in memory that the races were forced to be canceled. The 2019 season had to be shortened due to ice conditions but they were able to race enough races to have a season ending banquet and celebration at the 3rd Base Bar and Grill in Laporte, the official headquarters of the Garfield Lake Ice Racers Club.

The club doesn't race for money or trophies but pay to race on the 1/3 mile oval track which normally would be situated on the south end of Gar-

field Lake. The funds raised by the club through race fees go directly to various charities through out the area.

In 2019 alone a total of \$55,539.52 was donated by the club. Some of the various groups to receive donations from the club were the Hubbard Cty Sheriffs Canine Unit, Hospice, Wreaths Across America, Hubbard Cty Mounted Posse, Bemidji Youth Football,

Laporte Area Food Shelf, Adult Day Services, and Camp Oak Hills. Laporte Area Schools received funds for a Piano Fund, Athletic Equipment, the Lunch Fund, and Letter Winners Club. The club also donated to the Beltrami County Veterans Home as well as the Laporte 4th of July Fireworks Fund, and other various projects around Garfield Lake....other individuals and groups also received funds from

the club.

Racing is the activity that draws these individuals together and many in the area are the beneficiaries of their favorite pastime. President of the club Kris Baker and flagman Tom Lindahl hope for a better racing season in 2021 and many of the racers have commented that the ice racers with studded tires are ready to go when the season begins.

Strathcona Ice Oval Races set for February 8, 2020

Mavis Gonshorowski (The Tribune, Greenbush, Minn.)

On Saturday, February 8, 2020, the fifty-third annual Strathcona Ice Oval races will take place at the Strathcona Race track, located just off State Highway 32 to the east.

Drivers sign-up time is between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., hot laps are scheduled from 9:00

to 10:00 a.m., with the drivers meeting at 10:30 a.m. The "drop of the Green Flag" occurs at 11:00 a.m. sharp.

Awarding of trophies will take place at the awards banquet at the American Legion club in Greenbush, immediately following the races.

This racing event is sanctioned by CMPR (Central Min-

nesota Pond Racing). To enter and/or for information on CMPR, contact Mike Meagher atmike@vsca.com, call 320-815-1888, or find him on Facebook @ CMPR2015.

For Strathcona Track info, call Nathan Westlund at 281-686-8010.

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